



'We made collective pledge to pour our entire hearts & souls'
After India won the Women's ODI World Cup trophy for the first time, right-handed batter Jemimah Rodrigues said the 52-run win in the final over South Africa was made on a shared promise by the hosts to give their everything on the field in their defence of 298/7.

The new criminal law is compelling disclosure of sources
All rules under the Data Act (DPDPA), including questions, apprehensions and queries revolving around pre-censorship that curbs freedom of press are taking one back in time to the dark days of Emergency.

Hyd leads hiring in education sector
India's white-collar job market in October 2025 showed notable strength in education, accounting and finance, BPO/ITES, and specialised tech roles despite a slowdown in recruitment during the Diwali-Dussehra holidays, a report by Naukri said on Monday.

Chiranjeevi's 'Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu' stylish climax shoot
Megastar Chiranjeevi's most-awaited wholesome entertainer, 'Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu,' directed by hit-machine Anil Ravipudi, also features Victory Venkatesh in a pivotal role. Venkatesh recently joined the team and received.

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WINDOWS

12 dead in Jaipur accidents

JAIPUR: At least 12 people were killed and as many injured when a speeding dumper truck rammed into several vehicles in Jaipur's Harmada area on Monday afternoon, officials said. "The dumper hit several vehicles in a chain collision near Loha Mandi. Twelve people died in the accident and as many have been injured," Jaipur District collector Jitendra Soni told PTI. Some of the injured are in critical condition and have been referred to the SMS Hospital's trauma centre. The dumper was empty and coming from Road No. 14 towards the Loha Mandi petrol pump when it began hitting vehicles one after another over a stretch of nearly 300 metres.

Pak Hindu girl abducted forced to marry elderly

KARACHI: A Pakistani Hindu girl, who faced three harrowing months after being abducted, forcefully converted and married to a Muslim man, finally got to reunite with her family after a Sindh court's order, a community leader said here. A lower court in Umerkot, about 310 kms east of Karachi, ordered Sunita Kumari Maharaj to be reunited with her family on Saturday, according to Shiva Kaachi, a Hindu activist, who was involved in pleading the case for her parents. Sunita was abducted from Kunri, a town in Mirpurkhas district, and later forced into conversion followed by forced marriage with a much older Muslim man. According to local Hindu community leaders and rights activists she is among the few fortunate Hindu girls to get some justice.

Lankan Navy arrests 35 Indian fishermen

COLOMBO: At least 35 Indian fishermen have been arrested and their four trawlers seized by the Sri Lankan Navy allegedly for illegal fishing in an overnight operation that ended early Monday. The Navy spokesman Commander Buddika Sampath said the arrests came at the Sri Lankan waters around the northern Jaffna district's Kankesanthurai area. The fishermen, arrested for illegal fishing, and their equipment will be handed over to the fisheries inspectorate in the north for further action, the Navy said.

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IRREGULAR by MANJUL

I think instead of spending all your time in here, you should go out and play some cricket

Rs 3,000 crore extorted from victims, including senior citizens

Digital arrest cases shocking, will deal with iron hand: SC

NEW DELHI

THE Supreme Court on Monday said it needs to deal with digital arrest cases with an iron hand as it expressed shock over the scale of such cybercrime cases in the country, with over Rs 3000 crore allegedly extorted from victims, including senior citizens.

Digital arrest is a growing form of cybercrime in which fraudsters pose as law enforcement or court officials or personnel from government agencies to intimidate victims through audio and video calls. They hold the victims hostage and put pressure on them to pay money.

A bench of Justices Surya Kant, Ujjal Bhuyan and

- We have to strengthen the hands of our agencies through judicial orders. We are determined to deal with these crimes with iron hands: Justices Kant, Ujjal and Joymalya
- CBI has pointed out that crime syndicates were being operated from offshore locations where they have "scam compounds" having financial, technical and human pillars

Investigation.

"It is shocking that over Rs 3000 crore have been collected from the victims, including senior citizens, across the country. If we don't pass stringent and harsh orders, this problem will magnify.

"We have to strengthen

the hands of our agencies through judicial orders. We are determined to deal with these crimes with iron hands," the bench observed.

The top court posted the matter for hearing on November 10 and said that it will pass certain directions based on the suggestions

from the amicus.

Justice Kant said that the CBI has pointed out that crime syndicates were being operated from offshore locations where they have "scam compounds" having financial, technical and human pillars.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Centre and the CBI, said that the Ministry of Home Affairs's cybercrime division is dealing with these issues.

The apex court has taken cognisance of a letter written by an elderly woman from Haryana's Ambala to Chief Justice of India BR Gavai complaining that she and her husband were put under the so-called "digital arrest" on the basis of forged orders of the court and probe agencies

by fraudsters, who extorted Rs 1.05 crore from them in September.

The woman said the court orders were shown through multiple audio and video calls by people impersonating as CBI, ED and judicial officers to arrest them.

The top court was informed that two FIRs were lodged with the cyber crime department at Ambala under various provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhitya (BNS).

On October 27, the top court said it is inclined to entrust the CBI with the probe into digital arrest cases after taking into consideration the magnitude and pan-India spread of such crimes.

It had sought details of

FIRs registered in different states and Union territories.

The top court had said it would monitor the progress of the CBI investigation and issue whatever directions necessary to deal with these crimes.

It had asked the CBI to respond whether it needs more resources, including cyber experts who are not in the police force, to investigate digital arrest cases.

On October 17, taking note of the rising incidents of online fraud in the country, especially digital arrests to dupe citizens by fabricating judicial orders, the top court sought responses from the Centre and the CBI, saying such offences strike at the "very foundation" of public trust in the system.

New age criteria for pre-primary admissions from 2026: Govt

- The decision, aligned with the National Education Policy 2020, aims to bring uniformity in the early childhood education system across the capital
- The announcement initially caused concern among parents, who feared their children might have to repeat a class or face difficulties during school transfers

repeat a class or face difficulties during school transfers. Addressing these apprehensions, the Directorate of Education clarified that the new age criteria will not apply to students already enrolled in the system.

According to Director of Education Vedita Reddy, children studying in nursery (Bal Vatika 1) in 2025-26 will progress to kindergarten (Bal Vatika 2) in 2026-27, while those currently in KG will move to Class 1 as per the usual process. "No child will be required to repeat a class because of the new rule," she said, adding that students transferring to another school will also not be affected by the change.

Under the NEP 2020 framework, children must complete three years of pre-primary education- Bal Vatika 1, 2, and 3 — before entering Grade 1. As per the new guidelines, the age for nursery or Bal Vatika 1 will be between three and four years, for lower KG or Bal Vatika 2 between four and five years, and for upper KG or Bal Vatika 3 between five and six years. Admission to Class 1 will require the child to be between six and seven years old.

The Directorate emphasized that the policy will be rolled out in a phased manner. In 2026-27, only nursery classes will follow the new 3-4 years age limit. Lower and upper

KG will be introduced in the 2027-28 session, and the 6+ age requirement for Class 1 will come into full effect by 2028-29. Schools have been directed to clearly communicate the changes to parents and to prepare a phased class structure and promotion list accordingly.

To ensure flexibility, the government has also allowed a one-month relaxation in the age limit. This means that principals may admit children who are slightly younger or older than the prescribed range — for instance, those aged 2 years and 11 months or 4 years and 1 month at the time of nursery admission. Additionally, students transferring from recognized schools with a valid School Leaving Certificate (SLC) and marksheets will be exempt from the new age rule, ensuring a smooth transition for all continuing learners.

The revised policy marks a significant step in aligning Delhi's school education system with the NEP 2020 framework, while ensuring that current students and parents face no disruption in the learning process.

PM: RJD had put pressure on UPA to stall projects in Bihar

HANS NEWS SERVICE SAHARSA

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Monday charged the RJD with having stalled development projects in Bihar by putting pressure on the Congress-led UPA government at the Centre to "avenge" its ouster from power in the state in 2005.

Modi also reiterated that the Congress grudgingly agreed to declare Tejashwi Yadav as the INDIA bloc's chief ministerial candidate, after the RJD placed a 'katta' or illegal country-made gun on his head.

"Now in the current elections, the Congress, which is already a spent force in Bihar, has vowed to make the RJD sink," he claimed.

Modi urged the people to punish the RJD for its "sins" and asserted "the NDA

stands for development while the jungle raj wallahs for destruction".

"The RJD was sharing power at the Centre when it was voted out of power in Bihar in 2005. Projects like the Kosi Mahasetu had been sanctioned by the Atal Bihari Vajpayee government. So enraged was the RJD by Nitish Kumar forming a new government in the state that it put pressure on Manmohan Singh and Sonia Gandhi and stalled all such projects in Bihar," he alleged.

"The RJD can never understand the sufferings of the people of the Kosi re-

gion, which were alleviated through the construction of the bridge. We are also working on the interlinking of rivers. The NDA manifesto has also put forth a blueprint on flood control," he said.

Speaking in an area which has a substantial Muslim population, Modi charged the RJD-Congress combine with being soft on "infiltrators" and disdainful towards the Ram temple at Ayodhya and the Chhath festival.

"The leaders of the RJD and Congress take time off to visit all types of places abroad. But they do not get the time to visit Ayodhya. If they have so much dislike for Lord Ram, they can still go and see the monuments built in the memory of Nishad Raj and Valmiki," said the PM, in an apparent jibe at the INDIA bloc's pro-deprived caste stance.

People want clean air, not excuses: Rahul

HANS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

CONGRESS leader Rahul Gandhi on Monday raised concern over the worsening air quality in the national capital, saying with both the Centre and Delhi under BJP rule, people expect clean air instead of excuses.

In a post in Hindi on X, Gandhi said Delhi's air is becoming "increasingly poisonous", but the BJP govern-

ments keep changing their excuses.

"Year after year, Delhi's air is becoming increasingly poisonous, but BJP governments just keep changing their excuses. Now, both at the Centre and in Delhi, it's their own government in power. No excuses now, the public wants clean air," he said in his post.

Gandhi shared an over eight-minute video in which he is seen discussing the is-

sue of air pollution with an environmentalist near the India Gate complex here early in the morning.

Gandhi is heard saying in the video, "I have been having breathing issues and my eyes are burning. The last week has been terrible."

He remarked that while the damage caused by air pollution continues throughout the year, people tend to realise its effects only during this period.

India backing high-risk, high-impact R and D projects: Modi

Inaugurating the first-ever Emerging Science, Technology and Innovation Conclave (ESTIC), the annual flagship event involving policy-makers, innovators and global visionaries, Modi says his government has introduced significant reforms for a modern ecosystem of innovation to flourish in the country

HANS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Monday launched a Rs 1 lakh crore fund to spur private sector investment in research and development and announced that his government was now supporting high-risk and high-impact projects, as India aims to emerge as a science and technology powerhouse.

Inaugurating the first-ever Emerging Science, Technology and Innovation

Conclave (ESTIC), the annual flagship event involving policy-makers, innovators and global visionaries, Modi said his government has introduced significant reforms for a modern ecosystem of innovation to flourish in the country.

The prime minister said the world was witnessing a new shift in the global order and the pace of change was exponential.

"In this time of the 21st century, there is a great need for experts from all over

the world to come together to brainstorm on emerging science, technology and innovation, and together they should show the direction," said Modi, giving the reasons for hosting the Conclave, which will be an annual feature.

At the Conclave, the prime minister also launched the Rs 1 lakh crore Research, Development and

development, which is below the global average. On this share, the private sector accounts for 36 per cent of the investments, as against countries such as China, South Korea and the US. In these countries, the private sector spending accounts for 75 per cent of the gross expenditure on research and development.

"For the first time, capital is being allocated specifically for high-risk, high-impact projects, ensuring support for ground-breaking endeavours," he said, adding the government was focusing on 'Ease of Doing Research' so that a modern ecosystem of innovation can flourish in India.

"To achieve this vision, our government has introduced significant reforms in financial regulations and

procurement policies. Additionally, we have streamlined incentives and supply chain frameworks to accelerate the transition of prototypes from the lab to the market," he said.

Union Science and Technology Minister Jitendra Singh, Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India Prof. Ajay Kumar Sood, Nobel Laureate Sir Andre Geim and other dignitaries were present at the event.

Modi urged scientists to shift focus from food security to nutrition security and wondered whether India can develop next-generation biofortified crops to help combat malnutrition globally.

"Can innovations in low-cost soil health enhancers and bio-fertilisers serve

as alternatives to chemical inputs and improve soil health? Can India better map its genomic diversity to advance personalised medicine and disease prediction? Can new and affordable innovations be developed in clean energy storage, such as batteries," he said.

The prime minister stressed the importance of identifying critical inputs where India is dependent on the world and achieving self-reliance in those areas.

Modi said over the past decade, India's R&D expenditure has doubled, demonstrating a commitment to innovation.

"The number of registered patents has grown an impressive 17-fold. In the start up landscape, India has emerged as the third-largest ecosystem globally," he said.

1993 money order fraud

Court sentences retired sub-postmaster to 3 yrs in jail

HANS NEWS SERVICE
NOIDA

A court in Gautam Buddh Nagar has sentenced a retired sub-postmaster to three years in jail for cheating and criminal breach of trust by a public servant in connection with a money order fraud committed 32 years ago.

The court also imposed a fine of Rs 10,000 on the convict, with a default clause of one year's additional imprisonment.

The order was passed on

October 31 by Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate (ACJM-I) Mayank Tripathi, who held Mahendra Kumar, a resident of Hapur's Pilkhuwa area, guilty under Sections 409 (criminal breach of trust by a public servant) and 420 (cheating) of the erstwhile Indian Penal Code.

The court cited the Supreme Court's 1988 judgment in Ram Shankar Patnaik vs State of Orissa, observing that refunding the defalcated amount does not

erase the offence.

"Once the offence of criminal breach of trust is found as a fact, the return of the sum defalcated or the property entrusted does not wipe the offence. If the delinquent refunds the money defaulted, the court may reduce the sentence," the order stated.

According to the prosecution, the case dates back to October 12, 1993, when one Arun Mistry, a resident of Sector 15, Noida, sent a money order of Rs 1,500 to

his father, Madan Mahato, in Samastipur, Bihar. At that time, Mahendra Kumar was posted as sub-postmaster at a post office in Sector 19, Noida.

It was alleged that Kumar accepted the amount of Rs 1,500 along with a Rs 75 commission but failed to deposit it in the government account. Instead, he issued a forged receipt to Mistry. When the recipient did not receive the money, Mistry lodged a complaint with Post Office Superintendent

According to the prosecution, the case dates back to October 12, 1993, when one Arun Mistry, a resident of Sector 15, Noida, sent a money order of Rs 1,500 to his father, Madan Mahato, in Samastipur, Bihar. At that time, Mahendra Kumar was posted as sub-postmaster at a post office in Sector 19, Noida

Suresh Chandra on January 3, 1994. An internal inquiry revealed that the Rs 1,575 had not been deposited into the government's account

and that the receipt was fake. Following this, Superintendent Suresh Chandra filed a police complaint against Kumar at the local Sector



20 Police Station. During the departmental investigation, Kumar admitted to the wrongdoing and deposited the embezzled amount on February 8, 1994, stating in writing that he would return any such amount if similar cases arose in the future.

In its judgment, the court said the prosecution had

proved the charges beyond reasonable doubt.

"A government servant is expected to work with the highest honesty and integrity. Such crimes not only weaken the government system but also undermine public confidence," the court observed while pronouncing the sentence.

Man held for drugging, raping girl in Saharanpur

The accused, Ashu alias Fauji, was arrested near a school in Khajurwala village, on the Muzaffarnagar-Dehradun highway

HANS NEWS SERVICE
SAHARANPUR

A man has been arrested for allegedly drugging and raping a 17-year-old girl, and taking obscene photos and videos of her, an official said on Monday.

The accused, Ashu alias Fauji, was arrested onear a school in Khajurwala village, on the Muzaffarnagar-Dehradun highway.

A case was registered at Nagal police station in Uttar Pradesh's Saharanpur district on October 25, after the girl's family complained that the accused, Ashu, a resident of Unali village, had lured



the minor to a roadside eatery. The family alleged that Ashu made the girl drink a cold beverage laced with intoxicants

and raped her, Additional Superintendent of Police (Rural) Sagar Jain told PTI. The complaint further said the accused also took

obscene photos and videos and threatened to make them viral unless he was paid money.

Associates of the accused also allegedly intimidated the survivor's family.

Based on the girl's statement, police registered an FIR under relevant sections of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act. In another incident, a 55-year-old man died after his e-rickshaw overturned here, police said on Monday.

According to police, the incident occurred on

Sunday when Ramshailesh Gupta, a native of Narni village under Rasra police station of Ballia district, was travelling in an e-rickshaw.

Gupta was going towards the four-lane highway on Sunday with some of his luggage on the e-rickshaw when it suddenly went out of control and overturned near the Shadiabad turn. He suffered serious injuries in the accident.

Police took him to the hospital, where he succumbed to his injuries.

The body of the deceased has been sent for post-mortem examination, police said.

Follow Tegh Bahadur's ideals in nation building: Saini to youth

HANS NEWS SERVICE
CHANDIGARH

HARYANA Chief Minister Sh. Nayab Singh Saini virtually inaugurated state-level essay writing and story narration competitions titled "Suno Kahani Shri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji Ki" from the Haryana Secretariat on the occasion of the 350th Shaheed Diwas of Shri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji.

Paying tribute to the unparalleled courage, sacrifice, and supreme martyrdom of Guru Sahib, the Chief Minister said that the life of Shri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji stands as an eternal example of truth, courage, and humanity. During the interaction, the Chief Minister listened to the thoughts of students and encouraged them to draw inspiration from the life and teachings of Shri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji. On this occasion, four students presented Saakhi Vachan—narrating inspirational episodes from the life of Guru Sahib.

CM hails Indian women's team win

CM Saini extended his heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to the Indian women's cricket team for winning the ICC Women's World Cup.

He said that the country's daughters have brought immense pride to India on the international stage, and this historic achievement is



a moment of great honour for the entire nation. CM said that Haryana's daughter Shefali Verma, who was part of the winning team, delivered an outstanding performance in the final match and was honoured with the Player of the Match award. Shefali played a decisive innings, scoring 87 runs, and also took two wickets, playing a vital role in securing India's victory.

Kurukshetra to get Ring Road facility

Considering the increasing number of devotees visiting Kurukshetra, the work on the proposed Ring Road project in the holy city is progressing rapidly. The Detailed Project Report (DPR) is almost complete. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has sanctioned Rs. 250 crore for the development of Kurukshetra, giving a new identity to the sacred city. This was stated by Haryana Chief Minister Sh.

Nayab Singh Saini while responding to questions from journalists during a press conference held at Haryana Niwas regarding the upcoming International Gita Mahotsav.

Wage revision for daily-wage workers

The Haryana Government has revised the wages of part-time and daily-wage workers engaged in various government departments, boards, corporations, and public undertakings across the state. The new wage structure will come into effect from January 1, 2025.

According to a notification issued by the Chief Secretary Anurag Rastogi, the decision to revise wages follows numerous representations from government departments and organizations requesting an upward revision in the remuneration for workers employed on a part-time or dailybasis.

BSF DIG hails united Sikhs' 'Mahan Seva' for flood victims

HANS NEWS SERVICE
FIROZPUR

Vijay Rana, DIG, BSF (Punjab Frontier), Ferozepur, has strongly praised the relief work being carried out by the volunteers of the organization United Sikhs to help the flood victims in the border villages of the district. Today, after a special meeting with S. Sukhwinder Singh, Chief of United Sikhs, and his associates, Vijay Rana, DIG, BSF (Punjab Frontier), spoke to reporters and said that United Sikhs' volunteers made a significant contribution in providing essential items like food, drinking water, clothes, medicines, fodder for cattle, and boats on a priority basis to the flood victims in various districts of Punjab, especially the border villages of Ferozepur district, in collaboration with BSF officers

and personnel.

During this interaction, S. Sukhwinder Singh, Chief of United Sikhs, also sincerely thanked the BSF officials and all the officers of the Ferozepur District Administration for giving them their warm support in carrying forward the humanitarian service campaign.

Providing further information, he said that in view of the valuable assistance work being done by United Sikhs, Shrimati Deep Shikha Sharma, Deputy Commissioner of Ferozepur District, has entrusted the responsibility of the rehabilitation and provision of all basic and primary health facilities to the residents of eleven flood-affected villages in the district to the United Sikhs organization. He added that the volunteers of their organization are performing this service with great skill.



HC dismisses plea by retd BSF jawan seeking Har police job

HANS NEWS SERVICE
CHANDIGARH

THE Punjab and Haryana High Court has dismissed a plea filed by a retired BSF personnel seeking appointment as a Haryana Police constable under the ex-servicemen category, observing that the state government has not adopted the Centre's policy that extends such benefits to retired personnel of the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF). Retired BSF constable Suraj Bhan, in his petition, sought directions to the Haryana government to issue an appointment letter to him under the ex-servicemen category. Bhan, who retired in July 2014, had applied for the post of a police constable in 2015 under the ex-servicemen



category. The petitioner was issued an admit card for an interview-cum-personality test. He cleared the physical test and other stages of the selection process, and his name figured in the final result declared in October 2016. However, he was not issued an appointment letter. The court had sought the Haryana government's stand on a central government's office memorandum dated November 23 2012, which enables states to extend benefits to CAPF personnel similar to those extended to retired personnel from the defence forces.

Affidavits submitted by the Haryana Director General of Police and the Under Secretary of the Haryana Staff Selection Commission stated that the state government has not adopted the instructions issued by the government of India.

According to the Haryana Staff Selection Commission affidavit, the Cabinet Committee on Security approved the proposal to declare retired personnel from the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), the Border Security Force (BSF), the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) and the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) as "Ex-Central Armed Police Force personnel" (Ex-CAPF personnel).

Vijayvargiya targets madrasas

HANS NEWS SERVICE
INDORE

MADHYA Pradesh minister Kailash Vijayvargiya on Monday alleged that many madrasas had transformed from "centres of faith to centres of conspiracy", and said the state government must enact stricter rules for their management.

He was speaking to reporters a day after police recovered counterfeit currency



with face value of more than Rs 19 lakh from a madrasa in Paithiya village of Khandwa district. "The discovery of counterfeit currency from this madrasa is alarming. Complaints are also being received about several other

madrasas. Many madrasas were certainly centres of devotion earlier, but now have become centres of conspiracy. Instead of providing education, many outsiders are entering madrasas and creating a feeling of separatism and conducting illegal activities," he claimed.

Vijayvargiya urged Chief Minister Mohan Yadav to enact stricter rules for the management of madrasas in the state.

Punjab, Haryana politicians congratulate women's cricket team

HANS NEWS SERVICE
CHANDIGARH

SEVERAL political leaders, including Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann, his Haryana counterpart Nayab Singh Saini and Punjab Congress chief Amrinder Singh Raja Warring, on Monday congratulated the Indian women's cricket team for their historic win in the ICC World Cup.

Meanwhile, celebrations also erupted at the native places of the women cricketers. In a post on X, Punjab Chief Minister Mann congratulated the team, saying,

Many congratulations to the entire team, including the captain Harmanpreet Kaur, the pride of Punjab and also many congratulations to the coaches. Best wishes for the future. Chak De India!: Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann

"A historic victory for India. The Indian women's cricket team defeated South Africa by 52 runs to win the World Cup... This is India's first ODI World Cup title in 52 years of history. Many congratulations to the entire team, including the captain Har-

manpreet Kaur, the pride of Punjab... and also many congratulations to the coaches. Best wishes for the future. Chak De India!"

Punjab Congress chief Warring also congratulated the team. "HISTORY MADE! Congratulations to



#TeamIndia for clinching their maiden ICC Women's Cricket World Cup title! A

resounding victory against South Africa by 52 runs!" Warring said on X. Leader

of Opposition in the Punjab Assembly, Partap Singh Bajwa, described the victory as historic.

He said, "Proud moment for every Indian as our champions bring home the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup 2025! Saluting our CHAMPIONS!" Celebrations broke out at the native places of the women cricketers.

In Mohali, the family of Amanjot Kaur was ecstatic over the team's victory and celebrated the feat by dancing to drum beats and distributing sweets. Her father, Bhupinder Singh, who runs a carpenter shop, said she

called the family after the team won the final and was very happy. He said Kaur loved playing all games like hockey, football, volleyball, and badminton in her school. But later she developed an interest in cricket and started playing it, he said. Singh further said her grandmother used to sit outside the ground when Kaur would play cricket.

The family has big plans to welcome her upon her arrival in the city. One of her family members said they have no words to describe the victory of the cricket team. There will be celebrations again when

she returns to her home, said the family member. She has done a lot of hard work, said one of the family members.

Relatives and neighbours gathered at her residence in Phase V in Mohali to congratulate the family. Kaur's coach, Nagesh Gupta, said he was proud of her performance and also said she was always dedicated to the game. Skipper Harmanpreet Kaur's village in Moga district, too, erupted in jubilation.

"It was a great match. We are very happy about the victory. We distributed sweets," said a villager.

Links to Pulwama terror attack : Man loses Rs 10L to fraudsters

SAUMYA SHUKLA
NEW DELHI

A 32-year-old Delhi resident was allegedly duped of over Rs 9 lakh by a person posing as the chief of the Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) and accusing him of being involved in the Pulwama terror attack, police said on Monday.

A case was registered on October 14 after the complainant, a resident of Karol Bagh, told police that on August 13, he received calls from multiple unknown numbers whose callers falsely accused him of being involved in the 2019 Pulwama terror attack.

I received phone calls on my mobile number from three different numbers where the callers falsely accused me of being involved in the Pulwama Attack in Kashmir and alleged that an amount of Rs 50 lakhs had been credited to a bank account opened in my name in Kashmir: 32-year-old Delhi resident

They claimed Rs 50 lakh had been deposited in a bank account opened under the victim's name in Kashmir, police said, citing an FIR.

"I received phone calls on my mobile number from three different numbers where the callers falsely accused me of being involved

in the Pulwama Attack in Kashmir and alleged that an amount of Rs 50 lakhs had been credited to a bank account opened in my name in Kashmir," it said.

Claiming the account was linked to his ID, the callers warned the victim to keep the matter secret, claiming



'influential persons' were involved, the FIR said.

The callers then allegedly instructed him to switch on his camera, lock his room, and avoid informing his family members.

They "interrogated" him, collected details of his bank accounts, and connected him to another person who introduced himself as the chief of the Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS), the FIR said.

The complainant said the accused directed him to come to the Lucknow office to join the investigation, but he conveyed unwillingness.

The victim was allegedly told to transfer money for "fund legalisation" to an account purportedly approved by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). Anxious over the threats, the complainant transferred Rs 8.9 lakh through RTGS from his bank account and an additional Rs 77,000 via online payment application to a UPI ID, according to the FIR.

Later, the accused sent him a forged bail applica-

tion, demanding another Rs 4 lakh for his "release". When he refused to pay further, the callers disconnected and switched off their phones, police said.

"I have suffered a total loss of Rs 9,67,000 and mental harassment due to the fraudulent acts of these unknown persons," the complainant told police.

A case was registered under section 318(4) (cheating) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita on October 14, and efforts are underway to trace the accused and recover the cheated amount, the senior police officer said.

Earlier in a similar mo-

dis operandi, a 78-year-old retired banker from South Delhi lost nearly Rs 23 crore in a digital arrest scam between August 4 and September 4. The accused threatened him with being involved in funding the Pulwama terror attack.

On February 14, 2019, a devastating terror attack took place in Pulwama, Jammu and Kashmir, when an explosive-laden vehicle rammed into a convoy carrying CRPF personnel, killing at least 40 jawans. The attacker was identified as Adil Ahmed Dar, a member of Pakistan-based terror group Jaish-e-Mohammad.

Voting in JNUSU elections today

Campaign silence falls after fiery final debate; It is expected to be a closely contested poll between the Left Unity and the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad

HANS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI

CAMPAIGNING ended on the early hours of Monday for the JNU Students' Union elections, paving the way for voting on Tuesday, in what is expected to be a closely contested poll between the Left Unity and the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP).

Polling will be held on November 4 in two sessions, from 9 am to 1 pm and 2:30 pm to 5:30 pm, with counting to begin at 9 pm. The final results will be declared on November 6.

The polls have brought the campus alive after months of political activity, protests and debates over accessibility, inclusion and university governance.

This year's contest is primarily between the Left Unity, comprising the All India Students' Association (AISA), Students' Federation of India (SFI) and Democratic Students' Federation (DSF), and the ABVP, which has mounted an aggressive



campaign centred on "performance and nationalism."

The mandatory 24-hour "no-campaigning" period began after the presidential debate in the early hours of Monday, the campaign's grand finale, where six candidates from the Left, ABVP, NSUI, Progressive Students' Association (PSA), Dissha Students' Organisation (DSO) and independent panels faced off before a packed audience at the Students' Activity Centre. The BAPSA candidate could not participate because of a personal

issue.

Left candidate Aditi Mishra, a PhD scholar from the School of International Studies, said the polls were being held "at a time when dissent and equality are under threat," and promised to defend "an inclusive JNU that remains accessible to all."

Her main rival, ABVP's Vikas Patel, accused the Left of "ruling and ruining JNU for five decades," saying students now want "accountability and solution-oriented politics."

Other candidates, including PSA's Shinde Vijayalaxmi Vyankat Rao, NSUI's Vikash and independent Angad Singh, criticised both dominant blocs for "ignoring core student issues" such as fellowships, hostel safety and research support.

Rao's fiery speech against campus restrictions, punctuated with poetry by Bashir Badr, drew strong applause from the crowd.

The Left Unity has fielded Aditi Mishra (President), Kizhakoot Gopika Babu (Vice-President), Sunil Yadav (General Secretary) and Danish Ali (Joint Secretary), while the ABVP's panel includes Vikas Patel (President), Tanya Kumari (Vice-President), Rajeshwar Kant Dubey (General Secretary) and Anuj (Joint Secretary).

Last year, AISA's Nitish Kumar had won the president's post, while ABVP's Vaibhav Meena broke a decade-long drought to secure the Joint Secretary position, a result the organisation hailed as "a historic shift" in campus politics.

Infant mowed down by SUV in Delhi's Samaypur Badli

HANS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI

AN infant was killed allegedly after being hit by an SUV in outer Delhi's Samaypur Badli area, police said on Monday.

The incident took place around 4 pm on Sunday near Balaji Nursery on the Siras Pur Road, when the vehicle, being driven by a 20-year-old youth, hit the 14-month-old baby, the police said.

"The victim's mother was standing by the road with her son when the speeding vehicle struck the boy. The child sustained grievous injuries and was rushed to Burari hospital, where doctors declared him dead," a senior police officer said.

A case has been registered under sections 281 (rash driving) and 106(1) (causing death by negligence) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, the officer added.

The driver, Samar Choudhary, a resident of Rohini, has been arrested, and the offending vehicle has been seized, police said. Further investigation is underway.

Man held for extorting money after forcing girl to share obscene pics

HANS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI

A man has been arrested for allegedly extorting money from a girl and her family after coercing her into sharing obscene pictures of herself, police said on Monday.

The accused, identified as Sumit Kumar (28), was previously arrested in a case registered under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO) in 2020. He secured bail in February 2021 and was declared a proclaimed offender in March 2024 after failing to appear before the court.

According to police, the complainant reported that his daughter received a message on social media from a hacked ID of her ex-tutor. The sender falsely claimed that her nude photographs were available online and sent a phishing link requiring her social media credentials.

Upon login, the accused hacked her account and co-



erced her to share obscene images under fear and deception.

He had also blackmailed the complainant by sending her morphed images and threatening to circulate them unless she paid him money, a senior police officer said.

On Monday, he was arrested from a wine shop in Noida following a well-coordinated operation, the officer said.

Police said the accused is a repeat cyber-offender and had earlier been arrested in another case in Malviya Nagar for a similar modus operandi — hacking social

media accounts of women, impersonating them, and extorting money by threatening to share their morphed images.

During interrogation, Kumar disclosed that after jumping bail in 2021, he had fled to his native village in Bihar and later took up a job as a housekeeping supervisor in an IT firm in Noida, believing he would not be traced.

He confessed to committing such crimes to make easy money, police said.

Police said efforts are underway to examine whether the accused was involved in any other similar offences.



Leaked audio clips alleging Biren's role tampered with: SC

HANS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI

THE Supreme Court on Monday observed that the National Forensic Science Laboratory (NFSL) at Gujarat has said the leaked audio clips, which allegedly pointed to the purported role of former Manipur CM N Biren Singh in the 2023 ethnic violence in the state, were "tampered with".

A bench of Justices Sanjay Kumar and Alok Aradhe observed that according to the NFSL's report, the audio clips exhibited signs of editing and tampering and were not scientifically fit for forensic voice comparison.

"Consequently, no opinion regarding the similarity or dissimilarity of the speakers in the question and the controlled clips can be offered," the bench said, while referring to the NFSL's report.

The apex court was hearing a petition filed by Kuki Organisation for Human Rights Trust (KOHUR) which has sought an independent SIT probe into the matter. Advocate Prashant Bhushan, appearing for KOHUR, said that a copy of the NFSL's report be shared with the parties so that they could respond to it.

The bench directed the apex court registry to submit a copy of the report to the counsel appearing for the parties and posted the matter for hearing on December 8.

Rekha begins three-day Bihar campaign for NDA candidates

PURNA SINGH
NEW DELHI

DELHI Chief Minister Rekha Gupta is set to leave for Bihar this evening to campaign in the ongoing Assembly elections. Over the next three days, she will lead an intensive campaign across the state, rallying support for National Democratic Alliance (NDA) candidates.

Gupta will be joined by senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leaders, representatives from allied parties, and local party workers. Her campaign schedule includes multiple public meetings and roadshows aimed at energizing voters ahead of the upcoming polling phases.

This marks Gupta's third visit to Bihar during the current election season, described by party insiders as a high-impact outreach effort. During the three-day tour, she is expected to address gatherings in 12 to 15 constituencies, focusing particularly on regions heading to the polls on November 6 and



11. The Chief Minister will arrive in Patnaand is scheduled to kick off her campaign with a public rally in the Bankipur Assembly constituency later that night.

Her itinerary includes rallies and roadshows in Siwan, Barharia, Baikunthpur, and nearby constituencies on November 4.

The following day, she will campaign in Gaura Bauram, Arwal, Gaya City, and Aurangabad. On November 6, her tour will conclude with rallies in Bhagalpur, Warisalganj, Hisua, and Dinara.

Gupta is expected to return to New Delhi on the night of November 6 after completing the high-intensity campaign.

Workshop to combat new-age nicotine devices

HANS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI

THE Delhi Police has become the first police force to organise a dedicated capacity-building workshop on tackling the menace of vaping and new-age nicotine devices, an official said on Monday. The half-day session, titled "Enforcement in the Digital Age: Tackling the Vape Culture Among Youth", was held at the Delhi Police Academy in Rajinder Nagar on Sunday, in collaboration with the citizen-led movement Mothers Against Vaping (MAV). "The initiative aimed to equip officers with a clear understanding of the Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes Act (PECA), 2019 and address digital enforcement challenges such as online smuggling, illegal promotion, and disguised sales," said MAV in a statement.

Addressing the participants, Dr Rajesh Gupta, Director and Head, Respiratory Medicine, Yashoda Medicity, said many youngsters today are being drawn to sleek, flavoured products that appear harmless but are gateways to nicotine dependence and more serious addictions.

tioner's counsel, stating that such a plea should never have been brought before the court.

The lawyer expressed regret and sought to withdraw the petition. The petition was then dismissed as withdrawn.

Besides the Registrar General of the High Court, the plea had made the Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of Home Affairs, the leader of opposition in Lok Sabha, the Registrar General of the apex court and others as parties.

Dynastic politics 'grave threat' to democracy: Shashi Tharoor

HANS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI

SENIOR Congress leader Shashi Tharoor has said that dynastic politics across the political spectrum poses a "grave threat" to Indian democracy and asserted it is high time that India traded "dynasty for meritocracy".

He said that when political power is determined by lineage rather than ability, commitment or grassroots engagement, the quality of governance suffers.

In an article for international media organisation Project Syndicate, the Thiruvananthapuram MP pointed out that while the Nehru-Gandhi family is associated with the Congress, dynastic succession prevails across the political spectrum.

Tharoor's remarks come weeks after the row over his comments on the India-Pakistan conflict and the diplomatic outreach after the Pahalgam attack. His comments were at variance with the Congress stand and many party leaders took a swipe at him, questioning his intentions.

In the article titled 'Indian Politics Are a Family Business', Tharoor said that for decades, one family has towered over Indian politics and the influence of the Nehru-Gandhi dynasty -- including independent India's first prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru, prime ministers Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi, and current opposition leader Rahul Gandhi and MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra -- is bound up with the history of India's struggle for freedom.

"But it has also cemented



the idea that political leadership can be a birthright. This idea has penetrated Indian politics across every party, in every region, and at every level," Tharoor said.

Pointing out that dynastic succession prevails across the political spectrum, Tharoor said that after the passing of Biju Patnaik, his son Naveen won his father's vacant seat in the Lok Sabha.

The Maharashtra-based Shiv Sena's founder Bal Thackeray passed the mantle to his son Uddhav, whose own son Aditya is waiting visibly in the wings, he said.

"The same goes for Samajwadi Party founder Mulayam Singh Yadav, a former chief minister of Uttar Pradesh, whose son Akhilesh Yadav later served in the same post; Akhilesh is now an MP and the president of the party. In Bihar state, the leader of the Lok Janshakti Party, Ram Vilas Paswan, was succeeded by his son Chirag Paswan," Tharoor said, citing more examples of political dynasties.

Beyond the Indian "heartland", Jammu and Kashmir has been led by three generations of Abdullahs, with the principal opposition party dominated by two generations of Muf-tis, he said.

"In Punjab, the Shiromani Akali Dal, long commanded by Parkash Singh Badal, has been taken over by his son Sukhbir. Telangana is currently witnessing a battle for succession between the son and the daughter of the Bharat Rashtra Samithi's founder, K Chandrasekhara Rao. In Tamil Nadu, the late M Karunanidhi's family controls the ruling Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam party, with his son M K Stalin now serving as chief minister and his grandson anointed as heir apparent," he said in his article.

Tharoor also argued that this phenomenon is not limited to a handful of prominent families but is rather woven deeply into the fabric of Indian governance, from village councils to the highest echelons of Parliament.

"To be fair, such dynastic politics are practised across the Indian subcontinent," he said, citing examples of the Bhuttos and Sharifs in Pakistan, the Sheikh and Zia families in Bangladesh, and the Bandaranaiques and the Rajapaksas in Sri Lanka.

"But they appear particularly incongruous with India's vibrant democracy. Why then has India embraced the dynastic model so fully? One reason might be that a family can serve effectively as a brand: candidates with built-in name recognition do not have to work as hard to attract voters' attention or build their trust. If voters accepted a candidate's father, aunt or sibling, they would probably accept the candidate -- no credibility-building required," Tharoor said in

Tharoor's remarks come weeks after the row over his comments on the India-Pakistan conflict and the diplomatic outreach after the Pahalgam attack. His comments were at variance with the Congress stand and many party leaders took a swipe at him, questioning his intentions

the article published October 31.

However, he noted that with the literacy rate approaching 81 per cent and mobile-internet penetration exceeding 95 per cent, other forces must also be at work.

"Perhaps the most important arises from internal party dynamics. Indian political parties are largely personality-driven (with a few exceptions). Leadership-selection processes are often opaque, with decisions made by a small clique or even a single leader -- figures with little interest in rocking the boat. As a result, nepotism generally trumps meritocracy," he said.

Tharoor asserted that dynastic politics pose a grave threat to Indian democracy.

"When political power is determined by lineage rather than ability, commitment or grassroots engagement, the quality of governance suffers. Drawing from a smaller talent pool is never advantageous, but it is especially problematic when candidates' main qualification is their surname," he said. In fact, given that members of political dynasties are likely to be insulated from the challenges faced by ordinary people, they are often particularly ill-equipped to respond effectively to their constituents' needs, Tharoor said.

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CALL it a superstition or by any other name, number 13 is generally presumed to be an unlucky number. But to the Indian women cricketers it was the 13th edition of the ICC Women's World Cup 2025 that provided the icing on the cake; the realisation of a decades-long dream. In many ways, the crème-la-crème was much like the historic day (June 25, 1983) when Kapil Dev's 'nowhere in the hunt' unsung team gave a major push to cricket back home with a stunning showing that propelled India into the big league. It is likewise with November 2, 2025, which will go down in history as a momentous day for Indian cricket, thanks to the stunning exploits of Harman's Angels (we can't think of a better sobriquet to Kapil's Devils). It was the providential third time lucky

Harman's Angels cast a spell for ages

for Indian women. Poetic justice was rendered in Navi Mumbai on a magnificent Sunday after the 'so near so far' syndrome had jinxed the team twice over in the 2005 and 2017 finals of the Women's World Cup. Meanwhile, unlike the men, Indian women had to fight two adversaries --their opponents and the naysayers. Their coming on top in the first category will hopefully silence the naysayers and the prophets of doom, once and for all. Based on past performances vis-à-vis World Cup outings, India had the psychological edge while going into the championship clash considering that their opponents South Africa were in the finals for the first time and India was playing its third

and that too on home soil. Now that Indian women have proved that they are second to none, including in the game's shorter version, and once the euphoria sinks in, the players must start regrouping themselves rather than basking in the new-found glory. After all, uneasy lies the head that wears the crown. Towards this, they must hit the ground after they are through with a well-deserved break. It is quite ironic that the team began to blossom somewhere in the middle of the championship and peaked in the matches that mattered the most, the semifinals and the championship clash in which they came up with a clinical performance that dashed the last hurrah hopes

of South African captain Laura Wolvaardt and took India to the pinnacle of glory. Meanwhile, the BCCI has done well by announcing an overwhelming Rs 51 crore to Harmanpreet and her girls for lifting cricket's most cherished trophy. Beginning tomorrow, the nation will be baffled to notice how opportunistically calculating can men players, celebrities and politicians be. The very people who shunned women cricketers all these years will go all out to be 'seen' with them and be captured in photographs with the newly crowned queens. A redeeming feature was at the DY Patil stadium that was packed to capacity. However, barring former India

captains Sachin Tendulkar and Rohit Sharma, there was no celebrity worth the name to cheer for the Indian gladiators among the audience. It was only Sunil Gavaskar who pepped up the team's morale while assuring a jamming session with the star of the semifinal conquest of defending champion Australia, Jemimah Rodrigues if India wins their maiden World Cup. A touching moment in the post-match event was Harmanpreet's thanksgiving bow to coach Amol Majumdar. Having scripted a new chapter after breaking the barrier, the girls must concentrate on consolidating their position hereafter. Diana Eduljee, was undoubtedly speaking for millions, with her remark, "I've waited for this since 2017... This is the 1983 moment for us..." Hope springs eternal.

LETTERS

Road mishaps expose systemic negligence

The tragic road accident in Rangareddy district that claimed 19 lives, coming barely weeks after the Kurnool accident which killed 19, is deeply unfortunate and distressing. Road accidents and the resultant loss of precious lives are becoming disturbingly frequent across the country. Ironically, despite repeated fatalities, authorities have failed to take effective measures to curb the road menace. Enforcement of traffic rules remain dismal and compliance among motorists is alarmingly low. Over speeding, reckless driving, and disregard for basic safety norms continue unabated as there is no appropriate check mechanism. It is imperative that stringent actions be initiated—strong law enforcement, awareness campaigns, and improved infrastructure—to ensure road safety.

N Sadhasiva Reddy, Bengaluru-56

A ghastly road accident

WITHIN a short gap, two ghastly road accidents have occurred in the two Telugu states. Around 19 persons died near Kurnool city when the bus they were travelling in caught fire on October 24. The second one that also claimed 19 lives happened early Monday morning at Mirajaguda in Rangareddy district. This apparently occurred after a TGSRTC bus was rammed into by gravel-laden truck. Wherever the road accidents occur, the reasons generally attributed as over speed, overload, drunk and drive, pathetic roads, invisible sign boards, driving under stress or when feeling drowsy. Sadly, the governments which are in hurry to announce ex gratia never focus on coming up with corrective measures.

Pratapa Reddy Yaramala, Tiruvuru (AP)

Decades of toil bears fruit

Indian women's maiden ODI World Cup triumph is not only a stupendous achievement but also historic coming as it did after several decades of toiling and grooming. This cup of joy should remain in India forever as there is no dearth of talent in our country. Previously nepotism played a crucial role in the selection of the team. Things changed after the NDA assumed office in 2014. Slowly but surely the team gelled well and reached its goal rather easily. In fact the emphatic win against Australia in the semifinal, cemented our team's chances. Institutional encouragement and support from the government did the trick in building the players' confidence. The standout performance in the final was from Shafali Verma. The women cricketers did India proud. Hearty congratulations to the team and India!

Govardhana Myneedu, Vijayawada

A shot in the arm for women's cricket in India

CONGRATULATIONS to the Indian women's cricket team for winning the Women's World Cup 2025 after beating South Africa by 52 Runs. It was an emphatic victory for the Women in Blue. The journey to the final was quite inspirational as they defeated title favourite Australia in the semifinals. Shafali Verma and Smriti Mandhana stood with their partnership. Verma also came good with the ball while scalping two batters. Deepti Sharma was quite sensational with the bat and ball. It was a night filled with excitement and drama. The DY Patil stadium in Navi Mumbai had a capacity crowd which was cheering every shot played by the host players. Our team's incredible is testimony to the progress made by the team over the years. This win will change the future of women's cricket in India.

Parimala G Tadas, Hyderabad-50

Magnificent Indian women

IN a great show, 11 Indian women rewrote history by winning their maiden ICC Women's World Cup by defeating South Africa by 52 runs in Sunday's final. They made tryst with destiny, so to say. November 2, 2025, will be written in golden letters in the history of India. Much alike June 25, 1983, when Kapil's Devils won the first ODI World Cup for India. Shafali Verma won the 'player of the final match' award for her quickfire 87 runs (in 78 balls) and two wickets. Equally outstanding was South African captain Wolvaardt's century.

PVP Madhu Nivriti, Secunderabad-61

thehansreader@gmail.com

BENGALURU ONLINE

'Two mediocre sons control K'taka'

BENGALURU: BJP MP Lahar Singh Siroya on Monday attacked Minister Priyank Kharge and Congress MLC Yathindra Siddaramaiah, alleging that the state was being "controlled by two mediocre sons" who "stoke needless controversy" and "ride roughshod over all seniors" in their party and in the government.

He alleged that despite being "arrogant" and violating their own high command's guidelines, they are tolerated. "One is not sure if the two act independently or are mouthpieces of their fathers? From my many political interactions, I have learnt that the two sons are intensely disliked by their own partymen. They are being tolerated because their fathers are in power. The moment their fathers step down, I am told, the reality for these two sons may become very different. If one son now acts like a super Congress President, the other acts like a super Chief Minister," Siroya said in a post on 'X'.

Priyank Kharge is the son of Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, while Yathindra is the son of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah. The BJP MP claimed that, despite all the controversies, both their fathers don't seem to have the ability to stop them or correct them.

"Perhaps they secretly enjoy their dominance in the party and government, and use them as tools to communicate and accomplish what they cannot say or do directly," he said. Taking a dig at Priyank Kharge, the BJP MP said the minister constantly makes ideological statements on the RSS and BJP, which is more in tune with Rahul Gandhi's "hate-filled" language. "This indirectly earns brownie points for Kharge Senior with the Nehru-Gandhi family and helps him survive in Delhi. Kharge Junior has become a kind of guru to the Siddaramaiah government on ideological matters," he alleged.

Read more at
<https://epaper.thehansindia.com>

The new criminal law is compelling disclosure of sources



DR MADABHUSHI SRIDHAR ACHARYULU

All rules under the Data Act (DPDPA), including questions, apprehensions and queries revolving around pre-censorship that curbs freedom of press are taking one back in time to the dark days of Emergency. As things stand, the Centre, the ministry, its officers and staff pose a threat to Article 19(1)(a) in particular, and to the Constitution of India, in general.

New pre-censorship: Blocking news site

A journalist body rights contends "Repeated non-compliance can ultimately attract blocking under the IT Act, read with Section 37 DPDPA (blocking for data-protection reasons). Will MEITY commit to seeking prior judicial authorisation before any news site is disabled?

Secondly, journalists can forget public interest reporting and kill small newsrooms. What is the quantifiable threshold of non-compliances before blocking action is initiated? When deciding penalties, Section 33 directs the Board to consider factors such as the "nature, gravity and duration" of the breach. Given that honest public-interest reporting may involve leaked data, how will proportionality be guaranteed so fines do not have a chilling effect on smaller

newsrooms and individuals engaged in journalistic activity?

Third points to killing journalism through two enactments: MEITY obtaining DPDPA's consent and meeting requirements with statutory privileges under the Press and Registration of Periodicals Act and the Working Journalists (Conditions of Service) Act remain a source for debate.

The fourth point is about getting attacked in the name of the Information Technology Act. Given that the Central Government has been empowered to block information/content under Section 69A of the IT Act, what is the purpose behind including Section 37(1)(b) that creates another parallel blocking regime that further empowers the Central Government to issue blocking directions under the DP-DPA framework?

Scribes cannot pay heavy penalty:

Every rule is dangerous due to the penalty clause. The society should realise that a real threat is from the proposed penalty clause of Rs 250 crore, which can go up to Rs 500 crore against an individual or entity if the DPDPA Board appointed by the government deems fit. This effectively can close the gates of information, journalism and freedom of speech and expression. In short, it will kill a significant part of the Constitution.

Child 'Data Act':

There is a 'child data' law, though adults suffer. Implementation of the 'child data' law can be draconian. Generally, rules under a statute (an Act) should not create substantive legal problems. They are expected to help ease the difficulties in understanding and implemen-

tation of the law.

But then, Draft Rule 10(1) forces outlets to obtain age-verified parental consent before processing a child's data. How should people involved in journalistic activity or media organisations cover issues affecting minors in real-time without breaching this rule?

Revealing sources:

Media has always debated about protecting resources of reporting. It is not just an ethical question but a serious criminal point. The flashpoint is in 'revealing sources' and it gives sweeping powers to the Union Government. Journalist bodies and activists fear that clauses granting the government broad powers could be misused to unmask confidential sources. Besides pre-censorship, together with 'compelling the resource of reporting the news' will be more draconian than the '1975 Emergency' phase.

Since ages 'revealing sources' were protected as ethical and legal principles in democracies. Exceptions can only be in some compelling legal situations. Journalists' sources are revealed when their identities are exposed, either through their own voluntary disclosure or by being forced by legal authorities, which can happen in court if the information pertains to a crime or other legal proceedings. Sources are revealed when legal protections are absent, or when a journalist cannot or will not use legal or technological methods to keep them anonymous. Source protection is vital, as without it, people would be deterred from sharing public interest information with journalists.

Members from the Press Club of India (PCI) and the Indian Women Press Corps



The society should realise that a real threat is from the proposed penalty clause of Rs 250 crore, which can go up to Rs 500 crore against an individual or entity if the DPDPA Board appointed by the government deems fit. This effectively can close the gates of information, journalism and freedom of speech and expression. In short, it will kill a significant part of the Constitution.

(IWPC) have raised worries over the consequences of the Digital Personal Data Privacy (DPDP) Act, 2023, and the rules thereof. The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeiTy) is yet to reply to media representations and the serious apprehensions. This is how threats to journalism emanate from the Data Act. The press bodies' pointed out: Clause (c) of sub-section (7) under Section 28 and Section 36 give the Data Protection Board and the Central Government sweeping powers to call for "any data, book, document, register, and book of account or any other document."

Now, investigative journalism largely relies on "source-based information" or leads provided by whistleblowers. Given the wide range of powers that have been vested in the Data Protection Board, it can very well demand a person involved in journalistic activity or media organisation to reveal the "source".

In that case, what are the protections available to a person involved in journalistic activity and media organisations from revealing a

"source" under the Act?

No editorial independence?

Draft Rule 6(g) demands "appropriate technical and organisational measures to ensure effective observance of security safeguards" and can be enforced by the Board. What limits will be set so that inspections do not morph into newsroom searches, jeopardising editorial independence remains unknown?

Whistle-blower and a bleak future!

Draft Rule 7 obliges a data fiduciary to alert every affected person after a leak. If a whistle-blower leaks wrongdoing inside a company, PSU, government department, etc., must the person involved in journalistic activity or the newsroom notify the very officials under investigation, thereby exposing its source?

Consent management:

The draft rules allow the Board to suspend or cancel a consent manager's registration and compel information disclosure. If a media-run consent tool is

de-registered, is there an appeal platform, and how will the ongoing subscriptions be maintained?

Draft Rule 6 requires encryption, extensive logging and one-year log retention. What financial or technical assistance will be offered to small, independent outlets that cannot afford enterprise-grade infrastructure?

Section 7(b) allows data processing by the state to provide state benefits. Rule 5 explicitly lets the State reuse personal data to deliver subsidies without consent, subject only to minimal standards. What safeguards will prevent such "lawful" data-sharing from being repurposed to identify or retaliate against critical journalists?

Why is it only in India?

"Worldwide, such laws exempt journalists, and our endeavour is also to ensure that this Act also exempts the professional work of journalists. We are hoping to seek an appointment with the minister concerned for a meeting at the earliest to take forward the joint decisions taken at the open meeting on the matter," stated Gautam Lahiri, president of PCI, on X. The Press Club of India and 21 media organisations have submitted a joint memorandum to Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, urging the exclusion of journalistic work from the Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act. In addition, the civil society should study the detailed press notes of PCI and IWPC, which seek the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeiTy) to address the serious problems stemming from the DPDP Act.

(The writer is a former Central Information Commissioner, and presently Professor, School of Law, Mahindra University, Hyderabad)

Air pollution: Cloud seeding is not the solution



DR SRIDARALA RAMU

CLOUD seeding is the Cprocess of artificially inducing rainfall. To provide relief from air pollution in Delhi after Diwali, the Delhi government, in collaboration with IIT-Kanpur, conducted cloud seeding on October 28. Due to atmospheric heat, water from oceans, rivers, lakes, and other water bodies evaporates into vapor. The process of converting vapor into liquid droplets is called condensation while the direct transformation of vapor into a solid is called deposition. Condensation occurs with the help of tiny particles suspended in the air. Examples include dust particles, other small particles, or volcanic ash. These tiny particles act as condensation nuclei. Water vapor gathers around these particles (condensation nu-

clei) and transforms into liquid droplets or ice crystals.

When many such liquid droplets or ice crystals accumulate, a cloud is formed. As the size and weight of these droplets or ice crystals increase, they fall to the earth as rain. This is how natural rainfall occurs.

Cloud seeding:

Clouds can naturally produce rain. But not all clouds result in rainfall. In cloud seeding, chemicals like silver iodide, dry ice, or salt act as artificial condensation nuclei. These substances are released into moisture-laden clouds using aircraft, rockets, or ground-based generators. The nuclei help form sufficient liquid droplets or ice crystals, increasing their size and weight, thereby inducing artificial rainfall.

Like a car with a working engine and fuel that may not start due to a weak battery and needs a push, cloud seeding works when clouds and sufficient moisture are present, but rain does not occur naturally.

Clouds may not always produce rain:

Cloud seeding does not



Cloud seeding can interfere with naturally occurring rainfall. The chemicals used may alter the concentration of other atmospheric gases. Artificially inducing rain in one area can disrupt weather balance in nearby regions, potentially reducing rainfall nearby. In some cases, cloud seeding has led to sudden heavy rainfall, resulting in floods.

work under clear skies. Insufficient number of condensation nuclei to convert water vapor into droplets or ice crystals. Cloud seeding aims to address such critical issues.

How can human activities affect clouds?

Research shows that aerosols released into the atmosphere due to air pollution affect cloud formation and can inhibit rainfall. Aerosols prevent water droplets in clouds from merging into larger, heavier droplets. As a result, the droplets remain very small and continue to float in the atmosphere. Thus, air

pollution from urban and industrial activities significantly impacts rainfall patterns.

Why the experiment failed in Delhi?

Cloud seeding works only when clouds have around 50 per cent or more humidity. However, in the Delhi experiment, the targeted clouds had only 15-20 per cent humidity, according to Manindra Agrawal, Director of IIT, Kanpur, which partnered with the government for the project. He stated that a chemical mixture of common salt, rock salt, and silver iodide was used.

According to the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, although cloud seeding trials are usually conducted for drought management, this was the first indigenous attempt to use the method for air pollution control, Agrawal noted.

Where has cloud seeding worked?

Over 50 countries, including Saudi Arabia, the United States, Israel, Indonesia, and Australia, have conducted cloud seeding projects at some point. Some achieved good results, while others saw little or no success.

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) is noted as one of the most successful countries in cloud seeding. It conducts operations annually to increase rainfall and combat severe water scarcity. Reports indicate rainfall increased by 10 to 30 per cent in some areas.

China's success:

During the 2008 Beijing Olympics, China successfully used cloud seeding to create favourable weather conditions. To prevent rain during the opening and closing ceremonies, clouds were

"emptied" in advance. China launched over 1,100 rockets from several locations, using silver iodide for cloud seeding. This subsequently delayed rainfall in Beijing and resulted in clear skies.

Adverse effects:

Cloud seeding can interfere with naturally occurring rainfall. The chemicals used may alter the concentration of other atmospheric gases. Artificially inducing rain in one area can disrupt weather balance in nearby regions, potentially reducing rainfall nearby. In some cases, cloud seeding has led to sudden heavy rainfall, resulting in floods.

Scientists warn that cloud seeding is not a permanent solution to Delhi's air pollution. While it may provide short-term relief, it does not address the root causes of pollution. Even if artificial rain is successful, it may clear the air for only a few hours or days—a temporary fix. Therefore, it is important to implement long-term strategies to tackle air pollution.

(The writer is a Chemistry and Environmental Sciences faculty)

CROP INSURANCE

Companies reap profits while farmers get pittance

- Private insurance companies collected Rs 5,850 cr in premiums over three years but paid only Rs 930 cr to farmers, retaining 85% as profits
- Under weather-based schemes, Rs 1,567 cr in premiums yielded zero compensation to farmers despite cyclones, floods and droughts
- Enrolment is high (e.g., 25.28 lakh in 2022 kharif), but payouts reach few (e.g., only 3.43 lakh compensated), with tenant farmers demanding direct government intervention

DASARI SRINIVASA RAO
VIJAYAWADA



Paddy crop, which was damaged during the recent Cyclone Montha in Pedana in Krishna district
(File Photo)

THE crop insurance schemes introduced by the Central government, projected as a safety net for farmers facing natural calamities, have instead become a source of windfall profits for private insurance companies. Data from the past three years reveals a shocking imbalance, while insurance firms collected nearly Rs 5,850 crore in premiums, the compensation paid to farmers amounts to a mere Rs 930 crore. This means that 85 per cent of the funds went into corporate coffers rather than reaching the distressed cultivators.

Under both the Pradhan Mantri

Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) and Weather-Based Insurance Schemes, farmers from the state, along with the state and Central governments, contributed large sums since the 2022 kharif season to the 2024 rabi. Yet, despite natural disasters such as cyclones, floods and droughts during this period, the compensation flow to farmers has been negligible. Out of Rs 1,567 crore collected under weather insurance alone, not a single rupee was paid to any farmer.

When the YSRCP government came to power in 2019, it initially replaced the Central scheme with a free crop insurance model, which

directly benefited farmers without intermediaries.

However, after pressure from the Centre, the State rejoined the Central insurance programmes from the 2022 Kharif. Since then, private companies have regained control—marking the return of old problems like delayed settlements, rejected claims, and massive profit accumulation.

Participation figures further expose the disparity. In 2022 kharif, 25.28 lakh farmers enrolled, but only 3.43 lakh received compensation, while in rabi 64,000 farmers received insurance out of 15.22 lakh

enrolled. In Kharif 2023, 98,000 farmers got claims out of 22.68 lakh insured, and in rabi that year, 1.43 lakh people out of 12.92 lakh people got compensation. Even after the TDP-led NDA coalition government promised free crop insurance in kharif 2024, only 82,000 farmers received a meagre Rs 8.53 crore in compensation.

In contrast, under the Weather-Based Insurance Scheme, crores in premiums were collected in multiple seasons — 2023 kharif, 2023 Rabi, 2024 Kharif and 2024 rabi — but not a single claim has been settled so far. These figures paint a grim picture: crop insurance, instead of being a shield for the farmer, has become a lucrative avenue for private companies, leaving the food producers of the nation empty-handed.

P Jamalaiah, state general secretary of the Andhra Pradesh Koulu Rythula (Tenant Farmers) Association, told 'The Hans India' that the government must ensure prompt insurance payments to farmers affected by natural calamities. He criticised successive governments for neglecting farmers' interests and allowing insurance companies to impose harsh conditions.

Jamalaiah urged that during cyclones and disasters, the government should personally intervene to guarantee compensation for farmers' crop losses without bureaucratic delays.

Narayana invites Dubai investors to CII summit

- The minister highlights Andhra Pradesh's investment-friendly policies.
- Holds meetings with Shobha Group, KEF Holdings and Indian consulate officials, seeking investments in urban infrastructure and healthcare sectors
- Stresses the state's single-desk clearance system and rapid development reforms under Chandrababu Naidu to attract global investors

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYAWADA



Municipal administration and urban development minister P Narayana with officials of KEF Holdings at its headquarters in Dubai on Monday

development and its investor-friendly ecosystem.

He held discussions with Vikram Dutta, senior vice-president of Shobha Group. Narayana invited the company to invest in urban infrastructure projects in Andhra Pradesh, noting that the state aims to become a premier investment destination through the upcoming partnership summit. Sobha Group has reportedly shown interest in exploring investment possibilities in the state.

Narayana also met Indian Consul General Satish Sivan, explaining that the state is adopting a speed of doing business approach through a single-desk clearance system to fast-track industrial approvals. He urged the consulate to encourage Dubai-

based investors to explore opportunities in Andhra Pradesh.

The minister in the evening met Faizal Kottikollon, chairman of KEF Holdings, at the company's Dubai headquarters. The group, which has a global presence in infrastructure, healthcare and technology, was urged to invest in the healthcare sector in Andhra Pradesh.

Narayana briefed the chairman on reforms being introduced under Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu to transform the medical sector and invited KEF Holdings to visit Andhra Pradesh during the summit. He was accompanied by AP CRDA commissioner Kannababu and MAUD director Sampath Kumar during the visit.

Textiles MoUs to be signed at Partnership Summit

- Minister Savitha announces that multiple agreements in textiles will be signed at Visakhapatnam summit on Nov 14-15, with two exclusive stalls
- Review meeting with officials focuses on inviting interested investors and details of proposed units and investment scales
- AP Pavilion to feature ODOP award-winning products in one stall and handloom fabrics for sale in the other

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYAWADA



Textiles and handlooms minister S Savitha holds a review with senior officials of department at her chamber in Secretariat on Monday

MINISTER for handlooms and textiles S Savitha has announced that several Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) in the textiles sector will be signed during the Partnership Summit scheduled to be held in Visakhapatnam on the November 14 and 15. She said that two exclusive stalls will also be set up at the summit.

The minister held a review on Monday at her chamber in the Secretariat, attended by handlooms and textiles department principal secretary R P Sisodia, commissioner Rekharani, and industries secretary N Yuvraj. She stated that a special slot has been allotted for MoU exchanges related to the textiles sector during the

summit. Savitha instructed officials to ensure that investors who have already shown interest in investing in the textiles sector in Andhra Pradesh are brought to the Visakhapatnam summit. She also enquired about the regions where investors are planning to set up units and the scale of investment proposed.

As part of the summit, an AP Pavilion will be set up, the minister said. Of the two stalls planned in the pavilion, one will showcase award-winning products and artworks under the 'One District One Product (ODOP)' initiative, while the other will be dedicated to the sale of a wide range of handloom fabrics.

Senior officials from the handlooms and textiles department participated in the meeting.

Minister vows strict measures to curb mishaps

- Ramprasad Reddy informs that private travel bus drivers will be provided with tips and training as part of the measures
- Inaugurates Rs 1.92 cr APSRTC dispensary at Alipiri, pledges better healthcare for employees
- Says law will take its own course in fake liquor case

HANS NEWS SERVICE
TIRUPATI

TRANSPORT minister Mandipalli Ramprasad Reddy said that stringent measures are being taken to prevent private bus accidents in the state. For this, tips and training are required for the drivers which will be provided soon. The minister inaugurated the newly built APSRTC dispensary at Alipiri on Monday.

Speaking on the occasion, he rejected criticism that former minister and YSRCP leader Jogi Ramesh was arrested as part of vindictive politics. Law will take its own course in the fake liquor probe and any arrests are

part of the probe only.

He said that the new dispensary will provide better healthcare facilities to employees and their families. The government is committed to ensuring the welfare of APSRTC employees. The initiative was taken under the guidance of APSRTC Vice Chairman and managing director M Dwaraka Tirumala Rao and chief medical officer Dr B Venkata Ramana.

Built at a cost of Rs 1.92 crore, the dispensary is spread across 0.12 acre land and is equipped with advanced medical infrastructure. It includes four consultation rooms, two inpatient wards, a general ward, nursing and pharmacy units,



Transport minister M Ramprasad Reddy inaugurating RTC dispensary in Tirupati on Monday. APSRTC chairman K Narayana Rao, MLA Arani Srinivasulu, TUDA chairman C Divakar Reddy and others are also seen.

laboratory, X-ray, and diagnostic sections, providing comprehensive healthcare facilities for RTC staff.

With this new facility, the RTC aims to serve nearly 6,000 employees and their families in the Tirupati district. The dispensary will operate with a team of 100 medical professionals, including 30 doctors, nurses, and paramedical staff.

Ramprasad Reddy said

that the government is determined to safeguard the health and welfare of RTC employees. He added that the new dispensary will not only serve the employees but also ensure access to quality healthcare for their dependents. The APSRTC management expressed gratitude to the government for extending continuous support to its welfare initiatives.

The inauguration ceremony

was attended by RTC chairman Konakalla Narayana Rao, vice-chairman P S Munirathnam, MLA Arani Srinivasulu, TUDA chairman C Divakar Reddy, deputy mayor R C Munikrishna, transport secretary Siva Sankar, regional manager E M Reddy and deputy chief traffic manager P Viswanath, several senior officials and employees of the corporation.

Revanth vows to complete world's longest SLBC tunnel

HANS NEWS SERVICE
HYDERABAD

STATING that the government is committed to complete the long pending world's biggest 40 km long SLBC Tunnel project works, Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy has announced that the government will provide compensation and address the grievances of the dwellers of the submerged Marlapadu, Keshya tanda and Nakkalagandi habitations located close to the SLBC project.

The project cost is estimated at Rs 4,600 crore and the government is ready to provide irrigation facilities to three lakh acres by lifting 30 TMC of water from Krishna River, the CM said. Addressing the media after launching Aerial Electromagnetic Survey for the SLBC tunnel works at Mannevari Palli in Nagarkurnool district on Monday, the Chief Minister came down heavily on the previous BRS government for not completing the prestigious SLBC tunnel works during its 10 year rule for political

Slams KCR for decade-long delay



reasons." The SLBC project was sanctioned in 1983. The YS Rajasekhara Reddy government initiated the Tunnel-1 and Tunnel-2 works in the erstwhile united Andhra Pradesh in 2004 at a cost of Rs 1,968 crore. However, after K Chandrashekar Rao became Chief Minister in 2014, the works stalled. "KCR and Harish intentionally put the project on hold and created hur-

dles to prevent water supply to Nalgonda through gravity," the Chief Minister said, adding that such a massive tunnel project had not been undertaken anywhere else in the world.

CM Revanth Reddy noted that the project would have been completed at the cost of Rs 2000 crore had the KCR government completed the works. Today, the pro-

ject cost was escalated to Rs 4,500 crore.

The CM took a broadside at KCR for not taking up even a single project on river Krishna and spent Rs 1.86 lakh crore on contractors in 10 years. Rs 1.05 lakh crore were spent alone on Kaleshwaram project, the Chief minister said that Irrigation Minister N Uttam Kumar Reddy was making all out

efforts to complete the SLBC works by roping in the Army officials to dig the tunnels without any trouble in the future.

It was unfortunate that eight workers died during the excavation of the tunnel and the government supported the bereaved family members.

People dethroned the BRS government for not completing the SLBC project and now we are taking up the works on a war footing, the CM said that people will also not forgive us if the project is not completed.

The Chief Minister also criticised the previous BRS government for compromising on the utilisation of Krishna water. "The then Irrigation minister T Harish Rao signed an agreement with Andhra Pradesh to utilise only 299 tmc of water. The Congress government took serious note of it and made strong arguments before the Tribunal to protect the state interests". The CM warned Harish Rao to stop making cheap comments and creating nonsense on water issues.

Fury over relief delay: BJP leader slams CM for 'neglecting' cyclone-hit farmers

HANS NEWS SERVICE
HYDERABAD

ALETI Maheshwar Reddy, BJP LP leader has strongly criticised the state government for its perceived inaction and mishandling of the widespread agricultural devastation caused by recent cyclonic storms.

On Monday, Reddy visited Thukkapur village in Bhuvanagiri district, where he met with farmers at the PACC.

The BJP leader highlighted the severe extent of the



damage, noting that over 5 lakh acres of farmland and nearly 3 lakh farmers across the state have suffered significant losses due to the cyclone.

"While farmers are shedding tears over their ruined

crops, the Chief Minister is busy posing for photos with Salman Khan in Mumbai," Reddy remarked, sharply accusing the government of neglecting its core responsibilities during a major state crisis.

NORTHERN RAILWAY				
E-AUCTION NOTICE				
Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Northern Railway, Ambala Cantt for and on behalf of President of India invites bids through E-Auction on IREPS website for allotment of contracts at Railway Stations of Ambala Division of Northern Railway.				
Parking	Sr. No.	Auction Catalogue No.	Description	Lot Start Date / Time
	1.	UMB-Mix-35-2025	Comprehensive Parking lot of total area 300.3 sqm. in circulating area of Barwala Railway Station.	10.11.25 12:00:00
	2.	UMB-Parkg-14-25	Allotment of Four Wheeler Parking lot of total area 528.06 sqm. at Khanna Railway Station.	10.11.25 15:00:00
	3.	UMB-Parkg-14-25	Allotment of Comprehensive Parking Cum Access Control Rights "Pickup/Drop" lanes (entry to exit) for all vehicles (Non commercial and commercial) with the parking area of 1785.44 sqm. at Amb Andaura Railway Station.	10.11.25 15:00:00
	4.	UMB-Parkg-14-25	Allotment of Comprehensive Parking Cum Access Control Rights "Pickup/Drop" lanes (entry to exit) for all vehicles (Non commercial and commercial) with the parking area of 2384.74 sqm. at Anadpur Sahib Railway Station.	10.11.25 15:00:00
Catering	5.	UMB-Parkg-15-25	Allotment of Comprehensive Parking cum Access Control Rights of area for E-Rickshaw/Three Wheeler (786 sqm.), Taxi (1651 sqm.), Two Wheeler Parking (1744 sqm.), Four Wheeler Parking (7145 sqm.), Total Parking Lot of area 11,326 sqm. at location 2nd Entry (Panchkula Side) of Chandigarh Rly Stn in (Division AMBALA).	17.11.25 11:00:00
	6.	UMB-Mix-35-2025	Allotment of Special Minor Catering Unit (size 10' x 6') at PF No. 1 of Barwala Railway Station.	10.11.25 12:00:00
	7.	UMB-Mix-35-2025	Allotment of Special Minor catering unit (stall) of size 10' x 6' at PF No. 1 of Khanna Railway Station.	10.11.25 12:00:00
	8.	UMB-Mix-35-2025	SMU Stall no. 12 at PF no. 1 of Patiala Railway Station.	10.11.25 12:00:00
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE				
3409/2025				

For every person standing behind a young girl who dares to dream of wearing India's colours, this is a pivotal moment, a reminder that dreams do come true when those dreams get the support they truly deserve

- Mithali Raj

Jemimah on historic WC triumph

‘We made collective pledge to pour our entire hearts & souls’

NEW DELHI

AFTER India won the Women's ODI World Cup trophy for the first time, right-handed batter Jemimah Rodrigues said the 52-run win in the final over South Africa was made on a shared promise by the hosts to give their everything on the field in their defence of 298/7.

In a rain-delayed final at a packed DY Patil Stadium on Sunday, India posted a formidable 298/7, thanks to Shafali Verma's 87 and Deepthi Sharma's brisk 58. In reply, South Africa were bowled out for 246 despite a valiant 101 from captain Laura Wolvaardt, with Deepthi picking up a five-wicket haul and sparking celebrations across the country.

"We entered the match with full awareness that South Africa posed a significant threat and were entirely capable of chasing down a target of 299 runs, particularly given their history of achieving such formidable totals in high-pressure situations.

"Within our dressing room, the focus was on maximizing this opportunity, recognizing that this specific combination of players might never share the field again in exactly the same configuration. We made a collective pledge to pour our entire hearts and souls into those 50 overs, vowing to leave every last ounce of our effort on the ground in pursuit of victory," said Jemimah on JioStar.

She also felt that Laura's dismissal gave them the feeling that India was close to winning the trophy on home



BCCI announces Rs 51 cr cash reward for Harmanpreet & Co

NEW DELHI: The BCCI will reward the Indian women's cricket team with Rs 51 crore for winning the ODI World Cup, secretary Devajit Saikia announced on Monday.

The Indian women's team under Harmanpreet Kaur's leadership beat South Africa by 52 runs in the final on Sunday to win its first ever global trophy.

"As a token of appreciation, the BCCI will reward the Indian women's cricket team with a cash award of Rs 51 crore for winning the World Cup. It includes all the players, support staff and the national selection committee," Saikia told PTI on Monday. (PTI)

soil. "While immense credit is due to their skipper, Laura Wolvaardt, for her exemplary leadership throughout the tournament and her magnificent innings in the final, we understood that the crucial moment arrived with her dismissal. That was the defining moment of the match, and we made sure to seize it — turning the momentum our way to eventually clinch the title."

Head coach Amol Muzumdar believes winning the trophy will be a watershed moment for women's cricket in the country. "It is genuinely challenging to articulate the full depth of emotions

and significance surrounding this moment, but I can state with absolute conviction that this remarkable group of athletes truly merits every accolade and every success that will undoubtedly follow this extraordinary triumph.

"I have witnessed firsthand the immense dedication and relentless effort they have invested throughout this journey. Securing the Women's ODI World Cup 2025 title on our home soil is, without any exaggeration, a definitive watershed moment that will fundamentally reshape the landscape and trajectory of Indian cricket for generations to come." (IANS)

‘We’ve broken the barrier, now winning must be a habit’

DEVARCHIT VERMA
NAVI MUMBAI

AT the stroke of midnight, Harmanpreet Kaur created her own legacy, broke a "barrier" with a bunch of sprightly women filled with guts and announced that this is not the end but just the beginning.

The Indian women's cricket team won its first-ever World Cup with a 52-run victory over South Africa in the summit clash here on Sunday to script a golden chapter in the country's pantheon of sporting achievements.

Having taken the World Cup-winning epochal catch Sunday night, the mercurial Indian women's team skipper displayed an entire gamut of emotions never seen before. She ran like crazy as if there was no tomorrow after taking the catch. Stood a bit detached as the youngsters celebrated, trying to soak in the moment.

Touched "Guruji" Amol Muzumdar's feet and engaged in an emotional hug where the tears burst out of the welled up eyes.

Called the two OGs of Indian women's cricket



-- Mithali Raj and Jhulan Goswami -- to hold the Cup. Both the legends broke down.

It was a moment to frame when the skipper and her deputy Smriti Mandhana engaged in a bear hug with Jhulan, telling her "Didi, Yeh Aapke liye tha (Sister, this is for you)".

And when Harmanpreet spoke at the post-match presentation ceremony, she didn't lose the macro picture of what it means to be the first women's team to achieve the unthinkable.

"This is the start. We wanted to break this barrier.

And our next plan is to make this a habit. We were waiting for it, now this moment has come. So many big occasions are coming, and we want to keep improving. This is not the end, just the beginning," the skipper said.

Captaincy is a lot about planning but just like it was Kapil Dev on June 25, 1983, whose gut feel told him to give one more over to Madan Lal against a rampaging Vivian Richards.

Harmanpreet felt that on Sunday, and her trump card was Shafali Verma, who possibly couldn't have done any wrong. (PTI)

Telangana State Gymnastics Meet

Ranga Reddy district emerges overall champion



HANS NEWS SERVICE
WARANGAL

THE 69th SGF Telangana State Gymnastics Championship 2025-26 for girls under 14, 17, and 19 years concluded on Sunday at the Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium, Warangal, with Ranga Reddy district emerging as the overall champion. The three-day event was conducted under the supervision of Alica Joe, NSNIS Gymnastics Coach and International Rhythmic Gymnastics Judge. In the Under-17 Rhythmic Gymnastics category, Balasaranitha Balaji of Ranga Reddy clinched the all-round champion title with 52.50 points, closely followed by Sindhura Ambati (51.80 points), also from Ranga Reddy. D. Harika of Karimnagar secured third place

with 20.30 points. Ranga Reddy gymnasts dominated all apparatus events, including the Hoop, Ball, Clubs, and Ribbon categories. The Under-14 all-round crown went to Dantuluri Sahasra of Ranga Reddy, who tallied 48.15 points, while teammate Anjana Gunukula (47.00) and B. Sankeerthana of Karimnagar (30.00) finished second and third respectively.

With consistent performances across categories, Ranga Reddy district lifted the Overall Championship Trophy, followed by Karimnagar in second place and Khammam in third.

The meet highlighted the rising standard of gymnastics among young girls in Telangana and the growing strength of Ranga Reddy's training programmes.

Shafali thrives in ‘God’s plan’

NAVI MUMBAI

If Shafali Verma decides to sport a tattoo that reads "God's Plan", no one can possibly disagree that it is an apt messaging.

Destiny's child Shafali Verma found her way back into the Indian women's ODI side in unfortunate circumstances but left an indelible mark on the

team's victorious World Cup campaign, thriving in "God's Plan" which can work in mysterious ways.

On a rainy August afternoon in Mumbai, former chairperson of selectors Neetu David had assured the media that Shafali will get her chance to play for India after she confirmed the

exclusion of the 21-year-old from India's World Cup squad, despite having played five of those events across formats.

Shafali had no spare time to waste as she clocked in two separate one-hour batting sessions here at the DY Patil Stadium and it's University Ground ahead of the semi-

final.

"What happened with Pratika, as a sportsperson, it wasn't a good thing. No one wants any sportsperson to sustain such an injury.

But God has sent me here to do something good," Shafali told the media prior to the semi-final. (PTI)



‘BJP indulging in ‘candidate chori’ after vote chori’

NUAPADA (ODISHA)

BJD president Naveen Patnaik on Monday accused the ruling BJP of "betrayal" and alleged that it was now indulging in "candidate chori" (stealing candidates) in connection with the upcoming Nuapada bypoll.

Addressing his first public meeting after recovering from illness, Patnaik hit the campaign trail to seek votes for BJD candidate Snehani Chhuria in Nuapada's Komana block.

"All of you know that the BJD has been betrayed. Those who indulged in 'vote



chori' and formed the government earlier have now started 'candidate chori,'" Patnaik alleged. The BJD chief's remarks were aimed at late BJD MLA Rajendra Dholakia's son Jay Dholakia, who switched to the BJP ahead of

the bypoll and is now contesting on a saffron party ticket. The bypoll was necessitated following the death of Rajendra Dholakia on September 8. Voting for the seat will be held on November 11. Urging people to give a be-

fitting reply to those involved in "vote chori and candidate chori", the former five-time chief minister appealed to voters to press the conch symbol — BJD's election symbol — on polling day.

During his 10-minute speech, Patnaik also questioned the BJP government's performance in Odisha.

"During the last 16 months, the BJP government has only focused on publicity, not on development. They are heroes in publicity, but zero in work. Development activities across the state have come to a complete halt," he alleged. (PTI)

6 arrested for routing Rs 200 cr to Dubai-based cyber criminals

AHMEDABAD: The Gujarat police's CID-Crime has arrested six persons for allegedly routing Rs 200 crore to Dubai-based cyber criminals using nearly 100 'mule' bank accounts, officials said on Monday.

Based on a specific tip off and subsequent investigation, the Gandhinagar-based Cyber Centre of Excellence of the CID-Crime arrested Mahendra Solanki, Rupen Bhatia, Rakesh Lania, Rakesh Dekivadia, Vijay Khambhalya and Pankaj Kathiria from Morbi, Surendranagar, Surat and Amreli districts, they said.

A mule account is a bank account used by criminals to receive, transfer, or launder illicit funds with or without



the knowledge of the account holder, they added. "Investigators found details of over 100 'mule' bank accounts from the mobile phones recovered from these accused. They provided 'mule' bank accounts to cyber criminals operating in different states and then sent the fraudulently acquired money to Dubai-based crime syndicate through angadia (cash courier service) or through crypto currency transfers," a CID-Crime release said.

Upon checking details on

the Union Home Ministry's 'Samanvaya' portal, it was found that the 100 bank accounts were used in 386 cyber crimes such as digital arrest, task fraud, investment fraud, loan fraud and part-time job fraud registered across the country, with victims being made to deposit Rs 200 crore in them, it said.

"The accused, for a specific commission, agreed to provide bank accounts to these cyber fraudsters to help them accept money from the victims. The accused used to withdraw cash from these bank accounts and send it to Dubai-based crime syndicates through 'angadia' (traditional couriers) or through crypto currency transfers," the release said.



Tejashwi lashes out at Modi over 'katta' remark

PATNA: RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav on Monday hit out at Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his 'katta' remark at a poll rally in Bihar, asserting that he had never heard any PM use such words.

Modi had on Sunday claimed that the Congress had been unwilling to accept Yadav as the INDIA bloc's chief ministerial, and relented only after the RJD pointed a "katta", a country-made gun, at its head.

Talking to reporters here, the RJD leader said, "I have nothing to say on the PM's comment ... I have never heard any PM in the country use such words. This shows his thought process".

"Whenever the PM goes to Gujarat, he talks about IT factories, semiconductor units and data centres... But when he comes to Bihar, he talks about 'katta'," Yadav alleged.

The PM used the simile on the campaign trail in Bihar on Sunday, where he addressed back-to-back rallies in Bhojpur and Nawada districts, and highlighted the RJD's reputation for alleged strong-arm tactics and its troubled equations with alliance partners.

"The Congress never wanted to announce the chief ministerial candidate in favour of the RJD. The RJD secured it by placing a 'katta' on the head of the Congress. They have learnt their lessons in the school of jungle raj. Such elements can never do good for Bihar," he had alleged. The Bihar assembly polls will be held in two phases on November 6 and November 11, while the counting of votes will take place on November 14. (PTI)

Lankan Navy detains 31 fishermen Stalin urges Centre to secure release of TN fishermen

CHENNAI

TAMIL Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin on Monday urged External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar to initiate immediate diplomatic efforts with the Sri Lankan government to secure the release of all the arrested fishermen along with their boats.

The Sri Lankan Navy detained 31 fishermen from Nagapattinam along with their three mechanised fishing boats on November 3, the CM said, adding that in a separate incident, four fishermen from Ramanathapuram district were also apprehended, along with their country craft.

The 31 fishermen had set sail from Akkaraipettai, according to Fisheries Department sources. They were



reportedly intercepted by the Sri Lankan Navy for violating maritime boundaries and were taken to Kankesanthurai Port, sources said.

"These recurrent incidents have caused profound distress among the fishing communities of Tamil Nadu, whose lives and livelihoods are inextricably linked to the sea. Each apprehension not only deprives families of their primary means of sustenance but also instills a deep

sense of fear and insecurity," Stalin wrote in his letter to Jaishankar.

According to him, as of now, 114 fishermen and 247 boats are under the custody of Sri Lankan authorities.

Stalin urged the External Affairs Minister to initiate immediate diplomatic efforts with the Sri Lankan government to secure the release of all the detained fishermen from Tamil Nadu along with their fishing boats. (PTI)

Priyanka mocks PM, says create ‘Apamaan Mantrayala’

SAHARSA (BIHAR)

CONGRESS leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Monday mocked Prime Minister Narendra Modi, saying that he accuses all opposition leaders of insulting the country and Bihar, and should create an 'Apamaan Mantralaya' (Ministry of Insults).

Addressing an election rally at Sonabarsa in Saharsa district, Vadra alleged that the PM speaks on "unnecessary issues but doesn't utter a word on corruption or misrule of the NDA government in Bihar".

"Instead of talking about development, the prime minister keeps accusing every opposition leader of insulting the nation and Bihar. He should form a new ministry -- Apamaan Mantralaya --



because that's what his government seems most focused on," Vadra said.

Her comments came just days after Prime Minister Narendra Modi charged the opposition Congress-RJD combine in Bihar with insult-

ing 'Chhathi Maiyya', having "problems with Ram temple at Ayodhya" and "protecting infiltrators" for the politics of vote bank and appeasement.

"Before announcing doles for Bihar during elections, Modi and Amit Shah should

first answer what the NDA did for the state in the last 20 years," she said.

The Congress general secretary alleged that the Bihar government is being "remote-controlled" from Delhi. "Nitish Kumar doesn't run the Bihar government. It is the prime minister and people at the Centre who are running the show," she said.

The NDA government in Bihar is threatening people's right to vote guaranteed by the Constitution, she alleged.

Slamming the ruling alliance over joblessness, she said, "The youth of Bihar are forced to leave the state because there are no jobs here. All major PSUs that used to generate employment have been handed over to big corporates that are friends of the BJP" (PTI)



Chiranjeevi's 'Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu' stylish climax shoot



Megastar Chiranjeevi's most-awaited wholesome entertainer, 'Mana Shankara Vara Prasad

Garu', directed by hit-machine Anil Ravipudi, also features Victory Venkatesh in a pivotal role. Venkatesh recently joined the team

and received a warm welcome from Chiranjeevi on set. Produced by Sahu Garapati and Sushmita Konidela under Shine Screens

and Gold Box Entertainments, the presented by Smt. Archana.

Meanwhile, the team has begun filming a stylish climax action sequence featuring Chiranjeevi and a group of fighters in Hyderabad. Unlike a typical action scene, this sequence is designed with a unique and visually captivating approach to impress audiences across the board. Renowned choreographer Venkat Master is supervising the action, ensuring every moment exudes precision. With Chiranjeevi's unmatched charisma and grace, combined with Anil Ravipudi's signature touch, the film promises a perfect and memorable ending. Production work is progressing at a brisk pace.

Nayanthara plays the leading lady in the film, which also features an ensemble cast with VTV Ganesh in a crucial role. Music sensation Bheems Ceciroleo provides the music, with the first single 'Meesala Pilla' trending nationwide.

Sameer Reddy handles cinematography, Tamiraju is the editor, and AS Prakash serves as the art director. The story is co-written by S. Krishna and G. Adi Narayana, with S. Krishna also serving as the executive producer.

'Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu' is gearing up to be one of the biggest attractions for Sankranthi 2026.

Priyadarshi's 'Premante' teaser unveiled

Priyadarshi, known for his strong performances in content-driven films, is back with 'Premante', a refreshing romantic comedy that takes a witty and heartfelt look at love and marriage. Directed by debutant Navaneeth Sriram, the film stars Anandhi as the female lead, alongside Suma Kanakala in a key role. Produced by Puskur Ram Mohan Rao and Jhanvi Narang under the prestigious Sree Venkateswara Cinemas LLP (SVCLLP) banner, 'Premante' is proudly presented by Rana Daggubati's Spirit Media. The film also stands as a tribute to the legacy of the late Narayan Das Narang, with Adithya Merugu joining as co-producer. The teaser has been unveiled today.

The teaser paints an amusing and heartwarming picture of newly married life—where the fairy-tale romance of forever love quickly collides with the everyday madness of reality. Priyadarshi and Anandhi step into the shoes of a young couple whose picture-perfect marriage dream soon turns into a laugh riot, filled with petty squabbles, playful misunderstandings, and moments every couple will find relatable.

Just when their domestic drama seems to settle into a routine, Suma Kanakala enters as a police head constable, a character who unexpectedly stirs up more chaos in their already topsy-turvy relationship. Her arrival adds a refreshing twist, infusing the narrative with humor and curiosity about her true role in their love story.

Director Navaneeth Sriram infuses the film



with situational humor and emotional warmth, blending relatable conflicts with sharp writing. The teaser brilliantly captures the contrast between dreamy expectations of love and the everyday realities of living together, making it instantly connect with today's audience.

Priyadarshi and Anandhi share endearing chemistry, portraying the innocence, confusion, and evolution of a couple learning to love beyond fantasy. Suma Kanakala's presence adds gravitas, while Vennela Kishore brings his signature comic timing.

The technical crew adds immense value to 'Premante'. Cinematographer Vishwanath Reddy, winner of the Gaddar Award for

Gaami, brings a vibrant, colorful visual palette that perfectly suits the film's romantic-comedy tone. Leon James, who recently delivered chartbuster tracks for Dragon, adds rhythm and emotion with his lively score. Editor Raghavendra Thirun ensures the narrative flows with engaging pace, while production designer Aravind Mule crafts a lively and relatable world for the characters. Dialogues by Karthik Thupurani and Rajkumar bring humor and heart in equal measure.

With its quirky tagline "Thrill-U Prapthirasthu!" and a vibrant blend of laughter, love, and life, 'Premante' promises a refreshing cinematic experience. The film is set to hit theatres on November 21st.

Director Ramachandra Vattikuti's 'Mutton Soup' impresses

'Mutton Soup' is a film directed by Ramachandra Vattikuti and produced by Mallikarjuna Erika (Gopal), Arun Chandra Vattikuti, and Ramakrishna Sanapala under the banners of Aluka Studios, Sri Varahi Arts, and Bhavishya Vihar. The film, starring Raman, Varsha Vishwanath, and Gemini Suresh in the lead roles, was released on October 10 and received positive reviews. Among the four films released that week, 'Mutton Soup' stood out with an impressive response from audiences and critics alike,

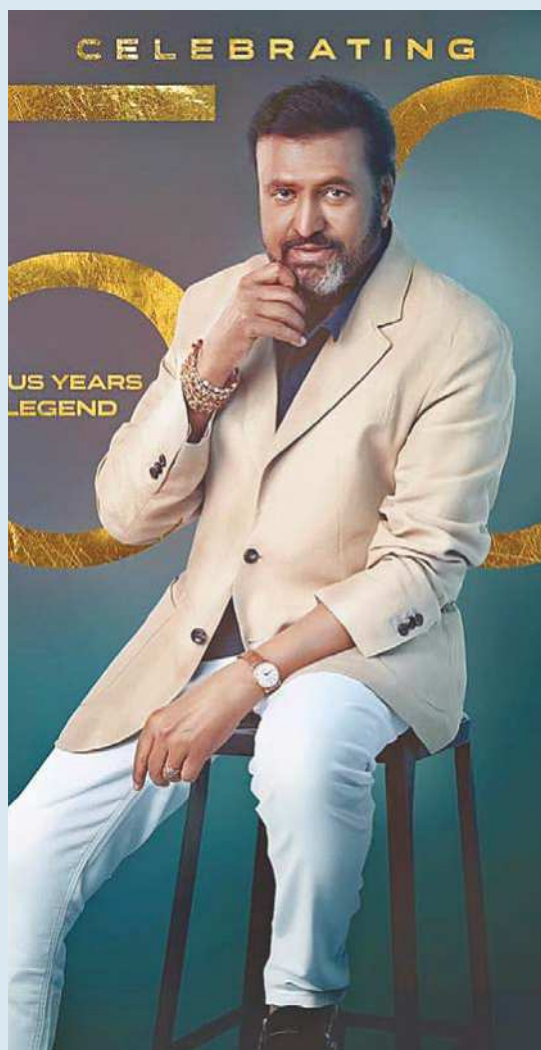


who praised its unique narrative and execution.

At a time when the popularity of short films is on the decline, audiences continue

to value films that dare to be different. In that category, 'Mutton Soup' emerges as a refreshing crime thriller. The director skillfully weaves a story inspired by true events, filled with unexpected twists and a gripping screenplay that keeps viewers on edge.

The film is set to reach a wider audience soon through an OTT release. Director Ramachandra Vattikuti, who made 'Mutton Soup' on a very low budget, is already preparing to begin his next project, once again promising a story with diverse and innovative content.



Mohan Babu's 'MB50' tribute announced

The year 2025 marks a monumental milestone in Indian cinema, as Dr. M Mohan Babu — the legendary actor, producer, educationist, and Padma Shri awardee — celebrates 50 glorious years in the film industry. To honour this extraordinary journey, a grand event titled 'MB50 – A Pearl White Tribute' will be held on November 22, 2025, celebrating the iconic actor and his enduring contributions to Indian cinema. The entire celebration is being curated by his son Vishnu Manchu, ensuring every element reflects the grandeur and elegance of this historic milestone.

Over five decades, Dr. Mohan Babu has built a legacy that transcends generations. Renowned for his powerful performances, iconic dialogue delivery, and larger-than-life screen presence, he stands as a pillar of Telugu cinema and an inspiration to countless artists. With

over 600 films to his credit, his career embodies versatility, discipline, and unwavering passion for the craft.

'MB50' will not only celebrate his cinematic achievements but also honour his lifelong commitment to art, education, and philanthropy. The tribute aims to capture the essence of his remarkable journey — from humble beginnings to becoming a revered icon whose influence continues to shape Indian cinema.

As Dr. Mohan Babu reaches this golden jubilee, the celebration will serve as a heartfelt homage to a man whose artistry continues to inspire, whose voice commands respect, and whose dedication defines excellence.

Further details about the event will be revealed in the coming weeks. 'MB50 – A Pearl White Tribute' promises to be a spectacular celebration of a legend who has not only lived cinema but has become an inseparable part of its soul.

Dheekshith Shetty: 'The Girlfriend' is the best film of my career

National crush Rashmika Mandanna and talented actor Dheekshith Shetty are uniting for the emotional love story 'The Girlfriend', directed by Rahul Ravindran and produced by Dheeraj Mogilineni and Vidya Koppineedi under Geetha Arts and Dheeraj Mogilineni Entertainment, with presentation by Allu Aravind. The film releases in Hindi and Telugu on November 7, followed by Tamil, Malayalam, and Kannada versions on November 14.

In an exclusive conversation, Dheekshith opened up about his journey, chemistry with Rashmika, and why 'The Girlfriend' holds a special place in his heart.

"After 'Dasara', this was the next major opportunity that came my way," Dheekshith began. "Director Rahul



Ravindran approached me for 'The Girlfriend'. He told me Rashmika was playing the female lead and wanted me as the boyfriend. He had watched my Dasara interviews and felt I would fit perfectly. Once I read the script, I knew exactly why. Stories like 'The Girlfriend' are rare—that's why I had to do it."

Talking about his director's clarity, Dheekshith said, "Rahul had a very clear vision of how the character of Vikram should be—his behaviour, body language, even his tone. Because of that, it was easier to perform. Vikram has many layers. Some may think he's a toxic boyfriend after watching the trailer, but Rahul made sure he didn't come across as negative. Coming from a stage and film school background, I prepared deeply. For me, a film must connect personally through its story—that's what matters most."

Reflecting on the film's message, he added, "Usually, love stories are told in a certain way, but 'The Girlfriend' explores romance from a fresh perspective. It's not just entertainment—it lingers long after you leave the theater. Larger-than-life films are fun, but this one feels real.

'Krishna Leela': Story is the hero

Young actor Devan takes on a double responsibility as both hero and director in the upcoming supernatural love story 'Krishna Leela', which carries the intriguing tagline 'Trigochina Kaalam'. Starring Dhanya Balakrishnan as the female lead, the film is produced by Jyotsna Ji under Mahasen Visuals and presented by Baby Vaishnavi. With story and dialogues by Anil Kiran Kumar Ji, 'Krishna Leela' is set for a grand release on November 7. The film's teaser and trailer have already received an enthusiastic response from audiences.

Recalling how the journey began, Devan shared, "I was working as a software engineer while trying to make my mark

in films and had already acted in two movies. When I was waiting for new opportunities, producer Jyotsna Ji and writer Anil narrated this story to me. After listening to it for a week, I made some changes to suit today's generation and gave it a unique screenplay. They instantly loved the idea."

When it came to choosing a director, Devan took everyone by surprise. "Though I had no prior experience in direction, I've always had a strong understanding of story and screenplay," he said. "With that confidence, I approached DOP Chota K Naidu garu. After listening to the story, he was very impressed and promised his full support. That's how 'Krishna Leela' came to life."



Explaining the film's concept, Devan said, "'Krishna Leela' means Time Returned. Leela means play—it's about how Krishna plays a love story. Man cannot bring back time, but what if time itself returns with divine power? That's the

essence of our story, presented in an intriguing way." The actor-director added that the film carries deep philosophical undertones. "Every action has destiny. Everyone we meet in this life has a past connection with us. The Bhagavad Gita teaches us to love them without expectation. We've tried to depict that beautifully through this story," he explained. On incorporating Krishna's philosophy, Devan shared, "It's a vast subject. I often listened to Gangadhar Shastri's lectures and even consulted him during script development. He clarified my doubts and helped me bring depth to the story. What we visualized on paper has come alive with honesty and emotion."

'Gummadi Narsaiah' motion poster impresses

Bringing a real-life story to the big screen is never an easy task, especially when it's about a political leader known for his integrity, simplicity, and lifelong commitment to the people. Portraying such a leader's journey on screen is truly a bold endeavour, and that challenge has been taken up by young director Parameshwar Hivrale. Standing firmly behind him is producer N. Suresh Reddy, under the banner of Pravallika Arts Creations. In the titular role of 'Gummadi Narsaiah', Karunada Chakravarthy Dr Shiva Rajkumar will be seen in a powerful new avatar.

A few days ago, the motion poster of 'Gummadi Narsaiah' was released, and it quickly became the talk of the town. Everyone was curious to see how Shiva Rajkumar would appear in this iconic role and whether he could truly embody the spirit of the leader. But the actor exceeded all expectations. It's evident that Shiva Rajkumar has breathed life into the role of Gummadi

Narsaiah, perfectly adapting his look and demeanour to fit the character.

Even with a short motion poster, director Parameshwar showcased his talent and creative vision. After watching it, Shyamala Devi was all praise for the filmmaker, showering him with compliments.

Speaking about the motion poster, Shyamala Devi said: "The motion poster is excellent. You can already sense how impactful the film is going to be just by watching it. It looks like a film destined for multiple awards. Shiva Rajkumar truly breathes life into the role of Gummadi Narsaiah. I wish the entire team all the best." Producer N Suresh Reddy is reportedly sparing no expense in bringing this ambitious biographical drama to life. The technical crew includes cinematographer Satish Muthyala, music director Suresh Bobbili, and editor Satya Giduturi. The filmmakers will soon reveal details about the rest of the cast and crew.

