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HYDERABAD | FRIDAY | 7 APRIL 2023

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Rahukalam: 10.30 am to 12 noon

**RAMZAN 15, 1444 AH**

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Fajar: 5:04 am  
Zohar: 12:28 pm  
Asar: 4:39 pm  
Maghrib: 6:36 pm  
Isha: 7:44 pm

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SUNRISE TOMORROW 6:05 AM  
MOONRISE TODAY 7:38 PM  
MOONSET TODAY 6:44 AM

**RAMZAN TIMINGS**

IFTAR: 6:36 PM (TODAY)  
SEHRI: 4:43 AM (TOMORROW)

**COUNTER POINT**

They want to sort out their differences before having an alliance!

**IN BRIEF**

**RBI pauses repo rate hike**

Mumbai: The Monetary Policy Committee of the Reserve Bank of India on Thursday decided to hold the policy rates while retaining the monetary policy stance at "withdrawal of accommodation."

Full report on Page 13

**POLL MODE** **Over 6,000 local bodies' seats lying vacant since 3 yrs**

## TS likely to go for bypolls soon

**L. VENKAT RAM REDDY | DC**  
HYDERABAD, APRIL 6

Telangana is most likely to witness byelections for local bodies before the Assembly elections in December of this year. Over 6,000 seats pertaining to sarpanchs, vice-sarpanchs, MPTCs, ZPTCs, councillors and corporators have been vacant for three years for various reasons.

In March, a petition was filed in Telangana High Court against the government for not holding the byelections after 2019. The court served notices on state government as well as the TS Election

Commission (TSEC), ordering them to reply by April 20.

Holding the bypolls would help political parties gauge voter sentiment ahead of the Assembly elections.

Panchayat Raj minister Errabelli Dayakar Rao on Thursday held a meeting with officials to discuss the report to be submitted to the High Court.

On Wednesday, the TSEC released a list of recognised parties eligible to contest the local body elections, lending credence to reports that the government is willingness to conduct the byelections.

In the last three years, the TSEC has written to the

state government several times seeking approval to conduct the byelections to local bodies. There was no response though the government held a series of others elections and byelections.

There are 5,727 vacancies for ward members, 344 vice-sarpanchs, 246 sarpanchs, 120 mandal parishad territorial committee (MPTC) members, six mandal parishad presidents (MPPs), three vice-MPPs, three ZPTCs, two MPP co-option members, one ZP vice-chairperson and 21 councillors/corporators, according to TSEC data.

In the elections held in 2019, the TRS won nearly 65

per cent of the seats. After winning the Dubbah and Huzurnagar byelections and its good show in the GHMC polls, the BJP established itself as a powerful political force. As a result, sources said, the BRS was wary of holding byelections for the local bodies.

The BRS trounced the BJP in Munugode in November of last year. Following this, the BRS is now eager to hold bypolls for local bodies, believing that if it wins a majority of these seats it will not only be able to check the rise of the BJP and Congress in Telangana before the Assembly elections but also energise the cadre.

## Why is Bandi's name not on FIR, CJ asks state

### Bail for Bandi after 8-hr session, to be free today

**PULI SHARATH KUMAR AND YUJIN VAMSHIDHAR | DC**  
WARRANGAL, HYDERABAD, APRIL 6

After eight hours of arguments, Hanamkonda principal civil judge Rapolu Anitha granted bail to BJP state chief Bandi Sanjay Kumar in the SSC paper leak case. He will be released on Friday.

Sanjay was arrested past midnight on Wednesday and remanded to 14 days in judicial custody.

The BJP legal cell had filed the bail petition in the court in the afternoon. The Warangal police filed a counter, urging the court to grant permission for taking Sanjay into custody. They said Sanjay



Bandi Sanjay Kumar

could manipulate evidence if he was released on bail.

The court up took the case for hearing after lunch. After hearing the two sides for about eight hours, the judge granted conditional bail to Sanjay with two sureties and ₹20,000 as guarantee.

Earlier, the Telangana High Court had refused to suspend the judicial

remand of Sanjay. The court, however, issued notices to all the parties concerned and posted the matter to April 10.

On Sanjay's request to grant bail, Chief Justice Ujjal Bhuyan, who heard the lunch motion moved by the former, asked him to move the local court or the High Court.

The court wondered whether the incidents could be termed as a leakage since papers were leaked after the exam had commenced.

On the charges of Sanjay sharing the paper in WhatsApp - the CJ - "Where is the name of A1 (Sanjay) in the FIR."

Page 3: Can it be called a leak, asks CJ

## BRS' 'devious plans' won't frighten BJP cadre: Bandi

**NARENDER PULLOOR | DC**  
HYDERABAD, APRIL 6

On BJP Formation Day, BJP state president Bandi Sanjay Kumar wrote a letter to party members from Karimnagar jail, where he was remanded to two weeks judicial custody in the SSC paper leak case, stating that jails were nothing new to him because he has been fighting for the people's

causes and that he was arrested because he had questioned Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao's continued silence on the issue of paper leaks putting the future of about 30 lakh youth at a

grave risk. Sanjay who released the letter through his brother Bandi Sravan Kumar, stated that his arrest in the SSC paper leak case was part of a larger conspiracy by Chandrashekar Rao to demoralise the party and the cadre, but that they would not be intimidated by the ruling party's "devious plans."

Page 3: Being framed under false charges: Bandi

## Hanuman jayanti fete



Devotees participate in the Veera Hanuman Vijaya Yatra, from the Gowliguda Rama Mandir to the Hanuman Temple at Tadobund, on Hanuman Jayanti at Bowenpally on Thursday.

**S. SURENDER REDDY**  
HYDERABAD, APRIL 6

Devotees participated in the Veera Hanuman Vijaya Yatra, from the Gowliguda Rama Mandir to the Hanuman Temple at Tadobund, on Hanuman Jayanti at Bowenpally on Thursday.

Report on Page 8

## LS, RS ADJOURNED, OPPOSITION UNITES TO STAGE PROTEST

**DC CORRESPONDENTS with agency inputs**  
NEW DELHI, APRIL 6

The Budget Session of Parliament concluded on Thursday after both Houses were adjourned sine die. Both Houses barely functioned amid standoff between the Treasury Benches and the Opposition over demand for a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) probe on the Adani group and the 'democracy' under attack' comment by Congress MP Rahul Gandhi in the United Kingdom.

Gandhi was disqualified as MP during the session. The Budget of ₹50-lakh crore was passed during the Budget Session without any discussion.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla held a customary meeting with leaders of political parties in Parliament after the session ended.

Meanwhile, in a semblance of Opposition unity, about 20 parties, participated in a 'Tiranga March' from Parliament to Vijay Chowk.

Full report on Page 9

## BJP's growth will rile Oppn: Modi

### Urges BJP cadre not to let down guard

**YOJNA GUSAI | DC**  
NEW DELHI, APRIL 6

Cautioning BJP leaders and workers not to get complacent as there is a view that "no one can defeat" the party in 2024, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday attacked the Opposition for its "badshahi" mindset and for insulting the poor and backward classes.

In the wake of the Congress and other Opposition parties accusing the Modi government of running away from their demand for a JPC probe on the Adani issue and misuse of constitutional institutions against their leaders, the PM said they have been "battling an existential crisis" and are resorting to levelling allegations and hatching conspiracies against the ruling party.

The PM had recently cautioned BJP leaders that the more the party wins electorally, the more aggressive the Opposition's onslaught would get.

## 'OPPOSITION FULL OF HATE, RESTLESS'

Drawing parallels between Lord Hanuman, whose birth anniversary is being observed on Thursday, Modi asserted that the BJP believes in the ideals of selfless service, something with which the 'Ramayan' character is identified.

He attacked those with a 'badshahi' mindset for insulting the poor and backward

people (Opposition) are speaking one lie after another. They have become restless and desperate at the exposure of their corrupt deeds. They can see now only one way out. They are openly saying 'Modi teri kabar khudegi'.

**- NARENDRA MODI, Prime Minister**

Addressing BJP members at the party's 44th foundation day celebrations, Modi said those fighting an "existential battle" had become "desperate" after the exposure of their corruption and were, therefore, conspiring against his government, that was committed to taking tough steps to rid India of corruption, nepotism and

law and order challenges. "Full of hate, these people are speaking one lie after another. They have become restless and desperate at the exposure of their corrupt deeds. They can see now only one way out. They are openly saying 'Modi teri kabar khudegi'. They are issuing threats to dig (my) grave," he said.

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IN BRIEF

BEING FRAMED UNDER FALSE CHARGES: BANDI

FROM PAGE 1

Stating that there was no question of succumbing to the conspiracies of Chandrashekar Rao and giving up the fight, Sanjay recalled how when Minister Narendra Modi had withstood similar conspiracies hatched by the previous rulers against his party...

Sanjay stated that the time had come to depose the corrupt Chandrashekar Rao government, which was embroiled in a slew of scandals including illegal liquor trade, drug peddling, question paper leakages, gambling, and land encroachment.

Stating that he was prepared to go to jail for the larger interests of the people, Sanjay claimed that the BRS government had brought false charges against him because he had championed the cause of the 30 lakh unemployed youth who had to suffer as a result of the TSPSC paper leak.

In the letter, Sanjay reminded that the BRS government had "taken the lives of 27 Intermediate students due to malpractices in spot valuation in the past" and that he was playing with the lives of SSC students.

Sanjay expressed regret that he would be unable to attend the Prime Minister's 100th birth anniversary programmes and public meeting in Hyderabad on April 8, and urged party leaders and workers to mobilise large crowds, including unemployed youth to make it a grand success.

JAIL FOR PEOPLE WHO QUESTION LEAK: SRINIVAS

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, APRIL 6

While questioning the Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao about his commitment to unemployed youth and putting an end to irregularities in TSPSC, the national president of Youth Congress B.V. Srinivas felt that those who were questioning the paper leaks were being put behind bars.

Speaking to media persons at Gandhi Bhavan here on Thursday, he said that it was Sonia Gandhi who gave Telangana State as the party's vow to fulfill aspirations of the people.

"Rao, who promised jobs to every household, has failed miserably. There has been no job notifications and competitive exams. BRS and BJP are playing cheap tactics in the name of SSC paper leaks. They are only trying to divert public attention from the real issues," he alleged.

Earlier in the day, Srinivas visited Cherlapally jail where state Youth Congress president Shivasesa Reddy and NSUI president Venkat Balmour have been lodged.

EXAMS | ROW Leadership to spread word on question papers' leak

BRS says go all-out on BJP

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, APRIL 6

The BRS leadership has asked its top leaders to aggressively take the BJP's alleged role in leaking TSPSC and SSC question papers to the people. They were told not to confine themselves to press conferences or issuing media

statements on this issue but hit the streets along with party workers. BRS president and Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao and party working committee members are both holding teleconferences with ministers and district in-charges to finalise the plan of action. Party leaders have

been told that the investigation agencies probing the two incidents have found enough evidence about the role of BJP leaders. They should expose how the BJP was playing with the lives of students and unemployed persons. The party leadership expressed satisfaction in the manner agitation programmes were held

soon after BJP state president Bandi Sanjay was arrested on Wednesday. The ministers, MLAs and leaders in-charges have been directed to maintain the tempo for the next few days by holding agitation programmes against BJP and burning effigies and massive campaigns on social media platforms.



Police arrest PDSU-PYL activists who were staging a protest at Telangana State Public Service Commission (TSPSC) office in Nampally in Hyderabad on Thursday, demanding that the TSPSC be purged and the chairman be removed. —P.SURENDRA

Can it be called paper leak: HC

FROM PAGE 1

The HC was also not inclined to direct the trial court at Warangal to dispose of the bail petition on Thursday.

During hearings, the court wondered whether the incidents could be termed as leakage since the question paper was shared much after the exam had commenced.

On the state's charges of Sanjay sharing the question paper in WhatsApp and issuing media statements, the CJ said there is nothing wrong in politicians trying to take advantage of such developments and politicise the issue.

"Where is the name of A1 (Sanjay) in the FIR," the CJ asked Advocate General B.S. Prasad.

Senior advocate N. Ramchander Rao urged the court to consider the bail petition as his client had to attend important programmes, including those of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who will be in Hyderabad on April 8. When he drew the court's attention to three days of holidays from Friday, the CJ said the HC would consider the bail petition in the form of a house motion.

The BJP Lok Sabha moved a petition on Thursday seeking

quashing of the remand order by the local court and subsequent order by the local court remanding him to 14-day judicial custody. Maintaining that there were limitations to the High Court in giving orders with regard to quash petition, the CJ said notices should first be issued to all the parties concerned, including the complainant.

Accordingly, notices were issued to the state government and Maturi Shiva Prasad, headmaster of the government ZPHS school in Kamalapur village of Warangal district, who lodged the complaint against the paper leak.

Rao, a former MLC, also submitted that the apex court in the Arnab Goswami case had directed the police to release the accused in a quash petition. He submitted that the apex court also made it clear in the Bheem Singh case that a member of the House can be given bail when the Parliament is in session.

The advocate general, while opposing the contentions raised by Rao, informed that there is tangible electronic evidence of the MP with the accused. It is a conspiracy hatched by the MP to

defame the government and the MP's endeavour in encouraging the accused to leak the SSC question paper and spread it on various social media platforms, clearly shows that this is a malignant intention of the petitioner to defame the government on all fronts. He should have handed over the mobile phone, if he had no part in the conspiracy, he said.

Meanwhile, another division bench comprising Justice Abhinand Kumar Shavili and Justice Palla Karthik issued notices to the state government in a habeas corpus petition filed by Bhagyanager BJP district president seeking release of Sanjay Kumar and adjourned it to after four weeks. Senior counsel L. Ravichander, appearing for the petitioner, sought an adjournment to Monday or Tuesday.

Special counsels for the government, Majeed Kumar Sadasisvuni submitted to the bench that Sanjay was ordered to be remanded and the Chief Justice had given him the liberty to file the bail petition. The court issued notice before its admission and adjourned it to after four weeks.

BANDI CHARGES SURPRISE RAGHUNANDAN

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, APRIL 6

BJP MLA M. Raghunandan Rao asked how BJP state president Bandi Sanjay could be made accused number one (A1) in the SSC paper leak case when the exam began at 9.30 am and, as per the police version, Sanjay had received it only at 11.30 am.

Speaking to reporters at BJP state office here on Thursday, Raghunandan Rao alleged that BRS government had fabricated false cases against Sanjay. Warangal police commissioner A.V. Ranganath had made different versions of the leakage, he said.

"If the accused Shiva Ganesan had shared the papers with various groups, police should reveal the details," the MLA said. He asked what the police on duty at the exam centre were doing when the question paper was leaked.

He called the case a conspiracy to implicate Sanjay as Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao was unable to digest the growing popularity of the BJP. Raghunandan Rao claimed he did not make any objectionable remarks against DGP Anjani Kumar.



Bandi Aparna, wife of BJP state chief Bandi Sanjay Kumar, speaks to media persons after meeting him in the Karimnagar jail on Thursday. — DC

Bandi's wife faults arrest

DC CORRESPONDENT WARANGAL, APRIL 6

The midnight arrest by the police and dragging the name of BJP state chief Bandi Sanjay Kumar into the SSC Hindi question paper leak will not deter us, averred his wife Bandi Aparna. Accompanied by their sons, her brother-in-law Bandi Shrivani, advocate B. Satyanarayana and BJP general secretary B. Praveen Rao, Aparna met Sanjay in Karimnagar jail on Thursday.

Sanjay was housed in the Godavari barracks and allotted him the number 7,917. She broke down on seeing her husband, who was taken away by the police from her mother's house in Karimnagar. She inquired about his health as Sanjay was suffering from heart-related complications.

Speaking to media persons outside the jail, Aparna slammed the police officials who behaved rudely and handling Sanjay in a rough manner, causing him injury. She said that Sanjay has vowed to question and fight the atrocities and corrupt administration of the BRS government.

Sanjay urged all party leaders and activists to make a huge success of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's ensuing meeting, she said.

MINOR DEBARRED FOR 5 YRS FOR 'ROLE' IN HINDI PAPER LEAK

DC CORRESPONDENT WARANGAL, APRIL 6

The education department on Thursday debarred a minor student of the Government Boys High School from writing examinations for five years for his alleged role in the leakage of the SSC Hindi question paper in Kamalapur mandal of Hanamkonda district on Thursday.

The student was writing the English examination when the officials told him to leave the hall, took his hall ticket and asked him to sign some papers. Later he informed him that he was debarred for five years.

Speaking to the local media along with his parents, the student alleged the officials had entered the hall all of a sudden, escorted him to the office where the district education officer was present and took his signature.

"On April 4, when the Hindi examination was going on, one person came to the window of the hall and asked me to give him the question paper. When I refused, he snatched the paper, took photos and then left. He warned me not to inform anyone," the student said. He said that he was being punished for a mistake he had never made. His parents said that they led respectable lives. The person who had threatened to kill their children if the student revealed the incident to anyone, they said, "Now, my son is being made the scapegoat," his father said.

When Deccan Chronicle asked about the incident, Hanamkonda DEO Md. Abdul Hai said that they had decided to take action against the student the day the incident took place. If someone had approached him for the question paper and had threatened to kill him if he did not oblige, the student could have informed the invigilator, the officer said. Instead, the student kept quiet and allowed the person to take pictures of the question paper. The invigilator has also been suspended from services, he added.

The student said that he was being punished for a mistake he had never made. He added that on April 4, when the Hindi examination was going on, one person came to the window of the hall and asked him to give the question paper. When the student refused, he snatched the paper, took photos and then left. The person warned him not to inform anyone, he said.

Etala, PAs get notice from Warangal cops

DC CORRESPONDENT WARANGAL, APRIL 6

Warangal police issued notices to Huzurabad BJP legislator Etala Rajendar and two of his personal assistants, Raju and Narendar, in the SSC Hindi question paper leakage case here on Thursday.

In their remand report on the issue, police named BJP state chief Bandi Sanjay Kumar as accused number one and former journalist Boora Prashant as accused number two in the SSC question paper leak case.



Etala Rajendar

According to police, Rajendar, Raju and Narendar after sending it to Sanjay through WhatsApp. Warangal police commissioner A.V. Ranganath said that police would be taking the statements of Rajendar and his two associates.

Meanwhile, police officials are investigating the reasons for choosing the Government Boys School in Kamalapur for leaking the Telugu and Hindi question papers. As Rajendar is a native of Kamalapur mandal, the police decided to approach him for more information regarding the leak. Police officials said that they will issue notices to the group admins of WhatsApp groups which carried the paper. Rajendar said he would take a decision after discussing it with his lawyers.

Advertisement for Dr. Bakshi's BAKSON'S HOMOEOPATHY. The ad features a woman holding a hairbrush and a bottle of 'HAIR REVIVER' product. Text includes 'CONTROLLING HAIR LOSS MADE EASY!' and '#managehairlossnaturally'. It also lists social media handles and contact information.

Large advertisement for the movie 'Raghava Lawrence' featuring a close-up of the lead actor's face. Text includes 'PIXEL STUDIOS', 'APRIL 14 RELEASE', 'FIVESTAR CREATIONS', 'KATHIRESAN PRESENTS', and 'DIRECTED BY KATHIRESAN'. It also lists the cast and crew.



#model\_state\_rajasthan



# Now Right to Health in Rajasthan



“

Rajasthan has emerged as a Model State in the field of health by strengthening medical facilities up to villages and hamlets along with providing free treatment up to Rs 25 lakh in the Chiranjeevi Swasthya Bima Yojana, Free Medicine and Tests Scheme, Nirogi Rajasthan Abhiyan and with the excellent management of Covid. Now we have given the benefits of these schemes to the people of the State in the form of the Right to Health by providing legal guarantee. It is a progressive law that guarantees the Right to Health according to Article 47 and Article 21 of the Constitution. On World Health Day (April 7), I expect that every citizen of the country gets the Right to Health. ”

**Ashok Gehlot**, Chief Minister, Rajasthan

## Schemes that are currently operated for the better health

**Mukhyamantri Chiranjeevi Swasthya Bima Yojana**

Free Health Insurance for  
**Rs 25 lakh**  
along with Accident Insurance  
for Rs 10 lakh

**Mukhyamantri Nishulk Nirogi Rajasthan Yojana**

**All treatments free**  
including indoor, outdoor, all types of tests  
and medicines in all government medical institutions.

Cashless Medical Facility to personnel and pensioners of the state under Rajasthan Government Health Scheme (RGHS)

Now the people of the State got the legal guarantee of free health schemes  
**Right to Health (RTH)**

## Important Provisions of the Right to Health Bill

- OPD, IPD, Consultations, Medicines, Tests, Transport, Procedures, and Emergency Care are free in Government and Designated Private Medical Institutions.
- Right to seek opinion about the treatment from some other doctor or hospital.
- If the patient does not pay the hospital after emergency treatment, the government will reimburse it.
- There is also a provision for grievance redressal mechanism in the Act.
- Treatment will be given even if the police report is not received
- Provision of auto-approval for timely payment to private medical institutions.
- Right to get complete information about treatment.
- Right to go to civil court against the decision of the authority
- Right to choose the place to get medicine or get tested.

All government medical institutions along with designated private medical institutions are included in **RTH**.  
The reach of the designated hospitals will be increased in a phased manner.  
It is proposed to provide additional facilities to the designated private hospitals included in **RTH**

Medical personnel and doctors have an important role in the effective implementation of the Right to Health. Therefore provisions related to their dignity have been kept in **RTH**, along with have also mentioned the rights, duties and responsibilities of hospitals, medical personnel and citizens. It is the responsibility of all of us to respect the medical personnel.

Protection to Doctors through the Rajasthan Medicare Service Persons and Medicare Service Institutions (Prevention of Violence and Damage to Property) Act, 2008 and SOPs issued on 29 May, 2022.

Rajasthan Samwad



DECCAN Chronicle 7 APRIL 2023

SC's TV channel ruling a blow for free press

The Supreme Court order quashing the ban the Union government had imposed on MediaOne, a Kozhikode Malayalam satellite news channel, and directing the Union ministry of information and broadcasting to renew its licence in four weeks comes as a reassurance that India remains a democratic nation and that the checks and balances its founding fathers had instituted still work.

The court has reminded the government one too many times on the role of an independent press in a democracy. The crux of the matter, as the court put it, is that restrictions on the freedom of the press would compel citizens to think along the same tangent as the ruling party which will result in homogenised views on critical issues. This homogeneity is antithetical to the idea of democracy and a pluralistic society, and hence unacceptable.

The court has carefully assessed each one of the reasons the government had cited for imposing the ban on the channel and demolished them. Asserting that the non-renewal of the licence of the channel is a restriction on the fundamental right to speech and expression as guaranteed in the Constitution and that restrictions should also be constitutional, it held that denying security clearance for the views which the channel is constitutionally entitled to hold produces a "chilling effect on free speech".

The court made it unequivocally clear, for the umpteenth time, that two practices for which this government is known are unacceptable: one, to flash "national security" to deny citizens their rights, and two, to push its arguments in sealed covers. The government must take seriously the criticism of the court that it raised the claim of "national security" in a cavalier manner and make a careful assessment of the retention of the court that using the term as a tool to deny lawful remedies to citizens is incompatible with the rule of law.

While reiterating that it will uphold the freedom of the press to the last extent, the court presented the press with a challenge to introspect if it is up to its task — to speak truth to power, and provide citizens with facts enabling them to make choices that propel democracy in the right direction.

The takeaway for both the government and the press from the judgment is one and the same — fundamental rights are the foundation of our democracy and hence must be handled with utmost care.

BRS must answer for leak

The Telangana state police have arrested BJP state president Bhandi Sanjay Kumar in utmost haste, past midnight, accusing him of being a principal conspirator in a SSC exam paper leak. There have been a series of paper leaks in the state, starting with the Telangana state public service commission, whose leaked papers have put the careers and future of lakhs of students in jeopardy.

The Class X external exam taken by over half a million students, and their parents and teachers have experienced lots of doubt, anxiety and stress in the last few days when two papers — Telugu and Hindi language — were found to have leaked in two days. The BRS government, which was feeling the heat of public anger on the issue, has found an easy ploy to distract attention from their own responsibility and failures.

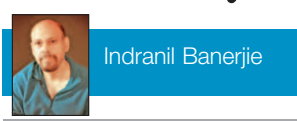
The final responsibility of the safety of question papers, that of the answer sheets submitted by students and the subsequent result returns are announced is the responsibility of the BRS government. They have failed. Blaming the Opposition leader for effecting a dramatic volte-face is the purpose of either cleansing the overall process or giving confidence to students, parents, teachers and the general public.

Bhandi Sanjay has been remanded to judicial custody and will apply to courts for bail, but the political rights are not yet over. There have been a series of cases, and for the parties accused to submit to the process of law while the courts take a decision. But amidst all this politicking, let us hope that justice is done to students who deserve that the integrity of the exams ahead is not compromised.

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Trump in court a signal US democracy isn't broken yet



The unthinkable has happened in America. For the first time in history, a former US President has been indicted on criminal charges.

Former President Donald Trump appeared before a New York court on Tuesday where he was formally charged with the crime of falsifying business records in an alleged conspiracy to influence the 2016 presidential election by suppressing past extrajudicial affairs.

Mr Trump has pleaded not guilty to the 34 felony charges in the case and has claimed he is the victim of a political "witch hunt". On his personal social media platform, he posted: "Can't believe this is happening in America. MAGA!"

No matter what Mr Trump does or does not believe, the fact is that he is set to rewrite American history by becoming the first former US President to face a criminal trial. The next hearing for the case has been set for December this year, but the actual trial might take longer to start. In fact, many have predicted that the hearings could drag on even after the US presidential elections scheduled for November next year.

The fact that the accused had to run for another term as US President makes this a high-stakes case as well as a defining moment in American history. It is also a story of America's unending tangle against powerful wrongdoers. Manhattan district attorney Alvin Bragg, who is prosecuting the case against the former President, declared: "We today uphold our solemn responsibility to ensure that everyone stands equal before the law... No amount of money, no amount of power changes that enduring American principle."

The case is thus not just a judicial contest but also a political one, with all the elements of a sordid cover-up involving sex and money. According to the charges, Mr Trump had paid hush money to porn star Stormy Daniels as well as to a Playboy model, Karen McDougal, two women he had extrajudicial affairs with. During the 2016 presidential campaign, Daniels was paid \$130,000 by Mr Trump's lawyer to keep quiet about the affair.

In the 10 years since the 2013 Indian Supreme Court ruling that any MP, MLA or MLC convicted of a crime and given a two-year term loses membership of the House immediately, only 15 have been disqualified...

unperturbed in our legislative bodies, enjoying all the perks of office. India's political class have steadfastly refused to decriminalise the political system. In July 2021, the Supreme Court had observed that the legislature was "not likely to do anything" to prevent criminals from entering politics and standing for elections. In response to the court's comments, a lawyer representing the Bahujan Samaj Party had retorted: "Just because a candidate has criminal antecedents does not mean he is not doing social work or the people are not choosing him to win."

India is also a case in point. It is reported that the number of criminal cases pending against elected representatives in India is a humongous 5,697 (excluding data from Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, which do not consider such data to be of any public importance). Worse, the Supreme Court was told that this number is consistently increasing over the years and has risen by 25 per cent in just five years. India's Representation of the People Act 1951 does not bar individuals with criminal records from contesting elections.

An elected representative faces disqualifications only if he or she is convicted of certain offences and given a jail term of more than two years. Legislators are disqualified only selectively as in the case of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, who was indicted by a Gujarat court for defaming people with the surname "Modi" and the same time, hundreds of legislators suspected of heinous crimes, including murder and blackmail, are sitting

LETTERS

WEATHER FORECAST Weather scientists have been on the dot in their forecast over the last few weeks (Thunderstorm, rains to hit state for next 2 days, DC, March 6). The accuracy is praiseworthy. Keep up the good work.

S. Vasudevan Hyderabad

WAR ON CORRUPTION

The sincerity behind the war on corruption is what counts (War on corruption is welcome, DC, April 5). It is a fact that the war is only targeting Opposition leaders. Not taking against those accused of corruption like Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma who switched over to the BJP, dilution of Prevention of Corruption Act, changes in electoral funding system, etc. raise genuine doubts.

L. Prabhakar Hyderabad

PM'S DEGREE

If Prime Minister Narendra Modi graduated from a university it would be a matter of pride for that educational institute (HC quashes CIC order seeking Modi's degree, April 1). Why has it become such a controversy? Why is no university coming forward and declaring that Modi was their former student?

Arnold K.G.J. Hyderabad

PAPER LEAKS

In the last couple of days, teenage students preparing for their first public exam are under strain because of politicians trying to score over the other much to the agony of their parents. Senior politicians perhaps can advice their party leaders to keep off students and their careers.

Jaladi Ramakrishna Secunderabad

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

50 YEARS AGO IN DECCAN Chronicle Iraq to supply crude oil to India NEW DELHI April 6 Iraq has agreed to supply India 30 million tonnes of crude oil over 10 years to meet the needs of the Mathura refinery. This is under one of the five agreements signed between the Iraqi Minister for Oil and Minerals, Dr. S. Hamamadi and the Indian Ministers D.D. Dhar, Mr D.K. Barooah and Mr P.P. Chattopadhyaya.

Incorporate right to political opinion in the right to life

To find the thematic essence of the paramount parchment is arguably to zero in on the fundamental rights guaranteed under Part III of the Constitution of India. And the essential side under the constitutional microscope which will reflect this philosophy is surely Article 21.

The right to life as enshrined in our Constitution is cryptic and skeletal. No person shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty except according to procedure established by law. This implies that if "life or personal liberty" is to be denied then there must be a procedure which is "by law established". The corollary is that such law must be live up to constitutional tests and judicial scrutiny.

While in its very limited wording the right to life was envisaged as "life simpliciter", it is so no longer. So expansive has been the judicial interpretation of this "guarantee that it has come to be the fulcrum of civilised existence as well as limited governance. A push of the recall button would reveal that this guarantee was in Article 15 of the embryonic parchment. A good part of the debate hovered around whether the phrase "procedure established by law" should be employed or the phrase "due process of law".

More milestones followed the first blush of Article 21's meaningful interpretation. The idea that the right to life encompasses far more than the right to mere animal existence was iterated by the apex court often. In a case filed by People's Union for Civil Liberties (2011), the court held that the right to food is essential and the State cannot escape the responsibility to ensure it.

A few years before that in Chameil Singh (1965), the court went to the extent of holding the right of the poor for housing and the State's constitutional duty to acquire land to provide it. The ordeal of pavement dwellers having to bathe in public found expression through Justice of India Y.V. Chandrachud's wise judgment in Olga Tellis vs Bombay Municipal Corporation (1968). Hussainara Khatoun vs State of Bihar (1979) provided the court to the extent of holding the right of the poor for housing and the State's constitutional duty to acquire land to provide it. The ordeal of pavement dwellers having to bathe in public found expression through Justice of India Y.V. Chandrachud's wise judgment in Olga Tellis vs Bombay Municipal Corporation (1968). Hussainara Khatoun vs State of Bihar (1979) provided the court to the extent of holding the right of the poor for housing and the State's constitutional duty to acquire land to provide it.

The seeds of the Right to Education Act, 2009, were contained in the judgment to the 1982 Mohini Jain vs State of Karnataka case that challenged a state government notification letting private medical college charge exorbitant fees. Article 21A, which contained this right since 2002 was made effective in 2010. Later in 2014, the apex court upheld the right to basic primary education in Unnikrishnan vs State of Andhra Pradesh (1985).

Pioneering the cause of the clean environment was environmentalist M.C. Mehta who helped the further evolution of the right to life to cover the right to a clean environment following the Bhopal gas disaster. In Subhas Kumar vs State of Bihar (1989), the Supreme Court came down on two steel companies creating a health hazard by dumping waste into nearby rivers, enjoining the "polluter pays" principle. It was echoed in Consumer Education Research Centre (1985) wherein the health and safety of workers exposed to asbestos was brought in the ambit of the right to life. Even handcuffing and producing a criminal in the court was found to be a violation of this right. Sexual choices found a sensitive watershed in Navtej Singh Johar vs Union of India (2018). The duty of the state to compensate a citizen who dies in prison was a further recognition of this right. The right against prison torture and against solitary confinement for death row prisoners was recognised in Sunil Batra vs Delhi Administration (1978), and to compensation against illegal and unlawful detention in Rudal Shah vs State of Bihar (1983). A draft of fresh air is blowing through Western jurisprudence with the possibility of the right to forget being included in the concept of the right to life in the context of data protection. When it will be recognised in our jurisprudence time will tell. However, more important in India is the right to political opinion. A growing tendency is being witnessed to move court against political statements. Such cases must be quashed on the ground that they are in breach of the right to life. As a democracy, India would then have come full circle.

The writer is an independent commentator on political and security issues

The writer is a senior counsel of the Telangana high court





EVENTS TODAY

- Run For Jesus Rally
Time: 6 am
Venue: St Mary's Basilica, Secunderabad to St George's Grammar School, Abids
Young Indians NMT Meet
Time: 8 am
Venue: Taj Krishna
Prayas Kathak workshop
Time: 9.30 am
Venue: Shilparamam, Hitec City
Mohabbat Zindabad
Time: 6 pm
Venue: Bhaskara Auditorium
IPL Quiz night (LSG vs SRH)
Time: 7.30 pm
Venue: 10 Downing Street
Ritviz Live
Time: 8 pm
Venue: Xora
Sunil Sharpe Live
Time: 8 pm
Venue: EXT by Moonshine
COMING UP NEXT:
Continuum
Date: April 8
Time: 6 pm
Venue: Kalkriti Art Gallery
RFC 9 Armaan Live & Capriccio
Date: April 8
Time: 8 pm
Venue: LB Stadium
Gaurav Kapoor Love
Date: April 8
Time: 7 pm
Venue: Moonshine Project
Reach us at
eventsatdc@gmail.com



Ice from a hailstorm dots the road in the city, which was lashed by heavy rains city on Thursday, bringing relief to the people from the scorching summer heat but also affecting traffic and causing power cuts. — DC

Hailstorms lash city for 3 hours

RACHEL DAMMALA | DC
HYDERABAD, APRIL 6
The city received a hailstorm in many parts and heavy rain all across on Thursday, accompanied by gusts of wind. Hailstorms were reported from Nallakunta, Vidyanaagar, Amberpet, Ramamthapur, Uppal, and other parts of the city including parts of Secunderabad in Malkajgiri, Sithaphalmandi, Padmaranagar, and Osmania University. The rains began at about 3 pm and lashed the city for more than three hours. Scattered rains continued for most of the evening...

Raja Singh held during Hanuman jayanti

Hyderabad: City police on Thursday took Goshamaiah MLA T. Raja Singh into preventive custody and shifted him to Mangalajodi police station for a few hours. He was released in the evening. Police officials confirmed that in view of his comments targeting a community during the recently held Sri Rama Navami Shobha Yatra in the city, Raja Singh was taken into custody as a preventive measure during the Hanuman jayanti procession. The moment Raja Singh stepped out of his residence at around 11.30 am, to join the procession, police took him into custody. He was released around 5 pm on personal surety. Reacting to his arrest, Raja Singh wrote on Twitter: "Arrested by Telangana Police on the instruction of BRS Govt just before joining HanumanJanmotsav rally in my hometown. BRS Political Constnucy. Now Hindus can't even take part in the rally also in Telangana? (sic)"

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE PROPERTY, COMMERCIAL, RENTALS, MANAGERS, FARM HOUSES-SITES, THREE & MORE, DOUBLE BEDROOM, LEASE, SITUATION VACANT, ACCOUNTS & FINANCE, ADVT. SALES & MKTG., INDEPENDENT HOUSE, DOUBLE BEDROOM, LAND, PLOTS, REPUTED IITNEET Academy, LECTURERS

SHORT TAKE

3 DEVOTEES DIE AT SALESHWARAM TEMPLE JATARA

DC CORRESPONDENTS
HYDERABAD, KURNOOL, APRIL 6

Three persons died at the Saleshwaram Lingamiah Swamy temple festival at Amarabad of the tiger reserves in the Nallamala forest of Nagarkurnool district on Thursday, two in a stampede and a woman of a heart attack.

Police said G. Chandraiah, 55, of Nagarkurnool and Abhishek of Wanaparthy died in the stampede, and Vijaya, 40, of Mumbai, a native of Amanagal, died of a heart attack while waiting in the queue.

The three-day festival had started on Wednesday. Chandraiah and Abhishek were stuck in the crowd and died due to suffocation, police said. They were shifted to a safe place and provided CPR but in vain. Vijaya had come to the temple with her relatives from Amanagal. Efforts to revive Vijaya proved to be in vain. According to police, the three-day Saleshwaram Lingamiah Swamy festival saw thousands of devotees, including those from Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra, offering prayers to Lord Shiva. Every year, forest officials usually advise to enter the forests on three days of the Chaitra Telugu month.

There was a traffic jam on the Hyderabad-Srisailem highway as pilgrims made their way to the temple. People have to walk in the hilly terrain for four kilometres from Farahab in Nagarkurnool, and then through Nagalanga, the entry points of Nallamala forest. The forest and departments deployed personnel to monitor and regulate the devotees.



A group of people offer butter milk to people taking part in Hanuman Jayanti yatra at Narayanguda. — S. SURENDER REDDY

Processions dot city for Hanuman jayanti

Sanjay Samuel Paul | DC
HYDERABAD, APRIL 6
Hanuman jayanti was celebrated with enthusiasm as devotees recited 'Hanuman Chalisa' in various processions around the city. Hailstorm and thundershowers did not deter devotees. While two mammoth processions made their way through the city, 171 tributary processions originated from places 50 processions from Cyberabad and Rachakonda commissionerates converged in the main procession. Hyderabad police commissioner C.V. Anand said, "In view of the disturbances all over the country, the city police mined their data, last year experiences and current happenings from all the intelligence sources to organise a peaceful procession." He participated in the prayers at the Rama Mandir in Gowliguda and visited the procession in the morning. In addition to mobile patrols, the procession was accompanied by armed personnel and closely monitored through drones and CCTV cameras. Special pujas were held across the temples, and there was food distribution along with prasadam. The Local VIP president organised the recital of 'Hanuman Chalisa' at Koti. The main procession culminated at Hanuman Mandir, Tabdar. Dr Bhagwat Rao, procession organiser, thanked devotees. Local VIP president Narender God, secretary Pandari Nath as well as rally convener Muddu Fadireddy took part. The rally saw the participation of the youth in large numbers, many of whom were wearing traditional outfits.

FAITH MATTERS

Maundy Thursday commemorated in Hyd

Cardinal washes feet of people

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, APRIL 6

Christians observed Maundy Thursday that symbolises Jesus' last supper. The Thursday before Good Friday in the Holy Week is commemorated as Maundy Thursday. All churches in the twin cities conducted the services. At St Joseph's cathedral in Gunfoundry, Archbishop of Hyderabad, Cardinal Anthony Poola washed the feet of the elderly members of the parish, as Lord Jesus Christ did of his disciples. The Mass was organised in the open area, with a backdrop of a stained glass and reflection of



Cardinal Poola Anthony washes the feet of parishioners in St Joseph's Cathedral, Gunfoundry, on the occasion of Maundy Thursday. The service commemorates the Last Supper of Jesus Christ in which he washed the feet of his disciples and instituted the Eucharist. — R. PAVAN

Christ Pasover and crucified himself and came to this world taking the human form, he said.

IN BRIEFS

Teen swallows phone in MP

New Delhi: In Madhya Pradesh's Bhand district, an 18-year-old girl swallowed a mobile after a scuffle with her brother...

COVID CASES HIGHEST IN 195 DAYS

New Delhi, April 6: India has logged 5,335 fresh Coronavirus cases, the highest in 195 days...

TRAIN FIRE PRIME ACCUSED BROUGHT TO KERALA

GILVESTER ASSARY 1 DC THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, APRIL 6

A team of Kerala police brought Shahrukh Saifi, the main accused in the train fire incident...

Saifi, 27, was arrested by Maharashtra ATS on Wednesday at Ratnagiri. On reaching Kozhikode, he was made to undergo a medical check-up...

MHA FOR CBI PROBE AGAINST OXFAM INDIA

New Delhi, April 6: The Union home ministry on Thursday recommended a CBI probe into the affairs of the train fire arm of the global NGO Oxfam...

The home ministry found that Oxfam India continued to transfer foreign contributions to various entities, including other NGOs, even after registering under the FCRA...

SC RAPS U.P. BJP LEADER, TOLD TO BE RESPONSIBLE

DC CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI, APRIL 6

The Supreme Court on Thursday cautioned Uttar Pradesh BJP spokesperson and lawyer Prashant Umrao to be 'more responsible' and asked him to tender an apology...

The SC made the above observations after it granted protection against arrest to Umrao in relation to FIRs lodged against him by the Tamil Nadu police...

Budget session of Parl. ends

20 Oppn parties participate in 'Tiranga March' from Parl to Vijay Chowk

DC CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI, APRIL 6

The Budget Session of the 17th Parliament concluded on Thursday after both Houses were adjourned sine die...

A WASHED OUT BUDGET SESSION

PARLIAMENT COULD FUNCTION MUCH LESS THAN THE PLANNED DURATION WITH DAILY PROTESTS AND FREQUENT ADJOURNMENTS...



Dismal figures

- 45 hours: The duration Lok Sabha functioned for
133.6 hours: The scheduled duration for LS
31 hours: The duration Rajya Sabha functioned for
133.6 hours: The scheduled duration for RS

of Opposition unity, with about 20 parties, including the Congress, TMC, BRS and the Samajwadi Party...

Parliament to Vijay Chowk.

sharing the stage with the Congress on earlier occasions not only participated in the march but also the press conference to target the Modi government on



The work to place beams above ground floor pillars at the Shri Ram Jambhoomi Mandir has started. Some beams have already been placed, tweeted Shri Ram Jambhoomi Teerth Kshetra Thursday.

YOGI TO PERFORM 'JALABHISHEK' WITH WATER FROM RIVERS OF 155 COUNTRIES

Ayodhya (UP), April 6:

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath will on April 23 perform the 'jalabhishek' of the deity of Ram Lalla with water from rivers of 155 countries...

issues such as Adani issue, price rise and the alleged attack on democracy.

In his remarks at the press conference, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said, "The Budget of ₹56-lakh crore was passed in just 12 minutes, but they (the BJP) always alleged that the Opposition parties have no interest and they kept disturbing the House."

"The disturbance was created by the ruling party. Whenever we made a demand or gave a notice, we were not allowed to speak. This has happened for the first time in my 32-year public life. Never has such a thing happened earlier," Kharge said...

BRS MP K. Keshava Rao said the parties on the podium had "distance and differences" between them but were now coming together.

Anil Antony joins BJP, father says 'wrong decision'

DC CORRESPONDENT THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, APRIL 6

Former defence minister and veteran Congress leader A.K. Antony's son Anil on Thursday joined the BJP at the party headquarters in Delhi.

His decision to join the BJP has come as a major embarrassment for the Kerala unit of Congress. Anil Antony joined BJP in the presence of Union ministers Piyush Goel, V. Muraleedharan and Kerala state BJP chief K. Surendran.

Sources close to A.K. Antony said that the veteran leader stated that he had not talked politics with his son for quite some time now.

A.K. Antony on Thursday said he was deeply pained by the decision of his son Anil to join the BJP. The former Kerala chief minister declared his unconditional loyalty to the "Nehru family" in the face of his son's decision to join the rival party.

Hours after Anil joined the BJP, an emotionally

charged Antony termed as "wrong" Anil's decision to join the BJP. It was a wrong decision, Antony told reporters at the KPCC headquarters.

"I am deeply pained by Anil's decision to join the BJP. It was a wrong decision," Antony told reporters at the KPCC headquarters. The former defence minister said he would continue to raise his voice against the BJP and the RSS.

Anil, who headed the Digital Media cell of the Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee, quit the Congress two months ago, after criticising the party's stand on the controversial documentary film of the BBC on Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and slammed the Congress leadership for working for a "single family" instead of for the country.



Anil Antony joins the BJP in the presence of Union minister and senior party leader Piyush Goel, in New Delhi on Thursday.

Cong. 2nd list: Defectors get nod

KARNATAKA DECIDES

DC CORRESPONDENT BENGALURU, APRIL 6

The Congress on Thursday released its second list of 42 candidates, including three defectors, who had recently quit as legislators and joined the party...

There is no mention of Kolar, the second seat from where senior party leader and former chief minister Siddaramaiah, wants to contest, in addition to Varuna, where his name is already cleared.

The defectors who got the ticket are former BJP MLA A.N. Y. Gopalakrishna, former BJP MLC Baburao Chinchansur, former JDS MLA S.R. Srinivas, and former JDS leader Devraj.

Chinchansur and Gopalakrishna, who had quit as BJP MLC and MLA recently and joined Congress have been fielded as Gurnitkal and Molakalmuru, respectively while S.R. Srinivas (Vasu), who had quit as JDS MLA has been fielded as a candidate from Gubbli.

Similarly the party has fielded Mantar Gowda from Madikeri. Interestingly his father A. Manju is the nominee for Arkalgud in Hassan as a JDS nominee. Former minister Vinay Kulkarni, who was expected to take on Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai from Shiggaon in Haveri district, has been given ticket to contest from Dharwad.

11 LINGAYATS FEATURE IN CONG.'S 2nd LIST

Minister booked for hate speech against Christians

Karnataka minister Munirathna has been booked by the police for his alleged hate speech against Christians. A case was registered against the minister on a complaint by a gazetted officer who charged him with promoting enmity among people...

Congress not to field candidates in Melukote

While the Congress announced a list of 42 candidates for the ensuing Assembly polls, the party has decided to back the candidature of Saravotya Karnataka Party (Ratha Saangha) candidate Darshan Puttanahalli, in Melukote. The decision is to ensure that votes do not split and help Darshan trounce JDS MLA and former minister C.S. Puttaraju, who is said to have considerable clout over the Melukote seat.

Infographic showing BJP's 2nd list of candidates: 11 are Lingayats (including one Reddy Lingayat, 11 Vokkaligas (including Darshan Puttanahalli), 3 Kurubas, 3 Muslims, 4 SC, 2 ST. Total 224. Total number of seats: 166. Candidates announced by Congress so far.

PUNEET DESHWAL | DC NEW DELHI, APRIL 6

The attorney-general of India R. Venkataramani on Thursday told the Supreme Court that the Central government is actively considering amending the CrPC (Code of Criminal Procedure) and the IPC (Indian Penal Code). He said that comprehensive amendments to the criminal laws will

IPC, CrPC likely to be amended

be undertaken in the coming Monsoon Session of the Parliament. The attorney-general also indicated that amendments to provisions relating to sedition are under consideration as well. The topmost law officer about the relevance of the submission that a change in sedition law was also in the offing, he said the government was actively looking at amending the CrPC and the IPC. The top court bench posted the matter for further hearing in the last week of July.

BJP to release list on April 13

SANJAY BASAK | DC NEW DELHI, APRIL 6

The BJP's first list of candidates for the Karnataka polls is set to be released by April 13. On Thursday, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai declared that the state core committee meeting had ended on Wednesday and the final list would be released after going through the survey report. The center election committee of the party would be meeting on April 9. The meeting will be attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, home minister Amit Shah, BJP

president J.P. Nadra and other top party leaders at the BJP headquarters in New Delhi.

On the issue of the party's star campaigners, Bommai said: "Wait and watch." On Wednesday, Karnataka superstar Kichcha Sudeep had extended his support to the BJP and pledged that he would campaign for the party.

The Chief Minister dismissed reports that he was going to contest from two constituencies. He termed the reports as "nothing but rumours". Reacting to reports that the BJP was going to give tickets to tainted leaders,

the Chief Minister made it amply clear that the tickets would be given only after going through various factors. On the issue of dropping a chunk of sitting MLAs, Bommai said a report had been sought after a thorough survey conducted at various levels. Tickets would be given after going through it, he added.

Bommai hit out at the Congress, saying that the party used the Dalits and other backward castes as a vote bank. Reacting to a Congress leader's statement that the quota issue would boomerang on the BJP, Bommai said,

CBSE to have more MCQs for '24

New Delhi, April 6: The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has revamped its assessment scheme for class 10 and 12 board exams to be conducted in 2024 by introducing more Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs) and reducing the weightage for questions requiring short or long answers, according to officials here. The move is aimed at

progressively aligning assessment with the National Education Policy 2020 recommendations, they said. The change, however, might be limited to 2023-24 academic session only as the board exams are likely to be reformed next year with the introduction of new National Curriculum Framework (NCF).

The National Education Policy, 2020, has affirmed the need to move from rote learning to learning more focused on developing the creative and critical thinking capacities of students to meet the challenges of the 21st century prosperity. The board is initiating changes in the examination and assessment practices for the academic session 2023-24 to align

Advertisement for 'CLAP' featuring a man in a white shirt and tie, with text 'CLAP' and 'HIGHLIGHTS' visible. Includes a list of names: CHIRRAVEJUNI CHECHERY, HEMALATHA PEDAMALLI, etc.





SHORT TAKES



JAPANESE ARMY COPTER CRASHES WITH 10 CREW

Tokyo, April 6: A missing Japanese army helicopter carrying 10 crew members is believed to have crashed into the sea off a southern island after objects appearing to be aircraft parts were spotted in the area, an official said on Thursday.

BERLUSCONI DIAGNOSED WITH LEUKAEMIA

Milan, April 6: Four-times Italian prime minister Silvio Berlusconi has been diagnosed with leukaemia, a source close to the matter said on Thursday, a day after he was admitted to intensive care with problems related to breathing.

AZERBAIJAN ARRESTS 6 OVER 'COUP PLOT'

Baku, April 6: Azerbaijan on Thursday arrested six men it said were linked to Iranian secret services in a plot to stage a coup in the Caspian nation, in the latest tensions between Baku and Tehran.

INDO-AMERICANS PROTEST AGAINST BILL ON CASTE

Washington, April 6: Scores of Indian-Americans took part in a peaceful rally in California to register their protest against a Democratic senator for introducing a bill in the state's Senate seeking to explicitly ban caste-based bias.

Xi willing to call Zelensky, Macron seeks China's help

French Prez urges Chinese counterpart not to deliver weapons to Russia

Beijing, April 6: China's Xi Jinping expressed willingness to speak to Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky, the head of the European Union said on Thursday, after French President Emmanuel Macron urged Beijing to talk sense to Russia over the war in Ukraine.



French President Emmanuel Macron (L) and Chinese President Xi Jinping take part in a Franco-Chinese business council meeting in Beijing on Thursday. — AFP

In closely watched talks, EU chief Ursula von der Leyen and Macron met with Xi in Beijing. Macron said the West must engage China to help end the crisis and prevent "spiralling" tensions that could split global powers into warring blocs.

Xi, who has sought to position China as a potential mediator in the conflict but has been seen by the West as favouring Russia, responded by saying he hoped Moscow and Kyiv could hold peace negotiations as soon as possible.

It was interesting to hear that President Xi reiterated his willingness to speak to Zelensky, von der Leyen said. Xi said a conversation could happen when the "conditions and time are right", she added.

Xi did not mention a possible conversation with Zelensky in his own comments after the meetings. Zelensky has repeatedly asked Xi to meet him, including after the Chinese leader visited Russia's President Vladimir Putin in Moscow last month.

A French diplomatic source told Reuters that Xi was "ready" to call Zelensky. "The Russian aggression in Ukraine has dealt a blow to (international) stability," Macron told Xi, standing alongside the Chinese President out-

'U.S.-LED ALLIANCE EXPANDING TOWARDS RUSSIA'

Saboteurs failed to enter Russia. Russian security forces foiled an attempt of a group of Ukrainian "saboteurs" to enter Russia, the governor of the Bryansk region that borders Ukraine said on Thursday.

The announcement came a day after Russian President Vladimir Putin had warned saboteurs were acting inside Russia.

Girl in Ukraine sketch with mom

A Russian girl taken away from her father after she drew a picture in support of Ukraine at school has been handed by authorities to her estranged mother, an official said.

N-weapons in Belarus: Kremlin defends decision

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov defended its decision to station tactical nuclear weapons in Belarus, rejecting criticism of the move by Nato Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg. He said that the US-led transatlantic alliance was the one expanding towards Russia, not the other way round, and therefore Moscow had to take steps to defend its own security.

VIOLENCE CONTINUES IN JERUSALEM FOR SECOND STRAIGHT NIGHT

Jerusalem, April 6: Violence resumed for a second straight night in Jerusalem on Wednesday when Palestinian worshippers barricaded themselves inside Al-Aqsa Mosque at the Old City's sensitive compound and Israeli police used force to remove dozens of worshippers.

PAK PARLIAMENT DISMISSES SC ORDER ON POLLS

Islamabad, April 6: Pakistan's Parliament on Wednesday passed a resolution rejecting the Supreme Court's decision about the Punjab election delay case and demanded a bill court to decide this issue as the row between the judiciary and the government continued in the country.

Earth has 2nd warmest March on record

Paris, April 6: Earth had its joint second-warmest March on record with Antarctic sea ice shrinking to its second-lowest extent for that month, the European Union's climate monitoring agency said on Thursday.

Antarctic ice extent was the second lowest for March according to the 45-year satellite data record. It reached 3.2 million square kilometres over western and central North America, the agency said.

MACRON'S FAV. EATERY TARGETED

Paris, April 6: Clashes erupted in Paris next to a Left Bank brasserie favoured by French President Emmanuel Macron during a day of Macron nationwide protests against a pension bill that he has pushed through despite widespread opposition.

SOUTH CENTRAL RAILWAY PUBLIC NOTIFICATION. Notice is hereby given to all users of Railway lines and premises situated on the complete section of the under noted section: Section: Provision of electrification to WS-5 line of Washing Sidings, Secunderabad to facilitate Vande Bharat train maintenance at Secunderabad station.

BIHAR ANIMAL SCIENCES UNIVERSITY. Notice Inviting e-Tender (Re-Tender - 1). Bihar Animal Sciences University, Patna invites online e-Tender for Supply and Installation of Various Laboratory Equipments/ Instruments (Atomic Absorbance Spectrophotometer - 01, High Performance Liquid Chromatography - 01 and Gas Chromatography - Mass Spectrophotometer - 01) for the College of Fisheries, Kishanganj under PMSYS project.

REGULATION OF CONSULTANTS ON TEMPORARY BASIS. The Director of Quality Inspection and Diagnostic Centre, Patna is a premier autonomous R & D Institute under Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India.

VJAYAWADA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION. Procurement Notice No.01/NM/CB/2023-24, D1.06-04-2023. 1. Roads, Housing, GMP, Drains, Steps, water supply, PCC, Parkings, Repairs, Greenery, Community work, Culverts, Slabs, auction for unused vehicles (100 Nos.) Est. Amount Rs.2205.08 Lakhs.

PSCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited. Regd. Office: PSCL, Head Office, The Mall, Patna-147001. Corporate Identity Number: U41090PB20052038131. Website: www.pscl.in

Chhattisgarh State Industrial Development Corporation Limited (A Government of Chhattisgarh Undertaking) (ISO 9001:2015 Certified). 1st Floor, Udyog Bhawan, Ring Road No.1, Tildaibanda, Raipur (C.G.) - 492006

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) (4th Call) (Through e-Procurement Portal Only). Name of Work: Design, Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Cold Storage-2 Nos at Village Jamnaganj, District Bargarh, Odisha (O.G.C.)

F.No.19/2019/PR Government of India Ministry of Finance Department of Financial Services. Inviting applications for the post of Whole-time Member (Law) in Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRA), New Delhi.

quick BITES

INDICATORS % Sensex 59,832.97 0.24 Nifty 50 17,599.20 0.24 S&P 500\* 4,082.92 -0.18 Dollar (T) 82.26 0.49 Pound Sterling (T) 101.36 0.16 Euro (T) 89.74 -1.01 Gold (10gm) (T) 60,600.256 0.42 Brent crude (\$/bbl) 84.93 -0.07 US 10-Yr bond yield\* 7.212 -0.061 US 10-Yr T-bill yield\* 3.279 -0.008 \*As of 8:30 PM IST

Centre unlikely to allow additional export of sugar

The government is unlikely to permit additional sugar exports this year as untimely rains have impacted the production in Maharashtra, Food Secretary Sanjeev Chopra said on Thursday. The food ministry has allowed 6 million tonnes of sugar exports for the current 2022-23 marketing year (October-September). Out of which, about four million tonnes have been exported so far, as per the trade report.

Panel to resolve land disputes of state-run firms

The Central government plans to set up a panel for faster resolution of state-owned companies' land disputes, two government officials with direct knowledge of the matter said on Thursday. The move, part of a renewed push by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's administration to slim down the public sector, will help the government monetise unused land to minimise losses at state-run companies and help them raise funds.

TRAI KICKS OFF PROCESS TO PART SPECTRUM FOR SPACE PHONES

MADHUSUDAN SAHOO NEW DELHI, APRIL 6 Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai) has kicked off the process to deliberate on the mechanism for allocating spectrum for space-based communication services.

ONDC frames rules for retail participants

The government-promoted Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) is framing a mechanism to ensure compliance with its rules by entities involved in online retail trading, a senior official said. ONDC aims to promote an open platform for all aspects of e-commerce retail. It would help small retailers expand their business through e-commerce medium and reduce dominance of giants in the sector.

THDCIL's Rajeev Kumar gets addl charge of NHPC

Rajeev Kumar Vishnoi, chairman and managing director of THDCIL, has received the additional charge of NHPC, according to an official statement. "Ministry of Power has conveyed the approval of the Competent Authority to extend the additional charge of the post of the Chairman and Managing Director, NHPC Limited already entrusted to Rajeev Kumar Vishnoi, CMD, THDCIL," NHPC said.

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Central bank wants to increase impact of repo rate hikes effected in the last one year RB gives 'brief relief' on rate hike

FALAKNAAZ SYED MUMBAI, APRIL 6

Contrary to market expectations, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) led Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) on Thursday unanimously decided to hold policy rates while retaining the monetary policy stance at "withdrawal of accommodation."

ing and that the MPC will not hesitate to take any action "if the situation so warrants." The RBI Governor said that the central bank wants to carefully evaluate consequences of the cumulative 250 basis point increase in the repo rate since May 2022, the fastest pace of hike in the past decade. The decision has brought some relief to borrowers, albeit temporarily, who have witnessed the RBI hiking the repo rate by six times in a row. The RBI chief said there has been an effective rate hike of 290 basis points (bps) over the last one year including the standard deposit facility (SDF) rate



Shaktikanta Das

increase. "This 290 bps increase has translated to a monetary policy transmission by way of increase in the overnight call rate which has gone up from daily average of 3.32 per cent in March 2022, to 6.52 per cent in March 2023. It is now necessary to evaluate the cumulative

impact of the rate hikes." For the financial year 2022-24, the inflation forecast was revised downwards to 5.2 per cent and GDP forecast upwards to 6.5 per cent. RBI deputy governor Michael Patra said the central bank has marginally increased its FY24 growth estimate to 6.5 per cent primarily on assumption of a decline in the average oil price to \$85 per barrel as against \$90 per barrel earlier. "The MPC remains watchful and will not hesitate to take further actions in its future meetings as may be necessary. The job is not yet finished. Given that there's overall macroeconomic and financial

stability, our priority continues to be price stability," said Das. "The MPC is unlikely to see the need to hike further, unless inflation once again moves above or closer to the upper threshold of the mandated band of 2-6 per cent. If such a scenario arises, the monetary policy hiking cycle may resume, beyond just one hike of 25bps. We will watch for any upside surprise to inflation over the next few quarters. Risks could emerge from the global front, weather disruptions in India (with an El Nino prediction for 2023) and/or domestic growth holding up better than expected," said Standard Chartered Bank.

Rate sensitive stocks, bonds rally on rate hike pause

RAVI RANJAN PRASAD MUMBAI, APRIL 6

Stocks from rate-sensitive sectors and bonds rallied after RBI surprised market with a pause after six consecutive rate hikes amounting to 250 basis points of repo rate hikes in the past 11 months. Realty, auto, capital goods sector stocks were among gainers as the market was expecting 25 basis points repo rate hike.

However, due to the market rally extending for five days, gains were limited with the Sensex rising 143.66 points or 0.24 per cent to 59,832.97 and Nifty-50 gaining 42.10 points or 0.24 per cent to 17,599.15.

Realty stocks gained most with BSE Realty index up 2.50 per cent, other gainers included BSE Auto (0.94 per cent), Capital Goods (0.71 per cent) while bank stocks didn't have much impact with BSE Banks (0.02 per cent), Nifty Bank (0.10 per cent) and Nifty PSU Bank (0.33 per cent) closing flat to positive.

"The decision came as a surprise after the majority of the central banks across the world continued to increase rates in an effort to tame stubbornly high inflation," said Siddhant Khemkar, head, retail research, Motilal Oswal Financial Services.

RBI plans AI site on unclaimed deposits

SANGEETHA G CHENNAI, APRIL 6

With unclaimed deposits of over ₹35,000 crore getting transferred to RBI recently, the central bank has decided to develop an AI-powered web portal enabling searches across banks.

Currently, the deposits remaining unclaimed for 10 years in a bank are transferred to the "Depositor Education and Awareness" (DEA) Fund maintained by the Reserve Bank of India. A few days back, the government informed Parliament that unclaimed deposits of about ₹35,000 crore as February 2022 were transferred to RBI by public sector banks.

Credit bureau to pay fine for delay in info correction

FALAKNAAZ SYED MUMBAI, APRIL 6

● THE CENTRAL bank will prescribe a time-frame for ingestion of data received by CICs from credit institutions and disclosures relating to number and nature of customer complaints received on the website of CICs. The RBI Bank of India (RBI) on Thursday proposed making the country's credit bureaus more accountable by strengthening the grievance redressal system by alerting customers when their credit report is accessed and compensating them for delayed or altered reports. The central bank said that this is being done in the wake of an increase in customer complaints regarding reporting and functioning by credit institutions and credit information companies (CICs). Further, the central bank will prescribe a

timeframe for ingestion of data received by CICs from credit institutions and disclosures relating to number and nature of customer complaints received on the website of CICs. "RBI is also planning to put in place measures such as compensation mechanism for delayed

update/rectification of credit information; a provision for SMS/email alerts to customers when their credit information are accessed from the credit bureaus," said the RBI while announcing its bi-monthly monetary policy on Thursday. Detailed guidelines in this regard will be issued shortly, said the central bank. In August, the RBI included CICs under the purview of the Reserve Bank of India - Integrated Ombudsman Scheme to provide a cost-free alternate redress mechanism to customers of banks and non-banking finance companies for grievances against CICs.

ONDC frames rules for retail participants

The government-promoted Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) is framing a mechanism to ensure compliance with its rules by entities involved in online retail trading, a senior official said. ONDC aims to promote an open platform for all aspects of e-commerce retail. It would help small retailers expand their business through e-commerce medium and reduce dominance of giants in the sector.

INDIA'S DIGITAL INFRA IS WORTH EMULATING: IMF

India has built a world-class digital infrastructure which is transforming lives and economy and can be a lesson for many countries to follow, an IMF Working Paper said. India Stack is the collective name of a set of commonly used digital public infrastructure (DPIs) in India. It consists of three different layers - unique identity (Aadhaar), complementary payment systems (UPI, Aadhaar Payments Bridge, Aadhaar Enabled Payment Service), and data exchange (DigiLocker and Account Aggregator).

SMART TV SHIPMENTS GREW 28% IN 2022, SAYS REPORT

India's smart TV shipments recorded double-digit growth of 28 per cent in 2022, which was led primarily by the festive season in the third quarter of multiple new launches, discount events, and promotions, said a Counterpoint Research report.

CHINA PLANS NEW UNDERSEA FIBRE

Chinese state-owned telecom firms are developing a \$500-million undersea fibre-optic internet cable network that would link Asia, the Middle East and Europe to rival a similar US-backed project. The plan is a sign that an intensifying tech war between China and the US risks tearing the fabric of the internet.

'GOOGLE FAILED TO COMPLY WITH CCI ORDER'

The online games involved in wagering or betting will fall foul of new online gaming rule, minister of state for IT Rajeev Chandrasekhar said.

CENTRE FRAMES NEW RULES FOR ONLINE GAMING

In an attempt to flag false information posted online pertaining to the government, the Centre plans to notify an independent entity soon. Besides, the final rules for online gaming have been ruled out anytime soon as it involves a lot of work that needs to be done in the government said on Thursday after releasing the rules for online gaming.

Centre adopts new formula to cap gas prices

MADHUSUDAN SAHOO NEW DELHI, APRIL 6

Based on the recommendations of the Kirit Parikh Committee on Natural Gas, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) on Thursday approved the floor price of \$4/MMBtu for administered pricing mechanism or APM gas, capping of \$6.5/MMBtu as current rate of \$8.57.

Briefing on the decision, I&B minister Anurag Thakur said the Union government on Thursday approved a new formula for pricing of natural gas and imposed cap or ceiling price to rein in runaway prices of CNG and piped cooking gas. "The natural gas produced from legacy or old fields, known as APM gas, will now be indexed to crude oil price instead of pricing it based on gas prices in surplus nations such as the US, Canada and Russia," the minister said.

"From April 1, APM gas will be priced at 10 per cent of the price of basket of crude oil that India imports (Indian basket of crude oil) as per the government's decision," he said.

However, the government said that the detailed notification in this regard will be out on Friday (i.e. April 7) and the guidelines will be effective from April 8, 2023.

Under the new pricing norms, the domestic gas price will be benchmarked to global crude prices as reflected by the Indian crude oil basket.

"The government's revision to the 2014 gas pricing guidelines aims to provide a big relief to the consumers who are suffering from the recent surge in global gas prices. However, the government said that the detailed notification in this regard will be out on Friday (i.e. April 7) and the guidelines will be effective from April 8, 2023.

Tesla cameras captured sensitive images and videos of customers

Tesla staff shared customers' images

London, San Francisco, April 6: Tesla Inc assures its millions of electric car owners that their privacy concerns will not be an enormously important to us." The cameras it builds into vehicles to assist driving, it notes on its website, are "designed from the ground up to protect your privacy."

Also shared: crashes and road-rage incidents. One crash video in 2021 showed a Tesla driving at high speed in a residential area hitting a child riding a bicycle, according to another ex-employee. The child

flew in one direction, the bike in another. The video spread around a Tesla office in San Mateo, California, via private one-on-one chats, "like wildfire," the ex-employee said. Other images were more mundane, such as pictures of dogs and funny road signs that employees made into memes by embellishing them with amusing captions or commentary, before posting them in private group chats. While some postings were only shared between two employees,

others could be seen by scores of them, according to several ex-employees. Tesla states in its online "Customer Privacy Notice" that its "camera recordings remain anonymous and are not linked to you or your vehicle." But seven former employees told Reuters the computer program they used at work could show the location of recordings - which potentially could reveal where a Tesla owner lived. One ex-employee also said that some recordings appeared to have been

made when cars were parked and turned off. Several years ago, Tesla would receive video recordings from its vehicles even when they were off. It then gave consent. It has since stopped doing so. Tesla didn't respond to detailed questions sent for this report. To report this story, Reuters contacted more than 300 former Tesla employees who had worked at the company over the past nine years and were involved in developing its self-driving system. — Reuters

Pick anyone of two tax regimes: CBDT

FC CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI, APRIL 6

The income-tax (I-T) department has asked employers and employees to submit their income particulars once again for the purpose of calculating tax deducted at source (TDS) as per the Finance Act 2023, which makes the new tax regime a default option and the old regime optional. "From the financial year 2023-24, the new tax regime has become the default tax regime for taxpayers, and those who want to continue with the old one, must inform the employer in advance," the department said.

In a circular, the Central Board of Direct Taxes directed the employers to ask for information from employees who have income under Section 192 of the Income-Tax Act regarding their intended tax regime. "And upon receiving their responses, the deductor or the employer will compute the employee's total income for TDS based on their selected option." "If the employee does not intimate the same, it shall be presumed that the employee has not exercised the option to opt out of the new tax regime. And the employer would deduct TDS as per the new regime rates," it added.





**tollywood**

Nani joins elite club

2 >>



# hyderabad CHRONICLE

FRIDAY | 7 APRIL 2023



## VINTAGE SALMAN

The actor was in his element at a press meet on Wednesday, making his first public appearance after the most recent threat to his life. He wears his 'I give-a-damn' attitude on his sleeve. He said he uses his awards as "door stoppers" at times and doesn't really care about them

Salman Khan's security has been doubled after the recent threat to his life. But the actor side-stepped the question when asked about it. However, he was in a jolly mood and spoke freely about many other things in the film industry. *Excerpts:*

**AWARDS FUNCTIONS AND MONEY**

Salman had some insights to share about awards functions, and how actors who perform at them are treated. "The first time I was told I had won an award, I told my dad, and he too wore a suit and we all reached the venue — only to see another actor, Jackie Shroff, win it," he recalled. "I had been asked to perform at the event and when I refused, they told me that they would pay me a certain amount. I asked for five times more, and they gave me a cheque. I went backstage and found Juhi Chawla and Akshay Kumar and told them they should also ask for more because I had got it. They got paid too. I made sure that after that day, every awards function paid us to host and dance and not just do it free under the ruse of getting an award. They are all making money from sponsors, from TV telecasts; and we should do so too," he asserted.

**HINDI FILMS NOT DOING WELL**

"I have been hearing that Hindi films are not doing well. If you make bad films, how will they work? Everyone thinks they are making a *Mughal-E-Azam*, *Sholay*, *HAHK* or *DDLJ*. But that's not what they're doing."

TURN TO PAGE 5



“ I HAVE BEEN HEARING THAT HINDI FILMS ARE NOT DOING WELL. IF YOU MAKE BAD FILMS, HOW WILL THEY WORK? EVERYONE THINKS THEY ARE MAKING A MUGHAL-E-AZAM, SHOLAY, HAHK OR DDLJ. BUT THAT'S NOT WHAT THEY'RE DOING

## 'USE AWARDS AS DOOR STOPPERS'

Salman may be a show stopper, but the actor says he uses awards as door stoppers! "Honestly, I have never been interested in these awards, because I've seen so many of them — my father Salim *saab* has won a lot of them. I myself got two. Sometimes, we use them as door stoppers at home. And we would give them away if we couldn't find a place for them at home. I've often lost awards to other actors after being nominated. I was once even given an award which I left behind on the stage. The organisers may have it now. I was never interested in awards. Even today, I am not," the actor reiterated. However, he went on to say, "I am interested in rewards. That's what I get from my fans and from the Hindi film audience."

— Sanskriti Media

## PCJ signs Idris Elba, John Cena starrer

*Heads of State* is a political thriller

**✓** Priyanka Chopra Jonas seems to be the new flavour of the studio backing *Citadel* for the Russo Brothers.

In July 2020, Amazon Studios concluded a multimillion-dollar deal with her in an effort to feature South Asia on the global platform. And now, PCJ has signed a big project with John Cena and Idris Elba.

The film, called *Heads of State*, is slated to take off next month. Priyanka's spy show is expected to drop on the platform by the end of this month.

"The title *Heads of State* clearly indicates that the film is a political thriller. It is being billed as a marriage between Air Force One *Midnight*



Idris Elba and John Cena


*Run*, starring Harrison Ford and Robert De Niro. The idea was Harrison Query's. He developed it and handed it over to director Ilya Naishuller who has got Josh Appelbaum and André Nemeč to write the script. Peter Safran and John Rickard are producing the film," we are informed.

PCJ has other projects coming up, including *Love Again* filmed in the UK, and *Je Le Zara* co-starring Alia Bhatt and Katrina Kaif — the principal shooting of the latter will start in Rajasthan after Priyanka wraps her Hollywood biggie.

— Sanskriti Media

## Sam was the original choice for Rainbow

...Rashmika came on board later

 The Telugu-Tamil romantic fantasy entertainer, *Rainbow*, starring Rashmika Mandanna, which was launched a few days ago, will commence shooting on Friday. However, apparently, Rashmika wasn't the original choice for the female-centric film. It was Samantha!

Sam was approached for the part one-and-a-half years ago, and it was assumed that she was on board. But that's not how things turned out.

Sam was excited by the offer, but it came at around the time when she and Naga Chaitanya decided to separate, and she suffered some health problems, which pre-

vented her from taking up work. Since she didn't want to keep the filmmakers waiting, she asked them to look at other options.


"Samantha herself advised the producers to go ahead with another actress, because she wanted her space, she didn't want to overwork herself during that time," says a source. And even when she returned to work, she had pending projects to complete, like *Citadel* and *Khushi*.

Since the heroine of *Rainbow*, directed by Shantharuban, is a strong character, the makers wanted someone suited to that part. They believed Rashmika, who has risen to stardom in the last two years, would be an ideal choice.

**SAMANTHA HERSELF ADVISED THE PRODUCERS TO GO AHEAD WITH ANOTHER ACTRESS, BECAUSE SHE WANTED HER SPACE, SHE DIDN'T WANT TO OVERWORK HERSELF DURING THAT TIME," SAYS A SOURCE. AND EVEN WHEN SHE RETURNED TO WORK, SHE HAD PENDING PROJECTS TO COMPLETE, LIKE CITADEL AND KHUSHI**

## 'I WANTED TO BREAK ALL INHIBITIONS'

...Sushanth reflects on his filmography


 When the makers of *Ravanasura* approached Sushanth Anumolu for a significant role, he was excited about coming on board. He, however, suggested they tweak his role a bit so that it would be more impactful and add intensity to the narrative.

"The producer Abhishek Nama agreed that the new layer / dimension to my character validates my role and was happy to incorporate it," shares Sushanth.

While Ravi Teja plays *Ravanasura* in the Sudheer Varma directorial, Sushanth plays Ram. However, he says all the characters in the film have grey shades.

"I felt my role in the film stands out, and I believed *Ravanasura* would give me a chance to showcase a new me," he explains, adding that he was equally excited to see Ravi Teja in a character he hasn't done so far.

After playing a vital role in *Ala Vaikuntapuramlo* (2019), Sushanth will also be seen in Chiranjeevi's upcoming film *Bhola*. "I wanted to break all my inhibitions and am game to push myself to do something quirky. I have been picking different roles from what I am. I felt I needed to prove something as an actor and believed *Chi Law Sow* gave me that break. Then *Ala Vaikuntapuramlo* happened," he reveals, adding that sharing screen with the Megastar in *Bhola* was like a dream.

 There's hardly anyone from the film industry who hasn't raved about *Dasara*. The Nani-starrer has been getting positive reviews from Rajamouli and Prabhas to Mahesh Babu and Chiranjeevi, ever since its release last week.

The Srikanth Odela directorial has become a humongous hit at the box office and has joined the ₹100-crore club. This is the first time a Nani-starrer has entered this league. The cash registers have been ringing overseas too.

"What worked for the film was Nani's unique characterisation," comments the director, adding that the freshness in the rustic story complemented the characters well.

Talking about the super success, Nani said the collections were a validation of how important it is to stay true to the script. "We were honest in our storytelling and gave our best shot. The characters were designed meticulously keeping the story in view," the actor shares.



## Virinchi's period drama

...Script work in progress

His first two films *Uyyala Jampala* and *Manju* went on to become super hits. Both belonged to the romance genre. But now, director Virinchi Varma wants to move on to something else. We learn that the filmmaker is working on the script of a period drama. It is reportedly set in the 1970s and Virinchi is currently doing the necessary research.

"The director is gathering references relating to that period from libraries and newspaper clips and meeting people, says a source, adding that an official announcement is likely to be made soon. "The film, currently in pre-production, will be headlined by a star hero, the source adds.

## Nani joins elite club

...Dasara reaches ₹100 cr mark



# talk of the town

Deccan Chronicle



Pinky Reddy and Karan Johar

The opening of Nita Mukesh Ambani Cultural Centre was a splendid event with the world's top notch people invited. And from our city, the two people who were invited is Pinky Reddy and designer Jayanti Reddy. Both made quite a mark there, with many wanting to take selfies with them.



Jayanti with Rekha and Aditi Rao Hyderi

A national magazine is chasing a film-star's wife to pose for them on their cover, showing off the baby bump. The couple is undecided, hasn't agreed as yet.

A few Hyderabadis were miffed because they weren't invited to the recent Dior show in Mumbai. The who's who of the country were invited but our 'bagwatis' in town, who have been patrons of the brand for decades, were ignored.

We hear one socialite whose Mumbai based PR is tasked with making sure she's invited to every high profile event in the country gave the PR company a dressing down and threatened to cancel their contract.

A recent baby shower at a popular watering hole in Hi-tech city seems to have become the epicenter of a covid scare in town. Once some of the older guests started displaying symptoms of the flu, everyone ran



WHO has taken off for a quick break to Baku, Azerbaijan? Youhan Noria who has been checking out the Central Asian city and its touristy spots.

WHAT is everyone trying to get a hold of these days? A Rolex watch, getting an allocation for which has become increasingly difficult with people using all pull and push to get their names on the coveted list. Don't these folks realize that the watch resale market has collapsed?



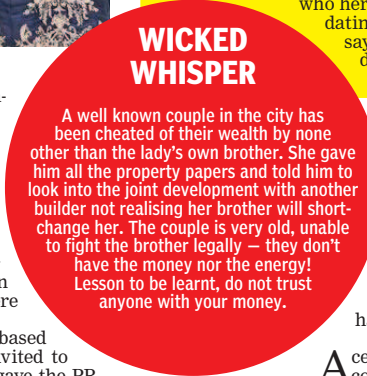
WHERE were actor Aditya Sesh and his partner spotted? At a recent birthday party celebrations. They make a stylish couple.



WHEN did Aparna Roddam make a big splash on the internet for her style. Yesterday, when she was featured on Diet Sabya's list of India's most stylish fashionistas.



WHY are people getting after actor Samantha, attributing statements to her that she never made? She has moved on, doesn't really care who her ex, Naga Chitanya, is dating. But the one thing many say is that "Chay is a wonderful boyfriend..."



A well known couple in the city has been cheated of their wealth by none other than the lady's own brother. She gave him all the property papers and told him to look into the joint development with another builder not realising her brother will short-change her. The couple is very old, unable to fight the brother legally - they don't have the money nor the energy! Lesson to be learnt, do not trust anyone with your money.

helter skelter trying to get themselves tested. No point being sorry later methinks, best to stay safe and give large gatherings a miss especially when Covid is making a comeback in the country. No one wants a situation where we all have to mask up again.

A certain heavy weight politico's second wife is supposedly moving back to town with her son, to Banjara Hills, sending shivers down the spines of the man's first family.

Deciding to no longer keep them far away, this chap has finally got the guts to bring back his second setup, prompting several other men like him to muster some courage as well. Time for some fireworks methinks.

## MATINEE

# 'Connection with the audience is my validation'

Actor Aditya Roy Kapur says he gauges the impact of his work not by box office collections or the views on streamers, but through the appreciation he receives from his fans

The actor, who is awaiting the release of his next film *Gumraah*, is on cloud nine after garnering praise for his debut series *The Night Manager*, adapted from John le Carre's novel of the same name. "People seem to like and appreciate the work. Things are good and positive for me. The most important feedback or validation is my connection with the audience. There's been an appreciation for the work that has been put out in the last two-three years.

"There's box office and OTT where you get to understand if something is doing well. But the feeling that you get from people in general who are watching your work is an old-school way to gauge if they liked you, and it works. As an actor, I am working for the audience. I am not putting out work in a vacuum, so I care about what the audience thinks," Roy told.

The 37-year-old actor, known for *Aashiqui 2*, *Yeh Jawani Hai Deewani*, and *Malang*, said he is fortunate to have been given opportunities to experiment with different genres.



"*Malang* was the first time I did action and thriller and that opened the door for other thrillers. But you have to make those decisions and then branch off into something else. With *Ludo*, it was comedy and romance in light-hearted space, which I did after a long time," he added.

In his next, crime thriller *Gumraah*, Roy will be seen in dual roles of Arjun and Rahul. Directed by Vardhan Ketkar, the film is a remake of the 2019 Tamil hit *Thadam*.

The actor said the two characters look similar but they had to feel different.

"Like, their mental state was different, their background, the way of speaking was different. It was a fun challenge, the *Daawat-e-Ishq* star says in conclusion.

— PTI

THE FEELING THAT YOU GET FROM PEOPLE IN GENERAL WHO ARE WATCHING YOUR WORK IS AN OLD-SCHOOL WAY TO GAUGE IF THEY LIKED YOU, AND IT WORKS. AS AN ACTOR, I AM WORKING FOR THE AUDIENCE. I AM NOT PUTTING OUT WORK IN A VACUUM, SO I CARE ABOUT WHAT THE AUDIENCE THINKS

# Poor gut health is the cause for many ailments

On this World Health Day, take a pledge to take care of your gut and your mental health. You must've heard people say, "You are what you eat." There is a significant amount of truth in this saying.

ANJALI KOCHHAR

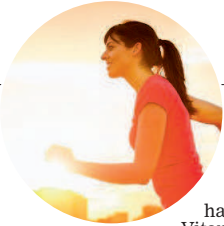
If you've been worrying a lot or have been depressed for a long time, you might be having gastric issues as well. Though the real reason behind it is still debated, doctors, through studies, believe that anxiety and depression can cause serious gastric issues — especially acid reflux. A famous saying among many doctors is that 'worry, hurry and curry can cause gastric ulcers'. While your anxiety is causing gastric issues, you must also know that your depression may be directly linked to your stomach. Studies have shown that people who don't eat regular and healthy diets are most likely to develop psychiatric issues like depression and anxiety. If your diet lacks essential vitamins and minerals, their deficiency can cause serious mental health issues. You may feel that something is seriously going wrong in your life leading to your depression, but more often than not, it is the unbalanced diet that causes these problems.

## >> Few things to keep in mind

### Eat a balanced and healthy diet



A balanced, healthy diet maintains the necessary amount of vitamins and minerals in our body that are required for a healthy body and a healthy mind. The lack of essential nutrients in your diet is likely to first affect your mental health and then your physical body. So if you've been in a terrible mood and can't find the reason, change your eating habits, and you might be surprised with the results. "The deficiency of iron can cause fatigue and a sense of not being able to cope with routine. Or the slow-burning fibre from vegetables and whole grains that lend the prebiotics needed for a well-functioning gut that eventually benefits mental health," said **Anupama Menon**, wellness coach and founder of Right Living. **Dr. Saumya Mudgal**, Senior Consultant-Psychiatry, Max Hospital, Gurugram, believes Vitamins like B12, B1, B6 have a major role in maintaining neuronal health and the deficiencies can cause depression. Multiple somatic complaints to even psychosis. "Like thiamine deficiency in Alcoholics can cause psychosis, B12 deficiency can cause a tingling sensation in arms and feet also multiple aches and pain. Minerals like manganese and magnesium are again important for neurotransmission and brain well-being, mode stabilisation," she adds.



### Go out in the sun

Vitamin D is a nutrient that is essential for the proper functioning of our mental health. A lack of vitamin D can significantly lower one's happiness quotient. Since the Sun is the only source of Vitamin D, you may want to spend more time outside in the sun. If your job requires you to stay in or work from home, take out time from your routine to especially be under the sun. If things have already gone out of hand, you may want to consult a doctor and get tested for nutrients you're deficient in. The doctor may be able to help you regain those nutrients through supplements or a diet chart. "One must have good exposure to sunlight to avoid having Vitamin D deficiency as it leads not only to calcium deficiency but also many systemic and mental health problems such as depression and anxiety; asthma in children, neurological problems in the elderly, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and eclampsia in pregnancy," says **Dr Deepika Malik**, a general physician working with Delhi Government.

### Take care of your gut

It is in our digestive tract that food is broken down and absorbed. If your gut is in any way compromised (and this is unfortunately very common these days) you will not be able to get the nutrients you need into your cells, no matter how healthy your diet is.

"Your gut houses the body's second brain: the enteric nervous system. The enteric nervous system and your brain are in constant communication and any issues within the gut can impact your mental well-being," says **Monique Jhington**, Functional Nutritionist and Lifestyle Consultant.

Jhington adds, "You have an entire ecosystem of microbes in your digestive tract. This microbial community, also known as the gut microbiome, impacts many of your body's biological processes, hormone and neurotransmitter levels and your brain chemistry."

Hence, restoring balance by eating a diverse, whole foods diet with plenty of colourful plant foods, fibre and fermented foods has a positive ripple effect on our general and mental health and well-being.

### Indulge in flow experiences

Studies have shown that people who indulge in more flow experiences a day are happier in comparison to ones who have none. If you feel sad, or depressed, you may also feel like you have no purpose. Indulging in flow experiences gives you purpose and makes you feel fulfilled. Activities like sports, reading, singing, playing music, and listening to podcasts are some of the many ways you can start experiencing flow. Flow is the same thing that you experience after a competitive game of tennis or while finishing a suspense novel.



### Practice yoga and meditation

A routine yoga and meditation practice can help young people to manage stress and improve focus and concentration. The latter is an extremely helpful skill for those trying to succeed academically. It can help them become more self-aware and better able to understand and regulate their thoughts and emotions. Regularly practising yoga and meditation can also help in improved sleep quality, which is important for overall mental health and wellbeing.

**Nimish Dayalu**, CEO and co-founder of Zoga Wellness App says, "Traditional Hatha yoga is good for youth. This type of yoga focuses on physical postures and breathing exercises. Restorative yoga focusing on slow, gentle movements is especially helpful for those suffering from anxiety or depression. It helps practitioners get fitter and healthier on the inside-out." "Gratitude meditation which involves sending feelings of love and compassion to oneself and others can help young people to develop positive relationships with themselves and others," he adds.



**"YOUR GUT HOUSES THE BODY'S SECOND BRAIN: THE ENTERIC NERVOUS SYSTEM. THE ENTERIC NERVOUS SYSTEM AND YOUR BRAIN ARE IN CONSTANT COMMUNICATION AND ANY ISSUES WITHIN THE GUT CAN IMPACT YOUR MENTAL WELL-BEING."**

— **MONIQUE JHINGTON**, Functional Nutritionist and Lifestyle Consultant.

# Men and the statement necklace

It might be tempting to dismiss men's jewellery as something that only a Ranveer Singh or a Harry Styles could wear. But the fact is, the trend is growing. So much so that it is being made abundantly clear that jewels are not just for the ladies.



**LIL NAS X**  
This singer's Instagrammable bejewelled looks make us wonder what else he's capable of.

**HARRY STYLES**  
loves his pearls. He has made jewellery his signature fashion statement.

**BRAD PITT**  
Nobody makes a better case for men's jewellery than veteran actor Brad Pitt.

**SWATI SHARMA**  
DECCAN CHRONICLE

**Brown Munde singer AP Dhillon and Hrithik Roshan recently turned heads with their neck jewellery at the Nita Mukesh Ambani Cultural Centre (NMACC) fashion gala. The singer wore a pair of necklaces from Mahesh Notandass Fine Jewellery with his red Gucci blazer and black T-shirt while the actor sported ornate neck jewellery he arrived at the event in all-black ethnic Jade by MK ensemble.**

**"Men's jewellery has been a part of our culture and many other cultures. It was always regarded as a symbol of wealth and style. Even today, men in several subcultures of India wear *balis* in their ears. Hip hop artistes all over the world have made men's bling fashionable," says Samarth Bajaj, Co-Founder &**



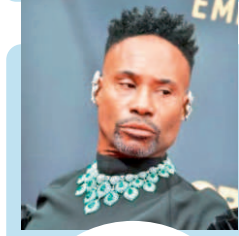
**RANVEER SINGH'S**  
eclectic ensembles aren't complete without jewellery. The actor has worn everything from dainty neckpieces to layered, chunky ones, as well as dangler earrings and ear cuffs



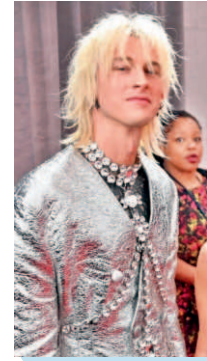
**JARED LETO**  
enjoys shimmer and glitter. His red-carpet looks are nothing short of a visual feast. He doesn't often wear jewellery, but when he does, he does so elegantly

**MEEZA-AN JAFRI**  
wore a heavy necklace at NMACC event recently

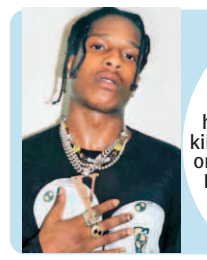
**PETE DAVIDSON**  
The comedian has been sporting some very fashionable beaded accessories of late



**BILLY PORTER'S**  
dazzling diamond and emerald necklace worn at Emmys 2021 red carpet was worth \$1 million. He also wore diamond bracelets and ear cuffs



**MACHINE GUN KELLY**  
opted for a corset-style Dolce & Gabbana top and vinyl leather trousers for his red carpet walk, teaming it with a gem-set choker by House of Emmanuele



**ASAP ROCKY**  
is the undisputed champion of men's jewellery. As someone who has always been a 'fashion killa,' he was the first to jump on the jewellery bandwagon. Rocky wears jewellery like it's no big deal on the red carpet or at a runway show

CEO, The Designer's Class. Yes, there was a time when jewellery was considered primarily a feminine adornment, but this isn't the case anymore. Men's jewellery is an extremely exciting space right now, and it allows men to express their fashion identity. It lets the men have fun

with their looks, add an element to their personalities and style statements, and make them look extremely cool. Jewelry for men has been around since the beginning of time, particularly in India. "Men have avoided wearing jewellery in recent decades because there

has been discussion about, and so many questions raised about Masculinity — how a man is supposed to look, how a man is supposed to dress, and all of these regressive thoughts that have been prevalent in recent decades," says the ace Bollywood designer Kunal Rawal. "And

with what you're seeing now in this decade is a beautiful evolution, evolution in young India, evolution in thinking and prejudices that have gone off the rails. It's liberating and refreshing to be a young designer in India, especially if you do menswear.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

My film *Kisi Ka Bhai Kisi Ki Jaan* is coming up and if it is not good, you are going to throw my comment on bad content back at me. But the truth is that we have worked hard on this film. Films that have done well have been those that families have gone to watch," said Salman.

**GEN NEXT ACTORS**  
Talking of the younger genera-

## VINTAGE SALMAN

tion of actors, he said, "these guys are talented but we five are not going to give up so easily — Shah Rukh Khan, Aamir, Akki, Ajay and me. We are going to give them a run for their money, tire them out. Our films do well and we increase our prices. When filmmakers can't

afford us, and go to them, they increase their prices."

**VULGARITY ON OTTS**  
"I agree with the view that a lot of actors who did not get work at one point found work on the OTT. It happened when TV started too. Parallel cinema has now

become OTT and people think it is a lot cooler. I think Ram Gopal Varma was the first one who made digital content and then people started watching it," said Salman, who is known to abhor OTT content. "I have been here since 1989 I have never done this kind of stuff. I think there should be censorship for OTT and the vulgarity, nudity and expletives should stop, because everyone has this on his phone. There are 15 and 16-year-old boys

watching it. How will you react when your young daughter watches this under the pretext of studying? It will be good if the content is clean," he stressed. "We have censorship for films and when there is more blood or action, we get an A certificate. Censorship works on TV also. I host *Bigg Boss*. There are many expletives used and there are physical fights too. But we cannot and do not show those."

# coffee-break

Deccan Chronicle

## Your day today

By Dr C.V.B. Subrahmanyam

**Aries:** Good opportunities could be missed if you don't let go of your inhibitions. Be diplomatic. Your financial position will be strengthened but don't overspend.

**Taurus:** Don't give into emotional considerations. Sharing your concerns with loved ones will ease some of your worries. Tackle important domestic issues.

**Gemini:** Have confidence in your abilities and don't go out of your way to seek approval from others. Certain situations may leave you irritated, don't be impulsive.

**Cancer:** Effective use of your time and resources will bring desired results. Your efforts to strengthen relationships at work will be productive. Pay attention to elders.

**Leo:** Those looking for new jobs should consider their options keeping in mind their overall personal and professional goals. Don't get overwhelmed if you run into obstacles, you will overcome them.

**Virgo:** In case of disagreements don't push the issue. A reunion with relatives or friends abroad is likely. Be diplomatic if you need to point out mistakes, an aggressive attitude will be counterproductive.

## You share your b'day with

Jackie Chan is a Hong Kong actor, filmmaker, martial artist, and stuntman. Known for his acrobatic fighting style and comic timing, Chan has starred in more than 150 films in a career of over 50 years. He is regarded as one of the most popular action stars of all time.



**Libra:** Creating the right balance between work and family commitments will be on your mind. You may also feel the need to focus more on work. A good time to set a foundation for your career goals.

**Scorpio:** A good day to formalize a romantic alliance. Pay attention to subtle nuances and undercurrents so that you can nip misunderstandings before they escalate.

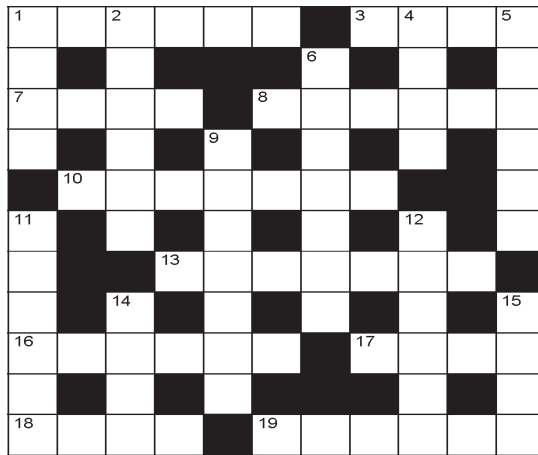
**Sagittarius:** Minor disruptions can make you irritable. Career and domestic priorities may be leaving you with no time for personal activities. Work pressures could ease.

**Capricorn:** New opportunities on the work front are possible especially if you have consistently delivered results. You will find innovative ways to work around obstacles and challenges.

**Aquarius:** Weigh all your options carefully on both, the work and personal fronts. Don't allow pressures to get in the way of focusing on the details of important projects. Avoid arguments.

**Pisces:** Stressful moments with colleagues is possible. Maintain a fine balance between being firm and assertive. Be clear and precise in your interactions to prevent anyone from misinterpreting your actions.

## QUICK CROSSWORD



### Across

- 1. Small glass ball (6)
- 3. Surgical sponge (4)
- 7. Diplomacy (4)
- 8. Salve (6)
- 10. Enchant (7)
- 13. Keep up (7)
- 16. Red wine (6)
- 17. Extra (4)
- 18. Kidney fat for cooking (4)
- 19. Crude dwelling (6)

- 2. Missile (6)
- 4. Low dam (4)
- 5. Good-humoured teasing (6)
- 6. Embargo (7)
- 9. Small stream (7)
- 11. Travelling show (6)
- 12. Repudiate (6)
- 14. Coop up (4)
- 15. Flock of quails (4)

### Down

- 1. Silent (4)

### YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

Across: 1. Replenish, 6. Clear, 7. Usage, 9. Iota, 10. Defend, 12. Fussed, 14. Bear, 17. Nerve, 18. Worse, 19. Employees.

Down: 2. Event, 3. Lard, 4. Nausea, 5. Scare, 6. Chiffon, 8. Endorse, 11. Reveal, 13. Serum, 15. Eyrre, 16. Sway.

## bridge



PHILLIP ALDER

## YOUR MONEY OR YOUR STRIFE

What is the worst aspect of present-day society? Corruption? Drugs? Terrorism? Vandalism?

In a way, these are all crimes. If only we had no crime, the world would be a much better place in which to live.

One country that has remarkably little crime is New Zealand. Today's deal was played by Phil Lennon, a Kiwi from Christchurch. He acted like a bare-faced burglar, but rather than arrest him, the local constabulary admired his larceny.

To pass on the first round and then to sacrifice in front of partner on the next, as North did here, is bad bridge. A supine two clubs or a pre-emptive three clubs on the first round communicates the key information about

North's hand: club support. Then North can leave the final decision to his partner.

West led the heart king. Declarer won with the ace, ruffed a heart in the dummy and played a trump to his queen. When West followed with the three, declarer felt sure that four hearts was failing. However, rather than demand his partner be charged with some crime, Lennon set out to make his contract. Impossible, you say? Watch.

Declarer ruffed his last heart in the dummy. Then he played a low diamond to his 10 and West's jack. Back came the spade queen, which declarer ducked! Despite his partner's discouraging two, West was hoodwinked. He continued with another spade. South won with the

North  
 ♠ 9 8 4 3  
 ♥ 10  
 ♦ 9 8 4  
 ♣ J 10 9 5 2

West  
 ♠ Q J 10  
 ♥ K Q 8 6 3  
 ♦ K J 7 2  
 ♣ 3

East  
 ♠ 6 5 2  
 ♥ J 9 5 4  
 ♦ A Q 6 5  
 ♣ K 6

South  
 ♠ A K 7  
 ♥ A 7 2  
 ♦ 10 3  
 ♣ A Q 8 7 4

Dealer: South  
 Vulnerable: East-West

South	West	North	East
1♣	1♥	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	5♣	Dbl.
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♥ K

ace, cashed the club ace and spade king, led a trump to the dummy and discarded his diamond three on dummy's spade nine.

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## SU-DO-KU

	2	3	8					
	1	8		5		2	4	
	3						9	8
2				7				5
	5		1	2		8		
1			8					6
5	9					7		
	4	6		2		5	3	
			9	5	8			

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## SU-DO-KU 2

	4	2			8	3		
6			9	4				2
5								4
				7			2	
	9		2	5	4		1	
	6			3				
4								1
3				9	6			8
	5	8				6	7	

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### WHAT TO DO

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9. Every puzzle has only one correct solution.

### YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

9	5	8	7	4	3	1	6	2
4	2	6	9	1	5	8	3	7
7	1	3	2	6	8	5	9	4
1	9	7	8	5	4	6	2	3
3	6	5	1	2	7	4	8	9
8	4	2	6	3	9	7	5	1
6	3	9	5	7	1	2	4	8
2	8	1	4	9	6	3	7	5
5	7	4	3	8	2	9	1	6

### Did you think the SU-DO-KU

on the left was easy? Try this. Check the solution tomorrow. Tips available at www.sudoku-vis.com  
**DO-AGE SU DO KU FORUM:** Discuss the SU DO KU puzzles printed and contribute mind teasers of your own at www.sududel.com/forum

### YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

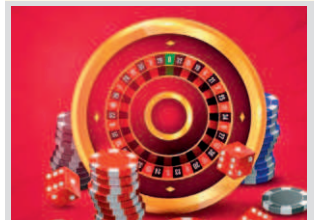
5	6	3	8	9	7	4	2	1
7	2	8	4	1	5	9	3	6
4	9	1	3	2	6	5	8	7
1	7	2	9	5	8	6	4	3
3	5	6	2	4	1	7	9	8
8	4	9	6	7	3	2	1	5
9	1	5	7	3	2	8	6	4
6	3	4	5	8	9	1	7	2
2	8	7	1	6	4	3	5	9

## Word Mine



TODAY'S RATINGS: 23 AVERAGE; 25 GOOD; 28 OUTSTANDING

How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown in today's puzzle? In making a word, each letter may be used once only. Each word must contain the letter at the top of the pyramid. There should be at least one nine letter word. Plurals, foreign words and proper names are not allowed.



## scrabble brand | G2 R1 A5 M5 S1

O	D	M	D	N	I	A	Triple Word Score	RACK 1
S	D	L	M	T	I	A	3rd Letter Triple	RACK 2
A	I	O	D	T	R	U	Double Word Score	RACK 3
H	D	E	T	C	M	A	RACK 4	RACK 4

PAR SCORE 150-160  
 by JUDD  
 FOUR RACK TOTAL  
 TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

**DIRECTIONS:** Make a 2 to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in the Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Merriam-Webster) and OSW Official Scrabble words (Chambers). JUDD'S Solution Tomorrow

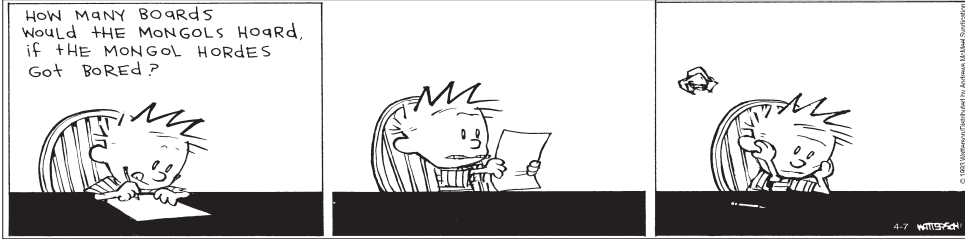
### YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

D	A	W	N	E	Y	RACK 1 = 26	
P	U	L	S	A	N	T	RACK 2 = 77
R	I	O	T	E	R	S	RACK 3 = 57
F	A	C	T	U	A	L	RACK 4 = 68

PAR SCORE 150-160 JUDD'S TOTAL 228

# coffee-break

**CALVIN AND HOBBS** | Bill Watterson



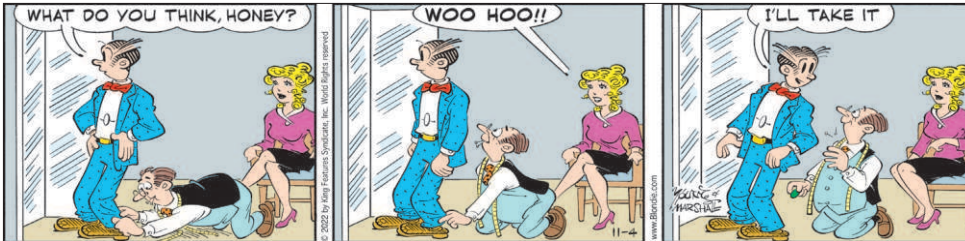
**THE WIZARD OF ID** | Parker and Hartsd



**ARCHIE** | Bill Henry Scarpelli & Craig Boldman



**BLONDIE** | Dean Young and John Marshall



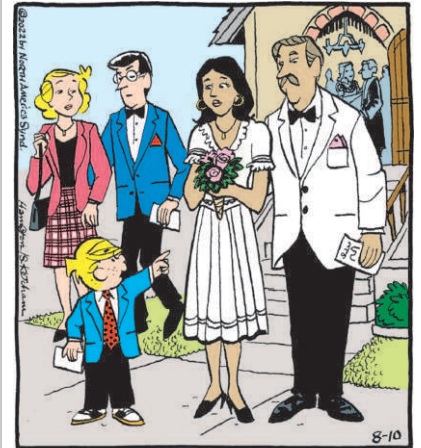
**ANDY CAPP** | Reg Smythe



**AMAZING SPIDER-MAN** | Stan Lee



**Dennis the Menace**

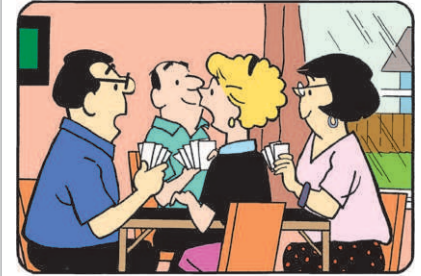


"WOW, HE MUST HAVE A LOT OF MONEY IF THIS IS HIS SECOND WEDDING. MY DAD STILL CAN'T AFFORD HIS FIRST."

**hocus focus**



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Back of chair is narrower. 2. Mouth is different. 3. Earring is smaller. 4. Hairband is smaller. 5. Nose is smaller. 6. Curtain is not as wide.

**jumble**

WRNCO  
 AUGGE  
 UAOARR  
 MHRAEM

Get the free JUST JUMBLE app - Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

It's a little known fact that the American Basketball League had a 3-point shot in 1961. If we can score more points, I'm all for it!

WHEN THE NBA BEGAN ALLOWING THE 3-POINT SHOT IN 1979, IT WAS A ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

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(Answers Monday)  
 Yesterday's Jumbles: ONION HOIST WEIGHT ROTATE  
 Answer: He was gradually going bald because his follicles were vanishing — INTO THIN "HAIR"



C M Y K

Friday 7 April 2023 8

Deccan Chronicle



**RELEASING TODAY**

ABHISHEK PICTURES

ORT Teamworks

HEROES DON'T EXIST

★ ★ RAVI TEJA ★ ★

**RAVANASURA**

SUDHEER VARMA RAVI TEJA ABHISHEK NAMA

SRIKANTH VISSA VIJAY KARTHIK KANNAN NAVIN NOOLI HARSHAVARDHAN RAMESHWAR BHEEMS CECIROLED D R K KIRAN  
POTINI VASU VENKAT STUNSIVA PRASHANTH BARADI VAMSI SHEKAR

amazon prime

A

