THE CAPITAL

ENGLISH NEWS DAILY

A PUBLICATION OF CAPITAL MEDIA GROUP

NEW ERA BEGINS FROM AP, TELANGANA TO AMERICA

Vol-1. Issue-116. SATURDAY 29 JUNE 2024 www.thecapital.org.in

Printed at VIJAYAWADA • HYDERABAD • DELHI



Telangana BJP Leader and Former MP Ramesh Rathod Passes Away





IN BRIEF



Veteran Congress leader **D** Srinivas passes away

Hyderabad: For mer Andhra Prades h (undivided) Cong ress president D Sri nivas died here on Saturday, his son an d Nizamabad MP D Arvind said. He was 76. Srinivas had bee n unwell for the pas t few days, family sources said. He wa s the PCC president during the 2004 and 2009 assembly and (Cont.on P2)



Governor prorogues Assembly, Council

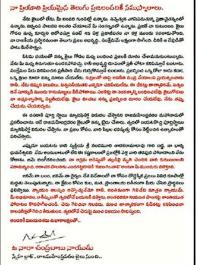
Hyderabad: Tela ngana Governor C P Radhakrishnan has prorogued the Legis lative Assembly and Council sessions wh ich commenced on February 8. Notifica tions to this effect w ere issued on June 2 7, official sources sa id Friday night. The Governor prorogued the second session (Cont.on P2)



AP government orders three IAS officers to report to GAD

Vijayawada: Th e Andhra Pradesh government has dir ected three All Ind ia Service (IAS) off icers to report to the General Administra tion Department (G AD). The officers affected by this ord er include Pulivend ula Area Developm ent Authority (PAD A) OSDB Anil Ku mar (Cont.on P2)

Chandrababu's open letter to pensioners on pension hike



pital News): Chief Minister Na ra Chandrababu Naidu penned an open letter to pensioners on Saturday, announcing a substantial increase in pension amounts



Amaravati, June 29 (The Ca starting July 1. Highlighting his commitment to welfare initiatives, the chief minister declared that pensions would see an immediate rise of Rs. 1,000 per month, delivered directly to ben-

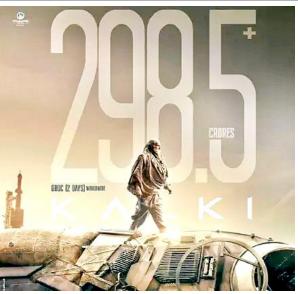
eficiaries' homes as part of the NTR Bharosa scheme. Expressi ng his satisfaction at the implementation of a Rs. 6,000 monthly pension for the disabled, CM Naidu emphasised the government's dedication to supporting the vulnerable sections of society. He reaffirmed that despite financial challenges, his administration remains steadfast in prioritising public welfare, citing an additional burden of Rs. 819 crore per month due to the pension hike. Reflecting on past hardships faced by pensioners under previous administration, Chandrababu acknowledged the struggles endured during the recent electoral period, promising swift action upon assuming office. He noted that the promised increase, initially slated for April, has (Cont.on P2)



PM Modi to release three books on ex-VP Naidu

New Delhi, Jun 29 (The Capital Sunday. The event is scheduled to

News) Prime Minister Narendra take place at the Anvaya Convention Modi will release three books on for- Centre in Gachibowli, Hyderabad, mer vice-president M Venkaiah and Modi will release the books via Naidu on his 75th birthday on videoconferencing, (Cont.on P2)



Nag Ashwin's 'Kalki 2898 AD' earners Rs 298.5 crore globally in two days

New Delhi, Jun 29 (The Capital News): Nag Ashwin's 3D spectacle "Kalki 2898 AD" has minted Rs Rs 298.5 crore in two days at the global box office, the makers said on Friday. Touted as a marriage of Hindu epic Mahabharata and science fiction, the big-budget film is produced by Vyjayanthi Movies and was (Cont.on P2)

Parliament should give message that govt, oppn together in raising students' issue

to hold a "respectful" and good dis- Addressing (Cont.on P2)

New Delhi, Jun 28 (The Capital cussion in Parliament on the issue of News): Leader of Opposition in the alleged irregularities in the conduct Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Friday of the NEET exam as it concerns the urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi country's youth and their future.



(U) seeks special status or



APCRDA issues notification for govt complex buildings in Amaravati

Amaravati, June 29 (The Capital News): The Andhra Pradesh Capital Region Development Authority (APCRDA) has published a notification in the gazette notifying the construction of government complex buildings in the capital city of Amaravati. As per the master plan, these government complexes will be established in designated areas of Amaravati. The CRDA has delineated 1,575-acre area for the government complex, adhering to zoning (Cont.on P2)

YSRCP leaders voice concern over unpaid contractor bills in Pulivendula

ews): YSR Congress leaders express their displeasure over the unpaid bills of contractors who previously undertook development works in the municipalities of Pulivendula, the home town of former chief minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy. With mount ing pressure from municipal councilors, YSR Congress MP Avinash

Kadapa, June 29 (The Capital N Reddy convened a meeting to addre ss their concerns. Reports indicate th at the meeting was prompted by gro wing discontent among councilors to wards the party. During the discussion, councillors voiced their frustration over the lack of payments for de velopment works completed in Pulivendula Municipality. They are particularly (Cont.on P2)



Heavy rain likely in Delhi over next few days, **IMD** issues orange alert

New Delhi: Delhi is likely to receive hea vy rainfall over the ne xt two days, the India Meteorological Depar tment (IMD) said on Saturday, a day after the monsoon arrived in the city with the hea viest downpour in 88 years. The IMD has is sued an 'orange' alert for heavy rain for the next four days. "Delhi is likely to receive mo derate to heavy rainfall throughout the da y, with an even heavier spell anticipated on Sunday and Monday," the IMD said. Parts of Delhi, (Cont.on P2)

Vasant Vihar wall collapse: 3 bodies found, toll in rain-related incidents in Delhi rises to 8

New Delhi, Jun 29 (The Capital killed in rain-related incidents in News): The bodies of three labourers Delhi has climbed to eight. The were on Saturday pulled from the rubble of a wall that collapsed at a Friday and the incident was reported construction site in the Vasant Vihar to the Delhi Fire Services (DFS) area here amid heavy rain, officials around 5:30 am. DFS officials said

under-construction wall collapsed on said. With this, the number of people the bodies of (Cont.on P2)



APCRDA issues..

(From Page 1) norms outlined in the master plan. A public notice has be en issued under Secti on 39 of the CRDA Act, marking the are as around Rayapudi and Nelapadu villages for the government complex buildings. Additionally, th e notification includ es areas on the borders of Lingayapal em, Sakhamuru, and Kondamarajupalem villages. CRDA Co mmissioner Katam aneni Bhaskar has issued the notifica-

YSRCP leaders.. (From Page 1)

tion in the gazette.

concerned about the halted disbursement of Rs. 250 cror e of funds under the PADA scheme, whic h has exacerbated their financial worries. The councillors demanded answers from MP Avinash Re ddy on who would be responsible for cl earing the outstanding payments. The gravity of the situation has reportedly caught the attention of YS Jagan, emphasising the urgency

Veteran **Congress** leader ..

for a resolution.

(From Page 1) general elections. He was also a minister in former Chief Minister YS Rajasek har Reddy's cabinet. He left Congress and became a BRS Rajya Sabha Member from 2016 to 2022 and lat er rejoined the grand old party. Chief Min ister A Revanth Red dy, Union Minister G Kishan Reddy, Tel angana ministers, an d senior leaders of th e Congress party exp ressed condolences over his demise.

Telangana Governor..

(From Page 1) of the present Asse mbly, which commenced on February 8, with effect from J une 27. He also prorogued, with effect from June 27, the 20th session of the Legislative Council, which commenced on February 8. The budget session of the state legislature is expected to be held after the presentation

AP government orders..

of the Union Budget.

(From Page 1) Reddy, AP Infrastr ucture Corporation (Incap) MD Neelaka nt ha Reddy, and No n-Conventional Ene rgy Resources Corp oration MD Nanda Kishore.

Ornaments worth Rs 40 lakh donated to Goddess Durga temple

Vijayawada, June 29 (The Capital News): The family m embers of Maganti Satyanara yana Murthy and Madhu Rao (Hyderabad) donated orname nts worth Rs 40 Lakhs to Mall eswara Swamy in Durga temple on Saturday. They handed over the ornaments to temple Executive Officer K Ravi Ku

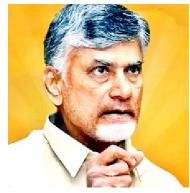


mar on the temple premises. The gold-coated copper ornaments like Naagabharanam, Jataajutam, panamattam, Naga Padaga, Daarapattam and Mak ara Toranam are in the list of donated ornaments.

On this occasion, the officials provided free darshan

CM Chandrababu Expresses Surprise Over Water Shortage at Mangalagiri AIIMS

Vijayawada, June 29 (The Capital News): Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu expressed surprise over the water shortage problem faced by the prestigious All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) established in Mangalagiri. Dr. Madhubanandkar, the Director of Mangalagiri AIIMS, met with CM Chandrababu recently.Dr. Madhubanandkar infor



that due to this problem, they additional allocation of 10 acres for AIIMS. Furthermore, he mentioned the difficulties with electricity supply. Dr. Madhubanandkar invited CM Chandrababu to visit AIIMS.I n response, Chandrababu pro mised to resolve the water iss

a water shortage. He explained pressed surprise that water supply to AIIMS had been hal are unable to expand their ted due to technical and finanservices. He also requested an cial problems. Chandrababu expressed regret that the previous government had ignored the water issue at AIIMS for the past five years. He assured that efforts would be made to place Mangalagiri AIIMS amo ng the top three in the country and that the state government

med Chandrababu that the primary issue AIIMS is facing is ue as soon as possible. He ex would provide full support.

CID investigation on ration mafia: AP Minister Nadendla

apital News): In Andhra Prad esh, Minister for Civil Suppli es, Nadendla Manohar, has alleged rampant looting by the ration mafia in Kakinada. He accused that during the previous government's tenure, ratio n rice was exported abroad fro m Kakinada port, earning cror es of rupees illegally. The minister held a review meeting wi th senior officials of the Civil Supplies Department for the second consecutive day on some officials also colluded in uled visit. Earlier on Friday,

Kakinada, June 29 (The C the looting during the previous government's term. The minister clarified that a CID investigation would be requested into the ration irregularities and strict action would be taken against those responsible. He mentioned that 7,615 metric tons of ration rice were seized in Kakinada and that ration supplies were being exported to other countries from Kakina da port. The minister also said that illegal rice transportation had been happening for the Saturday. He criticized that past four days due to his sched



during a review meeting with Civil Supplies Department offi cials at the Collector's office, the minister leveled allegatio ns against the previous YSR CP government. He claimed, "The previous government made debts of ?36,300 crores through the Civil Supplies Corporation and left without paying ?1,600 crores due to the farmers. We will soon make policy decisions regarding the procurement process of paddy. We will benefit tenant farmers," assured Minister Nadendla Manohar.

Telangana BJP Leader and Former MP Ramesh **Rathod Passes Away**

Hyderabad: BJP leader and former Adilabad MP Ramesh Rathod has passed away. He fell seriously ill late last night at his residence in Utnoor. He was immediately taken to a private hospital in Adilabad. As his condition worsened, he was being transferred to Hyderabad for better treatment, but he passed away en route. Several leaders have expressed their condolences over Ramesh Rathod's demise.



T20 World Cup: Rohit Sharma six runs away from surpassing Virat Kohli's record

New Delhi: India captain Rohit Sharma will be eyeing a dual feat as they take on South Africa in the final of the T20 World Cup on Saturday. The opening batter is just six runs away from surpassing Virat Kohli's tally of 1216 runs to become the highest run-getter of the tournament. Currently, Rohit has amassed 1,211 runs in the T20 World Cups after adding 248 runs in the ongoing edition. He has 12 smashed half-centuries and a hundr ed as he played in each edition of the showpiece eventApart fro m the batting milestone, Rohit will be hoping to join MS Dhoni to become the second Indian captain to win the T20 World Cup which he failed to match in last year's ODI World Cup final. The 37-year-old batter is in spectacular form after registering two back-to-back fifties in the crucial matches against Austra lia and defending champions England, respectively. He is also the third-highest run-getter in the tournament behind Austral ia's Travis Head (255 runs) and Afghanistan's Rahmanullah Gu rbaz (281 runs), who is sitting in the top position. Under Rohit's leadership, India are set to play their third consecutive ICC final in nearly 13 months.

Heavy rain likely..

(From Page 1)

including Rohini and Burari, received rainfall this morning. The weather office has foreca st moderate to heavy rain acco mpanied with thunderstorms o ver the next seven days. Acco rding to the IMD, moderate rai n is defined as rainfall amount ing to between 7.6 and 35.5 m m in a day, and heavy rain is ra infall amounting to between 64.5 and 124.4 mm in a day.

Delhi recorded a minimum te ered 'good', 51 and 100 'satisfa mperature of 28 degrees Celsi us on Saturday. The maximum temperature is likely to settle around 32 degrees Celsius, the IMD said. The humidity levels stood at 80 per cent. Delhi's Ai r Quality Index (AQI) was rec orded in the 'moderate' category with a reading of 108 at 9 a m, according to the Central Po between zero and 50 is considered many parts of the capital.

ctory', 101 and 200 'moderate', 201 and 300 'poor', 301 and 40 0 'very poor', and 401 and 500 'severe'. The monsoon arrived in Delhi on Friday, raining de vastation on a city ill-prepared for a three-hour downpour that led to the roof of Delhi airpor t's Terminal-1 collapsing, killi ng one person and suspending llution Control Board. An AQI flight operations, and inundat-

Seven others were killed in rai n-related incidents. The nati onal capital recorded 228.1 mm of rainfall on Friday, the highest since 1936 for the month of June. According to the IMD, 228.1 mm of rainfall was recorded at Safdarjung, the city's primary weather station, 192.8 mm at Lodhi Road, Mausam Bhavan, 150.4 mm at Ridge, 106.6 mm at Palam, and 66.3 mm at Ayanagar.

Parliament should...

(From Page 1)

reporters in Parliament complex, Gandhi said the NEET issue should be discussed before the Motion of Thanks on the President's address is taken up. The NEET issue is the most important issue of the day, and the opposition parties have agreed that it should be anything else, the Congress leader told reporters. "The youth are worried and they do not know what is going to happen. A message and assurance

Parliament that India's government and the opposition are together in raising the concerns of students," he said. Gandhi said the INDIA bloc thinks this is the most important matter. "I request the prime minister that since this is an issue concerning the taken up for discussion before youth, there should be a good and respectful discussion on the issue concerning the youth," he said, urging them to join the discussion. He said the opposition members will hold

should go to the youth from the discussion respectfully. The former Congress chief said during their meeting on Thursday, all opposition floor leaders unanimously felt that there should be a discussion on the NEET issue in Parliament. "I want to tell the students of the country that this is their issue and we all in the INDIA bloc feel that your issue is the most important as you are India's future" Gandhi said. The National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (Undergrad uate) or NEET-UG was con-

ducted by the NTA on May 5 with around 24 lakh candida tes taking part in it. The results were announced on June 4, but they were followed by allegations of question paper leaks in states such as Bihar, besides other irregularities. The Educa tion Ministry also cancelled the University Grants Comm ission-National Eligibility Test (UGC-NET) and NEET (postgraduate) examinations after receiving inputs that the exams' "integrity may have been compromised.

JD(U) seeks special category status or package for Bihar

New Delhi, Jun 29 (The Capital News): JD(U) Rajya Sabha me mber and working president Sanjay Jha on Satu rday requested the Centr e over his party decision towards special category status. The decision was taken at a meeting of its



national executive where the party reiterated its demand for special category status for Bihar, wh ile adding that the Centre could also consider an alternative in a special package, its senior leader Neeraj Kumar said. The BJP ally also demanded s tringent action against culprits in exam paper leak cases and called for a strong law to rule out such incidents in the future. The decision to appoint Jha as working president is significant since he is known to have a good equation with the BJP leadership. He is also the party's leader in the Rajya S abha. Party sources said Jha was well-suited to dr aw a good deal from the BJP and maintain a frien dly relationship between the two parties, which have a history of bumpy ties. Bihar Chief Mini ster and JD(U) president Nitish Kumar, Union ministers Lalan Singh and Ram Nath Thakur, and other senior leaders from around the country were present at the meeting held in Delhi.

Chandrababu's open letter..

(From Page 1)

been retroactively applied for April, May, and June, culminating in a cumulative rise to Rs. 7,000 from July onwards. The NTR-led pension initiative, known for its pioneering impact, has now been rebranded under the NTR Bharosa banner, signaling a renewed commitment to ensuring social security reaches the doorsteps of those in need. As the State prepares to roll out these enhanced benefits, CM Naidu thanked for the continued support from the public, vowing unwavering dedication to fulfilling the aspirations of Andhra Pradesh's citizens.

PM Modi to..

(From Page 1)

a statement said. Among the books the prime minister will release are a biography of the former vice-president titled "Venkaiah Naidu - Life in Ser vice", authored by S Nagesh Kumar, former resident editor of The Hindu's Hyderabad edition, and "Celebrating Bharat - The Mission and Message of Shri M Venkaiah Naidu as 13th Vice-President of India" -- a photo chronicle compiled by his former secretary IV Subba Rao. The third book is a pictorial biography in Telugu titled "Mahaneta -Life and Journey of Shri M Venkaiah Naidu", authored by Sanjay Kishore, the statement said.

Nag Ashwin's 'Kalki...

(From Page 1)

released on Thursday in six languages: Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam, Kannada, Hindi and English. It features a star cast led by Prabhas, Deepika Pad ukone, Amitabh Bachchan and Kamal Haasan, along with Disha Patani, Saswata Chatterjee and Shobhana. On the opening day, the movie earned Rs 191.5 in gross box office collection (GBOC) an d collected Rs 107 crore on Friday. "The love is pouring in from all corners of the world! #Kalki 2898AD #EpicBlockbusterKalki," Vyjayanthi Mo vies posted on its official X page along with a post er stating that "Kalki 2898 AD" earned Rs 298.5 crore in two days. Previously titled "Project K", it is arguably the most expensive feature film in Indi an cinema history at a reported Rs 600 crore. Larg e crowds were seen outside theatres in several cities, including Hyderabad and Mumbai. And the initial reviews were favourable. The film has also received a huge shout from many celebrities, incl uding megastar Rajinikanth, who called ""Kalki 2898 AD" an "epic movie". "Watched Kalki. WO W! What an epic movie! Director @nagashwin7 has taken Indian Cinema to a different level. Hea rty congratulations to my dear friend @Aswin iDutt @SrBachchan @PrabhasRaju @ikamalhaas an @deepikapadukone and the team of #Kalki2 898AD. Eagerly awaiting Part2. God Bless," Rajinikanth posted.

Vasant Vihar wall..

(From Page 1)

three labourers have been pulled from the rubble. Two of them have been identified as Santosh Kumar Yadav (19) and Santosh (38). The third lab ourer is yet to be identified. Cranes were used to clear the debris and water was pumped out of the foundation pit to recover the bodies. The bodies w ere taken to Safdarjung Hospital, they said. A sear ch operation is underway to ensure that no one else is trapped under the rubble. Teams of Nation al Disaster Response Force, Delhi Disaster Manag ement Authority and civic agencies are carrying out the operation, the officials said. Five people di ed in rain-related incidents on Friday as the monsoon arrived with a fury, lashing the city with its highest rainfall in a single day of June in 88 years. The deceased included a cab driver who died after a portion of a canopy at the Delhi airport collapsed, a 39-year-old man who was electrocuted in Rohini's Prem Nagar area and three people who drowned in New Usmanpur and Shalimar Bagh.

Kerala: ED attaches land, bank deposits of CPI(M) in money laundering case

Kochi, Jun 29 (The Capital News) The Enforcement Directorate has attached a land parcel in Kerala and bank deposits worth Rs 73 lakh allegedly belonging to the CPI(M) as part of an ongoing money laundering probe linked to the Karuvannur Service Cooperative Bank "scam", official sources said on Saturday. The CPI(M) vehemently denied charges of wrongdoing and money laundering.A provisional order under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) has been issued for attaching these assets, the sources said. The attached properties include a land parcel worth Rs 10 lakh in Kerala's Thrissur district and Rs 63 lakh deposits kept in five "undisclosed" bank accounts of the political party, they said. The CPI(M) rejected the ED charges, saying it would legally and politically fight any move by the agency to arraign it in the case linked to the alleged multi-crore Karuvann ur bank scam.Party state secretary M V Govindan alleged the ED was trying to make opposition parties and their leaders accused in various cases due to political reasons. He also accused the central agency of attempting to create a smokescreen as it had failed to collect any evidence against the party. The ED believes and other assets of party units in the



that the land parcel attached by it was meant for the CPI(M) party office and was purchased using alleged kickbacks from the loanees or beneficiaries of the loans sanctioned by the Karuvannur Service Cooperative Bank. The agency has relied on the "confessional" statements of at least two accused in this case who claimed in their statements recorded before a judicial magistrate that the purported irregularities in the bank were orchestrated at the behest of CPI(M) Thrissur district committee leaders.G ovindan said it has been a decadeslong practice of registering the office name of the respective district committees. What role does the party have in the office constructed by one of its local committees, he said. But the ED is now trying to "tarnish" the image of the CPI(M) in the name of the assets of one such party unit, he claimed."We will fight it legally and politically. We haven't got any notice in this regard so far," Govindan told reporters. The ED had filed a charge sheet in this case against 55 accused entities in November last year. The agency had also informed the court in laundered by the accused beneficiarits prosecution complaint (the ED's equivalent of a charge sheet) that it

worth about Rs 100 crore in this case. The money laundering case stems from 16 FIRs registered by the Kerala Police (Crime Branch) in Thrissur. This case of alleged fraud, beginning in 2010, in the Thrissurbased CPI(M)-controlled bank had triggered a political row in the state with the party saying it had done no wrong. The ED has said its probe in the case found that "on the instructions of certain persons, who were district-level leaders and committee members of a certain political party and governed the bank, loans were di sbursed by the bank manager through the agent in cash to non-member ben amis by mortgaging properties of po or members without their knowledge and laundered to the benefit of the accused".Bogus loans were sanction ed by the bank against the same property multiple times without the kn owledge of members of Society, acco rding to the agency. Investigation has also revealed that benami loans were sanctioned to non-members against inflated property valuations in the names of other members and such loan funds were siphoned off and ies, the agency had said in a statement earlier. Four people have been has attached more than 120 assets arrested by the ED in this case so far.

Chhattisgarh govt to give free competitive exams coaching to construction workers' children

Raipur, Jun 29 (The Capital News) The Chhattisgarh government will introduce a free coaching scheme for the children of registered construction workers in the state from next month in a bid to enable them to appear in competitive examinations for obtaining jobs, officials said on Saturday. As a part of the 'Mukhyamantri Nirman Shramikon Ke Bachchon Hetu Nishulk Coaching Sahaayata Yojana', free coaching facility for different competitive exams will be started in 10 districts of the state from July, a statement issued by the state public relations department said. The scheme has been undertaken by the state labour department on the special initiative of Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai, it said. The children of construction workers registered with the Chhattisgarh Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board will be eligible to avail the benefit of the scheme, labour minister Lakhan Lal Dewangan said in the release. Under the initiative, free coaching will be provided for examinations of state public service commission, Chhattisgarh Professional Examination Board, banking, staff selection commission, railways, police and others for 4 to 10 months, he said, adding that the coaching will be available both online and offline. To avail the benefit of the scheme, interested and eligible beneficiaries can submit online applications, he said. The scheme will be initially launched in 10 districts, including Raipur, Bilaspur, Durg, Dhamtari, Rajnandgaon, Korba and Raigarh, he said. There is tremendous enthusiasm among students for the free coaching scheme and so far, a total of four batches (comprising 50 each) have been formed in three districts - Raipur, Durg and Bilaspur. The process of making batches by examining the applications received from students is underway, he added.

Five soldiers swept away in Ladakh flash flood: Kharge, Rahul, Priyanka express sorrow

New Delhi, Jun 29 (The Capital News) Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and party leaders Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra expresse d sorrow at the death of five soldiers who drowned when their T-72 tank sank due to a flash flood in the Shyok river in Ladakh on Saturday."Deeply distressed at the loss of lives of five Indian Ar my bravehearts, including a JCO (junior commissioned officer), while getting a T-72 tank across a river in Ladakh," Kharge said in a post on X."Our heartfelt con dolences to the families of the Army personnel who fell victim to this painful tragedy. In this ho ur of grief, the nation stands tog ether in saluting the exemplary service of our valiant soldiers," he added. The five Army personn el, including a junior commissio ned officer, drowned when their tank sank in the Shyok river near the Line of Actual Control (LA C) in the Nyoma-Chushul area of Ladakh.Rahul Gandhi, the leader of opposition in the Lok



Sabha, said the news of the soldiers' death was extremely sad." The news of the martyrdom of fi ve Indian Army soldiers in an accident during a military exercise of a tank crossing a river in paying my humble tribute to all the martyred soldiers, I express my deepest condolences to the bereaved families. We stand with them in this hour of grief. The country will always remember their dedication, service and

sacrifice," he said in a post.Priya nka Gandhi also expressed her condolences to the families of the five soldiers."The news of the martyrdom of five army soldiers in the sudden flood ... in Ladakh is extremely sad," he sai Ladakh is extremely sad. May d in a post in Hindi on X."While God grant peace to the departed souls. My deepest condolences to the bereaved families," she said in Hindi in a post on X."The country will always remain inde bted to our brave soldiers and t heir families for this supreme sacrifice," she added.

Judiciary must be absolutely pure, free of political bias: Mamata

Kolkata, Jun 29 (PTI) West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Saturday called for a judiciary free of any political bias, maintaining that it should be "absolutely pure" and honest.Banerjee also said the judiciary is the big pillar of India's foundation to save democracy, the Constitution and people's interests."Please see to it that (there is) no political bias in the judiciary. The judiciary must be absolutely pure, honest and sacred. Let people worship it," the CM said at the inauguration of the East Zone II regional conference of the National Judicial Academy here. Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud and Chief Justice of Calcutta High Court T S Sivagnanam were among those present at the programme. The judiciary is an important temple for people and the supreme authority for delivering justice, Banerjee said."It is like a mandir, masjid, gurudwara and girja (church). The judiciary



frontier for getting justice and upholding constitutional rights," she said. Alleging that people from the northeast and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, from where judges and judicial officers are participating in the state, Banerjee said earlier, the conference, are "neglected", she urged that they be given bigger opportunities. Hailing Chandrachud for initiating digitisation and e-laws in courts, Banerjee asserted that West Bengal is "number one among all states in e-governance". The

for development of judicial infrastructure in the state, and provided land for a new high court complex in Rajarhat New Town.Stating that 88 fast track courts are functioning in the central government provided assistance for setting up these courts, but the provision has been withdrawn since the last seven to eight years."Out of the 88 fast track courts, 55 are for women. There are six POCSO courts as well," she added.

Man loses Rs 46 lakh in investment fraud; five booked

Thane, Jun 29 (The Capital News) Police ha ve registered a case against five unidentified perso ns for allegedly cheating a 34-year-old man from Kharghar in Maharashtra's Raigad district to the tune of over Rs 46 lakh by promising high retu rns on investment, an official said on Saturday. Ba sed on a complaint lodged by the victim, the polic e on Thursday registered an FIR against the five accused under Indian Penal Code (IPC) sections 406 (criminal breach of trust), 420 (cheating), 419 (cheating by personation) read with 34 (common intention), as well as relevant sections of the IT Act, a Kharghar police station official said. The victim, who works in a company at Bandra Kurla Complex (BKC) in Mumbai, was contacted by the accused, who are identified only by their mob ile numbers, between February 2024 and April 20 24. The accused lured him to participate in online trading, assuring good returns. They provided him with WhatsApp groups and various links on the promise of helping him with investments and trading. During this period, with the assistance of the fraudsters, the victim spent Rs 46.23 lakh in investments and trading. After a few days, when the victim checked his account, he saw that he had earned good returns. However, his attempt to withdraw the investment and earnings failed, after which he contacted the fraudsters, who did not respond. Realising that he had been cheated, the victim lodged the complaint, the official said, adding the probe into the crime was underway.

CloudThat Wins Microsoft Training Services Partner of the Year Award for 2024

Bengaluru: CloudThat, an awardwinning cloud training and cloud con sulting services company, is proud to announce that it has won the prestigious Microsoft Training Services Partner of the Year Award for 2024. The company was honored among a global field of top Microsoft partners for demonstrating excellence in innovation and implementation of customer solutions based on Microsoft technology. Renowned for its consistent streak of victories, this marks the brand's seventh consecutive award in seven years."It is an honor to be the first India-headquartered company to receive this award," proclaimed Bhav esh Goswami, CloudThat's visionary Founder and CEO. He further added, "CloudThat pioneered cloud training in India, making it fit that we are the first to win this prestigious accolade. We have anticipated this moment for many years. Being a finalist in 2020 and 2022 was a significant achievement, but not winning was admittedly disappointing. However, I always believed that with consistent and hon est performance, we would eventually succeed. Today, that belief has bee n validated. I am thrilled and ecstatic."The Microsoft Partner of the Year Awards recognize Microsoft partners that have developed and delivered outstanding Microsoft Cloud applica-



vation during the past year. Awards were classified in various categories, with honorees chosen from more than 4,700 nominations from more than 100 countries. CloudThat was recognized for providing outstanding solutions and services internationally."Co ngratulations to the winners and fina lists of the 2024 Microsoft Partner of the Year Awards!" said Nicole Dezen, Chief Partner Officer and Corporate Vice President at Microsoft. "The mo mentum generated by numerous AI & Copilot announcements this year fu eled innovation from our partners, en abling groundbreaking services and solutions to customers.

I am inspired by the capability and creativity in our partner ecosystem and this year's win ners beautifully

demonstrate the best of what's possible with AI and the Microsoft Cloud."The 2024 Microsof t Partner of the Year Awards are anno unced ahead of MCAPS Start 2024 Microsoft Partner of the Year Awards press release guidelines for Partners, our digital event on July 10th and 11t h. Partners will receive recognition at MCAPS Start for Partners ahead of in person celebrations during the week of Microsoft Ignite in November.Cl oudThat's achievement is not just a win for the company but also a signif icant contribution to the global tech community. Their efforts in upskilli ng professionals have far-reaching im pacts, contributing to the overall gro wth and advancement of the tech ind ustry. As they continue to expand the ir offerings and reach, CloudThat is

poised to remain a key player in the realm of tech education and cloud services, helping shape the future of the industry. About CloudThatEstabl ished in 2012, CloudThat offers Clo ud Training and Cloud Consulting ser vices in India, USA, Asia, Europe, an d Africa. Being a pioneer in the Clou d domain, CloudThat has special exp ertise in catering to mid-market and enterprise clients in all the major Clo ud service providers like AWS, Mic rosoft, GCP, Databricks, HP, and mo re. Recently, it established its Center of Generative AI Innovation to help organizations embrace GenAI with its sandbox environment. Uniquely po sitioned to be a single source for both training and consulting services like Cloud Migration, Data Platforms, DevOps, IoT, and the latest technologies like GenAI & AI/ML, it is a solution partner with Microsoft & top-tier partner with AWS and, winning more than 9 awards in last 7 years. It has been awarded the prestigious AWS Training Partner of the Year 2023 and won the Microsoft Superstars FY 2023 award in Asia & India. Leveraging their position as a leader in the market, CloudThat has trained 750k+ professionals in 600+ cloud certifications and delivered 350+ consulting projects for 250+ corporates in 30+ countries.





Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan visiting Kodagattu Anjaneya Swamy temple in Telangana on Saturday



Senior TDP leader Alla Gopalakrishna and other leaders congratulating TDP president Palla Srinivas Rao on Saturday









The farmers of Undavalli staged protest against the land polling plans of CRDA for seed access road continuation





Tirusnapana Tirumanjana Sena and free meals program at Bhakta Anjaneya swamy temple on Saturday



Electoral Officer BR Meena inspecting VV PATS and EVMs at store room in Vijayawada on Saturday



Maganti Satyanarayana Murthy and Madhu Rao donating gold coated copper ornaments to Durga temple officials

Iran seesawing vote results put race between reformist Masoud Pezeshkian and hard-liner Saeed Jalili

Dubai, Jun 29 (The Capital Ne ws) Seesawing results released early on Saturday in Iran's presidential election put the race between reform ist Masoud Pezeshkian and hard-liner Saeed Jalili, with the lead trading between the two men while a runoff vote appeared likely.Iranian state television reported the results which did not initially put either man in a position to win Friday's election outright, potentially setting the stage for a second round of voting to replace the late hard-line President Ebrahim Raisi.It also did not offer any turnout figures for the race yet — a crucial component of whether Iran's electorate backs its Shiite theocracy after years of economic turmoil and mass protests. After counting over 19 million votes, Pezeshkian had 8.3 million while Jalili held 7.18 million.A nother candidate, hard-line parliament speaker Mohammad Bagher Qalibaf, had some 2.67 million votes. Shiite cleric Mostafa Pourmohamma di had over 158,000 votes. Voters fac ed a choice between the three hardline candidates and the little-known reformist Pezeshkian, a heart surgeon. As has been the case since the 1979 Islamic Revolution, women and those calling for radical change have choose to do so — several nuclear



been barred from running, while the vote itself will have no oversight from internationally recognized monitors. The voting came as wider tensions have gripped the Middle East over the Israel-Hamas war in the Gaza Strip.In April, Iran launched its first-ever direct attack on Israel over the war in Gaza, while militia groups that Tehran arms in the region — su ch as the Lebanese Hezbollah and Ye men's Houthi rebels — are engaged in the fighting and have escalated their attacks. Meanwhile, Iran continues to enrich uranium at near weapon s-grade levels and maintains a stockpile large enough to build — should it

weapons. There had been calls for a boycott, including from imprisoned Nobel Peace Prize laureate Narges Mohammadi. Mir Hossein Mousavi, one of the leaders of the 2009 Green Movement protests who remains und er house arrest, also has refused to vote along with his wife, his daughter said. There's also been criticism that Pezeshkian represents just another government-approved candidate. On e woman in a documentary on Pez es hkian aired by state TV said her generation was "moving toward the same level" of animosity with the government that Pezeshkian's generation ha d in the 1979 revolution.Iran ian law requires that a winner gets more than

50% of all votes cast. If that doesn't happen, the race's top two candidates will advance to a runoff a week later. There's been only one run off preside ntial election in Iran's history: in 20 05, when hard-liner Mahm oud Ahma dinejad bested former President Akba r Hashemi Rafsanjan i.The 63-yearold Raisi died in the May 19 helicopter crash that also kill ed the country's foreign minister and others. He was seen as a protégé of Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei and a potential successor. Still, many knew him for his involvement in the mass executions that Iran conducted in 198 8, and for his role in the bloody crack downs on dissent that followed protes ts over the death of Mahsa Amini, a young woman det a ined by police ov er allegedly impro perly wearing the mandatory headscarf, or hijab.Despit e the recent unrest, there was only on e reported attack around the election. Gunmen opened fire on a van transporting ballot boxes in the restive sou theastern province of Sistan and Balu chestan, killing two police officers an d woun ding others, the state-run IRN A news agency reported. The provinc e regularly sees violence between sec urity forces and the militant group Jai sh al-Adl, as well as drug traffickers.

Research gives more reassurance that milk pasteurization kills bird flu, officials say

New York, Jun 29 (The Capital News) A new study that rec reated commercial pasteurization in a government lab provides reassurance th



at heat treatment kills bird flu virus in cow's milk, U.S. officials said Friday. When the bird flu know n as H5N1 was first detected in U.S. dairy cows earlier this year, there were no studies of whether heat treatment killed the virus in cows milk. But officials were comforted by studies that showed the pasteurization of eggs — which involves heating at a lower temperature and for a shorter amount of time - worked, said the Food and Drug Administration's Donald Prater. A study in April found that there was no evidence of infectious, live virus in store-bought samples of pasteurized milk, though they did contain dead remnants of it. Some later small studies that attempted to simulate pasteurization showed mixed results. The new study was done at a federal research center in Athens, Georgia, using custom equipment that tried to more completely recreate commercial pasteurization. It also allowed sampling at different stages in the process. The milk goes through several heating steps before being flash-heated, and the study found the virus was inactivated even before it hit the 161-degree, 15-or-more-seconds "flash pasteurization" stage that is considered the key step in making milk safe."This information really fills an important gap in our understanding of how commercial pasteurization inactivates the virus," Prater said. The study has been not yet been published in a peer-reviewed journal.

US shifts assault ship to the Mediterranean to deter risk of Israel-Lebanon conflict escalating

Washington, Jun 28 (The Capital News) The amphibious assault ship USS Wasp entered the eastern Mediterranean Sea this week as the US positions warships to try to keep fighting between Israel and Hezbollah in Lebanon from escalating into a wider war in the Middle East. While the Wasp has the capability to assist in the evacuation of civilians if full-scale war breaks out between Israel and Hezbol lah along the Lebanon border, that's not the primary reason it was rotated in, a US official sai d."It's about deterrence," the off icial said. A second US official sa id the rotation is similar to how the US sent the USS Bataan assa ult ship into the waters around Israel shortly after Hamas' Octo ber 7 attack on the country, with the vessel remaining for months in the eastern Mediterranean to help provide options and try to contain the conflict. The officials spoke on the condition of anony mity to discuss sensitive operational details.US European Com mand, which is responsible for ships operating in the Mediterr anean, announced the move this week, saying the Wasp and the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit



aboard would sail with the dock landing ship USS Oak Hill, whi ch is used to transport Marines, landing craft, vehicles and cargo. The Oak Hill is already in the Mediterranean. The Wasp also is sailing with the amphibious tran sport dock ship USS New York, which can deliver troops either by on-deck helicopters or landing vessels.It all comes as the Iranian-backed Hezbollah militant group and Israel have exch anged near-daily cross-border strikes since the Oct. 7 attacks th at launched the Israel-Hamas w ar in Gaza, and they have been escalating gradually. The Israeli army said last week that it has "approved and validated" plans for an offensive in Lebanon, alth ough any decision would come from the country's political lead-

ers.Gen. CQ Brown, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, said Sunday that any Israeli military offensive into Lebanon would risk an Iranian response in defense of Hezbollah, triggering a broader war that could put American forces in the region in danger. The U.S. military also has shifted other ships in the region. The Pentagon said the aircraft carrier Fisenhower based in Norfolk, Virginia, is returning home after a deployment of more than eight months countering strikes from Yemen's Houthi rebels on commercial shipping in the Red Sea that the Navy says is its most intense mission since World War II. The San Diego-based USS Theodore Roosevelt will take Eisenhower's place.

Sigourney Weaver to be feted with Golden Lion for Lifetime Achievement at Venice Film Fest

London, Jun 29 (The Capital News) Hollywood veteran Sigo urney Weaver will be honoured with the Golden Lion for Lifeti me Achievement at the 2024 Ve nice Film Festival. Weaver, who has been a part of several blockbuster projects across her career including "Gorillas in the Mist" as well as franchises like "Ghost busters", "Alien" and "Avatar", will receive the honour during the festival's 81st edition, which will be held from August 28 to September 7, said a press release posted on the official website of the festival."I am truly honoured to receive the Golden Lion for Lifetime Achievement from the Biennale di Venezia. To be gifted this award is a privilege I share with all the filmmakers and colsaid. Alberto Barbera, the director of the Venice Film Festival, said as a movie star, Weaver has built bridges between the "most sophisticated art-house cinema and movies that engage with the public in a frank and original way, all the while remaining true to herself". "As an authentic collaborator, rather than simply a malleable instrument in the



Schrader, Peter Weir, Michael Apted, Roman Polanski, Ivan Reitman, Mike Nichols, Ang Lee, and many others, each time imposing the mark of a complex personality -- at times contradictory but always authentic -- onto her own charismatic presence."Endowed with a remarkable temperament, able to move with delicacy yet without fragili-

olute; at the same time, with endlessly different shadings, she allows her intensely magnetic, feminine sensitivity to filter through," he said.A three-time Oscar nominee, Weaver will be next seen in "Dust Bunny" alongside Mads Mikkelsen as well as "The Gorge" which also stars Miles Teller and Anya Taylor-Joy.

Pair of giant pandas from China arrive safely at San Diego Zoo

San Diego, Jun 28 (The Capital News) Two giant pandas from China have safely arrived in So uthern California, where they will be cared for as part of an ongoing conservation partnership, the San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance said on Frida y. The pandas, Yun Chuan and Xin Bao, will spend the next several weeks acclimating to their new home in a private habitat at the San Diego Zoo an d will not be viewable by the public, the alliance said in a brief statement."They are being monitored closely by expert wildlife health and care teams who will determine when the pair are ready to meet the public," the alliance said. A farewell ceremony was held earlier this week before the pandas departed from China. Yun Chuan, a mildmannered male who's nearly 5 years old, has connections to California, the wildlife alliance said previously. His mother, Zhen Zhen, was born at the San Diego Zoo in 2007 to parents Bai Yun and Gao Gao.Xin Bao is a nearly 4-year-old female described as "a gentle and witty introvert with a sweet round face and big ears". The San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance has a nearly 30-year partnership with leading conservation institutions in China focused on protecting and recovering giant pandas and the bamboo forests they depend on.

Trump gloats over Biden's debate performance at a Virginia rally

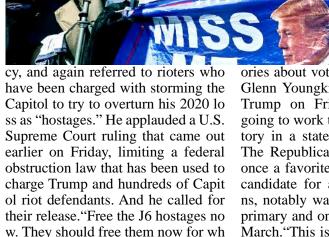
Chesapeake (Virginia), Jun 29 (The Capital News) Former Preside nt Donald Trump gloated Friday over President Joe Biden's often halting performance at the first debate ahead of the November election, saying De mocrats have no better choices while calling the Democratic incumbent "the most incompetent president" in U.S. history.Trump spoke to thousan ds of supporters Friday at a rally in Chesapeake, Virginia, a day after Bi den's disappointing performance spar ked concerns among his allies and other Democrats who were hoping fo r a more vigorous candidate to secure and improve his chances at reelecti on. Biden repeatedly stumbled, pau sed and could not complete sentenc es, prompting some people to wonder whether they could replace him ahe ad of November."The question every voter should be asking themselves to day is not whether Joe Biden can survive a 90-minute debate performa nce, but whether America can survive four more years of crooked Joe Biden in the White House," Trump said. Trump repeated several of the false claims he made on Thursday, including about abortions later in pregnan-

w. They should free them now for wh at they've gone through," he said, add ing that the ruling "was a great thing for people that have been so horribly treated."Trump has long suggested the people charged in the riot have been unfairly prosecuted and contin-

ues to promote lies and unproven the-

ories about voter fraud. Virginia Gov. Glenn Youngkin appeared alongside Trump on Friday, saying he was going to work to secure a Trump victory in a state Biden won in 2020. The Republican governor, who was once a favorite potential presidential candidate for anti-Trump Republica ns, notably waited during this year's primary and only endorsed Trump in March."This is about strength versus weakness," Youngkin told Trump supporters. "We have seen the weak America that Joe Biden has created, and we all lived through the strong A merica that Donald Trump built."T rump said he did not think Biden co uld drop out of the race, mentioning

the demands from some Democrats and opinion writers calling for Biden to step aside. He then criticized other high-profile Democrats such as California Gov. Gavin Newsom, Vice President Kamala Harris and former first lady Michelle Obama. Trump said he would be very happy going against Harris, who is Biden's running mate. Harris can't just swap in for him at the top of the ticket by default should Biden decide to step aside. Individual state delegations would need to be lobbied to replace Biden ahead of a virtual roll call where the party intends to nominate Biden. The exact date for the roll call has not yet been set. There is no evidence Biden is willing to end his cam paign. And it would be nearly impossible for Democrats to replace him unless he chooses to step aside. Christ opher James Caton, 49, of Virginia Beach left his home at 4:30 a.m. to se e Trump speak on Friday."Trump was unbelievable," Caton, wearing a Seco nd Amendme nt ball cap, said of Thur sday night's debate. "He was on fire. He was steady. He didn't stutter." Ev en Democrats have to admit that Biden performed poorly, Caton said.



There's genuine hunger to win and we can win from any situation: Markram

Bridgetown (Barbados), Jun 28 (The Capital News) Not kno wn for handling pressure well on the big stage, South Africa have pulled off close wins in this competition giving them a strong beli ef that victory is possible from an y situation, captain Aiden Mark ram said ahead of the T20 World Cup final against India here.In dia, a team full of superstars, will have to overcome the pressure of not winning an ICC title since 2013 while South Africa head into their maiden World Cup final having not been in that position ever before. Ahead of the summit showdown on Saturday, Markram was expectedly remind ed about the past when Proteas have crumbled under pressure." Probably I just see it as a new game of cricket, to be honest. We all know India's a great team. Us as a team, as South Africans, ha ve been sort of trending in the rig ht direction the last couple of ye ars, but maybe not progressed in tournaments as far as we would have liked."So, an exciting occasion tomorrow against a good opposition in India, but a nice opportunity for us as the Proteas as well," said Markram.Both South Africa and India go into the final unbeaten with the former experiencing plenty of bumps along the way. They bare-ly managed to put it past Nepal and Bangladesh earlier in the competition. Even the low-scoring affair against co-hosts West Indies could have gone either way.Markram said his players have got a lot of confidence out of those close wins and they won't settle for a runners-up finish."There have been close moments in games that would



have probably affected the result and we managed to win those moments."To have done them two, three, maybe four times throughout the competition so far has sort of given the team the belief that you can win from any position, which I think is quite important for a team to have that," said Markram.India might be overwhelming favourites for the title but South Africa too have a lot going for them. They are keen to add a fresh chapter to the nation's chequered history but the schedule has not given them time to think too much about the occasion."You play a game, you get on a plane, you fly, you check in at a new hotel and play your next game of cricket the next day. So, I don't think there's too much reflecting that happens."But it's more the opportunity that we have of bei ng in a final that sort of excites me quite a bit I think after the competition we will sit back and really appreciate what we've ac hieved so far as a team," he said. Markram asserted that irrespective of the result on Saturday, his team is "going in the right direction.""But yeah, we'd love to get to our first final and be able to o go out and win tomorrow's game."

win that first final. And hopefully in the years to come that can break the burden of what a lot of other people are saying about us as a team," he said. On the sevenhour delay they experienced in Trinidad due to the closure of runway in Barbados, Markram chose to look at the positives."Y eah, we've had a couple (in Flo rida as well). I suppose a lot of other teams have gone through si milar things. And we joke about it as a team and say, like, we're kind of used to it now."There's no point sulking around and making it more miserable than what it might already seem to be. So, it was a slightly longer day yesterday (laughs)."On the mindset of the team after the semi-final win over Afghanistan, Markram adde d: "...you say, 'guys, we've still g ot one more step to go'. So, it's no t driven by coach or by captain. The whole unit sort of feels that and is driven by that."...sportsme n are highly competitive people and nobody would want to lose, and especially not lose in a final. So, I think there's no sense that th e guys are satisfied regardless of the result tomorrow. I think the re's still a massive hunger for us t

Praggnanandhaa let's Gukesh off the hook on a day of draws the older Frenchman. With all



29 (The Capital News) Grandm aster R Praggnanandhaa missed out on becoming a joint leader at the the Superbet Classic chess tournament after settling for a dr aw against compatriot D Gukesh in the third round here. After losing to Gukesh in the last Candid ates tournament in April earlier this year, Praggnanandhaa had a great opportunity to equalise the score this year but could not find a winning continuation after Gu kesh spoiled a drawn endgame.T he Catalan opening saw Gukesh sacrificing a pawn early and Pra ggnanandhaa had his share of co unterplay on the Queen side. As things unfolded, Gukesh recovered the pawn with an optical ad vantage with his Knight against a slightly bad Bishop of Pragg nanandhaa. With the intricacies of the middle game over, Gukesh decided to part with a pawn and reached a Queen and rook en

Bucharest (Romania), Jun dgame that should have been an easy draw but a blunder on his 53rd move saw a forced liquidation leading to a King and pawns endgame.On another day, Prag gnanandhaa may have found the winning continuation to become a joint leader but luck smiled on Gukesh and the game was drawn a few moves later. For the first time in three days, all the five games in the ten-player double round-robin tournament ended in draws. The other player comin g close to a win was Maxime Va chier-Lagrave who almost pulle d it off against his French teammate Alireza Firouzja.It was a Berlin defense game wherein Firouzja won the opening battle for the third day running getting a balanced position easily as bla ck. However, a late error in the queen-less middle game, saw Vachier-Lagrave seize the initiative and it should have been a

games ending in draws, the lead positions remained unchanged and Gukesh continued to be at the top of the tables along with Fabiano Caruana of United State s who drew a keenly contested g ame against Nodirbek Abdusatto rov of Uzbekistan.With both lea ders on two points, Vachier-Lagr ave, Praggnaandhaa, Alireza, We sley So, Giri and Nepomniachtc hi share the third spot on 1.5 poi nts apiece. Another half point behind is Abdusattorov and Bog dan Daniel with six rounds still remaining in the USD 350000 prize money tournament.Dutch man Anish Giri played out an ea sy draw on his 30th birthday aga inst Russian Ian Nepomniacht chi with both players giving nothing away and this was also the first game to end in the day. Deac Bogdan-Daniel of Roman ia played out his second draw in the tournament holding off a slightly worse endgame for more than a couple hours against Wesley So of United States.Resu lts round 3:D Gukesh (Ind, 2) drew with R Praggnanandhaa (In d, 1.5); Maxime Vachier-Lagra ve (Fra, 1.5 drew with Firouza Alireza (Fra, 1.5); Anish Giri (N ed, 1.5) drew with Ian Nepomnia chtchi (FID, 1.5); Nodirbek Abdusattorov (Uzb, 1) drew with Fabiano Caruana (Usa, 2); Wesley So (Usa, 1.5) drew with win that slipped out of hands for Deac Bogdan-Daniel (Rom, 1).

Sports Minister lends support to IOA's plea to include yoga in Asian Games

New Delh: Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya has welcomed the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) president PT Usha's move to get yoga included in the Asian Games programme."It is only fair that in keeping with its wide popularity, yoga becomes a competitive sport and is in the Asian Games," Mandaviya said in a statement. The IOA president had written to the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) acting chief Randhir Singh on June 26 to consider the proposal of including yoga as a sport in the Asian Games."Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji has worked hard to ensure that June 21 is

celebrated as International Yoga Day each year. The discipline, which embraces mind and body, has gained in popularity around the world and is ready as a competitive sport with its own code of points and distinct events," Mandaviya said."India has been in the forefront of making yoga popular and we started it as a competitive sport by including it in the Khelo India Youth Games with great success. It is pleasing to note that growing number of yoga practitioners has encouraged organisers of National Games to include it in their schedule."The Government of India, through its different initiatives, has promoted yoga as a

with it being an art and science of healthy living. The Sports Ministry has granted recognition to Yogasana Bharat for promo-Yogasana as a competitive sport in India. Additionally, Yogasana has been added as a competitive discipline over the last many editions of Khelo India Youth Games and Khelo University Games since 2020.It is also learnt that Asian Yogasana, recognised body by World Yogasana, has already written to OCA for affiliation so that Yogasana can be developed as a competitive sport across the continent

competitive sport as well along and development of India

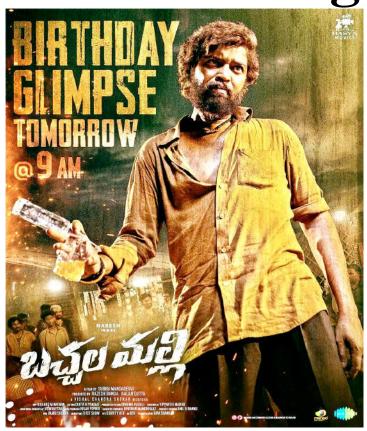
Selfie Sizzler! Sonal's Hourglass in Fiery Red

onal Chauhan just raised the temperature on Instagram with her latest fiery hot pictures! The actress looks absolutely ravishing in a red seethrough dress that hugs her curves perfectly. The body ruching detail accentuates her hourglass figure, leaving fans speechless. Styled with a bold confidence, Sonal winks at the camera in a selfie, sending the internet into a meltdown. Her look is complete with chic gold statement earrings, adding a touch of glam. This is a whole new level of hotness for Sonal, and we're totally here for it! We can't wait to see what she does next, but one thing's for sure, she's definitely setting some major style goals.tunesharemore_vert



Bachhala Malli: Allari Naresh's Birthday SPL Loading

Allari Naresh's new-age action entertainer Bachhala Malli is fast progressing with its shoot. As the production works are nearing completion, the makers recently kick-started the promotions by dropping the first look. Allari Naresh underwent a remarkable transformation to play a powerful character as Bachhala Malli.The latest update is that Allari Naresh's birthday special glimpse is loading. The makers will unveil the glimpse tomorrow at 9 AM. Allari Naresh looks ruthless in the poster with seriousness in his eyes. He appears in a rustic look with messy hair and a thick beard.Director Subbu Mangadevvi who chose a soft subject for his first movie seems to have penned a powerful script for his second movie. The poster raises the curiosity for the glimpse.Razesh Danada and Balaji Gutta are bankrolling the movie under the banner of Hasya Movies. The film which is set in 1990 has Amritha Aiyer playing the female lead. Vishal Chandrasekhar scores the music, while Richard M Nathan cranks the camera.



Bharateeyudu, Oke Okkadu & Sivaji In One Film



The direc tor is currently

filmmakers in South cinema. and then, he is also working on Ram Charan's Gamechanger. The

fil m's promotions are currently in progress and Shankar has opened up on an interesting aspect recently.During the promotions, Shankar mentioned that he wanted to create Shankar Cinematic Universe. He got this thought way back in 2008. Talking about the same, Shankar said, "During 2008, I had thought of Making the lead characters of INDIAN (Bharat eeyudu), MUD-HALVAN (Oke Okkadu) & SHIV-AJI together in a single film, creating SHANKAR CINEMATIC UNIVE RSE). I didn't get a response when I told this idea to my assistants, and hence I dro pped it."Shankar also mentioned that he keep getting a lot of thoughts and ideas which he transfers them to his assistants or family members to seek feedback from them.Bharateeyudu 2 is going to

Printed & Published by Capital Media Group. Sahakarasadan, Syamnagar, Vijayawada. NTR Dt. Andhra Pradesh.