

# THE CAPITAL

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**2** Union Minister inaugurated the Visakhapatnam (Durgu) Vande Bharat Rail today



**2** Telangana CM releases book 'Prophet for the World'



**3** Kol doc rape-murder: SC to hear plea on Tuesday amid continuing strike by medics in West Bengal



**5** Trump safe after failed assassination attempt at his golf course, suspect in custody

## IN BRIEF



### World's largest millet painting on PM Modi's birthday

**Chennai:** Tomorrow is Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 71st birthday. A 13-year-old girl from Tamil Nadu named Presley Shekina has created a world record by working continuously for 12 hours with 800 kg of grains and drawing a portrait of Prime Minister Modi. She (Cont.on P3)



### Rape case registered against choreographer Johnny master

**Hyderabad:** A rape case has been filed against prominent Telugu film industry choreographer Johnny master, also known as Sheikh Johnny Basha. The Raidurgam police registered the case after a 21-year-old woman lodged a complaint, accusing him of repeated sexual (Cont.on P3)



### AP to appoint academic experts as VCs to purge Universities

**Amaravati:** In a move aimed at improving the quality of higher education in Andhra Pradesh, Minister for HRD and IT, Nara Lokesh, announced that a notification has been issued for the appointment of academic experts as vice chancellors (VCs) of State universities. The (Cont.on P3)



### In 100 days, have tried to address every sector, factor for country's progress: PM Modi

**Gandhinagar, Sep 16 (The Capital News):** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday said his government in the first 100 days of its third term had tried to address every sector and factor for rapid progress of the country. Addressing the 4th edition of Global Renewable Energy Investors Meet and Expo (RE-INVEST

2024) in Gandhinagar, he said not just Indians but the entire world feels India is the best bet for the 21st century. "In the first 100 days (of the Union government's third term) you can witness our priorities, speed and scale. We have tried to address every sector and factor which are required for rapid progress of the (Cont.on P2)



### Telugu states to get two new Vande Bharat trains

**Hyderabad:** Telangana and Andhra Pradesh are set to get two new Vande Bharat Express trains with Prime Minister Narendra Modi set to flag off Nagpur-Secunderabad and Durg-Visakhapatnam trains on Monday. While the first train will connect Maharashtra's Nagpur (Cont.on P2)

## Three canals, six reservoirs planned to eliminate flood risk in Amaravati

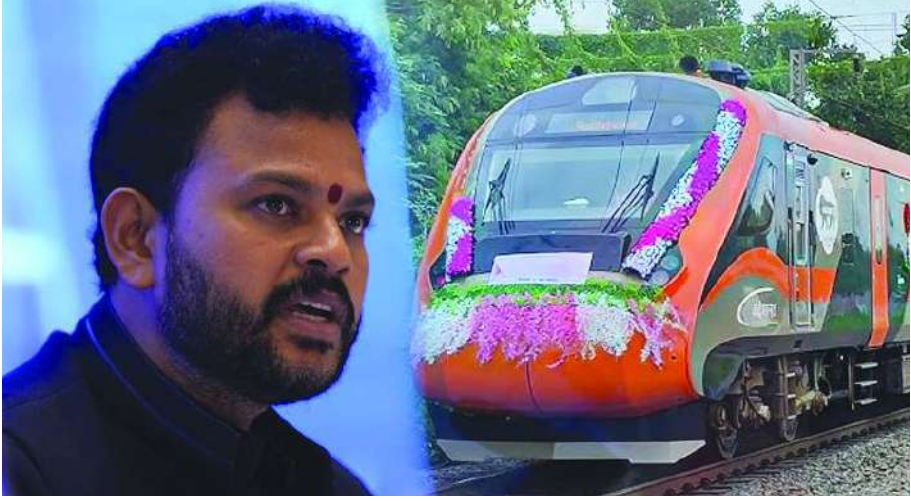


**Vijayawada, Sep 16 (The Capital News):** As part of efforts to address the persistent flood issues in Amaravati, the capital of Andhra Pradesh, Minister for Municipal Administration, P Narayana, announced a detailed plan involving the construction of three canals and six reservoirs. These projects are aimed at ensuring effective water management and flood prevention in the capital region. The

three canals- Kondaveeti Vagu, Pala Vagu, and Gravity Canal- have been strategically designed and are set to be completed by the next rainy season. The minister assured that once these are opera-

tional, the flood problem in Amaravati will be significantly mitigated. To further strengthen flood management, pumping stations are being established at Undavalli and Vaikunthapuram. The plan includes the release of water at capacities of 12,350 cusecs at Undavalli, 5,650 cusecs at Vaikunthapuram, and 4,000 cusecs at Buckingham Canal. Narayana emphasized that with these measures in place, Amaravati will no longer face a flood threat unless extraordinary circumstances arise. He also added that the (Cont.on P2)

### Union Minister inaugurated the Visakhapatnam (Durgu) Vande Bharat Rail today



**Visakhapatnam, Sep 16 (The Capital News):** Union Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu inaugurated the Visakhapatnam (Durgu) Vande Bharat Rail today, by hoisting the flag at Visakhapatnam Railway Station. The

Visakhapatnam - Raipur Vande Bharat train will start its regular service from the 20th of this month. Speaking at the event, Nara Chandrababu Naidu mentioned that this marks the fourth Vande Bharat train running through

Visakhapatnam. He emphasized that the country's development has been significantly aided by the railways. Nara Chandrababu Naidu also highlighted that three Vande Bharat trains have been launched in (Cont.on P2)



## Why three IPS officers act against a model for favouring to whom

Govt can take action against kingpin-A point of discussion

**Amaravati, Sep 16 (The Capital News):** Facing shocking allegations, three IPS officers P Seetaramanjane yulu, Kanthirana Tata, Vishal Gunni were sus-

pended by the State government on Sunday. The Indian Police Service (IPS) is treated as an impregnable shield safeguarding the internal security, law and

order of the country. But contrary to the responsibilities, the three IPS officers were suspended with embracing allegations as the woman was detained

illegally and harassed. Kadambari Jatwani, a Mumbai based model who was a victim in the case was harassed with the political influence (Cont.on P3)



## Andhra Pradesh sets world record for Gram Sabhas

**Amaravati, Sep 16 (The Capital News):** In a remarkable achievement, Andhra Pradesh has secured a prestigious recognition from the World Records Union for conducting Gram Sabhas in 13,326 Gram Panchayats across the State on a single day. This milestone, accomplished under the leadership of the Panchayati Raj Rural Development Department, comes within just 100 days of K Pawan Kalyan assuming office as the Deputy Chief

Minister. The Gram Sabhas, which took place on August 23rd, have been acknowledged as the largest village governance initiative of its kind, with extensive public participation at the grassroots level. The (Cont.on P2)

Minister. The Gram Sabhas, which took place on August 23rd, have been acknowledged as the largest village governance initiative of its kind, with extensive public participation at the grassroots level. The (Cont.on P2)

## Climate-resilient policies vital, says Naidu; greets PM at renewable energy meet

**Amaravati, Sep 16 (The Capital News):** Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister, N Chandrababu Naidu who met Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the 4th Global Renewable Energy Investor's Meet in Gandhinagar on Monday, stated that it was imperative to devise climate-resilient strategies for the energy sector. CM Naidu, whose Telugu Desam Party is a key ally of the BJP-led NDA government at the Centre, shared on his X handle that he was pleased to meet the Prime Minister. CM Naidu shared a video, in which he is seen



greeting PM Modi. Both the leaders had a warm handshake and brief chat. CM Naidu stated that he was attending the meeting to discuss the untapped

renewable energy potential of Andhra Pradesh. "It is imperative to devise strategies for our energy sector that are climate-resilient and compliant. This need

s a fundamental transition in the way energy is generated, transmitted, distributed and utilised. In this context, the 4th Global (Cont.on P2)

**In 100 days,  
have..**

**(From Page 1)**  
country," the PM said. "India's diversity, scale, capacity, potential and performance are unique and that is the reason we say Indian solutions for global application," he added. India is preparing the base for development for the next 1000 years and the focus is not just to reach the top but to sustain the rank, Modi asserted. "For us green future and net zero are not just fancy words. These are requirements of the country and we are committed to achieve it. The government is working to develop Ayodhya and 16 other cities as model solar cities," he said at RE-INVEST 2024. He said 140 crore Indians have pledged to make the country the world's third largest economy.

# Andhra Pradesh sets..

**(From Page 1)**  
World Records Union officially recognised this feat, marking a significant achievement in the realm of local governance. The record document and medal were presented to Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan by World Records Union Official Records manager Christopher Taylor Croft. The event took place at Kalyan's residence in Hyderabad, celebrating this accomplishment in the presence of government officials and dignitaries. Speaking on the occasion, a representative from the World Records Union praised the State for its unparalleled commitment to village governance, noting that such large-scale involvement of the public in a single day reflects the strength of participatory democracy in Andhra Pradesh.

**Three  
canals, six..**

**(From Page 1)**  
canals will be equipped to handle and store water in case of excessive flooding. Additionally, six reservoirs are being developed to store floodwaters, with capacities ranging from 0.01 TMC to 0.4 TMC. The six reservoirs are planned at strategic locations, including Neerukonda (0.4 TMC), Krishnapalem (0.01 TMC), Sakhamuru (0.01 TMC), Lam (0.3 TMC), and Vaikunthapuram (0.3 TMC), creating a robust system to manage floodwaters effectively. This comprehensive flood mitigation strategy is expected to secure Amaravati's infrastructure from seasonal floods, the minister said.

# Telangana CM releases book 'Prophet for the World'

**Hyderabad, Sep 14 (The Capital News):** Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy on Saturday said collective efforts should be made to check attempts to spread hatred in the country. Speaking after releasing a book titled 'Prophet for the World' authored by Maulana Khalid Saifullah Rahmani, president, All India Muslim Personal Law Board, he appreciated the author for writing a book which would help not just Muslims but others to read the path shown by Prophet Muhammed. The essence of the preachings of Prophet Muhammad, Gita and the Bible is to ensure peace in the country and the world, he said. As such, "we should



all be together to stop those who are trying to spread poison," he said, without naming anyone. Showering praise on AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi who was also present on the occasion, Reddy said the Hyderabad Lok Sabha member is the "voice of the poor". "Even when he spoke against Congress, I

used to like it because our own brother (from Hyderabad) is raising his voice. If somebody speaks against us, he doesn't become our enemy. There may be some mistakes in running a government. In order to correct those mistakes, we need a strong opposition, whether it is in the state or in the country,"

the CM said. In Lok Sabha also, the number of those who speak for the people has come down and speeches that spread hatred are more in number, Reddy claimed. While the number of leaders like S Jaipal Reddy has come down, the number of "corporate people" has increased, he said. "India is our

country and it is our responsibility to safeguard it (nation). No one else will come to save the country. Nothing wrong in trying to win the elections. But, we should guard against people who try to spread poison to win elections," he said. Besides Owaisi, the Telangana government's adviser on minority affairs, Mohammed Shabbir Ali, and other dignitaries were present on the occasion. Authored in Urdu and translated into English, the book is a detailed chronicle of the life and times of Prophet Muhammad. It promises a unique approach to understanding different facets of the messenger of Allah, according to the organisers of the book launch event.

## India beat South Korea 4-1 to enter men's ACT hockey final



**Hulunbuir (China), Sep 16 (The Capital News):** Defending champions India defeated South Korea 4-1 to storm into the final of the men's Asian Champions Trophy hockey tournament here on Monday. India scored through Uttam Singh (13th minute), skipper Harmanpreet Singh (19th, 45th) and Jarmanpreet Singh (32nd), while Korea's lone goal came from the stick of Yang Jihun (33rd). India will take on hosts China in Tuesday's final. India beat China 3-0 in a league stage game. Earlier in the day, China defeated Pakistan 2-0 via shoot-out in the first semi-final after the two teams finished 1-1 at the end of regulation time. Meanwhile, in the fifth-sixth place classification match, Japan beat Malaysia 4-2 in shoot-out following a 4-4 stalemate during 60 minutes.

**Union Minister Kinjarapu  
Rammohan Naidu....**

**(From Page 1)**

Visakhapatnam, and that the Visakha-Secunderabad Vande Bharat train is currently running at full capacity. He explained that the Visakha-Raipur Vande Bharat Express is serving passengers from three states and emphasized that it entirely covers tribal areas. Additionally, a stop has been arranged at Parvati Puram.

## Climate-resilient..

**(From Page 1)**

Renewable Energy Investor's Meet is significant. Andhra Pradesh is a pioneer in technology for prosperity, and now, it's the energy sector's turn," wrote Chandrababu Naidu. The Andhra Pradesh CM is one of the keynote speakers at the event. He will pitch for investments in the state's green energy sector. The PM inaugurated the Global Renewable Energy Investor's Meet and Expo, being conducted by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE). Meanwhile, Telangana Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka is attending the 4th Global Renewable Energy Investor's Meet on behalf of the state government. Vikramarka, who holds the portfolios of finance and energy, had said on Saturday that 20,000 MW of green power will be generated in the state by 2029-30. The Deputy CM said that solar power panels were being provided for farmers' pump sets at the government's expense on a pilot basis in 25 to 30 villages on a saturation mode and this will help farmers earn money on solar power, along with their crops.

# Real terrorists who belong in jail: Cong slams leaders making 'controversial' remarks against Rahul

**New Delhi, Sep 16**

**(The Capital News)** In the wake of several controversial statements by ruling alliance leaders targeting Rahul Gandhi, the Congress on Monday said "hate-filled minions" making such remarks were the "real terrorists" who belong in jail. The opposition party alleged that "violent statements" were being made against the leader of opposition in Lok Sabha at the behest of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah with their "complete political patronage". The opposition party's accusations came after Shiv Sena MLA Sanjay Gaikwad announced that he will



give Rs 11 lakh to anyone chopping off Gandhi's tongue for his remarks on scrapping the reservation system. Union minister Ravneet Singh Bittu on Sunday said if those "manufacturing bombs" were supporting Gandhi, he is the "number one terrorist". Earlier, BJP leader Tarvinder Singh Marwah had purportedly made "threatening" remarks against Gandhi. Asked about

these remarks by leaders of the ruling alliance, Congress spokesperson Supriya Shrinete said there have been multiple incidents of "absolutely disgusting remarks" being made against Gandhi. "Who is Rahul Gandhi, he is a five-term elected MP, he is the leader of Opposition in India's democracy. How can such statements replete with violence be tolerated?" Why must I not say that if the members of the BJP and their alliance partners are resorting to these violent statements, this is happening at the behest of Narendra Modi and Amit Shah, this has your complete political patronage," Shrinete said at a

press conference at the AICC headquarters here. "Why I must not say that you (Modi and Shah) are the ones asking them to make these statements. Rahul Gandhi cares two hoots about these statements," she added. she said Gandhi is going to take all it takes to raise the voice of the people, to empower people, to talk about unemployment, high prices, income inequality and actually expose them on the Adani scam. "He is going to do all it takes to keep the country united, whether it is walking from Kanyakumari to Kashmir or take the journey from Manipur to Mumbai... He does not care but we do. We cer-

tainly ask Narendra Modi and Amit Shah as how do these rabid elements make statements like these and get away with it," she added. In an apparent swipe at Bittu, who joined the BJP ahead of the Lok Sabha polls, Shrinat said the reality is that some of the turncoats who are making these statements are absolutely "shameless" because they have got to prove loyalty to the BJP. "But guess what, if you were not loyal to us they are not going to trust you there," Shrinat said, adding, "How are these hate-filled minions able to talk like this? These are the real terrorists. Their place is in jail," the Congress leader said.

# Incessant rain causes inundation in few areas of coastal districts in South Bengal



suffer severe losses due to rising water levels, locals said. In the Sundarbans, continuous rainfall and strong winds have caused significant damage. Fishermen have been advised to avoid going to sea, and several ferry services have been suspended. Relief materials are being stocked, and officials are on standby for relief work. In Bankura district, water overflowed a bridge over the Brahmadanga Canal, cutting off access to several

villages. Landslides have also impacted railway tracks and roads. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has not predicted further major rainfall in the coastal belt, sources said. Meanwhile, moderate to heavy rain lashed parts of southern West Bengal, including Kolkata, on Monday under the impact of a deep depression in the region, the IMD said. A deep depression is a more intense stage of a low-pressure system and precedes the

formation of a cyclonic storm. The rains disrupted normal life as waterlogging was reported from parts of the city. Vehicular movement was slow on several arterial roads in the eastern metropolis, police said. The deep depression over Gangetic West Bengal moved slowly northward. It is likely to move slowly across Gangetic West Bengal and weaken into a depression in the next 12 hours, the IMD said. Thereafter, the weather system will move to Jharkhand and north Chhatisgarh. Kolkata and adjoining areas recorded over 65 mm of rainfall from 6:30 am on Sunday to 8:30 am on Monday. Under the influence of the system, there will generally be a cloudy sky accompanied by light rain during the day. The maximum temperature in the city was 26.2°C early on Monday, which was 6.6 degrees less than normal.

# Assam: Probe ordered into policewoman's 'search' of pvt parts of examinee

**Guwahati, Sep 16**

**(The Capital News)** Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Monday directed the DGP to investigate the allegation of a job aspirant that a woman constable searched her private parts before she entered an examination hall in Nalbari during the test for filling up Group III posts. He also said the director general of police informed him of another incident in North Lakhimpur, where "cheating material" was recovered from a woman candidate during the exam. "My instruction to the police on the Nalbari incident - I spoke with the DGP, Assam, @gpsinghps and instructed him to investigate the incident where a girl student has alleged that a lady constable searched her private parts before she entered the examination hall," Sarma posted on 'X'. "For me, the dignity and respect

of our mothers and sisters are of utmost importance and non-negotiable," he said. The government has a crucial task of conducting the Assam Direct Recruitment Examination (ADRE) with the highest level of integrity and transparency, he said. "We owe this to the entire younger generation of ours, and it cannot be compromised under any circumstances," Sarma said. At the same time, it must be ensured that the "decency and dignity of female candidates are upheld at all times", he said. "A proper standard operating procedure (SOP) should be developed, taking into account the relevant judgments from the Hon'ble Courts and guidelines from the Women's Commission regarding the conduct of searches involving women, and this must be circulated before the next round of examina-

tions", the chief minister said. The Assam Direct Recruitment Examination to fill up vacant Group III posts was held on Sunday, amid tight security and suspension of internet services for three and a half hours across the state. No untoward incident was reported during the competitive examination. The chief minister said the first ADRE had concluded peacefully and expressed his deep gratitude to all the "officers and staff of the Assam government who have successfully completed this monumental task without any issue". Internet services were suspended from 10 am to 1:30 pm on Sunday and heavy deployment of security forces was also seen outside the examination centres. Altogether 11,23,204 candidates were eligible to appear for the examination in 2,305 centres across the state.





Moldtek vice chairman Adivishnu Sandeep presenting Rs 25 lakhs cheque to flood victims on Monday



Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan receiving world record from World Records Association Manager Christopher on Monday for conducting highest number of gramasabhas



Actor Chiranjeevi donating Rs 50 lakh cheque to Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy on Monday



Mahila Sanghala Ikyavedika leaders Sunkara Padmasheree, Ramadevi, Durga Bhavani addressing the media on Monday



APJAC chairman Bopparaju Venkateswarlu felicitating Union Minister Srinivasa Varma



Union Minister Srinivasa Varma addressing the media at BJP party office on Monday along with party leaders



Senior TDP leaders paying tributes to former minister late Kodela Sivaprasda Rao at party central office on Monday



TDP leaders felicitating Newly appointed PCB chairman P Krishnaiah on Monday



The priests participating special pujas as part of Padmavati pavitrosavalu on Monday

## PHOTO FEATURE

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# Trump safe after failed assassination attempt at his golf course, suspect in custody

**Washington, Sep 16 (The Capital News):** Former US president Donald Trump is safe after he escaped an apparent assassination attempt while he was golfing on his course in Florida, a second bid on his life in two months. The incident took place on Sunday at the Trump International Golf Club in West Palm Beach, Florida. Secret Service agents "opened fire on a gunman located near the property line" of Trump International Golf Club in West Palm Beach, Rafael Barros, the special agent in charge in Miami, said during a news conference, adding that the agency was "unsure whether the individual," who is in custody, "was able to take a shot at our agents." Trump, who was golfing at the club at the time, was unharmed. According to Palm Beach County Sheriff Ric Bradshaw, a Secret Service agent spotted the suspect with a rifle sticking through the fence of the golf course and immediately fired at the man before he fled the scene. Republican presidential nominee Trump, 78, was 300 to 500 yards away from the suspect, Bradshaw said. "President Trump is safe following gunshots in his vicinity. No further details at this time."



Steven Cheung, Trump Campaign Communications director said in a statement soon after that. In a message to his supporters, Trump said he is safe. "There were gunshots in my vicinity, but before rumours start spiralling out of control, I wanted you to hear this first: I AM SAFE AND WELL! Nothing will slow me down. I will NEVER SURRENDER!" said the former president. Ryan Wesley Routh, a 58-year-old owner of a small construction company in Hawaii, has been detained in connection with Sunday's incident, according to three law enforcement sources. Routh has criticised former

president many times. This was the second attempt on Trump's life in two months. In July, a life-threatening attack on Trump during his rally in Pennsylvania shocked the entire nation. He injured his right ear after the young shooter fired multiple shots at him at the campaign rally. Routh, who has a lengthy criminal record from North Carolina, frequently posted about politics and exclusively donated to Democratic candidates and causes dating back to 2019, the New York Post reported. He also bashed Trump in an April 22 post on X in which he declared, "DEMOCRACY is on the ballot and we cannot lose." During an interview with the New York Times in 2023, Routh also said he was seeking recruits for Ukraine from among Afghan soldiers who had fled the Taliban. He said he planned to move them, in some cases illegally, from Pakistan and Iran to Ukraine. He said dozens had expressed interest. "We can probably purchase some passports through Pakistan since it's such a corrupt country," he was quoted as saying by the New York Times. He has shown pro-Ukraine views into his public statements because of which he was inter-

viewed by several news organisations, including The New York Times and Semafor in 2023. The White House has said that both President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris have been briefed about the incident. "The President and Vice President have been briefed about the security incident at the Trump International Golf Course, where former President Trump was golfing. They are relieved to know that he is safe. They will be kept regularly updated by their team," the White House said. President Biden on Sunday condemned "political violence" following the second assassination attempt on former President Trump. The Democratic president said he had been briefed on the incident and the federal investigation into the matter. Soon after the gunshots were heard at the golf club in Florida, where Trump was golfing, the FBI said that it is "investigating what appears to be an attempted assassination of former President Trump". The incident took place at roughly around 1:30 pm local time when Secret Service agents spotted a person with AK-47 near the golf course. Agents opened fire at him.



## Boat capsizes in Nigeria drowning at least 40 people, president says

**Abuja, Sep 15 (The Capital News):** A boat carrying mostly farmers capsized on a river in northwest Nigeria, drowning at least 40 people, President Bola Tinubu said Sunday. The accident happened in Zamfara state, as farmers were trying to get to their land, Tinubu said in a statement. The president promised support for the victims and directed emergency agencies to assess the incident. Yazid Abubakar, a police spokesperson in Zamfara, told The Associated Press the accident happened on Saturday and that five people were rescued, but 40 are still missing. It was not immediately clear how many people were on

the boat when it went down. The boat was carrying mostly farmers who use the crossing regularly to sell produce at the markets and locals say they're often overloaded. Zamfara state is rampant with armed groups who kidnap for ransom, steel cattle and engage in illegal mining. Boat accidents are common in remote communities across Nigeria because of overloading and boats that are in poor condition. In August, more than 20 people died in a boat accident on a river in southern Nigeria after the engine exploded. Most boats don't carry life jackets or have proper safety measures in place, say locals.

# Singapore minister calls for unity through inter-faith celebrations this Diwali

**Singapore, Sept 16 (The Capital News):** Senior Minister Teo Chee Hean, in his Diwali message, has urged Singaporeans to take part in festivals across all communities to foster unity and a shared sense of humanity. He noted that Diwali's celebration of the triumph of light over darkness not only holds religious significance for Hindus, but is also a universal message that everyone can embrace. "By doing so, we build bridges of understanding and respect that transcend the boundaries of race, religion and culture," The Straits Times quoted Teo as saying during a street light-up along the city state's Little India precinct, the hub of 'deep mala' celebrations which this year is being held from September 14 to November 17. The light-up event marks the beginning of the celebrations leading up to Diwali on October 31. "I hope that Singaporeans will take up this invitation," he



said, as the Indian Hindu community gathered to start celebration along the more than 2-km precinct, home to Indian origin shops and retail outlets that are popular spots for Diwali shopping. Multi-ethnicity Singapore celebrates all major religious, traditional and cultural events including Eids, Chinese New Year and Christmas for fostering communal harmony among its people. Little India was bathed in vibrant colours on Friday

night (September 14), as the annual Diwali light-up gave the district a festive glow. The Little India Shopping and Heritage Association (LISHA) oversees the Diwali celebrations across the precinct. Teo noted that LISHA is spreading the joy of the Hindu festival beyond Little India, such as by collaborating with the Land Transport Authority on Diwali-themed trains and buses. The association is also partnering with the Singapore Indian Development Association to raise funds for the needy. Apart from the light-up, 12 fringe activities have also been organised by LISHA to further enhance the festive atmosphere. Running from September 14 to October 3, the activities include open-top double-decker bus tours and workshops to engage the public in celebrating the rich cultural heritage behind the 'festival of lights', which is also a big draw for tourists visiting Singapore.

## Another US-made MQ-9 Reaper drone shot down by Yemen's Houthi rebels

**Dubai, Sep 16 (The Capital News):** Yemen's Houthi rebels claimed Monday that they shot down another American-made MQ-9 Reaper drone, with video circulating online showing what appeared to be a surface-to-air missile strike and flaming wreckage strewn across the ground. The U.S. military did not immediately respond to a request for comment on the Houthis' claimed downing of a drone over the country's southwestern Dhamar province. The Houthis have exaggerated claims in the past in their ongoing campaign targeting shipping in the Red Sea over the Israel-Hamas war in the Gaza Strip. However, the online video bolstered the claim, particularly after two recent claims by the Houthis included no evidence. Other videos showed armed rebels gathered around the flaming wreckage, a propeller similar to those used by the armed drone visible in the flames. One



attempted to pick up a piece of the metal before dropping it due to the heat. Brig. Gen. Yahya Saree, a Houthi military spokesperson, identified the drone as an MQ-9, without elaborating on how he came to the determination. He said it was the third downed by the group in a week, though the other two claims did not include similar video or other evidence. The U.S. military similarly has not acknowledged losing any aircraft. Saree said the Houthis used a locally produced missile. However, Iran has armed the

rebels with a surface-to-air missile known as the 358 for years. Iran denies arming the rebels, though Tehran-manufactured weaponry has been found on the battlefield and in seaborne shipments heading to Yemen despite a United Nations arms embargo. Reaper, which cost around \$30 million apiece, can fly at altitudes up to 50,000 feet (15,240 meters) and have an endurance of up to 24 hours before needing to land. The aircraft have been flown by both the U.S. military and the CIA over Yemen for years. The Houthis have targeted more than 80 merchant vessels with missiles and drones since the war in Gaza started in October. They seized one vessel and sank two in the campaign that has also killed four sailors. Other missiles and drones have either been intercepted by a U.S.-led coalition in the Red Sea or failed to reach their targets, which have included Western military vessels as well.



# Tropical storm warning is issued for parts of the Carolinas

**Miami, Sep 16 (The Capital News):** A tropical storm warning has been issued for a stretch of the Southeast seacoast amid the threat of heavy rain and coastal flooding from bad weather off the Carolinas, the National Hurricane Center said Sunday. Forecasters at the Miami-based centre said the disturbance has emerged off the coast and that a tropical storm warning was issued from Edisto Beach, South Carolina, up to Ocrakoke Inlet near the southernmost extreme of North

Carolina's Outer Banks. An advisory at 5 pm EDT Sunday said the area of bad weather was centered about 125 miles (200 kilometers) east-southeast of Charleston, South Carolina. It has maximum sustained winds of 45 mph (75 kph) and is moving to the northwest toward the coast at 7 mph (11 kph). Forecasters said the storm raises the risk of urban and flash flooding and minor river flooding in the next few days, along with high surf around the Southeast.

# Hidden craters reveal Earth may once have had a ring – like Saturn

**Melbourne, Sep 16 (The Capital News):** The rings of Saturn are some of the most famous and spectacular objects in the Solar System. Earth may once have had something similar. In a paper published last week in *Earth & Planetary Science Letters*, my colleagues and I present evidence that Earth may have had a ring. The existence of such a ring, forming around 466 million years ago and persisting for a few tens of millions of years, could explain several puzzles in our planet's past. The case for a ringed Earth Around 466 million years ago, a lot of meteorites started hitting Earth. We know this because many impact craters formed in a geologically brief period. In the same period we also find deposits of limestone across Europe, Russia and China containing very high levels of debris from a certain type of meteorite. The meteorite debris in these sedimentary rocks show signs that they were exposed to space radiation for much less time than we see in meteorites that fall today. Many tsunamis also occurred at this time, as can be seen from other unusual jumbled up sedimentary rocks. We think all these features are likely related to one another. But what links them together? A pattern of craters We know of 21 meteorite impact craters



that formed during this high-impact period. We wanted to see if there was a pattern in their locations. Using models of how Earth's tectonic plates moved in the past, we mapped out where all these craters were when they first formed. We found all of the craters are on continents that were close to the equator in this period, and none are in places that were closer to the poles. So all the impacts occurred close to the equator. But is this actually a fair sample of the impacts that occurred? Well, we measured how much of Earth's land surface suitable for preserving a crater was near the equator at that time. Only about 30% of the suitable

land was close to the equator, with 70% at higher latitudes. Under normal circumstances, asteroids hitting Earth can hit at any latitude, at random, as we see in craters on the Moon, Mars and Mercury. So it's extremely unlikely that all 21 craters from this period would form close to the equator if they were unrelated to one another. We would expect to see many other craters at higher latitudes as well. We think the best explanation for all this evidence is that a large asteroid broke up during a close encounter with Earth. Over several tens of millions of years, the asteroid's debris rained down onto Earth, creating the pattern of craters, sedi-

ments and tsunamis we describe above. How rings form You may know that Saturn isn't the only planet with rings. Jupiter, Neptune and Uranus have less obvious rings, too. Some scientists have even suggested that Phobos and Deimos, the small moons of Mars, may be remnants of an ancient ring. So we know a lot about how rings form. Here's how it works. When a small body (like an asteroid) passes close to a large body (like a planet), it gets stretched by gravity. If it gets close enough (inside a distance called the Roche limit), the small body will break apart into lots of tiny pieces and a small number of bigger pieces. All those fragments will be jostled around and gradually evolved into a debris ring orbiting the equator of the larger body. Over time, the material in the ring will fall down to the larger body, where the larger pieces will form impact craters. These craters will be located close to the equator. So if Earth destroyed and captured a passing asteroid around 466 million years ago, it would explain the anomalous locations of the impact craters, the meteorite debris in sedimentary rocks, craters and tsunamis, and the meteorites' relatively brief exposure to space radiation.

## Chess Olympiad: Indian men crush Azerbaijan, women beat Kazakhstan

**Budapest, Sep 16 (The Capital News):** Backed by the two in-form stars in World Championship challenger D Gukesh and Arjun Erigaisi, the Indian men scored a 3-1 victory over Azerbaijan in the fifth round of the 45th Chess Olympiad here. It seems like Gukesh and Arjun can do nothing wrong in this Olympiad as they overpowered Aydin Sulemanli and Rauf Mamedov respectively with their white pieces in quick time. Praggnanandhaa played another draw on board two to only ensure an Indian victory while Vidit Gujrathi played out a draw with Shakhriyar Mamedyarov in a marathon game to complete the triumph. After scoring the fifth victory on the trot, the Indian men maintained a clean slate on ten points and they were joined by Vietnam who continued with their impressive show and downed Poland 2.5-1.5. The other two teams that joined the leaders' pack were China and Hungary who scored identical 2.5-1.5 victories over Spain and Ukraine respectively. With six rounds still to come in the biggest chess event, Magnus Carlsen's Norway and Iran are the only two teams sharing the fifth spot on 9 points apiece. Norway defeated a talented Turkey team by a 3-1 margin while Iran made most of the opportunities to down Canada 3.5-0.5. In the women's section, Grandmaster D Harika suffered a shock defeat to give Kazakhstan an early lead. Better



for most of the game, Harika misplayed after many pundits believed her position to be winning against Bibisara Assaubayeva. On the fourth board Vantika Agarwal yet again played the anchor and won a clean game with white pieces against Alua Nurman while Xeniya Balabayeva split the point with Divya Deshmukh. With the scores tied at 2-2 it was Vaishali's turn to come up triumphs for the team and she outwitted Meruert Kamalidenova. Team India joined Armenia and Mongolia in the lead on ten points. Armenia halted the Chinese party for now handing them a 2.5-1.5 defeat while Mongolia proved superior to United States with a similar score. The three leaders have 10 points apiece and they are now followed by Georgia and Poland a half point behind. Gukesh

scored his fourth victory in a row at the expense of Sulemanli. The World championship challenger got a huge middle game advantage with scattered black pieces and a weak king and made no mistakes in converting that in to a full point. Arjun is the only Indian who has played all five games thus far and the primary reason is his ability to complicate matters with either colour. Up against Mamedov, it was Sicilian Dragon structure wherein Arjun converted to a complicated endgame and then his precise calculation helped him carve out his fifth win as many games. For the records, Arjun is currently at 2888 ELO rating points in live ratings and just 12 short of attaining the magical 2800 mark – a summit captured by only Viswanathan Anand as an Indian.

## Rohit and Co sweat it out in third training session in Chennai



**Chennai, Sep 16 (The Capital News):** Rohit Sharma and Co had another extensive training session in the build up to the first Test against Bangladesh with all 16 squad members turning for practice at the Chepauk here on Monday. After a day off, the India squad members took part in their third training session since their arrival here last week. The first Test begins on Thursday. As it is often the case, Virat Kohli was among the first set of batters to hit the nets. In the adjacent net was southpaw Yashasvi Jaiswal as both him and Kohli faced Jasprit Bumrah and home hero R Ashwin. The next set of batters included skip-

per Rohit, Shubman Gill and Sarfaraz Khan, the last named player arriving here after taking part in the second round Duleep Trophy match in Anantapur. The captain focussed on playing spinners keeping Bangladesh's slow bowling attack in mind. Ravindra Jadeja, Rishabh Pant and pacer Mohammed Siraj too faced local bowlers and significant amount of throwdowns. The practise pitch at the main square offered a decent amount of bounce. India will have two more practice sessions scheduled before the series opener against Bangladesh, who are riding on the confidence of their series sweep in Pakistan. Most

players in the playing eleven select themselves. The Chennai surface usually favour the spinners and there is likelihood of India going into the game with three spinners and two pacers. The spinners expected to feature are Ashwin, Jadeja and Kuldeep Yadav while Bumrah and Siraj will share workload in the pace department. Axar Patel, despite his impressive all-round returns across formats, may have to sit out. On the batting front, Pant is expected to make his Test return after a gap of almost two years. Dhruv Jurel, who impressed his debut series against England, will be benched in that case.

# Ronaldo misses Al-Nassr's debut in Asia's new Elite tournament with virus

**Riyadh (Saudi Arabia), Sep 16 (The Capital News):** Cristiano Ronaldo has a virus and did not travel to Iraq with Al-Nassr for Monday's AFC Champions League Elite debut match at Al-Shorta. Al-Nassr, Ronaldo's Saudi Arabian club, said that the Portugal forward "wasn't feeling well" and "was diagnosed with a viral infection," adding that the team physician confirmed he needs to rest. Playing for Portugal in the Nations League, Ronaldo recently scored against both Croatia and Scotland to take his men's-



record tally of international goals to 132. Ronaldo won five UEFA Champions Leagues but has yet to win a major trophy with Al-Nassr. It's the first edition of the Elite version, which

replaced the AFC Champions League as Asia's top club tournament. Ronaldo's debut in the Elite tournament could now come against Qatari club Al-Rayyan on Sept. 20 in Riyadh.

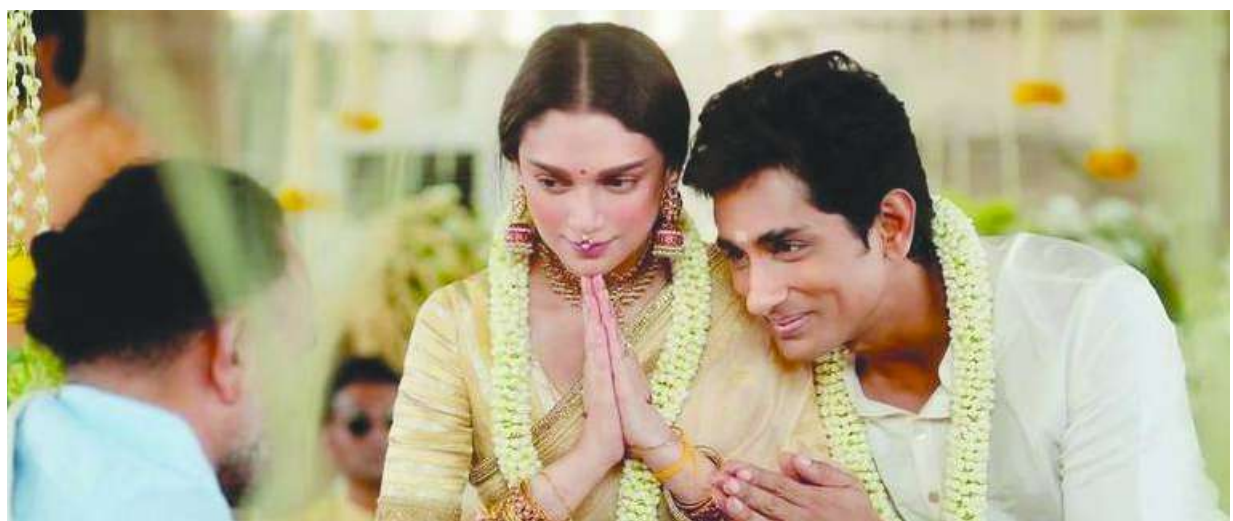
# Amrita Iyer's Sun-Kissed Maldives Magic



Amrita Iyer, the stunning actress who recently captivated audiences in the blockbuster film “Hanuman,” is currently soaking up the sun on a luxurious holiday in the Maldives. The actress has been treating her fans to a series of breathtaking photos from her tropical paradise, and her latest post is simply stunning. In the new picture, Amrita is dressed in a flowing white gown with a thigh-high slit that shows off her toned legs. She’s paired the elegant outfit with a chic hat and stylish sunglasses, completing the look with a touch of beachy glamour. With her flawless skin, radiant smile, and enviable figure, Amrita is the epitome of summer beauty. Her Maldives vacation photos are sure to leave her fans feeling inspired and dreaming of their own tropical escapes.



# Aditi Rao Hydari, Siddharth tie the knot in intimate temple wedding



Actors Siddharth and Aditi Rao Hydari were in a relationship for a long time. They also got engaged earlier this year. Now, they have tied the knot as well. Aditi Rao took to Instagram to share pictures of their secret wedding ceremony. The couple got married yesterday at a temple in South India. The event was a private affair attended by

close family members and friends. Sharing the pictures on social media, Aditi Rao and Siddharth wrote, "You are my Sun, my Moon, and all my Stars...To being Pixie Soulmates for eternity...to laughter, to never growing up...To Eternal Love, Light & Magic... Mrs & Mr Adu-Siddhu." Both actors were seen in traditional South Indian attire in the ceremony.

Netizens and industry celebrities are congratulating the newly married couple on this special occasion. Siddharth and Aditi worked together in the film Maha Samudram. Sources say that they fell for each other while shooting for that movie. After years of being in relationship, they have entered a new phase of life. We congratulate them on this special occasion.

# Saripodhaa, Nani's 2nd Film In 100 Cr Club

Natural Star Nani is on a great high in his career with back-to-back blockbusters. He completes hat-trick hits with Saripodhaa Sanivaaram. This Vivek Athreya directorial marks his second movie to enter the 100 Cr club. Staying true to his versatile actor and Natural Star image, Nani delivered another stunning performance in the movie, and the audience provided him with a blockbuster. The movie grossed 100 Cr+. Dasara was the first movie for Nani to enter 100 Cr club. Although there were many challenges for Saripodhaa Sanivaaram, the movie had a good hold even in weekdays and continued the momentum in its third week as well. The movie which is already the biggest grosser for Nani in North



America is close to 2.5 Million in the territory. Nani has proved once again that Telugu audiences love to watch innova-

tive and fresh content on big screens with Saripodhaa Sanivaaram's tremendous success.