

Rajmudra Book Gives Assurance to Farmers

Pattadar Pass Books Distribution in B. Rajeru
Palle Panduga 3.0 Program
Chief Minister, Deputy Chief Minister Giving Priority to Villages
Department-wise Review with Officials
Minister Kondapalli Srinivas

Gajapathinagaram, Bondapalli, October 2, “State Minister for MSME, Rural Poverty Alleviation and Pravasandhra Empowerment Relations Kondapalli Srinivas said that the book with government seal gives assurance to farmer brothers.He distributed pass books with government Rajmudra to 875 farmers in B. Rajeru village of Bondapalli mandal through Minister Kondapalli Srinivas. Before the program, as part of Palle Panduga 3.0 program in
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Andhra leaders pay tribute to Gandhi, Shastri on birth anniversaries



Amaravati: Mahatma Gandhi’s supreme sacrifice for the Nation, his immortal spirit and timeless teachings will always guide us as a Nation, said Andhra Pradesh Governor S. Abdul Nazeer on Friday.The Governor paid tribute to the

Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, on his birth anniversary. He noted that Gandhi Jayanthi is celebrated all over the world as the ‘International Day of Non-violence.’The Governor stated that Mahatma Gandhi’s
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Global Horticulture Hub to be launched in Madanapalle

TIRUPATI: The NDA government in Andhra Pradesh is set to launch the Global Horticulture Hub (GHH) in Rayalaseema on Friday, marking the beginning of a major plan aimed at expanding horticulture, irrigation, processing and exports in the region. The GHH is being planned with an overall investment of about Rs 1 lakh crore, including Rs 40,352 crore from the government and around Rs 60,000 crore expected from the private sector. Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, Chief Minister N. Chandra babu Naidu

and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan will launch the project at Madanapalle. Minister Nara Lokesh and several other ministers and public representatives are expected to attend. The project has been designed on a “seed to shipment” approach, covering horticulture production, irrigation, roads, logistics, food processing and exports. The government has been working on the plan for nearly six months, holding discussions with various departments, including agriculture, horticulture, finance and irrigation, as well as consultations



with the Centre. The GHH will cover Anantapur, Annamayya, Chittoor, Kurnool, Nandyal, Sri

Sathya Sai, Tirupati, Kadapa, Prakasam and Markapur districts. Development works will

be taken up in 5,869 villages across 303 mandals, which will be organised into 201 clusters. The government plans to expand horticulture cultivation from the existing 8.41 lakh hectares to 14.41 lakh hectares. Horticulture production is targeted to increase from 222 lakh metric tonnes to 435 lakh metric tonnes. The project is expected to directly benefit around 9.6 lakh farmers. The GHH will be implemented in three phases and six packages, with the government aiming to complete the
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Crowds Throng Vizag Fishing Harbour on Gandhi Jayanti



Visakhapatnam: Visakhapatnam witnessed a sharp increase in seafood purchases on Wednesday as residents flocked to the city’s fishing harbour ahead of Gandhi Jayanti. The rush followed the Greater Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation’s announcement that all meat, poultry and fish shops would remain closed on October 2. GVMC commissioner Ketan Garg announced that goat meat, chicken and fish shops, along with slaughterhouses within the municipal limits, would remain closed in observance of Gandhi Jayanti. The civic body also warned that it would initiate le-

gal action against traders found violating the closure order. The announcement prompted many non-vegetarian consumers to purchase fish and meat a day in advance. Consequently, the fishing harbour began witnessing heavy footfall from the early hours of Friday morning. Buyers crowded the fish stalls and cleaning sheds, while vendors stayed busy serving the steady flow of customers. B. Kumari, a fish cleaner at the harbour, said business was brisk because the quantity of fish brought for cleaning had increased considerably.

Low-Pressure Area Likely Over Andaman Sea By Oct. 13

VISAKHAPATNAM: A low-pressure area is likely to form over the Andaman Sea by October 13 under the influence of a surface circulation expected to develop over the North Andaman Sea on October 12, the Andhra Pradesh State Disaster Management Authority (APSDMA) said on Friday. According to the APSDMA, the system is likely to intensify into a depression by October



15 over the southern Bay of Bengal and adjoining central Bay of Bengal. However, the weather agency said there was still considerable uncertainty, and greater clarity would emerge

over the coming days. Meanwhile, isolated thunderstorms accompanied by moderate rain are likely in Alluri Sitarama Raju and Polavaram districts on Saturday, while other coastal districts may receive scattered light rain accompanied by thunderstorms, the APSDMA said. The authority advised people to remain alert during thunderstorms and follow official weather updates.

AP Extends Liquor Shop Application Deadline To Oct. 6

The Andhra Pradesh government has extended the deadline for submission of applications for allotment of 807 liquor retail shops (A4) under the new excise policy for 2026-27 by three days, until midnight on October 6. State Excise Commissioner Ch. Sridhar said on

Thursday that the applications would be scrutinised on October 7, followed by a draw of lots on October 8 to allot licences to eligible applicants. Of the 807 liquor retail shops, 799 are in the open category and eight are reserved.





What good is experience in the age of AI?

There was a time when experience was the most valuable currency in professional life. The longer you worked, the more you learned. Years brought exposure, exposure brought lessons, and lessons gradually developed into judgement. A senior executive was valued not merely because he knew more, but because he had experienced more. He had experienced decisions that worked and decisions that failed, people who delivered and people who disappointed, markets that changed unexpectedly and strategies that looked brilliant on paper but collapsed in execution. Experience is accumulated wisdom earned through time. Artificial Intelligence has disrupted that equation. A young professional entering the workforce today can access in seconds what earlier generations spent years learning to find. Information, analysis, research, frameworks, presentations, code, ideas and alternative solutions are now available almost instantly. A curious 24-year-old who understands his subject, knows how to ask the right prompts and can use AI intelligently can sometimes produce work that would have taken a much more experienced executive several days.

This has understandably created a new confidence among young professionals. But confidence can quickly become arrogance when access to information is mistaken for possession of wisdom. At the same time, there is another form of arrogance at the other end of the spectrum. Many experienced executives believe that their decades of knowledge automatically give them an advantage over younger professionals. Some still regard AI as a useful gadget rather than a fundamental transformation in the way knowledge work will be done. Both are mistaken. The real question is not whether experience can defeat AI or whether AI has made experience irrelevant. The real question is what happens when experience and Artificial Intelligence come together.

The great collision: Experience meets Artificial Intelligence. I have always believed that experience is precious. It cannot be downloaded. It cannot be acquired from a presentation. It cannot be manufactured by reading hundred books or asking an AI system a thousand questions.

Experience is the accumulated record of our actions and their consequences. It is the memory of decisions made with incomplete information. It is knowing what happened when a seemingly minor warning was ignored. It is remembering how a customer reacted, how an employee responded, how a market behaved and how a strategy that appeared flawless in a boardroom failed in the real world. That distinction matters. Artificial Intelligence can tell us what has happened across thousands of situations. Experience tells us what happened when we made a particular decision in a particular context, with particular people, under particular circumstances. This is the difference between information and judgement. Yet we must be careful not to romanticise experience. Thirty years in a profession does not automatically produce thirty years of wisdom. A person can repeat the same mistakes for three decades and call it experience. Someone can become so comfortable with what worked in the past that they become incapable of recognising what has changed. That is where AI becomes disruptive.

Seminar on ‘youth today: thoughts, values and aspirations’ held

Visakhapatnam: The department of management studies at Satya Institute of Technology and Management organised a seminar on ‘youth today: thoughts, values and aspirations’ as part of the Bhagat Singh jayanti observation. The programme focused on youth values, aspirations, responsibilities and their role in contemporary society. Participating as chief guest and resource person, Adarsh Saji, All India president of Students’ Federation of India (SFI), spoke on the relevance of Bhagat Singh’s ideals. He highlighted the importance of education, courage, critical thinking, equality and social responsibility and encouraged students to think independently, question what is wrong, engage with contemporary social issues and transform their aspirations into meaningful action. M Sashibhusana Rao, director of the institution, said such programmes provide students opportunities to engage with contemporary issues and draw inspiration from the



lives and ideals of national personalities. He stressed the importance of leadership, awareness, responsibility and a broad social perspective among students. DV Rama Murthy, Principal, highlighted the importance of values, discipline, patriotism, education and responsible citizenship.

Rs 1 lakh cr Global Horticulture Hub to be launched in Madanapalle today

Amaravati: Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu, Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman and Deputy Chief Minister K Pawan Kalyan will launch the Global Horticulture Hub at Madanapalle on Friday, an ambitious project envisaged with an estimated investment of Rs 1 lakh crore to transform horticulture and rural infrastructure in Rayalaseema. The project will be implemented in three phases. The NDA government will contribute Rs 40,352 crore, while the State will seek to mobilise another Rs 60,000 crore from private-sector investments. The project will cover Anantapur, Annamayya, Chittoor, Kurnool, Nandyal, Sri Sathya Sai, Tirupati, Kadapa, Prakasam and Markapuram districts. Development activities will be taken up through 201 clusters covering 303 mandals and 5,869 villages. The government plans to expand the existing horticulture area from 8.41 lakh hectares to 14.41 lakh hectares, adding six lakh hectares. Horticultural production is targeted to rise from the present 222 lakh metric tonnes to 435 lakh metric tonnes, with about 9.6 lakh farmers expected to benefit. Also Read Centre expands support across agri and allied sectors to boost rural livelihoods: FM Sitharaman Advertisement Of the government investment, Rs 20,884 crore will be earmarked for irrigation, Rs 15,000 crore for horticulture development and Rs 4,562 crore for roads. The project will include major irrigation works, drip irrigation, road connectivity and logistics infrastructure. The initiative seeks to position Rayalaseema as the country’s “Fruit Bowl”, with emphasis on mango, banana, tomato, pomegranate, dragon fruit, avocado and berries. Private investment will also be encouraged in food-processing and export infra-



structure to add value to farm produce. The project is being developed under the Rayalaseema Rising initiative. Naidu has been reviewing its progress for nearly six months in consultations with the Agriculture, Horticulture, Finance and Irrigation departments and the Centre. The three leaders will also lay the foundation stone for the Indian School of Agriculture at Madanapalle. Modelled on the Indian School of Business, the institution will focus on agricultural technology, research and innovation. Reliance has come forward to work with the State government in establishing and managing the institution. The school will focus on digital agriculture, precision farming, crop monitoring, smart irrigation, market intelligence and technology-driven solutions, with the aim of improving farm productivity, sustainability and profitability.

Dinesh Kumar appointed 12th Pay Revision Commission chief

Amaravati: The Andhra Pradesh government appointed retired IAS officer Dinesh Kumar as the Pay Revision Commissioner for the 12th Pay Revision Commission (PRC), filling the post that had remained vacant following the resignation of Dr Manmohan Singh, who was initially appointed to head the commission. The government had constituted the 12th PRC and appointed Manmohan Singh as its chief, while also specifying the commission’s terms of reference. It subsequently issued orders prescribing the terms and conditions of his appointment. However, after accepting his resignation, the government was left without a commissioner to head the panel. After examining the matter, the government has now

appointed former chief secretary Dinesh Kumar as the new Pay Revision Commissioner. His terms and conditions of appointment will be issued separately. The government order said the 12th PRC would continue to function under the existing terms of reference. The commission will prescribe its own procedure for receiving representations, examining issues and calling for information from various departments. The Secretariat departments and Heads of Departments have been directed to provide the commission with the required information and extend necessary cooperation and assistance. The commission will ordinarily function from Velagapudi, though it can tour within or outside the state if necessary. The gov-



ernment has given the commission one year from the date Dinesh Kumar assumes charge to submit its report. The appointment has been welcomed by employee organisations, which had been seeking early action on the issue.

Push to give Araku Coffee global recognition

Visakhapatnam: Girijan Cooperative Corporation (GCC) chairman Kidari Sravan Kumar mentioned that efforts were intensified to give Araku coffee, cultivated by tribal farmers, greater presence in international markets and to improve farmers’ income. Speaking at a programme organised to mark ‘International Coffee Day’ here on Thursday, Sravan Kumar mentioned that the GCC is taking several initiatives to promote the distinct flavour and quality of Araku coffee on the global stage and Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu is extending support to promote Araku coffee internationally. The GCC chairman recalled that Prime Minister Narendra Modi mentioned Araku coffee in the ‘Mann Ki Baat’ programme and how it helped increase the brand’s recognition across the country. Sravan Kumar thanked Deputy Chief Minister K Pawan Kalyan and Tribal Welfare Minister Gummididi Sandhyarani for their support in taking the coffee to international markets. He informed that Araku coffee is showcased in prominent international destinations, including Paris and Davos, highlighting the distinc-



tive identity of coffee produced by tribal farmers of the Araku region. GCC general manager (Administration) Sandhya Rani, Finance general manager Umadevi, DCM Suryanarayana, divisional manager Mahendra and other staff members were present.

SwarnaAndhra Award to Hostel Warden Anjana

Student Shaik Chan Babu Shines at District Level



Kamavarapukota, September 2,“On the occasion of Gandhi Jayanthi, Eluru Collector Vetri Selvi on Friday presented SwarnaAndhra Award to local Social Welfare Girls Hostel Warden Anjana.It was informed that the SwarnaAndhra Award given at district level was presented by the Collector for keeping the hostel premises, kitchen, and students' rooms clean.Anjana said that as it is a girls hostel, duties are performed with special dedication towards students, and receiving this award along with happiness has increased more responsibility in performing duties. Students, parents of students, and villagers congratulated Warden Anjana on receiving the award.



Kamavarapu Kota, October 2: Student Shaik Chan Babu of 6th class belonging to Jeelakarragudem Zilla Parishad High School in the mandal brought pride to the school by showing talent in online painting competition conducted on the topic 'Mahatma Gandhi's Principles of Truth and Non-violence - Today's Conditions' for school and college students at erstwhile West Godavari district level under the auspices of District Sarvodaya Mandal.In the function held at

Pedanindrakolanu Mahatma Gandhi Bhavan for winners, Sarvodaya Mandal Secretary Indukuri Prasad Raju presented certificate of appreciation, memento along with prizes to Chan Babu and congratulated him.School Headmistress V. Bharathi Devi, SMC members and villagers appreciated the victory achieved by Chan Babu and the efforts of guide teacher P. Nagaraju and teachers who provided guidance to the student.

Andhra Pradesh Ranks First in the Country in SHG Bank Linkage

Priority to Women's Economic Empowerment with Transparency, Technological Reforms
Thousands of Crores Financial Benefit to Women Groups with Reduction in Interest Rates, Service Charges
Check on Misuse of Funds with Aadhaar Biometric, URN Systems Minister Kondapalli Srinivas

Amaravati, October 2: State Minister for MSME, Rural Poverty Alleviation and Pravasandhra Empowerment Relations Kondapalli Srinivas in a statement on Friday said that with innovative reforms being undertaken by Andhra Pradesh Government under visionary leadership of Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu, Self Help Groups (SHG) bank linkage program is moving in a new direction.Minister revealed that according to latest NRLM statistics, as of September 15, 2026, Andhra Pradesh stands ahead of all states and Union Territories in the country with Rs. 15,229.40 crores loan disbursement and Rs. 82,639.56 crores loan outstanding. He said these loans being provided to women self help groups are being worked on by government not just as temporary assistance, but to contribute to family income growth, sustainable livelihood and women's economic self-reliance.He said transparency and financial security is being ensured with digital reforms, Aadhaar biometric authentication, member identity verification to check fake memberships and misuse of funds. Minister said with Unique Registration Number (URN) system, each group will be given special digital identity and transparency in transactions will be increased. He said with facility of real-time dashboards for bank officials to examine SHG profiles, grading, loan details from time to time along with co-operation of 'Bank Sakhis' in rural areas, awareness on digital security will be created for women.He said due to reduction in registration and service charges, each group is saving up to Rs. 32,500 per year.. and by standardizing interest rates which were earlier from 7% to 14.50% and reducing to range of 7% to 11.70%, loan cost burden on women groups has reduced significantly. He said priority is being given to agriculture, animal husbandry, micro industries through Annual Credit Livelihood Plan (ACLP), Micro Credit Plan (MCP)... and as per DAY-NRLM guidelines, collateral-free loan limit for SHGs has been increased from Rs. 10 lakhs to Rs. 20 lakhs.Minister Kondapalli informed that in achieving SHG bank linkage target, in 2024-25 against Rs. 32,190 crores, Rs. 30,079 crores loan disbursement achieved 93%



target... while in 2025-26 achieved 99% target... and in year 2026-27 by September against targeted Rs. 19,655 crores, Rs. 15,229 crores distributed and already 78% target reached. He expressed confidence that in last two financial years more than 90 percent targets were achieved, and in current financial year also with coordination of banks, SERP, SHG federations, designated targets will be achieved." Strengthening women self help groups economically, providing sustainable income sources to every family, and leading rural economy on further progress path is the main goal of our government" Minister Kondapalli clarified.

Mahatma's Statues Don't Even Get a Garland



Eluru, October 2,“Statues of Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi and Amarajeevi Potti Sriramulu are located opposite Kamavarapukota Mandal Parishad office in Eluru district. Even though Friday is Mahatma Gandhi Jayanthi, fans are expressing anguish that it is an insult to Mahatma as a witness of MPDO office that neither officials nor those who installed statues nor locals even garlanded.They said that even though it is right in front of MPDO office gate itself, no official responded and they consider it as insult to Mahatma. Meanwhile, in Tadikalapudi in the mandal there is Gandhi Chowk itself in the name of Gandhi. However, they said it is painful that not a single person garlanded Mahatma's statue there even by 3 PM.Meanwhile, even though there is a rule



to close liquor and meat shops on occasion of Gandhi Jayanthi, it is painful that many liquor chain (belt) shops along with meat sale centers are also open in the mandal, and fans of Mahatma Gandhi said such developments are happening because officials are acting as if they don't see.However, when several people questioned the insult happening to Mahatma through social media platform, some locals responded and garlanded the statues of the great man.

25 Years of Public Service of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi

Grandly 'Seva Sankalp Abhiyan' - Minister Kolusu Parthasarathy Plants Saplings

Eluru / Nuzvid, October 02:“As part of environmental protection program on Friday at NTR Park, New Employees Colony in Nuzvid town, on the occasion of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi successfully completing 25 years in public life, in public service, Minister Kolusu Parthasarathy planted saplings in the name of 'Seva Mera Yog Dan' as part of 'Seva Sankalp Abhiyan'.Speaking on this occasion, Minister Kolusu Parthasarathy said that Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Shri Chandrababu are visionary leaders with great experience and the commitment they show towards public service, development and welfare programs should be informed to people. He said that as part of environmental protection, the program of planting and protecting plants should be



encouraged.AP Agriculture Mission Vice-Chairman and Nuzvid constituency observer Mareddy Srinivasa Reddy, Municipality Commissioner K. Peerayya, alliance leaders participated in this program.

Rajmudra Book Gives Assurance to Farmers

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B. Rajeru village, he laid foundation stone for roads to be constructed with Rs. 61.5 lakhs. He said villages are the backbone of towns, that is why coalition government is specially organizing Palle Panduga to develop villages. He said Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan are giving special priority to villages. On this occasion, at the meeting held at the village secretariat, he reviewed Swarna Grama, Swarna Ward programs. On the occasion of Father of Nation Mahatma Gandhi Jayanthi, he garlanded the portrait. He conducted department-wise review with officials of all departments. He said in previous government farmers were worried as Jagan Reddy's photo was put in place of farmers' photos. He said after coalition government came to power, re-survey was conducted and pattadar pass books with government Rajmudra were provided, which gave courage to farmers. As part of this, 875 farmers in the village were provided pattadar pass books, and he asked them to check photo details, personal details, boundary details and inform revenue officials if there are mistakes. He

said due to El Nino effect, time for paddy sowing for farmers has ended, and focus should be on cultivation of crops like green gram, black gram. He said as per present season only RNR paddy variety can be cultivated, and instructed agriculture officials to make those seeds available if necessary as per farmers' wish. He directed government employees to be available to people and provide government schemes in time. He directed electricity department officials to solve street lights problem in the village. He also said medical staff should be alert and must administer HPV vaccine being given to 14-year-old girls at present, and create awareness among people that future cancer disease can be prevented through it. He suggested medical staff should create awareness on this vaccine and ensure 100% completion. He said health can be protected only by striving to improve sanitation and everyone should maintain cleanliness. RTO S. Sudha Sagar, AMC Chairman P V V Gopala Raju, TDP Mandal President Rapaka Acham Naidu, TDP leaders Edupalli Krishna, Pasela Seetharamamurthy, Bujji and others participated in this program.

Andhra leaders pay tribute to Gandhi, Shastri on birth anniversaries

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path of peaceful resistance and mass civil disobedience has been an inspiration for leaders across the world. "Mahatma lived a life of simple living and adhered to the path of 'Truth' and 'Non-violence' as a way of life. On this day, let us take a pledge to rededicate ourselves to the noble principles of Truth & Non-violence by following in the footsteps of the Father of the Nation," Governor Abdul Nazeer said. The Governor also paid tributes to former Prime Minister Bharat Ratna Lal Bahadur Shastri on his birth anniversary. The Governor said that Shastri's life remains an example of humility, honesty, courage, and unwavering commitment to the nation. His iconic slogan, "Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan," reflected his deep respect for the nation's soldiers and farmers. His ideals of simplicity, integrity, and service continue to guide and inspire future generations, he said. Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu paid tributes to Mahatma Gandhi and Lal Bahadur Shastri on their birth anniversaries. He offered floral tributes at the portraits of the two leaders at his residence. "Gandhi's ideals such as truth, non-violence, cleanliness, and village self-governance continue to guide us even today. His sacrifices for the country's independence and the way he united and led the people remain eternally memorable. Let each one of us work towards building the clean, self-reliant, poverty-free society that Gandhiji dreamed of. As part of India's construction, let us walk the path shown by Gandhiji for a developed India and Swarna Andhra," the Chief Minister said. CM Naidu also paid tributes to Lal Bahadur Shastri, calling him a symbol of simplicity and a shining ex-

ample of patriotism and integrity. The slogan "Jai Jawan — Jai Kisan" that he gave, recognizing the role of soldiers in defending the nation and the role of farmers in ensuring the country's food security, will forever continue to inspire the people of the country. The leadership and dedication to duty shown by Lal Bahadur Shastri, even in difficult times, by prioritizing the interests of the nation, serves as an ideal for all of us. Let us take his aspirations as inspiration and work with dedication for the development of the country, he said.

Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan said that Mahatma Gandhi's unwavering faith in truth, non-violence and selfless service inspired a nation and continues to inspire generations. His vision of Gram Swaraj reminds us that the strength of Bharat begins at the grassroots. By strengthening our villages, empowering communities and encouraging self-reliance, we can build a stronger and more prosperous Bharat. Let us carry forward his ideals through our actions, our work and our service to society, he said. Pawan Kalyan also paid tribute to Lal Bahadur Shastri, saying his simplicity, integrity, humility and unwavering commitment to the nation remain an enduring example of public service. "Shastri Ji showed that true leadership does not need grandeur, but courage in difficult times, accountability in public life and dedication to the welfare of every citizen. His call of Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan honoured the soldier who protects our nation and the farmer who strengthens its food security. For today's generation, his life is a powerful reminder to live with integrity, serve with humility, take responsibility for our actions and place the nation above self. Remembering a life of simplicity, strength and service," said Pawan Kalyan.

Aurobindo Pharma subsidiary launches ADQUEY in US

Hyderabad: Acrotech Biopharma Inc., a subsidiary of Hyderabad-based Aurobindo Pharma Limited, has launched ADQUEY ointment in the United States, marking the company's official entry into the American dermatology market. ADQUEY is a non-steroidal, topical phosphodiesterase 4 (PDE4) inhibitor indicated for the treatment of mild-to-moderate atopic dermatitis in adults and pedi-

atric patients aged 2 years and older. Originally discovered and developed by Otsuka Pharmaceutical, the product is licensed to Acrotech for US commercialisation, a press release said. Ashish Anvekar, president of Acrotech Biopharma, said, "We are establishing a dedicated dermatology platform designed to support ADQUEY today while creating the capabilities to pursue additional opportunities."

Service to poor 2.0 prog held



Nallamada: The "Service to the Poor 2.0" program was launched in Nallamada on Thursday, highlighting welfare schemes and rural development. District officials detailed initiatives like free medical tests via '104' vehicles, the 'Thalliki Vandanam' educational support, and agricultural funds under 'Annadatha Sukhibhava'. Leaders also spotlighted

major economic drivers, including a Rs 1 lakh crore Horticulture Hub and the Rs 15,000 crore BHEL-ADA project. Local leaders urged public participation in safeguarding community assets, while community mentors acting as 'Margadarsis' were felicitated. RDO Suvarna, Tahsildar Manoj Kumar Reddy, and local residents participated.

Min Farooq launches pension distribution at Polur village



Kurnool: The Andhra Pradesh government is disbursing NTR Bharosa pensions worth approximately Rs 194 crore every month to over four lakh beneficiaries across Kurnool and Nandyal districts, ensuring timely financial assistance. State Law and Minority Welfare Minister NMD Farooq, alongside Nandyal District Collector G Rajakumari, participated in the pension distribution programme at Polur village on Thursday. Simultaneously, Industries and Commerce Minister TG Bharath Gupta and Kurnool District Collector Dr A Siri took part in the 'Pedala Sevalo' programme at Birlagadda. Minister Farooq emphasized the government's commitment to delivering

pensions on the first of every month, expressing joy over interacting with beneficiaries. Collector G Raja Kumari stated that 2.09 lakh beneficiaries in Nandyal receive nearly Rs 92 crore monthly across 16 categories, directing officials to rigorously scrutinize single-women pension applications. In Kurnool, Collector Dr A Siri noted that over two lakh recipients receive approximately Rs 102 crore monthly, with door-to-door deliveries managed through the Swarna Grama-Swarna Ward programme. Minister TG Bharath Gupta urged beneficiaries to make effective use of welfare schemes, as both districts prioritize transparency and prompt grievance resolution.

Global Horticulture Hub to be launched in Madanapalle

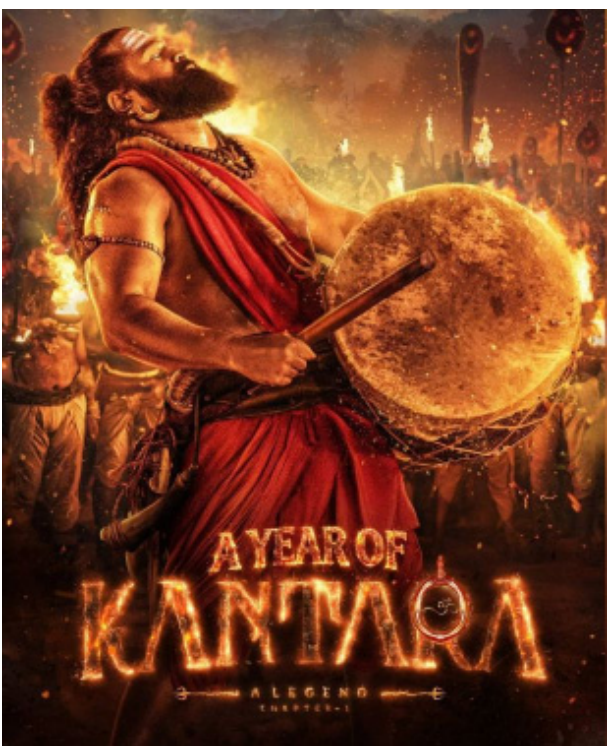
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works by June 2029. About Rs 40,352 crore of government expenditure is planned, including Rs 20,884 crore for irrigation, Rs 15,000 crore for horticulture development and Rs 4,562 crore for roads. Irrigation works will include filling Nallamala Sagar, completing Phase-II of the Veligonda project and taking up works under Handri-Neeva and Galeru-Nagari projects. Restoration of minor irrigation tanks will also be given priority. The plan includes construction of 5,721 km of rural roads to connect farms with markets. The project will promote crops such as mango, banana, tomato, pomegranate, dragon fruit, avocado and berries. Food processing plants and export facilities are also proposed, with private investment being encouraged. Farmer Producer Organisations will be linked

with processing units to improve market access and value addition for farmers. As part of the Rayalaseema Rising initiative, the leaders will also lay the foundation for the Indian School of Agriculture (ISA) at Madanapalle. Reliance Industries Executive Director Anant Ambani is expected to attend the event. The ISA is being established on the lines of the Indian School of Business, with a focus on making agriculture and allied sectors more profitable. It will provide technology-based solutions to farmers and offer guidance on digital agriculture, precision farming, crop monitoring, smart irrigation and market intelligence. The institute will also advise farmers on demand-based crop cultivation and promote agricultural start-ups through incubation centres. The state government has said the initiative is aimed at strengthening agriculture through technology, scientific research and better market linkages.

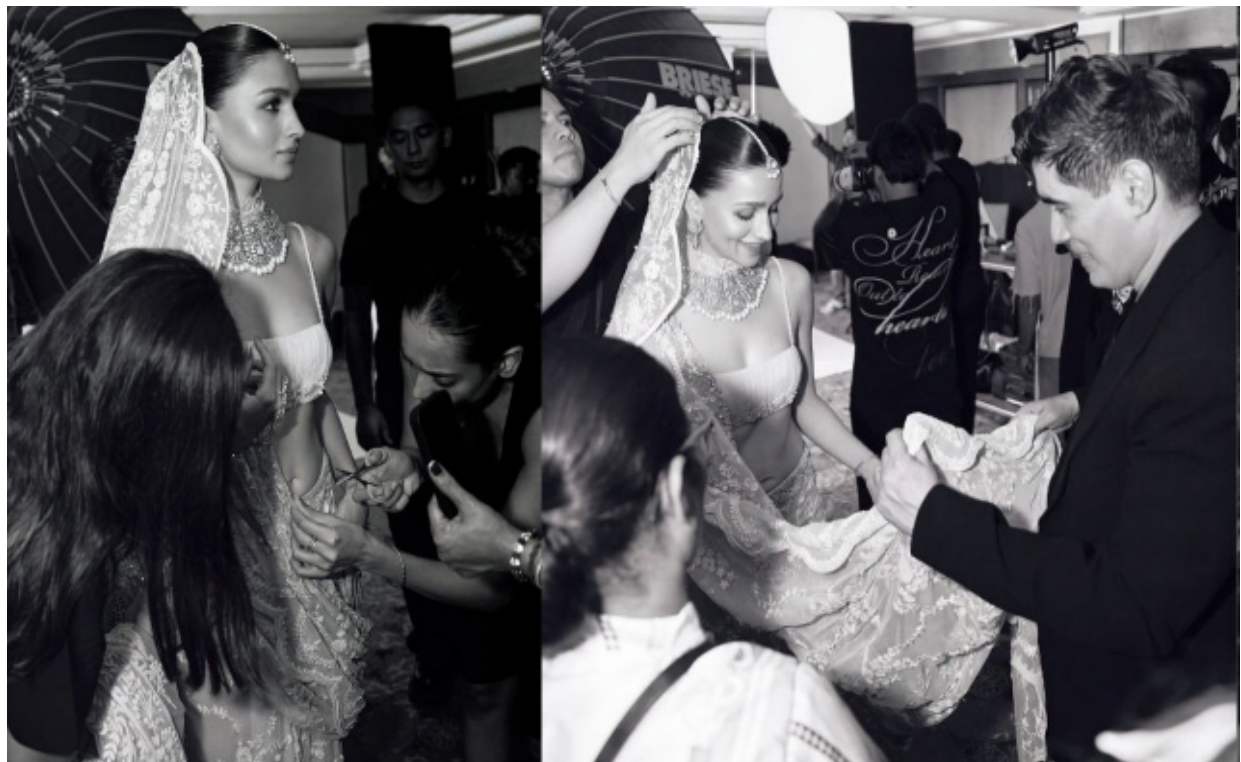
Rishab Shetty thanks ‘Kantara Chapter 1’ team as film completes one year

Bengaluru: A year after ‘Kantara Chapter 1’ made its way to the big screens globally, Rishab Shetty has reflected on the journey of making the film and the larger world of ‘Kantara’ that has stayed deeply connected to its roots, culture and people. For Shetty, bringing ‘Kantara Chapter 1’ to audiences came with a different kind of responsibility. The film was a prequel to a story that had already received immense love, making the task of going back to its roots and expanding its world both challenging and deeply personal. Reflecting on the experience, Rishab Shetty wrote, “The biggest challenge was to bring this prequel to an audience that had already showered Kantara with immense love. To give a prelude, go deeper into its roots, and tell a story that carries the soul of the land was both a responsibility and a privilege.” A major part of that journey, he acknowledged, was the team that worked alongside him to bring the story to life. Expressing his gratitude, Shetty said, “My heartfelt thanks to every single member of my team who stood as my backbone.” While the making of the film was a journey in itself, it was the audience’s response that remained particularly memorable for the filmmaker. Looking back at the moments following the film’s release, he wrote, “The satisfaction I saw on the faces of the audience is still fresh in my mind. That moment, that silence, that applause, and the love that followed will always remain



special to me.” The reflection comes at a significant point in the ‘Kantara’ journey. What began with the first film five years ago has now grown into two stories, with ‘Kantara Chapter 1’ taking the narrative further back into the world and origins that form the foundation of the franchise. Shetty expressed hope that the same love and support would continue for everything that lay ahead. “I hope that your love, blessings, and support will continue to be with us in the same way for all our future efforts,” he shared. Summing up the journey in a few words, Shetty wrote, “Five years... Two stories... One dream... An unforgettable journey. I will forever be grateful for all your love.”

Manish Malhotra shares behind-the-scenes moments from Mijwan show with Alia Bhatt



Mumbai: Fashion designer Manish Malhotra gave a glimpse into the behind-the-scenes moments from his Mijwan show. He shared pictures featuring actress Alia Bhatt. Taking to Instagram, Manish shared a series of backstage photographs capturing the excitement and rush before the models walked the ramp. The pictures offered glimpses of the last-minute preparations, model line-up and the lively atmosphere behind the fashion show. Sharing the moments, the celebrity designer wrote, “It’s always the Backstage last minute final touches, the anxiousness, the model line up waiting to go on the ramp, the chaos, the feeling all of it has my heart #15yearsofMijwan.” The designer’s post celebrated 15 years of Mijwan and highlighted the emotions and energy that go into putting together the show. The first picture showed Manish helping Alia Bhatt drape her Chikankari saree. In another frame, members of his team could be seen making final adjustments to Alia’s outfit. The photo carou-

sel also featured several models as they prepared to walk the ramp. Alia Bhatt and Vicky Kaushal, who will share the screen in the upcoming film “Love And War,” recently stole the spotlight as showstoppers at designer Manish Malhotra’s Mijwan showcase in Mumbai on September 26. The actors walked the runway in strikingly different ivory and midnight-blue ensembles from the designer’s latest collection. The event celebrated 15 years of Manish’s association with the Mijwan Welfare Society. The showcase highlighted intricate chikankari and thread embroidery, with the collection featuring a palette of ivory, green, coral and ombré hues. Alia Bhatt walked the ramp in a custom ivory chikankari saree designed by Manish. Styled by Rhea Kapoor, she paired the traditional drape with a contemporary blouse and completed the ensemble with a matching veil. The ‘Uri’ actor complemented Alia in a striking midnight-blue and ivory sherwani ensemble from Manish Malhotra’s Mijwan collection.

Abbas–Mustan introduce Amar, Akbar and Anthony as new-age ‘3 Monkeys’ on Gandhi Jayanti



Mumbai: Filmmaker duo Abbas–Mustan marked Gandhi Jayanti by introducing the new-age trio of Amar, Akbar, and Anthony from their upcoming thriller 3 Monkeys. The makers unveiled the first poster and motion poster of the film on social media, introducing Vishal Jethwa as Amar, Mustafa Burmawala as Akbar, and Tenzin Dalha as Anthony. The campaign draws from the familiar philosophy associated with the Three Wise Monkeys — “Bura Mat Dekho, Bura Mat Suno, Bura Mat Bolo”—but turns it into a new-age mantra: “Sab Dekho. Apni Suno. Bekhauf Bolo.” Speaking about the film, Abbas–Mustan told IANS, “Our 3 Monkeys Amar, Akbar, and Anthony carry the Sab Dekho. Apni Suno. Bekhauf Bolo attitude. They are mischievous and unpredictable, and they seem to be enjoying what they are doing, even when the situation is dangerous. But with an Abbas–Mustan film, what you see is not necessarily the whole truth.” The motion poster first features the familiar Three Wise Monkeys before introducing Amar, Akbar, and Anthony as

three masked men who appear to be involved in something dangerous, while also displaying a mischievous and carefree attitude. The film also stars Arjun Rampal, who plays Sanjay. Sanjay’s entry adds another layer of mystery to the motion poster. He is seen armed and appears to have some connection with the three masked men, but the film does not reveal what that connection is. Whether Sanjay is after the 3 Monkeys, working with them, or involved in something else remains unclear. The makers have kept the plot details closely guarded, leaving questions around whether Amar, Akbar, and Anthony are involved in a robbery, a planned heist, or something more complicated. Produced by Allarakha Vohra, Faruk Vohra, and Sayeed Vohra, with Anand Tiwari as associate producer, “3 Monkeys” is directed by Abbas–Mustan and presented by AJ Film Entertainment World. The film stars Arjun Rampal, Vishal Jethwa, Mustafa Burmawala, and Tenzin Dalha and is scheduled to release in cinemas worldwide on December 4, 2026.

Amala Akkineni launches ‘Shiva Rupaya Vishnave: Part One’



Hyderabad: Amala Akkineni, Director of the Annapurna College of Film and Media (ACFM), launched Shiva Rupaya Vishnave: Part One – The Warhorse and The Dancer, the debut novel by S.S. Krishna Kiriti, an alumnus of ACFM’s 2018 batch. Published by Mayasabha Publications, the novel marks the beginning of The Shiva Rupaya Vishnave Trilogy, a literary-historical journey spanning eight centuries of South Indian history. The launch brought together students, alumni and guests of the Annapurna College of Film and Media to celebrate the literary debut of one of its alumni. Written

in English and rooted in Telugu cultural and historical traditions, the novel combines literary fiction, historical fiction, mythology and philosophical inquiry, covering the majority world of the 11th and 12th centuries, along with parts of the 8th and 15th centuries and the wider history of South India, a press release said. A unique feature of the novel is an original song written by the author, composed by Mani Sharma and sung by S P Balasubrahmanyam. The song is accessible through a QR code within the book as part of the reading experience, it added.

India eye bowling improvement as West Indies await in 3rd ODI



New Chandigarh: India’s under-fire bowling unit faces a stern test of redemption when it takes on the West Indies in the third and final ODI at the New PCA Stadium on Saturday. Although the hosts hold an unassailable 2-0 lead, making Saturday’s game a dead rubber, the narrative surrounding the series has been dominated by excessively batter-friendly pitches in Thiruvananthapuram and Guwahati, where a whopping 811 runs were scored. It prompted India head coach Gautam Gambhir to publicly call for a more even contest between bat and ball. While the top-order batters have flourished, India’s new-ball bowling attack has floundered, picking up just one wicket in the opening 10 overs of the first two matches while conceding 177 runs during the mandatory powerplay. Veteran left-arm spin-bowling all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja is also under increasing pressure to deliver with the ball, especially with the ODI World Cup now exactly a year away. Left-arm wrist-spinner Kuldeep Yadav has lacked support in the middle overs, putting the spotlight firmly on Jadeja, who has managed to take only three wickets in his last eight ODI appearances. In stark contrast, captain Shubman Gill has dominated with the bat, hitting an unbeaten 223, the second double century of his ODI career, to spearhead a record-breaking chase of 406 after scoring a dazzling century in Thiruvananthapuram. Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli have also dazzled, and India will hope the duo, along with local lad Gill, shines once more. India’s bowling combination for Saturday’s clash presents further complications. Fast bowler Prasidh Krishna has been ruled out with

a left hamstring injury, with uncapped Anshul Kamboj drafted into the squad as his replacement. Pacer Mohammed Siraj could return to the XI after sitting out the first two matches. However, Siraj has struggled for rhythm since the Test tour of Sri Lanka and took just one wicket from 41 overs in the Duleep Trophy final last month. With Jasprit Bumrah rested and the likes of Gurnoor Brar and Auqib Nabi still new to the national team set-up, Saturday’s match offers a crucial testing ground for India’s back-up bowling options. For the West Indies, despite losing the series, opener John Campbell and captain Shai Hope have provided solid platforms. The visitors, who may still be without Justin Greaves due to a calf injury sustained while scoring 101 in Thiruvananthapuram, will rely on middle-order power-hitters Sherfane Rutherford, Roston Chase and Keemo Paul to convert those starts as they look to avoid a 3-0 series defeat. Where to watch: The match will be shown live on Star Sports Network channels and streamed on the JioHotstar app and website.

Squads:
India: Shubman Gill (captain), Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli, Ruturaj Gaikwad, KL Rahul (vc & wk), Dhruv Jurel (wk), Nitish Kumar Reddy, Ravindra Jadeja, Kuldeep Yadav, Gurnoor Brar, Mohammed Siraj, Auqib Nabi, Yashasvi Jaiswal, Naman Dhir and Anshul Kamboj. West Indies: John Campbell, Justin Greaves, Keacy Carty, Shai Hope (captain & wk), Amir Jangoo, Jewel Andrew, Roston Chase, Matthew Forde, Gudakesh Motie, Alzarri Joseph, Jayden Seales, Keemo Paul, Sherfane Rutherford, Shamar Joseph and Vitel Lawes.

Asian Games: Wrestling: Sujeet Kalkal beats Kudiyevev 10-9 for 65kg gold

Nishio: Sujeet Kalkal ended India’s wait for a wrestling gold at the Asian Games 2026 with a stunning comeback victory in the men’s freestyle 65kg category, overcoming Tajikistan’s Abdulmazzhid Kudiyevev 10-9 in a dramatic final at the Nagoya City Inae Sports Center on Friday. For most of the match, the 23-year-old Indian was trailing 2-9 before pulling off a remarkable late rally by scoring eight consecutive points to overturn the deficit and secure India’s first wrestling gold at the Games. Kalkal’s triumph capped an impressive run in Aichi-Nagoya, during which he had already beaten Olympic champion Kotaro Kiyooka of Japan and overcome tough opponents from Iran and Afghanistan on his way to the final. The Indian wrestler began his campaign against Afghanistan’s Sayed Omar Zazai and suffered an early setback after falling 0-3 behind. Kalkal then changed the course of the match by scoring a push-out and a shoulder throw to take a 5-3 lead. He then scored four additional points with another throw and a roll, securing a 13-3 technical superiority win and progressing to the quarter finals. Kalkal then produced a clinical performance against Iran’s Abbas Ebrah



imzadehsavadkouhi and won by technical superiority without conceding a single point. The semifinal against Japan’s Olympic champion Kotaro Kiyooka was his biggest challenge. Although Kalkal trailed 0-2 at the end of the first period, he recovered in the second by scoring three points while Kiyooka managed one. The bout ended in a 3-3 draw, but Kalkal was declared the winner on criteria after scoring the bigger move, securing his place in the final against Kudiyevev. The Tajik wrestler appeared to be within touching distance of gold after establishing a 9-2 lead, but Kalkal refused to give in and mounted a stunning comeback in the closing stages. He scored eight points in succession to overturn the deficit and secure a memorable 10-9 victory, winning his first Asian Games gold medal in dramatic fashion.

Asian Games Boxing: Parveen Hooda seals India’s second women’s gold

Nishio: Parveen Hooda ended her long wait for an Asian Games medal in style as the 26-year-old Indian boxer clinched gold in the women’s 65kg category, giving India its second women’s boxing gold at the ongoing Asian Games 2026. Parveen won the closely contested final against Chen Nien-chin of Chinese Taipei on Friday, following Olympic bronze medallist Lovlina Borgohain’s earlier gold in the women’s 75kg event. The Rohtak-born boxer began well by winning the first round 5-0, but Chen responded in the second round and also won it 5-0. In the final round, Parveen kept her composure and won it 3-2, thus securing the gold medal. This achievement represents a major milestone for Parveen, who had earlier secured a gold medal at the 2025 World Cup, won a bronze at the 2022 World Championships and claimed gold at the 2022 Asian Championships. Parveen is now the third Indian woman to win a gold medal at the Asian Games; legendary MC Mary Kom had won the women’s 51kg event at the 2014 Asian Games in Incheon, while Lovlina added her second gold earlier on Friday. Lovlina, who turned 29 on Friday, secured India’s first women’s boxing gold in 12 years in the



75kg final by beating China’s Bao Ziyi 5-0. The woman who won a bronze medal at the Tokyo Olympics improved on the silver medal she had earned at the last edition with a dominant performance against Bao, securing herself a perfect birthday present. Lovlina is also only the second Indian woman since Mary Kom to have won a boxing gold medal at the Asian Games and an Olympic medal. Mary Kom won the flyweight (51kg) title at the Asian Games in Incheon in 2014 and also secured a bronze medal at the Olympic Games in London in 2012. On the same day that Parveen and Lovlina won gold medals, India achieved a historic double in women’s boxing at the Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games.

Pranavi Urs takes lead after Day 3 of Asian Games golf

Kasugai: Pranavi Urs continued her strong run in the women’s individual stroke play to sit on top of the board after Day 3 of the golf event at the Kasugai Country Club East Course here on Friday. Pranavi shot a four-under 66 on Day 3 to sit at -15 after the first three days of the women’s individual stroke play. She hit five birdies and a bogey to jump from second after Day 2 to the top spot after Day 3. She has a strong chance of winning a medal going into the final day of the event. However, Indian men golfers endured another tough day as they remained out of medal positions after the three days, with Veer Ahlawat sitting at 10th spot with six-under 204 across the three days. In the men’s team event, India dropped from fifth spot to sixth place. While the men’s team needs to put in a lot of effort on the final day, Pranavi and the women’s team would fancy their chances of two medals. Pranavi leads with Singapore’s Shannnon Tan (-12) in second, followed by China’s Ruoning Yin (-11). She has a nine-stroke lead over the fourth-placed Sophie Han of Hong Kong (-6) but would be aware not to let the advantage slip on the final day, as was seen with Aditi Ashok, who was first after Day 3 but slipped to second for a silver. Diksha Dagar and Aditi Ashok did not have a great time for another day as they remained joint 18th with five-over 215 in the stroke play. Meanwhile, in the women’s team event, India



jumped from the third spot to the second place with a four-under 136 score. Scores of top two golfers from a nation are counted for the team event. India have a combined 11-under 409 after three days and sit second behind toppers China (-15) but ahead of Hong Kong, China (-9) and fourth-ranked Chinese Taipei (6). In the men’s event, Saptak Talwar continued dropping down as he went to 11th spot after Day 3 with a total six-under 205. He was joint third with a four-under 66 after Day 1 and joint seventh after a combined six-under 134 after two days. Veer is up from joint 16th to 10 after Day 3 as he carded five-under 65 on Day 3 to tally -6. In the men’s team, India dropped from fifth to sixth.

Yuzvendra Chahal ends first-class career, remains committed to ODIs and T20Is

New Delhi: Veteran Indian leg-spinner Yuzvendra Chahal on Friday announced his retirement from first-class cricket, acknowledging that his long-cherished dream of earning a Test cap was no longer within reach, while adding that he remains committed to competing in white-ball formats. Chahal, who has represented India in 72 ODIs and 80 T20Is, never got the opportunity to don the Test whites despite a 17-year career in domestic and county cricket. His last international appearance came during a T20I against the West Indies in August 2023. “The first cricket ball I ever held was a red ball. I was 10 years old, and I had no idea then



how deeply I would fall in love with this game. For me, red-ball cricket was never just another format. It was where I learned the meaning of patience, character, resilience and the pure joy of being out there for hours, fighting for every run and every wicket.

PIB debunks fake order claiming all saturdays are public holidays for public sector banks

New Delhi: The Press Information Bureau's (PIB) Fact Check unit on Thursday dismissed as fake a purported government gazette notification circulating on social media that claims the Centre has declared every Saturday a public holiday for all public sector banks, including the State Bank of India (SBI). In a post on social media platform X, PIB Fact Check clarified that no such notification has been issued by the Ministry of Finance's Department of Financial Services. The agency said the document being shared online is fake and does not represent any official government order. "A Gazette circulating on social media, purportedly issued by the Ministry of Finance (Department of Financial Services), claims that the Central Government has declared every Saturday a public holiday for all Public Sector Banks, including SBI. The document being circulated is fake," it said. The fact-checking unit urged the public not to rely on unverified documents circulating on social media and advised citizens to verify government-related information through official channels before sharing it further. "No such notification has been issued by Finance Ministry declaring every Saturday as public holiday for public sector banks," it said. "Flag suspicious content related to the Central Government to PIB Fact Check," it added. The clarification came after the widely circulated document claimed that all public sector banks would remain closed every Saturday following a purported decision by the Central



Government. However, PIB Fact Check firmly denied the claim, stating that no notification declaring every Saturday as a public holiday for public sector banks has been issued by the Finance Ministry. PIB also encouraged people to report suspicious content related to the Central Government to its Fact Check team to help curb the spread of misinformation online. This comes after the United Forum of Bank Unions (UFBU) last week deferred its three-day nationwide strike early next week, following an eleventh-hour meeting with the Indian Banks' Association (IBA). According to a statement released by the bank union, the IBA and UFBU met on Sunday. After talks, both sides agreed to defer the nationwide bank strike.

OMCs raise commercial LPG rates; aviation fuel price increased from October 1



New Delhi: State-owned oil marketing companies (OMCs) have increased commercial LPG rates by Rs 62.50 per 19-kg cylinder effective from Thursday in line with firming international benchmark prices. Apart from that, aviation turbine fuel (ATF) prices were also increased by Rs 16 per litre. ATF prices for domestic airlines have been increased to Rs 137 per litre from Rs 121 per litre. However, the latest hike follows an increase of Rs 6.28 per litre or 5.46 per cent in September and Rs 5 per litre in August. ATF accounts for up to 40 per cent of an airline's operating costs which makes fuel prices a key component of carriers' expenses. Moreover, commercial LPG prices were increased by Rs 62.50 per 19-kg cylinder following a Rs 9.50 increase in September after rates were cut by Rs 192 in August and Rs 183.50 in July. Commercial LPG prices had surged to a record high

in June amid disruptions to global energy supplies and elevated international prices. In addition, rates had risen by Rs 1,373 per 19-kg cylinder between February and June from Rs 1,740.50 to Rs 3,113.50 before declining in July and August. However, prices of domestic LPG are kept unchanged at Rs 942. Prices of these segment cylinders had risen by Rs 89 per cylinder between March and June amid supply disruptions linked to the West Asia crisis and a surge in international energy prices. The latest revisions are based on movements in international benchmark prices and the rupee-dollar exchange rate. ATF and LPG prices are revised on the first day of every month and may vary across states due to local taxes such as VAT. Additionally, fuel — petrol and diesel — prices that were increased earlier in May also have remained unchanged.

Rupee hits over two-month low at 96.31 against dollar



Mumbai: The rupee slumped below the psychologically important 96-per-dollar mark on Thursday to close at 96.31 (provisional) against the US dollar, its lowest level in more than two months, amid risk aversion in global markets, surging global bond yields and selling pressure from foreign investors. Forex traders said the rupee is expected to trade with a negative bias amid risk aversion in global markets and concerns over rising global Treasury yields. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened at 95.95 and then lost ground to touch an intraday low of 96.34 against the US dollar. At the end of Thursday's trading session, the domestic unit was quoted at 96.31 (provisional) against the greenback, down 37 paise from its previous close. On Wednesday, the rupee pared gains to settle flat at 95.94 against the US dollar. "We expect the rupee to trade with a negative bias on risk aversion in global markets and worries over rising global Treasury yields. A strong dollar and surge in global crude oil prices may further pressurise the rupee," said Anuj Choudhary, Research Analyst, Mirae Asset Sharekhan. Choudhary further noted that uncertainty

over a US-Iran deal may also pressurise the rupee. However, any intervention by the RBI may support the rupee at lower levels. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the strength of the greenback against a basket of six currencies, was trading at 101.90, higher by 0.45 per cent. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, was trading 2.54 per cent higher at USD 100.52 per barrel in futures trade. On the domestic equity market front, the Sensex dropped 570.59 points to settle at 71,909.70, while the Nifty tanked 198.50 points to 22,421.95. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth Rs 10,148.41 crore on a net basis on Wednesday, according to exchange data. On the domestic macroeconomic front, India's manufacturing sector activity growth touched a seven-month high in September, boosted by accelerating new orders and output. The seasonally adjusted HSBC India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) rose by more than two index points in September to 55.1 from 52.8 in August, signalling the strongest improvement in the health of the sector in seven months.

FSSAI suspends licences of two food firms over serious hygiene, safety violations

New Delhi: The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) on Thursday suspended the licences of TCF Chocolates and Gifts and Shivam Agro after inspections uncovered serious food safety and hygiene lapses at their facilities. The action was initiated after a consumer complaint related to food ordered through an e-commerce platform prompted an inspection of TCF Chocolates and Gifts. During the inspection, FSSAI officials found poor hygiene and sanitation standards, pest infestation, cat droppings and uncovered drainage in food processing areas. The regulator also identified the presence of expired food colours and flavours at the premises. Cleaning chemicals were reportedly stored close to raw materials and food-related items, raising concerns about contamination risks. In addition, food-handler hygiene and protective practices were found to be inadequate, including lapses in jewellery control measures. FSSAI noted that TCF Chocolates and Gifts had recorded a compliance score of only 14 per cent during a previous inspection owing to the non-availability of required documentation. "The licences of FBOs Shivam Agro and TCF Chocolates & Gifts Private Limited have been suspended with immediate effect following serious food safety violations identified during inspection," the food regulator stated. Similar violations were detected at Shivam Agro, where inspectors observed flies, garbage, stagnant sewage water and spider infestation at the facility. The regulator said cleaning of floors, equipment, walls and ceilings was inadequate, while



evidence of rodent activity and ineffective pest-control measures was also found. The inspection further revealed improper storage practices, with food ingredients and non-food items kept together. Food products were also stored in corridors and temporary storage areas, contrary to prescribed safety norms. According to FSSAI, rusting and corroded equipment were found at the facility. Iron and ferrous tanks and vessels were being used for blending edible oil, and the company could not satisfactorily demonstrate their suitability for food-contact applications. The regulator also flagged the absence of a functional in-house laboratory at Shivam Agro and said the company failed to produce records of periodic testing of finished food products during the inspection. Both companies were found to have labelling deficiencies. While TCF Chocolates and Gifts did not adequately declare food product names on labels, Shivam Agro was found to have incorrectly declared serving information and cholesterol content on a plant-based edible oil product. Following the findings, FSSAI has directed both firms to immediately cease all food business activities during the suspension period.

People's Participation Needed for Swachh Eluru District: Collector Vetri Selvi



Eluru, October, 2: District Collector K. Vetriselvi called that 'Swachh Eluru District' is possible only with public participation, and everyone should become partners in shaping the district as Swachh Eluru District. Speaking as part of SwarnaAndhra Swachh Andhra Swachh Eluru program, Collector Vetriselvi said cleanliness should become part of our life. She said cleanliness should first start from our own home. She said everyone should take responsibility for cleanliness of surroundings, not throw garbage from their house on roads, and separate garbage in house into wet waste and dry waste and hand it over to staff coming for garbage collection to house. She said cleanliness is very important for healthy surroundings, and everyone should give importance to personal and surroundings cleanliness and work to achieve SwarnaAndhra-SwachhAndhra goals. She said awareness of cleanliness should be given to our children from childhood. She said we achieved 4th place at national level in 'Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan' by reducing air pollution in Eluru city, and similarly our district also achieved Swachh Awards at state level in sanitation management, and congratulated officials for that. She said with same spirit, efforts should be made to

achieve Swachh awards for Eluru district at national and state level in future. She said plastic usage in district should also be controlled, 'Swachh Rathas' in district will come to you to collect plastic waste, and if you give plastic items you have to them, they will give you essential commodities in return. On this occasion, floral garlands were placed on portrait of Gandhiji and on portraits of former Prime Minister of India Lal Bahadur Shastri on the occasion of their birth anniversary and paid rich tributes. On this occasion, Collector presented awards to individuals, organizations, Gram Panchayats, representatives of urban local bodies who showed best performance in cleanliness, sanitation sectors. On this occasion, District Collector K. Vetriselvi administered Swachhata pledge with people and officials. Joint Collector Dr. M.J. Abhishek Gowda, District Panchayat Officer G.V.K. Mallikarjunarao, Eluru Municipal Corporation Commissioner A. Bhanupratap, DEO Venkatalakshamma, ICDS PD Sarada, MEPMA PD Rajababu, SETWEL CEO Prabhakara Rao, DMHO Dr. Shobha, Dwaraka Tirumala Venkateswara Swamy Devasthanam EO Vendra Trinadha Rao, officials of various departments participated in the program.

Everyone Should Follow Mahatma Gandhi's Paths of Truth Non-violence, PeaceIt is Responsibility of Everyone to Pass Gandhiji's Ideals to Present Generation... District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha

Vijayawada: October 2, 2026. District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha said that noble ideals like truth, non-violence, peace, equality, cleanliness shown by Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi are exemplary for everyone. She said that by putting Gandhiji's ideals into practice, peace, harmony, brotherhood in society will be further strengthened. On the occasion of Mahatma Gandhi Jayanthi on Friday, District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha garlanded portrait of Mahatma Gandhi and paid rich tributes. On this occasion, she recalled the invaluable services rendered by Gandhiji to the country and the key role he played in freedom movement. Collector said that Satyagraha and non-violence paths followed by Mahatma Gandhi for achieving independence of India stood as ideal to the world. She said Gandhiji played key role in bringing people together and infusing consciousness in freedom

movement. Collector said that truth, non-violence, cleanliness, social equality, human values taught by Gandhiji are also very important for today's society. She said there is need to introduce these values to children and youth from childhood and encourage them to put them into practice. She suggested to inculcate values like honesty, responsibility, discipline, mutual respect in public life. She said every person in society can contribute to building of society dreamt by Gandhiji by behaving with respect, tolerance, humanitarian perspective towards others. District Collector suggested that Mahatma Gandhi gave utmost importance to cleanliness, and in accordance with his ideals, everyone should take cleanliness of surroundings as their responsibility. She said along with personal cleanliness, public participation is needed in cleanliness of surroundings and protection of public places. Collector said taking Gandhiji's

On the Occasion of Mahatma Gandhi Jayanthi, "Prisoners' Welfare Day" Celebrated Grandly in Vijayawada District Jail Gandhiji's Paths of Truth, Non-violence Should be Adopted Additional District & Sessions Judge Sri M. Sunil Kumar Do Not Own Up to Crimes Not Committed for Financial Benefits



Judge's Advice to PrisonersOn the occasion of Mahatma Gandhi's 157th Jayanthi, "Prisoners' Welfare Day" was celebrated grandly on Friday at local District Jail. Hon'ble II Additional District & Sessions Judge Sri M. Sunil Kumar attended as chief guest for this program. Firstly, floral garlands were placed on statue of Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi and paid rich tributes. Later speaking in the meeting held, Judge M. Sunil Kumar called that to bring true transformation in prisoners, Gandhiji's preached principles of truth and non-violence should be practiced in life. He clarified to stay away from illegal paths, and not to take on head crimes committed by others only for financial gains. He explained with examples that jail life

should be turned into opportunity to inculcate good conduct, and to take right decisions in life and step into society as complete persons. After that, Hon'ble Judge visited jail premises and examined facilities being provided. On this occasion, Jail Superintendent Mr. Mohammed Irfan felicitated the Judge grandly. Cultural programs were organized for prisoners on occasion of Welfare Day. Also prizes were presented by chief guest to prisoners who showed talent in various sports, essay writing and other competitions. Legal advocates, social workers, District Jail Medical Officer Sri Roshan Mian, Jailers N. Ganesh, Ch. Venu, Deputy Jailer B. Gopayya Naik and jail staff in large number participated in the program and made the program successful.

Employees Went to Hospital Itself and Delivered Pension

Kamavarapukota, October 2, "Ravikampadu, Adamilli secretariat staff proved that job means public service. Shaik Syed Baji under Ravikampadu secretariat limits is undergoing treatment at Guntur Government Hospital. Village Surveyor K. Anil Kumar himself went to Guntur Government Hospital on Friday and handed over monthly pension to Shaik Syed Baji. Similarly, Parepalli Surachari belonging to Adamilli is undergoing treat-

ment at Jangareddygudem hospital. Secretariat employee Naveen went to Jangareddygudem and handed over pension amount. Families concerned thanked the employees who provided pension money for need at time of being in hospital during emergency. Former Sarpnches of respective villages Gudapati Keshava Rao, Vemula Srinu and people of respective villages who came to know about this are expressing happiness.



service spirit as ideal, officials and staff should work with commitment to provide better services to people. She suggested to strive to solve public problems with sympathy and

responsibly. District officials and staff participated in this program. Floral garlands were placed on portrait of Mahatma Gandhi and paid rich tributes.