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No compromise on river waters

Our Hyderabad:15.08; CM Revanth Reddy said that there will be no compromise on Telangana's water rights. Chief Minister Revanth Reddy said that he will complete the pending projects and see the happiness in the eyes of the farmers. CM Revanth Reddy said that the Palamuru project will be completed soon and water will be provided to the farmers. The CM said that there will be no compromise on achieving Telangana's fair share of Krishna and Godavari waters. He said that the government will move forward towards completing the pending irrigation projects from Thummadihetti to



Palamuru on a priority basis and providing irrigation water up to the last ayacut. CM Revanth Reddy attended the Independence Day celebrations held at Golconda Fort on Saturday as the chief guest and unfurled the national flag. Speaking on the occasion, the CM said that

14th. He said that an integrated school is being constructed for the constituency. He said that more than 100 Telangana public schools will be constructed. He said that breakfast and midday meal are being provided in government schools. CM Revanth Reddy said that we are trying to lead the devastated state towards development. According to the latest RBI statistics, the per capita income of our state in 2025-26 is Rs. 4,18,931, while the per capita income of Telangana is almost 91 percent higher than the per capita income of the country, which is a

great achievement that shows the strength of our economy, the CM said. Also Read - One's own.. the other's own There is a scientific approach in every scheme The CM said that welfare is not seen as a promise for votes or as a promise, and that every scheme has a scientific approach. He said that welfare in his government is not calculated in terms of financial aspects or the rupees spent. CM Revanth Reddy reminded that this government has decided to make agriculture a festival and Rs. 36 thousand crores have been provided to farmers under Rythu Bharosa. He said that a total of Rs. 1.70 lakh crores have been spent for farmer welfare

From Bandhej to Leheriya: Tracing Modi's Independence Day turban tradition

New Delhi:15.august; When Prime Minister Narendra Modi first stepped onto the ramparts of the iconic Red Fort on August 15, 2014, he wore a deep red Jodhpuri Bandhej turban. That single choice quietly began a visual tradition that has become as anticipated as the speech itself. Twelve years later, on the 80th Independence Day, the Prime Minister once again sent a cultural message through his attire a striking red tie-and-dye Bandhej turban rooted in Rajasthani and Gujarati traditions, paired with a white kurta, chocolate-brown jacket and three pocket squares in saffron, white and green. Over the years, PM Modi's Independence Day turbans have evolved into a distinctive signature, each one carefully chosen to reflect a different facet of India's textile heritage and regional artistry. In 2015, he opted for a yellow and multi-coloured criss-cross turban. The following year brought a soft pink-and-yellow tie-and-



dye design. In 2017, deep red and yellow created a bold traditional contrast. Saffron dominated in 2018, while 2019 continued the celebration of classic Indian colours. During the pandemic year of 2020, he adapted the tradition with a white scarf edged in saffron that also served as a face covering. Cream and saffron returned in 2021 with a half-sleeved kurta. In 2022, a saffron turban with red motifs and long hanging ends was paired with a blue jacket. The 2023 Bandhani print in yellow, green and red added vibrant energy, followed by a colourful turban in 2024 and a bright Rajasthani Leheriya in orange, yellow and green in 2025. This year's return to a rich red Bandhej design brought the journey full circle while reaffirming the cultural continuity that has marked every Independence Day appearance since 2014. More than an accessory, the annual turban has become a quiet tribute to India's living craft traditions a reminder that national pride can also be woven in colour, pattern and heritage.

Ration card is the self-respect of the poor



Hyderabad;16.august; Sangareddy Bureau: CM Revanth Reddy said that the ration card is not just a piece of paper, it is the self-respect of the poor to satisfy their hunger. He said that the credit for bringing ration shops to distribute essential commodities to the poor belongs to the

Congress party. CM Revanth Reddy said that the idea of ??the people's government is that no poor person should go hungry in Indiramma's kingdom. The farmer has become king under the Congress rule. The Center has said that there are debt-free farmers in Telangana and

has promised to provide pensions to all the eligible people in the state. He expressed his anger that one person is talking about Sanna Biyyam, another about Indiramma's houses and another about Aarogyasri. CM Revanth Reddy formally launched the smart ration card,

Telangana farmers anxious as Congress govt fails to pay premium under Rythu Bima

Hyderabad,15.august; The farming community in Telangana is worried as the Congress government appears to have drawn the curtains on the popular Rythu Bima scheme, which has been implemented for the past eight years. The move comes at a time when farmers are already concerned about deficit rainfall due to El Nino and its impact on production. Under Rythu Bima, the State government provides insurance coverage of Rs 5 lakh to farmers in case of any eventuality. The government pays a premium of nearly Rs 1,350 crore towards the implementation of the scheme. The last date for payment of the premium to the Life Insurance Corporation of India was August 14. However, the State government has not paid the premium for the insurance coverage to be extended to farmers. As the premium has not been paid, the insurance coverage

would not be offered and no benefits would be available to the farmer's families. The previous BRS government had launched Rythu Bima with the intention of providing financial assistance to a farmer's family in case of his death. Under the scheme, all farmers aged between 18 and 59 years in a family were eligible for insurance coverage. If both husband and wife, as well as their children, were enrolled as farmers and possessed passbooks, they were covered under the scheme. Under the insurance arrangement, the government and farmers were required to share the premium cost. However, the previous government bore the farmers' share of the premium and extended the insurance coverage. Officials have remained tight-lipped over the reasons for failing to pay the premium. There are speculations that the Congress government would shortly launch



Indiramma Family Insurance, or Indiramma Kutumba Jeevitha Bima. In March, there was a formal announcement that the government would launch Indiramma Kutumba Jeevitha Bima, covering 1.15 crore families across the State. The scheme is likely to be launched on November 19 in connection with the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. However, there has been no official announcement on these plans and no guidelines have been issued so far. The government would conduct a door-to-

door survey to identify eligible beneficiaries under the scheme. Though the entire premium would be borne by the State government, the insurance amount is likely to be paid only in the event of the death of the registered head of the family or the primary breadwinner. The uncertainty over the implementation of Rythu Bima is leaving farmers worried. "When it comes to farmers' welfare, governments should set aside politics and strive for the benefit of ryots," said Yadagiri Reddy of Telangana Farmers Federation

Harish Rao hits back at CM Revanth, seeks Assembly debate on welfare claims

Hyderabad,15.august; The Bharat Rashtira Samithi (BRS) has given a point-by-point counter to Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's claims on welfare and development. It also demanded that he convene the Assembly to discuss his claims. BRS Deputy Floor Leader T Harish Rao strongly criticised the Chief Minister for resorting to personal attacks instead of speaking about Telangana's development and welfare. Countering the Chief Minister's remarks at a public meeting in Sangareddy on Independence Day, he said former Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao used his Independence Day addresses to speak about development, irrigation and

power. In contrast, Revanth Reddy had failed to present any meaningful account of development in Sangareddy district, he alleged. Referring to ration cards, Harish Rao said the State government had itself stated in the Assembly that the BRS government had issued 6,47,479 ration cards, benefiting around 20 lakh people. He said this contradicted the claims being made by the Chief Minister at public meetings. He said the Congress government had earlier imposed a ceiling of 20 kg of rice per family. The BRS government later removed the ceiling and provided six kilograms of rice per person, irrespective of family size. Harish Rao also challenged the Chief Minister's claim regarding



employment generation. He said that, in response to a question raised by him in the Assembly, the government had stated that only around 16,000 jobs had been provided after the Congress came to power. The Chief Minister, however, was now claiming that 70,000 jobs had been provided. "Revanth Reddy should apologise to unem-

ployed youth if the figures being cited at public meetings are incorrect," Harish Rao demanded. He recalled the Congress promise to provide two lakh jobs within one year. He also challenged the Chief Minister to visit Ashok Nagar, Dilsukhnagar and Osmania University areas without security personnel and face unemployed youth directly.

At Home at Lok Bhavan..

CM and ministers present



Hyderabad,15.august; On the occasion of Independence Day, the At Home program organized by Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla at Lok Bhavan was held grandly. Chief Minister Revanth Reddy participated in this program. Along with the CM, Legislative Assembly Speaker

Gaddam Prasad Kumar, Ministers N. Uttam Kumar Reddy, Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy, High Court Chief Justice Justice Apares Kumar Singh, MPs, MLAs, High Court judges, Chief Secretary to the government, State DGP, high officials, and city dignitaries participated.

'Saptadhara' for a developed India

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday announced a 'Sapta Dhara' action plan with seven key energy streams to make India a developed country by 2047. He mentioned seven sectors - manufacturing, agriculture-food production, technology-innovation, transport-infrastructure, defence, green-blue economy and soft power - as the main driving forces for the country's development. Ad-

ressing the nation from the ramparts of the Red Fort on the occasion of the 80th Independence Day, Modi recalled the 'Sapta Sindhu', which had previously symbolized India's power. He said that new energy streams are now needed to build a developed India. The country needs a new stream. Modi said that he is putting these seven energy streams in front of the country from the ramparts of the Red Fort. He



said that in the next five to seven years, the combined strength of these seven

forces will give the country the ability to achieve new peaks, speed and new goals.

The fluttering of the tricolor flag on Karregutta hill is a matter of pride: Amit Shah



New Delhi,15.august; Union Home Minister Amit Shah said that the tricolor is now flying proudly on the Karregutta hill, which was once a stronghold of Naxal terrorism. He said on social media 'X' that indepen-

dence celebrations are being held on the hill. He said that patriotism is now resonating where guns once roared, and that the tricolor flag fluttering on the red ground is a symbol of the strength, development

and self-confidence of a new Bastar free from Naxalism. The three-day Bastar Tiranga Yatra in Chhattisgarh reached the Karregutta hills on Friday after covering a distance of 600 km. A new chapter began in the region with the hoisting of the national flag. Chhattisgarh Deputy Chief Minister Vijay Sharma and Forest Minister Kedar Kashyap led a motorcycle rally during the Tiranga Yatra, while several public representatives, locals and community leaders participated. Karregutta is considered the last destination of Maoists on the

Chhattisgarh-Telangana border. Mohan Bhagwat hoists the national flag. Meanwhile, Independence Day celebrations were also held at the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh headquarters in Nagpur. RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat hoisted the tricolor flag. RSS volunteers and pracharaks participated in the ceremony, which was held amidst heavy security. RSS also organized Independence Day celebrations at the Dr. Hegdewar Smarak Mandir in Reshimbagh. Sangh workers participated in route marches at various places in Nagpur.

EDITORIAL

Mecca Agreement is a
wake-up call for India

The changing security equations in West Asia have now reached a point where they are also affecting South Asia. The latest example is the Mecca Collective Defense Agreement signed by Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, and Turkey. The main point of this agreement is that an armed attack on any of the three countries will be considered an attack on all three. The three countries will also work together in areas such as joint military exercises, training of defense forces, exchange of intelligence information, and technical cooperation. Although only three countries have signed this agreement so far, Egypt is also eager to join it. Military manpower, nuclear weapons capability, and war experience are Pakistan's strengths. Turkey has NATO experience, a developing defense industry, and modern weapons such as drones. Saudi Arabia has economic strength and abundant energy resources. The real purpose of this alliance seems to be to link the strengths of these three countries with each other. Needless to say, the extraordinary circumstances prevailing in West Asia were the reason for the emergence of this agreement. Rising military tensions between Iran and Israel, Iranian missile attacks on Gulf countries, the Gaza war, and differences between Israel and Turkey... all these are the reasons for the emergence of the latest alliance. Ironically, the three countries in this alliance have different security interests. India is the main challenge for Pakistan. Iran and Gulf security are the main issues for Saudi Arabia. Syria, the Kurdish issues, differences with Israel, and relations with Europe are key for Turkey. Achieving a consensus on a single military response amidst such diverse interests is not easy. That is why the future of the Mecca Agreement depends not on its declarations, but on its implementation. It will develop into a true security alliance only if systems such as a joint command, a coordinated surveillance system, joint military exercises, air defense cooperation, and linkages between defense industries are established. Saudi Arabia's dream is to conclude a NATO-style defense agreement. Although Muslim countries have called in the past for unity against terrorism, it has not materialized. The recent attacks and tensions in the Gulf countries have led to a new agreement. However, it is ridiculous for some to compare this alliance, which has not yet opened its eyes, to NATO and describe it as an 'Islamic alliance'. NATO has a common command structure, military infrastructure, decades of organizational experience, and a coordinated defense plan. The Mecca Agreement has none of these. Should the remaining countries necessarily engage in direct war if one member country is attacked? Or will they be limited to political, intelligence, and weapons assistance? Key issues still need to be clarified. There is no doubt that this alliance will expand further in the future. The names of other countries like Egypt and Qatar are already being mentioned. However, increasing the number of members alone is not the criterion for the success of the alliance.

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Irumudi Trailer: Ravi Teja blends devotion, family drama and action



Director Shiva Nirvana is known for family and romantic dramas, while Ravi Teja is best known for his mass entertainers and action-driven roles. Their combination in “Irumudi” appears to bring together these contrasting strengths. The trailer, released today, promises a family drama that gradually transforms into an intense action story with devotional elements.

The trailer begins by introducing Trinadh, played by Ravi Teja, as a doting father. Priya Bhavani Shankar plays his wife, while Baby Nakshatra is introduced as their daughter, Mani. The family’s simple and affectionate moments are shown alongside Trinadh’s devotion to Lord Ayyappa Swamy. The mood changes when the trailer reveals a series of abductions and killings of girl children in their village. This brings out another side of Trinadh, revealing the violent man beneath his calm and devoted persona. He becomes a man willing to go to any length to protect his daughter and other girl children. “Irumudi” appears to blend family drama, devotion and mass action while keeping some important elements under wraps. The trailer suggests that there could be a few surprises in store for audiences in the film. Ravi Teja looks refreshingly different and understated as a father, while Baby Nakshatra makes a cute impression as his daughter. Priya Bhavani Shankar also plays a key role in the family setup. Produced by Mythri Movie Makers, “Irumudi” is scheduled to hit the screens on August 21. GV Prakash Kumar has composed the music.

NTR recovering well after successful shoulder surgery, says KIMS bulletin



Actor NTR has successfully undergone shoulder surgery at KIMS Hospitals in Secunderabad, according to a health bulletin issued by the hospital on Wednesday, August 12. The actor recently sustained a shoulder injury and, following consultations and

follow-up care with a team of medical specialists, doctors determined that an arthroscopic surgery would help facilitate a quicker and more complete recovery.

The surgery was performed at KIMS Hospitals by a team of orthopedic surgeons led by Dr. R. A. Purnachandra Tejaswi, along with Dr. Nithin Bejjanki, Dr. Madhusudhan Rao and Dr. Srinivas Rao Surapaneni.

The hospital stated that the procedure was completely successful and that NTR is doing fine. He will now begin a structured rehabilitation programme under medical supervision. Doctors anticipate a full recovery and expect him to return to his normal routine within two to three months.

Based on this recovery timeline, NTR may be able to resume work on his upcoming projects, including Dragon, around October or November, subject to his rehabilitation and medical clearance.

Why is Shraddha Kapoor taking on Prabhas at the box office?

Shraddha Kapoor is one of the popular stars in Bollywood. She has scored several major hits as a female lead, with the Stree franchise further strengthening her position. She also commands a massive following on Instagram, with more than 93 million followers.

Her popularity gives her films strong visibility and considerable opening potential in the Hindi market. Shraddha is now playing the lead role in the biopic “Eetha.” The film, which was earlier scheduled for release in August, has now been postponed to December.

The makers have announced December 4, 2026 as the new release date, and the decision has surprised many in the industry as well as fans. The reason is that Prabhas’s much-awaited “Fauji” is also expected to arrive in theatres

around the same weekend. Prabhas is among the few Indian stars whose films consistently command massive openings across multiple markets. His pan-Indian following makes Fauji one of the most anticipated releases of the year. This has led to questions about the decision to release “Eetha” alongside “Fauji.” Fans are wondering whether the makers are confident that Shraddha’s film can hold its ground against a major Prabhas release, or if they are expecting “Fauji” to be postponed.

Shraddha and Prabhas previously shared screen space in “Saaho.” However, they have not reunited for another film since then. Now, their films could potentially face each other at the box office, making the December release clash an interesting one to watch.



Ritika Nayak praises Varun Tej and Korean Kanakaraju, shares Mirai 2 update



Shalini Pandey turns bold: Topless backless pose from Italian summer



Shalini Pandey, who shot to fame with Arjun Reddy, has been experimenting with a bolder image lately. Although she went on to act in a few Telugu films, the actress soon shifted her focus to Bollywood. After generating considerable attention with her debut, Shalini Pandey could

not make much headway in Bollywood. Of late, she has mostly been making headlines with her social media posts.

In her latest series of photos and videos on Instagram, where she has 2.3 million followers, Shalini shared pictures from her Italian summer. The actress posted bikini photos along with a series of bold backless pictures. One of the photos shows her posing topless from behind, while strategically covering herself with her hand.

The bold pictures have grabbed considerable attention, with fans flooding the comments section with reactions to her latest look.

Sharing the photos, Shalini wrote, “I miss who I get to be in an Italian summer. Free, silly, sun-bathed, just existing in my body, completely enjoying the privilege of being a woman, and getting to do all this with a friend who matches my freak. I miss that.”

The actress appears to be reminiscing about her Italian summer and the carefree moments she experienced during the trip. Her latest social media post has certainly caught the attention of her followers.

Donga Na Koduku: Mythri Movie Makers to repeat Little Hearts sentiment

Mouli Tanuj Prasanth, the popular YouTuber who made his film debut as a lead actor with Little Hearts, is now gearing up for his second film, “Donga Na Koduku.” Little Hearts, a teenage romance, emerged as a surprise hit and helped Mouli make a mark as a lead actor.

Interestingly, his next film is being backed by one of the leading production houses in Telugu cinema, Mythri Movie Makers. The banner is currently producing big-scale projects such as Prabhas’s Fauji and NTR’s Dragon, while also backing this comparatively smaller youth-oriented film.

Donga Na Koduku is said to be a robbery crime comedy. The film has Sushmita Shetty as the female lead, while newcomer Sreenu Kambala is directing it.



The makers are also looking to repeat the release sentiment of “Little Hearts.” Mouli’s previous film arrived in the first week of September 2025 and went on to become a hit. Taking that sentiment into consideration, the team is reportedly planning to release “Donga Na Koduku” on September 4, 2026.

If the plans materialise, the film will mark another September release for Mouli, with the makers hoping the timing works in their favour once again. Netflix has bagged the film’s OTT rights.



Galle: India's bowling coach Morne Morkel has urged the team's seamers to adapt quickly to Sri Lanka's heat, humidity and the changing nature of the Kookaburra ball, stressing that maintaining intensity and finding creative ways to generate pressure will be crucial in the two-Test series which will commence. India's pace department has been dealt a significant blow with Jasprit Bumrah ruled out of the series due to a knee injury. Mohammed Siraj is now the most experienced member of

the seam attack, with Prasidh Krishna, Gurnoor Brar and newly called-up Aaquib Nabi providing the other options. Morkel believes the conditions will test the Indian seamers' ability to adjust their plans once the ball loses its hardness. "Our skill is there, and the planning will be there, but the biggest challenge coming to Sri Lanka is the heat, the humidity, and the Kookaburra ball going soft a little earlier. It will go soft after 25 or 30 overs, so we have to expect that. In these conditions, it's all about

your mindset. If you're a fast bowler, if you're going to bowl the shortest spells, the energy you put into the ball and putting it into good areas — you'll always have opportunity," Morkel said, as quoted by Cricinfo. The bowling coach wants India's seamers to make the most of the early stages of their spells before finding alternative methods to create chances as the ball gets older. "As the Test match will go on, hopefully there will be a little bit of uneven bounce. It's about how we can stack up overs together with intensity and create that pressure because we haven't played a lot of red-ball cricket in the last couple of months; going back into that is going to be a challenge as well," he said. The former South Africa pacer believes hitting the deck hard and maintaining disciplined lengths can still trouble batters in Sri Lankan conditions. Still, the bowlers will need to become more inventive once the Kookaburra loses its hardness.

alike. Prior to that, he was an active presence in the fielding practice session, taking some tumbling catches at the cordon. Jurel's enthusiasm actually belied the career cross-road that he is standing currently. After a rather assured 100 against the West Indies at Ahmedabad in October last year, his next Test outings have produced — 44, 6, 14, 13, 0, 2, 19. More worryingly, he has been dismissed five times by spinners in those seven outings, and he will face an even more daunting task in the first Test here against the Sri Lankan tweakers, led by the irrepressible Prabath Jayasuriya. The inclusion of Sarfaraz Khan, who bats at the same slot as Jurel, is a warning for the wicketkeeper batter to tidy up his act or get replaced.

Sarfaraz has a wider range of shots against spinners — sweep, reverse sweep, shimmy down the track mixed with those late dabs and cuts past the point or gully fielders. In contrast, Jurel waits for spinners



to err to punish them, as he prefers a more risk-free approach. It may have its own advantages on rather flat pitches, but on a deck that offers variable

bounce or turn, like the one at Galle, it is fraught with danger. It's not really much about lack of skill sets but rather more about changing the modus op-

to have Test experience on these shores, at nets. Rahul prepared extensively for this tour on specially prepared muddy pitches at Mumbai, and Jurel would certainly have wanted to pick his brain. India's bowling coach Morne Morkel underlined Rahul's role as a senior pro in the side. "You can explore and discuss and come up with the best combination. Experience is always handy. I think KL, the last couple of years the way he's been leading up front with batting has been exceptional. "That's a sort of communication that we expect from him, to speak to the guys here in the preparation at the nets as to what to expect here," said Morkel. But the former South African pacer knows that Jurel will have to find his own path in the middle. "I think the guys have learned a lot about their games individually over the last couple of months and that's one of the reasons why we've come out here 10 days earlier to give them the best opportunity to prepare.

India hosting BWF World Championships reflects sporting growth, says Tupti Murgunde



New Delhi: Around 17 years after representing India at the World Championships in Hyderabad, former badminton player Tupti Murgunde believes the return of the prestigious tournament to the country reflects India's remarkable growth as a sporting nation and will provide a major boost to the next generation of shuttlers. The BWF World Championships 2026 will begin on August 17 at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium in New Delhi, with India hosting the prestigious tournament for only the second time after

Hyderabad staged the 2009 edition. Murgunde, who competed at the 2009 World Championships, described the return of the event to India as a proud moment for the country's sporting fraternity. "It's an extremely proud moment for the Indian sporting fraternity that we have got it again after 17 years," Murgunde told SAI Media. "Especially, I would say the last 8 to 10 years of Indian sports have been fantastic. We've seen amazing results coming in multiple events as well as getting all these kinds of international events. It is really impera-

tive right now and essential," she added. Murgunde feels the significance of hosting major international events extends beyond badminton, with India increasingly becoming a destination for global sporting competitions across disciplines. "We've also heard our Hon'ble Sports Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya mentioning how much we are looking forward to having the international events coming to India in general across all sports," she said. Having experienced a World Championships on home soil herself, Murgunde believes the Delhi edition will be particularly valuable for India's younger shuttlers. With India set to field a combination of experienced campaigners and emerging players, she feels the youngsters can benefit immensely from the opportunity to compete in front of home supporters. "For the upcoming players, it is the best platform, I would say, because you're getting a fantastic opportunity to showcase your talent, your performances in your home ground," Murgunde said.

Nurjahan Jamani's Inspiring comeback earns Sardar Patel Sports Award

Ahmedabad: India's top-ranked para table tennis player Nurjahan Noorali Jamani was conferred with the prestigious Sardar Patel Sports Award by the Government of Gujarat, adding another significant honour to her remarkable sporting career. Gujarat Deputy Chief Minister Harsh Sanghavi presented the award to Nurjahan at a ceremony in Gandhinagar on Wednesday. Instituted by the Sports, Youth and Cultural Activities Department of the Government of Gujarat, the Sardar Patel Sports Award is among the state's highest sporting honours. Named after Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the award recognises athletes who have demonstrated resilience, determination and excellence while bringing distinction to Gujarat and the country. Nurjahan, who is currently ranked No. 1 in India and No. 27 in the world in her category, was diagnosed with polio at the age of five. She first competed in para table tennis between 2007 and 2010 before taking a break from the sport for more than a decade. Her return to competitive table tennis in

2022 marked the beginning of an impressive comeback. Since her return, Nurjahan has continued to make significant strides, successfully defending her title at the UTT Para Senior National Championship 2025-26 in Indore after previously winning the UTT National Para Table Tennis Championship. Her performances have helped her rise to the top spot in India's rankings and No. 27 in the world. Based in Ahmedabad, Nurjahan also works as a Junior Officer at Adani Airport Holdings Limited. She has received long-term high-performance support through Adani Sportline's athlete development initiative, which includes tournament planning, coaching guidance, performance monitoring and assistance for international competitions. "This recognition from the Government of Gujarat is incredibly special and motivates me to aim even higher. Every milestone strengthens my resolve to represent India with pride," Nurjahan said. "I am grateful to Adani Sportline and the 'Garv Hai' initiative for believing in me and



supporting my journey at every step," she added. Sanjay Adesara, Chief Business Officer, Adani Sportline, congratulated Nurjahan on the recognition. "Nurjahan's journey reflects the determination and resilience that defines champions. We are proud to support her through 'Garv Hai' and congratulate her on this well-deserved recognition," he said. The award comes as Nurjahan turns her attention towards qualifying for the 2026 Asian Para Games in Aichi and Nagoya, Japan, scheduled from October 18 to 24. She will be aiming to continue her strong run and contribute to India's growing success in para sport on the international stage.

New Delhi: Punjab Kings spinner Harpreet Brar has played down the talk surrounding his on-field exchanges with Virat Kohli, insisting there is no rivalry between the two and that a bowler's focus should remain firmly on the job at hand, regardless of who is batting at the other end. Brar, who has previously dismissed Kohli in the Indian Premier League (IPL), said the intensity seen between the two players is part of the competitive nature of franchise cricket and not a personal contest. For Brar, the respect for Kohli remains unchanged even when the two find themselves on opposite sides in an IPL game. "It's not like that. It's good for the team. There's nothing like a 'rivalry'. It's all a social media gimmick which starts there and dies there. I play for PBKS, he plays for RCB. I have only played



franchise cricket with him. We both want to do good for the team," Brar told IANS in an exclusive conversation on Thursday. Brar believes Kohli's enduring competitiveness is one of the qualities that has made him such a significant figure in Indian cricket. The spinner has also viewed that intensity as something younger players can learn from. "He has played

so many matches, and he plays the same way as he did when he was 18. His aggression on the ground is still the same. We have also learnt these things from him," he said. According to Brar, respect does not disappear simply because the two are competing. "But it's not like that. He is a legend of this game. He is one of the legends. Respect is the same for him on

and off the field." At the same time, Brar believes competitive cricket leaves little room for sentiment once the game begins. The objective, he said, is to perform for one's own side, irrespective of personal relationships. "But we do our job on the field. And we have learnt it from him only. He will never give an excuse saying, 'He is my friend, so I won't hit him for a four or six.' It's not like that. It's not possible. He wants to do well for his team; it's all jokes and fun. We have always learnt from him, and he is a great example for the future youngsters as to how cricket should be played," he added. Brar's own history with Kohli adds another layer to their encounters.

The PBKS spinner famously dismissed the former RCB captain in the same spell in which he also removed Glenn Maxwell and AB de Villiers.

Neeraj Chopra Foundation, Gopichand launch Indian School of Coaching Excellence

Hyderabad: Neeraj Chopra Foundation, Pulela Gopichand (Badminton Gurukul) and AISTS INDIA announced that they have come together to launch the Indian School of Coaching Excellence (ISCE), a first-of-its-kind initiative aimed at transforming coach education and strengthening India's sports ecosystem. With the vision of creating world-class coaches, ISCE will offer multidisciplinary coach development programmes that extend beyond technical training, integrating modern disciplines such as physical literacy, sports science, sports education, technology and career development to prepare coaches for the evolving demands of high-perfor-

mance sport. It will serve as a collaborative knowledge-sharing platform, working closely with government bodies, SAI, sports federations, associations, high-performance centres, academic institutions and the private sector to advance coaching excellence across India. Commenting on the ISCE, Pulela Gopichand said: "The future of Indian sport will be defined by the ecosystem we build. Coaches are at the heart of that ecosystem. ISCE is our effort to create a platform that combines global best practices with Indian experience, enabling coaches to continuously upskill, collaborate and lead with confidence. We believe this initiative can play a mean-



ingful role in shaping the next chapter of Indian sport." Neeraj Chopra, Founder of Neeraj Chopra Foundation and World and Olympic javelin Champion, said: "I firmly believe that every athlete's journey is shaped by the

guidance and nurturing of his/her coach, not only as a sports person but also as an individual. Hence, in order to create the next generation of sports heroes in India, it is extremely important that our coaches have access to world-class education, mentorship and the latest knowledge in sports science and athlete development." "Through the Indian School of Coaching Excellence, the Neeraj Chopra Foundation hopes to create an environment where coaches continue to learn, evolve and inspire generations of athletes to realise their full potential," he said. ISCE's vision is to build a robust coaching ecosystem, which is essential to fuel and sustain India's long-term success on the world stage.

After Commonwealth Games gold, Sakshi Chaudhary targets Asian Games glory

New Delhi: Commonwealth Games gold medalist Sakshi Chaudhary said that she has already shifted her attention to the Asian Games 2026, with the Indian boxer determined to build on her impressive campaign in Glasgow and challenge for another major international title. Sakshi produced a dominant performance in the women's 51kg boxing category at the Commonwealth Games, defeating England's Ruby White 5-0 in the final to claim the gold medal. The Indian remained unbeaten throughout



the competition and maintained a perfect 5-0 unanimous-decision record from the pre-quarterfinals through to the final.

Her gold medal-winning per-

formance in Glasgow was built on sharp movement, composed defence, accurate combinations and intelligent tactical adjustments. Against White in the final, Sakshi controlled the contest from the opening bell and secured a unanimous victory, with the judges' scorecards reading 30-27, 29-28, 30-27, 30-26 and 30-27. The triumph has given Sakshi further confidence ahead of the Asian Games, which are scheduled to begin in Japan on September 19.

"Winning a gold medal at the

Commonwealth Games is a dream come true moment for me. And now my complete focus is on the Asian Games. These are the platforms that I have always aimed at, and I want to give the best of my abilities," Sakshi said. The boxer added that representing India remains her biggest source of motivation and helps her push herself to improve with every bout.

"I play for my country. This constant thought pumps me up and gives me the strength and courage to do better than the last match I played," she added.