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Speed up land acquisition for Musi project.. CM Revanth orders



Hyderabad, August 25: Chief Minister Revanth Reddy conducted a review

on the Musi project. He instructed the officials to expedite the land acquisition

for the Musi project. He wanted to formulate a clear policy on land pooling. He suggested that a clear policy be formulated for the acquisition of FTL, buffer zone and assigned lands. He wanted to ensure that legal complications do not arise. He ordered to call tenders for Phase 2 of the Musi project as soon as possibleThe CM said that the municipal commissioners should focus on loans

for projects at the lowest interest rates. He said that a review of the TDR should be held every week. He ordered that tenders for the M a n c h i r e v u l a Omkareshwara Swamy Temple be called immediately. CM Revanth Reddy instructed the officials to provide more publicity to the Kotwal Guda Birds Park.The review meeting held at the MCRHRD Bodhi Pavilion today

(Tuesday) was attended by CM Secretary Manik Raj, HMDA Commissioner Sarfaraz Ahmed, GHMC Commissioner R.V.Karnan, Malkajgiri Municipal Commissioner Vinay Krishna Reddy, Cyberabad Commissioner Srujana, Ranga Reddy District Collector Narayana Reddy, Medchal Collector Manu Chaudhary, MRDCL MD E.V. Narasimha Reddy, MRDCL JMD Gauthami and other senior officials..

Kharge, Rahul Gandhi urge PM Modi to scrap caste census questionnaire

New Delhi: August 25:Leaders of Opposition Mallikarjun Kharge and Rahul Gandhi have written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi over the caste census issue, demanding that the government scrap the existing questionnaire for it and formulate a new one after consulting political parties, experts, and the general public.Andhra Pradesh NewsKharge and Gandhi said they do not accept the caste census being conducted in the current manner and urged the government to take a cue from the caste surveys done in Telangana and Bihar.Briefing reporters on the letter written in Hindi by Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha Kharge and Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Gandhi on August 20, Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh said the government's current efforts towards a caste census are just a "whitewash".



rate data and a precise assessment of the numerical strength and socio-economic status of various castes is possible only if the caste enumeration is conducted correctly."Your government has opted for an open-ended question format to record caste details in the census, which is misleading. Under this method, whatever name an individual provides for their caste will be recorded as it is," the leaders said in their letter to Modi.In India, the same caste is known by different names, sub-castes, and linguistic variations across different regions, Congress president Kharge and former party chief Rahul Gandhi pointed out.South Asians & DiasporaConsequently, if members of the same caste are recorded under different names during the census, a single caste could end up being fragmented into thousands of distinct names, they argued.This would result in a list of hundreds of thousands of caste names, rendering the entire dataset obtained from the caste census useless, Kharge and Gandhi argued."If the actual population of a community is not accurately recorded, any assessment of its status will also be flawed. This will disadvantage backward, extremely backward, and other marginalised communities, and will impact decisions related to education, employment, welfare schemes, and social justice," Kharge and Gandhi said.Most importantly, this approach will fail to reveal the size of the OBC population in India, as the term "Backward Class" is not even included in this census, they said."An easy solution for this already exists: a drop-down list of castes should be created. This is the method adopted for the enumeration.

Vana Mahotsavam objectives should be completed within the stipulated time: Minister Seethakka

Hyderabad, August 25 : Minister Seethakka has instructed the concerned officials to make the Vana Mahotsav a success across the state . He directed them to complete the targets of the Vana Mahotsav within the stipulated time. Today (Tuesday), Minister Seethakka held a review meeting on the Rural Development Department at the State Secretariat through video conference. Commissioner Divya, Special Commissioner Srilakshmi, District CEOs, DRDOs, DPOs

and Additional DRDOs participated in this review. On this occasion, Minister Seethakka directed the officials on several key issues. He reviewed the employment guarantee works, construction of crop pits, construction of women's association buildings and sanction of new pensions. He said that 86 percent of the given target has been planted so far. He revealed that 5.32 crore plants have been planted against the target of planting 6.18 crore plants.Every plant should

be protected.Minister Seethakka ordered that the details of the planted plants should be recorded online as soon as the plants are



planted. He said that every plant should be protected and 100 percent survival

should be achieved. He suggested that the planted plants should be watered regularly. He directed that public representatives, women's groups, students and youth should be involved. He said that protective fences should be installed for the plants. He said that fencing should be made strong in avenue plantations. He said that at least 60 laborers should be provided employment per day in every gram panchayat.NMMS attendance should be monitored

daily.Minister Seethakka ordered to take steps to ensure that every laborer who is ready to work gets work. He said that laborers should be provided employment near their residential area. He ordered to keep sufficient shelves of work ready in every gram panchayat. He directed to monitor NMMS attendance daily. He directed to clearly assign the responsibility of mobilizing laborers to the field staff. He ordered to start the work of all sanctioned farm ponds immediately.

CM Revanth should give clarity on US visit: Kishan Reddy

New Delhi, August 25: Union Coal and Mines Minister G. Kishan Reddy has demanded that Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy give clarity on his US visit. CM Revanth Reddy commented that the Center has blocked his US visit due to political reasons. He responded in Delhi on Tuesday in this context. CM Revanth Reddy dismissed the comments as meaningless. He directly questioned the Telangana CM as to why he went on a foreign trip without permission. Revanth Reddy said that this visit was not befitting his level.He reminded that they have not made any new rules on foreign visits of Chief Ministers. He clarified that they have implemented the rules that have



been in place since independence. This is a normal process. There is no room for politics in this, he said. He explained that there were reports that CM Revanth Reddy is going to meet New York Mayor Mamdani, a person who spews venom against India. On this occasion, he reminded the New York Mayor of his comment that Prime Minister Modi is a terrorist. He demanded that CM Revanth Reddy

answer why he is meeting Mamdani.Kishan Reddy said that the Union Ministry of External Affairs had also denied his foreign visit in the past. He believed that the Ministry of External Affairs had taken this decision keeping in mind the interests of our country. He said that it was absurd for CM Revanth to claim that permission was given to the Gujarat CM to visit the US and that permission was

not given to him. He said that the then Congress government had denied his foreign visit when Narendra Modi was the CM.However, the Center has given permission to CM Revanth Reddy to study a Harvard business course. He said that the Congress has also canceled foreign tours of Chief Ministers in the past. He said that the Telangana government has failed in the caste census issue. He explained that the caste census was not conducted in 20 percent of the houses in Hyderabad. Union Minister Kishan Reddy accused Congress party leader Rahul Gandhi of not having any knowledge about caste census.

Disciplinary committee report prepared on both of them.. High command's decision is final.



Hyderabad, August 25: Disciplinary Committee Chairman Mallu Ravi clarified that a report on Minister Konda Surekha and

Chinna Reddy has been submitted to TPCC Chief Mahesh Kumar with complete details. He said that it has been sent to the party's state affairs in-charge Meenakshi Natarajan. Speaking to reporters at Gandhi Bhavan in Hyderabad on Tuesday, he said that they have come to an assessment after looking at the media reports on them. He also explained that

they have also taken into consideration past matters. He said that this report will also be sent to the AICC Chief and the party General Secretary.He clarified that action will be taken against them as per the orders of the Congress high command. Mallu Ravi said that with this decision, he wants to give a message to the leaders and cadre. However, he said that he will receive notices to tell him what is in the report. He said that discipline is the main thing in the Congress party committee. He said that the respect of the party depends on discipline. He said that the party will come to power again only if there is that respect. He believed that disciplinary action should be taken to avoid creating a negative impression on the party.

CS reviews seasonal conditions and NEET PG exam arrangements with collectors

Hyderabad, August 25: Chief Secretary to the government Sanjay Jaju held a video conference with all the district collectors of the state on Tuesday. He reviewed with the collectors issues such as seasonal conditions, services required by the people, arrangements for NEET PG entrance exam and others. He inquired from the collectors about the steps being

taken on these issues.The CS advised the officials to take preventive measures keeping in mind the seasonal conditions. He clarified that necessary arrangements should be made to ensure that the people do not face any difficulties in the wake of rains and floods. He ordered the district administration to be ready to respond immediately in case



of emergency situations.The CS specifically reviewed the arrangements to be made in the districts for the conduct of

the NEET PG entrance exam. He suggested that the authorities should coordinate with them on issues such as infrastructure, security, electricity, drinking water, sanitation, transportation, etc. at the exam centers. CS Sanjay Jaju instructed the district collectors to take steps with advance planning to conduct this entrance exam peacefully.

BRS demands judicial probe on 22A issue, seeks Ponguleti's dismissal

Hyderabad: August 25The Bharata Rashtra Samithi (BRS) held Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy and Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy responsible for the alleged irregularities in the 22A prohibited lands list and demanded a judicial probe by a sitting judge into the issue besides demanding a white paper on the issue, making the 22A list public, and removing the website restrictions.Andhra Pradesh NewsThe BRS deputy floor leader T Harish Rao also sought Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy's immediate dismissal as Revenue Minister for failing to protect citizens' property rights. Addressing a meeting of

families affected by the 22A classification in Shapur Nagar on Tuesday, Harish



Rao rejected the Revenue Minister's claim that 98 per cent of the 22A controversy is a commission racket, Harish Rao termed the Chief Minister and the Revenue Minister as its "A-1 and A-2" and accused them of seeking a 50:50 share in commissions. He de-

manded an investigation into who ordered the inclusion of the lands in the prohibited list.Geographic ReferenceHe said the government had erred by including private, registered and patta lands in the prohibited list. He asked why ordinary people should be made to submit applications and run around government offices to rectify the government's mistake.The BRS deputy leader stated that decades-old residential layouts, including Padmarao Nagar Phase-I, Spring Field and areas in Nizampet, had been included in the list. He alleged that middlemen were collecting money from landowners promising to re-

solve the issue, including claims of a Congress MLA from Mahbubnagar collecting Rs 30,000 each for villas and flats in Spring Field.Politics cent of the lands had been removed from the prohibited list. "If that is true, why are hundreds of victims still approaching us with their grievances?" he asked.He pointed out that the issue extended beyond Hyderabad, with nearly one crore acres of land across Telangana being included in the list. He said such classification was affecting farmers' access to Rythu Bandhu, fertilisers and electricity connections. He cited Bhimavaram in Khammam district t.

Srinivas Goud accuses Telangana government of failing to secure Tungabhadra water share

Hyderabad, August 25:Former Minister V Srinivas Goud on Tuesday accused the Telangana government of failing to secure its share of Tungabhadra water, while Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh were utilising the river's water. He questioned Irrigation Minister N Uttam Kumar Reddy over Telangana not submitting an indent to the Tungabhadra River Management Board.He said the BRS would soon submit a representation to the Minister and demanded that the Rajolibanda Diversion Scheme (RDS) be brought

under the Tungabhadra Board.City & Local GuidesSpeaking to mediapersons at Telangana Bhavan, Srinivas Goud said Karnataka was acquiring land for raising the Almatti dam height and criticised the Telangana government for not raising objections. He opposed Andhra Pradesh's proposed inauguration of the Veligonda project on Krishna River on August 31, alleging that it could strengthen the neighbouring State's case before the Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal. He demanded that Telangana intervene to stop it.Andhra

Pradesh NewsHe pointed out that Krishna River water was already being diverted through the Pothireddypadu project without proper accounting. He demanded that the Palamuru-Rangareddy project and Kannepalli pumps of the Kaleshwaram project be operated, particularly after the recent NDSA and CWPRS findings on the latter.Former MLA Jaipal Yadav alleged that Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy lacked commitment towards Palamuru farmers. He said farmers under Bhima, Nettampadu and RDS were awaiting water. He recalled that the previous BRS gov-



ernment had spent Rs 27,000 crore on the Palamuru-Rangareddy project.In a separate press conference, former MLA Gandra Venkataramana Reddy said the Medigadda barrage was inflowing 1.10 lakh cusecs of water and demanded that the Kannepalli pumps be switched on to fill the upstream reservoirs.

EDITORIAL

'Cockroaches' Move to Improve Government Schools

Thousands of schools in rural areas across the country are struggling with inadequate basic infrastructure, insufficient teachers and several other shortcomings. Yet, those in power are paying little attention. If their children were made to study in rural schools even for a few days, they would understand the hardships faced by students. Therefore, the Cockroach Janata Party (CJP) has called upon people to launch a movement to force those in power to act and improve schools in rural areas. To bring the poor condition of rural schools to the government's attention and trigger action, the founders of the Cockroach Janata Party launched a campaign called "School Theek Karo". On the one hand, Rs.8,452 crore is reportedly lying in the Prime Minister's Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations (PM CARES) Fund, while on the other, school-children are crying out for basic facilities in their schools. In such circumstances, the party asks why PM CARES funds cannot be used for school development. It costs at least ₹8 crore to construct a fully equipped school building. With ₹8,452 crore in the PM CARES Fund, more than 1,000 schools could be built, the party founder points out. The PM CARES Fund was created to assist people during emergencies. However, the lack of transparency in the management and utilisation of these funds has raised several questions among the public. Large amounts continue to remain unspent. In such a situation, it would be worthwhile to use these funds for urgent development works such as improving schools. For such action to happen, apolitical organisations like the Cockroach Janata Party will have to mobilise public pressure and force the government to respond. According to the UDISE+ 2024-25 report, India has a total of 14,71,473 schools across all areas, while parliamentary data shows that there are 12,34,788 schools in rural areas. Of these, more than 1,04,000 schools are being run with just a single teacher. Remarkably, 89% of these schools are located in rural areas. Since a single teacher has to teach several classes simultaneously, the quality of education is affected. Rural schools in states such as Bihar and Jharkhand are overcrowded. In Jharkhand, the student-teacher ratio has reportedly reached as high as 47:1. Many rural areas depend heavily on contract teachers or teachers without adequate professional training. Around 1.19 lakh schools do not have electricity. This not only prevents digital learning but also deprives students of a proper learning environment. According to a recent NITI Aayog review, around 8,592 schools do not have toilets for girls. More than 61,000 schools have toilets that are in an unusable condition. The absence of safe and private menstrual hygiene facilities is forcing some girls to drop out of school as early as Class 8. Around 59,829 schools lack handwashing facilities, increasing the risk of disease transmission.

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A large advertisement for Tricolour Estate. The background is a light wood-grain texture. At the top, the text 'TRICOLOUR ESTATE' is written in a large, dark blue serif font. Below it, the tagline 'THE NEWS THAT MATTERS' is in a smaller, dark blue sans-serif font, flanked by two horizontal lines: an orange one on the left and a green one on the right. The word 'WANTED' is written in a very large, bold, dark red serif font, and 'REPORTERS' is written below it in the same style. To the right of this text is a detailed black and white illustration of a hand holding a pen, writing on a spiral-bound notepad. Below the main text, there is a newspaper clipping. The clipping has the same 'TRICOLOUR ESTATE' header and tagline. The main article on the clipping is titled 'WE WANT YOU!' in a bold, white sans-serif font inside a dark red rectangular box. Below this title are three bullet points, each with a circular icon: a pencil for 'COVER LOCAL STORIES THAT MAKE AN IMPACT', a magnifying glass for 'REPORT WITH ACCURACY & INTEGRITY', and a group of people for 'BE THE VOICE OF YOUR COMMUNITY'. Below the bullet points is a paragraph of text starting with 'If you're ready to make news that matters, we'd love to hear from you.' To the right of the newspaper clipping is another spiral-bound notepad with a black pen resting on it. At the bottom of the advertisement, there is a dark blue horizontal bar. On the left, there is a white telephone icon followed by the number '+91 9440455811'. In the center, the text 'FOR MORE DETAILS:' is written in a white sans-serif font. On the right, there is a white envelope icon followed by the email address 'contact@tricolourestate.com'.

Creativity on Hindu Deities Cannot Be Curtailed: Supreme

The Odisha government filed a petition seeking modification of an order earlier issued by the Supreme Court permitting the release of the animated film Mahaprabhu Jagannath. But the Supreme Court has now dismissed the plea, stating that creativity, art and culture could not be curtailed merely because a few people were sensitive about the depiction of deities. The court clearly confirmed that it cannot interfere with its previous order allowing the film's release after the Rath Yatra festivities. The bench of Justices also opined that the film, especially in the animated format, was a form of creativity meant to engage children.

"If such kind of sensitivity continues and people continue to file petitions, then we will have to pass orders in respect of Hindu gods and goddesses that there should be no creativity. Ramayana on television will stop. No art in any form of god and goddess. There is creativity in the country," Justice Nagarathna said during the hearing. The government claimed that the certificate granted to the film was revisable under the relevant law and



pointed out that the Shree Jagannath Temple Administration and the state government had sought a review. "We are not opposed to the release. Let the government independently consider the issue under its

revisional powers," the advocate for the government argued. Additionally, Justice Mahadevan suggested that if any concerns remained, the producers could consider making corrections. The court earlier

permitted the all-India release of the film on or after July 28. The film which was based on a web series was already available on YouTube and had received clearance from the Central Board of Film Certification.

Prabhas Working 17 Hour Shifts For Spirit!



Around 40% of Spirit has been completed, with the team aiming to wrap up the remaining shoot in the next two to three months. Producer Pranay Reddy Vanga revealed that Prabhas is putting in immense effort, working 16 to 17 hour shifts when required. He also revealed that Sandeep Reddy Vanga does not use body doubles in his films.

Despite Taking Years, Stars Still Opt for Sequels!

Despite the mixed results for sequels, the trend of making films in two parts is growing rapidly in Telugu cinema. Interestingly, even as star heroes are taking years to complete a project, many filmmakers are still opting for the sequel format to tell larger stories. Jr NTR's highly anticipated Dragon is being made as a two-part film. The Prashanth Neel film has been mounted on a grand scale, with the makers believing that a single film may not be enough to tell the entire story, which has an international scale. On the other hand, Allu Arjun's Raaka is also said to be following a similar route. While an official confirmation is awaited, reports suggest that the makers are considering a two-part release strategy for the Atlee film. Now, as per the latest update, Ram Charan and Sukumar's upcoming film,



RC17, is also being designed as a two-part saga, raising expectations among fans and business circles. What makes this trend even more interesting is the release strategy. Reports suggest that at least two of the above-mentioned films could follow the Dhurandhar model, where both parts are released within a gap of just four to five months. This approach helps maintain audience excitement and avoids making fans wait for years between installments. The question now is whether audiences will continue to embrace this trend or start preferring standalone films once again.

Pragya Jaiswal Owns The Chilly Rainy Vibe in Shorts

It's been a quiet year on the film front for Pragya Jaiswal, with Tyson Naidu, co-starring Bellamkonda Sai Sreenivas and Nabha Natesh, remaining her only upcoming project. But away from the screen, her style game continues to shine bright. In her latest pictures, Pragya is spotted lounging in a chic egg chair, dressed in a breezy blue-and-white striped co-ord set layered with a matching oversized shirt. She rounds off the look with white strappy heels, delicate earrings, and an anklet, keeping her hair in soft tousled waves. With a radiant smile and effortless charm, Pragya proves that even without a packed release slate this year, she knows exactly how to keep her fans hooked with pure style.



Disha Patani Drips In Liquid Gold Glam

Disha Patani continues to prove why she's one of the most sizzling stars in the industry, and her latest pictures are no exception. Serving pure glamour, she stuns in a shimmering gold sequined dress with a plunging halter neckline, striking sultry poses in a lavish, dimly lit room. These captivating stills are from her song "Kyun" from Welcome to the Jungle, where Disha brings undeniable oomph and screen presence to the frame. On the box office front, Welcome to the Jungle has wrapped up its theatrical run with a lifetime worldwide collection of ?193 crore, making it a commercial success and landing as an average-to-hit earner. With her sizzling looks and steady work, Disha continues to keep fans hooked.



Mohun Bagan edge East Bengal 1-0 in Durand Cup final



Hyderabad: A title context in Kolkata overlays everything else. Mohun Bagan arrive as the record 17-time Durand Cup champions, with the chance to extend that lead to 18 and further cement their status as the tournament's most successful club. East Bengal, on 16 titles, have the opportunity to draw level with their oldest rivals. Sahal has been the individual story of Mohun Bagan's campaign: he scored the winner in the opening derby, then added a hat-trick against CISF Protectors, establishing him as the fulcrum of Panagiotis Dilmperis's attack. Manvir Singh has provided a reliable second scoring outlet, his own hat-trick against South United FC underlining the side's attacking depth, while goalkeeper Vishal Kaith has repeatedly

proved the difference in the biggest moments; his semi-final shootout saves are the latest evidence of a goalkeeper who thrives when matches go to penalties. East Bengal's progress has been built on similarly identifiable figures. Captain Mohammed Basim Rashid has shouldered the creative and set-piece burden, striking the crossbar twice in the semi-final alone before converting the winning penalty in the shoot-out. Prabhsukhan Singh Gill has mirrored Kaith's importance at the opposite end, saving one penalty in normal time and another in the shoot-out against SC Delhi to keep East Bengal's campaign alive. Mohun Bagan's options have been sharpened further by two new arrivals: Brazilian midfielder Miguel Figueira, who

arrived from their arch-rival East Bengal, and India international winger Lallianzuala Chhangte. Both were registered for the knockouts and introduced from the bench in the semi-final victory over NorthEast United FC, giving Dilmperis fresh attacking alternatives should the final demand a change of tempo. The tactical contest is a study in contrasts. Habas has constructed East Bengal around defensive organisation and patience, ceding the ball where it does not hurt before striking on the counter through pace out wide, a blueprint reflected in his recruitment and evident in the way East Bengal absorbed pressure against Indian Army FT and SC Delhi before finding their moments through PV Vishnu's pace and Rashid's set-

pieces. Habas, however, has stressed that the occasion itself cannot be allowed to dictate the approach. "The Kolkata Derby is a uniquely special match in India, but we have to approach it like any other game. In fixtures of this magnitude, you don't need any extra motivation; you simply need to control your emotions for the full 90 minutes. There are no excuses. Ultimately, the team that plays with more intelligence on the pitch will win the match." Dilmperis has asked more of his side in possession without sacrificing defensive solidity. Mohun Bagan's group-stage form, three wins, 15 goals, none conceded, reflects a team committing men forward while holding its shape, dictating territory rather than waiting to counter. The Mohun Bagan head coach also believes the mental side of the contest will be decisive. "East Bengal has undeniable quality and experience, but we are looking to finish this game in 90 minutes. We have a lot of experience in our squad, but in a match like this, experience alone is not enough. If you don't play with passion, it becomes a problem. These games are won in the mental battle, and tomorrow we have to master our emotions to get the win."

Archery Premier League Season 2: Olympic medallist Casey Kaufhold to debut in Hyderabad

Hyderabad: Paris 2024 Olympic bronze medallist Casey Kaufhold of the USA will make her debut as part of a star-studded line-up of 12 overseas archers from 10 different countries competing in the second edition of the Archery Premier League (APL), scheduled to be held in Hyderabad from October 8. The second edition of the league, an initiative of the Archery Association of India, is held with support from the Government of Telangana, bringing together 48 athletes divided across six region-based franchises. Speaking on the announcement, Anil Kamineni, director, APL, said, "Bringing 12 leading international archers, including three Olympic medallists, to APL Season 2 reflects our ambition to make India an important destination on the global archery calendar. Casey Kaufhold's debut, alongside the return of champions such as Mete Gazoz, gold medallist at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, and Alejandra Valencia, two-time bronze medallist at the Tokyo & Paris Olympics, will uplift the level of competition and give Indian archers invaluable exposure to the world's best." Reigning World Games individual champions Mike Schloesser, world No. 2 currently, and Andrea Becerra, world No. 1 currently, will return after competing in the inaugural season. Season 1



standout and 2025 World Championship silver medallist Mathias Fullerton, world No. 1 currently, will also return, alongside Mexico's 22-year-old Matias Grande, world No. 3 currently, and Spain's Elia Canales for the 11-day tournament. Casey Kaufhold, who won an Olympic medal at the age of 20, will join an elite roster that includes Olympic medallists Mete Gazoz of Turkey and Alejandra Valencia of Mexico, both of whom competed in the league's inaugural season. Reacting to her participation in APL, Casey said, "I am looking forward to competing in the Archery Premier League. The 15-second shot

clock will be a new challenge, but I enjoy formats that demand focus, composure and trust in every shot. I am also excited to compete alongside some of the world's best archers, and connect with the passionate archery fans in India." World No. 3 in compound archery, Alejandra Usquiano of Colombia, and Brazil's Marcus D'Almeida, world No. 1 currently, and a bronze medallist at the 2014 Youth Olympic Games, are among the other international archers set to make their APL debuts in Hyderabad. Great Britain's Ella Gibson, currently world No. 2, who was part of the winning franchise Rajputana Royals in

the first season, will be back alongside world No. 5 Compound Archer Nico Wiener for the second season. Featuring six franchise teams, APL brings together Recurve and Compound archers, with both men and women competing together in a unique league format. The league further enhances the excitement with an innovative 15-second shot clock, adding speed, strategy, and intensity to every contest. Through world-class competition and innovative presentation, APL aims to broaden the sport's appeal, strengthen India's archery ecosystem, and create greater opportunities for athletes and fans alike.

Keshav Maharaj hails young India spinner Suthar as future star



New Delhi: He has watched only a few clips of Manav Suthar's heroics against Sri Lanka in Galle but seasoned Keshav Maharaj has no doubt that the Indian team has unearthed a "gem", who will carry forward the legacy of great left-arm spinners in Test cricket. Maharaj, who has 218 wickets from 62 Tests, has been one of Test cricket's premier left-arm

spinner alongside Ravindra Jadeja and Prabhath Jayasuriya in current era, spoke highly of Rajasthan bowler, who has already picked 17 wickets in his first two games. "To be honest, I haven't watched much of the Test match but watching highlights that pop up on social media, I think he started off his career on the right foot," Maharaj told PTI in an exclusive interac-

tion on Saturday. Maharaj has no doubts that Suthar will be carrying the torch of Indian spin attack in Test cricket in the next decade. "The way he has bowled in this Test match, just judging from his figures (4/71 and 6/55), I think India have found a real gem in him to take over the baton one day when the legends of the game decide to call it a day."

Treesa and Gayatri's dream run ends with historic World Championships bronze



New Delhi: Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand's extraordinary run ended with a fighting three-game loss to world No. 1 and defending champions Liu Sheng Shu and Tan Ning in the women's doubles semifinals at the World Championships here on Saturday, as the Indian pair signed off with a maiden bronze medal. The unseeded Indians produced a sensational start to pocket the opening game but could not sustain the pressure against the mighty Chinese pair, going down 21-18, 13-21, 8-21 in an hour and 11 minutes. India last won a BWF World Championships medal in women's doubles in 2011, when Jwala Gutta and Ashwini Ponnappa claimed bronze in London. The Indian pair didn't have a favourable head-to-head record against the Chinese, having lost six times with just one to show in seven meetings so far. However, Treesa and Gayatri raced to a 7-2 lead to put the Chinese pair under early pressure. Liu and Tan quickly fought their way back with a series of sharp rallies. Six straight points from the Chinese pair turned the match around as they moved ahead. The Chinese made effective use of angled returns, forcing the Indians into errors, with several shots finding the net. A nine-point run took Liu and Tan to an 11-7 lead at the interval. The rallies were generally short, averaging around 15 shots, but the Indians began to regain their rhythm after the resumption. Treesa ended the Chinese run with a well-executed point. Another attack at the front court forced the Chinese long, before a 31-shot rally brought the Indians level at 12-12. A fabulous exchange followed, ending with a cross-

court winner from Treesa as India moved ahead. The Indians' attack was becoming sharper. Gayatri, however, was punished for a short lift as the Chinese regained the advantage at 15-13. Treesa then produced a superb return of serve to leave the Chinese pair stretched, cutting the deficit to 14-16. A fired-up Treesa followed it with a jump smash and another aggressive play at the front court as India drew level again. The Chinese responded with relentless attacking play and moved to 18-16, but the Indians won a video referral to make it 17-18. Treesa then produced a crouching defensive return during a flat exchange to level the scores at 18-18. Another superb rally ended with a scathing cross-court winner from Treesa as India moved to 19-18. The unseeded pair then earned two game points after Tan found the net. They converted on their first opportunity when the Chinese pair sent a shot long, sending the home crowd into raptures. The ecstatic home crowd roared Treesa and Gayatri on. After the change of ends, the Chinese opened up a 3-0 lead. A short serve gave India its first point, while a lucky net cord made it 4-1 before Liu found the net. The Indians responded with a cross-court, cross-body combination and excellent follow-up play. An effective flick serve and counter-attack helped them close the gap to 4-5. Gayatri then went long to make it 6-4. The Indians tried to put pressure on the Chinese with pushes towards the backline, but a few errors crept in, with Treesa sending one long to make it 7-4. Gayatri's attacking shots from the back court began forcing the Chinese wide.

Treesa's cross-court drop made it 6-8, before a Chinese smash into the net reduced the deficit further to 7-8. Treesa found the net, but followed it with another tricky cross-net shot to make it 9-10. India drew level at 10-10 before taking the lead when the Chinese defence produced two errors. However, Liu and Tan wrested the lead back at 12-11. A 49-shot rally followed, but Treesa eventually found the net. A tumble serve set up the next point for the Chinese, who opened a 14-12 lead. The Indians then sent another shot wide, followed by two net errors from Gayatri, allowing China to move to 17-12. Another precise shot onto the backline made it 18-12, before Gayatri's long lift gave the Chinese a 19-12 advantage. Treesa then found the net as the Chinese earned eight game points. Liu and Tan converted their second opportunity to take the match into a decider. The third game began with intense rallies, with India winning a 56-shot exchange to make it 2-2. The Chinese then changed the pace effectively to move 4-2 ahead. The Indians appeared slightly passive in defence, and Liu targeted Treesa with a body return to make it 6-2. The Indians continued to fight, but errors began to hurt them. A net shot stayed inside, leaving Treesa disappointed, before another Indian error and a shot wide allowed China to take an 11-5 lead at the interval. Treesa and Gayatri didn't dial up the same intensity as the first game as the Chinese moved to 12-5 before a flick serve took them to 14-5. It was a one-way traffic as the Chinese moved to 17-7. Eventually a perfect cross-court winner gave Liu and Tan 12 match points, and they sealed the contest with a cross-court shot.

TCA questions HCA's automatic selection mandate for Senior Super League

Hyderabad: The Telangana Cricket Association (TCA) has questioned the rationale behind the Hyderabad Cricket Association's (HCA) reported introduction of an "automatic selection mandate" for the Men's Senior Super League for the 2026-27 season, alleging that the new criteria undermine merit, selector autonomy and the principles of transparency envisaged under the Justice R.M. Lodha Committee reforms and BCCI governance norms. TCA General Secretary Dharam Guruva Reddy said, "How can an automatic selection mandate be justified in a competitive sport where current form, fitness and performance should be the primary criteria? Does such a provision not undermine the very principles of transparency and merit that sports administration is expected to uphold?" The TCA said the HCA's new Men's Senior Super League Selection



Guidelines 2026-27, particularly provisions that allegedly provide automatic qualification based on

past seasons, represent a serious step backwards in domestic cricket administration.