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People of Telangana feel like they have fallen from the pan into the oven: MP Etala

Hyderabad, August 28: Malkajgiri MP Etala Rajender criticized the Revanth Reddy regime in Telangana, saying that it is similar to KCR's rule. He said that the people of the state feel that they have fallen from the pen to the stove due to Revanth Reddy's rule. MP Etala Rajender met Telangana Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju at the Secretariat on Friday. Later, he spoke at the Secretariat media point. He said that the Center is giving five kilos of rice to the people.. but Prime Minister Modi is not taking pictures. He expressed his anger at the leaders of the Congress government, saying that their photos are being taken on whose land they are taking pictures of. Congress party leader Rahul Gandhi was criticized for going to the US and Europe and saying that communal riots are happening in India. He directly questioned the Congress party leaders as to under whose rule the bombs exploded at Lumbini Park and Gokul Chat. He said that CM Revanth sarcastically said that he came to the national capital Delhi and wanted your blessings and support. He said that the same CM Revanth will come here and criticize



Prime Minister Modi. MP Etala explained that the state has received so many funds for the development of roads and railways because Modi is the Prime Minister of the country. He reminded that Modi says that the development of a country lies in the development of the states. He said that when KCR was the Chief Minister, the central government would give us double bedroom houses. He also reminded that KCR had questioned what face Prime Minister Modi was wearing. He said that BRS chief KCR did not care about the country's Prime Minister Modi. He said that doing so is not good for the states. It is inauspicious. The Malkajgiri MP criticized the fact that Indiramma committees are being formed in Telangana and allocated to party leaders. He lashed out at Congress leaders for doing so, saying that your grandfather's land is not jagir. He said that the Center has not discriminated

against Indiramma's houses. He said that the Center has given Rs. 100 crore more than what the state government had asked for in three years. He said that the Central Government will provide support for Metro Phase-1 and Phase-2. He said that the villages around Hyderabad have also been connected. But he criticized that they are not being taken care of. He said that people are facing serious difficulties due to the lack of Rail Over Bridge (ROB) and Rail Under Bridge (RUB) facilities. He said that he had appealed to Union Railway Minister Ashwin Vaishnav to construct these. The Union Minister explained that the Center would cooperate.. but even if it does not give a rupee, the state government should cooperate, said MP Etala on this occasion. Revanth said that he had spoken to the Telangana CS on this issue. MP Etala explained that he had asked the CS to expedite the work of the urban and rural housing scheme in Hyderabad. He expressed impatience that the railways were participating in big tenders and taking money.

There are no problems in urea supply: Minister Tummala



Hyderabad, August 28
Telangana Agriculture Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao has commented that the details of the agricultural mechanization scheme have been finalized.

He said that the mechanization subsidy funds will be deposited directly into the accounts of the farmers. Minister Tummala held a review meeting on the agriculture department at the State Secretariat today (Friday). On this occasion, the minister directed the officials on several key issues. He said that the HCA officials are examining the list of empaneled institutions. Farmers should be made more aware of the app.

The Minister clarified that there are no problems in the supply of urea. He instructed the officials to resolve the fertilizer app issues on the same day. He suggested that farmers should be made aware of the central fertilizer app. He asked the central government to provide subsidy on complex fertilizers as well.

He said that the situation of farmers using urea excessively should change. He instructed to increase the speed of expansion of oil palm cultivation. He directed to take steps to ensure that oil palm seedlings are provided to farmers within 2 to 3 days. **Oil palm plants should be prepared in nurseries.** The minister said that priority should be given to the supply of plants to the districts where the demand is high. He suggested that double the target of oil palm plants should be prepared in nurseries. He ordered to expedite the establishment of drip irrigation. He suggested that solar panels should be installed on 2600 farmer platforms. Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao directed that the solar works on the farmer platforms should be completed within 2 to 3 months.

We will provide irrigation water to Nadigadda farmers.



Erravalli, August 28
Nagarkurnool Member of Parliament Mallu Ravi said that the Congress government is sincere in providing irrigation water to farmers and will show it with actions, not words. Mallura V, former MLA,

Sampath Kumar and Chairperson Sarital, who came to the Suravaram Wardhanthani program in Erravalli, were given a grand welcome by the Mandal Congress leaders. The Sadhana Samiti submitted a petition to complete the Nettempadu package works. He spoke on the occasion. He reminded that the Congress government had previously completed 90 percent of the Nettempadu project works. He lamented that the BRS leaders, who have been in power for ten years, have not cared to complete only ten percent of the works. He said that the Congress has done a lot for the farmers after coming to power and that he had recently spoken to Chief Minister Revanth Reddy to complete the Mallammakunta and Vallur

reservoirs in connection with the RDS. Sampath Kumar said that the Nettempadu project was set up with foresight and that it would provide water to two lakh acres. He criticized the BRS government for neglecting the project for ten years without completing even ten percent of the work. He said that farmers are currently suffering due to the effect of El Nino and

that a review has been conducted to overcome this and assured that the public government will take the responsibility of completing Nettempadu and RDS. He explained that it was BRS that made Nadigadda Padavu. Library chairman Srinivasulu, sarpanchs Ravi Prakash, Peddamaddileti, leaders Narsi Reddy, Venkatesh Yadav, Jogula Ravi, Shyam, Edanna Naidu,

Minister Damodar is serious about the absence of duty doctors at that hospital.

Zaheerabad, August 28
Telangana State Medical and Health Minister Damodar Rajanarsimha has expressed anger over the absence of duty doctors at Zaheerabad Area Hospital. The minister has ordered an inquiry against those responsible for this incident. An order has been issued to take immediate strict action against those

responsible. To this end, Minister Damodar spoke to Sangareddy District Collector, State Medical and Health Department, and Principal Secretary to the Government, Dr. Christina Z. Chongtu, regarding the media reports on the shortage of doctors, absence of duty doctors, and treatment by private doctors at the Zaheerabad Area Government Hospital. Minister Damodar issued an order to take steps to prevent such incidents from recurring.



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Will Konda Surekha tie Rakhi to CM Revanth

Internet Desk: August 28; On the day of Rakhi, there is a single discussion going on in Telangana political circles. Will Minister Konda Surekha tie Rakhi to CM Revanth Reddy.. or not..? There is widespread interest. There are only two female ministers in the Telangana cabinet. One is Sitakka.. and the other is Surekha. Both of them used to tie Rakhi to Revanth Reddy every year. However, political circles are debating whether Konda Surekha, who has been embroiled in problems in the wake of her daughter's comments, will

tie Rakhi to the CM this year and wish him Raksha Bandhan.. It is known that



for the past few days, whenever Minister Konda Surekha mentions the name, the Congress ranks are shaking with anger. The reason for this is the comments made by Surekha's daughter Sushmita against the Chief Minister. At a time like this, will Surekha come forward to tie a rakhi to Revanth..? Questions are being heard. However, it is reported that she has sought an appointment from the CM to tie a rakhi. But it seems that the CM appointment has not been found yet. Surekha has not met the CM since the Sushmita episode regarding the Parakala ticket. If Surekha gets the CM appointment.. this will be the first time she has met Revanth after the controversy. Regardless of Surekha's situation, Sitakka will tie a rakhi to the Chief Minister at 9 am today.

KTR calls for week-long BRS campaign against Congress over unfulfilled promises

Hyderabad: August 28
BRS working president KT Rama Rao on Thursday called upon party leaders and cadre to intensify the campaign against the Congress government's alleged failure to implement its election promises as it approaches 1,000 days in office. In a teleconference with senior leaders, legislators, former elected representatives and party functionaries, Rama Rao discussed a week-long Statewide programme from September 2 to 8. He asked party ranks to take the Congress government's unfulfilled promises, failures and corruption allegations directly to the people. The BRS will launch its campaign on September 1 with the release of a charge sheet against the government at Telangana Bhavan. On

September 2, the party will organise dharnas at constituency headquarters over the alleged failure to implement the six guarantees. It will also display large flex banners highlighting what it termed 420 promises and distribute "Due Cards" (Baaki Cards) detailing pending commitments to different sections of the State. Farmer conferences will be held on September 3 across the State to focus on issues relating to agriculture, irrigation, power supply, urea availability and crop insurance. Separate protests will also be organised in Hyderabad and other urban areas over the 22A prohibited lands issue. Downloading Interactive Geographic Maps On September 4, the party will conduct meetings with women, persons with disabilities and other sections,

highlighting pending welfare promises, including financial assistance schemes. Protest programmes such as community cooking events have also been planned. On September 5, the party will take out rallies and hold meetings on student and youth issues, including fee reimbursement, job notifications, the job calendar and the Youth Declaration. Special protests are also planned in Adilabad and Singareni regions over local concerns. The party will organise an autorickshaw rally in Hyderabad on September 6 to highlight civic issues such as drinking water, traffic, street lighting and law and order, while village-level protests will be held elsewhere on rural issues. Representations will be submitted to officials at district and mandal-level

From September 1st.. Danapur - Bangalore train



Warangal: August 28
The Railways on Friday gave good news to the residents of Warangal going to Danapur (Bihar) and Bangalore (Karnataka). In addition to reducing the increasing congestion on the Danapur-Bangalore route, the Railways has upgraded the Danapur-Bangalore-Danapur trains, which are currently running as special trains, to daily trains, and thus, daily train services from Warangal to Danapur and Bangalore will be available to passengers from September 1. xxx.jpg The Danapur-Bangalore Express (train number 22365) running between Danapur and Bangalore will depart from Danapur at 2.45 pm on September 1 and reach Warangal at 7 pm on September 2. It will depart at 7.02 pm and reach Bangalore via Vijayawada at 2.30 pm on September 3. Similarly, the Bangalore-Danapur Express (22366) departing from Bangalore at 11.30 pm on Sep-

tember 3 will reach Warangal at 6.18 pm on September 4 and depart 2 minutes later at 6.20 pm and reach Danapur via Vijayawada at 12.15 am on September 5. xxx.jpg Danapur-Bangalore Express (22365) leaves Vijayawada (Bangalore) at 7 pm every day. Similarly, Bangalore - Danapur Express (22366) leaves Ballarsha (Danapur) at 6.18 pm every day. This daily train runs from Danapur, Ara, Buxar, Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Junction, Prayagraj Chioki, Satna, Jabalpur, Itarsi Junction, Nagpur Junction, Sevagram, Chandrapur, Ballarsha, Warangal, Vijayawada. Railway officials said that it will stop at Ongole, Gudur, Perambur, Katpadi, Jolarpet Junction, Bangarpet, Whitefield and Bangalore railway stations. The train will travel from Danapur to Bangalore for three days. The train will have second AC, third AC, sleeper and general coaches and passengers should use these trains, said Sridhar, Chief Public Relations Officer, South Central Railway.



Prajavani centres on September 7. The week-long programme will conclude on September 8 with district-level press conferences

and tributes to Dr B R Ambedkar. Rama Rao also directed party leaders to extend support to the proposed protests by teachers'

EDITORIAL

America Caught in an Economic- Military Conundrum

The US midterm elections are not far away. These elections are likely to be a major test for US President Donald Trump. At a time when Trump's foreign policy appears to have more setbacks than successes, the economic situation is also similar. He is facing growing criticism that his administration has recorded more failures than achievements on the economic front. With Americans already struggling with high prices and inflation, the US Supreme Court has recently placed some restrictions on Trump's aggressive tariff policies. Since returning to the presidency for a second term, Trump's popularity appears to be lower than that of previous presidents. This has reportedly raised concerns within Trump that if the Republican Party loses the midterm elections, he could face impeachment and eventually even the possibility of imprisonment. Trump is already the only US president in history to have been impeached twice. However, he was acquitted by the Senate on both occasions. Therefore, Trump understands better than many of his party leaders the political risks that the November elections could bring. Nevertheless, the possibility of this adverse situation turning into a fullscale political disaster appears relatively low. Most of the Senate seats up for election are in Republican-friendly "red states," giving the party a chance to retain its narrow majority. However, Republicans appear more likely to lose their slim majority in the House of Representatives. When Donald Trump entered the White House for a second time in January 2025, he promised to act as a peacemaker for the world. But over the past 15 months, his foreign policy has suffered several setbacks. His strong desire for the Nobel Peace Prize, including his statements that he deserved the award, has particularly drawn controversy. He has repeatedly claimed that he brought an end to the Gaza war and prevented the India-Pakistan conflict from escalating into a full-scale war. These claims have drawn differing reactions internationally. In any case, the political, economic and foreign-policy challenges facing Trump ahead of the midterm elections are likely to become a crucial test for the Republican Party. Trump, who has proclaimed himself a peacemaker, is being severely criticized by countries around the world for going to war with Iran and, moreover, continuing to intensify the conflict reportedly at the urging of his ally, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Since the US began bombing Iran and its nuclear fuel enrichment facilities on February 28, Iran's strong resistance has reportedly left Trump facing a difficult situation. Iran has not only warned that it would block shipping through the Strait of Hormuz, but the disruption has also contributed to a global oil crisis. Trump, however, has recently brought forward a claim that the Strait of Hormuz belongs to US territory.

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Trailer Talk: Superstar Turns Menacing Serial Killer

The trailer of Haiwaan is finally out, and it shows a completely different side of Akshay Kumar. Directed by Priyadarshan, the thriller features Saif Ali Khan as a visually impaired man, while Akshay Kumar plays a ruthless serial killer. One of the trailer's biggest highlights is Akshay Kumar's transformation. After an out-and-out comedy, Welcome to the Jungle, the star has taken a sharp turn with a dark and negative character. His intense screen presence and body language make him look menacing. One also gets a feeling that the makers could have showcased his villainous side even more aggressively. Haiwaan is based on Priyadarshan's own acclaimed Malayalam thriller Oppam, which starred Mohanlal in the lead role. However, Priyadarshan says Haiwaan is not a scene-by-scene remake, but several changes have been made to suit the Hindi audience. The trailer effectively establishes the cat-and-mouse game between Saif's blind character and Akshay's dangerous negative role. Adding to the excitement will be Mohanlal's special cameo, as per the news. Overall, the trailer is decent, with Akshay Kumar's villainous avatar emerging as its biggest attraction. Haiwaan releases on September 11, 2026.



Prabhas's Fauji: Overseas rights closed, December release on track

Prabhas' "Fauji" has been in the making for quite some time. After multiple postponements, the makers have locked December 3, 2026, as the new and final release date. However, doubts about the film arriving on the announced date have continued to persist. Against this backdrop, the team has now announced that PHF (Phars Film) has acquired the overseas distribution rights to "Fauji." The film will premiere in overseas markets on December 2, a day ahead of its India release, providing clarity that the December release is firmly on track. Phars Film has previously handled the overseas releases of several Prabhas films, including "Saaho." Mythri Movie Makers appears to have worked out a special arrangement with the distribution company for "Fauji." "Fauji" is a historical action drama with a fictional story. Directed by Hanu Raghavapudi, the film features Prabhas as a Brahmin soldier. Set during the pre-Independence era, the story also has Hyderabad as one of its key settings. The film has music by Vishal Chandrasekhar. Newcomer Imanvi has been cast as Prabhas's pair in this film. Prabhas is currently filming for both "Fauji" and "Spirit", but the former is in the final phase of shooting.



Manasa Varanasi Brings Blue Saree To The Wild



Manasa Varanasi, known for her sweet, girl-next-door charm, is winning hearts once again with a simple yet stunning photoshoot in a soft blue chiffon saree. Paired with a crisp white blouse, silver jhumkas, and delicate bangles, the actress kept the look minimal and breezy, striking a natural pose against a leafy green backdrop. Her open curls, subtle makeup, and bright smile added to the effortless, sun-kissed charm of the shoot. The relaxed outdoor setting and understated styling made the pictures feel candid and refreshing, a nice change from heavily glammed-up looks, and fans have been quick to shower praise on her simplicity and elegance. It's been a quiet year on the film front for Manasa Varanasi, with Vanaveera failing to click at the box office, but her style updates continue to keep her fans hooked as they await her next announcement.

Rs.72 Crore Spent On Baahubali's Costliest Unreleased Show?



The story of Baahubali: Before The Beginning remains one of the biggest mysteries in Indian streaming history. The ambitious Netflix series was planned as a prequel to S. S. Rajamouli's blockbuster Baahubali and was meant to showcase the rise of Sivagami. Mukesh G, the cinematographer, reveals a tragic truth, stating that two full seasons of the series were completed before Netflix decided to shelve the project all of a sudden, leaving everyone in shock. This revelation in his latest interview has once again sparked discussions about what really went wrong with the show. Not many know, but the series had a troubled journey from the beginning. It went through multiple directors, recasting of actors, and extensive reshoots. Mukesh reveals that despite spending 297 crore and months of shooting, Netflix was unhappy with the final output and chose not to move forward. Originally based on Anand Neelakantan's The Rise of Sivagami, the show was expected to expand the world of Mahishmati. Even years after being shelved, the project continues to fascinate fans. The fact that two seasons were reportedly shot but never released makes the series one of the most expensive unreleased productions in Indian entertainment history.



Rukmini Vasanth Glows In Fiery Red Gown

Rukmini Vasanth's rise over the last three years is nothing short of remarkable, and she recently opened up about how it all began. She revealed that her breakout role in Sapta Saagaradaache Eello came from a bold, out-of-the-blue Instagram DM to director Hemanth Rao when she heard the film was casting. She followed up with emails and her resume, and after about ten days, Rao responded, leading to an audition that landed her the role of Priya, still her most loved character. Rukmini looked radiant in a fiery red strapless gown with a knotted bodice and flowing pleated silhouette. She kept the styling minimal with soft waves, delicate jewellery, and a beaming smile, letting the vibrant colour do all the talking. During the Toxic promotions, celebs are opening up about their struggles, and Rukmini's DM-to-stardom story is proof that hustle truly pays off.

Harmanpreet Kaur on Lord's win, Asia Cup, Asian Games and IND vs PAK pressure



Hyderabad: India women's cricket captain Harmanpreet Kaur says that winning a Test match at Lord's was a very different feeling and that she is really grateful that the opportunity came in life and that she could experience it.

In a wide-ranging interview with Sony Sports Network, the 37-year-old Harmanpreet shared her views on many topics.

On Lord's victory in July 2026

Playing a Test match at Lord's is a big dream for any cricketer. For me also, it was a very big dream and to lead the team is an even bigger dream. I am really happy that I got the opportunity to play. I think, before this, I had played just 4-5 Test matches but the feeling of playing at Lord's was totally different. I think, till now, thinking about those four days we had lived, we are still talking about it. Before this, we've won so many matches, so many tournaments, but it has never been that those feelings have lasted so long or been discussed so much about those four days. It was a totally different feeling and I was really grateful that the opportunity came in life and that I could experience it.

Since I have started playing, I have always seen idols play and make India win but over here it was something I had not felt, so I am genuinely very,

very grateful that I got the opportunity and the experience and am really looking forward to having such experiences again going ahead in life.

On playing Asia Cup

The Asia Cup is a very important tournament for us. Our team has been dominating for a long time and we've won multiple titles in the Asia Cup. I think, this year, it will be even bigger because when you play back-to-back good cricket, your fans and audiences expect even more, so obviously pressure is going to be very high. But at the same time, we always discuss that we will try to enjoy our time in the field and give our best and that's how we enjoy it better. I think that the mindset is to go and play with your heart.

On challenges in Asia Cup

I think the biggest challenge is when you have the 'good team' tag, playing for those expectations is in itself a very big challenge because we know we dominate Asian cricket and it's very important to play every match with that domination. And along with that, we cannot take any team lightly and I am sure the other teams will also be preparing very strongly for this tournament because this is no less than any World Cup. I think to prepare for that and to play as per your expectations is going to be very challenging and hopefully we will give our best.

On IND vs PAK

No doubt it's a high-pressure game and as a player you need to deal with multiple things. We keep playing international cricket but the amount of pressure in an IND vs PAK match, that kind of pressure you don't feel anywhere else. In fact, you might play many big matches but you don't feel that kind of pressure. Somewhere we know every Indian is watching, not only cricket fans but every Indian is watching because that match is so important for all of us. I think as a captain and as a player I try to keep things very simple, very easy. Only focus on cricket, focus on our aims, focus on our routines because when you follow your routines you will always get the results. So I think, results come later but before that, every moment, whatever things we need to do, it's better to focus on those rather than just putting pressure that you have to win the match. The idea always is not to think too far into the future but be in the present and try to give your best. Whatever the demand is from the team, make our game plan accordingly.

On winning Asia Cup again

We of course expect to win. Our team has been playing very good cricket. The last 4-5 years have been good and where we have played good cricket, dominating cricket, have defeated big teams and won series also. Now, we are coming after the win at Lord's and have also won many games on the trot so the team has already tasted success and will be hungry for more. The best thing is, everybody in the team talks about how to win a match, how to win tournaments. So when you have that kind of culture, you always feel motivated and you really look forward to going for any tournament. So this tournament is very important and I am sure we will play as a team and once again will make our country proud.

How Asian Games will be different

As a cricketer I think this is a very big opportunity because before this we have mostly played ICC tournaments but have not fought for a medal because as a team we have always fought for any particular trophy. I think this is one such moment where you get your own medal and I think when it's

about the medals, the motivation increases even more and day and night we keep thinking how will we feel after winning the medal and how we will celebrate. I think the Asian Games, in itself, is a very different feeling and along with that the chance to witness other sports, meet other players, understand their routines, so it's not just only about cricket but knowing your other sports fellows also and how they prepare. So, there are a lot of things to see, to learn and it's a totally different experience.

On defending gold medal

Yes definitely, last time we played very dominating cricket and one-sided contests so there will be expectations from us to play that kind of cricket again. I'm sure the country is looking forward to that one gold medal coming from cricket, so I know pressure is going to be there but at the same time as I mentioned earlier, focusing on your job and how to achieve that job is more important. So, preparations are going very well, everyone looks focused, fitness camps and training camps are going really well so hopefully we will dominate again.

Other sports to follow or watch at the Asian Games

Last time, we went to watch football. I watched the Indian men's football team for the first time. Apart from that, we had gone to watch badminton, so I think to get the opportunity to watch 2-4 more sports or more, I would love to go and watch this time.

Message to fans

Firstly, thank you so much that you have always supported us in our good as well as bad days. And trust me, your support matters a lot to us and keep supporting us the same way. Because whenever we see fans in the stadium, the level of motivation goes one step higher so I think our fans are equally important to us as our training and mental skills. So your support is extremely crucial for us and wherever we play, keep coming, keep watching us, keep cheering for your favourite players, favourite team and these small things matter a lot. Thank you so much and I hope you keep on supporting us the same way in the future as well.

Doubles coach Sumeeth Reddy hails Gayatri-Treesa's World Championship bronze



Hyderabad: Even as the dust is settling down and the World Championship bronze medallists in women's doubles, Pullela Gayatri and Treesa Jolly, are celebrating what has been a truly memorable outing in Delhi last week, the joy of their doubles coach B. Sumeeth Reddy is pretty much understandable. For someone who was himself an under-achiever, for different reasons, despite being one of the best doubles players of his time, Sumeeth played his role in shaping the destiny of the champion duo of Gayatri and Treesa for the last two years. "Unfortunately, we get recognition only when we get medals. But the fact is that we have been working really hard over the last few months. Both Gayatri and Treesa played really well even before. For sure, you need some luck," Sumeeth informed 'Telangana Today' on his return to his hometown. "Yes, our (the coach's job) is made much easier since we have Gopi Anna around us with so much experience and expertise. The best part is the kind of freedom we enjoy in sharing crucial inputs about the game and the training

methods. That is a huge plus for all of us (support staff)," says Sumeeth. Reflecting on Gayatri and Treesa bronze, which happens to be only the second women's doubles bronze for India after Jwala Gutta and Ashwini Ponnappa won in the 2011 edition, Sumeeth says the players getting injured is obviously the most difficult and challenging phase. "They were forced to skip the Asian Championships and Uber Cup due to Treesa's injury earlier this year. But it is their never-say-die attitude that really ensured this amazing turn-around," he said. "Treesa is the more aggressive and Gayatri is a perfect complement. The most pleasing aspect of their game is the rotations which upset the rhythm of the opponents consistently," the 34-year-old Sumeeth said. Sumeeth, the Rio Olympian who has his own three coaching centres, including Sikki-Sumeeth Sports Centre in the City, insists that even when Gayatri and Treesa lost in the knock-

out phases of a few majors it was not that they were playing badly. "You need some luck for sure," he added. "It was more about morale-booster for both the shuttlers before the Worlds. Self-belief and more focus on simple things like defence, net play which Gopi Anna insisted really helped them," Sumeeth said. "Well, every time any player enters the court, he or she would be hoping to come back with a medal. And we are no different. But, I reiterate that the focus was on the process and not just the end-result. Hours of practice, commitment and passion helped our cause," he said. And for Sumeeth, it was not the first time he got a feel of being there when his players won a World championship medal. "In fact, Sathwik was saying that I happen to be the lucky mascot as Sathwik and Chirag won the World championship bronze when I was around the court," he said with a big smile. "Now the focus shifts to the Asian Games and we hope to keep improving," signed off Sumeeth who is mentoring most of the junior players.

Road to GCL tournament to bring 1,000 chess players together in Bengaluru



Hyderabad: As Bengaluru gears up to host the world's top chess stars for Season 4 of the Tech Mahindra Global Chess League (GCL), the city will witness a major grassroots chess celebration with the Road to GCL initiative on August 26 at the Koramangala Indoor Stadium. The FIDE-rated Rapid Chess Tournament will bring together up to 1,000 players, creating a large-scale competitive platform for chess enthusiasts across age groups and skill levels. With a ₹4 lakh cash prize pool, the tournament will offer participants an opportunity to compete in a professionally organised, FIDE-rated rapid chess format while being part of the build-up to GCL Season 4. The initiative aims to take the excitement around the league beyond the professional circuit and create a direct connection between the global stars of the sport and Bengaluru's vibrant chess community. Gourav

Rakshit, Commissioner, Tech Mahindra Global Chess League, said, "The Road to GCL is about bringing the spirit of the Global Chess League closer to the people who make chess what it is, the players, fans, and communities who continue to grow the game. Bringing 1,000 players together for a FIDE-rated tournament in Bengaluru is a great way to build momentum for Season 4 and celebrate the depth of chess talent in the city. We hope this experience offers participants not just the opportunity to compete, but also a chance to feel part of the larger GCL journey and experience world-class chess up close." Adding to the experience, participants will also have an opportunity to receive passes to the Tech Mahindra Global Chess League Season 4, giving them the chance to watch

some of the world's best players compete live as six global franchises battle it out in GCL's unique team-based format. The Road to GCL activation reflects the league's broader vision of making chess more accessible, engaging and community-driven. By bringing a FIDE-rated tournament to a venue capable of hosting 1,000 players, the initiative provides aspiring players and chess enthusiasts with an opportunity to compete, connect, and experience the sport at scale. GCL Season 4 will bring some of the biggest names in global chess to Bengaluru, including defending champion Magnus Carlsen, Viswanathan Anand, Arjun Erigaisi, Ian Nepomniachtchi, Levon Aronian, Javokhir Sindarov and Nihal Sarin. The league will feature six franchises competing in a rapid, team-based format, with men and women playing together across six boards.

India to host Commonwealth Cue Sports Championships in Ahmedabad from October 7

Ahmedabad: As one of the world's premier destinations for cue sports, India will host the second Commonwealth Cue Sports Championships from October 7-10 at the Veer Savarkar Sports Complex in Ahmedabad. The four-day extravaganza will see cueists from nearly 46 countries compete across five disciplines – billiards, snooker, heyball, 10-ball pool and blackball — in both men's and women's categories. The championships will feature 16 players in each category in four disciplines, while billiards, which has been included in the programme this year, will be an eight-player draw in each section. The championships will be held under the aegis of the World Confederation of Billiards Sports (WCBS) and the Billiards and Snooker Federation of India (BSFI), and organised by Apex Sports. "Ahmedabad is becoming an increasingly important city on the international sporting map, and hosting the Commonwealth Cue Sports Championships here is a significant opportunity for our sport and for

India," said Ishaun Singh, president of the World Pool Association (WPA). "With the city now preparing to host the 2030 Commonwealth Games, this event gives us an opportunity to build a strong connection with the sporting community and audiences here. India has an extraordinary history in cue sports, and from everything we have seen through our recent events, I am confident that India can become one of the leading cue sports nations in the world," the world body chief added. "This is the second of the three big-ticket events we will be hosting as part of BSFI's centenary celebrations," said S Balasubramaniam, president of the BSFI. "The federation successfully hosted the heyball World Championships, the highest-ever cue sports prize money event in the country, earlier this month in Pune. The festivities will conclude with the IBSF World Snooker Championships in Indore (Nov 12-21)." The BSFI president was confident that several international events will further accelerate the growth of cue



sports in the country, which has a rich heritage in the sport. The BSFI named the squad for the Ahmedabad championships on Tuesday. Thirteen cueists (six men and seven women) will represent the country at the four-day event. Players for the events were picked after

the selection trials at the Karnataka State Billiards Association (KSBA) over the weekend. Vidya Pillai (women's heyball gold medallist), Shivam Arora (men's heyball silver medallist) and Chitra Magimairaj (women's 10-ball pool silver medallist) received direct entries.