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CPI MLA exposes lapses in crop loan waiver, opposes sale of UoH land

Hyderabad: In a rare criticism from a Congress ally, CPI MLA Kunamneni Sambasiva Rao lashed out at the State government's faulty crop loan waiver implementation, citing major lapses that left farmers in distress. Speaking in the Assembly, he revealed that at Nidigonda village in Raghunathapalli mandal of Jangaon district, out of 554 farmers, only two received the loan waiver, while 552 were excluded due to Aadhaar discrepancies. Reminding that even Agriculture Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao admitted the errors, he demanded immediate corrective measures. Sambasiva Rao also strongly opposed the government's decision to sell 400 acres of the University of Hyderabad.

IMD-Hyderabad issues orange, yellow alerts for districts across Telangana till Monday

Hyderabad: The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD)-Hyderabad on Friday issued orange and yellow alert, indicating thunderstorms accompanied with gusty winds, for multiple districts in Telangana State up to next week Monday, even as weather forecasters here have maintained that there are chances of light showers in northern parts of Hyderabad towards Friday night. For the last several days, due to heat wave the average maximum temperature in Hyderabad ranged from 39 degree Celsius to 41 degree Celsius. However, thanks to changing weather conditions, the maximum temperatures on Friday, according to IMD-Hyderabad dropped to 36 degree Celsius, a clear indication of temperatures cooling-off and bringing much-needed respite for general public.

Provide loans at low interest rates: CM Revanth urges NABARD

Hyderabad, March 21 (NSS): Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has urged NABARD Chairman Shaji KV to consider offering loans at lower interest rates through the RIDF and to approve necessary funding for Micro Irrigation projects. During a meeting at the Assembly on Friday, Shaji KV visited the Chief Minister, who urged him to enhance the support for existing Co-operative Societies and to establish additional new ones. The discussion also focused on strengthening Women Self Help Groups, with Revanth Reddy requesting the initiation of a special program targeted at these groups. The Chief Minister asked NABARD to assist in boosting the milling capacity by connecting IKPs, Godowns and Rice Mills in Telangana State. He directed the officials to ensure that the NABARD funds



allocated for the current financial year are utilised by March 31 and to take advantage of all NABARD-sponsored programs in the upcoming financial year. Revanth Reddy instructed the officials to utilise the NABARD funds which have been sanctioned in the current financial year by

March 31 and also make use of all schemes sponsored by NABARD in the next financial year. The Chief Minister suggested to link the solar power generation plants sanctioned to the women groups to NABARD and appealed to the Bank chairman to increase rural connectivity in the newly

created Gram Panchayats. On the occasion, the NABARD Chairman proposed to the Chief Minister to constitute DCCBs in the new districts. Tundur Manohar Reddy and NABARD representatives were also present in the meeting. (NSS)

In northeast, new era of development ushered in after Modi government came to power, says Amit Shah in Rajya Sabha

GNS News Agency, March 21

The government has zero tolerance policy towards terrorism, Home Minister Amit Shah said on Friday (March 21, 2025) as he also asserted that Naxalism will end in India by March 2026. Replying to a debate in Rajya Sabha on the working of the Home Ministry, he said the Narendra Modi government fulfilled the dream of the architects of the Constitution by abrogating Article 370. "Article 370 was the basis of separatism in Kashmir. But I also thank the architects of the Constitution, they made the provision temporary, and the way to abrogate it was also included in the Article," Mr. Shah said. "But due to vote bank politics and stubbornness, Article 370 continued. On August 5, 2019, Article 370 was abrogated. The dream of the architects of our Constitution, was that there can't be two heads, two constitutions and two flags in the country," he said.

Mr. Shah said the issue of terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir, left-wing extremism, and insurgency in Northeast were among the biggest challenges for India. "Around 92,000 citizens were killed in four decades. No organised effort was done to deal with these, and the Modi government did it," he said. The Home Minister said the Modi government has zero tolerance for terrorism. He also said the number of deaths of civilians and security personnel in terror incidents has drastically come down, while there has been zero incidents of stone pelting in the Kashmir valley. "There has been a 70% reduction in deaths due to terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir during Modi government; terror incidents too fell



sharply," he said. Mr. Shah also said grassroots level democracy has been established in Jammu and Kashmir by successfully holding elections in urban and rural local bodies. "Around 40,000 government jobs provided during 2019-24 in Jammu and Kashmir, 1.51 lakh self employment created, skilling clubs operational," he said. He also accused previous governments of not taking action against Naxalism. Talking about the Northeast, Mr. Shah said the region is by and large peaceful, and ever since the Modi government came to power, a new era of development has been ushered in. "We have signed about 19 peace accords since 2019, while about 10,000 militants have surrendered in this period in the Northeast," he said.

Integrating emerging technologies into agriculture for greater profitability: Sridhar Babu

Hyderabad, March 21 (NSS): Minister for IT and Industries Sridhar Babu stated that emerging technologies like AI are being integrated into agriculture to make farming more profitable.

On Friday, a delegation from the German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture and other research institutes, led by Asia Head Rebecca Ridder, met the Minister on the Assembly premises. During the meeting, Sridhar Babu elaborated on the government's initiatives to integrate emerging technologies across various industries. He highlighted that around 55 percent to 60 percent of the state's population depends on agriculture and agro-based industries for their livelihood. The Minister emphasised that technology can address many challenges faced by farmers and that more innovations are needed to benefit them. Sridhar Babu mentioned that, similar to advancements in other countries, "Agri Robots" capable of performing farming activities with minimal human intervention would soon be a reality in India. He revealed that research and development in this area had already begun. The Minister also assured that the government would support companies and individuals introducing innovative solutions to reduce farming costs and enhance farmers' benefits. He further emphasised collaborating with the German government to promote technological advancements in agriculture. The event was attended by Dr. Sebastian Bose, Martin, Sven, Dr. Raghu Chaliganti, Professor Janayya (Vice Chancellor of Professor Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University), Dr. Balaram (Research Director), Dr. Ramulu (Director of International Programs), and Dr. Balaji Naik (Director of Digital Agriculture), among others. (NSS)

KCR family has brought dishonour to Telangana: Seethakka

Hyderabad, March 21 (NSS): In a strong reaction to MLC Kavitha's allegations that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy was tarnishing the reputation of Telangana, Minister for Panchayat Raj Seethakka asserted, "The KCR family has brought dishonour to Telangana." She further questioned, "Are you not the ones who have compromised the dignity of Telangana with your dealings in Delhi?" Seethakka emphasised the Congress party's legacy of sacrifices, contrasting it with the BRS's reputation for corruption. She remarked that although the BRS held power for a decade, they failed to serve the people justly throughout that time. The Minister highlighted specific grievances, stating, "In the initial five years, there were no women Ministers or representatives on the Women's Commission. The Rs.1,800 crore Ahaya Hastam funds, generated by women, were not allocated, and no interest was paid. Moreover, the Rs.3,700 crore owed to women's groups was also unpaid. Numerous issues arose that reflected the injustice inflicted upon the populace during the BRS administration." Seethakka remarked that if the BRS government were performing effectively, there would be no reason for the people to reject the party in the Assembly elections. She urged BRS leaders to reconsider their approach and offer positive and constructive recommendations at this time. (NSS)



Owaisi says KCR's role in Telangana's growth cannot be ignored

GNS News Agency, March 21

Hyderabad: AIMIM floor leader Akbaruddin Owaisi emphasised the need to acknowledge the role of former Chief Minister K Chandrashekhara Rao and the previous BRS administration for Telangana's unprecedented growth over the past decade. He pointed out how Telangana had surpassed national averages in GSDP (Gross State Domestic Product) and per capita income growth.

Speaking in the Assembly during discussion on the State budget on Friday, Owaisi said the State budget had grown from Rs 1.06



lakh crore in 2014-15 to Rs 3.04 lakh crore in 2025-26. "We must appreciate all leaders who contributed to Telangana's progress over the years.

But without K Chandrashekhara Rao's governance, we would not have

Telangana. "While BJP leaders aggressively attack the Congress in the Assembly, Bhatti Vikramarka has remained silent on the Centre's denial of rightful funds. Questioning the Centre is not just a political need, but a responsibility," he said.

He accused the Deputy Chief Minister of remaining silent despite mounting financial pressure on Telangana due to pending central allocations. He urged the Congress to act, stating that it was "high time Bade Bhai (Prime Minister Narendra Modi) comes to the rescue of Chote Bhai (Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy) and ensures justice in fund allocations".

An error that turned into terror: Harish Rao describes Revanth Reddy in power



GNS News Agency, March 21

Hyderabad: Exposing the hollowness of Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy's claims of an economic slowdown in the country affecting Telangana's growth, former Finance Minister T Harish Rao pointed out that Telangana was registering negative growth rate in different sectors while neighbouring States were witnessing a positive growth. This was not because of an economic slowdown, but because of the Congress government's failure, he said, adding that the people of Telangana had made one error, that of electing Revanth Reddy, and that error was turning out to be a terror for them. Speaking during a general discussion on the budget in the Assembly on Friday, he pointed out that as per the CAG report, Telangana recorded only a 5.5 percent growth rate in GST collections in the last 11 months. This was against the State government's expectations of 20 per cent growth rate, he said pointing out that at the same time, Karnataka had registered a 10.72 per cent growth rate and Maharashtra 12 per cent while the national average was about 10 per cent. During the BRS tenure, the GST growth rate in Telangana was never below the national average, he said.

Similarly, the Stamps and Registration revenue had also declined drastically during the Congress rule. In the last budget, Finance Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka had expected the stamps and registration revenue to be Rs 18,244 crore, but in the last 11 months, only Rs 12,867 crore was generated, the former Minister said. Interestingly, the neighbouring Tamil Nadu registered 90 per cent of the expected revenue, Karnataka 85 per cent and Maharashtra 93 per cent. Telangana had registered only 77 per cent and the Congress government needs to self-introspect in this regard, he said. Regarding automobile sales, while Andhra Pradesh witnessed a 12 per cent increase, Tamil Nadu recorded a 32 per cent rise and Karnataka of eight per cent, while Telangana recorded a negative growth rate of 0.08 per cent, he pointed out. "Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy came up with the Telangana Rising slogan. In which sectors is Telangana Rising?" Harish Rao asked. Listing out the reasons for Telangana's sluggish growth, the former Minister pointed out that soon after coming to power, the Chief Minister had declared that the State had gone bankrupt. The Pharma City project was put on the backburner, plans for connecting the Hyderabad Metro to the international airport were canceled and demolition of houses on River Musi banks was taken up while the imposition of the 'RR' tax laid the path for negative growth, he said. "To cover up their failures, the Congress government is citing 'ardhika mandyam' (economic slowdown) but it is 'buddhi mandyam' (lack of intellect) that is leading to Telangana's negative growth," Harish Rao said, triggering opposition from Speaker G Prasad Kumar, who wanted the senior BRS MLA to refrain from using such language. Bhatti Vikramarka also found fault with the former Minister for his language in criticising the Treasury benches. In reply,

India crossed a monumental one billion tonnes of coal production: Kishan Reddy



Hyderabad, March 21 (NSS): Union Minister for coal & mines G Kishan Reddy wrote on Twitter that "With cutting-edge technologies and efficient methods, we've not only increased production but also ensured sustainable and responsible mining. This achievement will fuel our increasing power demands, drive economic growth, and ensure a brighter future for every Indian." G Kishan Reddy further wrote "Under the visionary leadership of PM Narendra Modi, India is on its path to becoming a global energy leader." The Minister extended his heartfelt congratulations to the dedicated workforce of the coal sector, serving as the backbone of the nation's energy security. He thanked them for their tireless efforts and commitment that made this milestone possible. PM Narendra Modi tweets on India crossing one Billion Tonnes of Coal Production: A Proud Moment for India! crossing the monumental milestone of one Billion tonnes of coal production is a remarkable achievement, highlighting our commitment to energy security, economic growth and self-reliance. This feat also reflects the dedication and hard work of all those associated with the sector. (NSS)

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Trump's Ukraine strategy puts Europe in a bind

The dramatic mineral deal between the US and Ukraine evokes a famous quote from American attorney and President Nixon's political adviser, Charles Colson: "When you have them by the balls, their hearts and minds will follow". This is a time when Ukraine is fighting for its survival, and powerful nations, particularly the US under Donald Trump, are primarily focused on its natural resources, prioritising their own material interests stemming from the outcome of this conflict.

While the Trump Administration's efforts to end the Russia-Ukraine War swiftly are seen as a welcoming step, the US President's underlying agenda to acquire Ukrainian minerals under the guise of resolving the conflict is being criticised globally. The post-Ukraine scenario will encourage countries worldwide to pursue nuclear programmes. Given the current geopolitical vulnerability of Ukraine, the post-Ukraine world order will further discourage nuclear disarmament, allowing nuclear powers like North Korea, India, Israel and Pakistan to continue retaining their nukes at any cost.

A famous proverb, "With great power comes great responsibility", originally coined by French author Voltaire but popularised by the Marvel Comics hero Spider-Man, reminds us of another well-known quote by the 16th US President, Abraham Lincoln: "Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man's character, give him power". In light of Trump's unilateral materialistic dictation and the Ukrainian mineral deal, the recent heated exchange between President Trump and President Zelenskyy has once again brought this quote into the spotlight.

ACDS hosts graduation ceremony of BDS & MBS students



Hyderabad, March 21 (NSS): Army College of Dental Sciences (ACDS) hosted the 19th Graduation ceremony for Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) and Master of Dental Surgery (MDS) students. The students received their degrees from the chief guest Jishnu Dev Varma, Governor of Telangana. The ceremony was attended by faculty, distinguished guests, and the graduates' families and friends.

The ceremony also included the conferring of awards and medals to the top-performing students who had excelled academically and in extracurricular activities. The "Patron's Rolling trophy, Dakshin Bharat Area" for overall best MDS student was awarded to Dr Surabhi Bhadauriya from the Department of Periodontics. Dr Teresa Gregory bagged "Chief of Army Staff Rolling Trophy" for best all-round student and Dr Sarah Raheel was awarded the "General Officer Commanding-in-Chief Rolling Trophy" for best BDS student in academics.

GITAM' MBA granted NBA accreditation



Hyderabad, March 21 (NSS): GITAM Deemed to be University has announced that Master of Business Administration (MBA) programme at its School of Business, Hyderabad Campus, has been granted accreditation by the National Board of Accreditation (NBA), New Delhi for a period of three years, till June 30, 2028.

The milestone marks a significant achievement for GITAM, as it is the first NBA accreditation received by the university since attaining Deemed-to-be University status in 2007. The recognition underscores the institution's commitment to academic excellence and high standards in business education.

Expressing their delight over this accomplishment, senior leadership at GITAM, including Vice-Chancellor Prof. Errol D'Souza, Registrar Prof. D. Gunasekaran, Pro Vice-Chancellor Prof. D.S. Rao, Resident Director DVVSR Varma, and Director of the School of Business Dr. Divya Kirti Gupta, commended the teams for their unwavering commitment to academic excellence and continuous improvement.

Godrej Jersey Unveils 3x3 Strategy for FY26: Focus on Three Hero Categories, Alongside Household Penetration, Market Expansion, and Product Innovation



Hyderabad: Godrej Jersey, a leader in the dairy industry down South, today unveiled its bold 3x3 Leapfrog Strategy for FY26. This forward-thinking initiative aims to expand the company's product range, drive higher market penetration, and enhance consumer experience through continuous innovation. By focusing on three core products—Badam Milk, Paneer, and Curd—Godrej Jersey is positioning itself to become a dominant force in the dairy value-added portfolio.

to significantly increase our market share by expanding our value-added products (VAP) portfolio, reinforcing our leadership in the southern dairy market. With these strategies in place, Godrej Jersey is poised to achieve a milestone of INR 1,000 Cr in topline revenue in Telangana within the next two years, fuelled by our market penetration, product innovations, and deepened consumer engagement.

Niva Bupa Launches 'Rise' for India's "Missing Middle"

Hyderabad: Niva Bupa Health Insurance Company Limited (Formerly known as Max Bupa Health Insurance Company Limited) — one of India's leading standalone health insurers has unveiled 'Rise'—a health insurance plan designed to make quality healthcare more accessible for India's "Missing Middle."



'Rise' has been designed after comprehensive consumer immersion with consumers in the middle class segment residing in both large and small cities of India to understand their lifestyle, needs and preferences. The interactions revealed insights that people in this cohort have seasonal income and are looking for tangible benefits to manage their health due to lack of good primary private health care.

of a private health insurance. This segment, comprising of nearly 40 crore Indians, which includes a significant portion of the middle class, is particularly vulnerable in times of medical emergencies, as they face the financial burden of high healthcare costs while lacking adequate coverage.

Birthday Celebrations of KP's 21st Century IAS Academy Chairman Mr. P. Krishna Pradeep



The birthday of Mr. P. Krishna Pradeep, Chairman of KP's 21st Century IAS Academy, Hyderabad, was celebrated with enthusiasm at the academy's campus in RTC cross roads. Musheerabad MLA Muta Gopal and his son Muta Jaisimha graced the occasion, extending his heartfelt wishes for Mr. Krishna Pradeep's long and prosperous life.

Directors of the academy—Mr. Bhavani Shankar, Mr. Varun, and Mr. Dhana Venu—also conveyed their best wishes. The celebration was attended by the academy's team, including Mr. Hari Krishna Goud other faculty members, who expressed their gratitude and appreciation for their chairman's contributions to the field of education and civil services training.

We are cancelling the land allotted to 3 hotels



He said that in the last five years, they have fought a lot for the sanctity of Tirumala. We said that we would start the purification from the Venkateswara Swamy temple after coming

to power. Permissions were given to Mumtaz, Emaar and Devalok hotels adjacent to the hill and 35.32 acres were allotted. We are cancelling these allocations. No one can do business or defile the seven hills. We request everyone working in TTD to take a step forward to protect the sanctity of Venkateswara Swamy but not to act for personal gain," he said . He also said they had made a commitment to

protect the properties of Venkateswara Swamy in the country and the world. Naidu made it clear that Those working in TTD should be Hindus and added that they would give opportunities to people of other religions at other places as a matter of respect. "There will be no people of other religions in Christian and Muslim temples either. The temples of any religion will be

inhabited by people of that religion. We have decided to build a temple of Lord Venkateswara Swamy in all the state capitals of the country. For this, we will write letters to the Chief Ministers of all the states. We will build temples of Lord Venkateswara Swamy in areas where there is a large Hindu population in the world," said CM Chandrababu Naidu. (NSS)

South India Drives Nearly Half of JSW MG Motor India's Total EV Sales in CY24



Hyderabad :JSW MG Motor India, country's leading electric carmaker, announced that nearly half of their EVs sold in CY2024, were driven by the South India market. According to VAHAN, the company retailed a total of 22,646 units across India, with 10,698 units sold in South India alone.

Karnataka emerged as the highest selling EV state for JSW MG Motor India followed by Telangana and Kerala during this period. Such impressive sales numbers, highlights the strong market presence and increasing customer trust on MG EVs in these states. JSW MG Motor India's EV portfolio continues to cater to a wide spectrum of customer needs.

2024
All India Total EV sales
22,646
Total Sales in South India
10,698
South contribution
47.2%

The MG Windsor starts at INR 9.99L + Battery-as-a-Service @INR 3.9/km and has captivated car buyers in India with its overall pricing and packaging. As a result, it has emerged as the best-selling EV in India, since launch. The MG Comet starts at an attractive starting price of INR4.99L + Battery-as-a-Service @ INR2.5/km and is India's street-smart car, enabling customers to beat the traffic with style.

No plans to impose toll on rural, State roads: Komatireddy



Hyderabad, March 21 (NSS): Minister for Roads and Buildings Komatireddy Venkat Reddy shared positive news for motorists in Telangana State. During a discussion on the Budget in the Assembly on Friday, he emphasised that the government has no intention of introducing tolls on rural and State roads.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the General Public at large that my client namely Sri Kotnak Kosha Rao S/o. Kotnak Lachu R/o. H.No. 1-90, Keslapur, Adilabad presently residing at Adilabad Town that he has lost his Original Sale Doct. Nos.5383/2010, 1204/2018 and Agreement of Sale cum GPA Deed Doct. No.2741/2016 Pertaining to Plot No. 69 measuring 30 x 60 = 1800 Sq Ft. Nos. 56/1, 56/2, 56/3 & 56/4 while he was proceeding on Motor Cycle to a Xerox Center at Ramnagar, Dasnapur, Adilabad and in spite of his search it was not traced out.

No proposals to increase electricity tariffs:

Hyderabad, March 21 (NSS): Musharraf Faruqi, the Chairman and Managing Director of the Telangana Southern Power Distribution Company Limited (TGSPL), has announced that there are currently no plans to raise electricity tariffs this year.

Sanjay Kumar Vairagare Advocate Yamuna Vihar, H.No.14-15 Plot No. 21, Kailasnagar, Adilabad. Mobile No: 9440064412

Chandrababu offers prayers at Tirumala



Earlier, he reached Mahadwaram along with his family through Vaikuntham Queue Complex. He was offered the traditional Isthikapal welcome at the main entrance by temple priests while the TTD Chairman BR Naidu along with the EO Syamala Rao and Additional EO Ch Venkaiah Chowdary welcomed the Head of the State and his family.

After Darshan of Srivaru, the CM was offered Sesha Vastram of Swamy Varu and later the Vedaseevachanam by the Vedic scholars was offered at Ranganayakula Mandapam. The CM and other dignitaries were offered Srivari Theerthprasadam, lamination photo of Srivaru, Agarbattis, Panchagavya products, dry flower technology photo of Srivaru and Sri Viswvasu Nama Panchangam. After the darshan of Tirumala temple, Chandrababu Naidu visited Matrushri Tarigonda Vengamamba Annarasadam Complex along with his family members and rendered Annarasada Seva to the devotees. On the occasion, the birthday of his grandson, he donated the Rs 44 lakh for one-day Annarasadam requirements of devotees at MTVAC in Tirumala through online. While serving Annarasadam, he interacted with the devotees over the facilities being provided by TTD and on the taste of Annarasadam. Later, the CM and all his family members had Annarasadam along with the devotees.

Tirumala, March 21 (NSS): Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu offered prayers in Tirumala temple along with his family on Friday. On the occasion of the birthday of his grandson Nara Devansh, the Chief Minister along with his wife Bhuaneswari, his son and Minister, Nara Lokesh, daughter-in-law Nara Brahmani and grandson Nara Devansh offered prayers to Sri Venkateswara Swamy inside the sanctum sanctorum.

SCR Conducts Inspection of Karimnagar – Ramagundam – Warangal – Kazipet Section



Hyderabad, March 21 (NSS): Arun Kumar Jain, General Manager, South Central Railway (SCR) undertook a detailed inspection of Karimnagar – Ramagundam – Warangal – Kazipet section of Secunderabad Division on Friday. He was accompanied by Bhartesh Kumar Jain, Divisional Railway Manager, Secunderabad Division and other senior officials from both the Headquarters and Division throughout the inspection.

Arun Kumar Jain commenced the inspection at Karimnagar Railway station, wherein he reviewed the passenger amenities and circulating area. He also reviewed the progress of on-going redevelopment works at the station undertaken with a cost of Rs. 25.89 crores as part of Amrit Bharat Station scheme (ABSS). He examined the safety procedures and guidelines being followed while carrying out construction works. Further, he carried out a rear window inspection from Karimnagar to Ramagundam section, wherein he reviewed the safety aspects of signals and maintenance of tracks. The General Manager inspected Ramagundam Railway station. He examined the passenger amenities, circulating area, station master's office and station records. He also reviewed the redevelopment works undertaken at the station as part of ABSS with a cost of Rs.26.49 crores. Further, the General Manager carried out a detailed inspection of Warangal Railway station, he reviewed the passenger amenities, facilities, waiting hall and

also interacted with the passengers at the station. He also visited the Rail coach restaurant at the station and interacted with the customers. Further, he reviewed the progress of on-going redevelopment works at the station undertaken with a cost of Rs. 25.41 crores. He observed the safety precautions and procedures being followed as part of the construction works. Later, Arun Kumar Jain, General Manager along with senior officials held a safety interaction session with the crew members at Kazipet. The General Manager interacted with the Loco Pilots, Assistant Loco Pilots and Loco Inspectors at Kazipet and enquired about the working environment and reiterated on safety guidelines.(NSS)

Court today. It is known that a case was recently registered against Shyamala at the Punjagutta Police Station in Hyderabad for promoting a betting app. Shyamala approached the High Court regarding this and challenged the FIR registered against her. In her petition, she stated that the FIR registered against her should be quashed.

After hearing the arguments of both the parties, the HC ordered the police not to arrest Shyamala until further orders. With this, she got a big relief. At the same time, the High Court ordered anchor Shyamala to cooperate with the investigation officers. It has been clarified that she will appear before the police for questioning from Monday. The Telangana High Court has stated that the investigation can be continued by giving a notice. Cases have been filed against social media influencers in the case for promoting betting the apps along with Shyamala. It is known that the police questioned anchors Vishnu Priya and Ritu Chaudhary at length on Thursday in this case. (NSS)

YSRCP leader Shyamala gets relief in HC in betting apps case



Hyderabad, March 21 (NSS): YSR Congress leader and anchor Shyamala got relief from the Telangana High

Don't be greedy for money, Narayana advises film industry

Hyderabad, March 21 (NSS): CPI national secretary Dr K. Narayana has advised the film industry not to give publicity to betting apps that destroy the youth for the sake of earning money and commercial advertisements that spoil the society. He suggested that the sacred medium of art should be used only in useful ways for the development of the society.

Responding to the case registered by the Madhapur and Panjagutta police in Hyderabad against some film personalities who promoted the betting apps, Narayana strongly condemned the use of the fame gained through the film industry to commit immoral acts out of the obsession with making money. Speaking to media persons at Andhra Bhavan in Delhi, the CPI leader alleged that the lives of the youth were being ruined by promoting the betting apps. In the past, people like Allu Ramalingaiah have used art for the development of society. He expressed his anger over those who earn a regular income in the film industry acting in many unethical advertisements that mislead the society for more income. He criticized the statement of one person that they promoted betting apps without their knowl-

edge and another that they did it because there was a legal opportunity. He also said people easily believe the things you act on and promote due to your popularity and are seriously troubled by it. He clarified that it was not a crime to continue promoting betting apps even though incidents of thousands of youth falling victim to them are coming to light. He opined that the government should take strict action against this matter. Narayana said they were harming the society by acting in the advertisements for gutka, paan spices, real estate and fraudulent gold businesses. He recalled that film hero Chiranjeevi responded to his comments made during the Coca-Cola company's previous ad and announced that he would no longer do such ads. He said there were many loopholes in the laws and added that the US President Trump had openly stated that he was avoiding many cases based on loopholes in the law. He said there was an occasion when a judge ruled that gutka was also a food item in our country. However, he clarified that morality is more important than law and money. He also said the film industry should stay away from all types of commercial advertisements that are harmful to society. (NSS)

Centre acting against spirit of federal system: Jupally

Hyderabad, March 21 (NSS): Minister for Tourism Jupally Krishna Rao has expressed concerns that the Union government is undermining the principles of federalism and providing inadequate support to Telangana regarding fund allocations. During a debate on the Budget in the Legislative Assembly on Friday, he addressed points raised by BJP MLA Maheshwar Reddy regarding the Musi rejuvenation project.

Jupally Krishna Rao highlighted that while significant funds are being directed to states like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Gujarat, Telangana is receiving only a minimal portion of the tax revenue. He emphasised that the central government is exhibiting bias by failing to distribute funds in line with the taxes contributed by the state to the Union. "There is a necessity for the central government to

take responsible action regarding the national status of the Musi rejuvenation initiative, as well as the Kaleshwaram and Palamuru-Ranga Reddy projects and other development activities," Jupally said.

The Minister emphasized the pressing need to restore the Musi River, which has become highly polluted, and to safeguard it from the unpleasant odors and mosquito issues associated with it. He noted that he himself has been affected by these conditions.

He further elaborated that the Musi Rejuvenation project will be implemented to enhance the lives of those impacted by the river's condition, attract investments, create job opportunities for the unemployed youth, boost state revenue, and foster tourism. (NSS)

SSC exams start from Friday, wrong paper given to students delaying exam



Hyderabad, March 21 (NSS): The 10th Class examinations have started in Telangana State today. However, the negligence of the authorities was revealed on the first day of the exams. The exam started two hours late a wrong question paper was given. Another paper was immediately brought and the exam was written. This incident took place in Mancherial district.

The 10th class exams started almost two hours late at the ZP Boys High School exam centre in the district headquarters. All the students reached the exam centers in the morning. They sat in their allotted seats in the exam hall. They got ready to write the exams. The invigilators there gave the question paper to the students. However, all the students were taken aback when they saw the question paper. They were a little scared, wondering what it was. The officials distributed another paper instead of one question paper. The officials were shocked when the students identified it and told them. The students wrote the exam almost two hours late as another paper was brought in a hurry. However, the matter of the tampering of the question paper came to the attention of the Collector. With this, the Collector became serious about the negligence of the staff regarding the question papers and the delay in the exam. As another paper was received instead of the real question paper, the Collector issued orders to the DEO to immediately conduct an investigation and submit a report. There is widespread criticism of the negligence of the officials regarding the question papers of the tenth grade exams. (NSS)

Telangana has a debt of 8.8 lakh crore: BJLP Leader

Hyderabad, March 21 (NSS):BJP Legislative Party Leader Aleti Maheshwar Reddy today said Telangana's debt was Rs 8.8 lakh crore. He criticized the Congress government for borrowing more than Rs 1700 crore per day. He spoke during the debate on the budget in the Assembly in the city. Speaking on the occasion, he claimed that the Congress government was borrowing more than Rs 1 crore per minute. "The debt burden on each person in the State is Rs 2.27 lakh. How can Telangana develop if there is a large amount of debt? The Finance Commission funds increased during the NDA regime compared to the UPA regime. During the UPA regime, States had a 32% share of Central taxes. Then, their share of Central taxes was not increased by even 2 to 3 per cent.

After the Modi government came to power, they increased their share of the Central taxes by 10% to 42%. It is not right to criticize the Centre even after increasing the

share of taxes," he said. Reddy also said the promises made were being violated by the government. Stating that the people thought that if Telangana comes, their lives will change, he said the State had become a pile of debt. Stating that the previous government borrowed lakhs of crore in ten years, he accused the previous government of wasting funds by going for big things. He also accused the Congress of not investigating the corruption and irregularities of the previous government for 15 months even after coming to power. Reddy claimed that the State government was looking to increase the State's income through the sale of government lands and liquor. "Revenue expenditure and capital expenditure are equal now. It is not a good governance and welfare government, but a government of commissions," he alleged while wondering whether the Telangana model mean commissions, demolitions and evasion of promises? (NSS)

Harish Rao slams govt over budget



Hyderabad, March 21 (NSS): Former minister Harish Rao has come down heavily on CM Revanth Reddy and deputy CM Bhatti Vikramarka, who promised to fill two lakh jobs per year as soon as the Congress party came to power. "It has been over a year since the Congress party came to power. Where are the two lakh jobs," Harish Rao asked. He spoke during the discussion on the budget in the Legislative Assembly.

He said Bhatti Vikramarka's budget had poured wa-

ter on the hopes of the unemployed. "Those who said two lakh jobs in the first year showed their stubborn hands to the unemployed youth now. Bhatti sprinkled buckets of water on the hopes of those who were waiting to see if they would not give them any job this year. Before the elections, from Revanth to Rahul Gandhi, they circled around Ashok Nagar. Rahul Gandhi tweeted that he would keep his promise by giving jobs. What did he do? He provoked people by organizing bus tours to every village. He turned the unemployed into his party workers and took them from house to house. He made them believe then, but today he has drowned them," alleged Harish Rao. He claimed that CM Revanth Reddy spread misinformation that the BRS government did not give a single job. "The government that fulfilled the goals of the Telangana movement, funds, water and appointments, is ours. Why did the Telangana movement come about? What did Telangana fight for from Mulki Rules to 610'GO? Local jobs should go to the locals. Former CM KCR achieved the presidential orders to procure 95% of the jobs to Telangana youth," he said. He demanded a conditional apology for misleading the House and deceiving the women's world by not fulfilling the promises made to them. (NSS)

MLC Kavitha attacks govt over its debt claims

Hyderabad, March 21 (NSS): BRS party MLC Kalvakuntla Kavitha today said Chief Minister Revanth Reddy was lying about the State's financial situation just to blame former CM KCR. She said the Chief Minister would get a Guinness record for lying. "If the CM and ministers do not stop lying, privilege notices will be given in the House. Congress leaders cheated the people by giving 420 promises, bringing the Gandhi family to sign, giving guarantees and getting votes. Despite all this, the Congress party got only one percent more votes than the BRS party," she said. She also said the people did not reject the BRS party. She said he would listen to the public and came to the program only once.

Even though the CM said he would meet the people every day, the Chief Minister did not want to meet the people and alleged that Revanth Reddy was ruling by sitting in the police command control room. Kavitha said this budget was proof of the Congress party's corruption and cunningness. "Corruption is part of Congress DNA.. Congress government has not prioritized any sector.. Congress government has no vision.. It only governs by cursing KCR.. Even though KCR was cursed millions of times during the movement, they turned into blessings. The Congress party repeatedly spreads bad news about debts during KCR's rule.. The budget has shown that the propaganda being done by Con-



gress party is false.. During the 10-year BRS rule, the debts incurred under FRBM limit were only Rs 3 lakh crore. The amount of guarantees given by BRS government for the loans taken by the respective corporations was only Rs 1,21,000 crores. That means the total debt incurred during BRS rule was only Rs 4 lakh 22 thousand crore. The government itself has stated these figures in the budget documents. Then why does Congress party repeatedly lie about debts?, Kavitha questioned. (NSS)

BRS delegation departs for Southern States Conference on Delimitation

Hyderabad, March 21 (NSS): A delegation from the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS), led by its working president K.T. Rama Rao has departed for Chennai to attend a conference of Southern States scheduled for tomorrow, aimed at discussing the delimitation policy. In this conference, KTR is set to address the current delimitation policy, highlighting the losses it has caused and will continue to cause to southern States, while also proposing measures to rectify this injustice. Under KTR's leadership, a team comprising several senior BRS party leaders will participate in the conference. KTR has warned that the current delimitation policy weakens the representation of southern States, severely impacting these States that play a crucial role in the country's economic development. The BRS, which has consistently opposed this policy from the outset, will elaborate on its stance during tomorrow's meeting. KTR emphasized that the BRS has been at the forefront of identifying and raising awareness about the injustice faced by southern States, consistently informing the public and leading the

fight on this issue. He expressed hope that, following tomorrow's conference, all southern States would unite and stand together for the future of their people, who have paved the way for the nation's progress. The BRS leadership believes that this conference will strengthen the unity of southern States and send a strong message of Opposition to the Central government regarding the proposed delimitation policy. (NSS)

First day SSC exam completes smoothly

Hyderabad, March 21 (NSS): The Day-1 Examination (first Language) of SSC Public Examinations, March-2025 has been completed smoothly on March 21, 2025, in which 2,650 centres were functioning and over 4.95 Lakh students (99.67%) appeared. In this connection, it is to inform that some photographs of question paper are being circulated in WhatsApp to create confusion.

Türkiye police arrest Istanbul Mayor Imamoglu, a key Erdogan rival, over alleged corruption and terror links



GNS News Agency, March 21

Turkish police on Wednesday (March 18, 2025) arrested Istanbul's Mayor — a key rival of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan — as part of an investigation into alleged corruption and terror links, media reported. The state-run Anadolu Agency said prosecutors issued warrants for some 100 other people. Authorities closed several roads around Istanbul and banned demonstrations in the city for four days in an apparent effort to prevent protests following the arrest.

The arrest came after a search of Ekrem Imamoglu's home, a day after a University invalidated his diploma, effectively disqualifying the popular opposition figure from running in the next presidential race. Having a University degree is a requisite for running in elections under Turkish law. The Mayor's party — the main opposition Republican

People's Party — is to hold a primary on Sunday where Mr. Imamoglu was expected to be chosen for its candidate in future presidential elections. Türkiye's next presidential vote is scheduled for 2028, but early elections are likely.

"We are facing great tyranny, but I want you to know that I will not be discouraged," Mr. Imamoglu said in a video message posted on social media. He accused the government of "usurping the will" of the people. In nullifying Imamoglu's diploma, Istanbul University cited alleged irregularities in his 1990 transfer from a private university in northern Cyprus to its Faculty of Business Administration. Imamoglu said he would challenge the decision. The opposition leader faces multiple lawsuits, including allegations of trying to influence a judicial expert investigating opposition-led municipalities. The cases could result in prison sentences and a political ban. Mr. Imamoglu is also appealing a 2022 conviction of insulting members of Türkiye's Supreme Electoral Council, a case that could result in a political ban. He was elected Mayor of Türkiye's largest city in March 2019 in a historic blow to Mr. Erdogan and the President's Justice and Development Party, which had controlled Istanbul for a quarter-century. The party pushed to void the municipal election results in the city of 16 million, alleging irregularities. The challenge resulted in a repeat of the election a few months later, which Mr. Imamoglu also won. The Mayor retained his seat following local elections last year, during which his party made significant gains against Mr. Erdogan's governing party.

Pakistan Army chief General Asim Munir calls for turning country into 'hard state' in fight against terrorism

GNS News Agency, March 21

Pakistan Army chief General Asim Munir on Tuesday (March 18, 2025) emphasised the need to turn Pakistan into a "hard state," asserting that the struggle against militancy was "a battle" for the country's "survival". Gen. Munir made the remarks at a high-level meeting of the Parliamentary Committee on National Security convened days after Baloch militants hijacked a passenger train, resulting in the deaths of 25 passengers. National Assembly Speaker Ayaz Sadiq chaired the in-camera meeting, which he convened on the advice of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to review the country's security situation. At the meeting, the country's top civil and military leadership stressed a unified political commitment to combat militancy and terrorism with full force.



mittee members stressed the need for immediate implementation of the National Action Plan and Operation Azm-i-Istehkam (a counter-terrorism initiative) to dismantle terrorist networks, counter logistical support, and dismantle the nexus between terrorism and crime.

They also expressed concern over terrorist groups increasingly using social media platforms to spread propaganda, recruit followers, and coordinate their networks and called for a curb on the use of social media for such purposes. "The committee reiterated that no institution, individual or group working in collusion with hostile forces will be allowed to harm the peace and stability of Pakistan," it stated. It also regretted the lack of participation by some opposition members and reiterated that the consultation process in this regard would continue. The PTI-led opposition alliance Tehreek Tahafuz-i-Ayeeen Pakistan (TTAP) also stayed away. "The PTI founder should also be invited to such a meeting and without him, no meeting will have significance," said TTAP chief Mahmood Khan Achakzai while addressing a press conference with PTI leaders.

"Pakistan's dire circumstances require a joint session of parliament. [However], everyone should have a chance to speak in the joint session," he said. Reacting to the PTI's decision not to attend the security meeting, Defence Minister Khawaja Asif said the party was doing politics on the issue. "The PTI has proved today that Imran Khan is their first and last priority [and that the] country's well-being and peace does not hold importance for them," Mr. Asif said on X. The meeting was held days after the country was shaken on March 11, when terrorists belonging to the banned Baloch Liberation Army (BLA) hijacked a train with about 425 passengers on board in the Bolan area of Balochistan. Last week, apart from the Jaffar Express train incident and an attack on a security caravan in the Nushki area, rebels carried out several attacks in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, targeting police and other security organisations. The security situation seems volatile in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan provinces, where terrorists belonging to Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan and BLA have repeatedly attacked the security personnel and civilians.

Fraser Town's loss is Koramangala's gain this Ramzan

GNS News Agency, March 21

As Mosque Road near Fraser Town sees a decline in Ramadan food business this year owing to civic work, Koramangala emerges as the most popular destination for those wanting to try the unique delicacies. The Fraser Town Residents' Welfare Association (FTRWA) had petitioned for a ban on street stalls the previous years due to concerns over congestion, waste management, and noise pollution. This year, ongoing roadwork has exacerbated the situation, forcing street vendors to relocate or shut down their stalls. Stalls that are operating reported around 50% to 70% decline in business.



Patgar Jaffer from Taj Restaurant said: "Sales are down by 50% this year. Before, we made around ₹4 lakh to ₹5 lakh, but now, with no street stalls and parking issues, fewer people are coming. It's not the same as before." Taj Restaurant is popular for its dishes like beef shawarma, tandoori fish, and mutton samosas. Zein, cashier of another restaurant, noted that customers are finding it difficult to locate the food counters. "People usually come with much excitement, but when they don't see the usual stalls, they go back. We introduce new items every year, but this time, fewer people are trying them. The road construction and lack of visibility are major issues," he said. However, some of the regular customers said that they preferred the calmer, cleaner atmosphere over the chaos that used to be there every year in recent times. Fathima Musthafa, who has been coming to Mosque Road for eight years, said: "This year, the crowd is much less. People can walk around freely and the quality of old restaurants is being maintained." On the other side, business has been booming in Koramangala 5th block where the Ramadan Food Mela has been organised with more than 50 stalls and an average footfall of 5,000 people every day. Afza owns a bakery stall which offers a variety of sweets, including malwa pudding, kunafa, bread malai roll, walnut pudding, Arabian pudding, and tiramisu. He said that kunafa and malai roll are his best-selling items with 50 to 100 pieces being sold every day. "People prefer Koramangala over Fraser Town as everything is available under one roof," he said. The profitable business in Koramangala is due to its location being a commercial area rather than residential, say stall owners. Many of them have also shifted from Fraser Town to Koramangala and some of their regular customers now arrive at their new stalls to eat their old favourites. "Sweets like rabdi malai are mainly famous during Ramzan with a sale of 100 to 120 pieces per day. One of my regular customer took sweets worth ₹8,500 recently," said Hussain, owner of M.K. Lazeer in Koramangala. When asked about choosing Koramangala over other food streets, he highlighted the better security and safety measures. Places like Kamanahalli, Bamboo Bazaar, and Adinagar are organising Ramzan food mela this year. Although business has not peaked yet, stalls in Johnson Market and Shivajinagar are also seeing good footfall. Hamza from Hamza Juice Corner, a stall with variety of juices like Mohabbat-e-sheerab, raw mango, and blue lime, has over five stalls in different Ramzan food streets.

Trump-Putin call: Key highlights from White House, Kremlin statements



GNS News Agency, March 21

The White House says a lengthy phone call between Presidents Donald Trump and Vladimir Putin had achieved "movement to peace" in Russia's invasion of Ukraine. But while Tuesday's call ended with Mr. Putin and Mr. Trump agreeing on an immediate pause on strikes against energy infrastructure, the Kremlin makes clear that Russia has many additional demands before it will consider a broader ceasefire. Much of the significantly shorter White House statement, meanwhile, looks ahead to Mr. Trump's hopes of improved relations with Russia. Here's what the White House and Kremlin said of what Putin and Trump discussed: "Today, President Trump and President Putin spoke about the need for peace and a ceasefire in the Ukraine war. Both leaders agreed this conflict needs to end with a lasting peace. They also stressed the need for improved bilateral relations between the United States and Russia. The blood and treasure that both Ukraine and Russia have been spending in this war would be better spent on the needs of their people." This conflict should never have started and should have been ended long ago with sincere and good faith peace efforts. The leaders agreed that the movement to peace will begin with an energy and infrastructure ceasefire, as well as technical negotiations on implementation of a maritime ceasefire in the Black Sea, full ceasefire and permanent peace. These negotiations will begin immediately in the Middle East.

The leaders spoke broadly about the Middle East as a region of potential cooperation to prevent future conflicts. They further discussed the need to stop proliferation of strategic weapons and will engage with others to ensure the broadest possible application. The two leaders shared the view that Iran should never be in a position to destroy Israel. The two leaders agreed that a future with an improved bilateral relationship between the United States and Russia has huge upside. This includes enormous economic deals and geopolitical stability when peace has been achieved. The leaders continued a detailed and frank exchange of views on the situation around Ukraine. Vladimir Putin expressed gratitude to Donald Trump for his desire to help achieve the noble goal of ending hostilities and human losses. The Russian President declared his readiness to thoroughly work out possible ways to resolve the conflict together with his American partners, which should be comprehensive, sustainable and long-term. And, of course, to take into account the absolute need to eliminate the root causes of the crisis and ensure Russia's legitimate interests in the field of security. In the context of the U.S. President's initiative to introduce a 30-day ceasefire, the Russian side outlined a number of significant points regarding ensuring effective control

over a possible ceasefire along the entire line of contact, the necessity to stop the forced mobilization in Ukraine and the rearmament of the Ukrainian armed forces. Serious risks associated with the Kyiv's regime inability to respect agreements were also noted, given that it has repeatedly sabotaged and violated agreements that have been reached. Attention was drawn to the barbaric terrorist crimes committed by Ukrainian fighters against the civilian population of the Kursk region. It was emphasized that the key condition for preventing the escalation of the conflict and working toward its resolution through political and diplomatic means should be a complete cessation of foreign military aid and the provision of intelligence information to Kyiv. Vladimir Putin confirmed that the Russian side is ready to be guided by humanitarian considerations and, in the event of their surrender, guarantees the lives and decent treatment of the Ukrainian Armed Forces soldiers in accordance with Russian laws and the norms of international law.

Donald Trump put forward a proposal for the parties to the conflict to mutually refrain from attacks on energy infrastructure facilities for 30 days. Vladimir Putin responded positively to this initiative and immediately gave the Russian military the appropriate command. The Russian President also responded constructively to Donald Trump's idea of implementing a well-known initiative concerning the safety of navigation in the Black Sea. It was agreed to begin negotiations to further work out specific details of such an agreement. Vladimir Putin informed that on March 19 a prisoner exchange will be carried out between the Russian and Ukrainian sides — 175 for 175 people. In addition, as a gesture of goodwill, 23 seriously wounded Ukrainian servicemen who are undergoing treatment in Russian medical institutions will be handed over. The leaders confirmed their intention to continue bilateral efforts to achieve a Ukrainian settlement, including taking into account the above-mentioned proposals of the U.S. President. For this purpose, Russian and American expert groups are being created. Vladimir Putin and Donald Trump also touched upon other issues on the international agenda, including the situation in the Middle East and the Red Sea region. Joint efforts will be made to stabilize the situation in crisis areas, establish cooperation on nuclear non-proliferation and global security. This, in turn, will contribute to improving the overall atmosphere of Russian-American relations. One of the positive examples is the vote made in solidarity in the U.N. on the resolution regarding the Ukrainian conflict. Mutual interest in normalizing bilateral relations was expressed in light of the special responsibility of Russia and the United States for ensuring security and stability in the world. In this context, a wide range of areas in which our countries could establish interaction was considered.

Aurangzeb's tomb in Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar turns 'no-drone zone' as emotions run high

GNS News Agency, March 21

Amid calls for the removal of Aurangzeb's tomb at Khultabad in Maharashtra's Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar district, the administration has declared the grave of the Mughal ruler a "no drone" zone, an official said on Wednesday (March 19, 2025). On the social media sphere, police are busy tracking "objectionable" posts over the matter and getting them deleted, another official said. Over 500 such online posts have been deleted so far, he said. Demonstrations have been held across the State seeking the removal of Aurangzeb's tomb at Khultabad town, about 25 km from the district headquarters, with many politicians echoing the call. Such a protest sparked violence in Nagpur on Monday. The district administration has made the area a "no drone" zone, an official said, adding that a State reserve police force company and 50 other personnel have been deployed in the town to maintain law and order. District Collector Dilip Swami, who visited the Archaeological Society of Indian-protected site on Tuesday, told reporters, "No one should believe in rumours and people should contact the administration or the police if they have any information concerning the matter." Meanwhile, a team of ten police personnel and officials is working round the



clock in Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar city to track provocative posts on social media platforms and get those removed, he said. Cyber Police Inspector Shivcharan Pandhare told PTI, "The hashtag (#) Alamgir and Aurangzeb are trending. We are using these hashtags to check such posts and the offensive comments tied to them." The official said they have got 506 posts removed from various social media platforms so far and warned over 80 individuals to desist from posting incendiary content online. "But from now onwards, we will register offences against those behind objectionable posts," he added.

Tesla dealerships under attack in US as Musk takes up vital role under Trump administration

GNS News Agency, March 21

Seattle: Cybertrucks set ablaze. Bullets and Molotov cocktails aimed at Tesla showrooms. Attacks on property carrying the logo of Elon Musk's electric-car company are cropping up across the US and overseas. While no injuries have been reported, Tesla showrooms, vehicle lots, charging stations and privately owned cars have been targeted. There has been a clear uptick since President Donald Trump took office and empowered Musk to oversee a new Department of Government Efficiency that is slashing government spending. Experts on domestic extremism say it's impossible to know yet if the spate of incidents will balloon into a long-term pattern. In Trump's first term, his properties in New York City, Washington and elsewhere became a natural place for protest. In the early days of his second term, Tesla is filling that role. "Tesla is an easy target," said Randy Blazak, a sociologist who studies political violence. "They're rolling down our streets. They have dealerships in our neighborhoods." Musk critics have

organised dozens of peaceful demonstrations at Tesla dealerships and factories across North America and Europe. Some Tesla owners, including a US senator who feuded with Musk, have vowed to sell their vehicles. But the attacks are keeping law enforcement busy. Prosecutors in Colorado charged a woman last month in connection with a string of attacks on Tesla dealerships, including Molotov cocktails thrown at vehicles and the words "Nazi cars" spray-painted on a building. And federal agents in South Carolina last week arrested a man they say set fire to Tesla charging stations near Charleston. An agent from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives wrote in an affidavit that authorities found writings critical of the government and DOGE in his bedroom and wallet. "The statement made mention of sending a message based on these beliefs," the agent wrote. A number of the most prominent incidents have been reported in left-leaning cities in the Pacific Northwest, like Portland, Oregon, and Seattle, where anti-Trump and anti-Musk sentiment runs high.



All you need to know about: cervical cancer



GNS News Agency, March 21

The cervix is the lower part of the uterus that connects to the vagina. Cervical cancer starts when the cells in the cervix begin to grow abnormally. These changes in the cells often take years to develop, which is why regular check-ups are very important. Early changes, known as precancerous conditions, can be detected through a routine pap smear. Cervical cancer is a major health issue for women around the world. However, it is one of the easiest cancers to prevent and treat if diagnosed early. With the right knowledge about its causes, symptoms, and prevention, women can reduce the risk of cervical cancer. The main cause of cervical cancer is a virus called human papillomavirus (HPV). This virus spreads through sexual contact. Most people who get HPV never even know they have it because the body usually fights it off on its own. But sometimes, the virus doesn't go away and can cause abnormal changes in the cervix that might turn into cancer later.

Certain factors increase a woman's risk of cervical cancer. Unprotected sexual intercourse, smoking, hormonal contraceptives, and sexually transmitted diseases can all contribute to this risk.

In the early stages, cervical cancer usually doesn't cause symptoms, which is why regular screenings are vital. As it progresses, women might notice signs such as an unusual discharge or bleeding between periods, bleeding after sexual intercourse, or bleeding after menopause. Other symptoms can include pelvic pain, pain during sexual intercourse, heavier-than-usual periods, or unexplained weight loss. If you have any of these symptoms, it is recommended to see a doctor right away. Cervical cancer screening is essential for prevention and early detection. The two main tests used are the Papanicolaou (Pap) test and the HPV

screening. The pap test looks for abnormal changes in cervical cells, while the HPV screening checks for the virus that can cause these changes. Doctors recommend that women start getting pap tests at age 21 and continue every few years based on their age and medical history. For women aged 30 to 65, combining a pap test with an HPV test every five years is another effective option. Regular screenings can help catch any issues early, making treatment more successful and significantly reducing the risk of developing cervical cancer. When it comes to cervical cancer, one of the best ways to prevent it is by getting the HPV vaccine. This vaccine works best when given before exposure to the virus, usually between the ages of 9 and 12. However, it is still helpful for people up to age 45 and, in some cases, even older. Boys also receive the HPV vaccine, as it not only protects them from penile, anal, and throat cancers, but also contributes to reducing the overall transmission of the virus, benefiting public health.

Healthy habits also go a long way in reducing the risk of cervical cancer. Quitting smoking, eating a balanced diet, practicing safe sex, and staying physically active can all help. It is also crucial to follow up on any abnormal test results and get regular check-ups. If a woman is diagnosed with cervical cancer, treatment will depend on how far the cancer has progressed. In the early stages, surgery may be enough to remove the cancer. For more advanced cases, radiation therapy or chemotherapy (or both) may be given. These treatments work to destroy cancer cells and stop them from spreading. Being diagnosed with cervical cancer can feel overwhelming, but it is important to remember that many women recover and go on to lead full, healthy lives. Having support from family, friends, and healthcare providers can make a big difference. There are also many support groups and organisations that offer help and resources for women and their families during this time. Early detection through regular screenings, HPV vaccinations, and healthy lifestyle choices can significantly reduce risks. By staying informed about the importance of these measures, women can take proactive steps to protect their health and prevent cervical cancer. Scheduling regular screenings and discussing the HPV vaccine with your doctor are crucial actions to take. Early detection can lead to more effective treatments, improve outcomes and save lives. Together, we can work towards a future where cervical cancer is no longer a threat. Empower yourself today by prioritising your health and making informed decisions that can lead to a healthier tomorrow.

Rigorous fitness routine awaits Sunita Williams, Barry Wilmore on earth



The story so far: At around 3 am IST on March 19, a capsule bearing the astronauts Sunita Williams, Barry Wilmore, Aleksandr Gorbunov, and Nick Hague will splash down off the coast of Florida, US. The four will be returning from the International Space Station back to the earth. Of them, Ms. Williams and Mr. Wilmore will be wrapping up a roughly nine-month stay on the ISS, which they reached in June last year onboard Boeing's Starliner capsule. Mr. Gorbunov and Mr. Hague will be returning after a six-month stay onboard the ISS. NASA — which employs Mr. Hague, Ms. Williams, and Mr. Wilmore — has a regimen in place for the trio to follow now that they are back, to ensure they are in good health and are able to re-adapt to living with gravity after spending months in microgravity. (Mr. Gorbunov is from Russia's Roscosmos.)

How does extended spaceflight affect humans?

The ISS is in low-earth orbit and its occupants experience microgravity, i.e. a very small but non-zero gravitational force. This affects the body in many ways, including allowing fluids to flow more easily towards the brain, reducing the tension acting on muscles, and lowering bone density. These consequences have cascading effects of their own. For example, the lower bone density causes more minerals to be deposited in the kidneys instead, leading to a higher risk of kidney stones. Thus, astronauts like Ms. Williams and Mr. Wilmore maintain a strict routine of exercises and dieting onboard the ISS, tailored among other things to help increase the blood-cell regeneration rate, work the heart, and engage the brain. NASA and other space agencies also have crafted specific programmes to make sure astronauts don't become stressed or anxious by their workload or by the confined space they're forced to occupy for months at a time. While more and more people have gone to space with each new decade, the data about the effects of spaceflight on their bodies and minds is insufficient to make proper conclusions with. This is because the number of spacefaring individuals is still much smaller than in a clinical trial; human bodies can differ on a variety of parameters; and different missions have different spaceflight profiles. Many agencies are currently pursuing programmes to systematically study astronauts' health, including a standardised set of tests and benchmarks.

How are astronauts monitored in space?

In September 2024, the Office of the Chief Health and Medical Officer at NASA released revised standards that specify the medical tests and checkups astronauts must undergo to stay fit before, during, and after spaceflight. The standards also say how astronauts should be treated once they return to the earth after either short (less than 30 days) or long (more than 30 days) missions. NASA regularly flies long missions: it rotates the crew onboard the ISS once every six months, for example. The standards also specify what tests and checkups need to be conducted for astronauts flying on private missions. One example of this is the upcoming Axiom Mission 4, which will carry a crew of four on a 16-day mission to the ISS. One of the crew members will be Indian astronaut-designate Shubhanshu Shukla.

According to the standards document, "The operational medical monitoring requirements for pre-flight, in-flight, and post-flight phases are used to establish flight readiness, establish baselines, effectively guide in-flight countermeasures and assessments, and guide rehabilitation of crew members to their baseline health status following spaceflight." In long-duration missions, astronauts like Ms. Williams and Mr. Wilmore are required to evaluate themselves two weeks, three months, six months, and nine months after launch and submit their reports to the crew medical officer. There will be a private medical conference every day for the first week, then once a week, as well as before and after spacewalks. During spacewalks, their ECG and heart rate will be monitored. There will also be a hearing assessment once every three months and ocular assessments after one, three, six, and nine months. The body mass will be measured a week after launch, then monthly. The astronaut's blood and urine will be tested six months after launch and as and when clinically indicated, and they will be screened for deep-vein thrombosis and blood-flow anomalies one and two months after launch as well as 42

days before the return flight. In addition, the astronauts will be monitored for their strength and conditioning and their exposure to radiation.

How are astronauts rehabilitated post-flight?

Once Mr. Gorbunov, Mr. Hague, Ms. Williams, and Mr. Wilmore splash down on March 19 and are retrieved, they will need to undergo rigorous post-flight rehabilitation. This includes a slew of medical tests and physical rehabilitation procedures. According to NASA, "Post-flight reconditioning is unique for each astronaut and varies by individual. While most crew members reach their preflight fitness baseline within the first 45 days of returning to earth, it is not uncommon for NASA to extend reconditioning programs to meet an astronaut's specific needs and the pace of recovery." According to a chapter in the 2020 book 'Principles of Clinical Medicine for Space Flight', astronauts who have been in space for 20 days were able to regain their pre-flight fitness levels in a week.

On the day they return, crew members will undergo a physical exam, a neurological assessment (which includes checking for headaches, vertigo, nystagmus, and dynamic stability), resting and ambulatory ECG, eye tests, checks of their skin, blood and urine tests, and tests to check for symptoms that appear when standing straight but not reclining (orthostatic tolerance). They will also have follow-up physical exams three days, one or two weeks, and two months after the descent. There will be follow-up tests on many of these counts as well as tests conducted according to the clinical indications. Depending on the parameter that needs to be checked, the tests are required to be conducted by the crew surgeon, the deputy crew surgeon or the partner flight surgeon. A mission psychologist may also perform psychological checks at one and 10 days after the return.

What does physical rehabilitation entail?

The medical tests are accompanied by physical treatments to make sure the crew members' bodies are able to readjust to the earth's gravity after a long duration spent in microgravity. The corresponding facilities are available at, among other places, the Johnson Space Centre in Houston and the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, both in Texas. Just as their in-flight routines were carefully planned by experts, Ms. Williams and Mr. Wilmore will follow a pre-planned routine on the ground until they have recovered their pre-flight fitness levels. The latter routine includes, among other things, measures to minimise musculoskeletal and spinal-cord injuries, to relieve stiff muscles and nausea, and improve bone and muscle strength. In 2024, four experts with the Indian Air Force published a paper in the Indian Journal of Aerospace Medicine, where they detailed the post-flight rehabilitation of an astronaut after six months onboard the ISS. According to this paper, the crew surgeon, the flight surgeon, and a physiotherapist may assess the need for massage therapy for crew members from the day of their return. In the subsequent week, crew members undergo a series of "physical reconditioning" exercises for two hours every day: warm-up exercises on elliptical, rowing and bicycle trainers; tasks to exercise the back and lower limbs; activities to coordinate the limbs and improve their stability and the gait; posture exercises like throwing a ball while walking; and stretching. In the week after, the exercises expand to include jogging and playing ball-games in water.

According to a 2011 technical report published by NASA, "The post-flight reconditioning program is designed to stress the body systems that affect the following: aerobic capacity, muscular strength, power, endurance, stamina, bone, balance, agility, coordination, orthostatic tolerances, proprioception, neurovestibular function and flexibility." Every day, the medical and physiotherapeutic personnel have a private conference where they assess each crew member's progress and plan activities for the next day. Once a crew member has returned to their pre-flight fitness levels, the flight medical issues a discharge and allows the individual to return to normal duties. According to the technical report, "After completing post-flight reconditioning, ... astronauts have regained, and in most cases improved upon, their pre-flight baseline condition."

Study finds prior flu exposure may boost immunity against H5N1 bird flu

New Delhi: Younger adults and children would benefit more from H5N1 vaccines, even those not tailored specifically to the current strain circulating in birds and cattle, finds a study. Researchers from the University of Pennsylvania in the US showed that prior exposures to specific types of seasonal influenza viruses promote cross-reactive immunity against the H5N1 avian influenza virus.

In the study, published in the journal Nature Medicine, older adults who were exposed to seasonal flu viruses that circulated before 1968 were found to be more likely to have antibodies that bind to the H5N1 avian flu virus. "We know that early childhood influenza exposures can elicit immune responses that last a lifetime," said Scott Hensley, Professor of Microbiology at the varsity. "We found that antibody responses that were primed by H1N1 and H3N2 viruses decades ago can cross-react to H5N1 avian viruses circulating today. Most of these cross-reactive antibodies cannot prevent infections, but they will likely limit disease if we have an H5N1 pandemic," he added. H5N1 viruses have circulated in birds for many years, but a new version — clade 2.3.4.4b H5N1 virus — emerged more recently and has since spread among cattle. This current H5N1 strain

does not bind well to receptors in the human upper airway, but widespread circulation in mammals could lead to mutations that help the virus infect human airway cells and increase transmission. If this occurs, H5N1 could potentially start spreading from human to human. Current influenza vaccines primarily elicit antibodies that recognise hemagglutinin proteins and prevent them from infecting a person's cells. The team tested blood samples from over 150 people born between 1927 and 2016 for antibodies targeting the stalk proteins of different influenza viruses, including H5N1. They found that blood samples from older adults born before 1968 who were likely first exposed to H1N1 or H2N2 in childhood had higher levels of antibodies that could bind to the stalk of the H5N1 virus. They found that an individual's birth year was closely linked to the amount of H5N1-fighting antibodies in their blood. Young children who were not exposed to seasonal flu viruses possessed low levels of antibodies that could fight H5N1. Hensley said that in cases of an H5N1 pandemic, all age groups will likely be highly susceptible. But, the highest disease burden may be in children. "If this is the case, children should be prioritised for H5N1 vaccinations," the expert said.

With high ultraviolet index reported over parts of Kerala, concerns rise over health impacts

GNS News Agency, March 21

Several districts in Kerala have been reporting a high ultraviolet index (UVI), which is the level of UV radiation from the sun on a scale of one to 11, over the past few days, raising concerns about its possible health impacts. According to the Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA), Munnar in Idukki recorded a UVI of 12 and Konni in Pathanamthitta recorded 11 on March 17. Kottarakkara in Kollam and Changanassery in Kottayam reported 10, Ponnani in Malappuram recorded nine, and Thrithala in Palakkad eight. Beypore in Kozhikode, Kalamassery in Ernakulam, Vilappilsala in Thiruvananthapuram, and Chengannur in Alappuzha reported seven each. Mananthavady in Wayanad and Ollur in Thrissur recorded six each. The high UVI is recorded between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. The World Health Organization says that a purple alert needs to be issued if the radiation level is at 11 and above (extreme), and there are increased health risks. If it is between eight and 10 (very high), a red alert is issued, calling for extra precautions. If the UV index is between six and seven (high), an orange alert is issued and precautions will have to be taken.

T. Jayakrishnan, public health expert, says that high exposure to UV rays may lead to a gradual loss of skin elasticity, cause premature ageing, wrinkling, and skin pigmentation. It can damage the skin, eye, and the body's defence mechanism. On the skin, it can lead to sun tan, sun burn, redness, swelling, blisters, allergic reactions, and itching. Photo-toxic reactions may occur in people who use certain cosmetic products, soaps, and herbal remedies. On a long-term basis, there is a possibility of skin cancer and melanoma, a type of tumour. UV ray exposure may also suppress the immunity, affecting the body's ability to defend certain diseases. There are two types of UV rays: UVA rays and UVB rays. The former penetrate deep into the skin and even to the blood vessels. Sun burn is mainly caused by UVB rays. They also stimulate melanin pigmentation, resulting in sun tan marks, which can last forever.

Dr. Jayakrishnan points out that a small amount of



UV rays could reach the retina of the eyes too. This penetration could be severe in the case of children. Prolonged exposure could damage the retina at a later stage. "Photokeratitis, a painful condition of the eye, and pterygium, a non-cancerous growth that occurs on the conjunctiva, are some of the other possibilities," he says. Idukki, Palakkad, and Malappuram had experienced high UVIs of 11 on March 14; Kollam recorded 10, and Pathanamthitta, Kottayam, Alappuzha, Ernakulam, Thrissur and Kozhikode had a UV index of nine. Dr. Jayakrishnan says that dark-skinned people genetically have enough melanin to protect them from the sun. Wearing sunglasses would help. "Those working in sand banks, waterbodies are more at risk due to reflections. Fishermen and those engaged in the construction of buildings and roads need to be careful. Hats and UV protected umbrella can be used," he adds. According to a study published in the journal Environmental Monitoring and Assessment, covering the period between 2004 and 2022, more than 79% of the UV measurements in Kerala were in the 'very high' and 'extreme' categories. High values were noticed during the southwest monsoon and in the summer. Thrissur, Palakkad, parts of Ernakulam, Idukki, parts of Kollam, and Thiruvananthapuram were found to be more vulnerable in terms of high UV exposure. A cyclical increasing and decreasing pattern was shown, with peaks in March, April and September and lower indices in June, July and December.

Telangana health budget up by 8%, focus on dialysis and medical education

The Telangana government has allocated ₹12,393 crore for the Health, Medical, and Family Welfare Department in the state budget for the fiscal year 2025-26, marking an increase of ₹925 crore (8% increase) from the previous year's allocation of ₹11,468 crore. The allocation also surpasses the ₹12,161 crore budgeted by the BRS government in 2023-24. Presenting the budget on Wednesday (March 19, 2025), Deputy Chief Minister and Finance Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka underscored the government's commitment to strengthening the healthcare sector and enhancing medical services. Since December 2023, the government has disbursed ₹1,215 crore to various hospitals under the Aarogyasri scheme, reflecting a 50% increase compared to previous allocations, he noted. The scheme aims to provide uninterrupted healthcare access to 2.84 crore citizens across Telangana. "Additionally, to



secure increased funding under the National Health Mission (NHM), the state government has ensured the timely release of its share, thereby maximising financial support from the central government," he said. As part of its efforts to improve critical care services, the state has expanded free dialysis facilities to 102 centres, benefiting over one lakh patients and alleviating the financial burden by 948 crore. To further

extend these services, 95 new dialysis centres have been sanctioned. Emergency medical response has also been bolstered with the deployment of 136 new ambulances in mandals that previously lacked such services. Medical education and infrastructure development have been given a boost with the addition of 400 MBBS seats in newly established medical colleges. The government has also sanctioned 16 new nursing col-

leges and 28 allied health sciences colleges, creating opportunities for 2,640 additional students to pursue medical education annually.

The government has committed ₹2,700 crore for the construction of a modern Osmania General Hospital (OGH) medical facility on a 27-acre site, aiming to enhance healthcare services and upgrade infrastructure at the century-old institution, the minister said.

'It sounds like Harry Brook is the first player to do...Every player would like more money': Michael Clarke supports BCCI's stance



GNS News Agency, March 21

English cricketer, Harry Brook has been banned for two years from the Indian Premier League after pulling off from the upcoming season after being brought by the Delhi Capitals for 6.25 crores at the auction. Brook has cited time to prepare for his national commitments and to take a break from cricket as reasons to pull off from the IPL.

After Moeen Ali and Adil Rashid now former Australian skipper Michael Clarke would back BCCI's decision to ban Brook from the tournament for the next couple of years. "It sounds like Harry Brook is the first player to do that but I understand why the IPL would do that. Every player would like more money but once you go into that auction and you're bought you've got to respect that and understand that you can't just pull out because you haven't been paid the amount that you want," Clarke said speaking on Beyond23 Cricket Podcast. "He is a wonderful player and I have no doubt that he will be part of the IPL, if he wants to, moving forward. But he's probably got his reasons. That's the other thing. Every individual will have to make this choice – IPL or domestic competition. You have the choice to go in," added Clarke. "I can't remember whether it was the first year or the second, but I pulled out because somebody in my family passed away. I come home to be there for the family, funeral and all that. So if there are personal reasons, I think the IPL will understand and respect that but if it's because you're not getting the money you want, they are going to crack down on that. And you have to respect that," Clarke would recall.

Usman Khawaja attends F1 race after missing Sheffield Shield fixture citing to hamstring injury stirs up controversy

GNS News Agency, March 21

Australian opener Usman Khawaja has tangled himself into a bit of a pickle after being photographed at the F1 Grand Prix at Albert Park. The southpaw who missed the Sheffield Shield fixture for Queensland against South Australia citing a hamstring injury came under fire after getting spotted at Melbourne over the weekend. Queensland's Head of Elite Cricket Joe Dawes told News Corp "Our medical staff said all the way through he has been available for selection."

"That is my understanding from Cricket Australia staff as well. No hamstring issues as far as we are concerned. I go off our medical staff and there is no reason why he could not have played the last game. It's just disappointing he didn't play a game for Queensland when he had an opportunity to," Dawes added. "I have got a bunch of blokes here that all want to play. I think we are disappointed he did not play the game against South Australia. That's the decision he made and he has communicated some of the reasons for that in the public. Hopefully he will make that decision to make himself available (for the final) for next week and we will make that decision on Friday." Dawes further



said. Though Queensland has made it to the final with a draw Dawes would be hesitant to confirm if Khawaja would be selected for the final game. Speaking on SENQ "I'm glad I didn't have my television on (to see him at the F1)," Queensland Cricket Deputy Chair Ian Healy revealed. "Cricket Australia should feel a little under the pump with this, I spoke with them, and they weren't aware of Queensland's concerns with him not playing for Queensland, they wish we would have rung them earlier."

Virat Kohli's 2008 ICC U19 World Cup winning teammate Tanmay Srivastava becomes umpire for IPL 2025 season



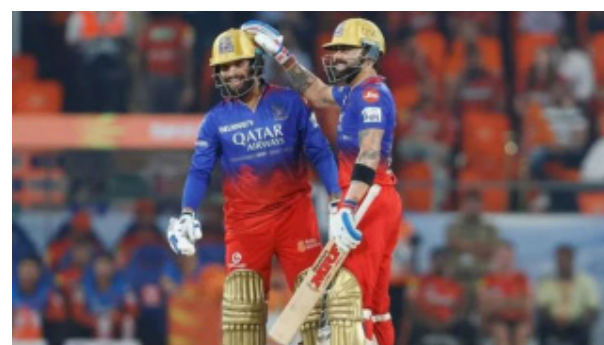
GNS News Agency, March 21

Virat Kohli came into the limelight after winning the 2008 U-19 World Cup at Malaysia in 2008. While there have been a few players from that batch from India and other countries who have made it to their respective national sides and have achieved remarkable success. One of Kohli's teammates who did ply his trade playing for various teams over his career is going to officiate as an umpire for the upcoming Indian Premier League 2025 season. Tanmay

Srivastava who played a crucial 46-run knock in the final of that world cup is all set to do umpiring for the upcoming IPL season. "A true player never leaves the field—just changes the game. Wishing Tanmay Srivastava the best as he dons a new hat with the same passion!" A Tweet from the Uttar Pradesh Cricket Association (UPCA) read.

The left-hander, who had scored 262 runs in just 6 matches at an average of 52.40 in the 2008 edition of the U-19 World Cup, played for Uttarakhand in first-class cricket and also led them. He has played 90 first-class matches and scored 4918 runs so far. "I was an 11 year old when I joined the Green Park cricket hostel to focus on cricket, that was my only passion. At 13, I represented India U-15 and it was a dream come true when I wore the Indian jersey. Year 2008 was all about winning the U-19 World Cup, and memories about holding the National Flag proudly still makes me go weak in my knees. I consider myself lucky to have played alongside and shared the dressing room with the greats of Indian and International cricket and I am humbled at how, even today most of them are just a call away, sharing their experiences to help me learn," Tanmay would say at the time retirement from professional cricket.

You don't have to captain like Virat Kohli: Aakash Chopra's suggestion to Rajat Patidar



GNS News Agency, March 21

Going into the Indian Premier League 2025 all eyes will be on new Royal Challengers Bengaluru skipper Rajat Patidar. Though the middle-order bat has done well in the last few seasons for the side, how he will lead as captain will be a thing to watch out for especially with someone like Virat Kohli in the side who has led both India and RCB in the past for a long time. "The biggest opportunity is for Rajat Patidar. What will you expect from him? He did well for MP (Madhya Pradesh), took the team to the final in SMAT (Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy), and the team looked towards you and said they are planning for the next four to five years. However, do they actually invest that much? That question always remains," Aakash Chopra said speaking on his YouTube channel. Though RCB managed to reach the final of the IPL three times in the history of franchise they have fumbled at the final hurdle. Last year they did the impossible in the second half of the tournament winning seven out of their last eight games but got knocked out in the Eliminator by Rajasthan Royals. "They have a legacy of good captains. Don't think what Virat Kohli would have done. When a player of such huge stature is part of the team, you look towards him. He has also captained this team for eight overs. So you suddenly think what Virat would have done in a particular situation," Chopra added. "There would be a

lot of pressure on you if you go with that thinking because you will never chart your own course. It's important to make your own way. Virat Kohli is a part of that team, you don't have to captain like Virat Kohli. So opportunities for him. He can actually create history. If he does what has not happened to date – Wow," Chopra observed.

Why Suryakumar Yadav and not Hardik Pandya will captain MI vs CSK in Chennai?

GNS News Agency, March 21

Mumbai Indians captain Hardik Pandya on Wednesday confirmed that he will not be present to lead the five-time champions in their highly-anticipated Indian Premier League (IPL 2025) season opener against Chennai Super Kings at the MA Chidambaram Stadium in Chennai on Sunday evening. Speaking at a Mumbai Indians press conference ahead of the season, Pandya said that he will have to miss the game with teammate and India T20I captain Suryakumar Yadav taking over the reins at Chepauk. "Surya will be the ideal choice when I am not there," said Pandya. Why will Pandya miss the CSK vs MI IPL 2025 match? After MI's group-stage exit last year, Pandya was banned for the slow-over rate offence against the Lucknow Super Giants during the team's last outing. It was the third time in 14 games where MI had failed to maintain the over-rates, resulting in the skipper's ban, an INR 30 lakh match fee fine and the rest of the playing XI, including the Impact Player, were either fined Rs 12 lakh of 50 percent of their match fees.

We might just see that 300-run mark breached in this IPL season: AB de Villiers



GNS News Agency, March 21

Since the introduction of impact player rule in the Indian Premier League the scores have gone up quite significantly. Batting lineups who used to have anchoring role at the top now have been reluctant to have them anymore and have given free licenses to all the batters to go all guns blazing, there have been instances in the last couple of years where the personnel has been altered when the batter lacked the skill set to play with a certain tempo right from ball one. "The impact player rule has changed the game a lot.

As we have seen from some players' comments, it frees up the top three batters so they can take more risks. In a way, it feels a bit unfair, and I've shared some criticism about that. Fielding restrictions allowing only two fielders outside the ring, along with the added freedom for top-order batters, make things complicated for the bowlers. But it is exciting for the batters. We might just see that 300-run mark breached in this IPL season," AB de Villiers said on Jio Hotstar. The 18th edition of the season will kick off with Royal Challengers Bengaluru taking on defending champions Kolkata Knight Riders at the Eden Gardens on Saturday.

The major protagonists from last year while the Impact Player has indeed upscaled scoring rates throughout the 20 overs, batting in the Powerplay and death overs has seen the biggest spike from the previous edition. Among the mavericks are three teams who were among the bottom four in 2023 – Kolkata Knight Riders, Sunrisers Hyderabad and Delhi Capitals, who have rejigged their combinations. KKR's charge has been led by the unlikely opening pair of Sunil Narine and Phil Salt. Travis Head and Abhishek Sharma have formed a potent concoction up top for SRH. Aussie sensation Jake Fraser-McGurk has formed the core of Delhi's early charge.

Mahela Jayawardene shares latest update on MI's star pacer ahead of IPL 2025

GNS News Agency, March 21

Mumbai Indians (MI) head coach Mahela Jayawardene opened up on his team's Jasprit Bumrah situation as the India speedster continues to be out on the sidelines from the back-related injury issued he picked up in January during the Border-Gavaskar Trophy in Australia. Bumrah has not made any significant moves in regaining his full fitness as yet and the MI pacer was also out of action when India lifted the Champions Trophy title in Dubai under Rohit Sharma two weeks back. Jayawardene said MI are awaiting the updates on Bumrah with anticipation as he charts his recovery at the National Cricket Academy's Centre of Excellence in Bengaluru. "Jasprit is with NCA, and just started the process there. Will await their feedback on him. Progress will be monitored on day-to-day basis. Not having him is a challenge and the world's best bowler is always an advantage for us," Jayawardene told reporters in Mumbai on Wednesday.

The former Sri Lanka captain also said that the team will attempt to tweak and shuffle combinations early in the tournament without Bumrah. "He gives us a different element for trying things, so that in the early season we can experiment." Bumrah hasn't played since the fifth Test against Australia in Sydney in January, when he walked off



for scans on Day 2. Former MI bowling coach Shane Bond had recently cautioned India and Bumrah of not bearing excessive workload in the future. "He's too valuable for the next World Cup and stuff. So you'd be looking at five Tests in England, I wouldn't want to be playing him in any more than two in a row. Coming out of the back end of the IPL into a Test match is going to be a huge risk. And so how do they manage that is going to be key," Bond told ESPNcricinfo. "So that's hard because he is your best bowler, but if he has another injury in the same spot, that could be a career-ender, potentially, because I'm not sure you can have surgery on that spot again."

Struggle against Autism and career high of World number 33: How US tennis player Jenson Brooksby tackled brain condition



GNS News Agency, March 21

Former world number 33 and the youngest American to reach the US Open fourth round in the last 23 years, 24-year-old Jenson Brooksby has opened up about his struggles with autism and the challenges he faces while coping with it on the professional front. The American tennis player, who was out of the professional circuit for the last two years due to an injury as well as a doping ban due to missing drugs tests, spoke about his time as a young child with autism.

"My whole life with my parents, it wasn't something you are very comfortable sharing because there could be consequences – especially when I was younger. But I've learned as I've grown up that even with people close to me, the response is very casual and not much is thought about it. I think my desire to be able to help other people with it in certain scenarios – say, if they are trying to become a professional player – was bigger than any negative outcome I could have thought of. I really hope that future players, whether they are vocal about it or not, they at least know it's OK for them to struggle with it and hopefully be able to explain why," Brooksby told BBC Sport.

The American tennis player had received intensive therapy starting at the age of two years. The youngster, who was named after Formula driver Jenson Button by his parents, had made his Grand Slam debut with a wild card entry in the US Open in 2018. He lost to eventual quarter-finalist John Millman in the first round but the next three years saw him winning a first-round match in US Open in 2019 apart from three Challenger trophies and an ATP Tour final before he reached the quarter-final of the 2021 US Open where he lost to then world number one Novak Djokovic. His feat made him the youngest American to reach the US Open fourth round since Andy Roddick achieved the same feat in 2002. "Sport was a big release for me. If I sit for a long time I can have a lot of energy bottled up, and so being a very active kid really lets it out. I always wanted to train to try to be good at something. Even at that age, I think I had that mindset of competing and to be good at something," Brooksby said.

Nine months after the US Open quarter-final appearance, Brooksby reached his career-high world ranking of 33. But months later, the youngster was banned for 18 months by International Tennis Integrity Agency (ITIA) The ban enforced due to Brooksby missing three out of competition drugs tests was reduced to 13 months followed by the youngster undergoing surgery on both wrists and a shoulder problem. Brooksby had told an independent tribunal that he had declined invitations to learn more about the anti-doping rules and the responsibility was delegated to his adviser Amrit Narasimhan. "I've had my agent keep track of where I will be every day, because it's hard for my brain to be able to focus well on many different things. It's a positive for me to be able to focus on a few simple things. But a downside is that there can be so many things going on for

us players it's hard for my mind to be able to wrap around that. I have had so much time to reflect on it, and it's in the past. I'm pretty much at peace with it. I think all of us have things that we have been a little disappointed in, and it can be pretty frustrating, but I don't really think about it any more. If it ever pops into my mind I just use it as a reminder to try to get better," said the youngster. The American is currently ranked 937 in the world and had lost in the third round in BNP Paribas Open at Indian Wells with a loss against eventual winner Jack Draper. Brooksby shared about his state of mind at present. "If, for example, I have any doubts about my body on court, or I'm feeling a little bit more pain, I will always tell myself I am healthy and strong. I'm able to keep my focus pretty well in higher pressure moments and not get distracted by external things like the crowd, the wind, if people are standing up. I'm a lot better now than I was four or five years ago. Make no mistake, Jenson is a highly intelligent individual. I needed to make changes to communicate effectively, and be more patient with my communication," said Brooksby.

Gill goes down memory lane to recollect first time he saw Sachin Tendulkar

Mumbai: Shubman Gill, captain of Gujarat Titans, goes down memory lane to recollect the first time he had seen legend Sachin Tendulkar and Glenn Maxwell.

"I remember attending three to four matches with my father at the Tau Devi Lal Stadium in Panchkula. In the second or third year of the IPL, Mumbai Indians came there for practice. I was around nine or ten years old at the time. I even have a photo with Sachin Sir and Glenn Maxwell. I was throwing balls to them during their practice. These are some of my earliest memories of the IPL," Gill recalled. "I was extremely nervous, but I already knew about Sachin Sir. He was the reason I started playing cricket. My father is his biggest fan. Though my dad never had much interest in posters, we had Sachin's posters in our village," he said.

"I was throwing balls to them during their practice. These are some of my earliest memories of the IPL. I was extremely nervous, but I already knew about Sachin Sir. He was the reason I started playing cricket. My father is his biggest fan. Though my dad never had much interest in posters, we had Sachin's posters in our village," Gill said in a chat with JioHotstar. "I believe leadership is a continuous journey. You gain new insights with every match and every week. Different players bring different perspectives, teaching you not just about leadership but also about themselves," he said.

"The more you play, the more experience you gain through highs and lows, and that shapes you as a leader. It is essential to have one-on-one conversations with teammates. Initially, I was not the type to naturally engage in such interactions, but as a leader, it became a conscious effort," Gill said. "As a batter, when you're on the field, you just need to focus on your batting. If you start thinking about your leadership responsibilities while batting, it can take you away from your best game. Batting is an individual battle between you and the bowler, whereas fielding is a collective effort. Leadership plays a bigger role in fielding and team strategy," he explained.

