

## Congress promises Rs 8,500 to unemployed youths if voted to power in Delhi

► Financial assistance will be provided under a scheme called 'Yuva Udaan Yojana' and it is not free, says AICC general secretary Sachin Pilot

New Delhi, Jan 12 (GNS) The Congress on Sunday promised to give Rs 8,500 to educated unemployed youths in Delhi for one year if it comes to power in Delhi. The financial assistance will be provided under a scheme called the 'Yuva Udaan Yojana' and it is not free, AICC general

secretary Sachin Pilot said at a press conference. "We will provide financial assistance to youths who can show their skills in a company, factory or organisation. They will get money through these companies. This is not a scheme under which one will get money while sitting at

home," Pilot said. "We will try that people are absorbed in those fields where they have received training... so that they can... improve their skill set," he added. On January 6, the Congress announced 'Pyaari Didi Yojana', promising a monthly financial assistance of Rs 2,500 for wom-

en if it is voted to power. On January 8, the party announced 'Jeevan Raksha Yojana' under which it promised to provide free health insurance of up to Rs 25 lakh. Polling for the 70-member Delhi Assembly will be held on February 5 and votes will be counted on February 8.



## Formula-E race enhanced Hyderabad's brand image : Danam Nagender

Hyderabad, Jan.12 (NSS): Khairatabad MLA Danam Nagender has made significant remarks regarding the Formula E car race, asserting that the event has positively contributed to enhancing Hyderabad's brand image.

In an address to the media, Danam Nagender, originally elected as a member of the BRS party but subsequently joining the Congress party, acknowledged the improvement in Hyderabad's reputation stemming from the car race, while also noting the existence of potential corruption within the event.

He stated, "KT Rama Rao, who served as the Municipal Minister during the previous BRS administration, sought

my counsel during the organisation of the electric car race in Hyderabad. I merely provided my perspective on the event and expressed that the hosting of the E-car race has placed Hyderabad on the global map."

Furthermore, he remarked, "The matter regarding the Formula E car race is currently under judicial consideration. I will refrain from making any negative comments about KTR." He stated that the State budget remains unbalanced. Nevertheless, the administration led by Chief Minister Revanth Reddy is committed to progressing with the fulfillment of its promises to the people. Danam Nagender noted that if activists fail to

disseminate government initiatives to the citizens, a significant gap will emerge. He recommended that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy participate in a ceremonial anointing with milk, as the loan waiver and Rythu Bharosa schemes are currently being implemented.

He emphasized that his previous criticisms of the Hyderabad Road Development Authority (HyDRA) remain unchanged, pointing out that its operations have adversely affected the community.

"My stance on HYDRA remains steadfast; it has caused detriment to the party. I urge the state government to reassess and re-evaluate HYDRA," Danam expressed.

## MVA remains united, equations of local bodies elections different: Danve



Pune, Jan 12 (GNS) With the Shiv Sena (UBT) announcing that it would go alone in the upcoming local bodies polls, party leader Ambadas Danve on Sunday said the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) is united but the equations of local bodies elections are different. Talking to reporters in Pune, Danve, the leader of opposition in the Maharashtra legislative council, alleged that the ruling Mahayuti was eager to break the MVA.

The Uddhav Thackeray-led party on Saturday announced that it would contest local bodies polls solo. This move has raised questions about the opposition bloc's unity. Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut cited the lack of opportunities for workers of respective parties in an alliance and the right to organisational growth as the major considerations for con-

testing solo. Danve said, "The MVA is united. However, the equations for elections to the local governing body are different. The ruling parties are eager to break our alliance. But their wish won't be fulfilled."

Asked about party leader Aaditya Thackeray's meeting with Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis, he said, "There is nothing wrong with meeting the chief minister to discuss issues of the people if they will be solved at his level." Danve hit out at NCP leader and state Minister Dhananjay Munde over the murder case of Santosh Deshmukh, sarpanch of Massjog village in Beed.

"Criminals are being protected under Munde's leadership in Beed. So it is clear that such a person should not hold a constitutional post," he said. Deshmukh was abducted, tortured and murdered on December 9, apparently

because he tried to thwart an attempt to extort money from an energy firm operating a windmill project.

Walmik Karad, an associate of Minister Munde, has been arrested in a related extortion case. "The government is protecting criminals. The accused who committed the murder contacted Karad multiple times. The complaint (of Deshmukh's abduction) was not registered because of pressure from Karad. Then why is he not being booked under section 302 (murder)?" he said.

Danve also claimed the number of beneficiaries for the PM Kisan Sanman Yojana has dropped. "Earlier, 1.21 crore farmers received aid under the PM Kisan Sanman Yojana. The number has come down to 81 lakh now. This will also happen with the Mukhya Mantri Majhi Laadki Bahin scheme for women," he claimed.

## No power tussle in Karnataka Congress: DK Shivakumar

Chikkamagaluru, Jan 12 (GNS) Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar on Saturday downplayed reports of power tussle within the Congress. "No one should worry... People have blessed us and given us an opportunity, and we will continue for five years.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and I will continue functioning as per the directions of the party," Shivakumar told reporters in response to a question.

With supporters hailing him as the "next CM" on his arrival here, Shivakumar, who is also the state party chief, said he did not need anyone's support and would abide by the party's instructions. Asked about workers demanding that he should be the next CM, Shivakumar said,



"I don't want anyone to demand anything from me. I don't want anyone's support. I do not need any legislator's backing. This is between me and the Congress. Whatever the Congress party says, I will function accordingly." His comments came a day

after his Cabinet colleague KN Rajanna suggested that Shivakumar should aim to become CM by successfully leading the party in the next elections, rather than aspiring for the top post during the remaining two and a half years of the government.

## Law Clerk posts in Supreme court

Hyderabad, Jan.12 (NSS): Supreme court of India has invited online applications from eligible candidates for short term contractual assignment as Law Clerk-cum-Research Associates on a consolidated remuneration of Rs.80,000 per month. The details containing eligibility conditions etc. can be

downloaded from the detailed advertisement and the "Scheme of Engaging law clerk-cum-Research Associates on Short-term Contractual Assignment in the Supreme court of India -January 2024" available on the Website of Supreme court of India www.sci.gov.in, says a notification.

## Search on to trace 5 labourers trapped in Assam mine

Guwahati, Jan 12 (GNS) The rescue operation continued on Sunday in Assam's Umrangso, where at least five labourers are suspected to have died after getting trapped in a coal mine. The specialised task force has been continuing the search operation in the mine to locate and retrieve the bodies. A senior official said: "As de-watering of the coal mine is being done by the task force, the Navy divers are continuing their search for the trapped labourers." On Saturday, the bodies of three deceased labourers were recovered from the coal mine. Earlier, another body of a labourer was recovered.

One of the three labourers whose bodies were recovered from the mine on Saturday was identified as 27-year-old Ligen Magar, a resident of Dima Hasao district. Magar's body was found floating on accumulated water in the mine after the Navy divers went to bring out the worker, an official said. The remaining two bodies were identified as 57-year-old Khushi Mohan Rai, a resident of Magargaon in Kokrajhar district of Assam, and 37-year-old Sarat Goyary, a resident of Thailapara, Batashipur in Sonitpur district of Assam. At least nine labourers have been identified who were trapped in the coal



mine in Umrangso locality of Dima Hasao district a week ago. The state administration and police launched an operation to rescue the trapped labourers in the mine.

## 250 residents evacuated after fire in Thane building

Thane, Jan 12 (GNS) Nearly 250 residents were evacuated after a fire broke out in a five-storey building in Maharashtra's Thane city on Sunday morning, civic officials said. No one was injured in the blaze which erupted at around 5 am in a laundry shop on the ground floor of the building located at Srinagar in Wagle Estate area, Thane Municipal Corporation's disaster management cell chief Yasin Tadv said. After being alerted, local fire personnel and the regional disaster management cell team members rushed to the spot to carry out the fire extinguish-



ing operations and evacuated the building occupants, he said. The blaze was put out in about an hour following which the people were allowed to return to their apartments, the official said.

## The child artists of the country will stage the complete Ramayana of Raghukul Nayak Shri Ram in Delhi with their grand performance



New Delhi: The country's capital Delhi on Monday The entire nation is going to experience the spiritual and cultural

grandeur of Raghukul Nayak Shri Ram Ramlila from here. This extraordinary presentation will prove to be a wonderful experience for everyone. Organised by the prestigious International Ramlila Festival Association, this event will be presented on 13th and 14th January at Kamani Auditorium, Mandi House. This event is being produced under the able guidance of Dr. Ved Tandon, National President and Founder of International Ramlila Festival Association and Convener Vandana Tandon. Dedicated to keeping the tradition of Ramlila alive, Dr. Ved



Tandon is widely respected for his thoughtful presentations. Dr. Tandon has successfully organised Ramlila by child artists of schools and gurukuls in Kurukshetra, Orchha, Ayodhya, Rishikesh, Chitrakoot and Red Fort etc. in India and abroad. He says that this year's Ramlila is going to be a memorable presentation.

This Ramlila is not limited to Delhi only, but it is also being presented in various states of India and there are plans to take it to the international stage. Tandon said that such efforts are aimed at bringing people closer to Sanatan Dharma, allowing the audience to connect with its profound teachings and cultural richness. Appealing to all, Dr. Tandon said that let us all support this wonderful initiative and make it a great success, so that the message of Sanatan Dharma can be widely spread through the timeless tale of Shri Ram. He said that if you are in Delhi, mark the dates of 13th and 14th January in your calendar and be a part of this grand event at Kamani Auditorium, Mandi House. Enjoy the cultural brilliance of Ramlila and join this journey filled with devotion, drama and divine performances.

# To fight poverty, we need more climate action

Smallholder farmers in dry lands will bear the brunt of climate change; they need support.

With COP26 ongoing, much of the global climate discussion focuses on efforts to reduce and curb greenhouse gas emissions by turning to cleaner and more efficient energy. And rightly so – we have an opportunity to dramatically mitigate the damage that will be inflicted on our planet in the years to come. But as we continue to witness the devastating effects of climate change play out across the world, we need to pay closer attention to the solutions that will help us adapt to changes that are already taking place – and consider how to ensure that people everywhere have access to them. The global climate crisis already impacts many people who depend on agriculture to survive.

As the world gathers for COP26, this demands urgent action.

In almost all emissions scenarios, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) expects global warming to hit 1.5C in the early 2030s, and we can be certain that the impact of this change will not be felt fairly across the world. One of the most concerning outcomes of rising temperatures is the very high risk of undernutrition in communities that are dependent upon dryland agriculture.

Drylands are home to more than 2.5 billion people and cover 40 percent of the world's land surface. In many dryland countries, such as Botswana or Burkina Faso, populations face a large number of environmental challenges, from water scarcity and droughts to temperature extremes and floods. They are particularly vulnerable to climate change and suffer some of the largest concentrations of food insecurity and poverty in the world.

One of the most vulnerable dryland regions is Sub-Saharan Africa, home to some of the world's fastest-growing populations, many of which have been grappling with food crises for years. Now agricultural communities in the region will feel the effects of climate change more severely than developed countries even



though they have done very little to cause the problem. Some experts predict that we will see a nearly five percent decrease in agricultural production for every degree of global warming.

To avert even more serious hunger crises in the region, we need to build stronger food systems for smallholder farmers. They are the anchor for food systems that feed billions. But often they face barriers to entering or engaging effectively in markets for their agricultural production, which limits their ability to realise a profit from agriculture.

Many are constrained by inadequate systems and policies that make it difficult for them to be profitable or to grow enough nutritious food. And now hundreds of millions who depend on agriculture to survive are losing their crops and livestock to a surge of climate extremes.

Investment in agricultural research and development will help provide the tools needed to adapt to changing weather patterns and build resilient food systems that can produce more and better nutrition for communities as well as greater economic stability. While the world is developing cutting-edge technologies, tools, and best

practices for climate-smart agriculture, these assets are not consistently developed or shared broadly with small-scale producers in the Global South. In fact, despite significant progress in agricultural development in recent decades, a majority of farmers on the African continent remain smallholders with limited access to critical resources, systems, services, and technologies.

Addressing the negative impact of climate change on developing countries should start with driving innovation through significant investments in agriculture research. Importantly, we must find ways to connect global innovation to local knowledge. Productivity and prosperity will be achieved through climate-smart agricultural innovation that is adapted and applied to local contexts while contributing to a growing body of evidence for transformation at scale. And as we invest in innovation, we need to guarantee that the solutions produced are inclusive. This means ensuring small-scale producers in Sub-Saharan Africa and other regions in the Global South have access to the tools that enable agricultural productivity under changing weather

conditions as well as access to thriving markets. It also means a special focus on women and young people to ensure that they are empowered to contribute to the challenge as well. Ultimately, supporting smallholder farmers will not only build more resilient food systems.

It will also strengthen economies in the countries that are being left behind. Smallholder farmers provide most of the employment in fast growing regions like Sub-Saharan Africa. And agriculture is effective in reducing poverty and improving food security for 65 percent of the world's poor, who work mainly in farming.

Empowering smallholder farmers and tackling all aspects of climate change including adaptation and resilience is of growing importance to all global partners present at COP26 today and an increasing interest for both the Qatar Fund for Development and the Gates Foundation. It will help boost the economies of the region and improve the ability to which people are able to respond and adapt to climate change. If we do not invest in inclusive adaptation solutions, we risk missing the full picture on climate, but also losing the global fight against hunger and poverty.

## Social Media: A saviour or a predator?

The details published by The Washington Post of a misinformation campaign pursued by Facebook against the Covid-19 vaccine, also outlines other irregularities committed by the tech giant. A consortium of media organisations, including The Washington Post, reviewed the information, which was disclosed by the lawyers of Frances Haugen, a former Facebook employee, to the US Securities and Exchange Commission and the Congress.

These documents included company's internal communications on various aspects of running the app and monitoring the content. The Wall Street Journal had previously reported on some of the pandemic-related revelations in the papers, including how Facebook struggled to police anti-vaccine comments. According to the information available, Facebook researchers allegedly had deep knowledge of how coronavirus and vaccine misinformation moved through the company's apps. It allegedly itself conducted multiple studies and produced large internal reports on what kinds of users were most likely to share falsehoods about the deadly virus.

However, allegedly this information was not shared timely and properly with the academics and lawmakers though the White House urged Facebook for months to be more transparent about the misinformation and its effects on the behaviour of its users, the company refused to share much of this information publicly, resulting in a showdown with President Joe Biden's administration.

Taken together, the documents underline just how extensively Facebook was allegedly studying coronavirus and vaccine misinformation on its platform as the virus tore across the world, unearthing findings that concerned its own employees.

Yet, in public blog posts and in congressional testimony, executives focused on more positive aspects of the social network's pandemic response, such as how many pieces of misinformation it had taken down and its work to help its users find vaccine clinics near them. The disconnect between what was known and shared bolsters demands from lawmakers, who are increasingly amenable to proposals to force greater transparency from tech giants, with some directly supporting Haugen's assertion that a separate regulatory body is needed to study algorithms and internal research and keep an eye on the social media platforms.

Facebook's influence

How Facebook, which is particularly popular with older Americans, has affected perceptions around vaccines has been a key part of discussion about the pandemic. In July, as the disease's delta variant triggered a massive new surge and the rate of new vaccinations levelled off, the White House began placing some of the blame on the social media channels. President Biden told reporters that Facebook was "killing people", though he later backed off the comment. Haugen left Facebook in May, before the public fight between the company and the White House, so it's unclear what kind of information the company had during that time. But employees were looking into the issue well before the public spat.

Employees noted that algorithmic dynamics created "self-reinforcing" feedback loops, where vaccine-sceptical posts were overwhelmingly supported in the comments and reactions. Anti-vaccine comments got boosted with many "like" and "love" reactions, while people who posted pro-vaccine content were met with derision in the form of "angry", "sad" or "haha" reactions, the researchers wrote.

Among other things, the reports have claimed that Facebook allegedly sat on research that showed Instagram harmed teenage mental health, and struggled to remove hate speech from its platforms outside the US. In addition, Frances Haugen who is currently in the UK has told British MPs that Facebook is "unquestionably making hate worse", as the MPs consider what new rules to impose on big social networks. While talking to the Online Safety Bill Committee in London, Haugen said Facebook safety teams were under-resourced, and also warned that Instagram was "more dangerous than other forms of social media".

## COP26 should listen to small states and island nations at risk

This week, world leaders are gathered in Glasgow to define the next 30 years of our response to the climate crisis. Science has shown how precipitously close we are to climate catastrophe. Our decisions to secure urgent and accelerated action to limit global temperature rise and tackle the effects of an overheated planet will mean for millions of people either prosperity or misery, even life or death.

Everything we have fought for over the years is on the line, from the Paris Agreement, the 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 degrees Fahrenheit) limit to global warming, to affordable and accessible climate finance. The very survival of island nations such as Fiji's low-lying neighbours, along with the 30 other small states in the Commonwealth, is at risk.

COP26 must deliver on a number of key points.

Firstly, developed countries must make good on their promise to provide \$100bn per year, through to 2025, to support climate action in developing nations. This decade-long pledge must finally be honoured – both to deliver the intended effect on the ground, and also as a fundamental issue of trust. The amount is equivalent to just 0.1 percent of the combined annual gross domestic product (GDP) of advanced economies, or about 5 percent of the \$2 trillion the world spends each year on military. Promises should be kept.

Secondly, this funding must recognise the need for us to adapt to the ongoing effects of climate change, as much as it supports efforts to mitigate it.

The number of climate-related disasters within the Commonwealth, for instance, has doubled from 431 between 1980 and 1990, to 815 between 2010 and 2020. Over the last decade, these killed 48,000 people, affected 677 million and caused \$197bn in damages. We are not dealing with a challenge for the future – the crisis is already here. Adaptation is a harsh necessity. Climate finance should also be accessible and affordable, particularly for the most vulnerable.

Currently, only 2 percent of international finance available actually reaches small island nations, even as they grapple with the worst of climate change, including sea level rise and increasingly frequent and disastrous weather, with dire socioeconomic consequences. It is utterly unjust that those who contributed the least to the problem are paying the highest price, and yet struggle to access the support intended to help them.



To help address this, the Commonwealth Climate Finance Access Hub supports countries to develop successful funding proposals and build human and institutional capacities – for example, by working closely with the Ministry of Economy in Fiji to create a Project Design Unit for this purpose. But more needs to be done – the share of climate finance for small states must increase. Additionally, there should be a clear commitment locked in on loss and damage, to address damages already suffered.

Finally, we must recognise that the climate crisis is also an ocean crisis and we need to do all we can to stem the damage wreaked on our marine environments. The ocean covers more than 70 percent of the earth's surface and drives global weather patterns.

It is also the world's greatest "carbon sink", having absorbed about one-third of all human CO2 emissions since the start of the industrial revolution, and storing more than 90 percent of the excess heat caused by greenhouse gas emissions over the last 50 years. But the ocean is under serious threat from climate change. An ocean work programme

that is progressed through the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) processes would help save the essential ecosystems that support life on this planet. Such a programme should align with groundbreaking initiatives such as the Commonwealth Blue Charter.

There is still time to reset our course – but we need to act now and act together to build back from the ashes of the COVID-19 pandemic on greener, bluer, more resilient paths to prosperity. At COP26, we will fight tirelessly to keep the 1.5C target within reach by securing 50 percent reductions in emissions from high-emitting countries by 2030 that would put the world on a path towards net-zero emissions by 2050.

Small states are already in the lead. Fiji recently passed its Climate Change Act that enshrined 2050 net-zero commitments into law. It has mandated the 100 percent sustainable management of its ocean, with 30 percent to be designated as marine protected areas by 2030.

Neighbouring Samoa aims to be powered 100 percent by renewable sources within the next few years. Seychelles is

pioneering various innovative finance mechanisms such as debt-for-climate swaps and blue bonds to help fund national climate action, and has already protected 30 percent of its ocean.

We all must do our part – including larger, more developed nations. If we cannot come together in the face of this planetary crisis, what hope is there? The only viable option available to us at COP26 is a courageous success – to secure a safe, sustainable future for our children and their grandchildren to come.

The change in dates had been anticipated following a decision, on 1 April 2020, to postpone the event due to the COVID-19 pandemic. At that time, the COP Bureau announced that:

"In light of the ongoing, worldwide effects of COVID-19, holding an ambitious, inclusive COP26 in November 2020 is no longer possible.

Rescheduling will ensure all parties can focus on the issues to be discussed at this vital conference and allow more time for the necessary preparations to take place. We will continue to work with all involved to increase climate ambition, build resilience and lower emissions."

# The venue for athletes is the Stay Fit Sports Zone

Warangal, 12 January : Manager mariada praneeth said that stay fit sports zone badminton, pickle ball indoor outdoor has been designed with a new idea of health is great blessing at a time when people are facing physical and mental health problems with changing food habits. Hanumakonda District 100 Feet Road Prashanth Nagar Road No. 5 newly constructed Stay Fit Sports Zone was inaugurated on Sunday. On this occasion, organizer Mariada Praneeth said that Stay Fit is very useful for everyone to maintain their health and beautify their body shape in a fashion fit. He said that children and adults have been designed to train here so that they can excel in the games of badminton and pickle ball and excel at the national and international level of the state. On this occasion, he asked the people of the city to take advantage of this opportunity and bring out their sports skills by saying that Stay Fit Sports Zone has been made available for the first time in Waran-

- ▶ Indoor, outdoor built to high standards
- ▶ Inagral offer with 25% discount : mariada praneeth



gal city. Membership, pay per hour, kids are available for interested players. The low-Rs.800, Memberships Monthly Rs. 12000 with Inagral offer of 25%, he said. Organizers Pradeep, Srijana, Shravan, family members and others participated in this program.

## Leaders of Forum for Better Sangareddy participated in the Swami Vivekananda Jayanti programme

Sangareddy District January 12 : On the auspicious occasion of the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda, an inspiration to the youth, the leaders of the Forum celebrated the birth anniversary by garlanding the statue of Vivekananda in Sangareddy district center. On this occasion the President of the Forum Sridhar Mahendra said that Swami Vivekananda at a very young age had inspired Indian spiritual values and youth consciousness through his speeches in front of many countries in the world. That he was a great man who propagated Kartavya Diksha. Swami Vivekananda is a great inspiration who showed many ways of solving poverty and ignorance all over the country through his intelligence. He said that the youth should respond to the social problems around them without taking Swami Vivekananda's life as an example and show solutions. Forum for Better Sangareddy Vice President Sajjad Khan, Secretary Pandu



Rangam, Working Committee Members Thimma Galla Raju, Sai Varala, Banjara Leaders and Balu Leaders participated in this program.

## Mina Super Speciality Hospital Announces Free Medical Camp on the Occasion of Ramadan



In celebration of the holy month of Ramadan, Mina Super Speciality Hospital is offering a special medical camp for the poor and needy patients. Starting from January 13, 2025, the three-month-long camp will provide free consultations with experienced doctors on fasting and health-related concerns, including issues like diabetes, blood pressure, kidney disease, and more. The camp will run until April 12, 2025.

the public. Mina Super Speciality Hospital has earned a stellar reputation for providing top-tier medical care across multiple specialties, under one roof. The hospital regularly organizes free mega camps to support the community, and this Ramadan camp will be no exception.

**Free Mega Health Camp Details:**  
**Location:** Mina Super Speciality Hospital, Pillar No. 254, Rajender Nagar  
**Camp Duration:** January 13, 2025 - April 12, 2025  
**Hours:** 9 AM - 8 PM daily  
**Services:** Free consultations

with specialists in General Medicine, Diabetes, BP, Orthopedics, Pulmonology, ENT, Dental care, Gynaecology, Neurology, Gastroenterology, Nephrology, Ophthalmology, Heart Disease, and Pediatrics. Additionally, in-patients during the camp will receive a 15% discount on treatment and a 10% discount on medicines. Mina Super Speciality Hospital continues its commitment to providing the highest standard of care and support to the community, especially during the blessed month of Ramadan.

### PICTALK

Hyderabad; January 12 : The students of Badruka Group of Colleges have hosted their annual charity event, "SANNIHITH", at Saroor-nagar Cricket Grounds, L. B. Nagar. This event, which is being successfully conducted since 2013, aims to bring joy and excitement to the lives of underprivileged children from various orphanages in the city. Over 1200 participants from different orphanages took part in this year's event, which turned out to be an action-packed day of sports and fun. The event featured a series of thrilling rounds, culminating in prizes awarded to the winning teams in the final round. "SANNIHITH" is a testament to the students' commitment to giving back to the community and making a positive impact on the lives of those in need. The



event is a shining example of the college's values of empathy, kindness, and social responsibility. "We are thrilled to be hosting 'SANNIHITH' for the 8th year," said Kishan Badruka, Hon. Secretary, SGGBES. He remarked "It's a wonderful opportunity for the students to make a difference in the lives of these amazing children, and we appreciate the support of our students and the community" for this noble cause.  
Chief Patron

- C. A. Laxmi Nivas Sharma, Chairman  
Patrons - Kishan Badruka, Hon. Secretary Ravi Badruka, Joint Secretary Advisor - Prof. S. Abhirama Krishna, DG  
Committee Members - Dr. M. Rajashakar Reddy (BCPGC)  
Dr. B. Mohan Kumar (BCCA) Dr. DVNS Murthy (BBCIT)  
Prof. VS Ramakrishna, Thakur Asha Rani, Dr. B. Purna Chandra Murthy (CMO)

## MLA Kaushik Reddy create ruckus at Karimnagar DRC meeting

Karimnagar, Jan.12 (NSS): The district review meeting held at Karimnagar Collectorate on Sunday turned out to be a stormy affair. In the presence of State ministers Ponnamp Prabhakar, Sridhar Babu and Uttam Kumar Reddy, there was a heated argument between the MLAs of the congress and the BRS parties. They pushed each other away. The situation calmed down when the police intervened and took BRS party Huzurabad MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy out. Jagtial MLA Sanjay was getting ready to speak at the meeting when Huzurabad MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy intervened. He created a ruckus in the meeting by not allowing Sanjay to speak "From Which party are you," Kaushik Reddy asked Sanjay and demanded that the mic should not be given to MLA Sanjay. Sanjay countered by asking Kaushik as to why he should not be given the mic? In the process, the two leaders got into

a heated argument and pushed each other. The leaders present there tried to reconcile. However, when Kaushik Reddy did not back down, the police dragged him out of the meeting hall. The clash took place in front of state ministers Ponnamp Prabhakar and D. Sridhar Babu. Kaushik Reddy later spoke to the media. He alleged that the congress leaders were resorting to violence when he demanded funds for his assembly constituency. He said that only 50 per cent of the crop loan waiver was done in his constituency. "I have demanded that the remaining 50 per cent crop loans dues should be waived off," he said. He recalled that during former CM KCR's tenure, 18,500 families were given Dalit bandhu scheme benefits. We have asked for the second installment of Dalit Bandhu," he said. Padi Kaushik Reddy warned the congress leaders that there was no one to be afraid if they threaten him. He



made it clear that he would stand by the farmers. He demanded that 15,000 be given to the farmers under the rythu bharosa scheme. He alleged that MLA Sanjay sold himself to the ruling Congress party. "The MLA's post of Sanjay was the alms given by our party chief KCR. Sanjay should resign and win on a Congress ticket," he demanded. He made it clear that he would definitely continue to question Sanjay and added that KCR would become the chief minister again after three years.

### PICTALK

Sangareddy District January 12 : Joint Medak Nizambad Karimnagar Adilabad Graduations MLC candidate for Swami Vivekananda statue at IB in Sangareddy town on the occasion of Swami Vivekananda's 162nd birth anniversary Dr. C Anji Reddy and BJP Sangareddy district president Godavari Anjireddy was garlanded and paid tribute. They said that Swami Vivekananda is a role model for today's generation and the future generations. The youth should follow in his footsteps and show the greatness of India to the world. Swami Vivekananda said that he was the person who awakened spiritual and nationalism among the youth. Afterwards, the newly elected mandal presidents of San-



gareddy district honored the town presidents. District Chief Secretary Manik Rao Rajasekhara Reddy Venkata Narasimha Reddy Pocharam Ramulu Dr. Raju Goud BJP Sangareddy Town President Dwaraka Ravi BJP District Office Secretary Doma-

la Vijayakumar in this program Ellanna Meena Goud Pullan-gari Surender Ashwant Srikanth Reddy Harshavardhan Reddy Ajay Tulsi Prakash Reddy Sai Reddy Abhinav Anand Chandrasekhar Aditya Satish Prasad and others participated.

## Recovered devotees had Srivari darshan

Tirumala, Jan.12 (NSS): TTD has provided darshan to 28 devotees on Sunday who were injured in the stampede incident at Vaikuntha Dwaradarshan SSD ticket counters on January 08 in Tirupati and recovered after undergoing treatment in SVIMS. On January 11, TTD Chairman B R Naidu visited the hospital and paid compensation to the injured and ordered the officials concerned to make arrangements provide special darshan to those who recovered. As per the instructions,

TTD provided the protocol darshan to the recovered devotees on Sunday. Speaking on this occasion, these devotees expressed immense pleasure and thanked the state government, TTD board and officials for having taken a complete care of them. They thanked the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh Chandrababu Naidu, TTD Chairman and officials for providing compensation and making arrangements of Srivari Vaikuntha Dwara Darshan as well returning to their home turfs.

### PICTALK



The progress High School (Chairman) Mirza Mohd Ali Baig ( Abid Pasha sahab) (Vice Chairman) (Mirza Ahmed Ali Baig sahab) & Dr. Syed Nusrath Fareed Prof (MS) Fareed Imtiaz sahab Attended Nikah ceremony Mohammed Aleem sahab Daughter at Green Banquet Hall

# Selection panel may not think of Bumrah as long-term Test captain

New Delhi, Jan 12 (GNS) Jasprit Bumrah is the frontrunner to replace Rohit Sharma as India's Test captain going forward but the peerless pacer doesn't seem to be a long-term option given his nagging fitness concerns, the latest being a back spasm which has rendered him doubtful for next month's Champions Trophy.

Indian selectors are hopeful that he still might have some role in the Champions Trophy since it's a swelling, but when one looks at the bigger picture the question arises whether he can be deemed a permanent skipper in Tests, now that Rohit's days in whites look as good as over.

If Bumrah is fit and ready to lead the Test side in England, chief selector Ajit Agarkar and his four colleagues need to have a strong name as vice-captain so that in case of an unforeseen scenario, the deputy is good enough to take charge. For now, in Tests, only two names are in the reckoning -- Rishabh Pant

and Yashasvi Jaiswal -- with the former looking the most suitable for that role. It is understood that during BCCI's review meeting on Saturday with Agarkar, head coach Gautam Gambhir and Rohit, Bumrah's issues with the lower back cropped up.

Post the review meeting, one can conclude that it is very unlikely Rohit will travel to England for the five Tests, and the 31-year-old Bumrah will certainly lead the team in the first Test at Headingley if all goes well.

The pacer with 443 international scalps across formats in just 204 games led India at Perth and Sydney in the recently concluded Border-Gavaskar Trophy and was the Player of the Series with 32 wickets, the highest by an Indian on foreign soil.

But the back spasm in the final Test proved to be his undoing as he could not bowl in the second innings and is set to undergo rehabilitation at the National Cricket Academy in



Bengaluru with an eye on playing the Champions Trophy.

# Punjab Kings announce Shreyas Iyer as skipper for 2025 IPL

► Iyer will reunite with head coach Ricky Ponting, with whom he shared a successful stint at Delhi Capitals, guiding the team to the 2020 IPL final

Chandigarh, Jan 12 (GNS) India top-order batter Shreyas Iyer was on Sunday announced skipper of Indian Premier League side Punjab Kings ahead of the new season beginning in March.

The right-hander, who captained Kolkata Knight Riders during their title-winning campaign in 2024, was roped in by PBKS for a massive Rs 26.75 crore, making him the second-most expensive player during the IPL auction held in November last year.

Iyer will reunite with head coach Ricky Ponting, with whom he shared a successful stint at Delhi Capitals, guiding the team to the 2020 IPL final.

"I am honoured that the team has reposed its faith in me. I am looking forward to working again with coach Ponting. The team looks strong, with a great mix of potential and proven performers. I hope to repay the faith shown by the management to deliver our maiden title," said Iyer in a statement.

The 2024 season has been a memorable one for Iyer, not only did he win the IPL with KKR, he also led Mumbai to their second Syed Mushtaq Ali trophy. He was also part of the Mumbai team that won the Ranji and Irani trophy. Ponting hoped that under Iyer's captaincy PBKS will be able to go the distance in the upcoming edition of the IPL. PBKS (formerly Kings



XI Punjab) have never won an IPL title. "Shreyas has a great mind for the game. His proven capabilities as captain will enable the team to deliver. I have enjoyed my time with Iyer in the past in IPL, and I look forward to working with him again. "With his leadership and the talent in the squad, I am excited about the seasons ahead," said Ponting. PBKS CEO Satish Menon said the partnership between Iyer and Ponting bode well for the franchise.

# Neeraj Chopra bids heartfelt farewell to coach Bartonietz

► Neeraj Chopra on Wednesday bid an emotional farewell to his German coach Klaus Bartonietz who ended his five-year partnership with the star Indian javelin thrower, citing family commitments.

Chennai, Jan 12 (GNS) Neeraj Chopra on Wednesday bid an emotional farewell to his German coach Klaus Bartonietz who ended his five-year partnership with the star Indian javelin thrower, citing family com-

mitments. "I write this without knowing where to begin. Coach, you are more than just a mentor to me. You have gone out of your way to make sure I was mentally and physically prepared for every competition," Chopra wrote in X.



# Swiatek knocked out of WTA Finals

RIYADH, Jan 12 (GNS) Defending WTA Finals champion Iga Swiatek was eliminated from the season-ending championship after Barbora Krejckikova's 7-5 6-4 win over Coco Gauff meant the Polish world No. 2 failed to advance to the last-four. Gauff was already guaranteed to make the semis, but five-time Grand Slam champion Swiatek needed the American to beat eighth-seeded Czech Krejckikova who required a victory herself to progress. The 13th-ranked Krejckikova took a tight first set, which lasted 54 minutes, after saving four break points, wrapping it up with a powerful backhand that zipped down the line. The second set was once again a close affair, but the Wimbledon champion



held her nerve to secure the win in a big win for me," the 27-year-old one hour and 42 minutes. "This is Krejckikova said.

# Windies' Alzarri Joseph suspended after argument with captain

► While West Indies was bowling during the match on Wednesday which the Caribbean side won by eight wickets to clinch the three-match series, Joseph left the field in a remarkable protest over the field set by Hope during one of the fast bowler's overs

Bridgetown, Jan 12 (GNS) Fast bowler Alzarri Joseph has been suspended for two matches by Cricket West Indies over his very public disagreement with captain Shai Hope over field placements during a one-day international against England.

While West Indies was bowling during the match on Wednesday which the Caribbean side won by eight wickets to clinch the three-match series, Joseph left the field in a remarkable protest over the field set by Hope during one of the fast bowler's overs.

Joseph and Hope engaged in a lengthy argument before the fourth over which was bowled by Joseph and had to be urged by the umpires to resume play. After a ball was played away on the off side during the over, Joseph remonstrated angrily with Hope and when the over ended he walked from the field, returning after a short break.

On Thursday, Cricket West Indies said in a statement Joseph's conduct fell short of CWI's "standards of professionalism."

"Alzarri's behaviour did not align with the core values that Cricket West Indies upholds. Such conduct cannot be overlooked, and we have taken decisive action to ensure the gravity of the situation is fully acknowledged," said CWI director of cricket Miles Bascombe.

Joseph also issued an apology. "I recognise that my passion got the best of me," Joseph was quoted as saying in the CWI statement. "I have personally apologised to captain Shai Hope and my teammates and management. I also extend my sin-



cerest apologies to the West Indies fans — understand that even a brief lapse in judgment can have a far-reaching impact, and I deeply regret any disappointment caused." With

the one-day series concluded, England and the West Indies meet in a five-match Twenty20 series beginning Saturday at Kensington Oval in Bridgetown.

# PT Usha ignores IOA executive members for National Games

New Delhi, Jan 12 (GNS) Indian Olympic Association president PT Usha has once again stamped her signature while deciding on the committees that will run the National Games. The delayed 38th National Games will be held in Uttarakhand from January 28 to February 14

In her letter to Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami confirming the dates, Usha has also signalled that she was willing to accommodate various national sports federations and state bodies. However, she has not included any of the IOA executive committee members, who have been opposing her.

She has appointed Sunaina Kumari as the head of the Games Technical Conduct Committee (GTCC). The committee is tasked to decide on the sports programme. Ravinder Choudhary, Cyrus Pancha, Maninderpal Singh, Bholanath Singh, Kamlesh Mehta, SP Deshwal, Prashant Kushwaha, Digvijay Singh and Harjinder Singh Jindi are the other members.

The new committee is a far cry from the GTCC appointed for the conduct of the Goa National Games, which was held last year. It was headed by IOA EC member Amitabh Sharma and also included the likes of Sahdev Yadav, Gagan Narang, Gen Harpal Singh (retd) and Rohit Rajpal.

Interestingly, the decision taken by Usha comes after a month of upheaval within the IOA. After Usha sent notices on various charges, including to the treasurer for financial mismanagement and to joint secretary Kalyan Chaubey for granting affiliation to the Taekwondo Federation of



India, the opposing group had announced plans to bring a no confidence motion against Usha for being autocratic, while alleging financial loss to the IOA.

Usha has further ignored the EC members while appointing a coordination committee between the NSFs and state Olympics associations, a protocol committee and a safeguarding committee that has the likes of Neetal Narang and Suman Kaushik. Interestingly, Sunaina is not part of the present EC as she did not contest the last IOA election that was held in December 2022. The IOA president in her letter to the Uttarakhand CM has further stated that dates for the National Games should not clash with the Asian Winter Games. "As you are aware the Asian Winter Games, organized by the Olympic Council of Asia are scheduled at Harbin, China during February 07 to February 14 2025. India will be fielding a very large contingent for these Games and therefore, there will be a need to suitably alter the dates of 38th National Games so that there is no conflict between these two major events," Usha said.