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India Quietly Works On Homegrown Sheshnaag-150 As US And Iran Launch Suicide Drones



New Delhi: As the world watches Iran's Shahed-136 low-cost suicide drones and America's own Shahed-inspired LUCAS drones exact disproportionate damage on the battlefield for a fraction of the cost of conventional weapons, India's own answer to this class of warfare, the Sheshnaag-150, is quietly but steadily making headway in development testing. The long-range swarming attack drone, built from scratch by Bengaluru-based defence startup Newspace Research Technologies (NRT), first flew a year ago. But in the wake of Operation Sindoor, during which NRT was called upon by the Indian military to deploy some of its other drone capabilities at the warfront, the urgency around a mature, home-grown, long-range swarming strike capability has sharpened dramatically.

I Said Too Late For Talks'

- Trump Says Iran Military, Leadership "Gone"

Washington: A little over 72 hours ago a joint US-Israeli attack on Iran triggered retaliatory strikes and brought the Middle East to the brink of war – for the second time in 10 months. On Tuesday evening Donald Trump signalled the 'end' of hostilities, claiming Iran's Air Force and Navy had been destroyed and its leadership structure – starting with Supreme Leader

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei – eliminated. In a brief Truth Social post, in which the US President shared an opinion published by the Washington Post – 'We're witnessing the birth of the Trump doctrine' – he crowed: "Their air defense, Air Force, Navy, and Leadership is gone. They want to talk. I said "Too Late!" Trump's proclamation came a day after Ali

Larijani, the powerful head of the Supreme National Security Council, said Iran would not negotiate with the US. On X Larijani denied media reports claiming Iranian officials had sought talks with Trump. It also lined up with what a senior White House official told Associated Press - that leadership candidates within Iran had reached out for talks.



"Selective Outrage": BJP Sources On Sonia Gandhi's Khamenei Article



New Delhi: Diplomacy cannot be reduced to appeasement, nor can it be conducted through public posturing designed for domestic political consumption, BJP sources appeared to deliver a lesson in diplomacy as they criticised Sonia Gandhi's article which questioned the government's "silence" on the killing of Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. Ayatollah Ali Khamenei was assassinated in a joint US-Israeli airstrike on Saturday morning.

"India has not been silent. India has consistently called for restraint, respect for sovereignty and de-escalation. A country with millions of its citizens living and working across the Gulf region, with critical energy dependencies and deep economic linkages, cannot afford reckless commentary," the sources said. The number of Indians who live in the Gulf and West Asia is about 9 million. There are around 10,000 Indian citizens who live, study and work in Iran, while over 40,000 live in Israel. "Sonia Gandhi remains selectively outraged. There is little acknowledgment of the anxiety of Indian workers, stu-

dents, and families caught in the crossfire. Her commentary appears driven less by concern for Indian lives and more by an instinct to frame foreign policy through the prism of appeasement," the sources said. Currently, the airspace of West Asia is almost closed. With flight services disrupted due to the military escalation in the Middle East, hundreds of Indians are stranded in Dubai, Doha and other key hub airports, with many of them taking to social media to appeal to the Indian government for assistance.

Arvind Kejriwal to appear before Probe Panel In 'Phansi Ghar' Case On Friday

Arvind Kejriwal to appear before Probe Panel In 'Phansi Ghar' Case On Friday

New Delhi: After being acquitted by a Delhi court in the excise policy case, former chief minister Arvind Kejriwal is now set to appear before the Privileges Committee of the Delhi Legislative Assembly in the 'Phansi Ghar' case. In a letter to the committee, Kejriwal said that he will appear at 3 pm on Friday. The Assembly committee has issued notices in the 'Phansi Ghar' case to Kejriwal, former Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia, former Assembly



Speaker Ram Niwas Goel and former Deputy Speaker Rakhi Birla. In his letter, Kejriwal wrote, "At a time when Delhi is battling pollution, roads are in a dilapidated condition, garbage is piled up everywhere, and hospitals lack medicines, the Delhi Assembly has summoned me to answer questions on the 'Phansi Ghar'.

Police Conduct Surprise Raids on Firecracker Manufacturing Units in Amalapuram

Ambedkar Kona seema, March 3: Police carried out surprise inspections on firecracker shops and manufacturing units in Amalapuram of Ambedkar Kona seema district. Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) Prasad inspected several firecracker manufacturing units in Amalapuram and sealed shops that were operating without proper permissions. The sudden inspections were conducted in the wake of a recent firecracker accident in Vetlapalem. Strict regulations are being enforced on the manufacture and sale of firecrackers (Diwali crackers) in Amalapuram. In the Amalapuram division, five shops were sealed for operating without valid licenses. The DSP clarified that shops must obtain necessary permissions from the District Collector before reopening. He warned that stringent action would be taken against anyone involved in the manufacture or sale of firecrackers without proper authorization.

Road Accidents Reduced with 'Stree Shakti' Scheme – Key Instructions from CM Chandrababu



From Our Staff Reporter Amaravati, March, 3: After the coalition government came to power, it has been introducing and implementing the "Super Six" schemes in phases. One of them is the Stree Shakti scheme. As part of this initiative, women have been provided free travel in APSRTC buses. Due to this scheme, road accidents in the state are reportedly decreasing significantly. This was revealed in a study conducted by the Prakasam district police. On Tuesday, Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu held a virtual review meeting from

the capital Amaravati with senior officials of Prakasam district. During the meeting, District SP Harshavardhan Raju informed the Chief Minister that the number of road accident deaths in the district had decreased considerably. According to the police report, when comparing the six months before and after the implementation of the Stree Shakti scheme, road accident deaths declined by 19 percent. In light of this, CM Chandrababu instructed senior officials to conduct a similar study across the entire state. The report also mentioned that overall deaths in Prakasam district had reduced by 10 percent compared to previous figures. Consequently, the Chief Minister suggested carrying out a statewide study on road accidents.

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Maha Kumbhabhishekam Festival Invitation to CM



From Our Staff Reporter Vijayawada, March, 3: The Maha Kumbha bhishekam festival will be held from March 6 to 8 at the famous pilgrimage shrine of Goddess Kanaka Durga, located on Indrakeeladri hill in Vijayawada. Temple authorities formally invited Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu** to attend the grand event. On Tuesday, Temple Trust Board Chairman Borra Radhakrishna, Endow-

ments Department Commissioner Ramachandra Mohan, and Temple Executive Officer Sheena Naik visited the CM's camp office and presented him with the invitation. Priests offered a portrait of the presiding deity, prasadam, and conveyed their blessings to the Chief Minister. **Invitation to Minister Lokesh** Officials also invited Minister Nara Lokesh to participate in the Kumbhabhishekam celebrations. Temple priests and members of the governing body personally handed over the invitation. **Festival Significance** According to Agama Shastras, the Maha Kumbhabhishekam on Indrakeeladri is conducted once every 12 years. Temple authorities are making elaborate arrangements to conduct the three-day ceremony in a grand manner. A large number of devotees are expected to attend the sacred event from March 6 to 8.

G. M. C. Balayogi Death Anniversary – Tributes by Nara Lokesh

From Our Staff Reporter Amaravati, March, 3: On the death anniversary of G.M.C. Balayogi, the first Dalit Speaker of the Lok Sabha and senior leader of the Telugu Desam Party (TDP), Andhra Pradesh Education and IT Minister Nara Lokesh paid rich tributes. Lokesh praised Balayogi for rising from a humble background to become the Speaker of the Lok Sabha and for leaving a lasting mark on Indian politics. In a post on 'X', he stated: "On the death anniversary of the first Dalit Speaker of the Lok Sabha and senior TDP leader, the late G.M.C. Balayogi garu, I pay my heartfelt tributes. He worked tirelessly for the upliftment of Dalits, the poor, and weaker sections.

Born into a modest family, he rose to become the Speaker of the Lok Sabha and made his mark in national politics. His services to the nation and the state will always be remembered. Let us all strive to fulfill the ideals of Konaseema's beloved son, Balayogi garu." **Political Journey** Born in 1951, Balayogi was elected to the 10th Lok Sabha in 1991 representing the Telugu Desam Party. Though he lost in the 1996 general elections, he remained active in politics. Later, he was elected to the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly from Mummdivaram in a by-election and served as the State Minister for Higher Education. In 1998, he was re-elected to Parliament and subsequently ap-



pointed as Speaker of the Lok Sabha, becoming the first Dalit to hold the prestigious post. Balayogi tragically passed away on March 3, 2002, in a Bell 206

helicopter crash at Kaikaluru in Krishna district of Andhra Pradesh. His legacy continues to be remembered in both state and national politics.

"We Will Bring Everyone Back Safely": Minister Kondapalli Srinivas

From Our Staff Reporter Amaravati, March, 3: In view of the rising tensions in West Asia, Andhra Pradesh NRI Affairs Minister Kondapalli Srinivas reassured that all Andhra people in the region would be brought back safely and urged them not to panic. Speaking to the media on Monday at Andhra Pradesh Bhavan in New Delhi, the minister said the state government is paying special attention to the safety of Telugu people in Gulf countries and would extend full support to them. He stated that, following the directions of Chief



Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, he is personally holding discussions with concerned officials in Delhi. According to preliminary information, around 5 to 6 lakh Telugu people are currently residing in Gulf nations. A special control room has been

set up at Andhra Pradesh Bhavan in Delhi to monitor the situation. The minister advised Telugu people in Gulf countries to utilize the services of the Indian Embassies locally and the helpline numbers established by the state government.

EDITORIAL

Impact of War on Fuel Availability

West Asia is blazing as a battlefield. Whenever tensions arise in West Asia, they immediately have a severe impact on petrol and diesel prices. With Iran obstructing ship traffic through the Strait of Hormuz — a lifeline for international oil transportation — prices surged sharply. When markets opened on Monday (3.3.26), the April Brent crude contract on the Intercontinental Exchange jumped 10 percent to a high of \$81.87 per barrel. In futures trading, Brent crude rose 13 percent to \$82.37. Recently, drones attacked the key Aramco oil refinery in Saudi Arabia, setting the Ras Tanura refinery ablaze. The temporary closure of this refinery significantly impacted the global energy market. Crude oil prices rose by 9.32 percent. Exports of oil and LNG (liquefied natural gas) from Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Kuwait, Qatar, Iraq, and Iran to various countries were disrupted. These countries together export 21 million barrels of oil per day. This accounts for 21 percent of global daily consumption. Around 20 percent of global LNG consumption is also supplied from this region. Of the crude oil India imports, 85 percent — and more than half of its LNG — must pass through the Strait of Hormuz. India imports 5.5 million barrels of oil per day, which equals 40 percent of the country's oil requirements. Over the past two months, this requirement has risen to 50 percent. India ranks third among the world's largest oil consumers, using 5.5 million barrels per day, of which 1.52 million barrels are supplied through the Strait of Hormuz. With purchases of Russian oil already reduced, West Asia has now become India's main alternative source. For every \$1 increase in Brent crude prices, the Indian government must pay an additional Rs. 13,000 crore annually. Last year, India imported oil worth \$160 billion. Amid rising tensions in West Asia, there are signs that a prolonged conflict involving Iran, the United States, and Israel could unfold. This raises concerns about whether India has sufficient oil reserves. According to Kpler data, India has about 100 million barrels of commercial crude oil reserves. Additionally, around 39 million barrels are stored in strategic reserves located in Mangaluru, Padur, and Visakhapatnam. The average daily import of 2.5 million barrels through the Strait of Hormuz accounts for 50 percent of India's total imports. Even if this supply is disrupted, existing reserves could meet import needs for approximately 60 days. Previously, the central government stated that India's strategic petroleum reserves could meet fuel requirements for 74 days during a geopolitical crisis. Iran produces 3.2 million barrels of oil per day, and any crisis would impact its production. For India, which is heavily dependent on oil imports, this poses a major threat. Rising import bills would lead to higher domestic fuel prices, increasing transportation costs and driving up the prices of essential goods. As a result, inflation could rise sharply. During wartime conditions, investors tend to move toward the safer US dollar, potentially weakening the Indian rupee to record lows. Higher dollar spending on oil imports would widen the current account deficit. If foreign institutional investors withdraw their funds, Indian markets could face severe volatility. Most of India's fuel supplies arrive via ships through two major sea routes. One is the Strait of Hormuz, and the other is the Red Sea. Unlike China and the United States, India does not have oil transportation pipelines. When Houthi rebels based in Yemen attacked in retaliation for Israel's actions in Gaza, the Red Sea shipping route faced serious disruptions. Now, if the Strait of Hormuz also experiences major turmoil or is completely closed, it would be extremely dangerous not only for India but for West Asia as a whole. West Asia is already struggling with complex and unresolved conflicts. When Russia began its invasion of Ukraine, India faced significant challenges, including disruptions in fuel and fertilizer supplies. India has had to rely on countries such as Russia and Iran for natural gas imports. The time has come for India to explore alternative pathways to safeguard its energy security.

Not Oil Alone: The 'Big Money' Driving Trump's Blitz On Iran

When Israel and the US launched coordinated action against Iran last year during the 12-day war, the strategic rationale was front and centre. That Iran cannot be allowed to develop nuclear weapons remains an existential demand for Tel Aviv and guides Washington's regional security and dominance imperatives. The Trump administration's withdrawal from the JCPOA, leading Iran to block the IAEA from inspecting its nuclear sites, became the turning point for the Trump administration's hardening stance against Tehran. This inflexion point coincided with the perfect regional storm started by the October 7 attacks by Hamas and Iran's brazen siding with regional proxies to make it a Zionist-Islamist war.

It Can't Be 'Stability' Alone

In all these, the Trump administration used its economic lens to look for its own interests in the region. In the absence of any direct economic interests in the Middle East, strategic goals alone couldn't have been persuasive enough for the Trump administration, which is openly fixated on economic benefits. Furthermore, a military engagement in Iran - a definitely long-drawn one - is a starkly counterintuitive proposition to Trump's political promise of being a President who did not start new wars, rather stopped them. Yet, to see the Trump administration take his bold but unpredictable chances against Iran makes it certain that there are economic underpinnings that may be guiding his extant strategic logic. Specifically so, because Trump's second presidency remains strongly tethered to an economic rationale in the region, and generally so because Iran's proxies across the region, which acted as its layered defence network, are incapacitated and at their weakest. American economic interests in the Middle East have dwindled over the years, even as America has turned its fortunes from being an energy importer from

the region to a net energy exporter to the world. As such, at the forefront of strategic interests in the Middle East for the US is its alliance with Israel. It remains the only country in the region that America can truly rely on, despite its military presence scattered across the region. Yet, the Trump administration's current bets in the Middle East are all economic at heart. One of the key issues on which the Trump administration has focused since his first term has been the question of regional normalisation between Israel and other partners through the Abraham Accords, on which the broader network of regional economics could be based. While the US came as the enforcer, the UAE was the economic behemoth of the region, and India was a player that commanded across-the-board good relations in the region and represented the anchor of the Indo-Pacific as one of the most dynamic regions in the world economically.

Spanner In Trump's Works

These goals were interrupted by the Hamas attacks on Israel on October 7, 2023, throwing the region into a tailspin. Not surprisingly, the Biden administration's efforts after the Trump administration were built to consolidate rather than experiment or neglect in the region. As such, it was under his administration that India, Israel, the UAE and the United States convened the first leaders' summit on July 14, 2022, to establish the I2U2 Group. The following year, another economic initiative India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEEC), was announced in September 2023 following a meeting in New Delhi between the leaders of India, the US, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Saudi Arabia, Italy, France, Germany, and the European Commission on the sidelines of the G20 Summit. These economic initiatives under the Biden administration built on the efforts by the first Trump administra-



tion to re-engage with a Middle East that was rapidly changing, just like American interests in the region. The IMEEC alone is expected to significantly reduce transshipment times from Europe to Asia and accrue savings to the tune of \$5.4 billion annually on Asia-Europe trade.

The 3 'Pegs' For Middle East

The second Trump administration came to office after the war in Europe and the Middle East had changed the region considerably. But his presidency took on an extended economic rationale, which placed the Middle East on three pegs: first, enforcing peace in the region may be difficult, but if there was any time in history when regional peace and stability could be externally induced, it was now; second, much of America's economic interests, most prominently its desire to supply energy to the Indo-Pacific countries after Trump resumed drilling oil and gas, banked on peace and stability in the Middle East, and America saw Iran as the outlier in Trump's peace project. It is not a surprise that Iran chose economic centres in the UAE as legitimate targets despite the country's own rather neutral stance in the current conflict and Abu Dhabi housing very few US assets and interests compared to other countries in

the region. A devastating blow to the UAE's image as the financial hub in the region could serve as a warning to America's potential economic bets in the Middle East.

The Board Of Peace Project

Trump's economic plan for the Middle East had too many conditionalities to begin with. The Board of Peace project for reconstruction in Gaza and post-war governance has largely seen economically consequential players wait on the side. This may have opened gates for Trump's inner circle to get a hand on the project - Jared Kushner and Steve Witkoff - albeit without any clarity on finances, timeline and global and regional mandate. At present, the initial pledges stand at \$7 billion from nine members, with an additional commitment of \$10 billion from the US. This stands markedly short against estimates from the UN, the European Union and the World Bank, that rebuilding Gaza will cost \$70 billion. Yet, the mustering of America's big businesses and a free-market plan for Gaza may be somewhat obvious in its economic design. Second, picking the I2U2 and IMEEC from where he left the Abraham Accords in his first term was always on Trump's mind, but regional flux always proved more overwhelming. In the end,

Trump's urgent push to bring "stability" to the Middle East may have been driven by two strong factors: his bet to turn the region - in particular Saudi Arabia and the UAE - into tech hubs from a semiconductor and AI standpoint, and establishing energy supply chains from the US to the Indo-Pacific. This even as America's energy supplies to the region are rising, and, more importantly, Trump's Venezuela gamble is paying off in enhancing his energy game. However, a long-drawn conflict in the Middle East could push crude prices northwards, and if it nudges prices to \$100 or more, that could potentially add at least half a percentage point to global inflation. For the Trump administration, which is battling inflation at home, time is of the essence. These projects, if successful in the Middle East, could change the flow of American aid to the region, especially Israel. Since October 7, 2023, some estimations put American aid to Israel at above \$17 billion, making it a hard sell for any administration domestically. The Trump administration's economic gamble is intending to change the flow of economic aid to the region to potentially gain from the region. All that rides on a peaceful Middle East. But peace in the Middle East has never been a function of great power assertion.

Iran To Venezuela, Why Does Trump Prefer To Attack Only On Weekends?

The United States and Israel conducted pre-emptive military strikes on Iran, attacking the latter's capital, Tehran, Isfahan, Bandar Abbas and several other locations around the capital. Iran responded fiercely, and since February 28 - a Saturday - the entire Middle East has been at war with Iran. Before the outbreak of war, the United States and Iran were engaged in nuclear deal negotiations, with a deadline set for Friday, February 27. The talks failed, and on the weekend, the US attacked. Interestingly, on January 3, 2026 - a Saturday - the US intervened in Venezuela and captured its President, Nicolas Maduro, and airlifted him to New York. Similarly, on December 25, 2025 - a national holiday - President Donald Trump approved an attack on the Islamic State in Nigeria. On June 22, 2025 - again a Sunday - the US launched airstrikes on Iran, hitting its nuclear facilities. All the attacks have one thing in common: they occurred on a weekend. While this might seem coincidental, there are multiple underlying reasons Trump chooses to avoid bombings on weekdays.

The 'Flight To Safety' Zone

Global stock market indices such as the US S&P 500, the UK FTSE 100, the Nikkei 225 in Japan, the CAC 40 in France, or the BSE Sensex in India operate from Monday to Friday, with no trading over

the weekend. If a military action takes place on Monday, investors would react to the news in real-time, causing a sudden sell-out of stocks, with no room for gradual repricing, a phenomenon with step-by-step readjustment to market realities and the ongoing developments in a conflict. Several studies have been conducted to examine the abnormal effects of war on the stock market. Existing literature has proved that there is a direct impact of global conflicts or big world events on stock markets, with research even analysing the impact of major events during World War II, such as Japan's attack on Pearl Harbour, the fall of Warsaw, the failed assassination attempt on Hitler, the death of US President Roosevelt or the atomic bombings in Japan. Such events are called 'blips', with a direct impact on stock markets. Global conflicts, which cause such brief disruptions, affect stock market performance. But when there is a 48-hour market silence over a weekend, it forces investors to speculate. On the first trading day - usually a Monday - there is a sudden sell-off of "risky" assets, which leads to investors buying less risky assets such as gold or treasury bonds. In a 2019 study published in The Review of Financial Studies, the authors defined such events as 'Flight To Safety' days - that is, days when



equity returns are negative, and bond returns are positive. Following two days of intense attacks across the Gulf, US stocks initially experienced a sudden sell-off when markets opened on Monday. However, they managed to recover by the close of the trading day. The predictable increase in the value of US Treasury Bonds reflected investors' preference for safe havens, such as gold and bonds.

Why Investors Move To Gold

If a conflict strikes oil-producing countries in the Gulf region, oil prices are the first to react to any development. QatarEnergy has immediately stopped LNG production, and the Saudi Aramco oil refinery was in flames after a drone strike. However, all countries have been cautious about attacking energy infrastructure. On Monday, the oil market absorbed the weekend shock.

A barrel of Brent crude oil was trading at about \$79 by lunchtime in London, up about \$6 or 8.5% on the day. As the price of oil increases, so does inflation, since fuel-dependent sectors such as airlines and transportation face the brunt. Short-term spikes do not have a profound impact because markets expect some persistence. However, should the Gulf conflict persist for several weeks, the rising costs will ultimately be passed on to the common citizen. During such events, investors prefer safe havens like gold, which acts as a hedge against inflation. When the purchasing power of currencies falls, gold acts as a reserve, and its price increases. Countries carry out trade in US dollars since it is a global reserve currency. Therefore, central banks buy US dollars and use gold as reserves. Similarly, purchasing a US Treasury bond benefits the American economy. These bonds are essentially a loan

offered to the US government, where, in return, an investor is paid by the US government. Through these bonds, the US government finances programmes like road-building, school-funding, and support for veterans through revenue sources such as taxes. It could also use these to raise funds for defence; during WWII, the US government issued "War Bonds" and raised \$185 billion from 85 million Americans. Bond-buying represents risk aversion and panic among investors. It is not a sign of strengthening of the US economy, since several factors play a role in deciding that. Respite is not likely soon in the current crisis in West Asia. And the lack of a unified objective - Trump's thin casus belli for striking Iran - may end up prolonging the conflict for both the US and Israel. Expect more trade disruptions - at least in the near future.

MBBS Graduate Dr. Komakula Samhitha Honoured at RMC 63rd Graduation Day



Sciences, Vijayawada. Congratulating the graduate on this significant milestone, Dr. Vishnu Vardhan, Principal and Additional Director of Rangaraya Medical College, conveyed his best wishes for her successful and service-oriented medical career. Dr. Lavanya Kumari, Superintendent of Government General Hospital (GGH), Kakinada, along with her grandmother Sitaratnam, elder parents Someshwararao and Padmaja, and younger parents Prasad and Lakshmi, extended their heartfelt congratulations and expressed confidence that she would serve society with compassion and commitment. The graduation ceremony marked a memorable occasion, celebrating academic excellence and the dedication of young medical professionals stepping forward to contribute to the healthcare sector.

Kakinada, March 03 (Pen Power): In a proud moment for Rangaraya Medical College, Dr. Komakula Samhitha of the 2020 MBBS batch was honoured during the 63rd Graduation Day ceremony for successfully completing the Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) course and emerging as a distinguished alumna of the institution. Dr. Samhitha, daughter of Advocate Siva Anjani Kumar and Madhavi, received accolades from the college authorities for her commendable academic achievement and dedication. The MBBS programme at the college is affiliated with Dr. NTR University of Health

Poor Housing Works to Be Expedited in Ongole

Ongole, March 03 (Pen Power): directed officials to speed up the construction of houses for the poor in the layouts developed within the limits of the .At a review meeting held at the Collector's camp office on Tuesday, the Collector, along with and , assessed various development works in the city with municipal and revenue officials. The Collector stated that layouts have been developed at Agraharam and Yarajarla for providing housing to eligible beneficiaries and instructed officials to ensure early commencement of construction works. He also suggested preparing plans under the PPP mode to construct shops and malls in vacant municipal lands to generate revenue for the Corporation. Officials from revenue, municipal, registration, and survey departments attended the meeting.



Science Istry 4.0 Forensic Expo Held



Gandepalli, March 3 (Pen Power): On the occasion of National Science Day, the Department of Forensic Science at organized a Forensic Expo titled "Science Istry 4.0" under the theme "Women in Science: Catalyzing Viksit Bharat." The event was conducted with great enthusiasm on the university campus. Dr. T. Rajini, Senior Resident, Department of Forensic Medicine from , attended as the Chief Guest. Speaking on the occasion, she highlighted the growing importance of forensic science in modern criminal investigations and encouraged students, especially young aspirants, to pursue careers in science and

technology. She appreciated the forensic models and live demonstrations presented by the students. Associate Dean of the School of Sciences, Vilas Anil Chavan, stated that such initiatives help foster scientific temper among students. Assistant Professor P.V. Nageswara Rao explained the objectives of the program and congratulated the organizers and participants. The expo featured forensic kit displays, crime scene models, "Wow Reactions" show, forensic art wall, 3D crime scene models, crime reels, quiz competitions, and a forensic fashion show, drawing wide appreciation.

Restrictions on Anganwadi leaders Should be Stopped: PDSU



Kadapa March 03: PDSU State Vice Pre sident M Ankanna has De manded an Immediate stop to the illega l arrests and detention mea sures taken by the polic e against the Anganwadi leaders and workers who are peacefully prote sting in Vijayawada. He said that among those arre sted were the leaders and activ ists of AP Pragati Sheela Anganwadi Workers and Helpers Union (IFTU). He said it was unfair to mo ve the Anganwadi leade rs and workers from Vijay awa da to Eluru and other distant places. He asked the gove rnment to imm ediatly start discuss ions and resolve the issues on the fair Dema nds like wage hike, gratuity, PF, ESI implementation. He made it clear that the arres ted Anganwadi leaders and workers should be imme diately released from dete ntion. M. Ankanna stated that it is the responsibility of the government to resp ect the right of wom en wor kers like Ang anwadi wor kers to protest in a de mocratic system.

Lift irrigation projects were initiated during YSR: Mayor Paka Suresh Kumar

Kadapa March 3: Kadapa Mayor Paka Suresh Kumar said in a press conference held in his chamber at the Corporation office on Monday that under the late leader and former Chief Minister Dr. YS Raja sekhar Reddy, construction of lift irrigation projects as well as many huge projects were initiated in the state. Chandrababu Naidu, who served as Chief Minister for 16 years, criticized Rayalaseema for neglecting agricult ure and projects, thus turni ng Rayalaseema into a des ert. He said that when his party leader, YS Jagannm ohan Reddy became the Chief Minister, there was development not only in the state but also in Kadapa city.



MITs applies for the Geographical Indication (GI) tag for Anantapur grapes

Madanapalle, March 03 : The MITs deemed-to-be University near Madanapalle has officially submitted an application for the Geographical Indication (GI) tag for Anantapur grapes, said Vice-Chancellor Dr C Yuvaraj. The application was submitted with the support of the MITs Intellectual Property Facilitation Centre (MITS-IPFC) of the university, he said. Anantapur grapes have a unique identity, dark colour, high juiciness, balanced sweet taste, mild acidity, soft pulp and long shelf life, which are associated with the unique agro-climatic conditions of the region, he said. The Anantapur Grape Growers and Producers Association has submitted a GI application to the Geographical Indications Registry, IPR Office, Chennai, he said. Through this application, they are seeking official recognition of Anantapur grapes as a distinctive agricultural product unique to the Anantapur geographical area, he said. GI protection will prevent misuse of the product name, ensure better prices for genuine growers and enhance the value of Anantapur grapes in the domestic and international markets, he said. Dr N Vijaya Bhaskar Chowdhury, Founder Chancellor, MITs University, congratulated the efforts



of Avani Farm Lab Technologies (AFLABT) Farmers Producer Company Limited, Anantapur, MITS Intellectual Property Facilitation Centre (MITS-IPFC) and MITS R and D Cell for their contribution in this registration. Vice Chancellor Dr C Yuvaraj, Advisor (R and D) Dr Tulasiram Naidu, Dean- Research and Innovation Dr Cherukuri Ravindranath, and producer company representative B Sarvesh participated in the program.

Vidhatha movie has all the elements that will impress the audience

Madanapalle, March 03 : The audience watching Vidhatha will enjoy and enjoy it, said Vidhatha director and producers Manikanta Rajendra Babu and Dr Appinapalle Bhaskarachari. Speaking at a press conference organized at the local Bangalore Road GRT English Medium High School on Tuesday, along with writer Appalabatra Suresh and actor Nagabhushanam, they said that Vidhatha is a reflection of the director's talent. They said that the film will be a good message to the society, without any opportunity for obscenity or vulgar conversations, and that it will be a family-friendly film that all ages can watch and enjoy. Vidhatha is a film produced by Madanapalle-based ABC banner with producer Dr Appinapalle Bhaskarachari as the hero, and that actors from Madanapalle's background were cast and most of the shooting was done in these locations, he said. He also said that important scenes were shot in Hyderabad, Bangalore and Visakhapatnam, and the censor board has also given a certificate to everyone above the age of ten to watch the film. It has Navarasa songs, story, narration, comedy, etc., he said, adding that all the elements will impress and delight the audience. He said that all arrangements have been made to release it on Thursday, the 5th, in AP and Telangana states. He said that the film is being released with full confidence that it will be a huge success. The film's writer Appalabatra Suresh said that about 40 actors and 15 technicians are work-



ing in this film, and post-production work has been done in Hyderabad. He expressed confidence that everyone who watches the film will come out satisfied and happy. He asked everyone to buy a ticket, watch the film and bless them. Actor Nagabhushanam said that the actors in this film lived their lives in a way that brought their performances to life. He said that the director was successful in getting the actors to do what he wanted from them. Therefore, he hoped that the people of Madanapalle and the audiences of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana would watch the film, support it and make Vidhatha a grand success.

MLA Shahjahan Basha congratulates Vijaya Bharati students for their scientific creation

Madanapalle, March 03 (Skyline Daily): A science exhibition was held on Tuesday at Vijaya Bharati English Medium High School in Society Colony, Madanapalle Town. MLA Shahjahan Basha, BJP senior leader Challapalli Narasimha Reddy and AP Amaravati Science City CEO Venkateswarlu Kesineni were present as the chief guests for the event. On this occasion, MLA Shahjahan Basha along with Challapalle inaugurated the science exhibition. Later, he personally inspected the exhibits set up by the students and asked the students about the purpose of the exhibits. He said that from the high school level, students have developed an interest in science and an understanding of society and exhibiting more than 200 exhibits on various topics shows the talent of the students. Later, Science City CEO Venkateswarlu said that he congratulated the students for organizing a science exhibition at the high school level to encourage them towards science and technology and bring out their talents. Similarly, if the creativity hidden in them is brought out and encouraged, they will have the opportunity to excel in all fields in the future. Speaking, the chairman of the educational institution, Dr N Sethu, said that in the science exhibition held today, models were set up in a way that was fully developed for classes 6th to 9th and the rest to a certain extent to



impress the audience. In this, Namaste Robot, Space Station, Steps in Agriculture, and Serving Robots were the special attractions. Principal Nischita Sethu, local dignitaries, teachers, and students participated in the program.

'Technophilia 2K26' Technical Fest to be held on March 7 at Viswam Engineering College

Madanapalle, March 03 : Viswam Engineering College chairman M Prabhakar Reddy and Principal Dr D Ramana Reddy announced that a technical fest named "Technophilia 2K26" will be organized on a grand scale on March 7th, 2026 at Viswam Engineering College. Dr Vasantha Selvakumar and Dr Suresh Babu are the conveners of this tech fest. Several interesting technical competitions will be organized on this occasion. Events like Paper Nova (Paper Presentation), Poster Conclave, Quiz Byte, Decode, Jam Session, Project Expo, C Thunders are designed to bring out the technical talent of the students. Students of all engineering colleges can participate in this technical fest, and the registration fee for participating students has been decided at Rs. 100. The organizers said that attractive prizes and certificates will be given to the winners of the competitions. The organizers said that technical fests are

of great importance for engineering students. They said that such programs enhance technical skills, innovative



thinking, problem-solving ability, teamwork and communication skills among the students. Moreover, they said that tech fests play a key role in preparing students according to the needs of the industries. The college management has requested all the engineering students to make the "Technophilia 2K26" technical fest a success and to make the most of this opportunity.

AIFF invites 15-year bids for ISL and club competition rights



New Delhi: The All India Football Federation (AIFF) on Monday invited bids for the commercial rights of both men's and women's club competitions for a minimum period of 15 years starting with the 2026-27 season. The AIFF has offered two packages for bidding pertaining to men's and women's club competitions. Package A consists of the Indian Super League (senior-most men's league) and the Federation Cup (senior-most cup competition). Package B comprises the Indian Women's League (IWL) and IWL 2 and, at the bidder's option, the Women's Federation Cup, which is likely to be introduced later. The bids

for the commercial rights of the recently rechristened Indian Football League (earlier I-League) were not included in the latest Request for Proposal (RFP). "We want the commercial rights for a minimum duration of 15 years. If the bidder agrees, it can be done for 20 years also. It is an option," a top AIFF official told PTI. However, unlike in the past, the RFP will not be made publicly available. Instead, interested parties will have to purchase the document for Rs 2.5 lakh from the AIFF. "It is clarified that the RFP shall be shared by way of email only upon receiving the payment. The RFP must be purchased by the entity that is

desiring to bid. Such right to bid may not be transferred to any affiliates of the entity making payment," the AIFF said. "Further, any bid submitted in response to the RFP by an entity that has not made the payment described hereinabove shall be summarily rejected and not considered for any evaluation under the RFP." A pre-bid conference has been scheduled for March 11, while the last date of bid submission is March 19. The bids will be opened on March 20. The latest tender process comes against the backdrop of prolonged uncertainty surrounding the start of the ongoing ISL season, which began on February 14 in a truncated format. The start of the 2025-26 ISL was delayed by around five months after a crisis hit Indian football following the failure of the national federation and its previous commercial partner to renew the Master Rights Agreement beyond December 8 last year. A tender floated by the AIFF for selecting a new commercial partner under the supervision of the Supreme Court of India-appointed committee found no takers. However, after the intervention of the sports minister and tough negotiations, all 14 clubs confirmed participation in the truncated ISL, with 91 matches set to be played on a home-and-away basis. The ISL clubs will share 60 per cent of the financial cost (around Rs 1 crore per club) for the 2025-26 season, while the AIFF's contribution will be around Rs 9 crore. The total cost for the season has been pegged at around Rs 24 crore. On January 18, the AIFF issued the RFP document for broadcast rights relating to the truncated ISL. On February 2, the AIFF awarded the exclusive global broadcast rights of the truncated ISL 2025-26 to FanCode for Rs 8.62 crore. Kaleidoscope Production and Services (KPS Studios) was awarded the production rights of the league, both global and domestic.

Sanju Samson says he stayed away from mobile and social media



Hyderabad: "It was a bit of a difficult chase. Looking at our batting power, I felt that chasing 190-odd at Eden Gardens, when dew comes in, gets a bit easier, but losing wickets at regular intervals made it challenging. To be honest, that is where my experience and my role played a big part," said Sanju Samson on his match-winning knock at Kolkata against West Indies which helped India make it to the semifinal of the T-20 World Cup. "I got a good start, but when the

wickets kept falling, I felt I needed to finish the game and take it till the last moment. Normally you feel like doing it, but it does not happen all the time, so I am very grateful it happened in this game," Sanju Samson said while speaking on JioHotstar's 'Haier Match Centre Live'. "When you are batting first, you want to set up a big score and hit a lot of sixes, but when you are chasing a score like this in a pressure game, you take different options and play more boundaries

rather than looking at risky options. The ball was coming on nicely, they were bowling with good pace, so I kept timing it and it came well," the India star opener said. "Our human nature is that we often start with a negative thought like, 'Can I do it? I do not think I can.' When I have that thought, I try to change it into a very positive one. When I had a series like New Zealand where I wanted to perform and be part of the World Cup team, things did not work out well, but luck-

ily I got a 10-day gap," Samson said. "I did not play any games and was not in the side. I kept thinking, 'Sanju, what else? Why did it not work? What else should I do?' So I did some soul-searching. I worked on my base, how I set myself up, and came back to it," the India opener said.

"A lot of people had suggestions and I saw many valid points, but at the same time I felt, 'Sanju, you have scored three international hundreds with the same setup.' Shot selection was something I kept working on. I did not want to change too much because I knew I had performed with the same setup, so I kept believing in myself, switched off my phone, stayed away from social media and listened to myself. I am very happy it happened in a very special game," he said. On what the Kolkata knock meant for him, Sanju Samson said: "More than a hundred cricketers in India dream about a day like this. I dared to dream. A young man from Trivandrum, Kerala, dreaming about playing for the country and winning a game in such a crucial match. I dared to dream and it happened."

Gavaskar hails Samson's match-winning knock against West Indies

Hyderabad: "This knock of 97 not out takes the weight off not just Sanju Samson's shoulders, but off everyone who knows what a fine player he has been," said Sunil Gavaskar on Star Sports' 'Amul Cricket Live'. "Sanju has had ups and downs, and we have felt them too because he is such a nice guy. Everybody wants him to do well. All Indian cricket fans will be happy that this sincere cricketer has got the success he deserves." JioStar expert Gavaskar said on the India opener's match-winning knock in Kolkata against the West Indies which helped India enter the semifinal of the T20 World Cup. "To be the Man of the Match in a must-win game is a dream come true. You could see the emotions on Sanju's face after he hit the winning runs. He was three runs short



of a hundred and it would have been fantastic had he reached the three-figure mark," Gavaskar said. "But maybe another hundred is on the way in

some other match. It was not an easy target to chase down, but this set of players didn't give up and they pulled off the unbelievable," he said.

"Having a set batter at one end is very beneficial. The other batter can look to knock singles and give more strikes to the set batter.

Peddi Heroine Drops Hot New Pic



Janhvi Kapoor is going through a tough phase in Bollywood with back to back flops. But she is not losing hope. The actress has pinned big expectations on her second Telugu film Peddi, starring Ram Charan. Recently, the second single Rai Rai Raa Raa from Peddi was released in Telugu, Hindi, Malayalam, Kannada and Tamil. The song has received a positive response from audiences across languages, which has given a small boost to the film's buzz. At the same time, Janhvi dropped some new pictures that truly slayed on social media. In the Grazia shoot, she looks sporty yet glamorous. In one look, she wears a stylish brown quilted mini outfit paired with sneakers, showing off her toned legs and confident vibe. In another, she rocks a bold athleisure style with a fitted top, jacket and sneakers, giving major cool girl energy. On the magazine cover, she poses near a badminton net in a chic skirt and crop top, looking fierce and full of attitude. Her open hair, sharp makeup and strong expressions make the entire shoot look powerful and fresh. Peddi was earlier supposed to release in March, but the makers have now postponed it to April due to the release of Dhurandhar. With positive buzz around the songs and her striking new image, all eyes are now on whether Peddi will bring Janhvi the much-needed success.

Sreeleela Set To Pair Up With Kartik Aaryan Again?

Director Kabir Khan is reuniting with star Kartik Aaryan for a powerful new sports drama inspired by the extraordinary life of Tajamul Islam, India's youngest kickboxing world champion. In this yet-untitled film, Kartik will portray a dedicated kickboxing coach who mentors a young girl from a conflict-affected region, guiding her through fierce competition toward her championship goals. Reports suggest that popular actress Sreeleela is in talks to play a pivotal role opposite Kartik, adding emotional depth and on-screen chemistry to the narrative. Though not officially confirmed, insiders say discussions are ongoing and a call will be made soon. This will be the second time that Sreeleela has been paired opposite Kartik after her debut Hindi film Aashique 3 (Tentative title). If these films become big hits, Sreeleela's career will take off big time in Hindi cinema. On the other hand, the project has already begun filming in Kashmir, with Kartik completing the first schedule and plans in place to resume a full shoot soon. To convincingly bring his character to life, Kartik has undergone rigorous physical preparation and training. The story aims to spotlight resilience, courage and the spirit of ambition, as it brings to life Tajamul Islam's inspiring journey from humble beginnings to global sporting success. Makers are targeting a theatrical release in mid-2027.



NBK111 to begin the regular shoot with revised budget

After delivering the mass entertainer "Veera Simha Reddy", Nandamuri Balakrishna and director Gopichand Malineni are teaming up once again for their next project, tentatively titled NBK111. The film was announced in a grand manner earlier, with strong indications that it would be a royal period drama. Nayanthara was roped in as the heroine. However, following the disappointing performance of "Akhanda 2" at the box office, the makers have reportedly reworked their plans. The earlier storyline has been scrapped, and Gopichand Malineni is said to have developed a fresh script to align with the current market pulse. As per industry buzz, the revamped version of NBK111 is all set to go on floors from March 5, with pre-production formalities nearing completion. The film is being produced by Venkata Satish Kilaru, who is also backing "Peddi." Considering the present market conditions and recent box-office trends, the makers have reportedly decided to significantly reduce the film's budget to ensure better financial viability. With a new script, controlled budget, and the successful Balakrishna-Gopichand combination, expectations are now riding high on NBK111.

