



Rajnath Singh to skip Russia visit amid escalating tensions between India-Pakistan

New Delhi: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will not likely attend Russia's Victory Day parade to be held in Moscow on May 9 to mark the 80th anniversary of the Soviet Union's win over Germany in World War II, amid escalating tensions between India and Pakistan in the aftermath of the Pahalgam terror attack, sources said. Singh's Deputy, the Minister of State for Defence Sanjay Seth, may represent India at the event in Moscow, the officials said on Saturday. The decision comes amid rising tensions between India and Pakistan following the recent terror attack in Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir. While no official reason has been cited for Singh's absence, sources within the Ministry of Defence suggested that the security situation arising from the Pahalgam attack played a significant role in the decision. The development came on a day the Pakistan Army fired at Indian posts along



the Line of Control (LoC) in sectors including Kupwara, Uri and Akhnoor, violating the ceasefire agreement for the ninth straight day after the April 22 terror strike that killed 26 people. The Indian Army's counter-fire was measured but effective. Initially, Prime Minister Narendra Modi was invited by Russian President

Vladimir Putin to attend the Victory Day parade. However, due to the evolving security concerns and the escalating situation with Pakistan, it was decided that Rajnath Singh would attend in his place. Sources further mentioned that Prime Minister Modi's absence from the parade has sparked diplo-

matic discussions, with speculation linking the decision to the recent developments in Pahalgam. Russian President Vladimir Putin had extended invitations to leaders of several nations, including China's President Xi Jinping, for the commemoration of the 80th anniversary of the Soviet victory in World War II. This year's Victory Day parade in Moscow will host leaders from nearly 20 countries. Victory Day on May 9 is a significant event in Russia, commemorating the Soviet Union's victory over Nazi Germany in 1945. The parade at Red Square is one of the most important ceremonies in Russia, drawing attention from world leaders and military officials. Prime Minister Modi visited Russia twice in 2024—once for an annual summit with President Putin and again for the BRICS Summit held in Kazan. The upcoming Victory Day event is set to be a crucial part of

Russia's diplomatic calendar, with President Putin planning a visit to India later this year for an annual summit. The decision to send Sanjay Seth instead of the Defence Minister highlights the sensitivity of India's security concerns following the Pahalgam attack. The attack, which claimed the lives of several security personnel, has intensified the security situation in Kashmir and strained relations between India and Pakistan. "While the invitation to the Victory Day parade was extended to both PM Modi and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, the growing concerns regarding the security situation have prompted this change in representation," a diplomatic source said. As tensions remain high, India's decision to send a lower-profile representative underscores the ongoing security challenges and the careful diplomatic balancing act the government is navigating.

J&K L-G flags off first batch of Hajj pilgrims from Srinagar airport

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir Lt Governor Manoj Sinha on Sunday flagged off the first batch of Hajj pilgrims from Srinagar International Airport to Saudi Arabia and wished the pilgrims a safe and fulfilling pilgrimage. Chief Minister Omar Abdullah was also present at the airport. The Lieutenant Governor interacted with the pilgrims and extended his greetings and best wishes for a safe pilgrimage and a fulfilling spiritual experience. Manoj Sinha also recognised and appreciated the support of all the stakeholders for the successful organisation of the holy pilgrimage. CM Omar Abdullah spoke to some pilgrims and asked them to pray for the peace and prosperity of the country during their Hajj pilgrimage. This year, around 3,622 pilgrims from the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir will perform the Hajj pilgrimage. Srinagar International Airport is scheduled to operate 11 flights between May 4 and May 15, facilitating approximately 3,132 Hajj pilgrims from the union territory, and 242

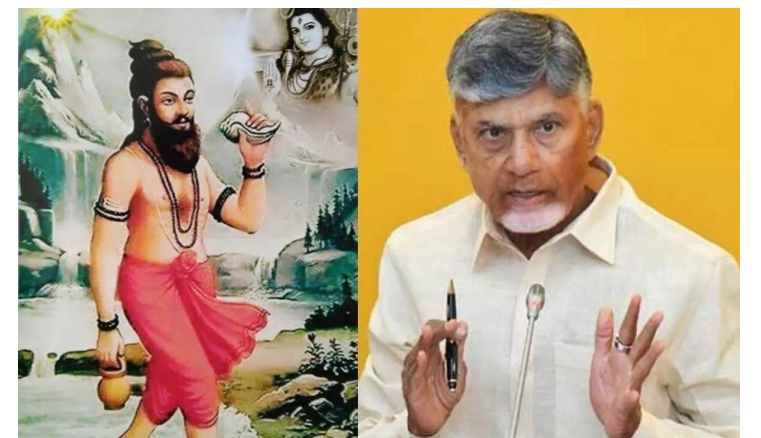


from the UT of Ladakh. The Hajj pilgrims will be received by the Consulate General of India, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, at Jeddah. CM Omar Abdullah, Additional Chief Secretary Dheeraj Gupta, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, IGP Kashmir Vidhi Kumar Birdi, Deputy Commissioner Budgam Akshay Labroo, and the members of the J&K Hajj Committee, senior officers of the Airport Authority, Civil and Police administration, were present on the occasion. Earlier in the morning, the first batch of this year's Hajj pilgrims left the Hajj House on Sunday

for the Srinagar International Airport to board the special flight for Saudi Arabia. The first batch of 178 pilgrims, comprising 96 men and 82 women, reached the Hajj House in the Bemina area of Srinagar city in the morning. The pilgrims were asked to reach the Hajj House between 5 a.m. to 5.30 a.m. for final preparations and departure to the airport. Authorities have kept special buses to carry the pilgrims to the airport, but no relative or friend of the pilgrims will be allowed to accompany them to the airport. Shujaat Ahmad Qureshi, chief executive officer of the J&K Hajj committee, said the first flight

carrying pilgrims will leave from the Srinagar International Airport. Senior officers, including the divisional commissioner (Kashmir), V.K. Bidhuri, visited the Hajj House on Saturday to take stock of the final arrangements being made for the pilgrims. All the Hajj pilgrims from the union territory, including those from the Jammu division, will have to report at the Hajj House in Srinagar for their onward journey to Saudi Arabia. Emotional scenes were witnessed at the Hajj House as families bade farewell to their members leaving on the pilgrimage. It was a mix of joy and sorrow as relatives expressed joy for their family members leaving to perform the pilgrimage and some sadness for the separation, as the two-way journey takes over a month on average. In contrast to the last many years during which lots were drawn to fill the seats, for the last three years, the number of applicants for the pilgrimage has been less than the allotted seats. This has made undertaking the journey easy for those who can afford it.

AP CM Chandrababu extend greetings on Bhagirath Maharshi Jayanti



In a gesture of recognition for the Sagara castes, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu has extended his greetings on the occasion of Bhagirath Maharshi Jayanti. The Chief Minister highlighted that the state government has formally issued orders to celebrate this important day. Taking to social media platform X, CM Naidu emphasised the importance of honouring Bhagirath, vowing that it is our duty to remember and revere the man who famously brought the Ganges to Earth. He noted that Bhagirath's relentless efforts serve as an inspiration for all who aspire to achieve greatness. Education and IT Minister Nara Lokesh also conveyed his wishes for the celebration, underscoring the connection between culture, civilisation, and water. He praised the determination and sacrifice of Maharshi Bhagirath for bringing the Ganges to benefit the people, marking a significant milestone in Indian tradition. Minister Lokesh mentioned that the coalition government prioritises the irrigation sector in the spirit of Bhagirath, and they are dedicated to advancing the Polavaram project to realise his vision. He asserted that the establishment of Bhagirath Maharshi Jayanti as a state festival exemplifies their commitment to honouring cultural heritage.

The National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET), essential for admissions to medical courses nationwide, is being conducted today, May 4. The examination is scheduled for two sessions: the first from 11:00 AM to 1:30 PM and the second from 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM. Over 23 lakh candidates are expected to participate in NEET this year, reflecting the ongoing high demand for medical education in the country. From Andhra Pradesh, approximately 66,000 students applied for the exam last year, with around

All set for NEET exam, stringent security imposed at centres in AP

64,000 actually sitting for it. This year, the participation from the state is anticipated to mirror last year's figures. Hyderabad nightlife In Andhra Pradesh, examination centres have been established in 29 cities and towns, including Anantapur, Kurnool, Visakhapatnam, Vijayawada, Guntur, and Tirupati. Successful candidates from the NEET will have the opportunity to secure admission to

776 medical colleges across India, with 1.17 lakh MBBS seats available at the national level. Additionally, there are approximately 6,500 medical seats unfilled in government and private institutions in Andhra Pradesh. Hyderabad nightlife Authorities have announced that students will be granted entry into examination centres only after stringent security checks are conducted.



NEET exam

Water zam on the roads in the Nacharam division for a little rain



Hyderabad, May:3, Metroudayam

On Saturday evening, the Roads were caught in several colonies under the Nacharam division for a short rainfall. The colonists have many difficulties. Governments are not in trouble and difficulties. Many people are worried that the reckless tendency to adopt public representatives of governments will cause difficulties to the public. Still, the colonists want the authorities to start sleeping and protect the colonists from this heavy. The event was attended by colonists Murali, Pothani Gopal Goud, Mahesh Yadav, Prakash Yadav, Aziz, Azhez, Nasim, Pentiah, Siva, Rajender and others.

Rains create havoc in AP, to continue for three days



A sudden change in weather has wreaked havoc across various districts in Andhra Pradesh, with heavy rain, thunderstorms, and strong winds affecting daily life. In Krishna district, residents faced a stark contrast to the extreme heat and humidity they had endured for three days, as dark clouds rolled in over the Gannavaram highway area. The torrential downpour, accompanied by thunder and lightning, prompted authorities to cut power supply in numerous areas, leading to traffic disruptions caused by fallen hoardings and trees, particularly in Kankipadu. Low-lying areas experienced flooding, resulting in power outages across the mandal. Hyderabad nightlife While the rain has provided relief to many from the oppressive humidity, mango farmers are left anxious as the strong winds pose a serious threat. Following significant losses in April due to similar weather conditions, farmers are fearing further damage, particularly with large stocks of corn accumulating in Mylavaram market yard. In adjacent Eluru district, the skies darkened under heavy rain and strong winds, causing traffic chaos due to waterlogged roads. Fortunately, Sunday's holiday provided some respite for employees caught in the storm. Heavy rain also swept across the Konaseema district, with significant damage reported to horticultural crops such as mangoes. Unexpectedly dark skies forced motorists to turn on headlights even in mid-day. The Andhra Pradesh Disaster Management Authority has issued warnings indicating that these mixed weather conditions will persist for two more days. Forecasts predict light to moderate rain, along with thundershowers, across numerous regions including Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, and both Godavari districts, among others. Authorities have cautioned residents against seeking shelter under trees during thunderstorms to ensure safety.

The ICET entrance exam, conducted by Andhra University (AU), is set to take place on May 7 for those seeking admission to MBA and MCA courses in educational institutions across the state for the academic year 2025-26. M Shashi, the exam's convener, confirmed that the exam will be held online in two shifts. The first shift is scheduled from 9 am to 11.30 am, while the second shift will run from 2

pm to 4.30 pm on the day of the exam. A total of 37,572 students have registered to sit the ICET exam this year. Hall tickets have been released, and candidates are

Khairatabad District Booth Level Committee meeting conducted by the District President of Khairatabad, Shambhula Ushashree Sreekanth Goud.

Hyderabad, May:4, Metroudayam

As per the directions of the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Shri Rahul Gandhi, All India Mahila Congress President Alka Lamba, and State President Sunitha Rao, efforts are being made to form booth-level committees in Khairatabad district. In this context, the Khairatabad District Mahila Congress President, Shambhula Ushashree Sreekanth Goud, met with Nampally constituency contestant MLA Feroz Khan and Karwan constituency contestant MLA Usman Bhai. On this occasion, she requested them to appoint Mahila Congress booth-level committees. Speaking on the occasion, Shambhula Ushashree Sreekanth Goud stated that Rahul Gandhi



gives great importance to women and has instructed that women be given representation in the booth-level committees in the upcoming local body elections. Following his

instructions and under the leadership of State Mahila Congress President Sunitha Rao, the Mahila Congress is working to strengthen the Congress party further.

Corporator Shanti Saizen Shekhar, Retained the given word

Hyderabad, May:3, Metroudayam

For the development of the Budaga cemetery in Annapurna Colony in Nacharam, Budaga Jangala elders thanked corporator Shanti Sazan Shekhar for granting Rs 50 lakh. On this occasion, the corporator said that the cemetery was Rs. 50 lakhs have been sanctioned. The tender process is complete. The corporator announced that the work will be started this week. The event was attended by K. Narsimha, v. Kishtayya, A. Narasimha, K Shankar, Laddu, Shiva Ram, T. Krishna, V. Sudhakar, C. Mallesh, K. Ramu, V. Srikanth and A. Rahul.



One platform for all electoral services, Election Commission of India soon to launch ECINET

New Delhi: In a significant step towards streamlining electoral services, the Election Commission of India (ECI) announced on Sunday that it is developing a comprehensive digital platform, ECINET, which will unify and reorient more than 40 of its existing mobile and web applications into a single, user-friendly interface. Designed to serve electors and key stakeholders -- including election officials, political parties, and civil society -- ECINET aims to simplify electoral processes by offering an aesthetic and accessible User Interface (UI) alongside a seamless User Experience (UX). "In a major initiative, the Election Commission of India is developing a new user-friendly digital interface for the electors and its other stakeholders," the Commission said in an official statement. The one-stop platform will eliminate the need for users to manage multiple apps and logins and will facilitate easy access to electoral data through



both desktop and mobile devices, according to the statement. ECINET was conceptualised by Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar during the Conference of Chief Electoral Officers (CEOs) held in March 2025, attended by Election Commissioners Sukhbir Singh Sandhu and Vivek Joshi. The statement added that the ECINET initiative is positioned to subsume major existing applications such as the Voter Helpline App, Voter Turnout App, cVIGIL, Suvidha 2.0, ESMS, Saksham, and KYC App -- which collectively account for more than 5.5 crore

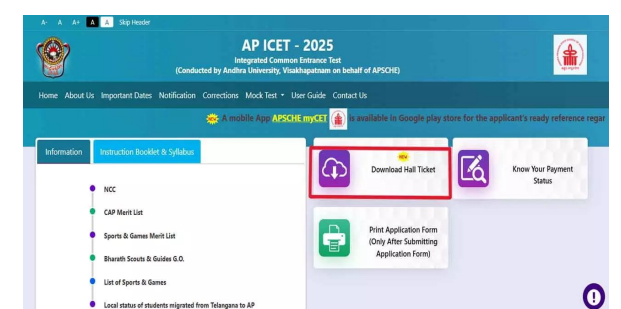
downloads. By doing so, the ECI said it aims to bring convenience to nearly 100 crore voters and the vast electoral machinery, including 10.5 lakh Booth Level Officers (BLOs), 15 lakh Booth Level Agents (BLAs) from political parties, around 45 lakh polling officials, 15,597 Assistant Electoral Registration Officers (AEROs), 4,123 Electoral Registration Officers (EROs), and 767 District Election Officers (DEOs) across the country. ECINET will only feature data input by authorised ECI officials to ensure accuracy and reliability. In case of discrepancies, the primary data

entered in statutory forms will remain the official source. The platform will be fully compliant with the legal provisions of the Representation of the People Acts of 1950 and 1951, the Registration of Electoral Rules, 1960, and the Conduct of Election Rules, 1961, as well as with ECI's instructions. Currently, in an advanced stage of development, ECINET is undergoing intensive trials to ensure usability, efficiency, and cybersecurity. The development process has included wide-ranging consultations with 36 state and union territory CEOs, 767 DEOs, and 4,123 EROs. The team also reviewed 76 publications, amounting to nearly 9,000 pages of electoral regulations, instructions, and handbooks issued by the Commission over the years. Once launched, ECINET is expected to set a new standard in digital governance and significantly enhance the electoral experience for every citizen and official involved in the democratic process.

AP ICET Entrance Exam Scheduled for May 7

pm to 4.30 pm on the day of the exam. A total of 37,572 students have registered to sit the ICET exam this year. Hall tickets have been released, and candidates are

encouraged to register their details on the official website to download their tickets. For further information, candidates can check the website.



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Where Life Refuses to Die

They thought it was over the blade had done its work, the form was broken, and silence settled like dust on what once stood proud.

But beneath the still surface, something unseen stirred. Not a rebellion, not rage just the quiet insistence of life that has not forgotten how to begin.

From the hollow of a severed form, new growth appeared unexpected, uninvited, and utterly undeniable.

Fruits hung from what should be barren, a quiet defiance against logic, against endings.

Not everything that is cut down is truly gone. Not every wound marks a conclusion.



Sometimes, what remains becomes more than what was lost. Sometimes, the heart remembers how to grow even when the World stops watching.

This is not about resurrection. It is about persistence. The Will to be when there is no reason left.

And so, from the stillness, from the silence, life speaks one more time softly, but unmistakably: I am still here

Smt. Latha Murthy

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खुद को मुसलमान कहते हुए दूसरों को काफिर कहते वाले और जेहाद (धर्मयुद्ध) के नाम पर आतंकवाद फैलाने वाले अधर्मी, पाखंडी, लानती यज़ीद प्रवृत्ति के लोगों का विरोध होना चाहिए। ... (शकील उवाचा - 350)

धर्म और ईश्वर में श्रद्धा न रखने को कुफ़र कहा जाता है। कुफ़र याने ईश्वर को न मानना या ईश्वर और उसकी सत्ता को इनकार करना होता है। सरल भाषा में कहा जाए तो कुफ़र याने ईश्वर के अस्तित्व को नकारना, ईश्वर के संदेशों को और संदेशवाहकों को न मानना, ईश्वर के द्वारा भेजे गए धर्मग्रंथों का इनकार करना है। कुफ़र याने धर्म के नियमों का पालन न करते हुए उन नियमों का उल्लंघन करना है। और ऐसा कुफ़र करने वाले अधर्मी अविश्वासी व्यक्ति को ही काफिर कहा जाता है।

काफिर का मतलब मुस्लिमतर व्यक्ति नहीं है। अपने विचारों के विरोध करने वाले लोगों को काफिर कहकर सताने की मानसिकता आज की नहीं है। यह बहुत पुरानी है। यह मानसिकता खुद मुस्लिम कहते हुए अधर्मी, पाखंडी, आतंकी यज़ीद लानती (ईश्वर द्वारा धिक्कारित) के और उसके अनुयायियों की है। आज भी ऐसे ही पाखंडी यज़ीदी विचारधारा के लोग मुस्लिमतर लोगों को काफिर कहते हैं, जबकि काफिर का मतलब सत्य को छिपानेवाला, ईश्वर में श्रद्धा न रखने वाला, ईश्वर को, ईश्वरीय ग्रंथों को और ईश्वर के भेजे मार्गदर्शकों को इनकार करने वाला होता है।

अधर्मी, पाखंडी और आतंकी यज़ीद लानती (ईश्वर द्वारा धिक्कारित) के अधर्म और अत्याचार का विरोध करनेवाले पैगंबर साहब मोहम्मद (स्व.) के



प्यारे नवासे और उनके तीसरे उत्तराधिकारी इमाम हुसैन अलैहिस्सलाम पर काफिर का फतवा लगाकर जिहाद (धर्मयुद्ध) के नाम से उन्हें उनके 72 साथियों के साथ करबला (इराक) में शहीद किया गया था। यह फतवा देने वाले और शहीद करने और करवाने वाले खुद को मुसलमान कह रहे थे।

इन पाखंडियों में सभी नमाज पठन करने वाले नमाजी, तीर्थयात्रा करने वाले हाजी, उपवास रखने वाले रोज़ेदार, कुरान कंठस्थ किए हुए हाफिज, और कुरान पढ़ने वाले कारी थे। ऐसे ही आतंकी यज़ीद लानती (ईश्वर द्वारा धिक्कारित) के विच. रधारा के लोग आज भी खुद को मुसलमान कहते हुए दूसरों को काफिर कहते हैं और जेहाद (धर्मयुद्ध) के नाम पर आतंकवाद फैला रहे हैं। ऐसे विचारधारा रखने वालों से सावधान रहकर ऐसे लोगों का विरोध सभी को करने की जरूरत है। विशेषकर हर एक मुसलमान को इनका विरोध करना चाहिए। इस्लाम और जेहाद के नाम से पूरी दुनिया में हो रहे हर तरह के आतंकवाद का सख्त विरोध होना चाहिए।

पवित्र कुरान के अध्याय 2, आयत क्रमांक 256 के मुताबिक धर्म के मामले में कोई जबरदस्ती नहीं की जा सकती। पवित्र कुरान, अध्याय क्रमांक 109, आयत क्रमांक 01 से 07 में पैगंबर साहब मोहम्मद (स्व.) से कहलवाया गया है कि, "तुम जिन की उपासना करते हो मैं उनकी उपासना करना वाला नहीं हूँ और मैं जिसकी उपासना करता हूँ तुम उसकी करने वाले नहीं। इसलिए तुम्हारे लिए तुम्हारा दीन (धर्म) है और मेरे लिए मेरा दीन (धर्म) है।"

जो जिसकी उपासना करे वह करे क्योंकि इसका प्रतिफल क्या देना है, क्या नहीं देना यह उस ईश्वर निर्धारित करेगा। इस बारे में हम एक दूसरे को बुरा भला कहने के अधिकारी नहीं हैं।

—डॉ. मोहम्मदशकील ताजमोहम्मद जाफरी (शकील मंचरी), मंचर, पुणे (महाराष्ट्र) भारत

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DO NOT DIS-COURAGE!

We come across certain people! Disappoint always with their chat! Never praise even a good deed! Seems their aim make feel others inferior! Discouraging is only their task!

Though not encourage, better not to discourage! No one become master in a single day! Can not imagine who is what on oneday! Underestimation can not be tolerated! Better to nip the bud earlier!

This negative attitude is inner fear of others development! Thats why drags them to the ground! But forgets, more we discourage more and more their will power Accelerate!



A day will come they reach the goal beyond your expectation! Some might not have broad thinking at least better not to discourage!

One more thing I observed! Many parents compare their children with neighbouring! Make them feel inferior with shy! This practice should at once be curtailed! Otherwise kids future becomes chaos!

Composed by: B. Satyanarayana Rao, (Ba. Sa. Raa) Vijayawada.

Dil Raju launches 'Lorven AI' studio, pioneers AI integration in Indian cinema



In a grand event attended by some of the biggest names in the Telugu film industry, veteran producer Dil Raju officially launched Lorven AI Studio—an ambitious initiative aimed at revolutionizing Indian cinema through cutting-edge artificial intelligence. Telangana IT Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu graced the occasion as chief guest and lauded the initiative, calling it a significant step in aligning entertainment with evolving technology. Telangana tourism "Dil Raju's vision to blend AI with cinema is commendable. Technology is the future, and this step will create new opportunities and jobs," stated Minister Sridhar Babu. He noted Hyderabad's growth as a tech hub and emphasized how innovations like Lorven AI place the city on par with global entertainment centers. Filmmakers including Anil Ravipudi, Vamsi Paidipally, Sukumar, Bobby, Nag Ashwin, Raghavendra Rao, and VV Vinayak praised Dil Raju's futuristic thinking. Vamsi revealed the studio was named after Lord Venkateswara, signifying its spiritual and emotional foundation. Anil Ravipudi highlighted the platform's potential to reduce workload, while Sukumar acknowledged its capacity to enhance creativity. Dil Raju explained that Lorven AI offers a 360-degree solution—from script development and pre-production to post-production and promotions. He described it as a "first assistant director without emotion," assisting creatives in visualizing and refining their ideas with precision. Projects like Rowdy Janardhana and TellaKagazi are already utilizing the platform. Producer Allu Aravind, who launched the logo, expressed admiration for Raju's consistent leadership in innovation. "AI will collaborate with the industry, not compete," he remarked. With Lorven AI, Dil Raju aims to make advanced filmmaking accessible to both established and emerging creators, marking a technological leap in the Indian film landscape.

Elderly people are a link to the past: Prez Murmu



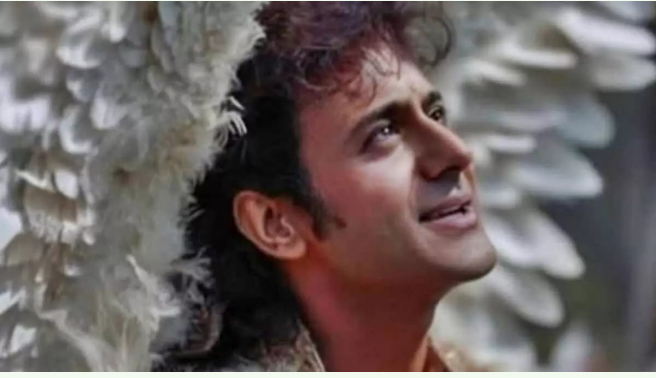
Visakhapatnam: Elderly people are a link to the past and they are guides to the future. People should value their guidance and enjoy their company, emphasised President Droupadi Murmu. Inaugurating a senior citizens home and a senior citizens welfare portal at G Bheemavaram village of Kasimkota, Anakapalli in a virtual mode, the President said, "Respecting parents and elders is part of our culture. It is generally seen in families that children are very comfortable with their grandparents. Elders act as an emotional pillar for the family." The event was organised under the banner of 'Ageing with Dignity', initiatives taken for the welfare of senior citizens, the President inaugurated a number of facilities at various places. Organised by the Union Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, the event witnessed launch of the senior citizens welfare portal, the virtual inauguration of senior citizens homes, the distribution of Aids and Assistive devices and the signing of an MoU between the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment and Brahmakumaris organisation. In Anakapalli, the newly launched home will be maintained by Pavani Society for the Multiple Handicapped and Spastics. After a decade, AP got 15 senior citizens' homes sanctioned, underlined A Surya Kumari, principal secretary, Department of Women, Children, Differently-abled and Senior Citizens. Hyderabad nightlife Deputy Director of differently-abled department A Ravi Prakash Reddy, DRO Y Satyanarayana Rao, other officials were present.

'Chaari 111' sees global uptick as it trends on Amazon Prime UK

Nearly a year after its theatrical release, Telugu action-comedy Chaari 111 is finding new momentum abroad, emerging as a trending title on Amazon Prime Video in the United Kingdom. The film's unexpected global attention marks a notable development for regional Indian cinema venturing into international digital markets. Directed by TG Keerthi Kumar and produced by Aditi Soni under Barkat Studios, Chaari 111 was first released in India on March 1, 2024. Blending elements of action, comedy, and thriller, the film centers around a bungling undercover agent whose unconventional methods lead to both chaos and laughs. Its genre-mixing style and eccentric lead have contributed to a growing online viewership outside India. While the domestic reception was positive, particularly for its originality and comedic tone, the film's recent streaming success in the UK suggests an expanding appetite for diverse South Asian storytelling on global platforms. "We didn't expect this kind of response internationally," director TG Keerthi Kumar said. "But it's encouraging to see audiences respond to something so distinctively Telugu." Producer Aditi Soni added that the film's overseas visibility is a welcome sign for creators experimenting beyond conventional formats: "It shows that stories with strong cultural roots can still travel far." Chaari



Nitish Bharadwaj gets nostalgic over AI-generated images



Mumbai: Actor Nitish Bharadwaj, who is known for essaying the role of Krishna in B. R. Chopra's television series 'Mahabharat', is getting nostalgic. On Sunday, the actor took to his Instagram, and shared a few AI generated pictures of himself from his Malayalam film 'Njan Gandharvan'. In the pictures, he can be seen with the wings. He wrote in the caption, "Nostalgia unlocked! Feeling the magic all over again from my superhit Malayalam film Njan Gandharvan. The euphoria this film created in the hearts of fans still lives on—and it's heartwarming to see that legacy kept alive in such creative ways". "Someone recently made an incredible AI image of my character from the film, and it truly took me back in time. If you're the artist behind this, I'd love to connect with you. Please email me your contact details", he added. The actor started his arts career with his training in Marathi theatre as a director, under stalwarts such as Sudha Karmarkar, Dr. Kashinath Ghanekar and Prabhakar Panshikar. He then moved on to professional Marathi theatre with Sai Paranjapye and later shifted to Hindi theatre on sound advice from his friend Ravi Baswani, who is known for his work in 'Jaane Bhi Do Yaaro'. Ravi Baswani was instrumental in getting Bharadwaj from Marathi to the nation-wide Hindi arena and Bharadwaj has always acknowledged Baswani's contribution to his life. He later did a Hindi mythological play Chakravayuh, in which he reappears as Lord Krishna, the role he mastered in the old Mahabharat. Though the play depicts the story of Abhimanyu's martyrdom, it brings out various issues out of the same story which are relevant to today's times. Chakravayuh was one of the most successful plays of Hindi Theatre in 2015 and has already had around 75 showings across India, including some theatre festivals like the Kala Ghoda Festival.

Vishnu Manchu adopts family of Pahalgam Terror attack victim



Actor-producer Vishnu Manchu has once again shown his compassionate side by extending support to the family of a recent terror attack victim from Andhra Pradesh. Somisetty Madhusudhan Rao, a resident of Kummari Street in Kavali, Nellore district, was among the 26 tourists killed in the brutal terrorist attack at Baisaran Valley in Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir. Moved by the tragedy, Vishnu Manchu personally met Madhusudhan Rao's wife Kamakshi and their two children. He offered heartfelt condolences and assured them of his unwavering support during this difficult time. In a generous gesture, he announced that he would adopt the children of Madhusudhan Rao and take responsibility for their education and overall well-being. This act of kindness from Vishnu Manchu has drawn praise from all corners, as it goes beyond symbolic support and ensures long-term care for the grieving family. Meanwhile, on the professional front, Vishnu Manchu is gearing up for the release of his much-anticipated film Kannappa, a high-budget devotional drama set to hit theatres worldwide on June 27. Directed by Mukesh Kumar Singh, the film boasts a star-studded cast including Akshay Kumar, Prabhas, Mohanlal, Mohan Babu, Kajal Aggarwal, PreityMukundan, Sarathkumar, and Madhoo. As Vishnu balances his philanthropic efforts with his cinematic ventures, his latest gesture stands as a testament to his values and his commitment to social responsibility.

'Costao' review: Gritty crime biopic rooted in justice and sacrifice

Costao is a compelling biographical crime drama that delves deep into the real-life story of Costao Fernandes, a former customs officer whose pursuit of justice shook Goa's smuggling underworld in the 1990s. Directed by Sejal Shah, the film is streaming in Zee 5 from May 1, 2025, takes a hard look at duty, personal sacrifice, and the cost of integrity in a deeply corrupt system — all brought to life by the ever-versatile Nawazuddin Siddiqui. Set against the scenic yet politically turbulent backdrop of Goa, Costao opens by introducing its titular character in multiple shades — a committed officer, a caring father, and a loyal husband. Nawazuddin Siddiqui portrays Fernandes with raw intensity, capturing the emotional and psychological weight of a man torn between family and responsibility. From the very first frame, Siddiqui immerses himself in the



role, making you believe in the man's unwavering moral compass. receives a tip about a massive Rs. 1500 crore gold smuggling operation allegedly orchestrated by a powerful politician, D'Mello. With the green light from his superiors, Costao dives into the investigation, ultimately leading to a physical confrontation with Peter D'Mello — a turning point that forever alters his personal and professional trajectory. The script does a fine job of balancing action with emotion. The court-

room drama, family tensions, and betrayal from within the system all come together to paint a realistic picture of the pressures faced by honest officers. A particularly hard-hitting moment is when Costao, frustrated and cornered, delivers a searing line: "Humare society mein sabko chahiye ki officer honest ho aur brave ho... lekin ghar mein nahi." The duality of public expectation versus private sacrifice rings through the film. Priya Bapat plays Costao's wife with grace and conviction,

adding emotional depth to the story. Her chemistry with Nawazuddin, especially during high-stakes emotional confrontations, adds authenticity to the domestic struggles faced by whistleblowers. The father-daughter relationship, as narrated through Costao's daughter, becomes a standout narrative device, adding tenderness to an otherwise intense plotline. While the film occasionally falters with minor pacing issues, it never strays from its core — telling a story of resilience. The visuals, scripting, and background score seamlessly blend to amplify the film's emotional impact. In the end, Costao isn't just about one man's bravery — it's about what it means to stand for something when the world tells you not to. It's a salute to unsung heroes, and Nawazuddin Siddiqui's portrayal ensures it's a story that will stay with you long after the credits roll.

We need to win all our games, says KKR's Moeen Ali on playoffs chances

Kolkata: Defending champions Kolkata Knight Riders are having a difficult season so far as their chances of qualifying for the playoffs are hanging by a thread but spinner Moeen Ali said all they can do is win their remaining matches in the IPL 2025. KKR are sitting at seventh place with nine points in 10 matches and have four games left, including today's match against the Rajasthan Royals at Eden Gardens. "We know what we have to do, we need to win all our games. It's a big game today," Moeen told broadcasters ahead of the home match. England spinner only played in four matches in the season so far and the match against RR will be his fifth appearance after being named in



the playing 11. KKR have backed Varun Chakravarthy and Sunil Narine as frontline spinners. In their last game against Rajasthan in the season, Moeen returned with the figures of 2-23 as KKR won by eight wickets in Guwahati. "They are a really good side and they

have some brilliant players. We are looking forward to it. He (Rahane) is good, but he will hide somewhere in the field (due to the injury), which means I will be somewhere in the hotspot today. You need to keep yourself on top of your game and need to keep practising well.

They told me at the start that I will play certain games, depending on the wickets," Moeen said. A "You have to take it in your stride and try to be as professional as you can. When there are left-handers in the opposition you have more chances of playing as an off-spinner. We have two of the best T20 spinners with us, so difficult to break into that side. They (Jaiswal and Suryavanshi) are talented young players, so it's going to be a challenge for us. We also have some world-class players in our side, so we are ready for it," he added. KKR will give their all in the encounter, as Rajasthan are already knocked out of the tournament with only three wins in 11 games so far.

Triptii Dimri drops a sneak peek into her 'shoot day'

Mumbai: One of the most bankable actresses in Bollywood, Triptii Dimri used social media to drop a sneak peek into her 'shoot day'. She shared a photo on her Instagram stories revealing the shoot location for her upcoming project. The 'Animal' actress seems to be filming in one of the chawls in Mumbai. Following this was an image of one of the crew members carrying food on the set. However, Triptii did not reveal which project she is busy with at the moment. The stunner is juggling multiple projects at the moment, one of them being Vishal Bhardwaj's "Arjun Ustara", opposite Shahid Kapoor. While it was being speculated that the drama has been pushed, allegedly

due to the box office debacle of Shahid's last release "Deva", Triptii cleared the air saying that these are mere speculations. Recently, a netizen reached out to the 'Bulbul' actress on Instagram, asking for an update on "Arjun Ustara". To this, Triptii replied saying, "No no not true, we're shooting." A screenshot of the interaction also reached Reddit. Besides "Arjun Ustara", Triptii will be seen sharing the screen with Siddhant Chaturvedi in the highly-awaited sequel, "Dhadak 2". Made under the direction of Shazia Iqbal, the film has been presented by Zee Studios, in collaboration with Dharma Productions and Cloud 9 Pictures. The movie is an official sequel to the 2018



hit "Dhadak", which marked the debut of both Janhvi Kapoor and Ishaan Khatter. Furthermore, Triptii will play the leading lady in Imtiaz Ali's untitled next. Bollywood actor Fahadh Faasil will be stepping into Bollywood with this yet-to-be-titled drama. Moreover, if the reports are

to be believed, Triptii will be reuniting with her 'Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3' co-star Madhuri Dixit for the upcoming laughter ride, "Ma Behan". Triptii's exciting lineup also includes "Animal Park", co-starring Ranbir Kapoor, and a movie with 'KGF' star Yash.