



Congress stands with SS-UBT in the fight to protect 'Maharashtra Dharma': Harshwardhan Sapkal

Mumbai: Hitting out at the BJP, the Maharashtra unit of Congress on Friday said it stands with the Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena in the fight to protect democracy, the Constitution, and Maharashtra Dharma. State unit Congress chief Harshwardhan Sapkal after his meeting with Thackeray at 'Matoshree', said: "The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is out to destroy Maharashtra Dharma and it is dismantling the Constitution and the democratic system. To counter this, the Maha Vikas Aghadi and the INDIA bloc are working together. Congress will stand with any party that joins the fight against the BJP. We are with Shiv Sena to protect democracy, the Constitution, and Maharashtra Dharma." Sapkal, who had met NCP-SP chief Sharad Pawar two days ago, said his meeting with Thackeray was a courtesy visit during which several issues were discussed "in a positive manner". He stated that the thoughts of Prabodhankar Thackeray (who was a writer and a social reformer) remain relevant even today. The Congress leader said that in his writings, Prabodhankar Thackeray explained what Maharashtra Dharma should stand for. "Contrary to the ideology outlined in his book 'Devancha Dharm va Dharmachi



Devale", the BJP today is on a path of religious destruction. The BJP is against democracy and the Constitution. To protect democracy, the Constitution, and the Maharashtra Dharma inspired by Shivaji, Shahu, Phule, and Ambedkar, a united struggle must be waged in the coming times. Discussions were also held regarding the upcoming local self-government elections," he said. Sapkal said that Congress has authorised its local leadership to make alliance-related decisions for the upcoming civic and local body elections. Once the official notification is issued, allied parties will come together and decide accordingly. During the visit, Uddhav Thackeray gifted Sapkal a photography book on Lonar Lake, a

book of caricatures by Shiv Sena founder Balasaheb Thackeray, and a book featuring photographs of the Pandharpur Wari pilgrimage. In return, Harshwardhan Sapkal presented him with a book based on Rahul Gandhi, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha. The meeting between Thackeray and Sapkal came a day after veteran Congress leader and former Union Minister P Chidambaram voiced concerns about the INDIA bloc, saying he was not sure if the opposition alliance was still intact. "If the alliance is totally intact, I will be very happy. But it shows at the seams that it is frayed," he remarked. However, he hoped that the alliance can still be put together, there's still time.

Chandrababu congratulates Neeraj Chopra over remarkable achievement in Javelin throw



Indian javelin throw star Neeraj Chopra has made history at the prestigious Diamond League tournament in Doha, achieving a remarkable throw of 90.23 metres. As congratulations pour in from across the nation, political figures including Prime Minister Narendra Modi have lauded his accomplishment as a matter of significant pride for the country. Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu also took to social media platform X to extend his heartfelt congratulations to Neeraj. In his post, CM Naidu highlighted the impact of this achievement, stating that it showcases India's sporting talent on a global stage. He wrote, "Neeraj Chopra has once again written his name in the pages of history. Heartiest congratulations to Neeraj for achieving this feat. By crossing this milestone, India's sporting talent will be known to the world." Neeraj's journey to this achievement included a strong start, with an initial throw of 88.44 metres, followed by a series of competitive attempts against renowned rivals such as Anderson Peters and Julian Weber. Despite a foul on his second attempt, he reached the impressive distance of 90.3 metres in his third round, solidifying his place among the top athletes in javelin throw history. With this landmark performance, Neeraj Chopra continues to inspire the nation and elevate India's profile in the world of athletics.

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achievement included a strong start, with an initial throw of 88.44 metres, followed by a series of competitive attempts against renowned rivals such as Anderson Peters and Julian Weber. Despite a foul on his second attempt, he reached the impressive distance of 90.3 metres in his third round, solidifying his place among the top athletes in javelin throw history. With this landmark performance, Neeraj Chopra continues to inspire the nation and elevate India's profile in the world of athletics.

CJI Gavai begins with a bang

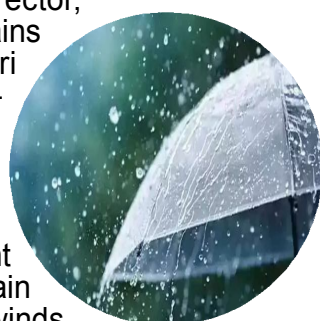
May 14 of 2025 will go down in the annals of Indian judicial history as a red-letter day for various historic reasons. No sooner was he administered the oath of office by President Droupadi Murmu on Wednesday and he became the 52nd Chief Justice of India (CJI), Justice Bhushan Ramkrishna Gavai entered the record books as only the second Dalit CJI after Justice K G Balakrishnan, and the first Buddhist to occupy the exalted position. However, these statistics apart, Justice Gavai comes with an enviable track-record that has earned him the reputation of being a 'fiercely independent' judge for the upright manner with which he handles cases. As the CJI and head of the Supreme Court collegium, he has to reckon with several key issues at a particularly critical time for the judiciary, whose dispute with the executive is mounting by the day and the public's trust in the judicial system is eroding. Meanwhile, for one, who plays by the rule book and is known as a hands-on judge, Justice Gavai commenced his innings as the CJI with a bang. In a demonstration that is indicative of what is to come in the next six months (CJI Gavai is due to retire on November 23), he delivered a ruling, his first judgement as the CJI, which has been the hallmark of his entire career as a judge that took off in 2005 when became a permanent judge and served it with aplomb before being elevated to the Supreme Court on May 24, 2019. He not only declared the Maharashtra government's 1998 decision to transfer forest land to private entities for non-forest use as illegal but also slammed what he termed as "a classic example of the nexus between politicians, bureaucrats and builders." In fact, he saw the involvement of the then Revenue minister. This no-holds-barred 'nexus' contention is not surprising as the legal fraternity is aware of his penchant to give a patient hearing to arguments before rendering an authoritative justice as per law. This was evidenced by the deft



handling of the defamation case against Rahul Gandhi or while ordering the release of Prabir Purkayastha, the political activist and founder of NewsClick, who spent 225 days in jail after his arrest by the Delhi Police under UAPA. Justice Gavai has many high-profile cases like the Maharashtra forest land transfer case up ahead. A chilling fact is that there were 82,445 pending cases in the apex court as of January. In the intervening four months, this figure must have increased. One will keenly watch how he handles the more critical and sensitive cases that need to be prioritised like the Places of Worship Act, criminalisation of marital rape and the Waqf Act, among several others, whose outcomes can redefine policy-making exercises. His "SC can't be aloof when the country is in danger" take, while organising a two-minute silence to express solidarity with the victims of the Pahalgam massacre, or while granting bail on the grounds that a long period of imprisonment without trial exemplifies his humane side. The CJI criticised the Supreme Court Bar Association for not organising a farewell get-together for Justice Bela M Trivedi, after she opted for an early retirement. By maintaining that "the Association ought not to have taken such a stand," he showed that it was morally binding to honour traditions per se. GJI Gavai commands respect because he symbolises integrity and fairness in their noblest forms.

Parts of AP to receive rains for two days

The Disaster Management Authority's managing director, Ronamki Kurmanath, has issued a warning for heavy rains across Andhra Pradesh today. He stated that Alluri Seetharamaraju district is expected to experience moderate to heavy rain. In addition, light to moderate showers accompanied by thundershowers are anticipated in the districts of Vizianagaram, Parvathipuram Manyam, Eluru, Palnadu, and Prakasam. Kurnool, Nandyal, YSR, Annamaya, and Tirupati are also forecasted to receive light to moderate rainfall. Kurmanath advised residents to remain vigilant, as there is a risk of thundershowers and strong winds throughout the state.



Beach babe Nia Sharma slays in black monokini, redefines summer glam



As temperatures soar this summer, television diva Nia Sharma is raising the heat even further with her sizzling beachside getaway. Known for her unforgettable role in Naagin, Nia has become the face of fearless fashion, and her latest seaside appearance is nothing short of spectacular. Draped in a stunning black monokini, Nia was spotted channeling major mermaid vibes — diving into the sea, striking picture-perfect poses, and lounging like a queen on a yacht. Her bold beachwear, paired with her effortlessly confident aura, has turned heads and sent fans into a frenzy on social media. This isn't the first time Nia's fashion choices have made waves. Her style has always been unapologetically fierce, and this beach outing just reinforces her status as a summer fashion icon. Whether it's the way she owns her look or the ease with which she turns every moment into a statement, Nia proves that she doesn't follow trends—she sets them. While the sun and sea might be part of her current vibe, Nia isn't on a full vacation. She's currently juggling beach breaks with her latest project, *Laughter Chefs Unlimited*, a comedy series where she's set to charm audiences once again with her electric screen presence. For now, though, Nia Sharma has made one thing crystal clear: when it comes to owning summer in style, she's miles ahead of the curve.

Pawan Kalyan's 'HHVM' set for pan-India release on June 12

A grand cinematic spectacle awaits fans this summer as Powerstar Pawan Kalyan returns to the silver screen in the much-awaited period action epic *Hari Hara Veera Mallu*, hitting cinemas on June 12, 2025. Set against a historical backdrop, Kalyan essays the role of Veera Mallu—a valiant warrior, rebel, and legend whose story promises to captivate audiences across the nation. The songs released so far have already resonated with the public, amassing appreciation and creating substantial buzz. Riding high on this musical momentum, the makers are now preparing for a double treat—the third single and the film's official trailer are set to drop soon. With the trailer's arrival, expectations surrounding the film are projected to skyrocket. Currently in its final leg of post-production, the film is undergoing meticulous VFX enhancements, immersive sound work, and dubbing. Director A.M. Jyothi Krishna, who took over the project during its delayed timeline, is now orchestrating the final touches with precision,



ensuring that the grandeur of the film matches its larger-than-life ambition. Backed by a stellar technical crew, including Oscar-winning composer M.M. Keeravani, cinematographer Manoj Paramahansa, and pro-

duction designer Thota Tharani, the film promises a visual and emotional feast. The cast features Bobby Deol as a formidable Mughal emperor, Nidhi Agerwal as the female lead, along with seasoned performers like Satyaraj and Jisshu

Sengupta in pivotal roles. Produced by A. Dayakar Rao and presented by A.M. Rathnam under the Mega Surya Productions banner, *Hari Hara Veera Mallu* will have a grand multilingual release in Telugu, Hindi, Tamil, Kannada, and Malayalam.

Steel in the veins, fire in the skies

India's red lines have shifted—and Operation Sindoor has made that unmistakably clear. A firm government, battle-ready armed forces, and a citizenry fired by patriotism have dismantled Pakistan's terror networks and exposed Turkey's reckless complicity. The strike wasn't symbolic—it was surgical, sparing civilians while decimating Jaish and Lashkar strongholds. Now, India must stay alert and unforgiving. The cease-fire is not trust—it is tactical. The opposition's appeasement politics stands disgraced; Agniveers, once mocked, now emerge as India's frontline heroes. Meanwhile, Turkey must face economic disengagement—its companies, contracts, and commodities have no place in India's future. Equally, a slumbering southern media must wake up or perish. Journalism must evolve or be buried under irrelevance. No more slogans. No more theatrics. "Nation First, News First" must become a code, not a catchphrase. This is a new India—ruthlessly clear-eyed, globally assertive, and militarily uncompromising. A firm democratic government, backed by a well-trained, disciplined tri-services command and a citizenry brimming with patriotic fire, has elevated India to the stature of a global superpower. With resolute precision and unflinching resolve, India has laid bare the delusions of Pakistan and exposed the hollow bravado of Turkey—a nation now entangled with our rogue neighbour, whose very identity hinges on fomenting terror and unrest. As the dust settles on Pakistan's futile military escalations following the barbaric attack in Pahalgam, let there be no illusion: India must not, and will not, trust either Pakistan or Turkey. The spectre of volatility looms large over our western frontier. Both our political leadership and armed forces must remain ever vigilant, steered for a long and uneasy watch. The NDA government, guided by pragmatic realism, must shun complacency and tune out the cacophony of jingoistic distractions hurled by a faltering opposition. A ceasefire may have been inked, but Operation Sindoor has redrawn the contours of Indian tolerance. The message is unequivocal: Pakistan must never be allowed to test these new red lines—not even if global



powers like the United States wield the threat of sanctions. India now stands on the crest of historic momentum. Our diplomatic and military strides must become an unstoppable surge. Having struck a decisive blow to Pakistan, India must leverage its global influence to ensure institutions like the IMF cease their indulgence of a bankrupt, terror-feeding regime. Pakistan is a financial corpse, borrowing to repay debt—the IMF's bailout is nothing less than handing dynamite to a delinquent arsonist. With chilling precision, India's armed forces obliterated nine terrorist strongholds across Pakistan and PoK. These were not routine strikes: the Jaish-e-Mohammed HQ in Bahawalpur, Lashkar-e-Taiba's core nodes in Muridke and Sialkot—flattened. Over 100 terrorists, eliminated. Their camps, weapons, and networks—reduced to ash. Yet caution remains our ally. Pakistan is a master of reinvention. New camps will rise in the shadows, perhaps even on Turkish soil—given Ankara's startling willingness to host the embers of terror. Recall how Pakistan violated a ceasefire within 90 minutes of signing it. Let us not forget how Donald Trump falsely claimed credit for brokering peace—only for Pakistan to mock that gesture within the hour. The pattern is as predictable as it is perfidious. At home, the opposition falters. While the people rise with blazing patriotism, Congress dithers—soon, perhaps, to parrot Pakistan's plea to restore the Indus Waters Treaty. But as Prime Minister Narendra Modi rightly declared: "Blood and water cannot flow

together." Predictably, the Congress clutches to the past—invoking the 1971 war, lionising Indira Gandhi. They accuse Modi of lacking courage, of waging war on Pakistan's people, not terror. But facts remain unmoved by rhetoric. In 1971, when Pakistan stirred mischief, Indira Gandhi asked General Sam Manekshaw if he could liberate Bangladesh. His reply: only with full autonomy to choose the time. Six months later, victory was ours. In case of Operation Sindoor, Modi took the initiative and gave full freedom to the armed forces to decide when and how to strike at Pakistan. Modi gave Pakistan 14 days to act. When they failed, he unleashed the tri-services. What followed was swift, surgical, and precise—terror networks were dismantled, civilians spared. This operation silences critics, especially those who vilified the Agnipath scheme. Let them witness the courage of Agniveers—like M Murali Naik of Andhra Pradesh's Sri Sathya Sai district, who joined the 851 Light Regiment in 2023. In the heights of Uri, he stood firm against infiltrators—and fell, a martyr for Bharat. The blood of Agniveers affirms their place in India's military doctrine. They are not trainees—they are warriors. Their courage is no concept—it is carved into the snowfields of Kashmir. India remains alert. But the state must act boldly against Turkey. Citizens have already spoken—boycotting Turkish travel despite personal loss. The government must follow. Turkish firms involved in Indian infrastructure must be packed off and their contracts annulled. Gulemak is building metros in Lucknow, Pune and Surat. Savronik helped build the Atal Tunnel. This contract should also be terminated just as it had done in the case of Çelebi Aviation, which operates ground-handling services in Mumbai, Delhi, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Kannur, Chennai, Goa and Cochin. These are vulnerabilities, not partnerships. Importers have begun rejecting Turkish marble, stone and apples. The sentiment must now become policy. India's annual Turkish marble imports—worth ₹1,000 crore—can be replaced by white and beige marble from Italy, Greece, Vietnam—or our own Makrana. We can turn to Iran, the US,

Chile, New Zealand—or boost domestic orchards in Himachal, Kashmir, Uttarakhand to increase the production of apples. As for boron minerals, pumice, feldspar, and bentonite—vital to industry—India can source them from the USA, Argentina, or China. Turkey is not indispensable. Operation Sindoor should also jolt the media barons of this country into action—especially the regional media, and most glaringly, the southern media—which has grown complacent, outdated, and unwilling to adapt to the fast-changing demands of journalism. For too long, these outlets have operated like relics of the past, refusing to invest in talent, technology, or editorial courage. It's time they build sharply committed teams, who understand the power of real-time information, who live and breathe news, and who are willing to put in the hard yards on the ground. Passionate reporters, not graphics packages, should drive storytelling. Enough of studio theatrics—we need news casters, not teleprompter-reading mannequins. And certainly not anchors who are more concerned with wardrobe styling than with asking hard, uncomfortable questions. Blindly aping national channels in anchor fashion will not make a channel credible. Managements must open their wallets and their minds—invest in cutting-edge technology, build strong R&D teams, and ensure regular, rigorous training from the newsroom floor to field reporters. If they can't do that, they have no business running a media house. The print media isn't off the hook either. It must develop deeper political insight and break free from the clutches of pressure and patronage. Following the news till the final hour, rewriting and refining stories with a professional touch—that's the bare minimum one expects. Journalism is not stenography. Blind dependence on press notes is intellectual laziness and professional suicide. If the media in this region doesn't wake up now, it won't just fall behind—it will become irrelevant. "Nation First, News First" must not be a slogan. It must be a non-negotiable editorial principle. Otherwise, let's stop pretending we still have journalism here. (The author is former Chief Editor of Hans India)

ABOUT A BLOODY CIVIL WAR

"Have you ever read about life after death? If so, What is it like In his second novel The Seven Moons of Maali Almeida Sri Lankan award winning author Shehan Karunatilaka allows you a peep into the world of life after death. Here he deals with a serious subject-the Civil War in Sri Lanka and the bloodshed-in a sardonic manner, allowing a dead man tell the story. Hence, the novel is part political satire and part love story and part comedy, which the author calls Gallows Humour.

The story is about Maali, a photographer and a poof who wakes up dead in a dream and becomes a ghost in the afterlife. The ghost wants to know the reason for his death, so he shuttles between the real world and the life after death world to find out the reason. He wishes to meet two of his beloved people in the real world and through them to trace out a handful of his pictures kept in a box that can help him in the probe and tell the world the grim story in side the island nation. One Moon is a day in his present world and Maali has just seven days to accomplish his mission. Again Maali is gay and in a triangle love relationship with a young boy and with his girl friend, Jaki. This adds another angle to the story and makes it a multi genre work.

On the very first day in the life-after-death world, Maali encounters a scene in an office like place that is crowded with ghouls and ghosts:

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SUNDAY BOOK REVIEW



The swarm of souls presses closer, berating and badgering the woman in white. You gaze upon the pallid faces, sunken eyes in broken heads, squinted in rage and pain and confusion

The description is deadly horrifying and is just a part of the scene witnessed by Maali. The novel is heavily loaded with such fertile and imaginative descriptions and conversations of Maali with other ghosts that are meant to paint gory pictures of death, torture, fear, pain, suffering, loss and longing of the people during and after the Civil War in Sri Lanka.

There are two other vehicles, both trucks, both with their backs open, both with men unloading cargo. The cargo is corpses, unwrapped and limber, some still frozen, others festering (Fourth Moon).

I feel that to enjoy reading this novel and follow

the plot better one needs to have some knowledge about the prolonged Civil War that had lasted for more than 25 years from 1983 between the LTTE, the JVP (Communists), and the Sri Lankan army. The Indian Peace Keeping Force (IPKF) too had played a vital and controversial role in it. The war was full of bloody battles and all the parties had won and lost them alternately.

The LTTE fought till the end for the rights and dignity of Tamil people in the island country and the Civil War ended with the defeat and complete wiping out of it at the hands of the Sri Lankan army in 2009.

While writing about this Civil War, the writer has to record many disgusting hard facts and disturbing truths about the bloodshed and merciless killings of innocent people. Since it may invite problems to him, Karunatilaka has wisely chosen a ghost to do the talking which may look at once bizarre and funny. However the narrative in the Second Person gives intimacy to the reader with the narrator and immediate participation in the happenings. The imagery and the ideas do mesmerize the reader even as the author's energy pervades everywhere and promises a lot more from him in future.

This novel had appeared



originally first in 2020 with the title Chats With The Dead and the author couldn't find even a reviewer for it here. But the Covid pandemic came as a blessing in disguise for him. Though it delayed the publication, the author used the break for revising the text and the story line, keeping European and American readers in mind. And eventually he published it in August 2022 in its present form. The rest is history.

The 2022 Booker Prize Committee has beautifully put the theme and crux of the novel in one pithy sentence: Fizzes with energy, imagery, and ideas against a broad, surreal vision of the Sri Lankan civil wars. Slyly, angrily comic

Yes, read it just for the sake of its stunning imagery, flowery language, and for stabs of aches that well up in your heart as you feel for all the dead.

M.SOMASEKHAR PRASAD
HOD DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH RETD
GANDHINAGAR HYDERABAD.
9866936345.

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खुद को अक्लमंद समझने वाले हम भी इन झूठे लोगों के फरेब (धोखे) में आसानी से आ जाते हैं। जबकि फरेब देने वालों (धोखेबाजों) के फरेबकारी (धोखाधड़ी) में आना ही अक्ल (बुद्धि) की खराबी है। ... (शकील उवाचा -362)



और सबसे बड़ी मजे की बात यह है कि हम लोग खुद जाकर इन ढोंगी पाखंडियों के जाल में फंसे हैं। और जो स्वार्थी होता है वह बड़े आसानी से ठगे जाता है। मेहनत किए बगैर धन कमाने की लालच और जल्द से जल्द शार्टकट में दौलतमंद होने लालसा इंसान को अपराधों में फंसा देती है या झूठे मात्रिक तांत्रिक लोगों का दास बना देती है। नोटों की बारिश करना, पचास रुपए को पांच सौ रुपए बनाना जैसे हाथ चलाखी के प्रयोग दिखाकर स्वार्थी लोगों को बड़ी आसानी से फंसाया जाता है।

अपने देश में हम सभी को धर्म के नाम पर आसानी से मूर्ख बनाया जाता है क्योंकि हम सब धर्म और धार्मिक लोगों पर आंख बंद करके विश्वास कर लेते हैं। हमारे संस्कार और हमारी संस्कृति के द्वारा साधू संतों का सम्मान करने का पाठ हमें दिया गया है। इसलिए हमें ठगने वाले पाखंडी भी साधू संत का रूप लेकर आते हैं, और हम को ठग लेते हैं। लेकिन एक बात सच है कि जो स्वार्थ के बलि नहीं चढ़ता वह कभी अंधविश्वास का भी शिकार नहीं होता।

खुद को अक्लमंद समझने वाले हम भी इन झूठे लोगों के फरेब (धोखे) में आसानी से आ जाते हैं। जबकि फरेब देने वालों (धोखेबाजों) के फरेबकारी (धोखाधड़ी) में आना ही हमारे अक्ल (बुद्धि) की खराबी की दलील है। जिसकी बुद्धि में कोई खराबी न हो वह कभी धोकेबाजों के धोखे में नहीं आ सकता।

इस बारे में पैगंबर साहब मोहम्मद (स्व.) के पहिले उत्तराधिकारी इमाम अली इब्न अबू तालिब अलैहिस्सलाम कहते हैं कि, 'अक्ल (बुद्धि) की खराबी फरेबकारी (धोखाधड़ी) के लपेट में आजाना है।' (हैदरी कुतुबखाना, मुंबई द्वारा प्रकाशित उर्दू पुस्तक तजल्लियाते हिकमत, धोका 72, हदीस क्रमांक 11, पुष्ट क्रमांक 165)।

-डॉ. मोहम्मदशकील ताजमोहम्मद जाफरी (शकील मंघरी), मंवर, पुणे (महाराष्ट्र) भारत

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हिंदी कार्यशाला, जिसका ज्ञान उजाला

शहर ए हैदराबाद में
बहुत दिनों के बाद मैं
हिंदी परिवार की मुलाकात हुई
जिसमें हिंदी मैया की बात हुई
विराजमान हम हिंदी माँ की गोद में
मगन थे जिसके अमृत स्वाद में

चली आठ दिन की कार्यशाला
था जिसका ज्ञान उजाला
पता न चला
कैसे बीत गये दिन आठ !
कारण यही था कि—
अनुपम था हर पाठ

आदरणीया वंदना महोदया जी
आदरणीय सुप्रसन्ना महोदय जी
आदरणीया पूनम महोदया जी
यह ज्ञान त्रैयम ने भर दिये हमारे जी

इनके हर बोल बोल
सुधा—सा अनमोल
अब नहीं मन में कोई सवाल
अब उर—उर में हर्ष के फूल

ज्ञान त्रैयम को तूहे दिल से आभार
ऐसे ही ज्ञान बँटते रहे सदा बहार
ताकि ज्ञान के गान से
शुरू हो हमारा हर भोर
ये ढाई अक्षर प्रेम के कीजिए स्वीकार।

के.एल.प्रभाकर प्राणसुमन,
जहीरबादा

UDAYAM Poetry's

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LOSE NOT HOPE!

Hope gives live!
Never lose hope!
Leave not effort!
A way to success!

One May be student!
Lag behind in studies!
No substitute to hard work!
May help reach target,
lose not hope!

Another in job trials!
May be facing failures!
Defeat may be step for winning!
Try and try till you win,
lose not hope!

May you be a athletic!
May be turn down by opponent!
Despair not ever!
Learn lesson from cobweb,
lose not hope!

Single attempt not suffice!
Refer stories of great men!
Will power made them winners!
Lose not hope, till you reach your GOAL!

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



VI Anand teams up with Prime Show Entertainments for a grand socio-fantasy film

Acclaimed director VI Anand, known for his unique storytelling in films like Ekkadiki Pothavu Chinnavada, Okka Kshanam, and Disco Raja, is now set to helm a large-scale socio-fantasy project under Prime Show Entertainments. The film will be produced by Niranjana Reddy Kandagatla, who recently made headlines with the success of Hanu Man.

The upcoming venture is shaping up to be one of the most ambitious socio-fantasy films in Telugu cinema, with the team currently in discussions to cast two major Tollywood heroes in pivotal roles. Sources reveal that the film will blend mythological elements with modern-day fantasy, promising a visual spectacle and a gripping narrative. Prime Show Entertainments is planning to mount this project on a massive scale, with high-end production values, VFX, and a story that resonates with all age groups. While specific details about the cast are still under wraps, talks are actively ongoing with multiple top stars. The official announcement is expected to be made soon. VI Anand, known for combining science fiction, fantasy, and emotional depth in his storytelling, seems to be the perfect choice for this genre. With a proven track record of delivering content-driven entertainers, fans are excited to see what cinematic world he will create next.



Patidar recalls moment Kohli handed him RCB captaincy



New Delhi: Royal Challengers Bengaluru captain Rajat Patidar reflected on the surreal moment when Virat Kohli handed him the franchise's captaincy ahead of the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2025 and said he didn't know how to react to the situation then Kohli calmed him down, saying "you deserve it, you earned it". Speaking on the RCB Podcast, the 31-year-old Patidar reflected on his journey from being rejected at the 2022 IPL mega auction despite prior assurance from the RCB management, to becoming the leader of a franchise still chasing its elusive maiden IPL title. Back in 2022, Patidar was quietly confident that he'd be picked at the mega auction. "I had got a message (ahead of the mega auction for IPL 2022) that you be ready... that we will pick you. I had a little hope that I will get another chance (to play for RCB). But I wasn't picked in the mega auction. I was a little sad," said Patidar on an RCB Podcast. "I (had) started playing in my local matches in Indore (after not getting picked in the auction). Then, I got a call that 'we are picking you as a replacement for Luvnith Sisodia', who was injured. To tell you frankly, I didn't want to come as a replacement because I knew that I wouldn't get a chance to play there, and I always feel that I don't want to sit there (in the dugout). I wasn't angry. It was like, if they didn't pick me (during the auction), then I won't get it (get to play). I was angry for a while, but then I was normal," said Patidar.

Birthday bomb incoming? Hrithik hints at 'War 2' teaser drop for NTR fans!



The excitement surrounding War 2 just skyrocketed, as Hrithik Roshan seemingly confirmed what fans have been speculating for days—the teaser of the much-awaited action thriller is likely dropping on May 20, coinciding with Jr. NTR's birthday. Taking to X (formerly Twitter), Hrithik sent fans into a frenzy with his cryptic but thrilling tweet: "Hey @tarak9999, think you know what to expect on the 20th of May this year? Trust me, you have NO idea what's in store. Ready? #War2." While not an official announcement, the tweet strongly hints that something massive—most likely the teaser—is on its way. Tarak fans are buzzing with excitement, eager to catch a glimpse of the dynamic duo, Jr. NTR and Hrithik Roshan, sharing screen space for the first time. Their pairing alone has elevated War 2 to one of the most anticipated Indian films of the year. Directed by Brahmastrahelmer Ayan Mukherjee, the film is the sequel to the 2019 blockbuster War and continues the high-octane YRF Spy Universe saga. Produced by Yash Raj Films, War 2 also stars Kiara Advani in the female lead and is set for a global release on August 14, just ahead of Independence Day. All eyes are now on May 20. If the teaser does drop as teased, Jr. NTR's birthday might turn into a cinematic celebration for fans across the globe.

IPL 2025: Heavy rain could spoil tournament's restart at M Chinnaswamy Stadium

Bengaluru: If various weather forecasts are to believe, then heavy rain could well play spoilsport in IPL 2025's restart at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium, where Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) are slated to take on defending champions Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) on Saturday evening. As per Accuweather forecasts, thunderstorms, including possibly severe ones, are predicted from Saturday afternoon and evening onwards. For the evening, around the start of the match, precipitation levels have been kept at 49%, 63% and 71% respectively. The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) website has also forecasted one or two spells of rain or thunderstorms in the evening, with precipitation levels on their website for Saturday standing at 78%. It's worth highlighting that the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium



boasts a state-of-the-art drainage system, where play can restart very quickly once the rain completely stops. The recent relentless rain in Bengaluru meant that RCB kept their practice session from 2-5 pm on Friday while KKR held their pre-match training from 5-6:30 pm. "When you get to game day, you can't control it. So, actually, you want your players to feel as clear and relaxed

as possible. You trust them to make decisions in the moment, regardless of what happens. We don't overthink any of those things really." "If the game's rain affected, it's rain affected. It's not something any of us control. So, we don't really think too much about that, but it might influence our preparation," Mo Bobat, RCB's Director of Cricket, had said in the pre-match press

conference on Friday. If the rain in Bengaluru forces the game's abandonment, KKR's race to the playoffs will be over. With two games left and 11 points in their kitty, defending champions KKR can only reach a maximum of 15 points even if they emerge victorious in their remaining league matches, which is insufficient to enter the playoffs. Previously, KKR had a game against the Punjab Kings (PBKS) called off earlier in the season at the Eden Gardens. On the other hand, despite a rained-out game, RCB still has a strong chance of making the playoffs and even securing a top two finish. Last month in Bengaluru, their game against Punjab Kings (PBKS) was reduced to 14 overs per side due to rain, where RCB ended up on the losing side.

Tom Cruise shares his love for India as Mission Impossible: Final Reckoning hits the screen

As Mission Impossible: The Final Reckoning hits theatres across India today—six days ahead of its U.S. release—Hollywood superstar Tom Cruise has expressed heartfelt admiration for India and its people, calling the country "extraordinary" and revealing his deep desire to return. Cruise, who has been the face of the Mission: Impossible series for nearly three decades, described his time in India as unforgettable. Speaking during the film's global promotional campaign, the actor reminisced about his visit to iconic landmarks like the Taj Mahal, his experience with Indian cuisine, and the warm welcome he received during past premieres in cities like Mumbai. "India is a remarkable place with such a rich and vibrant culture," said Cruise. "From the moment I arrived, everything—from visiting historical sites to meeting fans—has stayed with me. I absolutely loved it and would love to come back, not just to visit, but to make a film there." The action legend went on to share his admiration for Indian cinema and its



unique storytelling style. "I've always been fascinated by Bollywood films—the music, the dancing, the emotion. It's something I genuinely want to be a part of someday. Making a Bollywood-style movie would be an incredible experience," he said, adding that the blend of drama and musicality resonates deeply with his own cinematic tastes. Cruise's love for India has grown beyond professional appreciation. He referred to the country as a place of personal connection, where he has forged lasting friendships and

fond memories. "I have so many friends in India. I'm really looking forward to visiting them again. The warmth and enthusiasm of Indian fans is something truly special," he added. As Cruise prepares to bid farewell to his iconic character Ethan Hunt in this final installment of the beloved franchise, he takes time to recognize the global audience that has supported his journey. For him, India isn't just another destination—it's a cherished part of his international legacy. Directed by Christopher McQuarrie, Mission Impossible: The Final Reckoning is a high-octane culmination of the epic spy saga. The film stars Cruise alongside Hayley Atwell, Ving Rhames, Simon Pegg, Esai Morales, Pom Klementieff, and others in an ensemble cast packed with powerhouse performances. Now screening in cinemas across India in English, Hindi, Tamil, and Telugu, the film promises adrenaline-pumping action and an emotional farewell to one of the most enduring roles in modern cinema.

Naveen Chandra promises edge-of-the-seat thrills with bilingual thriller 'Eleven'

Actor Naveen Chandra is all set to return to the big screen with Eleven, a bilingual investigative thriller slated for worldwide release on May 16. Helmed by debutant director Lokesh Ajls, who previously worked under renowned filmmaker Sundar C., the film is produced by Ajmal Khan and Reya Hari of AR Entertainment—celebrated for their critically acclaimed Tamil films Sila Nerangalil Sila Manithargal and Sembi. Distributed theatrically by N. Sudhakar Reddy's Ruchira Entertainments, Eleven has already created significant buzz with its gripping promotional content. At a recent press meet, Naveen Chandra shared insights



into what makes the film stand out. "The title Eleven is not random—it's rooted deeply in the story. The audience will only understand it once they watch the movie," said Naveen. "The Tamil preview screenings received standing

ovations. The screenplay's twists and emotional depth truly struck a chord." Calling it a never-before-seen concept in the thriller genre, he added, "It's a tightly written film with strong logic and unpredictable turns. We shot dif-

ferent versions for Telugu and Tamil—not just translations but culturally grounded rewrites. I dubbed for both myself." Balancing such intense roles has become easier for him over time. "Earlier, I'd bring characters home after shoots. But now, especially after marriage, I've learned to detach once off set." In addition to Eleven, Naveen will be seen as a villain in Ravi Teja's Mass Jathara and has projects lined up like the dark drama Honey, action flick Kaali, a Tamil film, and a comedy with director Hari. With Eleven, Naveen Chandra is set to offer audiences a powerful cinematic experience this summer.