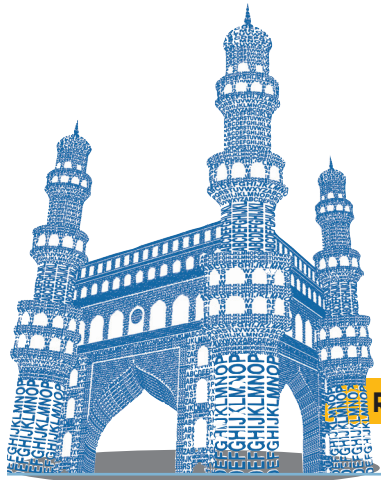




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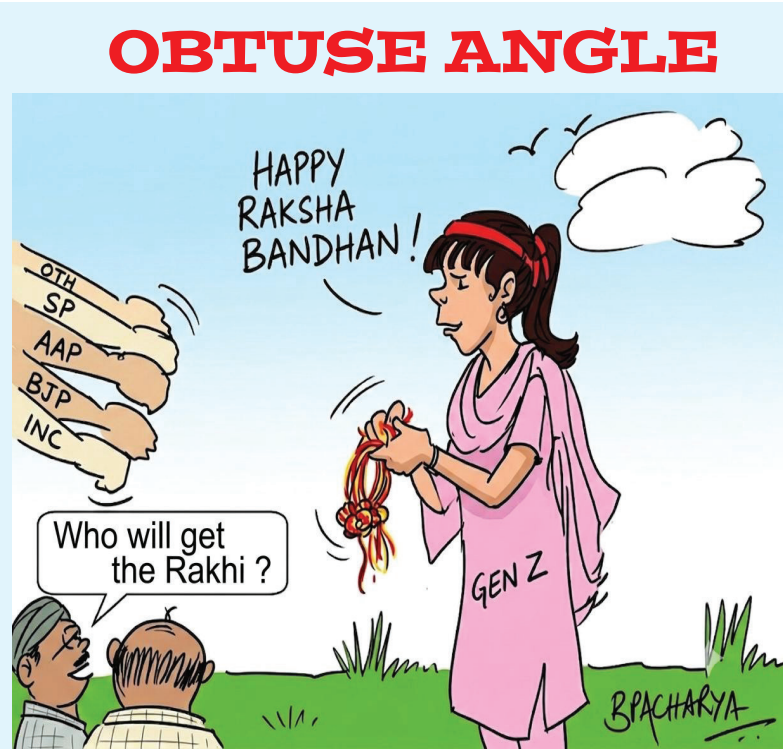


India's Sporting Journey: Beyond the Medal Count

OPINION 06

PENGUIN INDIA DROPS SONIA'S MEMOIR OVER CONTENT DISPUTE

SPECIAL 02



by BP ACHARYA

SHORT TAKES

Nepal: 8 Indian-Origin US Citizens Missing

Hyderabad, Aug.28: Families of eight Indian-origin US citizens, mostly with roots in Telangana and Karnataka, have appealed for urgent help after losing contact with them in Nepal amid the devastating floods and landslides along the Nepal-Tibet border.

The group, travelling towards Mount Kailash - Mansarovar, was last reportedly contacted around 8.30 am on August 26 near the Rasuwagadhi immigration office, close to the Nepal-China border.

The families said they have been unable to establish contact despite repeated efforts and have sought immediate assistance from the Government of India, Indian Embassy in Nepal, Nepalese authorities, immigration officials and the travel agency involved in the trip.



After Parkal row, Surekha ties Rakhi to CM Revanth

Hyderabad, Aug.28: Marking the occasion of Raksha Bandhan, Minister for Forests and Environment Konda Surekha on Friday visited Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's residence and tied a Rakhi to him. Accompanied by Panchayat Raj Minister Seethakka, Surekha joined the Chief Minister's family members in the festival celebrations. Notably, this marked her first visit to the Chief Minister's residence following the recent controversy involving Parkal.

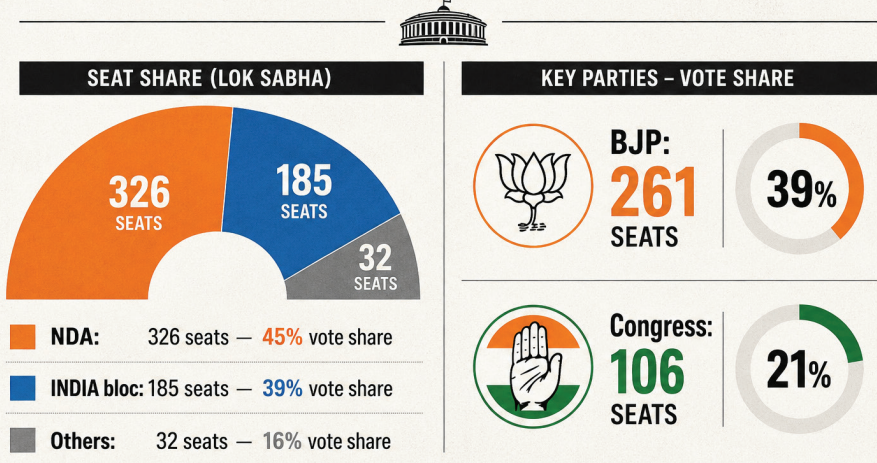
After tying a gold Rakhi, she exited the premises without making any statements to the

waiting media. Later, addressing reporters at her own residence, Surekha stated, "I have tied a Rakhi to Revanth Reddy for the third consecutive year. I view myself as a sister to all, and I prefer not to offer political comments during a festive period."

The Minister added that the Chief Minister has consistently enjoyed the support of women across the state. "I prayed for God to grant him the strength to drive Telangana's development, and I hope he continues to receive the blessings of women," she said.

NDA Retains CLEAR EDGE

BJP Faces Warning Signs in India Today-C-Voter Survey



NEW DELHI, AUGUST 29

The BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) continues to maintain a clear advantage over the Opposition INDIA bloc, according to the latest India Today-C-Voter Mood of the Nation survey. If Lok Sabha elections were held today, the NDA is projected to win 326 of the 543 seats, giving the alliance a comfortable majority and enough numbers to form the government.

However, the latest figures also carry a note of caution for the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). The NDA's projected tally is 26 seats lower than the 352 seats projected in the January

2026 edition of the survey. The BJP's own tally has also declined by 26 seats, with the party projected to win 261 seats. This is below the 272 seats required for a simple majority in the Lok Sabha, underlining the continued importance of the BJP's allies within the NDA.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 >

Veligonda Ready to Bring Krishna Waters

Vijayawada / Pedda Dornala, Aug.28: The Poola Subbaiah Veligonda project, conceived nearly five decades ago to bring irrigation and drinking water to drought-prone areas, has been completed and is set for inauguration on August 31. AP Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, who laid the foundation stone at Gottipadiya in 1996, will inaugurate the completed

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 >

BHATTI ORDERS FAST-TRACK MINERAL EXPLORATION

Hyderabad, Aug.28: Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka has directed officials to expedite mineral exploration activities at the Devadurga Gold-Copper Block in Karnataka, secured by the Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) through auction. Bhatti Vikramarka visited the Hutti Gold Mines in Karnataka on Friday and inspected the gold ore extraction process from the mine viewpoint. He also enquired with officials about the depth at which gold ore is currently being extracted.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Chief Minister said the Devadurga exploration block secured by SCCL is located close to the Hutti Gold Mines, describing its proximity as a major opportunity for leveraging the latter's expertise and experience.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 >

COUPLE HELD OVER PAKISTAN ESPIONAGE LINKS

NEW DELHI, AUG 29

The Delhi Police Special Cell on Friday said it had arrested a Delhi-based couple suspected of having links with an alleged espionage network operating from Pakistan.

According to the police, 25-year-old Sahil, who worked as an assistant to a lawyer, and 21-year-old Sameera, who had worked at a call centre in Noida, got married in 2024.

Police said Sameera came into contact with a Pakistani national through Instagram. The individual allegedly introduced her and Sahil to a Pakistan Intelligence Operative (PIO) and subsequently encouraged the couple to work for handlers based in Pakistan.

Eight Indian SIM Cards Sent to Pakistan

The investigation reportedly revealed that the couple had sent eight Indian SIM cards to Pakistan via Dubai in 2024 and 2025. Police said they were paid up to ₹30,000 in return.

According to the allegations, WhatsApp accounts were activated in Pakistan using these SIM cards and were subsequently used to contact Indians and collect sensitive information. The police also alleged that the couple conducted reconnaissance

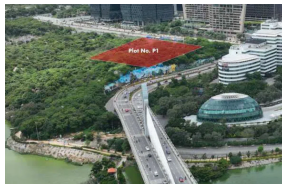
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RAIDURG AUCTION SEES RS 269 CRORE PER ACRE RECORD BID

HYDERABAD, AUG.28

TGIIC has raised Rs 2,833.22 crore from two successive land auctions at Raidurg, underscoring Hyderabad's growing appeal as a business hub. Plot P2 alone fetched Rs 1,447.22 crore at Rs 269 crore per acre, surpassing last week's record bid for Plot P1.

Hyderabad: The Telangana Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (TGIIC) auction of 5.38-acre Plot P2 at Raidurg generated Rs1,447.22



crores as the bid was quoted for Rs. 269 crores per acre. Hyderabad News Focus

This follows the auction of Plot P1 held last week, which achieved Rs 264 crores per acre, generating Rs 1,386 crores. Officials said 25 percent of the auction value from Plot P1 has already been

received as the first stage payment. Together, the two auctions have generated Rs 2,833.22 crores from 10.63 acres, at an average realisation of Rs.266.53 crores per acre. The exceptional price discovery reflects strong confidence among leading developers in Hyderabad's long-term growth prospects, supported by its expanding business ecosystem, besides robust infrastructure connectivity and growing stature as a major business and investment destination.

MIM Sets Its Sights on UP: Whose Political Calculations Could Be Upset?

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 28

AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi has intensified his focus on the 2027 Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections. He is concentrating on strengthening the party's organisation in the state, forming alliances and negotiating seat-sharing arrangements. If an alliance fails to materialise, the party is reportedly considering contesting around 200 to 250 seats. At the same time, AIM-

IM is signalling that it is willing to contest the elections in alliance with opposition parties if it is offered a respectable share of seats. In the 2022 Assembly elections, AIMIM contested around 100 seats but failed to win even a single constituency. This time, the party is paying particular attention to constituencies where Muslim votes could have a significant impact.

Political analysts have suggested that if AIMIM contests

independently, it could lead to a split in opposition votes, potentially benefiting the BJP. On the other hand, an alliance with opposition parties could alter the electoral equations in the state.

Against this backdrop, the key questions are: Who will Owaisi join hands with? Who stands to gain, and who could lose? The answers could have a significant bearing on the political dynamics of the 2027 Uttar Pradesh elections.

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