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Another temple defaced with pro-Khalistan graffiti in US **page 7**



Aditya-L1 in final phase

ISRO to put the spacecraft in halo orbit around Lagrange point 1 today

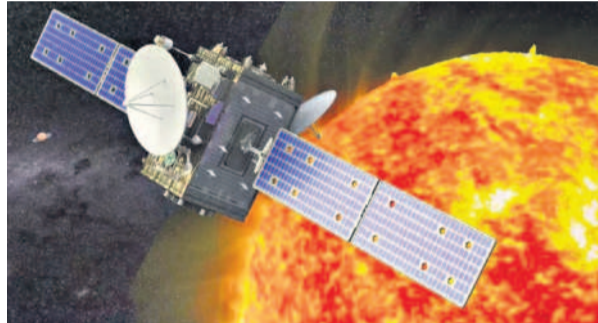
CITY BUREAU
HYDERABAD

Completing its 1.5 million km long odyssey, India's first space-based observatory to study the Sun, Aditya-L1 is set to be placed in a halo orbit around Lagrange point 1 (L1) on Saturday. Dr Sreedhara Panicker Somanath, Chairman, Indian Space Research Organisation, who was in the city for JNTU-Hyderabad's XII convocation, on Friday said the crucial manoeuvre is scheduled around 4 pm.

"After that, the satellite will be there around, looking at the Sun and doing all the measurements. So, its journey of almost 1.5 million km is nearly getting completed," Dr Somanath said.

The ISRO launched the Aditya-L1 in the first week of September 2023. After a flight duration of 63 minutes and 20 seconds, it was successfully injected into an elliptical orbit of 235x19500 km around the Earth. The spacecraft underwent a series of manoeuvres thereafter and headed Sun-Earth L1, having escaped the Earth's sphere of influence.

On the challenges of Aditya-L1 insertion, Dr Somanath said it is an orbital mechanics model. "The satellite is moving at very



'HALO' SUN! MISSION'S OBJECTIVES

- Study of Solar upper atmospheric dynamics
- Study of chromospheric and coronal heating, physics of the partially ionized plasma, initiation of coronal mass ejections, and flares
- Observe in-situ particle and plasma environment, providing data for study of particle dynamics from Sun
- Physics of solar corona and its heating mechanism
- Diagnostics of coronal and coronal loops plasma: Temperature, velocity and density
- Development, dynamics and origin of coronal mass ejections
- Magnetic field topology and magnetic field measurements in solar corona

high velocity. Turning it to its position is mathematically run that cannot be seen from here. We depend on the measurements and radar signals that are sent and get back to understand its position correctly. As per our calculations so far, it is good," he said. Meanwhile, ISRO will launch the GSLV

MK-II INSAT 3DS, a climate and weather satellite, either this month or in February. The PSLV-C58 XPoSAT launched on January 1 was doing well, he said, adding that "all its instruments are slowly switched on and working, and we will get to know about the results soon." (SEE PAGE 2)

BRS plans protests against govt

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

Accusing the Congress government of plotting to scrap crucial welfare programmes initiated during its regime in Telangana, the BRS on Friday announced plans to organise a series of protests across the State.

The party demanded that the State government continue the existing welfare scheme and ensure that no eligible beneficiary is denied essential benefits. In a teleconference with party legis-

To hold series of protests across the State over Congress government's move to scrap crucial welfare programmes initiated during the BRS regime in Telangana

lators, in-charges and senior leaders on Friday, BRS working president KT Rama Rao and former Minister T Harish Rao asked the party leaders to expose the Congress government's conspiracies in the public. "While Gruha Lakshmi has been already cancelled, schemes

such as Dalit Bandhu and sheep distribution are likely to meet the same fate. Hence, the BRS is set to launch protests in all the Assembly constituency headquarters to support the beneficiaries and express opposition to Congress' decisions on welfare pro-

grammes implementation," they informed. Expressing concern over the schemes that positively impacted millions, the BRS leaders said the Congress government is sidelining initiatives purely out of political malice. They stated that by cancelling the existing schemes, Congress is betraying weaker sections. Cancellation extends beyond schemes to public utility infrastructure, including roads and buildings, previously approved and funded by BRS government. (SEE PAGE 2)

Babri litigant gets invite

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Polls: Imran casts doubts

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'Extra fire missing in first Test'

SPORT | PAGE 08



Deepika's cool avatar

Check out the actor's bhanga moves in the BTS video of 'Fighter'

Check out the actor's bhanga moves in the BTS video of 'Fighter'



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Sub-zero scenes



GOLDEN HUES: Vapour rises from the water around a historic tri-master charter sailing ship moored in a port of Oslo on Friday. The temperature dipped to -22 degrees Celsius in the Norwegian capital. — Photo: AFP

GDP to grow by 7.3%, says govt

NEW DELHI

The Indian economy is estimated to grow by 7.3 per cent in the 2023-24 fiscal against 7.2 per cent a year ago, mainly due to good show by mining and quarrying, manufacturing and certain segments of services sectors.

As per the first advance estimates of national income released by the National Statistical Office (NSO) on Friday, the manufacturing sector output is estimated to grow to 6.5 per cent in the current fiscal compared to 1.3 per cent in

2022-23. Similarly, mining sector growth is estimated at 8.1 per cent in the current fiscal against 4.1 per cent in 2022-23. Financial services, real estate and professional services are estimated to record a growth of 8.9 per cent this fiscal compared to 7.1 per cent in FY23. "Real GDP or GDP at Constant (2011-12) Prices in the year 2023-24 is estimated to attain a level of Rs 171.79 lakh crore, as against the Provisional Estimate of GDP for the year 2022-23 of Rs 160.06 lakh crore, released on 31st May 2023," an NSO statement said. (SEE PAGE 2)

100 acres for new HC building

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

The State government allotted 100 acres belonging to Prof Jayashankar Telangana State Agriculture University and Sri Konda Laxman Telangana State Horticultural University for construction of the new building of the Telangana High Court at Premavathipet and Budwel villages in Rajendranagar mandal of Rangareddy district.

Orders have been issued allotting the land to the Law (Judicial) Department for necessary ac-

The building will come up at Premavathipet and Budwel villages in Rajendranagar of Rangareddy district

tion. Chief Minister A Revanthy Reddy recently announced that the foundation for the new building will be laid in January after Sankranti. The officials were instructed to make necessary arrangements in this regard. Earlier, Chief Justice of Telangana High Court Justice Alok Aradhe,

judges and advocates took up with the State government on the urgent need for constructing a new building as the existing one is in dilapidated condition. They requested the State government to grant adequate funds for the construction of a new High Court at the proposed site in Rajendranagar area.

Since the present High Court building is listed as a heritage structure, the officials were instructed to preserve the building. The existing building was proposed to be renovated and used for city court or other court buildings.

ED officers attacked in WB

KOLKATA

Enforcement Directorate (ED) officers were attacked by the loyalists of a TMC leader during a raid in West Bengal, triggering a political showdown with opposition baying for the imposition of President's Rule and Governor CV Ananda Bose signalling his intent to explore constitutional options and take appropriate action. The incident oc-

curred when ED officers executed a raid on the residence of TMC leader Sheikh Sajahan at Sandeshkhali in North 24 Parganas district, where they faced attacks from his supporters, resulting in substantial damage to both officers and their vehicles.

Sajahan is considered to be a close aide of State Minister Jyotipriyo Mallick, who was arrested in connection with the multi-

crore ration distribution scam. This operation was a crucial aspect of the agency's ongoing probe into the multi-crore ration distribution scam.

A large number of TMC loyalists assaulted ED officials and Central forces personnel during the raid, forcing the officers to abandon their damaged vehicles and seek refuge in auto-rickshaws and two-wheelers. (SEE PAGE 2)

Raids on company owned by Pawar kin

MUMBAI

The Enforcement Directorate on Friday searched the premises of Baramati Agro, a company owned by MLA Rohit Pawar, grandnephew of NCP supreme Sharad Pawar, and linked entities as part of a money laundering probe into the alleged Maharashtra State Cooperative Bank scam, official sources said.

At least six locations in Baramati, Pune, Pimpri and Aurangabad are being searched, they said. The office of Baramati Agro in Baramati town is also being

covered. Rohit Pawar (38) is an NCP MLA from the Karjat-Jamkhed seat in the Maharashtra Assembly and is the owner and CEO of Baramati Agro. Rohit is the nephew of Baramati MP Supriya Sule and Ajit Pawar, the Deputy Chief Minister of the State and MLA from Baramati.

The probe against his firm pertains to allegations of "diversion" of funds and deposit of earnest funds of a company that bid for the purchase of a Maharashtra-based ailing cooperative sugar factor (CSF). (SEE PAGE 2)