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Andhra Pradesh State Regional News

The Growing Threat of Hearing Loss: WHO**Context:**

- The surge in the use of electronic devices like earbuds and headphones has paralleled a concerning increase in hearing issues.

Key points:

- The World Health Organisation (WHO) warns that more than 1 billion individuals aged 12 to 35 are at risk of hearing loss due to prolonged exposure to loud music and recreational noise.
- By 2050, nearly one in four people is expected to experience some level of hearing loss, a figure that experts fear could rise significantly.
- Earbuds and headphones are major contributors to noise-induced hearing loss. Studies show that roughly 65% of individuals using personal music players with these devices listen at volumes exceeding 85 decibels (dB), which is detrimental to the inner ear.

Prevention:

- To prevent severe hearing issues, experts recommend following the 60/60 rule: listen to music at no more than 60% of the device's maximum volume for no longer than 60 minutes at a time.
- Despite increasing awareness, early diagnosis of hearing problems remains a challenge.
- Many individuals disregard early signs and delay seeking medical advice until the situation worsens, according to Dr. N Prasad, an ENT specialist in Guntur.

Symptoms:

- Symptoms of potential hearing issues include
 - frequently asking people to repeat themselves, difficulty following conversations (especially on the phone or in noisy environments),
 - the perception that people are mumbling, inability to hear certain high-pitched sounds (like birds singing),
 - the need to increase volume on electronic devices, experiencing tinnitus (ringing in the ears),
 - a sensation of pressure or fluid in the ear, and balance problems or dizziness.



**New Union Ministers from
Telangana and Andhra Pradesh**

Context:

- **Five individuals from the Telugu-speaking states** have secured positions in the **Union cabinet**, marking a significant representation for the region in the central government.

Key points:

- Among the notable entrants are **two MPs affiliated with the NDA constituent TDP**.
- **Bhupathiraju Srinivas Varma**, a newcomer to the political arena representing Narasapuram in Andhra Pradesh, surprised many with his inclusion in the Union cabinet.
- Additionally, **TDP's Srikakulam MP, Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu, and Guntur MP, Dr. Pemmasani Chandrasekhar**, were sworn in as Union ministers.
- Naidu, aged 36, who has been accorded a **cabinet rank**, thereby becoming the **youngest cabinet minister in the Modi 3.0 government**.
- On the other hand, **Chandrasekhar and Srinivas have been appointed as Ministers of State (MoS)**.
- In addition to the TDP's representation, **two BJP MPs from Telangana** have been included in the Union cabinet, signaling the party's growing influence in the state.
- Notably, the BJP secured eight out of the 17 Lok Sabha seats in Telangana, marking its highest tally since inception.
- Secunderabad **MP G. Kishan Reddy**, a prominent figure in Modi's previous cabinet and the BJP's national general secretary, along with BJP leader **Bandi Sanjay**, took oaths as **Union ministers**.

**"Professor CK Jayasankar
Honored as Honorary Life
Member by Thailand Physics
Association"**

Context:

- Professor **CK Jayasankar**, a former Professor of Physics at SV University, has been **honored by the Thailand Physics Association**, being admitted as an honorary life member.

Key points:

- The Thailand Physics Association, operating under the **ASIAN Physics Association**, is dedicated to **promoting the quality and standard of Physics research and education in Thailand**.
- As part of its efforts, the association organizes the **Siam Physics Congress (SPC)**, an annual international conference.
- This year, the **19th Siam Physics Congress (SPC 2024) was held in Ayutthaya, Thailand**, from June 5 to June 7, under the theme of 'Physics Beyond



	<p>Boundaries: Interdisciplinary Insights for A Changing World'.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • His admission as an honorary life member is a recognition of his exceptional research in Photonics, which includes collaborations with international groups, particularly with Thailand research groups in the field of Glass Science and Technology, for applications that benefit society. • He is the first Indian physicist to receive this honor from the Thailand Physics Association.
<p>Challenges and Controversies in Andhra Pradesh's Education Reforms</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each change in the State government brings about a transformation in the school curriculum, presenting numerous challenges for both students and teachers. • Allegations suggest that the new administrations, eager to implement their reforms, often overlook the mental well-being of children. <p>Key findings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A significant number of teachers opposed the introduction of the Central Syllabus (CBSE) during Jagan's tenure. • The reforms also included implementing English as the medium of instruction in government schools, introducing the CBSE syllabus, the IB syllabus, and Byju's content. • These initiatives faced substantial criticism, raising questions about the steps the new government will take regarding education policy. • One of the most controversial reforms by the Jagan government was the removal of the Telugu language advocates. • Regarding the curriculum, the YSRC government replaced the State syllabus with the CBSE and made preliminary moves to introduce the IB syllabus, even signing an MoU. • However, with the TDP and JSP joining the NDA at the Centre, there is uncertainty about the continuation of English medium education.



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