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HYDERABAD | SUNDAY | 20 OCTOBER 2019

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WEATHER
Max: 29°C
Min: 22°C
RH: --
Rain: Nil
Forecast: Cloudy sky. Moderate rains likely. Max/Min temp. 29/22°C

ASTROGUIDE
Vikari: Dakshinayana
Tithi: Ashwayuja Bahula Shasti till 7.28 am
Star: Arudra till 5.47 pm
Varjyam: 5.37 am to 7.12 am (Early hours of Monday)
Durmuhurtam: 4.15 pm to 5.01 pm
Rahukalam: 4.30 pm to 6 noon
HJIRI CALENDAR
Safar 20,1441 AH
PRAYERS
Fajar: 5.10 am
Zohar: 12.11 pm
Asar: 4.14 pm
Maghrib: 5.57 pm
Isha: 7.06 pm
SUNSET TODAY 5.51 PM
SUNRISE TOMORROW 6.11 AM
MOONRISE TODAY 10.09 PM
MOONSET TODAY 10.42 AM



COUNTER POINT
We are going to lose... our rival is distributing onions to the voters!

Schools all set to reopen tomorrow
Hyderabad: Schools and colleges will reopen on Monday, the education department stated in the backdrop of rumours that the holidays would be extended again as the RTC staff strike had not ended. The education department has re-scheduled the first summative assessment from October 25 instead of October 23.

Boeing aware of MAX fault in '16
New York: A Boeing pilot behind the 737 MAX certification in 2016 told a colleague a key flight handling system was "running rampant" during simulator tests. The Boeing employees quipped about problems during simulations of a flight-handling mechanism that is believed to be at the centre of two MAX crashes that killed 346 people.

No separate flag for Nagas: Gov
New Delhi: The Centre has ruled out a separate flag and Constitution for the Nagas as demanded by the NSCN-IM, and made it clear that the endless negotiations with the insurgent group under the shadow of guns is not acceptable, said interlocutor for the Naga talks and Nagaland Governor R.N. Ravi.

Case against BJP leader's remark
Jalna: A case was registered against Maharashtra minister and BJP candidate from Partur Assembly seat Babanrao Lonikar for allegedly saying he had distributed money to ensure victory in the polls. Police said the action was taken on the basis of a video clip in which the minister is seen making the remarks during a rally.



Hyderabad's Mahatma Gandhi Bus Depot wears a deserted look with a lone bus on Saturday.

— P. Surendra

Bandh in city remains partial

Shops remained open; private vehicles were on roads from noon

ADITYA CHUNDURU | DC HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

The city mostly remained its bustling self during the bandh called by the TSRTC joint action committee (JAC) on Saturday. For most part, commercial establishments stayed open throughout the day.

Opposition activists held up traffic at various places for about an hour but it was business as usual later on. Many people, however, put off non-essential trips. The RTC could run about 15 per cent of the fleet. At Falaknuma, only 11 out of 104 were operated in the morning. The bus termini including the Mahatma Gandhi Bus Station at Imlibun were deserted. Taxi unions had joined the strikes but a few vehicles were seen plying on the roads.

The police had a busy day, making a total of 3,294 preventive arrests in the

State sees complete bandh

S.A. ISHAQUI | DC HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

The government tried to run some buses under police escort on Saturday to counter the bandh call given by the RTC trade unions joint action committee and supported by dozens of unions and political parties.

The experiment was tried out in some parts of the state but the government gave up the effort soon after. According to RTC sources, bus ser-

vices were being operated in consultation with collectors and superintendents of police. Most buses stayed confined to the depots.

Normal life was paralysed across the state due to the bandh. In the most serious incident, traffic was stalled for about 5 km in the morning on the Vijayawada Highway when agitators squatted on the road in front of the Hayathnagar bus depot.

The bandh was by and large peaceful except for

sporadic incidents where protesters pelted stones at RTC buses and deflated tyres of buses and autorickshaws. The bandh call was supported by cab aggregators such as Ola and Uber, private autos, transporters and others. Political parties, government employees unions, trade unions, sections of advocates and student groups also backed the bandh.

■ Page 2: Unions plan public meet at OU

Neredmet paid ₹150 for a trip from Neredmet to ECIL crossroads, which otherwise costs half that amount. Mr Phaneendra at KBHB Colony paid ₹200 for a trip to SR Nagar.

Many residents postponed their Diwali shopping. Ms Kavita Reddy, a resident in Malkajgiri, said, "I was to go to General Bazaar at Ranigunj to shop for the festival but I am not able to move out." She has put off shopping for Monday.

Political activists held protests were held across the city and were briefly detained. In the most notable incident, CPI (ML) leader Potu Rangarao lost his thumb during a protest at RTC crossroads. He claimed a policeman had shut the vehicle door on his thumb, severing it cleanly in the middle.

■ Page 2: Police arrest Opposition leaders

FARMERS GIVE VEGETABLES FOR PLASTIC BAGS

MD. ILYAS | DC VIJAYAWADA, OCT. 19

In a first, Andhra Pradesh is raising anti-plastic awareness by offering free vegetables for returned plastic bottles and bags at one of the Rythu Bazaars in Tenali in Guntur district. Consumers would get free vegetables of the same weight as the plastic waste they return. Officials said it would also help reusable jute and cotton bags.

Tenali MLA Annabathuni Siva Kumar and municipality officers launched the programme with the barter system in effect at one of the four Rythu Bazaars at Burripalem Road on Thursday and Friday. The initiative would be extended to the other three Rythu Bazaars soon.

Tenali Municipal Health officer B.V. Ramana said the campaign against 'single-use plastic carry bags' had led to traders no longer selling those bags.

Traders are offering cheap and medium-priced vegetables for the barter. Nearly 50-90 empty water bottles will weigh one kilogram but the majority bring 250 gm and 500 gm of waste plastic for vegetables. Siva Kumar said that the exchange offer had good response the past two days.

MPs put brakes on Boris' Brexit

Defiant British PM refuses to seek more time from EU for exit

London, Oct. 19: British MPs voted on Saturday to force Prime Minister Boris Johnson to ask the European Union to delay Brexit yet again but he insisted Britain must leave on October 31.

In a day of high drama in the House of Commons, MPs declined to give their backing to the divorce agreement that Mr Johnson struck with the EU this week until accompanying legislation has been passed.

In doing so, MPs triggered a law requiring Mr Johnson to write to EU leaders asking to delay Brexit to avoid a "no deal" departure in less than two weeks. The result is a major blow to Mr Johnson, who said he would rather



be "dead in a ditch" than prolong the tortuous Brexit process that has left Britain in political turmoil since the 2016 EU referendum.

But in a typically defiant response, the Conservative leader refused, sparking fresh uncertainty about what happens next. "I will not negotiate a delay with the EU and nei-

ther does the law compel me to do so," he told MPs, who were sitting on a Saturday for the first time since the 1982 Falklands War.

He said he would tell EU leaders that "further delay would be bad for this country, bad for the European Union and bad for democracy." The Tory party went further, writing in a

tweet: "The PM will not ask for a delay." Brussels urged Britain to explain its plan as soon as possible while Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn, whose party opposed the deal, said: "The prime minister must now comply with the law."

Opposition parties and Mr Johnson's own Northern Irish allies backed an amendment, which requires parliament ratifying the text before Britain leaves the EU.

Mr Johnson said he would introduce legislation next week to implement his Brexit deal, expressing hope that if it passes, Britain could still leave on October 31. The first vote could come as soon as Tuesday. — AFP

MONEY | MATTERS

Man stamps sis' Pom to death in property fight

JAYENDRA T. CHAITANYA | DC HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

An eight-year-old Pomeranian dog was stamped to death on Friday night during a quarrel between a brother and sister over a property dispute.

In fact the sister, P. Rama Devi, an employee of the National Geophysical Research Institute, suspects that her brother may

have earlier killed other pets of hers. The brother, P. Nagaraju, lived with his sister and their mother in Lalpet. He was taken into custody and booked under sections of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act. The house in Lalpet is long the cause of bitterness between the siblings. They had a history of fighting over the house like cats and dogs, no pun intended. At 9 pm on Friday, another



argument broke out between Devi and Nagaraju. The fight turned particularly nasty and

THE HOUSE in Lalpet is long the cause of bitterness between the siblings. They had a history of fighting over the house like cats and dogs, no pun intended.

Nagaraju tried to attack his sister. He was reportedly drunk. At this, her Pomeranian began barking at him. The brother was irate and began stamping the dog. The mother and sister were scared of Nagaraju, given that he had been violent towards them on earlier occasions, and so were helpless. He stamped the dog so much it died.

TRS record at stake in bypoll

TRS, Congress in contention for Huzurnagar byelection

S.N.C.N. ACHARYULU | DC HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

The TRS has not lost an Assembly byelection in a decade. The race in the Huzurnagar Assembly byelection is so close, that the Congress may well end that record run. A defeat will affect the Congress much more, however, coming atop major setbacks after the Assembly election. The BJP has no presence at Huzurnagar, and the Telugu Desam could play spoiler to the Congress.

The campaign for the byelection ended on Saturday. Elections will be held on Monday and the outcome will be known by noon on Thursday. Party activists will now go door to door to seek votes.

Since 2009, the TRS has won 20 byelections. It retained its seats in 18 bypolls, and wrested two from the Congress.

The Congress campaign was boosted by the ongoing RTC staff strike. Besides this is a seat that the party's state unit president N. Uttam Kumar Reddy has won for three straight terms.

The bypoll was necessitated after he retained his Lok Sabha seat. Former legislator N. Padmavathi Reddy, his wife, is the

CAMPAIGN ENDS FOR BYELECTIONS ACROSS COUNTRY

DC CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI, OCT. 19

Campaigning for Maharashtra and Haryana Assembly polls ended on Saturday, with the BJP confident of retaining power in both states where it continued to play the nationalism card and accused the Opposition of failing to honour its promise to abrogate Article 370.

Along with these two states, bypolls will be held in 64 Assembly seats and two Lok Sabha seats — Samastipur in Bihar and Satara in Maharashtra.

■ Full report on Page 6

Congress candidate. The party is badly looking for a break after a dozen of its legislators switched over to the TRS.

It will also keep the momentum going after winning three seats in the Lok Sabha polls. Besides, the party has the support of teacher, students and workers unions.

■ Page 2: TRS pulls out all stops to win bypoll

Pothole blamed for SUV mishap

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

The bodies of the six Ankura Hospital employees were fished out of the Nagarjuna Sagar canal on Saturday. They had gone missing when on Friday their SUV tried to avoid a pothole on the narrow bridge at Chakirala and fell into the water.

The victims were identified as Jammikuntla Nageshwar Rao (36) of Dammaiguda, V Pavan Kumar (23) of Neredmet, B Santhosh Kumar (27) of Santoshnagar Colony, Abdul Azeez (34) of AS Rao Nagar, Jimson George (29) of Trimulgherry, and T Rajesh (29) of the city but a native of Peddapally. Personnel of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) found the bodies around 250 metres from where the car had fallen in, and about 20 feet deep.

The men worked at Ankura Hospital for Women and Children at AS Rao Nagar, and had

gone in a group of 11, divided into two cars, to Chakirala to attend a wedding. The accident happened when they were returning to the city, at Nadigudem mandal of Suryapet district.

The ill-fated SUV was in the lead while crossing the narrow bridge. "We were following it," a colleague in the other car said. "On reaching the bridge, we saw the pothole and crossed it. But we could not see the other car. Then we saw it floating in the canal and in no time it sank," he said.

By the time the police were alerted, it was too late. The SUV was washed away by the strong current, and a heavy downpour with a dark overcast sky also made a rescue impossible.

Police said the SUV was likely over-speeding on the narrow road. "Driver Abdul Azeez was unaware of the road," said Sub-inspector C. Naresh. "The SUV crashed through the stone railing and fell in."

Drunk brother killed the dog when it barked at him for attacking his sister

Man stamps sis' Pom to death in property fight

Nagaraju tried to attack his sister. He was reportedly drunk. At this, her Pomeranian began barking at him. The brother was irate and began stamping the dog. The mother and sister were scared of Nagaraju, given that he had been violent towards them on earlier occasions, and so were helpless. He stamped the dog so much it died.

When Devi tried to call the police for help, Nagaraju threatened her with dire consequences. So on Saturday morning she went to the Osmania University police station and lodged a complaint.

Sub-inspector A. Narsing said that Nagaraju was being questioned. The Pomeranian's corpse was sent for a post mortem examination to the Government Veterinary Hospital in Narayanguda.



Support or else..

TS BJP president K. Laxman says all those who did not participate in RTC workers strike are traitors of Telangana

Taxis run, have no passengers

Outstation travellers get stranded at bus depots, railway stations; autorickshaws fleece customers

ADITYA CHUNDURU | DC HYDERABAD, OCT 19

An eerie calm prevailed over bus depots in the city, where there were more policemen than passengers. At the usually busy Jubilee Bus Station near Secunderabad, there was only one bus going to Nizamabad at 3.20 pm. Its driver, hired by RTC, waited for about 20 minutes to fill all the seats in the bus.

There were very few passengers at the station. One of them had come to visit his cousin in Patancheru. "Though I knew there is a strike, I could not postpone the trip. I have been waiting here for an hour. I do not have money for a taxi ride till Khammam," he said. There were hardly any customers at the eateries outside the bus station.

At MGBS, the scene was no different. Regularly touted as the largest bus station of its kind in Asia, it saw very little activity. Many buses were seen parked inside it. A similar scene was visible at Rathifile, where there were next to no buses. People getting off trains had to depend on autorickshaws.

The Telangana Taxi Drivers JAC, too, had given a call for an "indefinite" strike. The strike was largely unsuccessful as many Ola and Uber drivers were seen plying their vehicles. However, many of them stated there was hardly any business for them, as many people chose to stay at home. One Ola driver at Chikkadpally said, "I thought there would be many customers and I could make a little extra money today. But I have not yet made even the regular trips I make every day."

Asked how many cab services were run in the city during the day, a representative of Ola said that as a matter of policy, the company does not share this information with anyone. Uber ignored requests for information.

Meanwhile, autorickshaw drivers had a great day. Late afternoon, a driver at Rathifile near Secunderabad railway station said he found



Leaders of the Left parties along with other trade union workers participate in a day-long protest at the RTC cross-roads on Saturday. However, the police foiled their protest and took them into custody. — DEEPAK DESPANDE

many customers who had just gotten off their trains. Auto drivers at places like Lakdikapul, Ameerpet and Himayatnagar said business was rather slow for them on the day

Crisis at airport

While the taxi drivers' bandh was unsuccessful in most parts of the city, it caused some problems at the Rajiv Gandhi International Airport. A representative of the Taxi Drivers' Joint Action Committee said the organisation had focused its efforts at the airport for making the bandh successful. They actively dissuaded drivers from plying their vehicles. As a result, many travellers could not find Uber and Ola trips into the city. Many travellers depended on prepaid taxis and dial-a-cab services, such as Meru and Sky.

However, by the evening, regular cab services had resumed.

Police arrests leaders, shops forced to shut

FROM PAGE 1

Workers of the CPI, BJP and the Congress were seen on the roads expressing solidarity with the RTC workers and blocked vehicles in some places. In one instance at Gandhinagar, Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha activists forced a supermarket, restaurants and other shops to close down. They opened a couple of hours later.

TS Telugu Desam president L. Ramana and senior leader Ravula Chandrasekhar Reddy of Telangana Jana Samiti convened Prof. M. Kodandaram were arrested at Jubilee bus station,

Police beefed up security at the homes of senior Congress leaders such as V. Hanumantha Rao, former minister Ponnala Lakshmaiah and Marri Shashidhar Reddy

tor P. Kavya Reddy was placed under house arrest.

Police beefed up security at the homes of senior Congress leaders such as V. Hanumantha Rao, former minister Ponnala Lakshmaiah and Marri Shashidhar Reddy.

The United Students' Federation of India expressed support to the TSRTC employees and its leaders criticised the state government for using the police to control agitation. Also supporting the strike were medical and health department employees. Gazetted and non-gazetted employees held a protest in support of the RTC staff.

For a change, Metros are not overcrowded

MADHY DEEKSHITH | DC HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

It was a development that Hyderabad Metro Rail Limited (HMRL) authorities had not reckoned with. Contrary to their expectations, the bandh call given by TSRTC, cab and autorickshaw drivers did not in any way add to Metro Rail revenue. The expected rush also was far from heartening.

In fact, the footfall has come down by 50,000 when compared to the average weekend footfall, which touched a record 3.10 lakh during the ongoing strike period. It was comparatively low during weekends due to holidays for the IT sector. Responding to the bandh call even Intermediate, degree and engineering colleges declared a holiday.

Meanwhile, many seemed to have defied the

call as cabs were available during the day and, most surprisingly, without any price surge. However, although only few autorickshaws plied, those who did demanded exorbitant amounts from the commuters.

HMRL authorities maintained that the demand was normal and like any other weekend.

Mr Bharat Kavi, a regular metro commuter, said that there was hardly any rush on the Khairatabad metro station to Miyapur metro station. He said that the frequency was around 9 minutes and no standing passengers or rush was seen even 4.30 pm.

"Today's Metro journey was hassle-free. I hope this remains so every day of the week," he added.

Echoing the sentiments, HMRL managing director N.V.S. Reddy said, "Passenger figures were



The MMTS services too see little rush of passengers though most buses remained off the roads due to Telangana state bandh called by TSRTC staff on Saturday.

normal today. You see, apart from the IT sector, it was a holiday for educational institutions. The projected figure by the end

of the day will be around 2.6 lakh". Autorickshaw commuters were not saved from torture, though.

Mr S. Kiran Babu, who takes an autorickshaw from Tarnaka to Secunderabad railway station, said they demanded ₹250 while some demanded ₹400 for the same distance.

"I had to reach Secunderabad railway station to catch a train to Warangal. The journey was decided around 3: 45 pm and I had to reach the station by 4: 15 pm. The first auto driver demanded ₹250 which I rejected. However, another driver demanded ₹400. Left with no choice, I took the auto to reach the railway station," Mr Kiran added.

Ms N. Nalini, who commutes from Kukatpally to Secunderabad said, "Cabs were available within two minutes even at 9 am and 6 pm. Quite surprisingly, there were no surges even though it rained in the evening."

RAJIV WILL BE REMEMBERED FOR PROMOTING HARMONY: KHUNTIA

ATHER MOIN | DC HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

All India Congress Committee Telangana state incharge R.C. Khuntia on Saturday contended that the efforts of former prime minister Rajiv Gandhi in promoting communal tranquility and harmony will forever remain unparalleled.

He was addressing the Sadbhavana Yatra Commemoration celebrations at Charminar, organised by the Rajiv Gandhi Sadbhavana Memorial Committee.

The committee conferred the Sadbhavana Award to prominent freedom fighter Prof. A. Gopal Kishan.

Mr Khuntia recalled that

Rajiv Gandhi carried out a Sadbhavana rally in 1990 to spread the message of peace and harmony.

He had chosen Charminar to unveil the yatra's flag. He said Rajiv Gandhi had revolutionised information technology and communication sectors and developed India in the field of technology.

Rajiv Gandhi also carried out key changes in the Panchayat Raj to develop rural India, recalled Mr Khuntia.

He insisted that there was a dire need to strengthen the Congress in order to protect the country's democratic values. Mr V. Hanumantha Rao and others also spoke on the occasion.

Selected candidate settled case out of court

No cop job for acquitted man

VUJJINI VAMSHIDHARA | DC HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

The Telangana High Court has upheld the decision of the state Police Recruitment Board (PRB) to cancel the provisional selection of a candidate as constable after it found that he had been booked in a criminal case and was acquitted due to an out-of-court settlement after the witnesses turned hostile.

Referring to a Supreme Court order that the employer may take an appropriate decision if the applicant during recruitment is acquitted

in a criminal case recorded as not a case of clean acquittal, Justice P. Naveen Rao upheld the PRB decision.

The judge pointed out that the person seeking recruitment in the police must have impeccable character, integrity and high standard of conduct. Once a candidate is involved in a criminal case, mere acquittal does

not absolve him of his criminal background and strict scrutiny is required. The candidate, Mr Karra Krishna Kumar from Sangareddy, cleared the written examination as well as the physical test. After including his name in the provisional selection list, it was found during antecedent verification that he was involved in a criminal case at the

Narayankhed police station and the case was pending trial. Upon that finding, his provisional selection was cancelled by the board.

One year later, the trial court acquitted him on grounds that 13 out of 16 witnesses had turned hostile. Even the complainant deposed that Mr Kumar had no role in the attack on him and submitted that the case was settled out of court.

With the acquittal order, the applicant approached the PRB to reconsider his selection. When it turned him down, he approached the High Court for relief.

BC panel puts state on notice

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

The National Backward Classes Commission at Delhi has issued notice to Chief Secretary S.K. Joshi and the managing director of the Telangana State Road Transport Corporation to appear before it personally on October 25 and explain the reasons for the alleged removal of 20,000 employees and workers of the corporation.

Commission member T. Achari issued the notice on a complaint moved by the RTC Workers and Employees Unions Joint Action Committee from Kalwakurthy, Mahbubnagar district. The JAC sought the intervention of the commission as their rights were infringed with the statement of the state government that the RTC workers who went on strike were deemed to have been removed.

The RTC JAC in its complaint stated that after the trade unions gave the strike notice, the state government issued a statement appealing to the RTC staff to resume duties by the evening of October 6. It then issued another statement which stated that none of the workers was dismissed by the management, it was "self-dismissal" of the workers as they did not rejoin duty before the deadline.

The JAC said there was no scope for 'self-dismissal' under the labour laws and the statement from the Chief Minister's Office had caused mental agony to the families of the workers belonging to the BC community. The mass removal of workers would amount to infringement of their rights.

PROTESTERS BEAT UP TEMP DRIVER

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

A temporary driver, hired by the Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TSRTC), was attacked by a group of protesters for defying the bandh call on Saturday. Rachakonda police took nine protesters into custody and are searching for others for damaging the RTC bus belonging to Bandlaguda depot.

The hired driver, Saidulu, was proceeding towards Bandlaguda from Hasthinapuram area when several persons intercepted the bus and pulled him down. They attacked him with sticks and damaged the vehicle's windshield and window panes.

The Hayathnagar police, who were alerted by the locals, swung into the action, rescued the driver and took nine protesters into custody. They were booked under Sections 341, 324 and 504 r/w 149 of IPC and Section 3 of PDPP Act.

Hayathnagar Inspector K Satish said: "They all have been taken into preventive custody. They have been booked for assaulting and damaging public property. We are trying to identify other persons involved in the incident and they would be arrested."

On Saturday, around 173 persons were taken into preventive custody by the Hayathnagar police.

Workers unions plan OU meet

FROM PAGE 1

RTC JAC convener Ashwathama Reddy claimed the bandh was a grand success and said the strike would continue till the government called them for talks. He said the unions would hold a public meeting on the Osmania University campus on October 23.

Leaders of the RTC JAC, Congress, Telugu Desam, BJP, Left parties, Telangana Jana Samiti, trade unions and people's organisations were taken into custody. A massive police force was deployed to avert any untoward incident. Section 144 barring the assembly of more than five persons was imposed at all bus depots. According to Mr Jitender, additional director general of law and order, police booked 124 cases of violation of prohibitory orders and around 4,000 people were taken into custody and released later.

BJP LEADERS TAKE TO THE STREETS, HELD

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

After their fire-and-brimstone attacks against Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao the BJP's protest during the state-wide protest on Saturday in Hyderabad was a low-key affair.

Telangana state BJP state president, Dr K. Laxman, staged a protest at Abids where only about 50 party leaders and members were present. Dr Laxman was briefly detained along with party MLC and national executive member, N. Ramachander Rao, and former MLC, Ponguleti Sudhakar, at the Goshamahal police station.

Power staff put off their strike

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

Electricity employees deferred plans for a strike after meeting with TS Transco and Genco chairman and managing director D. Prabhakar Rao and his southern discom counterpart Raghuma Reddy.

Out of the 71 demands put forth by the employees, 15 were accepted by the officials. These included changing the nomenclature of standing orders in respect of artisans to service rules and regulations; artisans pay fixa-

tion will be done as on October 1 as per the existing notified scale; instead of VDA, DA will be allowed as per the notified scale.

The officials agreed to allow HRA, CCA, medical allowance, corporate allowance and issue pay slips to artisans. Paid holidays will be allowed.

The other demands will be discussed in the third week of November.



Looking ahead

Principal secretary Jayesh Ranjan says UK team met B2B companies to help identify and advance innovation in key markets

Viral encephalitis cases set alarm bells ringing

3 cases per week reported in hospitals, say doctors

KANIZA GARARI | DC HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

CAUSE OF CONCERN

- CHILDREN AND elderly are reporting to hospitals with fever. Their body temperature readings are as high as 107°C, doctors said.
- The combination of chikungunya and viral encephalitis is being seen among the elderly population. However, the cases of dengue have reduced.

The respite from cases of dengue, notwithstanding, the city is now caught in the grip of viral encephalitis, or brain fever. There is an alarming increase in the number of viral encephalitis cases being reported across city hospitals. This is ironic as October is medically termed as 'fair-weather' season. The rise in the number of cases has been worrisome and those getting inflicted include children and elders.

Many are complaining of fever of the brain with body temperature touching 106-107 degrees C.

According to doctors, at

least three cases are reported each week in the tertiary hospitals of which seven major ones are in the city.

Dr Shyam Jaiswal, neurologist at Care Hospitals, explains, "Of late, we have been admitting viral encephalitis-affected children in the hospital. Most fall sick because of the

body's low immunity. Immediate hospital care is a must as most complain of severe headache, delirium and in some cases even loss of memory. The treatment takes between two and three days."

Although, dengue cases have reduced, two to three cases are still reported every week.

Chikungunya cases are also still high and they are mostly being noted in the elderly.

It is a medical nightmare that some elders are suffering from both chikungunya and viral encephalitis.

Dr Hari Kishan B, general physician with Apollo Hospitals, explains, "The combination of chikungunya and viral encephalitis has been noted earlier too. These are rare cases but do occur from time to time. The viral infections have been very high this year and those suffering from diabetes, hypertension and other cardiovascular ailments, will suffer more when infected with these viruses."

GHMC extends road-digging ban

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation has extended the ban on cellar excavation and cutting of roads till November 30. The ban, imposed in June as a safety measure during the monsoon, was to end on October 31. The corporation said the deadline was extended in view of the weather predictions of the Indian Meteorological Corporation. Besides, the GHMC has decided to take up road repairs from October 22 to November 10.

GHMC commissioner Lokesh Kumar told a meeting of top officials from all departments that rapid action teams will take up road repairs. Mr Kumar instructed officials to go to Owaisi junction

and remove utilities which have been obstructing the progress of the strategic road development plan. Mr Kumar asked Hyderabad joint collector G. Ravi to hand two acres of land in Banjara Hills for the construction of double bedroom houses. Mr Ravi stated that the revenue divisional officer concerned had submitted the report and the process of handing over the land had started. Ranga Reddy district officials said they had identified a place to reconstruct three temples which are obstructing the causeway on the old Mumbai Highway.

Mr Kumar said the corporation has decided to utilise the water treated in sewerage treatment plant for GHMC parks.

Workshop for forest officers

Hyderabad: Forest officers shared the good practices, including new and innovative ways and ideas to be used on the field during the second day of the workshop here on Saturday.

silpa
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Plots & Villas for Sale at SHADNAGAR TOWN

Plots for Sale at SHANKARPALLY

FEATURES

- Entrance Arch
- Underground Drainage
- Underground Waterlines & Electricity
- Black Top Roads
- Avenue Plantation
- Club House in Shadnagar
- Landscaped Gardens & Children's Park
- All around compound wall in Shankarpally
- Bank Loans Available

For More Details Contact:

9515550061
9515550065
Email: sales@silpa.co.in



Jana Sena is supporting Congress in Huzurnagar byelection

— V. Hanumantha Rao
Former MP

POWER | SHUTDOWN

10 am to 4 pm: Giani Zail Singh Colony, Ambedkarnagar, Saidappa house area, Emergency Colony; Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan Colony, Jubilee Hills Roads No. 72 and 78, Mohan Babu guest house area, Pragasannagar Water Works area, IAS Colony; Jagga Rao area, Sai Baba temple area, Ramanaidu Film Studio, Apollo Hospital area, Murali Mohan PT, Satyam Computers area, N-TV area, Milan Tent House; BGR Colony; Padmalaya Studio area, Easwarawalli, Babu Jagajivan Ram Colony, Padmalaya slum area, Pulella Gopichand house area, Sania Mirza house area, Bharani Layout, Teacher Training Centre area, Indian Kabaddi team captain Nihta Nethu house area, Nyaya Vihar

IN BRIEF

NIA raids doc for treating Maoist

Mancherial: A team from the National Investigation Agency (NIA) raided the house and clinic of Dr K. Chandrasekhar in Mancherial town till late night on Friday. Sources said the NIA team had come from Mumbai and was assisted by the local police. The NIA team was reportedly investigating the doctors for alleged links with the banned Maoists and his treating a woman Maoist from Maharashtra. The NIA team seized the hard disk of his computer and two cell phones and some revolutionary literature. Dr Chandrasekhar reportedly told the NIA team that many poor persons come for him for treatment. He said he did not know that the woman who took treatment was a Maoist. Dr Chandrasekhar had worked at various places as a medical officer in the old Adilabad district.



Head of the Dawoodi Bohra community Dr Syedna Mufaddal Saifuddin leaves the Saifee Masjid in Trimulgherry after delivering a sermon on Chehlum, the martyr anniversary of Imam Hussain. — S. SURENDER REDDY

Be patriotic, Syedna urges Dawoodi Bohras

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

Dr Syedna Mufaddal Saifuddin, the 53rd al-Dai al-Mutlaq (spiritual leader) and head of the Dawoodi Bohras, asked the community to be patriotic and law-abiding.

He was speaking on the occasion of Chehlum, the commemoration of the 40th day of martyrdom of Prophet Mohammed's grandson Imam Husain who was

slain in Karbala, Iraq. Dr Saifuddin, who is in the city for a 10-day sojourn, will also participate in socio-cultural programmes, including a trade fair and a mass marriage ceremony known as Rasme Saifee.

Senior government officials and businessmen are expected to meet the Syedna to discuss areas of mutual interest.

This is his maiden visit to the city after becoming the spiritual leader of the Dawoodi Bohra community.

There are 8,000 members of the community in the twin cities. Another 17,000 members came to the city from neighbouring states for the Syedna's visit.

Raid on infra firm reveals hawala deals, fake papers

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

The Central Board of Direct Taxes on Saturday stated that income-tax authorities have conducted searches in the residences and office premises of a prominent business group in Hyderabad having interest in infrastructure, irrigation, hydrocar-

bons and power sector. In a release, the CBDT said more than 30 premises were covered in Hyderabad, NCR and Mumbai during the searches and evidence of largescale bogus expenses, over-invoicing of purchase and sub-contract expenses were found and seized.

The CBDT release said the group indulged in

out-of-books transactions and manipulation of books to suppress its taxable profits. The release said that evidence of illegal payments through hawala channels running into hundreds of crores have also been found and seized. It also said that unaccounted assets of ₹17.4 crore have been seized.

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Patancheru, Hyderabad

20th October 2019
Time: 10.00 AM to 4.00 PM

WALK-IN-INTERVIEW

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NON-CLINICAL DEPARTMENTS: Anatomy, physiology, Bio-Chemistry, Pharmacology, Forensic, Microbiology, Pathology, SPM.

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KTR PLANS FOR MORE ROADS IN TECH ZONE

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

Municipal administration minister K.T. Rama Rao urged GHMC and HMDA officials to develop slip roads and main roads in the western part of the city on a war-footing.

Addressing a review meeting, Mr Rao stated that identifying possible locations for such roads across the IT corridor should be taken up on priority. He directed the officials to find out locations that needed new roads. He instructed municipal administration officials to initiate talks with railway officials with regard to construction of road underbridges and overbridges.

Mr Rao asked officials to come up with a draft plan for laying link roads from Borabanda to Miyapur main road to Hitec City and Madhapur. Link roads and main roads will be laid from Jubilee Hills to Knowledge City and Old Bombay Highway.

He said that the government will develop arterial roads from Financial District to Kokapet, Tellapur, Nizampet, Kukatapaly, Hafeezpet connecting Outer Ring Road.

FLYING | HIGH CTE has 61-yr record of training experienced pilots

City unit gets Airbus simulators

T.S.S. SIDDHARTH | DC HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

Air India's Central Training Establishment has acquired flight simulators for the Airbus 319, A320 and A321 and for the ATR to train pilots, according to Captain Sangita Kabra Bangar, deputy general manager, operations.

The CTE, established in 1958 and the oldest in the country, trains private and commercial pilots and

instructs ground, technical and cabin crew.

"It is our aim to ensure that we update our training mechanism every six months. This will keep the pilots abreast of technological advancements," Capt. Bangar told a group of mediapersons at the facility at Balanagar.

The CTE has three simulators and can accommodate 20 more. "The training never ends for a pilot as she has to be up-to-date with all

the latest technology and hardware. That is why we put them in the simulators and teach them in our classrooms," she said.

"The simulators are open to the staff round the clock. Every pilot is a given time-frame of eight hours in two classes on the simulator," Capt. Bangar said.

Air India is in the process of obtaining European Union Air Safety Agency's certification for its Maintenance Repair and

Overhaul (MRO) facility here. "Most of the foreign airlines look for the certification before sending their aircraft to the MRO facility. If any facility has EASA certification, then the airlines will have an idea about the standards of the MRO facility," said Mr Y. Srinivasa Rao, GM(engineering) of Air India Engineering Services Ltd (AIESL), a wholly owned subsidiary company of Air India Limited.

Temple run

Introducing a daily, non-stop flight to Shirdi.

Sector*	Departure	Arrival	Fare#
Hyderabad - Shirdi	07:45, 14:45	09:15, 16:25	₹2872
Shirdi - Hyderabad	12:55, 16:45	14:20, 18:15	₹2578

Also flying to Belagavi, Mysuru and Tiruchirappalli.

Sector*	Departure	Arrival	Fare#
Hyderabad - Belagavi	15:35	16:55	₹2549
Belagavi - Hyderabad	17:15	18:40	₹2549
Hyderabad - Mysuru	16:45	18:40	₹2650
Mysuru - Hyderabad	19:40	21:40	₹2650
Hyderabad - Tiruchirappalli	21:00	23:20	₹2881
Tiruchirappalli - Hyderabad	23:50	02:00 ¹	₹2915

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*W.E.F. 27th October, 2019.
#Lowest all-inclusive one-way fare on limited seats.
Schedule/timings are subject to regulatory approvals.



New facility

Cyberabad traffic DCP S.M. Vijay Kumar says foot overbridge has been built for pedestrians near Ankur Hospital



5,156 permanent staff and their families will get ₹3 lakh medical insurance

— Lokesh Kumar
GHMC commissioner



A portion of Nampally Sarai, a 120 year-old heritage structure, collapsed on Saturday due to the incessant rain.

Part of Nampally Sarai collapses, one injured

ATHER MOIN I DC
HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

One person was injured when a small portion of Nampally Sarai, a 120 year-old heritage structure, collapsed due to incessant rain on Saturday. The injured person was shifted to hospital.

The building had been handed over to Hyderabad Metro Rail.

At about 4.30 pm, the balcony of the western portion of the Sarai caved in with a loud noise. Passersby rushed to the

site and began searching for anyone caught in the collapse. They were joined by a GHMC team led by central zone commissioner, Musharraf Ali Faruqi, personnel of the GHMC Disaster Response Team, fire services and police. They found one person, whom they extricated and rushed to hospital. The GHMC runs its five rupee meal counter from the building. A water dispenser is also installed there.

Mr Faruqi said the building was sealed and a structure stability study

will be carried out from Monday. "If we find the building is weak, we will immediately demolish the structure. If it is found stable, we will carry out repairs," he said.

"We have demolished around 600 structures and buildings in Nampally, Goshamahal and Abids, under the central zone, which were dilapidated," he said.

Taxi drivers informed Mr Faruqi that they were allowed to park their vehicles at the Sarai premises after their parking lot was handed over to Hyderabad

Metro Rail. They sought an alternative site.

The Nampally Sarai was constructed near the Hyderabad Deccan railway station in 1919 during the era of last Nizam Mir Osman Ali Khan. It was built by Nawab Tipu Khan Bahadur, the gorse trainer to Mir Mahboob Ali Khan, the sixth Nizam.

The Sarai was a memorial for the First World War Treaty and was also called 'Sulah' (reconciliation) Sarai. Spread over 5,828 square yards, the building was built at a cost of ₹1 lakh and has 54 rooms.

ESI scam accused attempts suicide

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

The accused in the case of the Insurance Medical Services scam, ESI joint director, Warangal, Dr. K. Padma, allegedly attempted suicide by consuming some pills at the Special Prison for Women at Chanchalguda on Saturday. The woman was taken to Osmania General Hospital for treatment, where the doctors declared her condition as stable and had put her under observation.

Dr. K. Padma was arrested by the Anti-Corruption Bureau officials on September 26 for her alleged role in purchasing the medicines at the prices higher than those mentioned in the rate contract and benefited private persons. The ACB arrested a total of 16 persons in the case along with Padma. At around 6.30 pm on Saturday, Padma reportedly consumed some medicines and fell ill. The prison authorities who came to know about this through the other prisoners, have rushed Padma immediately to the prison hos-

pital. She was admitted to Osmania General Hospital for treatment.

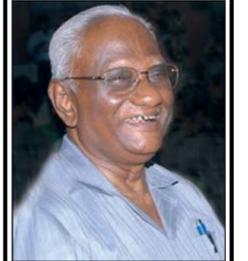
About two days ago, Padma fell sick and she was given some medicines at the prison hospital. The officials are suspecting that she would have consumed the medicines more than the prescribed limit.

Telangana state prisons director-general Sandeep Shandilya said: "Padma fell ill in the evening. She vomited and after initial treatment at the prison hospital, she was admitted to OGH. She is currently under observation and will be shifted to the prison, as her condition is stable."

The DG said the police would enquire about what the prisoner has consumed and how she was possessing something other than those provided by the authorities. It was learned that on Saturday noon, Padma's family members have visited the prison and spoke to her. Responding to a query, the DG said: "It was a normal meeting where the prisoner will be sitting on one side of the glass and visitors on the other side."

1st DEATH ANNIVERSARY

Those who are righteous will be long remembered (Psalm 112:6) The memory of righteous will be a blessing (Proverbs10:7)



DOB: 21-08-1933 DOD: 20-10-2018
Brother P. SATHKERTHI RAO
Christian Evangelist
"Your Memories will always remain in our hearts and thoughts immensely missed by all of us."
Inserted by:
Wife: Cecilia Paul and Families of Children: Mercy, Grace, Joy, Luke, Samuel. & Family Members

PAGRI



PADMA ROCHWANI
W/o Ishwar Rochwani
Inserted by: Rochwani Family (Lilaram, Sonali Trading Co, Lovely Sarees)
Pagri Ceremony - 20th Oct. 2019 (Today) at Sindh Gurudwara, Hira Hall, Abids, Hyderabad.
Time: 5.00 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.
Bharat: 9985322556
(B/1920/D00121)

PRARTHNA SABHA



USHA C GANDHI
W/o Late Chandrakant Gandhi
Expired on 17.10.2019
Prarthna Sabha on 20.10.2019 (Today) at Sindh Bhavan, Sindh Colony, P.G. Road, Secunderabad, from 3.00 p.m. to 3.30p.m.
Son: Alpesh Gandhi and Family, Cell: 9849189501
Son: Nayan Gandhi and Family, Cell: 9849016132
Daughter: Dptl. Chandresh Vadhver Firm: Chandrakant & Co.

FIRST DEATH ANNIVERSARY WE MISS YOU



Smt. C.N. PREMILA
(Dist. Development Officer, Retd.)
Ceremony on 20-10-2019 at our Saiduabad Colony residence.
B. NARSIMHULU PILLAI & FAMILY
Ph: 8919162086
(S/1920/D01045)

1st DEATH ANNIVERSARY



ROCK BERNARD
DOB: 29-11-1942 DOD: 20-10-2018
Inserted by:
WIFE, SON, DAUGHTER, SON-IN-LAW AND GRAND SONS
(S/1920/D01078)

4th DEATH ANNIVERSARY



Smt. G. ANANDAVALLY AMMA MOHAN
(Thankam Mohan)
Years pass by but there's not a day that passes by where we do not miss you. Always in our prayers and memories.
Sri P.R. MOHAN & FAMILY
(S/1920/D01037)

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE



SANJAY BHATNAGAR
20.10.1974 - 12.5.2003
Dear Sanju
Miss you every moment
Fond Birthday Remembrance
Chandrelka Bhatnagar & Family
(B/1920/D00120)

PUBLIC NOTICE Miyapur Scam!!!

It is observed that a lot of misinformation campaign is being carried out in print and social media including Wikipedia by certain mischievous elements of the society and the campaign is based out of unsubstantiated and unverified information although this information is available in the public domain including the public offices. My client Dr.P.S. Prasad states that this misinformation campaign is maliciously effecting his reputation and public image and therefore on the instructions of my client I am directed to bring the following facts to the notice of the public in general so that they know the correct information on the alleged 'Miyapur scam'.

The Police Department filed two First Information Reports. The two FIRs do not contain the name of my Client Dr.P.S. Prasad as an accused in any form. The Police Department subsequently filed the chargesheets dated 08/09/2017 and 09/01/2018 after completion of investigation in these FIRs in the court of IX Metropolitan Magistrate (now VIIIth Metropolitan Magistrate) Kukatpally. The above chargesheets filed in the court of law also do not mention the name of my client Dr.P.S. Prasad as an accused. In the absence of my client being named as an accused either in the FIR or the chargesheet, it is clear that my client is in no way connected to the alleged Miyapur Scam. The very aspect of calling it as a scam is nothing short of a concerted effort on the part of vested interest and mischievous elements to tarnish the reputation of my client which amounts to violation of fundamental rights granted to him in Part III of the Constitution of India. Therefore describing my client Dr.P.S. Prasad as an accused/ scamster/ kingpin is illegal, defamatory and highly objectionable.

The mischievous and misinformation campaign is being carried out by and at the instance of Mrs.Hameedunissa Begum and Mr.Moizuddin Khan who have no locus standi to have any interest in the lands in Miyapur. These two above named rumour mongers have been trying to harass and indulge in mud-slinging about my client as their purported claim of interest in other lands (CS 14/1958) around Hyderabad city has been successively rejected by all courts of law in the country including the Supreme Court of India. Having lost their claims in the court of law, these rumour mongers have been resorting to the easy route of spreading wrong and defamatory information through the vulnerable print and social media. Infact, the general public will be benefited to know that, Wikipedia issued a notice to these rumour mongers when they tried to use that platform for carrying out this misinformation campaign against my client. My client ofcourse is pursuing the different legal remedies available to him under the law, which includes a defamation case filed in the Court of Chief Metropolitan Magistrate New Delhi, Patiala House Complex (Case No: CC 32362/2016) and the same is pending adjudication. The public will also benefit and attempt to arrive at correct conclusions on knowing that Mr.Moizuddin Khan in CC No 400/2013 on the file of the IIIrd Additional CMM, Nampally, Hyderabad on completion of trial was declared by the court that "there is no legal or acceptable material put forth by the complainant (Moizuddin Khan) to believe him as the actual legal heir and son of Late Md.Ghousuddin Khan" (Sold sharer of CS 14/1958). This categorical finding by the court is significant because Md.Moizuddin Khan had been claiming interest in the land held by my client as son of Late Md.Ghousuddin Khan who was a party in proceedings taken up in Civil Suit No.14/1958 in the High court.

The title declaration about Miyapur lands is pending adjudication in Supreme Court in several Civil Appeals and Special Leave Petitions. Absence of the final declaration of title by the Supreme Court makes the matter relating to title as subjudice and in this regard a presumption about title by anybody is not legally valid. The High Court of Telangana in IA No 1 /2019 in WA NO of 331 & 332 of 2019 declared that the cancellation deeds dated 25-05-2017 (Cancellation executed by Tahsildhar, Serilingampally) were illegal and unjustified. The Supreme Court of India when approached by the state of Telangana in SLP No.11344 -11345 of 2019 refused to entertain the SLP and therefore confirmed the order of the High Court which declared the cancellation deed illegal and unjustified.

In view of all the above facts relating to Miyapur lands and the same being available in public domain, there is no iota of evidence or even a presumption which links my client Dr.P.S. Prasad to the so called alleged Miyapur scam. I am therefore directed to request the general public on one hand and caution the rumour mongers on the other hand to desist from indulging in any unsubstantiated or unverified campaign either in print or social media and attribute the alleged Miyapur scam to my client Dr.P.S. Prasad (Goldstone Prasad). My client will be forced to take recourse to the legal proceedings against all such persons including the publishers in print media and administrators of the social media entities in case of any false publication/ malicious propoganda without verifying the true facts either from government agencies or my client.

THIS IS FOR INFORMATION OF GENERAL PUBLIC

Sd/-
N M Krishnaiah,
Advocate

Fire at Malakpet auto showroom

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

Property worth lakhs of rupees was gutted in a fire on Saturday at a two-wheeler showroom in Malakpet.

About 50 bikes parked within its premises were damaged.

According to police, the fire broke out around 5 am at Aadi Hero Honda in Appaji Complex on the Malakpet Main Road near Saleem Nagar Colony.

On noticing smoke emanating from the showroom, locals informed the police who rushed to the spot. They then alerted the Disaster Response and Fire Services Department.

Three fire tenders from Malakpet and Gowliguda fire stations rushed to the spot.

The fire personnel brought the blaze under control by 9:30 am.

Fire personnel suspect the fire was due to a short circuit.

The showroom is part of a high-rise building which had ignored fire

While the fire personnel suspect the fire was due to a short circuit, the showroom, a part of a high-rise building which had ignored fire safety norms, had no NOC and the building owner was issued several notices

safety norms. The building had no NOC from DG Fire Services. It is learnt that several notices were issued to the building owner Srinivas.

He is also stated to be the owner of the showroom.

Educational institutions too were housed in the same building, which has a height of over 21 metres.

Malakpet station fire officer, Amarnath Goud, said they were assessing the damage.

Violation of fire safety norms was also being verified.

Toddler injured in explosion, safe

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

A 15-month-old girl suffered injuries on her leg near her house in Nacharam on Saturday when she accidentally stepped on a can, leading to an explosion. The girl was admitted to a hospital and is said to be stable.

According to Nacharam inspector M. Mahesh, Chaitra, daughter of Srisaillam, a resident of VST Colony, was playing at an open place behind her house when she stepped on a can filled with some chemicals.

The can exploded with a huge sound and the girl suffered bleeding injuries on the leg. Locals alerted the police

and the girl was shifted to a nearby hospital for treatment. She is said to be out of danger.

The inspector said, "Samples of the chemical were collected by Clues team and sent to Forensic Science Laboratories for analysis. A case has been registered and efforts are on to identify who dumped the chemical tin in the residential area."

IN LOVING MEMORY
I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Ps 23:6

INDURI ANANTHAMMA
DOB: 15.06.1952 DOD: 20.10.2017
W/o Induri Samuel
Pastorate Committee Member - CSI Wesley Church, MSR D
You are always in our hearts.
Inserted by: FAMILY MEMBERS
Ph: 9347242545
(CA-3050)

OBITUARY

SHAIENDRA KUMAR TIWARI
Retd. Assistant Manager, IOB
DOB: 6-11-1949
DOD: 18-10-2019
In Grief:
Tiwari Family, Ashok Nagar
Ph: 9849420975, 9000420975
(B/1920/D00119)

10th DAY CEREMONY

Smt NAKKA LALITHA JAGANNATH
W/o Late N.V. Jagannath, Advocate
DOB: 31.01.1941 DOD: 11.10.2019
10th Day Ceremony on October, 20th (Sunday) at Residence, 3-5-798, Flat No. 403, Prathima Residency, Opp. Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Hyderabad, Hyderabad.
Inserted by: FAMILY MEMBERS
Phone: 989566692 and 9391006928
(B/1920/D00118)

OBITUARY

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved father
Sri SALLANGULA LALAIHARU GARU
FOUNDER OF S.LALAIHARU & Co. LKP INFRA who left for his heavenly abode on 10.10.2019.
Vaikunta Samaradhana
will be held on Sunday, 20.10.2019 at 12:30pm
Sons-Daughter in laws, Daughters-Son in laws Grand Sons, Grand Daughters and Relatives
Cell : 9490192078, 9440616287
VENUE : PBR CONVENTION, Nagole to Bandlaguda Road, Nagole, Hyderabad.
(B/1920/D00117)

13th DAY CEREMONY

Smt. VANITA NAGESH
Passed away on 8 Oct. 2019
W/o. Nagesh Harmand
Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day. Unseen, unheard, but always near. So loved, so missed, so very dear
Epitomised by over 500 condoling students from different places and walks of life, articulating their heartfelt feeling of emotion and admiration for the impact on their minds.
Will miss her forever.....Family
9985402073, 9848006125, 9885183035, 9885322088
(B/1920/D00116)

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Fiscal woes

Union minister Prakash Javadekar says Slowdown seen world over, but India is fastest growing



The wrong policies and strategy of the Congress have destroyed the nation

— Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

BRIEF

Abhijit visits alma mater JNU

New Delhi: Nobel laureate Abhijit Banerjee visited his alma mater Jawaharlal Nehru University on Saturday. Banerjee, who completed his masters in Economics from the JNU in 1983, came in the campus early in the morning and later met vice-chancellor M. Jagadeesh Kumar, according to sources. However, there was no confirmation from administration officials. Couple Abhijit Banerjee and Esther Duflo jointly won the Nobel Economics Prize with Harvard's Michael Kremer "for their experimental approach to alleviating global poverty".

3 held for Kamlesh Tiwari's murder

Lucknow: Five people have been detained including three in Gujarat's Surat in connection with the murder of Kamlesh Tiwari, the president of a little-known Hindu outfit, with police saying on Saturday that the suspects were "radicalised" and appeared to have targeted him for his inflammatory remarks made in 2015. "So far, there is no terror angle associated with this incident," Uttar Pradesh director general of police DGP O.P. Singh said at a press conference here, a day after the Hindu Samaj Party chief was killed at his home in Lucknow's Khurshed Bagh.

Sapna Chaudhary embarrasses BJP

New Delhi: Popular Haryanvi singer Sapna Chaudhary, who joined the BJP recently, campaigned for rival candidate Gopal Kanda in Haryana Assembly elections, leaving her party red-faced. In a quick firefighting exercise, Delhi BJP chief Manoj Tiwari dissuaded her from campaigning for Kanda, the Haryana Lokhit Party candidate from Sirsa, BJP sources said. Kanda, a former minister, is an influential politician in Haryana. His name had figured in the case of suicide by a woman employee of his airlines company. The sources said Chaudhary informed party leaders that she was advised by her staff that she can campaign for Kanda as he "was an independent candidate". A video message of Chaudhary seeking support for Kanda in Haryana election went viral on social media, catching the attention of BJP leaders on Friday. There were also posters of Chaudhary in favour of Kanda, said a senior Delhi BJP leader.

ED RAIDS DHFL, DOCUMENTS SEIZED

DC CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI, OCT. 19

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Saturday raided multiple premises of Deewan Housing Finance Limited (DHFL) in Mumbai in connection with money laundering probe involving Mohammad Iqbal Memon alias Iqbal Mirchi, Dawood's late henchman, and Nationalist Congress Party leader Praful Patel.

The ED searched at least 14 premises of DHFL in Mumbai and other cities and seized several documents pertaining to the loan disbursement. The agency found that the loan was released in a period spanning to around nine years. The investigators dug further and it was subsequently revealed that a chunk of the money made its way to Dubai.

The officials are probing into the money trail of the DHFL money and its connection with Memon and the Dawood gang. A preliminary probe has revealed that DHFL had allegedly loaned ₹2,186cr to Mirchi, who laundered the money to Dubai.

Festive colours



Devotees of the shepherd community from Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh participate in Shri Vitthal Birdev annual yatra at Pattan Kodoli village in Kolhapur on Saturday. — PTI

Campaigning for Maha, Haryana concludes

DC CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI, OCT. 19

Campaigning for Maharashtra and Haryana Assembly polls ended on Saturday, with the Bharatiya Janata Party confident of retaining power in both states where it continued to play the nationalism card and accused the Opposition, in particular the Congress, of failing to honour its promise to abrogate Article 370.

It also repeatedly accused the Congress of "destroying the country" with wrong policies and strategy. Despite sluggish economic indicators and high rate of unemployment, the Opposition parties' campaign strategy failed to corner the BJP over these critical issues. In both the states, the Opposition camp remains divided, a repeat of the Lok Sabha elections. While abrogation of the contentious Article 370, implementation of the National Register for Citizens and attack on Pakistan were some of the



BJP supporters during a road show by Maharashtra Chief Minister and party candidate Devendra Fadnavis in Nagpur on Saturday. — PTI

high points in the BJP's leaders' campaign, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Congress' campaign lacked enthusiasm. Voting for Maharashtra's 288 Assembly seats and Haryana's 90 Assembly seats will be held on October 21 and the results will be declared on October 24. Along with these two states, bypolls will be held in 64 Lok Sabha seats —

Samastipur in Bihar and Satara in Maharashtra. While Modi addressed more than 16 rallies in both the states, Congress working president Sonia Gandhi did not campaign. Congress leader Rahul Gandhi held seven public meetings in both the states. Maharashtra's Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis addressed around 40 rallies, while Haryana's Manohar Lal Khattar addressed more than 30 rallies in their

respective states. While almost the entire BJP leadership, including party president Amit Shah and many Union ministers and senior leaders, addressed a number of public rallies in both states, the Congress leadership was busy resolving factionalism. In Maharashtra, where the BJP has strengthened its position in state politics as well as within the state alliance since 2014, the saffron party's manifesto promised five crore jobs in the next five years and houses for all by 2022. It also promised Bharat Ratna for Veer Savarkar, and social activists and social reformers Mahatma Jyotiba Phule and Savitribai Phule, that garnered the Opposition camp's attention. In Haryana, where the BJP formed its first government in 2014 and gave the Jat-dominated state its first non-Jat Chief Minister, its poll document emphasised on farmers, irrigation, MSP for crops and tested seeds of high-yielding variety, among other sops.

6 ARRESTED FOR STARVATION DEATHS OF COWS

RABINDRA NATH CHOUDHURY | DC
BHOPAL, OCT. 19

Six people were on Saturday arrested for locking up 17 cattle in a class room in a government school in Samudan under Dabra police station in Gwalior district, leading to their death due to starvation and suffocation.

"Six people, all local villagers, were arrested, while four others involved in the incident were still absconding," police said. The accused had confined the cattle in the class room and locked them to prevent them from invading their fields.

Pak likely to use more advanced drones: Intel

DC CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI, OCT. 19

In wake of Pakistan sending drones to drop weapons into India, fresh Intelligence inputs indicate that Pakistan is testing various advanced drones which can move at a high speed and carry much higher loads.

According to Intelligence inputs, Pakistan is likely to use more advanced drones in coming days for anti-India activities. "We have received reports that Pakistan is looking at various types of high speed drones and they have higher weight lifting capacity which means

they could be used to drop much higher number of weapons. Since these drones will be of high speed it may be difficult for BSF and police to shoot them down," said sources.

The drones which were recently used by Pakistan had dropped packages weighing upto 10 kgs. Also, separate Intelligence inputs said that Pakistan Aeronautical Complex's Aviation Design Institute is testing a high speed target drone with autonomous system.

Basically, these are drones used for target practice purposes. "This drone is intended to stimulate an enemy fighter

intruding into a friendly territory and will be used by AvDI units for target practice," said sources.

The manual control trial have been undertaken by AvDI and now they are preparing for autonomous tests, said sources. In September, there were reports that a large number of AK-47 assault rifles and grenades were dropped in Amritsar by drones that came from Pakistan.

These weapons were meant for terrorists who could use them to create trouble in Jammu and Kashmir, said reports. Some 8 'sorties' by these drones is reported to have taken place in September.

CHENNAI CONNECT SET TO FRUCTIFY

SRIDHAR KUMARASWAMI | DC
NEW DELHI, OCT. 19

It's the Mamallapuram Summit effect. After the culmination of the successful informal summit at Mamallapuram near Chennai last Sunday between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping, China now plans to push in greater investment into Tamil Nadu, is interested in a direct flight from Chennai to Beijing, and is also keen on greater inflow of Chinese tourists to the ancient Pallava dynasty-era architectural site.

Sources said Chinese ambassador Sun Weidong is interested in starting a direct flight from Beijing to Chennai and that this had already been conveyed to top functionaries of the Tamil Nadu government during the summit.

Having been overwhelmed by the warmth and hospitality shown to Xi Jinping and his 91-member-delegation during the summit, sources said China is now actively considering a massive push for investment in various sectors in the southern state that will generate more employment among people there.

"There is considerable interest generated among people in China about the ancient site at Mahabalipuram (also known as Mamallapuram). Following the successful summit, Chinese tourists are keen on visiting the ancient Shore Temple and other architectural sites there that their President has just visited.

Portuguese law on divorce struck down

Panaji, Oct. 19: The Goa bench of the Bombay High Court has struck down as unconstitutional Article 19 of the Portuguese law that gave legal sanctity to church tribunals in dealing with marriages and divorces of Catholics.

The division bench of Justices R.D. Dhanuka and Prithviraj Chavan, in their 95-page order this week, struck down Article 19 of Decree Number 35461 cancelling the marriages as unconstitutional and illegal. Article 19 of Decree Number 35461, passed in 1946 during Portuguese rule, allowed a decision of annulment of marriage taken by the Church Patriarchal Tribunal to be sent to court, which would then direct the

civil registration office to cancel the marriage registration.

Portuguese civil law states that spouses who enter into a canonical (according to canon law) marriage renounce the civil right of applying for divorce. Thus, civil courts in Goa could not grant divorce in case of a Catholic marriage.

The HC order was passed while hearing two separate petitions that challenged the order of ecclesiastical tribunals (those having jurisdiction in spiritual and religious matters). "Article 19 of Decree Number 35461 is declared as unconstitutional, illegal, null and void and ultra vires Articles 14 and 21 and is struck down," the order stated. — PTI

MEMORIAL SERVICE
"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith." II Timothy 4:7

I. PADMA DANIEL
D/o Late I. Danajah (Daniel)
(19th June 1935 – 18th Oct 2019)
Memorial Service: 20th Oct. 2019 at 7:30 pm, at Neil Methodist Church, Srinivasnagar, Hyderabad.
Inserted by: I. Andrew & Family Members
Daniel: 9849893039/Vinay: 9000808594
(S/1920/D01081)

OBITUARY

THEO PRAZER
DOB: 23.7.1958 DOD: 18.10.2019
Holy Mass at 9:00 a.m. on Monday 21/10/2019 at S.F.S. Church, Shantinagar, N. Lalaguda. Burial at Bhojigauda Cemetery.
Inserted by: Marie Prazer
Son: Richard Prazer
Daughter-in-law: Vanessa Prazer
Grand Daughter: Amelia Prazer
and Near & Dear
(S/1920/D01079)

OBITUARY
"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my race, I have kept the Faith." 2 Tim 4:7

NELAPATI WILLIAMS TEMPLE
DOB: 08-07-1966 – DOD: 18-10-2019
Funeral Service on 20-10-2019 at Narayanaaguda Cemetery between 2:00pm - 3:00pm
Contact : 8555859955, 7799888889

10th DAY CEREMONY

PUSTHEY NAND KUMAR
Passed away on 11th OCTOBER 2019
10th Day Ceremony Today 20th October 19
Lunch at 1:30PM at Dia Su Swagath
Banquets, Kachiguda.
Inserted by:
ARCHANA IAILUM, PUSTHEY FAMILY & IAILUM FAMILY
(S/1920/D01079)

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

GOLLAPALLI ANURADHA
D.O.B.: 20-10-1982 D.O.D.: 28-06-2013
It is difficult to come to terms with your absence. Everything around us reminds us of your Presence and We remain inconsolable forever
Inserted by: FAMILY MEMBERS

BIRTH DAY REMEMBRANCE
20th October

PRAVEEN KUMAR SURYA
(UMANG CERAMICS, Troop Bazaar, Hyd)
Left this World on 9th Nov 2015
"Who meant so much and loved by all, left behind a trail of precious memories we loved the sunshine in his smile and kindness in his Heart."
Inserted by: Pradeep Kumar Surya, Ganesh Surya, Uday & Geeta Doshi, Nelay & Umang Doshi
Ph: 9393332323
(CA-3050)

BIRTH DAY REMEMBRANCE
20th October

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Left this World on 9th Nov 2015
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Ph: 9393332323

"Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us everyday. Unseen, unheard but always near, still loved, still missed and very dear," as always."

2nd DEATH ANNIVERSARY

Mrs. INDURI ANANTHAMMA
DOB: 15-06-1952 DOD: 20-10-2017
Inserted by: FAMILY MEMBERS
(CA-3050)

5th ANNIVERSARY

Mr. PAVAN KUMAR
DOB: 31-03-1980 DOD: 15-10-2014
In Ever Loving Memory of Our Brother
M. Kailash Rao & Family
Ph: 9959362846, 8106692838

REMEMBRANCE
20-10-2019

C. SNEHALATHA BHOOPAL
27-01-1928 TO 19-10-2016
D/o. Bollampalli Ranga Reddy,
W/o. Late C. Sreeram Bhoopal
Samasthan Sirapalli,
Daughter: P. Anuradha Reddy

8th DEATH ANNIVERSARY

MASHAM DEVENDER RAO
D.O.D: 20.10.2011
We miss you every movement of our lives.
Inserted by: Family Members.
(S/1920/D01077)

15th DEATH ANNIVERSARY

SUNDER V TOLANI
DOD: 20-10-2004
Those we love don't go away. They walk besides us everyday. Unseen unheard but always near. Still loved, still missed you dear.
Inserted by:
TOLANI FAMILY

PEACE | MATTERS ■ India, Russia and China likely to meet this month end

RIC to discuss Afghan affairs

SRIDHAR KUMARASWAMI | DC
NEW DELHI, OCT. 19

Russia, India and China (RIC) are likely to hold important consultations on Afghanistan in New Delhi at the end of this month or early next month, sources have told this newspaper.

to represent India, sources said. Luo, incidentally, had served earlier as Chinese ambassador to India and had also visited India during the second informal summit earlier this month between Chinese President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

■ The meeting of the three countries will take place in the wake of the recent collapse of the talks between the United States and the Taliban.

The RIC is a trilateral forum comprising the three countries. All the three RIC countries will deliberate on

the situation in the strife-torn country and how to arrive at a peaceful solution to the problem there. The meeting will take place in the wake of the

recent collapse of the talks between the United States and the Taliban and also amid speculation that the two sides may be once again heading towards resuming the talks process formally.

India has carried out several important development works in Afghanistan which has earned it tremendous goodwill among the Afghan people. India is also strongly backing the Afghan gov-

ernment and wants any solution there to be Afghan-owned, Afghan-led and Afghan-controlled. The Afghan government too has made it clear that it will not allow certain "red lines" to be breached in the pursuit of peace in the war-torn country, one of them being the hard-fought improved status of women and representation given to them in the country's polity.



Concedes defeat

Canadian PM Justin Trudeau said he was fighting for every vote and conceded his rival Andrew could win

Kurds violated ceasefire

Turkey alleges breach of agreement; McConnell slams Trump's move

Istanbul, Oct. 19: Turkey on Saturday accused Kurdish forces of violating an agreement to suspend its Syria offensive if they withdraw from a "safe zone" along the border. "The Turkish armed forces fully abide by the agreement reached on Thursday with the United States," the defence ministry said in a statement. "Despite this, terrorists carried out a total of 14 attacks in the last 36 hours." The ministry said 12 of the attacks came from the border town of Ras al-Ain in northeastern Syria, one from Tal Abyad and another from Tal Tammr region, adding that various light and heavy weaponry including rockets were used. Turkey had agreed to suspend its Syria offensive for five days but President Recep Tayyip Erdogan warned he would resume a full-scale operation against Kurdish forces if they did not withdraw from a border safe zone. "If the promises are kept until Tuesday evening, the safe zone issue will be resolved. If it fails, the operation will start the minute 120 hours are over," Erdogan said. But he added the agreement was holding and that there had been no issues so far. The defence ministry said "for the agreement to hold soundly and to keep the calm with exception of self-defence", Turkey was coordinating with the US.



A Syrian girl displaced by the Turkish military operation in northeastern Syria, is seen weeping. — AP

ists on the Turkish side of the border. US Senate majority leader Mitch McConnell attacked President Donald Trump's decision to pull troops from Syria as "a strategic nightmare" that will help Washington's foes and hurt its allies. "Withdrawing US forces from Syria is a grave strategic mistake," McConnell, the top Republican in Congress, stated. "It will leave the American people and homeland less safe, embolden our enemies, and weaken important alliances." His comments come after Trump defended his decision to pull US troops out.



There is good will on both sides & a really good chance for success

— Donald Trump US President on Turkey

Siberia illegal dam collapse kills 15

Moscow: Fifteen people were killed and another 13 missing after an illegally built dam collapsed at a gold mine in a remote Siberian settlement, on Saturday, in the latest deadly accident to hit Russia. The dam on the Seiba River in the Siberian region of Krasnoyarsk burst and flooded several cabins where the victims lived, Russian authorities said. Muddy flood waters hit the cabins near the village of Shchetinkino at around 6 am as the workers were resting. About 300 people, six helicopters and six boats were involved in a search and rescue mission.

Democrats: No G7 at Trump resort

Washington: Furious that US President Donald Trump was hosting the next G7 summit at his own golf resort in Florida, congressional Democrats introduced legislation to block his plan. Lawmakers said, "Trump's Heist Undermines the G-7 Act" would cut off all federal funding for the move to have leaders of world's seven largest economies gather at the Trump National Golf Club in Miami. The Bill would also require the White House to turn over all relevant documents that show how administration officials decided on Doral. The measure could pass the Democratic-controlled House of Representatives as a rebuke to Trump.

Sri Lanka out of FATF's Grey List

Colombo: Sri Lanka has been removed from the "Grey List" of the international terror financing watchdog FATF, according to a media report. The island nation will no longer be subject to the Financial Action Task Force's monitoring under its on-going global anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism (AML/CFT) compliance process. The FATF, whose five-day plenary concluded in Paris said Sri Lanka made significant progress in addressing the strategic AML/CFT deficiencies identified earlier, the daily said. In October 2016, the FATF announced that Sri Lanka will be subjected to a review of the International Cooperation Review Group (ICRG) of the terror financing watchdog to assess the progress of AML/CFT effectiveness in the country. The Paris based organisation indicated Sri Lanka had not made sufficient progress in four parameters.

Pay for WhatsApp calls



Riot police stand guard as anti-government protesters try to remove a barbed-wire barrier to advance towards the government buildings during a protest in Beirut, Lebanon on Saturday. The blaze of protests was unleashed a day earlier when the government announced a slate of new proposed taxes, including a \$6 monthly fee for using Whatsapp voice calls. — AP

Google drone deliveries begin in Virginia town

Virginia, Oct. 19: A Google affiliate started using drones on Saturday to deliver customers' Walgreens and FedEx purchases in a test being run in a Virginia town. Wing, which is owned by Google parent Alphabet, received federal approval earlier this year to make commercial deliveries by drone. It was the first drone company to receive the approval in the US, beating Amazon's Prime Air, which revealed its drone plans in 2013. Earlier this month, UPS also got approval from the Federal Aviation Administration to fly delivery drones. The company has been running delivery tests with WakeMed's hospital campus in Raleigh, North Carolina. Wing partnered with Walgreens, FedEx and local gift shop Sugar Magnolia to perform the tests in Christiansburg, Virginia. Walgreens customers in the town will be able to order from a list of more than 100 items and get them delivered to their doors by drones. The first Walgreens drone delivery customers ordered cough and cold medicine. A Wing drone also delivered a FedEx package from Dick's Sporting Goods to another family in town. Susie Sensmeier received a purple winter vest she ordered from Dick's Sporting Goods delivered by a drone to her front yard. The 81-year-old said she never thought she'd see something like it. "I didn't think I would live that long or it wouldn't come in my lifetime, I'm thrilled," she said. The drones will start with a flying radius of about 4 miles from Wing's distribution facility in Christiansburg. The drones are capable of flying a 12-mile round trip, and Wing expects to widen its radius eventually, though it did not give a timeline for expansion. Wing has already launched tests in Canberra and Logan City, Australia, and Helsinki. But Friday's flights mark its first live commercial deliveries in the US since receiving the air carrier certification from the FAA. Wing CEO James Ryan Burgess noted the speed with which drones can make deliveries — sometimes within minutes of ordering — and the environmental benefit of having fewer delivery trucks on roads. "We're looking at trends in cities including environmental sustainability," he said. "We're looking at trends in cities including congestion and environmental sustainability," he said. "We see drone deliveries as a key part of solutions to these."

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Hillary, Tulsi in war of words

Manchester: It's Hillary Clinton Vs. Tulsi Gabbard on the sidelines of the 2020 presidential race. The Hawaii congresswoman fought back unsparingly after Clinton appeared to call her "the favourite of the Russians" saying she believes the Russians have "got their eye on somebody who's currently in the Democratic primary and are grooming her to be the third-party candidate." Clinton, the former senator, US secretary of state and 2016 Democratic presidential candidate, did not name Gabbard directly. In a series of tweets, Gabbard called Clinton the "personification of the rot that has sickened the Democratic Party for so long." Gabbard also alleged there has been a "concerted campaign" to destroy her reputation since she announced her presidential run in January. "It's now clear that this primary is between you and me," Gabbard tweeted about Hillary Clinton. "Don't cowardly hide behind your proxies. Join the race directly." There is lingering trepidation in the Democratic Party of a repeat of the 2016 presidential race, when Russia interfered in the US election in an effort to help Donald Trump defeat Clinton. US intelligence agencies has warned Russia would meddle in the 2020 presidential election, as well. Russian President Vladimir Putin has mocked that possibility, joking earlier this month that Moscow would "definitely intervene" again. — AP



Hillary Clinton

CENTRAL RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE

OPEN TENDER NOTICE No: DRMNWP-77/2019 OF 18.10.2019 Sr. No.1: Emergency water supply arrangement for 2019 - 20 - supply of potable drinking water for Railway station, colony, Running Room by private agency at Majari Jn. @ 60000 LPD for the period 01 year under ADEN-WRR Sub-Division. (i) Approximate cost: Rs. 14100.00 Sr. No.2: Proposed maintenance of track on bridges by fixing alignment retainers and topnuts on girder bridges with channel sleepers under the jurisdiction of Sr. DEN (S) Nagpur. (i) Approximate cost: Rs. 15734156.47 (ii) Earnest Money: Rs. 228700.00, Sr. No.3: Proposed welding of rail joints of 52 kg/60kg, 90 UTS rails using 75, gap AT welds at various location in Nagpur division. (labour portion) (Quantity -1300 Nos.) (i) Approximate cost: Rs. 3188263.00 (ii) Earnest Money: Rs. 63800.00. Date & time of closing of tender: 08.11.2019 at 15.00 hrs. Complete details and instructions for e-tendering and on line participation for the above work is available on Railway's website www.ireps.gov.in

Table with 3 columns: Description, QTY, T.O.D. Items include Block hanger, UIC type elastomer flange, Kit for bulb cotter, Winding wire for 3-phase, 16" brake unit with EP bracket, Spin on fuel filter, POL-Elastomer lower washer, Brake Beam without bush, Pair of brake pad holder, Regulated lead acid batten, 110V AC 450mm sweep, Transformer Oil, Battery Ni-Cd.

Table with 6 columns: Name of the Unit, Line of Production & Capacity, Brief description of assets, Uptotal price (Rs. in lakh), EMD (Rs. in lakh), Date of inspection 11AM to 4PM, Last date for submission of Tenders / Negotiations. Includes M/s. SLT Power & Infrastructure Projects (P) Limited.

TELANGANA STATE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED (A State Government Undertaking) Regd Office: 5-9-58/B, 1st Floor, Parisrama Bhavanam, Basheerbagh, Hyderabad - 500 004. Includes tender details for construction of SINGHARI DIVERSION HEAD WORK.

SUDOKU puzzles and solutions. Includes 'WHAT TO DO' instructions and 'YESTERDAY'S ANSWER' grids.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY MATERIALS MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT TENDERS TENDER NOTICE No. 01/2019 Dated 15-10-2019. Includes tender details for supply and fabrication of Mild Steel Plate.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY Central Workshops, Ponnmalai, Trichy - 620 004. MATERIALS MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT E-Tender Notice for the supply of Stores - No.GOC/Stores/E/16/2019.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY Central Workshops, Ponnmalai, Trichy - 620 004. MATERIALS MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT E-Tender Notice for the supply of Stores - No.GOC/Stores/E/14/2019.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY Central Workshops, Ponnmalai, Trichy - 620 004. MATERIALS MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT E-Tender Notice for the supply of Stores - No.GOC/Stores/E/15/2019.

The power of a theory is exactly proportional to the diversity of situations it can explain

It's never too late — never too late to start over, never too late to be happy



Ashley Tellis

Off the beaten track

Reading a waste of time, meet the real RCT hero

Dear Abhijit,

I write to you as a new fan. I have to confess that I was really annoyed when I heard that you won the Nobel. To begin with, you went to JNU, a University I have been trying to destroy for six years now. Then you were Bengali and I thought you were another Amartya Sen, as if one of him was not enough. Third, I was told you write about poverty and I am so done with poverty. I am, as you know about the new India, the shining India where we are getting rid of the poor. Literally. Why can't you economists write about my friends Ambani and Adani and how well they are doing?

But then I asked my IT cell to look you up and start trolling you as we do with anyone on the Left, or in the Centre, or on the Right that is not us, and they kept coming back with material that confused them and me.

You wrote a piece about the RSS being sophisticated. Thank you, Sirji, and for having RSS friends. I want to be your new RSS friend. You called us intellectuals and you are right about my being intellectually voracious, though, Sir, your analogy between us and the Communists was off the mark. We are way better and more successful. Sirji, you are wrong to hang out with stupid people like Ram Guha. Reading books get you nowhere. I did not get where I am by reading books. Thank you for recognising that I appeal only to the highest sentiment. If you think I am surrounded by fools, you come and join me sir. I need advisors like you.

You gave an interview in which you said you are anti-reservation, that we need to focus on the private sector, that government employees are overpaid and farmers pampered and you are so right. Though I did not like your point about legalising campaign funds during elections at all.

You wrote a piece trying to understand why poor Indian men are horny and rape women. That was a truly *saras* piece, *bhai*, though I did not appreciate your trying to understand my arch-rival Mamata Banerjee. That stupid woman does not understand how close she is to me and my positions on everything though, between you and me, she is the only woman I know who truly understands fascism and implements it well. But, your point in the article that all these upper caste upper class people showing affection in public produces rape is so true. I have also felt this desire. Women should be equally accessible to all. Please come and join my *Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao* scheme as advisor. We need feminists like you not like Kavita Krishnan or Neha Dixit. You understand rape like neither of them ever will.



Technically, I should be getting the Nobel for Economics but *khair*, *yaar*, you got it. Now put in a word for me with the Committee to which you will now have insider access... See you soon, and oh, congratulations, *bhai!* Though I think I deserve that award. I have been doing this shit way before you even went to Presidency College.

But, most importantly, you work sounds so random, it's beautiful. Randomised Controlled Trials (RCTs) sounds so cool and so much better than RTIs. I am not sure I fully understand what they mean but my Economics team (which I share with Ambani and Adani) has been giving me some examples. So, (1) an RCT where one of the "treatment groups" is incentivised to pay bribes for a driving licence, even though they may not have the requisite driving skills (one of the co-authors is one of the three co-founders of J-PAL) (2) a more recent one where one of the treatment groups (a random sample of agricultural labourers in Orissa) is offered real work at a wage below the local market wage (forget about the minimum wage), some in private and some in public, to see whether they are more likely to accept the low-wage offer (i.e. break worker solidarity) when the offer is made in private. *Yaar*, these are such good ideas but I have to tell you that I have been an RCT *maahir* for some time now. Meet me sometime and I will share with you my bank of RCTs.

Technically, I should be getting the Nobel for Economics but *khair*, *yaar*, you got it. Now put in a word for me with the Committee to which you will now have insider access.

Chal, majho bhai, I keep coming to America to meet my friend Trump (you will love him and you are unfair in your comparing him to me — he is a walking, talking RCT, *bhai!*).

See you soon, and oh, congratulations, *bhai!* Though I think I deserve that award. I have been doing this shit way before you even went to Presidency College.

Much love
Voldemort

Tellis is an academic, a journalist, an editor and a writer on LGBT and other minority issues

Editor's Note — On Sundays the *Deccan Chronicle* will no longer carry its two edits. Instead, we will carry a regular feature by selected contributors. This will relate to issues of the day, or just slices of life. Hope it enriches your Sunday reading experience.

As banks collapse, a star is careworn

The ongoing troubles in Punjab & Sind Bank (PSB) and in Punjab and Maharashtra Co-operative Bank (PMC) has rattled some top Bollywood actors and filmmakers. An A-lister family reportedly had a credit facility with PSB. The family having four actors at home, is now finding its financial activities severely curtailed. It means that they will have to go ahead and put in own money in the couple of projects that are in the pipeline. The megastar's wife is reluctant to do.

If Lutyens' lawns grew turncoats...

A Lok Sabha MP from South India has found a solution to stop the exodus of leaders from Congress. He recently, suggested to former Congress president Rahul Gandhi that all the newly elected MPs should be asked to take accommodation only in New Delhi's Vithalbhai

A suite solution to Cong's exodus woes?

Patel House where suites are allotted to the parliamentarians instead of Lutyens' bungalows. He said that the Lutyens' bungalows with its expansive lawns and elite tag is the reason for all Congress miseries. To retain these bungalows alone, the MPs join BJP. To keep the current lot of 54 intact it is essential that they are not given taste of these luxuries he said. Mr Gandhi only had a hearty laugh in response to the suggestion.

No smooth sailing for Rahul's men

Team Rahul Gandhi is struggling to survive in Sonia Gandhi Congress. Take the case of Sachin Rao, a special invitee to the coveted Congress Working Committee. Rao also heads the party's training department. But of late, funding to



By WAQYANAWIS

training activities is not as smooth as Rao would have liked. 24, Akbar Road insiders attribute this to some past instances when Rao, as key Rahul aide had an upper hand of sorts. Rao recently came up with a

proposal to create "prerak" (inspirational figure). The old guard was quick to rubbish it on two counts.. first it reeked of copying RSS system of Pracharak. At a more sinister level, an AICC functionary pointed out that when D.P. Roy was heading AICC's training department he had mooted the idea of having "motivators".

Verdict loses import after bombshell by Board

There is considerable interest in political and legal circles over the Uttar Pradesh Sunni Waqf Board's move to look for an out-of-court settlement when arguments in the vexed Babri Masjid Ramjanmabhoomi case in the Supreme Court were virtually over. Those in the know said while its futile to speculate over the verdict, the Sunni Waqf

Board's formulation could play a role once the final judgment is pronounced. Among other things, it was for the first time when a Muslim body, which is also a litigant in the case, has talked about shifting the erstwhile mosque.

Is Devendra Fadnavis' return inevitable?

Prospects of Devendra Fadnavis returning to power are bright. Fadnavis has already equalled the record of Vasant Naik of completing five years in office... a distinction that only two out of 17 chief ministers of Maharashtra managed to achieve since the creation of the state in 1960. Some pollsters and tv news channels were so sure of poll outcome of Maharashtra and Haryana state Assembly polls that they did not opt for opinion polls.

The writer is a keen observer of the goings-on in backrooms of power

Subhani



In Ayodhya, time to give peace a chance



Pavan K. Varma

Chanakya's View

The demolition of the Babri Masjid on December 6, 1992, was a blot on our Republic. The time has come to move on, and put communal tensions with regard to the building of a Ram temple in Ayodhya at the disputed spot, to an end. The Supreme Court (SC) has concluded its hearings to decide the title suit, and its judgment is expected on November 17. Meanwhile, some new initiatives, outside the judicial process, have come to the fore, which need to be given due attention by all parties.

A well-respected member of the Muslim community, lieutenant general (retired) and former vice-chancellor of the Aligarh Muslim University, Zameer Uddin Shah, has proposed that Muslims must hand over the disputed land in Ayodhya to Hindus. This would be not only a seminal goodwill gesture but will go a long way in ensuring future communal harmony. He was speaking at a function organised by the "Indian Muslims for Peace", which consists of several eminent Muslim citizens.

In parallel, an important statement was reportedly issued by the Lucknow-based Uttar Pradesh Sunni Central Waqf Board. The Board said that it was ready to give up its claim on the land on which the Babri Masjid once stood. This proposal was made as part of the SC-appointed mediation process. There are three parties to this process - the

Nirmohi Akhara, Ram Lalla and Ram Janmasthan represented by activists associated with the Sangh Parivar, and the Sunni Waqf Board.

Under the proposed settlement, the Sunni Waqf Board will give up its claim to the land in favour of a Ram temple in Ayodhya at the spot where the Babri Masjid stood. In return, the Waqf Board has sought the following conditions to be met: rebuilding the Babri Masjid at another place; strengthening the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, which stipulates that the religious character of a place of worship shall continue to be maintained as the status it enjoyed on August 15, 1947; allowing namaz in historical mosques under the Archaeological Survey of India; rebuilding mosques in Ayodhya town by the Union government; and, establishing an institution for social harmony based in Ayodhya.

Both Gen Zameer Uddin's statement and the reported proposal of the Sunni Waqf Board are exceptionally significant initiatives. The reason for this is simple. The judicial process, in which the SC is to pronounce its judgment on the title suit, is important, but it has its inherent limitations. Even if the court were to pronounce a decision in favour of the Hindu groups, hardcore Muslim opinion will find reasons not to put a closure to the dispute. And, if the court rules in

favour of the Muslim groups, hardcore Hindu groups will do their best to prevent a mosque from being constructed there. In such a situation, the best solution would be a mutually accepted modus vivendi under the SC-appointed mediation process.

There are still major hurdles. None of the other Muslim parties, save the Sunni Waqf Board, are a part of this initiative. Nor is the hardline Vishwa Hindu Parishad-controlled Ram Janmabhoomi Nyas. The challenge is to make them accept the logic of a mutually acceptable solution, and become a part of this reconciliation process.

The greatest fear among Muslims is that a goodwill gesture on their part in the case of the Ram temple in Ayodhya will not put a closure to other disputes of a similar nature elsewhere. Public memory will still recall that after the demolition of the Babri Masjid, bigots had come with this slogan: "Ayodhya tau bas jhanki hai, Kashi Mathura baki hai: Ayodhya is just the trailer, Kashi and Mathura are still left." What if, even after a generous gesture by the Muslims, ultra-right Hindus say that the Jama Masjid in Delhi was built over the ruins of a temple and hence should be demolished? Sakshi Maharaj, the BJP MP, has already publicly made such a claim. That

If the Muslims are willing to make a grand gesture of voluntarily allowing for the building of a Ram temple in Ayodhya at the disputed spot, Hindus must reciprocate, and put a closure on all similar disputes in the future

is why the specific proposal in the Sunni Waqf Board's settlement plan, that the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act of 1991 should be strengthened, acquires pivotal salience. The law seeks to prevent the Ramjanmabhoomi movement from acting as a precedent for other mosques in India. Section 3 of the Act puts a bar on conversion of places of worship. "No person shall convert any place of worship of any religious denomination or any section thereof into a place of worship of a different section of the same religious denomination or a different religion or any section thereof."

The law exists, and can be further strengthened, but what needs to change is sentiment. If the Muslims are willing to make a grand gesture of voluntarily allowing for the building of a Ram temple in Ayodhya at the disputed spot, Hindus must reciprocate, and put a closure on all similar disputes in the future relating to other existing mosques. It is only in such an atmosphere of enlightened give-and-take can genuine reconciliation take place. In my opinion, a mediated settlement on this basis would be a far better outcome than a judicial verdict, however important, pertaining only to title. But, for this to happen, hardlines on both sides of the Hindu-Muslim divide would have to be kept in check. A great opportunity is before us to open a new era of communal harmony that puts behind decades of sterile acrimony and hostility. The citizens of India — Hindu and Muslim — should seize it.

The writer, an author and former diplomat, is a member of JD(U). The views expressed here are personal.

LETTERS

KALKI STASH

It is no surprise stash was found at various premises belonging to so-called Kalki Bhagwan. We know of a bhagwan in Haryana whose huge ashram with thousands of followers was evacuated using police and military. Weapons, drugs etc., were also seized. It is all the fault of the public who believe in such looters. There are people in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana state who worship Kalki Bhagwan with an idol installed in the homes.

U.N. Murthy
Secunderabad

BREAK DEADLOCK

TSRTC employees have been continuing the strike into the third week with the government not showing any serious concern or taking steps to resolve the issues being raised by the striking employees. The common man is being put to hardship (HC orders RTC bosses to begin talks with staff, Oct 19). Public transport system comes under essential services and whenever such services are paralysed and when there is a deadlock and conflicting parties are not coming to terms, the High Court is constitutionally duty bound to intervene to call both the government representative and union leaders to the negotiating table and break the deadlock immediately. The conflicting parties have no right to make the common men suffer.

M. Jeevanand
Secunderabad

The strike by TSRTC workers is inhuman. There are millions of unemployed youth. The government should terminate these employees and appoint young people. The drivers and conductors do not deserve any reconciliation because their daily output is less than their wages: They do not stop the buses at stops; they use mobile phones while on duty; they talk in foul language with passengers. These thugs do not require government service.

John Lukose
Hyderabad

Rather than RTC bosses talking to the sacked employees, the political establishment must make a beeline to the unions so as to placate the disgruntled employees. RTC has become a cornerstone of transport and more often than not the employees are highly professional. Hence it is in the best interests of the state that not the bosses but political establishment take time out to reconcile the workers.

D. Jayant Ratna
Hyderabad

ECONOMIC GLOOM

Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman's recent comments that the regime of Manmohan Singh and Raghuram Rajan was responsible for the current state of the public sector banks, make sense. However, the need of the hour is not mudslinging by the ruling and opposition parties on the past but how the current administration should focus on revitalising the gloomy economy scenario. The current government has not been successful in taking any corrective measures to bring the economy back on growth trajectory.

Surya Prasad Nadiminti
Medchal

Every Monday the best letter of the week wins ₹300. Email your letters to info@deccanmail.com, editor@deccanmail.com, or fax them to 27805256. You can also send them to Editor, Deccan Chronicle, 36, Sarojini Devi Road, Secunderabad-500 003.

50 YEARS AGO IN

DECCAN Chronicle

Nationalised banks to give farm loans

By a staff reporter

HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

Farm credit by all the nationalised banks by the end of 1971 is expected to be of the magnitude of Rs 500 crores benefiting over 15 lakh farmers in the country. Mr. R. K. Talwar, Chairman, State Bank of India, addressing a news conference here today said that of the target set, the contribution by his bank and its subsidiaries would be Rs 200 crores covering five lakh farmers. He said that his bank alone had 59,300 direct farm accounts.

MUSLIMS ON KASHMIR: STIFLED BY CHOICE?

Even as Kashmiri traders and students talk of 'change of heart' among ordinary Indian Muslims, thanks to the fear of being left out of the NRC or being called 'anti-national', by and large the reaction of Muslims to the Kashmir issue has been subdued.

Lockdown of the mind

KANIZA GARARI | DC
& SYED INAM UR RAHMAN GHAYUR

If Hyderabad goes, all is lost. The Governor of Bombay sent this telegram to the Governor General in Calcutta when India's first war of independence was taking shape. Hyderabad's capacity to shape history was tremendous then.

Tragically, Hyderabad has not lived up to its potential. The politically-strong Muslim citizenry shows a collective indifference about India's only Muslim-majority state. The turmoil in Kashmir has been greeted with a deafening silence. No protest call. No calls for marches or night vigils. Religious bodies too, with the exception of Jamaat-e-Islami-e-Hind, which made token noise all over India did little by way of protest against the suppression of Kashmiris' civil liberties.

Ironically, the Kashmiri pain is something Hyderabadis can relate to, having felt something similar during the 1948 Police Action, says Aijaz Farruq, retired Air Force officer and religious scholar. He visited Kashmir in September and found the pain palpable.

The reason for the silence is fear. Fear of being left out of the National Register of Citizens (NRC), and fear of being called 'anti-national'. Dr. Khaled Mubashshir uz Zafar of Jamaat-e-Islami rues the subdued show of solidarity but talks of the fear of a backlash.

Hyderabad's expression is in lockdown, within the four walls of home. Not one forum or discussion on Kashmir in an otherwise vibrant Hyderabad, whose history speaks of how they have stood up for religious brethren — the last occasion being the Kashmir floods, when Hyderabad contributed liberally for relief. It especially gnaws at the section of society whose gatherings passionately discuss human rights violations in Kashmir.

It's easier for non-Muslims to be vocal, says Mohammed Shafiq uz Zaman, advocate, but even the well-placed, like the 49 intellectuals hit by a sedition charge, are made to pay. This is also a dampener for the ordinary Muslim.

The thought of Kashmiris being caged for 76 days was bothersome, said Zafar Javeed, honorary secretary of Sultan-ul-uloom Education Society. Kashmiris' food, medicine and livelihood are at stake; yet the government talks merely of restoring post-paid mobile connections.

Mujtaba Askari of Helping Hand



Foundation said: "On one side there is daily government propaganda stating life is normal. On the other the international media is talking of all that is wrong there. The information vacuum is also why people are not as vocal as usual."

Non-government organisations (NGOs) trying to establish contact want to do it with non-religious groups, for fear of losing the focus on human rights. Any platform is all-Muslim is vulnerable to being branded anti-national.

The threat of NRC has kept NGOs busy ensuring citizens have proper documentation. "This was the priority," Askari said.

"The fear of NRC is high in Telangana. Rumours circulate time and again of people to be removed from the list."

Ali Quadri, an active member of a coalition of religious bodies visited Kashmir to study the ground situation. Some in the Shia community also made a spot assessment. But overall, it's been a no-show.

HYDERABAD

Apprehension related to the NRC exercise in Assam was also reason for Muslim society to be on tenterhooks without much time left for an issue that smouldered for over seven decades... It is painful to recall that we did not register our protest well, after the destruction of Babri Masjid. Or more recently, the new law on Triple Talaq. And now, on the curbs on civil liberties in Kashmir.

— SYED INAM UR RAHMAN GHAYUR

Uttar Pradesh and Kashmir: Not much love lost between the two

For the first time since J&K joined India in October 1947, the plight of Kashmiris braving a lockdown and communication blockade became a talking point among UP's Muslims. This was because of WhatsApp messages, Facebook and Twitter. Mosques and individuals pooled money for rent and other expenses of Kashmiri students in Lucknow, Allahabad, Aligarh, etc. In some cases, Muslim landlords waived rent or agreed to a deferred payment.

A common faith had not bridged the gap between the Valley's Muslims and the rest of India, partially because Kashmiri Muslims' sense of superiority deriving from their ancestry and skintone. Islamic religious orders and seminaries such as Deoband and Bareilly have a negligible presence in Kashmir. The Jamat-e-Islami is a separate entity in Kashmir, known for separatism, different from the Jamat-e-Islami (Hind). The

Jamat-e-Ulema (Hind), the body of Islamic clergy that supported the Narendra Modi government's decision to revoke autonomy, seldom gets invited to Srinagar, Baramulla or other parts of J&K. Maulana Mahmood Madani, general secretary of

JuH, insists that Kashmir is "an integral part of India" and consistently condemns Kashmiri separatists.

Marriages between Muslims from UP and Kashmir are rare. In an instance, a Kashmiri groom in Aligarh found the ritual of *bari* (displaying bridal clothes, jewellery and gifts), with the ladies making caustic remarks. He could not fathom why the girl's relatives were trying so hard to please him and the wedding party, at the expense of their own self-respect. A Lucknow boy who

married a Kashmiri girl found his relatives lost when their hosts in Srinagar spoke in chaste Kashmiri. Occasionally they were asked: *Aap Hindustan se aaye hain?* Politically too, the distance between Srinagar and Lucknow is much more than 1,359 kilometres.

Whenever towns like Meerut, Aligarh and Muzaffarnagar saw communal disturbances, Kashmiri politicians remained silent.

When Kashmiri mainstream politician M u f t i M o h a m m a d Sayeed won from Muzaffarnagar in 1989 and became Union home minister, he did not visit western UP. Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah was close friends with Jawaharlal Nehru but seldom took up the cause of Indian Muslims in the promotion of Urdu, minority

status for Aligarh Muslim University, jobs and reservation etc.

Kashmir has a tehsil named after Rafi Ahmad Kidwai, a great son of UP hailing from Barabanki. Rafiabad in Baramulla was originally Hamal and renamed by Bakshi Ghulam Mohammed in the early '60s. It wasn't a popular decision because Kidwai was Nehru's point man when Sheikh Abdullah was toppled and arrested in October 1953. Rafi was a hardliner who believed any concession to Kashmiris would undermine Muslims outside J&K.

There's an anonymous Persian distich: *Agar kahat ul rijal uftad, azehan uns kamgiri yake afghan, doym kamboh, soym badzaat kashmiri* (though there is no death of men in the world, never cultivate acquaintance with the Afghan, the Kamboh and the Badzaat Kashmiri). It perhaps explains the mutual distrust between mainland Muslims and Kashmiris.

NORTH

WHENEVER TOWNS LIKE MEERUT SAW COMMUNAL DISTURBANCES, KASHMIRI POLITICIANS REMAINED SILENT.

KASHMIR

injuries'. They were forced to beat a retreat.

Kashmiri Muslims acknowledge the constraints on Indian Muslim leaders and that in the current political environs the latter have to watch their statements and actions, particularly on Kashmir. They can't afford to go against the tide. They also realize that Indian Muslims are as responsible Indians as any other and, therefore, should not be expected to deviate from the national position on Kashmir.

Notwithstanding, reports from various parts suggest that a majority of common Indian Muslims feel concerned and has sought to reach out. Kashmiri traders and students corroborate the 'change of heart' among ordinary Indian Muslims.

I too had firsthand experience of this.

During a recent visit to Delhi, I was told that the local mosque's Imam unfailingly prays for the wellbeing of Kashmiri Muslims at Friday congregations. I decided to offer Friday namaz at the mosque. After his sermon, the cleric expressively prayed for the restoration of peace in Kashmir and safety of its people.

He repeated the dua after namaz. After prayers, several locals told me they were worried. "Our heart goes out to you," Muhammad Mohsin said. "The happenings unfolding in Kashmir trouble us. We're worried about you. May Allah be with you."

The reticence of Muslims on Kashmir

SHAHAB ANSARI | DC

In Mumbai, Muslims have protested against Israeli aggression in Palestine and the ethnic cleansing of Rohingyas in Myanmar. But on the revocation of Kashmir's autonomy and the subsequent communications clampdown, protests have been few and far between.

Members say that though there are no mass movements or street protests, and not much on social media, Kashmir is discussed privately. Mumbai's Muslims are concerned, they say, but are not open about it as on other issues.

The community expresses solidarity by sharing news, even unauthenticated ones, via WhatsApp.

Prominent Muslims attribute this to differences of opinion and to some extent, the fear of being branded anti-national.

Muslim patriotism is in question under the current dispensation. All agree: if this was for their welfare then the government should have taken

Kashmiris into confidence. Yet they also believe Kashmir is an integral part of India and there's no question of supporting separatism.

Activist Javed Anand said there were mixed reactions. "Kashmir did not seem to concern Indian Muslims until now. The current concern is due to attacks on Muslims in the last four to five years. Kashmir is seen as being singled out because the majority of its citizens are Muslims. This has made Muslims of India feel they are in the same boat."

He added, "But there's reservation that if we say something, we will be called anti-national."

Activist Feroze Mithiborwala, who often speaks for Palestinian Muslims and on the issues of Indian Muslims, said Kashmir should not be seen merely through the lens of

Muslims of Mumbai because "all secular persons and people who believe in democracy and human rights" are concerned about it.

"Article 370 was abrogated in an undemocratic and unconstitutional process," he said.

More worryingly, the Supreme Court didn't hear petitions related to Kashmir immediately. He echoed the belief that Kashmir was an integral part of India.

"Division of the country has always proved damaging for Muslims, and they don't wish for any more division," he said.

Mithiborwala said the protests though inadequate were higher than in the past. "Now we have to see how peaceful, democratic movements stand with Kashmiris," he said. "We appreciate people who went to

MUMBAI

PEOPLE BELIEVE NEW LAW WHERE AN INDIVIDUAL COULD BE TERMED A TERRORIST HAS RESTRAINED MUSLIMS IN MUMBAI FROM SPEAKING ON KASHMIR.

What do we do with the land alone?

K.P. SETHUNATH | DC

Though Kerala's political fronts remained silent on Kashmir, civil activists organised meetings, discussions and seminars.

The Kannur-based Manushyavakasa Koottayama (Human Rights Collective) was the first to call on the state Assembly to pass a resolution condemning the violation of the Constitution's federal principle. It plans a one-day fast before the Assembly as well as a public meeting on November 1.

In Thrissur a well-attended meeting, *Rise up with Kashmir and Stand with Assam* included Kannan Gopinathan, the former IAS officer who quit in protest against the Kashmir action.

A majority debunked the attempt to portray Kashmir as a 'Muslim' issue. A Thiruvananthapuram-based scholar said it

would amount to walking into an RSS trap. "Kashmir should be a litmus test of whether we have an avenue for expressing our democratic aspirations," he said.

Renowned writer and critic Prof. M.N. Karassery said everybody in the world knows that what is happening in Kashmir is human rights violation. "We're trying to impose Urdu when they have Kashmiri. We're trying to impose our identity when they have the stronger, deeper Kashmiriyat," he said.

"Why are we afraid of the opinion of people in Kashmir? Without winning hearts and minds, there's no point in winning just the geographical area," he insisted.

Islamic scholar Dr Hussein Madavoor said both Kashmir and its people should be with India. "Land alone offers nothing to us," Dr Madavoor said. (With Jose Kurian in Kozhikode)

KERALA



Though he is considered one of the greatest English litterateurs, Polish-origin novelist Joseph Conrad (*The Nigger of the 'Narcissus'*, *Heart of Darkness*) did not learn to speak English fluently until he was in his 20s and always carried a Polish accent

Why it makes sense to put stock in good economics



Abhijit Banerjee & Esther Duflo

excerpt

Very few people trust economists enough to listen carefully to what they have to say. Right before the Brexit vote, our colleagues in the UK desperately tried to warn the public that Brexit would be costly, but they felt they were not getting through. They were right. No one was paying much attention. Early in 2017, YouGov conducted a poll in the UK in which they asked "Of the following, whose opinions do you trust the most when they talk about their field of expertise?" Nurses came first. 84% of people polled trust them...

This trust deficit is mirrored by the fact that the professional consensus of economists (when it exists) is often systematically different from the views of ordinary citizens. This is not because economists are always more in favor of laissez-faire outcomes than the rest of the world. A prior study compared how economists and a thousand regular Americans answer the same 20 questions. They found that economists were (much) more in favor of raising federal taxes (97.4% of the economists were in favor, compared to 66% of regular Americans). They also had much more faith in the policies pursued by the government after the 2008 crisis (bank bailouts, the stimulus, etc.) than the public at large. On the other hand, 67% of the regular Americans but only 39% of professional economists agreed with the idea that CEOs of large companies were overpaid. The

key finding is that overall, the average academic economist thinks very differently from the average American. Across all twenty questions, there is a gaping chasm of 35 percentage points between how many economists agree with a particular statement, and how many average Americans do.

We don't for a moment believe that when economists and the public have different views, the economists are always right. We, the economists, are often too wrapped up in our models and our methods, and sometimes forget where science ends and ideology begins. We answer policy questions based on assumptions that have become second nature to us because they are the building blocks of our models, but that does not mean they are always correct. But we also have useful expertise that no one else has. The (modest) goal of this book is to share some of this expertise and re-open a dialogue about the most urgent and divisive topics of our times.

For that we need to understand what undermines trust in economists. A part of the answer is that there is plenty of bad economics around. Those who represent the "economists" in the public discourse are not usually the same people who are part of the IGM Booth panel. The self-proclaimed economists on TV and in the press—Chief Economist of Bank X or Firm Y—are, with important exceptions, primarily spokespersons for their firm's economic interests, who often feel free to ignore the weight of the evidence. Moreover, they have a relatively predictable slant towards market optimism at all costs, which is what the public associates with economists in general.

Unfortunately, in terms of how they look (suit and tie) or the way they sound (lots of jargon) the talking heads are hard to tell apart from academic economists. The most important difference is

We don't for a moment believe that when economists and the public have different views, the economists are always right. We, the economists, are often too wrapped up in our models and our methods, and sometimes forget where science ends and ideology begins.

perhaps in their willingness to pronounce and predict, which unfortunately makes them all the more authoritative. But they actually do a pretty poor job of predicting, in part because predictions are often well-nigh impossible, which is why most academic economists stay away from futurology. One of the jobs of the International Monetary Fund is to forecast the rate of growth of the world economy in the near future. Without a whole lot of success, one might add, despite its team of many very well-trained economists. We suspect that this kind of thing contributes substantially to the general skepticism about economics.

Another big factor that contributes to the trust gap is that academic economists hardly ever take the time to explain the often complex reasoning behind their more nuanced conclusions. How did they parse through the many possible alternative interpretations of the evidence? What were the dots, often from different domains, that they had to connect to reach the most plausible answer? How plausible is it? The media culture of today does not naturally allow a space for subtle or long-winded explanations. Both of us have had to wrangle with TV anchors to tell our full story (often only for it to be edited out in what gets shown); we recognize why academic economists are often unwilling to take on

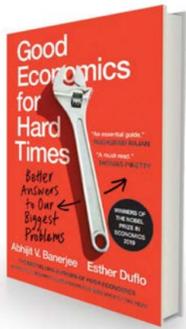
responsibility of speaking out. It takes a lot of effort to be heard properly, and there is always the risk of sounding half-baked or having one's careful words manipulated to mean something quite different.

There are, of course, those who do speak out, but they tend to be with important exceptions—those with the strongest opinions and the least patience for engaging with the best work in modern economics. Some, too beholden to some orthodoxy to pay attention to any fact that what does not square with it, repeat old ideas like a mantra if even though they have long been disproved. Others are there to pour scorn on mainstream economics, which it may sometimes deserve; but that often means that they are unlikely to speak for today's best economic research.

Our sense is that the best economics is frequently the least strident. The world is a sufficiently complicated and uncertain place that the most valuable thing economists have to share is often not their conclusion but the path they took to reach the conclusion: the facts they know, the way they interpreted those facts, the deductive steps they took, the remaining sources of their uncertainty...

Besides, there is plenty of good economics around. Good economics starts with some facts that are troubling, makes some guesses based on what we already know about human behavior and theories that have been elsewhere shown to work, uses data to test those guesses, refines (or radically alters) its line of attack based on the new set of facts and, eventually, with some luck, gets to a solution.

Excerpted with permission from their book, *Good Economics for Hard Times*, chapter titled MEGA: Make Economics Great Again, published by Juggernaut



GOOD ECONOMICS FOR HARD TIMES: BETTER ANSWERS TO OUR BIGGEST PROBLEMS

by Abhijit Banerjee and Esther Duflo
Juggernaut, ₹699

A magical portrait of colonial Calcutta & an unlikely love story



Devapriya Roy

a "Yasministan, where... the rupee, above all, reigns supreme."

One evening at The Bombay Duck, in a somewhat cinematic fashion, Yasmine runs into Lt Edward Lafaver, an American doctor—married to boot—from a New England small town. And despite all warnings issued (whether to Yasmine by her mother or Patience, or to Edward by the *The Calcutta Key*, that fascinating manual demystifying India to US soldiers), there is an instant chemistry that sets into motion a chain of events that will, over time, threaten to overturn both their worlds.

At midnight, two hours until closing, Patience sang I'll Be Seeing You for those who were shipping out to Burma later that day. The atmosphere became more subdued. Some of the men sang with her, their arms around each other's shoulders. They swayed unsteadily to the music. Yasmine stood at the front, looking over the reservations.

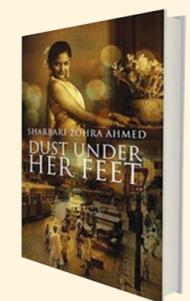
It is the year 1942. The Second World War has darkened to its climax—the catastrophe, however, if we are to reference the five acts of a Shakespearean tragedy, is still some time away—and although it seems impossible to many of its denizens, the Empire is coming apart at the seams. Elsewhere in India, the Quit India movement is gathering steam and freedom fighters are being thrown into prison daily, but in the "White Town" of Calcutta, it is business as usual. The city might be chafing under the added burdens of the war, but the *mensahibs* continue to shop at Whiteaway and Laidlaw (the poshest department store this side of the Suez), the *sahibs* putter away at gentlemen's clubs where "dogs and natives" are not allowed, and in the night clubs and restaurants, there are new patrons throwing money.

The old patrons—the British—may look askance at the interlopers who are apparently "upsetting the delicate social balance that was colonial India". But to Yasmine Khan, proprietor of the fine Calcutta establishment "The Bombay Duck" and the remarkable protagonist of Sharbari Zohra Ahmed's charming new novel *Dust Under Her Feet*, this "new type of white person, the odd, seemingly friendly American" proves to be a both a boon—they guzzle beer and spend generously—and also puzzle (why do they treat the Indians well and their own "coloureds" so badly?) The daughter of a once-redoubtable courtesan, Yasmine runs her nightclub with great acuity, knitting together various (talented) outcasts and pariahs into a patchwork family. Patience, Yasmine's childhood best friend and the lead singer of the club, jokes that the club is a separate country,

Sharbari Zohra Ahmed's novel is that rare creature, a historical novel that combines felicitous prose with memorable characters and a backdrop—the white town of Calcutta during WW2—that is evocatively captured. Structured competently with a clever past-and-present conceit that works rather nicely, the book wears its research lightly. Perhaps the author's alternate career as a screenwriter (Ahmed was one of the writers for the Priyanka Chopra-starring *Quantico*) gives her an edge at pacing the story within a tight framework, and in building up to multiple high points in Yasmine's arc. A spark of contemporaneity animates the story, with the politics of race, gender and colonialism underpinning the jaunty chronicles of the Bombay Duck.

If you are looking for a breezy, well-crafted novel with both emotional piquancy and historical depth, then I recommend you look no further than *Dust Under Her Feet*.

Devapriya Roy is the author of five books, most recently *Friends from College*



DUST UNDER HER FEET
by Sharbari Zohra Ahmed
Westland, ₹599

By arrangement with the Spectator

The grand old man of nature writing continues his crusade

John Jolliffe

Richard Mabey is the grand old man of nature writing. He has produced 40 books in his noble crusade against the enemies of natural life, so a certain amount of repetition can be forgiven in *Turning the Boat for Home*, but also in the opinion of many (not only Prince Charles) the dangers in some places are still increasing. What Mabey doesn't explain about his subject is how the scourge of pesticides and excessive fertilisers originally began. During WW2 the danger of starvation was second only to that posed by the Germans, as food imports were threatened by the U-boats.

Fortunately for Britain, farmers became increasingly efficient, buying up land for which there had been no demand in the 1930s. They continued to prosper after the war, though they would have been the last to admit it. Slowly but surely, much damage was done to wildlife through this efficiency drive, and attempts to reduce the harm were for a long time unsuccessful.

Many of the essays collected here have appeared before, mainly in the *Guardian*, but also in the *Sunday Telegraph* and the *Mail on Sunday*, or have been broadcast on *Radio 3*. So there is something for all tastes—though it is difficult to see what an article called 'Round the World in Eighty Dishes' is doing in this company.

There are also short pieces on Mabey's contemporaries, includ-



TURNING THE BOAT FOR HOME: A LIFE WRITING ABOUT NATURE

by Richard Mabey
Chatto, £18.99

ing Ronald Blythe. (I've always had doubts about the best-selling *Akenfield*; although the details were meticulously collected from a number of villages, the attractive final mosaic did not actually exist, since there is no place called Akenfield. But does that matter?) Then there is discussion of the varied compositions of Andy Goldsworthy, as well as quotations from the great natural history writers of the past, such as John Clare, Richard Jefferies—about whom Mabey is a little ungenerous—and above all Gilbert White.

Who could not be captivated by the latter's description of swiffs just before their autumn departure from England? We could not but wonder that these shiftless beings would be able to dash through the

air almost with the inconceivable swiftness of a meteor, and perhaps traverse vast continents and oceans as distant as the equator: Despite this, Mabey describes the British attitude to natural history as "emotionally disengaged".

Crusaders, including Mabey, are sometimes guilty of parading their virtues while taking themselves a little too seriously. But to some extent you have to be serious to achieve anything worthwhile against the powerful forces confronting you. Two minor irritations: the title of the book is largely irrelevant to its theme, and the publishers describe the collection pretentiously as being 'curated' by the author.

Shopping has moved online, now more eco-conscious

Madeline Sophie Townley, better known by her penname SOPHIE KINSELLA, has returned this season with *Christmas Shopaholic*, the tenth novel of her hugely successful *Shopaholic* series. It explores the themes of ethical consumerism and responsible shopping. Sophie shares with SUCHETA DASGUPTA how the activity of shopping has changed in the West over the past two decades.

SOPHIE KINSELLA
Q&A

a good story.

Q Family is an important theme in your stories. How has motherhood changed or informed your writing?

Yes, I so agree. Family forms the psychological basis of our lives and it is very vital to every interaction that we make, or even the work that we do; for instance, even in the case of a professional contact that you make, it will play its role because it will form the basis of what you bring to the table, in terms of what background you come from. And, to answer your question, motherhood *has* influenced my writing because it has made me observe the experiences of my children from the outside, and think of ways of how I can help, be a better mother; create the environment which they would benefit from, also see the world through their perspective, and that reflects in my writing, whether it is in terms of well-rounded characters or more stories—it has been a massive source of material.

Q What's with the penname?



What led you to adopt it?
Before I wrote *Becky Bloomwood*, I was writing in a certain style. When I created *Becky*, I wanted to try a new style. There was going to be more comedy, multiple points of view, more drama: I wanted to try a new voice. *Becky* was different from all that I had written so far; she was young and fun and silly, she loved shopping, she had a love for fashion, she was more intimate, so I decided to give her creator a new name as well.

Q Have you met the actress who plays Becky Bloomwood in the film (*Confessions of a*

Shopaholic)? Tell us about the meeting.
Oh, Isla and I share a wonderful relationship. She first met me before the shooting of the film, and she was worried about whether she would be able to portray *Becky* properly, whether she would be able to do justice to her, and we hit it off. Since then we have shared many meetings. Like *Becky*, Isla, too, is a wonderful person, she is kind, she is funny, she is fun, and good to be around, though I must say that she doesn't shop as much as *Becky* does.

Q Has shopping changed since

the time you began writing? If so, how has it changed?

Well, much of it has gone online, though I feel that going there physically is important, without which shopping is not quite as magical. Of course, there are benefits to online shopping; it is more convenient, for one thing, and you have a greater chance of getting a good bargain, for another; so those are the pluses.

The other thing that has happened is that the nature of the consumer has changed in that sustainability has emerged as a value. We are all now trying to be responsible as consumers, there is more awareness—people are now checking the origin of the product, buying less, recycling—consumers are now more ethical and shopping more carefully.

Q How does that reflect in your latest book?

It forms the lever of my story. It all starts with *Becky* going shopping for a gift for her sister, Jess, who is an environmental activist and very product-conscious, and she does a good job of it. But *Becky* being *Becky* has to find a way to mess things up. One thing leads to another and soon she is in the middle of a new crisis.

Q Has kleptomania ever figured in one of your stories?

Yes, it has, in one of my stories there is a shopper who is caught shoplifting described through *Becky's* eyes. But *Becky* herself

never has that tendency, not only because she is very honest but also because for her to be able to earn enough to buy the article she desires is like a sacred goal, connected to her pride. As an author, I don't see kleptomania through the lens of adventure and fantasy.

Q What is the favourite article of clothing in your closet?

It is a fake fur coat in tiger print that I saw while I was being interviewed in a vintage shop in Amsterdam. It has been in my closet for a long, long time, so long that my husband kept asking me to get rid of it, he said it was very kitsch—and all the time I kept meaning to get it lined, and I have finally got it lined in black silk; it is my favourite article of clothing.

Q You studied music in college. Tell us who are your favourite musicians both in the classical and popular genres.

(Laughs) I did not quite see that one coming. I did study some classical music and on the piano I like Chopin, that's one of my current favourites. Among bands, I listen to a lot of The Beatles and I want my children to listen to their music, too, because that kind of music is no longer being made and will soon disappear. But I am also guided by my children and one of their favourites and mine, too, is Muse. Overall, I am a big fan of eighties music, and everyone seems to like it,

too; it is popular across generations.

Q What book do you wish you had written?

An epic novel with momentous events and sweeping emotions, like *Pride and Prejudice*.

Q What is your favourite word?

Fabulous, it has a good feeling around it.



CHRISTMAS SHOPAHOLIC
by Sophie Kinsella
PenguinRandomHouse, ₹599





Desperate measures

Desperate to find wicket-taking bowlers for the Australia tour, Pakistan bowling coach Waqar Younis has invited 15 bowlers, including two spinners, to attend a special weekend camp



We were definitely better as in the previous Test.

— Anrich Nortje, South African pacer rues letting India off the hook after reducing them to 39 for three on the opening day of the third and final Test in Ranchi

SHORT TAKES

Test reward for spinner Nadeem

Ranchi: Shahbaz Nadeem's Test debut may have come as a surprise in the third and final Test against South Africa but India batting coach Vikram Rathour on Saturday said the left-arm spinner was picked purely on the basis of his performances in domestic cricket.

About 14 hours after he was drafted into the squad in place of an injured Kuldeep Yadav, the 30-year-old from Jharkhand was handed a Test cap by skipper Virat Kohli before the start of the game. "He has some 424 wickets in first-class cricket. He's a consistent bowler and of course, these are his own home conditions. I think it was selectors' call and I think it was the right call as well," Rathour said of Nadeem, who became the third Test cricketer from Jharkhand after MS Dhoni and Varun Aaron. "Basically, we were looking to play spinners here. Kuldeep had some issues with his shoulder so he was ruled out. The selectors picked Nadeem because his performances speak for himself."

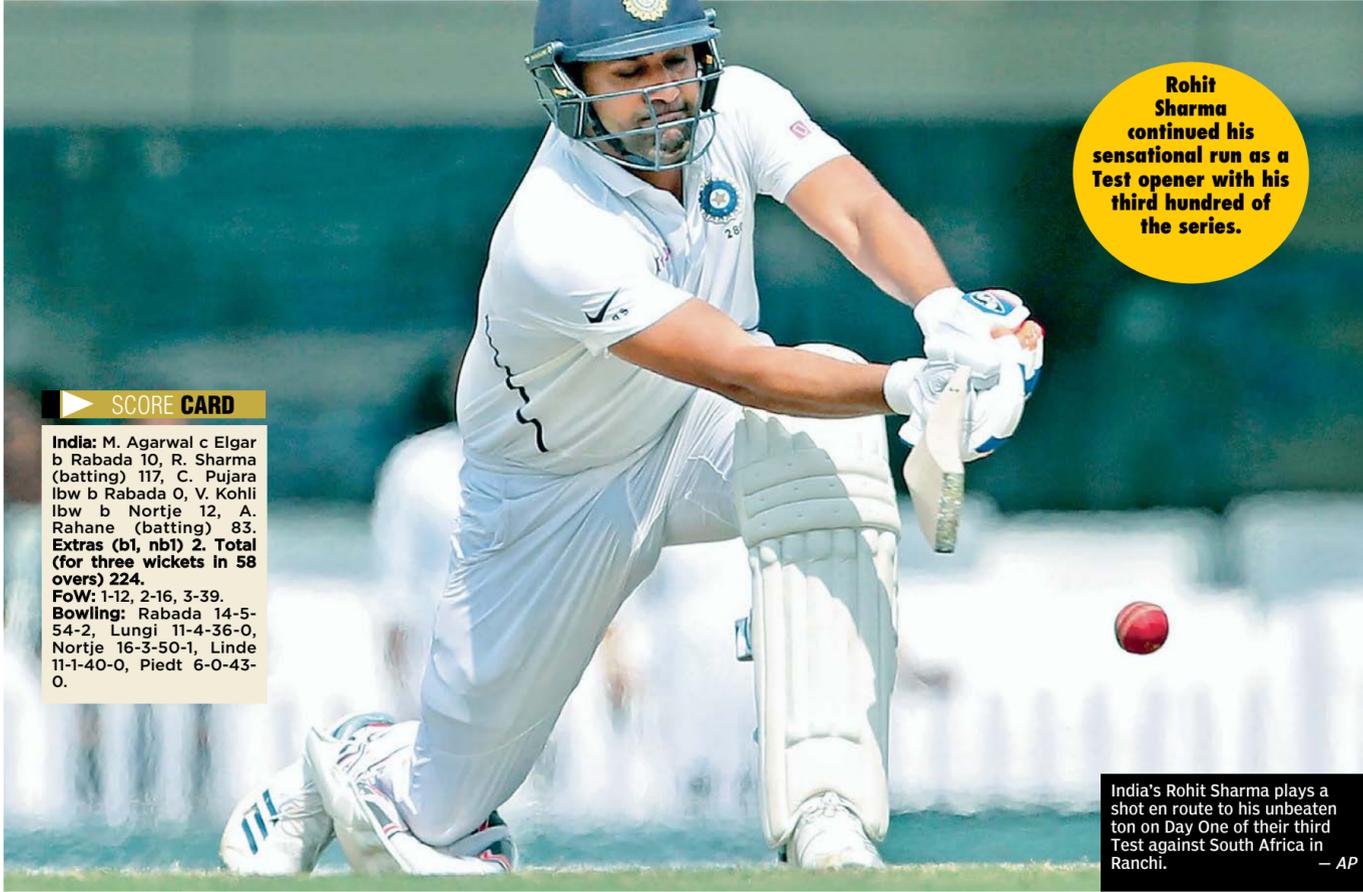
Former India wicketkeeper-turned-commentator Deep Dasgupta feels Nadeem would do well in the spin-friendly conditions of the JSCA International Cricket Stadium. — PTI

Singapore stun Scotland in T20

Dubai: Scotland's sporting October suffered another setback when their cricket team slumped to defeat at the hands of Singapore on the opening day of the 2020 Twenty20 World Cup qualifying tournament. The 12th-ranked Scots were set a target of 169 for victory but stumbled to a two-run loss despite needing just eight off the final over. Singapore, ranked 21 in the world, made 166-8 off their 20 overs with Surendran Chandramohan making a top score of 51. The Scots were well-placed at 123-3 with the best part of five overs still to face before Singapore's bowlers slammed on the brakes. George Munsey (46) and Calum MacLeod (44) scored the bulk of the runs but a tight last over by Amjad Mahboob sealed a surprise win. Defeat for Scotland comes in the same month that their rugby team was knocked out of the World Cup in the first round and their footballers suffered an abject Euro 2020 qualifying defeat in Russia. "Before the second-last over, we had 19 to defend," said Mahboob. "But I had self-belief and confidence and I did it." In all, 14 nations are vying for six places at next year's World T20 in Australia. — AFP

YUVI TAKES A DIG AT BCCI OVER YO-YO

New Delhi: Former cricketer Yuvraj Singh on Saturday congratulated Sourav Ganguly on his journey from being India's captain to becoming BCCI top boss and jokingly said it would have been good for him if he had taken reins of the board when the yo-yo test was in demand. Yuvraj while announcing his retirement in June this year had revealed that BCCI had promised him a farewell game if he failed the yo-yo test but since he passed, he never got a swansong. "Greater the man greatest the journey! From Indian captain to @BCCI president. Think it will be a great insight for a cricketer to be an administrator & make others understand admin from a player's point of view. Wish you were the president while the yo-yo was in demand. Good luck dadi," Yuvraj tweeted. A yo-yo test involves a player sprinting between two cones that are set 20 metres apart on the sound of a beep. It is used to measure an athlete's endurance. It is mandatory to clear the test to be eligible for selection in the Indian team. Ganguly is set to be elected unopposed to the post of BCCI president on October 23. — PTI



Rohit Sharma continued his sensational run as a Test opener with his third hundred of the series.

SCORE CARD

India: M. Agarwal c Elgar b Rabada 10, R. Sharma (batting) 117, C. Pujara lbw b Rabada 0, V. Kohli lbw b Nortje 12, A. Rahane (batting) 83. Extras (b1, nb1) 2. Total (for three wickets in 58 overs) 224. FoW: 1-12, 2-16, 3-39. Bowling: Rabada 14-5-54-2, Lungi 11-4-36-0, Nortje 16-3-50-1, Linde 11-1-40-0, Piedt 6-0-43-0.

India's Rohit Sharma plays a shot en route to his unbeaten ton on Day One of their third Test against South Africa in Ranchi. — AP

Super-hit song

Visitors South Africa dance to Rohit's tune on rain-truncated day

Ranchi, Oct. 19: Rohit Sharma continued his sensational run as a Test opener with his third hundred of the series, allowing India to regain control of the proceedings after a top-order collapse in the third and final game against South Africa here on Saturday.

With India reduced to 39 for three, Rohit (117 batting off 164 balls) and Ajinkya Rahane (83 batting off 135) shared an unbeaten 185-run stand to stage the home team's remarkable recovery.

India were 224 for three before bad light, followed by rain, forced an early end to play on day one with only six overs possible in the final session. With his stellar effort, Rohit, who hammered 14 boundaries and four sixes, became the first Indian opener since Sunil Gavaskar to score more than two centuries in a Test series. Gavaskar had achieved the feat way back in 1970.

Rohit's Test century number six came with a massive six off spinner Dane Piedt. It was a typical knock from India's limited overs captain as he exercised caution when Kagiso Rabada was steaming in the morning before going for his strokes.

If that was not enough, Rahane matched him at the other end and brought up his 21st half-century off just 70 balls. Piedt, who

was included in place of Senuran Muthusamy, cut a sorry figure against Rohit's fury, giving away 43 runs in his six overs. Debutant left-arm spinner George Linde, who replaced an injured Keshav Maharaj, ended the day with tidy figures of 11-1-40-0.

Such was the Indian duo's dominance after lunch that Rabada, who had a fiery opening spell of 7-4-15-2, looked listless in the second spell that read 4-0-30-0. Rahane matched Sharma shot for shot and at one point even had a better strike rate than his explosive Mumbai partner as he notched up his fastest half-century in India.

Sharma, however, had a testing opening session as he survived on seven after reviewing an LBW successfully. He also survived a run out chance when he was out of crease but Zubayr Hamza's throw from point missed the stumps.

Uneven bounce with a few staying really low greeted the Indian openers in the morning as Rabada and Lungi Ngidi made full use of the conditions to give the visitors their best start of the series. Rabada got rid of opener Mayank Agarwal (10) and Cheteshwar Pujara (0) inside the first-hour of play.

The first breakthrough came in Rabada's third over when the

pacer swung it away with Agarwal edging it to Dean Elgar at third slip. Rabada went on to dismiss Pujara for a duck in his fifth over following a successful review by the South Africans after the on-field umpire Richard Illingworth turned down an lbw appeal.

But it was Nortje who earned the biggest wicket as he sent back Pune Test's double centurion Kohli after the skipper failed to read one that came back in sharply.

Kohli took the review but only to be turned down with an umpire's call and the skipper went back to the pavillion frustrated.

Earlier, 30-year-old left-arm spinner Shahbaz Nadeem became the 296th player to represent India when he was handed a surprise Test debut less than 24 hours after being included into the squad in place of an injured Kuldeep Yadav. In his bid to avoid the ignominy of a 3-0 whitewash, Du Plessis made as many as five changes to his team with two of them — Keshav Maharaj and Aiden Markram — being forced ones as they both are injured. In came Ngidi, Zubayr Hamza, Heinrich Klaasen, Linde and Piedt with Vernon Philander, Theunis de Bruyn and Muthusamy being left out. — PTI



Groundsman run in with covers as rain lashes Ranchi on Saturday. — AFP

Rain forecast for day two

Ranchi, Oct. 19: Rain may affect the second day's proceedings as well in the third and final India-South Africa Test, the local weatherman predicted here on Saturday.

Only 58 overs of play was possible on the first day as bad light followed by heavy showers stopped the proceedings six overs into the third session with India 224 for three. "There is a possibility of thundershowers and lightning at isolated places in Ranchi. Chances are less by Monday onwards," an official of the Indian Meteorological Department, Ranchi, said.

The day largely remained overcast with sun playing hide and seek and there was a brief drizzle in the second session when Rohit Sharma notched up his sixth Test century with a six off Dane Piedt in the 45th over. The weatherman blamed it on the cyclonic circulation positioned over east-central Madhya Pradesh and neighbouring areas. — PTI

Mental tweak key to Rohit's success: Vikram

Ranchi, Oct. 19: India's batting coach Vikram Rathour on Saturday attributed Rohit Sharma's success as Test opener, in the ongoing series against South Africa, to mental adjustments.

"He is such an experienced player. I don't think you need to change anything with his technique. The only adjustment I think he had to make was his game plans," Rathour, an opening batsman in the mid 1990s, said after the first day's proceedings.

With India reduced to 39 for three, Rohit (117 batting off 164 balls) and Ajinkya Rahane (83 batting off 135) shared an unbeaten 185-run stand to stage the home team's recovery.

"I always believed he is too good a player not to be playing in any format. It was a good call to make him to open. With the amount of runs he has scored, he has settled the issue for the time being," Rathour added.

"Somebody of his experience and the kind of cricket he plays, if he starts coming good top of the order, it changes everything for the Indian team, even when you're touring. There was a bit of moisture early on and the wicket was doing something. They also bowled in better areas but recovery was phenomenal. Both of them batted really well and post lunch, the wicket eased a bit," he said. — PTI

Ajinkya showed great intent. Whenever he bats with this intent, he looks a really good player.

— VIKRAM RATHOUR, INDIA BATTING COACH



Ajinkya Rahane en route to his unbeaten half-century against South Africa on day one. — AP

INDIA'S BEST 4TH WICKET STAND AGAINST SA

Runs	Partners	Venue	Season
185*	A. Rahane/R. Sharma	Ranchi	2019-20
178	V. Kohli/A. Rahane	Pune	2019-20
145	R. Dravid/S. Ganguly	J'burg	1996-97
136	S. Badrinath/V. Sehwag	Nagpur	2009-10
108	R. Dravid/S. Ganguly	J'burg	1996-97

Kohli may sit out of T20s against Bangla

New Delhi, Oct. 19: India skipper Virat Kohli could be rested from the three-match T20 series against Bangladesh, beginning here on November 3.

Kohli has been playing almost non-stop, featuring in 48 of India's 56 games since October last year. The squad for the Bangladesh series will be picked in Mumbai on October 24.

"There is a possibility that Virat could be rested keeping the workload management programme in mind. But the selectors will only speak to Virat once the Test match (against South Africa) ends," a source close to the selection committee said.



"It will also depend on how the skipper himself feels. He knows his body the best and if need be he can himself ask the selectors for rest," the source added. After the first T20 in Delhi, Rajkot and Nagpur will host the second and third game on November 7 and 10 respectively. — PTI

Dada has to work at breakneck speed

More than 30 months after Justice RM Lodha dissolved the BCCI, Indian cricket's administrative body will be reconstituted next week. Hectic parleys and negotiations cleared the way for the Committee Of Administrators (COA) that had been minding the store in the interim to be finally disbanded.

In itself, the COA ceasing to exist is a relief to all concerned. The original time frame to implement the Lodha Committee recommendations was 6-8 months. This not only stretched more than two years beyond, but the COA's conduct — locked in several battles, external and internecine — ended up marring Indian cricket's reputation further.

Yet, whether Justice Lodha would be entirely pleased at the way things have panned out is moot. Most members of the emerging BCCI have been chosen unopposed. This makes the democratic processes of the organisation less robust than is perhaps needed.

But even more, it is the people who have been selected that may make



Ayaz Memon Over The Top

Justice Lodha squirm. Most new office bearers are dynasts: new faces with old affiliations. The very people that the Lodha Committee had put out of administration have technically surmounted the hurdles and can now pull strings, albeit from behind the curtain.

That said, there have been two redeeming developments: the Indian Cricketers Association (ICA) being formed and second, Sourav Ganguly's elevation as BCCI president. I'll leave discussion on the ICA for another day and focus on Ganguly here.

Even though his tenure will be brief - 10-months odd, followed by a three-year cooling off period - it carries significance going ahead. The Lodha Committee had advocated strongly that former players should be encouraged to get into administration.

There can't be a more visible and accomplished face as president than Ganguly.

His vast playing experience is supplemented by experience in administration in the past 45 years, first as secretary and later president of the Cricket Association of Bengal. He is young (47), understands the modern game, has served on technical committees of the ICC and does not hesitate to speak his mind.

There has been wide conjecture about the role of national politics in Ganguly's elevation. That key people met with Home Minister Amit Shah before the various positions were finalised, including the last-minute switch from Brijesh Patel to Ganguly as president, is seen as telltale by many observers.

For the record, national politics has always played

a role in Indian cricket, so Amit Shah's intervention is hardly new. What is now evident is that the ruling political dispensation has now taken a dominant position in cricket administration too.

Ganguly has pooh-poohed suggestions that politics was even discussed in his meeting with Amit Shah though it would be naive to believe that the country's second most powerful man would not have political gain in his calculations when meeting administrators of the nation's biggest sport.

Whether Ganguly is at all interested in politics, and if so in which direction he will move, will be a matter of intrigue, suspense and speculation for the next few years. Meanwhile, he has his plate full as BCCI president.

In press conferences and informal talks, he has spelt out some priority areas. Some may not produce tangible results in the short-term (e.g. winning ICC tournaments, for the next one due is late 2020, the T20 World Championship), or battling with the ICC for a

more rewarding Future Tours Program.

But some are eminently doable immediately. Like making policies — in conjunction with the ICA — on improving the lot of cricketers, current and former. Also, giving pink-ball cricket the green signal, as he has already suggested. For some obscure reason, this was put on the backburner.

Apart from playing day-night Tests in Australia, Ganguly must push for these in India too considering the paltry attendances seen in the recent series against South Africa.

I would also like to see him take an immediate and stringent position on corruption (domestic leagues like TNPL and KPL have been hit too), as well as the menace of age-fudging which his former team mate Rahul Dravid has highlighted.

Because of a restricted tenure, he has to work at breakneck speed to make impact. At the best of times, the BCCI administration could be painfully slow. Ganguly will have to inject some 'T20' tempo into the system.



Comeback

Andy Murray makes it to the semifinal at Antwerp, his first since the 2017 French Open



The players should go to the fridge. I am not joking. Open the fridge and get inside for 48 hours. — Pep Guardiola, Manchester City boss on the cramped schedule

SHORT TAKES

PSG humble Nice in French League

Nice: Angel Di Maria grabbed two goals while Kylian Mbappe struck on his return from injury as Paris Saint-Germain won 4-1 at Nice to surge five points clear at the top of Ligue 1. PSG lost Neymar and the influential Idrissa Gueye to injury over the international break while Mbappe and Edinson Cavani were only fit enough to make the bench for the trip to the Cote d'Azur. "At the start of a run of six very intensive matches, it's always good to start with a win," said PSG coach Thomas Tuchel. "We had a good first half, I was happy. We had chances to control the match but at the start of the second half, we forgot to close it out." A spectacular triple save by Walter Benitez kept out Presnel Kimpembe and Abdou Diallo in the opening minutes at the Allianz Riviera but PSG soon made the breakthrough. Di Maria raced on to a first-time pass from fellow Argentine Mauro Icardi before calmly guiding beyond Benitez in the Nice goal on 15 minutes. Only Mbappe has been involved in more goals in France this year than Di Maria, who duly doubled his tally six minutes later with a sublime lob from an unfavourable angle. — AFP

Champs Bayern held in late drama

Berlin: Sergio Cordova scored in injury time to earn Augsburg a 2-2 draw with Bayern Munich and prevent the German champion from reclaiming the top spot in the Bundesliga on Saturday. Goals from Robert Lewandowski and Serge Gnabry had put Bayern on course to move a point ahead of Borussia Mönchengladbach ahead of its late game at Borussia Dortmund, but Cordova ensured they dropped points for the second consecutive game and remained a point behind the league leaders. The seven-time defending champion was stunned when Augsburg's Marco Richter scored in the first minute after a one-two with Rani Khedira. But Gnabry crossed for Lewandowski to equalize in the 14th. It ensured the Gnabry matched Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang's Bundesliga record of scoring in each of the first eight games of the season. The former Dortmund striker managed it in 2015. — AP

UEFA to separate Russia, Kosovo

Nyon (Switzerland): UEFA says teams from Kosovo and Russia will no longer be drawn to play each other due to security risks. The ruling announced Friday could affect the 2020 European Championship draw on Nov. 30. Russia does not formally recognize Kosovo's declaration of independence from Serbia in 2008. Ahead of the Euro 2020 draw, UEFA already said Serbia and Bosnia-Herzegovina cannot be in the same group as Kosovo if the teams qualify. Kosovo is in contention to advance from a qualifying group that includes England, and has a second option through playoffs next March. Meanwhile, aiming to better fight match-fixing in soccer, UEFA wants a partner to advise how to work better with police and prosecutors. UEFA says it set an October 28 deadline for expressions of interest to provide a feasibility study "to examine ways to enhance football's capacity to investigate and prosecute match-fixing cases." — AP

CHELSEA CLAIM CASTLE

Alonso breaks the deadlock for the Blues in Premier League

London, Oct. 19: Tottenham narrowly avoided an embarrassing home defeat to bottom club Watford on Saturday as Chelsea and Leicester leapfrogged champions Manchester City in the Premier League. With leaders Liverpool not in action until Sunday, it was a chance for the chasing pack to press their credentials for top-four spots. Chelsea's Marcus Alonso broke the deadlock for Frank Lampard's side at Stamford Bridge against Newcastle for a 1-0 win while Youri Tielemans sealed a 2-1 victory for Leicester at the King Power Stadium.

TOTTENHAM LABOUR TO A 1-1 DRAW

But Spurs boss Mauricio Pochettino saw his side labour to a 1-1 draw at home to Watford, following a 3-0 thrashing at Brighton and a humiliating 7-2 defeat at home to Bayern Munich. Spurs, who reached the Champions League final in June, have now won just three of their opening 12 games in all competitions and appear unable to halt their slide. Tottenham got off to an awful start as they fell behind in the sixth minute, Abdoulaye Doucoure finishing superbly from Daryl Janmaat's assist. — AFP



Chelsea's Marcos Alonso (right) scores his side's first goal during their British Premier League match against Newcastle United and Chelsea, at Stamford Bridge, London, on Saturday. Chelsea won 1-0. — AP

LIVERPOOL HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE, SAYS VAN DIJK

London, Oct. 19: Liverpool have nothing to lose in the Premier League title race despite amassing an eight-point lead after just eight games, according to defender Virgil van Dijk. The European champions are in pole position to end a 30-year wait to win a league title, but Van Dijk believes the pressure is still on Manchester City to

win the league for a third straight year. "I don't think we have anything to lose," Van Dijk told ahead of Sunday's trip to Manchester United. "Man City are the champions, they're defending their title and we want to get it. In my point of view, we just have to go for it. "We definitely need to enjoy it and be full of confidence, especially with the way we've got these points, having not had the best games but still getting the wins." City's shock defeats to Norwich and Wolves have allowed Liverpool to surge ahead thanks to their perfect start to the season. However, Van Dijk remains wary of Pep Guardiola's men, who

overturned a seven-point deficit to pip Liverpool to the title by a point last season. — AFP

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Marquez takes pole in Japan

DEEPIKA DAS | DC MOTEGI (JAPAN), OCT. 19

Repsol Honda star rider Marc Marquez grabbed his 90th career pole position, for the Japanese Grand Prix here at the Twin Ring Circuit here on Saturday. It was the Spaniard's first pole at the Motegi as he clocked a time of 1:45.76s in tricky conditions. Petronas Yamaha SRT duo of Franco Morbidelli (1:45.89s) and Fabio Quartararo (1:45.94s) will join the front row. Honda's other rider Jorge Lorenzo, who owns the lap record here with an effort of 1:43.79s in 2015, could not live up to the expectations as he finished the final qualification at the 19th spot. "My first pole position at Motegi this time... so I am happy. Honestly speaking today was a tricky condition. I felt good in the final qualification race and hopefully I will take the momentum tomorrow," Marquez said.

The Repsol Honda Team have won the MotoGP World Championship for the last five years and this season was also no different with Marquez already ensuring the title. The Honda rider sealed his sixth MotoGP world title in Thailand earlier this month at the Chang International Circuit. When the race begins on Sunday, all eyes will be on Marquez and Yamaha rider Morbidelli, who put on an impressive show in qualifying. Honda came to Motegi with a 77-point lead over Ducati in the MotoGP constructors World Championship and could clinch the title in Japan if the Honda riders across the line don't concede more than two points to the Ducati riders. Marquez's show in the qualifying session has raised hopes that Honda will come up with a strong performance in the main race on Sunday. HCH, A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE

Surrounded by small hills, the Twin Ring Motegi Circuit is an ideal getaway from the hustle and bustle of city life. As the winter is approaching, the shiny maple and pine leaves are turning orange and it provides a postcard-perfect view. A lawn welcomes the fans. Another interesting aspect of the circuit is the Honda Collection Hall, a one-of-its-kind museum that showcases Honda's evolution through models, pictures and videos. The museum captures the journey of Honda in motorsports.

Messi, Suarez fire for Barcelona

Madrid, Oct. 19: Barcelona's 'MSG' is finally up and running as Lionel Messi, Luis Suarez and Antoine Griezmann all scored in a ruthless 3-0 victory over Eibar on Saturday.

Griezmann's place in the newly-formed attacking trident has not been secured this season but the Frenchman opened the scoring at Ipurua before teeing up Messi and then playing the crucial pass for Suarez to make it three. An authoritative Barca display thrusts them to the top of La Liga, for a few hours at least before Real Madrid play Real Mallorca, and dismissed suggestions the players might be affected by Friday's postponement of the Clasico due to protests in Catalonia. Violence in the city of Barcelona and disruptions at El Prat airport meant Ernesto Valverde's side chose to alter their pre-match routine and embark on a 589-kilometre bus trip to the Basque County on Friday. And all the while, discussions continued over the Clasico against Real Madrid, which had originally been scheduled for



Barcelona's Lionel Messi controls the ball during their Spanish league match against Eibar at the Ipurua stadium in Eibar on Saturday. Barcelona won 3-0. — AP

next Saturday at Camp Nou but was postponed on Friday and is expected now to go ahead in December. Perhaps chaos off the pitch inspired Barca to unite on it. This was their fifth consecutive victory in all competitions, a sequence which is swiftly erasing memories of their stumbling start to the season. The resurgence has coincided with Messi's return

from injury but it was the fluidity and cohesion of the front three, rather than the Argentinian's familiar solo brilliance, that will have been most pleasing for Valverde. GRIEZMANN MAKES IT COUNT

Griezmann now has four goals since joining Barca from Atletico Madrid last summer but he has not entirely convinced so far, a series of underwhelming

Suhaib, Kundeti, Ravindra punch above their weight

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD OCT. 19

It's just the third fight night at the ongoing Deccan Conquest series and the excitement is going up week after week. After some exceptional performances by A. Shiva Yadav, Kundeti Raju, Ranbir Singh, Romajit Singh, Ravindra Yadav, Vijay Kumar, Mohd. Suhaib earlier this month, eight new faces were added to the roster on Saturday night as Trijot Singh (54 Kgs), Thingbai Johnson (61 kgs), Zonuntluanga (57 kgs), Ajit Singh (68 kgs), E. Malemnganba (68 kgs), Dayananda (68 kgs), Mani Patel (90+ Kgs), Anoop Naidu (90+ Kgs) debut in the third fight. In bouts on Saturday, Trijot Singh locked heads with G. Vijay Kumar in the Bantamweight category beating him with points 36-40, 38-38, 37-39 while in the featherweight category, Himanshu Singh emerged winner taking down Pushkar Bhosle on the basis of points 40-36, 39-37, 40-36 and



Ashini Kumar Sharma defends against Robinson.

Zonuntluanga leading in a close contest with Ravindra Yadav 36-40, 37-39, 39-37. Johnson defeated Pasham Suresh by unanimous decision 36-40, 37-39, 36-40 and Ashini Kumar beat Robinson with 36-40, 37-39, 38-38 points in the lightweight category as Anoop Naidu knocked out Manikanta Patel in the last fight of the night. Commenting on the progress of this season, Kailashnath Yadav, director and CEO, Red Corner Sports Promotions, said, "We are happy to see the rising excitement of the sport as boxers, match-

makers and promoters from different parts of the country express their interest to be a part of this ongoing championship. We are sure that professional boxing will be the next Big Sport in India in the years to come." Club Fights, a conceptual property by Red Corner Sports Promotions, is inspired by the age-old English concept of promoting boxing on a live platform. As many as 48 fighters have enrolled themselves for the Deccan Conquest Professional Boxing Championship scheduled on weekends.

After winning her eighth medal at the World Championship, Kom goes home

Champion Mary in a world of her own

GANDHARV KAMALA | DC HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

Even before M.C. Mary Kom left for the recently concluded World Championship in Russia, the boxer was engulfed in a trial controversy, which was not her doing. She won the bronze in the women's 51kg category — an unprecedented eighth medal at a boxing World Championships. She is the lone boxer in both the men's and women's category to hold that distinction. She should be celebrated for the champion she is. But instead, even before she came back to Delhi she was surrounded by another hullabaloo, again for no fault of hers. When she came back to India, she did not stay in Delhi for long. She immediately left for Manipur. Not many know that Mary has four dogs in her bungalow and one of her favourite is Esko, a Tibetan Mastiff. The black fur puppy used to fit in her palms but eight months down the line, Esko has outgrown her. "I

love dogs. I have four of them, one in Delhi and three in Manipur. When I bought Esko I never really knew he would outgrow me so soon. Every time I take him out for a walk it is difficult for me to keep him on a leash. Now it looks like he is my master and I am his pet," the London Olympic bronze medalist laughed. It was not just Esko that was waiting for Mary but an 11-month-old baby girl too, Neivar Merilyn Kom. The 36-year-old, who is a mother of three adorable sons, wanted a baby girl to complete her family. And Mary's prayers were finally answered. "When we were talking about adopting a girl, Merilyn came into our lives. On November 26th, 2018, two good things happened to me. The first, I won gold at the World Championships in Delhi and the second, Merilyn came into my life. When I was standing on the podium with tears, I was waiting to hold my little girl. Now, I can say my family is complete," she recollected.



Mary with Esko

Changing topic is always difficult while speaking with Mary. But when asked about the whole controversy Mary quipped, "I am tired of being accused of false play. I have come through a lot of politics and I know how difficult it is for a youngster to make a mark in the Indian team.

I have never said no to a fight be it inside the ring or outside. But when people disrespect me and what I have done for the country it hurts." "I have known Abhinav Bindra for years. He is a good human being but he needs to stick to his business. I never questioned



Mary with her daughter Merilyn.

his place in the Indian shooting squad, why is he questioning mine? He knows nothing about boxing. If he enters a ring, he will not be able to score a single point. When he has absolutely no knowledge about what the federation or the coaches or the management have spoken or

decided, why does he have to interfere," Mary added. "I have fought hard for my medals all these years. I will continue to fight for them. If someone challenges me and wants a trial, I won't back down. I am a fighter," Mary said before returning to mother duties. — PTI

WILL NOT BE A REFEREE, SAYS MINISTER RIJIJU

New Delhi, Oct. 19: Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju on Saturday made it clear that the government would not interfere in selection matters but advised the Boxing Federation of India (BFI) to be transparent and resolve the Nikhat Zareen-Mary Kom in the best possible manner. Former junior world champion Nikhat Zareen had written a letter to Rijiju on Thursday, demanding that she be given a trial bout against Mary Kom. The BFI wants Mary Kom (51kg) to compete in Qualifying event in China after she won her eighth medal in Russia. "We have to understand one thing, govt can't dictate the federations or get involved in the process of selection. "If there are anomalies and certain things which are not in the interest of sports we make advisory suggestions. Olympic charter is clear that govt shouldn't interfere," the sports minister Rijiju said. — PTI

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