

# DECCAN Chronicle

THE LARGEST CIRCULATED ENGLISH DAILY IN SOUTH INDIA

HYDERABAD | FRIDAY | 1 NOVEMBER 2019

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Vol. 82 No. 301 Established 1938 | 40 PAGES | ₹6.00

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Dear Reader,

The Union Budget hiked customs duties on imported newsprint, raising our production costs. We thus have to hike Deccan Chronicle's cover price to ₹6 on weekdays and ₹7 on Sundays, effective from today. Thank you for your continued support.

Signed/- Editor

## WEATHER



Max: 29.1°C  
Min: 22.1°C  
RH: 82%  
Rainfall: Nil

Forecast: Cloudy sky. Rain, thundershowers likely. Max/Min 31/23°C

## ASTROGUIDE

**Vikari:** Dakshinayanam  
**Tithi:** Kartika Shudda Panchami till 12.54 am (Saturday)  
**Star:** Moola till 9.56 pm  
**Varjyam:** 8.19 pm to 9.56 pm  
**Durmuhurtam:** 8.35 am to 9.20 am; 12.22 pm to 1.08 pm  
**Rahukalam:** 10.30 am to 12 noon

### HJRI CALENDAR

Rab-ul-Awal 3,1441 AH

### PRAYERS

Fajr: 5.13 am

Zohar: 12.10 pm

Asar: 4.10 pm

Maghrib: 5.52 pm

Isha: 7.00 pm

SUNSET TODAY 5.45 PM

SUNRISE TOMORROW 6.14 AM

MOONRISE TOMORROW 9.13 AM

MOONSET TODAY 8.41 PM

## COUNTER POINT



We will starve... people have stopped wearing gold due to threat from government!

## Warden held for sodomising boys

**Hyderabad:** A 23-year-old man working as a warden at a private residential school in Rasoolpura village, Yalal, of Vikarabad district was taken into custody on Thursday by the police for alleged sodomising two boys, aged 12 and 13, at the school hostel.

■ Report on Page 3

## 73 perish in Pakistan train fire



Seventy-three passengers lost their lives and over 40 sustained critical burn wounds on Thursday when three carriages of Tezgam Express caught fire due to explosion in gas canisters purportedly used by Tableeghi Jamaat

(preaching party) passengers to cook breakfast near Talwari Station in Liaquatpur area of Pakistan's Rahim Yar Khan city. The train was bound from Karachi to Rawalpindi. — AFP

■ Report on Page 9

## Act against Centre over 'snoopgate': Cong to SC

**DC CORRESPONDENT with agency inputs**  
NEW DELHI, OCT. 31

Several individuals — human rights activists, scholars and journalists — confirmed to some websites that they were targeted by a spyware on WhatsApp. Some of them suggested that Indian government agencies may have been involved in the surveillance.

The Congress on Thursday alleged that the Modi government has been "caught snooping" after WhatsApp said that journalists and human rights activists in India have been targets of surveillance. While the Congress urged the Supreme Court to hold the Centre accountable over the issue, the government denied allegations of snooping in the wake of claims made by Facebook-owned WhatsApp that Indian journalists and human rights activists were among those globally spied upon by unnamed entities using an Israeli spyware, Pegasus.

"Modi govt caught snooping! Appalling but not Surprising! After all, BJP Govt — 1. Fought against our right to privacy. 2. Set

## WHATSAPP VULNERABLE TO SPYWARE HITS

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
HYDERABAD, OCT. 31

With coming to light of the Pegasus spyware attacks, concerns have been raised by cybersecurity experts over highly sophisticated attacks ahead. The spyware attacks come under the category of buffer overflow attack, where the source code of a particular application could be altered and controlled by the hackers' instructions.

■ Report on Page 8

up a multi-crore Surveillance Structure until stopped by SC. SC must take immediate cognisance and issue notice to BJP government," Congress' chief spokesperson Randeep Surjewala said in a series of tweets. "A government that spies on journalists/activists/Opposition leaders and treats its own citizens like criminals has lost the right to lead in our

democracy. We urge the SC to take suo motu cognisance of these illegal activities and to hold this government to account," he said. He also posted questions on Twitter for information technology minister Ravi Shankar Prasad over the issue.

"1. Which agency of GOI has purchased and deployed the Pegasus Surveillance Software? 2. Who — PMO or NSA — authorised the purchase? 3. What action do you intend on taking against the guilty?" he asked.

Issuing a clarification on the contentious issue, the government stated, "Some statements have appeared based on reports in media regarding breach of privacy of Indian citizens on WhatsApp. These attempts to malign the Government of India for the reported breach are completely misleading." The statement further added, "Government of India is committed to protect the fundamental rights of citizens, including the right to privacy, and will take strict action against any intermediary responsible for breach of privacy."

■ Page 8: Centre asks WhatsApp to explain breach

## VIKARABAD HAS NO BEDS FOR DENGUE HIT

**KANIZA GARARI | DC**  
HYDERABAD, OCT. 31

Of the 300 patients who came to the privately-run Crawford Memorial Hospital in Vikarabad on Thursday, 50 were diagnosed with dengue. In the last two days, 80 patients in the hospital have been confirmed with dengue, further exposing the epidemic sweeping the state.

Patients are coming in from villages from around a 30 km to 40 km radius of the hospital, because district government hospitals are full and refusing to take any more patients. The age group of patients is from six months to 60 years. Most of the other patients are suffering from viral fevers.

G Badri, a resident of Vikarabad, said that a meeting of senior officials from the health and police departments was held on Wednesday to discuss the rush. "It was decided to send patients to private hospitals in Vikarabad. Since this hospital has 60 beds, most of the patients were sent here today," he said.

■ Page 3: Extra doctors for night shift

## Shutdown greets Jammu & Kashmir

**Ladakh celebrates; 2 Lt. Govs sworn in**

**YUSUF JAMEEL | DC with agency inputs**  
SRINAGAR, OCT. 31

The state of Jammu and Kashmir formally split into two Union Territories (UTs) on Thursday amid swelling anger among the predominantly Muslim Valley, trepidation and reservations in sections of Jammu's Hindu population and jubilation among Ladakh's Buddhists.

While Mr Murmu took oath as the first Lt Governor of the UT of J&K in Hindi at a function at the Raj Bhavan in Srinagar, his counterpart, Mr Mathur, was administered the oath of office and secrecy by Justice Gita Mittal, chief justice of J&K High Court, at a similar function held earlier in Leh. He took the oath in English.

A complete shutdown was observed in Kashmir Valley to protest bifurcation of the state. Many people interviewed by this correspondent termed it "a stab in the back".

The division and downgrade came on the 88th day after the Centre withdrew the state's special status by abrogating Article 370 and announced its bifurcation.

The August 5 decision was subsequently ratified by Parliament but sparked off a political row with the Opposition terming it a politically and ideologically motivated move of the ruling BJP. The move has been challenged in Supreme Court filed by various political and civil groups and activists.

This is for the first time that a state has been converted into two UTs even though there are numerous instances of a UT becoming a full state or a state being bifurcated into two states, like Bihar and Madhya Pradesh.

■ Page 7: J&K reorganisation a tribute to Patel: BJP

## China slammed on 370 objection

**SRIDHAR KUMARASWAMI | DC**  
NEW DELHI, OCT. 31

India and China were involved in a fierce exchange of words on Thursday, with Beijing calling the creation of two new Union Territories (of J&K and Ladakh) "unlawful and void" and New Delhi hitting back to remind China that it has "illegally occupied" large tracts of land belonging to J&K state.

The verbal exchange comes just days after the informal summit between PM Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping at Mamallapuram in Tamil Nadu. "The Indian government officially announced the establishment of so-called Jammu

and Kashmir Union Territory and Ladakh Union Territory that included some of China's territory into its administrative jurisdiction. China deplores and firmly opposes that. India unilaterally changes its domestic laws and administrative divisions challenging China's sovereignty. This is unlawful and this is not effective in any way and will not change that fact that the area is under Chinese actual control," Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Geng Shuang was quoted as saying at a foreign ministry press briefing in Beijing. India retaliated soon after.

■ Page 7: China acquired Indian areas in PoK: India

## Centre defends MPs' visit to J&K

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
NEW DELHI, OCT. 31

After a controversy over the visit of several European Union MPs to New Delhi and then to J&K earlier this week, the ministry of external affairs indicated it had "facilitated" the visit, adding that engagement with the international community does not amount to internationalisation of the Kashmir issue.

At his weekly briefing on Thursday, MEA spokesperson Raveesh Kumar said that the MEPs had been to India on a private visit and that they had

"expressed a desire to know about India", adding that they were "directly elected" representatives.

He said that the government "would look at such requests" in future too and that "intent, content and the ground situation" would be "deciding factors".

Mr Kumar further said the issue was whether any such action promotes India's "objectives and interests" and whether "sharing of perspective" serves the "national interest".

■ Page 7: MEA says it facilitated unofficial visits too

## Pak violated Vienna Pact: ICJ

**United Nations, Oct. 31:** Pakistan violated its obligations under the Vienna Convention in the arrest and detention of Indian national Kulbhushan Jadhav, International Court of Justice (ICJ) President Judge Abdulgawil Yusuf told the UN General Assembly here.

Jadhav, 49, a retired Indian Navy officer, was

sentenced to death by a Pakistani military court on charges of "espionage and terrorism" after a closed trial in April 2017. India has maintained that Jadhav was kidnapped from Iran where he had business interests.

Presenting the report of the International Court of Justice to the 193-member General Assembly on

Wednesday, Yusuf said in its judgment of July 17 the principal judicial organ of the United Nations found that Pakistan had violated its obligations under Article 36 of the Vienna Convention and that appropriate remedies were due in this case.

■ Page 7: ICJ lists deviation by Pak

## Bid to bury infant alive foiled

**DURGA PRASAD SUNKU | DC**  
HYDERABAD, OCT. 31

A four-day-old infant baby was rescued by an alert autorickshaw driver and police from being buried alive by some relatives at the Jubilee bus stand grounds on Thursday morning.

According to the police, the baby's parents, Manasa and Raju, daily wage labourers hailing from a village near Vemulawada in Rajanna Sircilla district, got married one-and-a-half years ago. The mother gave birth to their first child four days ago. The baby was reportedly born with a urinary bladder protruding outside the body, because of which, they couldn't identify whether the infant was a male or female.

**THE BABY** was reportedly born with a urinary bladder protruding outside the body, because of which, they couldn't identify whether the infant was a male or female.

Doctors in Karimnagar advised the parents to shift the baby to Nilofer hospital for better treatment and surgery.

Raju, along with his brother Rajendra, father Tirupathi and great grandmother Thirupathamma, came to the city on November 28 and admitted the baby in Nilofer hospital. Later, Raju, the father, went

back to Karminagar to look after his wife, who was still in hospital.

The treatment reportedly got delayed, following which, they planned to take the baby back on Thursday to their home in Rajanna Sircilla district. They hired an autorickshaw at Nilofer hospital for the JBS bus station. When they reached their destination, the claimed, the baby was not breathing.

Subsequently, the three of them tried to bury the baby at the bus stand premises as per the direction of Raju, who was more concerned about his wife's reaction after seeing the baby.

■ Page 2: Rescued baby to undergo surgery

## FOODIE | CORNER

**T.S.S. SIDDHARTH | DC**  
HYDERABAD, OCT. 31

Hyderabad was honoured with the title, 'Creative City for Gastronomy' on Thursday by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (Unesco).

Hyderabad, which has a sobriquet of 'City of Pearls' or "land of Kohinoor", owes its elaborate culture of design and gastronomy to its historical roots linked to the Qutb Shahi Dynasty, followed by the Asaf Jahi Nizams, and more recently, the peasants of Telangana state.

## City of Pearls earns Unesco title of Creative City for Gastronomy

## Bon appétit! Hyd a gastronomy city

The Unesco honour brings to the fore the debate around what is the real food identity and pride of Hyderabad. The city, also referred to colloquially as city of *biryani*, which several expert chefs believe is a reductionist misnomer, because they argue Hyderabad is much more than just *biryani* and *haleem*. The strength of its cuisine lies in adaptation to local context.

Elaborating on the types of dishes, Puneet Mehta, noted chef and a finalist of Masterchef, said the city's most creative dishes include *pathar ka ghost*, *motia pulao* and *marag*. These royal associations

**THE CITY**, also referred to colloquially as city of *biryani*, which several expert chefs believe is a reductionist misnomer, because they argue Hyderabad is much more than just *biryani* and *haleem*. The strength of its cuisine lies in adaptation to local context.

of the past, along with access to spices of the Deccan, have led to the evolution of the city's exceptional gastronomical culture. The cuisine as

enjoyed today was born and perfected in royal kitchens. Yet, they also had a strong subaltern story.

The strength of Hyderabad cuisine lies in adaptation to local context, which led to evolution of dishes like the *kalyani biryani*, the beef-based affordable form of royal mutton *biryani* cooked with a different animal protein.

"*Motiya pulao* is one of the most creative dishes from here, where egg whites are wrapped in intestines of a goat and are cooked with rice to make pulao. The white meat

balls look like pearls," he said. Chefs explain that people of the city came up with dishes depending on situation.

"We had a dish called anokhi kheer, which was made of onion petals and garlic, during summer and winter respectively, a dish and recipe known only to a handful of people. Chefs during the Nizam's era mastered the art of merging flavours like tamarind with chillies to create contrast," Chef Mehta told Deccan Chronicle.

■ Page 2: Cuisine helped establish cosmopolitan city





B'day visit

Minister Saatyavati Rathod on her birthday meets conjoined twins Veena and Vani, says they are cheerful



I am learning Telugu and I will speak it fluently in three months

— Tamilisai Soundararajan  
TS Governor

IN BRIEF

NTPC funds hall at Gandhi Hosp.

**Hyderabad:** The National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Gandhi Hospital to provide financial assistance of ₹25 lakh to construct a waiting shed on Thursday. The shed would be able to accommodate about 400 out-patients and relatives and attendants of in-patients. It will also have a reverse osmosis (RO) plant to supply purified drinking water. The MoU was signed in the presence of NTPC's regional executive director, south, D.K. Dube, and Gandhi Hospital superintendent, Dr P. Shravan Kumar, at the NTPC office in Kavadiguda, Secunderabad.

More coaches for Dakshin Exp.

**Hyderabad:** The timing of the Nizamuddin-Hyderabad Dakshin Express will be revised from January 25 between Kazipet and Balharshah railway stations. The train will reach Hyderabad 15 minutes early. According to the revised timings, the train would reach Balharshah at 9.35 pm and depart at 9.40 am. The train will reach Hyderabad at 4.45 am against 5 am earlier. The train in both directions would be augmented with six additional coaches to accommodate more passengers from January 23. The trains will have two additional coaches of AC III tier, three more coaches of sleeper class and one general category coach.

8 KM METRO STRETCH GIVEN TO SCIENCE

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, OCT. 31

Some Metro Rail pillars and station premises will display the periodic table, which organises elements by their atomic number, and also the contributions of great scientists. Hyderabad Metro Rail Limited (HMRL) and L&T Metro Rail Hyderabad Limited signed a memorandum of understanding to facilitate this with the Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (IICT), Hyderabad Metro Rail Bhavan.

The stations where the paintings will go up are located on the eight-kilometre 'Science Corridor' between Secunderabad East and Nagole Metro Rail stations. The route has renowned scientific institutions like IICT, Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, National Institute of Nutrition, Geological Survey of India, National Geophysical Research Institute and the Survey of India among others.

Speaking on the occasion, HMRL managing director, N.V.S. Reddy, said "In order to create scientific temper among the common public, and children in particular and to provide an opportunity to observe and appreciate the utility of science in daily life, HMRL and L&TMRHL have tied up with CSIR-IICT to develop a science corridor in the city."

Rao said it was contemplated to organise scientific promotional activities like theme-based exhibitions at a few Metro Rail stations.

Dr S. Chandrasekhar said, "it is for the first time in our country that an exclusive science corridor is being developed to inspire young minds." He stated that the allotted Metro Rail pillars and station areas will be utilised to display the periodic table elements as well as stories of legendary scientists reflecting their great contributions in improving quality of life and human welfare. This is also the Unesco International Year of the Periodic Table.

Q&A

ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN

**KERALA GOVERNOR, ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN, WAS A SPEAKER AT A MEETING IN THE CITY. IN A CONVERSATION WITH DECCAN CHRONICLE ON THE SIDELINES OF THE MEETING, THE GOVERNOR SPOKE TO KANIZA GARARI ABOUT THE CURRENT FEAR OF BEING BRANDED ANTI-NATIONAL**

The Governor, who was a speaker at a select meeting, organised by Nawab Mir Nasir Ali Khan, managing director of MAK Projects in the city, spoke about the duties and responsibilities of citizens in nation-building and said that diversity was the soul of India, which has been the case for centuries.

‘J&K WAS AN EXCEPTIONAL CASE’



Arif Mohammed Khan, Hon'ble Governor of Kerala, with Nawab Mir Nasir Ali Khan, Managing Director, MAK Projects, at an interactive session in the city on Thursday.

This was the first interactive session in Hyderabad and will happen in other parts of the country and also abroad.

In a conversation with *Deccan Chronicle* after the meeting, Khan spoke about the current fear of being branded anti-national and on the issue of Kashmir. He was elected to the Lok Sabha in 1981 on a Congress ticket but quit the party in 1986 because of differences with then Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. He joined the Janata Dal and served as a union minister, but left to join the Bahujan Samaj Party and in 2004 joined the Bharatiya Janata Party but quit in 2007.

**Q In your talk, you spoke on the duties of a citizen and what a citizen must do. What is the duty of the government? Is it not its duty to protect its citizens? People fear being called anti-national if they say something against the government. If I don't agree with you, isn't it my right to express it?**

The situation in which I am placed as a Governor, I am sorry I will not be able to comment on the current political state.

But in response to your question on 'anti-national'

I will ask you a question: In 1986, (Shah Bano case) I took a stand but there were so many people who branded me a kafir. It meant I was no more a Muslim. Should I accept it? The people at that time were threatening and believed that it is an obligation to kill such a person.

**Q Do you mean to say that what happened in 1986 should be replicated now?**

No, that is not what I am saying. This is a typical

journalistic response. I am not justifying what happened to me. What I mean to say is that there is nothing like a 'free lunch.' I will use my own language and not yours. What I mean to say is that we must have the strength to stand for our convictions. There are three stages. In the first you are opposed, then you are ridiculed, and then people will start accepting you.

You must have the strength to stand by your convictions. So don't get rattled by this thing that

sombody has called me anti-national. No, time will prove.

**Q But you have to live to prove yourself right?**

If you are convinced that you are right, you can go to any lengths. I also suffered a major crisis. In 1986, I went to very learned erudite people. I consulted people who had a reputation. I wanted to be comfortable with my own conscience. I asked them to answer me only in yes and no. They gave me an answer in one sentence

**Q Anyone who took a line that was different from the Pakistani line was killed. In the last 30 years, we have been living under very dire circumstances. An exceptional and abnormal situation always requires exceptional treatment.**

that it will be according to the teachings of Islam.

For so many years, I had to face the ire of people. Even in Hyderabad, they attacked me at the airport at that time. People do not know this. There is nothing like a 'free lunch.' You are bothered by what somebody is calling you. Let them call you as long as you are comfortable with your conscience.

**Q With regards to Jammu and Kashmir, do you think peace will return to the valley?**

On Jammu and Kashmir, I am ready to reply to any question even if it is of a political nature. Since 1988, we have been living in very abnormal circumstances.

**Q But there was no total shutdown.**

It was much worse than a total shutdown. In fact, the ramifications were such that there was an attack on parliament and other parts of India were being affected.

Anyone who took a line that was different from the Pakistani line was killed. In the last 30 years, we have been living under very dire circumstances. An exceptional and abnormal situation always requires exceptional treatment. Normal treatment does not obtain. Those who are opposing Article 370 must know that it was the Congress party which I was a part of that was responsible for knocking the bottom out of the Article. What was left in Article 370? There was nothing. Pakistan was using this meaningless Article to create doubts in the minds of the Kashmiris that the Kashmir question is unsettled. We had to do something about it.

**Q When will this shutdown finally end and when will the army be moved out?**

If we have suffered this for more than 30 years, at least wait for three months. Give some time. The situation will become normal and I have no doubt about it.

GMHC sent 20-page dossier to Unesco

ADITYA CHUNDURU & T.S.S. SIDDHARTH | DC  
HYDERABAD, OCT. 31

To submit a 20 page dossier to Unesco in June this year in the hope of an award, officials of the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) held 54 consultative meetings with over 20 identified partners which included hoteliers, chefs associations, women's self help groups, street vendors, hawkers associations, NGOs, government agencies, academic institutions, research organisations and food journalists/bloggers.

A mapping of the culinary industry in terms of the variety and history of dishes present in the city, employment generated, socio-economic backgrounds of the dependant population and so on was conducted.

Focused group discussions were held with citizens groups to capture their aspirations and a plan of action was formulated incorporating their feedback and comments. A core committee comprising representative stakeholders was formulated to frame this application and to oversee the implementation of the prepared plan of action on the ground.

The rich repository of the city's cuisine has evolved over centuries of strong associations that this land shares with the rest of the world. Recipes have been historically brought from all over the globe (particularly the middle east and central asia) and, over time, have blended with local flavours resulting in universally acclaimed dishes such as haleem and biryani. This unique gastronomic culture offers a big value addition to the international platter, and hence Hyderabad deserves to be a part of this creative

LOCAL FLAVOURS RECOGNISED FINALLY

**Q Over 100 years ago, the Nizam used to stop by our shop to eat some sweets. He used to enjoy eating the Jauzi Halwa and Badam ki Jali**

**ANEES HAMEEDI, proprietor, Hameedi Confectioners**

**Q The kind of dishes that have been conceptualised in Hyderabad ensure that it deserves the tag of being the most creative city for gastronomy**

**PUNEET MEHTA, MasterChef India finalist**



**Q Glad to announce that Hyderabad is selected as @UNESCO CREATIVE CITY in Gastronomy category, on the occasion of World Cities Day today. It's among the 2 cities from India in list of 66 cities, other being Mumbai in Film category**

**K.T. RAMA RAO, Minister**



**Q We are happy that Hyderabad stood out in the UNESCO list**

**BONTHU RAMMOHAN, Hyderabad Mayor**



UNESCO CITIES OF GASTRONOMY					
Alba	Italy	(2017)	Macao	China	(2017)
Bergen	Norway	(2015)	Östersund	Sweden	(2010)
Belem	Brazil	(2015)	Panama City,	Panama	(2017)
Buenaventura	Colombia	(2015)	Paraty	Brazil	(2017)
Burgos	Spain	(2015)	Parma	Italy	(2015)
Chengdu	China	(2010)	Phuket	Thailand	(2015)
Cochabamba	Bolivia	(2017)	Popayan	Colombia	(2005)
Denia	Spain	(2015)	Shunde	China	(2014)
Ensenada	Mexico	(2015)	Rasht	Iran	(2015)
Florianopolis	Brazil	(2014)	San Antonio	Texas USA	(2017)
Gaziantep	Turkey	(2015)	Tsuruoka	Japan	(2014)
Hatay	Turkey	(2017)	Tucson	USA	(2015)
Jeonju	S. Korea	(2012)	Zahle	Lebanon	(2013)

network.

Speaking to *Deccan Chronicle*, additional commissioner GHMC, Musharraf Faruqi, said: "It is not just about the

food, this award also delves deep into the economy of the food enterprises. All of that aside, haleem is my favourite."

This, he hoped, would

provide an impetus to the ongoing efforts aimed at eliminating poverty, hunger, reducing inequality, generating employment and establishing gender

equality. This network will provide access to ideas, knowledge and technology which will help in creating a sustainable physical and social infrastructure.

CRITERIA FOR CREATIVE FIELDS

According to the guidelines laid down by UNESCO, a creative field must be specified and the application must focus on that particular creative field. The creative fields covered by the network are the following: crafts and folk art, design, film, gastronomy, literature, media arts and music. A candidate city can choose only one of these seven creative fields.

RESCUED BABY TO UNDERGO SURGERY

From Page 1

Meanwhile, at around 9.30 am, an autorickshaw driver, who was urinating at the Jubilee bus stand grounds, found two strangers with a bag in hand, in what looked like a baby, and were digging a pit in the ground. Sensing something was wrong, he alerted S. Venkata Ramakrishna, police constable, who was on picket duties on the bus stand premises. The constable went to the location and found a baby.

The trio told the police that they were residents of Karimnagar and that the infant had died due after the failure of a

recent operation. Claiming that the baby was dead, and they were not being allowed to transport dead body in a bus, they had decided to bury her in the ground, for which they were digging a pit.

However, the police constable found the baby was alive.

The Marredpally police sent the baby to Gandhi hospital for treatment and took them into custody for a further probe. At present, the baby was admitted in a neo-natal care unit of the Gandhi Hospital.

Doctors are planning to do a surgery needed to keep the baby alive.

GLOBAL | STAGE

Local students along with ones from abroad being taught by Australian teachers

City school hosts international teachers, students

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, OCT. 31

It is a Thursday morning and an Australian teacher walks into a city school's classroom filled with eighth standard students. The moment the kids see him, they pull out their geometry boxes and paper sheets. The teacher goes to the blackboard and draws a few triangles, which the students try to replicate on their papers.

This is a scenario at the city's Abhaya Waldorf School, where 24 of its students are having a rare

experience.

"It's fun and exciting. It makes us feel like we're learning something important that will change our lives," states Om Chauhan, one of the students.

Chauhan's experience is shared by his fellow students from Australia too, who will be at this city school along with their two teachers till November 3.

An Australian student says, "We are learning that we have something in common with other children across Waldorf schools in

the world; especially the morning verses. They are in a similar tune."

Since arriving in India just a week ago, these Australian pupils are already feeling at home in vibrant Hyderabad. Being Waldorf students, they find the school atmosphere similar.

The welcome they received from the host school and its students has contributed in no small measure to their bonhomie.

"It is the idea of common subjects that easily unifies students, wherever they

● Students from New South Wales of Australia and Hyderabad are also joined by students from Mumbai in the global student exchange program at Abhaya Waldorf School in the city.

are from. We teach same subjects to students of a specific class throughout the world. Such a platform within Waldorf schools makes children share their ideas international-

ly," explains Mark, one of the teachers from Australia.

Explaining the concept of Waldorf schools, Jayesh of Abhaya school, asserts that it is one of a kind collaboration in the world, where teachers and students from different cities and continents get together to learn in different living spaces.

This enables teenagers to enhance their own personalities and also become active contributors within other communities the world over.

"Such inter-cultural exchanges between students and teachers are invaluable in fostering a sense of international empathy and understanding," as they are from different backgrounds and life experiences. This helps student communities, including the Indian children, gain international exposure," remarks Jayesh.

Joining students from New South Wales of Australia and Hyderabad are some of their counterparts from Mumbai too. The quick and easy mingling of these Waldorf students is an example of friendships that extend far beyond individual preferences and across cultures, creeds and continents.

The fact that there are more minds that delve into subjects from different perspectives is what makes the experience unique for all students, the common element being Waldorf schools in different parts of the world.

Whichever part of the globe the students come from, including India, they are richer by their international exposure.







## Gift of books

NTPC regional executive director D.K. Dubey distributes notebooks worth ₹5.03 lakh to 15 schools and colleges

# City

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DECCAN CHRONICLE

FRIDAY | 1 NOVEMBER 2019 | HYDERABAD

# Public respond to CRM plan

## Comprehensive road maintenance programme to cover 709 km city roads

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, OCT. 31



This will be a great initiative. I believe third parties can handle everything well and the whole operation will be organised better than how it is currently. They will also employ latest technologies in road works.

**BARBARA CRUZE,**  
software professional



It is a bad move, the maintenance standards need to be specified. A private entity would not do a good job unless he gets a share of the pie.

**M. PADMANABHA REDDY,**  
(Retd.) IFS officer

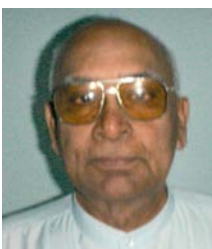
There are currently two issues – the quality of roads and coordination by people laying or maintaining them. Privatisation can address quality at a marginal increase of cost. But it won't address the lack of coordination. Also, for transparency, I suggest there be an online dashboard where people can see who exactly is responsible for maintaining a road. This would increase accountability.

**RAKESH REDDY DUBBUDU,**  
city-based transparency activist and co founder of Factly.in



If the government actually wants to see this through and ensure that the roads are in good condition, then roping in a private player might work in their favour. While giving it to private players, the government can opt for terms and conditions like heavy financial penalty for any damage to the roads. This will keep the private players in check.

**ADITYA MEHTA,** paralympic cyclist



It would be a bad idea.

Environmentally speaking, neither private or public enterprises talk about the environment.

But more often than not we see private entities cutting corners. This must not happen.

**J. RAMA RAO,**  
Capt. (Retd.)  
environmentalist



I welcome this move.

Whenever private players are involved, things happen quicker and more efficiently. Though maintaining roads by private contractors might be slightly more expensive than the current prices, it will be worth it.

**SIBASHRIT PATNAIAK,**  
software

Suryapet district has started getting water from the Kaleshwaram project

— **G. Jagadish Reddy**  
Electricity minister

## IN BRIEF

### POWER | SHUTDOWN

**10 am to 2 pm:** Maruthinagar, Pragathinagar, SKD Nagar, Yousufguda, Navodaya Colony, LN Nagar, Srikrishnanagar, Satya Sai Function Hall area, LS Colony, Ganapathi Complex, Smashana Vatika area; Maruthinagar, Pragathinagar, Kamalapur Phase-II, Green Bawarchi area, SBH Colony; Sagar Society Colony, Kamalapur Phase-III, Arora Colony area.  
**2 pm to 5 pm:** Banjara Hills Roads No. 2, 3, 5, Part of Road No.14, Banjara Hills police station area, Sagar Society area, Lumbini Mall area; Kamalapur Colony, Satya Sai Kalyana Mandapam, Venkalah Naidu house area, Kamalapur Phase-II, Indiranagar, Bata showroom Line; Kamalapur Colony, Green Bawarchi area, Pragathinagar area, LN Nagar area; Yellareddyguda, Yellareddyguda FOC, BSNL area, area behind Sarathi Studio, State Home, area opposite Babu Jagajivan Ram Colony

## J&K mess at UoH damaged in fire

**Hyderabad:** A minor fire damaged the J&K mess at the University of Hyderabad on Thursday evening. About 500 students dependent on the mess for food have been allotted to I and L mess for the day's dinner and Friday's breakfast and lunch. There was no harm to anyone in the incident. The cause is yet to be ascertained.

## 100 VOLUNTEERS TO TEST BODY SCAN AT RGIA

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, OCT. 31

Over 100 passengers have volunteered to be body-scanned at the Hyderabad international airport from October 12 and are happy that security measures have been scaled up. The high-level security measures being taken up at the airport have got the green signal from the passengers who volunteered for it.

The body scan does not have any image. It is a kiosk where the person walks in, waits for a minute and is out, stated airport officials.

However, those who have medical implants like stents, knee and hip caps or any other implant in the body cannot opt for it. The body scanners have been started on a trial basis in Hyderabad for three months. Passenger feedback is being taken and assessments will be made accordingly, stated the airport officials.

The body scanner is located at the express security check lane, near Departure Gate no 3. The airport officials state that after the completion of trials and subsequent regulatory approvals, they will be installed across all terminals.

They state that these are safe radio wave security systems and there is no image and no threat of privacy infringement. Presently, airports in Pune, Mumbai and Bangalore have initiated trials along with Hyderabad.



Patients are being treated under umbrellas inside the hospital premises due to lack of beds.

## Extra doctors for night shift

From Page 1

The hospital set up umbrellas in the compound and gave IV fluids to patients for whom beds could not be found outdoors.

Police was stationed in the hospital on account of the large crowd, as patients had started streaming in from early morning.

A doctor at the hospital said, "We doctors have not even had time to have

lunch. Patients have been coming in, some with very high fever. If there is no improvement by tomorrow morning, we would have to refer critical patients to hospitals in Hyderabad," he said.

The hospital has accommodated 100 patients, even though it has only 60 beds.

The hospital administration said that extra doctors have been called in for the night shift to attend to more cases.

## CONFUSION OVER FINE ON GOLD

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, OCT. 31

Rumours that all gold articles for which owners did not have a bill would attract a fine, created panic and confusion on Thursday.

Under the new gold amnesty scheme, people who are hoarding gold will be given a chance to declare it and pay tax on it.

This has perplexed many people, particularly women, who have been gifted gold jewellery when they married or on other occasions.

"I was given gold by my family members, and they did not give it to me with the bill attached. How will I prove to the government officers that I am the legal owner of the heirloom?" asks Hema Latha. To clarify matters, the Finance Ministry late on Thursday evening said that there was no limit on holding gold jewellery, provided it is purchased from known sources of income.

## Warden held for sodomising 2 boys

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, OCT. 31

A 23-year-old man working as a warden at a private residential school in Rasoolpura village, Yalal, of Vikarabad district was taken into custody on Thursday by the police for alleged sodomising two boys, aged 12 and 13, at the school hostel.

The incident came to light only after one of the boys, frightened by the repeated violations, called his parents in Mumbai and informed them that he and his friend wanted to end their lives due to the abuse.



Maloth Dasarath

The accused, Maloth Dasarath, 24, a native of Shankarpally, had joined as warden of the boys' hostel of the residential school

about a year ago. On August 12, this year, Dasarath reportedly sodomised the boys aged 12 and 13, studying in Class VII and Class VIII, in their room at the hostel.

Further, he threatened the children with dire consequences if they reported the incident to the school authorities or their parents. The panicked boys, both neighbours from Peddemul village of Vikarabad district, kept mum and did not reveal the ordeal to their parents when they went for the Dasara vacation. After their return to the

hostel after the vacation, Dasarath again sodomised the children on October 29.

Worried about the children's safety, the parents of one of the boys rushed to Yalal and lodged a complaint with the police on Thursday. The police registered a case under relevant sections of the POCSO Act and also under section 506 of IPC against Dasarath for the probe.

Vikarabad SP, M. Narayana, said that Dasarath has been taken into custody for the questioning. The accused was remanded and further investigation is underway.

## \$18.9m grant to cure TB among children

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, OCT. 31

Child friendly tuberculosis treatment and preventive therapy for treating multidrug resistant tuberculosis in children is very important and a \$18.9 million grant has been agreed by Stellenbosch University and Unitaid in Hyderabad.

The 50th Union World Conference on Lung Health

stated that 95 per cent of the children with MDR-TB are not receiving treatment presently.

The 5 per cent who receive treatment are long, bad-tasting, toxic with severe side effects.

Some of them are also suffering from irreversible hearing loss.

The formulations of medicines will be child-friendly.

**JAWAHARLAL NEHRU ARCHITECTURE AND FINE ARTS UNIVERSITY**  
Mahaveer Marg, Masab Tank, Hyderabad – 500 028

**NOTIFICATION FOR ADMISSION TO MFA COURSES – 2019**

Applications are invited from the eligible candidates in the prescribed form for admission into the following 2 year Master of Fine Arts (MFA) courses offered at JNAFAU College of Fine Arts for the Academic Year 2019-20.

**Master of Fine Arts (Full Time-Self finance)**

- MFA (Applied Art & Visual Communication)
- MFA (Photography & Media Communication)
- MFA (Painting & Visual Communication)
- MFA (Sculpture)

The application form, eligibility, fee structure and other details are available on the University website [www.jnaufau.ac.in](http://www.jnaufau.ac.in). The filled in application form, xerox copies of relevant documents/certificates along with Demand Draft for Rs.1,200/- (Rs.600/- in case of SC/ST candidates) drawn on any nationalized bank in favour of "Registrar, JNAFAU, payable at Hyderabad" should reach the office of the Co-ordinator Admissions, Jawaharlal Nehru Architecture and Fine Arts University, Masab Tank, Hyderabad – 500028 on or before 16-11-2019 by 5:00 PM through speed post or in-person. 5% Supernumerary seats will be meant for students of other states under National Integration Scheme (NIS) in each course. The admissions will be through Entrance Examination and Interview. For further details contact 040-23319462 (or) admissions@jnaufau.ac.in. Sd/- Prof. M. Sitaramalakshmi, Co-ordinator, Admissions

No. JNAFAU/Adms/MFA-2019/1 dt: 31-10-2019

**TELANGANA ADMISSION AND FEE REGULATORY COMMITTEE (TAFRC)**  
2<sup>nd</sup> FLOOR, JNA & FAU CAMPUS, MASAB TANK, HYDERABAD-500028.  
Ph: 040-23331120, 28802740, 29802741 e-Mail : tafrc@gmail.com, Website: tafrconline.telangana.gov.in

**NOTIFICATION**

Telangana Admission and Fee Regulatory Committee (TAFRC) proposes to review and determine fee structures for the programmes, viz., **SUPER SPECIALITY MEDICAL COURSES, UG AND PG MEDICAL COURSES, UG AND PG DENTAL COURSES, M.Sc(NURSING), BAMS, BHMS, BNYS, GNM, MPHWF(F), DMLT and Other PARAMEDICAL COURSES, B.Sc(Nursing), P.B.B.Sc(Nursing-2Years), B.Sc(MLT), BPT, MPT COURSES** in the Private Un-aided Professional Institutions in the State of Telangana for the Block Period 2020-2023.

The Managements of the concerned Private Un-aided Professional Colleges in the State of Telangana are hereby required to submit relevant data relating to the year 2018-2019, together with their Audited Financial Statements for the years 2017-18 and 2018-19, on line at <http://tafrconline.telangana.gov.in/> by 31st January, 2020, positively (last date for submission of the relevant data along with the fee proposals), as per the guide-lines available in the same web site. On line submission can be made from 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2019 onwards. The data shall be furnished programme-wise, paying the prescribed processing charges as prescribed in the Guidelines (Link available in <http://tafrconline.telangana.gov.in/> through **Online Payment Gateway**.

The colleges, who do not submit any fee proposals or are unresponsive and do not submit the relevant data, shall not be permitted to collect any fee for the block period 2020-2023.

For complete details, visit the said website from 01.11.2019 onwards.

Sd/-  
Smt. A. Santi Kumari, IAS  
Spl. Chief Secretary to Government  
Health Medical & Family Welfare Department  
& MEMBER SECRETARY  
Telangana Admission & Fee Regulatory Committee

Place : Hyderabad  
Date : 25.10.2019

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FH7202 - 2019





## New boss

Retired IAS officer C.P. Satyanarayana Reddy takes charge as commissioner of the state civil supplies department

# Crime

PAGE  
4

DECCAN CHRONICLE

FRIDAY | 1 NOVEMBER 2019 | HYDERABAD



Do not to make statements on J&K that will affect the unity of the country

— M. Venkaiah Naidu  
Vice-President

## BRIEF

### DUO CHASES MAN ON ROAD, STABS HIM

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, OCT. 31

Two attackers chased and stabbed a person with a surgical knife near Habeeb Hotel in the Malakpet Race Course area on Thursday evening. Police have identified the victim as Syed Mujeeb and attackers as Ashfaq and his friend Nagaraju.

Chaderghat police said a passerby rushed Mujeeb to a private hospital, which directed him to the Osmania General Hospital. The victim sustained stab injuries on chest and abdomen. The accused have been taken into custody.

This is the latest addition to a series of incidents in the city where attackers have stabbed their victims in public, unmindful of the presence of the general public and, in some cases, police personnel. Some attacks have occurred in the vicinity of police stations.

### EX-MUTAWALLI OF YOUSUFAIN REMANDED

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, OCT. 31

The former mutawalli of Dargah Yousufain, Faisal Ali Shah, has been remanded to judicial custody.

Habeeb Nagar police station arrested him on the allegation of illegally confining the owner of a handicraft shop at his residence. Later in the evening, he was granted bail by the XVI Metropolitan sessions court judge.

Mirza Hamid Ali Baig complained that the former mutawalli was deferring payment of money he still owed for the purchase of antique items. When he reached his residence to collect the pending amount,

Shah started quarrelling with him, physically assaulted him and locked him up in his house. Baig informed one of his friends who informed the police.

Habeeb Nagar Police has booked five cases against the former mutawalli in a span of three months on different allegations. Shah's disciples alleged that the present inspector of police, P. Shiva Chandra, is refusing complaints lodged by the former mutawalli but taking prompt action on complaints lodged by his opponents.

They allege that the police is acting on the instance of the present mutawalli of the dargah. They claimed that the Habeeb Nagar police refused to accept Shah's complaint when a few antique articles were stolen from his residence last week. They said that he would be released on Friday as they could not submit the bail documents to the jail authorities on time.

# Teen accused of killing mom was raped and blackmailed

## Cops arrest teen, her two friends, say it was a murder for property

JAYENDRA CHAITANYA  
T. I DC  
HYDERABAD, OCT. 31

In a twist to the murder of a woman by her own daughter earlier this week, it turned out on Thursday that the accused had been raped by her associates and had suffered a miscarriage. She was a victim of blackmail, police said.

The police arrested the girl, who is 19 years old, for the murder of her mother Pallerla Rajitha, 38, of Hayathnagar.

The Hayathnagar police who solved the murder of missing wife of P. Srinivas Reddy, a driver from Munuganur, has

also unearthed that Rajitha's daughter was raped on multiple occasions by her two boyfriends.

Police arrested C. Bal Reddy, 23, and K. Shashikumar, 28, said to be the boyfriends of the accused, who is not being identified as she is a rape victim. Police said the teenager and her boyfriends wanted the property of Rajitha.

Rachakonda police commissioner Mahesh Bhagwat said that the accused girl, a degree second-year student, was in a relationship with Bal Reddy for quite some time. She became pregnant as a result of physi-

■ **POLICE ARRESTED** C. Bal Reddy, 23, and K. Shashikumar, 28, boyfriends of the accused. Police said she and her boyfriends wanted the victim's property

cal intimacy when she was a minor.

In order to get the pregnancy aborted, the girl sought help from her neighbour Shashikumar and got aborted at a hospital in Amangal. A few days later, Shashikumar started blackmailing the girl that he would inform her mother Rajitha about the abortion and forced her into a physical relationship. He raped the

victim on many occasions when she was a minor. He also demanded ₹10,000 to keep mum, said the commissioner.

Then, Shashikumar provoked the girl to kill her mother so that she would get her share of the property including agricultural land, house and plots owned by Rajitha.

"On October 19, the girl, threw chili powder on her mother and along with Shashikumar strangled Rajitha to death. They abandoned the body in the house. The girl went to Bal Reddy's house and Shashikumar stayed at his house," Mr Bhagwat said.

Two days later, the girl returned home and tried to hang the body of Rajitha to the ceiling to make it look like a suicide. The body had decomposed and she could not do it. She therefore took the body to Rammanpet in a car and threw it near the tracks.

Mr Bhagwat said the missing case of Rajitha was altered to murder and two more cases were registered against Bal Reddy and Shashikumar under the POC SO Act. Police seized a car (TS06 EL 4142), four mobile phones, the blanket used to wrap Rajitha's body and a towel.

## Man held with 667gm of gold in his rectum

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, OCT. 31

An air passenger who attempted to smuggle the gold worth over ₹25 lakh, an iPhone, and 24 burqas, was apprehended by the Air Intelligence Unit of Hyderabad Customs at Rajiv Gandhi International Airport in Shamshabad on Wednesday night.

According to the customs officials, the passenger identified as Shaik Faryaz Ahmed arrived at Hyderabad in Indigo Airline Flight 6E 025 from Dubai on Wednesday. Acting on the intelligence, the passenger

was intercepted for checking and found THE gold in his possession.

On a body scan, it was found that the air passenger was carrying gold in the form of powder in six cylindrical-shaped capsules inserted in his rectum. The yellow metal was extracted and the quantity of gold was found to be 667.210 gm valued at ₹25,68,758, said the officials.

The passenger was also carrying an iPhone 11 pro valued at ₹1.09 lakh and 24 burqas worth ₹72,000 and tried to smuggle them. A case has been registered against Faryaz.

## RAJAT KUMAR GOES TO COPS AGAINST SLUR

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, OCT. 31

Telangana Chief Electoral Officer Rajath Kumar has filed a complaint with Hyderabad Cyber Crime Police stating that a false propaganda has been launched against him on social media.

According to the complaint, a fake and defamatory post was being circulated on WhatsApp against the CEO stating that the state government had given him 15.25 acres of land as a gift for favouring TRS during the elections.

Rajat Kumar said the land mentioned had been purchased by him in 2013-14 before his tenure as the chief electoral officer. The same was being falsely attributed as a gift with mala fide intention, the complaint added.

■ **Rajat Kumar said he had purchased the land mentioned on social media before his tenure as CEO.**

## AC blast kills 2 at medical store

DC CORRESPONDENT  
VIJAYAWADA, OCT. 31

Two persons were killed in a blast at a medical store in Seelamvari Street of Kothapeta in Guntur city in the early hours of Thursday.

The blast was of such high intensity that it brought down the walls of the store and left the rolling shutters of the adjacent shops badly mangled.

The police and fire personnel were informed by the property owners who were shocked awake by the blast.

Kothapeta inspector S.V. Rajasekhara Reddy said that K. Rama Rao, 38, and an unidentified man were found dead in the Long Live Pharmacy.

On the basis of the unidentified person holding a screwdriver and AC cables, the police suspects that he was an AC mechanic who was repairing the

indoor unit of the machine when it exploded.

Guntur Urban superintendent of police P.H.D. Ramakrishna and other senior police officials inspected the spot.

The police said that the shopping complex has two floors, with shops on the ground floor and the property owners living on the second floor.

Rama Rao was running a wholesale medical business for the past few years in the shop. He and his wife Sambrayam, along with their two children, were residents of Syamala Nagar in Guntur city. The police shifted the bodies to GGH for autopsy and started investigation.

## Lookout posted for jewel thieves

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, OCT. 31

Mirchowk police released a look-out notice on five burqa-clad woman who made away with a pair of gold earrings worth ₹8 lakh from a shop at Gulzar Houz under Mirchowk police station limits by diverting the attention of the owner and salesman.

The incident happened on October 28 and the management approached the police. Following a complaint from the shop owner, the police booked a case under IPC

Section 380 (theft) and IPC (cheating) and a probe is on.

According to Mr A. Satish, detective inspector, Mirchowk, the offenders posed as customers and walked into Khaja and Sons Jewellers in Balala Complex on Monday afternoon. "After diverting the attention of the salesmen, they took a box containing gold earrings worth ₹8 lakh and left the shop."

Meanwhile, the police team analysed the CCTV footage in the shop and were able to get images of the alleged thieves.



Police released this CCTV image of three of five women who allegedly robbed a jewellery store.

## Blow of fate



Family members (above) mourn the death of TSRTC conductor Bokka Ramana Reddy and his wife Vajramani (file picture, below) after an APSRTC bus hit them near the Peddamberpet ORR on Thursday.

— P. Surendra

## TSRTC conductor, wife run over by APSRTC bus

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, OCT. 31

A TSRTC conductor and his wife were killed when an APSRTC bus heading towards the city rammed into their bike on Thursday.

The accident took place at about 7 am near Bali Jaguda crossroads near the Peddamberpet Outer Ring Road while Bokka Ramana Reddy, 56, and his wife Vajramani, 49, were proceeding to Abdullahpurmet on their bike. Ramana Reddy was working as a conductor with TSRTC at the Hayathnagar depot (Staff No. ADC/200233). His wife was a home maker.

The APSRTC bus (AP 05 Z 5093), belonging to the Tuni depot, was coming to Hyderabad from Vijayawada when it



crashed into the bike. The couple suffered serious injuries and died on the spot.

Abdullahpurmet police said Venkataswamy, the bus driver, was driving in a rash and negligent manner. Based on a complaint from B. Shivashankar

Reddy, son of the deceased couple, a case has been registered against Venkataswamy under Section 304 A of IPC. Bodies of the couple were handed over to their family after autopsy at the Osmania General Hospital.

## Woman with lover and hubby's help kills mom

MD. ILYAS | DC  
VIJAYAWADA, OCT. 31

Guntur police on Thursday arrested a woman, her husband and her lover for murdering her mother to get at her properties.

Nagarampalem inspector K. Venkata Reddy alleged that Mannam Bhargavi strangled her mother Alapati Lakshmi on October 10 with the help of her lover Mannam Venkata Sivaram while her husband Mannam Ramanjaneyulu took an active part in planning of the crime. The police had rushed to Lakshmi's residence at about 10.30 pm after being alerted by neighbours who had heard her screams and found her dead.

The police collected CCTV footage from the

neighbourhood and found Bhargavi and Sivaram leaving the house at the time the murder was committed, the inspector said.

Mr Venkata Reddy said that Lakshmi's son and husband had died years ago and she had married Bhargavi to Ramanjaneyulu. The couple was living at Achampeta in Guntur district and were working in a hotel owned Sivaram. Bhargavi and Sivaram soon began an extramarital affair.

In the meantime, she had been pressurising Lakshmi to transfer the house and farmland in her name but the mother refused. Bhargavi, Ramanjaneyulu and Sivaram then hatched a plan to kill Lakshmi to get the properties.

Accordingly, Bhargavi and Sivaram came to

Guntur on October 10 while Ramanjaneyulu stayed back in Achampeta.

They reached Lakshmi's residence and were let inside. When Lakshmi again refused to transfer the property in Bhargavi's name, they attacked her with a stick.

Sivaram and Bhargavi then allegedly strangled Lakshmi and left. The next day, Bhargavi returned to Guntur and took part in the last rites of her mother.

The police, while investigating, found Bhargavi and Sivaram entering the house on October 10 and questioned her.

She broke down during interrogation and confessed to the crime. The police arrested Bhargavi, her husband and her lover on Thursday for the murder of Lakshmi.

**PUBLIC SUMMONS**  
Special Dakhast No. 21/2002  
**IN THE COURT OF  
HON'BLE C.J.S.D. SOLAPUR  
AT : SOLAPUR**  
Sabale Waghire & Co. Ltd.  
Through its Manager  
Shri. Natwarlal Prabhaji Vyas,  
Age-65 Years, Occu-Servant  
R/o. 166/102, New Pachha Peth Solapur  
**Versus**  
(1) Smt. Laxmibai Ramchandra  
Sambharam Age-Adult,  
Occu. Housewife, R/o. 34/2/21,  
New Pachha Peth Solapur  
(2) Shrinath Ramchandra Sambharam  
Age-Adult, Occu-Business,  
R/o. As above,  
Presently Hyderabad  
Whereas the above named Decree  
Holder has filed Special Dakhast No.  
21/2002 in the Court of Hon'ble C.J.S.D.  
Solapur (Hon'ble Mohite Madam) for  
recovery of Decretal amount Rs.  
1,14,000/- along with future interest  
against you No. 1 to 2 and inspite of due  
search you No. 1 and 2 are not found.  
Therefore, by this publication you No. 1  
and 2 are hereby directed to remain  
present before the Hon'ble Court  
Solapur on or before next date fixed by  
the Court 14.11.2019 in person or  
through counsel, failing which Hon'ble  
Court will pass necessary further order,  
which please note.  
Given under my hand and seal of the  
Court on 07.02.2019  
**By Order**  
Sd/- Asst. Superintendent  
C.J.S.D. Solapur

**3rd DEATH ANNIVERSARY**  
The memory of the just is  
blessed. Ps 10:7  
  
**Mrs. VIDYA DEVARAJU**  
Inserted by  
Loving Husband Devaraju  
Daughter - Pallavi, Son - Udayraj  
and Grandson - Vicky  
Tel No. 9908190029  
(S/1920/D01137)

**CHOUTHIA**  
  
**KUSUM KAPUR**  
Life is complete when you have  
experienced love, as a Wife, Mother  
and Grand Mother  
Your presence will be always missed.  
Wishing you a peaceful transition to  
the after life.  
Condolence meet at residence  
Inserted by Ritu, Shireen, Arti  
(S/1920/D01155)

**11nd ANNIVERSARY**  
  
**S.D. SATH PRAKASH**  
The pain of losing you is immeasurable.  
Every day we remember you  
in our prayers and thoughts.  
Your memory can never be forgotten.  
We love you so much and miss you.  
Inserted by  
Mr. & Mrs. Gulshan Das Brother  
and Sisters  
Ph: 9160177650  
(S/1920/D01142)

**OBITUARY**  
"I will dwell in house of lord forever". Ps.23:6  
  
**Mr. Gabriel Sunil Victor (Gabe)**  
S/o. late Victor George and Helen Victor  
DOB : January 9, 1958 DOD: October 26, 2019  
Inserted by :  
Classmates & Marriedpally Friends  
P.A. Paul, Vinay Patangya, Sydney Issac,  
Sandeep Malhotra, Anil Chandekar,  
Mahendran and Lovely Jassy Anand.  
(CA-3060)

**OBITUARY**  
  
**Dr. LAJPAT RAI**  
(1937 - 2019)  
With profound grief, we inform the  
Sad Demise of Dr. Lajpat Rai.  
Retd. Prof & HOD of Mathematics, OU/  
Sreenidhi College of Engg.  
Funeral on Nov. 1st from his resi. at  
Adarsh Apartments, Adarsnagar at  
12 noon. Cremation at Vaikunta  
Mahaprasthanam near Whisper  
Valley at 1.00 pm  
Grieving Family Members  
040-23231419  
(S/1920/D01157)

**2nd DEATH ANNIVERSARY**  
The righteous will be in everlasting  
remembrance. Psalms 112:6  
  
**PILLI JOHN BOB**  
DOB: 6.10.1928 DOD: 1.11.2017  
Inserted by  
Wife - P. Susheela &  
Family Members  
Children and Grand Children  
(S/1920/D01157)

**OBITUARY**  
Our beloved father, Bhagavatula Ananda Murty,  
Retired Principal Expired on 23-10-2019.  
  
**Bhagavatula Ananda Murty**  
Dharmadham on: 01-11-2019 (10th Day).  
Aaseervachanam on: 03-11-2019 (12th Day).  
Cereemonies will be performed at Bharath  
Seva Ashram, Lower Tankbund, Hyderabad.  
**Ravi.S. Bhagavatula (Son)**  
Cell: 9000033755, 9848028116

**Birthday Remembrance**  
  
**B. VIJAYA KUMARI**  
Section Officer (Retd.)  
Panchayatraj Dept. Secretariat  
D.O.B: 01.11.1954 D.O.D: 12.10.2015  
you were light in our lives,  
and will be forever  
Inserted by  
**FAMILY MEMBERS**  
Ph: 9885853615

**1st DEATH ANNIVERSARY**  
I will dwell in the house of the lord  
forever Psalms 23:6  
  
**Ramadugu Israel Abraham**  
ASM Compound  
The pain of losing you is immeasurable.  
You are missed, every day and every Moment  
Inserted by: Suneetha Israel - Wife  
Sam, Neeti and Tobby & Family Members





## In Sardar's name

Dr S.K. Joshi administers national unity pledge to Secretariat employees as a part of the Rashtriya Ekta Diwas

# Politics

PAGE 5

DECCAN CHRONICLE

FRIDAY | 1 NOVEMBER 2019 | HYDERABAD



AP government is working with single agenda of booking cases on TD leaders

— Nara Lokesh  
AP former minister

## IN BRIEF

### Cong incharges named for protest

**Hyderabad:** AICC general secretary and TS Congress affairs incharge R.C. Khuntia has appointed senior party leaders as district incharge to oversee agitations against the policies of the BJP-led Centre. The Congress has decided to conduct agitation across the nation against the Centre's failures in creating employment, ignoring farmer issues and others. The TPCC will hold dharnas in front of collectorates on November 8 and on November 16 at Hyderabad. The incharges were appointed to make these agitations a success.

### RETD. OFFICIAL BOOKED FOR MISUSING FUNDS

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, OCT. 31

Saifabad police on Thursday registered a case against former principal secretary of the erstwhile AP government, C.V.S.K. Sharma, for misusing public money to pay his lawyers to defend him in the illegal investments case of AP Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy.

Former chief secretary P.K. Mohanty and the then principal secretary of finance Dr P.V. Ramesh have been named as accused in the Sharma case.

According to the FIR issued by the Saifabad police, they registered the case against the former IAS officer following an order of the First Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court of the city, on a complaint from A.V. Ramana, general secretary of the Janata Dal state unit.

The complainant alleged that Mr Sharma claimed ₹7,56,460 from the erstwhile AP government towards paying fees to a Supreme Court lawyer to defend him in the case where in the CBI showed him as one of the accused along with Jagan Mohan Reddy

### HC VACATES STAY ON AP DAM WORKS

DC CORRESPONDENT  
VIJAYAWADA, OCT. 31

Agreeing with the contention of the state advocate-general that a writ petition doesn't hold any value after any arbitration process commences, the Andhra Pradesh High Court on Thursday vacated the stay on Polavaram project works.

The stay had earlier been granted on a petition by Navayuga Engineering Company Limited. The HC on August 22 had suspended an order by APGenco terminating the Polavaram Hydro-Electric Project (PHEP) contract entered into with Navayuga and directed that the process for entrustment of the project to any third party is stopped.

Thursday's order clears the way for the state government to entrust the work to a new contractor. The HC agreed with advocate general S. Sriram's contention that the writ petition has no value as the arbitration process was on.

Reacting to the order, AP minister for water resources P. Anil Kumar said that with the HC order, all hurdles have now been cleared for Polavaram.

He said that the AP government was saving a lot of money through reverse tendering.

Mr Anil Kumar also described the HC order as a slap on the face of Telugu Desam leaders who had been involved in irregularities in the Polavaram project.

The minister said that work on the project would be started as soon as waters in the Godavari recede.

# Caste war erupts for state Cong chief post

BC leaders want leader to be elected from their community

S.N.C.N. ACHARYULU | DC  
HYDERABAD, OCT. 31

The post of president of the Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) is being hotly contested by leaders from the Reddy and other communities, particularly the Backward Classes (BC). The party's central leadership is likely to appoint a new TPCC chief soon, most probably after the municipal elections, but there is much jostling for the post.

N. Uttam Kumar Reddy showed no interest in continuing as TPCC president once his term had expired. Congress leaders are thus polarised into the two groups.

Congress MPs Komati-reddy Venkat Reddy and

■ **ALL INDIA** Congress Committee secretary and former MP V. Hanumantha Rao has openly asked the Central leadership to give the TPCC post to his BC community.

A. Revanth Reddy are front-runners for the post. But BC community leaders are demanding that they be given a chance this time.

The Reddy community plays a dominate role in the Telangana Congress. The BC groups argue that during the recent Telangana assembly elections, the TPCC president (Uttam Kumar Reddy) and Congress Legislature Party leader (K. Jana

Reddy) were both of the Reddy community and they failed to get the party into power. There is a large BC population in Telangana and if a BC leader is given a chance, the community will swing behind the Congress.

All India Congress Committee (AICC) secretary and former MP V. Hanumantha Rao has openly asked the central leadership to give the TPCC post to his BC community. Mr Rao is also aspiring for the TPCC post on the grounds that the post should go to a person who has always been with the Congress. He and other senior leaders are opposing Mr Revanth Reddy becoming TPCC president.

Some Congress leaders

are supporting MLC T. Jeevan Reddy for the TPCC president's post. There is speculation in the party that if this internal fight intensifies, the party leaders in Delhi may prefer former minister and MLA D. Sridhar Babu for the post as he is non-controversial.

There is uncertainty about when the Municipal elections will be held as several petitions are pending in court regarding municipalities and the courts must decide before the state government can schedule Municipal elections. If the Municipal elections are delayed, a new TPCC president may be appointed soon by the party's central leadership, said a senior Congress leader.



Union minister Parshottam Rupala, BJP president Dr. K. Laxman and others paid tributes to Sardar Patel on his birth anniversary on Thursday. — S. SURENDER REDDY

## Patel gave us Ek Bharat, says Parshottam Rupala

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, OCT. 31

Union minister of state for agriculture, Parshottam Rupala, and BJP state president Dr K. Laxman along with other party leaders paid tribute to first deputy prime minister Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel on his 144th birth anniversary and participated in the 'Run for Unity' in Hyderabad.

Speaking at the event, Mr Rupala said, "Patel had united the country and gave us Ek Bharat. He is a man of steel who will always be with us and will be remembered for uniting India by merging multiple provinces. I urge the people of our country to visit Gujarat to see the statue of unity which is established in the honour of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel by Prime Minister Narendra Modi."

He added: "I urge the people of our country to stand together as one and collectively work to make the country shreshtha Bharat, which would be the true tribute to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel."

Dr Laxman spoke of the initiatives and the key role played of collectively merging the princely states into one nation by Vallabhbhai Patel and said they would always be remembered.

Dr Laxman said, "Sardar

### NAIDU LAUDS PATEL, CENSORS SPEECH ON KASHMIR

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, OCT. 31

Vice-President M. Venkaiah Naidu, urged political parties not to make statements on Jammu and Kashmir that would affect the unity of the country and give the advantage to India's neighbour, which is aiding and abetting cross-border terrorism. He was addressing a function on Rashtriya Ekta Divas to mark the 144th birth anniversary of India's first home minister Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. The event was organised by Pragna Bharati.

Mr Naidu said "The dilution of Article 370 was meant to empower the people of Jammu and Kashmir and extend all the laws. The people across the country rejoiced as they felt that real unity was achieved. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel was the unifier of India. Every Indian must strive to protect the unity, integrity and sovereignty

of India. Patel's contribution to unifying India will forever remain one of the greatest accomplishments in the annals of world history." He called for making youngsters aware of the humongous efforts and sacrifices made by leaders like Patel and suggested that school textbooks have a detailed chapter on the contribution and efforts of Patel.

"Patel was the chief architect of India's steel frame, he envisaged the all-India services as an important cementing force in promoting the unity and integrity of the nation. He tackled complex situations, including the merger of erstwhile Hyderabad state, ruled then by the Nizam, into India. Various princely states accepted Patel's appeal to join the Indian Union because he emphasized the fundamental homogeneity of culture and sentiment among the people and requested them to join India," said Mr Naidu.

Patel had an integral relationship with the city of pearls, Hyderabad. Patel freed the erstwhile Hyderabad state ruled by the Nizams."

October 31 is observed as National Unity Day since 2014 and people from all walks participate in the 'Run for Unity,' held across the nation.

## Decision on civic polls in 2 days

VIJJINI VAMSHIDHARA | DC  
HYDERABAD, OCT. 31

Though a division bench of the High Court has paved the way for the civic elections, the government will have to wait for some more time for some legal cases to be cleared. A single judge court has stayed elections to 77 municipalities and municipalities which needs to be resolved.

Justice Challa Kondadaram on Thursday told counsels for the government and the petitioners that he will take a decision on hearing a batch of petitions on the municipal polls in one or two days.

While dealing with as many as 80 petitions, in which orders were issued staying the elections and publication of the election schedule in 77 urban bodies, on the grounds that the rules of the Municipalities Act were not implemented while

completing the pre-poll process. The judge said that he will give a date for hearing the petitions at 2.30 pm on Friday.

He made it clear that these 80 petitions will be decided based on the division bench's orders and the contentions raised in the petitions.

It is pertinent to mention here that in an earlier round of adjudication of this batch of petitions in July, Justice P. Naveen Rao had stayed holding of elections in 77 urban local bodies until the discrepancies were rectified.

Meanwhile, the division bench headed by Chief Justice Raghavendra Singh Chauhan dismissed two PILs, contending that the same aspects were raised in the batch of 80 petitions, such as rules were not followed in division of wards, SC, ST, BC and women voters were not identified, etc. However, after dismissal of the PILs, the Chief Justice bench made it

3 All the petitions on the matter will be decided based on the division bench's orders and the contentions raised in the petitions

— CHALLA KONADARAM  
HC Justice

clear to the state government that its orders did not relate to the batch of petitions and that the single judge will decide on those petitions.

As per the court arrangements the batch of petitions were listed before Justice Challa

Kodandaram. Additional Advocate-General J. Ramachandra Rao made a mention before Justice Kodandaram requesting him to take up the hearing of all the writ petitions and pass orders so as to enable municipal elections to be held by drawing attention to the division bench's orders.

## AP government insults national tricoulour

NAGABHUSHAN  
HOSKOTE | DC  
ANANTAPUR, OCT. 31

For Andhra Pradesh, which takes great pride in its great son, freedom fighter, late Pingali Venkaiah, for having designed the Indian national flag, a shameful controversy has stirred after village officials of the Jagan Mohan Reddy government insulted the national flag, by painting the ruling YSRC party flag over it in a rural government building here.

The controversy that has now firmly gripped the state started when officials of the Tammidepalli village gram panchayat in Amarapuram mandal in Anantapur district removed and replaced the Indian national flag with the YSRC colours on the office wall, leading to stern condemnation of the action.

Telugu Desam chief N. Chandrababu Naidu, BJP state president Kanna Lakshminarayana and other opposition leaders posted photos of shameful 're-painting act' of YSRC colours over the Indian Flag at a panchayat office on social media platforms, which turned viral, with common people too joined in strongly criticising the YSRC government.

The saffron-white-green colours, along blue Ashoka chakra symbol, were wiped out and YSRC party flag colours were painted over it. The blue colour was used on two sides while white colour was painted used in the middle, an act which is in brazen violation of the Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act,



The wall with tricolour on the office building repainted in white in Anantapur district.

1971, which prohibits desecration of or insult to country's national symbols, including the national flag.

The photos of the criminal insult to national sentiment by government influenced by the ruling YSRC party cadre went viral on social media, stirring a huge controversy. Netizens shared videos and photos of the panchayat office in a before and after mode.

"I have never seen our National Tricolour being utterly disrespected like this. YS Jagan Mohan Reddy government must apologise for this shocking, abominable act of replacing tricolour with YSRC party colours," Mr Naidu tweeting, adding a hashtag, #YSRCPDisrespectsTri colour.

Mr Lakshminarayana blamed the irresponsibility of government and called it shocking and shameful.

Mr Y.V.B. Rajendra Prasad, MLC, TD, said that party flag colour madness has reached a peak in YSRC leaders, who were trying to paint party colours on government offices, spending

₹1,300 crore on the programme, at a time when the state was facing severe financial challenges and was finding it difficult to even pay wages to employees.

Mr Buddha Venkanna, MLC, TD said that the YSRC government was spending huge sums of money in painting government offices with YSRC party flag colours. "The Jagan Mohan Reddy-led YSRC government is spending Rs 1,300 crore for painting YSRC colours to government offices, wasting precious public money and putting additional financial burden on public," Mr Venkanna said.

The police have not registered any case so far. Nor has any senior leader of the YSRC, including Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy offered apologies over the insult.

In a tame late action, Mr S. Satyanarayana, Anantapur collector, purportedly suspended R. Prakash, village secretary of Tammidepalli. The government also had the wall re-painted with white paint afterwards.

## National Eligibility Cum Entrance Test-PG 2020 NEET - PG 2020



**National Board of Examinations**

(An autonomous organization of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India)

(For admission to MD/MS/Post Graduate Diploma Courses - 2020 Academic Session)

- **NEET-PG** is an eligibility-cum-ranking examination prescribed as the single entrance examination to various MD/MS and PG Diploma Courses as per Section 10(D) of the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956. No other entrance examination, either at state or institution level, shall be valid for entry to MD/MS/PG Diploma Courses.
- National Board of Examinations has been notified by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India to conduct **NEET-PG 2020** on an All-India basis.
- NBE shall be conducting **NEET-PG** as a Computer Based Test (CBT) on 5<sup>th</sup> January 2020 in a single session at all the test centres.

### Eligibility Criteria for NEET-PG 2020

- Candidates in possession of MBBS degree/Provisional MBBS Pass Certificate from a Medical College/Institute duly recognized as per the provisions of the Indian Medical Council Act, possessing either a permanent or provisional registration certificate of MBBS or equivalent qualification issued by the Medical Council of India / State Medical Council and have completed one year of internship or are likely to complete the same on or before **31<sup>st</sup> March 2020** may apply for **NEET-PG 2020** through online application system at **www.nbe.edu.in**

### Applying for NEET-PG 2020

- Candidates can register for **NEET-PG** through online portal from **1<sup>st</sup> November, 2019 to 21<sup>st</sup> November, 2019**. Candidates can choose the exam city through online registration system on first come first serve basis.
- Applicant candidates are required to read the **NEET-PG 2020** Information Bulletin thoroughly. The Information Bulletin will be available at **www.nbe.edu.in**.

### Examination Fee

General / OBC Candidates : ₹ 3750/-  
SC/ST/PWD/ (PH) Candidates : ₹ 2750/-

- The fee for the examination has to be remitted through payment gateway, at the time of online submission of application form, using a credit card or debit card issued by Banks in India or through internet banking.

### Important Dates

Availability of Information Bulletin	1 <sup>st</sup> November, 2019 onwards
Online Submission of application form	1 <sup>st</sup> November - 21 <sup>st</sup> November, 2019
Examination Date	5 <sup>th</sup> January 2020
Declaration of result	By 31 <sup>st</sup> January 2020

For any query please contact:

Candidate Care Support: 1800 267 4003 (Toll free) Email: [neetpg@nbe.edu.in](mailto:neetpg@nbe.edu.in)

**Note:** Possession/Use of Mobile Phones/Electronic Devices is strictly prohibited in the premises of NBE Examination Centres. Candidates shall be liable for penal action for Possession/use of Mobile Phones/ Electronic Devices. Kindly read terms & conditions in the information bulletin carefully.

Medical Enclave, Ansari Nagar, Mahatma Gandhi Marg, New Delhi-110029

Phone : 011-45593000 Email: [mail@natboard.edu.in](mailto:mail@natboard.edu.in)





## Last-day gift

Assembly Secretary Dr V.V.S. Narasimha Charyulu, who retired on Thursday, was an extension till further orders

DECCAN CHRONICLE

FRIDAY | 1 NOVEMBER 2019 | HYDERABAD

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We will fight GO 2430 that curbs freedom of expression

— N. Chandrababu Naidu  
AP former CM

## IN BRIEF

### Pawan Kalyan backs RTC staff

**Hyderabad:** Jana Sena Party president Pawan Kalyan on Thursday said that it would support the Telangana Road Transport Corporation employees' strike. RTC JAC leaders met with Mr Kalyan at his party office, requested support for their cause and asked him to take initiative to resolve their issues. They also asked him to support their proposed Million March. After the meeting with RTC JAC leaders, Mr Kalyan, speaking to media-persons, said that Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao should address the employees' issues..

### 265 STRAYS POISONED IN AP VILLAGE

DC CORRESPONDENT  
VIJAYAWADA, OCT. 31

Help for Animals Society (HAS) has sought action against panchayat officials for allegedly killing 265 stray dogs in Kantheru of Guntur.

The society lodged a complaint with the collector alleging the misuse of ₹30,000 of public money to kill the stray dogs and demanded that this killing should stop.

HAS secretary A. Tejovanth said that the society had lodged a complaint with Tadikonda police and the police and revenue officials started digging the burial area to find the carcasses of the dogs.

He alleged that Kantheru panchayat secretary Bandla Ramesh had given the contract of killing stray dogs to one Koteswara Rao who with other workers had killed 265 stray dogs in a day and buried them in a pit near the village. Mr Tejovanth said that he got information about the mass killing from the locals. The dogs were killed with poisonous injections, he claimed.

He explained that the killing of stray dogs is a blatant violation of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animal Rights Act, 1960. He further mentioned that the stray dogs must be vaccinated and sterilised and the population needs to be controlled as per the animal protection laws.

He sought the government to take strict action against those involved in the killing of stray dogs.

# CM eyes MP model, which shut RTC, gave staff VRS

KCR feels if RTC is merged, other bodies will have similar demand

S.A. ISHAQUI | DC  
HYDERABAD, OCT. 31

The state Cabinet is going to meet on Saturday to take a crucial decision with regard to the future of the Telangana State Road Transport Corporation and the strike by its employees.

Sources close to the state government revealed that the RTC workers' demand that RTC should be merged with the state government is considered to be next to impossible by Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao. He is keen on adopting the Madhya Pradesh model.

In Madhya Pradesh in 2005, the state RTC was closed because it incurred huge losses. Staff had been offered voluntary retirement. Private operators have since then been running nearly 35,000 buses and were given permits to ply on all routes.

Sources said that though Mr Rao has examined the public transport systems in Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal, where most of the routes are allocated to private operators, he showed interest in the Madhya Pradesh model.

According to sources, the Chief Minister is of the firm opinion that if RTC is merged with the government, many more such demands will be made by the other 56 corporations.

Sources further say that Mr Rao will explain the role of the Congress and BJP in the RTC strike and will point out that though the Centre has 31 per cent share in the RTC, it is not coming forward to subsidise the state to the extent of its shares at least.

Sources said that Mr Rao felt that neither Union minister G. Kishan Reddy nor other BJP leaders are taking an interest in getting the central government to put in some funding. Considering that the strike has lasted for 27 days, the cabinet will also focus on alternative transport arrangements for the long suffering public.

Sources said that the Chief Minister has also sought opinion of experts on the merger of RTC and has been told that it is next to impossible and there is no precedent for it anywhere.

The chief minister has said that the RTC leaders are not consistent about their stand on the merger. They told the court that the merger was not



With the TSRTC strike continuing, children crowd into a seven-seater autorickshaw as there were no buses in Hyderabad on Thursday.

— DC

## RTC losing ₹3 crore a day since wokers' strike began

VUJJINI VAMSHIDHARA | DC  
HYDERABAD, OCT. 31

Spending around ₹6 crore per day and earning only ₹3 crore, the TS Road Transport Corporation has incurred a loss of ₹72 crore in the 26 days of the ongoing workers' strike.

This information was revealed by TSRTC incharge managing director Sunil Sharma, before the Telangana High Court on Thursday. Explaining the financial position of the RTC, Mr Sharma placed an affidavit before the court, stating that the TSRTC has been given funds by the state government since 2014. These funds were more than it owed to the Corporation and was done with the "spirit of supporting RTC".

In spite of the constant support of the government, RTC has been financially stressed because of the high operational costs involved in running the buses, Mr

There is no agreement for GHMC to reimburse RTC for operating buses in Hyderabad. In view of this, the GHMC does not owe any amount to wards the RTC.

— SUNIL SHARMA  
TSRTC incharge MD

Sharma submitted to the court.

On October 29, 2019, the division bench comprising Chief Justice Raghavendra Singh Chauhan and Justice A. Abhishek Reddy had directed that these details should be submitted before it. The bench had asked for details of the reimbursement of amount owed by the government to the corporation and the amount of money owed by Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) to the RTC.

The court also wanted to know whether the RTC agrees with the position taken by the state government that it has already

repaid the reimbursement concession amount, and whether the RTC agrees that it has been paid over and above the amount that is due to the corporation from the state government or not.

Replying to these queries on Thursday, the MD submitted that the reimbursement amount for the financial year 2018-19, of ₹644.51 crore has been released by the government and the GHMC had released ₹336.40 crore out of the request to release a total of ₹1,786.06 crore towards reimbursement of losses incurred by TSRTC in Hyderabad for operation of buses. He also submitted that there was no contract or arrangement between RTC and GHMC to reimburse the amount of the losses incurred for running buses in Hyderabad.

"In view of this, GHMC does not owe any amount to RTC towards reimbursement of losses," He submitted. The court will hear the case on Friday.

permitted to private operators and make private operators partners in the transport system.

Sources said that Mr Rao will tell the cabinet that in response to the RTC strike, labour

## OPPOSITION GOES BACK TO GOVERNOR

IREDDY SRINIVAS REDDY | DC  
HYDERABAD, OCT. 31

A delegation of opposition party leaders again called on Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan at Raj Bhavan on Thursday seeking her intervention in resolution of the ongoing strike by RTC staff.

After meeting the Governor, Telangana Jana Samiti president Prof. M. Kodandaram told reporters that they brought to her notice the increasing number of suicides and deaths of RTC workers. He alleged that the police had prevented the corporation employees from taking out the funeral procession of Karimnagar RTC driver Babu who had died.

Kodandaram emphasised that RTC workers were on strike not for salaries but to protect the public transportation facility that the corporation provides.

TD politburo member R. Chandrasekhar Reddy, who also spoke to media, said the state government does not have any right to dissolve the RTC, as it has to take permission from the centre for doing the same. CPM state secretary T. Veerabhadram said the central government must intervene as it owns shares in the corporation.

Congress Legislature Party leader Bhatti Vikramarka claimed that the Governor had responded positively to their request of not privatising the RTC.

CPI state secretary Chada Venkat Reddy said while APSRTC workers of the neighbouring state were celebrating merger of their corporation with the government, Telangana RTC employees were being forced to commit suicides.

BJP leader Mohan Reddy said the Governor and the Centre must initiate steps so that the agitating employees could call off their strike.

department officers initiated talks with the unions, and while the talks were still halfway through, the date of the strike was announced by the unions, which is illegal.



### MISSING

Smt. Divya, age 34 W/o Sajikumar, Varikolli Veedu, Karimulakkal Muri, Chunnakkara Village, Nooranad, Alappuzha district was missing from 27.09.2018 and she is not returned so far. Hence any information about him please inform to nearest Police Station or below mentioned phone numbers.

### Description

Height : 160 cm, Complexion : White, Body Shape : Medium Wearing Dress : Sandal colour churidar

Sub Inspector of Police, Nooranadu PS - 94979 80285

DySP Chengannur - 94979 90043

District Police Chief, Alappuzha - 94979 96982

RO211F220191 & PRD



**Chhattisgarh State Industrial Development Corporation Ltd.**  
(A Government of Chhattisgarh Undertaking)  
(ISO 9001:2015 Certified)  
Udyog Bhawan, Ring Road No.1, Teibandha, Raipur (C.G.)  
Phone : 0771-6821000  
Website : www.csidc.in, Email: csidc\_raipur@yahoo.com

### Expression of Interest (EOI) for Establishment of Bio-Ethanol Plant in Chhattisgarh State

NIT No./01/CSIDC/IPPDP/2019-20/ Dated 30.10.2019

### CORRIGENDUM-01

Chhattisgarh State Industrial Development Corporation Limited (CSIDC) vide NIT dated September 30, 2019 has invited proposals for setting up of Bio-refinery unit in the State. Last date of submission of proposal has been extended till **November 30, 2019 at 1500 Hrs.** For further details, please visit [www.csidc.in](http://www.csidc.in)

Managing Director

S-23317/5



**CENTRE FOR DNA FINGERPRINTING AND DIAGNOSTICS**  
(An autonomous Institute of the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science & Technology, Govt. of India) Inner Ring Road, Uppal, Hyderabad - 500039, Telangana, India. Tel : +91-40-2721 6000, Fax : +91-40-2721 6008, Website: <http://www.cdfd.org.in>

**Tender Notice No: CDFD/ENG/HVAC/Works/2019-20/06, Dated 03-10-2019**

On behalf of Director, CDFD sealed tenders are invited from the authorized Air Conditioning Contractors in respect of the work for "Providing of 2.0 TR Split Air Conditioners in Guest Rooms (Creation of Guest House), Tower AC Units at Stores & Purchase and Radio Active Facility Laboratory and Site 'B', Uppal, Hyderabad".

Estimated Cost (Rs.)	Cost of Tender Document(Rs.)	EMD (Rs.)	Downloading of Tenders	Time for completion of work	Last Date for Submission of Tender	Date of Opening of Tender
12,16,875/-	1000/-	25,000/-	30-10-2019 to 20-11-2019	30 days	20-11-2019 upto 3.00 p.m.	20-11-2019 3.30 p.m.

The Tender Document can be downloaded from the CDFD website at the following web link: <http://cdftd.org.in/inside%20htmls/tenders.html> and [www.eprocure.gov.in](http://www.eprocure.gov.in). Filled in Tender Hardcopy should be submitted along with requisite DDs drawn in favour of "DIRECTOR, CDFD" in the Office of In-charge Engineering, Laboratory Building, Uppal Campus. Copy of Firm Registration Certificate along with GST certificate should be enclosed. Amendments/Corrigendum, if any, would be hosted on the CDFD website only.

Sd/- Incharge-Engineering



केन्द्रीय कार्यालय, तेलंगणा/Regional Office : Telangana  
कार्यकारी राज्य बीमा निगम (Employees') State Insurance Corporation  
5-9-23, हिल्स कोर्ट रोड, हैदराबाद / Hill Fort Road, Adarsh Nagar, Hyderabad-500063  
आफ फोन नो./ISO 9001:2015 (सर्व एच.एस.एम.एस.)प्रमाणित कार्यालय/Certified Office  
दूरभाष नं. 040-23223256, 7, 8 फा. 040-23223508 जे.सी. 1800-112526

### WALK-IN INTERVIEW

**ENGAGEMENT OF ASSISTANT ENGINEERS (ELECTRICAL), ASSISTANT ENGINEER (CIVIL) AND JUNIOR ENGINEER (CIVIL) ON CONTRACT BASIS**

Applications are invited from **Retired Engineers (Civil & Electrical)** for appointment to the post of **Assistant Engineer (Civil), Assistant Engineer (Electrical) and Junior Engineer (Civil) on contract basis** in Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC), for Regional Office, Telangana / ESIC Hospital & Medical College, Sanathnagar / ESIC Medical College Hospital Sanathnagar, Hyderabad, for monitoring its project works in the State of Telangana, preparation / scrutiny of all estimates to tendering, repairs, supervision of repairs and maintenance related works. The terms & conditions of engagement on contract basis are as follows:

**Posts: (i) Assistant Engineer (Electrical) - 01**  
**(ii) Assistant Engineer (Civil) - 02**  
**(iii) Junior Engineer (Civil) - 01**  
**(The no. of posts may increase or decrease depending on actual requirement, and work load, on the date of the interview.)**

Last date of submission : **On or before 14.11.2019** through of application post / by hand / E-mail  
Date of Interview : **15.11.2019 at 11 a.m.**  
Place of Interview : **ESI Corporation, Regional Office, Hill Fort Road, Adarshnagar, Hyderabad**

For further details, terms & conditions, qualification requirement and tenure of contract period etc, please the ESIC official website i.e. [www.esic.nic.in](http://www.esic.nic.in) at recruitment console SI No. **3761/2019** under Recruitment Tab.

**Note: Candidates are required to bring all their certificates / testimonials in original, alongwith its two sets of self-attested photocopies and four recent passport size photographs, with a copy of curriculum vitae' (CV) / Bio data.**

**Place:** Hyderabad **ADDITIONAL COMMISSIONER & REGIONAL DIRECTOR REGIONAL OFFICE, ESIC, TELANGANA**

**Date:** 30/10/2019

## Biker sent to prison for death in mishap

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, OCT. 31

A 22-year-old student, who was arrested on the charges of causing death due to the negligence by Kushaiguda police was convicted by a court on Thursday. The court directed the accused to undergo two years of imprisonment and pay ₹10,000 as fine.

According to the Rachakonda police, the accident took place on December 9, 2016, at Kapra, when Hajari Prakashith, 22, along with his friend K. Shashidhar Reddy, 19, were going towards Radhika crossroads from Dammaguda on a motorcycle. Prakashith was riding the

the two-wheeler and Shashidhar was sitting on the pillion seat.

The police said that the rash and negligent driving of Prakashith while taking a turn at a curve resulted in the vehicle losing balance and the duo fell down on the road.

Shashidhar suffered severe injuries and died while undergoing treatment at a hospital after three days on December 12.

A case was registered against Prakashith under IPC Section 304A (Causing death by negligence)

After investigation, the case was charge-sheeted before First Special Court at Malkajigiri, which conducted a trial and convicted him on Thursday.

## AP WOMAN DIES IN SUICIDE PACT

DC CORRESPONDENT  
KADAPA, OCT 31

A woman died and her husband is fighting for life when they attempted suicide at Gandikota under Jammalamadugu police station limits.

Police said that M. Bhargavi, 21, and B.

Srinivasulu, 24 had got married in a temple two days ago but their elders were against their relationship since the girl belonged to Vysya community while the boy is a Boya. On Thursday, they reached Gandikota, a tourist spot, and consumed pesticide.

## As 7-yr-old lights mom's pyre, Mancherial finally cleans up

DC CORRESPONDENT  
MANCHERIAL, OCT. 31

Mancherial district administration seems to have finally woken up when it started cleaning drainages and removing piled up garbage on a war footing in various colonies of Mancherial town on Thursday.

A news report published in *Deccan Chronicle* highlighted the plight of local people because of poor sanitation that turned a fertile ground for breeding of mosquitoes, which led

to dengue fever and multiple deaths, four of which were reported within a single family of Sri Sri Colony in Mancherial.

Seven-year-old Sri Vikas lit the pyre of his mother Gudimalla Sona. Three members of her family had, like her, died of dengue over the last 15 days. The baby whom Sona had delivered before her death, has been kept in an incubator at a private hospital in Mancherial town.

Sona's husband Gudimalla Raju Gattu, 30,

daughter Varshini, 5, and grandfather Eda Lingaiah, 70, predeceased her.

Collector Bharati Holli Keri has taken a serious note of the four dengue deaths, which have been attributed to mosquitoes breeding because of poor sanitation in various colonies of Mancherial town. He asked officials to ensure clean environment on an immediate basis.

Employees of the Ayush and health departments began collecting blood samples of people.

CHHATTISGARH STATE POWER GENERATION CO. LTD.						
(A Govt. of Chhattisgarh Undertaking)						
No. 03-03/P-I/TN-875/2019/3668				Dtd: 30.10.2019		
E-BIDDING TENDER NOTICE NO. 03-03/P-I/TN-875 /T-1259/2019						
Online bids with reverse live auction are invited through MSTC E-Procurement portal for the supply of following item						
S.N.	Tender Specification	Description	Fees of tender documents (Rs.)	EMD (₹)	Due date & time for receipt of bid	Bid opening date (EMD Tech. Bid)
1	03-03/P-I / T-1259/ 2019 (MSTC Event No. CSPGCL/SPG/ 24/19-20/ ET/38)	A) Supply of 90:10 Cu:Ni Condenser Tubes. Size OD: 25.4 mm, Thickness: 1.0 mm, length: 6400mm Wt. 4.7 Kg per tubes (Approx) as per technical specification. B) Supply of 70:30 Cu:Ni Condenser Tubes. Size OD: 25.4 mm, Thickness: 1.240 mm, length: 6400 mm Wt. 5.8 Kg per tubes (Approx) as per technical specification.	₹1000/- + GST 18% = ₹ 1180	5,00,000/-	Dated 26/11/2019 upto 15,00 Hrs.	Dated 26/11/2019 at 15.30 Hrs.
For qualifying conditions of tender documents & other details kindly visit our website <a href="http://cspgc.co.in/cspgcl/tendernotices/central_offices">http://cspgc.co.in/cspgcl/tendernotices/central_offices</a> . The tender document can be viewed and downloaded online from MSTC E-Procurement portal <a href="https://www.mstccommerce.com/eprocure/cspgcl">https://www.mstccommerce.com/eprocure/cspgcl</a> . Any Corrigendum / amendments, if required, shall be displayed on this website only.						
			EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR(S&P:GEN) CSPGCL:RAIPUR			
"Save energy for benefit of self and Nation"						

## CENTRAL SILK BOARD

(A Statutory Authority under Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India)

CSB Complex, BTM Layout, Madivala  
Bangaluru - 560 068, Karnataka, India

Phone: +91 80 26282503, 26282612 Fax: + 91 80 26681511

Ref: No. CSB-38/46/Third Party Evaluation/NERTPS / 2019-20. TS. Vol-II

Date: 01.11.2019

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

RFP is invited from Indian entities in two bid system to conduct Third Party Evaluation of NERTPS for Silk Sector under Central Silk Board (2014-15 to 2018-19) implemented in NER States.

**Pre Bid Meeting:** 13 November, 2019 at 3.00 PM, in the Board Room

**Last Date for Submission of Bid:** 25 November, 2019 up to 05.00 PM

For detailed tender document, please visit <http://csb.gov.in> or <https://eprocure.gov.in/epublish/app>

For clarifications, please contact: **Shri R.C. Das, Deputy Secretary (Tech)**  
**Mob: +91 9844808570; e-mail: [rcdas61.csb@nic.in](mailto:rcdas61.csb@nic.in); [rcdas61@gmail.com](mailto:rcdas61@gmail.com)**

**NOTE:** Any Corrigendum or Addendum shall be published only on CSB's website.

davp 41109/11/0007/1920

Member Secretary

Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation				
NIT No.	NAME OF WORK	Estimate Amount	Start Date/Last Date & Times for receipt of Bid	Name Address Officer Cell No.
33EE/Cr-20SLP/2019-20	Laying of CC patches at Damaged Stretches in Various Locations, Repairs to CC Road (16 Works) etc.	550.00 Lakhs	05.11.19 at 1.30 PM 08.11.19 at 1.30 PM	E.E. Cr-20GHMC Cell No. 9701362775
38EE/HDP/HGMC/2019-20	Attending patch works, potholes, manhole Repairs, Replacement of damaged Manhole, Catch pit covers and other Emergency works for a period of 7 months i.e. From 01-11-2019 to 31-05-2020 in Ward 7 to 10 Division-2, UPPAL GHMC (4 Works) etc.	115.50 Lakhs	01.11.2019 at 4.00 PM 04.11.2019 at 4.00 PM	EE/UPP/Div-2/GHMC
40EE/DV-6/4A/CR/GHMC/2019-20	Construction of Community Hall (7 Works) etc.	115.54 Lakhs	01.11.19 at 4.00 PM 05.11.19 at 4.00 PM	E.E. Div-6/4A/CR2 GHMC Cell No. 9898102048
GHMC/MK/ET/NDV-28	Maintenance Works, UGD-1, CC Roads-4 (5 Works) etc.	95.80 Lakhs	02.11.19 at 4.00 PM 05.11.19 at 4.00 PM	EE/DV-6/4A/CR2 GHMC Cell No. 9050933014
23/EE-SSNRNR/GHMC/2019-20	Maintenance Works-5 Nos. etc.	95.50 Lakhs	01.11.19 at 3.00 PM 04.11.19 at 3.00 PM	E.E. Cr-SSNRNRGHMC Cell No. 9856592686
23/DB/EE/Quap/Cr-25	Engaging of IRT teams with tractor/labour and materials, etc.	59.20 Lakhs	01.11.19 at 3.00 PM 02.11.19 at 3.00 PM	E.E. Qup/Cr-25GHMC Cell No. 9879052243
32EE/Cr-20SLP/2019-20	Engaging Labour and Tipper for filling pot holes & patches with Department BT collected, Restoration of CC cuttings and potholes. (6 Works) etc.	25.75 Lakhs	01.11.19 at 1.30 PM 02.11.19 at 1.30 PM	E.E. Cr-20GHMC Cell No. 9701362775
32EE/Cr-20SLP/2019-20	Cancel/Withdraw Tender Notification	19.50 Lakhs	02.11.19 at 1.30 PM 02.11.19 at 1.30 PM	E.E. Cr-20GHMC Cell No. 9701362775
32EE/Cr-20SLP/2019-20	Proving of Demolition facility to Town planning wing based on the Demolition quantity for a period of (06) months. etc.	19.50 Lakhs	25.10.19 at 1.30 PM 07.11.19 at 1.30 PM	E.E. Cr-20GHMC Cell No. 9701362775
EE/6A/Cr/IR/JNR/GHMC/2019-20	For 1 No. works of Engaging of IRT Vehicle/Tractor/along with labour & Material for filling of pot Holes, attending SW Drain Complaints and placing of RCC Covers. Metal in Ward No.57, Div-X1, GHMC. etc.	11.20 Lakhs	31.10.19 at 5.00 PM/ 04.11.19 at 2.45 PM	E.E. R/JNR, Cr. XI/GHMC Cell No. 9849506775
53EE/DV-30GHMC/2019-20	Procurement of oil injected vibratory tammer and reversible plate vibrator for Cr-30 Sec-1st Zone, GHMC. etc.	7.27 Lakhs	01.11.19 at 4.00 PM 02.11.19 at 4.00 PM	E.E. Div-30GHMC Cell No. 9898993014
22/DB/EE/Quap/Cr-25	Providing Arrangements at for Chaff pots etc.	1.00 Lakhs	31.10.19 at 4.00 PM 01.11.19 at 4.00 PM	E.E. Qup/Cr-25GHMC Cell No. 9796552243
For further details can be seen in e-procurement <a href="https://www.tenderportal.com/ghmc/gov.in">https://www.tenderportal.com/ghmc/gov.in</a>				
R.O.No.185/CRP/GHMC/2019-20		Call 040-2111111 for 24x7 GHMC Services.		Commissioner.

For further details can be seen at e-procurement portal <https://www.mstccommerce.com/eprocure/cspgcl> Call 040-2111111 for 24x7 GHMC Services. Commissioner.





Vital role

Chief Minister V. Narayanasamy, who has been at loggerheads with L-G Kiran Bedi, said the Centre had posted a ‘demon’ in Puducherry



We have undertaken a lot of work to improve security on the borders

— Amit Shah  
Union home minister

BRIEF

Merkel begins India visit

New Delhi: German Chancellor Angela Merkel arrived here on Thursday night on a two-day visit during which she will hold talks with Prime Minister Narendra Modi on a host of bilateral issues, with nearly 20 agreements expected to be signed between the two countries. Merkel was received at the airport by MoS Prime Minister's Office Jitendra Singh. She will be meeting with the Indian leadership, besides a business delegation during her visit. She will be accorded a ceremonial reception at the Rashtrapati Bhavan on Friday morning and will pay tributes to Mahatma Gandhi at Rajghat later in the day. She will call on President Ram Nath Kovind in the evening and will also hold a meeting with the Prime Minister at his Lok Kalyan Marg residence. On Saturday, the German leader will meet a business delegation and visit Continental Automotive Components India Pvt Ltd in Manesar, Gurgaon. Before heading home, the chancellor will visit the Dwarka Sector 21 Metro Station.



German Chancellor Angela Merkel at Air Force Station Palam in New Delhi on Thursday.

— PTI

‘FACILITATED UNOFFICIAL VISITS TOO’

From Page 1

MEA spokesperson Raveesh Kumar said that after the visit, the role of Pakistan in cross-border terrorism has got international attention.

“Our (MEA’s) job is to facilitate ... This is part of our mandate ... We are supposed to share our perspective,” the spokesperson said, adding that part of the MEA’s mandate involved engaging with a range of people (from abroad) including MPs, civil society, businessmen and media.

He said that even earlier, the MEA had facilitated visits that were not organised through official channels.

He added that all foreign visitors “don’t have to come through official channels”.

A controversy had erupted recently after it was revealed that the invitation to the MEPs had been issued by an NGO which had also claimed that Modi was keen to interact with decision-makers in Europe.

The MEA spokesperson pointed out that promoting the Indian perspective does not mean internationalisation of the Kashmir issue. “Engagement with the international community is not internationalisation,” the MEA spokesperson said.

■ **OPPOSITION PARTIES** SEVERELY criticised the government for the move with the Congress describing it as the “biggest diplomatic blunder” and others asking the Centre how these foreign lawmakers were allowed to visit the Valley while Indian leaders were denied permission.

Who is happy here, ask Kashmiris

Valley suffers losses to the tune of over ₹10,000 cr due to the three-month-long shutdown

Srinagar, Oct. 31: A sense of despondency pervades the Valley after Jammu and Kashmir was downsized to a Union territory following abrogation of Article 370 nearly three months ago, as most people feel the Centre’s move is an “assault” on their identity.

The transition from the state into two Union territories of Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh on Thursday was met with a complete shutdown in the the Valley as shops and other business establishments were shut, and public transport were off the roads.

Many in Kashmir are miffed with the Centre’s decision, saying it was against the interests of the people of the Valley.

“This is a decision against our interests. They have robbed us of our special status and our identity,” Muzammil Mohammad, a resident of the civil lines area of Srinagar, said.

Mohammad said the Centre’s assertion that people here are happy with the decision was a “blatant lie”.

“Who is happy here? Do you see anyone happy here except for the leaders and workers of the BJP,” he asked. “People of Kashmir did not want this. We are sad that the government has done it and whatever they are saying is a blatant lie.”

Firdous Ahmad, a shopkeeper who has been partially opening his shop for a few hours because of the shutdown, said the Centre’s move was a “betrayal” with the people of Kashmir.

“The government has sent Kashmir into an unimaginable chaos,” he said. According to Ahmad, people are observing the shutdown themselves for the past three months and it is not due to any strike called by separatists.

“Had the government not done this, the situation would not have been like it is. Who is to blame for this?” the shopkeeper asked.

The Kashmir Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) has said the Valley had suffered losses to the tune of over ₹10,000 crore due to the three-month-long shutdown. A businessman in



The Indian Tricolour flag flies atop the Civil Secretariat in Srinagar on Thursday.

— PTI



TWEET TALK

October 31st: It’s a day when 144 years ago, the Iron Man of India was born and also on this very day 35 years ago, we lost the Iron Woman of India. My heart-felt tribute to Bharat Mata’s great son and great daughter...both are jewels in India’s crown. #SardarPatel #IndiraGandhi

@sadhavi

Beloved Bharat Ratna #SardarPatel was a Great Freedom Fighter, Unifier of India, beloved disciple of Father of the Nation. Patel was Right leaning & Pandit Nehru were Left leaning icons Proud Hindu & Indian... He was ready to give up possible PM post bcoz his Guru told so (sic)

@RahulEaswar

“Today, seeing the BJP trying to appropriate him (Sardar) and pay tributes to him gives a lot of happiness, because two things are clear from this action of the BJP: 1. It has no great freedom fighter of its own. Almost all of them were associated with the Congress. 2. Even enemies have to bow before great men like Sardar Patel one day

@priyankagandhi

■ **THE TRANSITION** from the state into two Union territories of J&K, and Ladakh was met with a complete shutdown in the the Valley as shops and other business establishments were shut, and public transport were off the roads.

■ **IN JAMMU CITY**, people burst crackers, beat drums and took out celebratory rallies in in Talab Tilloo, Dogra Hall, Trikuta Nagar, Muthi, Janipur and old city areas.

the Boulevard area of the city who chose not be identified said it would be difficult for the valley to recover the losses.

“Everything was going very well. The tourists were coming, the fruit season was on, new business were coming up and many start-ups were also taking shape,” he said. “But now, everything has come to a grinding halt.”

The businessman pointed out that this was for the first time a state had been downgraded into a Union

territory. “It was the other way round till now and this is very sad.”

Parveena Akhtar, a homemaker, also blamed the Centre for the prevalent situation in the Valley. “This time, there is no call for strike, so they cannot blame us for the prevalent situation,” Akhtar said. “This situation is not good and people, especially the youth, are very angry. We do not know what is going to happen tomorrow.”

Another local, Umer

Zargar, described the Centre’s decision to abrogate Article 370 as “illegal, immoral and unconstitutional.”

“India cannot abrogate Article 370. This territory is disputed, this issue is in the United Nations and there are various resolutions on it,” he said.

Zargar, however, underlined that making the state a Union territory or removing Article 370 hardly mattered to the people of the valley as the decision cannot change “the basic disputed nature of Kashmir”.

However, as the Jammu and Kashmir state was for-

mally bifurcated into two union territories on Thursday, people in Jammu region largely welcomed the transition and some of them even said they hoped to look towards an end to an “era of discrimination” under the new setup.

But there were also who protested against the decision to withdraw the special status of Jammu and Kashmir under Article 370 and downgrading of its status to a Union Territory. JKNPP activists led by its chairman and former minister Harsh Dev Singh held a massive rally at the Exhibition Ground. For most people, the emotional satisfaction of the end of the Kashmir-centric rule weighed heavy, despite the downgrading of the erstwhile status of a state. — PTI



People of Ladakh dance as they celebrate change of status of their region to a Union Territory in Leh on Thursday.

Kargil observes black day

DC CORRESPONDENT SRINAGAR, OCT. 31

The formation of the UT of Ladakh evoked mixed reactions from political parties in the region, with those in Kargil observing it as a ‘black day’ and leaders in Leh seeing it as an opportunity for development.

Though there was jubilation in the remote Buddhist enclave of Leh over Ladakh being made a UT, several local political parties have demanded certain legal and constitutional guarantees including under Article 371 to secure their land, jobs and socio-economic interests, and culture.

They have also asked for Ladakh being declared a tribal area under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution. However, in

■ **MARKETS WERE** shut in Kargil town from Wednesday and a joint action committee, comprising political and religious groups, observed October 31 as a ‘black day’.

Kargil district of Ladakh, where Shia Muslims are in majority, various political parties and leaders have voiced concern over the move and want certain assurances pertaining to their political, cultural and economic interests.

They are also apprehensive of probable “hegemony” of Leh and its Buddhist population.

In Jammu too, several political parties and sections of population are worried over the turn of events.

They have demanded

that the Centre put in place a provision of “domicile” requirement for various purposes, including purchase of land to protect the interests of the citizens of the region. This, they say, could be a provision under which a person who wants to buy land or seeks a job in a government department or agency should have lived in the state for a certain period of time as is the arrangement in Himachal Pradesh and North-Eastern states.

The people of J&K have accepted the carving out of Ladakh as an union territory, said BJP MP from Ladakh Jamyang Tsering Namgyal, who stole the show during a debate on the bifurcation of the state in Lok Sabha with his comment picture *abhi baki hai* (the end is yet to

come). “The people of Ladakh have been waiting for this for the last 71 years. We see this move as an inclusive development plan. This place has immense potential for border security, defence, ecosystem and medicinal plants, besides tourism. “Developing this into a UT will bring in more opportunities for infrastructure development”, he told PTI.

Markets were shut in Kargil town from Wednesday and a joint action committee, comprising political and religious groups, observed October 31 as a ‘black day’.

Former chairperson of the Kargil Hill Development Council Asgar Ali Karbalai expressed unhappiness over Ladakh becoming a UT and said “we are totally against this decision”.

CHINA ILLEGALLY ACQUIRED AREAS IN PoK: INDIA

From Page 1

“China continues to be in occupation of a large tract of area in the Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. It has also illegally acquired Indian territories from Pakistan Occupied Kashmir (PoK) under the so-called China-Pakistan Boundary Agreement of 1963. India has consistently conveyed its concerns to both China and Pakistan on the projects in so-called China-Pakistan Economic Corridor which is in the territory that has been illegally occupied by Pakistan since 1947,” said Raveesh Kumar, spokesperson of the ministry of external affairs.

He added, “We have seen the statement made by the spokesperson of the ministry of foreign affairs of China on the establishment of the Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. China is well aware of India’s consistent and clear position on this issue.

The matter of reorganisation of the erstwhile state of Jammu & Kashmir into the Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh is entirely an internal affair of India. We do not expect other countries, including China, to comment on matters that are internal to India, just as India refrains from commenting on internal issues of other countries. We expect other countries to respect India’s sovereignty.”

BJP: Reorganisation a tribute to Patel

From Page 1

The two new entities take the total number of UTs to nine and bring down the number of states in India to 28.

The BJP has called J&K’s reorganisation “historic” and a tribute to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel on his birth anniversary.

The Prime Minister, who was at the Statue of Unity in Kevadiya, Gujarat, on Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel’s 144th birth anniversary, defended the abrogation of Article 370 by saying that the special status provisions generated terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir.

“The new system in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh is not meant to draw a line on the land (to draw a boundary) but to build a strong link of trust,” Modi said.

“Patel had once said that had he handled the Kashmir issue, it would not have taken so long to resolve it,” Modi said in a veiled swipe at first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, often blamed for the Kashmir issue by the ruling BJP.

As J&K — which has been part of the Union of India since its accession to it in 1947 — ceased to be a state and formally bifurcated into two UTs, two IAS officers, Girish Chandra Murmu and Radha Krishna Mathur, were on Thursday sworn in as Lieutenant Governors of J&K and Ladakh, respectively.

There is growing apprehension among people in the Valley that the main motive behind the Centre scrapping Article 370 and Article 35A could be to pave the way for “outsiders” to get their hands

on the land and other immovable properties in J&K in the run up to change the demography of the Muslim-majority (erstwhile) state.

Former chief minister Mehbooba Mufti tweeted, “While Kashmiris mourn massacre of J&K, the same development is a source of sadistic pleasure to rest of India. The emotional gulf that exists between you and us couldn’t be any wider. You violated our consent and rights but will never control how we feel. Long live Kashmir, Insha’Allah (God willing)”.

She also posted the official flag of the erstwhile state which has since been removed from all government buildings and other locations.

Mufti is among the several Kashmiri politicians who were detained on the night of August 4 and has no access to Internet. Her Twitter handle is being operated by her daughter Iltija.

Addressing a gathering in Delhi, Union home minister Amit Shah said Article 370 and Article 35A were the gateways of terrorism into Jammu and Kashmir. “Modi closed the gateway by repealing them,” he said.

In a late night notification on Wednesday, the home ministry replaced the state of Jammu and Kashmir with the “Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir” and announced the omission of “permanent residents or hereditary state subjects”.

Jammu and Kashmir will have a legislature like Puducherry while Ladakh will be a union territory without legislature like Chandigarh.



Lt Governor Girish Chandra Murmu receives the guard of honour at Civil Secretariat in Srinagar on Thursday.

— PTI

Jadhav case: ICJ lists deviation by Pak

From Page 1

In a major victory for India, the ICJ had ruled that Pakistan must review the death sentence given to Jadhav. India had argued that consular access was being denied to its national in violation of the 1963 Vienna Convention on Consular Relations. The bench led by Yusuf had ordered an “effective review and reconsideration of the conviction and sentence of Kulbhushan Sudhir Jadhav.”

Yusuf elaborated on several aspects of the Court’s ruling in Jadhav’s case while presenting his report to the General Assembly.

He said one of the issues that the Court had to examine was the question of whether the rights relating to consular access, set out in Article 36 of the Vienna Convention, were in any manner to be excluded in a situation where the individual concerned was suspected of carrying out acts of espionage.

The Court noted in that regard that there is no provision in the Vienna Convention containing a reference to cases of espionage; nor does the Article concerning consular access, Article 36, exclude from its scope cer-

tain categories of persons, such as those suspected of espionage. Therefore, the Court concluded that Article 36 of the Vienna Convention was applicable in full to the case at hand, he said.

The Court was also called upon to interpret the meaning of the expression without delay in the notification requirements of Article 36 of the Vienna Convention. The Court noted that in its case, the question of how to determine what was meant by the term without delay depended on the given circumstances of a case.

Taking into account the particular circumstances of the Jadhav case, the Court noted that Pakistan’s making of the notification some three weeks after Jadhav’s arrest constituted a breach of its obligation to inform India’s consular post without delay, as required by the provisions of the Vienna Convention, he noted.

He further said that another interesting legal question that the Court had to address was whether a bilateral agreement on consular access concluded between the two parties — India and Pakistan — in 2008 could be read as excluding the applicability of the Vienna Convention.





## Serious charge

Government agencies may be behind 'snooping' episode, says NCP leader Dhananjay Munde



If children are fed egg and meat, then they may become cannibals later

— Gopal Bhargav , MP BJP leader on eggs in midday meals

## IN BRIEF

### Gurudas Dasgupta no more

**Kolkata:** Veteran CPI leader Gurudas Dasgupta, one of the doyens of the country's trade union movement and a former MP, died here on Thursday following prolonged illness. He was 83. Dasgupta is survived by his wife and daughter. A five-term parliamentarian since 1985, Dasgupta was three times elected to the Rajya Sabha and twice voted to the Lok Sabha from West Bengal. He was born on November 3, 1936, in Barishal district (now in Bangladesh) of undivided Bengal. After Partition, he along with his parents and siblings moved to West Bengal. A fiery orator who never shied away from raising issues concerning the masses and the working class both inside and outside Parliament, Dasgupta in 2004, along with late CPI leader A.B. Bardhan, played a key role in the formation of the UPA-1 government which was supported by the Left parties, including the CPI. In 2014, he decided not to contest Lok Sabha polls due to poor health.

### '80 pc adolescents have hidden hunger'

**New Delhi:** Over 80 per cent adolescents in India suffer from 'hidden hunger', a form of undernutrition, and less than 10 per cent of boys and girls consume fruits and eggs daily, according to a new Unicef report released on Thursday. Hidden hunger is a deficiency of one or more micronutrients such as iron, folate, zinc, vitamin A, vitamin B12 and vitamin D. The Unicef's report, *Adolescents, Diets and Nutrition: Growing Well in a Changing World*, is based on the recently released Comprehensive National Nutrition Survey. An adolescent is defined as an individual aged 10-19 by the UN. Unicef executive director Henrietta Fore called on the Indian government to translate the data contained in the report into action on ground.

### NITISH: JD(U) NOT JOINING MODI CABINET

NAYEAR AZAD | DC  
PATNA, OCT. 31

Dismissing speculations about JD(U)'s inclusion in the Narendra Modi cabinet at the Centre, Bihar Chief Minister, Nitish Kumar, on Thursday said that, "there is no basis to such claims. No talks have taken place."

His statement comes a day after JD(U) national spokesperson, K.C. Tyagi, spoke about joining the cabinet and said that the party may consider the proposal if there was an invitation from Modi and Union home minister Amit Shah.

"We may welcome the move if Modi and party chief, Amit Shah, take the initiative for the party's proportionate representation in the government," Tyagi had said in New Delhi on Wednesday, shortly after Kumar addressed his party's national council following his re-election as party president.

He had also said that the JD(U) had given a proportionate representation to the BJP in the state government despite his party not being included in the first Modi cabinet.

A rift had emerged after the Lok Sabha polls when Shah offered the JD(U) only one cabinet berth as 'symbolic representation.' Sources said that Kumar had demanded three seats in the government.

In order to ease the tension between both allies, Shah in a statement earlier this month said that the NDA in Bihar would contest the Assembly polls under Kumar's leadership. JD(U) had returned to the NDA fold after breaking ties with the RJD-Congress alliance in July 2017.

# WhatsApp is vulnerable to spyware attacks

In the Pegasus attack, there is no involvement of the targeted users

DURGAPRASAD SUNKU | DC  
HYDERABAD, OCT. 31

With coming to light of the Pegasus spyware attacks, concerns have been raised by cyber-security experts over highly sophisticated attacks ahead. The Pegasus spyware attacks come under the category of buffer overflow attack, where the source code of a particular application could be altered and controlled by the hackers' instructions. It is one of the most sophisticated attacks, where there is no involvement of the targeted users. The vulnerability allowed attackers to inject commercial spyware on to phones simply by ringing the number of a target's device.

Instant message service providers like WhatsApp, Telegram and others usually have this end-to-end encryption services. This encryption stores keys to a messaging session exclusively within the service providing platforms, where they change data into cryptographic encryption algorithms, which have public and private keys. The public key is shared with the destination (legal authority to open message) from sources where the messages originated. The service provider, using private keys, alone can decrypt and renders it difficult for others to crack them.

Sai Krishna, chairman, Global Cyber Security Forum, told *Deccan Chronicle*, "This attack is termed as buffer overflow attack. In all systems, there is a buffer zone, where temporary memory allocations happen in order to actually give fast and quick run-time experience for a user. Programmers write a buffer allocation as per programming requirements (of the application). There is a lot of scope for vulnerability here."

Local buffer is needed to run programs seamlessly, to provide a good user experience and facilitate user operations. Attackers can misuse buffer overflows and allocation, drop in a hacker code and hijack a particular application to run as per his direction, Krishna said.

Explaining the modus of operations, he said, hackers first understand a program application, how it functions, the kind and quantum of buffer allocations required, extent of buffer overflow programmed, and then, find vulnerabilities to exploit. Within a buffer allocation, which runs on RAM memory, a malicious payload can be dropped through a video call into the handset without the user's knowledge or involvement.

Once a payload is delivered on to a handset, hackers can listen to conversations, active a microphone in the phone, use handset camera, control WhatsApp data and other operations. Buffer overflow is associated with source code of programs. Once a hacker can change the source code, in turn, applications can be changed and controlled,



## SNOOPGATE ROCKS INDIA

Facebook-owned WhatsApp said Indian journalists and human rights activists were among those globally spied upon by unnamed entities using an Israeli spyware Pegasus. Expectedly, the issue trended on Twitter with people voicing their concern and squarely blaming the government.

@sanjukta

So apparently the spyware #Pegasus which was used to snoop on Indian journalists and activists was ONLY sold to various governments. So only government was possibly doing the snooping. R Prasad is issuing statement they will investigate. Investigate what and whom? Modi, Shah?

@Saurabhsherry

I received the message from @WhatsApp yesterday and now I have deleted everything from my phone. I scare that the government of India may frame me in #BhimaKoregaon type of case. I was falsely framed by them in a UAPA case, says one of the victims of #Pegasus snooping.

@arvindgunasekar

Another scary part in this #Pegasus episode is that the data which was intercepted from a compromised phone was not only relayed to the clients (Govts) of NSO but also to the servers of NSO. Govts have let down their own citizens & knowingly exposed them to some foreign firms

@Advaidism

Looks like Bhima Koregaon has really rattled the BJP. They are so afraid of an uprising amongst lower caste Hindus. Suppressing Adivasi & Dalit voices is the core agenda of Modi Govt. #Pegasus

@nikhil\_thatte

Modi & Shah have progressed from snooping on an "architect" to snooping on human rights activists & lawyers. #Pegasus

@65thakursahab

The solution is simple, stop snooping on your own citizens. NSO Group sells the #Pegasus only to government agencies & your party runs the govt in our country currently. Right ?

@sumanthraman

Why is the Opposition asking questions of NDA when it did snooping too? Rahul Gandhi must answer. Tweet with the hashtag Congressshamelessnoop. ?????? Will i qualify to be a headline writer for channels? ?? #Pegasus #whatsapp #Snooping #Snoopgate

From Page 1

The government has asked the messaging platform to explain the breach and list out measures that have been taken to safeguard the privacy of millions of Indians. The response is expected by November 4.

Prasad hit out at the Opposition, saying those trying to make political gain out of the issue should be reminded of bugging incidents in the office of former finance minister Pranab Mukherjee during the UPA regime, as also spying over then Army Chief General, V.K. Singh.

He asserted that government agencies have a "well-established protocol for interception which includes sanction and supervision from highly ranked officials in central and state governments, for clear stated reasons in national interest".

ered on to a handset, hackers can listen to conversations, active a microphone in the phone, use handset camera, control WhatsApp data and other operations. Buffer overflow is associated with source code of programs. Once a hacker can change the source code, in turn, applications can be changed and controlled,

■ In the past too, WhatsApp has drawn flak from the Indian government on the platform being misused for spreading misinformation that led to incidents of mob lynching.

WhatsApp said it is suing NSO Group, an Israeli surveillance firm that is reportedly behind the technology that helped unnamed entities' spies to hack into phones of roughly 1,400 users worldwide.

These users span across four continents and included diplomats, political dissidents, journalists and senior government officials. However, it did not say on whose behest the phones of journalists and activists across the world were targeted.

These reports have once again given ammunition to the Opposition to target the government over pri-

vacancy in the upcoming winter session of Parliament.

Refusing to divulge identities or the exact number of those targeted in India, WhatsApp said it had in May stopped a highly sophisticated cyber attack that exploited its video calling system to send malware to its users.

WhatsApp has over 1.5 billion users globally, of which India alone accounts for about 400 million. In the past too, WhatsApp has drawn flak from the Indian government on the platform being misused for spreading misinformation that led to incidents of mob lynching.

## NIA CARRIES OUT SEARCHES IN TAMIL NADU

DC CORRESPONDENT  
with agency inputs  
CHENNAI, OCT. 31

The National Investigation Agency on Thursday carried out searches across Tamil Nadu as part of its probe into a plot to kill Hindu activists in Coimbatore.

The agency said searches were carried out in Coimbatore, Sivagangai, Tiruchy, Nagapattinam and Thoothukudi districts, where electronic gadgets and documents were seized.

The agency conducted searches at six locations in these districts as part of further investigation in the ISIS Coimbatore case. The sleuths the residence of a suspected ISIS associate at Kayalpattinam near Tiruchendur in Thoothukudi district and seized a mobile phone, two pen drives and some documents.

## Standoff continues: Raut meets Pawar

BHAGWAN PARAB | DC  
MUMBAI, OCT. 31

In a clear indication that the Shiv Sena has no intention of abandoning its claim to the post of chief minister, its president Uddhav Thackeray on Thursday reiterated that the Bharatiya Janata Party must honour its word and share power with his party on a 50-50 basis.

A vitriolic editorial in the Sena's mouthpiece *Saamana* also accused its ally of carrying out the "second act of the 'use-and-throw' policy and stated that there is no permanent enemy in politics.

Senior Sena leader Sanjay Raut also met the NCP chief Sharad Pawar at the latter's residence on Thursday. According to sources, both the leaders discussed the current political scenario in the state for half an hour. However, Raut denied it, saying he had only gone to greet Pawar on Diwali. The developments came in the wake of reports that his party had softened its stand.

Addressing the party's newly-elected MLAs at Sena Bhavan in Dadar on Thursday, the Sena chief stated that he had not received any power-sharing formula from the BJP on the government formation so far. "But if the BJP fails to fulfil its promise, we have other options available too," he warned.

■ **SHIV SENA** on Thursday elected senior MLA Eknath Shinde as the leader of its legislative party. The legislator said that the rights of distribution of portfolios and government formation had been given to Uddhav Thackeray.

"Our values say that one should keep one's promise. We are in no hurry to join the government. But our only demand is that the commitment be honoured. The BJP had promised before the Lok Sabha polls that all posts and responsibilities should be shared equally between both the parties and it should keep its word," said Thackeray.

Meanwhile, the party elected senior MLA Eknath Shinde as the leader of its legislative party. The legislator said that the rights of distribution of portfolios and government formation had been given to Thackeray.

The Sena's youth leader and Thackeray's son Aaditya also refused to talk about government formation, saying that the party had given all rights to his father on this issue. "I will not talk about government formation. Whatever Uddhav Thackeray says will be the final word on the issue," he said after meeting governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari.

## Centre, NSCN(I-M) sort out differences

MANOJ ANAND | DC  
GUWAHATI, OCT. 31

In what appears to be a major success, the ongoing peace talks between the Prime Minister's envoy R.N. Ravi and the collective leadership of the NSCN (I-M) has succeeded in creating a consensus on all the major contentious issues.

The focus of the peace process is now to take all stakeholders, including neighbouring states on board by addressing their concerns.

When contacted by this newspaper, Ravi, who is also the governor of Nagaland, said they succeeded in sorting out the differences on all contentious issues by tightening some loose ends. He also clarified that the Centre had not agreed to any separate flag for Nagaland state. Ravi, however, said that if some group wants to use a flag for non-governmental purposes, it would not be an issue for the Centre.

Saying that after settling all issues with NSCN (I-M) and the NNPGs, Ravi said his focus in the next phase would be to address the concern of all stakeholder states.

■ Ravi clarified that the Centre had not agreed to any separate flag for Nagaland state.

■ He, however, said that if some group wants to use a flag for non-governmental purposes, it wouldn't be an issue for the Centre.

"We are going to hold talks and start consultations with all stakeholder states, particularly Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh, to take them on board," he said, saying the Centre would not sign the Naga peace agreement in isolation.

All stakeholders will be taken into confidence, Ravi said, expressing satisfaction on concluding the talks with the NSCN (I-M) and the NNPGs.

Clarifying that the government wasn't going to raise any objection to the use of a separate Naga flag for all non-governmental purposes, security sources said the Government of India and the NSCN (I-M) had agreed to resolve the issue of a separate constitution and the "Greater Nagaland" demand through a democratic process after signing the peace agreement.

## Chhath begins



Women holding jars look on as devotees take bath early in the morning in the Ganges and bring holy water to their home to prepare offerings on the first day of Chhath Puja in Patna on Thursday. The four-day festival began on Thursday. On the last two days, devotees perform rituals and offer evening and morning *arghyas* (offerings) to Sun God by taking a dip in a river or other water bodies. The age-old festival is celebrated mostly by people from Bihar and eastern Uttar Pradesh or Poorvanchal.

— AFP





## Uncertainty

Iraq's most powerful politicians appeared to withhold support for PM Adel Abdul Mahdi as anti-government protests swelled into mass demonstrations



Will introduce new laws to provide severe penalties for hate speech and misinformation.

— Sajith Premadasa  
Sri Lanka Presidential candidate

## IN BRIEF

### North Korea fires missiles into sea

Seoul: North Korea on Thursday fired two projectiles into its eastern sea, an apparent resumption of weapons tests aimed at ramping up pressure on Washington over a stalemate in nuclear negotiations, according to officials in South Korea and Japan. The launches followed statements of displeasure by top North Korean officials over the slow pace of nuclear negotiations with the United States and demands that the Trump administration ease crippling sanctions and pressure on their country. Analysts say the North could dial up its weapons demonstrations in the coming weeks.

### Myanmar actors jailed for satire

Yangon: A court in Myanmar sentenced five members of a traditional theatrical troupe to a year in prison for their gibes about the military. The members of the Peacock Generation thngyart troupe were arrested in April for performances during celebrations of Myanmar's traditional new year in which they poked fun at military representatives in parliament and military involvement in business. The military is a powerful political force even though Burma has an elected government. Thngyart combines dance and music with verse that often has a satirical edge. The five were convicted under a law prohibiting the circulation of information that could endanger, demoralise members of the military.

### Lebanon struggles to reopen roads

Beirut: Lebanese security forces were still struggling to open some roads as protesters continued their civil disobedience campaign in support of nationwide anti-government demonstrations. Schools had been set to reopen for the first time in two weeks, but many parents received text messages saying their schools would remain closed for security reasons. Banks, schools and many businesses have been shut since mass protests erupted on Oct. 17. The protests were ignited by a proposed tax on the WhatsApp messenger service but rapidly escalated into calls for the resignation of the government.

### TWITTER WON'T HAVE POLITICAL ADS

Washington, Oct. 31: Twitter said it would stop accepting political advertising globally on its platform, responding to growing concerns over misinformation from politicians on social media. CEO Jack Dorsey tweeted that while internet advertising is "incredibly powerful and very effective for commercial advertisers, that power brings significant risks to politics, where it can be used to influence votes to affect the lives of millions." The move comes with Facebook under pressure to apply fact-checking to politicians running ads with debunked claims. Dorsey said the new policy, details of which will be unveiled next month and enforced from November 22, would ban ads on political issues as well as on candidates. "We considered stopping only candidate ads, but issue ads present a way to circumvent," he said, adding, "Additionally, it isn't fair for everyone but candidates to buy ads for issues they want to push. So we're stopping these too." Twitter's move comes in contrast to the Facebook policy that allows political speech and ads to run without fact-checking.

## Burning heritage

AFTER



A fire tore through Japan's World Heritage-listed Shuri Castle, reducing the main hall of the more than 500-year-old landmark to a skeleton. The castle's dragon monuments have been blackened. The wooden castle is painted bright red and enclosed by curved stone walls. It sits on a hill overlooking Naha. The Shuri castle is a key part of a complex dating back to the Ryukyu Kingdom, and is believed to have been in use from around the 1400s.

This picture on the right taken on September 1, 1993 shows historic Shuri Castle in Naha, Okinawa prefecture, southern Japan.

BEFORE



## ISIS names new chief Ibrahim

Cairo, Oct. 31: The Islamic State militant group confirmed on Thursday its leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi has been killed, the group's news agency *Amaq* said in an audio tape following a US weekend raid. Baghdadi, an Iraqi jihadist who rose from obscurity to declare himself "caliph" of all Muslims as the leader of Islamic State, was killed by US special forces in northwestern Syria. The group had been silent until now. As successor it appointed someone *Amaq* only identified as Abu Ibrahim al-Hashemi al-Quraishi. Aymenn al-Tamimi, a researcher at Swansea University focused on Islamic State, said the name was unknown but could be a top figure called Hajj Abdullah whom the US State Department had identified as a possible successor to Baghdadi "It could be someone we know, who perhaps has just assumed this new name," said Tamimi. The group, which controlled swathes of Iraq and Syria between 2014 and 2017 and carried out atrocities that horrified most Muslims, also confirmed the death of its spokesman Abu al-Hassan al-Muhajir. Earlier, the Pentagon released video and photos of the US special forces raid that resulted in the death of Islamic State group leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi. Among the images released by the Defense Department was grainy black-and-white footage of US troops approaching on foot the high-walled compound in northwestern Syria where Baghdadi was holed up. The Pentagon also released video of airstrikes.



A video grab shows US Special Forces, moving toward compound of ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi.

TECH | AGE

## US hospital posts live video of surgery on Facebook page

## Woman's brain operation livestreamed

Washington, Oct. 31: A young woman in Texas who remained awake for her brain surgery was able to speak to doctors during the procedure — and viewers from around the world looked on, as part of the operation was live-streamed on Facebook. Nearly 1,00,000 people had watched doctors remove a mass from Jenna Schardt's brain during a 40-minute video of the operation that was live-streamed on the social networking site. In the video, the 25-year-old patient can be seen speaking with physicians on one side of a blue operating curtain while doc-



(L) Schardt post surgery. (R) A video grab of the livestreamed footage.



— Facebook

tors in surgical masks work on her brain on the other side. Schardt had a stroke due

to a mass of blood vessels in her left temporal lobe that was affecting her ability to talk, Methodist

Dallas Medical Center head of neurology Nimesh Patel said. She remained awake as

her skull was opened so that doctors could be sure they weren't damaging the parts of her brain that control speech as they worked — they asked her to say words such as bird, dog or number in order to make a "map" of her brain, he added. "In order for us to identify how to approach and remove the mass, we must determine areas that are safe," Patel said. They even asked Schardt about her dog to test her memory. She wanted to use the experience to educate viewers through the livestream which was broadcast on the hospital's account.

## Train fire in Pak kills 73

SHAFQAT ALI | DC  
ISLAMABAD, OCT. 31

At least 73 passengers lost their lives and over 40 sustained critical burn wounds on Thursday when three carriages of a Tezgam Express caught fire due to explosion in gas canisters purportedly used by Tableeghi Jamaat (preaching party) passengers to cook breakfast near Talwari Station in Liaquatpur area of Pakistan's Rahim Yar Khan city. The train was bound from Karachi to Rawalpindi.

People could be heard crying for help as fire engulfed the bogies. Many commuters died and several injured when they jumped from the moving train to escape the flames. The wounded were rushed to hospitals in the nearby city of Bahawalpur and elsewhere in Rahim Yar Khan district.

At least 12 of the injured persons are in critical condition, while 18 dead bodies could not be identified. Women and children were also amongst the victims. Many of the dead and injured were shifted to the District HQ Hospital in Liaquatpur.

Pakistan Railways released helpline numbers too. Fire fighters and Rescue 1122 teams extinguished the fire and evacuated other passengers from the train to safer places. The affected carriages were separated from the train. A cooling

● Passengers claimed that they had informed authorities about the burning smell but no action was taken.

● A short circuit might have caused the fire

and search operation was carried out.

Pakistan army soldiers assisted in relief and rescue efforts, according to Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) Director General (DG) Major General Asif Ghafoor. An army helicopter was also dispatched from Multan to rescue the injured.

Eyewitnesses have refuted claims that the Tezgam Express train inferno occurred due to gas canisters carried by passengers, while claiming that a short circuit might have caused the fire to break out as a burning smell could be felt in the Bogie No. 12 since the previous night. They claimed that they had informed authorities about the burning smell but no action was taken.

According to police, 207 commuters were travelling in the three bogies with 77, 76 and 54 in each of them. Most of the passengers began their journey from Hyderabad.

Yasmin Rashid, a provincial minister in the Punjab said that the medical staff were providing the best possible treatment for the injured.

## CHILE PREZ CANCELS APEC, CLIMATE SUMMIT

Santiago, Oct. 31: Chile pulled out of hosting two major international summits as it struggled to restore order after more than ten days of civil unrest that left at least 23 dead.

President Sebastian Pinera said "common sense" dictated the decision to withdraw from the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit and the Cop 25 climate change conference.

US President Donald Trump had said he was planning to meet Xi Jinping to lock down a "phase one" agreement at the November 16-17 APEC meeting that would partially have ended an 18-month trade war between the world's two biggest economies.

The US said it looked forward to finalizing an agreement within the same timeframe, although analysts Eurasia Group said that may not happen until the end of the year. APEC said it supported Chile's decision.



Sebastian Pinera

## DEMOCRATS' PREZ BIDS MAY BE AFFECTED

Washington, Oct. 31: With the US House of Representatives set to vote on next steps in the impeachment probe, lawmakers there anticipate the investigation could wrap up by year's end or early 2020, at which point the process will move to the Senate.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, a Republican, has said a trial requiring the presence of the full Senate could take place six days a week. That would keep the six Democratic presidential candidates who serve in the chamber off the campaign trail right before the first nominating contests in Iowa and New Hampshire on Feb. 3 and Feb. 11, respectively.

But the timing might not be all bad news. Some Democratic strategists said the White House contenders could benefit from their prominent perch as voters are largely transfixed by the proceedings.

The last time the Senate held an impeachment trial, of President Bill Clinton in 1998, it lasted five weeks.

— Reuters

## 12 migrants found alive in cold truck

Brussels, Oct. 31: Twelve migrants — 11 Syrians and a Sudanese, all men — have been found alive in a refrigerated truck in Belgium transporting fruit and vegetables, police said. The discovery came as British police investigate the deaths of 39 people whose bodies were found a week ago in another refrigerated truck parked east of London.

The Belgium human cargo was discovered on a road linking the city of Antwerp to the capital Brussels. All 12 were "in good health."

The driver of the truck contacted the police after

suspecting he had stowaways in the back, and he was directed to pull over into a highway parking area.

A police investigation has been launched, notably to find out how the migrants got on board and whether they were seeking to get to Britain.

Several Vietnamese families fear their relatives were among the eight women and 31 men who died in the London case. The trailer they were in transited through Belgium.

Migrants and people-smugglers often use Belgium to try to reach Britain.





ni



A soap that coats the skin with a thin film designed to ward off bacteria

A grandparent who is a member of the baby boom generation

# Naga peace flight emerges out of turbulence



Wasbir Hussain

The Naga peace flight appears to have finally emerged out of turbulence and touched clearer skies after 22 years of negotiations. On Thursday evening, the Government of India's peace interlocutor, Nagaland governor R.N. Ravi, and leaders of the Isak-Muivah faction of the National Socialist Council of Nagaland, or NSCN (I-M), the main protagonist of the Naga rebel movement, posed for photographs in New Delhi, clearly signifying the end of the negotiations. It is now clear — the deadlock over “core issues” with the NSCN (I-M) has ended. The hitch was over the NSCN (I-M)'s rigid posturing on its demand for a separate flag and constitution for the Nagas, trig-

gering the obvious question: what have the two negotiating sides, the government and the NSCN (I-M), been doing all these years and why were the differences over the two demands not narrowed down until the last moment before the agreement is to be signed. But all's well that ends well — New Delhi seems to have agreed to let the Nagas use their own flag, although nothing is clear on the other demand for a separate constitution.

Informed Nagas were indeed worried about whether there would be an inclusive Naga peace deal, one that has the consent and signatures of all the factions, meaning the NSCN (I-M) and the seven other Naga rebel factions that have come together and engaged in parallel negotiations with New Delhi under the banner of the Naga National Political Groups (NNPGs). The question also arose whether Prime Minister Narendra Modi could be forced by circumstances to repeat the same mistake as Jawaharlal Nehru did in July 1960 to sign what is known as the 16-Point Agreement, not with Naga rebel stalwart of the time, Angami Zapu Phizo, but with the Naga People's Convention,

a facilitating group. But yes, one had to factor in the fact that year 2019 is not 1960, and that Narendra Modi is not Jawaharlal Nehru!

Since 1997, when the peace talks between the Government of India and the NSCN (I-M) began, the negotiation process ran into “bad weather” a number of times. But the two sides managed to emerge from such rough patches, leading to the signing of a so-called “Framework Agreement” on August 3, 2015, a document that was to be the basis of the final Naga peace accord. But now that the contents of the Framework Agreement has been revealed after four years, it emerged that it was this hotch-potch deal that also had the signature of NSCN (I-M) chairman Isak Chishi Swu, who subsequently died, that had led to the turbulence in the past few weeks.

The Framework Agreement was supposed to have recognised the Nagas and the Union of India as “two entities”. It is this construct — “two entities” — that has since been used by the NSCN (I-M) to push its argument that the two negotiating sides have agreed to have an arrangement of a “shared

**As long as the NSCN (I-M) and the NNPGs sign together on the agreement, the prolonged insurrection in the Naga areas would certainly reduce drastically. But New Delhi cannot afford to ignore the fears of people in other Northeast states.**

sovereignty”. Therefore, the NSCN (I-M) kept insisting on its demand for a separate flag and a separate constitution for the Nagas, and said there can be no solution without New Delhi conceding these two “core demands” of the Nagas. The government's interlocutor for the Naga peace talks, R.N. Ravi, who was recently made governor of Nagaland, obviously with the mandate to clinch the Naga peace deal, had said in an official statement that it will not be possible for New Delhi to grant the Nagas a separate flag and constitution. In fact, after the Narendra Modi government abrogated Article 370 on August 5, the adoption of such a stand was understandable. But pragmatism and the

obvious realisation that a piecemeal solution without the NSCN (I-M) was not going to resolve the Naga problem seems to have finally prevailed, and led to the change of heart on New Delhi's part.

The 85-year-old general secretary of the NSCN (I-M), Thuingaleng Muivah, the group's topmost leader, who is also the Ato Kilonser, or “prime minister”, knew very well, like the outfit's other leaders, that if they do not manage to get a separate flag and a constitution for the Nagas, they cannot claim any “victory” whatsoever after 22 years of negotiations. Many thought that New Delhi could easily give the Nagas a flag and a statute because the NSCN (I-M) has watered down its demand from that of an independent Naga homeland to the bringing of contiguous Naga areas under a single politico-administrative unit to achieve what it calls “Nagalim” to that of border-less regional autonomy without altering the boundaries of the existing northeastern states.

The situation also saw a new drastic turn with the NNPGs taking centre-stage and increasing the momentum of their

negotiations with the government over the past 18 months. The NSCN (I-M) has publicly described the NNPGs as “opportunists” and accused them of trying to capitalise on the situation. The question now is — with the NSCN (I-M) and the NNPGs on a collision course till the last moment, how would they work together in the coming days. One has to wait and watch. The NNPGs, unlike the NSCN (I-M), had sorted out the differences over the agreement some time ago.

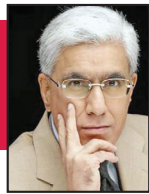
Meanwhile, a former “home minister” of the NSCN (I-M), Hukavi Yephthomi, who was part of the NSCN (I-M) negotiating team, switched sides and joined the NNPG working committee last week. Published reports said he did so because he had to be “practical” and in sync with the “reality of the situation”. Another batch from the NSCN (I-M) has since joined the NNPG. If this trend continues, it may seem to weaken the hold of the NSCN (I-M), but things cannot be viewed so simply. Already, there are reports doing the rounds that scores of NSCN (I-M) cadres have disappeared from the designated camps where they have been staying

for years, triggering speculation on whether they are gearing up for a renewed insurrection.

One thing which is clear now is that the Naga peace process had got entangled in layers, and unlike the two decades since 1997, when the key player was only the NSCN (I-M), there emerged other stakeholders in the form of the NNPGs to whom the government has attached lot of importance. But as long as the NSCN (I-M) and the NNPGs sign together on the agreement, the prolonged insurrection in the Naga areas would certainly reduce drastically, if not end altogether. But New Delhi cannot afford to ignore the fears of people in neighbouring Manipur and other Northeast states. This will have to be New Delhi's topmost priority now. Of course, the government has said late Thursday evening that it would hold discussions with stakeholders in Manipur, Assam and Arunachal before the Naga peace accord is signed.

*The writer is a political commentator and executive director of the Centre for Development and Peace Studies, a Guwahati-based policy think tank*

## Will Boris' gamble work? Anything might happen after 12/12 UK vote



Karan Thapar

The general election that will happen on December 12 will be Britain's fifth nationwide contest in five years. Two were national referendums and three general elections. It's also the first December election since 1923 and the most consequential since Margaret Thatcher came to power in 1979. In fact, some would say it's the most important since the two world wars. Additionally, it will not only determine the character of Brexit or whether it happens at all but also whether the most radically left-wing Labour Party in history gets elected. Finally, the future of the United Kingdom itself could depend on how Scotland reacts to Brexit. All of this has huge implications for Britain and Europe, but also the rest of the world.

Boris Johnson goes into the election knowing he has failed to fulfil his promise that Britain would leave the European Union on October 31 “do or die”. That was his pledge outside Downing Street the day he took over as Prime Minister. So his gamble is -- who will the British public hold responsible for this failure? He's hoping that the British voter will blame Parliament, and not his gov-

ernment. He will argue that he did everything possible, but the House of Commons repeatedly created obstructions that stalled Brexit.

Boris Johnson will also be gambling in one other sense. He must hope that the growing impatience to get “Brexit done” will be sufficient to deliver a majority to his Conservative Party because of their commitment to this cause. The problem is that the Brexit Party might be seen to have a clearer, if not also longer-standing, commitment. How many Tory voters could they lure? Would it be sufficient to deny Mr Johnson the majority he's after?

For Jeremy Corbyn, the Leader of the Opposition, the election happens at a time when the polls have his Labour Party trailing 10 points behind the Conservatives. This is why a section of his shadow cabinet and several of his MPs are reluctant to face the electorate in December. They attempted “wrecking amendments” to Tuesday's bill which paved the way for the December election, but failed to get them adopted or passed. Many of them fear Labour will lose seats “up and down the country”.

If the campaign that now gets under way becomes

**Recent British elections have been notoriously difficult to predict. Two of the last three resulted in a hung Parliament. In 2015, David Cameron just about squeaked home. In 2017, Theresa May began with a huge lead but lost her majority to a resurgent Labour Party.**

presidential, as is more than likely, Labour could face another problem. Jeremy Corbyn would be pitted against Boris Johnson. The Times (London) points out that the incumbent Prime Minister's approval ratings may be negative and below those of his recent predecessors at a similar point in their prime ministership but the Labour leader's negative ratings have “broken all polling records”. This could be made worse by the fact Boris Johnson is considered an indefatigable and popular campaigner -- which his win in two mayoral contests in London and the Brexit referendum testify to -- while Mr Corbyn is unconvincing and unimpressive at the stumps.

In these circumstances, what is Boris Johnson's likely strategy? He knows he could be squeezed between the Brexit party on his right and the Liberal Democrats on his left. Most analysts believe he will attempt to invade Labour's Brexit territory. The greater the number of Labour-held constituencies which voted for Brexit that the Tories can win, the

bigger the majority they could hope for.

If, in addition, Mr Johnson can strike a deal with Nigel Farage's Brexit party not to field candidates in winnable Tory seats that would help him concentrate on his Labour attack. But that's only likely if Mr Farage comes to the conclusion a convincing Tory victory is the best guarantee of Brexit and is willing to sacrifice his party's interests to this end.

Labour's hopes, on the other hand, lie in what the British are calling “Remainia”. Here the Tories will be on the backfoot. Nearly 40 Tory seats voted to remain or only marginally voted to leave. These could be in danger. The only thing is -- will their voters still see Jeremy Corbyn as the best way of avoiding Brexit? Or might they now prefer the Liberal Democrats? If they do, Labour could lose some of its most loyal constituencies just as the Tories are successfully appealing to Brexit voters in Labour strongholds in the Midlands and the north.

A lot depends on the manifesto commitments both parties make. In 2017 Labour promised to scrap university tuition fees, which appealed to young voters. They are believed to have voted for it en masse. In contrast, the Tories proposed a social care policy, nicknamed the dementia tax, which tripped them up. Their seats -- but intriguingly not their vote share -- shrank. Will Mr Corbyn offering much the same again prove attractive? Or, this time, can Boris

Johnson pull beguiling promises out of his hat?

On top of all of this there's the Scottish question. Almost certainly Brexit will trigger another referendum. The question is how will the majority in Scotland vote? Most of those in favour of the Union tend to be Tory voters. In 2017, the Conservatives won 13 seats, their best performance since 1983. If they lose most of those to the Scottish Nationalist Party, they will also strengthen the demand for another referendum. If it happens, many Scottish voters might opt for independence in the belief this could be a way of getting back into the EU.

Now, recent British elections have been notoriously difficult to predict. Two of the last three resulted in a hung Parliament. In 2015, David Cameron just about squeaked back home. In 2017, Theresa May began with a huge lead in the polls but lost her majority to a resurgent Labour Party. Anything can happen this time around.

Which is why Boris Johnson cannot ignore history's ominous warning. It was a Tory Prime Minister, Stanley Baldwin, who called the last December election in 1923. He went into it with a majority that could have lasted for four more years. He came out of it without one and, within weeks, a national government was sworn in with Labour's Ramsay MacDonald at its head. Could something similar happen again?

*The writer is a television commentator and anchor*

## Sophistication, zest for life & happiness is what Ladies in Black is all about



Taki

Should art mirror the world as it is, or does an artist fail the public if the work looks back to a time before the grotesqueries of the present? Back, back, I say, but that's to be expected. I'm such a fan of the past that if I could have one wish granted by *The Spectator* it would be for a review by Deborah Ross of the most uplifting movie ever, *Ladies in Black*, directed by the great Bruce Beresford.

My, my, what memories of Australians and Oz it brought back. The great Lew Hoad, Mervyn Rose, Roy Emerson, Neale Fraser, Ken Fletcher, all great tennis players and good friends, and Sydney circa 1959, like a picture postcard from back then, not a single detail missing, large yellow cars, pith-helmeted traffic cops, two-tone shoes, vests and hats included. Yes, I admit the nostalgic glow got to me as never before, but Beresford's film is such a visual triumph, coupled with a coming-of-age story beautifully and tastefully told, that when it had finished I remained seated in awe in my bedroom for 15 minutes. That night I couldn't sleep, trying to figure out what has happened and why the world is so dreadfully different today.

There is nothing in the film that is dark, warped or contemporary, nothing sick, which will probably mean it's a money-loser in the UK and the US of A. The degradation heaped on us by the film industry reflects today's world of drugs and freak sexual mores and lifestyles. Oh yes, and we are not allowed to say things any more that might offend anyone, including mass murderers who kill in the name of Allah. Militant secularists make sure we never say anything nice about Christianity, especially the Catholic Church, and God forbid we portray on film or on the printed page anyone of virtue and moral discipline. No wonder I was thunderstruck by *Ladies in Black*.

These ladies are shop assistants in a grand Sydney department store, the fictional Goode's, and they include the most delightful and wholesome Angourie Rice, and the beautiful Rachael Taylor. The movie was released last year and it makes Frank Capra's *It's a Wonderful Life* seem a downer by comparison. The teenager, played by Miss Rice, has a mother who adores her and a gruff father who works as a printer at the *Sydney Morning Herald* and doesn't understand the modern world. Remember, it's 1959, pre-everything that's horrible like the internet, Facebook, Twitter, computers, mobiles, selfies, the F-word, promiscuity, rap, leggings, porn and the EU. The teenager is divine and a top student. Her smile is to die for. But she also works at Goode's and she comes under the watchful eye of a once-grand Hungarian lady, who gets Miss Rice to be

prettier and prettier by showing her how to dress better and how to manage her hair. Overnight she becomes a rare beauty, always smiling, always happy and divine. Her mother is over the moon. The father is not so sure.

The Hungarian lady is married to a Hungarian gent who has a friend who is looking for female action. The friend is smooth but not a smoothie. Introduced to another lady in black, played by Rachael Taylor, he flirts like the charming Mittel-European he is, complimenting her, dancing, charming her, exclaiming his love for the open spaces of Australia. He asks the beautiful Rachael if she prefers Liszt to Bach. She hesitates, not ever having heard of either, and he proceeds to teach her. They fall in love and she confesses to having had an affair. He laughs and tells her it's OK.

The Aussies at first look upon the Hungarians as strange creatures. They have wonderful formal manners and talk about the grand old days. Not with bitterness but with happiness. They charm and civilise the Aussies. They drink wine and even teach the gruff father of the teenager how to drink it instead of beer. Now I have yet to meet a Hungarian I didn't like -- I've never met the ghostly George Soros -- and in the movie the foreigners come up aces. Their sophistication coupled with their love of life seduces the Aussies. There is a very happy ending: the teenager wins a scholarship to university, Rachael gets engaged, the gruff father loves wine and other Hungarian delicacies, and the movie ends with me stunned and wishing it was 1959 all over again.

If movies educate the masses, no wonder we're in such a mess. Nowadays, the F-word is ubiquitous in every cool person's conversation, and things have got so out of hand there were cretins who recently expressed sympathy with some Manson murderers simply because they were women. Movies today thrive on violence and a loathing of traditional bourgeois values. It is a world of misogyny, toxic masculinity and white male privilege. No wonder ethnic minorities feel aggrieved. When I watched *Ladies in Black*, it reminded me of my own family. All my grandchildren and children do is make fun of (a) me, and (b) each other. We laugh and laugh and love each other, and now that I have given what I got from my father to them, and beg them at times for cigarette money (always refused), then money for a mistress or two (refused with insults), I am reminded of the closing scene of *Ladies in Black*, and the happiness that wins out. More films like it, please.

*By arrangement with the Spectator*

## Meditate to reduce stress and stomachaches



Sant Rajinder Singhji

Doctors and medical researchers have discovered that stress has a role to play in our health. They have learned that stress can cause a breakdown of our immune system and open the door to a variety of ailments. Stress interferes with the healthy functioning of some of our bodily systems required to resist disease. It activates the “fight or flight” response causing certain biochemical reactions in our body.

When we are in a state of stress, our heart beats faster. Certain hormones are released to get us ready to protect ourselves. Once released, they cannot be recalled. A ready-alert system that was originally intended to help us escape physical harm becomes activated even in the presence of day-to-day situations that do not pose any threat to our life.

Thus, we carry within us a state of stress, or a state in which our body is responding to fear and threat even in situations that are only problems for our mind. Because we are not fighting or fleeing, our body has no way to dissipate the bottled up stress and we

carry it around with us throughout the day. Ultimately, it begins to cause problems for us internally, and different organs begin reacting to that stress.

Thus, stress that is unchecked and not dissipated can affect our heart, our lungs, our circulatory system, our digestive system, our skin, and our nervous system. We may suffer from stress-related headaches, stomachaches, breathing problems, and nervousness.

We may not be able to control the contraction of certain diseases which are genetic or which are spread from the air, but we can have a measure of control over our own personal stress. There are ways to reduce and even eliminate stress in our lives. When we talk of eliminating stress, we do not mean eliminating problems. Problems will always be there. But we can eliminate our unhealthy physical response to the problems.

There is a technique called meditation that we can try in our lives. By learning the art of meditation, we will have a defense system against stress. The key is to have another kind of response to problems that will not stimulate these physical reactions in the body.

If we can learn to meditate, then we can confront problems in a way that



does not upset our physiological systems. Meditation provides a way for us to learn to control our reactions.

When we are in a state of meditation, our heart beats slower. Our body and mind are relaxed. It is in a state of calm. When our body is peaceful and calm, the physical reactions to stress are stilled. It is said that we also get more rest in meditation than the same amount of time spent in sleep. Why? In sleep, we may dream. The dreams may be good or they may be stressful.

Our body may react in sleep to our dreams as it would if awake. We toss and turn in our sleep. In meditation, though, we are perfectly still. Our mind is still so there are no stressful thoughts or dreams in which we can react. Thus, it is a time of peace for our body.

If we become habituated to meditation, we may call upon that same response when we are in a difficult situation. At first, it may take a while to get used to it. But the more we meditate, the more easily we can access that state and use it throughout the day.

*Sant Rajinder Singhji, head of Sawan Kirpal Ruhani Mission, works towards promoting inner and outer peace. He can be contacted at [www.sos.org](http://www.sos.org)*



Farmers plan nationwide stir against RCEP

Fiat Chrysler, PSA merger to impact Indian operations



Overleaf

## quick BITES

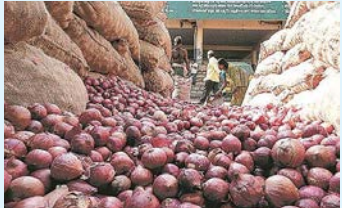
INDICATORS		%
Sensex	40,129.05	+0.19
Nifty 50	11,877.50	+0.28
S&P 500	3,029.10	-0.58
Dollar (₹)	71.08	+0.06
Pound Sterling (₹)	65.80	+0.64
Euro (₹)	79.52	+0.54
Gold (10gm)* (₹)	38,494▲406	1.07
Brent crude (\$/bbl)*	\$60.30	-0.31
IN 10-Yr bond yield	+6.643	-0.022
US 10-Yr T-bill yield	+1.712	-0.084

\* As of 9:30 pm IST

## Hong Kong plunges into recession

Hong Kong confirmed it had plunged into its first recession since 2009 as months of pro-democracy protests and the US-China trade war exacted a heavy toll on the financial hub. The city's GDP shrank 3.2 per cent in the third quarter compared with the previous quarter when it saw a 0.4 percent drop. That means HK is experiencing a technical recession.

## Onion, tomato prices rule high in Delhi



Onion and tomato prices remained high in the Rs 60-70/kg range in the retail markets of Delhi despite government measures. The two kitchen staples are being sold at up to Rs 70 per kg, depending on the quality and locality, as per trade data. The ministry data also showed retail price of onion ruling at Rs 55/kg and tomato at Rs 53/kg in the NCR.

## PSU banks extend ₹2.56 lakh crore to stressed NBFCs

The Finance Ministry said public sector banks have extended support of Rs 2.56 lakh crore to NBFCs by way of credit and pooled buyout since September 2018 as part of efforts to provide liquidity to the sector. Further, under the partial guarantee scheme, PSBs have been accorded sanction to purchase Rs 21,580 crore worth of pooled assets as on Oct. 16.

## Muthoot board okays \$450 mn fund-raising

Muthoot Finance said its board has approved raising \$450 million through bonds in overseas markets under the \$2 billion capital-raising plan. The bonds will be listed on the London Stock Exchange's International Securities Market. The company said its board approved the issuance of \$450 mn 6.125 per cent senior secured notes due 2022 under the \$2 bn global medium term note programme.

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## Seven out of eight sectors see contraction in output

# Core sector production contracts 5.2% in Sept

New Delhi, Oct 31: Core infrastructure industries' output contracted last month to the lowest since at least 2005, reflecting an enduring sharp weakness in economic activity. The index of eight core infrastructure industries, which comprises output of coal, crude oil, cement and electricity among others, declined 5.2 per cent in September, the government said in a statement on Thursday. That was the second straight month of contraction.

As many as seven of eight core industries saw a contraction in output in September. Coal production fell steeply by 20.5 per cent, crude oil by 5.4 per cent, and natural gas by 4.9 per cent. Refinery products (-6.7 per cent), cement (-2.1 per cent), steel (-0.3 per cent), and electricity (-3.7 per cent) output too declined. The only infrastructure segment to post growth was fertilisers where production increased by 5.4 per cent year-on-year. The eight core sectors had expanded by 4.3 per



## Fiscal deficit hits 93% of target

New Delhi, Oct. 31: India's fiscal deficit reached nearly 93 per cent of the budgeted target at Rs 6.52 lakh crore at end-September, government data showed on Thursday. In absolute terms, the fiscal deficit, or the gap between expenditure and revenue, was Rs 6,51,554 crore as on September 30, according to data from

the Controller General of Accounts. The deficit stood at 95.3 per cent of the 2018-19 budget estimate (BE) in the corresponding month a year ago. Net tax receipts in the first half of the current fiscal year were Rs 6.07 lakh crore while total expenditure was Rs 14.89 lakh crore, the data showed. — Agencies

## Yes Bank gets ₹8.5K cr global investor offer

FALAKNAAZ SYED MUMBAI, OCT. 31

Shares of Yes Bank jumped 35 per cent before closing with gains of 24 per cent after the lender informed the exchanges that it has received a \$1.2 billion binding offer (around Rs 8500 crore) from a global investor. The bank is yet to consider the offer, it said. While the bank did not name the investor, according to reports, it was Hong Kong-based SPGP Holdings. The bank said that it continues to be in advanced discussions with other global and domestic investors. Analysts said the amount being offered by the global investor is sizeable enough to take care of future growth besides helping the bank maintain the minimum capital requirements. "One of major overhang on capital will get elevated. But the name of the investor, timing of the capital infusion and central bank's comfort with this proposal needs to be watched for," said an analyst. K Vijaykumar, Chief Investment Strategist at Geojit Financial Services, said, "Yes Bank is badly in need of capital for growth. Absence of positive news on this front led to bear hammering in the stock, taking the stock below Rs 30. It is natural that



investors are finding it attractive to invest in the stock for a stake. Further developments will depend on who the investor is and the regulatory approvals." The Yes Bank board is likely to consider the offer along with other proposals as well as results today. The shares of Yes Bank closed 24.03 per cent higher at Rs 70.45 on the BSE, making it the world's best performing bank share this month. The bank has now recovered over 150 per cent from its 52-week low of Rs 29.05 hit on October 1. The bank had earlier on September 25, 2019 informed the exchanges that it had received strong interest from multiple foreign as well as domestic private equity and strategic investors for the capital raise and remains firmly on course to raising growth capital subject to necessary approvals. According to reports, the lender has been in talks with private equity investors, tech companies and family offices.

## Banks asked to probe data leak of 1.3 mn cards

ADITYA KALRA & NUPUR ANAND NEW DELHI/MUMBAI, OCT. 31

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has asked banks to ensure customers' debit and credit card data is secure and investigate reports that say data of 1.3 million accounts was available online, a notice seen by Reuters showed. Banks should secure the customers' data by performing a preliminary analysis of the leaked card information online, the RBI notice said, and cited an article by tech news site ZDNet on Tuesday. Three industry sources confirmed the notice had

## Sebi tightens NPA disclosures

New Delhi, Oct 31: Putting in place a stricter framework, Sebi on Thursday directed all listed banks to disclose any divergence in bad loan provisioning within 24 hours of receiving RBI's risk assessment report, rather than waiting to publish the details in their annual financial statements. In

recent months, there have been several instances of under-reporting of bad loans by lenders, prompting action by the RBI. The Sebi circular, noted that disclosures in respect of divergence and provisioning are in the nature of material events and hence needed immediate disclosure. —PTI

been sent to Indian banks. The RBI did not immediately respond to a request for comment. "On finding leaked data to be correct and genuine,

disable and re-issue the credit and debit cards as per the bank's policy," said the notice dated Oct. 29. Security researchers at Singapore-based Group-IB

## Cognizant to lay off around 7,000 staff

SANGEETHA G CHENNAI, OCT. 31

Global IT services company Cognizant will lay off around 7,000 mid-to-senior level employees globally and is exiting the Digital Content Business, which will affect another 6,000 jobs. The company has decided to remove 10,000-12,000 mid-to-senior level employees worldwide from their current roles in coming quarters. As on September 30, Cognizant's worldwide employee strength stood at 2,89,900. The net reduction will be

5,000 to 7,000 jobs, or about two per cent of the company's total population, as the company aims to re-skill and redeploy about 5,000 of the total employees impacted, said, CEO Brian Humphries in a post-earnings call. The decision is part of the two-year "Fit for Growth" plan that will simplify the way work is done, lower the cost structure, and fund investments that will enable growth. The plan will sharpen the company's strategic focus and simplify the operating model. Cognizant is also exiting



the Digital Content Business, which is not in line with the company's long-term strategic vision. The exit will happen over the course of 2020. Exiting this area will impact an additional 6,000 jobs worldwide. The com-

pany intends to work with its partners to explore ways to shift the roles to alternative vendors. The exit will impact revenue in the firm's Communications, Media and Technology segment. As per reports, Cognizant had about 500 workers in Hyderabad looking for sensitive topics or profane language in Facebook videos. The company found that work focused on determining whether content violated client standards was not part of its strategic vision as it can have objectionable materials. Meanwhile, Cognizant

has raised its revenue growth guidance for the full year to 4.6-4.9 per cent in constant currency, which was higher than its previous guidance of 3.9-4.9 per cent issued in the previous quarter's earnings. For the third quarter ended September, the company registered revenue of \$4.25 billion, up 4.2 per cent for the same quarter previous year. Digital revenue, growing at 25 per cent, accounts for about 35 per cent of the company's revenue. The company's net profit stood at \$497 million versus \$477 million for the same quarter last year. —Reuters

## Boeing grounds 50 planes globally over cracks

Oct. 31: Boeing announced on Thursday that up to 50 of its popular 737NG planes had been grounded after cracks in them were detected, in another blow to the US aircraft maker following two deadly crashes. Australian national carrier Qantas became the latest airline to take one of the planes out of the air, as it said it would urgently inspect 32 others but insisted passengers had nothing to fear. The announcement by Qantas came after authorities in Seoul said nine of the planes were grounded in South Korea in early October, including five operated by Korean Air. The cracks are on what is known as the "pickle fork" — a part that attaches the plane's

fuselage, or body, to the wing structure. Repairing the cracks requires grounding the airplane and costs an estimated \$275,000 per aircraft, according to aviation consultancy IBA, reports said. There are currently thousands of 737 NG planes in use by airlines around the world. The issue surfaced while the newer 737 MAX model is grounded globally following two deadly crashes. Following the Qantas announcement, a Boeing spokesperson on Thursday told AFP in Sydney that less than 5 per cent of 1,000 planes had cracks detected and were grounded for repair. The spokesperson did not give an exact figure, though 5 per



cent equates to 50 planes of 1,000 inspected. Boeing and Qantas stressed travellers should not be concerned. "We would never operate an

aircraft unless it was completely safe to do so," Qantas head of engineering Chris Snook said. But the discovery has heightened fears that the scale of the 737NGs' problem may have been underestimated. The US Federal Aviation Administration had initially ordered immediate checks of Boeing 737NG planes that had flown more than 30,000 times. But Qantas said it had found the fault in a more lightly used aircraft than those singled out for early checks; one that had recorded fewer than 27,000 flights. "This aircraft has been removed from service for repair," Qantas said in a statement, adding it had hastened its inspections of 32 other 737NG

planes to be completed by Friday. The airline said it generally used the aircraft on domestic routes, flying primarily between major cities as well as shorter-haul trips to New Zealand. Stephen Fankhauser, an aviation expert at Australia's Swinburne University of Technology, said that the parts were designed so the "structure can tolerate some level of damage or degradation". "The inspection period is set to ensure the cracks do not continue to grow to a dangerous length and then significantly compromise the strength of the airframe," he said. A Boeing spokesperson said the company "regrets the

impact" the issue was having on its customers and was "working around the clock" to fix the problem. "Boeing is actively working with customers that have airplanes in their fleets with inspection findings to develop a repair plan, and to provide parts and technical support as necessary," the spokesperson said in a statement. The NG is a precursor plane to the Boeing 737 MAX, which has been grounded since mid-March following the two deadly crashes in Indonesia and Ethiopia. Boeing is still trying to restore its safety reputation after two 737 MAX crashes last year that killed 346 people. —AFP



## Facebook profit, user base climb

San Francisco, Oct 31: Facebook on Wednesday reported that its quarterly profit grew along with its user base as it grapples with concerns ranging from political ads to cryptocurrency.

The leading social network said its profit topped \$6 billion on revenue that climbed 28 per cent to \$17.4 billion in the quarter that ended on September 30.

Meanwhile, the number of active monthly users increased eight percent from a year ago to 2.45 billion.

"We had a good quarter and our community and business continue to grow," said Facebook chief and co-founder Mark Zuckerberg.

"We are focused on making progress on major social issues and building new experiences that improve people's lives around the world."

"Advertisers continue to support Facebook, despite the many controversies...and the user base also continues to expand around the world," said eMarketer principal analyst Debra Aho Williamson. —AFP

## China doubts deal possible with Trump

SHAWN DONNAN, JENNY LEONARD & STEVEN YANG OCT. 31

Chinese officials are casting doubts about reaching a comprehensive long-term trade deal with the US even as the two sides get close to signing a "phase one" agreement.

In private conversations with visitors to Beijing and other interlocutors in recent weeks, Chinese officials have warned they won't budge on the thorniest issues, according to people familiar with the matter. They remain concerned about President Trump's impulsive nature and the risk he may back out of even the limited deal both sides say they want to sign in the coming weeks.

Chinese policy makers are gathered in Beijing for a key political meeting. Ahead of that plenum some officials have relayed low expectations that future negotiations could result in anything meaningful—unless the US is willing to roll back more of the tariffs.

—Bloomberg

## Johnson Lifts eyes overseas acquisition

RITWIK MUKHERJEE KOLKATA, OCT. 31

Chennai-headquartered Johnson Lifts Pvt Ltd, the 56-year old manufacturer of elevators and escalators with more than 1 lakh installations, 22 per cent market share in elevators and 48 per cent in escalator, is now looking at inorganic growth through acquisitions in new geographies like Dubai and Kenya. The company is also looking at Bangladesh as a potential market and that may happen within next three months.

The Rs 2,000-crore company exports elevators and escalators to Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar, Maldives and Tanzania. The current exports, which stands at 6 per cent of total revenues, is expected to grow 10 per cent year-on-year from here onwards, said Albert Dhiravivam, Country Head (Marketing), Johnson Lifts.

The firm is bullish about the growth of infrastructure sector in India and hopes to garner larger revenue from commercial and infrastructure sectors.

## FCA sells Jeep & Maserati here; PSA set to bring Citroen Fiat Chrysler, PSA merger to impact Indian car ops

MICHAEL GONSALVES PUNE, OCT. 31

Europe's second largest car-maker Groupe PSA of France and Italian-American OEM Fiat Chrysler Automobiles (FCA) plan to join forces through a 50-50 share swap to create the world's fourth-largest automaker, bringing about a new wave of consolidation in the car industry.

This merger of the two auto giant could also have an impact in their India businesses.

FCA is now present in the country only through its Jeep brand and Maserati, and PSA has made an announcement to enter the market with a mid-sized Citroen SUV next year, and its DS brand.

Auto analysts said there would certainly be leveraging of synergies between the two in this promising but highly competitive automobile market.

"In a rapidly changing environment, with new challenges in connected, electrified, shared and autonomous mobility, the combination would create



the 4th largest global OEM in terms of annual unit sales of 8.7 million vehicles," a statement signed by both companies said.

The combination entity would unite the groups' respective brand strengths across Luxury, Premium, Mainstream Passenger Car, SUV and Trucks & Light Commercial – making them stronger together, it said.

The multi-brand group will include the Fiat, Jeep, Dodge, Ram, Chrysler, Alfa Romeo, Maserati, Peugeot, DS, Opel and Vauxhall brands, allowing it to serve mass and premium passenger car markets as well as trucks and light commercial vehicles.

FCA and PSA said they aimed to reach a binding deal to create a \$50 billion

company domiciled in the Netherlands, with listings in Paris, Milan and New York and with PSA's Carlos Tavares as CEO and FCA's John Elkann as chairman.

"This convergence brings significant value to all the stakeholders and opens a bright future for the combined entity," Tavares said in a statement.

This strategic move is aimed at giving both automakers the scale to help manage a global downturn in auto markets as well as costly investments in new technologies such as electric and self-driving vehicles.

FCA would get access to PSA's more modern vehicle platforms, helping it to meet tough new emissions rules, while PSA would benefit from FCA's profitable US

business.

The management teams of FCA and PSA will seek to finalise the discussions in the coming weeks to create a group with 8.7 million in annual vehicle sales aimed at making it the world's fourth biggest automaker after Volkswagen, Toyota and the Renault-Nissan alliance.

The deal aims to make savings of 3.7 billion euros (\$4.1 billion), without plant closures, and achieve around 80 per cent of that within four years, at a one-off cost of 2.8 billion euros.

Both PSA and FCA boards have given the mandate to their respective teams to finalize the discussions to reach a binding Memorandum of Understanding in the coming weeks.

## Telcos have capacity to pay: Jio

New Delhi, Oct 31: Reliance Jio on Thursday strongly opposed any bailout to telecom companies at taxpayer's expense, and asserted that telcos should be mandated to deposit their dues within the court-stipulated timeline of three months, as they have the capacity to comfortably clear their liabilities.

In a letter to Telecom Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad on Thursday, Jio argued that even an unlikely event of failure of two operators will not have an adverse impact on the sector dynamics given the "existence of vibrant competition including presence of the PSUs" as well as absence of any restriction on entry of new operators.



Jio said it did not agree with COAI's alarmist views that telecom sector will collapse in absence of immediate relief by the government.

It also lambasted industry body COAI for writing to government "under the influence of two of its members in furtherance of their vested interests" and accused the association of

acting as a "mouthpiece of two service providers" and harbouring a negative bias towards Jio.

Launching a full-fledged attack on the Cellular Operators' Association of India (COAI) for writing exparte to the government on the financial distress in the sector, Jio said the body was "blackmailing" to "extract relief from the government" after all legal recourse had expired.

"We submit that the so-called affected service providers have sufficient financial capacity to pay the government dues by monetising their existing assets/investments and by issuing fresh equity in their companies," it wrote in the letter to Prasad. —PTI

## IOC net dips 83% on inventory loss

FC BUREAU NEW DELHI, OCT 31

With slump in refinery margins as well inventory losses, state-owned Indian Oil Corp (IOC) on Thursday posted a 83 per cent dip in net profits on a year-on-year basis in the second quarter. The net profit for July-September has been reported at Rs 564 crore against Rs 3,247 crore in the same period last year.

"The major reason for the decline in net profit was inventory losses in Q2 as against inventory gain during corresponding quarter of previous year," IOC Chairman Sanjiv Singh told reporters here.

"As far as inventory loss is concerned, variation in bottomline was seen during the current quarter and inventory gain during the corresponding quarter last year," Singh, added.

However, the oil and gas major earned \$1.28 on turning every barrel of crude oil into fuel in July-

September as compared to gross refining margin (GRM) of \$6.79 per barrel in Q2 of the previous fiscal. Without accounting for inventory losses, the GRM was \$3.99 per barrel. "The company recorded an inventory loss of Rs 1,807 crore in the quarter as opposed to an inventory gain of Rs 2,895 crore," Singh said.

A company generally suffers inventory loss when it buys raw material like crude oil at a particular price but by the time it is able to ship it and process it into fuel, global rates would have fallen. Because pump rates are benchmarked at prevailing international rate, it books an inventory loss. Inventory gain are booked if the reverse happens.

Singh further said the company had a forex loss of Rs 1,135 crore in the second quarter.

Turnover also slipped to Rs 1.32 lakh crore from Rs 1.51 lakh crore due to the dip in prices.

## Meenakshi, HDFC lock horns as bank refuses to honour guarantee

RITWIK MUKHERJEE KOLKATA, OCT. 31

Hyderabad-headquartered Meenakshi Energy Ltd (MEL) locked horns with HDFC Bank after the latter refused to honour bank guarantees (BGs) of Rs 20.31 crore issued by the bank on behalf of Siemens Ltd in favour of Meenakshi Energy Ltd (MEL) even after the beneficiary decided to invoke the BGs on ground that the sub-contractor had failed to perform its obligations as per the agreement.

Meenakshi Energy's repeated invocation claims have been to no avail. This is notwithstanding the fact that the Hyderabad Commercial Court, after protracted hearing, refused to grant any stay or any injunction in the matter as prayed for by Siemens, holding that no ground has been made out for the same. Interestingly, RBI circular clearly says that 'BG is a contract between the beneficiary and the bank and when the beneficiary invokes the



bank guarantee and a letter invoking the same is sent in terms of the bank guarantee, it is obligatory on the bank to make payment to the beneficiary'.

A detailed query sent to HDFC Bank and subsequent phone calls did not elicit any response.

Significantly, India Power Corporation, a Kanoria Foundation company, had acquired Meenakshi Energy from French major Engie for an undisclosed sum, as it looked to expand thermal power capacity. Engie had been holding 89.11 per cent of Meenakshi Energy. Rest of its stake belonged to the Meenakshi Group.

## Farmers plan nationwide stir against RCEP

BIBHUDATTA PRADHAN OCT. 31

India's farmers' organisations have planned a nationwide protest on November 4 to demand that the government of Prime Minister Narendra Modi keep agriculture out of a 16-nation trade agreement currently being negotiated in Thailand.

The All-India Kisan Sangharsh Coordination Committee, an umbrella organization of about 250 farmers unions from across the country, said that they will burn effigies depicting the China-backed Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership or RCEP, to mark their protest and warn the government.

Indian farmers won't be able to compete should the country agree to cut duties for agricultural and dairy products in the proposed trade pact, said V.M. Singh, a convener of the the farmers' group.

Imports of dairy and agricultural products including wheat, cotton and oil seeds would affect the livelihood of millions of Indian farmers, he said.



The government should defer signing of the agreement and hold consultations with farmers, state governments and other stake holders before taking a final decision, said Singh. "We have to stop RCEP," he said.

It is not clear yet what terms India will agree to in order to join what could become the world's largest trade deal. The final stage of negotiations have begun in Bangkok and Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal will travel for the ministerial meeting there on November 1. The nations are seeking to conclude the negotiations by November end.

Technically, India will have time till the end of February 2020 to sort out bilateral market access issues. —Bloomberg

## Bajaj, TVS Motor settle all cases

New Delhi, Oct 31: Bajaj Auto and TVS Motor Co on Thursday said they have settled a decade-old dispute related to a patent infringement case with the two companies withdrawing several pending proceedings from various courts and fora.

In separate regulatory filings, the two companies said they have entered into a settlement agreement on Thursday to amicably settle the decade-old dispute related to alleged infringement of Bajaj's patent for digital twin spark plug ignition technology.

The settlement also includes defamation suit against Bajaj Auto filed by TVS Motor and other related proceedings filed against each other, which were pending before the Madras High Court, the Intellectual Property Appellate Board, Chennai, and courts in Sri Lanka and Mexico, the statements added.

"Both, 'TVS Motor and Bajaj Auto have mutually agreed to withdraw the pending proceedings and release each other from all liabilities, claims, demands and actions in respect of the pending proceedings," they said.

As part of the settlement, none of them are required to pay any compensation to the other.

In September 2007, Bajaj Auto had accused TVS Motor of infringing its patent on DTS-i when the later launched its motorcycle model Flame 125cc that had CC-VTi technology.

Bajaj Auto had claimed that TVS' CCVTi technology was a copy of its DTS-i technology.

TVS, however, has denied the allegations and had slapped a Rs 250-crore defamation suit against the rival. —PTI

## Nifty shifts support base to 11700 levels

The Sensex made a new all-time high of 40392.22, gaining for the fifth session, amid October month futures and options derivatives series expiry. Due to profit taking later the benchmark index closed much lower at 40,129.05, up 77.18 points or 0.19 per cent as it gained for the fifth consecutive session.

Foreign portfolio investors were net buyers of equities worth Rs 1,870.87 crore which helped market to move up further.

The Nifty-50 Index came very close to the 12000-mark intra-day, touching a high of 11945 and finally closed at 11,877.45, up 33.35 points, or 0.28 per cent.

The broader markets outperformed with the BSE Mid Cap Index up 1.14 per cent and the Small Cap Index up 0.94 per cent.

Among the sectors, the top gainers were BSE IT (1.75 per cent), Telecom (1.87 per cent), Realty (1.30 per cent), Technology (1.97 per cent), Consumer Durables (0.54 per cent) and Oil & Gas (0.59 per cent).

**Technical View**

Shrikant Chouhan, Senior Vice-President, Equity Technical Research, Kotak Securities, said, "Sensex made a record-high, however, it remained short-lived and profit booking emerged especially in those companies that have rallied substantially in the last few weeks.

"We may even call it as a short covering day for the market as many weak companies namely, RBL Bank, Yes Bank and Grasim managed to close significantly higher than the previous day. On the other side, companies that are part of the index and have huge weightage have closed lower on the back of profit-taking in the second half of the trading session. For the coming month, we are of the view that Nifty may trade in the range of 11,700 and 12,100."

Chandan Taparia, A n a l y s t - E q u i t y Derivatives & Technicals, Motilal Oswal Financial Services said, "Nifty index remained highly volatile in October as it moved in a wider range of 850 points. It has shifted its support base from 11100 to 11500 and now at 11700 zones."

"Now till it holds above 11700 zones, we are expecting it to head towards its life time high of 12103 marks while Bank Nifty has been underperforming the Nifty Index and needs to hold above 29750 zones to head towards next hurdle of 30800 zones."

**Market View**

Siddhartha Khemka, Head - Retail Research, Motilal Oswal Financial Services said, "Celebration of Diwali continued on Dalal Street as Sensex touched a record high of above 40392 mark by surpassing previous high of 40312 made on June 4, 2019. Sensex drifted to 36000 levels in the middle of September month but witnessed good recovery in last two months led by FPIs inflows, positive momentum from US indices, reducing tension over US-China trade war."

"In October, FPIs have bought nearly \$700 million in equities, while so far this year they purchased equities worth \$8.87 billion," Khemka said.

—RAVI RANJAN PRASAD

## Fed cuts rates for a thrid time but signals it will now pause

CHRISTOPHER RUGABER WASHINGTON, OCT. 31

The Federal Reserve cut short-term interest rates Wednesday for a third time this year to try to support the economy. But it signaled that it plans no further cuts unless it sees clear evidence that the economic outlook has worsened.

For now, Chairman Jerome Powell sounded a bullish note about the economy in a news conference after the Fed's latest policy meeting. Despite some signs of weakness, the Fed expects growth to continue and the job market to remain strong.

Since spring, manufactur-

ing output has stumbled amid trade tensions and slower global growth, while businesses have cut spending on large equipment. But Powell stressed that the Fed doesn't see those trends weakening the broader economy. Instead, steady hiring is keeping unemployment very low, boosting consumer confidence, and encouraging more spending.

"Monetary policy is in a good place," Powell said. "If developments emerge that cause a material reassessment of our outlook we would respond accordingly. Policy is not on a pre-set course."

Some of the global and trade threats that have been bedeviling the economy



have receded, Powell said, thereby reducing the need for future rate cuts. The U.S. and China have reached a tentative truce that has cooled their trade war. And the European

Union has agreed to extend the deadline for the United Kingdom's exit from Oct. 31 to Jan. 31, lowering the likelihood of an economically disorderly "no deal" Brexit. "On both, the risks appear

to have subsided," he said. "That could bode well for business confidence and activity over time."

Investors appeared pleased with Powell's positive take on the economy. The Dow Jones Industrial Average closed up 115 points, or 0.4 per cent. Analysts also noted that the year's third rate cut had been widely expected and that expectations for another cut at the Fed's next meeting, in December, were already dim.

"He clearly set the bar high for rate cuts in December and January," said Kathy Bostjancic, chief US financial economist at Oxford Economics.

But Bostjancic and some

other economists say they expect growth to keep slowing and to eventually force the Fed's hand. Bostjancic expects growth to decline to just 1.6% in 2020, below the Fed's forecast of 2%, and that the policymakers will cut rates sometime next spring.

Powell may be too optimistic about a defusing of the China trade and Brexit threats, Bostjancic said. While President Donald Trump and China's President Xi Jinping are seeking to agree to an initial pact next month, it would likely leave many significant areas of dispute between the two countries unresolved.

—AP





In lead

A last-minute switch back to his old clubs helped China's Li Haotong find his groove and delight a home crowd by charging to the first-round lead in Shanghai on Thursday

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Games

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I knew I had to play aggressively. I'm really excited to still have another chance to play.

— Ashleigh Barty after defeating Petra Kvitová in WTA Finals

SHORT TAKES

## Cricket tourney for GURPURAB

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD OCT. 31

A two-day cricket tournament is being organised by the Prabhandak Committees of Gurdwara Sri Guru Singh Sabha (Hyderabad) and Gurudwara Sahib (Secunderabad) as part of the 550th Birth Anniversary celebrations of Sri Guru Nanak Dev Ji Maharaj. The tournament scheduled on November 2 and 3 will be played among Hyderabad and Secunderabad players at Gymkhana Grounds, Secunderabad. The practice sessions for the tournament begin at 6.30 am and will conclude on November 1, at the St John's Ground, East Marredpally. Interested players should attend practice sessions, from which teams would be selected.

For further details, contact Gurucharan Singh (9391008220), Baldev Singh (9848044445), Gurdeep Singh (8332963063) and Kamaljeet Singh (9246507683).

## Gaikwad, Baba fashion 'B' win

**Ranchi:** Ruturaj Gaikwad and Baba Aparajith smashed centuries to power India 'B' to a dominating 108-run win over India 'A' in the opening One-dayer of the Deodhar Trophy, here on Thursday. Sent in to bat, India 'B' posted a challenging 302 for six in their stipulated 50 overs, riding on a 122-ball 113 by opener Gaikwad and a run-a-ball 101 from Aparajith.

In reply, India 'A' were dismissed for 194 in 47.2 overs with Roosh Kalaria (3/20) and Mohammed Siraj (2/30) sharing five wickets between them. For India 'A', skipper Hanuma Vihari top-scored with a 82-ball 59, studded with six hits to the fence but their other batsmen couldn't capitalise on their respective starts. Earlier, India 'B' lost two early wickets with opener Priyank Panchal (3) and Yashvi Jaiswal (31) dismissed by Jaydev Unadkat (2/47) and Siddarth Kaul (1/77) respectively to leave them at 63 for two in 14.1 overs.

Gaikwad and Aparajith then resurrected the innings, sharing a 158-run partnership to take the side past 200-run mark. **Brief Scores:** India 'B' 306 for 6 in 50 overs (**R. Gaikwad 113, Baba Aparajith 101**; R. Ashwin 2/40) bt India 'A' 194 in 47.2 overs (G.H. Vihari 59; R. Kalaria 3/20). — PTI

## HARDEN BOOST FOR ROCKETS vs WIZARDS

**Los Angeles:** James Harden made the winning free throw with two seconds left, capping a 59-point performance as the Houston Rockets outgunned the Washington Wizards 159-158 in one of the highest scoring games in NBA history. Harden shot 18-of-32 from the field, made all but one of his 18 free throws, and drained six three pointers as the Rockets overcame a 46-point night from Bradley Beal. "I work hard every single day. I fall in love with it, mastering the game. You can't expect to be great if you don't put the work in," Harden said after the match. The teams combined to score 317 points, the most ever in an NBA game which was decided by a single point. It was just the third game in the past 25 years in which each team scored at least 150 points. The previous record for combined points in a game decided by just a single point was 311 between the Chicago Bulls and Portland Trail Blazers in 1984. Russell Westbrook overcame a slow start to finish with his second triple double of the season with 17 points, 12 assists and 10 rebounds. Clint Capela tallied 21 for the Rockets, who improved to 3-1 on the season. — AFP

# DJOKER TOWERS

## Djokovic survives scare in Paris opener, Nadal wins

**Paris, Oct. 31:** Novak Djokovic defied illness to survive a scare against French lucky loser Corentin Moutet and reach the third round of the Paris Masters on Wednesday, while Rafael Nadal saw off a plucky challenge from Adrian Mannarino.

Top seed Djokovic, locked in a battle with Nadal for the year-end world number one spot, had to save two set points in the first set before beating the 97th-ranked Moutet 7-6 (7/2), 6-4.

The 32-year-old will play Britain's Kyle Edmund on Thursday in the last 16 as he continues his bid for a record-extending fifth Bercy title.

"I don't feel health-wise 100 per cent in the last couple of days, but it is what it is," said Djokovic, who was struggling with a sore throat.

"It affects your energy, your vitality on the court. Obviously it's not ideal, but in these kind of circumstances you just have to accept it and do everything that you can to recover," he added.

Djokovic, who was beaten by Karen Khachanov in last year's final, found himself in a spot of bother when Moutet broke his serve in the seventh game before saving four break points to seize a 5-3 lead.

But the home hope saw two set points come and go in the following game, with Djokovic quickly taking advantage to break back and level the set.

The Serbian took control as the opener entered a tie-break and Moutet smashed a ball into the crowd in anger as his opportunity for an upset looked to have disappeared, with his opponent cruising through the breaker.

Moutet delighted the crowd with an outrageous



Serbia's Novak Djokovic returns to France's Corentin Moutet during their second round match of the Paris Masters tennis tournament in France on Wednesday. Djokovic won 7-6 (7/2), 6-4.

'hotdog' lob over Djokovic early in the second set, but the 16-time Grand Slam champion belatedly found his form.

Djokovic did let one break slip after leading 4-1, but closed out victory with his first match point with a forehand winner.

### Nadal does enough

Nadal, who is guaranteed to usurp Djokovic at the rankings summit next week ahead of the ATP Tour Finals in London, beat home wildcard Mannarino 7-5, 6-4 to set up a clash with three-time Grand Slam title-winner Stan Wawrinka.

Nadal was not at his imperious best against world number 43 Mannarino, but did enough to win with relative comfort.

The 19-time Grand Slam champion, who has never won the tournament but does hold a record 35 Masters titles, will hope to improve in the third round against Wawrinka after the Swiss beat Marin Cilic 7-6 (7/3), 7-6 (7/5).

Earlier in the day, fifth seed Dominic Thiem booked his spot in the last 16 by edging out Milos Raonic in a marathon encounter: Thiem had to dig deep to get past Raonic 7-6 (7/5), 5-7, 6-4. — AFP

## BARTY CLINCHES POLE POSITION IN SHENZHEN

**Shenzhen (China), Oct. 31:** World number one Ashleigh Barty clinched pole position in the Red Group after defeating Petra Kvitová in straight-sets at the WTA Finals in China on Thursday.

The French Open champion stormed into the semi-finals with a crushing 6-4, 6-2 win in one hour and 28 minutes at the Shenzhen Bay Sports Centre. The result knocked out the winless Czech from the round-robin tournament.

Barty, who had already sealed the year-end No.1 ranking, rebounded after a three-set loss to late replacement Kiki Bertens on Tuesday.

For Kvitová, the 2011 WTA Finals champion — the oldest player in the draw — this loss marks a second straight winless campaign in her seventh appearance at the lucrative year-end.

WOMEN'S | T20

## Andhra, Bengal, Railways victors

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD OCT. 31

Bengal, Baroda, Railways and Andhra won their first round matches in the BCCI Senior Women T20 Super League-cum-Knockout tournament at the Dr Gokaraju Laila Gangaraju ACA Cricket Complex in Mulapadu near Vijayawada.

Rumeli Dhar hit 52 to help Bengal post 133 for 4 in 20 overs. In reply, Karnataka were bowled out for a paltry 77 in 17.3 overs.

In another match Baroda defeated Maharashtra by 18 runs. Baroda chalked up 120 for 6 and then limited Maharashtra to 102 for 6 in 20 overs.

In a rain curtailed match, Muzhat of Railways hit 74 not out as her team put up 129 for 1 in their stipulated 12 overs. In reply, Jharkhand could only manage 58 for 7.

In another match shortened due to rains, Andhra defeated Vidarbha by five wickets. Chasing 94 to win, Andhra replied made 98 for 5 riding on Sudha Rani's crucial knock of an unbeaten 30.

### BRIEF SCORES

■ Railways 129/1 in 12 overs (Meghana 15, Muzhat 74 n.o., Sneha Rana 37 n.o) bt Jharkhand 58/7 in 12 overs (Rashmi 22, Niharika Prasad 26 n.o., Subh Lakshmi 3/11, Preeti Bose 3/1).

■ Vidarbha 93/6 in 16 overs



Muzhat



Sudha Rani

(Vaishnavi 22, Krutika 25 n.o., Anjali Sarvani 2/16, Chandra Lekha 2/16, E. Padmaja 2/14) lost to Andhra 98/5 in 15.2 overs (E. Padmaja 21 n.o., P.V. Sudha Rani 30 n.o.). ■ Bengal 133/4 in 20 overs (Mita Paul 34, Rumeli Dhar 52, M. Chandu 2/19) bt Karnataka 77 in 17.3 overs (Vanita 41, Gouher Sultana 3/8).

■ Baroda 120/6 in 20 overs (Biniasha 36, Arun Kumari 25, Tanvir 18 n.o., Aditi 2/23) bt Maharashtra 102/6 in 20 overs (Shivani 29, Mukta 32, Tarannum 2/25, Shalini 2/23).

CRICKET | LEAGUE

## Rakesh, Saqlain, Kishore do well Venkat, Ruthvik, Suraj and Gopinath other performers

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD OCT. 31

Gopinath Reddy was the lone batsman to hit a century while, N. Rakesh Goud, D. Kishore, Saqlain Arafat, Venkat Chaitanya, Ruthvik and Suraj Naik did well with the ball in the Hyderabad Cricket Association's two-day league matches.

Gopinath put up a splendid performance as he hit 104 in 95 balls with 14 boundaries and two sixes to help Charminar CC post 353 for 8 in 72.3 overs against Oxford Bules CC. Team Adilabad's Rakesh snared eight wickets while conceding 68 runs to limit Galaxy CC to 174 in 57 overs.

In another match, Kishore of Karimnagar District took six wickets while giving away 62 runs as Concorde were all out for 262 in 79.5 overs. Team Khalsa secured victory over Gouds XI, for whom Saqlain took six wickets for 101 runs. Replying to Khalsa's 287, Gouds XI were all out for a paltry 71 in 22.4 overs.

Venkat took five wickets to bowl Team Speed to a nine-wicket victory over Venus Cybertech who were all out for 97 in 39.4 overs. In another match Ruthvik snared five wickets as Hyderabad Blues (104 for 4) defeated Ours (100 in 43.4 overs).

Suraj of Nizamabad District too performed well. He took five wickets to limit Sri Shyam CC to

113 in 39.1 overs.

**Brief scores:**  
**TWO-DAY LEAGUE**

**DAY-1**  
■ Galaxy CC 174 in 57 overs (Prithvi Raj 77, N. Rakesh Goud 8/58 — 22-6-58-8) vs Adilabad 122/3 in 45 overs (Saqlain Arafat 6/101 — 21-101-6) bt Gouds XI 71 in 22.4 overs (Amit 4/20, Akshay 4/29). **Points:** Khalsa 4, Gouds XI 0.  
■ Venus Cybertech 97 in 39.4 overs (K. Anirudh Raj 34, Venkat Chaitanya 5/17 — 13-5-17-5, B Thejodur 4/25) lost to Team Speed CC 107/1 in 26.2 overs (K. Kritik Reddy 4/1 n.o., Rishikesh Reddy 30). **Points:** Team Speed 4, Venus Cybertech 0.

■ Ours 100 in 43.4 overs (Ruthvik 5/24 — 11.4-5-24-5, Aditya 3/39) lost to Hyderabad Blues CC 104/4 in 23.3 overs (Akshay 6/1). **Points:** Hyderabad Blues CC 4, Ours 0.  
■ Sri Shyam CC 113 in 39.1 overs (Ibrahim Siddiqui 39, Suraj Naik 5/27 — 11.3-27-5) lost to Nizamabad 117/4 in 24.3 overs (Suraj Naik 50 n.o., Rohit Kumar 36, Sai Kishore 3/60). **Points:** Nizamabad 4, Sri Shyam 0.  
■ Charminar CC 353/8(del) in 72.3 overs (Gopinath Reddy 104 — 96b, 4x14, 6x2) Hamza Ahmed 50, Vishesh Sharma 49) vs Oxford Blues CC 39/1 in 15 overs.  
■ Budding Star CC 183 in 51.3 overs (Pranay Kumar 31, Bharat 4/56) vs Balaji Colts 87/6 in 21 overs.  
■ Mahmod CC 239 in 74.3 overs (K. Akhil 75, Vinay Kumar 48, Parimal 4/88) vs Manchester 102/1 in 18 overs (Abhilash Kulkarni 56, Uday 38 batting).

■ Warangal District 175 in 52 overs (N. Pavan Reddy 41, M. A. Meraj 40, K. Sai Charan 36, Mirza Noman 4/12) vs Nizam College 75/4 in 32 overs.  
■ HUCC 191 in 63.1 overs (Rohan Kumar 54, V. Vamsi 43, A. Dheeraj Vishal 3/44) vs Rakesh XI 110/6 in 20 overs (A. Dheeraj Vishal 34, Atul Vyas 4/33).

he was probably battling a little bit, but mainly in Adelaide last week before the first game," Langer was quoted as saying. "A few little things just weren't quite adding up. I just asked how he was going and he said, 'No, I'm not going that well actually'. I'm pleased he feels he has got that trust in the environment to be able to do that and has got to do some work now to get himself right," he said. — PTI

## Hyderabad beat Goa in Under 23 cricket

**Hyderabad, Oct. 31:** Notwithstanding a century by Nihal Durga Das, Hyderabad defeated Goa by five wickets in the first round of the BCCI men's U-23 one-day trophy being played at Dehradun.

Nihal hit 105 with seven boundaries and six sixes as Goa were out for 225 in 49.2 overs. Hyderabad replied with 226 for 5 in 47.5 overs (Md Junaid Ali 28, Shreyas Vala 68 and Vittal Anurag's identical unbeaten 68).

Meanwhile in the Vijay Merchant Trophy being played at the Rajiv Gandhi International Cricket Stadium in Uppal, Hyderabad scored 259 in 88.5 overs against Pondicherry on Day One as Mayank Gupta hit 80.

### BRIEF SCORES

■ Under 23 trophy: Goa 225 in 49.2 overs (Vaibhav Vijay Kumar 28, Nihal Durga Das 105 — 83b, 7x4, 6x6, Rajamani Prasad 3/25, Vittal Anurag 2/30) lost to Hyderabad 226/5 in 47.5 overs (Md Junaid Ali 28, Shreyas Vala 68 n.o., Vittal Anurag 68 n.o., Dheera) Yadav 2/32, Vedanth Naik 2/38). **Points:** Hyderabad 4, Goa 0.

■ Vijay Merchant trophy: Hyderabad 259 in 88.5 overs (Awanish Rao 55, Mayank Gupta 80, Murgan Abhishek 35, Rishit Reddy 23, S. Mukesh 3/24, Kushanth 2/32, P. Akash 3/45) vs CA Pondicherry.



Sourav Ganguly (right) and Rahul Dravid in a file pic.

ing over.

It is currently situated adjacent to the Chinnaswamy Stadium and the BCCI has been trying for alternate location to set up the NCA with state-of-the-art facilities.

The land allocated for the new facility is near the International Airport in Devanahalli and is likely to accommodate three grounds, apart from indoor nets, administrative buildings, and the hostels. — PTI

## Rahul gets BCCI summons again

**New Delhi, Oct. 31:** BCCI ethics officer D.K. Jain has asked Indian cricket great Rahul Dravid to appear in person for the second time, on November 12, for "further submissions and clarifications" on the conflict of interest allegations levelled against him.

The 46-year-old former India captain had earlier explained his case in the personal hearing held in Mumbai on September 26. MPCA life member Sanjiv Gupta had filed the complaint against Dravid, alleging conflict of interest in his current role as National Cricket Academy (NCA) Head and being an India Cements employee.

"Jain wrote to Dravid on Wednesday night, asking him to depose on November 12 in New Delhi. Gupta too will be heard," a BCCI official said.

Dravid is currently the NCA Director in Bengaluru besides being a vice-president in the India Cements group, which owns the IPL franchise Chennai Super Kings.

He was also the head coach of the India A and Under-19 teams before

● **BCCI ethics officer has asked Rahul Dravid to depose again in the Conflict of Interest case on November 12. He had earlier appeared on September 26.**

being handed the NCA role, which includes monitoring the progress of these two sides as well.

Dravid has already given a reply and defended himself saying he has taken leave of absence from India Cements and he has nothing to do with the Chennai Super Kings. As per the BCCI constitution, no individual can hold more than one post at the same time.

The Committee of Administrators was in charge of the BCCI when the September hearing took place but a new set of officer-bearers were elected last week. The new president, Sourav Ganguly, has already said that the conflict of interest is a "very serious issue" facing Indian cricket. — PTI

## Maxwell takes mental health break

**Sydney, Oct. 31:** Cricket Australia says batsman Glenn Maxwell will take a break from the game to deal with mental health issues.

Maxwell, 31, started the Australian summer season in strong form when he hit 62 runs off just 28 balls against Sri Lanka in Twenty20 game on Sunday and executed a run-out from near the Adelaide Oval boundary.

Australia won that match by 134 runs and the second on Wednesday by nine wickets, when Maxwell wasn't required to bat, to clinch the three-match series.

Maxwell met with Cricket Australia staff on Wednesday, and is expected to miss the rest of the T20 internationals against Sri Lanka on Friday in Melbourne and against Pakistan in three matches next week.

Team psychologist Dr Michael Lloyd said on Thursday that Maxwell "has been experiencing some difficulties with regards to his mental health. As a result, he will spend a short time away from the game ... Glenn was proactive in identifying these issues and engaging with support staff." — AP



Glenn Maxwell

## GLENN WORE A MASK TO BATTLE ISSUES: LANGER

**Melbourne, Oct. 31:** Australia coach Justin Langer on Thursday said Glenn Maxwell's jovial persona was a mask that he wore while battling his mental health issues and things have not been well with the allrounder for a year.

Maxwell announced a "short" but indefinite break from the game. "There's been a few times over the last 12 months where I've suspected that





## Sanga Returns

Kumar Sangakkara, the first overseas president of the Marylebone Cricket Club, will captain the MCC against county side Essex in Sri Lanka next March

# Cricket

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DECCAN CHRONICLE

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We will create a system where Ravi's involvement is more at the NCA till the time he's coach.

— Sourav Ganguly, BCCI president, on getting Ravi Shastri involved at the National Cricket Academy

## SLOW COACH DADA WANTS SHASTRI TO BE ACTIVE AT NCA

Kolkata: BCCI president Sourav Ganguly on Thursday said that senior team's head coach Ravi Shastri will be asked to get "more involved" in grooming talent at the National Cricket Academy "till the time he is coach".

Ganguly's prospective move to have Shastri in dual role, could well be an aim too create a synergy between national team and NCA.

Shastri has now had a new contract till 2021 World T20 but his terms of agreement is only working with the Indian team with an annual salary of ₹10 crore.

"We will also create a system where Ravi's involvement is more at the NCA till the time he's coach. We will make it a good Centre of Excellence. We have Rahul Dravid, Paras (Mhambrey) and Bharat Arun also goes there," Ganguly said at the Eden Gardens.

However Ganguly said that Shastri is doing well as the coach even though Indian needs to address the problem of not being able to cross the final hurdle at the global events.

"He's done well with the side. He will be with us for next two years. As I said, India need to win a world tournament. They have the ability.

Once considered to be a finishing school of Indian cricket, NCA in the last decade had become a rehabilitation centre.

Ganguly along with other office-bearers had a meeting with the NCA staff including Rahul Dravid and COO Toofan Ghosh, who gave an elaborate presentation.

Asked about his meeting with Dravid, Ganguly said: "It was good. He's the head of NCA and one of the greats of Indian cricket. Basically, we wanted to know about the functions of NCA. We are building a new NCA. The meeting went for about two hours. I met him separately and found out what is the way forward. I think they do a lot of good work," he said.

— PTI



Ravi Shastri

## Eden Test to be gala event

Kolkata, Oct. 31: Legendary Sachin Tendulkar along with the chess wizard Viswanathan Anand and tennis ace Sania Mirza are likely to grace India's first ever day/night Test against Bangladesh here at Eden Gardens from November 22-26.

Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has already given her consent to the BCCI and will be attending the first day's proceedings. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has also been invited.

"Day/Night Test was one of my dreams. We want to make it a spectacle for everyone. We will make it a fantastic event. Work is on and in three or four days' time, I will be able to give you a concrete picture of what all is happening. It will be a huge event," Ganguly told reporters at the Eden Gardens.

As for the invitees, Ganguly said: "I'm trying to get hold of Sachin. We will felicitate Olympic medallists M. C. Mary Kom, P. V. Sindhu for their

● **BCCI president Sourav Ganguly will be inviting Prime Minister Narendra Modi, his Bangladeshi counterpart Sheikh Hasina, Sachin Tendulkar, Vishwanathan Anand and Sania Mirza.**

● **Boxer Mary Kom and shuttler P. V. Sindhu will be feted during the Test.**

achievements." "Bangladesh PM Sheikh Hasina is coming. A request has been sent to the Prime Minister's Office. Invitations have also been sent to Didi (Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee) and the Honourable Governor (Jagdeep Dhankar). "We will felicitate the players of the first Test when India played Bangladesh. We want to make sure that everybody is available," Ganguly said.

Later CAB secretary Avishek Dalmiya said five-time chess world champion Anand is expected alongside Mirza. "Anand would be here for a Grand Chess Tour event around the same time, so we have invited him too. He is most likely to grace the Test. We have also invited Sania Mirza," Avishek said.

Revealing further plans, the CAB secretary said they are planning a charity match for HIV-positive children during the 40-minute supper break on first day. "We will seek permission from BCCI and if they allow a match between the HIV-positive children from an NGO will be organised during the first day. We will also allow them to run a cafeteria, solely run by HIV-positive children."

The first day of the match could see a helicopter revolving around the Eden Gardens from which a sky-diver will come flying into the ground with the trophy in his hand. Pink colours might also be showered from the sky. — PTI

## MSK LASHES AT ENGINEER FOR 'PETTY TALK'

New Delhi, Oct. 31: Chairman of selection committee MSK Prasad has lashed out at former wicketkeeper Farokh Engineer for deriving "sadistic pleasure out of indulging in petty talk" after former India keeper commented that selectors served tea to India captain Virat Kohli's wife Anushka during World Cup. "I feel sad for someone deriving sadistic pleasure out of indulging in petty talk, thereby demeaning & disrespecting the selectors and wife of Indian captain through false and frivolous allegations," an angry Prasad said.

Prasad feels that it's time that Engineer behaved his age as it doesn't behove his stature to pass such nasty comments about anyone's wife. "Someone at the age of 82 should reflect maturity and enjoy the progress of Indian cricket from his time to the current day," he added. — PTI

# DEW RESPECT

## Ground grip is key factor in night Test, says Sachin

New Delhi, Oct. 31: India's first ever Day/Night Test will be a success only if the dew factor is countered effectively at the Eden Gardens, says the iconic Sachin Tendulkar, apprehensive that wet conditions might severely hamper pacers and spinners alike.

Tendulkar welcomed the introduction of Tests under floodlights in India, saying it is a "good move" and will pull back crowds for the traditional format. India will play their first-ever Test under lights with pink ball against Bangladesh from November 22 in Kolkata.

"As long as dew does not become a factor, it is a good

move but if dew is going to be a factor then seamers as well as spinners are going to find it challenging," Tendulkar said.

"Because once the ball gets wet, neither seamers can do much nor the spinners. So in that way, bowlers will be put under the test. But if there is no dew, then surely it is a good addition," the maestro said.

The dew was a factor at the Eden Gardens during ODI games under floodlights, something Tendulkar is apprehensive about.

"I think the dew factor will play a big role over here. We need to figure out how much dew is there. The dew will

determine, to what extent both teams are competing. The conditions shouldn't hinder anything (competitiveness)," said the highest run-getter in Tests and ODIs.

However, Tendulkar agreed with BCCI president Sourav Ganguly that the experiment is a good idea to bring the crowds back to the stadium.

"There are two ways to look at it. One aspect would be from the public point of view. It is a nice concept as people would be able to watch a Day/Night Test after their working hours. People can come in the evening and enjoy the game."

"From players' point of view, it won't be a bad idea to

play with pink ball and check how differently it behaves from the traditional red ball. It's about getting that pink coloured ball coming to you," said Tendulkar.

"The batsmen will need to practice with different balls at the nets. A new pink ball, a 20-over pink ball and a 50-over pink ball and an 80-over ball. See how differently a new, semi-new and old ball behaves. Accordingly prepare your strategy," he said. — PTI



Bangladesh's Mushfiquur Rahim looks on during a practice session in New Delhi on Thursday. — AFP

## India's 1st T20 vs Bangla weathers dirty Delhi air

New Delhi, Oct. 31: The national capital's air quality is in "severe" category right now but India's stand-in captain Rohit Sharma on Thursday said he doesn't expect any pollution-related problem during Bangladesh T20 on Sunday even as BCCI president Sourav Ganguly promised "practical scheduling" in near future.

Bangladesh batsman Liton Das was briefly seen wearing a face mask during his team's first training session at the Feroz Shah Kotla but he later clarified that it was not due to air pollution.

"No, no it was nothing to do with pollution. I just wore it myself as I had some problems," Liton told reporters.

Rohit on his part felt that it won't be a problem as they had not faced issues during the Sri Lanka Test, where the opposition players were wearing masks and some fell ill.

"We didn't have any problem when we played



Bangladesh's Liton Das wears a mask during his practice session at the Feroz Shah Kotla Stadium in New Delhi on Thursday.

the Test match here (against Sri Lanka in 2017). We are not aware of the exact discussion and I haven't had any problem," Rohit said during a promotional event in the capital.

Ganguly acknowledged that deteriorating air quality in NCR is an issue during post Diwali days but said it's too late to change the itinerary. — PTI

"It's too late to do anything, because a lot of preparations go into matches like tickets, crowds everything. So it's not possible to cancel things at the last minute. Fingers crossed," Ganguly said at Eden Gardens.

The newly-elected BCCI boss said in future they would be more "practical". — PTI

# STORM IN A TEA CUP!

New Delhi, Oct. 31: "Ill-intended lies", said an outraged Anushka Sharma, while a baffled selection panel member termed it "malicious" after former wicketkeeper Farokh Engineer claimed that the actor wife of India captain Virat Kohli sat with the selectors and was served tea by one of them during the World Cup this year.

Speaking to a newspaper, the 82-year-old Engineer, who played 46 Tests for India, ridiculed the credentials of India's five-member selection panel, led by MSK Prasad and comprising Sarandeep Singh and Jatin Paranjpe, Gagan Khoda and Devang Gandhi.

Engineer claimed that he saw one of these five men serve tea to Anushka during the World Cup in England but didn't name anyone.

A member of the selection panel angrily refuted the claim. "During the World Cup, none of the selectors were sitting in the box where the Indian captain's wife sat and this is an absolutely rubbish, malicious and defamatory assertion," the selection committee member said on conditions of anonymity.

A furious Anushka put out a lengthy statement. "...the latest version of these ill-intended lies is that I was being served tea by selectors at matches during the World Cup! I came to one game during the World Cup and sat in the family box and not the selectors box as reported but when has the truth mattered when it's about convenience!" she said.

"If you want to have a comment on the selection committee and their qualifications please do so as it's your opinion but don't drag my name into it to substantiate your claim or sensationalise your opinion. I refuse to allow anyone from using my name in such conversations," was her retort to Engineer's claims.

In her statement, Anushka also addressed the past controversies she has been embroiled in. "I have stayed quiet through all the times I was blamed for the performance of my then boyfriend, now husband Virat and continue to take the blame for the most baseless things involving Indian cricket," she wrote. "...how I have overstayed my authorised time with my husband on foreign tours which if anyone really cared about finding facts from the board, would know that I have always and always followed protocol but yet, I kept quiet," she added referring to a past report, which claimed that the BCCI decided its roster for players' wives and partners based on Anushka's schedule.

Anushka said she has been buying her own flight tickets to be with Kohli, who has also in the past, called the allegations against his wife a shame. Anushka, in her latest statement, slammed another earlier

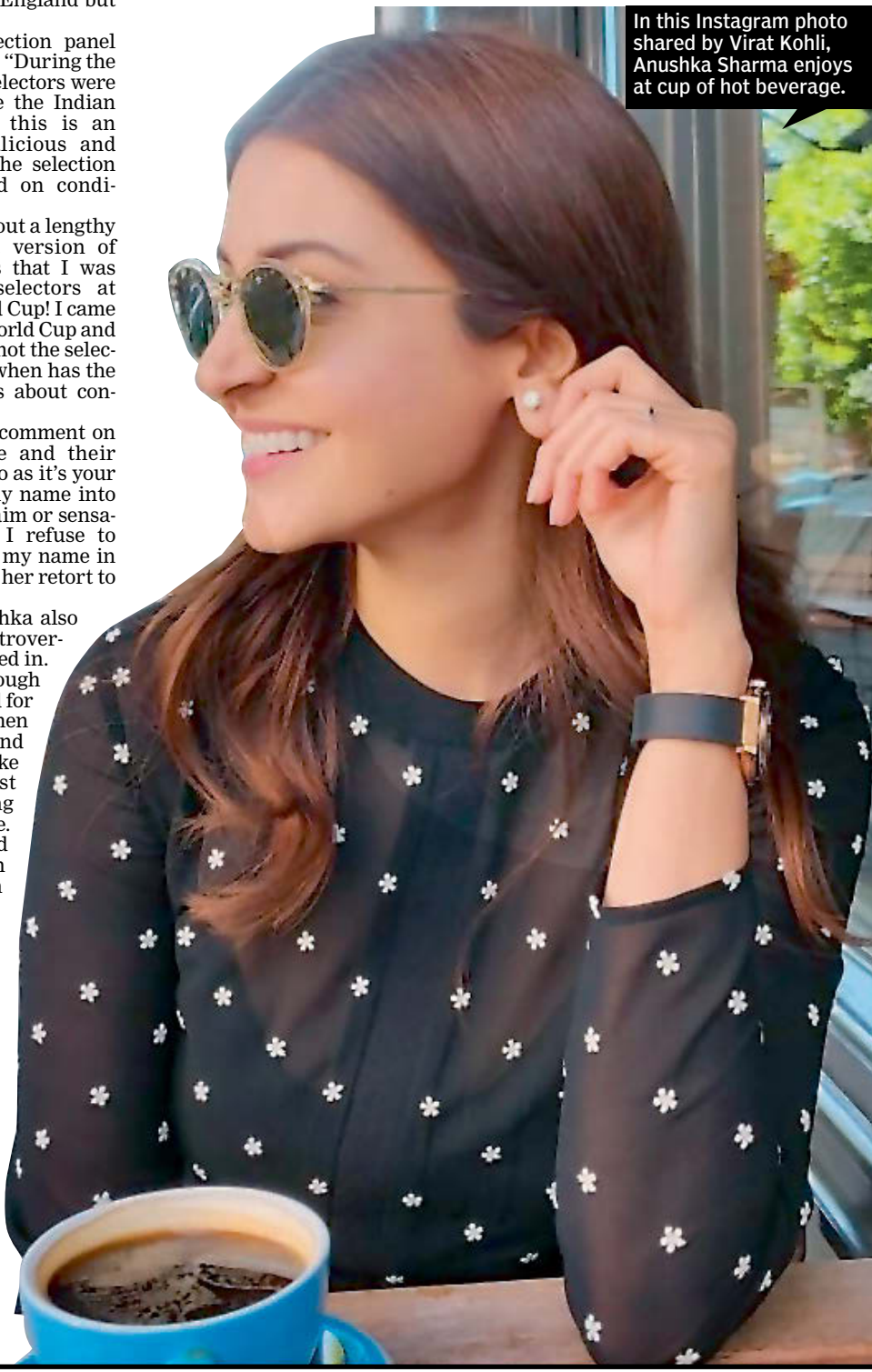
● **Anushka Sharma hit back at former cricketer Farokh Engineer who claimed that he saw one of the selectors serve tea to Indian captain Virat Kohli's wife during the World Cup in England.**

media report in which the BCCI was criticised for letting her be a part of a Team India group picture with the Indian High Commissioner in the United Kingdom last year. "I was asked to stand in a group photo by the High Commissioner's wife despite my hesitation to be in it and a huge issue was created over this blaming me for

intentionally wanting to be part of it and the said event, even though I was invited for it," she said.

Anushka said all the reports linking her to controversies in Indian cricket have been "regressive and horrible and malicious and vicious".

"I am not and will not be a pawn to be used by anyone's thoughts or beliefs or agendas and next time you want to use my name to discredit someone or the board or even my husband, do it with facts and proof and leave me OUT of it. Maybe, it's hard for some to believe that, because, I am a self-made, independent woman who only happens to be the wife of a cricketer and for the record, I drink coffee," she concluded. — PTI



In this Instagram photo shared by Virat Kohli, Anushka Sharma enjoys at cup of hot beverage.





## No more Blues

France's World Cup winning midfielder N'Golo Kante is set to return to training with Chelsea after almost a month on the sidelines with groin injury



A crazy match. At the end we were winning until the last action. Penalties are 50-50 and we lost. We are sad but we deserve more.

— Unai Emery, Arsenal boss, after crashing out of League Cup

### SHORT TAKES

## Lakshya, Kiran reach quarters

**Saarbrücken, Germany:** Indian shuttlers Lakshya Sen and Kiran George progressed to the men's singles quarterfinals of the SaarLorLux Open Super Tour 100 here on Thursday. Lakshya, who had won his maiden BWF World Tour title at the Dutch Open early this month, didn't have to break any sweat as his opponent Germany's Lars Schaezler gave him a walk over, while Kiran beat Netherlands' Joran Kweekel 21-14, 21-16 to also make it to the last eight. While Lakshya, an 18-year-old from Uttarakhand, will face Germany's Max Weisskirchen next, reigning Junior National champion Kiran takes on France's Christo Popov in the quarterfinals. However, it was curtains for Mithun Manjunath and B.M. Rahul Bharadwaj, who lost in the pre-quarterfinals. While Mithun went down fighting 21-15, 19-21, 11-21 to fifth seeded Toby Pentty of England, Rahul lost 18-21, 14-21 to Ireland's Nhat Nguyen in a 42-minute clash. — PTI

## Pooja in U-23 wrestling final

**Budapest:** Indian women grappler Pooja Gehlot (53kg) entered the finals after beating Turkey's Zeynep Yetgil in the semifinals of the UWW Under-23 World Championships here on Thursday. Pooja scripted a superb come back as she fought her way from a 2-4 deficit to win 8-4 against Yetgil, a gold medalist at the Junior European Wrestling Championships in 2018. In the summit clash on Friday, Pooja will be up against Haruno Okuno of Japan. No Indian has ever won a gold in the last three editions of the UWW Under-23 World Championships. Ravinder had settled for a silver medal on Wednesday after going down to Kyrgyzstan's Ulukbek Zholdosbekov in the 61kg final. It was a fantastic display from the youngster who demolished Ekaterina Verbina of Russia in the qualifier. 8-3. — PTI

## HOCKEY MEN FACE RUSSIA IN QUALIFIERS

**Bhubaneswar:** The Indian men's hockey team will have to guard against complacency when they take on lower-ranked Russia, while a tricky contest awaits their female counterparts against USA in the two-legged Olympic qualifiers here on Friday. Both the Indian teams are just two matches away from booking their tickets to Tokyo. While the Manpreet Singh-led men's team is up against an easy opponent in world No. 22 Russia, the Indian women have a relatively difficult task at hand as they face the American girls in the final round of the FIH Olympic Qualifiers. Both the Indian teams will play back-to-back matches against Russia and USA on Friday and Saturday and the aggregate winners at the end of the two-match qualifier (each for men and women) will seal their places in the 2020 Tokyo Games. On paper, the Indian men, ranked fifth in the world, are expected to have a cakewalk against the Russians. But coach Graham Reid is very well aware that one bad day in office can ruin India's Olympic dream. — PTI

Regd. No. H/SD/509/2018-20  
Printed and Published by T. Venkateswarlu on behalf of Deccan Chronicle Holdings Limited. Printed at Deccan Chronicle Press situated at Plot No. 9 Alwal Village, Valabh Nagar Taluk, Medchal Malkajgiri Dist. Telangana and Published at 36, S.D. Road, Secunderabad-37. RNI Registration No. 3081/1957. Editor: Aditya Sinha

# Games

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DECCAN CHRONICLE

FRIDAY | 1 NOVEMBER 2019 | HYDERABAD



Liverpool's Curtis Jones (right) celebrates after scoring the winning penalty in a shoot-out during their League Cup fourth round match against Arsenal at Anfield in Liverpool on Wednesday. The hosts won 5-4 (5-5) on penalties. — AFP

# Gunners pay the penalty

Liverpool reach League Cup quarters after 10-goal thriller against Arsenal

**London, Oct. 31:** Liverpool reached the League Cup quarter-finals in thrilling style as their incredible 5-5 draw against Arsenal was followed by a 5-4 penalty shoot-out triumph, while Manchester United won 2-1 at Chelsea on Wednesday. Both Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp and Arsenal boss Unai Emery made 11 changes for the fourth round tie, but the understudies served up one of the most entertaining games of the season at Anfield as the Gunners squandered multiple leads.

In the shoot-out, Dani Ceballos' penalty was saved by 20-year-old Irish keeper Caoimhin Kelleher before Liverpool-born 18-year-old Curtis Jones converted the winning kick. Liverpool have won the

League Cup a record eight times and they remain on course to lift the trophy for the first time since 2012.

"We were too open at times. We can talk about tactics but who cares on a night like this? I hoped for the boys they would have a game to remember," Klopp said.

"It's like a dream for them to play for the first time at Anfield. All our goals were wonderful." After Granit Xhaka's astonishing outburst at Arsenal fans during Sunday's traumatic Premier League draw with Crystal Palace, this was another body blow for Arsenal, who lost despite leading 3-1, 4-2 and then 5-4 with seconds to go.

With an average age of 23 years and 122 days, it was Liverpool's youngest starting

### THE RESULTS

**Aston Villa** 2  
(El Ghazi 28, Elomohamydy 57)  
**Wolves** 1  
(Cutrone 54)

**Chelsea** 1  
(Batshuayi 61)  
**Manchester United** 2  
(Rashford 25-pen, 73)

**Liverpool** 5  
(Mustafi 6-og, Milner 43-pen, Oxlade-Chamberlain 58, Origi 62, 90)

**Arsenal** 5  
(Torreira 19, Martinelli 26, 36, Maitland-Niles 54, Willock 70)

*Liverpool won 5-4 on penalties after the match was tied 5-5 at the end of stipulated time.*

**We were too open at times. We can talk about tactics but who cares on a night like this? I hoped for the boys they would have a game to remember.**

— JURGEN KLOPP

Liverpool manager

eleven in any competition since January 2017 as teenagers Neco Williams, Harvey Elliott, Rhian Brewster and Sepp van den Berg all featured.

At Stamford Bridge, Ole Gunnar Solskjaer was rewarded for naming a strong team as United beat Chelsea to continue their recent revival. Solskjaer made just four

changes, while Chelsea boss Frank Lampard made six and it was five-time League Cup winners United who came out on top as they enjoyed a third successive victory.

After Marcus Rashford and Anthony Martial both missed penalties in United's win at Norwich on Sunday, Solskjaer's team went in front thanks to a successful spot-kick in the 26th minute at the Bridge.

Daniel James was fouled by Marcos Alonso and Rashford stepped up to send Willy Caballero the wrong way from the spot for his sixth goal of the season.

Michy Batshuayi equalised from long range in the 61st minute, but Rashford's superb 30-yard free-kick won it for United in the 73rd minute. — AFP

## KLOPP THREATENS PULL-OUT OVER FIXTURE PILE-UP

**Liverpool, Oct. 31:** Jurgen Klopp has warned Liverpool could pull out of the League Cup if the English Football League do not help with their hectic fixture schedule.

Klopp's side moved into the quarterfinals after an incredible 5-5 draw against Arsenal and 5-4 penalty shoot-out victory at Anfield on Wednesday.

It was a superb advert for the tournament, but Liverpool might not be appearing in the League Cup again this season unless Klopp's fears over a fixture pile-up are soothed.

Match dates for the quarterfinals are scheduled for the week commencing December 16, when Liverpool will be in Qatar at the FIFA Club World Cup.

And Reds boss Klopp said if a suitable alternative, the most likely being the week commencing January 6, the scheduled date for the first leg of the semifinal, is not found then they would refuse to play.

"Fifa told us the Club World Cup will be there (Qatar) and we have to come there and we will do," Klopp told reporters.

"The Premier League tells us we have to play in the Premier League, which we do obviously.

"The Carabao (League) Cup, if they don't find an appropriate place for us — not 3am on Christmas Day — then we don't play it." — AFP

## QUARTERFINALS DRAW

■ **Aston Villa vs Liverpool.**

■ **Everton vs Leicester.**

■ **Manchester United vs Colchester United**

■ **Oxford vs Man City**

Ties to be played save Aston Villa vs Liverpool — who are at the FIFA Club World Cup — week beginning December 16.

# Five-star Real show up versus Leganes

**Madrid, Oct. 31:** Real Madrid registered their biggest win since Zinedine Zidane's return as coach on Wednesday as they demolished struggling Leganes 5-0 to move up to second in La Liga.

Karim Benzema was the star of the show, the Frenchman rounding off a superb attacking display with a goal from the penalty spot after Rodrygo, Toni Kroos and another spot-kick from Sergio Ramos had already put Leganes out of sight. Luka Jovic added a fifth in injury-time.

"We have not scored five goals for a long time," said Zidane. "We needed a victory like that. When you start scoring goals, it makes everything easier."

Gareth Bale was absent as he continues to recover from a calf injury but Madrid hardly missed the Welshman, whose future has again been up for discussion this week after he was pictured returning to London.

Zidane said he has spoken to Bale and saw him in the changing room at the Santiago Bernabeu. He was also asked if Bale had permission to leave the game five minutes before full-time. "I think so," Zidane said. "If he leaves five minutes before the game finishes, he can get home more easily."

Zidane had struck a conciliatory tone on Tuesday too but Bale's team-mates flourished in his absence, albeit against a limp Leganes side, who remain rooted to the bottom of the table after sacking their coach Mauricio Pellegrino last week.

This was not a performance to recommend caretaker manager Luis Cembranos for the job long-term.

Yet there were some impressive Madrid showings nonetheless, not

### THE RESULTS

**Real Sociedad** 1  
(Willian Jose 47)  
**Levante** 2  
(Bardhi 24, Mayoral 40)

**Valencia** 1  
(Sobrinho 81)  
**Sevilla** 1  
(Ocampos 45+3)

**Athletic Bilbao** 3  
(Muniain 4, 17, Gomez 79-o.g.)  
**Espanyol** 0

**Real Betis** 2  
(Emerson Aparecido 8, Fekir 90)  
**Celta Vigo** 1  
(Aspas 70-pen)

**Real Madrid** 5  
(Rodrygo 7, Kroos 8, Ramos 24-pen, Benzema 69-pen, Jovic 90+1)  
**Leganes** 0

least from Benzema, who has been Zidane's most consistent performer by far in recent months and now has seven goals already in all competitions.

"It's not just the goal, it's what he does for the team," Zidane said. "He doesn't surprise me."

Rodrygo, the 18-year-old making only his fourth senior appearance, came into Bale's position on the right and, particularly in the first half, he shone, grabbing an early goal and providing the frightening turn of pace that Bale once offered before injuries took their toll.

"He is 18 but you don't have to be old to score here," Zidane said. "He has character and he is getting better and better."

Perhaps the only question mark was Eden Hazard, who still appears short of his best in a Madrid shirt.

— AFP



Real Madrid's Karim Benzema (centre) celebrates after scoring against Leganes in their La Liga match at Santiago Bernabeu in Madrid on Wednesday. — AFP

# Ronaldo shoots last-gasp winner, Juventus go top

**Milan, Oct. 31:** Cristiano Ronaldo converted a 96th-minute penalty as Juventus defeated Thiago Motta's Genoa 2-1 to reclaim top spot in Serie A on Wednesday, while Napoli were left seething after conceding a disputed late equaliser against Atalanta.

Ronaldo sat out the 1-1 draw at Lecce over the weekend but Juve looked set to drop more points on his return in Turin as Christian Kouame's fluke equaliser cancelled out a header from Leonardo Bonucci.

The Portuguese forward saw a stoppage-time strike

ruled out by VAR for off-side before he won a last-gasp penalty after he was fouled by Toni Sanabria.

Ronaldo drilled the spot-kick low beyond Ionut Radu for his fifth league goal of the season to send Maurizio Sarri's Juve back above Inter Milan at the summit.

"It was a difficult game against a well organised team but Juve must keep going until the end," Ronaldo told Sky Sport.

"We suffered a lot tonight but we created a lot and deserved this win."

Genoa, in their second game under Motta, played

most of the second half with 10 men after Francesco Cassata was sent off, while Juventus substitute Adrien Rabiot was dismissed late on for two bookable offences.

Atalanta twice fought back from a goal behind to hold Napoli to a 2-2 draw at the San Paolo, where a fiery ending resulted in red cards for Carlo Ancelotti and his assistant.

Josip Ilcic struck a contentious 86th-minute equaliser that was upheld following a lengthy VAR review, as Napoli appealed for a penalty.

— AFP

# Shiva, Pooja Rani take top honours

**Tokyo, Oct. 31:** Shiva Thapa (63kg) and Pooja Rani (75kg) clinched gold medals, while Ashish (69kg) settled for a silver, ending India's brilliant campaign at the Olympic Test Event for Boxing here on Thursday.

Four-time Asian medalist Thapa outpunched Kazakhstan's national champion and Asian bronze-winner Sanatali Toltayev 5-0 to claim the top honours. Thapa is also the reigning national champion and a former bronze-medallist at the world championships.

Former Asian Games bronze-medallist Rani edged past Australia's Caitlin Parker to ensure that the Indian women's contingent also had a gold in its kitty. Rani had claimed a silver medal at the Asian Championships earlier this year.

Ashish (69kg), however, lost to Japan's Sewon



Shiva Thapa

Okazawa to sign off with a silver medal.

Earlier, former junior world champion Nikhat Zareen (51kg), Simranjeet Kaur (60kg) along with Asian silver-medallist Sumit Sangwan (91kg) and Vahlimpuia (75kg), in the men's draw, lost their respective semifinal bouts to end with bronze medals on Wednesday. — PTI

## SANTANA SCORES BRACE IN ODISHA'S MAIDEN WIN

**Mumbai, Oct. 31:** Odisha FC forward Aridane Santana scored a brace to guide his team to a 4-2 win over hosts Mumbai City in their maiden Indian Super League here on Thursday.

This is Odisha's first win of the season after they had lost 1-2 to Jamshedpur FC and 1-2 against NorthEast United FC.

For Odisha, Xisco Hernandez (6th minute), Santana (21st and 73rd) and Jerry Mawhmingthanga (41st) were the goal scorers as they dominated the proceedings from the first minute itself.

Odisha had an early chance after Santana found Jerry Mawhmingthanga on the right flank, who sent a low cross inside the box, but Mumbai's Mohammed Rafique intercepted and cleared the ball before Nandhakumar Sekar could reach.

The visitors were playing an aggressive game and they reaped dividends in the 6th minute when Xisco Hernandez scored to take them 1-0 ahead. — PTI