## DECCAN Önicle

THE LARGEST CIRCULATED ENGLISH DAILY IN SOUTH INDIA

**HYDERABAD | MONDAY | 11 NOVEMBER 2019** 





Forecast: Cloudy sky, with haze. Max/Min temp. 32/19ºC



Vikari; Dakshinayana Tithi: Kartika Shudda Chathurdasi till 5.58 pm Star: Ashwini till 7.14 pm Varjyam: 2.54 pm to 4.38 pm and 5.27 am to 7.09 am Durmuhurtam: 12.22 pm to 1.07 pm and 2.37 pm to 3.22 pm Rahukalam: 7.30 am to 9 am HLIRI CALENDAR

Rabbi-ul-Awwal 13,1441 AH

Fajar: 5.16 am **Zohar:** 12.10 pm **Asar:** 4.06 pm Maghrib: 5.47 pm Isha: 6.57 pm

SUNSET TODAY 5.41 PM **SUNRISE TOMORROW 6.18 AM MOONRISE** TOMORROW 5..05 PM **MOONSET** TODAY 5.05 AM

#### **90 arrested for**

**Ayodhya posts** 

New Delhi/Ayodhya: Nearly 90 people have been arrested and action taken against over 8,000 social media posts as officials maintained a tight vigil in the temple town and elsewhere in the country in the wake of the Ayodhya verdict, while Hindu and Muslim religious leaders exhorted people to maintain communal harmony. Officials said there has been no untoward incident in the country.

Full report on Page 7



Can't we request the Governor to continue with me as caretaker CM for the next five years?

#### T.N. Seshan

passes away

Chennai: Former chief election commissioner T.N. Seshan, who brought in the game-changing electoral reforms in the country in the 1990s, died here on Sunday following a cardiac arrest. He was 86. The legendary Seshan was not keeping good health and he passed away at 9.30 pm.

Full report on Page 7

#### **Iran discovers**

massive oil field

Tehran: Iran has discovered a massive new oil field. President Hassan Rouhani said Sunday. He said the vast field in Khuzestan holds an esti-mated 53 billion barrels of crude, he said. The 80-metre deep reservoir stretches 200 km from Iran's border with Iraq.

Full report on Page 10

WORLD 10

**Spouses of H-1B** holders can work

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SPORTS 16

SONU SHRIVASTAVA | DC

Maharashtra Governor

Bhagat Singh Koshyari on

Sunday asked the Shiv

Sena if it wants to form

government after the BJP

informed him that it does

not have numbers. The

Shiv Sena has been given

time till 7.30 pm on

Monday to express its "willingness and ability" to form government.

The Governor's office

sent the letter to Shiv

sent the letter to Shiv Sena's Legislative Party leader Eknath Shinde. "The Sena will have to inform the Governor about its stand by Monday 7.30 pm," a Raj Bhavan official said. Shiv Sena leader Saniay

Shiv Sena leader Sanjay

Raut said that party chief Uddhav Thackeray will

announce the decision and

said, "The next CM will be

from the Shiv Sena. We

are confident that we will

prove our majority in the Assembly. If Uddhavji is saying that Chief Minister

**Messi scores hat-trick** in Barcelona win

**TABLOID** 

Man of the moment

BJP won't form govt in

Maha, Sena gets invite

Governor asks Sena to stake claim to form govt by 7.30 pm

If the Shiv Sena wants to form the govern-

ment, with support from

mandate, we extend our

by disrespecting the

wishes to them.

member House.

the Congress and the NCP

- CHANDRAKANT PATIL

will be from Shiv Sena, it means that the Sena will

have its Chief Minister at

any cost." He refused to

explain which parties will support the Sena as it has only 56 MLAs in the 288-

Earlier in the day, for-mer chief minister Devendra Fadnavis held

the party's core committee

meeting twice at his official residence, Varsha, in

South Mumbai. BJP national general secretary

and Maharashtra incha-

rge Bhupendra Yadav atte-

BJP's Maharashtra

unit president

Chandrakant Patil and

Girish Mahajan. Sources said BJP chief

Amit Shah joined the sec-

ond round of meetings

from New Delhi via video

Following the meeting, a delegation led by Mr Fadnavis met Governor

Koshyari at Raj Bhavan.

The Governor on Saturday

had invited the BJP, the

single largest party, to stake claim.

After meeting the Governor, the state BJP president told the media

outside Raj Bhavan, "The Governor had invited the

BJP yesterday (Saturday) to form the new govern-

ment in Maharashtra. We

have fought the election as

a Mahayuti. The mandate

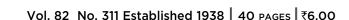
was given to the Mahayuti. However, Shiv

Sena is not interested to

we can't form the govern-

ment now. This has been

conference.



#### **Birthday celebrations**



Muslims participate in a massive rally in Hyderabad on Sunday to mark Milad-un-Nabi celebrations to commemorate Prophet Muhammed's birthday. Around 50,000 people participated in the procession.

## Groom commits suicide hours before marriage

**JAYENDRA** CHAITHANYA T. | DC

Hours before his marriage, a 24-year-old was found hanging at a room in a function hall in Kompally on Sunday. The police could not ascertain why the groom killed himself.

N. Sai Sandeep (24) of Saroornagar was an engineering graduate. After his mother Padmaja died in 2003, his father, K. Srinivas Chary, remarried. Sandeep was from then on raised by his maternal grandparents. Vasantha and Jangeshwar Rao.

Sandeep graduated a few years back and was job-hunting. In April, his father fixed his marriage for today, at 11.35 am.

Sandeep was reportedly not very communicative and visited only his maternal aunt and uncle in Malakpet. A month ago, his grandfather passed away and Sandeep became depressed.

At around 3 am on Sunday, the groom's family arrived at the function hall and Sandeep went to his room to sleep. At around 7.30 am, his relatives knocked on his door and phoned him multiple

times, but he did not respond. The management gave them a duplicate key and when they opened the door they found Sandeep hanging from the ceiling. They alerted the police. After autopsy at Gandhi Hospital, the body was

handed over to his kin and a case was registered.

Petbasheerabad inspector M. Mahesh said: "The incident could have han pened around 4 am. We have not found his motive, and his family is also unsure why he took the extreme step." Police would examine Sandeep's call data records.

#### Shafali beats Sachin's record



youngest Indian to score a half-century in international cricket, surpassing Sachin Tendulkar's 30year-old record when she scored 73 in India's win over West Indies in a T20 in St Lucia on Saturday. Shafali achieved the feat at 15 years and 285 days, surpassing Tendulkar, who had notched up his maiden Test fifty at 16 years and 214

Shafali Verma

became the

#### **4 DIE AS WALL COLLAPSES AT WEDDING HALL**

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, NOV. 10

A wall collapsed at a wedding hall at Golnaka in Amberpet on Sunday, killing four and seriously injuring a fifth. The newlywed and their parents, who were on a stage on the other side of the wall, escaped unhurt

Swapna and Chandrashekar were marrying at the Pearl Garden Function Hall at Golnaka, when the tragedy occurred. Over 200 guests attended and some were having lunch.

At around 2.30 pm, the newlyweds and their parents were on stage while guests who had finished lunch, were leaning on the other side of the 30-foot wall when it collapsed.

"I stepped onto the stage to wish the couple," D Srinivas, autoowner and eye-witness, said. "All of a sudden, the wall collapsed creating sound and dust. For three minutes nothing was visible. Later we saw four persons under the rubble which also fell on my auto and two bikes.

The Amberpet police and Disaster Response Force officials rushed to the spot. Krishna (19), Sohail (30), P Suresh (28), and Majeed (30), were pulled out of the debris while M Vijaya Laxmi (60), was found conscious.

■ Page 5: Hoarding caused wall collapse

#### **RISKY** PUFF

#### **■ Careless smokers blamed for 22,126 fire accidents in state**

## Lit butts spark 1,500 fire mishaps in city

T.S.S. SIDDHARTH | DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 10

Irresponsibly stubbing out cigarettes is the leading cause of most fire-accidents in the city. As it turns out, smoking is not just harmful for one's health, it is also a fire hazard waiting to hap-

The Telangana State Disaster Response and Fire Department's Services records show over 1,500 fire accidents that broke out in the city due to a carelessly

put out cigarette. The most recent case was that of a bus that was ablaze at the Kukatpally metro station

From 2014 to 2018 careless smoking has taken the lion's share of fire accidents in the state. While there were 14,077 fire accidents due to electrical malfunction, 22,126 fires broke out

due to careless smoking. "There has been a rise in the number of fire accidents due to smoking," Lakshmi Prasad, director

**Electrical Origin** 2,683 2,732 2,717 3,058 2,887 **Careless Smoking** 4,065 4,219 4,780 4,747 4,315 **Explosive Fire Works** 67 57 65 24 35 Gas Coal Furnace 374 401 317 374 355 **Chemical Reaction** 43 39 27 24 30 Oven Stoves 257 184 243 142

in charge of the department fire very easily." Even in Saturday's incisaid. People who smoke do not fully stub the cigarette dent at Kukatpally metro out and the burning tip station, the investigating officers claim to have found ends up close to a garbage pile or paper, which catches a cigarette stub near the

be the cause of the fire. That this happened despite a ban on public smoking is what perturbs officials even more.

bus which they suspect to

"The rise in such fire accidents only shows the atti-tude of the people when it comes to smoking in public," an official said. "Fires of this particular origin are easy to avoid, if people begin smoking in designated areas and stub the cigarettes out before it ignites any flammable substance.'

#### nded the meeting along with senior party leaders Sudhir Mungantiwar, conveved to would seek the advice of Governor. the party high-command He said, "If the Sena Security hiked for 5 judges

DC CORRESPONDENT with agency inputs

Security of five judges, who delivered the verdict in the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid land dispute case, has been enhanced with the deployment of additional troops, barricades and mobile escort teams.

According to sources, the enhanced security has been put in place since Saturday,

Justice Ranjan Gogoi, CJI-designate Sharad Arvind Bobde and justices Dhananjaya Y. Chandrachud, Ashok Bhushan and S. Abdul Nazeer — delivered the verdict in over a century old case.

Sources said "Security of the honourable judges has been enhanced as a precautionary measure. However, there has been no specific threat to anyone of the

judges.

drill, additional troops have been deployed at the residences of the judges with some barricades on the roads leading to their houses. Earlier, the judges had house guards and stat-

wants to form the govern-

ment with support from the Congress and NCP, by

disrespecting the man-date, we extend good wish-

with the state of the state of them."

Mr Raut taunted the BJP over its inability to form government. "If they (BJP)

did not form the govern-

ment, how would it have

its CM. They have repeat-

edly said that the CM will be from the BJP and they

would form government

under the leadership of the

BJP. Now, they have with-drawn their claim," he

While the Congress refused to open its cards, the Nationalist Congress

Party (NCP) of Mr Sharad

Pawar made it clear that

the Sena would have to

break away from the NDA before it can think of lend-

ing support to Mr Thackeray's party.

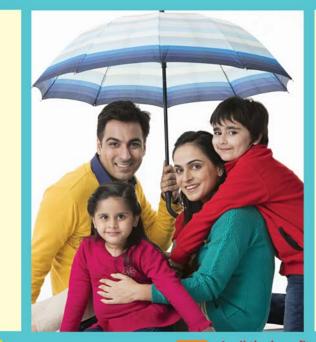
Congress leader Ashok Chavan said the state unit

said. While

"Now the mobile component of the security has been added and an escort vehicle with armed guards will accompany each judge's vehicle. The arrangements are purely a precau-As part of the security tionary step," sources said.

## **Wonderful Opportunity**

The Revival Period of Non-Linked Policies extended to 5 years and Linked Policies extended to 3 years.



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#### DECCAN CHRONICLE

## Delays, poor quality repair on display

#### Repair Syed Jung Lane completely

was pleased to see my complaint and suggestion printed in Speak Out (Repair Syed Jung lane, October 7). The GHMC has taken some action by filling potholes in a patchwork fashion. This has given some relief to commuters. I request the GHMC to get the road fully repaired.

- Suresh Raichura

#### Uncleared garbage at PVNR Pillar No. 100

t is very unfortunate that garbage near Pillar No. 100 of the P.V. Narasimha Rao Expressway is not being cleared by the GHMC for days. Despite the many complaints lodged about sanitary issues, the local supervisor does not respond, What is worse, colony residents are throwing garbage though they hvae been asked

#### Bank visitors occupy Chintalbasti parking

This is the situation beside the Government Degree College at Chintalbasti, Khairatabad. We are facing many problems as employees of the ICICI Bank are parking their vehicles in the narrow lane. In spite of complaining to the bank officials many times, they are allowing this to happen. I request the Hyderabad traffic police to take action and impose a penalty for illegal parking under the Motor Vehicles Act.

— Kadaram Haridhar Chintalbasthi, Khairatabad

#### Drunks' nuisance near Sitaphalmandi railway cabin

runkards regularly create a nuisance on the railway tracks between Sitaphalmandi B cabin and the railway station. On November 5, at about 9 pm, they attacked a passerby. When the colony residents went to his rescue, the miscreants started hurling stones at them and then escaped. We complained to the police and the railway cabin staff alerted security personnel at the Sitaphalmandi station but the drunks had fled by then. We are terrified after this incident.

Some residents have witnessed anti-social activities. Girls who are walking alone are being teased. They enter the area through a small pas-sage near Pragathi School. The pas-sage was closed by the railway authorities but has been broken open. Regular police patrolling on the tracks near 'B' Cabin will deter these drunkards.

 New Mettuguda Residents Welfare Association

#### GHMC doesn't allow me to pay tax

he online GHMC property payment website clearly indicates that I have paid the tax in advance and is not accepting payment for two years now. Our repeated attempts to contact the designated inspector at the Secunderabad GHMC office proved futile as there was no concrete response towards

The worst is the utter indifference of the GHMC employees. My earlier attempts to inform the GHMC by email also did not evoke any response till date! The owner of an identical flat above mine in the same building has been able to make online tax payments.

- Gopalakrishnan C.S.



#### Dabeerpura nala work pending for 6 mths

Work is pending on the big sewerage nala for over six months near Dabeerpura Darwaza. opposite Ali Cafe Main Road. The picture depicts the scene in the area near the Dabeerpura Darwaza. Despite calling the GHMC

Zomato Care 📀

Replying to @HariPra158

Hey Gogikar! Saddened to know

about your ordering experience with

us. Help us with the order number via

DM so that we can check this. Kindly

Pos no T28256

Thursday, 0:25 🗸

Thursday, 0:27 J

do not share the details via tweet ....

flakes, sauce & tissues which is

**Zomato Care** 🐶 @zomatoca... · 2d

22:54

and lodging complaints so many times, they are not responding. Because of the narrow road, traffic heading to Noor Khan Purani Bazaar, Darul Shifa, Kali Khabar, Yakutpura Bada Bazaar is down

Dabeerpura Darwaza crossroad, There is also no place to park vehicles. Requesting the corporator or the MLA or the GHMC authorities to look this issue has not been of help.

—Abdul Aleem

Hafez Babanagar

#### Pizza Hut, **Zomato** combo is slow and cold

Thad ordered pizza Lirom Pizza through Zomato \$700 (Order No. 1918017045). The pizza box was not properly packed and the delivery executive was carrying it on the petrol tank of his motorcycle.

He said that was the condition of the parcel given by Pizza Hut. He was not ready to cancel ment had been made online. It took more than one hour to deliver the order, and the pizza was so cold came without sauce, salt or pepper with it. I complained to Zomata and Pizza Hut customer care but they have not responded.

– Hari Prasad Gogikar Hyderabad

## Open book stalls at Metro stations

I will await for your revertal on this

Metro Rail commuters who want to buy newspapers or magazines while travelling cannot do so as there are no vendors. There is a need to open a book stall and a coffee shop at all Metro

Rail stations to cater to the needs of commuters. I request the management of Hyderabad Metro Rail to look into the matter.

— Syed Nissar, Malakpet

Pizza Hut

Thursday, 0:33

We will reach out to you asap.

Start a message

# Builder on Tilak Road

allows water to stagnate These are pictures of a construction site on Tilak Road at Boggulakunta where water has been stagnating for more than a month. It is causing a foul smell and there is a danger of mosquitoes breeding and spreading dengue. We have made many requests to clear the water but there has been no action. Please help.

Ramesh Rahul



#### How green was my park

This is the pathetic conditions of Vengala Rao Park on Road No. 1, Banjara Hills. I request officials to clean it up immediately.

— Basharat Mohammed Ali Khan



#### Ashoka trees cause of much trouble

he Ashoka trees on Street No. 15, Himayatnagar, in the Red Cross lane are becoming breeding places for mosquitoes. No one is trimming the overgrown trees despite our complaints to both the electricity department and the GHMC. We are also face a problem of dried branches which may fall on passersby and injure them. I request the officials through our ever reliable and evergreen paper to take up the matter without delay.

— Ramachander Rao



#### Bodies are being buried near our houses

**7**e are the flat owners and residents of BRC Sri Hemadurga Siva Hills, situated in Survey. Nos. V V 192 (p), 194 (p), and 195(p) at Puppalaguda, Gandipet Mandal, Ranga Reddy district. About 400 live in the gated community and another 1,000 in Green Space and Hallmark.

Just beside the compound wall of our gated community, land owners of our neighboring land are burying the bodies of their deceased family members since the last four years now.

About two years ago when they were burying one of their dead, we had communicated our concerns to them that this being a large residential area they should stop this practice of burying the dead as it is a serious hazard to the families who are residing here, to which they agreed. A few days back, we saw them burying one more body there.

The burial of bodies within a residential area creates health hazards besides contamination of ground water and air pollution etc. We have given a written application to the municipal commissioner and are waiting for a response. We request the authorities to take necessary action and stop this activity immediates

- Residents of BRC Siva Hills,

#### SCR, please set right the Alwal road

Neither Cantonment Board nor Alwal Municipality is repairing the completely damaged road under the rail bridge. Both of them say that this road belongs

Several representations were made to the SCR to lay a fresh road as water gets logged there during rains and vehicular traffic is disrupted. Early action needs to be taken in view of safety.

- N.S.R. Murthy Janapriya Shelters, Doveton, Macha Bolaram



#### Gayathreenagar road not swept for 3 months

The road in front of Gayathreenagar Residential Apartments, TSIIC Colony, Jeedimetla, Hyderabad, has not been swept clean by the GHMC for three weeks. The road sweeping staff engaged by the GHMC are not seen now. The condition is pathetic with garbage strewn on the road which is posing a health hazard to the residents. We have lodged complaints with the GHMC via their customer care phone number 040-21111111 and even called their area supervisor but to our dismay there was no proper response. I request DC to highlight this issue in the 'My Issue' column and bring it to the attention of the GHMC for their prompt and immediate

— Dinesh Joshi Gayathreenagar Residential Apartments, Jeedimetla



#### Garbage, open nala constrict Tolichowki road

his is in Tolichowki, 7 Tombs road. The volume of traffic has vastly increased after the closure of the Shaikpet Nala road. There is an open drain and there is a lot of garbage lying on the road. The 80-feet road has turned into a 20-feet road, which restricts traffic flow. The roads are in a very bad condition leading to a huge traffic jam every day. I request the authorities to look into this matter immediately and please remove the bottleneck,

**Akshit Agarwal** 

## PEOPLE HAPPY TO BREAK RULES FOR PARKING

#### Outsiders occupy parking space

rlive in Red Hills where the roads are ∎ Inarrow and parking space is limited to the people who live there. But cars and auto trolley drivers are parking their vehicles on the road, which is blocking the one-way road. This is not just a problem for the people who live here but also for those that use the road daily. Sometimes they are stuck for 30 minutes or more. Imagine if a police car or an ambulance is stuck. The officials should take this issue seriously

ge action. —**Syed Shamsuddin Maghrabi** Red Hills





#### Parked cars occupy road near Thumkunta lake

The 18-feet approach road to the community having more than150 apartments is always blocked due to the unauthorised parking of cars from a workshop on Hitec Road, Thumukunta lake. They even park at the blind turn and on the steep slope, blocking the view completely for the drivers and bike riders. We have tried all possible measures to stop this including filing multiple police

complaints.

— **Ragini Ravikiran K.** 

## Vodafone, return my money! Thave been using the Vodafone network for 11

Lyears, From January, my balance is being deducted every month. In spite of lodging many complaints, the deductions are still being done. I

— **Jabeen**, 9966992137

#### Toxic foam ruining our gadgets, utensils

We residents of Siddhartha Colony are facing a lot of problems due to improper sewage and the toxic polluted foam that is forming in the water. Because of the pollution, utensils and electronic gadgets are getting spoiled. We have informed the officials regarding the situation but no action has been taken. I request you to

please highlight the issue.

— Rajan Mansi Sounder, Siddharthanagar

#### Booze shop at Bandlaguda 700m from main road

Aliquor shop has been opened almost a year ago, 700 metres from the main road. People have complained to the local police about this but to no avail. Every day, we see drunken women and men fallen on road.

When we try to interact with people, they are afraid of complaining against the owner so he seems to be well-connected.

The AIMIM and TRS corporator offices are just 300 metres away from the bar but even they are

I contacted the commissioner's office and they suggested that I download the Hawkeye app on my mobile and upload the pictures and lodge a complaint. I did so but no action has been taken.

— Imran Khan Patel Nagar, Bandlaguda



## Dogs make it difficult at P&T Colony Twant to bring to your notice the dog menace haunting the residents of P&T Colony,

Bandlaguda Jagir. Our colony has upgraded from gram panchayat to municipality. Many of us have tried to report the issue of dogs but they have fallen on deaf ears.

There are at least 20 stray dogs on the roads and they make it difficult for residents, especially women who travel on bikes, to commute. There are many kids who wait for their school bus in the morning and senior citizens who take their morning walk who

Unfortunately, instead of taking precautions by controlling this dog menace, the municipality is waiting for some incident to happen after which this issue might get controlled. My request for you is to bring highlight this nuisance that has been causing the residents trouble.

සිවුවීව.. සිවුවලසිව.. සිපිපාවවර්ලසිව

- Zubair Razack Hyaerabaa



#### A year on, Kanajiguda road is still incomplete

he GHMC has taken up construction of a cement road from Kanajiguda main road (Indian Oil petrol pump) to Telecom Colony arch (Kaman). Work started in January but has still not been completed, and about 100 metres still needs to be done. Due to this, it has become a nightmare for the residents of Telecom Colony, and surroundg colonies like Muthvam Reddy Colony Shiva Nagar Colony, Padmavati Colony, who

Further, RTC bus on Route No 23T to our colony has been stopped as the drivers say they cannot drive on the road. It has become very difficult for children, women, senior citizens, disabled people of the locality who depend on RTC buses.

— Ashwin Kumar Telecom Colony, Kanajiguda, Alwal



#### How are trucks allowed on Patny flyover? Even educated



Are trucks allowed on the Patny fly-over in Secunderabad in the day time? Making this dangerous situation worse, a stone truck is overtaking a sand truck from the left on such a narrow flyover. Please stop playing with our lives!

— Pramod Y.

#### Tirumala price hike unacceptable

The Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam has recently increased room rent from ₹500 to ₹1,000, which is a huge burden on the devotees

I request the TTD management not to increase the room rent as thousands of devotees comes from different parts of the country for darshan. Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam authorities should first provide accommodation and darshan to the devotees.
— **Padmavathi** 

Vikram Raj K.N., Kachegudá



authorities attempted to prevent the practice by displaying religious symbols. The practice is reduced nowadays to a certain extent. On account of this obnoxious and indecent practice, our Telugu states rank high in TB incidence. May wisdom dawn on all to stop this bad habit in the interest of public health and the image of the nation.

people spit

in the park

While walking in the park, what I saw aggravated my feelings and prompted me to make an appeal. One of the members of a laughing club came aside a few steps from the group, spat

on the turf and rejoined the exercises.

Next, I observed a man with a long,

white beard spat on tiles next to the walking track. These two are senior citizens, apparently educated.

Very frequently, while travelling by autorickshaws and taxis, I have noticed the drivers entiting in the open Upon

the drivers spitting in the open. Upon inquiry, it is noticed that the reason for their spitting is use of gutka.

I used to tell them to stop the habit as it is harmful. The old and even the

young are accustomed to 'gutka' and paan and spit in the open indecently,

unmindful of the harm of spreading

In the old days, Hyderabad was noto-

rious for paan spittle on the roads and

corners of the office steps etc. The

TB and other diseases.

P. Yellamanda

Dear Readers, Deccan Chronicle is not just your favourite newspaper. It is also your voice, and a recourse. Bad roads? No water supply? Too many power cuts? Garbage dumps unattended? Sewerage blocked? Schools without teachers? Hospitals without doctors? Write to us. Your problems, your issues — and send a few photographs. We will fight for you, raise your issues, as always. Email to editor@deccanmail.com with the subject line 'My Issue'.



MIM president Asaduddin Owaisi tells cadre to gear up for the upcoming municipal elections in the state





KCR does not have the least bit of humanity in him. He is like a dictator

> — Ponnala Lakshmaiah **Congress leader**

#### **WOMAN SLITS LOVER'S WIFE'S THROAT**

DC CORRESPONDENT ANANTAPUR, NOV. 10

In a bizarre incident, a woman attacked her lover's wife and slit her throat, at Erranela Kottala in Anantapur on Sunday. The victim, B Maheswari, has a one-year-old son and is five months pregnant with another child. She was badly injured and had to have 32 stitches to her throat and is battling for life. Police said V. Srinivas, a labourer living in Erranela Kottala had an affair with Reshma who lived in the same colony. However, he married B. Maheswari and the couple had a son.

Reshma, according to the police, wanted the affair to continue.

She told Maheswari to leave Srinivas and threatened her several times over the phone. Maheswari warned her to keep away from them.

Thinking she could eliminate the wife, Reshma barged into Srinivas' house on Sunday when he was not there, carry ing a sharp blade with which she attacked Maheswari and slit her throat.

Neighbours took the injured woman to hospital and contacted Srinivas by phone. Doctors at the hospital said Maheswari required 32 stitch-

The police have registered a case against Reshma based on Maheswari's statement and have arrested her.

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

Public in General are hereby informed that our clients are Transaction with Esplanade Developers Private Limited, (formerly Millennia Properties ivate Limited) and Incor Central Park Properties Limited in respect of land to the extent 2.49 acres and 0.99 Acres of Commercial area comprising 3.42 acres out of total and admeasuring 11.452 Acres ir survey no. 1009 of Kukatpally Village and Mandal, Medchal – Malkajgiri Dist, Telangana State bounded by: North: by 24 Meters wide Road, South: by 18 ft. wide Road, East: By One City Residential Project, West: By Road to Hi-Tech City.

If any Person has any objection for the above said transaction, he or she may submit his/ her objection along with relevant documents within 15days from the date of this publication to the undersigned at ne address given below.

Please note that in case no objections are received from vone, our clients shall be treating that there are no claims against above property and above parties will go ahead with the proposed transaction.

In such event any claims or objections at later stage, will not be

M/s. HARI HARA KUMAR K. SUNIL SINGH, Advocates H.No.1-9-319/1/A, Vidyanagar Hyderabad-500044 Ph.No: 9246285475

#### Email: hhk\_adv@yahoo.co.in **PUBLIC BEWARE**

That my client Mr. M.A Sattar, S/o. G.M. Mahamood entered into a registered MOU with G. Shyam Prasad Reddy, S/o. G. Ranga Reddy, R/o. Alluri Mewods White Field, Cyberabad, having paid huge amount to him and who has agreed to transfer 600 square yards in the proposed gated community venture in survey No. 218/11 part, 218/12 part and 218/13 situated at Kondapur Village, Serilingampally Mandal,

Therefore the general public are hereby informed not to enter into any agreement or sale deeds in respect of the above said property with G. Shyam Prasad Reddy otherwise they shall be doing so at their risk. Further my client is initiating legal proceedings shortly to protect my client rights.

Ranga Reddy District.

Sd/- I. RAMESH, B.Com. L.L.M. **ADVOCATE** Chambers at: "Sri Sai Nilayam", 9-1-19/48 Vinayak Nagar, Langer House, Hyderabad-500008

Mobile: 9246546715

## **Drunk techie's car** kills two on flyover

#### Victims were taking selfie when mishap took place

JAYENDRA CHAITHANYA T. | DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 10

A drunk techie who was driving a car mowed down two youngsters who were taking selfies on the newly-inaugurated Biodiversity junction flyover at Raidurgam around 12.45 am on Sunday.

Four others, who were also on the flyover around the same time suffered injuries but are stated to be out of danger. N. Sai Vamshi and his friend V. Praveen Kumar, both 22, were towards heading Gachibowli and stopped near a curve on the flyover. They were taking selfies after parking their bike on the left side of the road.

At the same time, cousins C. Sai Krishna and C. Pavan Kumar were pushing their bike that had a punctured towards Gachibowli while two others P. Muralikrishna



Newly-inaugurated Biodiversity junction flyover where the accident took place late on Saturday night.

Praveen were thrown to

the ground below the flyover. They died on the

spot, while the remain-

minor injuries," said Raidurgam inspector S.

sustained

ing

and G. Subhash, were travelling on a bike on the same route.

Meanwhile, Abhilash, 28, a software engineer working with an MNC, and resident of Kukatpally, rammed his speeding car (TS08 FY 1069) into Sai and Pavan, and then Vamshi and Praveen, and before

Ravinder. Abhilash has the came to a halt after been taken into custody. hitting another bike. The impact of the His blood alcohol content was recorded at crash was so horrifying Vamshi and over 200 mg.

A case has been registered against him, the inspector said. Vamshi worked as a salesman with a mobile carrier company while Praveen was a photographer.

#### **ALARM SAVES BONAKAL SBI** FROM ROBBERY

DC CORRESPONDENT KHAMMAM, NOV. 10

The alarms set up in banks are being proved as key guards in protecting bank money. An incident that took place in a branch of State Bank of India in Bonakal proved it again. The burglars, who entered the bank by removing the windows, tried to open the safe locker.

That triggered the alarm which started ringing loudly, forcing the thieves to flee. The police rushed to the spot and deployed sniffer dogs to trace the robbers. A Clues team was pressed into service to pick up evidence.

The police took picked up a person suspecting his involvement in the attempted robbery but freed him after finding out that he was in no way connected to the incident.

Another attempt was made at a bank branch at Wyra, where too the thieves fled after the alarm went off. It is not known if the two incidents are connected.

The police asked all bank officials to strengthen the windows and check the alarms in the light of increasing attempts on banks.

#### **DRUNK MAN CLIMBS TV TOWER**

Hyderabad: Gangadhar coaxed into coming down by Goud, a 37-year-old car driver, climbed up TV tower in Malakpet in an inebriated

He stayed up there for nearly two hours, until he was

the police. Malakpet Assistant of Police Commissioner (ACP), N. Venkata Ramana, said Goud was a resident of Asmangarh locality located close to the TV tower.



S/o. Late. Rajnikant & Jayawanti Ben Kadakia D.O.D. 08-11-2019

We will miss you

Inserted by: Mukesh & Shramita **Ashit & Mamta** Sanjay & Shrefali Kanubhai & Meenakshi Kakul Bhai & Rita Raiesh & Smurthi Rajesh & Anupa Nilesh & Shruti Shoba & Late Pradeep

Anil & Preeti Gopal & Sangita Ashesh & Nipa Dharmesh & Deepali Lalo & Pinka Tinu & Swati

11th DAY CEREMONY



S/o. Late. Rajnikant & Jayawanti Ben Kadakia D.O.B. 08-07-1963 D.O.D. 08-11-2019 Besnu Today 11-11-2019, at Sindhi Satsang Bhavan, P.G. Road, Secunderabad. Between 5.00 To 5.30 P.M

Every journey seemed easy, when you were with us, You were there at every step protecting us, You may not be with us in person but It is only your love & blessings that will guide us. Fondly remembered by: Stela Kadakia,

Mayur & Nimisha Kadakia Mukesh & Swati Desai, Smit & Heta Kadakia, Nihari & Yash Dhabalia Disha & Ankit Mehta, Rahee & Umang Kenia Ronik & Bhumi Desai Rujul & Disha Desai

Mobile: 7768865444 9820291350 **Firm: Panam Sales Corporation** 

IN FOND MEMORY OF

P. SURYAKUMARI REDDY

W/o Late P.B. Venkat Reddy I.F.S

Conservator of Forests DOD: Nov. 01, 2019

11th DAY CEREMONY on Monday 11th Nov. 2019 at residence, 1302/A, Road No. 65, Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad.

With love Lalitha & Sethu Pranav, Suparna, Vishal, Pavitra Mob: 9573739010

# suspect released

DC CORRESPONDENT TIRUPATI, NOV. 10

The Madanapalle subdivision police on Sunday released the picof a suspect, believed to have kid-napped and murdered a five-year-old girl in Angallu village in Kurabalakota mandal, Chittoor district, a cou-

ple of days ago.
The girl, E. Varshini, was attending a wedding at K.N.R. Convention Centre in Kurabalakota mandal on November 7 with her parents Sidda

From Page 1

They were immediately

General Hospital, where

Krishna, Sohail and Suresh succumbed. The

woman was dead on arrival. Majeed fractured

his left leg, left hand, and

K. Lalitha, the bride's

mother, was shocked.

on and the guests left for

the dining hall," she said.

'We heard a loud noise

and the stage shook.

There was dust every-

where. A few minutes later, we heard about the

The groom's father, K Sadanand of Narsimha

basti in New Nallakunta,

said, "We could not find a

function hall nearby and

booked this one for

₹41,000. The wall was not

present in September

and some work was in

progress. The owner assured me the work

would be completed before the wedding. After

the renovation, this was

The groom's family and

relatives were shifted to

the bride's house at New

Srinivas, a cousin of the bride. He runs a beauty

East Zone DCP M

Ramesh promised to reg-

ister a case against the

owner of the wedding

hall and other responsi-

Nallakunta, said

parlour.

the first wedding here.'

injured.'

'The celebrations were

to Osmania

Reddy and Usha Rani, who are from Guttapalyam village in B. Kothakota mandal of Chittoor district. Varshini is suspected to have been abducted by an unknown person hours before she was killed.

The shock-waves across the state amidst reports that the five-year-old could have been molested and murdered.

incident sent

Madanapalle have formed special teams to nab the accused

### Photo of murder MROs don't work without taking bribe, farmers allege

IREDDY SRINIVAS REDDY I DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 10

The brutal killing of Abdullapurmet mandal Reddy has unleashed a slew of allegations against revenue department staff.

Farmers across the state who frequently visit revenue offices for pattadar passbooks and land mutations, accuse revenue officers of not doing their work unless Latha, wife of K. Suresh,

Hoarding caused Amberpet wall collapse

killing of Vijaya Reddy, said her husband had told her that he had killed the revenue officer because she had demanded money for issuing a patta for his land. Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao has several times referred to the corruption in the revenue department and said he wants to weed it out by enacting a new

revenue law. It is not surprising that data from the Anti-Bureau reveals that of the 207

booked in past two years, 50 cases are against revenue department staff and officers. In these cases, most of the employees named are in the ranks of revenue divisional officer, tahsildar, deputy tahsildar, vil lage revenue officers and revenue inspectors and they demand bribes ranging from ₹5,000 to ₹5 lakh. According to the ACB, a revenue official working within the periphery of Hyderabad

Municipal Corporation

interfere and enforce

with the building owners

during renovations after giving building permis-

sion. Also, the corporation cannot check struc-

tural stability during

renovation since the

builders were merely

renewing an old struc-

K. Srinivas Rao, chair-

man for the Telengana

chapter of the Institute of Town Planners India,

said the building owner's

greed (to save money) resulted in the tragedy.

He said the property

owner was erecting a

mega-hoarding with the

function hall's name on

it, but the beam could not

take the load and the wall

"Any building undergo-

ing renovation would face similar danger since

the property owner would only concentrate

on beautification, ignor-

ing the vital stability part," Rao said. "No

nodal agency has the

authority to penalise or

check the structural sta-

bility of the old building

since it already had

building permission.
These loopholes allowed

property owners to

indulge in malpractices."

was brick quality. Rao

said most building own-

ers compromised on con-

struction material

Another grave concern

collapsed.

- DEEPAK DESHPANDE

tip of the iceberg. An

estimated 99 per cent of

building owners in the

city are renovating without clearing structural stability with qualified

Citing lacunae in build-

ing permission rules,

property owners are changing original struc-

tures at will in the name

of renovations. To save

money, they are hiring

local masons unaware of

structural stability who

cannot be regulated by

the Greater Hyderabad

engineers.

canno

ciaimed they





Late Sri Kesani Raji Reddy 1979 - 2018 On Monday, 11-11-2019 from 12 noon onward Champapet. Ph: 9948954699, 9885511603 Wife: Kesani Sushmitha Reddy Father : Kesani Anji Reddy ther : Devendramma and Famil **MARUTHI CONSTRUCTIONS** 



Shri K. BALRAJ Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day. Unseen, unheard, but always near till loved, still missed, and very dea Wife: K. Uma Balrai Sons and Daughter Daughters-in-law, Son-in-Law Jahanvika, Anikka, Arjun

8th DEATH ANNIVERSARY

DOB:26.01.1925 DOD:11.11.2011 We still cherish your memories Inserted by: Mrs. R.Padma Jeevaratnam Children, Grand Children & Great Grand Son



Inserted by: M. Ranappa, M. Ganesh, M. Kalavathi

# **SHRADHANJALI**

SANJAY R KADAKIA We prey god to provide peaceful abode to the departed soul and ive courage to the bereaved famil MAY HIS SOUL REST IN PEACE MISS YOU

BHASKER BHATT, SURESH AGARWAI VASANT KHEREDKAR KETAN SHAH PRAKASH SHAH, JITU BHAI PATEL,



Dr. RAGULA JEEVARATNAM

10th DEATH ANNIVERSARY

# THANKS GIVING SERVICE CLEMENT DOMINGO

laint.Engineer KFMC, Riyadh (I Slept in the Lord: 11-11-2018 Prayer meeting will be held on 11-11-2019 at their raya meenig wii be leed of 1-12013 at dien esidence Janapriya Heavens, Lalapet, Sec'Bad at 6.pn Inserted by: Rekha Clement (Wife) John Livingston Clement (Son) Ph: 7730084533

## Youth beaten to death for ₹2

died, at the Pearl Garden function hall on Sunday.

dead.

Vijaya Laxmi was a

neighbour of the bride in

Narsimha basti. She and

her husband Yadagiri

had proceeded for lunch.

She finished and went to

sit in auto to rest; her

husband was about to

emerge from the hall

when the wall collapsed.

"My mother was rest-

Sailaja, of

ing in the auto and want-

ed to go home," said

Kukatpally. "But the wall

collapsed and she was

Mahesh, brother of

crushed.'

DC CORRESPONDENT KAKINADA, NOV. 10

A petty dispute over two rupees has led to the loss of a life and also exposed the plight of construction and daily wage workers. The incioccurred Valasapakala village, Kakinada Rural mandal, East Godavari dis-

circle inspector R. Govinda Revu Surva Suvarna Raju, 24, a construction worker, also a daily wage worker, went to a cycle shop to fill air in his cycle's tyres. After the air was filled

he found he did not have the amount of ₹2 to pay Cycle shop owner Pilli Samba Murthy demand-

ed the payment and a heated argument followed during which Suvarna Raju slapped the cycle shop owner. A friend of Murthy who was standing by got angry and hit Suvarna Raju with an iron rod repeatedly. A severely injured

Suvarna Řaju was

rushed to Government

General Hospital here

but died while undergo-

A rescue team clears the debris of the collapsed wall under which four people

Krishna and a resident of

Miyapur rushed to hospi-

tal but was shocked to

learn that his sibling was

"I got a call from my

parents that Krishna was

injured and in hospital,'

said a sobbing Mahesh. "I

rushed from Miyapur along with cousins and

The accident was

caused by the building

owner's massive hoard-

ing, which was danger-

The collapse is just the

saw him dead."

ously installed.

past enmity between the men or their families. The murder was committed on an impulse and in anger. Suvarna Raju had no work for the past few days either in construction or daily wage work and was looking for work.

Inspector Raju said

that a case has been reg-

istered. He said there was no evidence of any

5th DEATH ANNIVERSARY K. SATHEESAN

(Retired TATA COFFEE/ SIFCO Employee)
DOD: 11.11.2014
"Ever since you left us, five years have passed but your memories are still fresh in our hearts". Not a single day passes out remembering you.
Inserted by: Family Members
8886445858 / 040-42024316



Mrs. P. VIOLET BHUSHNAM W/o. M.P. Bhushnam (Retd.Dy. Collector Slept in the Lord: 11-11-2009 Ever since you left us. Years passed by but your memories are still fresh in our hearts no single day passed without remembering you nserted by: M.P. Bhushnam & Family



Inserted by: C. Vasudevan (Son) Saroja, Vimala & Geeta (Daughters) Srinivas (Son-in-law) Raghuram (Grand Son-in-law) Murali Krishna & Abhishek (Grand Sons) Gayatri & Aishwarya (Grand Daughters) Ananya, Aniket & Anurag (Great Grand Children

DOB: 18-04-1915 DOD: 20-10-2002





We have made great progress in education, farming and real estate

— B. Vinod Kumar TS Planning Board vice-chairman

POWER SHUTDOWN

10 am to 1 pm: Heeranagar, Sainagar, Pavan Garden, KRKM Garden, Shivbagh, Maheshnagar, Roof Garden, Balalinagar, Roof Garden, Balalinagar, Payananagar, Gudimalkapur, VBG Garden, Navodaya Colony, Sabernagar, Huda Colony, Alinagar, Priya Colony, Jayanagar, Ushodaya Colony, Mandulaguda, Priya colony

10 am to 2 pm: Jwala PT Line, Nirdosh Line, Hanuman temple area, area around K.R. Suresh Reddy residence; VLCC, LG Showroom area, around Kiran Kumar Reddy's house.

2 pm to 5 pm: MLA Colony area behind Apollo Hospital, Darga, area around Rajendra Prasad house, area surrounding D. Rama Naidu's house, BSNL area; Jubilee Hills Road No. 86, MLA Colony, Huda Heights, area behind house of Rajendra Prasad; area opposite Masjid, area around residence of N. Raghuveera Reddy; Santhoshnagar, SBI Colony, Amba Garden, Gudimalkapur, Kranthinagar, Jeevan Kalyan Nagar, Hill Colony, Vijay Apartments, Sai Apartments, Huda Colony, Sai Gardens, Devarathna Apartments, Vijay Susheela Apartments, Ganesh Residency. Balajinagar, Satyanarayananagar, Crystal Gudimalkapur, Garden, Heeranagar, Sainagar, Pavan Garden, KRKM Garden, Shivbagh, Maheshnagar, Roof

IN BRIEF

#### MILAD-UN-NABI CELEBRATED WITH FERVOUR

ATHER MOIN I DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 10

Milad-un-Nabi, the birth anniversary of Prophet Muhammad, was celebrated across the city with religious zeal and fervour on Sunday. There were processions and rallies in different parts of the city. Hundreds of people participated in the processions holding green flags and raising slogans in praise of the Prophet.

Streets, roads, bazaars, shopping centres and private buildings were beautifully decorated and illuminated with lights, colours, and banners bearing writings about the cel-

ebration of Milad-un-Nabi.
Police had deployed additional forces in communally sensitive areas in the old city in the wake of the verdict delivered by the Supreme Court on the Ayodhya dispute. Personnel of the Rapid Action Force and City Armed Reserve Force were deployed near Mecca Masjid and Charminar.

Several community organisations held blood donation camps in the twin cities. Special dishes prepared at home by individuals and organisations were given free to the poor and fruits were distributed in hospitals. Conferences and special events were arranged to pay homage to the messenger of

Islam.
The biggest congregation was held at Exhibition Ground, Nampally, organised by the All India Taamir-e-Millat. Eminent scholars addressed the gathering.
Renowned Islamic preacher

Renowned Islamic preacher Moulana Kaleem Siddiqui exhorted Muslims to follow the teachings and life of Prophet Muhammad, who overcame crises with peace. He said India is a country for Muslims as much as for other communities, and called upon the community to maintain good relations with fellow countrymen, adding that when Islam started spreading, it spread the message of

Forum for Cultural Upgradation & Social Service (FOCUSS) commemorated the birthday celebrations of the Prophet Muhammad in a big way under the patronage of Maulana Dr Ahsan bin Mohammed al Hamoomi Imam of Royal Mosque, Nampally. It conducted two major blood donation camps, at Central Library, Afzal Gunj, and Eidgah Balamrai, Secunderabad.

# Tough approach averted rioting

#### We were prepared by Dec. 6, '92: Rao

**S.A. ISHAQUI | DC** HYDERABAD, NOV. 10

British envoy Andrew Fleming marks Remembrance Sunday, lays wreath at World War 1 memorial at Chaderghat

As the city received the Supreme Court judgment on the Ayodhya case with calm, memories went back to the tumultuous events after December 6, 1992, when Hyderabad and undivided Andhra Pradesh remained relatively peaceful when compared to some of the other states.

The man of the moment then was former DGP M.V. Bhaskar Rao, Hyderabad police commissioner at that time. Mr Rao shared his memories with *Deccan Chronicle* about how the police effectively handled the situation

dled the situation.

"Our advance preparedness helped us a lot to minimise the damage. Though there were hundreds of deaths in other metros, Hyderabad recorded only two fatalities and that too in police firing."

ing."
Rioting and clashes were quickly quelled. Mr Rao had taken the hot seat when Hyderabad was reeling under communal rioting and hundreds of people had been killed from September 1989 to the middle of

In this tinderbox atmosp-here came the killing of additional superintendent of police, Krishna Prasad, and his gunman by terrorists during a raid on November 29, 1992. Emotions still raw in a smouldering city, the unprecedented demolition of the Babri Masjid on December 6 threatened to trigger a conflagration. police in a sense began preparing just three days prior. "As soon as we received information of kar sevaks reaching Ayodhya in large numAYODHYA ELASHBACK



Our advance preparedness helped us a lot to minimise the damage. Though there were hundreds of deaths in other metros, Hyderabad recorded only two fatalities and that too in police firing. Rioting and clashes were quickly quelled"

— M.V. BHASKAR RAO Former DGP, who was heading AP police in 1992

bers from across the country, we started our precautionary measures from December 3, 1992," Rao recalls.

Police rounded up about 2,800 persons who had a history of communal rioting and each of them were capable of mobilising up to 50 people with just one call. These persons were distributed across 60 police stations in the city. They would ultimately stay in the police stations till normalcy was restored.

Three days later, when news of the demolition began filtering in, Mr Rao recalls being "really under tremendous pressure and tense."

"We anticipated huge violence in the city keep-

ing in view past experience," he said. The day passed off in a sullen quiet.

The next day, at about 9.45 am, he received information over the police radio of a huge mob that had gathered in the Charminar area and was pelting stones. "I ordered firing at '12 o'clock'," he said, referring to police-speak to fire at the chest rather than in the air. Two people were killed and the mob dispersed. "Soon after the firing

we imposed curfew, which continued till December 23," Mr Rao recalls. Police exempted medical shops and gave one-hour relaxations every day from 5 am to 6 am so that people could buy milk and essentials.

"Officers were ordered to issue curfew passes preferable to women so that we could avoid having more men on the roads," he said.

The police force was boosted in the restive south zone of the city which then had a population of more than 17 lakh Muslims. "I remained in my office in the Old City all those days" he said

days," he said.

By the time it all ended, a total of eight persons were killed in police firing and six others were stabbed to death in post-demolition riots. In the rest of erstwhile Andhra Pradesh, the toll was about 15. The death toll across the nation was more than 1,100.

1,100.

He said that after normalcy was restored, parliament appreciated then chief minister Kotla Vijayabhaskar Reddy, for maintaining law and order in Hyderabad given its communal bloodletting just a year earlier



Bishop M. A. Daniel (Hyderabad Resident Bishop), greets members on the annual Thanksgiving day at the Centenary Methodist Church on Sunday.

- P. SURENDRA

#### METHODIST CHURCH MARKS THANKSGIVING

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, NOV. 10

Centenary Methodist Church at Chapel Road c e l e b r a t e d Thanksgiving on the second Sunday of November. The church was decorated with fruits, vegetables and flowers. Thanksgiving is celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November. The tradition was started in the United States by the first pilgrims and puritans who emigrated from England in the 1620s. The first crop that they harvested was offered to God. Bishop M.A. Daniel said the day gives Christians an opportunity to share the joy of the blessings received throughout the year. Church-goers put up on sale foodstuffs and the proceeds will go to

### ORR service road still haunts motorists

MADDY DEEKSHITH I DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 10

After Kokapet, commuters are now complaining about the bad service roads on the Outer Ring Road (ORR), from Nanakramguda to Wipro Lake.

They claim that despite several reminders, the Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority has turned a blind eye to the

Mr M. Saikanth, who works in the software industry and a regular commuter, said that the Nanakramguda ORR service road up to Wipro Lake has become an important one for IT employees and others. Vexed with the attitude of HMDA authorities, he asked municipal administration minister K.T. Rama Rao and principal

THE CYBERABAD
POLICE after conducting a
ground level survey
instructed the HMDA to
instal LED lights from
Kokapet to the Financial
District on priority

■ BAD service roads on the Outer Ring Road (ORR), from Nanakramguda to Wipro lake are giving nightmares to commiuters using the route

secretary Arvind Kumar to see that repairs were carried out on the stretch of road immediately.

Echoing his concern, Mr Ajay Reddy, another commuter who goes past Wipro Lake, said this stretch has become an arterial road especially for two-wheelers who cannot travel on the ORR. Though a complaint was registered with the municipal authority six months ago, the authorities are yet to take note of it.

Mr Reddy said that the

officials were not even responding to the grievances posted on social media. Reacting to these complaints, ORR chief general manager B.L.N. Reddy said

manager B.L.N. Reddy said that HMDA had started work on repairing the roads. He said that impatient commuters are posting videos of bad roads on social media though work is in progress.

Asked whether tenders have been invited for the road work, constructing speed breakers and installing streetlights, Mr Reddy said that the municipal authority that the tenders for Kokapet service

road maintainence will be finalised on November 25 and the work order will be given within a week of that. The Cyberabad police

after conducting a ground level survey instructed the HMDA to instal LED lights from Kokapet to the Financial District on priority. The police specifically asked the municipal authority to instal LED lights at an underpass near Vertex Panache apartments for the safety of

To safeguard the lives of two-wheeler riders, it has asked the HMDA to construct scientific speed breakers to restrict the speed of four wheelers. The Cyberabad police also told the HMDA to install amber flash lighting at Kokapet rotary and near the vehicle

# Amid firing, cop learnt power of persuasion

**DC CORRESPONDENT** HYDERABAD, NOV. 10

In the knife-edge hours and days following the Babri Masjid demolition, when the police were ordered to open fire and baton-charge unruly mobs, an officer who was in the thick of things learnt a rare lesson: A moment of kindess can move mountains.

That is the one memory former DGP, Anurag Sharma, who as deputy commissioner of police of the tense South Zone, that covers the Old City, was battling to keep the peace in the 1990s.

Sharma credited his

Sharma credited his then boss, M.V. Bhaskar Rao, Hyderabad police commissioner in 1992, with allowing him to tackle the situation independently according to the situation without waiting for orders.

"We were in anticipation of largescale violence in the Old City after the demolition of the Babri Masjid in view of the communal riots earlier on," Sharma said.

300 armed police pickets guarded the Old City.
"For the first time, we deployed the Greyhounds, the elite

Greyhounds, the elite force trained to combat Naxalites, to patrol in the narrow bylanes of the South Zone."

Sharma said the police

Sharma said the police had to open fire in the air at many places, and thrashed mobs of both communities at a number of places between December 7 and 22 in South Zone. It was satisfying that the police had succeeded in minimising casualties and damage to public property,

Sharma said.

But the most memorable moment had occurred earlier on. "On the evening of December 7, 1992, we were all tired after



Former DGP Anurag Sharma, who was the deputy commissioner of South Zone during December 6, 1992

I told the ACP it was looking awkward, as if they had isolated themselves from this society. I ordered the team to remove the barricades. Ayub Khan asked me for some time so that he could persuade the locals to remove the barricades themselves. By the next morning, he had succeeded.

— **ANURAG SHARMA** Former DGP

We were patrolling Tappachabutra. As soon as our advance party crossed the area, a huge mob surrounded us and started pelting stones at our vehicles. We started a lathicharge and opened fire in the air. Kesava Reddy and I sustained injuries

— **SUDHEEP LAKHTAKIA**Former DGP, NSG

thrashing mobs and opening fire at many places. When I reached Talabkatta, one of the most communally sensitive places, I noticed that A and B Colonies of Amannagar had been barricaded. I was not in a mood to either the

thrash those who put them up or open fire as I was damn tired," he recalled. Annoyed, he asked

Annoyed, ne asked Ayub Khan, assistant commissioner of the City Armed Reserve, about it. After asking people, Khan reported back that the locals had put them up to protect themselves from mobs.

Sharma recalls, "I told the ACP it was looking awkward, as if they had isolated themselves from this society. I ordered the team to remove the barricades. Ayub Khan asked me for some time so that he could persuade the locals to remove the barricades themselves. By the next morning, he had succeeded."

Sharma added: "This experience taught me a lesson that persuasion is more useful many times than using force."

Another cop who came with a memory, albeit of a different kind, is Sudheep Lakhtakia, former DGP of the National

Security Guard.
Lakhtakia was DCP,
West Zone, injured during the stone-pelting in
Tappachabutra area of
Old City along with
Kesava Reddy, then principal of the Police
Training Centre at
Amberpet while they
were on patrolling.

After the demolition of the Babri Masjid, curfew also clamped in Tappachabutra, Asif Nagar, Humayunnagar, Habibnagar, Kulsumpura, and Mangalhat police stations of the West Zone.

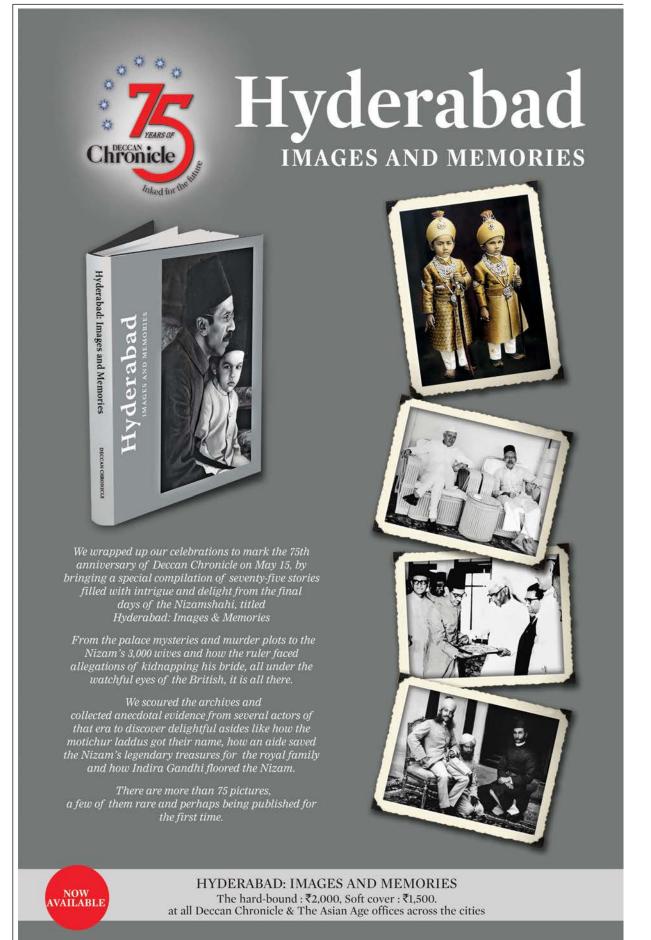
Lakhtakia, recalled, "We were patrolling Tappachabutra. As soon

started pelting stones at our vehicles. We started a lathicharge and opened fire in the air. Kesava Reddy and I sustained injuries."

as our advance party

crossed the area, a huge

mob surrounded us and



DECCAN CHRONICLE



I asked Lord Venkateswara for the happiness, welfare of Telugu states

> — Sathyavathi Rathod **Tribal welfare minister**

#### IN BRIEF

#### **KTR** invited to **India-Oz meet**

Hyderabad: IT and industries minister K.T. Rama Rao has been invited to the fourth annual Australia India Leadership Dialogue (AILD), to be hosted by the Australia India Institute (AII) in Melbourne from December 5-9. According to a press release from the minister's office, the presti-gious Leadership Dialogue is All's annual flagship event and a pre-eminent forum for government and non-government exchanges between influencers and decisionmakers from both nations. Established in 2015, the Dialogue is held in each country in alternate years and covers a range of bi-lateral subjects, including governance, geopolitics, water security, trade, economics and business, education and

#### **Vasavi parents** lead fee fight

**Hyderabad:** The Vasavi **Engineering College Parents'** Association held a get together on Sunday at the Sundarayya Vignana Kendra at Barkatpura here to celebrate Supreme Court's judgment on regulating the fee being collected by the college. Association president
N. Narayana said private engineering colleges can collect fee only as fixed by the Telangana Admission and Fee Regulatory Committee (TAFRC). The private college had hiked the fee, burdening parents of the students. When parents protested, the college got a favourable judgment from the High Court. The parents challenged this judgment in the Supreme Court which, Mr Narayana said, gave a judgment in favour of parents' association instructing that colleges return the fee collected in excess of that fixed by TAFRC. There are 201 private engineering colleges in the state Ms Geetha an advocate, said the gettogether is to enlighten parents of students belonging to other engineering colleges, so that they too could

### **CITY DOC WINS VIJAYAWADA**

fight injustice of colleges

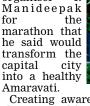
that collected high fee.

DC CORRESPONDENT VIJAYAWADA NOV. 10

Dr Jaganmohan Reddy from Hyderabad won the 21-km half-marathon in 1 hour 26 minutes at in the Vijayawada Marathon 2019, organised by Viiavawada Runners here on

Hundreds of citizens enthusiastically participated in the run. Children, youth, women and veterans from all corners of the city participated in all the categories, including 5K, 10K and 21K. The run was flagged off by Krishna collec-

tor A. Md Imtiaz. Mr Imtiaz appreciated organiser T. organiser



Creating awareness with a slogan 'Health for All' is a good initiative, he said, and added that by organising these events, they would create awareness about the importance of walking, jogging and exercise for good health.

He said that creating health consciousness among people is very important. Eating a balanced diet will keep one fit

and healthy, he added. CID DIG, N.V. Trivikram Varma Vijayawada and Runners chairman T. Mani Deepak spoke. All the participants were given medals and participation certificates.



RTC employees and activists of Left parties burn an effigy of Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao in protest against lathicharge on RTC

## RTC has to immediately pay out ₹2,210 crore, TS tells HC

#### Government tries to turn the screws on stricken corporation

S.A. ISHAQUI I DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 10

The state government has informed the Telangana High Court that the strike-ridden Telangana State Road Corporation, which is grappling with financial issues must address its immediate and long-term

Chief Secretary S.K.
Joshi filed an affidavit
before the High Court stating that in so far as immediate liabilities are concerned, the outstanding payments, including statutory payments, which TSRTC has to pay immediately, amount to ₹2,209 crore.

He explained to the court that out of the ₹2,209 crore, ₹1,521.25 crore is towards employ-ees' salaries. In addition above Habilities, the TSRTC has incurred cumulative losses of ₹5,269.25 crore as on August 31. 2019.

He asked that if the RTC continues to operate in losses like this, how are they going to service their outstanding loans to banks and other organisations? unions are fully aware about it and cannot feign ignorance, the Chief

Secretary added. While terming the RTC workers strike as illegal, the Chief Secretary told the High Court that the attitude of the unions

Subject	Amount (in ₹cr)
<b>Employees Provident Fund</b>	788.30
Credit Cooperative Society	500.95
Leave encashment the years 2014 to 2018	180.00
Retired employees settlements	52.00
Motor Vehicle Tax for the	
years 2017-18 and 2018-19	452.36
HSD oil bills payment at regions	34.45
HO/Region/Zone payments/Others	36.40
Hire charges for private buses	25.00
Payment for fabrication of bus bodies	0.60
Payment to chassis suppliers and bus builders	74.60
Loan repayments for Oct 2019	7 4.00
and Nov 2019	65.00
Total outstanding payments	2209.66

and contemptuous acts maintaining peace and could be gauged from the fact that when it was well known that the Supreme Court will announce the Ayodhya verdict November 9, and the country would be on high alert, the Joint Action Committee aggravated the situation by holding an agitation.

He asked that when the High Court has kept the hearing of the PIL on November 11, which was just four days from the last hearing, what was the hurry for the JAC to continue their programme of Chalo Tank Bund, when it is known that Hyderabad is a sensitive place and the police will be engaged in harmony in the city? He submitted that the

RTC workers went ahead ogramme of Chalo Tank Bund, putting extreme strain on law and order machinery and playing with the security of people. He said that the unions,

knowing that RTC was in such a grave financial situation and that the strike would further deteriorate the financial health of the corporation, went ahead with the illegal strike against public interest, thinking that by deliberately causing inconvenience to the common man, the government will succumb to their pressures.

## JAC, Cong sadak bandh on Nov. 18

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, NOV. 10

The Joint Action Committee of various staff unions of the TSRTC and the Congress Core Committee on Sunday called for a 'sadak bandh' on November 18 as a part of their ongoing strike.

Congress leaders Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, K. Jana Reddy, V. Hanumantha Rao, Ponnam Prabhakar, Sampath Kumar, Vamshichand Reddy, Vinod Reddy and Kusum Kumar participated in the meeting of Joint Action Committee, which met to hold discussions on intensification of

their strike.
After the meeting, Mr Bhatti told reporters that it has been decided to hold dharnas opposite the houses of ministers and ruling party MLAs on Monday. RTC JAC convener E. Ashwathama Reddy and other leaders will hold hunger strikes in front of RTC depots across the state on Tuesday.

The Congress Legislature Party leader condemned the house

ANGERED BY the arrest of party leaders ahead of the Million March on Saturday, Congress and RTC JAC decide to crank up the ongoing corporation employees' strike

**CLP LEADER** Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka said Congress activists would hold dharnas at the houses of ministers and TRS legislators throughout the state today

arrest of opposition party leaders to prevent them from attending the Million March. He said the Congress has consti tuted a committee with AICC secretary Sampath and Mr Vamshichand Reddy to look into the attacks on women during the Million March and register complaints with National Human Rights Commission and

# Why is Advani not punished: Owaisi

DC CORRESPONDENT

A day after a highly publicised critique of the Ayodhya judgment, MIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi asked why BJP leader L.K. Advani and others were being not punished if the demolition of the Babri Masjid was illegal as per the

Supreme Court.

Addressing a public meeting on Saturday night, Mr
Owaisi said, "If Babri
Masjid was legal then why
was it (land) handed over to was it (land) handed over to those who demolished it? If it was illegal then why is the case going on? If it is legal then give it to me."

He said he was not satisfied with this judgment.
"Babri Masjid is my legal right. I am fighting for the masjid and not the land,"

Mr Owaisi said, according to PTI.

On Sunday, Mr Owaisi continued his criticism of the judgment with his posts on Twitter. "...what does a Muslim see today? That there stood a mosque, for so many years, which has been demolished. Now the court is allowing a building to come up on that site, on an alleged finding that the land belonged to Ram Lalla."

We are being insulted by giving (alternate) land. Don't treat us like beggars... We are respectable citizens of India. The fight is for legal right," Mr Owaisi said

in another post.
"... we asked for justice, not charity. If your house is demolished and you go to an arbitrator, whether the house should be given to you or not. Should it be given to the demolisher," he asked while reiterating that he was not satisfied with the

Claiming that even today BJP and RSS have a list of several mosques which they want to "transform," Mr Owaisi said they (Muslims) should fight for the Masjid. He also questioned the Samajwadi Party, Bahujan

#### **LAXMAN: OWAISI UNABLE TO DIGEST CELEBRATIONS**

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, NOV. 10

BJP state president Dr K. Laxman on Sunday slammed Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (MIM) president Asaduddin Owaisi for stating that the Muslims do not require government land as charity for the con-struction of a masjid in Ayodhya city.

He also indirectly criticised the Telangana Rashtra Samiti for not responding to the Supreme Court's verdict on the Babri Masjid land dispute.

Speaking to reporters, he pointed out that the Owaisi brothers take government land for their own hospitals and colleges but they want to refuse land for the Babri

Masjid in Ayodhya. He said that Mr Owaisi does not know the world as he is confined to Darussalam and doesn't respect the courts.

Dr Laxman called the Supreme Court's verdict on the Babri Masjid a "historical judgment", and said that November 9, 2019 will be 'written in golden words in history'

He said Mr Owaisi was unable to digest the fact that "the entire country, irrespective of religion has welcomed the Supreme Court's verdict".

Samaj Party, Nationalist Congress Party on their "silence" over the apex court judgment.

Asserting that he would inform the coming genera-tions of the Babri Masjid demolition, Mr Owaisi urged youngsters of the community to take part in politics and support his

#### विशेष शाखा पुलिस मुख्यालय मध्यप्रदेश भोपाल

क्रमांक — विशा / स्टोर / 2019—25 (353),

#### निविदा सूचना का शुद्धि पत्र (Corrigendum

विशेष शाखा पुलिस मुख्यालय की निविदा सूचना क्रमांक SB/Store/2019-25 (328) Bhopal, Dated 10-10-2019 द्वारा Server & other 03 items के क्रय हेतु ई-निविद सूचना जारी की गई थी। निविदा के माध्यम से क्रय किये जाने वाले आयटम्स वे तकनीकी मापदण्डों में तथा निविदा समय सारणी में "आंशिक संशोधन" (Corrigendum) किया गया है जो website https://mptenders.gov.in/nicgep/app पर तथा विभाग की वेबसाईट www.mppolice.gov.in पर उपलब्ध है।

विशेष शाखा(जी), म.प्र. भोपाल दूरभाष क्रं.-0755-2443654 Email: sec24-sb@mppolice.gov.in

विशेष शाखा पुलिस मुख्यालय मध्यप्रदेश भोपाल

क्रमांक – विशा / स्टोर / 2019–25 (355).

निविदा सूचना का शुद्धि पत्र (Corrigendum)

विशेष शाखा पुलिस मुख्यालय की निविदा सूचना क्रमांक SB/Store/2019-25 (332) Bhopal, Dated 14-10-2019 द्वारा Professional LED Display & other 06 items के क्र हेतु ई–निविदा सूचना जारी की गई थी। निविदा के माध्यम से क्रय किये जाने वाले

आयटम्स के तकनीकी मापदण्डों में तथा निविदा समय सारणी में ''**आंशिक संशोधन**' (Corrigendum) किया गया है जो website https://mptenders.gov.in/nicgep/app पर , तथा विभाग की वेबसाईट www.mppolice.gov.in पर उपलब्ध है। सहायक पलिस महानिरीक्षक,

विशेष शाखा(जी), म.प्र. भोपाल दूरभाष क्रं.-0755-2443654 Email: sec24-sb@mppolice.gov.in

POLICE HEADQUARTER, M.P., BHOPAL No. SB PHQ/SEC-24/Store/ /2019 Bhopal, 345

Dated: - 05/11/19

// III-E-TENDER NOTICE //

SPECIAL BRANCH

E-tender are invited on behalf of DGP (MP) by Assistant Inspector General of Police (G) Police Head Quarter, Bhopal for the Financial Year 2019-20 for rate contract for purchase of following, Items on website https://mptenders.gov.in/nicgep/app:-

S.No.	Name of Item	Qty.	<b>Tender Fees</b>	EMD Rs.
		Approx-imate	Paid Online mptenders	
1	Photo Copy Paper, A-4 Size	5000 Packet		
2	Photo Copy Paper, A-3 Size	200 Packet		
3	File Pad	6000 Nos		12000/-
4	Top Secrat File Pad	2000 Nos		
5	L-Shape Floder (Transparent)	5000 Nos	1000/-	
6	L-Shape Floder (Coloured)	2000 Nos	1000/-	
7	Box File	1500 Nos		
8	Ring Binder File (Medium)	1500 Nos		
9	Ring Binder File (Student/Small)	1000 Nos		
10	Ring Binder File (Big)	1000 Nos		

1. Cost of tender document (Tender Fee) is non refundable and cannot be exempted in any condition & must submit online through website https://mptenders.gov.in/nicgep/app.

2. Tender document can be download from the website of MP Police (www.mppolice.gov.in)

3. Bids shall be submitted online only at MP Tenders website: https://mptenders.gov.in/nicgep/app

Tender Schedule:			
No.	Tender Activity	Date & Time	
1	Last date of purchase e-Tender document	26/11/2019 up to 1700 hrs.	
2	Last date of online e-Tender submission	26/11/2019 up to 1700 hrs.	
3	Bid will be opened on	27/11/2019 up to 1700 hrs.	
4	Demonstration from (नमनों का मिलान )	30/11/2019 at 1200 hrs.	

A.I.G. (G) SB For: Director General of Police, M.P. Bhopal

#### TS' low GST ceiling hits traders The difference in tax amounts won't be much ADITYA CHUNDURU I DC Other small business owners that Deccan Chronicle

HYDERABAD, NOV 10

Mr Satyanarayana owns a shop selling hardware supplies and minor power tools in Chikkadpally. His turn-over is between ₹20 lakh and ₹25 lakh. His margins are thin; his gross profit is generally less than ₹8 lakh. But he has to pay huge amount every month to an accountant to file his GST returns.

The stories of several small owners Telangana are largely the same. And their troubles are partly because of the state government.

It may be recalled that in January 2019, the GST Council meeting decided to raise the GST exemption limit for goods traders from ₹20 lakh to ₹40 lakh in big states (non special category states). However, two states

Telangana state and Kerala — decided to maintain status quo. This implies that any business with a gross turnover of more than ₹20 lakh has to register in the GST network. Businesses in other states are spared the hassle of paperwork as long as their turnover is below

Registering in the GST network can indeed be quite a hassle. The complexity of

if the exemption limit is increased. The limit would have been changed in Telangana as well if the state government and Centre got along. **PAWAN BANSAL,** president, Garments

Manufacturers and Wholesalers Association

nessmen to hire accountants who can charge upwards of ₹3,000 a month just to file the returns. Internal audits and other services cost much more. For many small businesses, these numbers can be overwhelming.

Mr Alok Agarwal, a chartered accountant specialising in indirect taxation, said the current GST regime was indeed taking a toll on small businesses. "Under the earlier VAT (value-added tax) system, the returns form was a one-page affair. The exemption limit was only ₹5 lakh but businessmen could file the returns on their own. Today, GST returns are so complex that businesses need accountants like me,"

Accountants seem to be having a field day thanks to the complicated nature of GST. "Earlier, many accountants would specialise in income tax or other direct taxes and not deal with indirect taxes at all. Today, they

GST laws forces the busi- have started offering a new line of service because there is such a high demand for it," said Mr Agarwal There is one other piece in

this puzzle that makes it more confusing. The exemption limit of ₹20 lakh is valid only in intra-state trade in goods. When goods are being traded between two states, the business owner has no choice but to register under the GST even if his/her turnover is just ₹1 lakh. This can be quite expensive for many businesses that are starting out or expanding their operations.

Harshitha, who owns a small fashion boutique in Ameerpet, started her business in 2017. She has struggled to navigate complicated Though declined to reveal her turnover, she said, "I don't really understand GST. I have had to hire an accountant for documentation. It is quite expensive and makes for a considerable chunk of my income.

spoke to had the same views. Why the Telangana state government has not changed the exemption limit is any-one's guess. Mr Pawan Bansal, the owner of a garments business and the pres-Manufacturers and Wholesalers Association (TS), felt it was because the TRS government and the

BJP-led Central government weren't getting along. "It is the cost of paperwork that is a hassle. The difference in tax amounts won't be much if the exemption limit is increased. The limit would

have been changed in

Telangana as well if the gov-

ernments got along," he said. Mr Agarwal said the reason is hard to know. "Perhaps the state government wants to wait and see how the change in exemption limit affects tax collection in other states. It could take a decision in the future. Another reason could be the Telangana government's desire to increase the tax-base. In any case, if all other states have changed the limit, there is no reason why these two states (Kerala and Telangana) should not. Having different limits defeats the purpose of a uniform tax code," he said.









G-19041/19







All we need is a clean place. We don't need a masjid for that. We must build schools, hospitals and colleges on the five-acre land, said veteran screenwriter Salim Khan

DECCAN CHRONICLE



**Nation** 



On November 26 we will decide whether to take 5-acre land as directed by the SC

> — Zufar Faroogui **UP Sunni Central Waqf Board**

SHORT TAKES

#### **NC CONDEMNS CURBS AT HAZRATBAL**

Srinagar, Nov. 10: The Conference National Sunday condemned the Jammu and Kashmir administration for disallowing religious gatherings at the holy Hazratbal shrine on the occasion of Milad-un-Nabi, saying such a measure tantamounts to violation of people's religious free-

Authorities sealed all roads leading to the Hazratbal shrine here which houses the holy relic of the Prophet as a precautionary measure to maintain law and order in view of the Supreme Court ruling in the Avodhva case and Milad-

un-Nabi.
While taking exception to the curb on holy shrine, the party said never in history have such festive and auspicious occasions turned violent.

'There was no reason for the government to disallow the annual gathering at various shrines. Earlier, the authorities did not allow the devotees to offer prayers on the occasion of 'Khwaja Dighar' as well. Such acts are deplorable and we denounce these measures in unequivocal terms," it said.

— PTI

#### **COP DIES HIT BY STUDENT CAR RACER**

DC BUREAU CHENNAI, NOV. 10

A 45-vear-old head constable died on the spot when his twowheeler was rammed by a speeding car driven by an engineering student at GST road near Tambaram in the early

hours of Sunday.
The deceased has been identified as Ramesh, a resident of aksnmipuram, New colony Chromepet. He was attached to the Selaiyur police station and was returning home from duty in his two-wheeler at 12.30 am when the accident happened. Coming out of a private petrol bunk near Kadaperi after filling fuel, his bike was hit by a speeding car from behind and he was thrown off his bike. He succumbed on the spot to grievous injuries.

On information, Chromepet traffic investigation police immediately rushed to the spot and sent his body to Chromepet government hospital for post-

It was found that the student had been racing against another car. Ramesh is survived by his wife Sumathi and three

#### **ASSAM ORDERS PROBE INTO MID-DAY MEALS**

MANOJ ANAND I DC

Bogged down by growing complaint of poor quality food, Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal has directed principal secretary of food, civil supplies and consumer affairs department Biswaranjan Samal to conduct an inquiry into allegations of the mid-day meals being of poor quality and submit a

report within one month. Restoring the old practices of preparing and distribution of mid-day meal among children, Mr Sonowal has placed the new system of handing over responsibility to NGOs user suspen-

The implementation of midday meal scheme in Assam has been in the thick of a major controversy after state education department decided to engage NGOs to prepare and midday meals to

Mid-day meal workers, involved in schools across had vehemently opposed the move and strong launched protests.

## In Faizabad, no festival at mosque

Main mosque of twin towns does not take out Milad-un-Nabi procession protesting SC verdict

#### **AYODHYA GROUND ZERO**

VIKRAM SHARMA I DC

tion prevailed among the Muslim community in the twin towns of Ayodhya and Faizabad following the Supreme Court verdict on Ayodhya title suit, the Jama Masjid Tatshah mosque in Faizabad — the main mosque in the twin towns — chose not to take out the Bara Rabiul Awwal procession, traditionally taken out on Milad-un-Nabi celebra-tions, as a mark of protest.

The district administration, however, claimed that they had assured the mosque committee of providing complete security

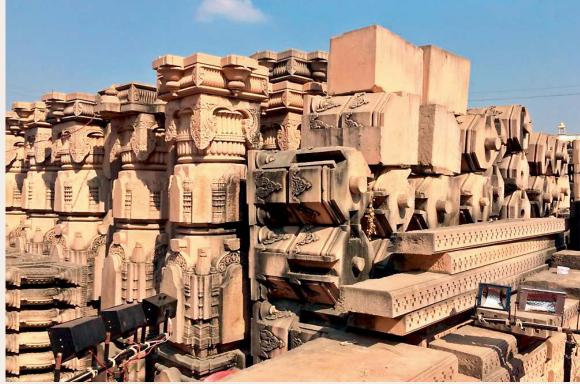
for the procession.

According to officials, about 200 small and big processions are taken out every year across the district to commemorate the birth anniversary Prophet Muhammed.

Though in the rural areas, small processions were taken out, the Tatshah mosque and a few other mosques chose not to. Among those who confirmed the cancellation of processions in Ayodhya was prominent Muslim cleric Shamsul Qamar Qadri. He said: "The main reason was to maintain peace and secondly it was to express our sorrow at the Supreme Court judgment. We celebrated the occasion inside

Within the city, he said that about 50 processions used to be taken out every year but this time around, celebrations took place inside the mosque.

When contacted, Ayodhya SSP Ashish Tiwari said: "The administration had not banned any celebrations. Across district, which includes rural areas, close to 200 processions have been taken out today." He said that though they had assured complete security to the Tatshah mosque for the procession, they said they would not take out a procession and chose to celebrate it within the



Slabs and pillars are ready at the Ram Janmabhoomi Nyas (Trust) workshop in Karsevakpuram, Ayodhya.

■ With November 9 and 10 passing off with no violence or even protest reported anywhere, the district administration is chalking out strategies to tackle the massive rush for the Karthik Purnima mela on November 11 and 12.

Several lakhs of people will gather in Ayodhya from different parts of the state and country to take a dip in the Saryu River on the auspicious occasion.

Devotees who have already started arriving are likely to stay back in the temple town for a few days, which will be yet another challenge for the district administration which has had back-to-back events over the last one week.

■ It started with Chaudah-Koshi parikrama on November 5, which was followed by Panch-Koshi parikrama. As the administration was gearing up to ensure a smooth Milad un Nabi, came the Ayodhya title suit verdict on

## Speculation on who scripted the verdict

PARMOD KUMAR | DC NEW DELHI, NOV. 10

The day after Ayodhya judgment was pro-nounced, the legal circles are agog with the speculation 'who is the author' of the 1.045-page unanimous Ayodhya judgment by the five-judge Constitution Bench which gave the disputed site for the construction of Lord Rama's temple and rejected the Sunni Central Waqf Board's claim to the title of the 2.77 acres of the disputed

Of the 2.77 acres — the core area is 1,500 sq. yard. The question that is making round is who among the five judges — Chief Justice Ranjan

Gogoi, Chief Justice designate Justice S.A. Bobde, Justice D.Y. Chandrachud, Justice Ashok Bhushan and Justice S. Abdul Nazeer is the author of the judgment that was pro-nounced by the CJI Gogoi on Saturday.

Coupled with this, a game of guess is making round as to which judge is the author of 116-page addendum at the end of the judgment. None in the legal frater-

nity could recall a similar instance where an important judgment — though none could be as important as one on Ayodhya being pronounced without disclosing the name of the judge who authored it.

writing the judgment by the five judges, each one of them have authored a large number of judgments, it is being ventured that the format of Ayodhya judgment could be traced to Justice Chandrchud.

It is being pointed out that the style of Ayodhya judgment starting with Index having the table of contents could be traced to Chandrachud's style of writing judgment.

One can see this style of judgment starting with a table of contents in Chandrachud's Justice judgment holding privacy a fundamental right pronounced on August 24, judge who authored it. 2017, judgment decrimi-Analysing the style of nalising homosexuality pronounced on September 6, 2018, Aadhaar judgment pronounced on September 26, 2018 and others. At times former Chief

Justice Dipak Misra too used this format of writing judgments starting with table of contents. The identity of the judge

who wrote the 116-page addendum too could be traced from the font that has been used while writ-

From this font one can trace to some of the divergent or concurring views expressed by the said judge in earlier judgments. It appears that he is not one of the first three judges that had pro-nounced the Ayodhya iudgment.

## Silence of the pillars, slabs is deafening

VIKRAM SHARMA I DC AYODHYA NOV. 10

The OB vans — at least 10 of them — have just about managed to squeeze themselves into the premises and are parked alongside heaps of stone slabs and carved pillars — which lie in dust, waiting to be put together to become the "bhavya" (grand) mandir

for Ram Lalla.

Tense-looking anchors and their crews are sweating it out under the hot sun; many of them have to put on their make-up again and again to look their best on screen. Like them, their cameras work non-stop to bring to you "dangal" and a host of interviews, promise to be nothing less than "explo-sive". The high octane mandir-masjid debates and uncomfortable questions - some of which run the risk of igniting passions — fill the air as members of both Hindu and Muslim communities slug it out as anchors do their best to pit one against the other. The stone slabs and pillars for Ram Lalla are mute witnesses. This is the scene at the Ram Janmabhoomi Nyas (trust) workshop in Karsevakpuram, the place where work on pillars and slabs for the proposed grand Ram temple has been going on since years, except for a brief closure

Supreme Court judgment. A "tense" atmosphere prevails throughout the day and well into late evening due to the frenzied media activity. The rest of Ayodhya and Faizabad appear calm and peaceful. While the heightened security across Faizabad and Ayodhya can make one jittery, a visit to the Hanuman Garhi, Kanak Bhawan and Ram mandir presents a picture of normality.

in the wake of the

Shops and business are running as usual and a steady stream of visitors to the temples makes so the everything look normal. meal.

Ayodhya, one has to pro-vide identity proof at five checkpoints.

All this just 24 hours after the historic verdict on the Ayodhya title suit which paves the way for construction of a temple on the spot where the Babri masjid once stood.

The Muslim dominated localities appeared calm, though a sense of dejection was evident as people went about their daily routine. The mood was som-The administration had banned all processions, which brought to a halt the Milad-un-Nabi celebrations. Back at the Karsevakpuram, was a huge deployment of cops as all roads, though barricaded, led to the

workshop.

Many passers-by dropped in to take selfies with some of the well-known TV anchors, especially of the Hindi channels; others came in just to see what all the fuss was about and spent hours enjoying the "live shows."

"Media guys have no other work but to make people fight through their shows for the sake of TRPs," one of the onlookers remarked to his friend.

Not surprisingly, all those from the BJP or VHP spoke about "Vikas" (development) and how Ayodhya will be developed in the time to come, now that the way to the Ram temple had been cleared. Some spoke of an airport to come up in Ayodhya while others spoke about more funds coming in to develop the infrastruc-ture. Ironically, while the mandir and debates went on endlessly. so did the talk of how development would benefit the place with funds running into several crores of rupees, just out-side the venue, several people seeking alms had gathered, one of whom, could be seen pleading to donate at least one rupee so that he could have his

## Bulbul claims 10 in West Bengal

RAJIB CHOWDHURI | DC KOLKATA, NOV. 10

Cyclone Bulbul has claimed at least 10 lives and affected as many as 2.73 lakh people in West Bengal after killing two people in Odisha on Saturday night. This has prompted Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee to postpone her tour to North Bengal. On Monday, she would go on an aerial survey of the worst-affected parts of Sundarban delta in South 24 Parganas followed up by a visit to another district North 24 Parganas to take stock of the damage.

West Bengal Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar mourned the loss of lives. He also praised Ms Banerjee, her govern-ment and Central agencies for their efforts to tackle the cyclone. Five out of the ten deaths were reported in North 24 Parganas. One each happened in South 24 Parganas and East Midnapore. Most of the deaths were due to either uprooting of trees or house collapse. On Sunday, Ms Banerjee tweeted, "Due to the severe cyclonic storm Bulbul, I have decided to postpone my North Bengal visit in the com-North ing week. Instead, I would undertake an aerial sur-

around Namkhana and Bakkhali tomorrow.' She added, "Later, I would take a meeting at Kakdwip with the administration to review relief and rehabilitation measures of the cyclone-affected people. I am also planning to visit the areas of Basirhat of North 24-Parganas on 13 November, 2019." State

vey of the affected areas

#### **CYCLONE CLAIMS 2** LIVES IN ODISHA. **DESTROYS CROPS**

AKSHAYA KUMAR SAHOO | DC BHUBANESWAR, NOV. 10

Two people died in Odisha as Cyclone Bulbul passed through the coastal parts of the state Saturday night, wreaking havoc and causing damage to thousands of houses, uprooting trees and affecting hundreds of phone towers, reports said on Sunday. Two deaths were report-

ed from Odisha's Kendrapara district — Odisha's one while drowning and the other in a wall collapse case. A total of 5,500 houses

got damaged and 870 trees uprooted after the landfall of the cyclone in West Bengal. Odisha's four districts

were severely affected due to the impact of the cyclone.

As many as three lakh hectares of paddy crop were damaged.

disaster management minister Javed Ahmed informed that Khan around 2.73 lakh people were affected while 2,473 houses were totally destroyed in nine dis-

tricts. Out of the 2.73 lakh, 1.78 lakh people were accomcamps and 373 temporary kitchens were to prepare food for the affected people. Around 46,000 tarpaulins were distributed even as 15,000 civic volunteers have been pressed into relief operations.

## Will wait and watch: NCP

**SONU SHRIVASTAVA | DC** MUMBAI, NOV. 10

In order to get support for formation of the next government in Maharashtra, Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) on Sunday said that the Shiv Sena would have to break away from the BJP-led NDÅ before thinking of support from NCP.

NCP spokesperson Nawab Malik said that the Sena should decide and make an announcement that they are breaking ties. "Unless it leaves the NDA, we will wait and watch the developments. The Sena needs to ask its minister to resign from the Union government. Besides this, we have not received any proposal from the Sena," said Mr

**BJP ANNOUNCES FIRST LIST OF 52 FOR JHARKHAND POLLS** AGE CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI, NOV. 10 The Bharatiya Janata Party announced on Sunday its first list of 52

candidates for Jharkhand Assembly polls. Chief minister Raghubar Das will contest from Jamshedpur (East), while the BJP's state unit president

further added. He "Before extending support, the Sena-led government should decide on the core areas of work and functioning

Lakshman Gilua has been fielded Chakradharpur.

BJP working president J.P. Nadda on Sunday said, "The Raghubar Das government has been successful in changing face of politics in the state. The state which was once famous for corruption is now known for stable governance.

Maharashtra)." The NCP said that it would also take Congress in confidence

The NCP will be organising a meeting of newlyelected legislators on Tuesday to discuss the

issues. A final call verdict would be given after the meeting on whether the NCP would extend support to Sena or not, the NCP leader added. Meanwhile, Congress

Mallikarjun Kharge on Sunday met the party's newly elected MLAs from Maharashtra, who are staying at a resort in Jaipur, to discuss the political situation in the state while NCP chief Sharad Pawar met some of his party leaders in Mumbai.

Mr Kharge also met the MLAs informally to ascertain their views on what stand the party should take over government formation in Maharashtra. It is being said that he will then convey the sentiments of the legislators.

#### **KARNATAKA ALL SET FOR DEC 5 ASSEMBLY POLLS**

DC CORRESPONDENT BENGALURU, NOV 10

Ahead of the model code

of conduct coming into effect from Monday in the 15 Assembly constituencies stituencies where bypolls are scheduled, Chief Electoral Officer Sanjiv Kumar said the preparations were afoot for the smooth conduct elections

December 5.
The MCC comes into force from November 11. According to the new schedule, the date for filing of nominations starts from Monday and the last date is November 18. The date of scrutiny of nominations is November 19 and the last date for the withdrawal is Nov. 21.

#### END OF AN ERA Former CEC is widely credited for ushering in electoral reforms

## Seshan, who took on politicians, dead

DC CORRESPONDENT CHENNAI, NOV. 10

Former Chief Election Commissioner Seshan, the man behind India's electoral reforms, is no more.

He passed away on Sunday at 9.30 pm at a home in Chennai. He was

Tirunellai Narayana Iyer Seshan was appoint-ed CEC on December 12, 1990. He is widely credited for ushering in electoral reforms which altered the face of Indian elections. Implementing the Model Code of Conduct, laying down a list of do's and don'ts for leaders and political parties ahead of elections, was among his

numerous reforms. He was also credited for ending malpractices and bringing transparency to the electoral process.

Former CEC S.Y. Quraishi, successor of Seshan, took to Twitter to condole his death. "Sad to announce that Shri TN Seshan passed away a short while ago. He was a true legend and a guiding force for all his succes sors. I pray for peace to his soul," he tweeted.

Seshan suffered a cardiac arrest, his family

Born in Palakkad dis-trict of Kerala, the 1955 batch IAS officer served as the 10th CEC of India between 1990 and 1996. He the Ramon



Magsaysay Award for government service in 1996. In 1994, as Election Commissioner, he had asked the then Prime Minister to remove two of his sitting Cabinet ministers — then welfare minister Sitaram Kesari and food minister Kalpnath

Rai — stating that they were involved in influencing the voters and violating the model code of conduct that was in place ahead of the elections. In 1997, Seshan had unsuccessfully contested the Presidential election against K.R. Narayanan. "Saddened to know about the demise of T.N.

Seshan, a stalwart for free and fair elections. His legendary contribution to democracy will be always remembered. My condolences to his family and many admirers," West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said.

Union minister Nitin Gadkari called Seshan a true legend. "Saddened by the demise of Shri TN

Shanti!" he tweeted. Congress MP Shashi Tharoor said Mr Seshan was a pillar of India's "Sad that former Chief

Seshan. He was a true leg-

end. His contribution towards election reforms

will be the guiding light

for years to come. My

deepest condolences. Om

Election Commissioner TN Seshan has passed away in Chennai. He was my father's classmate at Victoria Palakkad. A courageous and crusty boss who asserted the Election Commission's autonomy and authority as no CEC before him had done. A pillar of our democracy,' he tweeted.

invalidating the previous poll

DECCAN CHRONICLE





IAEA inspectors must be allowed to conduct their critical work unimpeded -Mike Pompeo **US secretary of state** 

IN BRIEF

#### 'Bulbul' kills six in Bangladesh

Dhaka: Cyclone 'Bulbul' lashed Bangladesh overnight, killing six people and leaving relatives in a desperate search for 36 missing fishermen, though prompt evacuations saved many lives and the worst was over, officials said on Sunday. Some 30 people were injured and around 6,000 homes were partially or fully damaged. Five of the six victims were killed by falling trees, including a 52year old woman who had spent the night in a shelter. She was killed when a tree crashed on her house. Another victim, a 60-year old fisherman, had refused to evacuate.

#### **Beatles lensman**

#### Freeman no more

London: Photographer Robert Freeman, who helped define the image of The Beatles with some of the band's best-known album covers, has died aged 82. A statement on The Beatles' official website announced Freeman's death, but didn't give a cause. Born in 1936, Freeman began his career as a photojournalist for London's Sunday Times and captured portraits of leading jazz musicians before working with The Beatles. He shot the black-and-white cover for the 1963 album 'With The

#### **Spain: First case** of dengue by sex

Beatles', picturing the Fab

Four's faces in part-shadow.

It became a defining image of the group and was used for the 1964 US album 'Meet

Madrid: Spanish health authorities confirmed a case of a man spreading dengue through sex, a world first for a virus which until recently was thought to be transmitted only by mosquitoes. The case concerns a 41-year-old man from Madrid who contracted dengue after having sex with his male partner who picked up the virus from a mosquito bite during a trip to Cuba, said Susana Jimenez of the Madrid region's public health department. His dengue infection was confirmed in September and it puzzled doctors because he had not travelled to a country where the disease, which causes severe flu-like symptoms such as high fever and body

#### EINHORN, **MUSK IN WAR OF WORDS**

aches, is common.

New York, Nov. 10: Tesla Inc chief executive officer Elon Musk and noted short-seller David Einhorn mocked each other in open letters published on Twitter, trading barbs clothed in polite language.

Einhorn on October 30 had told his investors at Greenlight Capital that his fund had lost money on Tesla. Greenlight bet against the electric carmaker, and shares

rose in the second quarter. Still, he told investors that Tesla 'appears to continue to spin positive PR ahead of the safety and fair treatment of its

customers'. Musk, who has a history of being playful on Twitter, began an exchange by posting an open letter on Twitter addressing Einhorn as 'Dear

Mr. Unicorn (fabulous name btw)'. Einhorn means unicorn in German. Musk further added that Einhorn made numerous 'false allegations' against

Tesla and offered 'sympathies' for a drop in assets under

management. Meanwhile, Tesla upended expectations by posting a third-quarter profit. The electric vehicle maker did it by cranking up deliveries and cutting costs.

# **Spouses of H-1B** holders can work

#### Indian women benefit from Obama-era rule

Washington, Nov. 10: In a temporary relief to thousands of Indians liv-ing in America, a US court has refused to strike down, for the time being, an Obama-era rule that allowed spouses of H-1B visa holders to work in America

The H-1B visa is a nonimmigrant visa that allows the US companies to employ foreign workers

in specialty occupations. A 2015 rule issued by former US president Barack Obama allowed work permits for certain categories of H-4 visa holders, primarily spouses of those having H-1B work visas waiting for their Green Card, to work in the US.

Indians, in particular women, were the greatest beneficiary of this rule, which has been challenged by several US workers with the current Trump administration supporting their cause, saying that it wants to rescind the rule.

A three-judge bench of the US courts of appeals for the district of Columbia circuit sent the case back to a lower court noting that it is "best to remand" to give the district court an opportunity to thoroughly assess and

**PAK TO ALLOW** 

TRAVEL ABROAD

Islamabad, Nov. 10:

Pakistan will allow ail-

ing former prime minis-

ter Nawaz Sharif to travel abroad for urgent

medical treatment, the

country's foreign minis-

Sharif, Pakistan's lon-

gest-serving premier, was ousted from his third term in office in

2017 and later jailed on corruption charges.

His health deteriorated

while in prison and he

suffered a minor heart

attack last month, his

party said, while his doc-

tor claimed on Twitter

that the ex-leader was

Sharif was bailed for health reasons and

remains at a nospital in

the eastern city of

Lahore, but a travel ban

prevented him from

leaving the country. Foreign minister Shah

Mehmood Qureshi said

that 'legal obstacles' to

Sharif's departure were

being removed as doc-

tors had said that med-

ical treatment abroad

was needed to save his

life. "The government

has given importance to

the doctors' opinion," Qur-eshi said in Multan,

days after Sharif's rela-

Pakistan's interior min-

istry for the travel ban to

be lifted.

Nawaz Sharif

petitioned

-AFP

'fighting for his life'.

ter said on Sunday.

**SHARIF TO** 



**A 2015 RULE** issued by former US president Barack Obama allowed work permits for certain categories of H-4 visa holders, primarily spouses of those having H-1B work visas waiting for their **Green Card** 

finally determine the merits in the first instance.

"Accordingly, we reverse the district court's grant of summary judgment and remand for further proceedings consistent with this opinion," the federal court said in its order on the lawsuit filed by Saves Jobs USA, which comprises American workers who claim that they

have been laid off due to the policy of the Obama administration to provide work permits to H-4 visa

By making H4 visa holders eligible for lawful employment, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), which over-sees immigration, sought to 'ameliorate certain disincentives that currently lead H1B non-immigrants to abandon efforts to remain in the US while seeking (lawful permanent resident) status, thereby, minimising dis-ruptions to US businesses employing such workers', the court said. It noted that the govern-

ment has explained that H1B non-immigrants and their families often face long delays in the process of obtaining permanent residence, and H4 visa holders' inability to work during these delays leads to 'personal and economic hardships' that worsen over time, 'increasing the disincentives for H1B nonimmigrants to pursue lawful permanent resident status, increasing the difficulties that US employers have in retaining highly educated and highly skilled

## 53bn barrels oil field found: Prez

has discovered a new oil field in the country's south with over 50 billion barrels of crude, its president Hassan Rouhani said on Sunday, a find that could boost the country's proven reserves by a third as it struggles to sell energy abroad over US sanc-

announcement as Iran faces crushing American sanctions after the US pulled out of its nuclear deal with world powers last

Rouhani made the announcement in a speech in the desert city of Yazd. He said the field was located in Iran's Khuzestan southern province, home to its cru-

cial oil industry. Some 53 billion barrels would be added to Iran's proven reserves of roughly 150 billion, he said.

"I am telling the White House that in the days when you sanctioned the sale of Iranian oil and pressured our nation, the country's dear workers and engineers were able to discover 53 billion barrels of oil in a big field,'

Rouhani said. Oil reserves refer to crude that's economically feasible to extract. Figures can vary wildly by country due to differing standards, though it remains a yardstick of comparison among oil-

producing nations. Iran currently has the world's fourth-largest proven deposits of crude oil and the world's second-largest deposits of natural gas. It shares a massive offshore field in the Persian Gulf with

The new oil field could



In the days US In the days a sanctioned the sale of Iranian oil and pressured our nation, the country's dear workers and engineers were able

HASSAN ROUHANI,

become Iran's second-largest field after one containing 65 billion barrels in Ahvaz. The field is 2,400 square kilometres with the deposit some 260

feet deep, Rouhani said. Since the US withdrew from the 2015 nuclear deal, the other countries involved — Germany, France, Britain, Russia and China — have been struggling to save it. However, they've offered no means by which Iran can sell its oil abroad. Iran since has gone beyond the deal's stockpile and enrichment limits, as well as started using advanced centrifuges barred by the deal. It also just began injecting uranium gas into centrifuges at an



to discover 53 billion barrels of oil in a big field

Iran President

underground facility.



A molotov cocktail is thrown by protesters in a residential area after a rally in the Tseung Kwan O district of

subway station and storm mall

Hong Kong protesters vandalise

the enactment of such legislation is an urgent task. The call — likely to fur-

ther inflame protesters angry with a police response seen as heavy-handed — came in a lengthy statement issued by the head of the Chinese government department

outside shouted Cock-

In Tsuen Wan in the

**ELECTION CAMPAIGN** 

west, police fired tear gas

roaches! at police.

ese central government tables in a restaurant. Spectators on the street

and took away four men and one woman suspected of vandalising shops. Inside the Festival Walk shopping mall in Kowloon Tong, a man was seen

factors such as high hous-

ing costs and a growing wealth gap had con-

But Zhang also backed a firmer hand, saying laws

outlawing subversion and

other challenges to Chin-

tributed to the unrest.

lying on a public walkway beside a small pool of blood with police standing over him. Thereason for possible injuries were

security laws in 2003

caused major protests

The lack of such legisla-

tion 'is one of the main

reasons for the intensifi-

cation of activities of

local radical separatist

before being shelved.

forces', he said.

## UK candidates asked to avoid Kashmir reference

London, Nov. 10: The Kashmir issue, against the backdrop of the Indian government's revocation of Jammu and Kashmir's special status, has found its way into the general election campaign in the UK, with candidates warning against bringing the divisions of the subcontinent into play ahead

east after protesters broke

windows and damaged a

were seen arresting three

men at a residential com-

plex elsewhere in Sha Tin

but the reason wasn't

In Tuen Mun, about

three dozen people dressed in black stormed

through the Citywalk

shopping mall. Most were

peaceful but one used a

club to smash windows

while others overturned

ticket machine. Police

of the December 12 poll. Social media messages and chat groups are being used by some Indian dias pora outfits to try and influence voters, with the Opposition Labour Party facing the brunt of the attacks for its perceived 'anti-India' stance since it passed a resolution favouring international inter-

vention in Kashmir. "I don't think we are made better off as a country by continuing the divisions of our homelands. instead we should focus on Britain. Kashmir is a matter for the people of Kashmir and all conflicts must be resolved within the law and Constitution of India," said Virendra party as being 'anti-

#### **UK CONSERVATIVES GAIN OVER LABOUR, FINDS POLL**

London, Nov. 10: Prime Johnson's Conservative Party has gained versus the opposition Labour Party over the past month, a poll published by the *Independent* showed on Sunday.
The opinion poll put

the Conservatives on 37%, up from 31% a Sharma, a veteran Indian-

origin Labour MP. Sharma hopes to win again from his Ealing Southall constituency fro-

m west London – a seat he has held for the party since 2007.

"This election is about making a decision about the kind of Britain we want to live in," he said. Some of the anti-Labour messages doing the rounds on WhatsApp and Twi-tter include attacks on the month earlier, while the opposition Labour Party saw their support rise to 29% from 26%. Support for the third-placed Liberal Democrats dropped to 16% from 20%.
Polling company BMG

surveyed 1,504 British adults between Nov. 5 and Nov. 8.

Hindu' for not condemning protests organised by pro-Pakistani groups in London.

A video in circulation protesters during the so-called 'Free Kashmir'

depicts a controversial right-wing British journalist being heckled by rally on Diwali, in an attempt to accuse Labour of blindly supporting 'Pak propaganda' over India's abrogation of Article 370 to convert J&K into union

### **UKRAINE DEAL: OFFICIALS SMELT A RAT IN JULY**

Washington, Nov. 10: Two White House national security officials sounded alarms about improper pressure on Ukraine in early July, well before Presi-Donald Trump's bombshell phone call with Ukraine leader Volodymyr Zelensky, according to impeachment testimony released on

Fiona Hill and Alexander Vindman told House investigators that on July 10, they reported concerns to House attorney John Eisenberg over top Trump allies pressuring Kiev for political help for the US leader. That was two weeks before Trump

Zelensky. Hill said she did so at the instruction of then national security advisor John Bolton, who was adamantly opposed to the efforts to seek dirt from Ukraine on Trump's Democratic rivals.

She and Vindman both said acting White House chief of staff Mick Mulvaney and Trumpappointed ambassador to the European Union Gordon Sondland were behind the pressure on Ukraine to investigate Democratic presidential

contender Joe Biden. They said Sondland specifically pushed Ukrainian officials in July 10 meetings for a Bidenfocused investigation in exchange for a high-profile meeting between Trump and Zelensky. Bolton was furious over the effort and halted the initial meeting that day,

## SURVIVING | BLAZE | World's best wine-growing regions escaped massive flames unscathed Despite fires, California wine tastes fine

you're worried that wildfires might have created shortages of Northern California's 2019 cabernet sauvignon, or even just imparted it with an undesirable smoky flavour, you can relax. The wine is just

fine. For now. Despite a late October blaze that raged through one of the world's bestknown wine-growing regions. forcing evacuations in two mid-sized towns, wine production in Sonoma County escaped largely unscathed.

Limerick Lane Wines, for instance, avoided serious damage despite flames that licked at two sides of

its property in the Russian River Valley just south of Healdsburg. Limerick's grapes were already harvested, crushed and stored in tanks and barrels. The winery's sealed cellar prevented smoke damage to its inventory, said owner Jake Bilbro, although its tasting room now has an acrid smell.

"I have to thank the people who planted our vineyards and built our house 100 years ago," Bilbro said. "Our buildings are all surrounded by vineyards, and vineyards are excellent fire breaks.'

Overall, vintners estimate that the region lost only about five percent of



THE VINTAGES, after the 2017 wildfire, were rumoured to be have smoky taste and wine making were not taking any chances this year

its harvest to fire and smoke — not a perfect outcome, but better than in 2017, when wildfire struck

harvest in. The remaining that year's vintages were rumoured to have a 'smoky' taste, and wine-makers were taking no chances this year. Many in Sonoma, a

sprawling county larger than Rhode Island located about an hour north of San Francisco, say they're hoping that fires don't become the new normal. But with the smell of smoke lingering in the air and the charred hills serving as a reminder, they're also making plans in case

Fire season isn't over yet, of course, and the now

largely contained Kincade fire did incinerate the historic Soda Rock Winery, although most vineyards sustained no damage and lost no production. But the region has suffered a precipitous drop in fall which could undermine the economic

health of its wineries and hospitality industry alike. Bret Munselle lost about half of the young vines he had planted just two months before when a fire raged through the upper part of his ranch at Munselle Vineyards in Alexander Valley, between Healdsburg and Gey-serville. The drainage bel-

"My family has lived on this property for 130 years," Munselle said. Climate change is making summers warmer and dry ing out more forest brush, creating greater fuel reservoirs for wildfire, said Noah Diffenbaugh, a professor of earth system science at Stanford. The lateautumn rains that typically end fire season have ow the plants was also started later.

damaged, and will proba-

bly cost \$1,50,000 to repair.

worse if mature vineyards

were more appealing to fire. Water-rich vines and

grapes planted in plowed

rows don't offer them

much fuel, he said.

It could have been much

Hill said.