


DECCAN Chronicle

THE LARGEST CIRCULATED ENGLISH DAILY IN SOUTH INDIA

HYDERABAD | WEDNESDAY | 13 NOVEMBER 2019

WEATHER



Max: 30.8°C
Min: 20.2°C
RH: 34%
Rainfall: Nil

Forecast: Cloudy sky, with haze. Max/Min temp. 31/20°C

ASTROGUIDE

Vikari: Dakshinayanam
Tithi: Karthika Bahula Padyami till 7.38 pm
Star: Kritika till 9.57 pm
Variyam: 9.22 am to 11.03 am
Durmuhurtam: 11.38 am to 12.22 pm
Rahukalam: 12 noon to 1.30 pm

HIJRI CALENDAR

Rabbi-ul-Awwal 15,1441 AH

PRAVERS

Fajar: 5.17 am
Zohar: 12.10 pm
Asar: 4.05 pm
Maghrib: 5.46 pm
Isha: 6.56 pm

SUNSET TODAY 5.41 PM
SUNRISE TOMORROW 6.20 AM
MOONRISE TOMORROW 6.28 PM
MOONSET TODAY 6.41 AM

Singer Lata still critical

Mumbai: Veteran singer Lata Mangeskar, who was rushed to the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) of privately-run Breach Candy hospital Monday, is still "critical" but her health is "slowly improving", hospital sources said. Ms Mangeskar was rushed to the ICU in the wee hours of Monday after she complained of breathing difficulties. According to hospital sources, "Her condition has significantly improved. She is still recuperating in the hospital."

Report on Page 6

COUNTER POINT



No time. I got an invitation from Governor to form the government within half an hour!

ED lens on EC Lavasa's son

New Delhi: Election Commissioner Ashok Lavasa's son Abir and a firm linked to him have come on the radar of the Enforcement Directorate (ED) for alleged violations of forex regulations, officials said on Tuesday. They said the agency has filed a case under the Foreign Exchange Management Act (Fema) to probe Abir Lavasa and about ₹7.25 crore funds raised early, this year by a firm — Nourish Organic Foods Pvt Ltd — linked to him.

Report on Page 7

Verdict on CJI under RTI today

New Delhi: The Supreme Court is likely to pronounce on Wednesday its verdict on a plea opposing Central Information Commission's (CIC) 2009 order directing the top court's central public information officer (CPIO) to disclose information on the appointment of judges to the top court sought under the Right to Information Act.

Report on Page 7

INSIDE

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The world is like a leaky boat

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TS, AP dither on conferred IPS



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After break, captain Kohli up for Tests

TABLOID
Berry not the only one to sport a six-pack



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Maha goes under Prez rule

Governor tells Kovind no party had the numbers to form govt

DC CORRESPONDENTS
NEW DELHI/MUMBAI, NOV. 12

Maharashtra was on Tuesday placed under President's rule amid a stalemate over government formation. President Ram Nath Kovind signed the proclamation imposing President's rule in the state following governor Bhagat Singh Koshiyari's report and recommendation.

The Governor, in his report submitted to the Centre at noon, said that none of the three parties he had invited to form the government since Saturday — the BJP, Shiv Sena and the NCP — could produce enough numbers to stake claim to power even 20 days after the October 24 state election results and that he was not in a position to give more time, officials said.

Mr Koshiyari noted that the NCP had, on Tuesday morning, conveyed to him that the party needed three more days to gather requisite support. The NCP spoke with the governor at 11 am, hours before its 8.30 pm deadline, asking for more time. "He is satisfied that the government cannot be carried on in accordance with the Constitution, (and therefore) has today submitted a report as contemplated by provision of Article 356 of the Constitution," the governor's office tweeted.

The governor's report was examined by the Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and it decided to recommend a proclamation under Article 356 (1), thereby imposing President's rule in Maharashtra and keeping the Assembly in suspended animation.

Opposition parties criticised the move, accusing the governor of doing the BJP's bidding without exhausting all his constitutional options.

Page 6: Cong, NCP seek more clarity



Ahmed Patel of the Congress and NCP president Sharad Pawar speak to the media in Mumbai on Tuesday. — RAJESH JADHAV

Pawar delayed support to Sena

SREEPARNA CHAKRABARTY AND BHAGWAN PARAB | DC
NEW DELHI/MUMBAI, NOV. 12

Contrary to perceptions, it was NCP president Sharad Pawar and not the Congress top brass which took a decision on Monday evening to withhold the crucial letters of support to the Shiv Sena for government formation in Maharashtra, Congress sources claimed.

Top Congress sources said Mr Pawar was insisting on a 50:50 power-sharing agreement with the Shiv Sena. This means both the Shiv Sena and the NCP getting the CM's chair for two and a half years each. The NCP also wanted that it should get the first shot to be chief minister. Some of the other conditions include a well thrashed out common minimum programme and equal share for all three parties — NCP, Sena,



Congress president Sonia Gandhi with DPCC leaders in New Delhi on Tuesday. — PTI

Congress — in ministries.

The sources said when Congress president Sonia Gandhi was almost convinced by Monday evening, after a series of meetings since the morning, of not only the need to support the Sena but also participate in any government, she got up and made a call to Mr Pawar to decide on the next move.

However, Mr Pawar is learnt to have told her: "Nothing has happened yet". A "shocked" Mrs Gandhi then asked her party leaders from Maharashtra what they were talking about when the NCP was not yet fully on board.

Page 6: Ajit Pawar blames Cong for delay

SENA MOVES SC AGAINST GOV FOR DENYING TIME

New Delhi/Mumbai: The Shiv Sena on Tuesday petitioned the Supreme Court challenging Maharashtra governor Bhagat Singh Koshiyari's "unconstitutional, arbitrary, illegal" decision not to grant it three days' time to produce letters from the NCP and the Congress in support of its claim to form the government even though he had given its erstwhile alliance partner, the BJP, two days to prove its numbers.

Senior lawyers engaged with the Shiv Sena matter are working on a petition to challenge the imposition of President's rule in Maharashtra and the conduct of the governor.

Full report on Page 6

SBI lowers GDP growth forecast

MADHUSUDAN SAHOO | DC
NEW DELHI, NOV. 12

In yet another blow to the Indian economy after Moody's downward outlook, two reports — compiled by the state-owned State Bank of India (SBI) and Singapore's DBS Bank — on Tuesday expressed concern about the slowdown in growth in the Indian economy.

Showing a declining trend, the SBI research report sharply cut the country's gross domestic product (GDP) growth forecast to 5 per cent for the financial year (FY) 2019-20, from its earlier projection of 6 per cent, while DBS Bank said that India's July-September quarter GDP numbers could be crucial.

Terming the decline in September industrial output (IIP) growth by 4.3 per cent as 'quite alarming', the report from the Economic Research Department of the SBI said, "we expect Q2GDP growth at 4.2 per cent. Our acceleration rate for 33

leading indicators at 85 per cent in October 2018 is down to just 17 per cent in September 2019, with such a decline gaining traction from March 2019."

"On account of low automobile sales, flattening of core sector growth, declining investment in construction as well as infrastructure and deceleration in air traffic movements, the second quarter GDP growth rate is likely to slip down to 4.2 per cent," the SBI report forecasted.

The report further said, "we believe that Moody's change in outlook from stable to negative will not have any significant impact as rating actions are always a lagged indicator and markets this time have categorically given a thumbs down to it."

However, it added, the growth rate in 2019-20 should be looked through the prism of synchronised global slowdown.

Page 12: Economic Uncertainty Index low

HC sets up panel to end RTC stir

VUJJINI VAMSHIDHARA | DC
HYDERABAD, NOV. 12

After a fairly long period of time without any concrete step towards a redressal to the ongoing RTC strike, as a last resort, the Telangana High Court on Tuesday came to a decision to constitute a high powered committee, comprising three retired judges of the Supreme Court to conduct arbitral proceedings.

The court sought the response of the Telangana state government by Wednesday afternoon to its proposal to constitute the committee. However,

the division bench comprising Chief Justice Raghavendra Singh Chauhan and Justice A. Abhishek Reddy made it clear to the government that it would "direct the state to participate in arbitration proceedings rather than requesting it."

Chief Justice Chauhan said, "This time, this court will not request the government to hold talks with trade unions, as we have been doing so far. Rather, we will direct the government to appear before the committee."

Page 5: Proceedings are not fruitful : A-G

Fearing CM's ire, CPP put on hold

MADDY DEEKSHITH | DC
HYDERABAD, NOV. 12

Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) officials said that the fear of Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao's wrath has forced the Charminar Pedestrianisation Project (CPP) into cold storage. The Errum Manzil controversy is the culprit. Top officials are discouraging any issue pertaining to heritage structures, which has meant that the Heritage Conservation Committee, which is supposed to meet fortnightly, has not met in six months.

The decade-old CPP is a joint venture between the GHMC and the Hyderabad Road Development Corporation Limited (HRDCL), which was created as a special purpose vehicle to fund infrastructure projects. Though the state government handed over to HRDCL the construction of the two-level Salarpur pedestrian bridge (estimated cost: ₹208.50 crore) to shift hawkers from the iconic Charminar, the façade development (estimated cost: ₹30 crore; later reduced to ₹10 crore) and the construction of two parking complexes near the old pension office at Khilwat (₹10 crore) as well as the Shalibanda bus stop (₹10 crore),

● The decade-old CPP is a joint venture between the GHMC and the Hyderabad Road Development Corporation Limited.

HRDCL faced a severe fund crunch. GHMC has to take care of the special lighting and beautification works (estimated cost: ₹5 crore) around the Charminar.

Interestingly, neither the civic body nor the state government has allocated funds for the project which could boost the chances of the iconic structure getting world heritage status.

When the HRDCL and the GHMC contacted the government about taking up the project with the CM, they were told he was in no mood to discuss heritage site projects, because of the outcry over construction of a new Assembly at the 17-acre Errum Manzil site. "To take the project forward, an independent body with fund allocation from either the civic body or state government has to be constituted," an official said. "No bureaucrat wanted to bring it to the CM."

Leaders upset with KCR's reforms

S.N.C.N. ACHARYULU | DC
HYDERABAD, NOV. 12

Some TRS leaders are worried that the reforms being undertaken by Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao could affect the party in the coming elections.

Telugu Desam leaders who joined the TRS are recalling the experience of then Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu who brought in many reforms between 1995 and 2004.

His massive defeat in 2004 is blamed on the reforms that he undertook

during his second term.

Though Mr Naidu embarked on reforms in 1995, he speeded up the process after he was reelected in 1999.

At this time, power charges were hiked, the price of subsidy rice was increased and user charges were introduced in hospitals and government offices. These measures financially burdened the people.

Now, Mr Chandrasekhar Rao has set out to reform the panchayat raj and municipal administration and revenue departments

● Mr Chandrasekhar Rao has set out to reform the panchayat raj and municipal administration and revenue departments apart from privatising the RTC.

apart from privatising the RTC.

A senior leader who is close to Mr Rao said "Naidu's reforms affected

the people directly but KCR's reforms are people's friendly. They may affect some employees but KCR's reforms will give quality service to the people."

A TRS leader said Mr Rao gauges the mood of the people well. Usually, the people are vexed with government employees due to corruption and delay in service. Mr Rao appears to be capitalising on that feeling.

He said the TRS' victory in the Huzurnagar Assembly byelection was an example. "It was widely

expected that the TRS would lose because of the RTC employees strike but our candidate won with a record majority," he said.

Despite this, some senior TRS were apprehensive. One of them said, "KCR is taking bold decisions on reforms. I don't know where his confidence and courage are coming from. Naidu had also undertaken reforms and everyone knows the results." He was afraid that the TRS would be affected if large sections of government employees turned against it

HEROES OF TELANGANA Pydimarri Venkata Subba Rao penned India's oath

An oath taken, the patriot forgotten

ADITYA CHUNDURU | DC
HYDERABAD, NOV. 12

Every morning for decades since our Independence, across lakhs of schools in India, salute the Indian national flag, while singing the national anthem, *Jana gana mana*... and then collectively take the national pledge with a sonorous vibrant tone — "India is my country. All Indians are my brothers and sisters... I love my country and am proud of its..."

Most of the over 1.3 billion Indians know that Nobel laureate, Gurudev



Pydimarri Venkata Subba Rao with a friend from Pakistan (left) and at a kavi sammelan organised by Lalitha Kala Parishad at Nalgonda Townhall on April 3, 1981.

Rabindranath Tagore wrote the national anthem. If not too many Indians, several Telugu people know the national flag was

designed by freedom fighter, Telugu bidda, Pingali Venkayya.

Few, very few, can name who gave us Indians our

national oath. The forgotten patriot, great son of India, hero of Telangana was Nalgonda-born, Pydimarri Venkata Subba

Rao. The oath was conceived during testing times. The year was 1962. The country was at war with a hostile China, which had attacked, betraying India's trust.

PV Subba Rao, a native of Nalgonda district, was working for the erstwhile AP government in treasury department in Visakhapatnam. As a response to the national mood of gloom and apprehensions, Mr Rao wanted to do something that could unite the youth.

Page 2: First read out in school in 1963



High-level inquiry

Union MoS, home, G. Kishan Reddy says high-level inquiry will be ordered into the train collision at Kacheguda station



Flyovers are not playgrounds, do not stop on them for mindless activities

— S.M. Vijay Kumar
DCP Traffic

BRIEF

BIZ PARTNERS
FILE CASE ON
EACH OTHER

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, NOV. 12

A quarrel between business partners Hameed Uz Zama Khan and Naresh Solanki has turned bitter with each of them filing police complaints against the other.

On November 5, *Deccan Chronicle* reported that a case (Crime No. 217 of 2019 of Central Crime Station, Hyderabad) was registered against Solanki by Khan for alleged cheating.

On September 21, Solanki had alleged that Khan had stolen the cheques in his possession and forged his signatures and presented them for encashment.

A police complaint was filed (Crime No. 480 of 2019) at the Panjagutta police station. Investigation is in progress, he said.

A petition has also been filed in the High Court with regard to the case against Solanki and interim relief has been granted.

Solanki says he has been falsely implicated with the sole motive to tarnish his image before the ensuing elections to the Nizam Club where he is a contestant.

KIDNAPPED
INFANT GIRL
RESCUED

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, NOV. 12

The Kacheguda police arrested a couple within a day after they kidnapped a one-and-a-half-year-old baby girl with the intention of selling her. The baby was handed over to her mother.

A Kacheguda police official identified the accused as K. Avinash, 34, and his wife Sandhya, 34, residents of Chaderghat.

A police official said that at about 1 pm on Monday, M. Krishnaveni, 26, a resident of Rajendranagar, brought her baby daughter Maheshwari to Chaderghat for begging. She went to sleep at night on the pavement near the Yellamma temple.

When Krishnaveni woke at around 3 am, her daughter was missing. She rushed to the police and lodged a complaint.

A police team immediately verified footage of the CCTV cameras in the vicinity and spotted the couple kidnapping the baby.

Following up on evidence, the couple was nabbed by Tuesday noon.

SCR mishandling delayed trains

Change of timings, endless wait at stations test patience of passengers; some trains run 20 hrs late

ADITYA CHUNDURU | DC
HYDERABAD, NOV. 12

Mismanagement by the South Central Railway after the collision of the Lingampalli-Falaknuma MMTS train with the Hundry Express on Monday morning could have been the reason for massive delays across the rail network.

One of the worst affected trains was the Kongu Express that operates between Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu) and Hazrat Nizamuddin (Delhi). The train was behind the Hundry Express when the accident occurred on Monday. It was sent back to Dhone in Kurnool district, and diverted via Raichur on to its original route to Kazipet.

The train was scheduled to reach Kazipet at 1.18 pm on Monday but reached there at 9:11 am on Tuesday, delayed by nearly 20 hours.

Addition to SCR mismanagement story

The SCR on Tuesday said the Kacheguda-Repalle train would originate from Secunderabad instead of from Kacheguda. However, in the afternoon, when it became clear that long-distance services would be resumed, the SCR tweeted that the train would originate from Kacheguda but with a three-hour delay (at 12.10 am). However, the messages in a short span of time put many passengers in a dilemma.

Another train that was delayed by a long time was the Yeswantpur-Kacheguda Express. The train was scheduled to arrive at Kacheguda at 5 am on Tuesday but reached only at 2.10 pm, delayed by over nine hours.

Sasidhar Uppuluri, a member of a Rail Users Association based in Guntur, said the SCR could have managed the situation better. In the case of the Kongu Express, he suggested that the train could have been diverted onto its original route via Gadwal and Raichur.

“Since the train was backtracked all the way to Dhone, it travelled an extra 298 km over the regular distance. Had the train been taken through Gadwal-Raichur, it would have travelled only 57 km more,” he said.

Mr Uppuluri admitted that there were some complications with this idea. “Drivers are not permitted to operate trains on particular routes without prior experience. However, since many trains were cancelled due to the collision, the authorities could have identified the pilots who could operate on the Gadwal-Raichur route. It was a simple matter of logistics,” he said.

Due to the apparent lack of coordination between various railway divisions, commuters in other parts of the region too were affected. For instance, the train from Repalle to



Officials and workers of the SCR carry out repair works on the tracks that got damaged during the collision of an MMTS and Express trains on Monday near Kacheguda railway station. — P.SURENDRA



One of the passengers of MMTS train who was injured in the train collision underwent treatment on Tuesday.

Secunderabad was delayed by over two hours. The train had come to Repalle after a journey in the opposite direction.

It would have been logical to assume that since this journey was delayed, the reverse journey too would be delayed. But the SCR reportedly did not announce this and said it would be business as usual from Repalle.

Many commuters use the train to go to Guntur, but since it was delayed, they had to make other arrangements.

“There seems to be some communication gap between various zones and regions within SCR. Someone in the operations department should ensure that all stakeholders are on the same page. Some of the delays that happened on Monday and Tuesday were clearly avoidable,” Mr Uppuluri said.

Another explanation for this mismanagement could have been that the authorities were caught up in rescue operations to save the trapped loco-pilot at Kacheguda station, he

added. “We cannot say it was negligence by SCR authorities. But they definitely could have handled it better. At some places it was prudent to tell the passengers to get down and find other means of transport. For instance, a train coming into Hyderabad being stopped at Shadnagar for several hours makes no sense. The passengers could have been asked to use a bus instead of being made to sit for two or three hours in a train,” Mr Uppuluri pointed out.

Loco pilot critical, many still in hosp

ATHER MOIN | DC
HYDERABAD, NOV. 12

Loco pilot B. Chandra Shekar’s condition is acutely critical. He was injured in Monday’s train collision at Kacheguda railway station. The doctors at Care Hospital, Nampally, said he was under observation.

Dr Sushma Rani, hospital medical superintendent, Mr Shekar, 35, came with crush injuries and polytrauma. He received fractures in the ribs with haemorrhagic shock and acute tubular necrosis. He suffered with ischaemia in both the lower limbs due to sudden lack of blood flow. He also sustained neuro-vascular bundle injury.

Dr Rani said that, on arrival, Mr Shekar’s condition was critical with one episode of cardiac arrest in the ambulance, but he revived with CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation). He was intubated on arrival and admitted in the critical care department. Now he is on ventilator support with continuous renal replacement therapy (CRRT) and a vascular surgeon was involved in healing his lower limb neuro-vascular injury and will plan a surgical based on the progress of the ischaemia. His condition remains critical.

Dr Rani clarified Mr Shekar’s kidneys were not

functioning due to internal bleeding and his blood pressure was very low. In such cases, instead of opting for dialysis, doctors prefer CRRT. A team of experienced doctors is monitoring his condition. Dr Rani said Mr Shekar is recognising faces and responding. Blood circulation in both his legs is very low due to multiple injuries.

His paternal uncle, Abraham Lincoln, said Mr Shekar is the only son of his parents. He has two sons, the younger of whom is two months old. His father, Mr Joseph, is a retired station master.

The condition of other patients is stable. Mr Satyam Dheeraj, hospital chief operating officer, said, “We have received a total of seven patients, of which six have been admitted. Baby Sushmita, a five-year-old girl child, came with soft tissue injuries and was discharged after treatment in OPD.”

He said Mr Saajid Abdur Rasheed Shaik, 45, brought in with pan-facial fractures and mid-face edema, is undergoing treatment with the maxillo-facial surgery department. Mr. P. Shekar, 36, came with a fractured right thigh bone, shattered knee cap and shin bone) and underwent surgery by a team of orthopaedic surgeons. He is recovering in the post-operative unit.

PILOT SHEKAR
BOOKED FOR
RASH DRIVING

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, NOV. 12

The Government Railway Police (GRP) of Kacheguda has registered a case against the loco pilot of the Lingampalli-Falaknuma MMTS train which collided with the Hundry Intercity Express at Kacheguda railway station on Monday.

Sixteen persons were injured in the accident.

Loco pilot D. Chandra Shekar, a resident of Kacheguda, was booked for attempt to culpable homicide, rash and negligent driving and endangering the lives of passengers, based on a complaint from GRP superintendent Dashara-th. Secunderabad GRP deputy superintendent S. Rajendra Prasad said, “Following a complaint from the railway officials, a case was registered against the loco pilot.”

On Monday, after the MMTS train crashed into the Hundry Express coming to Secunderabad from Kurnool, train traffic was disrupted for 20 hours.

Mr Shekar himself was stuck inside the engine cabin for over eight hours before he was rescued by the National Disaster Response Force and GHMC Disaster Response Force.

TRAINS TOLD TO
SLOW DOWN AT
KACHEGUDA

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, NOV. 12

Officials of the South Central Railway announced at around 2 pm Tuesday that long-distance trains passing through Kacheguda had been resumed.

SCR public relations officer Pradeep Kumar, said, “Long-distance services are running as scheduled, albeit with speed restrictions near Kacheguda railway station.”

He said electric lines on the stretch, which are used by MMTS trains, were being inspected and were expected to be cleared by the end of the day.

Later, in the day, at around 6 pm, the SCR announced that MMTS services along the stretch had been restored partially. They were expected to be restored fully by the end of the day.

■ SCR public relations officer Pradeep Kumar, said, “Long distance services are running as scheduled, albeit with speed restrictions near Kacheguda station.”

NATIONAL | PRIDE

Descendants of Venkata Subba Rao recited pledge in school, unaware it was their ancestor who wrote it

Pledge was first read out at a school in Visakhapatnam in 1963

FROM PAGE 1

This is when he dreamt of a ‘pratigya’, which was originally written in Telugu and subsequently translated into most Indian languages, became known as the ‘National Pledge’.

The pledge was first read out, according to available historical records, at a school in Visakhapatnam in 1963. The pledge was later introduced in many schools that year. Over the years, each day, crores of school-children have continued to recite Mr Rao’s words in their morning assemblies. But almost no one knows who wrote those words, or Mr Rao’s story.

Venkata Subba Rao was born on June 10, 1916, in Annaparthi, a village around 10-km away from Nalgonda town. His family relocated to Nalgonda two years later, after Rao’s father passed away. His descendants continue to live there even today.

An enthusiastic writer through his childhood, he thrived in the multicultural

state of Hyderabad. He was educated in an Urdu-medium school, where he soaked in Urdu, Telugu and English literature. In his early twenties, he found a job in the Hyderabad treasury department. The position was a temporary one, without much pay. After a year, he was made a permanent employee. By the time he had retired in 1971, Mr Rao had worked in the treasury departments of Nizam’s Hyderabad, Hyderabad state and Andhra Pradesh, serving in places ranging from Bidar to Visakhapatnam to Nalgonda.

It was in Visakhapatnam, while working as district treasury officer, when he first conceived of the pledge. He was close to nationalist leader Teneti Vishwanatham, who saw the pledge and forwarded it to PVG Raju, who was then serving as education minister of AP. Sensing the pledge’s potential to unite children from varied socioeconomic backgrounds, he directed all schools in the



A file photo of Pydimarri Subba Rao with his family members.

district to make it a part of their morning prayers. In a few years, other state governments took note.

Ram Pradeep, a Vijayawada-based teacher, who has been on a mission to promote Subba Rao’s legacy, said, “In 1964, a delegation of AP education ministry went to Bangalore on an official visit. Education

ministers from all states came to attend it. MC Chagla, who was then the Union education minister, was shown the pledge. He got it translated into all (then 18) official languages in the country and directed all states to make it a part of their daily schedule.”

Mr Pradeep became Rao’s biographer. The bio, cur-

rently available in small print-run numbers in English, Telugu and Hindi, is titled, ‘The Forgotten Patriot’.

Interestingly, Mr Subba Rao was personally unaware of any of these developments. He did not know that something he had written was being recited across the country.

P.V. Subramanyam, his son, speaking to *Deccan Chronicle*, said, “Even my siblings did not know about it. Even when my siblings and I read out the pledge, while we were at school, did not know who wrote it. It was a shock when we found out, much later, as adults with children of our own, that our father had made such a significant national contribution.”

The significance of this extraordinary contribution, hit the family in a moment of epiphany. In 1987, a year before he passed away, when Subba Rao was helping his granddaughter with homework, he found out about a widely popular national pledge.

“My niece (sister’s daughter) was home when my father saw the pledge written in her book. Beaming with joy and pride, he revealed that he was its author. My niece was so excited that the next day, she told everyone at the school about her grandfather,” he said.

Mr Subramanyam said

that his father entirely disconnected from developments in the education department. His siblings (two older sisters and a younger brother) and he are understandably upset by how little even people of the two Telugu states know about his father.

“People know Jhanda Venkaiah (Pingali Venkaiah, who designed tricolour), but they don’t know my father. We hope both Telangana and AP governments give him his due and mark his birth and death anniversaries. We hope Telangana goes a step further and builds a memorial for him,” he said.

Surprisingly, Subba Rao’s champions today seem to be people from Andhra Pradesh. Ram Pradeep (Vijayawada), Pilla Tirupati Rao (Srikakulam) and several others have written about Mr Rao in various Telugu publications. But his memory and contribution have not found much mention by Telangana writers. Ram Pradeep explains, “One of the first articles be

written about Pydimarri Venkata Subba Rao was in an Andhra-based Telugu newspaper in early 2010s. Failing to mention his birthplace, the article highlighted his association with Visakhapatnam. AP journalists took notice but those from Telangana didn’t see value.”

“During the Telangana movement, there was an upsurge in Telangana literature. The region’s icons were lionised, but he was ignored. There was great potential in his story, someone who had written something the whole country celebrates,” he said.

Rao’s son agreed with this assessment. “After 2014 (state formation), we met the then education minister Jagadish Reddy to tell him about my father. He responded well. Afterwards, my father’s picture and a brief life story was printed on the inside cover of a fifth class textbook. But it seems the government thinks that is enough. There should be more effort to celebrate him,” he said.



Plastic goes

GHMC zonal chief Musharraf Ali Faruqui says vendors are being told not to use plastics, coconut sellers in Langer Houz are an example

City

PAGE
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DECCAN CHRONICLE

WEDNESDAY | 13 NOVEMBER 2019 | HYDERABAD



10-day Recyclothon has been completed, 234.95 metric tonnes of waste collected

— Lokesh Kumar
GHMC commissioner

POWER | SHUTDOWN

10 am to 1 pm: Hakeempet, All Hasnath Colony, Yousuf Takedi, Miraj Colony, military area, Mandar Restaurant area; BSNL Office, Meraj Colony, IAS Colony, Chota Janakinagar, Bakthavarguda, Janakinagar, Paramount Colony, MCH Colony.
2 pm to 5 pm: Sabja Colony, Ko-E- Sar Colony, Reliance Mart, Brundavan Colony; OU Colony, Hussain Shawali Dargah.

IN BRIEF

ROADBLOCK HITS CHARMINAR FACELIFT PLAN

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, NOV. 12

Beautification of the iconic Charminar has encountered a roadblock with the electricity department not undergrounding its lines in the area despite being paid ₹35 lakh. As a result, severe inconvenience is being caused to the public as also tourists who throng to see the historic monument.

A Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) official said as part of the Charminar Pedestrianisation Project and beautification of the monument, it had asked the electricity department to shift the power lines underground. Even ducting works had been completed for the purpose.

Once electric cables are shifted underground, power would be supplied to commercial establishments and residences surrounding Charminar through the underground cables. This would provide an uninterrupted view of Charminar, which is also being refurbished.

Additionally, GHMC had decided to set up special LED lighting at Charminar in a manner that it is beautifully showcased during nights and even be visible from Falaknuma Palace, all to attract tourists.

When the electricity department asked the corporation to pay ₹35 lakh for underground ducting work, the civic body issued it a cheque of ₹35 lakh in August.

But the works to take the cables underground has not yet been taken up.

■ **GHMC OFFICIAL** said as part of the Charminar Pedestrianisation Project and beautification of the monument, it had asked the electricity department to shift the power lines underground. Underground ducting work for the power cables have been built.

World like leaky boat: Oz expert

All will sink, says Tim Flannery

ADITYA CHUNDURU | DC
HYDERABAD, NOV. 12

Australian environmentalist Tim Flannery believes the world is like a leaky boat because of climate change, doomed to sink unless all countries work together to save it.

Mr Flannery was in Hyderabad on Tuesday to deliver a talk on climate change organised by the Australian Consulate in Chennai, and Manthan, a city-based forum.

A scientist by training, Mr Flannery has been chief commissioner of the Climate Commission, an independent body set up by the Australian government. Today he leads the Australian Climate Council, the country's largest crowd-funded organisation. He has taught at Harvard University and advised the Australian and Canadian governments.

As a conservationist and mammalogist, he has been credited with naming over 25 living and 50 fossil mammal species.

In a freewheeling conversation with *Deccan Chronicle*, he spoke about the need for more renewable energy, water and food security and why nuclear power might be a thing of the past. Excerpts:

Could you tell us about the purpose of your visit and what you wish to accomplish by it.

We are at a particular moment in the climate crisis that we are seeing significant impacts worldwide. Over the next few years, we will see increasing impacts across the world, especially in India. The important areas here will be food security, water security and sea level rise. I hope that through my meetings and talks, I will provide bureaucrats, politicians, and the youth with an information base to work on.

It has been said that developed countries, whose activities have led to the most pollution, are not taking an active interest in addressing climate change. What is your assessment?

Historically, yes. Developed countries have been the cause of most pollution. However, we must realise that the earth is like a leaking boat. Unless all countries work together, it will sink. There have been intergenerational injustices as well. There are a lot of inequalities. But, this moment if for bailing the boat.



■ **The government's approach has largely been incoherent. It does not offer a better future. Not enough has been done on food and water security, and sea level rise.**

TIM FLANNERY
Environmentalist

How do you think India is doing in terms of addressing climate change?

I think India is doing reasonably well. You have decreased your energy intensity, you're starting to decarbonise your grid. But the government's approach has largely been incoherent. It does not offer a better future. Not enough has been done on food and water security, and sea level rise.

You have battled for 100 per cent renewable energy. But can developing countries such as India and China practically hope to pull millions of people out of poverty without using thermal energy?

Clean energy — solar and wind — is the cheapest form of energy right now. This is true here in India as well. You wouldn't build a coal-fired power plant today unless it was subsidised. In a few years, with more adaption, costs will come down even further. It will probably be cheaper to construct and run a solar power plant than a thermal plant.

The reason coal-fired plants continue to survive across the world today is because they are heavily subsidised. Also, the first electricity that Indians who do not have it will get will be solar.

You had earlier talked about a 'Darbion Dictatorship'. Could you explain this concept?

I fear that if some countries do not take corrective measures, the

threat will become so big that some countries will become carbon dictators. These countries will force others to adhere to emission targets. We are not at this point today. Today, emission targets are voluntary. But this future is very much possible.

You were once a proponent of nuclear energy. Have your views changed?

In the past, nuclear energy may have formed an acceptable solution from a climate perspective. Today, it is not economical. The rapidly dropping costs of wind and solar energy mean that no one in the future will ever finance a nuclear power plant. The government may do it, but a private enterprise will never do it.

How can countries address the displacement of jobs in the thermal power sector?

One has to look at the example of Germany. The country had a huge dependence on coal in the past, but recently they almost shifted entirely away from it, without losing a single job.

They have done it using mine site remediation (repairing the damage done by mining) and also by using mines as sites for energy storage. As you build clean energy systems, you actually create jobs. This is clear from the examples of Germany and Australia.

What can India do in the short term to address climate change?

First of all, encourage solar and wind energy as much as possible. Next would be appointing a climate commissioner. This person's job would be to raise the level of education on all aspects of climate change.

One can also look at setting up a state-owned clean energy entity. Today, the majority of clean energy entities in India are private.

Also, a State-owned entity needs to be there to compete with State-owned thermal plants.



Minister K.T. Rama Rao (left) and Union minister of state for home G. Kishan Reddy pose for pictures at the 550th Prakash Utsav, celebration of the birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev, at the Exhibition Grounds in Nampally on Tuesday.

— S. SURENDER REDDY



Thousands celebrate 'Prakash Utsav' with religious fervour

T.S.S. SIDDHARTH | DC
HYDERABAD, NOV. 12

The Prakash Utsav to mark the 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak, the first Sikh guru, concluded on Tuesday with thousands of people celebrating the festival with religious fervour, gaiety and devotion.

The major attraction of the concluding event of the three-day celebration was

the presence of 25,000 Sikh devotees in the Vishal Deewan at Exhibition Ground, Nampally.

Minister K.T. Rama Rao released a book on the teachings of Guru Nanak in Telugu language. He assured the community that the government would extend support in addressing their pending issues.

■ **MINISTER K.T. Rama Rao** released a book on the teachings of Guru Nanak in Telugu language. He assured the community that the government would extend support in addressing their pending issues.

skirts. Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao would

lay the foundation stone soon, he said. The long pending regularisation of land in Sikh Chawni, Kishanbagh would be sorted out shortly. The government would call for a meeting with senior Sikh representatives and see that matter is resolved at the earliest, the minister said. Union minister of state for home G. Kishan Reddy recalled the sacrifices made by the Sikh community for the country.

Couple killed as leaking gas from cylinder explodes

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, NOV. 12

A couple succumbed to severe burns they sustained after leaking gas from a cylinder exploded in their house in Suraram of Dundigal on Tuesday. Their two-year-old daughter, who was also injured, is undergoing treatment

at a private hospital and is said to be in a critical condition.

According to a Dundigal police officer, the couple, Shaik Subhani, 32, and Shaik Sharmila, 28, along with their two-year-old daughter Haider Firdous was living at Hanumannagar in Suraram area.

On November 5, the couple replaced the empty domestic gas cylinder with a new one. The next day, at about 5.30 am, Subhani woke up to charge his mobile phone. There was an explosion the moment he turned on the switch. All three family members suffered burns.

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NO | DISCIPLINE

IIIT-H study reveals city habits

Traffic rules flouted more during festivals

T.S.S. SIDDHARTH | DC
HYDERABAD, NOV. 12

Jumping a red traffic signal is the norm for people of this country, says a study conducted by IIIT Hyderabad.

The study involved 60-odd students of Prof Ponnuram Kumaraguru, an associate professor at Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology, Delhi and current adjunct faculty at IIITH.

The research paper is titled 'Don't Cross that Stop Line: Characterising Traffic Violations in Metropolitan Cities'.

The students and the professor visited Ahmedabad in Gujarat to analyse traffic data which they claim can help rein in the number of road accidents which often occur due to

■ **STUDENTS AND the professor** visited Ahmedabad to analyse traffic data which they claim can help curb road accidents.

violating traffic rules. Speaking to *Deccan Chronicle*, the professor said: "It was a very interesting study; we are now trying to get data from other cities to study their traffic policing patterns."

He said that of traffic challans amounting to ₹80 crore, only ₹21 crore has been paid.

"We learnt that challans worth ₹75 were paid but those worth ₹50 were unpaid. As we see it, people who have a challan of lower value do not check the website, as they consider this amount to be insignificant," he said.

Traffic offences were more likely to be committed during religious festivals or some major event in the city, the study found.

"With these findings, the police can get a sense of the violations that are taking place and the locations where they are happening. It will help them in planning where they should dispatch their officers. In fact, this kind of data can even be used for city planning. The answer to the question 'how do I design my roads' can actually come from this," says Prof Kumaraguru. With the new Motor Vehicles Act (Amendment) 2019 coming into effect on September 1, 2019, and its focus on enhancement of penalties for driving errors as well as violating other road regulations, such an analysis would be crucial.

MEN OFFER LIFT TO GIRL, ABDUCT AND RAPE HER

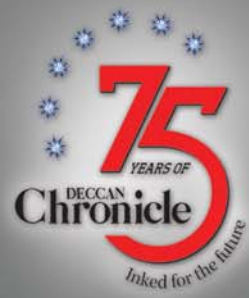
DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, NOV. 12

A 16-year-old student on her way to college at Parigi was kidnapped and raped multiple times by two persons who offered her a lift on Monday.

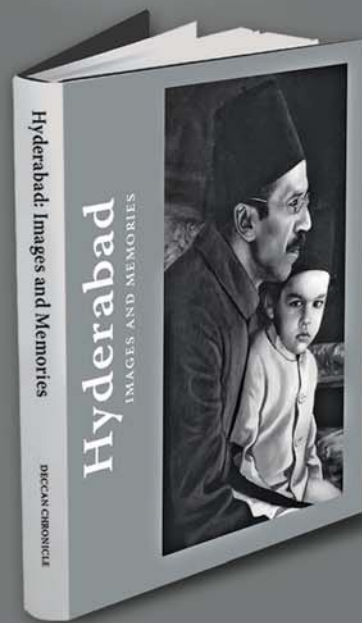
According to a Parigi police official, the victim, a resident of Pudur in Vikarabad district, is pursuing a vocational course at a college in Parigi. On Monday morning, she took a bus to Parigi and was walking towards her college, when two strangers on a bike offered her a lift to her college.

She accepted and got on to the bike, police said. They took her to the outskirts of Parigi, where she was raped by one of the strangers. The she was taken to the outskirts of Vikarabad 20 km away where the other man raped her. They abandoned her at Parigi.

The victim went to the police and lodged a complaint.



Hyderabad IMAGES AND MEMORIES



We wrapped up our celebrations to mark the 75th anniversary of Deccan Chronicle on May 15, by bringing a special compilation of seventy-five stories filled with intrigue and delight from the final days of the Nizamshahi, titled *Hyderabad: Images & Memories*

From the palace mysteries and murder plots to the Nizam's 3,000 wives and how the ruler faced allegations of kidnapping his bride, all under the watchful eyes of the British, it is all there.

We scoured the archives and collected anecdotal evidence from several actors of that era to discover delightful asides like how the motichur laddus got their name, how an aide saved the Nizam's legendary treasures for the royal family and how Indira Gandhi floored the Nizam.

There are more than 75 pictures, a few of them rare and perhaps being published for the first time.

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Threat to tribals

Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan says folk art, tribal music instruments need to be protected or they will become extinct



People have the right to remove KCR, he has no right to remove RTC staff

— T. Jeevan Reddy
Congress MLC

BRIEF

V-P arrested for harassing girl

Hyderabad: The vice-principal of Narayana IIT campus at Miyapur was arrested for misbehaving with the girl students by taking them to his cabin on the pretext of providing guidance and counselling in the academics. The Miyapur police said that on November 8, they received a complaint that vice-principal Gundu Mukesh Reddy, 30, was misbehaving with girl students inside the campus. A case was registered under the IPC and the POCSO Act. Mukesh has been working at the campus from 2017 as vice-principal. His duty was to take the details of the marks obtained by the students during the examinations held at the college, and subsequently, guide and counsel them to improve their academic performance. Taking advantage of the situation, Mukesh used to reportedly call the girl students to his cabin and comment on their dress and their appearance and touched them inappropriately without their permission, said the police.

FATHER ABUSES CHILDREN, MAKES VIDEO

DC CORRESPONDENT
KAKINADA, NOV. 12

In a shocking incident, a father tortured and assaulted his two children, made a video and sent it to his wife who is working in the Gulf. According to the Narasapuram police, Mahalakshmi of Sarva of Narasapuram in West Godavari went to the Gulf to work last year. She used to send money every month to her husband Alisha to deposit in the bank. But Alisha spent the money on alcohol. Her relatives informed her that Alisha was spending money. Mahalakshmi stopped sending money to her husband for the past four months. Angered by this behaviour, Alisha tortured and assaulted his six- and eight-year-old children, made a video and sent it to his wife on Whatsapp on Sunday. Mahalakshmi was shocked and sent the video to her relatives and urged them to save her children. The relatives informed the police. Narasapuram police registered a case and began investigations.

State women and child welfare minister T. Vanitha rushed to the Narasapuram DSP's office and enquired into the matter. Ms Vanitha told this reporter on Tuesday that she was shocked after hearing the news and said that the children would be protected under the supervision of ICDS officials. She said that the government would not tolerate such incidents and stringent action would be taken against such wrongdoers.

■ **ANGERED BY** his wife's decision to not send money, Alisha assaulted his kids and made a video of it.

3 drown after going for ablution in canal

Trio didn't know swimming but followed their friends

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, NOV. 12

Three youngsters who went to take a holy dip at a canal on Karthika Purnima day on Tuesday drowned at Varikolu in Siddipet district. Siddipet additional DCP (Law and order) G. Narsimha Reddy said that at around 9 am, seven youngsters hailing from Varikolu in Koheda mandal came to

■ **A CASE** has been registered for the probe at Koheda police station and the bodies were handed over to the family of the deceased after the autopsy, G. Narsimha Reddy said.

the Moyathummida canal to take a holy bath.

Four youngsters who knew swimming went into the water while

their three friends K. Nikhil, 19, K. Prashant, 20, and P. Varaprasad, 18, who did not know how to swim, followed them. Some time later, the trio

went missing in the water and their friends alerted the locals who rushed to the rescue. After searching in the canal for some time, they pulled out the bodies of Nikhil, Prashant, and Varaprasad.

A case has been registered for the probe at Koheda police station and the bodies were handed over to the kin of the deceased after the autopsy, he said.

Maoists couple arrested

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, NOV. 12

A Maoist couple allegedly participating in revolutionary activities while out on bail was arrested by the LB Nagar police on Tuesday. The police said it seized incriminating Maoist literature, laptops, pen drives and correspondence letters with the Maoists from the couple.

The arrested persons, Narla Ravi Sharma, 54, and his wife Bellapu Anuradha, 56, are residents of Vishalandhra Colony in Mansoorabad of LB Nagar. Acting on a tip off, the special teams of Rachakonda police conducted searches in the couple's house.

Police said Sharma, a member of the Bihar committee of the Maoists, was in-charge of 'military affairs' in Bihar and Jharkhand and supervised security arrangements for the 9th Congress at Bheembundh forest in Bihar. He worked closely with Jammu Joint



Narla Ravi Sharma, 54, and his wife Bellapu Anuradha, 56, were arrested by the cops.

Student Federation.

Sharma was arrested in 2009 by Hazaribagh police of Jharkhand. He was released on bail on April 4, 2016, and was staying with Anuradha, an ex-station committee member of the Maoists. "Since then, he is frequently going underground for long periods and taking part in the meetings of top Maoists in Chhattisgarh and other parts of the country. He disappeared for almost a month in 2018 with his wife and went to Dandakaranya," said Rachakonda police

commissioner Mahesh Bhagwat.

Sharma was booked in 11 cases in Jharkhand, four cases in Hyderabad and one at Chintapalli of AP. The police alleged that he met Maoist ex-central committee members Jantu Mukherjee and B.P. Singh at Kolkata and Varanasi Subramanyam in the city.

Mr Bhagwat said Sharma was actively involved in the formation of All India Forum against Hindutwa Fascist Offensive in February 2019 at Delhi.

COPS NAB TRAIN ROBBERY GANG MEMBER

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, NOV. 12

A member of the notorious Pardhi gang, which robbed railway passengers after bringing trains to a halt by tampering with signal systems, was arrested by the Secunderabad Government Railway Police (GRP) on Tuesday.

In September last year, passengers of Yeswantapur Express and Jabalpur Express trains were robbed at Kaukuntla and Divitipally, respectively. After forcing the trains to a sudden stop, the gangs pelted stones at the trains and took away about 37.5 tolas of gold and cash from the passengers after threatening them.

The GRP which began investigations found it to be the handiwork of the Pardhi gang of Maharashtra. "The gang members conduct recte at the place from where they could to tamper the signals. After tracking the running status online, they would communicate the status to the gang members. After forming a human ladder, they rob valuables from the passengers," said GRP officials.

The gang comprises nine persons, six of whom have already been arrested by Secunderabad GRP, while Pune GRP nabbed one.

The accused Balaji Shrirang Shinde, 25, was involved in similar offences in 2016 at Lonavla in Maharashtra and Gutti in AP and a robbery at Jamkhed in 2017. Police recovered two ear tops weighing about one tola from Shinde. The police said that the ninth member Dada Shinde of Jamkhed is still at large and efforts are on to nab him.

Fallen tree



Not only did the fallen tree in Golnaka, Amberpet, snap electricity and other cables, it also caused heavy property damage. The residents had to suffer for at least three hours.

— P. SURENDRA

RTC bus runs over man in Malakpet

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, NOV. 12

A man working in a pharmacy was run over by an RTC bus when he fell down from his bike, at near Moosarambagh crossroads on Tuesday morning.

Jatothu Shekar, 20, a native of Khanpur mandal in Warangal district, was residing at a friend's room near Sai

Baba temple in Dilsukhnagar.

Shekar was going towards Moosarambagh from Dilsukhnagar on a bike (TS24 C 3458) when he lost control of the bike and fell down.

He came under the wheels of the RTC bus (AP11 Z 2928) belonging to Dilsukhnagar depot.

The police said that Jatothu Shekar was

wearing a helmet but it was crushed under the weight of the bus.

A case of causing death due to negligence has been registered against the bus driver.

In another accident at KPHB, a motorcycle rider was mowed down by a speeding car.

A KPHB police officer said, G. Maruthi, 28, an employee at Vertex Homes Pvt Ltd, in

Shaikpet, was travelling on a bike (AP29 N 2419) towards Pragathinagar from his office in Madhapur.

When the bike reached the flyover near Forum Mall, a speeding car (TS08 UF 4136) swerved towards the left and hit the bike. Maruthi fell down and received injuries to his head and was declared dead at hospital.

MOB | JUSTICE

Prakash confessed to locals that he raped and killed the girl

8-yr-old girl's body found in gunny bag

DC CORRESPONDENT
VIJAYAWADA, NOV. 12

A domestic dispute between a man and his wife on Monday led to the discovery of the body of an eight-year-old girl who had gone missing on Sunday. The girl had been raped.

Bhavanipuram police on Tuesday arrested T. Prakash for the rape and murder of the girl. Her body was found in his house in a gunny bag at Nallakunta on Monday.

■ **AS PRAKASH** could not get rid of the body without being seen, he stuffed it into a gunny bag and hid it beneath some household goods.

■ Prakash's wife, Sunitha, discovered the gunny bag, which was hidden beneath a locker, when she bent to pick up the things she threw in anger earlier. The bag contained the body of the girl.

The girl had gone missing two days ago. Her parents had lodged a police com-

plaint. A search ensued in which Prakash, who lives opposite the house of the

missing girl, joined in.

Later, Prakash had an argument with his wife Sunitha who was suspicious that he was involved with another woman.

In her anger Sunitha threw household items around and when she bent to pick them up, she noticed the gunny bag beneath a locker. The bag contained the body of the girl.

Her screams of horror drew the neighbours to the house.

Upon seeing the bag,

they beat up Prakash and informed the police.

Police sources said that the girl had gone to Prakash's house to see TV and saw her mother in a compromising position with him. While her mother ran off, Prakash caught the girl and raped her and killed her.

Bhavanipuram inspector D.K.N. Mohan Reddy said that the post-mortem of the girl was conducted on Tuesday and the body was handed over to her parents for the last rites.

IN LOVING MEMORY



Sri BODDULURI RAJANI KRISHNA
(Chinna Babu)

Managing Director, Caxton Offset Pvt Ltd

2nd September 1956 -- 3rd November 2019

PEDDAKARMA

on 13.11.2019, 12 Noon at N Diamond, Madhapur, Hyderabad.

You gave us faith to live our dreams.

You were an inspiration, motivator with a strong mind and a gentle heart.

A Nature lover who lived life to the fullest...

A visionary who continually inspired us.

You will continue to live in our hearts and be a part of everything we do.

You will be missed every moment, every day.

In reverence: Family Members

RSVP: 9912348338

I have fought a good fight,
I have finished my course,
I have kept the faith. 2 Timothy 4:7

Dr. Bandela Vijaya Raju
(Rtd. Principal, Govt. Degree College, MBNR)
D.O.B - 04/03/1954 - D.O.D - 12/11/2019
Time of demise - 5:50am
Burial Ceremony : 10:30am, 13th Nov 19
Burial Venue : Hayath nagar Cemetery,
Thorur Road, Hayath nagar, Hyderabad
Memorial Thanks giving on 14th Nov 19,
10am at Christian Prayer Hall, Road No: 6,
Ajay Nagar, Bandlaguda, Hyderabad.
Contact : 9676265223, 9493173538

SHRADHANJALI

Smt. SARITA TALWAR
DOD: 13/8/2019
Three months have passed
since you left us
But I know you are always with me
and i will always
love and miss you with all my heart

INSERTED BY
SATISH TALWAR | SHIKHA TALWAR
PH.NO.93471-38658

శిర్కాణము

శ్రీ గుడవర్తి రాంగోపాల్ గారు
డి: 05.11.2019 ముంగిళవారు ఉదయం స్వస్థులైవారు.
డి: 14.11.2019 సుమారు - 10వ రోజు - చివరకు
డి: 16.11.2019 శివరాం - 12వ రోజు - వ్యాధిశాలకు
చివరకు చేరుకున్నారు. కన్నులు తెరిచిపోయాయి.
- 500 004 మనసులు బంధువులు, స్నేహితులు
చివరకు చేరుకున్నారు. గుండెలకు విశ్రాంతి
శివరాం వందనకు మనమంతా ఆత్మీయ శ్రావణం

IN LOVING MEMORY OF OUR
DEPARTED LOVED ONE,
GONE BEFORE US NOW IN
THE LORD'S KEEPING

PERUMALLA SAMSON
S/o Perumalla Christudas
Slept in the Lord: 12-11-2019
Inserted by: Korne Krupavaram,
Deepthi & Stanley,
Sahana & Kiran

(S/1920/D01227)

SHRADHANJALI

Bijarapu Narsing Rao
D.O.B: 04-06-1956 Expired on: 11-11-2019
H.No. 22-2-872, Noor Khan Bazar,
Dabeerpura, Pochamma Galli, Hyderabad.
Anthemayatra Starts at Dabeerpura
to Amberpet, At 12:00 Pm
Cell : 9182345109

OBITUARY
I have fought the good fight, I have finished
the race, I have kept the faith. II Timothy 4:7

PERUMALLA SAMSON
S/o Perumalla Christudas
DOB: 06-10-1960
Slept in the Lord: 12-11-2019
Funeral Service will be held at New
Bhoiguda CSI Cemetery on 13-11-2019
at 10.00 a.m.
Inserted by:
Wife, Children & Family Members.
Ph: 9949737505, 9704120002

(S/1920/D01228)

2nd DEATH ANNIVERSARY
Blessed are those who mourn, for they
will be comforted. - Matthew 5:4
IN LOVING MEMORY OF

REGINA LISTON
DOB: 21-Jun-1967 DOD: 13-Nov-2017
You are missed each & everyday, for you
were someone special. Who meant more
than words can say. We will miss you forever.
Inserted by: Husband, Daughter,
Entire Family & Loved Ones.

(S/1920/D01219)

8th DEATH ANNIVERSARY
"I will dwell in the House of the Lord forever"

E. PAUL RAJ JOSHUA
Eldest S/o. Mr. & Mrs. E. Joshua
09-06-1970 13-11-2011
Remembered & Missed by Family

3rd ANNIVERSARY

VEERABHADRA RAO MACHERLA
D.O.B.: 9.12.1938 D.O.D.: 13.11.2016
Inserted by: Son,
Daughter-in-Law, Daughters,
Sons-in-Law, Grand Children
(S/1920/D01184)

1st DEATH ANNIVERSARY

S. GURBACHAN SINGH ARORA
S/o Late Ram Singh Arora
DOD: 13-11-2018
The pain of losing you is
immeasurable. You will always remain
in our hearts and thoughts forever.
Inserted by:
Arora Family, Mob: 9393779199

(S/1920/D01225)

8th DEATH ANNIVERSARY

PREM CHAND PATHAK
D.O.B: 05.05.1962 D.O.D: 13.11.2011
You will always remain
in our hearts and thoughts.
Inserted by:
Anjali Pathak
Natasha Lalwani Pathak
Siddharth Pathak

(B/1920/D00131)

51st BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

SEEMA HARDIKAR
DOB: 13-11-1968 DOD: 7-7-2014
Narendra - Girija (Parents)
Maneasha - Pushpa (Sisters)
Shanta - Vaishnavi (Nieces)
D.P.N. Murthy (Brother-in-law)

(B/1920/D00130)



MRPS moves

Manda Krishna Madiga says caste bodies will give memorandum to Governor on Nov. 20 against RTC privatisation, hold public meet on Nov. 30



RTC strike is not a saleable commodity for Cabinet or chairman posts

— Dr K. Laxman
TS BJP president

SHORT TAKES

INCOME TAX DOES NOT NAME BIGGIE IT RAIDED

DC CORRESPONDENT
VIJAYAWADA, NOV. 12

Trade, business and political circles in the state are agog to know who the prominent person from Andhra Pradesh is that the Income Tax department says has unaccounted money of a whopping ₹150 crore.

The Income Tax department on Monday said that raids were conducted in the first week of this month on 42 premises in Delhi, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Erode, Pune, Agra and Goa belonging to a group of people engaged in issuing bogus bills and carrying on hawala transactions.

The Income Tax department said in a statement that funds meant for public infrastructure projects in south India were siphoned off through entry operators, lobbyists and hawala dealers.

“The projects involved in the bogus billing are major infrastructure and EWS (economically weaker section) projects located in south India. Evidence of cash payment of more than ₹150 crore to a prominent person in Andhra Pradesh has also been unearthed during the search,” the I-T department said in the statement.

However, it refused to identify the prominent person from the state.

PAWAN EXHORTS JAGAN TO SPEAK WITH DIGNITY

DC CORRESPONDENT
VIJAYAWADA, NOV. 12

Expressing concern over the way Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy spoke about even Vice-President M. Venkaiah Naidu, who had criticised the introduction of English medium in state schools, Jana Sena chief Pawan Kalyan advised Mr Reddy to speak with the dignity that befits a Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, and not as a YSR Congress leader.

Addressing mediapersons here on Tuesday, Mr Kalyan opined that Mr Reddy should feel ashamed of showing such disrespect to the constitutional authority like the Vice-President. He said that if the YSR Congress chief intended to attack him personally, he was ready for it and made it clear that neither he nor his party could be deterred by factionalism.

He was also very critical of the way Mr Reddy had handled the sand issue, which had resulted in depriving nearly one crore families of a livelihood. He said that 50 workers had died so far.

AYODHYA | DECISION

KANIZA GARARI | DC
HYDERABAD, NOV. 12

Hashtag #IamAsadOwaisi started trending on Twitter on Tuesday after AIMIM president Asaduddin Owaisi drew criticism from certain quarters for expressing his dissent with the Supreme Court verdict on Ayodhya land dispute.

Twitter handles ‘Giraftra karo Owaisi ko’ and ‘anti-national Owaisi’ started trending on Twitter. In response, party workers, followers and youngsters came out in support of the MIM chief and began tweeting #IamAsadOwaisi. Excerpts of his press conference were also widely shared and commented upon.

#IamAsadOwaisi had 98,000 tweets at the time of writing in the evening. In

the afternoon, when it began trending, it was at No. 1.

The MIM chief has been very articulate and pointing out over the last two days that the struggle was not for land at Ayodhya but for justice. The video repeated in the tweets shows him saying, “Our fight was for a masjid and not five-acre of land. We don’t want this charity.” Lashing out at all political parties except TRS, Owaisi stated that everyone was silent on the majoritarian agenda and were not strengthening India’s pluralism.

“The Supreme Court in its order has said that the masjid was demolished. It has caused us a lot of hurt. You do not know how much passion and love we have for that masjid. You do not

understand our pain and you do not know where we are coming from. Had you understood why we pursued (the cause of masjid), why we have so much of patience, you would not have said take these 5 acres of land,” he stated.

Those opposed to Owaisi’s views want him arrested for his statements. He wants to know what they have against him and the community. “I have become thick-skinned and people can say whatever they want to,” he remarked. The MIM chief said, “You cannot stop us from talking. I have a right to voice my opinion according to the Constitution.” This got many of netizens irritated but many of Owaisi’s followers took to Twitter from 2 pm on Tuesday to make his videos viral.

TS, AP dither on conferred IPS

34 confirmed IPS posts vacant in AP and TS, according to Centre

IREDDY SRINIVAS REDDY
IDC
HYDERABAD, NOV. 12

Officers of the rank of superintendent of police and additional police superintendent in the Telugu states have been deprived of selection under the conferred IPS quota due to the delay of division of the state cadre police officers in both states.

Though five-and-a-half six years have elapsed since the bifurcation of erstwhile Andhra

Pradesh and the formation of Telangana state, officers of both states have failed solve the issue, despite their meeting four times.

Telangana senior police officers are saying that it was the AP government which was to settle the issue but despite their repeated requests, AP authorities are not taking initiative to resolve the issue.

According to the officials of the two police departments, there were 458 DSP-level officers at

■ **ACCORDING TO** the officials of the two police departments, there were 458 DSP-level officers at the time of the bifurcation, many of them were promoted as additional SPs and yet others have retired.

the time of the bifurcation, many of them were promoted as additional SPs and yet others have retired.

The committee headed by former IAS officer

C.R. Kamalnathan, which was to frame guidelines for the allocation of state services personnel, had made tentative allocations of DSPs in both states, in accordance with the provisions under the AP Reorganisation Act, 2014.

Though the Group I officers of other departments, eligible to have IAS status conferred upon them, got the status, police officers of the Group 1 still struggling for their right to get the status of IPS officers con-

ferred upon them.

The service rules say that the officers who have served as DSPs for seven years and without adverse remarks are eligible for IPS status.

According to the union home ministry, 34 confirmed IPS posts were vacant in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. The union home ministry said that it could not receive proposals from both governments with regard to conferring the IPS status on the police officers of Group 1.

TS, NATIONAL BJP LEADERS DIFFER: CONG.

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, NOV. 12

Telangana Congress Legislature Party leader Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka observed that there was dichotomy between the state and national BJP leaders.

While the state BJP leaders are alleging that Mission Bhagiratha is a big scam, a union minister is saying the scheme must be implemented across the nation.

He wondered whether the BJP wants to replicate the biggest scam across the country.

Speaking to media on Tuesday, the CLP leader demanded a CBI probe into Mission Bhagiratha. He said while Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhara Rao has no time for revenue employees protesting against the murder of tahsildar Vijaya Reddy, the Chief Minister has ample time to make a PowerPoint presentation to the union minister on the big scam.

Mr Vikramarka pointed out that state BJP president K. Laxman himself has alleged that all schemes being introduced by the state government are scams. He said whatever the relationship between the BJP and TRS, both are cheating the people.

AKHILA PLAINT AGAINST YSRC ON HARASSMENT

DC CORRESPONDENT
VIJAYAWADA, NOV. 12

Former minister Bhuma Akhila Priya lodged a complaint alleging harassment from YSRC government to her family. She, with other TD leaders, met Governor B.B. Harichandan on Tuesday alleging registering of politically motivated false police cases against her family.

She lamented that her family members are facing difficulties due to YSRC’s revenge politics hence she lodged complaint with Governor seeking justice.

She alleged that the Allagadda police registered false cases against her husband Bhargava Ram. She denied that her husband did not carry out the attack on police.

Prof. questions KCR on Maoists

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, NOV. 12

Telangana Jana Samiti President Prof. Kodandaram came down heavily against the state government for its doublespeak on Maoists.

He wondered how the government was endorsing the police version of the involvement of Maoists in the ongoing strike by RTC employees, when it had earlier categorically stated on the floor of the House that there were no Maoists in the state towards which, it claimed to have sent a report to the Centre.

Prof. Kodandaram asked the government to come clear on which was true — its statement in the Legislative Assembly or the police take with regard to the RTC strike. He decried that the police were looking at every issue from a law and order angle.

The TJS chief stated that if the government was keen to protect the image of Brand Hyderabad, it had to focus on the all-round development of the city.

Lashing out at City Police Commissioner Anjani Kumar’s contention that the city was earning a bad name, Prof. Kodandaram wanted to know if there was any scope for protesting freely.

ASHWATHAMA WELCOMES HC ORDER ON RTC

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, NOV. 12

Welcoming the Telangana High Court’s decision to constitute a high-power committee comprising former judges of Supreme Court, RTC JAC convener E. Ashwathama Reddy hoped the dispute would be resolved and RTC workers would get justice.

“We wish that the committee will respect our rights and give us what we deserve. The High Court decision has instilled confidence among the workers that their demands will be achieved,” Mr Reddy told the media.

Meanwhile, RTC employees have decided to lodge a complaint with the NHRC over the police lathi-charge during the Million March on November 9, which resulted in injuries to several RTC employees.

RTC JAC co-convener Raji Reddy asked the injured employees to send their photographs to the corporation union office to be forwarded to the NHRC.

Proceedings were not fruitful: A-G

FROM PAGE 1

While dealing with PILs related to RTC strike, its tenth sitting on the issue since they were filed, the High Court said that it had decided to form a committee, under Section 10A of Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, as a last resort. It told the government that it would give one week to the committee to negotiate with the government, RTC and trade unions to resolve the issue.

“Frankly speaking, perhaps our voice might have carried less weight to proceed with negotiations, but this court hopes that voice of retired supreme court judges will carry more prominence than ours,” CJ Chauhan observed.

The CJ further said, “The court hopes that a minimum 0.001 per cent positive result will emanate from this yet to commence re-conciliation proceedings, which will be taken up by the high-powered committee.”

The bench directed B.S. Prasad, advocate general, Telangana, to inform the government about the decision the High Court is contemplating to take and revert by Wednesday afternoon. However, the AG, while shouldering to intimate the state of the court’s decision, tried to convince the bench that conciliation proceedings were not fruitful, because the trade unions took a drastic decision to go ahead with strike after walking out of conciliation and negotiation proceedings conducted earlier in October.

In an attempt to convey that the High Court had no power to constitute such a committee, the AG cited the Central government’s submissions, which in an affidavit, said that issues related to industrial disputes ought not to be adjudicated by High Court.

Welcoming the proposal to constitute a High Power Committee, D. Prakash Reddy, senior counsel appearing for trade unions, submitted that his clients and RTC workers would reconsider their stand to continue strike, once the committee was constituted. His submissions were recorded by the court. Earlier, G. Vidyasagar, senior counsel, appointed as amicus curiae by the High Court to assist the court in resolving this situation, informed the bench that a Supreme Court judgment says that courts cannot decide whether strike was legal or illegal.

MIM has big plans for civic polls

S.A. ISHAQUI | DC
HYDERABAD, NOV. 12

The MIM has decided to contest in minority-dominated municipalities and corporations in the ensuing elections to the urban local bodies in the state. MIM president Asaduddin Owaisi has appealed to party workers to gear up for the elections.

In a recent meeting with the district unit and urban unit party leaders, Mr Owaisi said that he hoped that the cases in the High Court against the civic polls will be disposed off soon and elections will be held in December this year.

He said party leaders should sort out their internal difference and unanimously choose candidates to contest in the civic polls, and then the party will issue tickets.

He made it clear that

the party will give tickets to candidates based on reports from the district units.

The MIM put up a good show in the municipal elections in 2014 in Adilabad, Tandur, Nirmal and Bhainsa municipalities and Nizamabad Municipal Corporation.

Sources in the MIM disclosed that the party leadership has decided to concentrate seriously on the civic polls in view of the fact that 90 per cent of the Muslim population in the state lives in urban areas.

The party leadership is of the opinion that allowing a triangular fight between the ruling TRS, Congress and the BJP in Muslim predominant areas would benefit the Congress and BJP in some pockets of the state.

Instead the party has

decided to concentrate on areas where the Muslim vote is crucial in deciding who wins.

Muslims are present considerable in numbers in the erstwhile districts of Nizamabad, Adilabad, Medak, Mahbubnagar, Warangal, Karimnagar, and Ranga Reddy.

The state government in March 2018 increased the number of municipalities from 68 to 128 and municipal corporations from six to 13. With the creation of the new urban local bodies, the MIM leadership is planning to expand its base by contesting in the maximum number of ULBs. During the 2014 civic polls, the MIM had shared power with the ruling TRS in the Nizamabad Municipal Corporation, and Tandur and some other municipalities, and it had won the Adilabad

and Bhainsa municipalities.

Sources in the party revealed that the MIM leadership is keen on contesting and gaining power in Kamareddy, Bodhan, Jagtial, Armoor, Sultanabad, Huzurabad, Zaheerabad, Husnabad, Sangareddy, Medak and Shamshabad, and improving its strength in Karimnagar and Ramagundam corporations.

Nizamabad’s deputy mayor was from the MIM and this time the party is aiming for the post of Mayor. The party is eyeing the newly constituted corporations of Badangpet, Bandlaguda Jagir, Meerpet Jillelaguda, Boduppal, Peerzadiguda, Jawaharnagar and Nizampet, where it wants to establish a base by contesting in a considerable number of divisions.



The water that is lifted from Gayatri pump house through four Bahubali motor pump sets here in Ramadugu mandal of Karimnagar district.

Godavari water reaches MMD

PULI SHARAT KUMAR | DC
KARIMNAGAR, NOV. 12

After what appeared to be an inordinate delay, the Mid Manair Dam (MMD) finally received Godavari water under the prestigious Kaleshwaram lift irrigation project.

Irrigation department officials on Tuesday released Godavari water to MMD by lifting water from four heavy duty motor pumps sets at the Gayatri pump house established in Lakshampur village of Ramadugu mandal in Karimnagar district.

This is a significant development considering that on the completion of stage-I and stage-II works, officials supplied water to MMD from Yellampalli reservoir in September. When the volume of water at the dam reached 15 tmc ft, against its full capacity of 25.873 tmc ft, leakages were noticed from the left side of the MMD bund. As an immediate measure, officials released the water downstream.

Stage-II of KLIS project includes 6, 7 and 8 packages along with two tunnels of 25 km length,

seven massive ‘Bahubali’ motor pump sets, an underground surge-pool and electric sub-station.

At this stage, the water that is lifted from 518 metres at the bed level of Godavari from Medigadda barrage is sent to MMD and then to the LMD from Yellampalli through flood canal.

The officials in August and September conducted wet runs by lifting the water from the pump houses under stage-II. When they noticed some leakages at various stages, they plugged the leaks and conducted

another wet run which was successful.

Later, when they supplied Godavari water to MMD, the officials noticed leakage in the left side of the bund at 200 metre.

Officials invited an expert technical team from New Delhi which completed the repair work.

Before releasing water to MMD (Sri Rajarajeshwara Reservoir), officials started lifting water from Nandi Medaram pump house in Dharmaram mandal of Peddapalli district from Monday.

MIM chief stated that everyone was silent on the majoritarian agenda

After criticism, #IamAsadOwaisi trends

Police foil 2 meetings against SC verdict on temple, masjid

SANJAY SAMUEL
PAUL | DC
HYDERABAD, NOV. 12

The Hyderabad police on Tuesday foiled attempts by two separate groups to speak against the Supreme Court’s verdict on Ayodhya and detained nine persons.

Another person was put under house arrest. Police arrested leaders of three organisations just before they could address a press conference at the Sundarayya Vignana Kendram in Baghlingampally. Those arrested were K. Suryam, national com-

mittee member of Indian Federation of Trade Union; V. Venkatramaiah, president, All India Kisan Majdoor Sabha; and Mohan Bairagi of Arunodaya Cultural Federation. They were taken to the Musheerabad police station. Police also detained five activists of city-based Darsagah Jihad-ol-Shahadath in Moghulpura before they were to address media in connection with the Supreme Court’s verdict. Those arrested include DJ’s president Abdul Majid, general secretary Salauddin Affan, organis-

ing secretary Mohammed Bin Omer, Hameed and Wasim. Police officials said these detentions were a preventive step following information that the activists may deliver provocative speeches.

The police also put Anuradha of Forum Against Hindutva Fascist Offensive under house arrest. The IFTU has condemned the arrests, calling them “attack on the freedom of expression.” It said: “This is a flimsy ground for arrests, as opinions from various quarters have been aired openly.”

PRESS NOTIFICATION

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AVIATION

COMMISSION OF RAILWAY SAFETY

STATUTORY INQUIRY WILL BE HELD INTO THE COLLISION OF 47178 MMTS PASSENGER TRAIN WITH 17028 EXP. AT KACHIGUDA STATION ON KACHIGUDA-FALAKNUMA BROAD GAUGE DOUBLE LINE ELECTRIFIED SECTION OF HYDERABAD DIVISION ON 11.11.19 AT 10.40 HRS.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL, COMMISSIONER OF RAILWAY SAFETY, SOUTH CENTRAL CIRCLE, SECUNDERABAD FROM MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION, WOULD HOLD A STATUTORY INQUIRY INTO THE ABOVE ACCIDENT AT 10.30 HOURS ON 13.11.19 IN SS’s CHAMBER, KACHIGUDA STATION FOR PUBLIC AND IN DIVISIONAL RAILWAY MANAGER’S CONFERENCE HALL, HYDERABAD BHAVAN, SECUNDERABAD FOR RAILWAY STAFF FROM 15 HRS. ONWARDS.

MEMBERS OF PUBLIC HAVING KNOWLEDGE RELATING TO THE ABOVE ACCIDENT AND MATTERS CONNECTED THERE WITH AND DESIRE TO GIVE EVIDENCE MAY DO SO AT THE ABOVE PLACE ON THE DATE OF THE ENQUIRY OR WRITE TO HIM AT THIS FOLLOWING OFFICIAL ADDRESS:

THE COMMISSIONER OF RAILWAY SAFETY, SOUTH CENTRAL CIRCLE, RAIL NIRMAL BHAVAN, SARJOINI DEVI ROAD, SECUNDERABAD 500 025 OR CONTACT HIM ON PHONE NUMBER: 040-27820104.

Issued by CPRO,
SOUTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

A1844



Open access

Amarinder Singh advocated open access to more gurdwaras across border



BJP may resort to horse-trading after imposing President's Rule in Maha

— Digvijay Singh Congress leader

IN BRIEF

LATA IS CRITICAL BUT RECOVERING

DC CORRESPONDENT MUMBAI, NOV. 12

Veteran singer Lata Mangeshkar, who was rushed to the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) of privately-run Breach Candy hospital Monday, is still “critical” but her health is “slowly improving”, hospital sources said.

Mangeshkar was rushed to the ICU in the wee hours of Monday after she complained of breathing difficulties.

According to hospital sources, “Her condition has significantly improved. She is still recuperating in the hospital.” The veteran singer’s PR team, in a statement released on Tuesday, said her condition was “stable”.

“Her parameters are good. She is coming out of this setback. Being a singer, her lung capacity has pulled her through. We will update everyone when Lataji gets discharged and comes home,” the statement read.

Mangeshkar has lent her voice for thousands of songs in Hindi, regional and foreign languages. Her last full album was for the late filmmaker Yash Chopra-directed 2004 film *Veer Zaara*. Mangeshkar recorded her latest song this year — *Saugandh Mujhe Is Mitti Ki*, which was released on March 30 as a tribute to the Indian Army. She was awarded the Bharat Ratna, the highest civilian honour in 2001.

COPS ATTACKED BY SAND MAFIA

DC CORRESPONDENT BHOPAL, NOV. 12

A group of sand mining mafia on Tuesday opened fire on a team of policemen and forest officers when the latter launched operation against them in river bank city of Morena in Madhya Pradesh.

According to Morena district additional superintendent of police Ashutosh Bogri, around 100 policemen and forest officers raided the bank of Chambal river in Morena following Intelligence inputs on illegal sand mining in the area by the sand mafias.

The policemen and forest officers chose to travel in dumpers to the spot to avoid attention of the sand mafias, thus denying them to escape.

The sand mafias, however, identified them when they zeroed in on the area and opened indiscriminate fire on them. The police also resorted to retaliatory fire leading to brief exchange of fire between them. No one was however injured in the incident.

DELHI FACES ‘POLLUTION EMERGENCY’

New Delhi, Nov. 12: The noxious haze returned to Delhi and its suburbs on Tuesday with raging stubble fires in neighbouring states, fall in the temperature and wind speed pushing the city’s air quality in the ‘severe’ zone.

The government’s air quality monitor, System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting and Research (SAFAR), said pollution levels in Delhi-NCR are expected to enter the “severe plus” or “emergency” category on Wednesday.

Madhavan Rajeevan, secretary of ministry of earth sciences, tweeted, “Forecast (green) suggests air quality in severe+ category by Nov 14 (sic).” Meteorologists said the national capital recorded on Tuesday a minimum temperature of 11.7 degrees Celsius, the season’s lowest so far. It is two notches below normal for this time of the year.

Parties can approach Governor even during Prez rule in Maha

Governor not to wait for anybody to approach him; Process of calling fresh polls to start

SHAHAB ANSARI | DC MUMBAI, NOV. 12

Although Maharashtra has come under President’s rule, political parties still have the opportunity to take a shot at forming the government. All that the political parties need to do is to satisfy the Governor that they have the required number and will be able to showcase their strength on the floor of the House.

While President’s rule can be imposed for a minimum period of six months, its quantum can be extended up to three years. However, once President’s rule is in place, the procedure for holding re-election starts without waiting for any political party to come up with the proposal to form the government.

Explaining the current situation, Shrihari Aney, former Advocate General of Maharashtra, said that President’s rule could be imposed for variety of reasons. He also noted that the situation in Maharashtra this time is unique.

“This is a situation where the election did not yield a majority government. So, another election will have to be held. Whatever time it takes to prepare for another election, President’s rule will be in place until then,” he said.

In the meantime, Aney added, any political party can approach the governor with the proposal to form the government.

The governor, however, will not wait for anybody to approach him and the process of calling a new election will start, he further added.

Aney said the Election Commission would proceed as per its normal course to hold new election and announce the dates whenever it is ready.

Another lawyer, Asim Sarode, said, “According to the Constitution, President’s rule can be the last option. Using it without attempting many other (available) options is definitely bad.”

Shirode noted that the governor has the responsibility to ask all parties and look at every possibility of forming a government due to the positive nature of Article 172.

Article 172 of the Constitution states: “Legislative Assembly of every State, unless sooner dissolved, shall continue for five years from the date appointed for its first meeting and no longer and the expiration of the said period of five years shall operate as a dissolution of the Assembly.”

Sarode also pointed out that the governor providing lesser time to parties for showing their intent to form the government is problematic.

“When political parties professing different ideologies want to come together and form some sort of an alliance, they should be given more time to decide some common minimum agenda,” he said.

President’s rule was imposed in Maharashtra on Tuesday evening.



NCP chief Sharad Pawar and senior Congress leaders address joint press conference in Mumbai on Tuesday.

— Rajesh Jadhav

Pawar says parties have six months to form govt

From Page 1

Imposition of President’s rule, however, didn’t stop the Congress and the NCP from holding discussions on whether to support the Shiv Sena in forming the government.

A flurry of political activity continued in the state with top Congress leaders, including AICC treasurer Ahmed Patel, Maharashtra in-charge Mallikarjun Kharge and party general secretary K.C. Venugopal reaching Mumbai to meet NCP chief Sharad Pawar.

Congress president Sonia Gandhi had sent her top party leaders to Mumbai for discussions on government formation after speaking with Pawar on the phone on Tuesday morning.

The Congress and the NCP on Tuesday said that they had not yet decided to support the Shiv Sena as they need clarity on “cer-

■ **PRESIDENT’S RULE** can be revoked before the six-month period if a situation emerges for formation of a stable government, officials said.

■ **THE CONGRESS** and the NCP leaders said they would continue their efforts to form a government.

tain points”. “Yesterday (on Monday) Shiv Sena formally asked for support for the first time. First we allies will discuss amongst ourselves, then have discussions with the Shiv Sena,” said Congress leader Ahmed Patel, addressing the media jointly with NCP chief Sharad Pawar.

“The Congress and the NCP contested the elections as an alliance. After Shiv Sena approached us seeking support to form the government, leaders of both parties held consulta-

tions with each other for the first time. Once we decide the points on which we can support the Shiv Sena, we will hold discussions with them,” Pawar said.

“Unless we discuss how the government can run smoothly, it won’t be easy to form an alliance,” he added.

When asked by when talks will be over, Pawar said that now they have six months’ time to hold deliberations and come to an agreement since President’s rule has been imposed in the state.

President’s rule can be revoked before the six-month period if a situation emerges for formation of a stable government, officials said.

The Congress and the NCP leaders said they would continue their efforts to form a government and approach the governor as soon as there is a pact.

ATHER MOIN | DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 12

MIM president Asaduddin Owaisi was sarcastic over the possibility of a NCP-Shiv Sena-Congress government in Maharashtra stating that the marriage should be performed first. On being asked if his party would support an NCP-led government, he said “*Pehle Nikah hoga, uske baad sochenge ke beta hoga ya beti hogi, abhi toh Nikah hi nahin huwa.*” (It is only after a marriage is solemnised that one will think of a son or daughter).

Speaking to the media here on Tuesday, Owaisi said his party will not support a BJP or a Shiv Sena-led government as both were saffron parties, and, as Ram and Shyam, they have the same Hindutva colour. BJP has the maximum number of seats followed by Shiv Sena. What should I do if they are not

in a position to form the government,” he asked.

“Leaders of the both the parties should ponder over their differences, though, it is a fact that people of Maharashtra need a stable government. Our party’s stand is not to support a government that is led by either of them,” he said.

The dilly-dallying by Sena, Congress and NCP is making people to realise as to who was cutting whose votes and who was colluding with whom. He said the real face of Congress stands exposed.

On President’s rule, he said he did not know what transpired. Stating that the Governor was a senior politician, he said BJP will gain with a President rule as it is in power at the Centre.

On the Ayodhya dispute, he said “our fight was for a legal right for Babri Masjid and not for a piece of land.”

Owaisi ridicules Maha impasse



Chirag Paswan

LJP TO CONTEST 50 SEATS IN JHARKHAND

NAYEAR AZAD | DC PATNA, NOV. 12

After Maharashtra crisis, the BJP is facing challenges from its allies All Jharkhand Students Union (AJSU) and the LJP over a seat-sharing deal for the Assembly elections which are to be held later this month.

On Tuesday newly elected LJP national president Chirag Paswan created a flutter in Jharkhand politics by announcing his decision to contest 50 out of 81 seats.

“Our Jharkhand state unit has decided to contest Assembly elections independently on 50 seats,” Chirag Paswan said in a tweet.

In his earlier statements, he had said that “the BJP delayed the issue of seat sharing and pushing it further would create trouble for the NDA in the state”.

The LJP has been in alliance with the BJP in Jharkhand since 2014. In the previous Assembly polls, the party had contested only one seat and lost.

This time the LJP was willing to contest on at least six seats as an NDA partner but after the BJP failed to resolve

ALLY TROUBLE

the issue, the party decided to field candidates on 50 seats.

However, it’s the BJP’s other ally AJSU that is likely to create trouble with its demand for larger seat share. The AJSU is considered a strong NDA partner with a large support base in the tribal belt.

According to AJSU chief Sudesh Mashto, “the BJP is to take a final call on the issue of seat-sharing. We have already sent them a list of 17 candidates and will wait for their decision before taking any step”.

On Monday the AJSU had released its list for 12 seats out of which the BJP has already announced its own candidates on four seats. The AJSU insiders said that the party had sent a list of candidates before making an announcement on Monday.

The prominent among the four seats is Chakradharpur Assembly constituency where the BJP had announced the name of its state president Laxman Gilua.

■ **THE LJP HAS** been in alliance with the BJP in Jharkhand since 2014. In the previous Assembly polls, the party had contested only one seat and lost.

Sena for urgent hearing of its plea

DC CORRESPONDENTS NEW DELHI/MUMBAI, NOV. 12

The Shiv Sena on Tuesday petitioned the Supreme Court challenging Maharashtra governor Bhagat Singh Koshiyari’s “unconstitutional, arbitrary, illegal” decision not to grant it three days’ time to produce letters from the NCP and the Congress in support of its claim to form the government even though he had given its erstwhile alliance partner, the BJP, two days to prove its numbers.

But on a day of fast moving events, even as the

Shiv Sena moved the top court questioning the governor’s decision, Koshiyari had already recommended to the Centre that the state be placed under President’s rule.

Senior lawyers engaged with the Shiv Sena matter are working on a petition to challenge the imposition of President’s rule in Maharashtra and the conduct of the governor in the entire exercise of government formation leading to President’s rule.

One of Shiv Sena’s lawyers, Nizam Pasha, said that they will request the court for an urgent hearing on Wednesday.



Shiv Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray with Aditya Thackeray in Mumbai on Tuesday.

— PTI

At a news briefing in Mumbai, Shiv Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray called the governor “most kind-hearted” and mockingly

added, “Government formation in Maharashtra is not child’s play. For this we needed a 48-hour deadline to prove our majority.

SECURITY | MATTERS

■ **27-yr-old hacked into social media accounts of Maoists**

He kept tab on Reds, now needs help

RABINDRA NATH CHOUDHURY | DC BHOPAL, NOV. 12

A cyber security expert who had helped Intelligence agencies avert some major Naxal attacks by keeping tabs on people deemed ‘Maoists’ and their ‘urban networks’, has been dumped by the state agencies when he sought an appreciation letter from them to start a career in the field.

The 27-year-old had helped Intelligence agencies hack into the social media accounts of some so-called Maoist leaders, leading security forces to identify them and also nip in bud some major opera-

tions by the outlawed Maoists in insurgency-hit Bastar in Chhattisgarh.

He had helped agencies infiltrate into the social media accounts of some terrorist groups.

One of his major achievements in recent times was the tip-off he gave the police on the Maoists’ plan to target a top political leader of Chhattisgarh during his election campaign in the 2018 Assembly polls in Bastar by hacking allegedly into the WhatsApp accounts of some people, prompting the police to review his security in the nick of time and avert the attack. He had also helped Intelligence agencies keep

■ **ONE OF HIS** major achievements in recent times was the tip-off he gave the police on the Maoists’ plan to target a top political leader of Chhattisgarh during his election campaign in the 2018 Assembly polls in Bastar by hacking allegedly into the WhatsApp accounts of some people, prompting the police to review his security in the nick of time and avert the attack.

track of an alleged Maoist leader given charge of building a base in the

strategic tri-junction of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh (MMC) to pave the way for the creation of the proposed ‘red corridor’ from Bharamdeo in Kawardha district in Chhattisgarh to Kanha National Park in Madhya Pradesh, apparently forcing the insurgents to go slow on their project.

The youth from Chhattisgarh had received threat calls from insurgents after they learnt about him hacking their social media accounts by him.

According to him, he sought an appreciation letter from agencies which included Chhattisgarh

police, the Anti-Terrorist Squad (ATS), Intelligence Bureau (IB) and even the National Investigation Agency (NIA), to start a career in cyber security.

“They went back on their promise to issue me an appreciation letter. The Prime Minister’s Office (PMO) asked the Chhattisgarh government to look into the matter after I took issue to them. But nothing has happened,” he told this newspaper on Tuesday.

He had then moved the Chhattisgarh High Court in Bilaspur for help. The court observed that the agencies may consider his grievances if he approached them.



Faith matters

Delhi govt will offer free pilgrimage to Gurdwara Darbar Sahib, says Arvind Kejriwal



Students should pursue knowledge throughout life

— Smriti Irani
Union Minister

IN BRIEF

MARADU FLATS TO BE RAZED IN JAN

Kochi, Nov. 12: Four illegal multi-storey apartment complexes, built in violation of coastal regulatory zone rules, would be demolished using the controlled implosion method on January 11 and 12, the Kerala government has announced.

The apartment complexes in Maradu Municipality, which used to house over 300 families, were ordered to be demolished by the Supreme Court.

The twin towers of Alfa Serine apartment complex having 17 floors with 73 flats and 19-floor H2O Holyfaith complex with 90 flats are scheduled to be demolished on January 11.

The next day would see the demolition of 17-floor Jain Coral Cove complex with 122 flats and 17-floor Golden Kayaloram with 40 flats, according to the officials here.

The decision was announced by Chief Secretary Tom Jose here after meeting with officials, technical and expert committee members and experts from two companies chosen for razing the structures down.

According to the experts, the blast in one complex would last about six seconds and in another six seconds the debris would be contained to the site.

The government would evacuate residents within a 200-metre radius of the buildings before the demolition.

SHIVAKUMAR HOSPITALISED FOR HIGH BP

Bengaluru, Nov. 12: Senior Congress leader D.K. Shivakumar, who was released on bail from a Delhi prison recently in connection with a money laundering case, has been hospitalised due to high blood pressure, family sources said on Tuesday.

Shivakumar complained of restlessness and back pain on Monday night following which he was admitted to the hospital, they said.

The doctors have recommended three days of complete rest to Shivakumar and also asked family members not to allow anybody to meet him for the next three days.

Early this month also, Shivakumar was hospitalised due to diabetes related complications, high blood pressure, back pain and chest pain.

The former minister was arrested by the Enforcement Directorate in the alleged money laundering case. He was lodged in Tihar Jail till October 24.

Shivakumar had arrived here on October 26 to a rousing welcome from his supporters and party workers.

16 DEAD AS VEHICLE FALLS INTO GORGE

DC CORRESPONDENT
SRINAGAR, NOV. 12

Sixteen people were killed as the passenger vehicle they were travelling in skidded off the road and fell into a deep gorge in Jammu and Kashmir's eastern district of Doda on Tuesday. The officials said while 12 passengers were killed on the spot, four of the injured persons died on way to or in hospital.

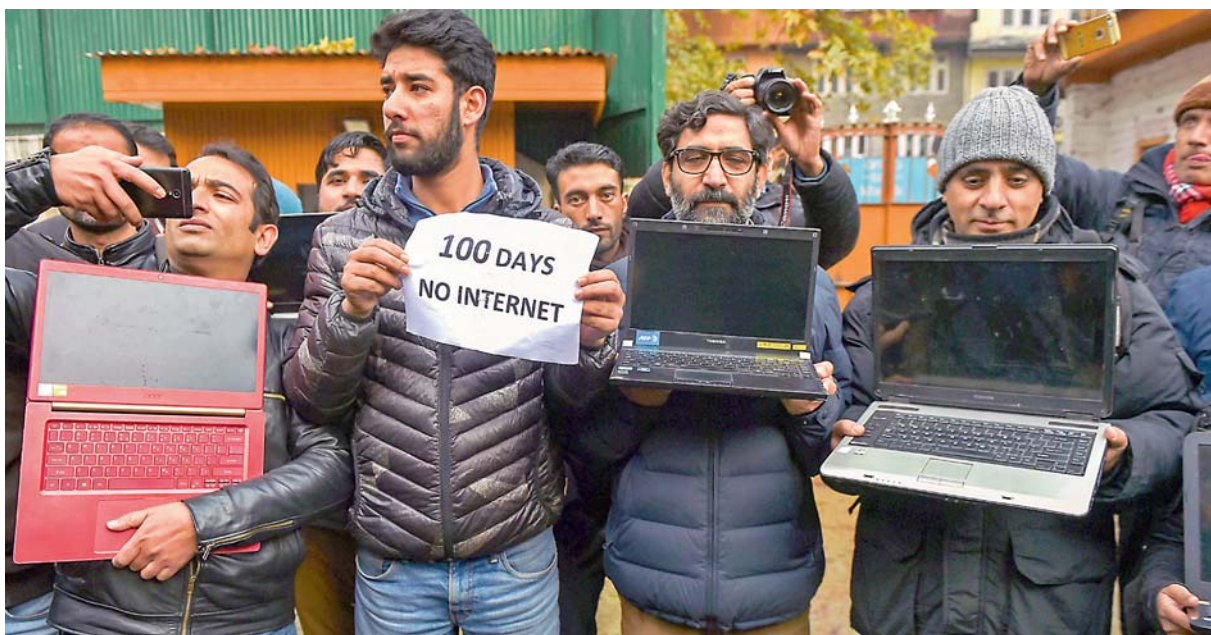
Senior superintendent of police, Doda, Mumtaz Ahmad said that one more person has been rescued from the accident site in a critical condition and has been admitted to hospital for treatment. The police said that the vehicle — a SUV — was on its way to Gowa village of Marmat belt of the hilly district from Kleeni area when its driver lost control while negotiating a blind curve and the vehicle fell into the 700-metre-deep gorge.

Dealing with the aftermath of scrapping Article 370



(L-R): A train arrives at a station after rail services resumed in Srinagar on Tuesday. The rail service in Valley partially resumed after it was suspended on Aug. 5 hours before the Centre scrapped Article 370.

Journalists in the Valley took out a protest march in Srinagar against the continued suspension of internet services which completed 100 days on Tuesday. They demanded immediate restoration of the services to facilitate them to discharge their duties.



Verdict on CJI under RTI today

Delhi HC had brought the office of the CJI under the ambit of RTI Act

PARMOD KUMAR | DC
NEW DELHI, NOV. 11

The Supreme Court is likely to pronounce on Wednesday its verdict on a plea opposing Central Information Commission's (CIC) 2009 order directing the top court's central public information officer (CPIO) to disclose information on the appointment of judges to the top court sought under the Right to Information Act.

The top court's secretary-general and the CPIO had moved the apex court on the administrative side challenging November 24, 2009, CIC's order directing the CPIO to furnish the information sought by RTI

activist Subhash Chandra Agrawal on the appointment of judges to the top court.

The appeal by the Supreme Court's secretary-general and the CPIO was heard by five-judge constitution bench comprising Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi, Justice N.V. Ramana, Justice D.Y. Chandrachud, Justice Deepak Gupta and Justice Sanjiv Khanna.

The constitution bench in the course of the hearing had addressed two questions "whether the concept of independence of judiciary demands the prohibition of furnishing of the information sought and whether the information sought amounts to

interference in the functioning of the judiciary.

Other questions were "whether the information sought cannot be furnished to avoid any erosion in the credibility of the decisions and to ensure free and frank expression of honest opinion by all the constitutional functionaries."

The hearing saw the Bench observing that the cap on the disclosure of information under the Right to Information Act, for protecting the judicial independence, has to be balanced with the larger public interest to know the factors weighing in the appointment of some as judges and others losing the race.

However, attorney general K.K. Venugopal appearing for the Central government had argued that disclosure of information on what transpired in the appointment or elevation of judges would have a bearing on judicial independence and free and frank deliberation in the collegium.

Attorney general had referred to Section 8(1)(e) and Section 8(1)(j) of the Right to Information Act to contend that disclosure of information relating to the appointment of judges within the collegium, between the government and the collegium would affect the free deliberation in the collegium and thus would dent judicial inde-

pendence.

"Disclosure of such highly confidential information will be deleterious to the functioning of the judiciary", the Attorney General had said opposing any disclosure of information on what transpired within the collegium and between the collegium and the government in the course of the appointment of judges.

On RTI activist Agrawal's plea for the disclosure of assets by the judges of higher judiciary, the Attorney General representing the Central government had said that the information relating to the assets of judges was personal to them, be left to the judges.

COURT REJECTS NAVLAKHA'S BAIL PETITION

DC CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI, NOV. 12

In a setback to civil rights activist Gautam Navlakha, a special UAPA court in Pune on Tuesday rejected his anticipatory bail application in the Elgaar Parishad case.

According to the police, he had links with the banned organisation, Communist Party of India (Maoist).

The court not only rejected Navlakha's petition but also refused to extend the protection from arrest granted to him by the Supreme Court, clearing the decks for the police to arrest him.

The apex court in October had granted Navlakha protection from arrest till November 12, 2019. Navlakha's counsel sought three days' extension in interim protection but sessions Judge S.R. Navandar rejected his plea.

Navlakha has the option of moving the high court to seek pre-arrest bail, and pending hearing, he can also get interim protection from arrest, if the court so deems fit.

Walayar: Family moves High Court

DC CORRESPONDENT
KOCHI, NOV. 12

The mother of the two sisters at Walayar who were found hanging after being subjected to prolonged sexual abuse has filed an appeal in the High Court against the order of the trial court which found the accused not guilty and set them free.

The appeal has been filed against the order of

the Palakkad POC SO court which set free Walayar Nagamkulangara native Pradeep Kumar who is the accused in the case registered following the death of the nine-year-old under mysterious circumstances and Palakkad Puthussery native Madhu who was set free after being arraigned in the death of the 13-year-old.

The appeals against set-

ting free other accused will be filed in the coming days.

The 13-year-old was found hanging on January 13, 2017 and the nine-year-old was found hanging 2017 March 4.

The case is that the two committed suicide unable to bear the abuse of the accused.

Madhu was arrested on March 9, 2017 and Pradeep Kumar on March 10.

The trial court, however, set them free stating that the prosecution failed to prove the charges against them.

The appeal demands to annul the trial court order and hold the trial again by appointing a special prosecutor.

It also demands that the SC guidelines in the Best Bakery case should be made applicable in this case too.

ED lens on EC Lavasa's son

New Delhi, Nov. 12: Election Commissioner Ashok Lavasa's son Abir and a firm linked to him have come on the radar of the Enforcement Directorate (ED) for alleged violations of forex regulations, officials said on Tuesday.

They said the agency has filed a case under the Foreign Exchange Management Act (Fema) to probe Abir Lavasa and about ₹7.25 crore funds raised early, this year by a firm — Nourish Organic Foods Pvt Ltd — linked to him.

The purpose of the probe is to ascertain if the Fema law was contravened in bringing these funds from a Mauritius-based company identified as Saama Capital, officials said.

Abir Lavasa is stated to be the director of Nourish Organic Foods Pvt Ltd.

According to officials, the fund infusion into Abir Lavasa's company is under probe and the agency recently questioned him about these transactions. Abir Lavasa has assured full cooperation into the probe, they said, adding that some more people have been summoned to take the probe forward.

The trouble for Ashok Lavasa's family began a few months back when his wife, Novel Singhal Lavasa, came under the scanner of the Income Tax Department on charges of alleged tax

evasion. She was issued a notice by the tax department to explain certain details in her I-T Returns with regard to holding directorship in about 10 companies, sources had said.

The officials said that after preliminary investigation, the I-T department asked her to provide more documents related to her personal finances to ascertain if her income has escaped assessment in the past or something has been concealed from tax authorities.

The department is looking at the ITRs of Novel Singhal Lavasa, a former baker in relation to a probe into alleged tax evasion and holding of directorship in multiple firms against her for the time period of 2015-17, they had said.

Some other family members of the Election Commissioner are also under the scanner of the tax authorities, they said.

Ashok Lavasa was appointed as election commissioner on January 23, 2018, after he retired as the Union finance secretary in the previous year.

His difference of opinion with regard to the implementation of the model code of conduct (MCC), with chief election commissioner Sunil Arora and election commissioner Sushil Chandra was reported during the recently-concluded general elections.

— PTI

City's NGRI loses FCRA registration

New Delhi, Nov. 12: Over 1,800 NGOs and academic institutes found to be violating laws pertaining to foreign funding have been banned by the government from receiving overseas funds this year, officials said on Tuesday.

Among those whose registration under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act has been banned include the University of Rajasthan, Allahabad Agricultural Institute, Young Men's Christian Association, Tamil Nadu and Swami Vivekananda Educational Society, Karnataka.

"With the cancellation of the FCRA registration, all NGOs and academic institutions were prohibited from accepting foreign contribution," a home ministry official said.

The FCRA registration of these organisations was cancelled mostly due to their failure to submit annual income and expenditure statement on foreign funding for up to six years despite repeated reminders.

As per FCRA guidelines, registered associations are required to submit electronically an online annual report with scanned copies of income and expenditure statement, receipts and payment account, balance sheet, etc., for every financial year within nine months of the closure of the financial year.

Associations which do not receive foreign contribution during a particular year are also required

to furnish a 'NIL' return for that financial year within the aforesaid period, read the guidelines.

Other associations whose FCRA registration has been cancelled include Institute of Pulmocare and Research, West Bengal, National Geophysical Research Institute, Telangana, National Institute of Virology, Maharashtra, Rabindra Nath Tagore Medical College Hospital and Research, West Bengal and Baptist Christian Association, Maharashtra.

In addition to 1,807 associations, registration of one more organisation — Bengaluru-based NGO Infosys Foundation — was also cancelled this year following a "request" of the NGOs itself.

Earlier, an official of the Infosys Foundation had said its de-registration from the FCRA followed a request it proactively made to the ministry of home affairs. "This (request) was done as the Infosys Foundation does not come under the purview of the FCRA following the amendment made to the act in 2016. We had approached the ministry to consider this, and thank them for granting our request," the official had said.

— PTI

HELPING HAND

■ Differently-abled youth donates earning from reality shows to CM's funds

Vijayan okays selfie with a difference

DC CORRESPONDENT
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,
NOV. 12

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan is not known for his affinity for selfies; on the other hand, he has earned a bit of notoriety for his aversion to pose for photos with strangers.

But on Tuesday, he broke the practice, posed for a number of selfies and even shared them on his Facebook page with a touching note, earning kudos even from his bitter critics on the social media. In the note intro-

ducing the youth, Pranav, Vijayan said he had a heart-touching experience when reached at the office in the Assembly in the morning. Pranav, an artist from Alathur who lost both his hands, came to meet him to donate the money he earned from reality shows to the Chief Minister's Distress Relief Fund on his birthday.

Pranav then took the selfies with the Chief Minister by putting the smartphone on his toes.

Pranav told the Chief Minister that his hands in life are his parents



Pranav takes a selfie with Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan with his leg at the Assembly complex in Thiruvananthapuram on Tuesday.

■ THE CHIEF MINISTER had some time back been in the news for scolding a student who held his hand and tried to click a selfie along with him.

Balasubramanyam and Swarnakumari.

He conveyed this to the Chief Minister in the presence of his parents. K.D. Prasanna, the MLA representing Alathur constituency, also accompanied them.

Pranav said the state government, through its policies, has always stood

firm with the differently-abled, the Chief Minister noted. Accepting the donation, the Chief Minister said Pranav's contribution is of great value. Pranav, who graduated from Chittoor Government College, is going for PSC coaching now.

The gesture of Vijayan surprised many and the pictures have gone viral on the social media in no time. The Chief Minister had some time back been in the news for scolding a student who held his hand and tried to click a selfie along with him.

By arrangement with Dawn

A panel or similar public discussion group that consists only of men

A form of cross country running in which a human runner is pulled by a dog wearing a special harness

DECCAN CHRONICLE

WEDNESDAY | 13 NOVEMBER 2019 | HYDERABAD

Oped

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Mood in Valley: A sense of hurt, betrayal, defiance



Yusuf Jameel

Separatists say they have been vindicated by New Delhi's stripping Jammu and Kashmir of its special status and splitting the state into two Union territories. Mainstream politicians other than those belonging to the BJP and like-minded groups feel betrayed for they have lost the argument that the interests of J&K and its people are safe only in democratic, vibrant India. One of the causes of the new age turbulence in the Vale of Kashmir has been attributed to the betrayal of the democratic expectations. The "most horrible onslaught", as the August 5 move is seen by many here, can turn things uglier. The situation on the ground is already fluid and disquieting, notwithstanding those at the helm seeking to present a rosy picture.

Even after the lapse of 100 days, the stalemate over the repeal of Article 370 of the

Constitution and bifurcation of the state persists. The Valley's educational institutions remain shut or only limited class work does take place at a few of those partially open. Board exams are being held in a gloomy atmosphere. The Internet is suspended and telecommunications access has not been restored fully. More important, dozens of mainstream and separatist politicians and hundreds of activists continue to be incarcerated. The government is also yet to allow residents to return to uninhibited movement as the imposition of curfews and restrictions has become a recurring feature of governance.

Traders continue to show their disapproval by observing strikes. Public transport remains off the roads too. This is a relatively spontaneous display of anger by them with, of course, occasional unsolicited interventions by mainly obscure groups and anonymous individuals who through handwritten flyers and posters ask people to

remain steadfast in their "struggle" against "Indian occupation". They have also sought to "guide" people on the current impasse. But the rage and dismay among the populace is real. The mood in the Valley is a blend of displeasure, hurt and defiance.

There is growing fears among J&K's Muslims that the main motive behind the Centre's stripping its special status could be to pave the way for the "outsiders" to get their hands on the land and other immovable properties in the run-up to change the demography of Muslim majority erstwhile state. The elders foresee a bleak future for the coming generations after the special rights and privileges people enjoyed as permanent state subjects under

Article 35A of the Constitution were withdrawn. They are also apprehensive of their religious freedom being impinged under new political dispensation. On November 1, the authorities disallowed Khoji Digger (special late afternoon prayers), the main ritual of the annual urs at a Sufi shrine in Srinagar dedicated to Baha-ud-Din Naqshband Bukhari (1318-1389), the Bukhara (Uzbekistan)-born founder of what would become one of the largest and most influential Sufi Muslim orders, the Naqshband. When devotees

The celebrations on the birth anniversary of Prophet Muhammad at Hazratbal were made restricted to local residents only... Those behind such diktats simply failed to realise that a vast majority of local Muslims still feel solace in Kashmir's spiritual past...

tried to assemble at the place of worship, the police used bamboo sticks and fired tear-gas canisters to disperse them.

A few days later, the celebrations on the birth anniversary of Islam's Prophet Muhammad at Hazratbal were

Muslims still feel solace in Kashmir's spiritual past and that, notwithstanding how difficult it has been to live in the Valley of death over the past three decades, Sufism remains an attraction. According to them, Sufism is an effort to reaffirm the vision of reality, which the Revelation of the Prophet has defined. It is meant not to unravel the mysteries of the world and life, or attain a new enlightenment and illumination, but to seek a clear insight and strong conviction into the truths of Revelation, without attempting to change or modify them.

Any step that seeks to prevent them from professing and implementing this brand of Islam into their lives is fraught with serious political implications. The separatists have in the past openly accused New Delhi of being intolerant towards the Muslim identity of Kashmir's people and of doing all it can to destroy it. The government is also being criticised by people for certain administrative lapses. Satya Pal Malik, the last governor of Jammu and Kashmir state, is known to the average Kashmiri as someone who till the last moment lied through his teeth on the Centre's plan on Articles 370 and 35A and related issues, and during his

tenure lost no opportunity to denigrate the people of the Valley and, consequently, brought disrepute to Raj Bhavan. But for others, he was merely a "lori dastar" — in local jargon a person holding a high office but without having any powers — and, therefore, may not have been taken into confidence by the real decision-makers in the Narendra Modi government.

The new person in charge at Raj Bhavan and the first lieutenant-governor of the Union territory of J&K Girish Chandra Murmu has failed in his first litmus test to reach out to the Valley's residents. Last week, heavy snowfall played havoc with the lives of people but the new UT's administration under him failed to take immediate steps to mitigate their suffering. This only added to the residents' belief that they are being neglected and even affronted by those in power. Mr Murmu deferred his planned visit to Srinagar reportedly after told about the harsh weather conditions in the Valley.

Ladakh is now a separate geographical entity. While the Centre's making it a UT has brought smiles on the face of its Buddhist population, in Kargil district of Ladakh where Shia Muslims are in a majority various political parties and leaders have voiced concern over the move and

want certain assurances on their political, cultural and economic interests. They are also apprehensive of the probable "hegemony" of Leh and its Buddhist population. Various political and religious organisations of Leh have demanded certain legal and constitutional guarantees, including under Article 371, to secure their land, jobs and socio-economic interests and culture. They have also asked for Ladakh being declared a tribal area under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution.

In Jammu too, several political parties and sections of the population are equally worried over the turn of events. They have demanded that the Centre should put in place a provision of "domicile" requirement for various purposes like the purchase of land to protect the interests of citizens of the region. This, they say, could be a provision under which a person who wants to buy land or seek a job in a government department or agency must have lived in the state for a certain period of time as is the arrangement in Himachal Pradesh and north-eastern states. The BJP also backs this demand. Many Dogras of Jammu also lament that a vibrant, composite and inclusive state created by Maharaja Gulab Singh has been disintegrated and disempowered.

Reach out to J&K's populace, ease Net curbs; but keep LoC vigil tight



Syed Ata Hasnain

No one could have expected that the landmark decisions on Jammu and Kashmir's constitutional and administrative status taken on August 5, 2019 would be without any followup turbulence in different domains. The problem of J&K has festered far too long for any single decision to even stabilise issues in the short term, which has since elapsed. In addition, Pakistan simply cannot be wished away after its 30-year investment in J&K's proxy hybrid conflict. How turbulent or how stable is the situation at this stage is being perceived differently by observers, depending on political leanings and knowledge of the ground realities. From a comprehensive national security perspective, this needs examination in domains which usually constitute such a review.

Politically, the state remains under Governor's Rule. Mainstream political activity is absent in the light of some political detentions and is unlikely for some time. A modicum of electoral activity has been seen with the Block Development Council elections, which are not direct elections. Governor's Rule is expected to focus more on development parameters, as it's needed to give a taste of the benefits which would travel to the populace. Past experience has shown that separatist sentiments and Pakistani calibration

can create a huge security challenge. That has been effectively controlled with the absence of street turbulence and rabble-raising. The frustration caused to Pakistani controllers has made them open the tap of propaganda against the inevitable controls, which have gone into arresting scope for creating a situation replicating the past; in 2010 and in 2016, the levers of control over turbulence in the streets were only partially used, leading to a fair degree of mayhem. Lessons having been effectively learnt from that experience, the balance between freedom and security appear to be being altered with the progressive lifting of restrictions. The government's approach has been that persistence of stability will automatically bring greater freedom and lifting of controls. Although the decision of August 5 was not taken with political consensus, it largely met political approval. Perhaps now is the time to give more access to the Opposition and seek its cooperation; it will also aid in opening to other organisations to take the heat off from the international glare.

The main angst in the populace, besides that arising from the inevitable loss of special constitutional status, appears focused on two things; first the perceived discrimination, specially due to restrictions on communications with mobile Internet under suspension (all

Any presumption that winter is a low-profile period for terror activities is erroneous. Loss of intelligence capability against terrorists is inevitable in periods when the focus is on the streets and the socio-political domain.

other forms having largely opened), and second, a misplaced fear of being swamped by attempts at demographic change in the Valley. The first has brought much empathy in international political and media circles, with comments relating to the unsustainability of the government's current policy. The government has held firm on the presumed premise that mobile Internet connectivity gives opportunity for subversion by Pakistan, systematic hardening of resistance to change through information operations, with social media contributing to the mischief potential. The second issue, demographic change, is fuelled more by rumour and must be addressed through more effective word of mouth communication, direct outreach and the media. Even Jammu does not want any such change.

If it is public angst that is identified as a threat, the answer lies in speaking directly to people. In the absence of effective media and Internet communications tools, this could be a possible way of bringing the national narrative closer to the understanding of ordinary citizens. The question is: who will do it? In the absence of mainstream political leaders from J&K,

there must be willing hands who can be convincing and carry the right message. The mobile Internet facility, with backup of strong information buildup and influence capability in the hands of the government, should in due course not be seen as a serious risk; it could be seen as an opportunity and also help to build greater international support.

In the area of diplomacy, while India has scored well it's a question of sustainability. Everything is linked to the perceived degree of freedom and not what the actual situation is. To that extent, organised visits by Delhi's diplomatic corps could be undertaken; the initial negativity will soon give way to a better perception as repeat visits and comparisons are made. The international media, which has been decidedly against the Indian stand, is influenced considerably by Pakistan and its narratives. Unless ours are matching in content, volume and continuity, with the correct addressing of international think tanks, the international media will remain negative.

The overarching domain remains security, both in the hinterland and at the Line of Control or the international border. Preventing Pakistan's ability to calibrate this should be one of the strongest priorities of the government, and it has been able to stave off threats quite effectively so far. Stability in the security domain will enable the fastest return to normality, including the lifting of all restrictions. Any presumption that winter is a low-profile period for terror activities is erroneous. Loss of intelligence capability against terrorists is inevitable in periods when the focus is on the streets and the

socio-political domain. Where the security establishment, including intelligence agencies, have scored high is an area where their achievement was earlier very low. This is the domain of financial and over-ground worker networks, and it will sustain success to a far greater degree. Yet, no one has greater scope and opportunity to change the social discourse through hearts, minds and attitude than the Army and the police. They need to dwell on their soft power capability as much as hard power and expand this to the highest level. The LoC remains an area of concern with greater infiltration efforts accompanied by ceasefire violations in the Valley, which has not been seen for some years. The key to a stable summer next year lies in ensuring that infiltration remains under control. It's again a misnomer that winter sees no infiltration; the level of desperation in the terror groups and their sponsors can lead to attempts to exploit the lower areas devoid of snow both in Jammu and Kashmir.

Overall, the momentous decisions of August 5, 2019 have altered the scenario at all levels — strategic, operational and tactical. This will remain a work in progress for a very long time. It's still advantage India, though nothing is static in this game. A dynamic appraisal and open minds with more propensities for risk will retain that advantage for India.

The writer, a retired lieutenant-general, is a former commander of the Srinagar-based 15 Corps. He is also associated with the Vivekananda International Foundation and the Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies.

Office romance is dead in the age of #MeToo



Rod Liddle

I wonder if we are beginning to see the end of assortative mating. For a long while now we have tended to select our life partners from the place in which we work — rather than, as before, from our home towns or places of education. This process began with the long march of women into the workplace in the early 1970s, a development which, while overall being undoubtedly both benign and just, nonetheless slightly widened the gap between rich and poor. Men and women who worked together had a tendency to, if I can put it like this, cop off. This meant we had many more families where both parents worked, and many more families where nobody worked. Assortative mating of this kind was exacerbated by the fact that we were ever more transient and mobile, and marrying later and later.

But new and wonderfully woke employment laws may be starting to reverse this trend, and both men and women may soon be thinking: if we can't sleep with anyone at work, who actually can we sleep with? The story of Steve Easterbrook, the now former boss of McDonald's, is a case in point. Easterbrook, who is British, was fired from his £12 million per year job because he had enjoyed a consensual sexual relationship with a woman with whom he worked. This came to the notice of his bosses and that was it: out. What I found remarkable about this story was the almost complete acceptance it was afforded in the media, as if this was a perfectly just decision taken for decent reasons by a caring and mindful multinational company. Not just the media, either — Steve Easterbrook himself said he agreed with the company's decision and that it was time for him to 'move on'. I daresay his payoff will have lessened his grief, but still, Easterbrook is long divorced. There is nothing whatsoever to suggest that his relationship with the unnamed woman was anything other than entirely consensual, and indeed McDonald's didn't seem to

care one way or another about that — simply that it happened and that Easterbrook was on a higher payscale than his girlfriend.

A McDonald's worker in New Orleans, Tanya Harr-ell, who has claimed she was groped at work, said dozens of complaints of sexual harassment at the company have been ignored. 'With the firing of Steve Easterbrook, we now know why,' she added. But what does Easterbrook's relationship have to do with sexual harassment cases? He was fired because he had sex with someone who was junior to him in the hierarchy. If the woman had been in the position of authority then she would have been fired. I don't know what the McDonald's regs say about men and women who are on exactly the same pay and grade who decide to indulge in a bit of extracurricular poking — maybe they both get fired.

I remember about 25 years ago hearing John Humphrys interview the somewhat odd feminist author, the late Andrea Dworkin, on Today. As you might imagine, it was not a meeting of minds. At one point Ms Dworkin said to Humphrys: 'Any act of sexual intercourse between a man and a woman is necessarily coercive.' John harrumphed a little and replied: 'Not in my experience it isn't.' Dworkin's extreme views were considered hilarious back then — and yet it seems to me today that this is the precisely the view implicit in the regulations laid down by McDonald's. Because Easterbrook was in a position of authority, the coercion was tacit: he had the power, she didn't. She might have found his advances — if he made advances — unpleasant but difficult, because of her subordinate position, to resist. That there is not the slightest evidence to support this thesis does not matter one jot. In a Marxist sense, the woman was objectively exploited. It is odd to think of McDonald's as a Marxist company, but there we are.

By arrangement with the Spectator

Intelligence and the power of one



Rajgopal Nidamboor



Cosmic intelligence suffuses everything. This is no simile — it is, in effect, the quintessential purport of our life and existence. It is also the foundational compass for all things to begin and progress. It'd, therefore, be apt to call this intelligence's substance "mindful wisdom", or conscious awareness. You'd call it the divine entity, or the

core of our being, or god, that resides within us too. The equation is simple — there can be no intelligence without the divine substance within us. There can, likewise, be nothing without its all-embracing presence.

To place such a thought within and outside of the physics of consciousness would call for defining thinking as the active ele-

ment. This is unlike thought, which is passive. Any living substance, or entity, that thinks is blessed with vitality. Add to this intelligent, thinking action, or act, you are a part of the "rock band" of the spheres. Thinking is also a psychosomatic function, while thought isn't such an energetic entity. This is precisely because any function that is labelled as "function" ought to be endowed with motion — this cannot emerge without thinking.

The fact is it is our intelligence that makes it possible for the movement of energy in our mind/body. You'd call it your personalised, archetypal kinetic wave

of motion. This is also the upshot for a glut of signals in the brain to absorb the "fire" lit through thinking and propel its "intelligent engine" to drive our thinking patterns for a purpose. Our intelligence permeates our entire body. It also pervades everything in nature.

It is rightly said that nature knows more than we all do. Nature's knowledge, unlike us, is not restricted.

While it is agreed that our mind, from the beginning of time, has been in touch with all things, its knowledge is yet restricted within and outside of us. This corresponds to our so-called "complete"

knowledge base, including life experiences, among others — of things we know to a certain extent, each in its own manner. This may be contrary to the divine experience, or essence of god, which encompasses all the things that have occurred ever since creation — right from the "big bang" — although it celebrates the idea that there's intelligence in all things, far and near. As the Rig Veda exemplifies, "Let knowledge and noble thoughts come to us from all sides".

The writer is a well-known physician, independent researcher and author

50 YEARS AGO IN DECCAN Chronicle Mrs. GANDHI EXPELLED FROM CONGRESS

NEW DELHI, November 12 THE split in the Indian National Congress was formalised today with the Nijalingappa faction announcing Mrs. Indira Gandhi's expulsion from the organisation and the Prime Minister's supporters declaring that they constituted the Congress.

The momentous decision, taken after a meeting of the Nijalingappa faction of the CWC, followed rejection by the Congress President and his colleagues of a unity formula evolved by the Congress Chief Ministers.



Celebrations

Spain's King Felipe VI begins an unprecedented visit to Cuba to celebrate the 500th anniversary of Havana amid tensions between the island nation and the US



I am thankful to Mexico but saddened to leave Bolivia

— Evo Morales
Former Bolivia President

IN BRIEF

3 artistes stabbed on stage in Saudi

Riyadh: A Yemeni man has stabbed three performers during a live play in the Saudi capital, police said, in the first such attack since the ultra-conservative kingdom began easing decades-old restrictions on entertainment. The assailant was arrested after state television footage showed him stomping onto the stage in Riyadh's King Abdullah Park during a musical performance by what appeared to be a foreign theatre troupe. "Security forces dealt with a... stabbing attack against two men and a woman from a theatre group during a live performance," a police spokesman was quoted as saying.

Israel kills Islamic Jihad commander

Jerusalem/Gaza: Israeli security forces on Tuesday assassinated a commander of Islamic Jihad described by them as "a ticking bomb", leading to retaliatory attacks from the Gaza Strip that pushed major areas in Israel to closure and escalated tensions in the region. A joint statement by the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) and Israel's internal security agency, the Shin Bet, announced that Baha Abu al-Ata was neutralised in a targeted strike at around 4:30 am in an operation that was approved by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. "(Ata) was behind multiple attacks and rocket launches against Israel in recent months and intended to carry new immediate attacks," the Army and Shin Bet said. "The operation was recommended by the IDF Chief of Staff and the Shin Bet and approved by the prime minister and minister of defence," the statement said.

Students on trial for Pride March

Ankara: Eighteen Turkish students and a lecturer went on trial on Tuesday for taking part in a banned LGBTI Pride event at an Ankara university. The defendants face up to three years in prison if convicted of "unlawful assembly and protest" and "refusing to disperse" in a trial deemed "farical" by rights groups. One of the 18 students also faces up to two years for insulting a police officer with hand gestures. Homosexuality has been legal throughout modern Turkey's history, but LGBTI individuals face regular harassment and abuse. The pride event at the prestigious Middle East Technical University has taken place every May since 2011. But university bosses banned this year's event and police used pepper spray, plastic bullets and tear gas to break it up. Diplomats from several European embassies attended the packed hearing.

UK LABOUR PARTY HIT BY CYBER ATTACK

London, Nov. 12: Britain's Labour Party says it has experienced a "sophisticated and large-scale cyber attack" on its digital platforms. The main opposition party says the attack did not succeed, because of "robust security systems." The party is confident that no data breach occurred. The party has referred the matter to the National Cyber Security Centre. Britain is holding a national election on December 12 but is struggling with election laws that have not yet been updated to face the digital age. The former chair of the British Parliament digital committee, Damian Collins, has been appealing for a coordinated approach across all parts of government to combat disinformation and protect the electoral system.

Guru's birth anniversary



Sikh devotees participate in a religious procession at Gurdwara Nankana Sahib, the birthplace of first guru of the Sikhs, Guru Nanak Dev, whose 500th birth anniversary is being celebrated in Nankana Sahib district of Pakistan on Tuesday. — PTI

Total breakdown in Hong Kong

Protesters litter streets with bricks and disrupt train service

Hong Kong, Nov. 12: Police and protesters battled outside university campuses and several thousand demonstrators blocked roads as they took over a central business district at lunchtime on Tuesday in another day of protest in Hong Kong. The clashes followed an especially violent day in Hong Kong's five months of anti-government demonstrations, in which police shot one protester and a man was set on fire. Protesters littered streets with bricks and disrupted train service during the morning rush hour on Tuesday. Commuter train passengers were escorted along the tracks, and subways were shut because of disruptions.

Police used tear gas in faceoffs with protesters in and around universities, where classes were canceled. A few thousand protesters took over several blocks of the central business district at lunchtime. The demonstrators chanted "Five demands, not one less" holding up one hand with five outstretched fingers. Their demands include democratic changes and investigation of police treatment of protesters. Traffic was blocked on two major roads by the crowds, with half a dozen of Hong Kong's famous trams lined up unable to move. The words "Join Us" were spray painted on

■ A few thousand protesters took over several blocks of the central business district at lunchtime. The demonstrators chanted 'Five demands, not one less' holding up one hand with five outstretched fingers.

the front window of a halted double-decker bus abandoned by the driver and passengers and one of its windows was broken. Office workers filled the sidewalks and overhead walkways to watch the action, with some joining the protesters in chanting. One 24-year-old man, who would not give his

name, said he was there to support the protesters and accused the police of using excessive force, a common complaint among the city's 7.4 million people. Recent weeks have been marked by escalating vandalism against shops linked to mainland China and train stations, and assaults by both protesters and pro-Beijing supporters. Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam, speaking to news media after a weekly meeting with advisers, called the blocking of the morning commute "a very selfish act." "People from different sectors in society are holding fast to their positions and refusing to concede to

violence or other radical actions," she said. "I hereby express my gratitude to those who are still going to work and school today." On Monday, a police officer drew his gun during a struggle with protesters, shooting one in the abdomen. In another neighborhood, a 57-year-old man was set on fire after an apparent argument. Both remained hospitalized Tuesday, the shot protester in serious condition and the man who was burned in critical condition, the Hospital Authority said. Video of another incident showed a policeman on a motorcycle riding through a group of protesters in an attempt to disperse them. — AFP

51 CHINESE KIDS INJURED IN CHEMICAL ATTACK

Beijing, Nov. 12: At least 54 persons, including 51 children, sustained burn injuries after a disgruntled man broke into a kindergarten and sprayed a corrosive chemical on students in southwest China's Yunnan province, authorities said on Tuesday, in one of the deadliest attacks on schools in the country. The incident took place on Monday in the city of Kaiyuan, when the 23-year-old man, surnamed Kong, climbed into the kindergarten and sprayed caustic soda (sodium hydroxide), state-run Xinhua news agency quoted authorities of the city. Fifty-one children and three teachers sustained burn injuries and were sent to the Kaiyuan People's Hospital and the PLA 926 Hospital for treatment, Hong Kong-based South China Morning Post quoted the Kaiyuan Municipal Government as saying. The condition of two children was stated to be serious, the report said.

At about 3:35 pm (local time) the man climbed into the Dongcheng Kindergarten and sprayed sodium hydroxide on children, it said. He was detained about 40 minutes after the attack, police said. Initial inquiries indicated that the man was acting out of "revenge at society", but the investigation was continuing, the report said. Sodium hydroxide also known as caustic soda has a highly caustic base and alkali that decomposes proteins at ordinary ambient temperatures and may cause severe chemical burns. It is soluble in water, readily absorbs moisture and carbon dioxide from the air. — PTI

US top court to examine 'Dreamers' programme that Trump wants axed

Washington, Nov. 12: Angelica Villalobos came to the United States illegally as a child and lived in the shadows until she and 700,000 others like her gained protection from deportation under a program that the Supreme Court will take up on Tuesday. The court will hear arguments on the fate of these people known as "Dreamers," whom the administration of then president Barack Obama "gave wings," in Villalobos' words, in 2012 by letting them have work and study permits. President Donald Trump, who campaigned on a starkly anti-immigrant platform, moved in 2017 to end the Delayed Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) programme that has given Villalobos and others legal



Donald Trump

cover in the US. Trump gave Congress six months to devise a plan to replace DACA, saying he was sympathetic to the "Dreamers" but that Obama had established the program illegally. But lawmakers were unable to reach agreement, and the program expired the following year. The phase-out of the program has been appealed to

several courts across the country, ultimately reaching the Supreme Court. It is not expected to issue a ruling before next year, when the US will hold a hotly contested presidential election. If the Supreme Court fails to extend legal protection to the "Dreamers," they are not expected to be automatically deported; most will probably slip quietly into the shadowy life of the undocumented, for whom working and studying is fraught with difficulty. In the meantime "this is has been like a roller coaster," said Villalobos, a 34 Mexican and mother of five who works in an auto repair shop in Oklahoma. She said she and her husband, who also entered illegally as a minor, talk to their children about what might happen if the court

ruling does not go their way and they maybe cannot drive or work anymore - "things that we're doing right now that keep the family more normal." - 'Bargaining chips' - Like them, nearly 700,000 others "have been in the country for at least 12 years, become part of the fabric of our communities or institutions," said Omar Jadwat of the American Civil Liberties Union. He said the Trump administration moved to end DACA in order to use "Dreamers" as "bargaining chips" with the Democrats to achieve other immigration goals. Indeed, Trump tried in vain to obtain congressional funding for his promised wall along the border with Mexico in exchange for new protections for the "Dreamers." — AFP

Pak allows Sharif to travel abroad

SHAFQAT ALI | DC
ISLAMABAD, NOV. 12

Pakistan's federal cabinet Tuesday gave conditional approval to the former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif to travel abroad who sought the removal of his name from the Exit Control List (ECL). Officials said that the federal cabinet members have given the permission to the former premier Nawaz Sharif to go abroad for medical treatment after placing a condition prior to the removal of his name from the no-fly-list. Sharif's name will be moved out from the no-fly-list for a limited period, whereas, he will have to submit security bonds to get the formal permission. The conditions tabled by the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) have also come forth as the anti-corruption watchdog sought submission of guarantee money that worth the same with its surety bonds submitted for its bail or property. NAB sources said that the decision was taken in view of the previous trends where persons moving abroad did not return to home nor any institution made any significant move to bringing them back to Pakistan from a foreign country. Earlier, the second round of federal cabinet's subcommittee meeting - headed by Law Minister Farogh Naseem - deliberated on removal of former prime minister and Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz) supremo Nawaz Sharif's name from the ECL.

The subcommittee members had expressed strong anger over the accountability watchdog and asked it to clarify its viewpoint after talking to a 'competent authority'. The subcommittee is preparing its recommendations in the ongoing session and will forward them to the federal cabinet which will take the final decision under Prime Minister Imran Khan. Notices regarding the subcommittee meeting were issued to all parties - including Leader of the Opposition in the National Assembly and PML-N President Shehbaz Sharif, Secretary Health Punjab and medical board - to ensure their presence with required documents. PML-N leader Ataullah Tarar is representing party president Shehbaz Sharif - who had filed the application to remove Nawaz Sharif's name from the ECL - in the meeting. On Monday, the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) said the government itself should look into the matter of excluding Nawaz Sharif's name from the ECL. The anti-graft watchdog had returned the matter to the interior ministry after it sent the PML-N supreme leader's medical reports to the NAB. Nawaz Sharif was scheduled to travel UK on Qatar Airways flight QR629 yesterday. However, his ticket had been cancelled as the authorities did not remove his name from the ECL.

Haley attacks Pak for supporting terror

Washington, Nov. 12: Former US Ambassador to the UN Nikki Haley has said that Pakistan harbours terrorists who "go out and try to kill American soldiers." In her latest book With All Due Respect: Defending America with Grit and Grace that hit the stores Tuesday, Indian-American Haley wrote that US President Donald Trump was outraged when she presented to him her finding that despite being one of the largest recipient of American aid, Pakistan not only voted against US at the UN, but also harboured terrorists. We give Pakistan more aid than all but a handful of countries. In 2017 the US gave their military almost USD 1 billion in aid. Pakistan opposes us at the UN a full 76 percent of the time. What's worse, Pakistan harbours terrorists who go out and try to kill our American soldiers, Haley wrote in her latest book. I brought these findings and others to President Trump. He was outraged. Soon after, he asked Congress to pass legisla-



Nikki Haley

tion ensuring that US foreign aid only goes to promote US interests and US friends, the former top American diplomat said. Humanitarian assistance will always be a priority for the United States, she said, adding that the US will always be generous when it comes to saving lives and alleviating suffering. That's who we are as people. But we should not be the country of mindless handouts. Our focus should be on helping countries that want our help trying to stand on their own two feet, moving from humanitarian assistance to self-reliance. — PTI

CLIMATE | CHANGE Study applies new way of calculating destruction caused by hurricanes

Hurricanes are thrice more frequent since 1900

London, Nov. 12: Hurricanes have become more destructive since 1900 with the worst of them more than 3 times as frequent now than a century ago, according to a study which has used a new way to calculate the effect of climate change on hurricane size, strength, and damaging force. The researchers, including those from the University of Copenhagen in Denmark, applied a new way of calculating the destruction caused by hurricanes, compensating for the societal change in wealth since the 1900s. The results of their study, published in the journal PNAS, revealed a steep increase in the frequency of the most

destructive hurricanes that routinely create havoc on the North American south and east coasts. "We find that hurricanes are indeed becoming more damaging. The frequency of the very most damaging hurricanes has increased at a rate of 330 per cent per century," the researchers wrote in the study. Traditionally to estimate and compare the destructive force of hurricanes, scientists surveyed the subsequent cost of the damage done by each of them, the study said. This meant calculating what the destruction by a hurricane from the 1900s would cost if it made landfall today, the researchers said.



In this file photo floodwaters from Hurricane Katrina fill the streets near downtown New Orleans. — AP

They said in the old method the majority of increased destructive

capacity of hurricanes was attributed to more people living now than a

century earlier, who are more wealthy, and possess more costly infrastructure

that suffer damage. "It is necessary to account for temporal changes in exposed wealth, in a process called normalization, before we can compare the destructiveness of recorded damaging storms from different areas and at different times," the study said. However, they said, the earlier methods did not account for the climatic change in destructive force by hurricanes. The current method, the researchers said, eliminated doubts regarding the effect of climate change on hurricane size, strength and destructive force, while also factoring in the changes in wealth among neighbourhoods they have struck. — PTI



Ransomware attack

A ransomware attack hit computer servers and halted administrative work on Monday at Mexican state oil firm Pemex

SHORT TAKES

4TH DESIGNUP EXPLORES DESIGN IN TECH

New Delhi, Nov. 12: Understanding Delhi's air pollution through data visualisation, using artificial intelligence (AI) to assist one's creativity, and utilising a multitude of sensors to present interactive data are some of the ideas that will be explored at the fourth edition of DesignUp.

To be held here at The Lalit Ashok starting Tuesday, the event will host a series of conversations around the theory and practice of design in technology, encompassing emerging technologies and evolving methodologies.

Organisers said it is aimed at raising the design agenda within tech-companies and tech-led businesses, while exploring the future of design in technology.

"In tech-led businesses, experience design is a critical differentiator. Design is what makes tech edible and appetising, makes products and services useful and usable.

"At DesignUp, we shine the spotlight on inspiring stories of design-in-tech, delve deep into uncharted territories subjects that won't be found in curricula for some years more, straight from the researcher's or practitioner's playbook," said Jay Dutta, Founder-Curator of DesignUp.

The five-day festival will showcase the possibilities of integration of design and technology, with experiential conferences, workshops, screenings, talks, design-pop-ups, salons.

Highlights include a food walk through some of the oldest markets in the city, followed by an evening exploring Bangalore's newest love affair — Microbreweries. — PTI



GOOGLE TO GIVE SLOW WEBSITES A NEW BADGE

New Delhi, Nov. 12: With 5G right around the corner, people don't expect to wait too long for their website to load. Now, Google plans to slow-shame such websites with a new badge, it said in a blog-post.

One of the key focuses of the Chrome Developer Summit this year is speeding up the web, and that includes offering developers tools to help their sites and web apps load quicker.

In the blog, Google said, "This may take a number of forms and we plan to experiment with different options, to determine which provides the most value to our users. Badging is intended to identify when sites are authored in a way that makes them slow generally, looking at historical load latencies." — Agencies

FB TO ALLOW USERS TO GET RID OF RED DOT

New Delhi, Nov. 12: Finally, Facebook has started to roll out the feature to disable the annoying red notification dots. The social network, reports Engadget, has confirmed that it's rolling out a Shortcut Bar Settings feature on iOS (coming to Android in the weeks ahead) that gives you control over what you see at the bottom of its mobile app.

Press and hold on any of the buttons in the bar and you can remove a tab or simply silence its notifications. If Marketplace keeps bugging you to look at items you don't want, you can silence those alerts forever. You can also manage the bar to customize it to your liking.

A spokesperson, in a statement, told Engadget, "We are rolling out navigation bar controls to make it easier for people to connect with the things they like and control the notifications they get within the Facebook app." — Agencies

Google reveals 'Project Nightingale'

The tech giant had secretly been gathering personal health data of users, according to WSJ report

AGs meet to discuss antitrust probe

New York/Washington, Nov. 12: State attorneys general are meeting on Monday in Colorado to discuss their probe into whether Google's business practices break antitrust law, according to two sources knowledgeable about the meeting.

Perhaps about a dozen states were expected to send representatives to the meeting, one of the sources said.

The gathering was

expected to be similar to one held in New York in October, where state and federal enforcers from the Justice Department and Federal Trade Commission discussed their probe of Facebook.

The probe of Google, a unit of Alphabet, is being led by the Texas attorney general's office. That office did not respond to a request for comment, and a spokesman for the Colorado attorney gener-

al's office declined comment.

Google had no comment about the meeting in Colorado but pointed to a blog post from September in which an executive, Kent Walker, said that the company has "always worked constructively with regulators and will continue to do so."

Texas sent the search and advertising giant a subpoena on Sept. 9 asking for information about

its online digital advertising business, which generates most of Google's revenue and where Google is a dominant player. Google faces two other major inquiries — a US Justice Department investigation and a probe by the House of Representatives Judiciary Committee — both of which have broad reviews of the big internet companies underway.

— Reuters

solutions at Google Cloud.

In a press release, Ascension said the partnership is in compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) which safeguards medical information.

Google Cloud Chief Executive Officer Thomas Kurian has made it a priority in his first year on the job to aggressively chase business from leaders in six industries, including healthcare.

The company previously touted smaller healthcare clients, such as the Colorado Center for Personalised Medicine.

Though cloud storage is a business with thinning profit margins, Google Cloud has said it hopes to separate itself from larger rivals Microsoft Azure and

Amazon Web Services with a superior slate of high-margin AI tools.

Ascension said it aims to use AI to help improve clinical effectiveness as well as patient safety.

Google's blog post did not mention AI, but said the companies were in "early testing" on how to make better use of Ascension's data. Google has spent several years developing artificial intelligence to automatically analyze MRI scans and other patient data to identify diseases and make predictions aimed at improving outcomes and reducing cost.

The news follows an earlier announcement from Google that it would buy Fitbit for \$2.1 billion, aiming to enter the wearables segment and invest in digital health. — Reuters

ALL GAMES COMING TO GOOGLE STADIA AT LAUNCH

Wondering what games will be available to play on launch day for Stadia? Here's our day one lineup for November 19 with more titles coming by the end of 2019.

Available at Launch
Bungie: Destiny 2: The Collection (included in Pro subscription tier)
Drool: Thumper
Gwen Frey: Kine
Rockstar Games: Red Dead Redemption 2
SNK: Samurai Shodown
Square Enix: Tomb Raider Definitive Edition, Rise of the Tomb Raider, Shadow of the Tomb Raider Definitive Edition
Tequila Works: Gylt (Stadia exclusive)
Ubisoft: Assassin's Creed Odyssey, Just Dance 2020
Warner Bros.: Mortal Kombat 11



- 2019**
- 2K Games:** Borderlands 3
 - Bandai Namco:** Dragon Ball Xenoverse 2
 - Giants Software:** Farming Simulator 19
 - Koei Tecmo Games:** Attack on Titan 2: Final Battle
 - Sega:** Football Manager 2020
 - Square Enix:** Final Fantasy XV
 - THQ:** Darksiders Genesis
- 2020**
- 2K Games:** NBA 2K20
 - Bethesda:** Rage 2
 - Wolfenstein:** Youngblood
 - Codemasters:** GRID
 - Deep Silver:** Metro Exodus
 - Ubisoft:** Tom Clancy's Ghost Recon Breakpoint, Trials Rising



Washington, Nov. 12: Microsoft said in a blog post on Monday that it would honour California's privacy law throughout the United States, expanding the impact of a strict set of rules meant to protect consumers and their data.

Microsoft said in the post it was a "strong supporter" of the California Consumer Privacy Act, known as CCPA, which will go into effect on Jan. 1.

The California law is widely expected to harm profits over the long term for technology companies, retailers, advertising firms and other businesses dependent on collecting consumer data to track users and increase sales.

The law raised fears among companies of a rise in a patchwork of



state laws and prompted efforts in Washington to write federal legislation that would pre-empt state efforts.

In September, Reuters was first to report that the federal privacy bill is not likely to come before Congress this year as lawmakers disagreed over several issues.

"Under CCPA, companies must be transparent about data collection and use, and provide people with the option to prevent their personal informa-

tion from being sold. Exactly what will be required under CCPA to accomplish these goals is still developing," Julie Brill, Microsoft's chief privacy officer, wrote in the post.

"Microsoft will continue to monitor those changes, and make the adjustments needed to provide effective transparency and control under CCPA to all people in the U.S.," Brill wrote.

Microsoft products that collect data include its

China's digital currency won't seek 'full control' of individuals' details

Singapore, Nov. 12: China's proposed digitized domestic currency is not a bid to gain full control of information belonging to the general public, a senior central bank official said on Tuesday, adding that the goal was to balance privacy concerns and the authorities' need for information.

China is preparing to be the first country to roll out a digitized domestic currency, a development that is being closely watched by the world's financial services industries, though few details are currently available.

Akin to Facebook's proposed Libra digital currency and other cryptocurrencies such as bitcoin, the officially-named Digital Currency



Electronic Payment will be powered partially by blockchain technology and dispersed through digital wallets.

What sets it somewhat apart, however, is that the digital currency's design seemingly provides Beijing with unprecedented oversight over money flows, giving Chinese authorities a degree of control over their economy that most central

banks do not have.

"We know the demand from the general public is to keep anonymity by using paper money and coins ... we will give those people who demand it anonymity in their transactions," Mu Changchun, head of the People's Bank of China's digital currency research institute, told a conference in Singapore.

"But at the same time we will keep the balance between the 'controllable anonymity' and anti-money laundering, CTF (counter terrorist financing), and also tax issues, online gambling and any electronic criminal activities," he added.

"That is a balance we have to keep, and that is our goal. We are not seeking full control of the

information of the general public."

It is not clear when the new digital currency will be launched.

Mu told a public forum in August that it was "almost ready". However, in September, Chinese central bank chief Yi Gang said there was no timetable for its roll out and that it still needed to meet requirements, and again referenced anti-money laundering.

Mu said on Tuesday that the goal of the project was to create a new system in case of problems with China's existing financial infrastructure, where electronic payments are currently dominated by just two players, and to boost financial inclusion in rural areas. — Reuters



FB BETS ON ML TO BEAT FACIAL RECOGNITION

DC CORRESPONDENT WITH AGENCY INPUTS HYDERABAD, NOV. 12

Like everything, each new technology has its pros and cons. Now, social networking giant, Facebook, having been lampooned for its inability to protect the users' personal data, hopes its research team will give it the biggest weapon to beat facial recognition system, TechCrunch reported on Tuesday.

According to the report, researchers from Facebook presented a paper on modifying faces in motion at the International Conference on Computer Vision. The feature, which has come to be associated with deepfakes, can actually be used to fool facial recognition system, the researchers said.

"Deepfakes use a carefully cultivated understanding of the face's features and landmarks to map one person's expressions and movements onto a completely different face. The Facebook team used the same features and landmarks, but instead uses them to tweak the face just enough that it's no longer recognizable to facial recognition engines," the report said.

This could allow someone who, for whatever reason, wants to appear on video but not be recognised publicly to do so without something as clunky as a mask or completely fabricated face. The system they created appears to work well, but would of course require some optimisation before it can be deployed. — Reuters

Disney+ bets on Star Wars, classics on launch

Fondness for past favourites will be key for Disney+, as it competes in a crowded market

Los Angeles, Nov. 12: During commercial breaks in a broadcast of World Wrestling Entertainment's WWE SmackDown, fans were shown ads for Walt Disney Co's new streaming service, Disney+. So were "Monday Night Football" viewers and video gamers watching Twitch.

"Try to keep up," said Captain Marvel in one ad after a series of fast-paced clips from "Star Wars," "The Simpsons," "The Avengers" and other Disney-owned hits from outside of its deep catalogue of children's classics. Disney's marketing force is reaching beyond its traditional family audience to send a message that its \$7-a-month subscription service Disney+ offers something for all ages. The service debuted on Tuesday in the US, Canada and The Netherlands.

"It's incumbent upon us to market it the right way to emphasize the fact that it's not just for kids," Disney executive Kevin Mayer said during a briefing at the company's

LAUNCH DAY WOES

- The launch day crunch is causing some problems for Disney+.
- After going live in the wee hours of the morning, Disney's streaming service is now showing "unable to connect" errors as customers on the east coast begin waking up, signing up for their free trial, and exploring the Disney+ catalog.
- Not everyone seems to be running into the errors, but reports are spiking across Twitter and other social media.

Burbank, California, headquarters. "It's all family friendly, but everyone can enjoy this product."

Disney has told investors it can hook 60 million to 90 million customers within about five years as it competes for customers in a crowded streaming market dominated by Netflix.

Signing up adults who do not have children at

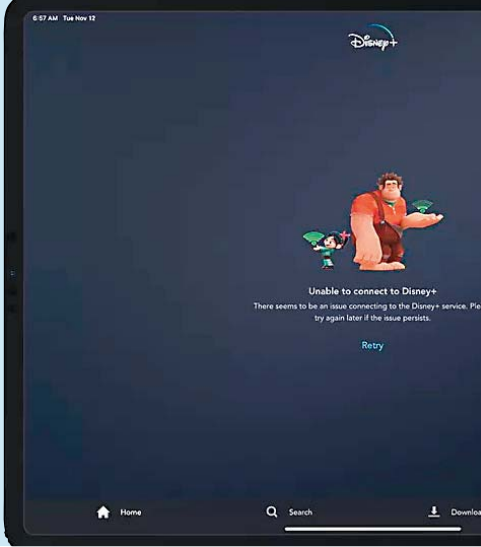
home is part of that plan.

Consumers may not realise that after a series of acquisitions Disney is much more than classics like "Cinderella" and "Mary Poppins" that charmed generations of families. The company now owns the celebrated "Star Wars" movie franchise; Iron Man, the Hulk and dozens of other Marvel superheroes; "Toy

Story" animation house Pixar; and nature programming channel National Geographic.

Previously released movies and TV series from all of those brands, plus 30 seasons of "The Simpsons," are available on Disney+ alongside decades of Disney's family-centric offerings.

Disney+ also offers new programming from those



brands.

To raise awareness, the company is promoting Disney+ during sports and primetime TV telecasts to get in front of what Hollywood calls the four quadrants of viewers: male, female, young and old.

"We're unmatched in quality and appeal across our four-quadrant audience spanning a variety of genres, formats and arenas, and will continue to build on that year after year," said Ricky Strauss, president of content and marketing for Disney+.

In addition to the wrestling, football and gaming contests, ads ran during the World Series and the ABC News late-night program "Nightline," and on social media networks.

Early testing in The Netherlands, where Disney offered a free two-month trial of Disney+, attracted a "very large and diverse audience," said Mayer, who runs Disney's direct-to-consumer and international unit. "Marvel's Agents of SHIELD," a series aimed

at 18- to 49-year olds, ranked as the most-watched piece of content, Mayer said. Next was tween-oriented show "The Suite Life of Zack & Cody" followed by "Disney's Mickey Mouse Clubhouse," a cartoon for young children.

"Our hypothesis was we will have a lot of different types of viewership, that it's not going to be centered among any one of our brands," Mayer said. "It's quite a nice confirmation of what we want accomplished."

The initial response in The Netherlands has cheered industry analysts. "They have some surprising and encouraging signs about this potential that Disney+ is not just kids and family," Forrester analyst Jim Nail said.

But unlike Netflix, Disney+ limits how far its programming will go to attract older viewers.

Most Indians trust gold more than currencies

CG Power asks promoter firms to return ₹3,300 cr

Overleaf

quick BITES

INDICATORS		%
Sensex	40,345.08	+0.05
Nifty 50	11,913.50	+0.04
S&P 500	3,100.89	+0.45
Dollar (₹)	71.56	+0.26
Pound Sterling (₹)	92.10	+0.01
Euro (₹)	79.03	0.10
Gold (10gm)* (₹)	37,590	-0.24
Brent crude (\$/bbl)*	\$62.60	+0.42
IN 10-Yr bond yield	+6.561	+0.007
US 10-Yr T-bill yield	+1.943	+0.010

* As of 9:30 pm IST

IOC in talks with Rosneft to buy Russian oil

Indian Oil Corporation is in talks with oil major Rosneft to explore the possibility of importing Russian oil, its Chairman Sanjiv Singh said in Abu Dhabi. “We are trying to explore if we can increase the Russian crude volume coming to India..We are in discussion with Rosneft and we are hopeful that something should work,” Singh said.

Some e-retailers into predatory pricing: Goyal

Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said some e-commerce companies are indulging in predatory pricing which is adversely impacting small retailers. “I would like to highlight the adverse impact of predatory pricing indulged by some e-commerce players which adversely impact millions of small retailers,” he said at the BRICS meet at Brasilia.

JSW Steel rating outlook revised to negative

India Ratings and Research (Ind-Ra) has affirmed JSW Steel Limited's long-term issuer rating to IND AA and revised the company's outlook to negative from stable. The rating on the company's Rs 5,351 crore NCD was also revised. The outlook revision reflects Ind-Ra's view of a higher-than-expected fall in per tonne Ebitda and consequent deterioration in credit profile.

Amazon brings Project Zero to fight fakes

Amazon said it has rolled out 'Project Zero' in India that will provide brands with additional tools to identify and remove counterfeits from its platform. The initiative was launched earlier this year in the US, Europe and Japan. “Project Zero builds on our long-standing work and investments to ensure that customers always receive authentic goods when shopping on Amazon,” an official said.

■ Scale has become crucial in automotive industry

Tata approaches BMW, Geely in partner search

SIDDHARTH PHILIP, P R SANJAI, ZHANG DINGMIN & ELISABETH BEHRMANN NOV. 12

Tata Group, the owner of Jaguar Land Rover, has approached carmakers, including China's Zhejiang Geely Holding Group Co. and BMW AG, as it seeks partnerships for the beleaguered British automotive business, people with knowledge of the matter said.

India's largest conglomerate has said it's open to finding partners for JLR to save on costs and share the burden of investing in electric vehicles. The deliberations were at an early stage and Tata could still approach other potential partners, the people said, asking not to be identified because the information is private. It wasn't immediately clear how receptive Geely and BMW were.

“There have been no talks with Tata or JLR,” Geely said in a statement. BMW declined to comment, as did Tata, whose chairman has previously ruled out an outright sale of the unit.

Any tie-up with a Chinese automaker could potential-

Faces acute challenges: Moody's

New Delhi, Nov 12: Tata Sons infusing \$914 million (around Rs 6,542 crore) equity in Tata Motors is credit positive for the company, but the automaker faces acute challenges in sluggish economic growth, weak liquidity, and tight financ-

ing norms, Moody's Investors Service said on Tuesday. Moody's assigned a Ba3 rating to the proposed senior unsecured notes to be issued by Tata Motors. The rating outlook is negative, Moody's said in a statement.

—PTI

programme to offer electric variants for each of its new models from 2020. The British carmaker was an early mover among incumbent manufacturers with the electric i-Pace crossover, introduced last year.

“Carmakers need to invest a lot of money in developing new technology, and Tata doesn't have deep pockets to keep funding development,” said Deepesh Rathore, an independent auto analyst in Bengaluru. “You don't want to be left behind, especially in the luxury segment, and at the same time, Tata doesn't want to let go of JLR, which is its crown jewel.”

ly help JLR in that market, where its struggles led to a \$3.9 billion writedown earlier this year. Deeper ties between the British luxury brand and BMW would build on an existing collaboration to develop engines and electric-drive technology, though the German carmaker's former CEO in August ruled out any equity investment.

Scale has become increasingly crucial in the automotive industry as carmakers pool resources to tackle electrification and autonomous driving. The challenge is especially daunting for smaller players such as JLR, which has committed to an ambitious

States being told to dismantle APMCs: FM

FC BUREAU NEW DELHI, NOV. 12

Pitching for a unified market for farm produce, the Centre on Tuesday urged all states to adopt the central government's pan-India electronic trading portal that networks the existing mandis to create a national market for agricultural commodities.

Addressing a National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (Nabard) event, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said states are being cajoled to reject the Agricultural Produce Market Committees (APMCs) and adopt electronic National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) so that farmers get better price for their produce.

“We're making sure that the states are cajoled to reject APMCs. It has served its purpose at one time, there's no doubt. But today, there are many difficulties associated with the agricultural produce market committee, which at every state level has become not so efficient in

helping the farmers find better price points for their produce,” Sitharaman said.

Recently, the Centre has promoted e-NAM extensively in many states. “We are talking with states to sort of dismantle that (APMC) and move towards e-NAM for farmers,” she added.

So far, 21 e-NAM mandis of eight states, namely Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh, had joined hands to start interstate trade on e-NAM. As many as 136 interstate transactions and 14 commodities, which include vegetables, pulses, cereals, oilseeds and spices, have been traded under interstate trade through e-NAM platform.

Started with 25 commodities, e-trade facilities have been provided on 124 commodities with tradable parameters on the e-NAM portal. Through interstate trade, farmers get better market access, prices and more buyers/traders.

Infosys faces another whistleblower complaint, CEO accused of misdeeds

ASHWIN J PUNNEN Mumbai, Nov. 12

IT major Infosys Technologies is hit by yet another whistleblower complaint as fresh accusations have come up against the Bengaluru-based company's Chief Executive Officer Salil Parekh of committing misdeeds.

Claiming to be an employee in the company's finance department, the whistleblower urged the Chairman and the board of directors to act against CEO.

“Though it is a year and 8 months since Mr Parekh joined the company, he operates from Mumbai in violation of the condition that the CEO has to be based in Bengaluru and not Mumbai. What is stopping the board to insist on his movement to Bengaluru,” said the whistleblower in an unsigned and undated letter to Infosys Chairman Nandan Nilekani and Independent Directors.

The letter said as Mr Parekh did not relocate to



Bengaluru even after he was given two months to do and was visiting the tech hub twice a month, the techie said the company had incurred Rs 22 lakh towards his airfare and local transportation.

“Four business class tickets per month plus home to airport drop in Mumbai, airport pick-up in Bengaluru and drop on the return journey,” alleged the whistleblower.

This is the second whistleblower's complaint after a few anonymous employees accused Mr Parekh and Chief Financial Officer Nilanjan Roy of unethical practices in a two-page letter to the board on September 20.

Referring to the CEO's record of visits to Bengaluru, the complaint said Mr Parekh leaves Mumbai leisurely at 10 a.m. and reaches Bengaluru by 11.30 a.m. and office by 1.30 p.m.

“Mr Parekh spends an afternoon in office and next forenoon he is off to Mumbai by 2 p.m. This kind of involvement of the CEO in the company is the worst that we have seen till date. This, unfortunately, is not setting the right example for other employees to follow. Incidentally, it has become the norm. Many people have started working from home and nobody to ask them any questions. Even

if tough managers want to ask questions, how would they as the CEO himself is working from home,” the letter said.

When the first letter became public on 22 October, Infosys stock plunged about 16 per cent and since then, the stock has recovered 9.5 per cent.

Infosys said to have hired PwC to investigate two whistleblower complaints alleging financial malfeasance against chief executive Salil Parekh and finance chief Nilanjan Roy.

Alleging that Parekh has made several personal investments into small companies in Mumbai and hence he is staying in Mumbai to have better oversight on his investments, the complaint states that this is a gross violation of value system and this needs to be investigated and suitable action for termination should be initiated.

The whistleblower said he has heard that Parekh keeps visiting the USA every month in order to retain his Green Card.

Solar installations drop 35% in first half

RITWIK MUKHERJEE KOLKATA, NOV. 12

Solar installations in India dropped 35 per cent (year-on-year) in the first half (H1) of 2019. The significant drop notwithstanding, India remains the third largest solar market in the world behind China and the US. In H1 2019, India installed 3.2 GW of solar power across the country.

Rooftop solar installations accounted for 17 per cent of total solar installations in the first half of 2019, a decline of 45 per cent compared to H1 2018. Cumulative rooftop installations totalled nearly 3,816 MW as of June 2019.

However, between July 2019 and September 2019, India added more than 2.2 GW of solar energy capacity. Cumulative solar installations at the end of September 2019 reached 33.8 GW, representing 9.2 per cent of India's total power generation capacity.



Another significant trend is that despite many policy measures by the Centre to support the domestic solar manufacturing industry, many micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in the solar segment feel that these policies have created rather more hurdles than simplifying issues. These are companies that operate as manufacturers of solar modules, ancillary products, system integrators, and raw material suppliers in the solar photovoltaic (PV) space, according to a recent study by Mercom Capital Group Plc.

These companies, accord-

ing to Mercom study, are facing challenges because of the DCR (domestic content requirement) policy, where there just isn't enough cell manufacturing capacity in India. The large integrated manufacturers are using their cell manufacturing capacity for their own module lines, which has to lead to a scarcity of domestically manufactured solar cells. If the government is serious about giving module suppliers in India a boost, they need to relook at DCR. There are only about 16 solar cell manufacturers in India and of them, only nine have a manufacturing

capacity of 100 MW or higher.

It pointed out that whether it is the solar pumps or rooftop solar projects that mandate domestic content requirements, the recent policies only favoured the bigger manufacturers.

For instance, EESL announced a tender for 175,000 solar pumps, but only manufacturers of pumps and modules could participate, giving no opportunity for SMEs or MSMEs. To participate in one cluster out of the 13-14, the bid required bonds amount to Rs 3.25 crore (\$460,000), the minimum eligibility is Rs 50 crore (\$7 million) in turnover over the last three financial years. The bank guarantees are huge, the working capital requirement is high, and there is also a unique clause that the bills will be entered for processing the payment only after 1,000 solar pumps are installed.

Uber India gets more than ₹1,700 crore from parent

SANGEETHA G CHENNAI, NOV. 12

Cab-hailing company Uber has invested Rs 1,767 crore in its India business. The investment is expected to strengthen its food delivery business as well as its new ventures in India.

The Netherlands-based Uber International Holding BV and Uber International BV have allotted 11, 128,746 shares of nominal value of Rs 10 for a premium of Rs 1,578 to Uber India Systems. As per a regulatory filing to the Registrar of Companies, the investment was approved on October 29.

“We estimate that a large part of this allocation would go towards to Eats business, therefore posing a direct challenge to other food delivery companies

UberEats has not been able to expand itself to the size of Swiggy and Zomato.



such as Swiggy and Zomato,” said Vivek Durai, CEO and co-founder of data intelligence company Paper.vc.

Zomato and Swiggy have recently raised funding to compete in the high cash-burn business of food delivery.

In order to compete with them, the parent company seems to have pumped in money into the Indian business. UberEats has not been able to expand itself to the size of Swiggy and Zomato.

While the global food delivery arm grew around 10 per cent in the last

quarter, Indian business suffered losses and this had pulled down the global growth. Further, as per reports, the cab-hailing and food delivery business have been brought under Uber India Systems recently.

Apart from food delivery, Uber may also look at bringing in new businesses like UberMoney, which includes a digital wallet and upgraded debit and credit cards, into India.

It has also partnered with the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation to provide public transport from the metro stations in Delhi.

Economic Uncertainty Index low

FROM PAGE 1

Countries have witnessed 22 to 716 basis point decline between June 2018 and June 2019, and India cannot be isolated. “India is also significantly lower in Economic Uncertainty Index when compared globally,” the SBI report said.

Nevertheless, DBS Bank, in its daily report on Tuesday, said that India's July-September quarter GDP numbers could be crucial for the country. “India's July-September quarter GDP data, scheduled for a release on November 29, will be important as headline growth has already slipped to a six-year low to 5 per cent year-on-year in the quarter ending June,” it said.

“A disappointing GDP report could lift \$/Rs above its two-month range between 70.5 and 71.5 and bring it closer to the year's high at around 72.5,” the DBS report noted, adding that the Indian rupee depreciated to 71.47 from 71.29 on Monday.

Meanwhile, the SBI research report, however, remained hopeful that economic growth rate would pick up pace in 2020-21 to 6.2 per cent. “To propel economic growth, the RBI may go for larger rate cuts in its December monetary policy review,” it said.

Against growth slowdown, the SBI note, however, suggested, “It is imperative that India adheres to no negative policy surprises in sectors like telecom, power and NBFCs. For example, it is imperative that a lasting solution is worked out for the NBFC sector that has been much delayed now.”

Last month, while reducing the key policy or repo rate by 25 basis points for the fifth time in a row, RBI had also reduced its growth forecast to 6.1 per cent for 2019-20 from 6.9 per cent. “We are revising our GDP forecast for 2019-20 to 5 per cent from 6.1 per cent earlier,” the SBI report said.

“We expect larger rate cuts from the RBI in December policy. However, such rate cut is unlikely to lead to any immediate material revival, rather, it might result in potential financial instability as debt financed consumption against an increasing household leverage had not worked in countries and India cannot be an exception,” it added.



Nick Read

Posts loss on India fallout

London, Nov. 12: Vodafone on Tuesday posted a net loss of more than 2.1 billion euros in its first half after India's Supreme Court ordered telecoms companies to pay long-standing bills. In the six months to September 30, the British group's loss after tax stood at 2.128 bn euros (\$2,735 bn).

—AFP

Chairman Gerard Kleisterlee met Indian government officials in September and set out the relief proposals, arguing that Vodafone was the largest foreign direct investor in the country. A government committee is considering the request.

—Bloomberg

TCS, Infosys SEZ proposals to be taken up

New Delhi, Nov 12: The government will consider on Friday the proposals of TCS and Infosys to set up special economic zones (SEZ) in IT sector.

The proposals will be taken up by the Board of Approval, in its meeting on November 15. The inter ministerial body is chaired by the Commerce Secretary.

Infosys has proposed to set up two SEZs—one each in Kancheepuram and Pune—according to the agenda paper of the board meeting.

The proposed investment for Pune project is Rs 361.53 crore, while it is Rs 336 crore for the Kancheepuram project.

Infosys has sought 5.37 hectares for Kancheepuram project and 10 hectares for the project.

TCS has sought formal approval from the government to set up IT/ITeS zone in Tamil Nadu.TCS has proposed to invest Rs 900 crore in this zone.

TCS wants an initial development centre to start operations before the deadline of March 31, 2020.

Sonalika to set up unit in China

MICHAEL GONSALVES
PUNE, NOV. 12

Sonalika International Tractors, the flagship company of Sonalika Group and India's third-largest tractor manufacturer, will set up a new tractor assembly facility in China to expand its international footprint.

The new facility would have an installed capacity to produce 50,000 engine and tractors annually. Sonalika has partnered with the Chinese Shandong Luyu Heavy Industry Company to enter lucrative Chinese market via a joint venture, Luyulika (Laizhou) Agri Machinery Company.

Both the companies will invest a total of \$10 million or Rs 70 crore in the joint venture. While the Chinese will hold a majority stake of 51 per cent and the Indian partner 49 per cent.

"Sonalika will be setting up an assembling plant in China, a first by an Indian company for engines," Yang Shao Jie, founder-chairman at Shandong Luyu Heavy Industry Company," said.

West Bank goods: Setback for Israel in EU

Brussels, Nov. 12: Food products from Israeli-occupied territories must be clearly labelled as such to avoid misleading consumers, the EU's top court ruled on Tuesday, in particular if they come from settlements there.

The European Court of Justice said that, under EU rules on food labelling, it must be clear where products are from so that consumers can make choices based on "ethical considerations and considerations relating to the observance of international law."

The ruling comes after France's top tribunal asked for clarification of rules on labelling goods from the West Bank, including annexed east Jerusalem, as well as the Golan Heights, which Israel took from Syria in 1967.

"Foodstuffs originating in the territories occupied by the State of Israel must bear the indication of their territory of origin, accompanied, where those foodstuffs come from an Israeli settlement within that territory, by the indication of that provenance," the ECJ said. —AFP

■ Receivables include ₹1,001 cr from Avantha Holdings

CG Power asks promoter firms to return ₹3,300 cr

New Delhi, Nov 12: Fraud-hit CG Power and Industrial Solutions on Tuesday said it has asked companies linked to promoter Gautam Thapar among others to return over Rs 3,300 crore and has initiated the second phase of the probe to fix responsibility for the alleged fraudulent transactions.

CG Power had in August stated that an investigation instituted by its board had found major governance and financial lapses, including some assets being provided as collateral and the money from the loans siphoned off by "identified company personnel, both current and past, including certain non-executive directors." Also, some liabilities and advances to related and unrelated parties had been understated.

In its earnings statement for the July-September quarter, CG Power on Tuesday said: "The Phase-2 investigation has been initiated by the board and update/report of the ongoing investigation shall be submitted to the board in due course. The investigation is expected to be completed by the fourth quarter of FY 2019-20."

The firm said it has issued recovery notices to seven entities demanding repayment of Rs 1,314.78 crore owed by them to the company.

Besides, its subsidiaries have sent 23 notices to recover Rs 2,095.64 crore.

"Three notices sent by the company (recovery amount Rs 452.12 crore) and nine notices sent on behalf of the subsidiaries (recovery amount Rs 429.85 crore)

► CG Power had in August stated that an investigation instituted by its board had found major governance and financial lapses

► It also said some liabilities and advances to related and unrelated parties had been understated

► It has issued recovery notices to 7 entities demanding repayment of ₹1,314.78 crore owed by them

► Besides, the company's subsidiaries have sent 23 notices to recover ₹2,095.64 crore



Gautam Thapar

have been returned undelivered," it said. "Besides, recovery notices for claims Rs 74.63 crore owed to the company and Rs 395.18 crore owed to certain subsidiaries could not be sent for want of requisite details including communication details."

CG Power said a total of Rs 3,018.62 crore was receivable from "various promoter affiliate companies and connected parties".

These include Rs 1,001.38 crore from Thapar's Avantha Holdings Ltd.

Another Rs 287.75 crore was due from Blue Garden Estate Pvt Ltd and Rs 175 crore from Acton Global Pvt Ltd—two firms which were classified as "promoter connected party".

Among parties related to the promoter group, Rs 552.33 crore was due from Ballarpur Graphics Paper Product Ltd, Rs 348.71 crore from Avantha International Assets BV and Rs 378.76 crore from Solaris Industrial Chemicals Ltd, the filing

showed.

Blue Garden Estate Pvt Ltd also had Rs 320 crore of pending loan/advance.

The board of CG Power had in August ended sacked Thapar as chairman and thereafter forced CEO K N Neelkant to resign.

CG Power reported narrowing of consolidated net loss in July-September to Rs 61.47 crore from Rs 101.83 crore in the same period of the previous year, according to the regulatory filing by the company.

Revenue from operations fell to Rs 1,541.58 crore from Rs 2,109.63 crore in Q2 of previous fiscal year.

The board of troubled power equipment manufacturer said it has withdrawn of its amalgamation plans with its wholly-owned subsidiary CG Power Solutions.

The decision to withdraw was taken in the backdrop of findings of the phase-I investigation report, which had alleged financial fraud by its former chairman Gautam Thapar.

Thapar had previously

denied wrongdoing and said no transaction was done without the knowledge of the board.

"Out of the recovery notices sent by the company, responses have been received from two entities (recovery amount Rs 108.85 crores) seeking particulars of the claim made by the company; from one entity (claim amount Rs 685.31 crores) making counter claim of Rs 525.21 crores with interest at 15.70 per cent per annum from April 30, 2019," CG Power said.

One entity (claim amount Rs 68.50 crore) has stated there is no amount outstanding and for the recovery notices sent on behalf of subsidiaries while four entities (claim amount Rs 322.72 crores) have requested for full particulars/account statements and bank statements for their perusal, it said.

"One entity (claim amount of Rs 320.91 crore) has stated that it would be entitled to offset the concerned subsidiary's claim against the monies owed by the company to that entity, and from two entities (claim amount Rs 9.20 crore) have rejected the claim of the concerned subsidiaries."

"Based on the information available with the company, the Management believes the responses received are untenable and will continue its legal options. The legal counsel appointed by the company is in the process of evaluating appropriate legal actions to be taken in respect of Undelivered Notices and Unsent Notices," the regulatory filing said. —PTI

Most Indians trust gold more than currencies

SANGEETHA G
CHENNAI, NOV. 12

Almost three-fourths of Indian investors trust gold more than currencies, a little higher than the global average. A vast majority are considering investing in gold in the next 12 months, finds a WGC survey.

WGC's survey done in major gold markets like India, China, US, Russia, Germany and Canada, found that 61 per cent of the retail investors trust gold more than currencies. In India, 75 per cent of them trust in gold. This is highest among all the major gold-consuming markets.

They find that gold is a good safeguard against inflation and currency fluctuation, it will never lose its value over the long term and owning gold makes them feel secure for the long term. They consider gold just like any other commodity such as oil or steel.

The trust is equally strong across different age groups from 18-year-old to 65-year-old. "People often ask whether the younger generations feel the same way about gold. Our data suggests that, for retail investment, they mostly do," said the report.

Among the Indian respondents, 67 per cent are considering to invest in gold and have invested in gold, 29 per cent are considering investing in gold but have not invested in the past. Only 4 per cent are not considering investing in gold.

Among those who bought gold, 44 per cent purchased it to manage risk – either to diversify their risk or move



from high to low risk investments, 31 per cent either on the recommendation of a financial advisor or a friend and 29 per cent bought it because the price was low or on an upward trend. Further, 64 per cent of people who have invested in gold in the past - be that jewellery, bars and coins or ETFs - would definitely buy again in the future

The study also finds that people's demand for gold increases with their income. This is true of retail investors and fashion and lifestyle consumers across all markets. In India, 43 per cent of people with low income have bought gold in last 12 months, 39 per cent in medium income group and 59 per cent in high income group. Globally, 26 per cent of low and middle income group people and 43 per cent of high income group have bought gold. In China, there is a clear rise in consumption with income increase. In the low income group, 40 per cent people bought gold, 60 per cent in the middle income and 78 per cent in high income.

Jaeger-LeCoultre puts up rare watches on auction

RITWIK MUKHERJEE
KOLKATA, NOV. 12

Jaeger-LeCoultre, one of the world's most renowned watch manufacturers, that has developed and produced over 1,242 calibres, ranging from ultra-thin movements to the most sophisticated Grand Complications ever since its inception in 1833, will now put up two rare Jaeger-LeCoultre timepieces at the auction—Polaris Memodate at Phillips Geneva in November 2019 and Lucky 13 at Phillips New York in December 2019.

"As these two rare watches from the mid-20th Century demonstrate, every decade has brought fresh ideas and solutions, reflecting the spirit of the times. Among the many changes brought by the 1950s and 60s – represented by each of these watches—were, on one hand, tremendous advances in technology and aerospace, and on the other, the transformation of diving from a challenging pursuit to a

widely practised leisure activity," top company officials said.

This coincides with the iconic timepiece brand identifying India and Indian collectors as one of the fastest growing markets for luxury watches.

Interestingly, as far as Jaeger-LeCoultre is concerned, India holds a very important place in its heart because it is in India that the idea of the iconic timepiece- Reverso was born, when a polo player asked for a watch that could resist the toughness of his favorite sport. It also has in its Museum a 1946 Reverso engraved with the insignia of the Rajputana Rifles, the oldest elite rifle regiment in the Indian army, founded just after the World War I. It also has a 1936 Reverso personalized with an enameled

portrait of an Indian lady whose story remains cloaked in mystery but which is a testament to the intrinsic beauty and durability of enamel.

The iconic brand is currently present in India via a network of multi brand retail stores in Mumbai, Delhi, Bangalore, Chennai, Kolkata, Hyderabad and Chandigarh.

"India is as big as a continent automatically makes it an important market for us. We witness a steady growth ...the watch collectors market is also definitely growing and more and more requests for our most exclusive timepieces come from India. Also, we see a growing desire for personalisation: personalising their watch is a unique way for owners to make it their very own," CEO, Jaeger- Lecoultre, Catherine Renier said.



Co-working to see higher scrutiny after WeWork fall

SANGEETHA G
CHENNAI, NOV. 12

The fall of WeWork will not have any major impact on the nascent co-working space in India. But investment proposals might get thoroughly vetted, finds industry.

The massive demand for co-working spaces in the country by budding entrepreneurs, tech start-ups and even the big multi-nationals is beyond dispute. Given this growth potential in India, the overall impact of WeWork's troubles on Indian co-working firms may not be significant, said Shobhit Agarwal, MD and CEO, Anarock Capital.

However, WeWork's India valuation and future expansion plans may not be deeply impacted by the recently jinxed listing plans. Its India operations are a minuscule, single-digit fragment of its global operations, he found.

"Operationally we don't think there is going to be much of an effect in India for the already running



location or even the upcoming once. The issue is that of valuation and that might impact on future expansions/growth strategy. India is a large commercial property market and demand for commercial office space continues to be heading northward. The emergence of co-working space has brought services element into the commercial space and services and will remain the key factor of survival for the co-working segment," said Shantanu Mazumder, Senior Branch Director Bangalore, Knight Frank India. "Yes, but from the investment point of view things will be relooked and only wise business proposition shall move ahead," he added.

As on 2018-end, the total supply of flexible workspaces was anywhere between 7 and 7.5 mn sq ft area and is expected to cross 10 mn sq ft by 2019-end. While demand for co-working spaces has seen steep annual growth of 30-40 per cent in previous years, trends suggest it may grow by a more moderate 15-20 per cent over the next few years. It had witnessed a 23 per cent growth in Q2 2019 over the preceding quarter across the top 7 cities.

Consolidations are happening co-working as well. It started in 2018 with major acquisitions like One Co. Work acquiring iShare Space and AltF CoWorking acquiring Noida-based Daftir India etc. This trend will continue.

Srei focuses on co-lending biz; PAT down

RITWIK MUKHERJEE
KOLKATA, NOV.12

Srei Infrastructure Finance Limited (Srei) is working on to increase its risk-weighted returns by way of expanding co-lending business with the banks. The move aims at mitigating the adverse impact of economic slow-down. This strategy seems to have paid

off, enabling the company being on the path of profitability albeit with a thinner margin. Srei on Monday notched up a consolidated profit after tax (PAT) of Rs 55.37 crore during the September quarter compared to Rs 110.97 crore in the year-ago quarter.

The company's consolidated PAT was at Rs 98.04 crore in the first six months

of this financial year against Rs 250.52 crore in the same period last year.

"Our strategy during the quarter was to constantly increase the co-lending business along with banks, so as to augment our risk-weighted returns. In the present environment of slow economic growth we have been growing carefully, protecting our margins.

We hope that by the last quarter of the year, infrastructure projects will be announced by the government in a substantial manner," said Hemant Kanoria, Chairman, Srei.

Srei Infra's total consolidated income for the quarter stood at Rs 1,424.18 crore as against Rs 1,537.43 crore recorded during the year-ago quarter.

Millennials keep a tab on credit score

FC BUREAU
CHENNAI, NOV. 12

Millennials are increasingly become conscious of their credit score and keep monitoring their score. They also try to improve their score after checking them, finds a study by TransUnion Cibil.

Millennials are the one of the most credit-conscious consumer segments in the country. Credit score monitoring millennials account for 67 per cent of the entire credit self-monitoring consumer base. The number of

score monitoring Indian millennials grew by 58 per cent between 2016 and 2018, while credit-conscious non-millennial consumers grew by just 14 per cent.

These credit-conscious millennials self-monitor their credit scores regularly and have an average Cibil Score of 740, higher than the non-millennial average of 734.

On an average, self-monitoring millennials view their Cibil report or view updates about 6 times in a year. They also demonstrate

a conscious effort to work towards improving their Cibil score. Within six months of checking their score, 51 per cent of those millennials with a score below 700 have improved their Cibil Score by an average of 65 points.

While 64 per cent of them apply for credit within three months of checking their score, 34 per cent actually avail of a new credit card and/or open a new loan account. They realize the importance of building and maintaining a positive cred-

it footprint and high Cibil Score. This credit awareness will help them be ready to take advantage of lenders' offers such as lower interest rates while applying for large ticket loans such as home loans.

They show a preference for unsecured loans, with credit cards, personal loans and consumer durable loans contributing to 72 per cent of all loans availed by this consumer segment. Among secured loans, two wheeler loans and auto loans had the highest demand.

Oil tanker to become Asia's refuelling hub

SERENE CHEONG &
JACK WITTELS
NOV. 12

A Euronav NV-owned supertanker anchored along Asia's busiest shipping route is set to become a refueling hub as the company seeks to secure cheaper fuel for its fleet ahead of new industry rules.

The Oceania, one of the world's biggest oil carriers, will serve as a floating storage and distribution centre for marine fuel in waters off Kuala Linggi International Port on Malaysia's west coast. The port will be Euronav's hub for low-sulphur fuel and marine services in the region, according to an agreement signed Tuesday with T.A.G. Marine Sdn Bhd., the port operator.

The ultra-large crude carrier with capacity of about 3 million barrels arrived off Malaysia in late-September laden with low-sulphur fuel after beginning her 12,400-mile (19,955-kilometre) journey from the Mediterranean Sea in August. Her presence in Asia will provide Euronav's fleet with a ready supply of shipping fuel ahead of the new IMO 2020 standards that take effect Jan. 1, which could prompt a scramble for low-sulphur barrels and push up prices.

While refueling activities are typically carried out from onshore terminals and



tanks in bunker ports across Singapore, Malaysia and China, the Oceania will serve as a floating storage hub. The tanker has anchored off the port with 3 million barrels of 0.2 per cent and 0.5 per cent low-sulphur fuel oil, T.A.G. Marine said in a statement.

The port operator's agreement with Euronav is a shot in the arm for Kuala Linggi port, known as Sungai Linggi, as most vessels traversing the Malacca Strait typically choose to refuel in Singapore or Port Klang in Malaysia.

— Bloomberg

OPENING
BELL
PROJECTION FOR TODAY

Tech stocks lift S&P 500, Nasdaq to record highs

A rise in technology stocks drove the S&P 500 and Nasdaq indexes to new record highs on Tuesday, while investors awaited a speech by President Donald Trump for clarity on US-China trade relations.

Hopes of a resolution to the 16-month long tariff war and a strong corporate earnings season have propelled Wall Street this month.

Trump is scheduled to discuss the country's trade policy at the Economic Club of New York later on Tuesday where investors will look for signs of concrete progress in a trade truce between Washington and Beijing.

"There is some optimism that Trump will tell people something they like to hear, whether it's the civics or a general delay in tariffs," said Willie Delwiche, investment strategist at Baird in Milwaukee.

"The focus is very much on those expectations on 'if not good news then at least the avoidance of bad news' from Trump."

Gains on Tuesday were broad based, with all 11 major S&P 500 sectors trading higher. The technology sector rose 0.5 per cent and was the biggest boost to the benchmark index.

The third-quarter corporate earnings season has also been largely better than expected. About three quarters of the S&P 500 companies that have reported results so far have topped analysts' profit expectations, according to Refinitiv data.

Also on the list is the next round of economic data, including October retail sales and industrial production, as well as comments by Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell on the domestic economic outlook.

At 11:40 a.m. ET the Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 43.08 points, or 0.16 per cent, at 27,734.57, the S&P 500 was up 11.65 points, or 0.38 per cent, at 3,098.66 and the Nasdaq Composite was up 42.67 points, or 0.50 per cent, at 8,506.95. Walt Disney Co rose 1.4 per cent as the company launched its widely awaited streaming service, Disney+, on Tuesday.

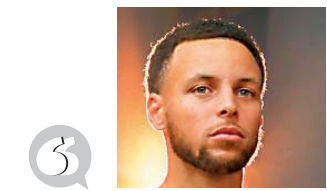
Advancing issues outnumbered decliners by a 1.65-to-1 ratio on the NYSE and by a 1.47-to-1 ratio on the Nasdaq.

— Reuters



Davis miss

Milos Raonic of Canada will miss the inaugural Davis Cup Finals against Italy next week in Madrid because of a back injury



Swelling is going to be of priority early in the rehabilitation process.

— Stephen Curry, Golden State Warriors basketball player, on his recovery process

SHORT TAKES

Football trials to pick State side

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, NOV. 12

The Telangana Football Association is conducting selection trials to pick the State team for Junior Boys Nationals at Gymkhana Grounds from Thursday. Interested players should report at the ground by 6 am along with the original and copies of their birth certificates. Players born on or after January 1, 2003 but not later than December 31, 2004 are eligible to participate.

Bronze for Yogesh at Para Worlds

Dubai: Yogesh Kathuniya overcame three foul attempts to claim the bronze medal in men's discus throw F56 final at the World Para Athletics Championships and sealed India's seventh slot at the 2020 Tokyo Paralympic Games. Praveen Kumar had ensured India's sixth qualification spot on Monday evening with a fourth-place finish in the men's high jump T64 final. He attained a personal best clearing the bar at 1.92 metres. Under International Paralympic Committee rules, the top four ranked athletes at the World Para Athletics Championships in each of the individual medal events on the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Programme (excluding Marathon) will obtain one qualification slot for their respective country. The 23-year old Kathuniya hurled the discus to a distance of 42.51 metres in his sixth attempt to take the bronze at the Para World Championship event.

— PTI



State wheelchair basketball player Koteswar Ramavat (left) is being felicitated by A. K. Khan (right), advisor to Telangana government and G. Kiran Reddy, secretary of the Sarojini Academy for being selected in the national team for the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic qualifiers scheduled to be held this month end in Thailand.

MUNICH WILL HOST EURO TOURNAMENT

Berlin: The city of Munich will host the second edition of the multi-sport European Championships in 2022, exactly 50 years after hosting the Olympic Games, it was announced Tuesday. The Bavarian capital was unanimously approved by participating European federations, meaning the championships will return to Germany after previously being held in Berlin and Glasgow. "I speak for all the participating sports when I say how delighted we are to be going to Munich," said the championships' chairman and European Athletics president Svein Arne Hansen in a statement.

Launched in 2018, the event groups together the European Championships of a number of different sports. Athletics, cycling, golf, rowing, gymnastics and triathlon have all confirmed their involvement in 2022, though swimming may not return to the programme. Having been a major part of the inaugural event last year, the European swimming federation LEN is now reportedly concerned over the facilities. "The existing infrastructure does not fulfill all the conditions," the championships' co-founder Marc Joerg said. — AFP

Clippers rap Toronto in NBA game

Los Angeles, Nov. 12: Kawhi Leonard endured a difficult night against the club he led to an NBA title but his Los Angeles Clippers surged late Monday to beat reigning champion Toronto Raptors 98-88.

The Clippers grinded defensively through the fourth quarter, allowing Toronto only 10 points in the final period as the Raptors missed six of their first seven shots while Lou Williams came off the LA bench for a game-high 21 points. "Just compete on the defensive end, contest their shots and get back on transition," Leonard said as the secret for the Clippers' late success.

Leonard had 12 points, 11 rebounds and nine assists but shot only 2-of-11 from the floor and 0-of-4 from three-point range. "That's what a championship team is about. When your star is not making shots, they step up and pull it out. That's what it's all about," Leonard said.

Leonard was the NBA Finals Most Valuable Player for Toronto in June when he sparked the Raptors over Golden



Montrezl Harrell of the LA Clippers hangs from the rim after his dunk during their 98-88 win over Raptors. — AFP

State in the best-of-seven championship series, but he departed for his hometown Clippers in July.

"It was fun to compete against them," Leonard said, calling the experience emotional but keeping his trademark composure.

"We had a fun ride last year. On and off the court we had fun," he added. Pascal Siakam led the

Raptors with 16 points and 10 rebounds while shooting 6-of-17 from the floor.

The Raptors, without injured Kyle Lowry, lost forward O.G. Anunoby to injury after only two minutes on the court.

Boston guard Kemba Walker scored 29 points before leaving late in the game with an injury, leading the host Celtics over

Dallas 116-106.

Celtics coach Brad Stevens called the setback "a little whiplash" and did not expect it was serious.

Jaylen Brown added 25 points and 11 rebounds, his second consecutive double double, on a night when Jayson Tatum went 1-for-18 from the floor and Luka Doncic led Dallas with 34 points.

"I'm just trying to keep winning, whatever I've got to do," Brown said.

"We wanted to be aggressive defensively. We did a pretty good job. Luka Doncic picked us apart but other than that we did a really good job. They can't all be pretty but we got the job done," Brown added.

The Mavericks (6-4) suffered their first road loss

Kashmir ready to host matches

New Delhi, Nov. 12: Real Kashmir FC co-owner Sandeep Chattoo on Tuesday said he is confident of conducting his side's home matches of the upcoming I-League in Srinagar.

The abrogation of Article 370 and ensuing the communication lockdown in the valley had raised concerns over the visiting team's security, but Chattoo said they are ready to go ahead with the home matches.

"We have unofficially been informed about our matches. We will be playing at home and 12th (December) is our first home game. You all are welcome," Chattoo said on the sidelines of the unveiling of the team's new jersey.

As the I-League entered its final stretch last season, teams such as Minerva Punjab FC and East Bengal refused to travel to Srinagar in the aftermath of the Pulwama terror attack.

Asked about the assurances from the concerned security agencies, he said they will expect the same guarantees clubs from other states get while hosting their home matches.

Be it at the dead of night or at the crack of dawn, the lone mobile phone that Real Kashmir FC's co-

We have unofficially been informed about our matches. We will be playing at home and 12th (December) is our first home game.

— SANDEEP CHATTOO
Real Kashmir co-owner

owner had provided his players would keep changing hands during the communication lockdown in the valley.

Chattoo got a phone activated with "special permission", and it was the only means through which the players could get in touch with families, in India and abroad.

"Sometimes the phone would ring at 3 o'clock in the morning, calls would come from Zimbabwe, England and Nigeria," Chattoo said.

In lighter vein, he said the snapping of phone lines and internet services worked for his team.

"I would like to believe that it helped us a lot because with internet they would waste a lot of time on net, spending too much time with their girlfriends. I am actually happy that all their concentration and energy were channelised towards our main goal," he added.

— PTI

Raghav, Ananya champs

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, NOV. 12

A. Raghavendra Sai, Sai Ananya Varanasi, Md Imran Ali and Brihat Kaleru emerged winners at the Twin Cities Tennis Tournament held at the Krishna Swamy Advanced Tennis Academy in Bowenpally, Secunderabad.

In a one-sided U-14 girls singles final, Ananya clinched an easy win over Mithra with a 6-0 scoreline.

Raghavendra of Telangana thrashed his statesmate Abhiram Chintapalli 6-2 to win the Boys U-14 singles title.

In the Boys U-16 singles final, Imran and Meer Sattar Ali put up a good fight before the former emerged victorious with a 6-3 scoreline.

In the Boys U-18 singles final, Brihat handed a hefty defeat to M. Himanshu with the scores reading 6-1.

THE RESULTS (all finals)
■ **U-8 mixed singles:** Karan Maurya (TS) bt Zoha (TS) 6-2.

■ **Boys U-10 singles:** P. Nikhilesh (TS) bt Rithvik Chitrampally (TS) 6-3.

■ **Girls U-10 singles:** G. Nishitha (TS) bt Zoha (TS) 6-3.

■ **Boys U-12 singles:** Abhiram Chintapalli (TS)

bt P. Nikhilesh (TS) 6-2.

■ **Girls U-12 singles:** Sai Ananya Varanasi (TS) bt Lakshana (TS) 6-2.

■ **Boys U-14 singles:** A. Raghavendra Sai (TS) bt Abhiram Chintapalli (TS) 6-2.

■ **Girls U-14 singles:** Sai Ananya Varanasi (TS) bt Mithra (TS) 6-0.

■ **Boys U-16 singles:** Md Imran Ali (TS) bt Meer Sattar Ali (TS) 6-3.

■ **Boys U-18 singles:** Brihat Kaleru (TS) bt M. Himanshu (TS) 6-1.

■ **Men's singles:** Raja (TS) bt Brihat Kaleru (TS) 6-3.

■ **Men's doubles:** Raja/Dilip Kumar (TS) bt Dheeraj K/ Brihat Kaleru (TS) 4-1.

Avanish, Harshwardhan tops

Ayub, Dhanraj, Pawan, Adwaith, Eshwar, Aditya shine

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, NOV. 12

Avanish Rao stole the show with his splendid 183 run knock to help Hyderabad post 261 runs against Tamil Nadu on first day of the Vijay Merchant Trophy cricket match.

Avanish hit 21 boundaries and a six in his 266-ball knock that propelled the Hyderabad total.

In another encounter, Hyderabad women scripted a three-wicket

win over Rajasthan in an Under-23 T20 Trophy match. Chasing Rajasthan's 110 for 3, Hyderabad girls replied with 111 for 7 on the last ball of the match.

Meanwhile, Harshwardhan Singh, Ayub Khan smashed centuries, where Dhanraj, Pawan Kalyan, Adwaith Reddy, Eshwar, Jyothi Aditya were the pick of bowlers in the Hyderabad Cricket Association's league matches.

Riding on

Harshwardhan's unbeaten 125, Brothers XI posted 299 for 6 against Osmania on the first day of their match.

Harshwardhan smashed 18 boundaries in his 170-ball knock to bring up his fourth century in the league this season. He had earlier got 111 against PKMCCC, 101 not out against Hyderabad Titans and an unbeaten 102 vs Johnson School.

In another match, Adwaith took 5 for 61 to bowl Visaka CC to 46-run

victory over Medak District. Replying to Visaka's 249, Medak were bowled out for 194.

Eshwar took 5 wickets for 18 runs in MCC's win over Classic.

In One-Day league, Ayub's 102 helped Vijaypuri Willowmen beat Sacred Hearts; Dhanraj's 7 for 38 went in vain as Hyderabad District lost to Ranga Reddy while Jyothi Aditya's 5 for 23 helped Vimco get the better of RR District.

BRIEF SCORES

VIJAY MERCHANT TROPHY
■ **Day-1:** Hyderabad 261/10 in 87.5 (Avanish Rao 183 — 266, 21x4, 1x6, Aman Rao 31, Rishit Reddy 27, Achyuth Bhaskar 3 for 28, S Akash 3 for 73, Md Sikander Ali 2 for 28) vs Tamil Nadu.

WOMEN'S UNDER-23 T20 TROPHY
■ Rajasthan 110/3 in 20 overs (Sumitra Kumari 50 n.o., Ayushi G 30, Chitra Maheshwari 2 for 24) lost to Hyderabad 111/7 in 20 overs (G Trisha 29, K Anitha 24, M. Suman 2 for 19). Points: Hyderabad 4, Rajasthan 0.

TWO-DAY LEAGUE
■ Visaka CC 240/10 in 69 overs bt Medak District 194/10 in 39.2 overs (B Vikram 68, Md Arfaz Ahmed 68, Adwaith Reddy 5 for 61 — 9-161-5). Points: Visaka 4, Medak District 0.

■ Classic 106/10 in 41.5 overs (K Jagadeesh Reddy 45, Eshwar 5 for 18 — 15.5-8-18-5, Srinivas Yadav 3/26) lost to MCC 108/2 in 16.1 overs (Vivek Singh 64 n.o., Pramod Mahajan 32). Points: MCC 4, Classic 0.

■ Brothers XI 299/6 in 64 Overs (A Manikanta 92, Harshwardhan Singh 125 n.o. — 170b,18x4) vs Osmania.

■ Postal 376/10 in 81.1 overs bt Jai Bhagwathi CC 178/10 in 70 overs (G. Siddhanth 32, Sahil P



Avanish Rao

30, N Dinesh 30, Shakeer Ahmed 4 for 66). Points: Postal 4, Jai Bhagwathi 0.

ONE-DAY LEAGUE
■ Vijaypuri Willowmen 327/9 in 45 overs (Ayub Khan 102, Murali 39, Shakeer Ahmed 44, Vikram 40, Lesty 3 for 55) bt Sacred Hearts 134/10 in 30.2 overs (Lesty 57, Anirudh 4 for 31, Sanveer 3 for 11).

■ Hyderabad District 106/10 in 26.1 overs (Raghuram 3 for 34, Pawan Kalyan 5 for 23) lost to RR District 109/8 in 19.2 overs (Dhanraj 7 for 38).

■ Vimco 229/8 in 45 overs (K Vishvesh 70, V



Harshwardhan

Suthan Kumar 38, Darshan 3 for 30) bt RR District 173/10 in 40 overs (Raghuram 69, Uday Kumar 46 n.o., Jyothi Aditya 5 for 23, Nishith 3 for 17).

■ Secunderabad Gymkhana 81/10 in 23.2 overs (Jitender 5 for 9) lost to Amberpet CC 82/3 in 10.2 overs (Prashanth 30).

■ Azad CC 75/10 in 19 overs (Jatin 32, Md Zaid 4 for 43, P Rahul 3 for 11) lost to Boys Town 78/1 in 12.4 overs (Mirza Huzaif Baig 57n).

■ Navjeevan Friends 113/10 in 40.4 overs (Vijaykanth 39, Md Farees Shareef 4 for 33) lost to Boys Town 116/4 in 16 overs (Salman Khan 37).

■ Hyderabad Patriots 136/10 in 31 overs (Ram Chandra 64, Koushik 3 for 31, Sharath 3 for 3) lost to LNCC 137/8 in 24 overs (Akash 36, Krishna 35 n.o).

■ Hyderabad Public School (Ramanthapur) 224/9 in 48 overs (Durga Balaji 75, Vamsi 40) bt Hyderabad Panthers 181/10 in 43 overs (Toufeeq 30, Pawan 44n.o., Durga Balaji 3 for 42).

■ CK Blues 206/10 in 44.2 overs (Tarun Sai 82, Akshay Varma 41, Pralav 5 38, Parthav Sri Sai 3 for 44) bt Sutton CC 135/10 in 44.2 overs (Aardshdeep Singh 4 for 22)

Games

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DECCAN CHRONICLE

WEDNESDAY | 13 NOVEMBER 2019 | HYDERABAD

Mancini wants Balotelli in Italian squad

Florence (Italy), Nov. 12: Italy coach Roberto Mancini would prefer to recall Mario Balotelli for his qualities as a player, not as a message against racism. Balotelli has not been called up by Mancini in more than a year. Balotelli was included in Mancini's first two squads, playing his first matches for Italy since the 2014 World Cup, but has not been called up since. "I wish Mario nothing but well. But if he should be recalled, it will be because he is doing well and can help the national team," Mancini said. — AFP

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

Corrigendum No. 1

e-Tender No. 2019/WPEngg/KRNT/WT-06 (Open)
1. Name of the work with its location : Transportation of P.Way Materials, Provision of Low Height subway (LHS) for elimination of manned level crossing gate No. 129 C, Extension of LHS 131 between Alampur Road and Kurnool Town stations and Extension of Bridge 439, 440 including panel Room in connection with setting up of CMLR Kurnool. 2. Corrigendum : Tender document has been revised. Approximate cost of work, Earnest Money Deposit and Date & Time for closing of e-tender remain unchanged. Corrigendum No.-1 can be seen on IREPS website : www.ireps.gov.in

Dy. CE/KRNT/WP
Chamber Bhawan, J.C. Road, Patna
PR/1624/WPEngg/C/19-20/24

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice

Tender No : 23/2019-20/KWA/PHC/D4/TVM. AMRUT- Supplying and erection of pump sets, transformer and electrical accessories in the Karimnall Pumping Station (Block J). EMD : Rs. 50000. Tender fee : Rs. 5000. Last Date for submitting Tender : 20-11-2019 03:00pm. Phone : 04712322303. Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in.

Superintending Engineer
PH Circle, Thiruvananthapuram

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice

Tender No: 12/2019-20/PHC/KNR. State Plan-2019-20 - WSS to Thalassery Municipality-Morakkunnur zone - Replacing old distribution pipeline along Thalassery-Kodiyeri PWD road using 160mm to 110mm PVC pipes in Thalassery Taluk. EMD: Rs. 50000. Tender fee: Rs. 5600 Last Date for submitting Tender : 26-11-2019 05:00pm Phone : 04972705902 Superintending Engineer PH Circle www.kwa.kerala.gov.in www.etenders.kerala.gov.in KWA-JB-GL-6-404-2019-20 Kannur

HLL Lifecare Limited

(A Government of India Enterprise)
CIN: U25193 KL 1966 GOI 002621
Central Marketing Office, HLL Bhawan, #26/4, Tambaram-Velachery Main Road, Pallikaranai, Chennai - 600 100. Phone : +91-44-2981 3732/34 Email: hcdcmo@lifecarehll.com

TENDER NOTICE

Sl. No. Tender Ref No. & Dt. Description Bid submission date & time
1 HLL/CMO/HCD/PMC/2019-20/EOI 001, Dt. 13.11.2019 Expression of Interest (EOI) invited in sealed bids from eligible and competent firms for selection of Project Management Consultant 03-12-2019 14.00 Hrs.

The tender document is available in our website www.lifecarehll.com. Any amendments to this tender will be published only in our website. DL 13.11.2019 VICE PRESIDENT (MARKETING)

स्वस्थ पीढ़ियों के लिए बनावट
Innovating for Healthy Generations

MISSING

A Lady named Priya 39/yrs, a mentally challenged person, an inmate of Emmanuel Krupa, an Orphanage at Kodakara, Kodakara Village, Thrissur dist., KERALA. Is missing from the above institution and a case was registered in Cr:63/2019 U/S 57 of KP Act.

This case is still under investigation in Kodakara Police Station, Thrissur district.

If anybody receive any information in regard about the aforesaid person, it may be intimated to the nearest Police Station or Police Control room or any of the under mentioned Officers whose mobile numbers is given below.

Sub Inspector of Police, Kodakara - 9497980537
Kodakara Police Station—0480 2720287

Marks of Identification Missing person
Height—5 feet, Complexion—Dark, Body - medium

RO/344/F2/2019/1 & PRD

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU - POONAMALLEE MUNICIPALITY - THIRUVALLOOR DISTRICT

R.O.C No.1135/2019/E1 E-TENDER NOTICE Dated: 12.11.2019
MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION AND WATER SUPPLY DEPARTMENT

Tenders are invited under Tamilnadu Urban Roads Infrastructure Programme 2019-20 (TURIP Phase-II) Fund by the undersigned at her office upto 3.00 pm on 28.11.2019 for the following works and the same will be opened at 3.30 pm on the same day or any other day specified by the undersigned in the presence of tenders who are present. Tender Schedule can be received on payment of schedule cost at municipal treasury or it can be downloaded from the website <http://www.etenders.gov.in> free of cost or on or before 27.11.2019 upto 4.00 pm. The tender will be received on 28.11.2019 upto 3.00 pm both online and in office. The EMD should be attached with the tenders in the form of DD payable at Chennai. For the tenders submitted through online, the EMD should be received prior to the receipt of tenders at designated place. Delay will not be accepted. Commissioner reserves right to accept or reject or cancel the tender without assign other details are available in the tender notice.

TENDER WORK DETAILS					
S. No	Name of the Work	Number of Package (Nos.)	Total Estimate cost (Rs. in Lakhs)	Bid Security 1% in Rs.	Period of Completion
Tamilnadu Urban Roads Infrastructure Programme 2019-20 (TURIP Phase - II)					
1	Providing B.T Roads, Paver block Roads and Construction of Storm water drain cover slab in Poonamallee Municipal limit under Tamil Nadu Urban Road Infrastructure Project 2019-20 (Phase - II).	2	400.00	1 % on Estimate Value	3 Months
DIPR/ 4259 /TENDER/2019 Commissioner, Poonamallee Municipality					

KERALA MEDICAL SERVICES CORPORATION LTD

(DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE, GOVT. OF KERALA)
Head Office : Thycad, Thiruvananthapuram-14,
(Telephone No. 0471-2945600, FAX No. 0471-2945647),
E-mail : edrugs@kmscl.kerala.gov.in,
website : www.kmscl.kerala.gov.in, CIN No. U24233KL2007SGC021616

No.KMSCL/DRG/ED/871/2019 Date : 12.11.2019

E-TENDER NOTICE

Online bids are invited from manufacturers/direct importers / loan licensees on behalf of Department of Health, Govt of Kerala for the procurement of following categories of drugs / supplies for the year 2020-21.

Sl. No.	Tender No. and Date	Category	No. of Items
1.	KMSCL/DRGED/II/RC/2019/011 dtd. 12.11.2019	Drugs	406
2.	KMSCL/DRGED/III-VIII/RC/2019/012 dtd. 12.11.2019	Consumables & Surgical items	154
3.	KMSCL/DRGED/SPL/RC/2019/013 dtd. 12.11.2019	Specialty Drugs	198

Pre-tender meeting will be conducted at 10.30am, on 19.11.19 at Trivandrum. The last date and time of online uploading of tenders will be 09.12.2019, 5.00 pm. The date and time of opening of Technical bid will be 13.12.2019 11.00 am. Tenders shall be downloaded and submitted online through the e-tender portal www.etenders.kerala.gov.in.

(Sd/-) MANAGING DIRECTOR (Tender Inviting Authority)



At the helm

Former allrounder Shane Watson has been appointed president of the Australian Cricketers' Association

Cricket

PAGE 15

DECCAN CHRONICLE

WEDNESDAY | 13 NOVEMBER 2019 | HYDERABAD

Different ball game

The focus is on pink ball as India gear up for Test series

3



A lot of people say, 'it's just Afghanistan', but we are proud.

— Kieron Pollard, Windies captain, upbeat after winning the ODI series against Afghanistan

SHORT TAKES

Chahar almost does it again

Thiruvananthapuram: Medium-pacer Deepak Chahar followed up his hat-trick in the final India-Bangladesh T20 international with almost a repeat, taking three wickets in the space of four balls for Rajasthan against Vidarbha in a Group 'B' match of the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy T20 tournament here on Tuesday. However, his heroics (four wickets in an over) went in vain as Rajasthan went down by 1 run (via the VJD method) finishing with 105 for 8 in a game to reduced to 13 overs due to rain. The fast-improving Deepak Chahar, who on Sunday last became the first India player to take a T20 international hat-trick and also the best ever bowling figures (6 for 7), picked up the wickets of Darshan Nalkande, Shrikant Wagh and Akshay Wadkar off the fourth, fifth and sixth balls of the final over of Vidarbha's innings, but missed the three-peat as he bowled a wide in between. His performance helped Rajasthan restrict the opponent to 99 for 9 in 13 overs. — PTI

Bangladesh look up to McKenzie

Indore: It's India's fast bowling unit which is now feared in Tests but Bangladeshi batsmen are more concerned about handling spin twins Ravichandran Ashwin and Ravindra Jadeja during the two-match series, top-order player Mohammed Mithun said on Tuesday. Mohammed Shami, Umesh Yadav and Ishant Sharma are expected to be more than a handful during the series but Mithun seemed more wary about the Ashwin-Jadeja threat. "We all know the strength of their bowling line-up. We are working on how to tackle their spinners as it is batting-friendly for the first two days but afterwards their spinners come into play as they try to attack the opposition," he said. "We are working on some technical aspects keeping our focus on how to handle them," Mithun said. They are expecting that batting coach Neil McKenzie will help them decode the Indian spinners. "Let the technical things remain inside the dressing room," he said without parting with the trade secrets. Asked to comment on India's weakness, Mithun said that he preferred to look at his own strength than opponent's weakness. "We are looking at our strength more than focusing on their weakness because no team could do well against them at their home (in the recent past). We are looking forward to do well here. Obviously it won't be easy and we need to work really hard," he said. "The five bowlers they (India) have, we cannot take any lightly because everyone is world class." — PTI

Indore, Nov. 12: The pink ball is going to be a very "different ball game", India vice-captain Ajinkya Rahane asserted on Tuesday, saying its extra lateral movement compared to the red cherry will force batsmen to play late and closer to their bodies.

Rahane, along with Test specialists Cheteshwar Pujara, Mayank Agarwal, Mohammed Shami and Ravindra Jadeja, had a couple of practice sessions with the pink ball under the watchful eyes of National Cricket Academy (NCA) Director Rahul Dravid in Bengaluru building up to the historic Day/Night Test against Bangladesh starting November 22.

"We had two good practice sessions, actually four but two with pink ball — one during the day and one under lights. It was actually exciting," Rahane said ahead of the first Test against Bangladesh starting on Thursday. "For me, it was the first time I played with the pink ball and definitely it's a different ball game as compared to red ball. Our focus was to look into the swing and seam movement and also play close to our body," Virat Kohli's deputy observed.

Rahane's assessment after his initial sessions was that the batsmen will have to tweak their technique slightly. "What we found out after the practice session was that the (new)

pink ball does a lot more than the red ball. You have to play slightly late and close to your body. We had a word with Rahul bhai as he was also there."

During the couple of Duleep Trophy seasons with the pink ball, there were complaints about spinners going out of equation. "I think they played with the Kookaburra ball in Duleep trophy, that's a different thing. With the SG ball, I am not so sure. We played against spinners in Bangalore and they were getting good revs (revolutions) on the ball. Yes, the shine is completely different to red ball but it's very hard to compare with SG ball and the kookaburra ball," he explained.

Rahane conceded that he is starting afresh with no reference point. "I've never played with the pink ball. And what I've heard from other people is that the kookaburra ball is actually really easy for the batsmen. But what we saw in Bangalore is that the SG ball was doing a bit for the fast bowlers."

"For spinners, it is difficult but it is very hard for me to say about it." — PTI

Kohli & Co. take turns to get used to new colour

Indore, Nov. 12: Skipper Virat Kohli had his first experience of negotiating a pink ball as Indian cricketers took turns to get used to the new colour during the net session ahead of the first Test against Bangladesh, starting Thursday.

The Indian team did not train under the lights and the throwdowns with the SG pink ball was part of the traditional red-ball practice session. Usually, three adjacent nets are placed — for pacers, spinner and throwdowns — for Indian team's practice.

However, on team's request, the throwdown-net was created on the other side of the ground

on separate practice turfs with a black sight-screen. It was skipper Kohli, who first faced the pink ball.

With throwdown specialists Raghavendra and Sri Lankan Nuwan Senaviratne hurling the pink stuff at express pace, the skipper looked comfortable. He looked more intent on playing defensive shots.

Once Kohli was done and went into the main nets, the other top-order batsmen including Cheteshwar Pujara mixed and matched, facing red and pink ball simultaneously. Young reserve opener Shubman Gill seemed to have taken a hit when one of the

deliveries bounced extra but it was not serious.

The Indian team will get only two full training days ahead of their first day/night Test at the Eden Gardens, starting November 22.

— PTI

VIRAT PLAYS GULLY CRICKET WITH KIDS

Indore, Nov. 12: Indian captain Virat Kohli played 'gully cricket' with children during a shoot in the Bicholi Mardana area here. Kohli, who was rested for the three-match T20 series against Bangladesh which India won 2-1, will lead the side for the two-match Test series beginning here on Thursday against the visitors.

The second match of the series will be played in Kolkata from November 22, and it will be the first Day and Night Test in which India will be a part. The video and photo of the shoot, which went viral, showed Kohli wearing a checked shirt and jeans and having fun with the children. Both Indian and Bangladeshi squads practiced at the Holkar stadium here ahead of the test match. — PTI



Virat Kohli is all smiles during a training session ahead of the first Test against Bangladesh in Indore. — AFP



Team India during a training session in Indore on Tuesday. — AFP

It was the first time I played with the pink ball. Our focus was to look into the swing and seam movement and also play close to our body. — AJINKYA RAHANE

Recovering Bhuvni trains with the Indian squad to test fitness

Indore, Nov. 12: Recovering from a hamstring injury and a side strain, pacer Bhuvneshwar Kumar assessed himself for a comeback when he participated in a "skill session" during Indian team's practice ahead of the series-opener against Bangladesh.

The Indian team management seem to have taken charge of Bhuvneshwar's

final phase of rehabilitation. Bhuvneshwar's injury has been a concern for the Indian team since he came back from the West Indies after the limited overs series.

He followed a rehabilitation programme at the National Cricket Academy. "Bhuvni is here for a skill session with the team. The team management just wants him to get into the

groove," a team source said when enquired about the pacer's presence at the net session.

He had a catching session with fielding coach R Sridhar and then participated briefly in the net session. He bowled a few deliveries from full run-up but it was evident that he wasn't going full tilt.

— PTI

Visibility at twilight could be an issue in D/N Test: Pujara

Indore, Nov. 12: Top batsman Cheteshwar Pujara feels "visibility at twilight" could be an issue when India and Bangladesh venture into the uncharted territory called Day/Night Tests later this month in Kolkata.

"I have played earlier with pink ball in the Duleep Trophy, that was good experience. Playing with pink ball at the domestic level could come in handy," Pujara told 'bcci.tv'.

Majority of the cricketers will be playing with the pink ball for the first time in their careers. However, the likes of Pujara, Mayank Agarwal, Hanuma Vihari, and Kuldeep Yadav have

experience of playing with the Kookaburra pink ball in Duleep Trophy.

"Visibility is not an issue during the day, it will be an issue in twilight and under lights, the twilight could be a little difficult. Those sessions will be crucial," Pujara added, "Most players have said that picking the wrist spinners' wrong'un is a little difficult."

For another senior player, Ajinkya Rahane, training ahead of the match will come in handy as far as acclimatisation is concerned.

"It is a new challenge, we don't know how things will pan out." — PTI



Cheteshwar Pujara

Lodha secretary warns Board on amendments

New Delhi, Nov. 12: The BCCI's plans to dilute reforms mandated by the Supreme Court amount to "ridiculing" the country's highest judicial authority, asserted Lodha committee secretary Gopal Sankaranarayanan, who had a pivotal role in drafting the revamp.

Sankaranarayanan feels the Supreme Court still has a role to play in the matter and should take appropriate steps, otherwise all its efforts to reform the BCCI's administrative structure would go waste.

"If this is permitted to be done and if it remains unchallenged in court and the Supreme Court does not either have a challenge before it or it does not take up suo motu, it will mean ridiculing of the Supreme



BCCI president Sourav Ganguly and other office bearers.

Court and everything that it did over the years," he said. The proposal to change the reformed constitution came to light last Saturday when BCCI's new secretary Jay Shah gave out the agenda for the board's annual

general meeting to be held in Mumbai on December 1. The most stunning amendments include altering the rules concerning the cooling-off period for office-bearers, relaxing various disqualification criteria

and removing the need for any changes to the constitution needing approval from the Supreme Court. "It will completely mean going back to square one as far as cricket administration and reforms are con-

cerned. Most of the significant changes would have ceased to exist," he said.

Sankaranarayanan was the secretary of the Lodha Committee, which was appointed by the apex court in 2015 to usher in reforms in cricket administration in the country. The committee was headed by former Chief Justice of India RM Lodha, along with former Supreme Court Justices RV Raveendran and Ashok Bhan.

According to Sankaranarayanan, if these dilutions are adopted, they might be challenged in the court. "They are trying to imply that they will no longer need the Supreme Court's imprimatur when it (BCCI) makes changes (to the constitution)," he said. — PTI

Hearing concludes in Dravid's conflict case, verdict out soon

New Delhi, Nov. 12: The hearing in the alleged conflict of interest case involving Indian cricketing great Rahul Dravid concluded here on Tuesday with BCCI ethics officer DK Jain saying "his order can be expected soon".

MPCA life member Sanjiv Gupta had filed a complaint against Dravid, alleging conflict of interest in his current role as National Cricket Academy (NCA) Head and being an India Cements employee. "The hearing has been concluded. You can expect my order soon," Jain said.

The 46-year-old former India captain had earlier explained his case in a personal hearing held in

Mumbai on September 26. However, the ethics officers asked Dravid to depose before him for a second time but on Monday. It is learnt the NCA chief was represented by his lawyer. "A lawyer from BCCI and complainant Gupta were also heard," a board official said.

Asked why Dravid was required to depose again, Jain added,

"There is no special reason. I had some doubts and I thought I must clarify them".

Dravid is currently the NCA Director in Bengaluru besides being a vice-president in the India Cements group, which owns the IPL franchise Chennai Super Kings. He was also the head coach of the India A and Under-19 teams before being handed the NCA role, which includes monitoring the progress of these two sides as well.

In his earlier submission, Dravid had defended himself saying he has taken leave of absence from India Cements and he has nothing to do with the Chennai Super Kings. — PTI



Rahul Dravid



Pulisic injured

Christian Pulisic will miss the United States' CONCACAF Nations League games against Canada and Cuba due to a hip injury



Climatic conditions in Dushanbe are different from India. It will be difficult.

— Igor Stimac, Indian men's football team coach, on their WC qualifier against Afghanistan

SHORT TAKES

Boxers Ankit, Amit in quarters

Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia: Two Indian boxers — Ankit Narwal (60kg) and Aman (+91kg) — advanced to the quarterfinals of the Asian Youth Championships here on Tuesday. While Aman defeated Uzbekistan's Makhmudov Mimukhsin 5-0, Ankit prevailed 3-2 over Mongolia's Tulga Oyunbaatar. However, Mohit (75kg) lost 2-3 to Kazakhstan's Bektas to bow out in the opening round itself. India were assured of two medals in the event after Komalpreet Kaur (+81kg) and Sushma (81kg) got direct entry into the semifinals owing to the small size of their respective draws in the women's competition. The event features 180 boxers — 113 men and 67 women — representing 16 countries in the continent. — PTI

Ex-Tanzania chief banned for 10 yrs

Lausanne: The former president of Tanzania's football association Jamal Emil Malinzi was suspended by FIFA on Monday from all activities related to the sport for a decade after he was found guilty of financial embezzlement. Malinzi was a former member of FIFA's disciplinary committee, and was head of the Tanzanian federation between 2013 and 2017. He admitted misappropriation of funds from FIFA, the African Confederation and his national federation and was fined £455,700 (\$503,000). The governing body sent their Financial Governance team to Tanzania in April where they set up an entire new financial management team. The move was part of FIFA's Forward Development Programme which included establishing document filing systems and accounting software. The East African nation of 55 million people is currently 133rd in the FIFA rankings. — AFP

MANISH IN LAST 16 AT PUNE EVENT

New Delhi: Indian youngster Manish Sureshkumar knocked out 16th seed Japanese Rio Noguchi to move to the pre-quarterfinals while Siddharth Rawat got the better of local favourite Arjun Kadhe at the KPIT MSLTA Challenger, here on Tuesday. On a day when 11 Indians were in action, the wiry 20-year-old from Chennai, ranked as low as 748, beat the 408th ranked Noguchi 6-3 7-6(7/4) at one hour 36 minutes. Manish took the first set rather easily but Noguchi raced to a 4-2 lead in the second set. But the young Indian clawed his way back into the second set to close the match, clinching it 46-7(4) in the tie-breaker. Manish played strongly in the tie break and hit two great forehand winners to seal the win and ensuring himself seven crucial ATP tour points. Qualifier and former national champion Dalwinder Singh proved too strong for his compatriot Kunal Anand, winning the match with consummate ease 6-3, 6-4. In the other match, Kaza Vinayak Sharma who made it to the main draw as an alternate rode his luck to conquer qualifier Tejas Chaukulkar 7-6(7/1), 6-7(7/5), 6-4 in the longest match of the day lasting 2 hours and 16 minutes. — PTI

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Games

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DECCAN CHRONICLE

WEDNESDAY | 13 NOVEMBER 2019 | HYDERABAD



Alexander Zverev returns to Rafael Nadal during their men's singles round-robin match on Day Two of the ATP World Tour Finals tennis tournament at the O2 Arena in London on Monday. Zverev won 6-2, 6-4. — AFP

Zverev in Zen mode

Defending champ humbles World No.1 Nadal at Finals

London, Nov. 12: Rafael Nadal refused to make excuses after being outplayed by defending champion Alexander Zverev at the ATP Finals as Stefanos Tsitsipas got his campaign off to a flying start. The Spanish top seed, who has never won the season-ending event, came into the tournament at London's O2 Arena under an injury cloud and was well short of his imperious best as he went down 6-2, 6-4 on Monday. In the earlier round-robin match in Group Andre Agassi, sixth seed Tsitsipas beat Daniil Medvedev 7-6 (7/5) 6-4, admitting their spiky relationship had made his job tougher. Meanwhile, Roger Federer kept alive his hopes of a seventh ATP Finals crown, beating Italian debutant Matteo Berrettini 7-6 (7/2), 6-3. The Swiss third-seed put himself under enormous pressure by losing his first match on Sunday in straight sets in Group Bjorn Borg to Dominic Thiem. In the other group, Nadal is locked in a battle with Novak Djokovic to finish as the year-end number one but was not serving flat out in practice last



Rafael Nadal reacts during his ATP Finals match against Alexander Zverev. — AFP

week due to an abdominal strain that forced him to pull out of the Paris Masters at the semifinal stage. The 33-year-old led Germany's Zverev 5-0 in head-to-head contests coming into the match but was uncharacteristically sloppy in the first set, conceding two breaks of serve.

Buoyed by his dominant start, Zverev, seeded seventh, broke in the first game of the second set to take an iron grip on the match. Nadal dug deep, urging himself on but his 22-year-old opponent proved too strong. He did not concede a single break point in the entire match. Zverev hit a total of 26

winners — double his opponent's tally — and Nadal managed just three forehand winners in the entire match. "The physical issue was not an excuse at all," said the Spanish 19-time Grand Slam champion, who said he did not feel any pain from his abdominal injury. "The only excuse is I was

The physical issue was not an excuse at all. The only excuse is I was not good enough tonight. What really matters is I need to play much better in two days. That's the only thing.
— RAFAEL NADAL
World No.1 tennis player after losing to Alexander Zverev

not good enough tonight. What really matters is I need to play much better in two days. That's the only thing," he added. Zverev, one of four players under the age of 24 at the event in London, was delighted to recapture his best form after a mixed season. "This means so much, playing here again after winning my biggest title so far in my career here last year," he said. "This means everything to me. Playing here, playing in front of you all, playing in the O2 is something that we don't have during the year, and this is so special," he added. Nadal faces a tough task now to qualify for the semifinals from the group phase. — AFP

Sourabh qualifies for main draw

Hong Kong, Nov. 12: Indian shuttler Sourabh Verma entered the men's singles main draw of the Hong Kong Open after clinching straight-game wins in his two qualifying clashes here on Tuesday. Sourabh, seeded fourth in the qualifiers, first defeated Thailand's Tanongsak Saensomboonsuk 21-15, 21-19 before getting the better of Lucas Claerbout of France 21-19, 21-19 in the final qualifying round. In the mixed doubles, the Indian pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Ashwini Ponnappa rallied from a game down to beat the Thailand duo of Nipitphon Phuangphupet and Savitree Amitrapai 16-21, 21-19, 21-17 in a 55-minute match and advance to the second round. But in another mixed doubles first round match, the Indian duo of Pranaav Jerry Chopra and N Sikki Reddy lost 10-21, 18-21 to the third seeded Thai pair of Dechapol Puavaranukroh and Sapsiree Taerattanachai to bow out of the tournament. The other Indians featuring in the men's singles main event will start on Wednesday. World No.10 Kidambi Srikanth, B. Sai Praneeth, Sameer Verma, H.S. Prannoy and Parupalli Kashyap are those in fray in the competition. While World No.1 Kento Momota unexpectedly withdrew without playing a match — leaving Indian challenger Kidambi Srikanth to advance to the second round, Sourabh's brother, Sameer will be up against Tzu Wei Wanf of Taipei. B. Sai Praneeth too has a tough opening round encounter against third seed Shi Yu Qi of China, while Prannoy and Kashyap will take on China's Huang Yu Xiang and Kenta Nishimoto of Japan. Meanwhile, badminton's Hong Kong Open started despite fresh pro-democracy protests across the financial hub with a number of the city's players qualifying for the main draw to delight their home fans. — PTI

● Shuttlers Sourabh Verma made it to the main draw of the Hong Kong Open after winning both his qualifying matches in straight games.
● World No.1 Kento Momota unexpectedly withdrew, leaving first first round opponent Kidambi Srikanth to advance in the tournament.

PRANEETH BREAKS INTO TOP 10, SRIKANTH SLIPS

New Delhi, Nov. 12: Indian shuttler B. Sai Praneeth jumped one spot to 10th while Kidambi Srikanth slipped three places to be at 13th in the latest BWF rankings issued on Tuesday. Sai Praneeth, who had won bronze at the World Championships in August, moved to top 10 while Srikanth, who was at 10th in the previous week, dropped out of the top bracket. Sameer Verma also moved up one place to be at 16th in the men's singles rankings headed by Japanese Kento Momota. In the women's singles rankings, P.V. Sindhu and Saina Nehwal remained unchanged at sixth and ninth respectively. In the men's doubles, the pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty rose two places to be at seventh. The Indian duo have been in fine form in recent months, reaching the final of the French Open in October and the semifinal of the recently concluded China Open. — PTI

Blue Tigers brace for an unfamiliar terrain

New Delhi, Nov. 12: Bracing up for an unfamiliar astro-turf, sub zero temperatures and a sprightly opponent in Afghanistan, India's football coach Igor Stimac on Tuesday conceded that his team's winless streak in the World Cup qualifiers won't be easy to break in Dushanbe, Tajikistan. The away fixture against Afghanistan on November 14 is crucial for India to remain in the hunt in the World Cup qualifying. "The climatic condition in Dushanbe is very different from what we have experienced in India at this time. It's very cold and mercury level drops to closer to sub-zero," Stimac said. The war-ravaged

● The away fixture against Afghanistan on Thursday is crucial for India to remain in the hunt for qualifying for the World Cup.

Afghanistan chose Dushanbe as their home venue for the second round qualifiers of the World Cup. The Group 'E' match will be played on artificial turf amid freezing temperatures. "Moreover, the match is scheduled on an artificial turf which our players are not used to. Afghanistan have chosen the venue to make others' life difficult and we have an uphill task in front of us to overcome it," he added.

India are fourth spot in Group 'E' with just two points after consecutive draws against Asian champions Qatar and Bangladesh. The absence of a direct flight to Dushanbe also made the situation difficult as the team had to leave after the November 10 Indian Super League match involving Bengaluru FC. The team will reach Dushanbe on Wednesday, a day before the match. "The journey and flight itinerary is a tedious one. We have reached Dubai last night and have a morning training session here this morning. We are leaving for Dushanbe this evening only and reaching there tomorrow (November 13)," he added. — PTI



Indian football team train in Dubai ahead of their World Cup qualifier against Afghanistan in Dushanbe on Tuesday.

VAR needs to improve, says Klopp

Lausanne, Nov. 12: The day after Liverpool beat Manchester City in a crunch match where VAR decisions were hotly disputed, the Premier League leader's coach Jurgen Klopp and other top football figures have suggested improvement is needed to the fledgling system. Klopp, City coach Pep Guardiola, Real Madrid coach Zinedine Zidane, and Thomas Tuchel of Paris Saint-Germain all attended the UEFA coaches forum in Nyon, Switzerland. "It is clear it's a process where they have to keep on improving. It can be improved, a lot of things have to be done by human beings and we are not 100 per cent (either)," Klopp said. His comments were made a day after the marquee game of the Premier League season so far saw a controversial VAR call after six minutes when City could easily have had a penalty when the ball ricocheted around the Liverpool area and hit the Trent Alexander-Arnold on the arm. UEFA assistant general secretary Giorgio Marchetti said uniformity was needed but called for time for the new system to bed in. — AFP

It is clear it's a process where they have to keep on improving. It can be improved, a lot of things have to be done by human beings and we are not 100 per cent (either).
— JURGEN KLOPP
Liverpool coach on VAR

Champion's moment



South African rugby captain Siya Kolisi (left) holds the Webb Ellis Trophy and his son during team's last stop to parade the World Cup Trophy at the Cape Town City Hall in Cape Town on Monday. — AFP

Double gold for Dhanush at shooting championship

New Delhi, Nov. 12: Telangana state's teenager Dhanush Srikanth made his junior India debut count in glorious fashion, gunning down a double gold by winning both the individual and team 10m Air Rifle Men Junior competitions at the ongoing 14th Asian Shooting Championship in Qatar. Taking aim on the penultimate day of the competition at the Lusail Shooting Complex, Dhanush first qualified for the finals with a relatively sedate 625.3, and then romped home with a 248.2 in the eight-man 24-shot final, leaving silver winner Jiang Xuanle of China a whole 2.5 points behind. India's Shahu Tushar

Mane won bronze with a finals score of 226.4, after topping the qualification round with 629.3. Hriday Hazarika, who also reached the finals finishing eighth in qualification with 622.5, managed an overall seventh place finish. The trio had earlier secured the team gold with their qualification round exploits totaling 1877.1, ahead of China and Korea. However, there was heartbreak for India in the Junior Women's Air Rifle, where Shreya Agrawal, after shooting a sparkling 632 to top qualification by the proverbial mile, settled for individual silver in the end, coming second to China's Yan Jinjing. Yan shot 251.8 to Shreya's

250.6 in the final. Khushi Saini also won individual bronze for India in the event with a finals score of 228.8. The trio of Shreya, Khushi and Aakriti Dahiya had earlier combined for a team bronze in the event with a total of 1877.1. Team China won gold with a new World and Asian record score of 1882.4. Angad Bajwa followed up his gold winning exploits in Men's Skeet on Monday, with silver in the Mixed Team Skeet on the day partnering Ganemmat Sekhon. The pair came second best to China's pair of Wei Meng and Jin Di in the final stage of the event. The final score reading 36-33 in China's favour.