DECCAN onicle

THE LARGEST CIRCULATED ENGLISH DAILY IN SOUTH INDIA

HYDERABAD | TUESDAY | 26 NOVEMBER 2019

WEATHER



Forecast: Cloudy sky. Misty morning. Max/Min temp. 29/28ºC

ASTROGUIDE

Vikari; Dakshinayana Tithi: Kartika Bahula Amavasya till 8.38 pm **Star:** Visakha till 9.24 am Varjyam: 1.12 pm to **Durmuhurtam:** 8.44 am to 9.28 am and 10.45 pm to Rahukalam: 3 pm to 4.30 pm **HIJRI CALENDAR** Rabi-ul-Awal 29,1441 AH **PRAYERS**

Fajar: 5.24 am **Zohar:** 12.14 pm **Asar:** 4.03 pm Maghrib: 5.45 pm **Isha:** 6.56 pm

SUNSET TODAY 5.39 PM **SUNRISE** TOMORROW 6.27 AM **MOONRISE** TOMORROW 5.54 AM **MOONSET** TODAY 5.34 PM



It's the best hotel to camp our MLAs... no landline, no Wi-Fi, no cellphone signal...

Vyapam: 30 get 7 yrs jail

Bhopal: A CBI court in Bhopal on Monday sentenced one man to 10 years in jail and 30 others to seven years imprisonment in the multi-crore Vyapam scam in Madhya Pradesh. The Vyapam scam refers to irregularities in exams held by the Madhya Pradesh Professional **Examination Board for** admission in professional courses and state ser-

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WORLD 7 **Trump fires US**

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SPORTS 14 **Nadal leads Spain to**

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Virat's warm welcome!



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Vol. 82 No. 326 Established 1938 | 32 pages | ₹6.00

162 Sena-NCP-Cong MLAs swear allegiance

Maha is not Goa, warns Sharad Pawar; make way for us, Uddhav tells BJP; SC verdict today at 10.30 am

DC CORRESPONDENT MUMBAI, NOV. 25

The Supreme Court is set to pass an order on Tuesday on holding a crucial floor test in the Maharashtra Assembly to ascertain whether Chief Devendra Minister Fadnavis enjoyed majority, as the Shiv Sena, the NCP and the Congress put up a public show of strength to claim they have the numbers to form a new government.

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Later in the evening, the Shiv Sena, Congress and the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) carried out a joint 'parade' of all 162 MLAs supporting their alliance at a five-star hotel in Mumbai. With this, the three parties, which were beaten by the BJP in forming the government in Maharashtra, stepped up their efforts to prove that they have the majority to form the government.

Earlier in the day, they also submitted a letter signed by 162 MLAs to governor B.S. Koshyari. The letter said that the parties



MLAs taking oath in the presence of Shiv Sena president Uddhav Thackeray, NCP chief Sharad Pawar and senior Congress leader Mallikarjun Kharge, during a gathering to display their strength at a hotel in Mumbai on Monday. - Rajesh Jadhav

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All MLAs were asked to stand up and take a pledge under the Constitution that they would not fall prey to any inducements by the BJP.

Shiv Sena and Congress MLAs were brought to the hotel where NCP legislators had been put up in airconditioned

around 7 pm.

Apart from 51 NCP legislators, 56 Shiv Sena legislators and 44 Congress legislators, 11 MLAs from smaller parties and smaller parties and Independents also attended the event.

"I swear that under the leadership of Sharad Pawar, Uddhav Thackeray and Sonia Gandhi, I will be honest with my party. I won't be lured by anything. I will not do anything. thing which will benefit the BJP," all MLAs the Bopledged.

Speaking at the parade, Mr Thackeray said, "The BJP will have to make way

for the Sena-NCP-Congress alliance government in Maharashtra. strength of our alliance

cannot be captured on any camera lens. We have arrived; clear our way. We are not here for just five years. We are starting from Maharashtra, and then we will move ahead."

NCP president Sharad
Pawar said, "This is not
Goa, this is Maharashtra. I

will take personal responsibility to ensure no MLA loses membership for voting against the BJP."

> ■ Page 6: BJP ridicules Sena-NCP-Cong

Ruckus in Parliament; Sonia leads protests

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Congress leader Rahul Gandhi set the tone for the protests in the morning when he refused to ask a supplementary question during Question Hour in the Lower House while two of his party MPs, Hibi Eden and TN Prathapam, carrying a big black banner that read 'Stop murder of democracy' entered the Well of the House. Congress' Adhir Ranjan

Chowdhury alleged that women parliamentarians of his party were "manhandled" in the Lok Sabha when they were protesting in the Well of the House. While in the Upper



Congress President Sonia Gandhi, party leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury and others during a protest at Parliament premises on Monday.

House, the Congress and other Opposition parties such as Left and the DMK shouted anti-BJP slogans after Chairman, M. Venkaiah Naidu rejected their notices under Rule 267 seeking setting aside of the business to take up the political developments in Maharashtra forcing an adjournment, Lok Sabha

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Shouting slogans and showing banners and placards in the Well, Congress MPs also jostled with mar-shals to foil an attempt to evict them.

The Congress MPs had stormed into the Well the moment proceedings

■ Page 6: 2 Cong MPs may

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RTC strike ends; MD says won't take back workers

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The 52-day long strike of the employees of Telangana Transport Corporation led by the RTC Joint Action Committee has been called off. The JAC announced this on Monday and advised

employees to resume duty from Tuesday. RTC's JAC convener, Ashwathama Reddy, said that keeping in view the difficulties faced by the people of the state and

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The JAC on Monday had a discussion with trade unions and leaders of various political parties at the Employees Union office, following the announcement of the calling off of the strike. Mr Reddy said that all RTC workers are advised to arrive at their respective depots and resume duty from Tuesday morning, and requested the

corporation to allow the

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their duties without any objections. He appealed to the temporary drivers and conductors not to attend duty as the JAC has called off the strike. RTC managing director, Sunil Sharma, however, said that until the orders are issued from the labour commissioner on the legality of the strike, the Corporation will not take any steps with regard to the striking employees or taking them back on duty.

> Page 5: Fight to continue, says Reddy

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Bizman car runs over techie

JAYENDRA CHAITHANYA

HYDERABAD, NOV 25

In yet another case of drunk driving in the IT corridor area of Cyberabad, a businessman under the influence of alcohol drove his BMW in the wrong direction and rammed the car into a bike killing a techie and injuring his friend on Sunday night. The injured pillion rider of Bihar. Abhishek, an

was admitted to a private hospital and her condition is stated to be critical, said Madhapur police who booked a case against the businessman and took him into custody.

Abhishek Anand, 28, an employee of Pega Systems at Madhapur was a resident of Anand Nagar Colony in Kondapur. He hailed from Nirzahant village in Bhagalpur district engineering graduate, has been working in the city for the last four years. About four months ago, he joined Pega Systems. He was living along with his parents and a brother.

On Sunday night, Abhishek along with his friend, Lisa Dhar Choudhury, went for din-ner to Madhapur and was returning to Kondapur on a bike (TS 07 EZ 5891). At

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Chhattisgarh to attend National Tribal Dance Festival from November 27 to 29

ATHER MOIN | DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 25

Government schools in

the old city are in a dilem-

ma over the instructions

of the district education

officer (DEO), Hyderabad making it mandatory to

chant 'Vande Mataram'

during the morning assembly. They believe it

will create unnecessary

tension as parents will

Narasamma held a meet-

ing of deputy education

officers and deputy

inspectors of schools on

October 31, in which she

reviewed various matters

related to the functioning

of government and aided

schools. The minutes of

the meeting were pre-pared by the education

department and sent a

week ago to the headmas-

ters of the schools for implementation.
Agenda No. 12 of the said meeting dealt with

the morning prayer and a

schedule was given. It

says: 'prayer should be

conducted in a systematic

manner: A. Vande Mataram B. Jayajayahe

Telangana C. Pledge D.

News reading e. Sukhti and GK questions F. Message by HM/teacher about 2 mins G. National

anthem. Rhythm should

be maintained in the

prayer.' This created con-

fusion among the teach-

ing fraternity, particularly those working in the

whose ward is studying in

Asifnagar government

school, said that reciting

Vande Mataram is against the beliefs of

Muslims. It is the basic

tenet of Islam that

nobody and nothing else is entitled to be worshipped except Allah.

'We respect and love our

country, but it does not

mean that we have to wor-

ship it. Students should

not be forced to recite

Vande Mataram." he said.

He hopes the government

will intervene and issue

old city.

Mohammed

Venkata

oppose it.

Schools in a fix

over national song

■ ABDULLAH FAIZ, secretary, public relations, students Islamic organi-sation, Telangana, says

the orders to sing

tional.

the assembly.

teacher said.

Vande Mataram during

assembly is unconstitu-

instructions to the educa-

tion department not to insist on the song during

A senior government

teacher, who spoke on

condition of anonymity,

said it is a sensitive mat-

ter which creates prob-

lems for them when many

parents are irked at this mixing of religion in edu-

cation and Muslims have

reservations about the

song. "When we sought clarification with the offi-

cials, they told us that it is not compulsory,"

Abdullah Faiz, secre-

tary, public relations, stu-

dents Islamic organisa-

tion, Telangana, said the

Vande Mataram during

daily assembly is uncon-

stitutional and against the Supreme Court's 2017

judgment which clearly

Mataram cannot be given

status on par with the national anthem as there

is no provision in the con-

stitution regarding a

the constitution only mentions national flag and national anthem, but

not national song. "We, on

behalf of SIO TS strongly

condemn such orders and

demand the authorities to

repeal it as soon as possi-

ble to avert any contro-

National president of the All India Ideal

Prof. Anwarullah Khan

said officials should not

insist on anything that is

not mandatory.

Association

Likewise, Article 51 of

national song.

versy," he said.

Teachers

orders to sing



Security will focus on passenger safety between Bengaluru

VEGETABLE VENDOR MAKES

KARIMNAGAR, NOV. 25

Circumstances forced him to sell vegetables after completing his SSC due to the sudden demise of his father. But he never lost courage.

medal for solving a puzzle within a minute in a competition in 2016.

to stand or walk on toes even for a minute. But with firm determination and constant practice for six months, he achieved the feat of walking 137.1 metres on his toes in one minute and entered the Guinness Book of World

Guinness world records programmes on television, decided to perform an unusual my name is also entered into the Guinness Book. I started practicing walking on toes. In the initial stages, I faced a lot difficult, people might not have attempted it. So, I

GOVT REOPENS HEIST CASE

TIRUMALA, NOV. 25

of gold coins belonging to Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam (TTD) is back to haunt the temple management after the state government reassigned the case from K Sahadeva Reddy, commissioner of inquiries (GAD) to retired IPS officer J.

proceedings against three senior officials, including special Ř. Prabhakar Reddy, then deputy EO A. Vasudevan and

with disciplinary proceedings deemed guilty and his exten-

District magistrate court-cum-CB-CID court pronounced the final verdict in the case in of ₹10,000.

However, the services of Dollar Seshadri were resumed at Srivari temple in Tirumala shortly after he was reinstated. In 2017, the then TDP government released two GOs to drop disciplinary action against the retired officials, including Dollar Seshadri and A. Vasudevan.



Hyderabad Metro Rail trial run being carried out between JBS metro station to MGBS on Monday.

JBS-MGBS Metro trial run on

Travel to be cut down from 45 min to 16 min between 2 key bus stations During a series of trial runs to be carried out in

MADDY DEEKHITH I DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 25

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DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, NOV. 25

The price of onions is

ranging from 780 to 7100

per kg in the city as the

prices rose steeply. A highest ever price of ₹11,000 per quintal in the whole-

sale market was witnessed

In the last few days,

prices varied from ₹5,000

to ₹7,000 per quintal. But

prices were fluctuating

between ₹60 and ₹70 per

on Monday.

A team of technical experts and engineers led by HMRL manager N.V.S. Reddy. and L&T MRHL MD K.V.B. Reddy travelled by Metro on this corridor and observed various technical and safety parameters and performance of the train during the trial

It would take 16 minutes to cover this corridor from JBS to MGBS, as against 45 minutes by road, said N.V.S. Reddy. N.V. S. Reddy said that

the data and other inputs in these tests will be sent online to M/s Thales in Canada, which is supply-



The new Metro line will pass by the iconic Clock Tower in Secunderabad.

Signalling and train con-

safety certification from Thales, the internal safety Halcrow and other Indian and international organisations, the commissioner of Metro rail safety (CMRS) will be invited for the final safety clearance

technology.

of the corridor. After CMRS safety certification, thrown open for passenger

train control (CBTC) tech-

Onion price hits an all-time high flies during the day and rodents at night." The sorry state of onions has forced people reduce its

trol software will be fine-

tuned based on these inputs for safe operation

of metro trains in auto-

matic mode with CBTC

After receipt of satisfac-

performance and

(ISA)

corridor will be

use in cooking and also as raw salads. A number of salads in India are onion-based and there is a switch to other leafy vegetables, cucum-

bers and beetroot. With the price of onion continuing to sky rocket, there are vendors who are taking orders for wedding season by offering discounts. One of the reasons

is clearance of stock. Venkat Ramana, a trader in Secunderabad vegetable market, said, "I am offering discounts only for large orders of weddings. This is to keep my stocks

Vendors who have huge

62 non-existent slip roads identified

HYDERABAD, NOV. 25

The Greater Hyderabad

A senior GHMC official, speaking to this newspaper after a review meeting chaired by municipal administration urban development minister K.T. Rama Rao, said that priority will be given

said the corporation has already prepared RDPs for 19 roads and the remaining would be completed in four weeks. He said that the properties would be acquired in two months and it could lead to further traffic congestion on the arterial roads across the city, especially on the western part.

He said that they would make necessary changes in the master plan to adjust 62 roads that are missing in it. Meanwhile, Mr Rao instructed the officials to lay 10 kilometre footpaths in each zone on a war-footing. He asked for expediting the construction of foot overbridges and bus bays that have been approved by

Mataram has no legal sanctity such as the national anthem. This kind of instruction will create unnecessary problems in schools, he said.

December 1. The initiative is aimed at showing that the disabled too can accom-

The run is being organised in collaboration with Hyderabad and Cyberabao Sports Authority of State, National Police Academy, CRPF and

"We expect 10,000 ablebodied to run and ride in support of the cause and show solidarity and raise awareness about para-athletes," said a release from the

AMF endeavours to empower the disabled and help them gain a sense of achievement and dignity through

The Foundation is helping athletes by providing prosthetic limbs, sports equipment, spe-cialized sports wheelchairs, travel and other expenses for participating in national and international tourna-

People keen to participate can register their

organised in collaboration with Hyderabad and Cyberabad police, Sports Authority of Telangana State, **National Police** Academy, CRPF and celebrities from diverse fields, in commemoration of this year's World Disability

on Monday, the prices saw a major rise as it hit an all-An onion vendor displays a sign '₹100 per kg' in Hyderabad on Monday. time high. Till last week,

small retail shops against

kg.
Telangana is dependent
for Maharashtra for onions and the transport from the state has been

low due to incessant rains. Earlier, 120 to 150 lorries per day used to transport onions but the number fell down to 80 lorries now. The sky-high prices have

ADITYA CHUNDURU | DC

Scores of 'head and neck'

cancer survivors gathered

at Basavatarakam Cancer

Hospital on Monday, as

part of their counselling

and support group's

efforts to instill confidence

in new patients.
Attacked by a group of cancers that develop in the

mouth, throat, nose and

salivary glands, life is not

easy for them. Robbed of

their voices and forced to

speak through prostheses, they nevertheless manage

to live their lives with

In 2015, C. Krishna Rao, a

66-vear-old retired teacher

from Visakhapatnam, was

"My voice became very

low. When we went to the

doctor, I was told I had can-

cer. I went through radia-

tion therapy for six months. However, it was

clear a surgery was need-

ed. My voice box (larynx)

was removed in July 2016,'

having trouble speaking.

their heads held high.



owner in A.S. Rao Nagar, says, "In one kg onion, if half kg is wet or of bad quality, customers fight with us. They say that we have got bad stock and are charging them for it. For this reason, since a month, I have stopped sell-

he said. Later, he received

a tracheoesophageal voice

prosthesis (TEP) trans-

plant. Today, there is a

hole between his collar

bones, which he has to cover with his fingers

every time he wants to

speak. He does this to

block the airflow into his

lungs and force it through his mouth.

Rao, by his own admis-

sion, is leading a 'normal life.' "We (survivors) can-

not breathe through our

noses. We have to use our

mouths. We also have to be

careful while eating, since

there is a chance of food

particles getting lodged in

our throats. But, other

than that, everything else is normal. I have even

travelled to the USA," he

normal. However, others

have been so fortunate.

People like Sriramulu,

who is in his mid-60s, have

to speak through an "elec-

tro-larynx," a cylindrical

object that has to be

Rao's

voice is largely

extremely cautious while

Madhumita Chowdhary, a housewife, explained, "I would pick 5 kgs of onions from the super markets as

most of the onions smell

pressed under the chin.

robotic.

There

The voice is almost

Sriramulu is happy with

the fact that he can com-

municate with people.

His wife said, "When he

underwent surgery in

2015, he would cry every

day over his losing voice.

Today, he is very happy. He

insists on doing every-thing himself. He travels

in RTC buses to the shop

he works in. He buys his

own train tickets. He even

speaks to his grandchil-

dren on the phone regular-

patients who needed some

were many

moving."

stocks are not seeing the desired sales and are keen to roll it out for weddings bad. They attract fruit and party orders.

require acquisition of 960 properties. The official MADDY DEEKSHITH I DC

Municipal Corporation (GHMC) has identified 131 slip roads across the city. The corporation would soon embark on land acquisition and road development plans (RDPs) after verifying the master plan. Of the 131, as many as 108 slip roads fall under GHMC's jurisdiction and 23 in HMDA's while 62 roads were not earmarked in the city master plan.

to 55 slips roads, which

SUPPORT | SYSTEM | Docs say attitude of patients vital, discussion with peers gives confidence Belief, a common thread among cancer survivors

just want her to get better. thing. She eats in very

senior consultant in the

hospital's head and neck Kotesh's anxious words oncology department, said, "We want the surassured him that his wife would get better soon. Many survivors covered

labourer when he was diagnosed with mouth cancer. For three years, he has not been able to work. His wife works as a cook in an anganwadi centre to support their family with two children. Manda Krishna from Nellore district, who doesn't have a tongue, continues to drive a school van in his native

Then there were people like Ravikumar from West Godavari district, who is unable to talk, whose chartered accountant son takes

Nalgonda district, was diagnosed with cancer just a year ago. Two months ago, her larynx was removed. She is yet to learn how to speak from her esophagus. She was enthusiastically asking other patients how long it would take to speak. Her husband Kotesh said, "The village. doctors said she cannot get a TEP. She will get an electro larvnx. Right now. I

Dr Chandrasekhar Rao,

vivors to interact with their throats with pieces of their peers. When they cloth — some men butshare their experiences, toned up their shirts to they have more confidence cover the holes in their in their own treatment. throats. They belonged to Their attitude is very a wide variety of backimportant in their recovgrounds. For instance. Sathish Babu, 40, from Ďr Chandrasekhar also Chittoor, was a daily wage confidence. K. Aruna, a housewife from Haliya in

said that many patients backgrounds were unable to buy the prosthesis that could help them talk. Support groups such as these help them get in touch with donors. For instance, two donors on

Monday decided to donate five larvngeal voice prostheses to the hospital. Life after cancer can

indeed be tough. But the survivors said they were glad they had a support system to share their thoughts and fears with. A survivor from Madhya Pradesh said, "Believing that you can get better is half the battle won.

underprivileged



- S. SURENDER REDDY

the next few weeks, a large

number of technical speci-

fications, performance cri-

teria and safety standards

will be tested under the

following broad cate-

gories: signalling tests and

safe train separation tests;

brake test by the sig-

nalling and train control

system; overhead electric (OHE) - rolling stock (metro coaches) current

collection tests; passenger

ments and display tests;

dummy passenger evacuation tests and degraded mode operation

announce-

information

RUN AND RIDE ON WORLD DISABILITY DAY

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, NOV. 25

Foundation (AMF) will commemorate this year's World Disability Day with 5 km and 10 km run and ride here on

plish several things that able-bodied people can.

celebrities from diverse fields.

Foundation.

sports.

ments.

entries on http://bit.ly/DisabilityD ay2019AMF. ■ The 5 km and 10 km

run and ride is being



WORLD RECORD

DC CORRESPONDENT

A 33-year-old vegetable vendor, Rapelli Srinivas, has become a role model for others through his firm determination of entering the Guinness Book of World Records by walking 137.1 metres on his toes in one minute. Srinivas is a noted figure in the city, not for being a vegetable vendor but for his skills in various art forms and unusual perform-

Inspired by Bruce Lee films, Srinivas learnt karate, kung fu, kick boxing and taekwondo. He has won 98 gold medals, 34 silver and six bronze medals till date. He is also good in athletics, swimming and solving Rubik's cube puzzles blindfold. He won a gold

It is a difficult task for people Records.

Speaking to this newspaper, Srinivas said, "After watching feet of walking on toes so that of problems. At one point, I thought of quitting and trying something else. Later, I thought that since this feat is

TTD GOLD

DC CORRESPONDENT

The alleged misappropriation

Satyanarayana on Monday. It may be recalled that 300 five-gram gold coins went missing from the heavily guarded abode of Lord Venkateshwara in Tirumala in June 2006. Following the alleged misappropriation, TTD initiated disciplinary grade deputy executive officer

then superintendent E. Ramachandra Reddy. Other staff members responsible for ensuring safety of gold pendants were slapped Interestingly, Pala Seshadri aka Dollar Seshadri, the then Bokkasam in-charge was also

sion was terminated in 2008. Following a probe conducted by CB-CID, the IV Additional November 2014, in which Venkata Chalapati was found guilty and sentenced to a three-year jail term and a fine



forced kirana stores and

store onions. G Ramesh, a kirana store

buying onions.

it was cheap. But, of late, I buy only one kg.

Apart from the price,

K. Aruna

However,

C. Krishna Rao

She is unable to eat any-

Survivors who overheard

small portions."

silence is not good for a

democracy. In a democra-

cy, questions are raised

not to destabilise the gov-

ernment, but to bring

transparency and clear

doubts. Demonetisation

would not have been pos-

sible if people had sought clarification when politi-

cians were speaking about *kala dhan* (black

money). People assumed

that they were talking about bringing the black

money hoarded in Switzerland but the gov-

ernment was eyeing

money saved by poor peo-

DECCAN CHRONICLE



It is imperative to have a proper master plan for restoration of heritage structures

> — Arvind Kumar Principal secretary, MAUD

SHORT TAKES

DRIVE AGAINST LOW-QUALITY HELMETS

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, NOV. 25

A team of sleuths from the Road Traffic Accident Cases Monitoring Cell of Cyberabad police on Monday launched a special drive against sellers of low-quality helmets and booked 10 cases against them.

Police found that these helmets are being manufactured in Delhi and cost about ₹200. But they are being sold in the city for around ₹500.

Till October this year, 388 of the 720 deaths in Cyberabad involved two-wheeler riders, including those riding pillion. According to an analysis, 94 per cent of the riders who died were either not wearing helmets or were wearing low-

quality helmets.
"At least 40 low-quality brand helmets are being sold in the city. Most of them are being manufactured at various places in the National Capital Region. They have a fake ISI mark and are made of cheap plastic and thermocol material, which cannot sustain the impact when a rider falls, leading to fatalities,' Cyberabad police said.

REALTOR ALLEGES BID TO KIDNAP

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, NOV. 25

A realtor from the city on Monday lodged a complaint with the LB Nagar police alleging that a group of per-sons attempted to kidnap him over a land dispute.

Police said Yadagiri Reddy . of LB Nagar, informed them that when he left his house in car, a group of persons way laid and picked up an argument with him. They demanded that he compromise in a land dispute, which is pending in a court, and also threatened him. Though he managed to escape, the realtor said the kidnappers have taken away

his car and mobile phone. Based on the complaint, police have registered a case and are investigating.

Fears loom over NRC, CAB

Kerala's IAS officer says NRC not only anti-Muslilm, but also anti-poor

ATHER MOIN | DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 25

Kannan Gopinathan, the IAS officer from Kerala who resigned in protest over the abrogation of Jammu and Kashmir's special status, on Monday called the NRC not only anti-Muslim but also anti

He was speaking at 'Public Talk on 1st Session of 17th Lok Sabha' at Tipu Sultan Square at Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU), organised by MANUU Students Union. He said that the Union

government will not implement NRC without bringing the citizenship amendment bill (CAB). The purpose of this move is to target Muslims as CAB will bail out certain groups while a certain community will not be

covered under it. Mr Kannan said with this move, a larger section will be embroiled for a longer period, because this process will take years to complete and it will waste lots of public

■ COMMON PEOPLE have spent ₹8,000 crores so far on the appealing process as their names were not included in the NRC

> ■ THE IAS officer from Kerala said that it is shocking and unfortunate that people have become silent spectators over the anti-people polices of the government

would not be able to show documentary evidence.

"Now, if you do not resist and stand against the move, then you will not be able to even raise questions about the process as once you are declared intruder or noncitizen of India, then you will lose the fundamental right conferred on you as a citizen of India, " he said. "In jails, you may not lose certain rights, but in detention centres, you will be deprived of even basic rights which are given to Indian citi-

zens," he added. Mr Kannan said it is shocking and unfortunate that people have become silent spectators over the anti people polices of the government.

ple.
Mr Kannan expressed amazement that even community leaders are The silence of the peo-

nation. Students were the main force behind the independence struggle. During the Emergency, students raised the voice of dissent. Even now, only students are raising their voices," he said. He told students that if ple encourages the gov-ernment to adopt policies which target certain sec-

their parents opposes them, then instead of disassociating from the movement they have started, they should politely disobey them. He said a misconception is prevalent that the gov-

that students will come forward to save this

ernment has the consent of a large section of the people for its wrong doings, which is not true. "We are making this assumption considering the strength of ruling party. The real fact is that only 30 per cent voters had voted in favour of a ruling party, it means 70% voters have not accorded their blessing to the ruling party. There is a need to mobilize this section of the society. A mass nation-wide moveneeds ment launched against the NRC," he said.

PPL

ADITYA

GVID

(Muzik



Peddler with ₹20 lakh worth opium arrested

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, NOV. 25

Hyderabad Police commissioner Anjani Kumar, on Monday presented a notorious narcotics peddler before the media. He was in possession of 4.2 kg opium.

Gangaram Bishnoi, 36, working as a supervisor in a private firm, Ayodhya Centre in Medchal, Malk-ajgiri, is a native of Bolakidhani (Village), Jaloor, Rajasthan. About eleven years back he came to Hyderabad for his livelihood. However, with a meagre salary he was unable to run his family and was tempted to earn by illegal means. Around that time, he came in contact with one Bhikaram Bishnoi, 35, who belonged to Khara Village in Jaloor. The latter was

looking for someone who could procure and sell drugs in Hyderabad. The substance was brought to town by a private travel bus.

On Monday morning, Gangaram Bishnoi went near the Mallareddy Function Hall Crossroads at near Old Bowenpally on his Activa bike. He was appar-ently trying to sell opium to the addicts hanging around.

Camping nearby, police caught him red-handed and seized one kg of opium, a pocket digital weighing machine and one spoon in his vehicle. On questioning, he confessed and led police to his house situated at Sri Krishna Nagar in Suchitra.

In the house, they found 3.2 kg opium and two digital weighing machines. The opium costs around ₹20

Muslim community divided on Ayodhya review petition

KANIZA GARARI | DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 25

The review petition on the Ayodhya judgement by the All India Muslim Personal Law board has become a bone of contention for Muslims with one group wanting a review, another against it and third one silent over

it.
The endorsements for no review of the Ayodhya judgement are circulating on social media with friends, family and associates in the community urging that the 'three decade-old dispute' must not be taken any further.

Challenging the recent unanimous decision of the Supreme Court will not help but harm Muslims. This seems to be the consensus in the community. A large number of Muslims from all sections of the society have signed the endorsement stating that Muslims must not keep the Ayodhya dispute

Feroze Mithiborwala, social activist says, "We share the unhappiness of the community and secular organisations over the fact that the highest

■ THE CONSENSUS in the community is that challenging the recent unanimous decision of the Supreme Court will not help but harm the Muslims

Kannan Gopinathan

completed in a span of six

years and the govern-

ment has spent 1,600 crores for this exercise

and declared about 19

lakhs people as having

failed to prove their citi-

Common people have spent ₹8,000 crore so far

on the appealing process

as their names were not

Mr Kannan said that if

a Muslim who is educated

and economically sound

prepares documents to

prove his indigenous

inhabitation, it means he

is paving the way for four

Muslims to be sent deten-

tion centres, because a

large number of poor and uneducated Muslims

included in the NRC.

zenship.

A large number of Muslims have signed the endorsement stating that Muslims must not keep the Ayodhya dispute alive

There is a deep seated fear that continuing with the review petition will only add fuel to the anti-Muslim propaganda

court in the land has placed faith above law in arriving at its decision. But while agreeing that the court order is judicially flawed, we strongly believe that keeping the Ayodhya dispute alive with a review petition will harm and not help Muslims.'

The loss of lives and property during the time of the dispute is incalculabe and people need to learn from the bitter experience of communal

conflict. It must not be incited further. Mujtaba Askari of Helping Hand Found-

ation says, "The community has a lot of issues of health, education, housing, food and personal security. There are a large number of them who are living in poverty and the need is to uplift them. Why do we not talk about good health, quality education and the problems that are faced by our youth? Why are we not debating on the reliable data collected by Sachar committee and Telangana's Sudhir committee on the state of minorities? It is time that we stand together in terms of social and moral well-being and work together for the welfare of the community first." There is a deep seated

fear that continuing with the review petition will only add fuel to the anti-Muslim propaganda and Islamophobia. The endorsers state that by choosing not to pursue the issue, Muslims will stand to gain goodwill and empathy of non-communal Indians from the

majority community. Akram Mohammed, an

RTI activist said, "There is no option for Muslims. Pursuing this case will only create further division. Let's be positive and move forward. Let us show that we are not what we are always branded. Let this decision show our historic

But all of them are not willing to take it calmly. Abdul Hafiz Lakhani, a social activist says, "It is the duty of the state and judiciary in the country spreading hatred. Why should the oppressed accept injustice? In the name of peace and harmony, it is hypocrisy to expect that."

Those who want that every resource of law must still be tried are pushing for it saying that y accepting it, we will be giving up without a try.'

Many in the community, and also non-community friends, are advising Muslims to 'move on. But there are many who state that 'Let's move away from the mandirmasiid' dispute has only helped a communal agenda and replaced the secular-democratic republic of India.'

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

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1. That, over 340 leading domestic and international music labels/com panies, have assigned / entrusted their nearly 28 lakh copyrighted sound recordings to PPL for issuance of Public Performance licenses under Section 14(e)(iii) of the Copyright Act, 1957 i.e. 'to communicate the sound recordings to the public' as a single window service to establishments for both background music usage and events. The details of our Member Music Labels and tariff for various licensed usages are available on our website www.pplindia.org.

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> PHONOGRAPHIC PERFORMANCE LIMITED #PlayByTheRules

Poultry India Expo in city from today

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, NOV. 25

Telangana, which stands tall in poultry producwill observe Tuesday as the Poultry Knowledge Day. To mark the occasion, the Indian Poultry Equipment Manufacturers Association will be organising the Poultry India Expo here Tuesday

Thursday. Speaking on the occasion, IPEMA president Chakradhar Rao said, "The success story of poultry in India is the envy of almost all developed nations. This would not have been possible without steadfast endeavours of the Indian poultry farmers, who collectively made poultry a phenomenal ₹1.1 lakh crore industry, focused on food and nutritional

Chakradhar Rao underlined that India's poultry industry is one of the key contributors to the country's agriculture and animal husbandry GDP. In this context, he said the issue related to unbridled imports of processed chicken from US should be resolved soon by the government.

He said poultry in India contributes significantly to eradication of protein deficiency and malnutrition among citizens.

The two Telugu states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana are number one when it comes to production of chicken and eggs, followed by Tamil Nadu. Telangana sta-nds first and within the state, Hyderabad consumes the highest amount of chicken and eggs, he stated

FCRI, AUBURN SIGN MOU

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, NOV. 25

The Forest College of Research and Institute (FCRI), Telangana, and Auburn University, Alabama State signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU). It was signed by Au University Dean Auburn

Janakiram Reddy and FCRI Dean Mr Chandrasekhar Reddy in the Minister Indrakaran Reddy.

The minister said, "Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao is committed to improving forest management using science and technology.



DECCAN CHRONICLE



CM KCR flexed his 'muscle' on weak; rejoicing victory over hapless RTC staff

> — K. Krishna Saagar Rao **BJP** spokesperson

> > IN BRIEF

Cops harass us, says Mahila body

Hyderabad: Alleging that the state police was repeatedly summoning them to police station without mentioning the reasons, activists of Chaitanya Mahila Sangam (Frontal Organisation) approached High Court. Ms M. Swapna and two other

ladies filed a petition, stat-

ing that the Medipally and Kushaiguda police had threatened them after illegally detaining their kith and kin. The petitioners said that the police had forced them to fill the proforma without disclosing the reasons, when they went to the police station. They sought direction to the police that they produce the proforma duly filled by them, before the

STATE POLICE INSPIRES ARMY OFFICERS

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, NOV. 25

Army officials of Telangana and Andhra Sub Area (TASA) visited the Hyderabad Police Command and Control Centre to understand the IT initia-tives taken up by the city

The team of officials included Major General R.K. Singh, General Commanding Officer (GoC) TASA.

Ajani Kumar, Commissioner, Hyderabad City Police, explained about the IT initia tives being pursued by them in traffic management and enforcement, crime detection and prevention and other

The city police commissioner He also highlighted about community policing and people-friendly policing initia-

took the delegation around the Command and Control Centre, during which they interacted with the policemen manning the

TO WHOM SO EVER IT MAY CONCERN **PUBLIC NOTICE**

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to inform to all that the notice published in the Deccan Chronicle Daily on dt. 21/11/2019 and by Mr. M. Vijay Kumer Goud, Advocate on behalf of his client Sri Sankuri Ramdas, S/o. Late Balaiah, R/o. Secunderabad cancelling the Development Agreement-cum-General Power of Attorney, dated 13.11.2014 executed in favour of Mrs. Avinash & Sukesh Constructions and thereby issuing legal notice, dated 11.11.2019 is misconceived and misguiding the public in general. On behalf of my client M/s. Avinash & Sukesh Constructions suitable reply given to legal notice, dated M/s. Avinash & Sukesh Constructions suitable reply given to legal notice, dated 21.11.2019 and bringing all facts and in particular that in accordance to Clause No. 23 of the said Development Agreement-cum-G.P.A. any dispute has to be referred to arbitration and the clause is very specific that if disputes arise in between the parties touching these presents the matter shall be referred to the arbitrators one chosen by each party and in case of any difference of opinion between such arbitrators, they shall nominate a common umpire and their Award shall be final and binding on both the parties and the alleged public notice is against to the said provision as such the said alleged public notice is unitaterial and without any basis only to misconceive the public and without any basis only to misconceive the public and without basis only to misconceive the public and without concluding dispute before arbitrator/s in accordance to Clause No. 23 Sri Sankuri Ramdas any act shall be

> Sd/- Y. SREE RAGHAVA RAO Advocate H.No. 11-12-491, Plot No. 491, Road No. 9B, "O" City, Warangal Urban District

> > IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION **CIVIL APPEAL No. 11986 of 2018**

Notice of Lodgement of Petition of Appeal to the Respondent RULE 8(I) & (III) OF ORDER XIX, S.C.R.2013)

(Appeal by Special Leave granted by this Court's Order dated the **07th December**, **2018** in **SLP(C) No. 7939** of **2018** from the Judgment and Order dated the **07th February**, **2018** of the **HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT** NEW DELHI, DELHI in RFA No. 117 of 2018) **VERSUS**

Appellant DEEPAK CHAUDHURI and Others

M/S IMPERIAL COOPERATIVE PVT. LTD 6-3-713, TOPAZ BUILDING PANJGUTTA. ANDHRA PRADESH-500082

PID:314566/2019 FOR R(5) IN C.A. NO.11986/2018(SEC XIV-A)

TAKE NOTICE that the Appellant above-named has on the 12th March, 2018 filed in the Registry of the Supreme Court, Petition for **SLP(C) No. 7939 of 2018** (Copy enclosed) from the Judgment and Order of the High Court above mentioned and pursuant to this Court's order dated 07th December, 2018 granting Special Leave to Appeal the case has been registered as CIVIL APPEAL No. 11986 of 2018.

NOTICE IS HEREBY given to you that if you wish to contest the appeal, you may appear before this Court within thirty days of the receipt of this Notice either in person or by Advocate -on-Record of this Court appointed by you in that behalf and take such part in

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT in default of your appearance within the time pre cribed, the appeal will be proceeded with and determined in your absence and no further

otice in relation thereto shall be given to you.

he proceedings as you may be advised.

Assistant Registrar



Biodiversity flyover fron where a speeding car fell on Saturday.

GHMC committee to probe biodiversity flyover mishap

Panel to study geometrical design, alignment and safety parametres

MADDY DEEKSHITH | DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 25

The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) on Monday constituted an independent four-member committee to give a report on accidents on Biodiversity flyover. The panel comprises Prof. S. Nagabhushan (adviser road safety for World Bank project), Mr

ADITYA CHUNDURU |

Abhishek Anand, who

was killed by a speeding drunk driver in the

early hours of Monday,

was a beacon of hope

Son of a farmer in

Bhagalpur district in

Bihar, Anand was the

breadwinner for his

family. His father, broth-

er and sister are devas-

tated by his loss. However, his mother

does not know about

Anand's fate as she is in

coma. She was hospi-

talised four months ago

after a road accident in

Bihar. She too was hit

by a speeding vehicle

while walking on the

Abhishek Anand had

Sathyabama University

in 2015. After stints in

various multinational

corporations, he started

working with Pega

Systems in July 2019.

After his mother's acci-

dent, he asked his fami-

ly to move to Hyderabad, so that she

could be taken care of

better. Anand's uncle

Suresh Gupta, an IT

Abhishek was insistent

that the family move to

Hyderabad. The family

was very worried about

his mother's health.

They were hoping for a

miracle now that she is

said,

professional,

road.

graduated

for his family.

HYDERABAD, NOV. 25

T.S. Reddy, (traffic engineer and road safety specialist). Prof. Srinivasa Kumar (Associate professor-traffic and transportation, OU) and Mr Pradeep Reddy (road safety audit expert).

The committee will check the geometrical design, alignment, and safety parameters adopted on Biodiversity level II flyover.

Abhishek Anand

Hyderabad. They were

very appreciative of

how Anand took care of

her. He spent all his savings on her treatment.

She has largely been

unresponsive. But there

are hopes that she will

get better soon. Before

this could happen, tragedy has struck the

family again and Anand

has lost his life," said

Abhinav is 21-years-old

and has just finished his

education. He joined an

IT company in the city

only a few months ago.

His sister, who is a year older than Anand and

known to the entire family as 'gudiya', stays

at home. His father is a

The ill-fated Royal

Enfield motorcycle he

was riding when he was

hit by the car was

bought in May 2016. He

was riding with his col-

lege friend Lisa Dhar when the incident hap-

semi-literate farmer.

brother

Anand's

Anand was beacon of hope for family

said that the team of experts inspected the spot on Monday and collected designs and drawings of the project. He said that the expert committee will inspect the flyover to check the execution of drawings and other parameters prior to submission of the

"The duo on the bike

fell on the median and

the car dragged them

for some distance.

Abhishek died on the

spot with multiple

injuries while the pil-

lion rider, Lisa, suf-

fered severe injuries.

She is admitted to a

private hospital for

treatment and is cur-

rently in the Intensive

Care Unit," said Madhapur inspector, S.

Venkat Reddy. He went to Novotel

hotel and consumed

alcohol there. He was

driving in a drunk con-

dition and moved his

vehicle onto the wrong

side of the road and

ended up killing the

techie, said the inspec-

tor. "When tested with

the breath analyser,

the blood alcohol con-

tent of the accused was

recorded as 185 mg.

However, his blood

samples have been col-

pened. Lisa has been

admitted at KIMS

Kondapur with multiple

fractures. Doctors say

Anand's family is still lazed. Gupta said,

her condition is stable.

Dalit woman gang-raped,

Alcohol content in

blood was 185 mg

on the newly-opened flyover lost control and fell off the bridge, damaging two cars underneath the flyover. A woman was killed, while six others were injured in the inci-

Though civic authorities claimed that the flyover design was as per norms, road transport report. On Saturday, a speeding car travelling were various faults in

lected and sent for

forensic analysis. He

was taken into custody

and a case has been

registered based on a

complaint from Abhinav Anand, the

deceased," said inspec-

Abhishek's body was

shifted to Osmania General Hospital mor-

tuary and handed over

to his family after the

post-mortem examina-

Abhilash, 28, a techie

Cognizant drove his

car in a drunk condi-

tion and hit two per-

sons who were stand-

ing on the Biodiversity

Raidurgam in the IT

corridor area of Cyberabad.

The duo was thrown

on the ground and

death was instant for

'There needs to be some

Abhishek was this fami-

ly's hope. Today, they

have been brought onto

the roads. This is just

of

justice.

tion on Monday. It may be recalled that on November 11, P.

working

them.

kind

of

brother

tor Reddy.

November 10, a software employee, who was in an inebriated condition, killed two people and injured four persons after he rammed his car into two vehicles before knocking down two persons who were taking selfies after stopping their bike on the flyover. Subsequently, the civic body put a selfie ban.

DOWRY VICTIM COMMITS

SUICIDE

DC CORRESPONDENT

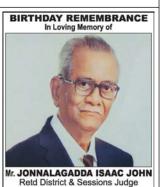
A 19-year-old girl committed suicide unable to bear alleged dowry narassment of her husband at her inlaw's house in Medipally late Sunday night. The police registered a case against the girl's husband and took him into custody for questioning.

According to Medipally police, the girl identified as Susmitha, was married to one Vijender, 27, a local resident on May 25 of this year. During the wedding, the girl's family gave ₹3 lakh cash, six tolas gold and 150 guntas of land as

dowry. After some days of marriage, Vijender started harassing the girl for additional dowry and also suspected her fidelity. Despite an attempt by the elders from both families to settle the issue, Vijender continued the harassment. Unable to bear it any longer, Susmitha hanged herself to the ceiling at her in-law's house on Sunday night, said the

Following a complaint from the girl's family, a case has been registered against the accused, who has been taken into custody.

AFTER SOME days of marriage, Vijender started harassing the girl for additional dowry and also suspected her fidelity.



Retd District & Sessions Judge DOB: 26-11-1930 DOD: 05-10-2014 Inserted by: Family Members

Nine arrested for Kalapathar murder

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, NOV. 25

Nine persons, including a juvenile, were arrested by Kalapathar police in connection with the murder of a 45-

year-old businessman. Md. Ahmed, the businessman, was hacked to death on November 22 in Mecca Colony. Kalapathar police registered a case and started investigating. They found that Ahmed was having an extramarital relationship with a woman for the last

About two years ago, a pan-chayat was held in the pres-ence of elders of both the woman and the businessman's families. Ahmed was warned against continuing his relationship with the woman. However, Ahmed did not stop and continued visiting the woman in her husband's absence, leading to his murder.

ABOUT TWO years ago, a panchavat was held in the presence of elders of both the woman and the businessman's families. Ahmed was warned against continuing his relationship with the woman. However, Ahmed continued visiting

the woman.

The accused have been identified as Md. Azmathullah, 17-year-old son of the woman, Abdul Subhan, 19, Abdul Samad Khan, 19, Md. Sohail Khan, 22, Md. Salman Ali Khan, 27 Hyder Hussain, 33, Abdul Aziz, 19, and Md. Azhar, 19. Police seized one axe, two knives, a dagger and four bikes used in the offence. The accused have been produced before a court for judicial remand.



WILL MISS YOU

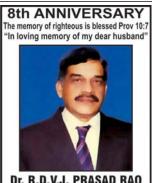
THONDAN P.O. KUPUUSWAMY, 94 (ex South Central Railway), who has been in the service of Lord Rama for last 58 years, from our first festival in 1962, reached the Lotus fee of Lord Rama on November 23, 2019 (Ninth day functions on December 1, 2019 Son: Sri P.K. Jayaraman 94403-94248).

Thondan Kuppuswamy has also been a par of our Pidi Arisi Annadhanam service for 52 years, since its beginning in 1967. We pray Lord Rama to grant him a fine place in

Sri Rama Navami Cultural Festiva Committee, Secunderabad

7th DEATH ANNIVERSARY

in peace." Isaiah 57:2
IN LOVING MEMORY OF



Dr. R.D.V.J. PRASAD RAO tetd. Principal Scientist (Plant Virologist) N.B.P.G.R, Rajendranagr, Hyderabad. D.B: 15.07.1947 D.O.D: 26.11.2011 D.O.B: 15.07.1947



GOVADI FRENEZER Promoted to Glory on 26th Nov. 1997

Your dedication and prayers were so strong that we are still blessed and sustained.

Inserted by: Wife: G. Mary Children & Grand Children.



K.V.NARASIMHACHARYA D.O.B.: 26-8-1931 D.O.D: 25-11-2011 It's been 7 year that you disappeared from our sight but not from our memories left from our touch but not from our hearts Fondly Remembered by : **FAMILY MEMBERS**

"ORPA exchanged her temporary TENT for a permanent HOME": II Cor. 5 **BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE**

Ph: 9848012870 / 09901334477



Mrs. G. ORPA ANURADHA 26-11-1963 – 19-08-2012 W/o Godala Vinod Dinakar, APCOB, AGM (Retd. Inserted by: Vinod Dinakar, Rohit Varun, Linet Merlyn, Levi Jayden, Raymond Jordan (Grandsons) Mob: 8074778025, 9885562388



Inserted by: RAJINI RANI & BHARAT MOHAN LAL

3rd DEATH ANNIVERSARY W/o Late Dr. B.C. Mathur DOB: 16-03-1943 DOD: 26-11-2016



Forever and ever more, we preserve your memories with us. With Love from YOUR FAMILY MEMBERS

Dr. R.D.V.J. PRASAD RAO

VAIKUNTA SAMARADHANA

From 1.00PM on 28th Nov.2019 at our Res: Ananda Sai Nilayam H.No.1-216/159

Street No.4, Lane-2, Karthikeya Nagar

Nacharam, Hyderabad - 76.

Inserted by Family Members 6362311912 / 040-29701815

8th ANNIVERSARY

M.Sc (Ag) Ph.D.

(Retd. Principal Scientist (Plant Virologist)
NBPGR, Regional Station
Rajendranagar, Hyderabad.

D.O.B: 15.07.1947 D.O.D: 26.11.2011
Affred Vijay Rudrapati (Son)
Jenny (Daughter-in-law) Joey & Sammy
(Grand Sons, USA) Merlyn Sandeepa
Maripatta (Daughter) Maripatta Joseph
(Son-in-law) Joanne, Kaitlyn
(Grand Daughter, USA)

I have fought the good fight, I have finishe the race, I have kept the faith. 2 Timothy 4: IN LOVING MEMORY OF



S DAVID CHANDRASEKARAN DOB: 30.07.1940 DOD: 25.11.2019 Memorial Service will be held on 29.11.2019 Inserted by: Family Members Mobile: 9966350308 / 9955683056



(S.K.RAO) D.O.B.: 26-11-1936 D.O.D: 10-05-2008

murdered in Asifabad DC CORRESPONDENT Stab marks were found on various parts of her It is suspected that Villagers found the dead

KUMARAMBHEEM ASI-FABAD, NOV. 25

body of a woman, Teku Laxmi, 30, in the forest area of Yellapatar in Lingapur mandal. Kumarambheem Asifabad district on Monday. Police visited the scene of o with a dog squad and started an investigation.

A missing case was filed with the local police by Laxmi's family members on November 24.

some unidentified persons gang-raped and murdered Laxmi and left her body in the forest area.

Laxmi belonged to the Budaga Jangalu, a Dalit community, who came to Lingapur mandal from Khanapur and was doing some petty business of selling balloons and ban-

Hundreds from people various villages staged a protest over the incident and demanded that the central government punish the accused involved in the rape and murder.

The irate agitators demanded punishment by hanging the accused to teach a lesson to oth-Leaders of the Budaga

there was no protection for Dalit women, especially Budaga Jangalu who earn their ivelihood by selling small items by visiting villages.

Jangala community said

Politics

DECCAN CHRONICLE TUESDAY | 26 NOVEMBER 2019 | HYDERABAD



Authorities have been told to make Kadapa and Pulivendula model towns

— Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy

IN BRIEF

FIGHT TO CONTINUE, **SAYS REDDY**

From Page 1

He also said that the employees are hoping that they would get justice in the labour court.

The fight against the privati-sation of the RTC will continue as some officials are trying to sell the assets of the corporation, he said.

"It is painful that the government has not responded to the strike of the RTC employees even after 52 days. The employ-ees did not lose the fight nor did the state government win the fight with the employees,'

said Reddy. RTC employees who work in the first shift should arrive at the depots on Tuesday morning and take up their duties. 'The fight has helped us save the RTC and protect workers rights. It is our moral victory. We thank all those who supported the employees during the strike," said Reddy.

Expressing concern over the death of 29 employees, Reddy said that the JAC would strike until the families of the bereaved are delivered justice. Referring to the Supreme Court, Reddy said that the government should take the employees back on duty without putting any conditions on them and the JAC requested the state to follow the apex

'FAITH IN CONSTITUTIONAL BODIES WANING'

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, NOV. 25

Going by the manner in which developments in Maharashtra have unfolded, people are losing faith in constitutional institutions, remarked Mallu Ravi, vice president of Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee.

Speaking to media on Monday, he pointed out that earlier, BJP had unconstitutionally used its authority for coming to power in Assam, Goa and Karnataka. It is now doing the same in Maharashtra. Even Rashtrapati Bhavan, Raj Bhavan and Prime Minister Even Raj have colluded in playing midnight politics in an attempt to install a BJP government in Maharashtra, Mallu Ravi

charged. The senior party leader said such "surgical strikes" by BJP are undemocratic and unconstitutional.



TSRTC employees protest at the JBS bus station. The indefinite strike by the workers enters its 52nd day on

HC notice to govt on untrained RTC drivers

PIL says drivers do not possess the requisite skills

VUJJINI VAMSHIDHARA | HYDERABAD, NOV. 25

A division bench of Telangana High Court, comprising Chief Justice Raghavendra Singh Chauhan and Justice A. Abhishek Reddy, on Monday issued notices to the state government and TSRTC on a Public Interest Litigation alleging that the number of road accidents in the state has increased due to hiring of untrained drivers

to ply RTC buses after the corporation employees

Gopala Krishna Kalanidhi stated that the corpora-tion has hired as RTC bus drivers persons with driving licences to drive heavy vehicles, without checking their experience in driving buses. The advocate contended that these drivers do not possess the requisite skills and experience in driving the public transport buses. As a result, the number of road accidents in the state has increased, threatening human lives in the

The petitioner requested the court to direct the have gone on strike. state and RTC to take ini-In his PIL, advocate tiative in organising a 90-

COURT REQUESTED to direct the state and RTC to organise a 90day training programme for drivers.

day training programme for drivers who are plying buses in the state, so that the number of road accidents in the state comes down.

has failed 10th but possesses driving license is authorised by authorities to ply a bus, due to which lives of commuters on the road and passengers in the bus are put to peril," the

advocate submitted.

The chief secretary, principal secretary of transport department, in-charge MD of TSRTC and minister for transport are respondents in the PIL.

The bench directed them

to respond within four

weeks.

Meanwhile, Justice Abhinand Kumar Shavili, adjourned Wednesday (November 27) the petition seeking a directive to RTC that salaries of September month be paid to the corporation workers. The judge asked RTC to come with its stand by that day

without any delay.

CM meets Gov, clears stand on RTC strike

IREDDY SRINIVAS REDDY . HYDERABAD, NOV. 25

Chief Minister Chandrasekhar Rao called on Governor Tamilisai Soundarara-jan on Monday, leading to speculations among politi-cal circles. This is the first time that the CM has met the Governor af expanding his cabinet.

Sources said during his two-and-a-half hour meeting, the Chief Minister explained to her the state government's stand on the strike by RTC employees. He reportedly informed the Governor that the gov-

ernment would deal with RTC issue as per the new Motor Vehicle Act of the union government. The ČM underlined that

there would be no going back on privatisation of 5,100 RTC routes. The government will

also bring in a new policy on privatisation of the corporation. He informed the Governor that a cabinet meeting will soon be held to decide on a policy of bringing in private buses into the RTC.

In this context, he appealed to the Governor to approve an ordinance following the cabinet deciGovernor does not approve the ordinance, the policy will be brought before a special session of the assembly for approval in the first week of December.

Meanwhile, leaders of the Bharatiya Janata Party have been repeatedly countering the TRS claim that there are no provisions in the new Act of the union government to privatise the RTC.

In this context, the CM has decided to amend the new Motor Vehicle Act introduced by the union government and go ahead with the state's new policy.

Vain RTC strike of 52 days creates record

S.N.C.N. ACHARYULU | DC

The 52-day Telangana State Road Transport Corporation

Corporation (TSRTC) strike has created the record of being the longest protest, while being a great failure.

During the separate Telangana moment led by now Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao, the same RTC had struck work for 42 days as a part work for 42 days as a part of the Sakala Janula

The current RTC strike, called off on Monday, also makes history in that during the 52 days, 30 employees have died, including due to suicides.

The strike has also not seen any logical end. Usually, any strike is called off after some assurance from the government or accepting of some or the other

■ **THE CM** hThe strike has also not seen any logical end. Usually, any strike is called off after some assurance from the government or accepting of some or the other demands of employees. But the JAC has not got any

demands of employees. But the JAC has not got any assurance from the state government.

assurance from the

state government.

Not a single of more than 40 demands has been conceded, despite the JAC itself dropping its demand of merging RTC with the state government.

After dropping its main demand, the RTC JAC came forward to call off

the strike provided the government allows workers to join duties without any conditions.

But the government did not react to this proposal. Finally, the JAC announced calling off of the strike on Monday, without getting anything

in return.

The High Court's intervention into the RTC strike came of no help to RTC employees after it was referred to the labour

If the labour court deems the RTC strike ille-gal, the future of around 50,000 RTC employees will hang in balance.

The just-concluded RTC strike is perhaps the only workers' agitation that has ended without achiev-ing anything, though the 52-day strike of the corporation workers is the longest in the history of

Poll symbols worry TRS leadership, will go to EC

process.

S.N.C.N. ACHARYULU |

HYDERABAD, NOV. 25

The Telangana Rashtra Samiti (TRS) leadership has decided to approach Election Commission again on the symbols issue. The TRS leadership is worried about election symbols being allotted to independent candidates in every election, which resemble its own sym-

In the 2018 assembly elections, the TRS lost some seats by a small margin due to the 'truck' symbol, which was allotted to an Independent candidate and which TRS leaders said resembled their election symbol, the 'car'. In the recent Huzurnagar by-

election, an independent and corner of Telangana candidate who got the in the last one decade truck symbol polled and if anyone asks what more votes than the BJP is the TRS symbol, peoand TD candidates

TRS leaders say that in rural areas people by mistake are voting for the truck symbol instead of their party symbol, the car. TRS leaders said at least 10 TRS candidates were defeated due to the election symbols. A senior TRS leader said that they have two

options: requesting the Election Commission to ban election symbols like truck and road roller, or changing their party election symbol, the car. He said the second

option is fraught with danger for the party as the TRS election symbol has reached every nook

wiii say it's the car. Ii the TRS changes its election symbol people will be even more confused and the election commission is free to allot truck, road roller and present TRS election symbol car also to independent candidates. This will become more danger to TRS political future said

The TRS leadership has asked its senior leaders to prepare a list of symbols that resemble the party's symbol of a car, which can then be submitted to the Election Commission requesting a ban on them in the free symbols

a senior party leader.

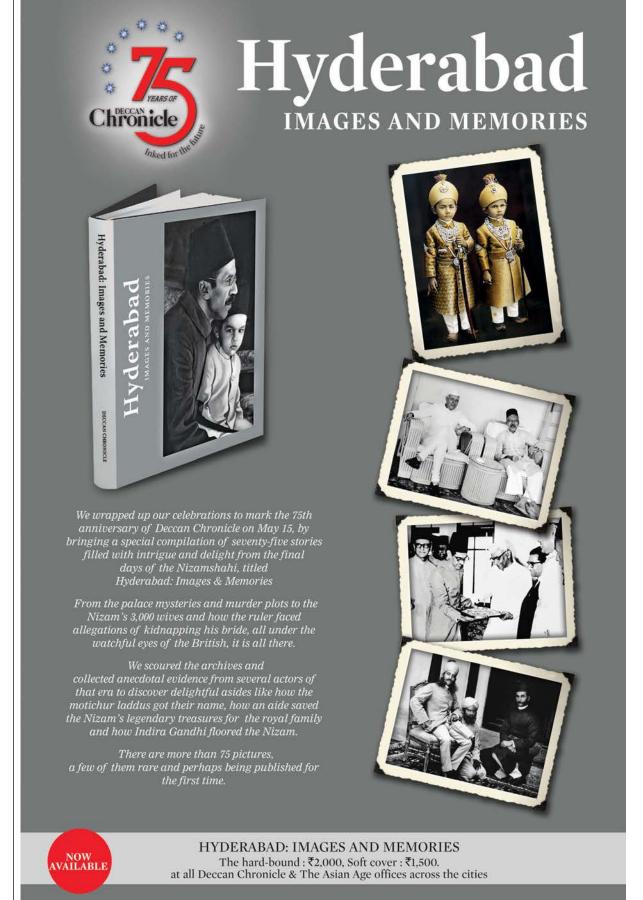
VYAPAM SCAM: 30 GET JAIL FOR 7 YEARS

RABINDRA NATH CHOUDHURY | DC BHOPAL, NOV. 25

A CBI court here on Monday sentenced a key accused in infamous Vyapam scam, involving irregularities in admissions in various medical colleges in Madhya Pradesh, and recruitments in class three and class four jobs in the state government, to ten years in prison.

CBI special court judge S.B. Sahu sentenced the alleged middleman in the scam, Pradeep Tyagi (29), to ten years in prison for his involvement in fixing the recruitment tests for constable posts conducted in 2013. The court also sentenced 30 others involved in the same case to seven years in prison each. The court convicted them on November 21 and pronounced quantum of punishment on Monday. The scam had hogged limelight when 45 people, involved in it, died during

the probe.



Scindia drops Congress link from Twitter bio

DC CORRESPONDENTS BHOPAL/NEW DELHI, NOV. 25

Senior Congress leader Jyotiraditya Scindia, who is sulking ever since he lost in Madhva Pradesh's chief ministerial race to Kamal Nath in December, on Monday triggered fresh speculation about his political future by dropping his Congress link in a revised Twitter bio.

His loyalist and state women and child welfare minister Imarti Devi, coincidentally, also changed her Twitter bio identifying herself simply as an MLA, not a minister, leaving state Congress leaders wondering what the Scindia camp was up to.

The growing ripples in state political circles prompted Mr Scindia to post a one-line Twitter comment, saying: "Ridiculous commotions over a Twitter profile change done almost a month ago!

Mr Scindia's old Twitter profile introduced him thus: "Former member of

Parliament, Guna (2002-2019), former minister for power (I/C); MoS Commerce and Industry; MoS Communications, IT& Post", whereas his latest Twitter bio simply states: "Public servant, cricket enthusiast'

Mr Scindia also justified omitting his party affilia-tion in his Twitter account, saying he never mentioned it in his Twitter bio earlier. He explained he had revised his Twitter bio to make it shorter on some people's advice.

The BJP, however, won-dered aloud why the change of status by Mr Scindia in his Twitter profile had drawn the media's attention. "It seems Mr Scindia is not comfortable with his present identity (Congress) and seeks to change his profile to give him a new identity. Does it not indicate that he is not feeling comfortable in the Congress? BJP spokesman Rajneesh

Agrawal said in Bhopal. Mr Scindia's recent exposure of the Kamal Nath

government's failure on several fronts, particularly the CM's inability to fulfil his promise to waive off farm loans up to Rs 2 lakhs, raised many eyebrows in party circles in Madhya Pradesh. Some MP Congress leaders feel Mr Scindia is just using pressure tactics to force the Congress to make him the PCC president.

In August 2019, Mr Scindia told the high command that he should be made state unit chief, else he "had other options". In December 2018 when the Congress came to power in the state, chief minister Kamal Nath was PCC chief. He had said since he had taken over as CM, there should be a new state unit chief. However, the high command decided no changes should be made till the Lok Sabha elections. After the disastrous results in the Lok Sabha polls, with Mr Scindia losing his own seat in Parliament, the changes were again put on

TIMELINE

9.38 PM: Some Opposition parties led by the Congress are likely to boycott the joint sitting of Parliament on Tuesday called to commemorate the Constitution Day and will hold a protest against the political developments in Maharashtra

9.19 PM: A day before the SC rules on floor test for Maharashtra government led by Devendra Fadnavis, the three parties paraded 162 MLAs in a show of strength

9 PM: NCP chief Sharad Pawar told a gathering of MLAs that he would personally ensure that none of them loses membership for voting against the BJP dur-

ing floor test in the Maharashtra Assembly 5.32 PM: The Shiv Sena, the NCP and the Congress will "parade" 162 MLAs in a five-star hotel in Mumbai as a proof of their

combined strength in the 288-member Assembly, Sena leader Sanjay Raut said.

2.24 PM: Vehement protests by Opposition members, especially those from the Congress, forced adjournment of the Lok Sabha proceedings for the day

3.14 PM: Congress president Sonia Gandhi led a protest in Parliament premises against the BJP's move to form the government in Maharashtra

2.49 PM: The Congress said its alliance with the NCP and the Shiv Sena had the support of 154 MLAs and the BJP will get a 'befitting reply' in the Assembly floor test

2.42 PM: Sharad Pawar said he was not behind Ajit Pawar's decision to align with the BJP and asserted that his party along with Congress and Sena will form the next government

2.41 PM: Rajya Sabha proceedings were adjourned for the day after the Congress and other Opposition parties stalled functioning of the House



2.11 PM: Amid the political uncertainty, NCP chief spokesperson Nawab Malik post ed a motivational Nawab Malik couplet on Twitter to send across a

message that nothing could deter them from succeeding

1.14 PM: NCP MLAs Daulat Daroda, Nitin Pawar and Narhari Zirwal, who were 'missing' since Saturday, return to Mumbai

12.13 AM: The court will give its order on Maharashtra government formation on Tuesday, says the Supreme Court while hearing the Shiv Sena-NCP-Congress combine's plea against the governor's decision

11.23 AM: NCP chief Sharad Pawar asserts that his party along with the Congress and Shiv Sena will form government in Maharashtra.

10.46 AM: The Supreme Court commences hearing on a plea filed by the Shiv Sena-NCP-Congress combine against the

10.44 AM: The NCP shifted its legislators from a five-star resort to two other hotels

governor's decision

9.45 AM: The Congress parliamentary strategy group meets at Sonia Gandhi's residence in Delhi in the backdrop of the Maharashtra political situation

9.40 AM: The Sena hits out at BJP, says those who did not respect their 25-year-long friendship will one day dump NCP leader Ajit Pawar as well

Priyanka Gandhi Vadra accuses the BJP of disregarding the Constitution in Maharashtra and



'game' it played in Karnataka

TEJASHWI TAKES A **JIBE AT SUSHIL MODI**

Patna, Nov. 25: RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav on Monday had a jibe at Deputy Chief Minister Sushil Kumar Modi whom he sought to remind of the "khela' (play) enacted in Bihar a couple of years ago in the thick of the night that helped the BJP achieve power despite having lost the mandate.

The younger son of Lalu Prasad further said had the RJD joined hands with the BJP "he (Modi) would have still been the Deputy CM but serving under a Chief Minister of our party".

The RJD leader had risen in his

seat in the Legislative Assembly, speaking in support of other oppo-

sition MLAs.

As Yadav began speaking about alleged attempts by the Nitish Kumar government to "muzzle the oppositions voice", he turned towards Modi seated right across and remarked "Modi ji says many fine things happen in the night. Bihar too has seen such a khela..when government was formed in the thick of the

2 Congress MPs may be suspended

DECCAN CHRONICLE

They raised slogans such as "Modi Government hai hai," and waved placards "Save Constitution" and "Save Democracy" slogans written on them along with a black banner that read "Stop Murder of Democracy.'

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, who had asked Congress MP Rahul Gandhi to ask his question during the Question Hour, urged the members to go back to their seats. However, as the banners and placards continued to be waved, he warned Congress MPs of action while asking them to consideration. remove them.

Meanwhile, Shouting slo-Mr Gandhi got gans and showup and said that though he had ing banners and come to ask a placards in the question, it has Well, Congress meaning MPs also jostled now as "democwith marshals to racy has been murdered in foil attempt to Maharashtra.' evict them As Congress

members intensified their sloganeering and showing banners, a visibly agitated Speaker first warned Hibi Eden and T.N. Prathapan to "put down the pamphlets" else they will be "sent out". Since these MPs did not yield to the

request, Om Birla ordered

removal of Eden and

Prathapan — who were

holding a big banner with stop murder of democracy slogan — by the marshals. At this time, Congress women MPs particularly Ramya Hariharan and Jothimani tried to resist marshals and prevent them from removing Eden

and Prathapan. With so much ruckus Speaker adjourned the House first till 12 pm, then till 2 pm. This is the first time it was adjourned dur-

ing the 17th Lok Sabha. In between the first and sec-ond adjournments, Sonia Gandhi was seen dis-cussing the protest strategy with her party MPs. Later, while speaking to the reporters Om Birla said such a conduct by MPs was unacceptable and will not be tolerated.

It is learnt that the Speaker had sought an apology from Eden and Prathapan, who reportedly have refused to do so.

The two MPs are expected to be suspended for their conduct with sources adding that the possibility of suspending them for five years is also under

"I am hurt by whatever hap-pened in Parliament today. It is unacceptable and won't be tolerated...I never want to adjourn the House,

always tried my best that house should function by taking everyone on board,' Birla said.

The Speaker may suspend Eden and Prathapan for storming the Well of the House and obstructing Parliament proceedings by shouting Slobushing banners.

Congress

Meanwhile, Congress leader in the House Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury that alleged Ramva Hariharan and Jothimani were "manhandled" when they were protesting in the Well of the House. Jothimani said they have lodged a complaint with Speaker.

'Security personnel manhandled our women parliamentarians. We have never experienced this Parliament," inside Chowdhury said.



Congress MPs Jothimani and Ramya Haridas (R) interact with the media at Parliament House regarding the alleged misbehaviour by marshalls, during the Winter Session, in New Delhi on Monday.

From Page 1

NCP president Sharad Pawar also addressed the MLAs where he assured them not to worry about Ajit Pawar. "There will not be any problem in proving our majority. The one who is suspended from the party cannot give any orders. On the day of the floor test, I will bring more than 162 MLAs. This is not Goa, this is Maharashtra. I will take personal responsibility to ensure no MLA loses Assembly membership for voting against the BJP," he said.

Earlier in the morning, the joint delegation of three parties submitted a letter to the governor, staking their claim to form the government in the state. "Once Mr Fadnavis fails to prove his majority during the floor test, the Shiv Sena's claim

letter read. NCP leader Jayant Patil alleged that the current government in Maharashtra has been formed on the basis of "false papers and documents". "We are in a position to bring 162 MLAs before the Maharashtra governor at any given

He was accompanied by Shiv Sena's Eknath Shinde and Vinayak Raut; Congress' Ashok Chavan and Balasaheb Thorat; and Samajwadi Party chief Abu Azmi, among others

time," he said.

Mr Shinde said that a letter of support from the 162 MLAs was submitted at Raj Bhavan.

However, the BJP ridiculed the efforts of the three parties to stake claim to form the government and parade their MLAs before the media.

BJP leader Ashish Shelar dubbed as "bogus" for government formation should be considered," the the letter submitted by the

BJP ridicules Sena-NCP-Cong parties. "It is a bogus letter as technically Ajit Pawar is still the leader of the NCP's legislature wing and he has extended support to the BJP. Congress has still not elected its legislative party leader and Shiv Sena has named its chief minister," Mr Shelar

said. BJP leader and Union minister Raosaheb Danve also said the letter had no value. "The process of forming the BJP government is already on. Mr Fadnavis will prove his majority comfortably on the floor of the Assembly,"

On the parade, Mr Shelar said, "An identification parade is carried out to identify criminals. Today, Congress, Shiv Sena and NCP paraded their legislators like criminals. They have not only insulted the legislators, but also the people who elected them as their representatives."

3 of 4 NCP MLAs back after 'rescue'

DC CORRESPONDENT

The Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) on Monday claimed that three more MLAs who were incommunicado since Saturday morning have come back to the party fold. The MLAs claimed that they were following Ajit Pawar's instructions believing that it was the party's decision to join hands with the BJP.

With this, the NCP now claims that all 53 MLAs, barring Ajit Pawar, have returned to the party and

that the junior Pawar's coup has failed.

The three MLAs who returned to Mumbai are Daulat Daroda, Nitin Pawar and Narhari Zirwal, who represent the Shahapur, Kalawa and Dindori seats respectively. They were kept in a hotel

in Gurgaon and were watched by BJP workers and local police, the NCP claimed. "Local NCP workers

from Gurgaon carried out a daring rescue operation and freed three MLAs, who had been trapped in a hotel there. They have been brought back to Mumbai before the trust vote in the legislature," NCP's spokesperson Nawab Malik said.

On the other hand, Shiv Sena leader Sanjay Raut claimed that the MLAs were "rescued in a joint operation" by Shiv Sena and NCP workers.

Mr Raut alleged that the NCP MLAs were detained by either the BJP or the state police of Haryana where the saffron party is

They can stoop to any level to gain political power," he said.

Not behind Ajit's decision to ally with BJP: Pawar Sr

Tender Notice No. 15/2019-2020 Dated : 22.11.2019

Invitation of Tenders through E-Procurement System

Principal Chief Materials Manager, Northern Railway, New Delhi-110001 for and or

behalf of the President of India, invites e-tenders through e-procurement system fo

Brief Description

DRAFT GEAR ARRANGEMENT

EMERGENCY BRAKE ACCELERATOR

NOTE: 1. Vendors may visit the IREPS website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in for details.

DC CORRESPONDENT PUNE, NOV. 25

NCP chief Sharad Pawar on Monday said that he was not behind Ajit Pawar's decision to align with the BJP and become the deputy chief minister and asserted that his party along with Congress and Shiv Sena will form the next government in Maharashtra.

Addressing reporters in Karad town of neighbouring Satara district, the NCP decision of aligning with not an iota of doubt."

supply of the following items:-

01 07190299 DUMPVALVE

No Manual offer will be entertained.

S. Tender No.

09192570

the BJP was that of his nephew Ajit Pawar and not of the NCP. "It is not the party's decision and we do not endorse it," the former Union minister said.

He also said that he has no contact with his nephew, who rebelled against the NCP.

"It is wrong to say that I have a hand behind Ajit Pawar's revolt," he added. Asked whether the NCP, Congress and Shiv Sena will form government in chief reiterated that the the state, he said, "There is

321 NOS

1340 NOS

128 NOS

20.12.201

31.12.201

31.01.2020

ACB: Nine irrigation scam cases closed

DC CORRESPONDENT wuth agency inputs

MUMBAI, NOV. 25 Days after the Ajit Pawar-led faction broke off from the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) and he was sworn in as the deputy chief minister, the state Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Monday closed nine cases in the irriation scam, in which the involved him.

ACB officials added that these were routine cases that could be reopened for investigation in case of fresh evidence. They also confirmed that they were investigating a series of ten-Corporation in connection with the various projects undertaken by it. At least alleged to have played a major role. However, ACB officials confirmed that none of the nine cases are filed before the more of the nine cases that were filed before the more of the nine cases all played a were part of the investigation which departmental enquiries against the concerned officials have been recommended."

bench of the Nagpur Bombay high court.

The statement issued by the ACB read: "We have completed probing 212 tenders so far, and 24 cases had been registered pertaining to them with charge-sheets filed in five. We have also ders of the Vidarbha filed in five. We have also Irrigation Development closed the open enquiry into 45 tenders as no offence was found during the enquiry. In ali 28 instances, administradeputy chief minister is 2,654 tenders in 45 projects tive lapses were found, in

The ACB reiterated that the nine closures issued on Monday were part of the 45 enquiries that were closed. The same had been recommended by the respective ACB units that were probing them over the past five months, ACB officials said.

The ACB confirmed that all 24 cases filed in connection with the PILs were unde investigation and none had been closed. Open enquiries into various projects and tenders of the VIDC were also in progress.

Water Resources Department

Fax No.: 011-23384008 E-mail Address: cos@nr.railnet.gov.in

INCLUDING DRAFT GEAR

Office of the Director, Dam Safety Cell 3rd Floor, Block-B, Jal Sansadhan Bhawan Anisabad, Patna-800002

India **National Hydrology Project** IBRD Loan no 8725-IN Ref. No.: BIHAR/WRD/KHARAGPUR LAKE/NHP-SW/EOI/02/2019-20

Procurement Plan Ref No.: NHP-2019-20-BRSW-165176

Abridged Version Request for Expression of Interest (Consulting Services-Firms Selection) (E- Procurement)

Subject: Consultancy Services for Conducting reservoir survey including Hydrographic Survey, Preparation of DEM & AEC curve, Sedimentation Study and development of Inflow Forecast Model for Kharagpur Lake.

	Date of Issue/Publishing	28" November' 2019
	Last Date and Time for Uploading of REOI	06 th January' 2020 at 3.00 PM
	Date and Time of Opening of REOIs	06 th January' 2020 at 3.30 PM

Interested parties may view and download the Request for Expression of Interest containing the detailed terms and condition free of cost from the website http://fmis.bih.nic.in and http://wrd.bih.nic.in

For further details please visit website www.prdbihar.gov.in

Director, Dam Safety Cell, Patna - 800002. Phone - 06122250121.

PR. No. 11025 (WRD) 2019-20 Email - dirdscbihar@gmail.com भ्रष्टाचार से संबंधित शिकायत ०६१२–२२१७०४८ पर करे।



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Empanelment of IPR Attorneys

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The duly filled application form along with technical bid and financial bid in prescribed format sealed in two envelopes separately should reach the TIFAC by December 16, 2019. davp 36114/11/0004/1920

NCP leaders meet Ajit, urge him to quit govt

DC CORRESPONDENT MUMBAI, NOV. 25

Even as deputy chief minister Ajit Pawar asserted in the Supreme that Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) is supporting the Bharatiya Janata Party-led government, the NCP is still trying to convince him to resign. Several NCP leaders, including senior leaders Chhagan Bhujbal, Dilip Walse-Patil and Sunil Tatkare met him at Vidhan Bhavan through-

out the day.
It is likely that Ajit Pawar will issue a whip on voting day as the legislative party leader of the NCP, even though his uncle Sharad Pawar has announced that the junior Pawar had been removed from the post after took he oath as deputy chief minister along with chief minister Devendra Fadnavis.

Most of the leaders who met Ajit Pawar refused to reveal anything from their meeting with the leader. Vidya Chavan, who was one of them, said she paid just a courtesy visit. "We are all with the NCP and Sharad Pawar. None of us has defected and we are confident that Ajitdada will also resign and come back," she said as she was leaving Vidhan

According to sources, Ajit Pawar will issue a whip on the day of the

PRO-TEM SPEAKER HOLDS KEY, **BJP MAY PUSH FOR ITS PICK**

DC CORRESPONDENT MUMBAI, NOV. 25

In the engrossing political battle in the state, even the appointment of a pro-tem Speaker has assumed a lot of significance.

According to sources, the ruling BJP is plan-ning to install its own person on the position.
The pro-tem Speaker has a limited role of administering oath to the newly-elected legislators and supervising the process of the elec-

he can appoint any other person on that position," said a senior official. floor test of the Fadnavis government. This was also indicated by his sub-

Court on Monday.
"I am the NCP. The letter I gave (to the governor) is factually correct. There is nothing to contradict the letter. I was authorised as a legislative party leader by 54 MLAs of my party to take a decision on their behalf on government formation, on the day I gave that letter. The quarrel I have within my family will be resolved soon, but this petition must

missions in the Supreme

BJPleader Ashish Shelar also said that the whip issued by Ajit Pawar would be consid-

end now," he said in the

ered valid. "The NCP has still not suspended Ajit Pawar from his post as leader of the party's legislature wing and membership of the party. Hence, he is still the leader of the NCP in the Assembly and he will issue the whip," he said. Meanwhile, an editorial

tion of a new speaker,

who then conducts the

floor test for the chief

minister to prove his

However, sources said

the appointment of a pro-tem Speaker is the

sole discretion of the

for governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari to fol-

low the convention, and

"It is not mandatory

majority.

in Shiv Sena mouthpiece Saamana launched a scathing attack on the BJP, saying that those who did not respect their 25-year-long friendship with the Uddhav Thackeray-led party would one day dump Ajit Pawar as well

The editorial also said that Ajit Pawar's rebellion had failed and this would be evidence in the next few days.

FADNAVIS TAKES CHARGE

DC CORRESPONDENT

Even before the Supreme Court gives its decision on the political crisis in the state, chief minister Devendra Fadnavis took charge of his office in Mantralaya on Monday. On the very first day, he sanctioned ₹5,380 crore from the state contingency fund to provide relief to farmers

affected by unseasonal rains. While Mr Fadnavis was sworn in chief minister on Saturday morning, he officially took charge of his office on

The decision to sanction ₹5,380 crore for rain-affected farmers came in the wake of a meeting between Mr Fadnavis and deputy chief minister Aiit Pawar on Sunday evening. Both the leaders had discussed various measures for providing additional assistance to the farmers

🔞 EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY 🚳

affected by unseasonal rains.

E-Open Tender Notice E-Open Tender Notice No. C-3-1-CP-Vinyl-15203-SEE Date : 21.11.2019 The DRM (Commercial)/SEE for and on behalf of the President of India invites Open e-tender for the following work. The last date of online tendering is 20.12.2019 up to 15.00 hrs. All information and tender documents related to E-Tender is available on website-www.ireps.gov.in.

SI. No.-1, Name of work : Award of contract for Sole advertisement rights of vinyl/sticker at exterior side of Rake(s) of 15203 (Barauni-Lucknow Express) for a period of five (05) years Approx. cost (In Rs.): 2,95,99,788 Earnest Money (In Rs.): 2,98,000 Cost of Tender Document (In Rs.) 10,000, The above tender notice is available on Website

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World





We cannot afford four more years of Trump's reckless and unethical actions **Michael Bloomberg**

New York City Mayor

Britain in a mess,

says Tony Blair

London: Former prime minister Tony Blair said on Monday that Britain was in a dangerous mess and that neither his own Labour Party nor Prime Minister Boris Johnson's Conservatives deserved to win a Dec. 12 election. Britain is holding an election three years ahead of schedule because parliament was deadlocked over Brexit. unable to agree on how or even whether to leave the European Union. "We're a mess," Blair said, adding, "The buoyancy of the world economy has kept us going up to now, but should that falter, we will be in deep trouble." Blair said both major parties were peddling

Kenya landslide

claims 43 lives

Nairobi: The toll from landslides that hit villages in northwestern Kenvan county of West Pokot has reached 43, local officials confirmed. "I have received reports from search teams that the death toll has risen to 43," John Lonvangapuo, the Governor of West Pokot County said. At least seven children are among the total number of deceased. The bodies of the victims have been recovered and dozens of more people are injured, West Pokot **County Commissioner Apollo** Okello said. Flooded roads and bridges were swept away after the incident, hin-dering rescue operations, Okello added. President Uhuru Kenyatta sent out condolences to those lost

Assange needs medical care: Doc

in the disaster.

London: More than 60 doctors have written to British iutnorities asserting that WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange urgently needs medical treatment at a university hospital. The doctors said in a letter published on Monday that Assange suffers from psychological problems including depression as well as dental issues and a serious shoulder ailment. Assange is in Belmarsh Prison on the outskirts of London in advance of an extradition hearing set for February. He is sought by the US on espionage charges relating to his WikiLeaks work. The letter was sent to home secretary Priti Patel. Dr. Lissa Johnson of Australia said an independent medical assessment is needed to determine if Assange is "medically fit" to face legal proceedings. The letter was distributed by

DRIVER PLEADS GUILTY TO TRUCK DEATHS

WikiLeaks.

London, Nov. 25: A Northern Irish man, who is charged with the manslaughter of 39 Vietnamese nationals found dead in a truck near London last month, pleaded guilty to assisting unlawful immigration and to acquiring criminal property. Maurice Robinson, 25. was not asked to enter a plea to 41 other charges, including 39 counts of

manslaughter. No trial date was set and Robinson is next due in court on Dec. 13. The victims, 31 men and boys and eight women, were found on an industrial estate in Grays, Essex, not far from docks on the River Thames, on Oct. 23. The oldest of the victims was 44 while

three were aged under 18. Another 23-year-old man from Northern Ireland was separately charged with conspiracy to arrange or facilitate the travel of people with a view to exploitation and conspiracy to facilitate the commission of a breach of UK immigration law.

All in the game



Iraqi children play a game of football on a street blocked with burning tyres, amid a general strike in the southern city of Basra. The demonstrations rocking the capital and Shiite-majority south since October 1 are the biggest grassroots movement the country has seen in decades. Sparked by outrage over rampant government corruption, poor services and lack of jobs.

Iran's plot to attack Saudi

Tehran opted to target oil installations of America's ally, Saudi Arabia

Bahrain, Nov. 25: Four months before a swarm of drones and missiles crippled the world's biggest oil processing facility in Saudi Arabia, Iranian security officials gathered at a heavily fortified compound in Tehran.

The group included the top echelons of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, an elite branch of the Iranian military whose portfolio includes missile development and covert operations.

The main topic that day in May: How to punish the United States for pulling out of a landmark nuclear treaty and re-imposing economic sanctions on Iran, moves that have hit the Islamic Republic hard. With Major General Hossein Salami, leader of the Revolutionary Guards.

manger took the Hoor "It is time to take out our swords and teach them a lesson," the commander said, according to four people familiar with the

looking on, a senior com-

Hard-liners in the meeting talked of attacking high-value targets, including American military

what ultimately emerged was a plan that stopped short of direct confrontation that could trigger a devastating US response. Iran opted instead to target oil installations of America's ally, Saudi Arabia, a proposal discussed by top Iranian military officials in that May meeting and at least

four that followed. This account, described



by three officials familiar with the meetings and a fourth close to Iran's decision making, is the first to escribe the role of Iran's leaders in plotting the Sept. 14 attack on Saudi Aramco, Saudi Arabia's state-controlled oil compa-

These people said Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei approved the operation, but with strict conditions: Iranian forces must avoid hitting civillans Americans.

There was no confirmation of their version of events by Iran's leadership. A Revolutionary spokesman Guards declined to comment. Tehran has steadfastly

denied involvement. Miryousefi, Alireza spokesman for the Iranian Mission to the United Nations in New York, rejected the version of events the four people described. He said Iran played no part in the strikes, that no meetings of senior security officials took place to discuss such an operation, and that Khamenei did not autho-

rise any attack. "No, no, no, no, no, and no," Miryousefi said to

■ PEOPLE SAID Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei approved the operation, but with strict conditions: Iranian forces must avoid hitting any civilians or Americans

detailed questions on the alleged gatherings and Khamenei's purported role. The Saudi government communications office did not respond to a request for comment. The US Central

Intelligence Agency and Pentagon declined to comment. A senior Trump administration official did not directly comment on the findings but said Tehran's 'behaviour and its decades-long history of support for terrorism are why Iran's economy is in shambles'.

Yemen's Iran-aligned Houthi rebels, at the center of a civil war against Saudi-backed forces, claimed responsibility for the assault on Saudi oil facilities. That declaration was rebuffed by US and Saudi officials, who said the sophistication of the offensive pointed to Iran.

The kingdom is Iran's principal regional rival and a petroleum giant whose production is crucial to the world economy. It is an important U.S. security partner. But its war on Yemen, which has killed thousands of civilians, and the brutal mur-

journalist Jamal Khashoggi by Saudi agents last year, have strained its relations with US lawmakers. of support in Congress for military intervention to aid the Saudis after the attack. The 17-minute strike on

two Aramco installations by 18 drones and three low-flying missiles revealed the vulnerability of the Saudi oil company, despite billions spent by the kingdom on security. Fires erupted at the company's Khurais oil instal-lation and at the Abqaiq oil processing facility, the world's largest.

The attack temporarily halved Saudi Arabia's oil production and knocked out 5% of the world's oil

The assault prompted US secretary of state Mike an 'act of war'. In the aftermath, Tehran was hit with additional US sanctions. The United States launched cyber attacks against Iran, U.S. officials told Reuters.

The plan by Iranian military leaders to strike Saudi oil installations developed over several months, according to the official close to Iran's decision making."Details were discussed thoroughly in at least five meetings and the final go ahead was given" by early September, the official said.

All of those meetings took place at a secure location inside the southern Tehran compound attendby supreme leader der of Washington-based Khamenei. — Reuters



IRAN PLANNING ATTACKS ON ISRAEL: BIBI

Jerusalem, Nov. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu accused Iran of planning attacks against the Jewish state and said everything possible would be done to prevent them.

The premier, who was indicted on corruption charges and is seen to be battling for his political life, made his remarks on a visit to an army base near the border with conflict-ravaged Syria. "Iran's aggression in our region, and against us. continues," Netanyahu said.
"We are taking all

actions to prevent Iran from entrenching our region. This includes thwarting the transfer of lethal weaponry from Iran to Syria, whether by air or overland. We will also take action to thwart Iran's effort to turn Iraq and Yemen into bases for launching rockets and

Pro-democrats grab HK power

Hong Kong, Nov. 25: Hong Kong's leader pledged to listen to public opinion on Monday and referred to deep-seated problems in society after a landslide election victory by opponents of Chinese rule amid months of sometimes vio-Chinese pro-democracy unrest.

Democratic candidates secured almost 90% of 452 district council seats in Sunday's poll, held during a rare weekend lull in clashes with police, despite a strongly resour-ced and mobilised pro-

establishment opposition. Hong Kong's pro-Beijing chief executive, Carrie Lam, said the government respected the results and wished "the peaceful, safe and orderly situation to continue".
"Quite a few are of the

view that the results reflect people's dissatis-faction with the current situation and the deepseated problems in society," Lam said.

The government would "listen to the opinions of members of the public humbly and seriously reflect," her statement

The elections saw record turnout after six months of protests and brought upset wins for democrats against heavyweight pro-Beijing opponents, greeted in some voting centres by chants of 'Liberate Hong Kong' and 'Revolution Now'.

While district councils deal with local issues such as transport, their members also form part of the election committee The government would listen to

the opinions of members of the public humbly

seriously reflect. **CARRIE LAM,** Pro-Beijing leader

for Hong Kong's chief executive. This could give them some influence over the next vote in 2022, although they only account for 117 of its 1,200 members.

Democratic Party chairman Wu Chi-wai described the election as the first step in the long way to full democracy. This district election shows that the central government needs to face the demands of a demo-

cratic system," he said. Along with universal suffrage, the protesters' demands include an independent inquiry into perceived police brutality.

The voting ended with no major disruptions across the city of 7.4 million people on a day that saw massive, though orderly, queues form outside voting centres.

"This is the power of democracy. This is a democratic tsunami," said Tommy Cheung, a former student protest leader who won a seat in the Yuen Long district close to China's border.

Esper fires Navy secy in SEAL row

Washington, Nov. 25: Defense secretary Mark Esper has fired the Navy's top official, ending a stunning clash between President Donald Trump and top military leadership over the fate of a SEAL accused of war crimes in Iraq.
Esper said that he had

lost confidence in Navy secretary Richard Spencer and alleged that Spencer proposed a deal with the White House behind his back to resolve the SEAL's case. Trump has championed the matter of Navy Chief Petty Officer Edward Gallagher, who was acquitted of murder in the stabbing death of an Islamic State militant captive but convicted of posing with the corpse while in Iraq in

Spencer's firing was a dramatic turn in the fastchanging and politically charged controversy. It exposed fissures in Trum-'s relationship with the p's relationship with the highest ranks of the US military and raised questions about the appropriate role of a commander in chief in matters of military justice.



Gallagher was demoted from chief petty officer to a 1st class petty officer after his conviction by a military jury. Trump, however, restored Gallagher's rank this month.

The situation escalated again in recent days. On Wednesday, the Navy had notified Gallagher that he would face a Navy SEAL review board to determine if he should be allowed to remain in the elite force. While Trump then tweeted that he would not allow the Navy to remove Gallagher from the SEALs by taking away his Trident Pin, which designates a SEAL mem-ber, the White House told the Navy it could proceed as planned, according to a Navy officer.

PAKISTAN CLERIC PREDICTS MAJOR CHANGE IN DEC.

SHAFQAT ALI I DC ISLAMABAD, NOV. 25

Pakistani cleric Maulana Fazlur Rehman on Monday said there will be 'change' in December adding this had been agreed when he called off the sit-in in Islamabad this month.

Maulana Rehman, who leads the Jamiat Ulemae-Islam, made a shocking disclosure about 'conditions' under which the opposition's Azadi (liberation) March sit-in was called off.

"I was assured that a change would come in the month of December. I was assured that new general elections would be held in the next three months," he revealed. He added: "We need to wait whether in-house change in the parliament is brought or the entire government is sent packing." He has called multi-party conference of the parties on

November 26.

SHOCKING | FACTS Leaked papers reveal brainwashing, not job training, at camps Secrets of China's Xinjiang camps

Shanghai, Nov. 25: Classified Chinese government documents made public by an international journalists describe the repressive inner workings of detention camps in Xinjiang, in a second rare leak in days of secret files concerning the troubled western region.

publication on Sunday of the documents International Consortium of Inves-tigative Journalists follows a New York Times report on Nov. 16 based on a cache of secret papers revealing details of China's clampdown on ethnic Uighurs and other Muslims in the region.

United Nations experts and activists say at least 1 million Uighurs and members of other largely Muslim minority groups have been detained in camps in Xinjiang.

The ICIJ says it obtained a 2017 list of guidelines 'that effectively serves as a



A quard tower and barbed wire fences are seen around a section of the Artux City Vocational Skills Education Training Service Centre in China's Xinjiang region.

sis system that uses artifi-

cial intelligence to select

camps', with instructions ments it obtained include on how to prevent escapes, maintain secrecy about the camps' existence, indoctrinate internees and 'when to let detainees see relatives or even use

manual for operating the the toilet'. Other docu-'intelligence briefings' detention'. showing how police have been 'guided by a massive data collection and analy-

entire categories Xinjiang residents for

Foreign ministry spokesman Geng Shuang told a conference Monday that Xinjiang affairs were an internal

that a stable and prosperous Xinjiang was the best response to what he said amounted to slander.

The Guardian newspaper, an ICIJ affiliate, reported the Chinese embassy in London as saying 'the so called leaked documents are pure fabrication and fake news'.

Reuters was unable to independently verify the authenticity of the docu-

ments. The leaks come amid a rising international outcry over China's broader human rights record in Xinjiang. The United States has led more than 30 countries in condemning what it called a 'horrific campaign of repres-

Beijing denies any mistreatment of Uighurs or others in Xinjiang, saying it is providing vocational training to help stamp out Islamist extremism and separatism and to teach new skills.

TURKEY NOT TO RESUME SYRIA OFFENSIVE

Ankara, Nov. 25: Turkey is fully abiding by the agreements it reached with Russia and the United States regarding northeast Syria and is not resuming its military offensive.

Ankara reached separate agreements with Moscow and Wash-ington last month to remove the Kurdish YPG militia from a swathe of land in northeast Syria bordering Turkey, which in return stopped its military offensive against the militia.

But Ankara has previously said Russia nor the United States had kept up their side of the deal, and threatened to launch a new operation.

The security source said that Turkey was responding to attacks by the YPG in the region within the scope of self defense. The weeks of fighting displaced tens of thousands of civil-— Reuters

Chronicle 26 NOVEMBER 2019

Govt must recognise J&K not yet 'normal'

he recent statement of the Union home minister in Parliament suggesting that Kashmir has returned to a state of normality conceals more than it reveals. The government cited police data of stonethrowing incidents, and violent acts of murder and bomb attacks and the like, to assert its claim that the situation was far better since August 5, when a constitutional dismantling of the state of J&K was announced, than in the period earlier. But these are unlikely to carry con-

viction with the people in the Valley.

Around 5,000 people were detained around August 5. Many were political activists, including separatist elements, some of whom take to the streets and resort to violence. Their arrest would bring down incidents of violence. In addition, every inch of land was covered by soldiers with weapons. It appears the blanket security presence is not the norm now. The test of violent crimes would be when this year's extreme winter ends,

It is glaring, though, that the top mainstream leaders of Kashmir, including three former chief ministers, are still in detention. What kind of normality can it be when Kashmir's most important public figures, who swear by the Constitution of India and have rallied their forces and directed their political trajectory against terrorism and secessionism, remain

An official claim of normality in such circumstances can only make us the world's laughing stock. Recently, even after the national mood was sought to be bolstered by an authoritative official statement that it was now business as usual in the Valley, a group of prominent citizens from New Delhi, led by Yashwant Sinha, who was finance minister in the Atal Behari Vajpayee government, was prevented from meeting the detained

The group comprised a distinguished retired civil servant of the J&K cadre who once survived a terrorist attack, a retired top officer of the Indian Air Force who is a Kashmiri Pandit, a well-known public activist and a senior journalist — a perfectly harmless group of eminent Indians. They had gone to Kashmir to view "normality". They couldn't meet any detenus. They were also prevented from going out of Srinagar. In effect, they were themselves brought under close supervision and subjected to tight control, something similar to preventive detention.

There seems nothing normal about a situation such as this. Indeed, there is everything unusual and strange. Oddly enough, the day after the Union home ministry claim was publicised, the ongoing people's strike in the Valley, characterised by the voluntary closure of shops, which had been slackening somewhat, came to be renewed with greater vigour than earlier. The major towns are once again locked down.

The time may have come for the government to offer a more sober assessment of ground realities to the people of the country, instead of simply trying to score propaganda brownie points.

A wake-up call for Kerala

Ven political rivals of Kerala's LDF government will give the Leftists credit for their performance on two fronts—general education and public health. Over 45,000 classrooms have gone hi-tech in the past three and half years, each room with proper furniture, mounted projector, laptop, etc. The government has pumped in money to the public health system by improving infrastructure in government hospitals and appointing new staff. There are as many as 55 primary health centres with NQAS accreditation in the state.

But all the good work failed to come to the aid of Shehala Sherin, a Class 5 student of Sarwajana School in Sulthan Bathery in the northern Wayanad district when she suffered a snakebite; a neurotoxic snake was supposed to have been hiding in a hole in the classroom! A doctor at Suthan Bathery taluk hospital confirmed the snakebite, but suggested she be taken to Kozhikode medical college, about 3-4 hours away, as the hospital had no ventilator to put her on should the child face complications while being administered anti-snake venom. She died on her way.

The whole episode demands that the government, while pressing ahead with introducing global standards in education and healthcare, take a deep breath and assess the ground realities. Hilly Wayanad, a new tourism hotpot in Kerala with its cool climes and coffee estates, has been a backward district all along. The state, being ruled by the Left Front, which is wedded to egalitarian principles, must ensure that its most backward areas get adequate care while the rest of the state climbs its way up.

DECCAN CHRONICLE

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Nellore: Survey No.527/2, Burranpur Village, Venkatachalam (M), Chemmudugunta Panchayat, Nellore, Ph: 0861-2348581/82; Telefax: 0861-2348580

Chennai: SP-3 Developed Plot, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai - 600 032, Ph: 044-22254747/48/50/51; Advt Fax: 22254765/22254766/42305325 Bengaluru: 5th Floor, BMTC Commercial Complex, 80 Feet Road, Koramangala, Bengaluru-560 095 Ph:

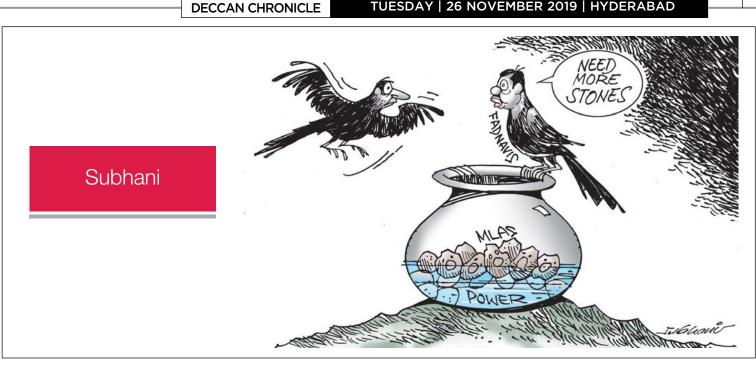
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Playing fast, going slow: Politicians & apex court



Shikha Mukerjee

name of the crisis that the BJP has created ∙actions Maharashtra. In order to end a minor crisis, it has created a monumen-And President, Maharashtra governor, the Prime Minister and the Union home minister have all been sucked

The crisis, both constitutional and political, is evolving by the hour and just at the ponderous 24-hour cycle of a day. Stalled by the Supreme Court for 48 hours now, the political Opposition in Maharashtra decided to tackle the issue of legitimacy of the

dawn drama Maharshtra November challenging the claim of majority of the newlyinstalled ministry of Devendra Fadnavis of of disputed political affiliation, since he is no longer the legislature party chief of the Nationalist Congress

Party.
The signed list of 162 members of the Maharashtra Assembly submitted by the Shiv Sena, NCP and the Congress to governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari makes nonsense of two things — first, the governor's integrity, and second, the constitutional legitimacy of the Devendra Fadnavis government. governor used wisdom to organise the dawn drama by writing to home minister Amit Shah that President's Rule in Maharashtra should be immediately revoked. Without calling a Cabinet meeting, Prime Minister Modi Narendra concurred with the judgment and requested the President of India, Ram Nath Kovind, to sign on the dotted line.

Koshyari then arranged a swearing-in.

In doing so, the governor must accept responsibility for having reasons to believe that Mr Fadnavis' claim was backed by a "ctable." was backed by a "stable" majority that would end the "uncertainty" in the nation's finance capital, namely Mumbai. The list of 162 MLAs, with their signatures, contra-dicts the truth of the governor's call, that Mr Fadnavis had a majority. The home minister bought the governor's story, and then sold it to the Prime Minister, who then advised the Presi-dent to revoke Presi-dent's Rule and make way for a Fadnavis

government.
The BJP can trade all the horses it wants, but it cannot put back together again the broken bits of its claim to being a clean party. Instead of draining the intrigue and corruption created allegedly by the Congress over 70 years, the BJP has deepened and widened it. It swindled; its claim to a majority was a fraud. The BJP can pass the buck to Ajit Pawar for perpetrating the fraud, by submitting a list of MLAs from the NCP who supported the new deal, though in fact the majority of these MLAs were not party to the deal. In buying Ajit Pawar's scam, the BJP is an accessory.

By stalling for time to do something with the

Will the courts be turned into gobsmacked spectators? If events outpace the speed at which the courts can respond to issues of legitimacy, then that is exactly what they will be.

The BJP has become an expert at pulling off heists. By normalising poaching or defections to stitch together majorities, it mocks the institution of political parties and multiparty democracy.

documents it asked for and ponder on the arguments it heard, the Supreme Court is allowing itself to be swamped. In any case, the Supreme Court cannot decide on the integrity of the people involved. Nor can it question the intentions of those involved. Deconstructing the difference between the Supreme Court's response Karnataka case and the Maharashtra one, must await what the court

finally has to say on the matter. What cannot be postponed is raising an alarm over the snowballing constitutional crisis.

The body snatching tactics of the BJP have been honed over several successful such ambushes. In the popular imagination, it overturns negative mandates into poslaunching "Operation or Operation Kamal. In Karnataka, by handing out 13 BJP tickets to contest the byelections, the connection between Operation Lotus and defections is as simple as putting two and two together. In Goa, the BJP accommodated the bulk of Congress MLAs and put itself in power. In Haryana, the BJP won over the Jannayak Janta Party. Being the party with a minority of MLAs, as Maharashtra, is not a hurdle; the BJP has the necessary magic to jump

over it.
The BJP has become an expert at pulling off heists. By normalising poaching or defections to stitch together majorities, it mocks the institution of political parties and multi-party democracy. The lament of "libor "secular tards" or secural sepoys" or people simply opposed to the Sangh Parivar that the

Opposition in India has crumbled is entirely true. If the opponent can be taken over when the BJP's ends require it, no matter what the means used, then political parties do not matter. Therefore, the idea of multi-party democracy is invalid. Minor hitches like the anti-defection law are just that. As long as the BJP issues tickets to defectors and ensures that they win, other political parties are

shells with signboards. Prevailing under any circumstances seems to be the BJP's modus operandi and the future that the party is committed to establishing in India. The events in Maharashtra confirm this. Having accepted on November 8 that he did not have a majority as the Shiv Sena would not back a government led by him, the sudden ascension to the chief minister's chair was an incredible transforma-tion. The timing of the event, hours before the NCP, Shiv Sena and the Congress were expected to stake their claim to form the government in Maharashtra under-scores the determina-tion of the BJP to pre-

vail. this be read as a signal to voters in Jharkhand that they should back off from supporting parties other than the BJP? There are a series of questions that follow from the events in Maharashtra. Will the Maharashtra operations become the template for future state Assembly elections in India for as long as the BJP does not crumble under its own contradictions? Can this be read as a signal to the non-BJP-ruled states that there will be another heist? And will the courts be turned into gobsmacked spectators? If events outpace the speed at which the courts can respond to issues of legitimacy, then that is exactly what they will be. Neither fair play nor justice have any meaning left as the BJP barrels its way into office, with or without a mandate.

> The writer is a senior journalist in Kolkata

DISGUSTING

It is disgusting to note that each passing election sees elected lawmakers being bought and sold like cattle. It is time for us to wake up and put a full stop to this. A member who gets elected on a particular symbol of a party should remain a member of that party for the full term or till the **Assembly or Parliament** dissolved. If any elected member changes his/her loyalty to any other party then he or she should be automatically disqualified for the rest of the term. This I believe will put some sense in the heads of the elected members at least till the respective House is dissolved.

Susai Rayer

Shamshabad RECTIFY FLYOVER

I request the authorities concerned to take necessary steps to rectify the geometrical issues in the design of the Biodiversity flyover near Gachibowli immediately. The Hyderabad Traffic Police and the GHMC should set up speed break-ers way before vulnerable curves to prevent accidents.

Syed Mushtaq Zainulabideen

Tolichowki, Hyderabad

Email your letters to info@deccanmail.com. editor@deccanmail.com. You can also send them to Editor, Deccan Chronicle, 36, Sarojini Devi Road,

YEARS AGO IN DECCAN • hronicle

US to destroy germ weapons

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25.

President Richard Nixon today announced that the United States would destroy all existing stockpiles of bacteriological weapons.

He told newsmen the USA would never employ germ warfare even if an enemy were to do so. He also announced that future Government research in the biological will be limited to defensive measures such as a search for immunisation serums against germ weapons others might use.

The President in a formal statement said he was taking a series of moves in the chemical bacteriological areas as 'an initiative toward peace'.



Peg gender on human rights, not only in an economic lens

e are living in a divided and unequal world that is socially fractured and economically uneven. Hatred, hypocrisy, prejudice, conflict and war are creating uncertainties and destabilising societies. Some regions are enjoying peace, security and prosperity, while others are struggling to break a chronic cycle of conflict and violence.

In South Asia, the causes for divisions within and between countries are many — creating fissures and fault lines that fuel tensions, and making the region volatile and societies vulnerable. Add to this the plight of women within society, and these issues become even more complex. Gender inequality is a deep-rooted issue that is interpreted in a number of ways by different people. However, given the patriarchal nature of society, shifting from entrenched values will not be easy. Discrimination, harassment and violence occur at home and in the workplace, albeit in different ways;

either overt brutality or covert threats, usually based on the anticipated reaction from society or the victim's capacity to respond.

In order to develop an integrated understanding of gender issues in South Asia, it is important to contextualise it in the prevailing socioeconomic, religious and geopolitical conditions; account for the fact that constitutional guarantees and legal provisions do not automatically lead to implementation; and acknowledge that discrimina-tion persists within the family and societal institutions. The gap between legislation, policy and practice remains an impediment.

At first glance, South Asia appears rich in cultural constructs such as family ties, social networks and economic relations, as well as assumptions of social harmony and pursuit of spiritual over material values. However, underlying this idealistic conceptualisation is the harsh reality of divisions and discriminations based on gender,

caste, creed and socioeconomic disparities. While the universality of gender inequality in the labour force affects growth, other insidious factors — especially those that treat women as if they were children of a lesser god — are even more alarming. Without a funda-mental shift, opportunities for women will remain few, growth will be stunted, inequalities will prevail and biases will continue to shape social values, thus slowing down the process of empowerment. This has major human rights

implications. We tend to equate worth with economic strength, social standing and occupation in positions of authority. Acknowledging that productive outputs are indeed core drivers of sustainable economic growth, this cannot be used as the sole criterion for granting or withholding fundamental human rights, which intrinsically guarantee equality for all irrespective of station in life. Human rights are not based on

who is rich or poor, employed or unemployed, young or old, etc. They are about equality, freedom, dignity and respect for all. This is why it is important to

shift our focus away from framing women's empowerment in purely economic terms, and instead create the space to foreground the human rights of women and link it directly with equal opportunity, access to resources and freedom of choice.

Women are a heterogeneous group and a product of their society. A vast majority fall prey to the brainwashing that begins at birth and continues throughout their lives, making most women feel that striving for equality is either immoral or a sin. This restricted intellectual conceptualisation of womanhood prevents them from striving harder and demanding their rightful place and share in society. This web of cultural con-straints, reinforced by a regressive and coercive interpretation of religion, acts as a mental barrier and

effectively handicaps women psychologically who are then unable to demand full emancipation. The majority of South Asian women are not free agents who are empowered to make their own life choices, ranging from education, marriage, employment, family planning and

financial investments. Given the existing gender imbalance in wage, income, wealth and participation in the labour market, the impacts of climate change will act as a threat multiplier for women. There is, therefore, an urgent need to separate economics from gender empowerment and peg it on human rights. In this emerg-ing scenario, if freedom and empowerment are framed only in economic terms, then the rights of many — especially women — will increasingly be usurped and violated, reducing them to lives of sub-servience, destitution, oppression and exploitation.

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The economics of giving | A pair of socks chosen to make an impression, to away goods or services | stand out or to express something about oneself

In Kashmir, 'democracy and morality can wait'



Gowhar Geelani

∎hen it r, both "democracy "morality" can wait! The dawn of August 5, 2019 came on Kashmiris like a "betrayer". In the eyes of many perceptive Kashmiris, "the latest betrayal should not be a cause of real in 1958 and 1964. surprise or shock if one were a good student of history and the Kashmir conflict"

For them, what happened on August 5 this year was a stark reminder that something similar had happened several times before — first in August 1953, and then again in 1964.

For Kashmir, the season of betrayals has been never-ending. On August 9, 1953, the "prime minister" of Jammu Kashmir, Abdullah, was unceremoniously dismissed as the head of the state, and then imprisoned for over two decades in separate stints from 1953 to 1975. To begin with, Sheikh Abdullah, on charges of "treason", remained in prison for 12 years with two brief intermissions —

Independent India's first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru allowed Sheikh Abdullah, once his bosom friend, to visit Pakistan to meet the Pakistani military dictator, Gen. Ayub Khan, in Rawalpindi in 1964. However, Sheikh Abdullah was again put behind bars on his return to Srinagar. This time, however, for a longish term. By then,

Nehru had also passed away.
Celebrated historian Perry
Anderson noted in *The Indian Ideology*: "The Intelligence
Bureau had little difficulty convincing (Pandit Jawaharlal) Nehru that he (Abdullah) had become a liability, and overnight he was dismissed by the stripling heir to the Dogra throne he had so complacently made head of state, and thrown into an Indian jail on charges of

Not only was the Sheikh accused of being "seditious" he was also falsely accused of "receiving money from Pakistan" in what became known as the Kashmir

Conspiracy Case. In the 1940s, Sheikh Abdullah was largely seen as an unre-lenting figure of Kashmiri nationalism. He was the founder of the National Conference, which in 1931 began as the Muslim Conference and was the first political party of the erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir. Besides this, Sheikh Abdullah became the first Muslim "prime minister" of Jammu and Kashmir after a Kashmiri Pandit (Hindu), Ramchand Kak. He had also

In the eves of many key Kashmir watchers, there has been hardly any difference between how the BJP is operating in Kashmir at the moment, or how the so-called secular **Congress Party has** dealt with Kashmir in the past

spearheaded the Quit Kashmir movement against the Dogra ruler, Maharaja Hari Singh.

The late Professor Balraj Puri, a well-known academic from the Jammu region, was enraged over Sheikh enraged over Sheikh Abdullah's dismissal as prime minister and his detention. With the aim of registering his protest over the issue, he met Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru in New Delhi. But Puri's earnest trip to Delhi did not bear any fruit.

He wrote in his book In Kashmir Towards Insurgency that "Nehru warned me against being too idealistic and asserted that the national interest was more important

Historian Anderson, while referring to Puri as "an anguished admirer (of Nehru) from Jammu", wrote: "When an anguished admirer from Jammu pleaded with him not to do so, he replied that the national interest was more important than democracy: 'We have gambled at the international stage on Kashmir, and we cannot afford to lose. At the moment, we are there at the

than democracy".

DECCAN CHRONICLE

improve, democracy and morality can wait'." morality can wait.
Similarly, according to a
Kashmiri academic, Prof.
Chulam Rasool Malik: "Nehru's quiet reply (to Balraj Puri) had been that democratic rights were not applicable to Kashmir." This was written by Prof Malik in his essay "In The Arms of Fire" in a book titled A

point of a bayonet. Till things

Desolation Called Peace. Meanwhile, soon after Sheikh Abdullah's dismissal from office and later arrest in 1953, the Congress Party installed Ghulam Mohammed Bakehi's rogima Palebi's against Palebi's a Bakshi's regime. Bakshi's government was considered both brutal as well as corrupt and, according

Indian security apparatus".

When after a decade in office,

Bakshi's utility was over and he too was considered a liability for New Delhi, the Congress installed another man named G.M. Sadiq. Unlike Sheikh Abdullah and Bakshi (both "prime ministers"), Sadiq was installed as chief minister. Sheikh Abdullah was discarded for Bakshi, and Bakshi for Sadiq. As an aside, all Assembly elections till 1977, and also the one in 1987, were

Additionally, it was during Sadiq's government that the nomenclatures of Sadr-i-Riyasat (president) and Wazire-A'zam (prime minister) were dispensed with, and replaced by those of "governor" and "chief minister", which was perceived by native Kashmiris as a major assault on Kashmir's regional autonomy after the Sheikh's arrest and removal.

In the mid-1960s, chief minister G.M. Sadiq dropped all cases against Sheikh Abdullah and his associates, including infamous Kashmir Conspiracy Case.

In the eyes of many key Kashmir watchers, there has been hardly any difference between how the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is operating in Kashmir at the moment, or how the socalled secular Congress Party has dealt with Kashmir in the past. Both parties have stripped off Kashmir's autono-my in the name of "national interest", "national security" and "national integration".

On August 5, 2019, the BJP not only removed Kashmir's autonomy, the saffron party also divided the state into two separate Union territories -Ladakh and Jammu and Kashmir. Native Kashmiris have interpreted the BJP's move as a "strategy of revenge and repression", with an ideological and civilisational view on Kashmir. A Kashmiri on the street says that it is a "smash and grab" operation.

But please do remember, when it comes to Kashmir, "democracy and morality can

> The writer is a journalist, author and political commentator

Confidential EC meet exposes govt lies to Parliament



Nitin Sethi

This is Part 2 of the 6-part #PaisaPolitics investigative series by HuffPost. Reprinted with permission from the Huffington Post.

ager to legalise a route to anonymously funnel corporate money into the coffers of political parties, the Narendra Modi-led government dismissed the Election Commission of India's strident opposition to electoral bonds, lied to the Indian Parliament and finally resorted to a hurried cover-up when its misstatements were caught

Previously unpublished documents obtained by *HuffPost India* reveal that three senior bureaucrats came up with six different convoluted explanaof state P. Radhakrishnan when he was caught lying about electoral bonds on the floor of the Parliament, Indian democracy's most hallowed

A confidential note, included in the documents, show senior bureaucrats knowingly sought mislead Election Commission officials in an ultimately unsuccessful attempt to blunt the EC's opposition to electoral bonds.

The Election Commission wasn't the only one to see its suggestions summarily disregarded. The government made a show of asking Opposition political parties for their views on the matter, even as the finance ministry continued to design the scheme without waiting to hear back from them or responding to their

Taken as a whole, the documents reviewed by HuffPost India expose the Narendra Modi government's doublespeak on electoral bonds, a controversial financial instrument first unveiled in 2017 by then finance minister Arun Jaitley, that allows any corporation, trust, NGO or individual to donate unlimited amounts of money to India's political parties.

Ninety five per cent of the money gathered by the first tranche of such bonds has gone to the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), according to data for Democratic Reforms. The Supreme Court is cur-

rently hearing a petition on the legality of such bonds. Now. documents obtained under the Right to Information Act by transparency activist Commodore (Retd.) Lokesh Batra suggest that the government's utterances and assurances on the matter cannot be trusted, even when they are made before institutions like

the Parliament. In the winter session of Parliament in 2018, Rajya Sabha member Mohammad Nadimul Haque asked the government a simple question: Had the Election Commission of India raised concerns about electoral bonds?

The then minister of state for

finance, P. Radhakrishnan, replied that the government had not received "any con-cerns from the Election Commission on the issue of Electoral Bearer Bonds".

This was false, as internal communications between the government — also exposed by Batra, the transparency activist — soon made clear. Haque filed a breach of privilege complaint against the minister for lying to Parliament, and the media picked up the story.

Now, HuffPost India can reveal just how the government tried to walk back from Radhakrishnan's false utterances in Parliament. Even the government's response to the breach-of-privilege complaint was not wholly honest. Implicit in all this correspon-Why was the government so eager to muzzle the Election Commission's opposition to **Electoral Bonds?**

The finance ministry told HuffPost India it would not be able to provide detailed responses to specific questions as it was busy preparing next year's Union Budget, but said that all the decisions were taken "in good faith".

All the issues raised in the email are on the policy decisions taken by the then respective competent authorities. In this context, it may be mentioned that in the government organisations all the decisions are taken in good faith and in the larger public interest. Interpretation of decisions taken may have different perspectives, hence an appropriate explanation may only be given, after taking into consideration all he aspects factored into the decision making process," the finance ministry said in an email.

COVERING UP EC OBJECTIONS

In May 2017, the Election Commission of India wrote to the Union ministry of law and justice, warning that electoral bonds would help political parties hide illegal donations from foreign sources. Dubious donors could now set up shell companies to funnel black money to politicians and mask the true source of the money.

The Commission wanted electoral bonds and other legal changes made by the government to reduce transparency in funding of political parties to be rolled back.

On July 3, 2017, the law ministry forwarded the Election Commission's concerns to the department of economic affairs of the finance ministry; but the finance ministry simply pretended it had never heard from the Commission.

Rather than responding to the Commission's fundamental concerns in writing to the law ministry, then finance minister Arun Jaitley ordered a meeting be called with both the RBI and the Election Commission to "finalise the structure of the Electoral

ELECTORAL BONDS-2

Documents obtained by HuffPost India reveal that three senior bureaucrats came up with six different explanations to protect then minister of state P. Radhakrishnan when he was caught lying about electoral bonds on the floor of the Parliament

In the face of such strident opposition from the EC, the government chose to steamroll ahead, rather than revisit its insistence on a secrecy-laden funding route for political par-

The meeting was held on July 19, 2017, and attended by two officials from the Election Commission. Economic affairs secretary S.C. Garg later recorded in his files that he briefed the two and "laid emphasis that the scheme does provide a level-playing field and encourage transparent funding of political part

Records from the law and justice ministry show the Election Commission was still

not impressed. A note dated September 22, 2017, by Garg, addressed to the finance minister and marked "confidential", points to another meeting that he held on July 28, 2017, directly with the then Chief Election Commissioner Achal Kumar and two Election Commissioners Om Prakash Rawat and Sunil Arora.

In his note, Garg wrote that he had told the Commissioners that companies would make accounting entries in their books when buying electoral bonds, which would ensure "complete" transparency" regarding the "source of funds used for buying electoral bonds" as well as the "quantum of political donations".

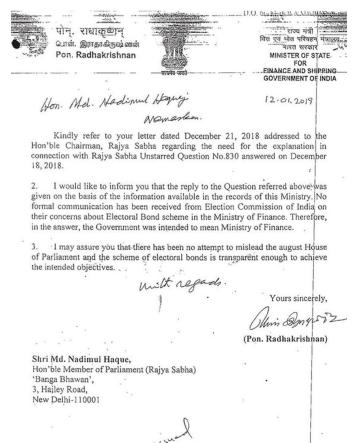
This was false: Companies are not required to detail to whom they donated electoral bonds in their profit-and-loss statements and balance sheets. Only the aggregated profit-andloss accounts and balance sheets, which form part of the annual submissions to the government, are available for public scrutiny.

Garg said he explained to the Commissioners the "provisions and justification for key features of the electoral bonds for ensuring anonymity of the donations made, which ensures greater degree of freedom to the donors and provide a level playing field to the polit-

Garg's confidential note points to several concerns raised yet again by the Election Commissioners in person in this meeting, including that the bonds could allow shell companies to launder money to political parties. It also points out how the Commission still wanted the government to change some provisions to provide more transparency.

Yet, he records, "It is my understanding that the Commission was reasonably satisfied about the electoral bonds being a fair and more transparent system of political donations."

This was, once again, a false



The letter sent by P. Radhakrishnan

Even as late as October 2018, the law and justice ministry records show, the Election Commission continued insist upon the rollback of the bonds and other anti-transparency provisions the government had introduced. The ministry's records also show the finance ministry continued to ignore reminders to respond to the Commission's formally

submitted views. These records of face-to-face meetings between officials of the finance ministry and the Election Commission, and all the correspondence detailed above, makes clear that the finance ministry knew of the Election Commission's objections to the electoral bond

Which makes it all the more puzzling why minister of state for finance Radhakrishnan. responding to Haque's question in the winter session of confidently Parliament that the government had not received "any concerns from Election Commission on the issue of Electoral Bearer Bonds"

Transparency activist Batra's revelations that the Election Commission had indeed written to the ministry of law and justice with its objections were published in the press. Based on these, Haque sent a notice for breach of privilege, which was forwarded by the Rajya Sabha secretariat for the finance ministry's response on December 28, 2018.

Radhakrishnan had been caught misleading Parliament, and the finance ministry tied itself in knots to defend the indefensible. Several options, all of them

lies, each more convoluted than the other, were proposed as a way to hide the facts. One official, deputy director Vijay Kumar, who had been handling the electoral bond scheme all through, advised on January 1, 2019, that while the economic affairs secretary Garg had even met the Election Commissioner officials personally on the issue, they could still say that the Election Commission had not directly apprised them of their concerns in writing. So, he advised his seniors that the minister of state for finance, Radhakrishnan, had not lied to the Parliament.

The economic affairs secretary Garg had a more sophisticated argument, steeped in deeper bureaucratese, to make. first admitted Radhakrishnan had given a statement Parliament. On January 2, 2019, he penned down his views, "There is a flow in the answer given. It has been stated that the government had not received any concerns from the Election Commission. If it was noted that the ministry of finance did not receive any concern it could have been correct in light of the facts brought out above."

Then he suggested two

options: "Either clarify to the minister that the government in answer for parts (d) and (e) was meant to be ministry of finance or make a clarificatory statement in the House about correct facts of the case. Please examine and let us discuss with FM," he penned down.

Based on the inputs from his boss, Garg's subordinate, joint secretary of the budget division, came up with three innovative excuses to claim that the minister of state had not

Two of these were based on bureaucratic jargon and the third on obfuscation of the truth. He said, "There exists no communication

between the Election Commission of India and the ministry of finance informing the ministry of finance of any concerns on the issue of electoral bonds. The newspaper reports refer to the letter of ECI dated May 26, 2017. This letter was not received in the ministry of finance. Therefore ministry of finance never had any opportunity to examine the letter referred to in the

newspapers.' This was a lie. As other media reports have revealed, the Election Commission's letter had been received by the finance ministry, including by the division that was drumming up these lies and the department of revenue, from where the idea of electoral bonds had originated on gov-ernment records. To top it all, as *HuffPost India* has revealed for the first time above, the department of economic affairs secretary, Garg, had personally met the Election Commissioners on July 28, 2018 to discuss their apprehen-

sions over electoral bonds. Yet, Garg agreed with the argument that the government should brazen it out in the Parliament So did

minister Jaitley. Consequently, on January 12, 2019, the minister of state for Radhakrishnan replied to Haque, "No formal communication has been received from the Election Commission of India on their concerns about electoral bonds scheme in the ministry of finance. Therefore in the answer, government was intended to mean the ministry of finance. I may assure you there is no attempt to mislead the August House of Parliament and the scheme of electoral bonds is transparent enough to achieve the intended

objectives." Batra, the transparency activist, exposed this cover-up as well. He found that the finance ministry had also received the Election Commission's letter of objections through the law and justice ministry on July 3, 2017. This particular letter from the Election Commission was circulated to all departments and divisions that dealt with elec-

One of them — the financial sector reforms and legislation division under the department of economic affairs, which was supervising the implementation of the bonds — even agreed with the Election Commission's views. But the finance ministry just would not respond in writing to the objections. To do so would have meant acknowledging the Commission had conceptual and fundamental problems with the electoral bonds and not just procedural concerns.

The Election Commissioners remained consistently opposed to the bonds even after meeting in person with economic affairs secretary, documents with *HuffPost India* show.

The Commission's continued objections became public knowledge when, in March 2019, it reiterated its opposition to electoral bonds in an affidavit submitted to the Supreme Court. But by now, electoral bonds worth more than ₹1,400 crores had already been purchased by corporations and donated to political parties.

In August 2019, the incumbent finance minister Nirmala Sitaraman sought to lay the controversy to rest. She tabled a "corrected reply" to Haque's question in the Parliament.

The corrected reply, which now forms part of the parliamentary record, acknowledges that the Election Commission had raised serious concerns about electoral bonds. This time around, the finance ministry did not use the technical interpretation of bureaucratic rules to deny the facts.

Yet, rather deftly, Ms Sitharaman also avoided answering the other key question Haque had originally asked: What had the government done to address the concerns of the Election Commission?

To this question, the minister merely furnished a cut-paste answer detailing the features of the electoral bonds scheme that the government has been running for nearly two years.

WHO'S LISTENING?

It was not just the Election Commission or the RBI which the government pretended to consult during the setting up of the electoral bonds scheme even as it steamrolled ahead with its plans. It did the same to political parties as well, show documents.

On May 2, 2017, finance minister Jaitley wrote to India's Opposition parties, asking for suggestions on how to improve and implement the electoral bond scheme.

Several wrote back.

"I note that the government is concerned with the issue of transparency in electoral funding of political parties," the Congress's then treasurer Vohra "Transparency implies that the electorate must know 1) Who is the donor 2) Which is the donee political party and 3) What is the amount donated.

In the absence of any specific scheme, Vora said the finance minister's speech and public comments suggested the "donor's names will be known only to the bank issuing the bond and the donee's name will be known only to the income tax department. In effect only the government will know the names of the donors and the donee and the people will not

He concluded, "We will be able to comment further only after we have studied the scheme promised to be made by the government.

Having heard back from the political parties, some outlining serious misgivings about electoral bonds and some asking for more information, the finance ministry mandarins worked feverishly to draft out a scheme that served their political masters. Once done, they asked the then finance minister if the prepared draft structure and scheme of the electoral bonds should be shared with all political parties. Jaitley stayed silent on the question, indicating the details of the scheme should not be shared with other politi-

cal parties. The supposed dialogue with the Opposition was just another perfunctory exercise for the government to claim that the electoral bond scheme had been formulated after due consultations, just as it had tried to do with the RBI and with the Election Commission.

■ To be continued







TUESDAY | 26 NOVEMBER 2019 | HYDERABAD

Airtel, Jio bid for **RCom assets**



INDICATORS 1.31 40,889.23 Nifty 50 12,073.75 1.34 S&P 500 3,127.48 Dollar* (₹) 71.94 Pound Sterling* (₹) Euro* (₹) 79.33 Gold (10gm)* (₹) 37,895▼58 Brent crude (\$/bbl)* \$63.39 IN 10-Yr bond yield* +6.495 -0.010 US 10-Yr T-bill yield* +1.771

Attend Dec. 16 meet or get arrested: NCLT

* As of Sunday

The Mumbai NCLT on Monday ordered the CEOs of Axis Bank and StanChart Bank to be personally present at the next hearing on December 16 in a case relating to the IL&FS fraud, failing which it threatened to get NBWs issued against them. An NCLT bench issued the ultimatum while hearing a contempt petition

RCom shares rally 6% on asset sale buzz



Shares of RCom hit their upper circuit on Monday, rising over 6 per cent, amid reports that Industries and three others may bid for the assets of debt-ridden company. On the BSE, shares of the company closed 4.55 per cent up at 69 paise apiece. Similarly, the stock advanced 6.67 per cent to settle at 80 paise on the NSE.

NephroPlus raises ₹316 crore for SE Asia expansion

Alternative asset manager Investcorp on Monday said it has closed ₹316 crore investment in dialysis service provider NephroPlus. The primary capital raised in this round will be utilised towards organic growth in India and taking the proven business model of NephroPlus to other markets, starting with South East Asia, Investcorp said.

InMobi's Glance acquires short video platform

Glance on Monday said it has acquired short-video platform Roposo for an undisclosed amount, a move that will provide it access to Roposo's network of professional, vernacular content creators and over 42 million users. The acquisition will enable Glance to tap into Roposo's regional influencers and create professional vernacular, video content in line with Glance's editorial guidelines.

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■ Early adapters of FASTags include commercial vehicles **■** 63 lakh FASTags issued so far

Congested NH tolls set to continue

With less than a week left before FASTags become a compulsory requirement at National Highway toll plazas, the slow adoption of the RFID tags means passengers will continue to face long congestation at the National Highways. Currently, FASTags, only 63 lakh issued so far, would account for about 40 per cent of the transactions at toll plazas.

According to the June quarter data of Worldline India, 52.2 lakh tags have been issued at the end of the quarter. Deepak Chandnani, MD, South Asia and Middle East,



total issuance would have moved up to 63 lakh by now. While millions ply on the

day, only a fraction, currently, have FASTags. E-transactions account

the total payments at the 537 NH toll plazas. for just 35 to 40 per cent of lanes in National Highway

By December 1, all the

One lane will also accept other modes of payment including cash. Entering a FASTag lane without the tag will be penalised by double charge. Though the ministry is planning to issue on-the-spot tags for those without one, this will lead to a lot of confusion and inconvenience in the single lane dedicated

toll plazas, except one,

would become electronic

toll collection compliant.

for other payment modes. "Initially there could be some convenience in the toll plazas," said Chandnani. "Though 63 lakh tags have been issued, half of them are not active. Once the new arrangement becomes operational we would see a

large number of the inactive tags becoming active, said Chandnani.

Among different types of vehicles, fleets of trucks, cabs, taxis and buses have been early adapters of FASTags. Personal vehicles have witnessed comparatively slower adoption. However, he hopes that

once the electronic toll collection becomes mandatory in state highways in one or two years, the number of FASTags issued will double. "Currently, a large number of vehicles do not use the national highways or use them once in a month or so. However, many of them ply through state highways more frequently and this will necessitate FASTags.

> among others.
>
> Discovery Capital, an existing shareholder of the company, also participated in the round.

Paytm to

expand financial

services

After raising \$1 billion

from new and existing

investors, payments major, Paytm, plans to invest ₹10,000 crore over the next three

years as it looks to

expand on its financial

services.
According to the com-

pany, it raised the \$1 billion from a group of investors, including existing shareholders

such as Ant Financial, Softbank Vision Fund,

and new investors including funds and

accounts advised by T. Rowe Price Associates,

FC BUREAU

CHENNAI, NOV. 25

The proceeds will be directed towards further growing the payments and financial services business, the company said.

Paytm, which currently serves merchants in over 2,000 towns and cities, had pioneered the QR-code technology in the first phase of its growth. The firm now aims to bring low cost mobile-enabled financial serv-ices to rural parts of the country.

"We are committed to bringing half a billion Indians to the mainstream economy by on-boarding them in the formal financial ecosystem. This new investment by our current and new investors is a reaffirmation of our commitment to serve Indians with new age financial services," Vijay Shekhar Sharma, founder and CEO of Pavtm.

According to industry watcners, the com

pany, which is is wit

nessing tough competi-

tion from Google Pay and Phonepe, could look at the B2B segment by adding the facility of credit. The B2B space offers very less competition and a large untapped market. It had launched Paytm Money and wealth tech could be another area of focus. However, the company can also make bugger play for mutual funds

due to its user base.

Sensex hits new closing high, 2.75L houses will wealth rises by ₹1.81 trillion

Easy monetary stance of US Fed has improved liquidity

ASHWIN J PUNNEN MUMBAI, NOV. 25

The massive rally that took the Sensex to record highs have made investors richer by ₹1.81 trillion.

The market capitalisation (m-cap) of the BSE-

listed companies rose to ₹154.55 trillion as the BSE benchmark surged 530 points to hit a fresh closing high of 40,889.23.

"Signs of a cooling in rhetoric between the US

and China has contributed to a resumption in foreign flows into India — today's (Monday) market move is in line with similarly strong sentiment across markets,' Hariharan, head (sales trading), Emkay Global Financial Services, said. (sales



'The prolonged trade war between the US and China was weighing heavily on Indian indices. Positive statements made by officials (from both the countries) last week indicating that a trade pact is likely by the end of

December 2019 are being welcomed," Sandeep Nayak, executive director welcomed.' and CEO of Centrum Broking, said.

Analysts said FIIs are preferring emerging markets such as India as the recent easy monetary stance of US Federal Reserve and the European Central Bank has improved liquidity in world markets.
"Whereas, India's econo-

my is seeing a demand revival especially in the sectors of auto and consumer durables. The government providing relief to telecom companies over spectrum related dues and impending price increase planned by players has also revived interest in the sector," Nayak said. From the 30-share pack, 28 stocks closed the day with gains led by Bharti Airtel, Tata Steel, IndusInd Bank and Axis

On the BSE, 1,413 scrips advanced, while 1,086 declined and 208 remained unchanged.

Analysts said indications that US and China will conclude a deal by next month lifted the sentiment across the globe. Apart from that the

reconstruction of Sensex indices and new developments over divestment to curb fiscal deficit provided confidence in Indian mar-

Expectations of further cut in interest rate by the RBI gave advantage to rate-sensitive stocks.

be ready by 2020

FC BUREAU CHENNAI, NOV. 25

Stricter compliance of RERA will make nearly 2.75 lakh new ready-tomove houses available in top seven cities over the next one year. This is 21 per cent of the under-construction units in these

According to property consultants, Anarock, consultants, developers have to complete their projects on time as per the new RERA norms. Though currently the demand is slow, they hope that demand will pick up by next year, especially in the affordable housing segment. Ready-to-move units usually meet higher demand as

they do not attract GST.

are likely to be completed on time by December 2020. Developers are aware that ready-to-move homes are in greatest demand and will spare no effort in completing their projects on time," said Anuj Puri, chairman, Anarock.

Over 41 per cent or 1.13 lakh units will be in the affordable segment, 33 per cent or 90,770 units in the mid-segment and 16 per cent in the ₹80 lakh - ₹1.5 crore budget range. Only 10 per cent will be in the luxury and ultra-luxury are focused on the affordable and mid segments and will have ample choice once this ready inventory hits the market by the end of next year. A whopping "RERA is gaining 74 per cent or 2. stronger ground in most states and many of these ments," he added. 74 per cent or 2.04 lakh units fall in these two seg-

Sebi to tighten rules for brokers after Karvy debacle

ASHWIN J PUNNEN MUMBAI, NOV. 25

Market regulator Sebi is planning to further tight-ening the rules to deal with brokers misusing the client funds.

The move comes as a fallout of the recent fraud in Karvy Stock Broking. The measures likely to

be taken by Sebi include barring brokers from offering clearing and set-

tlement services. According to sources, regulator is looking at

allowing only well-capitalised banks to offer services like clearing of trades, custody of client collateral and settle-

The regulator feels that there is a systemic risk that needs to be addressed especially after the recent spike in incidents of broker defaults and misuse of client funds.

Last week, Sebi banned Karvy from taking on new clients following alleged misuse of client securities for trades that were not authorised by clients. At an estimated ₹2,000 crore, it is one of the largest defaults by a stock

broker in India. In fact, Sebi had been considering introducing a revised structure a few

As per the plan, the client money will continue to be kept with depositaries such as NSDL and CDSL or a custodian and can be transferred to a broker only under the direction of the clearing

corporation. Sebi, which has been getting many complaints of misuse of client money by brokers, now wants to put in place a structure like a banking system where

client money can't be misused. The system will be similar to foreign institutional investors (FIIs) trade, where client money and security are kept at different places.

In the case of Karvy Stock Broking which manages accounts of 2,44,000 clients, several investors complains came to Sebi on delayed payouts.

An annual inspection

conducted by NSE also pointed to discrepancies in trading between April 1, 2016 and October 2019.

"Prima facie a net amount of ₹1,096 crore has been transferred by KSBL (Karvy Stock Broking Ltd) to its group company i.e. Karvy Realty Pvt. Ltd between from 1 April 2016 to 19 October 2019," said Sebi in the order citing the NSE inspection report.

Fewer women, minorities get patents in US: Data

EVAN SULLY

Plenty of women and members of minority groups are hoping to invent the next iPhone, blockbuster medicine or top-selling toy, but too often they don't get patents that would ensure they get paid for their ideas.

A new report from the US Patent and Trademark Office concludes that those disparities could cost the US its technological leadership because patents are frequently the first step to attracting investors. 'Innovation in the United States is highly concentrated, and vast swaths of our population are not fully participating," the study, released last month, concludes.

PATENT DISPARITY

Minority group members underrepresented among those getting patents. The magnitude of the problem isn't precisely known because the patent office only collects the name, mailing address and

residence of applicants. Studies by independent groups such as the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation are based on surveys. A

Harvard University study last year found whites are more than three times as likely to become inventors as blacks. Other research commissioned by the Women's Institute for Women's Policy Research concluded that only 18 per cent of US patents list a woman as an inventor. The October patent office

study recommends Congress give the office authority to collect demographic data with its own confidential, voluntary surveys — conceding that they need to be careful to avoid the perception that such data might be used in examining patent requests and deter underrepresented groups from applying. The study found a variety

of factors that led to the under representation of women and minorities among patent holders, including a history of legal, economic and educational impediments — from slavery and segregation to laws that limited the ability of women to own property. There also continues to be a lack of diversity in the types of fields in which more ideas are patentable, including science, technology, engineering and math. "It's difficult to tell where



do know it does occur," Patent and Trademark Office Director Andrei Iancu said in an interview. Ultimately, the nation benefit

expanding the diversity of patent holders, Iancu said. "For an individual, it helps with your career growth and potential. For a company, it helps you make and sell your product and be more successful at it," he said. "In the aggregate, it helps the

United States.' One person who over came the odds is Janet Emerson Bashen, presi-

dent of Bashen Corp., a

Houston-based HR consulting firm, who became the African-American woman awarded a software patent in 2006 along with her cousin.

NO CREDIT

"I was looking at historic people and one of the things I ran across is a lot African-American women who came up with something and didn't get credit for it," Bashen said in an interview. "I wanted to make sure I could protect what I was developing and I wanted to monetise it. What better way to monetise it than to patent it?"

tors still command the

Services Pte.
"This is critical for our nation's economic vitality as our country becomes more diverse and technologically complex," said Leslie Flynn, a clinical Though American inven-

largest portion of the

nation's patents, the per-

centage is declining in

high-tech fields such as

artificial intelligence and

blockchain. Consequently,

that could reduce any

advantage the US may hold

in areas such as AI, wire-

less phones and the inter-

net of things, according to

a vearlong study conducted

by the law firm Kilpatrick

Townsend & Stockton LLP

and researchers at GreyB

assistant professor at the

College of Business who testified before Congress in May on the issue

University of Iowa's Tippie

POPULATION PROJECTIONS

Population projections from the US Census Bureau show that in 2045, whites will make up 49.7 per cent of the population compared to 24.6 per cent for Ĥispanics, 13.1 per cent for blacks, 7.9 per cent for Asians and 3.8 per cent for

multiracial populations. "I don't see how we can remain competitive if we're only allowing a small slither of the population to participate in innovation," said Charles Hudson, whose San Fran-cisco-based Precursor Ventures firm specializes in investing in minorityowned startups.

"Right now, the amount of capital in the hands of people that are committed to supporting these folks is well below what the market needs.'

Despite being underrepresented among patent holders, women and minority inventors throughout history have revolutionised their fields. Stephanie Kwolek in 1965 invented Kevlar, the lightweight

fiber in bulletproof vests Elijah McCoy was a 19th Canadian-born century inventor and engineer of African descent who invented a lubricant that improved train travel and is reputed to be the source the phrase "the real McCoy." His name is on the patent office's Detroit regional office.

NOBEL WINNER More recently, the patent

office touts such inventors as Frances Arnold, a woman chemist who has a patent for directed evolution of enzymes and in 2018 won a Nobel prize, and Marian Rogers Croak, a voice-over-Internet protocol pioneer who also patented text-to-donate technology after Hurricane Katrina and transformed the way Americans donate

to charities. Earl S. Bell, an African-American designer who obtained a patent in 2004 for an ergonomic chair, said "there are many people with inventions but they don't have the ability to patent them, much less attract investment funds."

"If that disconnect could be solved, the floodgates would be opened," he said.
— *Bloomberg* power bank to India

SHORT TAKES



APPLE SET TO EXPAND OPS IN INDIA: PRASAD

New Delhi, Nov. 25: India's information technology minister Ravi Shankar Prasad said on Monday Apple Inc would expand its operations in the country and the iPhone maker's supplier Salcomp would make components at a plant near Chennai in southern India.

Salcomp will invest ₹20 billion (\$278.67 million) over the next five years to make chargers and other components at the plant and the move will also create 10,000 jobs, Prasad

Apple's phones made in India will also be exported, he said, adding that exports of mobile phones and components from the country would be worth \$1.6 billion each this

AIRTEL X LABS ACQUIRES QUIKMILE

New Delhi, Nov. 25: Telecom company Bharti Airtel on Monday announced the 'acquihire' of Gurgaon based Quikmile, a start up focused on building tech-enabled logistics platforms for India.

The company did not dis-close the size of the 'acquihire' deal, which typically entails acquisition of people or teams.

"Quikmile's team will now be a part of Airtel X Labs Airtel's digital innovation factory, which focuses on IoT, Digital Engineering, Artificial Intelligence, and Machine Learning," Airtel said in a

statement.
Airtel X Labs team comprises of professionals from India and abroad, the statement said, adding that it is building advanced digital capabilities to serve the emerging needs of Digital India and is rapidly scaling up its teams and scope



TESLA NOW HAS 2L ORDERS FOR CYBERTRUCK

San Francisco, Nov. 25: Tesla CEO Elon Musk indicated in a tweet on Sunday that the electric carmaker received 200,000 orders for its electric pickup truck within three days of its

Musk, who has been regularly tweeting about the Cybertruck's features since its launch late Thursday, has also been updating his followers with the number of orders the

company has received. In an earlier tweet. Musk said the company had received 146,000 orders for Cybertruck, and tweeted again on Sunday saying "200K" - an apparent reference to the number of

The company's website shows that an immediate payment of \$100 is required to reserve an order for the Cybertruck, which has a start-

ing price of \$39.900. The launch of its futuristic pickup on Thursday suffered a setback when the electric vehicle's "armored glass" windows shattered in a much-anticipated unveiling. The overall look of the electric vehicle had worried Wall Street on Friday, shares to close 6.1 per cent lower. During the launch, Musk had taken aim at the design, power and durability of mainstream trucks, only to be shaken when his boast about his new vehicle's windows backfired. — Reuters

Web inventor launches plan to stop abuse

Aims to build 'a roadmap to build a better web'; more than 150 organisations have backed the plan

Berlin, Nov. 25: World Wide Web inventor Tim Berners-Lee on Monday unveiled a "Contract for the Web" to halt "misuse" by governments, compa-nies and individuals, bringing several capitals and tech titans like Google

"If we don't act now and act together — to prevent the web being misused by those who want to exploit, divide and undermine, we are at risk of squandering" its potential for good, Berners-Lee said in a statement from his World Wide Web Foundation.

Credited with laying the groundwork for the web — the universe of multimedia webpages accessible via the internet — in 1989, the computer scientist has since last year been developing the so-called Contract for the Web.

His unveiling of the final document Monday comes

as government, business gather in Berlin for the four-day UN Internet

S'pore invokes 'fake news' law for 1st time **Singapore**, **Nov. 25**: Singapore used its law to combat misinformation

for the first time Monday, ordering an opposition figure to correct a Facebook post authorities said could "smear the reputation" of state investment funds.

The legislation, which came into force last month, gives government ministers powers to order social media sites to put warnings next to posts authorities deem to be false, and in extreme cases get them taken

Berners-Lee said his contract, developed in cooperation with dozens of experts and members of the public, is "a roadmap

to build a better web". He called on governments to "strengthen laws and regulations" and companies "to ensure pursuit

Tech giants including Google and Twitter have criticised the law, as have activists who fear it could stifle online dissent, but the government insists the measure is necessary to stop the circulation of damaging falsehoods. Brad Bowyer, a member

of opposition group Progress Singapore Party, was ordered to correct a November 13 Facebook post in which he questioned the inde-pendence of state-linked investment vehicle

of profit is not at the expense of human rights

and democracy".
"Citizens must hold those in power accountable, demand their digital rights be respected and help foster healthy conversation online," Berners-Lee added. Temasek and sovereign made by Temasek and for the "correct facts" wealth fund GIC. "The statement, pub-

It came as speculation mounts that a general election could be called within months, although a weak and divided opposition is seen as no match for the long-ruling

People's Action Party.
The government's factchecking site said authorities do not control the investment funds' commercial decisions: "The government does not influence, let alone direct, the individual investment decisions

More than 150 organisa-

tions including companies like Google, Microsoft, Facebook and Reddit and

interest groups like Reporters Without Borders

and the Electronic Frontier

Foundation have backed

the plan. Meanwhile, the

governments of France.

stamped with the word "false" in red, corrected what it said were falsehoods and accused him of seeking to "smear the reputation" of the investment funds.

lished alongside a screen-

ment runds.

Bowyer — a naturalised Singapore citizen originally from Britain — issued a "correction notice" to his original poet which directed read post, which directed readers to click on the link of the government website

board, as are thousands of

"I will stand up for the

preservation of the free

internet that we have

grown to know and love in recent decades," German economy minister Peter

Altmaier said in a state-

individuals.

Bowyer said he had no problem following the request but vowed not to be intimidated: "A responsible and vocal citizenry is as much a vital part of our democratic nation as is a responsible and listening govern-ment". He used to be a member of the People's Action Party but recently joined the Progress Singapore Party, a new opposition group backed

by the prime minister's estranged brother.

Germany and Ghana are on ment ahead of the UN

gathering.
Berners-Lee originally conceived the web while working at European par-ticle physics lab CERN, as a way for scientists around the world to share information about research. But in recent

years he has grown alarmed by abuse of the

ness and politics.

The WWW Foundation highlighted rising cyberbullying, growing use of the web by politicians to manipulate news media and widespread online

scams.

It also noted that rates of web access in emerging economies lag far behind nations, with 46 percent of people worldwide not online. "We need real and durable involvement of

emerging and developing countries, Altmaier said.

"Free access to the internet must be a fundamental, human right, valid for people around the world."As well as his "Contract for the Web", Berners-Lee has looked to tackle the web's issues from a technical angle, in 2018 launching a development platform called "Solid" aimed at giving users control of their data.

Uber loses licence in London, vows to appeal

London, Nov. 25: London's transit authority on Monday refused to renew Uber's license to operate, putting the ridehailing company's future in the British capital in doubt.

It's the latest chapter in Uber's rocky history with London transport officials, who have been sub-jecting the San Franciscobased company to ever tighter scrutiny over concerns about passenger safety and security.

safety and security.

Uber vowed to appeal the decision, which it called "extraordinary and wrong." The company, which has 21 days to file an appeal, can continue an appeal, can continue operating while the operating while the appeals process is under

Transport for London cited "several breaches that placed passengers and their safety at risk" in its decision not to extend Uber's license, which

The transit authority, known as TFL, said that despite addressing some issues, it "does not have

the future. As a result, it deemed Uber "not fit and proper at

this time."
The company fired back, pointing out that TFL had found it to be fit and proper in September, when it was given a two-month

license renewal.
"We have fundamentally changed our business over the last two years and are setting the standard on safety," Jamie Heywood, Uber's regional general manager for Northern and Eastern Europe, said in a state-

TFL had already been keeping Uber on a tight leash following concerns about aggressive corporate tactics and passenger safety. It had revoked Uber's license once before, in 2017, but a court later granted it a license lasting only 15 months, which TFL then extended for two months September, while also

imposing a set of 20 stricter conditions.

confidence that similar transit authority said it issues will not reoccur in was concerned that Uber's systems "seem to have been comparatively easily

manipulated" by drivers.

One key issue was a change to Uber's systems allowing unauthorized drivers to upload their photos to other driver

accounts.
This let them pick up passengers as though they were the booked Uber driver on at least 14,000 trips, which means all those journeys were uninsured, TFL said.

The change also resulted in some passengers traveling with unlicensed drivers, including one whose license was previously revoked by TFL.

TFL also faulted Uber for another "failure" that allowed dismissed or suspended drivers to create a new account and carry passengers. And it cited other "serious breaches' unspecified involving insurance-related issues. Shares in Uber were

down almost 6% in premarket trading in New



YET ANOTHER WINDOWS 10 UPDATE MESS

WINDOWS 10 USERS HAD HOPED THAT THE NOVEMBER 2019 UPDATE, SUPPOSEDLY A MINOR RELEASE, WOULD BE RELATIVELY PROBLEM FREE. HOWEVER, DASHING ALL HOPES, THE OS SEEMS TO HAVE BROKEN THE FILE EXPLORER

File Explorer is the app you use to browse the files and folders on your PC. So pretty important, then.

■ The biggest change the Windows 10 November 2019 Update brought was to update how you search File Explorer, giving you suggested files, and searching your online OneDrive account, when you use the search box to look for something.

Windows 10 **Professional**

■ This is yet another Windows 10 update that has included some annoying issues, and continues a pretty embarrassing run for Microsoft, were each new Windows 10 update the company releases appears to break more things than they fix.

■ The November Update, as well as the May 2019 Update, have been blocked from being installed by users of older versions of Avast and

As Windows Latest reports, people have been posting on Microsoft's community forum complaining about how when they click on the search box in File Explorer, they have to wait ages for the box to become responsive and a cursor appear.

5G subscribers to touch 2.6 bn by 2025

Stockholm, Nov. 25: Sweden's Ericsson expects the number of 5G subscriptions to reach 2.6 billion by the end of 2025, up from 13 million in 2019, with network coverage offering access to 65 percent of the world's population, it said on Monday.

With its current momentum, 5G uptake is expected to be significantly faster than that of LTE, the telecoms network equipment maker said in its biannual Mobility

It added that 5G subscriptions would account

for 29 percent of all mobile subscriptions in 2025.

petes with China's Huawei and Finnish rival Nokia, said that North America is expected to lead the 5G uptake with 74 percent of anticipated mobile subscriptions in its region in six years, followed by North East Asia and

Europe. "It is encouraging to see that 5G now has broad sup-port from almost all device

Ericsson, which com-

ulation. Ericsson

makers. In 2020, 5G-compatible devices will enter the volume market, which will scale up 5G adoption.'

Ericsson Networks, said in a statement. The company's previous forecast in June predicted 1.9 billion 5G subscriptions in 2024 and network coverage to have reached more than 45 percent of the world's popsaid

China's 5G launch in October had led to an update of estimated 5G subscriptions for year-end 2019 to 13 million from 10 million.

The mobile network industry has faced a tough period with subsiding

Fredrik Jejdling, head of demand for 4G and older network equipment. 5G spending in North America has helped to fuel a return to growth.

LTE (4G) will remain the dominant mobile access technology by subscription during 2019-2025, Ericsson said, with 5.4 billion subscriptions in 2022 and 4.8 billion expected by the end of 2025. The new generation of mobile phone technology will bring faster data speeds and better accommodate a greater variety of connected devices.

- Reuters

Now, brace for robots carrying your daily grocery

Italian company, Piaggio, joins the race for delivery robots along with giants such as FedEx, Amazon

directions.

swerved around, keeping in pursuit as she switched

Boston, Nov. 25: The first cargo-carrying robot mar-keted directly to consumers is on sale this holiday season. But how many people are ready to ditch their second car to buy a two-wheeled rover that can follow them around like a dog?

Corporate giants like Amazon, FedEx and Ford have already been experimenting with sending delivery robots to doorsteps. Now Piaggio, delivery the Italian company that makes the Vespa scooter, is offering a stylish alternative to those blandly utilitarian machines albeit one that weighs $5\overline{0}$ pounds (23 kilograms) and

costs \$3,250. It's named the Gita (JEE'-tah) after the Italian word for a short, pleasurable excursion — the kind you might take to pick up some lacinato kale and gourmet cheese at the farmers market. Its creators have such trips in mind for the "hands-free carrier" that can hold produce and other objects as it follows its owner down a

sidewalk.

"We're trying to get you out into the world and connected to that neighborhood you decided to move to because it was so walkable," said Greg Lynn, CEO of Piaggio's tech-focused subsidiary, Piaggio Fast Forward. Tech industry analysts

Gita as doomed to fail unless it finds a more application, practical such as lugging tools around warehouses, hospitals or factory floors. "That's a lot of money for what is in effect just a cargo-carrying robot that's going to carry your groceries," said

are already declaring the

analyst J.P. Gownder. On a recent November morning, Lynn was hunched over in a Boston waterfront park, pushing a button that triggered a Gita to "see" him with its cameras and sensors. Then came a musical whirring sound as the device _ a squarish, bright red buckwith two oversized

Forrester technology

wheels _ rose up and signaled it was ready for a neighborhood stroll.

A young boy in a stroller pointed excitedly. Another pedestrian asked to try it, and playfully shouted "ah!" as it

The Gita doesn't require a phone or intrusive people-tracking technology such as facial recogni-tion or GPS.



"It basically just locks onto you and tracks you," said Piaggio Fast Forward's other co-founder, Jeffrey Schnapp. Other startups like

Starship Technologies have a more conventional Technologies business plan for their own delivery robots. The company charges a delivery fee starting at \$1.99 if you order its rovers to bring you a Starbucks

coffee or a lunch from Panda Express. So far, the best habitat to find Starship's six-wheelers are relatively confined spaces such as college campuses; the University of Houston and the

University of Wisconsin-Madison rolled them out this The robots, which look like oversized ice chests on wheels, can carry up to 20 pounds (9 kilograms).

"I love them. I think they're cute!" SO University of Houston freshman Sadie Garcia machines rolled up with a bagel sandwich she'd ordered. She said she was so cold she didn't want to leave her dorm.

Starship co-founder Ahti Heinla said his San Francisco startup once looked at selling the machines directly to consumers, but dropped the idea after realizing it would have to price them at more than \$3,000.

Amazon is experimenting with a similar-looking machine that delivers retail goods in a handful of U.S. neighborhoods. FedEx is testing its own delivery rover in partner-ship with Pizza Hut, Walmart, Target and Walgreens. Ford has showed off a gangly twolegged robot to carry items to homes. So far, none are as far along as Starship, which has hundreds of its machines already in service.

Forrester's While Gownder isn't impressed with the Gita, he's bullish about delivery robots of the Starship variety because their autonomy will help save labor costs.

Gownder said it's more of a question of whether ground-based rovers or aerial delivery drones will prove more successful.

The wheeled cargo robots that have already made it out into the wild have significant limita-

Starship's machines still require plenty of manual supervision to load them with food orders. They rely on remote pilots to troubleshoot navigation problems. Customers also have to check a phone app to tell the vehicle where to go and to unlock the bin

once it arrives. The Gita, meanwhile, might still be impractical for many people. It favors paved environments that are dense enough to have stores in walking distance, but not so dense that the machines get lost

in the crowd. And anyone who is simply looking to pull home groceries without heavy lifting can find durable wagons online for less than \$100.

Games

Kim Sei-young sank a 25-foot birdie putt at the final hole to win the CME **Group Tour golf Championship**

DECCAN CHRONICLE





It's any player's dream to represent the country, it's the highest honour.

- Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan, Indian Davis Cup player on making his **Davis Cup debut**





Sneha Sharma

Sneha finishes sixth in Formula 4

Sepang, Malaysia: India's top woman racer Sneha Sharma came up with a stellar performance to finish overall 6th in Race Round 9 of the prestigious Formula 4 South East Asia Championship 2019, here at the Sepang International formula 1 Circuit, Malaysia. Sneha, one of the first women to break into the racing circles in the country, was the only Indian driver in the race, she

was also the only woman competitor among all boys this round. Racing in a Formula 4 car and supported by Indigo Airlines & JK Tyre Motorsport, she was up against a formidable line up of drivers from seven different countries, mostly from Europe.

The 29-year-old clocked a best time of 2:16:665 in qualifying to finish 6th in race 4. She finished first race in 8th position before taking the 7th position in race 2 and 3. Despite facing power issues in race 1, she gradually grew into the round to finish 6th in the last race of the round.

Caicedo nets

winner for Lazio

Milan: Felipe Caicedo snatched a late winner to keep Lazio third in Serie 'A' with a 2-1 victory over Sassuolo on Sunday, as England defender Chris Smalling scored and set up two other goals for city rivals Roma in a win against Brescia to

Champions Juventus maintained their grip on the top of Serie 'A' with a 3-1 win at Atalanta on Saturday, to stay one point ahead of Inter Milan who eased past Torino 3-0 under the rain in Turin. The two Roman outfits are now third and fourth respectively before Cagliari, a point

move fourth.

behind in fifth, play at lowly Lecce after their game Sunday was washed out. Serie 'A' topscorer Ciro Immobile struck to put Lazio ahead on 34 minutes with his 15th league goal this season.

Rafa juggernaut rolls on

Nadal won all 8 of his matches to help Spain win 6th Davis Cup

Madrid, Nov. 25: Rafael Nadal put the finishing touches to his extraordi-nary year by clinching a sixth Davis Cup title for Spain on Sunday as he beat Denis Shapovalov in Madrid to seal victory over Canada. Nadal's 6-3, 7-6 (9/7) win

over Shapovalov in front of an adoring home crowd at the Caja Magica gave Spain an unassailable 2-0 lead after Roberto Bautista Agut earlier battled past Felix Auger-Aliassime 7-6

The 33-year-old had been an unstoppable force in Spain's pulsating semi-final against Britain on Saturday and never looked like letting this chance slip, with King Felipe VI and Real Madrid's Sergio Ramos watching on, along with Barcelona defender Gerard Pique.

Nadal's brilliance has been outstanding, even if this will surely go down as one of the finest seasons of the 19-time Grand Slam champion's career.

He added a fourth Davis Cup final success — three more than Roger Federer — to the ones he claimed in 2004, 2009 and 2011, while capping a remarkable 12 months that has included winning the French and US Opens, and ending the year as world number one. The Spanish team will also pocket a cheque worth \$2.1 million.

Nadal won eight out of eight rubbers played this week and at times on Saturday, as when he stormed to singles and doubles victories against Britain, it was tempting to view Spain's progress as something of a solo effort.

But, unlike Canada, Spain have used all five of their squad, with Bautista Agut, Pablo Carreno Busta and Feliciano Lopez all playing at least one singles match, and Lopez and Marcel Granollers joining forces in the doubles.

Bautista Agut's win over Auger-Aliassime was par-ticularly poignant, given Agust was returning after withdrawing from the team on Thursday, following the death of his father Joaquin. "I could not have played today without all the work of my teammates week. said Bautista Agut on court.

I could not have played today without all the work of my teammates this week After such a complicated week, I had to get out there and face it. Everything was difficult today

- ROBERTO **BAUTISTA AGUT** Spain's Davis Cur player, who lost his father on November 21



Rafael Nadal (right) clicks a selfie along with the trophy and his teammates after Spain defeated Canada 2-0 to win the Davis Cup final in Madrid on Sunday. In their first, match, Spain's Roberto Bautista Agut battled past Felix Auger-Aliassime 7-6 (7/3), 6-3, while Nadal beat Canada's Denis Shapovalov 6-3, 7-6 (9/7) to help the hosts win the second and with it the tie.

Had nothing left, says elated Nadal

Madrid, Nov. 25: Rafael Nadal admitted he gave everything he had left to lead Spain to their sixth Davis Cup success on Sunday after they beat Canada in the final in Madrid. "I played one of the

toughest possible opponents at the end of a long and difficult week, physically too because I put into this whole event all the energy that I had inside me," said Nadal.

"Honestly it's the perfect end to the season for all of us. We know how difficult it is to win this and how difficult it will be to win it again. We knew we had to convert this opportunity," the World No.1 added.

Feliciano Lopez, who played alongside Nadal during Spain's doubles win against Britain's Jamie Murray and Neal Skupski on Saturday, said Nadal had been a "super-

"There are things you can't describe words," said Lopez. with

"If you ask me for my opinion, I will tell you he is a super-hero. He can do things none of us can do. He is a great person and

If you ask me for my opinion, I will tell you he is a super-hero. He us can do. He is a great person and

- FELICIANO LOPEZ Spain's Davis Cup player on Rafael Nadal

player," the left-handed player added.

At the end of his win, Nadal hoisted up Bautista Agut, who had returned to the team after withdrawing on Thursday due to the death OI nis tatner Joaquin.

"It was very difficult," Bautista Agut said.

"I took the decision to go home on Thursday morning and I was back yesterday (Saturday) afternoon to support the team.

"I had the opportunity to play today (Sunday) because all the team and all the players and the rest of the team have made an unbelievable effort since the first day. It was an amazing feeling on the court," Agut said after the



Spain's Roberto Bautista Agut (left) and Rafael Nadal celebrate Spain's 2-0 win over Canada at the Davis Cup Finals in Madrid on Sunday.

The Spanish team will also pocket a cheque worth \$2.1 million.

■ Spain won their sixth Davis Cup title, first since 2011. Their other four titles have come in 2009, 2008, 2004 and 2000.

Of the six titles that Spain have won, Rafael Nadal has been a part of the squad for five - 2019, 2011, 2009 & 2004 of them.

■ Roberto Bautista gut, wno lost his father, three days ago, left the team to be with his family, attended his father's funeral on Saturday, and then returned to help his side win on Sunday.

In their semifinal against Britain, Spain had left space for Agut during their anthem.

Mavericks fly past Rockets

Los Angeles, Nov. 25: Slovenia's Luka Doncic continued his otherworldly start to the NBA season, scoring 41 points as the Dallas Mavericks won their fifth straight with a 137-123 victory over the slumping

Doncic, whose remarkable start has his per game averages at triple-double levels, also had 10 assists and six rebounds while Rockets superstar James Harden finished with 32 points and 11 assists in a showdown of dominant scorers.

The 20-year-old's fellow Kristaps Porzingis, of Latvia, also recorded a double-double on Sunday with 23 points and 13 rebounds as the Mavericks led wire-torebounds wire for the victory.

Heading into Sunday's contest, Doncic was averaging 33.3 points, 10.8 rebounds and 11.0 assists during the Mavericks' five-game streak which included back-to-back wins over Cleveland and Golden State.

The Rockets dropped their third straight game following an eight-game winning streak. Houston had their moments when they came close to forcing a tie but they always fell just short.

Dallas shot 48 per cent overall and hit 17 of 44 three-pointers. The Rockets finished 10 of 44 from beyond the arc as Harden alone missed 13 of the 15 three-pointers he

Marseille put 2 past Toulouse

Paris, Nov. 25: Marseille reclaimed second spot in Ligue 1 when they won 2-0 at 10-man Toulouse who cracked in the final 15

minutes. In Toulouse, the home team were reduced to 10 men when right back Steven Moreira drove his studs into Bouna Sarr's knee and received a red card after a video review.

The home team defended in depth and even had a cnance to take the lead in the 70th minute but Mandanda denied it.

In the 76th minute, Dimitri Payet drew defenders then threaded a clever reverse pass to the darting Dario Benedetto who danced past Baptiste Revnet and coolly slid the ball into the goal.

Three minutes later, leftback Issiaga Sylla drove a clearance into Valere Germain. The ball bounced to Nemanja Radonjic, who advanced into the penalty area and curled it in.

Motorsport scene has been stagnant, says Narain

C. SANTHOSH KUMAR I DC CHENNAI, NOV. 25

Having completed a mindboggling 25-year journey as a professional race driver, Karthikeyan belongs to that rare breed of Indian sportspersons who have proved age is just a number. The 42-year-old from Coimbatore who pulled off a stupendous drive to win the SuperGT race in Japan last Sunday is showing no signs of slowing

In a free-wheeling chat, Narain spoke about the importance of maintaining fitness, valuable lessons he learnt in Japan and the sorry state of Indian motor-

It's 26 years since you turned professional, competing in the Formula Vauxhall Junior championship in the UK as a teenager. What keeps you going in a sport where sheer passion alone is not enough to sustain a

There are many factors. Of course, you have to love your sport enough to pursue it with the same passion you had as a youngster. Apart from that, you have to accomplish results at regu-

sponsors happy and meet your own standards. And in motorsport, you have to be in the right place at the right time. Being a professional racer from India is not easy, as all these factors have to fall in place. I am extremely glad I have survived this long.

Fitness plays a major role in the success of a race driver. How has your training regimen changed over the last few years?

I don't train like a 20-yearold. There's no high-intensity training required for my physique. Also, this year's SuperGT car is not as physical as the Super Formula car that I was driving until last year. SuperGT is, however, hard to drive, but it comes with some sophisticated technology. For example, the specially-made airconditioning system keeps you cool inside the car. One of the key factors is that there are no injury worries. My long-time physical trainer Ramji Srinivasan and my support system in Coimbatore take good care of me. Every day, I spend one hour for workout and one hour for recovery. I split

these into two sessions.

lar intervals to keep the After Formula One, you dabbled in LeMans Sportscars and then moved to Super Formula in Japan without much success. In your maiden season in SuperGT, you have finished on the podium twice, including a win. Do you feel that you should have joined this series a little earlier?

I think I found some success in Super Formula where I spent four years. Yes, I couldn't win a race. It's a highly-competitive Japan's Kamui Kobayashi has been racing in Super Formula since 2015. He is a very talented and experienced driver. He finished on the podium in F1 (third in the 2012 Japanese Grand Prix). But he hasn't won a race in Super Formula. It clearly underlines the competition level in Japan. The Super Formula season is very short: only seven races in a calendar and you don't get time to build up. To add to that, testing is limited. SuperGT cars are also quick; probably 4 to 5 seconds slower than Super Formula. But then, there are a lot of tyre manufacturers who pump in insane resources into the sport. During winter testing in



Narain Karthikeyan on the podium.

Malaysia, we used 150 sets of tyres! SuperGT is a packed grid and you should know how to manage traffic. So, winning in Japan is always special.

This win should inspire you to go on for two-three years more in the same

Two-three years is a lot of time in motorsport. It's a yearly contract that I have signed. The manufacturers (Honda) will take a call on the extension.

Sunday's win at the Fuji Speedway came after almost six years. How do you rate the win in Japan compared to your previous triumphs in A1 GP, Auto GP, Nissan World

When I won in the Nissan World Series (2004), my competitors were all young drivers, trying to move to Formula One. On an experience level, World Series was a level-playing field. In the current SuperGT, drivers come with a wealth of expe-

outside Formula One. Apart from driver experience, the technology that the series uses makes even Formula One look small. It's a different world, altogether.

You have raced in different parts of the world. You have been racing in Japan since 2014. What was your biggest takeaway from the Japan stint?

Tracks here are very challenging. They are old-school; narrow and very A small error is enough to throw you out of the race. The local knowledge of these experienced drivers is phenomenal. In the beginning, I was finding it difficult to communicate with the Japanese engineers. Then, I made an effort to learn a few racing terms in Japanese. The time I have spent in Japan has taught me some valuable lessons. Japanese people are very orderly and do everything meticulously. They have a system in place and if you follow it, you will

achieve success. Being accepted in Japan, I would say, is one of the craziest experiences. They

rience. Winning in Japan is have made me feel like I am always tough, perhaps the a part of them. The a part of them. The Japanese love racing. The number of fans who throng the circuits on race weekends is crazy. They recognise you in restaurants. They look after you better than the Europeans.

Aren't you bored spending time in flights and hotels?

Travelling is the hardest part of any professional sportsperson's life. But I feel, it's getting easier. There are different route options and direct flights to faraway places. As a youngster, when I first started travelling, I didn't have the luxury of flying business

Indian motorsport has seen quite a few controversies in the recent past. You're one of the very few to have stayed away from all that. What's your take on the status of motorsport in India?

What saddens me is the fact that motorsport is still such a small sport in India. It's like a blip on the radar or nothing at all!. But there are so many unwanted controversies. I think the fraternity should invest their energy in moving to the next step. The motorsport

scene has been stagnant. Except for a handful of drivers who are out on their own, nothing has changed.

Would you take up a role in the administration, just like your father, when you retire from the

99.99 per cent, I will not involve myself in administration. Šeriously, I don't have time to waste! It's not about one individual changing the system. A set of people have to come together and work towards that change. Of course, there are some good people in the federation and I am not doubting them. But there are also people with an agenda. In every sport, this is the case. but all the more in motorsport which is still trying to take baby steps. Administration is some-

thing I am not cut out for. Who is the next big bet in Indian motorsport?

Jehan Daruvala who is currently competing in the FIA Formula 3. Maini brothers — Arjun and Kush — are also good. Jehan has the talent to become a professional driver at the highest level. But as we know. talent alone won't take you



He's never been to this part of the world where you have to perform in a certain way out.

 Joe Root, England's Test captain, urges Jofra Archer to improve

SHORT

TAKES

England's Archer

faces racism in NZ Mount Maunganui: New Zealand

Cricket bosses said on Monday they will personally apologise to England fast bowler Jofra Archer after he was racially abused during the first Test in Mount Maunganui. Archer, considered one of the

most promising all-rounders in world cricket, tweeted he was disturbed to hear racial insults "whilst battling to help save my team". The 24-year-old featured in a late show of resistance with Sam Curran in a 59run stand for the ninth wicket before New Zealand wrapped up the match for an innings and 65 runs victory. "A bit disturb-

whilst battling to help save my team, the crowd was been amazing this week except for that one guy," Archer tweeted. New Zealand Cricket's (NZC) public affairs manager Richard Boock said there is "zero tolerance towards abusive or offensive language" at all cricket venues in New Zealand. NZC "will contact Mr Archer to apologise for the unacceptable experience, and to promise increased vigilance in the mat-

ing hearing racial insults today

Bhajji wants Dada

ter when the teams meet in Hamilton," Boock said. — AFP

to change selectors New Delhi: Veteran Indian offspinner Harbhajan Singh is hoping that BCCI president Sourav Ganguly will "change" the current selection panel and bring "strong people" on board. The 39-year-old was reacting to wicketkeeper-batsman Sanju Samson being dropped from the Indian Twenty20 squad without getting a game in the recent home series against Bangladesh. "I guess they r testing his heart #selectionpanelneedto-

bechanged need strong people there.. hope dada @SGanguly99 will do the needful," he tweeted. Harbhajan quoted a tweet from

Congress MP Shashi Tharoor, who represents Thiruvananthapuram in the Lok Sabha, to make his point.

Tharoor had expressed disappointment at the 25-year-old Kerala player not getting an opportunity.

MUMBAI THRASH KARNATAKA

Surat: Skipper Suryakumar Yadav blazed his way to an unbeaten 94 as Mumbai defeated Karnataka by seven wickets in a Group 'B' Super League match of the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy here on Monday to end

the rival's winning spree. Mumbai were chasing a stiff 172-run target and Surya, who has been in great form, singlehandedly guided the domestic giants to victory with an over to spare. Surya (94 not out off 53 balls, 11 fours, 4 sixes) walked in to bat after Mumbai were in a spot of bother at 44 for 2, losing openers Aditya Tare (12) and Prithvi Shaw (30) and still

needing over 100 runs to win. The aggressive right-hander steadied the ship by stitching together a 46-run stand with Shreyas Iyer (14) for the third wicket. However, Karnataka

pegged Mumbai back by removing lyer in the 11th over. After Iyer departed, it was 'Surya show' at the C B Patel Ground as he toyed with the Karnataka bowlers, who wilted under his blistering attack. He hammered 11 fours and hoisted four towering sixes to stamp his class. His 53-ball 94 would have surely impressed the national selectors. The Mumbai captain then strung together a matchwinning unbeaten 84-run stand

for the fourth wicket with Shivam Dube (22 not out off 18 balls), who played the perfect second fiddle.

Surya 2.0 was on display as he had all shots in the book and smashed the ball around to guide his side home.

BCCI to tinker with constitution

DECCAN CHRONICLE

Board treasurer says cooling-off clause is set to be amended

New Delhi, Nov. 25: BCCI treasurer Arun Dhumal on Monday said the Board is not looking to dilute the age cap of 70 years for its office-bearers in the upcoming AGM but will discuss amending the cooling-off clause as experi-ence of the officials "must be utilised"

In the agenda released for the Annual General Meeting, the first since forcaptain Sourav Ganguly took over as BCCI President, the Board has proposed significant changes to the existing constitution which dilutes some of the reforms recommended by the Supreme Court-appointed Lodha Court-appointed

As per the current constitution, which is approved by the Supreme Court, an office-bearer who has served two three-year terms either at the BCCI or at the state association, cooling-off for a three-year period. The current dispensation at the BCCI wants the cooling off period to kick in after the individual has finished two terms (six years), at the board and state association separately.

"We have not touched the age cap (of years) we have kept it like that. We have not made any amendment to that. With regards to the cooling off, our point of view is if somebody has gained experience by run-ning the state association why give him a cooling-off that experience should be utilised in the best interest of the game. If he can contribute in BCCI, why not," Dhumal said.

"If someone reaches 67 years of age after spending six years in a state association. If he has cooling off of three years, he is already 70 by then. He won't be able to contribute



BCCI secretary Jay Shah (from left), president Sourav Ganguly and treasurer Arun Dhumal in this file photo.

The BCCI wants that the president and secretary be allowed to serve two consecutive terms before the cooling-off sets in while the treasurer and other office-bearers should be allowed to complete three terms (nine years) in one go. The current dispensation, led Ganguly, took charge last month ending

Supreme Court-appointed Committee Administrators (CoA).

You must have seen in the BCCI election (last month). Out of the 38 members part of the electoral roll, only four or five members had the experience of attending meetings previously. "So in case someone has gained expeThe BCCI wants that **CHANGE IN TERM** the president and sec-retary be allowed to serve two consecutive terms before the cooling-off sets in while the treasurer and other office-bearers should be allowed to complete three terms (nine years) in one go.

Supreme Court has relaxed some Lodha recommendations in the past, including one state one vote, considering the technical difficulties in implementation.

Few of the recommendations were diluted by the Supreme Court itself. They understood that there are technical difficulties with regards to one state one vote. We don't have any issues with most of the recommendations but there are technical difficulties with some. - ARUN DHUMAL, BCCI treasurer

that experience should be utilised in the BCCI. In one stroke you made all office-bearers ineligible in many of the states (following Lodha

reforms). "So, it is like you sack the Chief Minister of a state and then call the cabinet ministers ineligible. So from where will you get the new ministry?" asked

Dhumal, who is the younger brother of former BCCI president and BJP MP Anurag Thakur.

Dhumal said Supreme Court has relaxed some Lodha recommendations in the past, including one state one vote, considering the technical difficulties in implementation. take it (all passed amendments at the AGM) to the

Supreme Court. We will put across our point of view. What are the practical difficulties we are facing with regards to few things. In case the court agrees with our idea, then will have those amendments," he said.

Will the Lodha reform be compromised if the amendments are ratified? "It is not like that," said Dhumal.

"Few of the recommendations were diluted by the Supreme Court itself. They understood that there are technical difficulties with regards to one state one vote. We don't have any issues with most of the recommendations there are technical difficulties with some. "Even the CoA recommended changes to the conflict of interest of clause in the existing constitution. So we will go back to Supreme Court on the practical difficulties we are facing. If they don't then we continue with whatever we have." — PTI

overs (J. Denly 35, J. Archer

30, Santner 3/53, Wagner

"We saw the wicket dete-

riorate and knew if you

could hit the wicket hard you would get some variable bounce. That allowed

us to make the break-throughs," Williamson

throughs," Williamson said, admitting that he had

concerns about how the

ence and some world-class

players who've batted out draws before. If they were

better than us today they

were going to be able to save it. It did come down to

Root said England did not

help themselves with the way they batted.

match would finish. "England have experi-

the wire.'

Pace battery is full

Charged-up Indian fast bowlers earn high praise from different quarters

Kolkata, Nov. 25: India's fast bowlers are enjoying a rare moment in the sun after they combined to dismantle Bangladesh in the maiden day-night Test on Indian

Ishant Sharma, Yadav and med Shami Umesh Mohammed Shami took all 19 Bangladesh wickets to fall in Kolkata, a rarity on the sub-continent's pitches where spinners usually

surpassed the record 17 wickets taken by pacemen in a home Test in 2017 against Sri also Lanka, Eden

In the first pink-ball Test for both sides, India beat Bangladesh by an innings and 46 runs in just over two days to sweep the two-

match series.
Skipper Virat Kohli
has been all praise for his pacemen and said workload management was the key to keeping them in top shape.

'They gained more experience, they're bowling well together," Kohli told reporters after India sealed the one-sided

win on Sunday. "They take owner-ship of their own preparation, their own fitness and communication is very clear... We want you fresh for Test cricket, don't worry about anything

"And they feel secure as well that if they

Doesn't happen often in India when the spinners hardly roll their arm over in a Test match.

- IRFAN PATHAN, **Former India** fast bowler

don't play, we have back-up bowlers to come and do the job as well. So that bench strength is also helping

The three quicks have been on a roll despite the absence of yorker specialist Bumrah, who is recovering from a stress fracture of the back. Snami and 24

between them India's 3-0 Test white-wash of South Africa last month. Spinners Ravichan-

dran Ashwin and Ravindra Jadeja bowled a total of just Ravindra seven overs against Bangladesh, who fell for 106 and 195. "Doesn't happen often

in India when the spinners hardly roll their arm over in the test match," Indian fast bowler Irfan Pathan wrote on Twitter.

ly New Zealand.







Mohammed Shami

Umesh says change in grip helped achieve consistency

Attributing his recent success to a tweaked bowling grip, India speedster Umesh Yadav said it has helped him achieve better

However, the real test

for the Indian quicks will come in January and February, when India will play two Tests in seamer-friend-

control and more consistency in delivering outswingers. Yadav finished with match figures of 8/81, which included a five-wick-

et haul in the second innings, to set up India's innings and 46-run win in their first ever day-night Test against Bangladesh on Sunday.

"Tweaking my bowling grip helped immensely," Yadav said during a conversation with India opener

25: Rohit Sharma on 'bcci.tv'. My grip was different earlier so one or two balls would swing while a couple of them would either get deflected from the legs or run down the leg side for boundaries as byes. So it was difficult to control with

"So I spoke to my coaches and also while discussing within ourselves, I felt when I hold the ball properly, I have more control and chances of moving the ball. So my outswinger became consistent and I could also throw in a few inswingers after making that change." pacer Fellow Ishant

Sharma, who claimed five

first innings and four in the second, said changing his wrist position helped him create angles which made life difficult for batsmen, especially left-handers.

"I created angles in my bowling on the basis of my wrist position. If I come round the wicket to the lefthander, it would be more difficult for the batsman, Ishant said.

"I used to bowl but I couldn't get the edge because it would land on the off stump and would go out. Now, I bowl at the stumps, so it becomes difficult for the bats-

Kiwis script a big win over English

615-9 declared.

Mount Maunganui, Nov. 25: New Zealand said their England 353 & 197 in 96.2 comprehensive innings victory over England was among their very best after Neil Wagner's five-wicket burst sealed the first Test in Mount Maunganui on Monday.
The tireless left-armer while Santner took three

took the last two England wickets in successive balls for a five-wicket haul and to complete the rout by an innings and 65 runs late on the final day. While England captain

Joe Root lamented a disappointing batting effort, and the lack of a bowler with Wagner's application, New Zealand skipper Kane Williamson celebrated his match-defining innings of 615 for nine

"To lose the toss and be 350 behind in the first innings it required some-thing special," Williamson

"It's certainly right up there in terms of a tough, grinding Test victory."
BJ Watling's 205 and Mitchell Santher's 126 laid the platform for New

Zealand's colossal 262-run first-innings lead. England, resuming the final day at 55 for three and needing to bat through to stumps to save the Test, progressed patiently to 121 for four before New Zealand removed the last

six wickets for 76 runs.

Wagner finished

with five for 44

"Clearly some of the shots today were not good. Everyone's very aware of You can't fault effort but I put my hand up as well, that ball was treated with far too much respect." Root said the England bowlers also needed to

learn from the effort Wagner put in. "He runs in all day and makes sure every ball means something," Root said, adding there were times England quick Jofra Archer could "unleash a

little bit more".



Paine takes early shot at Kohli

R. MOHAN I DC MELBOURNE, NOV. 25

Tim Paine has thrown an open challenge to Virat Kohli to come out to Australia and play a daynight Test match with the pink ball. Cock-a-hoop after beating Pakistan by an innings despite a fight-ing century from Babar Azam, the visitors were well beaten at the Gabba, the traditional Test series opener venue to any

Australian cricket season. The Australian captain has in fact, poked the Indian elephant in the ribs with a hint that Team India and its skipper Virat Kohli like to pick an choose where they play their Test cricket. The last time the Indians came out to play Down Under they skipped Brisbane and the Gabba where the home team has not lost a Test for 31 years, not since 1988.

That's where we like to start our summer and it has been so for long," Paine said in continuing big bully of international to rub it into Kohli, whose team not only skipped the Gabba but also the pink ball 'test' in the traditional Adelaide Oval venue. The Indians are due to

play Tests in Australia next summer and 12 months before that Paine has kicked off a war of words, even if it's not quite psychological warfare as yet. Even more cheekily, Paine said at the Gabba on Sunday, "We'll ask Virat and see if we can get his permission to play here and even get a pink ball Test if he's in a good mood.'

The suggestion is as the cricket, Team India can pick and choose where and when to play

"We'll certainly be trying to play the first match there, we'll have to run that by Virat. We'll get an answer from him at some stage, I'm sure," Paine went on to say with a flow

beating Bangladesh. skipper Kohli said India were open to playing a daynight Test in Australia. Team India is a runaway leader now in the World Test Championship, but the tough games and series are yet to begin. Whereas

England, a n d South India have played in

We'll ask Virat and se if we can get his permission to play here and even get a pink ball Test if he's in a good mood. We'll

Africa Bangladesh

huge

certainly be trying to play the first match at the Gabba, we'll have to run that by Virat. We'll get an answer from him at some stage, I'm sure.

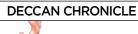
Australian captain



TUESDAY | 26 NOVEMBER 2019 | HYDERABAD

Kidambi Srikanth pulled out of the upcoming Premier Badminton League to focus on international events ahead of the 2020 Tokyo Olympics

DECCAN CHRONICLE





It was a very poor performance. I could have changed all the players at half-time, except David (De Gea) as he kept us in it.

- Ole Gunnar Solskiaer. **Man United manager**

SHORT

Archers bag Asian

recurve bronze

Kolkata: The embattled Indian archers overcame all odds to ensure two medals in the recurve and compound mixed event of the Asian Archery Championships here on Tuesday

Competing under a neutral flag due to the suspension of Indian federation, the Indian archers opened their account with a bronze medal in the recurve mixed pair event where Atanu Das and Deepika Kumari defeated Yichai Zheng and Shaoxuan Wei of China 6-2 without breaking a sweat. But it was the compound mixed pair team of Abhishek Verma and Jyothi Surekha Vennam who produced a stunner ousting Korea 159-154 in a onesided affair to set up a gold medal clash with Chinese Taipei, slated for Wednesday. The team eliminations are also slated from Wednesday while Indian women will also vie for Olympic quotas in the qualifications round on Thursday. - PTI

Sangram, Varsha win national titles

New Delhi: Haryana's Sangram Dahiya and Madhya Pradesh's Varsha Varman won the men's and women's double trap titles respectively at the 63rd **National Shotgun Shooting** Championship here on Monday. Sangram shot 142 out of 150 targets to leave behind former world champion Ankur Mittal of

ONGC, who managed 137 hits over the five rounds of 30 targets each. Punjab's Prithvi Singh Chahal won bronze with a score of 135. Varsha, in the women's category of 120 targets each, had 97 to her name to clinch the gold ahead of state-mate Manisha Keer, who had 93 hits. Mahima

sweep in the category, winning bronze with 92 Both Sangram and Varsha also won the team gold for their respective states. — PTI

Vishwakarma ensured a MP

CARLSEN SHINES, ANAND JOINT 5TH

Kolkata: Viswanathan Anand suffered two defeats but as many victories kept him in the joint fifth place at the Tata Steel Rapid and Blitz tournament, a part of the Grand Chess Tour. Reigning world champion Magnus Carlsen continued his dominating run as he took his lead to an almost unassailable five points. The Norwegian is virtually assured of the title despite a whole day and many

games to come. Anand now has 4.5 points out of a possible nine and remains in contention for a berth in the Grand Finale of this tournament, to be held in London in December. The five-time world

champion started with a loss to Russian Ian Nepomniachtchi but then recovered well to beat Aronian and Wesley So in round two and four. The rest of

the games were drawn except against Calrsen when the Indian suffered another defeat. With nine games on Tuesday still to come, Carlsen has a huge five-point lead with 21.5 points to his credit out of a

possible 27 points. Carlsen needs just two points from his remaining games to win. Hikaru Nakamura is currently distant second with 16.5 points followed by his compatriot Wesley So, who has 13.5 points. Anish Giri (13) is fourth while Anand shares the fifth spot with Ding Liren and Nepomniachtchi. - PTI

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SHEFFIELD DAY

Man U pegged back by Blades after dramatic comeback

Sheffield, Nov. 25: Manchester United and Sheffield United shared the spoils after a dramatic 3-3 draw at Bramall Lane on Sunday, with the home side scoring a late equaliser after a three-goal blitz from the visitors in just

seven minutes. Ole Gunnar Solskjaer's team, outplayed for 70 minutes by the promoted side, trailed 2-0 after a first-half goal from John Fleck and a second-half

effort from Lys Mousset. Chris Wilder's team had been hungrier and more incisive all over the pitch but, from nowhere, United were back in the game and when 19-year-old Brandon Williams scored in the

72nd minute. Manchester United suddenly looked full of ideas, with the game turned on

THE RESULTS

Sheffield United (Fleck 19, Mousset 52, McBurnie 90)
Manchester United 3 (Williams 72, Greenwood 77, Rashford 79)

replace Andreas Pereira, meaning United were operating with an attacking quartet of Greenwood, Marcus Rashford, Anthony Martial and Daniel James.

Just five minutes after

Williams' strike, equalised Greenwood from close range after Rashford's cross.

With the home side rocking badly, United poured forward again. Rashford swept home in the 79th minute. The drama was its head. Solskjaer threw not over, with Oliver accident waiting to hapon Mason Greenwood to McBurnie controlling the pen. -AFP

ball and firing past David de Gea to level at 3-3 in the 90th minute. The goal stood after a VAR check for handball. The result means Manchester United are ninth in the Premier League table, nine points fourth-placed Chelsea while Sheffield United are sixth, a point

DEVILS DOMINATED

Earlier, Solskjaer's men were indebted to goalkeeper De Gea, who produced a stunning double-save to keep the score at 0-0 early in the game.

Solskjaer's team looked rattled, with Williams, on just his second Premier League start, making a couple of early errors and Phil Jones, on his first league appearance of the season, looking like an

BANEGA PENALTY SENDS SEVILLA THIRD IN SPAIN

Banega's first-half penalty proved enough to seal Sevilla a 1-0 win at Real Valladolid on Sunday as Julen Lopetegui's men jumped to third in the

Sevilla are unbeaten in six league matches since a 4-0 thrashing at Barcelona last month and trail the reigning champions and Real Madrid by only one point, although they have played a game more. A tight encounter was settled by the only goal in the 13th minute, as Javi Moyano brought down former Manchester City winger Nolito and Argentinian internation

Madrid, Nov. 25: Ever al Banega dispatched the

resulting spot-kick. Lucas Ocampos Sevilla was sent off late on after receiving a second yellow card for time wasting, but the visitors held on to continue their excellent start to the season under former Spain and Real Madrid coach

Lopetegui. Barcelona lead the table on goal difference ahead of Real Madrid after beating Leganes on Saturday. Earlier on Sunday, substitute Kenan Kodro scored a late winner as Athletic Bilbao claimed a 2-1 win at Osasuna to move fifth.

SCOTTISH OPEN BADMINTON

Sen wins fourth title of season

Glasgow, Nov. 25: Fast-rising Indian shuttler Lakshya Sen claimed his fourth title in three months, bagging the Scottish Open with a thrilling win over Brazil's Ygor Coelho in the men's singles summit clash singles summit clash here. The top-seeded Indian

overcame his Brazilian opponent 18-21, 21-18, 21-19 in a 56-minute final on

Sunday night.
The 18-year-old from Uttarakhand has now clinched three titles out of the four tournaments that he has played since September — SaarLorLux Open, Dutch Open, and Belgian International.

After losing in the second round of Irish Open, Lakshya made amends this week and dished out some superb performances right from the start.

"Happy to win the scotish open title!! A hard fought match against my friend @co3lho12. It was really nice training with you in Denmark and playing a good match against you

good match against you today," Sen tweeted.

The Indian began his campaign with a straightgame win over Austria's Luka Wraber, before defeating compatriot Kiran George to reach the quarterfinals. terfinals.

The world no. 41 Indian then recorded another straight-game win over sixth-seed Brian before seeing off France's Christo Popov in the semiThe 18-year-old Lakshya Sen has now clinched three titles out of the four tournaments that he has played since September -SaarLorLux Open, **Dutch Open, and Belgian** International.

finals. After this win, Lakshya will break into the top-40 in the BWF rankings and inch closer to a direct qualification in the

top grade 2 events.

Lakshya thus joined fellow Indians Anand Pawar (2010 and 2012), Arvind Bhatt (2004) and Pullela Gopichand (1999) in winning the Scottish Open

During the final, Lakshya had fallen behind in the opening game but he managed to turn the tables and grab a 10-8 lead. Lakshya came out firing

in the second round and jumped to a 7-0 lead in the second game. The Brazilian slowly clawed back at 17-17 but Lakshya managed to bounce back into the contest.

The decider turned out to be an evenly-fought contest and both the shuttlers battled hard to gain the lead. Coelho enjoyed an 11-8 advantage at the break but a gritty Lakshya kept drawing parity and had the last laugh.



Lakshya Sen (left) poses on the podium with the cup after defeating Brazil's Ygor Coelho in the Scottish Open

Saina withdraws,

SYED MODI INTERNATIONAL

Lucknow, Nov. 25: Saina Nehwal pulled out at the

last moment to take some

sheen off the Sved Modi

International, beginning

here on Tuesday, when the

in-form Lakshya Sen will seek a third BWF World

Three-time former cham-

pion Saina, who has been

battling illness and injuries, is going through a

bad patch, having lost six times in the first round

this season. The 29-year-old from

Hyderabad has already

pulled out of the Premier Badminton League to pre-

World champion P.V. Sindhu has chosen to give

The 18-year-old Lakshya,

on the other hand, will look to grab his maiden Super 300 crown this week

following his title tri-umphs at two Super 100 events — Dutch and SaarLorLux Open — this

Focus will also be on the

men's doubles pairing of

Satwiksairaj Rankireddy

and Chirag Shetty, who won the Thailand Open Super 500 title and then reached the finals of French Open Super 750

pare for the next season.

the tournament a miss.

Tour title.

All eyes on Mourinho as Spurs face Olympiakos

London, Nov. 25: Tottenham turned to Jose Mourinho to try and maintain their status as Champions League club, but a terrible start to the Premier League leaves Portuguese with a mountain to climb either domestically or in

Mourinho's appointment was not a universally popular one with the Spurs' support given his past as a two-time Chelsea manager.
He managed to make

the right first impression by securing Tottenham's first away win in the Premier League since January with a 3-2 victory at West Ham on Saturday that was far more comprehensive that the scoreline suggested.

A vital three points cut between

Victory over Olympiakos in Mourinho's home debut on Tuesday will secure their passage into the knockout stages.

Mourinho's men and the top four to nine points, but strong starts from Liverpool, Leicester, Manchester City and Chelsea mean one of them will have to falter significantly in the coming months to open the

door to Spurs. fact Mourinho's deal signed last week reportedly contains a £2 million bonus for making the top four is an illustration of how tough a task it will be.

Could winning the Champions League for the first time in the club's

Tottenham Hotspur head coach Jose Mourinho (second from left) at a team training session in London on

Monday, the eve of their Champions League Group 'B' match against Olympiakos.

history actually be Spurs' best way to secure the riches and prestige of Europe's premier club competition for a fifth consecutive season?

Under Mauricio Pochettino, who was sacked after five-and-ahalf years in charge last Tottenham improved each year in Europe and last season fell just one hurdle short after a dramatic run to Champions League final.

Despite their dreadful domestic form and a 2-7 thrashing at home to Bayern Munich last month, Pochettino left with his side well-placed to reach the last 16 once more.Victory Olympiakos in Mourinho's home debut

on Tuesday will secure their passage into the knockout stages. -AFP

Live on TV

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Lokomotiv Moscow vs Bayer LeverKusen from 11.25 pm on Sony Ten 2, HD

Club Brugge from 11.25 pm on Sony ESPN, HD

Galatasaray vs

Real Madrid vs PSG from 1.30 am (Wednesday) on Sony Ten 1, HD

Tottenham vs Olympiacos from 1.30 am (Wednesday) on Sony Ten 3, HD

> Man City vs Shakhtar Donetsk from 1.30 am (Wednesday) on Sony Six, HD

Juventus vs Atletico Madrid from 1.30 am (Wednesday) on Sony Ten 2. HD

Crvena Zvezda vs Bayern from 1.30 am (Wednesday) on Sony ESPN, HD



But there was another twist in the tale as Kilgallon headed in an unlikely equaliser from a corner in the fifth minute of injury time.

— Agencies

CHENNAIYIN PIP HYDERABAD FOR FIRST WIN

ISL FOOTBALL

Chennai, Nov. Chennaiyin FC registered their first win of the Hero Indian Super League season six in dramatic fashion after edging past Hyderabad FC 2-1 at the Jawaharlal Nehru stadium here on Monday.

After seeing poor finishing hamper them for most of the game, Chennaiyin thought they had the winner when Andre Schembri (90+2') put them ahead in injury time. A few minutes later, Hyderabad equalised equalised Matthew through Kilgallon (90+5'), but Nerijus Valskis sealed a sensational win seconds later, bringing the roof down in the stadium.

The win Chennaiyin leapfrog Hyderabad to the ninth spot while the ISL debutants suffered their fourth

ther side able to assert themselves in a frantic opening period. Chances fell for Chennaiyin but poor decision-making scores remained level. Just as it seemed Chennaiyin's goal drought would continue for yet another game, substitute Andre Schembri took matters into his own hands. The forward latched on to a cross from Edwin Vanspaul in injury time, held off his marker and fired a low shot past Kamaljit at the near post, registering Chennaiyin's first goal of the season.

Lakshya, who has been in Denmark for a two and half month training-cum-competition stint, claimed title wins at the Belgian International and Dutch and SaarLorLux Open.

this season.

In the women's singles,



Saina Nehwa

Mugdha Agrey will be one of the Indian challenges. A host of Indian shuttlers, including 2016 win-ner Kidambi Srikanth, defending champion defending champion Sameer Verma and world championship bronze-medallist B. Sai Praneeth,

will eye the top spot in the men's singles this week. Third seed Srikanth, who had reached the finals at India Open this year, will hope to end his two-year long title drought and gather valuable points to arrest the slide in his ranking in the pre-Olympic year when he takes on Russia's Vladimir Malkov.

Former Commonwealth Games champion Parupalli Kashyap, who grabbed the title in 2012 and 2015, will lock horns with France's Lucas Corvee.