

# DECCAN Chronicle

THE LARGEST CIRCULATED ENGLISH DAILY IN SOUTH INDIA  
HYDERABAD | FRIDAY | 14 FEBRUARY 2020

## WEATHER

Max: 31.8°C  
Min: 17.3°C  
RH: 28%  
Rainfall: Nil

Forecast: Cloudy sky.  
Misty morning. Max/Min temp. 32/16°C

## ASTROGUIDE

**Vikari:** Uttarayana  
**Tithi:** Magha Bahula Shasti till 6.25 pm  
**Star:** Chitta till 7.28 am and then Swati till 6 am (Saturday)  
**Variyam:** 12.43 noon to 2.14 pm  
**Durmuhurtam:** 9.04 am to 9.50 am and then from 12.53 noon to 1.39 pm  
**Rahukalam:** 10.30 am to 12 noon  
**HJRI CALENDAR**  
**Jumada al-Sani** 19,1441 AH  
**PRAYERS**  
**Fajar:** 5.42 am  
**Zohar:** 12.40 pm  
**Asar:** 4.41 pm  
**Maghrib:** 6.23 pm  
**Isha:** 7.31 pm  
**SUNSET TODAY** 6.17 PM  
**SUNRISE TOMORROW** 6.43 AM  
**MOONSET TOMORROW** 11.30 PM  
**MOONRISE TODAY** 10.38 AM

## Japan Olympics on schedule

**Tokyo:** Local organisers of the 2020 Tokyo Summer Olympics pledged that the Games will go ahead as planned. Several other sporting events have been postponed due to fears related to the coronavirus outbreak in China. The president of the 2020 Olympic organising committee, Yoshiro Mori, said on Thursday that the outbreak would not affect the schedule of the Summer Games.

## COUNTER POINT



All cells are empty... most of the inmates got elected as MLAs!

## S&P reaffirms India's ratings

**New Delhi:** Sensing the country's economic growth to gradually recover over the next two to three years, global ratings agency Standard and Poor's, on Thursday, affirmed India's sovereign rating at 'BBB-' with stable outlook. It further said that the gross domestic product or GDP rate is expected to improve to 6 per cent during 2020-21, 7 per cent in the next fiscal and 7.4 per cent thereafter.

More on Page 14

## Rishi Sunak is new UK fin min

**London:** Infosys founder Narayana Murthy's son-in-law Rishi Sunak became the next finance minister of Britain in a Cabinet reshuffle, after the resignation of incumbent Sajid Javid. Rishi Sunak's wife is the daughter of co-founder of Infosys, Narayana Murthy will join Home Secretary Priti Patel on the top government bench as UK Chancellor of the Exchequer.

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## Former Teri chief Pachauri dead

**New Delhi:** Former Teri chief R.K. Pachauri died at the age of 79 on Friday after a prolonged cardiac ailment. Teri director general Ajay Mathur said that the former Teri chief has passed away. Teri on Twitter wrote, "It is with immense sadness that we announce the passing away of Dr RK Pachauri, the Founder Director of TERI. The entire TERI family stands with the family of Dr Pachauri in this hour of grief."

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## NATION | 9

No CMs for Kejri swearing-in

## SPORTS | 16

Hockey's Manpreet adjudged best

## TABLOID

'We have eyes only for each other'



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## Armed and ready



Marine commandos (MARCOS) demonstrate their skills during a mock anti-hijack exercise conducted by naval air station INS Dega at Visakhapatnam air base on Thursday. The objective of the exercise was to test the efficacy of contingency plans and procedures to deal with hijack threats.

## SC: Parties must disclose criminal antecedents of candidates in polls

Winnability not sole criteria to field candidates, says top court

PARMOD KUMAR | DC  
NEW DELHI, FEB. 13

Expressing concern over the "alarming increase" in the number of candidates with criminal cases in the last four general elections, the Supreme Court on Thursday said that winnability cannot be the only criteria for fielding a candidate.

Justice Rohinton Fali Nariman, heading a three-judge bench, said: "We have also noted that political parties offer no explanation on why candidates with pending criminal cases are selected as candidates in the first place."

Directing all political parties to upload the details of their candidates' criminal history on their websites, on the social media and in newspapers within 48 hours of their selection or two weeks before the first date for filing of nominations,

whichever is earlier, the court said: "Political parties will have to specify reasons for selecting candidates having pending criminal cases against them on their website."

The details, the court said, must include the nature of the offences, and other particulars whether charges have been framed, the court before which proceedings are going on and the case number.

This information about the candidate, the court said, shall be published in one local vernacular newspaper and one national newspaper, official social media platforms of the political party, including Facebook and Twitter.

The parties must submit the same details to the Election Commission within 72 hours, the court said. If political parties failed to give the details, or the Election Commission was unable to implement

## SC VERDICT ON VINAY'S MERCY PETITION TODAY

DC CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI, FEB. 13

The Supreme Court, on Thursday, reserved its verdict on a plea by Vinay Sharma — one of the four death row convicts in Nirbhaya case — challenging the rejection of his mercy petition by President Ram Nath Kovind.

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The directive, it would be considered contempt of court, the judges said.

In 2004, 24 per cent of MPs had criminal cases pending against them. In 2009, that figure went up to 30 per cent; in 2014 to 34

per cent, and in 2019 as many as 43 per cent of MPs have criminal cases pending against them, the court noted.

While only 15 per cent of MPs in the 15th Lok Sabha had declared serious criminal charges against them, the number for the new Lok Sabha has reached 29 per cent, signifying a 106 per cent increase in the past 10 years.

The reasons for selecting a candidate, the court said, "shall be with reference to qualifications, achievements and merit of the candidate concerned", and not mere "winnability" at the polls.

"The reason to select candidates should be based on merit and not winnability. Winnability can't be the only justification," the top court directed.

Page 8: Grave issues on criminalisation of politics



## BOOKIE CHAWLA EXTRADITED FROM LONDON

BHASKAR HARI SHARMA | DC  
NEW DELHI, FEB. 13

The infamous bookie Sanjeev Chawla, who is the key accused in one of cricket's biggest match-fixing scandals that involved former South African captain Hansie Cronje, was extradited from London. It is said to be first high-profile extradition of its kind in 20 years.

Chawla, a 50-year-old British national, was evading the arrest for nearly two decades. After completing the formalities, he was taken to the AIIMS for a medical check-up. "He had food twice in the flight. He also had lunch after his medical test. He is normal and not under stress. He will be questioned in detail," DCP (crime branch) Ram Gopal Naik said.

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## Debt-hit Telangana defaults on Rythu Bandhu to 12 L farmers

IREDDY SRINIVAS REDDY | DC  
HYDERABAD, FEB. 13

A debt-laden Telangana, on the throes of a financial crunch, has not paid Rythu Bandhu financial assistance to over 12 lakh farmers, under the scheme for the current Rabi season. Some of these farmers who have not got the money include those who were in the list of beneficiaries during the Kharif season, besides sev-

erally newly added farmers in the list for this season. The government recently released ₹5,100 crore to extend assistance to farmers as against the estimat-

ed ₹6,150 crore actual amount required to service all farmers.

— N. UTTAM KUMAR REDDY, TPCC president

ed ₹6,150 crore actual amount required to service all farmers.

— DR K. LAXMAN, BJP state president

Page 5: ₹1,150 crore deficit deprives 1.2 mn farmers

## RETURN | ON TAXES | Telangana gives double of what Centre returns: KTR tells finance minister

## KTR, Nirmala trade barbs on funds to TS

S.N.C.N. ACHARYULU | DC  
HYDERABAD, FEB. 13

IT and municipal administration minister K.T. Rama Rao is leading a counterattack on Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman for her statements over and allocations to Telangana in her recent Union Budget, saying that the people of Telangana have given more than double to the Centre than what it gave to the state.

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**PAINED BY** the condescension in the statement of FM in Parliament that the Centre has 'Given' Telangana funds. People need to know what Telangana 'Gives' to Centre in ... taxes & what we get in return...

K.T. RAMA RAO, Telangana IT minister



**THE UNION** government had released tax devolution funds to the tune of ₹85,013 crore to Telangana in six years, including ₹13,009.40 crore (up to February 5, 2019-20) to Telangana.

— NIRMALA SITHARAMAN, Union finance minister

Telangana gives to the Centre and what it gets in return. In a tweet, Mr Rao said, "Pained by the condescension in the statement of FM in Parliament that Centre has 'Given' TS funds. People of Telangana

& the nation need to know what Telangana 'Gives' to Government of India in the form of taxes & what we get in return—Hope the irony is not lost on you FM ji (sic)". The differences between the Telangana state and

Centre at a government level, and between the ruling TRS and BJP parties at a political level, over funds released by the centre to state have been persistent and continued for years.

The TRS and Telangana's argument has been that the Centre gave to Telangana on par with other states as per Constitutional obligations and no additional funds were ever allocated to the state.

Page 5: BJP: Centre giving more funds to TS

## I-T raids on Naidu ex PS yields ₹2k-cr

Three big infra firms found siphoning money

N. VAMSI SRINIVAS | DC  
VIJAYAWADA, FEB. 13

The recent raids by the Income-Tax department on the former personal secretary of former chief minister and TD chief N. Chandrababu Naidu, and three prominent infrastructure companies considered close to the leader, revealed siphoning of funds to the tune of least ₹2,000 crore. This amount is only a preliminary estimate and further investigations might reveal a higher fraud amount, I-T officials said.

The Income-Tax department on Thursday issued an official press release stating that "search operations carried out on close associates (of three infra companies), including a former personal secretary of a prominent person (read Mr Chandrababu Naidu, as searches were conducted at the premises of his ex-PS) and incriminating evidence was seized".

The TD supremo, as a senior leader pointed out, was perplexed over the developments. One of the three firms raided belonged to Kadapa TD leader Srinivas Reddy's R.K. Infra Corp. A close



## YSRC MLAS WANT NAIDU'S ARREST FOR FRAUD

DC CORRESPONDENT  
VIJAYAWADA, FEB. 13

YSR Congress MLAs on Thursday demanded the arrest of Telugu Desam supremo and former chief minister N Chandrababu Naidu in view of his alleged involvement in the illegal money transactions to the tune of ₹2,000 crore.

associate of Nara Lokesh, Mr Naidu's son and TD party general secretary, was also raided. Sources in I-T department said that exchange of information between this associate and several top party leaders gave crucial leads to the I-T department.

"The I-T department says irregularities were found in infra companies. Government can take any action," Mr Nara Lokesh told Deccan Chronicle.

Referring to the involvement of a former PS of the former CM, Mr Lokesh said that he was clueless on how a former PS was in possession of records of three large infra companies. "We did nothing wrong. We will wait and watch," he said.

Explaining the modus operandi of the raids and subsequent investigations, Surabhi Ahluwalia, I-T commissioner, said that the three companies had indulged in multiple transactions by sub-contracting works to bogus and non-existent companies. These transactions were layered through multiple entities, with the last in the chain being small entities, with a turnover of less than ₹2 crore to avoid maintenance of books of accounts and tax audits, Ms Ahluwalia said.

Many of these companies weren't found in the addresses mentioned in records or were found to be shell firms, she said.

Page 6: 25 bank lockers restrained, says I-T

## Covid-19 claims 254 lives in a day

Beijing, Feb. 13: China said it confirmed 15,152 new cases and 254 additional deaths during a press conference on Thursday.

Those figures include the ones reported earlier by Hubei province under its new diagnosis methodology.

That brings the country's total death toll to 1,367 as the number of people infected hit 59,804, according to the government.

A spokeswoman for the Shanghai Health Commission said at a press conference that the methodology for diagnosing coronavirus has not been changed in any Chinese provinces or municipalities except Hubei.

Health workers in Hubei province began using a new method to diagnose the virus this week.

Previously, infections were only allowed to be confirmed with nucleic acid tests, which can take days to process, but Hubei province is now using CT scans which can diagnose the virus more quickly.

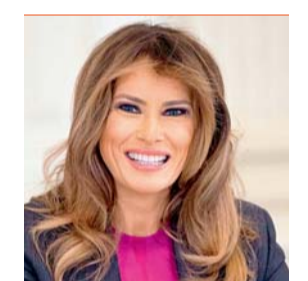
China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs said there are no new cases of foreigners infected with the virus. It also said another foreign national had been

discharged, bringing that total figure to eight cases.

The coronavirus is causing travel demand to slump across the whole Asia-Pacific region, according to data released by a travel analytics firm on Thursday, with the region seeing a 10.5 per cent slowdown in outbound travel bookings for March and April (excluding trips to and from China and Hong Kong).

Meanwhile, the chief executive of smartphone maker Xiaomi said the disruption caused by the coronavirus outbreak could impact first-quarter sales, but CEO Lei Jun said he believes demand will bounce back.

— Agencies



## MELANIA EXCITED ABOUT MAIDEN VISIT TO INDIA

Washington, Feb. 13: US First Lady Melania Trump has said that she is "excited" for her trip to India along President Donald Trump later this month.

In a tweet, Melania Trump said her maiden trip to India as the First Lady is an occasion to celebrate the close ties between the two countries. She also thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the "kind invitation" to visit India.

"Looking forward to visiting Ahmedabad and New Delhi later this month," she said. "President Trump and I are excited for the trip and to celebrate the close ties between the USA and India," she said.

She was responding to a tweet by Modi terming the US President and First Lady's visit to India as a "very special one".

— PTI

POWER | SHUTDOWN

**10 am to 1 pm:** Vijaypuri, Dwarka Apartments, Jain Constructions, Sun Bakery area, Biryani House, Pushpa Nilayam Apartments, OU Quarters and Water Works.  
**2 pm to 3 pm:** Shirdi Sai Nagar, Kimty Colony, Bank of Baroda, Street No. 1 (partial), Surya Vamsi Apartments.  
**3 pm to 5 pm:** Lambadi Basthi, Kanakadurga Apartments, Sunday Market, AP Dairy Area, Nagarjunanagar, Garonda Builder Apartment, Mullapudi DTR, David Memorial College and Shontha Sriram.  
**2 pm to 4 pm:** Vinibhanagar, Indiranagar, Lalapet Kaman, Ganesh Temple and Isuka Bai.  
**4 pm to 5 pm:** Underground cable.

VOICES

A notification issued by the Telangana State government on Wednesday for collecting routine information through house-listing and housing census in connection with the Census 2021 has sparked massive apprehensions amongst citizens in the backdrop of the tense atmosphere prevailing in the country, with continued protests over the NPR. Here's what the public feels.

**The Census format** has to be seen if it is disguised as the National Population Register. It is too early to say. That being said, Census information is provided by the interviewee who don't need to furnish proofs, whereas in NPR, documents are a must. I am worried about the many tribals who don't possess such documents.

— **IMRAN SIDDIQUI**  
Tribal rights and wildlife activist

**I don't think there is cause for concern** even if data obtained from the Census is used for NPR. Legal citizens of the country have no reason to fear either exercise.

— **GNANESHWAR YADAV**  
Software professional

**There is nothing to panic** when the government is asking for information. As a citizen, it's my duty to provide them the information.

— **MANI JAMPALA**  
Krishna Sai hair dressers



Work has begun to clean the Kapra lake of remaining hyacinth as well as the lakebed — Gandhi

# Achhe din for Kapra lake

Lake likely to be ready by summer end: Irrigation dept

T.S.S. SIDDHARTH | DC HYDERABAD, FEB. 13

The Kapra Lake, which was in doldrums until now, is poised for better times, say residents, jubilant at the latest developments. This comes after Irrigation department officials came armed with heavy machinery and a dozen workers to

clean the lake bed. "The restoration work has been going on for a few days. As we see it, it is for its betterment and for the people living in the vicinity. Presently, they are cleaning up the lake and setting up lights around it," said Jason Wilson, a resident of Sainikpuri.

According to officials of the Irrigation department, who earlier this month razed a temporary living structure to make way for a permanent one the lake is likely to be made ready for the public by the end of summer. They also clarified that the guard would stay in the structure.

"We have already begun cleaning the lake of the remaining hyacinth. Once that is done, we will clean the lake bed and open the inlet naalas, so that there is sufficient water inflow," said an official of the department, requesting anonymity. "Once the lake is cleared of all hyacinth, there are chances that it will look like in the good old days," said Wilson.

# Tiger body seeks report on Amraband

BALU PULIPAKA | DC HYDERABAD, FEB. 13

The massive ecotourism project taken up by the Tourism department inside Amraband Tiger Reserve is expected to come under the scanner of the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA). It may be recalled that the Tourism Department has taken up construction of a glass-bottomed cantilevered walkway at Farhabad Viewpoint inside the tiger reserve.



Tourism department in and around the tiger reserve. The department says that all activities have the go-ahead from State Forest Department.

They recently inaugurated a Haritha hotel right at the border of the core area of the reserve near Mannanur village, which marks the beginning of the tiger reserve. The village itself is an 'enclosure' in the reserve, which, according to experts, falls in an eco-sensitive zone of the tiger reserve. However, Supreme Court guidelines for ecotourism activities inside tiger reserves in the country, prohibit any new construction activity inside the reserves.

# Guv: Need to preserve environment

ATHER MOIN | DC HYDERABAD, FEB. 13

Telangana state Governor Dr Tamilisai Soundararajan on Thursday emphasised the need for the preservation of nature and environment. She was addressing the valedictory function of the 80th All India Industrial Exhibition.

She said whatever may be the environment of our business, people should love and protect nature. "We should prevent cutting of trees. We have to safeguard the greenery of the state and as well as of the nation. We have to plant trees. The state government is coming out various schemes like the Haritha Haram to preserve the environment. We should encourage 'Green Telangana'. Activities for protection of nature have to be increased," she said.

The Governor said it is heartening to know that the Exhibition Society has been conducting Numaish annually for the last eight decades for a noble cause, particularly for education. The society is patronising 18 educational institutions, mostly meant for girls, which is highly appreciable. "Conducting the 46-day exhibition, particularly known as 'Numaish' very safely is not an easy task," she said.



Telangana Governor Dr Tamilisai Soundararajan enjoys a ride on the toy train along with Hyderabad police commissioner Anjani Kumar at Numaish on Thursday. — INN

The Governor said it was in late 1938 that few graduates of Osmania University conceived this idea of organising an exhibition to display products indige-

nously manufactured with a view to encourage and promote industrial development in the erstwhile Hyderabad.

It is highly appreciable, because whatever may be the efforts put into manufacturing, but the market-

ing and the exhibition of materials encourage and boost the manufacturers. She remembered Ms Sarojini Naidu on her birthday and said she was fond of nature. "She delayed her release from prison one day to see the

# Rise in lifestyle-related disease burden was a result of a huge shift in lifestyles, says expert

# Cancer is India's next big health crisis, warn doctors

SANJAY SAMUEL PAUL | DC HYDERABAD, FEB. 13

India is possibly staring at a health crisis in the next few decades with cancer likely to emerge as one of the biggest public health challenges by the year 2050. Cancer could be one of the most common of the diseases in India, Dr Stefan Gluck, professor of immunology and haematology, from Miami, Florida, has said.

Dr Gluck, agreed with the rising cancer numbers in the country that were cited by Dr Vijay Anand Reddy, director of Apollo Cancer Institutes, who on Thursday said that new cancer cases were rising in the country. While four lakhs new cases were recorded in India in 2014, this number, in 2019, rose to 15 lakhs, Dr Reddy had said.

Speaking with Deccan Chronicle, Dr Gluck, here were held on Thursday, the event will be formally inaugurated on Friday by Governor Dr Tamilisai Soundararajan.

The focus of the eighth edition of the Cancer Conference International, 2020 among other topics will be Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, Adoption Intelligence in Radiotherapy, and Robotic Surgery.

Dr P. Vijay Anand Reddy, director of Apollo Cancer Institutes, told reporters that the past few decades witnessed a transition from broad based cancer management to "exceedingly precise personalized treatment." With the rapid pace of development of cancer treatment methods, oncologists need to stay abreast with developments and this conclave aims to fill this need, he added.

Those who also spoke at the press meet were Dr Stefan Gluck, a medical oncology from New Jersey, Dr Chinnababu, a surgical oncologist, Dr Sangeeta Kakoti, nuclear medicine specialist, Gunma, from Japan, Dr Steven H. Lin, a radiation oncologist from Houston, and Dr Sayan Paul, a radiation oncology specialist.

Asked about early detection of cancer, Dr Gluck said not only would this help in helping in curing the patient of the disease but early detection requires education of the people and might cost money. "Many individuals are not in a position to go for regular medical checkups," he said. On women and chances of them developing cancer, Dr Gluck said Indian mothers breast feed their babies for a longer period than women in many other countries. "This practice helps in prevention of breast cancer compared to women in the West. In this

# Two cattle herders drown in pond

**Kamareddy:** Two cattle herders drown in a water tank at Korpil village in Lingampet mandal on Thursday. The incident occurred when the two tried to wash their buffaloes that had entered the tank. According to sources, Guttameedi Raju, 16, and Ekkanolla Dilip, 12, work as cattle herders. The cattle they were herding entered the tank and the duo tried to wash the animals, but as the water was deep they accidentally drowned. While they were drowning they shouted for help. Farmers working in the nearby agriculture fields rushed the spot and tried to save them but it was late. The bodies were fished out from the waters.

While some workshops in the city to attend the 8th International Conference 2020, expressed concern over the rising number of cancer patients and the changing food habits and lifestyles of Indians. "Indian cuisine is the best food to eat healthy and stay illness-free. I was surprised to see many people who are overweight

now than during my previous visit to India 25 years ago," Dr Gluck said. The increase in lifestyle related disease burden among Indians, he said, was a result of a "huge shift in lifestyles in the Indian population. Food habits have changed. Sedentary lifestyle adds is also an important cause".

He also said diabetes, which is assuming epidemic proportions in India, is because of the new kinds of foods and their lifestyles. "As I travelled in the city here, I saw many international fast food or processed food outlets. Such food ultimately contributes to bad health. I prefer eating Indian food,

mostly vegetarian, and some non-vegetarian soups which are very healthy. I try to include fruits and vegetable salads in every meal," he said. Smoking of tobacco also contributes to the increasing number of cancer cases, he said.

Dr Gluck had a simple prescription for people to

avoid lifestyle related illnesses. "Do not eat in excess. Avoid tobacco usage. Say no to processed food and exercise regularly which is a must," he said. He also had some advice to parents saying it their duty to ensure that their children get a daily dose of physical activity," Dr Gluck said.

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IN BRIEF

Stage 1 NTSE results announced

Hyderabad: Telangana state of has released the results of the National Talent Search Examination (NTSE) Stage 1 examination. The list of selected candidates for State 2 NTSE is kept on the website [http:// bse.telangana.gov.in](http://bse.telangana.gov.in) for the information of the students and public. Students can also download hall tickets for the State 2 NTSE from NCERT website [www.ncert.nic.in](http://www.ncert.nic.in) in the month of April. The State 2 test is scheduled to be held on May 10, 2020.

14-DAY POLICE CUSTODY FOR TREASURE HUNT

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, FEB. 13

Three persons caught after a treasure hunt in Amrabad Tiger Reserve have been remanded to 14-day judicial custody by the First Class Judicial Magistrate, Achampet on Thursday. The three men, Tirumalesh Naidu from Hyderabad, and two of his accomplices, Shabad Ali and Yellappa, were questioned by forest department officials who filed cases against them under various provisions of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 and the TS Forests Act, 1967.

Two others who were with the arrested trio, managed to escape. The three men had entered the tiger reserve on Monday night in a Scorpio vehicle and dug up a temple at Bourapuram Chenchu thanda deep inside the reserve. They were caught on Tuesday morning near Mannanur village while trying to make a getaway.

NO VIOLENCE ON V'DAY ACCEPTABLE

GEETA VALABOJU | DC HYDERABAD, FEB. 13

Achyut Rao of Balala Hakula Sangam demanded reactionary forces be controlled on Valentine's Day.

A male and female sitting in parks on Valentine's Day are often made to tie the knot by communal and reactionary forces, without understanding the relationship between the two people or their age. "Such acts are condemnable because they sending a wrong a message to the future citizens that love is merely a physical relationship. This is a wrong concept and they are misguiding them," said Mr Rao. He demanded strong and severe action against such reactionary forces who are not allowing people to sit in public parks and violating their rights with brutal force.

Madhavi who is pursuing her masters in psychology says, "As adults, we experience the commercialisation of Valentine's Day as a day of great expectations, and just as often, great disappointments come our way when we meet outside." Love doesn't blossom only on the occasion of Valentine's Day but every day when it exists. What happens in our personal lives and when we decide to marry is a private matter, but I don't understand why such communal parties and other reactionary people should make a big mess out of it. Nirupam Naidu who is a techie with Cognizant says, "Personal matters about marriage should be left to the people in the relationship, and our parents. Marriage cannot happen forcefully. Moreover, I also have a sister with whom I often go out but why should anybody interfere and behave disrespectfully?"

Road dig damages pipeline



Drinking water flows on the road after workers dug up the stretch for laying road and in the process, damaged pipes at Vattepally in behind Falaknuma. — P. SURENDRA

25-yr-old techie rams bike into median, dies

He was riding two-wheeler without wearing helmet

JAYENDRA CHAITHANYA T | DC HYDERABAD, FEB. 13

Aversion to wearing helmets claimed one more young life here on Thursday. A 25-year-old software engineer from East Godavari district not only was without a helmet but was also riding his two-wheeler at a high speed and ramm-

ed his vehicle into a median on the Bachupally-Miyapur road around 7.40 am. Death was instantaneous as he sustained multiple injuries, including grievously on the head.

The techie, D. Vijay Kumar, was proceeding to Miyapur from Bachupally, and lost control and ramm-

ed his vehicle into a median on the Bachupally-Miyapur road around 7.40 am. Death was instantaneous as he sustained multiple injuries, including grievously on the head.

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I humbly inform that of the 22 victims killed in road accidents in January, 12 motorcycle drivers died because they did not wear a helmet. Our analysis found that non-compliance with the helmet rule was the biggest of motorcycle fatalities.

— ANIL KUMAR, Addl. Comm. of Police (Traffic)



Usually, the weight of the helmet begins to tell, especially when I drive for

long distances. It makes me feel very hot and gives me neck pain. It also messes up my hair and stops me from wearing the caps/hats that I want to. So I don't prefer a helmet.

— ANAND RANGA CHARYA



It is my choice and I choose not to wear a helmet. I understand

that wearing a helmet saves lives, but do we get quality helmets in the market? The checks have gone too far. There are policemen standing in lanes and by-lanes, checking for helmets.

— CH SATYA



Most of the fatal accidents are caused due to head injury as most people don't

wear a helmet. Head is a sensitive part. People should understand that helmets are meant for their safety instead of seeing them as a burden.

— UMESH SHIKANDE



It's really important to protect the head so as to avoid major injuries when you fall from the bike. Wearing a helmet also makes one feel less exposed to pollution and prevents dust falling in my hair and on my face.

— SHRAVAN PANJALA

UoH to let out spaces in public outreach initiative

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, FEB. 13

The University of Hyderabad (UoH) launched its public outreach initiative on Thursday, with an event to mark the 141st birth anniversary of Sarojini Naidu at Golden Threshold, where the nationalist poet had resided.

Prof. T. Vijay Kumar, former Dean of the faculty of Arts, Osmania University and Director, Hyderabad Literary Festival, delivered a special lecture on 'From a Mockingbird to an Indian Koel: the many voices of Sarojini Naidu'.

Prof. Vijay Kumar presented a layered portrait of Sarojini Naidu, drawing from her personal upbringing

as the eldest child of the scientist, Aghornath Chattopadhyay as well as from the social context of a multicultural Hyderabad and the national political scenario. She found her poetic voice during her studies in England, writing some memorable poetry, he said. As an important leader during the freedom struggle, she was very close to

Mahatma Gandhi. Mohd Ali Jinnah, Dr B R Ambedkar and Jawaharlal Nehru.

It can be mentioned that, as part of its Institution of Eminence (IoE) mandate to convert the Golden Threshold heritage premises into a literary and cultural hub for the city of Hyderabad, the University plans to leverage its city campus to host, among other things, popular lectures by its faculty members as well as by distinguished visitors to the university, poetry and book readings, music concerts, theatre and dance performances, and art exhibitions. The University will let out various spaces in the historic complex to literary and cultural groups in the city at nominal charges.

UOH SCHOLAR GETS FULL SCHOLARSHIP

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, FEB. 13

Sameernandan Upadhya-yula, a final year Integrated MSc. student at the School of Chemistry, University of Hyderabad, has been offered a fully funded graduate position at the Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot, Israel. Sameer will be working under Prof. Eli Pollak (Department of Chemical and Biological Physics) for his doctoral degree and he will be working in the area of quantum dynamics. His PhD thesis will be broadly based on "Path integral and semiclassical approaches to gaseous and condensed phase reactions".

At the University of Hyderabad, Sameer has been working with Prof. M Durga Prasad in the area of theoretical physical chemistry for the last 4 years.

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College brand name becomes less significant for placements

MNCs go for online recruitment tests

RAJESWARI PARASA | DC HYDERABAD, FEB. 13

Does the college and its brand name matter for a student who wants to take up a software job in a Multinational Company (MNC)? Not necessarily. These days most of the MNCs are carrying out their own online recruitment tests on a mass scale, where in any interested student can apply and the selection process would be based on their performance. In 2019, Infosys launched, 'The Infosys Certification'

on their mobile application, InfyTQ. Through this app, students would be assessed on Programming and Database and those who clear the assessment they would be certified and would be called for an interview on the same day. Similarly, doors were left open to all the engineering, MSc and MCA students of the 2020 batch. Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has also come up with its own, National Qualifier Test (NQT) and they have conducted their online test in the month of July in the

AS PER the latest data from All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), just about 45 per cent of the engineering students are being recruited through campus placements

year 2019 for the outgoing 2020 batch. Given these advancements, many of the companies, instead of coming to the campuses and conducting recruitment tests, are calling out students from all colleges for the jobs. The student's skill set can

help them land a job, instead of the brand name of the college. Students need not worry about the college especially when they are pursuing computer science engineering, said one of the professors from JNTUH on the condition of anonymity.

There are several parents who tend to prefer that their children go to a reputed college with an aim that they would end up in a reputed job, even if the colleges are taking lakhs of rupees as fee. One such student, Sushma Latha said, "My parents pre-

ferred I join this college, by paying more than ₹7 lakhs of admission fee because this college has campus recruitments. But now, I can also easily get placed based on my own talent as well."

On the other hand, campus recruitment in many engineering colleges is also not showing any increasing trend. As per the latest data from All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), just about 45 per cent of the engineering students are being recruited through campus placements.

SHORT TAKES

1 CAUGHT FOR SMUGGLING GOLD AT RGIA

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, FEB 13

A passenger, who arrived at the Rajiv Gandhi International Airport (RGIA) from Bangkok, was detained by the Air Intelligence Unit of Hyderabad customs Tuesday night for attempting to smuggle gold.

The passenger had concealed 871 gms of gold paste wrapped in adhesive tape in his rectum, which was extracted and seized. The seizure comes a day after the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence busted a huge gold smuggling racket and had seized 2.215 kgs of gold at RGIA. On Wednesday night, based on intelligence inputs, AIU officials intercepted a passenger hailing from Uttar Pradesh who arrived at Shamshabad in a flight (TG 329) from Bangkok. On thorough verification and body scanning, it was found that the passenger was concealing two capsules wrapped with black-coloured adhesive tape inside his rectum. The concealment was extracted and they found 871 gms of gold valued at ₹35.35 lakh. Subsequently, a case was booked against the passenger, the gold was seized and he was placed under arrest on Thursday.

POLICE SEIZES 140 KG GANJA, ARRESTS TWO

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD FEB 13

Two auto drivers who took to ganja smuggling were arrested by Malkajgiri excise police on Thursday. The police seized 140 kgs worth of ganja worth ₹20 lakh.

Identifying the accused as Banoth Chandru (32) and Boda Suman (29), police said that on Thursday around 6:30 am on reliable information, the SHO Malkajgiri and staff conducted a route-watch. "We intercepted a Swift Desire car (No. AP 28 BL 5138) which was transporting contraband near the Neredmet cross road bus stand. We seized 140 kgs of dry ganja in 70 packets from the four-wheeler," said M. Laxman Singh, Prohibition and Excise Inspector, SHO Malkajgiri.

The accused confessed that the stuff was purchased at ₹5,000 per kg from Sileru and were being sold at ₹10,000 per kg in the city. It was learnt that the consignment was bound for Nanded. They stopped in Hyderabad to sell some of it to other customers here.

Investigation revealed that the accused were doing this business for the past eight months and confessed that they have transported 100 kg to Nanded. The accused did not reveal names of the buyers. The accused were auto drivers in erstwhile Warangal district.

VILLAGERS DIG BOREWELL, SPARK TENSION

DC CORRESPONDENT TIRUPATI, FEB. 13

Tension prevailed for some time at Mummaderlapalli village in V. Kota mandal of Chittoor district when villagers got involved in a heated exchange with government officials, who obstructed the work of digging a borewell in the village for drinking water needs of the local residents.

Locals also staged a protest and laid siege to the road demanding that officials allow them to dig a borewell. They planned to dig a 800-foot-deep borewell in the village engaging a private operator. The work got started on Thursday without obtaining permission.

On receiving information, the VRO along with other staff reached the site and obstructed when trouble broke.

Cyberabad She Team saw most complaints for predators

Harassment, blackmail form the notorious three among cases booked

JAYENDRA CHAITHANYA T. | DC HYDERABAD, FEB. 13

Among the cases that the Cyberabad She Team received this January were various cases of sexual predators, harassment and blackmail. The police arrested the accused in three instances and also 51 others who were found misbehaving and eve-teasing at public places.

A married woman working at a private hostel in Hyderguda was facing severe harassment by her supervisor Venkatesh, 25, who was forcing her to talk to him. The accused started threatening her and even terrorised her by saying that he would kill her son, after she refused to talk to him. Venkatesh did not stop with that but started to threaten to defame her in front of her relatives. Unable to bear the harassment, the victim approached the She Team and the accused was arrested.

In another incident at Balanagar, accused Sompally Mahesh, 26, was arrested for harassing his friend's wife to fulfil his lust. The accused had morphed the pictures of the victim and threatened to share the pictures with her husband and other family members.

■ CYBERABAD POLICE said that about 225 complaints were received from women, among which 75 cases were booked in which 54 persons were held.

In another incident at Dundigal, a woman purchased a cake from Marri Vivekananda Reddy, 24, of Jinnaram. When she paid money through an electronic payment application, he saved her number. Vivekananda then started messaging her on WhatsApp and started calling her repeatedly. The accused was arrested after the woman approached the She Team.

At Kukatpally, the police arrested Neeraj Rajuldev, 25, for creating a fake profile of a woman on a social networking app, when she refused to have a physical relationship with him.

Cyberabad police said that about 225 complaints were received from women on various kinds of troubles faced by them, among which 75 cases were booked in which 54 persons were held. The accused were counselled in the presence of their family members and warned about stringent action, the police added.



LABOURER MISBEHAVES WITH WOMAN

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, FEB. 13

A labourer who misbehaved with a housewife, 24, in his neighbourhood by making obscene gestures was arrested by the Balanagar police on Thursday.

According to the police said the mother of two kids is a resident of Raju Colony. The accused Yalla Rajashekhar, in his mid-30s, is also a resident of the same area. Four days ago, he misbehaved with her by making objectionable gestures at her repeatedly.

On February 11, the woman lodged a complaint with the police, but the accused had escaped by then. However, he was nabbed on Wednesday night. The police later arrested him before a court for judicial remand.

■ FOUR DAYS ago, the accused misbehaved with her by making objectionable gestures repeatedly.

NRI cell registers 70 cases till date

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, FEB 13

Telangana police's NRI cell registered 70 cases into the petitions received since its inception last July. The cell, which was formed to deal with cases where women are victimised by the NRI spouses, has managed to get six passports impounded.

On Thursday, a workshop was conducted for police officials on how such cases had to be investigated and also to review the status of cases currently under investigation with the cell.

Swati Lakra, IG (Law and Order) and in-charge of Women Safety Wing, pointed out that 70 of the 73 petitions were registered. About 41 cases are pending trial and 29 are currently being probed. In five cases, LOCs (Lookout Circular) were executed against the NRI spouses while passports of six NRI accused were impounded.

Meanwhile, in three

■ A 'VOICE-OVER app' was launched to inform the precautions to be taken while choosing an NRI groom and voice message was also launched

cases where there was possibility of reconciliation/separation, the NRI cell interacted with both the parties and facilitated a legal solution, she said.

A 'voice-over application' was launched to inform the precautions to be taken while choosing an NRI groom and voice message on state SHE Team WhatsApp number was also launched on the occasion.

She said that the cell has maintained liaison with several stakeholders including the National Commission for Women, Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Home Affairs, and NGOs working on NRI issues, Regional Passport Office and the state government to regularly follow up the cases.

Two Zaheerabad rapists held, 1 dies

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, FEB. 13

Two involved in the rape of a woman by forcibly getting her off a bus at Zaheerabad were arrested and produced before a court for judicial remand on Thursday.

According to the Zaheerabad police, the accused B Pavan Kumar (29), a native of Ongole, K Brahma Chary (28) of Kazipet and his brother Soma Chary (45) were involved in the rape of a 32-year-old woman on Tuesday.

Pavan and Brahma Chary took the victim along with them impersonating as policemen on the pretext of checking her and producing her before a superior officer. Pavan Kumar had taken the victim behind a

building and raped her, and fled along with Brahma Chary after taking her bag containing banned gutka packets.

During wee hours of Wednesday, a team caught Pavan at Gangwar X roads. On noticing this, Soma Chary and Brahma Chary fled in a car and met with a road accident on the outskirts of Mahabhoopur near Sirur village. Soma Chary died on the spot and Brahma Chary was given treatment and then took into custody, said the police.

The police said that preliminary investigation has revealed that Pavan was involved in a murder case at Ongole, while Brahma was involved in several cases of robbery and also served five years of imprisonment.

Uncle rapes 13-year-old girl

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, FEB. 13

A 13-year-old girl was raped by her paternal aunt's husband in the Nizampet area. Following a complaint from the victim's parents, the Bachupally police arrested the accused on Thursday.

Bachupally inspector, P. Jagadeeshwar said the family of the victim and the accused, all hailing from East Godavari, migrated to the city for livelihood.

The victim, who is the eldest daughter studying in eighth standard, was attending school along with her paternal aunt's

daughter and they used to visit each other's houses frequently.

Inspector Jagadeeshwar said that about three months ago, accused Raavan (name changed) went to the victim's house and started taking advantage of her loneliness, he raped her and also threatened to kill her if she revealed it to anyone.

Recently, when her parents found out that she was pregnant through a medical examination, they lodged a complaint with the police who arrested the accused on Thursday under sections of POCSO (Protection of Children from Sexual Offences) Act, the inspector added.

Little Daredevils



School ride two-wheeler breaking multiple traffic rules on Thursday. They are not wearing helmet and are riding triples. — DEEPAK DESHPANDE

Woman cheated by Gulf job agent

GEETA VALABOJU | DC HYDERABAD FEB. 13

A woman, who was sent to Oman under false hopes by two illegal recruiting agents, is forcefully working in a household.

The victim, Perla Sessa Ratnam, a homemaker from the Velichuru village in Atrayapuram mandal, approached the agents, Bhavana Ramu and Swarna Latha, who belong to Nidadavolu mandal in

West Godavari district. The agents convinced that Ratnam should go to Oman to overcome her financial problems.

Warah John, the victim's brother, said, "We are aware of the agent Bhavana Ramu because he has sent my wife to Dubai about four years ago. He had also sent four other people. Seeking his help, my sister also wanted to go out and earn money. Unfortunately, we made a

mistake sending her there. It has been a year and a half that we last spoke to my sister."

When Ratnam last spoke to her family, she mentioned that Swarna Latha misled her and sent her to work for a woman named Tuasi. She also mentioned that she was made to work for 18 hours a day without any wages. She also mentioned how she was tortured mentally and physically by Tuasi. Ratnam's

family has been trying hard to get her back but all their efforts have gone in vain. On February 9, they filed a complaint with the Consular Service Management System.

POW (Progressive Organisation for Women) member Sandhya said, "Most of the people who come from rural areas do not know how to make money for themselves. They easily give into the luring techniques of such

agents because of their desperate situation. Most people who go to Oman and Dubai come from below the lower middle classes. They are aware of such frauds and fake agents often take advantage of such innocent people."

People of old city often suffer because of such fake agents. There are a number cases registered with the Begumpet police station, but there has not been any solution so far.

**IN LOVING MEMORY**  
  
**MUTHYALA HARI CHARAN**  
 (15th March 1937 - 11th Feb 2020)  
*I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 2Tim 4:7*  
 Memorial Service on 15th Feb 2020 at 6:30 pm at CSI Wesley Church, Clock Tower, Secunderabad. Followed by dinner  
 Family: Jabez, Manna & Nissi  
 Ph: 985807340, 984507621  
 (S/1920/D01845)

**MALCOM ARNOLD MADGE**  
 D.O.B: 16 Jan 1940 D.O.D: 13 Feb 2020  
 Funeral Mass at St. Pious Church Nacharam at 1:00 pm followed by Burial at Boiguda Cemetery.  
 Contact No: 9676054305 / 9177428754 855935262  
 (S/1920/D01846)

**2nd DEATH ANNIVERSARY**  
  
**Smt. BERI GIRIJA**  
 DOB: 29-09-1945 DOD: 14-02-2018  
 W/o: Beri Chandra Mohan Yadav  
 Sadly missed along with life's way Quietly remembered everyday. No longer in our life to share, but in our hearts, you are always there for ever till the last respiration.  
 Remembered by Family Members.  
 (S/1920/D01845)

**1st ANNIVERSARY**  
 The righteous will be in everlasting remembrance - Holy Bible  
  
**Dr. SAKETI DEVASHAYAM**  
 Philanthropist - Educationalist - Social Worker  
 Founder - Riding Hood High School, Sitampaludi, Sec.-bad.  
 Beloved - Wife Dr. Annie Uma Devi Saketi M. Sunder & Family  
 Mobile : 994908789

**FIRST ANNIVERSARY**  
 "Neither can they die any more, for they are equal unto the angels. And are the sons of God being the sons of resurrection. Luke 20:36  
  
**KAR VIJAYANAND DAVID GNANAKAN**  
 Retd. Deputy Secretary Legislative Assembly, Hyd  
 Served as Church Steward of CSI St. Georges Church, Abids & Former President of Hyderabad Camp, Gideon's International, Former Board of Director, YMCA, Narayanaguda) Slo. Late Rev. K. Shadrach  
 Born 17-06-1941 Slept in the Lord 14-02-2019  
 Inserted by: Wife, Children & Grand Children  
 Ph: 9848254450, 953557357

The memory of the just is blessed Prov 10:7  
**2nd Death Anniversary**  
  
**Rev. M V DANIEL**  
 Founder & President Smyrna Ministries, Suryapeta  
 DOB: 17-04-1955 DOD: 14-02-2018  
 Inserted By: WIFE Mrs. JEHUDIA DANIEL Children & Families.

**CALL TO GLORY**  
 "And he led them forth by the right way, that they might go to a city for a dwelling place." - Psalms  
  
**Smt. N. SADASUKHI**  
 Retd. Nursing Superintendent, Osmania General Hospital, Grade-II  
 W/o. G. Vinod Raj  
 DOB: 15.06.1958 DOD: 13.02.2020  
 Funeral Service will be held Today 14.02.2020 @ 10.00 a.m. Narayanaguda Cemetery, Hyderabad.  
 Inserted by: Family Members  
 Ph: 9959564823  
 Memorial Service will be held on 15.02.2020 @ 10.30 a.m. at their residence in Gowlipura.

The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance - Psalms 112:6  
**IN EVER LOVING MEMORY OF**  
  
**Mrs. R.E. WILSON (Pramilia)**  
 14-2-1938 - 14-03-2007  
 Founder of Covells High School, Sanathnagar, Hyderabad - 18.  
 - Family Members & Covellites

The Name of the Lord is a strong tower. The righteous run to it and are safe. Prov. 18:10  
  
**A. SASIKALA**  
 W/o. T. JAI RAJ  
 (Teacher in Blue Birds High School)  
 DOB: 01-12-1953 DOD: 12-02-2020  
 Funeral at MT Olives - Bhavan School Sainikpuri on 14-02-2020 Friday  
 Inserted by: Husband, Sons, Daughter, Daughter-in-laws and Grand Children

**10TH DAY CEREMONY**  
  
**Smt R. Mani Bai (Rtd. Principal GHS)**  
 Exp. on: 06 Feb. 2020  
 W/o Late Sri P. Jagannadham Ex.V.P. SCB, Ex TTD Board member Ex Gen-Sec AP Child welfare council  
 10th Day Ceremony will be Held on 14th Feb. 2020 at Bungalow no. 17/B, Burton Road, Bolaram, Secunderabad-10.  
 From: Son's, Daughter's, Daughter-in-Laws, Son-in-Laws & Grand Children. Cont : 9866377441

**15th ANNIVERSARY**  
  
**Smt. S.P. ANDAL**  
 W/o Sri Sudam Pandu  
 You shall always be treasured in our hearts and continue to inspire us  
 WE MISS YOU  
 Remembered by: FAMILY MEMBERS  
 (S/1920/D01838)

**WEDDING ANNIVERSARY**  
 "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." 2Timothy: 4:7  
**WE ALL MISS YOU**  
  
**Mr. MADDELA. R. STEPHEN**  
 DOB: 01-01-1953 DOD: 03-11-2016  
 Inserted by: Wife: M. LAVANYA Sons, Daughters, Daughter-in-Law Grand Children. Ph: 7989234356

**8th ANNIVERSARY**  
  
**VINU. SV**  
 Son we miss you, you are always in our hearts and we feel your presence with silent tears.  
 Inserted by: Mother, Father, Raghu, Veena, Anju & Ashwin. All Relatives & Friends.  
 (S/1920/D01637)

**16th ANNIVERSARY**  
  
**M. RUKMINAMMA**  
 Wife of M. C. Maddu Leli Rtd Joint Secretary Govt of AP  
 You shall always be treasured in our hearts  
 Love From: Sons, Daughters-in-law, Daughters, Sons-in-law, Grand Sons, Daughters, Great Grand Son & Daughter

**17th DEATH ANNIVERSARY**  
 DOB : 03-02-1984 DOD : 14-02-2003  
  
**DARLING MELLY**  
 God saw you getting tired and a cure was not to be. So he put his arms around you and whispered "Come to me"  
 With tearful eyes we watched you, and saw you pass away. Although we loved you dearly We could not make you stay "May her soul rest in peace"  
 In loving memory of our darling daughter  
**Melissenda Foregard**  
 By : Family Members  
 (S/1920/D01756)

## SHORT TAKES

### 1,000 PILLAR TEMPLE GEARS UP FOR FETE

DC CORRESPONDENT  
WARANGAL, FEB. 13

The historic 1,000-pillar temple in Hanamkonda is gearing up for the Maha Shivaratri Mahotsavam. The five-day celebrations begin here on February 20.

District Collector Rajiv Gandhi Hanumanth asked officials to make appropriate arrangements in the temple as a large number of devotees are expected from neighbouring districts. He asked the officials to put up lights, arrange facilities like drinking water, queue lines, parking facility, free medical camp, police bandobast, and fire brigade besides putting in place all precautionary measures. He urged TSRTC to provide a stop at the temple for the convenience of the devotees coming from other cities. He suggested the KUDA to arrange mobile toilets near the temple. The temple's chief priest, Gangu Upendra Sharma, said that the celestial wedding of Rudreshwara Swamy and Rudreshwari Devi would be performed at 6.05 pm on the auspicious muhurat of Sravana Nakshatra Yukta Godhuli Lagnam on February 21.

### DCCB POLLS MAY GET DELAYED

A. RAVINDRA SESHU | DC  
KHAMMAM, FEB. 13

Election for filling District Cooperative Central Bank (DCCB) Chairman posts may get delayed due to various reasons.

In general, DCCB chairman election can be done immediately after Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies (PACS) election.

There are bottlenecks to hold elections to the DCCB chairman post. Firstly, there are 21 director posts in each DCCB and 16 will come from agriculture such as PACS.

The remaining five director posts will be from non-agricultural societies such as NGO Cooperative Society, Fishermen Cooperative, Shepherd Cooperative, Milk Producers and Urban Cooperative Society.

Interestingly, no election was held to these Cooperative Societies yet as there was no chance of selecting Directors from there. Conducting elections in these societies will take time and DCCB Chairman election will be held only after it.

According to informed sources, the government has been mulling over the limit of director posts by removing the clause of taking non-farm directors into it.

The government may issue a GO pertaining to this very soon. If it is done, there will be only 16 Directors in the DCCB.

The government is considering to keep the DCCB exclusively for farm purpose, so as to extend more loans to the peasants.

### SPEAKER PUSHES SON FOR DCCB POST

NARENDER PULLOOR | DC  
NIZAMABAD, FEB. 13

Competition for chairman post of the Nizamabad District Cooperative Central Bank (DCCB) is getting intense as MLAs have stepped into the arena to get it for their kin.

Assembly speaker Pocharam Srinivas Reddy's younger son Pocharam Bhaskar Reddy, Nizamabad urban MLA Bigala Ganesh Gupta's father Bigala Krishna Murthy and minister for roads, buildings, housing and legislative affairs V. Prashanth Reddy's relative K. Ramesh Reddy are in the race for the post.

The DCCB serves the farmers in the undivided Nizamabad district. Ruling party leaders are keen to see that their relatives or trusted followers are elected chairman and vice chairman of the bank so that they can have the farmers in the district in their kitty.

Incidentally, Mr Srinivas Reddy began his political career as chairman of a primary agriculture cooperative society. Later, he went on to become the chairman of the Nizamabad DCCB in early 1990s. He wants to give his son Bhaskar Reddy a political push by installing him in the seat of DCCB chairman. In his first attempt at electoral victory, Mr Bhaskar Reddy was elected Desaipest PACS chairman in the last elections, but did not make it to DCCB chairman post.

## Water for all



Chief Minister K. Chandrasekar Rao on Thursday visited the Kaleshwaram temple as part of his visit to the Medigadda barrage. He offered prayers to Goddess Godavari at the bathing ghat and later conducted rudrabhishekam to Mukteswara Swamy inside the temple. He also had an aerial survey of the barrage.

## ₹1,150 cr deficit deprives over 1.2 million farmers

From Page 1

A deficit of ₹1,150 crore has led to over 1.2 million farmers in Telangana being deprived of rightfully due financial support to take up sowing in the Rabi season.

According to officials, when Rythu Bandhu was launched during the Rabi season in 2018, nearly 49.03 lakh farmers received financial assistance at the rate of ₹4,000 per acre. The government disbursed ₹5,244 crore at that time for the in Rabi 2018 season.

In the current Rabi season, around 59 lakh farmers had registered under the scheme. The TRS-led state government had, in the lead up to Assembly elections in December 2018, promised enhancing the amount under the scheme from ₹4,000 to ₹5,000 per acre. Accordingly, it allocated ₹12,000 crore in the state budget 2019-20 to extend benefits to farmers for both Kharif and Rabi seasons.

Officials of the agriculture department remained tight-lipped over lakhs of farmers not receiving the assistance under the Rythu Bandhu scheme.

M. Kodanda Reddy, vice-chairman, All-India Kisan Congress, said that although the government had allocated ₹12,000 crore in the budget, it had released only ₹5,456 crore for Kharif and ₹5,100 for Rabi, which has resulted in hundreds of thousands of farmers being deprived of the rightful benefit.

T. Sagar, general-secretary, Telangana Rythu Sangham, said that the state government has extended the benefit only



Chief Minister K. Chandrasekar Rao was exploiting the Rythu Bandhu scheme as a vote yielding machine whenever elections were around. Afterwards, he does not think of giving any aid to farmers and ditches them in the lurch.

— DR K. LAXMAN, BJP state president

to farmers who owned less than five acres of land. He said that several small and medium farmers could not get pattadar passbooks due to alleged anomalies and discrepancies during the exercise of rectification of land records. The gigantic exercise undertaken by the TRS government to purify / rectify revenue records has led to this failure, not financial crunch, Mr Sagar said.

Ponguleti Sudhakar Reddy, BJP leader, said that it was unfortunate that a large chunk of small and medium farmers were deprived of their rightfully due benefit. "They really deserve the financial aid," Mr Reddy said, adding that the assistance has to be given to farmers before commencement of the season, and there was little meaning in giving aid after the commencing of the sowing season.



Chalameela Raghavaiah, a farmer from Lakaram village in Nalgonda, said that though he had seven acres, he had never received any assistance under the Rythu Bandhu scheme.

— CHALEMELA RAGHAVAIAH



Janaki Rama Rao, a farmer from Seetharampura of Nalgonda district, said that he owned 10 acres of land and had received the benefit only one time during the 2018 Rabi.

— JANAKI RAMA RAO

TPCC president N. Uttam Kumar Reddy criticised that the TRS-led state government for "just making a hungama" in the name of Rythu Bandhu and "never sincerely putting their heads" to actually implementing the scheme well in a planned manner. "So far, over 6,000 farmers have committed suicides in Telangana. Chief Minister K. Chandrasekar Rao has never thought of implementing a loan waiver, and instead puts up a big show as if he is some messiah of the farmers," he said.



— N. UTTAM KUMAR REDDY, TPCC president



Mohammed Nizamuddin, a farmer from Linagiri village of Suryapet district, said that he had received assistance under the Rythu Bandhu only once during the Rabi 2018. Afterwards, he said that he had not received any aid, saying, the ₹1 lakh loan waiver benefit was also also not extended to him.

— MOHAMMED NIZAMUDDIN



Telukuntla Venkateswarlu, a farmer from Garidepally village of Suryapet, said that he had six-and-a-half acre land, but he had never benefited from the scheme.

— TELUKUNTLA VENKATESWARLU

## TRS seniors sulk as KTR brings in younger blood

S.A. ISHAQUI | DC  
HYDERABAD, FEB. 13

Several senior leaders of TRS, who were active in the party during 2014 elections and also during the Telangana movement, are maintaining distance from the party in recent times.

After K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) became the party's working president importance of youngsters is gradually growing up much to the resentment and discomfort of some seniors, who have since been staying away from active politics.

After 2014 elections, TRS boss K. Chandrasekar Rao (KCR) had given importance to senior leaders Nayani Narasimha Reddy, Madhusudhan Chary, Kadiyann Srihari, Jogu Ramanna and Swamy Goud, who all held important positions during the first tenure of the party.

During the 2018 Assembly elections Madhusudhan Chary faced defeat, Nayani and Jogu Ramanna were out of the Cabinet and though

AFTER 2014 elections, TRS boss K. Chandrasekar Rao (KCR) had given importance to senior leaders Nayani Narasimha Reddy, Madhusudhan Chary, Kadiyann Srihari, Jogu Ramanna and Swamy Goud, who all held important positions during the first tenure of the party

SOURCES SAID this time many of the senior leaders will not get plum posts as many youngsters are likely to take spotlight in the future

there were reports of Swamy Goud likely to contest from Chevella Lok Sabha seat, it never materialized and the reasons are known only to KCR.

Tummala Nageswara Rao, who jumped over from and was a Minister in the first Cabinet, has stopped visiting Telangana Bhavan since the time he lost the 2018 elections.

During the Assembly elections, former speaker K.R. Suresh Reddy, joined the party from Congress as did Mandava

Venkateswara Rao from TDP. There was talk in TRS circles that both leaders were promised good positions when they joined the TRS fold. And with regard to Madhusudhan Chary, his influence is on the wane ever since G Venkata Ramana Reddy, Congress MLA from Bhupalpally Assembly segment, a Chary stronghold, joined TRS.

The TRS boss has made G Jyothi, wife of Venkata Ramana Reddy as the ZP Chairperson of Jayashankar Bhupalpally district. As there was no sign from the party boss offering them good positions in the future all of them have been staying away from party programmes.

In a recent chat with the reporters, Nayani Narasimha said that he requested the Chief Minister to nominate him for the Rajya Sabha.

But sources in the party disclosed this time many of the senior leaders will not get plum posts as many youngsters are likely to take spotlight in the future.

### BJP TAKES A DIG AT TPCC 'GAME-PLAN'

IREDDY SRINIVAS REDDY | DC  
HYDERABAD, FEB. 13

Telangana BJP state president Dr K Laxman on Thursday alleged that Congress party is hatching another conspiracy after a judgment of Supreme Court on SC/ST reservation.

Addressing a press conference here on Thursday, Dr Laxman said after failing to get support from people on CAA, NRC and NPR, the Congress party is now hatching another conspiracy to mislead people after levelling baseless allegations against the on Modi government.

Ridiculing the proposed dharna by state Congress president Uttam Kumar Reddy, who alleged that Modi government was against Dalits, Dr Laxman said it was the Congress party, which had deceived Dalits and the poor and only used them as a vote-bank.

The Congress and other opposition parties are playing a 'blame-game' when they failed to get support of people on CAA and NRC, he said.

## Former top cop approaches CAT

VUJJINI VAMSHIDHARA | DC  
HYDERABAD, FEB. 13

Former Intelligence Chief of Andhra Pradesh, Mr A.B. Venkateswara Rao, who was working during the regime of Telugu Desam Party (TDP) government, has approached the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT), challenging the suspension orders issued against him.

Seeking relief from his suspension, he filed a petition before the Hyderabad bench of CAT, Mr Rao heaped criticism over the present state government, stating that the government was malafide and malice against him and submitted that he was being kept under suspension due to the political vendetta and bias by the present government.

He brought to notice of the tribunal about the incidents from the day one of the formation of the present government, from the last week of May 2019, to February 8, this year, when he was placed under suspension.

"Since, 30 May 2019, after the new political government took charge, I have not been given any posting after being trans-

MR RAO brought to notice of the tribunal about the incidents from the day one of the formation of the present government, from the last week of May 2019, to February 8, this year, when he was placed under suspension

HE HAS been placed under suspension by the AP government, over allegations of indulging in corrupt practices in the procurement of security equipment when he was ADGP of the state

ferred from the post of Director General of ACB and the government has not been paid my salaries for eight months. Moreover, the government ordered the suspension late at night on February 8, which is a second Saturday, a public holiday, this shows the political vendetta," Mr Rao told.

Mr Rao has been placed under suspension by the AP government, over allegations of indulging in corrupt practices in the procurement of security equipment when he was additional director general of police (DGP) of the state.

## BJP says Centre giving more funds to state

From Page 1

The BJP says that the Centre has been giving more funds to Telangana, which the TRS-led government was diverting and mis-using.

To a question posed by Congress MP Komatireddy Venkata Reddy in the recently concluded Lok Sabha session over funds released to Telangana by the Centre, Union finance minister Nirmala

Year	Telangana to centre	given back to Telangana	Balance (Rs in cr)
2014-15	40,727	15,307	25,420
2015-16	52,250	21,745	30,505
2016-17	57,276	24,628	32,648
2017-18	52,996	24,479	28,517

Sitharaman had given a written statement.

Former MP and deputy-chairman of the Telangana Planning Board B. Vinod Kumar immediately criticised the Centre on this issue.

This led to a flurry of allegations and counter-allegations by TRS and BJP leaders on the issue, with minister Rama Rao now joining the fray in countering the Union finance minister.

## Tribunal to hear KK's case

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, FEB. 13

Legality of the vote cast by TRS Rajya Sabha Member Mr K. Kesava Rao (KK), as an ex-officio member for the election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Thukuguda municipality, will be adjudicated by the Election Tribunal.

Telangana High Court made it clear that the issues related to the elections can only be questioned at first instance by filing the election petitions before the concerned Election Tribunal.

TELANGANA HC made it clear that the issues related to the elections can only be questioned at first instance

Keshava Rao was on Thursday dealing with the petition filed by BJP ward councillors of Thukuguda municipality, who sought directions to set aside the vote cast by Mr Rao.

Two days ago, while dealing with the same petition, the Judge had sought to know from the State Election Commission (SEC), whether a Tribunal was constitut-

ed to adjudicate election related issues.

Mr G. Vidyasagar, designated senior counsel representing SEC, informed the court that the Tribunal had been constituted by way of a GO. He added that this election petition should be adjudicated only before the Tribunal.

Mr Surendhar Rao, senior counsel representing the petitioners, urged the court to issue direction to the Tribunal to adjudicate the case in a specific time-period. However, the court made it clear to the Tribunal to decide the petition.

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**SHORT TAKES**  
**'ABUSIVE' DOC ESCAPES FROM COP CUSTODY**

**PATHRI RAJASEKHAR | DC NELLORE, FEB. 13**

A tainted medical officer of the community health centre at Udayagiri, Dr Ravindranath Tagore, escaped from police custody during the early hours of Thursday. He gave a slip when police were all set to produce him in court after medical examination on Thursday. He managed to sneak out between 3 am and 3.30 am.

As reported in these pages, the police had detained Dr Tagore for attempting to rape a nurse on Tuesday night at the community health centre.

According to B. Prasad, deputy superintendent of police, Kavali, there were more than four constables in the station on Wednesday night, of which, two of them had fallen asleep next to the doctor facing attempt to rape charges.

The police have launched a manhunt to trace him. The DSP said that they have formed three teams headed by sub-inspectors of Udayagiri, Varikuntapadu and Duttalur to track the accused down.

According to the DSP, Dr Ravindranath Tagore, 51 years old, was unmarried and residing in Nellore. Police believe that he could be somewhere in Nellore and are currently concentrating on places he visits regularly.

Meanwhile, Bhaskar Bhushan, Superintendent of Police, has ordered a probe into the episode of the escape of the accused to take action against those responsible.

Sources in police said that their men had not taken him seriously because he was a medical professional, despite the caution sounded by station officers citing a former case against him.

# Haven't you forgotten SCS, Modi asks Jagan

**Jagan meets PM, explains the issue of 3 capitals**

**S.N.C.N ACHARYULU | DC HYDERABAD, FEB. 13**

"Are you still fixated upon the issue of granting of special category status to Andhra Pradesh? Prime Minister Narendra Modi apparently quipped to Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy during their one-on-one discussions, when Mr Reddy raised the issue. As reported in these columns, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Mr Reddy had an exclusive personal discussion for about an hour on Wednesday in New Delhi at the PM's residence.

According to reliable sources in the AP CMO,

Mr Reddy had explained to Modi that there would be no additional financial burden on the centre if it grants the special category status to AP.

Mr Reddy pleaded that there would not be much difference in financial terms between the special package announced by the centre and what the state would get through the SCS. Mr Reddy apparently had told the PM, "If the centre grants special category status to AP, it will give a boost to me (politically) besides giving a boost to industrialisation of the state," adding that the SCS has become a sentimental issue for AP people.

As per sources close to

Chief Minister Reddy, Mr Modi reportedly replied that if the centre grants SCS to AP, it would lead to more of such demands from other states.

YSRC sources said that Modi had neither said yes nor no to the request to grant SCS to AP. However, they claimed that there was a change in PM Modi's stance on this issue compared to previous discussions.

Mr Reddy, as per sources, explained to Modi the issue of creating three capitals, and claimed confidence that he would develop Visakhapatnam on par with Hyderabad and Bengaluru within 10 years. He said that the

centre had sanctioned ₹25,000 crore for the construction of the AP capital but had released only ₹15,000 crore, and requested for the release of remaining funds.

Mr Reddy explained the difficulties he was facing politically with the AP legislative council, where the opposition Telugu Desam was in a majority, and requested the PM to initiate action to enable the abolition of the council.

YSRC sources said Mr Modi had responded positively, and hoped that in second part of the budget session of Parliament, the centre may introduce the AP assembly resolution on abolition of council.

# Virus kills poultry birds, docs advise not to eat chicken

**VADREVVU SRINIVAS | DC KAKINADA, FEB. 13**

Chicken lovers of the east and west Godavari districts in Andhra Pradesh are in a panic mode as broilers and chicks across poultry farms in both the river districts have attracted the Very Virulent Newcastle Disease (VVND) virus, leading to the death of thousands of broilers and hens. This has resulted in prohibition of sales of chicken in Bhimavaram and Tanuku.

However, there has been no stoppage of sales of broilers and hens in Nidadavole in west Godavari district, which too reported the death of several hundreds of broilers and hens due to the same virus.

Veterinary doctors have immediately issued an advisory to people not to eat chicken for some days.

Karumuri Venkata Nageswara Rao, Tanuku MLA, appealed to people to not eat chicken or meat due to dangerous circumstances prevailing in the area. He advised meat traders not to sell chicken and meat. For the past two days, chicken and meat sales have been stopped at Tanuku in west Godavari, he said.

In Bhimavaram of west Godavari, municipal

**HOWEVER, THERE** has been no stoppage of sales of broilers and hens in Nidadavole in west Godavari, which too reported the death of several hundreds of broilers and hens.

authorities gave reportedly given oral instructions to traders and vendors to not sell chicken and meat in town due to the virus. Jyothula Lakshmi, municipal assistant commissioner told *Deccan Chronicle* that as a precautionary method, traders were advised not to sell chicken and meat.

However, sources, said that in fact, the Food Safety Standards of India officials are taking steps to curb the sales of chicken and meat. But, due to shortage of the personnel in the department, they are unable to do it, said an official.

In Baduguvani Lanka village of Alamuru mandal, more than 2,000 broilers died due to the VVND. Animal husbandry department officials closed the poultry farm and instructed the farmer not to open it for three months.

K. Ramakrishna, deputy director, animal husbandry department (AHD), O.

Ramakrishnaiah, assistant director, AHD, and Dr Bhanu Prasad, veterinary doctor, and others visited the spot and gave directions to poultry farmers to stop all sales in the area.

Mr Ramakrishna said that one week ago, 20,000 broilers had died due to the virus in the Vaddiparru village in Ravulapalem mandal. Due to transportation of broilers, the virus have been contracted by others along the way, including the Baduguvani Lanka poultry farm.

Mr Ramakrishnaiah said that poultry farmers should give vaccination to their chicks and broilers on the first day, ninth day, first and second month regularly to prevent the virus from attacking. He said that if the virus attacks once, cent per cent mortality is seen and an entire farm can be washed out. He said that the poultry farm at Baduguvani Lanka village, where the virus attacked, should not be opened another three months.

After three months, the farm should be cleaned with chemicals and levelled with soil before 15 or 20 broilers should be grown. If birds can resist the virus, then the farmers can again start growing of birds, he added.

# 25 bank lockers restrained: I-T

**From Page 1**

Several sub-contractors were controlled by the principal contractor, on whose IP address the returns of sub contractors were found.

The I-T raids led to the busting of a major racket of cash generation through bogus sub contractors, over-invoicing and claiming of bogus bills. The searches resulted in unearthing unaccounted cash of ₹85 lakh

and jewellery worth ₹71 lakh. More than 25 bank lockers were restrained, the IT department said.

The FDI receipts received in group companies of one of the three firms raided are suspected to be round tripping of unaccounted funds. The department also chanced upon emails and WhatsApp messages, besides incriminating records and papers which revealed unexplained foreign transactions.

# DO NOT EXEMPT JAGAN FROM PERSONAL APPEARANCE: CBI

**VUJJINI VAMSHIDHARA | DC HYDERABAD, FEB. 13**

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) filed a counter-affidavit before the Telangana High Court, opposing the request of Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy seeking exemption from personal appearance in the court every Friday in connection with disproportionate assets cases. In a

counter-affidavit, the CBI contended that Mr Reddy should not be given any exemption as he could influence the witnesses using "political, money and muscle power".

The YSRC chief filed 11 petitions before the High Court seeking that he be exempted from appearing in the court every Friday as he, being the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, was required to be available to the people.

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