

# DECCAN Chronicle

THE LARGEST CIRCULATED ENGLISH DAILY IN SOUTH INDIA  
HYDERABAD | FRIDAY | 31 JULY 2020

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**WEATHER**

Max: 34.3°C  
Min: 23.2°C  
RH: 70%  
Rainfall: 1.4 mm

Forecast: Cloudy sky, moderate rains likely.  
Max/Min temp. 33/23°C

**COVID-19 COUNT**

CASES	DEATHS
(+54,969)	(+786)
16,39,268	35,786

[covid19india.org](http://covid19india.org)

**STATE GOVERNMENT BULLETINS**

(+1,811)	(+13)
TS: 60,717	505
(+10,167)	(+68)
AP: 1,30,557	1,281

**CASES AROUND THE WORLD**

1,73,38,525

**DEATHS**  
6,73,070

**COUNTRIES, AREAS WITH CASES**  
213

[worldometers.info/coronavirus](http://worldometers.info/coronavirus)

**ASTROGUIDE**

Sarvari; Dakshinayana  
Tithi: Sravana Shuddha Dwadasi till 10.44 pm  
Star: Jyeshtha till 7.05 am  
Varjyam: 5.13 am to 6.48 am (Saturday)  
Durmuhurtam: 8.32 am to 9.23 am; 12.48 pm to 1.39 pm  
Rahukalam: 10.30 pm to 12 noon

**HURI CALENDAR**  
Zuhijia 9,1441 AH  
PRAYERS (SHAHI MASJID)  
Fajar: 4.48 am  
Zohar: 12.32 pm  
Asar: 4.50 pm  
Maghrib: 6.55 pm  
Isha: 8.08 pm  
SUNSET TODAY 6.49 PM  
SUNRISE TOMORROW 5.55 AM  
MOONRISE TODAY 3.06 PM  
MOONSET TOMORROW 1.41 AM

**COUNTER POINT**



Let's declare independence on 15th!

**IN BRIEF**

**Jaya, 2 others get 4-year jail**

New Delhi: A Delhi court Thursday awarded 4-year jail term to ex-Samata Party president Jaya Jaitley and two others for corruption in a 2000-01 case related to a purported defence deal saying they "compromised the entire defence system of the country."

**Trump tweets to delay elections**

Washington: President Donald Trump is for the first time floating a "delay" to November's presidential election, as he makes unsubstantiated allegations that increased mail-in voting will result in fraud. The poll dates enshrined in federal law would require an act of Congress to change.

## In search of ancient life



A United Launch Alliance Atlas V rocket launches at Space Launch Complex 41 at the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station on Thursday. The biggest, most sophisticated Mars rover ever built, bristling with cameras, microphones, drills and lasers, is part of an ambitious, long-range project to bring the first Martian rock samples back to Earth to be analyzed for evidence of ancient life.

— AP

## Covid tally crosses 16 lakh, herd immunity not in sight

DC CORRESPONDENT  
with agency inputs  
NEW DELHI, JULY 30

The overall Coronavirus cases in India crossed 16 lakh on Thursday with close to 5.5 lakh people still under treatment for the infection. The Union health ministry urged people to take all precautions till a vaccine is developed as the country is far from achieving herd immunity. "Given the size of India's population, herd immunity cannot be a strategic choice or option but can only be an outcome, and that too at a very high cost as it means lakhs of people would have to be infected, get hospitalised and many would die in the process," said Rajesh Bhushan, officer on special duty in Union health ministry. "Are we approaching herd immunity? The health ministry believes it

### AYODHYA PRIEST, 16 SECURITY MEN TEST COVID +VE

Ayodhya, July 30: Acharya Pradeep Das, the assistant to the chief priest of the Ram Janmabhoomi temple, and 16 cops on duty at the temple, where the groundbreaking ceremony for the Ram temple is expected to be held on August 5, tested positive for Coronavirus. Prime Minister Narendra Modi is expected to attend the ceremony.

is still far away and in the future. For now, we have to follow Covid-appropriate behaviour like wearing masks, avoiding gatherings, following hand hygiene and maintaining distance," the OSD said.

### SONIA ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL FOR ROUTINE TESTS

New Delhi, July 30: Congress president Sonia Gandhi was admitted to Sir Ganga Ram Hospital on Thursday for routine tests, hospital authorities said. She was admitted to the private facility here at 7 pm for "routine tests and investigations", the hospital said in a bulletin. "Her condition is currently stable," Dr D.S. Rana, the chairman of the Board.

According to scientists, herd immunity against Covid-19 in India is likely only in pockets given the many socio-economic groups in the country and may be short-lived rather than long-lasting.

## HORSE TRADING RATES SPIKED, SAYS GEHLOT

DC CORRESPONDENT  
with agency inputs  
JAIPUR/NEW DELHI, JULY 30

A day after governor Kalraj Mishra gave the go-ahead for convening the state Assembly from August 14, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot on Thursday claimed that the "rates of horse trading" in the state have increased. "After the Assembly session was announced last night, the rates of horse trading have increased. Earlier, the first instalment was of ₹10 crore and second was of ₹15 crore. Now it has become unlimited and all know who is doing horse trading," Mr Gehlot said. Targeting Bahujaan Samaj Party chief Mayawati for her statements against him, Mr Gehlot accused the former UP chief minister of acting at the behest of the BJP. The Rajasthan Congress has decided that its MLAs will continue to remain together till the session begins. The decision was taken at a meeting of the Congress Legislature Party held at the Fairmont Hotel, on the outskirts of Jaipur.

## Disengagement incomplete: MEA

### India debunks China's remarks on LAC

SRIDHAR KUMARASWAMI | DC  
NEW DELHI, JULY 30

India on Thursday countered China's claim that frontline forces of the two countries have "completed" disengagement at most locations at the LAC in the Ladakh sector, saying that though some progress has been made, military disengagement has not yet been completed. India's statement followed Chinese ambassador Sun Weidong's claim earlier on Thursday that the troops of the two countries have "disengaged in most localities" and that China is not a strategic threat to India. "Border troops have disengaged in most localities, situation on ground is de-escalating and tempera- ture is coming down. China is committed to peaceful development and is not a strategic threat to India," Mr Sun said while delivering a virtual address organised by a thinktank in New Delhi.

- **INDIA'S STATE- MENT** followed Chinese ambas- sador Sun Weidong's claim earlier on Thursday that the troops of the two countries have "disengaged in most localities" and that China is not a strategic threat to India.
- **THE REMARKS** came ahead of 5th round of talks

Contradicting Chinese claims, MEA spokesper- son Anurag Srivastava said, "Some progress has been made, but the disen- gement process has as yet not been completed. The senior commanders of the two sides will be meet- ing in the near future to work out steps in this regard. We expect that Chinese side will sincere- ly work with us for com- plete disengagement and

de-escalation and full restoration of peace and tranquility in the border areas at the earliest." The remarks from both sides came ahead of the fifth round of talks, likely later this week, between Corps Commanders of the two armies. In his address, the Chinese envoy com- pared India-China ties to "exquisitely crafted-glass" that should not be broken by "recklessness within seconds". In what is also being seen as a warning against action by India on Chinese companies, the Chinese envoy also said that both economies are "highly complementary, inter- woven and interdependent", adding that "forced decou- pling is against the trend and will lead to a lose-lose outcome" for both sides. The Chinese ambassador also blamed the "unfortu- nate" deadly Galwan Valley clash in mid-June on Indian troops, claiming they had attacked Chinese troops first, but added that neither side wants to see a repeat of such an incident.

## Won't part with a drop of water: TS

S.A. ISHAQUI | DC  
HYDERABAD, JULY 30

Unanimously resolving that it will not part with a drop of water from the rightful share of Telan- gana in Krishna and Godavari waters, in a high-level meeting chaired by the Chief Minister, K. Chandrashekhara Rao, the state government on Thursday decided to explore all possibilities to protect the rights of the state over the waters of both rivers at any cost. The high-level meeting held at Pragathi Bhavan discussed the letter writ- ten by the Central water resources ministry secre- tary, M.P. Singh, to the state government asking it to convene the Central

## Krishna panel: Stop AP's Seema project

DC CORRESPONDENT  
VIJAYAWADA, JULY 30

The Krishna River Man- agement Board (KRMB) has directed the Andhra Pradesh government to stop the work on the Raya- laseema Lift Irrigation Scheme as it had violated the provisions of the AP Reorganisation Act.

KRMB member Har- ikesh Meena sent a letter to AP's Special Chief Secretary, Water Reso- urces Development, stat- ing that the work taken up by AP, including the call- ing of tenders, was violat- ing the APRA 2014.

■ **Page 4: AP's approval letters cited by TS**

Water Resources Ministry (CWRM) apex council meeting on August 5 to resolve the water disputes between the Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. The meeting was of the firm view that the state

should utilise its rightful share of water in Godavari and Krishna rivers and there should not be any compromising attitude on this. It was decided that all ongoing projects should be done on a fast track basis. The chief secretary was asked to write a letter to the Centre to have the apex council meeting after August 20, or after the completion of the Inde- pendence Day celebra- tions on August 15 as the state government has another pre-fixed pro- grammed on August 5. The Centre failed miser- ably to ensure sharing of waters between the two states.

■ **Page 4: Participants slam Centre's behaviour**

## COVID | CARE Patients prefer treatment in private hospitals despite high costs

## Active cases beat recoveries in TS

BALU PULIPAKA | DC  
HYDERABAD, JULY 30.

The recent warning from state health department officials that the next few weeks will be critical with respect to spread of Covid-19 cases in Telangana, is appearing to ring true with an increasing number of 'active' patients over the past week. Active cases are individ- uals who have tested posi- tive for Covid-19 and been admitted to hospitals as they require sustained or serious medical atten- tion. Also included in this cat- egory are people placed either under home quaran- tine with mild or no symp- toms, or at government hospitals in isolation and under observation with moderate symptoms, if such individuals suffer from some pre-existing health conditions. The increase in active cases each day also appears to have coincided with a drop in the number of people being discharged from hospitals or deemed recovered. The past seven days, starting on July 23, accord-

SANJAY SAMUEL PAUL | DC  
HYDERABAD, JULY 30

The Covid-19 Unlock 3.0 could not have come at a better time for fitness enthusiasts in the city with the government pro- viding relief to gyms and other fitness facilities, including yoga centres, allowing them to re-open from August 5. Fitness enthusiasts, as well as those running such centres, are gearing up for the new normal. Many who are serious about their physical well- being and fitness have been lamenting over the

past few months that ever since the first phase of the lockdown, they have missed out on their daily regimen. The re-opening of fitness and yoga centres could not have come fast enough for those dependent on the fit- ness industry, such as yoga instructors, gym trainers, along with main- tenance and housekeeping staff, who were not paid for all these months. Amit Goenka, a fitness enthusiast, said, "The news has given new enthu- siasm to me and my friends. We all had a daily routine of going to the gym every morning. During the

lockdown, we tried to work out at home but that was not the same as work- ing out at the gym. These past five months have been difficult for all of us. Now as the pandemic is all around, our first priority is a gym that is safe and secure for everyone. Though we have mem- bership in a premium gym, we will make sure that if it fails to implement ade- quate precautionary mea- sures, we will look for another where we will feel safer and get back to our daily fitness routines."

■ **Page 2: Gyms enable booking slots on app**

Date	Day's recoveries	Active cases
July 23	1661	11,052
July 24	1007	11,677
July 25	998	12,264
July 26	774	12,955
July 27	803	13,753
July 28	842	14,663
July 29	821	15,640

saw the number of patients in government hospitals drop from 2,242 on July 27 to 2,188. According to the bulletin, the state government has a total of 8,446 Covid-19 beds in its Covid-19-designated hospitals. The same three-day period saw a rise in the number of in-patients in private hospitals, from 3,032 on July 27 to 3,297 on July 29, indicating that more patients were seeking treatment in private hospitals despite the high costs. The private hospital bed strength for Covid-19 patients also rose from 4,497 to 5,494 over these three days, according to the bulletins.

60,717 by July 29. Incidentally, the last three days of the seven-day period, July 27 to July 29, days on which the bulletin also provided occupancy of beds in Covid-19 hospitals,

## Anti-larval drive on infested Musi

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, JULY 30

With the Musi river iden- tified as one of the prime mosquito breeding water- ways in the city, the GHMC on Thursday said it was taking up anti-lar- val operations along with installation of mosquito traps, along a 21-km stretch of the river begin- ning from Babu Ghat near Langar Houz to Nagole. Three mosquito traps- cum-killing units are being set up at Babu Ghat, Laxminagar, and Jiy- aguda as part of the exer- cise, according to GHMC chief entomologist, Dr A. Rambabu. "Each of these traps releases carbon dioxide to attract mosquitoes from a one-acre radius. We are simultaneously taking up anti-larval operations and cleaning up the Musi river banks," he said. The Musi flows through 14 GHMC divisions from the four zones of Khair- atabad, Charminar, L.B. Nagar and Secunderabad. Three special units have been formed with four entomologists overseeing the operations.

For anti-larval opera- tions, the GHMC has pressed into service a drone, in addition to six vehicle-mounted fogging machines, as well as 15 portable fogging machines. According to the Musi Riverfront Development Corporation chairman, D. Sudheer Reddy, the corpo- ration was planning to introduce an internet of things-enabled mosquito killing machine. "The machine can estimate the number of mosquitoes trapped and identify the species of the mosquitoes. This will help identify locations where dengue-causing *Aedes aegypti* mos- quitoes are found to help prevent the disease," he said. GHMC officials said anti-larval operations are to be taken up along the river's stretch between Attapur Bridge and Dilsu- khnagar bus depot, Yera- fnagar nala in Banjara Hills to Hussainsagar, Domalguda nala, and the nala exiting from Hussa- insagar up to Musi river. These areas were found to be mosquito-breeding sources.



## IN BRIEF

## Niloufer slammed over diet scam

**Hyderabad:** The Telangana High Court is puzzled about why the diet contractor in Niloufer hospital, who has been facing allegations for misappropriation in supplying an adequate diet to the inpatients and children in the hospital, continues in his post. After the scam was highlighted in news reports, the hospital superintendent had ordered an inquiry. Even after the inquiry, no action was taken against the contractor. The court expressed surprise as the superintendent has not furnished a copy of the inquiry report to the court, even though he had been directed, on earlier adjudication, to furnish the report. The court observed that the superintendent may be hand-in-glove with the diet contractor.

## Surveyor jailed for accepting bribe

**Hyderabad:** A mandal surveyor who demanded and accepted a bribe of ₹2,300 was convicted and sentenced to undergo two years of rigorous imprisonment by an Anti-Corruption Bureau court on Thursday. The ACB said the accused, Seri Narsimhulu, who was working at Jagdevpur in Medak district was arrested in 2008 when he demanded and accepted the money from P. Mallaiiah, to issue a copy of panchanama after the demarcation of the land. A chargesheet was filed before the ACB Court in 2009. After conducting a trial, the court on Thursday gave the judgment convicting the accused officer for the charges framed against him. The court sentenced him to undergo two-years rigorous imprisonment under two charges, which would run concurrently and also directed him to pay ₹2,000 as penalty, the ACB note said.

## CYBER CROOKS DEFRAUD DOCS, NURSES ONLINE

JAYENDRA CHAITANYA T. | DC HYDERABAD, JULY 30

Doctors and nurses rendering services to Covid-19 patients in the city are the targets of cyber fraudsters, who are looting on the pretext of updating the KYC for Paytm.

Personnel from Cyberabad cybercrimes wing states that the fraudsters are from Jharkhand's Jamtara and asked the medical staff not to share details with anyone.

Cybercrime police on Thursday said that the crooks are targeting the medical staff, who are generally busy in providing services to patients.

The police said that a woman doctor treating Covid-19 patients at a private hospital received a phone call from a stranger who asked her to immediately update her KYC details of Paytm account to prevent them from getting blocked. The busy doctor shared the details of her bank accounts to the stranger and lost ₹91,570. In yet another incident, a nurse working at a corporate hospital lost ₹1.69 lakh to the fraudsters.

## TEACHERS, STUDENTS OPPOSE NEP

HARLEEN MINOCHA | DC HYDERABAD, JULY 30

Teacher and student bodies in Telangana have come out strongly against the national education policy (NEP), 2020, accusing the central government of ignoring suggestions from academic partners, the role of states in formulating education policies and disregarded the opinions of educationists.

The Telangana state united teachers' federation (TSUTF) said that the new national education policy is aimed at promoting private education and education in general as a business and will widen the gap between those who can and who cannot afford it.

Meanwhile, criticising the implementation of 5+3+3+4 year education pattern in the NEP, 2020, the All India democratic students' organisation said "handing over children at the 'crucial stage' of three to six years to aanganwadis which are already on a ventilator, bringing open learning in Grades 3, 5 and 8 but, on the other hand, keeping silent about the re-introduction of the pass-fail system from class Grade 1, will jeopardise the whole school education system."

# Outrage in Siddipet over farmer's suicide

## Parties allege state wanted to take his land for Bhavan

IRREDY SRINIVAS REDDY | DC HYDERABAD, JULY 30

A Dalit farmer from Veluru village in Varagi Mandal of Siddipet district committed suicide by consuming pesticide in his fields.

Byagari Narsimhulu, was allegedly facing pressure from the government authorities to give away his 13 guntas of land for the construction of a Rythu Vedika building. In order to take the land, the land details were not entered into the records by the revenue officials, which reportedly forced him to take the extreme step on Wednesday.

Locals took him to Gajwel government hos-

● **THE POLICE** detained BJP leaders, Vivek Venkataswamy, Motkupal Narsimhulu, Babu Mohan, MLC, N. Ramchander Rao and MLA, Raja Singh, who went to the village to find out the facts behind the incident.

pital from where he was shifted to Siddipet government hospital where he died while undergoing the treatment during the early hours on Thursday.

Minister T. Harish Rao who learned about the incident has expressed his condolences to Narsimhulu's family. On Thursday, he met the family and assured them of an acre of land towards exgratia. The

minister also assured education for Narsimhulu's children.

He also assured the family of inquiring into the incident and finding the people who instigated him to take the extreme step and punish them legally. "Some people are trying to blame the government for Narsimhulu's death. It would be a trouble for those who are doing this," said the minister.

BJP leaders in Telangana condemned the suicide of a farmer from Gajwel constituency represented by Chief Minister, K. Chandrashekar Rao. The suicide should be considered as a governmental murder, said Karimnagar MP, Bandi Sanjay.

The police detained BJP leaders, Vivek Venkataswamy, Motkupal Narsimhulu, Babu Mohan, MLC, N. Ramchander Rao and MLA, Raja Singh, who went to the village to find out the facts behind the incident.

Congress party leaders demanded that the people responsible for the death of Narsimhulu be arrested under SC and ST (prevention of atrocities) act. They alleged that from the time TRS came into power, the people from backward communities have been targeted and attacked. Congress leaders who went to console the family of the deceased were also detained by the police on Thursday.

## Mock drill for I-Day



An OCTOPUS unit carries out a mock drill at the RTA office in Secunderabad on Thursday as part of preparations for Independence Day. — R. PAVAN

## Teenager, juveniles steal tobacco worth ₹2.3 lakh

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, JULY 30

A teenager and two juvenile boys involved in stealing cigarettes and other tobacco products from pan shops during the lockdown were apprehended by Golconda police here on Thursday. They were involved in nine cases in Hyderabad and Rangareddy districts.

Golconda police said that during the early hours of Wednesday they saw two teenagers sleeping in front of a pan shop and another

● **THE YOUTH** were involved in nine cases of theft so far, said the police who arrested Shetty, and produced the juveniles before the JJ Board.

● **THE POLICE** said the trio confessed to stealing bikes and tobacco

boy hiding inside the pan shop. One was identified as Jatinmali Shetty (19) while the other two were minors.

The police said that three, who lived in huts near Gudimalkapur

area, confessed to stealing bikes, tobacco products from pan shops, which they sold. One of the juvenile boys also confessed to being involved in an attempt to murder at Warangal district.

The teenagers are involved in nine cases of theft so far, said the police who arrested Shetty, and produced the juveniles before the JJ Board.

The police also seized two stolen bikes, cigarettes and tobacco products worth ₹2.3 lakh from the trio.

## KTR flags off six ambulances

ATHER MOIN | DC HYDERABAD, JULY 30

IT and industries minister K. T. Rama Rao on Thursday flagged off from Pragathi Bhavan six ambulances that he gifted to the state government on occasion of his birthday on July 24 under the "Gift a Smile" initiative.

Health minister Etala Rajender, KTR's wife Shailima, daughter Alekhyia as also other ministers and legislators were present on the occasion. The ambulances will be put to use as

## COVID PATIENTS CAN NOW HAVE HELPERS IN HOSPS

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, JULY 30

Covid-19 patients may soon be able to have an attendant with them in the hospital while undergoing treatment at.

Such a 'willing attendant of the patient' can be cleared to remain in an 'area earmarked for the hospital', the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare said in a letter to Chief Secretaries of all state governments.

Union Secretary at the ministry, Preeti Sudan, in her letter dated July 26, also said all Covid-designated hospitals should create a helpdesk "accessible physically as well as by telephone" from where the well-being of patients admitted in the hospitals can be enquired.

Following the receipt of the letter, the Telangana health department on Wednesday issued a note to the Director of Health Services, Commissioner Family Health, and Director of Medical Education to implement the instructions from the Centre.

In addition to facilitating presence of attendants and provision of patient-related information, the Centre also directed the states that all Covid-19 hospitals should install CCTV cameras to facilitate patient management and "for screening of footage by designated authorities or bodies" when remedial action is required. CCTV cameras should also be installed in areas handling the bodies of Covid-19 patients, who have succumbed to the pandemic.

Further, the states have also been instructed to set up a team of doctors and other experts for inspecting hospitals treating Covid-19 patients, supervision, and guidance. The team will make its recommendations to the state governments. The respective Chief Secretaries have been told to set these committees in a week.

The Centre said the directions follow a Supreme Court order dated June 19 in a case on proper treatment of Covid-19 patients and a dignified handling of dead bodies, among other issues.

● **HEALTH MINISTER** Etala Rajender, KTR's wife Shailima, daughter Alekhyia as also other ministers and legislators were present on the occasion

Covid response vehicles.

After flagging off the vehicles, KTR tweeted: "Happy to contribute 6 vehicles, which will initially serve as Covid response vehicles and subsequently as ambulances of the health department, though health minister Etala Rajender."

## WESTERN RAILWAY ADDENDUM

In reference to the Expression of Interest regarding pre-bid meeting to be held on 05.08.2020 at 11:00 hrs in Divisional Railway Manager's Office, Mumbai Central, Mumbai 400008 to discuss the modalities of proposal and drafting of application for empanelment of Rail Aggregator And Handler (RAAH), the following addendum may please be noted:

Interested Parties can communicate with the following Official for any queries:

• **Divisional Railway Manager** - Mumbai Central: 9004499000

• **Senior Divisional Commercial Manager** - Mumbai Central: 9004499950

Interested parties shall communicate their confirmation on email id: [bctsrdr@gmail.com](mailto:bctsrdr@gmail.com).

Option of both physical and web based meeting can be exercised, link for which will be shared on your e-mail id.

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## EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tender Notice No. CWMPT-04-2020-21, date : 29.07.2020. On line (through e-tendering) for the following work is invited by Chief Workshop Manager, Bridge Workshop, East Central Railway, Plant Depot, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya for and on behalf of the President of India, from reputed Firms.

E-Tender Closing Date : 28.08.2020.

1. Name of the work with its location : Casting of PSC & RCC Slabs of Standard Span along with ballast retainers as per RDSO Drawing for 25 Ton Loading Standard-2008 at Engineering Workshop, Plant Depot, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya. Tender Document Cost = ₹10,000/- 2. Approx. cost of the work : ₹2,86,63,795.40, 3. Earnest Money : ₹2,93,300/- 4. Date and time for Closing of e-tender : 28.08.2020 at 15.00 Hrs. 5. Website particulars of e-tendering : [www.reps.gov.in](http://www.reps.gov.in)

Executive Engineer (PD)/Plant Depot/ ECR/PT. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya PR/0487/PDM/Engg./T/20-21/32

## EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE

e-tender is invited on Behalf of the President of India for the under mentioned work :-

1. Name of the work with its location : Electrification of officers rest house at Narkatagari including Submersible Pump, street light & circulating area lighting power etc. in connection with doubling between Sugauli to Valmikinagar section. e-Tender No. EL/CN/MHX/ETEN/74/20-21. Approx. Cost of the work : ₹92,88,357/- Earnest money and tender Document cost to be deposited : ₹1,85,800/- and ₹5,000/- respectively.

2. Name of the work with its location : Removal of over head infringements of 11KV/440V, provision of transformer, electrification of EOT crane shed, circulating area lighting and street lighting at sick line Samastipur. e-Tender No. EL/CN/MHX/ETEN/75/20-21. Approx. Cost of the work : ₹1,92,71,505/- Earnest money and tender Document cost to be deposited : ₹2,46,400/- and ₹5,000/- respectively.

3. Date and time for closing of tender : 18.08.2020 up to 12:00 Hrs. 4. Website particular and notice board location where complete details of tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased etc. : Tender can be down loaded from IREPS website : [www.reps.gov.in](http://www.reps.gov.in) and detailed can be seen from the notice board at CEE/CON/ Mahendraghat office, CAO/CON/ECR office Complex, Patna -04.

Dy. CEE/CON/North/ECR/Samastipur PR/0485/CON/Elec/T/20-21/44

## Department of Atomic Energy Hyderabad Regional Purchase Unit

### e-TENDER NOTICE

Regional Director (P&S), HRPUSU, Nuclear Fuel Complex, ECIL Post, Hyderabad 500062 invites online tenders as given below:

(a) Tender Enquiry No.: **DPS/HRPU/NFC/PT/PT/ETCON/2451** (b) Description: **Supply, Installation, Integration and Commissioning of "On-Premises" Digital Signage System on Turn-Key basis - Qty 1 Set**, details as per tender specifications (c) Date of Pre-Bid Meeting: **05/08/2020 @ 10:00 AM** (d) Last Date for Submission of Bid Online: **31/08/2020 upto 2:00 PM** (e) Tender Fee: **NIL** (f) EMD: **₹ 2,24,000/-** Visit <https://etenders.dpsdae.gov.in> for details. [DPS/HRPU/NFC/2021/47]

## Department of Atomic Energy Hyderabad Regional Purchase Unit

### e-TENDER NOTICE

Regional Director (P&S), HRPUSU, Nuclear Fuel Complex, ECIL Post, Hyderabad 500062 invites online tenders as given below:

1. (a) Tender Enquiry No.: **DPS/HRPU/NFC/PT/ENG/16912B** (b) Description: **Manufacturing, Inspection, Testing and Supply of Graphite Lining Pipe for 15MT Capacity WSR - Qty 90 Nos.**, details as per tender specifications (c) Last Date for Submission of Bid Online: **17/08/2020 upto 2:00 PM** (d) Tender Fee: **NIL** (e) EMD: **₹ 2,50,632/-**

2. (a) Tender Enquiry No.: **DPS/HRPU/NFC/PT/T&C/1481** (b) Description: **Collection, Safe Transportation and Delivery of Anhydrous Ammonia in containers, tankers of 15 MT capacity from M/s. RCF Ltd., Mumbai to M/s. NFC, Hyderabad for one year - Qty 1000 MT**, details as per tender specifications (c) Last Date for Submission of Bid Online: **20/08/2020 upto 2:00 PM** (d) Tender Fee: **NIL** (e) EMD: **₹ 89,000/-**

3. (a) Tender Enquiry No.: **DPS/HRPU/NFC/PT/TPT/CAP/11124** (b) Description: **Design, Manufacture, Supply, Erection and Commissioning of Pusher type, Automatic Sintering furnace along with accessories - Qty 1 No.**, details as per tender specifications (c) Last date for submission of online pre-bid queries: **24/08/2020 upto 2:00 PM** (d) Last Date for Submission of Bid Online: **24/09/2020 upto 2:00 PM** (e) Tender Fee: **NIL** (f) EMD: **₹ 10,00,000/-**

4. (a) Tender Enquiry No.: **DPS/HRPU/NFC/PT/TPT/CAP/11149** (b) Description: **Automated Billet Handling System for Deep Hole Drilling Machine as per enclosed annexure - Qty 1 Set**, details as per tender specifications (c) Last date for submission of online pre-bid queries: **27/08/2020 upto 2:00 PM** (d) Last Date for Submission of Bid Online: **29/09/2020 upto 2:00 PM** (e) Tender Fee: **NIL** (f) EMD: **₹ 2,58,000/-** Visit <https://etenders.dpsdae.gov.in> for details. [DPS/HRPU/NFC/2021/48]





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## SHORT TAKES

COPS ARREST  
NOTORIOUS  
CHAIN SNATCHERJAYENDRA  
CHAITHANYA T. | DC  
HYDERABAD, JULY 30

A notorious chain snatcher from Maharashtra, involved in two offences on a single day, was caught by Hyderabad task force police on Thursday.

Shanker Rao Biradar (36), a resident of Kattedan and a native of Latur, is a habitual offender and was earlier arrested by Hadapsar police in Pune for being involved in 33 chain snatching offences and 14 cases for stealing bikes.

Shanker was released on bail from Yerwada central prison in the last week of June, and a week later, he came back to the city. On July 19, he stole a bike from Langer House area. He conducted recce in Kacheguda and SR Nagar areas. On July 26, he snatched two gold chains at both places.

Hyderabad police commissioner Anjani Kumar said that the accused was identified after technology-based clues, including CCTV footage, photo enhancement software, and Integrated Traffic Management System. The East Zone Task Force team that was pressed into action apprehended the accused and recovered the stolen property of 5.5 tolas of gold nuptial threads, one mobile phone and the bike, he said.

Meanwhile, the Commissioner appealed to the public to keep an eye on fellow-motorists who tamper registration number plates as such persons could be potential criminals.

RACHAKONDA COPS  
START ANTI-HUMAN  
TRAFFICKING UNITDC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, JULY 30

Rachakonda police on Thursday established an Anti-Human Trafficking Unit (AHTU) at the commissionerate to exclusively deal with trafficking of women and children for flesh trade. Ever since the commissionerate was formed in 2016, its police have rescued 556 victims and arrested 557 traffickers, including women.

Telangana additional director general of police (Law and Order) Jitender inaugurated the AHTU at LB Nagar. "It is most befitting that functioning of AHTU starts on the World Day against Trafficking in Persons," he remarked.

The additional DGP said problem of human trafficking is confined not just to India but is spread across the world. He asked public to inform police whenever they observe a trafficking incident.

Since the inception of Rachakonda commissionerate in 2016, as many as 290 cases of human trafficking have been registered. 446 majors and 101 minors have been rescued, while 258 male and 299 female traffickers have been arrested. As many as 50 of the traffickers have been booked under the Preventive Detention Act and 144 premises used as brothels have been seized by revenue authorities.

Rachakonda police commissioner Mahesh Bhagwat said Special Operations Team sleuths, She Teams, and law and order police have also rescued several minor children forced to work as child labour. "Public can share information on trafficking of people for labour or sexual exploitation with Inspector, Anti-Human Trafficking Unit on 9491039109 or by dialling 100. They can also send a WhatsApp message on number 9490617111," the commissioner added.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

The public in general is hereby informed that my clients are intending to purchase immovable property namely Shop No.s G1, G3, G4, G5 and G6 in ground floor, in the building known as 'Kabeer's Arafat Business Centre' in premises bearing GHMC No. 8-1-355/3, 8-1-355/4, 8-1-355/8 and 8-1-355/9 situated at Adam Colony, Shaikpet, Hyderabad, Telangana from M/s. Mohammed Moizuddin, Shakeel Ali Khan, Mir Javed Ali and Mohammed Anwar Shareef and my clients have entered into an agreement and paid advance sale consideration and proposing to go for execution of sale deed. Any persons having any objection to the above transaction or claim over the above properties, may submit their objection / claim in writing to the undersigned along with supporting documents within 7 days from the publication of this notice. In case, no such objections/claims received with the above period, my clients will be going ahead with execution and registration of sale deed. Any objections / claims received thereafter, will not be entertained and will not be binding on my client.

**M.R.B. MANIKANDAN, ADVOCATE**  
Flat No. 101, 102, First Floor,  
Saaijyoti Apartments, Jaffer Ali Bgh, Somajiguda, Hyd- 82. **PH.No. 23303350**

## Ready for sacrifice



Children check out sheep kept for sale on the eve of Bakrid at Mehdiapatnam, in Hyderabad on Thursday. Bakrid is being celebrated on Saturday. — R. PAVAN

Panel tenure extended  
to resolve water dispute

## Jal Shakti issues notification to extend tenure till Aug. '21

S.A. ISHAQUI | DC  
HYDERABAD, JULY 30

The Union Government has extended tenure of Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal (KWDT) by a period of one year to resolve disputes over water sharing between Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

Ministry of Jal Shakti issued a gazette notification on Thursday extending the tribunal's tenure by one year from August 1, 2020.

The ministry issued another notification filling up an existing vacancy in the tribunal with Tripura High Court Judge Justice S. Talapatra. The vacancy rose after resignation of KWDT member Justice B.P. Das, former judge of Odisha High Court.

The Centre had constituted the Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal for adjudicating disputes between the states of Maharashtra, Karnataka and erstwhile Andhra Pradesh under Section 4 of the Inter-State River Water Dispute (ISRWD) Act, 1956. The tribunal submitted its report in December 2010 after which the Ministry of Water Resources dissolved the tribunal.

After bifurcation of the combined state of Andhra Pradesh into Telangana and AP, the Centre decided to revive

CONGRESS ASKS KCR TO MOVE TO  
APEX COURT ON KRISHNA WATERSDC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, JULY 30

The Krishna Water Protection Committee of TPCC on Thursday asked Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao to make Telangana's point of view clear before the Apex Council on river water sharing, as the neighbouring Andhra Pradesh is trying to bulldoze the issue before the council.

Committee convenor Ram Mohan Reddy, in a statement, said if the AP government continues its adamant attitude and goes ahead with construction of its projects, the Telangana government must move the Supreme Court. "The Chief Minister must make the state's point of view clear before the council. Unless we are strong and clear, we will be put to a great loss," he remarked.

PROTECT STATE  
INTEREST IN  
KRISHNA  
WATERS: BANDIDC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, JULY 30

BJP state president Bandi Sanjay Kumar on Thursday requested Union Jal Shakti minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat to protect the interests of Telangana state with regard to sharing of Krishna river waters between TS and Andhra Pradesh. He met the Union minister in New Delhi in this regard and submitted a memorandum.

He informed Shekhawat that the Andhra Pradesh government on May 5, 2020, issued an order giving administrative approval for a series of irrigation schemes worth over ₹7,000 crore aimed at drawing an additional quantity of six to eight TMC of water per day from Srisailem, which would be detrimental to the interests of Telangana.

Sanjay Kumar said that the act of the AP government is highly objectionable and illegal as per the AP Reorganisation Act of 2014. He pointed out that under the Act, any new irrigation project or upgradation of existing projects by either state (AP or TS) on River Krishna should have the approval of Krishna River Management Board (KRMB) and the Apex Council.

The state BJP chief brought to the notice of the Union minister that in the 12th meeting of the KRMB, AP had been directed not to go ahead with its projects till detailed project reports (DPRs) are not gone through by the board and Central Water Commission, and sanctioned by Apex Council. He told Shekhawat that despite the direction from KRMB, the AP government has issued tender notifications last week for constructing the Rayalaseema Lift Irrigation Project.

PARTICIPANTS EXPRESS ANGUISH  
OVER CENTRE'S BEHAVIOUR

From Page 1

Water sharing will be done through the Union water resource ministry in case of no disputes between both states, but when there are disputes then they should be entrusted to the tribunal to resolve. The meeting condemned the way the CWRM turned a deaf ear to the Telangana government's requests.

The participants of the meeting expressed anguish that both the

the tribunal to resolve disputes between the two states in accordance

with Section 89 of Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act 2014.

AP's approval letters  
cited by Telangana

From Page 1

Citing letters of the AP government, Harikesh Meena said granting administrative approval to new projects, vide GoAP G0 RT No 203 dated May 5, 2020, is a violation of Section 84 and para-7 of the Eleventh Schedule of the AP Reorganisation Act, 2014.

As the AP government has not submitted the project's Detailed Project Report (DPR) to the KRMB or the

Central Water Commission for appraisal, he said the KRMB has directed that "the government of Andhra Pradesh shall not go ahead with the project, till the same was appraised by KRMB/CWC and the sanction of Apex Council is obtained".

He said the Telangana government had complained that AP has begun process violation of the instructions of the KRMB.

● **AS THE AP** government has not submitted the project's Detailed Project Report (DPR) to the KRMB or the Central Water Commission for appraisal, Harikesh Meena said the KRMB has directed that "the government of Andhra Pradesh shall not go ahead with the project, till the same was appraised by KRMB/CWC and the sanction of Apex Council is obtained".

## Bazaar basti in a state of apathy

T.S.S. SIDDHARTH | DC  
HYDERABAD, JULY 30

On Thursday, the SCB vice-president, J. Rama Krishna, along with other officials, visited Bazaar basti in Ward No. 5 to find that there has been no development in the area over the years. This area, close to military installations, was on the receiving end only by virtue of its location. The close proximity to

● **THE CLOSE** proximity to military establishments kept it bereft of piped sanitation and drinking water. The army allows no construction in the area.

military establishments kept it bereft of piped sanitation and drinking water. The army allows no construction or developmental activity on the land.

For over a hundred

years, three settlements, mostly huts, have been near the 108 bazaar in ward number 5. These hut dwellers rue that they are stuck between the devil and the deep blue sea, as they aren't allowed to dig borewells, and if laid, have them repaired.

"Every time there is a new officer of the board, the army officials get rough with us. They have been telling us that this area belongs to

them and we have to vacate this place," Rama Krishna, a resident of the area, told Deccan Chronicle.

During their visit, the officials were told that there was only one entry or exit point to the huts.

"We have told them that we will have a new gate installed soon. Also, we will look into their drinking water and sanitation woes," said the vice-president.

HC warns against  
slaughter of camelsVUJINI  
VAMSHIDHARA | DC  
HYDERABAD, JULY 30

The Telangana High Court directed the State Government to be more vigilant on the slaughtering of camels during Bakrid festival as slaughtering of camels was illegal. It further directed the State to give wide publicity and caution people against the unlawful activity.

A division bench, comprising Chief Justice Raghavendra Singh Chauhan and Justice B. Vijaysen Reddy was hearing a PIL filed by Dr. Shashikala Kopanati, who was aggrieved that many camels are being brought into the state and that they would be butchered ahead of Bakrid

as Muslims feel that sacrificing a camel on Bakrid was a good omen.

While adjudicating, Chief Justice Chauhan observed "All of us know that Hyderabad is a great centre for non-vegetarian food. You cannot have non-vegetarian food until and unless you slaughter an animal. Such slaughtering should be done in a systematic manner and by being within established rules and regulations. Even a goat cannot be killed by the butcher, unless it is certified by a veterinary doctor as there is every possibility of transmission of virus from animals to human beings as has happened in China, where Coronavirus is transmitted from bats".

SLAUGHTER  
HOUSES CLOSED  
FOR BAKRIDDC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, JULY 30

The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation on Thursday ordered closure of all slaughter houses, as well as sale of beef within the GHMC limits, on August 1 and August 2.

GHMC commissioner Lokesh Kumar, in a news release, said the decision has been taken in view of the Bakrid festival. He sought cooperation of all GHMC officials and people in observing the closure.

HOME MINISTER  
CHECKS SECURITY  
FOR BAKRIDDC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, JULY 30

Home minister Mohammad Mahmood Ali on Thursday reviewed security arrangements being made in view of the Bakrid festival in the twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad with officials of Hyderabad, Cyberabad and Rachakonda commissionerates. Mahmood Ali advised people to perform prayers at home and follow physical distancing protocols in view of the pandemic. He asked people to ensure that they are carrying a certificate from veterinary doctor when they purchase animals. Otherwise, police will have to act as per the law, he stated.

Meanwhile, Director General of Police M. Mahender Reddy has directed that strict measures be taken to prevent illegal transportation or smuggling of animals for slaughter. He said action will be taken against those violating the law. Following directions of the Central Animal Welfare Board and orders from courts, police personnel have been asked to ensure adherence to laws.

People have also been informed to carry out slaughter only in recognised slaughter houses.

## 9th DEATH ANNIVERSARY



**Mrs. KOTHAPALLY DEVADANAM JOHANNAH**  
(W/o. Late P.G. LUTHER)  
3-5-1955 - 31-7-2011  
"Your memories are always remembered in our hearts forever."  
Inserted by:  
Son: **P.L. FRAZER and FAMILY**  
Ph: 9855002630 / 9300141110

## 18th ANNIVERSARY



**Captain Rapolu Veera Raja Reddy**  
69 Field Regiment  
Garlanding of Captain Rapolu Veera Raja Reddy  
Statue who was killed in Military Action at Rajapur (SK) on 31-07-2002 at Habsiguda Street No. 8  
NGRI Metro Station on 31st July 2020 Friday at 9-30AM  
By Sri.Bethi Subhas Reddy, MLA, Uppl Constituency and Smt. Bethi Swapna, Corporator, Habsiguda  
All are Cordially invited by  
Dr.R.Kondal Reddy, Managing Trustee  
Prof.G.Surender Reddy, Secretary  
Dr.Ramchander Thalla, Trustee  
**CAPTAIN VEERA RAJA REDDY FOUNDATION & VIGNANAKENDRA**, Ramanthapur, Ph.9848012780

## 1 YEAR MEMORIAL

"...we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him."  
1 Thess. 4:14



**Dr. SURYA RAO S. SARIPALLI**  
Gifted with life on 27-10-1936  
Sleep in the Lord on 31<sup>st</sup> July 2019  
Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them...to meet the Lord in the air...and so shall we ever be with the Lord. 1 Thess. 4: 17  
With lots of love by the Children, Grand & Great-Grandchildren, All Loved Ones & PBM Churches  
Ph: 9676311907, 9640675654, 9182572013

## 25th DEATH ANNIVERSARY



**T.M. PURNA KISHORE**  
DOD: 31-07-1995  
"You are missed daily and everyday, you are that special person which meant to us more than anything else in the world."  
Inserted by: **LEELAVATHI GROUP & FAMILY MEMBERS**  
(S/2021/D00343)

SHIA COMMUNITY  
SEEKS PERMISSION  
FOR ALAM RALLYATHER MOIN | DC  
HYDERABAD, JULY 30

The Shia community has sought permission from Hyderabad police commissioner Anjani Kumar for taking out the historic Bibi ka Alam Muharram procession on August 30.

A delegation of the Shia community led by MLC Riyaz ul Hasan Effendi called on the commissioner and requested him to allow the procession, though with limited attendance in case Coronavirus pandemic does not subside by that time.



**MR. SURESH KUMAR PIDAKALA**  
S/O CALEB PIDAKALA  
D.O.B: 10.02.1966 - D.O.D: 29.07.2020  
"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith..." 2 Timothy 4:7  
Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die..." John 11:25-26  
Funeral/Burial: Friday 31.7.2020 at 9 AM - 10 AM  
Location: Gorumudi, Bhimavaram, A.P  
**DEEPLY MOURNED BY:** Mother, Wife, Daughters, family members and friends

## SHRADDHANJALI



**KOTHAPALLY BALAMANI**  
Passed away on 28th July 2020.  
Inserted by:  
**Mr. & Mrs. VISHWANATH SAMA & FAMILY**  
(S/2021/D00354)

## 4th DEATH ANNIVERSARY



**Mrs. PHYLLIS GABRIEL**  
"Your memories are always in our hearts."  
Inserted by:  
**ALOYSIUS, SANGEETA, JOHN, AJAY, CHRISTINA and GRAND CHILDREN**

## BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE



**Mrs. Rosy Sundar Babu. Vilba**  
31st July  
Your memories will remain with us for ever.  
**SUNDAR BABU (Husband)**  
**SONS, DAUGHTERS-IN-LAW & GRAND CHILDREN**  
Ph: 7989573410/9392396181

## 2nd ANNIVERSARY



**DASARI VIJAYA RAO**  
S/o Late Dasari David  
(Retd. Railway Employee)  
DOD: 21-June-1948 DOD: 31-July-2018  
Remembered by:  
**Wife, Son, Daughter, Son-in-law, Daughter-in-law, Grand Daughter**  
Ph: 9885339822, 9989357737  
(S/2021/D00350)

## THIRD DEATH ANNIVERSARY



**Late YENDLURI SUKUMAR**  
DOB: 7-8-1938 DOD: 31-7-2017  
"We love you Dad"  
Inserted by: **Wife: Y. SUVARNA**  
Children : LEVI & DAN



## SHORT TAKES

## WOMAN SETS HERSELF ON FIRE IN PROTEST

RABINDRA NATH CHOUDHURY | DC BHOPAL, JULY 30

A woman in a Madhya Pradesh village set herself on fire in protest against the anti-encroachment drive being carried out in her farmland by the local administration.

A video showing the woman identified as Shabira Bi (45), suddenly turning her into a ball of fire after pouring kerosene on herself while protesting against the anti-encroachment drive has gone viral.

Although the incident occurred on Tuesday, it came to light on Thursday when former chief minister Kamal Nath tweeted the video demanding a probe into it.

The woman, a resident of Atwas village under Satwas police station in Dewas district, received 20 percent burns following the incident. She has been admitted to a hospital in Indore. Her condition was stated to be stable.

Her husband Ramzan Khan alleged that the authorities were destroying the soybean crop in their field. "I do not know from where Shabira brought kerosene to immolate herself. She poured kerosene and lit herself by the time we could take a note of it", he said. However, Dewas DSP Shivdayal Singh said Shabira Bi and ten others attacked the team of police and revenue officials leading to injuries to two revenue inspectors.

"There was a complaint that Shabira Bi and her family had encroached upon government land. The revenue court had settled the issue last week and the revenue team had gone there to free the land of encroachment when Shabira Bi and ten others attacked them", he said.

## SOZ: WILL SUE GOVT FOR UNLAWFUL HOUSE ARREST

**Srinagar, July 30:** Senior Congress leader and former Union minister Saifuddin Soz on Thursday said he would sue the government for his "unlawful house arrest" since August 5 last year, when the Centre revoked the special status of Jammu and Kashmir, and termed the government's response in the Supreme Court that he was not under detention as "falsehood".

"I take a strong exception to the government stand before the Supreme Court that I had neither been put under house arrest nor had any restrictions been imposed on me since August 5, 2019," Soz said in a statement here.

He said the government has resorted to "falsehood as it had unlawfully incarcerated me since August 5, 2019".

"All this while, I was not allowed to move out of my premises. I left my premises twice, when I had to visit my ailing sister and I went to Delhi on 17th September, 2019 to 21st September, 2019 and 15th December, 2019 to 21st December, 2019 for seeking medical advice. Whenever I went out of my premises since August 5, 2019, I had to obtain permission from the government," he said.

The former Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) president added that he has decided to sue the government for his "unlawful" house arrest.



Villagers on a banana raft move to a safer place from the flooded area of Goalbil, in Baksa district on Thursday. The flood situation in Assam improved further though one more person lost his life taking the toll to 108 even as more parts of Bihar were affected by the deluge caused by rise in water levels of rivers originating in Nepal. Also, actor-producer Anushka Sharma and Indian skipper Virat Kohli announced that they have pledged their support to the people of flood ravaged Assam and Bihar.

— PTI

## TN decides to extend lockdown till Aug 31

Restrictions on intra-state, inter-state travel continue

DC CORRESPONDENT CHENNAI, JULY 30

Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami announced the continuation of the current lockdown till August 31 with existing regulations and a few relaxations but clearly restricted intra-state and inter-state travel despite the Union ministry of home affairs doing away with e-passes.

Among the few relaxations are allowing industries, private companies and export firms that were earlier permitted to function with 50 per cent staff to increase it to 75 per cent, letting vegetable and grocery shops and other business establishments to be open for an additional hour — vegetables and groceries from 6 am to 7 pm and other shops from 10 am to 7 pm.

E-commerce has been allowed all over the state for both essential and non-essential goods and celebration of Independence Day on August 15 has been permitted with the adaptation of social distancing and other such norms for the prevention of Covid-19.

HARSHADA PARAB | DC MUMBAI, JULY 30

In an incident that sent shockwaves across the state, the police arrested a lab technician in Maharashtra's Amravati district after he took swab samples from a woman's private parts.

State woman and child development minister

## Kerala govt nod for home care isolation of patients

GILVESTER ASSARY | DC THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, JULY 30

In a significant decision, the Kerala government decided to allow home care isolation for Covid-19 patients even as the state reported 506 cases on Thursday.

At a press conference, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said that the home care isolation system for Covid-19 patients would be implemented on an experimental basis.

Places of worship, other than the small ones earning less than ₹10,000 a year, would remain shut and restaurants and teashops can allow dine-in facility but in 50 per cent of their seating capacity. They can function between 6 am and 7 pm though takeaway would be

Initially healthcare workers who have tested positive will be treated at home.

The health officials will conduct house-to-house visits to assess the situation once the system is put in place.

In the event of complications like respiratory distress or any other medical emergency, the person would be moved out from home and taken to hospital or CFLT whatever his condition demands.

allowed till 9 pm.

However, in containment zones no activity would be allowed and Section 144 would be in force everywhere, preventing more than five persons to gather in public.

The Chief Minister urged companies to encourage their employees to

Those individuals who prefer to have home care isolation will have to submit an affidavit to the authorities concerned about their willingness to avail the facility.

The facility will be available in Thiruvananthapuram districts initially and after examining the outcome, a decision will be taken on extending it to other districts.

Earlier, Thiruvananthapuram collector issued a notification in this regard.

work from home, said that the decision to continue the lockdown was taken on the basis of the views expressed by medical specialists, health experts, district collectors, senior bureaucrats and ministers, besides taking into consideration the Central government's advice.

## Ex-Samata party chief, 2 others get 4-year jail

DC CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI, JULY 30

A Delhi court on Thursday sentenced former Samata Party president Jaya Jaitley and two others to four years in prison for corruption in a 2000-01 case related to a purported defence deal.

Special CBI judge Virender Bhat also imposed a fine of ₹1 lakh each on all three and directed them to surrender before it till 5 pm on Thursday itself.

The Delhi High Court, however, put on hold Jaitley's four-year jail term. The High Court has sought the CBI's response on Jaitley's appeal challenging her conviction and sentence in the case.

Jaitley, her former party colleague Gopal Pachherwal and Major General (retd) S.P. Murgai were held guilty of corruption and criminal conspiracy in the purported purchase of hand-held thermal imagers.

The case stemmed from 'Operation Westend' sting aired by a news portal in January 2001.

While convicting the

three accused, the court held that they, along with Surender Kumar Surekha (who later turned approver), were party to a criminal conspiracy that took place between December 2000 and January 2001 at Delhi.

The court observed that while Jaitley accepted ₹2 lakh illegally from Mathew Samuel, a representative of fictional company Westend International, Maj Gen Murgai received ₹20,000.

The illegal money was accepted for obtaining supply orders for hand held thermal imagers from the Army.

They were convicted of the offence of conspiracy (Section 120-B IPC read with Section 9 (taking gratification, for exercise of personal influence with public servant) of Prevention of Corruption Act.

The court held it is "proved beyond doubt that in the meeting in the hotel room on December 25, 2000, Surekha and Murgai assured their assistance to Samuel in procuring letter of evaluation for the product of his company

from the ministry of defence and also to arrange a meeting between him and accused Jaya Jaitley who would provide political cover to them in this regard."

"It was agreed that Samuel would pay ₹1 lakh each to Surekha and Murgai and ₹2 lakh to Jaitley," the court noted.

"Thus there had been an agreement between them to obtain the evaluation letter for the concerned product by illegal means, i.e. by resort to corruption and personal influence upon the concerned officials," it said, adding, "Accordingly, Pachherwal arranged the said meeting for December 28, 2000. He too was present in the said meeting in the room of Jaitley along with Surekha, Samuel and Murgai."

The court further said, "In that meeting, which took place in the official residence of the then Union minister for defence, George Fernandes, Samuel was introduced to Jaitley as a businessman whose company intends to enter the market of defence procurement."

## Priyanka vacates official bungalow

**New Delhi, July 30:** Senior Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Thursday vacated her official bungalow at Delhi's posh Lodhi Estate area before the deadline specified in the July 1 eviction order.

The central government, in the notice, had asked her to vacate the sprawling premises by August 1 or face monetary penalty.

An official statement issued by the Congress said Gandhi handed over the possession of her 35, Lodhi Estate bungalow, "previously allotted to her, on security grounds", to the CPWD on Thursday.

Sources close to her said she will be staying for a few days in her Gurgaon, penthouse before shifting to central Delhi, where she has finalised a house on rent. Renovations are currently going on in her new house in Delhi, they said.

"She will be residing in a temporary accommodation until a more permanent accommodation in Delhi rented by her is ready for use," an official communication from the Congress said.

Earlier in the day, a team of central PWD officials visited her house and took the keys of the Lodhi Estate bungalow.

The Congress said that she has paid all electricity, water and previous dues. — PTI

## SC: Police to probe Sushant's case

PARMOD KUMAR | DC NEW DELHI, JULY 30

The Supreme Court on Thursday junked a public interest plea seeking transfer of investigation in late actor Sushant Singh Rajput's suicide case from Maharashtra police to Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

Asking the PIL petitioner Alka Priya to go to Bombay High Court if she has anything concrete to show, a bench comprising Chief Justice Sharad A. Bobde, Justice A.S. Bopanna and Justice V. Ra-

masubramanian dismissed the PIL observing "let police do its job".

"The Mumbai police are probing the matter. If you want you can go before the Bombay HC and seek appropriate relief," said the CJI refusing to entertain the plea.

Meanwhile, Sushant's father Krishna Kishore Singh has filed a caveat in SC seeking to be heard before any decision is taken on Rhea Chakraborty's plea seeking transfer of investigation into FIR lodged in Patna to Mumbai.

## CONG CONDOLES BENGAL UNIT CHIEF MITRA'S DEATH

**New Delhi, July 30:** The Congress on Thursday condoled the passing away of party's West Bengal unit president Somen Mitra, with senior leaders hailing him as a "fighter" who was respected across the political spectrum.

Mitra died at a Kolkata hospital early Thursday. He was 78.

Congress president Sonia Gandhi condoled Mitra's demise, describing him as a leader with resolve and determination.

She said that in his demise, Bengal, as indeed the Congress Party, had lost a pillar of strength.

She underlined that his contributions and services to the people as a legislator, parliamentarian and president of the PCC will always be remembered.

"We are shocked and deeply saddened by the untimely demise of senior Congress leader & West Bengal PCC President, Shri Somen Mitra. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family in this time of grief," the Congress said in a tweet on its official Twitter handle.

In a letter to Mitra's wife Shikha, former prime minister Manmohan Singh praised him.

- PTI

## Separatist camp in disarray, supporters bewildered

YUSUF JAMEEL | DC SRINAGAR, JULY 30

Jammu and Kashmir's separatist camp has been in a state of stagnation since August 5 last year when the Centre cancelled the special status and downgraded the state by bifurcating it into two Union Territories.

Even the key faces in the separatist camp, who would earlier rule the roost and whose writ ran large over vast sections of Muslim population, mainly in the Valley, have miserably failed to play any predictable or even customary role in Kashmiri politics during past one year. This has pushed the entire separatist camp in disarray and its supporters in public dispirited and bewildered.

Weeks after the Centre moved harshly on J&K, it was widely rumoured in the Valley and beyond that some of the separatist leaders who were among those

365 DAYS AFTER 370

detained around August 5 signed bonds to secure their release.

As also reported by sections of the media, the detainees, mostly politicians from both mainstream and separatist camps, were offered to be released by the authorities on the condition that they sign the bond, agreeing to cease their political activities.

Even after the lapse of one year, the separatist leadership remains in the doldrums, unable to guide their supporters on the issues they would insist on being a 'matter of life and death' for Kashmir and its people.

The issuing guarded statements occasionally is like 'one swallow does not make a spring', as was put by a supporter. He asserted,

"They have betrayed us."

The BJP calls the jumble and the killing of over 250 militants including a couple of dozen top commanders in security forces' operations since August 5 last year a "big achievement" of the Modi government. It also says that it has broken the Kashmir jinx.

Independent watchers, however, say the government's brutal policies towards J&K have, on one hand, only decimated pro-India constituency in the politically sensitive Valley, and, on the other, proliferated a young generation of diehard legacy and that to handle it might not be an easy task ahead.

The not-so-good human rights situation in J&K has already prompted various international organisations and, also some countries other than Pakistan and its allies, to call for corrective measures.

**KARABUU**  
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## DECCAN Chronicle

31 JULY 2020

### Devil in detail of new education blueprint

On the face of it, there is a lot to cheer about the new education policy. Coming as it is after a long wait of 34 years, it proposes to introduce multidisciplinary to courses, expanding their depth and scope, open the door to vocational training and options for earning livelihood by allowing students to step away from higher education and return when they can and bring much-needed relief to them from the pressures of the perform-or-perish Boards. These are commendable goals. However, read the fine print, and come away sceptical. The policy is a grand vision document indeed, but the devil lies in the detail of implementation. For this, the outlook is not hopeful.

Take the proposal regarding autonomy of institutions. The policy announces all higher education institutions are to become autonomous self-governing entities. But the record of the government in charge of implementing this recommendation repeatedly shows its supporters infiltrating boards and administrative bodies. According to the new policy, there will be a single regulator for higher education, the proposed Higher Education Commission of India, which will replace bodies such as the UGC and AICTE. This new body, as envisaged in the 2018 bill to form it, is to decide accreditation, grant of autonomy and appointment of vice-chancellors to universities, but it will be, in turn, bound by the guidance of an advisory body headed by the education minister. So once the policy is implemented, expect greater centralisation and commercialisation of education via indiscriminate entry of private parties. Next, the policy announces that the government's spends on education will be raised to six per cent of the GDP. As over the past six years of the rule of the Narendra Modi government, this figure has consistently fallen, that inspires little trust. The language policy for primary schools is the elephant in the room. It has been proposed that English as a medium of instruction be dropped in these schools. This is even as the government has set, putatively, multilingualism as one of the cornerstones of its new learning strategy. But consider: What if the regional language where the school is located is different from the student's mother tongue? Will they be then taught in their mother tongue or the regional language? What if the student's mother speaks one language and the father a different language, in the case of children from mixed marriages? What if the parents have transferable jobs? How will they be expected to have a good learning outcome if they keep switching languages? In addition to these practical impediments, consider the fact that in a country as diverse and mobile as India, it is still English, not Hindi, that serves as a universal business language. To rob a child of their prospects of becoming a natural (as distinct from native) English speaker under these circumstances is to professionally and economically disempower them. It is all very well to bring in the study of Sanskrit and foreign languages at all levels, but at what cost? Already, there is opposition to the teaching of Arabic in Kerala from Hindutva elements.

It all points to the fact that this move has the blessings not only of the Cabinet but also the RSS. The government's ideological mentor has stated that 80 per cent of its suggestions were incorporated in the policy; thus, for it, this has been just the start it was looking for in this arena. Or else, what was the compelling reason behind steamrolling the blueprint in a pandemic year, at a time when schools and universities are non-operational, bypassing Parliament and not taking into confidence the governments of the Union Territories and the states?

### 'Dangerous' for his views

The arrest and incarceration of Prof. Hany Babu Tharayil of Delhi University in the Bhima Koregaon violence case is yet another instance of how the NDA government at the Centre is using its investigating agencies to harass people who oppose its ideology. Dr Babu, a human rights activist and being vocal about it, is accused of having links with those involved in the violent incidents that took place as part of the Elgar Parishad event organised by the Kabir Kala Manch at Shaniwarwada in Pune on December 31, 2017. According to NIA, Prof. Babu propagated Naxal activities, Maoist ideologies and was being a "co-conspirator" in the case. The agency had arrested two other accused, writer and Dalit thinker Anand Telumbe and journalist Gautam Navlakha, on April 14. The case of an event of local violence was being investigated by the Maharashtra police when the Union government took over the case in February this year and handed it over to NIA. It may be recalled that Sharad Pawar, supremo of the Nationalist Congress Party, a partner in the Maharashtra's ruling coalition, had called the takeover "unfair" and said a special investigation team must probe the case.

The draconian provisions of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, which have been slapped against the intellectuals, will ensure that they will rot behind the bars as is the case of poet Varavara Rao, who has been jailed in the same case, for a long time. And it will happen at time when BJP leaders such as Kapil Sharma, who openly called for violent attack on people during the riots in Delhi, will roam about freely in the nation's capital with impunity. The message is clear: the ruling dispensation can put behind bars intellectuals opposed to it one after the other and allow the real trouble-makers go scot free. Not a comforting message at all.

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ADITYA SINHA  
Editor

K. SUBHAKAR  
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DECCAN CHRONICLE offices are located at:

**Hyderabad:** 36, Sarojini Devi Road, Secunderabad - 500 003, Ph: 040-27803930-4; Fax: 040-27805256  
**Vijayawada:** No.C-3 & 4 Putamata, Industrial Estate, Auto Nagar, Vijayawada (A.P.), Ph: 0866-2555284/2555287; Telefax: 0866-2555234  
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**Kozhikode:** Door No 6/1002 E, First Floor of City Mall, Opp. YMCA, Kannur Road, Kozhikode - 673 001, Fax : 0495 4019 018  
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Subhani



## Reviving Congress will be a very difficult task



Sanjay Kumar

In a long political journey, political parties may win and lose elections, face ups and downs, but the crisis which the Congress Party is facing at the moment is much deeper than merely dissatisfaction, defection, disavowal and factional infighting. The way political events that have unfolded within the Congress during the last few years are clear signals of a grave crisis that the party may find it extremely hard to overcome.

The Congress has not only lost two Lok Sabha and many state Assembly elections one after another, it has also not been able to hold on to power even in the states where it managed to form a government or emerged as the single largest party in the Assembly. It remains in power only in a handful of states either on its own or in alliance with regional parties.

The Congress has been extremely marginalised in states where it has not been in power for some time, and its voteshare declined to single digits. In states where the Congress lost power in recent Assembly elections, it trailed behind the winner by a big margin of votes. What has added to the problems of the Congress is defections and desertions by some important leaders. Given these circumstances, a revival of the Congress is going to be extremely difficult as the problems are manifold.

The Congress is out of power at the Centre and will remain out of power at least till 2024. It has lost elections in many states and is currently in power only in three states — Chhattisgarh, Punjab and Rajasthan, and is a coalition partner in the gov-

ernments of Jharkhand, Maharashtra and Puducherry. While that count might suggest that the Congress is sharing power in at least six states, some of them count for very little in national politics in terms of the number of members they send to Parliament.

Not only has the Congress lost many elections, it has even failed to hold on to power in the states where it formed the government. Defections have posed a huge challenge for the Congress in recent times. After it had formed the government in Karnataka in association with the JD(U), it lost power in the state due to defections, and recently lost power in Madhya Pradesh, could not form the government in Goa even after winning more seats than the BJP, and lost power in Arunachal Pradesh due to the large-scale defection of Congress MLAs to the BJP. In Manipur, the defection of Congress MLAs enabled the BJP to form government in the state. The Congress should have been in power in these states in an ideal situation, if the party had not faced defections.

The Congress also suffered a setback as many leaders either defected to other parties or left the party. While Bhupaneswar Kalita, Sanjay Singh and Jyotiraditya Scindia left the Congress and joined the BJP, Priyanka Chaturvedi, having left the Congress, joined the Shiv Sena, and Ajay Alok joined the AAP. The young leader from Haryana, Ashok Tanwar, left the party before the Assembly election, while spokesperson Sanjay Jha was recently suspended from the party.

The recent defections

and desertion from the Congress is mainly in the states where Congress has some stakes, but that does not indicate that all is well with the party in the remaining states. The party is lying very low in many states and it would be a herculean task for it to revive again. In Bihar, the Congress has been completely marginalised and its voteshare has fallen below 10 per cent in several elections during the last couple of decades: it was 6.7 per cent during the 2015 Assembly elections. The party which ruled Delhi for 15 long years polled only 4.2 per cent votes during the 2020 Assembly election. The electoral contest in West Bengal remains restricted mainly between the BJP and the Trinamul Congress, and the Congress is completely marginalised, with only 12.2 per cent of the vote during the 2016 Assembly election. In Uttar Pradesh, the state which sends the largest number of MPs to the Lok Sabha, the Congress has been pushed to fourth position, with just 6.2 per cent votes during the 2017 election. In Jharkhand, though it is a coalition partner in the Hemant Soren-led UPA government, its voteshare is a low 13.8 per cent.

When the India Gandhi-led Congress was decisively defeated in the 1977 Lok Sabha polls, the southern states had remained with the party, but now the Congress seems to have completely collapsed in the South. The Congress has been completely marginalised in Tamil Nadu for decades — in the 2016 Assembly election it polled only 6.4 per cent

votes. Ever since Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy broke away from the Congress, the party has been completely wiped out in Andhra Pradesh, polling only 1.1 per cent votes in the 2019 Assembly elections. Though the Congress remains the single largest party in terms of vote-share in Karnataka, the BJP has made heavy inroads. In Kerala, in the sea-saw change of government, the Congress-led UDF has been alternating with the CPI(M)-led LDF every five years, but the Congress is heavily dependent on the Muslim League in the state. There are other states where the Congress still has a sizeable support base — Assam, Gujarat, Haryana, Odisha — but it is far behind the winner.

The story of the Congress remains the same in the Northeast. The party was wiped out in Nagaland, where it polled 2.1 per cent votes in the last Assam elections; in Sikkim its voteshare was less than one per cent in the 2019 Assembly elections and in Tripura it polled 1.7 per cent votes in the 2018 elections. In Manipur, Meghalaya and Mizoram, the Congress may have a decent voteshare, but not enough to hold power. The mass defections in Arunachal Pradesh led to it losing power to the BJP, while in Manipur the defection of one Congress MLA enabled the BJP to form the government. In Mizoram, the Congress got 29.9 per cent votes but the MNF is in power in the state. In Meghalaya, similarly, despite getting 28.5 per cent votes in the 2018 election, the Congress failed to form the government, but the NDA did. In short, any revival of the Congress seems a herculean task at this juncture.

*The writer is a professor at the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies and a political commentator. The views expressed here are personal.*

#### LETTERS

#### EDUCATION POLICY

The New Education Policy (NEP) brings about lot of changes in the education system (NEP for fewer exams, focuses on learning, DC, July 30). It will help children to develop skills in their areas of interest and pursue a career.

**Sreelakshmi Peri**  
Secunderabad

The fundamental aim of any education is learning. However, a majority of students from any stream strive to get a good job for a livelihood. It is in this regard the policy appears to have failed. There is no priority given to revamp the curriculum with emphasis on meeting the requirement of the ever-changing demand of the job market. Further, we have almost gone back to the old system without giving autonomy to change the curriculum so as to make it easier to implement. The Centre should decentralise the powers of the UGC and other such bodies for adaptation to market based education.

**Dr P.L.Panda**  
Hyderabad

#### STATE GOVERNORS

I appreciate your editorial (*Raj governor should not stand in the way of House, DC, July 30*). Whenever an assembly is in a political crisis, Governors are seen crossing the lines of Constitutional provisions. I think the citizens and the Centre revisit the utility of a Governor. The post in modern days is just an ornamental one and whenever his office needs to act, it will be an impediment to normal functioning of Legislative Assembly representing the citizens. This expensive post has become a dumping ground for retarded politicians.

**M. Vijayan**  
Secunderabad

#### Bahuguna warns against 'dark forces'

By a staff reporter

HYDERABAD, July 30  
Mr. H.N. Bahuguna, General Secretary of the Ruling Congress today warned the Cong-R legislators in Andhra Pradesh against the "dark forces" which were trying to envelope the country.

**50 YEARS AGO IN DECCAN Chronicle** Address-

ing the Cong-R legislators, he asked them to cast a spell over the people by taking the message of Cong-R to them through song, music, dance and drama. The General Secretary of the AICC suggested that sitting members of the Legislative Assembly should be made responsible for a constituency they had lost.

Sanju Verma



## India has got a good start on path to self-reliance

Even as the Coronavirus pandemic is bringing global economies to a grinding halt this year, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, undeterred by the enormity of the challenge, recently unleashed a ₹20.97 lakh crore mega stimulus package, equal to roughly 10.48 per cent of India's GDP. Another ₹90,000 crores is being spent for providing free foodgrain to over 80 crore people, which is more than double the population of the United States. From being an importer in March this year to becoming the world's second largest PPE kit manufacturer, producing over 4.5 lakh kits daily, Aatma Nirbhar Bharat has taken firm roots.

Reduction in corporate tax rate from 30 per cent to 22 per cent and for new companies to 15 per cent, allowing the private sector in commercial coal mining on a revenue sharing basis with no end use restrictions, 100 per cent FDI via the automatic route in defence manufacturing, single brand retail and real estate broking services and privatisation of power distribution companies in Union Territories underpin the essence of Modinomics.

In the first year of his second term,

Narendra Modi's landmark steps have been many — the decision to implement Rs 102 lakh crore worth of infrastructure projects via the national infrastructure pipeline, lowering employees' state insurance act (ESIC) contribution from 6.5 per cent to four per cent, which benefits 3.6 crore employees and 12.85 lakh employers, a monthly pension of Rs 3,000 to over 42 crore small traders and shopkeepers in the unorganised sector after they attain 60 years of age under the PM Shram Yogi Maandhan Yojana, passing the Code on Wages Bill 2019, which will benefit over 500 million workers across the country and, of course, the recent historic decision to defang agricultural produce marketing committees and amend the Essential Commodities Act of 1955, to enable farmers to sell their produce to whomsoever they wish to sell to without any inter-state barriers or any price or quantity related restrictions are measures that showcase how good politics and good economics can peacefully co-exist.

More recently, measures like the ₹3 lakh crore of collateral free loans to micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), liquidity support of ₹6,750 crore by bringing provi-

dent fund rate down from 12 per cent to 10 per cent, reducing the benchmark repo rate to four per cent, the lowest in 20 years, ₹2 lakh crore concessional credit for farmers and fishermen via Kisan Credit cards, throwing open six new airports for privatisation via the public-private partnership (PPP) route, allowing private sector in space exploration and, of course, decriminalising certain offences under the Companies Act have been commendable.

The Bank Nationalisation Act of 1969, a forgettable vestige of outdated Nehruvian socialism, has been a millstone for public sector banks. By merging SBI with its five associates and the Bharatiya Mahila Bank in 2017, Mr Modi created a banking behemoth with an asset size of over ₹41 lakh crores and over 370 million customers. The decision to thereafter consolidate 10 public sector banks into four, allowing the private sector to enter into non-strategic areas and, the decision to privatise power distribution companies in Union Territories, are a reflection of how Modinomics is following the path of minimum government, maximum governance.

Be it Ayushman Bharat, the largest healthcare scheme globally,

which has given free treatment to well over one crore people since its inception, the PM-Kisan initiative which gives ₹6,000 per annum to over 14.5 crore farmers, or the PM Ujjwala Yojana that gave free gas connections last year, to over eight crore households, the Modi government has given last mile connectivity a whole new meaning.

Clearly, Mr Modi has many firsts to his credit, including PM Jan Dhan Yojana, the largest financial inclusion scheme in the world with over 38 crore account holders, the Swachh Bharat mission, the largest sanitation scheme globally, with over 11 crore toilets built and, of course, the direct benefit transfer scheme, that till date has directly transferred cash worth ₹8.91 lakh crores, to various beneficiaries. Under an inept UPA, money meant for the poor was pilfered by wily middlemen, but under the Modi government, the policy framework has been overhauled to ensure that Nehruvian-style nepotism does not stand a chance. The Manipur water supply project, meant to provide clean drinking water to Greater Imphal and 1,700 villages in Manipur, is yet another example of how Modinomics is mainstreaming the North-east, which was neglected

by the Congress for decades together.

Giving self-reliance and India's domestic civilian nuclear programme a new dimension is the Kakrapar project, the country's first 700 MWe unit and the biggest indigenously developed variant of the pressurised heavy water reactor. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Aatma Nirbhar Bharat is inclusive, pluralistic, bereft of incrementalism and seeks to be globally competitive. This is evident from tech giant Apple's decision of manufacturing one of its latest offerings — the iPhone 11, at Foxconn's Chennai plant. Be it Google's decision to invest \$10bn in the next five-seven years via a digitisation fund, Samsung's decision to manufacture smartwatches at its Noida plant, Amazon setting up its largest facility centre in Hyderabad last year, or the 750MW solar power plant coming up at Rewa in Madhya Pradesh, Mr Modi's Make in India vision is shaping up robustly. With a forex war chest of over \$517 billion, clearly, the world is India's oyster.

*The writer is an economist, chief spokesperson for BJP in Mumbai and author of 'Truth & Dare — The Modi Dynamic*



## IN BRIEF

**Pak Senate nod to 2 FATF bills**

**Islamabad:** Pakistan's Senate on Thursday unanimously approved two bills related to the tough conditions set by the global money laundering and terrorist financing watchdog FATF, a day after they were passed in the National Assembly amidst vociferous protest from the Opposition parties. The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Amendment Bill, 2020, and the Anti-Terrorism Act Amendment Bill, 2020, were presented by Advisor to Prime Minister on Parliamentary Affairs Senator Babar Awan. The bills include measures of freezing and seizure of assets, travel ban, and arms embargo on the entities and individuals, who are designated on the sanctions list of the United Nations and impose heavy fine and long-term jails for those facilitating militancy. The two bills passed by the National Assembly on Wednesday fulfil various requirements of the Paris-based Financial Action Task Force.

**Indictment: Plea by Zardari**

SHAFQAT ALI | DC  
ISLAMABAD, JULY 30

Pakistan People's Party (PPP) co-chairman Asif Ali Zardari on Thursday submitted a plea in the court requesting to halt indictment proceedings against him in Thatta Water Supply reference. The accountability court has issued a notice to National Accountability Bureau (NAB) on Mr Zardari's plea. The court had decided to indict Zardari in Thatta water supply reference on August 4. Earlier, NAB court had postponed indictment of Zardari and his sister Faryal Talpur in mega money laundering case till August 7. In December 2019, Zardari was released on medical grounds after an accountability court in Islamabad issued separate orders in the Park Lane Estate Company and the money laundering through fake bank accounts cases against him.

**Storm Isaias hits Puerto Rico**

**San Juan:** Tropical Storm Isaias was battering Puerto Rico early Thursday with high winds and heavy rains, according to the US National Hurricane Center. Isaias was located about 100 miles (160 kilometres) west southwest of Ponce, Puerto Rico, and about 160 miles southeast of Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. It had maximum sustained winds of 60 mph and was moving west northwest at 21 mph. A west-northwestward to northward motion with some decrease in forward speed is expected over the next couple of days. The center of Isaias will move over Hispaniola late Thursday and near the southeastern Bahamas by early Friday. Tropical-storm-force winds extend outward up to 415 miles from the centre.

**JAPAN GAS LEAK KILLS 1, INJURES 17**

**Tokyo, July 30:** A sudden explosion from a suspected gas leak blew out walls and windows in part of a northern Japanese town Thursday morning, killing one person and injuring 17 others. There was no sign of a fire and investigators at the suspect a gas leak may have caused the blast, Koriyama fire department official Hiroki Ogawa said. Local media say a gas leak and explosion occurred at Onyasai restaurant. So far, one person was confirmed dead and 17 others have been taken to hospitals. Two of them were seriously injured, Ogawa said. The area has been closed off and neighbours have been evacuated. NHK footage showed only a skeleton left of a building, the steel structure gnawed and pieces of wall and glass scattered around. Several employees and customers at a nearby bank were injured, NHK said. The explosion occurred in a crowded business and commercial district close to the city's main train station, where hospitals, schools and the city hall are also located. "I heard a 'boom' and felt the ground shaking, so I thought it was an earthquake, but the shaking didn't last very long so I realised it wasn't," an employee at nearby Kuwano Kyoritsu Hospital told NHK. Nobody was injured at the hospital, although some of its windows were shattered. The restaurant was undergoing repairs, according to its owner, casual dining group Colowide Co.

**US Covid death toll passes 1.5L**

**Washington, July 30:** The US has recorded over 150,000 Covid-19 deaths, another grim milestone that comes amidst warning from a top Indian-American physician that the country has failed to arrest the spread of the deadly pandemic. America's Coronavirus death toll was 150,676 as of Wednesday — more than a fifth of the world's recorded deaths, according to Johns Hopkins University. The US also had over 4,426,000 confirmed cases, making it the world's worst-hit country. The first death in the US was reported on February 29. The country reached 50,000 deaths 54 days later on April 23, and 34 days

later, on May 27, crossed 100,000 deaths. It has taken 63 days to add another 50,000 to reach the 150,000 mark, CNN reported. "I think the fact that we as a country have not been able to get our arms around this, have not prioritised preventing those deaths is all that much more maddening," Dr Ashish Jha, director of the Harvard Global Health Institute, said. "And so, for me it's frustration, it's sadness. And a resolve to try to figure out how we prevent the next 150,000," Jha told CNN. "I think we can, but we're really going to have to work for it," he added. Some states in the US are seeing their highest death tolls. — PTI

**CARELESS YOUTH DRIVING SOME COVID-19 SPIKES, SAYS WHO**

**Geneva, July 30:** The World Health Organisation on Thursday warned that spikes in Coronavirus transmission in a number of countries were being driven by young people "letting down their guard". "Young people are not invincible," WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus told a virtual news conference in Geneva. While the pandemic, which has killed nearly 670,000 and infected more than 17 million people worldwide, has disproportionately impacted the elderly

and people with pre-existing conditions, he stressed that "younger people are at risk too". He lamented that a major challenge in trying to rein in the Coronavirus was "convincing younger people of this risk". He said there was evidence that "spikes of cases in some countries are being driven in part by younger people letting down their guard." WHO's technical lead for Covid-19 Maria Van Kerkhove lamented that nightclubs had become "amplifiers" of transmission. — AFP

**Trump floats poll 'delay'**

**Washington, July 30:** President Donald Trump is for the first time floating a "delay" to November's presidential election, as he makes unsubstantiated allegations that increased mail-in voting will result in fraud.

The dates of federal elections — the Tuesday after the first Monday in November — are enshrined in federal law and would require an act of Congress to change. The Constitution makes no provisions for a delay to the January 20, 2021 presidential inauguration.

Trump tweeted Thursday: "With Universal Mail-In Voting (not Absentee Voting, which is good), 2020 will be the most INACCURATE & FRAUDULENT Election in history. It will be a great embarrassment to the USA. Delay the Election until people can properly, securely and safely vote?"

There is no evidence of

widespread voter fraud through mail-in voting, even in states with all-mail votes. Five states already rely exclusively on mail-in ballots, and they say they have necessary safeguards in place to ensure that a hostile foreign actor doesn't disrupt the vote.

Election security experts say that all forms of voter fraud are rare, including absentee balloting.

Trump has increasingly sought to cast doubt on November's election and the expected surge in mail-in and absentee voting as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic. And Trump has called remote voting options the "biggest risk" to his reelection. Trump's campaign said the President was offering a query. "The President is just raising a question about the chaos Democrats have created with their insistence on all mail-in voting," campaign spokesman Hogan Gidley said. — AP

**Chinese long-range bombers join drills in South China Sea****THREAT FROM CCP REAL: POMPEO**

**Beijing, July 30:** China said on Thursday that long-range bombers were among the aircraft that took part in recent aerial drills over the South China Sea amid rising tensions between Washington and Beijing over the strategic waterway. The exercises included nighttime takeoffs and landings and simulated long-range attacks, Defence Ministry spokesperson Ren Guoqiang said. Among the planes were H-6G and H-6K bombers, upgraded versions of planes long in use with the People's Liberation Army Air Force and the People's Liberation Army Navy Air Force, Ren said.

He said the exercises had been previously scheduled and were aimed at boosting

pilot abilities to operate under all natural conditions. It wasn't clear whether live bombs were used. Ren's statement appeared to distance the drills from recent accusations exchanged between the sides over China's claim to virtually all of the South China Sea, which it has buttressed in recent years by building man-made islands equipped with runways. The US this month for the first time rejected China's claims outright, prompting Beijing to accuse it of seeking to create discord between China and its neighbours. Five other governments also exercise claims in the South China Sea, through which \$5 trillion in trade is transported annually. — AP

**Washington, July 30:** The threat from the Communist Party of China (CCP) is very real, US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said Wednesday asserting that the Trump administration has begun to take all the "right actions" to rebalance the relationship with Beijing in a way that protects and secures freedom for Americans.

Pompeo also expressed hoped that the Chinese would decide that their commitments under the Phase one trade deal must be complied with.

— PTI



## Expression of Investment






Expression of Interest (Eoi) invited for development/setting up of Integrated Textile & Apparel Parks at various locations in Uttar Pradesh

Department of Handloom & Textiles, Government of Uttar Pradesh plans to promote private sector led Integrated Textile Park at various locations in the state. These parks will be developed and operated by private developer and all the requisite assistance will be provided by Government of Uttar Pradesh.

Towards this, Department of Handloom & Textiles, Government of Uttar Pradesh is inviting Expression of Interest (Eoi) from interested developers for setting up of such Integrated Textile and Apparel Industrial Parks in the state. The Eoi document and details of submission of e-Bids are available at the e-Tender portal <https://etender.up.nic.in> and department's website [www.handloom.upsdc.gov.in](http://www.handloom.upsdc.gov.in) (to be best viewed in google chrome). The last date for submission of e-Bids is **20/08/2020**.

For details, kindly contact **Mr. K.P. Verma**, Department of Handloom & Textiles, Government of Uttar Pradesh on mobile number **9415268129** or email id **kpverma1970@gmail.com**

Department of Handloom & Textiles, Government of Uttar Pradesh




भारत सरकार / Government of India

परमाणु ऊर्जा विभाग / Department of Atomic Energy

इंदिरा गांधी परमाणु अनुसंधान केंद्र

/ Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research

कल्पक्कम / Kalpakkam - 603 102.



Online item rate tenders in two parts are invited through e-tendering mode by the Chief Engineer, CEG on behalf of President of India in two bid, from eligible contractors for the following works.

Sl. No.	Tender No.	Name of work	Estimated cost	Earnest Money Deposit	Tender processing Fees	Time Allowed
1	CEG/IGC/1617/2020	Providing wall painting and murals and other miscellaneous works in DAE Nodal centre, Chennai.	<b>Rs. 13.20 Lakhs</b>	<b>Rs. 26,400/-</b>	<b>Rs. 5900/-</b>	<b>2 [Two] Months</b>
2	CEG/IGC/1618/2020	Applying Coal Tar epoxy coating and spreading soil murrum in below ground structures of Doppler weather Radar & wind profiler building in KKM plant site in IGCAR at Kalpakkam.	<b>Rs. 14.49 Lakhs</b>	<b>Rs. 28,980/-</b>	<b>Rs. 5900/-</b>	<b>9 [Nine] Months</b>
3	CEG/IGC/1619/2020	Providing water proofing in substation & DG room at DFRP in IGCAR at Kalpakkam.	<b>Rs. 18.39 Lakhs</b>	<b>Rs. 36,780/-</b>	<b>Rs. 5900/-</b>	<b>6 [Six] Months</b>
4	CEG/IGC/1620/2020	Providing and laying of RCC Pedestal for chilled water line from CWCP to DFRP and various locations in IGCAR at Kalpakkam.	<b>Rs. 22.65 Lakhs</b>	<b>Rs. 45,300/-</b>	<b>Rs. 5900/-</b>	<b>6 [Six] Months</b>
5	CEG/IGC/1621/2020	Maintenance and improvement of landscape area and maintenance of garden water supply in Southern part of IGCAR during the year 2020-2021.	<b>Rs. 49.85 Lakhs</b>	<b>Rs. 99,700/-</b>	<b>Rs. 5900/-</b>	<b>12 [Twelve] Months</b>
6.	CEG/IGC/1622/2020	Construction of Under ground sump at sewage treatment plant & RCL in IGCAR at Kalpakkam.	<b>Rs. 102.37 Lakhs</b>	<b>Rs. 2,04,740/-</b>	<b>Rs. 5900/-</b>	<b>8 [Eight] Months</b>

Tender documents are available for sale / downloading from 05-08-2020 (10:00 Hrs) to 21-08-2020 (15:00 Hrs). Last date of closing of online submission of tenders: 27-08-2020 (14:30Hrs).

Last date for submission of original : **Upto 15:00 Hours on 27-08-2020**  
DD/BC/PO etc., towards EMD at office of Chief Engineer, CEG, IGCAR, Kalpakkam.

Time of opening of Technical bid at Office of : **15:00 hours on 01-09-2020**  
Chief Engineer, CEG, IGCAR, Kalpakkam.

Financial Bids of qualified bidders will be opened at a later date to be notified separately.


Detailed NIT & tender documents are available on website [www.tenderwizard.com/DAE](http://www.tenderwizard.com/DAE) for free view / download. Registered contractors only can download & submit / upload tenders. Interested agencies may visit this website for registration.

Detailed NIT is also available on [website www.igcar.gov.in/tenders](http://www.igcar.gov.in/tenders) for view only. For further information, please contact 044-27480500-Extn 22353 / 22341 (or) 27480306; Fax 044-27480306 on all working days.

**Chief Engineer, CEG**  
Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research

The Global Compass  
of Marketing  
Communications

**IAAglobal.org**



Har ek friend zaroori hota hai... ♪♪♪

**Economic revival. Advertising does it best.**

Even as governments try to revive businesses and industry, their efforts are incomplete without advertising that reconnects consumers to their favorite brands and gets them shopping again. Advertising powers brands through with re-energized sales and production. And keeps the wheels of industry turning. And helps create and save jobs. Setting off a ripple of prosperity and confidence that takes growth graphs northwards.

**Let's advertise. And get those cash registers singing.**  
**Ting ting da ting.**

Jingle courtesy Bharti Airtel Ltd





quick BITES

INDICATORS		%
Sensex	37,736.07	-0.88
Nifty 50	11,102.15	-0.90
S&P 500*	3,241.97	-0.51
Dollar (₹)	74.84	-0.04
Pound Sterling (₹)	97.16	-0.20
Euro (₹)	87.95	-0.04
Gold (10gm)* (₹)	53,860▲118	0.00
Brent crude (\$/bbl)*	42.96	-0.79
IN 10-Yr bond yield	5.825	-0.010
US 10-Yr T-bill yield*	0.543	-0.038

**Local shops to make Prime Day debut: Amazon**  
Over 100 small and medium businesses and start-ups on Amazon.in will be launching more than 1,000 new products across 17 categories on Prime Day this year on August 6 and 7. Thousands of local shops on Amazon sellers will be also making their Prime Day debut in India, the e-tailer said in a statement. Start-ups and small businesses from Amazons Launchpad programme will be launching unique products, it said.

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■ Net rises to ₹13,248 cr in June quarter  
**Reliance posts record profit**

**New Delhi, July 30:** Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) on Thursday reported record net profit of Rs 13,248 crore in the June quarter after one-time gain from stake sale as well as bumper telecom revenues cushioned Covid-19-hit earnings from refining, petchem and retail segments.

The net profit in April-June was 30.6 per cent higher than it was in the same period a year back, and bettered the company's previous best of Rs 11,640 crore earning in October-December 2019, the company said in a statement.

The conglomerate said it had a one-time gain of Rs 4,966 crore from sale of 49 per cent stake in fuel retailing venture to BP plc.

This together with 183 per cent jump in Reliance Jio's standalone net profit to Rs 2,520 crore covered up drop in earnings from mainstay segments.

Ebitda (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortisation) declined by 11.8 per cent to Rs 21,585 crore "due to lower contribution from oil-to-chemical (O2C) business, which was impacted by significant demand destruction and margin pressure across transportation fuels and polyester chain."

Also, lower realisation in the export market also impacted profitability.

"Closure of stores and restrictions on operations across the country due to Covid-19 contributed to a



**COGNIZANT Q2 INCOME DOWN 29%, SEES STRONG GROWTH AHEAD**

**New Delhi, July 30:** IT major Cognizant has reported a 29 per cent drop in the June quarter net income at \$361 million (around Rs 2,701 crore), but is confident of logging strong growth in the coming quarters on the back of strong bookings and demand for digital services.

The US-based company, which posted net income of \$509 million in the June 2019 quarter, said it expects its FY2020 revenue to be in the range of \$16.4-16.7 billion.

decrease in Ebitda of Retail business. This was partially offset by an increase in Ebitda of Digital services business due to improved margins and continued subscriber momentum," it said. RIL chairman Mukesh D

For the June 2020 quarter, Cognizant's revenue saw 3.4 per cent decline (2.5 per cent in constant currency) at \$4 billion from \$4.14 billion in the year-ago period.

Cognizant, which has about 2 lakh employees based in India, follows January-December as financial year.

"We delivered a solid second quarter performance whilst continuing to improve our competitiveness," Cognizant CEO Brian Humphries said.

Ambani said: "The severe demand destruction due to global lockdowns impacted our hydrocarbons business but the flexibility in our operations enabled us to operate at near normal levels and deliver industry-leading results".

**J&J vaccine protects monkeys with one shot**

**JULIE STEENHUYSEN**  
JULY 30

Johnson & Johnson on Thursday kicked off US human safety trials for its Covid-19 vaccine after releasing details of a study in monkeys that showed its best-performing vaccine candidate offered strong protection in a single dose.

When exposed to the virus, six out of six animals who got the vaccine candidate were completely protected from lung disease and five out of six were protected from infection as measured by the presence of virus in nasal swabs, according to the study published in the journal *Nature*.

"This gives us confidence that we can test a single-shot vaccine in this epidemic and learn whether it has a protective effect in humans," Dr. Paul Stoffels, J&J's chief scientific officer, told Reuters in a telephone interview.

The drugmaker said it had started early-stage human trials in the United States and Belgium and would test its vaccine candidate in more than 1,000 healthy adults aged 18 to 55 years, as well as adults aged 65 years and older.

The US government is backing J&J's vaccine effort with \$456 million in funding as part of a spending spree aimed at speeding production of a vaccine.

**Audit found cybersecurity lapses at NPCI last year**

**New Delhi, July 30:** A government audit of India's flagship payments processor last year found more than 40 security vulnerabilities, including several it called "critical" and "high" risk, according to an internal government document seen by Reuters.

The audit, which took place over four months to February 2019, highlighted a lack of encryption of personal data at the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) which forms the backbone of the country's digital payments system and operates the RuPay card network championed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The March 2019 government document cited the storing of 16-digit card numbers and other personal information such as customer names, account numbers and national identity numbers in "plain text" in some databases, leaving the data unprotected if the system was breached.

The NPCI said in a statement to Reuters it is regularly audited in the interests of security and senior management reviews all findings, which are then "remediated to (the) satisfaction of the auditors".

National cyber security coordinator Rajesh Pant, whose office coordinated the audit, also said in a statement to Reuters that "all observations raised in last year's report have been confirmed as resolved by the NPCI".

The audit was undertaken to provide the National Security Council with an overview of the NPCI's



defences against cyberattacks. The PMO and the finance ministry did not respond to a Reuters request for comment.

The audit's findings underscore the data-security challenges faced by the NPCI which processes billions of dollars daily via services that include inter-bank fund transfers, ATM transactions and digital payments.

Set up in 2008, the NPCI is a not-for-profit company, which as of March 2019, counted 56 banks as its shareholders, including the State Bank of India, Citibank and HSBC.

RuPay has grown to account for almost two-thirds of nearly 900 million debit and credit cards issued in India as of October, according to NPCI and central bank data.

The audit followed a Reserve Bank of India inspection report on the NPCI in July 2017 that found lapses in its internal auditing practices, operational risks and improper whistleblower policies.

There was "lack of awareness of risks and

risk culture in the institution," according to a mostly redacted version of the 37-page report that was obtained by Reuters via the Right to Information Act (RTI) last year.

The 2019 government document about the audit also noted: "There is a strong need for proper governance."

The RBI conducted another inspection between November and December 2019. A 33-page report on that audit included its assessment of NPCI's governance and operational and credit risks. But most of the report, also obtained by Reuters via the RTI Act, was redacted by the central bank, which cited the need to protect India's and the NPCI's economic interests.

The March 2019 government document said a variety of card numbers were unencrypted within the NPCI database for the country's network of almost 250,000 ATMs, while unencrypted RuPay card numbers could also be seen in the organisation's server logs.

— Reuters

GAMES

SHORT TAKES

**Danish cries foul over Umar case**

**New Delhi:** Former Pakistan spinner Danish Kaneria, who has been trying get his life ban for spot-fixing lifted, on Thursday said PCB's decision to reduce Umar Akmal's suspension for failing to report corrupt approaches smacks of double standards.

The likes of Mohammad Amir, Mohammad Asif and Salman Butt, who too were found guilty of spot-fixing like Kaneria, have been allowed back into the PCB fold. "You call it zero tolerance policy for corruption. Umar was proved guilty but still his ban has been halved. They showed compassion in his case. Amir, Asif, Salman too were allowed to come back, why leave me out?" he asked.

"Why don't they show the same compassion in my case? They say I talk about my religion (he is a Hindu) but what do I say when the discrimination is crystal clear. I am just going by simple logic," he said from Karachi. Independent adjudicator Faqir Mohammad Khokhar stated in his order on Tuesday that the case against Akmal was proved to the hilt. — PTI

**Shooting coach is Covid-19 positive**

**New Delhi:** A shooting coach at the Dr Karni Singh Range here has tested positive for Covid-19 but the development will not force a closure of the facility, where the Olympic core group will start training from August 1. The Sports Authority of India (SAI), in a press release, said the woman coach intimidated the result of her test to it on Thursday but since she did not come in contact with any of the shooters, the facility will remain open for training. The Karni Singh range was reopened on July 8. "The coach had visited the centre's administrative department only on July 24. She did not visit the field of play or interacted with any athlete training at the centre," SAI stated.

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**Champs thumped**

**Juve crash to humiliating defeat in Italy**

**Milan, July 30:** Juventus crashed to a humiliating 0-2 defeat at Cagliari on Wednesday, days after sealing their ninth consecutive Italian league title, prompting coach Maurizio Sarri to consider fielding his Under-23 team in Saturday's finale to conserve resources ahead of their Champions League challenge.

Cagliari's 20-year-old forward Luca Gagliano tapped in the opener eight minutes into his first Serie A match, beating veteran Juventus goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon to score his first top division goal.

And the young Italian then teed up Giovanni Simeone in first half stoppage time to give Cagliari their first win over top bracket Juventus in 11 years.

Cristiano Ronaldo missed the chance to keep pace with Serie A's leading scorer Ciro Immobile, the Portuguese now four goals behind the Lazio forward's tally of 35 with one match remaining.

The five-time Ballon d'Or winner had a goal ruled offside after 16 minutes and was denied twice by Cagliari goalkeeper Alessio Cragnano as the 13th-placed Sardinians ended their eight-match winless run.

It was a worrying performance for Sarri's side, who have won just two of their last seven games, with key forwards Paulo Dybala and Douglas Costa fighting for fitness ahead of the Champions League showdown with Lyon on August 7 in Turin, when they need to overturn a 1-0 first-leg deficit.

— AFP



Cagliari's Luca Gagliano (left) celebrates after scoring during their Italian league match against Juventus at the Sardegna Arena stadium in Cagliari, Italy, on Wednesday. Cagliari won 2-0.

**Criminal case against Fifa chief Infantino**

**Geneva, July 30:** A criminal case against FIFA president Gianni Infantino was opened Thursday by a Swiss special prosecutor, plunging world football's governing body in a new scandal.

Special prosecutor Stefan Keller has concluded there is enough evidence to take the case to court after investigating the circumstances of a meeting Infantino had with Swiss attorney general Michael Lauber, who offered his resignation last week.

"Keller has uncovered elements that make up reprehensible behavior," according to a statement from the Swiss authority overseeing the federal prosecutors office.

Keller opened a criminal case against Infantino as well as Valais prosecutor Rinaldo Arnold, and has sought authorisation to open a legal case against Lauber, too, according to a statement from the Swiss authority.

Keller, a legal expert named to the post of special prosecutor on June 29,

found possible infractions included abuse of public office, breach of official secrecy, assisting offenders and incitement to these acts, the supervisory authority for the office of the attorney general said in its statement, adding other criminal acts and proceedings could also be considered.

The Bahraini is senior vice president of FIFA so would be in line to replace Infantino temporarily if he was suspended due to the criminal case.

— AP

**BARTY SAYS NO TO US OPEN OVER COVID**

**Sydney, July 30:** World number one Ashleigh Barty pulled out of the US Open Thursday over "significant risks" from the Coronavirus pandemic in a major blow for the Grand Slam, which is scheduled to start in New York on August 31.

The Australian is the biggest name so far to withdraw from the tournament, with her decision coming as the United States marked a grim milestone when its Covid-19 deaths topped 150,000.

"My team and I have decided that we won't be travelling to the US for the Western and Southern Open and the US Open this year," she said in a statement to Australian media.

"I love both events so it was a difficult decision but there are still significant risks involved due to COVID-19 and I don't feel comfortable putting my team and I in that position."

"I wish the USTA all the best for the tournaments and look forward to being back in the US next year," she added.

Her decision came despite the New York area keeping Coronavirus cases at a relatively low level since spiking in March and April while areas such as Florida, Texas and California have become hotspots.

It was not unexpected from Barty, who last month expressed concerns about the US Open going ahead, and she won plenty of support Thursday on social media for her "sensible" decision to give it a miss.

Barty, who surged to the top of the rankings last year and has stayed there since, said she would continue to monitor the situation.

**Willey whips Irish cream**

**Southampton, July 30:** David Willey marked his return to England duty with five wickets during an Ireland collapse at Southampton on Thursday as One-Day International cricket resumed for the first time since the Coronavirus lockdown.

Willey took 5-30 as Ireland were all out for 172 in 44.4 overs after losing the toss in a match that launches the new World Cup Super League, which will determine qualification for the 2023 50-over showpiece in India.

Curtis Campher stood tall amidst the ruins with an unbeaten 59 while Andy McBrine made 40 for Ireland.

Given the first over by England captain Eoin Morgan, Willey needed just four balls to have Ireland dangerous Paul Stirling chipping an

inswinger to the skipper at midwicket.

And Ireland were 7-2 when captain Andy Balbirnie was caught behind driving at Willey.

Ireland ODI debutant Harry Tector was then bowled for a nine-ball duck by Saqib Mahmood.

Gareth Delany hit five fours in his 22 before he struck Willey straight to Tom Banton at backward point. And next ball the 30-year-old Willey, the son of former England batsman and umpire David Willey, had Lorcan Tucker lbw for a duck on review to leave Ireland in dire straits at 28-5 inside seven overs.

**BRIEF SCORES**

■ Ireland 172 in 44.4 overs (Gareth Delany 22, Kevin O'Brien 22, Curtis Campher 59 n.o., Andy McBrine 40, David Willey 5/30, Saqib Mahmood 2/36) vs England.

— AFP

**JUNIOR | CRICKET**

**Sunil is named South mentor**

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
HYDERABAD, JULY 30

Cricket Association of Telangana secretary Sunil Babu Kolanpaka has been appointed South Zone mentor of the Junior Cricket Championship (JCC) that was launched earlier this year by Seven3Sports to promote the game among Indian youth.

The initiative aims to create 100 private clubs across the country for boys aged 8 to 18 across three age segments through talent hunt as JCC plans to engage them on an integrated platform.

"It's a great privilege to be involved with this project which focuses on schoolkids and strives to provide them exposure. Also, it's a pleasure to work alongside former Indian cricketers," Sunil said pointing to Chetan

Sharma, Ashok Malhotra and Surinder Khanna who are mentors of Central, East and North Zones respectively.

Dronacharya Awardee Sanjay Bhardwaj is the mentor for West Zone.

Malhotra is president of the Indian Cricketers Association while Khanna is on the IPL Governing Council as the ICA representative.

"JCC is specifically designed to integrate online and offline cricketing activities and will offer a fair, inclusive and merit-based opportunity to all. Matches will be played on a zonal basis followed by a national round, from which a team will be selected and provided exposure in England," Sunil said, adding interested players should log on to <https://jcc-india.com/> for pre-registrations, for a fee.