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WINDOWS



NASA releases stunning images of cosmic world

Washington (IANS): NASA has released some stunning and phenomenal images of the universe -- galaxies, supernova remnants, stars, planetary nebulas processed by its 'Chandra X-Ray Observatory' -- the world's most powerful X-ray telescope. Launched on July 23, 1999, the observatory allows scientists to capture X-ray images of various high energy regions in the universe. X-rays were produced in the cosmic world when the matter heats up to millions of degrees.

They are emitted from black holes, neutron stars or supernova remnants. Each composite image released by NASA contains X-ray data from Chandra as well as other telescopes. The objects represent a range of different astrophysical objects and include the galaxy Messier 82, the galaxy cluster Abell 2744, the supernova remnant 1987 A, the binary star system Eta Carinae, the Cartwheel galaxy and the planetary nebula Helix Nebula. The International space agency took to micro-blogging site Twitter and shared beautiful images of the cosmic world with the caption, "Observing our universe in different kinds of light Milky Way". "Each of these images combines data from our @ChandraXray Observatory with data from other missions," NASA wrote. The compilation gives examples of images from different missions and telescopes being combined to understand better the science of the universe. Each of these images contains data from NASA's Chandra X-ray Observatory as well as other telescopes. Various types of objects are shown (galaxies, supernova remnants, stars, planetary nebulas), but together they demonstrate the possibilities when data from across the electromagnetic spectrum are assembled.

BUSINESS



Border tensions looming large over mkts

P6



Feb riots: Man who shot dead law student held

New Delhi (PTI): The Delhi police crime branch team probing the February riots said on Sunday that a man, who carried a reward of Rs 1 lakh on his arrest for allegedly killing a 26-year-old law student near a school in Northeast Delhi, has been arrested.

Mustaqeem, 25, alias Sameer Saifi, a resident old Mustafabad, who allegedly shot dead Rahul Solanki near Rajdhani Public School in Shiv Vihar on February 24, was arrested by a special investigation team on September 3, police said. He has been sent to judicial custody, they said. Mustaqeem joined the protest against CAA and NRC near Farukia Masjid, they added.

Solanki was pursuing LLB from a private college in Ghaziabad and had stepped out of his home to buy milk when he was killed. The SIT has arrested seven other accused -- Arif, Anis, Sirajuddin, Salman, Sonu, Saifi and Irshad -- in the Solanki case and they have been chargesheeted for actively participating in the riots with a common objective to cause death, burn properties on February 24, police said.

Solanki was shot dead near Rajdhani Public School and a case was registered at Dayalpur police station. Later, the investigation was handed over to the SIT. During investigation,

eyewitnesses described the person who opened fire on Solanki. They identified the accused from his clothes and appearance after they were shown a video of the incident, a senior police officer said. "We had deployed our sources in Mustafabad to identify the alleged shooter on the basis of his description. Our team questioned hundreds from the area and verified their presence at the spot through physical and technical means. But we did not find any information. After six months, on September 3, one of our sources informed us and he was apprehended from Bhajanpura Majar," the officer said. **Continued on Page 5**



Indian and Russian navies during a two-day mega military exercise in the Bay of Bengal, to further bolster their operational interoperability in dealing with emerging security challenges

Peak power demand in Delhi surges

New Delhi (PTI): The peak power demand of Delhi has increased by over 50 percent with resumption of normal activities due to easing of COVID-19 related lockdown restrictions, discom officials said. Peak power demand in the city has been muted this year as compared to the last year due to lockdown and weather conditions. "However, since easing of restrictions on May 18, 2020, Delhi's peak power demand has increased by over 50 percent. If we compare the peak power demand since April 2020, it has already increased by over 87 percent," said the discom officials. After the end of the lockdown 3.0 on May 17 and the easing of restrictions, Delhi's peak power has started increasing and the gap narrowed, they said. "In fact, in July and August, Delhi's peak power demand surpassed last year's peak power demand on corresponding days on 13 occasions -- seven in July and six in August -- by up to 19 percent."

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One killed, 7 injured in Birmingham stabbing

London (PTI): UK police said a murder inquiry has been launched on Sunday after one man was killed and seven people injured in multiple stabbings overnight in the city of Birmingham.

According to reports, West Midlands Police believe the victims were picked at random and do not believe the incident was terror or gang related. While a man and a woman are battling serious injuries, the injuries of five others are not thought to be life-threatening, the force said.

A hunt has been initiated for a male suspect, who is believed to have gone on a

stabbing spree, starting at Constitution Hill in Birmingham. "The events during the early hours of this morning are tragic, shocking and understandably frightening," said Chief Superintendent Steve Graham, responsible for policing in Birmingham. "Please be assured that we are doing absolutely everything we can to find whoever was responsible and try to understand what exactly happened. We have well-heard plans for dealing with major incidents," he said, calling on the public to remain vigilant and report anything suspicious.

Continued on Page 5

After JEE Main, NTA gears up for NEET

New Delhi (PTI): After JEE Main, the National Testing Agency (NTA) is now gearing up for conducting medical entrance exam NEET scheduled to be held on September 13 for which over 15 lakh candidates have registered.

The Joint Entrance Exam (JEE Main), which began on September 1 for admission to engineering colleges, will conclude on Sunday. The crucial exams are being conducted in September after being postponed twice in view of the COVID-19 pandemic.

According to NTA officials, 15.97 lakh candidates from across the country have registered for NEET, which is a pen-paper based



test unlike JEE. In order to maintain social distancing, the NTA has increased the number of centres from 2,546 to 3,843 for the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) while the number of candidates per room has been reduced from earlier 24 to 12.

"For ensuring social distancing outside the exami-

nation hall, the entry and exit of candidates has been staggered. Adequate arrangements have also been made outside the examination centres to enable candidates stand with adequate social distancing while waiting," a senior NTA official said.

"Candidates have also been issued an advisory

guiding them about the 'dos and don'ts' for proper social distancing. We have also written to states governments to extend support in local movement of the candidates so that they are able to reach their examination centres on time," the official added.

Making hand sanitisers available at the entrance of the examination centre and inside the exam hall at all times, replacing the process of checking the admit cards of candidates with barcode readers, increasing the number of examination centres, alternate seating plans, fewer candidates per room and staggered entry and exit are among the steps the NTA has taken.

Ram temple construction to begin after 'pitra paksh'

Ayodhya (IANS): The much-awaited construction of the Ram temple in Ayodhya will begin after September 17 when the 'Pitra Paksh' period ends. Pitra Paksh refers to the period when Hindus express gratitude to their ancestors and no auspicious work is done during this period.

According to Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust general secretary, Champat Rai, country's leading construction company Larsen and Toubro is all set to lay the foundation of the grand temple, which would come up in 12,879 square metre area on Ram Janmabhoomi campus.

The company is carry-



ing out construction without charging any fee. Around 1,200 pillars will be laid around 100 feet below the surface to prepare the temple's foundation. These pillars will be of stone and no iron will be used. Again, on these pillars, another layer of foundation will be laid.

The construction company has sourced machines from Mumbai and is in the process of sourcing machines from Hyderabad.

The Trust is expected to engage around 100

labourers to lay the foundation of the temple.

All workers will be tested for the coronavirus and thermal-scanned before being allowed entry into the Ram Janmabhoomi campus.

Last week, the Ayodhya Development Authority (ADA) had approved two layouts -- one of Ram mandir and another of the entire Ram Janmabhoomi campus.

The ADA also handed over the layouts to the Trust on September 4 after it deposited requisite fee in the development authority's bank account.

The proposed Ram mandir will be 360 feet long, 235 feet wide and 161 feet high and will have five domes.

Constitution's saviour is no more

Seer petitioner in landmark judgement on 'basic structure' of Constitution

Kasaragod (Kerala) (PTI): Kesavananda Bharati, on whose petition the Supreme Court delivered the landmark judgement on the celebrated doctrine of basic structure of the Constitution, died here on Sunday.

Vice-President Venkaiah Naidu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi were among a host of leaders who condoled the demise of the 79-year-old Kerala-based seer, saying he will be remembered for his service



Kesavananda Bharati

due to age-related ailments. "As per the information with us, he passed away at around 3.30 AM on Sunday," police told PTI. People from all walks of life paid homage to the

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deported seer at the Edaneer Mutt of which he became the head over five decades ago.

The case in which Bharati had challenged Kerala Land Reform laws nearly four decades ago set the principle that the Supreme Court is the guardian of the basic structure of the Constitution and the verdict involved 13 judges, the largest bench ever to sit in the apex court.

While the seer did not get the relief he wanted, the

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Weaving jute products to combat plastic menace

Hyderabad-based Madhavi Lakkakula is on a mission to reduce the use of plastic through 'Mugdha Designs' that manufactures various jute products including dress material, hand bags, decorative wall hangings

TEJAL SINHA

Pollution by plastics is a perennial widespread problem until we find a best alternative and ensure that people buy environment-friendly products.

With an aim to address this issue, Madhavi Lakkakula established 'Mugdha Designs' in 2005.

She shares, "I am fortunate that my dream has fructified into reality with the support of my whole family, a real boon to a housewife in traditional families. My husband encouraged me to do a PG Diploma in Dress Designing and Garment Making as I have a good drawing and painting skills and good sense of cloth materials."

With these basic qualifications, she started the business in 2005 with the distribution of fabric products at first and then started saree business under the brand name Mugdha Designs.

"In tune with the customer's choice, I underwent training in Kalamkari Painting too from a State Awardee Kalamkari Painting Master and underwent training in a few more craft courses for skill enrichment," adds Madhavi.



Madhavi Lakkakula



Recalling one of her best satisfied achievements, she says that she worked as a costume designer in a Telugu movie, 'Mallela Teeramlo Sirimalle Puvvu' for the actress Sridiyya in 2012.

Madhavi adds, "I used all cotton handloom sarees, die and block & screen printings as per the director's visualisation. The rangoli (Muggulu) designs on sarees introduced by us became very popular and became a trend setter for others to introduce rangoli printed sarees in the textiles market."

Social responsibility

In tune with changing times, to promote environmental friendliness, she realized that jute products will be the right option in place of harmful synthetic plastic products in day-to-day life including decorative furnishings.

For promoting Eco-friendly products, Mugdha Designs diversified into Jute Products from 2013. She is now a certified designer from National Jute Board, Hyderabad. To meet the challenges of new trends in industry and business, she has also attended a couple of Training Programmes organised by National Jute Board (NJB) along with MSME, Hyderabad.

According to Mugdha, they constantly experiment with materials, prints and forms. Their products are sustainable and eco-friendly. Mugdha Designs procure jute raw material mostly from Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Tamilnadu.

Currently, the business is providing employment to around eight people directly and aims to multifold it in the coming years, all depending upon the post Covid-19 scenario.

"Being a woman, I always aim at contributing my part for women empowerment in the Society and so started training youth and housewives in these skills in Hyderabad. Recently trained women entrepreneurs at Ramky Foundation, Vizag through NJB, Hyderabad and helped them to start their own microscale jute bags manufacturing units. My dream is to start a Training Institute of our own to impart occasional training to youth in jute diversified products manufacturing skills. Social media was her key to grow and there were times when the market was totally down," concludes Madhavi.



What is the relevance of couture today?

In India, couture is mostly about bridal and this is where the money is. It is the bread and butter for many designers

SUJATA ASSOMULL

Like so many fashion words, "couture" is a term that tends to be used very loosely. Translated from its French origins, the phrase means "high sewing".

In India Couture Week (ICW) is all of thirteen years old and is an annual not seasonal event. This year it will be in digital or virtual format and starts September 18th. If you think of high sewing, India is in many ways the global epicenter of couture. India's rich and diverse legacy of unique artisanship means that many of the finest pieces of couture are created at local export ateliers. From Armani to Valentino, European luxury houses look to India for their craftsmanship.

Couture shows play a very special role in the prestige and perception of a luxury house and sometimes are less about profit. But then, they sell everything from lipsticks to bed linen. Right now, in the middle of a pandemic, you might be wondering how these very expensive bespoke dresses made for special occasions really matter?

In India, couture is the bread and butter for many designers. India as a country is known for its craftsmanship, all over the globe. Couture is a canvas where design-

ers use their creative impetus, as a playground for fresh ideas whether it's motifs, embroidery, or inspirations. There are no real rules governing couture in India.

The Indian bridal market was estimated by KPMG to be worth around \$50 billion in 2017 and grows at around 20 per cent every year. Only the US spends more on weddings than India. It is during the wedding season that Indians splurge on fine fashion and expensive jewelry, and this is the reason most international luxury brands want a base in India—they want a part of that spend. And as gowns have now become accepted dress for the reception function or the welcome dinner, they have managed to nibble into some of the pie.

However the big fat Indian wedding is going to have to go on a diet as it marries itself with the "New Normal." With many designers being dependent on couture for their business it of course is in their interest to push the concept of big weddings. Though many young brides are looking for something intimate, a new grandness. Of course weddings are still happening, while they are not the multi day extravaganzas there once more--- there is still a demand for 'the dress'. But can it really be the driving force of a whole industry

any longer?

Couture's intrinsic artisanal nature makes it an important part of the "Vocal for Local" movement and it's timeless approach to fashion is a fit with the current drive towards sustainability.

So, there are lots of reasons to believe couture will remain relevant. ICW's digital format is not only practical in these times of social distancing but also pushes designers to embrace new age practices.

This edition could prove to be a turning point and bring new joy to couture, if and only if designers embrace these new conversations and do not just rely on the traditional bridal market.

A model dressed in a Rahul Mishra creation. Mishra is the first Indian designer to be welcomed as 'Guest Member' at Paris Haute Couture Week



area. Make sure the mixture doesn't enter your eyes. Leave it on for 10 minutes and then wash off with cold water.

VEGGIES TO GET RID OF DARK CIRCLES

As more of us work from home these days and connect with coworkers via Zoom and other technologies, we can actually impact the health of our eyes from overuse without knowing it. With increase in the time being spent on the screens, can also lead to strain on eyes and issues like Dark circles. Here is a list of three most effective vegetables that can help you get rid of dark circles

Use cucumber slices

Cucumber is the best coolant for the eyes. Like the best salad ingredient, it is the commonly available home remedy that can give you big time relief from dark circles. Cut the cucumber into thick slices and place them in the refrigerator. Then take out the slices and put them on your eyes for 10-15 minutes. Keep your eyes closed while cucum-

ber does the magic on your skin. Several antioxidants like vitexin, orientin, and cucurbitacins available in cucumber will save your eyes and will beautify them again.

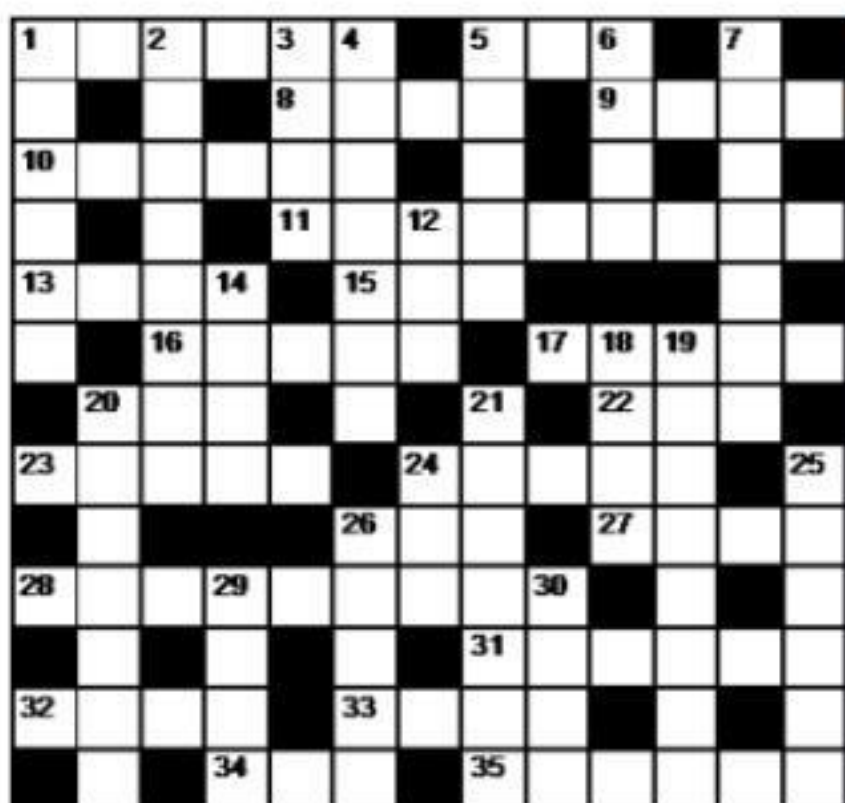
Grab tomatoes for treatment



Dig deeper into the refrigerator at home and you will find some tomatoes. Tomatoes contain lycopene that protects the skin from damage. Mix the tomato juice with lemon juice and apply this mixture on the affected

Pick some potatoes for eyes

Potato not only does wonders to the vegetables and paranthas, but also to the eyes. Pick a raw potato from the vegetable basket and grate it. Extract its juice and soak two cotton balls in it. Place the cotton balls on the dark circles and let it sit for 10-15 minutes. Then wash off your eyes with cold water. The enzymes, starch, and vitamin C in potatoes will nourish the skin and vanish off the dark circles.



SOLUTION TO SEPTEMBER 5

CROSSWORD

Across

- 1 New York river (6)
- 5 Crux (of matter) (3)
- 8 Opera part (4)
- 9 Of the mouth (4)
- 10 Byzantine gold coins (6)
- 11 Capital of Pakistan (9)
- 13 Feeble (4)
- 15 Fireplace shelf (3)
- 16 Following the length or path (5)
- 17 Greek epic (5)
- 20 Inquire (3)
- 22 Marking fluid (3)
- 23 Courageous (5)
- 24 Grape variety (5)
- 26 A snake-like fish (3)
- 27 Mr Patekar of Bollywood (4)
- 28 Deadlock (9)
- 31 Sharp-eyed birds (6)
- 32 Equestrian sport (4)
- 33 Unit of pressure (4)

Down

- 34 Golf item (3)
- 35 Nap (6)
- 1 Chiefly (6)
- 2 Flag position used during mourning (4-4)
- 3 Dry watercourse (4)
- 4 Hindu deity (7)
- 5 Governor in Mogul India (5)
- 6 Weight-laden lasso (4)
- 7 Malaysian state (7)
- 12 Travel account (3)
- 14 Antlered animals (4)
- 18 Large cat (4)
- 19 Incised carving (8)
- 20 Public sale (7)
- 21 Passes through a sieve ? (7)
- 24 Pod vegetable (3)
- 25 Timmy's dog (6)
- 26 Ham it up (5)
- 29 Plunder (4)
- 30 Bring in (4)

SUDOKU



SOLUTION TO SEPTEMBER 5

NEWS ROUNDUP

Why EQ matters at workspace

"You can't have effective leadership without good balance of IQ and EQ", says Vinita Bali, India's renowned businesswoman

Ability to understand leadership depends on the ability to listen, without it, it is hard to be efficient. For that empathy is required. Empathy is the ability to understand context.

Vinita Bali was conversing with YourStory Media's Editor-at-Large Dipti Nair at a virtual session which was organised by FICCI FLO Hyderabad Chapter to help members grow professionally and personally.

Addressing the occasion and welcoming the gathering, Usharani Manne, Chairperson, FICCI FLO Hyderabad Chapter said that Emotional Intelligence helps one understand employees better, recognize strengths and weaknesses, better align and leverage their talent. Bringing the human side to work, one can connect better, solidify relationships and become good leader.

The insightful and engaging virtual talk had journalist and entrepreneur Dipti asked questions on leadership and emotional quotient to Vinita Bali. She also took on a few questions from the audience.

Calling Vinita Bali Britannia's tough cookie, Dipti asked her to share how empathy proved to be the core ingredient to her success at Britannia and why empathy is an important element of leadership. Vinita Bali said she faced bigger challenges when she was overseas. The test of empathy and emotional intelligence plays out when you are in a new environment, with new people away from your country. She recalled her work for Cadbury in the UK, Nigeria and South Africa; and for Coca-Cola in Atlanta, Latin America, etc. Empathy, emotional intelligence are tested when you are in a new place, she said.



UP MLA killed over land row

Lakhimpur: Three-time former MLA Nirvendra Kumar Mishra was allegedly murdered on Sunday in Lakhimpur Kheri District, Uttar Pradesh, over an alleged case of land dispute. A few local men allegedly carried out the crime near the Trikolia Padhua bus station. Mishra's family members said that the men came with weapons to grab the land, and the former MLA and his son Sanjeev Mishra were attacked upon resisting the action. Mishra's son sustained injuries in the incident and is now being treated at a hospital. The land dispute matter is reportedly also in court.

After the incident, Mishra and his son Sanjeev were rushed to the hospital, where the former MLA was declared dead. Sanjeev's condition remains critical. Soon after Mishra's death, his supporters gathered in huge



numbers and started a protest by keeping his dead body on the road near Trikolia bus station.

Mishra was in a dispute with one Sameer Gupta and one Radheshyam Gupta - who are residents of Pallia - over the land in question. The disputed land was in Sameer's name and Mishra was allegedly opposing its possession. A case under section 107/116 had been previously registered against Mishra and his son.

Daily wagers' suicides double in six years; maximum in TN

New Delhi: With rampant unemployment, alcohol abuse, economic hardship, domestic violence, and indebtedness, India is suffering from a massive mental health crisis. The recently released National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) report revealed that nearly a quarter of the total 1,39,123 suicides recorded in 2019, the daily-wage earners comprised the largest chunk of such deaths.

However, the above-mentioned data does not include the daily wage workers working in the farming sector. As compared to the previous six years, the share of daily wage workers who died by suicides has doubled to 23.4 percent in 2019.

The report stated that in 2019, Tamil Nadu recorded the most number of suicides by daily-wage earners- 5,186, followed by Maharashtra 4,128, Madhya Pradesh 3,964, Telangana 2,858 and Kerala 2,809. The NCRB began categorising daily-wagers in its 'Accidental Deaths & Suicides' data only post 2014. Since then, the suicide death rates among daily wage workers have been increasing at an alarming rate. In 2018, daily wage earners constituted the maximum percentage- 22.4% of 'suicides by profession.'

In 2014, daily wagers made up to 12 per cent of suicide deaths, but the figure has been rising sharply since — 17.8 per

cent in 2015, 19.2 per cent in 2016, 22.1 per cent in 2017. From 2014 to 2019, the total number of suicides by daily wagers doubled from 15,735 to 32,563. The numbers also revealed that suicides by male daily earners are much higher than female earners. In 2019, out of total 32,563- 29,092 males, 3,467 females and 4 transgenders died by suicide.

The upward trend was not only noticed in daily wage workers but also amid the unemployed population. In 2019, the proportion of the unemployed in suicides was noted at 10.1 per cent, reaching double digits for the first time in the 25 years that the NCRB has been



keeping data since 1995.

The 2019 total unemployed among the suicide deaths recorded a rise of 8.37 per cent from 2018's figure of 12,936. The five states accounting for most such deaths were Kerala- 10,963, Maharashtra- 1,511, Tamil Nadu- 1,368, Karnataka- 1,293 and Odisha- 858.

The NCRB report divides suicides into nine categories- daily wagers, housewives and persons engaged in the farming sector, while the deaths are listed under professionals /salaried persons, students, self-employed persons, retired persons, unemployed and other persons.

Refund domestic, foreign airline tickets: Centre

New Delhi (IANS): The Centre has proposed that a full refund should be given by the airlines within 15 days for tickets booked during the lockdown, and if any airline is in financial distress then a credit shell should be provided up to March 31, 2021 on any route of passengers choice. The full refund has been proposed for tickets booked during the lockdown on domestic, international and foreign airlines.

In an affidavit in the Supreme Court, O.K. Gupta, Director, Directorate General of Civil Aviation, said for the domestic airlines if the tickets were booked directly with the airline or through an agent, during the first lockdown period, - March 25 - April 14 - for the journeys to be undertaken in both first and second lockdown period, March 25 - May 3 - in all such cases, full refund shall be given by the airlines immediately.

"For all other cases, the airlines shall make all endeavours to refund the collected amount to the passenger within 15 days. If on account of financial distress, if the airlines are not able to do so they shall provide a credit shell equal to the amount of fare collected. This credit shell shall be issued in the name of the passen-



ger who has booked the ticket. The passenger shall be able to consume the credit shell up to March 31, 2021 on any route of his choice", said the affidavit.

The Centre said there shall be an incentive mechanism to compensate the passenger if there is a delay in consuming the credit shell - from the date of cancellation up to June 30, 2020, the value of credit shell shall be en-

hanced by 0.5 per cent of the face value (the amount of fare collected) for every month or part thereof between the date of cancellation and 30th June, 2020.

"Thereafter, the value of the credit shell shall be enhanced by 0.75 per cent of the face value per month, up to March 2021. The credit shell shall be transferable. The passenger can transfer the credit shell to any person, and the

airlines shall honour such a transfer. The airlines shall devise a mechanism to facilitate such a transfer. By the end of March 2021, the airline shall refund cash to the holder of the credit shell", said the affidavit. The Centre said this solution is workable, as it balances the interest of both the passengers as well as airlines, and urged the top court to pass a suitable order for its implementation.

Over 90,000 cases in 1 day

New Delhi: India's COVID-19 tally of cases went past 41 lakh with a record 90,632 people being infected in a day, while 31,80,865 people have recuperated so far pushing the national recovery rate to 77.32 per cent on Sunday, according to the Union Health Ministry data.

The total coronavirus cases mounted to 41,13,811, while the death toll climbed to 70,626 with the novel coronavirus virus claiming 1,065 lives in a span of 24 hours in the country, the data updated at 8 am showed.

The COVID-19 case fatality rate due to the coronavirus infection has further declined to 1.72 per cent. There are 8,62,320 active cases of coronavirus infection in the country which comprises 20.96 per cent of the total caseload, the data stated. India's COVID-19 tally had crossed the 20-lakh mark on August 7, 30 lakh on August 23 and it went past 40 lakh on September 5.

IIT-BHU alumni make app for pregnant women

Varanasi (IANS): Two alumni of the Indian Institute of Technology-Banaras Hindu University have developed a pregnancy health app that aims to help pregnant women, earning accolades in the process.

Developers Ravi Teja and Mayur Dhurpate named the app 'iMumz', which was declared the country's second-best app in the health category at the prestigious 'Atmanirbhar Bharat App Innovation Challenge'.

The unique app includes scientific week-by-week pregnancy and foetal care programme, includes nutritional diet, stress-busting meditations, harmonising music, baby bonding exercises etc for a safe delivery and healthy baby.

The app looks into various medical, emotional, physical problems related to women health during pregnancy.

Ravi and Mayur rejected



high-paying job offers and used their skills instead to build the platform that can enable the expectant women to deliver healthy babies.

Both started working to address the problem in 2017 at IIT-BHU and gradually developed this innovative app with the support of their mentor Rajesh Jagasia, a senior meditation coach and an experienced CXO (chief experience officer) trainer.

They were also motivated by Dr Narendra Malhotra, a gynaecologist, and Dr Jaideep Malhotra, an obstetrician.

School WhatsApp group filled with porn, probe ordered

Baghpat (IANS): A Biology class WhatsApp group for class 10 students of a private school in Baghpat has been found filled with pornographic material.

The police said that the person who created the chat group used an international number to evade detection. "But it appears to be the work of some insider as he had the photograph of the

school's Biology teacher, which he used in its DP, as well as all the phone numbers," a police officer said

The probe has been handed over to UP Police's cyber cell, he said. Alok Singh, circle officer of Badaut area, said, "Some vulgar pictures and videos were posted on WhatsApp group named 'Biology group Class 10'. The group

had the display picture of the Biology teacher, who did not know about it. A probe has been ordered and it is being handled by the cyber-crime team."

The principal of the school said, "We had received a complaint. The WhatsApp account was fake, and was created with a foreign number. We have informed the police."



Trump 'simply wrong' about Oct vaccine: Lancet editor

New York (IANS): Medical journal The Lancet's chief editor has said that US President Donald Trump's statement that a Covid-19 vaccine could be delivered by the end of October is "simply wrong."

In a Skype interview with CNN, Richard Horton, editor-in-chief of The Lancet, said there will not be a vaccine available for public use by the end of October and President Trump is simply wrong about that.

"If we make a mistake and licence a vaccine too early - just think - we have already got a growing anti-vaccine movement, which is extremely disturbing. We can't cut corners. There will not be a vaccine available for public use by the end of October," Horton was quoted as saying to CNN.

"President Trump is simply wrong about that. I have no understanding why he is saying it. Because his advisers will surely be telling him that that's just impossible," Horton added.

Horton also said the results of a Russian-developed vaccine are "encouraging" but that it would be "highly premature to think that this is the basis for a successful vaccine for public use," in part since its study involved a very small number of volunteers.

Arjun Kapoor tests positive

New Delhi: Arjun Kapoor has tested positive for COVID-19, the actor announced in an Instagram post on Sunday. Sharing an update about his health, Arjun Kapoor wrote that he is "feeling okay" and is "asymptomatic." The actor also revealed that he has "isolated" himself at his home and will be "under home quarantine" till his recovery. In a note, Arjun wrote: "It is my duty to inform all of you that I have tested positive for coronavirus. I am feeling ok and I'm asymptomatic. I have isolated myself at home under the advice of doctors and authorities and will be under home quarantine. I thank you all in advance for your support and I will keep you all updated about my health in the days to come." "These are extraordinary and unprecedented times and I have faith that all of humanity will overcome this virus. Much love, Arjun," he added.



Covid patient raped

Thiruvananthapuram: A driver of the 108 ambulance service has been arrested for allegedly raping a young woman, a COVID-19 patient, while on her way to the hospital in Kerala's Pathanamthitta, about 100km north of capital Thiruvananthapuram, the police said. According to officials at the Pandalam police station, the incident happened late Saturday night when the accused was taking two patients - an elderly woman and the 19-year-old rape survivor - to different hospitals in the ambulance, a complaint in the matter stated. First, the elderly woman was dropped off by the driver after which the 19-year-old woman was to be taken to the hospital in Pandalam. "Instead, the ambulance driver diverted the vehicle towards an empty ground and raped the young woman, the complaint stated according to the police.

The driver, 25-year-old Nowfal, has been removed from the 108 ambulance service.

Deepender Hooda infected

Chandigarh (IANS): Congress leader and Rajya Sabha member Deepender Hooda on Sunday said he had tested positive for coronavirus.

He asked those who had come in contact with him to get themselves tested.

"The doctors are conducting more tests. With your blessings, I will recover soon," he said in a tweet.

Lucknow reports highest cases

Lucknow (IANS): Lucknow witnessed its highest one-day surge of Covid-19 cases with 1,006 cases reported from the Uttar Pradesh capital. Lucknow also saw 18 deaths on Saturday. Uttar Pradesh also recorded the highest single-day surge in the number of fresh cases with 6,692 people testing positive for Covid-19. The previous single-day highest spike in Covid cases was registered on August 30 with 6,233 persons testing positive.

Seven deaths were reported from Kanpur while Gorakhpur and Hardoi reported 5 deaths each. Varanasi reported 4 deaths and Ghaziabad three.

Home 30-minute drive from hospital, but duty keeps doc away for 5 months

New Delhi: "When will you come home?" the daughters of doctor Ajit Jain would ask when they used to talk over phone late at night.

The nodal officer for novel coronavirus at the Rajiv Gandhi Super Specialty Hospital in Delhi has not been home for over five months. Duty and fear of spreading the infection among the family members kept him away.

When he finally came home, 13 kilometres away in Kamla Nagar and just a half-an-hour drive from his hospital in Dilshad Garden, his two daughters opened the door and hugged him tight.

Jain's wife, trying not to be overwhelmed with emotion, performed an 'aarti' and applied a 'tilak' on his forehead, as his son shot a video of the homecoming -- the first time since March 17. A cake was cut and the family dined



together in almost six months.

"When cases started emerging in March, we understood COVID-19 is one of the biggest challenges mankind has ever confronted," Jain, who availed his first leave on Thursday after working for 170 days on the trot, told PTL.

"Initially, I didn't go home for the fear of spreading the infec-

tion in my family," the 52-year-old said. "Both my parents are aged above 75. I was worried about them. I didn't want to put their lives in jeopardy."

As the number of patients swelled, it seemed impossible to talk to the family on the phone, too.

"Saving lives was the first priority. There was so much going

on," he says. "I could talk to my family only at night, around 1 or 2 am."

Jain's daughter, Aarushi Jain, says the family was really worried for him as the cases kept piling up.

"We would ask him 'papa when will you come home?' We saw what happened in Italy, in the US... we were freaking out. So many doctors who contracted the virus are no more among us," she says.

"We would wait up till 2 am to talk to him for five minutes, to enquire about his well-being," the daughter says.

His son, Amitabh Jain, says he cannot explain how it feels when children cannot see their father around.

"I wrote my JEE exam on September 2 (Wednesday). I cannot tell you how badly I wished if

papa could take me to the test centre," he says.

Though the government made arrangements for the health staff to stay at the Leela Ambience hotel, the doctor spent several nights in the hospital itself.

For the initial three months, not once did Jain sleep for 15 minutes in a stretch. His phone just won't stop ringing.

The doctor has given his personal mobile number to all coronavirus patients who are undergoing treatment or have been discharged from the hospital after recovery.

"The situation was more serious during the lockdown. Patients were more anxious living in closed rooms. They would call after every five minutes... No one could even imagine the entire country would shut down," he says.



Birmingham stabbings: 1 killed and seven hurt

Birmingham: A knifeman who killed one man and wounded seven other people in a two-hour stabbing rampage across Birmingham city centre is being hunted by police.

The first stabbing was in Constitution Hill and the killer moved south, apparently attacking at random, officers said. The stabbings did not appear terrorism related, gang related or connected to disorder, West Midlands Police said.

The force urged anyone with CCTV or mobile footage to contact officers.

Police said they were hunting a single suspect. One man died, another man and a woman suffered critical injuries, while five others received injuries which were not thought to be life-threatening.

Kesavananda Bharati: A true Karma Yogi

Kesavananda Bharati, the seer of the Edneer Mutt in Kerala and the petitioner in the landmark judgment of the Supreme Court on fundamental rights, passed away in the early hours of September 6. He was 80. He has headed the Mutt since 1961. Apart from being a proponent of the Advaita philosophy, the seer was a good classical singer. He ran a 'Yakshagana mela' (troupe) for nearly 15 years and took part as a 'bhagavata' (singer and director), rendering Carnatic music. He also conducted literary programmes in the Mutt. But he will be forever remembered in India as the main petitioner in the landmark case that changed the course of the country's constitutional law. How is he different from other Mutt heads or Swamijis? Well, he was the petitioner in the historic Supreme Court case 'Kesavananda Bharati vs. State of Kerala (1973)' which introduced the basic struc-

ture doctrine of the Constitution by a wafer-thin majority of 7-6. The case was instrumental in safeguarding the democratic values the Constitution protects. The apex court ruled in the Bharati case in 1973 that the Parliament has only limited powers to amend the basic constitutional structure. Kesavananda Bharati had little idea that the case he filed would end up being such a landmark. Taking umbrage at the Kerala government's attempt to impose restrictions on the management of religious property through land reform legislation, Bharati filed the suit questioning its constitutional propriety. The case came to the attention of Nani Palkhivala, who recognised its possibilities, particularly the prospect of challenging three Amendments — the 24th, 25th and 26th — to the Constitution. The case continues to be the longest hearing ever to have taken place in the Supreme Court. It was heard for 68 days. Hearing in the Kesavananda Bharati case commenced on October 31, 1972, and concluded on March 23, 1973. This case was followed by the Ayodhya dispute, in terms of the number of days argued before the Supreme Court. The 'basic structure' doctrine has since been interpreted to include the supremacy of the Constitution, the rule of law, Independ-

ence of the judiciary, the doctrine of separation of powers, federalism, secularism, sovereign democratic republic, the parliamentary system of government, the principle of free and fair elections and the indispensability of the welfare state. Despite all this, it became a butt of ridicule of the critics who termed it undemocratic, since it allowed "unelected judges" to strike down constitutional amendments. But for many it was a safeguard against majoritarianism and authoritarianism. The genesis of the dispute leading to Kesavananda Bharati case is in the interpretation of Article 368 of the Indian Constitution, which allows Parliament to amend the Constitution. There is no ambiguity in the Article itself. The dispute was with the scope and extent of Parliamentary power to modify the Constitution vis a vis the fundamental rights. Then came the nationalisation of banks and later abolition of Privy Purses etc. which resulted in the Constitutional amendments. Parliament's attempts to amend the Constitution led to the Kesavananda Bharati case. His life is a shining example for the seers and sanyasis that such lives are meant to serve the larger public good. Kesavananda Bharati's 'paramapada' is a great loss to the nation. He was a true Karma Yogi!



The ogres in the mind

SAEED NAQVI

A priceless gift from a friend in Kerala, a Namboodiri to boot, is a film to augment my collection which has sustained my personal film festival to beat the unintelligible lockdown.

The film, Aagraharathil Kazhuthai, or Donkey in a Brahmin Village, was a pleasant shock not because of the title, but its authorship. The film is listed as one of the masterly satires by the late John Abraham. A baby donkey, whose mother has been beaten to death for reasons unknown, strays onto the doorstep of a tall, lanky professor of Philosophy in a local college. The donkey in the bachelor professor's house leads to amusement, gossip, graffiti until the principal, a stern looking pastor, informs the professor that his hospitality towards the donkey was affecting the college's reputation.

The professor carts the donkey by bus and bullock cart to the Aagraharam or the Brahmin village where his parents live. A deaf and mute maidservant looks after the donkey.

The maid has an affair with the village washerman, delivers a still-born male child which is left outside the temple. The chief priest declares it the most dreadful omen, unanimously attributed by the elders to the donkey's presence in the village. The animal is beaten to death, followed by a series of unfortunate events which the Aagraharam, on second thoughts, blame on the fact that the donkey was killed in haste. A monument to the beast is planned. A wild-fire dance burns much of the village leaving the professor and the maid contemplating the scene for its deeper significance.

The reason for my focus on the film is not 'cinema', but the fact that someone with a name like John Abraham could satirise the Aagraharam with such outrageous audacity. In my limited experience - a day's visit - the Aagraharam was quite stately in its austerity. I saw no car on the street nor, in the middle of the day, was there any movement outside, dogs, cats, cattle, nothing. There is a lovely view of river Kalpathy below, like the Aagraharam's private pond for a holy dip.

Away from the road, on the stone seat were occasional bare bodied men, sporting the fattest janeyus I have seen. The visitor's room has a mural size painting of Palghat Mani Iyer, the great mridangam player and a local icon. The centre of the main hall is dominated by a swing; every square inch of the wall space is covered with Gods and Goddesses. At the end of the passage is a 'tulsi' plant in a decorated pot on a pedestal. The master of the house, a man of wit and music, had worn a shirt to appear hospitable. With amusement in his eyes, he showed us where he slept: on a narrow bed in the passage. And his wife? "On the floor right below me." He puts his head back and guffaws. But it is not quite so unequal. "She qualifies for the bed when she is unwell."

I found it quaint, as an uncritical bird of passage would. But the Aagraharam, like Peyton Place, would expose its darker side to a son of the soil, a few mohallas removed, like Abraham.

It is all so refreshing this informality across faiths, this ability to tolerate irreverence without ill will. The most popular political prisoner in Adoor Gopalakrishnan's The Wall is Basheer, pining for Narayani on the other side of the wall and whom he has not seen. Adoor is quite unselfconscious about the fact that the protagonists belong to different faiths. My romance with 'God's own country' goes back to the 70s when I was editor of The Indian Express in the south. But a change has come upon me: earlier I admired Kerala, indeed much of the South; now I have begun to envy it.

India was always one's country, but the basic affiliation was with Awadh of which Lucknow was the markaz or centre. Mir Taqi Mir talked of Delhi's destruction:

"Dill jo ek shahar tha alam mein intekhab
rehte thay muntakhib hi jahan rozgar ke
Usko falak ne loot ke barbaad kar diya
Hum rehne waley haen usi ujre dayar ke."

(Delhi, which was once the world's pride, where only those with good manners lived,

Fortune turned upon the city, destroyed and looted it. In that desolate city did I once live)

Replace Delhi with Awadh/Lucknow and you are somewhere near the root of those ogres in the mind.

Lucknow, indeed, Awadh, was generosity personified. Ram Advani from Sindh was embraced as Lucknow's very own. His bookshop was an incomparable cultural landmark. Among the Lucknavi's several quaint beliefs: to be a lawyer or a doctor, you had to be a Bengali first. For obvious reasons, Western enlightenment had come to Bengal first. Riding this belief, Bengali lawyers and doctors had easy passage in Lucknow. The intellectual life of Lucknow University was dominated for long stretches by Radha Kumud and Radha Kamal Mukherjee. Little wonder, when Satyajit Ray, soaked in Bengali-ness, ventured out of Bengal, it was towards Lucknow he deviated with his superb Shatranj ke Khiladi.

The ogres of the mind have been gestating for at least 30 years when the BJP and the Congress began to compete for the Hindu vote. The Congress chose to play both sides of the street. Once, VP Singh tossed the Mandal Commission into the simmering cauldron, the Hindutva brigade ran away with the platform of brazen anti-Muslim Hindu consolidation, leaving the Congress sleeping by the lamp post with its soft saffron.

There is a certain demoralisation in the anti-Hindutva ranks at the presumed invincibility of Narendra Modi, despite the country crashing on every count. This may well be a function of shrewd tactics: keep the media focus away from regions where the country still breathes easy. It may not be such a good thing, though, for national cohesion if different parts of the country do not fit into the same frame.

(The writer is a senior commentator on political and diplomatic issues. The views expressed are personal)

How to revive dwindling GDP from great fall

THE WAY AHEAD



Dr Bharat Jhunjhunwala

The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) shrank by 23.9 percent in the first quarter of this financial year according to government data. The GDP is a measure of the total amount of production made or income

earned by the country. In contrast, former professor of Jawaharlal University Arun Kumar has assessed that there was a 75 percent decline in April 2020, followed by 60 and 40 percent decline in May and June in the GDP leading to a 58 percent decline in the quarter. I think Arun Kumar's estimates of decline are on the higher side, yet the decline more than the 23.9 percent said by the government. The reason for this huge difference in the two estimates is that the GDP is basically a guess estimate. It is virtually impossible to measure the production done by every tea shop and farmer in the country. Therefore, statisticians make estimates based on selected data. Selection of data is at their discretion.

The data for the first quarter were mostly unavailable for the first quarter due to the lockdown. Therefore, the statisticians had to per force rely on the data that were available. They appear to have relied on the results corporations, GST collections, sale of fuel oil, rail travels and such. IN this quarter only a small number of large corporations did well — private electricity distribution companies, mobile telephony, e-commerce and the like. They have announced their results. Businesses not doing well have more frequently not announced their results. Therefore, these results are unduly influenced by the selected corporations. Further, the unorganised sector is entirely left out of this data. Ninety-five percent of the employment and 45 percent of the GDP come from this sector. It includes kirana shops, tailors, taxi operators, small schools and doctors. These businesses were worst hit by the lockdown. This hit has not been captured by the government GDP figures.

The government has estimated a 3.4 percent growth in the agriculture. Arun Kumar says that the arrivals in the mandi was down by 50 percent in April. I have had to myself sell lemons at as less as Rs 22 per kilo, against the earlier rate of Rs 30-40 per kilo due to the lack of demand in the market. I do not think there is any chance of growth in agriculture because of the decline in the prices. Agriculture is not likely to pull the economy even if we assume that it grew at 3.4 percent because the share of agriculture in the nation's GDP is only 14 percent. Thus, a 3.4 percent growth in agriculture translates into a paltry 0.24 percent growth in the GDP.

The situation of Medium Small and Micro Enterprises (MSMEs) is no better. The total credit given by the banks to



The loans given for vehicles has shown the lowest decline of 0.5 percent between March and July 2020 according to Reserve Bank of India. This too should not be considered as an indicator of stability. I suspect this sale has been because of the stoppage of local trains and bus services which has compelled people to buy private vehicles. This could be a one-time purchase that may not continue. The property sector has similarly shown a nominal decline of 0.7 percent in the loans extended. But I know of builders who are in great difficulty due to absence of demand and they have borrowed to tide over the problems. These loans are like oxygen given to a patient while waiting for surgery. The overall situation is grim

them in March was Rs 11.49 lakh crore. This fell in April and May and then inched back to Rs 11.32 lakh crore in June. The total credit extended in June was less than extended in March despite the Rs 3 lakh crore additional lending package announced by the government. This means that the banks have recycled the regular loans and shown them as fresh landing under the package.

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oxygen given to a patient while waiting for surgery. The overall situation is grim.

The International Monetary Fund has suggested that the government must push exports and integrate our economy even more deeply with the world economy to overcome the present crisis. This is exactly what we have been doing for the last six years and our GDP has been falling in the last four of these six years. We must think again.

Globalisation has been turned on its head today. Indian businesspersons are taking their money to countries like China where there is freedom to pollute the environment, where labour laws are virtually non-existent and where bureaucracy is corrupt but helpful. They, along with Multinational Corporations (MNCs), are producing goods in China and importing them into India. This is beneficial for them because they can produce cheap goods and destroy those Indian businesspersons who try to produce in India. This is also beneficial for those consumers like the government employ-

ees who have a secure income because they get cheap goods. However, this is harmful to the domestic industries who close down due to cheap imports and workers who lose their jobs. It is also harmful for the government because it gets less revenues because of closing down of domestic businesses.

The solution is to increase import duties substantially. The result will be that Indian businesspersons and MNCs will not be able to import goods manufactured by them in China. For example, Philips India won the contract to supply five crore LED bulbs under the government's UJALA scheme. It has supplied these bulbs Made in China. An increase in import duty would have made it profitable for Philips to manufacture those bulbs in India. Similarly, an across-the-board increase in import duties would make it profitable for businesses to produce in India for the Indian market. They will return to India just as Trump has managed to get many corporations to return to the United States. The increase in businesses in India will lead to generation of employment, increase in demand in the market, and encourage businesses to make more investments. However, those having secured incomes like the Government employees will be losers. They will have to buy more expensive Made in India bulbs. Indeed, the general public will also not get cheaper Made in China bulbs. However, their this loss will be ten times compensated by the increase in incomes due to the generation of jobs.

The choice before the Government is to secure the interests of MNCs and Indian businesspersons manufacturing in China and Government employees; or to secure GDP growth, jobs and more revenues. The government should wholly reject the advice of IMF and embrace protectionism.

(The writer is formerly Professor of Economics at IIM, Bengaluru)

Congress should find a head

It may be remembered that last year, Sonia Gandhi had set up a 17-member group to deliberate upon key issues of the day. The group comprised former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, Rahul Gandhi, Ahmed Patel, Ghulam Nabi Azad, AK Antony, Mallikarjun Kharge, Anand Sharma, Jairam Ramesh, Ambika Soni, Kapil Sibal, KC Venugopal, Adhir Ranjan Chaudhary, Randeep Singh Surjewala, Jyotiraditya Scindia, Rajeev Satav and Sushmita Dev. Scindia left the Congress in March 2020. It has been over a year since the group was named, but barring one meeting on October 25, 2019, it has not met. Instead, Rahul has been selecting and raising issues on his own 'whims and fancies'. In nutshell, Rahul's personality and his choice of issues are a primary source of disquiet in the party. When a group of dissenters had begun talking among themselves to force change and reform from within the party, one of them had quipped, "assuming that the Congress is a body, we need to figure out where the problem lies - is it the head, chest, stomach, kidney, liver.? Three of them had responded in unison: "it is the head!" The present-day Congress doesn't lack leaders who want a Rahul-led Congress to taste every electoral success but wish he fails in his efforts to cleanse the party.

Sridhar Vanavolu,
Anantapur, AP



LETTERS

India needs a data protection law

On August 26, the National Health Authority released a press statement to announce that it had drafted the Health Data Management Policy. The objectives of the draft policy have been laid down as creating a system of digital personal and medical health records, which is voluntary and based on the consent of individuals, and which allows for the secure exchange of health data with enough privacy safeguards. The document identifies individuals as "data principals" who would voluntarily acquire unique health IDs, which would be used to electronically store their personal health records. The records would be generated by "health information providers" — hospitals, diagnostic centres, public health programmes. "Health information users" — for instance, insurance companies — will have to place requests to access these records. Access would require the consent of individuals through "consent managers". The draft policy outlines a framework for obtaining individuals' consent — both for the collection of personal health records, as well as for accessing them. India does not yet have a data protection law. A bill is still pending in Parliament. But privacy lawyers say leapfrogging over a law is a bad idea. The health data policy would create a parallel mechanism even before the data protection bill was enacted.

Vinod Kumar Reddy P, Hyderabad

Children should not be put to risk

It is ironic that some are demanding schools to reopen. Several studies show children and adults have similar amounts of viral RNA in their nose and throat. This suggests children and adults are equally infectious, although it is possible that children transmit the virus slightly less often than adults in practice. Because children are physically smaller and generally have more mild symptoms, they might release less of the virus. Teenagers are of course closer to adults, and it is possible younger children might be less likely to transmit the virus than older children. However, reports of outbreaks in childcare centres and primary schools suggest there is still some risk. Large clusters have been reported in schools around the world, most notably in Israel. There, an outbreak in a high school affected at least 153 students, 25 staff members, and 87 others. Interestingly, that particular outbreak coincided with an extreme heatwave where students were granted an exemption from having to wear face masks, and air conditioning was used continuously.

Shivasodhana Ch, Vijayawada, AP



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Temple chariot gutted in Antarvedi

- Endowments Minister Vellampalli Srinivasa Rao orders probe by Additional Commissioner K Ramachandra Mohan
- Minister Chelluboina Venugopalakrishna says stern action will be taken against those responsible for the burning of the divine chariot

HANS NEWS SERVICE

Kakinada: Tension prevailed at Antarvedi in Sakshinetipalli mandal in East Godavari district on Sunday following mysterious fire to the divine chariot of Lord Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy temple at Antarvedi.

The 62-year-old and 50-ft high chariot made of teakwood caught fire in the early hours of Sunday. It was allegedly set on fire by miscreants between 1.30 am and 3 am in the chariot shed outside the temple premises. The Fire Department personnel rushed to the spot and brought the fire under control.

Hundreds of devotees and religious groups like Viswa Hindu Parishad and Bhajaranga Dal gathered at the temple raising slogans



The chariot of Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy temple at Antarvedi in Sakshinetipalli mandal in East Godavari district which caught fire in the early hours on Sunday. (Right) BC Welfare Minister Chelluboina Venugopalakrishna, East Godavari District Collector D Muralidhar Reddy and other officials visiting the temple on Sunday.



against the act of vandalism. They demanded a full-scale inquiry and stringent action against culprits. Some devotees demanded immediate suspension of Executive Officer N Chakradhar Rao.

Endowments Minister Vellampalli Srinivas ordered an inquiry by Additional Commissioner K Ramachandra Mohan into the fire incident.

Amalapuram MP Chinta Anuradha, BC Welfare Minister Chelluboina Venugopalakrishna, District Collector D Muralidhar Reddy, Superintendent of Police Adnan Nayeem Asmi, Endowments Deputy Commissioner BVS

Durga Prasad and other officials visited the temple. Minister Venugopalakrishna stated that those re-

sponsible for the burning of chariot will be taken to task. Every year, soon after the cele-

stial wedding of Lord Narasimha Swamy is performed, the divine chariot is taken out in a procession to provide the devotees a glimpse of the newly wedded couple.

This heinous act by hooligans hurt the sentiments of the devotees, the Minister said. He also said persons responsible for the non-functioning of the CCTV cameras would also be taken to task.

“Necessary steps would be taken to restore the divine chariot by the time of the celestial wedding of Lord Narasimha Swamy next year.”

Collector D Muralidhar Reddy said that stringent action will be taken against those responsible for the burning of divine chariot. A team comprising officials from the Fire department and Electricity department has been formed.

Police on job to identify causes for mishap: DGP

- Experts from forensic and fire depts pressed into service
- Eluru range DIG and EG SP visit accident site

Vijayawada: DGP D Gautam Sawang has said the police department was collecting full details of the reasons for the fire accident in which chariot was gutted at Lord Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy temple, Antarvedi in East Godavari in the early hours on Sunday.

In a press release, the DGP said experts from the forensic lab and the fire services department left for Antarvedi to examine the causes for the mishap. He said the police responded immediately after the accident and fire services department staff immediately extinguished the fire after receiving the information.

He further said East Godavari District SP and the Eluru range DIG have already inspected the accident site and added that the police personnel concerned are busy in collecting the clues for the mishap.

Covid +ve cases rise to 4.98 lakh in State

- 10,794 fresh cases in the last 24 hours
- 70 deaths reported and toll increases to 4,417

Amaravati: The coronavirus positive cases increased by the new normal 10,000-plus but the number of active cases dropped below the one lakh mark in Andhra Pradesh on Sunday.

With the addition of 10,794 cases in 24 hours ending 9 am on Sunday, the aggregate Covid-19 cases now reached 4.98 lakh just short of the five-lakh mark.

The latest bulletin said 11,915 patients had recovered from the infection and walked home but another 70 succumbed in 24 hours.

A total of 3.94 lakh coronavirus patients had so far been cured while 4,417 died.

The number of active cases now stood at 99,689, the bulletin said.

With the case load increasing daily by thousands, the infection positivity rate shot further up to 12.13 per cent after a total of 41.07 lakh sample tests were conducted.

The recovery rate too showed an improvement to 79.10 per cent while the mortality rate remained stable at 0.89 per cent, according to the bulletin.

SPS Nellore district is now turning out to be the latest hotbed in the State.

It reported 1,299 fresh cases in 24 hours, pushing its overall tally to 37,278. However, only 6,673 cases are active in the district.

East Godavari added 1,244, West Godavari 1,101 and Prakasam 1,042 new cases in 24 hours.

Chittoor and Kadapa reported more than 900 cases each and Srikakulam over 800.

Anantapur, with 753 fresh cases, crossed 45,000 mark while Guntur, with 703 additions, went past the 40,000 mark.

Peak power demand in Delhi surges

Continued from P1

Cooling load is the main factor behind the increase in Delhi's power load, said an official of BSES discoms BYPL and BRPL. “Com-mensurate with Delhi's growing appetite for power, its electricity infrastructure must also keep pace.

BSES will continue to successfully meet the ever increasing power demand and as always, be an active partner in the future development of the city,” he said.

During the lockdown, BSES strengthened its network and energised two 66/11 KV grids, that will benefit over two lakh residents in the city, he added

Veerraju demands probe by sitting HC Judge

HANS NEWS SERVICE

Amaravati: The incident of alleged setting on fire by miscreants of the historical chariot (Radham) of Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy temple at Antarvedi in Rajole Assembly constituency in East Godavari district on Sunday hurt the sentiments of people across the State.

In a statement, BJP State president Somu Veerraju demanded that the State government conduct a probe into the issue through a High Court sitting Judge. He explained that the Radham has 62 years history and pilgrims worship it with devotion. This chariot was made by the then donors after recognising its sanctity, he explained.

At the same time, he added

- Points out that the Radham at Antarvedi has 62 years history

- The culprits should be punished severely, says TDP national general secretary Nara Lokesh

that there were other incidents in the State in the recent past which hurt sentiments of the Hindus.

Meanwhile, TDP national general secretary Nara Lokesh stated that the sentiments of the devotees were hurt as the chariot used for Antarvedi Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Kalyanotsavam for the last 60 years was burnt by miscreants. He said those responsible for setting the chariot on fire should be strictly punished.

Goodbye to free power with installation of meters: APCC

HANS NEWS SERVICE

Vijayawada: Andhra Pradesh Congress Committee (APCC) sees a conspiracy behind the announcement of the installation of meters to the agriculture pumpsets which would certainly bid adieu to the free power to the farm sector.

PCC president Dr Sake Sailajanath said in a statement here on Sunday that the announcements to fix meters to the farm pumpsets and that the money would be deposited in the farmers' accounts and the farmers would pay the power bills to the Discoms appear to be a plan to do away with the free power to farmers.

Stating that AP was the first State which announced that it would implement the electricity reforms as suggested by the Centre, the PCC chief said that the State government was harming the interest of the farmers in an

attempt to secure more loans. “The farmers have been happy for the last 16 years with the Congress-introduced free power and in spite of the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic they continued to provide food to the nation.”

He deplored that the State government minimised allocations to the agriculture sector and irrigation for the last two years and even the allocated funds were not spent for the same. There are no new irrigation projects and on the other hand the subsidies were reduced to the farmers. For the meter installation, Srikakulam district was selected under the pilot project which would be followed in all the districts subsequently. The farmers, who are already suffering

PCC chief S Sailajanath deplores reduction in budgetary allocations to agriculture and irrigation sectors for the last two years

due to the poor remunerative price for their produce, are committing suicides. The State is in the third place in the country in the suicides of farmers and once the free power is removed, it would not be a surprise if the State reached the first place.

The PCC chief wondered as to what would be beneficial to the farmers if the State, which is already in deep debts, spends Rs 2,000 crore for fixing meters.

He exhorted the farmers throughout the State to fight against the injustice contemplated by the State government. The APCC members would submit representations to the revenue officials on Monday highlighting the problems of the farmers.

RISE IN COVID CASES

No. of beds in hospitals increased to 5,400 in Chittoor district

- MLA B Karunakar Reddy lauds the cooperation extended by the TTD and District Collector Bharat Gupta in providing better services to patients
- TTD choultries provide accommodation to 800 patients and another 200 can be accommodated at dormitory, he says

HANS NEWS SERVICE

Tirupati: Going in line with the ever increasing Covid positive cases in Chittoor district, the district administration has been constantly increasing the number of beds for the convenience of patients, taking them to about 5,400 beds now.

Speaking at the inauguration of TTD choultries at DR Mahal road turned into Covid care centres on Sunday, MLA Bhumana Karunakar Reddy has said that the situation was alarming in the city with over 18,000 cases having been registered since March 25 when the Covid lockdown was announced. There are about 4,500 active cases in Tirupati urban and rural mandals as of now.

“In view of the severity of the situation, I have spoken to the



MLA Bhumana Karunakar Reddy and Chittoor District Collector Dr N Bharat Gupta performing pooja to mark the inauguration of a new Covid care centre in Tirupati on Sunday

higher officials of the TTD requesting them to stop issuing Sarvadarshan tokens on Saturday though tension prevailed. It became necessary as this 'Per-atasi month' is auspicious for Tamilians who may come in large numbers to the city to visit Tirumala which may further spread the virus,” said the MLA.

He lauded the cooperation of TTD and the services of Collector Dr N Bharat Gupta due to which the district was able to extend excellent services to patients not only from Chittoor district but also neighbouring districts. He said that there was no difference in the treatment

in government hospitals or corporate hospitals citing his own example that he took treatment in government Ruia hospital.

Collector Bharat Gupta has said that the district could provide more beds than the government stipulated 5,000 beds with the co-operation of TTD and Covid co-ordination committee chairman and co-chairman. At the TTD choultries, 800 patients can be accommodated in rooms while another 200 in dormitory. The Collector warned that many of those who opted for home isolation were not confining themselves to homes due to which the virus may spread further to many others.

Tirupati urban SP A Ramesh Reddy has said that while discharging duties as frontline warriors, 338 police got infected with the coronavirus while five of them have died. He said that government schools and hospitals are better than private schools and hospitals. The officials have given away welcome kits to Covid patients and admitted them.

Centre nodal officer Ranga Swamy, Deputy DM&HO Dr C Aruna Sulochana Devi, Dr Srihari Rao, Dr Yugandhar, SETVEN CEO Muralikrishna Reddy, CDPO Prameela, Dr Reddeppa and others have participated.

Feb riots: Man who shot dead law student held

Continued from P1

Mustaqeem denied his involvement Initially but accepted after detailed questioning, he said. The country-made pistol used in the crime was recovered along with five live cartridges at his instance. A mobile

phone and the clothes, including the jeans pant, shoes and helmet, which he was wearing at the time of committing the crime have also been found, police said. Mustaqeem studied up to class 10 but dropped out to work as carpenter, they said.

Constitution's saviour is no more

Continued from P1

Senior Advocate Arvind P Datar said when some parcels of land of the Edaneer Mutt were acquired under the land reform laws of Kerala, Bharati moved the Kerala High Court against it and partially succeeded.

However, when the 29th Constitutional Amendment was adopted by Parliament giving protection to Kerala laws, the seer moved the Supreme Court challenging it.

The apex court ruled that the 29th Amendment is valid and held that the two Kerala land Acts that were included in the Ninth Schedule are entitled to the protection of Article 31B of the (validation of certain acts and regulations) Constitution.

The verdict had held that though Parliament has power to amend under Article 368 of the Constitution, it did not have the power to emasculate its basic features.

No use of lockdown with liquor shops open: TDP

Nellore: TDP district general secretary Ch Venkateswara Reddy said there is no use with lockdown and Janata curfew when liquor shops remain open in the district. He released a note on Sunday and stated more than 1,000 positive cases are being reported in the district for the last 15 days.

Even though the shops and commercial organisations are being closed after 1 pm, he sought rationale in allowing liquor sale without imposing any social distancing measures till night. They are being opened till 8 pm and the huge rush at the liquor shops has been the main reason for shooting up of number of cases. He suggested to the District Collec-

tor to review the situation and take appropriate decisions. He ridiculed politicians and even MLAs for moving to another state for treatment which indicates poor facilities in state-run hospitals.

He demanded the state government to bear all medical expenses of people, who are being treated in corporate hospitals in case of a critical situation. Further, the former Mayor Abdul Aziz said that the state government has been claiming that they had achieved the excellence of Ease of Doing business. But, he said the TDP government had earlier bagged it for four consecutive years and the present appreciation was also an effect of previous measures.

One killed, 7 injured in Birmingham stabbing

Continued from P1

The force is also calling for anyone with CCTV or mobile footage to contact the police. The police believe the incidents, which took place between 12:30 am and 2:20 am local time, are linked and are following a number of lines of enquiry. An increased uniformed and armed response has been put in place across the city.

Earlier, the police had declared a “major incident” as cordons were put up and an investigation was launched following reports of the stabbings. A major incident describes any situation involving serious harm or a security risk to the public and covers special arrangements for all of the emergency services to work together. West Midlands Police said they are uncertain as to the motive behind the stabbings and are working to establish the details after they were called to reports of one stabbing just after midnight in the city centre. Officers have set up a cordon at the junction of Hurst Street, a popular nightlife area in the city centre referred to as the Gay Village, and Bromsgrove Street. Emergency services attended and some of the injured people were rushed to local hospitals.

Naidu demands R&R package for Gandikota evacuees

HANS NEWS SERVICE

Amaravati: The YSRCP government has been harassing a section of the evacuees under Gandikota Project in Kadapa district by not giving them rehabilitation and resettlement (R&R) package, alleged TDP national president N Chandrababu Naidu on Sunday.

In a statement, Naidu asked the government to explain how the displaced families were asked to vacate their villages without implementation of the R&R and One Time Settlement (OTS) packages. In all, 2,369 families are yet to be provided R&R package at Tallapodduru village but they are being asked to evacuate, he pointed out.

The TDP chief brought to the notice of Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy that it would be difficult for the evacuees to find a new shelter if they are not given suitable compensation and a resettlement package.

He alleged that the government acted in a partisan man-

Points out that 2,369 families are yet to be covered under the package

ner and gave package only to 500 families while ignoring the rest of the families in the village.

Naidu said lots of problems were cropping up in the implementation of projects due to lack of foresight and strategic planning by the government. Due to lack of responsible action, the Gandikota project evacuees have been facing hardships and misery, he pointed out.

The TDP chief said that the evacuees cannot go anywhere at this juncture in view of the coronavirus threat, on the other hand they face submer-sion threat from the project backwaters. Though there were floods this year, no efforts were made to store 26 tmcft water in Gandikota reservoir, he said.



Respect the market. Have an open mind. Know what to stake. Know when to take a loss. Be responsible

- Rakesh Jhunjhunwala



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Border tensions looming large over mkts

CHERUKURI KUTUMBA RAO

Spooked by India-China border tensions, weak global cues and renewed concerns over economic recovery, the domestic markets snapped two-week winning streak to close on pessimistic note during the last week end. Benchmark indices - the Nifty and the BSE Sensex- shed 313 points or 2.7 percent at 11,334, and 1,110 points or 2.81 percent to close at 38,357, respectively. The broader markets also corrected in line with front liners as the BSE Midcap dropped 2.8 percent and Smallcap index was down 2.6 percent. After several weeks of consistent buying, FIIs were net sellers in passing week to the tune of Rs 3,800 crore. Eight of the ten most valued companies witnessed a total loss of Rs 1,11,799.05 crore in their market valuation last week, with ICICI Bank and Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) emerging as leading losers. Markets have lost momentum for the near-term and could be heading into a round of consolidation. The recent data showed that India's Gross Domestic Product growth rate had contracted by 23.9 per cent for the April to June quarter. However, India services PMI for the month of August came improved to 41.8 in August from 34.2 in July thus signaling an improvement in the services sector. Near term direction of the market will be dictated by India-China border tensions, signs of economic recovery, crude oil price trends and rupee-dollar volatility. And on global front, developments around US stimulus and Presidential Election will influence the market sentiment.

Heard on the Street: Primary

market activity is only a reflection of the secondary market. If the secondary market is weak then it is unlikely that the market will see companies venturing with their IPOs. The first main-board IPO of the year happened recently in July when Rossari Biotech's IPO was over-subscribed 79 times. In July itself, three companies- Shriram Transport Finance, Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail and PVR Ltd- have filed their final letters of offer for rights issue. Earlier, Reliance Industries had raised a record Rs 53,124 crore through its Rights issue in May-June 2020. Two companies - Happiest Minds Technologies and Route Mobile- decided to launch their IPOs next week. IT services company Happiest Minds is set to open its Rs 702-crore IPO on September 7 and will close on September 9, with a price band has been at Rs 165-166 per share. IPO consists of a fresh issue of Rs 110 crore and an offer for sale of Rs 360 crore by promoters.

MARKET Khabrein



ber 9, with a price band has been at Rs 165-166 per share. IPO consists of a fresh issue of Rs 110 crore and an offer for sale of equity shares by promoter Ashok Soota and investor JP Morgan-backed CMDDB II. Omnichannel cloud communication service provider Route Mobile will open its three-day maiden public offer on September 9, with a price band at Rs 345-350 per share. The company aims to raise Rs 600 crore

through IPO comprising a fresh issue of Rs 240 crore and an offer for sale of Rs 360 crore by promoters.

Quote of the week: "The individual investor should act consistently as an investor and not as a speculator; - Ben Graham You are an investor, not someone who can predict the future. Base your decisions on real facts and analysis rather than risky, speculative forecasts.

F&O/ SECTOR WATCH

Amidst heightened volatility, derivatives segment witnessed brisk trading in both stock futures and indices. After last week's correction, the activity in the options segment indicates that the Nifty could trade in the range of 11,100-11,600 levels in coming days. Maximum Call Open Interest (OI) was

seen at 11,500 strike followed by 12,000 and 11,800 strikes, while maximum Put OI was seen at 11,000 strike, followed by 11,300 strike.

Significant Call writing was seen at 11,500, 11,400 and 11,600 strikes, while Put writing was witnessed at 11,300 and 10,800 strikes. The Implied Volatility (IV) of calls closed at 18.33 per cent, while that for Put options closed at 19.57. The Nifty VIX for the week closed at 20.50 per cent and is expected to rise. The tractor space continued to be the flag bearer of the revival, with key players reporting robust growth. Use declines to buy Escorts and M&M. Stock futures looking good are Bata, Bharti Airtel, Grasim, Maruti, Pidilite Inds, TCS and Wipro.

(The author is a stock market expert. He is former vice chairman of AP Planning Board)

IN SHORT

Route Mobile IPO on Sept 9

Route Mobile, an omni-channel Cloud Communication Service Provider (CPaaS), has announced that its initial public offering (IPO) would open on September 9 and close on September 11, 2020, in the price band of Rs 345-350 per equity share. In a statement, the company said that bids by anchor investors shall be submitted, and allocation to them will be completed on September 8, 2020. The offer is being made through the 'book building process,' wherein not more than 50 per cent of the offer shall be allotted on a proportionate basis to Qualified Institutional Buyers, provided that the company and the selling shareholders in consultation with the Book Running Lead Managers (BRLM) may allocate up to 60 per cent of the QIB Portion to anchor investors on a discretionary basis, it said. One third of the 'Anchor Investor Portion' shall be reserved for domestic mutual funds, subject to valid bids received from the domestic mutual funds at or above the 'Anchor Investor Allocation Price'.

Forex reserves rise by \$3 bn

India's foreign exchange reserves jumped higher by \$3.883 billion during the week ended August 28. According to the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) weekly statistical supplement, the reserves rose to \$541.431 billion from \$537.548 billion reported for the week ended August 21. India's forex reserves comprise foreign currency assets (FCAs), gold reserves, special drawing rights (SDRs), and the country's reserve position with the International Monetary Fund (IMF). On a weekly basis, FCAs, the largest component of the forex reserves, edged higher by \$3.925 billion to \$498.094 billion. However, the value of the country's gold reserves fell by \$64 million to \$37.200 billion. The SDR value remained the same at \$1.481 billion. In addition, the country's reserve position with the IMF increased by \$22 million to \$4.657 billion.

FPIs pull out ₹900 cr in Sept

Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) pulled out Rs 900 crore on net basis from Indian markets in the first four trading sessions of this month as weak economic data and India-China border tensions hit market sentiment. Depositories data showed that FPIs pulled out Rs 675 crore from equities and Rs 225 crore from the debt segment on net basis between September 1-4. Prior to this, FPIs were net buyers for three consecutive months. They invested Rs 46,532 crore in August, Rs 3,301 crore in July and Rs 24,053 crore in June on net basis. "FPIs turned cautious at the start of the week ahead of the release of the GDP data. Amidst the coronavirus pandemic, India's GDP for the quarter-ended June 2020 contracted by huge 23 per cent, which dented sentiments," said Himanshu Srivastava, associate director (manager research), Morningstar India.

Early signals of trend reversal on horizon

THOVITI BRAHMACHARY

Last week has begun with Black Monday and ended with a gap down. The week has given many warnings to the traders. The traders searched reasons for the fall such as geopolitical tensions, declining global markets and so on. But it has found its own way to fall. The Nifty declined 313.75 points or 2.69 per cent during the week. The BSE Sensex lost 2.8 per cent. The Broader market indices Nifty Midcap and Smallcap declined by 2.6 per cent and 3.2 per cent respectively. On the sectoral front, PSU Bank index fell sharply by 8.9 per cent and the realty and energy sector indices lost by 5.5 per cent and 3.4 per cent respectively.

Technically, the NSE Nifty formed a bearish engulfing pattern on a weekly chart and closed below the 20DMA on a daily chart. After 14 weeks of closing above the previous week's low, it failed to do so. At the same time, there are several other candlesticks patterns, including bearish Engulfing in a daily failed many times during the recent rally from the March low. Let us wait for this going to be a reality. There are only early signals of reversal. It confirms only when closes below the previous swing low of 11,111. There several confluences around that level. The 50DMA is placed at 11,096, and the trend line (dotted) support is placed at the same



level. The 11,096-11,111 zone of support is going to be a stronger one. The 50DMA is up trending in a non-curved or a straight line fashion along with the dotted trend line.

Look at the RSI. It is shifting its range towards the bearish zone after May 27. After last week's negation, a fresh negative divergence emerged as the price made a higher high, and the indicator made a lower high. At the same time, it closed below the prior swing low. The -DMI closes above the +DMI and the ADX, which shows the bears coming back with a regained strength. Along with the crossover of -DMI, the Nifty closed below the 20DMA is also a bearish sign. The negative divergence in the MACD and its histogram also still persists. The, more importantly, the Nifty has five distribution days, which is an indication of a topping formation. These technical factors are pointing out that the high of 11,794 on August 31 could be an intermediate top for. Only in case the Nifty moves above 11,794, the bearish view will be negated. Let

us wait and watch the 11,111-11,096 zone of support breaches and reverses the trend or takes support and moves to a new high. We will know by next weekend. Next week's close is very, very important for near-future trend implications.

Sector analysis

From the lows of March 2020, 9 sectors performed better than the broader Nifty-500 index as that index itself rallied 50 per cent during this period. The top-performing sectors include pharma at 75 per cent, auto 73 per cent, smallcap 68 per cent, metal 63 per cent, and media at 62 per cent. Nifty Energy, Midcap, Commodities, and Infra sectors also rallied over 50 per cent. Nifty PSU banks, PSE, Realty, FMCG, and BankNifty, stood at the lower rung of the performance, between 14 per cent & 36 per cent rallies. Nifty Services, Consumption, MNC sectors clocked 40-50 per cent rallies.

(The author is a financial journalist and technical analyst. He can be reached at tbchary@gmail.com)



K Naresh Kumar
K NARESH KUMAR

So much is mentioned about the several strategies to be followed for successful investing, but the execution forms the crux. One may have multiple parameters to consider at arriving a right stock and even at a price appropriate to their philosophical terms, but if they fail to execute the same, the outcome is divergent to the expectations. Moreover, future is completely unknown and uncontrollable, the only things that are in our control is our emotions and how we respond to the changing situations. It's said that success in equity investing depends not on how the market responds to the news, but a lot on how one would react to the market's reaction. When we are certain about the numerous things that are out of our control, it's better to concentrate on the only few things that we could control. It's amply been proved that there's no correlation between intelligence and performance in equity markets.

A few decades back when the world of investing still hasn't evolved to the current form, availability of information is scarce and so there was an advantage in the form of access to credible data about a company. If one were to know it in advance, then it's a worthwhile advantage to have. But now most of the information is available almost for free coupled with analysis and

Pick quality stocks in times of uncertainty

trends, etc., which no more remains an advantage. Even the various analytical tools that could be helped to spot the finer mispricing could be acquired pretty instantly by opting a software subscription. It no further requires one to learn the actual analysis, but just the pointers on what to look for.

Therefore, the only remaining advantage tends from that of behavioral and of one's own self. This probably explains why in recent years, the popularity of the behavioral finance has grown not just from the academic perspective, but from also among the investing community. Wherever we look around in the world, we see lots of problems that need solutions and its entrepreneurs who try extracting value or business sense in finding solutions for these problems. Arguably, one common trite any equity investor must carry is an unlimited reserve of optimism. History is replete with instances where the equity investor has been adequately rewarded for their patience and sticking to or executing their philosophy.

Equity investment, unlike trading, should be looked at as owning a pie of a business, however, small or large it is. It means that as an investor, though a minority, one becomes a stakeholder in the future of the business or an organization running this business. So, this needs a bit of knowledge about the industry, company, etc., which as I mentioned



Investors are advised to pick quality companies, which could steer well through these business cycles. One has to remember that progress is cumulative while hurdles are temporary

earlier is available abundantly. Of course, like any individual life, there are times of despair and desperation in a business, many-a-time to the changing environment. Obviously, like an individual who adapts to the change, responsive organizations go through adapt to the change and this wouldn't happen overnight.

This, thus becomes imperative for investors to pick quality companies which could steer well through these business cycles. One has to remember that progress is cumulative while hurdles are temporary. For instance, if productivity gains were improved due to a pandemic, the company could retain these as their best practices in the post-pandemic world further increasing their margins, which makes odds in favor of growth in the long-run.

As the vintage increases, the biggest factor of investing comes into play, compounding. A very interesting way as Michael Batnick put it: if I ask you to calculate 8

added nine times in your head, you could do it in few seconds (it's 72), but if I ask you to calculate 8 to the power of 9 then your head will explode (it's 134,217,728). The power of compounding lies in the number of years and not in the percentage of return that many of us crave for. So, it's more to do about time spent in the market than timing the market - a golden rule.

While many assume the role of an advisor is to come up with outperforming ideas, forecasts, etc., the pivotal role they could perform is by being a speed bump. Every investor undergoes capricious moments or emotions due to the market volatility; an advisor would help investors pause the train of thoughts even for a few seconds, which allows the investor to regain rationality. It's thus helpful to have a good advisor for every investor.

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Options data points to higher support levels

Call writers turn aggressive; Sharp unwinding of Put OI seen in 11,600-11,450 range

DASARI SREENIVASA RAO

Resistance and support levels moved upwards by 500 points range when compared to the previous week as highest Open Interest (OI) concentration is seen at 12,500CE/ 11,000PE from 12,000CE/ 11,500PE a week ago. Call writers are becoming aggressive, while sharp unwinding of Put OI is seen in 11,600-11,450 range.

With Options maximum pain hovering at 11,400 points, the 12,500 strike recorded highest Call OI of 30.92 lakh contracts followed by 12,000 strike with 26.62 lakh contracts, 11,500 strike, which registered maximum Call OI addition of 14.11 lakh contracts, with 24.07 lakh contracts and 11,600 strike

DERIVATIVES OUTLOOK

with 23.23 lakh contracts. 12,000/12,500/ 11,500/11,400 strikes recorded significant Call OI build-up.

Comit to Put side, 11,000 strike, which has maximum Put OI build-up of 8.88 lakh contracts, recorded highest Put OI of 20 lakh contracts followed by 10,500 strike with 14.83 lakh contracts, 10,800 strike with 14.31 lakh contracts, 10,700 strike with 12.74 lakh contracts and 11,300 strike with 13.86 lakh contracts. Further, 10,800/10,700 /10,500 /11,300 /11,100 strikes recorded significant Put OI



addition. Dhirender Singh Bisht, senior research analyst (derivatives) at SMC Global Securities Ltd, said: "From derivatives front, Call writers added hefty Open Interest at 11,500 & 11,600 strike, while Put unwinding was observed at 11,300 strike. The maximum Option Pain for current week and monthly expiry is at 10,400, which

The Nifty VIX for the week was closed at 22.15 per cent and is expected to rise further. PCR OI for the week closed at 0.71 down from the previous week indicating fresh Call writing

will consider as key level and in coming sessions this level will act as resistance for the market.

Long buildup is seen in Maruti, PVR, Siemens, Ashok Leyland, Nestle, Bionco and TCS, while long unwinding took place in SBI, Tata Steel, Hindalco, Adani Ports and Sail. Stocks such as ICICI Pru, Tata Power, Coal India, HDFC,

Divi's Lab, Jindal Steel, etc, recorded short build-up positions, while short covering took place in Zee, Escorts, PVR, Bandhan Bank, Bosch Ltd, etc.

Bisht stated that "After two weeks of stunner rally, Indian markets took a breather last week with bears made a comeback as Nifty ended the week with loss of nearly 2.70 per cent, while Bank Nifty also witnessed sharp selloff at the end of the week below 23,100 mark."

For the week ended September 4, 2020, Sensex shed 1,110 points or 2.81 per cent, a worst week since May, and closed at 38,357.18 points from the previous close of 39,467.31 points. Similarly, NSE Nifty eased by 313 points or 2.69 per cent, to

end the week at 11,333.85 points as against last week's 11,647.60 level. "From the technical front, secondary oscillators suggest that market may trade in a range bound manner with Nifty likely to consolidate in range of 11,200 to 11,500 levels. However, volatility will likely to grip the markets as tug of war among bulls and bears will continue in coming week as well," forecasts Bisht.

Barring index options, all the segments witnessed sell-off by FIIs and DIIs. FIIs bought Rs65.03 worth index options, while sold to the tune of Rs1,888.78 crore in cash segment, Rs696.11 cr in index futures, Rs603.26 cr in stock futures and Rs22.36 cr in stock options. Put-Call Ratio (PCR) for

Bank Nifty

As the moratorium period concluded with August, banking stocks suffered the most during the last week. Recovering by 2,224.2 or 9.97 per cent for the week, Bank Nifty closed at 23,011.50 points as against the previous week's closing of 24,523.80 points. Option maximum pain is at 23,200 strike. 23,000 strike has highest concentration of Put OI and 23,500 strike has highest Call OI. Bank Nifty PCR of volume is at 0.9628 and PCR at 0.702.

Penalise sellers, say illegal property buyers

With the State government giving one last chance for regularising illegal layouts, those who purchased plots now want the sellers to share the fine

HANS NEWS SERVICE

Hyderabad: Even as the Telangana government has given another opportunity of Layout Regularisation Scheme (LRS) to the citizens, property owners now want the seller also to be made accountable and penal amount should be shared by sellers and buyers.

The State government has recently issued notification for implementation of LRS for one last time in all urban and rural areas in the State. The aim of the government was to make sure no registration of plots is done in unauthorised layouts from now on and to have planned and a sustainable development.

According to officials, the LRS is applicable to unauthorised layouts developed with at least 10 per cent of plots sold through a registered deed on or



before the cut-off date. The plot owners should also pay registration fee of Rs 1,000 in case of individuals and Rs 10,000 in case of layout developers. The government prescribed Rs 200 per sq meter for a plot less than 100 sq meters, Rs 400 for area of 101 to 300 sq meters, Rs 600 for an area of 301 to 500 sq meters and Rs 750 for area of

above 500 sq meters.

Though the plot owners welcome the government's decision to give another opportunity, they also want stringent action against the developers for any violation of rule. K Sanjeeva Reddy, a businessman said that presently the government was making the buyers responsible, but it should be on

both the buyer and seller of the property. "There has to be a mechanism where the buyer and the seller should share the regularisation fee and also the penal amount so that the buyer does not get scot free," said Sanjeeva Reddy.

A techie S Sampath, who purchased a house recently, said that the seller should be held responsible. However, if the government is giving an LRS facility, both the seller and buyer should share the fee and other formalities.

However, the realtors feel that the onus of checking all the legalities lies with the buyers. A realtor R Santosh Kumar said the buyer had to check the details like approved layouts so that there will not be any issues in future. He said that the LRS opportunity given by the government will only help the property holders.

ENSURING SALARIES TO TEACHERS

Planning Board VC promises to recommend changes to Education Act

HANS NEWS SERVICE

Hyderabad: Telangana State Planning Board Vice-Chairman B Vinod Kumar on Sunday said that he would recommend the government to make amendments to the Education Act to ensure private educational institutions pay salaries to their teaching and non-teaching staff.

On Sunday, the representatives of Private Technical College Lecturers, Assistant Professors, Professors Association met the Vice-Chairman and urged him to request the government to address their issue of non-payment of salaries. "The tuition fee collected by the schools and colleges should be first spent on the salaries of teaching and non-teaching staff. I will recommend the government to make changes to the Act so that the staff gets salaries," he promised. Vinod Kumar further added that it was unfortunate that the managements of private educational institutions were not paying salaries to their teaching staff who were creating skilled and experts in different sectors. If these skilled

The staff of private technical colleges urge the VC to request the government to address their issue of non-payment of salaries by the college managements

professionals move to other sectors, the teaching sector would have to face a huge loss, opined the Vice-Chairman.

He felt that private institutions should shoulder the responsibility of taking care of their staff in the testing times and promised to recommend the government to amend the Telangana Education Act-82 to ensure salaries to staff of private institutions. The staff also urged Vinod Kumar to bring changes in the Section 84 of Telangana Education Act and also implement GO 14 which prescribes payment of salaries by the educational institutions. The representatives who met the Vice-Chairman included Association president I Santosh Kumar, vice-president Uma Devi, secretary Raju, Naresh, Madan and others.

1.12 lakh apply for UG courses on DOST -2020

- ▶ 29,344 yet to give their web options
- ▶ Candidates can reach out DOST Grievance by mail, WhatsApp, FB and Twitter and YouTube

HANS NEWS SERVICE

Hyderabad: As many as 1,12,870 students have applied for undergraduate courses through the Degree Online Services, Telangana (DOST), Telangana State Council of Higher Education (TSCHE) informed on Sunday.

TSCG Vice-Chairman, Prof R Limbadri said that out of total applied candidates, 29,344 (26 per cent) have to exercise web options. The last date for the registration on DOST phase-I is September 7, for web options, it is September 8.

He said students who have qualified from the Telangana State Board of Intermediate Education (TSBIE) and from qualified Class 12 from other boards can register and give web options within the last dates specified for the phase-I.

Further, students who have given their web options are asked to revisit the DOST website <https://dost.cgg.gov.in> and review their web options making the best choices available for them in different courses and colleges.

In case, the applicants face any problem, they can contact any of the 105 helpline centers, he added. Students can resolve their problems through online mode visiting DOST Online Grievance at <https://dost.cgg.gov.in/grievance.do>, and also can send their grievance to the WhatsApp number -7901002200 and using Twitter at https://twitter.com/dost_telangana and Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/dost.telangana>.

The applicants can also reach the DOST via its YouTube Channel at https://www.youtube.com/c/dost_telangana, he said.

Congress kits out itself to nail TRS in Assembly

HANS NEWS SERVICE

Hyderabad: With in-depth study of failure of the State government at different levels during the Covid-19 pandemic, the Congress is prepared to corner the ruling party in the Assembly session starting from Monday.

Amongst the latest issues of public concern from agriculture, employment, Srisaillam power plant accident, problems of minorities and Dalits in the State, unfulfilled promises of double bedroom housing, New Revenue Act, LRS and its impact on poor, corruption in Irrigation projects, bad road condition in the capital city and other important issues,

▶ Besides the State government's failure to tackle Covid-19 pandemic, the party will raise issues concerning farmers, minorities, Dalits and unemployed youth, Revenue Act and LRS etc in the House

▶ CLP leader, Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, who had been on 10-day statewide tour to study Covid-19 ground situation, tells the party's spokesperson to gather all the information so that the party has an edge in countering the official version in the Assembly



besides Covid-19 are likely rock to the Assembly sessions.

In this endeavour, the CLP leader, Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka who is on high spirits after his 10-day statewide tour to study Covid ground situation held pep talks with the party's official spokesperson and asked them to gathering all the information so that party has an edge in countering the official version to be present in the Assembly.

For cornering the ruling party, the Congress leadership is now pitching for efficient information flow from the party to public and vise versa and to emphasise the failure of the KCR government in dealing with the Covid-19 situa-

tion, leading to deaths and huge economic impact.

Bhatti asked the spokespersons to come out with in-depth study & analysis of the government's failure in all sectors. During the meeting he also discussed strategies to be adopted to corner the ruling party.

Meanwhile, TPCC chief, N Uttam Kumar Reddy held a meeting with the party's DCC presidents at Gandhi Bhavan and said that the public resentment towards TRS government is on the rise and people are now looking at the Congress party as their saviour. Therefore, he asked the party cadre to strengthen the party at grass root level and focus on public issues.

BJP to rip TRS over teachers' salaries

HANS NEWS SERVICE

Hyderabad: The Telangana BJP has decided to corner the ruling Telangana Rashtra Samithi on the issue of non-payment of salaries to lakhs of teachers and lecturers working in private educational institutions in the State.

According to the State BJP leaders, a decision to this effect has been taken at a meeting conducted by party State chief Bandi Sanjay Kumar and party floor leader in the Legislative Council N Ramachander Rao.

It may be mentioned here that the BJP has been focusing on the unemployed graduates and teachers to prepare the ground to field its

▶ The saffron party accuses the TRS government of leaving the teachers community in the lurch

▶ Says the State government has failed to provide any relief to teachers in these testing times

candidates in the two graduate constituency elections coming up for polls in March next year.

As a prelude to the same, Bandi Sanjay Kumar on Saturday said, "We have to pay our respects to the teachers on the occasion of Teachers' Day. However, the inefficient

governance of the TRS has left many school teachers and lecturers working in private institutions in the lurch."

The Karimnagar MP said teachers working in Telangana have been undergoing serious troubles irrespective of working in the government or private sectors.

"While the teachers working in government schools and colleges have to undergo a salary cut of 50 per cent, many of the teachers working in private institutions facing 50 per cent cut and above and many of them are given no salaries," he added.

Taking a jibe at Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao, the State BJP chief said that the CM boasts of TS as a rich State, but he has never both-

ered to provide any relief to the teaching community that was undergoing hardships.

Similarly, when the Centre had allowed to physically run the schools with 50 per cent attendance, the dictatorial decision of the State government is forcing a cent per cent attendance of teachers, he added.

The BJP leader also found fault with the State government for not implementing the recommendations of the 7th pay commission to the teachers and not filling the existing teacher and lecturer vacancies in the schools, colleges and the universities. The education sector in Telangana is in doldrums due to the policies of TRS government, he felt.

Yadadri temple to have golden doors

HANS NEWS SERVICE

Yadadri: Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy temple atop Yadadri revival works have speed up. The works are going to be architecture marvel, especially the main temple's 'Swarna Dwaram' is going to be a special attraction to the pilgrims.

The temple officials have released a video of Swarna Dwaram with an explanation of design and significance of the door in detail a couple of days ago. Yadadri Temple Development Authority (YTDA) officials, under the supervision of Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao, are carrying out the revival works of the temple in such a way that the temple is going to one of the devotional destinations in the country.

As per official sources, the works of the temple entrance is being carried out by handicraft experts of Tamil Nadu State. Teak, copper, brass and bronze are being used in the making of the entrance. National awardee and handicraft expert sculptor Ravindran Stapathi had taken up the works of temple entrance as per Agama shastra. Along with his crew, he has been work-



Swarna Dwaram of Yadadri Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy temple

ing for the past four months in preparing Swarna Dwaram (Golden Threshold) of the temple.

The design of the entrance door consists of 54 squares and as many as 14 images of Lord Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy embedded in it. As many as 36 bells fixed inside the temple will ring when the entrance doors will be opened and sanctum of Swayambu

temple will be reverberated with this music. Also, besides 36 lotus flowers with eight petals and six swan images are being embedded in the doors as a symbiotic relationship of man and God.

The temple officials opined that all the embeddings in the doors of the temple entrance will balance the Vaastu errors if any.

With empty rooms, hotels seek govt support to keep afloat

The industry is facing irreparable losses and if the government does not intervene, they would even have to close down business, says Hotels and Restaurants Association of Telangana

HANS NEWS SERVICE

Hyderabad: Hit by lockdown following the corona pandemic, hotels and restaurants are seeking government support to keep them going.

According to Hotels and Restaurants Association of Telangana, they are facing irreparable losses and if the government does not intervene, they would even have to close down their businesses. Though the Centre had allowed hotels to start operations, the customers are nowhere to be seen. The government allowed the hotels to provide customers the lodging facility only not the dining facility. Since the rail, road and air travel still in a state of limbo, there is no occupancy as the guests are not coming.

According to Ashok Hemrajani, president of the association, there is an urgent need for hand holding by the Central and State governments.

In a press note issued here on Sunday, he said that they had recently met the Minister for Industries and IT K T Rama Rao and submitted a memorandum urging him to consider continuation of the trade licence fee with a maximum ceiling cap of Rs 2.5 lakh per



▶ Though the Centre had allowed hotels to start operations, the customers are nowhere to be seen

▶ The government allowed to provide only lodging facility to customers

annum. This fee was increased by 6-7 times of what it was last year.

They also sought relief in property tax from March to September during which period the hotels, resorts, bar and restaurants were closed. They also met the Minister for Tourism Srinivas

Goud and urged him to see that the time for paying excise licence fee due in September was extended by six months. The Association also wants the government to waive the minimum demand charges on electricity consumption.

Harish's fans perform homam for his recovery

HANS NEWS SERVICE

Nagarkurnool: Fans and followers of Finance Minister T Harish Rao have performed homam at Urkundapet Anjaneya Swamy Temple in Urkonda mandal on Sunday.

Soon after the news Harish Rao infected with coronavirus, his followers and fans across Nagarkurnool district expressed concern and offered prayers for his speedy recovery.

Taking part in the homam, Osmania University Joint Action Committee Chairman Karate Raju said among all the politicians Harish Rao is a unique leader, who is not just hard working, but achieves what he wants. With his kind heart and political acumen, he earned the hearts of the people. Stating that is unfortunate that our beloved leader T Harish Rao was contracted with coronavirus, he said that they have performed homam and offered prayers to Lord Anjaneya Swamy seeking Harish's speedy recovery.



OU JAC Chairman Karate Raju and other followers of Finance Minister Harish Rao taking part in homam at Urkundapet Anjaneya Swamy temple in Urkonda on Sunday

Dhoni's ₹1,800 membership dues of JSCA kicks up storm

New Delhi (IANS): A non-descript issue of Rs 1,800 dues that Mahendra Singh Dhoni apparently owes to his parent body, the Jharkhand State Cricket Association (JSCA), seems to be snowballing into a major controversy. More fuel was added to the fire after some school students and die-hard fans of the legend collected the money, got a draft made of that amount, and tried submitting it to the JSCA.

However, when a group of people, led by former cricketer and activist Shesh Nath Pathak, tried submitting the draft at the JSCA's registered office in Jamshedpur on Saturday, it was not accepted.

JSCA secretary Sanjay Sahay confirmed to IANS that the draft was not accepted, but rather strangely did not say

whether Dhoni has paid his dues, even as he claimed that only he knew the reality. This ambiguity could lead to more speculation.

The Rs 1,800 dues is mentioned in the JSCA's annual report 2019-20 that has recently been published. However, the report gives no other detail of the dues except that this amount was "receivable" from one of India's most successful captains based in Ranchi. Later, Sahay apparently clarified that it was actually the GST amount that Dhoni has to pay on his JSCA life membership fee of Rs 10,000.

Pathak said when he went to deposit the cheque at the JSCA's registered headquarters at the Keenan Stadium in Jamshedpur it was not accepted. "Some school kids and



Dhoni's fans collected the money and got a draft made of Rs 1,800. But when I, along with some other people, went to the JSCA office to deposit it, they refused to take it - perhaps on someone's instructions -- and gave an acknowledgement receipt. We were advised we could send it by post," Pathak, who is

known to protest against alleged irregularities in the JSCA, told IANS.

Sahay asked if Dhoni had authorised those people to deposit the amount. "If someone has to do something he is free to do that. He can't be stopped. Suppose I authorise someone to pay fees or money on my behalf, only then can that person pay it, isn't it? Did Dhoni authorise these people to pay his dues? My permission (to accept the draft) is not needed in this; the permission of the person who is supposed to pay dues is required - that they could deposit the dues on that person's behalf. Isn't it? Otherwise, anyone can come and offer to pay the dues of anyone," Sahay told IANS.

And when asked if Dhoni has submitted his dues, Sahay left

enough scope for more speculation. "I can't tell you that," he would merely say. He tried justifying this by saying: "This issue is between us (JSCA) and the person who is to pay the dues. The JSCA annual report is up to March 31, 2020. Who knows whether he has paid his dues after March 31? Only I know; no one else knows this. This is an internal matter of the association. So, let it be with the association."

It is being said in Jharkhand cricketing circles that a JSCA representative had gone to Dhoni's home in Ranchi to collect the Rs 10,000 life membership fee after the JSCA granted him that status at its AGM on October 31. The representative could have asked for a cheque of Rs 11,800, including the GST on the life membership fee of Rs 10,000, allege Dhoni's supporters. Sahay said that he was not aware of that. "I have no information about this, so I wouldn't be able to say anything on this," he said. "But, yes, Dhoni has been informed (about his dues)."

Earlier, Dhoni, who retired from international cricket last month, was made only an honorary member of JSCA. Then, after loud protests by the cricketer's fans and supporters, the JSCA at a meeting of its management committee in September last year, decided to grant Dhoni the life membership. The management committee's decision was approved at the JSCA's October AGM. But, strangely, the JSCA took an inordinately long time to publish the members' list on its website, and finally did it this July.

UEFA Nations League: Mbappe helps France edge past Sweden

Stockholm (IANS): Paris Saint-Germain striker Kylian Mbappe scored as France earned a 1-0 win over Sweden in the UEFA Nations League on Saturday.

Mbappe's goal in the 41st minute was his 14th goal for his country. The 21-year-old cut in from the left and found the gap between Sweden goalkeeper Robin Olsen and the post with a left-footed shot.

"It was a tough match and we fought hard. It wasn't easy, it could be better in the future," Mbappe said, according to Xinhua news agency. "The most important thing is the result."

Mbappe had to be taken off in the 77th minute after a blow to his foot. He had recovered from an ankle injury only in August and said that his ankle hurt a bit after the match. "It hurts a bit. I took a knock, but it will get better and better so it's fine," Mbappe told M6. "We will recover well to be better against Croatia. We are going to work. It's the coach who will decide if I play."

IPL 2020 Schedule announced, MI face CSK in opener

New Delhi (IANS): Defending champions Mumbai Indians will face three-time winners Chennai Super Kings in Abu Dhabi in the opening match of the 2020 edition of the Indian Premier League (IPL), the revamped schedule of which was finally revealed on Sunday.

The tournament starts on September 19 and will be entirely in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) behind closed doors amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

MI and CSK were originally scheduled to play the opening match of the 2020 season at Mumbai's Wankhede Stadium on March 29. However the outbreak of the pandemic in India and the subsequent lockdown led to the tournament being postponed indefinitely. After the tournament opener, which will be held on a Saturday, Dubai will host its first game on Sunday with the Delhi Capitals taking on Kings XI Punjab followed by the third match on Monday between Sunrisers



Hyderabad and Royal Challengers Bangalore.

The matches then shift to Sharjah where Rajasthan Royals face CSK on September 22. Kolkata Knight Riders start their campaign with a match against MI the next day in Abu Dhabi, the

Dhoni will lead CSK transition same as he did with India: Bravo

Dubai (IANS): Chennai Super Kings (CSK) all-rounder Dwayne Bravo feels that M.S. Dhoni will lead the transition in the side just as he did for India. The 39-year-old Dhoni, who announced his retirement from international cricket on August 15, was captain of the Indian team and led their transition from the era with the likes of Sachin Tendulkar, Rahul Dravid, Sourav Ganguly and Anil Kumble to the current one dominated by Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma.

Bravo feels that Dhoni's task at CSK will be of less pressure than what he must have faced while being the captain of India but that won't change the veteran wicketkeeper's approach.

"I know it's been in the back of my mind for some time, I mean all of us have to step aside at some point of time. It's just the matter of when to step aside and hand it over to whether it's a Raina or someone younger," Bravo told media when asked about Dhoni's plans for his successor in CSK. "He doesn't have to worry about a billion people now, it's just CSK the franchise but I don't think that'll change the person he is, won't change how he leads the team, definitely he'll be the same person," said the Trinidadian.



Wrestler Deepak now stable, advised home quarantine: SAI

New Delhi (IANS): Olympic-bound wrestler Deepak Punia, who had tested positive for coronavirus upon his arrival at a national camp in Sonapat, has been advised home isolation by doctors, the Sports Authority of India (SAI) said on Sunday.

"Wrestler Deepak Punia tested Covid positive during the test given by SAI upon arrival at the National Camp in Sonapat, and was in hospital. Now he's been advised home quarantine by doctors as he's stable & asymptomatic. His home stay is approved by the District Covid Nodal Officer," SAI tweeted. Besides Punia (86kg), the two other wrestlers who have tested positive for the virus are Navin (65kg) and Krishan (125kg).

US OPEN

Bopanna-Shapovalov reach men's doubles quarter-final

Washington (IANS): Veteran Indian tennis star Rohan Bopanna and his Canadian partner Denis Shapovalov reached the quarter-finals of the US Open on Saturday. Bopanna and Shapovalov recorded a 4-6, 6-4, 6-3 win over German duo Kevin Krawietz and Andreas Mies in a match that lasted an hour and 47 minutes.

Unforced errors were their undoing as the Indo-Canadian pair was outplayed by the Germans in the first set. Both teams had almost the same first-serve percentage and hit the same number of winners but Bopanna-Shapovalov managed just over half of the points on their first serve and a third of their return points, converting one of their two break points.

They sharpened up their act in the second set however. While the pair made unforced errors but won the points that mattered. They saved the one break point they faced to win the set. Bopanna and Shapovalov then carried the momentum into the third set. They converted a break point and saved one as they went through to the quarters where they will face Dutch-Romanian duo of Jean-Julien Rojer and Horia Tecau, who ousted defending champions Juan Sebastian Cabal and Robert Farah of Colombia. "It's all about finishing strong. Good effort by my partner after his long day yesterday to comeback and play hard. Good win at the office for us today @denis_shapo @usopen," Bopanna later tweeted.



Thiem seals last 16 spot

Washington (IANS): Austrian second seed Dominic Thiem saw a fightback from 2014 champion Marin Cilic to go through to the round of 16 of the US Open on Sunday. Thiem was dominant in the first two sets before Cilic finally found his bearings at the Arthur Ashe Stadium.

Thiem hit 18 winners, committed just four unforced errors and broke serve four times on seven opportunities in the first two sets. Cilic redoubled his efforts in the third set and managed to put a dent in Thiem's armour. He broke for 4-2 and later saved two break points while serving at 5-3 to force a fourth set.

Williams overcome Stephens in clash of champions

Washington (IANS): Serena Williams rallied to defeat the 2017 winner Sloane Stephens in the third round of the US Open and move into the women's singles last 16 on Saturday.

Third seed Williams essayed a signature comeback and served 12 aces to edge past her American compatriot Stephens 2-6, 6-2, 6-2 in one hour and 43 minutes.

Stephens went up a double break to carve out a 5-2 lead and served out the opening set in just 38 minutes. But Williams began to raise her game and served much better in the second set, lifting her first-serve percentage from 50 to 76 per cent. By breaking twice, Williams won the second set to level the match. Then in the third set, Williams was rarely troubled by her rival enroute to victory. She will take on the 15th-seeded Maria Sakkari of Greece in the last 16, who stunned Williams at the Western and Southern Open last month.



New Delhi (IANS): Twenty-six badminton players will be allowed to train at the Pullula Gopichand academy on the outskirts of Hyderabad as part of an expanded national camp from September 7 to 27, the Sports Authority of India (SAI) said in a statement on Sunday.

The expansion had been proposed by the Badminton Association of India (BAI) and national coach Pullula Gopichand keeping in mind the Thomas and Uber Cup which starts on October 3, SAI added.

National players already part of the camp are -- Men's singles player Sai Praneeth, P Kashyap and Kidambi Srikanth, Women's doubles pair Sikki Reddy and Ashwini Ponappa and women's singles player Saina Nehwal along with seven coaches, four support staff and three sparring partners.

Pre-empting the need for preparation of the Thomas and Uber Cup, SAI had held a meet-



ing with all stakeholders on August 27 requesting a proposal on the camp to be held.

"The said proposal was received on September 5 following which another meeting was held with all stakeholders on September 6," said SAI.

According to SAI, the initial proposal had said the players would reside in a hotel. However, it was eventually decided that the players would stay and play at the Pullula Gopichand academy itself, to ensure greater safety of players

amid the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. The strength of the training camp is now 26, extending the list to include more players apart from the Olympic-bound athletes such as Sai Praneeth already training at the academy.

"All players, coaches and support staff would have to undergo a mandatory RT-PCR test for Covid-19 before they travel to Hyderabad and would only be allowed in the academy, once they produce Covid-19 negative certificate," added SAI.

Messi had no choice but to stay at Barca due to bad advice: Sanchez

Madrid (Agencies): Lionel Messi was left with no choice but to reverse his decision to quit Barcelona due to bad advice from his father and agent Jorge, according to former Real Madrid player Hugo Sanchez.

The six-time Ballon d'Or winner sent shockwaves through the football world last week by informing Barca of his intention to leave.

However, LaLiga disputed Messi's claim that he could leave on a free transfer courtesy of a clause in his contract, meaning any potential suitor would have to negotiate with Barca or pay his €700million release clause.

Messi announced on Friday he will now remain at Camp Nou because the financial demands made by the Barca board for a transfer to happen rendered such a prospect "impossible".

And Mexico icon Sanchez, who



has been critical of Messi during the saga, blamed the 33-year-old's failed exit strategy on his representatives.

"That untimely burofax only strengthened the image of the

firm, because they could have saved that burofax. That has caused weakness to his image within the team.

"Coincidentally, Messi had the lawyers who had previously worked with Barcelona, but due to a conflict of interest, the Catalan club changed its strategy.

"If Messi and his father already had the decision to leave Barcelona, they should not have waited in time.

"But before the end of the term agreed in the contract, they had to tell the club that they wanted to leave at the end of the season and on a free, without paying any compensation. If they had it planned, it should have been done that way."

He added: "Messi's second problem was to send that burofax without certainty and guaranteeing that they had a team that would pay the €700m, which, due

to the pandemic, no team in the world that can invest that amount."

Messi is now expected to re-evaluate his future at the end of the 2020-21 season with Inter, Paris Saint-Germain and Manchester City possible destinations should he finally leave the club he has represented since the age of 13. "He has no choice but to drink several garlic and water teas in these next eleven months," Sanchez said.

"Messi likes to win titles and will need to look for another team where he can win championships and prove that he is the best player ever.

"The whole problem with Barcelona is going to distract him next season, in such a way that there will be doubts both about his behaviour and the fact that he is not the same young man who ran all over the pitch."

Tour de France: Yates retains yellow jersey after stage 8

Paris (IANS): Britain's Adam Yates retained the yellow jersey of the 2020 Tour de France after an arduous stage eight as local rookie rider Nans Peters won the stage. However, Saturday was a day of mixed feelings for local fans because fellow Frenchman Thibaut Pinot fell on the second climb of the day and finished over 25 minutes behind Peters, whose hopes of becoming the first home rider to win the Tour since 1985 have diminished as he sits nearly 19 minutes behind on the overall standings. It was a tough day for all cyclists as the mountainous stage eight, a 141 km ride to Loudenvielle featured three chal-

lenging ascents which scattered the peloton. Peters, 26, who is riding in his maiden Tour de France produced a brilliant long-range solo breakthrough to record his first stage win leading Toms Skujins and Carlos Verona who arrived at the same time by 47 seconds. Yellow jersey holder Yates survived several attacks to finish in a group containing many of the title favourites which also helped him secure his leading place in the title race. Sunday's stage nine will continue to be held in the Pyrenees as it follows a 153 km route from Pau to Laruns before a rest on Monday. The stage will be aired live on Eurosport from 4.45 p.m.