nicle

THE LARGEST CIRCULATED ENGLISH DAILY IN SOUTH INDIA

VISAKHAPATNAM | SUNDAY | 29 NOVEMBER 2020



Rainfall: 005.6 Forecast: Haze. Max/Min temp. 27/19 ºC





SPORTS 6 **India look to hit**

back in second ODI

of cyclone victims: CM



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COVID-19 **CW**UNT

CASES	DEATHS
(+43,404)	(+530)
93,92,689	1,36,720
covid19india.org	
STATE GOVERNM	ENT BULLETINS

(+753)	(+3)
TS: 2,68,418	1,451
(+625)	(+5)
AP: 8,67,063	6,981

CASES AROUND THE WORLD



worldometers.info/

ASTROGUIDE

Sarvari; Dakshinayana Tithi: Kartika Shuddha Chaturdasi till 12.46 noon Star: Krittika till 6.02 am (Monday) **Varjyam:** 4.40 pm to 6.27 pm

Durmuhurtam: 4.07 pm to 4.52 pm Rahukalam: 4.30 pm to 6 pm Rabbi-ul Akhir 13, 1442 AH

> Fajar: 5.50 am **Zohar:** 1.30 pm **Asar:** 4.45 pm Maghrib: 6.15 pm Isha: 8.15 pm SUNSET TODAY 5.20 PM

PRAYERS

SUNRISE TOMORROW 6.10 AM MOONRISE TODAY 4.41 PM **MOONSET TOMORROW 5.03 AM**



Don't take them seriously. The polls in Puniah and Haryana are far away!

SHORT TAKE

Cold conditions prevail in N. India

New Delhi: Jammu and Kashmir till December 4. Kashmir experienced subzero night temperatures as the mercury settled several degrees below the freezing

point, with Srinagar recording the minimum temperature of minus 2.2 degrees Celsius, while Qazigund (Anantnag) and Kupwara experienced a low of minus 1.8 degrees Celsius and minus 1.0 degrees Celsius respectively. Temperatures in Himachal Pradesh, Lahaul and Spiti's administrative centre Keylong was recorded as the coldest place in the state at minus 9.5 degrees

EPFO extends life record deadline

New Delhi: Retirement fund body EPFO has extended the deadline for submission of life certificates by pensioners till February 28, a move which would benefit over 35 lakh persons who could not submit the document by November due to coronavirus pandemic. The pensioners who could not submit their life certificates till November 30 deadline. would get pension every month till February. "In view of the ongoing pandemic and the vulnerability of elderly population, the EPFO

NATION 4

Congress supports farmers agitation



WORLD 5

US court rejects Trump Pennsylvania lawsuit

DC CORRESPONDENT

Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy has announced an ex gratia of

₹5 lakh each to the next of kin of eight persons (six in

Chittoor and two in Kadapa districts) who died

in the heavy rains triggered by cyclone Nivar.

The Chief Minister made

this annoucement while

addressing collectors of Nellore, Kadapa and Chittoor districts at the

International Airport in

Tirupati after an aerial survey of the Nivar-affect-

ed areas in the three dis-

tricts on Saturday. He directed officials to

make sure that power is

restored as early as possi-

ble. He said the crop loss

enumeration should be taken up on a war-footing

and reports should be sub-

mitted by December 15 in

order to offer compensa-

The Chief Minister said

people in relief camps should be given ₹500 each

while returning home. Services of volunteers

should be utilised to hand

over the amount if they have already left relief camps. The CM instructed

officials to give seeds at 80

per cent subsidy to the

farmers in the affected

areas. A decision to this

effect was taken at the

Friday. He directed offi-

cials to act on humanitari-

an grounds in dealing with

the people in the affected areas and to compensate

other damages like houses

and livestock as per SDRF

norms. Deputy Chief Ministers K. Narayana Swami, Amjad Basha and

other ministers and offi-

cials attended the meeting.

Cabinet meeting

tion by December end.

NELLORE, NOV. 28

₹5 lakh ex gratia to kin



Prime Minister Narendra Modi interacts with Dr Krishna Ella, CMD and Suchitra Ella,

PM reviews Covid vaccine progress at Bharat Biotech

DC CORRESPONDENT with agency inputs HYDERABAD, AHMEDABAD, PUNE, NOV. 28

Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Coronavirus vaccine facilities at Ahmedabad, Hyderabad and Pune to review the development and manufacturing process on Monday. The visit was purely functional, and shorn of any

ceremony.

Modi first visited the
Zydus Biotech Park in
Ahmedabad, then the Bharat Biotech plant in the city and wound up his tour with a visit to the Serum Institute of India facility in Pune.

Scientists, researchers and facilitators at Bharat Biotech said they were humbled by the visit of the

VISITORS BRAVE

CHILLY WEATHER

With Tungabhadra Push-

DC CORRESPONDENT

not heed the warning.

visitor

What is Pushkar bath

without a dip? We are aware of Covid and have

maintained physical distancing and have sani-

tised ourselves. This dip is essential to propitiate

Sridhar

Cooperative Colony in

Kadapa, however, said

his family had a shower

bath and offered Pushkar

pujas to minimise the

H. Hanumantha Rao

from Nellore said facili-

ties like separate enclo-

sure for men and women

to change clothes at the

ghats have been really

Despite rains and chilly

weather, most visitors.

preferred early morning

visits to the ghats.

convenient.

threat of Coronavirus.

said

Secunderabad.

our forefathers.

KURNOOL, NOV. 28

PUSHKARALU

Prime Minister. The PM personally reviewed the vaccine development and manufacturing process. He was briefed by the

company about the human

trials for which 26,000 vol-

unteers in hospitals across the country have been enrolled. The vaccine is being produced in the certified level biosafety production unit. Modi later posted on

their vaccine. He congratulated the scientists for their progress

his Twitter handle that Bharat Biotech officials

had briefed him about

in the trials so far.
At all the three plants, the Prime Minister, who was wearing a PPE kit during the review, was extensively briefed about the vaccine work by com-

pany officials and scientists. Modi landed at the Hakimpet Air Force station at around 1 pm and proceeded to Bharat Biotech's facility away by road. He reviewed the progress of Covaxin, a vaccine candidate being developed by the compa-ny. He also interacted with Bharat Biotech chairman and managing director Krishna Ella, scientists and senior manage-

"At the Bharat Biotech facility in Hyderabad, was briefed about their indigenous Covid-19 vaccine. Congratulated the scientists for their progress in the trials so far. Their team is closely working with ICMR to facilitate speedy progress," Modi posted on Twitter.

AP temple land sale put on hold

DC CORRESPONDENT KURNOOL, NOV. 28

The proposed sale of karalu coming to an end in next three days, visi-208.15 acres of temple tors are heading to belonging Mantralayam Raghave-ndra Seamy Mutt in Aija, Pushkar ghats all along the course of the river in Rajoli and Gattu in Jogulamba Gadwal dis-Kurnool district braving rains and chilly winds. trict of Telangana has Mantralayam Sangameshwaram ghats been put on hold. The tenare attracting most visider process for sale of tors. Various authorities these lands was to start

say compared to 2008 from December 7. Pushkarams, about one When contacted, Mutt assistant administrative lakh fewer devotees reached the ghats for officer L. Madhava Setty various rituals due to the said, "The decision to put pandemic. The number off the tender process has of visitors at the pump house ghat was 447 out of been taken after farmers cultivating lands belongwhom just 47 offered ing to the Mutt requested Pinda Pradanams. 287 that they be allowed to had shower baths while harvest the crops. He also the remaining took a cited the prevailing Coronnavirus pandemic holy dip despite the Covid risk. Authorities as another reason. Madhava Setty main were warning through mics that taking a dip tained that the Mutt had

has been banned in view of Covid spreading through water from any infected persons taking a dip. Most devotees did Kaipa Venkata Murthy,

state government to sell the lands in 2017 as per Endowment Act 30 / 1987 and other norms.

He denied that there has been any pressure from ruling YSR Congress ruling YSR Congress party leaders on this Mantralayam Mutt is a

public trust property. It is stated that the Matadhipathi of Sri Raghavendra Swamy Mutt found it difficult to Swamy personally manage the vast extents of properties endowed to the Mutt by individuals and institutions for upkeep of various religious and other activities carried out by the religious institution.

Thus, the Mantralayam Matadhipathi gave power of attorney to certain people to manage the proper-

Page 3: Calling tenders

Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy makes an aerial survey to take stock of the widespread devastation caused by Cyclone Nivar across the state.

2 more cyclones likely to hit state

DC CORRESPONDENT VIJAYAWADA, NOV. 28

People, mainly farmers, who have already faced the worst of Nivar cyclone, are now a worried lot as Meteorological Office has warned that another two cyclones -Burevi and Taketi – may hit the state.

While Burevi is expected to hit the AP coast on December 2, Taketi will swoop in on December 7. Farmers are extremely distressed that for the first time, a series of cyclones are hitting them. They point out that harvesting for Kharif season

starts towards November end. But majority of the farmers were forced to hurriedly harvest due to cyclone. Many say they could save only half their crops due to sudden start of rains due to cyclone.

According to agricultural department, Nivar has caused huge devastation by damaging standing crops on 2,14,420 hectares in 11 districts of the state. Paddy farmers are the worst hit, followed by those who cultivated red gram, Bengal gram, cotton and other crops.

Page 2: Highest damage reported in Guntur district

Jagan asks officials to take up crop loss enumeration **LOW PRESSURE CONTINUES IN BAY OF BENGAL**

DC CORRESPONDENT VISAKHAPATNAM, NOV. 28

A low pressure area lay over South Andaman Sea, adjoining areas of southeast Bay of Bengal, and equatorial Indian Ocean on Saturday.

It is very likely to concentrate into a depression during the next 48 hours and intensify further. Thereafter, it is likely to move nearly westwards and reach south Tamil Nadu coast on December

Under its influence, scat-tered to widespread rain-fall activity is very likely Tamil Naidu, Puducherry and Kalaikal in Kerala, apart from Male, Lakshadweep, south coastal Andhra Pradesh and south Rayalaseema between December 1 and 2.

Isolated heavy to very heavy rainfall is also like ly over south coastal Andhra Pradesh and south Rayalaseema, a Met office report said in its Saturday evening bul-

UNDER THE influence of the low pressure, scattered to widespread rainfall activity is very likely over Tamil Naidu, Puducherry and Kalaikal in Kerala, apart from Male, Lakshadweep, south coastal Andhra Pradesh and south Rayalaseema

Villages near Penna marooned

NELLORE, NOV. 28

Several low-lying villages along the Penna river in Nellore district were inundated after officials released of more than 2.8 lakh cusecs of water from the Somasila reservoir. reservoir had received 2.63 lakh cusecs of water on Saturday.

Elsewhere, breaches to the bunds of water bodies led to inundation of villages in Kovur, Buchireddypalem and Sangam mandals apart from low-lying areas in

Nellore City.

Hundreds of villages are still under the grip of darkness as stagnant water, deposited by rains accompanying Cyclone Nivar, affected the restora-



Farmers try to protect their paddy from getting inundated in Annampalli village, Mummidivaram mandal in East Godavari District on Saturday.

tion of power. In Nellore City, water entered Bhagat Singh Colony, Parameswari Nagar and Manumasiddi ners. ed areas like Porlukatta. minister Nellore Rural legislator Nagar among others.

Mekapati Goutham Reddy inspected the breach to a tank at Nagulavellaturu in Chjerla mandal. Minister

Anilkumar visited affect

Prasannakumar Reddy and Sarveypalli legislator Kakani Govardhan Reddy inspected affected areas in their constituencies. Prasannakumar asked the people living in and around Kangiri reservoir to be alert as the reservoir

Reddy, Kovur legislator

a threat to Buchireddypalem neighbouring villages. Former mayor SK Abdul Aziz demanded that the authorities supply a mineral water can and food to the people living in inundated areas. Meanwhile, traffic was restored on NH 16 much to the relief of the

travelling public.

is full. Water overflow

Page 2: Traffic allowed

got permission from the

MEDICAL | ADMISSIONS | Higher Education dept must issue GO on counselling guidelines NTR-UHS awaits orders on MBBS, BDS

DC CORRESPONDENT VIJAYAWADA, NOV. 28

NTR University of Health Sciences (NTR-UHS) is yet to go ahead with admissions for first year MBBS, BDS and other courses. To do so, it is awaiting orders from the state government specifying guidelines to conduct counselling for admissions into the first

A six-member, high-level committee, with university registrar Dr. K. Sankar as its convener, has submitted already a report with a set of guidelines on conduct of counselling to the Department of Higher Education (DHE). Basis this, DHE is supposed to

issue a GO incorporating the guidelines for coun-

The guidelines include conduct of separate counselling for admission into first year MBBS and BDS courses. It had been a combined exercise thus far. Counselling for admission for first year Ayush courses will also be done sepa-

The NTR-UHS registrar said, "Unless another GO specifying guidelines on conduct of counselling is issued, we cannot go ahead with admissions." DHE has already issued G. O. 159 on implementation of reservations for SC, ST and BC students in all higher educational institu-

THE GUIDELINES include conduct of separate counselling for admission into first year MBBS and BDS courses.

tions of the state.

A key task of students is to exercise their one-time option of indicating their priority in choosing the medical college in which they would like to seek admission. There are 29 government and private medical and dental colleges in the state. Students will have to indicate their order of preference with regard to each of these col-

leges. Students have to willynilly take admission in the

been selected. Only this will enable them to take part in sliding to seek admission in another college during the next round of counselling. In case a student fails to take admission in the first college suggested, he or she will not be allowed to take part in sliding.
University authorities

are very specific about guidelines for the sliding method in first year MBBS. BDS and other admissions. The Supreme Court had earlier served notice for adoption of a proper sliding method after a public interest litigation (PIL) had been filed alleging misinterpretation of sliding

college for which they have rules during admission for PG courses in 2019. AP High Court too had recently issued directions

to come up with a set of guidelines for conduct of counselling for admission into UG courses. Accordingly, the Department of Higher Education has to issue a G.O. setting the guidelines. Presently, NTR university authorities are getting ready to announce the state merit list based on NEET UG - 2020 in a few

Initially, only a provisional merit list will be announced calling for objections, if any, from students within two days. The final state merit list will be

5 CRPF COBRA COMMANDOS HURT IN ATTACK

Raipur, Nov. 28: Five personnel of CRPF's jungle warfare unit CoBRA were injured in an IED blast triggered by Maoists on Saturday in Chhattisgarh's Sukma district, officials said.

They said the IED blast took place in the Chintafuga forest area of the district and the injured personnel are being evacuated by a helicopter. The injured troops belong to the 206th battalion Commando Battalions for Resolute Action (CoBRA). A joint team of CoBRA and police was out for a special opera-tion when the blast took place, they said. -PTI

has extended the time limit up to February 28, 2021.



VUNDAVALLI SEEKS WHITE PAPER ON POLAVARAM

DC CORRESPONDENT RAJAMAHENDRAVARAM, NOV. 28

Former MP Vundavilli Arunkumar demanded that the government release a whitepaper on the status of Polavaram Project and the availability of funds for it.

He told the reporters here on Saturday that the YSRC government is not taking a firm and correct stand on the project and exerting pressure on the Union government to bear the full cost in accordance with the AP Reorganisation Act in 2014. He said Chief Minister Y.S.

Jagan Mohan Reddy need not be afraid of the cases pending against him and he should take a firm stand on the issue of Polavaram project and other promises made at the time of bifurcation. He said it was absurd on the part of the Union government to contend that Polavaram cost would be borne at 2014 rates. He wondered how anybody can execute the work in 2020 at 2014 rates.

He said that it is the right of the Andhra Pradesh people to have Polavaram Project constructed at the expense of the Union government, as it has been declared as a national project. He said that former Congress leader K.V.P. Ramachandra Rao has filed a PIL in the Supreme Court regarding the Polavaram project and other assurances of bifurcation. He himself had impeded in the case. The state government should also file an affidavit and impede itself.

He said even the former chief minister N. Chandrababu Naidu did not take a correct stand an ally in BJP for four years, he somehow managed the show. Now, Jagan Mohan Reddy is finding himself in a corner, Arunkumar said.

He said that the Centre should bear the entire cost of the irrigation component of the project, including the R&R cost. He said that Niti Aayog had submitted a report on the comprehensive development of Andhra Pradesh after bifurcation. However, it was kept a secret and it should be made public.

Cyclone Nivar claims eight lives

Rainfall had major impact on Nellore, Prakasam, Chittoor and Kadapa districts

VIJAYAWADA, NOV. 28

Heavy rainfall under the influence of Nivar cyclonic storm has claimed eight lives, including six in Chittoor and two in Kadapa. while four persons went missing in the state.

Based on a preliminary assessment, as the rainfall had a major impact on Nellore, Prakasam, Chittoor and Kadapa districts, 1.12 lakh people were affected, 6,133 houses marooned, 2,294 houses/huts damaged, 88 big animals, 2,618 small animals, 8,130 poultry birds perished.

As many as 1,597 villages/towns in 124 mandals were affected while six villages suffered inundation due to floods. The authorities have set up 223 relief camps and evacuated 40,306 persons and accommodated them in such camps while 265 medical camps were organised to provide healthcare.

As a temporary relief, ₹2.50 crore was released to the four districts for talking up immediate relief works. A special assistance of ₹500 each was given to the affected persons accommodated in

relief camps.
Agriculture crops located in Nellore, Prakasam, Chittoor, Kadapa and Kurnool, suffered damages in about 2.14 lakh hectares based on preliminary reports while enumeration on the extent of the damage is underway.

In the fisheries department, cage culture units at Annamayya reservoir in Kadapa district and farms in Prakasam district were flooded causing an estimated loss of ₹51.15 lakh.

Infrastructure damage and loss to departments like roads and buildings. water resources, municipal administration, energy, panchayat raj, rural water supply, handlooms and textiles was estimated at ₹56,993.31 lakh for taking up restoration works



Paddy crop damaged due to rains at Krutthivennu mandal in Pedana constituency in Krishna district on Saturday.

As a temporary relief, ₹2.50 crore was released to the four districts for talking up immediate relief works. A special assistance of ₹500 each was given to the affected persons accommodated in relief camps.

both on temporary and permanent basis.

The state government deployed eight NDRF and six SDRF teams in the four districts for taking up rescue operations.

Meanwhile, two persons stranded in Mallimdugu reservoir near Renigunta in Chittoor district were rescued as were 60 stranded in a local canal at Tippapadu village of Gudur mandal in Nellore district.

Traffic movement was all-

owed after repairing the

damage to the diversion

road on the National High-

from page 1

Jagan should personally visit flood-hit areas, says Lokesh

Traffic allowed after damage was repaired

DC CORRESPONDENT VIJAYAWADA, NOV. 28

Main opposition Telugu Desam has criticised Chief Minister Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy for conducting only aerial surveys of flood-hit areas without personally visiting, understanding the plight, and consoling victims of floods.

Both TD chief N. Chandrababu Naidu and party national general secretary Nara Lokesh separately observed that aerial surveys are just eyewash, empty and half-hearted efforts. Such surveys would not be able to wipe the tears of farmers. Lokesh

between

Chennai.

with

from

underlined that only a fi-eld-level survey and first-hand enquiry from farmers will give a correct picture about the impact of flooding.

Lokesh commented that Jagan Mohan Reddy, who walked all along in Padayatra before elections, is now flying only in air. The CM has thus gone beyond the reach of the common public after coming to power. He asked why the Jagan regime has failed in carrying out timely enumeration of crops losses and is not extending the required compensation to farmers in times of natu-

fied as Sk Abdullah of

Gangadharnellore man-

According to Chittoor OSP Sudhakar Reddy,

village

Kotrakona

HIGHEST DAMAGE REPORTED IN GUNTUR DISTRICT

from page 1

The highest damage of over one lakh hectares has reported Guntur district.

Agriculture commissioner Arun Kumar said enumeration of damage will start soon and compensa-tion will be provided to farmers within the December month.

farmers Venkateswara Rao and B. Govind stressed that they tried to harvest their paddy but could not complete the task by the time Nivar hit. They said water marooned their paddy harvest and there is no chance of removing water due to continuous rains. They said if the water recedes, there is a chance that they could harvest at least discoloured paddy. Instead, the two farmers said, they now have to worry about Burevi and

Taketi cyclones. Meanwhile, the ghat road of Durga temple on Indrakeeladri at Vijayawada has been closed on Saturday as a precautionary measure due to incessant rains. Earlier, big boulders had fallen on to the ghat road from the hill. Hence, officials have closed the road to avoid any unto-

which marooned him

vival

The teams rescued the

DSP Sudhakar Reddy

operation and

said they had instructed

man who lost hope of sur-

Ready Bills on 1st day of Session: Speaker

DC CORRESPONDENT VIJAYAWADA, NOV. 28

AP Legislative Assembly Speaker Tammineni Sitaram sought to prepare all Bills which would be introduced in the Assembly on the first day of Winter Session on Monday. He said the Assembly Winter Sessions would be held amidst Corona protocol taking all precautions. AP Legislative Council chairman M.A. Sharif directed all departments to prepare answers to the questions of legislators without fail. The Speaker and Chairman conducted a preparatory meeting with the officials on Saturday.

Sitaram and Sharif lirected the police directed police department to implement tight security following Corona protocol for the smooth functioning of Winter Sessions. They instructed the police to behave respectably with the legislators without giving any chance for complaints.

Sitaram instructed the officials to take all necessary measures following the Covid-19 protocol for the Winter Sessions. He said that people would watch the Assembly ses-

sion live and urged the officials to provide thorough information while providing answers to the questions of the legislators. He said that people seek their questions raised in the Assembly by their legislators about their problems and they would be satisfied when the officials would provide proper information. He sought to conduct a review on questions and answers of the earlier session before starting the Assembly session to provide required information to legislators and further to people. The Council Chairman

said that getting answers during Zero Hour is the right of legislators; hence the officials should provide complete information without fail to the questions.

Chief whip in AP Legi-slative Council, Ummareddy Venkateswarlu, said that MLAs and MLCs would face severe problems from the public in their areas if they failed to get proper answers. He sought to conduct of petition committee meeting frequently for the smooth performance of question

NAIDU DEMANDS ASSEMBLY WINTER SESSION FOR AT LEAST 10 DAYS

DC CORRESPONDENT VIJAYAWADA, NOV. 28

Telugu Desam chief N Chandrababu Naidu on Saturday demanded that the Assembly Winter Session be extended for a period of at least 10 days to discuss many burning problems being faced by pe ople of the state, including floods.

Naidu said the YSRC government has not only failed in solving the old problems but ended up creating new problems for people in the past 18 months of its mis-governance. He said a longer

AMMONIA FREE HAIR COLOR

allow time for holding discussions on a wide-range of issues being faced by the public. He alleged that only statements are being issued but no real compensation is being given to affected families at the field level.

Assembly Session will

Addressing an online meeting of the TDLP Naidu charged that Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy has miserably failed in delivering governance and administration. Naidu alleged that there is zero coordination within the official machinery as it has got de-motivated.

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way near Audisankara Neeva river in Abdullah had gone to the the irrigation officials to middle of the river to col-Engineering College at Gangadharanellore manclose four gates of NTR Gudur. The area witnessed dal in Chittoor district on lect grass for cattle. Water reservoir to carry out the huge floodwater obstruct-Saturday was released from the rescue The survivor was identiing movement of vehicles NTR reservoir saved Abdullah.

Nellore and

State Disaster

Chittoor Police along

Response Force teams res-

cued a 60-year-old person

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SHORT TAKES

STATE

DOCTOR FOUND MURDERED AT AVANIGADDA

DC CORRESPONDENT VIJAYAWADA, NOV. 28

Famous doctor in Avanigadda town Dr Kota Srihari Rao of Lakshmi Nursing Home was brutally murdered inside his house in Avanigadda of Krishna district on Saturday. He was found in a pool of blood inside his bedroom on the premises of the nursing home. The incident took place when his family members had gone to other place and he was alone in the house.

district Krishna Ravindranath Babu on Saturday stated that the police rushed to the spot and inspected the scene of offence. He said that the culprits tactfully changed the CC camera's direction to hide their identity. He said that as the incident took place while no one of the doctors family member were at home, the police are suspecting it as a murder and investigating the case in that

VIZAG MAN DIES IN DUBAI

DC CORRESPONDENT VISAKHAPATNAM, NOV. 28

27-year-old man from Kunchumamba Colony of industrial Visakhapatnam suburb Sriharipuram died in a road accident in Dubai on Thursday night. The deceased was identified as Muddu Krishna, who was working as a welder in Dubai for the last six years. He spoke to his parents over the phone on November 5. The body was flown on Saturday and taken in a procession to cremation ground from Gajuwaka RTC

TTD releases white paper on its assets

Vaikunta Dwaram to be open for 10 days: TTD

DC CORRESPONDENT NELLORE, NOV. 28

Putting the criticism over not disclosing the details of TTD assets to rest, TTD Trust board has released a white paper, on Saturday, on its assets which include 1,128 assets extending in an area of 8,088.89 acres across the country, apart from details of properties auctioned since 1974 with the survey number, place, board resolution, and auctioned date.

The Trust Board meeting took place at Annamaiah Bhavan in Tirumala on Saturday.

Speaking to media persons after the meeting. TTD Trust Board chairman Y.V. Subba Reddy said they have resolved to open the Vaikunta Dwaram for 10 days starting from Vaikunta Ekadasi day for the benefit of a multitude of visiting pilgrims to Tirumala temple.

Mr Reddy said they had consulted the Peethadhipathis and Agama advisers before

DC CORRESPONDENT

VISAKHAPATNAM, NOV. 28

Not missing the opportu-

nity after losing decom-

missioned aircraft carri-

er INS Viraat, the AP gov-

KEY DECISIONS

To make Tirumala as a Holy Green City and pollution-free pilgrim centre. As part of it, decided to run 100 to 150 electric buses to Tirumala with APSRTC.

As a pollution checkGold Malam measure, to utilise more non-conventional sources of energy, including wind and solar.

works of Maha Dwaram. Dwajasthambam, Balipeetham in Srivari temple.

To take up the gold malam works for Surya Prabha Vahanam at Śri Padmavati Ammavari temple with 11.7 kg of

programs due to Covid. to donate for these special vehicles. To reintroduce Kalyanamastu, a mass, free wedding programme to the underprivileged couples with a

Advance payment of ₹10,000

Project as they do not have

to the artists of Annamacharya

Boys Hostel for S.V. Balamandiram at ₹10.75 crore

Decided to take up Sanatana Hindu

Dharma Prachara with Prachara Rathams.

Some board members have come forward

Decided to continue its deposits in scheduled banks



new set of guidelines.

deciding on the request from the pilgrims. TTD EO Dr Jawahar Reddy, TTD

ment of Bangladesh flag

carrier MV Maa and the

insurance company P&I

MD of AP Tourism

Development

Corporation and chief

Trust board members. other top brass officials of TTD were also pres-

AP govt begins talks with Bangla ship owners

executive officer of AP

Praveen Kumar is cur-

rently negotiating with

the insurance company.

"After negotiating the price, the issue would be

Authority

taken to the government from its anchorage point

Kumaraguru Tamil Nadu has donated four acres of land to construct Venkateswara Swamy temple in Vulundur Constituency in his state and also come forward to donate ₹10 crore towards the temple con-

and a decision will be

taken on the project details," Praveen Kumar

told this correspondent

The Vietnamese compa-

ny built vessel drifted

on Saturday.

CALLING TENDERS BIG SCAM: MUTT STAFF

FROM PAGE 1

Mutt employees' association president V. Narayana has alleged that calling for tenders is a big scam. He urged people and devotees of Sri Raghavendra to protect properties of the Swamy. Narayana charged that Mutt officials are playing a game about selling Mutt lands on the pretext that they are yielding very less income from

The Mutt has more than 5,000 acres of land in different locations of the country. Several court cases are pending with regard to some of these lands in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu states.

Meanwhile, addressing media in Kurnool city on Saturday evening, Telugu Desam evening, Telugu Desam Mantralayam in-charge P. Tikka Reddy, along with party Kurnool president Venkateswarlu, found fault with Mutt authorities in calling for the tender. They maintained that the move has been devised only to benefit YSR Congress party leaders. First it was Tirupati Venkateswara Swamy lands and now it is the turn of Manyralayam lands. YSRC is bent on weakening Hindu religious institutions, the TD leaders

BJP district secretary K. Narsimha Varma said the Mutt has no right to dispose of its lands even though the state government may pressurise temple authorities in this regard. He said it is unfortunate that only Hindu temples are being targeted and their assets are being sold away. "This is not at all acceptable to Hindus," the BJP leader asserted.

and ran aground near

Visakhapatnam due to

the deep depression in the Bay of Benga.

Thousands of people visited the Tenneti Park

to have a glimpse of it.

Tenneti

AP records 625 new Covid cases

DC CORRESPONDENT VIJAYAWADA, NOV. 28

The prevalence of Covid-19 seems to be under control in Andhra Pradesh as more number of districts are registering less than 100 daily positive cases, and only a few districts are registering deaths. Accordingly, AP regis-

tered 625 new Covid cases taking the tally to 8,67,063 and five deaths raising the toll to 6,981 in the last 24 hours.

The state health authorities issued Covid bulletin on Saturday reporting that out of 49,348 samples tested, only 625 per8,48,511 patients were discharged after recovery, while 11,571 patients are still active with the virus. Krishna district registered 103 daily cases of Covid, while the remaining districts registered less than 100 including 93 in West Godavari, 88 in Visakhapatnam, 68 in Guntur, 61 in Chittoor, 54 in East Godavari, 29 in Vizianagaram, 27 in

Prakasam, 24 in Nellore, 22 in Kurnool, 21 in

Anantapur, 19 in Kadapa

and 16 in Srikakulam.

sons were found to be

infected with the virus

and out of a total number

of 99,62,416 samples test-

ed so far in the state,

TD MLA stops wall construction

DC CORRESPONDENT VISAKHAPATNAM, NOV. 28

The third time MLA and senior TD leader Velagapudi Ramakrishna Babu stood by the shop keepers and successfully stopped the construction of a compound wall on AU Engineering College Road under the Three Town police station limits on Saturday. It may be recalled that the Andhra University (AU) authorities with the GVMC personnel demolished all the shops that were located in the engineering college road last month. The

MLA, however, could not prevent the demolition as there was a large presence of police personnel who did not allow him to go near the spot.

On Saturday when the AU officials were preparing for construction of the compound wall, the MLA along with his followers, reached the spot and had arguments with the AU officials. He told them that the land on which the shops were built belonged to the AP irrigation department, but the AU officials with the help of GVMC demolished the shops.

ernment has initiated **CLASSIFIEDS**

FOR SALE

PROPERTY

COMMERCIAL

BANJARAHILLS ROAD.2 Near KBR Park 350 North, Road No.1 3,000yards JubileeHills Road No.92 300yards, Road no.45 1,000yards, Road No.36 Road No.10 Kondapur 1200yards & Rental income properties 5Cr to 50Cr 9966991449, 9394022449.

EAST FACING central Aircondition 389 sq.yd, G+3 pen house, 11000 sqft with lifts+ bathrooms+ parking for sale Market, Jewellary, Hospital, bank, Bar & Restaurant, furniture & furnishing, garments/ Boutiques, (S/2021/C01492)

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(W/2021/AT000708)

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HINDU

HYDERABAD TELUGU Hindu Boy 6F 1" 29Y, BE MBA USA Requires Girl H1B USA, preparing for USA. Contact: 9398053119. MUSLIM

SMP WELL educated and property holder seeks alliance for their son 32 Years height 5'6 working as project lead in MNC Hyderabad. Salary Sixteen Lakhs(16) per annum. Divorced In short period. Girl should be Unmarried graduate below 30 years with good family background. Darood Fatiha family only contact WhatsApp 9390967015 (W/2021/AT000676) SHEERIN MATRIMONIA invite alliance (Fee

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(W/2021/AT000691) SUNNI Businessman, qualifica-tion MBA, Age 45, Height 5'10", No Responsibilities, looking for Widow/ Divorce/ First marriage, Educated lady with Good Height and Good Personality, Kids will be accepted if any Contact: 9912540009 (A/2021/IC00076)

GROOM WANTED

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FAIR, SLIM, B.Tech MBA, 26, 5.3, working in ADP seeks Protestant born again believer. 27-30 Postgraduate with good job. Whatsapp Biodata, Photo: 9490166468. (A/2021/C00388) RC 1984 born MBA 5.5 Wheatish working in MNC well settled seeking RC Groom. Contact 9985018007 (B/2021/C00608)

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SMP INVITE alliance for their Only Daughter MBBS 5'4"ht, 27yrs, V.Fair Good Looking from Doctor boys, MBBS, MS,MD, 5'8' and above from Religious Educated Progressive Family. Ph: 7702630082 (S/2021/C01438)

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FILM

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FIVE MILITIA MEMBERS SURRENDER

DC CORRESPONDENT VISAKHAPATNAM, NOV. 28

40. Purnachander,

With this surrender, 13 militia members surrendered from Chintapalle sub-division alone November, Mr Naidu

He said efforts of community policing

were organised in a big way in the agency areas, and response has been overwhelming, added.

assurance to the police that they would not go back to the Maoists.

ACCIDENT

DC CORRESPONDENT **KURNOOL NOV. 28**

Two youngsters died.

Five militia members the outlawed Maoist party surrendered before the ASP Visyasagar Naidu in Chintapalle in Visakhapatnam district on Saturday.

They were identified as Mattam Matyaraju, 26, of Mynakota village, Korra Sanyasi Gurralagondi village, Korra Hari, Baggurai village, 35, Mattam Mynakota village, 25 Korra also from Mynakota

created awareness among the active members and the local people in general.
Volleyball matches and medical camps

He said CRPF personnel organised civic action programme and came close to the militia members and the local youth. This helped in the surrender of the extremists. The surrendered militia members also gave

2 DIE IN ROAD Araku Road near Kothavalasa

and another was critically injured in a road accident in the out-skirts of the Nandyal town on Saturday after a car rammed a motorbike. deceased were identified as Juber, 23, and Sameer, 24, residents of Chandbada colony in Nandyal town.

VISAKHAPATNAM (Recognised by the Government of Andhra Pradesh and Affiliated to the Council for the ISC Examinations. New Delhi) 10-50-29, Waltair Main Road,

BETHANY SCHOOL

Visakhapatnam-530002. Tel. No. 2567722 Website: www.bethanyschoolvizagindia.co.in Email ID: bethy_sch@yahoo.com

Nursery and Pre-KG Registrations - April 2021 Announcing Registrations for Nursery and Pre-KG For the Session commencing in April, 2021.

November 30 to December 19, 2020 (on School working days) 9 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. Pupil must complete 2 years by Eligibility

Pupil must complete 3 years by April 15, 2021 for Pre-KG. Limited seats, available for Nursery and Pre K.G.

Registration will be made on a first come-first serve basis. Please Note: Application Forms for Admission from K.G. to Class VIII will be issued from January 20, 2021 to February 20, 2021 for the Academic Year

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the bid for the above e-tender call notice

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up to 1800 hrs. (2) Opening of Technical Bid: 11.12.2020 at 1030 hrs. All other

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will remain unchanged. Refer our website for details : https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app

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CORRIGENDUM

Tender Notice No.ET No.76/2019-20, Item No.04

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SHORT TAKES

NAGA, ASSAM ENGAGE IN UGLY BORDER SPAT

MANOJ ANAND **GUWAHATI, NOV. 28**

After Mizoram row, the interstate border conflict has erupt-Nagaland with local organisations of Assam imposing an indefinite economic blockade thereby halting all economic activities between Assam and Nagaland at Mariani in Jorhat

Tension had started at the inter-state border since November 10 following the construction of a temporary structure allegedly by Mokokchung district administration within the Dissoi Valley Reserve Forest under Mariani range of Jorhat Forest Division of Assam. The problem aggravated with the Mokokchung district administration posting armed Nagaland policemen at the site.

In response the Assam Police on November 11 also deployed its personnel in temporary camps near the place where Nagaland policemen were camping in order to prevent any encroachment by Nagaland.

The local students organisation — the All Tai Ahom Students Union (ATASU), which opposed the move to what they called encroachment of Assam's land by the neighbouring state of Nagaland, has launched a movement since November 10 which was suspended for three days on assurance of the administration to resolve the issue.

K'TAKA CM'S **AIDE ATTEMPTS**

Bengaluru, Nov. 28: Karnataka Chief Minister B. S. Yediyurappa's political secre-tary and relative N. R. Santosh who was hospitalised following alleged suicide attempt, is 'stable and cheerful', and may be discharged in a day or two, doctors treating him said on Saturday.

According sources, Santosh is said to have attempted suicide by consuming sleeping pills on Friday night.
On finding him unconscious

at his Dollars Colony residence here, family members have rushed him to Ramaiah Memorial Hospital.

Santhosh (31) was brought at about 8.30 pm with an alleged history of consumption of sleeping tablets at around 7 pm, the Hospital President Dr Naresh Shetty said in a state-

Noting that on admission he was drowsy, the doctor said appropriate treatment was all investigations were carried

out.
"He has been taking sleeping tablets occasionally for his sleep disturbance as per past history. On Saturday morning, the patient is stable. He had his breakfast and is cheerful The plan is to shift the patient to the ward post noon on Saturday. He may be discharged in a day or two based on his health status and recovery," the statement added.

OPPN FIRM ON DEMAND FOR EXIT OF MIN SAHOO

AKSHAYA KUMAR SAHOO | DC **BHUBANESWAR, NOV. 28**

The Odisha government, under pressure from the Opposition and facing largescale public outrage over the soft-peddling the investigation into the murder of five-vearold girl, on Saturday agreed to institute a probe by a courtmonitored five-member

(SIT), on Saturday.

The SIT will be headed by Inspector General of Police (IGP) Arun Bothra, who had cracked the 2018 Patnagarh parcel bomb case in which a newly-wed couple and their grandmother were killed.

Special Investigation Team

State parliamentary affairs minister Bikram Kesari Arukha made the announcement in the Assembly. The announcement came a day after the Opposition parties attacked the Naveen Patnaik government over the ambiguity in the announcement by the latter regarding a SIT probe made on the floor of the House through video-conferencing on

The CM had said, "If required, the state government will order SIT probe into Pari murder case.

Arukha's announcement failed to pacify the Opposition which continued its attack on government, forcing Speaker S.N. Patro to adjourn the proceedings till 3 pm.

UP 'love jihad' law gets Gov. nod

Jail term up to 10 years and fine of ₹50K for those violating its clauses

Lucknow, Nov. 28: The and those wishing to riage is, however, only one aimed at curbing forcible or fraudulent religious conversions including those for the sake of marriage has got the assent of state Governor Anandiben Patel with the new law providing for a jail term of up to 10 years for any violations.

The law, which has been published in the UP gazette, comes into force at once, an official spokesperson said on Saturday. The ordinance was promulgated by the Governor on Friday with immediate effect.

Under the law which deals with different categories of offences, a marriage will be declared "null and void" if the conversion of a woman is solely for that purpose,

INDIA RECORDS

COVID-19 CASES

DC CORRESPONDENT

With 41,322 new cases

in the last 24 hours, the

patient count climbed

to 93,51,109, while 87,59,969 people have recovered so far for a

national recovery rate

to 93.68 per cent. The

Coronavirus death toll

stood at 1,36,200 with the virus claiming 485

After showing an upward trend for three

days in a row, the active

Covid-19 caseload decreased to 4,54,940,

remaining below the

five-lakh mark for the

18th consecutive day. It

comprises 4.87 per cent of the total caseload. The case fatality rate

stands at 1.46 per cent.

The Union health

ministry said that 76.55

per cent of the new

recovered cases were concentrated in 10

Territories. "Delhi has reported the maximum

number of single day recoveries with 5,937, 4,544 people recovered in Kerala followed by

4,089 in Maharashtra,

The new fatalities include 98 from Delhi,

85 from Maharashtra 46

from West Bengal, 29

from Haryana, 27 from

Punjab, and 23 eacl

from Uttar Pradesh and

Kerala among others. Of the total 1,36,200

deaths reported so far

in the country, 46,898

were from Maharashtra

followed by 11,738 from

Karnataka, 11,681 from

Tamil Nadu, 8,909 from

Delhi, 8,270 from West

Bengal, 7,697 from Uttar Pradesh, 6,976

from Andhra Pradesh,

4,737 from Punjab, 3,938 from Gujarat and 3,224

from Madhya Pradesh.

With 11,57,605 tests

conducted in the last 24

hours, the cumulative

tests stood at 13,82,20,354) The ministry said 23 states and

Union Territories have

better tests per million

population than the

national average.
The health ministry

claimed that sustained

and progressive expan-

sion in testing infra-

structure has played a

crucial role in the steep

rise of testing numbers

With 2,161 testing labs

in the country includ-

ing 1,175 in the govern

ment sector and 986 pri-

vate entities, the daily testing capacity has got

a substantial boost.

and

more lives.

NEW DELHI, NOV. 28

4% LESSER

change their religion after marriage need to apply to the district magistrate. The Yogi Adityanath gov-

ernment on Tuesday approved the draft of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Ordinance, 2020. which also curbs religious conversions only for the sake of marriage, dubbed by BJP leaders as 'love

gious conversions are done using deceit, lies, force and dishonesty is heart wrenching, and it was necessary to have a law in this regard," Cabinet minister and UP government spokesperson Sidharth Nath Singh had

'The way in which reli-

Conversion for the alleged purpose of mar-

New Delhi/Chandigarh,

Nov. 28: Thousands of farmers dug in their heels at Delhi's border points, th-

eir numbers swelling thr-

ough the day as many more joined them, and

hundreds gathered at the city's Burari grounds on

Saturday, disparate but

united in their determina-

tion to hold protests against the new farm laws.

entry points blocked, Union

Home Minister Amit Shah

appealed to the farmers to

shift to the Burari ground

and said the Centre is ready

to hold discussions with

them as soon as they move

He said a delegation of

the farmers has been invit-

ed for discussion on

December 3, adding now

that some of their unions have demanded that talks

be held immediately, the

central government is

ready to do so as soon as the

protestors shift to the

ground in Burari.
Punjab Chief Minister

Amarinder Singh termed

Shah's offer to hold discus-

sions at the earliest as the

best in the interest of the

farming community and the nation at large. He

urged the farmers to accept

the appeal and shift to the

designated place for their

After a restive Friday that

saw police using teargas shells, water cannons and

multi-layer barriers to

block the protesters and

some farmers pelting

stones and breaking barri-

cades in their determina-

tion to push through as

protest.

to the designated place.

With many roads and

aspect of the ordinance.

The new law was opposed by the opposition

Samajwadi Party.

Hours after the governor's nod, SP president Akhilesh Yadav said his party will oppose the Bill when it comes up in the state Legislature for passage.
"The Samajwadi Party is

not in favour of any such law. We will oppose it (when it comes up in the assembly)," the former chief minister told a press The new law also has a provision under which if

someone returns to their

original religion, it shall

not be deemed a conver-The onus to prove that the conversion has not been done forcibly will lie

Bharatiya Kisan Union members attempt to cross a barricade at Ghazipur border to enter Delhi, during their Delhi

Centre ready for farm talks: Shah

New Delhi, Nov. 28:

alleged that a soldier was

pitted against an old

farmer due to Prime Minister Narendra

The Congress also said

it would have been better

if the prime minister

talked to the protesting

farmers instead of get-ting "himself pho-

tographed in corporate

offices". "This is a very

sad photo. Our slogan

was 'Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan', but today a sol-

dier is standing against

the farmer due to PM Modi's arrogance. This is very dangerous," he said

in a tweet in Hindi along

with the picture of a sol-

dier showing a baton to

part of their 'Delhi Chalo'

march, it was a quieter

But the tension persisted

with restless crowds milling around the city's

edges and beyond and set-

tling down from another

Though there was no

clear roadmap, the farm-

ers, belonging to multiple

groups, including 30 from Punjab, appeared clear in

their resolve, some saying

night out in the cold.

an old farmer.

Saturday.

Modi's "arrogance".

Narendra

Cong hits out at Modi govt

Congress leader Rahul and Haryana continued against the Modi govern-

new farm laws, with

many of them blocking

traffic on the national highway after the police

stopped them from their

spokesperson Randeep

Surjewala accused Modi

of getting pictures clicked in corporate

offices while farmers are

protesting on Delhi roads.

Wish the PM talks to

farmers on the road instead of flying in the aircraft," he said in a

tweet, after Modi visited

a company in Ahmedabad

which is engaged in the

Another spokesperson

that they would not disperse till the laws were

repealed and others that

would ensure their voices

are heard. They were mostly from Punjab and

Haryana but also from Madhya Pradesh, Uttar

At the Singhu and Tikri

borders, thousands of

farmers in trucks, trac-

tors and other vehicles who had braved the water

cannons and batons and

Pradesh and Rajasthan.

Farmers from Punjab claimed whoever protests

chief

vaccine

Singhvi

"Poor farmers from

Punjab pointing out gen-

uine grievances have

been labelled khalistani.

Why doesn't Modi come

Annadata however, only

demands of them during

Party leader Priyanka

Gandhi Vadra also tweet-

ed similar pictures of far-

mers being prevented by

the police from marching towards Delhi, where

they wish to hold a pro-

test against the new farm

laws. She said it is right if

the government frames

laws against farmers, but

it is wrong when farmers

wish to make their voice

had been there for three days, refused to budge. As

police personnel swarmed

the area, many said they

would not go to the Sant

Nirankari ground in

Burari that was offered to

them for peaceful protests.

er night on the road, some

said they would wait for

the outcome of a crucial

meeting on Sunday to decide the next course of

Settling down for anoth-

heard in Delhi.

elections," he tweeted.

and address the

over 'Delhi Chalo' march

on Saturday their protests against the ment is

'Chalo Delhi' march.

Congress

Covid-19

research.

Abhishek

on the person accused of reporters that the punishthe act and the convert, it

In cases of violations of the law, the ordinance stipulates that the court shall grant appropriate compensation payable by the accused to the victim of conversion which may extend to a maximum of ₹5 lakh in addition to the

The ordinance mainly envisages that no person shall convert, either directly or indirectly from one religion to another by use or practice of misrepresentation, force, undue influence, coercion, allure-ment or by any fraudulent means or by marriage nor shall any person abet, convince or conspire such conversion.

Minister Sidharth Nath Singh on Tuesday told

a jail term from one to five and a fine of ₹15,000.

But if the woman involved is a minor or belongs to a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe, the jail term would range from three to 10 years, he said.

belongs to a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe, the jail term would range from three to 10 years, he said. The fine increase to Rs 25,000. "In the case of mass con-

versions, the punishment is from three years to 10 years and a fine of Rs 50,000 on the organisations which indulge in it,

With India declaring it is But if the woman involved is a minor or

concern and dismay — has extended its influence in the Himalayan nation enormously in the past few years especially after the Nepalese Communists assumed office. It may be recalled that

as part of Nepal. New Delhi had objected

India, Nepal put 'sour' ties back on friendly track

NEW DELHI, NOV. 28

"Nepal's foremost friend and development partner", bilateral ties are once again firmly back on track following the successful two-day visit of foreign secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla to Kathmandu this week. Sources said recently that both sides "noted the special relations between India and Nepal, and the importance of respecting each other's sensitivities", adding that the two sides "shared their perspectives on boundary matters and discussed ways to take it forward under the appropriate bilateral mechanisms".

The visit comes even as

ties between India and its Himalayan neighbour had soured in the summer months this year after Nepal went ahead and unveiled a new map that showed portions of territo-ry in India's Uttarakhand -Limpiyadhura, Kalapani and Lipu Lekh —

to that move. But much water has flowed under the proverbial bridge in the past few months. The ice had initially been broken in August after Nepalese Prime Minister K.P. Sharma Oli had called up Prime Minister Narendra Modi then to wish him on the occasion of India's 74th Independence Day, with both leaders "expressing mutual solidarity" and agreeing to strengthen

Foreign Secretary Mr.

just-concluded visit that culminated on Friday that "aside from our common civilisational inheritance, India's relationship with Nepal rests on four pillars development cooperaty; expanded infrastructure and economic projects; easier and enhanced access to educational opportunities in India for the young people of Nepal". He had also declared that "underlying all of these is a steadfast

Nepal's priorities" The Foreign Secretary also "assured the people of Nepal that, once a vaccine is rolled out, meeting requirements would be a priority for us". He had added, "Given our genetic profiles, what works for India is likely to work for Nepal as well. Together we will recover from the pandemic and together we will protect our people."

principle: we will work to

During his two-day visit, Mr. Shringla had called on Nepalese PM Oli, which included a one-on-one meeting, and had also called on the Nepalese President and the Foreign Minister, apart from holding talks with the Foreign Secretary of Nepalese PM Oli had also conveyed Nepal's desire to build on the momentum in the bilateral relationship and enhance the level of bilateral engagement.

During the visit, discussions had taken place on 'specific measures that could be taken to finalise key projects at the earliest, including the Multipurpose heshwar Project, as well as launch new economic initiatives" Discussions had also taken place on "specific meetings that could be scheduled to maintain high engagement, and address

Indo-Sino face-off: Macros deployed near Pangong lake

DC CORRESPONDENT

India has deployed Commandos Marine (Marcos) from the Indian Navy in the Pangong lake area, which is one of the flash points with China in

Eastern Ladakh. Marcos will also get new boats to carry out operations in the lake apart from the existing infrastructure there. Indian Air Force's Garud and Indian Army's Para Special Forces have already been operating in Ladakh. Garud Special Forces are deployed at the strategi-cally crucial heights along with their shoulder-fired air defence systems Igla to take on any aircraft violating Indian Air space.

India has deployed Marcos in Ladakh at a time when there is a virtual deadlock between India and China to disengage from the seven months military standoff in Eastern Ladakh. There has been no progress on the disengagement proposals that were discussed during eight rounds of Corps Commanders meeting. There has also been no discussion on the next

Commanders meeting India's position has been that it was China that had first moved its troops at the LAC and China will

have to be the first to withdraw from these positions. India has told China that it will talk about all flashpoints and not just about the south bank of Pangong Tso where Pangong Tso where Indian Army occupied strategic heights in August in a surprise

Indian Army has completed establishment of winter habitat facilities for all troops deployed in Eastern Ladakh.

The winter deployment in Ladakh is particularly difficult due to tough terrain, low temperatures and bone chilling winds which make survival extremely difficult.

India has deployed around 50,000 troops in the area to tackle any threat that may emerge from Chinese army.

The special Forces man-ned by Tibetan migrants 'Special Frontier Force' had also taken part in the pre-emptive occupation of strategic heights in the Southern banks of Pangong Tso in August.

Over 35L could not submit their documents due to pandemic EPFO extends deadline for pensioners

GOOD NEWS

New Delhi, Nov. 28: Retirement fund body EPFO has extended the deadline for submission of life certificates by pensioners till February 28, a

could not submit the document by November due to Coronavirus pandemic.

ongoing Covid-19 pandemic and the vulnerability of elderly population Coronavirus, Provident Employees' Fund Organisation (EPFO) has extended the time limit up to 28th February 2021 for submission of Life Certificate (Jeevan Pramaan Patra-JPP) in respect of the

Life certificate is due in

• THE PENSIONERS who could not submit their life certificates till November 30 deadline, would get pension every month till February. • PRESENTLY, A PENSIONER can submit JPP anytime

during the year up to 30th November, which is valid for a period of one year from the date of issue. All such pensioners can submit life certificates till February 28,

any month till February for a period of one year 28, 2021," a labour ministry statement said.

Presently, a pensioner can submit JPP anytime

from the date of issue. All such pensioners can submit life certificates till

During this extended

Multiple modes for sub-mission of JPPs including 3.65 lakh Common Service Centres (CSCs), branches of pension disbursing banks, 1.36 lakh post offices postal network of 1.90 lakh postmen and Grameen Dak Sevaks under the Department of Post can be

stopped in respect of 35 lakh pensioners who could

not submit JPP during

November 2020, the min-

istry added.

Naidu to chair SCO summit tomorrow

DC CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI, NOV. 28

The ministry of external affairs announced on Saturday that vice-presi-Venkajah Najdu would chair the 19th meeting of the Shanghai nisation council of heads of government to be hosted by India in virtual format on Monday. Pakistan will be represented by its

parliamentary secretary

for foreign affairs.

The other six SCO members — Russia, China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbe-kistan — will be represented by their Prime ministers, New Delhi added.

It may be recalled that Prime Minister Narendra Modi had just attended the SCO Council of Heads of State meeting in Virtual format earlier this month on November 10 that had been chaired by Russian I Vladimir Putin. Russian President

move which would benefit over 35 lakh persons who

The pensioners who could not submit their life certificates till November 30 deadline, would get pension every month till February. "In view of the

Pensioners drawing pension under EPS 1995 (Employees Pension

Scheme-1995) and whose

February 28, 2021. during the year up to 30th November, which is valid

period, pension will not be

Department of 1 oot can availed by pensioners.

— PTI



PAKISTAN, **U.S. RESTORÉ MONASTERY**

Peshawar, Nov. 28: Pakistan and the US have jointly completed restoration work at the Takht-i-Bahi Buddhist monastery in northwest Pakistan under the \$230,000 cultural preservation project.
US Consul General Gregory

Macris virtually participated in the closing ceremony of the project at the monastery in Mardan in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province.

"The US mission in Pakistan is committed to working with local partners to support conservation and preservation of sites of great cultural significance across Pakistan," said

The Humanitarian and Facilitation Organisation (HAFO) received a US grant to execute the two-phase project at Takht-i-Bahi.

OLI SUBMITS SEPARATE DOCUMENT

Kathmandu, Nov. 28: Nepal's protracted political crisis deep-ened on Saturday after embattled Prime Minister K.P. Sharma Oli rejected Pushpa Kamal Dahal "Prachanda's" accusations that he was running the government without consulting the party and instead blamed his rival for non-cooperation in handling the party's affairs.

In the much-awaited Central Secretariat meeting of the ruling Communist Party of Nepal (CPN) on Saturday, Prime Minister Oli submitted a separate 38-page political document in response to the allegations made by party's executive chairman "Prachanda".

Oli was responding to the allegations made against him by 'Prachanda" in his 19-page political paper presented at the Secretariat meeting on November 18. In his report, Prachanda had accused Oli of running the government without consulting the party, failing to abide by the party's due procedures and engaging in corruption.

Oli dismissed the allegations levelled against him by "Prachanda" while submitting the separate report, according to a senior Standing Comm ittee member of the party

FUTURE OF WALES GANDHI'S STATUE IN QUESTION

London, Nov. 28: There is a question mark over the future of a statue of Mahatma Gandhi in Wales after an official Welsh government review into Britain's colonial and slave trading history drew up a list of memorials that require a rethink 'The Slave Trade and the British Empire: An Audit of Commemoration in Wales report released this week also shortlists the commemoration of Britain's war-time Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Robert Clive, referred to as Clive of India for his role in establishing Britain's colonial hold in India, as "persons of interest" to move to a second stage of the review process.

Wales has a bronze sculpture of Gandhi at Cardiff Bay, unveiled in 2017 to mark the 148th birth anniversary of the leader of the Indian national

In the audit, he has been classified under Category E of persons of interest who "require examination as having been highlighted by campaigners".

INDIAN MAN ON TOURIST VISA MISSING IN UAE

Dubai, Nov. 28: An Indian man, who reached the UAE on a tourist visa to seek a job, has been missing since November

9, a media report has said. Amrithalingam Samayamuthu, 46, a father of four from the south Indian state of Tamil Nadu, had come over to take up a job in the UAE, the Gulf News reported on Friday. Samayam uthu's nephew Durai Maniraja who is a fisherman in Ras Al Khaimah, said his uncle came with three people from Tamil Nadu on November 8.

They stayed in an accommodation in Hor Al Anz. His roommates said the next morning he went to the workplace. After he came back, they went for work at night," Durai said. He said Samayamuthu was upset as he would be alone in the room and also wanted to go.

"But the others told him not to. There was no news about him later is what they told us, Durai said. Samayamuthu had not called home as he did not have a UAE SIM card. His brother-in-law Kannan Nagoorkani, said he approached the Al Muraqqabat Police Station to file a complaint.



This picture taken with a fisheye lens on Friday shows coworking rooms of the capsule hotel Anshin Oyado Shinjuku, Tokyo, which has been renovated into a coworking space without the upper and lower partitions of the capsule. Facing unprecendented challenges due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the capsule hotel renovated an entire floor to be used as a coworking space, offering office necessities such as high speed internet required for telework and web conferencing, including computer hardware and other computing devices.

Germany hits mn cases as Russia links up with India on vaccine

Berlin, Nov. 28: Germany, once a beacon of hope in Europe's Coronavirus nightmare, logged more than one million cases on Friday, while Russia asked India to help mass produce its controversial Sputnik vaccine.

Although the virus spread is slowing thanks to weeks of tough restrictions, Europe remains at the heart of the pandemic, recording more cases than the United States in the past week.

The pandemic is spreading fastest in Asia and Latin America, and is up by a worrying 113 percent over the week in Mexico.

Until recently, Germany's relative success in containing the virus had offered some sense of hope, with authorities putting in place some precautions that still allowed life to carry on almost as nor-mal. However, its meas-ured approach has failed during the second wave, endangering the health of Europe's biggest economy and weighing on the mood as the northern hemi-sphere heads into the winter holidays.

Germany's Robert Koch Institute recorded more than 22,000 new daily cases on Friday, pushing the overall total beyond the one-million mark

The number of Covid-19 patients in intensive care has soared from around 360 in early October to more than 3,500 last week. Most countries hope to ease their virus rules for Christmas and New Year. -AFP

Europe toll crosses 4L, shops reopen in parts of continent

rus deaths topped 400,000 Saturday in Europe, the world's second worst-hit region, as parts of the continent began to reopen shops for the holiday season. But across the Atlantic fearful US shoppers turned to online outlets for a massive Black Friday sale, while densely populated Los Angeles county announced a ban on gatherings of people under a new "safer-at-

home order" Persistent high case ernments' hopes to ease their virus rules for Christmas and New Year.

Europe on Saturday crossed a grim barrier, registering 400,649 deaths. Stores began lifting their shutters in France on Saturday, while Poland's shopping centres will also reopen. "I'd rather avoid the internet, I'm going to buy things in the shops. They need it," said Anne Dubois, one of the first customers applauded thr-ough the doors by staff at yette department store.

"Whether or not there's people here, at least we've got our daily life getting back to normal," said 36year-old Aurelie, a manager in the L'Oreal section at

Galeries Lafayette.
Belgium will allow shops to reopen from December 1, but keep the current semi-lockdown in place possibly until mid-January. The move mirrors similar easing in Germany, Luxembourg Netherlands. and

Scientists to detect single virus particles

Tokyo, Nov. 28: Scientists have developed a new method for identifying single virus particles based on changes in electrical current when they pass through ultrasmall pores, an advance which they claim may lead to new

The study, published in ACS Sensors, demonstrated a new system for identifying single virus particles using an algorithm trained to detect changes in the current passing across silicon nanopores. According to the scientists, the work may lead to fast and accurate screening tests for diseases like Covid-19 and influenza.

In the new method, the scientists said a layer of the compound silicon nitride just 50 nanometres (nm) thick has tiny nanopores added.

The motion of the ions can be monitored by the current they generate, and when a viral particle enters a nanopore, it blocks some of the ions from passing through, leading to a transient dip in current. — PTI

CONGRESSMAN **TESTS POSITIVE FOR VIRUS**

Miami, Nov. 28: South Florida Congressmanelect Carlos Gimenez has tested positive for Coronavirus, his campaign announced Friday. The former Miami-Dade

County mayor and his wife. Lourdes, tested positive Thursday for Covid-19 after having mild symptoms, according to a state ment. They said they're self-isolating at home, in accordance with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines.

India, Lanka, Maldives to bolster maritime security cooperation

Colombo, Nov. 28: Top security officials of India, Sri Lanka and the Maldives on Saturday agreed to further strengthen cooperation and ensure peace for common benefit as they took stock of the current maritime security environment in the region during the high-level trilateral dialogue which was held here after a gap of six years. National Security Advisor Ajit Doval took part in the dialogue along with Sri Lankan Defence Secretary Major Gen

National Security Adviser-level trilateral meeting on maritime security cooperation with India

and the Maldives.
It took place after six years — the last one was held in New Delhi in 2014. According to a joint statement issued by Sri Lanka's Ministry of Defence, the three countries — recognising the significance of the forum for promoting meaningful cooperati-(Retd.) Kamal Gunaratne on in the Indian Ocean

and Maldivian Defence Minister Mariya Didi. Sri Lanka hosted the fourth Region on common issues pertaining to maritime security — took stock of the current maritime security environment in

the region. They discussed mutual cooperation in the areas of Maritime Domain Awareness. Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief, Joint Exercises, Capacity Building, Maritime Security and Threats, Marine Pollution, and Maritime Underwater Heritage, it said. They agreed to further strengthen cooperation in dealing with these chaland security in the region for common benefit, the ioint statement said.

The three countries also exchanged views on common security threats and agreed to broad base cooperation by expanding the scope to improve intelligence sharing and include issues like terrorism, radicalisation, extremism, drugs, arms and human trafficking, money laundering, cyber security and effect of climate change on maritime environment,

Court rejects Don Pennsylvania suit

Observes voters, not lawyers choose Prez

Washington, Nov. 28: In a fresh setback to US Pre-sident Donald Trump's efforts to reverse the November 3 presidential election result in the battleground state of Pennsylvania, a court has dismissed a lawsuit filed by his team, observing that "voters, not lawyers choose the president." The judgement came four days after Pennsylvania certified Trump's Democratic rival Joe Biden as the winner in the state which has 20 electoral college votes.

Trump, a Republican, has refused to accept defeat in the November 3 presidential election, and told reporters on Thursday that it would be "hard" to concede to Biden, a Democrat. The President has said that he would leave the White House if the Electoral College declares Biden as the winner, but made clear he is not prepared to "concede" the election. He has launched a slew of lawsuits in key states, but has not provided any evidence to back his claims of electoral fraud. Many of the lawsuits have been dismissed by courts. The three-judge panel of the 3rd US Circuit Court of Appeals on Friday upheld a previous ruling that dismissed the Trump campaign's request for an injunction in the case in Pennsylvania to challenge the election results and slammed the lawsuit. "Free, fair elections are the lifeblood of our democracy. Charges of unfairness are serious, but calling an election unfair does not make it so. Charges require specific allegations and then proof. We have neither here," Judge Stephanos Bibas said in his order.

"The campaign cannot win this lawsuit," said Bibas, who was appointed by Trump. He authored the order along with two other judges on the bench, Chief Circuit Judge Brooks Smith and Judge Michael Chagares, who were appointed by former Republican president George W Bush. Trump has refused to concede the November 3 election to Biden and has

Biden to represent best in us: Harris

Joe Biden will be a president who represents the best of America, his dep-uty and Vice Presidentelect Kamala Harris has said, asserting that he is a leader the world will respect. Lavishing praise on the 78-year-old US Presid-ent-elect, Harris on Friday said that Biden will be a president for all Americans.

"Know that" Biden "will be a president who represents the best in us. A leader the world will respect and our children can look up to," Harris

said in a tweet.

Harris, 56, the daughter of an Indian immigrant from Chennai, has created history by becoming the first Black American woman to be elected as the

While Indian-origin politicians have been elected as heads of the state in various parts of the world in the last several decades from Mauritius to Fiji Harris as the vice president of the United States would be the most power-ful politician ever.

Biden, in a series of tweets, called for unity in the country. "This is our moment — ours together to write a newer, bolder, more compassionate chapter in the life of our nation," Biden said in a tweet. Each of us has a responsibility in our own lives to do what we can to slow the virus. Every decision we make matters. Every decision we make can save a

-PTI

filed multiple lawsuits challenging the poll results in several states. Former vice president Biden was declared the winner of the US presidential election on November 7 after flipping Pennsylvania, Michigan and Wisconsin to the Democrats' column. Biden has 306 electoral votes to Trump's 232 votes. To win the race to the White House, the successful candidate should have at least 270 electoral votes out of the 538-member Electoral College.

Biden's tally is far more than the 270 needed to win the race for the White House, and he also leads the popular vote by more than six million. In his Thanksgiving Day remarks, Trump, however, said it will be a mistake if the Electoral College were to elect Biden. The president-elect leads by more than 80,000 votes in the battleground state of Pennsylvania. Trump's lawyers Rudy Giuliani and Jenna Ellis said they will now appeal to the Supreme Court. — PTI

GUANTANAMO: SOME MAY BE RELEASED

Washington, Nov. 28: The oldest prisoner at the Guantanamo Bay detention centre went to his latest review board hearing with a degree of hope, something that has been scarce during his 16 years locked up without charges at the US base in Cuba.

Saifullah Paracha, a 73year-old Pakistani with diabetes and a heart condition, had two things going for him that he didn't have at previous hearings: A favourable legal development and the election of Joe Bid-en. President Donald Tr-ump had effectively ended the Obama administration's practice of reviewing the cases of men held at Guantanamo and releasing them if imprisonment was no longer deemed necessary. — AB

US curbs on Russian, Chinese firms for Iran missile support

Washington, Nov. 28: The US has imposed sanctions on four companies from China and Russia for supporting Iran's missile programme that remains a "significant proliferation concern," Secretary of State Mike Pompeo has said.

"The US has sanctioned four entities in China and Russia for their support of Iran's missile programme. We will continue to use all our sanctions tools to prevent Iran from advancing its missile capabilities," Pompeo said.

The companies Chengdu Best New Materials Co Ltd and Zibo Elim Trade Co, Ltd. in China and Nilco Group, which is also known as Nil Fam Khazar Company and Santers Holding and Joint Stock Company Elecon in Russia for transferring sensitive technology and items to Iran's missile programme. President Donald Trump withdrew the US from the landmark Iran nuclear deal in 2018.

KILLING OF SCIENTIST: KHAMENEI CALLS FOR 'DEFINITIVE PUNISHMENT' Tehran, Nov. 28: Iran's

supreme leader on Saturday called for the "definitive punishment" of those behind the killing of a scientist linked to Tehran's disbanded military nuclear programme, a slaying the Islamic Republic has blamed on Israel.

Israel, long suspected of killing scientists a decade ago amid tensions over Tehran's nuclear programme, has vet to comment on the killing Friday of Mohsen Fakhrizadeh.

However, the attack bore the hallmarks of a carefully planned, military-style ambush.

The slaying threatens to renew tensions between the US and Iran in the waning days of President Donald Trump's term, just as President-elect Joe Biden has suggested his administration could return to Tehran's nuclear deal with world powers from which Trump earlier

withdrew.
The Pentagon announced early Saturday that it sent the USS Nimitz aircraft carrier back into the Mideast.

In a statement, Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Kha-menei called Fakhrizadeh "the country's prominent and distinguished nuclear and defensive scientist."

Khamenei said Iran's first priority after the killing was the "definitive punishment of the perpetrators and those who ordered it."

He did not elaborate. Speaking to a meeting of his government's Coronavirus task force earlier Saturday, President Hassan Rouhani blamed Israel for the killing. Rouhani said that Fakhrizadeh's death would not stop its nuclear programme, something Khamenei said as well.

DETERIORATING I CONDITION PM invites singer to contribute to protected areas expansion initiative

Imran lauds Cher efforts to relocate elephant

Islamabad, Nov. 28: Prime Minister Imran Khan on Friday appreciated efforts of US celebrity singer Cher to relocate Kaavan, dubbed as the world's loneliest elephant, from a Pakistani zoo to Cambodia for better conditions. Cher, who called on the Prime Minister in Islamabad, has been campaigning for retiring Kaavan, the country's only Asian elephant, to an elephant sanctuary. The story of Kaavan, who is 35 vears old, attracted world attention after reports went viral about the deteriorating condition of the ards the government's inizoo in Islamabad where the elephant was kept. Khan "thanked Cher for

her campaign and role in this regard," according to his office. He said that "it was indeed a happy moment for all of us that after giving joy and happiness to the people of Islamabad and Pakistan for about 35 years, Kaavan will now be able to retire with other elephants in a specialised sanctuary in Cambodia." The Prime Minister also

invited the singer to partic-

tiative for the expansion of protected areas, to which she agreed.

Cher also tweeted about her meeting with Khan. 'Just Came From Meeting To Thank Prime Minister Imran Khan For Making It Possible For Me To Take Kaavan To Cambodia," she said. The Pakistan government on Monday issued a permit to transfer the elephant and sources said Kaavan will be flown to Cambodia on November 29. The elephant was already handed over to experts who

PRESIDENT ARIF Alvi attended a function at the Marghzar Zoo in Islamabad to mark the handing over of the elephant to experts to finalise its shifting to Cambodia.

fer. President Arif Alvi along with his wife Samina attended a function on November 24 at the Marghzar Zoo in Islamabad to mark the handing over of the elephant to

were dealing with its trans-

experts to finalise the last part of the preparations to shift it to Cambodia, his office said in a statement. The experts have trained Kaavan to enter a large me-

tal crate that will be used to transport it to the airport. They have also noted that Kaavan was responding well to music and singing. Kaavan is being relocated to a wildlife sanctuary in Cambodia on the orders of the Islamabad High Court in the context of providing proper care and natural environment. The elephant, popular among children and adults, was born in 1985 in Sri Lanka and the Sri Lankan government presented it to the then President of Pakistan.

In 1990, an elephant Sahli was brought from Bangladesh and stayed with Kaavan until his death in 2012. Animal rights activists campaigned for its release and their efforts got a boost with the Islamabad High Court's decision on May 21, ordering immediate relocation of all animals of the zoo, including Kaavan to some suitable wildlife

VIDEO OF COPS **BEATING POC A SHAME: MACRON**

Paris, Nov. 28: French President Emmanuel Macron has said video images showing police officers beating up a Black man "shame us," and condemned violence both by and against the police. Macron asked the government to quickly come up with proposals "to reaffirm the link of confidence that should naturally exist between the French and those who protect them" and to better fight discrimi-

SHORT TAKES

Hamilton takes Bahrain GP pole

Manama: Newly-crowned seven-time champion Lewis Hamilton claimed pole position for Sunday's Bahrain Grand Prix with an impeccable recordbreaking lap on Saturday as Mercedes dominated the floodlit qualifying session. He clocked an all-time track record lap in one minute and 27.264 seconds to outpace team-mate Valtteri Bottas by 0.289 seconds, the pair delivering Mercedes' 11th front row lockout of the season. It was Hamilton's recordincreasing 98th career pole position and the fluency and speed of his driving endorsed his status as the outstanding man to beat at Sakhir's Bahrain International Circuit. — AFP

Jehan pips Mick for F2 podium

Bahrain: Rising Indian racer Jehan Daruvala earned his maiden Formula 2 podium after pipping championship leader Mick Schumacher in a gripping battle for the third place at the Bahrain Grand Prix support race, here. Starting eighth on the grid, Jehan gained two places and stayed sixth for a few laps. However, in Lap 5, he lost two places and was forced off the circuit. The resulting loss of speed cost him more positions. He stayed in tenth place for a few laps before pitting to change tyres. Jehan emerged from the pits down in the 18th place but quickly climbed up the order. He gained more positions as others pitted and was running sixth by lap 19 of the 32 lap race. — PTI

TIME TO PONDER Smith finds his rhythm back

With no Plan 'B' in place, India need their 'A' game to save ODI series

Sydney, Nov. 28: India's battered bowling unit will have little time to regroup and limited resources at its disposal in a desperate bid to perform a redemption act and save the ODI series against a Australia in the second game here on Sunday. It wasn't just about the margin of defeat — by 66 runs — but the manner in the home team exposed India's vacant cup-



board of all-rounders that will give Virat Kohli and Ravi Shastri numerous points to ponder. So with no back-up all-rounders or a plan B in place, India will have to execute their plan A

perfectly.
With Australia's top order firing, Bumrah and company will have no option but to pick up the pieces and give a better account of themselves on a strip that promises to be



India captain Virat Kohli (right) talks with teammates before the start of their one-day international match against Australia at the Sydney Cricket Ground on Friday.

Sydney, Nov. 28: Australian batsman Steve Smith found his "rhythm" with a cracking hundred against India in the first ODI but admitted that there wasn't much pressure unlike other times.

Smith struck 105 off 66 balls in Australia's lopsided 66-run win in the first ODI.

"I just found a nice rhythm again," Smith said while crediting his skipper Aaron Finch for setting up a nice platform with a 156-

run opening stand with David Warner. "It was just see-ball, hit-ball and obviously the foundation had been set so I could be quite aggressive," Smith said.

Having found his "hands' as he had said prior to the match, Smith was happy that he could decide which bowlers to attack even though the entire Indian bowling line-up was at the receiving end of his onslaught.

"I picked my bowlers and where I wanted to hit them, and just played some good shots to the areas of my strengths."

By his own admission, the pressure was less unlike some other times when quick wickets have fallen around him.

There wasn't a whole lot of pressure. Probably, at other times, when I have batted my best, it's been when the team has been under a bit of pressure and I have had to play almost



Steve Smith

an anchor role to help us get a total," he said.

Smith said that trying to switch from his natural style of building the innings to a more T20 friendly mode of power-hitting did affect his game.

"I haven't felt quite right for a while and maybe that's T20 cricket, trying to be a bit more powerful and probably not playing as much to my strengths as I'd like," Smith said. What Smith did before

this series was to get back to normal grip.

"So I've been getting myself back to my normal grip and finding it," he added.

The former skipper is hopeful that he can continue with his rich vein of form during the entire summer.



Former India off-spinner Archana Das of Hyderabad poses with her childhood coach K. Saibaba of the riage to K. Abhishek Reddy, a software professional, at a hotel in Begumpet, Hyderabad, on Friday. Archana is now based in Mumbai where she works for the Western Railway.

Hyderabad draw with Bengaluru

Margao, Nov. 28: Hyderabad FC settled for their second successive draw, a stalemate, in the Indian Super League, splitting points with Bengaluru FC at the Fatorda Stadium, here on Saturday.

Getting four points from two outings is best start league for the Hyderabad.

However, it was a frustrating evening for Bengaluru FC, who are yet to taste a win this sea-

The two sides showed attacking intent from the word go and BFC had their first attempt as early as the fifth minute. Ashique Kuruniyan tried his luck from a distance

but his effort took a deflection before being collected by Hyderabad custodian Subrata Paul.

Hyderabad's adamant lefending frustrated defending Bengaluru, who struggled to take the ball up to their attacking trio of Sunil Chhetri, Kristian Opseth and Udanta Singh. Trying to find an alternative, Bengaluru engaged in long-range shots, which proved futile.

Despite making a halftime change, replacing Kristian Opseth with Bengaluru had nothing different to offer as their opponents continued to dominate the play.



DC CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI, NOV. 28

Two-time winners Andamlak Belihu and Tsehay Gemechu are not only ready to defend their titles, but are also determined to break the course record this year at the Delhi Half Marathon here on Sunday.

Ethiopia's Belihu will be bidding for his third successive crown but the course he will cover is radically

different to the one he conquered in 2018 and 2019. Belihu's compatriot Gemechu rewrote the women's course record when winning in both 2018 and 2019 and it currently stands at 66:00. She is raring to go even faster this year.

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