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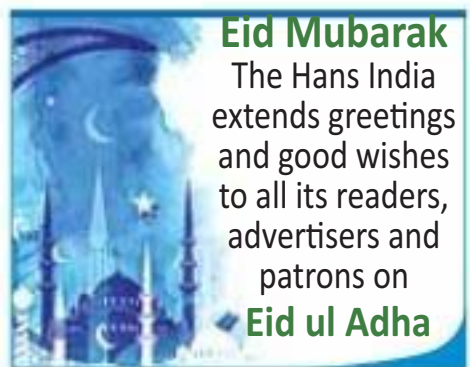
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## Rajasthan Cong MLAs shifted to Jaisalmer

**Jaipur:** Amid allegations of horse trading, the Rajasthan Congress MLAs staying at a hotel in Jaipur have been shifted to Jaisalmer for the next 14 days on Friday. The Rajasthan Assembly is scheduled to convene on August 14 and till then the MLAs will stay at the Jaisalmer resort. The MLAs were staying at Hotel Fairmont from July 13 after Sachin Pilot along with 18 MLAs went incommunicado. ►P9

## IMD forecasts normal monsoon

**New Delhi:** Monsoon is likely to be normal in the second half of the four-month rainfall season, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said on Friday. In its Long Range Forecast for rainfall in the second half (August-September) of the 2020 Southwest Monsoon, the IMD said August is likely to receive rainfall that is 97 per cent of the Long Period Average (LPA). "Quantitatively, the rainfall over the country as a whole during the second half of the season is likely to be 104 per cent of the LPA with a model error of plus/minus 8 per cent," the IMD said.

## Ensure doctors get salaries on time: SC

**New Delhi:** Delhi, Maharashtra, Punjab, Karnataka and Tripura are yet to follow directives on timely payment of salaries to healthcare workers engaged in COVID-19 duties, the Centre on Friday told the Supreme Court, which said it cannot be "helpless" in implementing the directions. The top court also asked the Centre to clarify that compulsory quarantine period of healthcare workers is not to be treated as leave and salaries are not deducted for the period.

## ED to summon Rhea in Rajput case

**New Delhi:** The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Friday filed a money laundering case on the basis of a Bihar Police FIR in which Sushant Singh Rajput's father has accused actress Rhea Chakraborty and her family of abetting the Bollywood actor's suicide. The central probe agency had recently called for the Bihar police first information report (FIR) and after studying it, the ED decided to slap charges under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), officials said.

## BUSINESS



## CENTRE IN TALKS WITH RBI FOR LOAN RECAST

P8



# OVER 55,000 CASES IN 24 HOURS INDIA'S COVID TALLY CROSSES 16 LAKH

**New Delhi:** With a record single-day surge of 55,078 infections, India's COVID-19 caseload raced past 16 lakh on Friday, just two days after it reached the 15-lakh mark, while the number of recoveries rose to 10,57,805, according to Union Health Ministry data.

The country has so far registered 16,38,870 instances of the coronavirus infection. The death toll increased to 35,747 with 779 fatalities being reported in 24 hours, the data showed.

This is the second consecutive day that COVID-19 cases have increased by more than 50,000. The total number of confirmed cases also includes foreigners. There are 5,45,318 active COVID-19 cases in the country. The recovery rate rose to 64.54 per cent while the fatality rate dropped further to 2.18 per cent.

According to the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), a cumulative 1,88,32,970 samples have been tested up to July 30 with 6,42,588 being examined on Thursday. Of the 779 deaths reported on Friday, 266 were from Maharashtra, 97 from Tamil Nadu, 83 from Karnataka, 68 from Andhra Pradesh and 57 from Uttar Pradesh. West Bengal registered 46 deaths, Delhi 29, Gujarat 22, Jammu and Kashmir 17, Madhya Pradesh 14 and Rajasthan and Telangana 13 each.

Continued on Page 7



Testing for Covid-19 ramped up in Telangana. Health staff taking samples at Neredmet government health centre. Photo: Adula Krishna

## TS logs highest cases in a single day

HANS NEWS SERVICE

**Hyderabad:** Telangana reported the highest number of Covid cases (1986) on a single day, when the testing figures also touched an all-time high, besides all 33 districts reporting new cases on Friday. Also, 14 patients have died till 8 pm on Thursday as per the Covid bulletin. The previous highest figure was witnessed on July 8 when 1924 cases were registered. More than 20,000 tests were done for the first time in a single day in the state. The health officials collected 21,380 samples out of which results of 1216 RT-PCR samples are awaited. The Health department is conducting both rapid antigen tests and RT-PCR tests and hence the big jump in testing figures per

**1986**  
IN 24 HOURS

Also, GHMC's share among the new cases was 29.5 percent (586 cases), while the rest of the districts contributed the remaining 70 percent of cases. Both Malkajigiri (207) and Ranga Reddy (205) reported more than 200 cases, each. Warangal Urban (123), Karimnagar (116), Sangareddy (108) also reported a high number of cases. The recovered patients and active cases numbers stood at 45,388 and 16,796, respectively, while the total deceased count rose to 519.

# President's surprise invite to Muslim kid ahead of Bakrid

MANOJ MACHINENI

**New Delhi:** President Ram Nath Kovind has invited Riyaz, a school student fond of cycling, to Rashtrapati Bhavan, a day before Bakrid and gifted him a cycle wishing him to excel in sports. The President wanted him to become an international cycling champion and realize his dreams by hard work.

Riyaz is a ninth class student of Sarvodaya Children's School in Anand Vihar, Delhi and originally hails from Madhubani district of Bihar. Riyaz's father is a cook and to help him manage the expenses of the family, he works in his spare time cleaning utensils at a Dhaba in Ghaziabad. Since he is fond of cycling, he practices sports after

**Gifts the school student a bicycle, wishing him to be cycling champion**



President Ram Nath Kovind along with First Lady Savita Kovind presents a racing bicycle to school student Riyaz who aspires to become a cyclist, at Rashtrapati Bhawan in New Delhi on Friday

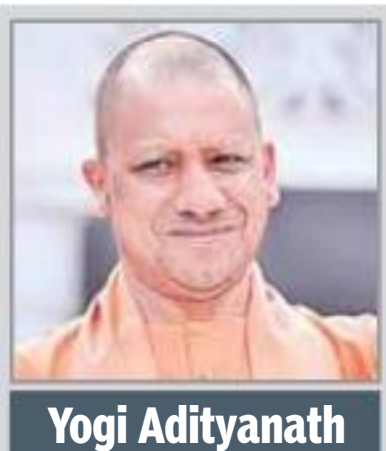
studies and work. Talking to the media later, Riyaz said: "I can now train well with this gifted bicycle. Until now, I had no bicycle. Now I want to win the medal for the country by participating in cycling internationally."

"Your story should be worthy of inspiration for the youth of the country, who come forward for nation-building on the strength of their dedication, hard work, courage and honesty," said President Kovind.

Riyaz has taken professional training from cycling coach Pramod Sharma and practices regularly at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium in Delhi. He had to borrow a sports bicycle for his training and needed a bicycle of his own.

Riyaz won the bronze medal at the Delhi State Cycling Championship in 2017. According to the Ghaziabad District Magistrate, he participated in a school games programme held in Guwahati and secured the fourth rank at the national level.

# Crores prayed for 500 yrs for this moment



Yogi Adityanath

It will be a befitting culmination of about five centuries of perseverance, reverence and penance of crores of devotees when Prime Minister Narendra Modi will lay foundation

stone of much-cherished Ram temple in Ayodhya on August 5 at an auspicious time between 12.30 and 12.40 pm. It will be a reverential moment for the devout who had been waiting for a long time to see a Grand temple of Lord Ram at his birth place of Ayodhya.

Patience always pays! It came true with a myriad of human beliefs and emotions that the five centuries of social, legal and religious tangling ended with such a religiously fulfilling and overwhelming occasion. In-



deed, it is a matter of joy, exultation and overpowering spirituality for millions and millions of Sanatan Hindus who will be the wit-

ness to such a moment on August 5, 2020. It is truly gratifying that the Lord Ram has given our generation an opportunity to

treasure this in our lifetime and leave a religious legacy to posterity to revere about and adore. It will also be an event to recall the sacrifice of thousands of devotees who are not with us to witness this monumental event.

We wish and know that the benevolent Shri Ram will always give them a place at their feet. No wonder what has been said before that the faith and belief in God gives you the power that cannot be negated by any force on the planet.

Continued on Page 7

# ULBs hike trade licence fee to bridge fund gap

Traders feel extra burden in crisis time

HANS NEWS SERVICE

**Hyderabad:** In the current Corona crisis, a steep hike in trade licence fee has come as a bolt from the blue for lakhs of traders in many municipalities in Telangana.

With the State government giving a free hand to 130 plus municipalities (except GHMC) to increase trade licence fee at their wish, the Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) had started hiking trade fee by 5 to 10 times to meet the growing financial requirements.

Some municipalities adopted a resolution to collect trade licence fee more than the existing amount from this year.

The revised trade licence fee structure will have to be approved by the elected General Body in every cash starved municipality. The urban bodies finalise the enhanced licence fee in accordance with the local business conditions and required financial needs on a yearly basis.

The existing trade licence fee structure has been finalized a decade ago

and the local bodies are struggling hard to generate revenue and meet the financial requirements at local level.

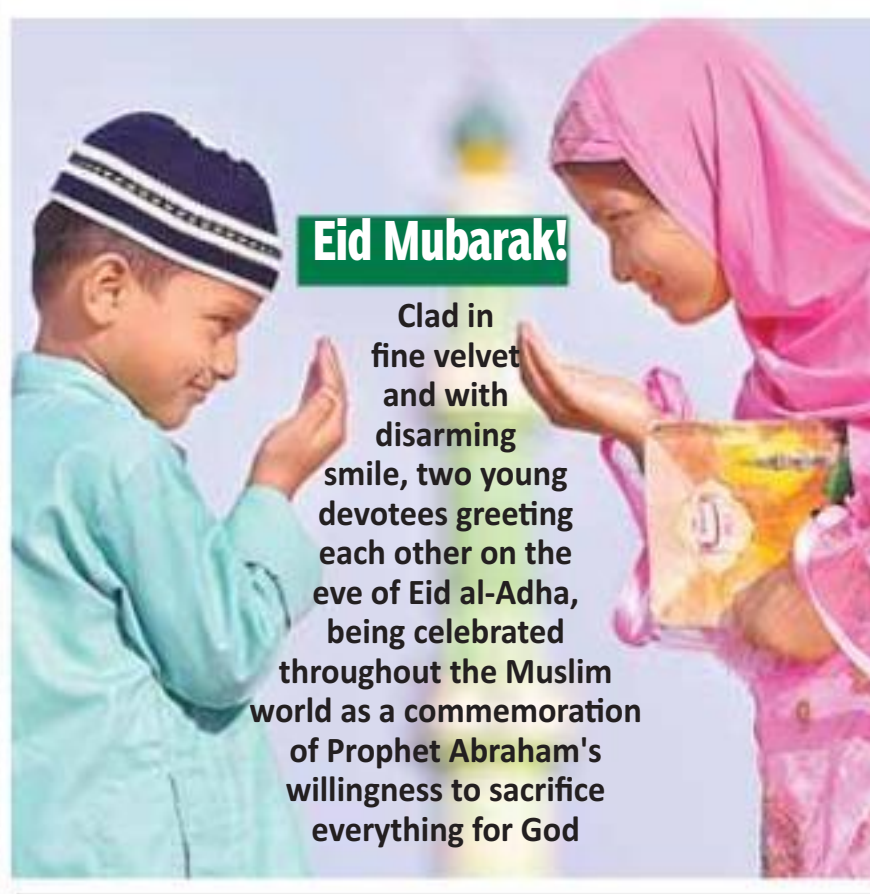
Under the new Municipal Act, the urban local bodies would have to achieve self sufficiency by creating new revenue generating avenues. After property taxes, collection of trade licence fee is second biggest revenue

**Peddapally Municipal Council in the recently held general body meeting gave its nod to increase the licence fee by 10 times**

source, top officials said, adding that some municipalities already adopted a resolution in support of hike in trade licence fee.

For instance, Peddapally municipal body in the recently held general body meeting through a video conference gave its nod to increase the licence fee by 10 times. Some more municipalities in the erstwhile Nalgonda, Khammam, Warangal and Karimnagar districts have also decided to increase the trade licence fee.

Continued on Page 7



# ‘Americans back India over China overwhelmingly’

**Sydney:** American people overwhelmingly back India over China and prefer the US government to support New Delhi in possible Indo-China military and economic conflict, according to a survey by Australia-based think tank Lowy Institute.

The survey published on The Interpreter by Lowy Institute explores US public views on potential military or economic strife between China and India.

The web survey was conducted on a sample of 1,012 American respondents on July 7. The respondents were randomly assigned one of two versions of a prompt --- "If India and China were engaged in military conflict, would you support the US aiding India, China, or neither side?" or "If India and China were engaged in economic conflict, would you support the US aiding India, China, or neither side?" According to

results published by the think tank, 63.6 per cent of respondents would have the US support neither India nor China if they were to engage in military conflict with each other, compared to 60.6 per cent regarding economic conflict with each other. For those who did choose to support

one of the countries, however, it was overwhelmingly in favour of India. "For a military conflict between India and China, 32.6 per cent preferred that the US support India, as opposed to 3.8 per cent who preferred that the US support China. For an economic conflict, 36.3 per cent of respondents preferred US support for India, while 3.1 per cent preferred the US support for China," according to survey result. Continued on Page 7





# CP inaugurates speed radars on Nehru ORR

HANS NEWS SERVICE

**Hyderabad:** The Commissioner of Police, Rachakonda, Mahesh Bhagwat on Friday inaugurated the speed radars with electronic display at Nehru ORR for the motorists to gauge the vehicle speed.

He said that 'Doing the right thing when no one is watching you' is the ethic which is neglected by most of the motorists who tends over speed. Analysis and reports suggest that speeding and driver negligence is the lead-



ing cause of fatal accidents. Annually about 1, 50,000 are losing their lives in road accidents in our country due to over speeding.

He added, "Speed radars will alert people who cross the speed limit and provide positive reinforcement to those driving within the limit and to enhance their self-control. Dynamic enforcement of over speeding will be done on NH-163 along with educating the drivers. Mohar Ghosh, who is newly elected as Jt Secretary Rachakonda Security Council, Traffic forum shall select the traffic volunteers on a private partnership basis to regulate the traffic."

# NEP to impact fate of 2.5 lakh engineering students in TS, AP

- ▶ The proposed policy is to rewrite the two-decade-old professional IT education policy in TS and AP
- ▶ Right from recruitments, students from BA,B.Com and B.Sc will compete with their engineering counterparts

VRC PHANIHARAN

**Hyderabad:** The New Education Policy (NEP)-2020 is all set to rock the boat of about 2.5 lakh students studying in nearly 600 engineering colleges in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. It may be mentioned here that the Telugu states have pursued a technical education policy for the last two decades aligned mainly to the Information Technology industry. And, the engineering colleges have been acting as captive mines to provide human capital to the IT industry.

However, all this is going to change soon with the NEP-2020 says, Telangana State Council of Higher Education (TSCHE), Vice-Chairman, Prof V Venkata Ramana.

"Now students from B.A, B.Com, B.Sc with specialisations in mathematics, besides, the opting credits in Computer Sciences and Information Technology related courses during their 4-year proposed degree programmes under NEP-



2020 can compete with the B Tech graduates." That apart, the credit system that is coming along with the new policy allows students to earn as many as 30 to 40 credits during their degree courses.

This makes the learning and teaching free from a straight-jacket pursuit replaced with multi-talented with creativity and innovation. In turn, the full-matrix of multi-domain skills with a specialised base is what the industry is looking for. Against the backdrop of emerging technologies like AI, IoT, Data Sciences, it is the domain knowledge with multiple-skills would rule the new education and

employment landscape. Adding, the new education policy is a welcome sign, he affirmed.

Against this backdrop, now the engineering institutions which are so far limiting to the teaching technology courses and management courses will have a tough time to reorient to catch up with the changes, to be afloat and to provide training their students.

Prof B Satyanarayana of Osmania University said, 'it is not only the information technology. Now, a student studying botany and zoology can also opt for credits in subjects like horticulture, sericulture, agriculture and allied sci-

ences."

Also, a kind of laid back attitude in the current system of faculty appointed for a single subject will drastically be going under change. "The faculty will have to work hard to catch up with the students all set to pursue their courses with a multidisciplinary focus. Another added advantage. Currently, the research activities at several state universities have literally reduced to nominal. The NEP-2020 will help in rejuvenating it. However, the funds flow need to be consistent as currently the funding on state universities is not even 4 per cent, he said.

## Revolt commences delivery of first set of motorcycles

**Hyderabad:** Revolutionizing the Indian mobility sector with not only class-leading products but, also the way you purchase them, Revolt Intellicorp on Friday began deliveries of the first batch of its Revolt Motorcycles in Hyderabad. The bikes will be handed over to customers as per the booking sequence from the Revolt Hubs in Jubilee Hills.

With an innovative go-to-market pricing strategy, which makes owning and riding the bike hassle-free experience, the company has received tremendous response from the consumers in other cities like Delhi, Pune, Ahmedabad and Chennai. Post the COVID-19 lockdown, the plant is now operating at Government sanc-



tioned capacity with bikes rolling out of the production line. The company aims to fulfill the bookings garnered from the city at the earliest. You can now book your Revolt by visiting [www.revolt-motors.com](http://www.revolt-motors.com).

## Police arrest two notorious burglars

- ▶ The accused duo was part of a gang of which two persons were already arrested and the fifth one is still absconding, says the police



HANS NEWS SERVICE

**Hyderabad:** The sleuths of CCS, LB Nagar along with Pahadishareef police on Friday detained two persons for moving under suspicious circumstances at Thukkuguda in Pahadishareef.

According to police, upon further questioning the two persons revealed their identities and their motives and it was verified that the duo was roaming with an intention to commit a burglary. The duo was identified as Shaik Riyaz and Gamsari Nazari alias Nepal Raju.

The accused duo was part of a gang of which two persons were already ar-

rested and the fifth one is still absconding. The gang had committed multiple thefts in the Rachakonda police commissionerate, said the police.

The arrested accused Shaik Riyaz was a notorious burglar since 2014 and was already sent to jail. But, after coming out on bail he commenced his illegal acts again.

The accused Nazari is a resident of Pansheli Baigav in Assam's Udalgari district. He ran away from home and came to Hyder-

abad to work in a restaurant, but he got addicted to bad vices and started committing burglaries and thefts in Sangareddy. While he was lodged in jail, he had formed a gang with the other four accused and robbed four houses in Medak. After being released in 2018, he committed the same offences and was imprisoned again for property-related offences under Rachakonda, Cyberabad, Hyderabad, and Mahabubnagar limits, said the police.

## MONSOON BLUES

# TSRTC bus drivers urged to rivet attention on safety of passengers

- ▶ There were about 730 accidents last year and 342 precious lives were lost and 768 were injured.
- ▶ The corporation had to pay Rs 40 crore as compensation to the kin of the accident victims
- ▶ With an aim to avoid accidents, the corporation has issued a circular to depot managers asking them to sensitise drivers about precautions to be taken during the journey

HANS NEWS SERVICE

**Hyderabad:** With an aim to avoid accidents during the monsoon season, the TSRTC has asked the depot managers to sensitise the drivers about the precautions needs to be taken during the journey. The Corporation had to shell out Rs 40 crore during the previous financial year to settle the claims for the accidents.

The management has issued a circular to the depot managers asking them to sensitise the drivers, who are on duties. According to RTC officials, there were about 730 accidents last year and 342 precious lives were lost and 768 were injured. The corporation had to pay Rs 40 crore as compensation to the kin of the accident victims.

A senior official said that it is observed that the propensity for occurrence of the accidents is relatively high during the monsoon season due to a plethora of factors. Earlier, several guide-



lines were issued to the field managers in this regard. However, instances of buses getting stranded in the streams, low level causeways, rivulets were being reported.

There are chances of occurrences of untoward incidents due to drizzle, poor visibility, slushy roads, overflowing of narrow culverts, low level causeways, rivulets and as such, vehicles getting stranded in flooded waters creating scary situations for the travelers.

As per the instructions by the management, the depot managers should ensure the drivers recite 'Bhadratha Sukthi' before proceeding on duty every day. They should display route map or banner with pictures at conspicuous places on the depot premises, depicting causeways, chaptas, river bridges and other accident-prone spots of the routes falling under the depot operational jurisdiction and ensure that each and every driver becomes familiar with these spots on the routes.

They were also asked to ensure that the drivers are explained about the need for cautious driving and precautionary measures to be taken during monsoon season.

The managers were asked to prepare a pamphlet in Telugu about precautions to be taken like being cautious when it is drizzling and during heavy rain because the roads become slippery and also keep in mind about potholes, use of fog lights when the visibility is low, the drivers should not try to cross the narrow culvert or bridge in the face of traffic (in opposite direction).



## Plea to stop illegal sale of cows in Hyd

HANS NEWS SERVICE

**Ranga Reddy:** TTD Board member K Shiva Kumar met Police Commissioner of Hyderabad Anjali Kumar and submitted a memorandum requesting him to take proper action against the illegal sale of cows in and around the city.

Kumar urged to the commissioner to immediately stop illegal cow trading in Bahadurpura and other areas in Hyderabad. He also assured that Yuga Tulasi Foundation will take responsibility of the cows after they are rescued from the clutches of unscrupulous traders.

## Man kills mother-in-law

HANS NEWS SERVICE

**Kothagudem:** Dhammapet police arrested a 25-year-old man who killed her 40-year-old mother in law by slitting her throat in Marrigudem village under the Dhammapet mandal on Friday. According to sources, Kuram Rambabu is a tribal man who had been living with his wife in his mother-in-law's house for the last five years.

Addicted to drinking, Rambabu used to regularly quarrel with his wife and mother-in-law and his mother-in-law, Makkam Vani used to question the behaviour of Rambabu. On Friday the argument took a serious turn and in the heat of the moment Rambabu went behind his mother-in-law and slight her throat with a knife. The woman died on spot.

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भारतीय स्टेट बैंक  
STATE BANK OF INDIA  
STRESSED ASSETS RECOVERY BRANCH - 2, HYDERABAD  
H No.1-8-563/1, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Opp: Sandhya Theatre, RTC 'X' Roads,Chikkadpally, Hyderabad - 500 020.  
Ph: 040 - 2346 1614 , E-mail: [sbi.20945@sbi.co.in](mailto:sbi.20945@sbi.co.in)

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF MOVABLE PROPERTY

E-Auction Sale Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described movable property hypothecated / charged to the Secured Creditor, possession of which has been taken by the Chief Manager / Authorised Officer of State Bank Of India, the Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is Where is", "As is What is" and "Whatever there is" basis on 25.08.2020.

LAST DATE & TIME OF SUBMISSION OF EMD 24.08.2020 UPTO 4:00 PM AND  
LAST DATE & TIME OF SUBMISSION OF KYC DOCUMENTS 24.08.2020 UPTO 5:00 PM  
DATE OF E-AUCTION: 25.08.2020

S No	Name of the Borrower / Guarantor / Mortgagor	Schedule of the Machinery / Assets / Vehicles	Reserve Price	EMD	Outstanding Amount
1	M/s Sri Nadella Plasts Pvt Ltd	Plant & Machinery of M/s Nadella Plasts Pvt. Ltd at Sy.No.356/AA, situated at Indrakaran Village, Kandi Mandal, Sangareddy District. For further details Please Contact D.Ravi Kumar, Manager, 9885147555. Date & Time of e-Auction: 25.08.2020 from 01.30 pm to 02.30 pm. Sale is subject to outcome of pending SANO.195/2019	Rs. 65.00 Lakhs	Rs. 6.50 Lakhs	Total Dues as on 30.06.2020 : Rs.191.36 Lakhs with further interest and incidental expenses & costs.

For any clarifications or further details regarding other conditions of sale the intending bidders may contact the Authorised Officer, State Bank of India, STRESSED ASSETS RECOVERY BRANCH - 2, HYDERABAD, H No 1-8-563/1, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Opp: Sandhya Theatre, RTC 'X' Roads, Chikkadpally, Hyderabad-500 020, Telangana State, and also contact Bank's approved service provider M/s. C1 India Pvt. Ltd., contact Mr.Gandhi, Mobile No. : +91-9780333933. The intending purchaser(s) / bidder(s) is/are required to deposit EMD amount either through NEFT/ RTGS in the Account No.: 52013038332, Name of the A/c: NO LEIN ARMB A/c, Name of the Beneficiary: State Bank of India (SARB2), IFSC Code: SBIN0020064 or by way of Demand Draft drawn in favour of State Bank of India, SARB 2, Hyderabad drawn on any Nationalized or Scheduled Bank. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in State Bank of India, the Secured Creditor's website [www.sbi.co.in](http://www.sbi.co.in)

Date: 31.07.2020, Place: Hyderabad

Sd/- Chief Manager / Authorised Officer, SBI, SARB-2, Hyderabad.

భారతీయ స్టేట్ బ్యాంక్  
भारतीय स्टेट बैंक  
STATE BANK OF INDIA  
STRESSED ASSETS RECOVERY BRANCH - 2, HYDERABAD  
H No.1-8-563/1, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Opp: Sandhya Theatre, RTC 'X' Roads,Chikkadpally, Hyderabad - 500 020.  
Ph: 040 - 2346 1614 , E-mail: [sbi.20945@sbi.co.in](mailto:sbi.20945@sbi.co.in)

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged / charged to the Secured Creditor, possession of which has been taken by the Chief Manager / Authorised Officer of State Bank of India, the Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is Where is" and "As is What is" basis on 25.08.2020.

LAST DATE & TIME OF SUBMISSION OF EMD 24.08.2020 UPTO 4:00 PM AND  
LAST DATE & TIME OF SUBMISSION OF KYC DOCUMENTS 24.08.2020 UPTO 5:00 PM  
DATE OF E-AUCTION: 25.08.2020

S No	Name of the Borrower / Guarantor	Schedule of the Property / Assets	Reserve Price	EMD	Outstanding Amount
1	M/s Arya Ventures	1. Flat No.201 & 205 of Sai Prithvi Cyber Arcade, H.No.2-52/2, 2-52/3, & 52/4 (Old Plot Nos.21.22 & 23 in Sy.No.60) undivided share of Land admeasuring 99.23 Sq.Yards or 62.95 Sq.mtrs with built up area 2250 situated at Guttala Begumpet village, Serilingampalli Mandal standing in the name of Sri P. Srinivas Shaw. 2. H.No.4-24/1 (old) New No.3-4-114/B/2, on Plot Nos.33 & 34 admeasuring 533 sq.yds or 445.5 sq.mts situated at Ramanthapur Village, Uppal Mandal and Municipality, Ranga Reddy District standing in the name of Sri G. Upender. For further details Please Contact T.Ramesh Kumar, Manager, 9440060008. Date & Time of e-auction: 25.08.2020 from 01.00 pm to 02.00 pm.	Rs. 144.00 Lakhs	Rs. 14.5 Lakhs	Total Dues as on 31.05.2020 Rs.583.00 Lakhs with further interest and incidental expenses & costs.
2	Sri Pattapu Mohan Gandhi S/o Sri. P.Panduranga Rao	Flat No.G-1, Ground Floor with 1025 sqft (including common area) with 42 square yards undivided share of land (out of 500 square yards) in Leela Kunj Apartments, Plot No.44, Sy.No.94/2, H.No.2-4-63/2/G-1, Block No.4, Co-operative Bank Colony, Nagole Village, Hyderabad vide Sale Deed No.9380/2004 dt 31.08.2004 in favour of Sri Pattapu Mohan Gandhi S/o Sri P. Panduranga Rao. For further details Please Contact Sri N Nareesh Kumar, Asst. Manager, 9885700469. Date & Time of e-auction: 25.08.2020 from 12.30 pm to 01.30 pm.	Rs. 25.00 Lakhs	Rs. 2.5 Lakhs	Total Dues as on 31.07.2020 Rs.22.63 Lakhs with further interest and incidental expenses & costs.
3	M/s Sri Nadella Plasts Pvt Ltd	Industrial shed & Land bearing S.Y.No.356/AA, situated at Indrakaran Village, Kandi Mandal, Sangareddy District admeasuring 1210 Sq Yards of land and 6336 sqft of pitha Area vide Sale Deed No 446/2012,447/2012 In the name of M/s Nadella Plasts Pvt Ltd and Sri Nadella Ramesh. For further details Please Contact D.Ravi Kumar, Manager, 9885147555. Date & Time of e-auction: 25.08.2020 from 01.30 pm to 02.30 pm. Sale is subject to outcome of pending SANO.195/2019	Rs. 55.00 Lakhs	Rs. 5.50 Lakhs	Total Dues as on 30.06.2020 : Rs.191.36 Lakhs with further interest and incidental expenses & costs.

For any clarifications or further details regarding other conditions of sale the intending bidders may contact the Authorised Officer, State Bank of India, STRESSED ASSETS RECOVERY BRANCH - 2, HYDERABAD, H No 1-8-563/1, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Opp: Sandhya Theatre, RTC 'X' Roads, Chikkadpally, Hyderabad-500 020, Telangana State, and also contact Bank's approved service provider M/s. C1 India Pvt. Ltd., contact Mr.Gandhi, Mobile No. : +91-9780333933. The intending purchaser(s) / bidder(s) is/are required to deposit EMD amount either through NEFT/ RTGS in the Account No.: 52013038332, Name of the A/c: NO LEIN ARMB A/c, Name of the Beneficiary: State Bank of India (SARB2), IFSC Code: SBIN0020064 or by way of Demand Draft drawn in favour of State Bank of India, SARB 2, Hyderabad drawn on any Nationalized or Scheduled Bank. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in State Bank of India, the Secured Creditor's website [www.sbi.co.in](http://www.sbi.co.in)

Date: 31.07.2020, Place: Hyderabad

Sd/- Chief Manager / Authorised Officer, SBI, SARB-2, Hyderabad.

**GOLD AUCTION NOTICE** GSTN - 36AABCT0343B12Z

Registered Office: 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Muthoot Chambers, Banerji Road, Kochi-682 018, Kerala, India. CIN:L65910KL1997PLC011300, Ph:+91 484 2396478.2394712, Fax:+91 484 2396506. [mail@muthootgroup.com](mailto:mail@muthootgroup.com), [www.muthootfinance.com](http://www.muthootfinance.com)

Notice is hereby given for the information of all concerned that Gold Ornaments pledged with under mentioned branches of the company, which were overdue for redemption and which have not been redeemed so far in spite of repeated notices, will be auctioned at the concerned branches on 10.08.2020 at 10.00 AM. In any case if the auction could not be conducted on the above said date, the Auctioneer is having the right to postpone the auction to following 2<sup>nd</sup> auction dates or on subsequent dates at given centers without any further notice. Any change in auction date will be published at the place of auction.

**2nd auction date : 14.08.2020, 10.00 AM, Auction Centre : Muthoot Finance Ltd, P No 32 H No 1-59/8/B First Floor, Jaffer Plaza Miyapur- 500049, Telangana State (Ranga Reddy District)**  
CHEVELLA - (AP) (3790)- MSL- 5142, HYDERABAD - MADHAPUR(1174)- MAL- 2733, HYDERABAD-NIZAMPET(2349)- MGL- 8, Spurious / Low Quality Accounts Details:- GACHI BOWLI - (TE)(4757)- MSL- 2184, KONDAPUR - (TE)(4836)- MSL- 293, 934, 1030, MADINAGUDA - MALLAMPET(5003)- MSL- 60,

**2nd auction date : 13.08.2020, 10.00 AM, Auction Centre : Muthoot Finance Ltd, #H.No.2-25, Bus Stand Road, Narayanpet (Dist.), Telanagana Pin- 509339 (Narayanpet District)**  
Spurious / Low Quality Accounts Details:- KOSGI-TE(4810)- MAL- 886,

**2nd auction date : 13.08.2020, 02.00 PM, Auction Centre : Muthoot Finance Ltd, H.No:4-3-303 First Floor Alampally Road Vikarabad, Vikarabad Dist, Telangana State-501101 (Vikarabad District)**  
Spurious / Low Quality Accounts Details:- TANDUR - SHIVAJI CHOWK(4773)- MSL- 2650, VIKRABAD - (AP)(3497)- MSL- 10124,

**2nd auction date : 11.08.2020, 10.00 AM, Auction Centre : Muthoot Finance Ltd, 3-4-181/5, First Floor, G.A.R Complex, Pillar No:140, Attapur, Hyderabad-500048, Telangana State (Hyderabad District)**  
Spurious / Low Quality Accounts Details:- HYDERABAD - HUMAYUN NAGAR(0332)- MSL- 43809, HYDERABAD - KALYANNAGAR(1081)- MSL- 22540, 23195, HYDERABAD - MEHIDIPATNAM - MARUTHI NAGAR(3243)- SSS- 476, HYDERABAD - MEHIDIPATNAM(0331)- MSL- 52658, 52825, SSS- 487, HYDERSHKOTE-SUNCITY(2457)- MAL- 4314, 6758, MSL- 20562, 24259, 31001, MANIKONDA - (TE)(4671)- MSL- 3840,

Note: Customers can release the gold ornaments before the auction date (10.08.2020).  
Note: Bidders are requested to produce Identity Card / Pan Card No./GST Certificate.  
(Incase Registered Dealers) Successful bidders should transfer the full auction amount by RTGS

Place : Cyberabad  
Date : 01.08.2020

For Muthoot Finance Ltd,  
M/s. SSR & Co., Law Associates, 1-19-72/1/2,  
Rukminipuri Colony, Behind Spencers,  
ECIL Post, Hyderabad – 62



# Top babu nudges local bodies to foot power bills every month

- ▶ Chief Secretary Somesh Kumar warns of serious action if deviation is found
- ▶ A detailed report and options regarding arrears would be presented before the CM to take policy decision on arrears related to local bodies

**HANS NEWS SERVICE**

**Hyderabad:** In a bid to protect the debt-ridden Discoms and help them come out of the financial crisis, the State government has introduced a new system of payments of power bills by Gram Panchayats and municipal bodies every month giving up the earlier practice of pending the payments of bills for months and years.

Chief Secretary Somesh Kumar on Friday directed that all the panchayats and municipalities pay the current month power bills every month. Any deviations will be viewed seriously.



Chief Secretary Somesh Kumar holding discussions with top officials of various departments in Hyderabad on Friday

Arrears will be separated and a decision on payment for the same will be taken up later.

He asked the Discoms to prepare a detailed report on arrears within seven days duly reconciling the figures with the Gram Panchayats and Municipalities. The detailed report and options regarding arrears would be presented shortly before the Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao to take policy decision on arrears related to local bodies.

The official said that joint teams of Discoms, Gram Panchayats and Municipality officials would be constituted to resolve discrepancies in bills such as those relating to borewells etc.

The Chief Secretary directed that 100 per cent bills should be generated by Discoms based on meter readings only. Meters will be fixed where ever it has not been done within one month.

Top officials of Municipal Administration and Urban Development, Panchayat Raj and Discoms were present in the meeting.

## KCR govt has unleashed terror against Dalits: Uttam

- ▶ TPCC chief describes death of a Dalit farmer in Gajwel as horrifying
- ▶ Says such happenings have sent shockwaves among people not only belonging to Dalit communities but also Girijans, Backward Classes, minorities and other weaker sections

**HANS NEWS SERVICE**

**Hyderabad:** TPCC president N Uttam Kumar Reddy has alleged that the KCR-led government has unleashed terror against Dalits across the State. Addressing a press conference on Friday, Uttam Kumar Reddy said several incidents of atrocities, violence and injustice against Dalits have surfaced in Telangana in the last two-three days. Describing those incidents as horrifying, he said that such happenings have sent shockwaves among people not only belonging to Dalit communities but also Girijans, Backward Classes, minorities and other weaker sections.

Referring to the incident of sui-



TPCC chief and MP N Uttam Kumar Reddy speaking to the media through video conference in Hyderabad on Friday

cide by one B Narasimhulu, in Gajwel constituency (represented by CM K Chandrasekhar Rao), Uttam said that the Dalit farmer was forced to commit suicide as the TRS government took away 13 Guntas of his land to construct Rythu Vedika building.

He said the Dalit farmer recorded a selfie video before consuming poison explaining the reason that forced him to resort to the extreme step. He said Narasimhulu has named local MRO, VRO,

Sarpanch and other TRS leaders in the selfie video. "KCR had promised to give three acres of land to poor Dalit families. Instead, he took away 13 Guntas of land from a poor Dalit farmer in his own constituency. KCR, shame on you," he said. Reddy said that the Chief Minister should be ashamed of himself for the incident. Instead of registering a case against those responsible for the suicide, TRS leaders are shamelessly trying to justify death.

## Governor, CM greet Muslims on Bakrid

**Hyderabad:** Telangana Governor Dr Tamilisai Soundararajan and Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao extended greetings to Muslims on the occasion of Eid-ul-Azha (Bakrid) on Saturday. In a message, Governor said, "the festival of Bakrid symbolises selfless sacrifice and supreme devotion to the almighty. The festival has a special place in Islamic faith and also promotes the spirit of sharing and charity with great reverence." In his message, Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao said, "it's a festival of sacrifice and reminds everyone to follow the noble teachings of the prophet and imbibe the spirit of sacrifice, compassion and tolerance for fellow beings during these pandemic days".

## Covid treatment: High cost no deterrent for govt hospitals

They try to save the lives of critical corona patients by administering costly Remdisivir, Tocilizumab drugs

- ▶ Remdisivir costs Rs 4,500 per injection and a patient needs six doses of this medicine and doctors in the State hospitals are using this medication for treating patients with good results
- ▶ Tocilizumab single injection dose is being given to Covid patients on mechanical ventilation in Gandhi and this drug costs Rs 40,000. Some patients require a second dose and it is being given if needed
- ▶ Favipiravir cost ranges from Rs 50 to 100 per tablet and an infected patient requires up to 120 tablets or less than that during a two weeks period for recovery and this medication costs nearly Rs 8,000 or more per patient

**HANS NEWS SERVICE**

**Hyderabad:** While there is an impression among the people that the government is doing nothing to take care of Covid patients, the reality is that the State-run hospitals are spending a handsome amount on treatment of every corona patient.

According to sources, costly anti-viral drugs approved by ICMR are being made available for treatment of Covid patients admitted to the State government hospitals.

Tocilizumab, Remdisivir and Favipiravir are being procured for this purpose. Already these drugs are being used in main Covid hos-

pitals like Gandhi Hospital and Chest Hospital.

Also, with these new drugs getting the nod of the regulatory bodies, the State Health officials have stopped using antiviral medications like Lopinavir, Ritonavir etc (usually given for HIV patients), which they mostly depended on in the initial stages.

Presently, they are using Favipiravir, Dexamethasone, Methylprednisolone, Remdisivir, Tocilizumab etc in Gandhi, and Chest hospitals and even in some teaching hospitals in districts.

Health Minister Eatala Rajender said 81 per cent of positive patients are asymptomatic and recovering easily. Of the remaining 19 per cent, only five percent pa-

tients are turning critical and these patients require drugs like Remdisivir and Tocilizumab, which they have decided to make available in the State hospitals irrespective of the cost factor.

While Favipiravir is being used to treat patients who have no respite from symptoms, steroids are being used in moderate rate while drugs like Remdisivir are used when the patient's condition needs oxygen support in ICU. Tocilizumab is given to patient who is on ventilator.

Favipiravir cost ranges from Rs 50 to 100 per tablet and an infected patient requires upto 120 tablets or less than that during a two weeks period for recovery and this medication costs nearly

Rs 8000 or more per patient.

Remdisivir costing Rs 4,500 per injection was reportedly sold for upto Rs 20,000 by middlemen until pharma companies were directed supply directly to hospitals and patient family members.

A patient needs six doses of this medicine and doctors in the State hospitals are also using this medication for treating patients with good results.

Tocilizumab single injection dose is being given to Covid patients on mechanical ventilation in Gandhi and this drug costs Rs 40,000. Some patients require a second dose and it is being given if needed.

In some districts, Collectors are coming forward to procure

these important medicines from district funds much to the relief of doctors treating the Covid patients.

Similar thing happened in Nizamabad, where the district Collector procured Remdisivir and Tocilizumab drugs, upon request of doctors from the Government General Hospital, Nizamabad. A senior doctor said they used these drugs on critical patients and more than 90 percent of them recovered completely.

Nizamabad doctors felt Collectors coming forward to lend a helping hand in terms of procuring medicines on their own was a great gesture and other district Collectors could emulate them.

## Teenager raises funds to feed stray dogs in times of pandemic

I realise that dogs are barking because they have no food. Many hotels are closed and individuals are not feeding dogs fearing virus infection, says the teenage YouTuber, a student of Class 9. With an aim to support strays, I started an online fundraising campaign with Milaap titled 'Strays Need Attention Too', adds Mishkkaa

**MD NIZAMUDDIN**

**Hyderabad:** While most of the school going kids continue to struggle with their studies because of Covid pandemic, which has also completely changed their routine, a 14-year-old YouTuber is pondering over ways to help stray animals and feed them believing that Covid-19 has affected all living things at different levels.

The teenage YouTuber, Mishkkaa, a resident of Gachibowli who is studying in Class 9 can be seen playing with stray dogs in her latest videos and explaining a how they are surviving and struggling to find food amid the pandemic.

She explains why dogs are barking, crying and wailing more during the Covid pandemic with an example from her gated community. While most peo-

ple see this as an inconvenience, she says, "I realised that dogs are barking because they have no food, so I really felt bad as an animal lover. Many hotels are closed and individuals are not feeding dogs fearing virus infection," added Mishkkaa.

Supportive of her daughter's noble ideas, her father Viivek Verma says, "Mishkkaa has grown up watching her parents work for social causes and I am beyond glad she has been inspired by it. She likes to speak of various issues with her peers and her audience, that comprises mainly teenagers like her through her Youtube channel." He further adds, "I also feel it is always better when teenagers are made aware of serious issues by their peers rather than by elders," he says.

She started collaborating with Padma

Shri nominee.

With an aim to support strays, she started an online fundraising campaign with Milaap titled 'Strays Need Attention Too'. She also started collaborating with Animal Rights Activist Zabi Khan (a Padma Shri nominee, UN awardee and the founder of 'A Place To Bark') for online fundraising. With the money mobilised, Mishkkaa will support 'A Place To Bark' to buy food and distribute around the city.

Mishkkaa remained vocal about the social issues since 2016

In 2016 she started a YouTube channel with the title Mishkkaa - The Billi of Hollywood. She posts videos about various social issues like bullying, good touch / bad touch, road safety and superstitions, Honesty, LGBTQIA+ community etc and also hosts talk shows.



Zabi Khan



Mishkkaa

Mishkkaa's father Viivek Verma is the founder of Upsurge Global and Senior Advisor at Telangana State Innovation Cell. Her mother Ekta Viivek Verma is the founder of Invisible Scars, a support group to help individuals facing domestic abuse.

"Apart from attending her online classes, Mishkkaa is putting her heart and soul to promote the fundraising campaign. She has also supported a fundraiser before for Kerala Flood victims. Even at this tender age, she is doing a commendable job, creating awareness about important social issues and effectively using a powerful, new route to gather support from around the world. Children like Mishkkaa are a beacon of hope for the future of the country and the world," feels her proud mother.

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SINCE 1981  
మీ కలలకు సాకారం

సరైన సమయంలో చక్కని నిర్ణయం మంచి ఫలితాలను అందించింది  
నా ఎంపిక కపిల్ చిట్స్ ఇప్పటికీ వెన్నంటి ఉంది.



# Chinese oximeters sold sans bills

M M FAROOQUI

**Hyderabad:** Even as the call to ban Chinese products is on, oximeters made in China are sold in the city that too without a bill. As the cases of Coronavirus in the city are increasing day-by-day, so has the demand for Oximeter. The patients with mild symptoms and those in home isolation are directed to check their oxygen level every 2-3 hours.

The oximeter is available in medical shops and pharmacies with starting price Rs 2,000 to Rs 2,800 depending on the brand. "The demand of the oximeter is high at the moment," said a pharmacist.

Meanwhile, in Koti, the prices are starting from Rs 1,000 to Rs 2,800 with 20-30 per cent on MRP. "Made in China Oximeter are also available for Rs 1,000 with no warranty, no guarantee, no exchange and is also selling the product without bill. While, the oximeter in brands are available starting from Rs 1,200 to Rs 2,500 depend on the brand with one-year warranty," said a chemist.

"Same brand and same product is being sold at different



price. There is more than Rs 500 of difference," he added.

Pulse oximeters are medical devices that monitor the level of oxygen in patient and alert them, when drops the level they need to be treated. "The patients who are symptomatic and are in home isolation must check their oxygen level and when it drops they must consult the doctor," said a duty doctor at UPHC, Madannapet.

The government had allowed home isolation for Covid-19 pa-



tients, and are provided with 'home isolation kits'. These kits contain all basic items like masks for the entire family, two pair of gloves, sanitisers, liquid hand wash, sodium

hypochlorite solution, three different kinds of vitamin tablets (B Complex, Vitamin C and Zinc), but the kits doesn't contain oximeter. "If the government is providing all necessary items they must have also include the oximeter. As the use of oximeter is advice by the doctors for home isolation patients," said Shaik Moiz, a customer purchasing oximeter at Medical market in Koti.

Sanjeev, a customer said, "The same brand oximeter is available in every store but with price variation. The government should at least fix the price for the instrument and district Drug Control Association (DCA) should control the price variation," he added.

## MAHA GOVT ADOPTS SCSC PLASMA PORTAL

HANS NEWS SERVICE

**Cyberabad:** The plasma donation portal [donateplasma.scsc.in](https://donateplasma.scsc.in), developed by Society for Cyberabad Security Council (SCSC) last week for Hyderabad, was replicated and launched in Pune ([puneplasma.in](https://puneplasma.in)) on Thursday by Chief Minister of Maharashtra Uddhav Thackeray in presence of Deputy CM Ajit Pawar, Pune City Police Commissioner Venkatesham, Pune Div Commissioner Deepak Mhaisekar, and several IAS, IPS and Senior officers during the Pune Council meeting.

This online platform in Hyderabad has facilitated more than 100 donations during the last six days and is acting as a bridge between recipients and donors actively supported by the Cyberabad Police Covid Control Room.

Prior to the launch, SCSC explained to the Police Commis-



sioner to consider its replication in Pune city. VC Sajjanar, Commissioner of Police, Cyberabad and Chairman of SCSC, said that the [donateplasma.scsc.in](https://donateplasma.scsc.in) portal is helping connect donors and re-

cipients on one platform and till date more than 100 donors and 400 have registered on the link. Around 100 patients were transfused with plasma donated by donors registered through the app and Covid Control Room of Cyberabad.

Krishna Vedula, general secretary of SCSC, during the launch event at Pune, suggested that not only Pune city but the entire Maharashtra can make use of the portal services.



### LEAVING IT IN GOD'S HANDS

On the occasion of Varalakshmi pooja, huge crowds were seen at a flower market in the city, not observing social distance or wearing masks on Friday.

-Photo: Adula Krishna

## GHMC demolishes 140 slabs of 30 buildings

Steps up the special drive against unauthorised constructions

People should be aware buildings having occupancy certificates may have property tax and water bills penalties. One can visit GHMC website or nearby GHMC office to know about permissions related to construction of buildings and occupancy certificate details

HANS NEWS SERVICE

**Hyderabad:** On the fourth day of special drive on demolitions of unauthorised structures, Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) has pulled down a total of 140 slabs of 30 buildings using gas cutters and compressors in Serilingampally zone. In June, the drive was conducted in AyyappaSociety where 29 structures have been razed using heavy machinery.

The team is demolishing floors that have been built beyond per-



mitted levels, structures that have been built beyond permitted area and the structures that have come up in government lands.

The officials have appealed to the citizens not to indulge in unauthorised buildings or plots which may cause irreparable loss. They asked the people to purchase only those plots that have occupancy certificate issued by GHMC. "People should be aware that the buildings having occupancy certificates may have property tax and



water bills penalties. One can visit GHMC website or the nearby GHMC circle office to know about permissions related to construction of buildings and occupancy certificate details," they added.

M M FAROOQUI

**Hyderabad:** This year Bakr-Eid (Eid-al-Adha), butchers have increased their price for slaughtering sacrificial animals given the Coronavirus outbreak. They are demanding Rs 1,000 to Rs 1,500 to slaughter each goat or sheep. The price varies, depending upon height and weight of animal.

Every year during the three days of Bakr-Eid, several butchers would arrive in the city from nearby rural areas and neighbouring districts to earn money by slaughtering Qurbani animals. But this year due to pandemic there is a lack of butchers in city. It has also gone viral on social media that these butchers have been asked by their village panchayats not to visit city as it has a large number of Covid-19 cases. If they defied the panchayat dikats and still went to the city, they would not be allowed to return to the villages.

This has become a concern for the community which may face difficulties in slaughtering animals this Eid which will be observed on Saturday. However, no one seems to be running around to buy animals in the markets due to Corona outbreak, and whoever purchased



animals are thinking about how to catch hold of butchers for sacrificing the animals. "Anyhow there are not many animals in market and if available the prices are touching sky. Even if one purchased animals, butchers are also charging more than Rs 1,000," said one Imtiyaz Ahmed. "Earlier, the butchers used to charge around Rs 600 and if animal is heavy and they would demand around Rs 1,000 for each animal. But now they are quoting a minimum of Rs 1,000," he added.

According to some of the local butchers, they have decided to take all safety measures while they go for slaughtering animals on Eid. They said that they will carry a sanitiser, disinfecting spray, gloves and face mask.

Most of the Quresh community had also underwent tests for Covid-19 and those who tested negative only would slaughter the animal. "This year butchers in the city have fixed their price for slaughtering of animal. Each animal will

be slaughter for minimum Rs 1,000, depending upon animal size," said Naushad Qureshi, a butcher at Old City.

This year the traders are outsourcing the work in groups who not only buy sheep, goats, cattle for people but also slaughter the animals and deliver the meat at their doorsteps. "These traders are charging Rs 1,000 to Rs 1,500 for slaughtering, cleaning and cutting the meat with home delivery," said Pasha, a trader at Mallepally.

## Sanitation in pathetic condition in Old City

MM FAROOQUI

**Hyderabad:** Even though Covid-19 positive cases are rising in containment zones in Old City, sanitation in residential areas at Talabchanchalam division is in a pathetic state. The sanitation workers are not paying much attention to sweeping the roads, cleaning the drainage and disposing of waste material in the garbage bins.

During this Covid-19 pandemic, negligence of sanitation is posing a threat to public health. The garbage is not being cleared regularly, no bleaching powder is spilled on the roads and domestic waste is also not being collected door-to-door. Despite the instructions from GHMC Zonal and Deputy Commissioners, the sanitary workers were neglecting and turned deaf to the instructions of the officers.

GHMC Deputy Commissioner K A Mangatayaru along with Ta-

labchanchalam division Corporator Nasreen Sultana held a sudden inspection in Talabkatta, Aman Nagar, Bhavaninagar, railway track, Nasheman Nagar, near Shahjahan function hall, Safeel surroundings and other areas in Talabchanchalam division and interacted with the residents.

According to residents, garbage has been not lifted in the past 3-4 days, even after rainfall, no sweeping on roads, no garbage is collected from houses etc which is also causing mosquito menace. None of GHMC labour is on ground, no works were done by them in these areas.

Corporator Nasreen Sultana said "In a recent visit by MLA Syed Ahmed Pasha Quadri, he observed that no sanitation works were being carried out as he had instructed. Deputy Commissioner held a sudden inspection and instructed the local GHMC workers and labour to do



proper sanitation in the area," she added.

Deputy commissioner Mangatayaru said that, even after the superior officers asked them to conduct sanitation drive in every

area during pandemic outbreak, the workers were neglecting their works. She said "She is disappointed by the local GHMC sanitation wing workers, as the workers are irresponsible for

their works and there is no sanitation in division. A strict action will be taken against the workers and labourers for not performing their duties," added Deputy Commissioner.

## REVOLT ROLLED OUT



Revolutionising the Indian mobility sector with not only class-leading products but also the way one purchases them, Revolt Intellicorp has begun deliveries of the first batch of its Revolt Motorcycles in Hyderabad. The bikes will be handed over to customers as per the booking sequence from the Revolt Hubs in Jubilee Hills.



## BRIEFS

### Unattended garbage causes stench

**Bolarum:** Commuters and locals are having a bad time to travel via Macha Bolarum Market because of the unattended garbage by GHMC. The stench is unbearable. "Garbage lies in front of the road, GHMC workers are not even bothered to clean the mess. We have informed the concerned authorities about the unattended garbage, but no action was taken by them yet", said Venkat, a commuter.



### Drainage pipeline leaks



**Jeedimetla:** Residents of Ram Reddy Nagar, Jeedimetla are facing tremendous problem due to drainage pipeline leakage. The drainage gets blocked frequently resulting sewage overflow on roads. Residents allege that the sewage is getting mixed with drinking water. "As the entire area is flooded with sewage water, locals are facing problems to travel on the roads. Whenever we complain to the authorities concerned about this issue, they say that action would be taken which only remained in words and not in deeds," says Ram, a resident.

# WEAVING LIVELIHOOD SECURITY FOR ARTISANS

- The organization is helping around 2000 women weavers during the pandemic
- So far helped 750 weavers financially and also with ration kits

MEGHNA NATH

**Hyderabad:** For the past four months due to Covid-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdown, the time has become a standstill to the weavers and their looms, especially the women weavers in Hyderabad and the outskirts of the city. Creative Bee, a Hyderabad-based design studio has extended its support to the 2000 women weavers and their families in this current pandemic situation. For the past 25 years, since 1995 they are associated with more than 10,000 weavers. Bina Rao, designer, consultant, and founder of Creative Bee, a Hyderabad-based design studio, Banjara Hills said, "For the past 2 years we have been associated with 2000 underprivileged women weavers from Hyderabad and its outskirts that include Pochampally, Ghattupal, Warangal, Koyyalagudem, Narayanapuram and Venkateswara Palli. We have given the women training and also helped them to do retail their product directly to earn better but due to the current pandemic, these families are struggling to survive, as their livelihood runs only through the handloom. To support them in this pandemic the Creative Bee

has come up with three initiatives."

The first way is that I have collaborated with the various NGOs across the country and requested them to help the weavers financially. So far we have deposited Rs 1000 per head in 750 weavers bank account and the second way is with the help of donate kart (that is an online donation platform) we are donating rations kits worth Rs 500 for one month and around 300 donors across the country has helped weaver till now with cash and ration kits. For the past four months, we are helping the weavers. The third way is we are



telling the weavers What-ever stock is leftover the weaver can click and share pictures on Creative dignity platform (an online platform) where various designers and NGO are connected and through this platform, the weaver can sell their products.

Apart from this, as markets are very down and there are no sales happening, so through various webinar session I have been requesting to the various like-minded people to buy the leftover stock of the weavers.

As for the farmers, the state government and the central government is helping with the vari-



ous scheme but for weavers, there are no such benefits. It would be better if on the handloom day that is on August 7 if the Telangana government announce some relief fund for the weavers that would give great relief to them, added Bina Rao. "For the past four months we do not have income, Creative

Bee is helping us with grocery kits and Rs 1000 was deposited in our Bank account. As earlier, we would earn Rs 8000 to Rs 10,000 per month and but due to lockdown we are unable to earn. But this organization is helping us in some or other way," said Premalata, a weaver from Koyyalagudem.



Devotees observing social distance and wearing face masks participating in Varalakshmi Vratam on Friday. On the day, married women invoke the blessings of Goddess for health and prosperity of entire family.

-Photos: Ch. Prabhu Das



Women squeeze through a narrow space in the wall at Osmania University campus as the main gateway has been closed for a long time and it is usually a long detour.

-Photos: N Shiva Kumar Meru



## THIS HYDERABADI FINALLY PASSES CLASS 10 AFTER 33 YRS

Md Nooruddin, 51, is elated at clearing Class 10 as the Telangana government has promoted all the students without conducting the exams due to the pandemic. It was in 1987 that Nooruddin, a student of the Anjuman Boys High School in Musheerabad area, had first appeared in Secondary School Certificate (SSC) exam. While he cleared all the papers, English proved to be a hurdle



**Hyderabad:** While the coronavirus pandemic has caused immense suffering and pain across the world, it has come as a "blessing" for a Hyderabad resident who finally passed his Class 10 examination after failing in repeated attempts during the last 33 years.

Mohammed Nooruddin, 51, is elated at clearing Class 10 as the Telangana government has promoted all the students without conducting the exams due to the pandemic. It was in 1987 that

Nooruddin, a student of the Anjuman Boys High School in Musheerabad area, had first appeared in Secondary School Certificate (SSC) exam. While he cleared all the papers, English proved to be a hurdle. "Since I studied in the Urdu medium, English was the biggest weakness. I wrote the exam every year but could not secure 35 marks (out of 100) required to pass the paper. I was narrowly missing this as I was scoring 32 or 33 marks but I decided not to give up," Nooruddin

said.

This year, the going was tougher for him as he had missed the last date to pay the fee to appear in the exams as a regular candidate and had to apply in the open category. This time, he had to write all six papers again. "I was working hard. My daughter who has done B.Com with English as a medium of instruction, was helping me," said Nooruddin, a father of four including a mentally challenged son. However, the exams could not be conducted due to the

Covid-19 situation and the government decided to treat all the candidates as passed. He is happy that he has finally passed the SSC but feels that this should have happened long ago. He recalled that those days, clearing the SSC was a must to secure any job in railways, police or other departments. "I was desperate to clear the exam but somehow it did not happen," said Nooruddin, who has been working as a security guard since 1990 at the same school where he studied and currently draws a monthly salary of Rs 8,000. He admitted after marriage in 1994, he was reluctant to write the exam. "Some people used to pass comments but I always ignored them and every year, I tried to give my best."

Nooruddin said he wrote and passed the 'Fazil' exam equivalent to Intermediate (10+2) conducted by Idara-e-Adabiyat-e-Urdu or the Institute of Urdu Literature in 1994. He also completed a couple of courses at Jamia Nizamia, a leading Islamic seminary. He also runs an Arabic madarsa in Attapur area, providing education to children from poor families.

**THE HANS CLASSIFIEDS**

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I, ARADHANA PRAJAPATI W/o. OMKAR SING PRAJAPATI. R/o. Flat No-401, Spring dale Apts Akberbagh, Malakpet Colony, Hyd, T.S. 500036, Have changed my religion from Hinduism to Islam and have changed my name as ASMA. Effect on 29-07-2020. (TH\_23850)

I, LACHARAM R/O.HNO 132/1-1, VENKATRAM NAGAR, SURARAM, QUTHBULLAPUR, MEDCHAL MALKAJGIRI-500055 TS, CHANGE MY NAME AS LAXMAN CHOUDHARY S/O.GHEESARAM CHOUDHARY. (TH\_23850)

I, Syed Hussain S/o.Ahmed Hussain R/o. H No.18-8-223/81, Riyasath Nagar Hyderabad Telangana 500059 Changed my Father name From Ahmed Hussain to **Syed Ahmed**. (TH\_23850)

I, RAJESH VINAY KUMAR R/O.F.NO.201, KAMALA RESIDENCY AIRLINES COLONY, TRIMULGHERRY, SECUNDERABAD. 500015 HAS CHANGED MY NAME AS **VINAY MAKANA**. S/O.RAJESH KUMAR MAKANA. (TH\_23850)

I, NARSING RAO ASHA METTU R/o. H.NO.11-3-176/1, FLAT.No.303, MANIKANTA PRIDE, MAHMOODGUDA, SEC'AD-500061.TS. Changed my name as **ASHA MUDDAGOUNI** W/O SHAM KUMAR MUDDAGOUNI. (TH\_23850)

I, Mohammed Rizwan Ahmed S/o Mohammed Salim. R/o.19-2-21/5/7/ C/1, Kalapathar, Macca City, Hyd. 053. T.S. Lost My Passport bearing No.P4472145. Lost on dt:15/03/2020, While travelling from my home to Gachi Bowli, Hyd.T.S. If anybody found Call: **9848436786**. (TH\_23850)

**LOST**

I, Mohammed Zaheer uddin S/o Mohammed Mohi uddin R/o 9-8-276/c, golconda Fort, hyd, T S lost my passport bearing no. 24984278 while traveling my house Golconda Fort to near passport office Shaikpet if any found :**8978578048**. (TH\_23850)

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, AAGAM SHAH S/o Nilesh H.No.5-9-1108, R/o Flat No.506, Sri Raghavendra Pearl Palace, King kotti, Gunfoundry Hyd - 500001 T.S. has Changed my Name to AAGAM M SHETH S/o MUKESH M SHETH. (TH\_23850)

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## Progress begins only when slavery ends

Commonwealth countries have made little progress towards their commitment to eradicate modern slavery by 2030, despite an estimated 1 in every 150 people in the Commonwealth living in conditions of modern slavery, a global survey by the anti-slavery organisation Walk Free and the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (CHRI) have said. They released a report on "Eradicating Modern Slavery: An assessment of Commonwealth government progress" on Thursday. The report highlights the need for renewed urgency from Commonwealth member States, to deliver on their promises made in 2018, to eradicate modern slavery and achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Target 8.7 by 2030. The report finds only one third of Commonwealth member states criminalise forced marriage, and 23 fail to criminalise commercial child sexual exploitation. Out of 54 countries, only four engage with business to investigate supply chains, and all countries report gaps in victim

assistance programmes. Walk Free and CHRI are calling for modern slavery to be set firmly on the agenda for the next Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM). The report recommends Commonwealth governments launch a major initiative, which builds on existing anti-slavery frameworks, to combat modern slavery and exploitation. Walk Free co-founder Grace Forrest said member States need to act now to protect vulnerable people in the Commonwealth. "People living in modern slavery don't need more unfulfilled promises or unimplemented plans. Instead we are urging Commonwealth states to act," Ms Forrest said. "One in every 150 people in the Commonwealth is living in modern slavery. This represents approximately 15.7 million men, women, and children who are subject to forced labour, forced marriage, or victims of human trafficking. While our prevalence estimates in 2018 were staggering, the Covid-19 pandemic has further increased vulnerability to modern slavery around the world. This report comes at a critical juncture – a time when the world is awakening to ongoing injustices, questioning historical inequalities, and confronting unprecedented crises. The CHRI said an estimated 40 per cent of the 40.3 million people

in modern slavery live in the Commonwealth. This joint research and report highlights a basic point – time is running out to deliver on the promises made by member States in 2018, at the last Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in London as the organisations say. Due to Covid-19, the next CHOGM has been delayed at least by 12 months. Walk Free and CHRI said they intend to use the new report to work with Commonwealth governments, ahead of the next meeting. Meanwhile, the Member States and the Commonwealth Secretariat must come together and use CHOGM in 2021 as an opportunity to tackle modern slavery, formalise global and regional coordination, strengthen legislation, and develop monitoring frameworks to assess implementation. Under SDG Target, 8.7 governments have committed to: "Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms." Unless the world seeks to end slavery "in all its forms", it would be difficult for the goals to be achieved.



## NEP: A visionary document towards making Atmanirbhar Bharat

PROF Y L SRINIVAS

On February 2, 1835, while discussing the English Education Act, Lord William Bentinck, the then Governor-General of the British East India Company gave his concurrence to the inter-vention of Lord Thomas Babington Macaulay. As a part of the intervention, Lord Macaulay had stated, "All parties seem to be agreed on one point, that the dialects commonly spoken among the natives of this part of India contain neither literary nor scientific information, and are moreover so poor and rude that, until they are enriched from some other quarter, it will not be easy to translate any valuable work into them". This intervention, popularly known as Macaulay's "Minute Upon Indian Education", is widely believed to be the precursor to the creation of the Indian Civil Services and the introduction of English education in India. Today, this intervention is also looked upon as racist and imperialist that aimed at justifying British colonial rule.

The Government's National Education Policy, 2020 (NEP-2020) seems to have finally buried the ghosts of Macaulay. The NEP is a step in the right direction of seeking a fine balance between the needs of a highly integrated global world and the need to respect the diversity and local context in all curriculum, pedagogy and policy. In this context, the policy aims to ensure that the medium of instruction till Grade 5, and preferably till Grade 8 and beyond, will be in the home language, mother tongue or local tongue. The dissonance emanating from the imposition of other mediums of language that are alien to the child has finally ended. This policy is not based out of some parochial ideas of insulating children but is driven from established research which now suggests that older children have more tools and a better propensity to pick up non-native languages such as English.

It would however be unfair to discuss just the language policy when

there is a lot more to the NEP than just this one aspect. The government now understands the critical nature of early childhood education. Learning outcomes in later years are dependent on the environment and care that a child is given between the age of three and six. Hence the establishment of seamless linkages between Anganwadis that are promoted by the Ministry of Women and Child Development and the schools of the Ministry of Human Resources and Development (to be renamed as Ministry of Education) is a very big step towards holistic child development. This transition from a 10+2 system of education to a 5 (Foundation) +3 (Preparatory) +3 (Middle) + 4(Secondary) stage would play a huge role in achieving this goal. Further, the reduction in curriculum to contain core essentials, and the promotion of critical thinking and experiential learning is a huge positive of NEP-2020. The emphasis on digital literacy seems to have come from an empathy towards the poor who have been on the wrong side of the digital divide – a phenomenon that has excluded a large number of the poor from accessing critical services and information. NEP-2020 also recognises the contribution of teachers to learning outcomes and has hence taken a pragmatic approach to teacher training. This will be done by on-boarding teachers and specialists from other disciplines through a framework of 1-year and 2-year B Ed courses while the 4-year integrated B Ed will continue for those without an existing bachelor's degree. Additionally, the National Mission for Mentoring through a large pool of outstanding senior and retired faculty will contribute to bridging both the capacity and the skills gap.

The NEP's transformative agenda does not stop at school education and percolates to higher education. The goal of increasing Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) from the current 26.3% to 50% by 2035 is aspirational yet achievable. The idea of having an overarching Higher Education Commission of India (HECI) that oversees the bodies for accreditation (NAC), regulation (NHERC), grants (HEGC) and standards (GEC) will ensure cohesion in policy and implementation. The imprint of the Prime Minister's vision and thoughts also come clear in the NEP. The roadmap for achieving the objectives of the NEP and for it to be fully operational will take place in 2040. This makes the NEP practicable and pragmatic and gives it a realistic chance of being implemented well. Intermediate timelines for various interventions will allow minimal disruption and provide the system the requisite resilience. While the curriculum frameworks for students and teachers are the initial goal, attaining universal foundational literacy and numeracy in all primary schools for all learners by grade 3 is set as a target for 2025-2026.

India has largely been a knowledge consumer rather than a knowledge producer. The jobs that we have created have largely been on account of the democratisation of knowledge, the fungibility that the internet provides and our ability to excel at applying and scaling knowledge systems. The best example of this are the software and the pharmaceutical sectors where India has capitalised on the knowledge produced by other innovators. The decision to create the National Research Foundation as an apex body for fostering a strong research culture is an important step in making India a net knowledge producer.

The NEP paves way for Atmanirbhar Bharat with its accentuated focus on robust school education system, flexible higher education system and thrust on quality and research. The NEP is Prime Minister Narendra Modi's mantra for transforming 21st century India from being a knowledge consumer to a knowledge producer.

*(The writer teaches in Osmania University and is Executive Council Member of National Assessment and Accreditation Council. Views expressed are personal)*

# BJP's U-turn on AP capital baffles many



The developments in Andhra Pradesh wherein Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan gave his consent for the Bills on decentralisation of capitals have given a new twist to the politics in Andhra Pradesh.

The government can take any decision it deems to be right in the interest of people. The decision to have three capitals may, in the long run, prove to be advantageous for the State. That only future will tell and here we do not intend to question the decision of the government to go in for decentralisation of administration.

The issue relates to the life of farmers and all those who had invested in starting construction of the capital city. About Rs 10,000 crore has so far been invested on it. With this decision, the worst affected is the farmer. It was not a political party which had taken the land. It was the government of Andhra Pradesh as an ally of the NDA government led by the BJP at Centre which had asked farmers to give the land. The Opposition and other parties also supported it. The farmers gave the land to the government with the hope that the future of their children and grandchildren would be bright. It was the government which had taken possession of the land and started construction activities.

The farmers were promised developmental fruits in turn apart from monetary compensation by the duly elected government then. Developmental works had begun on a large scale with the State government's approval and the cascading effect had lent a boom to the real estate in the entire region with huge investments kept pouring in. Flats were sold like hot cakes for around Rs 1 crore and above as well within minutes of opening online bookings.

Amaravati was a very hot property then. The government had raised Rs 2,000 crore worth of bonds within one hour's time. Now the farmers cannot get back the fertile land in its original form. Those who invested in bonds are doomed. The construction activity had come to a grind-



**The latest developments raise an important question. Does the word or assurance of the Prime Minister or political leaders have any sanctity? Andhra Pradesh was bifurcated by closing the doors of Parliament and by switching off live telecast of the Parliamentary proceedings by the UPA government. But people accepted it because it was in tune with the sentiments of the people of Telangana. The then Prime Minister Manmohan Singh assured the Parliament that in return Andhra Pradesh would get Special Category Status. This he had done under pressure from the BJP which refused to pass the Bill in Rajya Sabha unless the government agreed for this condition. In the elections that followed, the BJP said it would give special status for 10 years**

ing halt. Many people who invested by booking flats and proposed villas by taking bank loans and are still repaying are now in for a rude shock. Even if they want to sell off their property, no one would be coming forward.

But then how and why did the farmers agree to invest by giving land to the government. Why did several NRIs and local people invest in realty sector? It was because, the foundation stone for the capital of residuary State was laid by none other than the Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Incidentally, this was also the first foundation stone laid by the newly elected Prime Minister in the presence of several leaders including the Chief Minister of Telangana K Chandrashekar Rao.

The Prime Minister had assured that the Modi Babu Jodi would construct a capital better than Delhi and that the Centre would fully cooperate with the

State government (Not the TDP). He brought holy water and mud and gifted on that day. The Centre also gave about Rs 1,500 crore to the State for the construction of the capital.

Now after the Governor's assent to the three-capital Bills, the BJP leader G V L Narasimha Rao says the Centre has no role regarding the capital issue. He said the Centre gave funds to the State and the State was accounted for it. "We, as a party, felt that the capital should be in Amravati but in this matter, the Centre has nothing to do with the State government's decision to have three capitals."

Well, whether the Centre has any role or not and whether the State government's decision is well within the framework of the Constitution or not is something which the courts will take care of and the people will decide in future. But the decision of the Gov-

ernor to give assent to the three-capital Bills has come as a major shock to the investors and the farmers in Amaravati.

The latest developments raise an important question. Does the word or assurance of the Prime Minister or political leaders have any sanctity? Andhra Pradesh was bifurcated by closing the doors of Parliament and by switching off live telecast of the Parliamentary proceedings by the UPA government. But people accepted it because it was in tune with the sentiments of the people of Telangana. The then Prime Minister Manmohan Singh assured the Parliament that in return Andhra Pradesh would get Special Category Status. This he had done under pressure from the BJP which refused to pass the Bill in Rajya Sabha unless the government agreed for this condition. In the elections that followed, the BJP said it would give

special status for 10 years.

But then what happened is history. It gave several explanations for not giving special category status. With that, one promise of the Prime Minister was dumped. Now as things are unfolding, it becomes clear that all that was perhaps part of the political strategy of the saffron party. The target is to ensure that along with 'one nation one election', it should be 'one nation no Opposition'. The Opposition parties too allowed themselves to become victims of this politricks.

In case of Amravati, about 200 days ago when the present government stated that it would have three capitals as part of decentralisation of administration, the farmers were agitating even following the corona protocols. The State BJP too was vociferous. They also joined all those who opposed shifting of capital. The Jana Sena leader Pawan Kalyan who thundered at various political meetings that the Centre had given rotten laddos, opposed shifting of the capital. Pawan went around Amaravati, met farmers and said that development had begun and hence capital should not be shifted.

In an interview a couple of days ago, Pawan, who is in Chaturmasya Deeksha, reiterated that capital cannot be shifted. The Jana Sena, an ally of the BJP, should explain what happened and why the BJP at the Centre took a U-turn. It would be interesting to observe what stand Pawan would take now.

One thing is very clear, there is nothing like value-based politics. It has become only a slogan. The welfare schemes too are tailored to ensure vote banks and not real welfare of the people.

## NEP will restore past glory of Indian education system

Educationists of the country are excited and glad to know that the Union Cabinet has approved National Education Policy (NEP), formulated by the Committee headed by Dr K Kasturirangan.

Higher education is a critical contributor to sustainable livelihood and economic development of the nation. Higher education also plays a large and equally important role in improving human wellbeing and developing India. It aims to serve as a hub for developing ideas and innovations that enlighten individuals and help propel the country forward socially, culturally, scientifically, technologically and economically. In view of the requirements of the 21st century, NEP envisages that the aim of quality university education must be to develop good, well rounded and creative individuals, with intellectual curiosity, spirit of service coupled with strong ethics. Higher education must form the basis for knowledge creation in the nation and thereby immensely contributing to the growing economy of the nation. Institutions of higher learning must build expertise that society will need over the next three decades and beyond. Simply tailoring people into jobs that exist today, but that are likely to change and disappear after some years, are sub optimal and even counterproductive. One of the main objectives of NEP is to create vibrant multi-disciplinary institutions of high quality that increase capacity of

## LETTERS

higher education in India and ensure equitable access. A significant objective of NEP is move towards a more imaginative and broad-based liberal education as a foundation for holistic development of all students with rigorous specialisation in chosen disciplines and fields. Liberal arts education has so beautifully described in India's past, enables the students to truly develop both sides of the brain – the creative side and the analytical side. The ancient universities of Takshashila and Nalanda which had thousands of students from India and the world studying in a very vibrant, multi-disciplinary environments, and modern universities today amply demonstrate the great success that such large multi-disciplinary research universities can bring. The NEP will definitely bring back the past glory of the Indian educational system, which received world's attention.

Prof D Narayana Rao,  
Pro Vice Chancellor, SRM University, AP

### Domestic violence, a bigger issue

This refers to the report 'Rachakonda police launches anti-human trafficking unit' (July 31). Actually, more than contemporary forms of slavery such as human trafficking, sex-trafficking, bonded labour, and descent-

based slavery, domestic servitude is another evil that has unique characteristics. At first, the place of occurrence of domestic servitude is a private household where the victim lives with her family members and the perpetrators of slavery are victim's relatives. Second, in other forms of modern slavery, the victim is conscious that his/her right is violated and he/she is a victim of slavery, but, in case of domestic servitude, the victims are mostly either daughters or wives who accept this responsibility as an obligation towards the family, without knowing that she is becoming a victim of domestic servitude and refusal to discharge the responsibility would result in violence against her. Domestic servitude and domestic violence, though spread across the globe, are the least recognised human rights violation. When it comes to a solution, the major challenge is to identify the victims because they are largely invisible. Their hue and cry echoing on the four walls of the household remains unheard of. As their social interaction is restricted, they have no means to seek help. Also, domestic servitude occurs in a most private place, i.e. household, and hence the law enforcement agencies are restricted to a great extent by the right to privacy. At last, the perpetrators are mostly her near and dear ones who prevent her from going against the family.

Parveen Sultana, Doodh Bowli, Hyderabad

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# Why do you want to postpone apex body meet: BJP questions KCR

- The meet is scheduled on August 5 to discuss the contentious issues of irrigation projects between the two Telugu states
- Saffron party fears that the negligence of TRS government might hurt the interests of the State, smells a secret pact with Andhra CM

HANS NEWS SERVICE

**Hyderabad:** Telangana BJP on Friday questioned the Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao's intentions behind asking for a postponement of the Apex Council meeting scheduled by Union Jal Shakti Ministry on August 5, to discuss the contentious issues of irrigation projects between the two Telugu states.

Addressing media here on Friday, State BJP president Bandi Sanjay Kumar said that the Chief Minister should be forthcoming to attend the meeting at a time when Andhra Pradesh is all set to call for tenders to increase the



capacity of Pothireddy Padu Lift Irrigation Scheme (PPLS) on August 11. He expressed fears over the negligence of the TRS government might hurt the interests of the State.

He dismissed the CM's reported statements that the attitude of the Centre has caused the water disputes between the two Telugu states. And, said that it was the negligent attitude of the TRS chief hurting the interests of the water share of Telangana in the Krishna and Godavari rivers. He alleged that

KCR has sought for the postponement of the Apex Council meeting due to a secret pact reached with Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y S Jaganmohan Reddy.

The BJP state chief alleged that both the chief ministers are trying to stock sentiments among people for political gains keeping the water disputes alive. Contrary to the Centre trying to resolve the disputes between the two Telugu states, he added. BJP State Core Committee member and former

MLC Dr Ponguleti Sudhakar Reddy expressed shock over the CM asking to schedule the Apex Council on August 20. He said that the tender process of both the PRLIS and the Rayalaseema Lift Irrigation Scheme (RLIS) will be completed by August 19. "What made the chief minister ask for meeting a day after the completion of the tender process of the PRLIS and RLIS," he asked.

BJP leaders and former Minister D K Aruna and ex-MP Vivek Venkataswamy have criticised the TRS chief's statement accusing the Centre is responsible for the water disputes between the two states. The BJP leaders asked what is preventing the chief minister from attending the meeting and to protest the interest of the Telangana. Vivek Venkataswamy accused that the TRS government is comprising the interests of Telangana with the TRS chief entering into secret deals with the YSRCP chief.



## Sudanese held at RGIA with 114 kg of sandalwood

HANS NEWS SERVICE

**Ranga Reddy:** Five Sudanese men who made an attempt to smuggle 114 kg of sandalwood from Hyderabad's Shamshabad airport to Khartoum was detained by customs officials at Rajiv Gandhi International Airport (RGIA) on Friday.

According to officials, the Sudanese men identified as Azhari S Abdeljbar Yousuf, Alamim Alhassan, Abdelsamad Elsiddig Elamin, Mohd Abdul Wahid and Abdeen Omer Alhaj,

who were to take a special relief flight No: BDR-227 to Khartoum via Muscat brought several boxes in which they packed 114 kg of sandalwood sticks. During baggage scan, the customs officials noticed suspicious sticks inside the boxes. They were immediately isolated and in the subsequent physical checking of their baggage, the officials were shocked to find a whole lot of sandalwood sticks in the boxes. The custom department are investigating further.

## Infant treated of cleft-palate at SRM Hospital

HANS NEWS SERVICE

**Chennai:** It was a proud moment for the Cleft Rehabilitation section of the Department of Prosthodontics and Implantology, SRM Kattankulathur Dental College and Hospital (SRM KDCH) as they successfully treat a one-month-old baby Divya (name changed), who was affected by a severe case of cleft-palate.

This procedure was done by a team of doctors lead by their HoD, Dr. Vidyashree from the Department of Prosthodontics and Implantology, SRM Kattankulathur Dental College and Hospital is one of the few colleges



in India recognised and equipped to treat infantile cleft-lip, and palate. The doctors here are experienced in handling such conditions. This treatment involves making

measurements of the mouth with a semi-fluid material.

Divya's parents hailed from a remote village near Trichy and she was diagnosed as suffering from cleft-lip, and palate from the time she was born. Divya's mother had tears in

her eyes as she was extremely happy to see her baby swallow and feed properly for the first time since birth. It was important for the infant to feed well for the well-

being, growth, and weight gain so that the cleft could be corrected permanently with surgery. The family was extremely grateful to the team of doctors who took great care and completed the treatment swiftly.

## Cong demands probe into farmers' deaths

A delegation of party leaders meets DGP Mahender Reddy and submits a memorandum demanding the top cop to bring to book the culprits



HANS NEWS SERVICE

**Hyderabad:** The Congress leaders on Friday demanded DGP M Mahender Reddy to conduct a thorough probe into recent deaths of farmers in the State.

One farmer had committed suicide on Thursday in Gajwel and another in Mahbubnagar, where farmer's death was blamed on "sand mafia". They demanded the top cop to bring to book the culprits.

A delegation of Congress senior leaders Mallu Ravi, N

Preetham, chairman, SC Cell, S A Sampath Kumar, T Narsa Reddy, Dasoju Shrivani, Addanki Dayakar, A Ramesh Babu, president, Hyderabad City SC Cell, asked the DGP to take note of the attacks on Dalits and act against the culprits.

They held that despite having laws to protect Dalits, the atrocities against weaker sections were growing day by day. Hence, the Congress leaders demand a thorough investigation into the matter till the victims receive the justice, they said.

## Coal mafia gang busted, eight arrested

Total of 1,050 tons coal and 700 tons coal ash and ₹1,62,50,000 worth property were seized

HANS NEWS SERVICE

**Ranga Reddy:** The Special Operations Team, LB Nagar zone along with the Police of Ibrahimpatnam on Friday nabbed eight persons who indulged in International adulteration of coal by mixing the inferior quality coal with the high grade consignment being imported from South Africa and Australia, as well as with the coal of Singareni collieries and thereby cheated the needy customers.

Eight persons namely Gunde Raju, Katravath Soma, Challa Amarendar Reddy, Karathala Mallesh, Nizamuddin, Erukala Anjiah, Sagarala Satyam and Rizwan were arrested and other five are absconding.

A total of 1,050 tons of high grade quality coal, 700 tons of inferior quality coal, two lorries and two JCB's were seized from their possession.

Net cash of Rs 2,50,000/-, 750 tons Singareni col-



lieries Kothagudam coal, 300 tons of Krishnapatnam Shipyards coal, 700 tons of Koyagudem coal ash, 2 coal loaded lorries, 2 earth movers were seized from the accused.

According to Rachakonda police, Gunde Raju has earlier worked at the coal kilns located in the surrounding area of Gaganpahad village under Shamshabad mandal. Later, since about in 2014 he started his own coal business by establishing the coal dump yards here and there, during the year 2018,

he started the coal dumping yard names as Venkateshwar Traders Unit in the land that belongs to Ram Reddy under the limits of Ramdasapally village of Ibrahimpatnam mandal under the supervision of his childhood friend Utampalli Laxman.

respectively. The above arrests were made under the supervision of Mahesh M Bhagwat Commissioner of Police, Rachakonda Commissionerate, G Sudheer Babu, Addl Commissioner of Police, Rachakonda, Sunpreeth Singh, Deputy Commissioner of Police LB Nagar zone, Rachakonda under the direct guidance of J Surender Reddy, Addl Dy Commissioner of Police, Special Operations Team, Rachakonda, by Gurusva Reddy, Inspector of Police Ibrahimpatnam PS K Ravi Kumar, Inspector of Police, Sathyanarayana SI of Police & Sri Avinash Babu SI of Police, SOT LB Nagar, staff of Special Operations Team and local Police.

## ULBs hike trade licence fee to bridge fund gap

Continued from P1

"Municipal bodies will not sustain financially with the current fee collection structures unless the government extended financial aid. The government is in favour of promoting the ULBs as autonomous bodies in financial and administrative aspects under the new Act," officials said, adding that the increase of trade licence fee by 10 times is a suggested measure to all financially poor urban bodies from the government.

All the municipal bodies also decided to collect the fee from the

traders annually. Those failed to pay the fee in time, will have to cough up 50 per cent on the total fee.

The collection of hefty licence fee by urban bodies was drawing strong opposition from the traders community in the crisis time. Traders say that the business activity has been hit badly after the lockdown was imposed in Telangana. Instead of extending some relief to the trading community to overcome the crisis, the government has been trying to put more financial burden and the traders bore the brunt of the spiked licensed fee.

## Sabitha distributes CMRF cheques

**Ranga Reddy:** Education Minister Sabitha Indra Reddy distributed CMRF cheques worth Rs 1.65 lakh to beneficiaries on Friday.

Reddy distributed cheques to residents of Sirigiri Village in Maheshwaram constituency. The beneficiaries were Ch Nandini, Lakshammamma and Shankariah. Local leaders, public representatives and others participated in the programme.



## 'Americans back India over China overwhelmingly'

Continued from P1

The survey was conducted amid heightened tension between India and China as troops of both countries are engaged in a military standoff since May. While the US has blamed China of taking "incredibly aggressive action" along the Line of Actual Control, saying Beijing had a pattern of instigating territorial disputes. The think tank said China's broader actions in the region, especially as it thwarts democratic efforts in Hong Kong and pressures Taiwan, could similarly push Americans to have a more favourable view of India in any conflict.

"China's broader actions in the region, especially as it thwarts democratic efforts in Hong Kong and pressures Taiwan, could similarly push Americans to have a more favourable view of India in any conflict," it said.

## Crores prayed for 500 yrs for this moment

Continued from P1

The much-awaited Bhumi-Poojan of Shri Ram temple makes me sentimental to remember late Dadaguru Gorakshapethishwar Mahant Shri Digvijaynathji, and Late Gorakshapethishwar Mahant Shri Avaidyanathji. They may not be with us to share their joy on this historic event but I am sure their souls must be feeling utmost satisfaction and profuse happiness. In fact, it was Mahant Digvijaynathji Maharaj who first espoused the cause of Ram temple construction between 1934 and 1949. When Ram Lala appeared in that alleged controversial structure on the intervening night of December

22 and 23, 1949, during the British rule, Mahant Digvijaynathji Maharaj was holding "Keertan" with some saints.

After his demise on September 28, 1969, Mahant Avaidyanathji adopted the resolve of his Gurudev and launched a decisive movement for the construction of grand Ram Temple in Ayodhya. What would be termed as the biggest cultural movement post-independence, under the guidance of Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh (RSS) and leadership of Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP), the Ayodhya movement re-ignited the flame of faith among the Indian towards our rich culture, heritage and civilization.

## AP's Three Capitals Bill gets Guv nod

Continued from P1

The TDP had urged upon the President to disapprove the move as it was against the spirit of the AP Reorganization Act, 2014 and also against the moves of former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Modi had attended the foundation laying ceremony of the Capital, Amaravati, and blessed the effort of the erstwhile TDP government.

The issue has attained political overtones too for various reasons. The former government had pooled - the first-ever such attempt by any government in the world - 33,000 acres of fertile land donated by the selfless farmers of Amaravati, the capital region.

These farmers were promised developmental fruits in turn apart from monetary compensation by the duly elected government then. Developmental work had begun on a large scale with the State government's approval and the cascading effect had lent a boom to the real estate in the entire region with huge investments kept pouring in. The advent of the YSRCP government mired the Capital in controversy with Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy alleging irregularities and insider trading in the land deals and launching an investigation into the same. He went ahead to propose the concept of three Capitals - Visakhapatnam as the executive Capital, Kurnool as the Judicial Capital and Amaravati as the Legislative Capital.

Jagan's moves to scrap the CRDA Bill and introduce the Developmental Bills were countered by the TDP who deftly stalled the Bills in the Legislative Council.

Thus began the legal battle over it with each one interpreting the law to his liking keeping aside the

interests of the farmers who donated the land for the Capital. The farmers launched a protest and are continuing it for the last 200 days and more.

The TDP had written to the Governor requesting him against giving his assent to the Three Capital Bill. The floor leader in the legislative Council Yanamala Ramakrishnudu requested the Governor to seek opinion from the Solicitor General of India.

Earlier on July 23, the Andhra Pradesh High Court adjourned the hearing of a petition against the reintroduction of the Capital Bills to August. The HC bench had said that multiple petitions related to the Capital issue which had been filed by TDP leaders and farmer organisations would be heard together on August 6, asking the State government to file a counter before that.

With petitioner and TDP MLC Deepak Reddy expressing concern that the Governor might approve the Bills by then, the court had reportedly assured that such a scenario will be taken into consideration at the hearing too.

The BJP Central leadership had taken a stand that the Capital issue was for the State government to handle and that it had no say in it. Pawan Kalyan of Jana Sena, who had promised the Capital farmers to fight on their behalf, has become an ally of the BJP of late.

'Capital crisis' seems to haunt Telugus ever since they got separated from Madras. Kurnool was the first Capital of the Andhras for a brief, while till the advent of Visalandhra, after which Hyderabad became the Capital. Entire administration moved lock stock and barrel to Hyderabad only to be kicked out again with the bifurcation of the State in 2014.



## TODAY'S QUOTE

### Google working to help people, businesses

“We're working to help people, businesses and communities in these uncertain times. As people increasingly turn to online services, our platforms - from Cloud to Google Play to YouTube - are helping our partners provide important services and support their businesses


- Google CEO Sundar Pichai



## COVID IMPACT

### April-June fiscal deficit at ₹6.62 lakh cr

India's budgetary fiscal deficit for the April-June 2020-21 period stood at Rs 6.62 lakh crore, or 83.2 per cent of the budget estimates (BE). The government has targeted a fiscal deficit of Rs 7.96 lakh crore for fiscal year 2020-21.

FOREX (buy rates in ₹)				
US Dollar	79.29	South		
Euro	93.14	African Rand		5.09
UAE Dirham	22.4	Hong Kong Dollar		11.1
Thai Baht	2.76	Japanese Yen		0.82
British Pound	102.13	New Zealand Dollar		52.48
Australian Dollar	56.49	Saudi Riyal		21.94
Canadian Dollar	58.54	Swedish Krona		9.92
Swiss Franc	85.7	Singapore Dollar		57.28

HYDERABAD SATURDAY 1 AUGUST 2020

## BIZ BRIEFS

### Mkts fall on global cues

**Mumbai:** Domestic equity benchmark Sensex dropped 129 points on Friday, tracking losses in index heavyweights Reliance Industries and HDFC twins amid weak cues from global markets. The BSE Sensex ended 129.18 points or 0.34 per cent lower at 37,606.89, while the NSE Nifty fell 28.70 points or 0.26 per cent to 11,073.45. Reliance Industries was the top loser on the Sensex chart, shedding around 2 per cent, as investors began booking profits at higher levels. The company on Thursday reported a record net profit of Rs 13,248 crore for the June quarter after a one-time gain from stake sale as well as bumper telecom revenues cushioned Covid-19 hit earnings from refining, petchem and retail segments.

### Lincoln Pharma's new tablets

**Hyderabad:** Lincoln Pharmaceuticals Limited has launched chewable vitamin C + zinc tablet in Indian market. The tablet is an evidence-based bio-active for natural immunity in combination of zinc that boosts antiviral activity and protection against Covid-19. Ashish R Patel, Whole-Time Director, Lincoln Pharmaceuticals, said, "During this Covid-19 pandemic, immunity & immunity boosters are the only way to protect against the virus. Vitamin C & zinc tablet have become necessity and important part of all human being in their day to day life. With this launch, we aim to fill the gaps in serving the healthcare requirement of the masses with our wide range of 600 plus formulations." As it is in the form of chewable tablet, it is useful for geriatric and pediatric patients and travelling patients who may not have ready access to water, he added. The company said it is working closely with the governments and relevant stakeholders to ensure uninterrupted supply of medicines.

# Centre in talks with RBI for loan recast

Focus will be on restructuring of loans to help industry tide over Covid crisis: FM

**New Delhi:** Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Friday said the government is working with the RBI on need for restructuring of loans to help industry tide over the impact of Covid-19.

"The focus is on restructuring. Finance ministry is actively engaged with RBI on this. In principle, the idea that there may be a restructuring required, is well taken," Sitharaman said while addressing Ficci's National Executive Committee Meeting.

The Finance minister also said that the decision on reducing GST rates on the healthcare and other products will be taken by the GST Council.

Sitharaman said the Finance Ministry is working with RBI on the demand of the hospitality sector for extension of moratorium, or restructuring. "I fully understand the requirements of the hospitality sector on extension of the moratorium, or re-

**Banks cannot refuse credit to MSMEs covered under emergency credit facility. If refused, such instances must be reported. I will look into it**

- Nirmala Sitharaman, Finance Minister



structuring. We are working with RBI on this," she said.

To help borrowers deal with liquidity crunch during the pandemic, the Reserve Bank had announced a three-month loan moratorium in March, which was later extended by another three months till August 31. Borrowers opting for loan moratorium can defer payment of the interest and principal component of the loan during this period. Sitharaman said every step which the government took, has been done after exhaustive consultations with the stakeholders

and within the government. "We have taken these steps to ensure that the impact is felt on the ground," she said.

Addressing the concerns over the difficulties faced by the MSMEs in taking loans under the Emergency Credit Guarantee Scheme announced by the government, she said: "Banks cannot refuse credit to MSMEs covered under emergency credit facility. If refused, such instances must be reported. I will look into it".

As of July 23, 2020, the total amount sanctioned under the

100 per cent Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme by public sector banks and private banks stands at Rs 1,30,491.79 crore, of which Rs 82,065.01 crore has already been disbursed.

As part of the Aatmanirbhar Bharat Package, the government had announced Rs 3 lakh crore Collateral-free Automatic Loans for businesses, including MSMEs. On the suggestion for creation of a Development Finance Institution to handle the emerging credit requirements of the industry, she said, "The work is going on the Development Finance Institution. What shape it will take, we will know shortly". The minister also said that India is asking for reciprocal arrangements are being asked with the countries with which we have opened up our markets. "Reciprocity is a very critical point in our trade negotiations," she added.

# Tata Motors Q1 loss widens to ₹8,444 cr

**Mumbai:** Hit hard by the coronavirus pandemic, homegrown auto major Tata Motors on Friday reported a consolidated net loss of Rs 8,443.98 crore for the first quarter ended June 30, 2020. The company had posted a net loss of Rs 3,679.66 crore in the year-ago quarter.

Total income from operations during the period under review stood at Rs 31,983.06 crore as against Rs 61,466.99 crore in the corresponding period of the last fiscal. On a standalone basis, the company said its net loss for the quarter was at Rs 2,154.24 crore as against a net loss of Rs 147.45 crore in the year-ago period.

Standalone revenue from operations stood at Rs 2,634.14 crore as compared with Rs 13,250.19 crore in the April-June period of 2019-20. Its wholesales (including exports) decreased 81.5 per cent to 25,294 units during the quarter. "The Covid-19 pandemic has deeply impacted the auto industry in the first quarter of the current fiscal. Post a calibrated restart at all plants in mid-May, we gradually scaled up our capacity while prudently safeguarding the health and wellbe-

**Coronavis pandemic has taken heavy toll on homegrown auto major**



ing of our employees as well as the larger ecosystem," Tata Motors CEO and MD Guenter Butschek said.

Even as the company continues to address the challenges, it sees some disruption due to the intermittent shutdowns and supply chain bottlenecks, he added.

"We have witnessed some green shoots emerging in the passenger vehicle segment owing to some pent up demand pre Covid-19, and are hopeful for a full recovery of the CV (commercial vehicle) industry by end of the fiscal year, with a gradual pickup of demand, aligned to the economic recovery," Butschek said.

# Core industries' output contracts 15% in June

**New Delhi:** Contracting for the fourth consecutive month, the output of eight core infrastructure industries shrank by 15 per cent in June due to fall in the production of coal, crude oil, natural gas, steel, cement and electricity.

The eight core sectors had expanded by 1.2 per cent in June 2019, data released by the Commerce and Industry Ministry on Friday showed.

Barring fertiliser, all seven sectors - coal, crude oil, natural gas, refinery products, steel, cement, and electricity - had



recorded negative growth in May. The output of coal, crude oil, natural gas, refinery products, steel, cement and electricity declined by 15.5 per cent, 6 per cent, 12 per cent, 8.9 per cent, 33.8 per cent, 6.9 per cent, and 11 per cent, respectively.

# LIC's new premium biz soars to ₹1.78 lakh cr

HANS BUSINESS

**Hyderabad:** Life Insurance Corporation declared a marginal 1.31 per cent higher policy payout at Rs 2,54,222.3 crore for 2019-20 despite the insurer logging in the best-ever show on new business premium that jumped 25.2 per cent to Rs 1,77,977 crore.

State-owned LIC continues to be the dominant life insurer with a market share of 75.90 per cent in policies and 68.74 per cent in first-year premium, it said.

Pension and group superannuation business created history, crossing the Rs 1-lakh-crore mark collecting Rs 1,26,696.21 crore in new business premium income, recording a whopping 39.46 per cent growth from Rs 90,848.86 crore seen in the previous year to March 2019. The insurer collected Rs



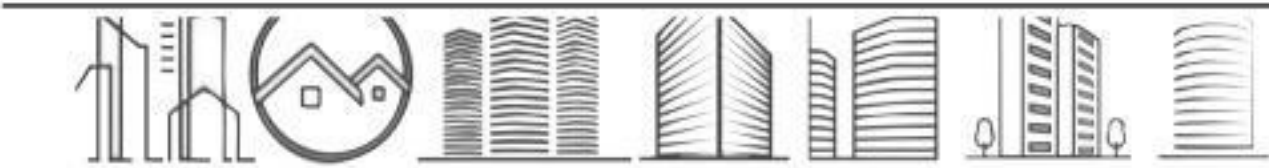
3,79,062.56 crore in total premium income, registering a 12.42 per cent growth over Rs 3,37,185.40 crore collected during the previous fiscal year.

Total policy payouts for the year ended March 2020 amounted to Rs 2,54,222.27

crore, up a marginal 1.31 per cent over Rs 2,50,936.23 crore in 2018-19, the Corporation said in a statement.

This was in spite of the firm clocking the highest-ever revenue in first-year premium that jumped at 25.17 per cent to Rs 1,77,977.07 crore for the 12 months period to March 2020. Gross total income grew to Rs 6,15,882.94 crore for the year, up 9.83 per cent from Rs 5,60,784.39 crore in the year ending March 2019. Total assets of the Corporation rose 2.71 per cent to Rs 31,96,214.81 crore, compared to Rs 31,11,847.28 crore.

Digital transactions for LIC policies initiated by customers grew 36 per cent, it said without disclosing details. On the coronavirus pandemic, LIC has already settled death claim from 561 policies amounting to Rs 26.74 crore.



## REAL CORNER



# 'Property swap' likely to help homebuyers



**Developers came up with this feature to help out home buyers who are waiting for their homes to be completed for a long time**

As the real estate sector goes through twin issues of subdued demand and stuck projects amid the pandemic, market experts say 'property swap' may be a major tool in helping both distressed home buyers and increasing sales. Developers and consultancy companies have of late come up with this feature in a bid to help out home buyers who are waiting for their home to be completed for a long time. Recently realty consulting company Investors Clinic announced the launch of the 'Property Swap' model in a bid to help buyers stuck with projects both in housing as well as commercial real estate properties.

The company has partnered with developers and it says that the strategic tie up will enable customers to reach out to developers for upgrading or exchanging their properties. Investors Clinic will help in restructuring investments either within the same developer or by shifting to another developer. Ashish Bhutani, CEO of Bhutani Group says: "Property swap is the most benefiting model

in these testing times for the real estate industry. It's devised on a win-win basis model where buyers are benefited the most and can pick and choose and switch between properties from reputed builders." He added that developers will get a chance to sell off the unsold inventories which might be ready to move in properties, but have not been sold due to the current market scenario. Customers both in residential as well as commercial properties tend to gain from this novel scheme.

Founder of Investors Clinic, Honey Katyal said: "As they say, crisis is the mother of all inventions. While, on one hand, Covid-19 has impacted the real estate sector like any other sector, it has also pushed industry leaders to think of innovative solutions." He was of the view that the model would help the real estate investors realise the potential of their existing investments which are at a 'dead end' right now. The company expects to complete 5,000 transactions and execution in the next three months.

# Housing sales in Hyd fall 86%

However, residential property prices moved up during April-June 2020: Report

HANS BUSINESS

**Hyderabad:** Despite the stress caused by the coronavirus pandemic on housing sales and new supply, property prices have continued to move upwards in Hyderabad during the April-June period of 2020, shows a recent report by PropTiger.

In Hyderabad, 2,049 new homes were launched during the quarter, a year-over-year decline of 61 per cent during the quarter. Sales declined more significantly with an 86 per cent fall compared to the prior year quarter. Housing launches and sales metrics decreased on a quarter-over-quarter basis with new launches declining 48 per cent and sales lower by 80 per cent.

According to the report titled, 'Real Insight: Q2 2020', builders sold 1,099 homes in the City of Nizams during the quarter ended June 30. Given higher prices over the last couple of years, more than 80 per cent of the new launches were priced at over Rs 1 crore with 2BHK/3BHK accounting for over 90 per cent of the new supply.

Hafeezpet, HITEC City and Patancheru were the most prominent localities that witnessed the highest number of new launches in the city.

"Unlike most other housing markets, price growth in Hyderabad has been significant in the



**City currently has the lowest level of unsold inventory across the eight prime residential markets at 32,068 units or 19 months overhang**

past few years. While this has provided good returns for buyers, Hyderabad is now the most expensive market in the south. Demand decline is largely temporary and is due to the economic uncertainty but will revive over the next few quarters. In fact, Hyderabad's commercial market has performed well over the last couple of years and residential demand tends to lag commercial supply absorption," said Mani Rangarajan, Group COO, Housing.com, Makaan.com & PropTiger.com.

While we will see new launches this year, volumes may not be comparable to prior years. Prices may continue to expand albeit not at the same pace as

over the last few years, explained.

Rangarajan further added, "On the positive side, we are seeing increasing digitization of real estate with significant growth in online demand and developers and buyers moving strongly along the adoption curve for products such as virtual tours, drone shoots, video calls, and online booking platforms. More than 90 per cent of all real estate search and discovery has moved online".

We may be seeing a significant shift in the real-estate sector where technology will play a significant role in the property renting and buying process and property registration may move online in some states. While

physical site visits will remain important, buyers will use technology to discover new homes, experience virtual site visits with some buyers booking online. Given social distancing and the use of technology, buyers will likely make fewer site visits than before, he said.

### Lowest inventory among 8 cities

Being India's pharmaceutical capital and an IT stronghold, the city currently has the lowest level of unsold inventory across the eight prime residential markets at 32,068 units or 19 months overhang. Unsold inventory declined by 20 per cent and represented just 4 per cent of the 738,336 unsold units across India's eight prime residential markets.

### Property value appreciates 7%

Unlike most other markets where price growth has remained stagnant, Hyderabad residential prices increased seven per cent over the last year with weighted average prices at Rs, 5,505 per square foot. Hyderabad is now the second most expensive property market among the eight cities included in the analysis. Mumbai Metropolitan Region retains its position as the city with most expensive real estate where average value of properties is currently estimated at Rs 9,490 per square foot.

### Housing sales fall 52% in 6 mths across India

The pandemic has hit the real estate sector hard, as a PropTiger report shows that housing sales in the first half of 2020 plunged around 52 per cent across eight major markets. Around 88,593 units were sold during January-June 2020, compared to over 1.85 lakh units sold during the corresponding period of last year. Supply was severely impacted as 48,232 units were launched during the period under review, 65 per cent lower than the 1.36 lakh units a year ago.

The cities surveyed are Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Pune, Delhi-NCR, including Noida, Greater Noida, Gurugram, Ghaziabad and Faridabad and the Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR) including Mumbai, Nav Mumbai, Thane. The second quarter of 2020 was the worst hit as only 19,038 units were sold across the tier-1 markets during the period, 73 per cent lower than 92,764 units in Q2 2019. Affordable housing, units priced up to Rs 45 lakh, continued to dominate the real estate sector accounting for a 44 per cent share of all sales. New launches also decreased significantly during this period as developers remained cautious during a period when commercial activity across sectors slowed down.



## FORTNIGHT AFTER GALWAN BLOODBATH

# Zee's Subhash let out Mumbai bungalow to Chinese consulate

**New Delhi (IANS):** Subhash Chandra, Rajya Sabha MP and Zee Group patriarch has rented out his Cuffe Parade bungalow in Mumbai to the Chinese Consulate, real estate website, Squarefeet reported.

As per the report, the agreement was signed on June 29 between Subhash Chandra by his constituted attorney Bhaupatil Arote and Huang Xiang, the Vice Consul, for the Consulate General of The People's Republic of China.

Incidentally, this is just a

fortnight after the bloody skirmish between India and China in Ladakh where Indian soldiers were martyred on June 15. Despite repeated attempts to speak to Zee spokesperson, the group chose not to respond. Zee Media, promoted by Subhash Chandra advocates a strident nationalistic tone, including an aggressive tone against China and toes a line on boycotting Chinese products.

Subhash Chandra, the founder of the Zee group is a

Non-Executive Director on the board of directors of the flagship company, Zee Entertainment. As per the Squarefeet report, the lock-in period is for nine months and to terminate the agreement each party has to give three months notice period. The bungalow let out to the Chinese Consulate General in Mumbai is located in Jolly Maker 1, one of the most sought after addresses in the city of Mumbai.

The deal was registered with the registration office in Mum-

bai on July 1, 2020, while the paper work was carried out on June 29, the report said.

Subhash Chandra on June 15, constituted a specific power of attorney to Bhaupatil Arote to carry out the lease and license work.

The Chinese Consulate even paid Subhash Chandra Rs 58.80 lakh via a cheque. This amount includes nine months advance rent and the refundable deposit of Rs 14.70 lakh deposit.

The ground floor of the bun-

galow has a living room, and a kitchen, the first floor has three bedrooms and one child bedroom, while the second floor has one bedroom.

The real estate website reported that the per month rent for the bungalow is Rs 4.90 lakh. The carpet area of the bungalow is 2,590 sq ft and the Chinese Consulate will also get to use two covered parkings. The rent agreement is for two years starting from July 1, 2020 and ending on June 30, 2022.



Army trucks move towards Ladakh amid LAC border tension, at Manali-Leh highway in Kullu

## HORSE TRADING ALLEGATIONS

# Rajasthan Cong MLAs shifted to Jaisalmer

**Jaipur (IANS):** Amid allegations of horse trading, the Rajasthan Congress MLAs staying at a hotel in Jaipur have been shifted to Jaisalmer for the next 14 days on Friday. The Rajasthan Assembly is scheduled to convene on August 14 and till then the MLAs will stay at the Jaisalmer resort.

The MLAs were staying at Hotel Fairmount from July 13 after Sachin Pilot along with 18 MLAs went incommunicado.

Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot addressed the MLAs and said that the merger of BSP MLAs with Congress cannot be wrong when in Rajya Sabha 4 TDP MPs merged with the ruling BJP. The Chief Minister has hinted that he will seek a vote of confidence once the Assembly convenes on August 14.

Gehlot said that horse trading rates in Rajasthan have gone higher as new rates have been announced soon after the Assembly session date was finalised. He had said "The rates of horse trading have increased after a new assembly session



has been announced. Earlier, the first instalment was Rs 10 crore and second was Rs 15 crore for MLAs. However, now it's gone unlimited and everyone knows who is involved in horse trading," adding that no one knows who all have collected the first instalment as well.

He also targeted Bahujaan Samaj Party chief Mayawati, and accused her of taking the stand at the behest of BJP.

Gehlot also called those MLAs for floor test who were disenchanted and said that as they won the election on Congress sign and symbol, it is their duty to ensure that they stand with the party on the floor.

# 32 dead in Punjab after consuming spurious alcohol

**Jalandhar:** Even as at least 32 persons died due to alleged consumption of spurious liquor in Amritsar, Batala and Tarn Taran districts of Punjab, Chief Minister Amarinder Singh on Friday ordered a magisterial inquiry led by the Jalandhar Divisional Commissioner into the matter.

Five more deaths were reported on Friday in Batala. One person was admitted in hospital in a critical condition. Four more deaths have also been reported from Tarn Taran.

The inquiry panel will look into the facts and circumstances leading to the tragedy as well as into any other connected issue(s) or relevant to the incident(s) and the circumstances leading to it, an official statement said.

The Divisional Commissioner of Jalandhar will inquire into the tragedy along with the Joint Excise and Taxation Commissioner and SPs (Investigation) of the districts concerned, an official spokesperson said.



The Chief Minister has given Commission the liberty to co-opt any civil or police officer or any expert to facilitate the expeditious conduct of the inquiry.

He promised strict action against anyone found guilty in the case.

Taking serious note, Amarinder Singh also directed the police to launch a search operation to crack down on spurious liquor manufacturing units

operating in the state.

Police has arrested Balwinder Kaur in Tarsikka village in Amritsar district with regard to the hooch tragedy.

Further investigations are in progress under the Special Investigation Team (SIT) constituted by SSP Amritsar-Rural, from where the first cases were reported.

The post-mortems of four victims- Jaswinder Singh, Kashmir Singh, Kirpal Singh

and Jaswant Singh will be conducted to ascertain the exact cause of the deaths.

Giving details of the case, Director General of Police Dinkar Gupta said the first five deaths were reported from Mucchhal and Tangra villages in Amritsar Rural area on the night of June 29.

On July 30 evening, two more persons died in suspicious circumstances in Mucchhal, while one person was hospitalised in a critical condition but later succumbed at Sri Guru Ramdas Hospital, from where he was referred by Dr Sarabjit Kaur Hospital in Tangra.

Later, two more deaths were from reported from Mucchhal, while another two persons reportedly died in Batala city, also due to spurious liquor consumption.

With five more persons succumbing in Batala on Friday, the toll in the city climbed to seven. One person has been referred to the Civil Hospital in Batala in a critical condition.

## SIT report on slain gangster Dubey likely to be delayed

**Lucknow (IANS):** The report of the Special Investigation Team (SIT), set up to probe the Bikru massacre in which eight policemen were ambushed and killed on July 3, is likely to be delayed.

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath had asked the SIT to submit the report by July 31.

According to official sources, the SIT has not been able to get certain documents needed for the probe. These documents are related to the 2001 case in which Vikas Dubey was acquitted in the murder of the then state minister Santosh Shukla inside the Shivli police station in Kanpur. Documents related to the bail granted to him in other cases have also been sought but not yet received.

The SIT has been asked to probe the role of the police, his relations with police personnel and the factors which led Vikas's emergence as a gangster. A member of the SIT said that documents related to the gangster's call records had also not been provided as yet. "We will need another month to compile the report. We will ask the government for time," the member said.

## Sushant death: Money laundering case filed

**New Delhi:** The Enforcement Directorate has filed a case under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) over "suspicious transactions" worth Rs 15 crore in connection with the death of Bollywood actor Sushant Singh Rajput.

The case was filed after the probe agency took cognisance of a FIR (first information report) by Bihar Police, which is inquiring into how the money transferred from the actor's bank account was used.

A police team from Bihar's Patna has been camped out in Mumbai for the past three days, visiting several banks and inquiring into transactions and investments of the two companies set up by Rajput with his girlfriend, Rhea Chakraborty, and her brother.

Their probe, set off by a complaint from Rajput's father that accuses Ms Chakraborty of



illegally transferring money from his son's account and mentally harassing him, focusses on whether the investments were legal.

Bihar Police, which has found itself in a turf war with their Mumbai counterparts over jurisdiction, insisted it would follow the money trail in the case.

Meanwhile, Mumbai Police are conducting a detailed investigation of their own - into angles like professional rivalry and unfair treatment that caused the actor to be side-

lined in Bollywood. Cops in Mumbai have also looked into his finances.

The tug-of-war between Bihar and Mumbai cops has been called out Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Sushil Kumar Modi, who today accused the latter of obstruction and claimed that the BJP wanted the CBI to take over the case.

"Mumbai police is putting obstruction in the way of a fair investigation by Bihar police in Sushant Singh Rajput death case. BJP feels that CBI should take over this case," Mr Modi tweeted.

Earlier this week Maharashtra Home Minister Anil Deshmukh ruled out handing the case over to the CBI, saying there was "no question" of that happening.

Actor Sushant Singh Rajput, 34, had died by suicide at his Mumbai apartment in June, the police have said.

## Wearing T-shirt, jeans banned in MP govt office

**Gwalior (IANS):** Government officials and employees in Gwalior division of Madhya Pradesh have been instructed to come to office wearing 'decent and dignified' clothes. They have been banned from wearing 'faded jeans' and 'T-shirt' in office.

Divisional commissioner M B Ojha in an order has asked all officials and employees of the division to wear dignified, decent and formal attire while discharging their responsibilities in the office. Disciplinary action would be initiated against those who disobey the order.

He said that during his visit to Ashok Nagar district, senior officials such as an additional collector wearing faded jeans at the meeting was contrary to the dignity of the post of a government servant and as such inappropriate.

## Soz to sue Centre for 'unlawful house arrest'

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

"I take a strong exception to the government stand before the Supreme Court that I had neither been put under house arrest nor had any restrictions been imposed on me since August 5, 2019," Soz said in a statement here. He said the government has resorted to "falsehood as it had unlawfully incarcerated me since August 5, 2019." "All this while, I was not allowed to move out of my premises. I left my premises twice, when I had to visit my ailing sister and I went to Delhi on 17th September, 2019 to 21st September,



2019 and 15th December, 2019 to 21st December, 2019 for seeking medical advice. Whenever I went out of my premises since August 5, 2019, I had to obtain permission from the government," he said.

The former Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) president added that he has decided to sue the government for his "unlawful" house arrest. "I have decided to sue the government for my unlawful house arrest since August 5, 2019. I will further sue the

government for compensation for the incarceration and illegal suspension of civil liberties to which I am entitled under the Constitution," he said. Soz said that what the Supreme Court had been told was a "blatant lie". He said he would move against his detention for "whatever it is worth", the report by IE stated.

He said the UT government and central government had taken a position before the Supreme Court that he was a "free man", which he said was not true.

# Teachers, scholars across India laud National Education Policy 2020

**New Delhi (IANS):** Educators across the country have lauded the National Education Policy (NEP) approved by the Union Cabinet for introducing many reforms in the Indian education system after 34 years. Starting with the renaming of the Ministry of Human Resource and Development as the Ministry of Education, the new policy approved by the Union Cabinet on Wednesday envisions to offer a new structure to the education system in the country.

The NEP 2020 proposes the revision and revamping of all aspects of the education structure, including its regulation and governance, to create a new system that is aligned with the aspirational goals of 21st-century education, while remaining consistent with India's traditions and value systems, the educators said.

"This policy was long due and brings about the transformation to learn and turn the future Indian minds," Niranjan Hiranandani, Provost, HSNC University Mum-



All India Democratic Students Organisation activists burn copies of the new National Education Policy 2020 during a protest outside Patna University, in Patna

bai, said in a statement.

"The NEP will offer multiple exit points in studies, which means that one could actually get into employment at different ages, different times, and different levels of education which is a thoughtful strategic structure," Hiranandani said. Earlier in June, three reputed colleges in Mumbai -- K. C. Col-

lege, H. R. College, and Bombay Teachers' Training College (BTTC) came together to form Maharashtra's second cluster University, named as "HSNC University".

The university aims at ushering in a new wave of education and offers interdisciplinary, liberal, choice-based credit system and

talent-oriented education approach and advocates for an industry-focused, technology, and skill development-driven curriculum that will make undergraduate and postgraduate students employment-ready.

"I am pleased to see the National Education Policy 2020 is in sync with the vision of our university and look forward to it," Hiranandani added.

With the New Education Policy 2020 focusing on boosting and integrating technology into the education sector, several educators and academicians are lauding the effort being made.

Speaking on this integration, Atul Kulshrestha, Chairperson, FICCI Edtech Task Force, and Chairman and MD, Extramarks, said that the New Education Policy strives to completely transform the school education sector by aiming to provide high-quality education to all.

Kulshrestha lauded the new policy for aiming to integrate tech-

nology, implementing a new assessment methodology and using Artificial Intelligence (AI) to track student performance to optimise their career.

Another very important development as a part of the NEP 2020 is the directive to teach students till the 5th grade in the mother tongue of the state or local language whenever possible.

"This is a welcome development. It is important to understand that deep and profound learning happens in the language a child is comfortable with," said Vinod Malhotra, Chairman, Academic council, Saamarthy Teachers Training Academy of Research, Ghaziabad.

Vishnu Karthik, CEO, Xperiential Learning Systems and Director, The Heritage Schools said: "We first have to distinguish between language and literacy. Language is speaking and is natural for our brains. Literacy is reading and writing which is to be learned by our brains."

## Trump only world leader to address UNGA session

**Washington:** US President Donald Trump is likely to travel to New York to attend the annual UN General Assembly session in September, the only world leader to address this year's virtual high-level week in person, the US envoy to the UN said.

"We're hoping that President Trump will actually be speaking in person in the General Assembly. He will be the only world leader to be speaking in person," US Ambassador Kelly Craft said Thursday at a virtual briefing.

Craft added that with the UN commemorating its 75th anniversary this year, 'that makes it even more special that we really take the virtual and amplify it to be able to celebrate the 75th and obviously we're going to be focused on human rights issues, on transparency, accountability because anytime during COVID where the American taxpayers have really stepped up on a personal level, it's now.'

For the first time in the UN's 75-year history, the annual General Assembly session will be held virtually and Heads of State and Government will not be physi-



cally attending the annual gathering due to the coronavirus pandemic.

World leaders will submit pre-recorded video statements for the high-level week, the 193-member organisation had decided last week.

US is the host country of the United Nations and there is a possibility that Trump could travel to New York to address the General Debate of the 75th session of the Assembly on September 22.

The US is traditionally the second speaker at the debate after Brazil. This would be Trump's final address to the General Assembly of the first term of his presidency before the US heads into elections in November and Trump could use the UN platform to highlight his foreign policy achievements while also tout his campaign agenda.





Workers clean a gym and yoga centre ahead of its reopening as part of Unlock 3.0 in Ahmedabad

## Kerala train passenger tests positive

**Thiruvananthapuram (IANS):** A 29-year-old man enroute to his home town Kanyakumari from Kozhikode had to end his journey midway as health officials found him coronavirus positive. The man works as a contract worker in Kozhikode. According to the health department officials, he was unwell for the last few days. Thereafter, he had given a swab sample for a Covid-19 test, the report of which was awaited. On Friday morning without waiting for the test result, he boarded the Jan Shatabdi train from Kozhikode. After getting his result and finding him positive for coronavirus, the health officials tried to contact him. But when they got to know that the man has already left for Kanyakumari, they immediately informed the health authorities in Thrissur. By that time the train had left Thrissur and the next stop was Ernakulam.



## Visiting people at UK home banned



**London (IANS):** Millions of people across northern England will face new lockdown restrictions, which ban separate households from meeting each other at home after a spike in COVID-19 cases, Health Secretary

Matt Hancock said on Friday. Hancock told the BBC that the government had taken the "targeted" action based on information gathered from contact tracing, which he said showed that "most of the transmission is happening between households visiting each other, and people visiting relatives and friends". The areas affected by the new measures are Greater Manchester, Blackburn with Darwen, Burnley, Hyndburn, Pendle, Rossendale, Bradford, Calderdale, Kirklees and Leicester. The restrictions mean different households will not be allowed to meet in homes or private gardens.

## 'Clean masks with petrol'

**Manila (IANS):** Philippines' President Rodrigo Duterte on Friday once again told the people of his country to disinfect their face masks with petrol, while insisting that he was "not joking", it was reported on Friday. He had made similar remarks last week, but officials were quick to correct him, and suggested it was a joke, the BBC reported. Referring to his earlier comments, the President said on Friday: "They (critics) said, 'Duterte's insane'. If I'm insane, you should be the president, not me. 'What I've said was true. If alcohol isn't available, especially for the poor, just go to a gasoline station, and use (gas) to disinfect. I am not joking."



## 7 die as toll hits 372 in J&K



**Srinagar (IANS):** Seven COVID-19 patients died on Friday in J&K raising the number of people killed by the dreaded virus in the Union territory to 372. 17 patients succumbed on Thursday in the highest single-day death spike in J&K. Doctors said 7 patients died in different hospitals of J&K Friday. The victims include a middle rung police officer belonging to Pulwama district. So far, 372 people have died due to coronavirus in the union territory. Alarmed by the increasing number of people falling prey to the ongoing pandemic, authorities in Badgam and Pulwama districts have re-imposed lockdown. 19,869 people have been infected so far while 11,842 have recovered completely.

## 5 more test positive in Dharavi

**Mumbai (PTI):** The COVID-19 tally in Mumbai's slum colony of Dharavi went up to 2,556 with the addition of five new cases on Friday, according to a senior BMC official. This is the sixth consecutive day on which single digit cases were recorded in the slum-dominated area, something which has happened for the first time since the outbreak of COVID-19 in Dharavi on April 1. The official said at present Dharavi has just 77 active cases. So far, 2,228 COVID-19 patients have already recovered and discharged from hospitals, he said. On July 25, ten new COVID-19 cases were recorded from Dharavi, but next day the number dropped to just two and since then the daily number of cases were between 2-9.



## 105-yr-old Afghan woman beats virus



**Noida (PTI):** A 105-year-old woman from Afghanistan was discharged from a hospital in Greater Noida on Friday after recovering from COVID-19 in a fortnight, officials said. Rabia Ahmed was admitted to the private Sharda Hospital on July 16 in a "life-

threatening condition" after getting infected with the novel coronavirus and spent a week on ventilator, they said. She had tested positive for the infection at a private hospital in Noida after which she was brought to Sharda Hospital, a dedicated COVID-19 facility. She was tested again on Thursday and the result came out to be negative, paving the way for her discharge on Friday ahead of the Islamic festival of Bakrid, hospital officials said.

## 45 Kolkata cops infected

**Kolkata (PTI):** At least 45 Kolkata Police personnel including two senior officers of the Detective Department have tested positive for COVID-19, an official said on Friday. So far, over 1,100 police personnel have been infected by the virus, the official said. "These police personnel tested positive yesterday (Thursday). While a few have been sent to home isolation the others with severe problems have been hospitalised," the official said. The number of active cases in the Force is around 70. Fifty-one policemen including five senior officers recovered from COVID-19 on Thursday.



# J&J vaccine cures monkey in a single shot

**New York (IANS):** A leading candidate of Covid-19 vaccine developed by global healthcare company Johnson & Johnson raised neutralising antibodies and robustly protected monkeys against SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes Covid-19.

The vaccine uses a common cold virus, called adenovirus serotype 26 (Ad26), to deliver the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein into host cells, where it stimulates the body to raise immune responses against the coronavirus.

Barouch has been working on the development of a Covid-19 vaccine since January when Chinese scientists released the SARS-CoV-2 genome.



The research team developed a series of vaccine candidates designed to express different variants of the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein, which is the major target for neutralizing antibodies.

They conducted a study in 52 NHPs, immunizing 32 adult rhesus macaques (monkeys) with a single dose of one of seven different versions of the Ad26-based vaccine, and giving

## First dog that tested +ve dies

**New York:** A German shepherd in New York that had the first confirmed case of COVID-19 in a dog in the US has died.

Robert and Allison Mahoney of Staten Island told National Geographic that their 7-year-old shepherd, Buddy, developed breathing problems in mid-April after Robert had been sick with the coronavirus for several weeks. A veterinarian tested Buddy in

May and found him positive for the virus. The US Department of Agriculture reported in June that a German shepherd in New York state was the first dog in the country to test positive for COVID-19, but did not identify the owners.

Buddy's health declined steadily after he developed breathing problems and thick nasal mucus in April. He was euthanised on July 11 after he



started vomiting clotted blood, the Mahoneys told National Geographic.

It's unknown if the coronavirus played a role in his death. Blood tests indicated Buddy likely had lymphoma, a cancer of the immune system, veterinarians told the family.

high levels of virus in their lungs and nasal swabs. Of the six animals that received the optimal vaccine can-

didate, Ad26.COV2.S, none showed the virus in their lungs, and only one animal showed low levels of virus in nasal swabs.

# Why quarantine period of docs treated as leave? SC

**New Delhi (IANS):** The Supreme Court on Friday said the Centre is not powerless to ensure that state governments obey its directive in connection with the release of salaries of doctors and healthcare workers, and also asked why quarantine period of doctors and health workers is treated as leave.

The Centre informed the apex court that some state governments have not paid salaries to doctors and health workers regularly despite the Centre's directive.

A bench headed by Justice Ashok Bhushan said that the Centre is not powerless to ensure states obeyed its directive, and asked the Centre's counsel to en-



sure that doctors and health care workers are paid their salaries. The top court has listed the matter for further hearing on August 10. On the non-payment of salaries, the apex court told the Centre's counsel, "You are not helpless. You have to see to it that your order is implemented. You have powers under the DM Act. You can take steps also."

The apex court also asked the

Centre why the quarantine period for doctors and health workers is being treated as period of leave.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, representing the Centre,

contended before the bench that it should be treated as on duty. The bench asked Mehta to provide necessary clarification.

## China reports over 100 cases for 3rd day

**Beijing:** China has reported 127 new confirmed coronavirus cases, crossing the hundred-mark for the third consecutive day as the infections continued to surge in Uyghur Muslim-majority Xinjiang province.

China's National Health Commission (NHC) said on Friday that among the fresh 127 cases reported on Thursday, 123 were domestically transmitted. This is the third consecutive



day China reported over 100 cases after stemming the spread of the virus after it first surfaced in central China's Wuhan city in December last year, the NHC said.

## Bryan Cranston says he has recovered

**Los Angeles (PTI):** "Breaking Bad" star Bryan Cranston has revealed that he was diagnosed with coronavirus but has now recovered and donated his plasma. The actor uploaded a video on Instagram in which he could be seen donning a mask. Cranston said he had COVID-19 a "little while ago" and considers himself "very lucky" that he only had "mild symptoms".

"I wanted to announce that I had COVID-19 a little while ago. Very lucky, very mild symptoms," Cranston said. "So I thought

maybe there's something I can do, so I started a program (at UCLA Blood and Platelet Center) so hopefully the plasma donation can help some other people," he added. In the caption for the video, Cranston said his symptoms included "a slight headache, tightness of chest and (loss of) taste and smell." "I was pretty strict in adhering to the protocols and still... I contracted the virus. Yep. It sounds daunting now that over 150,000 Americans are dead because of it," the actor wrote.

## 3 women face jail term for creating virus scare

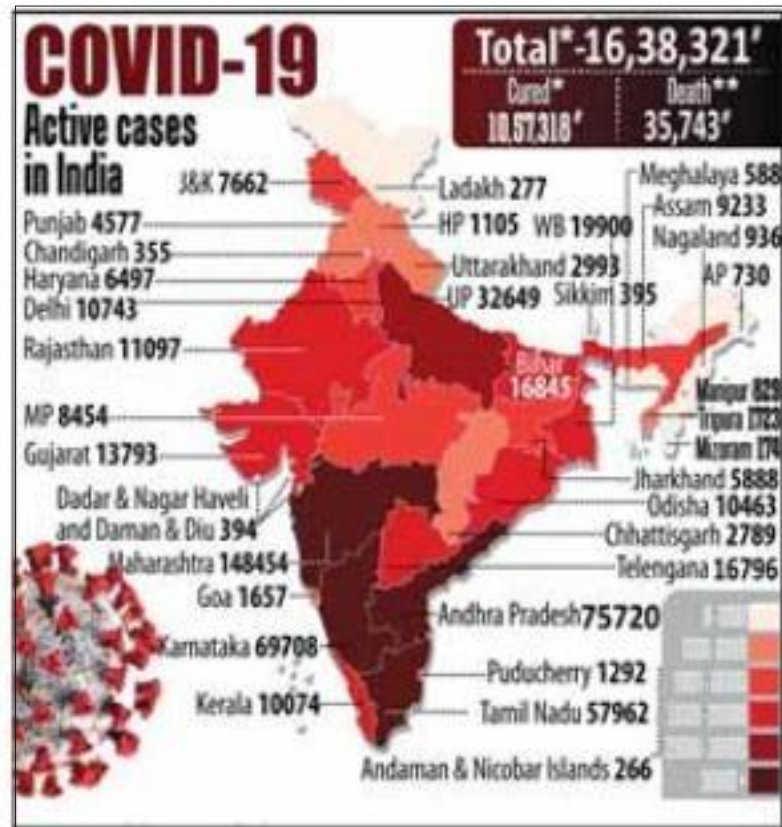
**Melbourne (PTI):** Three women in Australia, including a teenager, are facing jail term and fines for allegedly giving false information to travel

from the country's coronavirus hotspot state to another state, creating panic after two of them tested positive for COVID-19. Olivia Winnie Mu-

ranga, Diana Lasu and an unidentified friend arrived together in Brisbane (Queensland) from Melbourne (Victoria) on July 21. The trio threw

a party in an apartment in Melbourne city. Queensland police allege that two of them, who have now tested positive to COVID-19, deliberately falsified records to enter the state and skipped quarantine.

According to media reports here, charges have been laid against Muranga and Diana, who have now tested positive to COVID-19 and another 19-year-old woman, who has returned a negative test.



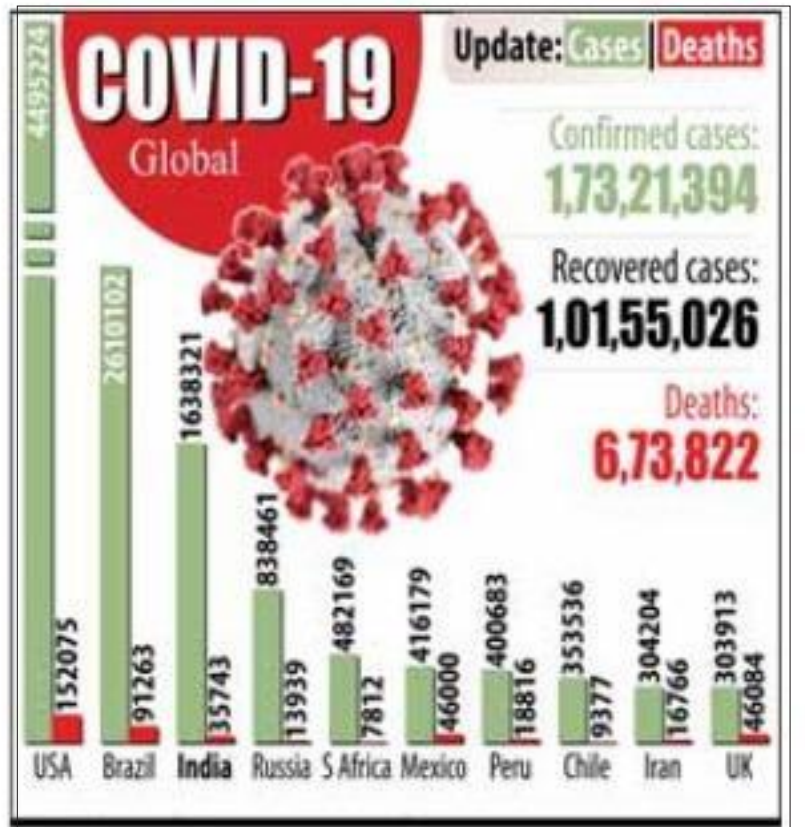
## Maha should take steps to send back stuck migrants: SC

**New Delhi (IANS):** The Supreme Court said on Friday that the Maharashtra government should take steps to ensure that migrant workers still waiting to return to their native places are sent back at an early date.

A bench comprising Justices Ashok Bhushan, R Subhash Reddy and M R Shah had in a June 9 order directed all states/UTs to transport all stranded workers by trains or other modes of transportation to their native places within 15 days.

"It appears that in spite of the steps taken by states, including Maharashtra, migrant workers are still stranded in different States, including Maharashtra," said the apex court.

The bench cited an affidavit filed by Rajesh Kumar, Additional Chief secretary (Labour) from the Industries, Energy and Labour Department of Maharashtra government, that indicated that some migrants are still awaiting return to their native places from Maharashtra.



# Hospital devises 'air bubble' to keep warriors safe

**Bhopal:** To help Madhya Pradesh in its fight against the coronavirus, a doctor with a private hospital here has come up with a simple yet ingenious way to keep doctors, nurses and other healthcare workers safe from COVID-19 - an air bubble. The fully sealed, transparent, face covering - like a face suit - has an independent supply of virus-free compressed air so state's Corona Warriors can

breathe safely while treating patients. Cardiologist Dr Skand Trivedi said this concept was specifically introduced for healthcare workers who look after coronavirus patients and was aimed at saving lives of doctors, nurses and technicians as they were the only solace for coronavirus patients. "COVID-19 basically spreads by breathing contaminated air. If

our health workers are going to inhale the same air as is exhaled by the patients they are going to be in trouble. So, this way I can ensure my staff is safe while working with patients for 8 hours," he said. "We have lost some of our colleagues. I'd be happy if this model was replicated by other Covid facilities as doctors and healthcare workers were not only getting

COVID-19, but even dying because of it. This air bubble can be the biggest tribute to all Corona Warriors," Dr Trivedi said. The air bubble offers hope that even though coronavirus cases are rising in Bhopal, where almost 85 per cent Covid beds are occupied, our doctors, nurses and other healthcare workers, even though limited in number, will be able to safely help the state tide

over the worst of the epidemic. The cardiologist said his staff has been doing their rounds with the air bubble for the last couple of days and they are quite comfortable. "I feel much safer, we are not worried," said Dolly, a nurse at the ICU. Neeraj Mewada, a technician in the Covid ward, also said he was comfortable wearing the air bubble.



# Sehwag, Sardar in selection panel for National Sports Awards 2020

**New Delhi (IANS/PTT):** 2011 World Cup winning former Indian cricketer Virender Sehwag, former hockey midfielder Sardar Singh, 2016 Rio Paralympics silver medallist Deepa Malik are among the names that make up the selection committee for the National Sports Awards this year, the Sports Ministry announced on Friday.

The committee, to be chaired by retired Supreme Court judge Mukundam Sharma, also includes Arjuna Award winning former table tennis player Monalisa Baruah and former boxer Venkatesh Devarajan, who won the Arjuna Award in 1995.

"This year too we are continuing with the idea of one selection committee for all the awards as we feel too many committees will only make things difficult and create controversies," a Sports Ministry source told PTI.

The committee will be tasked with selecting awardees for the



Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna, Dronacharya Awards, Arjuna Awards, Dhyana Chand Awards, Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar Award and Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (MAKA) Trophy for the year 2020.

Officials from the Sports Ministry on the committee include Sports Authority of India (SAI) Director General Sandip Pradhan, Joint Secretary (Sports De-

velopment) LS Singh and Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) CEO Commander Rajesh Rajagopalan.

The mediapersons on the committee are sports commentator Manish Batavia and journalists Alok Sinha and Neeru Bhatia.

Two additional members, who have been Dronacharya Awardees, may be invited by the



## Former Saurashtra coach 'Bababhai' Joshi passes away

**Rajkot (IANS):** Former Saurashtra coach and manager Hasmukhbhai Joshi, popularly known as 'Bababhai' Joshi, has passed away, the Saurashtra Cricket Association (SCA) said on Friday. The 85-year-old breathed his last on Thursday. "Bababhai Joshi served cricket of Saurashtra in many capacities; as player, selector of Under 16, Under 19, Under 22; umpire, coach and manager," SCA said in a media statement. "He has had remarkable knowledge of rules a regulations of the game. His capabilities earned him a good name in the world of cricket." Former BCCI and SCA Secretary Niranjan Shah, conveyed heartfelt sympathies on Joshi's demise and said: "Bababhai was the man with quality, ethics and great cricketing capabilities." Bababhai had also published a book 'Old Ranji Trophy Players of the Period 1963 to 1969 - my teammates and intimates'.

chairperson while considering the nomination for Dronacharya Award.

The national sports awards are given away every year on August 29, the birth anniversary of hockey icon Dhyan Chand.

This year the awards function might be delayed by a month or two because of the COVID-19 pandemic but a final decision on the matter is still awaited.

## ISL 4<sup>th</sup> most engaging football league in world on Instagram: Study

**Kolkata (IANS):** The Indian Super League (ISL) is the fourth biggest football league in the world on Instagram, according to a study conducted by Spanish sports business institution Deportes y Finanzas.

India's premier football league, ISL garnered 38.1 million fan interactions on Instagram between January 1 and June 30 this year. ISL's engagement on the digital platform is more than double of Italy's Serie A, which could only amass 18.1 million despite housing the likes of Cristiano Ronaldo's Juventus FC and AC Milan.

Less than 15 million behind third-placed Bundesliga (Germany), ISL remains on the cusp of breaking into the top three, while only heading into its seventh season since its inception. Spain's LaLiga leads the list while England's Premier League sits second with 319 million and 296 million engagements respectively.

"Sports is being consumed in huge numbers amongst the extremely tech-savvy Indian youth in the digital space. European football has been pretty popular but the increasing numbers of the ISL only show that football in India is being embraced by the country's millennials. I think ISL has enormous potential to engage more fans globally across other platforms as well," said a Mumbai-based industry expert.

Interestingly, during the period, only 46 games in the ISL were played, including the playoffs and the final, with the 2019-20 season wrapped

up by 14 March. The other four leagues in the top five were forced to pause their seasons with the onset of the coronavirus pandemic. Germany's Bundesliga was the first to resume on May 16 after a 61-day hiatus.

Regardless of the lesser number of gamedays in comparison to the European powerhouses during the first half of the calendar year, the ISL scored heavily on digital fan engagement

throughout its last season. An unprecedented 74.82 million interactions were recorded across the league's social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram,

YouTube) - nearly doubling the tally from the 2018-19 season.

Average matchday engagement on ISL social media platforms also saw a 16 per cent spike from 2018-19. Also, the 2019-20 season garnered a massive 213 million video views across platforms, as compared to 97 million from the previous season.

The sixth season of the ISL was marked by City Football Group's majority takeover of Mumbai City FC, ATK's acquisition of Mohun Bagan, and the renewal of the Mutual Cooperation Agreement between the Premier League and ISL.

Football Sports Development Limited (FSDL), the organisers of the ten-team league, has already begun preparations for the 2020-21 season. ISL season seven will take place inside a bio-secure bubble in a single venue between November and March.



## Shooting national camp postponed after coach tests corona +ive

**New Delhi (IANS):** The National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) has postponed the compulsory shooting national camp for Olympic-bound shooters that was scheduled to start on August 1 at the Karni Singh Shooting Range in the national capital. The development comes a day after the Sports Authority of India (SAI) said that a coach posted at the range has tested positive for coronavirus. "The camp is not happening tomorrow, we are looking at a new date. We will make an announcement next week," NRAI secretary Rajiv Bhatia told IANS on Friday. Shooters and coaches had expressed displeasure at the camp being compulsory. When asked if this tag will be taken away from the postponed camp, Bhatia said: "All of that we will discuss when we decide upon when the camp will be held."



## WC winning German defender Howedes retires from football

**Berlin (IANS):** World Cup winning German defender Benedikt Howedes has announced his retirement from football. The 32-year-old told German magazine Der Spiegel that he arrived at the decision when he was recently travelling with his wife and child in the south of France.

Howedes said that "football suddenly became so unimportant" after spending that much time with his son. "Our son is now 21 months old and unfortunately I didn't get much time

with him at Moscow. I suffered a lot as a family man," he said.

Howedes last played for Russian side Lokomotiv Moscow, which he joined in 2018. He left the club on June 8 this year. Howedes had, however, spent most of his career at Bundesliga club Schalke, except for one year in 2017/18 when he was loaned out to Serie A giants Juventus. He made his debut for Schalke after coming through the club's youth system in the 2007/08 season.

## Will fully cooperate with Swiss authorities: FIFA boss Infantino

**Zurich (IANS):** FIFA chief Gianni Infantino has said that he remains at the disposal of the Swiss authorities and will cooperate fully with investigation after a criminal case has been initiated by a Swiss Special Federal Public Prosecutor over Infantino's dealings with Swiss Attorney General Michael Lauber. Authorities in Switzerland said on Thursday that prosecutors have found indications of criminal conduct in relation to the meetings between Infantino and Lauber. Last week, a court had found that Lauber, while investigating corruption cases related to FIFA, had tried to hide

a meeting with Infantino and lied to his supervisors in the Swiss judiciary. He subsequently offered his resignation and is set to leave the post in August. "People remember well where FIFA was as an institution back in 2015, and how substantial judicial intervention was actually required to help restore the credibility of the organisation," said Infantino in a statement available on the official FIFA website. "As President of FIFA, it has been my aim from day one, and it remains my aim, to assist the authorities with investigating past wrongdoings at FIFA."

## WORLD ATHLETICS GEARING UP FOR CORONA IMPACT ON 2021 MEETS

**Monaco (IANS):** World Athletics President Sebastian Coe has said that the global governing body for athletics is working on a contingency plan for a second consecutive year in which competitions would be impacted by COVID-19 just as they were in 2020. Coe told media after the World Athletics Council meeting that it is looking at a reality in which competitions within national borders became a template next year.

"It isn't inconceivable that we could end up for the second year in a row with some very badly dented competition ambitions. And that wouldn't just have a financial impact on the sport, it would also have the impact that goes way beyond that, and I suppose it is simply about eyeballs

## Disappointing that IPL 13 will not be held in India, says Smith

**New Delhi (IANS):** Rajasthan Royals skipper Steve Smith has expressed his disappointment regarding this year's Indian Premier League (IPL) being played outside of India. The 13th edition of the cash-rich league, which was postponed in March due to coronavirus pandemic, will now be held in the UAE from September.

IPL chairman Brijesh Patel had last week confirmed to IANS that this year's league will be played around the September 19 to November 8 window and the same has been communicated to the franchises.

Smith stated players will have to adapt to the conditions of the UAE but that's not going to be a problem as according to him, everyone will be eager to just get on the field and play good quality cricket following the coronavirus stoppage.

"I think part of being a professional cricketer is to adapt to any condition you are faced with and that is going to be the clear message from the coaching staff," Smith told reporters via video-conference after special premiere of Rajasthan Royals' documentary 'Inside Story', which showcases the team's 2019 IPL campaign.

"Conditions in Dubai can be similar to what you get in India or it can be different, it's about adapting on the run to what the condition suits. Couple of players obviously have experience of playing there before. The IPL was there in 2014 I think, so a lot of people have played IPL there before."

## IPL 13: Franchises ready to pool in to get SA players to UAE

**New Delhi (IANS):** Be it AB de Villiers for Royal Challengers Bangalore, Kagiso Rabada for Delhi Capitals, Faf du Plessis for Chennai Super Kings or Quinton de Kock for Mumbai Indians, some of the top stars in the Indian Premier League (IPL) hail from South

Africa. And with air travel restrictions on in the Rainbow Nation due to the increase in coronavirus cases, IPL teams are willing to pool in to get them all to fly into UAE on a chartered plane. Speaking to IANS, an official of one of the franchises said that it is an idea that has been discussed informally and a final call will be taken once the IPL Governing Council (GC) meets on Sunday and gives the franchises a roadmap on the way forward going into the 13th edition of the league.



## Delhi Capitals keen to host camp in city, final call after IPL GC meet

**New Delhi (IANS):** With the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) looking at the September 19 to November 8 window for the 13th edition of the Indian Premier League (IPL), Delhi Capitals are looking to host a camp for its Indian players from August 15 in the national capital. But a final call will be taken only after the IPL Governing Council meeting on Sunday.

Speaking to IANS, a DC official said that it will be more about getting the boys together and working as a group to help the cricketers get back into the groove while maintaining the social distance regulations due to the coronavirus pandemic. "While the BCCI has informed us about the dates of the tournament, we are waiting for some finer details from the governing council meeting."



## Stroll quickest at 2<sup>nd</sup> British GP practice; Vettel struggles

**Silverstone:** Lance Stroll led the second practice for the British Grand Prix on Friday while struggling Ferrari had another bad day, with Sebastian Vettel spending most of it stuck in the team garage.

Stroll finished fourth at the Hungarian GP two weeks ago for Racing Point, which uses Mercedes engines and has been showing good pace this season. Red Bull driver Alexander Albon had the second-fastest time - .09 behind Stroll - but later crashed. Valtteri Bottas was third for Mercedes, ahead of Ferrari's Charles Leclerc and Mercedes teammate Lewis Hamilton. "There's a lot of heat coming from the cockpit," the championship leader Hamilton said right at the end of a session held amid hot and humid conditions. Stroll's unexpected teammate Nico Hulkenberg was seventh after filling in at the last minute for Sergio Perez, who tested positive for the coronavirus following a trip back home to Mexico. Vettel did finally get out on track but was a lowly 18th, about 1.6 seconds slower

than Stroll. Vettel sat out the first session without setting a time because of a problem with the car's intercooling system. Ferrari mechanics stripped the car down to get it ready for the afternoon, but after 30 minutes the four-time F1 champion was back for repairs as the team changed his pedals. Vettel stood at the back of the garage with his helmet perched on top of his head and a forlorn look on his face. Ferrari is enduring a difficult season, with Vettel picking up only nine points from the first three races with a best finish of sixth in Hungary. The second session was interrupted halfway through when Albon span off the track and slammed backward into the crash barrier. He was unharmed and climbed out. The red flag came out while debris was cleared, and the drivers were held up for about 10 minutes. Time was of the essence for Hulkenberg, who only got the call the day before and was confirmed as the replacement shortly before the session began. The veteran German driver had previously raced

for the team when it was known as Force India and adapted quickly. "He did 45 minutes in the simulator this morning," team principal Otmar Szafnauer said. "He knows the team really well, he knows the engineers." Szafnauer is not sure if Perez can reclaim his seat for next weekend's race, which is also being held at Silverstone. "At this point we don't know, we still don't know if England will ask him to quarantine for seven days or 10 days," Szafnauer said, referring to local health and safety protocols. Verstappen set the fastest time in the first practice and was nearly half a second quicker than Hamilton, although he was on quicker tires than Hamilton, with Stroll third. There is a third practice on Saturday ahead of qualifying in the afternoon, where Hamilton will aim for a record-extending 91st pole position. The six-time world champion has won the British GP a record six times and is only five wins away from matching Michael Schumacher's F1 record of 91 wins.



The car of Red Bull driver Alexander Albon of Thailand is taken from the track after he crashed during the second practice session for the British Formula One Grand Prix at the Silverstone racetrack, Silverstone, England, Friday

## Moore to step down as Liverpool CEO in August

**London:** Liverpool FC chief executive officer Peter Moore will step down from his role at the end of August following a successful three-year contract overseeing the club's off-pitch business operations, the Premier League champions said in a statement. "We would like to place on record our gratitude to Peter for his contribution and moving the club forward over the past three seasons. He has strengthened the club's business operations through his leadership and we are grateful to him for his passion, dedication and support. "We wish him, his wife Debbie and their families every success for the future as they return to the US and hope they will come back to visit us to take in a few games at Anfield," principal owner John W. Henry, chairman Tom Werner and president Mike Gordon were quoted as by Liverpool's official website on behalf of Fenway Sports Group.



# Womenia

TWEET PATROL


**SHRUTIHAASAN**  
**@SHRUTIHAASAN**

 What single life in lockdown looks like  
 after a 100 days

#justjokes

#ilovewalls #goingsolo

<https://t.co/AzZo8uE0eU>


## BREAST MILK, BEST MILK

No wonder many dominant forces like nature and planets are prefixed with the word 'mother.' Mother the power of selfless love, nurturing and nourishing infants ensuring a healthier future.

When the mother eats nutritious food, she lays a foundation of good health and immunity for her child who carries it on to the next generation, thus 3 generations benefit- Mother, child and grandchild.

This entire week, 1st till 7th August will be celebrated as World Breastfeeding Week. I am celebrating World Breastfeeding Week (1st – 7th August) by sharing its importance with you.

It is strongly recommended breastfeeding for as long as possible for mental and physical growth of the infant. It boosts immunity and prevents lifestyle diseases and obesity. Exclusively, the first 6 months is what W.H.O. recommends.

Breast milk is tailor made for your infant containing perfect amounts of carbohydrates, good fats, proteins and essential immunity enhancing Vitamin A, D, K, B, C and Calcium, Zinc, Iron and Sodium.

WORLD BREASTFEEDING WEEK

There is more power in a mother's hand than a king's hand



Naini Setalvad

um. The Journal of Nutrition (2017) states breast milk essential for healthy growth and development of child.

To all mothers of new borns, feeding Colostrum, your first milk, to your baby. Colostrum is rich in anti-infective factors protecting

your baby from respiratory infections and diarrhoea. Breast milk is free from pathogenic bacteria having zero contamination. This is validated by ICMR's Dietary guidelines.

Exclusively breast milk fed babies normally have no gastric disorders as it's easy to digest and assimilate. ICMR suggests this protective nature prevents the child from colitis.

Plant health = fruit healthy- Mother healthy = child healthy. So, mother's food nutritionally and calorically perfect equates a healthy

child. It is also important to avoid sugar and processed foods totally.

Add on a list of foods daily for a steady supply of milk production. Traditional Indian foods like Fenugreek leaves and seeds, Dil leaves and seeds, fresh and dry Fennel seeds, Sesame seeds, Coconut whole and milk, dry Figs, Ragi flour and Shatavari.

Calm down mothers. Eat fresh seasonal fruits, vegetables and leafy greens, whole grains, millets, pulses, nuts, seeds, cow's ghee and limited dairy. Watch the magic of nature in your body automatically producing good quantity and quality milk, gradually bringing mothers back to optimum weight. Complement with water, fresh air, walking, yoga, rest, eat in time and provide a comfortable atmosphere to facilitate smooth feeding.

It is not about eating for two or including sugar laden laddoos but only about eating fresh, organic foods. What better gift can a mother give than a lifetime of health for her child and generations to follow.

## Flaunt a perfect look this Raksha Bandhan

Raksha Bandhan is usually celebrated during the day. Daytime make-up has to be light and carefully done

SHAHNAZ HUSAIN

All of us especially women are awaiting eagerly for the festival of Raksha Bandhan to come. Raksha Bandhan is one of the important festivals, when brothers and sisters celebrate the loving bond between them. Like all festive occasions, girls love to dress up and look their best. As this is a joyous festival for all sisters, looking good and dressing differently is the main concern when talking about this sacred festival.

However, looking glamorous and beautiful on this special occasion is all about choosing the right shades of colour cosmetics. Selecting them according to skin colour and tone is as essential as learning the techniques of application.

Your natural skin tone is most important while selecting foundations.



dations. Try to buy one that is closest to your skin colour as possible. Face powder may be of the same shade as the foundation. If you wish to tone down a tan, select a powder that is one shade lighter, but in the same colour tone.

Watermelon juice is a good skin toner and relieves dryness too. It cools, refreshes and softens the skin. Apply on the face and wash off with plain water after 20 minutes.

Cooling mask: Mix cucumber juice with two teaspoons powdered milk and one egg white into a smooth paste. Apply on face and neck and rinse off with water after half an hour.

Mask for oily skin: Mix one tablespoon Multani Mitti with rose

water into a paste and apply on the face. Wash off when dry.

After applying face mask, take two of the cotton wool pads soaked in rose water and use them as eye pads. Squeeze out the rose water and then apply on closed lids. Lie down and relax, while you have the mask and eye pads on. Used tea bags can also do the trick. Soak them in a little warm water, squeeze out the water and apply on the eyes like eye pads.

To soften rough, bushy or frizzy hair, mix some water with creamy hair conditioner and put it in a spray bottle. Spray the mixture on the hair. Then comb the hair, so that it spreads through the hair.

For eye make-up stick to eye pencils during the day. Or line your eyelids with brown or grey eye shadow. This gives a softer effect. Then, apply only one coat of mascara, which helps to make the eyes look darker and brighter, but prevents the "heavily made-up" look.

For lipstick, avoid very dark colours, like dark maroon. Go for light pastel colours, pink, mauve, light browns, copper or bronze. The colours should not be too intense. Or, use only lip gloss. First outline the lips with a lip pencil, same shade as your lipstick. Fill in colour with a lip-stick brush. Obviously outlined lips are out of fashion.

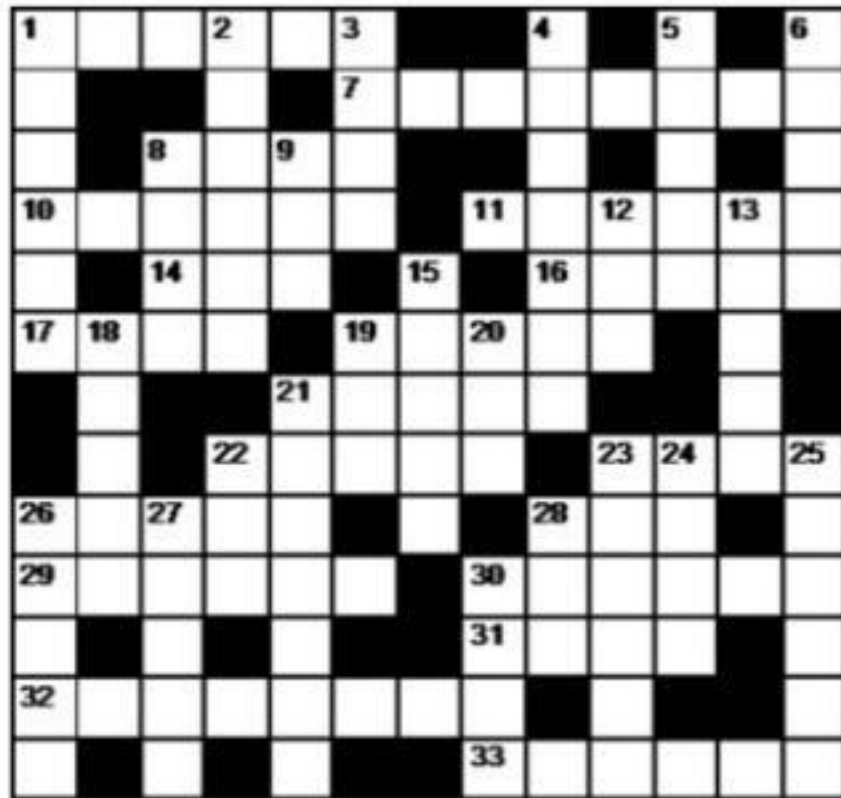
Long hair is very much the trend, with cascading waves or curly and bouncy hair. Go for the softer look, with curls or natural waves, in the lower half of the hair. The classic ponytail is also dictating trends.

It suits most face shapes because one can wear a pony tail high or low, with a fringe or without, or with wisps or curls falling down, with that carefully-careless look. A ponytail is actually an easy hair do. With ribbons, or other hair accessories, it can even provide a touch of glamour. One can have a ponytail for a formal or an informal look.

TODAY

## World Lung Cancer Day

Lung cancer continues to be one of the most common cancers worldwide, claiming more lives yearly than breast, colon, and prostate cancers combined. It is estimated that lung cancer accounts for nearly one in five cancer deaths globally.



### ● CROSSWORD ●

**Across**

- Dwarfed tree (6)
- Voice pitch (8)
- Border (4)
- Inflow (6)
- Domestic water heater (6)
- Decimal multiple ? (3)
- Turns away (5)
- Fail to hit (4)
- Goddess of tillage (5)
- Chew noisily (5)
- Hooded snake (5)
- Bit of news (4)
- Stupid person (5)
- Snippets of information (3)
- Crude (6)
- Waterways (6)
- Mountain range (4)
- Frontier settlements (8)
- Conjecture (6)

**Down**

- Silver-white element (6)
- Moves sideways (6)
- Wild goat (4)

### ● SUDOKU ●

7		4	3	9				
	1							
3	4		8	6				
		2	7					
5							3	
			6	1				
	8	9			2	7		
					4			
9	6		5			1		

**SOLUTION TO JULY 31**

2	6	4	3	8	7	1	5	9
9	8	7	4	1	5	3	6	2
5	3	1	2	6	9	8	7	4
7	5	6	8	2	1	4	9	3
8	1	9	5	3	4	6	2	7
3	4	2	7	9	6	5	1	8
4	9	3	6	5	2	7	8	1
6	2	8	1	7	3	9	4	5
1	7	5	9	4	8	2	3	6

NEWS ROUNDUP

## Priyanka Chopra's latest post is all about summer time

Actress Priyanka Chopra Jonas has shared a summer selfie on social media.

In an Instagram picture, she is seen sunbathing by the pool, in a black robe paired with large sunglasses.

"When I met you in the summer" she wrote alongside the image, which currently has more than 1.4 million likes on the photo-sharing website.

Recently, Priyanka tweeted to announce how her husband, pop star Nick Jonas, and she had donated to Assam and Bihar flood relief organisations, and asked fans to provide help.

On the work front, Priyanka will be seen in "The White Tiger", an upcoming Netflix adaptation where she features with Adarsh Gourav and Rajkummar Rao. The film is based on Aravind Adiga's Man Booker Prize-winning novel of the same name, and directed by Iranian filmmaker Ramin Bahrani.

