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HYDERABAD | FRIDAY | 29 JANUARY 2021

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COVID-19 COUNT

CASES	DEATHS
(+10,819)	(+109)
1,07,12,246	1,53,971
STATE GOVERNMENT BULLETINS	
(+184)	(+1)
TS: 2,93,921	1,594
(+117)	(+0)
AP: 8,87,466	7,152
CASES AROUND THE WORLD	
10,16,92,576	
DEATHS	
21,91,029	
COUNTRIES, AREAS WITH CASES	219
worldometers.info/coronavirus	

ASTROGUIDE

Sarvari: Uttarayana
Tithi: Pushya Bahula Padyami till 11.39 pm
Star: Ashlesha till 3.19 am (Saturday)

Variyam: 4.21 pm to 5.55 pm
Durmuhuram: 9.07 am to 9.51 am; 12.51 pm to 1.36 pm

Rahukalam: 10.30 am to 12 noon

HJRI UL-AKHIR 15.1442 AH

PRAYERS

Fajr: 5.46 am

Zohar: 12.39 pm

Asar: 4.33 pm

Maghrib: 6.15 pm

Isha: 7.25 pm

SUNSET TODAY 6.09 PM

SUNRISE TOMORROW 6.48 AM

MOONRISE TODAY 6.48 PM

MOONSET TOMORROW 7.14 AM

COUNTER POINT

Can't we offer some sops to the people of Assam, Bengal and Tamil Nadu in the budget?

SHORT TAKES

No global flights till February 28

New Delhi: The Coronavirus-induced suspension of scheduled international passenger flights was extended till February 28, aviation regulator DGCA said on Thursday. "However, international scheduled flights may be allowed on selected routes on a case-to-case basis," the Director General of Civil Aviation added.

SC notice for one project regulator

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Thursday sought response from the Centre on a plea seeking direction for constituting an autonomous and independent national regulator for appraising projects and enforcing environmental conditions. A bench headed by Chief Justice S A Bobde issued notice to the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change.

Unrelenting farmers will not stop protests till laws repealed

Question cops why Red Fort protesters were not fired upon

SANJAY KAW and BHASKAR HARI SHARMA | DC
NEW DELHI, JAN 28

Farmers protesting against the Centre's contentious farm laws refused to give up with Bharat Kisan Union spokesperson Rakesh Tikait announcing that he was ready to face bullets.

Refusing to budge, Mr Tikait made it clear that he would vacate the site only after the three agriculture laws are repealed. "I will commit suicide. But I will not leave this place," an emotional kisan leader said while appealing to other protesters to bring forward their tractors to form a cordon around him. He claimed that even electricity and water was cut at the site. "I will now drink water which is brought through tankers by protesting farmers."

Earlier in the day, Mr Tikait had questioned why Delhi Police did not open fire to stop protesters from breaking into the Red Fort and hoist a religion flag there. "Who was the person who maligned an entire community and organisation?"

The crackdown on protesters continued with the Delhi Police issuing look-out notice against leaders who were named in the FIRs filed in connection with January 26 violence. The police has sought answers from the leaders in three days on why the agreement with the law enforcing agency was broken and rules flouted during the tractor parade.

The farmers have said there was a conspiracy to sabotage and malign their peace statement.

A statement issued by the police said: "A preliminary assessment suggests there was pre-conceived plan to break the agreement reached between police and leaders of farmers organisations. Special cell is investigating larger conspiracy."



Union home minister Amit Shah speaks to a policeman injured in the violence during farmers tractor rally on Republic Day, during a visit to the hospital in New Delhi. — PTI

Bengal resolution wants farm laws out

Kolkata, Jan. 28: The West Bengal on Thursday became the sixth state to pass a resolution against the three contentious farm laws enacted by the Centre. State parliamentary affairs minister Partha Chatterjee moved the resolution urging the Centre that the three laws be repealed. Punjab, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Delhi and Kerala have passed resolutions earlier.

■ Report on Page 7

Centre mulls motion on Red Fort breach

New Delhi, Jan. 28: The Narendra Modi government is likely to bring a motion condemning the Red Fort incident on the Republic Day, during the Budget Session of Parliament beginning from Friday. The government, sources said, wants Parliament to pass a resolution condemning the incident after "considering the sense of the House."

■ Report on Page 7

16 parties to skip Prez address

DC CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI, JAN. 28

The leaders of 16 Opposition parties said Thursday they will boycott President Ram Nath Kovind's address to both Houses of Parliament on the opening day of the Budget Session on Friday over the controversial farm laws.

The 16 parties include the Congress, Trinamul Congress, NCP, Shiv Sena, DMK and Samajwadi Party. The remaining 10 parties are the National Conference, CPM, CPI, RJD, PDP, Muslim League, RSP, MDMK, Kerala Congress and AIDUF.

Announcing the decision, Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya

Sabha Ghulam Nabi Azad said the 16 parties also sought an independent probe into the Centre's role in the violence that shook New Delhi on Republic Day. They also condemned the violence and expressed regret for the injuries sustained by Delhi cops when protesters reached the Red Fort.

In a joint statement, the Opposition leaders said the farm laws were an assault on states and violated the spirit of the Constitution.

It said: "If not repealed, these laws will effectively dismantle the edifice of national food security that rests upon MSP, government procurement and the public distribution system."

Education minister Sabitha Indra Reddy on Thursday said the Intermediate public examinations would be held from May 1.

Announcing the proposed schedule for the first and second years, the minister said that the TS Board of Intermediate Education, as per the proposed schedule, will hold the regular exams between May 1 and May 19 for first year and May 2 and May 20 for the second year.

The exams will be held

from 9 am to 12 noon.

The ethics and human values examination is proposed to be conducted on April 1 from 10 am to 1 pm and the environmental education exam on April 3.

The physical examination is proposed from April 7 to April 20 (including Sundays) for both general and vocational courses. A separate timetable for vocational courses will be issued soon.

GOVERNMENTS THAT MUZZLE FARMERS DO NOT LAST, SAYS ETALA

DC CORRESPONDENT
KARIMNAGAR, JAN. 28

History shows that governments that tried to suppress the voice of farmers have not sustained for long, opined health minister Etala Rajendar.

He was speaking after inaugurating the Rythu Vedika building and Vykunta dam in Kanukulagadda village of Huzurabad mandal on Thursday. Rajendar said that everyone must salute jawans and kisans for protecting and feeding the nation.

Braving hardships, the scorching sun, biting cold and heavy rains, farmers produce food grains in order to ensure that people do not suffer from hunger and that they can lead healthy lives. They also play a big role in the development of the state and the nation. Software does not feed the people and industries do not provide total employment opportunities. It is the agriculture sector which is most important for a nation.

Even today many jobs are available in agriculture-based sectors. Keeping this in mind, right from the beginning, the TS government has mainly focused on the agriculture sector.

■ Page 2: CM focussing on irrigation plans: Etala

TRS sensing resentment from jobless youth over increasing retirement age

KCR's dole for unemployed soon, says KTR

DURGAM SRINIVAS | DC
HYDERABAD, JAN. 28

In an announcement that caught many unawares, Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS) working president K. Taraka Rama Rao on Thursday said that very soon, Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao would announce a monthly allowance for the unemployed youth in the state.

Though the ruling TRS party included an unemployment allowance of ₹3,000 per month for every



KTR ANNOUNCEMENT
nearly mid-way through the government's term, seemingly coincided with the alleged leak of the Pay Revision Commission (PRC) report.

ment was that Rama Rao, deviating from the regular practice of the ruling party, in which Chief Minister Chandrashekhar

Rao comes out with the disruptive moves and catches everyone by surprise, revealed a government policy decision in advance, at

a time when the public opinion seems to have accepted him as a CM-to-be in a short time.

Official sources told *Deccan Chronicle* that the TRS government had been "sensing some resentment" from unemployed youth over enhancement of the government employees' retirement age.

"We have been instructed by the Chief Minister to immediately initiate the process of promotions at various levels, which would also create vacan-

cies at the lower and entry levels," a senior official said.

The government wanted to reach out to unemployed youth, who would be angry if people retire two years later, the chances of any major recruitment drives in government during this TRS term would not happen, through this allowance and a promise to take up recruitments at the earliest, he added.

■ Page 2: 50,000 vacancies to be filled soon: KTR

UoH develops laser-based method for sorting plastic

DC CORRESPONDENT

HYDERABAD, JAN. 28

A research team from the University of Hyderabad (UoH) has developed a simple and low cost method for sorting plastic waste using a laser-based technique. Rajendar Junjuri and Dr G. Manoj Kumar used the technique called Laser-Induced Breakdown Spectroscopy (LIBS) to generate data from different types of plastics.

The samples were collected from a recycling plant to

simulate the conditions of a real-time application. The generated data was combined with machine learning to identify the type of unknown plastic.

The method, called low-cost sorting of plastic waste, was published in 'Optics & Photonics News' (OPN) review of 2020, published by the Optical Society of America (OSA) that highlights the most exciting optics research to emerge in the past year.

successful identification of samples from plastic waste with an average accuracy of around 97 per cent, enabling a great potential in realising a low-cost sorting system for plastic waste recycling.

The samples were collected from a recycling plant to simulate the conditions of a real-time application. The generated data was combined with machine learning to identify the type of unknown plastic.

This system demonstrated

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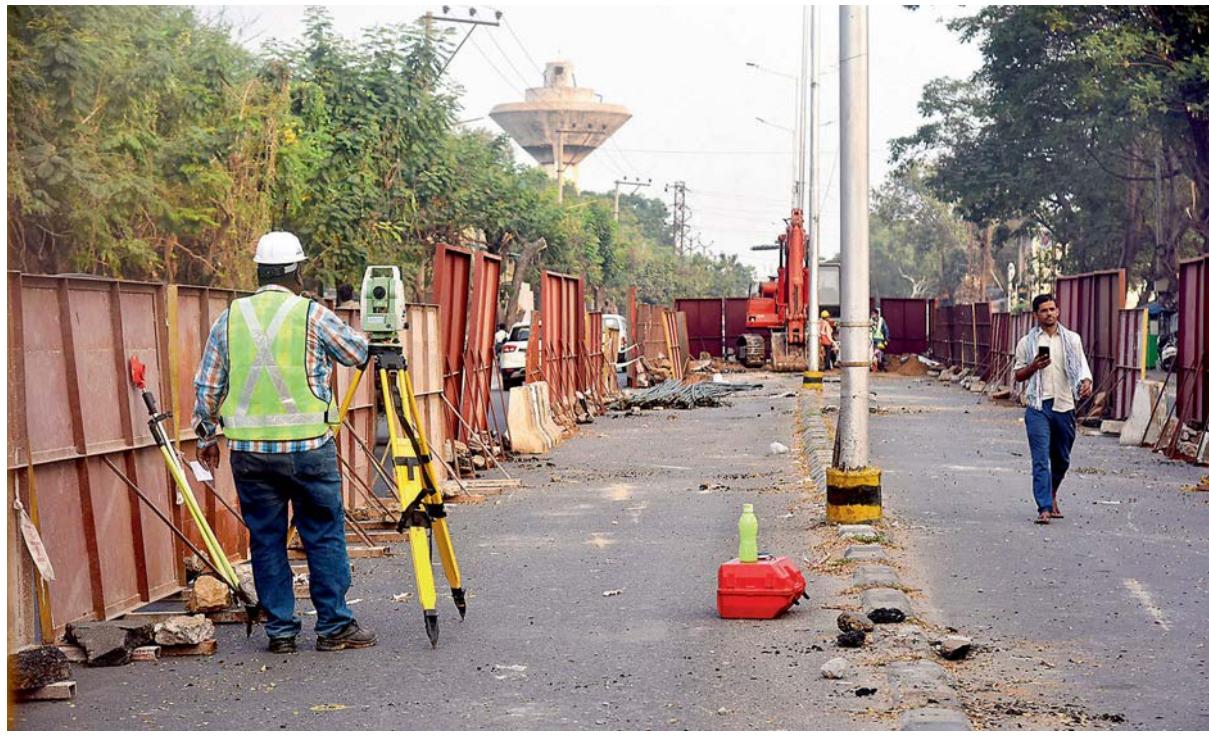
THE SAMPLES were collected from a recycling plant to simulate the conditions of a real-time application. The generated data was combined with machine learning to identify the type of unknown plastic.

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Under construction



A worker oversees the steel flyover work which runs above the Metro rail route at RTC crossroads, with the help of EFLU equipment, in Hyderabad on Thursday.

— R. PAVAN

KTR SAYS 50,000 VACANCIES TO BE FILLED SOON: KTR

From Page 1

The IT and industries minister was speaking on the occasion of the electricity labour organisation meeting at Telangana Bhavan here. On the dot, he said that the TRS government was keen to fill up 50,000 vacancies in various departments soon.

The enhancement of retirement age and increase in salaries comes at a time when several youth and student organisations are demanding that the government take up a massive recruitment drive.

EFLU VC STOPS SCHOLAR FROM ENTERING CAMPUS, BOOKED

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, JAN. 28

Prof. E. Suresh Kumar, Vice-Chancellor of English and Foreign Language University (EFLU), was booked by the Osmania University police for barring a student from attending Republic Day celebrations on campus.

According to the police, the case was booked following a complaint received by Porika Vikas, a second year BA Spanish student, against the Vice-Chancellor, in charge registrar Prof. T Samson and security persons.

"On Republic Day, Vikas, accompanied by his friend K. Srinath, a research scholar, tried to visit the EFLU campus to attend the celebrations. They were stopped by the security personnel who cited the Vice-Chancellor's instructions.

The student said that a group of security men grabbed him and pressed his private parts with an intention to kill him. "They lifted me and threw me near the university library. The guard used vulgar language, and demanded that we get out. Further,

Gajula Kumar and Karnati Srinath along with other students requested the men to permit me to join the celebrations, but in vain," the student said in the complaint petition.

● **ACCORDING TO** the police, case was booked following a complaint received by Porika Vikas, a second year BA Spanish student, against the V-C, in charge registrar Prof. T Samson and security persons.

HC pulls up TS for delay in child welfare panels

Gives 2 weeks to make 33 child welfare committees functional

State reports 2,127 cases of abduction in 2019: NCRB

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, JAN. 28

The Telangana High Court on Thursday lamented that the state government has unreasonably delayed notifying the formation of the child welfare committees in all the 33 districts. By doing so, the government turned the committees into name-sake and non-functional entities.

A division bench comprising Chief Justice Hima Kohli and Justice B. Vijaysen Reddy observed:

"Why is the Telangana government exhibiting such laxity in implementing orders of the court? The government must be mindful that it is dealing with the causes of children who are the most susceptible section of society and who do not have a voice to raise against the ones forcing them into the prostitution rackets."

The court gave the government two weeks to make all the 33 child welfare committees functional by appointing members and reporting compliance to the court within four weeks.

The bench rejected a request from the government for more time to notify the formation of the committees and made it clear that this process should be completed within two weeks.

The bench was dealing with a batch of six PILs and a writ petition in which the petitioners espoused the cause for protection and rehabilitation of minor

children who went missing in recent years and ended up in prostitution and other rackets.

While referring to the guidelines and series of directions issued in the case of Sadhan Halder v GNCT of Delhi by the Delhi High Court in detecting the missing children and reuniting them with their parents, Chief Justice Hima Kohli asked the state government to use the Automated Facial Rec-

ognition System (AFRS) to identify missing children.

The Chief Justice observed that justice cannot reach the missing children unless the police at the highest level monitored such matters closely. Advocate-General B.S. Prasad said the state government was using the Darpan project for the identification process.

"It is necessary to enlist the Union government as a party in such issues of chil-

In most of the kidnapping and abduction cases, children below 18 years of age are the victims. Of the total abductions, 1,247 were children below 18 years of age in 2018. Of these, 1,030 were female.

● **IN MOST** of the kidnapping and abduction cases, kids below 18 years of age are victims. Of the total abductions, 1,247 were children below 18 years of age in 2018. Of these, 1,030 were female.

According to data, 672 kidnapped children were in the age group of 16 to 18 years. Around 459 abducted people were untraceable till December 31, 2019, including 357 girls.

A total of 519 persons were kidnapped in Hyderabad last year. Across India, 98,888 kidnapping and abduction cases have been reported in 2019, which works out 271 per day. Of the total abducted persons, 80,856 are girls.

● **THE CHIEF JUSTICE** observed that justice cannot reach the missing children unless the police at the highest level monitored such matters closely.

dren," the CJ said and asked for impleading of the Union ministry of women and child welfare as a co-respondent. Notices were issued to the ministry as also to the Telangana state government.

Nurse tests +ve after Covid shot 45% turn up for vaccine in private hospitals

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, JAN. 28

A senior nurse at the Government Nizamia General Hospital at Charminar in the city, who received her first dose of Covid-19 vaccine on January 16, is now down with Covid-19. Four days after taking the vaccine, she is learnt to have developed fever and body pains, along with irritation in her throat.

When she realised that she was losing her sense of smell and taste, her colleagues urged to get herself tested for Covid-19. The test on Thursday revealed she had contracted the disease. She is learnt to have been on duty till Thursday.

The Government Nizamia General Hospital has a sanctioned strength of 210, but has only 85 on its rolls of whom 45 have been vaccinated.

As per vaccine manufacturers, immunity against Covid-19 is expected to develop only a couple of weeks after a person receives the second dose.

Dr Nirugonda Kavitha, incharge superintendent of the hospital, told Deccan Chronicle, "Since the rapid antigen test which nurse had taken can show false positive, she has given a sample for the RR-PCR test, and the result is awaited."

● **THE GOVERNMENT** Nizamia General Hospital has a sanctioned strength of 210, but has only 85 on its rolls of whom 45 have been vaccinated.

● **AS PER** vaccine manufacturers, immunity against Covid is expected to develop only a couple of weeks.

nurses, mirrors the response so far from their counterparts in the government sector hospitals who too are making their reluctance to take the vaccine evident with nearly half of them not turning up.

In the vaccination in private hospitals, doctors are leading their staff to get vaccines, but there is a lot of hesitancy as many of them want to wait and watch.

A health worker said, "There is a lot of fear among the maintenance staff and those at the middle level. They are abstaining from the drive. The senior doctors who are not dealing with Covid 19 cases are also hesitant and that too is causing prob-

TS RECORDS 186 NEW COVID-19 CASES

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, JAN. 28

Thursday. The number of cases has seen a downslide but the government states that the protection protocols of masks and hand washing must be followed strictly. The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation limits had 35 cases.

CM FOUCSSING ON IRRIGATION PROJECTS: ETALA

From Page 1

"Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao has taken up major irrigation projects and by completing them in a record time, he is trying to supply water for irrigation needs to each and every acre of land. For the well-being of the farming sector, he introduced schemes like Rythu Bandhu and Rythu Bhima," the health minister said.

The Union government introduced three new agriculture bills that are against the farming sector. The Centre should rethink on the bills, which are being vehemently opposed by farmers, he said.

MLC Naradasu Laxman Rao and Zilla Parishad chairperson Kanumalla Vijaya were present along with others.

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SHORT TAKES

URDU ACADEMY TO GIVE TEXTBOOKS FOR UG COURSES

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, JAN. 28

Urdu Academy has decided to provide Urdu textbooks of undergraduate courses to the libraries of the colleges where Urdu medium courses are available at subsidised rates instead of selling it directly to the students.

Academy has prepared and published nine textbooks for undergraduate courses in economics, history and political sciences in Urdu according to the CBCS-2019 pattern.

Director and secretary of the Urdu Academy Dr Mohammed Ghose said 1,000 copies of each book of each year were published, costing ₹7.4 lakh. About 3,000 students are pursuing studies in these subjects in the Urdu medium. The books will be provided to the libraries of the colleges between ₹40 and ₹50 per each copy to avoid black-marketing.

NEW 'ERAS' TECH TO HELP PATIENTS RECOVER IN A DAY

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, JAN. 28

The Enhanced Recovery After Surgery (ERAS) technique helps patients recover in a day from joint replacement surgery. The technique which has been introduced at Star Hospitals is evidence-based surgery where the dose of anaesthesia is less.

Dr Neelam V. Ramana Reddy, chief joint replacement surgeon at Star Hospitals, said, "This is a big advantage especially during the Coronavirus pandemic, since the patient is not required to stay for a prolonged period in the hospital. The critical part of this procedure is the patient selection and educating them about the procedure and its nuances. Preoperative counselling and education helps patient's be prepared and aware of the procedure." Star Hospitals is conducting this procedure in selective patients.

Going green



A volunteer arranges plants at the 9th Grand Nursery Mela which kicked off at People's Plaza, Necklace Road on Thursday in Hyderabad.

— DEEPAK DESHPANDE

Rabid cow gores man to death, many hurt

Bovine knocks over zoo official before being trapped

NAVEEN KUMAR I DC
HYDERABAD, JAN. 28

This video grab shows the cow ramming into Dr M.A. Hakeem, deputy director, Nehru Zoo Park, in Pahadishareef in Hyderabad.

The deceased, Khaja, 65, a local resident, was attacked by the cow which then ran into a nearby bushy area. It later slammed into Dr M.A. Hakeem, the zoo deputy director, and ran

the zoo received a call regarding the cow at about 1 pm, following which an eight-member team left to catch it.

"By the time we arrived, the cow had killed a man. It took us an hour to search for the animal and the teams took position to administer the tranquiliser dart. I was standing with other officials facing the animal at a distance. Once the tranquiliser hit it, the cow ran in our direction. Before anyone could react, it dashed into me," Dr Hakeem said.

He was knocked out for a few minutes and his colleagues took him to a hospital where he was

examined and found to be suffering from minor bruises. "I have tracked and tranquilised leopards, bears and other animals but never was attacked. But a cow got me," Dr Hakeem said.

After the dart hit the cow, it went down in about 30 minutes after which it was trussed up and sent to the GHMC animal shelter at Jiyaguda.

"It was a risky operation because the cow was running helter skelter. We learnt that the cow was bitten by a rabid dog and we suspect it is suffering from the disease that could explain the way it was acting," he said.

Meanwhile, there are reports of farmers dying while using the banned pesticides, which the traders also sell in large quantities without bills and receipts in Nizamabad and other towns.

District agriculture officer M. Govind said that they had seized Raja Rajeshwara and Ganesh fertilizers shops in Nizamabad for selling banned pesticides, which were

CELPHOS IS categorised under restricted use norm for central warehousing godowns and other public undertakings. Under the supervision of experts, it can be used to kill rats and bandicoots, official sources said.

Many fertiliser dealers are putting the lives of farmers in peril and posing a threat to ecological balance, by continuing to sell pesticides that were banned in Nizamabad district for the last few months. The extent of illegal activity was found during raids carried out by Vigilance and Enforcement (V&E) department in Nizamabad and Kamareddy districts, recently.

The traders have been selling banned products like Celpbos and Phorate 10g in the two districts. While the Centre banned Celpbos long ago, the latter was banned last December.

These two pesticides are being used to kill rats, bandicoots and pests in agriculture fields.

There is a huge demand from the farmers for these pesticides and it is made available in select shops.

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FIRE BREAKS OUT AT SHAH GHOUSE HOTEL BRANCH IN GACHIBOWLI

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, JAN. 28

A fire broke out in a branch of Shah Ghose, a popular restaurant, in Gachibowli on Thursday. No casualties were reported. Fire officials suspected that a short circuit might have led to the fire.

According to the Cyberabad police, the hotel staff of Shah Ghose, Gachibowli, noticed fire and smoke emitting from the building and alerted the fire department. Two fire engines were sent to the spot and the flames were doused within a few minutes. The value of the damaged property is yet to be estimated.

ACB BOOKS PANCHAYAT RAJ ASSISTANT FOR ACCEPTING BRIBE

Hyderabad: The ACB arrested a panchayat raj assistant engineer when he was allegedly receiving a bribe of ₹2 lakh from a contractor on Thursday in Adilabad. The accused, Chandrasekhar, had demanded the bribe Sunil for recording four gravel roads in the measurement book at an estimated cost of ₹95 lakh, ACB DSP Madusudhan said.

Following this, the contractor approached the ACB sleuths who laid a trap for the engineer. Chandrasekhar was to be presented before a special court for ACB cases on Thursday evening in Karimnagar.

— INN

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*Vide Gazette Notification GSR 690 (E), dated 06.11.2020, the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRTH) has mandated FASTag for all old vehicles (Class M & N category) sold before December 2017, w.e.f. 1st January 2021

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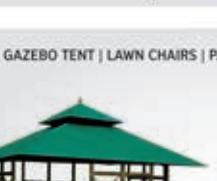


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SHORT TAKES
CS TAKES OPINION OF TEACHERS UNIONS ON PRC

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, JAN. 28

Continuing the process of consultation with employees associations, the three-member committee headed by Chief Secretary Somesh Kumar met representatives of the State Teachers Union, Telangana State (STUTS), Progressive Recognised Teachers Union (PRTU) and Telangana United Teachers Federation (TUTF) here on Thursday.

The committee heard the views of the associations separately with regard to the Pay Revision Commission (PRC) recommendations and other employee issues.

The employee unions demanded that fitment be increased to 43 per cent. The Chief Secretary assured that the committee will take their opinions to the Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao.

From the government side, the meeting was attended by principal secretaries Ramakrishna Rao (finance) and Rajat Kumar (irrigation). STUTS was represented by its president G. Sadanandam Goud, general secretary M. Parvath Reddy, and members B. Bhujanga Rao, P. Praveen Kumar, P. Rama Subba Rao, M. Anji Reddy, M. Chennaiah, Giridhar Reddy, Anantha Reddy and Abdul Hameed represented the PRTU. From the TUTF, present at the meeting were its president D. Malla Reddy, general secretary N. Babu, associate president D. Srinivas and members P. Raghunandan Reddy and J. Kailasam.

PUBLIC NOTICE
 Notice is hereby given that my clients, have entered into Agreement of sale for the purchase of agricultural land to an total extent of Ac. 2.00, in all covered under four separate registered sale deeds, situated in Sy No.95 of Raavryala (V), Maheswaram (M), R.R District, from the land owners and possessors namely (1) Smt. Reddigalla Andalu W/o, Sri. R. Balaji 2) Smt. Reddigalla Lalitha W/o, R. Srinivas 3) Smt. Reddigalla Bhagya Lakshmi W/o, Sri. R. Dasu and Late Smt. Reddigalla Santhoshia W/o Sri. R. Rathnam, since died by her, namely (a) Sri. Reddigalla Bhagya Lakshmi S/o, Sri. R. Nagalal (b) Mr. Reddigalla Bhagya Lakshmi S/o, Sri. R. Rathnam (c) Mr. Reddigalla Hanireddy S/o, Sri. R. Rathnam (d) Mr. Reddigalla Krishna Venchi S/o, Sri. R. Rathnam and (e) Mr. Reddigalla Lakshmi Prasanna Dio, Sri. R. Rathnam all Rio. Sardamgar (V), Maheswaram (M), R.R. District, who in turn purchased from Smt. Busanagar Kasthama W/o, B. Lakshmi, Rio. Sardamgar, Maheswaram (M), during the year 2005 for a valid consideration. My clients have in pursuance of this Agreement paid substantial amount to all the said owners towards this transaction as advance. All that four extents i.e., A.C-0.20 Ghs each making a total extent of Ac.2.00 Ghs are all adjoining and contiguous forming as one single Bld with overall boundaries at NORT-Hexisting 60 feet Raavylala to Sardamgar, Road SOUTH-Land in Survey No.94 of Raavylala (V) belonging to Sri Elmetti Narasimha Reddy, EAST-Land as Ac.5.00 Ghs in Survey No. 95 & 100 belonging to Sri. T. Obula Reddy and 2 others WEST-Land as Ac.1.00 Ghs in Survey No. 95 & 100A belonging to joint owners, namely 1) Smt. Chukkuri Vidyalatha W/o, Sri. A. Surendra Prakash & 2) Sri. V. Srinivas Reddy S/o, Late Sri N. Ganti Reddy.
 Any Person, Finance institutions or any body having interest, claim, charge etc., may present their objections/information within (10) days of this notice to the undersigned counsel in writing, supported with all relevant documents. Thereafter the claim(s) if any, shall not be entertained and considered as waived, being sufficient to proceed, per law.
D.SAI PRASAD ADVOCATE,
 Adarshnagar, Hyderabad Cell : 9704092919

Oppn case on Pharma City has no merit: KTR

KTR opens logistics park, says city needs 11 m sq ft space

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, JAN. 28

Industries minister K. T. Rama Rao on Thursday slammed the Opposition parties for what he called "politically motivated attacks" on the TRS government's plans for setting up Pharma City near Hyderabad.

Mincing no words, Rama Rao said the hostility to the project was rooted in hatred the Opposition parties have for the state government. "The purpose of the protests against the project is only to prevent the government from earning a good name," Rama Rao said.

The minister was speaking at Batasingaram in Ibrahimpatnam Assembly constituency where he inaugurated a trucks logistics park. Hyderabad, he said, has emerged as the city that supplied the world with medicines to fight the Coronavirus, be it drugs like hydroxy chloroquine tablets or Remdesivir, or the vaccines that have been developed in the city to combat Covid-19.

"Even former US President Donald Trump called our Prime Minister and asked India to send medicines to fight the Coronavirus and we sent them from here. Hyderabad is set to emerge further as the pharma and life sciences



Minister K.T. Rama Rao speaks at the inaugural of the truck logistics park at Batasingaram near Hyderabad. It has 2 lakh square feet of warehouses, parking for 500 trucks, cold storage for 10,000 metric tonnes, dormitory, restaurants, office space, fuel stations, health centre and service centre.

— By arrangement

THERE WILL BE NO POWER PROBLEM FOR NEXT GENERATION, SAYS KTR

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, JAN. 28

TRS working president K.T. Rama Rao said that there was no power problem in Telangana after the state formation. "We have reached a stage where we can proudly say that in future there will be no power problem for our children," he said. He was speaking with electricity labour workers at Telangana Bhavan.

He recalled that earlier, there used to be a three-day 'power holiday', and

industrialists used to stage protests. "Our government has overcome all issues. We are producing 16,000 megawatts now from 7,000 megawatts earlier. In solar production, we have the second place in the country. We are supplying power without interruption," he

The minister said the government would resolve the problems of the employees of the power department. "This government is yours. We take special care of the employees," he said.

capital and the opposition to the Pharma City project is only to try and gain political mileage," Rama Rao said.

He said fears over pollution from Pharma City were unfounded. The technology 30 or 20 years ago when pharma industry had come up in the city was different. Now, modern methods ensure there is no pollution from these industries. "Not just that, all those who will work in the Pharma City will live within it. When this can be done, there should be no fear of pollution among others," Rama Rao said.

He said that farmers whose lands are to be used for Pharma City are being given plots and compensation and the project will create employment opportunities for the locals.

Rama Rao, on the truck logistics park, said there was enormous scope for Hyderabad, emerging as an industrial manufacturing hub, to ship products all over India and for export to other countries. Estimates are that the city will need 11 million square feet of logistics godown space against which we now have 50 lakh square feet.

There is tremendous scope for growth and the government is planning similar logistics parks around the Outer Ring Road.

HC grills state on delays hitting unorganised sector

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, JAN. 28

The Telangana High Court on Thursday asked the state government whether it had any sympathy for workers in the unorganised sector or not.

The court said the doubt gains credence from the fact that it has not started the registration process for workers in that sector.

A division bench of Chief Justice Hima Kohli and Justice B. Vijayash Reddy was adjudicating a PIL filed by Congress leader Cilarapu Damodar Rajanarsimha, espousing the cause of the unorganised workers, the problems they are facing and

the pathetic life they led during the lockdown.

According to petitioner's counsel Ch Ravi Kumar, the government had failed to constitute the State Social Security Board for unorganised workers numbering over one crore. Many of them lost their livelihood. Now, they are deprived of statutory protection and the benefits intended under the Labour Welfare Act.

Five months ago, during the first hearing of the PIL, the then division bench asked the government to appoint all 32 members of the board. Only two were appointed — the labour minister and an official from the department.

The bench questioned the government as to why it has not constituted the board when it had issued GO No. 36 two years back. The court also directed the government to reveal the funding of the board.

The court summoned the labour commissioner on February 25 to explain the delay in constitution of a full-fledged board and why it had delayed starting the registration.

The Chief Justice found fault with the counter-affidavit of the labour commissioner stating that the appointment of the board is under active consideration and they wanted another five years to make the appointments.

I have not resigned, says BJP Peddapalli president

DC CORRESPONDENT
PEDDAPALLI, JAN. 28

When the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) was celebrating its win in the Dubbik by-elections and performing well in Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) elections, a social media post that former RTC chairman Somarapu Satyanarayana had resigned as BJP district unit created a buzz in political circles here on Thursday.

Right from the time Karimnagar MP Bandi Sanjay Kumar took

charge as BJP state chief, the party had seen some key leaders from other parties, including the TRS, joining it. To strengthen the party from the grass-root level, the party leadership recently appointed presidents for other districts and gave good positions to the loyalists.

But from the past few months, Satyanarayana was not happy with the district leaders who were conducting meetings without informing him. He even took the issue to the notice of the party

leadership and expressed deep concern.

The social media post came against this backdrop, and alleged that Satyanarayana had sent his resignation letter to party leadership because of alleged group politics and his being ignored.

However, setting the record straight, Satyanarayana said that he had not resigned but had only mentioned how he was being sidelined and how the district committee appointed by him four months back was yet to get the nod.

21-YEAR-OLD HELD FOR RAPING MINOR

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, JAN. 28

The Trimulgherry police arrested a fashion designer for allegedly raping a 16-year-old minor girl after promising to marry her.

Police said the accused, Abhishek Goud, 21, of Gowlipura, had become acquainted with the victim via Instagram. He later promised to marry her. When she told him about her family pressuring her to get married, Abhishek and two friends took her to the Yadadri temple on Sunday and kept her in a rented room. He allegedly raped her that night and the following night.

Fill vacant posts immediately



TPCC president N. Uttam Kumar Reddy along with party MLA Jeevan Reddy speaks to the media regarding the Pay Revision Commission recommendations, in Hyderabad on Thursday.

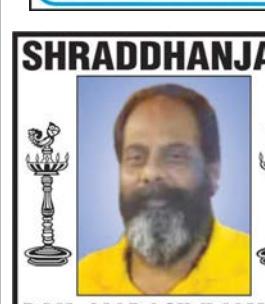
— P. SURENDRA



SHRADHANJALI
 RESPECTED Late SHRI MYADAM KISHAN RAO GARU
 INDUSTRIALIST, PHILANTHROPIST
 Chairman MKVVG Trust Board
 DOB: 10-02-1936 - DOD: 12-01-2021
 While performing his duties suddenly passed away on 12-01-2021 at 04:00 PM to Condole his sudden and sad demise.

Condolence meeting
 Today the 29-01-2021 Friday at 4:00 pm
 at MYADAM ANJAIAH HALL,
 MKVVG Trust Bhawan Premises, Kachiguda, Hyd.

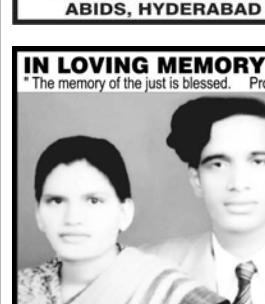
Inserted by:
 MUNNURUKAPU (KAPU) VIDYARTHI VASATHI
 GRUHAM TRUST BOARD, Kachiguda, Hyderabad.



R.V.L. NARASIMHAM
 D.O.B. 26-01-2021
 BEST FRIENDS FOREVER WE TRULY MISS YOU.

KISHORE KABRA & ASHOK KABRA ABIDS, HYDERABAD

The memory of the righteous is a blessing...
 Proverbs 10:7
MEMORIAL SERVICE
 Memorial service is being held on
 29th Jan 2021 at Methodist Church,
 Vikarabad at 11:30 AM
 Inserted by: All the Family Members
 Ph:9440951033



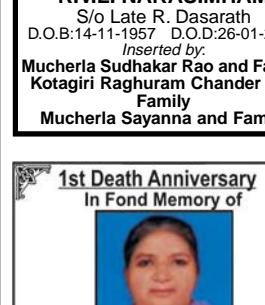
Mrs.KOMMU NAVANEETHAM
 W/o Mr. AKULA THOMAS GEORGE
 Inserted by:
 Children, Grand children and Great Grand children.
 9949950133

OBITUARY
 IN LOVING MEMORY OF
 The memory of the just is blessed. Prov 10:7
 Mrs. Rama Ravindran
 DOB: 13-05-1941 DOD: 28-01-2021
 Deeply mourned by:
 Ravindran Nair C.R. (Husband)
 Surendran Nair C.R., Reshma Surendran, Akshit Surendran and family members



R.V.L. NARASIMHAM
 S/o Late R. Dasarath
 DOB:14-11-1957 DOD:26-01-2021
 Inserted by:
 Mucherla Sudhakar Rao and Family
 Kotagiri Raghuram Chander and Family
 Mucherla Sayanna and Family

3rd DEATH ANNIVERSARY
 B.L. Shanker Lal Yadav
 DOB: 29-01-2018
 Inserted by:
 Terela Siva Kumar, Gunnu Yadav, Baba Yadav, Ram Shankla, Umesh Shankla, S. Bhakta, S. Nirjanan & Dhana Yadav
 (S/2021/D01138)



Mrs. Lily David Dannel
 W/o Late David Daniel
 DOB: 18.01.1939 DOD: 29.01.2020
 Your life was a blessing. Your memory was a treasure. You were loved beyond words, And missed beyond measure

Inserted by:
 Terrance, Rockline & Micheal Warren
 Caroline & Martin Vaz & Great Grand Children, Ph: 9703100858

1st Death Anniversary
 In Fond Memory of
 A.S. Saketh Mudaliar
 DOB: 12-12-2011 | DOD: 29-01-2020
 Your life was a blessing. Your memory was a treasure. You are loved beyond words and missed beyond measures
 Jai Shree Krishna
 Miss you beta ever loving: Mom, Dad & Brother

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the general public about factual position relating to a property bearing Premises Nos 8-2-120/120/120/A, 8-2-120/A/1 to 18 in all extent of Ac 3-28 Guntas in Plot No 19 of Jubilee Defunct Municipality in Survey No 403 (new Survey No. 129) and T.S No 1/1/2 situated at Road No 10, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad (Opposite Cancer Hospital) which is a subject matter of a Public Notice dated 23.01.2021 issued by Mr. Francis Mathews , Advocate for Hotel Leela Ventures Limited known as HLV Limited , Sahar Mumbai (HLV for brevity). Through the said Notice, it had been informed to the Public that HLV are absolute owner in exclusive possession of the above mentioned Property (as on 23.01.2021) and claimed that the judgment of the Supreme Court dated 28.09.2010 upholding the validity of Gazette Notification of Govt. of AP has no bearing on the title of HLV. Further it was informed that HLV have entered into an MOU dated 9.4.2014 to sell the said land to M/S PBSAMP Projects Private Limited, Hyderabad subject to condition that HLV has to settle 4 litigations mentioned in the said MOU and obtain permission from the state Government to change the land use and to sell the said land to third parties; PBSAMP agreed to advance monies up to Rs20 crores for the same and accordingly had advanced an amount of Rs15.5 crores

My client PBSAMP Projects Pvt Limited (PBSAMP for brevity) intends to clarify that as per the terms of the said MOU, all the title documents of the said land were kept in a joint escrow account with 3i infotech Limited as a security and still the said documents remain in joint custody. Hotel Leela Ventures failed to fulfill its obligations within the stipulated time of 180 days. Accordingly, PBSAMP terminated the said MOU on 9th October 2014 and required HLV to return the advance amount of Rs. 15.5 crores together with 21% interest as per agreed terms of the MOU. As HLV though in principle agreed to pay the said amount, wondertly started delaying refund even after several persuasions; PBSAMP invoked the arbitration clause. The Arbitral Tribunal constituted as per the said MOU, after fully and finally hearing the parties, partly allowed the claim of the PBSAMP (to return the advance together with 21% interest till the date of actual payment) totally rejecting the claims of HLV vide its award dated 08.09.2019.

Recently, PBSAMP came to know that a Joint Development Agreement bearing Document No 4894/2019 was Registered in favour of M/s Sri Venkateswara Constructions represented by Mr.Kadiyala Subba Rao by some persons claiming that their title as recognized in GOMS 675 is revived as a result of Supreme Court Judgment dated 28.09.2010. PBSAMP shared the above information and requested Hotel Leela Ventures Ltd to inform the steps taken by it to protect the land. There was no reply from HLV. Since, Sri Vivek Nair CMD of Hotel Leela Leela though aware of the above Supreme Court's judgment; had dishonestly induced PBSAMP to enter into MOU & to release Advances without disclosing the above said material fact, PBSAMP filed FIR in the Banjara Hills PS for cheating and also for committing misappropriation of advance so received from PBSAMP. PBSAMP also took the matter to all concerned authorities and building plan approving authorities and the matter is under investigation.

PBSAMP came to know that Venkateswara Constructions has started taking advances from the prospective customers by promising to book flat/flats in the proposed project in the said land. Through this public Notice my client seeks to caution the general public against paying any advances to any firm or company against booking of flat or flats or spaces in any proposed project in the above said land. Accordingly, all the concerned public are put to the notice. Please note that if any person enters into an agreement or pays advance to a person or persons claiming interest in or dealing with the said land is doing so at his own risk.

Suresh Challa - Advocate
 Hyderabad
 C-68 Balaji Towers, 1-1-538, Gandhinagar, Hyderabad-80.
 Cell: 8688216167

29.01.2021

STILL DIVIDED

THIS MUST be done as per provisions in Section 53(1) of the AP Reorganisation Act 2014 in the ratio 5

SHORT TAKES

AP HC KEEPS DECISION ON TD LEADER ASIDE

DC CORRESPONDENT
VIZIANAGARAM, JAN. 28

The High Court on Thursday set aside the AP government order to remove TD leader Ashok Gajapathi Raju as hereditary trustee of three temples, following the attack on the Ramatheertham temple last month.

The Andhra Pradesh government had on January 2 removed the TD leader from the post of chairman of Kodandarama Swamy Devasthanam in Ramateertham, Sri Pyditali Ammavari Devasthanam and Sri Mandeswara Swamy temples in East Godavari district.

The government had stated that he had "failed in discharging his legitimate duties" and "address security issues" of the temples.

Following the High Court order, Raju Tweeted: "The order to remove me as hereditary trustee/chairman of Ramateertham has been set aside by High court today. I saw in the news that is the Pratishtha at Ramateertham when Lord Rama blessed me on this auspicious day to continue in his service."

At the stage of admission, the High Court found that the order did not follow procedure under the statute, Raju said in a statement.

It its order, the government had said: "Ashok Gajapathi Raju has failed to discharge his legitimate duties and address the issues relating to the security aspects of the temple and failed to take steps to prevent the vandalism of Lord Rama's idol in Sri Rama Swamy Devasthanam in Vizianagaram district." It cited the beheading of the Lord Rama idol at the Kodandarama Swamy Devasthanam at Ramateertham on December 28 last to relieve Raju of his duties.

ACB ARRESTS AP EASTERN DISCOM STAFF 2ND TIME

DC CORRESPONDENT
VISAKHAPATNAM, JAN. 28

Madem Nageswara Rao, an assistant executive engineer with the AP eastern discom, landed in the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) net for the second time on Thursday.

Belonging to the Kommodi division, Nageswara Rao was reinstated in 2013 after being dismissed from service for 10 years for corruption in 2003.

On Thursday, the ACB sleuths found over ₹40 crore of illegal assets — movable and immovable properties — belonging to Nageswara Rao.

The ACB officials said that Nageswara Rao joined the electricity department in 1991 and underwent training as lineman in Visakhapatnam and promoted as sub-engineer in 1992. He was trapped by the ACB in 1994 and was convicted and dismissed from service in 2003. After 10 years of dismissal, he was reinstated in 2013 as sub-engineer and promoted as AEE in 2014.

On Thursday, the ACB sleuths raided the house of Nageswara Rao and those of his relatives simultaneously in 12 places, including Visalakshnagar, MVP Colony, Madhurawada, and Rambilli in Vizag city and district.

Shakila Bhanu, deputy superintendent of police, ACB, Vizag, said that during the course of searches, they had seized illegal assets of Nageswara Rao and his family members, which include two houses, three house flats (including a luxury flat in Vizag city), two vehicles and fixed deposits worth ₹1.11 crore.

PATHRI RAJASEKHAR | DC NELLORE, JAN. 28

As the life of the Covid vaccine is only for three months, the administration is in a fix over completing the first round of vaccination as per schedule since nearly 40 per cent of healthcare workers are avoiding inoculation under one pretext or other because of rumours over its efficacy and possible side-effects.

As many as 38,500 doses of the vaccine were received by the authorities in Nellore to provide jabs to nearly 32,000 health workers within 15 days.

As part of the objective, session sites were increased from 26 to 46 to offer the vaccine to 100 per-

Internet fatigue looms over online workforce

Students complain of negative impact on academics

KANIZA GARARI | DC HYDERABAD, JAN. 28

Doctors say the problem of Internet fatigue has set in. Many users report to doctors that they are not able to cope with the pressure from regular Net use and want to avoid going online.

They complain of recurrent headaches, vertigo, mood swings, anxiety, sleep disorders and eye problems. Notably, the complaints are coming from non-information technology sectors.

Working online and too

much of sitting are causing these problems, say doctors, who add that these people are faced with problems of poor concentration, depression, stress, online gaming addiction etc.

Students say their academic performance is seriously affected. This can manifest as both mental fatigue and physical fatigue manifested as musculoskeletal pain at neck, shoulder, arms, the back, say doctors.

Naresh Gundapaneni, general physician at Renova Hospital, said, "Due to

excess stress levels, internet fatigue has set in among students, bank employees, software professionals and teachers. They are complaining mainly of disturbed sleep, severe weakness, neck and shoulder pain, recurrent headache and vertigo."

Visual fatigue is the most frequent complaint followed by musculoskeletal pain. The dominant regions of pain are the neck, shoulders, arms, fingers and the back. The internet fatigue has led to absenteeism



Home minister Mahmood Ali, DGP Mahendar Reddy, Hyderabad police commissioner Anjani Kumar and AIMIM MLA from Nampally Jaffer Hussain Meraj look at CCTV footage on screen after the inauguration of the Nampally police station in Hyderabad on Thursday.

— P. SURENDRA

50 types of services given to citizens, says top cop

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, JAN. 28

"The police system has emerged as the best in the country and police personnel from other states are coming in to study the policing methods followed here," said the home minister.

"The department has adopted a people-friendly police system and the personnel are striving hard to maintain peace and security. Nearly six lakh surveillance cameras have been installed across three police stations. They are working as receptionists and providing assistance to those who come to the police station," he said.

Mahendar Reddy said the government has

sanctioned 19 new law and order and six traffic police stations across the state and the Command Control Centre at Banjara Hills would be ready for launch soon.

Anjani Kumar said 50 types of services are being provided by the police to the citizens. "Four persons have been given special training within each police station. They are working as receptionists and providing assistance to those who come to the police station," he said.

General Public is hereby informed that the Work of Railway Electrification is completed in Thokur-Karwar Section of Karwan Region of Konkan Railway. The Overhead Conductors/Wires shall be considered Live on High Voltage (25 KV) at all times. General Public is warned that going close to or touching these wires can be Dangerous and Fatal.

2 brothers stabbed during clash between two groups

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, JAN. 28

Two brothers sustained injuries following a fight during a clash between two groups at Singareni Colony in Saidabad early on Wednesday.

According to the police, Y. Venk Gopal, 23, a cab driver from Singareni Colony, along with his brother Srikanth, who intervened, was stabbed in the abdomen multiple times," said the police, adding that

were in a conversation when his colleague Naveen came along with one Uday Kishore and others and picked up a fight.

"During the argument, Uday Kishore took out a knife concealed in his clothes and allegedly stabbed Venk Gopal in his back. Srikanth, who intervened, was stabbed in the abdomen multiple times," said the police, adding that

locals rushed to their rescue. By then, Naveen and Uday Kishore had fled the spot.

The injured were rushed to the Osmania General Hospital, where Srikanth's condition was stated to be critical. The Saidabad police, based on a complaint from Venk Gopal, booked a case of attempt to murder against Uday Kishore, Naveen and others.

PENSION FUND REGULATORY AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
B-14/A, CHHATRAPATI SHIVAJI BHAWAN, QUTAB INSTITUTIONAL AREA,
KATWARA SARAI, NEW DELHI - 110016.

VACANCY NOTICE

Applications are invited for filling up one (1) post of Executive Director on direct recruitment or contract or deputation basis in PFRDA. The complete details of eligibility criteria like qualification and experience, scale of pay, mode of selection and application form etc. are available on PFRDA's website at www.pfrda.org.in under 'careers' section and also on the website of National Career Service at www.ncs.gov.in.

2. Any corrigendum/ addendum/ notices (if any) relating to this vacancy notice shall be issued only on the website of PFRDA.
3. The last date for receipt of applications is 26 February, 2021 (Friday).

Sd/-
THE GENERAL MANAGER
(Admin & HR)

davp 15102/11/0020/2021

Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation

Preliminary Notification

Notice No. GFC/SBM/GHMC/2021 Dt: 21.01.2021
It is hereby announced to all the citizens of GHMC area that Hyderabad is declared as 5 Star City. In this matter, whoever have any objection, complaints, suggestions may be brought to the notice of the undersigned on or before 06.02.2021 in written form after verification of objections, complaints, suggestions received GHMC will declare Hyderabad as 5 Star City.

R.O No: 8888-PP/CL/Adv/1/2020-21

Sd/- Commissioner - GHMC

Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation

ALWAL CIRCLE AMENDMENT

Date: 27.01.2021
Sub: GHMC-Engg - Alwal Circle - Amendment to Tender Notice No. 31/DB/EE/Alwal Circle/GHMC/2020-21-Regarding:

On Administrative Ground the following amendment is issued to the Tender notice. NIT No. 31/DB/EE/Alwal Circle/GHMC/2020-21, Dt: 29.12.2020

Sl.No.	Particulars	Given as	Read as
1	Start Date	18.01.2021 10:00 PM	29.01.2021 10:00 PM
2	Download End Date	21.01.2021 04:00 PM	02.02.2021 04:00 PM
3	Last Date & Time for Receipt of Bids	21.01.2021 04:00 PM	02.02.2021 04:00 PM
4	Price Bid Opening	21.01.2021 04:30 PM	02.02.2021 04:30 PM

Other Condition remained un-altered. Sd/- Executive Engineer, Alwal Circle, GHMC

R.O No: 8888-PP/CL/Adv/1/2020-21

RAILWAY ELECTRIFICATION KONKAN RAILWAY, KARWAR

NOTICE

General Public is hereby informed that the Work of Railway Electrification is completed in Thokur-Karwar Section of Karwan Region of Konkan Railway. The Overhead Conductors/Wires shall be considered Live on High Voltage (25 KV) at all times. General Public is warned that going close to or touching these wires can be Dangerous and Fatal.

Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer/RE KRCL/Karwar

INDIAN NURSING COUNCIL (STATUTORY BODY UNDER MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE)

National Florence Nightingale Awards-2021

On behalf of Government of India, Indian Nursing Council is inviting nominations for National Florence Nightingale Nurse Awards-2021. For the award Nursing Personnel working in the State, Central, Autonomous Institution, Private, Missionary and Voluntary Organization etc. are eligible to apply through the State Government, Central Government and Directors respectively. The detailed guidelines along with application proforma are placed on the website namely www.indiannursingcouncil.org.

davp 17111/11/0002/2021

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA REVENUE (LA) DEPARTMENT FORM - C

(Under Section-11 of the Act where 10 A Exemption is given)
(See rule 6/12)

Gazette No.GHMC-10 No.C/135/SRD/2021 Dated: 23.01.2021
Dated: 22.01.2021

Whereas it appears to the Government of Telangana/ Special Collector (LA) & Commissioner, GHMC, that a total of 256.68 Sq.Yds land is required in the Mansoorabad Village, Saroornagar Mandal, Ranga Reddy District for proposed road widening Multi Level Flyover from Kamineni Hospital to L.B. Nagar Police Station.

Therefore it is notified that for the above said project in the Mansoorabad Village, Saroornagar Mandal, Ranga Reddy District land measuring more or less 256.68 Sq.Yds of Standard measurement, whose detail description is as following, is proposed for acquisition:

S. No.	Premises No	Type of Title	Type of Land	Extent in Sq. Yds	Name & Address of person interested	Boundaries	Trees	Structures
1	3-8-481/1 Plot No.77	Raghunadh Patta	North East West South	256.68	Sri M.M. Naik & 2 others	As per Sketch	- - -	Open
				Total	256.68			

This Notification is made under the provisions of Section-11(1) of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 (Central Act No.30/2013), as amended by the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (Telangana Amendment) Act, 2016 (Act No. 21 of 2017) to whom it may concern.

A plan of the land may be inspected in the office of the Special Collector & Commissioner, GHMC, Hyderabad on any working day during the working hours. The Government of Telangana/ Special Collector-cum-Appropriate Government is pleased to authorize Officer, i.e., Special Deputy Collector, Land Acquisition, GHMC, Hyderabad and his staff to enter upon and survey land, take levels of any land, dig or bore into the sub-soil & do all other acts required for the proper execution of their work as provided and specified in Section-12 of the said Act.

Under Section 11 (4) of the Act, no person shall make any transaction or cause any transaction of land i.e. sale / purchase, etc. or create any encumbrances on such land from the date of publication of such Notification without prior approval of the Special Collector.

Objections to the acquisition if any, and claims from all the persons interested / affected for settlement by negotiation of the compensation, may be filed by the person interested in the land within 60 (sixty) days from the date of publication of this Notification as provided under Section 15 of the Act before Special Collector / Authorized officer.

Sd/-
Special Deputy Collector (LA),
GHMC, Hyderabad.

DIPR No. 1180/LA/PA/Advt/Agency/2020-21

RAIL COACH FACTORY, KAPURTHALA

On-line bids are invited by PCMM, RCF on behalf of President of India for following items:-

Sr. No.	Tender No.	Description	Qty.(Nos./ Sets)	EMD (₹)

<tbl_r

SHORT TAKES

TWO YOUTHS SLIT 8-YR-OLD GIRL'S THROAT IN ODISHA

AKSHAYA KUMAR SAHOO | DC BHUBANESWAR, JAN. 28

An eight-year-old girl hailing from Sorala village in Odisha's Ganjam district is battling for her life after two miscreants on Thursday slit her throat following an attempt of sexual assault on her.

The girl was rescued in a critical condition from a closed room of a deserted house on the outskirts of the village. It is alleged that two youths lured the girl to the deserted house by offering her chocolates and then tried sexually assault. They later slit her throat fearing that she might disclose the heinous act to her parents.

"We have taken the two accused into custody and interrogation is on. Preliminary investigation suggests that one of the culprits attempted to kill the girl after making sexual assault bid on her," said local superintendent of police Pinak Mishra.

"The girl was playing near the house. We don't know what happened with her. After getting news, we rushed to the spot and rescued her in critical condition," said a relative of the injured girl.

The family members further said that a group of villagers managed to nab one person from the spot while the other one was apprehended a few minutes later from his house.

"I am not aware why the two youths attacked my daughter. I had no enmity with anyone," said the victim's father.

MAHARASHTRA HOME MINISTER WARNS BJP

SONU SHRIVASTAVA | DC MUMBAI, JAN. 28

NCP leader and Maharashtra home minister Anil Deshmukh on Thursday threatened police action against BJP for calling BJP MP Raksha Khadse 'Homosexual' on the party's official website. Interestingly, soon many netizens pointed that Khadse's constituency is Raver and its Hindi translation as per Google Translate is 'homosexual' and hence it was likely the case of someone using Google to translate English content in Hindi.

State BJP said it will investigate the matter, but also questioned Maharashtra home minister's intention. While Khadse said there was no mistake on her party's official website, but she received screenshots of an online page 'save Maharashtra from BJP' that published the doctored images.

Khadse said that it is good that the home minister has taken cognizance of it but he should have avoided sharing the post, which is controversial. "The home minister should have not shared a screenshot of the objectionable content. Political leaders should not indulge in politics over a woman's insult," she said.

ODISHA: BODIES OF MIGRATORY BIRDS TO BE PRESERVED

DC CORRESPONDENT BHUBANESWAR, JAN. 28

The Odisha forest department is mulling to conserve the specimens of the migratory birds at the Regional Museum of Natural History (RMNH) in the capital city here.

The RMNH already houses several varieties of skeletons and remains of animals including elephant, dolphin, rhinoceros, African zebra, cheetah, insects and reptiles. Now, the department is planning to conserve dead bodies of migratory birds which throng Chilika Lake every year.

A record 1,105,040 migratory birds belonging to 184 species have arrived in Odisha's Chilika Lake this year.

In 2020, 1,047,978 birds belonging to 183 species had arrived at the lake on their annual sojourn.

Chilika Lake is Asia's largest brackish water lagoon. Not only the avian species, the Regional Museum of Natural History is contemplating to preserve carcasses of animals, birds and other species that naturally die in the zoos, parks and sanctuaries across the state.

Odisha's Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF) has also urged the concerned zoos and parks in the state to inform the museum authorities regarding the death of any bird or animal.

Cong, Left seal deal for WB polls

Allies to contest 193 out of 294 constituencies; to organise joint rally on Feb. 28

RAJIB CHOWDHURI | DC KOLKATA, JAN. 28

The Congress and Left Front, which are fighting the coming West Bengal Assembly election in an alliance, have amicably finalised their seat-sharing formula in 193 out of 294 constituencies with a plan to resolve their partnership equation in the remaining 101 seats soon.

The two allies also decided to organise a joint mega rally on February 28 at the Brigade Parade Ground to put up a united face. They are in the process of inviting their central leaders Rahul Gandhi, Priyanka Gandhi and Sitaram Yechury as key speakers at the event, according to sources. Out of the 193 Assembly seats, the Congress will contest in 92, the Left will field its candidates from 101, said state Congress president and Berhampore MP Adhir Chowdhury at the state party headquarters after the talks between the two sides there on Thursday.

"Based on each other's co-ordination, we reached this level unanimously. It is a successful and fair step towards a poll alliance," he added. The list of 193 seats includes 77 seats which were sorted out by the two sides in their last round of meeting on January 25.

Going by the name and number of the seats they had won in the 2016 Assembly election, the Congress and the Left decided to field their candidates in 44 and 33 constituencies respectively this time also.

In Thursday's meeting, the two partners shared 116 seats—68 for the Left and 48 for the Congress—among themselves, said Left Front chairman Biman Bose. "To unseat the ruling Trinamul Congress from power and beat the BJP, all are welcome to get accommodated to the alliance of Congress and Left," he added.

A tight bargain is however expected between them in the next round of talks as the Congress, which secured 92 seats altogether in its tally for contest, has already sought to contest in as many as 130 out of 294 seats.

8 steps to repair China ties: EAM

SRIDHAR KUMARASWAMI | DC NEW DELHI, JAN. 28



ASSAM: BJP TO CONTEST POLLS WITH ITS NEW ALLY UPPL

MANOJ ANAND | DC GUWAHATI, JAN. 28

The ruling Bharatiya Janata Party has made it clear that it would contest the upcoming Assembly polls in alliance with its new ally, the United People's Party Liberal (UPPL), instead of its existing ally Bodoland People's Front (BPF). The BJP fought against the BPF in the Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) polls in December despite ruling Assam together since 2016 along with the Asom Gana Parishad (AGP). The BPF still has three ministers in the Sarbananda Sonowal government.

The senior BJP leader and finance minister Himanta Biswa Sarma made this announcement while addressing a public meeting at Udaguri. He said, "The BJP has decided to contest forthcoming Assembly polls in coalition with UPPL."

"We would announce seat sharing with UPPL in February," said Sarma at the public meeting, organised to celebrate the first anniversary of the signing of the Bodo peace accord with the Central government on January 27, 2020 in New Delhi in the presence of Union home minister Amit Shah.

"It is final that the BJP and UPPL would contest the Assembly polls together. In BTC areas, BJP would contest the Assembly election under the leadership of UPPL," said Sarma, who is also the convener of the BJP-led North East Democratic Alliance (NEDA) alliance of regional parties.

The BJP on Wednesday also flagged off mobile vans to seek public views on the party manifesto.

Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal flagged off the mobile vans in presence of state party president Ranjeet Kumar Dass, Sarma and Guwahati MP Queen Oja.

BIHAR MAY RETIRE GOVT STAFF FOR INEFFICIENCY

NAYEER AZAD | DC PATNA, JAN. 28

The Bihar government has formulated a policy to review the performance of state government employees above 50 years of age.

Sources said two committees have been formed to ascertain whether such employees should be retained in service or face retirement due to bad conduct and lack of efficiency to perform their duties.

Reports suggest that meetings to analyse the review panel recommendation will be held every year in June and December. If employees are found unfit the committee may recommend harsh action which also includes early retirement.

Sources said that last year the General Administration Department (GAD) had issued a directive to periodically review the work efficiency and ethics of personnel above 50 years of age. To implement this, the state home department has constituted two separated committees.

A four-member team headed by Additional Chief Secretary has been constituted to review the performance of Group "A".

On the other hand, a committee being led by a secretary-level officer of the Home Department will review the performance of Group "B", "C" and other state government employees.

BOEING GETS NOD TO OFFER ITS FIGHTER JET TO IAF

PAWAN BALI | DC NEW DELHI, JAN. 28

Boeing said on Thursday that it has received a licence from the US government to offer its F-15EX fighter jet to the Indian Air Force (IAF).

Boeing also said that it will manufacture six Apache attack helicopters for the Indian Army in India itself at Tata Boeing Aerospace Limited facility in Hyderabad. The production will start this year. The company expects more orders for Apache attack helicopters from the Indian Army given the situation in the neighbourhood and deterrent values provided by these helicopter. Boeing completed the deliveries of all 22 AH-64E Apache helicopters to the Indian Air Force in 2020. IAF has deployed them in Ladakh and can be seen hovering in the sector.

Ankur Kanaglekar, director, India Fighters Lead, Boeing Defense, Space & Security said that earlier discussions on the F-15EX had taken place earlier between the two governments, including US Air Force and Indian Air Force.

"Now that we have the marketing licence it allows us to talk to the Indian Air Force directly about the capability of the fighter. We have started doing that in a small way," he said.

Yet another political murder rocks Kerala

GILVESTER ASSARY | DC THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, JAN. 28

A Muslim League worker was killed allegedly by CPI(M) workers in Keezhattoor, Oravumpuram at Nilambur in Malappuram district.

The CPM leadership on the other hand denied the involvement of their workers in the killing. The local leaders said that the murder took place over some dispute between two groups and the party had no role in the incident.

The area had been witnessing tension between CPM and Muslim League cadre in the recent days.

Congress-led UDF of which the Muslim League is the second biggest partner, has accused the CPM of unleashing terror against their workers after the recently local body polls in the state.

The Muslim League has accused the CPM was trying to silence its cadre through violent means.

Opposition leader Ramesh Chennithala said that the CPM was resorting to terror tactics in the area.

The CPM leadership on the other hand denied the involvement of their workers in the killing.

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SHORT TAKES

INDIA FLAYS
OMAR SHEIKH'S
RELEASE IN PAKDC CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI, JAN. 28

India on Thursday termed the freeing of dreaded terrorist Omar Saeed Sheikh by the Pakistani Supreme Court as a "travesty of justice", adding that "this case truly demonstrates Pakistan's intent on taking action on the terror front". Sheikh was earlier convicted in Pakistan for the beheading of *Wall Street Journal* correspondent Daniel Pearl in 2002.

MEA Spokesperson Anurag Srivastava said, "I had mentioned earlier about the very low conviction rate in Pakistan when it comes to sentencing of terror accused. This case truly demonstrates Pakistan's intent on taking action on terror front. It is a travesty of justice not to find Omar Saeed guilty of any charges in this heinous act of terror. Our position on Pakistan taking sustained, verifiable, credible and irreversible action against terrorism and terrorist funding emanating from all territory under its control remain unchanged."

Sheikh was among the terrorists freed by India in December 1999, to secure the release of passengers on board the aircraft of erstwhile Indian Airlines that was hijacked by Pakistan-backed terrorists from the Kathmandu and finally taken to Kandahar.

INDIA RECORDS
11,666 NEW
COVID CASES

New Delhi, Jan. 28: India's Covid-19 tally of cases crossed 1.07 crore with 11,666 new Coronavirus infections being reported in a day, while the national recovery rate climbed to 96.94 per cent, according to the Union health ministry data updated on Thursday.

The total infections have mounted to 1,07,01,193. The death toll increased to 1,53,847 with 123 daily new fatalities, the data updated at 8 am showed.

The number of people who have recuperated from the disease surged to 1,03,73,606 pushing the national Covid-19 recovery rate to 96.94 percent. The Covid-19 casefatality rate stands at 1.44 per cent. Active cases remained below 2 lakh for the ninth consecutive day.

There are 1,73,740 active Coronavirus infections in the country which comprises 1.62 per cent of the total caseload, the data stated.

India's tally had crossed the 20-lakh mark on August 7,30 lakh on August 23, 40 lakh on September 5 and 50 lakh on September 16. It went past 60 lakh on September 28, 70 lakh on October 11, crossed 80 lakh on October 29, 90 lakh on November 20 and surpassed the one-crore mark on December 19.

According to the ICMR, 19,43,38,773 samples have been tested up to January 27 with 7,25,653 samples being tested on Wednesday.

The 123 new fatalities include 32 from Maharashtra, 20 from Kerala, 10 from Punjab and 9 from Delhi.

UTTAR PRADESH
WINS BEST R-DAY
TABLEAU AWARD

New Delhi, Jan. 28: Uttar Pradesh's tableau at this year's Republic Day parade was adjudged the best and awarded by Union Minister Kiren Rijiju on Thursday, said the Defence Ministry.

In total 32 tableaux - 17 from state and union territories, nine from Union ministries, departments and paramilitary forces, and six from the Defence ministry - were part of this year's parade on Rajpath.

The theme of Uttar Pradesh's tableau was 'Ayodhya: Cultural Heritage of Uttar Pradesh'. The cultural heritage of Ayodhya, replica of a Ram temple, glimpse of 'Deepotsav' and various stories from Ramayana epic were depicted in the tableau.

"The tableau of Tripura was adjudged the second best. It depicted promotion of eco-friendly tradition for achieving self-reliance ('aatmanirbhar') in socio-economic parameters," the Defence ministry's statement noted.

Uttarakhand's tableau on the theme 'Dev Bhoomi - The Land of the Gods' was adjudged third among the states and union territories. The tableau of CPWD bagged a special prize for paying tribute to the fallen heroes of the armed forces.



Farmers agitation on UP NH ends

Protesters allege cops entered their tents, used force on sleeping farmers and chased them away



Security personnel conduct a flag march at Ghazipur border during the ongoing farmers' agitation against Centre's farm reform laws in New Delhi on Thursday.

Parl likely to pass resolution against R-Day violence

YOJNA GUSAJ | DC
with agency inputs
NEW DELHI, JAN. 28

Narendra Modi government is likely to bring a motion condemning the Red Fort incident on the Republic Day, during the budget session of Parliament beginning from Friday.

The government, sources said, wants Parliament to pass a resolution condemning the incident after "considering the sense of the House."

For the government, which was otherwise bracing itself to face the Opposition's onslaught over the farmer unions protests against the three laws, among other issues, tables seem to have turned as the incident caused a national uproar, with even the Opposition parties, who were supporting the farmer unions protests, condemning the incident.

The motion in all likelihood will be supported by all political parties, including Opposition parties, some of which had blamed the government for its failure to prevent the incident.

The ruling BJP, which had called the incident "an attack on the democracy," had blamed the Congress, in particular its leader Rahul Gandhi and the Communists for instigating farmer unions against the three laws.

An angry mob of protesters who were participating

in the "tractor parade" organised by farmer unions on January 26, flouted the routes as agreed between unions and the Delhi Police, and unfurled the Sikh religious flag at the rampart of the Red Fort where tricolour is hoisted, which attracted widespread condemnation.

Farmer unions have been agitating against the laws for more than a month at Delhi borders and some of the ruling party members had been claiming that Khalistani and anti-Sikh elements had infiltrated the protest sites and provoking the agitating farmers.

Meanwhile, actor-turned-activist Deep Sidhu, who has been accused by farm bodies of trying to defame their agitation and termed a "traitor," has hit out at farm leaders for allegedly spreading false propaganda and hatred against him.

The 36-year-old Sidhu, who is in the eye of a storm for being among the protesters who put up a religious flag atop the Red Fort on Republic Day, claimed that youth did not agree to follow the route which was decided by farmer leaders and the Delhi Police.

He claimed people on their own marched towards the Red Fort from all the Delhi borders and that not many people took the route as decided by farmer leaders.

- PTI

WB Assembly passes resolution against farm laws

RAJIB CHOWDHURI | DC
KOLKATA, JAN. 28

After Kerala, Punjab, Chhattisgarh, Delhi and Rajasthan, West Bengal became the sixth non-BJP ruled state on Thursday to pass a resolution against the three farm laws in the Assembly as chief minister Mamata Banerjee

sought the Centre to repeal the laws or else Prime Minister Narendra Modi and union home minister Amit Shah should resign.

The anti-farm laws resolution was moved by state parliamentary affairs minister Partha Chatterjee on behalf of the ruling Trinamul Congress in the

House on the second day of a two-day Assembly session.

Speaking in its favour, Ms Banerjee said, "The central government passed the three laws without consulting us. It is trying to enforce them on the country. Its effect will be felt on the farmers of our state also. We might have

different political ideologies which however should not deter us from standing by the farmers."

Slamming the BJP for branding the farmers as "traitors" for opposing the farm laws she told the saffron party, "Either the Centre abolishes the three laws or else you must step down from power."

Later at another event, Ms Banerjee said, "If the farm laws are not repealed, the PM and the union home minister have to resign."

The CM also demanded the waiver of the farm loans. She lashed out at the saffron party for spreading fake information about the farmers'

stir at Red Fort on January 26. Protesting against her, the BJP MLAs however staged walk-out of the House shouting *Jai Shree Ram* slogan.

The resolution was later passed with the support of 101 votes from the Trinamul Congress against 27 of the Opposition.

Lens on funds for farmers protest

DC CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI, JAN. 28

Following FIRs on farmer leaders in connection with the violence on the Republic Day, intelligence agencies have started a massive investigation to trace all hawala channels and operators through whom funds are coming from abroad for the ongoing farmers agitation.

In view of the violence reported from different parts of the Capital by farmers during the tractor rally, the Home Ministry has been acting extremely tough. As a first step, a number of FIRs have been lodged against union leaders and

some other in connection with the violence and events that unfolded at Red Fort. However, there is a growing view within the Capital's security establishment that there is an urgent need for a detailed investigation into the funding pattern of the ongoing agitation on the Capital's borders, particularly at Singhu and Tikri.

"It is largely suspected

that a number of NRIs

belonging to Punjab have

been illegal sending

money to fund this agitation.

So clearly this money is not coming

through legal and official

channels," a senior intel-

ligence official said.

the opposition parties announced their decision on Thursday to boycott the President's address, a move termed as "most unfortunate" by Parliamentary Affairs Minister Prahlad Joshi.

To seek the cooperation of various parties for the smooth functioning of the Budget session, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla has convened a meeting of all political parties on Friday which is expected to be attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The session will begin with the President's address followed by the presentation of the Economic Survey.

The Union Budget will be presented by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on February

1. Both the houses will also debate on the Motion of thanks to the President's address after the budget presentation.

The session will be held in two parts - January 29 to February 15 and March 8 to April 8 and will have a total of 33 sittings.

With the session starting barely days after the national capital witnessed unprecedented violence on Republic Day during the farmers' tractor parade, the issue is expected to echo in Parliament.

It is after almost six months that the Parliament will be convened, as the Winter session could not be held due to the Covid pandemic.

With a view to have a paperless Budget, all the documents and the

Economic Survey would be made available online soon after the authenticated copies are laid on the Table of the House.

This session will be held as per Covid-19 protocols, with Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha meeting in shifts of five hours each - with the upper house meeting from 9 am to 2 pm and the lower house from 3 PM to 8 PM.

Meanwhile, Leader of the Congress in Lok Sabha Adhir Chowdhury said in Kolkata that intelligence failure on the part of the Delhi Police was to blame for the chaos and violence at Red Fort on January 26.

He also cast doubt on the Centre's intention, stating that the Union government probably did not do much to avert violence as it "might have wanted to

take advantage of the situation".

Chowdhury said that the Delhi Police had given designated routes to the farmers to take out the tractor parade. "But the farmers took different routes and a section of them breached the Red Fort. Surely, it was due to intelligence failure on the part of Delhi Police and other agencies," he said.

Accusing the BJP of branding any and every issue raised against the saffron party as "anti-national, Pakistani or Khalistani," Chowdhury, further said, "At times I feel that the central government deliberately allowed this (January 26 incident) to happen to take advantage of the situation."

MODI TO VISIT BANGLADESH

DC CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI, JAN. 28

With Bangladesh celebrating 50 years of its existence this year, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will soon visit Bangladesh.

Both countries are also celebrating 50 years of establishment of diplomatic relations with each other this year.

The Indian armed forces' victory over Pakistan in the war in December 1971, had led to the liberation of the erstwhile East Pakistan and the birth of Bangladesh.

"India and Bangladesh will be holding the next round of Foreign Office Consultations in New Delhi on January 29," the MEA said.

The trial court's punishment of six years was reduced to one year by HC

Holding kid, fly open, not sexual assault: HC

SHAHAB ANSARI | DC
MUMBAI, JAN. 28

The Nagpur bench of the Bombay High Court, whose judgment on 'no offence under POCSO' is made out if there was no skin-to-skin touch', in an another judgment passed earlier this month acquitted a man from provision of POCSO observing that holding a child's hand and unzipping pants do not fall under the POCSO Act.

The prosecution case is that the mother of five-year-old lodged a complaint at Gadchiroli police station that when she returned from her duty, she noticed the accused was in her house and was holding

hands of her daughter. The complainant also noticed that the zip of the pant of the accused was open. She started shouting at the accused and soon her neighbours also gathered, but the accused ran away. Later, the victim told her that the accused had unzipped his pant and asked her to come to the bed to sleep.

The trial court convicted the accused under two different counts and sentenced him to suffer rigorous imprisonment for one year and five years, currently.

The accused challenged this judgement before the high court and Justice Pushpa Ganediwala decided the appeal on January 15, in which she held that, "The acts of 'holding the hands of the prosecutrix', or 'opened zip of the pant' as has been allegedly witnessed by PW-1 (the girl's mother), in the opinion of this court, does not fit in the definition of 'sexual assault'."

In a detailed judgement the judge said that the accused is prosecuted for the charge of 'aggravated sexual assault'. As per the definition of 'sexual assault', a 'physical contact with sexual intent without penetration' is essential ingredient for the offence. The definition starts with the words - "Whoever with sexual intent touches the vagina,

penis, anus or breast of the child or makes the child touch the vagina, penis, anus or breast of such person or any other person or does any act with sexual intent..."

According to the judgment the words 'any other act' encompasses within the nature of the acts which are similar to the acts which have been specifically mentioned in the definition on the premise of the principle of 'ejusdem generis (of the same kind)'. The act should be of the same nature or closure to that. Hence the judge said, "The acts of 'holding the hands of the prosecutrix', or 'opened zip of the pant' as has been allegedly wit-

nessed by PW-1, in the opinion of this Court, does not fit in the definition of 'sexual assault'."

"The minimum sentence for this offence is five years imprisonment. Considering the nature of the offence and the sentence prescribed, the aforesaid acts are not sufficient for fixing the criminal liability on the appellant/accused for the alleged offence of 'aggravated sexual assault'."

According to the judgement the words 'any other act' encompasses within the nature of the acts which are similar to the acts which have been specifically mentioned in the definition on the premise of the principle of 'ejusdem generis (of the same kind)'. The act should be of the same nature or closure to that. Hence the judge said, "The acts of 'holding the hands of the prosecutrix', or 'opened zip of the pant' as has been allegedly wit-

nessed by PW-1, in the opinion of this Court, does not fit in the definition of 'sexual assault'."

With the above observations, the court reduced his sentence to one year.



DECCAN Chronicle

29 JANUARY 2021

Budget: A challenge and an opportunity

Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman would present her third Union Budget on Monday. In normal circumstances, it would have been an annual, monotonous and predictable affair that would have consisted mainly of a statement of the government's intent and allocation of money for different purposes. With consumption tax going out of the Central government's jurisdiction after the rollout of the Good and Services Tax, the Budget speech had lost even the power to influence prices — a fear factor that had made the Union Budget so special and frightening. This year's Budget, however, could be special, especially in the wake of Covid-induced economic catastrophe in the country. There is a hope among people and businesspersons that the government — the country's biggest consumer — would come out in support of the economy. The country needs a path-breaking Budget to bring back the tottering economy on the growth track and revive investor confidence in the country.

While the Covid pandemic offers a great opportunity for the finance minister to reset the economy and administer bitter medicine for its health, it also increases expectations that could be difficult to fulfil. For example, people belonging to the middle class want lower income-tax outgo, companies want tax concessions, and farmers want freebies. In a nutshell, everybody wants to pay less or nothing. Therefore, instead of opting for a welfare budget, the finance minister should support sectors such as infrastructure and construction that could have a greater and faster positive effect on reviving the economy. She could also try to put more money in the hands of the people who could use it for consumption. A few thousands of rupees more in the pockets of a middle-class family would invariably boost retail sales.

The next issue is how does the minister raise money for boosting the economy. As tax collection could be a tad lower than normal, the government appears to be ready to go easy on borrowing more money. The minister, however, should exhaust all options before going on a borrowing spree. The Central government owns hundreds of companies, which have been undervalued because of their poor performance and bureaucratic interference. Navratna companies like Coal India, NMDC, SAIL and Bhel among others could see a great appreciation in value if the government followed the model of the joint venture between Maruti Udyog Limited and Suzuki Motors by letting private partners run the company. The government could also consider exiting all public sector banks, which will unburden taxpayers and bring in new capital and employment. The State Bank of India and Postal Bank with a vast pan-India network could be used for government schemes and welfare purposes.

In history, very few people get an opportunity to prove their mettle. This Budget could become a Manmohan Singh moment for Ms Sitharaman to script the second turnaround story for India. If the opportunity is lost, it would be a tragedy for her as well as the country.

Inconsequential homecoming?

There will be hype and hoopla, possibly a grand reception evoking a wide range of sentiments like excitement, anticipation and fear. Yes, it is V.K. Sasikala, who has been released from the Parappana Agrahara prison on completion of her four year prison term, who will be evoking all these and even more when she comes home to Chennai on her discharge from hospital. However, the common man wants to know if she can turn the politics of Tamil Nadu upside down. Indeed many find it intriguing as to how someone who has never run for any office, not even a panchayat ward councillor post, could invoke such extraordinary fear in the minds of the top honchos of the ruling AIADMK. Even in the party she had held the post of general secretary for a very brief insignificant period before being unceremoniously thrown out.

But when the party leaders crack down on an ordinary cadre in a district for putting out a wall poster welcoming Ms Sasikala, it only points to the fear that has gripped them. The inauguration of the mausoleum and the memorial for former chief minister J. Jayalalithaa in a jiffy is another pointer to the pernicious fear. Even when Edappadi K. Palaniswami avers that he was made chief minister not by Sasikala, the fear is palpable.

It's an open secret that as the reigning confidant of the former party head and chief minister, Ms Sasikala was calling the shots in the party and the government and obviously there had been too many beneficiaries of her largesse and kind heartedness, who would have enjoyed power or made self. And not all of them would be as amnesiac as Mr Palaniswami. But even if hordes of avid loyalists and grateful souls rush in to welcome her, Ms Sasikala's say and stay in politics would depend solely on the will of the people, who would decide with their valuable votes.

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Anand K.
Sahay
Far & Near

Can Rahul or anyone salvage Congress, or will it break?

Sonia Gandhi is in frail health. She had to leave New Delhi for a while on medical advice in order to escape the winter pollution. Is there a vacancy at the top that can be filled in orderly fashion and even routine party functioning restored, or will the old firm break? India's founding party may just be at that sort of moment.

Should the Congress break, it is unlikely to become two as in 1969, and then again become one under a decisive leader. There is no such leader on the horizon. It will therefore likely become several regional entities, and then probably scatter like the Janata Party, which had some big names in it but no stalwart with mass, nationwide, appeal.

Mrs Gandhi had pulled a rabbit out of the hat when she produced two UPA governments at the Centre on the trot through sheer political sagacity, coalition-building prowess, and light-touch political management. This reprieve for the Congress was gained in 2004 in the face of sheer adversity and was the more remarkable for that.

The circumstances then were not propitious. The BJP had come into its own and formed governments at

the Centre under a well-liked figure. In contrast, the Congress had haemorrhaged. Key party leaders — Sharad Pawar and Mamata Banerjee — had split away in the late 1990s, with Ms Banerjee even joining the BJP-led NDA alliance for a while and Mr Pawar doing tactical manoeuvres with the BJP as per his convenience, although he would later join the UPA government.

While Mrs Gandhi's shepherding of her party in such circumstances is the stuff of folklore, it is now equally plain that in those years of wielding power (2004-14) the Congress leadership did little to ground the party organisation and nurture it, although it was clear that a cadre and ideology-based national party — so far on the fringes — had already emerged as an alternative.

The Congress had little to offer to counter the ideological propaganda of the RSS-BJP. Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's government had delivered a sustained average rate of economic growth of nearly eight per cent per annum over a 10-year period. The Congress gullibly thought this would be enough to see it through in the elections.

This was a gross underestimation

of the power of industrial-scale communal propaganda, aided by a hostile media which, effectively, acted as a force-multiplier. The media's stance was an indication that India's big business was far from pleased with the Manmohan-Sonia government.

The reason was that the government had gone well outside the prism of a hundred-per-cent-market focus to extend benefits to poorer communities. This was too much for the corrupt, self-serving elite.

At the same time, the small and medium companies and the urban middle classes and the rural communities — the very sections for whom Congress rule had been benign — became hostage to the continuous stream of a vicious, communal, mind-bending, propaganda onslaught. These in fact participated, happily, in preparing the ground for the mythical hero to arrive — one who will slay every demon.

The Congress comprehensively failed to meet the challenge of majoritarian right-wing elements because it had frittered away the thought-and-action system nurtured by Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Subhash Chandra Bose, Maulana

Azad and countless fearless men and women who gave their lives for an ideal that would necessarily unify India, rather than divide it, or cater only to particular sections of it.

Rajiv Gandhi downwards, the Congress projected itself merely as a party of governance — and not one that united the people on the basis of effective policies, effectively communicated.

This is fundamentally why it permitted itself, in slow stages, to overlook the importance of having a worthwhile party organisation. Even when a party has an active ideological ingredient, it is of no use when there is no organisation to back it, and to disseminate it. And the Congress, for long, has become a party which, in the main, has left its ideology on a museum shelf. It also lacks an organisation.

Ideology and organisation are indeed inextricably bound. There is some irony in the fact that prominent Congress dissidents — who go under the rubric of G-23 — rightly underline a democratically elected organisation but do not even mention ideology. That is a fool's errand. Once the Congress' demise is guaranteed, how long many of the so-

called secular regional parties, or those on the Left, survive is also a matter of conjecture. Historically, these are — in the main — a derivative of the wider "Congress system" that Rajni Kothari spoke of, although each emphasised specific concerns (some caste, some class) and arose in opposition to the Congress.

This question needs to be considered in the face of entrenchment in power of a far-right, chauvinist, cadre-based party whose priority is to mobilise the resources, agencies, departments and all institutions of the State — including the uniformed forces and the judiciary — to obliterate other political parties, big or small. The Constitution of India can then simply be dispatched to a dusty corner of the archives.

Rahul Gandhi, an honourable and intelligent man, had resigned as party president on a point of principle. He supports democratic elections from top to bottom. He must be permitted to have his way. Among the contemporary generation, he alone displays an ideological will. Let him provide that ballast to his party and not be distracted by the burden of dynasty.

Subhani



Vaccine diplomacy is India's finest hour

Sreeram Chaulia

Foreign Pulse

Operation "Vaccine Maitri", which was launched earlier this month, is a milestone in the history of India's assistance to fellow developing countries. As millions of India-made Covid-19 vaccines, packed in boxes labelled with the uplifting Sanskrit verse *Sarve Santu Niramaya* (may all be free from disease), reach countries across South and Southeast Asia, Africa and Latin America, India's stature as a Good Samaritan and a responsible power in the world is rising.

Guided by the holistic philosophy of *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam* (the world is one family), India is extending a helping hand to others with the conviction that if sickness prevails in any corner of the world, then Indians themselves remain vulnerable. In today's interconnected world, the well-being of 1.3 billion Indians cannot be isolated from that of the remaining 6.3 billion inhabitants of the planet.

With many recipient countries getting Indian vaccines either free of cost or minimally priced at or below doses to a pandemic-plagued world is its timing. Within days of approval from India's regulatory authorities and their foreign counterparts, the export of vaccines began in earnest. India's domestic vaccine rollout, which is a humongous task in itself due to the vast size of its territory and population, did not in any way delay its health rescue diplomacy towards countries near and far such as Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, the Maldives, Seychelles, Mauritius, South Africa, Bahrain, Morocco, Saudi Arabia and Brazil.

A friend acting speedily in a time of need is the best. Bhutan's Prime Minister Lotay Tshering articulated how important India's support at the present critical juncture was by saying: "It is of unimaginable value when precious commodities are shared even before meeting your own needs." Unlike some countries that imposed export bans on essential medicines, protective equipment and vaccines in order to attend solely to their own citizens' pressing needs, India has threaded the needle right since the coronavirus pan-

demic broke out to share whatever it could with less endowed nations. The ethos driving "Vaccine Maitri" and the earlier export of Covid-19 treatment drugs and medical gear is summed up by external affairs minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar's formulation that "we are more nationalistic, but at the same time we don't see a tension between being nationalistic and being international".

Guided by the holistic philosophy of *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam* (the world is one family), India is extending a helping hand to others with the conviction that if sickness prevails in any corner of the world, then Indians themselves remain vulnerable. In today's interconnected world, the well-being of 1.3 billion Indians cannot be isolated from that of the remaining 6.3 billion inhabitants of the planet.

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That is why the gushing gratitude from the recipients towards India is so genuine and quoteworthy. Brazil's President Jair Bolsonaro tweeted an image captioned "*Dhanyawaad Bharat*" and "*Obrigado India*", depicting the epic hero Hanuman carrying

LETTERS

FARMERS PROTEST

Subhani's cartoon says it all. The disruptors of peaceful tractor rally were indeed the proverbial wolf in sheep's clothing. But the moot question is who were they? Whoever they were, they succeeded in their agenda and have a confused lot of farmers who do not know what is next.

Varghese George
Secunderabad

It was a wise decision by farmers to cancel their march to Parliament on Budget day. With rogue elements on the prowl, we cannot rule out a recurrence of violence that was seen during the tractor parade on Republic Day. It could only harm the farmers' cause. Though the Delhi incident toughens the Centre's stand, they find the agitating farmers only from Punjab, Haryana and a part of UP. The response from other states appears to be lukewarm.

S. Nageswara Rao
Hyderabad

One doesn't understand what lessons the Delhi police needs to learn from the Republic Day tractor parade. If the police tried to block the 'minor explosion' with force, critics would have easily termed it police brutality. Critics always blame police and government. Delhi police allowed farmers to prevail for a day. It was a good tactic. It was a bloodless coup of sorts. Obviously forces opposed to government are disappointed because police outwitted them.

P. Vijayachandran
Hyderabad

50 YEARS AGO IN DECCAN Chronicle

Scientists' call to banish malnutrition

HYDERABAD, January 28 The first Asian Congress of Nutrition, which represents a determined attempt to eradicate malnutrition from Asian countries, was inaugurated here today by Governor Khandubhai Desai.

The speakers stressed on the importance of treating nutrition programmes as an integral part of the overall economic development of a nation and marked the commencement of the six-day Congress. About 500 nutrition scientists, administrators and policy-makers, — including 100 delegates from 23 countries — are attending the Congress being held at the Jubilee Hall.

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VISWANATH70MM-KUKATPALLY **11.45,2.45,6.45,9.45PM**

CONTACT: 9030161717

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SUDARSHAN 35 (Enjoy 4k digital projection & dolby) **RTC X ROADS** **11.00, 2.15, 6.00, 9.15PM**

MEGHA70MM-DILSUKHNAGAR **11.15,2.15,6.15,9.15PM**

MALLIKARJUNA 70MM **11.30,2.30,6.30,9.30PM**

MAHALAXMI COMPLEX **11.00,2.00,6.00,9.00PM**

PRASANTH70MM-SEC'BAD **11.00,2.00,6.00,9.00PM**

VENKATARAMANA/PADMAVATHI **11.15 & 6.15PM(2 SHOWS)**

OAMB **10.30, 10.55, 1.30, 1.45, 4.25, 4.40, 7.10, 7.45, 10.10, 10.35PM**

PRASAD MULTIPLEX **11.45, 2.30, 5.15, 8.00, 10.45PM**

UPPAL-10.50,1.45,4.40,7.35,10.30

RADHIKA-10.45,1.35,4.30,10.15PM

MCUBE-10.40,1.35,4.30,7.25,10.20PM

GPR-10.40,1.35,4.30,7.35,10.25PM

SIVAGANGA-11.15,2.15,6.15,9.15PM

KOMPALLY-10.50,1.45,4.40,7.35,10.30

10.50,1.45,4.40,7.35,10.30PM **11.00,2.00,4.45,7.40,10.30PM**

PVR **FORUM-10.40, 11.20, 12.00, 1.45, 3.05, 04.50, 06.10, 07.55, 09.15, 11.00PM**

RK PLEX-10.40, 1.45, 04.50, 07.55, 11.00PM

INORBIT-10.00, 11.50, 1.05, 2.55, 4.10, 06.10, 7.15, 09.15, 10.20PM

CENTRAL-10.40,12.05,1.25,1.45,4.50,7.55,11.00

ICON-01.15,4.20,6.10,7.25,9.15,10.30PM

GALLERIA-10.00,12.05,1.05,3.10,4.10,6.15,7.15, 9.20,10.20PM

IRRUMANZIL-12.15,3.20,4.20,6.25,7.25,9.30,10.30

MUSARBAGH-12.00,1.05,3.50,6.10,7.25,9.15,10.30

CCPL-10.30,12,15,3.40,5.30,7.05,10.30

DSL-10.30,12,30,4.00,7.25,9.00,10.50

MANTRA-11.00,12.30,2.25,3.55,7.20,9.00,10.45PM

SUDHA-11.45,3.10,6.35,10.00PM

10.10,1.35,4.40,7.30,11.00PM **11.30,2.30,6.30,9.30PM**

S2 CINEMAS MALLAPUR **10.50,12.00,3.05,6.10,7.25,9.15,10.30PM**

BVK MULTIPLEX LBNAGAR **10.45,1.45,4.45,7.45,10.45PM**

PLATINUM **PLATINUM GACHIBOWLI** **11.00,1.30,4.45,7.15,10.30PM**

MIRAJ CINEMAS **CHANDA-12.00,3.15,6.30,9.45PM**

BALANAGAR-10.20,11.00,1.30,2.00,4.40,7.50,11.00

KOTHAPET-10.20,11.00,1.30,2.00,4.40,7.50,11.00

INOX **GVK-10.40,12.05,3.30,6.55,9.15,10.20**

MP-11.00,12.00,3.25,6.50,9.30,10.15PM

GSM-11.00,12:15,2.30,3.40,6.00,7.00,9.30,10.30

SANGEET 70MM-R.C.PURAM (Fully renovated with latest equipment) **11.30, 2.30, 6.30, 9.30PM**

SRISAIRAM 70MM-MALAKAJIGIRI **11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM**

RAMAKRISHNA 35MM-ABIDS **11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM**

SUSHMA 70MM **SRIDEVICPURAM** **11.15,2.15,6.15,9.15PM**

VYJAYANTHI **SRILAXMI 70** **11.00,2.00,6.00,9.00PM**

RANGA 70MM **GOKUL 70MM** **11.30,2.30,6.30,9.30PM**

EESHWAR70MM **SAIRANGA70MM** **11.00,2.00,6.00,9.00PM**

BR HITECH70MM **SUPER70MM** **11.00,2.00,6.00,9.00PM**

SREERAMULU **SRIDEVI70-CH.GUDA** **11.30,2.30,6.30,9.30PM**

SREERAMA **VIMAL70MM** **11.15,2.15,6.15,9.15PM**

AMBA70MM **SHARADA70MM** **11.00,2.00,6.00,9.00PM**

VIJETHA70MM **SSV CINEPARK** **11.00,2.00,6.00,9.00PM**

SREEPREMA 70 **SIVARANJANI** **11.00,2.00,6.00,9.00PM**

KRISHNA ALIYABAD **TALLURI** **11.15,2.15,6.15,9.15PM**

METRO70MM **NARTHAKI** **11.30,2.30,6.30,9.30PM**

GANESH 70MM **SENSATION SUNSHINE** **11.00,2.00,6.00,9.00PM**

SANTOSHIBPATNAM **JYOTHI IDA BOLLARAM** **11.00,2.00,6.00,9.00PM**

SAIPOOJA70 **KRISHNA NAGARAM** **11.00,2.00,6.00,9.00PM**

SRINIVASA70MM **ASIAN MUKUND** **11.00,2.00,6.00,9.00PM**

VENKATASAI **VENKATASAI** **11.00,2.00,6.00,9.00PM**

Pakistan SC sets Omar Sheikh free

UK-born ultra accused of killing Pearl

It is a travesty of justice, says India

AGE CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 28

Islamabad, Jan. 28: Pakistan's Supreme Court on Thursday dismissed appeals against the acquittal of British-born al-Qaeda terrorist Ahmed Omar Saeed Sheikh in the kidnapping and murder of American journalist Daniel Pearl in 2002 and ordered his release in the sensational case.

Pearl, the 38-year-old South Asia bureau chief for *The Wall Street Journal*, was abducted and beheaded while he was in Pakistan investigating a story in 2002 on the links between the country's powerful spy agency ISI and al-Qaeda. Sheikh and his three aides were convicted and sentenced in the abduction and murder case of Pearl in 2002.

Pearl's murderer took place three years after Sheikh, along with Jaish-e-Mohammed chief Masood Azhar and Mushtaq Ahmed Zargar, was released by India in 1999 and given safe passage to Afghanistan in exchange for the nearly 150 passengers of hijacked Indian Airlines Flight 814.

He was serving a prison term in India for kidnappings of Western tourists in the country.

A three-judge bench of the apex court led by Justice Mushir Alam on Thursday dismissed the Sindh government's appeal against the Sindh High Court's (SHC) decision to overturn the conviction of Sheikh in the Pearl murder case.

The beheading of the American journalist in 2002 had grabbed international headlines. According to the short

act of terror. Our position on Pakistan taking sustained, verifiable, credible and irreversible action against terrorism and terrorist funding from all territory under its control remain unchanged."

Sheikh was among the terrorists freed by India in December, 1999, to secure the release of passengers on board the aircraft of erstwhile Indian Airlines that was hijacked by Pakistan-backed terrorists from the Nepalese Capital Kathmandu and finally taken to Kandahar in Afghanistan that was then ruled by the Pakistan-supported Taliban.

According to media reports, the Pakistani Supreme Court on Thursday ordered the release of Sheikh while dismissing an appeal against the overturning of his conviction for the murder of journalist Daniel Pearl.

seven years imprisonment.

The court also acquitted his three aides — Fahad Naseem, Sheikh Adil and Salman Saqib — who were serving life terms in the case, almost two decades after they were found guilty and jailed.

The Sindh government and family of Pearl filed petitions in the apex court, challenging the high court verdict.

— PTI

PIO pediatrician shoots aide dead

ALLIES OF NAVALNY DETAINED

Houston, Jan. 28: A 43-year-old Indian-American pediatrician diagnosed with terminal cancer shot dead a lady doctor and then killed himself after taking hostages at a medical office in Austin, according to police in the capital city of the US state of Texas.

The armed man was identified as Dr Bharat Narumanchi, who was recently diagnosed with terminal cancer, police said, adding that he had recently been turned down for a volunteer position at the medical facility.

Police received a call on Tuesday saying a man walked into the offices of Children's Medical Group (CMG)

with a gun and was holding hostages inside the building, the CNN reported, citing Austin Police Department press release.

Initially several hostages were being held, police said, but several escaped and others were allowed to leave, except a pediatrician named Katherine Dodson.

The hostages who escaped the office told officers on the scene that the man was armed with a pistol and what appeared to be a shotgun, police said. He also had two duffel bags. Dr Narumanchi had visited the CMG office a week prior to the shooting and applied for a volunteer position.

The suspect had terminal cancer and had only been given weeks to live, Austin police Lt. Jeff Greenwalt said.

"There were five people inside the building when the suspect arrived," Greenwalt said, adding that they were all employees and no children or patients were present when the incident happened.

It wasn't until the SWAT team was able to send a robot fitted with a camera inside the doctor's office that police got a full sense of the situation.

"We were able to see that both subjects were deceased," Greenwalt said, referring to Dodson and Narumanchi. The Travis County Medical Examiner will be conducting an autopsy to determine the official cause and manner of death.

Moscow, Jan. 28: Several allies and supporters of Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny were detained in Moscow early Thursday after mass protests last Saturday demanding his release from prison drew tens of thousands to the streets in over 100 Russian cities.

Navalny's top ally Lyubov Sobol, Dr. Anastasia Vasilyeva from the Alliance of Doctors union backed by Navalny and Maria Alyokhina from the Pussy Riot punk collective have been detained for 48 hours along with Navalny's brother Oleg.

All four are reported to be suspects in a criminal probe into alleged violations of Coronavirus regulations during the mass rally in Moscow.

Earlier, police said hostage negotiators tried to make contact with Narumanchi, but were unsuccessful. After repeated attempts, SWAT (special weapons and tactic) officers entered the building where they found Dodson and Narumanchi dead from apparent gunshot wounds.

doctor's family and friends who might have knowledge about Narumanchi to contact the homicide department.

Earlier, police said hostage negotiators tried to make contact with Narumanchi, but were unsuccessful. After repeated attempts, SWAT (special weapons and tactic) officers entered the building where they found Dodson and Narumanchi dead from apparent gunshot wounds. "It appeared that Dr Narumanchi shot himself after shooting Dr Dodson," according to the police department's news release. The incident is still under investigation.

"There were five people inside the building when the suspect arrived," Greenwalt said, adding that they were all employees and no children or patients were present when the incident happened. It wasn't until the SWAT team was able to send a robot fitted with a camera inside the doctor's office that police got a full sense of the situation. "We were able to see that both subjects were deceased," Greenwalt said, referring to Dodson and Narumanchi. The Travis County Medical Examiner will be conducting an autopsy to determine the official cause and manner of death.

— PTI

quick BITES

INDICATORS	%
Sensex	46874.36 -1.13
Nifty 50	13817.50 -1.07
S&P 500*	3,817.04 1.77
Dollar (\$)	73.04 -0.16
Pound Sterling (\$)	99.82 0.32
Euro (\$)	88.42 -0.03
Gold (10gm)* (\$)	48,183 ▼109 0.22
Brent crude (\$/bbl)*	55.70 -0.20
IN 10-Yr bond yield	5.933 0.00
US 10-Yr T-bill yield*	1.048 0.034

* As of 8:30 PM IST

US economy shrinks 3.5% in 2020

The US economy grew at a 4 per cent annual rate in the final three months of 2020 and shrank last year by the largest amount in 74 years. For 2020 as a whole, the economy contracted 3.5 per cent and clouded the outlook for the coming year. The Commerce Department estimated that the US GDP slowed sharply in the October-December quarter from a record 33.4 per cent surge in the July-September quarter.

Swaminathan, Tewari take over as SBI MDs



State Bank of India said Swaminathan J. and Ashwini Kumar Tewari have taken charge as managing directors. They would be holding this position for up to three years, the lender said in a release. Before this, Swaminathan was the deputy managing director (finance) at the bank. Tewari served SBI Card as MD&CEO before he was appointed as an MD of the bank. SBI chairman Dinesh Khara is assisted by four MDs.

IDBI Bank posts Q3 net of ₹378 cr as NII grows

LIC-owned IDBI Bank reported a standalone net profit of Rs 378 crore for December quarter 2020-21 on the back of healthy growth in interest income. The lender, which is under the RBI's prompt corrective action (PCA) since May 2017, had reported a standalone net loss of Rs 5,763 crore in the year-ago quarter. On a consolidated basis, its PAT stood at Rs 393.15 crore versus a loss of Rs 5,728.70 crore last year.

Laurus Labs Q3 net jumps nearly 4-fold to ₹273 cr

Drug firm Laurus Labs reported a nearly 4-fold jump in its consolidated net profit to Rs 272.85 crore for the December quarter against Rs 73.47 crore in the year-ago quarter. Consolidated revenue from operations stood at Rs 1,288.42 crore against Rs 729.59 crore. "Our consolidated revenue for the quarter increased by 76 per cent driven by growth in all the divisions," founder and CEO Satyanarayana Chava said.

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Demand contracts 35 per cent in 2020 Gold demand dips to lowest in 25 yrs

SANGEETHA G
CHENNAI, JAN. 28

Despite the recovery made in the December quarter, gold demand contracted 35 per cent in 2020 to the lowest level in 25 years.

The gold demand for the full-year 2020 was 446.4 tonnes compared to 690.4 tonnes in 2019—a decline of 35 per cent, according to data from the World Gold Council. This was the lowest demand since 1995.

The year 1995 had seen one of the lowest yearly demand of 462 tonnes since the World Gold Council has been recording annual gold demand.

"India's gold demand dropped by over a third in 2020, settling at 446.4 tonnes, on the back of Covid-induced lockdowns and lifetime high prices. However, the drop was significantly lower when viewed in value terms, 14 per cent lower than 2019 as prices were up 34 per cent, hovering around Rs 50,000 per 10 gm for most part of the year!"

—Somasundaram P.R.
MD, India, World Gold Council



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MD, India, World Gold Council

was just 4 per cent down at 196.2 tonnes compared to 194.3 tonnes in the same quarter of 2019.

While jewellery demand was down by just 8 per cent at 137.3 tonnes, investment demand was up by 8 per cent at 48.9 tonnes against 45.3 tonnes in Q4 of 2019.

"The demand for bars and coins had gone up not just during the auspicious occasions but even otherwise," said Somasundaram.

Import of official gold was down 46 per cent in 2020 and the restrictions on international travel due to the pandemic also saw the grey market supply shrinking by one-fourth of last year's 115 tonnes.

Closure of stores and retail establishments also saw the quantum of recycled gold coming down to 95.5 tonnes compared to 119.5 tonnes in 2019.

Globally, annual demand was 14 per cent down to 3,759.6 tonnes and 2020 saw the demand falling below 4,000 tonnes for the first time since 2009.

The largest gold consumer, China, saw the demand shrinking by 28 per cent. However, Germany's investment demand grew in 2020, replacing India from the second slot.

Commenting on the acquisition, Sunil Subramanian, managing director, Sundaram AMC said, "This transaction will strengthen our presence in the marketplace with the addition of a range of schemes with a good long-term performance track record."

India's small investors rush to join GameStop

ABHIRUP ROY
MUMBAI, JAN. 28

India's small investors are snapping up shares of US retail investor favourite GameStop Corp., making the video game retailer the most traded stock on some Indian brokerages after anonymous social media posts fuelled a frenzied rally.

Shares of GameStop have surged 1,700 per cent since January 12 as amateur US investors, monitoring social media comments, have piled in and forced professional short-sellers to abandon their positions with heavy losses.

This week, GameStop accounted for 19% of the trades on Vested Finance, an Indian investment firm that helps Indians buy or sell U.S. stocks, and 15% of the trades on its rival Stockal, making it the most traded stock on both platforms.

"It's quite surprising to see Indian investors jumping on the GameStop bandwagon," Stockal co-founder Sitashwa Srivastava told Reuters.

"This shows a marked shift in investor behaviour from just using U.S.

stocks to diversify their portfolios to rushing after a rally based on social media discussions. It could be reckless but it works for some."

Despite India's highly restrictive cross-border investment rules, Indians have been placing big bets on U.S. equities this year as American stocks recovered quicker than markets in India from a crash sparked by the coronavirus pandemic.

Indian investors venturing into U.S. stocks usually prefer top global companies such as Apple, Amazon, Facebook and Tesla as they look to diversify their holdings in India.

—Reuters

Apple has doubled its business in India in the December quarter on the back of strong performance of its online store, and the tech giant sees a good growth trajectory going ahead, its CEO Tim Cook said.

The Cupertino-based tech giant posted an all-time record revenue of \$111.4 billion globally for the first quarter ended December 26, 2020, up 21 per cent year-on-year.

International sales accounted for 64 per cent of the quarter's revenue.

"... If you take India as an example, we doubled our business last quarter compared to the year-ago quarter. But our absolute level of business there is still quite low relative to the size of the opportunity," Cook said during an analyst call.

The company, which competes with players like Samsung and OnePlus in the premium smartphone segment, has been aggressively ramping up its presence in the Indian market.

—PTI

and rationalising the GST for under-construction properties."

The government could also consider increasing the corpus of Rs 25,000-crore Swamith fund, Magazaine, chairman and CEO (India, South East Asia, Middle East and Africa) of CBRE, said, "Budget 2021 could go a long way towards meeting this goal by way of introducing tax reforms such as enhancing the principal deduction limit on home loans under Section 80C of the IT Act, 1961; lowering the long-term gains tax for sale of house property;

stamp duty regime and reduction in registration charges across states are some of the other recommendations which will make a significant difference to the cost of a project and will definitely encourage home buyers to invest," Dutt said.

Anshuman Magazaine, chairman and CEO (India, South East Asia, Middle East and Africa) of CBRE, said, "Budget 2021 could go a long way towards meeting this goal by way of introducing tax reforms such as enhancing the principal deduction limit on home loans under Section 80C of the IT Act, 1961; lowering the long-term gains tax for sale of house property;

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SHORT TAKES
Ronaldo violates Covid-19 code

Rome: Cristiano Ronaldo broke coronavirus travel restrictions with a trip to a mountain resort, according to media reports

Thursday. Juventus striker Ronaldo allegedly travelled to Courmayeur, 150 kilometres north-west of the Serie A club's Turin headquarters, for his girlfriend Georgina Rodriguez' birthday.

Rodriguez, who turned 27 on Wednesday, apparently posted a video of the couple on a snowmobile on Instagram. She later removed it, but it was picked up by several Italian news sites.

The *Gazzetta dello Sport* newspaper said Ronaldo and Rodriguez spent Tuesday night in a hotel and took a ride in the snow the next morning, before returning to Turin. Under current Italian coronavirus rules, the couple should not have left the town of Turin. They each risk a fine of \$485. — AFP

Virus hits Olympic test competition

Tokyo: The first Tokyo Olympics test event of 2021 has been postponed because of travel restrictions under Japan's coronavirus state of emergency,

organisers confirmed on Thursday. The artistic swimming event will double as the sport's final qualifier for the virus-postponed Games. It was due to be held on March 4-7 in Tokyo but will now take place two months later.

Tokyo 2020 organisers said a decision to delay it had been taken for reasons including "ensuring the fairest possible conditions for athletes to participate" and ongoing entry restrictions in Japan.

The qualifier has now been rescheduled for May 1-4 at the Tokyo Aquatics Centre. — AFP

Oly uncertainty hurting athletes

Geneva: IOC president Thomas Bach hit back at the continuing speculation about whether the

Tokyo Olympics may be cancelled or postponed again, saying that such talk is damaging for the thousands of athletes preparing to take part this year.

The International Olympic Committee and organisers in Japan have repeatedly insisted there is no Plan B for the Tokyo

Games, which were already postponed by one year during the coronavirus pandemic.

Last week, Japan's government quickly and firmly dismissed a report that it had concluded the games would have been canceled. However, talk about whether the games can go ahead refuses to go away.

"All these speculations are hurting the athletes and their preparations," Bach said after a monthly meeting of the IOC executive board. — AP

76ers hand Lakers first road defeat

Los Angeles: Tobias Harris drove in the final dagger as the Philadelphia 76ers thwarted a late Los Angeles Lakers rally to hand the reigning NBA champions their first road defeat of the season — 107-106.

In a bruising heavyweight clash, the Eastern Conference leading

Sixers made a statement against the league-leading

Lakers. Joel Embiid scored 28 points, Ben Simmons notched a triple-double of 17 points and 10 assists, and Seth Curry sealed the victory with a pull-up jump shot with three seconds remaining. The Lakers nearly kept the streak alive despite trailing by 14 points in the fourth quarter.

The Brooklyn Nets escaped with a 132-128 overtime victory over the Hawks in Atlanta. — AFP

Live on TV

BADMINTON

BWF World Tour Finals: Group matches from 9.30 am on Star Sports 2 HD, Star Sports 3

CRICKET

Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy T20 Tournament: Semifinal — Tamil Nadu vs Rajasthan from 11.55 am; Punjab vs Baroda from 6.55 pm on Star Sports 1, HD

WWE

SmackDown: Bouts from 6.30 am (Saturday) on Sony Ten 1, HD

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Burns eyes Rory return

England opener joins team after paternity break

C. SANTOSH KUMAR | DC
CHENNAI, JAN. 28

When England's Test cricketers were preparing for their subcontinental tour by training on worn surfaces at ECB's high performance centre in Loughborough, opener Rory Burns had other thoughts. Burns, who had spoken candidly about the effect of the bio-bubble environment in the summer, knew his most important preparation would be for the mental side of the game.

Burns, who has returned to the England Test squad after skipping the Sri Lanka tour for the birth of his first child, admitted that it was tough leaving his newborn daughter and wife back at home. "But, I'm ready to get back to work," said Burns who has scored 1,233 runs in 21 Tests.

The 30-year-old Epsom-born is also taking a short course in Psychology to fill the long hours in the bio-bubble.

"It's going to take quite a bit of my off-time. If I maintain a healthy head-space, I can focus well on my cricket. The break (paternity) helped me freshen up."

"The time that my child was giving me, I saw more of the India-Australia series than our series against Sri Lanka. Because I was getting up and doing my own training back home," he said.

On his maiden India tour, Burns is hoping to train with his teammates Jofra Archer and Ben Stokes for the first time in Chennai on Sunday. The rest of the squad who arrived on Wednesday from Colombo will commence their training only on Tuesday.

"It is obviously a challenge, we can't do much about the schedule. If you waste time thinking about that, it won't be any good to you. We have three days to put in the

INDIAN PLAYERS CLEAR 1ST OF 3 COVID-19 TESTS

Chennai, Jan. 28: The Indian cricketers on Thursday cleared their first round of RT-PCR tests and will be undergoing two more rounds before starting training from February 2 for the upcoming Test series against England.

The four-match series starts here on February 5. The entire Indian contingent has already arrived in the city and both the teams are staying at the Leela Palace hotel. The players will have to make do with some physical exercise in their rooms under the supervision of the two strength and conditioning experts, Nick Webb and Soham Desai.

In a welcome move, the BCCI has allowed the players to be accompanied by their families as it "could be extremely lonely" during the hard quarantine phase. — PTI



Rory Burns.
— Instagram

TEST SERIES TV RIGHTS STILL UNDECIDED

London, Jan. 28: The television rights in the UK for England's tour of India remain undecided with just a week left for the series-opener in Chennai from February 5.

Telegraph Sport reported that *Star India*, the host broadcaster of the series, was considering showing the tour via its streaming app Hotstar instead of selling it to a conventional broadcaster like *Sky*.

"But India's win in Australia and good audience figures on *Sky* for England's recent series in Sri Lanka, has increased the market for the rights with even *Channel 4* showing an interest," claimed the report.

The rights, worth around £20 million, are expected to be awarded soon for the four-Test series, which is part of the World Test Championship.

Sky remains the front-runner to secure them, having shown most of England's tours over the past three decades, the report stated.

The England squad flew into Chennai on Wednesday from Sri Lanka, where they trounced the hosts 2-0. Both England and India players are in the middle of a six-day quarantine.

The first two Tests will be played in Chennai and the final two, including a day-nighter, in Ahmedabad, followed by five T20s at the same venue and three ODIs in Pune.

With most of the people working from home in the UK due to Covid-19 induced lockdown, the Tests are expected to attract record viewership. — PTI

WORLD TOUR FINALS

Sindhu, Srikanth out of reckoning

Bangkok, Jan. 28: Indian shuttlers P. V. Sindhu and Kidambi Srikanth were virtually out of contention for the knockout stage after losing their respective second round matches in the BWF World Tour Finals here on Thursday.

With only the top two players from each group making it to the semifinals, the twin defeat almost sealed the fate of the Indian duo in the tournament.

Earlier, Srikanth and Wang fought tooth and nail right from the start, moving together 5-5 to 9-9 before Srikanth managed to grab a slender 11-10 lead with a smash.

Srikanth opened up a significant 15-11 lead with Wang sending the shuttle wide twice.

Srikanth continued to dominate the rallies with his angled returns to reach 17-12.

Wang, however, narrowed it down to 18-19 with Srikanth committing few errors but the Indian managed to grab two game points with a smash. He lost one before converting the next with Wang making a poor judgement at the backline. — PTI



Sheffield United's Oliver Burke (left) is congratulated by teammate Chris Basham after scoring against Manchester United in their English Premier League match at Old Trafford in Manchester on Wednesday. — AP

Man United's title hopes suffer blow

London, Jan. 28:

Manchester United's Premier League title hopes suffered a huge blow on Wednesday with a 2-1 defeat by bottom side Sheffield United as Chelsea started the Thomas Tuchel era with a goalless draw against Wolves.

The shock result at Old Trafford leaves Pep Guardiola's Manchester City a point clear at the top with a game in hand and looking increasingly hot favourites to win a third title in four years.

Elsewhere on a busy night of midweek action, Leicester drew 1-1 with Everton, Burnley beat Aston Villa 3-2 and Brighton drew 0-0 with Fulham.

With Real Madrid and Atletico Madrid already out, another upset looked on the cards when Fran Garcia gave Rayo a surprise lead at Vallecas early in the second half.

But Messi tapped in Antoine Griezmann's pass to equalise before turning creator, sending Jordi Alba through, with Frenkie de Jong at the back post to seal a 2-1 victory. — AFP

make an impression against Nuno Espirito Santo's men, whose form has nose-dived after forward Raul Jimenez fractured his skull in late November.

The home side dominated territory and possession, but created few clear-cut chances.

MESSI BANG ON TARGET FOR BARCA

Lionel Messi marked his return from suspension with a goal in the Copa del Rey on Wednesday as Barcelona survived a scare against Rayo Vallecano to reach the quarter-finals.

With Real Madrid and Atletico Madrid already out, another upset looked on the cards when Fran Garcia gave Rayo a surprise lead at Vallecas early in the second half.

But Messi tapped in Antoine Griezmann's pass to equalise before turning creator, sending Jordi Alba through, with Frenkie de Jong at the back post to seal a 2-1 victory. — AFP

TUCHEL ERA

Earlier, former Paris Saint-Germain boss Tuchel took charge at Stamford Bridge

against misfiring Wolves

less than 24 hours after

replacing the sacked Frank Lampard.

Chelsea struggled to

seal a 2-1 victory. — AFP

Ganguly undergoes a second angioplasty

RAJIB CHOWDHURI
KOLKATA, JAN. 28

BCCI president Sourav Ganguly, admitted at Apollo Gleneagles Hospital, underwent another angioplasty on Thursday afternoon, in which two more stents were implanted for the removal of blockages in the two other arteries of his heart.

The 48-year-old former Indian cricket team captain had received the first one in one of his three affected arteries after suffering a 'mild' heart attack early this year.

Under close observation.

One of the doctors said the angioplasty took an hour. West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee visited Sourav Ganguly in the evening.

"Sourav received two stent implantation. The operation was successful. He is stable and doing well. He also spoke to me. I wish him all the best and congratulate the doctors also," she said later.

Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar tweeted, "Got an update on health of @SGanguly99 Sourav Ganguly, President Board of Control for Cricket in India (@BCCI) under treatment in Kolkata. As per doctors and family members his condition is fine."

Sourav is likely to be released from the hospital after some days.

The private hospital stated, "Dr Aftab Khan and the team comprising Dr Ashwin Mehta, Dr Devi Shetty, Dr Ajit Desai, Dr Saroj Mondal and Dr Saptarshi Basu successfully performed angioplasty on Mr Sourav Ganguly."

It added, "Two stents were placed. The procedure was uneventful. Mr Ganguly is stable and

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DC ESTATE

DECCAN CHRONICLE, HYDERABAD
FRIDAY, JANUARY 29, 2021

Pg II | > Look before you leap to buy your dream home

Pg IV | > Vigilance is price of a safe neighbourhood



Though we install CCTV cameras in colonies and communities, many lack the operation of the same as the security guards are not tech savvy, making the camera look like a prop

Think home, think security

NAVEEN KUMAR

When it comes to installing security systems at residential, for most homeowners in India, it often comes as an afterthought as they don't think about investing in such things by being more reactive than proactive, opined a real estate businessman who says that the buyer's primary concern is proximity from nearby places and generic security things like watchman, gated community etc.



We often see reports of how a hard disk is destroyed by criminals to evade the cops.

— Harsih Kumar Daga, activist

Though we install CCTV cameras in colonies and communities, many lack the operation of the same as the security guards are not tech savvy, making the camera look like a prop, says Harsih Kumar Daga, an activist from Hyderabad. "We often see reports about how a hard disk is destroyed by criminals to evade the cops. But we have technology

where a real time feed from the CC camera can be stored in the cloud, hence making it inaccessible to burglars and thieves. Buying a tech is different than knowing how to operate it," he said. Security is still a low-involvement category in our country. Though burglary and other criminal activities are on the rise, the penetration of safes and lockers in India is way less as compared to the US, said Nitin Raj, a real estate agent from M u s h e e r a b a d . "Apartments in large complexes have a leading edge over independent houses as these gated communities often have a security system in place that includes intercom facilities and round-the-clock deployment of security guards. Residents are connected to the security desk via intercom while the security guards use it to cross-check unfamiliar visitors and delivery guys," he said. Turn to page 4

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Before anyone enters into an agreement to buy a piece of land or a flat for residential purpose, they should ensure that the land title is free from litigation and the project is in Residential Use Zone. Before buying a flat it should also be ascertained that the land is free from any legal problem.

ATHER MOIN

Buying a property is one of the most important decisions of anyone's life. There are countless instances of deception by some unscrupulous builders taking the advantage of lack of knowledge about the legal parameters and construction quality. Many buyers face different kinds of problems due to improper verification and diligence.

It is not uncommon for prospective homebuyers to get lured by the glossy brochures provided by the developers, and the customers then get taken in by the attractive exteriors and the location of flat. But they may not be aware of other important aspects of the project which are not disclosed by the builder to the buyers that could later land the new home owner in legal disputes and other difficulties.

Before anyone enters into an agreement for purchasing a piece of land or a flat for residential purpose, he or she should make sure that the land title is free from litigation and the project comes under Residential Use Zone. Before investing in a flat it should also be ascertained that the land is free from any legal problem and also the builder has an approved plan. In case it is ready to occupy a flat/apartment, then the buyer should ask for a completion/release certificate from the builder. And if the flat is under construction, a commencement certificate issued by



Many of us do not know legal complications after purchasing the project. It is better to get the verification of documents

and content of the agreement by a lawyer dealing with realty.

the civic body to the builder should be sought.

Syed Khaja Shaik of Salman

Constructions advised the intending buyers to verify certain documents like Title Deed, Encumbrance Certificate, Land Use Zone, approval by Local Body, property tax receipts and List of Banks financing the project, and if the project is being developed by taking loans from Banks verify the conditions of financing.

He said many of us do not know legal complications which will arise after purchasing the project. It is better to get the verification of documents and content of the agreement by a lawyer dealing with real estate matters. He said certain

builders obtain the permission of certain floors in compliance of the construction regulations stipulated by the local bodies and raise additional floors violating the construction permission. In such cases, if you purchase the flat on the floors which were not permitted you will get into trouble in the future, even bankers will not approve the loans against such flats and you will not be able to transfer the properties to others.

Advocate Ms Sameena Bazmouli said that we should check the nature of the title, whether it is leasehold, freehold

or development right, in case the developer of seller claiming development rights to the property then the development agreement and power of attorney executed by the owner/owners should be in favour of developer/owner and all title documents should be duly stamped and registered at the Sub-Register and these original documents shall be with the developer/seller.

She said you should avoid choosing the property next to a recycling plant, garbage dumping spot, graveyard, highway, railway track, and polluting industry. We should avoid ver-

bal agreement and promises. Sometimes people buy a property thinking they will use the rent to pay EMIs, but it is a wrong approach as in future it will create financial problems and many of them will not be able to pay the EMIs on time.

Ms Sameena said we should differentiate between the carpet area and super area of the project. Super area includes the common facilities used by all occupants like lobby, elevators, staircases and corridors etc., while the built-up area is the area covered by the flat. This also includes walls and storage places.

Avoid choosing the property next to a recycling plant, garbage dumping spot, graveyard, highway, railway track, and polluting industry. We should avoid verbal agreement or promises.

— SAMEENA BAZMOUL, advocate

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE PROPERTY

COMMERCIAL

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY Banjara Hills, Road No.11, Prime location surrounded by commercial area, 104sqft plots for sale G+2 with 2shutters. Clear Title. Contact: 8885059004. (HYMM/2021/C06227)

BANJARAHILLS, ROAD No.2, Commercial Building, 1000 sq.ft, Bulidup area 1500sqft, for Sale. Contact: 9885210013/ 9985797799. (HYMM/2021/C06005)

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY for Sale, 214 (505sqft) & 215 (381sqft) Location #214, 215, 2nd-Floor, 5-9-93/1 Shakti Sai Complex, Chapel Road, Hyderabad, 1st, Contact: 8886002215 (11am to 5pm) (HYCL/2021/C02555)

SRINAGAR COLONY Krishna Nagar: Commercial office space available for sale, second, third, & fourth floor, 1200-1600sqft, ample car parking, lifts, power backup, vastu compliant & all facilities, Main road facing property. Limited Units Left grab it. Ph: 9100595075. (HYMM/2021/C05990)

FARM HOUSES-SITES

600SQ.YARDS WITH Compound wall Farm land plot in Narayanguda, 35L 303sqysds, farm houses, resorts, sandalwood, 100acres community, Rs. 599/- per acre, 4200 per sqyd. Mumbai highway sadashivpet. 7416613247 (HYMM/2021/C06179)

CUSTOMIZE VILLAS 35L 303sqysds divisible into equal parts with Semi Constructed (5000sqft each) 2Villas with Swimming Pool for immediate sale at Dream Valley Resort, Near Yenkapally Contact: 9885570758. (HYMM/2021/C06207)

FARM LAND with 5422Sq.yards divisible into equal parts with Semi Constructed (5000sqft each) 2Villas with Swimming Pool for immediate sale at Dream Valley Resort, Near Yenkapally Contact: 9885570758. (HYMM/2021/C06179)

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SAINIKPURU, 1700 sqft Fully Furnished 3 bed and 3 baths flat on the topmost floor, with secured grill door and dedicated wash area. Option for a Balcony Garden, 24/7 electricity, water, car parking. Interested buyers. Call 9704652491. Price 1.3cr, slightly negotiable. Brokers excuse. (W/2021/A000990)

FULLY FURNISHED 2000sqft 3BHK flat for Sale, 3rd floor with Lift and car parking at IS Sadan Santoshi Nagar, Opp. Ratna Nursing Home. 100% vastu, and legal with Clear title, HMDA layout. Bank loan available. Contact +91-9886675666 (HYMM/2021/C06131)

23 BHK Apartment in a Luxurious Gated Community @ Shankarpally, 40 Lacs Onwards. Call for Exciting Offers - 7680899994 (HYMM/2021/C05964)

INDEPENDENT HOUSE

DOUBLE BEDROOM

DUPLEX INDEPENDENT Villa for sale at CSK Villas, Shadnagar on 267 sq.yds, 1550 sqft construction, South facing with Municipal construction permission HMDA layout North East corner Entrance. Gated Community. (Ph:9686173447 (W/2021/A00105))

39LAKS FOR House @Shadnagar DTC Layout 1km from NH-44. Near Tool Plaza, Open plots also, Bank loans available. Gated Community (Ph:9640954763. (HYMM/2021/C06231))

GENUINE HMDA plots Available 90ft (ORR) 100ft Road Facing Tarapetipet (ORR) Exit No -10 Surrounded by Nagole, RFC, Infosys and Alims. Ph: 9948438722 (HYMM/2021/C06053)

LUXURY DUPLEX Villas In Gated Community For Sale @Mokila-Shankarpally Main Road TSRRAP02400000344 Limited Inventory available. 7680889977 (HYMM/2021/C05965)

WARANGAL HIGHWAY facing near Kothapetipet DTCP booking in open plots available soon booking in special discounts, bank loan also available 4km from yadagirigutta temple. contact: 9676499954. (W/2021/A005980)

REAL ESTATE

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WANTED APP 2000 sqyards plot for constructing warehouse or readymade industrial unit. Located at Kajipally, Gaddopatharam, Bonthapally Industrial area. sales@eartharchitectural.com (Ph:9480180909 (W/2021/A000891))

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RENTALS

COMMERCIAL

OFFICE SPACE available at Chirag All Lane, Abids, G+3 with Cellar Parking. Area 2500 Sq ft per floor. Suitable for Offices/ Educational Institutions. Contact 812082010 (WhatsApp) (B/2021/C00873)

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FLATS

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THREE & MORE

2300 SFT Deluxe 3BHK Flat for Rent available for Rent @Road No: 11, Banjara Hills, in 1st Floor. Ph:8466893770. (HYMM/2021/C06232)

INDEPENDENT HOUSE

THREE & MORE

MADHAPUR, DURGAM Cheruvil bridge, Commercial, 3 floors, 42+ 2 BHK, 300 sqft, Vasthu, 9100415091. (HYMM/2021/C06222)

Everyone gets floored with vitrified tiles

While the salespersons vouch for its durability, the cost of these tiles has become another reason why people should go for it. Especially, over stones like marble. Though marble is a naturally occurring material, its cost is higher than that of a vitrified tile.

T.S.S. SIDDHARTH

When it comes to sweeping one off their feet, nothing does it better than the tiles placed in one's house. As experts say, vitrified tiles are the way to move forward when it comes to tiling. Why? The answer is simple, cost-effectiveness and a spic and span finish.

"There are many people who have taken vitrified tiles from us in the past and they swear by its longevity. Usually, vitrified tiles last only for a few years, but the vitrified tiles can last for decades together. Most of my customers ask for vitrified tiles because they are slip-resistant. This means that even if there is a film of liquid on the floor, the surface wouldn't become slippery," said Kumar, a worker in a tile store in Raniganj.

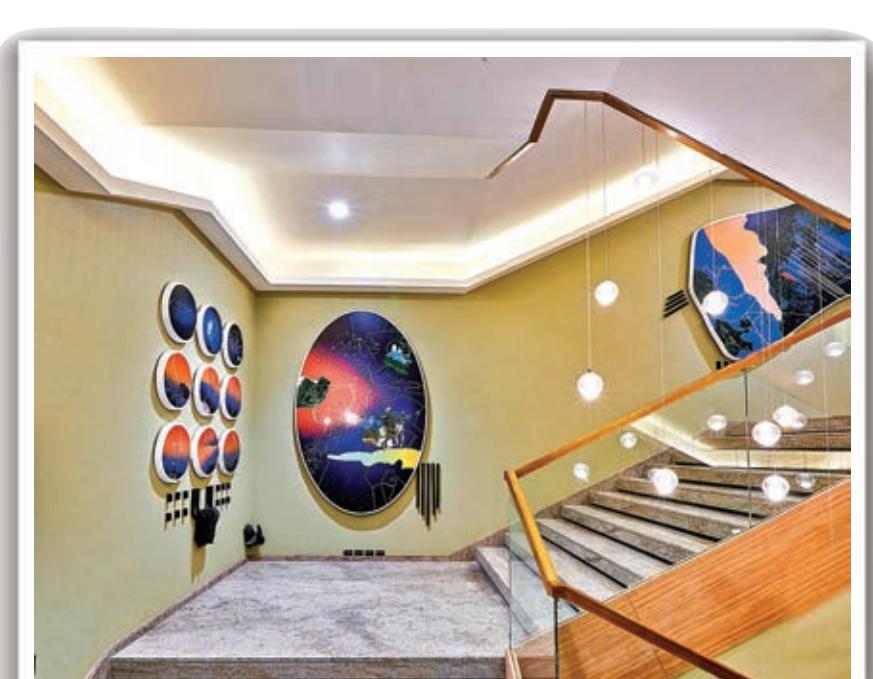
While the salespersons vouch for its durability, the cost of these tiles has become another reason why people should go for it. Especially, over stones like marble.

Though marble is a naturally occurring material, its cost is higher than that of a vitrified tile. "The price of flooring varies as per the grade material used in the tiles. Usually the cost of marble flooring can cost anywhere between ₹700-₹1,000 per Sq.Ft. This is bereft of the cost of cutting, polishing and labour. Vitrified tiles, in this case, are extremely cost-effective as they do not require any additional cutting or polishing.

Rakesh Prasad, store owner

effective. They add a certain charm to your home, and enhance the finish of it," said Rakesh Prasad, a store owner in Begumpet.

Others also said that Vitrified tiles are available in stores in a ready-to-shi

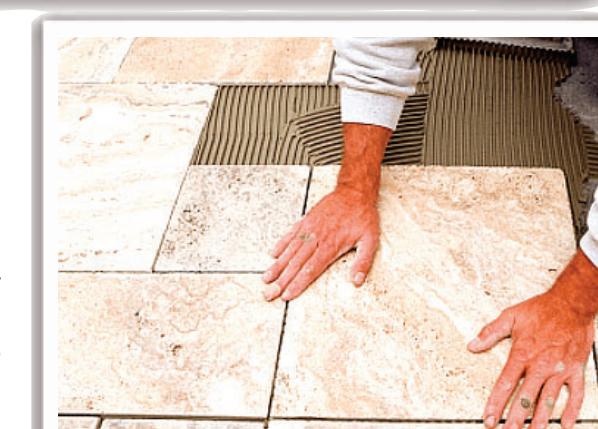


The price of flooring

varies as per the grade material used in the tiles. Vitrified tiles are extremely cost-effective as they do not require any additional cutting or polishing.

— Rakesh Prasad,

store owner



require less work during installation, they can be laid in a variety of combinations, to make new designs. Mosaic is one design that customers keep coming back for," he said.

Green Homes, 25 projects and going strong

The company aims to offer investors with ideas and large range of properties that can appreciate fast and give better returns. The properties are well placed in areas which are closer to roads and highways, and the surroundings are equipped with amenities as well as scope for commercial growth.

SANJAY SAMUEL PAUL

When Green Homes started in 1998, 'Kimberly Gardens', the first venture of the four partners, was a farm house concept. Since then, 25 projects have successfully come up consisting of independent villas, apartments, individual plots and gated communities along with resorts. The company is known for procuring clear title lands and developing them. They promise timely delivery and are committed to prompt registrations.

The company aims to offer investors with ideas and large range of properties that can appreciate fast and give better returns comparatively. The properties are well placed in areas which are closer to roads and highways, and the surroundings are equipped with amenities as well as scope for commercial growth. The company focuses on proper approved layouts and development. It also strives for quality and after sales services. Which are prompt registrations and helping them in constructions if required.

Bethireddy Sai Ram, who is one of the four directors of this company said, "The dream of an investor, we shape it to come true as how he wanted it to be, we want to deliver the best output for his dream pro-

ject." He added "we put ourselves in the position of the client, and we put our mind from his end before starting up the project, that gives us the passion as well care for that project so that it shapes up as it was planned."

Green Homes is also coming up with projects on Warangal Highway and Bangalore Highway. Fortune Keerthi which is coming on Warangal highway at Ghatkaser, which is close to the Outer Ring road, which is a residential and commercial plotting, the layout is tugged with 200 feet master plan roads which brings commercial value for the investors, this is a HMDA approved project, this project is closer to Singapore township and Reheja SEZ.

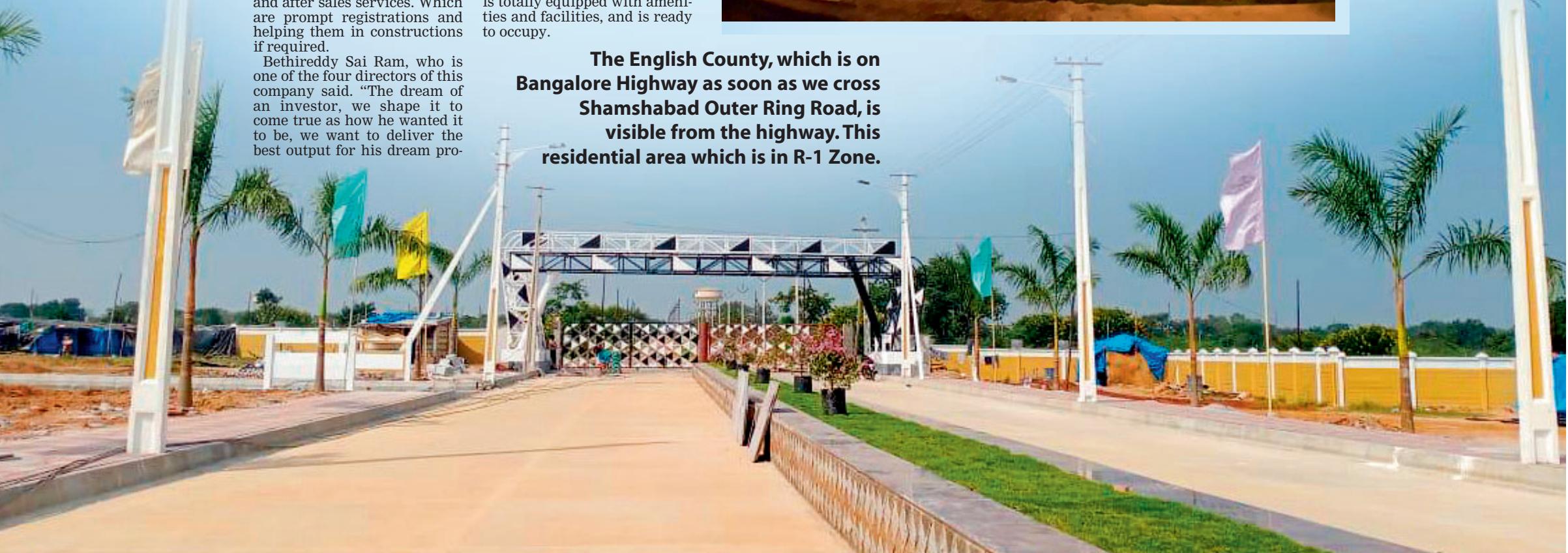
The English County, which is on Bangalore Highway as soon as we cross Shamshabad Outer Ring Road, is visible from the highway. This residential area which is in R-1 Zone. This 30-acre county is totally compounded and laid up with 60 feet CC roads and BT roads. It is totally equipped with amenities and facilities, and is ready to occupy.

The English County, which is on Bangalore Highway as soon as we cross Shamshabad Outer Ring Road, is visible from the highway. This residential area which is in R-1 Zone.



The dream of an investor, we shape it to come true as how he wanted it to be, we want to deliver the best output for his dream project.

— BETHIREDDY SAI RAM, one of the four founders



Aero Township fit for the Kings is now boarding

This township is at Tukkuguda near the RGI Airport road. That is 4 km from the Novotel and five minutes drive from Tukkuguda Outer Ring Road.

SANJAY SAMUEL PAUL

Kings Builders and Developers, which has come up with an unique idea in the field of real estate, Kings Aero Township, which is here to offer open plots apart from providing best of the amenities and closer to the developed areas. The CC roads have been laid and the BT roads will have been soon laid on this venture, the broad roads have been put up to avoid future connection, 150 feet, 80 feet and 30 feet roads have been put up in this plotting area. The developers are more keen to complete the works as they have promised. This township is at Tukkuguda near the RGI Airport road. That is

4km from the Novotel and five mins drive from Tukkuguda outer ring road. The project is surrounded with Hardware Park, Tata Teleservices, Reheja Park, Skanda Aerospace Pvt Ltd.

The chairman and managing director Md Arib, said, "We are with a vision, to provide home to those who dream for his own home, we see to it that the buyer gets the maximum benefit out of it. Our whole team which is experienced in this field, works with integrity and believes in transparency." Arib added "this project 'Kings Aero Township' at Tukkuguda, got great response for the day one, most of the plots which have been bought before the lockdown, their price has been appreciated."



Pranava's moves to earth-friendly residences

Pranava Group which has its presence in Hyderabad and Bengaluru, over the last 20 years, has earned the trust of people and brick by brick, it contributed its part in creating spaces for the residential living and for commercial establishments. One of the examples of these endeavours is the group's project of building one of the tallest buildings, a 24-floor edifice at Somajiguda, in the heart of the city. The company is also engaged in the development of a world class business park soon to be completed at Kondapur, adding work spaces in the prime business centre for IT and IT enabled businesses, for which Hyderabad is known as a global player.

SANJAY SAMUEL PAUL

Much of the boom in the real estate sector in Hyderabad has been a result of realtors who took up a vision of providing homes, as well as office spaces in the city to meet the increasing demand in these two sectors over the past few years, and they did so with honesty and integrity. One such realty company is Pranava Group.

The company was founded by Ravi Kumar Boorugu in the year 2000. The two-decade journey have placed them as one of the most trusted names in real estate field. Pranava Group which has its presence in Hyderabad and Bengaluru, over the last 20 years, has earned the trust of people and brick by brick, it contributed its part in creating spaces for the residential living and for commercial establishments. One of the examples of these endeavours is the group's project of building one of the tallest buildings, a 24-floor edifice at Somajiguda, in the heart of the city. The company is also engaged in the development of a world class business park soon to be completed at Kondapur, adding work spaces in the prime business centre for IT and IT enabled businesses, for which Hyderabad is known as a global player.

The company's journey started with residential apartments at Barkatpura, Kachiguda, and Dilsukhnagar. It then moved in to create gated communities. New residential projects are coming up at Gachibowli, Kondapur, Hi-Tech City and Uppal across the city. They will be concentrated on all sections of people to provide them safe and a happy living environment.

The company always wanted to cater to all types of customers. So it wants to create luxury and non-luxury homes.

and villas which provided happy living facilities and environment for those clients from the day one. The company always wanted to cater to all types of customers. So it wants to create luxury and non-luxury homes. "The focus is on quality and durability. With emphasis on Green Building concepts, the company has taken up the initiative and commitment towards a green world by building residential commercial projects that are IGBT rated.

The company has taken inspiration from the Telangana government's revolutionary green programmes such as Haritha Haram. Also guided by 'Swachh Bharat', the constructions under this company ensure that no environmental norms are violated.

New residential projects are coming up at Gachibowli, Kondapur, Hi-Tech City and Uppal across the city. They will be concentrated on all sections of people to provide them safe and a happy living environment.



iINTERIORS

Interior designers back in business as realty picks up

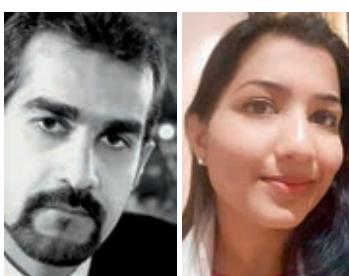
HARLEEN MINOCHA

The spike in home sales post-lockdown in Hyderabad has had a ripple effect on the interior design market. Speaking with *Deccan Chronicle*, interior designers said that the lockdown has done more good than harm to them, even though there was an eventual pause in business for several months.

However, even as the delay in return of guest workers to the city has caused some problems to business owners, projects related to interior designing of houses as well as renovations have seen a boom in the city, specifically in areas like Film Nagar, Jubilee Hills, Gachibowli, Peeramcheru among others.

"During the lockdown, people had enough time to look at the faults in their homes and save up money. Immediately after the unlock was announced, I got several calls from clients wanting to get renovations in their homes. The work-from-home mode has also made people want to have a cozy space to work peacefully in and even lounge in, because almost all the time is spent inside the four walls now," said Mohammed Ibrahim Khan, an architect, interior designer and owner of Architectural Gains.

Another designer Sonia Singhal at Elevate Interiors in Peeramcheru said she was getting clients from her restricted area of business with people wanting refurbishment to interiors to sophisticated designs. "People are willing to spend money after the lockdown on creating a good feel and look in their houses. I have got several calls for projects but I am choosing only specific premium projects now, because of lack of labour," she said.



Md Ibrahim Khan and Sonia Singhal
After the unlock was announced, I got several calls from clients wanting to get renovations in their homes.

— Mohammed Ibrahim Khan,
Architectural Gains



Vigilance is price of a safe neighbourhood

The colonies and residential areas in the city should strive to have a good, strong reputation against crime and they should let it be known that if a crime is committed in their neighborhood, someone will see it and the criminal will be caught

DC CORRESPONDENT

Though we have increased patrolling and also include more and more CC cameras, the best home security comes from being alert and careful, wherein residents make it a priority to ensure basic safety requirements within their house as well, says the Hyderabad city police officials.

The colonies and residential areas in the city should strive to have a good, strong reputation against crime and they should let it be known that if a crime is committed in their neighborhood, someone will see it and the criminal will be caught, said an official from the Hyderabad city police.

"For a neighborhood to be safe and to ensure crime-detection, area locals must be willing to report crimes. Oftentimes, individuals succumb to the 'bystander effect', wherein those who witness an emergency sit-



Homeowners can appreciate local police officers by practicing these crime prevention tips in their communities.

uation fail to call for help when others are present. This occurs because witnesses assume that other bystanders will take responsibility and report the crime. People expect others to report crime or suspicious activity, but it's everyone's responsibility," said the official, adding that one should take immediate action and/or notify the authorities if and when they notice gaps in security.

Homeowners can show their appreciation for local police officers by practicing these crime prevention tips in their communities. After all, a safe place to work and live affects everyone positively, said the police.



Real estate agents also opined that standalone houses are witnessing a sharp decline in demand for the last few years

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