

DECCAN Chronicle

THE LARGEST CIRCULATED ENGLISH DAILY IN SOUTH INDIA
HYDERABAD | WEDNESDAY | 4 NOVEMBER 2020

WEATHER



Max: 31.6°C
Min: 19.2°C
RH: 48%
Rainfall: Nil
Forecast: Partly cloudy sky. Mist likely. Max/Min temperature 32/19 °C

COVID-19 COUNT

CASES	DEATHS
(+48,187)	(+554)
83,10,665	1,23,579
covid19india.org	
STATE GOVERNMENT BULLETINS	
(+1,536)	(+3)
TS: 2,42,506	1,351
(+2,849)	(+15)
AP: 8,30,731	6,734

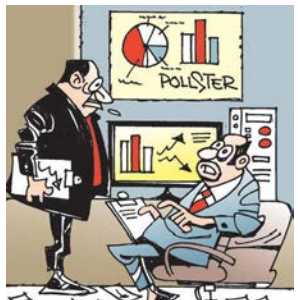
CASES AROUND THE WORLD

	4,76,06,115
DEATHS	
	12,15,485
COUNTRIES, AREAS WITH CASES	215
worldometers.info/coronavirus	

ASTROGUIDE

Sarvari: Dakshinayana
Tithi: Nija Ashwayuja Bahula Chavithi till 5.14 am (Thursday)
Star: Mrigasira till 4.49 am(Thursday)
Variyam: 8.37 amto 10.22 am
Durmuhurtam: 11.36 am to 12.22 pm
Rahukalam: 12 noon to 1.30 pm
HILARI CALENDAR
Rabbi-ul Awwal 17, 1442 AH
PRAYERS
Fajar: 5.14 am
Zohar: 12.10 pm
Asar: 4.08 pm
Maghrib: 5.50 pm
Isha: 6.59 pm
SUNRISE TOMORROW 6.16 AM
SUNSET TODAY 5.43 PM
MOONSET 9.11 AM
MOONRISE 8.32 PM

COUNTER POINT



According to this online survey, 30% support Republicans, 31% Democrats, 28% JD(U), 25% RJD...

SHORT TAKES

No hike in bank charges: Centre

New Delhi: The finance ministry on Tuesday said that there has been no increase in service charges by any public sector bank even as Bank of Baroda decided to withdraw changes made with regard to the number of free cash deposit transactions in a bank account per month. BoB had made certain changes with effect from November 1, 2020, with regard to the number of free cash deposits and withdrawals per month, a finance ministry statement said. "BoB has informed that in the light of the Covid situation, they have decided to withdraw the changes," it said.

BUSINESS | 9

Future files caveat against Amazon plea

SPORTS | 10

Sachin wants helmets compulsory for batsmen

TABLOID

Flights of safety



Samantha Jones, left, and Peter Vina take selfies near the Michael Jordan statue on US Election Day on Tuesday, in the atrium of the United Center, transformed into a super voting site in Chicago. — AP

Americans begin to vote to choose new President

Scranton/Washington, Nov. 3: After a rancorous presidential campaign that exposed the depth of the political divisions in the United States, Americans streamed to the polls on Tuesday to choose either incumbent Donald Trump or challenger Joe Biden to lead a pandemic-battered nation for the next four years.

Voters lined up around the country to cast ballots, with no signs yet of disruptions at polling places that some had feared after a protracted campaign marked by provocative rhetoric.

Ahead of Election Day, just over 100 million voters cast early ballots either by mail or in person, according to the US Elections Project at the University of Florida, driven by concerns over crowded polling places during the pandemic as

● **THE MOST** closely watched results will start to trickle in after 7 pm EST (5.30 am IST, Wednesday), when polls close in states such as Georgia

well as extraordinary enthusiasm.

Biden, the Democratic former vice president who has spent a half century in public life, has held a consistent lead in national opinion polls over the Republican president. But Trump is close enough in several election battleground states.

Supporters of both candidates appeared to agree the election was a referendum on Trump and his tumultuous first term.

Among the most closely contested states that are expected to determine the outcome are Florida, Pennsylvania, North Carol-

ina, Wisconsin, Michigan, Arizona and Georgia, with Democrats hoping that Biden may even threaten Trump in states that once seemed like Republican lands such as Ohio, Iowa and Texas.

Voters on Tuesday will also decide which political party controls the US Congress for the next two years, with Democrats narrowly favoured to recapture a Senate majority and retain their control of the House of Representatives.

The most closely watched results will start to trickle in after 7 pm EST (5.30 am IST, Wednesday), when polls close in states such as Georgia. But it is possible that it could be days before the result is known, especially given the massive surge in voting by mail. — Reuters

■ Full coverage on Page 7

PREZ DECLINES TO MEET PUNJAB CM ON FARM BILLS

DC CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI, NOV. 3

Protesting over President Ram Nath Kovind's refusal to meet him over the Centre's new farm laws, Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh will lead a "relay dharna" of Congress MLAs from his state at Rajghat in the capital on Wednesday.

Mr Singh had sought an appointment with the President to seek his assent to the agriculture Bills passed by the Punjab Assembly which, if passed would negate the Centre's farm laws.

But the state government said that the Rashtrapati Bhavan has declined his request for an appointment.

Following this, the chief minister decided to hold a relay dharna at Rajghat.

IS sympathiser kills 5 in Vienna

Vienna, Nov. 3: Five people died, including an assailant, and 17 others were wounded in a shooting in the heart of Vienna, hours before a coronavirus lockdown started, Austrian authorities said on Tuesday.

The dead attacker was a 20-year-old Austrian-North Macedonian dual national who had a previous terror conviction. The suspected attacker was shot and killed by police. Vienna's hospital service said seven people were in life-threatening condition on Tuesday after the attack.

Meanwhile, world leaders voiced their condemnation over the multiple shootings in Vienna that killed four people.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi tweeted that he was "deeply shocked and saddened by the dastard-

ly terror attacks in Vienna".

US President Donald Trump said, "These evil attacks against innocent people must stop. The US stands with Austria, France, and all of Europe in the fight against terrorists."

"The fight against assassins and those who instigate them is our common struggle," said Chancellor Angela Merkel's spokesman.

"We French share the shock and sorrow of the Austrian people," said President Emmanuel Macron. Russian President Vladimir Putin "strongly condemned the cruel and cynical crime which once again confirmed the inhumane nature of terrorism", the Kremlin said.

■ More reports on Page 7

82.6% polling in Dubbak; all parties claim victory

EVM glitches, Covid safety steps cause delay in voting

S.A. ISHAQUI | DC
HYDERABAD, NOV. 3

A brisk and peaceful polling was witnessed in the Dubbak byelection on Tuesday, after a high-octane campaign by all principal parties in the state. Chief Electoral Officer Shashank Goel declared that 82.61 per cent polling was recorded at the end of poll at 6 pm. The counting of votes will be held on November 10.

The polling, which started on a dull note early in the day, picked up momentum around lunch hour. When compared with the 2018 Assembly elections, the bypoll registered a 3.38 per cent lower voter turnout. The voter participation in the 2018 Assembly election was the highest-ever recorded in Dubbak constituency since it was created. During the 2014 Assembly election, the constituency had recorded 82.6 per cent voting.

The byelection was necessitated by the death of sitting TRS MLA Solipeta Ramalinga Reddy.

Though the constituency witnessed a heavy turnout



Voters queue up to cast their vote in the byelection for Dubbak Assembly constituency in Dubbak town on Tuesday. — DC

of voters, polling booths did not wear an overcrowded look in view of Covid-19, as voters and party workers did not hang around polling booths or on its premises for a long time.

According to returning officer Bharathi Hollikeri, no untoward incidents were reported across the 315 polling booths in the

constituency.

Though Electronic Voting Machines (EVM) developed technical glitch causing delay in voting at some places, she said technicians fixed snags very soon and the polling resumed immediately.

She pointed out that delay in few places was inevitable as election offi-

cers were bound to impose Covid regulations.

Hollikeri said Covid-prevention steps like thermal screening, social distancing and the distribution of gloves increased the average time required for casting a vote.

■ Page 2: Parties disown 'viral' video on social media

Bihar voters seal fate of key leaders

NAYEAR AZAD
with agency inputs
PATNA, NOV. 3

Over 53 per cent of voting was recorded in the second phase of Bihar Assembly polls on Tuesday as voting took place in 94 constituencies across 17 districts. The voting percentage figure is likely to go up as voting continued beyond schedule in several places, the Election Commission said.

The second phase is crucial for both the NDA as well as the Opposition alliance being led by the Rashtriya Janata Dal. For one, it will decide the fate of Grand Alliance's CM face Tejashwi Yadav. In this phase the JD(U) has fielded candidates on 43 seats, the

● **IN THIS PHASE**, the JD(U) has fielded candidates on 43 seats, the BJP on 46. From the Grand Alliance, the RJD fielded candidates on 52 seats, Congress on 24 and three Left parties on 14 seats.

BJP on 46. From the Grand Alliance, the RJD fielded candidates on 52 seats, Congress on 24 and Left parties on 14 seats. The RJD is locked in a direct fight with the BJP on 28 seats and with the JD(U) in 24 seats. The Congress is contesting 12 seats each against the BJP and JD(U).

■ Page 2: Patna records lowest voter turnout in Bihar
■ More reports on Page 6

Booth-capturing mars MP bypolls

RABINDRA NATH CHOUDURY | DC
BHOPAL, NOV. 3

Incidents of firing and booth-capturing marked the 28 Assembly bypolls in Madhya Pradesh on Tuesday. However, they saw an impressive voter turnout of 65.39 per cent despite the coronavirus pandemic.

The Gwalior-Chambal region, where bypolls were held in 16 seats, and which is considered the stronghold of BJP leader Jyotiraditya Scindia, however, witnessed a low turnout.

Official reports said miscreants opened fire outside polling booths at Jatabar and Pura in

Sumawali constituency in Morena district. Four people were arrested over the firing at Jatabar, but the police is yet to identify those behind the firing at Pura.

Elsewhere, miscreants stormed a polling booth at Lolai village in Mehgaon constituency in Bhind district, and tried to snatch an EVM, but officials there foiled the booth-capturing bid. This disrupted polling for some time, but it resumed after the police took control. Congress and BJP workers clashed at Malroad polling booth in Gwalior constituency and Tilabali Chanda in Sambre seat, leading to injuries to several people in both parties.

TOO | HOT

Hyderabad soar high in last game, KKR eliminated

Sun in playoffs with scorching win

MOSES KONDETY | DC
HYDERABAD, NOV. 3

The Sunrisers saved their best for the last. The Hyderabad team pulled out their top game in the final league match to thump table-topping Mumbai Indians by 10 wickets to leap from fifth to the third spot and make the playoffs of the Indian Premier League on Tuesday night in Sharjah.

It was an open and shut

case for the Hyderabad side as openers David Warner and Wriddhiman Saha made light of the modest Mumbai total of 149 for 8 to overhaul it without being separated.

Warner smashed an energetic 85 that was studded with 10 boundaries and a six while Saha contributed 58 in 45 balls as Sunrisers cruised to 151 for no loss in 17.1 overs.

The win took their points tally to 14, the same as

Royal Challengers Bangalore and Kolkata Knight Riders but Tuesday's emphatic victory boosted their net run rate to a healthy 0.608, which put them ahead of RCB, which has a net run rate of -0.172.

Kolkata, at -0.214 finished fifth and was eliminated from the playoffs race.

In the next phase, Mumbai and Delhi Capitals (being the top two) will contest the first Qualifier with the winner making the final sched-

uled for November 10. Sunrisers and RCB will play the Eliminator, with the winner taking on the loser of Qualifier-1 for the other spot in the final.

Of the four teams that made the playoffs, two — Delhi Capitals and Royal Challengers Bangalore — are yet to win the IPL. Mumbai Indians have bagged the coveted Cup four times (in 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019) with Sunrisers taking the top honours in 2016.

SHORT TAKES

TEEN LOSES IPL BET, DIES BY SUICIDE

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, NOV. 3

After losing his savings in an IPL bet, a 19-year-old died by suicide at his residence in Panjagutta on Tuesday morning.

The deceased, Sonu Kumar Yadav, a coconut seller, was residing with his brother, who was sharing the place with two more friends, said the police. Sonu's brother, Arjun Kumar, told the police he was in debt upto ₹70,000.

On Tuesday morning around 8.30 am, Sonu hanged himself to death in the washroom with the help of a cloth. "He has taken the extreme step as he lost money in the IPL betting. Unable to face the financial loss, when the other roommates went to work in the morning, Sonu killed himself," said the police. A case was booked and the body was shifted for post-mortem.

THREE ARRESTED IN ₹1.2 CRORE CHEATING CASE

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, NOV. 3

The cybercrime police arrested a gang of three for cheating people to the tune of ₹1.2 crore in the guise of a business opportunity.

The accused were identified as Mohd Akbar Ahmed Ansari, Mazher Ahmed Ansari and Habiba Ansarim, the police said.

The arrests were made following a complaint from Mohammed Khaja Moinuddin, who claimed that the trio have cheated several other persons along with him under the guise of providing a partnership in their business. They collected an amount of ₹1.2 crore from the people and absconded in the month of September and were also evading the arrest for the commission of this offence.

On Tuesday, the White Collar Offences (WCO) team of Hyderabad CCS arrested them after gathering credible information and sent them to judicial remand.

NIGHT BAZAAR IN HUSSAINSAGAR AREA SOON

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERBAD, NOV. 3

A brand new 'Night Bazaar' that promises to liven up Hussainsagar area, is being planned by the GHMC.

According to GHMC commissioner Arvind Kumar, the latest attraction to join the lake-side entertainment facilities will have a boardwalk, seating and parking facilities.

The 'Night Bazaar' will be between Buddha Bhavan and Sanjeevaiah Park.

In a tweet, Arvind Kumar said the project, to be executed under the PPP model, will unlock the tourism potential around the lake.

PANIC AFTER EMPTY BOGIE CATCHES FIRE

NAVEEN KUMAR | DC
HYDERABAD, NOV. 3

A sudden fire inside an empty compartment of a passenger train which was parked at Medchal railway station created panic in the area on Tuesday afternoon.

According to the officials who conducted a preliminary investigation, a cigarette butt was suspected to be the cause of fire. The mishap occurred around 1.50 pm in the sleeper coach. The railway staff noticed the flames and attempted to douse flames using buckets but in vain. A fire tender from the Jeedimetla fire station was then rushed to the spot and it took fire-fighters for over an hour to get the situation under control.

Jeedimetla Station Fire Officer V. Subash Reddy said the chances of the fire breaking out due to an electrical short-circuit were remote as there was no power supply to the bogie. The charred compartment was part of 10 bogies parked at the station for the last few weeks as passenger train services are yet to resume due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

● **ACCORDING TO officials** who conducted a preliminary investigation, a cigarette butt was suspected to be the cause of fire. The mishap occurred around 1.50 pm.

Poll process



Voters queue up outside a polling booth to exercise their franchise for the Dubbak by-election on Tuesday. — DC

Uttam files complaint against fake news

Video claims Cong candidate for Dubbak has joined TRS

IREDDY SRINIVAS REDDY | DC
HYDERABAD, NOV. 3

Just a few hours before start of polling in Dubbak by-election on Tuesday morning, a video clip with logos of prominent news channels went viral on social media saying Cheruku Srinivas Reddy, Congress candidate in the by-election, had joined ruling TRS.

Shocked Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) chief N. Uttam Kumar Reddy and party working presidents Revanth Reddy and Ponnampalapati Prabhakar released a video condemning the fake news displaying logos of two prominent channels. They demanded that the Police Department and Election Commission immediately take action against culprits trying to manipulate the poll outcome.

Congress leaders alleged the news could have been created and circulated by minister Harish Rao and BJP candidate M. Raghunandan Rao due to fear of losing Dubbak.

Congress candidate Srinivas Reddy also



Congress MP and PCC president N. Uttam Kumar Reddy, along with senior party leaders, meets DGP M. Mahender Reddy and Election Commissioner on Tuesday lodging a complaint to condemn the fake video clip on social media with fake logos of prominent TV channels regarding Congress candidate for Dubbak by-election Cheruku Srinivas Reddy. — P. ANIL KUMAR

released a video describing the viral message as false propaganda and blaming Harish Rao and Raghunandan Rao for the same. He urged Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan to immediately dismiss "Bartara" (dismiss) Harish Rao from cabinet and demanded that the suspend

Raghunandan from the party.

Advising Congress cadre not to believe the fake news, the Congress nominee lodged a complaint with Siddipet police against the fake news.

Later, the TPCC president, along with senior leader Marri Shashidhar Reddy and former MP

● **CONGRESS LEADERS** alleged the news could have been created and circulated by minister Harish Rao and BJP candidate M. Raghunandan Rao due to fear of losing Dubbak.

● **ADVISING CONGRESS** cadre not to believe the fake news, the Congress nominee lodged a complaint with Siddipet police against the fake news.

Anjan Kumar Yadav; met DGP M. Mahender Reddy at the Police Headquarters demanding against the offenders.

After meeting the DGP, the TPCC team went to office of the Election Commission and submitted a complaint to the additional election commissioner demanding that the culprits be arrested before the end of polling, so that justice could be better served. Uttam Kumar Reddy recalled that a similar incident had happened in Kerala and the State High Court disqualified the winning candidate for spreading such false news against his opponent.

Bandi: BJP will win Dubbak

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, NOV. 3

State BJP president Bandi Sanjay Kumar hoped that their party would win in the Dubbak bypoll. He stated according to the ground report from the constituency, their party cadres and leaders are very confident of victory in Dubbak.

Sanjay Kumar said that the people of Dubbak had warned Chief Minister K. Chandrababbar against his adamant and family rule and wanted to teach him a lesson in the Dubbak bypoll. The same lesson they will give the TRS party in the upcoming Graduate MLC and the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation elections, he said.

Sanjay Kumar thanked the BJP cadre, leaders and the people who he said



State BJP president Bandi Sanjay Kumar welcomes political leaders who joined the saffron party in Hyderabad on Tuesday.

had worked hard to ensure the victory of the party candidate in Dubbak.

Sanjay Kumar lashed out at the Chief Minister for "pushing the state into debt".

He accused the TRS leaders of spreading false

propaganda against the Centre and condemned the party leaders' for alleging that the Centre had not given funds to the state.

Several leaders from Suryapet constituency joined the party at the BJP office in the city.

Parties disown 'viral' video on social media

From Page 1

In view of a clash between BJP and TRS workers at a hotel in Siddipet on Monday night, the police took strict security measures to ensure that the polling goes on peacefully.

Ruling TRS candidate Solipeta Sujatha cast her vote at Chittapur village in Dubbak mandal while Congress candidate Cheruku Srinivas Reddy exercised his voting right in Thoguta Mandal headquarters. BJP candidate M. Raghunandan Rao cast his vote at Boppapur in Dubbak mandal. Medak MP K. Prabhakar Reddy, who hails from the constituency, and his family members cast their votes at Potharam village in Dubbak mandal.

Chief Electoral Officer Shashank Goel inspected the polling trend at various polling stations in Dubbak town and also inspected the strong room at Latchpet, where the EVMs will be stored after receiving them from the polling booths on Tuesday night.

The TRS, Congress and the BJP remained confident of winning the byelection.

Finance minister T. Harish Rao thanked the voters for turning up heavily to cast their vote despite the threat of Covid-19. The minister observed the polling trend from his camp office in Siddipet.

The minister lashed out at the BJP for trying to confuse the voters ever since the bypoll was notified. He said even today BJP leaders tried to confuse the people by circulating a morphing video in social media wherein the Congress candidate is showing as joining the TRS.

TPCC president N. Uttam Kumar Reddy thanked the voters and exuded confidence about the Congress winning the Dubbak seat. He alleged that the BJP and the TRS circulated a morphed video to ditch the winning chances of the Congress.

BJP state president Bandi Sanjay Kumar thanked the voters and said that the victory of the BJP is imminent in Dubbak. He said the people voted for the BJP with great hope as it is the only party that could bring a change in politics of Telangana in the future.

Ballot boxes in need of repairs

MADDY DEEKSHITH | DC
HYDERABAD, NOV. 3

The Andhra Pradesh government has returned the damaged and worn-out ballot boxes to Telangana state government for the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) polls.

Of a total of 28,638, 70 per cent of them are rusted while lids of others are damaged which, officials say, will not be fit for use for elections.

The Telangana State Election Commission (TSEC) has asked nodal agencies to get these ballot boxes repaired by November 15 and send an official report by November 18.

The TSEC has sent 28,683 ballot boxes to the neighbouring Andhra Pradesh government for

use during the local body elections. As the municipal elections in AP have been postponed, the TSEC had requested the Andhra Pradesh State Elections Commission APSEC to return the ballot boxes for the upcoming GHMC election.

Following the request, the AP government returned 7,111 ballot boxes from Visakhapatnam district, 5,458 from Chittoor, 357 from Anantapur, 841 from Prakasam, 1,300 from Nellore, 1,850 from Kadapa, 499 from East Godavari, 2,800 from Kurnool, 3,680 from Srikakulam, 2,597 from Krishna, 690 from Guntur and 1,550 from West Godavari. Out of them, 70 per cent of them were found to be worn-out, rusted and damaged.

Patna records lowest voter turnout in Bihar

From Page 1

While reports suggest that Tejashwi Yadav has the support of don-turned-politician Rama Singh from his seat, his elder brother Tej Pratap, who had won from Mahua seat in 2015, and is now contesting from Hasanpur, is locked in a tough battle against two-time sitting JD(U) MLA Raj Kumar Rai.

Another important leader whose fate will be decided in this phase of polling is Nand Kishore Yadav of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

He is the sitting legislature from Patna Sahib Seat and a minister in the Nitish Kumar Cabinet. Janata Dal (United) leader

● **SOURCES SAID** that the Congress, which is an ally of the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) in Bihar, is trying to use the popularity and political influence of Shatrughan Sinha by fielding his son from the seat.

and minister Shravan Kumar from Nalanda as well as actor-turned-politician Shatrughan Sinha's son Luv Sinha from Bankipore is also in the fray.

Luv Sinha is pitted against the BJP's three-time MLA Nitin Navin. Bankipore Assembly seat comes under the Patna Sahib Lok Sabha constituency that elected

Bollywood star and former Union minister in the Atal Bihari Vajpayee cabinet Shatrughan Sinha twice in 2009 and 2014 when he was in the BJP. Later the actor left the party and joined the Congress.

Sources said that the Congress, which is an ally of the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) in Bihar, is trying to use the popularity and political influence of Shatrughan Sinha by fielding his son from the seat.

According to the Election Commission (EC) data, 51.68 per cent of the total 2.85 crore electors in 94 constituencies of Bihar exercised their franchise till 5 pm on Tuesday

₹10,000 RELIEF INSUFFICIENT, SAY FLOOD VICTIMS

ATHER MOIN | DC
HYDERABAD, NOV. 3

Several people, whose homes and lives have been severely impacted by the October floods in city, have said the ₹10,000 cash relief they have received as compensation is grossly insufficient.

Though the Telangana government has announced a relief of ₹1 lakh for fully damaged houses and ₹50,000 for partially damaged houses, these will be distributed only after a detailed survey of affected properties.

"The compensation given to us is a cumin seed in camel's mouth", a victim of floods said glumly. The money is not enough even to replace damaged household items of daily use, other victims complained.

Heavy rains unleashed havoc in many low-lying areas and destroyed many houses in the city. Many families lost their food and grain stocks and electronic appliances.

An old woman Syeda Fouzia Fatima of Al-Jubail Colony said floodwater reached up to the asbestos ceiling of her home and they lost everything. With the amount they received from the government, they purchased a few clothes, utensils and the remaining amount was spent on repairing the electrical wiring. "We whitewashed our house with our own money. My son spent the money he saved for his wedding to get his flooded vehicle repaired. In all, we have suffered a loss of more than ₹1.5 lakh worth in just household articles. The government should at least disburse ₹1 lakh to families who lost everything," Fouzia Fatima pleaded.

Mohammed Basheer, whose house was demolished by the civic body as it was near a nala, said he got only ₹10,000 aid on par with other rain-affected families. He contended that his house was not built on Nala land. But the fact is that the Nala was extended later. His ground plus two floors building was demolished by authorities without awarding compensation.

Another resident Mohammed Raheel said his family lost everything when their house was fully inundated. The amount they received from the government has been given as advance rent for another house they have rented.

GHMC INVITES CANDIDATES FOR WEBCASTING

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, NOV. 3

Election authority and Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) commissioner D.S. Lokesh Kumar invited interested candidates to participate in live webcasting for ordinary elections to GHMC 2020-21. Volunteers who are interested can enrol using the link <https://bit.ly/GHMC-ELECTIONS-2020> or visit GHMC website or MyGHMC app.

KEEP | SMILING Dentists with just practical knowledge, charge reasonable rates. Consultation fee is just ₹100

Roadside Sardar Mahal dental clinics are a hit

SANJAY SAMUEL PAUL | DC
HYDERABAD, NOV. 3

Saleem Khan, an auto driver in his late 40s, was finding that his toothache sometimes turned unbearable. One fine day, he dropped a passenger at 'Baldia Daftar' (municipal office) at Sardar Mahal in the lane on one side of Charminar. This lane is famous for its local dental clinics, with 30-40 of them spread in the area.

Just out of curiosity, Saleem asked one of the

guys in a clinic about his toothache. With a consultation fee of ₹100, Saleem got rid of his pain.

Sardar Mahal dentists charge very reasonable rates. Consultation is just ₹100. Clean your teeth for just ₹200. Charges compared with dental hospitals are three to four times lesser.

The dentists here are those with only practical knowledge. Services they provide include root canal therapy, tooth extraction, dentures and cleaning. Most owners of the clinics

have a Diploma in Dental Hygienist or Diploma in Dental Technician. These are two-year diploma courses after intermediate.

According to Aliuddin, a dental hygienist of Iqbal Dental Clinic, their investment is low and they work on very less profit margins. "Patients who come to us are mostly referred by those whose tooth ailments have been cured by us," Aliuddin said.

Bhaskar Patal is one who is a regular for cleanup of his teeth. He also brings his parents for treating their

tooth ailments. "I have total faith in these dentists. I recommend them to my friends too if they have any tooth problems."

A medical practitioner by profession, on condition of anonymity, said, "I practice general medicine in one of the government hospitals in the old city. I have been visiting these dentists since a long time. Their treatment is very professional and cost effective. You also do not have to wait for long."

Dr Moinuddin, a BDS, said, "I work as a consult-

ant to a clinic here. The success rate of treatment in these clinics is 100 per cent. India is most negligent about dental hygiene. Though we have patients with tooth ailments, most clients are gutka chewers. They come here to get their stained teeth cleaned." Before the nationwide Covid-19 lockdown, each clinic in Sardar Mahal area used to have around 50-60 patients.

"Now we get around just 5-10 patients," said Mohd. Mushtak.



There are around 30-40 dental clinics in the Sardar Mahal area near Charminar.

SHORT TAKES

TS RECORDS
1,536 NEW COVID
CASES, 3 DEATHSDC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, NOV. 3

New Covid-19 cases in Telangana state have shot back up to their pre-weekend low testing levels with the health department saying on Tuesday that the state found 1,536 more people infected by the Coronavirus on Monday. On Sunday, on account of very low number of tests, the number of new cases reported was 922.

While 24,643 tests were conducted on Sunday, the number of tests rose to 45,021 on Monday.

Three more people also lost their lives to Covid-19 on Monday taking the tally of the dead from the disease so far in the state to 1,351 even as the total cases rose to 2,42,506.

The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation area, which will soon go to elections to choose corporators for the civic body's City Council, continued to report the highest number of fresh Covid-19 cases in the state. The department said 281 more people were found diagnosed with Covid-19 in the city limits of Hyderabad city and the rest of the GHMC area.

A very steep rise in cases was reported from Bhadradi-Kothagudem district which reported for Monday 123 new Covid-19 cases compared to just 37 on Sunday.

Kamareddy district that had just one new case on Sunday, saw new Covid-19 cases jump to 38 on Monday while in Khammam the cases rose from 31 to 97 over the these two days.

In Medchal-Malkajgiri, the cases rose from 40 to 96, in Nalgonda from 53 to 81, in Ranga Reddy from 36 to 92 and in Vikarabad from 2 to 22 from Sunday to Monday.

The department said 2,827 Covid-19 patients were admitted to various hospitals in the state as on Monday for treatment while 14,915 were either in home or institutional isolation.

For the Festival of Lights



A woman selects diyas from an array of designs from a roadside shop in Tarnaka, Hyderabad, on Tuesday, for the forthcoming Diwali. — R. PAVAN

No Aadhaar for Dharani
HC tells TS to keep uploaded info safe, secureVUJINI
VAMSHIDHARA | DC
HYDERABAD, NOV. 3

The Telangana High Court on Tuesday directed the state government not to insist that persons possessing agricultural or non-agricultural lands provide their Aadhaar details. Further, no such information must be fed into the Dharani Portal and whatever data already gathered and uploaded on the portal must be kept safe, secure and out of reach of third parties. A division bench comprising Chief Justice Raghavendra Singh Chauhan and Justice B. Vijayen Reddy prima facie felt Telangana government collecting information from property owners about agricultural lands and non-agricultural property, apart from Aadhaar and caste details, for feeding into

Dharani Portal is not backed by any law.

The division bench directed the government to file its counter affidavits by November 17 and adjourned the case to November 20 for further hearing. It ordered that till such time, the information cited should not be sought from the citizens.

The bench was hearing three petitions and similar pleas on the issue. Saketha Kasibathla, Advocate, and I. Gopala Sharma filed two public interest litigations aggrieved by action of Telangana government in obtaining various details including caste for uploading into Dharani Portal. Another petition filed by Karre Anand Kumar sought direction to TS government not to collect such information from people.

While adjudicating the cases, the Chief Justice

pointed to a news report in *Deccan Chronicle* on November 3, 2020, that the Dharani Portal had been hacked, which shows that adequate preventive measures have not been taken to protect data of citizens.

Advocate general B.S. Prasad, however, contended that the state has taken adequate measures. Senior counsel Desai Prakash Reddy, appearing for I. Gopal Sharma, informed the bench that there is no provision in the Act of TS government that says details of Aadhaar could be collected. When that is so, how can government declare that any citizen who does not declare such details cannot sell or buy even an inch of land? Prakash Reddy rued that there is no transparency at all in the decision taken except an oral statement made by

the Chief Minister.

After hearing contentions of the AG, the Chief Justice observed that prima facie, the Dharani Portal makes it mandatory that Aadhaar number must be given, though such requirement is not backed by any law. None of the rules under Information Technology Act, 2011, have been included for protection of data. Details of agricultural and non-agricultural lands have been fed in the Dharani Portal, but it is not clear officials of which rank will have access to such information. Nowhere has the state government come out clear as to steps taken by it to safeguard the data. In these circumstances, "it is a circumstantial fact that there is no transparency at all in the decision taken except an oral statement made by

Smooth start to TS
NEET registrationsN. VAMSI SRINIVAS | DC
HYDERABAD, NOV. 3

The registration of NEET candidates for admission into MBBS and BDS colleges in Telangana state took off to a smooth start much to the relief of students and their parents.

The Kaloji Narayana Rao University of Health Sciences began the registration process on November 2. Contrary to the technical glitches that plagued the Centre's NEET portal, the state's website functioned smoothly.

"The Centre's portal let down students across the country at the time of release of result as well as during the first two days of registration. The payment gateway also didn't work because of which we couldn't raise objection to a question," said a parent.

The tsmedadm.tsche.in was hassle-free and students could register themselves by submitting relevant details and paying registration fee.

"Steps taken by the Telangana government is laudable because the system worked without glitches though we have to upload about dozen certi-

● THE UNIVERSITY took up online verification of certificates due to Covid-19 and asked students to upload required certificates. The originals will be submitted in respective colleges into which the allotment will be made. All those qualified in NEET can register in TS portal till November 8 after which the university authorities will prepare a merit list.

cates," said another parent drawing a comparison with Centre's NEET portal where there is no uploading of any certificate.

The university took up online verification of certificates due to Covid-19 and asked students to upload required certificates. The originals will be submitted in respective colleges into which the allotment will be made. All those qualified in NEET can register in TS portal till November 8 after which the university authorities will prepare a merit list. The actual counselling will commence after preparing merit list and students will have to pick college of their choice in order of priority and the final allotment will be based on merit.

State to develop nalas
at a cost of ₹14,300crMADDY DEEKSHITH | DC
HYDERABAD, NOV. 3

State government has decided to launch a Strategic Nala Development Plan (SNDP) with an estimated cost of ₹14,300 crore to check recurrent flooding of various areas within the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) limits.

According to highly placed sources, neither the state government nor GHMC is willing to spend such an amount on the nala project due to severe fund crunch. The government is thus considering forming a new corporation, which will borrow loans from the market to fund the strategic nala project. Proposals for SNDP have come after taking into consideration expert recommendations made by the Kirloskar Committee and Voyants Consultancy.

As per details available, the proposed corporation will acquire 900 acres of land for the SNDP project at a cost of ₹5,541 crore. ₹120 crore will be required to demolish encroachments after paying a compensation of ₹1,060 crore.

SNDP will be created as a special wing in GHMC to exclusively look after nala and storm water drain issues in coordination with other line departments. It will work under the overall control of GHMC commissioner. Officials from Irrigation Department and experts in various fields will be inducted based on requirements that arise.

Sources said under SNDP, the nodal agency will construct 314 km of major storm water drains at a cost of ₹3,165 crore, apart from 1,000 km (tentative) minor storm water channels costing ₹2,794 crore. Assuming compensation of ₹10,000 per square yard, acquiring 900 acres will cost of ₹5,541 crore. Structural compensation

for encroachments will be ₹1,060 crore. ₹950 crore will be the cost of interceptive sewers on the both sides of storm water drains. ₹635 crore will be spent on shifting utilities (electrical poles, cables, transformers, water supply lines and restoration of roads). In total, the SNDP project will cost ₹14,300 crore.

GHMC had completed a survey of nalas in January 2017. Besides manual survey, drone cameras were used for aerial reconnaissance and video-documenting of areas. Geographical Information System (GIS) wing of the civic body was actively involved in the exercise. Officials have identified 12,182 unauthorised constructions on and along 173 major nalas spread over 390 km. The corporation has decided to clear 47 critical bottlenecks of 16.66 km length at the cost of ₹230 crore and has identified 800 structures.

for encroachments will be ₹1,060 crore. ₹950 crore will be the cost of interceptive sewers on the both sides of storm water drains. ₹635 crore will be spent on shifting utilities (electrical poles, cables, transformers, water supply lines and restoration of roads). In total, the SNDP project will cost ₹14,300 crore.

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Nurses want facilities to
upgrade skills, more sopsKANIZA GARARI | DC
HYDERABAD, NOV. 3

Nursing Association of Telangana has complained that nurses in the state are not being provided employment benefits or facilities to upgrade their skills. Their condition is thus much neglected when compared to nurses of other states.

Lack of elections for the nursing council and there being only a registrar is posing problems for nurses in terms of contract jobs, upgrading skills and availing Covid-19 incentives, said convener of nursing associ-

ation Laxman Rudawat.

"Conducting elections is important, as the recognised body can then authoritatively work for welfare of the nursing community. After bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh, nurses have no representative body in the TS state. While in AP, they have had two rounds of elections and have a fully functional nursing council," Laxman Rudawat remarked.

He pointed out that though a building has been constructed for the nursing council, there has been no elective body since the last seven years to run

the council.

On RTI queries filed by nurses over non-conduct of elections, the TS government has replied that no one had come forward to contest the elections. The Nursing Association of Telangana contested this stand saying there has not even been a notification for holding council elections.

Laxman Rudawat said due to these problems, the nursing fraternity has suffered in both the job sector and upgrading of skills. This is making it difficult for them to compete with other states, which have excelled.

State students want TS
to address their issuesHARLEEN MINOCHA | DC
HYDERABAD, NOV. 3

Students in the state on Tuesday took to Twitter protesting against the TRS government for not solving their issues since the lockdown period and urged minister K.T. Rama Rao to solve them immediately.

Students from across the state latched on to the trending hashtag 'KTR Speak on Student Issues' on the microblogging site which saw close to 50,000 tweets till 7.15 pm on Tuesday filled with pleas as well as complaints.

Most students have requested the minister to cancel exams in state. "Even after announcing that all students will be promoted, exams of previous semesters are also being conducted. The Supreme Court had only ordered that final semester exams be held. This is unfair on all students," said a student of the JNTU-Hyderabad.

"Students are being forced to take classes for the running semester, as well as prepare and perform for the previous semester exams. All this during a pandemic. How is the government concerned about student security?," added another in a series of tweets.

Another user said that colleges in the state are harassing students by demanding full fees in order to issue halltickets for exams, while not

TSBIE PASSES
27K ABSENTEE
STUDENTSDC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, NOV. 3

The Telangana State Board of Intermediate Education (TSBIE) on Tuesday announced that the state government has decided to declare absentee students in the exams held in March as passed by extending them grace marks.

At least 27,589 will be benefited by this decision and will be a one-time measure.

According to the Inter Board 27,251 students were marked absent during the March 2020 Intermediate public exams, whereas 338 students were exonerated by the Malpractice Scrutiny Committee.

releasing scholarships to students in some courses.

Joining the agitation, Telangana state NSUI president Venkat Balmoor said, "A student revolution is never the fault of the students, but of the government. The revolution by the students against the Telangana Government is just a matter of time now."

So far, there has been no response from the government.

2 ARRESTED FOR
STEALING FROM
TEMPLE HUNDINAVEEN KUMAR | DC
HYDERABAD, NOV. 3

The Langer Houz police on Tuesday arrested two men who were involved in a theft case reported at a temple. The police recovered the box and an autorickshaw from the duo.

The arrested persons were identified as Shaik Eisa, 28, of Tappachabutra and Syed Ahmed Hussain, 25, of Hakeempet. "The two entered the Gouri Shankar Maruthi Deva-layam at Maruthinagar in Langer Houz on the night of September 29 and decamped with the hundi (donation box), which had approximately ₹15,000 inside," said Langer Houz police inspector L. Bhasker Reddy.

The police started an investigation following a complaint and arrested the men on Tuesday.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



(S/2011/0007811)

GOOD MOVE Digital Life Certificate can now be generated at doorstep through postmen

EPFO makes it easy for pensioners

BALU PULIPAKA | DC
HYDERABAD, NOV. 3

Pensioners, irrespective of whether they receive Central or state pensions, from now on, need not step out of their homes to submit their annual life certificates to their respective pension offices.

The Central government on Tuesday announced that Jeevan Pramaan, an Aadhaar-based Biometric Enabled Digital Life Certificate for Pensioners can now be generated through post offices or at the doorstep of the pensioner through postmen.

A pensioner whose Pension Sanctioning Authority (PSA) is available on Jeevan Pramaan and is eligible for Jeevan Pramaan certification, can check if his or her respective PSA is listed for this facility at

WHAT IS NEEDED FOR JEEVAN PRAMAAN

- Aadhaar number, mobile number, registration of the Aadhaar number with Pension Disbursing Agency (Bank/Post office etc), Type of Pension, Sanctioning Authority, Disbursing Agency, PPO Number and Account Number (pension).
- Pensioner to provide biometrics (fingerprints).
- Digital life certificate will be automatically available to all pension disbursing offices, or agencies. The certificate can also be downloaded at <https://jeevanpramaan.gov.in/ppouser/login>.
- ₹70 fee for doorstep Jeevan Praman service offered by the post offices.

<https://jeevanpramaan.gov.in/newassets/docs/List>.

Typically, the months of November to March are

when pensioners queue up at their local pension office to submit a physical life certificate. However,

with the Covid-19 pandemic still raging across the country, with nearly all pensioners falling into the vulnerable age group of over 60 years, pensioners will now have an option to get their Jeevan Pramaan certification done at home by a postman. A service request for this can be placed through PostInfo app.

Meanwhile, the Employees Provident Fund Organisation has called on all pensioners to stay safe and at home and said that it has put in place a multi-agency system that allows EPS pensioners with a choice to select the service delivery agency as per their convenience.

EPS pensioners can submit Aadhaar-based Biometric Digital Life Certificate or Jeevan Pramaan at banks, nearest post office or at common service centres/Mee Seva centres.

Pensioners only need to carry their mobile, bank pass book, Pension Payment Order number and Aadhaar number. The EPFO also said that alternately, they can contact their local postman/nearest post office for submitting the Jeevan Pramaan certificate.

Making it further easy for EPS pensioners, the EPFO said that henceforth, they can submit their life certificates online anytime of the year instead of in November and December and such certificates will be valid for 12 calendar months after submission.

The Telangana government too called on state pensioners not to visit pension payment offices and use Jeevan Pramaan system or the T-App folio for submitting their life certificates digitally.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION MANAGEMENT (MANAGE)
 (An organization of the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India)
 Rajendranagar, Hyderabad - 500 030, Telangana, India.
 Tel : 040 - 24014526, www.manage.gov.in

EMPLOYMENT NOTICE

MANAGE invites applications for the following posts on contract basis for a period of one year from the eligible candidates.

Resources	No. of Personnel	Consolidated Pay per month / person	Project / Schemes
Chief consultant	1	100000	Project on "Andhra Pradesh Integrated Irrigation & Agriculture Transformation Project (APII & ATP)" covering component 'C' (Post Production and Marketing) of Department of Agriculture, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh.
Agribusiness expert	1	75000	
Consultant *	1	55000	
Consultant	1	55000	
Project Assistants	2	30000	
Programme Assistant *	1	45000	
Office Boy	1	18000	
Consultants (MANAGE) #	2	42000	MANAGE schemes

Note : * The positions are based at head office of Commissionerate of Agriculture, Guntur, Government of Andhra Pradesh.
These consultants will be associated with work related to implementation of different Schemes / Projects of MANAGE.
The last date for application for the above post is 15 days from the date of publication of this advertisement.

NIZAMABAD FIGHTS COVID-19, CASES COME DOWN

NARENDER PULLOOR |
DC
NIZAMABAD, NOV. 3

In a huge relief to the people, Covid-19 positive cases have gradually declined in the undivided Nizamabad district for the last few days. People are doing their routine work taking Covid-19 precautions like wearing face masks and applying hand sanitisers. As a result, Covid-19 positive cases sharply decreased and beds set up for Covid-19 patients are lying vacant in hospitals.

For the last one week, an average of 25 Covid-19 cases reported in Nizamabad and Kamareddy districts respectively. Due to mild symptoms, the patients are preferring home isolation instead of admitting in hospitals. Of the 45 beds in the district hospital in Kamareddy and area hospital in Domakonda, only three in-patients admitted for Covid-19 treatment.

In Nizamabad district, 400 beds are available for Covid-19 patients in the Government General Hospital in Nizamabad, district hospital in Bodhan and area hospital in Armoor. Only 80 in-patients are getting treatment for Covid-19 in these three hospitals in the district. Rapid Antigen Tests in primary, urban and community health centres, district hospitals and area hospitals are conducted.

In Nizamabad Government General Hospital alone, CBNAAT tests are conducted for Coronavirus patients. However, 13 containment zones in Kamareddy district and 12 containment zones in Nizamabad district continued to curb the spread of Coronavirus. Few people are also joining private hospitals for Covid-19 treatment.

Nandipet mandal education officer Srinivas Reddy said that they are conducting online classes with Covid-19 protocol.

Tagore hits out at CM, says he is cheating public

IREDDY SRINIVAS
REDDY | DC
HYDERABAD, NOV. 3

AICC Telangana in-charge Manickam Tagore accused Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao of cheating people in the name of "Bangaru Telangana". He charged that only KCR and his family members have benefited from Bangaru Telangana project and not the people.

Manickam Tagore alleged that Chandrasekhar Rao has not taken any stand about farmers becoming victims of the newly passed agricultural laws by the centre because he was scared of Prime Minister Narendra Modi taking action against his (KCR's) corrupt activities.

The AICC in-charge had participated in a signature campaign opposing

the new agricultural laws in the districts of Mahabubnagar. He demanded that the Chief Minister convene a special session of the State Legislative Assembly to pass a resolution opposing the centre's laws on agriculture.

Manickam Tagore said Modi government has been taking decisions that favour Ambani and Adani groups and not the people of the country.

He asserted that a united Congress will come to power in 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

Former VRO in Adilabad thrashed

DC CORRESPONDENT
ADILABAD, NOV. 3

A woman farmer on Tuesday thrashed the former VRO Rohit of Kapparala for entering their land details wrongly (less than the actual land they had) in the pattadar passbook after conducting a land records purification. Recently, the state government removed the VROs from that post. The victim farmer said 3.25 acres was entered as 2.6 acres in the pattadar passbook.

According to sources, Rajavva, wife of Gangaram who owned the land, alleged that VRO Rohit made them

make the rounds from pillar to post for correction but he did not rectify the problem even after repeated appeals. Rajavva's is a native of the Vaddadi village of Tamsi mandal.

Rohit came to Tamsi mandal headquarters for programme organised to create awareness about the Dharani portal for officials and farmers on Tuesday. Rajavva picked up an argument with Rohit on her land issue and exchanged heated arguments.


An angry Rajavva thrashed Rohit with chappal for doing injustice to her being a responsible officer.

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE
In Loving Memory of



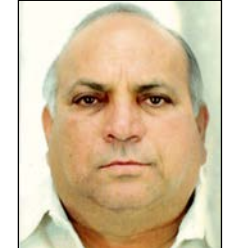
MRS. B. SUGUNA WESLEY
4th November
W/o. Late Pastor B.J. John Wesley, M.A., (Jr.)
(Founder / President CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CENTRES, T.S. & A.P.)
Inserted by: Grand Children
B. Suguna, B. Phebe, B.J. John Wesley (Jr.)
and B. I. Joseph Wesley

SRADHANJALI
The memory of the righteous is blessed- Prov: 10:7



SRI ALLAMPATI VIJAYAVARDHAN REDDY
DOB: 26-10-1957 DOD: 23-10-2020
Though you have left us your affection will always remain fresh in our hearts.
M/S KAVERI RICE MILLER
Falaknuma, Hyd Ph: 98490 32392

IN LOVING MEMORY OF




Late L.C. SURYAKANTHRAO
DOB: 15-10-1953 DOD: 04-11-2014
You are our light, our source of inspiration and strength. You live in our hearts and life forever. We try to live up to the words you always say
"Be Good Do Good"
Inserted by: Mother - Vijaya Lakshmi
And Family Members

2nd DEATH ANNIVERSARY
The gift of god is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Romans 6:23



D.S. BHUSHAN
S/o Late Vijaya Rao - Estheramma
D.O.B: 02.12.1962 D.O.D: 04.11.2018
"Our source of inspiration & strength our every thing. You live in our Hearts and lives forever."
Inserted by: Mr. & Mrs. Varun Vijaya Rao
Son & Daughter-in-law
Ph: 999952499 / 9440265137

1st DEATH ANNIVERSARY




K. PRABHAVATHI
W/o Late A. Prabhakar Rao
D.O.D: 16-11-2019
There is no one as strong and dedicated as you are, your soft spoken nature will always be remembered.
Missing you alot Amma.
Inserted by: P. Rama - Daughter
P. Naveen Kumar - Son-in-law
P. Sai Pranathi - Grand Daughter
(S/2021/D00779)

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE
The memory of the righteous is blessed- Prov: 10:7



Mrs. Kallepu Hema Latha
The world changes from year to year. Our lives from day to day. But your love and memories shall never pass away.
Inserted by:
Mr. K.D. Praveen Kumar (Husband)
Mr. K.P. Naveen Kumar (Son) &
Mrs. K. Jennifer (Daughter-in-law)
Dr. Mrs. B. Veena Latha (Daughter) &
Mr. B. Deva Prasanna (Son-in-law)
B. Moses Abhishek, B. Shiny Angel,
K. Betsy Rochelle and
K. Jason Neil (Grand Children)
(S/2021/D00715)

In Loving Memory




Shri Devendra Kumar Uprathi
DOD: 04.11.2019
Your Life was a blessing, Your memory is a treasure, You are loved beyond words and missed beyond measure.
Inserted By: Family Members
Ph.: 99630 27186

8th Death Anniversary



Smt. P. SHOBHA RANI
W/o. P. Satya Murthy (Advocate)
Remembering You with silent Tears
Inserted by:
Satya Murthy Ponna (Husband)
Pavan Ponna & Varun Ponna (Sons)

SAD DEMISE




Mr. MOHAMMED ABDUL JABBAR
(Retd. Station Master, S.C. Rly)
S/o. Mohammed Abdul Rahim and
Resident of Padmarao Nagar,
Secunderabad. Died on Nov. 2, 2020,
he was laid to rest on the same day
in Chilkalguda Muslim Cemetery.
Phone No: 9392524661
(S/2021/D00782)

1st DEATH ANNIVERSARY
The righteous will be in everlasting remembrance. Ps. 112:8



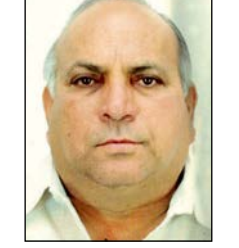
Late Mrs. Balusu Margaret Padma Rao
(Retd. Staff Supdt, CSI Hospital Medak)
We miss you every moment in our lives
Your presence continue to surround us
Remembering you in silent tears
Inserted by: ---
Sister :Mrs. Sumathi Joy Kumar
Sons :Mr. Galen Chitharanjan, Mr. Vivek
Daughters-in-law & Grand Children
(S/2021/D00783)

REMEMBRANCE




B.R. MOHAN
(Beyond Compare)
A Colleague, A Friend, A Brother,
A Father, A Problem solver to many
We Miss You
Staff of Prakash Arts (Hyd)
(S/2021/D00784)

6th DEATH ANNIVERSARY



Late L.C. SURYAKANTHRAO
DOB: 15.10.1953 DOD: 04.11.2014
"Your memories remain in our hearts forever and ever"
Inserted by: Wife- Indrani
Son: Sumet
Daughter-in-law: Shiipa
Grand Daughter: Samyuktha Rao

SHRADANJALI




INDURI SUJATHA
DOB: 13-08-1947 DOD: 31-10-2020
You will remain with us forever in our hearts & memory
Inserted by: TADAKA FAMILY

1st ANNIVERSARY



Badri Siddhartha (Dimpu)
DOD: 04th November 2019
We miss you every moment in our life, your presence continues to surround us, in our hearts, you are always there.
Inserted by: Family & Friends
Ph.: 9703177995, 9866053888
(S/2021/D00783)

2nd ANNIVERSARY




BANGARU LAXMAN RAJU
DOB: 10-March-1950
DOD: 04-Nov-2018
No Longer in our lives to share, But in our hearts you're always there.
Inserted by:
Smt. Geetha Indira Bai
Son- Raj Kiran
Son- Raj Karan
(S/2021/D00783)

44th DEATH ANNIVERSARY
The upright shall dwell in thy presence. Ps 140:13




Gera Russel Phillips
Superintendent
O/o The Inspector/Director
General of Police A.P., Hyd.
DOB: 12.05.1925
DOD: 04.11.1976
Inserted by:
Mrs. Thadamalla Lalitha Sudhakar
Mrs. G. Vanitha Meloncon
Mrs. & Mr. G.P. Kiran Kumar
Mrs. & Mr. G.P. Kishore Kumar
Mrs. & Mr. Raya Aron Vijay Kumar
Mrs. & Mr. G. Abraham Sunder Raj

SAD DEMISE




Shri HARSHAD BHAICHAND VIPANI
D.O.D: 03-11-2020
Funeral at Kavadiyada Crematorium starting from Residence at 11.00 a.m.
Please pray for the noble soul.
Vipani Family, Vora Family, Shah Family,
Contact Nos: 9448470133, 9448317170
(S/2021/D00785)

IN REMEMBRANCE



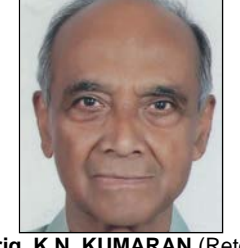
Late L.C. SURYAKANTHRAO
DOB: 15.10.1953 DOD: 04.11.2014
"You remain with us every moment, guiding us in spirit & in action"
Inserted by:
Daughter: Shradha Ghawalker
Son-in-law: Vishwanath Ghawalker
Grand Children: Shravishta, Adhithyan,
(S/2021/D00784)

1st ANNIVERSARY



MRS. M. MARIAMMA
DOD: 4th November 2019
WE DEFINITELY MISS YOUR PRESENCE EVERY PASSING DAY
Inserted by: M. Devadas (Husband)
Leela, Jyothi prasad, Myrtle, Olive,
Lily, Benny, Edel and all relatives
(S/2021/D00783)

IN LOVING MEMORY OF



Brig. K.N. KUMARAN (Retd.)
31-07-1932 to 04-11-2019
Time passes, Memories stay, Loved and Remembered Everyday, In Fond Memory of a Loving Husband, Father and Grandfather.
Parvati (Wife), Anand, Sharada (Children), Purnima (Daughter-in-law)
Divya, Dayanita and Jai (Grand Children)
(S/2021/D00784)



**13 TH DAY CEREMONY
WITH DEEP LOVE AND RESPECT TO
SRI ALLAMPATI
VIJAYAVARDHAN REDDY**

**MANAGING DIRECTOR:
MINERVA GRAND GROUP OF HOTELS
CORRESPONDENT:
RAMAKRISHNA EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS**

PEDDA KARMA:

**ON WEDNESDAY, 4 TH NOVEMBER 2020, FROM 12 NOON
AT MINERVA GRAND HOTEL, SD ROAD, SECUNDERABAD**

WITH DEEP LOVE & RESPECT
MOTHER: A. RANGAMMA, WIFE: A. INDIRA,
SON: A. LOKESHWAR REDDY,
DAUGHTER-SON-IN-LAW: M. TARANYA - M. KALYAN REDDY
GRANDSON: ARNAV MEREDDY
BROTHER-IN-LAW: P. PRABHAKAR REDDY EX-M.P.
FRIENDS & FAMILY MEMBERS

MANAGEMENT & STAFF OF:



Minerva Grand

Group of Boutique Business
Hotels & Restaurants




26-10-1957 - 23-10-2020

FROM AP AP RECORDS 2,849 NEW COVID CASES, 15 DEATHS

SAMPAT G. SAMRITAN | DC
VIJAYAWADA, NOV. 3

AP registered 2,849 new Covid-19 cases rising tally to 8,30,731 and 15 deaths taking the toll to 6,734 in the last 24 hours in the state.

State health authorities released Covid-19 bulletin on Tuesday reporting that out of 84,534 samples tested, 2,849 persons were found infected with Covid-19.

Out of a total of 82,66,800 samples tested for Covid-19 so far, 8,02,325 patients were discharged after recovery while 21,672 patients are still active with the virus.

Among the daily cases of Covid-19, Chittoor topped the state with 436 followed by 421 in Krishna, 394 in East Godavari, 386 in West Godavari, 277 in Guntur, 185 in Prakasam, 169 in Kadapa, 145 in Visakhapatnam, 142 in Anantapur, 93 in Nellore, 88 in Srikakulam, 78 in Vizianagaram and 35 in Kurnool.

East Godavari continues to be the worst hit with the highest number of cumulative confirmed cases with 1,16,783 followed by 86,835 in West Godavari, 79,322 in Chittoor, 68,063 in Guntur, 64,977 in Anantapur, 60,019 in Prakasam, 59,778 in Nellore, 59,565 in Kurnool, 56,148 in Visakhapatnam, 52,515 in Kadapa, 44,183 in Srikakulam, 40,141 in Krishna, 39,507 in Vizianagaram, 2,461 from other states and 434 from other countries.

The rate of recovery of Covid-19 infected patients is good in East Godavari with 1,12,041 followed by 84,199 in West Godavari, 76,396 in Chittoor, 64,191 in Guntur, 63,154 in Anantapur, 59,100 in Nellore, 58,806 in Kurnool, 57,981 in Prakasam, 53,883 in Visakhapatnam, 50,924 in Kadapa, 43,210 in Srikakulam, 38,982 in Vizianagaram, 36,563 in Krishna, 2,461 from other states and 434 from other countries.

The daily cases of death of Covid-19 infected patients, Anantapur and Guntur, registered three each followed by two each in Chittoor and Krishna and one each in East Godavari, Nellore, Prakasam, Srikakulam and West Godavari.

'ALL IS NOT WELL' BETWEEN SEC AND GOVT: HC

DC CORRESPONDENT
VIJAYAWADA, NOV. 3

The Andhra Pradesh High Court on Tuesday observed that "all is not well" between the State Election Commission and the state government.

A single-judge bench of the High Court headed by Justice Battu Devanand held a hearing on a writ petition filed by the State Election Commission on Tuesday alleging that the state government was not responding properly to the requests for assistance in the discharge of its duties including conduct of elections in a free and fair manner.

The court observed that the prevailing relationship between the SEC, a constitutional authority, and the state government, appeared to be "very unfortunate" and said that everybody should keep in mind that institutions are permanent while persons holding the posts are temporary.

The court said that the duty of the SEC is to discharge its functions as per the provisions of the Constitution and as per the relevant laws and felt the need on the part of state government to extend cooperation and assistance to the SEC to help it discharge its constitutional functions.

The court observed that the state government has been irresponsible and non-cooperative thereby posing serious hurdles to the functioning of the SEC. As the grievances raised by the petitioner SEC involve several departments to redress them, the court suo motu impleaded the chief secretary as one of the respondents to the writ petition for proper adjudication of the issues raised by the SEC.

The court while issuing interim directions asked the State Election Commission to submit details of all required cooperation and financial and non-financial assistance from the state government within three days.

It directed the state government to provide all necessary cooperation and assistance to the SEC forthwith.

The court directed the chief secretary to take steps to ensure both the respondents comply with its order and submit the status report to it within 15 days.

New FSSAI rules stun home cooks

Many unaware with the new guidelines

T.S.S. SIDDHARTH | DC
HYDERABAD, NOV. 3

For 27-year-old Hema (name changed on request), a home cook in Marredpally, lockdown period had presented an opportunity to showcase her culinary skills not just for her family but to others as well.

However, the new guidelines of Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) have thrown a wet-blanket over her entrepreneurial plans. As per FSSAI guidelines, Hema has to first procure a licence to deliver food to anyone outside of her family. "Until now, I was not aware that a licence is required to cook food and serve it out of our homes," she said.

While the Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses) Regulations are being implemented since 2011, they are unknown to many.

"We were making and delivering food from home at a time when all eateries were closed. When we ourselves are comfortable eating the food, it goes to show that the sanitary conditions are good. Also, there has been no one from the office of food authorities who has paid a visit to conduct a quality check," said a confectioner from Sainikpuri, who works out of her home.

"We have applied for

FSSAI LICENCE PROCEDURE

- **VALIDITY OF THE LICENCE:** FSSAI licence is valid from 1 to 5 years. According to the FSSAI rules, the homemade food selling operator (FBOs) needs to apply for the renewal of the licence in 30 days and it should be done before its expiry. Any FSSAI renewal application filed exceeding the expiry date is needed to pay a late fee of ₹100 per day for each day of delay.

- **TO GET THE LICENCE:** You require to fill FSSAI application form A or B depending on your business turnover and give details about your food business. As there are 3 types of FSSAI Licence:
- **REGISTER FORM A-** When the business Turnover is Below ₹12 Lakhs (BASIC FSSAI REGISTRATION)

- **FILL FORM B -** When the business Turnover is ₹12 to ₹20 crore (STATE FSSAI LICENCE) or Above ₹20 Crore (CENTRAL FSSAI LICENCE)
- Commissioner of Food Safety (Telangana): **A. SHANTI KUMARI**
- Phone No: 040-23455824
- Fax No: 040-23455452
- E-mail ID: mailto:praveenprakesh-health@gmail.com

the license. We were told that it would take another two weeks' time to get it. But what is difficult to comprehend is asking a home baker or chef to disclose their annual income," said A. Alam from Dakshini Dastarkhwan, another home kitchen from the city. As per the FSSAI guidelines, home cooks, such as Hema or Alam, fall under the category of petty food manufacturers. A petty food manufacturer, rules say, is someone who manufactures or sells any article of food himself

or herself or a petty retailer, hawker, itinerant vendor or temporary stall holder or distributor of foods including at any religious or social gatherings.

Those falling out of the ambit of 'petty food manufacturer' are caterers or such other food businesses, including small scale or cottage or such other industries relating to food business or tiny food businesses, with an annual turnover not exceeding ₹12 lakh with a prescribed production capacity.



As Miryalaguda rice millers go on strike against seizure of a mill, more than 400 farmers were stranded on roads with paddy filled tractors on Tuesday.

Miryalaguda rice millers strike against govt officials

S.A. ISHAQUI | DC
HYDERABAD, NOV. 3

A flash strike by rice millers in Miryalaguda against seizure of a mill by police has left hundreds of farmers stranded on roads with tractor loads of paddy they had brought to the town on Tuesday.

As many as 400 hundred farmers with tractors have queued up near Venkata-dripalem as rice millers have closed down their mills. Angry farmers have organised themselves into groups and are squatting on roads raising slogans against the government and rice millers.

According to Nalgonda police, the flash strike by millers started after they seized Balaji Rice Mill at Yadgarpally in Miryalaguda following a complaint by farmers that the mill management was cheating farmers by buying paddy for between ₹1,720 and ₹1,740 per quintal, whereas the minimum support

price (MSP) was ₹1,888. Farmers had also complained that the mill was short weighing their produce by several kilograms per bag.

Following the protest by rice millers and farmers, district collector Prashant J. Patil, along with police superintendent A.V. Ranganath have called an urgent meeting with rice millers.

While reiterating that it was for officials, millers and businesses to ensure MSP for farmers, the collector cautioned millers that teams comprising police, revenue, civil supplies and task force units will intensify raids. Seizures will continue in case of violations. The collector asked millers that they bring their issues to notice of officials without delaying rice procurement.

SP Ranganath suggested that mill owners issue tokens to farmers based on their intake capacity and avoid traffic congestion.

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE

e-Tender No. 2020/WP/MECH/BD/FES/WT-12
For & On behalf of President of India, Dy. CME-I/WP/Patna invites e-tender for the following works as detailed:

1. Name of the work with its location: "Design, Fabrication, Supply, Installation, Erection, Commissioning & Testing of Centralized Welding Fume Extraction System (FES) in Body shop of Wagon Repair Workshop, Badnera, Dist-Amravati (Maharashtra) on Turnkey Basis".

2. Estimated cost: Rs. 2,36,94,400.00 **3. EMD:** Rs. 2,68,500.00 **4. Date & Time for closing of e-tender:** 02.12.2020 at 13:00Hrs. **5. Website particulars and notice board location where complete details of tender can be seen and downloaded:** Tender can only be downloaded and Bid from IREPS website: www.ireps.gov.in for any other information please contact office of CAO/Workshop Projects, Indian Railways, Chamber Bhawan, 3rd floor (Mech. Dept.) J.C. Road, Patna-800001.

Dy. Chief Mechanical Engineer-I, ECR, Patna PR/851/WP/MECH/IT/20-21/48

Stay protected from Corona

Wear your mask properly

Frequently wash your hands with soap

Maintain safe distance

NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE

Orphaned juvenile takes to burglaries, 44 cases unearthed

NAVEEN KUMAR | DC
HYDERABAD, NOV. 3

Losing his mother and siblings at a young age and getting a cold shoulder from his step family pushed a juvenile into the world of crime at a young age of 15. Anoop Kumar, now 27, was arrested by LB Nagar police on Tuesday with record 44 cases of house burglaries against him.

Officials have seized 10 tolas of gold, one laptop, ₹15,000 in cash, and a bike, all worth ₹6 lakh, from his possession. An iron rod, which was used to break open locks, was also confiscated from him.

Kattela Anoop Kumar alias Tinku alias Nitesh alias Raju is a resident of Jillelaguda in Meerpet. He lost his mother, two sisters and a brother to health ailments when he was in early teens, police said.

"His modus operandi is to locate isolated, locked houses and break in with the help of an iron rod in the night. He would then decamp with valuables," police said.

Anoop's father Vijay Kumar, a cab driver by profession, married another woman and started a family with her. Depressed about losing his mother and siblings

and not getting along with his step family, Anoop started stealing money in 2008 when he was 15. He was arrested by Saroornagar police, which led to beginning of his criminal record," said LB Nagar police, who also invoked PD Act against him in 2015 for multiple house burglaries.

After serving two years in jail, Anoop was again arrested by Gachibowli police for his involvement in seven house burglary and theft cases in 2018. "Following his release, he was counselled and asked to mend his ways. He went back to his father in 2019 and started working at a dosa place in Hayathnagar and also learnt how to drive a car from his father. Anoop fell in love with a girl in the interim when Coronavirus pandemic hit and he lost his job due to lockdown. That is when he went back to committing offences," police recounted.

After a round of house burglaries, Anoop was seen on the CCTV cameras leaving a place of burglary. Police tracked his movements and nabbed him. He has confessed his involvement in seven offences following the lockdown.

Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation

NIT No: 44/EE/GHMC/DIV-21/2020-21 (Item No. 01 to 30) Dt: 03-11-2020, **Name of Work:** Civil Works, **Estimate Cost (Rs. in Lakhs):** 713.95, **Start Date / Last Date & Time for Receipts of Bids:** 04-11-2020 @ 4.00 PM, 07-11-2020 @ 4.00 PM, **Name & Address Officer Cell No:** Sri. P. Chinna Reddy, EE, Division-21, Ph. No: 040-23033163.

Further details can be seen on the website <https://tender.telangana.gov.in> Sd/- EXECUTIVE ENGINEER CHANDANAGAR DIVISION-21 SLP ZONE : GHMC

RO No: 6612-PP/CL/Adv/1/2020-21

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited

Regd. Office: PSEB, Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001
OFFICE OF CHIEF ENGINEER / METERING
C-3, SHAKTI VIHAR, PSPCL, PATIALA, PUNJAB 147001
Tel. No: 0175-2218871, Fax No: 0175-2200284, e-mail: semeteringpatiala@gmail.com
Corporate Identification Number (CIN): U40109PB2010SGC033813
Registration Number: 33813, website: www.pspcl.in
e-tendering page: <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender Specification No.	MQP-164/2020-21/PR
Short Description	Procurement of 11 KV Piller resistant metering panel housed with 3 Nos. dry type 11KV CTs, 1 No. 3-Phase Dry type PT and having meter compartment with accuracy of Cts as 0.2S & PT as 0.2 of assorted ratios and empanelment for the private sale.
Start date of downloading of tender docs./bid submission	04.11.2020 at 11.00 Hrs.
Last date for Bid submission	07.12.2020 till 11.00 Hrs
Bid opening (Part-I & II)	14.12.2020 at 11.30 Hrs

Detailed NIT and set of specification/ tender documents can only be downloaded from website <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>. Tender ID is 2020_POWER_55517_1

Note: Corrigendum, if any, after the publication of this tender enquiry shall only be uploaded on site and will not be published in any newspaper.

-Sd/-
SE/HMC
PSPCL, Patiala

C-339/2020
RO : /99276

NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY Tender Notice

Email: cos@ner.railnet.gov.in, Website: www.ner.indianrailways.gov.in, Fax No: 0551-2200721
Tender Notice No.: 26, Date 02-11-2020

Invitation of tenders through e-Procurement System

Principal Chief Material Manager, North Eastern Railway, Gorakhpur and on behalf of the President of India, invites tenders through e-procurement system for the supply of the following items. Complete description of the item and other condition are available on website www.ireps.gov.in

Item No.	Tender Number	Due on	Brief Description of Stores	Reserved to be procured from	Qty. Required	Earnest Money (Rs.)
01	22191224	26-11-2020	Traction centre etc.	ICF	761 Nos.	₹ 1,62,590/-
02	29201063	26-11-2020	Set of Cover Assembly etc.	—	2000 Set	₹ 83,960/-
03	22200198A	26-11-2020	Foot Plate Arrangement etc.	—	1475 Nos.	₹ 73,700/-
04	29201042	26-11-2020	Set of Magnetic Path etc.	—	11164 Set	₹ 1,40,670/-
05	30191083A	26-11-2020	Battery Charger etc.	ICF	52 Set	₹ 1,26,520/-
06	29201067	27-11-2020	Base Assembly Set etc.	—	3163 Set	₹ 9,03,040/-
07	29201027	27-11-2020	Cover Assembly Set etc.	—	4613 Set	₹ 2,20,330/-
08	29201065A	27-11-2020	Set of Main Gear etc.	—	3113 Set	₹ 9,36,140/-
09	30200452	27-11-2020	Emergency Battery Charger etc.	ICF	165 Nos.	₹ 88,270/-
10	22190778B	30-11-2020	Thermoplastic Polyester etc.	RD50	3800 Nos.	₹ 91,500/-
11	22201192	30-11-2020	Ball Joint Traction Lever etc.	ICF	2534 Nos.	₹ 1,21,600/-
12	22201232	30-11-2020	Secondary Spring Inner etc.	RD50	609 Nos.	₹ 1,17,000/-
13	28200804A	01-12-2020	Wood Based etc.	ICF	6687 Nos.	₹ 2,92,300/-
14	22191457A	01-12-2020	Rubber Buffer etc.	ICF	888 Set	₹ 84,850/-
15	29201030A	01-12-2020	Set of Lug & Bracket etc.	—	5240 Set	₹ 1,75,500/-
16	29201041B	01-12-2020	Set of Magnetic Path etc.	—	32895 Set	₹ 4,84,010/-
17	28200651	02-12-2020	Paint enamel synthetic etc.	RD50	64580 Ltr.	₹ 96,020/-
18	21190058A	03-12-2020	Motor Sprit Petrol etc.	—	42000 Ltr.	₹ 65,590/-
19	22201191	03-12-2020	Rubber Spring etc.	RCF	2000 Nos.	₹ 94,510/-
20	22201086	03-12-2020	Silent Block etc.	ICF	2372 Nos.	₹ 1,54,650/-
21	22201094	04-12-2020	Secondary Spring Outer etc.	RD50	109 Nos.	₹ 54,490/-
22	22201190	04-12-2020	Rubber Pad etc.	RCF	2700 Nos.	₹ 1,06,120/-
23	22201319	04-12-2020	PHO KIT etc.	RD50	1000 Nos.	₹ 72,130/-
24	22201308	04-12-2020	N2 Power Supply Card etc.	—	21 Nos.	₹ 80,890/-
25	22201855	10-12-2020	UIC-130 Pre-sealed etc.	RD50	597 Nos.	₹ 4,60,440/-
26	22200738A	22-12-2020	Enhanced Capacity etc.	RD50	1981 Nos.	₹ 2,99,630/-

CPRO/S-34 Principal Chief Material Manager, Gorakhpur
About any passenger amenity complaint SMS on Mob. No.: 09794845955
Never travel on roof and foot boards.

Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation

NIT No: NIT No. 28/EE/CIRCLE-12/GHMC/2020-21, Name of Work: VDCC Roads and other works, 17 Works, **Estimate Amount / ECV:** Rs. 418.55 Lakhs, **Start Date / Last Date & Time for Receipts of Bids:** 04-11-2020 from 12.00 PM. / 07-11-2020 upto 12.00 PM., **Name & Address Officer Cell No.:** Executive Engineer, Circle-12, K.Z., GHMC, Khairatabad, Ph: 9959094929

For further details can be seen at eprocurement @ <https://tender.telangana.gov.in>, Commissioner, GHMC

RO No: 6580-PP/CL/Adv/1/2020-21 Sd/- EXECUTIVE ENGINEER CIRCLE-12, (KZ) GHMC

KONKAN RAILWAY CORPORATION LTD
(A Government of India Undertaking)

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

Chief Engineer, Konkarn Railway Corporation Ltd., invites Open Tender in Single bid system through E-Tendering on IREPS portal from Eligible Contractors for the following works:

1) Name of Work: Pway Zonal Contract for maintenance of Track under the jurisdiction of SSE/Madgaon of Konkarn Railway. **Tender Notice No.:** KR-W-01-58-2020-07. **Estimated Cost:** Rs. 4,18,97,717/- excluding GST.

2) Name of Work: Pway Zonal Contract for maintenance of Track under the jurisdiction of SSE/Karwar of Konkarn Railway. **Tender Notice No.:** KR-W-01-58-2020-08. **Estimated Cost:** Rs. 4,29,90,596/- excluding GST.

3) Name of Work: Pway Zonal Contract for maintenance of Track under the jurisdiction of SSE/Bhatkal of Konkarn Railway. **Tender Notice No.:** KR-W-01-58-2020-09. **Estimated Cost:** Rs. 4,07,75,765/- excluding GST.

4) Name of Work: Pway Zonal Contract for maintenance of Track under the jurisdiction of SSE/Udupi of Konkarn Railway. **Tender Notice No.:** KR-W-01-58-2020-10. **Estimated Cost:** Rs. 4,04,67,887/- excluding GST.

Completion Period: Two years including monsoon. **Closing Date/Time:** 25.11.2020 up to 15:00 hrs for submission of online Offers/Bids. Manual offers shall not be accepted. Please visit www.ireps.gov.in website for details / participation. Corrigendum / addendum will be hosted in this website only.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade Petroleum & Explosives Safety Organisation PUBLIC NOTICE

It has been brought to the notice of the Government that fireworks of foreign Origin have been illegally imported into India under false declaration in the past. It is hereby informed that fireworks in India have been declared as restricted item under ITC (HS) in respect of import. Till date, no licence for import of fireworks has been granted for possession and/or sale under the Explosives Rules, 2008 by Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organisation .

The smuggled fireworks of foreign origin include the chemicals 'Potassium Chlorate', which is a dangerous and hazardous chemicals and can ignite or explode spontaneously. The fireworks can cause severe accidents and endanger lives in addition to posing a host of environmental and health issues to the country.

In the interest of safety and security of human lives and property, general public and stakeholders are requested to report the information about possession and / or sale of such fireworks to the nearest Police Station or District Authorities for suitable action.

davp 05209/11/0003/2021 Chief Controller of Explosives

Department of Atomic Energy
Hyderabad Regional Purchase Unit

e-TENDER NOTICE

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

- (a) Tender Enquiry No. : **DPS/HRPU/NFC/PT/TPT/ELE/15106**
(b) Description : **Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of 2500 KVA, 11/0.433KV, Z=8% (Tolerance : - 0% to +10%) Onan Outdoor Transformer - Qty. 12 Sets**, details as per tender specifications (c) Last date for submission of online pre-bid queries : **03/11/2020 upto 2:00 PM** (d) Last Date for Submission of Bid Online : **03/12/2020 upto 2:00 PM** (e) Tender Fee : **NIL** (f) EMD : **₹ 10,00,000/-**.
- (a) Tender Enquiry No. : **DPS/HRPU/NFC/PT/TPT/CAP/11197**
(b) Description : **Design, Supply, Fabrication, Testing, Erection, Painting & Commissioning of Mechanical Induced Draft Cross Flow P-FRP Cooling Tower of 750 M3/HR (02 Nos.) including all Mechanical, Electrical, Instrumentation Works – Qty. – 1 Set** details as per annexure (c) Last date for submission of online pre-bid queries : **21/11/2020 upto 2:00 PM** Last Date for Submission of Bid Online : **21/12/2020 upto 2:00 PM** (d) Tender Fee : **NIL** (e) EMD : **₹ 2,08,567/-**.
- (a) Tender Enquiry No. : **DPS/HRPU/NFC/PT/TPT/CAP/11183**
(b) Description : **2 - Axis CNC Controlled Slant Bed Lathe Design, Manufacture Supply & Commissioning - Qty. - 2 Nos.** details as per annexure (c) Last date for submission of online pre-bid queries : **16/11/2020 upto 2:00 PM** Last Date for Submission of Bid Online : **15/12/2020 upto 2:00 PM** (d) Tender Fee : **NIL** (e) EMD : **₹ 3,20,000/-**.
- (a) Tender Enquiry No. : **DPS/HRPU/NFC/PT/TPT/CAP/11210**
(b) Description : **Fabrication, Supply, Installation and Commissioning of Burst Testing Machine - Qty. 2 No.**, details as per tender specifications (c) Last date for submission of online pre-bid queries : **27/11/2020 upto 2:00 PM** (d) Last Date for Submission of Bid Online : **28/12/2020 upto 2:00 PM** (e) Tender Fee : **NIL** (f) EMD : **₹ 2,22,000/-**.
- (a) Tender Enquiry No. : **DPS/HRPU/NFC/PT/TPT/CAP/11201**
(b) Description : **Supply, Installation, Commissioning & Performance Demonstration of a Fully Automated PMT based Spark Source Optical Emission Spectrometer for Chemical Analysis of Both Ferrous & Non Ferrous Alloys in Solid State with features - Qty. 1 No.**, details as per tender specifications in the annexure (c) Last date for submission of online pre-bid queries : **28/11/2020 upto 2:00 PM** (d) Last Date for Submission of Bid Online : **28/12/2020 upto 2:00 PM** (e) Tender Fee : **NIL** (f) EMD : **₹ 5,56,000/-**.
- (a) Tender Enquiry No. : **DPS/HRPU/NFC/PT/TPT/ENG/17016**
(b) Description : **Machining, Welding, Inspection, Testing, Packing, Transportation & Supply of Carrier SA Components - Qty. - 50 Sets** details as per enclosed Drawings, Specifications & Special Instructions (c) Last Date for Submission of Bid Online : **30/11/2020 upto 2:00 PM** (d) Tender Fee : **NIL** (e) EMD : **₹ 3,36,253/-**.

Visit <https://etenders.dpsdae.gov.in> for details.

[DPS/HRPU/NFC/2021/56]

IN BRIEF

PROXY WRITER
IN JEE MAINS
SCAM HELD

MANOJ ANAND | DC
GUWAHATI, NOV. 3

In a breakthrough in the investigation, police arrested the proxy writer in the Joint Entrance Examination (Mains) scam but the National Testing Agency (NTA), which conducted the Joint Entrance Examination (Mains), is yet to respond to the communication by Guwahati police in connection with the scam.

Informing that proxy writer Bhargav Deka, the owner of a city-based coaching institute Global Edu Light, has been arrested, sources said that the police has requested the NTA to give details about the procedures used in the examination and the possible ways that might have been used by the proxy candidate to appear in the examination on behalf of Neel Nakshyatra Das.

Though NTA officials without thorough probe in the scam claimed that it took place only in the specific examination centre located at ION Digital Zone in the Azara area of the city and nowhere else in the country, sources admitted that the NTA was reluctant to hold any nation-wide probe into the scam as any competent investigation by any competent agency may open Pandora's box.

Pointing out that from the examination centre, the police have already seized several documents security sources said that the NTA has hardly taken any note of the scam as the centre was allowed to function and on November 4, National Eligibility Test will be held at the centre.

COVID CASES
LOWEST AFTER
OVER 100 DAYS

DC CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI, NOV. 3

Central government officials on Tuesday said that a steady decline in daily fresh cases in India has been noted but a large part of the country's population is still susceptible to the coronavirus infection. On Tuesday, 38,310 new cases were detected which was lowest after over 100 days.

The national Covid-19 recovery rate is now 91.96 per cent.

"It is satisfying that there is an improvement in overall cases and there is a consistent decline in active cases. However, in some states it is a reverse trend and there is a rise in fresh cases. In Kerala, West Bengal, Delhi and Manipur we are noticing rise in cases. In neighbouring cities of Delhi - Gurgaon and Faridabad - there is a sharp increase in new cases," said NITI Aayog member (Health) Dr V.K. Paul.

"We are susceptible to a very large extent and the situation in America and Europe is showing (that). We don't know the behaviour of the virus completely. So, we need to save the gains that we have earned in our fight against the pandemic till now," Mr Paul said.

BJP MLA FOR
ACTION AGAINST
BACHCHAN

BHAGWAN PARAB | DC
MUMBAI, NOV. 3

The *Kaun Banega Crorepati* (KBC) show on the Sony TV has courted yet another controversy. A Maharashtra BJP MLA has accused veteran actor Amitabh Bachchan and the makers of the popular TV show of allegedly hurting Hindu sentiments.

Abhimanyu Pawar, BJP legislator from Ausa in Latur district, on Tuesday filed a complaint at Latur police seeking action against Mr Bachchan and Sony Entertainment Television, the makers of KBC, for a question about religious text Manusmriti.

On October 30, in the Karamveer special episode of KBC, Mr Bachchan, the host of the show, had asked contestants activist Bezwada Wilson and actor Anup Soni: "On 25th December 1927, Dr BR Ambedkar and his followers burned copies of which scripture?" The options given to the contestants were: Vishnu Purana, Bhagavad Gita, Rigved and Manusmriti.

Mr Bachchan said the answer was Manusmriti and then explained Ambedkar's actions, the BJP MLA said that all the four options of the question pertained to the Hindu religion. "It is clear that the motive behind this question was to hurt the sentiments of Hindus," he alleged.

Record 89.8 per cent vote in Nagaland

Moderate to high voting in bypolls for 54 Assembly seats across 10 states despite Covid fears



Voters stand in long queues to cast their votes at a polling station during the second phase of Assembly elections at Diyara in Danapur on Tuesday.

— PTI

Nitish attacked with onions

NAYEAR AZAD | DC
PATNA, NOV. 3

While campaigning for the third phase of polls, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar was attacked with onions and stones in Madhubani on Tuesday.

The incident occurred when he was talking about the state's development and employment during his public meeting. According to reports from Madhubani a group of youths present in the rally got angry with his comments and started throwing stones at him. This is probably the first time that stones and onions were thrown at the CM during an election campaign.

"You can keep throwing stones at me. But I ask you to beware of such people who have been promising 10 lakh jobs as they don't know anything about governance. I can tell you that they have no knowledge about the ABC of governance and cannot do anything. I also ask you not to indulge in all these anti-social activities otherwise nobody will be able to save you", Nitish Kumar warned those who were throwing stones at him.

Later when his security personnel tried to intervene and detain people who were involved in the attack, the CM stopped them and said, "Let them

do it. They are being misled by people who have done nothing for the state. I have already told you that I am working hard to create opportunities here so that people don't go out to other states for work. They got the opportunity for 15 years but they didn't give any jobs".

Nitish Kumar whose party is an ally of the BJP in Bihar has been facing criticism from the opposition parties including LJP Chief Chirag Paswan. On Tuesday Mr. Paswan while talking to reporters had said that "Nitish Kumar will not return as CM of Bihar. I can give you in writing as people are angry with him for not doing anything for the state".

Criticizing the grand alliance for the incident JD(U) leader Sanjay Jha in a statement said that "everybody is aware how Chief Minister worked hard for the development of the state. Such kind of incident is not good for the democracy".

The BJP also condemned the attack on the CM. Party spokesperson Sanjay Tiger in a statement said that "attack on CM during the campaign should be condemned. Violence has no place in democracy and those who are indulging in such activities should understand that they have the power of voting".

minister Lois Marandi of the BJP in Dumka.

NAGALAND: A total of 84.41 per cent votes were

cast in the 22 polling stations under Southern Angami-I constituency in Kohima district while

Modi mocks at Congress' shrinking tally in House

NAYEAR AZAD | DC
PATNA, NOV. 3

While Bihar voted for the second phase of polls, Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed rallies in Araria and Saharsa and urged voters to "choose NDA for the overall development of the state".

During his speech at both the rallies, he also dismissed speculations about anti-incumbency against Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and his government and said that "last decade was spent in meeting the needs of the people".

He also used the occasion to mock at the shrinking tally of the Congress party in both the houses of parliament. He said that the current state of Congress shows how people have rejected the party.

"Look at the condition of the Congress today. Even if they combine the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha they won't find even 100 MPs. They are in such a state because people are not happy with them. Now they are trying to save the party by tagging with others," Modi said at a rally in Forbesganj.

During his public meetings, he also reminded people of the "jungle raj" and poor law and order scenario during the 1990s when the RJD was in

● **DURING HIS** speech at both the rallies, he also dismissed speculations about anti-incumbency against Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and his government and said that "last decade was spent in meeting the needs of the people."

power. He said that the turnout during the ongoing elections shows the mood of the voters in Bihar.

"Reports show what Bihar wants. The message is clear that people have rejected 'Rangbazi' and 'Rangdari' and development is winning. They have also rejected the dynasts and want only those to remain in power who work for the welfare of people", he said.

This was the Prime Minister's fourth tour of Bihar for the ongoing assembly elections. Besides, Forbesganj in Araria he also addressed a rally in Saharsa where he listed the NDA government's achievements and urged people to be "vocal for local".

According to political analysts here, his public meetings in Araria and Saharsa hold significance as both the districts in Seemanchal are considered a stronghold of RJD led grand alliance. Forbesganj in Araria is a Muslim bastion while

Saharsa in Kosi is a Yadav stronghold.

The four districts in Seemanchal - Purnea, Kishanganj, Katihar and Araria have 24 assembly seats while Kosi region has three districts comprising of Saharsa, Madhepura and Supaul. There are 13 assembly segments in the region.

The JD(U) is trying its luck on 20 seats and its ally BJP has fielded 13 candidates in the region. The NDA partner VIP is also contesting 3 seats and Jitan Ram Manjhi's party HAM has fielded one candidate from the region.

"The double engine government has brought speed in the progress of the state and it will continue to do so after the NDA is elected back to power", Modi said while addressing voters in Saharsa.

He also mocked at the grand alliance chief ministerial face Tejashwi Yadav and Congress leader Rahul Gandhi by repeating his "double Yuvraj" jibe and said that, "people have rejected all those who are responsible for jungle raj in the state".

Adding further he said that, "some people have problems with the NDA winning elections. They keep asking why Modi win elections. The answer is simple Modi wins because he works for poor people, mothers and sisters. They bless me".

There were complaints from both Nationalist Democratic Progressive Party and Naga Peoples

Front under Southern Angami-I seat but it didn't disturb the polling, officials said.

— PTI

70.45% VOTE IN ODISHA BYPOLLS

AKSHAYA KUMAR
SAHOO | DC
BALASORE, NOV. 3

The bypolls for two Assembly constituencies in Odisha passed off peacefully on Tuesday, barring a few stray incidents of attempt to influence and bribe voters.

The Election Commission of India said at least 70.45 per cent of voters turned out to cast their ballots by 6 pm.

In Balasore, the police detained a woman for allegedly distributing money among voters at Adivasi Sahi in Ward 1 when voting for the bypoll to the Balasore Sadar constituency was underway.

The locals gheraoed the woman when she was distributing cash alongwith her supporters. They later informed the police about the incident.

The woman hailing from the neighbouring Mayurbhanj district was questioned by cops regarding her act.

Chief Electoral Officer S.K. Lohani said the police questioned the woman and she was later let free after due to want of concrete proof.

"I talked to the Balasore district collector and local police there. They were probing into the matter. However, they said no concrete evidence with regard to distribution of money was available," the CEO said.

In Balsore town, tension prevailed as a policeman engaged in security duty was found circulating chits which contained the image of conch, the party symbol of the ruling Biju Janata Dal.

The CEO said the concerned police man and Booth Level Officer were replaced immediately resumed without any further hiccups.

The two constituencies went to bypolls as the sitting lawmakers died in July due to illness. While BJP represented the Balasore Sadar seat, the BJD held Tirtol seat.

In Balasore, the BJP has fielded lawmaker Madan Mohan Dutta's son Manas Kumar Dutta, ostensibly to cash in on sympathy factor. Similarly, the BJD has fielded Bijaya Shankar Das, son of MLA Bishnu Charan Das.

The Congress which was relegated to third position in the 2019 assembly elections, is also tying its luck in both the constituencies. The party has fielded Mamata Kundu in Balasore Sadar and Himansu Mallick.

The results will be declared on November 10.

CRUCIAL | MOVE China confirms another round of Corps Commanders meeting on Ladakh issue

India, US, Japan, Aus kickstart Malabar exercise

DC CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI, NOV. 3

India and three other 'Quad' countries - US, Japan and Australia - on Tuesday started the naval exercise 'Malabar' in Bay of Bengal. Meanwhile, China confirmed another round of Corps Commanders meeting on Ladakh standoff and a mutual agreeable date is being worked out.

While India is trying to peacefully resolve the six month military stand-off with China through negotiations, it is also forming up strategic alliances with other nations.

This is reflected by India's invitation to Australia to participate in Malabar Naval exercise and signing Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement for Geo-spatial Co-operation with the US last week.

This is a signal to China that India will not bow down to any pressure, even as it wants peace in the region.

The Indian Navy, United States Navy, Japan Maritime Self Defence Force, and Royal Australian Navy on Tuesday carried out anti submarine warfare operations, cross deck landings and seamanship manoeuvres at sea.

Indian Navy ships Ranvijay, Shivalik, Shakti, Sukanya, and submarine Sundhraj are exercising with USS John S McCain, HMAS Ballarat, and JMSDF Ship JS Onami.

China said on Tuesday that it hoped that the quadrilateral Malabar exercise would be conducive to the regional peace and stability instead of the contrary.

"We hope that relevant countries' military opera-

tions will be conducive to peace and stability in the region instead of the contrary," said Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin.

India, US, Japan and Australia are part of the 'Quad' alliance, which Beijing considers as an anti-China grouping.

While Australia wanted to be part of the Malabar exercise for some time now, India had been hesitant to invite it to avoid any angry reaction from China.

During the 7th round of Corps Commanders meeting, India and China on October 12 had agreed not to turn differences into disputes and jointly safeguard peace and tranquility in the border areas.

Both sides had agreed to maintain dialogue and communication through military and diplomatic channels.

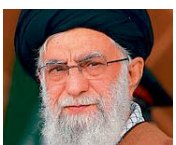


The four-day-long first phase of the Malabar naval exercise is seen as a prelude to future military cooperation among the member nations of the Quad Coalition.



The incumbent president, who is supposed to hold the elections, says this is the most-rigged US election throughout history. His opponent says Trump intends to widely cheat. This is American democracy.

— AYATOLLAH ALI KHAMENEI, Iran's supreme leader



I certainly won't do that (comment on vote) one day before the election in the United States. You know that simply because of my education as a physicist I naturally attribute great weight to scientific advice, and make use of it myself

— ANGELA MERKEL, German Chancellor

US votes: Long lines seen outside polling stations

Mail-in votes count to take time; result not out soon

Washington, Nov. 3: Americans were voting in large numbers on Tuesday in one of the most divisive bitter presidential elections in decades in which incumbent Republican Donald Trump is challenged by Democrat Joe Biden.

Amidst a resurgent Covid-19 pandemic, nearly 100 million people have already cast their ballots in early voting, putting the country on course for its highest turnout in a century. Some 239 million people are eligible to vote this year. The mail-in ballots

could take days or weeks to be counted in some states — meaning a winner might not be declared in the hours after polls close on Tuesday. There is an estimated four million Indian-American population of which about 2.5 million are potential voters in the November 2020 presidential elections.

Over 1.3 million Indian-Americans are voters in key battleground states, including Texas, Michigan, Florida and Pennsylvania. The timing of the start of the polling differs

from State to State, mainly due to the different time zones. People mostly in the East coast started trickling down to the polling stations as many States opened up the polling stations at around 6 am (4.30 pm IST). These States include Virginia, New York, New Jersey, and Maine. Polling in California starts at 7 am (8.30 pm IST).

Initial reports indicated an early large turnout. In the battleground State of Pennsylvania, hundreds of people were seen outside polling booths even before

the start of the polling. Trump who returned from campaigning in the wee hours of Tuesday urged Americans to vote for him. "VOTE, VOTE, VOTE!" Trump said in a tweet with a short video of him dancing at election rallies.

"Vote like your freedoms, your livelihood, and our future depends on it... Because they do!" said Trump, who is seeking to avoid becoming the first incumbent president to lose a re-election since George H.W. Bush in 1992. Biden also tweeted urging

people to vote. "It's Election Day. Go vote, America!" he tweeted.

"In 2008 and 2012, you placed your trust in me to help lead this country alongside Barack Obama. Today, I'm asking for your trust once again — this time, in Kamala and me. We can heal the soul of this nation — I promise we won't let you down," Biden tweeted. His running mate, Kamala Harris, urged voters to not to "allow anything to come between you and your vote".

— PTI

ELECTION FIGURES FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY

100m

Americans had already cast ballots by Tuesday



• 6 crore likely to vote on the real election day on Tuesday

• 16 crore casting votes in a presidential election is a record in itself in terms of turnout after 1900

• 23.9 crore people are eligible to vote, according to the US Election Project

• 90 per cent of their 2016 turnout has been crossed by North Carolina, Georgia, New Mexico, Nevada and Tennessee

• 90 per cent of their 2016 turnout has been crossed by North Carolina, Georgia, New Mexico, Nevada and Tennessee

WHAT'S 270? THE MATH GAME BEHIND POLL

Washington, Nov. 3: What's all this hubbub about 270? It's not about the 270 whales stranded this fall on Australia's island state of Tasmania. It's not about congestion on Interstate 270 feeding commuters into Washington, D.C. It's about who's going to sit in the White House for the next four years.

IT'S THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE

Nearly 2.9 million more people voted for Hillary Clinton in 2016, but she still lost. Donald Trump won because he took the Electoral College, under a system set up in the US Constitution and refined through the centuries. This is where the magic number comes into play. To win the White House, a candidate must win at least 270 electoral votes. That's a majority of the 538 that are up for grabs in the 50 states.

THE NUMBERS: Each state is allotted a different number of electoral votes, based on how many representatives it has in the House, plus its two senators. California has the most electoral votes with 55. Texas is next with 38 electoral votes. The candidate who wins New York or Florida can pocket 29 electoral votes toward the race to get 270. Illinois and Pennsylvania each have 20. Rounding out the top 10 list of states with the most electoral votes is Ohio with 18.

TRUMP'S BEST PATH: Trump has several paths to 270, but his best route hinges on winning Florida and Pennsylvania. If he wins both states and holds onto North Carolina and Arizona, which he narrowly carried in 2016, and also Georgia and Ohio, which he won in 2016 but is now competitive, he will win. With 29 electoral votes, Florida is arguably the most crucial state for Trump.



Alkent Pozhegu works on an image of Joe Biden made with grain and seed in Gjakova, Kosovo.

— AFP

WHAT BIDEN NEEDS:

Democrat Joe Biden's campaign is laser-focused on the states in the Midwest and close by that Trump flipped in 2016 — Michigan, Wisconsin and Pennsylvania. He's also making a big play for Arizona, a state that hasn't backed a Democratic presidential candidate since 1996. Biden is also redoubling his focus on Florida, the biggest prize among the perennial battles.

TRUMP CLAIMS HARRIS WANTS TO BE PRESIDENT

Washington, Nov. 3: Claiming that Democratic vice presidential candidate Kamala Harris wants to be the first woman president of the United States, President Donald Trump told his supporters that this is one "good reason" not to vote for his challenger Joe Biden.

"This wonderful woman, she wants to be your first female president. I don't think so. You know, that's a good reason not to vote for sleepy Joe too, right? You don't want to do that," Trump, a Republican, said at a political rally in Kenosha in Wisconsin, a key battleground state on the eve of Tuesday's presidential election. "Biden and Kamala! Does anybody know who Kamala is?" Trump said.

Trump said this in almost all of his election rallies on the last day of his campaigning for the Tuesday presidential elections.

The President has been claiming that if 77-year-old Biden wins Tuesday's elections, his running mate Harris will take over as president in a month's time.

— PTI

Don, Joe woo undecided voters

Washington, Nov. 3: Republican incumbent President Donald Trump and his Democratic challenger Joe Biden on Tuesday ended their most divisive and bitter election campaign with fervent appeals on social media to the undecided Americans to vote for them, as they pledged to take the country out of the woods.

The November 3 presidential election has been billed as one of the most divisive in recent American history. The election is already setting records for turnout, and perhaps no two candidates are more at odds over the future of the country and the direction they want to take it in. Trump, 74, toured the key voting battlegrounds of Wisconsin, Michigan, North Carolina and Pennsylvania on Monday while his

AMERICA CANNOT AFFORD FOUR MORE YEARS OF TRUMP, ASSERTS HARRIS

Washington, Nov. 3: Attacking Donald Trump on the eve of the US presidential election, Democratic vice presidential nominee Kamala Harris said that the president has failed to lead the country and America can no longer afford four more years of him. "We've seen who we are. The country we love. And that is why I know

that tomorrow we are going to elect Joe Biden to be the next President of the United States!" Harris said. Biden, the Democratic Party's nominee is challenging Trump, a Republican, in Tuesday's presidential election. "America, we cannot afford four more years of Donald Trump," Harris said.

— PTI

77-year-old rival campaigned in Pennsylvania and Ohio, urging Americans to back them in the race for the White House.

"To all of our supporters: Thank you from the bottom of my heart. You have been there from the beginning,

and I will never let you down. Your hopes are my hopes, your dreams are my dreams, and your future is what I am fighting for every single day!" Trump tweeted past mid-night.

"A vote for Sleepy Joe Biden is a vote to give con-

trol of government over to Globalists, Communists, Socialists, and Wealthy Liberal Hypocrites who want to silence, censor, cancel, and punish you. Get out and VOTE #MAGA tomorrow!" the president wrote in another tweet, attacking Biden.

The Republican Party in a tweet said, "Let's Make America Great Again and re-elect our fantastic president!" "We made history together four years ago, and tomorrow we're going to make history once again," the ruling party said. Biden, the former US vice president, said he was "running as a proud Democrat, but I will govern as an American president."

"I will work with Democrats and Republicans, and I'll work as hard for those who don't support me as for those who do."

— PTI

Dems back mail ballot delivery

Philadelphia, Nov. 3: Down to the wire with the threat of court battles looming, supporters of former US vice president Joe Biden scrambled on Monday to rally swing-state voters to drop off ballots, visit precincts in person and ensure that their votes are counted.

As months of President Donald Trump undercutting the legitimacy of mail-in votes gave way to promises he would challenge them in court, both sides made a final push to ensure their supporters turned out, even with the lingering threat of lawsuits aimed at invalidating ballots.

"Do not put ballots in the mail. Hand-deliver

your mail ballot to your county election office, satellite election office or other designated drop box or drop-off location," Pennsylvania's top election official, Secretary of State Kathy Boockvar, a Democrat, said. "Do it today. Do not wait."

With about 700,000 of some 31 lakh requested mail ballots in Pennsylvania still outstanding, some voters like 57-year-old Daniel Pigott took the warning to heart. Pigott stood in a line of dozens of voters, waiting to cast his vote after being alerted that there was a problem with his mail-in ballot. "In a normal election, would I do all this?" asked Pigott.

— AP

KEEPING TRADITION: 2 NEW HAMPSHIRE TOWNS CAST VOTES AFTER MIDNIGHT

Dixville Notch (US), Nov. 3: Two tiny New Hampshire communities that vote for president just after the stroke of midnight on Election Day have cast their ballots, with one of them marking 60 years since the tradition began.

The results in Dixville Notch, near the Canadian border, were a sweep for former Vice President Joe Biden who won the town's five votes. In Millsfield, 12 miles (20 kilometres) to the south, President Donald Trump won 16 votes to Biden's five. Normally, there

would be a big food spread and a lot of media crammed into a small space to watch the voting. Tom Tillotson, town moderator in Dixville Notch, said last week. But that's no longer possible because of the Coronavirus pandemic.

It's also hard to observe the 60th anniversary of the tradition, which started in November 1960. "Sixty years — and unfortunately, we can't celebrate it," he said. A third community with midnight voting, Hart's Location, suspended the tradition this election.

— AP



Voters check in with election officials before receiving their ballots at Ballard High School in Louisville, United States on Tuesday.

— AFP

Khamenei mocks US election

Tehran, Nov. 3: Iran's supreme leader mocked America's presidential election Tuesday in a televised address, quoting President Donald Trump's own baseless claims about voter fraud to criticise the vote as Tehran marked the 1979 US Embassy hostage crisis.

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei reiterated a long-standing Iranian position that it didn't matter whether Trump or Joe Biden wins the vote, but the stakes couldn't be higher for the

Islamic Republic. Another four years could see Trump's maximum-pressure campaigns further expand as it crushes the Iranian economy and stops Tehran from openly selling its crude oil abroad. Biden meanwhile has said he would consider re-entering Tehran's 2015 nuclear deal with world powers, providing possible relief to the beleaguered Iranian rial.

"If you look at their own situation, it's lovely to watch. The incumbent

president, who is supposed to hold the elections, says this is the most-rigged US election throughout history," Khamenei said, not acknowledging that individual US states run the vote. "Who says this? The sitting president who is arranging the elections himself. His opponent says Trump intends to widely cheat. This is American democracy." Khamenei added that the result of the vote "is none of our business".

— AP

ISLAMIST | TERROR

As precaution, UK raises terror threat level from 'substantial' to 'severe' after attacks in Austria, France

5 dead in Vienna attack; assailant had previous conviction

Vienna, Nov. 3: Five people died, including an assailant, and 17 others were wounded in a shooting in the heart of Vienna hours before a coronavirus lockdown started. Austrian authorities said Tuesday. The dead attacker was a 20-year-old Austrian-North Macedonian dual national who had a previous terror conviction.

The UK's terror threat level was raised from "substantial" to "severe" on Tuesday, the second-highest alert level which means an attack is now judged to be "highly likely". UK Home

Secretary Priti Patel described the action as a "precautionary measure" following terror attacks in France last week and in Austria this week.

Two men and two women died from their injuries in the attack Monday evening, Chancellor Sebastian Kurz said. The suspected attacker was shot and killed by police. Vienna's hospital service said seven people were in life-threatening condition Tuesday after the attack, the Austrian news agency APA reported. In total, 17 people were

being treated in hospitals, with gunshot wounds but also cuts. "It is now confirmed that yesterday's attack was clearly an Islamist terror attack," Kurz said. "It was an attack out of hatred — hatred for our fundamental values, hatred for our way of life, hatred for our democracy in which all people have equal rights and dignity."

Interior Minister Karl Nehammer later told APA that the dead assailant, who had roots in the Balkan nation of North Macedonia, had a previous conviction

under a law that punishes membership in terrorist organisations. The attacker, named as Kujtim Fejzulaj, was sentenced to 22 months in prison in April 2019 because he had tried to travel to Syria to join the Islamic State group.

He was granted early release in December under juvenile law. Fifteen house searches have taken place and several people have been arrested, he added. The attacker, he said, "was equipped with a fake explosive vest and an automatic rifle, a handgun and a

machete to carry out this repugnant attack on innocent citizens."

Authorities were still trying to determine whether further attackers may be on the run. People in Vienna were urged to stay at home if possible on Tuesday and children did not have to go to school. Some 1,000 police officers were on duty in Vienna on Tuesday morning. Among those wounded in the attack was a police officer, said Nehammer.

The 28-year-old officer was in the hospital but was no longer in a life-threatening

condition. The shooting began shortly after 8 p.m. (1900 GMT) Monday near Vienna's main synagogue as many people were enjoying a last night of open restaurants and bars before a month-long coronavirus lockdown, which started at midnight. Vienna police chief Gerhard Puerstl said the attacker was killed at 8:09 p.m.

Chancellor Sebastian Kurz said that "we are victims of a despicable terror attack in the federal capital."

— AP



Armed police arrive at the first district near the state opera in central Vienna following a shooting.

— AFP

DECCAN Chronicle

4 NOVEMBER 2020

Need to reform mindset of politicians and judges

The nation got a rude jolt, and deservingly so, when Attorney-General of India K.K. Venugopal stood up in the Supreme Court on Monday and told a three-member bench that judges in the trial courts and High Courts must be sensitised on gender justice and the judgments of the apex court in this regard must be taught in judicial academies. Judges should be educated on the necessity of focusing on facts when imposing bail conditions in sexual harassment cases. The country's top law officer made the plainspeak before the bench hearing an appeal against a Madhya Pradesh High Court order granting bail to an accused in a molestation case on the condition that he requested the victim to tie a "rakhi" on his wrist. The A-G was unequivocal in condemning the ritual as "drama" in that context.

Every civilised society revisits the way sexual assaults are treated in such a way that women's rights and gender sensitivity take precedence.

Both the suggestions of Mr Ramachandran a six-time Lok Sabha member and a former Union minister of state for home and agriculture, carry trouble: if he thinks that a woman can avoid the circumstances that lead to the crime, then the former junior home minister displays criminal ignorance of our social realities

That this awakening is not reflected in the judiciary is the point the A-G was trying to make. We have judges who think such offences are compoundable; some even direct the marriage between the perpetrator of the crime and the victim, thus sentencing the latter to life-long trauma. As the A-G was speaking in the apex court, the Kerala High Court was forced to defer the trial in the actor assault case after the victim complained that the trial court was biased, hostile and partisan. The silver lining in the whole episode is that the A-G's words carried sufficient weight that the bench assured him that gender sensitisation will be part of its order.

It is not just the judiciary or officialdom that is at fault when it comes to gender sensitivity. The political class is equally or more guilty. It is not long before Kamal Nath, Congress leader, former chief minister and a Union minister for several terms called a woman minister an "item". The latest in this series has come from Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee president Mullappally Ramachandran who said women who have been raped should either commit suicide or avoid circumstances that can lead to the repeat of the crime. Both the suggestions of Mr Ramachandran a six-time Lok Sabha member and a former Union minister of state for home and agriculture, carry trouble: if he thinks that a woman can avoid the circumstances that lead to the crime, then the former junior home minister displays criminal ignorance of our social realities. And if he thinks a rape victim must commit suicide, then his insensitivity is nothing less than criminal. For rape is a crime which takes no mitigating circumstances. Anyone who thinks that the blame, or part of it, can be shifted to the victim is an apologist for the crime and a potential rapist, and must be treated accordingly.

It was a rare moment in our history that the A-G spoke up on the need to reform the judicial mindset, and one hopes for action to follow. The political class, too, must feel the heat, and take early steps to reform itself.

A win for diversity

She is no longer a Chennaite, nor a Keralite, neither an Indian. Ernakulam native Priyanka Radhakrishnan holds a New Zealand passport only. Yet the elevation of the left-leaning Labour Party leader to the post of minister for diversity, inclusion and ethnic communities in the new Jacinda Ardern government, which also placed its first Maori woman in the shape of foreign minister Nanaia Mahuta as well as half-Maldivian Ayesha Verrall, gladdens Indian hearts. It is the magic of democracy manifest in the brave, new post-globalised world.

Old-timers like to see the 41-year-old Radhakrishnan as a chip off the old block. Her maternal great grandfather, C.R. Krishna Pillai, was a doctor and a communist. He helped shape the political and cultural sensibilities of the people of Kerala and contributed to the formation of the Kerala state. Born to an IIT Kanpur alumnus and a cardiologist, both high achievers, Ms Radhakrishnan went to school in Singapore and proceeded to New Zealand to get her master's degree in development studies from Wellington's Victoria University. She joined politics while in university and stayed on to pursue it, proving her commitment to the welfare of her adoptive community. After entering the Labour Party in 2006, she became an MP first in 2017, then in 2020, from Maungakiekie constituency, entering the New Zealand parliament via the mixed member proportional representative system. She went on to serve as private secretary to Jenny Salesa, former ethnic communities minister. Ms Radhakrishnan's current portfolios also include youth, and community and voluntary sector. She is associate minister for social development and employment.

Ms Radhakrishnan has spent her public life advocating the cause of those whose voices often go unheard — migrant workers and victims of domestic violence in Indian-origin families. She is a votary of gender, race and income equality and community-based decision-making. The trust and responsibility vested in her by the people of her country of choice is a win for diversity and defeat for atavism and narrow identity politics. Welcome the newest kid on the desi diasporic block.

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Subhani



Will Biden win in US, but Trump still be President?



Mohan Guruswamy

The American presidential election is possibly the most widely and closely watched electoral contest in the world. Like Americans, most of the world believes that the US President is the most powerful person in the world. A good part of that notion is attributable to the authority conferred by what is generally believed to be a free and fairly won mandate. But American presidential elections are not without controversy. It is widely believed the 1960 elections that saw John F. Kennedy getting elected by a plurality of less than 100,000 votes was because Chicago mayor Richard Daley, an old-fashioned Democratic party boss, with a wide network of friends in the labour unions and organised crime "stole" the election by ballot stuffing. A popular cry in Chicago in those days was "vote early and vote again and again".

Closer to our times George W. Bush is generally believed to have won in 2000 when a combination of voter fraud, deliberate miscounting and judicial intervention giving him the state of Florida by 537 votes. The state's secretary of state, Kathleen Harris, who was responsible for oversight of the state's elections and certification of the results, had also served as a co-chair of the Bush campaign in Florida. Further, Florida governor Jeb Bush was George W. Bush's brother. Between them they ensured that over 12,000 voters were excluded from the voter list on the grounds that they were all ex-felons. When the Florida Supreme Court ordered a recount in all 67 counties, a conservative leaning US Supreme Court overrode that order and ordered the election be declared. That gave Florida's 25 electoral votes to George W. Bush, winning him the presi-

dency in the Electoral College 271 to 266. This did not become a point of contention though the popular vote was with Al Gore, who got 48.4 per cent while Mr Bush received 47.9 per cent, losing by over 540,000 votes.

America's Presidents are, however, are chosen by the Electoral College, a system in which "electoral votes" are assigned to states based on their population and then awarded as a lump sum to the winner of the popular vote in that state — currently, it takes 270 electoral votes to win. In 2016 Democrat Hillary Clinton took the popular vote by almost 2.9 million votes, with 65,844,954 (48.2 per cent) to Mr Trump's 62,979,879 (46.1 per cent), but Mr Trump won the Electoral College votes 306 to 232.

That is why the US Senate's approval of Amy Coney Barret as a Supreme Court judge and tilting the balance heavily towards the conservatives 6-3 is significant. In 2016, under similar circumstances, the Republican-dominated Senate blocked the appointment of Merrick Garland, Barack Obama's nominee, a full 10 months before his term ended. Republican majority leader Senator Mitch McConnell then argued the elections were close and the people must decide. This time he argued just the opposite.

Most observers believe like Bush vs Gore, this year's elections will also end up before the

In 2016 Democrat Hillary Clinton took the popular vote, but Mr Trump won the Electoral College votes. That is why the US Senate's approval of Amy C. Barret as a Supreme Court judge is significant.

The likely outcome that worries observers is this: That the voting boxes and machines may reveal an early Trump lead, but as the postal ballots keep getting counted that lead will start whittling away

Supreme Court over challenges by a losing President Trump to the huge numbers of postal ballots. Mr Trump has not hidden his views on postal ballots. Time and again he has called them "very dangerous for our country" and "a catastrophe", even calling 2020 the "greatest rigged election in history". The US has about 240 million eligible voters. As of Sunday, over 91 million Americans had already cast their ballots. Surveys have also revealed that almost 60 per cent of Democrats prefer to vote by postal ballot, while in sharp contrast only about a quarter of Republicans were willing to do so.

The likely November 3 outcome that worries observers is this: That the voting boxes and machines may very likely reveal an early Trump lead, but as the postal ballots keep getting counted that lead will start whittling away. This will be keenly watched in borderline states like Texas, Georgia and Florida, which had favoured Mr Trump in 2016. The Trump operatives are expected to scrutinise each and every postal ballot and challenge many. It is estimated that close to 1.3 per cent of postal ballots are rejected on various technicalities. This suggests nearly 110,000 rejected postal ballots. Remember, in Florida in 2000, just 537 votes decided the outcome by requiring the Florida electoral votes to go to George W. Bush. This time, hundreds of Trump lawyer operatives have fanned out and the electoral process can expect to get slowed down by the sheer weight of challenges. Mr Trump has been quite blatantly signalling his troops to hobble the postal ballot count.

Postal ballots will have plenty of flaws for the Trump lawyers to seize upon. For instance, if a voter gives a different address, or a different version of his name such as Joe for Joseph or Richie for Richard, or if there is a variation in signature, any one of them can become a ground for dispute. Now here comes the catch. The states are required to finalise the appointment of the 538 Electoral College members by December 8. The Electoral College has to formally meet by December 14 to "elect" the President. The big question now is what next?

The US and even the world is accustomed to choosing the Electoral College by popular vote, but nothing in the US Constitution says it has to be that way. Article II, Section 1 states: "Each State shall appoint, in such Manner as the Legislature thereof may direct, a Number of Electors, equal to the whole Number of Senators and Representatives to which the State may be entitled in the Congress."

Republicans control the governorships and state legislatures in Texas, Georgia and Florida. Thus, these states can, in the absence of a popular vote, appoint the electors. If that happens, given the predicted "red" states voting for him, Donald Trump might very well be deemed to have been elected, or decide he is still the elected US President. The matter will almost certainly have to be resolved by the Supreme Court. But its tendencies are well understood.

Whatever be the Supreme Court's final decision, that is unlikely to come in time before January 20, 2021 when the US traditionally swears in the new President on the steps of the Capitol in Washington D.C.

If that doesn't happen, the world will have to live with President Donald Trump for some more time.

The writer, a policy analyst studying economic and security issues, held senior positions in government and industry. He also specialises in the Chinese economy.

LETTERS

FIGHT TERROR

We are seeing a spurt in Islamist terrorist activities to which several lives were lost in France and Austria. Prime Minister Narendra Modi rightly expressed immediately solidarity with and promised all support to French President Emmanuel Macron in his fight against terrorism. Time was when the West displayed a 'couldn't care less' attitude towards Pakistan's atrocities in Kashmir. These countries have now woken up to the menace of terrorism.

K. Srinivasa Charyulu
Hyderabad

MASKED KTR

It is a good move by MA&UD minister K.T. Rama Rao to form the Strategic Nala Development Plan to study and work for the development of nalas and storm water drains in the city to prevent flooding in the event of heavy rains that lashed the city last month inundating several colonies and low-lying areas. In doing so the government should not compromise in razing the encroachments on nalas and the plan must be meticulously done for the free flow of water to contain future flooding. The engineers concerned must make sure that genuine material is used by the contractors while widening nala and storm water drains and make them accountable.

Bhavani Sishtla
Hyderabad

50 YEARS AGO IN

DECCAN Chronicle

LIC to give housing loans to policy holders

NEW DELHI, November 3. The Life Insurance Policy holders who want to own flats will be able to get loans from the LIC when a Bill submitted to the Centre goes through Parliament. LIC Chairman T.A. Pai told a news conference here today that he had already sent a draft Bill to this effect to the Union Housing Ministry and the State Government for their consideration.

LIC at present could advance loans only against plots or constructed houses but not against flats.

Mr Pai explained that proposal was to mitigate the sufferings of a number of houseless persons in congested cities like Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and Delhi. Under the Bill the national title to the land on which the flat is constructed would be given to LIC to enable it to advance loans.

Dilip Cherian
Dilli Ka Babu



Crunch time for officials preparing Budget 2021

The countdown to the annual Budget for 2021-22 has started amid the urgency to push economic growth badly mauled by the Covid-19 pandemic. There is already talk of a third stimulus soon, going by the recent utterances of the finance minister, Nirmala Sitharaman. The Budget-making babus led by finance secretary Ajay Bhushan Pandey have their work cut out. Sources say that the first meeting of the budget preparing exercise took place with officials of the department of financial services as well as MSME, housing, steel and power ministries in attendance. The almost one-month long exercise to finalize the Revised Estimate (RE) for 2020-21 and Budget Estimate for 2021-22 will conclude on November 12 after the expenditure secretary, T.V. Somanathan, completes discussions with other secretaries and financial advisors.

This year, however, due to Covid, the number of participants for the pre-budget meetings may be restricted to a maximum of 5 officers for each meeting from a ministry/department, not below the rank of director.

For the Modi sarkar, the next Budget will be crucial since it will have to deal with the impact of the pandemic on revenue collection, disinvestment, expenditure, export and food prices. The indications are gloomy with the IMF forecasting that the economy will shrink by 10.3 per cent. Even the Reserve Bank of India has similarly opined that it will shrink by 9.5 per cent. The Budget will have to address critical issues pertaining to growth contraction and subdued revenue collection due to the pandemic.

MAHARASHTRA'S BIG IPS MUDDLE

As many as 36 IPS officers in

Maharashtra are awaiting new postings and the unprecedented delay has given the Opposition BJP a handle to criticise the state chief minister Uddhav Thackeray. Among the officers on the "wait" list are 15 SP-rank officers besides high-profile top cop Devan Bharti.

Mr Bharti, a 1994-batch officer has not been assigned a new posting but continues as ADG (Anti-Terrorism Squad) since he has not been relieved despite being transferred!

Sources say that this situation has created unease in the force, since the state government's refusal to clear the air, has only led to more rumours.

It is well-known by now that Mr Thackeray wasn't too pleased with the transfer of cops effected by the Mumbai Police Commissioner in July when he reshuffled 10-DCP rank officers in consultation with the government. Later, the trans-

fers were put on hold. Clearly, there is uncertainty and perhaps sharp differences on the issue within the government, even as the wait grows longer.

The government says the "exercise" will be completed soon, but that may be little relief to the cops forced to cool their heels waiting for a decision.

IAS VS OTHERS IN HARYANA

The tussle between the IAS and other services is a constant factor in any government. The resignation of Jagdeep Dhandha, president of the Haryana Civil Service Officers' Association, has blown the lid off the resentment among a section of Haryana IAS officers. They feel that the Manohar Khattar government is allowing the "usurping" of IAS cadre posts by other services. Sources inform that Mr Dhandha resigned to express his resentment over the appointment

of HCS officers in the state transport department.

This feeling has peaked after the latest round of transfers issued by the state government. While an IPS officer was posted as the principal secretary and another was given the charge of managing director of one of the two power utilities in the state, an IFS officer was also posted as the principal secretary. Further, the state government has posted DSPs and employment officers against the post of district transport officers (DTOs), causing heartburn among officers of the state civil services.

Apparently, after confabulations, a senior officer has been deputed to write to the chief minister on posting officers of other services against IAS cadre posts.

Share a babu experience! Follow dilipthecherian@Twitter.com. Let's multiply the effect.

quick BITES

INDICATORS		%
Sensex	40,261.13	1.27
Nifty 50	11,813.50	1.24
S&P 500*	3,375.99	1.99
Dollar (₹)	74.40	0.04
Pound Sterling (₹)	96.25	-0.47
Euro (₹)	86.77	-0.23
Gold (10gm)* (₹)	50,735.55	0.10
Brent crude (\$/bbl)*	39.74	0.77
IN 10-Yr bond yield	5.898	0.008
US 10-Yr T-bill yield*	0.877	0.029

* As of 8:30 PM IST

Exports dip 5.4%, trade deficit narrows by 25%

With sharp decline in shipments of petroleum products, gems and jewellery, and leather, India's merchandise exports fell 5.4 per cent to \$24.82 billion in October from \$26.23 billion a year ago. Imports also fell 11.56 per cent to \$33.6 billion. "India was thus a net importer in October 2020 with a trade deficit of \$8.78 billion, as compared to trade deficit of \$11.76 billion, an improvement by 25.34 per cent," the government said.

Zydus Cadila files Covid drug application



Drug firm Zydus Cadila said it has filed the investigational new drug (IND) application for its small molecule candidate ZYL1, positioned for management of critically ill Covid-19 patients. "Following up on its initiatives to fight Covid-19 with diagnostics, vaccines and therapeutics, the company is now focussing on cutting edge research to bring targeted therapies," Zydus Cadila said in a regulatory filing.

Future Retail files caveat in Delhi High Court

Kishore Biyani led-Future Group has filed a caveat before the Delhi High Court requesting it to be heard if any plea is filed by Amazon over its ₹24,713 crore deal with Mukesh Ambani-led RIL. Anticipating a move by Amazon, which had got an interim arbitration award in its favour, the Future Group firm has moved the Delhi High Court. Let no order of any kind be passed...without due notice," it urged the court.

Singapore to discontinue S\$1,000 notes

Singapore will discontinue the circulation of 1,000 Singapore dollar (SGD) notes from the beginning of next year to counter money laundering and terror financing risks. A limited quantity of SGD 1,000 notes will be made available each month from now until December 2020, said the Monetary Authority of Singapore. Existing SGD 1,000 notes in circulation will remain legal tender and can continue to be used.

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■ Gets in-principal nod for signing deal Adani set to develop Lanka's port terminal

ARCHANA CHAUDHARY, P. R. SANJAI & ASANTHA SIRIMANNE NOV. 3

Adani Group is the front-runner to develop Sri Lanka's stalled East Container Terminal in Colombo port, people with knowledge of the matter said, helping billionaire Gautam Adani expand his port business overseas. Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd and a local partner received an in-principle approval to sign a deal with Sri Lanka Ports Authority, which will hold majority stake in the project, the people said, asking not to be identified, citing rules for speaking with the media. Details of the stake holding are still being worked out after a review of the project following labour protests that had stalled the deal before parliamentary elections in August, they said.

India's foreign ministry and the Adani Group didn't respond to requests seeking comments. Adani, India's biggest ports and logistics company, had signed a preliminary agreement for the project last year. Work on reviving the project, being jointly developed by Sri Lanka, India and Japan, comes at a time of rising regional tensions with China. Both India and Japan are members of the informal Quad grouping that along with US and Australia is seen as a counter to Beijing's influence in the Indo-Pacific region.

While the deal was agreed upon last year, President Gotabaya Rajapaksa had announced a review after protests by labour unions who feared foreign control over the strategic project, according to reports. The island nation had earlier depended heavily on China for its infrastructure development in the first half of this decade, creating tensions with New Delhi. The neighbours began rebuilding trade and investment ties before the coronavirus pandemic struck. In July, India extended a \$400 million currency swap facility to Colombo to assist with post-pandemic economic recovery. The two countries also discussed deferring of debt repayment during Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa's first high-level virtual meeting since his re-election with India's Narendra Modi in September.

LTC SCHEME: NO NEED TO KEEP EXTRA RECORDS

New Delhi, Nov. 3: Private sector companies offering the benefit of the new LTC cash voucher scheme to its employees will not have to take any additional compliance burden, finance secretary Ajay Bhushan Pandey said.

As per law, companies are required to maintain records of travel and other documents submitted by employees for availing of Leave Travel Concession. Under the new scheme, employees will have to submit to their companies bills, indicating expenditure of an amount three times of the LTC. The companies as in the past will maintain the records and only submit them to Income Tax Department if sought for.

The government had on October 12 allowed payment of cash allowance equivalent to LTC fare to the central government employees. It also provided that since the cash allowance of LTC fare is in lieu of deemed actual travel, the same shall be eligible for income tax exemption. Last week, the concession was extended to employees of private sector as well. —PTI

SEBI NOTIFIES CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MF MANAGERS

New Delhi, Nov. 3: Market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has introduced a code of conduct for fund managers and dealers of AMC's in order to make them more accountable. In addition, asset management companies (AMCs) have been allowed to become self-clearing members to clear and settle trades in the debt segment on behalf of its mutual fund schemes.

The move comes after Sebi board approved a proposal in this regard in September.

In a notification dated October 29, Sebi said that CEO of the AMC will be responsible to ensure that the code of conduct is followed by fund managers and dealers. —PTI



APSEZ Q2 NET PROFIT UP 32%

New Delhi, Nov. 3: Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Limited on Tuesday reported a 31.57 per cent increase in its consolidated profit to Rs 1,393.69 crore for the second quarter. Its total consolidated income rose to Rs 3,423.16 crore against Rs 3,326.90 crore in the year-ago period. —PTI

Sri Lanka—which emerged from a three-decade civil war in 2009—was known for taking Chinese loans to fund vast infrastructure projects, including ports and highways, which eventually became part of Beijing's Belt and Road Initiative. Its appetite for Chinese cash waned after rising debt forced it to sell the Hambantota port back to China Merchants Port Holdings. — Bloomberg

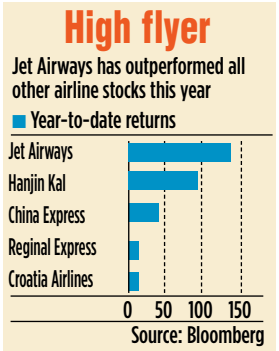
World's best-performing airline stock is Jet Air

ANURAG KOTOKY & NUPUR ACHARYA NOV. 3

All airlines are feeling the coronavirus pinch but one that hasn't flown since April 2019 after collapsing under a pile of debt is the world's best performing—at least from a share price point of view.

The stock in Mumbai-listed Jet Airways India Ltd has surged almost 150 per cent this year versus a 42 per cent plunge in the 27-member Bloomberg World Airlines Index, which comprises the globe's biggest carriers.

The stock has hit a 52-week high of Rs 71.85 per share on the BSE on Tuesday, rising gradually from its 52-week low Rs 13. Its runaway gains have market watchers scratching their heads, especially since Jet Air is undergoing bankruptcy proceedings, has almost 17,000 creditors seeking claims of around \$3.4 billion and has had most of its landing slots confiscated. It doesn't have any employees to speak of, either.



A panel of creditors did approve a resolution plan last month, bringing the recovery of any dues one step closer, but that doesn't guarantee a resumption of flights.

Retail investors are the last ones to get anything out of a bankruptcy, yet some are buying in the hope Jet Airways will successfully emerge from a restructuring, said Ajay Srivastava, MD of advisory firm Dimensions Corporate Finance Services. The airline isn't being thought of as a going concern, but a shell containing assets that may be sold, he said.

Abu Dhabi fund first to get 100% tax exemption

New Delhi, Nov. 3: Abu Dhabi's sovereign wealth fund (SWF)—MIC Redwood 1 RSC—has been granted 100 per cent income tax exemption for investments to be made in specified infrastructure sectors, the finance ministry said on Tuesday.

With this, the income from interest, dividend and long-term capital gains for the SWF's investment in India's priority sectors has been exempted, the ministry said in a statement.

MIC Redwood 1 RSC has become the first foreign SWF that has been notified and granted 100 per cent income-tax exemption for the long-term investments to be made in the specified priority sectors in India, the ministry said.

India has gradually opened up the economy for FDI, except for a few sectors, and also extended tax concessions for sovereign funds to attract long-term investments in the infrastructure sectors.

A tax official said that to expedite foreign investment in India's priority areas during the pandemic, the process of notification of MIC Redwood 1 RSC was completed in a record time.

To incentivise long-term investment by SWFs in the priority sectors, the government through the Finance Act, 2020, had granted a 100 per cent income tax exemption to notified SWFs on investment made in the specified infra sectors. —PTI

PSBs won't raise deposit, withdrawal charges: Govt

FALAKNAAZ SYED MUMBAI, NOV. 3

Public sector banks will not be raising bank charges in the near future in view of the Covid-19 pandemic, the government informed the public on Tuesday. The government quashed media reports claiming a steep increase in service charges by state-owned banks.

The finance ministry, in a press release, cited the RBI guidelines which allow all banks, including public sector banks, to levy charges for their services in a fair, transparent and non-discriminatory manner on the basis of the costs involved. However, the ministry said that all the public sector banks have said that they do not propose to raise bank charges in the near future considering the Covid-19 pandemic. Alluding to media reports of steep increases

STIMULUS SOON, SAYS SECY

New Delhi, Nov. 3: Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman will soon announce the next set of stimulus package, economic affairs secretary Tarun Bajaj said. The finance ministry is looking into suggestions received from various sectors, he said in a virtual media conference on Tuesday. "We have received a lot of requests and comments from various sectors and we are looking into it. Very soon it will be unveiled. The finance minister will come out and speak to you on that," he said. —PTI

in service charges by public sector banks, the ministry issued a "factual position".

"There have been several media reports alluding to steep increase in service charges by certain public sector banks (PSBs). In this context, the factual position is as follows: No service charge is applicable on the 60.04 crore Basic Savings Bank Deposit accounts, including 41.13 crore Jan Dhan accounts opened by the poor and unbanked segments of society, for the free services prescribed by RBI," said the ministry. The government clarification comes close on the heels of Bank of Baroda announcing on Sunday that it will be charging customers for deposits, withdrawals above certain limits, which would be effective November 1, 2020. However, the ministry on Tuesday said that owing to the ongoing coronavirus situation in the country, the state-owned lender has "decided to withdraw the changes".

Lockdown hurts new investments

RAVI RANJAN PRASAD MUMBAI, NOV. 3

The pandemic-induced lockdown led to a sharp fall in new investments in the first half (H1) of the current fiscal year (FY21). New project investment announcements plunged by 69 per cent at Rs 1.5 lakh crore compared with Rs 4.8 lakh crore during the same period last year, Care Ratings said.

Though Andhra Pradesh had the highest share of 23 per cent in the capex project

announced in H1FY20, totalling Rs 1.1 lakh crore, the state slipped to No. 2 spot after Tamil Nadu in FY21, with a share of 11 per cent of the investments proposed.

Investments announced for new projects have been falling for the past five years for the April-September period with the exception of H1 FY19 where it rose by 29 per cent year-on-year.

"As the enterprises were faced with Covid-19 induced challenges, they

focussed on survival. Hence the decline in capex investments (in H1 FY21) was somewhat expected," Care Ratings said.

"Companies for now seem to be focussing on normalising their business operations. Hence, it is expected that capacity expansion may not be in the pipeline soon."

There was an 81 per cent decline in projects announced by government, to Rs 0.6 lakh crore in H1 FY21 from Rs 3.2 lakh crore in H1 FY20.

Govt investment in weather forecast pays off: Survey

New Delhi, Nov. 3: Investments of nearly Rs 1,000 crore on the National Monsoon Mission and the High Performance Computing programme of the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) over the past five years have generated economic benefits worth Rs 50,000 crore for farmers, livestock rearers and fishermen, a survey has shown.

The study conducted by the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) was based on a face-to-face survey of 6,098 respondents—3,965 crop farmers, 757 marine fishermen and 1,376 livestock owners. Responses from over 2 lakh farmers were also collected through an interactive voice response system.

"The report provides an estimated income gain of nearly Rs 13,000 crore per year for agricultural and livestock farmers and an incremental benefit of nearly Rs 48,000 crore," the ministry said.

The report was launched by earth sciences minister Harsh Vardhan at an event here on Tuesday.

A total of Rs 551 crore



Harsh Vardhan minister

was spent on the National Monsoon Mission while Rs 990 crore was incurred on the High Performance Computing programme to better weather forecast.

For every rupee invested in the National Monsoon Mission and high-performance computing facilities of the ministry, the country has gained benefits worth Rs 50, resulting in 50-fold gains, it said.

"On adding the economic gain accruing to agricultural households and fisher households, the present value of benefits accruing to the BPL households to rain-fed areas works out to be Rs 50,447 crore.

"The current level of investment is far less in comparison to the realisable benefits over the period of five years," the report said. —PTI

PERFORMANCE STREET

SUN PHARMA Q2 NET PROFIT UP 70%

Sun Pharmaceutical Industries reported a 70.36 per cent jump in its consolidated net profit to Rs 1,812.79 crore for the September 2020 quarter against Rs 1,064.09 crore a year ago, mainly on robust sales and exceptional tax gains. Consolidated revenue from operations stood at Rs 8,553.13 crore versus Rs 8,123.35 crore. "Tax gain (exceptional) for the quarter ended September 30, 2020, is on account of creation of deferred tax asset amounting to Rs 288.28 crore," the firm said.

GODREJ PROPERTIES Q2 NET DROPS 78%

Godrej Properties reported a 78 per cent fall in its consolidated net profit at Rs 7.10 crore for the September quarter on lower income. Its net profit stood at Rs 31.57 crore in the year-ago period. Total income fell to Rs 250.23 crore from Rs 395.11 crore. Sales bookings stood at Rs 1,074 crore during the quarter compared to Rs 1,446 crore a year ago.

DEEPAK FERTILIZERS NET PROFIT SOARS

Deepak Fertilizers and Petrochemicals posted an over three-fold jump in its consolidated net profit to Rs 80.55 crore for the second quarter against Rs 25.50 crore posted in the year-ago quarter. Net income rose to Rs 1,418.47 crore from Rs 1,181.47 crore.

MUTHOOT FINANCE Q2 NET RISES 2.5%

Muthoot Finance reported a 2.5 per cent rise in consolidated net profit at Rs 930.80 crore for Q2 versus Rs 908.54 crore a year ago. Total income grew 17.4 per cent to Rs 2,824.19 crore from Rs 2,406.39 crore. Consolidated loan assets under management grew 29 per cent to Rs 52,286 crore. Standalone net profit rose to Rs 894.39 crore.

SHORT TAKES

Zimbabwe beat Pak in super over

Rawalpindi, Pakistan: Paceman Blessing Muzarabani took career best figures of 5-49 as Zimbabwe beat Pakistan in a thrilling super over finish in the third and final one-day international on Tuesday. The actual match finished in a tie after Pakistan skipper Babar Azam hit the final delivery of the 50th over from Richard Ngarava for a boundary to level the scores at 278. But man-of-the-match Muzarabani dismissed Iftikhar Ahmed and Khushdil Shah for two runs on four balls in the super over which Zimbabwe scored off just three balls without any loss.

Despite the defeat Pakistan won the three-match series 2-1. Azam, who finished with a run-a-ball 125 with 13 boundaries and a six, led Pakistan's fight-back and stood firm after Pakistan were set a daunting 279-run target. He added a match turning 100 for the seventh wicket with Wahab Riaz who made 52. — **AFP**

Brief scores: Zimbabwe 278/6 (Williams 118*, Taylor 56, Hasnain 5-26) tied with Pakistan 278/9 (Azam 125, Riaz 52, Muzarabani 5-49)

Super Over: Zimbabwe 3 beat Pakistan 2

Maradona shows sign of depression

Buenos Aires: Diego Maradona was admitted to a hospital with signs of depression, three days after his 60th birthday. A Maradona staffer told The Associated Press the former footballer's health condition is "not serious." He requested anonymity because he was not authorised to speak about the issue. "He has been very sad for a week, didn't want to eat," the staffer said, adding that Maradona's personal doctor Leopoldo Luque took the former footballer to a hospital so he could undergo health checks.

The captain of Argentina's 1986 World Cup winning team was admitted to a private clinic in La Plata, about 40 kilometers south of Buenos Aires. Maradona has lived there since the end of last year, when he took over as coach of first division team Gimnasia y Esgrima. Maradona turned 60 on Friday and showed up that night for Gimnasia's national championship match against Patronato, which his team won 3-0. He left before the end of the first half, which raised questions about his health. — **AP**

Covid-19 scare in archery camp

Pune: A support staff member of the Indian archery team training at the Army Sports Institute here has tested positive for Covid-19 but the camp resumed after a two-day break, the Sports Authority of India said on Tuesday.

The SAI said it is getting RT-PCR test conducted for all national campers as per the protocol.

The support staff member, who tested positive for the virus on October 30, is undergoing treatment at a special Covid-care hospital in Pune outside the premises of ASI.

Following the case, the trainings camp was suspended for two days. — **PTI**

Tennis tourney at Ace academy

Hyderabad: The Ace Tennis Academy is conducting a tournament for men and women on November 8 and 9. The organisers pledge that all Covid guidelines will be strictly followed and peg the total prize money at ₹70,000. The winner stands to gain ₹15,000, the runners-up ₹10,000 and losing semifinalists ₹5,000 each.

Entries close at 5 pm on Friday, on WhatsApp number 9440422920.

Live on TV

CRICKET

IPL Women's T20 Challenge: Supernovas vs Velocity from 7.30 pm on Star Sports 1, HD

Women's Big Bash League: Perth Scorchers vs Sydney Thunder from 9 am on Sony Six

TENNIS

ATP Paris Masters: Day 3 action from 3.30 pm on Sony Six

FOOTBALL

Champions League: Istanbul Basaksehir vs Manchester United from 11.25 pm on Sony Ten 2; Barcelona vs Dynamo Kyiv from 1.30 am (Thursday) on Sony Ten 1; Ferencváros vs Juventus from 1.30 am (Thursday) on Sony Ten 2; Chelsea vs Rennes from 1.30 am (Thursday) on Sony Six; RB Leipzig vs Paris Saint Germain from 1.30 am (Thursday) on Sony Ten 3

WWE

NXT: Bouts from 6.30 am (Thursday) on Sony Ten 1

Sun shines bright

Hyderabad save best for the last to qualify for playoffs

Sharjah, Nov. 3: Sunrisers Hyderabad defeated Mumbai Indians by 10 wickets in a must-win match to qualify for the play-offs of the Indian Premier League here on Tuesday.

Chasing 150, openers David Warner (85 not out) and Wriddhiman Saha (58 not out) were enough to help Hyderabad cruise past the target in just 17.1 overs. Captain Warner's 58-ball knock was studded with 10 fours and a six while Saha struck seven fours and a six en route home.

Earlier, Hyderabad bowlers also played their part in a must-win game by restricting Mumbai Indians to 149 for eight.

MI would have ended up with much less if it wasn't for Kieron Pollard, who ensured his team put up a fighting total on a slow surface with an entertaining 41 off 25 balls. The defending champions collected 51 runs off the last five overs.

Needing a victory to make the play-offs, SRH bowlers made merry on a helping surface after their skipper David Warner decided to put the opposition in to bat.

MI skipper Rohit Sharma (4), who missed the last four games due to a hamstring injury, made a surprise return in his team's

SCORECARD

Mumbai Indians: Rohit Sharma c Warner b Sandeep Sharma 4, Quinton de Kock b Sandeep Sharma 25, Suryakumar Yadav st Saha b Nadeem 36, Ishan Kishan b Sandeep Sharma 33, Krunal Pandya c Williamson b Nadeem 0, Saurabh Tiwary c Saha b Rashid Khan 1, Kieron Pollard b Holder 41, Nathan Coulter-Nile c Garg b Holder 1, James Pattinson (not out) 4, Dhawal Kulkarni (not out) 3. Extras (lb-1) 1. **Total (for 8 wks, in 20 overs) 149.**

FoW: 1-12, 2-39, 3-81, 4-81, 5-82, 6-115, 7-116, 8-145.

Bowling: Sandeep Sharma 4-0-34-3, Jason Holder 4-0-25-2, Shahbaz Nadeem 4-0-19-2, T. Natarajan 4-0-38-0, Rashid Khan 4-0-32-1.

Sunrisers Hyderabad: Warner not out 85, Saha not out 58. Extras (w-8) 8. **Total (for no loss in 17.1 overs) 151.**

Bowling: Dhaval Kulkarni 3-0-22-0, Nathan Coulter-Nile 4-0-27-0, James Pattinson 3-0-29-0, Rahul Chahar 4-0-36-0, Krunal Pandya 3-1-0-37-0.

last game ahead of the play-offs. However, he lasted for only seven balls as pacer Sandeep Sharma (3/34) had him caught at mid-off with a well-disguised knuckle ball.

Sandeep also found the stumps of Rohit's opening partner Quinton de Kock (36 off 29) who played on after smashing the SRH pacer for couple of sixes and a boundary. — **PTI**

IPL POINTS TABLE

Teams	P	W	L	N/R	Pts	NRR
Mumbai Indians	14	9	5	0	18	+1.107
Delhi Capitals	14	8	6	0	16	-0.109
Sunrisers Hyderabad	14	7	7	0	14	+0.608
Royal Challengers Bangalore	14	7	7	0	14	-0.172
Kolkata Knight Riders	14	7	7	0	14	-0.214
Kings XI Punjab	14	6	8	0	12	-0.162
Chennai Super Kings	14	6	8	0	12	-0.455
Rajasthan Royals	14	6	8	0	12	-0.569

Tabulated as Played, Won, Lost, No Result, Points, Net Run Rate



David Warner of Sunrisers Hyderabad plays a shot against Mumbai Indians in an IPL match at the Sharjah Cricket Stadium on Tuesday. — **BCCI**

Make helmets must for batsmen: Sachin

New Delhi, Nov. 3: Concerned about safety of the players, Indian batting legend Sachin Tendulkar on Tuesday urged the International Cricket Council (ICC) to make it mandatory for batsmen to wear helmets while playing at the professional level.

Tendulkar shared a video of Sunrisers Hyderabad all-rounder Vijay Shankar getting hit on the head when Kings XI Punjab fielder Nicholas Pooran threw the ball towards the striker's end, attempting to run out the batsman.

In the video, originally posted by the official website of the Indian Premier League, Shankar is seen falling on the ground after taking the hit as physios rushed to check on him. Fortunately the 29-year-old was wearing a helmet.

"The game has become faster but is it getting safer? Recently we witnessed an incident which could've been nasty. Be it a spinner or pacer, wearing a HELMET should be MANDATORY for batsmen at professional levels. Request @icc to take this up on priority," Tendulkar



Vijay Shankar (left) of SRH is hit on the helmet by the ball during an IPL match against KXIP in Dubai on October 24. — **BCCI**

tweeted. The tragic death of young Australian batsman Phillip Hughes after being hit by a Sean Abbott bouncer during a domestic match in November 2014 had triggered a debate on players' safety.

The 25-year-old was hit on the neck, just below the helmet. It forced the manufacturers to redesign the helmets to enhance safety of the batsmen.

Tendulkar also tagged all the cricket boards including the BCCI. — **PTI**

SUPERNOVAS TARGET A THIRD STRAIGHT TITLE

Sharjah, Nov. 3: The best of Indian women's cricket will combine with and also go up against stars from countries like England, South Africa, and the West Indies when the third edition of the Women's T20 Challenge gets underway here on Wednesday.

The four-match tournament will have three teams — defending champions Supernovas, last year's runners-up Velocity and Trailblazers — competing against each other once before the summit clash on November 9. Cricketers from Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and New Zealand will also participate.

The Supernovas, led by Harmanpreet Kaur, have been invincible so far winning all the previous two editions. They will kickstart the tournament taking on Mithali Raj's Velocity in a repeat of last year's final eyeing a third title on the trot. Harmanpreet was in top form in the last edition scoring two half-centuries in three matches. — **PTI**

Watson retires from competitive cricket

Sydney, Nov. 3: Top Australian all-rounder Shane Watson on Tuesday retired from competitive cricket following his team Chennai Super Kings' exit from the Indian Premier League, calling himself "ridiculously fortunate" to have enjoyed a career spanning 20 years.

The 39-year-old retired from international cricket in 2016 and bid adieu to the Australian Big Bash league last year.

"It all started as a dream as a young kid saying to my Mum, as I watched a Test match, that I want to play for Australia. Now as I officially announce my retirement from all cricket I feel crazily lucky to live out my dream," Watson said on his YouTube channel, a link of which was posted on his Twitter handle.

"It really does feel like the right time. Knowing that I've played my last



game of cricket ever, for my beloved CSK, who've been so incredibly good to me over the last three years.

"To think that I'm finishing up my playing days as a 39-year-old after all of my injury setbacks that I've had along the way, I feel so ridiculously fortunate."

In his spectacular international career, Watson played 59 Tests, 190 ODIs and 58 T20Is,

scoring 10,950 runs and taking 291 wickets for Australia.

A sought-after player in the T20 format, Watson also has 3,874 runs in 145 IPL games with four hundreds and 21 fifties.

Watson scored 299 runs in CSK's IPL campaign this year which ended on Sunday with the side failing to qualify for the playoffs for the first time. — **PTI**

Shuttlers are back home after passing Covid test

New Delhi, Nov. 3: Forced to pull out of the SaarLorLux Open in Germany and stay in quarantine there because of Covid-19 fears, an Indian badminton contingent, including defending champion Lakshya Sen, on Tuesday returned to the country after testing negative for the infection.

Lakshya's dreams of defending the title had come crashing down when he had to withdraw from the tournament after his father-cum-coach D.K. Sen tested Covid-19 positive. He, however, had no symp-

oms. Two other Indian shuttlers — former world number 13 Ajay Jayaram and 2018 winner Subhankar Dey, who had arranged funds to participate in the German tourney after the Denmark Open, also had to withdraw owing to contact with senior Sen. Lakshya, Jayaram, Dey and physio Abhishek Wagh had tested negative ahead of the tournament.

The Indian contingent, however, had to spend five days in quarantine before fresh test results found them to be negative, clearing their return to the country fol-

lowing the ordeal.

"We reached Bangalore at home this morning around 5am. We all are fine and healthy," a relieved D.K. Sen said.

"We were in quarantine since my first Test came positive. The German official did the second Covid Test for all five of us on November 1 and thankfully the reports came negative, so we immediately returned home."

While Lakshya, his father and physio reached Bangalore, Dey and Jayaram took a flight from Frankfurt to Delhi.

— **PTI**

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