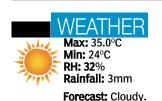
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VIJAYAWADA | SATURDAY | 26 SEPTEMBER 2020





WORLD 6



SPORTS 6

1,81,627

6,61,458 (+45)

3,19,46,610 9,78,202

VIDEO OF JEWELS STOLEN IN COVID

HOSP GOES VIRAL

Max/Min temp.

35/24 ºC

AVINASH P. SUBRAMANYAM | DC TIRUPATI, SEPT. 25

Covid-19-designated State hospital, which is run by Sri Padmavathi Medical College for Wo-men (SPMC) and is attac-hed to Sri Venkateswara Institute of Medical Sciences (SVIMS), has been embroiled in a controversy after a video shot inside the hospital premises, shows a dead person being relieved of his jewels. This has gone viral on

social media.

SVIMS-SPMC hospital
has treated more than
3,407 patients till the second week of September and achieved a success rate of 87 per cent. Also, more than 1,79,266 RT-PCR tests were conducted at VRDL. It is now at the receiving end after the CC cameras in ICU captured workers stealing the gold ring of a deceased patient.

Sources said a middle-aged man hailing from Chowdepalli in Punganur mandal admitted about 10 days back. His health deteriorated on Thursday and he passed away. Family members noticed that a gold ring and a phone of the were missing.

> ■ Page 3: Outsourced worker involved in theft

Despite attacks, parties vow orderly US polls



Kohli fined ₹12 lakh

for slow over rate

DEATHS (+1,082) 93,3 93,357

1,080 5,606 COUNTRIES, AREAS WITH CASES 213

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Aurobindo eyes Kakinada port

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N. VAMSI SRINIVAS | DC

After taking a majority stake in the Kakinada SEZ, Aurobindo Realty is said to have set its eyes on the Kakinada deep water port.

A top delegation from the Aurobindo Group visited the port a few days ago and held discussions on port operations. Sources having knowledge about the developments told *Deccan Chronicle* that the company was keen on diversifying into the marine sector and the port provides a better platform to begin.

This newspaper had reported in these columns on September 1 that Aurobindo was holding talks with GMR for the Kakinada SEZ as part of its plan to bid for the Centre-sponsored pharma park.

Sources said the top brass of the Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy government had encouraged the takeover as was under the impression that the Adani group, which earlier concluded the deal with GMR, might not pursue the project.

GMR on Friday made an official announcement on selling its 51 per cent stake

to Aurobindo for ₹2,600 Kakinada Sea Ports Ltd.

the present concessionaire of the port, owns KIHL. K.V. Rao, the MD of KSPL, enjoyed a rapport

with all successive govern-

ments beginning with Dr Y.S. Rajasekhar Reddy's in The YSR regime grossly compromised on the state's interest and removed crucial clauses including the

amount to benefit Rao's company. A former Rajya Sabha MP was instrumental in the

minimum

government doling out benefits to KSPL.
Ironically, TD chief N.

Chandrababu Naidu, who was in the Opposition dur-ing the changes, maintained a stoic silence, though he targeted Dr Rajasekhar Reddy with corruption charges on all other projects. The bon-homic continued after 2014 when he became the Chief

Minister. The Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy regime, however, took a tough stand and ordered a forensic audit into allegations of swindling of revenue by KSPL.

FRESH CHEATING **CASE AGAINST FORMER A-G, KIN**

DC CORRESPONDENT VIJAYAWADA. SEPT. 25

Andhra Pradesh police on Friday booked a fresh case of cheating, criminal conspiracy and breach of trust against former advocate-general Dammalapati Srinivas, his wife Nagarani and brother-in-law Nannapaneni Seetharamaraju and a few others acting on a complaint from a retired Kode Rama Mohan Rao.

■ Full report on Page 2

India loses Voda case on retro tax

New Delhi, Sept. 25: British telecom giant Vodafone Group plc on Friday won an arbitration against the Indian government over a demand for ₹22,100 crore in taxes using retrospective legislation. An international arbitra-

tion tribunal ruled that India's demand in past taxes were in breach of fair treatment under a bilateral investment protection pact. "The award is confidential, but Vodafone can confirm that the tribunal has found (it) in Voda-fone's favour," Vodafone Group said in a statement. "We are studying the lengthy documents and can make no further comment at this time."

It was not immediately known if the Indian gov-ernment will abide by the arbitration award. Sources with direct knowledge of the matter said the government of India's liability will be restricted to about ₹75 crore.

Before the arbitration tribunal, Vodafone had challenged India's usage of a 2012 legislation that gave it powers to retrospectively tax deals like Vodafone's \$11-billion acquisition of 67 per cent stake in the mobile business owned by Hutchison Wha-mpoa in 2007. It challenged the demand of ₹7,990 crore in capital gains taxes (₹22,100 crore after including interest and penalty) under the Netherlands-India Bilater-

al Investment Treaty. Tax authorities had in September 2007 served notice to Vodafone International Holdings BV for its alleged failure to deduct withholding tax from consideration paid to the Hutchison Telecomm-unications International Ltd. However, Vodafone challenged this in the Supreme Court, which set it aside tax notice in January 2012, saying that the transaction was not taxable in India and so the company had no obligation to withhold tax. In May that year, Parliament passed the Finance Act 2012 that amended various provisions of the Income-Tax Act, 1961, with retrospective effect to tax any gain on transfer of shares in a non-Indian firm which derives substantial value from underlying Indian assets.

BIHAR POLLS ON OCT 28, NOV 3, 7, **RESULTS NOV 10**

DC CORRESPONDENTS NEW DELHI/PATNA,

The Assembly elections in Bihar will be held in three phases starting from October 28, chief election commissioner Sunil Arora announced on Friday. This will be the first election to be held under the shadow of

Coronavirus.
Voting for 243 Assembly seats in Bihar will be held on October 28, November 3 and November 7, and the results will be declared on November 10.

The EC warned candidates and parties against use of the social media for hate speeches and mischievous purposes.

ONION PRICE **SHOOTS UP TO** ₹50/KG IN STATE

MD ILYAS | DC VIJAYAWADA, SEPT. 25

The abnormal hike in onion prices is bringing tears to people in these pandemic-destroyed times as onions turned ₹50 per kg against the normal price of ₹15 to ₹20 per

■ Full report on Page 3

SPB dies, melody lives on

DC CORRESPONDENT CHENNAI, SEPT. 25

Renowned playback singer S.P. Balasubrahmanyam, known in nearly_every household as SPB and Balu, passed away at 1.04 pm on Friday at MGM Hea-Ithcare Hospital in Chennai, where he was under maximal life support.

He was 74. He is survived by his wife, a daughter and a son, S.P. Charan. SPB's body would be laid to rest with police honours, a Tamil Nadu government press release said.

From the hospital, his body was taken to his home, where fans poured

ON PAGE 4 A GOLDEN VOICE **FALLS SILENT**



in to pay tributes and police had a tough time regulating the crowds, particularly in ensuring the maintenance of physical distancing. The singer's last rites would be held at a family farmhouse on the outskirts of Chennai on Saturday morning and the cortege would leave from home on Friday night, sources said. Balasubrahmanyam was admitted on August 5 following mild Covid-19 symptoms. His condition worsened

and he was on life support for Covid-19 and pneumonia since August 14. On Thursday his condition deteriorated, triggering a spate of 'get well' messages from his fans and wellwishers all over the world on social media

Page 4: Condolence messages pour in for SPB





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OTHER STORIES **AP ANNOUNCES NEW EXCISE POLICY FOR YEAR 2020-21**

SAMPAT G. SAMRITAN | DC VIJAYAWADA, SEPT. 25

state announced a new excise policy for the year 2020-21, allowing the Andhra Pradesh state bev erages corporation limited (ABSBCL) to continue to retail Indian made foreign liquor and foreign liquor through the 2,934 retail outlets for the period from 01-10-2020 to 30-09-2021, following the norms of AP excise rules, 2019.

The state government issued GO MS No. 279 on Friday announcing the new prohibition and excise policy in respect of retail outlets.

Accordingly, the same number of 2,934 retail outlets existing as on Sept. 30, 2020 will be fixed for the year 2020-21 and the licence period is to be one year as contemplated in the AP excise rules, 2019. The APS-BCL will continue to sell liquor by shop and will run retail outlets.

The commissioner of prohibition and excise is permitted to renew the existing retail outlets being run by APSBCL under Rule 8 of the AP excise rules, 2019 on payment of an annual licence fee as fixed by the state government. The directions of the Supreme Court are to be followed on the sale of liquor on highways. No shop will be permitted or renewed on the road from Tirupati railway station to Alipiri via RTC bus stand, Leelamahal circle and other areas falling under the Tirupati municipal corporation area.

The commissioner is permitted to establish walk-in shops (elite shops) in the state if required but without any change in the number of retail outlets permitted. An intensive campaign is to be taken up to educate the people on the evils of consumption of liquor and other intoxicants

The APSBCL's Managing Director is directed to implement track and trace in all retail outlets for transparency in sale transactions. He will prepare and communicate a manual for the operation of retail outlets from the fixing of rent to cash remittances to save the state revenue.

Officials asked to procure every grain from farmers

Restrain repetition of Nellore incident: Chief Minister

MD ILYAS | DC VIJAYAWADA, SEPT. 25

Chief Minister, Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, directed officials to avoid a repetition of the Nellore incident and to procure all crops from farmers through Rythu Bharosa Kendras (RBK) at minimum support prices (MSP).

The paddy farmers of Nellore failed to get a good price to their yield due to the exploitation of middlemen. Mr Jagan conducted a review meeting on the preparedness and procurement of agriculture produce in the CM camp office at Tadepalli on Friday. He sought procurement of agriculture produce to the tune of ₹3,300 crore in this season and directed officials to put display boards with MSPs at every RBK.

Asking officials to pro-cure 62 lakh metric tonnes of paddy against the total

Rao on Friday accused Mr

Jagan of covering up its

inefficiency and failure to

complete the project even

16 months after coming to

power, by blaming the pre-

regime. He wanted to

know why only 0.63 per

cent of the project work

was executed, while the

Chandrababu

• THE STATE government procured crops like maize, corn, jowar, onion, tomato, banana, tobacco during the previous Rabi

season, spending

₹3,200 crore

production of 93.61 lakh metric tonnes in Kharif season, Jagan asserted that RBKs will be serving as paddy procurement centres in near future.

Instructing officials to display the MSP of each crop at RBKs, Jagan asked them to educate farmers on the crops that need to be avoided and ways to maximise the yield for more profits.

The state government procured crops like maize, corn, jowar, onion, tomato, banana, tobacco during the previous Rabi season. spending ₹3,200 crore. Similarly, this year, Jagan

TD questions delay in

instructed the officials to purchase ₹3,300 crore worth of crops in Kharif through the market intervention fund and help the farmers.

Asking joint collectors to take responsibility in educating farmers on the government initiatives, Jagan said that the farmers should be told in advance about procurement at RBKs and local MLAs should also be involved.

Directing the marketing department (Markfed) to purchase 30 per cent of the crops in the villages provide marketing facilities for the remaining 70 per cent, Jagan told officials to prepare crop plans, focus on e-marketing platforms and integrate purchase centres and agent data in the outer market to e-marketing

platforms. Telling officials to promote the sortex variety of rice and also keep the bro-

ken rice for value addition, Jagan asked officials to increase the CCI purchase centres to ensure prop-er marketing for the crops and to safeguard the farmers from suffering losses. Officials informed Jagan

that 10 types of crops are being procured in Kharif and also 3,000 centres were established for purchasing paddy. With the help of CM-APP, the entire process of crop procurement and marketing is being monitored. Discussing the purchase of cotton, Jagan gave strict orders to avoid scams in the procurement of the crops and make clear, transparent purchases benefiting the farmers.

Agriculture minister Kurasala Kannababu, civil supplies minister, Kodali Venkateswara Rao, special secretary for agri-culture, Poonam Malakondaiah, commissioner for marketing, Pradhyumna, and others were present.

STIR AGAINST AGRI BILLS FOILED

DC CORRESPONDENT VIJAYAWADA, SEPT. 25

The police took into custody several Left party leaders here on Friday while they were taking out a rally from MB Bhavan to the collector's camp office protesting agriculture bills.

The CPI national secretary, K. Narayana, state secretary CPM Ramakrishna, state secretary P Madhu, former minister and farmers' leader Vadde Sobhanadeswara Rao, CPM executive committee member Ch. Babu Rao and others started to the collector's camp office with cadres and

police filed an FIR against on September 22 under sections 120b, 420, 406 and 506 of Indian Penal Code. The AP High Court already stayed an FIR reg-

istered by the Anti Corruption Bureau Corruption against the former advocate general and others in a case relating to the Amaravati land scam.

N. VAMSI SRINIVAS | DC

The AP police on Friday

booked a fresh case of

cheating, criminal con-

spiracy and breach of

trust against former advo-

cate general Dammalapati

Srinivas, his wife Nagara-

ni and brother-in-law Na-

nnapaneni Seetharama-

Acting on a complaint

from a retired lecturer, Kode Rama Mohan Rao,

the Mangalagiri Rural

raju and a few others.

VIJAYAWADA. SEPT. 25

plainant, he was induced to buy two flats in a pro-posed residential complex, Lakeview

Fresh case booked against

Apartments. Krishnayapalem

Amaravati and he paid an advance of ₹50 lakh. Rao said he was taken to the office of Capital Housing Projects Pvt Ltd where he was introduced to the accused who boasted of Srinivas' influence in government and his alleged ability to get things done. As per the ministry of corporate affairs records, Seetharamaraju is one of the directors of Capital Housing Projects.

The accused took him to the project site and made him believe that the former AG's wife owns a vacant plot nearby where a star hotel project was coming up. The com-

former advocate-general accused took another ₹73 lakh towards the vacant plot. "I transferred the amount from my daughretired lecturer said adding that the accused registered only one flat on July 24 last year before he left for the United States.

On his return, the complainant found that the registered document for one flat was faulty and no link documents were provided. The accused also did not register any vacant plot till date and threatened to indict him in false cases using their clout. "We also found that the proposed complex is

incomplete," Rao said. When contacted, the Mangalagiri police confirmed that they booked an FIR against Srinivas

Govt committed to friendly-policing: HM

DC CORRESPONDENT ANANTAPUR, SEPT. 25

Home minister Mekathoti Sucharitha said the government was committed to friendly-policing and adopting latest technologies to improve the performance of the police department.

State police bagged 37 national awards for successfully using cyber labs to curb cyber crimes, the home minister said.

"More than 11 lakh people downloaded the Disha App soon after it was launched and 568 complaints were received from victims," she said and added the Seva App, first of its kind in the country, would provide at least 87 services to the people without them having to visit a police station. She was the chief guest at the passing-out

parade of trainee sub inspectors at the AP Police Academy here on Friday. About 273 trainee SIs completed training at the Anantapur centre.

She presented certificates and medals to the trainee sub inspectors.

Addressing on the occasion, she claimed the crime rate including atrocities on SCs and STs came down in the state.

Referring to recruitment of police officials at various levels, the home minister said AP got five new IPS officers and 25 SDOs completed their training. She called on the new SIs to play a key role in ensuring safety of

the people.

DGP Gowtham Sawang,
DIG and in-charge principal of the training centre . Kranthi Rana Tata, MPs, MLA and others partici-

OVER 2 LAKH CASES PENDING IN AP HC: RS MEMBER

DC CORRESPONDENT VIJAYAWADA, SEPT. 25

As many as 2,03,024 cases are pending in the AP High Court and 5,82,069 in various lower courts in Andhra Pradesh as on September 17.

Rajya Sabha member from the state Parimal Nathwani said that this information was provided by Union minister of law and justice Ravi Shankar Prasad in the Upper House in response to a question raised by him. Mr Nathwani said that he wanted to know whether the Covid-19 pandemic caused piling up of cases and the steps taken to reduce the pendency. Mr Prasad replied A new software 'Patch and Court User Manual' was developed to help in smart scheduling of cases and prevent overcrowding in courts.

Polavaram project works **DC CORRESPONDENT** TD regime finished 70.83 Addressing a press con-The opposition Telugu Desam has demanded that Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan ference here, Mr Umamaheswara Rao asserted that through the TD government's relentless efforts Mohan Reddy explain the reason for the delay in the Central technical advicompleting the Polavaram project. Former minister Devineni Umamaheswara

sory committee approved ₹55,548 crore for the project. "Mr Chandrababu Naidu reviewed Polavaram progress every Monday and carried three tonnes of documents to Delhi to convince the Union Jal Shakti Ministry and Central Water Commission to approve the project estimates. But now, the YSRC 's inefficiency led to the reduction of the funds to

said. He remarked that 'the project which achieved a Guinness record for rapid progress earned the dubious distinction of being reduced to a sluggish pace.' Neither the CM nor his minister concerned can say for sure how much concrete has been put into the dam since their party came to

power, he claimed. Mr. Umamaheswara Rao said that despite having 22 MPs in the Lok Sabha and six in Rajya Sabha, Jagan was not able to get the ₹5,741 crore pending funds for the works done during the TD regime.

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Isha: 8.15 pm **SUNRISE TOMORROW 5.56 AM** SUNSET TODAY 6.00 PM **MOONRISE TODAY 2.32 PM MOONSET** TOMORROW 1.59 AM

COUNTER



How to get noticed? Let's stage a dharna at NCB office!

SHORT TAKES

CIVIL SERVICES PRELIMS ON OCT 4 AT 68 CENTRES

DC CORRESPONDENT VIJAYAWADA, SEPT. 25

Civil (Preliminary) Examination-2020 will be held on October 4 at 68 centres in Tirupati, Visakhaptnam, Vijayawada and Anantapur, in two sessions: from 9.30 am to 11.30 am and 2.30 pm to 4.30 pm.

Praveen Prakash, principal secretary (political) to government of Andhra Pradesh, said that the collectors of the districts concerned would act as coordinating supervisors of the exams. Two senior IAS each

Visakhapatnam and Vijayawada and one each for would be appointed as observes. About 30,199 candidates will write the exam.

HAVE THIRST FOR CIVILS RANKER

VIJAYAWADA, SEPT. 25

Mallavarapu Suryateja, who has secured 76th rank in the Civil Services this year, said thirst for knowledge and hard work would help students reach top positions in the intensely competitive world.

Vignan's Nirula Institute of Technology and Science for Suryateja at Guntur on Friday, in which Tobacco Board chair-man and IAS officer Addanki Sridhar and others participated. Mr Suryateja said that he had dreamt of becoming an IAS officer since his childhood and his determination to reach his goal had grown as he grew up. He recalled his days at Vignan school where the Rattaiah instilled inspiration in him to achieve his goal.

HIKED ONION PRICES BRING

MD ILYAS | DC VIJAYAWADA, SEPT. 25

The abnormal hike in onion prices is bringing tears to people in these pandemic-destroyed times as onions turned ₹50 per kg against the normal price of ₹15 to ₹20 per kg.

Already facing financial difficulties due to the impact of the lockdown, this huge increase in onion prices is a big burden on ordinary people.

The recent rains damaged onion crops in Rayalaseema, Maharashtra and Karnataka which were major suppliers of onions to AP. Hence the shortage, upsetting the demandsupply ratio, has caused the

abnormal price hike. Further, the removal of onions from essential commodities list by the Union government is going to raise onion prices further due to the absence of control by the gov-

ernment. The onion was priced at ₹44 per kg in the Rythu bazaars and ₹50-₹60 per kg according to size and quality in the open market on Friday in AP.

Balu had special bond with hometown

Nellore district goes into mourning after hearing demise of legendary Balasubrahmanyam

PATHRI RAJASEKHAR I

NELLORE, SEPT. 25

S.P. Balasubrahmanyam had a strong bond with Nellore, his native city, and the people, especially his classmates and childhood friends. Born on June 4, 1946, to

S.P. Sambamurthy, an exponent in Harikatha, and Sakunthalamma at Konetimpeta in Chittoor district, Balu went to primary school at Srikalahasti. He studied in VR High School and VR College in Nellore before he enrolled at the JNTU College of Engineering, Anantapur.

discontinued his studies early due to typhoid and joined as an associate member of the Institution of Engineers, Chennai.

Though he settled in Chennai after he established himself as a singer, Balu always kept in touch with his friends and relatives in Nellore. His mother stayed in their ancestral house at Tipprajuvari Street in Nellore till her demise in February last

In memory of his parents, Balasubhramanyam donated the house to the Kanchi Sankara Peetam to run a Veda patasala and renovated the building, spending nearly ₹10 lakh. Balu had two brothers and five sisters. He paid his sisters in lieu of their share in the house while donating the building. said Tunga Siva Prabhat Reddy, a family friend.

"He was planning to come to Nellore for the opening of the Veda but patasala infection Coronavirus changed all plans," said Prabhat Reddy.

Hazarath Veerisetty Babu, another family friend, said Balu had installed his father's stat-Kasthurba Kalakshethra in Nellore. President Venkaiah Naidu, then a Union minister, along with film actor Kamal



A file photo of S.P. Balasubrahmanyam with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and

Groomed a generation of musicians, says V-P

DC CORRESPONDENT NELLORE, SEPT. 25

Vice-President Venkaiah Naidu said he was shocked to learn of the tragic demise of S.P. Balasubrahmanyam whom he has known for several decades.

"It is truly an irrepara-ble loss to the world of music and a deeply emotional moment for me personally SPB, or Balu as he was fondly called by his innumerable admirers, came from Nellore, my native place. I have had

K. Viswanath had unveiled

the statue on October 3,

Balu used to organise

drama competitions through his cultural organisation Vijetha Arts

at the town hall in Nellore

every year with the help of

Rajendra Prasad, Sesha

He had set up an award

Babu,

Gireesam

friends Hazarath ı, Vennelakanti

and

him as I heard his rapturous melodies, his passionate love for his mothertongue and the extraordinary manner in which he groomed a whole generation of talented, young musicians," Venkaiah Naidu observed.

In a press release, the Vice-President said Balu has left a void in his heart and the hearts of millions of music lovers across the "His mellifluous voice

has been unfortunately muted by the vicious

on his name and presented

a cash prize of ₹1 lakh

each to outstanding per-

sonalities in films and

social service field to

mark his birthday every

"Being a brand ambassa-

Mission, Balu was keen on

holding a rally with 20,000

students to create aware-

ness about the environ-

ment and to clean all roads

Swachh Bharat

year at Nellore.

smile and infectious humour will remain etched in our memories. His extraordinary renditions of songs will keep resonating in our consciousness for a very long time to come. I pay my reverential homage to this legendary musician whom I have had the pleasure of knowing so closely. I pray to the Almighty to give his fami-

"However, his genial

ly the strength to cope with this most unexpected Prabhat. Recalling his 60-

year association with Balu

and his family, Hazarath

ajatha sathru, a person without enemies "He was very kind and down to earth despite his popularity all over the country" Hazarath Babu

Though everyone was aware that he was undergoing treatment for Covidclose associate, Vennela-kanti Rajendra Prasad said he penned a song on Nellore at the instance of Vice-President M. Venkaiah Naidu and Balu was supposed to sing it while Kodandarami director Reddy was entrusted with

JAGAN SADDENED, SHOCKED OVER SPB'S DEATH

DC CORRESPONDENT

Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy expressed profound grief over the demise of singing legend S.P. Balasubrahmanyam. Telugu Desam chief and former chief minister N Chandrababu Naidu and other leaders also expressed shock and grief over the death of SPB.

In his condolence mes sage, Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan described the singer as a household name, not only in the Telugu states but the entire country, as an iconic playback singer in Telugu, Tamil, Kannada, Hindi, Malayalam and numerous other Indian languages.

Mr Jagan said, "Sripathi Panditaradhyula Balasub ramanyam, popularly known as SPB, has been the refreshing notation of film music spanning over five decades enthralling the connoisseurs and common people alike through his multifaceted talent." He conveyed his heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family.

Mr Chandrababu Naidu said the demise of Balu saddened him, a wonderful era in the film indus-try concluded with his exit. Naidu conveyed his sympathies bereaved family.

Chennai for the past 40 days, they were firm that would conquer the Babu said the singer was dreaded virus.

Noted lyricist and his

Didn't know who Balu was then: Temple clerk

K.M.P. PATNAIK I DC VISAKHAPATNAM, SEPT. 25

It was mid-morning on September 9, 1969, when three men and a woman came to Simhachalam temple prasadam counter clerk Pasarla Suryanarayana and asked him for a ticket to perform a marriage at the temple.
The fee was ₹100. They

paid Suryanarayana them the receipt. Asked whose names should be mentioned in the receipt, the prospective groom said S.P. Balasubrahmanyam and Savitri. They went inside the

temple and got married. 'Three days later, a man from Chennai came to me and introduced himself

as the uncle of S.P. Balasubrahmanyam. He asked about the validity of the receipt which is also treated as a marriage certificate," Suryanarayana recalled. 'I told him it was valid.

Later he asked whether I knew Balu, an upcoming playback singer. I said l had heard only about Ghantasala and none other. The man went away Suryanarayana said.

He said he began tracking Balu's career after that but could never meet the singer. Sources said Balu's marriage opposed by his relatives and therefore he went to the Simhachalam temple to perform a 'Rukmini kalyanam'.

SPB leaves without seeing his statue

VADREVU SRINIVAS | DC KAKINADA, SEPT. 25

Legendary playback singer S.P. Balasubrahmanyam breathed his last without seeing his statue for which he had commissioned a sculptor at Kothapet in East Godavari a year ago.

The sculptor wanted to give the statue on June 4 on the singer's birthday, who had announced a national award to the sculptor. However, the programme was postponed because of Covid-19. "The statue will be ready in the next three or four days. But SPB breathed his last without seeing his statsaid Vudayar Rajkumar Devaguptapu, shedding tears.

He said he cannot express his pain at the demise become a family friend. "We had carved his father's statue, which has been installed in Nellore. Last year, he placed an order for statues of his father and mother that were to be installed in his house, which was given to Veda Vidyalayam' at Ne-

llore. Baluji spent a day at my house last year. This January, he announced the national award to me and actor K. Satvanaravana, which were to be given on June 4 but was po-Sadly, Baluji left the world without seeing his statue," Rajakumar said. He said that the statue

will be sent either to Nellore or Chennai. SPB has sung a song on

≹dikavi Nannayya University, the lyrics for which were penned by Dr Venigalla Rambabu.

OUTSOURCED WORKER INVOLVED IN THEFT

From page 1

They alleged that when they tried to lodge a complaint with the hospital's security, they were turned away. They later approached the higher ups, who ordered a probe.

The enquiry revealed that an outsourced worker had stolen the gold ring and the mobile phone, sources said.

Meanwhile, after the video clip went viral, state health minister Alla Krishna Srinivas. who ordered a probe into the incident, spoke to the SVIMS Director, Dr B. Vengamma, and directed her to initiate stringent action against those involved in the incident.

On a complaint from her, Alipiri police identified the outsourced worker with the help of a video clip.

"The worker has been taken into custody and he pleaded guilty. He also handed over the jewellery and the mobile phone to the police, which will be handed over to the family on Saturday. The worker will face criminal procedings", an SVIMS official said.

Focus on rural areas for Covid tests **SAMPAT G. SAMRITAN |**

Devi

VIJAYAWADA, SEPT. 25

The state health authoritrimmed the number of Covid-19 tests to be conducted on a daily basis especially in urban areas given the slight dip in cases while focusing more in rural areas following the rise in rural in Andhra Pradesh.

The change in strategy is perceptible, especially in East Godavari which has the dubious distinction of the highest number of Covid-19 positive cases at 1,031, highest cumulative positive cases at 92,173 and also total active cases at 11,131 as on Friday. The district health

authorities had planned the distribution of 500 kits to conduct the viral lysis medium test; 1,950 kits for viral transport medium test and 4.525 rapid antigen test kits in the district on Thursday

On Friday morning, local health authorities were informed about the distribution of 200 VLM kits and 200 rapid test kits to the district hospital in Rajahmundry and no testing kit of any no testing kit of any soon as we get kits, they mode has been allotted to will be called for the

NEW COVID CASES DECLINE IN AP

DC CORRESPONDENT VIJAYAWADA, SEPT. 25

Andhra Pradesh continues to witness a dip in the number of Covid-19 positive cases and also deaths giving a major fillip to the efforts of the state government to contain the spread of the pandemic and fatali-

The state registered 7,073 new positive cases in the last 24 hours, scaling up the overall tally to

the eight urban health centres located in the city alone.

A health assistant at the urban health centre "We were allotted 75 rapid antigen test kits on September 21 and since then no allotment of kits was done. We managed to get some kits from the district hospital. Several patients are visiting our health centre to undergo Covid-19 test as it is free of cost. We are entering the names of symptomatic cases with their Aadhaar details and phone numbers and informing them that as With 48 deaths, the toll

The Covid-19 bulletin released by the state health authorities here on Friday reported that out of 69,429 samples tested, 7,073 individuals have been found positive. Out of a total of 54,47,796 samples tested so far, 5,88,169 patients have been discharged from various hospitals after recovery while 67,683 patients are still active and undergoing treat-

test."

A female patient, K. Jyothi, suffering with cold, cough and fever who arrived at the health centre said, "It is unfair on the part of health authorities to ignore us living in urban areas by not sending testing kits. As we can't afford to visit a private hospital to undergo a Covid-19 test by paying thousands of rupees, we are arriving here but not able to undergo the test for want of test kits. The health centre has

enrolled the names of patients waiting for the test to the tune of 50 in the last few days even

after turning away several of them as only patients suffering serious health issues are being accepted for registration for the test

East Godavari district medical and health offi-Subramanyeswari, said, "As we are getting more Covid-19 positive cases from rural areas, we are paying more attention to villages in terms of conducting Covid-19 tests."

In Vizianagaram, district health authorities are focusing more on rural areas like Bobbili and Saluru given rise in number of Covid-19 posi-Vizianagaram district

medical and health officer, Dr S.V. Ramana Kumari, said "We have planned to conduct 5,000 Covid-19 tests per day in the district and as we are seeing more Covid-19 positive cases of late from rural areas. We have given targets to PHCs to conduct tests ranging from 50 to 100 each depending upon size of population.

So is the case in Visakhapatnam district too where focus on conduct of Covid-19 tests has been shifted to rural areas given the high rate ANDHRA FRADESI, VIJAYAWADA APTS Ref. No.: ITC51-15027/3/2020-PROC-APTS Dt. 26-09-202 Request for Proposals (RFP) for Selection of Service Provider for Deployment Maintenance and Integration of a SAAS based Multi-tenant eCommerce

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WINGED | GUESTS | It is suspected that pesticide poisoning could be the reason Hundreds of Siberian birds found dead fields." Dr Lalitha said.

also punished a few peo-

ple for harming the birds

K.M.P. PATNAIK I DC VIZIANAGARAM, SEPT. 25

Hundreds of pelicans from Siberia have been found dead in and around Chellamnaiduvalasa of Seethanagaram mandal in Vizianagaram district. about 130 km from Visakhapatnam. The bird deaths were occurring for about a week, locals said. It is suspected that pesti-

cide poisoning could be the reason. The villagers, shocked at the unusual death of winged guests,

department officials to protect the remaining birds. Villagers see the death of the birds as a bad omen.

Villagers said thou-sands of Siberian birds arrive in their village in the last week of June for the nesting season. The leave between November and December along with their offspring. The locals never harm

in the past. Tourists usually visit the village for a glimpse

of the birds in November. Chellamnaiduvalasa village elders said more than 300 birds were found dead near the trees and few other places in the village during the last few days

They fear that the birds nay have contracted mav some infection and died. the birds; rather they pro-A veterinary team, led by surgeon Ch. Lalitha, tect them from poachers and predators. They have head of the animal dis-

conducted a postmortem on a few dead birds. It samples to the Biological Research Institute at Vijayawada to find out the reason for the deaths. The birds usually perch on tamarind trees where they build nests.

"Prima facie we suspect the birds might have consumed pesticide in the agriculture fields close to Swarnamukhi river. The birds feed on snails that are largely found in the

ease diagnostic centre, visited the village and Telikunchi Telineelapuram are the two other villages in Srikakulam where a large number of pelicans and painted storks from arrive every year. "Only open billed storks arrived in Telikunchi and there is no sign of birds at Telineelapuram,"

> A few storks died in Telineelapuram years ago and the reason was not known.

divisional forest officer

Sandeep Krupavaram.

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GUDIVADA-521301, GUDIVADA MANDAL, KRISHN DIST., A.P. MY NAME HAS BEEN CHANGED TO MALLIPUDI KUMARI (NEW NAME), HEREAFTER MY NAME IS KNOWN AS MALLIPUDI VENKATA NAGA KUMARI. FOR ALL PURPOSES.

S. P. BALASUBRAHMANYAM | 1947 - 2020

A golden voice falls silent

ANUPAMA SUBRAMANIAN | DC

ne celebrated playback singer, who enthralled movie fans with over 40,000 songs in 16 languages and lent his voice to several matinee idols on screen, strode the world of film music for more than five decades. Remarkably, his voice never lost its timbre with age and he was busy almost up to the day he was admitted to a hospital in Chennai.

A winner of six national awards, Shripathi Pandithadradhyula Balasubrahmanyam, more readily identified by three letters SPB by the film fraternity and millions of fans, was born in Nellore in 1946. His father Sambamurthy was a Harikatha artiste who had also acted in plays. Though SPB developed an interest in music at a very young age, he was also interested in academics. He enrolled in JNTU, Anantapur, to pursue his engineering and for some reasons had to drop out of college. He joined as associate member of the Institution of Engineers, Chennai, and pursued his passion of music and started performing in music competitions. He was adjudged the best singer at a competition by musicians S.P. Kodandapani and Ghantasala who were on the jury panel. Kodandapani later became his mentor and the rest is history.

Balasubrahmanyam made his debut as a playback singer on December 15, 1966, with the song Sri Sri Sri Marayada Ramanna composed by his guru Kodandapani in a Telugu movie. After recording a Kannada song, he made his debut in Tamil with the number Athaanodu Ippadi Eththanai Irundhu Irundhu Eththanai Naalaachu, a duet with L.R. Eswari in M.S. Viswana-than's composition for the film *Hotel Ramba*, but unfortunately the film was never released. A duet with P. Susheela, *Iyarkai Ennum Ilaya Kanni* in the 1969 film Shanti Nilayam, featuring Gemini Ganesh and

Kanchana was a big nit. Industry pundits recall that SPB was personally selected by the iconic star M.G. Ramachnadran (MGR) to sing a song for his production venture Adimai Penn, featuring him and late CM Jayalalithaa and directed by K. Shankar. The song was *Aayiram Nilave Vaa*, which took SPB to dizzy heights.

A time soon came when he was singing for the likes of MGR, Sivaji Ganesan and Gemini Ganesan in M.S. Viswanathan's compositions on par with top playback singers like T.M. Soundararajan and P.B. Srinivas. He also recorded songs with all top women singers like P. Susheela, S. Janaki, Vani Jayaram and L.R. Eswari. Thus began the SPB era. In Telugu, he was

singing for N.T. Rama Rao, Akkineni Nageswara Rao, Krishna and Sobhan Babu. Balasubrahmanyam's association with Ilayaraja began even before the maes-

tro came to the industry. In

their early days, SPB used to sing in towns and villages all over south India and Ilayaraja, then an unknown harmonium and guitar player, accompanied him and played in his concerts. Donning several hats as a singer, music director, actor, voice artiste and film producer, SPB worked predominantly in Telugu, Tamil, Kannada, Hindi and Malayalam. He won six national film awards for best male playback singer for his works in four different learnings. ent languages — Telugu, Kannada, Tamil and Hindi — besides 25 Nandi Awards from Andhra Pradesh for his work in Telugu cinema and numerous other state awards from Tamil Nadu and Karnataka governments. Without a back-ground in classical music, he had to toil in rendering the famous songs in Sankarabharanam which were in high classical notes after KVM chose him over ace playback and classical singers like K.J. Yesudas and Balamuralikrishna.

He had successful collaborations with Ilayaraja and S. Janaki and the trio's songs were a huge hit from late 1970s and throughout 1980s. SPB and Raja won national awards together for their collaborations in films like Saagara Sanga-mam in 1983, Swathi Muthyam in 1986 and Rudraveena in 1988.

SPB's rose to prominence in Bollywood started right from 1989 when he sang for Salman Khan for the film Maine Pyar Kiya. Besides winning many awards, Balasubrahmanyam continued as the "romantic singing voice" on the sound-tracks of Khan's films for almost a decade. SPB was identified as Salman Khan's voice in the '90s and he consolidated his position as an Indian playback singer.

In the '90s, he worked with other composers like Vidyasagar, S.A. Rajkumar, Deva and M.M. Keeravani AR Rahman turned out to be a bigger hit. ARR and SPB joined hands right from the former's debut film Roja, July Maadham, Pudhiya Mugam, Kizhakku Cheemayile, Duet and Minsara Kanavu, and the last one fetched him the sixth national award for Thanga Thaamarai Magale.

SPB directed music in 46 films in four south languages. Some notable works are Padamati Sandhya Ragam and Thurpu Velle Railu. SPB has always been a lucky mascot for Rajinika-

nth's intro songs.

The ace singer's last few renderings include *Petta's* Marana Mass and Chumma Kizhi from Darbar composed by Anirudh. SPB also acted in 76 films, making him a multi-faceted singer.

For someone with no formal training in classical music, the heights SPB scaled were not something that even well-trained singers could reach



SPB with legendary Ghantasala

'Balu', fondly called by many of his friends such as Illayraja, was born on June 4, in Nellore in neighbouring Andhra Pradesh

He made his debut as a playback singer on December 15 with *Sri Sri Sri* Marayada Ramanna in a Telugu movie, composed by his guru Kodandapani



Susheela and SPB recording one of their memorable duets

Ganesh and Kanchana was a big hit. The song Aayiram Nilave Vaa, in Adimai *Penn*, starring MGR took SPB to dizzvina heights

His duet with P.

Susheela, *Iyarkai* Ennum Ilaya

featuring Gemini

Kanni in film Shanti Nilayam,

He won his first national award for the Telugu movie Sankarabaranam

'80s: SPB had successful collaborations with Ilayaraja and S. Janaki and the trio's songs were a huge hit from late 1970s and throughout 1980s.







RECORDED

songs in the span of 12 hours for



SPB gets

Prathiba

award





Prime Minister Modi presenting a memento to SPB on Sankranti to mark the golden jubilee of his

TOP 10 TELUGU HITS OF SPB

- 1. Omkara Nadanu Sandhana (1979, Sankarabharanam)
- 2. Vedam Anuvanuvuna (1983, Saagara Sangamam)
- 3. Sirimalle Neeve Virajallu Kaave (1977, Pantulamma, Telugu)
- Abhinava Thaaravo Naa Abhimana Thaaravo (1978, Sivaranjani)
- 5. *Gajje Ghallu Mantunte* (1976, Siri Siri Muvva)
- 6. O Bangaru Rangula Chilaka
- (1975, Thota Ramudu) 7. Medante Meda kaadu (1968, Sukha Dukhalu)
- 8. Thanivi theeralede Naa Manasu Nindalede (1972, Gooduputani)
- 9. Ravi Varmake Andani Oke Oka
- (1979, Ravanude Ramudaithe)
- 10. Nenoka Prema Pipasini (1978, Indra Dhanassu)

SPB has also given voice for various stars including Kamal Haasan, Rajinikanth, Salman Khan, Vishnuvardhan, Nagesh, Gemini, Arjun, Raghuvaran and Karthik in various languages. He also dubbed for Ben Kingsley in the Telugu-dubbed version of the film *Gandhi*.





SPB AS AN ACTOR Films in three languages. Notable films as an actor include Keladi Kanmani, Sigaram, Thiruda Thiruda, Kadhalan, and Naanayam. He was also part of some TV serials and shows.

SPB HAS ALSO BEEN A MUSIC DIRECTOR

films in four south languages. Some of the notable works among them are Padamati Sandhya Ragam and Thurpu Velle Railu.

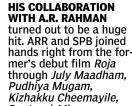


• The singer was presented with the Padma Shri and Padma Bhushan

SPB won the sixth national award for song Thanga Thamarai in the Tamil movie Minsara

SPB bagged the national award for his

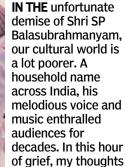
Kannada song in the movie *Sangeetha Sagara Ganayogi Panchakshara Gavai*



mer's debut film Roja through July Maadham, Pudhiya Mugam, Kizhakku Cheemayile, Duet and Minsara



singing career in New Delhi on Jan. 16, 2016.



NARENDRA MODI, Prime Minister

are with his family

and admirers. Om

Shanti

SURESH KAVIRAYANI I DC

1 JANAKI FIRST SPOTTED S.P. Balasubrah-S.P. Balasubrahmanyam wanted to study engineering and join government service. That was the wish of his father. Balu, as he was affectionately known, was not interested in singing for films, and had not learnt music though he used to participate in singing competitions. When he was studying engineering in Anantapur, he participated in a competition in Gudur, where the chief guest was the famous playback singer S. Janaki. Balu won the first prize, and Janaki asked him to try singing in films as she found something special in his voice. He replied that he did not know music. To this, Janaki said she too did not know music but was singing in films. That's the first time that SPB's talent was spotted by the film industry.

2KODANDAPANI THE GOD- FATHER | Balu followed her advise, reached Madras (now Chennai) and tried singing but was rejected as his voice was considered not mature enough. He was hardly 18 at that time. After two years, he participated in a singing competition in Madras, organised

The six crucial turns in Balu's life

by the Andhra Social Cultural Club. The judges were the renowned playback singer popular Pendyala Ghantasala and music directors Nageswara Rao and Susarla Dakshinamurthy. After the first day, an elderly person who had watched the competition came up to Balu and asked him if he would sing in films. Balu again replied, "No, I am not interested." The elderly man repeated his question and Balu asked him who he was. The old man replied: "My name is Kodandapani.' Having composed music for a couple of films by that time, Kodandapani asked Balu to come to his studio and introhim to producer Bhavanarayana. The producer also felt that Balu's voice was not mature enough. Balu returned to his hometown. One and a half years later, Kodandapani called Balu again and got him to sing for 'Maryada Ramanna' in 1967. That was not to be his debut, however. Producer and writer M.S. Reddy asked Balu to sing for the dubbed film, 'Kala Chakram', which was released

first, in 1966. He sang all the



Veteran singer P. B. Srinivas kisses SPB.

songs in that film, and Maryada Ramanna released only later.

3SEPARATE VOICES FOR NTR AND ANR | Balu sang more than 40,000 songs in about 14 languages. He was one of the busiest singers of his time, and used to sing for top actors of the generation like N.T. Rama Rao, A. Nageswara Rao, Krishna, Sobhan Babu, Krishnam Raju and the next

generation of actors like Balakrishna, Chiranjeevi, Venkatesh and Nagarjuna. For all the actors he sang with his own voice, but when it came to ANR and NTR he used to change his voice to match that of the actor. Even for comedy actors like Allu Ramalingiah and Raja Babu, Balu used to change his voice.

413 HINDI SONGS IN ONE DAY Balu's first Hindi film as a

playback singer was Ek Duuje Ke Liye (1981). L.V. Prasad pro-duced the film which was the remake of the Telugu 'Maro Charitra'. Balachander directed the Hindi remake too. Both Balachander and Prasad are wanted Balu to sing all the songs in the Hindi version, directors music Lakshmikant-Pyarelal were reluctant. After SPB sang a solo, they liked his voice and continued with him. At one time, SPB recorded 13 songs for them in a day. He was among the best known playback singers in Mumbai at that time, as Mohammad Rafi, Kishore Kumar and Mukesh had all passed away. SPB got the national award for his song in Ek Duuje Ke Liye.

5 SANKARABHARANAM GOT INTERNATIONAL **RECOGNITION** | In Balu's long illustrous career, Sankarabharanam was a milestone. K. Viswanath was the director and he initially wanted veteran classical singer Mangalampalli Balamurali Krishna to render the songs which were based on Carnatic music. Music director K.V.

Mahadevan, however, kept his faith in Balu. The songs were a huge hit and are considered classics today. The film released in 1980 and changed Telugu cinema. SPB won a national award for his song in the film. The songs of the film are considered to be among among Balu's best. The film was screened in international film festivals. and K, Viswanath He continued their collaborations films like Sangamam, Siri Vennela, Saptapadi Sruthilayalu.

THE ONLY CONTROVERSY 6WITH KRISHNA | In Balu's career of more than 50 years, he was never involved in any controversy either professonally or on the personal front, but for one. Balu sang for Krishna in many films but there was a break in between when the actor picked new singers. Producers and music directors requested both of them to put their differences aside and work together. Lyric writer Veturi Sundarama Murthy mediated between the two. Later, Balu went to Krishna's studio and met him there. From then on, he sang for

Condolence messages pour in for SPB

From Page 1

After his demise was announced by the hospital, condolence messages poured in from all over with President Ram Nath Kovind leading the nation in paying tributes to the musical genius, who had sung over 40,000 songs in several languages during a career spanning over half a century. The President said: "In the passing of music legend S.P. Balasubrahmanyam Indian music has

lost one of its most melodious voices.' Prime Minister Narendra Modi said in a post on Twitter: "Our cultural world is a lot poorer. A household name across India, his melodious voice and music

enthralled audiences for decades. Governors Tamilisai Soundararajan of Telangana state and Biswabhusan Harichandan (AP), Chief Ministers K. Chandrasekhar Rao and Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy were among those who condoled the death of SPB. Describing SPB as 'brother', Dr Soundararajan wondered if the man born in Telugu soil and earned fame in Tamil Nadu had been called by the heavens to sing there.

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami described the singer as God's gift to the Indian musical world in the 20th century.



SHORT **92 IPS OFFICERS** TRANSFERRED

RABINDRA NATH CHOUDHURY | DC BHOPAL, SEPT. 25

Madhya Pradesh government on Friday effected a major reshuffle of police officers ahead of upcoming by-elec-tions in 28 Assembly constituencies, schedule of which may be declared on September 29.

As many as 92 Indian Police Service (IPS) officers were transferred in the reshuffle

The reshuffle in the police department comes hours after the Election Commission announced that a decision on holding by-elections to vacant Sabha and Assembly constituencies in different states would be taken on September 29.

Congress has taken strong exception to the decision by the Shivraj government to go in for large scale transfer of police officers immediately after Election Commission indicated to announce schedule of by-elections in 28 assembly constituencies in MP after

"The Election Commission indicated the schedule of by-elections in 28 assembly elections in Madhya Pradesh would be announced on September 29. That means the model code of conduct for polls has come into force informally in the state. The state government violated the model code of conduct by effecting a massive reshuffle in the police department. We have lodged a complaint with the Election Commission seeking revocation of the transfer orders", Congress spokesman here J.P. Dhanopia

The BJP, however, denied any violation of election rules by the state government by shuf-

fling the police officers.
"First of all, the Election Commission has not announced the schedule so far and hence, model code of conduct is not in force in Madhya Pradesh now. Besides, model code of conduct is only enforced in districts where assembly by-elections are held. Congress is trying to mis-lead the people, "BJP spokesman here Rajneesh Agrawal said.

CONGRESS HAS taken strong exception to the decision by the Shivraj government to go in for largescale transfer of police officers.

TIGRESS FOUND DEAD IN MP RESERVE FOREST

RABINDRA NATH CHOUDHURY | DC

A 3-year-old tigress was found dead in Badhavgarh reserve forest in Madhya Pradesh, a senior forest officer said on

The decomposed body of the big cat was found in Damokhar buffer range in Bandhavgarh tiger reserve late on Thursday.

'A patrol party of forest officials spotted the carcass of the tigress in a drain in Damokhar buffer range. The body had several injury marks and was infested by maggots. The veterinary doctors suggested that the carcass may be 2-3 days old", field director of Bandhavgarh tiger reserve Vincent Raheem said.

Prima facie, the cause of death may be due to territorial fights since pug marks of another tiger were found at the spot, he added.

However, the exact cause of death could be ascertained after postmortem, he said.

This was the fourth such incident in Bandhavgarh tiger reserve in the last five months. Three tigers died in territorial fights in the reserve forest in April.

Challenges Nitish face include Coronavirus, unemployment

Polls are crucial for BJP after setback in Jharkhand and Maharashtra

NAYEAR AZAD | DC

The Assembly elections in Bihar, the first amid the Coronavirus pandemic, will be held in three phases in October and November.

Primary challenges faced by Chief Minister Nitish Kumar led NDA would be the Coronavirus crisis, unemployment, law and order scenario and flood situation. He is trying to retain power in Bihar for the fourth term

The ruling NDA and the RJD-led Mahagat-hbandhan are the two major political alliances contesting against each other. The NDA is trying to reach out to its voters with "Vikas" (develop-ment) and "15 years of good governance versus 15-years of jungle raj' narrative against the Opposition parties.

Bihar election is crucial for the NDA especially BJP as it suffered massive electoral setbacks in two states — Jharkhand and Maharashtra in 2019.

"Our party workers are excited after the dates were announced by the election commission. We are confident that the NDA will win more than 220 seats but the grand alliance will be completely wiped out after the polls as they neither have a leader nor policies for the development of the state", BJP spokesperson Nikhil Anand said.

Bihar BJP in-charge Bhupendra Yadav in a



A worker removes a hoarding of Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar in Patna on Friday, as per model code of con-

tweet said that "the results of the Lok Sabha will be repeated during the Assembly elections this year. The NDA is going to win this election with a three - fourth majority"

Nitish Kumar-led NDA had come to power in Bihar after defeating 15 years of regime in 2005. Lalu-Rabri

During 2015 Assembly elections the JD(U) along with RJD and Congress had formed a grand alliance and defeated the BJP with a huge margin. However, in July 2017 after the CBI registered corruption cases against RJD chief Lalu Yadav and his son Tejashwi Yadav, Niti-

NDA and formed a government with the support

In 2019, Lok Sabha polls the BJP in alliance with JD(U) and LJP had clinched 39 out of 40 seats in the state. Meanwhile, RJD leader

Tejashwi Yadav in his reaction said that his

elections is with BJP. He said that "people are not happy with Nitish Kumar

and they will get rid of this government after the Tejashwi Yadav and his elder brother Tej Pratap

also led a massive protest against farm bills, which

Shopian: DNA samples match Kerala up in arms with those of 3 youths killed over farm Bills

YUSUF JAMEEL | DC SRINAGAR, SEPT. 25

The results of the DNA samples of the parents of three youths who went missing a day after their arrival in Jammu and Kashmir's southern Shopian district in July to earn living have matched with three persons killed by the Army in an alleged fake encounter and then passed off as terrorists.

'We've received the DNA sample results of three families of Rajouri and these have matched with those of the three killed in Amshipora, Shopian on July 18. We will now take further course of action and complete the remaining formalities," Inspector General of Police (Kashmir range), Vijay Kumar, told reporters here on Friday.

The Army had last week admitted that three youths of Rajouri district who had reached Shopian district on July 17 to work as labourers in a local apple orchard killed by its troops in an

'encounter' It said that "disciplinary action" in being initiated by it under the Army Act against the officers and soldiers involved in the operation as the inquiry conducted by it "has brought out certain prima facie evidence indicating that, during the operation, powers vested under the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) 1990 were exceeded and the Do's and Don'ts of Chief of Army Staff (COAS) as approved by SIT to investigate lawyer's murder

DC CORRESPONDENT

constituted a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to probe the killing of lawyer and TV debater Syed Babar Qadri by unknown assailants Srinagar home Thursday evening.

Inspector General of Police (Kashmir range), Kumar, told ers here, "We've reporters here, "We've constituted an SIT head-

ed by Superintendent of Police Hazratbal that will probe the killing of Jammu and Qadri". He said that the Kashmir police on assassins had appro-Friday said that it has ached Qadri's home in ached Qadri's home in the City's Hawal area as "clients with files in their hands"

He said that during the preliminary investigation it was learnt that the visitors told the lawyer that they were to discuss with him some accident related case but when he walked close to them they fired at his head using pistols.

TWO LeT

COMMANDERS

KILLED IN J&K

DC CORRESPONDENT

Two senior command-

killed in a firefight with

Sirhama area of south-ern Anantnag district

IGP Kashmir, Vijay Kumar, said the slain

included a Pakistani national. He said, "One

of the slain has been

identified as Abu Rehan

alias Towheed from

DC CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Narendra

Modi is expected to address

the United Nations General

Assembly during the General Debate on Satur-

day. He is presently sched-

Since the UNGA this year

Prime Minister's address

will therefore be via a pre-

recorded video statement

broadcast at the UNGA hall

is being held in the back-

drop of the Covid-19 pan-demic, it is being conduct-

ed mostly virtually.

uled as the first speaker.

NEW DELHI, SEPT. 25

security forces

on Friday.

Lashkar-e-

SRINAGAR, SEPT. 25

the Supreme Court have been contravened".

It had, however, also said that the slain men's 'involvement with terrorism or related activities under investigation by the J&K police"

According to the families of three labourers Muhammad Imtiaz, Abrar Ahmed Khan and Abrar Yusuf, the trio was killed by the troops in a fake encounter in Shopian's Amshipora area on July 18.

A night before, the youth had informed their respective families over the phone that they had reached Shopian where they had been hired by a local fruit grower to work in his apple orchard.

Farmer organisations affiliated to the Left par-Kisan Sabha national ties held protests across

DC CORRESPONDENT

Kerala on Friday against farm Bills passed by the Parliament and to express solidarity with the nationwide agitation called by the Kisan Coordination A satyagraha was organ-

ised by Left-led farmer organisations in front of the Kerala Raj Bhavan here. All India Kisan Sabha national vice-president S. Ramachandran Pillai who inaugurated the protest, accused the Centre of systematically bringing in big corporates into the farm sector.

The farm Bills were passed without detailed discussions in the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha

and without discussing the matter with the states and farmers' organisa-

secretary and chairman of the joint Kisan Council Sathyan Mokeri lashed out at the Centre for passing the 'anti-farmer' Bills. The Kisan organisations

organised satyagraha in front of Central government offices in 253 centres across the state.

The Kerala Cabinet on Wednesdav had discussed a proposal on challenging the farm Bills in the Supreme Court. The proposal is being

vetted by the state law department. The state government

says the Centre passed the Bills without even discussing with the states and it is against the federal principles of the coun-

may cross 1-lakh mark in a week **TARUN GOGOI IN ICU AFTER DROP** India's death figures due to

coronavirus continue to rise on a daily basis taking overall fatalities to 92,290 till Friday with 1,141 new deaths recorded in the last 24 hours. Going by this rate, the toll may cross one lakh mark in another week or so. The total number of Covid-19 cases in the coun-

DC CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI, SEPT. 25

Coronavirus toll

with 86,052 new case. India registered the highest number of tests in a single day with nearly 15 lakhs tests conducted in the last 24 Over 47.56 lakh patients have recovered so far out of

try has crossed 58.18 lakh

which 81,177 patients recovered in the last 24 hours and the national recovery rate now stands at 81.74%.

Of the total new cases detected, 75% are found to be concentrated in ten states/UTs. Maharashtra had more than 19,000 new cases while Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka contributed more than

Similarly, 73% of the new recovered cases have been from ten — Mahara-States/UTs states/UTS — Manara-shtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, Delhi, Kerala, West Bengal and Assam. Maharashtra continues to lead with more continues to lead with more than 17,000 new recoveries. Andhra Pradesh contributed more than 8,000 to the single day recoveries.

Meanwhile, top medical journal The Lancet in its editorial said India is facing a dangerous period with regard to Covid-19. The rapidly growing case

numbers, alongside the continuing relaxation of restrictions, are creating an atmosphere of fatalism mingled with false optimism that undermines effective use of non-phar-maceutical interventions such as masks and physical distancing. The epidemic in India is far from over, with a potentially huge burden of mortality and morbidity to come unless public health measures are used and adhered to. Without clear and honest communication of the risks of Covid-19 to the population, stemming the epidemic will be impossible," the editorial said.

Questioning the transparency of data provided by government, The Lancet said that the Indian government reports a case fatality rate which is much lower than the reported rate in other countries, but it is difficult to know if the num-

bers are comparable.

It added the authorities are presenting the current situation in India with a "too positive spin" which not only clouds reality but also hampers vital public health initiatives.

"Perpetuating unrealistic claims or failing to honestly

IN OXYGEN LEVEL

MANOJ ANAND | DC GUWAHATI, SEPT. 25

The Director of All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Randeep Guleria on Friday reviewed the health condition of former Assam chief minister Tarun Gogoi who has been admitted to the intensive care unit (ICU) at the Guwahati Medical College Hospital (GMCH), following a drop in his oxygen satura-tion level. He had tested Coronavirus positive last

Informing that Guleria reviewed the health of veteran Congress leader through a video conference, Assam health minister Himanta Biswa Sarma told reporters that Guleria expressed satisfaction with the line of treatment of GMCH. He suggested some additional tests for Gogoi. He will also send a faculty from AIIMS to look after the former chief minister and if necessary he would be shifted to AIIMS, the minister said.

Assam health minister, principal secretary of the health department Samir K. Sinha, Lok Sabha MP and Gogoi's son Gaurav Gogoi also attended the video con-

According to reports, the 85-year-old leader, who was admitted at a private cabin of the hospital, was shifted to ICU to monitor his health effectively. His condition was stated to be stable now.

Assam Congress president Ripun Bora also visited the hospital on Thursday to enquire about the health condition of Congress leader.

Gogoi, who was chief minister for three consecutive terms from 2001 till 2016, had tested Covid-19 positive on August 26, following which he was admitted to the GMCH. The Assam gov-ernment has constituted an eight-member team of doctors to monitor his health parameters regularly.

report negative news creates uncertainty among the public and health-care propeople from taking preventive action or taking public health messages seriously. India has the expertise in medicine, public health, research, and manufacturing to lead the nation through the Covid-19 pandemic. To capitalise on these attributes, the country's leaders must respect scientific evidence, expert commentary, and academic freedom, and not provide false optimism," the editori-

Maha Deputy CM pays tribute to Pt. Upadhyay, deletes tweet later

SONU SHRIVASTAVA I DC MUMBAI, SEPT. 25

Maharashtra deputy chief minister Ajit Pawar on Friday paid tribute to Bharatiya Jana Sangh ideologue Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay on his birth anniversary, but later deleted the tweet.

When asked why he deleted the tweet, Pawar said one must "listen to seniors in politics". Chief minister Uddhav Thackeray also • REMEMBERING UPADHYAY, Pawar wrote in Marathi, Tributes to the founder of Jana Sangh and senior leader Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay on his birth anniversary.'

tribute to Upadhyay at his private residence 'Matoshre'.

paid tribute to Upadhyay. Remembering Upadhyay, Pawar wrote in Marathi, "Tributes to the founder of Jana Sangh and senior leader Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay on his birth

CHIEF MINISTER Uddhav Thackeray also offered floral

However, after an hour, the tweet was deleted by Ajit Pawar, which raised several evebrows. And Aiit Pawar's explanation for deletion of the tweet also insinuated that it was done on the instructions of his uncle and NCP chief Sharad

When asked why he wrote tribute to Upadhyay and then deleted it, he said, "We speak good about people who are no more and that is why I had tweeted. But in politics, we have to listen to our seniors." However, he did not elaborate on it fur-

Meanwhile, Thackeray offered floral tribute to Upadhyay at his private res-

CBI begins probe into Life Mission's deal with Dubai's Red Crescent

GILVESTER ASSARY | DC THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,

In a development that has annoyed the ruling LDF in Kerala, the Central Bureau of Investigation on Friday initiated a probe into Life Mission's financial dealings with Dubai-based Red

The CBI probe comes close on the heels of the state Cabinet on Wednesday asking the state Vigilance and Anti Corruption Bureau to probe the Life Mission alle-

The BJP and the Congress had alleged that the state government had ordered the vigilance probe to buy

The Central Bureau of Investigation filed an FIR in a special court in Ernakulam on Friday in connection with the allegaspecial tions related to the financial

The case was registered on the basis of a complaint filed by Congress MLA Anil

Akkara who alleged that corruption to the tune of ₹9 crore was involved in the construction of 140 flats in Wadakkancherry (his constituency) under the Life Mission project. The project had run into a

controversy after one of the key accused in the gold smuggling case reportedly said that ₹1 crore found in her bank locker was the 'commission" she received for clinching the construction project for Unitac Modi likely to address UNGA today

committees

Some of the priority issues for India during 75th session of United Nations General Assembly are to promote strengthening of global action on counter-terrorism and India will push for more transparency in the process of listing and delisting of entities and individuals in sanction

India is seeking inclusive and responsible solutions for international peace and security, effective response to international terrorism, NORMS (New Orientation for a Reformed Multilateral System), technology for all and streamlining of peace-

keeping. Being one of the largest troop contributing countries, India wants to engage intensively in finalising of mandates for UN peacekeeping missions.

looking promoting its role as a net health service provider, India will highlight contribution to global cooperation against Covid-19 by aiding more than 150 countries and as a pharmacy to

MODI, SUGA REITERATE COMMITMENT TO PROMOTE COOPERATION

DC CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI, SEPT. 25

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday held a telephonic conversation with the new PM of Japan Suga Yoshihide during which the two leaders reiterated their commitment to promote cooperation. During India towards achieving a and Open Indo-"Had a very good conver-

commitment to work with

sation with PM Suga Yoshihide. We exchanged views on the progress in our relationship in the last few years, and the future direction of our Special their 25 minute conversation, PM Suga expressed Partnership," Modi said.

Fire breaks out at Huawei office

Beijing: A huge fire broke out in southern China on Friday at an unfinished Huawei research facility, sending massive plumes of smoke over the industrial city of Dongguan. The blaze started at a Huawei building on Alishan Road, where the company is developing a research base, according to the city government. It was extinguished after 140 firefighters were called to the scene, the local fire brigade said in a separate statement. Footage broadcast online by state media channel CCTV showed dark clouds of smoke billowing out of a blue and white bui-

THAILAND SUES FACEBOOK

Iding near Songshan Lake.

Huawei's spokesperson said the company could not yet provide details on the fire.

Bangkok, Sept. 25: Thailand's government lodged complaints with police on Thursday against Facebook and Twitter, alleging they failed to comply with court orders to block content

judged illegal under Thai law. Minister of Digital Economy and Society Buddhipongse Punnakanta said at a news conference that it was the first time his ministry has taken such action against the social media companies under Thailand's Computer Crime Act.

It has prosecuted website and account owners and users in the past. The ministry filed the complaints at the police Technology Crime Suppression Division, where Buddhipongse said the companies had failed to meet 15-day deadlines issued by the courts to block hundreds of accounts. He said the targeted sites were banned because they contained illegal content related to online gambling, pornography, drugs or the monarchy, a highly sensitive



French Prime Minister Jean Castex and French interior minister Gerald Darmanin arrive at the scene where several people were injured near the former offices of the French satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo following an attack by a man wielding a

Terror probe opened after 2 stabbed in Paris

Paris, Sept. 25: French terrorism authorities are investigating a double-stabbing outside the former Paris offices of a satirical newspaper where a dozen people were killed in 2015, and two suspects have been arrested in Friday's violence, authorities said.

France's counterterrorism prosecutor said authorities suspect a terrorist motive because of the place and timing of the stabbings: in front of the building where *Charlie Hebdo* was based until the Islamic extremist attack on its cartoonists and at a time when suspects in the 2015 attack

are on trial across town. Prosecutor Jean-Francois Ricard said that the chief suspect in Friday's stabbings was arrested, along with another person. Ricard said the assailant did not know the people who were scoured the area, but were said the assailant did not

stabbed, two workers in a documentary production company who had stepped outside for a smoke break.

The suspects' identities have not been released, and it is unclear exactly what prompted the attack. investigation was opened into "attempted murder in relation with a terrorist enterprise," according to an official at the terrorism prosecutor's French Prime Minister Jean Castex said the lives of the two wounded workers are not in danger. He offered the government's solidarity with their families and colleagues. Associated Press reporters at the scene saw police flood the neighborhood in eastern Paris near the Richard Lenoir subway station, which remained cordoned off hours later. Children were sequestered in nine

later released, according to the Paris school dis-

"All the team at Charlie offers support and solidarity to its former neighbors and colleagues at PLTVfilms and to the people hit by this odious attack," *Charlie Hebdo* tweeted.

The prime minister noted the "symbolic site" of the attack, "at the very moment where the trial into the atrocious acts against Charlie Hebdo is under way." He promised the government's "unfailing attachment to freedom of the press, and its determination to fight terrorism.

The two people confirmed injured worked for documentary film company Premieres Lignes, according to founder Paul Moreira. He told BFM television that the attacker fled into the subway, and the company's staff members were evacuated.

Retired generals, admirals endorse Biden in US polls

4-star officers who served under Don also back Dem US Prez candidate

Washington, Sept. 25: More than 200 retired generals and admirals endorsed Joe Biden for president in a letter published on Thursday, saying he had the character and judgment to serve as commander-in-chief instead President Donald Trump, who has failed "to meet challenges large or

Some of the officers who signed the letter supporting Biden had retired only in the past few years, including Air Force Gen. Paul Selva, who served as vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff under Trump before he retired in August 2019; Vice Adm. Gardner Howe, a Navy SEAL leader who also retired last year; and retired Adm. Paul Zukunft, who over-saw the Coast Guard until

The list of signatories featured 22 retired four-star military officers, among them Navy Adm. Samuel Locklear, who oversaw all US forces in the Pacific from 2012 to

Ulrich, who commanded U.S. naval forces in Europe during President George W. Bush's administration.

The retired top brass signed the letter backing Biden along with nearly 300 other former national security officials and diplomats.

William Webster, the former director of the CIA and the FBI, was among the signatories, along with five former defense secre-taries: William Perry, William Cohen, Chuck Hagel, Leon Panetta and Ash Carter.

"My own personal view is that I have a duty to be involved in civic matters of the nation that I'm a citizen" of, retired Adm. Steve Abbot said of his decision to sign the letter.

Abbot served as commander of the U.S. Sixth Fleet and commander of Naval Striking and Support Forces in Southern Europe, and he later became Bush's acting homeland security adviser. -AFP

2015, and Adm. Harry DESPITE TRUMP ATTACKS, BOTH **PARTIES VOW ORDERLY ELECTION**

Washington, Sept. 26: President Donald Trump's refusal to commit to a peaceful transfer of power if he loses drew swift blowback on Thursday from both par-ties in Congress, and lawturned makers unprecedented steps to ensure he can't ignore the vote of the people.

Amid the uproar, Trump said anew he's not sure

the election will be "honest." Congressional leaders, including Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, rejected Trump's assertion that he'll "see what happens" before agreeing to any election outcome. Many other lawmakers — including from Trump's own Republican Party vowed to make sure voters' wishes are followed ahead of Inauguration

And some Democrats taking action, were including formally asking Trump's defense secretary, homeland security adviser and attorney gen-eral to declare they'll support the Nov. 3 results, whoever wins.

Asked as he departed the White House for a campaign rally if the election is only legitimate if he is the winner, Trump said, "We'll see." The president said he wants to "make sure the election is honest, and I'm not sure that it can be."

Trump's attacks on the upcoming vote — almost without modern precedent in the US — are hitting amid the tumult of the campaign, as partisan tensions rage and more Americans than ever are planning to vote by mail because of the Coronavirus pandemic. -AP

China to produce 1b vaccine doses

Beijing, Sept. 25: China's Covid-19 vaccine development programme is in a "leading position" and Beijing is on track to produce over 600 million doses by the end of the year, officials said on

China has been bullish about the development of its Coronavirus vaccine as scientists around the world race to halt the deadly pathogen which has caused global chaos and killed almost a mil-

lion people. Health officials told

BRAZIL HAS postponed Rio de Janeiro's famed carnival for next year, the latest spectacle hit by the pandemic as governments across the globe struggle to contain a surge in Coronavirus infections.

BRAZIL NOW has the world's second highest death toll after the United States — nearly 1,40,000 fatalities - and is still battling to bring the virus under control.

reporters at a press conference on Friday that China expects to produce 610 million vaccine doses by the end of this year, with annual production capacity to reach at least one billion doses next

year. Eleven Chinese vaccines

have now entered clinical trials, with four in Phase Three trials that are "progressing smoothly", said Wu Yuanbin from the Ministry of Science and

Technology. "At present, China's Covid-19 vaccine research and development work is

overall in a leading position," said Wu.

We've seen that the vaccines' safety is good and there have been no serious adverse reactions." Hu-ndreds of thousands of essential workers at ports, hospitals and other highrisk areas have already been given an experi-mental vaccine since July, officials said, claiming that the programme had also gained the support of the World Health Organisation (WHO). — AFP nisation (WHO).

GAMES

IPL PREVIEW

KKR, SRH look to open accounts

Abu Dhabi: Skipper Dinesh Karthik's tactical nous will once again be put to test when

Kolkata Knight Riders take on a depleted Sunrisers Hyderabad in their second IPL fixture here on Saturday. Much was expected from a revamped Kolkata Knight Riders set-up but it seemed Karthik did not learn from his past mistakes

and made some inexplicable

decisions that led to their complete capitulation against Mumbai Indians. Known to put up a balanced side, Hyderabad lacked strength and experience in their middleorder, failing miserably against RCB. Needing just 43 runs from

last five overs, SRH lost their last seven wickets for 32 runs to lose the game by 10 runs. Skipper David Warner, after being run out in an unfortunate manner at the non-striker's end, will be keen to get into the act. while it remains to be seen

whether Kane Williamson has recovered from his injury to bolster the batting department. SRH bowling has always been impressive and it seems they may bring in Mohammed Nabi to bowl alongside his fellow mate Rashid Khan while Bhuvneshwar Kumar will spearhead the pace attack. - PTI

Live on TV

CRICKET

IPL: Kolkata Knight Riders vs Sunrisers on Star Sports 1 **FOOTBALL**

English Premier League: Brighton vs Manchester United from 5 pm; Crystal Palace vs Everton from 7.30 pm; West Brom vs Chelsea from 10 pm; Burnley vs Southampton from 12.30 am (Sunday) on Star Sports Select 2, HD

Spanish Premier League: Alaves vs etafe from 4.30 pm; Valencia vs Huesca from 7.30 pm; Elche vs Real Sociedad from 10 pm; Real Betis vs Real Madrid from 12.30 am (Sunday). All matches on LaLiga page on Facebook

FORMULA ONE

Russian Grand Prix: Practice 3 from 2.25 pm; Qualifying from 5.25 pm on Star Sports Select 1, HD BASKETBALL

NBA Western Conference Finals (Game **5 of best-of-7):** Denver Nuggets vs Los Angeles Lakers from 6.30 am (Sunday) on Sony Six

UFC FIGHT NIGHT Israel Adesanva vs Paulo Costa and bouts from 7.30 am (Sunday) on Sony Ten 1, 2, HD

Prithvi is big Shaw

Youngster's half-century sets up win for Capitals

Dubai, Sept. 25: Mahendra Singh Dhoni's decision to come down the order yet again backfired as Delhi Capitals rode on Prithvi Shaw's fluent fifty and a disciplined bowling effort to inflict a 44-run defeat on Chennai Super their second straight loss in the ongoing Indian Premier League here on Friday. Young Shaw struck a flu-

half-century and shared a 94-run opening stand with Shikhar Dhawan to guide Delhi Capitals to 175 for 3.

Shaw made 64 off 43 balls in the company of Dhawan (35 off 27 balls, 3 fours, 1 six) to provide a superb start to DC's innings after being put into bat.

While defending, Delhi Capitals made full use of CSK's lacklustre batting performance to register their second consecutive win of the tournament, which took them to the top of the points table.

CSK skipper Dhoni did not push himself up the order on Friday, given the expectations after his decision to hold himself back in the game against Rajasthan Royals backfired, which meant the veteran again did not have enough time and balls to take his side home.

Coming in at No.6 in the 16th over with 78 runs needed from 4.2 overs while chasing 176, Dhoni could only make 15 runs (12 balls, 2 fours) in what was a below par performance from the two-time champions

South African Faf du Plessis was the top-scorer with 43 while his compatriots Kagiso Rabada (3 for 26) and Anrich Nortje (2 for 21) shone with the ball to fashion a memorable win for Delhi Capitals.

CSK's veteran opener Murali Vijay's struggle continued as he could make only 10 (off 15 balls) for a third straight failure. Fellow opener Shane Watson fell while attempting to break the shackles, caught in the deep by Shimron Hetmyer off Axar Patel, unable to capi-



Delhi Capitals batsman Prithvi Shaw plays a shot en-route to his half century during the IPL match against Chennai Super Kings at Dubai International Cricket Stadium in UAE on Friday.

SCORECARD

(4-0-23-0) and Axar Patel (4-

Delhi Capitals: Prithvi Shaw st M. S. Dhoni b Piyush Chawla 64, Shikhar Dhawan Ibw Piyush Chawla 35, Rishabh Pant not out 37, Shreyas Iyer c M. S. Dhoni b Sam Curran 26, Marcus Stoinis not out 5. Extras: (LB-5, W-3) 8. Total: (for 3 wickets, in 20 overs) 175. FoW: 1-94, 2-103, 3-161. Bowling: Deepak Chahar 4-0-38-0, Sam

Curran 4-0-27-1, Josh Hazlewood 4-0-28-0, Piyush Chawla 4-0-33-2, Ravinder Jadeja Chennai Super Kings: Murali Vijay c K.

talise on a reprieve by

Shaw. With the asking rate

climbing up, Du Plessis

could not force the pace

against a disciplined DC

bowling attack with the

spin duo of Amit Mishra

Rabada b Nortje 10, Shane Watson c Hetmyer b Patel, Faf du Plessis c Pant b Rabada 43, Ruturaj Gaikwad run out 5, Kedar Jadhav Ibw b Nortje 26, M. S. Dhoni not out c Pant b Rabada 15, R. Jadeja c Mishra b Rabada 8, Sam Curran not out 0. Extras: (LB-1, W-4) 5; Total: (For 7 wickets, in 20 overs) 131; FoW: 1-23, 2-34, 3-44, 4-98, 5-113, 6-130, 7-131.

Bowling: K. Rabada 4-0-26-3, Axar Patel 4-0-18-1. A. Nortie 4-0-21-2. Avesh Khan 4-0-42-0, Amit Mishra 4-0-23-0.

thrust as CSK's woes con-

0-18-1) keeping the CSK tinued. batsmen on a tight leash. Shaw Earlier, Dhawan started slowly, Young Ruturaj Gaikwad (5) and Kedar Jadhav (26 scoring just 36 runs of the from 21 balls) could not first six overs of powerprovide the much-needed play before opening up to

Shaw, who began by hitboundaries off Deepak Chahar in the first over of the match, didn't appear to rush things and played some attractive shots. Once the CSK skipper

stitch 94 runs for the open-

ing wicket in 10.4 overs.

Dhoni introduced the spin duo of Piyush Chawla and Ravindra Jadeia in the seventh over, both Shaw and Dhawan went on the offensive. Chawla who was taken apart by Sanju Samson in their previous game against Raiasthan Royals, came in for some rough treatment as did Jadeja who went wicketless in his fours overs

Slow Kohli fined ₹12 lakh for rate

Dubai, Sept. 25: Royal Challengers Bangalore captain Virat Kohli has been fined ₹12 lakh after his team maintained a slow over-rate during their Indian Premier ∟eague matcn against Kings XI Punjab here.

RCB were thrashed by 97 runs in the match on Thursday night.

"As it was his team's first offence of the season under the IPL's Code of Conduct relating to minimum over-rate offences. Mr. Kohli was fined ₹12 lakh," the IPL said in a release.

The Indian batting mainstay had a forgettable outing at the Dubai International Stadium.

While he dropped two catches of centurion KL Rahul, which proved to be costly, Kohli also could not contribute anything substantial with the wil-

Kohli dropped Rahul twice — once in the 17th over at deep square-leg when he was batting on 83 and then again in the 18th over when he was on 89. The lapses helped KXIP

score an imposing 206 for 3, with Rahul doing the bulk of scoring. Kohli took the blame for

his team's flop show. Without hesitation, Kohli took the blame for dropping Kings XI Punjab skipper KL Rahul catch,

cantly to their defeat on Kohli felt had he not dropped two catches off Kohli added.

which contributed signifi-



Virat Kohli

the blade of Rahul, who remained unbeaten on 132. KXIP would not have been able to go past the

200-run mark. "I have to stand in front and take the brunt of it, not the best day in the office, couple of impor-tant chances of KL when he was set and that cost us 35-40 runs at a later stage. Maybe if we restricted them to 180 we wouldn't have been under pressure from ball one of the chase," said Kohli.

KXIP posted 206 for three and RCB were bundled out for 109 in 17 overs.

"We know exactly where we went wrong and I have to put my hand up and say a couple of chances went down. There are days when these kind of things happen on the cricket field, they happen and we have to accept them,

IPL POINTS TABLE						
reams reams	Р	W	L	N/R	Pts	NRR
Delhi Capitals	2	2	0	0	4	+1.100
(ings XI Punjab	2	1	1	0	2	+2.425
1umbai Indians	2	1	1	0	2	+0.993
Rajasthan Royals	1	1	0	0	2	+0.800
Chennai Super Kings	3	1	2	0	2	-0.840
Royal Challengers Bangalore	2	1	1	0	2	-2.175
Sunrisers Hyderabad	1	0	1	0	0	-0.500
Kolkata Knight Riders	1	0	1	0	0	-2.450
Tabulated as Played, Won, Lost, No Result, Points, Net Run Rate						

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