


DECCAN Chronicle

THE LARGEST CIRCULATED ENGLISH DAILY IN SOUTH INDIA
HYDERABAD | SUNDAY | 20 SEPTEMBER 2020

WEATHER



Max: 30.4°C

Min: 23.7°C

RH: 97%

Rain: 11.6 mm

Forecast: Cloudy sky.

Rain very likely. Max/Min temp. 29/22 °C

COVID-19

COUNT

CASES	DEATHS
(+87,279)	(+1,078)
53,92,666	86,699

covid19india.org

STATE GOVERNMENT BULLETINS

(+2,123)	(+9)
TS: 1,69,169	1,025
(+8,218)	(+58)
AP: 6,17,776	5,302

CASES AROUND THE WORLD

3,08,70,093
DEATHS
9,58,856
COUNTRIES, AREAS WITH CASES
213

worldometers.info/coronavirus

ASTROGUIDE

Sarvari: Dakshinayana

Tithi: Adhika-Ashvina Suddha Chaturthi till 2.28 am (Monday)

Star: Swathi till 10.54 pm

Variyam: 6.22 am to 7.49 am; 4.01 am to 5.29 am (Monday)

Durmuhurtam: 4.34 pm to 5.22 pm

Rahukalam: 4.30 pm to 6 pm

HUIJI CALENDAR

Safar ul Muzaffar 2, 1442 AH

PRAYERS

Fajar: 5.05 am

Zohar: 12.19 pm

Asar: 4.30 pm

Maghrib: 6.20 pm

Isha: 7.28 pm

SUNSET TODAY 6.13 PM

SUNRISE TOMORROW 6.04 AM

MOONSET TODAY 8.49 AM

MOONRISE TOMORROW 8.45 PM

COUNTER POINT



Finally, they are staying at home!

IN BRIEF

2 killed in blast at chemical factory

Hyderabad: Two employees at a chemical factory in Sangareddy district died in an accident on Saturday, police said. The duo — a manager and an engineer — were carrying out some welding works to a structure, where gas is stored after being produced from waste material. Though others were injured, it was not serious.

NO ACCESS Huge quantities of rare herb was smuggled via Nepal Chinese miss Himalayan viagra

VIKRAM SHARMA | DC HYDERABAD, SEPT. 19

This year, the Chinese have been deprived of a rare herb — *Cordyceps sinensis* — also known as Himalayan Viagra, which cures ailments including impotency and fatigue. Found in Uttarakhand between May and September, Covid-19 pandemic and the ongoing tension between India and China, made smuggling the herb through Nepal to Chinese markets impossible. Studies show that about 45 per cent of Chinese men over 40 have erectile dysfunction. A concern for decades, it was at one point called a contagion. Though the Chinese are a leading consumer of Viagra, they still rely on traditional medicine which

is now a billion-dollar industry. “They look at long-term cures instead of quick fixes. Studies have shown an increasing number of Chinese suffer from impotence,” an Uttarakhand-based researcher said. In the international market, 1 kg of *Cordyceps sinensis* (called Keeda Jadi locally) fetches more than ₹20 lakh. China is the biggest buyer, with business of ₹150-200 crore. Singapore and Hong Kong are among other buyers. As the snow starts melting in Uttarakhand’s Pithoragarh, Chamoli and Bageshwar in May, groups flock the mountains to hunt for the herb. This year was no different. “We picked the herbs but could not deliver due to the pandemic and the

tension. This led to a shortage in China where demand is huge,” said Anup (name changed) of Dharchula. Like thousands in the region, he has been in the trade for a decade. The arduous trek in search of the herb has even led to deaths due to freezing temperatures and treacherous routes. The best-known route for smuggling the herb is through Nepal, where there now is heightened vigil. Uttarakhand tries its best to regulate the trade, but unsuccessfully. A mafia pays locals to supply the herb, as well as its transportation and sale in the black market. Officially, sale is banned in India. “As per some estimates, Uttarakhand supplies over 400 kg of *Cordyceps sinensis*

in the global black market,” administration officials said, adding that it also goes to pharmaceutical companies in China and India, and is used in cancer treatment. The yellow-brown mummified *Cordyceps sinensis* is a parasitic fungus that penetrates the caterpillar of the Swift moth and bursts from it. Though it grows in Tibet, Bhutan and Nepal, it has been on the decline lately due to the changing weather conditions though Chinese demand keeps increasing. “Less seasonal snow, higher temperatures and receding glaciers has made it difficult for the fungus to grow in China. Of late, this is being witnessed in Uttarakhand as well,” officials explained.



WORLD | 7
Ginsburg, women's rights architect, dead



SPORTS | 8
Simona sails into Italian Open semis

TABLOID
Dancing to B'wood beats is fun: David



Rayudu rules



Ambati Rayudu of Chennai Super Kings (CSK) in action during the first IPL match of season 13 against Mumbai Indians (MI) at the Sheikh Zayed Stadium in Abu Dhabi on Saturday. Rayudu scored 71 runs of 48 balls to help CSK beat MI by five wickets. **■ Report on Page 8**

— BCCI

GHMC wards to be redesignated on basis of caste

MADDY DEEKSHITH | DC HYDERABAD, SEPT. 19

Reservations for over 30 per cent of wards in the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) are to be changed for the upcoming polls in January. The GHMC has 150 wards. According to GHMC officials, reservations for all categories including Scheduled Tribes (STs), Scheduled Castes (SCs), Backward Classes (BCs) and women will be changed on the basis of their population in the wards. This has made many of the corporators and aspirants nervous. They fear that their divisions would be reserved and they may not get a chance to contest. Most corporators belonging to all parties have begun staying away from developmental activities and charity programmes despite their respective leaderships asking them to hit the streets in the run-up to the polls. The parties will also need to redraw their plans in terms of fielding candidates. Some fancied aspirants may lose out if their wards are reserved. The reservations would be based on the BC voters in the ward, according to the voters list. The corporation has the caste-wise voters list that was prepared during the Lok

Sabha elections in 2019. It will be updated and published in January. The population figures will be taken from the 2011 Census and the subsequent annual revisions. In the 2016 GHMC polls, the state government had reserved 10 wards for Scheduled Castes (SCs), two wards for STs and 50 for BCs, totalling 62. In each of these categories, half the wards were reserved for women. Besides, 44 wards were set aside for women in the general category and 44 were left unreserved. Taken together, 75 of the 150 divisions were reserved for women. This may also be revised. This apart, there is confusion prevailing on the mayor, which was initially reserved for a woman from the BC category. Sources said that the new Municipal Act, which specifies this, cannot be implemented due to certain provisions in the GHMC Act. According to the GHMC Act, the mayor's post will be given out on rotation based on the updated population census. The new Municipal Act says that out of all mayors in the state, including the GHMC, 50 per cent will be reserved for STs, SCs and BCs. Of this number, half will be reserved for women belonging to these categories.

MIM CONTESTING BIHAR ELECTIONS WON'T HELP BJP, SAYS OWAISI

ATHER MOIN | DC HYDERABAD, SEPT. 19

MIM president Asad-uddin Owaisi rejected the charge that the BJP will gain in case the MIM contests the Bihar Assembly elections. He was speaking in Patna after announcing the formation of the United Democratic Secular Alliance (UDSA) with the Samajwadi Janata Dal (Democratic) of former Union minister Devendra Prasad Yadav for the Bihar polls. The MIM had won the Kishanganj Assembly byelection in Bihar last year. Owaisi said the UDSA will contest the polls under the leadership of Yadav. Reacting to the Rashtriya Janata Dal charge that the MIM was a ‘vote-cutter’, Owaisi said, “those who call us ‘vote-katwa’ should remember their fate in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections. Nobody has any right over Muslim voters. It is not understandable that in what capacity they lay claim on Muslim votes.” Owaisi said the record showed that the MIM was not afraid of anyone. “If our party did not contest Kishanganj, the Congress would not have won from there. For the BJP’s win, RJD is responsible. We defeated the BJP in Hyderabad and the Shiv Sena in Maharashtra,” he said, adding the Grand Alliance in Bihar is no longer there.

KCR tells MPs to oppose farm Bills

CM says Bills will be big injustice to farmers

S.A. ISHAQUI | DC HYDERABAD, SEPT 19

TRS president and Chief Minister K. Chandrababhai Rao on Saturday asked party MPs to vote against the farm Bills in the Rajya Sabha, saying the legislations would cause great injustice to farmers. The TRS has seven members in the Upper House, including D. Srinivas who is miffed with the party. The Bills are expected to come up for voting in the Rajya Sabha next week. Talking with TRS Parliamentary Party leader Dr K. Keshava Rao over phone on Saturday, the Chief Minister said the Bills would severely harm the farming community and were meant to benefit the corporates. The Farmers’ Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Bill and the Farmers (Employment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Bill were passed by Lok Sabha on Thursday, and the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill on Tuesday. The controversial legislations have sparked protests

● **THE CM** asked how it was possible for farmers who produce in small quantities to hire lorries to transport their yield to faraway places at high expense to earn profits

● **HE SAID** the Bills are nothing but sugar-coated pills and asked TRS MPs to oppose them at all costs. He found fault with the Centre's decision to reduce the import tax from 50 to 15 % while allowing maize import.

The Chief Minister asked: “How is it possible for farmers who produce in small quantities to hire lorries to transport their yield to faraway places at high expense in their attempt to earn profits.” He said the Bills are nothing but sugar-coated pills and asked TRS MPs to oppose them at all costs. He found fault with the Centre's decision to reduce the import tax from 50 to 15 per cent while allowing the import of one crore tonnes of maize. “What will happen to our farmers and their produce if the Centre opens doors for imports,” Chandrababhai Rao asked. Stating that the Centre had procured 70-75 lakh tonnes of maize, he pointed out: “Whom does the Centre want to benefit at a time when the nation is facing an economic slowdown? We have plenty of maize produced in the country.” The Chief Minister instructed the MPs to oppose and vote against the Bills in the Rajya Sabha since they would cause huge losses to the agriculture sector and were against the interests of farmers in the country.

LOK SABHA MAY CURTAIL SESSION FEARING COVID

DC CORRESPONDENT with agency inputs NEW DELHI, SEPT. 19

Faced with a surge in Covid-19 cases and more than two dozen MPs testing positive, the ongoing monsoon session of Parliament might be curtailed most likely by middle of next week. The session in Lok Sabha is likely to wrap up by Wednesday next week. Rajya Sabha, the upper House of parliament, is expected to follow suit. The decision was taken at a meeting of the Business Advisory Committee of the Lok Sabha called by Speaker Om Birla on Saturday where floor leaders of most parties backed the move, sources said. The session started on September 14 and was scheduled to conclude on October 1. The Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs, however, would take a final call. More than two dozen MPs have tested positive for Covid-19 since the time the session began and daily tests were carried out in Parliament premises. Seventeen members of the Lok Sabha and eight from the Rajya Sabha had tested positive for the Coronavirus before the monsoon session of Parliament started.

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BLACK DOG

In AP, some babus ignore Covid threat

Senior officials in the Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister's Office have been getting infected with the Coronavirus one after the other. It started with CM's secretary Solmon Arokhyaraj followed by principal secretary Praveen Prakash and now it's the turn of additional secretary K. Dhanunjay Reddy. Arokhyaraj behaved in a highly responsible manner and opted for self-quarantine, he also informed other officials with whom he had interacted a few days before he tested positive about his infection. He suggested that the officials get themselves tested. Dhanunjay Reddy is the most trusted confidant of the Chief Minister and handles several important subjects. Aware that the Coronavirus is highly contagious, Dhanunjay Reddy decided to skip official duties and informed all department heads about his health status. He did not think that he is indispensable nor did he try to project that he is committed to work by coming to office, putting not only his life but that of others at risk. Is someone hearing this?

In rankings race, one bureaucrat moves ahead

Often, we see rival political parties compete with each other to take credit for the state's progress, and its rankings at the national and international levels. In Andhra Pradesh, the story is different. It all happened after Andhra Pradesh was ranked first in the Ease of Doing Business recently. Two senior bureaucrats, Karikal Vallevan and Rajat Bhargav, claimed credit for the ranking. Bhargav worked as principal secretary in the industries department for more than six months in the YSRC government before Vallevan replaced him. As Bhargav had served for most of the time during the period which was taken into consideration for the rankings, he showed up during the celebrations. He met Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy and presented him a bouquet before joining industries minister Goutham Reddy and Vallevan at a media briefing. Doubtlessly Bhargav stole the attention, leaving his colleague red-faced. Sources close to the minister said they can perceive the disinterested attitude of the incumbent head of industries at recent meetings. Does it mean the return of Bhargav to the industries department?



KCR scores another goal against Naidu

Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao once again proved that he will not lose any opportunity to target TD chief N. Chandrababu Naidu, even if the Telugu Desam has all but vanished in the state. This time, KCR adroitly dribbled past a question by CLP leader Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka in the Assembly over the safety of digital land records to score the goal. The CLP leader said the Dharani portal of land records could be hacked. KCR rose and said Hyderabad has become a safe destination and has its own geographical advantages. In KCR's words, some experts told then Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi about the advantages of placing servers in Hyderabad to store ultra-secret and crucial data in Hyderabad. The city is in a non-seismic zone and faces little threat of natural calamity. That, KCR said, is the reason IT companies looked to Hyderabad. It was due to Rajiv Gandhi that Hyderabad became an IT destination, but "somebody" claims that he made Hyderabad an IT hub, KCR said. Whether or not this answered Mallu Bhatti's question is another matter, but "somebody" may still be looking for a quick riposte.

Cong outsmarted by fleet-footed TRS

Congress members of the Telangana state Legislative Assembly appear to have failed to understand the strategy of the TRS while conducting the monsoon session of the Assembly. The government had indicated on August 17 that it would hold the session from September 7. Later the government indicated that all major issues including Covid-19, the fire mishap at the Srisaillam hydel project, achievements of the government in the power sector, the New Revenue Act, the Goods and Services Tax (GST) devolutions and the illegal construction of projects by the AP government would be taken up for debate. The Business Advisory Committee of the Assembly decided to hold the session for 18 working days. The ruling party took up all the issues listed, except the one on water disputes between the two Telugu states in the first eight days. The House was then adjourned sine die, citing the threat of Covid-19. Congress leaders alleged that the government had run away, afraid of facing the Opposition in the House, instead realising that the ruling party had clearly ambushed them.



LEISURE

BRIDGE | Susanna Gross

Dealer South		NS vulnerable	
		♠ 10 6 5	
		♥ 6 4 3	
		♦ Q 7 4 2	
		♣ K 7 4	
♠ A 3	♥ K J 7 4	♠ K J 7 4	
♥ J 7	♦ 10 9 5 2	♥ 10 9 5 2	
♦ J 9 7 6	♣ 10 3	♦ 10 3	
♣ 10 8 6 5 3	♠ A 9	♣ A 9	
		♠ Q 8 2	
		♥ A K Q 8	
		♦ A K 8	
		♣ Q J 2	
West	North	East	South
Pass	3NT	All Pass	2NT

My friend Ollie Burgess has just made the bold move of quitting his job in Manchester, and moving to London to manage the Young Chelsea Bridge Club. Ollie is a fantastic player, as well as being popular and dynamic — exactly what's needed. The YC is much loved by its members, but its numbers have been dwindling in recent years. It would be a huge shame if it ever closed, not just because it attracts such a high standard of player, but also because it has a long and rich history. It first opened its doors in 1968, and for decades enjoyed a reputation as the best and most exciting club in the country. The stars of the game would flock there, and stay long into the night. I still remember the time Bill Gates, visiting London, rang and asked whether the club might find him a partner (he ended up playing with its chairman, Ian Payn).

If anyone can restore the club's fortunes, it's Ollie. Already, the Monday and Friday evening online duplicates are buzzing, and he's introduced online teaching, too. I've been lucky enough to partner Ollie many times. Here he is in action at the last Spring Fours.

West led the ♠5. East won, and returned the ♠J. Ollie did well to duck. When East continued the suit, he played low again, and West won with the ♠A. West switched back to clubs. Ollie won with the ♠Q and played ♠AK and a third diamond to dummy's ♠Q. East showed out. Instead of pinning his hopes on a 3-3 heart break, Ollie rectified the count for a possible major-suit squeeze against East: he played a fourth diamond, discarding his ♠Q. West won, and played another club to dummy's ♠K. East, down to ♠K ♥10952, was squeezed: nine tricks were in the bag.

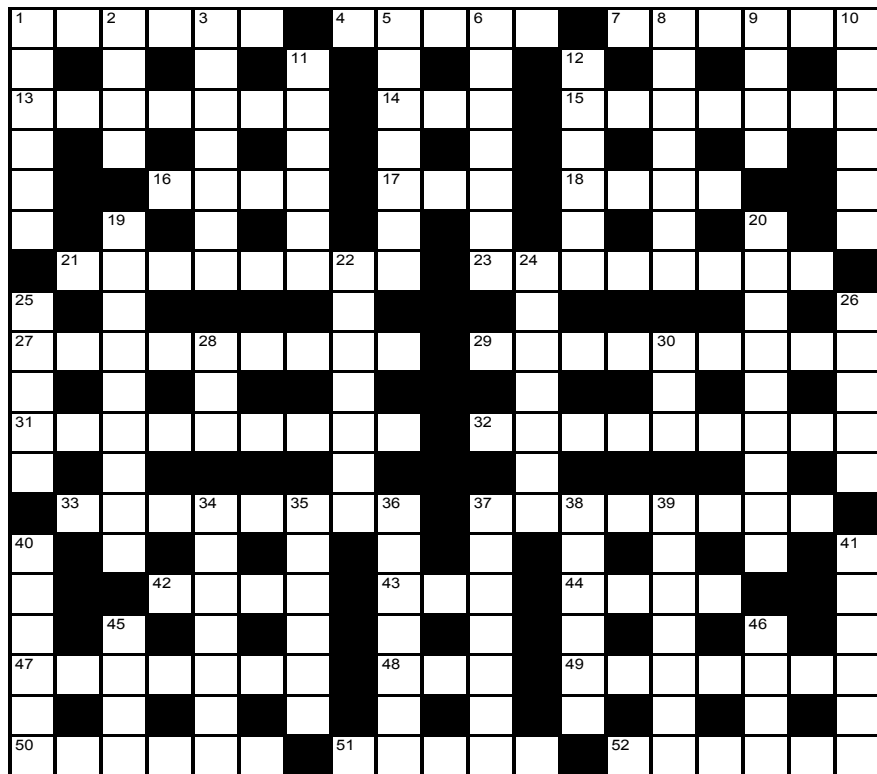
SUNDAY CROSSWORD — 952

ACROSS :

- Former Kiwi wicket keeper Adam (5)
- Baby beds (5)
- Proposals or bids (6)
- Flat pasta sheets (7)
- Thai language - "Ola" anagram (3)
- Ideal, utopian or flawless (7)
- Hit out at cricket (4)
- Marking fluid (3)
- up - consumed or finished the whole quantity? (4)
- Evacuating, abdicating or pulling out (8)
- Contribution to a cause (8)
- Retired Indian off-spinner (9)
- A son or a daughter; even a lamb or a colt? (9)
- Expressed with frankness (9)
- Minute trace (9)
- Competitions (8)
- Fire-raiser (8)
- Engrave (4)
- Pair (3)
- Run with a long stride (4)
- Messenger (7)
- Of one's : belonging to oneself? (3)
- Used to be alive (7)
- In vogue or fashion (6)
- Acute anxiety (5)
- Representatives (6)

DOWN :

- What bees collect? (6)
- Went upward (4)
- Royal emblems? (7)
- Depending, banking on, trusting (7)
- Stopped ball with bat? (7)
- Impassioned, romantic or sensual (7)
- "Been" anagram for Swiss watch manufacturers? (4)
- Easy catch (6)
- Mahara-shtra city (6)
- Economic improvement (6)
- Depiction or story or report (9)
- Advocate of community participation (9)
- Closest at hand (7)
- Policeman (7)
- Chuck (5)
- Irish alphabet (5)
- Comforter or quilt (3)
- Tasty morsels (7)
- Round body (6)
- Write on paper (3,4)
- Quantities or measures? (7)
- Spite said to be vented? (6)
- Taking a light sleep (7)
- Liquid measure used in homeopathy etc. (6)
- Moves smoothly (6)
- Litigated (4)
- Astonish or shock (4)



SOLUTION FOR CROSSWORD - 950

P	O	P	P	C	O	N	S	E	L	G	E	L
O	U	O	I	L	N	P	I	R	E			
O	C	T	E	T	U	I	A	P	A	I	S	A
J	R	A	R	B	I	T	E	R	O	T	N	
A	D	I	E	U	N	T	E	M	P	T	E	D
G	E	F	T	U	B	A	A	I	E			
C	H	E	S	T	E	L	M	G	N	A	R	E
O	U	T	U	T	S	C	A	L	A	W	A	G
N	E	A	T	S	Y	L	A					
T	A	R	M	C	A	M	P	O	B	L	A	T
R	A	G	E	S	T	H	E	R	R	T	S	
A	O	C	P	E	L	E	U	T				
V	A	N	A	T	U	M	I	R	E	N	E	
E	I	N	P	R	A	Y	E	R	S	M	N	
N	A	S	T	P	I	Y	I	S	P	A	T	
E	E	O	E	A	E	R	N	T	R			
D	A	D	N	O	T	I	C	E	D	G	A	S

WIN A PRIZE

Here's your chance to win a cash prize of ₹200 each. All you need to do is rush in your completed crossword entry to us by Wednesday with your full name and address. Mark the envelope to:

Sunday Crossword-952
Sunday Magazine, 36, S.D. Road,
Secbad-03

WINNERS OF CROSSWORD 950

- Hema Kumar, Hyderabad
- Jaikanth Dubey Secunderabad

CROSSWORD JIGSAW

K	E	Y	S		G	A	B		W	I	N	S
A	E		L		L		C		E			
N	O	O	D	L	E		E	S	T	E	E	M
G	M		A	A	L	S	T		M	I		
A	L	A	R	U	M		S	A	H	A	R	A
R	N	O	N		I		I	O	N	U		
O			A	D	A	M	A	N	T			
O		E	R	R		P		L	E	O		
C	U	R	S	E	D		S	E	L	D	O	M
O		E		S	U	C	K	S		D	A	
U	P	C	A	S	T		A	S	S	I	S	T
R		T		C		T		T		I		
T	O	S	H		I	E		S		Y	N	C

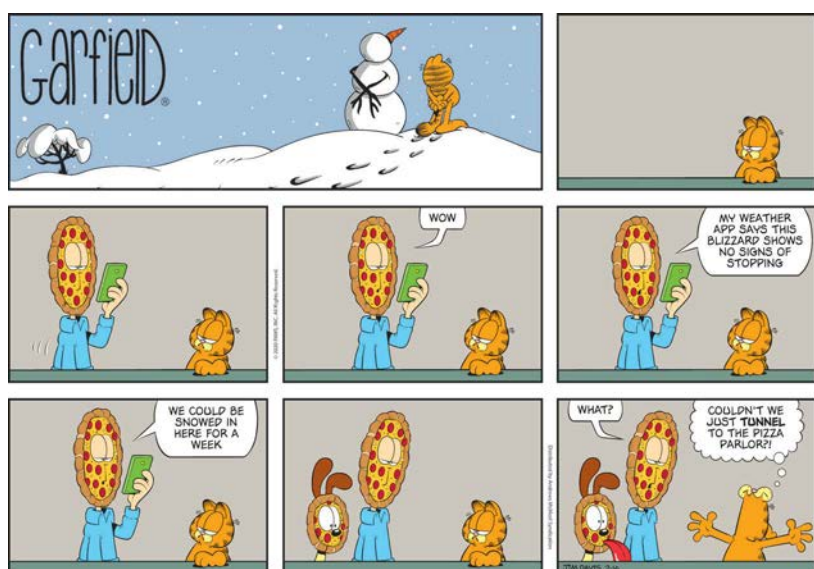
STRIKE OUT

E	X	P	A	N	S	E		S	O	B	E	R
X	O		A	V		U		A		E		
A	T	L	A	S		O	C	A	R	I	N	A
C	Y		A		L		S		Z		D	
T	U	P	O	L	E	V		I	R	A	Q	I
							E		O			
G	O	D	S	O	N		S	N	I	F	F	Y
A		R	A	D		E						
R	A	D	I	O		X	I	J	I	A	N	G
L		U	R		O		A		T			
A	B	R	E	A	S	T		C	O	T	T	A
N		R		N		I		K	O			
D	E	A	L	T		C	H	O	P	P	E	R

PHANTOM



GARFIELD



BLONDIE



IN SHOTS

Swiggy staff warn of nationwide stir

Hyderabad : Indian Federation of App Based Transport Workers has warned of a nationwide strike if Swiggy does not adhere to their demands by September 20. The delivery executives approached the principal secretary, information technology, Jayesh Ranjan demanding that they be paid ₹35 per order, more than ₹3,500 delivery executives are on strike from September 15. They are also demanding that outsourcing to third parties must be stopped.

STUDENTS WANT HOSTEL STAY TO WRITE EXAMS

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, SEPT. 19

The state unit of the All India Democratic Students Organisation (AIDSO) and the Progressive Democratic Students Union (PDSU) have submitted a memorandum to education minister Sabitha Indra Reddy on problems being faced by polytechnic students and demanded transportation and hostel facilities for final year students who are writing supplementary exams after travelling from the villages.

They also demanded release of the supplementary exam results before the commencement of second phase counselling of TSECET, so that the students can apply. Another demand was to promote first and second year polytechnic students as has been done with B.Tech, degree and PG students.

CITY DOC WINS DROCHARYA AWARD

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, SEPT. 19

The prestigious Drocharya Award was announced to Dr Soundararajan, senior consultant nephrologist at Apollo Hospitals, Jubilee Hills, for his 35 years of nephrology teaching and kidney-related research. The award will be presented in New Delhi and the dates will be announced later, said Dr Soundararajan.



Dr Soundararajan

Dr Soundararajan served in Tamil Nadu medical colleges for 15 years and as professor and head of the department in Ramachandra Medical College for 20 years. He has trained over 30 nephrologists and 12 PhD scholars. He pioneered the first HIV transplant and was the first to transplant a kidney from a brain-dead snakebite victim. This was cited in the Indian Journal of Nephrology. He has organised over 1200 kidney transplants including 200 disease donor transplants and has published over 200 publications.

Basti Dawakhana get going



A doctor checks a woman at a Basti Dawakhana at Gaddiannaram on Saturday, where prenatal services and medicines are offered free. The state government aims to increase the number of Basti Dawakhana in view of the high demand.

— P. SURENDRA

Number of pvt Covid hospitals yo-yos, state drops six facilities

BALU PULIPAKA I DC
HYDERABAD, SEPT. 19

The state government which, two days ago, had indicated that it had allowed an increase in the number of private hospitals treating Covid-19 patients from 204 as on September 14 to 225 on September 16, has mysteriously cut this number to 219.

According to the daily Covid-19 bulletins, the number of government hospitals treating Covid-19 patients as on September 14 was 42 which was reduced to 41 on September 16.

The health department that issues the bulletins has not provided any information on the changes or the reasons for the changes.

The changes in the number of private hospitals have seen 'adjustments' being made in the number of beds offered by them for Covid-19 patients. On

September, with 204 hospitals listed, the bulletin said there were 10,733 beds. On September 15, when the number of hospitals zoomed to 224, the bed strength had gone up to 11,288. That day, one more private hospital was added to the list taking the number to 225 and the beds to 11,340.

By September 17, the health department dropped six private hospitals, bringing their number down to 219 and the beds to 10,941. There was no explanation as to why the six hospitals were dropped.

It may be recalled that the government had set up a three-member task force last week to look into billing as well as treatment protocol violations by private hospitals.

The health department did not make it clear if the six hospitals dropped from the list had indulged in such violations.

TS records 2,123 cases, 9 deaths

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, SEPT. 19

The GHMC area continues to record the highest number of Covid-19 cases in the state and on Friday the figure stood at 305. The state registered nine more Covid-19 deaths and 2,123 new cases, taking the toll 1,025 and the caseload to 1,69,169.

With the exception of two days, September 13 and 14 when the city recorded 264 and 277 cases respectively, Hyderabad and the rest of the GHMC area has been recording 300 or more cases during the past week.

Between September 12 and 18, the GHMC are recorded 2,144 cases, as per the daily Covid-19

bulletin issued by the health department.

While Ranga Reddy district registered 185 new cases, for the week starting September 12 its total was 1,206.

The 135 new cases in Nalgonda district took its weekly total to 851, while Medchal-Malkajgiri district's week tally was 848, followed by Karimnagar with 837 for the same period. Warangal Urban district recorded 681 cases in the week, followed by Khammam with 596, and Siddipet with 578.

The health department said that so far, 1,37,508 people have recovered from Covid-19 and that as on Friday 8 pm, Telangana had 30,636 active cases.

Centre praises TS for managing virus

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, SEPT. 19

Covid-19 cases are "declining" in the state, the government told the Centre on Saturday. The government said that it is "keeping a close watch" on the Covid-19 situation and is "fully geared up to handle the pandemic even as the number of positive cases have started declining."

Chief Secretary Somesh Kumar, who was

taking part in a video conference with Union commerce minister Piyush Goel and Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba, said that "special focus is being laid on managing the situation in the districts."

He said that the government had ramped up testing. RT-PCR tests were being done on every person who was found symptomatic after undergoing a Rapid Antigen Test. The gov-

ernment, he said, has formulated a strategy to equip all beds with oxygen facilities.

Gauba complimented the state for "managing the pandemic well and maintaining low case fatality compared to the national average," according to a government news release. Making available Covid-19 tests at PHCs, UHCs and Basti Dawakhana was also appreciated by Gauba.

● **CHIEF SECRETARY** Somesh Kumar, who was taking part in a video conference with Union commerce minister Piyush Goel and Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba, said that "special focus is being laid on managing the situation in the districts."

● **HE SAID** that the government had ramped up testing.

HC okays benefit for contract staff

Court rules state can provide 20% weightage

VUJJINI VAMSHIDHARA I DC
HYDERABAD, SEPT. 19

The Telangana High Court has made it clear that prescribing up to 20 per cent marks as weightage to contract service or service rendered on outsourcing basis while making regular recruitment in public employment is not excessive. It is within the powers of the employer to provide the weightage, the court ruled.

Having considered various aspects concerning regular recruitment in public employment, the full bench, comprising Chief Justice Raghavendra Singh Chauhan, Justice A. Rajashekar Reddy and Justice P. Naveen Rao, upheld the constitutional validity of Rule 31 of the Telangana State and Subordinate Service Rules, 1996, which enables and empowers the Governor to exercise the power of relaxation to lift any Rule in favor of a person or class of persons. The bench held that exercise of power in the circumstances is legally valid.

Hence, the power of relaxation of service rules can be exercised by the Governor in order to remove the restriction on computation of temporary service imposed by the Service Rules, and to enable the temporary employee to compute the temporary service as weightage in the process of regular recruitment.

The bench also clarified that if the Service Rules do not envisage assignment of marks for temporary service in regular recruitment, it is for the employer to assign

TIME NO BAR, ERRANT PUBLIC EMPLOYEE CAN BE PUNISHED, SAYS HC FULL BENCH

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, SEPT. 19

The Telangana High Court made it clear that disciplinary action would be taken against errant employees, even if such misconduct is made known after several years.

A division bench, comprising Chief Justice Raghavendra Singh Chauhan and Justice Tadakamalla Vinod Kumar, was dealing with an appeal by P. Narasimha Chary, nayab tahsildar in Jagtial district, who is under suspension on charges of alleged misconduct in 2005 when he was serving as a village revenue officer (VRO).

When an FIR was registered against the petitioner in 2020, the collector placed him under suspension.

Chary approached the High Court challenging the sus-

pension orders, contending that suspending him after a lapse of 14 years would not serve any purpose. A single judge bench of Justice P. Naveen Rao did not agree, and the appeal was filed. Chary sought setting aside the FIR. Petitioner's counsel P.V. Ramana submitted that the allegations related to 2005-2006 were false and registering FIR after several years was incorrect.

Counsel pleaded that the suspension orders be revoked as the petitioner was nearing retirement. Upholding the order of the single judge, the division bench said that these grounds could not help the petitioner get relief and also noted that to determine whether the FIR was false is not to be decided by the court. Its veracity can only be decided by the trial court.

such weightage and it does not bestow any vested right upon a temporary employee to insist upon extension of weightage to temporary service rendered by him.

A series of petitions were filed before the Telangana High Court from since 2017, challenging non-apportionment of weightage marks to temporary and outsourcing employees in the recruitment of public employment, like power utility companies, medical, health and agriculture departments. On the other hand, some petitions were filed challenging the apportionment

weightage marks up to 45 per cent to temporary employees. These petitions were heard separately by two different division benches of the High Court and their decisions were conflicting.

Hence, the specially constituted full bench heard the petitions and decided that as part of the selection process for direct recruitment, the employer has the power to apportion marks towards service rendered on a temporary basis. The marks, so apportioned, shall not be more than 20 out of a total of 100, or not more than 20 per cent.

TWO ARRESTED FOR SELLING VITAL DRUG

SANJAY SAMUEL PAUL I DC
HYDERABAD, SEPT. 19

Two persons were arrested for selling mephentermine sulphate injection that is used as an emergency medicine during surgery and to treat certain cardiac problems.

The medicine is mostly misused in gyms with people trying to increase their endurance. Mephentermine sulphate can cause cerebral haemorrhage, hypertension, insomnia, drowsiness and anxiety.

The accused, Mohammed Shah Fahad, 28, and Shaik Abdul Owais, 20, were arrested by the South Zone Task Force, Chaderghat police and drugs officials who seized 150 injection vials, each consisting 30 ml of the medicine. The accused are private employees and residents of Chanchalguda.

Push for state to woo foreign univs

HARLEEN MINOCHA I DC
HYDERABAD, SEPT. 19

The webinar, National Education Policy (NEP), 2020: A game changer for Telangana, organised by the FICCI Telangana State Council in association with the Telangana State Council for Higher Education (TSCHHE), on Saturday, saw brainstorming by various stakeholders and education experts from different sectors to establish a plan of action for the effective implementation of the policy in the state.

During the three plenary sessions, the focus was on increasing private investment into higher education as well as achieving sustainability in higher education spaces through infrastructural support for new universities through government funding. Suggestions were made for enhancing research skills and resources for students and improving the assessment system at the higher education level in order to produce globally accepted graduates who are work-ready, with a curriculum keeping in mind industry needs and future requirements. Jayesh Ranjan, princi-

pal secretary, and Naveen Mittal, commissioner collegiate education, who represented the government at the event, focused on teacher training as an essential part of enhancing higher education. Ranjan said "Teacher training is a fundamental aspect of the education system; more like a make or break situation. Running a very solid teachers' training programme, especially for those already in service should be mandated immediately." The need to de-affiliate colleges was also on the agenda. "Only after we move out of the affiliation system and let these colleges survive on their own will we be able to differentiate on the basis of quality of education. This affiliation system, if you look globally, is mostly found in South Asia, and not in other parts of the world," said Mittal.

Meanwhile, a demand to attract top foreign universities to the state was made by all stakeholder and policy experts by branding Telangana state as a global higher education hub through the promotion of excellence and competition using rankings, ratings, etc.



DO YOU OWN A PLOT IN UNAUTHORIZED LAYOUT?

LAST & FINAL OPPORTUNITY TO REGULARIZE

GREAT CHANCE TO REGULARIZE ALL UNAPPROVED LAYOUTS

The Government of Telangana announces Layout Regularization Scheme (LRS) in Rural and Urban areas for regularizing unauthorized Plots & Layouts.

If not regularized under LRS scheme, the unauthorized Plot will not get the following approvals/facilities:

- * No Registration
- * No Building Permission
- * No Water Connection
- * No Electricity

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

All existing unapproved sub-division of plots, existing unapproved layouts or ventures where

- * The plots have been sold through a Registered Sale Deed
- * Unauthorized layouts developed, provided at least 10% of plots are sold through Registered Deed
- * Plots registered on or before 26.08.2020

EASY TO APPLY:

Applicant should file an online application or at mee-seva center in the prescribed format for regularization of the Plot/Layout before the competent authority by 15-10-2020 for all such Plots / Layouts, which are unapproved unauthorized and not covered under the prohibitory category.

The applicants can file online application in a simple way through:

- Common web portal
- Mee-Seva Center
- A smart phone based mobile app as developed for this purpose

PROHIBITORY CATEGORY:

Plots falling in Government lands / ULC surplus / Endowment / Waqf Lands and falling in FTL of tanks are not eligible for regularization.

LAST DATE FOR REGULARIZATION:

OCTOBER 15, 2020

Details of the Scheme & Regularization Charges are available at:

<http://Irs.telangana.gov.in/>

Helpline Numbers:

For Clarifications call between 10 AM and 6 PM

1. For Plots in HMDA: 1800 - 4258838

2. For Plots in GHMC: 040 -2111 1111

e-mail: support-Irs@telangana.gov.in

Download **LRS 2020** Mobile App from

Google Play

https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=cgg.gov.in.Irs_2020

APPLICATION FEES PAYABLE: FOR INDIVIDUAL PLOTS:

RS.1,000/-

ALONG WITH APPLICATION

FOR LAYOUT DEVELOPERS:

RS.10,000/-

IF APPLIED FOR THE ENTIRE LAYOUT

ONCE YOUR APPLICATION IS REGISTERED, THE ENTIRE REGULARIZATION CHARGES SHOULD BE PAID BY 31/01/2021



Sri K T Rama Rao
Hon'ble Minister for MA & UD Industries & Commerce, IT & C

IN BRIEF

Human traffickers' gang busted

Hyderabad: A gang of human traffickers which operated online was busted by the Rachakonda commissionerate police on Saturday. The Preventive Detention Act was invoked against one of the accused, Sadanala Devi alias Soumya, and she has been detained at the special prison for women at Chanchalguda. Police said another accused, Anjali, the kingpin, was earlier involved in similar offences in the Rachakonda and Cyberabad police limits. The gang would post pictures online of the victims that they had brought from West Bengal. Clients had to react with Anjali who would charge ₹10,000 per person, police said.

Rain may continue till September 23

Hyderabad: Thunderstorms, lightning and heavy rain are expected in the state till September 23, according to an Indian Meteorological Department forecast. In its weather warning issued on Saturday, the IMD said heavy rains and thunderstorms accompanied by lightning are very likely to occur at isolated places across the state till Wednesday. In IMD parlance, 'isolated places' mean those having less than 25 per cent of the IMD automatic weather stations. The IMD said that the southwest monsoon has been active over Telangana state and that very heavy rain occurred at isolated places in Ranga Reddy, Kumarambheem, Jogulamba-Gadwal, Mahabubnagar and Nagarkurnool districts between Friday and Saturday. The heaviest rainfall of 13 cm was recorded in Ibrahimpatnam of Ranga Reddy district.

Sweet shop flouts Covid norms, seized

Warangal: A sweet shop in Mahabubabad whose owner was violating Covid-19 protocols was seized by municipal authorities here on Saturday. Collector V.P. Gautham, who was touring the city to inspect Palle Prakruthi Vanams and steps being taken for controlling the Coronavirus, noticed the sweet shop owner doing business without wearing a mask at Nehru Chowk. He went up to the shop and asked the person to wear a mask and took him to task for his irresponsible act. "A large number of people visit the shop daily and under such circumstances, steps need to be taken to avoid the spread of the virus. How can you not wear a mask while working," he asked the shopkeeper. Gautham asked the municipal commissioner Indrasena Reddy to seize the shop.

PUBLIC NOTICE

General Public is hereby informed that my clients P. Vishwashanti and B. Veena (Daughters of Late G. Venkat Swamy) filed civil suit being OS No. 765/2017 on the file of the Hon'ble II Adl. Chief Judge, City Civil Court, Hyderabad against G. Vinod, G. Vivekanand (Sons of G. Venkat Swamy) and others for partition of the joint family properties, including the land situated in Sy.No. 694, 695 & 695/2 of Janwada Village and Sy.No. 19, 20, 21, 23, 23/a, 23/aa, 24, 24/1, 24/2 of Donthapally Village, Shankarpally Mandal, R.R. District. My clients state that they have equal share along with their brothers and sister, namely G. Vinod, G. Vivekanand and G. Vijaya in all the properties, which are the subject matter of the pending suit OS No. 765/2017. Therefore, any transaction is done with any of my clients above mentioned brothers and sister, i.e., G. Vinod, G. Vivekanand and G. Vijaya in respect of any of the suit schedule properties, including the aforementioned lands situated at Janwada and Donthapally Villages, to the exclusion of my clients, would be invalid and illegal and the purchasers would doing so at their own risk and responsibility. Sd/- (Mohan Rao) (B Satish) Advocates RAO & Co. Lawyers 3-6-442/A, Street No. 5 Himayat Nagar Hyderabad 500 029 Mobile No: 9160163755, 7942766219

PUBLIC NOTICE

On instructions of our client, Mr. Andhra Kesavaram Yalamanchili S/o. Subba Rao Yalamanchili notice is hereby given to the public at large for taking note of the following: Our client has filed Company Petition No. 242/241/HDB/2020 before Hon'ble NCLT, Hyderabad, in the matter of Sandhya Hospitality Private Limited ("Company") for oppression and mismanagement seeking various interim reliefs & final reliefs inter-alia for injunction on sale of properties owned by the Company. The Hon'ble NCLT, Hyderabad passed an Interim Order on 08.09.2020 inter-alia including alienation, dealing with, or in any other manner creating any encumbrance on the properties registered in the name of Sandhya Hospitality Private Limited pending disposal of the Company Petition. Therefore, in view of the Interim Order passed by Hon'ble NCLT, Hyderabad, any person dealing with the property of the Company situated at Survey No. 322 and 323, Puppulaguda Village, Rajendranagar Mandal, Ranga Reddy district, Telangana or dealing with the directors of the Company, Mr. Sreedhar Saranala and Ms. Sandhya Saranala or their associates, in relation to the property of the Company shall do so at his/its own risks and consequences. Date: 19-09-2020 ADVOCATE Y. SURYANARAYANA FOR YSN LAW OFFICES Place: Hyderabad

Fraud in Youth Cong polls alleged

BALU PULIPAKA | DC HYDERABAD, SEPT. 19

The ongoing elections to the state Youth Congress appear to be caught up in unseemly controversies including allegations of membership enrolment fraud that involve buying voter ID card data from Mee Seva centres, and violations of the Congress youth wing's policy of not allowing anyone facing criminal charges to contest the polls.

According to a party insider, at least two of the contestants face serious criminal charges but they have managed to exert influence both at the state and central party levels to ensure

that they are not barred, as well as filling the party coffers with funds generated through the ongoing membership drive.

The Youth Congress polling ends on Sunday. The top three contestants are expected to be summoned to Delhi to face an interview with the party bosses, following which one would be appointed as state Youth Congress president.

There are at least seven candidates for the post: R. Shravan Rao a leader of the Congress' student wing NSUI; Shiva Sena Reddy, believed to have the support of a powerful MLA-MP brother duo from the Congress; Saishankar, son of for-

mer MP Balram Naik; Vari Lalith, son of former PCC president and former MP Tusli Ram; Rakesh Shetkar, former MP Suresh Shetkar's son; Arvind Kumar Yadav former MP Anjan Kumar Yadav's son; and

Aamer Javeed.

Two of these are facing criminal cases — one involving illegal smuggling of liquor across the Delhi-Gurugram border this April, and another in a case relating to illegal sacrifice of buffaloes in a temple in Peddagudem village of Wanaparthi, party sources said.

Some of the candidates, it is learnt, have purchased voter ID card facsimiles from Mee Seva centres. Sources said more than 30 of these centres were involved in the sale of voter ID data.

"Telangana state has crossed 8 lakh active members of Youth Congress in the current drive which is impossible if everything is above

board. After buying voter ID facsimiles, some candidates using their money power are uploading them and paying ₹50 per membership. They are using these fake memberships to cast online votes for themselves," the party insider explained.

The All India Youth Congress, the source said, has become richer by ₹4 crore through the membership drive just from Telangana state. "The Youth Congress elections in the state are marred by frauds and violations. We hope the national party will take note and cancel these elections and conduct them properly and fairly," a party source said.

KTR urges Centre to release ₹1,434 cr dues

Writes to FM about Covid-induced revenue shortfall

S.A. ISHAQUI | DC HYDERABAD, SEPT. 19

Municipal administration and urban development minister K.T. Rama Rao has urged Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman to release ₹1,433.95 crore that is due to the state under the 15th Finance Commission, immediately.

He wrote a letter to her on Saturday stating that the non-release of statutorily mandated grants and the Covid-induced shortfall in state revenues have affected the government no end.

He told the finance minister that the Finance Commission had recommended that grants amounting ₹468 crore to the million-plus

city like Hyderabad and ₹421 crore to non-million plus cities in the state should be released in two equal installments in June and October. This recommendation had been accepted by the Centre and an action taken report (ATR) to that effect was placed in Parliament.

Stating that the grant to million-plus cities is yet to be released, Rama Rao said that grant to non-million plus cities had been split into four instalments, in contravention of the recommendation of the Finance Commission. The first of four instalments amounting to ₹105.25 crore was released on May 19.

The additional budget

provisions matching the Finance Commission grants that were made in the state budget pending the report of the first state finance commission, clearly demonstrates the commitment of the state to urban development, the minister said. Rama Rao said that the state was denied its rightful entitlement in the grants to urban local bodies recommended by the 14 Finance Commission (2015-20). While the commission recommended an unconditional basic grant of ₹2,711.12 crore, the Centre had released ₹2,502.90 crore, less by ₹208.22 crore.

He said though the state had fulfilled all conditions attached to

the performance grant of ₹677.79 crore, the Centre had released ₹235.81 crore, resulting in a shortfall of ₹441.98 crore. Together, the state was denied ₹650.20 crore of the statutory grant to urban local bodies, though the full amount was released to other states. Rama Rao said all pending dues under the Finance Commission amounted to ₹1,433.95 crore, which includes the first installment of grant to million plus cities ₹468 crore, the second installment of grant to non-million plus cities (₹315.75 crore) and pending statutory grants recommended by the 14 Finance Commission (₹650.20 crore).

Uttam: Don't privatise ordnance factories

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, SEPT. 19

State Congress president N. Uttam Kumar Reddy, the Nalgonda MP, on Saturday appealed to the defence ministry to reconsider the decision to corporatise and privatise ordnance factories.

In a short intervention during a debate in the Lok Sabha on Saturday, Reddy said that finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman had on May 16 announced the decision to corporatise 41 ordnance factories under the Atma Nirbhar initiative. Maintaining that this was completely ill-advised, he pointed out that the three main federations of ordnance workers, representing 80,000 permanent employees and lakhs of contract workers, had opposed the move. Telling the House that the three federations have argued that a corporate entity would not be able to survive the unique market environment of defence products which has an unstable demand and supply dynamics, Reddy said "I appeal to the government not to embark on a path which will destroy the 200-year legacy of government factories."

Tagore's tips to Cong leaders

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, SEPT. 19

Manickam Tagore, in-charge of the Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC), on Saturday urged party leaders to adopt a constituency-centric approach in order to win the next Assembly elections.

Tagore, along with TPCC president Capt. N. Uttam Kumar Reddy, held a video conference with AICC secretaries, candidates in the Lok Sabha elections, former ministers and senior leaders on Saturday.

He said that the Congress would adopt a micro-level constituency centric approach to reach out to the people. He said that the main objective should be to get a majority of votes in all 34,360 polling booths in the 2023 elections.

Tagore made it clear that the party does not differentiate between seniors and juniors and involves seniors in all deci-

sion-making processes.

He said, "We are not out of the game. We must fight the battle with the right perception. There should be continuous communication among all leaders. Winning each booth is important and it can be achieved through booth-centric work, cadre-building and discipline. Although we are a national party, we must think regionally."

Tagore said that the Congress had granted statehood for Telangana state, but the people did not gain anything as only one family had been taking away the entire wealth. This should be exposed to gain people's support, he said.

While introducing the day's participants to Tagore, the TPCC president said that it was the second meeting to facilitate interaction between senior leaders with the new AICC in charge. The leaders discussed the strategy for the Dubbaka byelections.

GREEN CHANNEL FOR ORGAN TRANSPORT

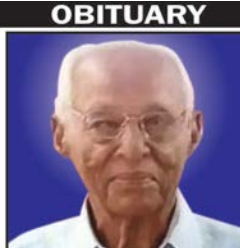
SANJAY SAMUEL PAUL | DC HYDERABAD, SEPT. 19

Hyderabad traffic police facilitated a green channel for quick transport of donated organs on Saturday. The police cleared the road from the Shamshabad airport to KIMS Hospital, Begumpet, a distance of 36.8 km. An ambulance carrying the organs, a pair of lungs, covered the distance in 25 minutes, thanks to green channel.



PREMNATH MEKALA
DOB: 27.11.1965 DOD: 11.09.2020
"Your life was a blessing, your memories a treasure. You are loved beyond words and missed beyond measure."
10th Day Ceremony will be held on 20.09.2020 (Sunday) at 12-1-1308/1299, North Lalaguda, Shantinagar, Secunderabad.
Grieving Mekala Family Members:
Contact No: M. Amarnath: 9441282326 M. Ramnath: 8309929179 (Brothers)

(S/2021/D00606)



SRI MALLANGI SREERAMI REDDY
Rtd. C.E. Central Irrigation of former Irrigation Advisor and Ex Officio Secretary to Govt of A.P.
DOB : July 1927 DOD : 18-09-2020
Grand sons, Grand daughters, Great Grandsons & Great Grand daughters.

I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever. Ps: 23:6
1st DEATH ANNIVERSARY IN LOVING MEMORY



Prof. Rev. Dr. PASUPULETI MANASSEH
M.A. Ph.D(Lit.), M.A. Ph.D(Hist. & Archaeo) Ph.D(Phil), M.Th, Th.D., D.Litt.
DOB: 16-09-1949 DOD: 20-09-2019
We miss you every moment in our life, your presence continues to surround us, in our hearts, you are always there.
Inserted by: **FAMILY MEMBERS**
Ph: 9912862800 / 9391159657

IN LOVING MEMORY OF



SRI MALLANGI SREERAMI REDDY
Rtd. C.E. Central Irrigation of former Irrigation Advisor and Ex Officio Secretary to Govt of A.P.
DOB : July 1927 DOD : 18-09-2020
Mallangi Sanjeevini Devi (Wife)

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE



T. RAVI KUMAR
DOB: 20-09-1962 DOD: 21-07-2020
Revelation 21: - 4
"God will wipe away tear from their eyes & death shall be no more, neither shall there be anguish nor grief. For the old conditions & the former order of things have passed away."
From beloved Wife: **M. KANTHA LEELA**, Son: **T. AZIEL**, Daughter: **T. MOUNIKA**
WE MISS YOU.

(S/2021/D00611)

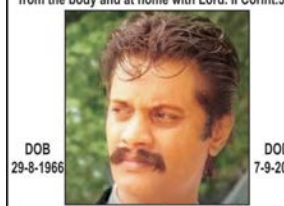
13th DAY CEREMONY ON 21.09.2020



Sri M. THANGARAJ
DOB: 14.01.1939 DOD: 09.09.2020
You are loved by all we miss you
From: Wife - Stella, Mr & Mrs. Suntha Anand, Mr & Mrs. Sunil, Avinash, Mr & Mrs. Sukeshni Sunder, Mrs & Mr. Kannan Delphine, Sisters: Moti Ammal, Sunder Ammal Near & Dear
Ph: 9849722506 / 9908090332

(S/2021/D00607)

THANKSGIVING & MEMORIAL SERVICE



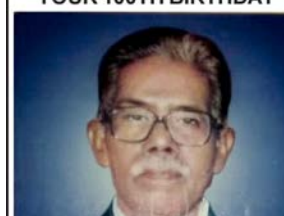
Soudamala David Chandra Shekaran
(S/o. Late Mr. S.S. Janardhan)
Memorial Service on 20-09-2020 (Today) at 11.00 am at CSI Wesley Church, Ramkote
Please Treat this as Personal Invitation
Inserted by: Priya Amrit Raj (Wife), S. David Dhanraj (Brother), S. Rachel Vinayashwela (Sister)
Daughters, Brother-in-law, Sister-in-law, Neice, Nephew, Son-in-law, Grandson

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

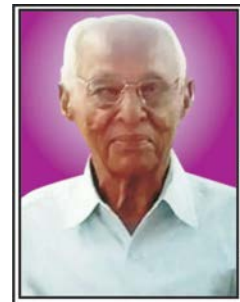


Mrs & Mr REUBEN
D.O.B: 05-04-1930 D.O.D: 20-09-2019
Love is bond that death can not part. Gone from our lives, but still held in our hearts.
Inserted by: **Mary & Jeevan**
Ph: 9396203071/9618579138

REMEMBERING YOU ON YOUR 100TH BIRTHDAY



Late Mr. S.T.A. DASS
Inserted by Family Members



Our Prayerful Homage to Sri Mallangi Sreerami Reddy
Rtd. C.E. Central Irrigation of former Irrigation Advisor and Ex Officio Secretary to Govt of A.P.
DOB : July 1927 DOD : 18-09-2020
You lived a life of honesty, integrity, dedicated to service & devotion. You were loved & respected by all. May your journey into the hereafter be smooth as peaceful....
Mallangi Sanjeevini Devi (Wife)
Inserted by: **K. Saraswathi** (Daughter)
M.B. Reddy, M.D. Reddy and M. Vivekananda Reddy, their spouses, Grand sons, Grand daughters, Great Grandsons & Great Grand daughters.

11th DAY CEREMONY



Mr. JAIRAM RAO PALLAY
DOB: 11-07-1948 DOD: 10-09-2020
Retired Asst. Accounts Officer (TSSPDCL) in fond memory of Mr. Jairam Rao Pallay, it has been 11 days God has called you to his abode, but your continued presence in our hearts motivates us to live according to your values and aspirations. Your memories grow deeper and deeper each day. Deeply missed, loved and remembered by: Wife: P. Swaroopa Rani, Dr. P. Satya Prasad, Dr. P. Anita, Dr. P. Mayura, Dr. S. Sreenath Reddy, S. Svaksh & All Family Members.
Contact No. 939004313, 9948843377

(S/2021/D00609)

10th DAY CEREMONY



SRI PURAM RAMESH BABU
DOB: 12-11-1952 DOD: 10-09-2020
10th day Ceremony on 20-09-2020 at his Residence
A loving and ever caring husband, great father, grand father, Son & friend. Passed away on 10-09-2020 leaving his near & dear ones in great sorrow. He was a law officer in APSRTC (retired) known for his simplicity & great knowledge. We pray to god for his alma to attain sadgathi & moksha. OM SHANTI
P. VANAMALA (WIFE) & PURAM FAMILY.

OBITUARY



SRI MALLANGI SREERAMI REDDY
Rtd. C.E. Central Irrigation of former Irrigation Advisor and Ex Officio Secretary to Govt of A.P.
DOB : July 1927 DOD : 18-09-2020
K. Saraswathi (Daughter)
M.B. Reddy, M.D. Reddy and M.V.Reddy

IN LOVING MEMORY OF MOM ON HER 4th DEATH ANNIVERSARY



Late Mrs. ANNAMMA JOSEPH
(W/o Late Mr. K.J. Joseph)
DOB: 17.07.1943 DOD: 20.09.2016
Mom you are very special who did everything you could while you were with us to make us happy. You fought so hard to live but God wanted you to be with him.
Missing you always
Inserted by: **Children and Grandchildren**

(S/2021/D00599)

1st DEATH ANNIVERSARY REMEMBRANCE



ANNIE PHALGUNAN
Sachasivan Family
V.J. George Family
Members of Like Minded Musicians Treasure.
Inserted by: **M. Sanjeev Kumar** (son)
M. Bharathi (Daughter in law)
Sai Anandh (Grand son) & Shobhitha (USA)
Amritha (Grand daughter) & Venkateshwaran (USA)
Manjusha (Daughter) & Narasimha Murthy
Dr Rajayashree (Daughter) & Venkatesh Anjuti (USA)
Jayasree Veerabhadra Rao (Daughter)

(S/2021/D00579)

11th DAY CEREMONY



IN LOVING MEMORY OF PALLAY JAIRAM RAO GOUD
From his loved ones:
PALLAY SRINIVASA GOUD, PALLAY ANITHA GOUD, PALLAY ANEESH GOUD, PALLAY ANEESH GOUD
KE. NITHIN & KE. AKSHITA
CONTACT No. 9391144647

(S/2021/D00610)

28th DEATH ANNIVERSARY OF



GODALA SURESH MADHUKAR
(Social Welfare Department)
DOB: 17-09-1950 DOD: 20-09-1992
"Your memories will always be in our hearts."
Inserted by Loving Wife: **G. Serah**
Sons: G. Aman Anantha Rao, Rev. G. Niranjan, BD, M.Th.
Daughters-in-law: G. Dolly Suhasingi, G. Lavanya, Daughter: **G. Neethi Prabha**, Son-in-law: **K.C. Ravi Kumar & Grand Children**
Ph: 968694429, 9652009583.

(CA-3422)

1st DEATH ANNIVERSARY



Late Mrs. ANNIE PHALGUNAN
W/o Mr. K.S. Phalgunan
DOB: 22.02.1950 DOD: 20.09.2019
"Without you, life will never be the same again. We miss you. We cherish your memories forever."
Inserted by: **ALL FAMILY MEMBERS**

(S/2021/D00554)

IN LOVING MEMORY OF



Sri. VUPPALA AMARNATH
W/o Mr. K.S. Phalgunan
DOB: 22.02.1950 DOD: 20.09.2019
"Without you, life will never be the same again. We miss you. We cherish your memories forever."
Inserted by: **ALL FAMILY MEMBERS**

IN LOVING MEMORY OF



DAVID CHANDRA SEKHAR SOUDAMALLA
"Always in our hearts"
By, His beloved Wife & Daughters

Jesus said, "Because I live, you also will live" John 14:19



Mrs. IRENE HAFT
DOB 12-01-1923 DOD 20-09-2015
We cherish your loving memories - your generous, giving nature, so full of life and energy - thinking of you fondly in our thoughts. We Love you.
FAMILY

19th ANNIVERSARY



M TARA BAI
(Rtd Govt School Head Mistress)
DOB: 20/09/2001
It is 19 years since you left us, but your memories are always with us
Inserted by: **M. Sanjeev Kumar** (son)
M. Bharathi (Daughter in law)
Sai Anandh (Grand son) & Shobhitha (USA)
Amritha (Grand daughter) & Venkateshwaran (USA)
Manjusha (Daughter) & Narasimha Murthy
Dr Rajayashree (Daughter) & Venkatesh Anjuti (USA)
Jayasree Veerabhadra Rao (Daughter)

22nd DEATH ANNIVERSARY



A. S. DAVID
DOB: 31.12.1930 DOD: 20.09.1998
Dad even though you are no longer with us, your memories grow stronger with every passing year
Inserted by: **Wife, Children, Grand Children**
Great Grand Children
Ph: 8008920825

OBITUARY



SRI MALLANGI SREERAMI REDDY
Rtd. C.E. Central Irrigation of former Irrigation Advisor and Ex Officio Secretary to Govt of A.P.
DOB : July 1927 DOD : 18-09-2020
Well Wishers and Friends

IN BRIEF

WEAPONS SENT
BY DRONE FOR
LeT MILITANTSYUSUF JAMEEL | DC
SRINAGAR, SEPT. 19

Jammu and Kashmir police on Saturday claimed arresting three Lashkar-e-Tayyaba (LeT) militants from frontier district of Rajouri and said that the weapons and cash recovered from them were sent from across the border and dropped by a drone in an area close to the Line of Control (LoC).

DG police, Dilbag Singh, who was on a visit to Rajouri, told reporters that the arrested LeT cadres were residents of Kashmir Valley who had travelled all the way to the frontier region to receive a weapon and cash consignment from across the LoC.

"Yesterday (Friday), the trio was chased by the jawans of J&K police and the Army's 38 Rashtriya Rifles unit, after which one of them hurled a grenade at the forces which luckily didn't explode. They were subsequently caught alive", he said.

He added, "All the three are affiliated with the Lashkar outfit and were in touch with their handlers from across and had received weapons and cash through drones."

The weapons seized from the accused identified as Rahil Bashir, Amir Jaan and Younis Wani include two AK 56 rifles, two pistols, four grenades and Rs. 1,00,000 cash, the police said.

The police chief reiterated that charge that Pakistan "is trying hard to keep the pot of militancy boiling in Rajouri and Poonch districts".

He said "Also, this weapon consignment and cash were aimed at fuelling militancy in Kashmir Valley."

He further said that this was the first attempt of aerial weapon drop on the LoC and second in the recent past as earlier one drone was shot along with weapons by the BSF on the International Border in Samba district. "We are aware of the challenge and will evolve a counter strategy to foil these bids," he said in reply to a question.

IGP (Jammu range) Mukesh Singh said that a huge consignment of heroine weighing 7 kilograms and worth ₹7 crore was seized by the police on September 14.

"The arrest of one person from Kulgam (district in Kashmir Valley) in this connection led to the arrest of three more from Poonch district (bordering LoC) on whose integration 4 more kilograms of heroin worth ₹4 crore was recovered besides IED making material and a pen drive," he said.

He added that in the pen drive "there were indications and training sessions as to how an IED can be prepared."

Meanwhile, the police here said that two "terrorist associates" were arrested by it from Awantipora and Khrew areas of southern Pulwama district. "Incriminating material of proscribed terrorist outfits Hizb-ul-Mujahideen and Al-Badr has been recovered from the arrested terror associates," the police said in a statement here.

41 ARMED FORCES
PERSONNEL DIED
OF COVID-19

New Delhi, Sept. 19: The coronavirus pandemic has killed 41 and infected 22,353 armed forces personnel, according to details provide by the government in Rajya Sabha on Saturday.

Minister of State for Defence Shripad Naik said a series of measures have been put in place to check the spread of the coronavirus infection in the armed forces which included a campaign on preventive measures.

"The total number of confirmed Covid-19 cases amongst serving armed forces personnel is 22,353," he said, adding 41 personnel died of the infection till date.

"In line with the international and national treatment protocols for Covid-19, armed forces hospitals have a wide array of anti-viral drugs (Favipiravir and Remdesivir)," he said.

The minister said two hospitals in the armed forces are using plasma therapy for treatment of severely ill patients.

To a separate question, Naik said the strength of women officers serving in the Indian Air Force is 1,875.

"Of these, 10 women officers are fighter pilots and 18 women officers are navigators," he said. Naik said women fighter pilots are inducted and deployed in IAF as per strategic needs and operational requirements within the laid down policy.

SINGLE-DAY
RECOVERIES
EXCEED FRESH
COVID CASES

New Delhi, Sept. 19: "In a landmark global achievement", India has overtaken the US and become the top country in terms of Covid-19 recoveries, the health ministry said.

The country has reported the highest number of recoveries with 42,08,431 patients having recovered from the disease so far, pushing the national recovery rate to nearly 80 per cent, while the case fatality rate has further dropped to 1.61 per cent, the ministry said.

India's single-day recovery outstripped the number of new infections as nearly 96,000 people recuperated from the coronavirus, even as the total caseload went past 53 lakh, according to the Union Health Ministry data. -PTI

End of an era



Decommissioned aircraft carrier of the Indian Navy, INS Viraat during its last journey from Naval Dockyard to Alang in Gujarat, where it will be dismantled, in Mumbai on Saturday. For Navy veterans who watched the huge vessel being towed away by a tug boat, it was an emotional moment as they stood near the Gateway of India, waving at the once 'floating town', aboard which they spent the best years of their career. The aircraft carrier served the Indian Navy for 29 years before being decommissioned in March 2017. It had served in the UK's Royal Navy as HMS Hermes and was named INS Viraat after being inducted in the Indian Navy in 1987. Alang-based Shree Ram group bought it for ₹38.54 crore at an auction. Viraat will be dismantled at the Alang ship breaking yard. The ship will be scrapped in 9 to 12 months.

NIA arrests 9 Al-Qaeda
terrorists from WB, Kerala

Among those arrested are computer science student and guest workers

RAJIB CHOWDHURI & PRANMOY BRAHMACHARI | DC KOLKATA/BERHAMPORE, SEPT. 19

In a major crackdown on terror, the National Investigation Agency (NIA) busted a 'Pakistan sponsored module' of Al-Qaeda and arrested its nine members from West Bengal and Kerala early Saturday for allegedly planning terror attacks in New Delhi and other parts of the country.

Among them, six accused including two college students and two migrant workers were caught during a marathon raid at their homes in various parts of Murshidabad which earlier came under the NIA's scanner during its probe in the Burdwan blast which blew the lid off Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen Bangladesh network active in West Bengal six years ago around this time.

The arrested have been identified as Najmus Sakib (20), Abu Sufiyan (44), Mainul Mondal (30), Leu Yean Ahmed (32), Al Mamun Kamal (30) and Atiturr Rehman (20).

This was also the first time when such a large number of accused of terror were picked up simultaneously in the state.

Najmus is a second-year student of computer science at Basantapur Engineering College in Domkol of the district while Atiturr is a first year BA student of Karimpur Pannadevi College.

Mainul, a guest worker, had returned home at Jalangi in the district from Kerala three months ago. Like him Mamun also worked as a mason in Bengaluru earlier. But he returned home two years ago.

The NIA said that it initiated a case RC-

31/2020/NIA/DLI on September 11 after learning "about an inter-state module of Al-Qaeda operatives at various locations in India including West-Bengal and Kerala."

It said, "The group was planning to undertake terrorist attacks at vital installations in India with an aim to kill people and strike terror in their minds. Large quantity of incriminating materials including digital devices, documents, jihadi literature, sharp weapons, country-made firearms, a locally fabricated body armour, articles and literature used for making home-made explosive devices have been seized from their possession."

The NIA added, "As per preliminary investigation, these individuals were radicalised by Pakistan-based Al-Qaeda terrorists on social media and were motivated to undertake attacks at multiple places including the National Capital Region. For this purpose, the module was actively indulging in fund raising and a few members of gang were planning to travel to New Delhi to procure arms and ammunition. These arrests have pre-empted possible terrorist attacks in various parts of the country."

The six accused, brought from Murshidabad, were produced at the NIA court in Kolkata which remanded them in police custody.

The arrests have come as a shot in the arm for the BJP to turn it into a major political issue and attack the ruling Trinamul Congress ahead of the Assembly elections.

From state BJP chief Dilip Ghosh to central leaders like Rahul Sinha, all tore into chief minister Mamata Banerjee's rule. Mr Ghosh, the

Presence of Qaeda operatives
among workers causes concern

GILVESTER ASSARY | DC THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, SEPT. 19

The arrest of three Al-Qaeda operatives in Ernakulam district has set alarm bells ringing for the state Intelligence and police.

In a pre-drawn operation, the National Investigation Agency (NIA) nabbed Murshid Hassan, Yakub Biswas and Mosaraf Hossen, all hailing from West Bengal.

What has alarmed the state police is their presence among the guest workers in Perambavoor which has the highest concentration of guest workers in Kerala.

The Al-Qaeda operators were staying in Perumbavoor town and Kalamassery in Ernakulam district.

While Murshid Hassan was arrested from a labour camp at Pathalam near Kalamassery where he was staying along with five others, while Yakub Biswas and

● **LAPTOP, MOBILE phone, pamphlets were recovered from their possession. NIA questioned many people living in the labour camp from where the Al-Qaeda operatives were held to get more information about the three.**

Mosaraf Hossen were arrested from Perumbavoor.

Murshid Hassan had taken a house on rent from one Nasser about two months ago and started living there. Though the NIA had reportedly alerted the state police on a possible action just in case local force was warranted at any stage, the central agency did not specify about the case that it was following up.

The local police was informed only after the arrest of the three operatives. Mursihid was taken into custody at around 2 am. Parallel raids were carried out in Perambavoor to arrest

ment politics."

Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar also did not miss the opportunity.

Describing his role of 'In service of WB' he tweeted, "NIA busts Al-Qaeda module in Murshidabad, WB. DGP on this alarming affairs @MamataOfficial to me "West Bengal police firmly adheres to the path laid down by law. There is no discrimination for or against anyone in an extra legal sense."

He added, "State has become home to illegal bomb making that has potential to unsettle

Yakub and Mosaraf. According to locals, Mosaraf was working in a textile shop in Perambavoor and was living there with his family for the past seven-eight years.

Yakub Biswas had arrived in Perambavoor about two months ago and was working at a tea stall.

Laptop, mobile phone, pamphlets were recovered from their possession. NIA questioned many people living in the labour camp from where the Al-Qaeda operatives were held to get more information about the three.

Since the case pertains to Delhi NIA, after completion of arrest formalities, the accused would be handed over to the Delhi unit of NIA.

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said it was natural for the security agencies to carry out such operations and arrest people who indulge in terror activities.

Police @MamataOfficial busy in carrying out political errands and taking on opposition. Those at helm @WBPolice cannot escape their accountability for this alarming decline in law and order."

Rejecting the BJP's allegations, senior TMC MP Sougata Roy, however, pointed fingers on the Border Security Force. He questioned its lack of vigil at the Indo-Bangla border which, he blamed, allowed the terrorists into the state from neighbouring country.

Scribe was passing
info to China: Cops

New Delhi, Sept. 19: Delhi Police on Saturday said arrested freelance journalist Rajeev Sharma was allegedly passing sensitive information about India's border strategy and Army deployment to Chinese intelligence.

At a press conference, Special Cell DCP Sanjeev Kumar Yadav said Sharma was writing on defence-related issues for some Indian media organisations, as well as China's *Global Times*.

He was allegedly contacted by Chinese Intelligence agents in 2016. Sharma was also in contact with some

Chinese intelligence officer, the police officer claimed, adding the freelance journalist got "₹40 lakh in one-and-a-half years and he was getting USD 1,000 for each information".

Sharma was arrested September 14 based on inputs from central intelligence. Police have seized classified defence documents from him, the DCP said.

He said that a Chinese woman and her Nepalese associate have also been arrested for allegedly paying Sharma large amounts of money routed through shell companies. —PTI

HYDERABAD METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
District Commercial Complex, Administrative "L" - Block, Jamaraka, Hyderabad- 500007

PUBLIC NOTICE
Planning Department

File No. 031138/MED/FLT/16/HMDA/2019

It is to inform that, M/s Lakshmi Venkateshwar Projects rep by its Managing partners Anumolu Babuji & others filed an application for Addition / Alteration cum revised final Layout in Sy.Nos. 14, 15, 16, 17 & 18 of Hussainpur (V), Turpan (M), Medak District. to an extent of 82356.04 Sq. Mtrs to the earlier approved draft layout vide File No. 006522/MED/FLT/16/HMDA/09032017 by duly making some changes.

Therefore the plots owners / Purchasers / Agreement holders of draft layout of open plots in Sy.No. 14, 15, 16, 17 & 18 of Hussainpur (V), Turpan (M), Medak District may file their objections/ suggestions in writing if any within 15 days to this office from the date of Publication of this notice. If no objections / suggestions are received within the above period the request of the applicant for permission to revised cum final layout in Sy.No. 14, 15, 16, 17 & 18 of Hussainpur (V), Turpan (M), Medak District will be considered based on the material papers available with this office.

Sd/-
For Metropolitan Commissioner
Director Planning-III, HMDA

DIPR R.O. No.: 919-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2020-21

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
INFORMATION & PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT: HYDERABAD

e-Procurement Notice

Tender No. 003899/AE/DE/2020 **Dated: 18.09.2020**

Sealed tenders are invited for supply of Ricoh and HP, Toner/Cartridges Drum and Developer, e-Procurement Method. Interested bidders can download the document on from 18-09-2020 from 2.00PM onwards. Last date for submission of bids is 03.10.2020 by 2.00PM and the last date and time of opening of Technical and Financial bid is 03.10.2020, 3:00Pm and 4:00Pm. For further details visit www.eprocurement.gov.in.

Sd/-
ARVIND KUMAR
COMMISSIONER

DIPR No.494-DP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2020-21

150th Anniversary
RAIL COACH FACTORY, KAPURTHALA

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

Sr. No.	Tender No. & Due Date	Description	Qty. (Nos./Sets)	EMD (₹)
1.	14201137 16/10/2020	Light Weight body Filler For LHB Coaches	23203 Kg	1,20,470/-
2.	17201459A 12/10/2020	Set of AL Floor Plate For LHB High Capacity Parcel Van	408 Set	20,00,000/-
3.	13205300A 09/10/2020	Supply, Installation, Commissioning and Testing of 40 KVA & 20 KVA UPS, as per Annexure "A" (attached)	01	1,04,780/-
4.	13205919 14/10/2020	High Frequency Dresser Motor 10000 RPM-1, 7 KW-350V-333HZ-5, 1A-3	01	Nil
		Phase-4 Poles; Anticlock Wise Rotation; Grease Lubrication; Electrical Connectors with 2 Meters Cable; Part No. SMZ1241 of SMZ Make; SMZ or Capital Make.		
5.	05201362 20/10/2020	Pillar	21044 Nos.	77,440/-
6.	04201038 12/10/2020	Brushless DC Fan 110V, DC 400MM Sweep Fixed	22303 Nos.	15,31,880/-
7.	02201198 09/10/2020	Four Type of Thin Walled Flex Elast Cable in 95 Sqmm & 150 Sqmm	55000 Mtr.	13,31,090/-

1. For details and making On-line tenders, visit Website <http://ireps.gov.in>. Drawings/specifications, wherever required can be downloaded from RCF Website <http://www.rcf.indianrailways.gov.in>. Class IIIB digital signature certificate required for on-line bidding, can be obtained from licensed certifying agencies listed at <http://www.cce.gov.in>. 2. Tenders will close at 14.25 Hrs. on due date and will be opened at 14.30 Hrs. Tenders Sr. No. 1 to 4 will be opened at RCF Kapurthala and Sr. No. 5 to 7 will be opened at Tilak Bridge, New Delhi. 3. For queries, contact IREPS Helpdesk at 011-24102855, 011-24105180 or RCF helpdesk at 011-23378658.

Note: GST Number of RCF is 03AAAGM0289C1ZT. All the suppliers are advised to quote this in dispatch documents for the supplies made by them. All above mentioned tenders are e-tenders and all tenderers are requested to submit their bids on-line through the IREPS website at <https://www.ireps.gov.in>. For more details regarding the above mentioned tenders and other supply tenders please visit IREPS website.

PCMM

CORRIGENDUM

The following amendment is authorized against Tender mentioned below:-

(1) Tender No. 17201321 for the supply of FRP Drop Down Modular Toilets For LGB Coaches due date to be read as 16.10.2020 instead of 17.09.2020. (2) Tender No.: 17201306 for the Supply of Layout of Lettering inside for with Braille Script. due date to be read as 05.10.2020 instead of 14.09.2020. (3) Tender No.: 17201342 for procurement of Seats for 2nd AC Chair Car LHB Coach, Seats for LHB Non AC Chair Coaches due date to be read as 09.10.2020 instead of 16.09.2020 Qty. PL No. 33590096- Existing Entry 37 Set, to be read as 39 Set, Qty PL No. 33600223- Existing entry 05 Set to be read as 07 set, EMD: Existing Entry ₹ 8,45,220/- to be read ₹ 9,29,550/- (4) Tender No.: 01201139 Cross Section due date to be read as 30.09.2020 instead of 16.09.2020. (5) Tender No.: 17201402 due on 22.09.2020 for the procurement of Luggage rack Mounting for SLR LHB Coach. Existing Entry 111 set to be read as 169 set. (6) Tender No.: 05201299 for Set of Carlines Complete for LHB AC 3 Tier Coaches (Garib Rath). Existing Item Description: Set of Carlines complete for LHBAC 3 Tier Coaches (Garib Rath), as per Drawing: MP20CARGRATH Version 01, to be read as Set of Carlines complete for LHB AC 3 Tier Coaches (Garib Rath), as per Drawing: MP20CARGRATH Version 00. Existing EMD : ₹ 4,02,130/- to be read as ₹ 4,07,640/- Existing date: 21.09.2020 to be read as 12.10.2020. (7) Tender No.: 07201213 (Composite pipe size 3240 & 1620) Due Date to be read as 28.09.2020 instead of 18.09.2020.

All other terms & conditions of the tender will remain unchanged.

T. No.: G-122-01/Store/065/2020-21 **Dated: 19.09.2020**

DECCAN
Chronicle

20 SEPTEMBER 2020



Shreevatsa Nevatia

Off the beaten track

Beauty no antidote to
Beirut's legacy of loss

I have developed a strange habit of late. An hour before I sleep, I tune into either BBC or CNN. Having caught up on the day's news, I wait for the foreign voices of TV anchors to first turn into a drone, then into lullaby. I often wake up in the middle of the night to fresh updates of Donald Trump's dangerous shenanigans, but on most days, I do not mind these rude interruptions. Even though my subconscious mind isn't well put together, it is, I tell myself, well informed. On occasion, however, my plans backfire.

A little over a month ago, on August 4, I couldn't fall asleep, no matter how hard I tried. Both the BBC and CNN had begun to flash breaking news, pictures of Beirut's historic port exploding. The television didn't make the blast any less deafening or scary. Hours before the Lebanese government could wrap its head around the cause of the explosion — a large, volatile consignment of ammonium nitrate — reports of devastation had begun trickling in. Houses, storefronts and bystanders had been blown to pieces. The CNN bureau had been destroyed. I was anguished. Beirut is my favourite city in the world.

In 2006, when Israel began pounding Lebanon with bombs, my editor called me and said, "You're going to Beirut." I was only 22, but my boss was one of those rare men who did not see inexperience when he looked at youth, he saw hunger. He was also one of those rare editors who believed that one could only make sense of affairs at home when one understood the world. A war, even if being fought between Israel and a terrorist Hezbollah, had ramifications for us all. To show that violence is futile, he believed, it needed to be widely reported. As I was parachuted into Lebanon, I knew he was right.

For my first few days in Beirut, I embedded myself with the Red Cross. I was asked to shadow Sana'a, a volunteer not much older than me. She translated the Arabic I heard and read. She spoke English with a delectable accent. She was the most beautiful woman I had seen. Even when she took me to meet Fadiya Al Ahmar, I spent more time looking at her than a nearly nine-months pregnant Fadiya, who had been caught in Israeli-Hezbollah crossfire just a few days ago. "I am taking pills to calm myself, knowing they could be dangerous in my present state. I am so frightened my milk will be poison for my baby," the 30-year-old told us. After my interview, Fadiya hugged me tight and cried inconsolably.

Driving into Dahieh, a predominantly Shia suburb in Beirut, the windshield of my car would sometimes be hit by pamphlets that Israeli aircraft would drop from the skies. "Get out or get killed," the flimsy papers would read. Lebanon's youth had begun to take this message seriously. Mohammad, a man I met in Dahieh, a Hezbollah stronghold, said he didn't want take sides in the war: "I like sitting on the fence, it takes less place." Checking into a hotel with his family, Mohammad confided he wanted to move to Europe. Bilaal, a 14-year-old, watched Macaulay Culkin's *Home Alone* once every month. All he wanted was a life in the US. Even in 2006, Lebanon was, sadly, a country you survived or escaped.

Fourteen years ago, Beirut still had wounds that hadn't healed. A 15-year long (1975-1990) civil war had left its people scarred and distrustful. Rafic Hariri, one of Lebanon's beloved prime ministers, had been assassinated in 2005. Israel and Hezbollah were only compounding Lebanese trauma. All of 1,191 civilians are believed to have died in the 2006 Lebanon War, but the number of people who left the country as a result of it is estimated to be much, much higher. In recent years, a financial crisis has brought Lebanon to its knees. With inflation above 50 per cent, the life savings of several Lebanese people have now been erased. A banking scandal has made it difficult for many to access funds or take loans.

The nostalgia of tourists and travellers is inevitably myopic. It misrepresents both the past and present. When I think of Beirut, I remember the Rauouche Rocks that I could see from the city's exquisite beach. I long to return to the Roman Baths in downtown Beirut and walk past the Parisian cafes that surround Nejme Square. When I was 22, I believed that beauty and disaster could coexist, but watching the Port of Beirut being blown to smithereens, I knew that beauty is only a ruse. Rather than help us ease another's pain, it only tries to make us forget their suffering altogether. Sana'a had told me, "I don't care how bad it gets. Beirut is my home. I'll do all that I can to protect it." I imagine her fighting alone.

Shreevatsa Nevatia is a Kolkata-based journalist and the author of How to Travel Light: My Memories of Madness and Melancholia



Hope was never easy to find in Beirut, but the destruction of its port might make it extinct altogether

Subhani

SEAT SHARING...

How a 'friendly' media
hurts govt's credibility

Pavan K. Varna

Chanakya's View

Rajat Sharma, who runs India TV, once told me a story about Atal Behari Vajpayee. The story deserves to be known more widely, so I hope that Rajat, who is a friend, will not mind if I share it. India TV has a very popular show called "Aap Ki Adalat", which Rajat anchors. A prominent personality from any walk of life is invited to the show, and literally put in the dock to be interrogated. Once, Atalji, as Prime Minister, agreed to be in the dock.

The interaction went off very well, or so Rajat thought. But as Atalji was leaving, he said, "Main aapse naraaz hoon: I am not very happy with you. Come and see me at my residence." Rajat was apprehensive that he had perhaps been too aggressive in his questioning, or said something that the PM did not like. In any case, at the first opportunity, he took an appointment, and was promptly given one. When they met, Atalji was gracious as ever, but told Rajat bluntly the reason for his *naraazgi* or unhappiness. "Aapne mujhe bohat aasani se chhod diya. You did not ask me the tough questions, and let me off lightly. That was not good of you."

There is a moral in this story, both for our current ruling party, and for some parts of our media. I don't think that leaders who welcome a more open interaction with the media, including sometimes unscripted — even hostile — questioning, lose their believability.

In fact, they enhance it. Similarly, if the media stops being blindly supportive of the ruling party's agenda, it does not lose its credibility. It only increases it.

I often wonder why the BJP's media managers don't understand this simple truth. It is said — apocryphally perhaps — that the BBC has a maxim: You must admit your minor truths if you want your major lies to be believed. With so many "pliant" channels openly toeing the ruling party's line, the BJP is soon going to ensure that no one anymore fully believes what these channels are saying. Intelligent media management requires the ability to propagate your point of view in the midst of a counter-viewpoint, not flat footedly have that viewpoint muted or shouted over. People from one generation before would remember when nobody believed what Doordarshan said. To get the "real" news they would tune in to BBC. But, Doordarshan was a government run broadcaster. What else could it do? That certainly is not the constraint of our non-governmental

When open bias crosses a certain threshold it endangers its own outreach. We saw this happening in the ongoing case of Sudarshan TV's 'Bindas Bol'. The channel was rightly hauled up by the Supreme Court.

Nothing is worse for media management than to have a situation where even your truths are discounted or dismissed because of the lack of credibility of those disseminating it.

media. In fact, the PM would do well to be a little more accessible to the public through interactions with the independent media, interactions that are not a one-way monologue.

When open bias crosses a certain threshold it endangers its own outreach. We saw this happening in the ongoing case of Sudarshan TV's "Bindas Bol" programme which alleged a "jihadi" conspiracy in the supposed increase of Muslim candidates qualifying for the civil services. The channel was rightly hauled up by the Supreme Court for its hateful, hurtful and dubious findings. Justice D.Y. Chandrachud said: "While we respect freedom of media, let this message go to the media as well that any community shouldn't become a target. Ultimately we all exist as a nation, which must be cohesive and not against any community." The SC imposed an injunction on the broadcast of the programme, and called for a more robust mechanism for self-regulation in the media. Referring to several provisions under the law that are against hate speech and incitement of religious hatred, the Court specifically asked the regulatory powers of the News Broadcasters Association to be strengthened. At present, it felt, the NBA is "toothless", with several channels not its member and,

therefore, not under its jurisdiction.

Freedom of speech is a sacrosanct right guaranteed under the Constitution. But this freedom is neither limitless, nor is it one-sided. In a democracy, there must be space for those who wish to dissent, disagree or interrogate the viewpoint of the government. The media is a vital instrument in ensuring that such a liberal milieu of free debate and questioning exists. The BJP's proclivity to encourage and patronise only those "friendly" media outlets that unreservedly espouse its point of view, is counterproductive. I have been the official spokesperson of the ministry of external affairs, the Press secretary to the President of India, and the national spokesperson of the JD(U). Nothing is worse for media management than to have a situation where even your truths are discounted or dismissed because of the lack of credibility of those disseminating it.

Atal Behari Vajpayee was, I am sure, not averse to good media coverage of his government. All leaders, and all governments, want that. But, he was intelligent enough to understand that "good" coverage means very little if it lacks credibility. If the perception is that certain media outlets just blindly eulogise the government, more and more people will devalue what they say. Such outlets may be watched, but may not be believed. That is why he told Rajat Sharma that he should have been a little tougher in his questioning. It is something that the BJP would do well to ponder about.

The writer, an author and former diplomat, is in politics. The views expressed are personal.

LETTERS

CONDOLENCES

I am shocked that a 12-year-old girl was washed away in a drain near her house while having a joyride on her bicycle (12-yr-old washed away in drain, DC, Sept. 19). It is not easy for parents to bear this pain. I offer my sincere condolences to her parents Abhijit Kapuria and Sukanya Kapuria.

Zakaria Sultan
Hyderabad

EGOISTIC RULERS

The proposed new Parliament building at Delhi, new Secretariat in Hyderabad and three capitals for AP are some examples of how ruling parties show hatred for their predecessors. The question is, whose money are they spending for satisfying their egos?

K.R.K.S. Murthy
Hyderabad

UNILATERAL

The Telangana Assembly session was declared adjourned sine die because a few administrative staff tested positive for Covid-19. If such a rule was applied to other offices, most of them will have to be closed. Question Hour was removed in Parliament citing the pandemic. Instead of finding different ways to run the sessions, governments are trying to abdicate their responsibility under the pretext of Covid-19. This is not correct.

G. Thirupathaiah
Hyderabad

ESCAPISM

Democracy demands debate and discussions. The ruling party escapes from the obligations of replying to Opposition's queries by blaming Jawaharlal Nehru or Congress corruption (*Anurag's remark sets off LS furore, DC, Sept. 19*). Hope wisdom prevails and the government answers queries of both the Opposition parties and the media.

P.R. Ravinder
Hyderabad

THANK YOU, KTR

The Christian community is grateful to IT minister K.T. Rama Rao for giving an assurance on the construction of the Christian Bhavan and appreciating the work done by the community.

P.J. David
Hyderabad

MUIVAH'S LOYALTY

The intelligence inputs that NSCN (I/M) is being used by Chinese to delay the Naga peace process is a damning evidence against Muivah. (*Chinese intel mounts pressure on Muivah, DC, Sept. 19*). He should stop having anything to do with China which has mobilised troops at Ladakh. He ought to be grateful to India.

K. Srinivasa Charyulu
Hyderabad

DRUGS IN B'WOOD

Drug abuse in Bollywood should be handled seriously by involving people and civil society organisations. Jaya Bachchan and others should not be defensive about it as it was a different industry then.

T. Kailash Diya
Hyderabad

Email your letters to info@deccanmail.com, editor@deccanmail.com. You can also send them to Editor, Deccan Chronicle, 36, Sarojini Devi Road, Secunderabad-500 003.

Kangana's vitriol corrodes Bollywood reputation

Avenging angel

The Kangana Ranaut saga has upset and demoralised Bollywood. Already badly hurt by the Covid-19 pandemic that is depriving lakhs of their livelihood, the "drugs society" charge is hurting the entertainment industry further. Some former stars wonder why Kangana, an accomplished actress, is speaking with vengeance and making it look as if the drug menace is confined to film industry wallahs. Does it have to do with an ugly episode from Kangana's own life when a superstar and other A-listers had cornered her badly?

Desperately seeking 'Suzy'

Others acknowledge that Bollywood cliques have occasionally concocted their own narcotic for personal consumption. These concoctions are given informal names. One mild drug was reportedly called "Suzy". Who is Suzy? Is she some style trendsetter who habitually hangs out with other A-listers? Nobody knows for sure.

Rajnath comes second

Kangana Ranaut's Mumbai visit was followed by her war of words with co-actress-

es such as Urmila Matondkar. The media frenzy was so extraordinary that it even rattled BJP communication personnel who struggled to make space on TV news for defence minister Rajnath Singh's important statement on China. Even some anchors and channels considered sympathetic to the ruling establishment were reluctant to run political news in place of the saucy Jaya Bachchan-Kangana-Urmila saga.

They still love Sidhu

Shiromani Akali Dal minister Harsimrat Kaur Badal's resignation from the Narendra Modi government over the new farming bill is sought to be underplayed. But informed sources say there is much more happening as part of the run-up to the early-2022 Punjab Assembly polls. While both the Akalis and the BJP have gone on record to say that all is well and that the SAD would continue in the NDA, in private conversation some BJP leaders say the SAD has become a political liability for the BJP in Congress-ruled Punjab. They recall that even in 2016, Narendra Modi and Amit Shah had contemplated breaking ties and going at it alone in the 2017 Assembly polls but Arun Jaitley had argued in favour of the SAD. Interestingly, some BJP leaders view Navjot Singh Sidhu — who had left the BJP



By WAQYANAWIS

and is currently a disgruntled MLA in the Captain Amrinder Singh-led Congress in Punjab — as an asset for 2022. You heard this here first.

No more corridor scoops

For journalists covering the Parliament session, Covid-19 is posing problems.

Incredible as it may sound, they and officials have to get their nose drilled for RT-PCR and antigen tests on a daily basis, or each time they enter Parliament. At the functional level there are many handicaps. Senior scribes cannot meet (or run into in Parliament's corridors) leaders who used to provide valuable information, leads or just gossip.

Waiting for Sonia

During the UPA era, Gurdeep Singh Sappal was everywhere. A political aide of former vice-president Hamid Ansari and heading Rajya Sabha TV, Sappal had wide access. Today, his independent TV venture, Swaraj Express, has conked without a trace. Sappal has not given up hope. He, like many others, is anxiously waiting for Sonia Gandhi to return and looking for a meaty role in the AICC media department or party's "War Room" at 15, Gurudwara Rakabgunj Marg. Some Congress leaders feel that if failure and insignificance act in Sappal's favour then he may bounce back.

The writer is a keen observer of the goings-on in backrooms of power

Cease-fire ordered
in Jordan

NEW DELHI, Sept. 19. Cairo Radio has announced that King Hussein of Jordan has asked his forces to cease-fire, Radio BBC reports.

Baghdad Radio announced that Palestinian Commandos have rejected the cease fire, the Radio report added. A.P. adds from Beirut: The order to cease fire, from 2130 IST, came from Field Marshal Majali and was addressed to all army, police and security units of the Royal forces.

50 YEARS AGO IN DECCAN Chronicle It was broadcast by Radio Amman. Marshal Majali ordered his men to stop firing "except in dealing with sources of fire hindering your humanitarian duties." The Palestinian resistance central committee announced it would never accept a ceasefire "until we have liquidated all the murderers and all the traitors." Baghdad Radio said. Meanwhile, defections were reported to have taken place in the Palestinian guerrillas and Jordanian Government troops fighting in Amman.

SHORT TAKES THOUSANDS JOIN DEMOCRACY RALLY IN THAI

Bangkok, Sept. 19: Tens of thousands of pro-democracy protesters massed close to Thailand's royal palace on Saturday, in a huge rally calling for PM Prayut Chan-O-Cha to step down and demanding reforms to the monarchy.

The kingdom has seen nearly daily gatherings of youth-led groups since mid-July calling for the resignation of Prayut, the former army chief behind the 2014 coup, and a complete overhaul of his administration. Some are also demanding reforms to Thailand's ultra-wealthy and powerful monarchy — a once-taboo topic in the country due to its tough royal defamation laws.

The burgeoning movement, partly inspired by Hong Kong's pro-democracy protests, remains largely leaderless.

But the weekend's demonstration is organised by students of Bangkok's Thammasat University — a group that has been among the most vocal about the royal family's role in Thailand.

2 KILLED, 14 HURT IN SHOOTING AT U.S. PARTY

Washington, Sept. 19: Two people were killed and 14 wounded early on Saturday in a shooting at a backyard party in Rochester, New York state, police said. Officers responding to reports of gunfire in the area found a "chaotic scene" with about 100 people running in various directions, interim police chief Mark Simmons told reporters.

"In total we have 16 confirmed victims of shooting. And I'm sad to announce that two of the 16 received a fatal wound," he said.

Those killed — one man, one woman — were both between 18 and 22 years of age, and had not been formally identified, he said.

The 14 wounded had been taken to hospital and were not in a life-threatening condition, he said. No arrests have been made so far and police could not say if more than one shooter was involved. "For our community to have to deal with this tragedy ... is unfortunate and shameful," Simmons said.

FIREFIGHTER DIES BATTLING BLAZE

Juniper Hills (US), Sept. 19: The death of a firefighter on the lines of a wildfire east of Los Angeles was under investigation on Friday as another blaze to the north burned homes in a small community on the edge of the Mojave Desert.

The death occurred Thursday in San Bernardino National Forest as crews battled the El Dorado Fire about 75 miles (120 kilometers) east of LA, the US Forest Service said in a statement.

The fire erupted earlier this month from a smoke-generating pyrotechnic device used by a couple to reveal their baby's gender, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, or Cal Fire, said. The name of the firefighter was being withheld until family members are notified. "Our deepest sympathies are with the family, friends and fellow firefighters during this time," Forest Service spokesperson Zach Behrens said in the statement.

What is life? It's that youthful first love, a funeral and a party

**SUPARNA SHARMA | DC
NEW DELHI, SEPT. 19**

"What is youth? A dream. What is love? The content of the dream." These unforgettable lines, by Soren Kierkegaard, appear at the beginning of director Thomas Vinterberg's Danish film, *Another Round*, which is playing at the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF). But it's almost as if they were written after watching another film that's playing at TIFF — 20-year-old Suzanne Lindon's French love story, *Spring Blossom*.

Lindon is the star of her film. She plays Suzanne, a bored 16-year-old girl in Paris who, on her way to and from school, lingers a bit in a cobbled, cafe-lined

square, her eyes peeled for a 35-year-old dashing actor, Raphaël (Arnaud Valois).

Boys and girls her own age don't interest Suzanne. She wants to be seen, by him. Raphaël's parked red scooter is an indicator that he's inside the small theatre rehearsing a play. She doesn't know that he too is bored. She doesn't know that sometimes he is asked to play an Oak tree.

Spring Blossom follows Suzanne everywhere — when she's with her friends, at home with her parents, or out with Raphaël.

The film's story, which Lindon wrote when she was 15, celebrates the heady concoction of uncontrollable joy, chuckles and tangles in a young mind and body while negotiating

first love. It captures the shine and bounce that love brings, as well as the overwhelming confusion before that first breakfast date, and the shy, awkward moments at that date with the sort of lyrical swaying that the young in love are prone to.

As Raphaël too begins to fall in love with Suzanne, they are locked in a moment. And just as she likes to linger in that square, Suzanne wants to linger in that moment too, sipping grenadine and lemonade.

Usually, love stories have trauma, drama, villains, loss. There is no turmoil, loss in *Spring Blossom*. Just the fear of losing that moment, that love.

Vinterberg's *Another*

Round is about having lived those moments and then lost them to a job, a family, a house.

The film tells the story of four high school teachers of whom Martin (Mads Mikkelsen) is most obviously struck by a sadness that's taken hold of his soul.

"Am I boring?" Martin asks his wife, and breaks down at a dinner with his friends. That's when Nikolaj (Magnus Millan), a psychology teacher, talks of Norwegian psychiatrist Finn Skårderud's claim that humans are born short of 0.05% Blood Alcohol Content, and to function at our best — physically, intellectually and emotionally — we must drink.

Martin tests this theory and his dull, confusing,

rambling history classes become engaging, fun.

He tells the others, and on Nikolaj's suggestion and pretence of taking notes for research, they all begin taking a few swigs before and during work. It helps initially, to smile, to take more interest, to reconnect with themselves, and to connect with others. But there's temptation to drink more, and soon some relationships, lives begin to capsize.

Another Round is funny, sad, real, bizarre, scary, warm. And it's message is simple — life is both, a funeral and a party. That's why it ends on a glorious note, with a dance sequence by Mads Mikkelsen that will add two years to your lifespan.

Ginsburg, women's rights architect, dead

US SC judge fought against death penalty; death sets off battle over naming replacement ahead of Prez poll

Washington, Sept. 19: Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, a diminutive yet towering women's rights champion who became the court's second female judge, died Friday at her home in Washington. She was 87.

Ginsburg, affectionately known as 'Notorious RBG' died of complications from metastatic pancreatic cancer, the court said.

Her death just over six weeks before Election Day is likely to set off a heated battle over whether President Donald Trump should nominate, and the Republican-led Senate should confirm, her replacement, or if the seat should remain vacant until the outcome of his race against Democrat Joe Biden is known.

Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said the Senate will vote on Trump's pick to replace Ginsburg, even though it's an election year.

Trump called Ginsburg an amazing woman and did not mention filling her seat when he spoke to reporters following a rally in Bemidji, Minnesota.

"Our nation has lost a

jurist of historic stature," said Chief Justice John Roberts.

Barack Obama said in a tweet that Ginsburg "fought to the end, through her cancer, with unwavering faith in our democracy and its ideals."

Ginsburg spent her final years on the bench as the unquestioned leader of the court's liberal wing and became something of a rock star to her admirers. Young women especially seemed to embrace the court's Jewish grandmother for her defence of the rights of women and minorities, and the strength and resilience she displayed in the face of personal loss and health crises.

Those health issues included five bouts with cancer beginning in 1999, falls that resulted in broken ribs, insertion of a stent to clear a blocked artery and assorted other hospitalisations after she turned 75.

She resisted calls by liberals to retire during Obama's presidency at a time when Democrats held the Senate and a replacement with similar views



Ruth Bader Ginsburg

could have been confirmed.

Ginsburg antagonised Trump during the 2016 presidential campaign in a series of media interviews, including calling him a faker. She soon apologised.

Her appointment by Bill Clinton in 1993 was the first by a Democrat in 26 years. She initially found a comfortable ideological home somewhere left of centre on a conservative court dominated by Republican appointees.

Her liberal voice grew stronger the longer she served.

Ginsburg was a mother of two, an opera lover and

an intellectual who watched arguments behind oversized glasses for many years, though she ditched them for more fashionable frames in her later years.

At argument sessions in the ornate courtroom, she was known for digging deep into case records and for being a stickler for following the rules.

She argued six key cases before the court in the 1970s when she was an architect of the women's rights movement. She won five.

On the court, where she was known as a facile writer, her most significant majority opinions were the 1996 ruling that ordered the Virginia Military Institute to accept women or give up its state funding, and the 2015 decision that upheld independent commissions some states use to draw congressional districts.

Besides civil rights, Ginsburg took an interest in capital punishment, voting repeatedly to limit its use. During her tenure, the court declared it unconstitutional for states to execute the intellectually dis-

abled and killers younger than 18.

In addition, she questioned the quality of lawyers for poor persons accused of murder. In the most divisive of cases, including the *Bush v. Gore* decision in 2000, she was often at odds with the court's more conservative members.

Ginsburg would say later that the 5-4 decision that settled the 2000 presidential election for Bush was a breathtaking episode at the court.

Hundreds of people gathered outside the Supreme Court, singing in a candlelight vigil and weeping as they mourned the death of Ginsburg. Prayer candles with Ginsburg's photo were also left on the steps. Several times, dozens in the crowd broke into song, singing *Amazing Grace* and *This Land Is Your Land*.

At one point, the crowd broke into a thunderous applause — lasting for about a minute — for Ginsburg. "Thank you RBG," one sign read. On the sidewalk, "RBG" was drawn inside a pink chalk heart. — AP

Water area festival



A flyboarder performs in Moscow River Channel during a SUP (Stand Up Paddle), Water area festival in Moscow, Russia, on Saturday. — AFP

Senior US diplomat wraps up Taiwan visit

China protests US ban on tech giants

Taipei, Sept. 19: A top US diplomat attended the funeral for former Taiwan president Lee Teng-hui Saturday which featured a eulogy by Tibetan spiritual leader the Dalai Lama before wrapping up a visit overshadowed by Chinese military exercises. China sent more warplanes toward Taiwan for the second day on Saturday.

Keith Krach, undersecretary of state for economic growth, energy and the environment, was the highest-ranking State Department official to visit Taiwan since 1979 when Washington switched diplomatic recognition to Beijing.

The trip, the second high-ranking US visit in as many months, sparked an immediate rebuke from China, which balks at any recognition of Taiwan and has mounted a decades-long policy of marginalising the democratic island.

US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo accused

Shanghai, Sept. 19: China said on Saturday it had launched a mechanism enabling it to restrict foreign entities, a much-anticipated move seen as retaliation to US penalties against Chinese companies such as telecom giant Huawei.

An announcement by the Ministry of Commerce did not mention any specific foreign entities, but broadly spelled out the factors that could trigger punitive measures, which may include fines,

restrictions on import-export business or investment in China, and the entry of personnel or equipment into the country.

It covers "foreign enterprises, other organisations and individuals", it said. The launch of the "unreliable entities list" ups the ante in the escalating commercial fight with the Trump administration, which has used its own "entity list" to bar Huawei from the US market on national security grounds. — AFP

China of "military blustering" as Beijing conducted military exercises on Friday near the Taiwan Strait during Krach's visit.

Chinese fighters and bombers crossed the so-called median line divid-

ing the Strait and entered Taiwan's southwest air defence identification zone (ADIZ) for a second straight day on Saturday. Taiwan's defence ministry said as it scrambled fighters in response. — PTI

Iran vows 'hit' on all involved in Gen's killing

Tehran, Sept. 19: The chief of Iran's paramilitary Revolutionary Guard threatened on Saturday to go after everyone who had a role in a top general's January killing during a US drone strike in Iraq.

The guard's website quoted Gen. Hossein Salami as saying, "Mr. Trump! Our revenge for martyrdom of our great general is obvious, serious and real."

US President Donald Trump warned this week that Washington would harshly respond to any Iranian attempts to take revenge for the death of Gen. Qassem Soleimani, tweeting that "if they hit us in any way, any form, written instructions already done we're going to hit them 1000 times harder."

The president's warning came in response to a report that Iran was plotting to assassinate the US ambassador to South Africa in retaliation for Soleimani's killing at Baghdad's airport at the

beginning of the year. "We took out the world's number one terrorist and the mass murderer of American troops and many, many troops and many people all over the world," Trump said.

"Qasem Soleimani is dead. He's dead. Bad guy. Bad guy. Very bad guy," Salami rejected the report of an Iranian plot to assassinate Ambassador Lana Marks, but made clear that Iran intends to avenge the general's death.

"Do you think we hit a female ambassador in return to our martyred brother?" the general said. "We will hit those who had direct and indirect roles. You should know that everybody who had role in the event will be hit, and this is a serious message. We do prove everything in practice." In January, Iran launched a ballistic missile attack targeting US soldiers in Iraq in response to the fatal drone strike. — AP

PAK'S EX-PM SHARIF SET TO MAKE COMEBACK

Islamabad, Sept. 19: Pakistan's deposed premier Nawaz Sharif is set to make a comeback in active politics following a year-long absence after PPP chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari invited him to virtually attend the Opposition-led multiparty conference aimed at launching a protest movement against the Imran Khan-led government on Sunday. — PTI

UK MIN'S GUARD LEFT GUN ON PLANE, SUSPENDED

London, Sept. 19: A bodyguard who was traveling with Britain's foreign secretary has been suspended from duties after he reportedly left a loaded gun on a plane.

British media reported on Saturday that the police protection officer traveling with Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab on a visit to the United States left the pistol on a plane at London's Heathrow Airport on Friday. A cleaner found the weapon, media reports said.

London's Metropolitan Police said the force was aware of "the incident on a flight into the UK on Friday" and "taking this matter extremely seriously."

"The officer involved has since been removed from operational duties whilst an internal investigation into the circumstances is taking place," the police department said on Saturday in a statement. — AP

Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation					
E.E. Circle-30, Begumpet, Sec-3ad Zone					
e-Procurement Notice					
The details can be seen by logging in https://procurement.gahm.gov.in , the date of events is detailed below:					
NIT No	Name of the Work	Estimate	Bid Document Download Start Date	Submission Closing Date & Time	Name & Designation of Officer Call Center
NIT No. 30/SDZ/2020-2021 Dt: 19-03-2020	Supply and Commissioning of Four Face, 1.2 MTR diameter Quartz Analog Solar Tower Clock located at CSI Church, Near Kanamthi Road on SD road, Supply and Commissioning of Four Face, 1.2 MTR diameter Quartz Analog Tower Clock Located at Ramagopalpet Police Station on MG Road at Begumpet Circle, Sec-3ad Zone, G.H.M.C.	22.00	21-03-2020 12:00:00	22-03-2020 4:30:00	E.E. Circle-30, Begumpet, Sec-3ad Zone, G.H.M.C. 0669950370
Further details can be seen at e-Procurement @ https://procurement.gahm.gov.in					
NCL Officer (NCL) ncl@procurement.gahm.gov.in Sr. Executive Engineer					
E.E. Circle-30, Begumpet, Sec-3ad Zone					

SHORT TAKES

Hari stuns Carlsen before four losses

Chennai: Indian Grandmaster P. Harikrishna pulled off a stunning win over world champion Magnus Carlsen of Norway but suffered four losses later in the day to slip to overall sixth place in the St Louis Rapid and Blitz online chess tournament.

Harikrishna defeated world number one Carlsen in round three of Blitz 1 in 63 moves with white pieces. He also beat lower-rated American Jeffrey Xiong but save for the two wins, he had a forgettable day as he suffered four defeats, apart from three draws. Harikrishna shares the sixth place with Armenian GM Levon Aronian with 3.5 points after the nine rounds of Blitz 1. Carlsen, who had dropped to second place behind So at the end of the Rapid event, leapt to the top spot in the standings with 18.5 points. — PTI

Tvesa lies T-2nd at French Open

Bordeaux, France: Indian golfer Tvesa Malik put herself in contention with a solid three-under 68 to lie tied second after round two of the 2020 Lacoste Ladies Open De France.

As Tvesa carded 68 to get to four-under 138, Sweden's Julia Engstrom had a memorable day with a hole-in-one en route to a second round 64 (-7) which put her on top the leaderboard heading into the third and final round.

Things were, however, rather disappointing for another Indian Diksha Dagar, who after 89 in the first round, carded 85 and missed the cut by a big margin. Tvesa shares the second place with local French golfer and the 2015 champion Celine Herbin at four-under and they are four behind Julia Engstrom. — PTI

Djoker loses cool again during win

Rome: Less than two weeks after getting defaulted from the U.S. Open, Novak Djokovic lost his cool again midway through a 6-3, 4-6, 6-3 win over German qualifier Dominik Koepfer in the Italian Open quarterfinals Saturday.

When Djokovic was broken at love to end the second set at 3-3, he slammed his racket to the red clay in anger. With the frame broken and the strings all mangled, Djokovic was forced to get a new racket and received a warning from the chair umpire.

Djokovic had already appeared frustrated the previous game, when he glared toward the umpire following a couple of overrules and a point that was ordered to be replayed. — AP

Lakers dominate Nuggets in Game 1

Miami: Anthony Davis scored 37 points and pulled down 10 rebounds as the Los Angeles Lakers dominated the Denver Nuggets 126-114 on Friday in game one of the NBA Western Conference finals.

LeBron James added 15 points with 12 assists and six rebounds for the Lakers, who shot out of the gate after dropping their opener in each of their previous two playoff series in the NBA's coronavirus quarantine bubble in Orlando, Florida.

After a close first quarter ended with the Nuggets up by two, the Lakers seized control in the second quarter, out-scoring Denver 34-21 to take a 70-59 lead into halftime. "It took a quarter for us to kind of figure it out," James said. — AFP

Live on TV

CRICKET

IPL: Delhi Capitals vs Kings XI Punjab from 7.30 pm on Star Sports 1, HD

FOOTBALL

English Premier League: Southampton vs Tottenham Hotspur from 4.30 pm; Newcastle vs Brighton from 6.30 pm; Chelsea vs Liverpool from 9 pm; Leicester City vs Burnley from 11.30 pm on Star Sports Select 2, HD

Spanish League: Huesca vs Cadiz from 7.30 pm; Granada vs Deportivo Alaves from 10 pm; Real Betis vs Real Valladolid from 10 pm; Real Sociedad vs Real Madrid from 12.30 am (Monday) on LaLiga page on Facebook

Italian League: Parma vs Napoli from 4 pm; Genoa vs Crotone from 6.30 pm; Sassuolo vs Cagliari from 9.30 pm Juventus vs Sampdoria from 12.15 am (Monday) on Sony Ten 2, HD

TENNIS

Rome Masters: Semifinals in two sessions from 5.30 pm and 9.30 pm on Sony Six, HD

DAZZLING DUET

Century stand between Rayudu, Du Plessis help CSK pull off incredible win

Abu Dhabi, Sept. 19: Ambati Rayudu smashed a 48-ball 71 to guide Chennai Super Kings to a comprehensive five-wicket win over defending champions Mumbai Indians in the opening match of the 13th IPL here on Saturday.

Chasing 163 to win, Rayudu blasted six fours and three sixes in his blistering innings, while Faf du Plessis cracked 58 off 44 balls as CSK romped home with four balls to spare.

Earlier, Mumbai Indians posted a challenging 162/9 after Chennai Super Kings skipper Mahendra Singh Dhoni won the toss and elected to bowl.

The highlight of Mumbai's innings was Saurabh Tiwary's 42 off 31 balls and Quinton de Kock's 20-ball 33 at the top.

For CSK, Lungi Ngidi (3/38) was the most successful bowler while Ravindra Jadeja (2/42) and Deepak Chahar (2/32) captured two wickets apiece and Sam Curran (1/28) and Piyush Chawla (4/21) picked one each.

The shrewd Dhoni introduced Chawla into the attack and he right away dismissed Rohit Sharma (12) who always have had a problem with wrist spinners. It was a straight delivery that Rohit was trying to hit

inside out but couldn't get past Curran at the mid-off circle. — PTI

SCORECARD

Mumbai Indians: Rohit Sharma c Sam Curran b Chawla 12, Quinton de Kock c Watson b Sam Curran 33, Suryakumar Yadav c Sam Curran b D. Chahar 17, Saurabh Tiwary c du Plessis b Ravindra Jadeja 42, Hardik Pandya c du Plessis b Ravindra Jadeja 14, Kieron Pollard c Dhoni b Lungi Ngidi 18, Krunal Pandya c Dhoni b Lungi Ngidi 3, James Pattinson c du Plessis b Lungi Ngidi 11, Rahul Chahar (not out) 2, Trent Boult b D. Chahar 0, Jasprit Bumrah (not out) 5. **Extras: (w-4, lb-1) 5. Total: (for 9 wkts, in 20 Over) 162.** **FoW:** 46-1, 48-2, 92-3, 121-4, 124-5, 136-6, 151-7, 156-8, 156-9. **Bowler:** Deepak Chahar 4-0-32-2, Sam Curran 4-0-23-1, Lungi Ngidi 4-0-38-3, Piyush Chawla 4-0-21-1, Ravindra Jadeja 4-0-42-2.

Chennai Super Kings Innings: Murali Vijay lbw b James Pattinson 1, Shane Watson lbw b Boult 4, Faf du Plessis (not out) 58, Ambati Rayudu c and b Rahul Chahar 71, Ravindra Jadeja lbw b Krunal Pandya 10, Sam Curran c James Pattinson b Bumrah 18, M.S. Dhoni (not out) 0. **Extras: (w-3, nb-1) 4. Total (for 5 wkts, in 19.2 overs) 166.** **FoW:** 5-1, 6-2, 121-3, 134-4, 153-5. **Bowler:** Trent Boult 3-2-0-23-1, James Pattinson 4-0-27-1, Jasprit Bumrah 4-0-43-1, Krunal Pandya 4-0-37-1, Rahul Chahar 4-0-36-1.



Chennai Super Kings players celebrates the wicket of Rohit Sharma of Mumbai Indians during match 1 of season 13 of the Indian Premier League held at the Sheikh Zayed Stadium, Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates on Saturday. — BCCI

DC, KXIP in battle of power-hitters

Dubai, Sept. 19: Two greats will pit their wits against each other in the background as their captains, with an ability to achieve greatness, lead their power-hitters out for an IPL match between Delhi Capitals and Kings XI Punjab here on Sunday.

Ricky Ponting and Anil Kumble are arguably two of the biggest names in cricket and the dazzling array of talent in both the teams would seek to draw inspiration from their respective heavyweight coaches in their tournament opener.

Man-to-man, Delhi Capitals seem to have a slight edge, more so in the spin department, with the trio of R. Ashwin, Amit Mishra and Axar Patel streets ahead of their counterparts from the Mohali-based side.

Spin is expected to play a big role on the UAE pitches.



Delhi Capitals' captain Shreyas Iyer (left) and coach Ricky Ponting at a training session in Dubai on Saturday.

The match, at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium, will also be a face-off between skipper K.L. Rahul and Shreyas Iyer, both seen as future India captaincy material.

Shimron Hetmyer.

In this scenario, Ajinkya Rahane (strike-rate below 120), who was bought from Rajasthan Royals, may be left out.

The KXIP also boast of some of the finest clean hitters in the form of Chris Gayle, Glenn Maxwell and Rahul himself.

Maxwell's confidence must be sky high after his ODI series-winning century (108) against England. He also had a memorable run the last time the IPL was held in UAE, albeit partially, in 2014 when he hammered 552 runs in 16 games.

The KXIP have a dangerous opening pairing in Gayle and Rahul with Mayank Agarwal to follow. But it remains to be seen whether the 40-year-old Gayle will continue to be a regular feature at the top of the order this time around. — PTI

NUMBERS GAME — KXIP vs DC

HEAD TO HEAD

OVERALL:

- Matches: 24
- Kings XI Punjab won: 14
- Delhi Capitals won: 10

MEETING IN 2019

- Kings XI Punjab defeated Delhi Capitals by 14 runs in Mohali
- Delhi Capitals beat Kings XI Punjab by 5 wickets in Delhi

FOR THE RECORD

- Shikhar Dhawan, who scored 4579 runs at an average of 33.42 in 158 innings of 159 matches for Deccan

Chargers, Mumbai Indians, Sunrisers Hyderabad and Delhi Capitals is the fourth highest scorer in IPL behind Virat Kohli (5,412 runs in 177 matches) and Suresh Raina (5,368 runs in 193 matches) and Rohit Sharma (4,898 runs in 188 matches).

● Chris Gayle is the only batsman to hit over 300 sixes in IPL. He smashed 326 sixes in 124 innings of 125 matches for Kings XI Punjab, Kolkata Knight Riders and Royal Challengers Bangalore. — S. PERVEZ GAISER

Rahul vows to make it memorable

Dubai, Sept. 19: Kings XI Punjab skipper K.L. Rahul on Saturday said the side is motivated to making this IPL season a memorable one by playing a good brand of cricket.

The Rahul-led side will open their campaign against Delhi Capitals at the Dubai International Stadium on Sunday.

"The team has been fantastic, we've been getting along great and are looking forward to playing a good brand of cricket and making this season a memorable one," Rahul said.

"We're confident, we're motivated and we are really excited to be a part of this edition of the



Indian Premier League," he added.

Rahul, who has been handed the Kings XI Punjab captaincy after two stellar seasons with the bat at the top of the order, said it will be a

challenging experience playing in the UAE without the fans but the team is ready for it.

"It is going to be a different experience this year, but we as a team are up to the challenge and

are playing for all the fans who continue to support us," Rahul said.

KXIP, who have never won the IPL, are aiming to go all the way this time with a strong squad at their disposal with the likes of Mayank Agarwal, Mohammad Shami and overseas recruits Chris Gayle, Glenn Maxwell, Sheldon Cottrell, Jimmy Neesham, the in-form Nicholas Pooran and Mujeeb Zadran.

"The team looks great and we have a top-notch line up this season. The boys have been working really hard and we have a nice balance of youth and experience in our squad," head Coach Anil Kumble said. — PTI

SMITH, ARCHER, BUTTLER CLEAR COVID-19 TESTS

Dubai, Sept. 19: Captain Steve Smith along with star players Jofra Archer and Jos Buttler have cleared the mandatory Covid-19 test on arrival and are available to play Rajasthan Royals' IPL opener against Chennai Super Kings at the Sharjah Cricket ground on September 22.

The trio were part of the 21-strong contingent of Australia and England players, who arrived in the UAE from UK by a special chartered flight on September 17.

"Smith, Buttler and Archer underwent Covid-19 tests on Friday and

results are negative. So they are available for selection with quarantine duration being reduced to 36 hours," an IPL source said on conditions of anonymity.

Former Australia skipper Smith has had concussion problems and missed all three ODIs against England and his participation in the opening game is subject to clearance from both franchise and Cricket Australia's medical team.

If Smith misses the first game, Buttler could lead the side as he is one of the senior most players in the team. — PTI

EVERTON FIRE 5 PAST WEST BROM

London, Sept. 19: Dominic Calvert-Lewin hit a hat-trick and James Rodriguez bagged his first Premier League goal as Everton crushed 10-man West Bromwich Albion 5-2 to extend their perfect start to the season on Saturday.

Carlo Ancelotti's side fell behind to Grady Diangana's early goal at Goodison Park.

But Calvert-Lewin equalised and James put them ahead before West Brom imploded.

Kieran Gibbs was dismissed for pushing James in the face in first half stoppage-time.

Then Albion boss Slaven Bilic was sent to the stands after storming onto the pitch for a furious rant at referee Mike Dean.

Matheus Pereira equalised for Albion after the interval, but Michael Keane restored Everton's lead and Calvert-Lewin sealed the points with his second and third goals.

Ar 23, Calvert-Lewin is the youngest Englishman to score a Premier League hat-trick for Everton. — AFP

THE RESULT

Everton 5
(Calvert-Lewin 31, 62, 66, James 45, Keane 54)
West Brom 2
(Diangana 10, Pereira 47)

BAYERN RUN RIOT IN OPENER

Munich (Germany), Sept. 19: Leroy Sane said all-conquering Bayern Munich crave even more silverware after the Germany winger scored on his debut in Friday's historic 8-0 thrashing of Schalke in the opening game of the new Bundesliga season.

"We're still hungry, even though we won the treble last season. Winning our first game at home 8-0 is obviously super," said Sane after creating two goals for Serge Gnabry, who claimed a hat-trick in the goalfest.

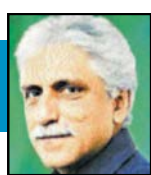
The jaw-dropping result is the highest win in an opening game of a new Bundesliga season — five weeks to the day after Bayern's 8-2 thrashing of Barcelona in the quarter-finals of the Champions League. — AFP

THE RESULT

Bayern Munich 8
(Gnabry 4, 47, 59, Goretzka 19, Lewandowski 31-pen, Mueller 69, Sane 71, Musiala 81)
Schalke 0

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This IPL could be decisive for 5 Indian star players



Ayaz Memon Over The Top

After months of suspense, apprehension and anticipation, the IPL is finally underway. The circumstances are unusual. The tournament has been played overseas earlier too, so that it not such a severe setback, though it could impact the teams in sundry ways since players were chosen, retained or dumped based on the tournament being played in India.

What's starkly different this time is that this high-

octane tournament will be without spectators, and with a stringent protocol in place to counter the looming threat of Covid19. It remains to be seen what impact this has on the players' mood and mind.

Barring players from West Indies, England and Australia, others are also shorn of match practice since the lockdown began in March. How rusty will they be? Other factors that could have a bearing on team and individual performances are the heat

and humidity in the UAE, at least for the first half of the tournament, and the character of pitches which is unknown.

None of this, however, can subdue the excitement of the tournament being played. The IPL is a platform where talent can be showcased and careers made or consolidated. The *creme de la creme* of the world's players (barring from Pakistan) will be in action.

No player's worth can be undermined, but this season my attention will be on five Indian players, at different stages in their careers, for whom this IPL could be decisive in one way or another.

M. S. Dhoni: Recently retired from international cricket, he still remains

perhaps the biggest draw-card in the IPL. Pushing 40, how fit is he for the demanding schedule of the league? Does he still have the form to win matches off his own bat? Most important in Dhoni's case is captaincy. He commands loyalty, of that there is no doubt. But with seasoned pros Raina and Harbhajan missing, how he deploys his resources will be key. And how CSK fares this season could well determine whether Dhoni will wear the yellow jersey next season.

Virat Kohli: India's most successful captain in international cricket has been floundering to win the IPL title, though he's been spectacular with bat and is the league's highest rungetter. This is his 10th

season in the leadership role. The best RCB have achieved under him was runner up in 2016. Since then, RCB's results have been poor: bottom placed in 2017 and 2019, 6th in 2018, raising queries about Kohli's captaincy in this format. Harsh considering his captaincy record in the same format in internationals. But Kohli has certainly something to prove.

R. Ashwin: Picked for international cricket on the strength of IPL performances, became a certainty in all three formats, before losing his place in ODIs as well as T20s. A productive IPL season could bring Ashwin back in the reckoning for India in limited overs cricket. Move from Kings XI Punjab cost him the cap-

taincy as Delhi Capitals have preferred to retain Shreyas Iyer in the top position. Crafty and strong-minded, how well and swiftly he strikes rapport with Iyer and coach Ponting could define DC's fortunes as well as his own future.

K. L. Rahul: Made captain of Kings XI after Ashwin's departure, faces multiple challenges as the team seeks its first IPL title. Rahul's batting ability is hardly doubted. He's mauled the best bowlers with his rich and powerful strokeplay. Under scrutiny now to see how he tackles burden of captaincy. Managing individuals with different skillsets and temperaments can be hugely demanding. Several fine players who

have suffered under the pressure. But this is also an opportunity which can take Rahul higher in Indian cricket.

Hardik Pandya: Broke down during the ODI World Cup in 2019, Pandya's comeback to Indian cricket — in all formats — depends on how well he survives this IPL season. His all-round skills and aggressive instincts make him a matchwinner: with bat or bowling fast medium with clever variations. Add to that brilliant fielding, and it is easy to see why Hardik is so coveted by Mumbai Indians, as well as the Indian team. Whether his career graph resumes its upward trajectory, stagmates or slumps depends on his form and fitness in this tournament.