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KTR deputes 80 officers for rescue

80 colonies, 54 apartments still inundated as IMD warns heavy rains for 3 days

MADDY DEEKSHITH | DC
HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

With the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) predicting heavy rainfall in the next three days, K.T. Rama Rao, municipal administration and urban development (MA&UD) minister, has said 80 special officers have been deployed in the GHMC limits and adjoining municipalities for taking up rescue and relief measures.

He said that all other official operations have been suspended and the GHMC will focus only on pre-disaster, disaster and relief and rehabilitation measures.

Eighty colonies and 54 apartment complexes are still inundated, and 164 electric transformers are yet to be fixed. The southern part of the city, especially Charminar and LB Nagar zones are the worst-affected.

In view of the IMD's rain warning, the government is on high alert, and has alerted the Army and National Disaster Response Force to be on standby.

The minister said that the state government had spent over ₹60 crore so far and another ₹670 crore will be



Residents of Lenin Nagar vacate their houses after the recent rains flooded the entire locality in Hyderabad.

**₹1 LAKH EACH FOR
RAIN RAVAGED
HOUSES: KCR**

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

Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao on Monday announced a ₹550 cr financial package to provide immediate relief to people residing in flood-affected areas of the GHMC and surrounding municipalities.

The government will pay ₹10,000 to each affected poor family in the low-lying areas. An ex gratia of ₹1 lakh has been announced for each house which has been fully damaged by the rains and floods, and ₹50,000 for each partially-damaged house.

Announcing this, the Chief Minister said, "People living in slums in low-lying areas, have suffered a lot because of the heaviest rains in 100 years. It is the government's primary responsibility to help them."

■ Page 2: Restore roads on war footing: CM

Chinese corporal caught in Ladakh

Strays across LAC into India, to be returned

PAWAN BALI | DC
NEW DELHI, OCT. 19

A Chinese soldier was apprehended by the Indian Army in the Demchok sector of eastern Ladakh on Monday after he had "strayed across the Line of Actual Control".

The Indian Army said the PLA soldier will be returned to the Chinese Army after the completion of all formalities at the Chushul-Moldo meeting point in Ladakh.

The Chinese soldier has been identified as Corporal Wang Ya Long.

"The PLA soldier has been provided medical assistance, including oxygen, food and warm clothes, to protect him from the vagaries of extreme altitude and harsh climatic conditions," said the Indian Army. It said a request has also been received from the PLA about the whereabouts of the missing soldier.

"As per established protocols, he will be returned to Chinese officials at the Chushul-Moldo meeting point after the completion of formalities," the Indian Army statement said.

Meanwhile, the Indian Army's top commanders will discuss the threats emerging from China and Pakistan at the commanders' conference due to be held next week, from October 26 to 29. The conference will also discuss proposals to cut down expenditure on ceremonies like colour presentations, regimental reunions and raising days, among others.

India has asked for complete disengagement from all points in eastern Ladakh, where China has transgressed into India, including Pangong Tso and Gogra Post-Hot Springs.

India has made it clear that since it was China which had first transgressed, it will have to make the first move towards disengagement. India wants restoration of the status quo ante of April 2020 in eastern Ladakh. The PLA wants India to vacate strategic heights on the Kailash range.

PAGE 3 | POWER FIRMS WANT METERS OUT OF CELLARS

spent for relief and rescue. This is only a preliminary estimation of the losses and it is expected to increase further. Rama Rao said the state government has submitted a preliminary estimate of loss suffered due to heavy rains in the GHMC

area and in the rest of Telangana state to the Centre. He sought an immediate assistance of ₹1,350 crore from the Centre.

Speaking to the media, Rama Rao, who has toured the flood-hit areas over the past week, said that Chief

Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao had specifically instructed that action be taken to prevent loss of life first, as property damage can be recovered or compensated.

■ Page 2: Present focus on rescuing people: KTR

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soon, but a date is yet to be worked out.

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SHORT TAKES
**FOCUS NOW
ON RESCUING
PEOPLE: KTR**

From Page 1

Criticising the false propaganda against the government, he said that till date, 33 persons have lost their lives due to heavy rains in the GHMC area and neighbouring municipalities. Among these, he said, an ex gratia of ₹5 lakh each has been presented to 29 families. Three people are still missing.

"Those staying in the first and second floors should shift to relief camps immediately and not to put their lives at risk. The officials will provide food, drinking water, toilets, medical camps and masks at rehabilitation centres," he said and added that the government will also facilitate Covid-19 tests in the relief camps.

Commenting on encroachments, Rao said the government has all the relevant reports and satellite photos. He said, the present focus is on rescuing people. The government will discuss encroachments later and as such issues cannot be addressed overnight.

Meanwhile, nodal officers, including deputy commissioners, electricity officials, the GHMC's Disaster Response Force, and sanitation staff will be monitoring relief measures for the next 15 days. Rao said that with only 18 at their disposal, the corporation is falling short of rescue boats and had asked Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka to send around 30 boats.

He thanked Tamil Nadu government for extending ₹10 crore financial aid, besides supplying blankets to Telangana state.

**RESTORE ROADS
ON WAR FOOTING,
SAYS CM**

From Page 1

The Chief Minister instructed the officials to repair and restore all the roads and other infrastructure facilities on a war footing and ensure that life returns to normalcy at the earliest.

He directed the Hyderabad, Ranga Reddy, and Medchal-Malkajgiri collectors to dispatch teams to the field to start distributing amounts to the poor from Tuesday morning.

He instructed Chief Secretary Somesh Kumar to monitor the financial assistance distribution programme by setting up 200 to 250 teams.

He asked all ministers, MLAs, corporators, the Mayor and Deputy Mayor in Hyderabad to help the poor as their responsibility and actively participate in the programme.

He said "the financial support to the flood-affected should be provided till every affected family is covered. People should also come forward and register their names with the authorities for getting the financial assistance."

**IMD WARNS OF
HEAVY RAINS TILL
FRIDAY IN TS**

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

Monday was a day of some relief for the rain-battered state, with the forecast of heavy to very heavy rains over isolated places not materialising to the extent they were feared to occur.

Compared to the nearly 30 cm of rain last Tuesday, and up to 18 cm of rain on Saturday, the highest rain recorded in the state on Monday was 5.8 cm in Tripuraram mandal of Nalgonda district while the highest rain of 2.6 cm in GHMC limits was recorded in Khairatabad.

However, the Indian Meteorological Department on Monday issued a warning for thunderstorms accompanied with lightning, as well as some heavy to very heavy rainfall at isolated places in the state for Tuesday. It also said similar weather can be expected over the state till Friday.

The TS Development Planning Society (TSDSPS) which runs many automated weather reporting stations said that heavier rainfall between 15 mm and 65 mm was likely in coming 48 hours the southern districts of Nagarkurnool and Nalgonda apart from Suryapet, Mahabubabad, Mulugu and Khammam. For Hyderabad and its surrounding districts, the TSDSPS said these areas may receive rain between 2.5 mm and 16 mm.

However, heavy or very heavy localised rainfall was likely over several parts of the state in the next 48 hours.

How encroachments left colony flooded

Over decades, 45-ft-wide nala at Karmanghat shrank to 6 ft; residents enthused by KTR project to restore nalas

VUJINI
VAMSHIDHARA I DC
HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

The statement of K.T. Rama Rao, municipal administration minister, that private lands will be acquired to allow free flow of rainwater in nalas and prevent flooding of colonies has given some hope to the residents of Udaynagar, Padmanagar and Malreddy Rangareddy Colony of Karmanghat in GHMC's Champet division.

The residents are urging the minister to protect the nala in Survey No. 175 of the village, which had more than 2.21 acres of land but more than 70 per cent has been illegally occupied.

The nala carries excess rainwater and floodwater from the Meerpeta and Jilleguda lakes to the Saroornagar lake. From there, the water empties into the Musi river.

Following Tuesday's deluge, water flowing out from the two lakes were blocked by the encroachments, and inundated Udaynagar, Padmanagar and Malreddy Rangareddy Colony. Besides, the floodgates of the lake bunds were opened, releasing more water downstream. Saturday's rain only worsened things.

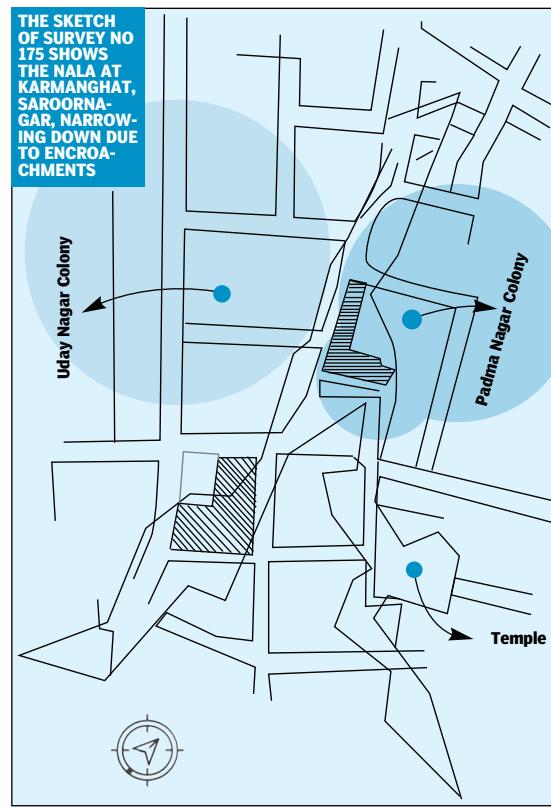
For decades, the floodwater from the upstream areas of Karmanghat flowed downstream without much of a hindrance. As the realty business started booming, local politicians and their henchmen began eyeing the nala land.

In the dry season, the nala land was marked out as plots. The land was illegally registered by adding bye-numbers to the adjacent lands which constitute part of Udaynagar and Padmanagar Colony.

The nala, which was originally 45-feet wide, has now shrunk to a mere six feet at some places and only slightly wider at some other places. The canal travels about 300 metres between these two colonies, which is where the encroachments have occurred.

Around 8,000 square yards out of 12,221 sq yds in Survey No. 175 have been occupied as per a revenue survey in 2013. Since then, another 1,500 sq. yds have been occupied. On the initiative of then Ranga Reddy collector Raghunandan, in 2015, revenue officials had erected the signboards specifying the land as belonging to the government. The encroachers simply removed the most of the signboards and went ahead.

Several complaints have been made to the GHMC and revenue authorities over the past decade but no action has been taken. Once, in 2013, revenue authorities marked the nala land but nothing else was done.



The nala going past Udaynagar, Padmanagar and Malreddy Rangareddy Colony of Karmanghat narrows down due to alleged encroachments. The water inundated the colonies.

Without inspecting the place and finding out the actual classification of the land, the government regularised some of the encroachments under GOs 58 and 59. The GHMC also approved some plots during the previous land regularisation scheme while a set of applications were kept pending.

Constructions are going on without approval from the civic body. When any resident complains, local political leaders, who have the support of leaders from the LB Nagar constituency, threaten them. Henchmen of public representatives

manage to head off demolition of illegal structures by the GHMC and revenue officials.

If only the nala land had been safeguarded down the years, the residents would not have to spend the most miserable days of their lives, their belongings sodden with water which has stagnated for almost a week, not having electricity or essentials.

On Monday, as more rains were forecast, the GHMC has asked residents of these colonies to vacate the ground floor houses. It has arranged shelters in nearby function halls.



The Pedda Cheruvu breach at Meerpeta on Monday adds to the woes of the residents of Janapriya Apartments in the vicinity, in Hyderabad on Monday.



NDRF and police personnel ask Ramanthapur locals to vacate the lower floors in view of the rain forecast.

— DEEPAK DESHPANDE

A fresh spell of rain added to the woes of people at Karmanghat, in Hyderabad on Monday.

— DC

FIRST PERSON

WFH in power cut: Recharge at grocer's, work with candle

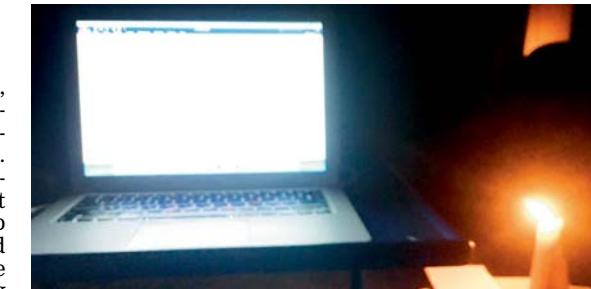
BALU PULIPAKA | DC
HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

Last Tuesday evening, when the rain began, its rising intensity indicated what might be coming ahead. One of the possible associated events was a power cut at my residence in Hilltop Colony, Khairatabad. And that, I guessed, would prove a challenge, with an ageing mobile phone with an equally ageing laptop that no longer hold power in their old batteries as they used to when the gadgets were new.

As things turned it, this indeed was the case. About three hours into the downpour, we lost power, just as things were getting hot on the work front. There were reports to read and clear, and reports still to be written.

Telangana state by far, has one of the best and reliable electricity supply systems in the country, more so when it comes to Hyderabad. But having been a witness countless number of times to how rain and power supply are inter-related, I quickly plugged in the chargers for the phone, the laptop and a small power bank.

It is not that power goes on the blink every time it rains in hard in the city. Ninety times out of hundred,



Working in the light of candle due to the lack of electricity as a result of heavy rains.

dred, when this does happen, it is deliberate.

TSSPDCL, the power supply utility, does not take chances of electricity related accidents during heavy rains just in case a downed tree or a fallen branch or electricity pole, results in a fallen and charged power line that can electrocute anyone who comes into contact with it.

For me, working from home, the extended power cut that ran into day three after beginning on Tuesday night, meant using a small rechargeable torchlight as a lantern, a candle to read my notes for the reports I had to file, a dinner cooked in the light of the same candle, and a race with the burning and melting candle to finish work, that I managed to do around 11.30 pm.

The next day, on Wednesday as the rain continued off and on, I called the TSSPDCL office to find out about a possible timeline as to when the power would be back. I was told that the entire area was affected as the electricity sub-station that serves our area was flooded.

A couple of the elderly persons in our apartment complex, who use the elevator to come down to the ground for quick walks within the compound, had to give up on their walks as climbing back up the stairs was beyond them, while the watchman was in great demand with questions on if there was enough water in the overhead tank and what would happen if the water in the tank runs out.

In short, I was told not to expect power for the next few hours. This was around noon. I went to buy pack of candles – that cost ₹80 for six – from a neighbourhood kirana store, a trip that meant stepping gingerly over streams of rainwater mixed with sewage overflowing from choked drains on the streets.

Meanwhile, the phone and the power bank ran out of power as did the laptop. It was at around 7 pm that I made second hop scotching trip to the market area to a shop on the other side of our colony which had power – they were served by a different sub-station! – and the shopkeeper was more than willing to let me charge my gadgets.

On a whim, I checked if candles were available at the kirana store and was told that they were sold out. All the man had left was a small pack of birthday candles, which too apparently were in demand.

Tuesday night's cycle was repeated and it around 2 am on Thursday that the power came back, but only briefly. That gave some hope. As Thursday rolled around, the power situation substantially improved, it was more on than off and by evening, power supply was steady save for a couple of very brief breaks.



Minister K.T. Rama Rao addresses the media on flood situation, as Mayor Bonthu Rammohan looks on, at the GHMC office in the city.

IT WAS COVID, NOW FLOODS: FLOOD VICTIM

DC CORRESPONDENT

HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

Babanagar in the Old City is 1 km downstream of the Gurrum Cheruvu in Balapur, which breached on Sunday. Water came gushing into the area in the middle of the night.

More than 5,000 families in Babanagar were roused from their sleep and had to flee the place. They had never expected the water to inundate their area as it is far from the lake.

Syed Ismail with his family members had to evacuate with everyone else as their home was completely filled with water. The water is stagnating there.

Ismail said, "There is no power, no drinking water. We are returning during the day to clean our homes. We have no extra clothes and are dependent on the government for help."

Four members of Ismail's family were staying in the house; due to the stench, the women have shifted to their relatives' place. Ismail said, "I have only four walls left; there is absolutely nothing now. Due to Covid-19, there was no work for six months and we were facing hardships. The floods took away all that we had."

Building watchmen the worst hit

SANJAY SAMUEL
PAUL I DC
HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

pumping the regular water to the tanks and other daily chores, are not affected.

K. Veerababu, a caretaker and watchman at Saketh Apartment in Domalguda, said all his belongings were inundated in the cellar in which a room was given to him, where he lived along with his wife and two daughters.

"Around 11 pm, water started flooding and soon began rising and by the time we realised, it was more than knee high. The children suffered a lot.

Their books turned into trash and our belongings threaten them. Henchmen of public representatives

ter life from a village near Draksharamam, East Godavari district.

"On Thursday the rain stopped but there was no electricity. I am a full-time caretaker. Since the electricity supply was shut, we looked for a petrol motor to pump out the water. Even after constant complaints, electricity department personnel did not turn up," he said.

An apartment complex resident, S. Sulekha, said, "It's been five days without electricity. On Saturday I called GHMC corporator Lasya Nandita. She responded and helped us get power back that helped us in getting the water in the cellar pumped out."

His parents had migrated to Hyderabad 20 years back and joined as caretakers of the same apartments.

Mamidala Bharath, 25, a caretaker and watchman at Sai Keerthi Residency Apartments at Yellareddyguda

lives with his parents in the cellar of the building. Tuesday's flood submerged all his belongings. "I was asleep and when I woke up the water was hip high. With my savings from over the years, I was able to buy a TV, and a few good clothes, now everything has gone to waste. My parents now sleep near the steps at the building gate and I am sleeping at my friend's place as we have no other place to go," he said.

His parents had migrated to Hyderabad 20 years back and joined as caretakers of the same apartments.

nothing in our homes. My major concern is how will I get the school certificates, birth certificate and other documents for my child?

How are we to now retrieve them? Will the government extend support?"

With families returning, they are looking around for their things which have been swept away. Many of them are also visiting the storm water drain outlets to check if there is anything found by the munici-

pal workers.

R. Raju, a contract worker with the GHMC, says

"People are coming to the collection centres to check if there are any of their belongings. All that is choked around drains is being removed and collected at various points. Those who are desperate are looking around. We have so far removed clothes, bags, soiled and damaged books, broken and mended utensils and lots of plastic from

in and around the main points."

Near Bandlaguda, there were huge chunks of plaster of Paris from marriage halls which have been removed. The marriage halls along this line were completely flooded and the structures created there were broken.

With some areas still waterlogged and another round of rains, the drains are full and there is little place for the water to go.

Residents search at collection points for vital papers

KANIZA GARARI I DC
HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

Documents like Aadhaar cards, ration cards, school certificates, bank papers, electricity and water bills, land documents and other important papers have been washed away from homes in low-lying areas that were inundated last week. People had no time to collect their belongings or papers as the water levels rose suddenly in the middle

of the night. All that they could do was save themselves from the water's fury.

Removing the slush, silt and mud from homes, people are finding that there is nothing which they can put to use. Soiled clothes, stinking utensils, soggy mattresses, broken and damaged furniture has left them with empty four walls as homes.

Iqbal Sheikh of Al Jubail Colony said, "We are at the lowest point and there is

nothing in our homes. My major concern is how will I get the school certificates, birth certificate and other documents for my child?

How are we to now retrieve them? Will the government extend support?"

With families returning,

SHORT TAKES

COPS DETAIN TWO INTERSTATE TRAFFICKERS

SANJAY SAMUEL PAUL | DC HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

Two inter-state human traffickers were detained under the Preventive Detention Act on Monday by Rachakonda police commissioner Mahesh Bhagwat. The accused were identified as Rajesh Ranjan, 24, of Bihar and Sukehs Ravan Kamble, 32, of Karnataka.

The commissioner said the action has been taken to root out the organised human trafficking network and to create a sense of safety and security. He appealed to college-going students and youth not to fall into the trap of the trafficking network.

The accused targeted the poor and needy girls from Mumbai and lured them with the promise of lucrative income and brought them to Hyderabad. Rajan and Kamble were detained in the Central Prison, Cherlapally.

PICNIC TURNS TRAGEDY AS 2 OF A FAMILY DROWN

PULI SHARATH KUMAR | DC KARIMNAGAR, OCT. 19

A picnic organised by a family to see the Lower Manair Dam (LMD) in Karimnagar district brimming with water turned into a tragedy when a woman and a two-and-a-half-year-old boy got swept away in swirling waters.

LMD assistant sub-inspector Krishna Reddy identified the deceased as Sakeena (31), resident of Kashmigadda, and her sister's son Aahil of Srinagar colony in Karimnagar town. The two, along with 20 other family members, had gone to visit the Dargah on outskirts of Alugunna village. After offering prayers, the group went to the cable bridge constructed over the Manair River to spend some time. While they were on the bridge, Aahil accidentally fell off the bridge. To save him, Sakeena too jumped into the water. As the flow of water was rapid, both Sakeena and Aahil got swept away in the water. When two youth of the family tried their level best to save the victims, they too got caught in the swirling waters. On hearing their screams, locals rushed to the spot and saved the youth.

On coming to know about the incident, Manakondur circle inspector reached the spot along with ASI Krishna Reddy and got the LMD gates closed. Swimmers searched for an hour before they found Sakeena and Aahil stuck in bushes downstream. While Sakeena had died, Aahil was alive. The ASI ran carrying the child to a distance of half a kilometre, where an ambulance had reached. Aahil died before the ambulance could reach the hospital.

AS THE flow of water was rapid, both Sakeena and Aahil got swept away in the water. When two youth of the family tried their level best to save the victims, they too got caught in the swirling waters. On hearing their screams, locals rushed to the spot and saved the youth.

Rain woes

Pedestrians and motorists move cautiously during rain near the Charminar, in Hyderabad on Monday. — S. SURENDER REDDY

GHMC plans to resume nala widening project

MADDY DEEKSHITH | DC HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

monsoon. It finally decided to clear 47 critical bottlenecks (which are of 16.66 km length) at a cost of ₹230 crore, where 800 structures were identified.

However, the corporation officials could not achieve the target because of political pressure.

Citing this, the municipal administration and urban development department conducted a review meeting with city corporators and instructed them to cooperate with civic body staff and not create any disturbance during nala encroachment removal drive. Since the 2017 monsoon, officials managed to clear about 200 minor encroachments in 32 months.

Highly placed sources in the corporation said that despite taking the issue to the notice of higher authorities, they had turned a blind eye to it. The issue of inundation due to sudden cloudburst during the current month was also taken to the notice of officials since it has been happening over the years.

As part of post-disaster plans, the authorities have now decided to remove 575 'critical' bottlenecks. However, the project has been moving at a snail's pace.

The authorities are blaming political hindrances and all previous governments for the ongoing disaster.

The civic body took up a nala survey in October 2016 and completed it in January 2017. Besides manual survey, corporation officials had used unconventional methods for accuracy, including drone cameras for aerial surveys and video-documenting areas with GPS systems.

The Geographical Information System (GIS) wing of the GHMC was involved in the exercise. The officials identified as many as 12,182 unauthorised constructions in 173 major nalas spreading into 390 kms.

The corporation had decided to clear the bottlenecks during phase I to avoid inundation of low-lying areas during the 2017 monsoon.

On political pressures, the official said that he would only act according to the law and register criminal cases against violations.

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA

Revenue / Land Acquisition Department / Collector / Joint Collector / Special Collector (L.A.) / Special Deputy Collector (L.A.)

As per Rule 251/1 of 2014 of State Government Rules and Section of 19/1 of Central Act 30/2013 of 2013 year of Land Acquisition perfect payment of compensation with consultancy, Rehabilitation and Re-establishment Right Act.

FORM - VII**DECLARATION**

District Collector No: G1/1583/2020 Dated: 03.10.2020
No:D/1020/2019 Dated: 20.09.2020

Total extent of Ac. 21.27% gts of land situated at Brahmana Vellama village of Narketpally Mandal of Nalgonda District as shown in below schedule such land is required for the public purpose i.e. Udayasamudram Lift Irrigation Scheme of AMR SLBC Project for the construction of irrigation canal is necessary so that it is intended.

Hence, confirmation Notice / Declaration was issued for Land Acquisition is necessary for the public purpose as shown in the below schedule.

SCHEDULE

Village:Brahmana Vellama Mandal:Narketpally Dist:Nalgonda						
No.	Survey No	Native of Land	Kind of Land	Extent of Land and Lost in Acquisition Acq's	Name of interested individual on land and Father's Name	Trees, Structures and Other Details
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	225	Patta	Dry	0.16	S.Shobaran W/o Bhimeshwar Reddy (Pattadar) Komatireddy Narsimha Reddy S/o Manga Reddy (Enoyer)	Nil
				Total	0.16	
2	226	Patta	Dry	0.09	Komatireddy Nirmala W/o. Narsimha Reddy	Nil
				Total	0.09	
3	227	Patta	Dry	2.03	Komatireddy Narsimha Reddy S/o. Manga Reddy	Nil
				Total	2.03	
4	292	Patta	Dry	1.25	Komatireddy Rangamma W/o. Ramreddy	Nil
				Total	1.28	
5	228	Patta	Dry	0.03	Komatireddy Rangamma W/o. Ramreddy	Nil
				Total	0.02	
7	291	Patta	Dry	1.00	Komatireddy Rama Chandra Reddy S/o. Linga Reddy	Nil
				Total	1.13	
8	291	Patta	Dry	0.03	Komatireddy Biksham S/o. Ram Narsimha Reddy	Nil
				Total	0.03	
10	241	Patta	Dry	1.11	Kadari Janardhan Reddy S/o. Veera Reddy Kadari Ramireddy (Pattadar)	12 Lemon Trees Drip pipe line
				Total	1.25	
11	241	Patta	Dry	0.14	Kadari Ramireddy S/o. Veera Reddy (Enoyer) Kadari Janardhan Reddy S/o. Veera Reddy (Pattadar)	Nil
				Total	0.14	
12	240	Patta	Dry	0.20	Kadari Yogender Reddy S/o. Janardhan Reddy	Nil
				Total	0.20	
13	240	Patta	Dry	1.12	Kadari Laxmi Narsimha Reddy S/o. Veera Reddy (Enoyer) Donuri Narendra Reddy S/o. Madhava Reddy (Pattadar)	Nil
				Total	1.12	
14	240	Patta	Dry	0.12	Kadari Madhava Reddy S/o. Yadava Reddy	Orange Trees(30) 4 years Drip Pipe line
				Total	0.12	
15	242	Patta	Dry	0.07	Kadari Madhava Reddy S/o. Yadava Reddy (Enoyer) Kadari Surender Reddy S/o. Laxmi Narsimha Reddy (Pattadar)	Orange Trees(20) 4 years Drip Pipe line
				Total	0.07	
16	239	Patta	Dry	0.03	Donuri Narendra Reddy S/o. Madhava Reddy	Orange Trees(09)
				Total	0.03	
17	238	Patta	Dry	2.32	Donuru Abhishek Reddy S/o. Madhava Reddy	Orange Trees(100)
				Total	2.32	
18	237	Patta	Dry	0.05	Donuri Sekhar Reddy S/o. Madhava Reddy	Nil
				Total	0.05	
19	--	--	--	0.04	Bushes	
20	183	Patta	Dry	1.06	Mynampati Geeta W/o. Damodar Reddy	
				Total	1.06	
21	183	Patta	Dry	0.07	Palle Srikanth S/o. Anjali	
				Total	1.13	
22	184	Patta	Dry	0.05	Nallabolu Narsimha S/o. Lingaiah	Nil
				Total	0.05	
23	184	Patta	Dry	0.25	Konda Mallaih S/o. Mallaih (Enoyer) Konda Saidulu S/o. Mallaih (Pattadar)	Nil
				Total	0.30	
24	186	Patta	Dry	0.20	Mynampati Venkat Reddy S/o. Damodar Reddy	Nil
				Total	0.20	
25	186	Patta	Dry	0.36	Nallabolu Sattaiah S/o. Lingaiah	Nil
				Total	1.16	
26	187	Patta	Dry	0.30	K.Pushpalatha (Enoyer) Kaakularupu Praveen S/o. Lingareddy (Pattadar)	Nil
				Total	0.30	
27	152	Patta	Dry	0.28	K.Pushpalatha (Enoyer) Kaakularupu Praveen S/o. Lingareddy (Pattadar)	Nil
				Total	0.28	
28	152	Patta	Dry	1.33	Srinivas Reddy (Enoyer) Mandadi Buchireddy S/o. Ramreddy (Pattadar)	Nil
				Total	1.33	
29	152	Patta	Dry	0.03	Srinivas Reddy (Enoyer) Nallabolu Saidamai W/o Sattaiah (Pattadar)	Nil
				Total	0.03	
30	151	Patta	Dry	0.07	Komappalli Saidulu S/o. Mallaiah & Komappalli Dhanalaxmi W/o Saidulu	Nil
				Total	0.07	
31	191	Patta	Dry	0.001	Komappalli Saidulu S/o. Mallaiah & Komappalli Dhanalaxmi W/o Saidulu	Nil
				Total	0.001	
				Total Extent	21.27%	

As per Section 19/1 declaration was issued due to any objections were not received on above proposed matter of land acquisition on draft notification from the concerned land owner under section 15 of 2013 proposed land acquisition Act 2013. Any persons are not responded and not restored in this proposed land acquisition, hence there is no such necessity to issue of individual R and R Award under section 31 (Central Act 30/2013).

In this above shown land's plan may be inspected on any working day and during office working hours of land acquisition officer, Gazetted Mandal Officer's office, Nalgonda and such plan is available for inspection in the office.

Sd/-
Land Acquisition Officer District Collector and Revenue Divisional Officer Nalgonda

R.O.No.719/LA-PP/ADVT/PUB/2020-21

IN RESPONSE TO CM'S CALL, MEIL TO DONATE ₹10 CRORE FOR FLOOD RELIEF

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

Health minister Etala Rajendar on Monday called on people with cold and fever symptoms to get themselves tested for Covid-19 as these symptoms of common seasonal ailments are the same as those of Covid-19.

The minister, chairing a review with senior health department officials on preparations and steps being taken to control seasonal diseases, said everyone showing such symptoms at the flood relief camps is being tested for Covid-19 to ensure safety of those individuals and those around them.

So far of the 3,406 such

individuals who were tested, 90 have tested positive for Covid-19 and they have been admitted to designated hospitals for treatment.

The department has conducted 585 medical camps in the relief centres where 38,516 people have been checked for their health.

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So far of the 3,406

SHORT TAKES

AKBARUDDIN
INTERACTS WITH
FLOOD VICTIMSDC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

Teams of the National Disaster Response Force, the GHMC's Disaster Response Force (DRF), police and labourers are on the mission of rescue and relief work in different parts of the Old City which were badly affected by the rain-induced floods.

The GHMC engineering wing and DRF teams are pumping out water from houses and inundated areas in Hafeezbabanagar, Bandlaguda and surrounding colonies.

CM relief kits were distributed among the affected families in those areas.

Chandrayanagutta MLA Akbaruddin Owaisi inspected the sanitation works and interacted with the flood-affected persons. He distributed the Salar-e-Millat relief material which includes bread, milk, bottled water, etc. in Hafeezbabanagar which was flooded due to breach in Balapur lake.

In the Tolichowki area, horses were used in rescue and relief drives. MLA Kausar Mohiuddin and corporations are also providing essential commodities, including milk and bread in Karwan constituency.

Mohiuddin visited Ali Chausi and Reshambagh areas under Golconda division and monitored the work being carried by GHMC officials where clearing of manholes, desilting of drains and removal of garbage from waterlogging points is under progress. Jafar Hussain Meraj, MLA from Nampally, distributed mattresses and bed sheets among the rain-affected in Afzalsagar, Mallepally.

WEB WORKSHOP
FOR URDU MEDIUM
TEACHERSDC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

The Centre for Professional Development of Urdu Medium Teachers of Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU) in collaboration with Telangana State Urdu Academy started a five-day online workshop for Urdu medium teachers on Monday.

Prof. S.M. Rahmatullah, Vice Chancellor, in his address at the inaugural ceremony, said it is very important for teachers to acquire professional skills and they should attend such courses from time to time to enhance their skills.

Dr Mohammed Ghouse, secretary, Urdu Academy, said that teachers are the representatives of a culture and as such their responsibility is further enhanced. The use of technology is very important in the 21st century and it is pertinent to make the students as well as parents aware about the challenges of the future.

Prof. Siddiqui Mohammed Mahmood, registrar, said people need to adapt to changes and become familiar with computers and the internet. The National Education Policy is an invitation to teachers to update themselves. Prof. Mohammed Abdul Sami Siddiqui, director of the centre, informed that more than 600 teachers from Telangana state are participating in the workshop.

PROF. S.M. RAHMATULLAH, Vice Chancellor, in his address at the inaugural ceremony, said it is very important for teachers to acquire professional skills and they should attend such courses from time to time to enhance their skills.

Prevention only protection against Covid second wave

Wear masks, avoid crowds, closed settings, places with poor ventilation

TS registers 948 cases as testing hit by rains

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

With high-end drugs like remdesivir, interferon and hydroxychloroquine (HCQ) stated to be not working, experts state that it is back to basics with the prevention of Covid-19.

Anticipating a second wave in winter in India, experts are of the opinion that people must not neglect the use of masks, hand-washing, cough etiquette and must avoid mass gatherings to prevent the spread of the disease.

The sick must not venture out and rest at home as it is their duty not only to protect themselves but also others. To curtail the spread, World Health Organisation has asked countries in south-east Asia to scale up facilities and continue to test, track and trace cases.

People have been urged to remember three C's – avoid crowded places, avoid closed settings and avoid confined places with poor ventilation. With seasonal influenza viruses active in winters,

the health care system has to brace for a dual challenge this year.

Dr K.K. Aggarwal, president of the Confederation of Medical Organisations of Asia and Oceania, said "Masks are very important in the prevention of the spread. Medical masks are regulated. But maximum people in India are wearing fabric masks. We need to bring it under regulation for quality and efficacy checks."

Experts say that they are repeating the need for prevention as it has been observed that there is a fatigue in terms of follow protocols. Masking, social distancing and even hand washing is being violated as cases decline in India. This fatigue and carelessness will be one of the reasons for a spurt in new cases.

"With the relaxation in the norms, there are marriage parties and social functions where Covid guidelines are not followed. People have to continue to exercise care as only that will help in preventing the second wave. Apart from the environmental factors, it is the behaviour of the

department said on Monday. A total of 30,210 samples had been tested on October 12.

Only those who are having symptoms are getting themselves tested. There were 948 new cases and four deaths recorded in the state. The total number of

cases is now 2,23,059 and the toll stands at 1,275.

There were 21,098 active cases and 17,432 of them are undergoing treatment at home or in institutional isolation centres.

The GHMC area recorded 212 new cases. Ranga Reddy district 98 and Medchal Malkajgiri 65.

PREVENTIVE TIPS:

- Wearing a mask in public places is important and the duty of everyone.
- Physical distancing and hand-washing must be practiced and not given up.
- Maintaining cough etiquette in public places by covering your mouth is vital.

people which will decide the numbers in the second wave," he said.

Experts have stated that wearing a mask in public places is important and the responsibility of everyone who is moving out in these fraught times. Physical distancing and hand-washing must be practiced and not given up following reports of the Covid curve bending.

Maintaining cough etiquette in public places is vital, doctors said. Restrictions during social gatherings, parties and public functions must be followed. Besides, people must be alert and report early to hospitals if they feel ill.



Chandrayanagutta MLA Akbaruddin Owaisi speaks with a woman who breaks down during his visit to flood-affected areas in Hyderabad on Monday.

— P. SURENDRA

Owaisi pats CM for giving flood relief, seeks funds from Centre

ATHER MOIN I DC
HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

MIM president and Hyderabad MP Asaduddin Owaisi has appreciated Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao's announcement on providing immediate relief to rain-affected families.

As per the announcement, the government will extend ₹10,000 as immediate relief to each household affected by floods. An assistance of ₹1 lakh will be made available to houses totally damaged and ₹50,000 to those partially damaged.

PROF. S.M. RAHMATULLAH, Vice Chancellor, in his address at the inaugural ceremony, said it is very important for teachers to acquire professional skills and they should attend such courses from time to time to enhance their skills.

The MP said these grants will help affected families rebuild their lives. "Distribution of relief in inundated colonies will begin on Tuesday. AIMIM functionaries are always there to assist you in ensuring that you receive the financial aid," he stated.

Earlier the MIM chief said in a post on Twitter: "I've personally seen the devastation that the deluge has caused to people in Hyderabad Parliament constituency and Rajendranagar. People have lost their life savings; they've also lost all essential house-

hold items: stoves, clothes and utensils."

According to GO MS 2 of 2015, houses that have suffered serious/partial damage are entitled to get ₹95,100. Seventy-five per cent of this amount comes from the Centre.

Owaisi said in GHMC and adjoining municipalities, destruction due to flash floods has been total. "It is essential that the relief is given immediately, though I understand that the state's finances are going through a difficult phase due to centre's refusal to pay GST compensation.

The MP said the Chief Minister has sought an

emergency aid of ₹1,350 crore from the centre.

However, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has not even cared to respond or send a team to assess damages. This is the respect he has for our people, who have faced the worst disaster in 100 years. It is insulting, he remarked.

The MIM chief said, "I must appreciate the Government of Telangana for handing over ex gratia cheques within 48 hours to families who lost their near ones in the flash foods. It is rare that state governments act so quickly in granting relief."

Harish dares Bandi to debate

BJP: Bandi will debate with CM

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

Minister T. Harish Rao challenged BJP state president Bandi Sanjay to an open debate at Dabbaka where they could substantiate their claims that the Centre was funding important state schemes during the campaign for the constituency by-elections.

The minister offered to resign if the BJP leaders could prove that Central funds were being given for state schemes. If they could not, then Sanjay should resign.

Speaking to the media at Siddipet on Monday, Harish Rao alleged that the BJP leaders had claimed that the major share of funds for the Asara and bidi workers pension schemes and KCR Kits was given by the Centre. They were carrying out Goebbelian propaganda. He said it was a totally

false campaign by the BJP; the schemes were funded by the state. If the BJP government at the Centre was giving a major share of funds for KCR Kits and pension schemes, why was it not being implemented in BJP-ruled states, he asked.

Harish Rao alleged that the BJP leaders were spreading false information while campaigning for the Dabbaka bypoll. The BJP will finish the bypoll last and lose its deposit, as had happened at the Huzurnagar bypoll, he said.

Harish Rao demanded that the BJP leaders put pressure on the Centre to release GST, IGST and other dues to the state. He recalled that Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao had written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman on the matter but had received no response from them.

The BJP was reacting to minister T. Harish Rao's criticism of the party at Dabbaka. BJP spokesperson A. Rakesh Reddy released a statement saying the TRS had accepted defeat in the byelection.

"Before likening the BJP campaign to Goebbel's propaganda Harish Rao should introspect, KCR leaves Goebbel much behind when it comes to lies and propaganda," Reddy stated.

He alleged that Harish Rao had addressed the press meet in Siddipet as he feared that he might become a 'chellani rupayi' in his constituency.

said the Assembly was witness to the CM's lies.

Reddy alleged that Harish Rao had addressed the press meet in Siddipet as he feared that he might become a 'chellani rupayi' in his constituency.

In response to the challenge of Harish Rao, Rakshesh Reddy said TS BJP president Bandi Sanjay was ready to debate with the CM about the funds allocated by the Centre for state welfare schemes.

9th DEATH ANNIVERSARY



MASHAM DEVENDER RAO

DOD: 20-10-2011

We miss you, your memories will always

be with us.

Inserted by: FAMILY MEMBERS

(S/2021/D00725)

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE



GOLLAPALLI ANURADHA

D.O.B.: 20-10-1982

D.O.D.: 28-06-2013

GOLLAPALLI FAMILY MEMBERS

(S/2021/D00725)

40th DAY REMEMBRANCE



COL. MANSOOR YAR KHAN

DOB: 29-10-1928

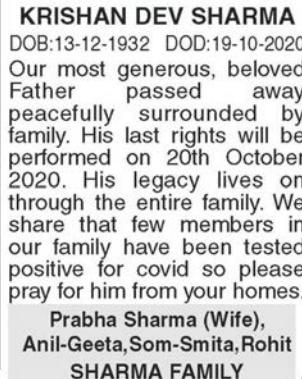
DOD: 11-09-2020

"Our respects to a brilliant professional and a friend whom we held in high regard.

Extending our solicitude to his family."

Inserted by: BAMBINO GROUP

OBITUARY



KRISHAN DEV SHARMA

DOB: 13-12-1932 DOD: 19-10-2020

Our most generous, beloved Father passed away peacefully surrounded by family. His last rights will be performed on 20th October 2020. His legacy lives on through the entire family. We share that few members in our family have been tested positive for covid so please pray for him from your homes.

Prabha Sharma (Wife),
Anil-Geeta,Som-Smita,Rohit
SHARMA FAMILY

(CA 3442)

IN LOVING MEMORY



INDURI ANANTHAMMA

DOB: 15.06.1952 DOD: 20.10.2017

W/o Induri Samuel
Pastorale Committee Member
CSI Wesley Church, MSR
you are always in our hearts.

Inserted by: FAMILY MEMBERS

Ph: 9347242545

FIRST DEATH ANNIVERSARY



DOMINICA MARIA KUMAR

DOB: 21.09.1970 - DOD: 20.10.2019

We cherish your sweet memories and miss you the most you have been our guiding star. All our love with your blessings we will continue to walk on your path and fulfill your dreams.

Mum we still miss you so much

Inserted by: Husband: Ravi, Son: Trishal,
Daughter: Rithika, Daughter-in-law: Andrea

(S/2021/D00724)

OBITUARY



LOGISHETTY JANARDHAN RAO

DOB: 06-12-1939

We regret to inform the demise of the most loving and caring Human Family and Grand Father on 06-12-2019. He taught us how to live our life to the fullest.

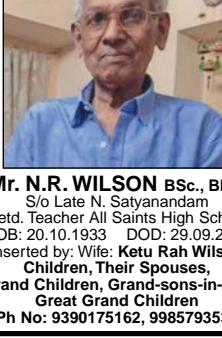
Funeral will be starting at 11 am today, 20 October, 2020 from the West Marredpally residence.

Ph: 9849086363, 9885000432, 8897193470.

LOGISHETTY RAO & FAMILY

(S/2021/D00724)

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE



PALURU JAYALAKSHMI

D.O.B: 15

WEATHER

Max: 32.5°C
Min: 22°C
RH: 95%
Rainfall: 14.2mm
Forecast: Cloudy sky.
Thundershowers likely.
Max/Min temp. 30/22°C

COVID-19 COUNT

CASES	DEATHS
(+43,632)	(+542)
75,90,514	1,15,163

covid19india.org

STATE GOVERNMENT BULLETINS

(+948)	(+4)
TS: 2,23,059	1,275
(+2,918)	(+24)

AP: 7,86,050

6,453

CASES AROUND THE WORLD

4,05,06,016

DEATHS

11,21,068

COUNTRIES, AREAS WITH CASES

213

worldometers.info/coronavirus

ASTROGUIDE

Saturn; Dakshinayana

Tithi: Niija Ashwayya Shuddha Chavithi till 11.23 am

Star: Jupiter till 2.14 am (Wednesday)

Varijam: 9.06 am to 10.35 am

Durmuhurtam: 8.33 am to 9.19 am; 10.46 pm to 11.36 pm

Rahukalam: 3 pm to 4.30 pm

HJRI CALENDAR

Rabiul Awwal 2, 1442 AH

PRAYERS

Fajar: 5.09 am

Zohar: 12.11 pm

Asar: 4.13 pm

Maghrub: 5.57 pm

Isha: 7.06 pm

SUNRISE TOMORROW 6.10 AM

SUNSET TODAY 5.50 PM

MOONSET 9.41 AM

MOONRISE 9.07 PM

COUNTER POINT

Forget about your two-wheeler that has been washed away... we got two cars in its place!

SHORT TAKES

TV JOURNO'S SON

KIDNAPPED, ₹45L

RANSOM DEMANDED

ANUDEEP CEREMILLA | DC

WARANGAL, OCT. 19

A local TV journalist's nine-year-old son was kidnapped by unidentified persons in Mahbubabad on Sunday night. The boy, Deekshit Reddy, was playing with other kids in front of his home in Krishna Colony when he was picked up at about 7.30 pm by the kidnappers.

The panic-stricken family of Ranjith Reddy and his wife Vasantha received a phone call at 9.45 pm demanding a ransom of ₹45 lakh for the boy's release.

The callers warned the family against telling anyone about the kidnapping. They informed the mother that the boy, who had developed fever, was being given medicines.

Meanwhile, the boy's parents approached the police. District superintendent of police Nandyala Koti Reddy visited the area.

CTV footage of the surrounding areas was being examined to identify the persons.

The unidentified persons again called the family on Monday morning and were unhappy about the involvement of police.

They used private phone numbers and internet calls using VPN, making it tough for the police to trace calls and locating them.

THE CALLERS warned the family against telling anyone about the kidnapping. They informed the mother that the boy, who had developed fever, was being given medicines.

Rajiv worked for India's future

Tagore exhorts Congressmen on Rajiv Sadbhavana Yatra commemoration

IREDDY SRINIVAS REDDY
IDC
HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

The Telangana Pradesh Congress committee (TPCC) organised the 30th Rajiv Sadbhavana Yatra commemoration in memory of late former prime minister Rajiv Gandhi, which was held at Charminar on Monday.

Through video conference, the Rajiv Sadbhavana award was presented to Sam Pitroda, former adviser to Rajiv Gandhi on public information, infrastructure and innovation.

Chief guest and in-charge of Telangana state party affairs Manickam Tagore said that the Congress tradition is to respect all religions and communities. He said, "I am a lucky person to have had the chance to work with leaders who have worked with Rajiv Gandhi."

He also said that the former prime minister had planned and implemented programmes for the future of the nation compared to the present Prime Minister, Narendra Modi.

TPCC chief N. Uttam Kumar Reddy said that



AICC incharge of Congress affairs in Telangana state Manickam Tagore, MP and TPCC chief N. Uttam Kumar Reddy and CLP leader Mallu Batti Vikramarka along with party leaders participated in the 30th Rajiv Gandhi Sadbhavana Yatra Commemoration Day at Charminar in Hyderabad on Monday.

— S. SURENDRA REDDY

Rajiv Gandhi was not a person but an institution. Recalling his service, Reddy said that Gandhi worked for the future of the country. He said party cadres should work in a dedicated manner and will reach the goal at the

Dubbaka bypolls and GHMC elections.

Pitroda in a video message said that Rajiv Gandhi stood for diversity, democracy, secularism. He stated that Gandhi made significant contributions in telecom,

IT, vaccine production, panchayati raj and other sectors which have given fruitful results now.

All India Congress Committee secretary Bose Raju, Congress Legislative Party leader Mallu Bhatti

Vikramarka, former ministers J. Geeta Reddy, Shabbir Ali, V. Hanumantha Rao, Sadbhavana committee chairman Niranjana and other senior leaders participated in the programme.

Be sincere, Anjani tells recruits

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

Hyderabad commissioner of police Anjani Kumar on Monday called on newly recruited police constables who completed their basic induction training, to work with professionalism and enthusiasm and bring laurels not just to themselves but to the city police.

Addressing the batch of 1,645 new police personnel of the Armed Reserve who include 328 women

constables, Anjani Kumar congratulated the new recruits and said while discharging their duties, they should do so with compassion and sincerity. He called on them to learn modern policing skills, master technologies and never forget to treat citizens as family.

The event was also attended by K. Ramchandra Rao, additional DCP (administration) and D. Srinivasa Rao, additional DCP, City Armed Reserve Headquarters.



Hyderabad commissioner of police Anjani Kumar addresses the batch of 1,645 new police personnel of the Armed Reserve in Hyderabad on Monday.

HC: PROTECT OGH FROM INUNDATION

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

The Telangana High Court issued notices to the GHMC and HMDA commissioners, the principal secretaries of the municipal administration and health departments and the superintendent, Osmania General Hospital, directing them to inform the court as to what steps they have initiated to prevent Osmania General Hospital premises from getting inundated during the torrential rains which will continue to hit the Telangana state for the next seven to 10 days.

Others who have been issued the notice are the principal secretary, home, the Director General of Police, the additional DGP, women safety, the Sangareddy collector and superintendent of police, and the director, child welfare.

Justice Naveen Rao was dealing with a writ petition that had been converted from a letter

of Dr Mamatha Raghavere, advocate, who appraised the High Court on the issue and expressed concern over the laxity of the police in

taking swift action on the perpetrators. He said it allows such persons to go scot-free as vigil by the police in such grave issues is minimal.

Illegal layouts: HC sends out notices

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

The Telangana High Court on Monday again issued notices to the Chief Secretary, principal secretaries of the panchayat raj and municipal administration departments and the Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority commission, directing them to file their response to the contentions raised in a

PIL seeking suspension of the GO No. 131 of August 20 this year. Based on the GO, the government had taken a decision to regularise all unapproved and illegal layouts spread across the state.

Three other PILs have been filed by petitioners.

The bench directed the registry to tag these PILs with the new PIL

and adjourned their hearing to November 5 for further hearing.

Others who have been issued the notice are the principal secretary, home, the Director General of Police, the additional DGP, women safety, the Sangareddy collector and superintendent of police, and the director, child welfare.

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of Dr Mamatha Raghavere, advocate, who appraised the High Court on the issue and expressed concern over the laxity of the police in

taking swift action on the perpetrators. He said it allows such persons to go scot-free as vigil by the police in such grave issues is minimal.

Swimming dare in Musi kills 1

ATHER MOIN | DC

HYDERABAD, OCT. 19

Youths engaged in rescue and relief operations found a body of a man believed to be in the mid-30s, and pulled it out. They found another body of a man in the mud. Both bodies have been shifted by the police for post-mortem examinations. The Chandrayanagutta police is trying to identify the bodies. Those who had filed person missing complaints were asked to identify the bodies but no one claimed the bodies.

A police officer said, "We are contacting other police stations of the Cyberabad police commissionerate where such missing complaints were registered." He said the two bodies might have been from Alinagar, Subhan Colony or Hashimabad.

Meanwhile, two bodies were found on Sunday in a drain in Al-Jubail Colony in Bandlaguda, one of the worst affected by the floods in the city.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA NITI Aayog

Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office

Subject: Recruitment to posts of Deputy Director General/ Director / Senior Research officer/ Research officer / Economic Officer in Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO), NITI Aayog by deputation (including short-term contract)/ contract basis.

DMEO, NITI Aayog, Govt. of India invites applications from qualified and motivated officers/professionals for 39 (Thirty Nine) posts as per details in table below on deputation (including short-term contract)/ contract basis for a period upto three years (extendable up to five years):

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	No. of the Post	Level and Pay Matrix for Deputation (ISTC)	Consolidated Pay for contractual appointment*
1.	Deputy Director General	3	Level-14: Rs. 144200-218200	Rs. 265000/-
2.	Director	11	Level-13: Rs. 123100-215900	Rs. 220000/-
3.	Senior Research Officer	13	Level-11: Rs. 67700-208700	Rs. 125000/-
4.	Research Officer	(The number of posts to be operated at each level will be determined)	Level-10: Rs. 56100-177500	Rs. 105000/-
5.	Economic Officer	12	Level-7: Rs. 44900-142400	Rs. 85000/-

*The candidates from Private Sector Companies, Consultancy Organisations and International/Multinational Organisations will be appointed on contract basis on fixed remuneration as indicated above.

2. The details relating to the posts as well as the requisite eligibility conditions and the procedure for applying for these posts are available on DMEO's website <https://dmeo.gov.in/work-with-us/recruitment> and NITI Aayog's website <https://niti.gov.in/career/vacancy-circular>.

3. The closing date of receipt of applications in DMEO, NITI Aayog's will be 24.12.2020
Senior Research Officer (Admn) Davp 54101/11/0013/2021

TECHIE STRIKES IT RICH WITH FARMING

DC CORRESPONDENT
DAMMAPET (BHADRADRI), OCT. 19

Devarapalli Harikrishna, a software engineer at Mandapet mandal in Bhadradri-Kothagudem district, produced 16,500 kilo of the Karpuwa variety of bananas per acre, which is something of a record. The normal average yield is about

13,000 kg per acre. Harikrishna, who is using the 'work at home' moment to focus on farming, is looking after banana crops in his field. He uses organic methods.

For this, he is raising four cows and making jeevamritham by using cow urine and dung.

The jeevamritham works as both manure as well as pesticide.

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA O/o District Forest Officer, Nagarkurnool.			

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DECCAN Chronicle

20 OCTOBER 2020

Cut back on festivities, Covid-19 threat is real

It's normal for the people to expect scientists to analyse data and provide a conclusive and independent opinion while taking the statements of the politician with a pinch of salt. But it looks like the report of the expert panel, appointed by the department of science and technology, which says India has gone past the peak with respect to the spread of the coronavirus, is comforting but comes with too many ifs and buts. On the other hand, Union health minister Dr Harsh Vardhan has been consistent and unequivocal in all his communications, insisting that the forthcoming festival season is going to be a game changer for the worse and cautioning people against being lackadaisical in their approach to the pandemic.

Dr Vardhan was persuasive enough to cite the example of Kerala and the way the state's containment strategy went completely awry after its annual festival Onam in late August to drive home the point that lapses in the coming season would prove to be too costly. The state, which reported almost zero new Covid-19 cases in the first week of May saw the numbers rise, albeit nominally, after the Union government decided to open interstate and international traffic. But the number grew rapidly after Onam: the state's share in the total caseload shot up from 2.9 per cent until September to 6.4 per cent in the second half of the month to almost 10 per cent now. The state's total active cases of 96,000 contribute almost 10 per cent to the total cases in India at present. It is a fact that large congregations of people who threw caution to the winds undid all Kerala had done in the initial phases to stop the spread of the pandemic. A section of experts also blames the series of agitations the opposition had launched against the state government during the same period for the sudden spurt of cases.

The Union government had announced two weeks ago it was launching Jan Andolan, a massive awareness campaign about the need to observe the critical points that have proved to be effective against the virus: hand hygiene, social distancing and wearing of mask. But we are yet to find the government taking it up seriously and make the message reach the nook and cranny of the country. Prime Minister Narendra Modi is the best communicator India has today, but the nation is yet to hear him talk about this campaign with the force it warrants and the frequency it calls for. Instead, it looks like the government is now getting into preparing the protocols for the distribution of the elusive vaccine when it arrives.

The need of the hour, and the priority of the government, should be to prepare the nation to get past the festive season without an uncontrolled escalation in the number of Covid-19 patients, and the only way to do is to get into a massive campaign: vaccine protocol can at best be a parallel exercise. It pays to be mindful of the wolf at the door instead of counting the pie in the sky.

Thrills & spills in Super Overs

A historic second Super Over bowled to break a tie in T20 and the succeeding Super Over in the IPL match between Kings XI Punjab and Mumbai Indians illustrated how the quest for a result can be fair. There's logic to the demands of a winner being spotted on the day in sport, which in a way is like war minus the shooting. It's a pity that the World Cup final, in which England and New Zealand tied in the 50-overs a side match and tied again in the Super Over, was not decided in this sensible and extended tie-breaker as in IPL rules. How ridiculous that England were declared the winners because they had scored more boundaries in their innings.

The drama, as a microcosm of life played out in such sudden death situations, enhances the thrills and spills of condensed cricket. The question of what makes winners stand apart from the chokers will, perhaps, never be satisfactorily answered. The fact that the defending champions Mumbai Indians have lost two games in Super Overs adds to the mystique of what makes winners different. Is it just calm nerves controlling sporting skills or the smile of lady luck or both? Be that as it may, the IPL season, which the corona virus seemed to have blighted, is now the harbinger of fine entertainment from the Arabian desert.

The T20 format might not have been thought of as a medium in which fast bowling would shine so lustrously in terms of speeds achieved in the air as measured by radar guns. The T20 of 2020 appears to be the glorious exception as Anrich Nortje of South Africa cracked the record kept from IPL speed guns in sending down the white cricket ball at 156.2 kmph, only to be reverse scooped for a boundary by Jos Buttler. Quality UAE cricket grounds with good run-ups are inspiring settings in which Nortje and other fast bowlers have sparked with sheer pace achieved from the poetry of their bowling actions and Nortje came back with an in-cutter at 155 kmph to bowl Buttler and win the day. That's entertainment!

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Aakar Patel

Bangladesh to overtake India? PR can't fix all our problems...

Complex problems require many minds. Leadership is important but mostly in terms of directionality. The solutions need to be produced by those implementing, not the person directing. If this is reversed, progress will not be made and generally what results is retardation.

For solutions to be produced below the level of leadership, it is necessary that there be some devolution of authority and power. Such is not the case in India in these present times. The leadership of this large and complex nation is centralised in a way that it has never been in our history. There are some parallels with Indira Gandhi, true, but the 1970s was altogether another world.

Some of the most important positions in the Union Cabinet are filled by those who have never won an election. The finance minister, external affairs minister, railways and commerce and industry minister are none of them elected. The previous finance minister was also not elected. They owe their position not to their personal political popularity but to the patronage of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. They cannot defy him, and they will always

do what he says. That is why they have, in fact, been chosen and placed there.

The moment they defy or question, they will be replaced by someone who will keep their mouth shut but keep their job. There is no devolution of authority and none of accountability.

When things begin to go wrong in such a place, the leader cannot be blamed or even named. It will be assumed that he is right and the solution lies not in correcting his behaviour but in something else.

A few weeks ago there was this headline in the online publication The Print: "Modi govt plans media blitz for 'image correction' to boost India rank on global lists". It reported that the government was trying to improve India's ranking on some 30 global indices by "building a massive publicity campaign" which was a "planned perception-overhaul exercise".

These indices are those which monitor religious, economic, political, media freedoms, the rule of law, innovation, terrorism and other things. Either data is compiled or global experts are asked for their perceptions and then countries given a score or rating.

Many of these are compiled by bodies

that are multilateral, such as the World Bank or the United Nations. It is not clear how India will get its poor ratings improved through a media campaign when it comes to such bodies or when it comes to hard data.

For instance, India is ranked 142 on the World Press Freedom Index, falling from 140 in 2019 and 138 in 2018. The main reason for its fall is the violence against journalists and the number of Internet shutdowns in Kashmir. These are objective things that are measurable. They cannot be corrected by publicity campaigns. This year India has introduced a new media policy in Kashmir that has more or less throttled all freedom of the media in that state.

The government's response in the instance of the media index was to set up its own "Index Monitoring Cell" which would have journalists Rajat Gupta (of *Aap ki Adat* fame) and P. Sainath. Not much has been heard from this cell since and it will not affect the global rating. India's ranking in press freedom is not going to improve globally next year either and spending money on marketing an image that is removed from reality is neither wise nor will it be effective.

India's numbers on Covid-19 are self-declared. These are government numbers.

They can and they will be compared to how India is doing versus the rest of the world and particularly the rest of South Asia with which an honest comparison can be made. On infections and fatalities, our performance is below the rest. A media blitz will not correct the perception that India has been the least competent at addressing the issue because the perception is based on reality.

This week has come news that in the current financial year, Bangladesh will overtake India in terms of per capita income. Meaning that the average Bangladeshi's income will be more

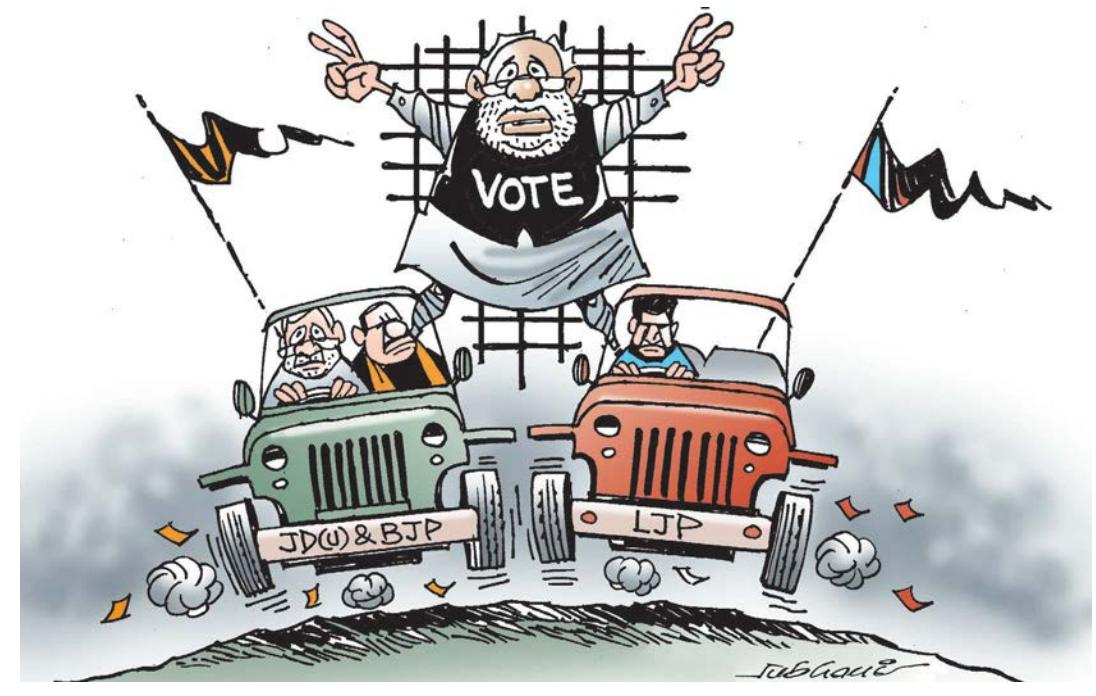
than the average Indian's. Even to those who are referred to as Modi haters, this was shocking. It was not expected because India was far ahead of Bangladesh in terms of per capita income in 2014.

One reason for Bangladesh overtaking India is that that the Bangladeshi leadership handled the Covid-19 hit to their economy better. The other reason is that in the past six years, Bangladesh has been growing much faster than India. It would have overtaken us anyway in time. The Covid-19 fall just made it sooner. It has been a long slide that has not been in the public realm because the leader does not acknowledge it and the minions cannot speak.

It seems like we were talking about competing with China and the United States only a few years ago. Now we must first compete with Bangladesh. This is not what we had been promised. How will this be corrected by a media blitz? It will not. But it is what the great man has ordered, and so it will be done. The slide will continue, but the noise about "achche din" will also continue.

Aakar Patel is a senior journalist and columnist

Subhani



Delineate & demarcate LAC to end China mess

Akash Deep Anand

Tuesday, October 20, marks 58 years to the day the Chinese launched their synchronised and coordinated attack in Ladakh and Arunachal Pradesh, then known as the North-East Frontier Agency (NEFA) on October 20, 1962. It is pertinent to note the choice of a Saturday as a mark of Chinese planning and cunning; the Indian decision-making apparatus would be enjoying a weekend break, though the concept of a five-day week was to come much later. In NEFA, their chosen theatre of operations, the Chinese successfully eliminated all military opposition by the time they declared a unilateral ceasefire on November 20, 1962. The Chinese attack in Ladakh overran the small standalone posts in Galwan, Pangong Tso and Chip Chap River areas. The Indian troops here gave a valiant account of themselves but were heavily outnumbered and outgunned by better-prepared Chinese.

With the LAC not being delineated (specifically described and agreed) and demarcated (marked with pillars, fences), the alignment is open to interpretation by troops and their commanders on the ground. Further clashes thus cannot be ruled out. Since the Chinese have been obdurate in disengagement by not pulling back, let's examine the factors behind China's behaviour: India's border infrastructure development, particularly the Darbuk-Shyok-Daulat Beg Oldie (DSDBO) road opposite Aksai Chin through which runs the Chinese G-219 Highway connecting Sinkiang and Tibet, both restive provinces. Daulat Beg Oldie (DBO) lies 8 km from Karakoram Pass, through which passes the Karakoram Highway linking Sinkiang with Pakistan. It is 9 km north-west of the LAC in Aksai Chin.

This area is again active 58 years later as the outstanding matter of settling the borders between the two nations hasn't been resolved. Unlike the India-Pakistan Line of Control (LoC), in J&K and Ladakh, the 1962 war led to the concept of a Line of Actual Control (LAC) along the Sino-Indian frontier. There is no demarcation in both situations. In the LoC's case troops on both sides are generally within range of small and medium arms, in an eyeball-to-eyeball deployment, except in certain gaps where physical deployment is not possible. Incidentally, these are the gaps used for infiltration from across the border. In the LAC's case, troops have been separated by far greater distances except in a few locations like Nathu La. As long as troops maintain considerable distances, the chance of clash-

fied number of deaths: around 18 million to 45 million. Other purges like the Cultural Revolution were to cause many more deaths; some estimates put the total number of Chinese deaths due to Mao and his policies at 80 million. That such a tyrant died peacefully in his own bed is a mark of how much control the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) and its undisputed leader has over China's public. However, even dictators like Mao have detractors, thus they too need distractions. One of the reasons why Mao chose the opportune moment of a US-Soviet nuclear standoff over Cuba to divert the attention of detractors by ordering his PLA (People's Liberation Army) to launch the 1962 attack against India.

Development of Indian maritime infrastructure in the Indian Ocean region, where China intends to extend its reach and influence. India aligning its strategy with the United States, which is engaged in a trade war with China over tariffs, the 5G infrastructure of Chinese IT giant Huawei, Covid-19, theft of intellectual property and American technology, to name a few.

China has been hit hard by the worldwide Covid-19 pandemic, which originated at Wuhan in Hubei province. The consequent suspension in exports has led to a loss of earnings and reduced consumption in China. There are reports of food shortages and large-scale migration into the urban centres, leading to social tensions.

The Chinese exchequer is simultaneously burdened with the expenditure on OBOR. The Chinese exchequer is simultaneously burdened with the expenditure on OBOR. The Chinese exchequer is simultaneously burdened with the expenditure on OBOR.

A comparison with 1962 and China's then leadership under Mao Zedong is in order. Communist China's 2nd Five-Year Plan 1958-63 undertook the "Great Leap Forward", an overambitious project to boost agricultural and industrial growth. It is beyond our scope here to detail the specifics of that debacle.

India is raising objections to the OBOR project in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, Shaksam Valley (ceded to China by Pakistan) and the

planes were sent as a gift under a secret agreement between the late President Sukarno and former Pakistani President Ayub Khan. The disclosure came on the heels of a recent newspaper report that the Indonesian Air Force had swapped six Russian-made MIG-19 planes for six super constellations from Pakistan.

Pak given MIG jets by Indonesia

JAKARTA, OCT. 19 Indonesia gave Pakistan eight MIG-19 jet fighters during the Indo-Pakistani war over Kashmir in 1965, informed Air Force sources there today.

50 YEARS AGO N DECCAN Chronicle They said a gift under a secret agreement between the late President Sukarno and former Pakistani President Ayub Khan. The disclosure came on the heels of a recent newspaper report that the Indonesian Air Force had swapped six Russian-made MIG-19 planes for six super constellations from Pakistan.

Aakar Patel is a senior journalist and columnist

SHORT TAKES

POLICE OFFICER SHOT DEAD IN ANANTNAG

DC CORRESPONDENT
SRINAGAR, OCT. 19

A police official was shot dead by suspected militants in southern Anantnag district on late Monday evening following which the security forces launched a massive operation in the area to capture the assailants dead or alive.

The police sources here said that inspector Muhammad Ashraf was targeted by the gunmen in Anantnag's Kenyalwan area while he was returning home from a local mosque where he had gone to offer evening prayers.

"He was rushed to a nearby hospital in critical condition. However, the doctors pronounced him dead on arrival," a police official said over the phone from Anantnag.

The J&K police's counter-insurgency Special Operations Group along with Central armed police forces quickly cordoned the area off and started searches "to get the assailants dead or alive," the sources said.

Earlier during the day on Monday, one suspected militant was killed in a gunfight with the security forces in neighbouring Shopian district's Melhura village.

CACHE OF EXPLOSIVES UNEARTHED

AKSHAYA KUMAR SAHOO | DC BHUBANESWAR, OCT. 19

A joint team of Border Security Force and District Voluntary Force of Odisha police on Sunday night unearthed a Maoist dump and seized huge cache of explosives from Koraput-Malkangiri bordering area.

Based on the Intelligence report about movement of around 20 armed cadres of banned CPI (Maoist), a joint operation was launched by the BSF Ankadeli and Koraput DVF. However, the ultras managed to flee the spot, said Koraput superintendent of police Mukesh Bhambhani.

During the search, the team recovered an explosive dump.

Soon after, a Bomb Detection and Disposal team was called in and the area was cordoned off. Later, a huge cache of explosives and incriminating items dumped by the Maoists with an intention to target security forces were seized, the SP added.

The seized materials include 18 pieces of slurry and emulsion explosives, 500 pieces of gelatin, three camera flashes and 1,200 grams splinters.

SDMA TO TAKE CALL ON NAMED GURUDWARA

PARMOD KUMAR | DC NEW DELHI, OCT. 19

The Supreme Court on Monday asked the Maharashtra's State Disaster Management Authority (SDMA) to take a call by Tuesday on whether to permit Nanded gurdwara to hold its annual procession of the Guru Granth Sahib at 5 am, with limited gathering in the town.

A bench of Justice L. Nageswara Rao, Justice Hemant Gupta and Justice Ajay Rastogi in a special hearing on a plea by the Gurdwara Sachkhand management board seeking to be permitted to hold the customary annual procession on the death anniversary of Guru Gobind Singh - the tenth Guru of the Sikhs, who breathed his last in the Gurdwara there.

Starting Monday, the top court is on a week-long Dussehra holiday.

The top court was moved by the Nanded Sikh Gurudwara Sachkhand Shri Hazur Abchalnagar Sahib Board - that manages historic Nanded Gurudwara. The court asked the gurdwara management to approach the secretary, SDMA with the request to hold an annual procession and if not satisfied with its response, then approach the Bombay High Court.

The court directed the SDMA to hear the Gurdwara management's plea on Tuesday and take the decision depending on the prevailing Covid scenario.

Maharashtra government informed the court that the gurdwara management board had sought the permission to conduct the Dussehra, Takht Isnan, Deepmala and Gurta Gaddi events as per the three centuries-old custom being observed by the gurdwara.

FM: Punjab govt consulting experts on farm laws issue

Oppn slams Punjab govt for not tabling Bill against farm laws on Day 1

Chandigarh, Oct. 19: The opposition on Monday slammed the Punjab government for not tabling a Bill to counter the Centre's new farm laws on the first day of a special Assembly session, which also saw a dharna in the House by AAP MLAs.

The Aam Aadmi Party MLAs sat in the Well of the House till late evening demanding copies of the Bill which the state's Congress government is now expected to introduce on Tuesday.

Earlier, Finance Minister Manpreet Singh Badal said the state government is consulting constitutional experts on the issue and copies of various Bills to be tabled during the two-day session will be given to the Opposition parties by the evening.

Even after the adjournment of the session for the day on Monday afternoon, AAP legislators continued their dharna, demanding copies of the Bill to counter the legislation enacted at the Centre.

Leader of Opposition and AAP leader Harpal Cheema said they will continue the protest till they get copies of this and other Bills to be tabled during the session.

AAP will support the legislation against the farm laws but the government should supply us with its copies. We haven't got copies of other Bills as well. How can our legislators discuss and debate important issues, Cheema said.

The Shiromani Akali Dal said the Bill should have been introduced on Monday.

A delegation of the party met Speaker Rana K.P. Singh in the evening and objected to not getting copies of the Bills to be tabled in the assembly.



Punjab Chief Minister Capt. Amarinder Singh along with other members pays homage to farmers who have lost their lives during the ongoing agitation over new farm laws, on the first day of a special session of the state Assembly in Chandigarh on Monday.

— PTI

THE TWO-DAY special assembly session began with obituary references with Chief Minister

Amarinder Singh leading the House in paying homage to the farmers who lost their lives during the ongoing agitation against the farm laws.

The SAD leaders termed it a "murder of democracy". Earlier reacting to it, Punjab Finance Minister Manpreet Singh Badal said they are consulting constitutional experts over the issue and copies of various Bills to be tabled during the session will be given to the opposition parties by the evening.

The two-day special assembly session began with obituary references with Chief Minister Amarinder Singh leading the House in paying homage to the farmers who lost their lives during the

ongoing agitation against the farm laws.

Punjab MLA Navjot Singh Sidhu attended the assembly session for the first time since his resignation from the state Cabinet last year.

SAD MLAs rode tractors to reach the Vidhan Sabha in protest against the farm laws. They tore copies of the Centre's farm laws.

AAP MLAs staged a protest outside the assembly complex wearing black capes. They tore and burnt copies of the farm laws.

The House was adjourned for an hour by Speaker Rana K.P. Singh

after the assembly took up obituary references. The House reassembled for nearly 15 minutes before being adjourned till Tuesday.

As it reassembled, Harpal Cheema said the special session was called to counter new farm laws but the members "have not been given copies of the Bills".

"Will we get copies of the Bills after the session is over," he asked. SAD member Gurpratap Singh Wadala said it seems the state government "does not have clarity" over the issue.

— PTI

Abdullah grilled by ED for 7 hours; Oppn calls it BJP's political vendetta

YUSUF JAMEEL | DC SRINAGAR, OCT. 19



National Conference president Farooq Abdullah leaves the Enforcement Directorate office in Srinagar on Monday.

— PTI

less than political vendetta coming days after the formation of the People's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration. To set the record straight, no raids are being conducted at Dr Sahib's residence."

Farooq Abdullah, 82, was called by the Srinagar wing of the ED to its office here early Monday where he was "interrogated" for seven hours over his alleged role in misappropriation of ₹113.66 crore (including bank interest)

received by JKCA from the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) between April 2002 and December 2011. It is alleged that instead of utilizing funds on development of infrastructure, these were swindled by some of its members including former treasurer Ahsan Mirza to live a lavish lifestyle.

On emerging from the ED office, Mr. Abdullah told reporters "Let the ED do its job and I will do my own". Reiterating that he had nothing to do with the alleged scam, he said, "I'm quite clear. I will always

face them. My fate will be decided by the court when they put the case into the court. I couldn't have lunch today. There was no time."

Though Mr. Abdullah on being asked whether he was summoned by the ED because of the formation of 'Peoples' Alliance for Gupkar Declaration retorted by saying "Don't bring Gupkar declaration into this," the amalgam in a statement issued here later during the day termed the move as part of "vindictive politics practiced by the Central government to kill dissent and disagreement across the country and in present case to silence the genuine demands for reversal of unilateral and unconstitutional decisions of August 5, 2019 and restoration of the 4th August 2019 (constitutional position) of August 4, 2019."

A statement issued by the alliance here sought to remind the Central government that "such tactics are not to dampen the will of the people of Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh to have the constitutional status restored."

It alleged that the Central government is "unnerved by the unity amongst the people across all the regions and communities to pursue the goals of the Gupkar Declaration and support extended to it by political parties and civil society groups at the national level and is resorting to the game of witch-hunt and suppression."

Senior counsel Harish Salve, who appeared for Mr. Goswami and for the company, sought protection from arrest for Mr. Goswami. Kapil Sibal, appearing for Maharashtra government and police, said since Mr. Goswami has not been named as accused in the case as of now, there cannot be any order granting him protection. Mr. Sibal said till now police have issued summons to eight and questioned them.

REAL DRAMA

The actor was under pressure to withdraw from the biopic

Vijay quits Muralidharan biopic 800

ANUPAMA SUBRAMANIAN | DC CHENNAI, OCT. 19

Vijay Sethupathi was not available for comment but his official publicist confirmed that the star is no longer associated with the biopic 800 titled after his collection of 800 Test wickets. The Tamil film star had been under tremendous pressure to withdraw from the biopic.

As soon as it became official that Vijay Sethupathi would be playing on screen the Sri Lankan Tamil Muralidharan when a first look poster

was released, the actor has been facing protests from political parties, fans and netizens with several film personalities, including his mentor Seenu Ramasamy, requesting him to avoid acting in the Sri Lankan's biopic.

Hashtags 'Shame on Vijay Sethupathi', 'Boycott 800' were trending on the internet objecting to VSP portraying the cricketer who was seen as supporting the Sri Lankan government in its three

decade civil war against Eelam Tamils. The protests did not die down despite a three-page statement from Muralidharan explaining his stand as well as a press release from the film makers Dar Motion Pictures who said 800 was only a sports biography movie and it does not make any political statement.

Vijay, who had seemed firm initially about his decision to do the biopic, may have had to change

his mind. Muralidharan, in his statement, said - "I don't like a celebrated actor like Vijay and his career getting affected because of acting in this film. I came to know that Vijay Sethupathi is getting a lot of pressure to quit the film. I don't want him to face any hurdles. So, I am asking him to opt out of this project." However, Murali expressed the hope that the filmmakers would continue with the biopic plans.

Bid to defuse tension between Assam, Mizoram

MANOJ ANAND | DC GUWAHATI, OCT. 19

The situation on Assam-Mizoram inter-state border in Southern Assam continued to be tense even as union home secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla reviewed the situation on Monday and tried to pacify the situation that started with charges of transgression of state border territory by each other.

Security sources, however, said that situation is now under control in the area, which is in Kolasib district of Mizoram and Cachar district of Assam.

The violence erupted on Saturday after people living on both sides of the border clashed over a Covid-19 testing centre set up by Mizoram within territory claimed by Assam to sample Mizoram-bound truckers and other people without the permission of the Assam authority.

Security sources said that both the sides, in a video conference meeting with union home secretary on Monday, have agreed to allow the movement of vehicles which were stranded at the border in Vairengte since Saturday.

The chief secretaries of the two states were also present in the meeting.

Admitting that territorial disputes between the two states is yet to be resolved, security sources said that Assam government claims its territory basing the map of the survey of India but its counterpart in Mizoram refuses to accept the map and stakes claim on areas under traditional jhum cultivation as its territory.

According to locals, some young men from the Mizoram side of the border came to Lailapur and attacked truck drivers and villagers and burnt more than 15 small shops and houses which was retaliated by locals on Assam side.

Police said that five-six people including one Nizamuddin Lahskar were injured in the violence. Security sources in Mizoram claimed that at least eight youths from their state were also injured in the clash.

Pointing out that Assam Director General of Border Mukesh Agarwal was camping on the border in a statement.

Tejashwi woos Chirag Paswan ahead of polls

NAYEER AZAD | DC PATNA, OCT. 19

The RJD which is keen on expanding its voters' base in Bihar is reportedly trying to woo Chirag Paswan of the Lok Janshakti Party (LJP) ahead of assembly elections.

RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav on Monday expressed sympathy for Paswan who recently defied the leadership of Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and pulled out of the NDA in Bihar. "Nitish Kumar's attitude towards Chirag Paswan was not right. In my view, he was unfair to him. Chirag Paswan needs his father more than anything right now but, sadly, he is not among us anymore," Tejashwi Yadav said.

His statement has come at a time when the entire NDA in Bihar including the BJP has been calling LJP a "vote kawtha" party for fielding candidates against the JD(U) and two smaller alliance partners. He is likely to field around 100 more candidates on seats where JD(U) is contesting.

He had recently created a stir in Bihar politics by giving tickets to several sitting BJP MLAs after their seats went to the JD(U). The LJP had earlier decided not to field any candidates against the BJP during the entire polls.

Sources said that Chirag is banking on LJP's traditional Dalit vote bank created by his father. Experts also feel that Ram Vilas Paswan's death ahead of Bihar polls will cast a shadow on the results.

Aware of the LJP's political combination, Tejashwi Yadav is looking forward to benefiting on several key seats if he manages to convince Chirag Paswan ahead of Bihar polls.

Reacting on Tejashwi Yadav's statement Hindustani Awam Morcha spokesperson Danish Rizwan called LJP "a team of RJD" in Bihar. He said, "It seems that Chirag Paswan is raising questions on Prime Minister Narendra Modi by defying the leadership of Nitish Kumar".



Congress Bankipur candidate and Shatrughan Sinha's son, Luv Sinha, during door-to-door election campaign ahead of Bihar assembly polls, in Patna on Monday.

— PTI

SHORT TAKES

NEP WILL ARREST BRAIN DRAIN, SAYS POKHRIYAL

Indore, Oct. 19: Union education minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' on Monday said the new national educational policy will help arrest brain drain and give a boost to research in higher education institutes.

He was addressing through video conference the 8th convocation ceremony of the Indian Institute of Technology Indore. "Between 7.5 lakh to 8 lakh Indian students are studying abroad and this drains out ₹1.5 lakh crore from here to foreign countries. We are going to strengthen parameters under our 'stay in India' campaign for which research will be put on the fast-track under the new education policy," he said.

He said those who had studied in India were leading some of the big corporations in the world. Under the new education policy, some 100 top international universities would be invited to India for "knowledge exchange", the minister said.

He said the Centre wants to make higher education institutions an international brand under its 'study in India' campaign. He said 50,000 foreign students had registered for admission in institutes in the country but the move has been stalled currently due to the Coronavirus outbreak.

CONCERN RAISED OVER HIGH AIRFARE TO GULF

New Delhi, Oct. 19: Rajya Sabha member M.V. Shreyams Kumar has urged civil aviation minister Hardeep Singh Puri to immediately look into the issue of various airlines charging high fares from passengers travelling to Gulf countries.

Currently, flights are being operated by airlines to and from India under various bilateral air bubble agreements since commercial international air services remain suspended due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

In a letter to the minister, Kumar has flagged concerns about "undue exploitation" of Gulf passengers by airline companies charging very high fares under the Covid-19 situation. People who returned to India during Vande Bharat operation have started going back to Gulf countries to protect their jobs and business there, he added.

Citing flights to Bahrain from Calicut in Kerala, Kumar said higher ticket prices are being charged now compared to the pre-Covid-19 period. He also claimed that Gulf passengers are being charged at the same level for flights from three other airports in the state.

India has an air travel arrangement with Bahrain that allows Air India/Air India Express and Gulf Air to operate flights between the two countries.

THACKERAY TELLS FADNAVIS TO VISIT DELHI

BHAGWAN PARAB | DC
MUMBAI, OCT. 19

Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray and leader of Opposition Devendra Fadnavis on Monday were seen sparring with each over the issue of seeking Centre's help to provide assistance to flood-hit people in the state. NCP chief Sharad Pawar has suggested that the state should take a loan for offering aid to farmers affected by heavy rains.

Thackeray and Fadnavis visited the flood-affected villages in Solapur and Pune districts respectively. The BJP leader said that the farmers have suffered huge losses due to the downpour. Instead of looking up to the Centre for help, the state government should provide immediate assistance to farmers.

Replying to him, the Chief Minister said, "What is wrong in asking Centre's help? The Centre is not a foreign government. Its job is to look over the country and the states. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has also assured all assistance from the Centre. Instead of indulging in politics, everyone should come together to seek Centre's help for the state's welfare."

Thackeray has been targeted by the Opposition for remaining confined to his home while the people are suffering. Taking a swipe at the BJP leader, the Chief Minister asked Fadnavis to visit Delhi so that the Prime Minister also "comes out".



A poster with an image of Goddess Durga slaying a demon representing the Coronavirus being installed at a puja pandal in New Delhi on Monday, ahead of Durga puja festival.

Nadda: CAA to be implemented soon

DC CORRESPONDENT
KOLKATA, OCT. 19

rules are also being drafted. We will fulfil it."

About the Gorkhaland demand, Mr Nadda added, "As far as the Gorkha community is concerned, I am thankful to them. You have always stood by us. It is our responsibility now. We have kept their two demands in our election manifesto. One of them is the political and permanent solution. Another is about recognition of 11 Gorkha tribes. Both are in our election manifesto and we will fulfil them. We are determined and committed for it."

The BJP president's comments are significant as the Centre had called a meeting on "Gorkhaland" inviting the Mamata Banerjee government, the Gorkha Jammukti Morcha and Gorkhaland Territorial Administration in New Delhi on October 7.

On the CAA, he said, "As far as the CAA is concerned, you will get its benefits. It is sure. Rules are being made now. Due to the coronavirus, a little delay has occurred. As corona is going away, the

WB puja mandaps declared 'no entry zones' for visitors

Court has suggested that the devotees watch the pujas 'virtually'

RAJIB CHOWDHURI | DC
KOLKATA, OCT. 19

In a landmark ruling, the Calcutta High Court on Monday declared all Durga Puja mandaps in West Bengal as 'no entry zones' for visitors after treating the pandals as 'Containment Zones'. The move aims to stop crowding at the mandaps, which are feared to trigger the spread of Covid-19 pandemic in the state during the festive season.

A division bench of Justice Sanjib Banerjee and Justice Arijit Banerjee of the high court passed the order which will cover around 34,000 pujas, most of which are patronised by the ruling Trinamul Congress leaders. The high court's order, however, comes on Tritiya, which Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee recently announced as the date for the puja organisers in Delhi to allow devotees to visit mandaps, three days ahead of the scheduled time.

The division bench laid down a set of guidelines after hearing a public interest litigation on the state government's permission to organise Durga Puja amid Covid-19 pandemic. One of them is that all the puja mandaps entrance will be barricaded with 'no entry zone'

Puja in Delhi to go online; home delivery of prasad

New Delhi, Oct. 19: Online darshan, home delivery of prasad and Covid-19 test for priests and cooks are some of the unique measures that Durga Puja organisers in the national capital have come up with to safely host the festival in the shadow of the Coronavirus pandemic.

Some organisers said they will rope in two priests to avoid any last-minute scrambling if the main priest gets infected with Covid-19, while others plan to maintain a record of visitors for easy contact-tracing. Most Durga Puja committees in Delhi have decided not to allow entry of people and

notice for the devotees.

The division bench suggested that the devotees watch the pujas "virtually". Besides, only 15 members among the organisers in case of a small puja will be allowed to be present at the mandap while the number will be 25 at big puja mandaps. And their names will be displayed at the puja mandap's entrance and it cannot be changed.

Also, a distance of five meters and ten meters must be maintained around the small and big puja mandaps respectively.

The distance will have to be measured from where the puja mandap's boundary ends, said advocate of the petitioner and CPI(M) Rajya Sabha MP Bikash

limit physical darshan to their members only. The Chittaranjan Park Kali Mandir Society, which organises one of the biggest Durga puja festival in Delhi, has decided not to allow entry of general public to the temple premises this year due to Covid-19. It has tied up with a DTH service provider and a local cable operator so that devotees can have darshan of Durga idol from their houses. The temple society also has plans to facilitate online darshan on its Facebook page and YouTube channel.

"Around 2.5 lakh people attend our Durga Puja. Due to Covid-19, we have

decided to organise the festival in a simple manner this year. Only a few members of our management committee will be in attendance. We have hired certified cook to prepare prasad and he has to show negative Covid-19 report.

As devotees will not be allowed, we will deliver prasad at their doorsteps within a 2-km radius for which an agency has been engaged," society joint secretary Prodip Ganguly said.

Ganguly said there will be live telecast of aarti and devotees can offer 'pushpanjali' from their homes with all rituals being live streamed.

STATE GOVT TOLD TO STAY VIGILANT

DC CORRESPONDENT
with agency inputs
NEW DELHI, OCT. 19

The total number of the Coronavirus cases in India on Monday reached 75.52 lakh with 55,722 fresh cases and 579 deaths in a day. The total number of deaths in India is 1,14,610. Though a sharp decline in fresh cases is being noted for the last few days, the health authorities are keeping their fingers crossed in view of the upcoming festive season.

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Ranjan Bhattacharyya.

Expressing concern over the photographs in the media of puja shoppers crowd without any protection at markets, the division bench observed that though the Mamata Banerjee government's guidelines for the Puja celebration reflect its goodwill, they are not applied in reality.

Union health minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan on Monday asked state governments to stay vigilant in the coming days.

Reiterating his statement that the coming winter and the long festive season pose a significant risk that could threaten the gains made against the Coronavirus.

INDIA, THE US, Japan and Australia are part of the "Quad" alliance, which Beijing considers as an anti-China grouping. Now all the Quad countries will be participating in a naval war game this year.

Arabian Sea.

"As India seeks to increase co-operation with other countries in the maritime security domain and in the light of increased defence cooperation with Australia, Malabar 2020 will see the participation of the Australian Navy," said defence ministry in a statement.

It said that the participants of exercise Malabar 2020 are engaging to enhance safety and security in the maritime domain. "They collectively support free, open and inclusive Indo-Pacific and remain committed to a rules based international order," it added.

The Malabar series of naval exercises started in 1992 as a bilateral Indian Navy-US Navy exercise. Japan joined the Naval exercise in 2015.

This annual exercise has been conducted off the coast of Guam in 2018 and off the coast of Japan in 2019.

Schools open after seven months in Uttar Pradesh

Lucknow, Oct. 19: Uttar Pradesh schools opened on Monday after a gap of seven months caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

According to Additional Chief Secretary (Secondary Education) Aradhana Shukla said students of Classes 9 to 12 attended the schools.

The classes were run in

two shifts due to the Covid-19 protocol in the state, she said, adding that arrangements were made for sanitisers and thermal scanning at the schools.

Meanwhile, Maha-rashtriya recorded 5,984 coronavirus cases, a significant drop in daily numbers, which took its caseload to 16,01,365, a health official said.

The classes were run in

As many as 125 fatalities took the Covid-19 death toll in the state to 42,240, he added.

The state had reported a single-day rise of 9,060 cases on Sunday.

As many as 15,069 patients were discharged on Monday, taking the number of recoveries in the state to 13,84,879.

— PTI

Mumbai, Oct. 19:

THE MUMBAI Metro One is running services for a limited period of time, insisting on social distancing by limiting the number of people carried in a single coach to 260 people during the reopening.

which pales when compared to the daily ridership of over 4.5 lakh.

The Mumbai Metro One is running services for a limited period of time, insisting on social distancing by limiting the number of people carried in a single coach to 260 people during the reopening.

The local trains, which act as a feeder to the Metro line and being operated

only for the essential serv-

ices workers, may also have had an impact on the ride-

ship, according to re-

porters on Monday.

The 46-year-old leader

who became the subject of

sexist sarcasm by Kamal

Nath triggering an out-

rage. The words used in

the video are highly defamatory and shows disrespect to

the dignity of a woman",

that the word 'item' is not

offensive and anybody

including him can be

referred to as item.

Meanwhile, the National

Commission for Women

on Monday sought an

explanation from Mr Nath

for his 'item' jibe against

the minister.

"The commission strongly

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IN BRIEF
Japan, Vietnam up defence ties

Hanoi: Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga, in his first overseas summit since taking office last month, agreed with his Vietnamese counterpart to step up defence and security cooperation in the face of China's expanding influence in the region. In talks in Hanoi on Monday, Suga and Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc set a basic agreement allowing Japan to export defence equipment and technology to Vietnam. Japan has been pursuing such agreements in recent years to bolster ties with Southeast Asia and sustain its own defence industry. Suga says his four-day trip to Vietnam and later Indonesia is key to pursuing the "free and open Indo-Pacific" vision for multilateral economic and security cooperation to counter China's growing power and protect sea lanes in disputed areas of the South China Sea.

Suspended terms for Golden Dawn

Athens: A prosecutor on Monday recommended that all former lawmakers of Greece's extreme right Golden Dawn party who have been convicted and sentenced to prison for leading or participating in a criminal organisation should be allowed to remain free until their appeal has been heard. Prosecutor Adamantia Economou argued that none of the former lawmakers was a flight risk or at risk of re-offending while they remain out of jail, and said most had a clean criminal record prior to this. A final decision on whether the sentences will be suspended pending appeal is to be made by the panel of judges trying the case following summations by defense lawyers, and is expected either Monday night or Tuesday morning. The lengthy sentencing procedure caps a marathon, politically charged five-year trial that involved 68 defendants.

Last ETA boss sorry for deaths

Paris: The last known chief of ETA, the now-extinct Basque separatist militant group, goes on trial Monday in Paris for terrorism charges that he deems "absurd" because of his role in ending a conflict that claimed hundreds of lives and terrorised Spain for half a century. Josu Urrutikoetxea led ETA during one of its bloodiest periods, when its victims included children bombed to death while sleeping in a Zaragoza police compound, where a monument to their stolen lives now stands. In a rare interview after 17 years on the run, he offered an apology, advised other separatist movements against resorting to violence and painted himself as a changed man. That's a preposterous claim to those who lost loved ones to ETA's violence, which caused around 850 deaths and thousands of injuries and hijacked the Basque and Spanish political debate for decades.

THAI CENSOR ON STUDENT STIR COVERAGE

Bangkok, Oct. 19: Thai authorities worked Monday to stem a growing tide of protests calling for the prime minister to resign by threatening to censor news coverage, raiding a publishing house and attempting to block the Telegram messaging app used by demonstrators. The efforts by PM Prayuth Chan-ocha's government to drain the student-led protests of support and the ability to organise comes as they have grown in the capital and spread around the country, despite an emergency decree, which bans public gatherings of more than four people in Bangkok, outlaws news said to affect national security and gives authorities broad power to detain people.

The mostly young protesters have gathered en masse across Bangkok the past six days to push their demands, which also include a controversial call for reform of the monarchy. The protesters charge that Prayuth, an army commander who led a 2014 coup, was returned to power unfairly in last year's general election because laws had been changed to favour a pro-military party. The protesters say a constitution written and passed under military rule is undemocratic. But their more recent demand for checks and balances on the monarchy has deeply angered conservative Thais.

Confirmed Coronavirus cases across world surpass 40 mn

Experts: Only tip of the iceberg when it comes to impact of pandemic

London, Oct. 19: The number of confirmed Covid-19 cases across the planet has surpassed 40 million, but experts say that is only the tip of the iceberg when it comes to the true impact of the pandemic that has upended life and work around the world. The milestone was hit Monday morning, according to Johns Hopkins University, which collates reports from around the world. The actual worldwide tally of Covid-19 cases is likely to be far higher, as testing has been variable, many people have had no symptoms and some governments have concealed the true number of cases.

To date, more than 1.1 million confirmed virus deaths have been reported, although experts also believe that number is an undercount. The US, India and Brazil are reporting

by far the highest numbers — 8.1 million, 7.5 million and 5.2 million respectively — although the global increase in recent weeks has been driven by a surge in Europe, which has seen over 240,000 confirmed virus deaths in the pandemic so far. Last week, the World Health Organisation said Europe had a reported a record weekly high of nearly 700,000 cases and said the region was responsible for about a third of cases globally.

Britain, France, Russia and Spain account for about half of all new cases in the region, and countries like Belgium and the Czech Republic are facing more intense outbreaks now than they did in the spring. WHO said the new measures being taken across Europe are "absolutely essential" in stopping Covid-19 from over-

whelming its hospitals. Those include new requirements on mask-wearing in Italy and Switzerland, closing schools in Northern Ireland and the Czech Republic, closing restaurants and bars in Belgium, implementing a 9 p.m. curfew in France and having targeted limited lockdowns in parts of the UK.

The agency said several European cities could soon see their intensive care units overwhelmed and warned that governments and citizens should take all necessary measures to slow the spread of the virus, including bolstering testing and contact tracing, wearing face masks and following social distancing measures. WHO has previously estimated about 1 in 10 of the world's population — about 780 million people — have been infected with Covid-19, more than 20 times the official number of cases.

That suggests the vast majority of the world's population is still susceptible to the virus. Some researchers have argued that allowing Covid-19 to spread in populations that are not obviously vulnerable will help build up herd immunity and is a more realistic way to stop the pandemic instead of the restrictive lockdowns that have proved economically devastating. But WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus has warned against the belief that herd immunity might be a viable strategy to pursue, saying this kind of protection needs to be achieved by vaccination.

It is wrong. It's got to end. It is dangerous, not just for me and my family, but for public servants everywhere who are doing their jobs and trying to protect their fellow Americans. People of good will on both sides of the aisle need to step up and call this out and bring the heat down."

Whitmer told NBC's "Meet the Press" that the rhetoric is "incredibly disturbing" a little more than a week after authorities announced they had thwarted an alleged plot to kidnap the Democratic governor. "The president is at it again and inspiring and incentivising and inciting this kind of domestic terrorism," Whitmer said.

"It is wrong. It's got to end. It is dangerous, not just for me and my family, but for public servants everywhere who are doing their jobs and trying to protect their fellow Americans. People of good will on both sides of the aisle need to step up and call this out and bring the heat down."

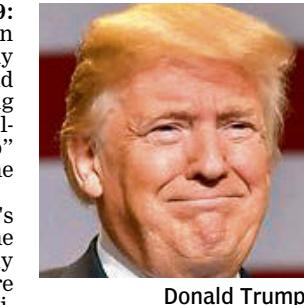
At a rally in Muskegon Saturday evening, Trump urged supporters to push Whitmer to reopen the state following Covid-19 restrictions. When the crowd started chanting "lock her up" Trump added, "Lock 'em all up."

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, speaking on ABC's "This Week," said Trump's statements were "irresponsible" and accused him of injecting fear tactics.

Biden not good for India: Donald Trump Jr

New York, Oct. 19: Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden is not good for India as he could be soft on China, US President Donald Trump's son said at an event to celebrate the "success" of his book that talks about graft allegations against the Bidens.

Trump offered short remarks, saying "I love going to churches" and that it was "a great honour" to attend the service. The president also said that "we have a group on the other side that doesn't agree with us," and he urged people to "get out there on Nov. 3 or sooner" to vote.



DON, BIDEN GO ON THE OFFENCE IN STATES

Las Vegas, Oct. 19: President Donald Trump and his Democratic rival Joe Biden went on offense Sunday, with each campaigning in states they are trying to flip during the Nov. 3 election that is just over two weeks away.

Trump began his day in Nevada, making a rare visit to church before an evening rally in Carson City. Once considered a battleground, Nevada hasn't swung for a Republican presidential contender since 2004.

While seated in the front row at the non-denominational International Church of Las Vegas, Trump received blessings from the church's pastors, with Denise Goulet telling attendees that God told her Trump is the apple of his eye and would secure a second term. "At 4:30, the Lord said to me, I am going to give your president a second win," she said, telling Trump, "you will be the president again."

Trump offered short remarks, saying "I love going to churches" and that it was "a great honour" to attend the service. The president also said that "we have a group on the other side that doesn't agree with us," and he urged people to "get out there on Nov. 3 or sooner" to vote.

his son Hunter Biden.

"When you look at our opponents in this race... you think the Chinese gave Hunter Biden \$1.5 billion... because he was a great businessman, or because they knew the Bidens could be bought, and therefore soft on China," he said. Trump Jr was referring to the latest allegations of corruption against the Biden family.

— PTI

Chile church set ablaze



The dome of the church of Asuncion falls down burning in flames after being set on fire by demonstrators on the commemoration of the first anniversary of the social uprising in Chile, in Santiago, on Monday, as the country prepares for a landmark referendum.

Israel, Bahrain establish relations

Jerusalem, Oct. 19: Israel and Bahrain on Sunday agreed to establish formal diplomatic relations, making the small Gulf country the fourth Arab state to normalise ties with Israel.

The ceasefire was the second agreed after a previous truce thrashed out in Moscow earlier this month never showed any sign of seriously holding.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov, who has acted as a mediator between Armenia and Azerbaijan in negotiating both ceasefires.

With Israel formally established ties, the agreement with Bahrain was less detailed and included a mutual pledge to follow suit. Sunday's visit appeared to complete that task, clearing the way for the countries to open embassies and exchange ambassadors in the coming months.

It was indeed an historic visit, to start opening relations between both countries, to have fruitful bilateral relations in both fields," said Bahrain's foreign minister, Abdullatif al-Zayani, at the signing ceremony.

— AP

Tel Aviv, Oct. 19: The first commercial passenger flight to Israel by a carrier from the United Arab Emirates landed near Tel Aviv on Monday, further cementing a normalisation deal between the two countries.

Etihad Airways Flight No. 9607 landed at Israel's Ben-Gurion international airport just after 7 am.

The Boeing 787 Dreamliner departed for Abu Dhabi later Monday with an Israeli travel and tourism delegation on board, according to an Etihad statement.

Etihad said it plans regular passenger flights between the countries in the future and was launching a dedicated Hebrew website.

— AP

First Emirati flight lands near Tel Aviv

Karachi, Oct. 19: Prime Minister Imran Khan is "incapable and clueless," and his government is worse than a dictatorship, Pakistan's opposition leaders have said at the second rally of an alliance formed to oust the premier. The Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM), an alliance of 11 opposition parties formed on September 20, has launched a three-phased anti-gov-

ernment movement under an "action plan" to remove the Khan-led Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) government. Under the plan a number of rallies public meetings and demonstrations will be held across the country, before a "decisive long march" to Islamabad in January next year. The first of these rallies was held on Friday in Gujranwala near Lahore.

"This incapable and clue-

less prime minister will have to go home," Pakistani Peoples Party (PPP) chief Bilawal Bhutto Zardari said on Sunday at the Bagh-e-Jinnah, which was packed with people including supporters and workers of the alliance's members.

History has proved that the biggest dictators could not survive and "what standing does this puppet have?", Zardari said targeting Prime

Minister Khan and added that "this is not a new fight but this will be a decisive fight".

The rally here also marked the 13th anniversary of the twin blasts in Karsaz that targeted the homecoming procession of former prime minister Benazir Bhutto in 2007. The blast left around 200 people dead and several injured.

— PTI

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IN BRIEF
HELP SAVE HOMES: ARCTIC CIRCLE TEENS

Arctic Circle, Oct. 19: Teenagers living in remote Arctic communities say they're worried about the effects of climate change. Scientists warn that melting ice and warming temperatures show rapid climate change is taking place. Rarely heard young people from multiple countries within the Arctic Circle say their way of life is at risk and governments must act.

GREEN TECH KEY TO CLIMATE CHANGE FIGHT

Brussels, Oct. 19: Europe should not only lead the world in its drive to climate neutrality, but also play a central role in technologies to reach that goal, Belgium's Prime Minister Alexander De Croo said on Thursday. "It is important that our country does not miss the technology train. Our country will not itself save the world, but technology that comes from our country, from Europe, can play an important role," De Croo told reporters on his arrival at an EU summit in Brussels.

JAPAN EYES SAT RESEARCH FOR DISPUTED ISLES

Tokyo, Oct. 19: Japan is looking into using satellite images to further research on the natural environment of islets in the East China Sea claimed by China, the top government spokesman said, though the plans will not involve anyone actually setting foot there.

Japan's ties with China have long been plagued by a territorial row over the uninhabited islands controlled by Tokyo, which are known as the Senkaku in Japan, but called Diaoyu in China.

"The Environment Ministry is considering conducting research into the natural environment of the Senkaku islands as early as by the end of the year," Chief Cabinet Secretary Katsunobu Kato told a regular news conference.

"That will be part of the ministry's nationwide research ... and will be carried out using the latest satellite images."

Later, a ministry official told Reuters the research would not involve anyone setting foot on the islands. The announcement comes after two Chinese government ships stayed in what Japan considers its territorial waters around the islands for more than 57 hours this week.

That was the longest such operation since Japan nationalised part of the islands in 2012, spurring Tokyo to lodge protests against Beijing.

ANALYSTS UP EU CARBON PRICE FORECASTS

London, Oct. 19: Analysts have significantly increased their European carbon market price forecasts on expectations tougher climate targets for greenhouse gas reductions in the bloc will drive up the cost of permits. EU Allowances (EUAs) are expected to average 37.86 euros a tonne in 2021 and 41.61 euros/tonne in 2022, according to a *Reuters* survey of eight analysts. That is up 18.2% and 31.3% respectively from forecasts in July. The average forecast for prices in 2023 was 46.15 euros/tonne.

The European Union's Emissions Trading System (ETS) is the bloc's flagship scheme to cut emissions and caps the emissions of about 12,000 power plants, factories and airlines.

The EU wants to bolster its 2030 climate target to steer its economy towards becoming "climate neutral" by 2050 which means a greater burden will be placed on companies covered by the ETS and more sectors, such as shipping are likely to be included.

"We... expect the more ambitious policy to significantly boost carbon prices in phase 4 (2021-2030)," analysts at Refinitiv said in a note. "Assuming a 55% climate target is adopted, the ETS cap would be strengthened to meet the new 2030 ambition," they said.

In the short-term analysts warned prices are likely to be volatile as discussions over the new EU climate target and Brexit gather pace and as restrictions designed to limit the spread of the Coronavirus could dampen electricity demand and industrial output.

Probe into cultural genocide: Rio Tinto vows reform

Melbourne, Oct. 19: Outgoing Rio Tinto Chief Executive Jean-Sébastien Jacques said on Friday the miner was committed to reform after a lawmaker accused the industry of incremental cultural genocide at an Australian inquiry into the destruction of an ancient cave.

Speaking for a second time at a parliamentary inquiry into how the world's biggest iron ore miner destroyed a culturally significant 46,000-year-old rockshelter in Western Australia, Jacques repeated an apology and vowed Rio would improve its efforts.

"It should have never happened," Jacques told the inquiry into the destruction of the rockshelters at Juukan Gorge as part of an iron ore mine expansion in May, which caused deep distress to the Puutu Kunti Kurramina and Pinikura (PKKP) people.

Rio has taken steps to reform its cultural heritage management practices, including changing reporting lines and responsibilities, and putting a 57 square km (22 square mile) mining moratorium on the affected lands of the PKKP.

"We fully agree and that is why we are absolutely committed to change, to reform. We have started, we have already taken action, there is more work to be carried out for all the reasons you have just mentioned," said Jacques, who is due to step down by the end of March.

Rio pledged to modernise its agreements and create stronger heritage protection in a letter to the 12 Aboriginal groups it has agreements with in Pilbara region, signed by acting head of iron ore Ivan Vella.

— Reuters

80% of Europe's natural habitats in poor shape: Report

Copenhagen, Oct. 19: More than 80 percent of the European Union's natural habitats are in poor or bad condition and more must be done to protect them, the European Environment Agency (EEA) warned in a report Monday. The report, which covers a period 2013-2018, shows a deterioration from the 2007-2012 period when 77 percent of natural habitats were in "unfavourable" condition.

"We clearly need a large-scale restoration in Europe," one of the authors of the report, EEA expert Carlos Romao, told reporters.

"This is a must not only for biodiversity but also for the climate change agenda," he said.

Common farmland species such as the skylark, and habitats such as wet heaths, are declining across the continent.

Habitats and species are facing numerous pressures, including intensive agriculture, urban sprawl -- coupled with tourism and recreation -- unsustainable forestry activities, and pollution, among others. Climate change, with increasing drought and decreasing rainfall, also poses a challenge.

In the six-year study, the EEA registered over 67,000 types of human activities that harmed the environment in the 28 EU member states, including Britain. Less than half of

bird species in the EU, 47 percent, have a "good" conservation status, five percentage points fewer than in the previous 2007-2012 reporting period.

Habitats important to pollinators are another area of concern, as they are crucial to the planet's biodiversity. Their conservation status has deteriorated more than others, the report showed.

But the conclusions are not all dire.

The number of animal species whose conservation status was "good" was 27 percent, which, while low, was four percentage points higher than in the previous study. And conservation efforts are paying off.

Natural habitats covered by the EU's Natura 2000 network are doing better than other habitats, the EEA said.

As a result, a number of species and habitats have improved, such as the agile frog in Sweden, coastal lagoons in France and the bearded vulture across the EU.

The areas protected by Natura 2000 covered 18 percent of EU land, unchanged from 2012, and 10 percent of marine areas, up by four percent age points.

Danish environmental group Noah, a member of the "Friends of the Earth" umbrella organisation, said however that this was not enough. — AFP

Berlin, Oct. 19: The German Research Vessel Polarstern has sailed back into its home port after completing a remarkable expedition to the Arctic Ocean.

The ship spent a year in the polar north, much of it with its engines turned off so it could simply drift in the sea-ice.

The point was to study the Arctic climate and how it is changing.

And expedition leader, Prof Markus Rex, returned with a warning. "The sea-ice is dying," he said.

"The region is at risk. We were able to witness how the ice disappears and in areas where there should

have been ice that was many metres thick, and even at the North Pole -- that ice was gone," the Alfred Wegener Institute scientist told a media conference in Bremerhaven on Monday.

RV Polarstern was on station to document this summer's floes shrink to their second lowest ever extent in the modern era.

The floating ice withered to just under 3.74 million sq km (1.44 million sq miles). The only time this minimum has been beaten in the age of satellites was 2012, when the pack ice was reduced to 3.41 million sq km.



Koalas at Gunnedah Park, New South Wales in Australia.

— AP

From disease to bushfires, Oz koalas face bleak future

Drought, logging of forests, habitat encroachment threaten their survival

WWF Oz drones to drop seeds for koala gum trees

Kanangra-Boyd National Park, Australia, Oct. 19: At work, Morgan Philpott cares for sick children. In his off-hours the Australian paediatric nurse turns his attention to an equally defenceless group: Unwell koalas.

"They really run the risk of becoming extinct inside our lifetime," Philpott said of the New South Wales koala population at an animal hospital on Sydney's outskirts while helping a veterinarian treat a rescued koala infected with the bacterial disease chlamydia.

The pervasive infection among the koalas, blazing bushfires, drought, logging of forests and urban encroachment of their habitat are some of the many destructive forces that continue to threaten their survival. These forces, a government report warned in June, could make Australia's symbolic animal extinct in New South Wales — the nation's most populous state — by 2050.

"If the areas that didn't burn last year burn this year, that would really be catastrophic," for the koalas, said Philpott, who joined the country's biggest animal rescue agency, Wildlife Information, Rescue and Education Service, or WIRES, at the urging of his daughter. Future fires could spell the end of them."

The country's worst summer of bushfires in a generation razed more than 11.2 million hectares (27.7 million acres), nearly half the

area of the United Kingdom, thrusting the grey, tree-hugging marsupials into the centre of the national conversation and a hot political issue.

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quick BITES

INDICATORS		%
Sensex	40,431.60	1.12
Nifty 50	11,873.00	0.94
S&P 500*	3,476.78	-0.20
Dollar (₹)	73.36	0.02
Pound Sterling (₹)	95.29	0.44
Euro (₹)	86.08	-0.20
Gold (10gm)* (₹)	50,682 ▲135	0.27
Brent crude (\$/bbl)*	42.91	-0.02
IN 10-Yr bond yield	5.940	0.006
US 10-Yr T-bill yield*	0.769	0.025

* As of 9:30 PM IST

Sykes India opens its third facility in Hyderabad

Sykes India, a leading digital marketing and customer service global outsourcer, has opened its third centre of excellence in Hyderabad. This 33,000 sq. ft. facility is the company's third in Hyderabad and fifth in the country. It employs around 1,000 in Hyderabad and 200 in Bengaluru. It has hired an additional 300 people, which will work from the new facility at NSL SEZ, Uppal in Hyderabad.

Malabar Gold offers 'one India one Gold rate'



Malabar Gold & Diamonds has launched 'One India One Gold Rate', an initiative that offers uniform gold rate across all states in the country for 100 per cent BIS hallmark. While the international gold prices are transparent and uniform custom duty and taxes are applied across the globe, in India, there exists a disparity across states in the rates of gold, though gold is sourced from the designated banks.

Nuvoco Vistas bets on individual home builders

Nuvoco Vistas, a leading building materials company, has launched a water-and-cracks-resistant concrete to address the dearth of premium quality concrete in the Individual Home Builders segment. The concrete — Concrete Permadure — improves the durability of the structure by minimising micro cracks and water seepage, said Prashant Jha, chief, ready-mix business at Nuvoco Vistas.

DMart converts 2 stores into fulfilment centres

Avenue Supermarts Ltd, which owns and operates supermarket chain DMart, has closed two of its retail stores in Mumbai and converted them into fulfilment centres to cater to its growing e-commerce business in the city. The company opened six new DMart stores during the July-September quarter this fiscal taking its store count to 220 with total retail business area of 8.2 million square feet.

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FinMin asks eight PSUs to buyback Centre's shares

■ Windfall from state firms to reduce widening fiscal deficit

Centre bets on PSUs to kick-start capital spend

SANGEETHA G.
CHENNAI, OCT. 19

India has asked at least eight state-run companies to consider share buybacks in the fiscal year that runs through March 2021, two government officials said, as New Delhi scours for ways of raising funds to rein in its fiscal deficit.

The firms asked include miner Coal India, power utility NTPC, minerals producer NMDC and Engineers India Ltd, said one of the sources, who sought anonymity as the discussions are private. "Buyback is an important tool in our strategy and it helps in building market price," added the second official, who also spoke on condition of anonymity.

India is unlikely to be anywhere near its fiscal deficit target of 3.5 per cent of GDP for 2020-21 as coronavirus curbs hit tax collections and delayed efforts to privatise energy firm Bharat Petroleum Corp and flag carrier Air India.

In February, the government had set itself a target of raising more than \$27 billion from privatisations and sale of minority stakes in state-owned companies this fiscal year.

However, some companies, particularly in the oil sector, may not be able to do buybacks, the sources warned, as the government's stake is just sufficient to ensure its position as a majority holder.

With central PSUs spending only 32 per cent of its capex target for the fiscal, the finance ministry has directed state-run firms to spend 75 per cent of their capital expenditure by the end of December.

While reviewing their performance, the ministry stressed on more coordinated efforts at the levels of secretary of concerned ministries and chairpersons and managing directors of CPSEs to achieve capital expenditure targets.

The government finds that the better performance of CPSEs can help the economy in a big way to recover from the impact of Covid-19 pandemic.

The central PSUs have a capital expenditure target of ₹1,15,934 crore for the fiscal 2020-21. Till the first

half of the year, they have only achieved 32 per cent or ₹37,423 crore of this target. This is 13 per cent lower than the capital expenditure made in the first half of last fiscal.

In H1 FY20, CPSEs had spent ₹43,097 crore even when the total target was ₹1,11,672 crore. However, by the end of the year, they had achieved 104 per cent of the capex target.

The government, however, has claimed that CPSEs have cleared ₹13,400 crore of pending payments to MSMEs in the past five months. Out of this, payments worth ₹3,700 crore have been made in September only.

Though it is mandatory for all CPSEs and companies with turnover of more than ₹500 crore to join the TReDS platform started by Reserve Bank of India, many companies are yet to join it or trans-

act on it. The MSME ministry has now written to the top management of over 2,800 corporates by name to make payment of pending dues of MSMEs in this month itself.

Last month, the ministry had written to top 500 corporates about the pending payments of MSMEs.

According to reports, MSMEs have around ₹5 lakh crore of pending dues from PSUs, government agencies and private enterprises.

The MSME Development Act, 2006, mandates companies to make the payment to MSMEs within 45 days.

If the cash flows of MSMEs improve, they can make use of the festival season when there is opportunity to earn by supplying goods and services.

Some of the MSMEs look for such a period for their sustenance of the whole year.

The second source said,

But for those with sufficient funds and capital expenditure below target for this fiscal year, the government could seek approval from the cabinet to prune its stake to less than 51 per cent in individual firms without giving up control, the official said.

Kalyan Jewellers has 137 retail stores spread across India and the Middle East. Besides over 100 stores across 21 states in India,

— Reuters

claim on their cash in the form of huge capital expenditure commitment and dividend payments,"

"The government stake in these state-run companies is about 51 per cent and there is a competing

Centre must borrow ₹2.3tr for GST: Kerala

SANGEETHA G.
CHENNAI, OCT. 19

Having agreed to borrow money to fund shortfall in GST collections on behalf of states, the Central government should negotiate with the states on how much should be borrowed, said Kerala finance minister Thomas Issac. He wants the entire shortfall of ₹2.35 lakh crore (₹2.35 trillion) to be provided to the states this year itself.

"Having come the halfway through for an amicable settlement on the issue of who should borrow, the Centre should take initiative to settle the remaining issue: How much to borrow?" he said in a tweet.

Last week, the Centre had agreed to borrow ₹1.1 lakh crore on behalf of the states, ending an impasse with the states.

Talking to *Financial Chronicle*, Issac said the Centre has to negotiate

● IF YOU can borrow ₹1.1 lakh crore, why can't it be higher? We should be getting the full ₹2.35 lakh crore this year. We are facing an economic recession now and not tomorrow, said Kerala finance minister Thomas Issac

with the states as to what is the requirement.

Considering the current economic recession, he said, the states should be provided the entire short fall of ₹2.35 lakh crore.

The Centre in August had estimated that the GST shortfall for FY21 would be around ₹2.35 lakh crore. Of the ₹2.35 lakh crore, Centre has agreed to borrow ₹1.1 lakh crore. Out of the remaining ₹1.25 lakh crore, ₹50,000-60,000 crore will come from the current year's compensation cess. The remaining amount

will be paid only in 2023 from the compensation cess, he said.

"If you can borrow ₹1.1 lakh crore, why can't it be higher? We should be getting the full ₹2.35 lakh crore this year. We are facing an economic recession now and not tomorrow, said Kerala finance minister Thomas Issac

with the states as to what is the requirement.

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is ₹1.25 lakh crore, which is sacrosanct — this is 3 per cent, 5 per cent or 10 per cent. It is the macroeconomic situation that determines fiscal deficit," the Kerala minister added.

Kalyan Jewellers gets Sebi approval for ₹1,750-cr IPO

RAVI RANJAN PRASAD
MUMBAI, OCT. 19

as on June 30, 2020, Kalyan Jewellers has 30 showrooms in the Gulf Cooperation Council countries spread across the UAE, Qatar, Kuwait and Oman.

The IPO comprises the issue of fresh equity shares aggregating up to ₹1,000 crore and an offer for sale worth ₹750 crore, according to the DRHP.

Kalyan Jewellers' promoter T.S. Kalyanaraman proposes to offload shares

worth up to ₹250 crore, while Highdell Investment would sell shares aggregating up to ₹500 crore through the OFS route.

The proceeds from the fresh issue of shares would be utilised for working capital requirements and general corporate purpose.

Axis Capital, Citigroup Global Markets India, ICICI Securities and SBI Capital Markets are merchant bankers.

Bank recap must not be postponed, says Viral Acharya

● INDIAN BANKS are saddled with over ₹120 billion in bad debt, and in severely stressed conditions the bad-loan ratio could nearly double by March, according to Reserve Bank of India projections.

Indian banks are saddled with over ₹120 billion in bad debt, and in severely stressed conditions the bad-loan ratio could nearly double by March, according to Reserve Bank of India projections.

Designing moratoria and forgiveness like farm-loan waivers that favour borrowers excessively in the short term has been detrimental to a sound recovery of credit growth in the medium term, Acharya said.

"This lack of focus is tantamount to kicking the can down the road and jettisoning financial stability for short-term gains," said Acharya, who recently wrote a book titled the "Quest for Restoring Financial Stability in India".

"This repeated mistake has prevented India from recovering well from adverse shocks," Acharya said. His comments came weeks after India offered to waive the compounded interest

component on all loans up to 20 million rupees following a legal challenge to the terms of a six-month moratorium.

Restoring banks' capital is critical for aiding a meaningful recovery, but there has been little focus on the matter, former RBI deputy governor Viral Acharya said.

"If the government doesn't wish to recapitalise banks in a timely manner, then it must ensure that the contours of debt moratoria and forgiveness package are not so generous that banks won't be in a position to lend well during the recovery phase, which is likely around the corner," Acharya said.

"It would be good to learn from the past mistakes and start the work of repairing bank balance sheets," — Reuters

Protests against Nokia's job cuts



A man throws a wooden pallet into a fire as Nokia's employees gather in front of their factory to protest against job cuts in Lannion, western France, on Monday. The Finnish telecom group Nokia announced in June 2020 a plan to cut around 1,200 jobs from its operations in France. — AFP

Maruti rolls out Swift's limited edition

MICHAEL GONSALVES
PUNE, OCT. 19

Maruti Suzuki, India's biggest car maker, on Monday launched Swift Limited Edition, ahead of the festive season to boost sales in Asia's third biggest economy.

"We are delighted with this overwhelming response received for the all-new Swift, having crossed 15,000 bookings as on date," Veeraj Nakra, CEO, Automotive Division at M&M, said.

The company said in a statement that 57 per cent of buyers of the new Swift are first-time owners and a large portion of the bookings is for the automatic variants.

"We are delighted with this overwhelming response received for the all-new Swift, having crossed 15,000 bookings as on date," Veeraj Nakra, CEO, Automotive Division at M&M, said.

What is particularly interesting is that there is an acceptance of the all-new Swift amongst a larger base of lifestyle seekers, he pointed out.

Mahindra also said Swift has garnered more than 65,000 enquiries and eight lakh visitors on the website.

more dynamic look.

The limited-edition hatchback follows an all-black dominant theme to make it look a bit sporty.

The hatchback sports new visual additions like

gloss black body kit, aerodynamic spoiler, body side moulding, door visor, all-black garnish on grill, tail lamp and fog lamp.

Now in its third generation, the Maruti Suzuki

Swift boasts of features like LED projector headlamps with LED DRLs, LED rear combination lamps, LED high mounted stop lamp, 15-inch alloy wheels, seven-inch Smartplay Studio touchscreen infotainment system, multifunction flat-bottom steering wheel, automatic climate control and reverse parking camera.

Maruti Suzuki Swift is powered by a 1.2-litre, VVT petrol engine that generates 83HP and 113Nm. The transmission options include five-speed MT and five-speed AMT.

In a typical year, 3.6 million people face eviction cases, according to the Princeton University Eviction Lab, a national housing research centre.

Landlords, most of whom are mom-and-pop operators with mortgages to pay, say they, too, are under unprecedented financial strain, as many move into the eighth month of nonpayment.

Many owners are "not generating sufficient revenue," said Bob Pinnegar, CEO of the National Apartment Association. "This is not a high-profit

margin business."

"Only 9 cents of every dollar return to the owner or investor as profit," he added.

Unless Congress and the Trump administration move past their deadlock over the contours of a new Covid-19 relief package and include financial relief for tenants and landlords, January will bring a surge in displacement and homelessness "unlike anything we have ever seen," said John Pollock, a Public Justice Center attorney and coordinator of the National

Coalition for a Civil Right to Counsel.

More than 60,000 evictions have been filed since the pandemic started in the 17 cities tracked by the Princeton Lab.

Health experts say evictions may contribute to a second-wave Covid-19 crisis, as the newly homeless are forced into shelters or tight quarters with friends and relatives, potentially exposing them to infection. The danger is particularly acute in the winter, when colder weather pushes people indoors. — Reuters

Job losses put thousands on verge of eviction in US

New York/Chicago, Oct. 19: On September 1, US health officials announced they would suspend evictions across the United States

SHORT TAKES

Indian girls enter Asian chess last 8

Chennai: The top-seeded Indian women recorded three wins on Monday to finish on top in the Swiss system preliminaries and qualify for the quarterfinals of Asian Online Nations (Regions) Cup Team Championship.

They will face Kyrgyzstan in the last eight after topping the preliminary phase with 16 match points (two match points for a win and 1 for a draw) ahead of the Philippines (13) and Iran (13).

On a good day for the Indians, they beat the Philippines 3-1 in round seven, Kazakhstan 2.5-1.5 in the eighth round before edging out Vietnam 2.5-1.5 in the ninth and final round.

In the fixture against the Philippines, Mary Ann Gomes and PV. Nandhidhaa posted victories while R. Vaishali on the top board and Padmuni Rout on the second board, settled for draws.

The tournament will conclude with the finals on October 25.

— PTI

Sociedad go top with Betis win

Madrid: Real Sociedad continued La Liga's unpredictable start to the season by going top of the table on Sunday, after a 3-0 win away at Real Betis. Villarreal had temporarily claimed first place earlier in the day by beating Valencia 2-1 at la Ceramica but Real Sociedad's impressive victory put them ahead on goal difference.

They are the sixth different team to lead La Liga after six rounds of fixtures so far, as Real Madrid gave up their place at the top of the pile after a surprise loss at home to Cadiz on Saturday.

Barcelona were also beaten away at Getafe. Real Sociedad took advantage as Portu and Adnan Januzaj scored goals either side of Mikel Oyarzabal converting a penalty to consign Betis to a third defeat in four games under their new coach Manuel Pellegrini.

They drop to sixth.

— AFP

Alex takes 850th podium for Honda

Alcaliz, Spain: Alex Marquez continued his fine form aboard his Honda RC213V on home ground at the Aragon MotoGP on Sunday finishing second to Alex Rins of Suzuki Ecstar.

When the lights went out, Alex leapt forward and immediately gained a handful of places to move into the top ten.

Alex briefly battled with Andrea Dovizioso, the rookie quickly dispatching the Ducati rider and continuing his march forward with Miller next in line. Race-leading pace saw Alex as the fastest rider on track, cleaving his way through the pair of Petronas Yamahas and moving up into podium battle for the second week in a row.

The podium is Alex's first dry weather podium in MotoGP and Honda's 850th in the premier class.

Tennis camp at Riding Club

Hyderabad: To commemorate its fifth anniversary (founded during the Dasara festivities back in 2015) Academia Sports Village is organising a three-day tennis camp at Hyderabad Polo and Riding Club (HPRC) in Aziz Nagar from October 22 to 25.

The camp will be overseen by professional coaches.

Further details can be had on the website www.sportsvillage.club or on phone number 9963145592.

Live on TV

CRICKET

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

FOOTBALL

Champions League: Zenit vs Brugge from 10.25 pm on Sony Six; Dynamo Kyiv vs Juventus from 10.25 pm on Sony Ten 2, Chelsea vs Sevilla from 12.30 am (Wednesday) on Sony Six; Lazio vs Dortmund from 12.30 am (Wednesday) on Sony Ten 3; Barcelona vs Ferencvaros from 12.30 am (Wednesday) on Sony Ten 1; Paris Saint German vs Manchester United from 12.30 am (Wednesday) on Sony Ten 2

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Resurgent Royals

Rajasthan defeat Chennai by 7 wickets to climb to fifth spot

Abu Dhabi, Oct. 19: Rajasthan Royals defeated Chennai Super Kings by seven wickets in their Indian Premier League match here on Monday.

Batting first, Chennai Super Kings were stopped at 125 for five as Rajasthan Royals produced a fine bowling effort at the Sheikh Zayed Stadium.

In reply, RR chased down the target in 17.3 overs and climbed to the fifth spot on the leader board, who were earlier languishing at the bottom of the table.

Jos Buttler top scored for Royals with an unbeaten 70.

Opting to bat, CSK never got going and lacked the fire power to put up a decent score after being reduced to 56 for four in 10 overs.

Ravindra Jadeja top-scored for CSK with a 30-ball unbeaten 35 and skipper Mahendra Singh Dhoni, playing in his 200th IPL game, made a run-a-ball 28 while adding 51 runs for the fifth wicket.

Jofra Archer (1/20) was terrific with the new ball but he would be disappointed with his outing on the field. Besides Archer, the spin duo of Shreyas Gopal (1/14) and Rahul Tewatia (1/18) were economical in the middle overs, while young Kartik Tyagi (1/35) too was impressive.

Dhoni's decision to bat first backfired as RR picked up wickets at regular intervals to make life difficult for CSK.

CSK lost the in-form Faf du Plessis (10) in the third over, caught by Jos Buttler off Archer.

— PTI



Rajasthan Royals players celebrate the wicket of Chennai Super Kings opener Faf du Plessis in an Indian Premier League match at the Sheikh Zayed Stadium in Abu Dhabi on Monday.

— BCCI

SCORECARD

Chennai Super Kings: S. Curran c Buttler b Gopal 22, Faf du Plessis c Buttler b Archer 10, S. Watson c Tewatia b Tyagi 8, A. Rayudu c Samson b Tewatia 13, M.S. Dhoni run out 28, R. Jadeja not out 35, K. Jadhav not out 4. **Extras:** (b-1, lb-2, w-1, nb-1) 5. **Total (for 5 wkt in 20 overs)** 125.

FoW: 1-13, 2-26, 3-53, 4-56, 5-107

Bowling: Archer 4-0-20-1, Rajpoot 1-0-

8-0, Tyagi 4-0-35-1, Stokes 3-0-27-0,

Gopal 4-0-14-1, Tewatia 4-0-18-1.

Rajasthan Royals: Ben Stokes b Chahar 19, Robin Uthappa c Mahendra Singh Dhoni b Josh Hazlewood 4, Sanju Samson c Mahendra Singh Dhoni b Chahar 0, Steve Smith not out 26, Jos Buttler not out 70. **Extras:** (lb-6, w-1) 7. **Total (for 3 wkt in 17.3 over)** 126.

FoW: 1-26, 2-28, 3-28.

Bowling: D. Chahar 4-1-18-2, J. Hazlewood 4-0-19-1, R. Jadeja 1-3-0-11-0, S. Thakur 4-0-34-0, S. Curran 1-0-6-0, P. Chawla 3-0-32-0.

IPL POINTS TABLE

Teams	P	W	L	N/R	Pts	NRR
Delhi Capitals	9	7	2	0	14	+0.921
Mumbai Indians	9	6	3	0	12	+1.201
Royal Challengers Bangalore	9	6	3	0	12	-0.096
Kolkata Knight Riders	9	5	4	0	10	-0.607
Rajasthan Royals	10	4	6	0	8	-0.591
Sunrisers Hyderabad	9	3	6	0	6	+0.008
Kings XI Punjab	9	3	6	0	6	-0.262
Chennai Super Kings	10	3	7	0	6	-0.463

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

PCB WANTS ICC TO ENSURE INDIA VISAS FOR PAK TEAM

T20 WORLDS

our concerns. There is a 'Host Agreement' that states very clearly that host nation (India in this case) will have to provide visas and accommodation for teams that are due to participate in T20 World Cup and Pakistan is one of them," Khan said.

The PCB CEO also confirmed that there is "no chance" of an Indo-Pak bilateral series in "foreseeable future" and neither will it be a part of fresh the Futures Tours Programme that starts in 2023.

India would be hosting the global T20 event in October and given the tense diplomatic ties between the two neighbours, the PCB has sought assurances that the visa process of their players and support staff would be dealt with by the ICC.

"We have asked for a deadline till December-January, which we believe is the right thing."

— PTI

High-flying Kings XI run into table-leaders Delhi

Dubai, Oct. 19: The nail-biting win over defending champions Mumbai Indians was certainly a morale-lifter but the inconsistent Kings XI Punjab have another tough battle at hand when they take on table leaders Delhi Capitals in an IPL match here on Tuesday.

Having lost two tight games they should have won at the start of the season, KXIP managed to get on the right side of the results in the last couple of games, although it was too close for comfort by their own admission.

The fact that KXIP have struggled this season despite having tournament's top two run-getters in openers K.L.Rahul (525) and Mayank Agarwal (393) best sums up their erratic run.

On a positive note, the successful return of Chris Gayle has reduced the bur-

NUMBERS GAME

HEAD TO HEAD

OVERALL:

- Matches: 25
- Kolkata: 14
- Bangalore: 11

MEETING IN 2019

- Kolkata Knight Riders beat Royal Challengers Bangalore by 5 wickets in Bengaluru.
- Royal Challengers Bangalore beat Kolkata Knight Riders by 10 runs in Kolkata

MEETING IN CURRENT EDITION

- RCB beat KKR by 82 runs at Sharjah

FOR THE RECORD

- AB de Villiers, who has scored 8,942 at an average of 37.57 in 301 innings of 319 matches, needs 58 runs to become the eighth batsman to score 9,000 runs in Twenty-20 cricket.
- Lockie Ferguson claimed 50 wickets at an average of 26.92 in 52 innings of many matches in T20 cricket.

— S. PERVEZ QAISER

den on the shoulders of the star openers, especially allowing Rahul to play more freely.

Delhi are clearly the team to beat in the tournament and have gained confidence with a close win against Chennai Super Kings on Saturday night.

DUBEY JOINS DELHI AS MISHRA'S REPLACEMENT

Delhi Capitals on Monday named Karnataka leggie Pravin Dubey as a replacement for veteran spinner Amit Mishra, who was ruled out of the IPL due to a fractured finger.

The 27-year-old leg-spinner has played 14 domestic T20 matches for his state, and has 16 wickets to his name with an economy rate of 6.87.

Mishra was ruled out of the tournament after sustaining an injury to the ring finger of his bowling arm.

— PTI

Revival of domestic season a boon for home players

this, they are looking at hosting the Ranji Trophy in selected cities by creating mini-bio-bubbles. Their plan, from what one understands through the usual BCCI 'sources', is to look at cities that have three or more cricket playing venues that will host the national championship of cricket.

Though there has not been any official communication on the format of the tournament, it does seem that the BCCI plans to go back to the zonal/knock-out one that was played in the old days. This will make it easier for the BCCI to conduct the Ranji Trophy and other shorter-format tournaments with one city per zone looking like the safest bet.

One assumes that the plan, at this point in time, is subject to the health situation closer to January, the proposed month of the start of the domestic schedule.

The 2020-21 season has already lost out some time and starting it five months behind the usual period (August, in the past) will have its issues with the programme being truncated.

Nevertheless, the restart of the Ranji Trophy will provide succour to thousand plus cricketers and support staff across India who have been twiddling their thumbs since the March lockdown.

The BCCI also announced that they have received an itinerary from Cricket Australia for India's proposed tour which comprises three Twenty20s (T20), three One Day Internationals

enable players to get mentally ready for a tough tour as well as for BCCI to execute the logistics pertaining to travel, etc.

With no domestic cricket since March this year and the lack of any likely to happen till January, the IPL is the only platform for the selectors to judge the form of those they will pick for the three segments of the tour. This works very well for selecting the team for the T20 segment of the tour and may suffice when the ODI team is shorted, as the former is a short one.

The real examination that Chief Selector Sunil Joshi and his team will be faced with will be to choose the squad for the Test series.

Considering this is part of the ongoing World Test Championship of the

High praise for Super Shami

Dubai, Oct. 19: Kings XI Punjab captain K.L. Rahul lauded his pace spearhead Mohammed Shami for his ability and clarity of thought to bowl six wickets in the Super Over while defending just five runs in their dramatic IPL match against Mumbai Indians here.

The match on Sunday night ended in a tie in the regulation 20 overs and KXIP could only score five runs in the first Super Over but Shami bowled brilliantly to restrict MI to the same score.

KXIP eventually won the match in the second Super Over.

"You can never prepare for Super Overs. No team does. So you have to trust your bowler's gut. You trust your bowler, and let them believe their instinct and gut," Rahul said at the post-match presentation.

"He (Shami) was very clear he wanted to go with six wickets. He has been phenomenal, and keeps getting better every game. It is important that senior players win the games for the team."

Rahul, who was named man of the match for his 77, expressed happiness at the victory but said his side would not want to make a habit of winning like this.

"Even in the last game against RCB, KXIP could have finished the job earlier than they eventually did.

"It is not the first time.

