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“Those making a noise about COVID-19 vaccine now, are the ones who earlier raised doubts about vaccines,” he said. “We are serving and they (opposition) are creating hurdles. Some political parties issued irresponsible statements on lockdown and vaccination and worked to lower the morale of the country,” the BJP chief said. Noting the suffering people faced during the second Covid wave, Nadda said with his determination and strength, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is taking the country forward and fighting the pandemic. “Surely we will get success”, he said. Citing the initiatives taken by the government after the outbreak of the virus, Nadda said today the country has become self-sufficient in personal protective equipment kits and sanitisers.





# Womenia

TWEET PATROL



**SHILPA SHETTY KUNDRA**  
**@THESHILPASHETTY**  
 All the best, #TeamIndia, for the  
 #Tokyo2020 Olympics.  
 We can do this!  
 Go, India!



## Hyderabadi women creating wonders in kids photography



Madhu Venigella



Madhu Venigella's works



ASKARI JAFFER

Madhu Venigella, who was awarded as 'the New Generation Female Photographer' by Melbourne female photography associations, says that a picture is worth 1000 memories and a baby picture is worth for lifetime. She was awarded for the special approach in kids' photography.

Whether it is chocolate-filled faces with smiles or swaddling a newborn baby in a teddy bear costume or concept-driven photography to elevate the natural colour, this Hyderabad-based female photographer is changing the dynamics of baby photography by documenting their beauty in a picture.

3 years ago, Madhu Venigella started learning the basics of photography from her husband, a renowned photographer based in Hyderabad. Born to a Painter, Madhu indulged in creativity from an early age. Madhu used to play with colours and combinations for painting and after marriage, her husband taught her the basics of photography. Being a creative person, she

adapted to the changes and now she is a renowned photographer under the unique category of 'Baby Photography'.

Madhu shares, "Picture speaks a million words. Every moment of child's life is most treasured memory for a parent. Whether they are walking, speaking, sleeping, bathing, and playing with water. Every moment captured is kept for a lifetime."

Madhu chooses peculiar concepts for baby photography. Some of the photography concepts include layering velvet blankets, Barbie girl theme, superhero theme where the baby is dressed as Superman, Iron Man or Wonder women, Profession-based themes where Madhu decorates the baby as a Pilot or Doctor, fruit-based themes where the baby is decorated as a Strawberry or Pineapple.

While photographing, babies

**"Picture speaks a million words; every moment of child's life is most treasured memory for a parent."**

**- Madhu Venigella**

need a lot of patience, care and time. Madhu has excelled in the art of waiting for the right moment and has completed 150+ photo shoots of babies from age of 10 Days old to 10 years old. Madhu has experience working with celebrities in Hyderabad. She is working on baby photographs of your precious newborn babies on the brand name of "CutiePie Stories".

**What is your feeling of winning the Melbourne award?**

I didn't expect that I will be

winning the award as I sent only few pictures for the competition but when I heard my name as the award winner, happy tears rolled out of my eyes. It was one of the most memorable moments for me in my life.

**When was your journey as a photographer started?**

My journey started with my husband who is a photographer by profession. He taught me the basics in photography. As my father is also a painter, I was into arts from my childhood. I thought my photography should be different from others and there I choose baby photography. Till date, I had done more than 150 photo shoots for kids.

**What made you to choose baby photography?**

I love kids a lot, they look like flowers. So, I want to capture the beauty in them. Some photographs also inspired me in choosing this for example "Just Kid Studio" from Japan, I saw few pictures which inspired me a lot in starting baby photography.

**Among all your shoots, which**

**was the most memorable for you?**

Among all of my shoots means, it's definitely a kid shoot with rabbits. It is the most memorable shoot for me because handling kids and rabbits is an added task. Even I love those pictures a lot.

**How are you managing both photography and family?**

My husband Chandan and kid Bhavin support are unforgettable. They made managing photography and family very easy. As my husband is also a photographer, he will be there to support me in both the aspects. So, it is not a tough job for me. Even my dad also supports me a lot as he is also into arts.

**Do you want to step into any other types of photography in future?**

Right now, I am taking baby and maternity photography. I don't want to involve in any other photography other than this. I want to create more and more in baby photography and become a top kid's photographer in India. I am sure, I will reach my goal within two years and I am working hard to reach it.

## Kat Kristian: From Tomboy to more feminine

TEJAL SINHA

Kat Kristian is an Indian popular actress, and model. She is mainly known for her fabulous videos that she uploads on her social media. She has gained a lot of recognition after her appearance in the popular TV reality show in MTV "India's Next Top Model in Season 4". She is India's one of the trendy ladies and is currently seen in MTVs most viewed show "Spiltvilla 13".

Sharing about who Kat is in the real life, she shares, "When I was growing up, I've always been called as 'non-girly girl'. I had my hair cut short and I preferred wearing baggy jeans and loose shirts over dresses, hence I was labeled a tomboy by my friends but I'm a completely different person now. I'm very expressive, more feminine but still a very private person. I think I have always been a dreamer. Since as long as I could remember, I would have these wild fantasies and visions of doing and achieving great things in my life and I think dreaming big has shaped my personality and helped me become the person I am today."

Kat shares that she never really wanted to do a reality show because she wasn't ready to showcase her personal life on-screen. She adds, "I used to think the participants are often told to be dramatic, overly emotional and extreme with their gigs to rake numbers but eventually when I did 'India's Next Top Model', it changed my perspective about reality shows in India as it was an intense fashion-based and performance-based show. I entered the show as a wild card entry and had fun but 'Spiltvilla' was a completely different experience, it was more challenging, and I learned a lot in show."

When it comes to living a healthy life and

enjoy the life to the fullest, I think I should be thanking my mom as she always pushes me to eat better and live healthier. She is truly an inspiration to me and more than anything else, it is about your own health and that should be the priority."

While the pandemic has disrupted lives all around the world, according to Kat personally she has learnt a lot in this phase, it made her realize what's important.

"First of all, I have started to appreciate the little things in life more, we all get so caught up in trying to accomplish something big, that we fail to notice the little blessings in our lives. It made me realize, the more thankful we are for what we have, the less inclined we are to focus on what we don't have. Gratitude helps us value the small things we often take for granted. I believe lockdown has also made me mentally stronger and made me more compassionate to be one of the few things we can practice that will bring immediate and long-term happiness to our lives. Sharing is caring. Sometimes we need to remember how important kindness is. We need to remember that we have been given a gift called life and that we should appreciate it," concludes Kat.



## No Tobacco Day

Smoking has long been a habit so many of us would like to kick, but it is something that has proven to be difficult. The good news is that in recent times there has been more of a focus on people quitting smoking, and societies trying to go smoke-free. This is something that businesses and establishments have embraced, and it has helped with a surge in the number of people giving up smoking, but there are still a lot of people with a smoking habit.

We see it every day, people standing outside in the rain huddled over a burning stick of foul tobacco. The stench gets into their clothes, stains their teeth, and permeates the air around them. Every moment of every day is spent waiting for that next nicotine break, their obsession and taste for disgusting habits only being eclipsed by those who insist that coffee is a beverage. No Tobacco Day is dedicated to those who are determined to leave this foul substance behind them and encourage others to do so as well.

Indeed, becoming smoke-free these days is such an event that it has led to its own celebration. People like to acknowledge their achievements and celebrate a cleaner and healthier society, and this is one of the reasons for the creation of No Tobacco Day. Over three decades ago, the World Health Organization created this day to allow the celebration of non-smoking, and to encourage those who do smoke to perform some level of abstinence from all forms of tobacco for at least 24-hours.



## Rescue your skin using essential oils

Essential oils have been around for many decades. There is scientific research to support its use and confirm its usefulness to our skin. Essential oils are also very advantageous in helping with healing your skin and relieve pain, stress and anxiety. Following are 5 reasons why you must adopt essential oils in your skincare routine.

**Moisturising**

Essential oils help lock in the moisture in your skin making sure your skin always stays hydrated. It is what lends your skin the natural

glow. Essential oils have nourishing properties that keep your skin healthy and happy. The weather and pollution can make your skin look unhealthy and damaged but regular use of essential oils can help recover your skin.

**Smooth makeup application**

Because essential oils help hydrate your skin it also makes makeup application easier. The silkiness and luxurious texture of skin oils assist in applying concealers and liquid foundations smoothly and evenly. It will easily glide over all your blemishes, flaki-

ness and dryness of your skin surface.

**Free radicals in control**

Essential oils have antioxidant properties that prevent free radicals from damaging your skin. With the right formula of essential oils, free radicals will stay at bay and keep your skin naturally healthy-looking. The regular use of essential oils will help you keep your skin from ageing faster and tight.

**Skin treatments**

Essential oils can be great in keeping acne and blemishes away. The regular use of essential oils can also be beneficial in healing your sun-damaged skin. Often rashes and irritation can be caused due to extended exposure to the sun. Essential oils come in handy as they have anti-inflammatory properties that protect your skin and

repair the damage. They also have antiseptic and antifungal properties that can help in reducing acne, skin rashes and other infections away.

**A natural remedy**

Essential oils are made with natural ingredients that have more benefits to your skin than any chemical-based cream or skin treatment. Natural ingredients in essential oils carry long term benefits for your skin and other beauty needs such as hair and body. Essential oils come from trees, plants, flowers and a pure source of vitamins that carry high potency and therefore give your skin a boost of beauty.

Essential oils are also known for their smell which helps in calming you on a stressful day. It also helps heal wounds and thus become a



handy remedy for your family members and friends.

These oils with naturally benefiting properties are an important asset in your skincare routine. Nature shares its bounty with us for allowing us to propagate our beauty and enjoy it. The long-lasting effects of essential oils are the key to their use in the beauty industry.

-Attributed by Neetu Bansal, Co-founder of Recode Studios

### NEWS ROUNDUP

## Kajol pens emotional note for late producer Ryan Stephen

Bollywood actress Kajol took to social media on Sunday to mourn the demise of film producer Ryan Stephen, who was one of the producers of her short film "Devi". The film producer reportedly succumbed to Covid-19 in Goa on Saturday.

Kajol took to Instagram on Sunday to share a collage of her

photographs with the late producer. Alongside the collage, Kajol wrote, "Tell me there's a heaven, Tell me that it's true, Tell me there's a reason, Why I'm seeing what I do, Tell me there's a heaven, Where all those people go, Tell me they're all happy now, Please tell me that it's so... Love u forever and ever @ryanivanstephen. Friends for life and beyond remember?"

"Devi" is a suspense drama featuring Kajol and Shruti Haasan

in their debut digital project. The film is directed by debutant filmmaker Priyanka Banerjee where Kajol portrays a homemaker who is a rape victim. The short film also features Neha Dhupia.

Apart from the short, Ryan had also produced Kiara Advani starrer film "Indoo Ki Jawani".

Bollywood celebrities like Varun Dhawan, Kiara Advani, Manoj Bajpayee and several others also mourned his demise on social media.



# Why is Raje running parallel programmes to saffron party in Raj?

ARCHANA SHARMA

JAIPUR

EVEN during the pandemic times, former Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje seems to be walking on a track parallel to the Bharatiya Janata Party, exposing her growing differences with the saffron party. She is seen escaping the programmes scheduled by BJP workers and promoting the programmes being organised under her solo banner. No matter if it is the question of distributing food

and water in different parts of the state or attending the virtual party meetings, Raje and her team members are seen endorsing 'Brand Raje' in all these programmes.

Recently Raje and team, with the aim to distribute food and water to the needy, launched a campaign "Vasundhara Jan Rasoi" in different parts of the state in which neither the BJP symbol "lotus" nor Prime Minister Narendra Modi's pictures were seen. What raised eyebrows is the time chosen to launch this event as the saffron party is running a similar campaign across

the nation called 'Seva Hi Sangathan' to celebrate the seven years -- first term and two years of the second term -- of the Modi government on the directions of BJP National President JP Nadda.

So what is the need for Raje starting this campaign under her own name during the pandemic, questioned a senior BJP worker. As the aim and objective of both the programmes are the same, why are they being run under two different banners in the desert state, he questioned.

On Friday MLA Kalicharan Saraf, a Raje loyalist, distributed

food to the needy in Jaipur under Vasundhara Jan Rasoi.

On the same day, MP Manoj Rajauriya also inaugurated this campaign in Karauli and distributed food packets to the needy.

In fact, Raje's campaign was recently launched in Sawai Madhopur too, but all camps had one fact in common -- none of them had any BJP symbol or any picture of PM Modi or any other leader but Raje's picture was being seen at the centre.

Besides this effort of Raje to start her own campaign, there are other issues too being discussed in political circles, which



include her continuous absence from the party office, her distance during the campaigning for the by-polls held on three seats

recently in the state and her silence and distance on/ from attending party virtual video conferences.

Recently, BJP MLA Gautamlal Meena passed away and all MPs and MLAs attended a virtual meeting to pay tributes to the departed soul but Raje was absent from this meeting.

A separate message was shared by her media team condoling the death of Meena.

In fact a group called Vasundhara Raje Team 2023 actively running on Facebook since the last few months demanding Raje be the CM face was blocked recently.

However, on May 26, the group admin wrote on Facebook wall questioning if the group should be started again.

He also informed that the group was blocked for some special reasons. While the followers were seen questioning the reasons, many amongst them expressed their desire to restart the group.

Raje, these days, is attending virtual meetings of Jhalawad workers and is taking special care of those seats since she is the MLA while her son Dushyant Singh is MP.

## Corona curfew to continue in 20 UP districts, relief in others

LUCKNOW

THE Yogi Adityanath government in Uttar Pradesh on Sunday announced an extension of Corona curfew for one week till June 7, but has partially relaxed the restrictions in the state as the Covid situation improves.

According to an official release, the Corona curfew will continue in 20 districts that have more than 600 active cases.

These districts are Lucknow, Meerut, Saharanpur, Varanasi, Ghaziabad, Gorakhpur, Muzaffarnagar, Bareilly, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Bulandshahr, Jhansi, Prayagraj, Lakhimpur Kheri, Jaunpur, Sonbhadra, Baghpat, Moradabad, Ghazipur, Bijnor, and Deoria.

According to the guidelines, in the remaining 55 districts, shops will be allowed to open with strict safety protocols from 7 a.m to 7 p.m. Night curfew will continue in the whole of Uttar Pradesh and



weekend closure will be enforced.

Private establishments will be allowed to function with limited attendance.

Coaching centres, shopping

malls, gyms and swimming pools will remain closed. All educational centres will also remain closed.

Restaurants will be allowed to offer home delivery but roadside

eateries on the highway can open. Uttar Pradesh has recorded only 1,908 cases in the past 24 hours, thereby, registering a decline of 95 per cent from its peak.

According to the government spokesman, with reduction in fresh Covid cases and a fall in the transmission rate, Uttar Pradesh also recorded a sharp slide in the number of active Covid cases to 41,214 since its peak on April 30.

The cases have reduced by a remarkable 87 per cent in the span of the last 30 days, he said. The number of people who have recovered from the disease in the last 24 hours in Uttar Pradesh stood at 6,713, pushing the state's recovery rate to a whopping 96.4 per cent.

"The 'Yogi Model' of 'Test-Trace-Treat' testifying its success in curbing the spread of corona virus, resulted in the fall of Test Positivity Rate (TPR) of Uttar Pradesh to 0.5 percent, the lowest so far, the spokesman said.

## CURIO holds 10-day online children's theatre workshop

JAIPUR

CURIO, the Collage of Kilkari in collaboration with the Rajasthan Lalit Kala Akademi, Jaipur, organised a creative, performing online children's theatre workshop arts workshop -- 14 Collage of Kilkaraa 2021, virtually, from May 21 to 30. The workshop was inaugurated by Dr. B.D. Kalla, Minister of Art and Culture, Government of Rajasthan. The sessions were conducted by experts Gagan Mishra, Kapil Sharma, Abhishek Jhankal, Priyadarshini, Mehmoor Ali, Vivek Tyagi, Maitri Hatwal, Samarth Shandilya.

During this period, the instructors helped children of all age groups work on their creativity, acting, and exhilarating activities. The sessions started by conducting various voice and emotion exercises, which involved increasing and decreasing the degree of emotions such as anger, sorrow, laughter, shyness. Two intriguing sessions were attended by two of the renowned personalities of Bollywood and Drama -- Raghuveer Ya-



day and Himani Shivpuri. The students were excited to communicate with the celebrities and fulfilled activities kept them motivated to attend the virtual sessions.

Vinay Sharma, a noted artisan, who has the passion of collecting antique articulates gave the virtual insights of his studio which was full of unique objects like bioscope, gramophones, typewriters, old musical instruments and many more. The students were very excited and motivated after having an interaction with him. It was a wonderful session and the queries

raised by the students were answered in a very explanatory manner. He also made the students visit his art gallery where he spends most of his time by making paintings and sculptures.

Sunday's session was conducted by Abhishek Jhankal. It involved giving various reactions through facial expressions and voice modulation. After that, all the students were divided into groups for the final performance which involved making a monologue of one minute, according to the character and expression assigned by the group leader.

## 29 missing in U'khand tragedy declared dead



LAKHIMPUR KHERI

NEARLY 29 labourers from Uttar Pradesh, who were working at Tapovan-Vishnugad hydropower project in Uttarakhand's Chamoli and went missing when a glacier burst triggered a massive flash flood on February 7, have finally been declared "dead". This will bring closure for the families, who will also now receive compensation under various schemes.

The next of kin to the deceased labourers will get Rs 29 lakh each -- Rs 20 lakh from National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), Rs 4 lakh from Uttarakhand Disaster Relief Fund, Rs 1 lakh under a beneficiary scheme of the Uttarakhand government and Rs 2 lakh each from Uttar Pradesh government and the Centre.

Thirty-three labourers from Lakhimpur Kheri district and one from Shahjahanpur district were washed away by the flash

flood. Five bodies were later recovered. They were identified as Jalal Ali, 20, Vimlesh, 23, Avdesh, 19, Suraj, 21, (all from Lakhimpur Kheri) and Sher Singh from Shahjahanpur. The remaining bodies could not be recovered.

On February 23, the Uttarakhand government had issued a notification authorising nearly 140 people still missing, to be declared "presumed dead". After the missing 140 people were considered dead in March by the neighbouring state government, the required information was provided to them by the Kheri administration.

Thereafter, a gazette was published in newspapers on April 23 to 'seek objection'. With no objection received, the death certificates were issued by Uttarakhand authorities. Among the 29 missing labourers, 13 were from Ichchanagar, eight from Bhairampur and one each from neighbouring villages.

## 67 endangered turtles recovered from 4 poachers

ETAWAH

Sixty-seven endangered turtles, including six of the Chitra-Indica species, were seized from four poachers in Etawah by personnel of the Uttar Pradesh Forest department in coordination with the Society for Conservation of Nature (Wildlife organisation) and Special Operation Group. The team seized 55 Sundari (Lissemys punctata), six Chitra-Indica (narrow-headed softshell turtle) and one Sonia (Nilssonina gangetica) turtle, each nearly 50 kg in weight, on Saturday.

Of the 67, five turtles including, one Sonia and four Sundari, were recovered in a dead state. All the three



species are highly endangered and in the Red List of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) as 'threatened species'. The smugglers were arrested from near the Pilua Mahaveer temple in Civil Lines area. "They wanted to take the turtles to Nepal via

Uttarakhand, when the joint team seized it," said Sanjay Singh, district forest officer, Etawah. Rajiv Chauhan, secretary, Society for Conservation of Nature, said that of the 67, six of the turtles of Chitra species, are nearly 40 to 50 kg in weight. "Such heavy-weight endangered Chitra-Indica turtles have been seized in the region for the first time in the last two decades," he said.

"The post-mortem of five dead turtles will be conducted to ascertain the cause of their death while the remaining 62 turtles are being examined by veterinary doctors. These will be released in water-bodies soon," said Sanjiv Chauhan, a senior SCON member.

## 4 electrocuted at wedding function in UP

SITAPUR

FOUR people were electrocuted and four others sustained severe burn injuries when the pole of a tent, under which they were standing, came in contact with a high-tension power line during a wedding function in Uttar Pradesh.

The incident took place on

Saturday in Hanumanpur village under the Kamapur police circle. Three of the victims were identified as Mayaram, 52, Ram Autar, 38, and Ramchandra, 40.

The identity of one of the fourth deceased could not be ascertained, the police said.

According to reports, the wedding was being solemnized when strong winds, accompanied by

rains, lashed the area.

A nearby tent was uprooted and its pole hit the high-tension line, bringing it down.

Sitapur SP, R.P. Singh, said: "Seven people who came in contact got electrocuted of which four died on the spot.

"All the injured were rushed to district hospital, while four were declared brought dead."



## Haryana extends lockdown till June 7, allows malls to operate

CHANDIGARH

HARYANA Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar on Sunday announced the extension of the statewide lockdown till June 7, with major relaxations given for the opening of shopping malls from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The Chief Minister said after the request of shopkeepers, vendors and businessmen, it was decided to allow shops to open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on an odd-even basis.

Earlier, the timing was from 7 a.m. to 12 noon.

However, the directions regarding the closure of schools, ITIs, Anganwadis and creches would continue till June 15.

The Chief Minister said that the shopping malls have to fol-

low the prescribed visitor and time limitations.

As per the guidelines, one person per area of 25 sq mt would be allowed to remain present at a time in a shopping mall.

Likewise, the number of persons can vary as per the built-up area. The mall owners have to develop a mobile application to keep a check on entry and exit of people visiting the malls.

Further, the owners have been asked to formulate certain regulations and get it approved from the Deputy Commissioner.

He said directions were given to industries for continuing their operations while following the Covid-19 appropriate behaviour and guidelines for the functioning of offices with 50 per cent staff strength.

## Will Kharge committee be able to resolve Punjab Cong feud?

SAIYED MOZIZ IMAM ZAIDI

NEW DELHI

THE Congress has constituted a committee to resolve issues in Punjab Congress but the real question is -- will it be able to prevail upon strong chief minister like captain Amarinder Singh, as the committee formed for Rajasthan could not come up with any amicable solution?

The Congress has constituted a three-member committee comprising Mallikarjun Kharge, Harish Rawat and J.P. Agarwal -- to re-

solve the issues between Navjot Singh Sidhu and the Chief Minister. Rawat is also Punjab Incharge of the Congress. Sidhu has been attacking the Chief Minister, saying that he is waiting as the high command has intervened. Sidhu dared the chief minister to prove his allegations.

But seeing the fate of the committee in Rajasthan the disgruntled group says that this is to buy time as nothing much is expected and the AICC will not take risk of replacing the Chief Minister as there is nobody of his stature to face the Akali Dal specially the

Badal family, the Congress will have to devise a middle path as 20 MLAs are reported to be unhappy with the Chief Minister's style of functioning. Sidhu while attacking the Chief Minister over comments of his joining another party said, "Prove one meeting that I have had with another party's leader, I have never asked anyone for any post till date. All I seek is Punjab's prosperity and was invited and offered Cabinet berths many times but I did not accept."

"Now, our Esteemed High Command has intervened, Will wait," he said. While after talks failed



with chief minister on induction in the cabinet, sources say Sidhu wanted his choice of portfolio, but has now set his eyes on the state President post which is held by Sunil Jakhar. While Harish Rawat

has categorically said that the change of leadership is not required but he insisted that there is communication gap between the two leaders which will be resolved soon. The panel constituted by So-

nia Gandhi has met and deliberated on the issues regarding the infighting. Rawat said, "Our aim is to strengthen the party and the government and to help unite the Congress in Punjab and ensure its victory in the 2022 assembly polls." The assembly polls are slated in 2022 in Punjab. It was understood that that interim Congress President Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi have taken feedback on the situation. Rahul Gandhi was expected to meet all the legislators and MPs from Punjab to end the impasse ahead of the Assembly polls. But now the work has been

assigned to a committee. In a bitter war of words last week, Sidhu had advised the Chief Minister to stop firing from his "colleagues' shoulders". A defiant Sidhu had reminded Amarinder Singh that "his soul demands justice for Guru Sahib". His reaction came after seven ministers had demanded the suspension of Sidhu from the party for indiscipline and launching verbal attacks on Amarinder Singh.

The ministers urged the party high command to take action against Sidhu for his open rebellion against the state party leadership.



# Stalin rule in Tamil Nadu comes as a whiff of fresh air

THE era of old guards, M Karunanidhi and J Jayalalithaa is over and the next generation politicians like M K Stalin have now come to power. If the month long performance of the new government is any indication, it appears that a breath of fresh air is there in Tamil Nadu politics.

Stalin is not new to politics or administration as he was the deputy chief minister till 2011. Unlike the trend that we are seeing at national level or in different states where any party that comes to power tries to decimate the opposition, Stalin at least for now has decided to keep politics aloof and seems to be taking opposition along with him. His act of appealing to all to put politics on back burner at least till the pandemic situa-

tion is over and drawing the experience and expertise of the ministers of the past government and officials who had been handling the situation is something that was never seen before in the State. In the past leaders of the two parties never dared to sit side by side even during social gatherings.

Another interesting issue is that he has decided to adopt politics of cooperation with the Centre. We are seeing how despite the claim that the Centre has been following Sab ka Saath Sab Ka Vikas, how Didi and Modi are clashing. While Didi makes noise, Modi works silently and takes to twitter and there appears to be no end to politicking. In the backdrop of this situation, the decision of Stalin to follow politics of cooperation is certainly

a good move. He was quick enough to take a decision to impose lockdown from May 10 and despatched 22 of his cabinet colleagues to various districts of the State to oversee COVID related initiatives.

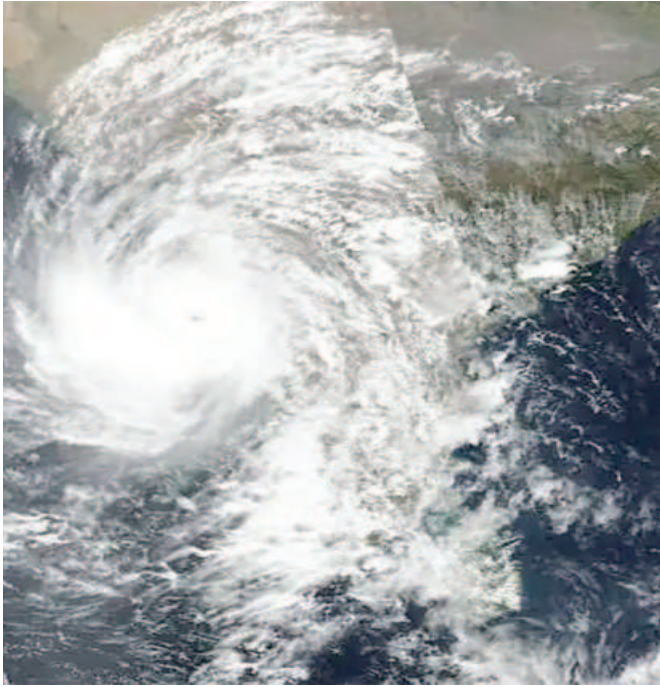
He seems to have adopted the policy of a proper mix of old and new war horses. He has also started focusing on his pre- poll promises. Tokens are being delivered at doorstep to those who are eligible for Rs 4000 cash grant as Covid relief to about 20 million people. Stalin also announced that State will meet the medical expenses of all Covid patients including those who are getting treated in private hospitals.

His appeal to Tamil diaspora to help the State to overcome the pandemic got him good results. Even some of the for-

mer ministers appreciated this move which again is a new and welcome development in Tamil Nadu. Another promise which he has made is free ride to women on state transport buses in Chennai and other urban areas. This was one of the first files Stalin had signed after taking oath as Chief Minister.

At the same time when it comes to issues like making sneaking Hindi under the guise of NEP, Stalin adopted a strong posture and is opposing it. The three-language formula will not benefit the rural people, is the argument of the Tamil Nadu government.

If Stalin succeeds in bringing a paradigm shift in economic management and finds resources to implement his welfare schemes while successfully fighting the pandemic and if he can provide a relatively clean government and if the Centre also responds positively to his moves of good Centre-state relations, the sailing would be fairly smooth for the young CM. It also remains to be seen if AIADMK will also change its outlook and adopt the policy of not opposing everything for the sake of opposition or not.



## Frequent and destructive cyclones are here to continue

B K SINGH



GLOBAL warming on account of greenhouse gases (GHG) emitted in the atmosphere continuously is the reason for heating the oceans, resulting in sea surges and cyclones. A week after cyclone 'Taufat' had devastated all coastal States in the West coast region leaving a trail of destruction, cyclone 'Yaas' knocked at our doors on East coast. The landfall of 'Taufat' was in Gujarat which experienced a maximum devastation. Prime Minister Narendra Modi took up an aerial survey in Gujarat to assess the damage and was quick to announce a relief package of Rs 1000 crore for reconstruction there. Center and States of Odisha and West Bengal also enhanced their vigilance and preparedness like all States on West coast some days ago. West coast was devastated about a year ago by cyclone 'Nisarga' so was East coast by cyclone 'Amphan'. All the cyclones are marked by high velocity winds up to 175 km per hour and tidal waves of 4 to 6 meter high, inundating coastal areas for several days and leaving millions of evacuated families homeless on their return. Further agriculture lands are flooded by brackish water, which takes years to reclaim.

Experts have concluded that 'Taufat' was the direct consequence of global warming and cyclogenesis. 90% of heat generated by GHG emissions since 1970 is absorbed by oceans. Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal also warm up considerably. A climate scientist Matthew Roxy Koll at Indian Institute of tropical Metrology, Pune has said that normal sea temperature of these oceans in May remains as 28 to 29°C, but when it crosses the threshold and goes up to 30-31°C, rapid intensification into a storm is followed. Scientist also added that 'heat' is energy and cyclones also intensify rapidly by turning the potential energy stored in the ocean to kinetic energy. Kinetic energy leads to devastation in coastal areas followed by drop in ocean temperature. This is how potential energy stored in the ocean in the form of 'heat' is dissipated.

Global economies are pouring stimulus cash in fossil fuel based industries to recover from COVID-19 economic contraction; CO2 emission is bound to go up this year. Rise in pollution level post COVID will be comparable to massive increase in pollution during financial crisis 10 years ago. According to Paris climate accord of 2015, countries are to set goals (nationally determined contributions) (NDC) for themselves to bring reduction in pollution in this decade till 2030 by 45%, if global rise in temperature is to be capped at 1.5°C by 2050. The world should therefore change its course, to avoid dangerous levels of heating and prevent frequent and more destructive climatic catastrophes like the cyclones and sea surges we are facing.

'Emission gap report' of United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) suggests that GHG emission is annually growing by 1.4% since 2010. However, the increase was 2.6% in 2019 because of forest fires in Brazil, Australia and California, thus registering the highest GHG emission of 59.1 Giga-ton of CO2 equivalent. The report has ranked starting from highest polluter China, followed by USA, European Union & UK and India; each of these contributed 14.1, 6.6, 4.3 and 3.7 Giga-ton respectively.

German watch with Climate Action Network has released Global Performance report 2020, where the biggest emitter China ranks 33rd, historical polluter USA at the bottom and India ranks 10th. G20 nations account for nearly 80% GHG emissions are not on track to meet Paris agreement and Australia, US and Canada are falling short of their targets.

Though India's performance is better than other members of G20, we have scope to do more to reduce our carbon footprint. We are committed to three major NDCs in Paris accord. Firstly, we pledged to cut down GHG emission by 33 to 35% by 2030, taking the base year of 2005. Secondly, we are committed to increase the share of non fossil based renewable electricity to 40% by 2030; and thirdly, we will enhance our forest cover by 2030 so as to absorb 2.5 to 3 Giga tones of CO2 annually.

India has taken action to achieve renewable energy target of 175 Giga Watts (GW) by 2022, and further 450 GW by 2030. Time and again our PM has highlighted climate resilient development practices, our partnership in International Solar Alliance and coalition for disaster resilient development practices. He has further made a commitment to a circular economy to focus on next generation Metro networks, waterways etc for convenience and efficiency as well as for cleaner environment. Among the largest clean energy drive globally, India is attempting to eliminate single use plastic, popularizing LED lights projected to save 38 million tonnes of CO2 annually and providing smoke free kitchen to 80 million households through 'Ujjwala' scheme. Projects like liquefied natural gas pipeline etc take us towards one nation one gas grid policy and our commitment of increasing the share of natural gas from present 6% to 15% by 2030. Country has also focused on ethanol production to increase its blending in petrol from present 5% to 20%. These are some very good steps to reduce CO2 emissions in our atmosphere.

Ahead of Glasgow climate summit in November 2021, US President Joe Biden held a virtual summit of 40 most polluting nations on 22nd April and urged for increasing mitigation targets. While USA, UK and European Nations have set quite ambitious targets of reducing CO2 equivalent, Australia and China have remained unmoved. China's contribution of 14.1 Giga-ton out of global 59.1 Giga-ton of CO2 equivalent is quite high and is a matter of concern. A few years ago China fixed 2060 for its net zero emission and before that pollution is hitting the peak in 2035. Chinese economy is fossil fuel dependent and as it stands now they will go on increasing the pollution till 2035, and thereafter it is projected to take downward trajectory to be net zero by 2060. China's annual GHG emission is equal to the sum total of emissions in US, European Union & UK and India. China will nullify the good efforts of these nations.

That means cyclones like Taufat and Yaas will continue to hit the region with more frequency and will also be more destructive.

(The author is a former principal chief conservator of forests, Karnataka)

# BREAK-UP SOCIAL MEDIA!

### THE WAY AHEAD



Dr Bharat Jhunjunwala

THE sovereignty of the people requires that every activity in the country be responsible to its people. We cannot forget that the East India Company had entered the country in the name of providing economic benefits from trade

of the packet. Prof V Kamakoti of IIT Madras says that such tracking is possible without Twitter having to break the encryption. The rules formulated by the Government of India are grossly inadequate because they, at best, establish a complaint redressal mechanism which is much short of a pro-active accountability of social media to the people. The rules are like establishment of a police station. They are not like the elections wherein the government itself is made accountable. Yet, these are small steps in the right direction.

However, there is another danger lurking in the dark if the control of social media is wholly handed over to the government. For example, China has blocked all news relating to the possible origins of the Covid virus in a government laboratory in Wuhan. Or, would the Government of India be justified in placing restrictions on Baba Ramdev for him questioning the efficacy of allopathic medicines in the management of Covid? Lukashenko in Belarus and Min Aung Hlaing in Myanmar would like to muzzle the social media to oppress their own people. Therefore, social media has a huge positive role in providing information to the people outside the eyes of the governments.

We face two contrary objectives. On the one hand, social media should be accountable to the people of the country; and not peddle its commercial interests under the garb of freedom of speech. On the other hand, social media should be able to bypass and reach the people despite the restrictions imposed by their governments—oppressive or not.

Facebook has constituted an Oversight Board to overcome the accusations of manipulation of content. As of now, the Board has some prominent and respectable persons as its members. They include former editor-in-chief of The Guardian newspaper Alan Rusbridger, Vice Chancellor of the National Law School of India University Sudhir Krishnaswamy, and former Prime Minister of Denmark Helle Thorning-Schmidt. Board began its work in October 2020 and its first four out of the five decisions overturned Facebook's actions. The establishment of the Oversight Board is welcome but that still is not accountable to the people of India. Therefore, it is necessary to establish accountability of social media to the people of India but not necessarily to the Government of India.



We face two contrary objectives. On the one hand, social media should be accountable to the people of the country; and not peddle its commercial interests under the garb of freedom of speech. On the other hand, social media should be able to bypass and reach the people despite the restrictions imposed by their governments—oppressive or not.

Three steps can be taken in this regard. One, all social media companies should be required to establish a company in India and conduct its activities in the country on that platform. The government may be empowered to appoint one director on these companies as representative of the government just as banks appoint their nominees on the boards of large borrowers. The government must also be empowered to appoint "Independent Directors" on that company as is done in all large commercial companies. This will enable the people of India to oversee the activities of the social media though these representatives.

Two, the government must proactively break-up large social media companies. It is noteworthy that messaging platforms like Signal and Telegram have grown after the change in privacy rule by WhatsApp. The government must ask the Competition Commission of India to look into the dominant position of the social media companies and specify the maximum numbers of members allowed on a particular platform. For example, any social media platform having more than, say, two crore members should be

broken up into two or more smaller independent companies.

Three, the government must actively support home-grown social media. It is a tragedy of majestic proportions that while Indians are dominant in the Silicon Valley, they are not able to establish social media to face competition from the foreign giants. The government could provide financial incentives to platforms that get, say, more than 10 lakh members. This will lead to the development of a number of social media companies that are wholly responsible to the people of the country and our dependence on foreign platforms will be reduced. We may even make our own international platforms.

We must not be under the impression that forcing accountability of social media will lead to reduction in India's position in the world economy and reduction of inward foreign investment. This view, unfortunately held by the Finance Ministry, may be one unfortunate result of the misinformation campaign launched by social media.

(The author is former professor of Economics at IIM, Bengaluru)

# THE EVOLVING BEHAVIOUR OF Daters AMIDST THE PANDEMIC

THE second wave of the pandemic appears to be more scary and deadly. While the nation grapples as the situation is serious, the vaccination drive is in full swing. Amidst all that's happening around, the behaviour of daters is rapidly evolving. Though dating continues uninterrupted, daters' priorities have changed, they now have a new set of concerns.

Dating is well and alive! However, there has been much development around how people want to date (real world or virtual), intimacy in the current situation, dating options in the current situation and so on. India's leading dating platform QuackQuack has shared some key insights into daters' behaviour during uncertain times.

The report reveals users' opinion on 2 key parameters -- dating a person who is not vaccinated and major concerns while dating during present circumstances. The responses are categorised gender-wise, age-wise as well as location wise. The



three age groups are 18-20, 21-30 and 31 and above.

Eighty per cent of people in the age group 31 and above feel inoculation as a prerequisite in their date. Likewise, majority 70 per cent of people in the age group 18-30 consider meeting their date only after getting the

jab and wouldn't risk during the second wave. On the other hand, 30 per cent of people in the age 18-30 wouldn't necessarily consider vaccination and would take other safety precautions while meeting. In fact, majority of people wouldn't continue conversation with the person

who is vaccine hesitant and would cut off the conversation smoothly. A very few of them would be ok to have a conversation with anti vaccinators considering it as an individual choice.

When asked about the preferences around first date experi-

ence, the majority 57 per cent in the age group 18 and above said they want their first date to be virtual as they wouldn't want to risk it. On the other hand, 43 per cent of people in the age 18 and above being old school, would want to meet in person by following safety precautions. Surprisingly, majority 61 per cent from smaller cities/towns and 54 per cent people from top cities understand the risk of meeting and prefer their first date to be virtual over meeting in person.

Speaking about the survey report, Ravi Mittal, Founder and CEO of Quack Quack, said, "In addition to several effects of the second wave of Covid-19, it has had a significant impact on daters as well who are now more concerned than ever. Both males and females want their date to be vaccinated and would not risk on their health during the second wave. Likewise, the survey report has many interesting insights," he added.



# Eatala leaves for Delhi to meet BJP top brass

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
HYDERABAD

FORMER Minister Eatala Rajender on Sunday left for New Delhi to meet the BJP leaders, including the party president JP Nadda and Home Minister Amit Shah.

According to sources, Eatala is likely to join the Bharatiya Janata Party in the presence of the party leaders in a couple of days. It is learnt that the TRS leader is likely to resign from the party and also from the MLA post after he joins the BJP.

Another TRS leader Yenugu Ravinder Reddy also accompanied the former Health Minister. Ravinder Reddy, a former MLA from Yellareddy, who has been with TRS since its inception, is also slated to join the BJP.

Meanwhile, Eatala Jamuna, wife of Eatala Rajender, on Sunday lashed out at the TRS government for threatening them with police and intelligence personnel.

Addressing a press conference at her Shamirpet Residence, Jamuna accused the government of



■ The visit has fuelled the speculations of Eatala switching loyalties to the saffron party

■ Another TRS leader Yenugu Ravinder Reddy is also likely to join BJP

■ Eatala's wife refutes charges of encroachment

■ Accuses TRS of launching misinformation campaign against them

carrying out a misinformation campaign against their hatcheries and godowns.

“We purchased 46 acres of

land in Masaipet and did not grab a bit of it. Even if a single acre of land is found encroached, we are ready to rub our nose on the floor.

Will the government officials do the same if they are found at fault?” asked Jamuna.

Without naming the TRS leaders or Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao, Jamuna alleged that they were trying to malign them.

“We came up in life through hard work and never deceived anyone or grabbed lands,” she claimed. She further alleged that the government and TRS leadership was resorting to caste politics, which was not the case in undivided Andhra Pradesh state.

Reacting on Devaryamjal issue, Jamuna said, “We came in 1992 and bought lands in Devaryamjal in 1994.

The newspaper coming out of their godown area is carrying false stories. We sold our assets during the statehood movement and will sell them to protect the interest of my husband Rajender for self-respect. This false campaign will not work against our business as we know to turn it down. We will win the battle against falsehood, and truth will prevail,” she said.

## ₹200 cr of Archaka Welfare Fund remains unspent

VRC PHANIHARAN  
HYDERABAD

SITTING over a pile of about Rs 200 crore contributed by the Hindu devotees and not spending it for the intended purposes has once again brought to the fore the apathy and credibility of functioning of the state Endowments department.

It may be mentioned here that currently the Telangana state Endowments department is in the dock facing severe criticism for failing to protect the temple lands and assets. It has been alleged that the Endowments department has failed to take steps in the formation of a committee for the functioning of Archaka Welfare Fund (AWF).

The AWF as a legal entity had come into existence following the directions of the Supreme Court in the '90s. Accordingly, a specific sum from the contribution of the devotees visiting Hindu temples has been earmarked to form AWF. The funds of AWF have to be spent on the welfare of the Archakas (priests).

About Rs 200 crore have come to the share of the Telangana AWF in post bifurcation of the erstwhile united Andhra Pradesh, the Endowments department sources said. But, the catch is that, there is

■ While thousands of Archakas and their families in TS are in the lurch during the pandemic times, the Endowments department has failed to constitute the Archaka Welfare Fund Committee and spend the funds to the tune of Rs 200 crore allotted for the welfare of Archakas

■ VHP demands the government to utilise the funds for the intended purpose and come to the rescue of Archakas and their families

no committee of AFW formed in Telangana for the past seven years and to spend the funds on the welfare of Archakas. What is more interesting is that the Rs 200 crore have been lying in the government account, alleged Viswa Hindu Parishad leader Ravinuthala Sasidhar. In turn, firstly, the department has failed to implement the apex court directions. Secondly, the Endowments department's failure to take steps for the formation of AFW has allowed Rs 200 crore funds lay unspent in the govern-

ment account. Thirdly, since the funds have been in the government account, it earns no interest on it.

The VHP leader pointed out that there are thousands of Archaka families facing tougher times due to the impact of Covid like any other. Creating AFW might come to their rescue, but the negligence of the Endowments department in the creation of the same has left them and their families in the lurch. The Rs 200 crore meant for their welfare is lying in government accounts without serving their welfare.

It once again exposes that the Endowments department and its machinery which depend on the Hindu temples and others have been playing to the tunes of the successive governments than working for the institution, at least, within the existing legal framework, he pointed out.

When asked, sources in the Endowments department said that the State government had created a dedicated organisation called Telangana Brahmin Sankshema Parishad (TBSPP) and implementing several welfare measures for the community. But, will the AWF funds would be spent through TBSPP is a question that needs to be addressed by the top level officials of the department.

## RTC to procure another loan of Rs 1,000 crore

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
HYDERABAD

WITH revenues dwindling due to non-operation of buses in the wake of lockdown and giving salaries becoming difficult, the loss-making TSRTC is gearing up to take yet another loan of Rs 1,000 crore.

According to sources, the State government has given its approval for the TSRTC management to procure Rs 1,000 crore from commercial banks without debt servicing against government guarantee with a guarantee commission at 2 per cent consolidated for the entire guarantee period to enable the corporation to meet urgent requirements, subject to the guarantee commis-

sion cannot be exempted as per RBI guidelines.

The corporation has been reeling under accumulated losses of over Rs 3,000 crore including loans from different banks. The corporation had been facing losses for several years and the finances further deteriorated after the first phase of lockdown due to Covid in the country. While the corporation was getting back to business, the second wave gave a big blow once again as the operations were limited to districts.

The corporation had to face difficulties even to provide salaries to the employees on time and paying salaries 10 to 12 days after the month starts. The corporation spends around Rs 150

crore every month for salaries.

According to trade union leaders, the TSRTC management failed to provide the funds of Credit Cooperative society (CCS), which were contributed by the employees. The Telangana Jathiya Majdoor union leader K Hanumanthu Mudiraj said that the management has to pay funds to a tune of Rs 920 crore to the employees as they utilised these funds. Based on the court's order, the management had given Rs 200 crore but there was no response after this.

The union leader said that the State government should come to the rescue of the corporation, otherwise the entity would have to mortgage the properties to secure loans.

## AICC leader lashes at Modi

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
HYDERABAD

AICC Secretary and Telangana Congress senior leader MASampath Kumar took a broadside at Prime Minister Narendra Modi over the Centre's failure in tackling the second wave of corona pandemic. The Union government had failed on all fronts in providing medical treatment to corona victims, supply of corona vaccination and relief to the bereaved families of corona victims, the Congress leader criticised. He alleged that the BJP confined to project 'all is well' in the country at a time when the entire nation was in deep crisis by raising communal issues and territorial disputes with Pakistan. Unemployment, financial crisis and health emergency are the main issues before the Prime Minister to address on priority, he noted.

## Food processing units to come up in TS

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
HYDERABAD

IN a move to promote food processing industry in a big way, the Telangana government has decided to set up food processing zones and 10 clusters in the State. The State cabinet ratified the proposal to set up the zones and instructed the officials to identify suitable lands for the new facility.

Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao on Sunday conducted cabinet meeting and took slew of decisions to strengthen the agriculture sector. Rythu Samanvaya Samiti would be more activated to help farmers adopt new farm techniques to improve their income levels. In view of huge paddy output, the cabinet asserted the establishment of more number of rice mills in the state. The officials of Agriculture department were asked to promote cotton and red gram cultivation in view of growing demand in the open market in the country. Rythu Bandhu benefit would be disbursed from June 15 to the farmers despite the State facing deep financial crisis.

## Power Grid restores power supply to Diu

GURUGRAM: Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (Power Grid), a Maharatna CPSU under Ministry of Power, Government of India, restored 220 kV Timbdi-Dhokadva and Savarkundla-Dhokadva transmission lines feeding power to Diu following extensive damage due to Taukte cyclone.

A team of about 600 personnel including its expert manpower worked round-the-clock for early restoration of the lines in which about 33 towers collapsed besides suffering other damage. Power Grid used the Emergency Restoration System to set up 11 towers and also constructed 10 new towers restoring the 220 kV Timbdi-Dhokadva line on May 28.

With commissioning of this line 15 66 kV substations of GETCO could be energised to provide reliable power supply to Diu and nearby areas. Work for restoration of the Savarkundla-Dhokadva line is currently under progress.

## YSRCP celebrates two years of Jagan's rule

- Government Advisor (Public Affairs) Sajjala Ramakrishna Reddy hoists the party flag and cuts a cake at the party Central office at Tadepalli
- The party activists pay rich tributes to former CM Y S Rajasekhara Reddy on the occasion
- Sajjala says CM Jagan has set up village secretariats to provide all schemes within the stipulated timeframe to all those who are eligible
- Civil Supplies Minister Kodali Nani points out that the Chief Minister has already fulfilled 95% of the promises made in the party manifesto

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
TADEPALLI

YSR Congress Party on Sunday celebrated its second anniversary of coming to power in the State.

Government Advisor (Public Affairs) Sajjala Ramakrishna Reddy hoisted the party flag, cut the cake and paid floral tributes to former Chief Minister Y S Rajasekhara Reddy at the party Central office in Tadepalli.

Taking to Twitter, Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy said by the grace of God and blessings of people, he has been fulfilling all the promises of the manifesto.

He pointed out that Rs 95,528 crore has been directly given to the people and another Rs



Mayor R Bhagyalakshmi and Deputy Mayor B Durga cutting a cake in Vijayawada on Sunday on the occasion of Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy government completing two years in the State. Ministers Botcha Satyanarayana, Vellampalli Srinivas and others are seen.

Photo: Ch V Mastan

37,197 crore through various schemes totaling to Rs 1.31 lakh crore. He also tweeted that they had assured that the government will stand by the people in any difficulties.

He told the people that he will be even more passionate as their child, their Chief Minister and as a family member to do even better. He reaffirmed in the tweet that with the authority given by people, he will run the administration for the welfare of the people and the development of the State.

Addressing a press conference to mark the occasion, Government Advisor (Public Affairs) Sajjala Ramakrishna Reddy said the Chief Minister has fulfilled the expectations of people to bring about revolutionary change in the State. He said the Chief Minister has overcome the financial constraints due to the State bifurcation and corona pandemic.

Sajjala said the Chief Minister has set up village secretariats to provide all schemes within the stipulated timeframe to all those who are eligible.

He said the YSRCP activists

and followers, under the leadership of Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy, should strive for better Andhra Pradesh.

Speaking at a separate press conference, Civil Supplies Minister Kodali Venkatswara Rao (Nani) said that after two years governance of Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, people are of the opinion that it would have been great if YSRCP had come to power in 2014 itself.

He said while Naidu has made his manifesto as a fake document, the Chief Minister has considered it as Quran, Bible and Gita and fulfilled 95 per cent of its promises in two years. He said the Chief Minister has brought Covid treatment under Aarogyasri and was also depositing Rs 10 lakh in the accounts of orphans who lost their parents due to Covid.

Municipal Administration Minister Botcha Satyanarayana, YSRCP general secretary Lella Appi Reddy, former MLA Akula Satyanarayana, Challa Madhusudan Reddy, Chillapalli Mohan Rao, Ankamreddy Narayana Murthy and other leaders were present on the occasion.

## 64 O<sub>2</sub> plants to come up in State

- Foundation stone laid for an O<sub>2</sub> plant to be set up at a cost of Rs 1.2 cr at the GGH in Nellore
- Minister M Goutham Reddy says CM Jagan has been monitoring the Covid containment measures round-the-clock and taking measures to prevent the shortage of oxygen in the State

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
NELLORE

MINISTER for Water Resources Dr P Anil Kumar Yadav said Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy planned 64 oxygen plants across the State and 4 among them would be set up in Nellore district.

The Minister formally laid the foundation for an oxygen plant worth Rs 1.2 crore at the GGH premises here on Sunday along with Minister for IT and Industries M Goutham Reddy and said the proposed plant would produce 1 KL per minute of oxygen per day. He said tenders have also been called for completion of the plant. Speaking on the occasion, Minister



Ministers M Goutham Reddy and P Anil Kumar Yadav formally laying foundation stone for oxygen plant at the GGH premises in Nellore on Sunday

ister Goutham Reddy said that they are also establishing a liquid oxygen plant at an estimated cost of Rs 1.55 crore at Atmakur. The Minister said that Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy has been monitoring the Covid containment measures round-the-clock and taking measures to prevent the shortage of oxygen in the State.

As part of his vision, the production of cryogenic tanks has been enhanced at RVCV Asia Pacific Private Limited in Sri City to keep oxygen in reserve in all the hospitals across the State, said Goutham Reddy.

Referring to their plans to increase medical facilities to the Covid patients, Goutham Reddy said that a 1,000-bed hospital is being established under the support of RINL at Visakhapatnam and 200 beds among them are made available to the patients from Sunday.

He claimed that AP is in the forefront with respect to vaccination and containment of Covid. Nellore rural legislator K Sridhar Reddy, District Collector KVN Chakradhar Babu and Joint Collector MN Harendira Prasad were also present.

## 16 pvt hospitals de-notified for fleeing Aarogyasri patients

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
KAKINADA

DISTRICT Collector D Muralidhar Reddy has issued orders de-notifying 16 private hospitals for violating the Covid -19 norms set by the government regarding admission of Covid patients in the district. Despite having Aarogyasri cards, the Covid patients were fled.

After receiving the complaints from a majority of the Covid patients, the District Collector immediately responded and took stern action against the private hospitals which have been collecting high fees from Covid patients despite having Aarogyasri cards. He warned the private hospital managements that the licenses will be cancelled if they are found to violate Covid norms.

## YSRCP govt providing transparent rule: Vishnu

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
VIJAYAWADA

VIJAYAWADA Central Assembly constituency MLA Malladi Vishnu said the YSRCP government is providing transparent rule to the people of State by strengthening the administrative system from the gross-root level with the setting up of ward/village secretariats.

Addressing a media conference at a private function hall on BRTS Road on Sunday evening, Vishnu said the government was giving priority to

- Administrative system has been strengthened with ward/village secretariats, he says

welfare as well as development in the State. He said the State government had spent Rs.1.31 lakh crore for implementation of welfare schemes in two years.

He criticised the previous TDP government for ignoring the development of the State. Vishnu said that he is ready for a debate with the TDP State president K Atchannaidu, for-



MLA Malladi Vishnu addressing the media in Vijayawada on Sunday

mer Minister Devineni Uma and other TDP leaders on the development of the State.

He said that development

works worth crores of rupees were taken up in Central Assembly constituency in the city during the last two years.



# Seven criminal blunders by Modi govt in seven yrs: Cong

## NDA govt promised 2 cr jobs every year, on the contrary, India saw the worst unemployment in 45 yrs

NEW DELHI

On completion of seven years of the Modi government, the Congress has said that Modi Govt is "Harmful for the Country" and has accused it of "committing 7 Criminal Blunders in 7 Years".

The Congress has said that the Modi government has failed on all fronts -- from economy to securing national security while surrendering to China.

Congress spokesperson Randeep Surjewala said, "The systematic destruction of the Indian economy has forced a deceleration. Even before the pandemic, GDP Growth fell from 8.1 per cent in FY2015-16 to 4.2 per cent in FY2019-20. The Indian economy has registered a recession for the first time since Independence. The GDP growth was minus 24.1 per cent in Q1 of FY2020-21 and

minus 7.5 per cent in Q2 of FY2020-21. The overall GDP growth for FY2020-21 is expected to be close to minus 8 per cent." Blunders like Demonetisation and a shoddy GST implementation and a national lockdown at a 4-hour notice has hurt the Indian economy badly. As a result, even Bangladesh has now overtaken India in per capita income. The Modi government promised 2 crore jobs every year. On the contrary, under the Modi rule, India saw the worst unemployment in 45 years in 2019. As per CMIE, during COVID-19, close to 12.2 crore people lost their jobs and almost 75 per cent of the 12.2 crore people were small traders and wage-labourers.

The congress alleged that all-round failure of the Modi government has ensured that prices of essential commodities like Edible Oils, Pulses and Petrol/Diesel have hit the roof.



The management of COVID-19 by the Modi government has been abysmal to say the least. With over 2.77 crore infections and 3.22 Lakh deaths, India saw its PM missing in action, Congress said.

At a time when experts were warning the Modi government of a second COVID wave, it was in a rush to create a PR stunt by declaring victory over COVID-19. With shortage of beds, oxygen supply and life-saving drugs, citizens have been forced to see their loved ones dying. Thousands of bodies have been found floating in the Ganga river across UP and Bihar.

The vaccination strategy is the worst implemented against any crisis, ever. Decentralized procurement, placing orders very late, no financial support to manufacturers to enhance capacity, not approving enough sources and not procuring enough doses. At the current

average of 15.34 lakh doses administered per day, it will take India till May 31, 2024 to vaccinate its adult population. The Modi Government has agreed to withdraw Indian Armed Forces from dominant positions in 'Kailash Ranges' (Southern Bank, Pangong Tso Lake Area), where the Chinese are at a disadvantage, without any quid pro quo by China. "The Modi government is hatching a cruel conspiracy to mortgage agriculture and agricultural land in the hands of crony capitalists," Surjewala said.

When all sectors were posting contraction, Agriculture was the only sector that registered a growth during the first COVID-19 wave. The farmers have been protesting for more than 6 months in harsh weather, but the government is completely apathetic to their demands. So far, 475 farmers have been martyred in this fight to save their futures.

### WINDOW

## Sasikala to return to active politics

CHENNAI: Expelled All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam leader VK Sasikala has dropped hints of returning to active politics after the Covid-19 pandemic gets over. In an audio clip of a phone conversation between Sasikala and one of the party cadres, which has gone viral on social media, the leader is heard confirming her plans of her return in the politics.

The phone call has been verified by Janarthanan, the personal assistant for AMMK General Secretary TTV Dinakaran. "Do not worry, surely will sort out the party things. All be brave ok. Once corona pandemic ends, I will come," Sasikala is heard telling the cadre during the phone call. "We will be behind you Amma," the cadre is heard replying to her. Earlier in March, the expelled AIADMK leader has announced her retirement from politics and issued a statement saying that she will 'set herself apart from politics'. The former aide of Jayalalithaa, then in her statement said "I set myself apart from politics and pray for the golden rule of my Goddess Akka (Jayalalithaa). I will continue to pray for her vision always."

## JD (U) leader shot in Patna

PATNA: Despite the lockdown, there was no let up in crimes in Bihar, with a leader of the ruling Janata Dal-United shot and critically injured in Patna on Sunday.

The incident occurred at Saguna More under Danapur police station in the city around 12.30 pm.

Preliminary investigation revealed that two armed men opened fire on Arshad Hussain near Saguna More, and he sustained three gunshot injuries. Passers-by took him to the nearby HI-Tech hospital where his condition is critical.

"We have some clues about the attackers. Raids are on to nab them," said investigating officer R.C. Singh of Danapur police station.

In another incident, a brother of hardcore active Maoist leader was gunned down in Mahuar village under Imamganj police station in Gaya district on Sunday morning.

# 'Every 10<sup>th</sup> household report active case'

## Over 69% open to take part in vaccine trial; 14.9 % deaths between 26 and 35 yrs

NEW DELHI

EVERY 10th household in India is right now reporting an active case within immediate family members and almost every fifth household in India is reporting loss of life among near and dear ones, as per the IANS-CVoter Covid Tracker.

This means one in every 10 Indian families has at least one family member suffering from Covid and one in every 20 Indian families has self-reported a death within immediate or extended family, as per the tracker.

The tracker is reporting high incidence of healthy people dying of Covid. As per the tracker, 58.9 per cent said that the person was completely healthy before and died of Covid itself.

And the highest number of deaths are being reported in the relatively young. 36.2 per cent deaths occurred in the age bracket below 45 years. 14.9 per cent deaths are between 26 and 35 years and 19.1 per cent deaths between 36 and 45 years. Over 69 per cent people said they would participate in a vaccine trial, if given a chance, .

The survey, conducted on a total of 56,685 participants between January 1 to May 27, showed that 48.9 per cent said that they would be very likely to participate in a Covid vaccine trial in the country, while another 20.6 per cent said that would be likely to take part.

Meanwhile, 2.6 per cent said they were somewhat unlikely to participate, and another 23.2 per cent said they would not like to participate in a vaccine trial at all.

Election consultant Prashant Kishor launched a broadside against the PM CARES aid announced by the PMO for children who have lost both their parents to the pandemic. The poll strategist deployed sarcasm to imply that these were mere promises at a time when the minors needed immediate help.

"Another typical masterstroke by Modi Sarkar, this time redefining empathy and care for children ravaged by Covid and its catastrophic mishandling," Kishor tweeted. "Instead of receiving much-needed support now, the children should feel positive about a promise of stipend when they turn 18," he said citing a press release announcing the PM CARES help.

"PM CARES will contribute, through a specially designed scheme, to create a corpus of Rs 10 lakh for each child when he or she reaches 18 years of age," the release said.



Labourers rest at a bus shed in New Delhi on Sunday. The national capital will remain under strict lockdown till June 7

## Prashant Kishor slams PM CARES aid to children

### '58.9 per cent healthy people died due to virus'

### 70% say will take vax when it is available

NEW DELHI: Amid the ongoing vaccination drive in the country, 70 per cent of the respondents have said that they will take vaccine against coronavirus whenever it's available. The IANS-Cvoter survey posed a question to respondents -- if a new Coronavirus vaccine becomes publicly available, will they take it? In response to this, overwhelming 72.8 per cent strongly agreed to take it, while 10.3 per cent strongly disagreed. However, an average of 70 per cent generally agreed for the vaccine. When asked if the new Coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine is safe, 48.8 per cent respondents agreed that it's totally safe while 9 per cent disagreed, however, an average of 57 per cent agreed that the vaccine is safe.

### 'Vaccination in hotels must be stopped'

NEW DELHI: Taking cognisance of reports regarding some private hospitals giving package for Covid-19 vaccination in collaboration with luxury hotels, the Centre directed states to stop the violation of guidelines and take action against such institutions. In a letter to states and Union Territories on Saturday, Union Health Ministry said, "vaccination carried out in star hotels is contrary to the guidelines and must be stopped immediately". "Necessary legal and administrative actions should be initiated against such institutions. Therefore, you are also requested to monitor and ensure that National Covid Vaccination drive is carried out as per the prescribed guidelines."

### 1.65L Covid cases, lowest in 46 days

NEW DELHI: India recorded a single-day rise of 1,65,553 new COVID-19 cases, the lowest in 46 days, taking the country's infection tally to 2,78,94,800, according to Union health ministry data updated on Sunday. The daily positivity declined to 8.02 per cent, remaining below the 10 per cent-mark for five consecutive days, while the weekly positivity rate dropped to 9.36 per cent, it said. The death toll due to the disease climbed to 3,25,972 in the country with 3,460 fatalities being recorded in a span of 24 hours, the data updated at 8 am showed. Also, 20,63,839 COVID-19 tests were conducted in the country on Saturday, taking the total number of such exams so far to 34,31,83,748, the ministry said.

## 21 UP convicts refuse parole, feel safe in jail

LUCKNOW

NEARLY 21 convicts in different jails in Uttar Pradesh have refused to take parole because they feel 'safer' inside the prison.

UP DG Jails, Anand Kumar told reporters that 21 convicts in nine prisons of the state have refused parole, citing Covid scare in their districts and said that they were being treated better in the jails of the state. "We are following complete Covid protocol in the jails and taking utmost care of each prisoner," he said. Earlier this month, UP prison department had started releasing undertrials and convicts on bail and

parole in compliance with the Supreme Court directives to decongest the over-crowded state jails in the wake of Covid infection during the second wave.

UP prisons have so far released 10,123 under trials and convicts on bail and parole in compliance with the Supreme Court directives.

As many as 8,463 under trials were released on interim bails while 1,660 convicts were given a parole of 60 days. The maximum number of 703 undertrials have been released on bail from Ghaziabad district jail, while maximum convicts (78) have been given parole from Kanpur district jail.



A worker carries eggs at a poultry farm in Ajmer on Sunday

## 'Antibody cocktail' therapy used

MOHALI

THE 'antibody cocktail' therapy was administered to a 72-year-old Covid positive patient who is a diabetic with chronic kidney disease, at the Fortis Hospital here on Sunday.

Administered one dose of the cocktail intravenously, the patient is reportedly stable post infusion, said the Fortis Hospital.

The 'antibody cocktail therapy' is for those above the age of 65, who are isolating at home, have a saturation oxygen of 93, require no oxygen support but are at risk of developing a severe form of the infection on ac-

count of their co-morbidities such as obesity, diabetes, liver disease, heart ailments, or chronic lung disease. It can also be administered to those suffering from an immunocompromising condition or those with weakened immunity on account of immune suppressive treatment.

Dr Zafar Ahmed, Senior Consultant - Critical Care, Pulmonology and Chest and Sleep Medicine in Fortis Hospital, said like antibodies, which are proteins generated by the body to fight disease, monoclonal antibodies are "artificially created in the lab".

# Choksi's deportation: India had sent private jet to Dominica

India sent a private jet to Dominica carrying documents related to the deportation of fugitive businessman Mehul Choksi, wanted in a Rs 13,500 crore bank loan fraud case, Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda Gaston Browne told a radio show in his country.

There was, however, no immediate official confirmation from Indian authorities about it. A Qatar Airways private jet landed at the Douglas-Charles airport in Dominica, Antigua News Room reported, leading to speculations about deportation of Choksi who was detained in the Caribbean island nation after his mysterious disappearance from neighbouring Antigua and Barbuda. Browne told the radio show that the jet came from India carrying necessary documentation needed for deportation of the businessman, the media outlet reported. Publicly available data of Qatar Exec-

utive flight A7CEE shows that it left the Delhi airport at 3.44 pm on May 28 and reached Dominica at 13.16 local time on the same day, via Madrid.

The Dominica High Court has stayed the removal of Choksi from its soil and put a gag order on the developments till the matter is heard in an open court on June 2. Choksi has alleged that he was abducted from Jolly Harbour in Antigua and Barbuda by policemen looking like Antiguan and Indian and taken to Dominica. Purported pictures of 62-year-old Choksi that have surfaced in Dominica shows him with red swollen eye and bruises on his hands. Choksi and his nephew Nirav Modi are wanted for allegedly siphoning Rs 13,500 crore of public money from the state-run Punjab National Bank (PNB) using letters of undertaking. While Modi is in a London prison after being repeatedly denied bail and is contesting his extradition



to India, Choksi took citizenship of Antigua and Barbuda in 2017 using the Citizenship by Investment programme before fleeing India in the first week of January 2018. The scam came to light subsequently. Both are facing a CBI probe.

Meanwhile, Browne in a fresh statement to CNN-News18 has hit out at the opposition United Progressive Party for accusing him of leaving a citizen of Antigua and Barbuda, high and dry after his disappearance and subsequent arrest in Dominica. "These loafers, laggards and charlatans (LLCs), are scavenging for issues, and yet again, failed to prioritise the national interest over their parochial political interests," Browne said in a statement to CNN-News18. "After mischievously accusing my administration of harbouring Mehul Choksi, who has an Interpol Red Notice, they are now seeking to sanitise this

fugitive to get campaign funding," Browne further said. Antigua's opposition -- United Progressive Party -- had earlier expressed serious concern over the recent statement of Browne where he indicated that Dominica should directly deport Choksi to India and not return him to Antigua and Barbuda.

"The statement is both irresponsible and frightening. It is not for the prime minister to decide who is entitled to the protection of the constitution. We are a nation of laws: Every citizen of Antigua and Barbuda is entitled to due process and the rule of law must be respected by all," the opposition statement read.

"The alleged abduction and beating of Mehul Choksi already paint an unflattering picture of the country, and Prime Minister Browne's deliberate attempt to subvert and corrupt the rule of law makes us look even worse," the statement further said.



“ Courage taught me no matter how bad a crisis gets... any sound investment will eventually pay off. – Carlos Slim



# HANS INVEST

Stocks.MFs.Bonds.Commodities



## Glenmark Q4 net up 6% at ₹233.87 cr

HANS BUSINESS

HYDERABAD: Drug firm Glenmark Pharmaceuticals has reported a 6.15 per cent rise in its consolidated net profit to Rs 233.87 crore for the quarter ended March 2021 on account of higher sales.

The company posted a net profit of Rs 220.30 crore in the corresponding period of the previous fiscal, Glenmark said in a statement on Friday.

Its consolidated revenue from operations stood at Rs 2,859.9 crore for the quarter under consideration. It was Rs 2,767.5 crore for the same period a year ago, it added.

For the fiscal ended March this year, the company posted a net profit of Rs 970.1 crore as against Rs 776 crore in the previous fiscal, Glenmark said.

The company's revenue from operations stood at Rs 10,943.9 crore for the fiscal ended March 2021. It was Rs 10,641 crore in 2019-20, it added. "We delivered consistent performance during the year despite operational challenges due to the Covid-19 pandemic. We led from the front in India's fight against the pandemic at its very onset, with our leading brand FabiFlu," Glenmark Pharmaceuticals Chairman and MD Glenn Saldanha said.

The company has in place strategic levers to grow its businesses sustainably, with a focus on strengthening its balance sheet, he added.

The company's board has recommended a dividend of Rs 2.50 per share for the financial year 2020-21, Glenmark said.



# Mkt may gain steam as Covid cases fall

## RBI in next MPC meet is expected to maintain an accommodative stance

CHERUKURI KUTUMBA RAO

On the back of the steady decline in daily Covid-19 infections, rising hope for another stimulus package to support the most affected sectors in the second wave of Covid, excellent Q4 earnings and positive global cues; the market had a historic week. After spending more than three months of consolidation, the benchmark indices ended at a record closing high with the BSE Sensex surging 882.40 points or 1.75 per cent to 51,422.88, and the NSE Nifty rising 260.35 points or 1.72 per cent to 15,435.65 points.

The broader markets also gained momentum, but underperformed benchmark indices, as the Nifty Midcap-100 index was up 1.1 per cent and Smallcap-100 index up 1.83 per cent. The momentum may remain positive with continuity in record highs in the coming week amid falling Covid cases, expected state-wise unlocking, and a likely stimulus package by the government, experts feel. RBI in its annual report, has issued caution over the meteoric rise in stock prices at a time when the country's gross domestic product (GDP) has contracted.

However, as financial market regulators both RBI and Sebi need to be cognisant of the risk going forward. NSO will release GDP growth estimates for March 2021 quarter as well

as provisional annual estimates for 2020-21 on Monday. The Indian economy is estimated to show growth rather than contraction during January-March (Q4) of FY 2020-21.

Prominent companies including Aurobindo Pharma, ITC, Motherhood Sumi Systems, PVR, Bharat Forge, and Bank of India will release their quarterly earnings in the coming week.

Heard on the Street:

Ahead of monsoon, resurgence in so-called small-cap stocks is latest triumph for retail traders

long derided as 'dumb money'. Many small investors are beating market pros at their own

NSO will release GDP growth estimates for March 2021 quarter as well as provisional annual estimates for 2020-21 on Monday. The Indian economy is estimated to show growth rather than contraction during January-March (Q4) of FY 2020-21

■ **Just Dial Ltd** is a local search engine company. The company offers its services across various platforms, such as voice, Web, mobile Internet and mobile applications. It provides search plus transact services across various categories and platforms, and JD Omni services for its customers. It offers an array of search plus services, including order food online, book a doctor's appointment online, book movie tickets online, book a cab/flight/bus online, order grocery online, schedule a laundry pick-up online and schedule a courier pick-up online, among others.



game. Momentum investing or buying assets simply because the price is rising. That, in turn, has drawn even more buyers, in part because of a be-

## STOCK PICKS

■ **JD Omni** is a cloud-based solution, which can be accessed over cell phones and allows controlling and monitoring capabilities to business owners through a dashboard. It operates in India and Outside India. Sources indicate that the company is on the radar of a large business house. Possible takeover bid is not ruled out. Buy for medium term target of Rs 1400.

■ **Shanthi Gears Ltd** is engaged in the business of design, manufacture, supply and servicing of gears and gear boxes. Its custom-built prod-

ucts include loose gears, which include spur/helical gear, pinion shaft, internal gears, worm and wheel, straight bevel gear and spiral bevel gear, and its special gearboxes are catered to cement, mining, power and steel industries.

It offers various services, such as reconditioning of gear boxes and foundry. Its products have application in various industries, such as steel, sugar, paper, windmills, marine, plastic and chemical. It owns manufacturing facilities, foundry facilities, engineering facilities, metrology and calibration facilities, and quality assurance facilities. Buy on declines for price target of Rs240.

F&O / sector watch

Settlement week witnessed exuberant trading in the derivatives segment.

Apart from increase in the Nifty futures rollovers, market wide rollovers stood at 93 per cent as against last month's market wide 83 per cent. Also, Nifty / Stock Futures stayed at 0.09 (last month 0.09), suggesting that market participants continue to bet more individual stocks. Rollover data suggests strength in auto, banking and financials, FMCG and IT sectors.

Mild pullback in counters of metals and pharma is likely. The maximum Put Open Interest was seen at 15,300 followed by 15,000, 15,400, and 15,200 strikes, while maximum Call Open Interest was seen at 16,000 followed by 15,500, 15,600, and 15,800 strikes. Call writing was seen at 16,000, 15,500, and 15,600 strikes while Put writing was seen at 15,400, 15,300, and 15,000 strikes. The volatility fell to the lowest level in 2021, supporting the bullish bias in the market. India VIX was down by 8.80 percent from 19.08 to 17.40 levels on a week-on-week basis.

The Implied Volatility (IV) of Calls closed at 16.30 per cent, while that for Put options closed at 17.71 per cent. PCR of OI for the week closed at 1.26. Overall options data indicates that the Nifty could see a broader trading range of 15,000-15,800 levels in the coming sessions.

Zee can climb to new highs in coming weeks on heightened interest. Stock futures looking good are IGL, L&T Finance, RIL, Shriram Transport, M&M, Voltas and Zee Entertainment. Stock futures looking weak are Apollo Hosp, HUL, Navin Flouro, Dr Lal Path Labs and UBL.

(The author is a stock market expert. He is former vice chairman of AP Planning Board)



K Naresh Kumar

Last week I wrote about 'why and how of the will writing'. This week, I would like to elaborate a bit on its importance and its relevance, when compared to the nomination, etc. The general understanding about protecting the rights on the ownership of the assets, at least to the extent of financial assets, we tend to agree that nomination is a way. This is where most of us get it wrong.

The dictionary meaning of nomination is the process of appointing or proposing someone to an obligation (to an office, post, etc.) and a nominee in finance refers to a person or entity entrusted with safekeeping securities or property of an owner during their absence. In simple terms it translates to a role of a custodian not a legal owner upon the death of the actual owner. The latter is the conventional thought when discussed about nominee. Many thus use this as an interchangeable concept about a will.

One must thus recognize that the mere presence of nominee allows the rights of the asset to be transferred is not legally tenable. Hence, nominees become mere caretakers of various accounts and have no legal power to operate that account in the absence of the original owner, despite they are being kin and kin of the demised. Though, the presence of nomination certainly makes things easier during



the eventuality for a transfer of securities, assets, etc., when there's no contention or claim. Moreover, not all assets have an option to declare a nominee.

While all financial investments come with a mandatory disclosure of nomination, they don't act similarly. A nomination for a savings or a Demat account remains as a caretaker and not a legal owner. Of course, the only exception of nominee gaining the right of the benefits is in Life Insurance Sum Assured and Public Provident Fund (PPF). In these two instruments, the nominee is also the beneficiary of the proceeds out of the investments. The presence of nominee, however, reduces the lead time of a resolution in favor of the nominee, if there's no counter claimant.

Then there's another perspective of joint account holder solving the problem of overriding the will or replacement to the will. Even in joint ownership, the law assumes each one of the account holders as equal contribution unless specified. And post the death of the one of the

joint holders, the access is limited to that extent of the proportion and not to the entirety of the account holdings. Again, the earlier mentioned obligations arrive for the nominee during eventuality.

Nomination prevents disputes and delays in claim settlement of death by establishing a clear title to the instrument. In case of a conflict, then the will would help decide the actual beneficiary. And in the absence of a will, the nominee and the legal heir contest in the court of law to prove their right of ownership. While nomination is important and in some instances is mandatory, it shouldn't stop individuals from creating a will. A will or a testament thus becomes prominent legal document for a legal title transfer of any asset of the deceased.

There's a conventional thought that the will has to be written at the end of one's life or it's also superstition in some that the person dies soon after a will is written. Another assumption among many is the notion of their family or children wouldn't indulge in disputes over property or

money. Disregarding such irrational fears, one should realize that a 'will' allows to gain control over their assets while alive or after death. While it's known that all the details can't be encompassed into the will, as there's a possibility of further additions and deletions in their net-worth, a supplement is allowed to the original will and it's called codicil.

Though any written will is accepted by law, it must be dated and signed by the testator (the person preparing the will). It must express a desire that the testator's wishes must be carried into effect after their death. There must be a disposition of property and every will should be attested by at least two witnesses. A witness needn't read the contents of the will before signing it. A witness or their spouse can't be a legatee (person receiving the legacy) in the will. Probate is a process in which a 'will' gets certified under the seal of court competent jurisdiction with a grant of administration of the estate of the testator. A probate can be granted only to the executor appointed under the will, especially required if there're properties across multiple states. Ideally succession executor should be mentioned so that it gets executed in case of the former's death. So, in these testing times, it's advised each one of us make a will to ensure our surviving family members sustain the estate as desired.

(The author is a co-founder of "Wealcity", a wealth management firm and could be reached at knk@wealcity.com)

## Let's ignore indicators for now

THOVITI BRAHMACHARY

The Indian stock market closed at record high on last Friday. The benchmark index, NSE Nifty, closed all the trading sessions in green territory.

It gained 260.35 points or 1.72 per cent during the last week. The BSE Sensex up by 1.8 per cent. The broader index Nifty-500 also closed at a lifetime high with 1.55 per cent gain last week. The India VIX is down to 8.8 per cent last and settled at 17.4.

The NSE Nifty closed at a new lifetime high and formed by an evening star on a daily time frame. On the weekly chart, it formed a 14-week cup pattern with a 7.73 per cent depth. As per the classical technical analysis, the cup is a very strong bullish pattern. The cup target is almost at 16500. A good consolidation on a lower volume is a pattern character. The breakout is also valid as the volume recording above average for the past two weeks. Now, the question arises as it formed an evening star with a gap up; because of this, the Nifty will also form a handle? Or just Cup? Both of them will ultimately touch the new high eventually.

In any case, a gap down, opening on Monday, and a close below the 15,390 will lead to handle formation. Generally,



the Handle will end at the 38.2 to 50 per cent retracement of the prior uptrend. In a very bull case scenario, the handle formation will end at a 23.6 per cent retracement level. The 38.2 per cent retracement level of the prior uptrend is currently at 14,966, and 50 per cent retracement level is at 14810. A bounce from this will touch 16223, which is a 161.8 per cent retracement of recent consolidation.

The Fibonacci extension is showing that the 100 per cent retracement is at 15986. So, in the bull case scenario, the Nifty may scale to 15986, 16223, 16500 levels in the near future.

But, in a bear case scenario, the first thing a cup will be followed by a handle in the majority of the times. In such a case, the Nifty may enter counter-trend consolidation, which has a downside target of 15158, 14966 and 14810. These immediate support level on the downside. The Handle may form in two weeks maxi-

mum. The highest probability of this Handle may in the form of a Flag.

Don't be scary, the Flag forms in lesser time, which means a sharp decline. As long as the Nifty trades between 14810-15430 levels, be with a neutral on the index.

In the bull case scenario, Nifty may reach the upside target of about 34 if the cup breakout continues without handle formation. If the Handle or flag ends at 38.2 retracement level (14966), it may take about 55 trading sessions from the Handle bottom.

There is no point in discussing the indicators. When the market is at a lifetime high, all the indicators/oscillators shows bullishness. There are no negative divergences currently on more extended time frames. Let us ignore the indicators for the week.

(The author is a financial journalist and technical analyst. He can be reached at tbchary@gmail.com)

## DERIVATIVES OUTLOOK

DASARI SREENIVASA RAO

Derivatives analysts highlight the importance of sustainability of 15,200 level in the short-term as it has the major Put base for the weekly settlement. On the other hand, a move above 15,500 strike, may trigger upward momentum. However, for the next coming week, analysts forecast a consolidation range of 15200-15500 for Nifty, The 16,000 strike, which also recorded maximum Call OI addition, has the highest Call OI followed by 15,500/15,600/15,800/15,400 strikes. 15,500/15,800/16,100 strikes witnessed moderate build-up of Call OI. Coming to Put side, 15,300 strike have highest Put OI followed by

15,400/15,200/15,000/14,700 strikes. Further 15,400/14,700/14,500/15,000/15,400 strikes recorded reasonable addition of Put OI.

Dhirender Singh Bisht, senior research analyst (derivatives) at SMC Global Securities Ltd, said: "From derivatives front, Put writers were seen adding Open Interest at 15200 & 15300 strikes, while Call writers remained active at 15,500 strike."

On the rollover front, both the Nifty and Bank Nifty began the new June derivatives series with relatively high Open Interest (OI). According to data from ICICI Direct.com, the net long positions from FIIs were the highest seen since March 2021, while the short Open Interest from FIIs is all-time low. A round of long liquida-

tion can't be ruled out, which may prompt some short build-up in the system, forecast derivatives analysts.

"Indian markets witnessed fresh record highs in the week gone by, as NSE Nifty index surged above 15,450 marks on the back of sharp surge in banking and IT stocks along with strong moves seen in market leader Reliance Industries," remarked Bisht.

For the week ended May 28, 2021, BSE Sensex closed at 51,422.88 points, a net recovery of 882.40 points or 1.74 per cent, from 50,540.48 points. NSE Nifty too rebounded by 260.35 points or 1.71 per cent to 15,435.65 points from 15,175.30 points.

Bisht forecasts: "From technical front as well, we have been observing higher bottom formations

F&O TRADING			
Product	Contracts	Turnover (Rs/cr)	Premium (Rs/cr)
Index Futures	2,48,053	24,213.40	--
Stock Futures	9,64,391	73,710.46	--
Index Options	2,06,16,145	20,28,211.34	14,339.39
Stock Options	21,84,688	1,61,972.13	4,077.89
F&O Total	2,40,13,277	22,88,107.33	18,417.28

NSE / As on May 28, 2021

on the charts which are likely to remain intact in upcoming sessions as well. However, at current juncture Bank Nifty also looks strong and has a potential to test 35900-36000 levels in coming days. Traders should adopt a buy on dips strategy and keep stock-specific action onto radar. On the downside, 34500 levels would act as strong support for Bank Nifty while 15200 would be strong support for Nifty index."

In the F&O space, due to roll activity, FII action was primarily seen in the stock futures segment. FIIs bought Rs6,514-cr index futures, Rs9,128-cr index options and sold stock futures to the tune of Rs5,741 crore.

"The Implied Volatility (IV) of Calls closed at 16.30 per cent, while that for Put options closed at 17.71 per cent. The Nifty VIX for the week closed at 19.91 per cent and is expected to remain volatile. PCR

of OI for the week closed at 1.26," observes Bisht.

The Nifty Futures began the June series with an Open Interest at 1.05 crore shares versus 1.02 crore shares. Nifty rollover to June F&O series was at 77.28 per cent as against 66.28 per cent in previous month. Bank Nifty June month rollover was at 80.76 per cent versus 64.60 per cent in May series. The overall market-wide rollover was at 91.49 per cent versus 83.80 per cent.

According to sharekhan.com, the May derivatives series recorded positive momentum into the market. After touching a low of around 14,400 level in the spot market, the Nifty slowly and steadily inched higher and closed the May series at 15,337 points. Series-on-series, the NSE Nifty

rose three per cent and Bank Nifty outperformed a bit as it clocked a four per cent gain.

Bank Nifty

NSE's banking index Bank Nifty fell 534.55 points or 1.52 per cent to 35,141.45 points from 34,606.90 points. Banking stocks turned the tide once again and ended the week with over seven per cent returns.

As per ICICI Direct.com, the rollover to June F&O series was marginally higher for the Bank Nifty. Rollover spread towards the end increased marginally, indicating long rollovers for the June series. Major Call OI base is placed at 35500 strike followed by 36000 strike whereas sizable positions are open in 35000 strike Straddle indicating possible consolidation. Analysts opine that fresh upsides would only be seen above 36000 whereas on downside, major support is pegged at 34000 during the week.



Asian boxing:  
Mary Kom loses  
in 51kg final,  
settles for silver



DUBAI

SIX-time world champion MC Mary Kom failed to win her sixth Asian Boxing Championship title as she lost 2-3 to Nazym Kyzaibay of Kazakhstan in the final of the 51kg category here on Sunday, and settled for silver.

Despite having huge experience, Mary Kom, 38, failed to tame Nazym, who is nearly 11 years younger to her.

Nazym won the first gold for her team.

The Kazakh boxer began the contest on the aggressive note and with a good combination of right and left punches that unsettled Mary Kom, who went off balance twice in the second round.

In the third and final round, Mary Kom made desperate attempts to recover the lost ground, but Nazym proved a hard nut to crack.

On Monday, Amit Panghal (52kg), Shiva Thapa (64kg) and Sanjeet (91kg) will fight it out in the men's finals. Panghal will square off against reigning Olympic and world champion Shakhobidin Zoirrov of Uzbekistan. It will be a repeat of the 2019 world championship final in which the Indian had lost to settle for silver.

Thapa will be up against Mongolia's Baatarsukh Chinzorig, who is the Asian Games silver-medallist. Sanjeet will take on Kazakh legend Vassily Levit, who is chasing his fourth gold at the continental showpiece.

Eight other Indians -- the Olympic-bound trio of Simranjit Kaur (60kg), Vikas Krishan (69kg), and Lovlina Borgohain (69kg), and Jaismine (57kg), Sakshi Chaudhary (64kg), Monika (48kg), Saweety (81kg) and Varinder Singh (60kg) -- secured bronze medals after semi-final losses. They also got a prize money of USD 2,500 each for their third-place finishes.

# Kings of Europe: Chelsea beat City

## Coach Guardiola rues Champions League final defeat

PORTO (PORTUGAL)

AS Chelsea captain Cesar Azpilicueta cradled the European Cup before thrusting it into the air to the backdrop of fireworks, Pep Guardiola and his distraught Manchester City players stood way behind the winner's rostrum and looked on in anguish.

Champions League glory once again for Chelsea, nine years after its first title and just 123 days after manager Thomas Tuchel's season-changing arrival at the club.

Yet more misery in world soccer's biggest club competition for City and Guardiola, its genius manager whose overthinking proved costly once more.

Germany forward Kai Havertz's 42nd-minute goal earned Chelsea a surprisingly comfortable 1-0 win in Porto in the Champions League's third all-English final on Saturday.

That the last match of a club season heavily impacted by the coronavirus pandemic was settled by a goal from Havertz felt apt, given he suffered badly after contracting the disease midway through his first year at the club having signed for nearly \$100 million.

He has recovered to play a big role in Chelsea's end to the season, and showed why the club made him the centerpiece of their \$300 million spending spree last off-season in the way he ran onto a through-ball by Mason Mount, rounded goalkeeper Ederson Moraes and rolled the ball into an empty net.

"I really don't know what to say," Havertz said. "I waited a long time for this." As for his fellow German, Tuchel, he only had to wait one season to get over the disappointment of losing the 2020 final when in charge of Paris Saint-Germain.

Fired by PSG in December, he was hired by Chelsea a month later to resuscitate a team that had lost its way -- and had dropped to ninth in the Premier League -- and has delivered a Champions League title four months later.

It was billed as a tactical duel between Tuchel and Guardiola, two of the world's most innovative coaches, and there was a clear winner.



Chelsea players celebrate with the trophy

**We are going to work even harder to get back here. I don't have enough insight now to think about the next season. This season was very tough for us in the middle of a pandemic and all that. It remains for me to say that we are sad. Congratulations to Chelsea," he added**

—Pep Guardiola

Guardiola will surely regret tinkering with a settled team that had swept City to its first Champions League final and to the verge of another trophy treble, after winning the Premier League and the English League Cup.

Starting without a striker was expected -- Guardiola has preferred that in the Champions League knockout matches -- but going without a specialist holding midfielder in Fernandinho or Rodri was a major surprise and destabilised City. City lost its shape and its renowned compo-

sure.

Seeking to win the Champions League for the third time as a coach and first since 2011, Guardiola was guilty of overthinking his tactics again in a big game -- as he was for City's quarterfinal eliminations at the hands of Lyon, Tottenham and Liverpool over the past three years.

"I did what I thought was the best decision," Guardiola said. It was a decision that backfired, though. Ilkay Gundogan, City's top scorer this season and a revelation in his attacking-midfield

role, ended up dropping in as the anchorman in midfield and he struggled to protect City's defense.

Indeed, for Chelsea's goal, Mount had so much time and space to thread a pass from inside his own half through the center of City's defense -- which was opened up by Timo Werner's decoy run -- for Havertz to run onto.

So, City's long, often-painful and lavishly funded journey to the summit of European soccer remains incomplete. The sight of its star midfielder Kevin De Bruyne

coming off the field in the 60th minute, slightly wobbly and clearly concussed after a clash for heads with Antonio Rudiger, just added to the pain and made a comeback even more unlikely.

Sergio Aguero came on in the 76th minute for his final appearance after 10 trophy-filled years at City, but the Argentina striker couldn't produce any late heroics this time.

City's players slumped to the ground at the final whistle as Rudiger sprinted the length of the field to celebrate with the nearly 6,000 Chelsea fans who made up the 14,110 attendance at Estadio do Dragao, a late replacement venue for the title match that was originally scheduled to be staged in Turkey.

Tuchel played with his daughters on the field. Christian Pulisic, who came on as a second-half substitute to become the first American player to feature in a Champions League final, posed with the trophy in a USA sweatshirt.

Mount burst into tears when he saw his father in the stands, "What a team Man City are -- you have seen what they did in the Premier League," Mount said.

"It was such a tough game. We got a goal and defended well the whole game." City never had the control Guardiola so craves and could easily have conceded more on the counterattack. Werner, who worked the channels well behind City's full backs, had already squandered two great chances before the goal, first miskicking from Havertz's cut-back and then shooting tamely at Ederson from close range.

In the second half, Pulisic ran onto Havertz's pass but slipped a shot just wide of the post. That didn't stop Chelsea becoming the 13th multiple European champion, adding to its title from 2012 and Tuchel becoming the third straight German to coach a Champions League-winning team after Liverpool's Juergen Klopp in 2019 and Hansi Flick at Bayern Munich last season.

"It's a huge step to arrive in the final and it's an even bigger one to bite your way through and to make it all the way to the cup," Tuchel said. "It's a fantastic achievement." (AP)



Pulisic 1<sup>st</sup> American  
to play in a CL final

PORTO (PORTUGAL)

CHRISTIAN Pulisic became the first American man to play in a Champions League final.

He came away with a winner's medal, too -- and almost a goal. The Chelsea forward came on as a substitute in the 66th minute with his team leading Manchester City 1-0 in Porto.

The 22-year-old Pulisic, who joined Chelsea from German club Borussia Dortmund in 2019, had a chance to double the lead when he lifted the ball over City goalkeeper Ederson Moraes but it went wide in the 73rd.

"I wish I'd put away the chance I had," he said. I didn't quite get under it the way I wanted but in the end, this team ... we were always going to win this game and I'm just so proud of them." Pulisic, from Hershey, Pennsylvania, celebrated with his parents after the final whistle inside the Estadio do Dragao. He posed with the Champions League trophy in a USA sweatshirt.

Pulisic is the second American to win the Champions League, after Johan Kirovski in 1997. Kirovski won it with Dortmund but didn't feature in the final, only making two substitute appearances in the group stage.

Another American, goalkeeper Zack Steffen, was an unused substitute for City. (AP)

De Bruyne fractured  
nose, eye socket

PORTO: Kevin De Bruyne fractured his nose and eye socket during Manchester City's Champions League final loss to Chelsea with less than two weeks before the start of the European Championship.

The 29-year-old Belgian playmaker had to be replaced by Gabriel Jesus in the 60th minute on Saturday following a collision with Antonio Rudiger.

The Chelsea defender was booked for the challenge on De Bruyne, who left the field in tears at the Estadio do Dragao. De Bruyne provided an update on his condition on Sunday morning. "Hi guys just got back from the hospital," he tweeted.

"My diagnosis is Acute nose bone fracture and left orbital fracture. I feel okay now. Still disappointed about yesterday obviously but we will be back." Belgium opens its Euro 2020 campaign on June 12. (AP)

# “Personal equations don’t matter when you’re playing for India”

BHARAT SHARMA  
NEW DELHI

PERSONAL likes or dislikes don't matter when one is playing for the country, India's Test and ODI captain Mithali Raj said on Sunday, insisting that she and head coach Ramesh Powar have "moved on" from a bitter past to take the team forward.

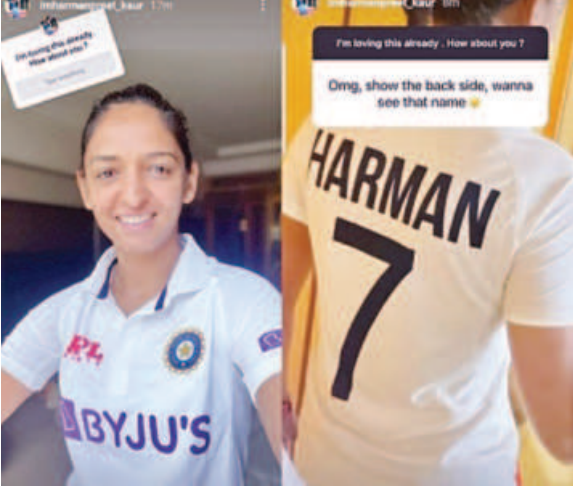
Mithali and Co. are currently quarantining in Mumbai ahead of the UK tour, which is expected to provide a big push to the team's preparations for the ODI World Cup in New Zealand early next year. The full-fledged series comprising India's first Test in seven years will also be Powar's first assignment as head coach. The former India spinner returned to the role after being sacked following India's semifinal defeat in the 2018 World T20.

Mithali was controversially dropped from that game and relations between the two went south with both accusing each other of unprofessional conduct. Asked if their past will come in the way of their present and future, Mithali told PTI, "...we can't be living in the past."

"I've played for so many years, I don't have an ego or I don't give attention to my personal likes and dislikes. I've never done that."

"And 21 years has been a long time for me to sort of, you know, go through many challenges. When it comes to playing for India, it's like serving your country, so personal issues, I don't really give any weightage (to those)," she said.

The 38-year-old is a torchbearer of women's cricket for



India T20 captain Harmanpreet Kaur on Sunday shares photos of the new Test jersey that the players would wear during the tour of England, starting next month. The white jersey has the player number at the back, as is the new fashion with all the teams. Hard-hitting batswoman Harmanpreet's shirt is No.7. She posted photos of the front and the back of the new jersey on Instagram, and captioned it: "Loving this already."

more than two decades and doesn't like to carry baggages. "You need to think about the bigger picture. That's how I am. There are so many things that have happened in the past, but I don't carry that baggage into my present or in the future."

In quarantine, the team has had multiple zoom calls discussing plans for the upcoming tour. Mithali said the World Cup is the primary goal at the moment and everyone is aligned with that.

"He is the coach, and he has his set of plans, it's important that both of us are aligned on the same page to take the team forward. Because even his goal is the same: that the team does well in the World Cup. It's everybody's goal in the team," she said.

"We can't be bitter and carry the bitterness. I've never been a confrontational person, nor am I someone who carries the past into present. Otherwise, I wouldn't have survived for so long in a sport, which clearly needs re-inventions and revisions all the time," she asserted.

"It's important that we are on the same page and take the team along, because we are at a very crucial phase of our preparation for the World Cup."

So the ice is already broken? "Yeah, we have meetings, discussions regularly so clearly we have moved on," said the leading run-getter in ODI cricket.

India take on England in a one off Test from June 16 in Bristol. A day-night Test against Australia in September has also been announced. With red ball cricket not being part of the domestic set up since 2018 and limited preparation time before the game, India face a big challenge.

However, Mithali, who herself has competed in only 10 Tests over 21 years, said the team will play to win. "Looking at the itinerary we do have a few days before the Test. And I'm sure the girls also would have trained or prepared themselves accordingly at home before coming into quarantine."

"A lot of them have probably been preparing themselves mentally. But it is very important to have some groundwork going. That happens only when we all come out of the quarantine in UK... But I think sometimes it's good to not get into game with the baggage of expectations, as in like most of them are making their debut and some of us are playing after a long gap."

England and Australia are the only two teams that play Test cricket regularly and India are trying to do the same now. Mithali said the BCCI is doing the best it can to help the team's preparation amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

"It is great that BCCI is trying to organise Test matches in a bilateral series, because I believe that every player around the world would want to play more games. And it's every player's dream to don the whites at some point, because it's the oldest format of the sport," she said. (PTI)







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Printed and Published by K. Hanumanta Rao, on behalf of Hyderabad Media House Pvt. Limited, Flat.No.609, 6th Floor, Kirti Shikhar Building, Plot.No.11, Dist.Center, Janakpuri, New Delhi- 110058.  
and Printed at M/s. Marutinandan Printers & Publishers, A-15, Bara Bagh, G.T Karnal Road, Industrial Area, New Delhi - 110033. Editor: V Ramu Sarma. RNI No: DELENG/2017/74095