

# DECCAN Chronicle

THE LARGEST CIRCULATED ENGLISH DAILY IN SOUTH INDIA

VISAKHAPATNAM | FRIDAY | 25 DECEMBER 2020

## WEATHER



Max: 29.0°C  
Min: 14.6°C  
RH: 76%  
Rainfall: Nil

Forecast: Mist.  
Max/Min temp.  
29/14 9C

## COVID-19 COUNT

CASES	DEATHS
(+23,942)	(+324)
1,00,99,021	1,46,458
covid19india.org	
STATE GOVERNMENT BULLETINS	
(+617)	(+3)
TS: 2,82,347	1,518
(+402)	(+4)
AP: 8,79,339	7,082

### CASES AROUND THE WORLD

7,80,61,507
DEATHS
17,16,170
218
COUNTRIES, AREAS WITH CASES
worldometers.info/coronavirus

## ASTROGUIDE

**Sarvari:** Dakshinayana  
**Tithi:** Margasira Shuddha Ekadasi till 1.53 am (Saturday)  
**Star:** Ashwini till 7.35 am  
**Varjyam:** 6.22 pm to 8.10 pm  
**Durmuhurtam:** 8.59 am to 9.42 am; 12.38 pm to 1.22 pm  
**Rahukalam:** 10.30 am to 12 noon  
**HILIRI CALENDAR**  
**Jamadi-ul-Awwal 9, 1442 AH**  
**PRAYERS**  
**Fajar:** 5.50 am  
**Zohar:** 1.30 pm  
**Asar:** 4.45 pm  
**Maghrib:** 6.15 pm  
**Isha:** 8.15 pm  
**SUNRISE TOMORROW 6.25 AM**  
**SUNSET TODAY 5.29 PM**  
**MOONRISE TODAY 2.02 PM**  
**MOONSET TOMORROW 2.09 AM**

## COUNTER POINT



Psst! Corona vaccine...

## SHORT TAKES

### HC strikes down judge's order

**Vijayawada:** The AP High Court on Thursday struck down a single judge order that directed the Registrar (judicial) to resolve problems being faced by advocates in listing cases. Earlier, reacting to complaints of advocates, Justice M. Venkata Ramana directed Alapati Giridhar, the Registrar, to list cases on dates as dictated by judges and take steps to avoid trouble to advocates in getting their cases listed.

■ Full report inside

## NATION | 4

**Modi to credit funds to farmers**



deccanchronicle.com, facebook.com/deccannews, twitter.com/deccanchronicle



## WORLD | 4

**UK, EU clinch post-Brexit deal**

## SPORTS | 6

**Australia all charged up**



Vol. 36 No. 211 Established 1938 | 8 PAGES | ₹6.00

## Merry Christmas



A child and his mother take a look at the nativity scene on Lord Jesus which was set up on the eve of Christmas celebrations at St Anthony Church in Visakhapatnam on Thursday. *Deccan Chronicle* wishes all its readers a Merry Christmas, joy and peace for all.

— K. MURALIKRISHNA

## PM praises Tagore's vision

**ANIMESH SINGH & RAJIB CHOWDHURI**  
NEW DELHI/KOLKATA, DEC. 24

With the upcoming West Bengal Assembly election on his mind, Prime Minister Narendra Modi attributed the essence of the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative to Bengal icon Rabindranath Tagore at the centenary celebrations of Visva-Bharati University at

Santiniketan.

The speech was made in the absence of West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee who later claimed that she was not invited though Visva-Bharati vice chancellor Prof. Bidyut Chakrabarty's letter on December 4 inviting her went viral.

Modi said, "Guided by Gurudev, Visva-Bharati presented a strong image of Indian nationalist sen-

timent during the Independence. Gurudev wanted the entire humanity to benefit from India's spiritual awakening. Atmanirbhar Bharat vision is also a derivative of this sentiment."

He invoked the famous poem, *Chitto jetha bhoy shunyo, uchcho jetha shir* (Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high), he also pitched for the National Education Policy.

## DENIED LOANS, STAFF DUMP GARBAGE IN FRONT OF BANKS

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
VIJAYAWADA, DEC. 24

Sanitary staff angry over denial of loans dumped garbage in front of banks at Vuyyuru in Krishna district. The applicants lamented that the banks were reluctant to give small loans.

According to reports, several nationalised banks refused to give loans under Jaganna Thodu and Cheyutha schemes infuriating applicants, who took the issue to the notice of ruling party leaders and officials. The angry people reportedly dumped garbage in front of three bank branches in Vuyyuru on Thursday. They informed their higher officials and municipal authorities. Later, the garbage was removed. Leaders of All India Bank Employees Association condemned the act.

Krishna collector A. Md Imtiaz expressed sorrow and asked the bankers to cooperate with the government towards sanctioning loans to poor through various government welfare schemes.

## Row over curbs at Tirumala turns political

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
TIRUPATI, DEC. 24:

The row over restricting the Vaikunta Dwara Darshan free tokens to locals and stopping non-local devotees without tickets at Alipiri turned a political fight.

The Opposition is charging the government and the TTD with failure to ensure free darshan to devotees from far-off places. Telugu Desam chief Chandrababu Naidu slammed the YSRC for "not taking steps" to ensure darshan for non-local devotees and alleged that the police at the behest of the ruling party resorted to a lathi-charge on the devotees.

In a statement, Naidu said, "Everyone has a right to have darshan at the Tirumala temple. The government and the TTD are responsible for ensuring hassle-free darshan to all. The YSRC has been tarnishing the image of Tirumala ever since it came to power." BJP leaders also joined Naidu to target the TTD.

Party spokesperson G. Bhanuprakash Reddy criticised the TTD's decision to allow former Rajampeta MLA Akepati Amarnath Reddy to reach Tirumala via 'Annamayya Bata' on Tuesday along with over 3,000 devotees without security checks.

"TTD has been preventing entry for devotees who don't have tickets at Alipiri. At the same time, they allowed over 3,000 YSRC devotees to reach Tirumala and extended darshan to them. Is Tirumala a dharmic place or a ruling party office," Bhanuprakash asked.

Naidu and Reddy alleged that the YSRC leader and his followers held a procession and flew drone cameras on the Papavinasanam road, violating the security norms at Tirumala.

TTD chairman YV Subba Reddy rejected Naidu's allegation of the police resorting to a lathi-charge.

■ Page 3: TTD chief hits back at Naidu

## UNSOCIAL | MEDIA

### Pedda Reddy suspects JC's men of nasty posts

## MLA's men ransack JC house

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
ANANTAPUR, DEC. 24

Tension prevailed in Tadipatri town after followers of YSRC legislator K. Pedda Reddy ransacked the residence of his rival and TD leader J.C. Diwakar Reddy and attacked Dasari Kiran, close aide of Prabhakar Reddy, for allegedly having posting against the MLA's wife on social media.

Prabhakar Reddy and his family members were not in the house at the time of the attack. However, the situation turned violent when he rushed home and

● **MLA PEDDA REDDY** stopped his convoy in front of Diwakar Reddy's house and rushed into it, accompanied by more than 30 close aides along with armed gunmen and the local sub inspector, according to the police.

both groups began pelting stones at each other.

Two vehicles, including that of Pedda Reddy, were damaged while some party workers from both sides suffered injuries.

Sources said a post against Pedda Reddy's wife

about collection of money from sand reaches went viral. In fact, they have been viral for the past one month. Pedda Reddy's rented party office is in the same colony where Diwakar Reddy's house is located.

Pedda Reddy stopped his convoy in front of Diwakar Reddy's house and rushed into it, accompanied by more than 30 close aides along with armed gunmen and the local sub inspector.

None of the family members was around. Aides of the MLA attacked Dasari Kiran and beat him severely for the social media post.

The MLA sat on a chair and came out after issuing a stringent warning to Kiran to quit Tadipatri.

On being informed, Prabhakar Reddy rushed to the house. Meanwhile, many followers of JC and TD party cadre gathered at his residence.

In the subsequent pelting of stones, the MLA's car was damaged while the police rescued his son Harshanvardhan Reddy.

SP Satya Esubabu rushed to Tadipatri and monitored the situation.

■ Page 2: Prabhakar Reddy not to file complaint

## AUROBINDO GETS 41.1% OF KAKINADA DEEP WATER PORT

**N. VAMSI SRINIVAS I DC**  
HYDERABAD, DEC. 24.

Aurobindo Realty and Infrastructure Holdings Pvt Ltd on Thursday became the major shareholder in the Kakinada deep water port by acquiring 41.12 per cent stake in the company which is currently operating the port.

The pharma giant already bought GMR group's stake in the proposed Kakinada SEZ and proposed green field port connected to the SEZ. *Deccan Chronicle* reported on September 26 about Aurobindo setting its eyes on the Kakinada deep water port.

The government built the port with its funds and privatised it in 1999 and it has become a tradition that people or companies close to the party in power enjoy a major stake in the operator company.

Aurobindo bought the entire share of Kakinada Infrastructure Holdings Pvt Ltd in Kakinada Sea Ports Limited, the operator company, while the remaining shares are held by other companies.

■ Page 2: Aurobindo takeover may kill probe

## No stay on Jagan's housing scheme: HC

**Post-Delhi return, CM gears up party for polls**

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
VIJAYAWADA, DEC. 24

The Andhra Pradesh High Court on Thursday refused to stay CM Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy's welfare scheme for distribution of house sites to the poor. The government had repeatedly postponed the launch of the programme due to legal hurdles.

The division bench comprising Chief Justice J.K. Maheshwari and Justice J. Uma Devi took up a public interest litigation against the launch on Thursday. The bench said it did not find any valid reason to entertain the plea for a stay and asked the state government to file a counter. The court posted the matter for January 21.

D.S.N.V. Prasad, counsel for petitioner M. Nagasankar of Vijayawada, argued that the government's decision to allot house sites in far off places would affect the livelihood of these people and also change the demographics. This would have a direct bearing on the reservation of Lok Sabha and Assembly constituencies, he said. "No one is forcing them (beneficiaries) to take possession of the sites. It's

## Jagan to give away house sites today

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
VIJAYAWADA, DEC. 24

After almost seven postponements, the much-awaited flagship welfare scheme of YSR Congress government Navaratnalu — Pedalandariki Illu — is all set for its launch on Friday marking this year's Christmas. Spread over 15 days, house patts would be distributed to 30 lakh women across all districts barring those having court cases.

This is in keeping with the Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy's padayatra promise of providing pucca houses to the poor.

The Chief Minister will initiate the programme at Komaragiri layout of U Kothapalli mandal in East Godavari district. The day will also mark the commencement of construction of 15.60 lakh houses in the first phase. In addition to these, the government will also distribute sale agree-

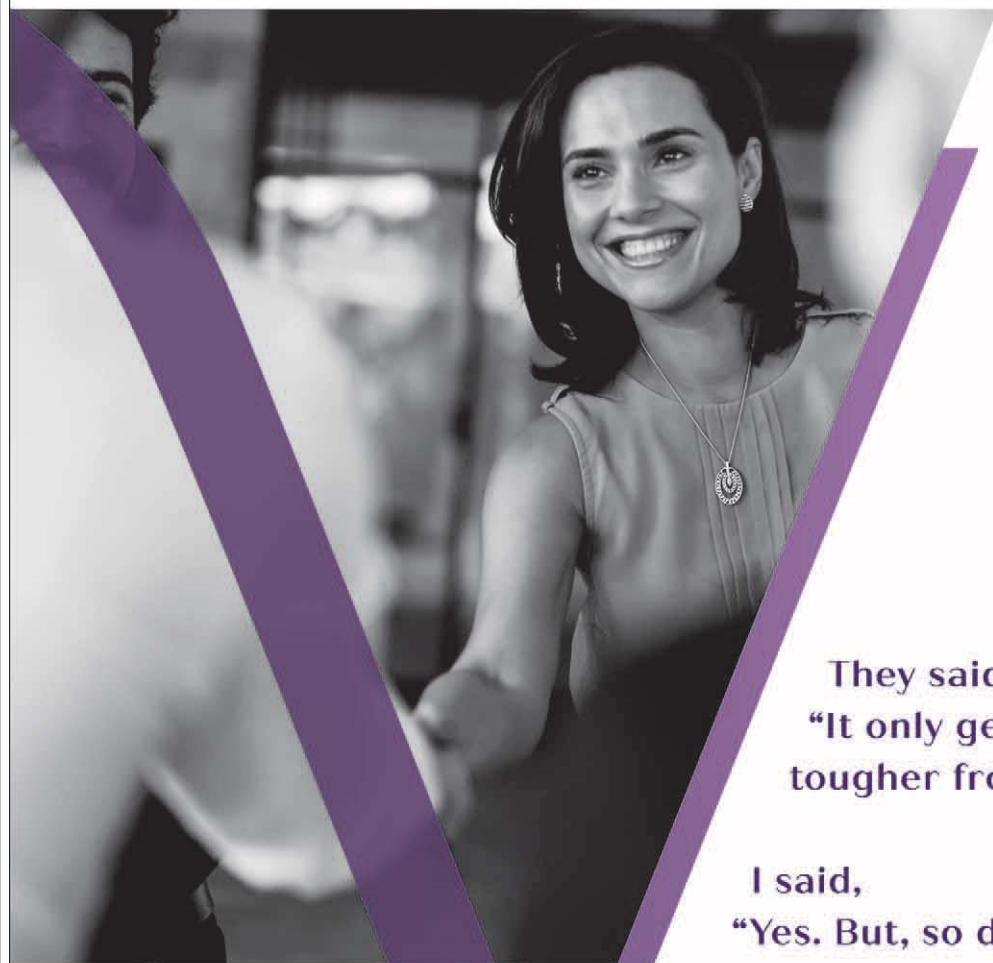
ments for 2.60 lakh TIDCO houses.

The government had initially decided to launch the massive event on Ugadi (March 25). Corona and later PILs in courts thwarted the programme, including those planned for Ambedkar Jayanti, Gandhi Jayanti and Independence Day.

The government finally decided to distribute house site patts in those areas, where there were no court cases. The remaining beneficiaries will be given D-form patts. Once the legal cases are resolved, land deeds will be given in the name of women beneficiaries.

So far 30,75,755 beneficiaries have been identified for the scheme, of which 23,37,067 will be given houses in over 17,000 areas developed as YSR Jagananna Colonies.

■ Page 2: Beneficiaries get 1.5 cents each in rural areas



They said,  
"It only gets  
tougher from here."

I said,  
"Yes. But, so do I."

Presenting the new collection by  
Platinum Evara. Jewellery crafted in  
rare platinum for the woman whose  
resilience helps her rise above all that  
stands in her way. #RiseWithGrace

PLATINUM BLESSINGS

Look for PT950 - The assurance of 95% pure platinum, a mark of authenticity and purity. Explore <https://ptevara.in/>  
For authentic platinum jewellery and assured buyback, ask for your platinum purity assurance card.  
Some PGI Authorised Retailers: Asilmetta Junction: Jewel One 6664447 | Malabar Gold & Diamonds 2528916 | Kirtilals 2505211 | CBM Compound Road: Joyalukkas 2732916 | Dwaraka Nagar: Vaibhav Jewellers 6667777 | Gajuwaka: GRT Jewellers 6531515 | Joyalukkas 9052166966 | Sampath Vinayagar Temple Road: GRT Jewellers 2531515 | VIP Road: Tanishq 2592122 | Waltair uplands: Jos Alukkas Jewellery 2531916 | Kalyan Jewellers 2541233



## SHORT TAKES

AUROBINDO  
TAKEOVER MAY  
KILL PROBE

FROM PAGE 1

These companies include V.R. Investments Pvt Ltd which retained its 30.4 per cent. A non-descript company with non-descript directors, South India Infrastructure Pvt Ltd, holds 11 per cent.

The takeover by Aurobindo is expected to give a silent burial to the present government's initiative to unearth financial irregularities and alleged short payments to the government in the 22 per cent revenue share.

Soon after Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy took over, the infrastructure and investment department ordered forensic audit and engaged two companies to find out if there are any discrepancies in the amounts originally charged by the operator and those shown to the government. While the findings of the audit were not known, the initiative culminated into Aurobindo becoming major shareholder.

PRABHAKAR  
REDDY NOT TO  
FILE COMPLAINT

FROM PAGE 1

Additional forces have been deputed and Section 144 has been imposed.

Expressing anger over the MLA's behaviour and the failure of police, Prabhakar Reddy threw out the sofa chair on which the MLA sat and set it on fire.

"How did the MLA dare enter my house when we were not there? The sub inspector instead of preventing the attack actually aided the attackers. The sub inspector and armed gunmen of MLA acted against the law."

However, Prabhakar Reddy said he would not lodge any complaint. Meanwhile, Pedda Reddy said he went to Diwakar Reddy's residence to question about the posts against his wife.

TD alleges graft  
in house sitesDC CORRESPONDENT  
VIJAYAWADA, DEC. 24

There has been a war of words between the opposition and ruling party leaders over alleged corruption in the mega housing programme. Opposition parties, including main opposition Telugu Desam, allege huge corruption by ruling party MLAs and leaders in land acquisition, levelling and allotment process of the mega housing scheme. TD leaders alleged that YSRC legislators and leaders have looted ₹6,500 crore worth public money in the name of the housing scheme but the ruling party refuting the same claimed that unable to digest the good name of YSRC, the opposition parties are trying to defame the government with baseless allegations.

Meanwhile, the TD conducted a photo exhibition in the party State office on Thursday showing photos of low-lying areas, hilly places, graveyards and alluvial soils, which were unfit to construct houses and which are selected for house site distribution programme. Former minister Devineni Umamaheswara Rao said that the Chief Minister had got many

BENEFICIARIES TO BE GIVEN 1.5  
CENTS EACH IN RURAL AREAS

FROM PAGE 1

About 4,86,820 people who are already living in unauthorised sites, will be legalised and the remaining 2,51,868 will be allocated TIDCO houses. For the first time in the country, a house site patta is being given for just one rupee and it will be registered in the name of a woman member of the household. The beneficiaries will be given 1.5 cents in rural areas or one cent in urban areas.

The state government had

acquired 68,361 acres of land worth ₹23,535 crore. Of this 25,120.33 acres belongs to the government, which is valued at about ₹8,000 crore and 25,359.31 acres were purchased at a cost of Rs 10,150 crore. Also, 4,457.05 acres was acquired under land pooling scheme in Visakhapatnam, 1,074.18 acres owned by AMRDA in Amaravati, 2,550.96 acres was acquired for TIDCO housing, and another 9,800 acres for those living in occupied lands have also been acquired.

palaces in different metro cities but his regime was giving just one and half cent in rural areas and one cent in urban areas. He stated that if the State was spared from the ₹6,500 crore looting of public funds, then over 13 lakh families could have got one additional cent. He alleged that the ruling party legislators and leaders had committed corruption in 40 Assembly segments and looted ₹4,000 crore in land acquisitions, ₹2,000 crore in levelling of lands and

another ₹750 crore in the form of collections from the allottees.

Minister Kodali Srivenkateswara Rao, Perni Venkataramaiah and other leaders of ruling party refuted the allegations of TD. They claimed that the TD government committed corruption in the house construction and failed to provide houses to beneficiaries.

The YSRC government is offering house sites free of cost and in a transparent manner.

## 15.60L houses in first phase

DC CORRESPONDENT  
VIJAYAWADA, DEC. 24

The government has proposed to construct 28.30 lakh houses at an estimated cost of ₹50,944 crore. Out of these, 15.60 lakh houses will be taken up in the first phase at a cost of ₹28,084 crore and the remaining 12.70 lakh houses will be taken up in the second phase at a cost of ₹22,860 crore.

The first phase works will commence on Friday,

where 15.60 lakh houses will be constructed in 8,929 layouts in 175 constituencies, while in the second phase, 12.70 lakh houses will be constructed in 7,141 layouts in all constituencies.

The government has decided to have the quality of houses inspected by experts from IITs and NIT.

Each house will consist of one bedroom, living room, kitchen, toilet and verandah, with a total plinth area of 340 sq.ft.

and will be provided with basic facilities like lights, fans, overhead tank and water connection. AP TIDCO has already undertaken the construction of 2,62,216 houses across the state. The houses are being constructed on three floors with an area of 300, 365, 430 sq.ft.

In an innovative act, the State government is only charging ₹1 for a 300 sq ft house. The sale agreement would be issued on the occasion.



Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy prays at samadhi of Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy at Idupulapaya on Thursday.

## CM extends Christmas greetings

**Vijayawada:** Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy extended Christmas greeting to the people. Mr Jagan in his Christmas

message said that love for fellow human beings, compassion for the helpless, limitless patience, boundless sacrifice, peaceful

coexistence, forgiveness even for the enemies were the extraordinary messages that Christ had given to the world.

No Coronavirus strain cases  
in AP, says health ministerDC CORRESPONDENT  
VIJAYAWADA, DEC. 24

Health minister Alla

Kalikrishna Srinivas said that there is no report of the Coronavirus second wave in AP, and the government is taking precautionary measures following guidelines of the Centre to prevent spread of Covid-19. He said that recently a woman arrived in the state from Britain and her samples were sent for tests. Results of the test are awaited, on whether she was carrying the new mutant strain of the virus.

Addressing a press conference here on Thursday, Mr Srinivas said that people should not be worried as no new Coronavirus strain cases have been found in the state. He said that mother and son had landed in Delhi from the United Kingdom on the night of December 21. They were tested for Covid-19 at the IGI International Airport and the mother was found to be positive. He said that she was kept in the isolation ward in the government hospital at Rajamahendravaram and her condition is normal.

He stated that her samples were sent to the National Institute of Virology laboratory in Pune for tests to confirm if she was carrying the new strain. The results would come in two days, Srinivas said.

In New Delhi, the Union health and family welfare ministry on Thursday denied reports that a woman from Vijayawada who had returned from the United Kingdom was found to have been detected with the new mutated strain of Covid-19 virus circulating in the UK. The MoHFW said that all such news reports about her being positive to the mutated virus are "false" and "genome sequencing of the lady's samples are yet to be done."

Mr Srinivas said that all basic amenities would be developed in the government hospitals in the state to provide good services to the people. The minister conducted a review meet-

ing on Nadu-Nedu works in GGH Srikakulam, Victoria Government Hospital at Visakhapatnam, and the government hospitals at Guntur, Kadapa and Kurnool.

He directed the officials to start the tender process for civil works for the modernisation of government hospitals under Nadu-Nedu. Srinivas said that he will inspect government hospitals and medical colleges in Tirupati, Guntur, Vijayawada and Visakhapatnam in the first week of January.

Mr Srinivas stressed on the need to provide facilities to medical students according to the number of seats in the institutions. He directed that facilities for patients be improved on par with state hospitals. Medical and health department chief secretary Anil Kumar Singhal, principals of government medical colleges, superintendents of government hospitals and other officials participated in the review meeting.

Political leaders of the previous regime built sheds and thatched houses in 40 acres of land. The GVMC officials demolished 50 thatched houses and 13 sheds in the recent drive.

Listing out the MLA's encroachments, Vijay Sai Reddy said the MLA built poultry farms in Kommadi in an extent of four acres of land in the name of his benami Sona Prasad. In another acre of land in Ramakrishnapuram, he has been running a piggy farm in the name of another benami. His aide Duvvi Tata Rao developed layouts in two acres of land in the same area and has been selling plots.

The MLA tried to construct a building in MVP Colony in the land encroached but the GVMC officials stopped it on time. His followers sold sheds in front of Central Jail each for ₹10 lakh.

VIZAG: VIJAY SAI  
EXPOSES TD MLA'S  
ENCROACHMENTSDC CORRESPONDENT  
VISAKHAPATNAM, DEC. 24

Rajya Sabha member V. Vijay Sai Reddy listed out the land encroachments made by TD Visakhapatnam East MLA Velagapudi Ramakrishna Babu and reiterated that the government would be the custodian of state-owned lands.

He said the TD leaders, led by Ramakrishna Babu, resorted to largescale encroachment of government lands under survey number 26 and 27 in Zone -2 of the Greater Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation (GVMC). The corporation has about 837 acres of land of which 136.36 acres are in legal disputes. Around 213.13 acres were given on lease to various government departments. TD leaders grabbed 73.01 acres.

Political leaders of the previous regime built sheds and thatched houses in 40 acres of land. The GVMC officials demolished 50 thatched houses and 13 sheds in the recent drive.

Listing out the MLA's encroachments, Vijay Sai Reddy said the MLA built poultry farms in Kommadi in an extent of four acres of land in the name of his benami Sona Prasad. In another acre of land in Ramakrishnapuram, he has been running a piggy farm in the name of another benami. His aide Duvvi Tata Rao developed layouts in two acres of land in the same area and has been selling plots.

The MLA tried to construct a building in MVP Colony in the land encroached but the GVMC officials stopped it on time. His followers sold sheds in front of Central Jail each for ₹10 lakh.

# AT STORE • ONLINE • PHONE DELIVERY

**spencer's**

**YEAR END'S BIGGEST PRICE DROP**

**HURRY LAST 3 DAYS ONLY! FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY**

**Upto ₹750 Cashback\***

**HDFC BANK**

We understand your world

\*On HDFC Bank Credit Cards  
\*Minimum Order Value of ₹1000  
Valid once per card per month, Duration: 22nd - 31st Dec

**Flat 10% CASHBACK**

**paytm**

Scan this QR Code on Paytm App to Buy Brand Vouchers.

**MRP ₹1500**

**SAVE ₹1051**

**WALLET PRICE ₹449**

**₹18/kg**

**Smart Choice Masoori Steam Rice 25kg**

**MRP ₹1540**

**SAVE ₹1141**

**WALLET PRICE ₹399**

**Smart Choice American Almond-Cashew Whole (320No.) 500g**

**MRP ₹150/170**

**SAVE ₹71/91**

**WALLET PRICE ₹79/79**

**Freedom/Aadhaar Pure Sunflower Oil 1L**

**MRP ₹285/345**

**SAVE ₹146/146**

**WALLET PRICE ₹139/199**

**Vaseline Deep Restore/Cocoa Butter Body Lotion 400ml**

**BUY 1 GET 1 FREE**

**MRP ₹249/399**

**Plum & Dundee Cake 300-500g**

**UPTO 40% OFF**

**MRP ₹79 Onwards**

**Christmas Merchandise (Entire range)**

**₹69\***

**Orange Kinnow (\*On purchase of 2kg)**

**₹169**

**Apple Royal Gala**

**2 @ ₹29**

**Kiwi ₹19/unit**

**₹169**

**MRP ₹210\***

**Poultry Eggs Tray (Pack of 30N)**

**₹159/629**

**₹185/749 per kg**

**Rohu Medium/Mutton Bone in Cube**

**₹139**

**MRP ₹185**

**Tenali Double Horse Urad Gota 1kg**

**SAVE ₹21**

**MRP ₹120\***

**Kissan Fresh Tomato Ketchup 1kg**

**BUY 2 GET 1 FREE**

**MRP ₹20 Onwards**

**Snacks 60-360g (On wide range)**

**SAVE ₹150\***

**MRP ₹395\***

**Dabur Honey 1kg (\*On purchase of 2)**

**SAVE ₹30**

**MRP ₹150 Onwards**

**Soap Multi Pack 100-125g**

**50% + UPTO 40% OFF**

**MRP ₹4998 Onwards**

**Travel Trolley (On wide range)**

**₹899 ONWARDS**

**MRP ₹1999 Onwards**

**Range of Mink/Flannel Blankets & Comforters**

**₹11990**

**MRP ₹15490**

**Sansul 32(80cm) Android LED TV**

## CALL NOW: CONTACTLESS HOME DELIVERY WITHIN 1hr!\*

**Resapuvanipalem**

**7605085718**

**Beach Road**

**9010541376**

**Marripalem**

**9885054862**

**Maharani Peta**

**9701256818**

**NAD Store**

**9963343229**

**Murali Nagar**

**8977177495**

**MVP Colony**

**8367508365**

**Narasimhanagar**

**7013434205**

**Vizianagaram**

**9640333045**

**Ushodaya**

**8142011813**

**Gajuwaka**

**7596034881**

**VINAYAKA NAGAR, Vizianagaram**

**9492617537**

\*T&C apply. MRP inclusive of all taxes. Images shown here are for representation purpose only, actual product may differ in appearance. Spencer's reserves the right to withdraw, change or modify the T&C as well as offers/prices without any prior notice. Offer valid at select stores till stocks last. Spencer's reserves the right on process of passing offer in the invoices. All the offers communicated will be offered as value discounts in the customers invoice. All products may not be available online. Cashback can be redeemed in next purchase from 1st - 21st Jan 2021. Redemption will be 10% of the bill amount or cashback amount, whichever is lower. Not valid on purchase of Liquor, Baby food, Sugar, Oil & Gift Card. Wallet offer & price is a combination of on POS discount & cashback credit. Price comparison includes cashback. This is Spencer's Year End's Biggest Price Drop. Online Promo valid on minimum bill value of ₹999. Not valid on purchase of Sugar, Edible Oil, Baby Foods & Liquor.

Follow us on | Customer Care No. 1800 103 0134

CIN: U51229WB2009PLC154278



## SHORT TAKES

## TTD CHIEF HITS BACK AT NAIDU

FROM PAGE 1

TTD chairman Subba Reddy said there was no lathi-charge and said Vaikunta Ekadasi will fall only on Friday and the dwara darshan will commence from that day.

The TTD chairman said "As Naidu is residing in another state, he has assumed that Vaikunta Dwara darshan has already started. He should note that the TTD has made arrangements to provide comfortable Vaikunta Dwara darshan for 10 days starting from December 25 till January 3 to devotees this year."

The temple administration also clarified that it had initiated action against those who flew drone cameras at Tirumala and that the vigilance officials have seized the drone.

## 357 COVID CASES REGISTERED IN AP

DC CORRESPONDENT  
VIJAYAWADA, DEC. 24

The spree of the decrease in Corona positive cases continued in AP by registering 357 new Covid-19 positive cases in the past 24 hours on Thursday. Only four deaths, one each reported in Anantapur, Kadapa, Krishna and WG districts registered, and the total deaths increased to 7,089 in AP.

## VIJAY SAI REDDY TAKES ON TD MLA

DC CORRESPONDENT  
VISAKHAPATNAM, DEC. 24

Rajya Sabha member V. Vijay Sai Reddy made serious comments on Visakhapatnam TD MLA Velagapudi Ramakrishna Babu after he said that he did not encroach any land or in general committed any crime. The RS member said people are saying that he began grabbing land and attacked people instilling fear.

## Steps on to strengthen rural economy: Jagan

Stone set for the Institute of Rural Management Anand

DC CORRESPONDENT  
KADAPA, DEC. 24

Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy said the government was taking steps to further strengthen the rural economy. The Chief Minister on Thursday laid the foundation stone for setting up the prestigious Institute of Rural Management Anand (IRMA) at APCARL.

Poonam Malakondayya, Special Chief Secretary on behalf of the state government, and N. Biswas, Director, IRMA, signed the MoU on the formation of IRMA in the presence of the Chief Minister at a function held at the APCARL Conference Hall near the town of Pulivendula.

Speaking on the occasion, the CM said, "We have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with GCMMF (AM-UL) on 21-07-2020 with a view to further strengthening the rural economy." He said the AP Amul scheme was formally launched on December 2 in 400 villages in three districts by the AP Dairy Development Coopera-



Vijayawada Bishop T. Joseph Rajarao offers prayers at the replica of Bala Yesu at St. Paul's cathedral on the eve of Christmas celebrations in Vijayawada on Thursday. —DC

and 'Asara' schemes.

As part of the AP Amul project, the government has set up 9,899 dairy co-operative societies and is working to uplift the economic potential of rural women by using the infrastructure related to the dairy industry.

The AP Animal Husbandry Advanced Research Institute in Pulivendula set up in 2009 under the auspices of the then CM Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy at a cost of ₹250 crore on about 650 acres.

He said it was a great honour to have IRMA (Gujarat), one of the most prestigious educational institutions in India, set up at APCARL in Pulivendula as a continuation of the AP Amul project launched as part of its plans to make the rural economy self-sufficient. Mr Biswas, director, IRMA, said, "We are able to set up the IRMA in AP at APCARL for the first time in South India in line with the CM's aspirations."

## Naidu demands CBI probe into killing of Sneha Latha

DC CORRESPONDENT  
VIJAYAWADA, DEC. 24

Telugu Desam chief N. Chandrababu Naidu demanded a CBI inquiry to bring out the facts and to nab culprits responsible for the ghastly murder of Sneha Latha in Anantapur district.

He said burning her alive was as horrific as

Nirbhaya and Disha tragedies. He called up the parents of the victim and enquired about how the incident had happened. He said that the TD would agitate demanding stringent punishment for those involved in the inhuman incident.

Blaming the YSR Congress government's

negligence for such atrocities, Naidu alleged that over 400 horrific attacks were committed on women, girls and even minor girls in the State and the CBI should conduct a comprehensive probe into all of them.

Addressing a press conference here on Thursday, he wondered why Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan

Mohan Reddy did not go to Anantapur to initiate immediate action and to console the aggrieved family even though he is currently touring the neighbouring Kadapa district.

He said "Had Jagan Mohan Reddy responded and taken stern action against the culprits after the first two or three inci-

dents, the law and order situation would not have slipped into this sorry state. Strangely, he is not opening his mouth on atrocities being committed on women. He spoke about how concerned he was for the safety of girls since he too had daughters but he was not taking action against perpetrators of atrocities."

## HC STRIKES DOWN SINGLE JUDGE ORDER

DC CORRESPONDENT  
VIJAYAWADA, DEC. 24

The Andhra Pradesh High Court on Thursday struck down a single judge order that directed the Registrar (judicial) to resolve problems being faced by advocates in listing cases.

Earlier, reacting to complaints of advocates, Justice M. Venkata Ramana directed Alapati Giridhar, the Registrar, to list cases on dates as dictated by judges and take steps to avoid trouble to advocates in getting their cases listed. He warned of severe legal action against the Registry if his orders were not implemented.

However, a division bench comprising Chief Justice J.K. Maheshwari and Justice J. Uma Devi took objection to the single judge order and struck down the same. In a rare event, the CJ also threatened to slap a fine on advocate P.V. Ramana who tried to argue that the single judge order was to address the problems faced by the advocates.

The Bench felt that Justice Venkata Ramana should have called the Registrar and discussed the issue before passing orders.

## Isro releases 1st set of data related to Chandrayaan-2

DC CORRESPONDENT  
NELLORE, DEC. 24

The Indian Space Research Organisation released the first set of data pertaining to Chandrayaan-2 Moon mission for users on Thursday. Additional details are provided at the Indian Space Science Data Centre (ISSDC) portal <https://www.issdc.gov.in> and data may be downloaded. Quoting <https://pradan.issdc.gov.in>.

The public release of the data archived at the ISSDC in Bylalu, near Bengaluru is prepared in the standard, globally followed Planetary Data System 4 (PDS4) format. According to Isro, its Science Data Archive (ISDA) holds data sets acquired by seven instru-

ments on board Chandrayaan-2 payloads from September 2019 to February 2020. Data sets from IIRS payload will be added to this shortly. India's second mission to the Moon was launched on July 22 last year from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Shriharikota. An orbiter which was injected into the lunar orbit on September 2, 2019, carrying eight experiments to address many questions on lunar science.

Chandrayaan-2 data are required to be in Planetary Data System-4 (PDS4) standard and required to be peer reviewed scientifically and technically before acceptance as PDS archives and declared ready for sharing with the global scientific community, general public.

**VETERINARY COUNCIL OF INDIA**  
(Statutory body of the Government of India)  
A-Wing, August Kranti Bhawan,  
Bhikaji Cama Place, New Delhi-110066

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
(VCI Counseling for admission in Veterinary Colleges under 15% VCI Quota)

It is hereby informed that Online Registration for Veterinary Council of India counseling for admission to B. V. Sc. & A.H course under 15% All India Quota in the recognized Veterinary Colleges for the academic year 2020-21 will be commenced from 31st December, 2020. The counseling and allotment of seats will be online and based on the merit in the National Eligibility cum-Entrance Test (NEET-UG-2020).

The list of Veterinary Colleges, number of seats, schedule of Online counseling, registration fee etc. can be downloaded from the website: [www.vcicounseling.nic.in](http://www.vcicounseling.nic.in) & [www.dahd.nic.in](http://www.dahd.nic.in), [www.vci.dadfi.gov.in](http://www.vci.dadfi.gov.in).

Sd/- (Dr. Vinod Bhat)  
Secretary (Addl. Charge) VCI  
Davp 01222/11/0001/2021

ADVERTORIAL

## Uttar Pradesh emerges as an economic hub with Policies to attract investors

In the post-COVID-19 national economic scenario, Uttar Pradesh is most likely to emerge as a great economic hub as the Yogi Adityanath government has been working on attracting investments with more flexible and investor-friendly policies. Economic achievements during the COVID-hid period testify the assertion as the government allotted 420 acres of land to the industrial units coming with investments of approximately Rs. 6700 crore and employment potential for more than 1.35 lakh workers.

## During Pandemic Investments of Rs. 45,000 crore attracted

As a result of pro-investor policies and willingness to further tweak regulations to suit industries, the state could attract new investments worth Rs. 45,000 crore from companies from 10 countries, including Japan, the USA, the UK, Canada, Germany, South Korea. As much as 43% of these proposals, worth Rs. 14,900 crore, has so far been firmed up on ground.

## German footwear major starts production in Agra

In the first week of November, famous German footwear major Von Wellx operationalized two shoe-making units in Agra. Von Wellx, earlier having operations in China, has shifted two of its shoe-making units to Agra. These units have been set up in partnership with India's Latric Industries Group at the Export Promotion Industrial Park (EPIP) in Agra. A total of around 2,000 employment avenues have been created in these units. Von Wellx would invest around Rs 300 crore in phases in three projects in the state, generating around 10,000 jobs. Von Wellx had announced in May that it would be shifting its entire production of three million pairs of shoes from China to India.

## Proposed investments

Investments that have already been firmed up include Rs 750 crore from



the Hiranandani Group for a data centre in Noida. The foundation for the data centre was laid in the last week of November. Another investment of Rs 300 crore from Britannia Industries to set up an integrated food processing unit in Barabanki, Rs 750 crore from Associated British Food (AB Mauri) (UK) for a yeast manufacturing facility in Chitrakoot and Rs 200 crore from Dixon Technologies have also firmed up. Surya Global Flexi Films has given investment proposals for 953 crores, Acagrat Inc of Canada is to invest Rs. 746 crore, Edison Motors (S. Korea) will invest Rs. 750 crore in electric mobility in its first phase. In next phases its total investments could

reach Rs. 3,500 to 5,000 crore while Yazaki (Japan) is to invest Rs 2000 crore.

## Film City in Noida adjoining Yamuna Expressway

The government is also getting developed a film city in 1,000 acres near Noida. MSME Park, Electronics Park, Apparels Park, Handicrafts Park and Toy Park are also proposed in the same area. These projects are likely to attract investments to the tune of Rs. 40,000 crore with employment potential of 2.5 to 3 lakh workers.

## Leather Parks

The UP government is promoting a Leather Park in Agra on the Agra-Jaipur Highway (NH-11) for finished Leather Goods or Footwear/ Shoe

Industries. It is being developed with sectoral layout in an area of approx. 283 Acres at cost of USD 328 million. In the first phase, 71.07 Acre of land is being developed and various sizes of plots like 1000, 2100 and 4000 Sq. Mtr are available for industries. Technical assistance from Central Footwear Training Institute (CFTI) & Central Leather Research Institute (CLRI) is also available to the industrial units here.

Meanwhile, the government has announced another mega leather park in Ramaipur village of Kanpur with an investment of Rs 5,850 crore. The park, that is part of the mega leather cluster project, is likely to create 50,000 direct and 1.5 lakh indirect job opportunities. Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath is likely to lay the

foundation stone of the project soon. The mega leather cluster project is likely to attract an investment of about Rs 13,000 crores.

## Samsung's largest mobile factory

It may be recalled that UP is the home to the world's largest mobile factory. It was set up by Samsung in Noida. The unit has a capacity of fabricating 120 million phones a year. It makes 10 million phones a month, 70 per cent of which are earmarked for domestic usage.

## Fifth largest employment generator through MSME

During the Covid-19-hit period, the state emerged as the fifth largest employment generator through MSME units. The ranking was recently released by the Reserve Bank of India. The RBI ranked states on the basis of employment data in MSME units during the COVID-19-impacted period. Only Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh are ahead of UP in this regard. Government's flagship ODP scheme has played a major role in this achievement. Even smaller districts have become employment-generating centres with the help of ODP scheme.

## Skill Mapping of Returnees

A big achievement of the state government has been the skill mapping of returnee workforce. More than 30 lakh skilled workers were mapped. Of these, more than 11 lakh have been linked with suitable economic sectors.

## 7,000 industrial licenses being issued every month

The kind of efficiency brought about in the regulatory systems may be seen in the fact that the UP Government is issuing more than 7000 licenses and NOCs every month for starting new industrial units and other business needs. All this has been done through the single-window portal "Nivesh Mitra" that currently offers 166 services related to 22 departments. Starting 58 new services on Nivesh Mitra by the end of November is also in the process.

## Expressway projects running ahead of schedule

Bundelkhand Expressway is likely to be ready ahead of the schedule as more than 21% of civil work in the 296-km-long expressway has already been finished despite the coronavirus pandemic. According to UPEIDA CEO Awanish Awasthi, the draft proposal for seeking expression of interests for the PPP agreements for the proposed Ganga Expressway has been approved by the board and it would soon be forwarded to the state cabinet for approval. Also, the UPEIDA will open offices in Kanpur and Aligarh to facilitate investors in defence industrial corridor.

## UPSIDA to monitor progress on 117 MoUs

The Infrastructure and Industrial Development Department (IIDD) of UP government has identified and mapped 117 Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) to 13 nodal officers from UP State Industrial Development Authority (UPSIDA) for tracking progress and facilitating its implementation. The MoUs were signed between the investors and the state government during the Investors' Summit in February 2018. Meanwhile, with the continuous support and assistance from the nodal officers, projects with investments worth Rs 770 crore have successfully commenced commercial production.

## Quick Investment Promotion Policy 2020

The Yogi Adityanath government has recently introduced new Quick Investment Promotion Policy 2020 for Backward Areas. Attractive incentives are being given under the policy for setting up industrial units in East UP, Central UP and Bundelkhand where a high number of skilled workers have returned from other states during the COVID-19-induced lockdown. Also, for faster processing of investment proposals, a help desk has been created under "Invest UP", the new framework set up for promotion of investments.



# DECCAN Chronicle

25 DECEMBER 2020

## PM's platitudes at AMU play up contrast to reality

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's speech at the centenary celebrations of Aligarh Muslim University the other day offered Indians a reassurance that this nation belongs to all of its citizens, that India is on the path of progress and that no citizen would be left behind because of their religion. "Everyone would get equal opportunities so that everyone can fulfill their dream," the Prime Minister told the young people, and through them, to the nation, rekindling the spirit of the speech the first Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru delivered on January 24, 1948, months after India's Independence and days before the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi. "The basic objective," Pandit Nehru had said, "is to build up a free India of high ideals and noble endeavour where there is equality of opportunity for all and where many variegated streams of thought and culture meet together to form a mighty river of progress and advancement for her people." Mr Modi went on to say, quoting the university's founder Sir Syed, that "for the body to remain healthy, every body part should be healthy." Mr Modi also urged people not to look at everything from a political lens.

One may have points of difference with the Prime Minister when he compartmentalises politics and development but none would quarrel with him when he says nobody would be left behind because of their religion as the nation makes progress. All that one would doubt is whether the Prime Minister is reflecting the realities his fellow citizens experience in their daily lives. Uttar Pradesh, where the AMU stands, has a different story to tell. The recently introduced, patently discriminatory, anti-conversion law that militates against the basic tenets of our Constitution has been used indiscriminately against interfaith couples. It's nothing less than horrendous to learn that the Uttar Pradesh police have arrested 17 persons under the provisions of the law when the Allahabad high court, and several other high courts, have made it abundantly clear that the state has no business intervening in the decision of two adults on how they would live their lives. The fundamental rights to equality, life and religious freedom are violated by the state even as the Prime Minister wants to remind us that we have a shared future.

The Central Bureau of Investigation recently chargesheeted four persons for the gangrape and murder of a teenage dalit girl in Hathras in the state. It may be recalled only with trepidation that a very senior police official of the state had stated that there was no rape in the case as no semen was found in the body of the victim, displaying extreme insensitivity and complete ignorance of the law. The same state police had burnt the body in the dead of the night against the wishes of her family, sending all right thinking people to doubt whether Indian laws are in force in the state or not when it comes to minorities and dalits.

When the Prime Minister of the world's largest democracy speaks of equality, then everyone has a duty to listen to him and work towards fulfilling that ideal. It must be a national endeavour, and not a national pastime.

## Curtains for Netanyahu?

Will it be curtains for the artful survivor Benjamin Netanyahu who will soon be facing an even greater existential crisis? His former allies Naftali Bennett of the Yamina party and Gideon Saar, who broke away from the Likud party to set up his "New Hope" party, are setting their sights on March 23, 2021, the day of reckoning in the fourth election in two years, as an ideal opportunity for them to dethrone the longest serving Israeli Prime Minister.

Endearingly called "Bibi", the master political strategist has been brought down this time as an unorthodox coalition between his right wing Likud and Benny Gantz heading the centrist Blue and White party gave way under the weight of near impossible contradictions. The two rivals had been brought together in May 2020 to resolve a 17-month political stalemate after Israel's top court had ruled that Mr Netanyahu could head a government while under indictment for corruption charges.

Glowing in the benign warmth of his friend Donald Trump at the White House, Mr Netanyahu had prospered in the eyes of the world as his country wiped away years of solemn history to gain the diplomatic recognition of four Arab states. A prominent face in Bibi's last election campaign had been Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi whose friendship the Israeli had flaunted to win votes and remain in power amid the political minefield that Israel has become in its Left and Centrists versus the Right politics that has been dragging the country into bitter electoral battles, which are known not to yield clear mandates.

Indicted for fraud, breach of trust and graft in a series of scandals involving quid pro quo with wealthy media moguls, Bibi has displayed phenomenal dexterity. The court ominously said its legal ruling did "not diminish the severity of pending charges for violations of moral integrity". Blame it on the times we live in but leaders with conflicts against the highest moral and ethical standards seem to constitute the "New Normal" on the world's stage. It is in standing up to the coronavirus sweeping nations across the globe that they seem to be failing.

### DECCAN CHRONICLE

**KAUSHIK MITTER**  
Editor

**K. SUDHAKAR**  
Printer & Publisher

DECCAN CHRONICLE offices are located at:

**Hyderabad:** 36, Sarojini Devi Road, Secunderabad - 500 003, Ph: 040-27803930-4; Fax : 040-27805256  
**Vijayawada:** No.C-3 & 4 Patamata, Industrial Estate, Auto Nagar, Vijayawada (A.P.), Ph: 0866-2555284/2555287; Telefax: 0866-2555234

**Visakhapatnam:** Survey No.1/3A Beach Road, Near Kailasagiri Ropeway, Sector-9 MVP Colony, Visakhapatnam - 530 017 (A.P), Ph: 0891-2552333/2552334; Fax: 0891-2755285

**Rajahmundry:** Vemagiri, Dhawaleswaram Rd, Rajahmundry, Ph: 0883-2417618/2417208; Telefax: 0883-2417208

**Anantapur:** Thapovan colony, Bangalore By-Pass Road, Anantapur - 515004, Ph: 08554-276903; Fax: 08554-276904

**Karimnagar:** Survey No.1341, Vavilalpalay Colony, Jagityala Road, Karimnagar - 505 001, Ph: 0878-2228908; Telefax: 0878-2220433

**Nellore:** Survey No.527/2, Burranpur Village, Venkatachalam (M), Chennudugunta Panchayat, Nellore, Ph: 0861-2348581/82; Telefax: 0861-2348580

**Chennai:** SP-3 Developed Plot, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai - 600 032, Ph: 044-22254747/48/50/51; Advt Fax: 22254765/22254766/42305325

**Coimbatore:** 77, Vivekananda Road, Rammagar, Coimbatore - 641 009, Ph : 0422 2231255  
Gram: CHRONICLE Postal registration no: No. H/SD-348/2006-08

Subhani



## Christmas, like Diwali, is a special day in India



Karan Thapar

As I See It

Something I have always been proud of is the fact that India celebrates Diwali, Christmas as well as Id. Regardless of our faith, we keenly anticipate each occasion and participate with enthusiasm. There aren't many countries that can make a similar boast.

The Gymkhana, Rotary and Lions Clubs across the country hold special Christmas tea parties for their members' children. There is always a Santa Claus, dressed in red, with a straggly white beard and a discordant ho-ho-ho! Most of us can sing *Jingle bells* and many can hum *Silent Night*. And no matter how many they make, our bakeries always run out of Christmas cake. The truth is that Christmas in India may be different but it's also special. Christmas is as much our festival as it is that of the majority Christian world. Unfortunately, however, the Narendra Modi government neither understands this nor respects it.

If a report put out by the ANI news agency and published by a number of leading newspapers turns out to be correct, "the Bharatiya Janata Party is planning to dedicate December 25, the birth anniversary of former PM Atal Behari Vajpayee, to farmers". The report suggests that the Prime Minister will make this announcement on Christmas Day itself when he will also speak on the controversial issue of the new farm laws.

Frankly, this would be terrible. It would be reprehensible and deplorable. It amounts to a blatant and unforgiveable

breach of India's valued tradition of respecting every religion. Worst of all, it ignores the fact that Christmas is as important a festival in India as it is for the countries of Europe and America.

Unfortunately, this will not be the first time that the Modi government has denigrated Christmas Day by trying to convert it into something else. Narendra Modi had barely been in power for six months when in December 2014 he decided to designate Christmas as Good Governance Day. That, too, was done in memory of Atal Behari Vajpayee. Because December 25 is Vajpayee's birthday the Modi government feels it can designate the day in any way it wants. The fact that it is Christmas Day is either secondary or irrelevant.

This logic is not just bizarre, it's offensive. December 25 is Christmas Day, first and foremost. Vajpayee's birth on that date was a coincidence. It cannot take priority or prominence over the birth of Jesus Christ. Nor can India's farmers, who are the purported excuse for the new dedication this year.

If you disagree with me, just ask yourself a simple question — would Narendra Modi dare to designate Diwali or Holi as Good Governance Day or dedicate it to India's protesting farmers? Even the thought of it would not occur to him. Why? Because, as a Hindu, he knows too well that this would deeply upset his co-religionists.

Why then as the Prime Minister of a secular country does he feel free to proclaim Christmas as Good Governance Day? Or, as ANI sug-

gests, dedicate December the 25 to India's farmers? Nothing could hurt our Christian brothers and sisters more. Our Prime Minister should be protecting and defending their emotions and sentiments, not wilfully and repeatedly disregarding them.

In 2014 the Archbishop of Bengaluru publicly questioned why Christmas had been chosen as Good Governance Day. The government's response was that it happens to be Atal Behari Vajpayee's birthday. What the government did not address was the obvious next question — is that a sufficient reason for redesignating the holiest day in the calendar for Christians? The same question will occur again if today is dedicated to India's farmers. And I'm pretty sure we'll probably get the same hurtfully dismissive reply.

The irony is that were he alive Atal Behari Vajpayee would be as upset as I am. He would not applaud the government. Instead, he would lacerate it with his stinging criticism. He was, after all, a secular man with great respect for Christians. He would hate to be the excuse for this affront to them. And although I have not checked with her, I do not believe this would please Vajpayee's daughter Namita either. Let me make one further point. This year the attempt to redesignate Christmas is likely to be more hurtful to India's Christians than the 2014 redesignation as Good Governance Day. This is because fear of the virus

**This year the attempt to redesignate Christmas as Atal Behari Vajpayee's birthday is likely to be more hurtful to India's Christians than the 2014 redesignation as Good Governance Day**

has already changed the character of this special day. We may not be locked indoors as the British are, but we are equally fearful of congregating in churches or celebrating in large family gatherings. For many Christmas is likely to be spent "home alone". Redesignating Christmas Day will only increase the sense of loss.

Again, this is something that Mr Modi's government should readily understand. Diwali was no different for India's Hindus. The virus ruined it for tens, if not hundreds of millions. But on that occasion the government was only too aware of the need to lift spirits. Why is that not the case now?

I know mine is not a lone lament. Millions — indeed the vast majority — of my countrymen are likely to echo my concern. For them, the sanctity of a day of God is beyond questioning. Then why are our politicians silent? If I recall correctly, in 2014 I did not hear a clear protest or even criticism from the Congress Party. I suspect this year too its voice will be silent. But why? I really want to know.

If there is a politician in India who understands the importance of Christmas and what it means to Christians, it has to be Sonia Gandhi, who was born a Catholic. Yet she said nothing in 2014 and I fear that could be the case again.

Today, I wait to see if the India I am so proud of is changing for the worse. I so much want to be proven wrong. In fact, I would really like the day to end with readers of this column proclaiming that I was terribly mistaken. This is one occasion when I sincerely want to be totally incorrect... well, we'll soon know.

Finally, and if it's not too late, Merry Christmas.

*The writer is a television commentator and anchor*

### LETTERS

#### WELFARE SCHEMES

States implementing welfare schemes without generating matching revenue are falling a prey to the draconian reforms of the Centre which will have a back-breaking effect on the people. While welfare schemes help poor people in a certain way, they cannot be fed in the long run. Taking advantage of the financial status of the states, the Centre is going the whole hog forcing the reforms which will have a debilitating effect.

**D.S.P. Rao**  
Kakinada

#### PV'S REFORMS

This refers to your editorial *BJP's new politics fails to get off the ground in J&K (DC, Dec. 24)*. The decision of the mainstream J&K parties for contesting and coming together putting aside their differences is welcome and appreciated. The polls are a sign of victory for democracy in the region. It needs to be seen as a launching pad towards normalisation in J&K.

**Dr Shankar Chatterjee**  
Hyderabad

### 50 YEARS AGO IN

## DECCAN Chronicle

#### NGRI devises cheap aerial survey for minerals

By a staff reporter

HYDERABAD, DEC. 24.

The National Geophysical Research Institute here has developed instrumentation and methodology for air-borne magnetic surveys for mineral reconnaissance, this saving for the country considerable foreign exchange.

Dr. Hari Narain, Director of the Institute, told a news conference today that highly sensitive and sophisticated instruments developed and perfected in the Institute were now having good demand, both among the sister research institutes in the country and the Universities.

The Director also claimed that the Institute was now in a position to undertake aerial survey for mineral location at a cost which would be one-fifth of what the American Survey Team had charged or what had been quoted by the French Party which was due to undertake an air-borne survey early next month.

Matt Ridley



## Why the mRNA vaccines could revolutionise medicine soon

Almost 60 years ago, in February 1961, two teams of scientists stumbled on a discovery at the same time. Sydney Brenner at Cambridge University and Jim Watson at Harvard independently spotted that genes send shortlived RNA copies of themselves to little machines called ribosomes where they are translated into proteins. "Sydney got most of the credit, but I don't mind," Watson sighed last week when I asked him about it. They had solved a puzzle that had held up genetics for almost a decade. The shortlived copies came to be called messenger RNAs — mRNAs — and suddenly they now promise a spectacular revolution in medicine.

The first Covid-19 vaccine given to the British people earlier this month is not just a welcome breakthrough against a grim little enemy that has defied every other weapon we have tried, from handwashing to remdesivir and lockdowns. It is also the harbinger of a new approach to medicine altogether. Synthetic messengers that reprogramme our cells to mount an immune response to almost any invader, including per-

haps cancer, can now be rapidly and cheaply made.

Katalin Karikó, the Hungarian-born scientist who doggedly pursued the idea behind this kind of medication for decades at the University of Pennsylvania before joining BioNTech, and her collaborator Drew Weissman may be the Watson and Brenner of this story. They figured out 15 years ago how to send a message in a bubble into a cell and have it read. For years they had tried putting in normal RNA and found it did not work; the body spotted it was an alien and destroyed it.

But by subtly modifying one of the four letters in the message (replacing uridine with pseudouridine, a chemical found in some RNAs in the body anyway), they made a version that escaped the attention of the cell's M15 agents. Further refinements five years ago produced a recipe that worked reliably when delivered to cells inside a tiny oily bubble. The pandemic is the first time the technique has been tried in anger, and it worked: the first two Covid vaccines, BioNTech's and Moderna's, rely on these messengers.

The message tells the cell to make

part of one of the virus's proteins which then alerts the body's immune system. Once invented, the thing is like a general-purpose vaccine. You simply rewrite the message between the same opening and closing sequences, put it in the same kind of bubble, and fire it off — almost as easy for genetic engineers these days as writing a text is for teenagers. It is faster, cheaper, safer and simpler than the old ways of making vaccines.

More conventional vaccine designs may still make a vital contribution to defeating the pandemic, Oxford's included. And the messenger method has its drawbacks, such as the need for extreme cold storage. But in the long run, messengers probably represent the future of vaccines. Now the principle has been approved by regulators, there may be no need to go through the same laborious and expensive three-phase clinical trials every time.

What if 2020 went down in history as the year synthetic biology dealt a mortal blow to future viruses?

What is more, at the cost of a few billion dollars, the world may now be able to build a library of messenger

vaccines for every plausible coronavirus and influenza virus with pandemic potential we can find, test them in animals and store the recipes on a hard disk, ready to go at a moment's notice. Moderna's vaccine was first synthesised in mid-January, before we even knew the coronavirus was coming out of China.

There are already improved variations on the messenger theme too: self-replicating messengers, for example. Vaccine development has long been the Cinderella of pharmaceuticals, and this would not have happened without the pandemic. But nor would it have happened without the 30-year scientific slog Dr Karikó undertook.

A fast, adaptable vaccine platform has long been the dream. Let's try it against hepatitis, Zika and several kinds of common cold. We may begin to do to viruses what we have already done to most intestinal worms, many blood parasites and not a few bacteria: abolish them from the human experience. If the message is the recipe for a protein characteristic of particular tumours, the immune system may learn to mount a devastat-

ing attack on a cancer. How about Alzheimer's?

There will be setbacks, side effects and unintended consequences. There always are with innovation. There will be scares based on false fears spread by unscrupulous cranks. Already some worry that these vaccines might cause infertility. It's nonsense, but with just enough plausibility to alarm some people.

One problem we will probably face if this RNA dream comes true is a rise in allergies, asthmas and autoimmune problems. These are caused by the loss of parasites which used to suppress our immune systems. The more infections we get rid of, the more likely we are to get intolerant reactions to things like pollen and gluten. But then messenger vaccines may also be a way to tackle these and teach the immune system to behave.

What if 2020 went down in history as the year synthetic biology dealt a mortal blow to future viruses and illnesses in general, rather than the year a virus ruined our health, well-being and livelihoods?

*By arrangement with the Spectator*



IN BRIEFS

ED attaches ₹1.8 cr FDs in Kerala case

**New Delhi:** The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has attached assets worth ₹1.85 crore, including those of former Kerala principal secretary M. Sivasankar, in connection with its money laundering probe in the alleged Kerala gold smuggling case, the agency said on Thursday. "Fixed deposits along with seized cash recovered from the bank lockers totalling to ₹1.85 crore have been attached. Among the attached assets, ₹1 crore belongs to M. Sivasankar, IAS and former principal secretary to the Chief Minister of Kerala," the agency said in a statement.

'TOY TRAIN' RESUMES IN DARJEELING

**RAJIB CHOWDHURI | DC KOLKATA, DEC. 24**

Nearly nine months after its shutdown due to the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic, Toy Train, an integral part of Darjeeling and also a world heritage known for its "Joy Ride", will be back on its track in the hills from Christmas on Friday with three daily services. North East Frontier Railway chief public relations officer Shubhanan Chanda said, "Consequent upon the permission received from the West Bengal govt to resume the "Joy Ride" train services; NFR authorities decided to re-start some of the services which had to be suspended due to outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic since last week of March." He added, "Three daily services of the "Joy Ride" train will presently run w.e.f. 25th December between Darjeeling to Ghum & back to Darjeeling with stoppage for passengers at Batasia loop for 10 minutes to visit Batasia Eco Garden & Gorkha War Memorial and 20 minutes stoppage at Ghum."

Chilly morning



People sit around a bonfire to warm themselves during a cold and foggy morning in Gurugram on Thursday. Bitter cold conditions persisted in most parts of north India as the minimum temperatures hovered well below the normal limits at several places in Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan. — PTI

NO DEMOCRACY IN INDIA, SAYS RAHUL GANDHI

**DC CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI, DEC. 24**

Congress leaders led by Rahul Gandhi met President Ram Nath Kovind on Thursday to demand the repeal of the three new farm laws. Gandhi said that his delegation met the President with two crore signatures demanding that he intervene and the new farm laws be taken back. "We told the President that the laws are anti-farmer and that farmers and labourers will suffer due to them. The government said these laws are in favour of the farmers, but the country is seeing that farmers are against these laws," Gandhi said.

The march led by Gandhi to the Rashtrapati Bhavan was stopped by the police and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra along with several other party leaders were taken into custody and driven away in buses to the Mandir Marg police station.

Only Gandhi, Ghulam Nabi Azad and Adhir Ranjan Chaudhary were admitted to meet the President.

After meeting the President, Gandhi launched a scathing attack on Prime Minister Narendra Modi saying that there was no democracy in India. "There is no democracy in India. If some of you think there is, then it's in your imagination... PM Modi is making money for crony capitalists. Whoever will try to stand against him will be called a terrorist — be it farmers, labourers and even Mohan Bhaugwat," he said.

Centre extends fresh invite to farmer unions

**SANJAY KAW | DC NEW DELHI, DEC. 24**

The Centre on Thursday extended a fresh invite to protesting farmer unions for talks, but made it clear that it would not be logical to include any new demand related to minimum support price (MSP) in the agenda, adding that it was out of the purview of three new agriculture laws. The Centre said that the new laws have no connection with the price regime nor would they have any impact on the procurement of farm produce at fixed rates.

In a three-page letter addressed to the Sankhyukt Kisan Morcha, an umbrella body of 40 farm unions, agriculture ministry's joint secretary and CEO PM-Kisan Vivek Aggarwal said, "This has been told to the unions in every discussion and it has also been made clear that the government is ready to give written assurance on MSP. Any new demand related to MSP, which is out of the ambit of farm laws, is not logical to include in the talks. As informed earlier, the government is ready to discuss all the issues raised by farmer unions."

The letter from the Centre comes just a day after the farmer asked the government to stop repeating meaningless amendments and offer a concrete proposal in writing for another round of talks. The government had earlier written to the farmers' unions on Sunday, inviting them for the sixth round of talks as per their convenience.

PM TO CREDIT FUNDS TO 9-CR FARMERS TODAY

**DC CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI, DEC. 24**

As the protests against recently-passed three farm laws grow louder, the BJP will dedicate the birth anniversary of its patriarch and former Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee on Friday to the farmers with Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressing them and transferring ₹18,000 crores to the accounts of 9 crore farmers under PM Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana. To make the event grand, the BJP leadership has instructed its leaders, MPs, MLAs and office-bearers in its state units to invite farmers to all the districts and state offices to listen to the Prime Minister's address and it should be widely publicised.

Aggarwal's letter said, "I again request you that the government has been discussing all issues with an open heart and good intention to end the protest, and will continue to do so."

India, UK discuss vaccine

Oxford, AstraZeneca seek permission to roll out shots

**VINEETA PANDEY | DC WITH agency inputs NEW DELHI, DEC. 24**

Union health and family welfare minister Dr Harsh Vardhan held discussions with his British counterpart Matt Hancock on the issue of new mutated SARS-CoV-2 virus in the United Kingdom. The issue of vaccines was also discussed in the meeting held on Wednesday evening. "Held an insightful virtual interaction with Secretary of State for Health and Social Care of UK, Rt Matt Hancock, yesterday. We discussed strengthening India-UK ties

in health sector, India's preparedness for rolling out Covid-19 vaccine and new variant of SARS-CoV-2 in UK. I said that while Covid-19 vaccine development has been expedited, protocols ensuring its safety & efficacy have not been compromised, India has vast experience in producing vaccines, we are committed to making the Covid vaccine affordable & accessible to people across the world," Dr Harsh Vardhan said in a series of tweets.

The University of Oxford and AstraZeneca, that is making the Covid-19 vaccine, have submitted a full data package to

the UK health regulator and sought permission to roll out their vaccines. "I'm delighted that the @UniofOxford/@AstraZeneca vaccine, developed in the UK, has submitted its full data package to the @MHRAGovuk for approval. This is the next step towards a decision on the deployment of the #coronavirus vaccine," UK Health Minister Matt Hancock said in a tweet.

The Covid-19 vaccine by Pfizer-BioNTech was the first to be authorised for use by the UK and has already been given to over five lakh people since last month. Even as India is ready

to procure international vaccines, it is keen to join the global teams that have their vaccines and is looking at the international market to push its indigenous vaccines that are still under development.

The New Delhi based AIIMS on Thursday invited volunteers for the Phase III clinical trial of the indigenously developed Covid-19 vaccine candidate 'Covaxin' for one of the sites.

"This is a whole-virion inactivated vaccine co-sponsored by Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Bharat Biotech," AIIMS said in an advertisement.

WORLD

SHORT TAKES

15-YRS' JAIL TO HAFIZ SAEED IN ONE MORE CASE

**Lahore, Dec. 24:** Mumbai terror attack mastermind and Jamat-ud-Dawa (JuD) chief Hafiz Saeed was on Thursday sentenced to 15 years in jail by an anti-terrorism court in Pakistan in one more terror financing case. The court also imposed 200,000 Pakistani rupees fine on him.

Saeed, 70, has already been convicted for 21 years imprisonment in four terror financing cases of late. Now, Saeed will have to undergo collective imprisonment of over 36 years in five terror financing cases at the Kot Lakhpat Jail Lahore. His punishment will run concurrently in these cases.

BODIES OF 20 MIGRANTS RETRIEVED

**Tunis, Dec. 24:** Tunisia's coastguard on Thursday retrieved the bodies of 20 migrants from sub-Saharan Africa after their boat capsized at sea, a spokesman for the defence ministry said. Five other migrants who were on board were rescued, ministry spokesman Mohamed Zekri said, adding that a search operation was underway.

Zekri did not give further details, but said the rescue operation took place off the port of Sfax in central Tunisia. Khaled Hayouni, a spokesman for the interior ministry, said the boat was heading to Italy from the Sidi Mansour district of Sfax when it sank.

More than 40 people were on board the makeshift boat, Mourad Turki, a spokesman for the Sfax court, said.

ETHIOPIA GUNMEN KILL MORE THAN 100

**Addis Ababa, Dec. 24:** Gunmen killed more than 100 people in an attack on Wednesday in western Ethiopia, the national human rights body said. The Ethiopian Human Rights Commission (EHRC) said survivors had "disturbing photo evidence of the attack" which started in the pre-dawn hours "on sleeping residents" in the region's Metekel zone.

UK, EU clinch post-Brexit free trade agreement

Details to emerge in next few days with final ratification by both Parliaments

**London, Dec. 24:** The deal is done, Downing Street in London and European Union (EU) officials in Brussels confirmed on Thursday as both sides managed to thrash out a post-Brexit free trade agreement (FTA) just days before the December 31 deadline. Thousands of pages of legal text accompanies the deal, with details of the agreement set to emerge in the course of the next few days, including the final ratification of the FTA by Parliaments on both sides.

"We have got Brexit done and we can now take full advantage of the fantastic opportunities available to us as an independent trading nation, striking trade deals with other partners around the world," Downing Street said in a statement. "We have signed the first free trade agreement based on zero tariffs and zero quotas that has ever been achieved with the EU. The deal is the biggest

bilateral trade deal signed by either side, covering trade worth GBP 668 billion in 2019," it said, adding that the UK has taken back control of its "money, borders, laws, trade and our fishing waters".

"The deal also guarantees that we are no longer in the lunar pull of the EU, we are not bound by EU rules, there is no role for the European Court of Justice and all of our key red lines about returning sovereignty have been achieved. It means that we will have full political and economic independence on 1st January 2021," Downing Street declared.

On the other side, the EU said it has a good deal to show for the "long and winding road". "We have finally got a deal, a fair and responsible deal," European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen said at a press conference from Brussels.

"The EU rules and standards will be respected... the United Kingdom is a

long-standing partner," she said, adding that while "parting was such sweet sorrow" it was time to look to the future as the UK is now classified as a "third country" in relation to the economic bloc.

Earlier, it had emerged that crunch talks overnight meant UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson summoned his Cabinet for a late Wednesday night conference call to indicate that a post-Brexit trade agreement is ready to be signed off soon. Johnson and Von Der Leyen have been in close contact over the past few days as the

December 31 transition period cut-off loomed over the negotiations, which have missed repeated deadlines as they failed to agree on key areas of fishing rights in each other's waters and competition rules that would apply to the UK as a non-member of the 27-member economic bloc.

According to early reports, both sides have come to a base agreement which would ensure most of the current tariff-free, quota-free arrangement but unlikely to mean entirely frictionless trade as businesses had hoped. The UK Parliament needs to ratify the deal and as it has already risen for Christmas break, the likelihood is that MPs will be recalled to the House of Commons next week for urgent business. Johnson's comfortable majority in the Commons means the deal is likely to be signed off in time. On the EU side, the European Parliament would then ratify the agree-

ment, which is expected in the New Year and with all the member-countries briefed on it, they are unlikely to exercise their veto powers. It has now been four and half years since Britain voted to exit the EU in a referendum in June 2016.

It officially left at the end of January this year and entered into an 11-month transition period, or a phase of status quo, to hammer out a new free trade agreement.

However, the last few months and weeks have proved particularly tense on the path to such an agreement, with the UK concerned about the EU's insistence to close alignment to its rules even after Brexit and the EU accusing the UK of expecting unfair advantages. The main sticking points were fishing rights and the so-called "level playing field" — measures to prevent what is seen as unfair competition through the lowering of standards or the use of state subsidies. — PTI

DRAGGED FROM CAR BY HAIR, WOMAN SUES

**Chicago, Dec. 24:** A woman who says she was yanked by her hair from a car by Chicago police during a shopping mall encounter has filed a federal lawsuit against the city.

Mia Wright, 25, and four family members claim their civil rights were violated and asserts the May confrontation left her blind in one eye from flying glass caused by police breaking the windows of the car to get to its passengers. "During this attack, Mia Wright could not breathe and was in paralyzing fear as her face and neck were smashed against the concrete ground," — AP

CHRISTMAS | CHAOS

Since poll loss, Prez rarely seen in public

No Christmas vacay for Trump

**Washington, Dec. 24:** An enraged Donald Trump helicoptered off the White House lawn for one of the last times in his presidency Wednesday, leaving Americans chaos as a Christmas present. The Republican was bound with his wife Melania for a vacation at his lavish Mar-a-Lago resort in Florida.

From Marine One, the first couple must have got a magnificent view on a clear, wintry day of the White House, decorated in chocolate box fashion with Christmas wreaths and red ribbons at every window.

But with the clock ticking to Joe Biden's January 20 inauguration,

there won't be too many more occasions to enjoy the experience.

And Trump, consumed by election conspiracy theories, abandoned by allies and determined to take opponents down with him, is not exactly in a merry mood. Crises engulf the man supporters call "disrupter in chief" ("chaos president") to his critics.) What's more, most of them are of his own making.

Trying to overturn the result of the election. Unexpectedly refusing to sign a massive economic relief bill for Americans struggling from coronavirus fallout, insisting at the last

moment that it be rewritten. — Choosing to say nothing, other than to play it down, about what senior officials and members of Congress describe as a devastating Russian cyberattack.

Vetoing just before he left for Florida the bill funding the US military. — Declaring war on top members of his own party who dare concede that Biden won. Yet for all

his bluster, the larger than life showman who for four years held the media, his party and the entire country in thrall now cuts a diminished figure. Normally, the departure on Marine One from the South Lawn of the White House has been a favorite stage for Trump to act out his flamboyant press conference performance art routine.

Boasting, ad-libbing, entertaining and insulting, Trump used to love nothing more than "chopper talk" with journalists jostling to hear the world's biggest media star against the roar of an idling military helicopter. — AFP

**EAST COAST RAILWAY**  
Tender No. 30205755, Date : 16.12.2020  
NAME OF THE WORK: OIL COOLING BLOWER UNIT COMPLETE WITH CASING AND BLOWER FOR 3 PHASE LOCOS.  
INSPECTION BY RITES (QUANTITY-10 Nos.) NOTE : Material to be supplied within 120 days.  
On and time of opening of tender: 20.01.2021  
Complete details available in website <http://www.ireps.gov.in>.  
Sr. Divisional Materials Manager, Waltair  
PR-437/L/20-21

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
The General public is hereby informed that my client P. Swapna Kumari is intending to purchase the below mentioned schedule property from N. Chellayamma by availing loan from PNB Housing Finance Ltd. The Said property was acquired by N. Chellayamma vide Registered Gift Deed bearing document No. 4902 of 2020 from N.G. Kalyan Chakravarthi and N. Lokesha.  
In case if any person(s) or institution has any kind of right / claim or interest over the above property, they may contact the undersigned with the objections in writing within 7 days and objections if any received thereafter will not be considered.  
**SCHEDULE PROPERTY**  
House bearing D.No.18-484, land admeasuring 68 Sq.yards consisting of ground and first floor covered by survey No. 63/381 situated at Chinagadili Village, Visakhapatnam SRO District and bounded as:  
**North:** AP Transco Boundary Wall, **South:** 20 Ft Road, **East:** Property of Ch. Srinivas Rao, **West:** Others Site.  
**P. PAPA RAO,** Advocate  
#51-14-27/2, Kranthi Nagar, Seethamadhara Visakhapatnam, Cell: 9866330337

**PINNACLE CLASSES**  
Target for IIT JEE Mains/Advanced (2021/2022) Short Term/Long Term (Maths) Zoom Online Classes & IIT Foundation (VIII, IX & X) Olympiad (Maths)  
**9692141412**

**CHANGE OF NAME**  
KM BOCHA JASMITHA PRANAVI daughter of Army No.15325736H Rank LNK BOTCHA NARASIMHULU residing at H.No.125 Main Road Thammayyavalasa (Village), Tenlam (Mandal), Vizianagaram (Dist) A.P.- 535126 have change my name from **KM BOCHA JASMITHA PRANAVI** to **BOTCHA JASMITHA PRANAVI** vide affidavit dated 17/09/2020 before advocate Sri G.L.Lakshmunaidu GOMS No.2235 notary public Vizianagaram Dist. A.P.

For Advertisements Contact : **0891-2728282**

**CLASSIFIEDS**  
**RENTALS COMMERCIAL**  
**CENTRALLY LOCATED** 32 years old 50 bedded hospital at NIZAMABAD with Arogyasri empanelment for ortho-polytrauma with facilities for cardiology cathlab ICU with RO plant for urology etc invites SPECIALISTS on sharing or FOR RENT PART/TOTAL AREA contact drkaulaiah 9396422311, 9399953339 (R/2021/C00004)  
**EDUCATIONAL DISTANCE EDUCATION**  
ONLY FOR Educational Consultants/ Academies. No Advance Fee. Students please no call. Contact for Verifiable + Fast Track: Graduation(15,000)/ B.Ed.-M.Ed.-NCTE Recognised (30000)/ BBA-MBA-BCA-MCA(20-25,000) from Government University.WES Documentation & Attestation Support Available.47-years Educational Experience. Shiksha  
Bharti.Varanasi.Mobile: 9519759663, 9915103781.Email: shikshabharti88@yahoo.com (HYMM/2021/C05127)  
**FILM**  
**URGENTLY REQUIRED** Hero, Heroins, Friends, Character and Dubbing artists, children, villains, singers. All age group character required immediately: 9391154732. (S/2021/IC00124)  
**NOTICE**  
Readers are advised to make appropriate enquiries while responding to advertisements in these columns. Decan Chronicle Holdings Ltd. does not vouch for any claims made by the Advertisers. The Printer, Publisher, Editor and Owner of Decan Chronicle Holdings Ltd. shall not be held responsible / liable for any consequences, in case such claims are found to be false.



