

DECCAN Chronicle

THE LARGEST CIRCULATED ENGLISH DAILY IN SOUTH INDIA

CHENNAI | WEDNESDAY 31 | MARCH 2021

WEATHER



Max: 37°C
Min: 28°C
Rainfall: Nil

ASTROGUIDE

Sarvari: Panguni 18
Tithi: Thrithiyai
Star: Swathi/ Visagam
Rahukalam:
12 noon to 1.30 pm
Yamagandam:
7.30 am to 9 am
PRAYERS
Fajar: 4.55 am
Zohar: 12.18 pm
Asar: 3.29 pm
Maghrib: 6.20 pm
Isha: 7.32 pm
SUNSET TODAY 6.21 PM
SUNRISE TOMORROW 6.06 AM
MOONRISE TODAY 9.05 PM
MOONSET TOMORROW 8.58 AM

CORONA COUNT

CASES	DEATHS
(+53,043)	(+355)
1,21,48,405	1,62,502

covid19india.org

STATE GOVERNMENT BULLETINS

(+2,342)
TN: 8,84,094 12,700

WORLD CONFIRMED CASES

12,85,56,276

DEATHS

28,09,226

COUNTRIES, AREAS WITH CASES
219

worldometers.info

Fire in slum cluster in Delhi, around 60 shanties gutted

New Delhi: Around 60 shanties were gutted in a fire that broke out in a slum cluster in Delhi's Bawana area on Tuesday, officials said. No injuries were reported, they said. According to the fire department, a call about the fire at JJ Colony in Bawana was received around 12.35 pm. Fifteen fire tenders were rushed to the spot, it said. An autorickshaw and bike, parked in the area, also caught fire, the officials said. The flames were doused by 2 pm and the cause of the fire is being ascertained, the fire officials said. — *PTI*

AstraZeneca shots halted in parts of Germany for under-60s

Berlin: Several health authorities in Germany announced Tuesday that they are again suspending the use of AstraZeneca's coronavirus vaccine for residents under age 60 amid fresh reports of unusual blood clots in people who recently received the shots. The medical regulator said it had received a total of 31 reports of rare blood clots in recent recipients of the AstraZeneca vaccine .

WHO experts report says it has 'not yet' found source of Coronavirus

Beijing/Geneva: A team of WHO experts, which probed the origin of the novel Coronavirus, said that it has""not yet"" found the source of the deadly virus and called for further studies to find answers to questions, including allegations that it could have emanated from a bio lab, need to be addressed. The report of the international team which visited the central Chinese city of Wuhan, where the virus was first reported in December 2019.

COUNTER POINT



Just to be on the safe side, I want to record all your promises!

STATE | 2

Communist leader Nallakannu tests positive



NATION | 3

Mamata woos Nandigram voters



SPORT | 8

Pant named Delhi captain



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Modi slams Cong-DMK over remark against CM's mother

Dharapuram, March 30: In a veiled attack, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday dubbed former union telecom minister A Raja, as an 'outdated 2G missile' of the Congress and DMK and slammed him for insulting the mother of Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami and targeting Tamil Nadu women.

Without naming Raja, Modi in his election rally here said Congress and DMK have launched their 'outdated 2G missile' and this missile has one clear target, the women of Tamil Nadu.

"A few days back, this missile was launched by UPA with a clear order to attack the nari shakti of Tamil Nadu." Today Congress and DMK have insulted the respected mother of Tamil Nadu Chief Minister K Palaniswami, he alleged.

"God forbid, if they come to power, they will insult many other women of Tamil Nadu." Days ago, in his campaign, Mr Raja allegedly spoke in an offensive manner over the birth of Mr Palaniswami and the ruling AIADMK lodged a police complaint and a case has been registered against him.

Asking the Congress and the DMK leaderships to control their party leaders, the PM said the people of Tamil Nadu are noting everything and they would never toler-



Prime Minister Narendra Modi waves at crowd during a public meeting in support of their NDA candidates for Tamil Nadu Assembly polls, at Dharapuram, in Tirupur district, on Tuesday. — *PTI*

ate insult to the women of the state.

The agriculture sector is in need of urgent reform and modernisation and the government has initiated reforms that would free the small farmers from the pressure of middlemen, the Prime Minister said.

In his poll campaign here, he invoked Tamil classic *Thirukkural* and said one common theme in it was respect for farmers.

The world must follow the farmers as farming is the base and farmers are the linchpin of the world for they support all others who cannot till the land, he said quoting the *Kural*. — *PTI*

Campaigning for second phase of polls ends in Bengal

Kolkata, March 30: Campaigning for the second phase of West Bengal assembly poll ended on Tuesday, setting the stage for the voting in 30 constituencies spread across four districts on April 1.

The fate of 171 candidates will be decided in the second phase by 75,94,549 voters who will exercise their franchise in 10,620 polling booths spread across the 30 constituencies, the Election

Commission sources said.

All the booths where polling will be held in the second phase have been declared as "sensitive" by the EC, sources in it said.

It will deploy total 651 companies of Central Armed Police for this phase of election which will be held in Bankura, Purba Medinipur, Paschim Medinipur (Part II) and South 24 Parganas, they said. — *PTI*

LDF govt 'betrayed; people of Kerala just as Judas did to Jesus: PM

DC CORRESPONDENT THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, MARCH 30

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday hit out at the CPI(M)-led LDF government in Kerala, accusing it of betraying people in the manner in which Judas deceived Jesus Christ.

Addressing his first election meeting in Kerala in Palakkad, the Prime Minister said if Judas deceived Jesus for a few silver coins, the Pinarayi government betrayed the people for gold, referring to the gold smuggling case involving the chief minister's former principal secretary, Metroman E. Sreedharan is the BJP candidate in Palakkad. Mr Modi also raised the Sabarimala issue accusing the LDF government of unleashing lathis on innocent devotees who were fighting for the protection of traditions, customs and rituals. He was referring to the agitation of Hindutva outfits, including the BJP, which protested against the LDF government's decision to implement the SC verdict on allowing women of all ages in the hill shrine. ■ **P3**

Ex-MP calls Rahul 'unmarried trouble-maker', courts controversy

Idukki(Ker), March 30: As campaigning for the assembly polls reached feverish pitch in Kerala, former MP Joyce George courted a controversy by making alleged derogatory remarks against Congress leader Rahul Gandhi in

connection with the latter's interaction with students of a women's college in Kochi last week.

George, who had won as the CPI(M) supported independent during 2014 Parliament election from Idukki, made highly objec-

tionable comments against the Nehru scion while addressing an election rally at Irattayar here on Monday.

Distancing himself from the comments, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said the LDF's stand is not

to personally attack Gandhi. "We will oppose him politically not personally", Vijayan told reporters in Kasaragod on Tuesday. Attacking the opposition Congress-led UDF and Rahul Gandhi in particular, George said

Gandhi would visit only women's colleges and the girls should be "cautious" while dealing with the former Congress President. "Girls never bend down in front of him.. he is an unmarried trouble maker," he alleged. — *PTI*

Double peace in Afghan must to make it durable, says Jaishankar

Dushanbe, March 30: India on Tuesday underlined that for ensuring durable peace in war-torn Afghanistan, genuine "double peace" -- peace within the country and peace around it -- was essential. Addressing the 9th Heart of Asia Ministerial Conference here in Tajikistan's capital, Dushanbe, external affairs minister S. Jaishankar highlighted that it requires harmonising the interests of all, both within and around Afghanistan.

For a durable peace in Afghanistan, what we need is a genuine "double peace", that is, peace within Afghanistan and peace around Afghanistan. It requires harmonising the interests of all, both within and around that country, Jaishankar tweeted. "If the peace process is to be successful, then it is necessary to ensure that the negotiating parties continue to engage in good faith, with a serious commitment towards reaching a political



External affairs minister S. Jaishankar with Tajikistan President Emomali Rahmon in Dushanbe on Tuesday. — *PTI*

solution," he wrote. "Today, we are striving for a more inclusive Afghanistan that can overcome decades of conflict. But that will happen only if we stay true to principles that Heart of Asia has long embodied.

"Collective success may not be easy but the alternative is only collective failure," Mr Jaishankar tweeted on the three key points he suggested at the meeting, also attended by Afghan President Ashraf Ghani

and Pakistan Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi.

Last week, Mr Jaishankar said that India would like to clearly see a sovereign democratic and inclusive Afghanistan that takes into account the interests of its minorities. "There is something called the peace and reconciliation process and everybody else is saying that the Taliban is reaching out and changing etc. Let us wait and watch," he had said. — *PTI*



IMRAN HARPS ON KASHMIR IN REPLY TO MODI

Islamabad, March 30: Prime Minister Imran Khan has written a letter to his Indian counterpart Narendra Modi, saying creation of an "enabling environment" is imperative for a constructive and result-oriented dialogue to resolve all outstanding issues between Pakistan and India, in particular the Jammu and Kashmir issue.

Mr Khan's letter was in reply to Mr Modi's letter to him last week to extend greetings on the occasion of Pakistan Day. In his letter, Mr Modi had said that India desires cordial relations with Pakistan but an atmosphere of trust, devoid of terror and hostility, is "imperative" for it. — *PTI*

HC prescribes counselling to parents of same-sex partners

Chennai, March 30: The Madras high court has asked the parents of two women, who were in a live-in relationship, to subject themselves to counselling by a specialist in the field, to face the matter wisely. Justice N Anand Venkatesh, who gave an interim order on Tuesday, hoped that the parties will work towards a peaceful resolution.

"What is required for the present is an understanding of the issue in hand," the judge said.

He was passing orders on a petition from the women, seeking protection for their living together without any disturbance from their respective parents. While one of them was 22 and pursuing MBA, the other woman, 20, was an undergraduate student.

They were natives of Madurai district and were in a relationship for about two years.

They told the judge their friendship blossomed into love and that they were

very clear that both of them will be a partner to each other for life. But, their parents did not like this. They exerted pressure on them to separate. The women left Madurai and were presently under the care of a city-based NGO.

Before passing the interim order, the judge said he personally spent time in doing some research and collected materials to arrive at a proper understanding of this issue. — *PTI*

OCI card holders need not carry old passports for travelling to India

Washington/New York, March 30: People of Indian origin and the Indian diaspora having Overseas Citizens of India (OCI) cards are now not required to carry their old, expired passports for travel to India, according to a government notifica-

tion that has been welcomed by the community.

The Indian missions in the US said in order to ease the travel of OCI card holders, it has been decided that the time line for re-issuance of OCI cards has been extended to 31 December, 2021. — *PTI*

PRESIDENT STABLE AFTER CARDIAC BYPASS SURGERY

New Delhi, March 30: President Ram Nath Kovind on Tuesday underwent a cardiac bypass surgery at the AIIMS here, a statement issued by the Rashtrapati Bhavan said.

The surgery was successful and his condition is stable, it said.

"The President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind underwent cardiac bypass surgery today morning (March 30, 2021) at AIIMS, New Delhi. Surgery was successful. He is stable and is being closely monitored by a team of senior doctors," the statement said. The president was shifted to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) on Saturday. Kovind, 75, had undergone a health check-up at the Army Hospital (R&R) here following chest discomfort Friday morning. — *PTI*

had been fighting a protracted legal battle since 2009 when she filed a case under the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act before the metropolitan magistrate's court. The trial court had directed Mr Arul to pay compensation to Jennifer Arul and all the higher courts had upheld that decision.

While giving him two to three week to pay the money, the Supreme Court had pointed out that the man had not complied with even a single order of courts.

The couple were married in 1972 and Mr Arul, according to his wife, deserted the family in 1997. She told *Deccan Chronicle* that Mr Arul, who is now 75 years, was leading a luxurious life with a German woman from Munich in a huge mansion in Muttukadu.

The two of them owned five companies and Mr Arul had diverted every bit of the family's wealth

into his live-in partner's possession, she said.

A few years ago, David Arul, son of Michael and Jennifer, had also filed a case against his father for illegally selling a prime ancestral property, measuring eight grounds and 2177 square feet, on Pantheon Road.

That property was actually bequeathed to David Arul by his grandmother, Mabel Arul, who is the daughter of legendary plantation owner A.V. Thomas.

OTHER STORIES

Lockdown scare:
Migrants start
returningDC CORRESPONDENT
TIRUCHY, MARCH 30

The Tiruchirapalli railway junction was jammed with North Indian labourers waiting to catch the Howrah Express to reach their north Indian destinations following rumors spreading across the state that the state government could introduce a second lockdown in the wake of the spreading Covid-19 second wave.

The north Indian labour groups are working in and around Tiruchy and its neighbouring districts in various fields like brick manufacturing units, agricultural fields and small-scale industrial units. They had closed their jobs and packed all of their house-hold belongings and other personal things and engaged mini-lorries to reach the railway junction.

As the train reached the station, the entire crowd got into the train which left jam-packed from the station. The Howrah Express passes through Tiruchy every Friday and Tuesday, and a similar crowd was witnessed even last Friday, railway sources said.

Tangedco
commercial
assistant held for
accepting bribeDC CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI, MARCH 30

A commercial assistant with Tangedco was caught red-handed by the Kanchipuram DVAC sleuths on the charge of accepting bribes.

The arrested official was identified as Saravanan, commercial assistant, Tangedco, Karunkuzhi, Chengalpet district. According to sources, he demanded ₹5,000 for EB connection for the complainant's newly constructed house.

As the victim did not want to give bribe, he approached the Vigilance & Anti Corruption, Kanchipuram Detachment and gave a complaint. He mentioned that Saravanan, commercial assistant, Tangedco, Karunkuzhi, Chengalpet district, demanded a bribe amount of ₹5,000 for processing his application for EB connection.

In this connection a case was registered. On Tuesday, the DVAC sleuths laid a trap and caught Saravanan red-handed. He was arrested on the charges of demanding and accepting bribe money of Rs 5,000. An unaccounted amount of Rs 7,000 was also seized from the corrupt officer.

The arrested official was identified as Saravanan, commercial assistant, Tangedco, Karunkuzhi, Chengalpet district. According to sources, he demanded ₹5,000 for EB connection for the complainant's newly constructed house

Candidates endear
themselves to votersG. BABU JAYAKUMAR &
D. SEKAR | DC
CHENNAI, MARCH 30

DMK President M K Stalin's sudden assurance to State government employees that they would get their salaries on time if the DMK returned to power is a master stroke aimed at capturing the votes of the specific group in one go.

In a tweet on Tuesday, Stalin said that at present, for the past two years, the government employees were not getting their pay on time and that there was some confusion on uploading their salary details on the internet.

His pointing out that in many places even the salary for the month of February has not been paid is likely to make an impact on the particular group of people, whose numbers could be substantial.

Similarly, other candidates, too, are endearing themselves to small groups of voters with promises to implement

Saidapet AIADMK candidate Saidai S Duraisamy calls up at voters at their homes and engages in conversation with the children and youth. He normally questions them on their aspirations and counsels them on career choices

specific schemes that would be beneficial to the particular group.

For example, BJP's Harbour constituency candidate Vinoj Selvam chatted up with the people in Elephant Gate area during his campaign and found out that they do not have proper toilet facilities.

So, he told the people of the slum areas that he would build toilets for all of them from his own money if he was elected from the constituency.

Saidapet AIADMK candidate Saidai S Duraisamy calls up at voters at their homes and engages in conversation with the children and youth. He nor-

mally questions them on their aspirations and counsels them on career choices.

He even offers them counselling at the Manithaneyya Academy that offers training for aspirants of various government jobs, including the civil services. His professional career guidance to youth and children helps him endear himself to the voters.

Actress Khushboo, who is contesting from Thousand Lights, during her campaign trail in Mambalam area sat down with fish vendors and also in tea shop owners to discuss their issues. She also promised to help them out

with their grievances once she became an MLA.

Sitting DMK MLA representing Tambaram, S R Raja, stepped into a gym in Chembakkam and spoke to those doing their exercises there. He assured them that if he was elected again he would develop more sporting facilities in the locality.

Another way adopted by some candidates to impress on the voters is to travel by ordinary mode of transport, particularly in these times when all top leaders address people from open vans fitted with loudspeakers.

So, C V M A Ezhilarasan, sitting DMK MLA from Kanchipuram, goes around the constituency driving an auto rickshaw himself. He would stop the vehicle at some points and then walk up to the people and seek their votes.

Makkal Neethi Maia candidate from Kolathur constituency, Jegadeesh, goes through the streets in a motorbike, accompanied by other motorcyclists.

EC flying squad
seizes ₹1.26cr
unaccounted cashDC CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI, MARCH 30

Unaccounted cash worth ₹1.26 crore was seized by the Election commission's flying squad in three different incidents in Kanchipuram district.

On Tuesday morning, the EC flying squad which was engaged in a regular vehicle check intercepted a car near Ponnerikarai in the Kanchipuram district. On checking the officials found ₹7.5 lakh cash with no proper legal documents. The officials seized the cash and handed it over to the Kancheepuram RDO Rajalakshmi. Upon further enquiries, the RDO deposited the cash into the Government Treasury. In the second incident, around ₹17.5 lakh unaccounted cash was seized from a van in the district. The EC squad officials, during a vehicle check near the Sriperumbudur bus stand, stopped a van.

It was found that the van carried bundles of unaccounted cash. While the persons in the vehicle said that the cash was being carried to a nearby bank ATM, they failed to produce legit documents. And they were later handed over to the EC flying squad for further enquiries. The flying squad seized ₹17.5 lakhs of notes from the seized vehicle.



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GCC commissioner G. Prakash inaugurates mega size balloon at Ripon Buildings on Tuesday to create voting awareness.

— DC

Online petition by activists against
anti-women statements goes viralT. SUDHEESH | DC
CHENNAI, MARCH 30

An online petition initiated by city-based activists against anti-women statements by political leaders, demanding an amendment of the model code of conduct has gone viral in the high-octane election season.

Launched in change.org by Swarna Rajagopalan, Prajnya Trust, along with Bader Sayeed, Sujata Mody and A.C.R. Sudarol, the petition has been signed by 2,337 people in the last couple of days and it is counting.

According to the petitioners, the petition came out after a statement of anchor Dindigul I. Leoni a few days ago who was campaigning for DMK candidate Karthikeya Sivasenapathy at Coimbatore.

Mr. Leoni said that

women's hips were like a 'barrel' since they were drinking milk of foreign cows. In the public meeting, a clip of which went viral the other day, he added: "There are several types of cows and the milkman will get milk from the foreign cow using machines. The women and children became 'bloated' after drinking that milk."

Sending a complaint to the Chief Election Commissioner and Tamil Nadu election officer, the petitioners pointed out that since political parties do not have the will to act against such behaviour, they were appealing the Election Commission of India (ECI) to take action, by amending the Model Code of Conduct.

"The model code, though prohibits caste or communal comments and provocations and forbids candi-

dates from insulting each other, stipulates no stringent provision with regard to comments against women and gender minorities. We ask you to add such a provision to penalise offenders.

The candidates, who discredit women in the name of election campaigns, deserve no right to be representatives of the people. Justification of hate speech by their supporters is an equal offence. We think democracy without gender equality is incomplete and imperfect. So we want a ban on misogynistic, homophobic and transphobic speech. Candidates who were charge-sheeted or convicted of sexual and gender-based violence and harassment should be barred from contesting elections," the petition adds.



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MNM president Kamal Haasan along with actress Radhika campaigning for candidates at Bethaniyapuram in Madurai on Tuesday. — DC

Communist and DMK leaders test positive; TN records 2,342 fresh cases

G. BABU JAYAKUMAR &
D. SEKAR | DC
CHENNAI, MARCH 30

Nonagenarian Communist leader R Nallakannu and DMK senior functionary M R K Panneerselvam testing positive for Coronavirus added to the fears over the resurgence of Covid-19 case in the State, which recorded 2,342 fresh cases on Tuesday, particularly in view of the festival and election public gatherings.

While Nallakannu was staying at home, he suddenly developed breathing problems and was taken for testing. He was admitted to the Rajiv Gandhi Government General Hospital as he tested positive.

Panneerselvam, who is the DMK candidate from Kurlinipadi constituency in Cuddalore district, was actively involved in the campaign till about two days ago. Since he is also the party's district secretary he was fully involved in party work and he was a bit casual as he had already taken the first dose of vaccine.

However, when he became weak a couple of days, he went for the test, which gave

Koyambedu stall shut
showing false Covid resultsDC CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI, MARCH 30

Amid a surge in Covid-19 cases, a fruit stall in Koyambedu market was shut after allegedly providing false Corona test results by the corporation authorities.

Dhanavel Hari, a fruit merchant, alleged that the corporation authorities provided false positive results to three of his employees who underwent the Covid-19 test.

"On Saturday the corporation authorities told me over the phone that three

out of five staff in my shop had tested positive and they would send an ambulance to admit the trio. When I asked them for a copy of the result, they refused to provide it. I doubted their intention and sent the three staff to a private lab result, they discharged the employees from the hospital. However, my shop remained sealed by the authorities for the last couple of days. They have still not allowed us to open the shop", he said.

Meanwhile, a zonal offi-

cial said they would check how it happened and they had collected samples from five people. Results of two are still awaited. After getting results of those samples, a decision will be taken whether to open the shop", said the official.

It may be recalled that Koyambedu vegetable market was shut down in last April after it emerged as a Covid-19 cluster. Soon, the authorities shifted the flower and fruit markets from Koyambedu to other places. It was reopened in September after five months.

DMDK's Mohan Raj (Salem West) and Makkal Needhi Maiam's Santhosh Babu (Velachery) and Ponraj (Anna Nagar) have been out of action due to Coronavirus infection. DMDK's youth wing lea-

der L. K. Sudeesh too was hospitalised after he tested positive for coronavirus, impeding the party's campaign.

Political parties, too, are concerned about the spread of the virus and DMK is said to have told its grassroots level campaigners to avoid crowding and going around the constituencies in jeeps. T

hey had urged them to go for door-to-door canvassing in small groups.

The crowding at the campaigns and political rallies was also an issue that was discussed at the high level meeting of top government officials, presided by Chief Secretary Rajiv Ranjan, on Tuesday.

The meeting decided to ensure that all officials taking up election duty were vaccinated and urged the district collectors and the Chennai Corporation Commissioner to look into it.

Since festivals and election campaigns were happening in an increased manner, the meeting stressed on the need to ensure that Covid prevention protocols were strictly adhered to by the participants of the events.

Emphasising on the need for 'Covid appropriate behaviour' like wearing of facemasks, maintaining social distancing, washing of hands and so on, the meeting placed the onus of ensuring it on the organisers who obtain permission for such functions /events/activities.

Among the other things that the meeting decided on was to increase RT-PCR testing in all parts of the State, tracking down contacts, isolating those who test positive and also provide them treatment.

Apart from those who were in touch with infected persons, those with influenza like illness and severe acute respiratory illness should also be compulsorily tested for Covid-19, the meeting decided.

Efforts to reduce the fatality rate – Tamil Nadu reported 16 deaths on Tuesday – and revive the Covid Care Centres that functioned in the early days of the pandemic were also discussed. Also it was decided that people in the age group of 45 to 59 with no comorbidities should also be vaccinated.

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited
Regd. Office: PSEB, Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001
Corporate Identity Number: U40109PB2010SGC033813 | Website: www.pspcl.in
(Contact No. +91 96461-17606)
E-Tender Enquiry No: 20/MM-IBMC-335(X)/JO&M/GHTP/2021 dated 26-03-2021
Office of Dy. Chief Engineer, Mech. Mtc. Circle-I, G.H.T.P., Lehra-Mohabbat, Dist. Bathinda (Punjab) Pin-151111. Email:- sc-mm-c-lehra@pspcil.in, contact No. 90461-17606. Fax No.0164-2756255 invites E-Tender for Routine, preventive, breakdown maintenance and overhauling jobs (Mechanical works) of Pressure Parts, Wind Box and Burners, Air Pre-Heaters, SCAPHs, ESPs, Aux. PRDS, Ducts, Dampers & Gates, Coal pipes, Soot Blowers, Safety valves, H/P/L piping and manual valves, Fuel firing system (including fuel oil pump house) etc. of Boilers of 2x210 MW and 2x250 MW BHEL make Units of GHTP, Lehra Mohabbat. For detailed NIT & tender Specifications, please refer to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from 26-03-2021 from 05:00 PM onwards.
NOTE: Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>
GHTP-16/21 RO No PR-Advt. No.- 76155/12/184/2021/3212

NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE
The Chief Signal & Telecom Engineer/Const./Baroda House/New Delhi/Deputy Chief Signal & Telecom Engineer/Const./PS/DRM office, Northern Railway, New Delhi for and on behalf of the President of India invites open e-tender for the following work:-
Mode of Tender E-Tender (Single Packet)
Tender Notice No. TENDER No. 570-Sig-PS-Tender-113
Full name of work Signaling work of addition and alteration at Anand Vihar station in connection with Part Commissioning of 3rd and 4th line between Sahibabad-Anand Vihar and indoor and outdoor RRI work at B-Panel between ANVR-B-Panel in Delhi Division of Northern Railway."
Approx. cost Rs. 263.09 Lakh
Completion period 06 (Six) Months
Earnest money amount NIL
Sale/availability of tender document on Rly. Website Tender documents will be available on IREPS website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in from 31.03.2021 to 20.04.2021 upto 11:30 hrs.
Last date/Time of upload of tenders 20.04.2021 upto 11:30 hours. Tender documents can be uploaded by the tenderer on IREPS website w.e.f. 15.04.2021
Date and time of opening of tender 20.04.2021 at 11:30 hours (immediately after close of uploading of tender (D2). In case of two packet system, Financial bids of the eligible tenderers would be opened subsequently on the date & time to be notified later on
Detailed tender notice and tender documents Above tender document will be available on ireps website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in from 31.03.2021 against e-tender the bidder who desires to participate against e-tender, are advise to register themselves on the above website for which, they would be required to, obtain classid digital certificate (If already not obtained) issued by CCA under IT Act-2000.
No. 570-Sig/PS/Tender/113 Dated :- 30.03.2021 725/2021
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

SHORT TAKES

MANIPUR GOVT
RETRACTS ORDER
ON REFUGEESMANOJ ANAND | DC
GUWAHATI, MARCH 30

In what has led to serious embarrassment for the Manipur government, it has been compelled to withdraw an administrative order barring district administrations and civil society organisations from opening shelters or providing food to refugees from Myanmar who may have crossed the border following the ongoing military action against the agitating civil society protesters against the coup. The state home department, in an order signed by Gyan Prakash on March 26, had stated that only medical attention could be provided in case of "grievous injuries" on "humanitarian considerations".

NANDED: 18
ARRESTED FOR
ATTACK ON COPSBHAGWAN PARAB | DC
MUMBAI, MARCH 30

The police have arrested 18 people for the violence and an attack on policemen at Nanded. They have also registered a case against 410 people for attempting to take out a Holi Mohalla procession outside Sachkhand Gurudwara without permission. According to police, an FIR has been registered under IPC sections for attempt to murder, causing grievous hurt and rioting. The situation around the gurudwara in Nanded is tense but under control at present.

NIA SEIZES LUXURY
CAR REGISTERED IN
WASE'S NAMESHAHAB ANSARI | DC
MUMBAI, MARCH 30

The National Investigation Agency on Tuesday seized a high-end car apparently registered in the name of arrested Mumbai Police officer Sachin Waze from Navi Mumbai. The probe team had been looking for this Mitsubishi Outlander SUV for the last several days.

According to sources, the car was parked in Kamoth area of Navi Mumbai around 15 days ago. It was discovered after locals informed the police about the abandoned car.

Mamata woos
N'gram votersSays the people of Nandigram are
not to be blamed for her injuryRAJIB
CHOWDHURI | DC
KOLKATA, MARCH 30

Swinging into damage control mode in Nandigram, from where she is standing in the Assembly election, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee clarified Tuesday that the people of the area were not to blame for her leg injuries on March 10 evening.

The Trinamul Congress supremo, who broke her silence on the leak of her conversation with BJP leader Proloy Pal recently, also stood on her feet as the national anthem was being played, mustering courage for the first time in public in the last 20 days since the leg injuries put her into a wheelchair.

Before the campaign for the second phase polls ended, Banerjee said at Tenua in Nandigram, "After suffering injuries at Birulia, I found my feet swollen badly and blood dripping. The heel was badly injured. But the people of Nandigram are not to be blamed for my injury. I still believe some goons from outside this place planned the attack on me. Nandigram wants me. That is why I am fighting here."

Her latest version on the March 10 incident assumes significance as she held the locals responsible for her injuries in the past few days of the campaign. The injured CM, helped by some TMC leaders, was later seen rising from her wheelchair briefly to show her respect for the national anthem at the dais of her party rally.

Seeing their firebrand leader back on her feet, the TMC workers erupted in jubilation. Soon after Banerjee's campaign ended, TMC workers clashed with some BJP cadres in the area.



West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee at a rally on the last day of the campaign for the 2nd phase of Assembly polls, in Nandigram on Tuesday. — PTI

NOT NECESSARY THAT ONLY SITTING
MLA WILL BECOME CM: DILIP GHOSH

New Delhi, March 30: Claiming that a "strong undercurrent" for the BJP has now come to the surface in West Bengal, its state unit chief Dilip Ghosh on Tuesday exuded confidence that the party will form the next government in the state and said it is not necessary that only a sitting MLA will become the chief minister.

Ghosh, a sitting MP from Medinipur, asserted that the momentum "in favour" of the BJP will continue till the last phase. "After the first phase of polling only the BJP is confident of its victory, whereas the

TMC and its leaders are frustrated. As the election will progress, the trend set by the BJP in the first phase will gain momentum and with every phase of polling TMC workers will themselves realise their defeat," Ghosh said.

To a query on whether a sitting MLA will become the chief minister if the BJP wins, Ghosh, who himself is seen as a strong contender, said, "It is for the party to decide but it is not necessary a sitting MLA will become the chief minister.... when Mamata ji became chief minister she was not an MLA." — PTI

On the leak of the audio clip, which recorded her plea to Pal to work for her victory, the TMC chief angrily said, "I had some information that the person concerned wanted to talk to

me. I have every right to have that conversation as a candidate. What he did was a criminal offence. I am not at fault. I will not forgive those who backstabbed us here in Nandigram."

Maha names retd judge to
probe Param Bir's claim

Mumbai, March 30: The Maharashtra government on Tuesday set up a committee headed by a retired judge of high court to probe the corruption allegations levelled by former Mumbai Police Commissioner Param Bir Singh against state Home Minister Anil Deshmukh.

The one-member panel, to be headed by judge Kailash Uttamchand Chandiwal (retd), is given the time of six months to submit its report to the state government, an official order said.

In his letter to Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray, days after he was transferred

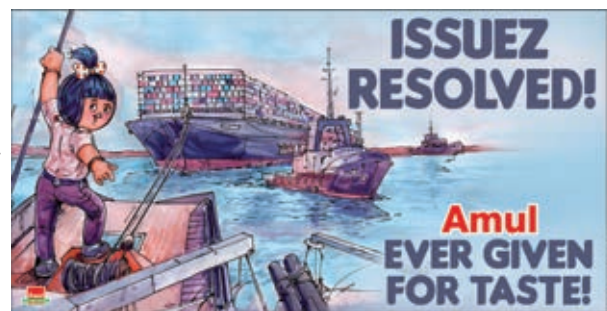
as Mumbai police chief before the end of his term, Singh alleged that Deshmukh had given a target to collect Rs 100 crore from bars and restaurants to Mumbai police officer Sachin Waze. Deshmukh had denied the allegations.

The NIA is probing the alleged role of Waze, who was arrested on March 13, in parking an explosives-laden vehicle outside the south Mumbai residence of industrialist Mukesh Ambani on February 25 and in the murder of businessman Man-sukh Hiran, who purportedly owned that vehicle. — PTI

Maharashtra: Lockdown
talk divides MVA leaders

Mumbai, March 30: The constituents of the Maha Vikas Aghadi government spoke in different voices on Tuesday on the need for a fresh lockdown in Maharashtra with some leaders of the NCP and the Shiv

Sena questioning the effectiveness of such strategy against the epidemic. NCP leader and Maharashtra Health Minister Rajesh Tope said imposing a lockdown is the last option for the state government. — PTI

LDF govt 'betrayed';
people of Kerala just as
Judas did to Jesus: PM

FROM PAGE 1

The Sabarimala temple customs prohibit the entry of women between the age of 10 and 50.

"I want to tell the LDF and the UDF, if you abuse our culture we will not remain silent spectators. Our state president Surendranji was arrested and ill-treated by the Kerala government. What was his crime? That he spoke for Kerala's traditions?" Mr Modi asked. He hit out at the

Congress-led UDF for remaining silent when devotees were being attacked by the police. "I am proud to belong to a party that has, is always and will always defend the culture of our land," he said. The Prime Minister came down heavily on the CPM over politics of violence. He said despite being in power for so long, some junior level leaders behave like anti-social elements. Political rivals are killed with their blessings.

FORM C-1

Declaration about Criminal Case

(As per the judgment dated 25th September, 2018, of Hon'ble Supreme Court in WP (Civil) No.536 of 2011 (Public Interest Foundation & Ors. Vs. Union of India & Anr.)

Name and address of candidate : Agri.S.S.Krishnamurthy

s/o. Sundaresan,
Elathur Village & Post, Kalasapakkam Taluk,
Tiruvannamalai District.

Name of Political Party : All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK)

Name of Election : Tamilnadu Legislative Assembly General Election - 2021

Name of Constituency : 066 - Polur

I, Agri.S.S.Krishnamurthy, a candidate for the above mentioned election, declare for public information the following details about my criminal antecedents:

(A) Pending criminal cases				
Sl.No	Name of Court	Case No. and dated	Status of Case (s)	Section (s) of Acts concerned and brief description of offence (s)
1	Hon'ble Supreme Court	CrI. Appeal No : 322/2017 dated 10.02.2017	(Detailed below)	(Detailed below)
(B) Details about cases of conviction for criminal offences.				
Sl.No	Name of Court & date(s) of order(s)	Description of offence(s) & punishment imposed	Maximum punishment imposed	
	Nil	Nil	Nil	

The CBCID Police, Tirunelveli has registered a FIR in Crime No. 1/2015 under Section 174 of Cr.P.C and it was subsequently altered to Section 120(B) of I.P.C., r/w. Section 7 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, r/w. Sections 109, 306 & 34 of I.P.C. and the same was numbered as P.R.C. No. 40/2015.

The CrI.O.P. (MD) No. 22379/2015 was filed by the candidate herein under Section 482 of Cr.P.C before the Hon'ble Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court and the said P.R.C. No. 40/2015 on the file of the Judicial Magistrate, Tirunelveli was quashed by an order dated 08.03.2016 of the Hon'ble Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court.

However, the State has preferred SLP No. 2688/2016 before the Hon'ble Supreme Court, challenging the said order and the SLP has been converted as Criminal Appeal No. 322/2017 and the same is pending.

KERALA | POLLS

Govt failed to meet aspirations of people: Cong

Priyanka launches attack on LDF

DC CORRESPONDENT
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,
MARCH 30

Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi on Tuesday hit out at the CPM led-LDF government for failing to meet the aspirations of the people of the state during its five year rule.

Gandhi who began her campaign in the state on Tuesday addressed a series of meetings in Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam and Alappuzha districts in support of UDF candidates. She said the LDF government had failed to provide 20 lakh jobs that it had promised to give to the youth after coming to power in 2016.

She said the LDF had sold off the fishermen interests and their means of liveli-



Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi arrives in poll-bound Kerala, at Kayamkulam in Alappuzha district. — PTI

hood for ₹5,000 crore to a US company while referring to the MoU signed by the government for deep sea trawling and ship building. The government

was later forced to scrap the MoU following widespread protests.

But the deal has exposed the government's real intentions.

Gandhi said the CPM-led government had failed to implement a reasonable support price for paddy, coconut and rubber. The cashew and coir sectors were in dire straits. She said the UDF would revive the state's economy and provide support price to the cash crops and paddy.

The Congress leader lashed out at the government for spending crores of rupees on advertisement to refurbish its image. "If you ask me where the government's money is going? I would say it is going for publicity, propaganda and advertisement," she said amid applause from people at Karunagapally.

The Congress general secretary addressed rallies in Kollam district and took part in road show at Kayamkulam.



Cyber scamsters carefully
set their trap,
Don't download or install
app from unknown source



Installing any app from an unknown
source can give fraudsters
remote access to your mobile phone



If you have downloaded such apps
delete them now. Also, keep a check
on your app, SMS, email alerts and
bank account statements

RBI Kehta Hai...
Jaankaar Baniye,
Satark Rahiye!



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Format C-7

(for political parties to publish in the newspapers, social media platforms & website of the party)

Information regarding individuals with pending criminal cases, who have been selected as candidates, along with the reasons for such selection, as also as to why other individuals

without criminal antecedents could not be selected as candidates

(As per the Commission's directions issued in pursuance of the Order dated 13.02.2020 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in contempt petition(C) no. 2192 of 2018 in WP(C) no. 536 of 2011)

Name of Political Party:BHARATIYA JANATA PARTY				*Name of the Election :TAMILNADU LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ELECTION -2021		_Name of State/ UT:TAMILNADU	
S. No.	Name of the Constituency	Name of the candidate	Criminal antecedents	The reasons for the selection of the candidate. Selection shall be with reference to the qualifications, achievements and merit of the candidate, and not mere "winnability" at the polls (not more than 100 words)	Reasons as to why other individuals without criminal antecedents could not be selected as candidates (not more than 100 words)		
1	39 - KANYAKUMARI	Shri. PON. RADHA KRISHNAN	a. Nature of the offences 1.Crime No.56/2021, ARUMANAI(P.S), 1.U/S.143, 188, 269 IPC and 3 of ED Act 1897 Allegedly Unlawful Assembly, Danger in public way, Nuisance, spread infection of disease, disobedience to quarantine rule, 2.Crime No.52/2021, SUCHINDRUM(P.S), U/S.143, 269 IPC and 3 of ED Act 1897 Allegedly Unlawful Assembly, Danger in public way, Nuisance, spread infection of disease, disobedience to quarantine rule 3.Crime No. 197/2019, THUCKALAY (P.S), 4AA(i)(a) r/w 4AA(4) TNOPD Act and 171(H) IPC, Allegedly Unauthorized disfigurement by Advertisements in open place, unnecessary restraint. b. Case No. charge sheet not filed c. Name of the Court: charge sheet not filed. d Whether charges have been framed or not (Yes/No): NO e. Date of conviction, if any: NOT APPLICABLE f. Details of punishment undergone, if any : NOT APPLICABLE g. Any other information required to be given: NOT APPLICABLE	The selected candidate is a very senior, sincere and dedicated party worker who has already been on various important positions in the party. He was also Served as Union Minister in the Central Government.	As a party worker and Eminent personality, he had an edge over other individuals considering the fact that whatever charges are alleged in the charge sheet have no adverse party believes that there will be no adverse outcome against the Alleged accused.		
2	18-HARBOUR	VINOJ P SELVAM	a. Nature of the offences 1)T-4, Maduravayal PS, Crime No. 1405/2020- u/s. 143, 188, IPC, r/w3 of ED Act1897. 2)C-3, Sevan wells PS, Crime No. 1415/2020- u/s.143,188,269 IPC. 3)C-3, Sevan wells PS, Crime No. 1491/2020- u/s. 143, 188, 269 IPC r/w 3 of ED Act 1897, and 51(b) of D M Act-2005 and 134 of TNPH act 1939 4)B-2, Espilanedu PS, Crime No. 1661/2020- u/s 143, 188, 269, IPC r/w 3 of ED act 1897 and 51(b) of DM act 2005 and 41(6) of TNCP act. 5)C-1, Flower Bazaar PS, Crime No. 38/2021-u/s143,188 IPC, 6)D-1, Thiruthani PS Crime No. 2727/2020 -u/s143, 341, 188,269,270IPC r/w51(a). (b)of D M act 2005, 7)Karur Town PS, Crime No. 1303/2020 u/s 143,341,269 IPC r/w 3 of ED act 1897 (all the cases Charge sheet not filed) b. Case no.: All the above said cases charge sheet not filed c. Name of the Court : All the above said cases charge sheet not filed. d. Whether charges have been framed or not (Yes/No) NO e. Date of conviction, if any NOT APPLICABLE f. Details of punishment undergone, if any: NOT APPLICABLE g. Any other information required to be given : NOT APPLICABLE	The selected candidate is a very senior sincere and dedicated party worker who has already been on various important positions in Party.	As a young and long time party worker he had an edge over other individuals considering the fact that whatever charges are alleged in the charge sheet have no substance and are purely with a vindictive approach and personal vendetta being waged by his political enemies. The case is long pending and party believes that there will be no adverse outcome against the Alleged accused.		
3	20-THOUSAND LIGHTS	Smt. KUSHBOO SUNDAR	a. Nature of the offences 1)D-1, Triplicane Ps. Crime No. 243/2018(AD) u/s 143, 188 IPC & 41(6) City Police Act. 2) Nungambakkam PS, Crime No.55/2021 (UJ) U/s 143,188,269,285 IPC r/w 41(6) city police act. 3)Veerapandi PS, Crime No.919/2020(UI) u/s 143,188,269 IPC r/w 3 of ED Act, 4)Kelambakkam Ps Crime No.3598/2020(UI) 151 CrPC. b. Case no.: charge sheet not filed c. Name of the Court : charge sheet not filed. d .Whether charges have been framed or not (Yes/No) : NO e. Date of conviction, if any: NOT APPLICABLE f. Details of punishment undergone, if any : NOT APPLICABLE g. Any other information required to be given : NOT APPLICABLE	The selected candidate is an Eminent person and dedicated party worker.	As a party worker and Eminent film personality, she had an edge over other individuals considering the fact that whatever charges are alleged in the charge sheet have no substance.Party believes that there will be no adverse outcome against the Alleged accused.		
4	63 - THIRUVANNA MALAI	S. THANIGAVEL	a. Nature of the offences 1)Tiruvannamalai PS, Crime No.1110/2008 in CC No. 394/217 JM(FTC) Tiruvannamalai, u/s 147,448,294(B)/427,323,307 IPC altered to 147,148,427,323, 294(b) 506(ii) IPC r/ew 149 IPC 2)Tiruvannamalai Ps, Crime No.277/2013 in STC No. 488/2013 JM (FTC) Tiruvannamalai. u/s 294(b) 506(ii) IPC 3)C C No. 66/2016, Private complaint ,u/s 138 , 142, NI Act 4)Chennai CBI, RC7(A)/2009 in CC No. 10283/2014 ACM at Egmore u/s 120(B) r/w 409,420,467,468,471 IPC and Sec 66 of IT Act and 131(c) & (d) of PC act 5) C C NO. 4623/2017Private Complaint,u/s 138 & 142 NI act 6)Contempt petition No. 1464/2016 in Civil No. 638/2014 Madras high court, b. Case no. 1) CC No. 394/217 JM(FTC) Tiruvannamalai. 2) STC No. 488/2013 JM (FTC) Tiruvannamalai 3)C C No. 66/2016, JM(FTC) at Tiruvannamalai, 4)CC No.10283/2014, CMM at Egmore, Chennai 5) C C NO. 4623/2017FTC –II, CMM at Egmore, 6)Contempt petition No.1464/2016 in Civil No. 638/2014 Madras Highcourt, c. Name of the Court 1) CC No. 394/217 JM(FTC) Tiruvannamalai. 2) STC No. 488/2013 JM (FTC) Tiruvannamalai 3)C C No. 66/2016, JM(FTC) at Thiruvannamalai. 4)CC No.10283/2014, CMM at Egmore, Chennai 5) C C NO. 4623/2017FTC –II, CMM at Egmore, 6)Contempt petition No.1464/2016 in Civil No. 638/2014 Madras Highcourt, d. Whether charges have been framed or not (Yes/No) 1)No. 2)No. 3)YES 4)NO 5) YES 6)NO e. Date of conviction, if any NOT APPLICABLE f. Details of punishment undergone, if any NOT APPLICABLE g. Any other information required to be given NOT APPLICABLE	The selected candidate is a sincere and dedicated party worker and is politically prominent person.	As a senior party worker he had an edge over other individuals considering the fact that whatever charges are alleged in the charge sheet have no substance and are purely with a vindictive approach and personal vendetta being waged by his political enemies. The case is pending and party believes that there will be no adverse outcome against the Alleged accused.		
5	76- Thirukkoyilur	VAT. KALIVARA THAN	a. Nature of the offences: 1)Crime No. 1328/2020, Tirukkoyilur PS in STC no. 98/2020 -JM at Tirukkoyilur, u/s 341,143,269,278 of IPC b. Case no. 1)Crime No. 1328/2020, Tirukkoyilur PS in STC no. 98/2020, JM at Tirukkoyilur c. Name of the Court 1)Crime No. 1328/2020, Tirukkoyilur PS in STC no. 98/2020 - JM at Tirukkoyilur d. Whether charges have been framed or not (Yes/No) Charges Not framed, JM at Tirukkoyilur e. Date of conviction, if any : NOT APPLICABLE f. Details of punishment undergone, if any : NOT APPLICABLE g. Any other information: required to be given NOT APPLICABLE	The selected candidate is a very sincere and dedicated party worker who has already been on various important positions in Party.	As a party worker he had an edge over other individuals considering the fact that whatever charges are alleged in the charge sheet have no substance by his political enemies. The case is pending and party believes that there will be no adverse outcome against the Alleged accused.		
6.	101-DHARAPURAM	L.MURUGAN	a. Nature of the offences: 1.Chengalpattu PS Cr.no.- 3975 /2020, u/s 143,270 of IPC and u/s 51(b) of Disaster Management Act. 2.Thiruthani PS, Cr.no.-2727 / 2020 , u/s 143, 341, 188, 269, 270 of IPC and u/s 51 of Disaster Management Act. 3.Thiruvennainallur PS, Cr.no.- 637 / 2020,u/s 143, 188, 269 of IPC . 4.Kallakurichi PS, Cr.no.-2039/2020 u/s 143, 269 of IPC, u/s 3 of Infectious Diseases Act and u/s 51 of Disaster Management Act. 5. Thiyagathuruvam PS, Cr.no.-1334 / 2020,u/s 143, 188 of IPC, u/s 3 of Infectious Diseases Act and u/s 51 of Disaster Management Act. 6.Cuddalore Puthu Nagar PS,Cr.no.- 1240 /2020, u/s 143, 188, 269 of IPC, u/s 3 of Infectious Diseases Act and u/s 51 of Disaster Management Act. 7.Appan Thiruppathi PS , Cr.no.- 1359 / 2020, u/s 143, 188, 290 of IPC, 8.Palani Town PS, Cr.no.- 1552 / 2020, u/s 143, 341, 269 of IPC and u/s 3 of Infectious Diseases Act. 9.Karur PS , Cr.no.-1303 / 2020, u/s 143, 341, 269 of IPC and u/s 3 of Infectious Diseases Act. 10.Erode North PS, Cr.no.- 1071 / 2020, u/s 143, 341, 269 of IPC, u/s 3 of Infectious Diseases Act , u/s 51 (b) of Disaster Management Act and u/s 4 Tamil Nadu Open Places (Prevention Disfigurement)Act. 11.Hosur PS, Cr.no.-982 /2020, u/s 188, 270 of IPC and u/s 134 of The Tamil Nadu Public Health Act . 12.Salem - Sooramangalam PS , Cr.no.- 1548 / 2020, u/s 143, 341, 269 of IPC, u/s 2&3 of	The selected candidate is a very senior sincere and dedicated party worker who has already been on various important positions in Party. Currently he is the STATE PRESIDENT of the party.	As a senior party worker and state president of the party, he had an edge over other individuals considering the fact that whatever charges are alleged in the charge sheet have no substance and are purely with a vindictive approach and personal vendetta being waged by his political enemies. The case is long pending and party believes that there will be no adverse outcome against the alleged accused.		

S. No.	Name of the Constituency	Name of the candidate	Criminal antecedents	The reasons for the selection of the candidate. Selection shall be with reference to the qualifications, achievements and merit of the candidate, and not mere “winnability” at the polls (not more than 100 words)	Reasons as to why other individuals without criminal antecedents could not be selected as candidates (not more than 100 words)
			Infectious Diseases Act , u/s 51 (b) of Disaster Management Act and u/s 4 Tamil Nadu Open Places (Prevention Disfigurement) Act. 13.Coimbatore - Rathinapuri PS , Cr.no.- 1323 / 2020, u/s 143, 341, 269 of IPC. 14.Chennai - Esplaned PS , Cr.no.-1660 / 2020, u/s 143, 188 of IPC and u/s 3 of Infectious Diseases Act. 15.Chennai - Esplaned PS , Cr.no - 1661 / 2020, u/s 143, 188 of IPC and u/s 3 of Infectious Diseases Act. 16.Chennai - Mambalam PS Cr.no.- 532 / 2020, u/s 143, 188, 269 of IPC, u/s 3 of Infectious Diseases Act and u/s 51(1)(b) of Disaster Management Act. 17.Chennai C.M.B.D PS , Cr.no.- 792 / 2020, u/s 147, 148, 188 of IPC and u/s 3 of Infectious Diseases Act. 18.Chennai - Thiruvetiyur PS, Cr.no.-5701 / 2020, u/s 143, 188, 269 of IPC and u/s 3 of Infectious Diseases Act. 19.Chennai C.M.B.D PS, Cr.no.-797 / 2020, u/s 147, 148, 188 of IPC and u/s 3 of Infectious Diseases Act. 20.Chennai - Nazrath Pettai PS, Cr.no.-738 / 2020, u/s 143, 269 of IPC, u/s 3 of Infectious Diseases Act and u/s 41(6) Municipal Police Act. 21.Chennai - Nazrath Pettai PS , Cr.no.- 739 / 2020, u/s 143, 269 of IPC, u/s 3 of Infectious Diseases Act and u/s 41(6) Municipal Police Act. 22.Chennai - Nazrath Pettai PS , Cr.no.- 740 / 2020, u/s 143, 269 of IPC, u/s 3 of Infectious Diseases Act and u/s 41(6) Tamil Nadu Municipal Police Act. 23.Madurai - Thirupparangunram PS, Cr.no.- 1505 / 2020, u/s 269 , 270 of IPC. b. Case no. In said above cases chargesheet not filed c. Name of the Court In said above cases chargesheet not filed d. Whether charges have been framed or not (Yes/No) : NO e. Date of conviction, if any NOT APPLICABLE f. Details of punishment undergone, if any NOT APPLICABLE g. Any other information required to be given NOT APPLICABLE		
7.	120-COIMBATORE (SOUTH)	Smt. VANATHI SRINIVASAN	a. Nature of the offences 1)B-8, Variety Hall Road PS(Coimbatore) Crime No. 182/2016 in CC No.368/2017, u/s 147,294(b)& 506(ii) of IPC; 2)C-2, Race Course PS(Coimbatore) Crime No.301/2016 in STC no.2602/2016, u/ s171© r/w 171F & 188 of IPC. b. Case no. 1)CC No. 368/ 2017 and 2) STC No.2602/2016 c. Name of the Court 1)B-8, Variety Hall Road PS(Coimbatore) Crime No. 182/2016 in CC No.368/2017, u/s 147,294(b)& 506(ii) of IPC, 2)C-2, Race Course PS(Coimbatore) Crime No.301/2016 in STC no.2602/2016, u/ s171© r/w 171F & 188 of IPC. d. Whether charges have been framed or not (Yes/No) 1) YES . Dated 02.07.2018 2) YES. Dated 04.01.2019 e. Date of conviction, if any NOT APPLICABLE f. Details of punishment undergone, if any NOT APPLICABLE g. Any other information required to be given NOT APPLICABLE	The selected candidate is a very senior, sincere and dedicated party worker who has already been on various important positions in Party. Currently she is the National President of Mahila Morcha of the Party.	As a senior party worker she had an edge over other individuals considering the fact that whatever charges are alleged in the charge sheet have no substance. The case is pending and party believes that there will be no adverse outcome against the Alleged accused.
8.	134 - ARAVAKURICHI	K.ANNAMALAI	a. Nature of the offences 1)Aravakurichi PS, Crime No.130/2021, u/s 143,341 of IPC 2)Karur Ps, Crime No.1303/2020,u/s 143,341&269 IPC r/w 3 of Epidemic Diseases Act.1897 3)Erode (South)PS, Crime No.1071,u/s143,341 & 269IPC r/w 51(b) of Disaster Management act & 3 of ED act and 4 of TNOPPD act. 4)Arachalur PS, Crime No.715/2020,u/s 143,269,271,291 IPC r/w 51(b) of Disaster management act 2006 5)Dharamapuri PS, Crime No.241/2020,u/s 143,341,&269IPC r/w 51(b) of Disaster management act2005 6)Hosur PS, Crime No.982/2020,u/s 188,270 IPC r/w 134 of Tamilnadu Public Health act 7)Palani PS, Crime No.1480/2020,u/s 144, 341,269 &285 IPC r/w 3 of ED act, 8)Palani PS, Crime No.1552/2020,u/s 143,341,& 269IPC r/w 3 of Disaster management act 2005 9) Race Course(coimbatore) PS, Crime No.1057/2020, u/s 143,269 IPC 10) Rathnapuri PS, Crime No.1323/2020,u/s143,269,341 IPC b. Case no. In the above cases chargesheet not filed c. Name of the Court In the above cases chargesheet not filed d. Whether charges have been framed or not (Yes/No) NO e. Date of conviction, if any NOT APPLICABLE f. Details of punishment undergone, if any NOT APPLICABLE g. Any other information required to be given NOT APPLICABLE	The selected candidate is a very sincere and dedicated party worker.Currently he is the STATE VICE PRESIDENT of the party.	As an Eminent party worker and State Vice President of the party, he had an edge over other individuals considering the fact that whatever charges are alleged in the charge sheet have no substance and are purely with a vindictive approach and personal vendetta being waged by his political enemies. The case is long pending and party believes that there will be no adverse outcome against the alleged accused.
9.	151-TITTAKUDI	D.PERIYASAMY	a. Nature of the offences 1)Mangalamedu PS In Crime NO.876/1998 In SC No.103/2003 CJM at Perambalur u/s 147, 148, 323, 324, 332, 336, 307 & 120(B) IPC 2)Mangalamedu PS, Crime No.877/1998 in SC No.104/2003, CJM at Perambalur,u/s 147,178,323,326,336,307, & 120 (B) IPC b. Case no. 1)SC No. 103/ 2003 and 2) SC No.104/2003 c. Name of the Court 1. SC No.103/2003 CJM at Perambalur, SC No.104/2003, CJM at Perambalur d. Whether charges have been framed or not (Yes/No) YES e. Date of conviction, if any NOT APPLICABLE f. Details of punishment undergone, if any NOT APPLICABLE g. Any other information required to be given NOT APPLICABLE	The selected candidate is a very senior sincere and dedicated party worker who has already been on various important positions in Party.	As a senior party worker he had an edge over other individuals considering the fact that whatever charges are alleged in the charge sheet have no substance and are purely with a vindictive approach and personal vendetta being waged by his political enemies. The case is pending and party believes that there will be no adverse outcome against the Alleged accused.
10.	173- THIRUVAIYARU	POONDI. S.VENKATESAN	a. Nature of the offences 1)Private Compliant, u/s 138 & 142 NI Act 2) Private Compliant , CC No. 824/2018 MMC, Chennai u/s 138 & 142 NI act 3) Private Compliant , u/s 138 & 142 NI Act 4)Private Compliant , CC No.827/2018 MMC, Chennai u/s 138& 142 NI act 5)Private Compliant CC No.828/2018 MMC, Chennai u/s 138 & 142 NI Act 6)Private Compliant , CC No.97/2012 JM-FTC,Karur u/s 138 & 142 NI act 7)Thanjavur CCB, Crime No34/2012 in CC40/2014JM-111, Thanjavur u/s 406,465,467 ,&420 of IPC 8)Puthalur PS, Crime No.179/2008. In CC No. 43/2017 ADJ, Thanjavur. u/s 147,148,149,294(b),333,332,307 &506(ii) Of IPC b. Case no. CC No. 824/2018 MMC, Chennai, CC No.827/2018 MMC, Chennai, CC No.828/2018 MMC, Chennai , CC No.97/2012 JM-111,Thanjavur, CC No.43/2017 ADJ, Thanjavur c. Name of the Court CC No. 824/2018 MMC, Chennai, CC No.827/2018 MMC, Chennai, CC No.828/2018 MMC, Chennai , CC No.97/2012 JM-FTC,Karur, CC40/2014JM-111, Thanjavur, CC No. 43/2017 ADJ, Thanjavur d. Whether charges have been framed or not (Yes/No) NO e. Date of conviction, if any NOT APPLICABLE f. Details of punishment undergone, if any NOT APPLICABLE g. Any other information required to be given NOT APPLICABLE	The selected candidate is a very senior sincere and dedicated party worker.	As a party worker and given his political experience of the past, he had an edge over other individuals considering the fact that whatever charges are alleged in the charge sheet have no substance. The case is pending and party believes that there will be no adverse outcome against the alleged accused.

Format C-7

(for political parties to publish in the newspapers, social media platforms & website of the party)

Information regarding individuals with pending criminal cases, who have been selected as candidates, along with the reasons for such selection, as also as to why other individuals without criminal antecedents could not be selected as candidates

(As per the Commission's directions issued in pursuance of the Order dated 13.02.2020 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in contempt petition(C) no. 2192 of 2018 in WP(C) no. 536 of 2011)

Name of Political Party:**BHARATIYA JANATA PARTY** *Name of the Election :**TAMILNADU LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ELECTION -2021** Name of State/**UT:TAMILNADU**

S. No.	Name of the Constituency	Name of the candidate	Criminal antecedents	The reasons for the selection of the candidate. Selection shall be with reference to the qualifications, achievements and merit of the candidate, and not mere "winnability" at the polls (not more than 100 words)	Reasons as to why other individuals without criminal antecedents could not be selected as candidates (not more than 100 words)
11.	184- KARAIKUDI	Shri.H.RAJA	a. Nature of the offences 1)Tirumayam PS, Crime No.114/2018, u/s 143,188,153(A),290,294(b)353,505(1)(b)(c),506(i) of IPC 2)Virudhunagar PS, Crime No.339/2018, CC No.399/2020 JM at virudhunagar, u/s294(b),353,505(1)(a) IPC 4 of TNPHW act 3)Karaikudi PS, Crime No.135/2014, STC No.10160/2014 u/s 143,188 &290 IPC 4)Sivagangai PS, Crime No.5829/2014 STC No. 5829/2014 u/s 143,188, &290 IPC b Case no. CC No.399/2020 JM at virudhunagar c. Name of the Court CC No.399/2020 JM at virudhunagar d. Whether charges have been framed or not (Yes/No) NO e. Date of conviction, if any NOT APPLICABLE f. Details of punishment undergone, if any N O T APPLICABLE g. Any other information required to be given NOT APPLICABLE	The selected candidate is a very senior, sincere and dedicated party worker who has already been on various important positions in the party. He also Served as National Secretary of the Party.	As a party worker and Eminent personality, he had an edge over other individuals considering the fact that whatever charges are alleged in the charge sheet have no party believes that there will be no adverse outcome againsttheAlleged accused.
12.	191 - MADURAI NORTH	DR.P.SARAVANAN	a. Nature of the offences 1)Madurai City, CCB, Crime No.55/2015 in SC N0 15/2017 1stADJ, Madurai, u/s 201,409,420,468,120(B)109,328 IPC 2)Karimedu PS, Crime No.1429/2020, u/s143,283,,290,269, IPC r/w 3 of ED act 3)Silaiman PS, Crime No.1611/2020, u/s 143,271 IPC & 134 TNPH act 4)Samayanallur PS, Crime No.400/2014,u/s 151 of CrPC, 5)Subramaniyapuram PS, Crime No.690/2019, u/s 143,283,290, IPC & 71 A(1), 73 Tn City Police Act 1888, 6)Thirunagar Ps, Crime No.156/2019,u/s 143,171(h)IPC &179 MV act b. Case no. SC N0 15/2017 1st ADJ, Madurai. In other cases charge sheet not filed. c. Name of the Court SC N0 15/2017 1stADJ, Madurai d. Whether charges have been framed or not (Yes/No) NO e. Date of conviction, if any NOT APPLICABLE f. Details of punishment undergone, if any NOT APPLICABLE g. Any other information required to be given NOT APPLICABLE	The selected candidate is a very eminent person with good social background. Reputed person in the constituency.	As a party worker and given his political experience of the past, he had an edge over other individuals considering the fact that whatever charges are alleged in the charge sheet have no substance. The case is pending and party believes that there will be no adverse outcome againstthe alleged accused.
13.	211- RAMANATHA PURAM	D.KUPPURAMU	a. Nature of the offences Chatharakudi PS, Crime no. 307/2020, u/s 143,341,290,269 IPC b. Case no. Charge sheet not filed c. Name of the Court Charge sheet not filed d. Whether charges have been framed or not (Yes/No) NO. e. Date of conviction, if any NOT APPLICABLE f. Details of punishment undergone, if any NOT APPLICABLE g. Any other information required to be given NOT APPLICABLE	The selected candidate is a very senior sincere and dedicated party worker who has already been on various important positions in Party.	As a senior party worker he had an edge over other individuals considering the fact that whatever charges are alleged in the charge sheet have no substance and are purely with a vindictive approach and personal vendetta being waged by his political enemies. The case is pending and party believes that there will be no adverse outcome against the Alleged accused.
14.	224 - TIRUNELVELI	NAINAR. NAGENDRAN	a. Nature of the offences Tirunelveli PS, Crime no. 36/2018, u/s 153A,152,504,505(2),500,506(i) IPC b. Case no. Charge sheet not filed c. Name of the Court JM-1, Tirunelveli d. Whether charges have been framed or not (Yes/No) NO. e. Date of conviction, if any NOT APPLICABLE f. Details of punishment undergone, if any NOT APPLICABLE g. Any other information required to be given NOT APPLICABLE	The selected candidate is a very senior sincere and dedicated party worker who has already been on various important positions in Party.	As a senior party worker he had an edge over other individuals considering the fact that whatever charges are alleged in the charge sheet have no substance and are purely with a vindictive approach and personal vendetta being waged by his political enemies. The case is pending and party believes that there will be no adverse outcome against the Alleged accused.
15.	231 - COLACHEL	Shri.P.PRAMESH	a. Nature of the offences 1)Thackalay PS , Crime No.s.203/17 &678/2017 &386/2018 and 1052/2012, u/s 143,148,188,342,285,269,270 IPC & 3 of ED act 2)Erainyal PS, crime Nos. 189/2017,454/2020,588/2020 and 130/2012, u/s 143,148,188,342,285,269,270 IPC and 3 of ED act b Case no. Charge Sheet Not Filed c. Name of the Court Charge Sheet Not Filed d. Whether charges have been framed or not (Yes/No) NO e. Date of conviction, if any NOT APPLICABLE f. Details of punishment undergone, if any NOT APPLICABLE g. Any other information required to be given NOT APPLICABLE	The selected candidate is a very senior, sincere and dedicated party worker who has already been on various important positions in the party.	As a senior party worker he had an edge over other individuals considering the fact that whatever charges are alleged in the charge sheet have no substance and are purely with a vindictive approach and personal vendetta being waged by his political enemies. The case is pending and party believes that there will be no adverse outcome against the Alleged accused.
16.	233 - VILVANCODE	P.JAYASELAN	a. Nature of the offences 1)Marthandham PS, Crime No.505/2015 in SC no.102/2019 at ADJ Nagarcoil, u/s 3(i) TNPPD act and 324, 120(B) of IPC 2)Kottaru PS, Crime No.23/2017 in JM-II at Nagarcoil, u/s 147, 148,294(B)307,324,341,506(i) IPC b. Case no. 1) SC no.102/2019 at ADJ Nagarcoil, 2) JM-II at Nagarcoil,(Charge sheet not filed) c. Name of the Court 1) SC no.102/2019 at ADJ Nagarcoil, 2) Crime No.23/2017 in JM-II at Nagarcoil, d. Whether charges have been framed or not (Yes/No) 1) YES2) No e. Date of conviction, if any NOT APPLICABLE f. Details of punishment undergone, if any NOT APPLICABLE g. Any other information required to be given NOT APPLICABLE	The selected candidate is a very senior sincere and dedicated party worker who has already been on various important positions in Party.	As a senior party worker he had an edge over other individuals considering the fact that whatever charges are alleged in the charge sheet have no substance and are purely with a vindictive approach and personal vendetta being waged by his political enemies. The case is pending and party believes that there will be no adverse outcome against the Alleged accused.

*In the case of election to Council of States or election to Legislative Council by MLAs, mention the election concerned in place of name of constituency.


(Signature of Office Bearer of the Political Party)


DECCAN Chronicle

31 MARCH 2021

Let not Covid 2nd wave destroy economy again

The spike in the daily numbers of new Covid-19 infections across the country is truly alarming and it reminds us of the period when the pandemic had peaked last year. The country has seen a steady surge in new cases for the past couple of weeks and the active cases at present are 5,40,720, which is little over half of the September 18 peak of 1,017,754. When Tuesday's new infections of 56,211 are added, India's total Covid-19 caseload has risen to 1,20,95,855. The death toll has reached 1,62,114, or 1.34 per cent of total confirmed infections.

While the infection killed lakhs across the globe, it paralysed the economy and threw many millions out of their jobs and into abject penury. Governments had to announce several special economic packages to bring them back to life; and India was no exception. And the worst affected were the people at the lowest strata of the economic pyramid. The fate of lakhs of guest workers who had to walk back home hundreds of miles away was an experience no one would like to see repeated. From economic to social and psychological breakdown, the micro-organism has sowed seeds of disquiet in societies and families.

The sad part is that we as a people are still at the mercy of the virus despite an expansion of our knowledge base to fight it and the discovery of vaccines. There are treatment protocols that help save lives. There have been research findings that elaborate on the virus activity in the human body once it enters it. We are much better equipped to fight the infection and we now know the consequences which we had not known last year. But still, there is no stopping the virus and its effects.

The Union government has, on its part, speeded up the vaccination programme, and has rectified the technical glitches in the software; at present, one crore people can register for the jab in one day. There are still logistical issues to be addressed and coupled with vaccine hesitancy, they drag down the vaccination programme which aims at inoculating 30 crore people by June this year. The number now stands at 6.5 crore after two-and-a-half months.

The worsening of the pandemic situation could force another national lockdown which the economy, and the nation, can ill-afford. The government and the people must realise it and return to the strict adherence of Covid-appropriate protocols and behaviour.

Some of the developed countries have added "meetings outdoors" to the standard prescription of social distancing, mask wearing and washing of hands. This means group functions will no longer be allowed in closed environs. This measure could help avoid gatherings turning into super spreader events.

The government must consider introducing this idea here too. It must also relaunch the awareness campaign on the Covid-19 protocols and direct the state governments to enforce them. The people have been lax in following them, and the governments have been equally lax in enforcing them. This combined neglect will land the nation in deeper trouble. There will be no justification for that, should it happen.

Suez lesson proves costly

Proof of Murphy's Law could not have come in a worse scenario than in the Suez Canal being blocked by the skyscraper-sized, 2,24,000-tonne container ship *Ever Given*, which is as long as the Empire State Building is tall. As \$9 billion of daily trade was blocked for a week in terms of goods in transit, from crude oil to cattle, nature's helping hand came to the rescue as an unusually high tide followed a full moon. How helpless man was for days as tugs, sand dredgers and various other salvage equipment battled on to refloat a symbol of man's ambition in making things bigger and bigger in order to benefit from economies of scale, which, in this case, includes environmental benefits too in terms of carbon footprint.

The all-Indian crew of the Japan-owned, Panama-flagged giant ship will be among those eagerly awaiting the result of a blame game that will probably be resolved at the end of a thorough probe of what went wrong, how and why. Human error is not ruled out either as the ship was gathering speed to 13 knots on an uneven course in the channel. The explanation that the stacked-up containers could have acted as a huge sail to gusts from dust storms not uncommon to the area may seem logical enough. For all the high fees in hundreds of thousands of dollars, including costs of pilots, to use the canal to save 5,000 km on Europe-Asia journeys Suez Canal pilots, the responsibility of steering is solely that of the ship's captain.

The Suez Canal, completed in 1869, has saved uncountable time and money in cutting global shipping costs and today 13 per cent of maritime trade moves through the crucial waterway. An occasional tanker getting grounded used to be solved with the simple principle of tugging it out but a catastrophe of this size had never been envisaged. This serves up the elementary lesson that bigger is not necessarily better as man is still vulnerable to nature's random acts as much as his vehicles are subject to the laws of locomotion.

KAUSHIK MITTER
Editor

R. MOHAN
Resident Editor

K. SUDHAKAR
Printer & Publisher

DECCAN CHRONICLE offices are located at:
Chennai: SP 3 Developed Plot, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai 600032. Phones: (044) 22254747, 22254748
Coimbatore: 77 Vivekananda Road, Ramnagar, Coimbatore 641009. Phone: (0422) 2231255, 2231256
Hyderabad: 36, Sarojini Devi Road, Secunderabad 500 003. Phone: (040) 27803930-4. Fax: (040) 27805256
Bengaluru: 5th Floor, BMTC Commercial Complex, 80 Ft. Road, Koramangala, Bangalore-560095. Ph: 08043460500; Fax: 080-22960551/52/55
Visakhapatnam: Survey No. 1/3A Beach Road, Near Kailasagiri Ropeway, Sector-9 MVP Colony, Visakhapatnam - 530 017. Phones: (0891) 2552333/2552334, Fax (0891) 2755285
Vijayawada: No. C 3 & 4, Patamata, Industrial Estate, Auto Nagar, Vijayawada (A.P.). Phones: (0866) 2555284/2555287, Fax (0866) 2555234
Rajahmundry: Vemagiri, Dhawleswaram Rd, Rajahmundry 533125. Phones: (0883) 2417208, 2417618
Anantapur: Thapovan Colony, Bangalore Bye-Pass Road, Anantapur 515004. Phones: (08554) 276903, Fax: 08554-276904
Nellore: Survey No. 527/2, Burranpur Village, Venkatachalam (M), Chemudugunta Panchayat, Nellore. Phone: (0861) 2348581/82, Telefax (0861) 2348580
Karimnagar: Survey No. 1341, Vavilalpally Colony, Jagitayala Road, Karimnagar 505 001. Phone: (0878) 2228908; Telefax (0878) 2220433
Kochi: No. 3-B, 3rd Floor, DD TRADE TOWER, Kaloor-Kadavanthara Road, Emakulam, Ph: 0484-4039408
Kozhikode: No 6/1002 E, First Floor City Mall, Opp. YMCA Kannur Road, Kozhikode - 673 001 Fax: 0495 4019018
Thiruvananthapuram: St Joseph Press Thycad post, Cotton Hills, Thiruvananthapuram-14, Ph: 0471-2735105/67, Fax: 0471-4016112 Gram: CHRONICLE Postal registration no: No. H/SD-348/2006-0885

A.G. Noorani



India in Nato? Is New Delhi ready for such a major shift?

WHILE it is not fair to impute motives to a writer, one cannot help wondering if he is flying a kite, especially given his background. A. Wess Mitchell was US assistant secretary of state for Europe and Eurasia from 2007-2019 and co-chair of the Nato 2020 Reflection Process. The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, headquartered in Brussels, has long been in a reflective mood regarding its own fatuous irrelevance. That did not inhibit him from writing recently in an Indian publication: "When the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (Nato) leaders meet later this spring, they will debate the recommendations from a group of experts [which Mr Mitchell co-chaired] that advocates, among other things, extending a formal offer of partnership to India. Such an idea has been discussed before but has always foundered on India's aversion to entanglement in rival geopolitical blocs. It's time to overcome this obstacle. "China's meteoric rise has dramatically heightened India's need

for closer security relationships with politically reliable, like-minded states. ... Beijing is increasingly willing to depart from its hide-and-bide strategy to directly challenge even the largest of its neighbours." China's military spending is three times that of India. India's policy of equidistance, with tilts towards Russia and China, is not viable enough to meet the juggernaut of China's power. Hence its moves for ties with the United States, Japan and Australia in the "Quad". Now for the moth-eaten carnet: "While Nato partnerships do not carry the Article 5 guarantee of collective defence against armed attack, they nevertheless come with regular defence dialogues, military-to-military planning and joint exercises that improve readiness, interoperability and predictability. In the event of a conflict, India would benefit from having prior planning and arrangements in place for cooperating with Nato and its Mediterranean partners...." Nato has spread a web of partners, namely Egypt, Israel, Sweden, Austria, Switzerland and Finland.

Now comes the crunch. "However, the obstacles to partnership are not only on the Indian side; in the past, some Nato allies have effectively blocked discussion of the matter insisting that any offer of partnership to India be accompanied by similar invitations to Pakistan. This may have seemed attractive to some in the era when Nato militaries were mainly focused on conducting operations in Afghanistan. But with the winding down of operations there, Nato has little in common with a Pakistan that is increasingly radicalised at home and aligned with, and beholden to, China. "... The Nato leadership should extend to India an offer of opening partnership talks. Doing so would signal that it is seriously evaluating all of its tools, including partnerships, according to how well they equip its members for dealing with a new era of great-power competition...." "In this emerging competition, India is a vital player in its own right and should be treated as such. But Indians should be under no illu-

sions that a truly nonaligned path remains a viable option." Nonalignment is a worn-out misnomer. India's non-alignment did not prevent its first Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru from seeking covertly — behind the back of India's ambassador Asaf Ali — a written alliance with the United States in 1948. Note that the Nato partnership is shorn of guarantee of help in Article 5 of the Nato Treaty of 1949, which reads: "The parties agree that an armed attack against one or more of them in Europe or North America shall be considered an attack against them all; and consequently, they agree that, if such an armed attack occurs, each of them, in exercise of the right of individual or collective self-defence recognised by Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations, will assist the party or parties so attacked by taking forthwith, individually and in concert with the other parties, such action as it deems necessary, including the use of armed force...." This is a worthless guarantee as its prime architect, US secretary of


state Dean Acheson, had said. He told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee: "This naturally does not mean that the United States would automatically be at war if one of the other signatory nations were the victim of an armed attack. Under the treaty we would be bound to make an honest judgment as to what action was necessary to attain that end and consequently to take such action. That action might or might not include the use of armed force." As Charles De Gaulle remarked, treaties, like roses and pretty girls, last only as long as they last. How did Pakistan's pacts with the United States help, in its moments of crisis in the 1965 and 1971 wars? Treaties are concluded in the national interest purely. Help is extended in the same spirit. In 1962, it took the US long to support India's case on the border and even that was confined to the McMahon Line; not the Aksai Chin in Ladakh. India has unwisely let skirmishes on an undefined border ratchet its dialogue and diplomacy.

By arrangement with Dawn

Subhani



Weak Britain reluctant to confront aggressive China



Sunanda K. Datta-Ray

Reflections

British history books claim that before the First Opium War against Manchu China in 1839, the Chinese hoped there would be a lot of "talk-keep-talk before fight-keep-fight". This time around, it is the British who seek discussions and negotiations before the war of words over China's alleged human rights abuses spills over into action. The United States also drew back when similar arguments erupted with China. One reason was that China held \$3,399.9 billion of the American Treasury's foreign exchange reserves. Another factor was the calculation that the American cost of living would shoot up without access to cheap Chinese footwear, clothing, electricals and household goods.

No wonder British Prime Minister Boris Johnson's Integrated Review of Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy skirted around the subject of China. The 100-page review even hinted that Russia was Britain's most serious threat and the reason for acquiring high-tech drones and the expensive paraphernalia of cyber warfare and satellites to control space while increasing the stockpile of nuclear warheads by 40 per cent. No wonder Britain's response was limited to grieving rhetoric when Beijing imposed sanctions on five ruling Conservative Party MPs, two peers, a barrister and an academic. They can no longer travel to China, and any assets they there will be frozen. "Willing to wound, and yet afraid to strike? Just hint a fault, and hesitate dislike", as in Alexander Pope's poem, Mr Johnson "noted that China has chosen to sanction individuals and entities that are seeking to shine a light on human rights violations". Apart from the Uighur Muslims in Xinjiang, the British PM must have two other controversies in mind. One is Hong Kong, where the citizens' protests have been continuing unrelentingly despite Beijing's crack-down and the enforcement of its harsh new security law, the other the Chinese telecommunications giant Huawei, which Britain excluded from its 5G networks last year as a result of American pressure backed by Britain's defence establishment. Huawei of course denies any spying activities. While China's response to the exclusion was muted, it denounced a new programme for fast-track British citizenship for certain residents of Hong Kong as "brutal meddling" in its domestic affairs.

Hong Kong is a former British colony which was returned to China in 1997 under a "one country, two systems" agreement whereby its capitalist system and laws would continue until 2047. But the UK accuses China of whittling away at this agreement — known as the Joint Declaration — especially through the new law giving China sweeping controls over the people of Hong Kong which came into effect on June 30, 2020. What all this means is that once again Britain finds itself on the horns of a dilemma. It can take the high moral ground over Xinjiang, Hong Kong and Huawei. Or it can take a pragmatic view of the benefits of an increasingly close partnership with the world's second largest economy. "We will invest in enhanced China-facing capabilities, through which we will develop a better understanding of China and its people,

while improving our ability to respond to the systemic challenge that it poses," the review says.

A showdown seemed imminent when British foreign secretary Dominic Raab told the House of Commons that British businesses should not profit from what he called the "industrial scale" forced labour of Uighurs. However, Mr Raab tactfully refrained from mentioning sanctions on Chinese Communist Party officials allegedly involved in human rights abuses. The omission confused listeners because the government had earlier indicated sanctions under a law modelled on the US Global Magnitsky Act. Mr Raab's explanation that the possibility of sanctions was being kept "in reserve" did not satisfy Sir Iain Duncan Smith, a former Conservative Party leader who supports sanctions. He asked in Parliament who in the government might be blocking Mr Raab from following through with the planned measures.

Whoever was responsible, the reversal exposed the inconsistency of official British thinking about China. The UK government's last white paper on China was published in 2009, before the CCP became aggressively authoritarian after Xi Jinping assumed power in 2012. The softer tone of Mr Raab's speech also reflected Mr Johnson's desire to keep his options open as the UK assumes the G-7's annually rotating presidency and prepares to host the next climate change conference in Glasgow later this year, reaches out to the Indo-Pacific destiny that the review eulogises, and

seeks economic and strategic alternatives to EU membership. He cannot be anxious to provoke a China that has recently imposed punishing tariffs on Australian imports of everything from wine to timber and coal, in retaliation for Canberra's calls for an investigation into the origins of Covid-19. Chinese investments in Britain, assessed at £8.63 billion, represent a 12.5 per cent year on year increase. Chinese investment in London real estate rose from £2.69 billion in 2016 to £3.69 billion in 2017. Bilateral trade totalled £80 billion (roughly \$110 billion) in 2019. Chinese companies play a vital role in British infrastructure. The state-owned China General Nuclear Power Group holds a one-third stake in the Hinkley Point C nuclear power station, a £20-billion project being built in southwestern England. Last year, Chinese steelmaker Jingye Group paid about £50 million to acquire British Steel. Other Chinese firms have large stakes in British offshore oil fields, as well as transport networks and utilities.

Ramping up criticism of Beijing not only risks deterring future Chinese investment but could undermine British businesses in China. Hence the review's diplomatic claim: "We will pursue deeper engagement in the Indo-Pacific in support of shared prosperity and regional stability, with stronger diplomatic and trading ties ... This approach recognises the importance of powers in the region such as China, India and Japan and also extends to others including South Korea, Vietnam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore and the Philippines."

With their acute sense of history, the Chinese know that they have little to fear. European writers and politicians have spoken down the centuries of "La Perfide Albion", or Perfidious Albion.

The writer is a senior journalist, columnist and author

LETTERS

CRUELTY PERSONIFIED

It was shocking to learn that a lady police inspector made a pregnant woman walk for three kms for not wearing a helmet (as pillion rider). No doubt, not wearing a helmet is punishable under the Motor Vehicles Act. But then the officer should have looked at the practical side of the issue instead of being concerned only about legalities. Making a nine-month pregnant woman walk 3 km under the scorching sun is the height of cruelty. The inspector deserves maximum punishment for her insensitivity.

P.G. Menon, Chennai

I-T SEIZURE

APPROPOS REPORT ₹1 crore seized from ALADMK's aide (March 30). Whether it is the ruling party or Opposition parties' candidates or their aides, the raids conducted by the ED and Income-Tax department creates an impression that the hyper-activity of the departments was unleashed by the state government and Centre to tarnish mainly the image of Opposition parties. If the raids are targeted to damn DMK+ candidates at the hustings it may prove counter-productive and boomerang on the ruling party. The question is why are these raids being conducted only in the poll-bound states Tamil Nadu and West Bengal, that too after elections were declared? How could the investigating agencies run roughshod after the EC's code of conduct came into force? No doubt that most of the agencies like CBI are branded as "caged parrots" but raids to catch black money or distribution of the same to voters are the duty of the EC. It is time the EC asserted its vested powers under Art.324 and instructed the above agencies not to conduct such raids while its Code of Conduct reigns.

A. Seshagiri Rao, Chennai

END OF SUEZ CANAL CRISIS

TO THE cheer of many, salvage teams with a flotilla of tug boats largely supported by the peak of high tide had finally managed to wrench "Ever Given", one of the world's most colossal container ships with 22,000 containers from the Suez Canal's sandy bank where it had been lodged since last week. Besides causing an unprecedented traffic jam in one of the world's most important maritime arteries, "Ever Given" held up US \$9 billion each day in global trade and heightened genuine apprehensions about its resultant devastating impact on the already burdened global supply chain before it was set free. The traffic through Suez Canal may have resumed now after "Ever Given" was set free, but the insurance companies face the looming threat of increasing claims from everyone affected, ranging from shipping industry to commodities business.

M. Jeyaram, Sholavandan

SHORT TAKES

India boxers test +ve in Turkey

New Delhi: Eight members of an Indian boxing squad, including three pugilists, tested positive for Covid-19 during a competition trip to Turkey and have been quarantined in Istanbul. Commonwealth Games silver-medallist Gaurav Solanki (57kg), Prayag Chouhan (75kg) and Brijesh Yadav (81kg) tested positive for the virus a week back, leading to them being quarantined following the event which ended on March 19. Coaches Dharmendra Yadav and Santosh Birmole, physiotherapists Shikha Kedia and Dr Umesh along with video analyst Nitin Kumar are the others in isolation, a team source said. They were in Istanbul to compete in the Bosphorus Tournament. Solanki had claimed the lone medal — a bronze — among men. Among women, Nikhat Zareen (51kg) had also fetched a bronze helping India finish with two medals overall. — *PTI*

Pak football stares at long FIFA ban

Karachi: Pakistan football is staring at a long-term ban from the FIFA after a forced take over of the national federation headquarters in Lahore by a group which won the last elections but annulled by the world governing body of the sport. The world body has now given until Wednesday for the PFF group, led by Ashfaq Hussain, to vacate the Football House and give its control back to the FIFA Normalization Committee headed by Haroon Malik.

OLD IS GOLD

Former selector feels Rohit-Dhawan best openers for T20 WC

New Delhi, March 30: India should stick to the experienced opening combination of Rohit Sharma and Shikhar Dhawan in the T20 World Cup, feels former selector Sarandeep Singh, calling the duo the “best option” despite skipper Virat Kohli’s recent interest in the slot.

Sarandeep, whose term ended with India’s historic win in Australia earlier this year, also gave his take on split captaincy, asserting the issue was never even discussed in his time as Kohli performed in all three formats.

After the T20 series win against England, Kohli had said he will open in the IPL raising the possibility of him opening with Rohit in the World Cup. Dhawan was dropped after the opening game of the series and Ishan Kishan was picked ahead of him in one of the games. Kohli and Rohit opened in the final T20.

“It was surprising. He (Dhawan) did well in the IPL, he did well in Australia.

Whenever he plays he performs. He is mentally very strong. May be they want to try out options but in my view the left-hand right-hand combination of Rohit and Dhawan is the best option for the India at World Cup,” Sarandeep said.

“You can’t judge him on basis of one match. He did well in ODIs after that. The IPL will decide a lot of the team. There are no easy places in the team. Ishan Kishan too will need to do exceptionally well to make the team,” he added.

He also said that K.L. Rahul should continue keeping in the ODIs and the in-form Rishabh Pant will have to wait for his turn when Shreyas Iyer returns.

The IPL, beginning April 9 will decided bulk of the spots for the World Cup squad and Sarandeep feels Yuzvendra Chahal and Kuldeep Yadav, who became India’s go to pair in the middle overs after the 2017 Champions Trophy, are no more sure starters in the T20 or ODI format. — *PTI*



Shikhar Dhawan (left) and Rohit Sharma in this file pic. — *AP*

PIECE OF GLASS FOUND INSIDE JOFRA’S FINGER

London, March 30: An accident while cleaning his fish tank was the cause of Jofra Archer’s hand injury that troubled him during the series against India along with an elbow issue and a glass fragment was found lodged in the England pacer’s right middle finger that had to be operated. England’s director of cricket Ashley Giles made this revelation while giving an update on Archer, who underwent the surgery on Monday. The elbow problem has ruled him out of this year’s IPL. “They (surgeons) have operated and I think they found a small fragment of glass still in attendance. It obviously healed but there was part of the fish tank still in his finger,” Giles said.

“This is going to sound like an awful conspiracy ... But it’s true. But, yeah, he was cleaning at home. He’s got a fish tank. He dropped the fish tank, cut his hand.” — *PTI*

Pant named Delhi captain

New Delhi, March 30: Star India batsman Rishabh Pant was on Tuesday named captain of Delhi Capitals in place of an injured Shreyas Iyer for the upcoming Indian Premier League season beginning on April 9.

Iyer has been ruled out of the IPL after injuring his left shoulder during the recently-concluded India-England ODI series.

“Under Shreyas’ captaincy, our team reached newer heights, and he is going to be missed immensely. In his absence, the franchise has collectively picked Rishabh to lead the team this year,” DC Chairman and co-owner Kiran Kumar Gandhi said in a release.

“While it has come under unfortunate circumstances, it is a tremendous opportunity for him to grow further. I wish him all the best in his new role.”

This will be 23-year-old Pant’s debut as IPL captain. The wicketkeeper-batsman has captained Delhi’s state team in the past. “Delhi is where I grew up, and where my IPL journey began six years ago. To lead this team one day is a dream I’ve always harboured. And today, as that dream comes true, I feel humbled,” Pant said.

“I am truly grateful, especially to our team owners, who considered me capable enough for this role. With an amazing coaching staff,



Rishabh Pant

and a plethora of accomplished seniors around me, I can’t wait to give my absolute best for Delhi Capitals.”

Pant was one of the architects of India’s historic 2-1 Test series win in Australia in January. He then played a big role in India’s 3-1 Test series win against England, scoring 270 runs from six innings with the help of a century.

Pant also returned to India’s white-ball team against England. After a decent outing in the T20 Internationals, he was in cracking form in the ODI series, hitting 77 and 78 in the two matches he played.

Iyer described Pant as the best player to lead the Delhi side. “When I sustained the shoulder injury, and Delhi Capitals needed a leader for this edition of the IPL, I had no doubt that Rishabh would be the best man for the job,” he said.

City CLIPS

Nungambakkam win title
Nungambakkam Tennis Club ‘C’ got the better of Cosmopolitan Club ‘A’ 2-1 to clinch the ‘B’ zone title of the SAN-MAR-TNTA Chennai city club league championship.
Results: Nungambakkam Tennis Club ‘C’ bt Cosmopolitan Club ‘A’ 2-1 (Johnson Raj/Sathishkumar Venkataraman bt G.P. Balaji/Jayakumar Jagaveeran 6-4, 6-4; Ratheesh Sridhar/Arnold Inigo bt C. Rameez Samad/Salman Yasser Firdouse 6-4, 7-5; Madhan Kumar/Saran Anish lost to Karthik Kailash/Koushik Kailash 2-6, 2-6).

Ranjith shines
Ranjith scored three goals as SRM IST secured a 5-1 win over Chennai Hockey Association U-21 in the Shri N.P.V. Ramasamy Udayar Hockey Cup.
Results: GST & Central Excise, Chennai 4 (P. Raja 2, M. Hassan Basha, Balaji) bt Tamil Nadu Postal Hockey 1 (A. Albert John); Indian Overseas Bank 9 (Hariharan 2, S.M. Raffeq 2, V. Vinod Rayer 2, Arul Stalin David, Bhima Ekka, Harmanpreet Singh) bt St. Paul’s Combined XI; SRM IST, Chennai 5 (Ranjith 3, Jeeva Kumar, Shanmugavel) bt Chennai Hockey Association U-21 1 (D. Aravind Rajan)

Abhay pulls off stunning victory over Sebastien

DC CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI, MARCH 30

India’s Abhay Singh pulled off an upset win over fourth seed Sebastien Bonmalais of France in a second round men’s match in the 2nd HCL SRFI Indian Tour-Chennai leg 1 here on Tuesday.

Abhay won 11-7, 11-7, 11-8 in 42 minutes. Top-seeded Indian Mahesh Mangaonkar and second-seed Todd Harrity (USA) scripted easy wins over their respective opponents Omar El Kattan (Egypt) and Vladislav Titov (Russia). Canada’s David Baillargeon, seeded eighth, crashed out after losing to Egypt’s Aly Hussein in a four-game encounter which lasted 75 minutes. In the women’s event, the top-seed Sunayna Kuruville breezed past Indian compatriot Vasudha Surange, beating her 11-5, 11-4, 12-10 in just 17 minutes.

Results: **Women:** Aparajitha Balamurukan (IND) bt Yoshna Singh (IND) 11-9, 17-19, 11-6, 11-6; Malak

Kamal (EGY) bt Urwashi Joshi (IND) 12-10, 11-5, 11-5; Tanvi Khanna (IND) bt R. Pooja Arthi (IND) 11-7, 11-7, 11-2; Hana Moataz (EGY) bt Abhisheka Shannon (IND) 11-2, 11-5, 11-4; Sachika Balvani (IND) bt Janet Vidhi (IND) 11-9, 11-7, 11-5; Sunayna Kuruville (IND) bt Vasudha Surange (IND) 11-5, 11-4, 12-10; Rana Ismail (EGY) bt Varvara Esina (RUS) 11-5, 11-9, 11-2; Sanika Choudhari (IND) bt Shameena Riaz (IND) 11-5, 11-9, 11-4.

Men: Yahya Elnawasany (EGY) bt Seif Shenawy (EGY) 11-7, 11-5, 11-9; Karim El Hammamy (EGY) bt Aadit Zaveri (IND) 13-11, 12-10, 11-3; Abhay Singh (IND) bt Sebastien Bonmalais (FRA) 11-7, 11-7, 11-8; Moustafa El Sirty (EGY) bt Velavan Senthilkumar (IND) 3-11, 10-12, 11-6, 11-9, 11-1; Mahesh Mangaonkar (IND) v Omar ElKattan (EGY) 11-7, 11-7, 11-5; Todd Harrity (USA) bt Vladislav Titov (RUS) 11-1, 11-9, 11-5; Mazen Gamal (EGY) bt Navaneeth Prabhu (IND) 11-6, 11-8, 9-11, 12-10; Aly Hussein (EGY) bt David Baillargeon (CAN) 6-11, 13-11, 11-4, 14-12.

WORLD

PROBE INTO SUEZ BLOCKAGE BEGINS

Suez (Egypt), March 30: Experts on Tuesday boarded the massive container ship that had blocked Egypt’s vital Suez Canal and disrupted global trade for nearly a week, seeking answers to a single question that could mean billions of dollars in legal implications: What went wrong? As convoys of ships again began travelling in this artery linking East and West through the Mediterranean and Red Seas, hundreds more idled waiting for their turn in process that will take days.

Egyptian government officials, insurers, shippers and others similarly waited for more details about what caused the skyscraper-sized Ever Given to become wedged across the canal’s southern single-lane on March 23.

When blame gets assigned, it could turn into years of litigation over the costs of repairing the ship, fixing the canal and reimbursing those who saw their cargo shipments disrupted.

Biden: Vax for 90% adults by April 19

Make wearing of masks obligatory in public places, urges state authorities

Washington, March 30: President Joe Biden has announced that 90 per cent of the adults in the US would be eligible for Covid-19 vaccination by April 19 and the rest 10 per cent no later than May 1. Biden also urged state authorities to once again to make mask-wearing obligatory in public places to combat the disease as the “war is far from won”.

Biden’s announcement on the vaccination schedule came on a day when the director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Dr Rochelle Walensky warned that the US faces “impending doom” as Coronavirus cases and hospital admissions rise across America, the worst-hit by the pandemic. The US has recorded around 60,000 new cases daily for the past week, a rise of around 7 per cent. The US has reported more than 30,331,000 confirmed cases and over 550,000 deaths, according to Johns Hopkins University Covid-19 tracker.

The vaccination drive under the Biden administration has been going in at an unprecedented pace. As

Biden’s announcement on the vaccination schedule came on a day when the director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Dr Rochelle Walensky warned that the US faces “impending doom”

many as 100 million shots have been administered in less than 60 days of his administration and they are now moving on to the next 100 million shots in just 40 days. “I’m pleased to announce that at least 90 per cent of all adults in this country will be eligible to be vaccinated by April the 19th, just three weeks from now, because we have the vaccines,” Biden told reporters at the White House on Monday. “For the vast, vast majority of adults, you won’t have to wait until May 1. You’ll be eligible for your shot on April 19th. Finally, the final 10 per cent will be eligible no later than May 1,” he said. “Due to the steps we’re tak-

ing today, 90 per cent of Americans will be within five miles of a location where they can get a shot as of April the 19th.” “The progress we’re making is a significant testament to what we can do when we work together as Americans. But as I’ve always said, we still need everyone to do their part. We still are in a war with this deadly virus. And we’re bolstering our defences, but this war is far from won,” Biden said.

According to Biden, the progress on vaccination is a stunning example that there is nothing this country cannot do if “we put their minds to it”.

Biden said just 10 weeks after he became the president, nearly 75 per cent of Americans over the age of 65 had received at least one vaccination shot.

“When I took office on January 20th, that number was 8 per cent. It’s going to 75 per cent,” he said. The president also directed officials to ensure there is a vaccine site within five miles of 90 per cent of all Americans by April 19.

— *PTI*

FORM C-1

Declaration about Criminal Cases

(As per the judgment dated 25th September, 2018, of Hon’ble Supreme Court in WP (Civil) No.536 of 2011 (Public Interest Foundation & Ors. Vs. Union of India & Anr.)

Name and address of candidate : S. THANIGAIVEL,
s/o Srinivasan
No.5/65 Sea View Avenue, 2nd Cross Street,
Kabaleeswarar Nagar, Neelankarai, Chennai-600041.
Name of Political Party : Bharathiya Janatha Party (B.J.P).
Name of Election : Tamilnadu Legislative Assembly Election 2021
Name of Constituency : 063 - Tiruvannamalai

I, **S. Thanigaivel**, a candidate for the above mentioned election, declare for public information the following details about my criminal antecedents:

(A) Pending criminal cases				
Sl.No.	Name of Court	Case No. and dated	Status of Case (s)	Section (s) of Acts concerned and brief description of offence (s)
1.	Hon’ble Fast Track Judicial Magistrate Court, Tiruvannamalai	C.C. No. 66/2016 06.06.2014	Acquitted on 18.03.2021	138, 142 N.I. Act
2.	Hon’ble Fast Track Judicial Magistrate Court, Tiruvannamalai	C.C. No. 394/2017 04.10.2017	Issue of Service	147, 448, 294(b), 427, 323, 307, IPC altered to 147, 148,427,323 294(b), 506(ii) IPC r/w 149 IPC
3.	Hon’ble Fast Track Judicial Magistrate Court, Tiruvannamalai	S.T.C. No. 488/2013 25.07.2013	Issue of Service	294(b), 506(ii) IPC
4.	Hon’ble Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Egmore, Chennai	C.C. No. 10283/2014 09.10.2014	Evidence	120B r/w 409, 420, 467, 468, 471 IPC and Sec. 66 of IT Act and 13 (1) (c) & (d) of PC Act
5.	Hon’ble Metropolitan Magistrate FTC-II (Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Court, Egmore, Chennai)	C.C. No. 4623/2017 10.07.2017	Service Pending	138 N.I. Act
6.	Hon’ble High Court of Madras	A/1797/2015 Contempt Petition No. 1464/2016 19.05.2016	Case Withdrawn - Uncontested on 22.07.2016	(Civil No. 638/2014)
7.	Hon’ble Judicial Magistrate No. I Court, Tiruvannamalai	Cr. No. 3667/2020 17.11.2020	Under Investigation	143, 188, 269, 207 IPC
8.	Hon’ble Judicial Magistrate No. I Court, Tiruvannamalai	Cr. No. 135/2021 15.03.2021	Under Investigation	143, 286, 269 IPC
9.	Hon’ble District Session Judge Court, Tiruvannamalai	Cr. No. 103/2021 05.03.2021	Under Investigation	3 of TNPPDL

(B) Details about cases of conviction for criminal offences.

Sl. No	Name of Court & date(s) of order(s)	Description of offence(s) & punishment imposed	Maximum punishment imposed
	Nil	Nil	Nil