



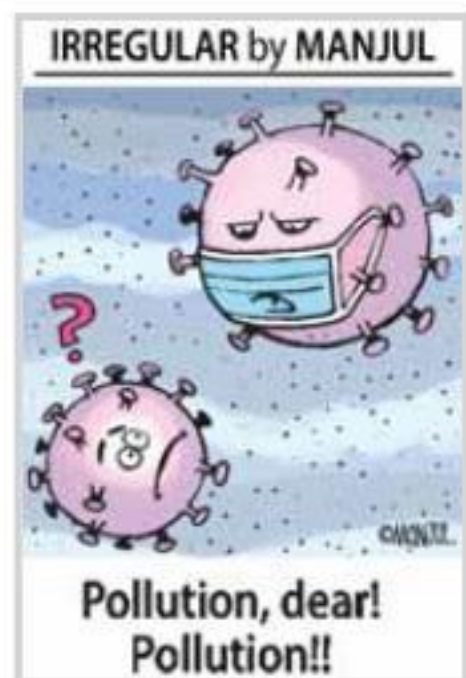
**US President Donald Trump seeking re-election is banking on Indian diaspora to win the elections. He has been trying every trick in his bag to woo the American Indians to vote for Republican party in the November 3 elections. Among the expatriates Telugus form a sizable populace who could add to his advantage. Along with other Indian languages, Trump administration has recognised Telugu as official language for communication which reflects on the Official Ballot Drop Box**

## India test-fires SANT anti-tank missile

INDIA on Monday successfully test-fired the Stand-off Anti-tank (SANT) Missile off the coast of Odisha, sources said on Monday. The missile is being developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation for the Indian Air Force and will have both lock-on after launch and lock-on before launch capability, the sources said. The BrahMos supersonic cruise missile was successfully test-fired from the Indian Navy's indigenously-built stealth destroyer INS Chennai, hitting a target in the Arabian Sea, the DRDO said.



Goddess Kanaka Durga will appear in the form of Sri Kasi Annapurna atop Indrakeeladri in Vijayawada on Tuesday, the fourth day of Navaratri festivities



## PM MODI TO OPEN ENERGY FORUM ON MONDAY

NEW DELHI

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi will next week inaugurate the annual India Energy Forum by CERAWEEK, which gathers energy leaders to further important dialogue on the nation's new energy future. Modi will deliver the inaugural address at the virtual event, to be held on October 26-28, organiser IHS Markit said in a statement.

India Energy Forum by CERAWEEK, now in its fourth year, is hosted by IHS Markit, a world leader in critical information, analytics and solutions.

"The event will convene an international group of speakers and delegates as well as a community of a thousand delegates from India and regional energy companies, energy-related industries, institutions and governments," it said.

Besides Modi, Oil Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, US Energy Secretary Dan Brouillette, Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) secretary general Mohammad Sanusi Barkindo and Saudi Energy Minister Abdulaziz bin Salman Al Saud are scheduled to speak at the three-day event.

MYSURU (PTI)

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Monday said necessary changes are being made in every sector to ensure growth and to make this decade India's. He also said that efforts are being made at all levels to make the country a global hub for higher education and its youth competitive.

"In the last 6-7 months you might have seen the speed and the ambit of reforms is increasing. Whether it is agriculture, space, defence, aviation or labour. In every sector necessary changes are being made for growth," Modi said.

Addressing the centenary convocation of the University of Mysore through video conference, the Prime Minister said it is being done for the sake of crores of youth in this country and to make this decade India's. "This decade can be India's only when we make our foundations strong. This decade has brought an immense opportunity for young India," he added.

Modi said the all-round reforms that are taking place in the coun-



Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses centenary convocation of University of Mysore via video conferencing in New Delhi on Monday

This decade can be India's only when we make our foundations strong. This decade has brought an immense opportunity for young India

try now, have never happened in the past, and even if decisions were made in the past they were restricted to any one sector, leaving aside others. Noting that multiple reforms in multiple sectors have taken place in the last six years, he said if national education policy is ensuring the future of education sector, agriculture related reforms are empowering farmers, while that of labour, giving thrust to growth, security of both

labourers and industries. "While the direct benefit transfer has brought in reforms to public distribution system, with Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA) home buyers have got protection. If GST was brought in to save the country from the web of taxes, faceless assessment was brought in for the sake of tax payers," he said, also noting the benefits of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code and FDI reforms.

## Lauds more girls' enrollment in higher education

MYSRUR (IANS)

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Monday lauded more enrollment of girls in higher education, especially in professional courses like engineering and medicine.

"I am glad to learn more girls are enrolling for higher education, which augurs well for the country's development. In IITs (Indian Institute of Technology), their (girls) enrollment has gone up to 30 per cent in 6 years from 8 per cent in 2014," said Modi in Hindi while delivering the centenary convocation address of the University of Mysore through virtual mode from New Delhi.

Modi also hailed the century-old university for having more young women graduating in higher education than young men.

Advising the university's faculty and students to become more innovative, the Prime Minister said the National Education Policy

(NEP) 2020 would help them to become more competitive in multi-disciplinary programmes.

"It is for the first time in the country such sweeping reforms in the education field has been ushered in for multiple sectors such as incubation, technology development, industry-academic linkage and inter-disciplinary subjects," said Modi.

Exhorting the students to strive for excellence, Modi advised them to think out of box ideas, especially in the area of start-ups for achieving self-reliance (atmanirbhar) in diverse areas.

"The NEP will bring about fundamental changes in the education set up from pre-nursery to PhD (research), as the need of the hour is for a multi-dimensional approach to become globally competitive and locally productive," said Modi in his 25-minute address.

## Smugglers use hired ambulance with fake patient to transport drugs; land in police net

NEW DELHI (IANS)

IN a novel modus operandi, a gang used a hired ambulances with a fake patient to dodge the police on the route from Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh to New Delhi. The Delhi police laid a trap and arrested four men -- Poleju Babu Rao, Gudepu Nageshwar Rao, Shole Raj and Ramesh. They recovered 181 kg of cannabis, worth around Rs 1.8 crore in the international market.

The Delhi north district police initiated the investigation after it received an anonymous complaint against a bad character active in the Gulabi Bagh area. It was mentioned in the complaint that BC Rajiv was a notorious drug peddler, carried illegal firearms, and is wanted but absconding in an armed robbery case in Prasad Nagar.

Based on the information, the Delhi po-

lice raided the house of the accused where they faced heavy resistance with some policemen getting injured. Later, the Delhi police in a series of raids caught many persons with contraband.

After the raids and following sustained investigation, the police received further information on October

17 that drug peddlers Gudepu Nageshwar and Poleju Babu Rao, who are residents of Visakhapatnam, Andhra

Pradesh and Shole Raj, a resident of Mori Gate, were coming to Mori Gate to supply drugs to the local distributors.

"Poleju Babu Rao and Gudepu Nageshwar Rao came to Delhi with the cannabis by road in a hired ambulance with a fake patient, where as Shole Raj came to Delhi by air. Shole Raj admitted that he was involved in drug peddling for the last 10 years," DCP North Anto Alphonse said.



## TN extends ₹10-cr to rain-hit TS

Governor Tamilisai, KCR express gratitude for liberal assistance

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

THE Tamil Nadu government has announced Rs 10-crore financial assistance to the flood-affected families in Telangana and Hyderabad city.

TN Chief Minister E Palaniswami in a letter to Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao expressed concern over the extensive damage to the property and loss of lives that had taken place on account of huge rains.

Palaniswami said that quick and efficient handling of the disaster and the response of the state government in providing relief and rescue operations had helped in mitigating the problems of the people.

"At this difficult time, on behalf of the government and people of Tamil Nadu, I convey my heartfelt condolences to the family members of

all those who have lost their lives in the rains and floods," he said.

As a token of support and solidarity of the government and people of Tamil Nadu with the government and people of Telangana in their hour of need, he said, his government was contributing Rs 10 crore from the Chief Minister's Public Relief Fund to the Government of Telangana. He further said that they would send blankets and mats as relief material to the affected families and assured of all help if Telangana government wants.

Telangana Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan and the Chief Minister thanked Palaniswami for the assistance. The Governor tweeted, "I thank you for sharing and inquiring about the concerns of the Telangana brothers and sisters affected by the flood in Hyderabad."



Dry fruits for sale at Chandni Chowk market during festive season, amid the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, in New Delhi on Monday

## Preparations for Haj 2021 to start soon, says Centre

NEW DELHI (IANS)

THE Centre on Monday said that Haj 2021 will depend on the national and international protocol guidelines in view of the Covid-19 pandemic.

However, the government said it will soon start the preparations for the Haj and receive applications.

Union Minister for Mi-

nority Affairs Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi said this after chairing a virtual meeting attended by Haj Committee of India CEO Maqsood Ahmad, Secretary, Ministry of Minority Affairs PK Das, Joint Secretary of the Ministry of External Affairs Vipul, Ambassador of India to Saudi Arabia Ausaf Saeed and other officials. Many important decisions regarding Haj

were taken in this meeting.

Naqvi said after the meeting that Haj 2021 will depend on national-international protocol guidelines in view of the pandemic. Haj 2021 is to take place in the month of July. But a final decision will be taken after a thorough review of the coronavirus spread and the health guidelines of Saudi Arabia and the Government

of India, he said.

The Haj Committee of India and other Indian agencies will soon start preparations for Haj 2021 and start receiving applications. A formal announcement regarding the applications and other procedures will be made after the decision in respect of Haj 2021 by the Saudi Arabian government, the government said.

## Air cargo terminal at Tirupati to open soon

V PRADEEP KUMAR TIRUPATI

ANYONE interested in sending famous Tirumala laddu prasadam to someone in New Delhi or any other place can simply book in the air cargo, which can reach the destination within a few hours. Not only laddus but also any other consignment can be sent once the dedicated air cargo facility becomes operational at the international airport here by the end of this year.

This assumes significance as it may cater the needs of the entire Rayalaseema region and Nellore district. It was being set up at the old terminal building and all the groundwork has been completed. Though the airport at the pilgrim city attained international status in June 2017, no international services were operated from here for the last three years.

Continued on Page 5

## Indian expat wins \$25K prize for possible Covid treatment

NEW YORK (IANS)

INDIAN-AMERICAN teenager Anika Chebrolu has won a \$25,000 prize for her work on a potential Covid-19 treatment. Along with the prize money, 14-year-old Anika has also been conferred the title of "America's Top Young Scientist" for winning this year's 3M Young Scientist Challenge, a middle school science competition in the US.

Her invention uses in-silico methodology for drug discovery to find a molecule that can selectively bind to the spike protein of the SARS-CoV-2 virus in an attempt to find a cure for the Covid-19 pandemic.

Anika, who comes from Frisco, Texas, said that she entered the competition as she has "always been amazed by science experiments" since her childhood, according to 3M.



She said she was originally drawn towards finding effective cures for influenza disease after a severe bout of the infection last year.

But because of the widespread impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, she changed directions to target SARS-CoV-2, the virus responsible for Covid-19, she told CNN.

Anika said she would like to learn more from 3M scientists to pursue her drug development and with their help and that she would like to conduct in-vitro and in-vivo testing of her lead drug candidate.

The young scientist who finds internet to be the most exciting invention of the past 100 years, hopes to become a medical researcher and professor in the next 15 years.

When she is not pursuing her education or science goals, Anika trains for the Indian classical dance Bharatanatyam, the CNN report said on Monday.



# Womenia

## The beauty of handcrafting

ASKARI JAFFER

"Life shrinks or expands in proportion to one's courage", these lines by Author Anais Nin suits the best for Crafts bazaar's Founder Muskaan Rajput, who turned her artistic dreams into reality. As turning her talent for crafting into a profession wasn't an easy ride, but she did it.

The 24 year old, young entrepreneur is full of energy and new ideas. The idea of Crafts bazaar emerged in her mind back in 2016 when she first started to create personalized gifts just as a hobby. This gave her a small push. The hobby then became a passion and then later the passion shaped into business.

While still being in college she wanted to take her hobbies to another level. In March 2017 she officially opened an Instagram account by the name Crafts-bazaar. That was the first step and perhaps the most difficult one. She belongs to a family where her father is an engineer and mother is a homemaker. She must admit that her family has always been a great support system. Her parents and siblings kept pushing her in the bad times and that has made a lot of difference.

Muskaan is the brainchild behind crafts bazaar. Not only this but she keeps organizing DIY workshops (online and offline both), so that people get to try their hands on the art-form. She even got many opportunities to share her string art at multiple places like with Chaayos, Amity University, Hero Electric, Fossil, Tedx, Andaz, We-work, So delhi, and Lil'flea etc.

Muskaan shares, "The real chal-



Muskaan Rajput,  
Co-founder, Crafts bazaar

**With the zeal and enthusiasm to learn new things and the determination to be better than yesterday, Muskaan started this venture in 2017 with one of her patchmates Vishal Kumar, co-founder, Crafts bazaar and within months her business started to flourish**

lenge was to start and then to keep up the pace. At the starting when there is very little faith of people on us, it was quite difficult to get them to order. As there was no prior investment we had complications in fulfilling the orders too. The slow start never discouraged us. We kept moving and still are growing. As we grow we are bound to face challenges and we are all set to take on the next challenge. Back in the 2017 we started with paper crafts and then moved to string art later on. There are a lot of products available like string

arts, sketches, posters, frames and home decor too. We are also planning to roll some home furnishing stuff by the end of this year."

And now that she looks back how she started this business on a shoestring budget and how far she has come in all these years, she pats her back for having the courage to start this business. Muskaan always had this dream of bringing string-art to the lives of people of Delhi NCR and other cities. She takes order and customizes them according to your suggestions.

Crafts bazaar, as the name de-

picts is a venture which deals with art and crafts and specializes in String art, Decor and much more. This venture is famous for its strings art. The idea is to bring art and craft to people's everyday life.

Crafts bazaar has an Instagram page which will transport you to the magical world of art and décor (<https://www.instagram.com/craftsbazaar/>). They specialize into exclusive art pieces, patterns of string-art, name plate etc. People can place orders from Instagram DM and soon they are going to launch their website.



Most of us have been spending more time indoors than ever before. In a way this is good for our skin as we are not exposed to the harsh sun rays and pollution compared to earlier, however did you know that the UVA rays of the sun can even travel through

the window panes of your house or office?

Many people have been facing skin irritation, dry and peeling skin during this time and the causes of this are many, including diet and lifestyle habits. However it is important that we be cautious of the harmful effects of

the sun even while indoors.

Dr Sunil Kumar Prabhu, Senior Consultant, Dermatology and Aesthetic Physician, Aster RV Hospital shares, "Ultraviolet rays of the sun are responsible for causing skin damage over time. UVA rays cause sun damage on the skin, accelerate aging

and contribute to sun spots. UVB rays are very strong and dangerous and can lead to sunburns or skin cancer."

**Avoid working in sunny spots**  
If you spend time near the window, or out on the verandah or terrace often, note that the sun's

## Protect your skin from sun while indoors

rays can affect your skin. Put a screen on the window to filter out the light or change your seating position. Since we have already entered the monsoon season, people may feel there is no need to worry about the sun but the sun's rays are powerful enough to pass through the thickest of clouds! Sun's rays are particularly strong between 10 A.M to 4 P.M, so avoid the sun during this time.

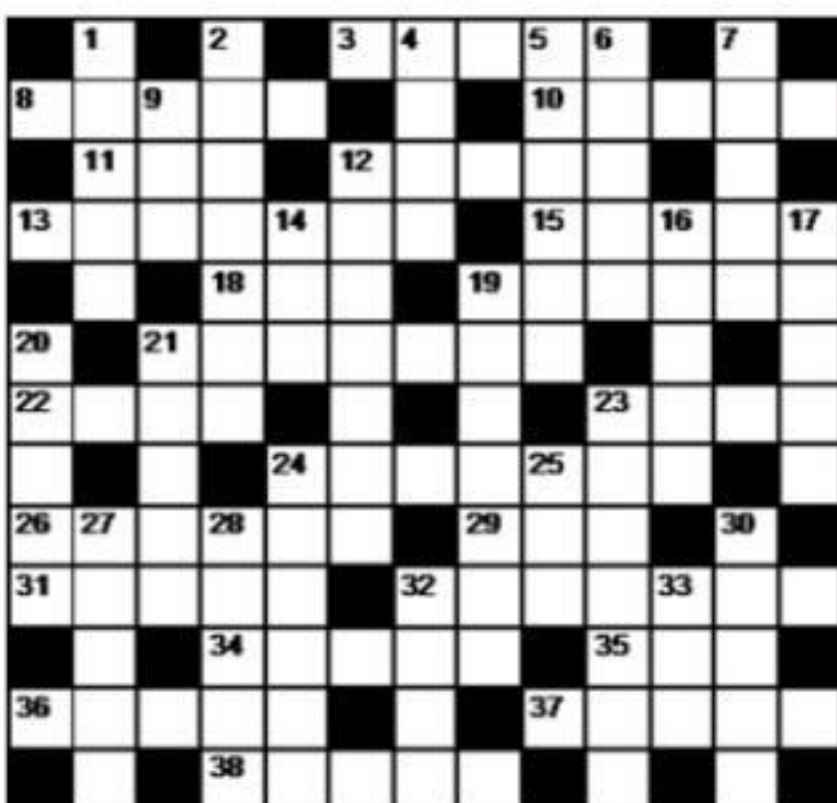
**Wearing sunscreen indoors**  
Although it is a personal choice, if you have particularly sensitive skin and spend a lot of

time in spaces where the sun's rays hit, you could wear sunscreen indoors as well. It may not be practical for people to apply sunscreen indoors all the time. Rather, change your workstation so that you get the benefits of sunlight but the sun's rays are not directly falling on your skin all the time.

**Pamper your skin indoors too**  
We are washing our hands more often or may be facing skin dryness as the weather changes. Keep up with your skin care routine – doing so will also help combat any damage caused by

sun exposure. Regularly moisturize with either natural products such as curd, honey, coconut oil, honey or good quality moisturizers from the market. Use moisturizers with SPF in them. If your skin feels dry and tight after using any natural ingredient then do not continue as it may not be suitable for your skin.

While avoiding harsh sunlight, don't miss out on your Vitamin D. Ensure that you spend at least 20 minutes every day out in the sun before 9 A.M or post 5 P.M, doing some light physical activity like walking or meditation to get the required dose of Vit D.



SOLUTION TO OCTOBER 19

### CROSSWORD

#### Across

- 3 Musers' vehicles (5)
- 8 Manages successfully (5)
- 10 Flightless birds (5)
- 11 Trivial lie (3)
- 12 Do particularly well (5)
- 13 Charming (7)
- 15 Fable writer (5)
- 18 Definite article (3)
- 19 Electrical unit (6)
- 21 Fragment (7)
- 22 Emperor of Russia (4)
- 23 Arch (4)
- 24 Made a sound like a horse? (7)
- 26 Annoyed (6)
- 29 Not cooked (3)
- 31 A boy's pet name - 'Irene' anagram ? (5)
- 32 Competently (7)
- 34 Multimedia device (2-3)
- 35 Charged particle (3)
- 36 Ethical (5)
- 37 Suspend on water (5)
- 38 Make merry (5)

#### Down

- 1 Capital of Bulgaria (5)
- 2 U.S. lexicographer (7)
- 4 Elegance (4)
- 5 \_\_\_ up : imagined or invented ? (6)
- 6 Drag (5)
- 7 Country house (5)
- 9 ATM need (3)
- 12 Corrected text (7)
- 14 Resistance unit (3)
- 16 Stitched (5)
- 17 Hidden (5)
- 19 Word of transposed | letters (7)
- 20 Scenic view (5)
- 21 Black bird (5)
- 23 Strongly regrets (7)
- 24 Tease or harass, badger (6)
- 25 Comforter or quilt (3)
- 27 Blunder or a bloomer (5)
- 28 Clergyman (5)
- 30 Pertaining to the bone in the forearm (5)
- 32 Geometrical shape (4)
- 33 Jeer or deride (3)

### SUDOKU



SOLUTION TO OCTOBER 19

### NEWS ROUNDUP

## Saiee Manjrekar on why 'Dabangg 3' screen test was special

Saiee Manjrekar, who made her debut in the 2019 Salman Khan-starrer Dabangg 3, looks back at her screen test for the film saying she knew she had to impress in the very first take if she was to star alongside her favourite childhood hero.

"During my screen test, I knew that the first take was going to decide my fate to star along with my childhood favourite artist (Salman)," she recalled.

About shooting with Salman and director Prabhudeva, she said that while shooting, it all felt surreal and each day she was on her toes to do justice to the character and the faith Prabhudeva and Salman had put in her. "I got to learn so much from each one of them. It was one of the greatest experiences of my life. We all love a good old origin story, and Chulbul Pandey has been one India's most loved and adored characters of all times. It was a dream come true to be an integral part of that journey. The love that I got for Khushi (her character in the film) is the push I needed to evolve as a person and as an actor. I feel more responsible and driven. Life post Dabangg has been just great," said Mahesh Manjrekar's daughter, about working on the film that also stars Sonakshi Sinha and will soon air on Zee Cinema," she added.







# Bengal Durga puja pandals no-entry zones for visitors: Calcutta HC

KOLKATA

DURGA puja pandals will be no-entry zones for visitors, the Calcutta High Court said, just three days ahead of Bengal's biggest festival. Only organisers will be allowed inside the pandals, the court said, limiting the number to 25 for big pandals and 15 for the smaller ones in view of the coronavirus outbreak.

The court said all pandals will have to erect barricades at their entrance -- the distance is five meters for small pandals and double that for the big ones.

Underscoring the need for compli-

ance in view of public health, the High Court said there are not enough policemen in Kolkata to man crowds at the city's 3000-plus pandals.

Last month, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee had announced plans to "put coronavirus in lockdown and hold the puja this year".

Without naming the opposition, she said: "We will surely organise the Durga puja this year. We have to avoid crowds at any cost because vultures are sitting out there to blame us if we don't allow the puja or if any spike occurs after the puja. They have no responsibility".

The coronavirus figures have been

on the rise across the city as people, over the past weeks, started shopping for the pujas. Throwing caution to the winds, they gathered at the city's shopping areas big and small. Social distancing rules went out of the window as they queued and jostled to get inside the shops. Masks were rarely worn.

The wave of people on the streets triggered concern among health experts, who fear mass infection and a second wave of coronavirus in the state.

On Sunday, the COVID-19 deaths in Bengal went past the 6,000-mark, with 64 more fatalities.

The state also logged a record number of 3,983 fresh cases, which brought the total up to 3,21,036, showed data from the state health department.

In times of the pandemic, evil has attained a new face -- coronavirus. Hence, the Delhi Safdurjung Matri Mandir, an old puja committee in the national capital, has decided to install 'Coronasur' instead of Mahishasura in its toned down Durga Puja this year.

"Every year we create a Mahishasura which the goddess Durga symbolically kills. But this year, we have replaced it with Coronasur," Sumit Guha, one of the organisers at the Safdurjung Matri Mandir, told IANS.



## Violent clashes break out at Assam-Mizoram border

NEW DELHI

SIMMERING tensions prevailed on the Assam-Mizoram border after a violent clash took place between the people of the two states, officials said. The clashes took place on the border between the Kolasib district of Mizoram and Cachar district of Assam. According to officials, the situation is now under control in the area.

A meeting, chaired by Union Home Secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla, between the two state representatives will be held on Monday to take stock of the situation, Mizoram Home Minister Lalchamliana said. Chief secretaries of the two states will be present in the meeting, he said.

Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal said he has apprised the Prime Minister's Office and Union Home Ministry about the prevailing situation in the area. Sonowal also telephoned Mizoram Chief Minister Zoramthanga and spoke to him on the border incident, stressing on the need to take productive measures and joint efforts to address the border issues. Zoramthanga assured Sonowal of efforts to maintain peace at the interstate border and extended cooperation, the Assam government said in a statement.

The two states have deployed security personnel, including those of the Indian Reserve Battalion, in the violence-hit areas near the Vairengte village in Mizoram and Assam's Lailapur, officials said.

## TRP SCAM

# BARC accuses Republic TV of misrepresenting private e-mail

MUMBAI

TV viewership rating agency BARC India has accused Republic TV of misrepresenting its private and confidential communication, saying it has not commented on the ongoing investigation into the alleged manipulation of ratings.

In a statement, Broadcast Audience Research Council (BARC) said it was cooperating with the law enforcement agencies in their ongoing investigation in the Television Rating Points (TRP) manipulation case.

Responding to claims by Republic TV that an email from BARC gives proof of the channel not being involved in any alleged malpractices, the agency said it was "highly disappointed" with the broadcaster's actions.

"BARC India is highly disappointed with the actions of the Republic Network by disclosing private and confidential communications and misrepresenting the same.

"BARC India reiterates that it has not commented on the ongoing investigation and without prejudice to BARC India's rights, it expresses its dismay at the actions of the Republic Network," it said.

Mumbai police, on a BARC complaint, is investigating allegations of manipulation of TRP ratings. Republic TV is one of the four channels being investigated. The BARC statement came after Republic TV disclosed what it said was an email conversation between the agency's CEO Sunil Lulla and Republic Media Network CEO Vikas Khanchandani.

As per the TV network's website, Vikas Khanchandani wrote an email to BARC on October 16, to "confirm in public domain"



that the body has found no infringement by Republic.

"In response to Khanchandani's email, BARC responded on October 17, by thanking the network for their "faith in the internal mechanisms of BARC" and said that "if there was any disciplinary action initiated against ARG Outlier Media (Republic's owner), then BARC India would have communicated the same to you along with necessary documents for your response", the website said.

"Thus, this e-mail proves that BARC did not allege any malpractice against the Republic Media Network," it added.

Reacting to BARC's statement, Republic TV owner Arnab Goswami told PTI, that the email of BARC confirms that the police commissioner lied.

"Mumbai Police Commissioner Param Bir Singh should immediately quit," Mr Goswami said. BARC did not elaborate on the exact parts of the email which makes it feel that the communication was "misrepresented". Six people have been arrested by the police in the scam, which allegedly involves inducing homes which form the sample set whose TV viewing is monitored to ensure that certain channels get higher ratings.

The ratings are a key influencer of advertiser preferences while placing commercials.

NEW DELHI (IANS)

INDIA detained a Chinese soldier in the Demchok sector in the disputed border in Eastern Ladakh. As per established protocols, he will be returned back to Chinese officials at the Chushul - Moldo meeting point after completion of formalities.

The soldier, a corporal, is being questioned to establish whether he was on an espionage mission.

"A PLA soldier identified as Corporal Wang Ya Long was apprehended in the Demchok sector of Eastern Ladakh on October 19, 2020 after he had strayed across the LAC," Indian Army in a statement said.

The Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) soldier told Indian agencies that he had crossed the disputed border to retrieve a yak that had strayed into Indian territory.

The force said that the PLA soldier has been provided medical



assistance including oxygen, food and warm clothes to protect him from the vagaries of extreme altitude and harsh climatic conditions.

"A request has also been received from the PLA about the whereabouts of the missing soldier," the Indian Army said.

India and China have amassed thousands of soldiers, tanks and

missiles in the worst ever border crisis in four decades. Multiple rounds of talks between senior military commanders and diplomats and ministers have failed to resolve the crisis.

Winters have arrived on the Himalayas and soldiers now face the prospect of braving temperate -- 30 degrees below zero degree Celsius.

# Twitter claims J&K shown as part of China technical error

NEW DELHI

TWITTER India has claimed to have resolved a controversial issue pertaining to the geographical location tag on a live video posted by national security analyst, Nitin Gokhale. A live video of Leh's Hall of Fame memorial in India's Ladakh Union Territory, posted on Twitter by Gokhale, was erroneously tagged as being located in Jammu and Kashmir, which in turn was marked as being part of China. As controversy erupted on the matter, a Twitter India spokesperson has confirmed to News18 that the tag occurred as a result of a "technical issue", which has reportedly been re-

solved now, accordig to News18 report.

The spokesperson for Twitter India said "We became aware of this technical issue on Sunday, and understand and respect the sensitivities around it. The teams have worked swiftly to investigate and resolve the concerned geotag issue."

The issue comes in light of continued geopolitical tensions between India and its neighbouring nation China, which saw the two nations engaged in a stand-off at the Galwan Valley clash in India's Ladakh territory. However, it is not clear if Twitter India has entirely managed to clarify or resolve the issue, as yet. Kanchan Gupta, a distinguished fellow of the Observer Re-



search Foundation in India, also posted on Twitter regarding the ordeal, underlining

that the geotag still shows Leh as territory of Jammu and Kashmir, without mentioning the country.

Gupta posted that alongside the issue of being marked to China, while Twitter's geographical tags for the rest of the regions in India mention India as the nation, that does not appear to be the case for Leh. News18 could independently verify that under Twitter's geotags at present, Leh is being marked as territory of Jammu and Kashmir. However, other locations such as Kolkata or Noida are clearly marked as territory of India. However, the mention of Jammu and Kashmir being in China's territory appears to have been removed.

# BJP MLA told to stay away from Ballia probe

Main accused tells police he fired in self-defence

NEW DELHI

THE Central leadership of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Monday stepped in and cracked the whip against MLA Surendra Singh over his statements regarding the firing incident in Ballia district in Uttar Pradesh. BJP National President JP Nadda has asked party's Uttar Pradesh chief Swatantra Dev Singh to convey it to the MLA to stay away from the probe, sources said.

This comes a day after the MLA met Swatantra Dev Singh in Lucknow after being summoned over

his statements in connection with the Ballia incident in which a man had died after bullets were fired during a meeting for allotment of shops under government quota, in Durjanpur village.

"BJP National President JP Nadda spoke with UP BJP chief Swatantra Dev Singh, expressing his displeasure over statements of MLA Surendra Singh regarding Ballia incident. He asked the party's UP chief to convey it to MLA Surendra Singh to stay away from the probe," BJP sources told ANI. Dharendra Pratap Singh, a local BJP leader who was arrested for

allegedly shooting a man during the allotment of ration shops here, has told police that he fired in self-defence and claimed the other side started the quarrel, officials said on Monday. He also assured police that he would help in the recovery of the weapon used in the crime, they said.

Singh allegedly shot dead Jai Prakash Pal Gama (46) on Thursday following a quarrel over the allotment of ration shops at Durjanpur village in Ballia's Reoti area. Senior administration and police officials were present at the meeting when the incident took place.

## Jailed UP MLA, son booked for gang rape

BHADOHI (IANS)

A case of gang rape has been lodged against jailed MLA Vijay Mishra, his son Vishnu Mishra and another relative in Bhadohi, the police said. A woman, in her mid-thirties lodged the report at the Gopiganj police station, alleging that Mishra sexually assaulted her several times at gunpoint in 2014. She said that his son Vishnu Mishra and his relative Vikas Mishra also raped her. Krishnanand Rai, inspector of Gopiganj police station, said the case was registered against Vijay Mishra, his son Vishnu Mishra and relative Vikas Mishra under sections 376D (gang-rape), 342 (wrongful confinement) and 506 (criminal intimidation) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC).

# Pawar: If Koshyari has self-respect he will quit

MUMBAI (PTI)

TARGETING Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari over his letter to Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray, NCP chief Sharad Pawar on Monday said anybody with self-respect will not continue in the post. Talking to reporters in Osmanabad district, Pawar said Union Home Minister Amit Shah has also said that certain use of words could have been avoided in the letter.

"Anyone with self-respect will not continue in the post. Who are we to make any demand," Pawar said.

"After the Union home minister's statement expressing disappointment over language in the



letter, anybody with self-respect will take a call on whether to continue in the post or not," he added.

Koshyari recently wrote to Thackeray on reopening places of worship in the state and asked if the Shiv Sena president had "suddenly turned secular," triggering a war of words between the governor and the chief minister. Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Sat-

urday told a news channel that "Koshyari could have chosen his words better".

Asked about speculations that senior BJP leader Eknath Khadse may join the NCP, Pawar said Khadse was earlier the leader of opposition and played a huge role in building the BJP in the state. "He would criticise us and we would take note of it," the NCP chief said. "One is bound to feel disturbed if his contributions and hard work are not taken note of. He may think why shouldn't he shift to a party which appreciates his work," he said.

Khadse has been sulking since he was made to resign as a minister in the then BJP government in 2016 on allegations of corruption.

# MP bypolls: Kamal Nath's 'item' remark raises political heat

SANDEEP PAURANIK  
GWALIOR/LUCKNOW (IANS)

AHEAD of the bypolls for 28 Assembly seats in Madhya Pradesh, Congress leader Kamal Nath's use of 'item' word for Madhya Pradesh Minister and Dalit leader Imarti Devi has generated political heat and led to condemnation by BJP leaders apart from BSP leader Mayawati.

It comes in the wake of "coming from a hungry and ill-clad family" remarks used by another Congress leader Dinesh Gurjar for Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan.

While campaigning in Dabra segment in Gwalior district on Sunday, Kamal Nath had allegedly called Imarti Devi an 'item', mak-

ing the BJP turn aggressive and trying to derive political mileage from the situation even as the Congress accused BJP of trying to misinterpret certain words.

The process of filing of nominations for the Assembly seats, which will go to polls on November 3, has since been completed and both parties are now in full campaigning mode.

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said that Kamal Nath's remark against the Minister was symptomatic of "petty mentality".

"Imarti Devi is a daughter of a farmer who began doing labour in her village and has since emerged as a public representative in building the nation. First, the Congress



called me 'hungry and ill-clad' and now she has been called an 'item'. This shows the feudal mindset of Kamal Nath," the Chief Minister said.

BJP MP and former Congress leader Jyotiraditya Scindia said that "calling a woman coming from

a poor labourer family an item and 'jalebi' by another Congress leader Ajay Singh was both condemnable and objectionable.

"Kamal Nath's comments reflect his thinking towards Dalits and women. Similarly, Digvijay Singh had used such remarks

against party leader Meenakshi Natarajan."

BJP state unit President Vishnudatt Sharma too flayed the remarks as "shameful", particularly against a woman when the country was celebrating Navratras.

"Kamal Nath has insulted the womanhood by calling the Minister an item," Sharma alleged. In Lucknow, Bahujan Samaj Party supreme Mayawati too jumped into the controversy and demanded on Monday that the Congress leadership should issue a public apology for the remark against a Dalit woman.

She said the remark was "objectionable". The remarks made by a former Chief Minister against a Dalit woman candidate in Dabra

(Reserve) Assembly segment is highly shameful and needs to be condemned. The Congress leadership should take note and issue a public apology," the former Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister tweeted. She appealed to the Dalit voters to teach a lesson to the Congress in the by-elections in Madhya Pradesh and vote for her BSP to ensure that such incidents don't occur in future.

On the other hand, Kamal Nath said the BJP was indulging in a "false propaganda" regarding his remarks.

"I did use the word 'item', but it is not an insulting word. I am also an item, you are also an item. In this sense, we all are items. During legislative proceedings, we use

words like 'item numbers'. When the state's people are in a pathetic condition, the BJP instead of wiping their tears is making an issue out of consumption of a beverage by me. Is it a public issue? Are the people's lives connected with this?" the Congress leader and former Chief Minister remarked.

Political observers feel that issues which have nothing to do with the general masses are given a political colour to influence voters, in the absence of discussion on real issues affecting them.

The BJP will not let go of the chance to use the 'hungry and ill-clad' and 'item' remarks to its advantage by making these as 'rich vs poor' and 'Dalit' and 'women' issues ahead of the by-elections.



## Will Nepal realise what China is up to?

In a fitting lesson to Nepal, China has not only encroached upon the former's sovereign area in the Limi region of Nepal's Humla district, but also has blocked all access of the Nepalese people to it including its officials. It is a lesson to Nepal for trusting China over India. The political situation in Nepal is somewhat precipitous.

In early May, the political crisis had deepened in Nepal and senior leaders of Nepal Communist Party had publicly demanded Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli's resignation. At the time when political turmoil was on the peak, Oli approached China which is said to have played a significant role in saving his government. Chinese Ambassador Hou Yanqi held a series of meetings with senior Nepal communist Party leaders and resolved the crisis. She also sought the support of Nepal against an international

movement targeting China. Most political analysts agree that it is not Nepal but Oli personally who is behind the developments. Oli has manipulated the UML and MC merger process to capture both posts of Party Chairman and President. While applying one man one post principle for everyone, Oli refused to follow it himself, leading to opposition from other leaders. He also made his close confidant as President.

When there was opposition by Madhav Nepal and Prachanda to his leadership of the Party, Oli approached the Chinese Ambassador for help. Then Chinese Ambassador pressurized Madhav Nepal and Prachanda to back off and save Oli. Now Oli is paying back for this help. However, Oli's silence on Chinese occupation of its territory is beyond any logic.

How would the Prime Minister of a country cede land to the neighbour over a political favour? A team Nepalese of officials and politicians recently visited the border region and confirmed the Chinese encroachment. There were protests in front of the Chinese embassy in Nepal over it sometime back. But,

the government preferred ignoring it while fanning opposition to India over Lipulekh, Kalapani etc. by including the areas in its map. Of late, an army post too is established in the area. India has never been the aggressor nor has ever occupied a foreign country's territory.

On the other hand China is known only for that. China has done the same to Bhutan. The less said about the other countries land that China is salami slicing, the better. Nepal should note that it is not just this Humla area that is lost to China. The latter has recently staked a claim to the Everest itself. The ruling Oli government which has been accused of being pro-Chinese denied all allegations of encroachment. It has always used Pakistan against India and now, it is planning to use Nepal against India.

Nepal and India not only share good political friendship, but also people to people contact. India will always be its friend. If Oli is playing a diabolic game, it is time the Nepalese people wake up to the reality in the best interests of their own country.



## Pak tells Hafiz Saeed to push militants into Valley

SUMIT KUMAR SINGH

As India enhanced its infiltration grid at Line of Control, Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) held a meeting with Lashkar-e-Taiba chief Hafiz Saeed and Hizbul Mujahideen head Syed Salahuddin to push militants into Kashmir to carry out unrest in the valley, a top government source said.

Salahuddin and Saeed are Specially Designated 'Global Terrorist' by the US Department of State.

To execute this, Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) held a high-level meeting with heads of terror organisations at Kotli on October 4, 2020 and at Nikial on October 7, 2020, the source said. The meeting was attended by Syed Salahuddin and Hafiz Saeed, all launch pad commanders and guides of various tanzems.

The source said that each tanzem has been allotted Rs 20 lakhs and an additional Rs 30 lakhs have been promised, if successful operations are conducted by them. Around 270 to 300 terrorists are camping in various launch pads across the Line of Control in Pakistan-Occupied-Kashmir. Sources further pointed out that they are making infiltration attempts before winter sets in the valley.

It was also found that infiltration along the Line of Control with Pakistan in Jammu and Kashmir has stopped substantially. The Line of Control is a de facto border between India and Pakistan in the region of Kashmir. Last year, there were 130 infiltrations that took place and this year 27 have been reported so far.

It was also found that Border Action Team (BAT) actions have been activated at some launch pads near the Line of Control. "A group of 80 terrorists have been seen at launch pads of Athmuqam, Dudhnial and Thandapani areas opposite Keren Sector. Presence of Pakistan Army Pakistan Army Special Service Group (SSG) has been indicated for carrying out BAT action," source said.

A group of 10 terrorists opposite Tangdhar sector near Neelam Valley with Jaish-e-Mohammed and Lashkar-e-Taiba terrorists is planning for infiltration and they have also planned BAT action. Further, a group of 40 terrorists were found opposite Poonch area camping at Pakistan villages in Sujian area having groups of Jaish-e-Mohammed and Al Badar. Sources also stated that a group of 20 terrorists were spotted opposite Krishna Ghati camping at Madarpur and Nattar areas. Another group of 35 terrorists was spotted opposite Bhimber Gali camping at the general area of Lanjot planning for infiltration. Presence of SSG personnel indicated the intention of BAT actions and also standoff fire at some locations.

## Water proofing in today's times

W CHANDRAKANTH

This is just too much, one would muse. Looking at the landscape awash in the never ending rains both seasonal and cyclonic, one would only wonder as to what could be the reason for the punishment pouring in from the skies. It is not just the Telugu States that are dripping constantly but also their neighbours.

It sometimes drips and drips by the day and in between gains momentum to make the 'nalas' and drains run onto the streets of our cities, be it Hyderabad, Vijayawada, Visakhapatnam, Guntur or Warangal only to create a strange spectacle of unholy confluence of mud and filth, sending the waters into the houses and the residents on to the roofs of their shelters. Who is to be blamed for the travails of commoners these days? Gods in the skies or the planners in the cities? All those who allowed encroachments of the water bodies and permitted constructions in the lake beds? Oh no! Waters are not encroaching upon the cities. It is the other way round. Waters are only attempting to reclaim their bodies. It is not just us, even the fictional characters fought their wars with water.

With no one around him in 1719, Robinson Crusoe on his island, was similarly attentive to the problem of keeping out the rain. How? He underwent an intensive training self-training programme in the most primal and sophisticated of arts – the art of building shelters.

Crusoe, Defoe says, constructed first a double-layered tent and then, in time, a "fortification" as stout and impermeable as he could. It was not watertight, of course, but he engineered a drainage system to let any excess water out. In his dizzying state of solitude, unsure which of his perceptions can be relied upon, he worshipped the firm walls, which promise certainty. Was Crusoe far ahead of his times in meditating on a drainage system to save him? Seems so, isn't it so?

Why cannot our governments make us water proof in these modern days? Crusoe, in the absence of any help from anyone or any authority, makes himself waterproof. He became a designer of rain gear. He made a fur hat "to shoot off the rain" and finally, after much trial and error, he made a giant umbrella which "casts off the Rains like a Penthouse". Maybe we all have to take a cue from him and become Crusoes of the day with little to expect from the governments. When Crusoe leaves his island he takes three things with him as souvenirs. One is the parrot, who has been his constant companion; the other two are his hat and umbrella. These portable shelters are Crusoe's emblems. They are the signs of human craftsmanship and ingenuity combined in the struggle against water. Or else one has to fall in love with moistness as in The Mill on the Floss.



Madabhushi Sridhar Acharyulu

The question before people in general is whether an accused in dozens of cases file a complaint against the Judge of High Court and Supreme Court? Is there a prohibition of such complaints? It is not important to

discuss the names of complaining and complained. For complaining one cannot condemn Jaganmohan Reddy, and because of his complaint, one cannot assume that Justice NV Ramana is wrong. To complain against is the basic right of every citizen. To consider the complaint who ever has given or against whom so ever it was given, is the legitimate duty of appropriate authority.

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Jaganmohan Reddy made several allegations against sitting judge of Supreme Court and some Judges of AP High Court that former was influencing and the later were got influenced unduly influencing, that affected some of his decisions as an elected Chief Minister. More than complaining, putting all the allegations with detailed annexures in public domain raised several questions of propriety and possibility of contempt action. It is said "Justice must not only be done but must also be seen to be done". Lord Hewart, the then Lord Chief Justice of England said it in Rex v. Sussex Justices, [1924] 1 KB 256. The King also has certain duties, as it goes the Caesar's wife must be above suspicion.

Basis of criticism against this complaining Chief Minister Jaganmohan Reddy is that he has more than dozen criminal charges pending to be tried. The complaint was against No.2 Judge, Justice NV Ramana. Point to be noted is that he is monitoring speedy trial of such cases against political leaders, some of them are against Jaganmohan Reddy. Whether AP Chief Minister's scathing letter of complaint to the Chief Justice of India is an 'attack' or 'declaration of war' against the judiciary. The AP CM's letter is very serious, sensational, its consequences could be quite unusual or extraordinary.

The action of Jaganmohan Reddy can be classified as primarily a complaint with a strong suspicion of undue influence. The CM has every right and authority like any citizen to file a complaint in such circumstances. As a party to dispute, who does not get justice or feels strongly that he did not get justice, he has a right to complain. The allegation is not just against the Supreme Court judge but also against specifically named judges of AP High Court. This assumes serious propositions, that is the reason for the serious debate that is going on all over the country.

### Criticism and allegation

While Prashant Bhusan made a criticism on the role of judiciary and democracy, Jagan made an allegation. Prashant's comments were considered contemptuous. Whether complaining or putting it in public domain is contempt? Or is it



defamatory? It depends upon strength of evidence he might advance. Jaganmohan Reddy in his eight-page letter initially expresses his belief in Constitutional institutions including judiciary and then begins his 'unpleasant duty' to place on record the complaint to the Chief Justice of India. In paragraph (a) he exposed malfeasances and misfeasance of Chandrababu Naidu leading to the amassing huge wealth during his rule between 2014-19. Jagan stated he believed that such a course of disapproval of Naidu's misdeeds was perfectly within the Constitutional authority vested in an elected Government.

### AP gov asks CBI to probe Naidu's assets

The letter explains that the Committee headed by him prima facie found that various individuals and bodies corporate closely associated with Chandrababu Naidu and his government purchased considerable extent of land (approximately in the order of 4000 acres) by adopting various illegal means. He stated that the report was such committee was placed before the Legislative Assembly, which opined deeper enquiry was needed into the allegations, and the government forwarded the report to Union of India seeking CBI investigation into it.

Jaganmohan Reddy explained that though his Government was competent enough to take up appropriate action on these illegalities, he preferred inquiry by a body over which he would not have administrative control, to avoid the criticism of political vendetta. The paragraphs from (a) to (c) of CM's letter reflect no problem or illegality at all. It was a right move of the CM to hand over the investigation into the acts of former Chief Minister and leader of opposition to the CBI instead of retaining it with his own police administration.

In paragraph (d), the CM stated: "it is my painful duty to place on record that in the course of enquiry by the Cabinet Sub-Committee and also during the course of preliminary investigation conducted by the Anti-Corruption Bureau in a complaint, it came to light that two daughters of Honourable Sri Justice NV Ramana, a sitting Judge of Supreme

Court and some of his close associates and relatives are beneficiaries of various questionable transactions of land within the area which came to be eventually notified as a location of the new capital proposed by Sri Chandrababu Naidu. The said transactions took place in the inter-regnum period between Mr Chandrababu Naidu's swearing in as CM of AP and the public announcement of location of the new capital. From the records it appears that a few transactions were routed through Mr Dammalapati Srinivas who at the relevant point of time was functioning as Additional Advocate General of AP. It is a notorious fact that said Mr Srinivas is too closely associated with Sri Justice NV Ramana and N Chandrababu Naidu with whose blessings he eventually became the Advocate General of Andhra Pradesh".

The main part of the complaint is explained in this paragraph: "Around January 2020, it was in the public domain that high functionaries of various institutions, have purchased lands in Amaravati. A series of Writ Petitions were filed since January 2020 challenging the Bills passed by the Assembly providing for three capitals and one of the key points discussed in the Assembly, was the stake of vested interests in Amaravati capital and agencies reports indicated that the protests organized in this regard, were funded and organized by such vested individuals. Nearly 30 PILs were got filed at various stages of legitimate government functioning, impleading the Chief Minister as party respondent, with the choicest of abuses".

### Main allegation

Main allegation is that the SC Judge is influencing the AP High Court's judges to give pro-TDP orders. The letter pointed out three aspects in support of his allegation- The course of influence was in the areas of: 1) Roster for sitting of the Honourable Judges, whereby important matters of policy and protection for Chandrababu Naidu's interests were posted before a few Honourable Judges (names given), 2) The entertaining of PILs lowering the threshold for acceptance of PILs by the High Court on the judicial side, 3) Some specific orders passed by the Hon-

ourable Court.

Roster for sitting of benches and taking up matters is power with the Chief Justice, which was point of criticism of four SC judges who revolted against Chief Justice of India. But how can anybody say that someone from Delhi has influenced constituting the benches and allocating the matters?

Enclosures to letter contain opinion on candidates proposed to be elevated as judges of High Court from Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and Justice NV Ramana, senior member of Collegium, which were verbatim same, though given separately. This is quoted to establish proximity between the two. Is that enough to prove the continued proximity between former CM and SC Judge?

Another set of enclosures are claimed to be meant for media, which listed the orders of High Court judges that were allegedly given to protect the interests of Telugu Desam leaders. The orders of HC to stay the investigation into deaths in Ramesh Hospital, insider trading allegations and gag order on media from reporting the contents of FIR were criticised as unreasonable and biased.

### Confusion and uncertainty

The controversy kicked off by the Jagan government quoting orders against the government allegedly supporting interests of opposition TDP, will have a direct impact on functioning of the High Court in Andhra Pradesh. Whether the High Court benches should go ahead with hearing of the cases or not? Or should the AP HC look to Supreme Court for the guidance? Dozens of petitions which are in different stages of hearing will depend upon the response to the Chief Justice of India.

An atmosphere of uncertainty and confusion is prevailing over the adjudication of the cases in Andhra Pradesh. The nation looks to CJJ to clear this confusion by considering Jagan's complaint. It could be rejected as without substance, or considered if there is substance, and be sent to Parliament, if the allegation is substantial and serious enough to warrant impeachment.

*(The writer is Dean, School of Law, Bennett University, and former Central Information Commissioner)*

## LETTERS

### Hy'dar'abad!

This has reference to the editorial – It is time the civic body acted right; city is under threat. (October 19). It is time the Hyderabad city planners rationally focused their attention and creativity, learning from the monsoon fury feedback, to prudently gear up to face the flood situation in the twin cities.

I lived in Secunderabad for over 30 years of my life, and continue to visit the place; every year and I love the city of my birth. The city has undergone tremendous change by way of infrastructure development as metro rail began the service on routes and malls and multiplex cinema halls mushroomed in the city. The Hyderabad Municipality did not care for the removal of encroachments to the tune of 28,000 in number, in several parts of the city that included dargahs and mosques, located in the middle of several busy main roads, creating bottlenecks for smooth traffic flow. The devastation in the city should make the GHMC and the State government sit up to avoid similar catastrophes in future. This must be a single point of agenda to save places that are vulnerable to water logging, due to inadequate drainage. The existing nalas (canals) in many areas of the twin cities which are not properly maintained as domestic and city waste is callously dumped into them. The bad town planning

methods of giving approval for construction in low-lying areas which were previously tanks and water bodies that left no room for the excess water to drain away, during heavy rains and spare the localities from watery graves must be the top priority by the concerned authorities in future.

There are problems of encroachment on all available places on the banks of Musi, in parts of the old city, preventing free flow of flood water, said to be the main reason for the inundation of localities. The open uncovered drains, and bad roads took the toll of several unwary lives and vehicles in the past. There have been many such incidents in the Hi-tech city area, when people were sucked into them. The AIMIM, on its part, should play a constructive and cooperative role for the welfare of all.

S. Lakshmi, Wayanad

### II

Almost every year the twin cities and its suburbs receive a heavy downpour. The misery faced by the denizens on account of flooding of low lying areas, water logging, overflowing drains are, not to mention, a common feature. And with it loss of lives due to wall and roof collapses, people being swept away by the swirling surging waters is heart rending. The time for the city's civic body to take measures on war footing is all the more a dire necessity These are : Levelling of roads especially in low lying areas, repairing of pot holes, keeping ready a disaster team from the SDRF, demolishing unauthorised & very old con-

structions which includes apartments and individual houses., construction of rain water harvesting pits etc.

The municipal authorities need to make construction of Rain Water Harvesting mandatory for all new apartment buildings & if possible urge the old apartment builders, & owners of individual houses to take up construction of rain water recharging pits. This will save enormous quantity of runaway rain water which otherwise gets wasted. It's high time the civic administration gets its act together to ensure the safety of citizens.

NR Raghuram, Hyderabad

### Time to 'traditionalise' religions

The controversy from a simple and beautiful advertisement points to a deeper problem in understanding Indian society. Defining religion in Indian context through a book, a God, a doctrine, a Temple is problematic. India does not have religions but a huge number of traditions (sampradayas) with rituals as its foundational basis. Rituals unite people and religions divide people. The defining aspect of any traditional culture is an indifference to differences going beyond the standard tolerances or acceptances. It is a metaphysical and sociological impossibility that Indian culture knows of religions as reasoned by eminent scholars.

Ironically, secularism seems to be generating fundamentalism instead of being an antidote to it. No state or court possesses an impartial uniformly applicable scientific criterion of identi-

fying and delimiting religion. Core issues of Uniform Civil Code, temple control by governments, and proselytization become key sore points in the discourse of secularism in the country.

Historically, Indian society was far more tolerant and liberal than any society so far. For over a millennium, India had presence of Vedic, non-Vedic, and even atheistic traditions living with Zoroastrian Parsis, Muslims, Jews, and Christians in mostly peace. Indian society never disintegrated despite the diversity; hence it must have known successful practices and mechanisms of coexistence. The assumption that all conflicts are in support of 'ultimate ideals' and 'truth value' of individual groups is brilliantly wrong in the Hindu-Muslim conflicts in India. Different from religious conflicts between Christian confessions or between Islam and Christianity in the West, these conflicts have been more socio-economic and political. There are no attempts to study this. Due to an inappropriate secularism, a flexible, absorbing mass of traditions slowly converts to a religion in trying to define holy books, principles, and ideals. Starting with the Arya Samaj and the Brahmo Samaj, through Savarkar's writings, through the political movements post-independence, a rich mass of pluralistic traditions stringently defines itself, crystallizing into 'Hindutva', which the critics want to eagerly label as the almost oxymoronic 'Hindu fundamentalism' or even 'fascism'.

Dr Pingali Gopal, Warangal

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# Aarogyasri trust warns network hospitals

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
VIJAYAWADA

THE network hospitals registered under Aarogyasri health care trust were not admitting the patients under Employees Health Scheme (EHS) but advising them to get admitted under the cash payment system.

The chief executive officer of Dr YSR Aarogyasri Health Care Trust, Dr Mallikarjuna, warned the network hospitals not to admit the patients under cash payment scheme since the government was clearing the dues. He recalled that the government had released Rs 31 crore on October 13 and soon Rs 16 crore will be released.

He said that the contribution of the employees had been raised from Rs 90 and Rs 120 to Rs 225 and Rs 300 respectively and the government also increased its contribution in the



- ▶ Trust CEO tells the hospitals not to admit patients eligible for Employees Health Scheme under cash payment system
- ▶ If they do so, penalty 10 times the amount they collected from patients will be imposed and the hospitals will be blacklisted for three months

same manner. He instructed the network hospitals to admit the patients under the EHS scheme and provide them good treatment.

He warned that if the hospitals fail to admit the patients

under EHS or admit them under the cash payment system, a penalty 10 times the amount collected from patients will be imposed on the hospitals and they will be suspended for three months from all the schemes.

## MEIL donates ₹10 cr to TS CM Relief Fund

HYDERABAD

MEGHA Engineering and Infrastructures (MEIL) an-

nounced Rs 10 crore as a donation to CM Relief Fund of Telangana, on Monday to help people affected by recent

floods in the Hyderabad. MEIL said that aid was announced to help flood victims and support the government in relief efforts and added that as a responsible corporate, they came forward to help the people of Hyderabad and the government during the crisis.

■ Party chief reshuffles politburo, appoints Balakrishna as politburo member for first time

■ Ramana will remain Telangana unit chief, MLA Mecha Nageswara Rao made national vice-president

■ Apart from Nara Lokesh, 8 national general secretaries include Varla Ramaiah, Rammohan Naidu, Nimmala Ramanaidu

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
AMARAVATI

AS expected, TDP supremo N Chandrababu Naidu announced senior leader Kinjarapu Athchannaidu as the new president of TDP Andhra Pradesh unit on Monday. The strategic move came a month after the Naidu allocated 50 per cent of party parliamentary unit posts to backward classes (BCs).

Former minister Atchannaidu, a BC leader, hails from prominent Kinjarapu political family in north Andhra, replaces another leader from the region Kimidi Kala Venkata Rao. His appointment is seen as



a calculated move aimed at taking the party closer to the backward classes and the weaker sections.

The TDP president also appointed new members to the party's central committee and politburo. L Ramana has been retained as the president of TDP Telangana state unit.

Naidu, however, did not reconstitute the AP state committee though a new president has been appointed. For the first time, film star and two-time MLA Nandamuri Balakrishna has been appointed as a member of the politburo, which has a total of 25 members, including three ex-officio.

Balakrishna will be a representative of the party founder N T Rama Rao's family in the politburo, replacing his late brother Nandamuri Harikri-

shna. Naidu's son Nara Lokesh has been retained as the general secretary in the central committee, by virtue of which he will also be an ex-officio member in the politburo.

Former minister Kollu Ravindra, who was recently arrested in a murder case, has also been taken into the politburo. Another former minister Pithani Satyanarayana, who has also been named in the ESI scam along with Atchannaidu, also got a place in the politburo. Guntur MP Galla Jayadev has been made politburo member in place of his mother Galla Aruna Kumari, who recently resigned from her post.

However, she has now been made a vice-president in the central committee. Besides Ramana, who will be an ex-officio member, the politburo has only

two other members from Telangana where the party is facing a virtual extinction. In the 15-member central committee, four from Telangana, including an MLA Mecha Nageswara Rao, found place while another has been made the official spokesman. Former legislator Sriram Rajagopal Tataiah has been appointed as the party treasurer. MLC Bachhula Arjunudu has been made chairman of the party disciplinary committee

Six national vice-presidents, eight national general secretaries and six national official spokespersons were appointed, among others.

Kavali Prathiba Bharati, Galla Aruna Kumari, D K Satya Prabha, Kotla Surya Prakash Reddy, Mecha Nageswara Rao and Chiluvuru Kasinadh have been appointed national central vice-presidents.

The eight national general secretaries included Lokesh along with Varla Ramaiah, Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu, Nimmala Ramanaidu, Beeda Ravi Chandra, Kothakota Dayakar Reddy, Kambhampati Rammohan Rao and Bakkani Nar-simhulu.

National official spokespersons include Gunapati Deepak Reddy, Kommareddy Pattabhiram, Mohammed Naseer, Prem Kumar Jain, T. Jyotshna and Nannuri Narsi Reddy.

## 56 BC copns just a ruse, says Tulasi Reddy

- PCC working president alleges that Chief Minister formed BC corporations to divide backward communities and to avoid problems from BC leaders in future
- Says Jagan does not have clarity on the 56 BC corporations and using them for his selfish politics

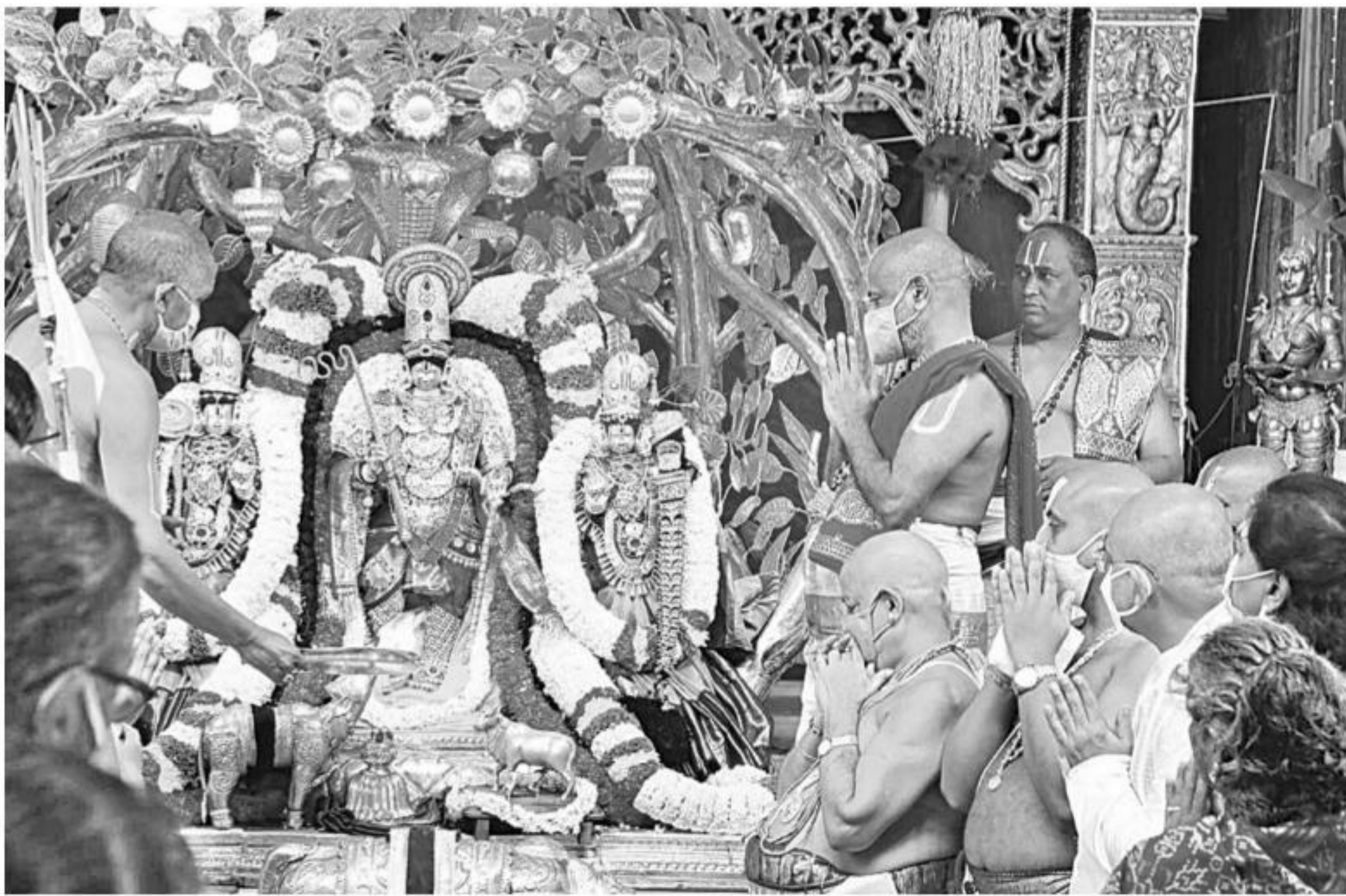
HANS NEWS SERVICE  
KADAPA

DESCRIBING the formation of 56 BC corporations as a political ruse, Andhra Pradesh Congress Committee working president N Tulasi Reddy alleged that Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy has no clarity on the development of backward classes as he was utilising them for his selfish politics.

Speaking to media persons at Vempalle on Monday, Tulasi Reddy said that if Jagan was really sincere on his commitment to the development of BCs, he should offer either Chief Minister post or his party chief post to the BCs in the interest of their all-round development.

"Jagan hatched a conspiracy to divide backward classes to avoid problems from BC leaders in future. He had set up 56 BC corporations without providing funds to them," he alleged.

The Congress leader said that in 1970, Congress provided 25 per cent reservations in education and jobs and 25 years ago, it provided 34 per cent reservations in local body elections to BCs. Congress was responsible for introduction of scholarships and fee reimbursement to backward classes, he added.



Lord Malayappa Swamy on Kalpavruksha Vahanam on the 4th day of Navaratri Brahmotsavams on Monday

## LORD ENTHRALS DEVOUT IN RAJAMANNAR ALANKARAM

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
TIRUMALA

ON the fourth day of Srivari Navaratri Brahmotsavams on Monday, Sri Malayappa enthralled devotees on Kalpavruksha Vahanam in Rajamannar alankaram.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, the processional idols of Lord Malayappa and his two consorts mounted atop the flower-decked golden Kalpavruksha Vahanam placed at the Kalyana Mandapam

● Malayappa Swamy along with his divine consorts is mounted on golden Kalpavruksha Vahanam on the Day-4 of Navaratri Brahmotsavams

● In the evening, the Lord is taken on Sarva Bhoopala Vahanam in Balakrishna (Uttikotte Kirshna) alankaram

of Srivari temple with no pilgrim participation.

Hindu mythology says that the Kalpavruksha Vahanam is embedded with divine Kalpavruksha, Kamadhenu and Chintamani.

Known for granting boons to fulfil the devotees' all worldly desires, Srimal Bhagavatham says all those who took shelter under Kalpavruksha became prosperous. Legends also say that the

'Tree of Boons' (Kalpavriksha) surfaced during the churning of 'Ksheera Sagaram' (milky ocean).

Later in the evening, Lord Venkateshwara on Sarva Bhoopala Vahanam blessed the devotees in Balakrishna (Uttikotte Kirshna) alankaram, along with his consorts. Tirumala pontiffs Sri Pedda Jeeyar Swamy and Sri Chinna Jeeyar Swamy, TTD EO Dr K S Jawahar Reddy, additional EO A V Dharma Reddy, board members and others were present.

## AP logs 2,918 new casese

AMARAVATI

STATE'S Covid-19 tally rose to 7,86,050 on Monday as 2,918 new cases were added, but the number of active cases reduced to just about 35,000.

The latest bulletin said 4,303 patients also got cured in 24 hours ending 9 am on Monday, taking the total recoveries to 7,44,532.

The overall toll increased to 6,453 after 24 more casualties were reported in 24 hours.

East Godavari district reported the highest of 468 fresh cases and Vizianagaram the lowest at 44.

Kadapa became the 10th district in the state to cross the 50,000 cases mark after it added 155 in 24 hours.

However, it has only 2,620 active cases now.

Chittoor, Guntur, Krishna and Visakhapatnam districts reported four fresh fatalities each, while Kadapa saw three more deaths.

## TTD EO inspects amenities at MTV Annaprasadam Bhavan

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
TIRUMALA

TTD Executive Officer Dr K S Jawahar Reddy on Sunday inspected the Matrusri Tarigonda Vengamamba (MTV) Annaprasadam Bhavan and Vaikunta queue complex, the entry point for pilgrims for darshan at Tirumala and gave specific instructions to employees to improve quality of service and amenities to devotees.

The TTD EO along with Additional EO A V Dharma Reddy also took part in Annaprasadam at the Annaprasadam Bhavan during the inspection and appreciated the quality of food items given to devotees. He also interacted with pilgrims to collect feedback on free meal provided by the TTD.

Speaking to reporters near Annaprasadam Bhavan, the TTD EO said devotees coming for Srivari Darshan were happy about all the facilities provided

in Tirumala like quality Anna Prasadam and accommodation.

At the MTV Annaprasadam complex, he inspected the cold storage, kitchen and the dining halls and lauded the services of staff after interaction with the devotees for providing delicious and quality food items.

At the Vaikuntam Queue Complex, the TTD EO inspected the entry points of Sarva darshan, Pratyeka darshan and Divya darshan (foot walking devotees). He also reviewed the system for depositing mobiles and footwear's, supply of Annaprasadam, coffee and tea, milk for infants, phone facility and dispensaries for emergency medical treatment to devotees waiting for darshan in the queue compartments. TTD VGOs Manohar, Prabhakar, DyEO of Anna Prasadam Nagaraj, Catering Officer GLN Shastri, Peishkar of Srivari Temple Jagannohan Charyulu and others participated.

## Air cargo terminal at Tirupati to open soon

Continued from P1

THE domestic services have increased from time to time connecting many places in the country. In this backdrop, the Airport authority of India (AAI) has mooted to introduce cargo facilities here and decided to make use of the old terminal for the purpose. The introduction of air cargo will benefit various sections who can transport their products faster to longer distances. Even the perishables can be exported easily to any destination which will help the farmers in the region.

The Airport Director S Suresh told The Hans India that the cargo terminal called 'Common use domestic cargo terminal (CUDCT)' can be used by anyone. Once it's ready, the AAI cargo logistics and allied services (AAICLAS) company will operate it after taking security clearance from the bureau of civil aviation security. Once they get that clearance, it can be declared as the cargo terminal.

"For now it will be used as a combination of passenger and cargo together. When bookings are picked up, dedicated cargo flights can be operated based on the cargo potential. In future, it may become a hub with which various industries in the vicinity can export their value cargo to any destination from here itself," he maintained. The air cargo may also come in handy for the e-commerce companies as they can handle the merchandise in a relatively faster time and thereby increase their business potential. The cargo facilities may become extremely useful for the industries in Sri City. They have been mostly relying on Chennai airport currently and often being entangled in the traffic there. As it was located at almost equal distance to both Chennai and Tirupati, good roads and other infrastructure between Tirupati to Sri City may make the companies start making use of Tirupati airport.

## Speed up land acquisition for VCIC: APIIC Director

- ▶ APIIC Director J V N Subrahmanyam says the Visakha-Chennai Industrial Corridor will bring industries, investments and employment
- ▶ Asks the officials to send proposals for 45 km Kandaleru water line by October 21
- ▶ Collector Dr N Bharat Gupta says a customs dry port is required for exporting Sri City products through Krishnapatnam port

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
TIRUPATI

APIIC Director J V N Subrahmanyam has directed the district officials to complete acquisition of 13,000 acres at the south block of Visakha-Chennai Industrial Corridor (VCIC). A review meeting was held on the VCIC at RDO office here on Sunday.

Addressing the meeting, the Director J V N Subrahmanyam said that priority has to be given to the industrial corridor as it will bring industries,



APIIC Director J V N Subrahmanyam addressing the review meeting on VCIC in Tirupati on Sunday. District Collector Dr N Bharat Gupta and other officials are also seen

investments and employment. With revenue officials engaged completely in Covid duties much delay has taken place in the land acquisition and now, it has to be completed soon. He added that the VCIC corridor runs in 24,000 acres in Tirupati division of which north block is

having 11,000 while the south block consists of 13,000 acres. Now, the survey for the south block lands has to be completed. He asked the officials to send proposals for 45 km Kandaleru water line proposals by October 21.

District Collector Dr N Bharat

Gupta said that out of the 13,000 acres survey for 7,000 acres has been completed in 11 villages of Thottambedu mandal and seven villages in BN Kandriga mandal. By October 31, DKT award will be passed for 500 acres for start-up area at Routhu Suramala. A customs dry port is required there for exporting products from Sri City through Krishnapatnam port with which the need to go to Chennai can be avoided.

Tirupati RDO V Kanaka Narasa Reddy said they have completed acquiring 1,067 acres out of the required 2,700 acres at Routhu Suramala and Rs 36 crores compensation was given. He pointed out that APIIC officials have asked to stop land acquisition for some time and now it will be completed.

Also, Rs 50 crores are required to give compensation to the landowners. APIIC Zonal Manager L Ram, land acquisition deputy collector Vijayalakshmi and other officials participated in the meeting.



TODAY'S QUOTE

Assessing impact of pandemic on economy


“The central government has begun an exercise to assess the impact of the pandemic on the economy and likely contraction in GDP. I have not closed the option for another stimulus. Every time we have announced one, it has been after a lot of consideration - **- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman**



FOOD SAFETY

FSSAI's new compliance platform from Nov

Food regulator FSSAI said its Food Safety Compliance System (FoSCoS) will become operational in the entire country from November 1. The system is operational in nine States/UTs - Tamil Nadu, Delhi, Gujarat, Odisha, Chandigarh, Goa, Manipur, Puducherry and Ladakh since June.

FOREX (buy rates in ₹)			
US Dollar	77.76	South	
Euro	90.56	African Rand	5.13
UAE Dirham	21.97	Hong Kong Dollar	10.89
Thai Baht	2.7	Japanese Yen	0.8
British Pound	99.17	New Zealand Dollar	51.12
Australian Dollar	54.75	Saudi Riyal	21.5
Canadian Dollar	58.45	Swedish Krona	9.58
Swiss Franc	83.65	Singapore Dollar	56.76

DELHI TUESDAY 20 OCTOBER 2020

BIZ BRIEFS

Vivo V20 gets 1 lakh bookings

HYDERABAD

SMARTPHONE brand vivo said its newly launched vivo V20, the latest addition to its camera focused V-series portfolio, received 1 lakh pre-bookings within six days of its launch. The smartphone is going on sale, starting from October 20, on vivo India E-store, and Flipkart along with all mainline partner retail stores across India. It will come with an array of attractive offers. Nipun Marya, Director-Brand Strategy, vivo India, said, "We are delighted to witness this record-breaking response to our latest flagship in the V series. It is a testimony to our relentless focus on customer-centric approach and commitment towards making our phones resonate with the evolving needs of consumers".

Thomson to sell 2 lakh TV sets

HYDERABAD

ELECTRONICS brand Thomson said it has set a target to sell 2 lakh units of its television sets during the ongoing festive season. To achieve its target and rev up sales, the European electronics brand has launched 'Big Save on Bigger TV' offer to go with Big Billion Days (BBD) rolled out by Flipkart. Under its offer, the electronics brand is giving 10 per cent instant discount to all SBI cardholders which purchase television sets and washing machines on the card. Its TVs are priced from Rs 5,999. Anveet Singh Marwah, CEO, Super Plastics Pvt. Ltd., (SPPL) and India Brand Licensee, Thomson TV, said, "The online order volume has not only recovered to pre-Covid levels but has also recorded accelerated growth. Growth in tier2 and tier 3 cities alone has been to the tune of 53 per cent upward".

ITC launches new product

VISAKHAPATNAM

JELIMALS, ITC's confectionery brand in the jelly segment, has shifted its portfolio offerings to Jelimals Immunoz - jellies fortified with two key nutrients Vitamin C & Zinc that help support the immune system among children. The product's launch came as a natural progression to further enable support towards children's welfare in the wake of Covid-19 pandemic. The children's confectionery category including candies, toffees, eclairs, jellies and lollipops had witnessed rapid growth during pre-pandemic times. However, jellies & lollipops are the most consumed formats among children and is pegged at ₹1,000 crore. Anuj Rustagi, COO-Chocolate, Confectionery & New Category Development - Foods, ITC Ltd, said, "It is our endeavour as a kid's focussed brand to support the health of kids with our products"

Vestige wins national awards

HYDERABAD

VESTIGE Marketing Pvt. Ltd., a homegrown direct selling companies, has been awarded with the national awards for marketing excellence at the World Marketing Congress by CMO Asia. The award recognized Vestige's digital strategy, underpinned by consumer-centricity in new marketing, new retail, and product innovation during these Covid times. Top leadership and CXOs of Indian and multinational companies from a diverse range of industries and domains attend the award ceremony. Gautam Bali, MD, Vestige Marketing, said, "We are delighted to receive the Marketing Campaign of the Year for Assure Natural and Best New Product Launch Award for MACH-DRIVE NanoEnerGizer".

COVID CRISIS

# FM tells central PSUs to scale up capex for 2 yrs

Pushes large CPSEs to meet 75% of FY21 capex target by Dec

NEW DELHI

STRESSING the need for capital expenditure (capex) by Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs), Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday said that they need to scale up their capex both in the current and the next financial year.

The Finance Minister also exhorted large CPSEs to achieve by December 75 per cent of their planned capital expenditure (capex) target for 2020-21, to support economic growth hit by the Covid-19 crisis. She held a virtual meeting with secretaries of coal and petroleum & natural gas, along with the chairman and managing directors (CMDs) of 14 CPSEs belonging to these ministries, an official statement said.

This was the fourth in the on-going series of meetings that the Finance Minister is having with various stakeholders to accelerate the economic growth amid the Covid-19 pandemic. While reviewing the performance of CPSEs, Sitharaman said capex by CPSEs is a critical driver of economic growth and needs to be scaled up for the financial year 2020-21 and 2021-22.

She asked the concerned secretaries to closely monitor the per-



Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman attends CAPEX Performance Meeting through video conferencing, at North Block in New Delhi Monday

formance of CPSEs in order to ensure the capital expenditure to the tune of 75 per cent of the capital outlay by the end of the third quarter of 2020-21 and make appropriate plan for it. She expounded that more co-ordinated efforts are required at the levels of secretary of concerned ministries and CMDs of CPSEs to achieve capex targets. In 2019-20, against the capex target of Rs 1,11,672 crore for these 14 CPSEs, the achievement was Rs 1,16,323 crore that is 104 per cent, the statement said.

It added that the capex target

is pegged Rs 1,15,934 crore for these companies for the current financial year. It further said the achievement in the first half of the current financial year stood at Rs 37,423 crore (32 per cent of the target), while it was Rs 43,097 crore (39 per cent) in the previous financial year.

While mentioning the significant role of CPSEs in giving a push to the growth of the Indian economy, the finance minister encouraged the CPSEs to perform better to achieve their targets and ensure that the capital outlay for 2020-21 is spent properly and within time.

Capex by CPSEs is a critical driver of economic growth and needs to be scaled up for the financial year 2020-21 and 2021-22

- Finance Minister

## CPSEs clear ₹13,400 cr dues to MSMEs

NEW DELHI

THE central government on Monday said central public sector enterprises have cleared payments to the tune of Rs 13,400 crore owed to micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in the last five months and Rs 3,700 crore was paid to the units in September alone. The micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME) Ministry has now written to top management of over



2,800 corporates by name to make payment of pending dues of MSMEs in this month itself, an official statement said. Last month, the ministry had written to top 500 corporates of India about the pending dues. In its latest communication to large corporates, the MSME Ministry underscored the importance of making such payments now.

# TS, BSE in pact to support MSMEs raise equity funds

Telangana govt, BSE, GlobalLinker sign an agreement in this regard

HANS BUSINESS

HYDERABAD

THE Telangana government joined hands with stock exchange BSE to help micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in the State raise equity funds.

The BSE and Telangana's Industries Department, along with GlobalLinker, signed a memorandum of understanding in this regard.

The partnership with the BSE would help in addressing a vital challenge of access to finance and increasing credibility of the MSMEs. As part of the association, the BSE will provide intellectual and manpower support



to create awareness about the importance and benefits of listing.

The exchange said lack of awareness around this subject has led to a lot of pre-conceived notions that listing involves increased compliance levels, increased costs and more.

"We are pleased to partner with the BSE, as this engagement will provide the necessary hand-

holding support and guidance to the MSMEs of the State," said Telangana Principal Secretary Jayesh Ranjan. He added that currently, there are few MSMEs registered on the stock exchange from Telangana and we would like to see these numbers grow soon.

BSE MD and CEO Ashishkumar Chauhan said MSMEs play a vital role in the economic development of in Telangana. They are also one of the major contributors for employment. According to him, one of the various challenges the MSMEs face is the limited access to alternative source of finance which increase their dependence on debt capital resulting in distorted capital structures and stifled cash flows.

# Lalithaa Jewellery opens 3 showrooms

HYDERABAD

JEWELLERY retail chain Lalithaa Jewellery opened three new jewellery showrooms including one in Vizianagaram in Andhra Pradesh. Pamula Pushpa Sreevani, Deputy Chief Minister & Minister for Tribal Welfare, Andhra Pradesh, inaugurated the new showroom in Vizianagaram. Vellana Chandra



Sekhar, Member of Parliament, Vizianagaram, was also present at the inauguration. Besides, the jewellery retail chain also inaugurated its new showroom at Marathahalli in Bengaluru. It also opened its new showroom in Mangaluru. D Vedavyas Kamath, MLA, Mangalore City South and Diwakara, Mayor, Mangalore City, inaugurated the new showroom in Mangaluru.



# Lee Health launches herbal products

HYDERABAD

CITY-BASED Lee Health Domain on Monday said it launched two new ayurvedic products for the treatment of cold, cough and sore throat. The two new products are Steam Mantra and Roll on Cold. "Two products are very useful and effective for the patients who are having flu symptoms such cold, cough and sore throat. Inhaling the Steam Mantra and applying the Roll on Cold on forehead and temples will give immediate relief," said Leela Rani, Director, Lee Health Domain.

Steam Mantra is a 100 per cent herbal-based liquid. People suffering from cold, cough or sore throat get relief if they mix three drops of the liquid in hot water and inhale the steam for five to seven minutes.

# China's GDP rebounds, clocks 4.9% growth

Communist govt's efforts to stimulate demand buoys economy in July-Sept

BEIJING

CHINA'S economy, which suffered 6.8 per cent slump in the first quarter due to the coronavirus pandemic - the worst in 44 years, bounced back posting 4.9 per cent growth between July and September buoyed by the government's sweeping efforts to stimulate demand and consumption.

The world's second-largest economy, the first to have been hit by the Covid-19 early this year and the earliest to have recovered while the rest of the world reeled under the pandemic lockdowns, grew faster than the 3.2-per cent growth posted in Q2, data released by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) said on Monday.

In the first three quarters, China's GDP expanded 0.7 per cent year-on-year, returning to growth after the 1.6-per cent contraction in the first half of the year and the 6.8-per cent slump



in Q1, the data showed.

To soften the impact of the Covid-19 shock, the Chinese government has rolled out a raft of measures, including more fiscal spending, tax relief, and cuts in lending rates and banks' reserve requirements to stabilize growth and employment.

The near five per cent growth in Q3 is a far cry from the slump the Chinese economy suffered when coronavirus first emerged in Wuhan in December last year

## The recovery path

- GDP contraction at 6.8% in Jan-Mar**
- Economy grew 3.2% in April-June**
- GDP growth at 4.9% in July-Sept**

and led to shutdowns of factories and markets all over the country during the first three months of this year. China's GDP took the worst hit since the disastrous Cultural Revolution in 1976, plummeting by 6.8 per cent in the first quarter of 2020 as the country took unprecedented measures to fight the coronavirus pandemic that brought the world's second-largest economy to a standstill. It was the worst contraction of the economy since

China started recording quarterly figures back in 1992.

But as the epidemic is largely brought under control domestically, factories and schools have reopened and tourist sites across the country have resumed their usual hustle and bustle, State-run Xinhua news agency said.

In Q3, major indicators returned to positive territory, with industrial output rising 5.8 per cent and retail sales reporting the first quarterly expansion this year, up 0.9 per cent year-on-year. The country's fixed-asset investment went up 0.8 per cent year-on-year in the first three quarters, reversing a decline of 3.1 per cent in the first half of this year. "Seen from the trends of the key indicators, China's epidemic prevention and economic recovery are at the world's forefront, which shows the strong resilience and vitality of the economy," Liu Aihua, spokesperson of the NBS, told the media.



# Officials asked to set up call centres in every district

Agriculture Minister S Niranjan Reddy holds a review meeting with the Marketing and Agriculture Department officials over ensuing cotton procurement process

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
HYDERABAD

AGRICULTURE Minister S Niranjan Reddy directed officials to establish call centres in every district to receive complaints and suggestions from the farmers on the procurement of cotton.

The Minister conducted a review meeting with the Marketing and Agriculture Department officials on ensuing cotton procurement process on Monday.

He directed officials to ensure that millers are entered into agreements with the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) and asked the marketing, agriculture, police, transport, fire and the legal metrology departments work in coordination.

He said that the CCI is prepared to open cotton procurement centres in 300 ginning mills and nine market yards in the State. However, he asked to ensure that the cotton stocks brought to the procurement centres is not exposed to the unseasonal rains. Giving details for the minimum support price (MSP) based on the moisturiser



Agriculture Minister S Niranjan Reddy holding a review meeting with officials in Hyderabad on Monday

levels ranging from 8 to 12 per cent in the cotton. Also, an additional payment over and above the MSP, if the moisturiser levels are between 8 to six per cent.

He asked the officials to ensure that proper permissions are obtained from the legal metrology department and deploy web cameras, fingerprint scanners, moisturiser machines, electronic weighing machines

and operators at all the procurement centres.

The agriculture officials and the agriculture extension officers were asked to issue village-wise tokens to the farmers. To ensure that farmers need not wait for days at the procurement centre to sell the cotton stocks. Besides, he asked officials to take up a campaign in big way on the location of procurement centres and quality

standards to care awareness among farmers. He asked the District Level Committees headed by the District Collectors to draft action plans for smooth functioning of the procurement process.

Marketing Department Director Lakshmi Bai and Additional Director Ravi Kumar and Joint Director Srinivas and other senior officials were also present.

## MOVERS & SHAKERS



Residents being shifted to safer places in an earth mover from the flood-affected areas of Peerzadiguda on the outskirts of Hyderabad on Monday. Torrential rains submerged several colonies in low-lying areas in the State capital. Photo: Adula Krishna

## Residents of gated community lodge complaint against neighbours

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
HYDERABAD

THE Indu Fortune Fields The Annex Owners Association housing community has filed a complaint with the KPHB police against their neighbours and alleged that the said neighbours, Dasarathi Kammela and Krishna Prasad, were encroaching upon their rights by not allowing construction of solar fencing in their community.

The members of the association alleged that the said persons used their influence to construct an unauthorised gate before their community, which further led to the decrease of height of compound wall, due to which the solar fencing works in their block could not be carried out.

Though they have been given an assurance by the builder in the Agreement of Sale (AOS) that their gated community would be provided with

solar fencing, the works were still pending due to high handedness of the neighbours. They further alleged that due to the continuous blockade being exerted by the neighbours, their community was deprived of parking.

The police said they had received a complaint from the association of the gated community and the investigation has begun in this matter. Once the investigation was completed, necessary action would be taken.

## LAXMAN ASSUMES CHARGE OF BJP BC MORCHA PRESIDENT

# ‘Morcha will strive to garner BC support to BJP’

- The BCs who constitute 50 per cent of the population have been used only as vote banks by the political parties in the last 70 years, says K Laxman
- The Centre has launched several welfare schemes for BCs
- Union Minister Kishan Reddy, DK Aruna and other senior leaders congratulate him

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
HYDERABAD

BJP OBC Morcha, national president Dr K Laxman said the Morcha will make all-out efforts to garner the support of the BCs to the party

He addressed media after assuming charge as the Morcha's national president at the party's national headquarters on Monday.

Laxman said that the BCs who constitute 50 per cent of the population have been used only as vote banks by the political parties in the last 70 years. However, the Union govern-

## Krishna Saagar Rao congratulates Dr K Laxman Says his elevation to the new role is well-deserving

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
HYDERABAD

BHARATIYA Janata Party Telangana chief spokesperson K Krishna Saagar Rao congratulated Dr K Laxman on assuming charge as the party's national president for OBC Morcha at BJP na-

ment headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi is the first to launch several schemes for the welfare of the backward classes in line with the party's ideology of Antyodaya.

He said that the BCs have been deprived of their due in education, opportunities and political space. However, BJP is the first to take steps for the protection of rights of the backward classes and to ensure that the fruits of development reach them. He said that the Morcha

tional headquarters in Delhi on Monday. Rao said that Dr Laxman's elevation to the new role was well-deserving, and he would extend complete support and cooperation to Laxman in all his future endeavours. He also expressed a strong feeling that the national OBC Mor-

cha would be strengthened further across the country under Dr Laxman's able leadership. Many senior leaders from Telangana were also present at the event that was attended by a large number of OBC Morcha members and leaders from other States.

will work hard to ensure that the poorer sections of BCs have access to the welfare schemes like PM Suraksha, Jeevan Jyothi, PM Awaas Yojana among others. He said the party will seek their support in the States where the BJP is not in power.

He said the Morcha will also focus on strengthening its base among the BCs in Telangana and fight against the anti-BC policies and oppression of BCs by the ruling TRS government.

He said that the ruling party in the State had included Muslims under the BC category by depriving the BCs their due even in the GHMC.

He said that BJP welcomes the State government providing fee reimbursement to the Muslims and Christians minorities. But, at the same time, it has imposed full reimbursement of a fee to the BCs only when one gets a rank below 10,000 and it is discriminatory, he added.

Similarly, scores of applica-

tions of the BCs for assistance are pending before the State BC federation. But, the State government has failed to clear the same. Further, the State government had promised to construct community buildings and the same are not realised even after five years, he said.

He said BJP is the only party in which leaders like Narendra Modi from a humble background could become the Prime Minister of the country. It is the only party which has committed to delivering social justice.

He said that he will be touring Bihar which is going to polls. The Morcha will also reach out to the BCs in West Bengal to bring the party to power in the State.

Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, G Kishan Reddy congratulating Dr Laxman said that he was the first one from the Southern States to head the Morcha after the formation of Telangana. He said that party machinery and the OBC Morcha will make collective efforts to make BJP as an alternative political force in Telangana.

BJP national vice president D K Aruna and other senior party functionaries congratulated Dr Laxman.

## Prove charges or quit post: Harish to Bandi

Challenges State BJP chief Bandi Sanjay to prove that the Centre was providing Rs 1,600 crore to beedi workers' led resign from Karimnagar Lok Sabha constituency

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
HYDERABAD

ALLEGING that the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leaders were indulging in Goebbels campaign, Finance Minister T Harish Rao on Monday challenged the State BJP chief Bandi Sanjay to prove that the Centre was providing Rs 1,600 crore as pension to beedi workers or resign from Karimnagar Lok Sabha constituency.

Addressing a press conference in Siddipet on Monday, Harish said that if the BJP chief proved the allegations right, he would resign from his post of Finance Minister and also from the post of MLA. Will the Telangana BJP president resign from Karimnagar Lok Sabha and also from the party post if he is proved wrong? asked the Finance Minister.

Harish Rao said that there were no limits to the false propaganda spread by the BJP leaders. "Even Goebbels would have committed suicide by hanging had he been alive and heard about the lies of BJP," mocked Harish, alleging that the BJP leaders were competing

with each other to confuse people with their lies.

"When seeking votes, political parties should tell what they would do for them. It is not correct to claim the work done by other parties as theirs. I want to expose the lies of BJP leaders before the people of Dubbaka and the State. People of Dubbaka should teach a lesson to the saffron party," said Harish. He challenged Bandi Sanjay to come for a discussion on the Central assistance to the State. "Decide the date, come to Dubbaka bus station and let us talk in front of people. If you have proof that the Centre was giving Rs 1,600 crore for pensions, as a Finance Minister, I am saying... I will resign. Not 1,600 crore, but the Narendra Modi government did not give even 16 paise," said Harish Rao.

The TRS leader said that if BJP leaders have commitment, they should get national project status to any of the irrigation projects in Telangana. They should strive to request the Centre to link the employment guarantee scheme with agriculture.

## Song paying tribute to cops launched

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
HYDERABAD

ON the upcoming occasion of Police Commemoration Day on October 21, the Cyberabad police on Monday launched a special song dedicated to the Police Department. Cyberabad Police Commissioner V C Sajjanar said that the song 'Niluvettuna egise keratam laa... Neethini kaapade Dhairyam laa... Janamvante untadu ee police' is a tribute to the police force. The song was written, composed and sung by Tippani Parushurama Reddy and his entire team who had ideated and conceptualised the idea of felicitating the police force in their own way on the occasion of Police Commemoration Day. He further added that the song was a soulful dedication to the police force in action and tribute to the martyred.



Cyberabad Police Commissioner VC Sajjanar felicitating the team who composed the song in Hyderabad on Monday

## Puranapul parallel bridge damaged, closed for traffic

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
HYDERABAD

THE new bridge running parallel to the Puranapul has been closed for traffic on Sunday night and will remain closed until further notice. The bridge was closed after authorities noticed that a small portion of a pillar got damaged and one of the pillars developed cracks on it and the traffic will now be diverted through the Muslim Jung Bridge.

The traffic has been diverted towards Jumerath Bazar for the vehicles coming from Karwan and Ziaguda. "Traffic coming from Karwan and Ziaguda towards Zihmarathbazar has been diverted," tweeted traffic police. The bridge connects areas of the Old City-Karwan, Dhoolpet, Jiyaguda, Mehdiapatnam, Asifnagar and Tappachabutra. As the bridge remains closed for an uncertain time, the motorists will have to travel a long

distance to reach the other parts of the city. The HMWS&SB authorities opened the gates of the Himayat-sagar on two instances in the last one week following heavy inflows into the River Musi. On Sunday night after being alerted about the damage to one of the pillars of the bridge the traffic police immediately barricaded the bridge and diverted the traffic coming from Bahadurpura and Hussainialam towards City College road.

## State govt clarifies Dharani issues to court

Says there is no last date to submit details to the portal

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD

THE State government on Monday informed the High Court that there is no last date to submit the information regarding property to the Dharani portal. The High Court single bench of Justice Shameem Akther heard a writ petition filed by GR Karunakar and CV Narana Rao seeking to declare the action of the State government illegal, arbitrary, unconstitutional and violative of Articles 14, 21, 19 and 300 A of the Constitution of India for harassing/compelling the petitioners to upload their property details in the name of Integrated Land Management System Dharani.

Justice Shameem Akther told the petitioner's counsel Pusuluri Shashi Kiran that the Advocate General submitted that there is no last date to submit the information on the Dharani portal. Further, Justice Shameem Akther further directed that the petitioners are not compelled to submit the information in the Dharani portal at this juncture.

He said when the matter concerned with larger public interest then the matter is public interest litigation, the matter shall go either before the Chief Justice bench or to another division bench and adjourned the matter to November 11.

LRS: HC issues notice to State govt again

The High Court on Monday once again issued notices to the State



LEGAL NOTES

government, which has taken a decision to regularise all unapproved and illegal layouts spread across the State.

The division bench headed by Chief Justice Raghavendra Singh Chauhan and Justice Bollam Vijay-sen Reddy was hearing a public interest litigation filed by KPrasad Rao seeking to declare the action of the State government in the issuance of G O Ms No 131 dated August 31 for regularisation of unapproved and illegal layout rules 2020 for urban and rural areas as illegal, arbitrary, unjust and violative of fundamental rights guaranteed under the Constitution of India and consequently set aside the same.

In the earlier public interest litigations on the same issue, the bench issued notices as the petitioners challenged the validity of the

G.O.No. 131 contending that the State government is forcing its citizens to cough up high fees towards regularisation. The people are facing problems in paying such fees towards regularisation.

Apart from this PIL, there are three other PILs filed by various petitioners, amongst them one of the PIL is filed by Congress MP Komatireddy Venkat Reddy. The bench adjourned the matter to Nov 5 for further hearing.

HC directs govt to ensure rainwater doesn't enter OGH

The High Court Chief Justice bench issued notices to the Commissioners, HMDA and GHMC, Principal Secretary Municipal Administration, Medical, health family welfare and the Superintendent, Osmania General Hospi-

tal, directing them to inform the Court as to what steps they have taken to ensure and prevent the premises of the Osmania General Hospital from getting inundated in the torrential rains which will continue to hit the Telangana State for the next 7 days.

The Chief Justice bench was hearing a plea filed by the Deccan Archeological and Cultural Research Institute that the State government is not taking any measures to maintain the stormwater drainage system and the sewerage system in Osmania General Hospital.

Further, the petitioner prayed to the State government to construct new blocks in place of such blocks which are in a dilapidated condition and duly protect such blocks which have a heritage tag. He further prayed that the State should come up with a concrete plan to revive the existing sewerage plan of the Osmania General Hospital.

Chief Justice Raghavendra Singh Chauhan observed that considering the fact that there is a weather forecast informing that for the next 7 days, there will be heavy rainfall.. and directed the government ensure that the rainwater does not seep into the Osmania General Hospital, as on earlier occasion.

The court posted the matter to November 12 for next hearing.



# Shami wanted to bowl 6 yorkers in Super Over, reveals Rahul

DUBAI (IANS)

KINGS XI Punjab (KXIP) captain KL Rahul has stated that he decided to trust Mohammed Shami with his plan and instinct as they defended a target of six against Mumbai Indians (MI) in the first Super Over at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium.

The over ended in a tie, thus prompting another Super Over in which KXIP came out on top on Sunday evening.

"You can never prepare for Super Overs. I don't think any team does. Something I have learnt is that you have to trust your bowler's gut," said Rahul in the post-match presentation ceremony, in which he was also adjudged the Player of the Match for his 51-ball 77.

"I might think as a batsman so it is important you let them believe their instinct and gut. He (Shami) was very clear he wanted to go six yorkers. He has been phenomenal, and keeps getting better every game. It is important that senior players put their hands up and win the games for the team and that's what is happening," he added.

This was KXIP's second win on the trot after they went six games

without a win before their previous game.

"When you haven't won too many games in the first seven games, every victory is sweet and picks the mood of the team a lot more," said Rahul.

"The talk in the dressing room is always to focus on the process. Win or lose go and give the best we can on the day and that is the kind of mood me and the coach want to set in the dressing room. Everyone is hungry and professional, so we know we need to win

everything from here, but we can't forget the processes and remember to enjoy ourselves," he added.

Shami, who has 14 wickets to his name in the tournament so far, revealed how he was able to deliver yorker after yorker in such a tense situation.

"It was very difficult," Shami said.

"When you get 15-17 runs to defend in the Super Over, it's a different matter altogether. You believe at the back of your mind that you can do it. But when the margin of

error is so less, you focus on what you can do best. I believe a lot in myself. When I was going back on the top of my mark every ball, I was saying to myself, 'This last ball was great. The next ball will be great too'. I repeated that six times," he added.

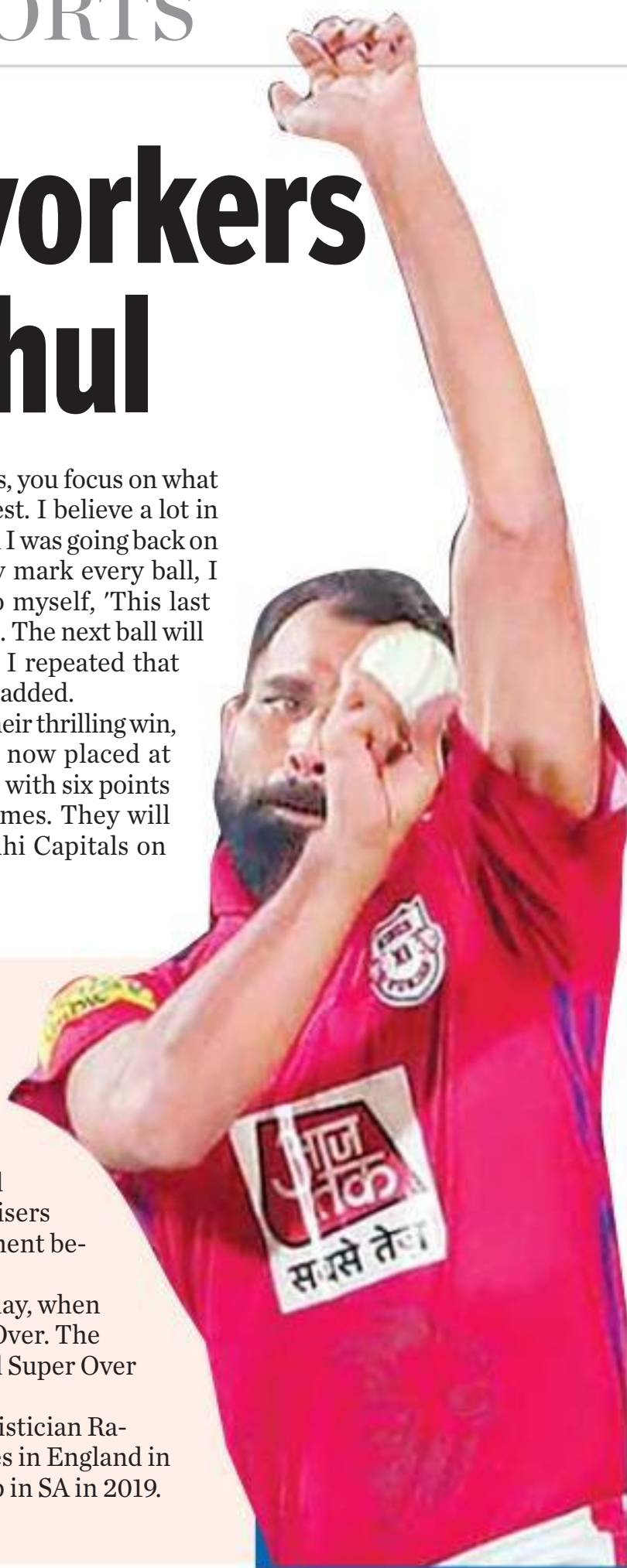
Courtesy their thrilling win, Kings XI are now placed at the sixth spot with six points from nine games. They will next face Delhi Capitals on Tuesday.

## It was fifth instance of two T20 games being tied on same day

Dubai (IANS): The humdinger of IPL matches between Kings XI Punjab (KXIP) and Mumbai Indians (MI) and the one between Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) and SunRisers Hyderabad (SRH) on Sunday was the fifth instance of two T20 matches of a tournament being tied on the same day.

This first happened in 2018 in Sri Lanka, and the latest instance occurred on Sunday, when the two IPL matches, played in Abu Dhabi and Dubai respectively, went into Super Over. The second game between KL Rahul-led KXIP and Rohit Sharma's MI required a second Super Over to break the deadlock, after the first Super Over also ended in a tie.

The earlier instances of two matches being tied on the same day, according to statistician Raneesh Gupta, are: Standard Bank Pro20 Series in SA in 2009, Friends Life T20 Series in England in 2011, SLC Twenty20 Tournament in Sri Lanka in 2018; and, CSA Provincial T20 Cup in SA in 2019. In Friends Life T20 series, the two semi-finals were tied on the same day.



## Gayle says he was 'angry & upset' before Super Over

DUBAI (IANS)

SWASHBUCKLING batsman Chris Gayle, who won the match for Kings XI Punjab against Mumbai Indians, has revealed that he wasn't nervous but "angry and upset" before going out to bat in the second Super Over.

In the first game on Sunday, the KKR-SRH match in Abu Dhabi was decided through a Super Over which kept viewers on the edge of their seats. However, the excitement got even bigger when the second match of the day between Mumbai Indians and Kings XI Punjab also reached a similar fate in Dubai.

In the first Super Over, both teams scored five runs, thus forcing another Super Over which was eventually won by Kings XI.

"No I wasn't nervous. I was a bit more angry and upset that we got

ourselves in this position," Gayle told Mayank Agarwal in a video uploaded on IPLT20.com. "But it's a game of cricket and these things do happen," he added.

Behind the tied first Super Over was Mohammed Shami, who conceded only 5 runs. His brilliance forced a second Super Over, which the KL Rahul-led side won gaining valuable two points. "Shami is the man of the match for me," Gayle said.

"To defend six runs against Rohit and de Kock, that's fantastic. That's a great job. I have faced you in the nets and I know that you can nail those yorkers, and nail them well. Today he came and delivered and brought it home for us," he added.



## Shoaib Malik left out of Pakistan squad for Zimbabwe series

LAHORE (IANS)

VETERAN all-rounder Shoaib Malik has been left out of the Pakistan squad for the upcoming ODI and T20I series against Zimbabwe beginning October 30. Pakistan have not played ODIs since the home series against Sri Lanka 12 months ago and the three-match ODI series in Rawalpindi -- to be played on October 30, November 1 and 3 -- will be part of World Cup Super League from which the seven top-ranked sides, apart from hosts India, will qualify directly for the 2023 World Cup.

Malik, who was player of the final in National T20 Cup on Sunday evening, has made way for Abdullah Shafiq, while Rohail Nazir has been named as Mohammad Rizwan's back-up wicketkeeper. Sarfaraz Ahmed, who was part of the squad for the England tour, has been encouraged to feature in the first-class Quaid-e-Azam Trophy, starting October 25, so that he rediscovers better form ahead of the New Zealand tour, stated Pakistan Cricket Board in a media release.

## Bumrah has taken over the mantle from Malinga: Pollard

DUBAI (IANS)

KIERON Pollard has stated that Jasprit Bumrah is a "world-class cricketer" and has taken over the mantle from Sri Lankan pace spearhead Lasith Malinga at the Mumbai Indians. Malinga had withdrawn from the ongoing IPL 2020 before the start of the tournament due to "personal reasons" and in his absence, Bumrah has been leading the pace battery for the defending champions. Bumrah has taken 15 wickets in nine matches so far.

"He's (Bumrah) a world-class cricketer. He has been number one in a couple of formats for a



long period of time. He has learned and has gone leaps and bounds for us at Mumbai Indians in a run of while and so," Pollard said at the post-match press conference after Mumbai Indians lost a thrilling match against Kings XI on Sunday evening.

"We have comfort in him. A couple of years ago, we had a fit and fair Lasith Malinga and he (Bumrah) has taken over that mantle now and so," he added.

During the presser, Pollard also provided an update on regular ski.

"I was told that he's (Rohit) not feeling well, that's why I'm here to chat with you guys. We'll see what happens but he's a fighter," said Pollard.

"We will look back and analyse the game and we will come up with a better plan and hopefully get two points in the next game," said Pollard.

## Chetan Shivram to lead Yokohama's challenge in INRC 2020

NEW DELHI (IANS)

INDIAN National Rally Championship (INRC) 2020 will see a strong Japanese presence with tyre major Yokohama making a comeback into the country's marquee motorsport championship.

Yokohama will once again associate with INRC, a news that will certainly be music to the ears of racing aficionados of the country, especially after how the entire sporting fraternity was paralysed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. They will not only be coming on as partners but also will be competing in the championship proper under the banner "Team Yokohama".



They will foray into the season with an impressive line-up comprising of the defending champion Chetan Shivram, DennThimayya, Lokesh Gowda, Vaibhav Marathe and Arjun Rao.

DennThimmaiya will be competing in INRC 1 category driving the R2 Cedia, while Lokesh Gowda and Chetan Shivram driving Cedia and Polo respectively will be leading their team's charge in INRC 2 category. Arjun Rao will compete in INRC 3 driving a Polo and Vaibhav Marathe, driving a City-VTEC will exhibit his skills in INRC 4.

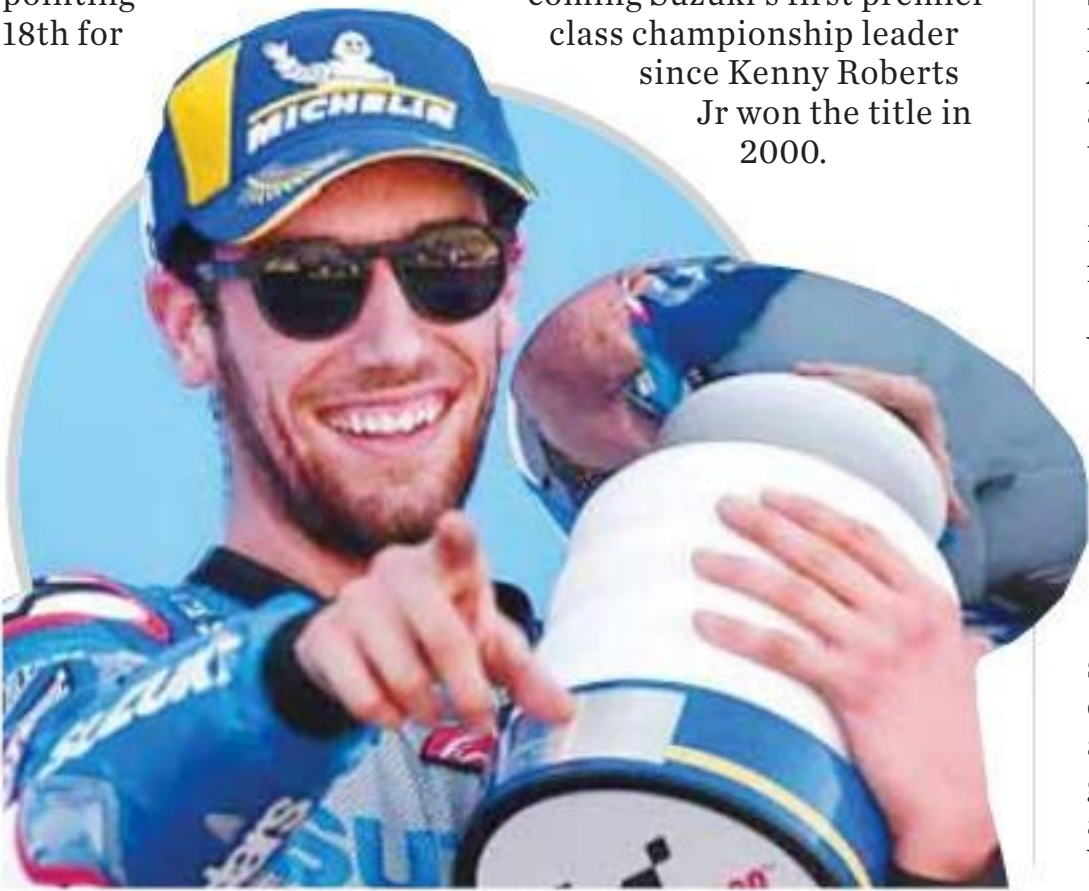
The championship will see a shortened calendar and have total of five rounds instead of six with two to be held in Itanagar in December, followed by three in South India (Coimbatore, Hampi and Bengaluru). The complete season will be wrapped up in a month and a half.

## Rins beats Marquez to win Aragon Grand Prix

ALCANIZ (SPAIN) (IANS)

EIGHT winners in the last eight races. MotoGP in 2020 delivered once again as Suzuki's Alex Rins took Gran Premio Michelin de Aragon honours in a stunningly tense premier class encounter.

Honda's Alex Marquez picked up his second consecutive MotoGP podium to finish 0.2 seconds behind Rins at the second position on Sunday. Rins' teammate Joan Mir now leads the overall standings, the first Suzuki rider to do that since 2000 after pole-sitter Fabio Quartararo finished a disappointing 18th for



Petronas Yamaha.

Rins, who starting 10th on the grid, stormed out of the blocks to move up to fourth on the opening lap before moving past Yamaha's early pace-setter Maverick Vinales to take the lead on lap eight.

Marquez climbed up nine spots and tested Rins in the final five laps, but the Suzuki rider held his nerve to seal a thrilling win. Vinales came fourth to move up to 12 points behind the championship leader.

Mir, former Moto 3 champion, is yet to win a race this season but has made five podiums finishes, thus becoming Suzuki's first premier class championship leader since Kenny Roberts Jr won the title in 2000.

## Real Sociedad go top in La Liga

MADRID (IANS)

REAL Sociedad have gone to the top of the table after the sixth round of matches in the La Liga last weekend, thanks to a 3-0 win away to Betis.

The side from San Sebastian produced an excellent all-round display in a game between the teams who had started the weekend second and third in the table, reports Xinhua news agency.

Sociedad opened the scoring on Sunday when Portu headed home Mikel Oyarzabal's cross two minutes before halftime. Oyarzabal scored his team's second goal from the penalty spot in the 74th minute after Marc Bartra was penalised for pulling back Real Sociedad striker Alexander Isak. Adan Januzaj then rounded off an emphatic win with a thumping shot 14 minutes later.

After a 2-1 home victory over Valencia, Villarreal have climbed to the second place on goal difference.

Valencia sold midfielder Dani Parejo to join Villarreal in the summer to try and cut their wage bill but it worked out to be expensive when Parejo scored Villarreal's winning goal in the east coast derby.

Paco Alcacer's penalty put Villarreal ahead in the sixth minute. Although Goncalo Guedes' 37th minute thunderbolt levelled the score, Parejo's deflected shot in second half still gave the three points to Villarreal. Cadiz produced the shock of the weekend on Saturday with a 16th minute goal from striker 'Choco' Lozano giving the recently promoted side their first ever away win against Real Madrid. Barca fared no better than Madrid as they lost 0-1 in Getafe.



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