

# DECCAN Chronicle

THE LARGEST CIRCULATED ENGLISH DAILY IN SOUTH INDIA

COIMBATORE | FRIDAY 22 | JANUARY 2021

## WEATHER



**Max:** 32°C  
**Min:** 19°C  
**Rainfall:** 0.9 mm

## ASTROGUIDE

**Sarvari:** Thai 9  
**Tithi:** Navami  
**Star:** Bharani  
**Rahukalam:** 10.30 am to 12 noon  
**Yamagandam:** 3 pm to 4.30 pm

### PRAYERS

**Fajar:** 5.20 am  
**Jumma:** 12.23 pm  
**Asar:** 3.35 pm  
**Maghrib:** 6.01 pm  
**Isha:** 7.17 pm

**SUNSET TODAY 6.05 PM**  
**SUNRISE TOMORROW 6.36 AM**  
**MOONRISE TODAY 12.53 PM**  
**MOONSET TOMORROW 1.45 AM**

## CORONA COUNT

CASES	DEATHS
(+12,974)	(+122)
1,06,24,702	1,53,028

covid19india.org

### STATE GOVERNMENT BULLETINS

(+596)  
**TN:** 8,33,011 12,299

### WORLD CONFIRMED CASES

9,75,91,354

### DEATHS

20,90,247

COUNTRIES, AREAS WITH CASES  
**219**

worldometers.info

**Maha MPs should meet PM on Karnataka border, quota issues: Uddhav**

**Mumbai:** Maharashtra MPs should meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi and raise the issues of incorporating into the state areas in Karnataka where Marathi-speaking people are in majority and also the Maratha quota, Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray said on Thursday. Thackeray made the suggestions to all-party MPs during a meeting he held here ahead of Parliaments budget session which begins on January 29.

**India gifts over 2 million Covid vaccine doses to Bangladesh**

**Dhaka:** India on Thursday officially handed over 2 million doses of Covid-19 vaccine as a gift to Bangladesh. The vaccines were provided to Bangladesh at a crucial time when the number of coronavirus cases in this country was rising.

## COUNTER

## POINT



**Not farmers' protest, it is the Sensex!**

## Army chief Naravane hits out at defence procurement process

**PAWAN BALI | DC**  
NEW DELHI, JAN. 21

Indian army chief Gen MM Naravane on Thursday hit out at the bureaucratic procurement process holding defence modernization a “hostage” and called for a “revolution in bureaucratic affairs (RBA)” to realize the vision of “self-reliance”. Army chief pointed out that the new weapon acquisition

policy Defence Acquisition Procedure 2020 which came into force around four months back has 681 pages against the earlier policy Defence Procurement Procedure 2016 which had just 450 pages. He said that the former defence minister Manohar Parrikar had once remarked that our entire procurement process is based on distrust. “We are not being able to

fast-track the process of acquisition. It is because we have tried to cater for every contingency and every loophole. This results in acquisition process getting tied up in knots. To that end what has happened is that the process and procedures, rather than the product, have become paramount and these are holding hostage the defence modernization,” said Gen Naravane.

A nondescript village, Chinnappampatti wore a different look to celebrate its son of the soil on Thursday. T. Natarajan, one of the architects of India's historic Test series triumph in Australia, returned to a hero's welcome with thousands of villagers lining up the streets. After landing in Bengaluru on Thursday morning, the pace bowler reached his village in a swanky SUV and was then

escorted to his home in a two-horse chariot.

As the road show moved at a snail's pace with a troupe of drummers leading the procession, a proud Natarajan with a huge garland around his neck acknowledged the rapturous crowd by waving hands. As he reached home, the 29-year-old was almost in tears when he saw his newborn daughter.

At Brisbane last week, Natarajan became the first player to make a debut in all formats in the same series.



Thousands of people give a grand reception to cricketer T. Natarajan in his native village Chinnappampatti village in Salem district on Thursday. — DC

## NATION | 3

**PM to take vaccine in second round**



**Kamala Harris credits mom for showing faith**

## WORLD | 3

**HC rejects plea on PCA amendment**

## STATE | 5



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### COVISHIELD MANUFACTURING FACILITIES NOT AFFECTED

## Five dead in fire at building in Pune's Serum Institute

**SONU SHRIVASTAVA | DC**  
MUMBAI, JAN. 21

Five people -- four men and a woman -- died on Friday in a massive fire which broke out in Pune's Serum Institute of India. The fire broke out in an under-construction building. Six people were rescued by fire brigade personnel. However, the production of the Covid vaccine Covishield will not be affected. Maharashtra's public health minister Rajesh Tope said the fire was now under control. Five charred bodies were found after the blaze was doused.

Maharashtra chief minister Uddhav Thackeray said as per preliminary information, the fire broke out due to an electric fault during ongoing construction work. He will visit the institute on Friday.

Speaking in this newspaper, Pune police commissioner Amitabh Gupta, who visited the spot, said: “The dead bodies are yet to be identified.”

A senior disaster management unit official, seeking anonymity, said: “The fire erupted suddenly at around 1 pm on the fourth and fifth floors of a building at the SII complex in Gopal Patti. Prima facie it appears that the cause of the fire was a short-circuit.” Speaking with reporters, Mr Tope said the fire had broken out at a newly constructed building, where work related to rotavirus plant installation was under way. The fire was noticed at around 2 pm.



Workers of Serum Institute of India come out of the building after fire broke out in it, in Pune, on Thursday. — PTI

## Govt on big drive to convince health workers on vaccine

**VINEETA PANDEY | DC**  
NEW DELHI, JAN. 21

With hesitancy slowing down the progress of Covid-19 vaccination drive in India, the Central government on Thursday launched a major drive to convince healthcare workers and others to come forward and take the shot. In the last six days, close to 10 lakh persons have been vaccinated across India at

18,159 session sites. On Thursday itself over 1.92 lakh people were vaccinated, with no deaths due to Adverse Effect from Immunisation (AEFI) reported.

However, it is felt that the progress is slow and given this pace of vaccination, it will take much longer than expected to achieve the target of 3 crore beneficiaries in the first phase and may delay

the second phase when people above 50 years are to be vaccinated.

The President, Prime Minister, Union ministers, chief ministers, MPs, MLAs, and judges will be among those who will get the jab in the second phase.

Despite advocacy from the highest level, healthcare workers are not very enthusiastic in several places.

### Kerala assembly rejects resolution to remove Speaker

**Thiruvananthapuram, Jan. 21:** The Kerala Assembly on Thursday rejected a resolution moved by the Opposition UDF seeking removal of Speaker P. Sreeramakrishnan over allegations against him in the dollarsmugglingcase and ‘irregularities’ in modifications undertaken in the legislature complex.

After a stormy debate on the resolution, the Congress-led United Democratic Front members walked out dissatisfied with Sreeramakrishnan's reply dismissing the charges.

This was the first time in last 17 years a resolution for removal of the Speaker was moved in the state assembly. In the past, such resolutions had been moved against AC Jose and Vakkom Purushothaman, both of UDF.

On the penultimate day of the 14th assembly session, the last before the elections likely in next few months, the House witnessed heated exchanges as the discussion on the resolution extended for nearly four hours with ruling and opposition benches exchanging barbs. — PTI

## Four TN fishermen dead as Sri Lankan Navy rams fishing boat

■ **Chief Minister announces ₹10 lakh solatium**

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
CHENNAI, JAN. 21

Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami announced a relief of ₹10 lakh each to the families of the four fishermen who were killed by the Sri Lankan Navy when they were fishing in the area around Katchatheevu.

The fishermen, Mesia, Nagaraj, Sam and Senthilkumar, had set sailed in a boat belonging to Arokiya Jesu of Thangachimadam from the Kottapattinam fishing harbor in Pudukkottai district on January 18, the Chief Minister said in a statement on Thursday.

Since the boat did not return to the coast on January 19, as per schedule, a search operation was ordered and subsequently it was learnt through other fishermen that the four had perished on the high seas following an attack by the Sri Lankan Navy.

The Chief Minister also promised compensation for the boat that was sunk in the attack as per norms and urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to take up the issue with the Sri Lankan government.

DMK President MK Stalin demanded that the Centre paid a compensation of ₹5 crore to each of the fishermen killed.

In a statement, he said it was tragic that the BJP government was not taking action against the Sri Lankan government.

Thoothukudi MP Kanimozhi Karunanidhi wrote to the External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar to take up the matter through the diplomatic channels.

## Black flags hoisted in protest against Lankan navy attack

**SP LOGANATHAN | DC**  
RAMANATHAPURAM, JAN. 21

Rameswaram fishermen launched a black flag protest against the Sri Lankan naval vessel allegedly dashed a fishing boat from Kottapattinam and drowned the four fishermen onboard near Neduntheevu (Delft Island) in the Palk Strait. The incident said to have been deliberately caused by the Sri Lankan navy. Condemning the brutality

unleashed by Sri Lankan navy on Indian fishermen in mid sea, Rameswaram fishermen launched a black flag protest on Thursday. Black flags were hoisted on all anchored boats and on the rooftops of the houses of fishermen.

The Federation of Traditional fishermen of Rameswaram has filed a habeas corpus petition in the Madurai bench of Madras High Court on Thursday, according to Chinnathambi, coordinator of the Federation.

## India lodges strong protest with Lanka over death of fishermen

**SRIDHAR KUMARASWAMI | DC**  
NEW DELHI, JAN. 21

A “shocked” India on Thursday lodged a “strong protest” with Sri Lankan Foreign Minister Dinesh Gunawardena in Colombo and also issued a “strong demarche” to the Sri Lankan Acting High Commissioner in New Delhi following the death of Indian fishermen and a Sri Lankan national in a “collision” between their vessel and a Sri Lankan naval craft. New Delhi also said it emphasised to Colombo the “need to deal with issues pertaining to fishermen in a humanitarian manner” and adherence to the “existing understandings between the

● **“Expressing our deep anguish at the loss of lives, we emphasised the need to deal with issues pertaining to fishermen in a humanitarian manner,” the ministry of external affairs said**

two Governments” in this regard, adding that “utmost efforts should be made (by Sri Lanka) to ensure that there is no recurrence” of such an incident.

The tragic incident reportedly took place three days ago after which the Sri Lankan Navy on Thursday recovered the bodies of the four deceased.

### SHIFTED TO ICU



**Sasikala tests coronavirus positive**

**Bengaluru:** Expelled AIADMK leader VK Sasikala has tested positive for the coronavirus and shifted to a Covid-19 intensive care unit, doctors treating the 63-year-old jailed aide of former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister J. Jayalalitha said on Thursday.

Ms Sasikala, who had earlier tested negative for Covid-19, was stable but she will be undergo various tests and monitored for now, they had said. diabetes management on Tuesday.

## Bowling hero Natarajan gets rousing welcome at home

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
SALEM, JAN. 21

A nondescript village, Chinnappampatti wore a different look to celebrate its son of the soil on Thursday. T. Natarajan, one of the architects of India's historic Test series triumph in Australia, returned to a hero's welcome with thousands of villagers lining up the streets. After landing in Bengaluru on Thursday morning, the pace bowler reached his village in a swanky SUV and was then





**GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU**  
**HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT**  
**LAND ACQUISITION OFFICER / DISTRICT REVENUE OFFICER, NAMAKKAL**  
**AMENDMENT OF NOTIFICATION**

ROC.15690/2018/H.7

Dated: 24.12.2020

The following amendment is issued to the public notice already issued under sub section 2 of section 15 of Tamil Nadu Highways Act 2001 for the acquisition of 37360.5 Square meters of Dry lands situated in **Ladduvadi Village** of Namakkal Taluk (Now changed as Mohanur Taluk) of Namakkal District for the formation of By-pass road to Namakkal Town as published in English daily "Deccan Chronicle" (Coimbatore Edition) dated **01.07.2018**

**AMENDMENT**

1. In the said Notification, the following amendment is issued to the existing schedule.

Taluk : Mohanur

Village : Ladduvadi

15(2) Notification already published												15(2) Notification to be read as											
Sl. No.	Survey No.	Proposed Sub-Division No.	Total Extent of the lands in (Sq.Mt.)	Total Extent of lands to be Acquired in (Sq.Mt.)	Classification of the lands	Name of the Pattadar as per 10-1 Chitta	Details of Buildings, Structures, Trees, Crops and Others	Boundaries for the proposed Acquisition lands				Sl. No.	Survey No.	Proposed Sub-Division No.	Total Extent of the lands in (Sq. Mt.)	Total Extent of lands to be acquired in (Sq. Mt.)	Classification of the Lands	Name of the Pattadar as per 10-1 Chitta	Details of Buildings, Structures, Trees, Crops and Others	Boundaries for the proposed Acquisition lands			
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(N)	(E)	(S)	(W)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(N)	(E)	(S)	(W)
1	57/2B	57/2B2	4200	630	Dry	Patta No.1296 Ravichandran S/o.Chinnusamy	Bore Well-1	S.No. 57/2B1	S.No. 57/2D2	S.No. 57/3A1	S.No. 56	1	57/2B	57/2B2	4200	1198	Dry	Patta No.1296 Ravichandran S/o.Chinnusamy	Borewell-1 PVC Pipe Line, Drip Irrigation Tubes, Tapioca, Young Neem Trees-13	S.No. 57/2B1	S.No. 57/2D2	S.No. 57/3A1	S.No. 56
2	57/2D	57/2D2	10350	1620	Dry	Patta No.219 Balasundaram S/o.Perumal-1 Tamilarasan S/o.Perumal-2 Sivanandhini D/o. Tamilarasan-3	Bore Well-1 PVC pipe line Kalkattu Varappu Yielding Coconut trees-17 Young Coconut tree-1 Fodder Grass	S.No. 57/2D1	S.No. 57/3B1	S.No. 57/3C1	S.No. 57/2B2	2	57/2D	57/2D2	10350	2770	Dry	Patta No.219 Balasundaram S/o.Perumal-1 Tamilarasan S/o.Perumal-2 Sivanandhini D/o. Tamilarasan-3	Borewell-1 PVC Pipe Line, Kalkattu-2 (Part), Drip Irrigation Tubes, Pappaya Trees-6, Yielding Coconut Trees-36, Young Coconut Trees-4, Plainrain Trees, Fodder Grass	S.No. 57/2D1	S.No. 57/3C1	S.No. 57/2D3	S.No. 57/2B2
3	57/3A	57/3A1	1500	950	Dry	Patta No.1296 Ravichandran S/o.Chinnusamy	-	S.No. 57/2B2	S.No. 57/3B1	S.No. 57/3A2	S.No. 56	3	57/3A	57/3A1	1500	49	Dry	Patta No.1296 Ravichandran S/o.Chinnusamy	Kalkattu (Part), PVC Pipe Line, Drip Irrigation Tubes, Tapioca	S.No. 57/2B2	S.No. 57/3A2	S.No. 57/3A2	S.No. 56
4	57/3B	57/3B1	3350	590	Dry	Patta No.1520 Tamilarasan S/o.Perumal-1 Sivanandhini D/o. Tamilarasan-2	Young Coconut tree-1 Yielding Coconut trees-4 Fodder Grass	S.No. 57/2D2	S.No. 57/3C1	S.No. 57/3B2	S.No. 57/3A1	4	57/3B					Deleted					
5	57/3C	57/3C1	14850	900	Dry	Patta No.1298 Perumal S/o Chinnusamy-1 Thangaraj S/o.Chinnusamy-2	Bore Well-1 Motor Room-1 Yielding Coconut Trees-12 Young Coconut Tree-1 Plantain Trees-3	S.No. 57/2D2	S.No. 57/3E1	S.No. 57/3C2	S.No. 57/2D2	5	57/3C	57/3C1	14850	516	Dry	Patta No.1298 Perumal S/o.Chinnusamy-1 Thangaraj S/o.Chinnusamy-2	Unused Borewell-1 Motor Room-1, Kalkattu (Part) Yielding Coconut Trees-6	S.No. 57/2D2	S.No. 57/3E1	S.No. 57/3C2	S.No. 57/2D2
6	57/3E	57/3E1	6250	246	Dry	Patta No.461 Balasundaram S/o.Perumal-1 Tamilarasan S/o.Perumal-2 Sivanandhini D/o. Tamilarasan-3	Kalkattu varappu Young Coconut Tree-1 Yielding Coconut Trees-3 Fodder Grass	S.No. 57/2D2	S.No. 58	S.No. 57/3E2	S.No. 57/3C1	6	57/3E	57/3E1	6250	190	Dry	Patta No.461 Balasundaram S/o.Perumal-1 Tamilarasan S/o.Perumal-2 Sivanandhini D/o. Tamilarasan-3	Kalkattu (Part) Yielding Coconut Trees-2, Young Coconut Trees-3, Fodder Grass	S.No. 57/2D2	S.No. 58	S.No. 57/3E2	S.No. 57/3C1
7	58/2	58/2B	17050	1625	Dry	Patta No.590 Ramasamy S/o.Perumal Gounder	-	S.No. 58/2A	S.No. 58/3B	S.No. 58/2C	S.No. 57	7	58/2	58/2B	17050	1570	Dry	Patta No.5244 Subbaiyan S/o.Nachiappa Gounder	Kalkattu (Part) Cholam	S.No. 58/2A	S.No. 58/3B	S.No. 58/2C	S.No. 57
8	58/3	58/3B	17250	2073	Dry	Patta No.493 Perumal S/o.Perumal Gounder	-	S.No. 58/3A	S.No. 58/3B	S.No. 58/3C	S.No. 58/2B	8	58/3	58/3B	17250	2092	Dry	Patta No.493 Perumal S/o.Perumal Gounder	Kalkattu (Part), PVC Pipe Line	S.No. 58/3A	S.No. 58/3B	S.No. 58/3C	S.No. 57/2B
9	59	59/2	15700	1220	Dry	Patta No.232 Mohanraj S/o.Periyanna Gounder-1 Nivitha (Minor Guardian Father) D/o.Mohanraj-2 Gayathiri (Minor Guardian Father) D/o.Mohanraj-3 Priyadharshini (Minor Guardian Father) D/o.Mohanraj-4	-	S.No. 59/1	S.No. 60	S.No. 59/3	S.No. 58	9	59	59/2	15700	1245	Dry	Patta No.232 Mohanraj S/o.Periyanna Gounder-1 Nivitha (Minor Guardian Father) D/o.Mohanraj-2 Gayathiri (Minor Guardian Father) D/o.Mohanraj-3 Priyadharshini (Minor Guardian Father) D/o.Mohanraj-4	PVC Pipe Line, Sugar Cane, Plainrain Trees	S.No. 59/1	S.No. 60	S.No. 59/3	S.No. 58
10	60/1	60/1B	18650	752	Dry	Patta No.232 Mohanraj S/o.Periyanna Gounder-1 Nivitha (Minor Guardian Father) D/o.Mohanraj-2 Gayathiri (Minor Guardian Father) D/o.Mohanraj-3 Priyadharshini (Minor Guardian Father) D/o.Mohanraj-4	Kalkattu Yielding Coconut Tree-1 Yielding Palm Tree-1	S.No. 60/1A	S.No. 60/2B	S.No. 60/1C	S.No. 59	10	60/1	60/1A	18650	675	Dry	Patta No.232 Mohanraj S/o.Periyanna Gounder-1 Nivitha (Minor Guardian Father) D/o.Mohanraj-2 Gayathiri (Minor Guardian Father) D/o.Mohanraj-3 Priyadharshini (Minor Guardian Father) D/o.Mohanraj-4	PVC Pipe Line, Kalkattu (Part), Yielding Coconut Tree-1, Yielding Palm Tree-1, Sugar Cane	S.No. 60/1A	S.No. 60/2A	S.No. 60/1B	S.No. 59
11	60/2	60/2B	34250	1930.5	Dry	Patta No.1337 Venkatachalam S/o.Perumal Gounder-1 Minor Poorani (Guardian Father) D/o.Venkatachalam-2 Minor Ananth (Guardian Father) S/o.Venkatachalam-3	Asbestos Shed-1 PVC Pipe line Yielding Coconut Trees-42 Young Coconut Tree-1 Teak Trees-2	S.No. 60/2A	S.No. 60/2B	S.No. 60/2C	S.No. 60/1B	11	60/2	60/2A	34250	1917	Dry	Patta No.1337 Venkatachalam S/o.Perumal Gounder-1 Minor Poorani (Guardian Father) D/o.Venkatachalam-2 Minor Ananth (Guardian Father) S/o.Venkatachalam-3	Asbestos Shed-1, PVC Pipe Line, Drip Irrigation Tubes, Kalkattu (Part), Yielding Coconut Trees-42, Teak Trees-2, Fodder Grass	S.No. 60/2A	S.No. 60/2B	S.No. 60/2B	S.No. 60/1A
12	63/2A1	63/2A1B	6050	668	Dry	Patta No.229 Seerangan S/o.Perumal Gounder	-	S.No. 63/2A1A	S.No. 63/6A, 63/2A2A, 63/7A1	S.No. 63/2A1C	S.No. 63/2B1	12	63/2A1	63/2A1B	6050	760	Dry	Patta No.229 Seerangan S/o.Perumal Gounder	Kalkattu (Part)	S.No. 63/2A1A	S.No. 63/6A, 63/2A2A, 63/7A1	S.No. 63/2A1C	S.No. 63/2B2
13	63/2A2	63/2A2A	850	235.5	Dry	Patta No.1486 Kandasamy S/o.Kaliyannan	PVC Pipe Line	S.No. 63/2A1B	S.No. 63/6B, 63/7B1	S.No. 63/2A2B, 63/2A1B	S.No. 63/2B1	13	63/2A2	63/2A2A	850	165	Dry	Patta No.1486 Kandasamy S/o.Kaliyannan	PVC Pipe Line	S.No. 63/2A1B	S.No. 63/6B, 63/7B1	S.No. 63/2A2B	S.No. 63/2A1B
14	63/2B	63/2B1	1100	186	Dry	Patta No.1339 Akilandam W/o.Mookkapillai	Yielding Coconut Trees-2	S.No. 63/2A1B	S.No. 63/2A1B	S.No. 63/2B2	S.No. 64	14	63/2B	63/2B2	1100	139	Dry	Patta No.1339 Akilandam W/o.Mookkapillai	Fodder Grass	S.No. 63/2A1B	S.No. 63/2A1B	S.No. 63/2B1	S.No. 64
15	63/7A	63/7A1	400	397	Dry	Patta No.229 Seerangan S/o.Perumal Gounder	-	S.No. 63/7A2	S.No. 63/7A2	S.No. 63/7B1	S.No. 63/6A	15	63/7A	63/7A1	400	381	Dry	Patta No.229 Seerangan S/o.Perumal Gounder	-	S.No. 63/7A2	S.No. 63/7A2	S.No. 63/7B1	S.No. 63/6A
16	63/7B	63/7B1	2150	682.5	Dry	Patta No.1486 Kandasamy S/o.Kaliyannan	PVC Pipe Line	S.No. 63/6B, 63/7A1	S.No. 67	S.No. 63/7B2	S.No. 63/2A2A, 63/6B	16	63/7B	63/7B1	2150	661	Dry	Patta No.1486 Kandasamy S/o.Kaliyannan	PVC Pipe Line	S.No. 63/6B, 63/7A1	S.No. 67	S.No. 63/7B2	S.No. 63/2A2A, 63/6B
17	63/14	63/14A	550	479	Dry	Patta No.726 Akilandam W/o.Mookkapillai-1 Tamilmani S/o.Periyanna Gounder-2	Yielding Coconut Tree-1	S.No. 64	S.No. 64	S.No. 63/14B	S.No. 63/15	17	63/14	63/14A	550	466	Dry	Patta No.726 Akilandam W/o.Mookkapillai-1 Tamilmani S/o.Periyanna Gounder-2	Yielding Coconut Trees-2, Nuna Tree-1, Neem Trees-2, Young Unja Tree-2, Young Karuvil Trees-2, Young Neem Trees-5	S.No. 64	S.No. 64	S.No. 63/14B	S.No. 63/15
18	63/6A	63/6A	300	300	Dry	Patta No.229 Seerangan S/o.Perumal Gounder	-	S.No. 63/2A1B	S.No. 63/7A1	S.No. 63/6B	S.No. 63/2A1B	18	63/6A	63/6A	300	300	Dry	Patta No.229 Seerangan S/o.Perumal Gounder	-	S.No. 63/2A1B	S.No. 63/7A1	S.No. 63/6B	S.No. 63/2A1B
19	63/6B	63/6B	100	100	Dry	Patta No.1486 Kandasamy S/o.Kaliyannan	-	S.No. 63/6A	S.No. 63/7B1	S.No. 63/7B1	S.No. 63/2A2A	19	63/6B	63/6B	100	100	Dry	Patta No.1486 Kandasamy S/o.Kaliyannan	PVC Pipe Line	S.No. 63/6A	S.No. 63/7B1	S.No. 63/7B1	S.No. 63/2A2A
20	64/8	64/8B	6250	1076	Dry	Patta No.494 Tamilmani S/o.Perianna Gounder	Poultry Farm-1 PVC Pipe Line Yielding Coconut Trees-5	S.No. 64/8A	S.No. 64/9B	S.No. 64/8C, 63	S.No. 64/1	20	64/8	64/8B	6250	968	Dry	Patta No.494 Tamilmani S/o.Perianna Gounder	Poultry Farm-1, PVC Pipe Line, Yielding Coconut Trees-3	S.No. 64/8A	S.No. 64/9B	S.No. 63, 64/8C	S.No. 63, 64/1
21	64/9	64/9B	6600	673.5	Dry	Patta No.1339 Akilandam W/o.Mookka Pillai-1	Well-1 Motor room-1 Yielding Drumstick Trees-2	S.No. 64/9A	S.No. 63	S.No. 63	S.No. 64/8B	21	64/9	64/9B	6600	736	Dry	Patta No.1339 Akilandam W/o.Mookkapillai	Well-1, Motor Room-1, PVC Pipe Line, Kalkattu (Part), Yielding Coconut Trees-5, Drum Stick Trees-2, Young Neem Trees-5 Curry Leaves Tree	S.No. 64/9A	S.No. 63	S.No. 63	S.No. 64/8B
22	67/3B	67/3B2	3050	2	Dry	Patta No.5153 Perumal S/o.Perumal Gounder-1 Venkatachalam S/o.Perumal Gounder-2 Chellappan S/o.Kaliyannan-3 Sasikala W/o.Ravindran-4 Ravi S/o.Venkatachalam-5	-	S.No. 67/3B1	S.No. 67/4A2	S.No. 67/4B2	S.No. 67/4B1	22	67/3B	67/3B2	3050	5.5	Dry	Patta No.5153 Perumal S/o.Perumal Gounder-1 Venkatachalam S/o.Perumal Gounder-2 Chellappan S/o.Kaliyannan-3 Sasikala W/o.Ravindran-4 Ravi S/o.Venkatachalam-5	-	S.No. 67/3B1	S.No. 67/4A2	S.No. 67/4B2	S.No. 67/4B2
23	67/4A	67/4A2	2600	142	Dry	Patta No.1487 Chellappan S/o.Kaliyannan	PVC Pipe Line Yielding Coconut Trees-4 Cholam	S.No. 67/4A1	S.No. 67/6B	S.No. 67/6B, 67/4B2	S.No. 67/3B2	23	67/4A	67/4A2	2600	242	Dry	Patta No.1487 Chellappan S/o.Kaliyannan	PVC Pipe Line, Kalkattu (Part), Yielding Coconut Trees-4	S.No. 67/4A1	S.No. 67/6A2	S.No. 67/6A2	S.No. 67/3B2
24	67/4B	67/4B2	1200	681	Dry	Patta No.1487 Chellappan S/o.Kaliyannan	PVC Pipe Line Yielding Coconut Trees-4 Young Neem Tree-1 Cholam	S.No. 67/4B1	S.No. 67/6B	S.No. 67/4B3	S.No. 63	24	67/4B	67/4B2	1200	690	Dry	Patta No.1487 Chellappan S/o.Kaliyannan	PVC Pipe Line, Kalkattu (Part), Yielding Coconut Trees-4, Young Neem Trees-2, Cholam	S.No. 67/4B2	S.No. 67/6A2	S.No. 67/4B3	S.No. 63
25	67/6A	67/6A2	4558	918.5	Dry	Patta No.5153 Perumal S/o.Perumal Gounder-1 Venkatachalam S/o.Perumal Gounder-2 Chellappan S/o.Kaliyannan-3 Sasikala W/o.Ravindran-4	-	S.No. 67/6A1	S.No. 67/8D, 67/8B2	S.No. 67/6A3	S.No. 67/4A2, 67/4B2	25	67/6A	67/6A2	4558	850	Dry	Patta No.5153 Perumal S/o.Perumal Gounder-1 Venkatachalam S/o.Perumal Gounder-2 Chellappan S/o.Kaliyannan-3 Sasikala W/o.Ravindran-4 Ravi S/o.Venkatachalam-5	Kalkattu, Young Neem Tree-1	S.No. 67/6A2	S.No. 67/8B2	S.No. 67/6A3	S.No. 67/4A2, 67/4B2
26	67/8B	67/8B2	2200	42	Dry	Patta No.303 Thangavel S/o.Nalli Gounder	-	S.No. 67/8B1	S.No. 67/11B	S.No. 67/8C1	S.No. 67/6B	26	67/8B	67/8B2	2200	16	Dry	Patta No.303 Thangavel S/o.Nalli Gounder	-	S.No. 67/8B1	S.No. 67/8B2	S.No. 67/8C2	S.No. 67/6A2
27	67/8C	67/8C1	300	226	Dry	Patta No.303 Thangavel S/o.Nalli Gounder	-	S.No. 67/8B2	S.No. 67/11B	S.No. 67/8C2	S.No. 67/6B	27	67/8C	67/8C2	300	267	Dry	Patta No.303 Thangavel S/o.Nalli Gounder	-	S.No. 67/8B2	S.No. 67/8C2	S.No. 67/8C3	S.No. 67/6A2
28	67/8F	67/8F1	1350	353.5	Dry	Patta No.303 Thangavel S/o.Nalli Gounder	-	S.No. 67/11B	S.No. 69	S.No. 67/8F2	S.No. 67/8C1	28	67/8F	67/8F2	1350	570	Dry	Patta No.303 Thangavel S/o.Nalli Gounder	-	S.No. 67/8B2	S.No. 67/8F2	S.No. 67/8C3	S.No. 67/6A2
29	67/11	67/11B	350	218	Dry	Patta No.1071 Perumayee W/o.Perumal Gounder-1 Venkatachalam S/o.Perumal Gounder-2 Thangavel S/o.Nalli Gounder-3 Chellappan S/o.Kaliyannan-5 Perumal S/o.Perumal-6	-	S.No. 67/11A	S.No. 69	S.No. 67/8F1	S.No. 67/8B2	29	67/11	67/11B	350	67	Dry	Patta No.1071 Perumayee W/o.Perumal Gounder-1 Venkatachalam S/o.Perumal Gounder-2 Thangavel S/o.Nalli Gounder-3 Chellappan S/o.Kaliyannan-5 Perumal S/o.Perumal-6	-	S.No. 67/11A	S.No. 67/11A	S.No. 67/8F2	S.No. 67/8C2
30	67/12	67/12A	400	63	Dry	Patta No.1135 Perumal S/o.Perumal Gounder-1 Venkatachalam S/o.Perumal Gounder-2 Thangavel S/o.Nalli Gounder-3 Seerangan S/o.Perumal-4	Unused Well (Part) Young Neem Tree-1	S.No. 67/8D	S.No. 67/8C1	S.No. 67/12B	S.No. 67/6B	30	67/12	67/12A	400	97	Dry	Patta No.1135 Perumal S/o.Perumal Gounder-1 Venkatachalam S/o.Perumal Gounder-2 Thangavel S/o.Nalli Gounder-3 Seerangan S/o.Perumal-4	Unused Well-1 (Part) Young Vagai Tree-1, Young Unja Tree-1, Young Neem Trees-2	S.No. 67/8C2	S.No. 67/8C2	S.No. 67/12B	S.No. 67/6A2
31	67/8D	67/8D	200	200	Dry	Patta No.303 Thangavel S/o.Nalli Gounder	Small Nuna Tree-1 Young Neem Tree-1	S.No. 67/6B	S.No. 67/8C1	S.No. 67/12A	S.No. 67/6B	31	67/8D	67/8D	200	200	Dry	Patta No.303 Thangavel S/o.Nalli Gounder	Kalkattu, Nuna Tree-1	S.No. 67/6A2	S.No. 67/8C2	S.No. 67/12A	S.No. 67/6A2
32	69/1	69/1B	3650	1446.5	Dry	Patta No.1072 Kandayee W/o.Maramuthu-1 Minor Venkatachalam S/o.Guardian Mother Kandayee-2 Seerangan S/o.Perumal Gounder-3 K.Lakshmi W/o.Karuppannan-4 K.Umanath S/o.Karuppannan-5 Palaniyappan S/o.Palaniyandi Gounder-6 Periyasamy S/o.Karuppaiah-7 Sambasivam S/o.Nachimuthu Gounder-8 Subramaniam S/o.Nachi Gounder-9 Ravichandran S/o.Chinnusamy-10 Gobi S/o.Eswaran-11	Yielding Tamarind Trees-2 Young Neem Trees-4 Unja Tree-1 Kiluva Tree-1	S.No. 69/1A	S.No. 69/5B	S.No. 69/5B	S.No. 67	32	69/1	69/1B	3650	865	Dry	Patta No.1072 Kandayee W/o.Maramuthu-1 Minor Venkatachalam S/o.Guardian Mother Kandayee-2 Seerangan S/o.Perumal Gounder-3 K.Lakshmi W/o.Karuppannan-4 K.Umanath S/o.Karuppannan-5 Palaniyappan S/o.Palaniyandi Gounder-6 Periyasamy S/o.Karuppaiah-7 Sambasivam S/o.Nachimuthu Gounder-8 Subramaniam S/o.Nachi Gounder-9 Ravichandran S/o.Chinnusamy-10 Gobi S/o.Eswaran-11	Young Tamarind Tree-1, Young Nuna Trees-3, Young Neem Trees-6, Kiluva Tree-1, Young Unja Tree-1	S.No. 69/1A	S.No. 69/5B	S.No. 69/5B	S.No. 67
33	69/5	69/5B	15450	1550.5	Dry	Patta No.1073 Selvaraju S/o.Perumal Gounder-1 Maramuthu S/o.Perumal Gounder-2 Kandayee W/o.Maramuthu-3 Minor Venkatachalam S/o.Guardian Mother Kandayee-4	PVC Pipe Line Yielding Coconut Trees-2 Young Coconut Tree-1	S.No. 69/5A	S.No. 76	S.No. 69/5C	S.No. 69/1B, 67	33	69/5	69/5B	15450	2160	Dry	Patta No.1073 Selvaraju S/o.Perumal Gounder-1 Maramuthu S/o.Perumal Gounder-2 Kandayee W/o.Maramuthu-3 Minor Venkatachalam S/o.Guardian Mother Kandayee-4	PVC Pipe Line, Drip Irrigation Tubes Yielding Coconut Trees-3, Yielding Tamarind Tree-1, Young Tamarind Tree-1, Young Neem Trees-3, Tapioca	S.No. 69/5A	S.No. 76	S.No. 69/5C	S.No. 67, 69/1B, 69/6A
34	76/1	76/1B	21650	2415	Dry	Patta No.458 Murugesan S/o.Palanisamy	PVC Pipe Line Yielding Coconut Trees-31	S.No. 76/1A	S.No. 76/7B	S.No. 76/1C	S.No. 69	34	76/1	76/1B	21650	2066	Dry	Patta No.458 Murugesan S/o.Palanisamy	PVC Pipe Line, Drip Irrigation Tubes Yielding Coconut Trees-32, Young Neem Trees-250	S.No. 76/1A	S.No. 76/7B	S.No. 76/1C	S.No.



**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
NEW DELHI, JAN. 21

In the August meeting of the CWC, interim President Mrs. Sonia Gandhi had

Several leaders have come out in the open and demanded that Mr. Rahul Gandhi once again take up the reins

Last month Mrs. Gandhi had met some of these letter writers in a bid to assuage their feelings and to initiate the free flow of ideas. Back room parleys have also been

The CWC is also expected to release a strongly worded resolution in favour of the farmers and against the farm laws. The issue of alleged Chinese incursions is also expected to be taken up. The issue of national security that came up post the purported chats of Arnab Goswami may find a mention.

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
SRINAGAR, JAN. 21

The Army alleged that the Pakistan Army had tried to facilitate the infiltration by providing firing cover to the militants.

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
NEW DELHI, JAN. 21

India on Thursday registered 15, 223 fresh cases of Covid-19 and 151 new deaths. So far, 145 persons have been found positive with the mutated UK strain of the virus.

But, with the announcement of Banerjee's candidature and Adhikari, a political heavyweight of the region, who had switched over to the BJP vowing to defeat her, has put the entire East Midnapore district, especially Nandigram, on edge.

"The people of Nandigram are not very happy with the TMC and also have grievances against Mamata di as she hardly visits Nandigram. Had there been any other candidate of the TMC, the defeat would have been imminent."

**SHAHAB ANSARI | DC**  
MUMBAI, JAN. 21

The Bombay High Court on Thursday dismissed a petition filed by Bollywood actor Sonu Sood challenging the demolition notice issued by the Mumbai municipal corporation. The civic body has alleged that Mr Sood has conducted unauthorised construction and

The actor had approached the high court after a City Civil court rejected his plea.

DIPR/ 41 /LAND/2021

"In many ways this moment embodies our character as a nation. It demonstrates who we are, even in dark times. We, not only dream, we do. We not only

She thanked IMPACT and RUN AAPI, an Asian American voter outreach organisation, for their leadership, asserting that the contributions of the Asian Pacific American community are woven throughout the fabric of the US.

From 1978 to 1981 Harris attended Westmount High, which also counts singer-songwriter Leonard Cohen among its alumni.

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU / THANJAVUR CITY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION			
THANJAVUR CITY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION			
BID NOTICE No.04/2022/MCE4 REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL			
BID NOTICE No.04/2022/MCE4 REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL			Dated:18.01.2025
<p>Sealed, separate bids are invited by the Managing Director, Thanjavur City Municipal Corporation, for the following work:-</p> <p>1. To provide the services of the consultants for Monitoring and Supervising of various types of Smart City Projects in Thanjavur City Municipal Corporation under Smart City Scheme. E-Submission is also permitted, for the following works up to 03:00 PM on the date 23.02.2025. The Bids will be opened by Managing Director (or) his authorized officials in the Corporation Office on the same day at 03:30 P.M. if the office happened to be closed on the date of receipt of Bids specified, then on 24.02.2025 on the next working day. The Required Educational documents which we wish to prepare in the Bids may download the Bids documents through <a href="https://tenders.gov.in">https://tenders.gov.in</a> by using E-Token / Digital Signature Cards on or before 23.02.2025 upto 03:00 PM. Any other information/s may be obtained from the Corporation Executive Engineer, Thanjavur at the above office during office hours. The Managing Director has every right to cancel / postpone the Bids operating in view of Administrative reasons.</p>			
Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Earnest Money Deposit for Each work (Rs.)	Eligibility & Details
1.	Third party consultants for Monitoring and Supervising of various types of Smart City Projects (Phase I - 17 Projects) in Thanjavur City Municipal Corporation under Smart City Scheme	Rs 5,00,000/-	Refer Tender Documents
2.	Third party consultants for Monitoring and Supervising of various types of Smart City Projects (Phase II - 5 Projects) in Thanjavur City Municipal Corporation under Smart City Scheme	Rs 5,00,000/-	Refer Tender Documents



# DECCAN Chronicle

22 JANUARY 2021

## A return to decency in US will be good for the world

Young American poet Amanda Gorman may have stolen the show at the inauguration of the new US President with her words in verse: “And so we lift our gazes not to what stands between us, but what stands before us.” In a sense, the poetic line summarises Joseph Robinette Biden Jr’s fundamentally reassuring message that the United States can heal while it recovers and rebuilds even as he attempts to reconcile and rectify the stark differences brought to the fore in four years of the Donald Trump era. The sense of calm resolve that Mr Biden, America’s 46th President, conveyed amid rhetoric and realism in bringing up “white supremacy” and “domestic terrorism” might have been just what was required after the tumultuous events of just two weeks ago when the same US Capitol, a pillar of democracy, was under siege.

Mr Biden’s ability to find the right words as he plays the healer who can stitch together the seemingly unbridgeable divide was the highlight. His talk of “American aspiration”, as opposed to the “America First” that his predecessor had emphasised at his 2017 inaugural, was tempered by post-pandemic humility after the US has been scarred more than any other nation with 400,000 deaths and millions more sick. The advent of the new presidency is not so much a transition as a sea change from the rule of his predecessor who showed scant regard for basic science and who upended news cycles with untruths distributed on social media platforms. In the face of crass challenges to democratic traditions, Mr Biden’s call for public comity was comforting: “Let’s begin to listen to one another again, hear one another, see one another.”

“Without unity there is no peace, only bitterness and fury, no progress, only exhausting outrage,” helped echo the ringing truth of old maxims on unity amid diversity that the world seems to have forgotten, thanks to the cascade of crises carried by the virus including the disruption of large parts of the global economy. In a welter of executive action, Mr Biden is bringing the United States back into the Paris agreement on climate change and into the World Health Organisation, besides stopping the construction of the “Mexican Wall” and addressing immigration issues thrown up by a racist and insular predecessor. The liberal revival promises more towards repairing hurt allies and equitable trade deals, obviating the need for tariff or sanctions-ridden confrontations that Mr Trump’s Washington had so preferred.

The dazzling optics of fireworks lighting up Capitol Hill was in keeping with the celebration of the inauguration while celebrity entertainers ushered in sobriety in view of the Covid-riddled times we are living in. There were messages to be read too in the ascension of vice-president Kamala Devi Harris, the first Black American and first person of Indian descent who was sworn in with her hand on two Bibles. The absence of the outgoing President Trump seemed inconspicuous, though he had the decency to leave a “generous letter” for his successor. In the end, the oldest democracy did survive the threat even as the “Proud Boys”, who were eulogised by Mr Trump, began mocking him as “a total failure”. One can only hope the return to decency and truth in America might ease the path to a global revival too.

## Is Lone playing BJP games?

The recent decision of Sajjad Lone, the founder-leader of the small Kashmir valley party, the People’s Conference, to leave the People’s Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD) not long after the PAGD parties performed well in the recent District Development Council (DDC) election cannot but cause surprise.

The impression it is likely to leave in Kashmir is that Mr Lone didn’t have the stomach for the fight ahead. The PAGD was created to struggle peacefully — using all democratic means — for the restoration of Article 370 of the Constitution, which gave constitutional autonomy to J&K and was squelched by the Centre in August 2019.

Since the PC has pulled out of what is an anti-BJP alliance, the surmise apt to be drawn in the valley is that the PC leader has been brought to his knees by the Centre, possibly through a deft mix of incentives and intimidation — the sorry fate of many in the country.

Mr Lone’s PC is limited to a corner of north Kashmir. Since the arrival of Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the scene six years ago, the PC leader became the first valley politician to cozy up to the PM and the BJP. But in the environment created when the BJP scuttled its own alliance government with the People’s Democratic Party in J&K (in which Mr Lone was a minister), the latter joined the Gupkar Alliance founded by National Conference and PDP a day before Article 370 was read down and hundreds of valley politicians pushed into jail.

By breaking from the Gupkar group, Mr Lone would appear to have gone back to his position of affinity with BJP. Splitting away from PAGD carries the optics of the weakening of the anti-BJP forces in J&K. But in Kashmir valley such optics are likely to be derided in the present atmosphere. Mr Lone chose a lame explanation for his departure, saying PAGD parties had put up proxy candidates against official PAGD candidates in the DDC polls. This is true enough, but the remedy would seem to lie in taking steps to politically invigorate PAGD, not flit away from it. This is why the sense in the Valley is that Mr

Subhani



## Transparency needed to remove all vaccine fears



Karan Thapar

As I See It

I’m used to school-boys squabbling, hacks quarrelling and, even, fish-wives shouting like alley cats but doctors and scientists lunging at each other’s throats came as a complete surprise. Unfortunately, that’s what we have witnessed as differences of opinion, particularly over Bharat Biotech’s Covaxin vaccine, transformed into vicious disputes and nasty divisions. The fact that this is not edifying is the least of my concerns. More important, I fear it is fuelling vaccine hesitancy, not just among the uninformed general population but also among those who are well aware of the need for vaccination.

In its main front-page story, Tuesday’s *Hindustan Times* reported that the average turnout was “less than 50 per cent” for the first three days of vaccination. Out of 7,704 sessions, where 100 people per session should have been vaccinated, only 381,305 people have taken the jab. What makes this low turnout worse is that at this stage it is health workers who are getting vaccinated. These are the people who understand the importance of vaccination. Normally, they don’t need to be convinced. So, if they’re backing off, that would suggest a possibly bigger problem.

It’s this problem that I want to focus on today. At its heart, I would say, is the controversy over the efficacy of Covaxin which, in turn, has been made considerably worse by an inexplicable attack by 49 doctors and scientists on the experts who were the first to raise legitimate questions about the vaccine. Far from allaying the concerns, which are

legitimate and need answering, these 49 gentlemen seem to suggest it is anti-national to raise valid doubts and it is our patriotic duty to grit our teeth and take the vaccine. Well, that is an attitude almost calculated to rile people. And it certainly had that effect on doctors, nurses, ward boys and other health workers.

To understand my point, let’s come to the perceived problem with Covaxin and then turn to the inflammatory critique it has unnecessarily provoked.

The problem arises from the fact Covaxin has been cleared “for restricted use in emergency situations ... in clinical trial mode” although its efficacy data from Phase 3 trials is not available. Two of India’s top virologists, Gagandeep Kang and Shahid Jameel, have questioned this. Their reasons for doing so are simple. Though safe, we still don’t know how efficacious it is. As they have explained, without credibly established efficacy data we don’t know if Covaxin works or how well it works. It’s being given in the belief that it will but if that turns out to be the case not only will that seriously damage trust in vaccination, but it could also mean many recipients, who think they are protected and inevitably drop their guard, could end up getting needlessly infected. If this happens, it can only add to our problems.

However, the case against using Covaxin goes further. Experts also say the argument it is an acceptable shortcut in a pandemic doesn’t hold. First of all, both cases and deaths are a fraction of what they were when they peaked in September. So, there’s no emergency now.

Second, we have other vaccines with credibly established efficacy that we could use. And they’re available in sufficient quantity. So, as Dr Kang told me in a recent interview: “I would ask why would you want to give a vaccine without efficacy emergency-use authorisation in these circumstances?”

Now the government’s doctors have advanced a third reason for prematurely pushing Covaxin. They claim it could be better at tackling new strains of the virus. The problem is that there’s absolutely no data to support this. Both Dr Kang and Dr Jameel say it is simply “an hypothesis”. This time Krishna Ella, chairman of Bharat Biotech, which has made Covaxin, agrees. On January 4, he publicly admitted that “it’s only an hypothesis right now”. Isn’t it odd that the government should think otherwise?

In fact, on January 4, Dr Krishna Ella went one step further. Most people have forgotten about this additional point which is why it’s worth recalling. “Just give me one week’s time (and) I’ll give confirmatory data”, he said. Two weeks and more have passed but he hasn’t done so. Instead, he’s gone silent on the subject.

It was in the face of such well-established concerns that 49 doctors and scientists decided to vindictively pounce on those who initially raised them. In a statement released on January 14 and within hours tweeted by the health ministry, they attacked what they

called “irresponsible statements by vested interests ... defaming (the) Indian scientific community and casting aspersions upon its integrity by making politicised statements about the recent research in the field of Covid-19 vaccines”. Referring to doubts about Covaxin as “reprehensible utterances”, the 49 sought to wrap themselves in the flag by asserting they have “a vision to make India a global leader in scientific research” and “a name to reckon with”. And, presumably for Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s benefit, they added they are “*atma nirbhar*”.

Frankly, it’s not just bizarre but deplorable to frame differences over the efficacy of Covaxin as issues of national pride or as an attempt to run down Indian achievements. Yet that is what the 49 did. No doubt the sound of the patriotic drum they tried to beat was music to their ears, but it turned out to be a discordant and disturbing note for the doctors, nurses and assorted health workers who they imagined would be reassured. It seems to have put them off in very sizeable numbers. As I said earlier, they’ve probably made matters much worse.

So, if we are going to ensure that Indians in their hundreds of millions get willingly vaccinated, we must be fully transparent about the vaccines we are using and their efficacy and not attack as “anti-national” all those who raise legitimate concerns. But if that doesn’t suffice to resolve the spreading doubts, we might have to consider temporarily withdrawing Covaxin till its efficacy is sufficiently and credibly established. Remember, the important goal is to get the largest number of people vaccinated. Which vaccine is used should be a mere detail.

*The writer is a television commentator and anchor*

### LETTERS

#### TURNING THE PAGE

The newly sworn-in US President Joe Biden is a very capable leader. He has the human touch and personal experience of the sufferings and sorrows of life. He believes in the essential goodness of human nature. He has risen to the occasion and is sure to rise to the challenges, both domestic and global. He will certainly try to do his job and meet expectations to the best of his ability. His passionate and powerfully emotive inauguration speech has encapsulated his philosophy of life and his worldview and outlined what his administration plans to do a sort of blueprint in broad terms. The flurry of executive orders Biden signed on the first day in office making mask wearing mandatory, rejoining the Paris climate change accord and the WHO, lifting the travel ban on several Muslim majority countries and halting the construction of wall on US-Mexican border among others were a clear repudiation of the Trump era policies.

**G. David Milton,**  
*Maruthancode*

#### AN IRREPARABLE LOSS

THE PASSING away of the veteran oncologist Dr V. Shanta is an irreparable loss to the field of medicine. A pioneer in cancer care, Dr Shanta was a strong woman, full of compassion and wisdom. The Padma Vibhushan recipient, whose passion for care was evident both in her words and actions, was a phenomenon that happened to India’s medical fraternity when cancer care seemed a distant dream. She steered the illustrious Adyar Cancer Institute to global fame and was solely responsible in making state-of-the-art treatment for cancer accessible and affordable to one and all.

**R. Sivakumar,** *Chennai*

#### A SHOT IN THE ARM

“CRICKET WAS invented by the English but mastered by the Indians”, goes the saying and true to it, the comprehensive win of the Indian team over the Aussies that too in Australia bears testimony to it. The editorial’s (*When Team India staged mother of all comebacks*, Jan.21) timely endorsing of Rahane donning the role of captain deserves accolades. As the swan song of the editorial opined, old order changes yielding way to new and the aggressive and demonstrative Kohli’s absence did not cause any damage to India’s winning streak. Let Team India bring many more such glories with the young talented ones, taking this win as a shot in the arm.

**E.S.Chandrasekaran,** *Chennai*

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Rafia Zakaria



## How Big Tech giants finally dealt crushing blow to Trump

Donald J. Trump spent the last days of his presidency sulking in the White House residence, isolating himself from nearly everyone and busying himself in making an enemies list, which included his own vice-president. One of the few people seen visiting him was a man who made a small fortune selling pillows on television and is a consumer of the most bizarre conspiracy theories possible.

Washington D.C. was a ghost town peopled only by National Guardsmen called up to defend the Capitol against the angry mobs unleashed by the President’s caustic vitriol. Even these men weren’t quite trustworthy; they were being vetted again to ensure they weren’t secret Trump supporters who would compromise the new President’s security.

Of all the humiliations Donald Trump has been subjected to, however, the worst hadn’t come from his political opponents. It came not on the day of the Capitol insurrection or even the impeachment that followed, but on the day that Twitter suspended his account. In an instant, the President who had goaded his supporters to fight

hard, feeding them a steady diet of lies, conspiracy theories and deceit for years, had no means to get in touch with them.

Mr Trump himself was likely stunned when this finally happened. For years, his detractors were hounding social media giants Twitter and Facebook to boot him out from their platforms. None of their entreaties worked; Mr Trump kept lying, riling up supporters, destroying careers, firing high-level Cabinet members, threatening politicians, instigating his supporters to deliver death threats, and his accounts were untouched. Even as he was actively spreading lies before and after the election, lies about mail-in voting, lies about who had won, and lies about rigging, Twitter and Facebook did nothing.

That changed after the Capitol Hill insurrection. Facebook and Twitter finally jettisoned Mr Trump. When an irate President tried to access the official POTUS account and started to tweet from there, that account was also suspended. In a belated purge, the two platforms began to delete pages and other accounts that were pushing for further attacks on the Capitol.

Extreme right-wing Trump supporters, members of militia groups like the Boogaloo Boys or neo-Nazi groups like The Proud Boys and many others immediately cried foul. Twitter and Facebook were engaging in censorship, they claimed, trying to quash speech on the right even as they let left-oriented groups operate without restrictions. The argument reflected just how far Trump supporters are from the one-time conservatives who used to make up the Republican Party. The latter group, with many who have long turned away from Donald Trump, would know, for instance, that freedom of speech and censorship rights do not apply to private companies but to governments. Free enterprise, a cherished conservative principle, stands for the freedom of Twitter and Facebook, both private companies, to kick out whomever they wish.

Annoyed at being booted out, Mr Trump’s MAGA supporters turned to a different quasi-Twitter service called Parler that was geared towards just those conservatives who were against Twitter’s rules of content and moderation. Parler doesn’t moderate any of its

content, allowing anything and everything to be said and shared on the site. In the minds of Mr Trump’s staunchest supporters, this was the ideal free-speech zone, where the harm words can cause was simply no consideration at all. Mr Trump’s faithful, many of whom already had Parler accounts, trooped off. If the liberals in charge of Twitter and Facebook would kick them out, Parler was there to welcome them.

The tentacles of Big Tech, however, could reach longer and deeper than they imagined. Parler may have been a separate service that didn’t moderate its content, but it used Amazon Web Servers to host content, and the app was distributed via the Apple App Store and Google Play. These made it subject to the rules of service of Apple, Amazon, Google, etc. These other tech giants stepped in. If Parler wouldn’t moderate its content, they would refuse to host the site or allow the app to be sold. Ultimatums were handed down; they couldn’t be met, and so the week after the Capitol insurrection Parler went dark. The conservatives who funded it vowed the site would be back, but without web server hosting it appeared this would be a tall order.

Big Tech’s role in first pushing and then ultimately (belatedly) removing Mr Trump will be debated for decades to come. It’s hard not to wonder about how many people would still be alive if Twitter and Facebook had done what they did this January a year ago; they would have denied Mr Trump a platform to spread lies about Covid-19 and the election. A study completed by the *Washington Post* found that in the two weeks since Mr Trump was suspended from Twitter, misinformation on the election and the events that followed had been reduced by a whopping 72 per cent.

Donald Trump, who tweeted hundreds of times a day on some days and whose tweets are now a part of history, will never have access to a Twitter account again. His is a lifetime ban applied not to a particular account but to him as a person regardless of which account he uses. The story of Mr Trump’s end is in this sense as much a tale of how giant tech companies now have the power to make or break governments, even in the most powerful country in the world.

*By arrangement with Dawn*



## IN BRIEF

Gov cancels  
'at home' receptionDC CORRESPONDENT  
CHENNAI, JAN. 21

The customary 'At Home' reception, organized by the Governor at the Raj Bhavan on the occasion of Republic Day, would not be held this year in view of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Governor Banwarilal Purohit had decided not to host the event, a notification from Raj Bhavan said on Thursday.

The 'At Home' reception is traditionally hosted by the Governor at the Raj Bhavan premises to celebrate Independence Day and Republic Day. Last year's reception on Independence Day was also not held in view of the pandemic that was at its peak then with some persons in Raj Bhavan testing positive for Coronavirus.

Two knocked by car on  
GST RoadDC CORRESPONDENT  
CHENNAI, JAN. 21

Two men on a motorbike were severely injured after a car knocked down the duo on GST road on Wednesday night. The injured have been identified as Anandhan(25) and Javid(26). Police said both were Indigo airlines staff staying in Tambaram. On Wednesday night, they were travelling towards Tambaram after duty on a two-wheeler.

When the duo was making a turn to proceed on the GST road, a speeding car heading from Chromepet knocked down the vehicle. The duo was thrown off the vehicle and suffered severe injuries.

Saisaran (20), a college student was traveling in the car when the accident occurred and he sustained minor injuries.

Anandhan and Javid are undergoing treatment in Chromepet government hospital. The St.Thomas mount Traffic Investigation police registered a case and booked Saisaran for rash driving.

'Soil nutrient management  
vital in crop productivity'B. RAVICHANDRAN | DC  
OOTY, JAN. 21

The ICAR-Indian Institute of Soil and Water Conservation, Research Centre (IISWC-RC) here is holding a national-level training programme for scientists drawn from 12 states on 'Integrated Nutrient Management and Nutrient Budgeting' through advanced models to improve crop productivity. This program is designed to introduce participants to the latest tools, techniques and models of effective integrated nutrient management and nutrient budgeting.

Dr M Velayutham, former director, ICAR- NBSS and LUP, Nagpur, in his inaugural address stressed the need for proper nutrient management in different production

systems as nutrient management varied with high intensive agriculture to plantation crops. He emphasized the need for sustaining soil health by integrating organic manures and by following proper crop rotation methods. He also stressed the significance of soil test-based fertilizer application to improve soil efficiency to optimize crop productivity.

Continuous cultivation removes large amounts of soil nutrients which have to be replenished by adding different nutrients through integrated nutrient management.

Dr D R Biswas, principal scientist, IARI- New Delhi, in his address expressed concern on nutrient mining which has developed deficiency of many nutrients in Indian soils. Use of local

rock phosphate as nano-fertiliser will save a large amount of money that is being spent on import of phosphate fertilizers, he added.

Dr R S Yadav, director, ICAR-IISWC, in his presidential address highlighted the importance of integrated nutrient management and emphasized the need for organizing panel discussion about significance of integrated nutrient management to optimize crop productivity.

Dr K Kannan, Head, ICAR-IISWC-RC, here expressed the need for proper fertilizer policy and emphasized the role of integrated nutrient management to improve crop yield.

Course director Dr P Raja, principal scientist (soil science), elaborated the course curriculum of the training programme.

HC bins PIL seeking to  
control variant of Covid-19DC CORRESPONDENT  
CHENNAI, JAN. 21

The Madras high court has declined to entertain a Public Interest Litigation, which sought a direction to the authorities to take appropriate action to control the variant of Covid-19. The First Bench comprising Chief Justice Sanjib Banerjee and Justice M.M.Sundresh dismissed the PIL filed by K.K.Ramesh.

The bench said the petitioner, who is in the habit of filing numerous public interest litigations, has come forward to file the present one seeking a direction to the authorities to take appropriate action to control the variant of Covid-19. "We are not inclined to entertain this writ petition. It is for the State administration to take appropriate action. The Special Government Pleader appearing for the State submitted



that action already initiated is being continued. In such view of the matter, the present writ petition filed based on a newspaper report, cannot be entertained.", the bench added.

In his PIL, Ramesh sought a direction to the authorities to take stringent action to control the Covid-19 type-2 diseases in a war footing manner; to control the Covid-19 type-2 disease, the government should not allow assembling of 10 persons in all public places and to impose ban order on public meetings, procession, campaign to all political parties for the forthcoming Tamil Nadu Assembly election.

HC rejects plea on  
PCA amendmentDC CORRESPONDENT  
CHENNAI, JAN. 21

The Madras high court has rejected a plea, which sought a direction to the Union government to suitably amend the Prevention of Corruption Act by incorporating maximum punishment of life imprisonment and even death sentence.

Declining to entertain a Public Interest Litigation filed by R.Parthiben, the First Bench comprising Chief Justice Sanjib Banerjee and Justice M.M.Sundresh said it is left open to the petitioner to move the political field for appropriate action in accordance with law.

The bench said the petitioner seeks to espouse a public cause by suggesting that the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988,

ought to be suitably amended by incorporating maximum punishment of life imprisonment and even death sentence. "We do not know if the petitioner's sentiment reflects the public perception to corruption in public office in general. We hope it does not. At any rate, it is for the appropriate legislature to look into matters of policy, including prescribing punishment for offences and no writ of mandamus may issue for a constitutional court to command any legislature to enact a particular statute or to prescribe a particular form of punishment or the like. The writ petition is not entertained and it is left open to the petitioner to move the political field for appropriate action in accordance with law", the bench added.



Woman police officers take part in a bike rally to mark road safety awareness week at Chelliammal temple near Vellore new bus stand on Thursday. Around 250 people participated in the rally which concluded at Nethaji grounds. Assistant transport commissioner Suresh, Regional transport officer Senthilvelan, DSP Vinayagam, Motor Vehicles Inspector Karunanidhi, Transport Department Deputy General Manager Kalaichelvan and Transport police Inspector Srinivasan participated in the rally along with other police officers.

—K.Senthil Nathan

## Centre mulling quota for govt school students

DC CORRESPONDENT  
CHENNAI, JAN. 21

The Union government has informed the Madras high court that the proposal for granting horizontal reservation to students from government schools in state quota seats in admission to MBBS and other medical courses in Puducherry, has been under active consideration of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Ravi Ranjan, Deputy Commandant in Ministry of Home Affairs, stated this in his reply affidavit filed in response to a petition filed by one Minor Subbulakshmi, which sought a direction to the Union government to approve the scheme of introduction of 10 percent horizontal reservations for student from government schools within Union

## MED ADMISSION IN PONDY

Territory of Puducherry for admission to MBBS/BDS courses.

In his affidavit, Ravi Ranjan said in view of it being an important policy matter and due to difference of opinion between the Lieutenant Governor and Chief Minister of Puducherry, the matter was referred for inter-ministerial consultation, to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and the Department of Personnel and Training for their considered advice.

Denying the averment that the reference has been kept pending indefinitely, he said the Ministry has acted promptly on the reference of LG and CM, and sought inter-ministerial consultations for

taking an informed decision.

He said the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare while disagreeing with the proposal for granting horizontal reservation to students from government schools in state quota seats in admission to MBBS and other medical courses had conveyed certain comments/points. Now, the Ministry has solicited the advice of DoPT, comments of which were presently awaited, he added and sought 6 weeks for taking a considered decision on the matter.

Taking strong exception to the counter affidavit filed by the central government, senior counsel P.Wilson, appearing for the petitioner submitted that the stand of the cen-

tral government was running against the will of the people and the constitution and putting spokes to the decision of the popularly elected government. Since 2016 no students studied in government medical colleges in Puducherry and the admission rate was zero. The scheme will help government students to get admission in government medical college and the lethargic attitude in delaying to take a decision has doomed the dreams of the students this year. The Supreme Court itself has said that such reservations by state were permissible, Wilson pointed out.

Granting four weeks time to the central government Justice B.Pugelendhi posted to February 25, 2021, further hearing of the case.

## AIADMK, DMK hold party meets

From Page 1

Even then, it has become clear from the manner in which the campaign now goes on that the fight for the Chief Minister's post is only between Palaniswami and Stalin though Haasan and Naam Tamilar Katchi's Seeman are also aspirants.

While the smaller parties like the Congress, BJP and others are also holding public meetings at various places, they are yet to start a systematic campaign like Stalin and Palaniswami.

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi was in the State during Pongal and is again coming in a couple of days. But the party's real campaign can be launched only after

the seats are allotted to them. Also those parties can only address general issues unlike the DMK and AIADMK that have started dishing out promises.

Also, Palaniswami has started canvassing votes for the 'Two Leaves' symbol by launching a scathing attack on the DMK on various fronts and the DMK has been organizing village council (grama sabai) meetings on the theme 'Reject AIADMK' telling people that the changes the DMK would usher in once the elections were over.

According to a resolution passed at the DMK's district secretaries meeting on Thursday, 21,500 villages and wards have already been reached through the grama sabai meetings and

that 1.05 crore people had already endorsed the 'Reject AIADMK' slogan.

Palaniswami on his part, speaking at a meeting at Thirupurur in Chengalpattu district, attacks Stalin by accusing him of grooming a woman to level unfair charges against the Deputy Chief Minister O Panneerselvam at his constituency of Theni at a grama sabai meeting. He calls Stalin's trick as cheap and even challenges him to come directly for a fight and not use women as cover.

Panneerselvam has also geared up to hit the campaign trail in a few days and is expected to make speeches against DMK and Stalin. In the DMK camp, the party's youth wing secretary Udhayanidhi Stalin and Women's

Wing secretary Kanimozhi endorsed the 'Reject AIADMK' slogan.

Also both the DMK and AIADMK have been holding party conclaves to brief functionaries on the ways to go about preparing for the elections. The DMK held a district secretaries meeting on Thursday and the AIADMK's meeting with functionaries is to follow.

Besides, the two major parties have also convened meetings of their booth committees, which play the most crucial role during polls. Both the parties have booth committees in all the polling booths of the State, whose numbers may go up this time in view of new norms due to the pandemic.



Minister for animal husbandry Udamalai K Radhakrishnan, Tiruppur district collector K.Vijayakarthekeyan along with other officials inaugurate new police canteen at Palladam in Tiruppur. —DC

Farmers stage novel  
protest at TiruchyDC CORRESPONDENT  
TIRUCHY, JAN. 20

The police arrested a group of farmers belonging to the Desiya Then India Nathigal Inaippu Vivasayigal Sangam, including its state president P. Ayyakkannu.

They staged a novel demonstration by placing their memorandum at the late Chief Minister MGR's statue and subsequent road roko at Tiruchy on Thursday.

Mr. Ayyakannu said their demands include compensation of ₹30,000 per acre of damaged paddy crop during the recent rains, ₹20,000 per acre of other crops and ₹40,000 for damaged onion crop. All the arrested farmers were released this evening.

CPM: Ensure safety  
of Indian fishermenR. VALAYAPATHY | DC  
PUDUKKOTTAI, JAN. 21

The Pudukkottai district unit of the CPM has urged the Central government and Sri Lanka to ensure the safety of Indian fishermen who venture into the sea for fishing.

CPM Pudukkottai secretary S. Kavivarman said in a release that four fishermen of Kottaipattinam who ventured into the sea on January 18 have not returned as yet. Inquiries revealed that their boat was hit by a Sri Lankan naval patrolling boat and sunk. Based on the Indian government's plea, the Sri Lankan naval force sent out a search party and

recovered the bodies of the Indian fishermen on Tuesday and Wednesday. The bodies are now kept at the Jaffna hospital in Sri Lanka for post-mortem, he added.

Mr. Kavivarman demanded a detailed inquiry and transparency in the post-mortem of the bodies of the Indian fishermen. Their bodies should be handed over to the family members.

The Central and state governments should provide adequate compensation to the family members of the deceased fishermen besides providing a government job to a member of the deceased fishermen family.

## Compensation to be paid to rain-hit farmers

G. SRINIVASAN | DC  
THANJAVUR, JAN. 21

The district officials have been asked to complete the enumeration of crop damage, due to unseasonal rain during Pongal, before January 29, said Gagandeep Singh Bedi, principal secretary and agriculture production commissioner, on Thursday.

"After enumeration is completed and compiling the reports from districts, a detailed report will be given by the director of agriculture and director of horticulture to the government. The government will decide the relief to be provided to the farmers", Bedi told the media at Ponnapur near Thanjavur.

He inspected the enumeration work at Punavasal in Peravurani panchayat union.

He later inspected the damaged crops at Raramuthiraikottai in Ammapettai panchayat union, Valamarkottai in Thanjavur panchayat union, Ponnapur in Orathanadu panchayat union, Kavalipatti in Thiruvonam panchayat union and Punavasal in Peravurani panchayat union. He also inspected the paddy drier kept at Ponnapur.

Bedi said that with respect to crop insurance, officials and crop insurance companies have been asked to advance the crop-cutting experiment (normally done in February and March). "They will be done immediately, so that reports can be sent to insurance companies early and compensation can be paid to the affected farmers. Crops in 30 lakh acres

have been insured by farmers in the state. I saw the damage" Bedi added.

He said that two more paddy driers are coming to Thanjavur district. One will be installed at Telungankudikadu. He appreciated farmer Srinivasan who installed the paddy drier at Ponnapur which is on a trial run. "It seems to be successful and depending upon the experience in Thanjavur district more driers can be installed in other districts also. The drier is capable of bringing down moisture content in paddy from 27 per cent to 18 per cent", the APC said.

M. Govinda Rao, district collector; Balachander, sub-collector; Amit, sub-collector (trainee) and Justin, Joint director of agriculture accompanied the inspection.

## Jab we met: Address vax hesitancy, share safety and efficacy data

## Viewpoint

B.Vijayalakshmi

With the pandemic curve under control, it is time the government dispelled doubts over Covid vaccines and ensured that the inoculation drive picks up momentum. The Centre has urged the state governments to address vaccine hesitancy prevalent in several parts of the country.

Healthcare workers and other frontline staff must realize that since they are the most vulnerable to virus exposure, vaccines have

been offered first to them as a mark of gratitude for their selfless service.

With the Covid situation reassuring, public figures and netas must volunteer to get the jab without hesitation. The restrictions given to vaccine recipients underline the need for transparency in revealing the efficacy of phase 3 trial results of Covaxin, thereby clearing doubts over vaccine preference.

With over eight lakh healthcare workers vaccinated in the country till this morning, and PM and CMs gearing up for the jab during the second phase of vaccination, the safety and efficacy of vaccines matters

most. Efforts must be made to end vested campaigns of misinformation.

CoWin has helped in planning of vaccination sessions, tracking beneficiaries and vaccination sites. With glitches reported in some sites, the software's new feature — 'allot beneficiary' in 'ongoing session' — allows maximum number of beneficiaries in each session. A person's name can be searched in the database by cellphone number. Besides, provisional certificate will be given after first dose and final certificate after the second dose. Immunisation officers and district magistrates have been told to organise daily

review meetings with the session site and cold chain point with feedback to plan the schedule.

Meanwhile, India has begun delivering Covishield vaccines to neighbouring nations like Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives and Nepal. The state and Central governments must coordinate to instill confidence in people, understand the reasons for vaccine hesitancy and handle the challenges. Reassuring people on jab safety and updating and sharing efficacy data at regular intervals will put the vaccination drive on fast track. Also it will help the states to reach a level of herd immunity.



The Southern Railway on Thursday launched the Covid-19 vaccination campaign at its headquarters hospital, Perambur.

Dr. C.V.N. Murthy, medical director, Perambur railway hospital, received the first dose. John Thomas, general manager, Southern Railway, inaugurated the drive in the presence of B.G. Malley, additional general manager, Dr V. Nirmala Devi, principal chief medical director, and other staff. The vaccination centre is fully equipped to administer vaccines for 100 beneficiaries on a daily basis.

—DC

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