





# Womenia

TWEET PATROL

**RAVEENA TANDON**  
**@TANDONRAVEENA**  
When in Manali, do as the Manalians do! Garm raho bhaiya! The new rules being contemplated and getting in place are, fines and curfew after 8 pm until 6 am, Nature getting a breather after 8. #fauxfurjacket

## Sugar and spice, everything nice

TEJAL SINHA

From sweet delicacies to savoury delights, ‘Honey & Dough’ is a melting pot of delectable and scrumptious goodies where the aroma of beans brewing into coffee and the warmth of flour turning into a cake is always ready to welcome you. Honey and Dough was founded by a Chhawchharia couple, Aavika and Utsav in 2017.

Aavika shares, “Utsav and I met during our undergrad days at Hansraj College, University of Delhi. We later went on to pursue our Masters degree from Cass Business School in London and got married in 2015. Before starting Honey & Dough, Utsav was working for import and distribution on petrochemicals and polymers, and I was spearheading a home furnishing business. It was simply our shared love for hearty desserts and the passion for introducing quality International bakes and other cuisines to Delhi, which led us to venture into the F&B sector and open ‘Honey & Dough’.”

‘Honey and Dough’ is a family owned enterprise and the name has been chosen by uniting the two ingredients that are basic yet essential to any bakery - honey and dough.

She says, “Utsav and I have always loved travelling around the globe and we have this ongoing quest and appreciation for finding small cafes and bakeries nestled in little nooks and corners of the world. On coming back, we realised that there was a dearth of good confectionaries and coffee-houses in Delhi, especially the ones that would create authentic desserts, breads and other bakes.”

They took the matters in our own hands and started Honey & Dough with the vision of making it a one-stop-destination for some authentic international food offerings that are available at a reasonable price making it accessible for everyone to enjoy the taste of some global desserts and savoury picks without having to leave the Delhi.

Sharing about the initial challenges and the impact of pandemic, she shares, “We opened our first cafe in Defence colony market where we entered a highly competence market. Players such as defence bakery who have been established for over 100 years, so we were skeptical about how people would accept a new venture and the second important challenge was to hire the right team from our store managers to our executive chefs.COVID-19 has affected the dine in sales at all cafes but gradually sales are picking



Aavika & Utsav Chhawchharia (Honey & Dough)

‘Honey & Dough’ is a cafe and coffeehouse, the ultimate one-shop place to find hearty loaves of artisan bread, contemporary desserts as well as some lovely slices of classic cakes, in-house granola and healthier desserts, custom gourmet chocolates, piping hot pizzas and pastas, amazing sandwiches and salads, gift packs and hampers, and everything that one can ask for



up as people are trying to find a new normal and getting back to their routines. Our prime focus remains on carrying all our operations and production with full precautions and maintaining optimum safety and hygiene standards. There is nothing more important than the safety and well-being of our patrons.”

They reiterate their quest to create a warm and inviting ambi-

ence at ‘Honey & Dough’ where everyone is welcome to try our wide array of sweet and savoury products. “We focus on making it a destination where there is something for everyone and everything is under one roof - desserts, savoury dishes, gifting hampers, and anything else one can imagine or wish for. Also, what forms the core of the brand and sets us apart is that we never compromise on the quality of our offerings and always strive to present authentic flavours, yet providing a reasonable price on our products to our patrons,” concludes Aavika.



## Pass on your cloths instead of throwing them out: Alia Bhatt

PUJA GUPTA

Bollywood actress Alia Bhatt believes switching up your fashion choices can contribute a lot towards sustainable fashion. She advocates passing on of clothes rather than throwing them out as the first step towards the right direction.

Alia says, “You just have to switch up your choices, it’s as simple as that. You need to pass on your clothes to people instead of throwing them out. That is the most basic way to contribute. I never throw away my clothes at all. I pass them on. This is the best way you can indulge in sustainable fashion. Buying sustainable clothing is also an option, but sustaining that clothing and actually passing it on to people instead of throwing it away is probably the first step we have to do. These small choices contribute to a lifestyle change.”

Alia says that she has been passing on her clothes to her friends since she was young.

She recalls, “When I used to grow out of certain clothes, I used to pass them on to my friends. I remember one day I was hanging out with my best friend, her cooks walks into the room wearing a t-shirt which I gave to her some three years ago. So, she passed my t-shirt on to her cook. I was so amazed with it. The memory still stays with me. Something you don’t use can be of extremely useful to somebody else.”

The ‘Highway’ actress recently launched her sustainable clothing line for called kids ‘Ed-a-Mamma’. Commenting on her new venture, she tells, “Ed-a-mama is a brand that cares about two things in particular -- children and our planet. I was wanting to do something in this space. One day when we were all sitting together and I was enquiring about how I can start my own fashion label; I really don’t know anything about business but I realised that there’s no dearth of fashion labels for

people of my age or above. I asked if there was a gap in the market and we noted that there’s a real need for a world class children’s clothing brand; a brand which is made in India. It immediately caught my attention.”

The label offers a range of apparel for both boys and girls and is made of plant-based, biodegradable natural fibres like cotton and linen. The brand uses scrap fabrics to make hair ties and potlis.

“I was working on a series of stories about a little girl and her dog, having different adventures, saving the planet from any ecological harm. The reason I was making those stories was to nurture in children a love for nature. If you start extremely young, then it becomes a part of their DNA, their personality and they go a long way in making the right choices in the future to not harm our environment. And then we decided to extend that into the universe. Ed-a-mama is a universe. Our first offering is conscious clothing brands and we are going to extend this to stories, video series. So, it is constantly nurturing in children a love for nature; that is the brand’s story. Also, every garment comes with little seed balls, waiting to be planted.

It’s an activity for the child and parent to do together. The brand cares about children and the planet. It’s a playwear brand,” Alia informs. Bhatt shares she is also part of the creative and designing team of the brand. She ends by saying that they are a start-up and everybody’s sort of doubling up and playing multiple roles.



## Jojoba oil for beautiful skin

Jojoba oil has numerous benefits when applied to the skin, which is why it is used in many cosmetics and beauty products. The jojoba plant is a hearty, perennial plant that grows in North America. Not only does it thrive in the harsh, desert climates that could kill most living things, but it also produces a nut with many healing properties. The nut of the jojoba plant can be made into an oil. Jojoba oil is gentle enough to be used as a carrier oil to mix with other essential oils. You can also use it on its own.

Here is a list of benefits of using this beauty potion.

### Retains moisture

Jojoba oil is a humectant. It means that it helps to retain moisture in the skin by sealing the skin with a protective barrier. This not only keeps the skin hydrated, supple, and moisturized

but also prevents bacterial infection and acne by preventing the build-up of bacteria in the pores.

### Natural cleanser

The idea is to use oils instead of soaps or other face wash with harsh chemicals to cleanse the face and remove the dirt and grime from the skin. You can use Jojoba oil to gently cleanse the skin, without tugging or pulling the skin. Just rinse your face with warm water and a soft cloth. Then apply a few drops of jojoba oil onto the face using clean hands.

### Rich in antibacterial properties

Jojoba oil contains antifungal as well as antimicrobial properties that kill bacteria, causing salmonella, an E. coli infection, and candida. By forming a protective barrier, it prevents the build-up of bacteria on the skin, thereby

preventing acne and other bacterial infections.

### Rich in antioxidant properties

Vitamin E, as we all know, acts as an antioxidant when applied to the skin. Jojoba oil contains vitamin E. This implies that this magic oil can protect your skin from stress caused due to everyday exposure to toxins and other pollutants.

### Great makeup remover

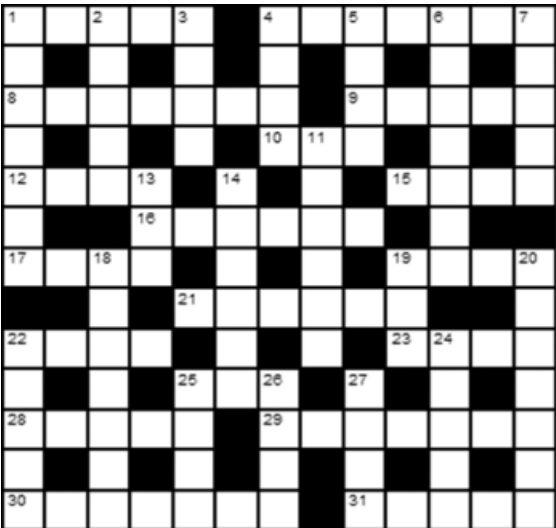
We have already discussed above how jojoba oil can be used as a natural cleanser. In addition to its other benefits, jojoba oil can also be used as an excellent makeup remover. Simply add a few drops of jojoba oil onto a cotton pad and use it to wipe off your makeup. You will be surprised at how easily the makeup removes itself and glides along with the cotton.

### Treats sunburns

Jojoba oil is a popular ingredient in sunscreens and can be used as a natural sunscreen. It can also be used to treat sunburns. Jojoba soothes the burnt skin while healing them, which helps to alleviate the pain after a sunburn. Sun damage can leave the skin dry and flaky. This is when the moisturizing properties of jojoba oil will kick in. Overall, it’s a great idea to apply jojoba oil on the skin after a day spent under the hot, scorching sun.

### Treats acne

Jojoba oil has anti-inflammatory agents. These, along with its healing, antimicrobial and moisturizing properties, gives us good reason to believe that jojoba oil, when applied on the skin can treat mild acne.



SOLUTION TO NOVEMBER 28

### CROSSWORD

#### Across

- Panache (5)
- Justify (7)
- Shielded (7)
- He exercises his franchise? (5)
- Before, for the poet (3)
- Very sharp pastry dish ? (4)
- Address God (4)
- Items to be discussed (6)
- Adverse fate (4)
- Nerve fibre core (4)
- Powerful cat (6)
- Adolescent (4)
- Place to trade (4)
- Surprised reactions ? (3)
- Kingdom (5)
- Adage (7)
- A titled person ? (7)
- American lake (5)

#### Down

- Agitated (7)
- Aficionado (5)
- Gang's territory (4)
- Walk in water (4)
- Talk irrationally (4)
- Infectious disease of cattle (7)
- Linger a while (5)
- Highly radioactive metallic element (6)
- Scottish cap (3)
- Go back over (6)
- Outdoor (7)
- Supply with weapons (3)
- Distinguished (7)
- Pulsate (5)
- Beth's predecessor (5)
- A prophetic sign (4)
- Cooking rod (4)
- Catcall (4)

### SUDOKU

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2			1	4	8	
9	5			3	1	
2	8		1			9
			4	2	6	
1			5		6	3
	1	7			5	4
	7	5	1			6
3						

SOLUTION TO NOVEMBER 28

1	7	3	8	5	6	4	2	9
2	8	6	7	4	9	5	3	1
5	9	4	3	2	1	6	7	8
9	6	2	4	8	7	3	1	5
3	4	5	6	1	2	8	9	7
8	1	7	5	9	3	2	6	4
7	3	8	1	6	5	9	4	2
4	2	1	9	3	8	7	5	6
6	5	9	2	7	4	1	8	3

### NEWS ROUNDUP

## From being a Delhi girl to a Telugu ammayi: Rakul Preet on completing seven years in Tollywood

Actress Rakul Preet Singh on Sunday celebrated her completion of seven years in the Telugu film industry.

The actress took to her verified Instagram account on Sunday to share her photographs from seven years ago and the present time.

Using the hashtag #7yearsofTFI, Rakul wrote, “I was all smiles then and all smiles now and the reason is all the people who accepted me with soo much love. From being a delhi girl to a pakka telugu ammayi. This journey has been beyond beautiful. Thanking every director, producer, costar, peer, friend and fan who believed in me, stood by me, appreciated and criticized me to help me evolve into a better me with each passing day. Nothing of course would have been possible without my family , manager and team.”

Rakul has appeared in Telugu films like “Venkatadri Express”, “Pandaga Chesko”, “Nannaku Prematho”, “Rarandoi Vedula Chudham” and “Manmadhudu 2” among others and shared screen space with Tollywood superstars like Mahesh Babu, Ram Charan, Jr NTR, Nagarjuna Akkineni and Allu Arjun.

The actress, who began her career with Kannada, Telugu and Tamil films, has gradually started creating a space for herself in Bollywood as well.

She has featured in Bollywood films like “De De Pyaar De”, “Marjaavaan”, “Shimla Mirchi” and others.

On the work front, Rakul will next be seen alongside Bollywood superstar Amitabh Bachchan and Ajay Devgn in the thriller drama, “Mayday”. The film is directed and produced by Ajay Devgn.





# Will thwart Centre’s bid to turn farm protest into Shaheen Bagh: BKU

GHAZIPUR

BHARATIYA Kisan Union leader Rakesh Tikait on Sunday asserted that they would thwart all attempts of the Centre to turn the ongoing protest by farmers into "violence that followed anti-CAA protests at Shaheen Bagh" and other areas in Delhi in February.

"The Union government wants to make the Nirankari Maidan at Burari as a flashpoint for another re-run of the violent anti-CAA protests in Delhi's Shaheen Bagh area in February. We will not let the government succeed in its attempt," Tikait told IANS.

"If we reach the Burari ground, we will be accused of planning a protest similar to the Shaheen Bagh. We will not allow a repeat of the anti-CAA protests incidents with our farmers," Tikait added.

Several farmer leaders from western Uttar Pradesh led by BKU leader Tikait will soon lead a convoy of Uttar Pradesh farmers at Ghazipur on the Delhi-Uttar Pradesh border in east Delhi to participate in the protest against the three central farm laws.

The farmers from western UP plan to march in solidarity with the protesting farmers from Punjab and Haryana in the national Capital.

He said that the situation will be clear by Sunday afternoon as for their strategy. "A meeting is going on across the Singhu border on this issue; the central government must listen to our demands." Tikait said: "Why does the Union government want to meet the farmers at the Nirankari Maidan? If they want to hold a dialogue, they can directly meet our farmer leaders and talk to them."



Rakesh Tikait (right) talking to Delhi police officials

## SFJ annouces \$1million aid for agitating farmers

As thousands of farmers from Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh are rallying at Delhi's three interstate border points, banned secessionist group Sikhs For Justice (SFJ) is trying to fish in troubled waters by announcing \$1 million aid for farmers who suffered injuries or damage to their vehicles while facing police action in Haryana.

The information has sent security agencies into a tizzy, with many deployed on protest spots in plain-clothes to keep a close tab on SFJ supporters who may mingle with protesters as part of their "ill-intention" to lure innocent farmers and take undue advantage of the situation in the name of helping them.

In its recent announcement through a social media platform, the SFJ said it will provide \$1 million aid to farmers from "Punjab and Haryana who have suffered bodily injuries or damage to their vehicles while facing police action during their hard-fought journey to Delhi".

The SFJ's message mentions its plan for opening a 24-hour call centre on November 30 in the US, Canada, the UK, France and Germany to accept online applications from farmers of Punjab and Haryana to reimburse for their losses and also to register votes for its "Khalistan Referendum". "SFJ is kick-starting the Khalistan Referendum voting from London on August 15, 2021 for the independence of Punjab," mentions the message circulated by SFJ's US-based General Counsel and group's key leader Gurpatwant Singh Pannun -- designated a terrorist by the Indian government.

# Centre treating protesting farmers like terrorists: Raut

PM hailing farm laws shows govt drunk with power, rigid in face of protests: Congress

MUMBAI

SHIV Sena MP Sanjay Raut on Sunday said farmers protesting against the Centre's new agri laws are being treated as if they are "terrorists", and it is sad that they are not being allowed to enter Delhi. The government should consider the farmers' demands sympathetically, Raut said.

Thousands of farmers, protesting against three agriculture laws enacted by the Centre, have gathered at border points of the national capital as part of their 'Delhi Chalo' march. "It is sad they are not being allowed to come to Delhi and are being treated as if they are terrorists and have come from outside the country. The government should consider the demands of farmers sympathetically," Raut said.

"Farm laws is one issue. Consider all other demands sympathetically. Different states are not doing well. It is up to the Centre to step in and help them," the Rajya Sabha member said.

Replying to a query, Raut claimed farmers were being dubbed as "divisive" because they come from Punjab. "Do you want to create instability by reminding the Punjab farmers of the Khalistan movement period?" he asked the Centre.



Hitting out at Prime Minister Narendra Modi for reiterating that the new agri-laws are beneficial for farmers, the Congress said the insistence in support of the legislations shows that the government is "drunk with power" and is rigid even in reconsidering the laws.

The Opposition party also demanded that PM should immediately announce the suspension of the three "anti-agriculture" laws. Congress leader Rahul Gandhi attacked the government over the protest by farmers, alleging "promise was to double farmers' income, the Modi government did double income, but that of Adani-Am-bani". "Those who are still defending the black farm laws, what solution will

they find in favour of farmers?" he said in a tweet in Hindi, adding that, "Ab hogi (now there will be) #KisaanKiBaat". Congress' chief spokesperson Randeep Surjewala said the prime minister's "obduracy, arrogance and rigidity in dealing with 62 crore farmers and farm labourers of India is writ large" over his insistence in the 'Mann ki Baat' that the three "anti-farmer, anti-agriculture" laws are correct.

"For the prime minister to say that these three laws are absolutely right when lakhs and lakhs of farmers are sitting around Delhi agitating, demanding their withdrawal, shows that the Modi government is drunk with power.

## ‘Not properly understood new farm laws’

NITI Aayog Member (Agriculture) Ramesh Chand has said protesting farmers have not fully or properly understood the new farm laws, asserting that these legislations have potential to increase farm income in a big way.

He further said that the motive of the three new farm laws is exactly the opposite of what the protesting farmers have understood. In an interview to PTI, Chand said, "The way, I am reading these farmers, who are protesting, it looks like that they have not fully or properly understood these three laws."

"If these new farm laws are allowed to be implemented, there are very high chances of big increase in income of the farmers and in many states, it may even double," he said while replying to a question on whether the government is still confident of doubling farm income by 2022.

## Finally, Stan Swamy to get sipper, straw

NEW DELHI

TRIBAL rights activist Father Stan Swamy, an accused in the alleged Elgar Parishad-Maoist links case, is being provided sipper and other facilities in the Talaja prison from the day second of his arrest, a senior prison official said on Sunday.

Swamy, 83, who is suffering from various health issues including Parkinson's disease, was arrested on October 8 and has been lodged at the Talaja prison in Navi Mumbai.

Talking to PTI, a senior prison official said the allegation that prison authorities were not providing sipper and straw to Swamy were "baseless".

"Not just sipper and straw, we are providing him other facilities too like wheelchair, walking stick, walker, and two attendants were also provided to him," the official said. "We know he is a patient, he suffers from Parkinsons disease. Why would we not provide him things which he requires," the official said.

Meanwhile, some Delhi-based lawyers have also sent straws and sippers for the activist in a parcel along with a letter to the Talaja prison on Saturday. "As lawyers, we were pained by the situation as all jail manuals provide for special facilities for inmates who have special needs," said a lawyer.

# ‘Kulhad’ to replace plastic tea cups at railway stations

JAIPUR

TEA will be sold in environment-friendly 'Kulhads' (earthen cups) in place of plastic cups at all railway stations in the country, Railway minister Piyush Goyal said on Sunday. Speaking at an event organised at the Digawara railway station in Rajasthan's Alwar district, the minister said the initiative will be the contribution of the Railways towards a plastic-free India. "Tea is given in 'Kulhads' at nearly 400 railway stations in the country today, and in future, it is our planning that tea will be sold only in 'Kulhads' at all the railway stations in the country. This will be the contribution of the Railways towards a plastic-free India," he said.

The minister said before addressing this gathering, he was having tea in a 'Kulhad' and the taste was really different. 'Kulhad' saves the environment and lakhs of people get employment from it, he said. The minister was speaking at an event to mark the inauguration of the newly electrified Dhigawara-Bandikui section under north-western Railways.

The minister said before the Narendra Modi government came to power in 2014, the railway sector was ignored in Rajasthan as electrification had not been taken up in the last 30 years after the electrification of Delhi-Mumbai route. He said the investment by Railways and infrastructure development projects in Rajasthan have increased multiple times between 2014-2020 as compared to that between 2009-2014.



## Pak violates ceasefire, targets forward posts

JAMMU

PAKISTANI Rangers violated the ceasefire overnight by unprovoked firing on forward posts and villages along the International Border (IB) in Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua district, officials said on Sunday.

The firing from across the border in Pansar, Manyari and Karol Krishna in Hiranagar sector started around 9.50 pm on Saturday, prompting strong and effective retaliation by the Border Security Force (BSF), they said. The officials said cross-border firing between the two sides continued till 4.15 am on Sunday, and added that there was no report of any casualty or damage on the Indian side. Frequent ceasefire violations by Pakistani soldiers over the last eight months have rendered lives miserable in border villages. "The life is very difficult, and every night, we have to shift to underground bunkers due to Pakistani firing to save our lives," Dharam Paul, a resident of Manyari village, said. He said nearly a dozen houses in the village have been damaged in the firing and mortar shelling from Pakistan during the past two years.

# Was forced to convert to Islam: Wajid Khan’s wife

MUMBAI

LATE music composer Wajid Khan's wife, Kamalrukh Khan, has claimed she was subjected to "scare tactics" and was made an "outcast" by her in-laws after she refused to convert to Islam. Wajid Khan of composer duo Sajid-Wajid passed away in June. Opening up about her experience through an unverified Instagram handle, Kamalrukh said she is a Parsi who got married to the "Dabangg" composer under the Special Marriages Act. As per her profile, Kamalrukh is a clinical psychotherapist and in the lengthy post shared on Friday said, she grew up in an environment where education, independence of thought and "democratic" value system was encouraged, but it clashed with her husband's family.

"An educated, thinking, independent woman with an opinion was just not acceptable. And resisting the pressures of conversion was sacrilege. I have always respected, participated and celebrated all faiths.

"But my resistance to convert to Islam drastically widened the divide between me and my husband, making it toxic enough to destroy our relationship as husband and wife, and his ability to be a present father to our kids," she claimed. Kamalrukh said it was her dignity and self respect which did not permit her to "bend backwards for him and his family" by converting to Islam. "I fought this terrible way of thinking tooth and nail throughout my marriage. The result - being outcast from my husband's family, scare tactics to make me convert included taking me to court seeking divorce. I was devastated, felt betrayed and was emotionally drained, but my children and I held on," she said of children 16-year-old daughter Arshi and nine-year-old son Hrehaan she shares with Wajid.



## 30 dead, 24 hurt in Afghan bombing

KABUL

AT least 30 military personnel were killed and 24 others wounded in a suicide car bombing that took place near a military camp in Afghanistan's Ghazni city on Sunday, officials have confirmed.

Confirming the casualties and injuries, Baz Mohammad Hemat, director of Ghazni civil hospital, told Xinhua news agency that the death toll might increase as some of the wounded are in serious condition.

The explosion occurred when a suicide bomber rammed into an explosive-laden hijacked military vehicle near the army camp along a road connecting Ghazni city to the neighbouring Dih Yak, a security official told Xinhua.

"The killed and wounded were all military personnel. The camp homes a battalion of Afghan National Army (ANA). The facility was belonging to police forces in the past, but now it is converted to a battalion of ANA and all the victims were ANA soldiers," he said.

Earlier reports said that the killed and wounded were police personnel. No group has claimed responsibility for the attack, but local officials blamed Taliban militants. Ghazni province has been the scene of heavy clashes in recent years.



# Dog meat can be sold in Nagaland: HC

GAUHATI

THE Kohima bench of the Gauhati High Court has granted an interim stay on the carpet ban on the sale of dog meat in Nagaland that was imposed on July 2. The decision of the high court will allow the commercial import, trade and sale of dogs and dog meat in Nagaland's market.

Following a writ petition filed by Neizevolie Kuotsu and two others, Justice S. Hukato Swu issued the interim stay on the November 26 government order against sale and trade of dog meat in the state.

The Nagaland government had decided to ban the sale, trade and import of dog meat in July after a photograph of incapacitated dogs tied to gunny bags went viral on social media.

According to reports, the high court bench had asked the Nagaland government to file an affidavit but the government did not file one.

The petitioners had pointed out that the government's order lacked statutory backing. The petitioners are traders dealing in import, trade and sale of dog meat within the jurisdiction of Kohima Municipal Corporation (KMC).

## Drake to play Obama in his biopic

WASHINGTON

BARACK OBAMA says Drake has his official "stamp of approval" whenever the rapper is ready to play the former president in a future project.

The Grammy winner, who started his career acting in the 2001 teen drama Degrassi: The Next Generation and went on to star in Charlie Bartlett, a 2007 comedy drama, first expressed interest in playing Obama in 2010.

In a new interview with Complex, Obama said, "I will say this, Drake seems to be able to do anything he wants. I mean, that is a talented, talented brother. So if the time comes and he's ready..."

Apart from him, the former POTUS added, Drake also has his daughters' blessings to portray him on-screen.

"Drake has, more importantly, I think, my household's stamp of approval. I suspect Malia and Sasha would be just fine with it," Obama, who recently released his memoir A Promised Land, said.

In the 2010 interview with Paper magazine, Drake had said he hopes someone makes a movie about Obama's life soon "because I could play him".

# Covid vaccine participant alleges side effects, seeks 5-cr compensation

A legal notice has been sent to Pune based Serum Institute of India, which has collaborated with Oxford University and Astra Zeneca, a pharmaceutical company, in connection with making of the vaccine, ‘Covidshield.’

CHENNAI

A 40-year-old man who took part in the 'Covidshield' vaccine trial in Chennai has alleged serious side effects, including a virtual neurological breakdown and impairment of cognitive functions and has sought Rs 5 crore compensation in a legal notice to Serum Institute and others, besides seeking a halt to the trial.

Alleging that the candidate vaccine was not safe, he has also sought cancelling approval for its testing, 'manufacture and distribu-

tion', failing which legal action would be taken. The legal notice has been sent to Pune based Serum Institute of India, which has collaborated with Oxford University and Astra Zeneca, a pharmaceutical company, in connection with making of the vaccine, 'Covidshield.' The Indian Council of Medical Research, one of the sponsors besides SII, and Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education and Research, which administered the vaccine to the man, have been served with the notice.

The man, it alleged, suffered

acute encephalopathy, damage or disease that affects the brain, following vaccination and all tests confirmed that the setback in his health was due to the test vaccine.

The trauma he underwent after taking it 'clearly proves' that the vaccine was not safe as made out to be and all the stakeholders were trying to hide the adverse effect that the vaccine has had on him, the notice claimed. An electroencephalogram (EEG) test showed that the brain was affected partially (dysfunction involving both hemispheres and the ascending sensory



pathways on both sides from both the lower extremities).

A psychiatric evaluation revealed mild deficit in verbal and visual

memory functions and an under functioning in overall cognitive functions, it said. "He has gone through extreme sufferings, both

neurologically and psychologically. The vaccine had led to a virtual neurological breakdown in him." The notice said it is impossible to "quantify monetarily, the sufferings, trauma, pain and humiliation (of hands, legs and body being tied and fastened firmly to the bed), which he and his family have undergone and are likely to undergo for a long time to come".

When contacted, a spokesperson for Ramachandra said, "we also have got the notice," but declined to elaborate. According to the legal notice, the information provided in

the 'Participant Information Sheet (PIS)' was absolutely certain that Covidshield, the vaccine developed by Oxford University, is safe and the man was hence led to believe it.

Hence, he decided to become a volunteer and signed the informed consent on September 29 and the test result for antibodies against coronavirus turned negative the same day.

On October 1, he was administered the vaccine. Though there was no side effects for the first 10 days, he subsequently had episodes like severe headache and vomiting.



## Centre should concede farmers' demands

The NDA government is back in spotlight and is facing the heat of farmers as thousands of them have marched to the national capital to protest against the farm laws that were enacted by the Parliament in September. Farmers of Punjab have been in the forefront opposing these laws. Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh also joined them in the revolt against the new law. Initially the NDA government thought the agitation by Punjab farmers was politically motivated since Congress had opposed the three farm bills. But it appears that the issue is now taking more serious turn as the farmers want that the bill be repealed or ensure that the farmer get Minimum Support Price. Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday sought to dispel concerns about the recently passed farm laws and cited

an example of a farmer who used the new law to his advantage. But the stories narrated by the Prime Minister during his Mann Ki Baat did not seem to cut much ice with them. It now remains to be seen to what extent the proposed talks would help in resolving this agriculture crisis. In 1970s, Punjab was one of the biggest beneficiaries of the Green Revolution. Interestingly, farmers from the same State which is known as the 'Bread Basket' of India are back on the roads leading a massive agitation. Such agitations are not new for Delhi. In the 1980s, the Bharatiya Kisan Union formed by the farmer leader Choudary Charan Singh had laid siege to Delhi protesting against high power tariffs and erratic supply. The lawns of Boat Club and the area around Rajpath had witnessed a massive rally. Post Charan Singh, Mahendra Singh Tikait took over the BKU and a massive dharna was organised in Meerut in January 1988. Both these rallies attracted lakhs of farmers including women. The Uttar Pradesh government relented to the pressure by providing concessions and including the BKU representatives in the Agricultural Prices Commission and local development bodies. Some agitations under the leadership of

Devi Lal also took place. But the present agitation appears to be more organised. The farmers who came in tractors came well prepared with ration, tractors trolleys covered so that they be used as protection from chill weather during night, stoves and utensils to cook food in Langar style as it happens in Gurudwaras. In the absence of lights, they are switching on the headlights of tractors and cars and cooking food. Though there have been some clashes initially, by and large they have been peaceful. Such preparations were never seen in the past and towards the end of the dharnas and rallies, the returning agitators used to indulge in arson. This time the farmers have shown how organised the massive agitations can be and yet make them powerful enough to force the government to not only take cognisance of their protests but also decide to hold talks. In all probability, the Centre would now come out with a clear statement on the issue of Minimum Support Price and defuse the agitation. Introducing reforms need not mean that the farmers' genuine demands should be ignored. Let's hope that talks with open mind from both sides would resolve the issue soon and farmers go back to their fields.

# Recession, technical recession or depression?

## THE WAY AHEAD



Dr Bharat Jhunjhunwala

OUR GDP growth rate was negative (-) 24 percent in the first quarter April to June of the present financial year 2020-21. It was expected to be negative at about (-) 8 to 10 percent in the second quarter ending September 2020. So, what does this mean? A negative growth rate in a single month is considered inconsequential and an aberration. If it continues to be negative for the entire quarter, then the economy is said to have entered a "recession." If the negative growth continues for two consequent quarters then the economy is said to have entered a "technical recession" meaning that the economy has started to contract according to accepted global economic parameters. Beyond this, negative growth can sometimes continue for many years. The United States of America, for example, had negative growth rates in seven out of nine years between 1930 and 1938. Such negative growth rates extending to many years are called "depression."

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank (WB) have made different assessments of the present situation. The IMF has assessed the present slowdown to be a "technical recession," that is, it expects the negative growth rate to turn positive soon. On the other hand, the WB has stated that the global economy has already entered into a "depression." The WB expects the negative growth rate to continue for a number of years. Both institutions agree that the global economy has contracted in the first two quarters of the present financial year and, therefore, we are in a technical recession. The difference is that the IMF expects the global economy to bounce back soon while the WB expects the negative growth rate to continue for many years as had happened in the United States in the thirties. The key question before us, therefore, is this: what will determine whether we will come out of the ongoing technical recession soon or after a long time?

The entire world is hopeful that vaccine will soon be developed to contain the Covid-19 pandemic. Many companies have claimed that vaccines developed by them are about 90 percent efficient. They hope to make these commercially available for widespread use very soon — maybe within a few months. The IMF has assessed that the technical recession will end soon on the basis of this best-case scenario. On the other hand, the Covid-19 virus is known to mutate rapidly and assume new forms. It is possible, nay, likely that a vaccine may be rendered ineffective against the mutated virus. A new round of the pandemic may then be unleashed. It has also been seen that the persons getting cured from Covid-19 do not often regain their earlier good health. Some continue to suffer from physical weakness, headache, breathless-



**The IMF and WB are also in agreement that nearly all countries have succeeded in averting a financial collapse by borrowing and keeping the wheels of their economies turning. This is a happy situation. However, both the institutions also agree that the economy will bounce back with fresh vigour after the pandemic only if the borrowed money is invested in education and technological upgradation just as the students engage in learning with fresh vigour after the summer vacations. Governments have adopted different strategies to make the borrowings, however. Some have borrowed from the market while others have asked their Central banks to print notes and provide the loans. Governments have borrowed money in both the cases**

ness, etc. The output produced by such persons will be less for a long time leading to lower growth rate. Much time may also be taken in the approval, commercial manufacture and in reaching the vaccine to the seven billion population of the world. This may take up to three years. Further, past experience suggest that the immediate impact of a financial crisis is less than the subsequent impact. Global economy, for example, had contracted by merely (-) 0.1 percent in 2008 when the last global financial crisis had erupted. It contracted by a huge (-) 2.5 percent in 2009. This means that an economic shock gets deeper just as a worker who does not get adequate food may continue to work at nominally reduced efficiency for one month but would collapse thereafter. It is not possible to forecast with any sense of credibility whether the present recession will remain "technical" as assessed by the IMF or it has already become a "depression" as assessed by the IMF because of these uncertainties.

The IMF and WB are also in agreement that nearly all countries have succeeded in averting a financial collapse by borrowing and keeping the wheels of their economies turning. This is a happy situation. However, both the institutions also agree that the economy will bounce back with fresh vigour after the pandemic only if the borrowed money is invested in education and technological upgradation just as the students engage in learning with fresh vigour after the summer vacations. Governments have adopted different strategies to make the borrowings, however. Some have borrowed from the market while others have asked their Central banks to print notes and provide the loans. Governments have borrowed money in both the cases. Difference is that the borrowing from the market leads in greater demand for loans, an increase in the interest rate, and a corresponding increase in the interest burden on the government. This increased burden can then lead to default by the government if the economy

does not bounce back. The same loan when provided by printing of notes by the Central bank leads to an increase in the currency in circulation, to inflation and to debasement of the currency. Thus, whether the money is borrowed by the government from the market or the Central bank does not change the long-term scenario. The only difference is whether the borrowing will play out as a default by the government or as debasement of the currency.

We need to be careful. Moody's has already downgraded Indian government's debt to Baa3 category which is the lowest in "investment" grade. Any further downgrade will place our government debt in "junk" category and make it very difficult for the government to raise the loans from the market. It is necessary that the government deploys the borrowings so as to pull the economy out of the recession soon.

The IMF and WB both suggest that the loans taken by the governments to overcome the pandemic should be used for improving the skills and technology. That would be like the student spending a loan to learn a new course that would then enable her to crack the entrance examinations in the ensuing year. The same loan would push her into a deep pit if used for a pleasure trip. A trader from Faridabad recently told me that he made very good business selling packed sweets during the recent festivals. On being asked how he made good business when the economy was floundering, he said that the government employees had a steady stream of income and they made huge buying. This means that the government has used the loans taken during the pandemic to support consumption rather than investment. That does not augur well for our country.

*(The writer is formerly Professor of Economics at IIM, Bengaluru)*

## Development: Congress did it, and can do it again!

MALLU BHATTI VIKRAMARKA

AS the BJP and the TRS are yet again resorting to the old formula of showering promises on the citizens of Hyderabad, I thought it is very important to present their poor progress report before the people of this city.

Neither the TRS nor the BJP ever hold the history of retaining their promises. The TRS knows it better how to play with the temporary emotions and sentiments of the people, while the BJP's birthright is to entice voters with a bait of sensational promises. If we rewind the promises made by the TRS during the 2016 GHMC elections, or 2014 elections and during the 2018 elections, we will be able to understand the betrayal of the TRS.

Although everyone knows about the TRS promises, still for a sample... 1) Telangana's first Chief Minister will be a Dalit, 2) 3 acres of farm land to each Dalit family, 3) 10% reservation to Muslim minorities, 4) 12% reservation to STs, 5) Double bedroom houses for all, 6) Rs 3,016 monthly grant to unemployed youth.

When it comes to the BJP... 1) Bringing back the black money within 100 days from the foreign banks and deposit Rs 15,00,000 in every individual's account, 2) 2 crore new jobs every year, 3) Double digit annual GDP growth. But, in reality, it is a fact that both the TRS and the BJP have competed with each other in forgetting the promises they have made to the people.

### What has been done by the Congress?

As an answer to the question of what has been done by the Congress for the development of the city of Hyderabad, there are numerous examples which include: The prestigious institutions like Midhani, DRDO, DRDL, NFC, BHEL, HAL, CSIR (CSER?), IICT, NGRI, SOI, ICRISAT, CRIDA which were established during the Congress regime. At a time when the Congress was in power at the Centre and in the State, all these institutions have been set up with a great coordination and cooperation.

In addition to it, Central University, JNTU and NALSAR University were also established and Hyderabad has received recognition in India and abroad. It was during the Congress regime the Hyderabad Municipality became the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) and Hyderabad Urban Development Authority (HUDA) has been set up. Hyderabad's planned development could only be possible after the establishment of Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority (HMDA).

A lot of developmental schemes were implemented during the UPA government at the Centre and Congress government in the State. Taken part in JNNMURM project, taken up housing, floodwater management system, construction of retaining wall for Kukatpally Nala, new buses for RTC, Hyderabad Metro Rail Project etc, are to be remembered. It was during the UPA-II, the Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA) Bill was formulated and tabled in Parliament in 2013.

In order to provide the best infrastructure to the city and to ensure safe drinking water to the people of Hyderabad, the Congress has brought Krishna water to Hyderabad through phase 1, phase 2 and phase 3 and Godavari water from Sripada Ellampally in addition to Manjeera river water. The Congress has made Hyderabad a wonderful destination for employment not only for the locals, but also for the migrant workers by establishing heavy industries in and around the city.

It is the Congress which has made the foundation for buildingHITEC City in Hyderabad and encouraged the IT/ITES industry. Gandhi Hospital, Primary Health Centres, JNTU, IIT, National Rural Health Mission all have been set up during the Congress rule. With great pride and privilege, we can say that the Congress has delivered its promise by creating Telangana State. We can strongly argue that no other party can come closer to the Congress in delivering its promises.



### Why don't you transfer funds to local bodies?

The TRS is yet again betraying the people of Hyderabad during the ongoing GHMC elections. The TRS is questioning us by saying it is impossible to deliver the promises with the annual budgetary allocations of GHMC budget. Is it their innocence or lack of awareness? At a time when the city of Hyderabad is contributing Rs 1 lakh crore to the State's exchequer every year, isn't it the basic responsibility of the State government to develop this city? Municipal Administration Minister K T Rama Rao has been propagating at every gully meeting that they are getting about 1 lakh crore by the Centre although they give Rs 2.40 lakh crore to the Centre. He always makes this statement like finding a rat by digging a mountain. Then, what are you doing Rama Rao? Are you allocating all the revenue being generated from Hyderabad to the same city? Aren't you diverting the funds to other sectors? Mr. Minister, you must answer this question with your conscience!

The Congress through the amendments of 73 and 74 provided the facility to transfer the funds to the local bodies. But, aren't you looting them by not allocating enough funds and duties during the last 6 years?

We must acknowledge that there is no necessity to develop Hyderabad only through the GHMC annual budgetary allocations. There are several options available to develop Hyderabad without even levying further taxes on the citizens. And therefore, we can say that all the promises made in the Congress manifesto can certainly be delivered and there won't be any doubts on this! For example, when it comes to floods and disaster management, no additional funds are required for following the guidelines of NDMA and for conducting regular mock drills by creating Hyderabad Disaster Management Plan. With the support of Doppler weather radar maps, we can predict the rain and as well as the rainfall 3 to 6 hours in advance. Utilising the communication systems effectively to disseminate the information doesn't require thousands of crores, right? Regular cleaning of nalas, constructing retaining walls and fencing do not also require huge funds. By creating the Lake Protection Authority and with the support of RWAs, we can protect the lakes from encroachments. It doesn't require huge funds.

The Congress stands for inclusiveness and therefore, we have included each of the sections in our election manifesto. Healthcare services, transportation, education, libraries, housing, concession on property tax, subsidy in electricity consumption for individuals, pure drinking water, skill development, jobs and support for the self-employment seekers, slum development, pollution free Hyderabad, cleaning of the Musi river, financial support for small businessmen, old age welfare, citizen safety, good governance, sewerage management etc, every aspect is included.

Just to reiterate our key promises to the GHMC people, we will pay Rs 50,000 to all the flood victims, Rs 5 lakh for fully destroyed houses, Rs 2,50,000 for partially damaged homes, Rs 8,00,000 financial aid for constructing double bedroom houses on their own plots, Rs 4,00,000 for an additional bedroom extension. All the women, students, physically challenged and senior citizens will be provided free transportation in RTC buses and Metro Rail. Complete waiver of property tax and electricity bills to the shops belonging to barbers, carpenters, washermen and goldsmiths. Free water distribution of 30,000 litres, free power up to 100 units and Covid-19 treatment will be brought under AarogyaSri etc. I can assure you that all these promises will not just be promises, but they will absolutely be fulfilled. The Congress has never slipped on its promises in the past and it will certainly fulfill the promises in the future as well. We need to emphasize once again that Hyderabad was well recognised in India and internationally with the effective, systematic and planned schemes implemented by the Congress.

Since we have got this history of accomplishment, with a great pride, we promise the citizens of Hyderabad that "We have developed in the past and we will do it again". You have given enough chances to the TRS and please give us one chance for the development of our own city of Hyderabad. We appeal the people of Hyderabad to vote for the Congress.

*(The writer is Congress Legislature Party leader, Telangana Assembly. Views expressed are personal)*

## LETTERS

### Atrocities against girls, women should be stopped

THE World Health Organisation has declared the corona a pandemic. But in our country, even more dangerous sexual assaults are devouring lives of women like an epidemic. The National Crime Records Bureau's 2019 census is direct evidence of this. According to the report, in 2018, 3,80,000 women in India were subjected to various forms of violence and in 2019 that number increased to 4,50,000. Eight per cent of them were sexually assaulted and 11 per cent of the victims were Dalits. Cases of sexual assault are up 7.3 percent from last year. The crime rate per lakh female population was 58.8 per cent in 2018 and 62.4 per cent in 2019. An average of 8% of sexual assault cases are reported per day. Events like Nirbhaya and Disha continue to happen. But the onus is on the government to see that such things are not repeated. According to a 2019 NCRB report, the activities of gangs selling women as market goods have increased.

If the situation in the country is so bad, then the situation in the State is also commensurate with it. While

Maharashtra tops in trafficking and trafficking in women, the gang activity has also expanded to Andhra Pradesh, the report said. Human trafficking has been steadily rising for three years in Andhra Pradesh and in 2019 it was the second largest in the country. Maharashtra tops the list with 12.5 per cent women and human trafficking, followed by MP with 10.8 per cent.

We are a society that thinks that boys have the right to kill a girl if they do not love, and parents have the right to kill if they love and marry. Just because of such actions, the girl is beaten, slapped, sexually assaulted if confronted. If not satisfied yet will be made to kill. The National Crime Bureau itself has revealed that sexual assault on a Dalit woman is being used as a tool. The State is becoming increasingly vulnerable to human-animal atrocities.

About 70 percent of those elected are criminals. Today, women are not protected. There were situations where women could not go outside even after graduation, not in the middle of the night. Many children and women have been and continue to be abused. If there are more than 230 attacks on women from June 2019 till now, it is due to the incompetence of the government and the failure of the system. It was rumoured that fast track courts would be set up in all the 13 districts of Andhra Pradesh to trial sexual assault cases. To date, the government has not done any paperwork on setting up courts. Forensic labs in each district were limited to announcements that 176 posts would be filled.

The AP government has introduced the AP Disha

Bill 2019 in the Assembly and passed it for the first time in the country after last year's Disha murder incident in Telangana. Ultimately the Disha Act was repealed without the approval of the Central government. The responsibility for the protection of women does not lie with the government. That is the social responsibility. The government should take steps in that direction. Leaders who are at the forefront of development and welfare in one end do not see the atrocities being perpetrated on women.

It is unfortunate that there are no instances where governments have taken steps to curb sexual assault and harassment of women. The women's world is questioning the extent to which the laws brought by the governments are working to curb these ever-increasing attacks.

As part of the revolutionary changes coming in the society, the use of technological materials and tools has increased widely. It is unfortunate that this knowledge should be used only for the betterment of the society and not for the safety of women. There must be strict control, mainly in the media. The government should take the initiative to make everyone feel respectful towards women. Some are working to protect those who have done wrong, including officials and politicians. Laws must be enforced, and appropriate action must be taken. Attacks on women and children must be severely punished so that attacks do not recur.

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# AP ASSEMBLY SESSION BEGINS AMID TIGHT SECURITY TODAY

- ▶ This is the second session being convened during the pandemic
- ▶ It is likely to be held till Dec 4
- ▶ Opposition TDP plans to corner the State govt on issues like the failure of the government to contain Covid-19 and on the rise in number of cases
- ▶ Govt intends to pass Bills pertaining to AP Fisheries University and Land Survey

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
AMARAVATI

AMIDST Covid-19 regulations, the Andhra Pradesh State Assembly is being convened for the second time during the pandemic from Monday.

Opposition Telugu Desam Party would try to raise the heat in the Assembly during the session which is likely to continue till December 4 on various issues like the government failure in curtailing the spread of coronavirus and the rising number of Covid-9 cases throughout the State among others.

The ruling YSR Congress would certainly steamroll with its majority to get the Bills passed in the Assembly since it enjoys majority in the Assembly but it is yet to gain majority in the Council.

However, it is going to face tough time in passing certain Bills in the Council. Bills like AP Fisheries University, Land Survey Bill, construction of houses and others may not face much resistance in getting passed.



Police personnel on security duty ahead of the Assembly session at Velagapudi on Sunday

For instance, the Bill which is going to replace ordinance to impose value of the property to fix the house tax in the towns and cities may face stiff resistance in getting passed in the Council.

This time the security arrangements have been strictly beefed up to prevent any incidents like people gathering to raise slogans against the government.

There is another first to the present session. For the first time, the media is not allowed to report the proceedings directly. It is not clear whether the media would be allowed even up to the media point. It may be recalled that during the peak pandemic period, the media was allowed to attend the proceedings last time.

## Publicity cell to provide live feed to TV channels

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
AMARAVATI

COMMISSIONER of Information and Public Relations Tumma Vijay Kumar Reddy has said that the live coverage of the winter session of the State Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council will be provided by AP publicity cell from the Secretariat at Velagapudi to all media

houses for telecasting.

He said in a statement here on Sunday that the frequency details of DSG and AV signal link of I&PR YouTube channel will be shared to all media personnel in due course of time on Monday.

He also informed that the audio visual feed is also provided by AP publicity cell from Velagapudi for telecasting.

For the reasons better known to the administration, the media was not allowed this time.

Former Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu and Oppo-

sition leader in Council Yanamala Ramakrishnuudu appealed to the Speaker and the Council Chairman to allow the media to report the proceedings.

## 'People have right to watch debates in legislatures'

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
MANGALAGIRI

OPPOSITION Leader in Legislative Council and senior TDP leader Yanamala Ramakrishnuudu on Sunday appealed to the Council Chairman Shariff Mohammed Ahmed to allow all sections of the media to cover the House proceedings in tune with the spirit of the Constitution and freedom of expression. In a letter sent to the Chairman here, Ramakrishnuudu asserted that the people had a right to watch and learn about the debates by their representatives in the legislature. It was the fundamental right of the voters to know how their leaders were responding on the public issues and problems inside the House.

# Minister Perni Nani attacked with trowel; luckily escapes unhurt

- ▶ The incident took place on Sunday while the Minister was overseeing the arrangements for lunch to guests who attended his mother's ceremony at his residence at Machilipatnam
- ▶ The police nab the miscreant Badugu Nageswara Rao who is a mason by profession

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
VIJAYAWADA

IN a shocking incident, a miscreant attacked Transport Minister Perni Venkata Ramaiah alias Nani at his residence in Machilipatnam with a sharp trowel (an instrument used by construction workers for cementing the bricks) on Sunday.

Luckily, the Minister escaped unhurt in the incident. The attack occurred when Perni Nani was supervising the food arrangements for the guests, who visited his home for the ceremony of his mother Nageswaramma who



Badugu Nageswara Rao

passed away recently. Nani conducted the ceremony on Sunday and food was served on the occasion.

The miscreant was identified as Badugu Nageswara Rao, the resident of Chemmannagripeta Colony in Machilipatnam. Nageswara Rao came close to the Minister on the pretext of touching his feet and suddenly attacked him on the stomach with the trowel.

Luckily, Nani did not sustain injuries because his belt acted as a shield. The attacker tried to attack Nani again within no time. Luck-

ily, the security personnel prevented the attack and overpowered him.

Circle inspector Venkata Ramana, who is investigating the case said the police identified the miscreant and found that he was in an inebriated state when he attacked the Minister.

The Circle Inspector said followers of the Minister lodged a complaint with the police on the attack and they started the probe into the incident.

Krishna District SP M Ravindranath Babu said the police started the probe and began enquiring into any political links pertaining to the attack.

YSRCP leaders Kodali Nani, Jogi Ramesh, Vallabhaneni Vamsi, Talasila Raghuram and others expressed their sympathies with the Minister.

Many political leaders and party functionaries are visiting the residence of Perni Nani these days to console him following the recent death of his mother.

Health Minister Alla Nani has condemned the attack on the Transport Minister. The Health Minister visited Machilipatnam and met Perni Nani.

# Home Minister assures impartial inquiry

- ▶ M Sucharitha says the preliminary investigation revealed that the man who attacked the Transport Minister is a sympathiser of TDP

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
VIJAYAWADA

HOME Minister Mekatoti Sucharitha has said impartial probe will be conducted against the accused in the attack on Transport Minister in Machilipatnam on Sunday.

The Home Minister along with the DGP D Gautam Sawang visited the residence of Minister Perni Nani in Machilipatnam and expressed sympathies with him. A mason Badugu Nageswara Rao at-



Home Minister M Sucharitha and DGP D Gautam Sawang meeting Transport Minister Perni Nani at the latter's residence in Machilipatnam on Sunday

tacked the Minister Perni Nani with a trowel on Sunday. Luckily, the Minister escaped unhurt.

Referring to the incident, Sucharitha said the police will conduct impartial inquiry on the incident. She said preliminary investigation revealed that the accused is a sympathiser of Telugu Desam

Party and earlier reportedly worked as booth agent in the elections.

When asked about the security lapses, the Home Minister said it would be difficult to provide fool-proof security to the Ministers because they are closely associated with the people and they are in public life. She said the attack on the Minister was totally unexpected and pointed out that the Minister was organising a big programme at his residence when the attack took place.

She said the Transport Minister has close association with common people and often goes for the visits on two-wheelers. Sucharitha said, "We are giving freedom to the people because many people come to meet Ministers for various purposes and it is difficult to understand who comes with what intention and motive."

# 3 of a family from TS die in US road mishap

Continued from P1

Apart from these four, there were two others, Sai Praneeth and a girl in the car when the accident occurred and these two are also said to be in a critical condition.

The family hails from Pedda Chinthakunta village of Marikal

block in Narayanpet district. In July, Narayana and his wife Lakshmi left for the US in Vande Bharat flight, to stay with their son and daughter-in-law as they were working from home. Only the daughter-in-law has survived the accident, said G Yugandhar Reddy,

nephew of Narayana.

He said they were going to attend a family function on Saturday afternoon when the accident took place. He said the US Consulate has informed them that the final rites will be performed after Mounica gives her consent.

# Chief Whip slams Naidu for politicising every issue

G Srikanth Reddy says the schedule of the winter session of the State Assembly beginning today will be finalised at the BAC meeting

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
TADEPALLI

GOVERNMENT Chief Whip Gadikota Srikanth Reddy slammed Opposition Leader N Chandrababu Naidu for politicising the Assembly sessions schedule by demanding more number of days even before the Business Advisory Committee (BAC) meeting.

Speaking to the media here on Sunday, the Chief Whip said Naidu has been politicising every single issue and playing spoilsport for his selfish goals.

He said it will be decided in BAC meeting as to how many days the Assembly session



G Srikanth Reddy

should be held and asked Naidu to first participate in the proceedings for five days and then demand for an extension.

The State government is ready to discuss the issues raised by the Opposition on the welfare schemes being implemented and policies of the government. He said the government has decided to conduct Assembly sessions following Covid protocols taking all precautionary measures and there are nearly 70 leaders in Assembly and Council who are above 60 years.

He said question hour could not be taken in the sessions due to pandemic and added that it is the same procedure which was followed in Rajya Sabha.

On Naidu's remarks about shutting down media point in the Assembly, Srikanth Reddy said it was decided in the last BAC meeting to close media point to prevent crowding during the pandemic.

He said live coverage of Assembly proceedings will be provided to all media houses for telecast.

The Chief Whip said It was Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy who has directly credited Rs 70,000 crore into the accounts of people through direct benefit transfer despite financial constraints for the welfare of people while Naidu and his son Nara Lokesh were confined to Hyderabad and restricting themselves to the Zoom App and termed Naidu as stay-at-home Zoom leader.

# Naidu urges Assembly Speaker to lift ban on media

India found fault with the arbitrary GO at that time.

Stating that democratic systems were under attack in the State, Naidu said that the Opposition has a right to express its opinions on the decisions of the government. If needed, the Opposition can make suggestions and also express its protests. In this process, it would be only the media which can place the facts before the people on the positions taken by the ruling and the Opposition parties on various issues.

Naidu pointed out that the media was allowed to cover the Parliament but a ban was imposed in the AP Assembly. Different rules cannot be applied in different legislative bodies. That would be unconstitutional. As a responsible Opposition party, the TDP would condemn the ban on the media as it amounted to undermining of democratic values.

Recalling the TDP's contribution to empowering the legislative bodies, Naidu said that way back in 1998 itself, the then TDP government introduced live tele-

cast of the House proceedings. At that time, the Congress did not have even the Opposition party status. Even then, the TDP telecast the debates in the Assembly and gave a chance to the public to know how their representatives were highlighting issues in their debates. Over the years, even the Parliament had started live telecast of its proceedings.

Naidu said that many other States in the country also adopted live telecasts. It was evident how the policies introduced by the TDP in legislative bodies later became acknowledged and followed by other States as well. The ban on the media to block the people from knowing the debates in the legislative bodies was unconstitutional.

The TDP chief demanded that immediate steps be taken to permit all sections of the media without any bias to enter and cover the House proceedings in the session starting Monday. The media point should be allowed to function in the Assembly premises till the session is over, he said.

## FARMERS REJECT CONDITIONAL TALKS

Continued from P1

Joginder Singh, president of Bhartiya Kisan Ektagrah, "We are sitting at the borders. Our demand is that the government take back the farm laws and we will not accept anything less than that". Raising slogans against the government, the farmers staged protests at the border amid heavy police presence. The Delhi Sikh Gurdwara Management Committee (DSGMC) offered food to the agitating farmers. Meanwhile, farmers who had reached Nirankarai Samagam Ground in Burari on Saturday continued their protest there. Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh has also termed Shah's offer to hold discussions at the earliest as the best in the interest of the farming community and the nation at large.

# Bhagyalakshmi temple cynosure of GHMC poll

Continued from P1

Subsequently, the BJP leader went to the temple as part of the challenge. TRS leaders alleged that the BJP leader ostensibly took up Bhagyalakshmi temple as it is located in a communally sensitive area.

Political analyst and former MLC Prof Nageshwar said that by frequently visiting the temple the BJP is trying to polarise votes which unfortunately MIM also wants. "The Bhagyalakshmi Temple is a controversial shrine. MIM is also opposing it (the temple) and number two is it is located in the Old City. The BJP wants to create a narrative of Bhagyanagar (for Hindus) versus Hyderabad (for Muslims). BJP does not have any agenda of governance. They just want to polarise votes. MIM does not have alternate agenda of governance. They want to polarise votes," Nageshwar said.

Telangana BJP chief spokesperson Krishna Sagar Rao said it was

the TRS which has made an issue out of Sanjay Kumar's visit to the temple in the Old City. KTR's repeated mockery of choosing that temple has raised questions in the minds of citizens of Hyderabad, Rao said.

"Does Hindus need MIM permission to visit temples in the old city? Will KTR and his father KCR decide which temple our party president should visit? The height of Muslim appeasement by TRS has led to Bhagyanagar Temple becoming the epicenter of this campaign," Rao, said.

When asked about Amit Shah's visit to the temple, he said it was to make a statement, that Hindus can't be suppressed or insulted for minority appeasement by parties like TRS.

When contacted, a senior leader of MIM said no temple existed at Charminar before 1969. By visiting the Bhagyalakshmi Temple, the BJP is trying to polarise voters.

# KTR reminds Shah about Mahatma's appreciation of Hyderabad culture

Continued from P1

KTR said that "Amit Shah should know that a person who came from his own state Gujarat, Mahatma Gandhi said that Hyderabad had a culture of Ganga-Jamuni Tehzeeb. There is no Nizam culture here." He also wondered what IT Hub Shah was talking about? Hyderabad has already become a major IT Hub. How did Amazon, Apple and other companies came to Hyderabad and who brought them? They did not come because of Modi or BJP. They came because of the progressive government of Telangana. The BJP, he said, had done nothing for Hyderabad during the last six years. On the other hand it is the BJP government which cancelled the ITR project sanctioned by the UPA government. The NDA government's decision had adversely affected the interests of the youth and deprived them of job opportunities, he said.

In a road show at Patigadda,

KTR said the BJP talks of developing Hyderabad but on the other side it was killing public sector units by going in for disinvestment of BSNL, LIC and Railways. They do not want people to live together in peace. Raising the campaign pitch, KTR said, "Two new cartoons have come into the market. One promised to give vehicles free to the flood-affected persons. When asked how he would get their vehicles back, he said through insurance cover. Are you an insurance agent or a party president? he asked. Referring to the comments of MIM leader Akbaruddin Owaisi who said that the PV and NTR Ghats should be demolished, KTR said he is another crazy person, cartoon number two. TRS talks of laying roads and preserving lakes. "Our's is constructive talk while their nature is destructive. Don't give Hyderabad to these mental religious persons. Only TRS led by KCR can ensure development," KTR said.

## PM backs farm laws

Continued from P1

The PM said after he failed to get the amount even four months after selling his produce, Bhoiji got his money back using a provision of the law that specifies it is mandatory to pay farmers within three days of purchasing the produce.

"If the payment is not made, the farmer can make a complaint. Under the law, there is a provision that the SDM of the area must address the complaint of the farmer within a month," Modi said. The Prime Minister also cited the example of Mohammad Aslam in Rajasthan's Botton district, who is creating awareness among farmers by updating them about the day-to-day rates in the local

mandis. Aslam is the CEO of a farm producers' federation. A third example that the Prime Minister gave was that of Virendra Yadav, who returned from Australia to Haryana's Kaithal and has found a solution to farm stubble. Instead of burning stubble which causes immense damage to the air quality, Yadav has been selling the stubble to paper mills and agro energy plants and has made profit in two years. A large number of farmers are protesting against the government's moves to open up agricultural markets in the country and bring sweeping

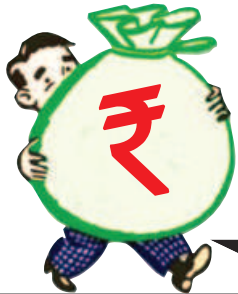
reforms to the farm sector, which supports nearly half the population. Farmers have demanded a repeal of three laws enacted by Parliament in September which, together, allow agribusinesses to freely trade farm produce without restrictions, permit private traders to stockpile large quantities of essential commodities for future sales and lay down new rules for contract farming.

Farmers say the reforms would make them vulnerable to exploitation by big corporations, erode their bargaining power and weaken the government's minimum support price (MSP) system, which offers cultivators assured prices from the government, largely for wheat and rice.





You don't need to be a rocket scientist. Investing is not a game where the guy with the 160 IQ beats the guy with 130 IQ  
— Warren Buffett



# HANS INVEST

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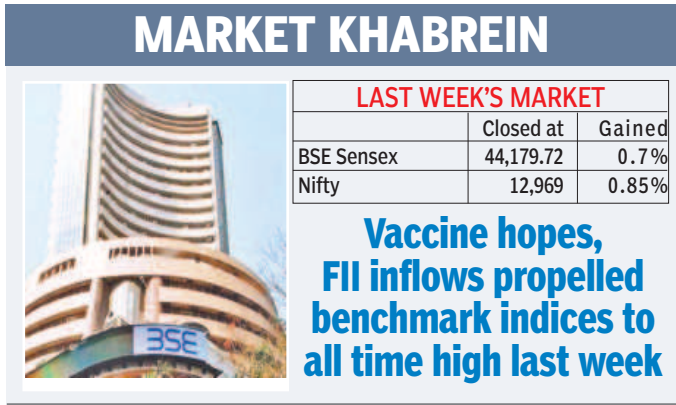
## GDP data likely to push mkts up

CHERUKURI KUTUMBA RAO

buoyed by consistent FII inflows, positive developments on vaccine front and expectations of strong economic recovery in second half of the current financial year; the last week saw the benchmark indices reach fresh all-time highs. The BSE Sensex gained 0.7 per cent to close at 44,179.72 and the Nifty50 rose 0.85 per cent to 12,969 during the week. True to predictions, broader markets strongly outperformed with the Nifty Midcap index moving up by 4 per cent and the Smallcap index rallying by 6.3 per cent. With markets flush with liquidity, the recent outperformance of the small and midcap stocks might continue for some more weeks.

Changes to the MSCI indices will come into effect from Monday, where India's weightage in the global indices is slated to increase. This move by the global index provider has pulled many foreign funds to invest in India in the past few weeks. Foreign investors bought Rs 65,300 crore worth of shares net in November, the highest ever in a single month. Experts feel the FII inflow could slow down in near term given the expected course of fiscal and monetary policy in the US and Europe, but in the long-term, India may continue to attract FII money.

The surprise that the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has contracted less than expected is likely to aid the positive sentiment. The Q2 GDP numbers were a big positive revelation. Though agriculture and services numbers came in a little below expectations, manufacturing growth has come in much stronger than expected. Equity markets could open higher



on Tuesday reflecting the positivity of the Q2 GDP numbers. The Monetary Policy Committee is scheduled to meet for three days in the coming week and the final outcome will be released by the Reserve Bank of India on December 4. Observers expect status quo in interest rate policy due to inflationary pressures. However, the key thing to watch out for would be the commentary about growth in coming quarters and next year.

### Heard on the street

Markets have been largely buoyant over the last fortnight, with the Nifty kissing the 13,000 mark and the Sensex moving past 44,000 levels, even as rising coronavirus infection levels across the world and economic data point to a halting recovery in global economy.

The economy did better than most estimates in the Q2 of the fiscal year as the contraction in GDP moderated from 24 per cent in April-June (Q1) to 7.5 per cent in July-September (Q2). Though the country witnessed the fastest rise in Covid-19 cases in Q2, the "Unlock" phase, wherein most

restrictions were relaxed to let economic activity pick up, seems to have helped the economy contain the fall in Q2.

As a result, in the first half of FY21 (two quarters), the economy contracted 15.7 per cent. With a slower fall in GDP in the quarter ended September 2020, both industry and economists are hopeful of demand recovery in the coming months. Investors appear to be looking ahead to next year, betting that Covid-19 vaccines will curb the pandemic and allow social and business activity to return to normal.

The strong outperformance of Midcaps and Small caps in last few sessions suggests that investors have become uninterested in worrying about downside risks.

### Futures & options / sector watch

Expectedly settlement week was marked by high volatility and robust volumes in derivative segment. December series started on a volatile note and the Nifty ended marginally below 13,000 levels last week. On the options front, the maximum open interest in Call options was placed at

13,000 & 13,100 strikes and the maximum open interest in Put options was at 12,900 and 12,800 strikes. The Implied Volatility (IV) of calls closed at 16.66 per cent while that for put options closed at 17.54 per cent.

The Nifty VIX for the week closed at 20.02 per cent and is expected to remain volatile. PCR OI for the week closed at 1.69. If Nifty breaks above 13,000 levels decisively then expect a short-covering move towards 13,200 and 13,300 levels. Breach of 12,800 on downside with volumes may trigger short-term weakness. The overall option data indicated that the Nifty could remain in a broader trading range of 12,800-13,300 for the coming week. Bank Nifty was seen struggling to cross psychological mark of 30,000 levels.

Punters predict target of 32,500 for the Bank nifty after a brief pause at current levels. On the back of the monthly volume sales data for November, automobile stocks will be in focus in the coming week. Expect sharp moves in Maruti Suzuki, Tata Motors, Ashok Leyland, Eicher Motors, Hero MotoCorp, Mahindra & Mahindra, Bajaj Auto and Escorts. Industry sources expect volumes to improve in the coming quarters on strong rural sentiment, low-interest rate and improving financial availability.

PSU Banks are back on the radar of institutional investors. Observers expect further equity recapitalisation and merger of smaller banks with larger banks to continue in next few months. Buy BOB, PNB and Canara Bank for short-term targets of Rs 65, Rs45 and Rs125. Stock futures: Looking good for buying are Bank of Baroda, Manappuram Finance,

NMDC, Punjab National Bank, Tech Mahindra and Tata Consumer. Sell on rallies BPCL, Glenmark, HUL, ONGC and Petronet.

### Stock picks

**EID Parry (India) Limited** is engaged in the manufacturing and marketing of sugar, bio pesticides and nutraceuticals. Its geographical segments include North America, Europe, rest of the world and India. Its sugar factories have a total capacity to crush nearly 39,000 tonnes of cane per day and generate over 160 MWs of power. Parry's Pure is the only sugar brand to be conferred the 'Super Brand' status in India. Buy on declines for medium-term target of Rs 575.

**Shiva Texyarn Limited** is a technical textiles company with products/services including cotton yarn and grey fabric. Its coating product range includes artist canvas and digital canvas. It is a leading manufacturer of military and tactical gear. It makes most advanced military gear like Nuclear Biological Chemical Suits (NBC), extreme cold weather clothing for super high altitude mountaineering clothing. Buy for long-term target of Rs175.

**Somany Ceramics Limited** is a manufacturer and marketer of tiles and offers a range of sanitary ware and bath fittings. The company is engaged in manufacturing ceramic/vitrified wall and floor tiles. It offers wall tiles for kitchen, bathroom, bedroom, home, and office and hotels wall in India. Use corrections to buy for target price of Rs 525.

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

## IN SHORT

### NDTV promoters barred from mkts

Sebi has barred NDTV promoters Prannoy Roy and Radhika Roy from the securities market for two years and also directed them to disgorge illegal gains of over Rs 16.97 crore for indulging in insider trading more than 12 years ago, while the company denied the charges saying it will immediately appeal against the ruling. Besides, the market watchdog has barred seven individuals and entities for insider trading in the shares of the company for a period varying from one to two years. Also, some of them have been asked to disgorge illegal gains made from trading in the shares when they were in possession of Unpublished Price Sensitive Information (UPSI). NDTV in a statement said Sebi's order against its founders Prannoy Roy and Radhika Roy is based on an inaccurate assessment of facts and that the company will immediately appeal against it. It further said that the Sebi's ruling will not withstand scrutiny in appeal. "The appeal will be filed immediately," the statement said. The Sebi directions follow a probe conducted by the markets regulator between September 2006 and June 2008 wherein various violations of insider trading regulations were found.

### SEBI launches SMART initiative

SEBI launched the Securities Market Trainers (SMARTs) program, an initiative aimed at enhancing investor education and awareness. "In the present scenario of uncertainty in economic growth and extra ordinarily buoyant market, there is a dire need to further ramp up the investor education and awareness efforts," Sebi Chairman Ajay Tyagi said. "In that sense there couldn't have been any better time to launch SMARTs - an initiative of Sebi to strengthen the existing investor education framework," he said in a statement. He also exhorted SMARTs to keep abreast of developments in the securities market and expressed confidence that they would take investor education to all parts of the country. The launch of SMARTs program comes amid World Investor Week being celebrated across the country. Tyagi raised concerns over convoluted distribution of active investors across the country and said that the SMARTs program would aim to address it by increasing investor outreach in far flung areas.

### Forex reserves surge to \$ 575.29 bn

The country's foreign exchange reserves rose by \$ 2.518 billion to touch a lifetime high of \$ 575.29 billion in the week ended November 20, RBI data showed on Friday. In the previous week ended November 13, the reserves had surged by \$ 4.277 billion to \$ 572.771 billion. In the reporting week, the increase in the forex kitty was on account of a rise in foreign currency assets (FCAs), a major component of the overall reserves. FCAs rose by \$ 2.835 billion to \$ 533.103 billion, according to the weekly data by the Reserve Bank of India. The gold reserves declined by \$ 339 million in the reporting week to \$ 36.015 billion, as per the central bank data. The special drawing rights (SDRs) with the International Monetary Fund marginally rose by \$ 4 million to \$ 1.492 billion. The country's reserve position with the IMF also increased by \$ 19 million to \$ 4.680 billion.

## Markets in consolidation mode

THOVITI BRAHMACHARY

Indian stock market witnesses mostly range-bound trading last week. BSE Sensex gained by 0.6 per cent while broader indices outperformed the benchmarks. The Nifty Midcap-100 and Smallcap-100 were up by 3.9 per cent and 6.3 per cent respectively. The overall market breadth is also in favour of advances.

Nifty formed a long-legged doji candle as it closed where it opened last week. Generally, the rule is that doji at lifetime highs are little different from the doji at normal swing highs. Lifetime doji requires a bearish confirmation by closing below it next week. Any Doji candle is a sign of indecisiveness in the market. Before resuming or reversing the prior trend, it forms at a swing high. In any case, if it opens and closes above the doji close, the trend may continue in that direction. For the past ten days, the Nifty is trading within the 360 points range with increased volatility. At lifetime highs, increased volatility and range bound trade are signs of distribution. At the same time, the momentum is clearly on the downside.

All the indicators are coming out of an overbought condition. There is a negative divergence on RSI, and it formed lower tops and lower bottoms, showing divergence. Currently, Nifty is trading 2.83 per cent above the 20DMA. As we mentioned earlier, whenever it moves above 6-7 per cent



NIFTY

above the 20 DMA, the index tries to come down to the mean (20DMA) level. On November 11, the benchmark index moved 6.56 per cent above the 20DMA. Since then, it is coming down, and the Bollinger bands started contracting. This is an indication of consolidation on the cards. The consolidation may be in the range of recent high 13145-12600 zone. Either side breakout will result into a strong trend on the side it broke. The short term support placed at 12765, is a 23.6 per cent retracement level of prior swing. Either breaking this support or the RSI moving below 60 levels means, the market entered into a counter-trend. In this case, it may form a flag or a pennant. In any case, it prolongs the consolidation period, and then it may form a triangle or a channel. The MACD histogram is on the zero line, and any close below it may result in a bearish signal. The positive directional movement indicator +DMI is declining like the RSI and showing weakening strength. The trend strength indicator, ADX is also declining from 40 levels to 38.82, which is also a sign of trend exhaustion.

The Elder's impulse system is suggesting that the market entered into a neutral zone. Interestingly, even though

Though, the market has not given any reversal signals, we need to be prudent and cautious while adding the fresh positions as the Nifty is trading over 20% above the long term trend indicator 200DMA, which is very rare

the indicators are suggesting exhaustion in the trend, the volume trend is differing. The cash volumes reached to at a record level in the history. The Nifty cash volume is above the average level and above the June level. This trend is confusing as these volumes may be an accumulation or a distribution.

Fundamentally, we are trading at a 35.66 price-earning (PE) ratio. It indicates the stretched valuations, but, it has become a neo-normal across the markets. Even though GDP is still in the contraction, the markets are discounting the future earnings. If earnings growth do not match the expectations in the current quarter, it may lead to a price correction.

Though, the market has not given any reversal signals, we need to be prudent and cautious while adding the fresh positions as the Nifty is trading over 20 per cent above the long term trend indicator 200DMA, which is very rare. Expect some pullback in the market. I suggest booking some partial profits of existing positions.

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

## How ETFs, other passive funds gaining traction



K Naresh Kumar

There is a growing trend towards passive investing in India where the Assets Under Management (AUM) of these funds are growing at about 20 per cent per annum for the last five years. In India, the passive funds include Exchange Traded Funds (ETF), index funds and Fund-Of-Funds (FOF). In the US, the mid-2019 achieved a milestone when the entire AUM under the passive strategies have outgrown that of the active fund investments. This year in August, the assets managed by the ETFs tracking the Nifty 50 Index have crossed a landmark of Rs 1 lakh crore with the total AUM of the entire passive funds stood at Rs 2 lakh crore.

Domestically, the passive investment as a strategy is still in nascent stages of growth despite all those mind-boggling numbers. Of course, there has been a push by the govt. by launching CPSE ETF for disinvestment and also allowed the Employee Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) to divert a part of their incremental cor-

### AUM of these funds growing at about 20% per annum for last 5 yrs

pus through ETF, have added traction in the last few years resulting in such tremendous AUM.

The recent attraction or headline hogging by the ETFs has arose from the lackluster performance of the active funds in the last few years. And this is particularly true with the large cap funds due to the skewed weightage of the index participants and the active managed funds can't hug the index even if they wish to, due to the regulatory restrictions over the cap on allocation to each stock.

The long-term evolution of the markets, however, favour the index/ETFs. This is evident from the experience of the advanced markets where active managers struggled to beat the benchmark indices due to higher costs of distribution, research and other issues. Unlike in the West, in India the index/theme and the related ETFs have been limited and hence the lack of choice for investing.

The most popular being the NIFTY 50, the large cap index, either by design or default and then the other indices attract relatively paltry assets and less flexibility to the investor choices. Also, active funds in India, still benefit out from the other cap-oriented investments



where unearthing of gems (picking good stocks) still has an opportunity to be explored and exploited. Other than the large/giant cap stocks, the rest of the indices have only a few good stocks which still allow the active funds to outperform the benchmarks.

The biggest advantage for the investor in the passive funds like index fund or ETF is the cost of return i.e., cost of managing the fund is very low relative to an active fund. As the investment flow would be drawn into the index, the transaction costs are very limited. Also, is the research and other costs involved with an actively managed strategy. This all adds up to the investors' return as the Net Asset Value (NAV) is reflected post all the costs.

The other factors to be considered by the investor before investing in an ETF/index funds are liquidity, tracking error and expenses. Tracking error is how efficiently the ETF replicates the benchmark or

index. This is nothing but the difference of the returns of the index and the ETF. This could also be influenced by expenses. The lower the cost of an ETF, the higher the replication of the index returns. This is one of the most important features that distinguishes from an active managed fund.

The exit from an ETF is purely driven by the liquidity available with that of the index or the benchmark which is being invested in. The lack of liquidity could provide stellar performance but limited exit options, making the investors stuck even when they're not pleased. The frequency of trades by the ETF over the exchange helps determine this.

With the cost being an important factor and also convenience, investors are also looking at options of actively managed strategy (portfolio) of passive funds for wealth creation. Of course, no amount of superior investment strategy or style could achieve better results for the investor as long as the investor doesn't stay passive.

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

## DERIVATIVES OUTLOOK

DASARI SREENIVASA RAO

WITH support level rising by 900 points, the options data is indicating undercurrent upward bias in the market. However, the scattered concentration of Open Interest (OI) at different levels is showing directionless upward movement for NSE Nifty, observe derivatives analysts. Highest OI was seen at 13,000CE and 12,900PE.

Highest Call OI addition of 32.28 lakh contracts was seen at 13,000 strike followed by 13,500 strike with 31.12 lakh contracts, 14,000 strike with 26.06 lakh contracts and 13,100 strike with 24.30 lakh contracts. The maximum Call OI build-up of 15.13 lakh contracts was seen at 13,100 strike. Further, 13,000/13,300/14,000 strikes witnessed reasonable Call OI addition.

The 12,900 strike recorded the highest Put OI of 25.30 lakh contracts fol-

lowed by 12,800 strike with 24.04 lakh contracts, 13,000 strike with 20.57 lakh contracts and 12,000 strike with 20.66 lakh contracts. Reasonable addition of Put OI was seen at 13,000/ 12,900/ 12,500 strikes.

For the week ended November 27, 2020, BSE Sensex closed at 44,149.72, a net gain of 267.47 points or 0.60 per cent, as against 43,882.25 points. Similarly, NSE Nifty too moved up by 109.9 points or 0.85 per cent and closed at 12,968.95 points from 12,859.05 points.

Dhirender Singh Bisht, senior research analyst (derivatives) at SMC Global Securities Ltd, said: "From derivatives front, Call writers added hefty Open Interest at 13,000 & 13,100 Call strike, which would now act as key psychological resistance level for the index moving forward. On downside, 12,900-12,800 would act as major support for the index. The option maximum pain for Nifty is at 12,950 for current week expiry, whereas for the Bank

### Rollover to Dec series at 78.68% as against 77.45% in Nov series; Rollover cost at 35 pts

Nifty is at 29,500." The significant FII inflows during November pushed the NSE Nifty above 13,000 levels. FII inflows remained buoyant in the Indian markets as net buying for November was close to Rs 60,000 crore. The December series has started with an OI of 11.5 million shares, while premium remained high suggesting some long additions. However, such a high premium does not sustain in the market. Due to the long settlement week, analysts see the Nifty hovering in a range with stock-specific action in the mid-cap space.

As per the ICICI Direct.com, on the options front, immediate option positions are visible at 12,800 Put and 13,200 Call strike suggesting immedi-

ate range for the Nifty. Analysts believe only a move below 12,800 may extend any profit taking. Otherwise declines remain a buying opportunity in the ongoing positive trend. Nifty December month rollover was at 78.68 per cent as against 77.45 per cent in the previous month and the three-month average of 76 per cent with a rollover cost of 35 points. Analysts see carried forward by majority the long position to the December series. Market-wide rollover to the December series was at 93.28 per cent from 92.85 per cent in the previous month.

The December derivatives series began with Rs 127,846 crore versus Rs 98,189 crore in stock futures, Rs 15,690 crore versus Rs 12,305 crore in Nifty

F&O TRADING			
Product	Contracts (Rs/cr)	Turnover	Premium (Rs/cr)
Index Futures	4,37,658	36,286.85	--
Stock Futures	11,92,795	92,538.73	--
Index Options	1,58,88,379	13,39,387.71	9,647.70
Stock Options	10,05,483	81,455.01	2,454.04
F&O Total	1,85,24,315	15,49,668.30	12,101.74

Source: NSE / As on Nov-27, 2020

futures and Rs 156,593 crore versus Rs 126,614 crore in index options and Rs 30,599 crore versus 27,518 crore in stock options. The last F&O series of 2020 commenced in a sluggish mode, while the futures and options (F&O) November series concluded on a positive note as key indices gained over 11 per cent. Nifty Futures began the December series with open interest at 1.20 crore shares versus 1.05 crore shares in Open Interest.

"Indian markets began the December series on a volatile note. Nifty index ended below 13,000 levels in the

week gone by with marginal gains, while Bank Nifty witnessed gains of more than a percent last week," remarked Bisht.

Bisht forecasts that "from the technical front, secondary oscillators suggest that markets are likely to remain volatile in upcoming sessions as well with wild swings on both sides."

Volatility remained during the week. Despite marginal gains, the broader markets saw significant movement. Midcap and smallcap indices gained almost 3.5 per cent and 5.5 per cent respectively. "The Implied Volatility of

Calls closed at 16.66 per cent, while that for Put options closed at 17.54 per cent. The Nifty VIX for the week closed at 19.82 per cent and is expected to remain volatile. PCR of OI for the week closed at 1.69," added Bisht.

### Bank Nifty

The NSE's banking index Bank Nifty closed at 29,609.05 points, a net rise of 373.05 points or 1.27 per cent from 29,236 points. The market witnessed a sharp rise in IVs as the Bank Nifty moved above 30,000. However, Call writing in OTM strikes kept the index move in check. The Bank Nifty started the December expiry with higher premiums whereas Call OI blocks were in private banks, which may limit upsides for the week. The price ratio of the Bank Nifty-Nifty remained near 2.28 level as there was no major outperformance in banking stocks.

Registering its best monthly gain since January 2012, the Bank Nifty added 23 per cent in the November F&O series. Bank Nifty's December month rollover is at 79.35 per cent from previous month's 73.59 per cent.



# Nazi-style propaganda by BJP-TRS-MIM: Cong

- PM enacted drama, Shah insulted city, flays Uttam Kumar
- TPCC president launches scathing attack on the BJP leaders
- BJP, MIM, TRS spreading hatred, avoid debate on real issues

HYDERABAD

TELANGANA Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) President & MP N Uttam Kumar Reddy on Sunday strongly condemned TRS, BJP and MIM for using GHMC election campaign to instill fear and spread hatred among people instead of debating real issues. On the last day of GHMC election campaign on Sunday, Uttam Kumar Reddy addressed a series of road shows across Hyderabad and also addressed a press conference at Gandhi Bhavan.

Uttam Kumar Reddy described the GHMC campaign as the 'worst ever campaign for a municipal elections' which, he said, witnessed Nazi-style propaganda carried out by TRS-BJP-MIM to suppress real public issues. In "Mein Kampf," Hitler wrote that propaganda "must confine itself to a few points and repeat them



TPCC president and MP N Uttam Kumar Reddy addressing a roadshow while campaigning across Hyderabad on Sunday

**In Mein Kampf, Hitler wrote that propaganda "must confine itself to a few points and repeat them over and over. "In GHMC polls, CM KCR spearheaded the hate campaign by making remarks that "Hyderabad did not face any communal riots" in the last six years. He created an artificial scare in the minds of common people of a possible communal rift. BJP and MIM then joined the chorus with communal statements**

over and over. "In GHMC polls, CM KCR spearheaded the hate campaign by making remarks that "Hyderabad did not face any communal riots" in the last six years. He created an artificial scare in the minds of common people of a possible communal rift. BJP and MIM then joined the chorus with communal statements. Allegations and counter-allegations were made for a week with TRS, BJP and TRS leaders

capturing almost the entire media space. KCR concluded the campaign with the threat "If you don't vote for TRS, the city will lose its peace," he said.

Uttam Kumar Reddy said that the people should look at the sequence of statements by the TRS, BJP and MIM leaders to understand the reality. They instilled fear among Hyderabadis either to discourage them from participating in elections or vote in their

favour, he said adding that it was highly unfortunate that the mainstream media gave too much prominence to those speeches.

The TPCC chief said that the BJP leaders insulted the history, culture and people of Hyderabad. He said if BJP leaders were so certain of KCR's corruption, then why their government at the Centre was not ordering a probe using CBI or other Central agencies.

"Who is Yogi Adityanath, a Karnataka MP or even Bandi Sanjay to promise that they will change the name of Hyderabad? They are all outsiders and have nothing to do with my city. How dare Bandi Sanjay use terminology like surgical strike against Old City of Hyderabad where I was born" he asked.

## Voters voice concern as people's representatives neglect public issues

Allege that leaders are seen only during elections, other times they remain untraceable

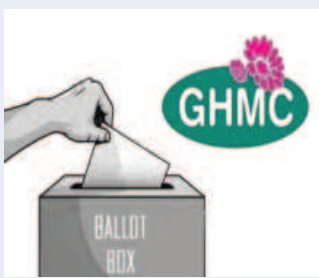
SRINIVAS GUDUPALLI  
RANGA REDDY

THE biggest ward among the GHMC's 150 wards is Rajendranagar, ward no 60, that will go for poll on December 1. Spilling beyond the PVNR Expressway, Rajendranagar is a mix of rural and urban households. This ward is reserved for SC women.

Rajendranagar has most prestigious central institutions located in the ward including NIRD, NAARM, agriculture college, veterinary university and National Fisheries development board. However, the TRS candidate who won in previous elections has allegedly failed in developing the area. The local people allege that his followers demanded money from everyone in the ward and also objected to the development works. People there alleged that they did not get the promised Rs 10,000 that many families got, though their houses were not submerged.

In Rajendra Nagar division, the voters also alleged that the public representatives have not shown interest in resolving the problems of the people. The roads have been totally damaged, sewage water has been overflow-

- Biggest ward of GHMC – Rajendranagar allege that the TRS candidate who won in previous elections has allegedly failed in developing the area
- Damaged roads, overflowing drainage water, unreachable corporator are some unsolved concerns



ing on the roads due to the drainage system failure and the GHMC officials are not supplying drinking water properly, they pointed. The public further opined that the present corporator allegedly is not responding even on phone calls made by the people for solving problems, constructions.

In Attapur division, the voters were unhappy with the public representative's behaviour in resolving the problems. The roads, drainage system have been causing many problems for the public. During the floods, the division people faced many problems with flood water as many

colonies were waterlogged. Even the Aramghar to Mehdiptnam main road was waterlogged.

In the Mailardevpally division, the public expressed their indignance over the behaviour of ruling party leaders. The public says that many land settlements have been done by ruling party leaders and created public problems.

In Shastripuram, Suleman Nagar divisions, under MIM representatives too, the public remains unhappy with the corporators' approach to solving the problems. The voters opine that the leaders are seen only at the time of elections, otherwise they remain untraceable.

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
MAILARDEVPALLY

TENSIONS between TRS and BJP activists were high in the Mailardevpally division of Rajendranagar constituency on Sunday

**TRS activists attack BJP workers**

as a clash erupted between the activists of the two political parties. The activists were taken to the po-

lice station as the TRS activists attacked the BJP activists on the last day of campaigning and thus, there was tension prevailing between the TRS and BJP activists at the police station.

## Only Congress can defeat communal forces, bring development: Shabbir Ali

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
HYDERABAD

CONGRESS leader Mohammed Ali Shabbir said that only Congress party was capable of not only defeating communal forces, but also bringing development.

Shabbir Ali, on the last day of GHMC election campaign on Sunday, took part in a series of padyatra, road shows and street corner meetings in different divisions of Yakutpura, Chandrayangutta, Malakpet and Sanathnagar constituencies.

Addressing those meetings, Shabbir Ali said that the GHMC elections have completely unmasked the TRS, BJP and MIM and exposed the reality that they could go to any extent to win the elections. He said that all the three parties pursued a common agenda of instilling fear and hatred among the people and tried to keep them mentally engaged on issues which were not linked to their day-to-day lives. Shabbir Ali added that the communal narrative was used to distract people's attention from the failures of State and Central



Senior Congress leader Mohammed Ali Shabbir participating in campaigning in a division in Hyderabad on Sunday

governments such as controlling the spread of Covid-19, negative impact of lockdown and the devastation caused due to floods. He said that TRS, BJP and MIM did not discuss any civic problems and gave a wrong message to people that they would be in danger if they didn't vote for them.

The Congress leader pointed out that the MIM was contesting from only 51 seats and in at least 40-45 seats, MIM was not having BJP as its main rival. "MIM is having a direct fight with the Congress

party in a majority of divisions. But it used BJP to divide anti-incumbency vote against TRS," he said.

He said that none of the Union Ministers who campaigned for BJP in GHMC elections visited Hyderabad when people were stranded in flood waters. He said there were several flood-affected areas in Hyderabad where normalcy was not restored. Amit Shah spoke about changing the name of Hyderabad, but he did not speak about flood-affected people not receiving any relief.

## GHMC ELECTIONS CP briefs officials about security arrangements

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
LB NAGAR

RACHAKONDA police Commissioner Mahesh Muralidhar Bhagwat and Additional Commissioner Sudheer Babu held a meeting with police officials of LB Nagar, Maheswaram and Malkangiri divisions in regard to the GHMC elections security arrangements on Sunday.

The CP, Additional CP has briefed forces for pre poll, poll day duty for incident free conduct of election. With more than 8,000 police personnel deployed on November 29, by 6 pm, the election campaign will be closed.

CP has requested all political parties to follow the code of conduct and has asked the police personnel for professional policing. The CP has also appealed the citizens to cast their votes without fear and dial 100 or Whatsapp on 9490617111 in case of emergency.

## Education Minister campaigns in RK Puram

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
HYDERABAD

STATE Education Minister Sabitha Indra Reddy held a massive campaign by visiting the colonies of RK Puram division and extending her support to the TRS candidate Vijaya Bharathi Aravind on Sunday.

On this occasion, the Minister said that the Chief Minister KCR has been working tirelessly for the integrated development of the city. Assuring that upto 20,000 litres of free water supply would be provided to the households as well as apartment dwellers she said that justice was being done to all caste occupations. Stating that the government is working for the betterment of the people and striving for the development of the people, she said that the flood relief would start from December 7. Several schemes and reforms are being introduced in this regard, Sabitha added.



State Education Minister Sabitha Indra Reddy participating in campaign at RK Puram division, on Sunday

# Shed hypocrisy, make a people-friendly Constitution

H C UPADHYAY

THIS year too, like every year, November 26 was 'celebrated' as the Constitution Day. On this day, right from the President of India to the judges of moffusil courts read out the Preamble before select gatherings and thus, expressed their solidarity and obedience to the Constitution of India which is rightly considered as Gita, Quran or Bible of our 'democratic' set up. Again in order to remind the people, called 'citizens' several dozens of seminars or webinars were conducted by various stake-holders in democracy, particularly the judiciary and executive.

Indeed, this is a solemn occasion to ponder over the book called, Constitution of India which is the beacon light of our democracy. All laws, rules and procedures enacted by the parliament and state assemblies and councils must conform to the provisions of the Constitution. And if not, they could be challenged in the high court or the supreme court which has the power to declare them ultra vires or beyond the powers of the concerned legislative body. The Executive or Administration is bound to enforce the laws in let-

ter and spirit.

True, the Greek word for democracy, demokratia is made of two words, viz. demos (people) and kratos (rule) meaning the rule of the people. That is why, the 16th President of America, Abraham Lincoln described the democracy as the government of the people, by the people and for the people. Any country wedded to the principles of democracy, therefore, has to abide by this time-tested definition. Further, as the people are born and ultimately dead and new generations replace them from time to time eternally, their hopes and aspirations also vary with the passage of time. In other words, the book containing the spirit of democracy ought to conform to the changing dreams, expectations, hopes and aspirations of the current generations; hence it should be dynamic and not static. The American Constitution has been amended for 27 times in last 231 years while we have amended our Constitution 103 times in last 70 years. However, it does not mean that there are shortcomings in our Constitution that have compelled us to amend it for so many times. It simply means that the successive governments of the day have



been awake to the hopes and aspirations of the people and therefore, in order to comply with the people's wishes they deemed it proper to amend the Constitution. Therefore, there is nothing to be ashamed of if the people (meaning, the majority, of course) want a change in the Constitution and it is affected by the parliament of the day. Further, according to this logic, there is nothing and cannot be anything like 'the basic structure' of the Constitution which cannot be changed. After all, the

Constitution is just an instrument and no body, except the people themselves have power to sharpen, modify or discard it. The times change and so also the demands of the times. What was good, better or best yesterday may not be the same today. The thought process of the people, real masters of the country changes according to the socio, economic, political dynamics and the geo-political changes across the globe.

Therefore, it is high time our elected representatives change

the numbers of their glasses and respond to the dreams, hopes and aspirations of the people by going to any extent to fulfill them. Today the parties in power have the necessary mandate of the people to amend the Constitution, and still if they fail to do so because of any reasons whatsoever, the present and future generations of people will not excuse them.

### HIGH COURT CAN GRANT BAIL: SC ON ART.226

Delivering the judgment in much-hyped case, Arnab Manohar Goswami Vs. State of Maharashtra & Ors (CrI.Appeal No.742 of 2020) the apex court has held that a high court should not foreclose itself from the exercise of the power of granting bail when a citizen has been arbitrarily deprived of his personal liberty in an excess of State power.

"In an application under Article 226, the High Court must be circumspect in exercising its powers (to grant bail) on the basis of the facts of each case." observed the bench comprising Justice D.Y. Chandrachud and Justice Indira Banerjee. Noting that the Bombay High Court failed to discharge its adjudicatory function at two levels – first

in declining to evaluate prima facie at the interim stage in a petition for quashing the FIR as to whether an arguable case has been made out, and secondly, in declining interim bail, as a consequence of its failure to render a prima facie opinion on the first.

However, the bench added that the high court must exercise its power of granting bail with caution and circumspection, cognizant of the fact that its jurisdiction is not a ready substitute for recourse to the remedy of bail available under Section 439 of the Cr.P.C.

### A-G BATS FOR INTERMEDIATE COURTS OF APPEAL

K.K Venugopal, the Attorney General (A-G) has suggested setting up of four Courts of Appeal with 15 judges each in different directions so as to reduce the burden of the Supreme Court of India which has at present, the backlog of 75,000 cases.

Speaking at the Constitution Day function at the Supreme Court, the AG said: "The Supreme Court is the apex court of the country and it should be dealing with only matters of national and constitutional importance. However,

at present, we see the Supreme Court hearing matrimonial, rent control, landlord and tenant disputes, bails, matters of land acquisition etc. If the Courts of Appeals manned by the judges with equal caliber as the judges of the Supreme Court are established, then the Supreme Court will be left with only about 2,000-3,000 cases which can be handled by it easily, he added.

The idea is not new. It also sounds good, but it is not that easy to materialise. Firstly, the Constitution will have to be amended. It is a lengthy and time-consuming process, but with the co-operation of all political parties in the Parliament it can be done. Still the major problem the proposal would face will be the conflict of interest. The Delhi and in its proximity-based advocates are sure to resist the proposal tooth and nail as if it gets materialized, their bread and butter would be impacted. On the other hand, advocates from other places, particularly from the south and east India will have a reason to celebrate because their practice will get a philip. However, on the face of it, the AG's proposal deserves to be welcomed.



# Smith soars again as Oz take series

## India bite dust, fall to 51-run defeat in second ODI

SYDNEY

AUSTRALIA beat India by 51 runs in the second ODI on Sunday at the Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG). The hosts have thus sealed victory in the three-match series, having taken an unassailable 2-0 lead.

Chasing a mammoth target of 390, India were restricted to 338/9 after another century from Steve Smith took Australia to 389/4 batting first.

India started with a 58-run stand between openers Mayank Agarwal and Shikhar Dhawan. The pair departed within a few balls of each

other after which captain Virat Kohli anchored the middle order. Kohli and Shreyas Iyer steadied the ship for the visitors and just as they were looking to shift gears, the latter fell to Moises Henriques thanks to a stunning catch by Smith at deep midwicket.

Kohli soldiered on with KL Rahul at other end before falling to a brilliant catch, this time by Henriques himself, at midwicket again off Josh Hazlewood. Kohli made 89 off 87 balls, putting up partnerships of 93 with Iyer and 72 with Rahul.

Rahul and Hardik Pandya then put up 63 for the fifth wicket but both succumbed to the pressure that came with the rising required run rate.

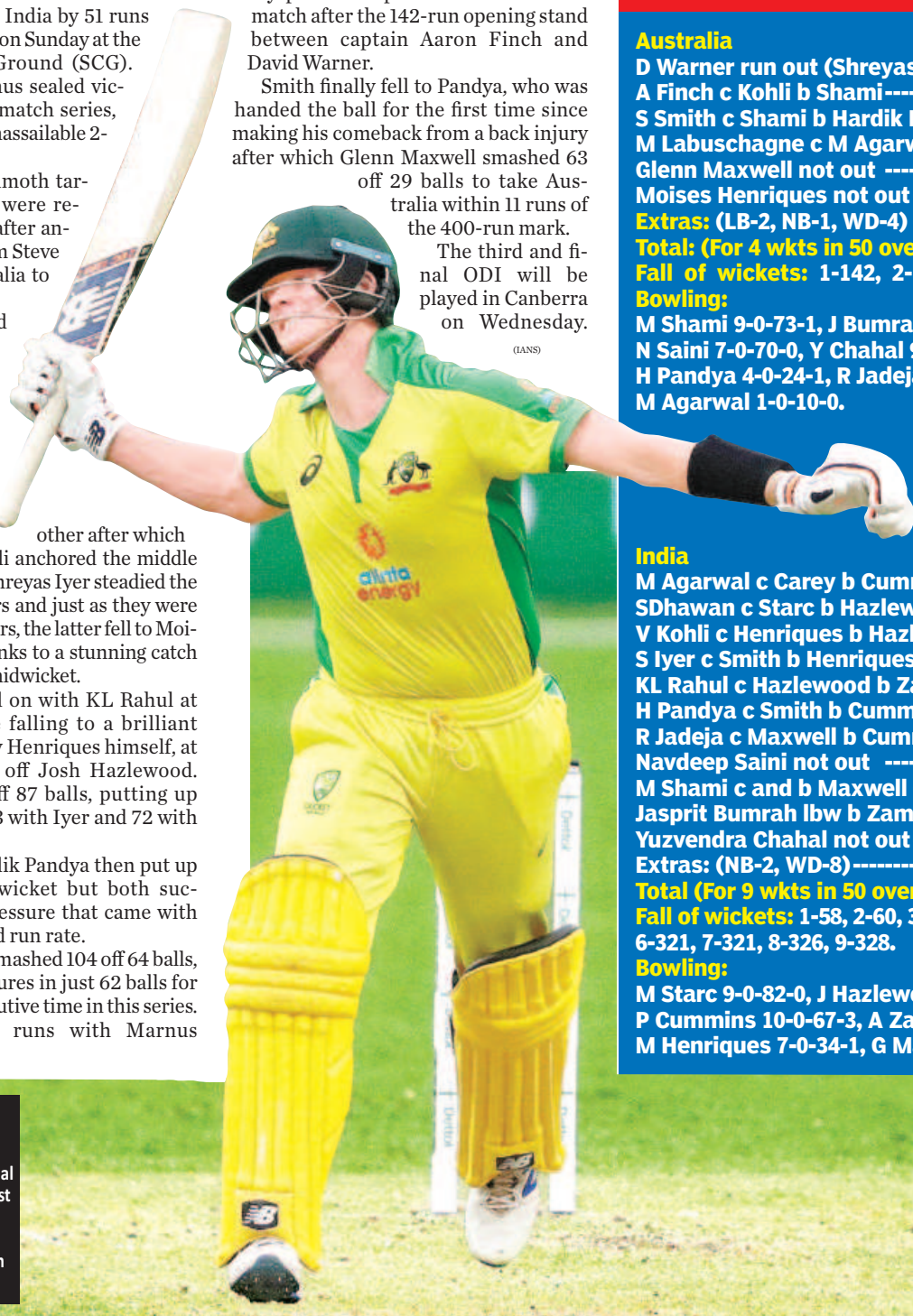
Earlier, Smith smashed 104 off 64 balls, reaching three figures in just 62 balls for the second consecutive time in this series. He put up 136 runs with Marnus

Labuschagne, which was the second-century partnership for Australia in the match after the 142-run opening stand between captain Aaron Finch and David Warner.

Smith finally fell to Pandya, who was handed the ball for the first time since making his comeback from a back injury after which Glenn Maxwell smashed 63 off 29 balls to take Australia within 11 runs of the 400-run mark.

The third and final ODI will be played in Canberra on Wednesday.

(IANS)



Australia's Steve Smith reacts while batting during the one day international cricket match against India at the Sydney Cricket Ground in Sydney, Australia on Sunday

### SCOREBOARD

#### Australia

D Warner run out (Shreyas Iyer) -----83  
A Finch c Kohli b Shami -----60  
S Smith c Shami b Hardik Pandya -----104  
M Labuschagne c M Agarwal b Bumrah 70  
Glenn Maxwell not out -----63  
Moises Henriques not out -----2  
Extras: (LB-2, NB-1, WD-4) -----7  
Total: (For 4 wkts in 50 overs) -----389  
Fall of wickets: 1-142, 2-156, 3-292, 4-372.  
Bowling:  
M Shami 9-0-73-1, J Bumrah 10-1-79-1,  
S Saini 7-0-70-0, Y Chahal 9-0-71-0,  
H Pandya 4-0-24-1, R Jadeja 10-0-60-0,  
M Agarwal 1-0-10-0.

#### India

M Agarwal c Carey b Cummins -----28  
SDhawan c Starc b Hazlewood -----30  
V Kohli c Henriques b Hazlewood -----89  
S Iyer c Smith b Henriques -----38  
KL Rahul c Hazlewood b Zampa -----76  
H Pandya c Smith b Cummins -----28  
R Jadeja c Maxwell b Cummins -----24  
Navdeep Saini not out -----10  
M Shami c and b Maxwell -----1  
Jasprit Bumrah lbw b Zampa -----0  
Yuzvendra Chahal not out -----4  
Extras: (NB-2, WD-8) -----10  
Total: (For 9 wkts in 50 overs) -----338  
Fall of wickets: 1-58, 2-60, 3-153, 4-225, 5-288,  
6-321, 7-321, 8-326, 9-328.  
Bowling:  
M Starc 9-0-82-0, J Hazlewood 9-0-59-2,  
P Cummins 10-0-67-3, A Zampa 10-0-62-2,  
M Henriques 7-0-34-1, G Maxwell 5-0-34-1.

### Don't think Warner will be available for 3<sup>rd</sup> ODI: Finch

SYDNEY

AUSTRALIA captain Aaron Finch said that he doesn't expect David Warner to play in the third ODI after the opener left the field four overs into India's innings in the second ODI at the Sydney Cricket Ground on Sunday. Warner had to help off the field and Cricket Australia later said that he had been sent for scans for a groin strain.

Finch said that he doesn't have any information on Warner's status at the moment but doesn't expect him to play the third ODI, which is effectively a dead rubber after a 51-run win on Sunday helped them seal an unassailable 2-0 lead in the three-match series. "No idea (on Warner's fitness). We've got to reshuffle it around, I don't think he'll be available," said Finch after the match. Finch commended his team for their batting performance. Talismanic batsman Steve Smith scored another 62-ball century as Australia scored 389/4 batting first.

"It was I guess (perfect performance with the bat). Anytime you get in the high 300s is good. Very pleased to wrap it up in two wins," said Finch after the match. Finch and Warner have managed consecutive century partnerships for the first wicket in the series. (IANS)



## Kohli, Rahul admit bowlers weren't consistent and didn't adapt quick enough

SYDNEY

INDIA captain Virat Kohli blamed his team's bowlers for not bowling in one area for a long enough period as Australia notched up their highest total against India in ODIs for the second consecutive time at the Sydney Cricket Ground on Sunday.

After making 374 in the first game on Friday, Aussies made 389 for four in the second match on Sunday and won the game by 51 runs.

"You look at the scoreboard we got 340 and we still were 50 runs short," said Kohli after the match.

"With the ball we were not that effective, we didn't hit the areas we wanted to consistently and then, they have a strong batting line-up, they understand the pitches, conditions and angles, but yeah, we had to bowl in one area for long enough and we didn't. So the chase was steep," added Kohli, who made 89 off 87 balls.

Wicketkeeper-batsman KL

Rahul, also the team's vice-captain, admitted that India bowlers could not use the variations in speed and bring change in pace as effectively as the Aussies could.

Asked if the bowlers had struggled to get the variations, Rahul responded, "Struggle isn't the right word, but yes, we didn't adapt quick enough. Like I said, it is a learning process for our bowling group to adapt quicker and pick wickets and learn as a bowling unit and as a team on such wickets."

Rahul admitted that the team has struggled to pick wickets early in the power-play.

"In white-ball cricket, that is very important. When we are bowling, we should get wickets at regular intervals, then only the run rate will be in check. If you see our batting, in both the matches, every 30-40 runs, a wicket was falling. For them it was 50-60. So that's where the difference is. We have to search for a mantra to take wickets." (IANS)

## Djokovic, Nadal to finish inside top 2 for third year in row

ZURICH

NOVAK Djokovic is set to equal Pete Sampras' record with a sixth year-end No. 1 finish when the year-end rankings are officially released on Decem-

ber 7. Since there will only be ATP Challenger Tour events until then, there will be no changes near the top of the rankings.

Djokovic along with Spain's Rafael Nadal will finish the year as the

top two players in the rankings for the third consecutive year and the fifth time overall when the next update is made, according to the ATP Tour website.

Nadal now leads the 'Big Three' -

Djokovic and Roger Federer - with 12 top two finishes. It is the seventh time he has ended a season as the second ranked player in ATP rankings.

Federer, who did not compete after reaching this year's Australian Open

semi-finals due to injury, will end the year at the number five spot.

Djokovic, Federer and Nadal have made up the top two in the year-end ATP Rankings in 14 of the past 16 seasons. (IANS)



## Raja Rithvik selected to represent India in World Youth Rapid Online Chess Championship

HYDERABAD

TELANGANA State International Master R. Raja Rithvik, a class 11 student of Bhavan's Sri Ramakrishna Vidyalaya, Sainikpuri, Hyderabad, will represent India in the World Youth Rapid Online Chess Championship-2020 in Under-16 Category.

By virtue of being reigning National Sub-Junior Champion and in due recognition of his achievements at the international level he will be competing in the selection stage to be held from December 11 to 13, with the finals being played in December 19-23.

This event comprises of five different age groups (U10, U12, U14, U16, and U18), competing in two sections: open and girls.

This year the World Chess Federation is organising FIDE World Youth Rapid Championship-2020 online due to the ongoing Corona pandemic, if not the championship was originally scheduled to be held at Romania, Europe.

Raja Rithvik, presently having FIDE Rating of 2,408, has been undergoing advanced training at RACE Chess Academy under the guidance of coach N.V.S. Rama Raju.

Coach Rama Raju congratulated Raja Rithvik for getting selected to represent India in the prestigious Online World Youth Rapid Championship-2020 and hoped that he brings many laurels to the country with his brilliancy and sharpness on the board.

Raja Rithvik will surely perform well in the upcoming world youth championship to be conducted through online platform. He would achieve his goal of becoming Grand Master at the earliest after the COVID restrictions are lifted and on-board games are commenced, the coach added.

## Mauricio stunner completes Odisha comeback against Jamshedpur

VASCO DA GAMA, GOA

STRIKER Diego Mauricio came off the bench and scored twice, including a stunner in stoppage time, to help Odisha FC draw 2-2 against Jamshedpur after trailing 2-0 in the first half an hour of the match.

Mauricio was brought on in the 60th minute in place of Manuel Onwu as Odisha were pushing to halve the lead that

Jamshedpur had on them. The pressure soon paid off as Jamshedpur goalkeeper Rehenesh got sent off for handling the ball outside of his box. It meant that Jamshedpur had to take off Jackichand Singh to accommodate the new goalkeeper.

While Odisha's goal did not come directly from the ensuing free kick, Mauricio put it in after a scramble inside the box after the kick was taken.



## Boxer Duryodhan Singh Negi tests positive for Covid-19

NEW DELHI/PATIALA

BOXER Duryodhan Singh Negi (69 kg), who is presently training at Netaji Subhas National Institute of Sports (NSNIS) in Patiala, has tested positive for novel coronavirus, the Sports Authority of India (SAI) informed on Sunday.

Negi is currently asymptomatic and has been shifted to Columbia Asia Hospital as a precautionary measure.

"He had been on leave for the Diwali break and was in quarantine upon his return. As per SOPs established by SAI, he was tested on the sixth day after his return to the camp," A SAI statement read. (IANS)

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