DECCAN nicle

THE LARGEST CIRCULATED ENGLISH DAILY IN SOUTH INDIA RAJAMAHENDRAVARAM | SUNDAY I 25 OCTOBER 2020



ITS READERS A VERY HAPPY DASARA

HOLIDAY NOTICE

The offices of DECCAN CHRONICLE will remain closed today for Dasara. There will be no edition on Monday, October 26, 2020



Forecast: Humid and Max/Min temp. 33/23 QC

COVID-19

CASES **DEATHS** (+51,997)

(+626)78,62,483 1,18,535

covid19india.org STATE GOVERNMENT BULLETINS

(+1,273)(+5)TS: 2,30,274 1,303 (+22)(+3,342)AP: 8,04,026 6,566

CASES AROUND THE WORLD



11,52,536

worldometers.info/

Sarvari: Dakshinayana **Tithi:** Nija Ashwayuja Shuddha Navami till 7.42 am Star: Danishta till 4.23 am (Monday)

Varjyam: 6.56 am to 8.39 am **Durmuhurtam:** 4.12 pm to 4.58 pm Rahukalam: 4.30 pm to 6 pm

Rabbi-ul Awwal 7, 1442 AH PRAYERS (ROYAL MOSOUE) Fajar: 5.00 am **Zohar:** 1.30 pm

Asar: 5.00 pm Maghrib: 6.35 pm Isha: 8.30 pm **SUNRISE TOMORROW 5.58 AM**

SUNSET TODAY 5.35 PM MOONRISE TODAY 1.58 AM MOONSET TOMORROW 01.36 PM

COUNTER



I promise to get a Covid vaccine manufacturing unit in your town and

provide jobs!

SHORT TAKES

TRP: Broadcasters

against CBI probe

New Delhi: The News

Broadcasters Association on Saturday urged the government to withdraw the CBI probe into alleged manipulation of Television Rating Points (TRP), saying the speed with which the investigation was transferred to the agency raises doubts about intentions. In a statement, the News Broadcasters Association (NBA) expressed serious concern at "the open-ended FIR registered by the Uttar Pradesh Police against the media for alleged

TRP manipulation".

STATE... PAGE 2 **CM seeks Central funds** for Polavaram project



NATION 5

RJD anarchy drove away Nitish: Nadda



WORLD 7 **Biden promises free** vaccine if elected

SPORTS 8 **Madrid beat**

Barcelona in Clasico



Dasara celebrations



A priest performs pujas for Goddess Durga during the Dasara Navaratri Celebrations organised by Bengali Association at Waltair Kalibari on the station road in Visakhapatnam on Saturday. – K. MURALI KRISHNA

REVENUE STAFF DEMOLISH GITAM COMPOUND WALL

K.M.P. PATNAIK | DC VISAKHAPATNAM, OCT. 24

In a midnight operation that lasted till early Saturday, revenue officials in the presence of police demolished a compound wall facing the beach road and the the main gate of the campus of the GITAM deemed to be university to free 40 acres of encroached land.

The campus houses an engineering college, a dental college, a medical college and other educational institutions over 120 acres of prime land. The varsity was founded by late TD member of Parliament M.V.V.S. Murthy and is being run by his grandson, TD leader M. Sri Bharat.

> Page 2: No notice issued, says Gitam

DRUNKARD BEHEADS MOM FOR LIQUOR CASH

Hyderabad, Oct. 24: A man allegedly beheaded his 65-year-old mother and ran away with the severed head after she refused to give him money to buy liquor, police said on Saturday.

The incident was reported from a village in Nagarkurnool district of Telangana in the wee hours of the day, the police said. The 45-yearold was caught near a tank with the choppedoff head found hurled into bushes, they said. A case has been registered and a complaint lodged by the man's older broth-

RTC special buses to run from border for Dasara

MD ILYAS I DC VIJAYAWADA, OCT. 24

With talks between the AP and TS governments over running of inter-state buses failing, the APSRTC has decided to run special buses from the borders of Telangana to various places in the state so that AP natives can return to celebrate the Dasara festival Transport minister Venkataramaiah alias Nani said special

from all check posts on the Telangana state border. He said that AP transport officials had been holding talks with their Telangana state counterparts since June 18. AP had sent proposals to operate buses on over 1.61 lakh km routes, decreasing 1.04 lakh km from earlier routes. However, the talks did not yield any results.

As a result, the minister said, APSRTC buses will operate from the borders Garikapadu, Vadapalli, Jeelugumalli Kallugudem. He people to make use of these buses to reach their destinations. With the absence of direct bus services, it has been seen that people travel to the border of one state, cross a small distance using local transport and board another bus in the neighbouring

> Page 2: States got discretionary powers

Parallel flood canal along TB put on hold

NAGABHUSHANAM I DC ANANTAPUR, OCT. 24

Proposals to build a paral-

lel flood canal for the Tungabhadra (TB) High Level Main Canal by Andhra Pradesh and a supplementary reservoir across the Tungabhadra river near Nowli by the Karnataka government have been halted temporarily following objections by irrigation officials of both states during the recent Tungabhadra Board meeting. The Board has put the issue in the courts of the Chief Ministers of the two

It may be noted that the Andhra Pradesh government had proposed the construction of a flood canal from the TB reserand the issue has been pending for the past two decades because of a response

However, Karnataka proposed building a supplementary reservoir across the Tungabhadra near Nowli upstream area and reportedly planned to mount pressure on AP irrigation officials and Board members to clear it.

In the Tungabhadra Board meeting held two days ago, AP officials objected to a supplementary reservoir even as Karnataka had prepared a detailed and substantiated project report.

Karnataka justified drawing 30 tmc feet from the augmented canal at Nowli to compensate for the heavy silt in the Tungabhadra

Objecting to the proposal, Andhra Pradesh mooted a meeting of the tow Chief Ministers to resolve the

Meanwhile, Karnataka objected to the parallel flood canal to use at least 25 tmc ft water from the reservoir during the rainy season. AP officials were asked to prepare proposals for the parallel flood canal from the Tungabhadra dam towards Anantapur to receive at least one tmc ft every day during the rainy season.

Irrigation Sharma observed that the proposal to have a meeting of the two chief ministers has again made it a political issue which cannot be

solved in time. "Only the flood canal can be a major source for Anantapur and Kadapa",

okays interest sop Interest on interest for loans up to ₹2 cr waived New Delhi, Oct. 24: In a relief to borrowers at the onset of Diwali, the gov-ernment late on Friday Dec. 31 deadline to file I-T returns

Festival gift: Centre

night announced waiver of interest on interest for loans up to ₹2 crore irrespective of whether moratorium was availed.
The Department of with operational

Financial Services came guidelines in the back-drop of SC's direction to implement the interest waiver scheme, which is likely to cost the exchequer ₹6,500 crore. Borrowers who availed

the six-month moratorium will be compensated for the compound interest they will be charged by banks while those who paid on time will get as cashback the notional interest on the interest that they paid. The government said that banks will credit the amount into the customer's account and later claim it from the government. If the borrower has fully repaid the loan in between, the benefit will New Delhi, Oct. 24: The Earlier in May, it extendgovernment on Saturday further extended the deadline for filing returns by individual taxpavers for FY 2019-20 by a month till Also, the due date of furnishing taxpayers whose accounts require to be audited was extended till January 31, 2021.

Performing

torium period when the loan was outstanding. The rate of interest will be the rate contracted in the

December 31.

Income-Tax

(ITRs) for

As per the guidelines the scheme can be availed by borrowers in specified loan accounts for a period from March 1 to August

As per the eligibility cri-

ed various due dates for filing ITRs for FY 2019-20 from July 31 to November 30. The due date for ITRS for "the taxpayers (including partners) who are required to get their accounts audited [for whom the due date is October 31, 2020] was extended to January 31, 2021", it added. -PTI

be calculated for the mora-

teria mentioned in the guidelines, the accounts should be standard as on February 29 which means that it should not be Non-

Housing loan, education

loans, credit card dues, auto loans, MSME, consumer dur-able loans and

consumption loans are

covered under this. — Agencies

Chakrasnanam



his Consorts in the newly built Pushkarini inside the holy shrine in Tirumala on

Forest officials step up curbs on wildlife hunting

SAMPAT G. SAMRITAN | DC VIJAYAWADA, OCT. 24

Foresters are on high alert to prevent hunting and poaching of wild animals like wild boar and spotted deer for their meat in the fringe areas of reserve forests and sanctuaries, given the huge demand for the meat especially during Darasa in parts of Andhra Pradesh. This practice is preva-

lent in the peripheries of reserve forests and sanclocated Vinukonda in Guntur; Chithapalli and Paderu in . Visakhapatnam; Kukkunur Jangareddygudem in West G o d a v a r i ; Rampachodavaram and Chintur in East Godavari, Nagariunasagar-Srisailam tiger reserve;

Sesachalam forest in Chittoor; Giddaluru in Prakasam. The flying squad of Guntur circle is sensitising villagers on wildlife protection, especially in Nehrunagar thanda, Ramidicherla, Mellavagu in Vinukonda forest range limits in the wake of past incidents of poaching of

wild animals, especially during the Dasara festivi-Guntur circle divisional

forest officer (flying squad), N. Ramachandra Rao, said "Based on the past record of poaching and hunting of wild boars, especially during the Dasara festivities, have stepped up our vigil in vulnerable areas and are taking up night patrolling in addition to sensitising local villagers to give up such practices and not to allow outsiders to resort to them either."

Forest authorities are asking locals to alert them in case any persons resort to such illegal practices so booked against them as per the provisions of the wildlife (protection) act, 1972.

As the wild boars and spotted deer stray in the fringe areas of reserve forests and sanctuaries where fields are located to eat the crops, the culprits set up snares to catch them. Earlier, they used electric fences to trap the wild animals and at times even bait them with explo-

sive material. Following high vigilance by forest authorities, such practices are being given

Once the wild animals are caught in the snares, they are killed and their meat sold. On an average, it costs nearly ₹3,000 for the meat of a spotted deer per kg and nearly ₹1,500 to ₹2,000 for meat of a wild

boar per kg. To avoid detection and trouble from law enforcing authorities, culprits deliver the meat at the doorsteps of their trusted customers.

Sources say that as all the family members, kin and friends meet together during the festive days, they consider it to be a status symbol and royal to offer a feast with the meat of a wild animal.

Recently, forest officials nabbed two persons on charges of hunting a wild boar falling under Bhakarapeta forest range limits of Chittoor district

and seized its carcass. A senior forest official "We are taking support of local villagers and members of vana samrakshana samithis and eco development committees to keep check on such ille-

SCORE | HIGH | NEET All India rankers repeat good show in TS

AP girl student tops TS Eamcet

HARLEEN MINOCHA | DC

A student from AP topped the agriculture and medstream of the Telangana state Eamcet, the results of which were released on Saturday. Girls bagged the top spots in the test which was conducted by the JNTU-H on

behalf of the TS Council of Higher Education.

Guthi Chaitanya Sindhu of Tenali secured the first rank, while Bareddy Sai Thrisha Reddy of Sangareddy and Tummala Snikitha of Hyderabad secured the second and third ranks, respectively. All three are NEET All rank

Sindhu was ranked 6 in NEET and Thrisha was placed 14th and Snikitha second. This year, 78,981 candidates registered for the Eamcet A&M stream, of whom 63,857 appeared and 59,113 qualified. The qualifying percentage stood at 92.57. Meanwhile, the first

selling for admission into engineering and pharmacy colleges for 2020-21 was conducted for candidates from October 12 to October 22. Of the 74,094 seats available, 50,288 were allotted — 50,137 for engineering courses and 151 to pharmacy. There are 19,998 engineering and phase of web-based coun-3,808 pharmacy seats.



IN BRIEF

CM greets people on Vijayadasami

Vijayawada: Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy greeted the people of the state on the occasion of Viiavadasami. He said that the festival marks the triumph of good over evil and victory of the Gods over evil forces. The festival conveys to the world the final victory of Jaganmatha over Mahishasura, the embodiment of evil. He wished that Durga Matha would bless people of the state, usher in peace and prosperity to the

Governor conveys

Dasara wishes

state and augur well to all the families.

Vijayawada: Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan greeted the people on the joyous occasion of Vijaya Dasami in Andhra Pradesh. The Governor in a statement issued on Saturday stated that the Navaratri festival symbolises the triumph of good over evil. He said that he prayed to the divine mother to shower her choicest blessings on all the people on the happy occasion of Dasara festival.

Jayaram offers silk

robes in Srisailam

Kurnool: Andhra Pradesh minister for Labour Gummanur Jayaram offered silk robes (pattu vastralu) to Lord Mallikarjunaswamy and Goddess Sri Bhramarambha Devi in Srisailam on Saturday on behalf of state government on the occasion of Dasara festival. The minister, along with family members. arrived at the Srisailam temple on Friday night and spent his night stay in the temple's guest house.

APGEA refutes

APNGOA claims

Vijayawada: The Andhra Pradesh government employees' association (APGEA) refuted claims of the Andhra Pradesh nongazetted officers' association (APNGOA) leaders about meeting Chief Minister, Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, seeking to resolve employee issues and alleged that APNGOA is a sympathiser of the earlier Telugu Desam government and is trying to appease the present YSRC government to erase its pro-TD pro reputa-

PMK FOUNDER CONGRATULATES JAGAN

DC CORRESPONDENT VIJAYAWADA, OCT. 24

Pattali Makkal Katchi (PMK) founder, S. Ramadoss, has written to Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister, Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, congratulating him for the state government's announcement of establishing 56 backward class corporations and the list of chairpersons to head these corpora-

In a letter addressed to Jagan, the Tamil Nadu-based PMK leader said, "I extend my congratulations to you on behalf of my party (Pattali Makkal Katchi), as the state government of Andhra Pradesh, under your leadership, has successfully announced the establishment of 56 backward class corporations for the upliftment of the backward classes and a list of chairpersons to head these corporations.

Silent Dasara impacts markets across state

Market likely to recover after second wave of Coronavirus

VIJAYAWADA, OCT. 24

The alacritous Dasara festival turned silent in Andhra Pradesh this year due to Coronavirus pandemic, untimely incessant rains and soaring prices of essential commodities. Further, news that the 'Second Wave of Virus' could be in offing restrained masses from celebrating the festival, while cash constraints discouraged

people from spending. Navaratri celebrations that used to be held in every locality were virtually absent, though the festival started on October 17 and is concluding with Teppotsavam in Krishna River on Sunday.

Every year, 70,000-80,000 devotees would daily visit Durga temple on Indrakeeladri during Dasara festivities. The rush would cross the onelakh figure on the auspicious Moola Nakshatram Day, which is the birth star of Goddess Durga. Similar festivities would be held across all the 13 districts of the state on par with Durga temple celebrations in Vijayawada.

According to market sources, at least ₹1,000crore turnover is registered during Dasara festivities every year. Sales of electronic goods, household items, clothes, iewellery, two/four wheelers and real estate would abnormally increase during the period. Traders are lamenting that their turnover this year has been very poor.

Senior market analyst P. Prakash said lockdown due to Covid-19 pandemic has taught a hard lesson to the public about the importance of liquid cash during crises. He pointed out that majority of people have shunned weekend entertainments and luxuries due to the cash crunch. Now, Corona's 'Second Wave' is further leading to people withholding money, which is why Dasara sales have crashed.

Senior sales manager N. Krishna rued that even price concessions with zero per cent interest finance have failed to attract customers during On other issues, justifying this Dasara. He said people are giving priority to only essential needs

industry, which witnesses sales of bikes and cars in large numbers during Dasara, is still struggling. Vehicle dealers said majority sections of the society used to purchase vehicles of their choice during Dasara, treating the period as auspicious. But this time, only a few people have purchased vehicles.

Realtor K. Siva Reddy pointed out that real estate companies would start new ventures during Dasara festival, giving various offers. This was missing this time.

Indian Chamber of Commerce leader A. Aanjaneyulu said market will recover only after the second wave of Coronavirus and return to normalcy.

Senior sales manager N. Krishna rued that even price concessions with zero per cent interest finance have failed to attract customers during this Dasara.



A priest offers harathi to Goddess Kanakadurga, decked up in Durgadevi alankaram, on the 8th day of Dasara festival in Vijayawada on Saturday.

Rare darshan of Goddess in two avatars on one day

DC CORRESPONDENT VIJAYAWADA, OCT. 24

In what is a rare occurrence, devotees of Goddess Durga could have Her Darshan in two Avatars on the same day on Saturday. The deity appeared in Her original Durga Avatar in the morning and as Mahishasura Mardhini Avatar in the evening.

Sunday's traditional Teppotsavam (float festival), during which Durga and Malleswara Swamy are normally taken for a boat ride on Krishna River on the Vijaya Dasami (Dasara) day, has been can-celled. The cancellation is to prevent people from

STATES GOT

POWERS

From page 1

rules," he asked.

The minister recalled

how some people are cir-

culating posts over social

media about first covering

the potholes on roads first

before penalising traffic violators. "What is the

connection between pot-

holes on roads with traffic

violations," he asked. The

minister pointed out that

roads eroding during the

rainy season was a com-

mon phenomenon and

they would be repaired

once the season is over. He

said the Jagan Mohan

Reddy government had

allocated ₹2,500 crore for

DISCRETIONARY

gathering in large numbers on the Prakasam Barrage to view the Teppotsavam when there is a huge threat of Coronavirus.

Krishna district collector A. Md. Imtiaz and Vijayawada police commissioner Battina Srinivasulu held a high-level meeting with officials of the temple and other departments on Saturday. Md. Imtiaz said another reason for cancelling Teppotsavam is that Krishna River is receiving huge inflows from upstream and water is gushing out at high speeds from Prakasam

Barrage into the sea. The collector said both the Prakasam Barrage and Durga flyover will be closed to traffic on Sunday evening while the Teppotsavam Pujas are on.

Many VIPs visited the temple on Saturday for darshan of Goddess Mahishasura Mardhini, including home minister Mekatothi Sucharitha, agriculture minister K. Kanna Babu, social welfare minister P. Viswaroop, AP DGP Gautham Sawang, Vidadhala Rajini and others.

The home minister told the media that she prayed to the Goddess for prosperity of the people of Andhra Pradesh. Kanna Babu said that he prayed to the Goddess for wellbeing of farmers in the state.

Vizagites skip visits to villages this Dasara

K.M.P. PATNAIK | DC

For the first time in the heavy penalties being levied by AP government decades, Vizagites did not on traiiic violators, ven visit their native villages kataramaiah said it is unfthis Dasara and preferred to stay home. According to ortunate that Telugu Desam leaders and a section estimates, around half a of media were crying hoamillion people mostly from north coastal disrse. He pointed out that the Centre has amended tricts of Srikakulam and sections of the Motor Vizianagaram celebrate Vehicles Act, which gives Dasara and Sankranti in discretionary powers to their native places. They states, which includes letake all modes of transvving penalties. "Will the port to make it on time. government penalise those who are following

Apart from the settlers from north coastal Andhra, migrant labourers also spend the festival period in their native homes. Railways run spe-cial trains and RTC deploys additional buses to the two districts and some to East Godavari.

"Around 90 per cent of the migrant labour stayed back at their villages due to lockdown and loss of jobs and not many returned to the city. Due to financial conditions, they may not be in a position to celebrate any festival in their villages also," said CPM city secretary Dr B Ganga Rao.

An employee of a private bank Nalli Phalguna said there was a risk of Covid infection in villages as using masks. and mainbank Nalli Phalguna said infection in villages as using masks and maintaining social distance are

there was a risk of Covid not heeded. "There is no proper transport and I cannot risk riding a motorcycle with family all the way to Tekkali, which is 180 km from here," Phalguna said.

Official sources said prior to Covid, around 60 per cent of the 28 lakh popula-tion was leaving for their native places for Dasara and even more for Sankr anti. For last Sankranti, RTC put into service 300 additional buses to these two north coastal districts and 120 to Hyderabad.

Around 20 per cent of revelers, who did not find space in bus or train, made their own arrange ments by hiring vans or riding on motorcycles carrying children and wife. Market sources said sh-

Ganga Rao. ops also did not make mu-An employee of a private ch business this Dasara.

The Chief Minister direct-

ed officials to take up the

issue with the Union govern-

ment at the appropriate level

duly stating that Revised

Cost Estimate as approved

by the Organisations of GoI-

PPA, CWC and RCC-should

be considered in the interest

of completion of the project

and of the people of the

Named after Gandhi, Gitam goes the Godse way: Adeep

K.M.P. PATNAIK | DC

Brushing aside the allega-tions of Opposition lead-Anakapalle MLA Gudivada Amarnath said that there was no need for the government to be vindictive towards the TD and stated that officials have taken appropriate legal action against Gitam University for encroaching government land.

Addressing a press conference here on Saturday, the MLA said that Gitam University, which belonged to the son-in-law of TD MLA and actor Nandamuri Balakrishna, has encroached upon the government lands to an extent of 40 acres worth

2800 crore.

During the TD term, N.

Chandrababu Naidu gave
away valuable lands in Visakhapatnam to his family members and one among them was Gitam University. It was revealed in a preliminary inquiry by revenue officials that University encroached government lands and the officials took appropriate action,

While the state government is responsible for safeguarding the lands and taking action against illegal encroachments, the opposition leaders are spreading false propaganda stating that the government was vindictive. The previous government failed to take action against land encroachments in Visakhapatnam and did not make the SIT report

public.
"Unlike the TD government, Chief Minister Y.S.
Jagan Mohan Reddy has constituted SIT to investigate land scams in Visakhapatnam and will take action based on the report," he said. Amarnath said all the TD politburo members

were highly corrupt and recently the high command made K. Atchannaidu, who was involved in the ESI scam, as president of the party.

He said that only those who had encroached lands were being given posts in the TD.

Pendurthi MLA Adeep Raj criticised that the Gitam institute, which was named after Mahatma Gandhi, is indeed going Godse's way, by involving in illegal activi-

He said that people are extremely happy as the encroached valuable lands were taken back and are now in safe hands.

Reiterating that the TD leaders had grabbed lands in Visakhapatnam on a large-scale, he said that the state government will take action as promised to the people.

NAIDU, LOKESH **CONDEMN DEMOLITIONS**

DC CORRESPONDENT VIJAYAWADA, OCT. 24

Telugu Desam supremo, N. Chandrababu Naidu, on Saturday strongly condemned the demolitions taken up by the AP government at the Gitam university in Visakhapatnam, saying that it was a clear act of vengeance against political opponents in the state.

Gitam stood out as a glorious temple of learning which had shaped the lives of thousands of students, provided jobs to youth and helped in providing medical services, said Naidu, adding that the matter was in court but the demolitions were initiated without waiting for the final verdict.

Alleging that this was nothing but the political vengeance on the part of the ruling YSRC, Naidu said the ruling party was taking revenge out of personal jealousy and vindictiveness against opposing parties and persons.

In a separate statement, TD national general secretary, Nara Lokesh, said that the demolitions and diabolical acts of Jagan were going out of control. Gitam, which has a long history in giving good educational services, came under a meaningless attack. Jagan knows only how to demolish but



Earth movers deployed to demolish the constructions on the encroached land in the Gitam Medical College premises in Visakhapatnam on Saturday.

No notice issued, says Gitam official

from Page 1

A Gitam official said no notice was served to them before demolishing the walls. An official statement is yet to be issued. Before carrying out the meticulously planned 'Operation Demolition', the beach road leading to the educational institutions was barricaded. The hospital belonging to the medical college houses

several Covid-19 patients. Revenue divisional officer P. Kishore and his team conducted an inquiry and reportedly found that the Gitam campus had encroached 40.51 acres of land under various survey numbers at Rushikonda and Yendada of Vizag city following which demolition of the compound wall was taken

up.
The Gtam authorities constructed compound walls and some structures in the allegedly encroached crores of worth government lands. Based on the RDO report, a special investigation team (SIT) is also probing into the mat-

The RDO said that in 1981, the Gitam management applied to the AP government for allotment of 71.15 acres of land at Rushikonda and Yendada for setting up of educational institutions. Since the land was assigned for landless poor and some in legal dispute, the then government allotted 14 acres of land to Gitam subject to certain conditions that it should purchase the lands as per the price prescribed by the government after the settlement in the court.

Commissioner of Land Affairs visited Gitam and ordered that the 35 acres

RDO P. Kishore and his team conducted an inquiry and reportedly found that the Gitam campus had

encroached 40.51 acres of land under various survey numbers at Rushikonda and Yendada of Vizag city.

nam Metropolitan Region Development Authority (VMRDA), project officer of the Integrated Tribal Development (ITDA), deputy commissioner of commercial taxes, deputy director social welfare and other departments for construction of hostels for SC and ST students and other offices for public utility.

The Gitam management went to the High Court and obtained a stay on the CCLA order. Later the government made an offer to Gitam management to purchase the 40 acres of land at the rate of ₹8 crore per acre. But the Gitam management did not respond. Bhimili tahsildar K.

Eswara Rao, who executed the demolition, told Deccan Chronicle that only 20 acres where no structure had been built except compound wall was taken over and fenced. A billboard warning encroachers was also put up. He said structures have come up in another 20 acres, which include part of the dental college. Mother Teresa Hospital and a nationalised Demolition of these structures would be taken up after receiving instructions from the government, he said.

many TD In 2014, the Chief foul and said it was political vendetta while ruling party leaders defended the action stating that everybe given to Visakhapat- thing went as per law.

Avanti: Gitam was asked to regularise lands in 2014

KMP PATNAIK | DC VISAKHAPATNAM, OCT. 24

Defending revenue department's action in removing encroachment of government land, which was under Gitam management, minister for tourism and culture Muttamsetti Srinivasa Rao said the management was given an offer to regularise the land way back in 2014 when TD was in power. It was not known what transpired between the management and the party in power but the land was never regularised.

It is also a known fact that the former chief minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and Nara Lokesh had no love for its founder, MVVS Murthy.

"For mere political reasons both of them issued statements condemning the action of the present government," the minister said while addressing a press conference here on Saturday.

He said the city people are aware that Gitam management has encroached upon government land, which is now worth ₹800 crore in the market.

He said the revenue department's action was not a sudden decision. The officials marked the encroached land and concrete structures that were built on encroached land 40 days ago. The 70 acres of land, which was given in the past, was also alienated for a very low-price, the minister said adding that the government land was grabbed in a big way during the previous re-

Minister for tourism and culture Muttamsetti Srinivasa

Rao said the revenue department's action was not a sudden decision. The officials marked the encroached land and concrete structures that were built on encroached land 40 days ago.

The government land was grabbed in a big way during the previous regime, he said.

gime that forced one cabinet minister to lodge a complaint against anoth-

Stating that Naidu should have been blamed for the encroachment and the present demolition, the minister said former minister K. Atchennaidu himself admitted that Gitam management had encroached land but surprisingly is now condemning the latest action because it was taken up at odd hours.

"The management should have surrendered the land and protected its

name," he said.
On the decision of the State Election Commissioner to hold local body elections, the minister said it was surprising that the same commissioner cancelled the elections in the beginning of virus infection and now wants to hold them citing Bihar elections when the infections run into lakhs of cases.

"The commissioner wants to impress Naidu since his term is coming to an end," Srinivas said

CM seeks Central funds for Polavaram project DC CORRESPONDENT mended by PPA, CWC and TULASI REDDY CRITICISES BJP, TD, YSRC FOR POLAVARAM DELAY

road repairs.

VIJAYAWADA, OCT. 24 Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan DC CORRESPONDENT Mohan Reddy has sought required funds for Polavaram project without objections by the Union Government as it was a national project. He directed officials to take the issue to the notice of the Centre. He conducted a review meeting on Polavaram in his camp office Saturday night in view of funds slash by the

Union Government. The Chief Minister reviewed the latest developments on the reimbursement of balance expenditure incurred by the state to the tune of ₹4,013.65 crore, out of which ₹2,234.288 crore was proposed for EBR (Extra Budget Release) by Ministry of Finance (MOF) to Ministry of Jalshakthi (MOJS). It has been stated by MOF that the cost of irrigation compo-

KADAPA, OCT 24

Six years after Polavaram was declared a national project, it is unfortunate that

there has been no progress, nent in Revised Cost Estimate shall be construed as approved by Polavaram Project Authority at ₹20,398.61 crore as on 01/04/2014, whi-

ch the MOF has asked Pola-

varam Project Authority

(PPA) to confirm. Finance minister, Buggana Rajendranath Reddy, minister for water resources, P. Anil Kumar Yadav, officials of finance and water resources departments briefed the Chief Minister about their discussions in the finance and water resources departments and meeting with the

said Andhra Pradesh Congress committee working president, N. Tulasi Reddy here on Saturday.

The BJP's fraud coupled

with Telugu Desam and YSRC's incompetence, self-

Union finance minister.

They informed that they had

sought release of funds for

reimbursing the expendi-

ture incurred by AP to ensure a speedy completion of the National project.

Jagan Mohan Reddy emphasised that the cost of the component LA and R&R itself is around ₹29,000 crore as approved by PPA, CWC and MoJS and therefore capping the entire project cost at ₹20,398.61 crore has no rele-

vance and it is impossible to

complete the project with

that cost.

Further the Chief Minister stressed that as it is declared a National project, it is the responsibility of the Centre as per the APR Act, 2014 and the Union Cabinet decision to complete the project. He said that the state government is only the executing authority as the project is monitored by PPA under the Union government. He stated that it is also noted that LA, R&R and works are to be considered for payment at

ishness and commissions

He told reporters in Vempalle on Saturday that

the Polavaram project was a

boon to the state of Andhra

has led to this situation.

the rates, rules and provisions existing on the date of execution and also as recom-

He said, "The internal correspondence of GOI during September 2016 in GOI and Central Cabinet Memorandum approved during March which are being referred now for capping the expenditure of Polavaram project has no relevance now and it is surprising why the then AP government was silent on the adverse developments which are against the interest of the people of Andhra Pradesh.

IN BRIEF

Nine arrested for

cricket betting

Vijayawada: The Vijayawada police arrested nine persons involved in the IPL cricket betting on Saturday. On a tip-off, the Taskforce police nabbed the culprits organising cricket betting in a house in Murali Nagar under the Penamaluru police station limits. Taskforce ADCP Dr K.V. Srinivas Rao said that a gang of nine were organising cricket betting through Cricket Maja 11 app and the police recovered ₹7.5 lakh. a communicator box with 20 cell phones, a television set, a laptop and 13 mobile phones. He said that the key culprits in the cricket betting racket are Veerapaneni Kalyan Chakravarthy and Kambapati Ravi Kiran. The others involved in the betting racket were identified as Keshav Reddy, Koduru Chandrasehkar, Ravela Srinivas Rao, Patamata Sudhakar, Poteneni Kutumba Rao, Md Khaleelullah and Pilli Sivashankar. The gang was organising cricket betting on the Delhi Capitals vs Kolkata Knight

POLICE FILE CHARGESHEET **WITHIN 4 DAYS**

DC CORRESPONDENT KAKINADA, OCT. 24

The Jaddangi police filed the chargesheet within four working days in a rape case, which took place on October 18. The District Superintendent of Police Adnan Asmi said that a-38-year-old, T. Srinu alias Musalanna alias Puthika Srinu of Jaddangi village, raped a seven-year-old girl. The accused was a distant relative of the victim and was divorced twice. He went to the victim's house before afternoon on October 18 and he convinced her mother and took the victim and her younger sister on the pretext that he would provide snacks

at the shop.

He took both girls to shop and purchased some snacks to them and sent the younger sister of victim back to home stating that victim would come later, with some more choco-lates and then he raped the

DISHA incharge DSP of Kakinada was deployed to take up the investigation of the case and the Jaddangi police filed charge sheet within four working days (five days) after registering FIR. He appreciated the investigation team and declared cash rewards to them

3 KILLED IN ROAD **ACCIDENT ON NH NEAR TADA**

DC CORRESPONDENT NELLORE, OCT. 24

Three persons, including a woman and her daughter, were killed and 5 others injured critically in a ghastly road accident on the national highway near Pudi village junction Tada mandal of SPSR Nellore district on Saturday.

The mishap took place when the car rammed into a stationary lorry while trying to avoid hitting a motorbike after the riders turned towards Pudi

without giving any signal. The deceased were passengers of the car and all of them are relatives and they belong to 4th mile in Navalac Garden

at Nellore. The deceased have been identified as Kothakota Venkateswarlu, 46, Jammu Appanamm,a 31, and her daughter Jammu Dileswari, tified

13, of Nellore. The injured include Jammu Venkanna, 39, Kothakota Sarala, 40, Vutikonda

Venkatarao, 32, driver of the car and the bike riders Vetti Mari, 21, and Talari Uday Kumar, 28, of Pudi village.

VOLUNTEERS TOLD TO DISPLAY CROP LOSS DETAILS

DC CORRESPONDENT KAKINADA, OCT. 24

Amalapuram Sub-Collector Himanshu Koushik instructed the Secretariat members and volunteers to display the crop loss details and the farmers' names in secretariat offices to know the farmers and the people in the respective villages. He also said that a social audit should be conducted on the crop losses and receives objections from the people. He said the officials should enumerate the crop losses.

AP registers 3,342 new cases

W. Godavari topped the state with 551 followed by 445 E. Godavari

SAMPAT G. SAMRITAN |

VIJAYAWADA, OCT. 24

Andhra Pradesh registered 3,342 new Covid-19 positive cases scaling up tally to 8,04,026 and 22 deaths taking toll to 6,566

in the last 24 hours.
The state health authorities released Covid-19 bulletin here on Saturday reporting that out of 74,919 samples tested, 3,342 persons were found infect-

Out of a total of 75,02,933 samples tested so far, 7,65,991 patients were discharged after recovery while 31,469 patients are still active with the virus.

Among daily cases of confirmed Coronavirus, West Godavari topped the state with 551 followed by 445 East Godavari, 404 in Chittoor, 378 in Guntur, 344 in Krishna, 266 in 944 In Krishna, 200 in Prakasam, 244 in Visakhapatnam, 203 in Kadapa, 131 in Anantapur, 112 in Srikakulam, 106 in Vizianagaram, 98 in Vizianagaram, 98 in Nellore and 60 in Kurnool.

East Godavari reported

the highest number of total Covid-19 positive cases with 1,13,106 followed by 82,335 in West 76,094 in Chittoor, 64,750 in Guntur, 63,590 in Anantapur, 59,156 in Kurnool, 58,888 in Nellore, 58,219 in Nellore, Prakasam, 54,937 Visakhapatnam, 51,014 in Kadapa, 43,447 in Kadapa, 43,447 in Srikakulam, 38,805 in Viziana-garam, 36,790 in Krishna, 2,461 from other states and 434 from other

East Godavari continue to top the state with

FISHERMAN

DROWNS IN

PENNA RIVER

DC CORRESPONDENT

A fisherman drowned and his son escaped

death narrowly when a

catamaran capsized in

the Penna river close to the Somasila dam on Saturday. The incident

took place when the fish-

erman G. Srinu, 40, and

his son Prasad went fish-

ing in the river which is

almost full to its brim.

Other fishermen in the vicinity jumped into the

river and saved Prasad,

the son, but could not

rescue Srinu as he alle-

gedly drowned, after he

got caught in his own fishing net.

WORTH OF RED

SANDERS SEIZED

In a joint operation,

police officials of Gudur

rural, Chillakur and

Manubolu arrested five

people and seized 106 red

sander logs worth ₹34.92

lakh on the national hi-

ghway at TSR Cold Sto-

rage in Chillakur man-

dal late on Friday night.

seized a truck and car

used for illegal trans-

portation of the logs

apart from six mobile

phones all worth ₹6.10

TENSION

HOSPITAL

PREVAILS IN

DC CORRESPONDENT

RAJAMAHENDRAVARAM,

Tension prevailed in a

private hospital in Danavaipeta as two

groups were getting ready to attack each other on Saturday. The Prakash Nagar Circle

Inspector P. Srinivasa

Rao said that the hospi-

tal doctor's wife Chandrakala lodged a complaint with Prakash

Nagar police station

against her husband,

alleging that he married

another woman and a

case was registered. He

said that meanwhile.

two groups were getting

into an argument but,

when the police rushed

The police team also

DC CORRESPONDENT

NELLORE, OCT. 24

₹35 LAKH

NELLORE, OCT. 24

1,06,957 followed by 77,592 in West Godavari, 72,011 in Chittoor, 61,497 in Anantapur, 60,376 in Guntur, 58,085 in Kurnool, 58,000 in Nellore, 55,044 in Prakasam, 52,200 in Visakhapatnam, 48,777 in Kadapa, 41,853 in Srikakulam, 37.977 in Vizianagaram, 32,727 in Krishna, 2,461 from other states and 434 from other countries.

Among daily cases of death of Covid-19 infected patients, Chittoor, Guntur and Krishna registered four each followed by two each in Anantapur, East

Godavari and Visakhapatnam and one each in Kadapa, Prakasam, Vizianagaram and West Godavari.

Chittoor topped the state by registering the highest number of cumulative cases of death of Covid-19 patients with 760 followed by 606 in Guntur, 599 in East Godavari, 567 in Prakasam, 547 in Prakasam, 546 Anantapur, 499 Krishna.

Visakhapatnam, 488 in West Godavari, 483 in Nellore, 481 in Kurnool, 425 in Kadapa, 338 in Srikakulam and 227 in Vizianagaram.

The state health authoridischarged 3,572 Covid-19 infected patients after recovery from various hospitals in the state in the last 24 hours.

AP conducted Covid-19 test on 1,40,504 samples per one million population and recorded Covid-19 positive rate at 10.72 while Maharashtra tested 67,888 samples with positive rate tested 1,02,223 samples with positive rate at 5.70.

Onions bring tears

Officials, people apprehensive about another wave of Covid

VADREVU SRINIVAS | DC KAKINADA, OCT. 24

Even as speculation is raging over a possible second surge of Covid-19 cases in the country, the general people seem to have lost fear of the virus.

They are now more casual about not wearing or maintaining social distance, if they ever were serious about it. Many people are seen removing the masks while talking or moving about in

Similarly, at many shops and many public places, people are overcrowding, especially at tea stalls, eating parlours, public places, malls, markets, shopping malls, Rythu Bazaars and others, not maintaining social distance at all.

Doctors warn that the false sense of security may lead to negligence and another surge of Covid-19 cases. Further, the Dasara season has already started. Through the first four days did not see any rush in the temples, for the past three days, devotees thronged to the temples and the people

COVID PATIENT

JUMPS FROM

HOSPITAL

were flooding to shopping malls to purchase things. Diwali festival is in anoth-

Meanwhile, the government has taken a decision to re-open schools from November 2. The parents of the children fear the reopening of schools and are already campaigning and submitting representa-tions to the government to re-open the schools after the arrival of a Covid-19 vaccine.

According to officials, the number of cases has decreased in Godavari district. Saturday, 445 cases were registered in the past 24 hours and 5,550 are active of 1,13,106 cases. 1,06,957 patients recovered from the virus and 599 have died so far.

However, it is also learnt that the majority of the people, almost 79 to 80 per cent, may have already been infected with the virus to a greater or lesser degree. Immunity levels have gone up due to consumption of more nutritious food and better eating habits in general with a fear of Covid-19 for the past seven months. "With

45-year-old Lankapalli Ranga Rao of Vangayagudem in Eluru of

West Godavari District com- admitted in the hospital.

DC CORRESPONDENT ELURU, OCT. 24

Telugu Desam women wing staged a novel protest against hike in vegetable and onion prices at Central office in

Chakra Snanam performed to Lord

the

Navaratri

Saturday.

In the evening, Bangaru depicted in an anthropo-

Tiruchi Utsavam was per-

formed for the Utsava idols of Lord Malayappa

and His consorts inside

the Srivari Temple and

Asthanam ritual was con-

Ranganayakula Manda-

TTD is going to organise

Kalyanotsava Mandapam

of Srivari Temple on Sunday in Ekantham.

announced that Srivari

avams has concluded with

the Chakra Snanam on

According to legends,

Sudarshana Chakra is a

spinning, disk-like weapon of Lord Maha Vishnu with 108 serrated

edges. The Chakra is often

Jawahar

TTD executive officer K.

annual Parveta

Brahmots-

ple feel that the virus may not infect them and behave with an apathetic attitude. But it is not good and they should be cautious," said a medical offi-cer. He said that after celebrating Onam festival, the number of cases increased people should take care

not creating such a situa-

tion here post-Dasara and

Diwali.

East Godavari District collector, D. Muralidhar Reddy, said that violation of Covid-19 norms should not be excused and severe punishment should be faced by the violators. He said that people should take all precautions and maintain social distance, wear masks and wash hands with soap frequently to keep the virus away. He said that the Covid-19 awareness campaign is

being intensified in the district up to October 30. Kakinada municipal commissioner instructed ward volunteers to fix Covid-19 caution stickers in every house in their respective areas to create

mitted suicide by jumping down from ASRAM Hospital on Saturday. According to the Eluru Rural police, Ranga Rao was working in a chicken shop, and he was

zens about the virus.

awareness among the citi-

Covid-19 'second wave' likely to hit public, says Naidu MD ILYAS | DC VIJAYAWADA, OCT. 24

Telugu Desam chief, N. Chandrababu Naidu, on Saturday called upon all sections of people to remain alert and take all preventive steps against Covid-19 till an effective vaccine is developed and made available to them. He asked people to wear face masks and follow physical distance compulsorily considering the threat of a "second wave" infections sooner rather than later, Mr Naidu said that more alertness would be required during the present Dasara festival celebrations as people might travel and attend crowd-based activities.

Addressing an online meeting with people affected financially under Covid-19's impact under 'AP fights Corona,' Mr Naidu stressed the need for a regular audit on infections so as to ensure effective post-virus steps in order to reduce the suf-

fering of the people.

Characterising the situation in AP as alarming with five out of the 30 worst-hit districts in the country located in the state, Mr Naidu said par-ticularly the East Godavari situation was a matter of concern with over 1.12 lakh cases reported there. He said that only 50.1 per cent RTPCR tests were being conducted in AP as against 49.9 per cent antigen tests and sought increase of RTPCR tests for more accurate results.

Asking people not to take Covid-19 casually and looking at Kerala as the best example of what would happen when caution was thrown to winds after effective control post-Onam, Naidu explained that a tthe

An easy-going attitude was harmful in this hour of crisis, Naidu strongly objected to Jagan's paracetamol and bleach ʻremedies'

start, Kerala successfully controlled infections and prevented cases but after he state opened up everything for its people for Onam, the epidemic threat loomed large again

Stating that an easygoing attitude was harm-ful in this hour of crisis, Naidu strongly objected to how AP Chief Minister, Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy set a bad precedent in the beginning itself by say-ing "paracetamol" and "bleach" would be enough to fight against Covid-19. He alleged that Jagan showed a lot of careless-

ness and held no reviews on the problems of the people during the pandemic. Meanwhile consoling TD Kadapa district general secretary, Balisetty Hariprasad, who was arrested by Rajampet police allegedly involved in a land dispute, the TD chief seriously con-demned his arrest. YSRC

ing the government's anti-people policies, he Despite the land dispute in the High Court since police is the culmination of the anarchic rule of the YSRC.

government anarchy is

on the rise and TD leaders

are being arrested on ille-

gal charges for question-

Mr Naidu assured him of support, saying that the party will stand by him and appealed to party activists not to fear and play a key role in fighting with the anti-Naidu people decisions of the

Maize loading from Ongole to Tamil Nadu

DC CORRESPONDENT

NELLORE, OCT. 24

The business development unit (BDU) of Vijayawada Railwav Division succeeded in tion by Railways.

attracting new traffic to With support being rentne rauways

For the first time, maize loading commenced from Ongole of Prakasham district to Chavadipalayam in Salem division of Tamil Nadu on Saturday.

According to officials concerned, Railways is specifically focusing on freight loading to capture new traffic and at the same time to retain the existing traffic.

Maize has been loaded in a mini rake containing 21 watertight wagons of weight 1,323 despatched Chavadipalayam

Traditionally, this traf-

fic used to be transported by road. However, the BDU team of Vijayawada division has been able to convince the customers to divert their transporta-

dered by the BDU team and different departments of railways, the traders and merchants are persuaded and promised to transport their consignment by rail in future.

Mr Gajanan Mallya, General Manager, South Central Railway, appreciated the efforts of the BDU team of Vijayawada Division in capturing new traffic.

He also appealed to all the traders, merchants and rail users to utilise various freight incentive schemes for transporting their consignments by

TEMPLE KITCHEN IN TIRUMALA

DC CORRESPONDENT

Five men working in the

Saturday. According to a TTD

press release, the mishap took place when the lid on the vessel, in which pital and elicited infortamarind liquid is being mation on the incident.

boiled, came off acciden-

The victims developed boils on the body and they were treated at the Ashwini Hospital in Tirumala. Medical officers said the injuries are minor in nature.

5 MEN HURT IN A MISHAP AT THE

NELLORE, OCT. 24

kitchen at the holy shrine in Tirumala were injured when boiling water spilled on them on

Additional EO of TTD A.V. Dharma Reddy called on the injured at the hos-

SUPER I POLICE Armed with phone numbers, the team traced the names, addresses of the men

morphic

Ayudhapurusha. Suda-rshana Chakrattalwar

was brought ceremonious-

ly to the temple tank and

immersed in the holy

waters at the sacred

Muhurtam. All sacred rituals during

the Brahmotsavams were

held in Ekantham in

accordance with the state

and Central government

Pedda Jeeyar Swamy and

Sri Chinna Jeeyar Swamy,

AP deputy speaker Kona

AP deput, Raghupathi, IVII Prabhakar

Vemireddy Prabhakar Reddy, Additional EO

Dharma Reddy, board members, CVSO Gopinath

Jatti, chief engineer

Ramesh Reddy, Peishkar

Jaganmohan Charyulu

and others were present during the Chakra

Coronavirus guidelines. Tirumala pontiffs Sri

PhonePe helps police book sex offenders

PATHRI RAJASEKHAR |

DC CORRESPONDENT

Heralding the finale of

Malayappa Swamy was

taken on a procession on

the Pallaki Vahanam

inside the holy shrine of

Thereafter the most-

revered phase of Srivari

Chakra Snanam, was per-

formed. Archakas dipped

Chakrathalwar into the

holy water of the newly built Pushkarini near

Earlier, the last but one

event of Srivaria Brahmotsavams, the Snapana

grand Snapana Thirumanjanam was con-

ducted at the Ayina Mahal

Sri Sudarshan

Mahal inside

Tirumala on Saturday.

Navaratri

NELLORE, OCT. 24

Brahmotsavams,

Brahmotsavams,

Srivari

Ayina

Srivari temple.

Mandapam.

NELLORE, OCT. 24

Sending a clear warning to persons molesting minor girls even if the victims are in sex worker homes, Prakasam district police have detained nine men on Saturday for sexually abusing a minor girl in July at Madevapuram village in Kandukur mandal. The determination of Prakasam SP Siddharth

accused led the police teams to opt for a scientific investigation and work round the clock to track down as many as 20 accused and nab nine of them on Saturday.

Snapanam is part of

Agama traditions and is a

revered practice ahead of

Snapana Tirumanjanam

to Sri Malayppa Swamy,

Sridevi, Bhudevi and Sri

Sudarshana Chakratta-lwar was performed in a

grand manner amidst

chanting of Veda Mantras.

Panchabhisheka Snanam

was performed for the

deities with milk, curd,

honey, turmeric and san-

dal paste.

Chakra Snanam.

In fact, the police team was baffled when they found out that the woman running the sex worker home, Nadendla Madhavi, carried out all monetary transactions through the

The practice helped the police team to reach the

accused with the help of phone numbers and bank account details.

Kandukur police had held the pimp running the home, Madhavi, on July 18 this year for confining a minor girl and forcing her into sex work. Usually such cases end

after freeing the girl and sending the pimp to jail but Kaushal formed an IT team under the supervision of DSP, women's police station to trace the

them a lasting lesson. The team analysed all transactions and collected the phone numbers and bank details of all the customers with the help of PhonePe, the mobile wal-

let app. Armed with phone numbers, the team traced the names and addresses of the men and booked them under various sections, including the protection of children against sexual offences (POCSO) act. The accused have been

24, of Kondepi, Katragadda Sivakumar, 24, of Chowtapalam, Burramsetty Ravi Teja, 24, of Singarayakonda, Gondi Vamsi Krishna, 24, of Kondamurusupalem, Kasireddy Bramha Reddy, Chintalapalem, Unnam Naveen, 31, of Ponnaluru (M), Dhanyasi Deva Prakash, 24, of Ulavapadu, Aravind, 25, of Ponnaluru sions of special relief and

identified as Syed Salman, Kaushal and police team for nabbing the accused.

Kothapatnam Prakasam district. State women commission members and child protection officer, Prakasam district, P. Sekhar Babu, lauded

Babu explained the recent amendments in the rules of POCSO offences by the government of Andhra Pradeshand provicompensation rendered to

Yedukondalu, to the spot, they fled. Kaushal to apprehend the male customers to teach



Buggana eclipsing Vijaysai role in Delhi

There seems to be more than meets the eye in Andhra Pradesh finance tional airport near minister Buggana Rajendranath Reddy's frequent trips to the national capital. Within a short span, the FM called on several Union ministers, officials

and NITI Aayog representa-tives in New Delhi. In his lat-

est trip, he met Union minis-

ter of state for civil aviation

tional airport near
Visakhapatnam and
Orvakallu airport in Kurnool
district. In his previous visits, he met Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman and Jal Shakti

minister Gajendra Singh Shekawat. A little bird says that Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy has given Buggana the important

task of coordinating with the Centre, and he would be going to Delhi frequently. Buggana is an ideal pick for the job as he is knowledgeable and more articulate than the other Cabinet ministers. With facts at hand, Buggana, a former chairman of the powerful Public Accounts Committee during the Naidu regime makes a better presentation of the state's requirements. What is

curious, however, is the absence of V. Vijayasai Reddy during Buggana's meetings at Delhi. Apart from being the parliamentary party leader of the YSR Congress, Vijayasai Reddy was also earlier designated the special representative of AP to pursue issues relating to the state with the Centre. Does it mean further dimming of

CONGRESS LEADERS MADE TO PAY AND WORK

Several Congress
Queued before
Manickam Tagore, the
new in-charge of Telangana state party, trying to curry favour. They claimed that they had been working hard at winning the Dubbaka by elections for the party. That they thought would be enough to put them in his good books. Tagore seemed to oblige and made many

of them in-Dubbaka. But sting was in the tail. Tagore made it clear that they have to improve the party status, for which they would get a good position in the party, by loosening their

cial help from either the All India Congress Committee or the state unit to build up the party the party. will be suitably rewarded in the future, Tagore told them. The leaders are now reeling under

the "zor ka jhatdheere lage".



AP babu hangs out at the CMC

AP bureaucrat
Karthikeya Mishra
may set a record of sorts
for frequenting Chief
Minister Y.S. Jagan
Mohan Reddy's residencecum-camp office in Tadepalli, surpassing his senior and special chief secretary (agriculture) Poonam Malakondaiah. Mishra served as industries commissioner during the Naidu regime and used to be in the news for his foreign jaunts with Nara Lokesh. He also got

the important post of East Godavari collector in the previous regime. The Jagan government some-how did not include him in the group of officers whom it branded as 'TD men' and kept without posting for a long period. Mishra became commissioner, health and family welfare, and, after some time, was moved to finance. He has been given the most important task of mobilising finances to meet the ever-growing

welfare budget. Grapevine has it that Mishra is not enthused with his job and wants to go back as collector to any district. Normally, officers go to the camp office only on being called for a meeting by the CM or to discuss important files with his officials. But it has come to the CM's notice that Mishra is loitering around the camp office, making him wonder why the official is seen more often than needed.



REGION

2nd counselling at Manuu's ITI

Hyderabad: The Industrial Training Institute (ITI) of the Maulana Azad National Urdu University (Manuu) is conducting the second counselling for admissions in different trades on October 28 Dr Arshia Azam, principal said the application forms can be obtained from Manuu and ITI, Hyderabad, or can be downloaded from the university website manuu.edu.in. The last date for submission of filled in application forms is October 26.

One injured in

small explosion

Hyderabad: One person was reported injured in an explosion of a small container at Asbestos Colony in Jagathgirigutta on Saturday morning. Police said that the explosion occurred when the victim, Yousuf Ali Khan, got down from an autoricknear the compound wall of a house, and stepped on the container."The man sustained an injury on his leg following the explosion. We suspect it to be a chemical explosion. The material was seized and sent to laboratory for analysis," said A. Ganga Reddy, station house officer of the Jagathgirigutta police station.

₹113CR AID **GIVEN TO 1.13L FAMILIES IN TS**

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, OCT. 24

Secretary Somesh Kumar said ₹113 crore flood relief aid has been disbursed to 1.13 lakh households, of which over 70,000 households were covered by 9 pm on Saturday.

He said as per direction of Minister Chandrashekar Rao to distribute ₹10,000 financial assistance to flood and rain-affected families as quickly as possible, 780 teams were went from visit house to house and disbursed

cash using mobile based app. The Chief Secretary said that the disbursement drive will continue till late in the night in most places and will resume after the Dasara holi-

Infra gets ready for Covid shots

Med device makers rush to meet targets

KANIZA GARARI | DC HYDERABAD, OCT. 24

Manufacturing of syringes, needles, and maintaining a cold cases, 5 deaths chain is being undertaken by medical device manufacturers in the country to ens-ure that Covid-19 vaccine administration is not delayed due to lack

of these devices. Fifty-six million needles, auto-disposable syringes are being manufactured and will be available by March 2021. The total demand is estimated as 140 million for the vaccine alone.

The medical device industry is under a lot of stress as the manufacturers are having only 30 per cent human resources at the factories.

While the demand has doubled in the healthcare sector for these medical devices the supply is not as required. There are problems faced by small manufacturers across who are not able to pool in their resources because of Covid-19.

A manufacturer in Hyderabad on condition of anonymity said, "Indian govern-

TS registers 1,273

DC CORRESPONDENT

HYDERABAD, OCT. 24

With fewer people coming forward for testing, the state recorded 1,273 new Covid-19 cases and five deaths due to the disease on Friday. The toll now stands at 1,303

and the tally at 2,30,274. On Friday, 35,280 were samples tested in the state.

According to the state health bulletin issued on Saturday, the state has 19,937 active cases. Of these, 16,809 are in home and institutional isolation and only 3,000 receiving treatment at hospitals.

ment has to start creating a separate stockpile for the Covid-19 vaccine.

This is already set in motion by other countries. This will ensure that once the vaccine is available there will not be any problem in administering." Indian government per has so far taken stock

The highest number of cases continue to be reported from the GHMC limits at 227, followed by Medchal-Malkajgiri at 104 and Ranga Reddy at 102 cases. There has been a decline in cases in rural areas.

Though the case numbers are falling, the government has urged people to be cautious and follow precautionary measures. The government has asked people not to give up on the habit of wearing Physical distancing and frequent hand sanitising were also stressed upon.

of the capacity of each of the manufacturers and their ability to

But there is very little aid in terms of the gap created by human resources Till the workers come in full force the capacity will be only 30 per cent in the production.

Rescue workers need antifungal medicines ried along with it. Sewage, cent of the residents and vol-

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, OCT. 24

Anti-fungal medicines are urgently required for residents and volunteers cleaning the muck and slush from Babanagar, Nallabagh, Alin-agar, Osmannagar and Al Jubail Colony in the Old City Cleaning of knee-deep slush has been a challenge

unteers are complaining of severe fungal infections, which causes itching and

Manual removal of the muck is being taken up as the machines cannot enter these small colonies. The stagnating water is drying very slowly and the outlets are still choked.

sand, carcasses of animals and waste is now being removed but it is also adversely affecting the

Azam Khan who is working with volunteers in Babanagar, says "Along with the residents, there are students, doctors, engineers, techies who are volunteerand many of them are suffering from fungal infections. It is stated that 70 per which the floodwater car-

Only a few of them have protective gumboots and gloves. Most of them are suf-fering from severe scratching and itching and need creams which will help them Volunteers estimate that the work will continue for another week at least.

Some residents have begun to return but many are still too scared to. A call has been given to citizens to come to these areas and provide aid that would help residents

Congress calls Central team visit an 'eyewash'

CONGRESS

S.A. ISHAQUI | DC HYDERABAD, OCT. 24

The Congress has called the visit of the Central team to assess the damage caused by torrential rains and floods an eyewash. The party said the Central team had failed in assessing the damage in a scientific manner.

Addressing a press conference at Gandhi Bhavan, Congress spokesperson Dr Dasoju Sravan said that the Central team had made a mockery of the suffering of

lakhs of people. He wondered how visiting officials could study such largescale loss caused by rains across the state in just

two days.
"The Congress welcomed the team and wished that it would tour the state extensively to assess the largescale damage inflicted by the recent rains and bring relief to the suffering people. But

SPOKESPERSON Dr Dasoju Sravan said that the Central team had made a mockery of the suffering of lakhs of people. He wondered how visiting officials could study such largescale loss

caused by rains across the

state in just two days.

we are extremely disappointed to know that the visit was a mere eyewash and a drama enacted by TRS and BJP governments to fool people to hide their failures. How they can arrive at the real picture by depending on government officials, who failed to deliver their duty when rains and floods struck people," Dr Sravan asked.

'Rao is probably the only Chief Minister in history who did not visit the flood-hit lives due to rains. Rao did not even take up an aerial sur-

vey," said Dr Sravan.
Alleging that the Central team had not given an appointment to the Congress, which stood by the people during the floods, Dr Sravan alleged that the team members sat in a star hotel and prepared reports based on the briefing given by state officials. Demanding that the Centre announce the recent rains and floods as a national calamity, Dr Sravan urged the Central team to make more visits to the state and speak to wider sections of people to make a proper assessment of the damage.

Though Rao has promised to pay ₹10,000 as compensation to every family affected during rains, TRS MLAs and corporators are distributing much lesser amounts in the form of cash, he claimed.

JAMAAT-E-ISLAMI **DEMANDS MORE AID FOR FLOOD VICTIMS**

ATHER MOIN I DC HYDERABAD, OCT. 24

The Jamaat-e-Islami claimed that 400 of its workers are extending assistance in the rescue and relief operations in rain-affected areas of Hyderabad.

It has also decided to distribute 3,000 kits containing essential items valued at ₹4,000 each to the needy families.

Moulana Hamid Mohammed Khan, state president, Jamaat-e-Islami, told the media. "In the second stage, we plan to distribute aid of ₹10,000 to those who suffered heavy damages. We have distributed more than 50,000 food

packets so far. He said the financial aid given by the government is not sufficient and demanded the government to sanction ₹25 lakh ex gratia to the next of kin of rain victims. The government should take a serious note of the damages and evolve concrete strategies to protect the people from such disasters, he

He asked the government to explore a permanent solution for draining out stormwater and protecting habitats from inundation.

MOULANA HAMID Mohammed Khan, said the financial aid given by the government is not sufficient and demanded the government to sanction ₹25 lakh ex gratia to the next of kin of rain victims.

Gov: End corrupt practices in medical education

HARLEEN MINOCHA I DC HYDERABAD, OCT. 24

Governor Dr Tamilisai Soundararajan Saturday focused on the need to end corrupt practices in medical education in the country, and opening opportunities for aspifrom underprivi-

leged sections of society. She pointed out that medical education is getting costlier in the country and it has become an unhealthy norm that only the affluent can avail of it. Underprivileged sections were not entering medical education, she said.

The Governor was addressing a webinar, 'Importance of National Medical Commission', organised by the Centre for Healthcare Management, Administrative Staff College of

The Governor said that the newly constituted National Medical Commission, which was aimed at bringing in transparency, accountability and affordability, will herald a new era of medical education and end corrupt practices in medical education. Referring to the high investments. She stated that it was unfortunate that a massive investment of ₹400 crore, huge area of land and at least 140 faculty members were required to start a medical college. Even in developed countries like the US, the cost is not so high," she said.

The Governor stated that the Centre had launched definitive steps to increase the number of medical seats and had set a target of producing one lakh medical graduates.



GHMC staff sanitising public places in Musheerabad, Hyderabad, on Saturday as a preventive measure against Covid-19.

SHORT TAKES

CORRECTION

The headline for the report on *INS Kavaratti* published in these columns on Friday, October 23, should read as 'INS Kavaratti commissioned into Indian Navy' and not as rendered. The error is regretted.
— *Editor*

MUMBAI WOMAN SLAPS TRAFFIC COP, ARRESTED

SAURABH JOSHI | DC MUMBAI, OCT. 24

A woman rained slaps on a traffic policeman alleging that he abused her, soon after he had intercepted their twowheeler for riding without a helmet in south Mumbai's Kalbadevi area on Saturday. The video of a woman beating up the policeman went viral following which the 30-yearold woman and her 26-year-old friend were taken into custody. The officials stated that the policeman had not abused them and had asked for a penalty to be paid for riding

without a helmet.

The officials said that the policeman Eknath Parte who was posted at the busy Kalbadevi Naka when he intercepted the two-wheeler being driven by Mohsin Khan on which Sadhavika Tiwari was pillion. When Eknath stopped them and confronted the pride a the rider not wearing a helmet, he picked up a fight with the official. Sadhavika got violent and manhandled Ekanth alleging he had hurled abuses at her. Soon after she began slapping him with people witnessing the same.

Meanwhile, the traffic police in an official statement, said that Ekanth had not used foul language and had addressed both the accused in a polite manner. Joint Commissioner of Police (Traffic) Yashasvi Yadav praised the constable for not losing his temper and being patient while being thrashed.

SURVEILLANCE DRONE SHOT DOWN BY ARMY AT LOC

Srinagar, Oct. 24: A surveillance drone of Chinese make was on Saturday shot down by Army troops shortly after it crossed into this side of the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir's Kupwara district, officials

The DJI Mavic 2 Pro drone, fitted with cameras, was spotted hovering in air by the alert troops in Keran sector and subsequently shot down, the officials said. They drone was seized and further investigation is on.

There has been a spurt in the use of drones from Pakistani side over the past few months to smuggle arms and nar-

Earlier in June, an attempt to drop weapons through drone was scuttled by BSF personnel -PTI



MLA PUTS UP SIGNBOARD IN TULU LANGUAGE

GURURAJ A PANIYADI | DC MANGALURU, OCT. 24

While people and elected representatives from coastal Karnataka have been pressing to add the Tulu language in the 8th Schedule and holding various types of campaign, Belthangady MLA Harish Poonja has gone a step ahead by putting up his office sign-

board in Tulu language. Though there are scriptures and inscriptions of Tulu script, it has bee almost forgotten during recent years. For the last few years, Tulu activists have been toiling to familiarise the script and many have shown interest in learning and writing in Tulu script. Techies too have developed fonts for computers. Though Tulu is a spoken language, people use Kannada and English script to write in Tulu language also. However, the unique move of Harish Poonja has now gone viral on social media and received

appreciation from the people. Tulu is the language of the Dravidian family, spoken in Dakshina Kannada, Southern part of Udupi district, and Northern part of Kerala's Kasargod district. People from this region are settled in various parts of the country and

Unfazed by threats, Nusrat lights up Durga Puja



Actress and Trinamul MP Nusrat Jahan (2nd from right) along with other women takes part in Maha Ashtami celebrations at a community Durga Puja pandal in Kolkata on Saturday. Last month she had received death threats on social media for dressing up as Goddess Durga for advertisements for a clothing line that she posted on Instagram on September 17. Dismissing criticism she was quoted as saying: 'I'm God's special child. I celebrate all festivals. I respect humanity and love more than anything.

J&K PARTIES FORM ALLIANCE, **ELECT FAROOQ AS ITS PRESIDENT**

YUSUF JAMEEL | DC SRINAGAR, OCT. 25

Jammu and Kashmir's half-a-dozen main-stream regional political parties along with the CPM's local unit on Saturday formally structured their alliance and unanimously elected for-mer chief minister Farooq Abdullah as its

Abdullah who heads the erstwhile state's oldest political party National Conference told reporters, isn't an anti-national group. Our aim is to ensure that the rights of people of J&K and Ladakh are restored."

He alleged that attempts are being made to drive a wedge between various communities in what are now known as twin Union Territories of J&K and Ladakh and said that the new alliance would defeat such designs as well. He said, "Attempts of dividing us in the name of religion will fail. It's not a religious fight."

The signatories of 'Gupkar Declaration' met at the residence of former chief minister and PDP president Mehbooba Mufti here earlier to discuss the political situation and other important issues faced by J&K and Ladakh. A spokesman of the group said that during the meeting the participants put forth their valuable suggestions.

BJP wants Mufti arrested over her tricolour remark

YUSUF JAMEEL | DC

The BJP has demanded arrest of former chief minister and PDP presi-dent Mehbooba Mufti after she said that she wouldn't hold any other flag unless and until Jammu and Kashmir's state flag is restored.

The Congress also criticised her for showing disrespect to the national flag. She has been trolled widely also on social media platforms for her

On Friday, Ms Mufti had while addressing her maiden press conference after her release from a 14month-long detention said that she wouldn't raise any flag other than that of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir till its special status is restored.

"I won't hold any other flag until our state flag is returned," she said when asked about her statement that there would be no one left in J&K to raise the

Indian national flag if Article 370 was abrogated that she gave days before the erstwhile state was stripped of its special status and split up into two Union Territories on August 5 last year.

Narinder Raina, president of BJP's J&K unit, termed Ms Mufti's remarks as "seditious" and said that she should be bested for the same be booked for the same and arrested immediately. Asserted that "no power on earth can either hoist the state flag again or

restore Article 370", he told reporters in winter capital Jammu, "I request lieutenant governor Manoj Sinha to take cognisance of the seditious remarks of Mehbooba Mufti, book her for the seditious act and put her

behind bars."
Mr Raina pledged to 'shed every drop of our blood for our flag, country and motherland" and said that J&K is an integral part of the country and, therefore, only one flag can be hoisted here.

India sees 53,370 Covid-19 cases, 650 deaths in a day

DC CORRESPONDENT New Delhi, Oct. 24

India's national recovery rate has reached close to 90 per cent after 70.16 lakh persons have recovered from Covid-19 out of the total positive cases detected so far. On Saturday, India's total Covid-19 tally reached 78.15 lakh with detection of 53,370 fresh cases. In comparison to fresh cases, 67, 549 persons were discharged from medical supervision taking the national recovery rate to 89.78 per cent.
The total deaths due to

the virus has reached 1.18 lakh out of which 650 fatalities took place in the last 24 hours. The Covid-19 case fatality rate has further declined to 1.51

According to the Union health ministry, the active cases are less than seven lakh for the second consecutive day and stand at 6.81 lakh and active cases comprise only 8.71 per cent of the total positive cases of the country. Sixty-one per cent of the total recovered cases are Maharashtra,

Andhra Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi. Maharashtra has contributed the maximum with more than 13,000 single day recovery.

FADNAVIS TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

SONU SHRIVASTAVA | DC

Leader of Opposition in Maharashtra Devendra Fadnavis who is also the BJP's in-charge in Bihar assembly election campaign, ȟas tested positive for Covid-19.
Keeping his promise that he will not go to a private hospital for Covid treatment, Mr Fadnavis got himself admitted to state-run St George hospital.
In a series of tweets,

Mr Fadnavis said, "Í have been working every single day since the lockdown but now it seems that God wants me to stop for a while and take a break! I have tested #COVID19 positive and in isolation.Taking all medication & treatment as per the advice of the doctors. Those who have come in contact with me are advised to get covid19 tests done.Take

care, everyone! (sic)."
Dr T.P. Lahane, director and nodal officer (COVID-19), Directorate of Medical Education and Research (DMER) said, "Mr Fandnavis is admitted at St.George. He is symptomatic and his oxygen levels are

got himself tested after returning from Bihar

DELHI SCHOOLS NOT TO OPEN FOR NOW: KEJRIWAL

MUMBAI, OCT. 24

normal." On Friday, Fadnavis

poll campaigning.

New Delhi, Oct. 24: Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Saturday ruled out reopening of schools in the national capital for

"Schools are reopening for now," Kejriwal told reporters on sidelines of an event. The government had earlier announced that

schools will continue to remain closed till October 31 in view of the Covid-19 pandemic. Universities schools across the country have been closed

since March 16, when the Centre announced a countrywide classroom shutdown as part of the measures to contain the spread of the novel coronavirus. A nationwide lock-

down was imposed on March 25.

While several restrictions have been eased in different phases of "unlock", educational institutions continue to remain closed. However, as per "unlock" phase guidelines, states can take a call about reopening schools in phases. Earlier, schools were

allowed to call students from class 9 to 12 to school on voluntary basis from September 21. However, the Delhi government decided against it.

Why are Gandhis mum over Punjab rape: BJP

DC CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI, OCT. 24

Questioning the "complete silence" of the Congress leadership over the rape and attempt to burn the body of a six-year-old Dalit girl of a migrant labour from Bihar in Punjab's Hoshiarpur, the BJP on Saturday asked where are the "brother sister duo" (Rahul Gandhi-Priyanka Gandhi) who had shown enthusiasm almost as though they were going for a picnic" to reach Hathras in Uttar Pradesh. Taking on the Congress,

in particular its former

president Rahul Gandhi,

Union minister and BJP

word from the tweet friendly leader Rahul Gandhi (on the Gandhi (on the Hoshiarpur incident)... no outrage on this no picnic on this... In Hathras, 35 senior MPs from all over the country, flamboyant in their statements on Twitter, wanting to go marching to Hathras asking for justice... where are those 35 today. No sense of outrage if it's a Bihari Dalit child and because the unfortunate incident happened in Punjab." Ms Sitharaman also took on the RJD and its leader Tejashwi Yadav, who had shared dais with Mr Gandhi on Friday during a campaign rally, and asked whether or not Mr leader Nirmala Sitharaman said "Not a Yadav was answerable for

the Bihari family.

NAYEAR AZAD | DC PATNA, OCT. 24 RJD leader Tejashwi

Yadav reiterated his commitment for 10 lakh jobs to state's youth and promised overall development of Bihar while releasing his party's separate manifesto for Bihar elections on Saturday.

Major points included in the RJD manifesto titled 'Hamara Pran' (our pledge) is employment, scrapping of farm laws enacted by the central government, better education and health system, smart villages and infrastruc-ture development for the growth of industries and agriculture.

This is our pledge, not a manifesto. Our party's resolution is to bring overall our party doesn't false commitments.'

development in Bihar," RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav said while releasing his party's manifesto in

RJD manifesto is Hamara Pran

Patna. Using the occasion to lash out at the BJP for promising 19 lakh jobs in its manifesto which was released a week earlier, Tejashwi Yadav said that the BJP is trying to fool people by its fake commit-

He said, "There is a difference between employment and earning. Providing 10 lakh jobs to state's youth is our top priority which we will sanction immediately after the grand alliance is elected to power. We could have promised more than 50 lakh or one crore jobs but our party doesn't make

RJD anarchy drove away Nitish: Nadda

Bihar Sharif/ Lakhi-sarai, Oct. 24: The RJD is "predisposed towards "The RJD is predisposed "The RJD is predisposed towards anorably and law anarchy" and the realisa-tion had led Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar to snap ties with the party and return to the NDA, BJP national president Jagat Prakash Nadda asserted on Saturday.

Nadda also alleged that the state had remained deprived of many medical facilities during the period the RJD shared power with Kumar on account of the "indolence" of Tej Pratap Yadav, elder son of supremo Lalu

towards anarchy and lawlessness. And they remain unrepentant. It is the very reason why Nitish Kumar had to dump them and return to the BJP after which the state resumed its march towards progress", the BJP said in towards Lakhisarai district.

Kumar, the JD(U) president, had resigned in July, 2017 after his then deputy and Prasad's younger son Tejashwi Yadav's name cropped up in a money laundering case. -PTI

UNITY IN I DIVERSITY Fellow villagers from all faiths cooperate to make puja a grand success, says Kohinoor Islam

Muslim leads Dasara festivities in Odisha's village

AKSHAYA KUMAR SAHOO | DC BARIPADA, OCT. 24

A 65-year-old Muslim man has been at the forefront of the Dasara festivities for decades at Tentulidinga village near Baripada in Odisha's Mayurbhanj district. Kohinoor Islam diligently supervises each and every detail of the Durga Puja, from the selection and making of idols to

While the Sarbajanina Saradiya Durga Puja Pandal or community puja pandal at Tentulidinga village epitomises the communal harmony between Hindus and Muslims in the region, Kohinoor appears to be the torchbearer.

their immersion.

It all started in 1984 when Kohinoor evinced his interest in organising the puja at his village.

With the support from elders, he went ahead in promoting communal harmony with this unique

Since then Kohinoor has been initiating special measures for the conduct of puja in the village.

"On the request of villagers, I took the responsibility of conducting the Dasara festival at the Sarbajanina Saradiya Durga Puja Pandal. None has ever any issues with me leading the arrangements as people from both the communities live together peacefully. I get full cooperation from all my fellow villagers to



Kohinoor Islam at the Durga Puja pandal in Odisha's Tentulidinga village.

make this puja a grand success," Kohinoor. said. He is not only known for his organisational skills, but he can also recite several Vedic slokas (hymns)

and mantras at ease. "Kohinoor Islam has been doing a great job in promoting communal harmony. Despite being a Muslim, he has acquired

lot of knowledge about Hindu rituals and even the Bhagwad Gita. He is no different from anyone of us in the village," said Anil Nayak, a resident. During the festival people of all communities

visit the pandal and offer prayers. They also share together the bhoga or offering given to Goddess

"The uniqueness of our Dasara festival here has given us a different identity. Not only people from our neighbouring villages come here, but also curious devotees from West Bengal also arrive here to see for themselves how two communities are celebrating this festival with equal zeal and fervor," said the locals.

Shiv Sena to hold its Dasara rally indoors

BHAGWAN PARAB | DC MUMBAI, OCT. 24

For the first time in the history of Shiv Sena, the party will hold its annual Dasara rally closed doors in an auditorium. Owing to the coronavirusinduced restrictions, the Sena will not organise the rally at the Shivaji Park ground at Dadar, the traditional venue of the event. Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray, who is president of the Shiv Sena, will

address the party workers

Swatantryaveer

Savarkar opposite the Shivaji Park ground at Dadar at 7pm. A select group of 50 people will have the access to the auditorium, including ministers and leaders. The event will be telecast live on all the social media accounts of the party.

There were apprehensions whether Shiv Sena will be able to hold its Dasara rally this year due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The party was also contemplating to hold a virtual rally with Uddhav addressing activists.



Chronicle

25 OCTOBER 2020



A woke Navaratri, and a happy Dasara!

s a responsible citizen aiming to be a non-participant in the pandemic (I suffer absolutely no FOMO or fear of missing out, particularly when it comes to Covid-19, thank you very much), you will

A not be surprised to learn that I have set not so much as the tip of a toe anywhere near a puja pandal this Navaratri/Durga Puja.

To be fair to the SARS-CoV-2 virus — which has had bad press since the moment it was born and needs to be shown by us woke people that circumstances of birth alone is no reason to be cast out of society — I also have not been near any puja pandal in the last 30 years if not longer, because I am the Indian version of Scrooge. From the moment we hit August every year, which, depending on what the lunar calendars are up to at the time, marks the beginning of the festive season, you hear me bah, humbugging all over the place, with emphasis on the 'bah'.

I do not enjoy crowds. I especially do not enjoy crowds in a hot and sweaty climate punctuated by distinctly uncooling monsoon showers that set my sinuses aflame and cause me to sneeze like a machine gun on speed. I do not enjoy amplified *aarti*s by priests so *besura* that even Cacofonix the bard would be dashing about with gags and ropes to tie them to trees while Asterix and Obelix stuff their ears with broccoli and tuck into roast boar. I do not enjoy the 'talent shows' organised by cooperative housing societies in which uncles attempt stand-up comedy so bad that the YouTube shows look good in comparison, aunties explore their inner item girl and give themselves displaced vertebrae for life and children run even more amuck than they normally do, only this time on a

stage with amplifiers. Finally, I absolutely do not enjoy my eardrums being shattered day after day by the techno-Bollywood remixes that our gods and goddesses are apparently fond of, according to puja and dandiya organisers, with *Sheila ki jawani* at No. 1 on the pandal charts, *Lungi dance* at No. 2 and *Chammak challo* at No. 3, all at ear-splitting volume.

So I was delighted when I read the rules for Navaratri in Mumbai this year. Keep it low key, urged the state government. Do not do anything that involves mass gatherings; there will be no garba and no dandiya; discuss viruses and dengue-bearing mosquitoes whenever it appears that a crowd is gathering — that will send everyone home.

Meanwhile, in Kolkata, the High Court demanded barricades outside the pandals and a maximum of only 45 people inside at any point depending on the size of the pandal, thus ensuring that 90 per cent of the population of the city would push and shove their way to the barricade, thus maintaining what we might now name 'antisocial distance' just to add another virus-related phrase to the Oxford English Dictionary.

"Aha," said my Scrooge, rubbing its hands with glee as it read these rules in the newspapers. "Maybe I'll get through this year with my eardrums and sanity

And so far, dear reader, this whole puja season I have not had to use my ear plugs at all. Instead, there is a blessed silence every day — or at least what passes for silence in urban India with its daily aural mix of shattering power drills, blaring car horns, screaming food processors, piercing

pressure cooker whistles and the occasional cawing crow. And I have to admit it: I am bored witless. Where are the social media posts about divine bhog that I look forward to every year with my tongue hanging out? Bhog is not permitted, say the

state governments. It might contain a certain virus. How will I know if Sheila ki jawani is still No. 1 on the pandal charts 10 years after it first released or if *Chammak challo* has finally climbed to the top, pulling the lungi down and revealing its underwear and banian, all modesty damned?

How can I perfect my sneer at the residents of my cooperative housing society when it's time for them to display their untalents on Navaratri nights? (Note for grammar Nazis: if you can unfriend people on social media, you can certainly display an untalent.) I usually get a refresher course during the festive season, but not this year.

I feel so bereft without everything I hate about Navaratri and the pujas, that I might actually do the unthinkable today: 30 years or more after I told my parents that if I was old enough to vote, I was old enough to stop participating in the annual family pandal hop, I might just step out of the house and visit a puja pandal. Since it's the last day of the puja, I doubt if there will be a crowd.

And with a little bit of luck, I will not be hit by an unseasonable monsoon shower, find my sinuses inflamed, sneeze like machine gun on speed, and be arrested for spreading a certain virus.

Kushalrani Gulab is a freelance editor and writer who dreams of being a sanyasi by the sea



Will the BJP use Nitish to get own CM in Patna?



Anand K. Sahay

Far & Near

here are two somewhat related perspectives to keep in mind with regard to coming Assembly elections, where the first votes are to be cast on Wednesday, October 28. These have been largely overlooked in the media and in the facile opinion polls, which appear to have partly relied on the 2015 polling data on caste arithmetic as if this was the sacred *gayatri mantra* titself, besides strongly hinting that the pre-sumed magic of Prime Minister Narendra Modi could safely take the rul-

ing alliance home.
As we'll see below, at least some crystal-gazers may be rather hoping that it will be just one part of the NDA — namely the BJP — that will reach the dry shores, no matter what the overt optics.

stares us in the face, though we have been oblivious. It is quite simply the fact that the failure of the three-time chief minister Nitish Kumar's government in coping with the dreaded Covid-19 pandemic, besides the mass return home of the poor from the country's major cities regarded by Bihar's massive pool of the labour force as the nation's employment capitals in the absence of any worthwhile prospects at home, and the recent floods that played havoc with people's already wretched lives, are stark truths that frame the real narrative for this election. Without ambiguity

these point to the Nitish government's casual dis-regard of the suffering of some of the poorest people that there are in the country. This can be seen in leaders of the ruling alliance speaking without about pause roads repaired or built more than 10 years ago, and their breathlessly recall-

ing the serious uptick in crime that was relevant two decades ago, before the new generation of voters was born. Parroting pre-history is part of an untidy and scarcely convincing strategm of the JD(U) and BJP to hide policy fail-

ures and executive inaction, and meant to help them smoothly glide over the wretchedness they have presided over for most of their 15 years in office — in other words, to trick voters. Does the trick work?

Among some sections, yes
— defined in the main by class. The bulk of these are the state's upper caste and upper crust, not that anyone's vote can still be thought of as being immutable. But ordinary folk have

not forgotten the humiliation and the hurt caused by the CM urging them not to come trudging back to the state though, with the national lockannounced by the Prime Minister in March, it was clear that they had no money to pay rents in metropolitan cities and no money to eat. They also calculated that, if the disease took them, it was better to die in their

unpretentious homes in

the village than on the uncaring roads of the big cities. Mr Kumar's selfserving statements are being recalled at election

With the aim of building a strong caste support base of the poorest sections in his favour, Mr Kumar's self-serving administrative decisions divided and sub-divided big chunks of the OBCs and the SCs into superfine strips till they could not be sliced up any further and gave them some benefits in the early part of his tenure to secure their undying loyalty. However, if the wildly

However, — cheering, pressing, crowds at the poll rallies of young RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav, the CM candidate of the Mahagathbandhan — the alliance of the RJD, Congress, and all shades of the Left in Bihar, which are ranged against the ruling NDA — are any indication, then attempts to chisel the caste arithmetic may prove to be of little avail for the chief

minister. And the reason for this is plain enough. Mr Yadav speaks only of the crushing burden of unemployment, which has made even the upper castes reel, as he promises a million jobs on arrival (as CM — replacing Mr Kumar). It is this which makes the sentiment for "badlao" (change) in Bihar palpable, although elections

Ordinary folk have not forgotten the humiliation and the hurt caused by the CM urging them not to come trudging back to the state after the national lockdown was suddenly announced by the **Prime Minister**

are notoriously hard to call. The media, except in the past few days, and the opinion polls, missed this, though it was out there, large as a football.
So gobsmacked is the

ruling alliance that the BJP is now promising the Covid vaccine free (only) for Bihar, such is the des peration. In the event of an anti-climax, it is the EVM factor that is likely to be blamed, and people are watching keenly. The political timbre and makeup of Bihar is different from next-door Uttar Pradesh, although both are Hindi-speaking. Bihar can be volatile across the board. This is where Jayaprakash Narayan's all-encompassing movement was bred, and also Communists of every

The second factor to watch out for, mentioned above — relating to JD(U) leader and CM Nitish Kumar's unravelling — is the ambition nursed in the BJP's bosom to have its own chief minister in Bihar for the first time, even if as part of an alliance. Other than Buniance and LEV (New York) Punjab and J&K (now, alas, only a UT), Bihar is the only state in North India where there has never been a CM from the BJP. That is Bihar's uniqueness among the Hindi-speaking states.

If this is understood, then the side-court play the Chirag Paswan phenomenon and the rushing of key RSS people to get the election nomination of Mr Paswan's LJP, otherwise no great shakes as a political force — does not remain obscure. It is not clear how it will pan out, but one thing is clear — Mr Kumar may get to rue that he let the BJP ride the waves stepping on his shoulders even as he fooled himself that he stood for secular politics and secular values while canoodling with the BJP-

LETTERS

COVID VACCINE

When the nation is eagerly waiting for vaccine, such promises are unwarranted (BJP vaccine card unethical, DC, Oct. 24). Is the Central government planning to segregate people who voted in favour and against it? When states are begging for their share of GST, this promise will complicate the Centre-state relations.

P. Ramakrishna Rajahmundry

FILTHY COMMENT

It is preposterous and unpardonable of US President Donald Trump to declare India, China and Russia filthy when his own reign is not perfect (India, China 'filthy', says Don, rejecting climate talk, DC, Oct. 24). American voters of Indian, Chinese and Russian origin must teach him a lesson in etiquette by voting for Biden. His antipathy towards Indian immigrants and are clear as day for all to see. Parthasarathy Mandadi

ONION PRICES

The soaring onion prices are breaking the back of poor and middle class. We have had a history of governments losing elections when onions prices were skyrocketing. It seems the government has not learnt any lessons from the past (*Onion price hits ₹100/kg after* record rains, DC, Oct. 23). Our onion surplus country, in spite of lack of storage facilities, the traders are making a killing by creating artificial scarcity. Governments should deal with an iron hand the illegal hoarders. Udatha Rama Chandra Rao

Yeleswaram, East Godavari

TRANSPORT FINES

Not only trade unions, but also the general public oppose the amended Motor Vehicle Act,1988 imposing heavy fines for violating traffic rules (Autorickshaw drivers oppose amended MV Act, DC, Oct. 24). First of all government should provide better road infrastructure. Then the enhancement of fines may be five per cent as many are in crisis. **P. Govardhana Rao** *Kankipadu, Krishna district*



UNITED NATIONS, OCT. 24 Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and US Secretary of State William Rogers discussed for forty minutes last night on In American problems. During the talks Mrs. Gandhi

expressed concern over U.S. arms sales to Pakistan.

Mrs. Gandhi reportedly told Mr. Rogers that this was bound to affect Indo-US relations, hamper Indian efforts to normalise and establish friendly relations with Pakistan, and as in 1965 might even encourage Pakistan to use the arms against India.

Meanwhile Pakistan made clear today that it was seeking arms only to use against India and force India to give up Kashmir. This made nonsense of Mr. Rogers' explanation to Mrs. Gandhi that the arms were intended to wean Pakistan away from China.

The Gandhi-Rogers meeting took place in Hotel Carlyle.

Rana Mitter

Xi's world: **How Covid** accelerated China's rise

ack in February, the Chinese State appeared in trouble. A terrifying virus had infected thousands of people and the country's social međia exploded in anger against the authorities faster than Chinese censors could scrub away the critical comments. Like governments elsewhere, the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) turned to the emergency analogy of choice, the Second World War. Channelling Mao Zedong's guerrilla campaign against the Japanese in the 1930s, state media declared that China was fighting a "people's war"

Finally, I absolutely do

not enjoy my eardrums

being shattered day after day by the techno-

Bollywood remixes that our gods and goddesses

are apparently fond of,

dandiya organisers, with

Sheila ki jawani at No. 1

according to puja and

on the pandal charts

As in that earlier war, China's conflict with the virus has shifted from a defiant retreat to a declaration of victory. Nor is this just bluster. The latest economic figures suggest its economy is the only one in the world that will make a full recovery from the virus — growing by two per cent while America's falls by five per cent, the Eurozone by eight per cent and Britain by 10 per cent. Justin Yifu Lin, former chief economist of the World Bank, thinks China is on track to become the world's biggest economy by 2030. Beijing can now look forward, while other major economies are

still working out how to manage the damage while racking up staggering amounts of debt.

None of this could have happened had China not dealt so swiftly (often brutally) with Covid-19. This week, the Chinese media has been full of images of people queuing for the new anti-viral vaccine — it feels there that the crisis is genuinely

Yet when I call friends in Shanghai, they point out that after the institution of an efficient (and highly intrusive) track-and-trace system and harsh lockdowns, life is pretty much back to normal.

Back in the spring, observers queried whether China's high figures for suppression of the virus could possibly be real. Xi Jinping, China's President and CCP secretary-general, can survey the state of his country and reflect that it is far better off than anyone might have expected when the pandemic started. The regime will have been further encouraged by opinion polling that suggests positive ratings for the government's performance among Chinese citizens, with one survey suggesting 80 per cent satisfaction rates. The CCP has used this to justify doubling down on surveillance of its citizens, and the pandemic will almost certainly be taken as a pretext to clamp down on dissidence.

Not so long ago, it seemed as if Xi's grand Belt and Road Initiative designed to bring billions of dollars of infrastructure investment to a swath of territory from Western Europe to Southeast Asia by way of East Africa — might not live up to his grand ambitions. Had he overreached? But the pandemic has changed the balance of global trade in ways that might now make China seem like an attractive partner for developing nations.

China's opportunity is clear. Previously, the Western world could dangle the prospect of generous investment to countries such as Pakistan or Myanmar through institutions such as the World Bank, tied as they are to norms of good governance and democracy. In a post-Covid world, in which there will be less trade, less travel, less globalism, how can the West continue to influence such countries?

Xi's China has ended up in a strange position; expecting a lower growth rate than was predicted at the end of 2019, yet relatively stronger than many of its global rivals in terms of capacity to act. Still, there is no clear path from

here to the next "people's victory" The impressive economic figures conceal a longer-term problem, as the economist George Magnus has argued, of an unbalanced economy marked by under-consumption, a rising trade surplus, and debt still

rapidly rising.
The "dual circulation" idea that China can simply separate its domestic and international economies is unsustainable in the long term; major structural reforms will still be needed. And there are other issues, such as pollution, climate change, and demo-graphic decline — from 2029, there will be five million fewer Chinese per year, and the population will be rapidly ageing.

China's higher global status creates new vulnerabilities too. Beijing is having to come to terms with the reality that the oppression of the Uighurs and the constraining of freedoms in Hong Kong are not simply internal matters for a country that wants to achieve global influence through "a community of common destiny", because the result is that Chinese businesses and investment become negatively associated with the authoritarian values of their homeland.

The single greatest obstacle to the

CCP's power, however, lies not in Beijing but in Washington. A second Donald Trump term, more virus-driven economic panic, and more chaos in the liberal global order, could end up further boosting Beijing's message of economic success and authoritarian government. A Joe Biden administration may find it easier to bring China-

sceptic forces together. The fear of a new US administration may be behind the latest war metaphors coming out of Beijing. On VJ day in August, China stressed internationalism when it commemorated its founding role in the UN in 1945. This autumn, however, the 70th anniversary of the outbreak of the Korean War in 1950 has dominated China's official media channels. In Chinese, that conflict is known as Kangmei — the 'Resist America" war. In Beijing's mind, the US is down, not out. America remains the only real challenge to China's global future.

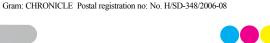
Rana Mitter is a professor of history professor at Oxford University and the author of China's Good War: How World War II is Shaping a New Nationalism. By arrangement with the Spectator.

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IN BRIEF

Actor Arnold feels 'fantastic' after op

Los Angeles: Veterar Hollywood star Arnold Schwarzenegger has revealed that he underwent a second heart operation and is now feeling absolutely fine. In a post on Instagram, the 73year-old actor said he had been given a new aortic valve. "Thanks to the team at the Cleveland Clinic, I have a new aortic valve to go along with my new pulmonary valve from my last surgery, Schwarzenegger said. "I feel fantastic and have already been walking the streets of Cleveland enjoying your amazing statues. Thank you to every doc and nurse on my team!" he added. The actor also shared photos that showed him giving a thumbsup from his hospital bed and exploring Cleveland.

Cameroon arrests ivory smugglers

Yaound: Cameroon authorities arrested four ivory smugglers attempting to transport nearly 120 elephant tusks through the country's south, officials said on Friday. The group had trafficked nearly 675 kilograms (1,500 pounds) of the illicit cargo from neighbouring Gabon, which is home to more than half of Africa's remaining forest elephants. They hid their haul in the

bottom of a van with a false compartment, state television reported. It was the biggest ivory seizure in the West African nation for five years, customs officer Jean-Claude Ekoube said. Ivory trafficking is fuelled by strong demand in Asia and the Middle East, where elephant tusks are used in traditional

Roadside bomb kills 9 in Afghan

Kabul: A roadside bomb killed nine people in eastern Afghanistan on Saturday, after it struck a minivan full of civilians, a local official said. Ghazni province police spokesman Ahmad Khan Sirat said that a second roadside bomb killed two policemen, after it struck their vehicle that was making its way to the victims of the first explosion. Sirat added that the bombings had wounded several others, and that the attacks were under investigation. No one immediately claimed responsibility for the attacks. The provincial police spokesman claimed the Taliban had placed the bomb. The upsurge in violence between Taliban and Afghan forces comes as representatives of the two warring sides are beginning peace talks in Doha to end the decades-

INDIAN BOY'S EASY SOLUTION TO HANG HEAVY OBJECTS

long war in Afghanistan.

Dubai, Oct. 24: A sixteen-yearold Indian boy based in the UAE has come up with an innovative solution to hang weighted items from the wall without drilling holes, as part of a school assignment, which has now become a business idea for his family, according to a media

Ishir, a student of GEMS World Academy in Dubai, had to submit an innovative project for his Grade 10 International Baccalaureate (IB) course when he noticed how walls get damaged when nails are drilled into them, the Khaleej Times reported. "While screw and nails have been in use since time immemorial, they pose problems for people on a daily basis such as damage to walls, outsourcing labour, dust pollution and other dangers of drilling," Ishir told the daily, adding that he wanted a non-intrusive solution to this issue.

Though Ishir had a fair idea as to how he wanted to execute the project, he reached out to his elder brother Avik, an engineering studentat Purdue University in the US, for further guidance.

'When we put our minds together, the solution, like all great ideas, was elegantly simple," Ishir told the *Khaleej* Times. The solution included two steel tapes and a strong magnet which holds the entire assembly together. tape that adheres to the wall is known as the 'alpha steel tape' and the one on the object to be hung as the 'beta steel tape'."

The neodymium magnet holds the entire assembly together, including the object being mounted," Ishir elaborated. This non-intrusive method to hang weighted objects from the wall has been named 'KLAPiT' based on the 'clap' sound prowhen magnets click.

Biden promises free vaccine for everyone in US if elected

Biden slams Trump for his policies to combat Covid pandemic

Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden has pledged that if elected as president in the November 3 election, he will ensure free Covid-19 vaccination for all Americans, laying out his pandemic response plan just days before the US presidential polls.
In a major policy speech

on the Coronavirus in his home state of Delaware, Biden on Friday flayed US President Donald Trump for his policies to combat the Coronavirus pandemic that has killed over 2,23,995 people and has had a devastating impact

on the country's economy.
"President Trump said we're rounding the corner, it's going away, we're learning to live with it. They are quotes. But as I told him last night, we're not learning to live with it. We're learning to die with it. This is a dark winter

ahead," Biden, 77, said.
Already more than
2,20,000 people in the US
have lost their lives to this virus. Worse yet, a new study from Columbia University suggests that anywhere between 1,30,000 and 2,10,000 of those deaths were avoidable, he said.

"Once we have a safe and effective vaccine, it has to be free to everyone, whether or not you're insured," the former vice president said. He said that if elected, he would direct the federal government to "bulk-purchase as many doses as necessary of the Covid-19 vaccine so we can provide it free to those who are uninsured, under-insured

Medicaid-eligible." "Covid-19 dwarfs anything we've faced in recent history and it isn't showing any signs of slowing down. The virus is surging in almost every state. We passed 4.8 million cases. And when Trump was asked this week what he'd do differently to get the pandemic response right from the start his answer was and I quote, 'Not much. Not much.'," he



Jeremy Bines, choir director of the Deutsche Oper, and singers from the choirs of the Staatsoper Unter den Linden, the Deutsche Oper Berlin, the choir soloists of the Komische Oper Berlin and the RIAS Kammerchor Berlin sing with protective face masks during an acappella demo concert #KulturVerbindetAlle (Culture brings all together) at the Gendarmenmarkt on Saturday.

US sets infection record as fatalities near 2,24,000

ping the 77,362 cases

The impact is being felt in every section of the

country — a lockdown starting on Friday at the

Oglala Sioux Tribe's reser-

vation in South Dakota, a

plea by a Florida health

Americans have always

done: come together and

meet the challenge with

reported on July 16.

caseload reported on the site Friday was 83,757, top- out of space for patients

double

bought

Boise (US), Oct. 24: The US Coronavirus caseload has reached record heights with more than 83,000 infections reported in a single day, the latest ominous sign of the dis-ease's grip on the nation, as states from Connecticut to the Rocky Mountain West reel under the surge.

The US death toll, meanwhile, has grown to 2,23,995, according to the Covid-19 Dashboard published by Johns Hopkins University. The total U.S.

said. Alleging that Trump

does not have a plan to

Biden said the longer he is

the president, the "more

prisoner by this adminis-

tration's failures. We can

choose a different path.

"We don't have to be held

reckless" he gets.

can

the coronavirus,

official for a halt to children's birthday parties, dire warnings from Utah's governor, and an increasingly desperate situation at a hospital in northern

grit, compassion, and determination," he said. Revealing his plan, Biden said he would immediately put in place a national strategy that will position the country to finally get ahead of this

virus and get back the lives. Biden said he will ask the new Congress to put a bill on his desk by the end of January with all the resources necessary to see how both the public health and economic response can be seen through the end what is needed. -PTI

and considering airlifts to

down an entire floor of our hospital. We've had to

Scoggins, a pulmonologist at the Kootenai Health

hospital in Coeur d'Alene.

for a pandemic."

'Our hospital is not built

rooms. more hospital said Dr. Robert

'We've essentially shut

EU, W.H.O. SOUND **ALARM AS VIRUS CASES SURGE**

Stockholm, Oct. 24: The European Union's disease control agency has joined frantic health workers to sound the alarm over a Coronavirus surge across the continent, as the World Health Organisation warned of an "exponential" rise in infections.

Even countries that

avoided severe outbreaks during Europe's first wave of contagion in the spring have watched their case numbers surge, with Germany's death toll passing 10,000 on Saturday.

Governments have reintroduced containment measures to slow the renewed spread of the virus in nations that only weeks earlier believed they had triumphed over

POLAND'S PREZ TESTS COVID POSITIVE: AIDE

Warsaw, Oct. 24: Poland's President Andrzej Duda has tested positive for Coronavirus, an aide said on Saturday, as the EU country faces a record rise in cases and mass protests despite a ban on public gatherings intended to stem infections.

"Ladies and Gentlemen, as recommended President @AndrzejDuda was tested yesterday for the presence of Coronavirus. The result turned out to be positive. The president is fine," Blazej Spychalski, secretary of state in the president's office, said on Twitter.

While it was unclear when the Duda was infected, he attended an investment forum in Tallinn on Monday where he met Estonian President Kersti Kaljulaid and Bulgarian President

Ethiopia says will not 'cave in' after Trump slams dam

Addis Ababa , Oct. 24: Ethiopia vowed on Saturday not to "cave in to aggressions of any kind" after US President Donald Trump lashed out over the country's Nile River mega-dam and suggested Egypt might destroy it.

Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed's office defended the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam, set to become Africa's largest hydropower plant, and said Ethiopia was working to resolve longstanding issues over the project with downstream neighbours Sudan and Egypt.

'Nonetheless, occasional statements of belligerent threats to have Ethiopia succumb to unfair terms still abound. These threats and affronts to Ethiopian sovereignty are misguided, unproductive, and clear violations of international law," his office said in a statement.

"Ethiopia will not cavein to aggressions of any kind," the statement kind," the statement added. A separate version of the statement issued in Amharic featured more muscular language.

"There are two facts that the world has certified. The first is that there has been no one who has lived in peace after provoking Ethiopia. The second is if Ethiopians stand united inevitable, they will tri-

umph," it said.
Abiy's office did not explicitly mention Trump, but its statement came the morning after the US president weighed in on the dam dispute in support of Egypt.

'It's a very dangerous situation because Egypt is not going to be able to live that way," Trump told reporters in the Oval Office Friday during a

TRUMP CALLS **'BORAT' STAR AN UNFUNNY 'CREEP'**

Washington, Oct. 24: President Donald Trump says he thinks Sacha Baron Cohen, the comedi-an behind the "Borat" films, is "a creep." Baron Cohen's new movie, Borat Subsequent Moviefilm," shows Trump lawyer Rudy Giuliani in a compromising position in a hotel room with a young woman acting as a journalist.

Trump told reporters aboard Air Force One on Friday night that he didn't know what here n't know what happened with Giuliani.

'But, you know, years ago he tried to scam me," Trump said of Baron Cohen. "And I was the only one that said, "No way. This guy is a phony guy."" "I don't find him funny," Trump said, funny," Trump said, adding, "To me, he's a

Trump appeared briefly on HBO's "Da Ali G Show" in 2003, but walked away from an interior of the control of the interview with Baron Cohen's Ali G character after just a minute.

One scene in Baron Cohen's new movie scene shows Giuliani on a bed, tucking in his shirt with his hand down his pants after the woman helps him remove recording equipment. Giuliani called the scene "a hit job" and said he realised he was being set up.

ceremony marking a breakthrough normalisation deal between Israel

Indian-Americans stand with Biden, call Trump 'foe'

Washington, Oct. 24: Joe Biden and his running mate Senator Kamala Harris have the best understanding of the Indian-American community, the diaspora leaders supporting the two Democratic candidates have said, describing US President Donald Trump as a "foe" who criticises India on the world stage.

With less than a fortnight to go for the November 3 presidential election, Indian-Americans on Friday asserted that Biden, first as a US Senator and thereafter as the vice president, has a strong track record of helping the community. Trump, a Republican, is being challenged by Biden in the US presidential election.

"After four years of the Trump administration, we know our children and

• WITH LESS than a fortnight to go for the November 3 presidential election, Indian-**Americans on Friday** asserted that Biden, first as a US Senator and thereafter as the vice president, has a strong track record of helping the community.

grandchildren will not have the same opportunities as we had. We need a leader who understands our community, our values, our pride and appreciates our hard work and gives equal opportunity and say in his administration," said Ajay Jain Bhutoria, a Silicon Valleybased entrepreneur.

Bhutoria said that Biden and Harris are the leaders who will lead the country

out of this mess and restore its soul, revive the middle-class economy and re-establish America's leadership on the world stage and best relationship with India.

Referring to the final presidential debate between Trump and Biden on Friday, Bhutoria said that the president criticised India on the world stage.

'The community understands who the real friend of India is, who the foe. Trump is a foe. Most recently on the debate stage saying- you cannot trust India's Covid-19 numbers and India is filthy. He has suspended the H1 Visa Programme, put trade deals with India in jeopardy, and has used (Indian Prime Minister Narendra) Modi's friendship for photo opportunities only, he alleged.

US finds first ever nest of hornets

Los Angeles, Oct 24: After months of meticulous tracking, authorities in the western US state of Washington on Friday said they had uncovered the first ever nest of the deadly Asian giant hor-net in the country. The nest was found on

Thursday by Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) entomologists on a property in Blaine, near the border with Canada, the agency said in a statément.

It added that an attempt to eradicate the nest of wasps — the world's largest hornet species also known as the "murder hornet" — would take place on Saturday.

'The successful detection of a nest comes after a WSDA trapper collected two live Asian giant horon October 21

(Wednesday), caught in a new type of trap the agency had placed in the area," the statement said.

"Two more hornets, also living, were found in another trap the morning of October 22 when WSDA staff arrived in the area to tag the previously trapped hornets with radio trackers and follow one back to its nest," it added.

Scientists in the state have been actively searching for the Asian giant hornet since the first such insect was detected in December 2019 and after one of the wasps was trapped in July in Whatcom County, where Blaine is located.

Several more of the invasive pest not native to the US were subsequently caught, all in the same

More than 400 diners checked in at Changi Airport for lunch

UK's famous Diwali event turns virtual

London, Oct. 24: They are referred to as the biggest Diwali celebrations outside of India but this year the city of Leicester in the UK will be marking the festival of lights virtually, in keeping with the Covid-19 lockdown restrictions.

said that with strict meas-

City Council

Leicester

ures in place to stop the spread of Coronavirus, crowds will not be gathering on Belgrave Road this year for the traditional entertainment and fireworks. But instead Leicester residents and others are being invited to be part of the city's first virtual "Diwali Day" celebration from the "safety of their homes". "We all need to find different ways to celebrate important festivals like Diwali and Christmas this year. Although we can't meet up with our extended families in person this vear, our virtual Diwali celebration will help bring people together for an experience they can share with a family member or a friend — wherever they are in the world," said Leicester's Indian-origin Deputy City Mayor, AS PART of the celebrations for Diwali Day on November 14, people can send in their personal video messages, which could feature in an hourlong package of entertainment that will be streamed on the visit Leicester portal.

Singh Clair.

As part of the celebra-tions for Diwali Day on November 14, people can send in their personal video messages, which could feature in an hourlong package of entertainment that will be streamed on the Visit Leicester

People are being encouraged to use their video to wish a friend, or a family member, a Happy Diwali – or they could share their tips for a socially-distanced, yet joyful, Diwali celebration with people around the world.

"We hope that people will enjoy recording their messages, and we look forward to sharing as many of them as possible as part of our Diwali Day programming," added Singh Clair.

Nasa probe leaks asteroid samples

Washington, Oct. 24: Nasa said on Friday that its robotic spacecraft Osiris-Rex had succeeded in collecting a large sample of particles from the Bennu asteroid this week but so much that it was

The team in charge of the probe is now working to quickly stow the remaining samples that would eventually be delivered back to Earth to provide key scientific insights.

"A substantial fraction of the required collected mass is seen escaping," mission chief Dante Lauretta said in a phone briefing with journalists. Osiris-Rex is set to come home in September 2023 hopefully with the largest

sample returned from

space since the Apollo

unravel the origins of our

which will help

The probe is thought to have collected some 400 grams of fragments, far more than the minimum of 60 grams needed, Lauretta said. But the lid for the collector at the end of the probe's arm where the fragments are being stored has been slightly wedged open by larger rocks, creating a leak, the scientists suspect.

Five to 10 grams have already been observed around the collection arm in a cloud remaining more or less in the surrounding area due to the ment which makes fragments behave like fluids.

Lauretta said.

"My big concern now is that the particles are On Saturday more than escaping because we were almost a victim of our success

-AFP

Singapore, Oct. 24: Hundreds of travel-starved diners ate lunch and watched seat-back films aboard two parked Singapore Airlines jets turned into pop-up restaurants on Saturday.

HUNGRY | BIRDS

With the aviation industry in deep crisis due to the Coronavirus pandemic, airlines have turned to alternative ways to raise cash, from offering "flights to nowhere" to tours of

Singapore's flag carrier, which has cut thousands of jobs and grounded nearly all its planes this year, offered passengers the chance to dine on board two A380 superjumbos the world's biggest passen-

400 diners checked in at Changi Airport and went through the usual security checks before arriving at



A Singapore Airlines stewardess smiles while serving food in business class during the inaugural lunch at Restaurant A380 @Changi onboard a Singapore Airlines Airbus A380 plane at Changi International Airport in Singapore on Saturday.

the aircraft for lunch. "The food is pretty amazing, it's better than the one they serve during the flight," Zhou Tai Di, a 17year-old student in econo-

my class, said as he tucked into his soy sauce-glazed chicken with spicy fried eggplant and rice.

Some settled in for a nap while waiting for their

meals to be served, while course meal in a first-class others watched movies on the seat-back entertainment systems.

About half the seats were left empty, in keeping with social-distancing guide-

Calvin Teo, a 29-year-old civil servant and aviation buff, paid Sg\$321 (\$236) to be served a six-course meal in business class, saying he missed flying and hoped to recreate the expe-

"Of course the feeling of actually flying will be bet-ter, because there's the excitement of going to a new destination, to explore a new destination, and even though we can't do it now due to Covid, this is a good substitute for now, to recreate the feels of taking a long-haul flight," he said. most expensive

option is a Sg\$642 eight-

suite, while the cheapest costs Sg\$53 and consists of a three-course meal in economy class. A limited number of diners were also able to tour the doubledecker aircraft and take selfies with pilots in the

cockpit. The tarmac meals proved surprisingly popular — the airline announced six additional sessions after more than 900 lunch tickets sold out within 30 minutes of bookings opening earlier this month.

The airline is also offering home deliveries of plane meals, but it has ditched plans for "flights to nowhere" — short journeys starting and ending at the same airport — following an outcry over the potential environmental

impact.

Dhoni's chin up despite defeats

Sharjah: The usually indefatigable Mahendra Singh Dhoni conceded to being hurt at the way Chennai Super Kings' IPL cam paign has hurtled from one disaster to another but ruled out benching himself from the remaining three games, saying

"a captain can't run away" CSK are all but out of reckoning from a play-offs spot and Dhoni said the three remaining games would be an exercise in understanding how the side should plan for the next season.

"We have to make the most of the next three games and it is good preparation for the next year. Identify the batsmen, who will bowl at the death and hopefully the players will soak up the pressure," he said after the 10-wicket loss to Mumbai

Indians here on Friday. "Captain can't run away, so I'll be playing in all the games," he added. – PTI

Indian teams in online chess final

Chennai: B. Adhiban and R. Vaishali shone bright as the top-seeded Indian men and women teams entered the finals of the Asian Nations (Regions) Online chess championship with victories over Kazakhstan and

Mongolia respectively on Saturday. While the men beat Kazakhstan 2.5-1.5 and 3-1, the women's side posted 3.5-0.5 and 4-0 wins over Mongolia. Adhiban notched up important victories over Rinat Jumabayev on the top board in both his matches. In the first match, India rode on Adhiban's win while Nihal Sarin, S.P. Sethuraman and K. Sasikiran

drew their games. The Indian team, led by Surya Sekhar Ganguly, faces Australia in Sunday's final. In the women's semifinal, India won both the matches comprehensively. -PTI

Honda's Nakagami clinches first pole

Alcaniz, Spain: Japanese rider

Takaaki Nakagami grabbed his maiden MotoGP pole position for Sunday's Teruel Grand Prix, while championship leader Joan Mir could only qualify in 12th place on Saturday. The 28-year-old Nakagami, who signed a new deal with Honda's satellite team earlier this week, posted a fastest lap of one minute and 46.882 seconds.

"It's an incredible feeling," he

"Everything is going pretty well so far. I'm very proud but the most important thing is tomorrow (Sunday)," he added. Italian Franco Morbidelli, who was quickest in practice, quali fied second, just 0.063 seconds slower, as Alex Rins rounded out the front row. — AFF

Live on TV

CRICKET

vs Chennai Super Kings from 3.30 pm; Rajasthan Royals vs Mumbai Sports 1, HD

IPL: Royal Challengers Bangalore

English Premier League: Arsenal vs

Leicester from 12.45 am (Monday) on Star Sports Select 2, HD

Portugese Grand Prix: Main Race

from 6.35 pm on Star Sports 3, 2 HD

Hell in A Cell: Bouts from 4.30 am

(Monday) on Sony Ten 1, HD

Varunaway victory

Chakravarthy's fiver demoslishes DC as KKR win big

Varun Chakravarthy dished out the best bowling performance of this IPL with a five-for after his batting colleagues stepped up in style as Kolkata Knight Riders beat Delhi Capitals by 59 runs here

on Saturday.
Promoted to open the innings, Nitish Rana revelled in his new role as he overcame a personal tragedy to smash a whirlwind 81 and shared a game-changing 115-run stand with Sunil Narine (64) to lift KKR to an imposing 194/6

after being put in to bat.
Chasing a stiff target,
Chakravarthy (5/20) and Pat Cummins (3/17) gave the Delhi Capitals bàtsmén a torrid time to restrict them to 135 for 9 in

Cummins gave a perfect start, dismissing both the openers Ajinkya Rahane (0) and in-form Shikhar Dhawan (6) in his first two overs.

Then Chakravarthy played the finisher's act in the backend of the innings to choke the DC run chase.

Coming on the back of a horror batting show against Royal Challengers Bangalore when they crumbled to 84/8, KKR ticked all the boxes to keep their playoff hopes alive by securing their sixth win, with

three matches left.
For the Capitals, this was their second successive loss but they still maintained the second spot. — PTI



SCORECARD

Kolkata Knight Riders: Shubman Gill c Patel b Nortje 9, Nitish Rana c Deshpande b Stoinis 81, Rahul Tripathi b Nortje 13, Dinesh Karthik c Pant b Rabada 3, Sunil Narine c Rahane b Rabada 64, Eoin Morgan c Rabada b Stoinis 17, Pat Cummins (not out) 0. Extras (LB-1, W-6) 7. **Total (for 6**

wickets, in 20 overs) 194.

FoW: 1-11, 2-35, 3-42, 4-157, 5-194, 6-194.

Bowling: Tushar Deshpande 4-0-40-0, Anrich Nortje 4-0-27-2, Kagiso Rabada 4-0-33-2, Axar Patel 1-0-7-0, Marcus Stoinis 4-0-41-2, Ravichandran Ashwin 3-0-45-0.

Delhi Capitals: Ajinkya Rahane Ibw b Cummins 0, Shikhar Dhawan b Cummins 6, Shreyas Iyer c Nagarkoti b Varun 47, Rishabh Pant c Shubman Gill b Varun 27, Shimron Hetmyer c Tripathi b Varun 10, Marcus Stoinis c Tripathi b Varun 6, Axar Patel b Varun 9, Kagiso Rabada c Tripathi b Cummins 9, Ravichandran Ashwin (not out) 14, Tushar Deshpande c Morgan b Ferguson 1, Anrich Nortje (not out) 0. Extras (LB-1, NB-2, W-3) 6. **Total (for 9 wickets in 20 overs) 135.** FoW: 1-0, 2-13, 3-76, 4-95, 5-95, 6-110, 7-112, 8-132, 9-135.

Bowling: Pat Cummins 4-0-17-3, M Prasidh Krishna 2-0-19-0, Kamlesh Nagarkoti 2-0-11-0, Lockie Ferguson 4-0-30-1, Sunil Narine 4-0-37-0, C.V. Varun 4-0-20-5.

IPL POINTS TABLE P W L N/R Pts NRR

| Mumbai Indians | 10 | 7 | 3 | 0 | 14 | +1.448 |
|-----------------------------|----|---|---|---|----|--------|
| Delhi Capitals | 11 | 7 | 4 | 0 | 14 | +0.434 |
| Royal Challengers Bangalore | 10 | 7 | 3 | 0 | 14 | +0.182 |
| Kolkata Knight Riders | 11 | 6 | 5 | 0 | 12 | -0.476 |
| Kings XI Punjab | 11 | 5 | 6 | 0 | 10 | -0.110 |
| Sunrisers Hyderabad | 11 | 4 | 7 | 0 | 8 | +0.035 |
| Rajasthan Royals | 11 | 4 | 7 | 0 | 8 | -0.620 |
| Chennai Super Kings | 11 | 3 | 8 | 0 | 6 | -0.733 |
| | | | | | | |

Tabulated as Played, Won, Lost, No Result, Points, Net Run Rate

RAJASTHAN FACE MIGHTY MUMBAI IN MUST-WIN TIE

Abu Dhabi, Oct. 24: Skipper Rohit Sharma's fitness would be a concern for defending champions MI as they aim to continue their dominant run, while a depleted RR would hope to stav afloat when the two teams clash in an IPL match here on Sunday.

MI roared back to form by crushing CSK by 10 wickets on Friday after their Super Over loss to the KXIP. RR, on the other hand, lost to the SRH by 8 wickets in their last game. MI eyes play-offs but the game is crucial for RR, who are languishing at seventh place and a loss would mean a step closer to elimination.

Questions remain on whether Rohit, who suffered a hamstring injury against CSK, will be available on Sunday for MI.

In the course of the season, RR have made constant changes at the top and that has hurt them

SRH meltdown hands Punjab a thrilling win

Arshdeep Singh and Chris Jordan took three wickets each as KXIP bowled out SRH for 114 and kept their play-off hopes alive in an IPL match here on Saturday.

Chasing 126, skipper David Warner (35) and Jonny Bairstow (19) added 56 runs for the opening wicket partnership but after that the Sunrisers failed to produce any solid partern-ship as they kept losing wickets at regular intervals. All the five bowlers scalped wickets for KXIP with Mohammed Shami, M. Ashwin and Ravi Tandon taking one apiece.

Earlier, Sunrisers bowlers also produced a clinical performance to restrict Kings XI Punjab to a modest 126 for 7. SRH bowlers responded impressively to their skipper Warner's decision to field first, picking

SCORECARD

Kings XI Punjab Innings: KL Rahul b Rashid Khan 27, Mandeep c Rashid Khan b Sandeep Sharma 17, Chris Gayle c Warner b Holder 20, Nicholas Pooran not out 32, Glenn Maxwell c Warner b Sandeep Sharma 12, Deepak Hooda st Bairstow b Rashid Khan O, Chris Jordan c Ahmed b Holder 7, Murugan Ashwin run out 4, Ravi Bishnoi not out 0. Extras (B-1, LB-1, W-5) 7. **Total (for 7 wickets in 20 overs) 126.**

FoW: 1-37, 2-66, 3-66, 4-85, 5-88, 6-105, 7-110. Bowling: Sandeep Sharma 4-0-29-2, Khaleel Ahmed 4-0-31-0, Jason Holder 4-0-27-2, Rashid Khan 4-0-14-2, T. Natarajan 4-0-

Sunrisers Hyderabad: D. Warner c Rahul b R. Bishnoi 35, J. Bairstow b M. Ashwin 19, M. Pandey c J. Suchith b Jordan 15, A. Samad c Jordan b M. Shami 7, V. Shankar c Rahul b Arshdeep 26, J. Holder c Mandeep b Jordan 5, P. Garg c Jordan b Arshdeep 3, Rashid Khan c Poorab v Jordan 0, Sandeep c M. Ashwin b Arshdeep 0, T. Natarajan not out 0, K. Ahmed run out O. Extras (W-4) 4. Total (all out in 19.5 overs) 114 FoW: 1-56, 2-58, 3-67, 4-100, 5-110, 6-112, 7-112, 8-114, 9-114, 10-

Bowling: Mohammed Shami 4-0-34-1, Arshdeep Singh 3.5-0-23-3, M. Ashwin 4-0-27-1, R. Bishnoi 4-0-13-1, Jordan 4-0-17-3.

wickets at regular interinnings. KXIP skipper K.L. Rahul (27), Mandeep Singh (17) and Chris Gayle (20) all got starts but their innings never got going as they failed to grab the momentum.

SRH perfectly planned Gayle's dismissal who came at one down. They kept the big-hitting batsman quiet for a long time, consistently bowling wide of the off stump and in the process frustrated him. -PTI

EMBATTLED CSK TAKE ON RCB IN SEARCH OF PRIDE

Dubai. Oct. 24: Their house in complete disarray after eight defeats from 11 outings, CSK will look to give their forgettable campaign a sem-blance of respectability when they take form RCB in the IPL here on Sunday.

The three-time IPL winners have struggled in all departments of the game. leading to heavy criticism towards skipper MS Dhoni for not showing enough faith in the youngsters.

They run into a RCB squad which has grown in confidence as the tournament has progressed. Virat Kohli and his men are placed third on the points table with 14 points, the same as the table toppers MI and DC.

They will aim to grab the two points on offer, while also trying to improve their net runrate, which could play a vital role in deciding the top two teams heading to the playoffs.

Barca bashed up in Clasico

Barcelona, Oct. 24: Real Madrid averted a crisis in the best possible way on beating Barcelona 3-1 in the first empty Clasico, landing an early blow in La Liga's title

Barca had the chance to inflict a third consecutive defeat on their rivals and increase the pressure on Zinedine Zidane. Instead, Madrid's win earns them a six-point lead

over the Catalans, having played one game more.

Sergio Ramos' penalty and a late Luka Modric goal finished off Barcelona after Federico Valverde and Ansu Fati had traded early strikes in a frantic game that defied those expecting further evidence of two heavyweights in decline.

Barcelona might feel hard done by, especially as Ramos' penalty was awarded after a check by VAR and a hugely exaggerated fall by Madrid's captain after Clement Lenglet tugged his shirt.

But aside from an impressive spell in the first half, when an inspired Lionel Messi threatened to win the game on his own, Madrid were dominant for longer spells and pulled

This Koeman's first Clasico as Barcelona coach and some of the pressure Zidane would have felt from a loss is now transferred to the Dutchman, who has over-seen only three wins from his first six games in

Barcelona face Juventus on Wednesday in the Champions League, without the suspended Gerard

Every Barca set-back is now seen through the lens of Messi's future too. The Argentinian, who failed in his attempt to leave last summer, has still to score from open play this season. Mundo Deportivo had declared the match "The least Clasico of Clasicos"

on its front page on

Saturday morning. The coronavirus pandemic meant the biggest football stadium in Europe was silent for the game that La Liga president Javier Tebas had claimed is "still the biggest football match

in the world". In the previous week, Real had lost to Shakhtar Donestsk and newly promoted Cadiz, while Barca were beaten by Getafe last weekend.



Lionel Messi (centre) of Barcelona vies for the ball with Real Madrid players Raphael Varane and Nacho (right) during their Spanish League 'El Clasico' match at Camp Nou in Barcelona on Saturday.

Hami on pole for record win bid

(Portugal), Oct. 24: Lewis Hamilton claimed a thrilling lastgasp pole position on Saturday to give him the perfect launchpad for his bid to win a record 92nd in Sunday's Portuguese Grand Prix.

In denying his Mercedes teammate Valtteri Bottas in the final seconds of qualifying Hamilton moved to within three of his 100th career pole.

The six-time champion, who had trailed the Finn in all three practice sessions and in the two opening parts of qualifying, reeled off a stunning best lap in one minute and 16.652 seconds at the new Algarve International Circuit.

It was enough to outpace the Finn by 0.102 seconds

and, as so often this year, to deliver heartbreak again after the pair had swapped from soft to medium tyres for their final runs. Hamilton had gone out

ahead of Bottas for the final session and took advantage by taking two flying laps, the second completed after the chequered flag fell producing his clincher.

Hamilton's ninth pole of the season sets him up to move clear of Michael Schumacher's 14-year-old equalled in the Eifel Grand Prix at Nurburgring last

time out. Max Verstappen took third for Red Bull ahead of Ferrari's Charles Leclerc and Sergio Perez of Racing

Milestone



Trainees and guests pose at the conclusion of a three-day Dussehra tennis camp which coincided with Academia Sports Village's fifth anniversary celebrations at the Hyderabad Polo and Riding Club on Saturday.

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IPL MID-TOURNAMENT SUMMARY, STANDINGS

| TEAMS | RCB | | CSK | | DC | | | SRH | | | KKR | | | MI | | | KXIP | | | RR | | | | | |
|----------|-------|--------|-----|--------|--------|-------|-------|--------|----|-------|--------|------------|----|--------|-----------|----|--------|----|----|--------|----|----|--------|-------------|--|
| | М | Date | Pt | M | Date | Pt | M | Date | Pt | M | Date | Pt | M | Date | Pt | M | Date | Pt | M | Date | Pt | M | Date | Pt | |
| RCB | | | | 25 | 10-Oct | 0 | 19 | 05-Oct | 2 | 3 | 21-Sep | 0 | 28 | 12-Oct | 0 | 10 | 28-Sep | 0 | 6 | 24-Sep | 2 | 15 | 03-Oct | 0 | |
| KCD | | | | 44 | 25-Oct | | 55 | 02-Nov | | 52 | 31-Oct | | 39 | 21-Oct | 0 | 48 | 28-Oct | | 31 | 15-Oct | 2 | 33 | 17-Oct | 0 | |
| CSK | 25 | 10-Oct | 2 | | | | 7 | 25-Sep | 2 | 14 | 02-Oct | 2 | 21 | 07-Oct | 2 | 1 | 19-Sep | 0 | 18 | 04-Oct | 0 | 4 | 22-Sep | 2 | |
| CSK | 44 | 25-Oct | | | | | 34 | 17-Oct | 2 | 29 | 13-Oct | 0 | 49 | 29-Oct | | 41 | 23-Oct | 2 | 53 | 01-Nov | | 37 | 19-Oct | 2 | |
| DC | 19 | 05-Oct | 0 | 7 | 25-Sep | 0 | | | | 11 | 29-Sep | 2 | 16 | 03-Oct | 0 | 27 | 11-Oct | 2 | 2 | 20-Sep | 0 | 23 | 09-Oct | 0 | |
| S | 55 | 02-Nov | | 34 | 17-Oct | 0 | | | | 47 | 27-Oct | 2010000000 | 42 | 24-Oct | 2 | 51 | 31-Oct | | 38 | 20-Oct | 2 | 30 | 14-Oct | 0 | |
| SRH | 3 | 21-Sep | 2 | 14 | 02-Oct | 0 | 11 | 29-Sep | 0 | | | | 8 | 26-Sep | 2 | 17 | 04-Oct | 2 | 22 | 08-Oct | 0 | 26 | 11-Oct | 2 | |
| JAH | 52 | 31-Oct | | 29 | 13-Oct | 2 | 47 | 27-Oct | | | | | 35 | 18-Oct | 2 | 56 | 03-Nov | | 43 | 24-Oct | 2 | 40 | 22-Oct | 0 | |
| KKR | 28 | 12-Oct | 2 | 21 | 07-Oct | 0 | 16 | 03-Oct | 2 | 8 | 26-Sep | 0 | | | | 5 | 23-Sep | 2 | 24 | 10-Oct | 0 | 12 | 30-Sep | 0 | |
| INN | 39 | 21-Oct | 2 | 49 | 29-Oct | | 42 | 24-Oct | 0 | 35 | 18-Oct | 0 | | | | 32 | 16-Oct | 2 | 46 | 26-Oct | | 54 | 01-Nov | | |
| MI | 10 | 28-Sep | 2 | 1 | 19-Sep | 2 | 27 | 11-Oct | 0 | 17 | 04-Oct | 0 | 5 | 23-Sep | 0 | | | | 13 | 01-Oct | 0 | 20 | 06-Oct | 0 | |
| 100 | 48 | 28-Oct | | 41 | 23-Oct | 0 | 51 | 31-Oct | | 56 | 03-Nov | 500000 | 32 | 16-Oct | 0 | | | | 36 | 18-Oct | 2 | 45 | 27-Oct | eteres: | |
| KXIP | 6 | 24-Sep | 0 | 18 | 04-Oct | 2 | 2 | 20-Sep | 2 | 22 | 08-Oct | 2 | 24 | 10-Oct | 2 | 13 | 01-Oct | 2 | | | | 9 | 27-Sep | 2 | |
| KAIF | 31 | 15-Oct | 0 | 53 | 01-Nov | 00000 | 38 | 20-Oct | 0 | 43 | 24-Oct | 0 | 46 | 26-Oct | - Was 500 | 36 | 18-Oct | 0 | | | | 50 | 30-Oct | 1200 (1000) | |
| RR | 15 | 03-Oct | 2 | 4 | 22-Sep | 0 | 23 | 09-Oct | 2 | 26 | 11-Oct | 0 | 12 | 30-Sep | 2 | 20 | 06-Oct | 2 | 9 | 27-Sep | 0 | | | | |
| | 33 | 17-Oct | 2 | 37 | 19-Oct | 0 | 30 | 14-Oct | 2 | 40 | 22-Oct | 2 | 54 | 01-Nov | | 45 | 25-Oct | | 50 | 30-Oct | | | | | |
| TOTAL | | | 14 | | | 6 | | | 14 | | | 8 | | | 12 | | | 14 | | | 10 | | | 8 | |
| Run Rate | 0.182 | | | -0.733 | | | 0.434 | | | 0.029 | | | | -0.476 | | | 1.448 | | | -0.103 | | | -0.62 | | |

This table (to be read vertically) encapsulates the performances of teams against each opponent and lists out the remaining matches. (Key: M = match number. Pt = points) Conceptualised and contributed by Deccan Chronicle reader Yawar Ali