

# DECCAN Chronicle

THE LARGEST CIRCULATED ENGLISH DAILY IN SOUTH INDIA

CHENNAI | SATURDAY 14 | NOVEMBER 2020

## WEATHER

Max: 31°C  
Min: 25°C  
Rainfall: 1 mm

## ASTROGUIDE

**Sarvari:** Aippasi 29  
**Tithi:** Amavasi  
**Star:** Swathi  
**Rahukalam:**  
9 am to 10.30 am  
**Yamagandam:**  
1.30 pm to 3 pm  
**PRAYERS**  
**Fajar:** 4.52 am  
**Zohar:** 11.58 am  
**Asar:** 3.12 pm  
**Maghrib:** 5.41 pm  
**Isha:** 6.54 pm  
**SUNSET TODAY** 5.40 PM  
**SUNRISE TOMORROW** 6.08 AM

**Deccan Chronicle** wishes all its readers a **Happy Deepavali**. The offices and press of **Deccan Chronicle** will remain closed on Saturday (November 14). There will be no edition on Sunday (November 15).

## COUNTER POINT



Not dry fruits, our company has given a very expensive gift pack to the managers... one kg onions!

## CITY | 2

**Disobeying IAS officers will be imprisoned: HC**



**YUSUF JAMEEL | DC**  
**with agency inputs**  
SRINAGAR, NOV. 13

The hostility between Indian and Pakistani troops along the Line of Control (LoC) flared-up again on Friday, leaving at least 10 persons, including three Indian soldiers, a BSF official and six civilians, dead and about two dozen others injured.

The Indian Army accused the Pakistani troops of "deliberately" targeting the civilians areas with mortars and other weapons and claimed that it has, in retaliation to "unprovoked ceasefire violations" in multiple sectors along the LoC, caused substantial damage



The Indian Army destroyed a large number of Pakistan Army bunkers, fuel dumps and launchpads Friday. — ANI

to Pakistan Army's infrastructure besides inflicting casualties among its men. "Several ammunition dumps, FOL dumps and multiple terrorist launchpads across the LoC have

been damaged," it said. Late Friday evening, Pakistan's Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) in a statement admitted that one Pakistani soldier was killed and five others were

## WORLD | 7

**Obama recalls Rahul as a 'student eager to impress'**



injured in the Indian firing and shelling. It, however, also said that four civilians were also killed and 12 others injured in what it termed as "deliberate attempt" by the Indian Army to target civilian population in PoK.

Defence spokesman Colonel Rajesh Kalra said here that suspicious movement was observed by the Indian troops at the forward posts along the LoC's Keran sector early Friday but the "suspected infiltration bid was foiled by alert troops".

"This was accompanied by initiation of an unprovoked ceasefire violation (CFV) by Pakistan along the LoC in Keran sector by

firing mortars and other weapons. A befitting response is being given".

"Three Indian Army soldiers have been killed in action (KIA) and three soldiers injured. The nation salutes their supreme sacrifice," Colonel Kalra said.

The Army, BSF and police sources said that three jawans of the Army's 59 MR and a Border Security Force (BSF) official and at least four civilians, including a woman, were killed and three soldiers and four civilians injured in the Pakistani firing and shelling in Hajipir and Kamalkote sectors and adjoining areas of Uri belt in Baramulla. ■ P5

## SPORT | 8

**IPL is ready for expansion: David**



## Temple consecration allowed from Nov. 16

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
CHENNAI, NOV. 13

The Tamil Nadu government on Friday announced that it has lifted the ban on consecration of temples, imposed on March 25 as part of the national lockdown declared to contain the spread of pandemic Covid 19, with effect from November 16.

Such ceremonies can now be performed but the number of people attending them should be limited to 100, a government release said here.

All the participants in the rituals should follow the Covid-19 protocols which included wearing of face masks, maintain-

ing social distancing and use of sanitisers.

The government has following the guidelines issued by the Union government on lockdown and the relaxations, the government said.

Places of worship have already been opened and functioning in the state in accordance with existing health rules, but dedication ceremonies after completion of new buildings in several places could not be performed due to the restrictions.

The government took the decision to ease the norms responding to petitions seeking relaxations to conduct temple consecrations, it said.

## WHO to set up traditional medicine centre in India

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
**with agency inputs**  
CHENNAI, NOV. 13

The World Health Organisation (WHO) will set up a Global Centre for Traditional Medicine in India to strengthen the evidence, research, training and awareness of traditional and complementary medicine

globally.

The announcement was made by WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus at virtual event in which Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated two future-ready Ayurveda institutions in Jaipur and Jamnagar to the nation to mark the 5th Ayurveda Day. ■ P5

## Triple murder accused chased down in Maha

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
CHENNAI, NOV. 13

The Chennai police on Friday arrested three persons from Maharashtra's Solapur district in connection with the triple murder on Wednesday night in the city's Sowcarpet area after an intense car chase.

The police suspect family feud to be the reason behind the murder of Dileep Thalil Chand, 74, who ran a finance firm, his wife Pushpa Bai, 70, and their son, Sheetal Jain, 40, natives of

Rajasthan. They were found dead on the first floor of their three-storey residential apartment on Vinayaga Maestri Street at Sowcarpet.

One of the accused, Kailash (32), is the brother in law of Sheetal. The others are Rabinathanthkar (25) and Vijay Uttam Kamal (28).

According to the police, Kailash confessed to killing his brother-in-law and the elderly couple with the guns he had brought from his native village near Pune after an

altercation with the deceased on the alimony Sheetal was to pay his estranged wife Jayamala.

The divorce petition of Sheetal and Jayamala, who lives in Pune with her two children, is pending at the family court in Chennai. Both sides have filed complaints against each other in Chennai and Pune following frequent quarrels between the families.

Seethal allegedly refused to give her the alimony and property she had demanded. ■ P4

## Former HC judge to inquire into charges against Anna varsity V-C

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
CHENNAI, NOV. 13

The state government on Friday ordered an inquiry against Anna University Vice-Chancellor M.K. Surappa following the receipt of a rash of complaints of scams related to appointments, misuse of power

and malpractices.

The inquiry will be conducted by former Madras High Court judge P. Kalaiarasan, who will submit his report in three months, according to a government order. The charges included the appointment of Dr Surappa's daughter in the university. ■ P4

QUALITY • TRUST  
VASANTH & CO.

VASANTH & CO.

# India's No.1 Dealer

# VASANTH & CO

## DIWALI SPECIAL DISCOUNT SALE

### Combo Offer

LED TV + Refrigerator +  
Washing Machine + Stabilizer + Mixie +  
Wet Grinder + 2 Burner Glass  
Top Gas Stove + Iron Box + Tawa

₹67955  
Special Price

₹39999 Only

### WIN ATTRACTIVE PRIZES

10 Scooty 25 LED TV 5 Car 25 Washing Machine 25 Fridge

10 Laptop 20 TAB 25 Mobile 50 Induction Stove 50 Grinder 50 Mixie 50 Gas Stove 50 Iron Box 50 Table Fan

### MOBILE, TAB & LAPTOPS @ LOWEST PRICE

#### ASSURED GIFT

ON PURCHASE OF  
MOBILE, TAB & LAPTOP  
FOR ₹8000 & ABOVE

vivo	oppo	SAMSUNG
V 20 EMI	RENO 3 PRO EMI	A 51 EMI
₹1666	₹1444	₹1533
Y 50 EMI	F17 PRO EMI	A 31 EMI
₹1133	₹1277	₹1333
Y 30 EMI	A 53 EMI	A 21s EMI
₹1399	₹1299	₹967

### LOWEST PRICE GUARANTEED

32" (81.28 cm) LED TV EMI ₹1083	253 litres Frost Free Refrigerator EMI ₹990	1.5 Ton 3 Star Inverter AC EMI ₹1120	6.0 Kg Front Loading Washing Machine EMI ₹2249
------------------------------------	--	---	---

Mixie + 3 Ltrs Pressure Cooker  
Price ₹3598  
Special Price ₹1999

Induction Stove + 3 Ltrs Alu. Cooker + Dinner Set  
Price ₹6560  
Special Price ₹2999

Combo Offer  
Grinder + Mixie + 3 Ltrs Pressure Cooker + Iron Box + SS Water Bottle  
Price ₹10287  
Special Price ₹4999

WATER HEATER AT LOWEST PRICE  
15 Ltr. Water Heater ABS Body 5 Star  
Price ₹9600  
Special Price ₹5555

### VASANTH & CO EXCLUSIVE OFFER

**kotak**  
Kotak Mahindra Bank  
INSTANT CASH BACK  
(upto ₹2000)

**HDFC FIRST BANK**  
1 EMI CASH BACK  
(upto ₹2000)

### VARIETY OF ATTRACTIVE EMI OPTIONS

**HDB FINISERV**  
₹70000 worth E-VOUCHER  
(On Purchase of EMI)

**SAJAJ FINISERV**  
₹10000 WORTH CASH VOUCHER  
(Select Branches only)

**HDFC FIRST BANK**  
10% CASH BACK  
(Max ₹3000\*)

**SAJAJ FINISERV**  
UPTO 5% CASH BACK  
(Max ₹2000\*)

**SAJAJ FINISERV**  
Through MY SAMSUNG MY COMBO  
32" Smart LED TV + DC Refrigerator + TL Washing Machine + Audio System (gas models)  
₹3390

**SAJAJ FINISERV**  
Get upto ₹6000 discount on Next Purchase + 5% cash back

**RBL BANK**  
Super Credit Card holders  
Interest Free EMI + Cash Back\*  
Through Debit / Credit Cards

**FEDERAL BANK**  
Up to 5% CASH BACK  
(Through Debit Card EMI Customers)

### BUY ANY PRODUCT GET

**2airtel** HD DTH + 3 MONTH SUBSCRIPTION  
₹1000 only

**BUY ANY PRODUCT GET**  
**TATA** HD DTH + 6 MONTH SUBSCRIPTION  
₹1600 only

AVAILABLE GIFT VOUCHER & E-VOUCHERS FOR CORPORATES

Call 93335 93335

Call 93335 93335

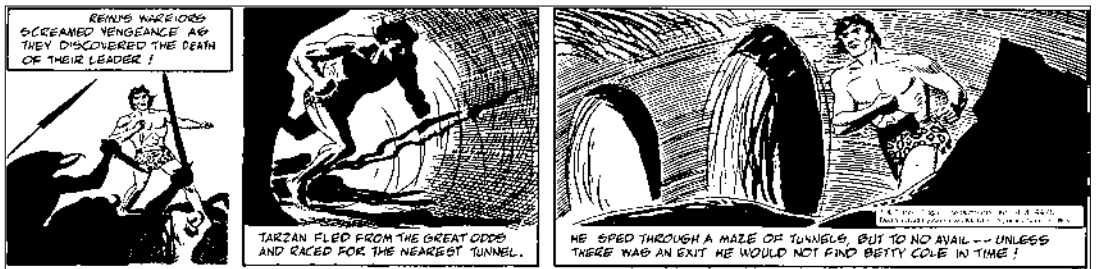
f /Vasanthandco

/Vasanthandco\_in

/Vasanthandco\_in

www.vasanthandco.in







**THIS FESTIVE SEASON  
ENJOY NON-STOP OFFERS,  
NON-STOP HAPPINESS.**

*Jo apnon se kare pyaar, woh  
Prestige se kaise kare inkaar.*

[illegible]



## OTHER STORIES

## 1st goods train from WB chugs to Tiruvarur dist

R VALAYAPATHY | DC MANNARGUDI, NOV. 13

Traders, lorry owners and loadmen, all gave a rousing reception to the first good train that arrived at Mannargudi in Tiruvarur district from West Bengal, on Friday, by performing special poojas.

It may be recalled that the Union Railway ministry announced that goods traffic would commence from Mannargudi railway station during August this year.

As per the statement, the first good train with 33 wagons arrived at Mannargudi railway station on Friday.

The Traders, lorry owners and load men thanked the Centre and the State governments for fulfilling their long-pending demands, which they said, they deemed it as Deepavali gift for them from the Union railway ministry.

## Cent per cent honest in my dealings, says VC

FROM P1

As per the terms of reference, Justice Kalaiahasan will enquire into the functioning of the university, temporary appointments and recruitments made in the academic and administrative sides, the management of finances, the contracts and agreements signed by Dr Surappa during his tenure and lapse or abuse of position by persons connected with the vice chancellor.

When asked about the enquiry against him, Dr Surappa said he was surprised by the move and that he had not received an intimation on it. He said he was ready to face any enquiry as he had been cent per cent honest in this dealings. On the specific charge of his giving a job for this daughter in the university, he said she was working in the IIT and that he appointed her only on a honorary basis as there was a requirement. He alleged that he had earlier received threats from persons for not complying with their requests for transfers. Meanwhile, the Anna University Teachers Association demanded the withdrawal of the GO on the inquiry to 'avoid irreparable damage to the world-class institution and allow the staff and students to work and study in peace.'

## 3 Rajasthan men held for creating cops' fake FB accts

DC CORRESPONDENT CHENNAI, NOV. 13

Chennai Crime Branch arrested three men for creating fictitious Facebook accounts in the names of police officers in the state and cheated people on their friends' list.

The arrested were identified as Ravinder Kumar, Mushtaqin Khan, Shakil Khan, natives of Rajasthan.

The gang allegedly creat-

Based on a complaint from a few police officers, the Cyber Crime Police have taken up the investigation. They had zeroed in on a gang operating from Bharatpur district

ed fake Facebook accounts in the names of City Police Commissioner Mahesh Kumar Aggarwal, Additional Commissioner of Police R. Dhinakaran, a handful of police officers

in the rank of Additional Director General of Police and Assistant Commissioners. The fraudsters then sought money from the people on their friends' list, citing emergencies.

Based on a complaint from a few police officers, the Cyber Crime Police have taken up the investigation.

They had zeroed in on a gang operating from Bharatpur district. The

CCB team went there and arrested the gang.

Explaining the modus operandi of the fraudsters, a police officer said they copied photos from the original Facebook accounts and then created fake ones. They then contacted the acquaintances of the original account holder through private messaging and requested money. They targeted police officers and others too, said the officer.

## Alimony quarrel resulted in triple murder

FROM P1

The police said Jayamala and four of her associates entered the house of her husband and negotiated the alimony settlement with them. A heated quarrel ensued, resulting in the visitors shooting the three family members.

Jayamala and her associates soon escaped from the spot, the police said.

The police which started the investigation after the couple's daughter reported to the Elephant Gate police that her parents and brother were shot dead, found that the suspects had entered the house in PPE suits and fled in a car.

Chennai police commissioner Mahesh Kumar Aggarwal said five special teams were formed to investigate the case and nab the accused.

DC CORRESPONDENT CHENNAI, NOV. 13

Governor Banwarilal Purohit led the state in greeting the people a happy Deepavali, the festival of lights that signifies the triumph of hope over despair, good over evil and light over darkness.

"On this auspicious and joyous occasion, I extend my

warm greetings and good wishes to the people of Tamil Nadu," said the Governor, saying that the festival inspired people to move from darkness towards light, from ignorance towards wisdom and from melancholy towards bliss.

Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami said the festival marked the rule of the righteous and the defeat of arrogance and wished the people all the best.

The AIADMK party's greetings from coordina-



People buying crackers at Island Grounds ahead of Deepavali.

— DC

tor O. Panneerselvam and joint coordinator Palaniswami said the people of the State would destroy evil forces in the next few months and pave the way for the continuation of the AIADMK rule, thus keeping alive the lights lit during the festival.

They said hope had come

for the people of the world who had been living in the grip of fear due to the pandemic as glad tidings had come on the development of a powerful vaccine, providing relief and confidence.

Deepavali also underlines the upholding of fair play by vanquishing the selfish and demonic forces

that want to rule, they said, adding that Naragasura was slayed by Thirumal with the help of Goddess Mahalakshmi.

TNCC president K. S. Alagiri wished the people on behalf of the party, saying that the festival is based on the idea of eliminating evil and upholding the good.

Pointing out that it is celebrated by some people all over the world irrespective of caste and religious divides, Alagiri said that though the mythical Naragasura had been slayed, people were still caught in the midst of modern Naragasuras.

'Let's pledge to redeem the happiness for the people on this day,' he said. PMK founder S Ramadoss, calling Deepavali a festival of sparklers, said mankind needed such festivities to foster human relationships with family members and friends and also to socialise.

The Prince of Arcot, Nawab Mohammed Abdul Ali, wished his Hindu brethren a very happy and prosperous Deepavali, and said may the festival of lights brightens their homes with health, happiness, prosperity and long life. Deepavali symbolizes the triumph of good over evil and right over wrong.

## Four lakh travel in Deepavali special buses

DC CORRESPONDENT CHENNAI, NOV. 13

Ahead of Deepavali, around four lakh passengers have travelled from Chennai to other districts, in close to 8,000 buses operated by the govern-

ment from November 11 to 13, said transport minister M.R Vijayabhaskar in an official press statement.

To help passengers get to their native places for the festival, a total of 14,757 buses were operated over

93,625 passengers had made bookings in advance and this 37,432 were from Chennai and 56,193 from other districts. This has brought in a revenue of over Rs. Four crore and forty eight lakhs from the state-run transport corpo-

ration.

The minister had announced that passengers could call 9445014450 and 9445014436 for complaints and information pertaining to buses.

The transport depart-

ment has also made arrangements to operate 16,026 buses for people to return to Chennai and other places within the state for four days. In a press release, the transport department said it would be operating 11,416

buses (including 3,416 special buses) for the benefit of commuters arriving from various parts of the state and destined to Chennai and 4,610 special buses to be operated between important destinations.

## It's time to hail 'soorars'

SOORARAI POTTRU

ANUPAMA SUBRAMANIAN

CAST: SURIYA, APARNA BALAMURALI, MOHAN BABU, PRAESH RAWAL, URVASHI, KARUNAS

DIRECTION: SUDHA KONGARA

RATING: \*\*\*\*1/2 - 4 AND A HALF STARS

Soorairai Pottru marks superstar Suriya's OTT debut in style. The movie is a slightly fictionalized account of the book Simply Fly written by businessman G.R. Gopinath, the founder of low-cost airline Air Deccan. And helming the film with her solid writing is Sudha Kongara, who had collaborated with the powerhouse performer Suriya to portray the lead protagonist Nedumaaran Rajangam aka Maara. Both the 'Soorars' (warriors) have given a 'mass and class' feast, a combo which is a rarity for this Deepavali.

'Speed' seems to be the USP of SP. The film starts with a high-octane scene where we see Che aka Chaitanya in a tense moment as he struggles to land a plane even as



his friend Maara communicates all the necessary details to land nearby. This thrilling momentum is carried forward and sets the tone for the remainder of the movie.

SP revolves around Maara, son of a schoolteacher (Poo Ramu) belonging to a small town Sholavandhan near Madurai. While his dad is an ideologist who always petitions for a change, Maara is sort of unorthodox. As an air force captain, keeping away the class and caste barriers, Maara dreams of launching a successful low-cost airline company that's affordable for people from the bottom end of the economic spectrum. With corporate monsters in the aviation industry like Paresw Goswami (Parel Rawal), crooked politicians

and corrupt bureaucrats around, does Maara realize his dreams and come out triumphant?

Suriya as the obsessed businessman in pursuit of his dreams has lived the character full and through. There's no more Suriya and only Maara after a while. His eyes speak volumes and it looks as if essaying Maara is a 'penance' for Suriya. After a point, Maara's portrayal is such that you are drawn into the screen and begin to travel along with him, rooting at each challenge and cheering every achievement.

Aparna Balamurali in a substantial role as Bommi aka Sundari plays effective foil to Suriya. We see Mani Ratnam's influence in his protégé Sudha's writing

when it comes to the character arc of the female lead. Sundari is soft yet fierce and is not the normal rural girl you come across. She appears slightly eccentric but she is not and stands up for her own rights - chasing her dreams of owning a bakery. There's subtle romance and the chemistry between the lead pair is enjoyable.

Urvashi as Suriya's mother, Kaali Venkat, Karunas, Poo Ramu, and Vivek Prasanna in supporting roles are adequate. Mohan Babu's character did not make the right impact. Also, having handpicked actors even for minuscule roles, Sudha's choice of the baddies especially the main antagonist Paresw Rawal who looks like a caricature comes as a surprise. Sudha has also taken a few cinematic liberties; nevertheless, the climax is inspiring and gratifying with Suriya nailing it with his emotional act.

On the technical front, G.V. Prakash's BGM and songs are terrific and elevates the mood of the film. Cinematographer Nikesh Bommi's raw and rustic color tones are equally impressive. So is the editing. On the whole, a film that is not to be missed at any 'cost'!



RPF cops create Deepavali awareness to passengers.

— DC

## Rain dampens festive spirit in Nilgiris district

B. RAVICHANDRAN | DC OOTY, NOV. 13

Rains played spoilsport here in the hills here on Friday evening, even as last hour shoppers scampered out for their purchases to celebrate the festival of lights.

Days of sunshine which continued here over the past couple of weeks brought hope that the Deepavali celebrations

this year would be warm, since the wee hours of Friday, intermittent showers began to lash the region.

An overcast sky, drizzle with occasional downpour, made up the weather profile on the eve of Deepavali. The downpour was heavy in the evening hours resulting in outages for sometime after sunset.

While crackers shops

here opened only on Thursday, the last hour trade on Friday was disappointing. Same was the situation in textiles, grocery and in other shops.

While the weathermen forecast rains for the next couple of days, disaster management teams here are in a state of alert to respond to any emergency that may arise due to heavy rains.

## Air passenger traffic goes up in Chennai on Deepavali eve

P.A JEBARAJ | DC CHENNAI, NOV. 13

Despite increased airfares ahead of Deepavali, the passenger traffic in Chennai airport went up on November 13.

According to the airport sources, since the flight services resumed after they were banned on March 25 owing to the pandemic, the Chennai airport on Friday, a day before Deepavali, saw a maximum number of travellers. Despite a surge in the airfares, high demand for airlines forced authorities to operate 200 flights, 100 incoming and 100 outgoing flights on Thursday and Friday. Airport sources said on Friday that the airport saw 20,500 passengers. In all, 11,500 passengers travelled in 100 flights from Chennai to Bengaluru, Kolkata, Madurai, Tiruchy, Coimbatore, Delhi, Hyderabad. Over 9,000 passengers travelled to Chennai from other states and districts.

## 311 recruits attested to Army in Wellington

B. RAVICHANDRAN | DC OOTY, NOV. 13

As many as 311 recruits were attested to the Indian army at a colourful, glittering parade held at the army centre in Wellington, on Friday morning.

The Madras Regiment is the oldest infantry regiment of the Indian army with its regimental centre located in Wellington near here. Draped with colours and patriotic fervor 311 recruits were attested to the Indian army at a grand passing out parade held at the historic drill

ground of Shrinagesh Barracks at the MRC, after successful completion of a year-long basic and advanced tough and challenging military training.

The parade was reviewed by Brig Rajeshwar Singh, Commandant, MRC at Wellington, carried out with appropriate social distancing in compliance with the highest traditions of Indian army. Addressing the parade, Brig Rajeshwar Singh congratulated the recruits and appreciated the instructors and staff for achieving very high standards of training.

B. VIJAYALAKSHMI | DC CHENNAI, NOV. 13

Deepavali malars (special editions brought out by Tamil magazines) have been the flavour of book lovers for decades. Braving all odds amid this pandemic, magazines have released this bouquet with carefully selected special articles on a wide range of subjects. Here is a brief review of two malars:

Amuthasurabhi: One of the few magazines which



continues to maintain the tradition of Deepavali malars. Amuthasurabhi's special edition is a highly readable combo of articles, short stories and photos.

The cover Sita Kalyanam by artist S. G. Baraskar is impressive and the cover story by magazine editor Tiruppur Krishnan makes interesting reading. Articles on Na Parathasarathy and his iconic novel Kurinji Malar, well-known authors Ja Ra Sundaresan aka Bhakkiyam Ramasami and Lakshmi, Deepavali reminiscences by Dharini Komal and writers sharing their thoughts

about their role models are among those that grab readers' attention. Kollywood in the grip of corona, a comprehensive story on veteran actor late K. B. Sundarambal and an article on film music with special reference to eminent lyricist late Kannadasan add to cinema quotient of the malar. R. Chitra's memories of 'Master' C.P. Seshadri, a jambavan with The Indian Express, who had mentored several journalists decades ago, are truly inspiring.

Fiction lovers will go for short stories by Jothiratha Girija, S. Sankaranarayana, Sivasankari, Vaasanthi, Girija Raghavan and T. V. Radhakrishnan. 'Click' Ravi's interview with Maharashtra born Chennai artist S. G. Baraskar traces his passion for the art. Peppered with travelogues, poems and jokes the malar has something for everyone.

Gopura Darisanam: The Deepavali edition of Gopura Darisanam is high in spiri-

tual content. The cover story Yasodha Kannan is by Tiruppur Krishnan. Kanchi Maha Periyava's 'kanakadara' discourse is bound to lift one's spirits during these Covid times. Articles on temple trees, Kripananda Variyar, ancient coins, Sudarma, only magazine in Sanskrit, joint family system and illustrious play-back singer P. Susheela add variety to the malar. Artist Veda's sketches enhance the beauty of the special edition.



## SHORT TAKES

RAHUL LACKED  
APTITUDE,  
PASSION: OBAMA

New York, Nov. 13: Former US president Barack Obama says Congress leader Rahul Gandhi has a “nervous, unformed quality” about him like a student eager to impress the teacher but lacking aptitude and passion to “master the subject.”

The New York Times reviewed Mr Obama's memoir 'A Promised Land', in which among other issues, the first Black American President has talked about political leaders from around the world.

On Mr Gandhi, Obama says he has “a nervous, unformed quality about him, as if he were a student who'd done the coursework and was eager to impress the teacher but deep down lacked either the aptitude or the passion to master the subject,” according to The New York Times review.

Congress president Sonia Gandhi also appear to find mention in the memoir. “We are told of the handsomeness of men like Charlie Crist and Rahm Emanuel, but not the beauty of women, except for one or two instances, as in the case of Sonia Gandhi.” the review quoted. PTI

KUNAL KAMRA  
REFUSES TO  
SAY SORRY

New Delhi, Nov. 13: A petition was on Friday filed in the Supreme Court seeking initiation of criminal contempt proceedings against stand-up comic artist Kunal Kamra for his alleged scandalous tweets against the apex court.

The plea was filed a day after Attorney General K.K. Venugopal granted consent for initiation of criminal contempt proceedings against Kamra, saying the tweets are in bad taste and it is time that people understand that attacking the apex court brazenly will attract punishment under the Contempt of Courts Act, 1972.

The consent of either the Attorney General or the Solicitor General is necessary, under section 15 of the Contempt of Courts Act, 1971, for initiating contempt proceedings against a person.

Kunal Kamra on Friday refused to retract his controversial tweets against the Supreme Court or apologise for them, saying he believes they speak for themselves.

“The tweets I recently put out have been found in contempt of court. All that I tweeted was from my view of the Supreme Court of India giving a partial decision in favour of a Prime Time Loudspeaker, he said in a statement addressed to Venugopal and the judges on his Twitter page. My view hasn't changed because the silence of the Supreme Court of India on matters of other's personal liberty cannot go uncriticized. I don't intend to retract my tweets or apologise for them. I believe they speak for themselves, he added.

Kodiyeri quits as  
CPM Kerala secy

GILVESTER ASSARY | DC  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,  
NOV. 13

Kerala CPM's powerful state secretary Mr Kodiyeri Balakrishnan on Friday stepped down from the post citing health reasons a day after his son Bineesh Kodiyeri who is an accused in money laundering case linked to a drug racket, was sent to Parapana Agrahara jail in Bengaluru.

LDF convener A Viayaraghavan has been given the additional charge of party state secretary for the time being.

An official statement issued by CPM state secretariat here said that Mr Balakrishnan's request for leave to undergo medical treatment had been accepted by the party leadership.

LDF convener A Viayaraghavan will officiate as state secretary in his absence, the party release said.

However, the period of leave has not been mentioned. Kodiyeri's leave comes close on the heels of investigating agencies including the Enforcement Directorate tightening their noose around Bineesh Kodiyeri.

The damning revelations being made by ED in connection with the money laundering case had made Kodiyeri's continuation in

the post untenable. Though the state and central leadership which met recently had extended full support to Kodiyeri saying the father cannot be held responsible for the wayward actions of son, a section within the party felt that Kodiyeri continuing as party secretary could prove detrimental to the ruling LDF in the forthcoming local bodies poll.

Granting leave was perhaps the only honorable exit route left for the CPM leader.

With the ED and Narcotics Control Bureau investigations continuing in the drug racket and money laundering cases involving Bineesh and his accomplices, the CPM is wary of the outcome of the probe.

The campaign for the local bodies poll being held in the state on December 8, 10 and 14, has already begun. So in a way Kodiyeri's exit has come as a relief to the cadres who would have otherwise faced hostile questions during the campaign.

The CPM is also under severe attack from the Opposition parties over the arrest of chief minister Mr Pinarayi Vijayan's former principal secretary M Sivasankar in connection with his alleged links in gold smuggling and money laundering cases.

## Festive spirit at its peak



Devotees decorated Kedarnath temple with 10 quintals of flowers in Kedarnath on Friday on the eve of Diwali festival. President Ram Nath Kovind on Friday asked people to take a resolve to become a lamp of hope and prosperity for the poor, destitute and needy this Diwali by sharing happiness. — PTI

Delhi reports over 7k  
Coronavirus cases

## Home ministry is monitoring the sharp increase in cases

DC CORRESPONDENT  
With agency inputs  
NEW DELHI, NOV. 13

With 44,879 fresh cases, India's overall tally of Coronavirus reached 87.28 lakh on Friday. However, the number of active cases are 4,84,547 and the total recoveries have crossed 81.15 lakh taking country's recovery rate to 92.97 per cent.

The death toll has reached 1,28,668 after 547 more fatalities were reported in the last 24 hours as case fatality rate declined to 1.47 per cent. “India continues to report a trend of steadily declining active cases. For the third day after the active cases dropped below the 6 lakh mark after nearly three months, progressive decline has been maintained. The active cases have dropped to only 6.97% of the total positive cases of the country demonstrating a steady falling percentage of the total cases,” Union health ministry officials said.

Officials added with the consistent decline in the active cases, the cases per million in India is among the lowest in the world. India's average cases per mil-

lion stand at 5,930. With over 7,000 cases in a day, Delhi is one of the epicenters of the virus followed by Kerala and West Bengal. However, northern states like Haryana and Rajasthan that have seen a drop in new cases are once again reporting a surge in fresh cases.

The home ministry which is closely monitoring the sharp increase in Coronavirus cases in the national capital is of the view that the cases would start coming down and the situation would once again return to normalcy within the next 8 to 10 days.

Delhi has been recording more than 7,000 cases on average over the last few days in view of the ongoing festive season, increased pollution and onset of winter.

In fact, in the last 24 hours there have been 100 deaths due to Coronavirus in the capital.

This has forced home secretary Ajay Bhalla to personally take charge of the situation and hold regular review meetings on the issue.

“We have done our own internal assessment and are of the opinion that the situation should once again return to normal within the next 8 to 10 days. By normal we mean that the number of cases being reported daily would once again drop drastically to less than a 1,000 daily,” a senior home ministry official said.

Ministry officials claimed that the medical facilities in the city were adequate. Even in private hospitals, officials added the situation was under control with adequate beds being available even in the ICU.

A leading Manufacturer of Electronic Components Situated in Kuthambakkam requires

**SAFETY OFFICER**  
(M.E., Industrial Safety Engineering)

**WELFARE OFFICER**  
As per Rule 4 (a) (ii) and rule 4 (b) of Factories rules 1953

Please send your application to E-Mail: [gurupandi.g@avaryholding.com](mailto:gurupandi.g@avaryholding.com)

Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare  
Directorate of Marketing & Inspection, Faridabad.

**TENDER FOR LAB EQUIPMENTS**  
(Competitive bidding through e-tendering mode only.)

Tenders in two bids system, technical bid and financial bid are invited from original equipment manufacturer or their authorized dealer through e-procurement mode only for supply of Gas chromatograph (GC) & Digital Analytical Balance (5 Decimal)

Closing date: 03.12.2020

For details visit website: [www.eprocure.gov.in](http://www.eprocure.gov.in)

Davp: 01123/1/0001/2021

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
Tender Notice  
**Invitation of Tenders through E-Procurement System**  
Principal Chief Materials Manager, Northern Railway, New Delhi-110001, for and on behalf of the President of India, invites e-tenders through e-procurement system for supply of the following items:-

Sr. No.	Tender No.	Brief Description	Qty.	Closing Date
01	09202507	OUTER SPRING DRG NO-WO-92058-S/5	3092 NOS	10.12.2020
02	14202216	NATURAL & ARTIFICIAL FIBRE THERMOSET COMPOSITE	3336 NOS	14.12.2020
03	08201045	THERMO SHRINK JOINTING KIT TSF-III	6559 NOS	30.12.2020

NOTE: 1. Vendors may visit the IREPS website i.e. [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) for details.  
2. No Manual offer will be entertained.  
Tender Notice No. 37/2020-2021 Dated : 13.11.2020 2542/2020

Serving Customers With A Smile

The Tamil Nadu Handicrafts Development Corporation Limited  
(A Government of Tamil Nadu Undertaking)  
Corporate Office: 759, Anna Salai, Chennai - 600 002. Ph: 2852 1271 / 2852 1325

**TENDER NOTICE**  
Tender Ref : **TNHDC/ 1381/DC/2019-20** Date : **14.11.2020**  
The Tamil Nadu Handicrafts Development Corporation Ltd. Chennai, invites sealed tenders from reputed civil work contractors for executing Civil, Renovation and Beautification works for setting up of Craft Tourism Village at Mamallapuram and surrounding areas.

Due date and time of submission of sealed tender	Sealed tenders should be submitted on or before 28.11.2020 at 3.00 pm
Date and Time of opening tenders	28-11-2020 at 4.00 PM.

For more details and for downloading tender documents please visit [www.poompuhar.com/tnhdc](http://www.poompuhar.com/tnhdc), [www.tenders.in.gov.in](http://www.tenders.in.gov.in) websites.  
DIPR/4265/TENDER/2020 Managing Director

**Coal India Limited**  
(A Maharatna Company)  
**MARKETING & SALES**

**NOTICE**  
**Methodology for Linkage Rationalization of Independent Power Producers (IPPs)**

CIL is pleased to announce inviting Expression of Interest (EOI) for one time linkages rationalization process for Independent Power Producers (IPPs) in furtherance to policy guidelines issued by MOC vide letter no. 23011/79/2014-CPD/CLD dated 15.05.2018 and letter no. 23011/79/2014-CPD/Vol-III)-Part (2) dated 12.03.2020.

Notice, Schedule of dates for submitting Expression of Interest (EOI) and other details is available on Coal India Limited Official website at [www.coalindia.in](http://www.coalindia.in) under Marketing & Sales section under sub head Linkage Rationalization.

Interested IPPs are requested to submit their EOIs within the prescribed date as per the Notice uploaded in the website.

**HoD (Operations)**  
**(Marketing & Sales)**  
**Coal India Limited, Kolkata**

NC leader stopped  
on way to Dubai

DC CORRESPONDENT  
SRINAGAR, NOV. 13

A former National Conference (NC) MLA claimed on Friday that he was prevented from travelling to Dubai by the Immigration officials at New Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport and was forced to return to Srinagar.

Altat Ahmed Kaloo, the NC's former MLA representing Pahalgam constituency of Anantnag district, said that he was stopped at the immigration counter at the IGIA, detained for more than four hours and barred from travelling to Dubai

where the former lawmaker had to attend a function of the extended family.

“I was barred from boarding a Dubai-bound airplane. I was scheduled to visit Dubai to attend a family function but to my shock, I was stopped and detained for more than four hours,” he told reporters here.

Mr Kaloo claimed that the officials concerned told him that he figured in the exit control list which also has 37 other politicians from Jammu and Kashmir “who won't be allowed to travel outside country”.

## 10 KILLED IN PAK FIRING ON LOC

From Page 1

The slain BSF official has been identified as sub-Inspector Rakesh Doval who was critically injured in the Pakistani firing at Tootmar Gali in Handwara area of Kupwara and later succumbed in the hospital.

The civilians killed in firing and shelling include Farooq Begum, Taib Ahmed Mir, Irshad Ahmed and Afrar Ahmed. Another civilian identified as Nasdar Hussain was critically injured, sources said. A report said that Hussain lost his legs in the incident.

Amid roaring of guns, people including women

and children were seen running out of their homes in Dawar forward area of Gurez belt of Bandipore, a video of which went viral on social media.

The villages in Hajipir and Kamalkote sectors of Uri which have witnessed artillery shells fired from across the de facto border falling and exploding in the middle of frightened civilian populations in Sultan Daki, Badgara, Sarai Bandi, Charonda, Chinaware, Kamalkote and Balkote. “The artillery shelling from almost all sides started at around noon and intensified after about one hour, causing havoc.

PM' S DREAM TO  
MAKE AYODHYA  
VEDIC RAMAYANA  
CITY: ADITYANATH

Ayodhya (UP), Nov. 13: Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Friday said it was Prime Minister Narendra Modi's dream to development Ayodhya as “Vedic Ramayana City” and it should be the most beautiful city.

“Our generation is not only fortunate to see the start of the construction of a Ram temple here but we also attended the historic event. In the struggle of 500 years, many saints passed away with a dream to see the start of construction. I thank PM Modi who is the one who implemented the ideology of Ram Rajya,” Adityanath said while addressing the fourth ‘Deepotsav’, an event to mark Diwali here.

The Prime Minister had performed the ‘bhoomi puja’ of a Supreme Court-mandated Ram temple in Ayodhya on August 5 this year, bringing to fruition the BJP's ‘mandir’ movement that defined its politics for three decades and took it to the heights of power. The Chief Minister said when he used to come here for development work, those who met him only used to say, “Yogiji Ram mandir nirman kar-waive (Yogiji get the construction of Ram temple done).” “I used to only ask them to trust Modi ji,” he added.

“It is the dream of PM Modi to develop Ayodhya as Vedic Ramayana City and it should be the most beautiful. We are here to seek support of you all as to how it can be developed that it has glimpse of a Vedic city,” he said.



**CHENNAI METRO RAIL LIMITED**  
(A Joint Venture of Govt. of India and Govt. of Tamil Nadu)  
Admin Building, CMRL Depot, Poonamallee High Road, Koyambedu, Chennai - 600107

Form-B  
(See rule 4)

**Public Notice under sub-section (2) of section 3 of the Tamil Nadu Acquisition of Land for Industrial Purposes Act, 1997 (Tamil Nadu Act 10 of 1999)**

Under sub-section (2) of section 3 of the Tamil Nadu Acquisition of Land for Industrial Purposes Act, 1997 (Tamil Nadu Act 10 of 1999), notice is hereby given that the land /lands specified in the Schedule and situated in the following Villages and taluks in the district of **Chengalpattu** is / are required for industrial purposes, to wit, for the following **Corridors and Metro Stations**. All persons interested in the land/ lands is/are, accordingly required to lodge before the **Revenue Divisional Officer and Land Acquisition Officer, Tambaram Revenue Division, Tambaram Sanatorium, Chennai-600 045**, within **Thirty Days** from the date of publication of this notice, a statement in writing of their objections, if any, to the acquisition of the said lands.

Any objection / statement which is received after the date or which does not clearly explain the nature of the sender's interest in the land is liable to be summarily rejected.

Objections received within the due date, if any will be enquired into on **17.12.2020 at 11.00 a.m.** by the **Revenue Divisional Officer and Land Acquisition Officer, Tambaram Revenue Division at Tambaram Sanatorium, Chennai-600 045** when objectors will be at liberty to appear in person or by a person or persons authorized by him or them in this behalf by a pleader and to adduce any oral or documentary evidence in support of their objections.

**THE SCHEDULE**

Sr.No (1)	Ward/Block No. (2)	Survey No. (3)	Description (4)	Extent required/ acquired (in Sq.mt.) (5)	Owner /Person interested (6)
<b>Pallavaram Taluk, Pallavaram Village</b>					
<b>Corridor-5 – 37 – Madipakkam Metro Station</b>					
1.	H/24	16	Ryotwari Punjai- Vacant Land	4	Parvathiammal W/o. Narayanan
<b>Tambaram Taluk – Medavakkam Village</b>					
<b>Corridor-05 – 41 – Vellakal Metro Station</b>					
1.	-	452/15	Ryotwari Manai - Shop	23	E.Saaran Bee
<b>Tambaram Taluk, Perumbakkam Village</b>					
<b>Corridor-5 – 46 – Global Hospital Metro Station</b>					
1.	-	451/7	Ryotwari Punjai – Vacant Land	2	M.P.Thiruvalluvan S/o. M.Peramanathan
Land Acquisition Officer and Revenue Divisional Officer, Tambaram Revenue Division, Tambaram Sanatorium, Chennai-600 045.					

DIPR/644/ LAND / 2020



# DECCAN Chronicle

14 NOVEMBER 2020

## Brainstorm revival steps to take in the short term

Announcing the third tranche of the stimulus package on Thursday, finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman said the government's focus was on bringing back the economy on the growth path. The stimulus package was estimated to be Rs 2.7 lakh crores, which translates to 1.4 per cent of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The package touches upon all key segments of the economy, such as industry, agriculture, employment generation, real estate and infrastructure, among others. Reforms address some of the long-pending demands of the industry, such as production-linked incentives, which could potentially attract companies that want to diversify their supply chains.

Notwithstanding its goal, the stimulus package does not give the economy and its people what they need right now: Revival of demand. Most of the announcements, which are part of the Thursday stimulus package, are of the medium-term nature. They are, no doubt, good, but they won't provide any solution to the current problem, which is sagging demand. The Covid-19 pandemic has made several contact-intensive industries to shut or operate at abysmally low capacities, which resulted in massive retrenchments. While this had eliminated the enormous purchasing power that these people collectively wielded, the reluctance of those having cash to splurge in these uncertain times has further mauled the demand in the Indian economy.

Though there have been encouraging signs of demand revival as suggested by the collection of Good and Service Tax, one cannot say if it is a normal demand revival or the pent-up demand, which was released ahead of the festive season. The revival of demand, therefore, should have been the focus of the government. However, it continues to ignore the advice of the economists and appears keen on letting the economy heal itself — a course that would be painful for most of the population. Despite its claims of providing a combined stimulus, whose size is 15 per cent of GDP, experts claim that the actual fiscal component — the money being spent by the government — would be less than two per cent of the GDP. Further, the government expects no additional borrowing. In the backdrop of falling tax revenue, no additional borrowing means the government would be diverting other budgeted expenditure for spending on the stimulus package, which means it won't spend any extra money.

Incentives offered for real estate, and housing could improve home sales and have a spill-over effect on other businesses, such as furnishing and building products, and create employment in the construction sector. This alone, however, cannot restore the demand in the economy. If one goes by data of inflation and industrial production (IIP), there is nothing to cheer about as yet. The demand for capital goods, which indicates a booming economy, continues to be in the negative territory. Retail inflation continued to be high, which, unless addressed immediately, could affect people's lives and also slow down India's economic recovery. The government should, therefore, also focus on immediate short-term steps to revive the economy, without losing focus on medium-term and long-term economic goals, because as famous economist John Maynard Keynes said, "In the long term, we are all dead".

## Owaisi's reach is growing

The Hyderabad-based All India Majlis-e Ittehadul Muslimeen (or Muslim Unity Party) and its leader Asaduddin Owaisi have lately drawn analytical attention. Were it for this party being in the fray in the recent Bihar Assembly polls in a Muslim-preponderant region, many think the NDA might have lost to the Mahagathbandhan, the Opposition coalition of RJD, Congress, and Left parties. The AIMM won five seats and 1.24 per cent of the votes, but this percentage would be higher if voting for only the Seemanchal region is considered. If the AIMM had received just half a per cent fewer votes, the anti-NDA parties could have made it.

But it is clear that Mr Owaisi has every right to contest elections where he wishes. It is for the anti-BJP parties (the so-called secular forces typically) to open political channels to the AIMM. This is not likely to be easy, though. To begin with, Mr Owaisi aims for Muslim votes. Therefore, the parties that attract his ire in an election are those that have traditionally attracted Muslim votes. This is why, politically, he does not go for the BJP and its allies, giving them an easy ride.

In that sense Mr Owaisi's forays in Muslim areas are useful to the BJP. But what appears evident is that Mr Owaisi is doing his best to grow the AIMM as an all-India Muslim party, inasmuch as the BJP is a Hindu party. In 2015, his party drew a blank in Bihar but this time round it has won as many as five seats. In Maharashtra Assembly too it has won seats and also has an MP from that state. Now the AIMM leader has announced his intention to fight in West Bengal and UP.

The continued existence of caste and religious parties is not healthy for the spread of the democratic ethos in this country. Identity-based electoral and political consolidation is a complex phenomenon but in part it derives from the failure of centrist forces represented by the Congress or the Janata Party earlier, or even the Left.

DECCAN CHRONICLE offices are located at:  
**Chennai:** SP 3 Developed Plot, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai 600032. Phones: (044) 22254747, 22254748  
**Coimbatore:** 77 Vivekananda Road, Ramnagar, Coimbatore 641009. Phone: (0422) 2231255, 2231256  
**Hyderabad:** 36, Sarojini Devi Road, Secunderabad 500 003. Phone: (040) 27803930-4. Fax: (040) 27803256  
**Bengaluru:** 5th Floor, BMTC Commercial Complex, 80 Ft. Road, Koramangala, Bangalore-560095. Ph: 08043460500; Fax: 080-22960551/52/55  
**Visakhapatnam:** Survey No. 1/3A Beach Road, Near Kailasagiri Ropeway, Sector-9 MVP Colony, Visakhapatnam - 530 017. Phones: (0891) 2552333/2552334, Fax: (0891) 2755285  
**Vijayawada:** No. C 3 & 4, Patamata, Industrial Estate, Auto Nagar, Vijayawada (A.P.). Phones: (0866) 2555284/2555287, Fax: (0866) 2555234  
**Rajahmundry:** Vernagiri, Dhwaleswaram Rd, Rajahmundry 533125. Phones: (0883) 2417208, 2417618  
**Anantapur:** Thupovan Colony, Bangalore Bye-Pass Road, Anantapur 515004. Phones: (08554) 276903, Fax: 08554-276904  
**Nellore:** Survey No. 527/2, Burranpur Village, Venkatachalam (M), Chemudugunta Panchayat, Nellore. Phone: (0861) 2348581/ 82, Telefax (0861) 2348580  
**Karimnagar:** Survey No. 1341, Vavilalapally Colony, Jagityala Road, Karimnagar 505 001. Phone: (0878) 2228908; Telefax (0878) 2220433  
**Kochi:** No. 3-B, 3rd Floor, DD TRADE TOWER, Kaloor-Kadavanthara Road, Ernakulam, Ph: 0484-4039408  
**Kozhikode:** No 6/1002 E, First Floor City Mall, Opp. YMCA Kannur Road, Kozhikode - 673 001 Fax : 0495 4019018  
**Thiruvananthapuram:** St Joseph Press Thycaud post, Cotton Hills, Thiruvananthapuram-14, Ph: 0471-2735105/67, Fax: 0471-4016112 Gram: CHRONICLE Postal registration no: No. H/SD-348/2006-088s

Subhani



## How to be a good loser... Don needs crash course

Shobhaa De

This year, Dhanteras was celebrated on what the West deems an ominous day — Friday the 13th. Well... ominous for some is auspicious for someone else. India is lighting diyas, and let's not spoil the fun. I know I should be focusing on momentous events, closer to home — like the Bihar elections. But a timely meme said it all. It showed a super glamourised image of actor Ratna Pathak (bouffant hair, cat eyeglasses) advising her beta not to discuss the Bihar elections, since it is so "middle class". Such is the dilemma faced by us urban idiots, we did indeed follow the American presidential race pretty breathlessly, while being pretty indifferent to what was going on in *hamara* Bihar. Well, that's also because we kinda knew what would happen in Bihar — and it did! Whereas the bitterly fought battle for the White House, between Orange Hair and Boring Biden, provided more *mazaa*. If you ask me, the guy who really won the White House back for his party (the Democrats) is the guy who never wanted to leave it in the first place — Barack Obama. It was this man's solo crusade that did the trick for Boring Biden. Because, in truth, the average American is not all that different from the average Indian — we happily fall for "BS". Besides, Donald Trump did indeed bag eight million more votes this time! Had it not been for the most charismatic living politician (Obama) working relentlessly for Boring Biden and Coma-la, Orange Hair would have cruised back in *aaram se*. This is the thing about democracies (please note: India still counts itself as

one), the lowest common denominator generally leads the rally. Barack Obama galvanised the troops and tapped into the seething rage generated by #BlackLivesMatter, as he went after Donald Trump in a campaign that should serve as the ultimate master class in astute politicking.

Back home, we have become accustomed to the BJP winning — whatever, whenever, and however! Anything else comes as a jolt. Nitish Kumar has been lording it over Bihar for 15 long years. He really doesn't give a flying off about dull issues like the future of migrant workers or how to deal with Covid-19. His gameplan is simple — to stay put. Finished. But aha —how can we overlook the Owaisi factor? What was that? Should we take it at face value? Is it just a simple case of a shrewd tactician playing his cards expertly? Or... or... or! Politics is all about "setting" and "jugaad". Owaisi did his numbers well. Cannot take that away from this wily fox who can out-talk even the most garrulous anchors and panelists on television "debates". With Bihar behind us, the IPL over, and Covid still around, everyone is wondering what to do during this festive season. The "no *patakas*" ruling (thank God!) in most

**Nobody expects grace or courtesy from Donald Trump — the most boorish American President in history. And he is not ready to make that concession speech either. Take that, Boring Biden.**

cannot be manufactured by managers and agents. It is so evident that these two all-time great tennis champions possess the one quality that separates the men from the boys — an abundance of confidence. Compare them to the Joker with his tantrums on and off the court, and one can easily see who wins the popular vote.

It is said true character gets revealed not when you win big but when you lose even bigger. Some of our superstars in Bollywood and cricket need to remind themselves of this aspect of competition — films flop, someone else gets the role, heartbreaks happen, box office records are broken, more wickets are taken, and the spotlight shifts to the next one and the next one and the next one. True achievements never tarnish. In India, we have any number of sterling examples — men and women, who inspire generations to put the best foot forward and not obsess over "legacy".

There is something truly hideous about boastfulness, especially during a time like this, when the whole world is dealing with stress and confusion. Chest thumping is easy — watch an alpha male gorilla to figure out how it's done. But when the prevalent and dominating political culture in the country actively advocates belligerent egotism and steps in with unseemly alacrity to "save" a particularly obnoxious television anchor who has made a career out of bulldozing opponents and fabricating narratives, it is best to say "*Hari Om!*", and remind ourselves that even the mighty eventually fall with a thud despite all the cushioning provided by powerful mentor-sponsors. You can be the biggest loser on earth while foolishly believing you have won! BTW, the biryani in Taloja remains top class.

Readers can send feedback to [www.shobhaade.blogspot.com](mailto:www.shobhaade.blogspot.com)

### LETTERS

#### TEJASHWI'S TIRADE

There is no merit in undermining the victory of NDA, by telling that it has barely scraped through by a difference of votes less than 13,000. The truth is that the contest between the Grand Alliance and NDA was so intense and keen that no winner can boast of a thumping success over the loser. This also indicates that it is only the people who had decided who should rule Bihar and not the EVMs as alleged by Tejashwi Yadav. He has conveniently forgotten the fact that with so many other parties fighting along with him he still could not get the magic number 122 while the NDA with just two parties could secure the same plus 3 to form the next government. Instead of conceding the victory gracefully it is not fair on the part of Tejashwi to hurl abuses and allegations of malpractice on NDA.

**B.S. Jayaraman, Coimbatore**

**RASHTRIYA JANATA** Dal leader Tejashwi Yadav takes a leaf out of Donald Trump's book to say that the NDA has won the election by deceit. His major complaint is that his alliance has lost 20 seats because of irregularity in the counting of votes. Election candidates winning or losing seats by small margins is common in democratic elections throughout the world and it is unfair to lay the blame at the Election Commission door. True, Yadav had many aces under his sleeve to checkmate his opponents. With his personal charisma, his ability to attract large crowds and his promise of 10 lakh jobs, Yadav was almost within an ace of success. But the sins of his father who is in jail, ill-advised allocation of 70 seats to a moribund Congress, Nitish Kumar's record of good governance and BJP's tacit support to LPJ threw a spanner in the works by denying him victory.

**Kangayam R. Narasimhan, Chennai**

#### ABOVE THE LAW

**THIS REFERS** to the report that cricketer Krunal Pandya was detained at Mumbai International Airport by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence for being in possession of gold and other valuables much above the permissible limits. Had it been an ordinary passenger, he would have been cooling his heels behind bars by now. But, no one would dare take stern action against Pandya, thanks to his being a part and parcel of the IPL cricket team owned by a great industrialist. Some Indian cricketers and film personalities are under the impression that their celebrity status gives them blanket permission to bend the laws of the land the way they want.

**P.G. Menon, Chennai**

Farrukh Dhondy  
Cabbages & Kings



"Why do we in temperate India Read about poetic snous Which foreign poets celebrate In metaphors none of us knows? Yes, we sing hymns to the monsoon, The downpours which each year Bring promises of renewal When thunderous clouds appear. — From *Godrej to Road Rage* by Bachchoo

**Dear Narendra Saheb, Pradhan Mantri,**

I address you as a petitioner on a matter which has, I am sure, occupies the minds of millions in our constantly changing world. I mean, as you can see from global reports, particularly in the last weeks from France and Vienna, that there have been murders and terrorist attacks in the name of Islam in Europe. After the beheading of a schoolteacher in France and the murder of people in the Notre Dame cathedral of Nice, President Emmanuel Macron declared his policy of war on Islamist terrorism. He was, commendably, careful to say that his offensive was not against the religion but against those that interpret it as an injunction or licence to

murder the innocent.

He has declared a relentless campaign by the French state to eliminate terrorism emanating from this particular interpretation of Islam which, according to very many scholars and to the philosophy of many schools of the religion, is anti-Islamic and amounts to the ideas of deviant savants who instituted death-cults and insisted they were the authentic religion.

President Macron's declared offensive is fraught with difficulty as the French police say they have 20,000 individuals whom they need to keep under surveillance as they have indicated in one way or another their adherence to or sympathy for the ideas of the contemporary death-cult. Mr Macron's initiative is welcomed by the citizens of France but his efforts and that of the French state, or that of the Austrians, British, other Europeans, Americans or even the Pakistani state (which has been ambivalent towards this phenomenon) will obviously not solve what is now a universal occurrence. The Trump administration of the US didn't seem to distinguish between Islam and the Islamicist death-cults. Mr Trump

and his aides perhaps didn't understand any distinction and declared bans on citizens of certain parts of the globe.

The reason is that Islam today is a universally divided house. In the states which call themselves Islamic, the factions of Sunnis and Shias fight and kill each other in terror attacks as in Pakistan, or in factional armies, supported by foreign powers, as in Syria, or as opposing national states with deadly foreign-manufactured-and-marketed weapons as in the Yemen. ISIS, declaring itself heir to the world, began its murderous campaigns in Islamic countries, fighting Muslims in the name of Islam.

No country, no state, has gone any distance to set any sort of example to bring peace where there is war and hope where there is the underlying despair that leads to the murder of innocents. The wisest world opinion has concluded that only Muslims can bring about this peace or defeat of death cults in the Islamic world. That's as obvious, gentle reader, as the nose on your face (apologies to Surpanakha of the *Ramayan* who had hers cut off by Lakshman). But can they? Unlike Christianity, Islam

has no Pope or archbishop to make a ruling. The fatwas abound, the killing continues

And yet Narendrajii, there is one country that can offer examples of an attitude, a policy, strategies towards the future and set patterns and ideals for the rest of the world. Yes, *Pradhan Mantri*, that country is *Bharat Mata*.

The theology of Islam didn't come to India in the shape of Muslim conquest. It came in the guise of the Sufi evangelists, the Chishtis and the Olyas. A scholar and prince such as Dara Shikoh, the brother of the bigoted Aurangzeb, recognised the closeness of Sufi Islam to the philosophical Advait Vedant of Shankara.

Every religion has beliefs and writings from the past which the modern worshipper discards and is forced, by sheer common sense and humane values, to neglect as things which have outlived their origins. No Christian should act on the dictates and punishments that Leviticus prescribes in his book in the Bible. Just so, there are passages in the Hindu scriptures about castes and the status of women which don't accord with the democracy that brought your party and you to power. Of

course, all the modern movements of Hinduism understand that.

Millions of our citizens go to temples to worship and also make a pilgrimage to Ajmer to the shrine and presence of a Sufi saint.

Yes, as my late friend V.S. Naipaul insisted, we should tell the truth about the atrocities that were visited by conquerors on the Indian population. Nothing should be swept under the carpet, including the atrocities, through thousands of years, of the ruling upper castes against those born as lower.

In the moments of the Black Lives Matter *morchas* in the United States and Britain we saw whites and blacks saying let us, while acknowledging it, put the history of division behind us.

I address this to you, Narendrajii, as being uniquely placed in the world to lead a country with a unique history to put the divisions of that history behind us and discover, recognise the inevitability of and anoint the avatar of the future India... of freedom from the devils of conflict. *Jai Hind!*

**Ever, Farrukh Dhondy**

## Open letter to PM Modi: Let Bharat Mata set an example



## IN BRIEF

**'Yorkshire Ripper'**  
**UK killer dies at 74**

**London:** A notorious British serial killer dubbed the "Yorkshire Ripper" after murdering 13 women across northern England between 1975 and 1980 died on Friday aged 74. Sutcliffe was convicted in 1981 of 13 murders and seven more attempted murders after a reign of terror that is still seared on the public memory. He received 20 life sentences and was ordered to serve at least 30 years in prison, but in 2010 a High Court judge ruled that he should never be freed. Sutcliffe had tested positive for Covid-19 but according to British media reports this week had refused treatment.

No immediate cause of death was given. Boris Johnson's spokesman said the prime minister's thoughts were with the victims, survivors and their families, calling Sutcliffe "a depraved and evil individual".

**RISHI SUNAK**  
**LIGHTS DIWALI**  
**CANDLES**

**London, Nov. 13:** UK Chancellor Rishi Sunak marked the festival of Diwali by stepping out of his No. 11 Downing Street home in London to lay out a rangoli decoration and light four diyas at the doorstep. The 40-year-old Indian-origin finance minister, who is married to Akshata Murthy – the daughter of Infosys co-founder Narayana Murthy, has spoken about being a "proud Hindu" over the years.

His celebratory gesture on Thursday night marks a first for Downing Street, which annually sees the UK Prime Minister host a Diwali gathering and an Annakut, or spread of festive food, from London's Swaminarayan Mandir next door at No. 10. Sunak's message this Diwali was for British Hindus to follow the lockdown rules and refrain from the usual tradition of getting together with friends and family.

# Hesitant China finally congratulates Biden

Chinese foreign ministry is more forthcoming on Harris' win

**Beijing, Nov. 13:** China on Friday shed its initial hesitation and congratulated US President-elect Joe Biden and his deputy Kamala Harris for their victory in the 2020 US presidential election, saying Beijing respects the choice of the American people.

"We have been following reactions on the US elections from both within the US and the international community," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin told a media briefing here when pointed out that more world leaders as well as United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres have congratulated 77-year-old Biden.

"We respect the American people's choice and we extend congratulations to Biden and Harris and we understand that the result of the US presidential elections will be determined following the US laws and procedures," Wang said.

China initially hesitated to congratulate Biden, a Democrat, after Republican incumbent President Donald Trump refused to concede. On November 9, Wang had declined to congratulate Biden on his victory, saying the outcome of the American election should be determined by the country's laws and procedures. He, however, was more forthcoming on the victory of Harris as the first woman Vice-President-elect. When reminded about Chinese President Xi Jinping's statement calling for greater gender equality in a recent UN conference on women and does China have any comment on Harris, Wang quoted a Chinese saying which states women hold half of the sky. —PTI

## Mark Zuckerberg 1st tech giant head to acknowledge Biden

**NO EVIDENCE AMERICAN VOTE WAS COMPROMISED, SAYS ELECTION BODY**

**Washington, Nov. 13:** Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg has become the first head of a US tech giant who has acknowledged Democrat Joe Biden as the next president of the country, a media report has said.

Zuckerberg told his employees that the outcome of the November 3 election is now clear and Biden was to take over as the new president of the country, BuzzFeed, which obtained an audio of the meeting, reported on Thursday.

"I believe the outcome of the election is now clear and Joe Biden is going to be our next president," Zuckerberg was quoted as saying in the report on Thursday. The US media

cried foul, retweeting a baseless claim that an election equipment maker "deleted" 2.7 million votes for him nationwide. Biden, who leads by more than five million in the popular vote, cemented his victory late Thursday by winning Arizona, US networks said, flipping the state Democratic for the first time since 1996. —AFP

has projected Biden, a Democrat, as the winner of the 2020 presidential election. However, incumbent President Trump, a

Republican, is yet to concede defeat, vowing to mount legal fights in several key battleground states. —PTI

## Chinese firms out of bounds in US

**Washington, Nov. 13:** US President Donald Trump has signed an executive order banning Americans from investing in Chinese firms deemed to be supplying or supporting Beijing's military and security apparatus, earning a sharp rebuke from China.

The order listed 31 companies on Thursday it said China was using for the "increasing exploitation" of US investment capital to fund military and intelligence services,

including the development and deployment of weapons of mass destruction. US-China relations have deteriorated sharply during Trump's presidency, and this was the latest in a series of executive orders and regulatory actions that have targeted China's economic and military expansion.

On Friday, Beijing lashed out at the US for "abusing state power to arbitrarily oppress Chinese companies". —AFP

## BIDEN CONQUERS ARIZONA TOO, FIRMLY ON TOP

**Washington, Nov. 13:** Joe Biden has won the state of Arizona, US networks said late Thursday, further cementing his lead in the Electoral College and flipping the state Democratic for the first time since 1996.

NBC, CBS, ABC and CNN declared Biden the winner in the tight race with a lead of more than 11,000 ballots, giving him the state's 11 electoral votes.

—AFP

## Obama recalls Rahul as a 'student eager to impress'

**New York, Nov. 13:** Former US president Barack Obama says Congress leader Rahul Gandhi has a "nervous, unformed quality" about him like a student eager to impress the teacher but lacking aptitude and passion to "master the subject."

The New York Times reviewed Obama's memoir 'A Promised Land', in which among other issues, the first person of colour American President has talked about political leaders from around the world.

On Gandhi, Obama says he has "a nervous, unformed quality about him, as if he were a student who'd done the coursework and was eager to impress the teacher but deep down lacked either the aptitude or the passion to master the subject," according to The New York Times review.

Gandhi's mother and Congress president Sonia Gandhi also appears to find mention in the memoir. The NYT review said in the memoir "we are told of the handsomeness of men like Charlie Crist



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi with former US president Barack Obama. — Twitter

and Rahm Emanuel, but not the beauty of women, except for one or two instances, as in the case of Sonia Gandhi."

Former US Secretary of Defence Bob Gates and former Indian prime minister Manmohan Singh both come across as having a kind of impassive integrity, the review states.

It added that Russian President Vladimir Putin reminds Obama of the tough, street-smart ward bosses who used to run

the Chicago machine. "Physically, he was unremarkable," Obama writes of Putin.

The 768-page memoir, expected to hit the stands on November 17, chronicles Obama's childhood and political rise, before diving deeply into his historic 2008 campaign and first four years in office.

Obama was the first African-American president of the United States. He visited India twice as the US President — in 2010 and 2015. —PTI

## UK PM's top aide to exit amid power struggle

**London, Nov. 13:** The disquiet caused by a power struggle at the very top of the UK government, which spilled out into the open earlier this week with a high-profile exit from Downing Street, seemed to intensify on Friday as it emerged that UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson's senior-most aide is to also resign by Christmas next month.

Dominic Cummings, one of Johnson's most influential and high-profile aides as his Chief Strategy Adviser, has not formally announced his resignation but a Cabinet minister confirmed that he is on his way out.

"He'll be missed... But advisers come and go," UK Transport Secretary Grant Shapps told Sky News.

"In any government, you require people who are going to shake things up and come up with ideas, and he's actually been that person," he said.

As part of Johnson's top team, Cummings, 48, is

widely credited with helping secure the UK Prime Minister's thumping General Election victory in December 2019.

The largely behind-the-scenes influencer found himself in the limelight earlier this year when he was accused of breaching lockdown rules by making a trip from London to the north-east of England, at a time when he feared he could have contracted Coronavirus.

—AP

## quick BITES

INDICATORS	%
Sensex	43,443.00 0.20
Nifty 50	12,719.95 0.23
S&P 500*	3,566.86 0.84
Dollar (₹)	74.61 0.04
Pound Sterling (₹)	98.19 0.21
Euro (₹)	88.11 0.049
Gold (10gm)* (₹)	50,425*241 0.47
Brent crude (\$/bbl)*	42.87 -0.66
IN 10-Yr bond yield	5.878 -0.024
US 10-Yr T-bill yield*	0.893 0.007

\* As of 8:30 PM IST

## Forex reserves surge \$7.78 bn to record \$568.49 bn

The country's foreign exchange reserves jumped by a massive \$7.779 billion to touch a life-time high of \$568.494 billion in the week ended November 6, RBI data showed. In the previous week ended October 30, the reserves had increased by \$183 million to \$560.715 billion. The jump in reserves was mainly on account of an increase in foreign current assets, which increased by \$6.403 billion to \$524.742 billion.

Printed & Published by K Sudhakar on behalf of Deccan Chronicle Holdings Limited. Printed & Published at Deccan Chronicle Presses situated at SP-3 Developed Plot, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai. Editor: T.Venkatram Reddy, RNI Reg. No. TNENG/2008/25473 Air surcharge Re 1. © All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission of The Editor, Financial Chronicle is prohibited.

## Poonawalla says inoculation may begin next month

**CHRIS KAY**  
NOV. 13

The world's largest vaccine maker is ramping up production of AstraZeneca Plc's Covid-19 shot, aiming to have 100 million doses ready by December for an inoculation drive that could begin across India that same month.

If final-stage trial data show AstraZeneca's candidate gives effective protection from the virus, the Serum Institute of India Ltd—which is partnered to produce at least one billion doses—may get emergency authorisation from New Delhi by December, said Adar Poonawalla, chief executive officer of the family-owned firm in Pune.

That initial amount will go to India, Poonawalla said in an interview on

Thursday. Full approval early next year will allow distribution on a 50-50 basis with India and Covax, the World Health Organization-backed body that's purchasing shots for poor nations. Serum, which has tied up with five developers, has so far made 40 million doses of AstraZeneca's vaccine in the past two months and aims to start manufacturing Novavax Inc's contender soon.

"We were a bit concerned it was a big risk," said 39-year-old Poonawalla. But both AstraZeneca and Novavax's shots "are looking pretty good."

The haste underlines Poonawalla's confidence in one of the main vaccine front-runners. AstraZeneca CEO Pascal Soriot has said he is preparing for the possibility of large-scale vaccina-

## VACCINE MAKERS STAKING REPUTATIONS: GLAXO CEO

**THOMAS MULIER & THOMAS BUCKLEY**  
NOV. 13

Vaccine makers have a lot at stake if any of the shots designed to protect against Covid-19 fail, according to Emma Walmsley, CEO, GlaxoSmithKline Plc.

The industry's commitment will help ensure that the shots that do make it to the market are safe after a one-year development cycle, which is a fraction of the normal time needed,

ed, the head of the largest vaccine maker said.

"The world will pay a very big price, not just for Covid, but beyond that if we break trust in the quality of vaccination," she said in a TV interview.

The race to develop vaccines and treatments for Covid is set to permanently accelerate drug discovery, Walmsley said. Advances in processing genetics and genomics data, as well as developments in artificial intelligence and machine learning, have a

"real, real shot over the next decade to improve the productivity of R&D and science in my industry incredibly," she said. Walmsley also said the pandemic has mobilised the world to find faster solutions, with businesses working in concert with regulators to speed the roll-out of inoculation without compromising on safety.

Still, further vaccines are needed to make the world safe from Covid, she said. —Bloomberg

tions as early as December and once the UK grants its own emergency licence, Serum will submit that same data to Indian counterparts. Drugmakers are just

now getting data that will show how well their vaccine candidates work, but there are plenty of hurdles remaining as the global race to find an effective shot against the pathogen

reaches its final stages. Astra and co-developer University of Oxford still need to see testing results. And even if their vaccine proves effective and gets a nod from regulators, there

## Jewellers say sales back by 65-70%; light-weight pieces in demand

# Dhanteras exceeds expectations

**SANGEETHA G**  
CHENNAI, NOV. 13:

Despite being overshadowed by pandemic fears and gold price rise, Dhanteras this year clocked 65 to 70 per cent of the sales volumes of last year. Dhanteras sales were much better than that on Akshaya Tritiya, which was washed out by the lockdown.

"Jewellers have reported that they have garnered 65 to 70 per cent of last year's sales volumes," said Somasundaram P.R., managing director, India, World Gold Council.

According to him, foot-

falls were much better, which indicates that customers braved the pandemic to grab the yellow metal on the auspicious day.

Organised players have seen better sales as part of the shift in customer preference that has been underway in recent years.

"In terms of volumes, we would have reached 65 per cent of last year and in terms of value it would be around 80 per cent, as the gold prices are much higher than last year's Dhanteras," said Joy Alukka, chairman, Joyalukkas.

Gold prices are higher by more than 30 per cent this time compared to last



Dhanteras. The higher prices too have dampened the sales.

"There is a popular perception that gold prices have gone up due to the

pandemic and now that a vaccine is likely to be released soon, prices might cool down to previous levels. Many customers have been postponing their wedding purchases expecting that prices will come down," said Somasundaram.

According to Bachchraj Bamaalwa, past chairman, All-India Gems and Jewellery Trade Federation, customers preferred to pick up light-weight jewellery as a token on the auspicious day.

WGC found that coins too were in demand in line with the increased investment demand in the

September quarter.

Online players as well as organised players who have been promoting digital sales, have seen better sales this time compared to last year. Online jeweller Melorra has seen maximum demand for light-weight jewellery coming from young adults between the ages of 25-35 years.

"Digital platforms are receiving new customers and they are becoming an integral part of the jewellery industry. Even during Akshaya Tritiya, organised players have been promoting online sales," said Somasundaram.

## Highest ever PE/VC funding in October

**SANGEETHA G**  
CHENNAI, NOV. 13

As real estate deals returned, October saw the highest ever monthly PE/VC investments worth \$8.4 billion.

Private equity and venture capital investments in October touched \$8.4 billion, 2.6 times higher than \$3.2 billion in October 2019 and 1.9 times than \$4.4 billion in September 2020.

At \$3.7 billion across seven deals, real estate was the top sector and accounted for 44 per cent of all investments in October. This was greater than investments received by the sector in the past 14

months combined, says an EY release.

The largest deals in October 2020 saw Brookfield acquiring 12.5 million square feet commercial space from RMZ Corp, including its shared working space COWrks, followed by Blackstone buying the rental income assets of Prestige Group for \$1.6 billion.

Between January and September, investments in real estate and infrastructure were down 82 per cent to \$2.9 billion against \$16.1 billion during the same period last year. The share of these sectors was just 10 per cent of the total PE/VC investments till September.



## SHORT TAKES

## Prajnesh downs Sock, in quarters

**Cary, USA:** Fighting hard, Prajnesh Gunneswaran prevailed over tough nut Jack Sock in three sets to sail into the quarterfinals of the Atlantic Tire Championships, an ATP Challenger event, here. The fourth-seeded southpaw beat the former top-10 American 6-7 (3), 6-2, 7-6 (5) in a tight round two contest, which lasted almost three hours. The gritty Indian broke the serve of Sock, who reached a career-high singles ranking of eight in 2017 but is now placed 253, thrice and dropped his own serve only once in the slugfest. Prajnesh, ranked 146, next faces Brazilian qualifier Thomaz Bellucci for a place in the semifinals of the \$52,080 hard court tournament. — PTI

## Naser dope case appeal in CA

**Paris:** The Athletics Integrity Unit announced on Thursday that it had appealed to the Court of Arbitration for Sport after the anti-doping charges against world 400 metre champion Salwa Eid Naser were dropped. Naser was charged with breaking whereabouts rules and provisionally suspended in June, but was cleared last month by World Athletics' Disciplinary Tribunal. "The AIU has submitted an appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) against the Disciplinary Tribunal's decision to dismiss the charges against Salwa Eid Naser (BRN) for Whereabouts failures," the AIU said. The AIU is the independent anti-doping watchdog for track and field, set up in 2017. — AFP

## USA lambasts Wada proposal

**Montreal:** Tensions between the World Anti-Doping Agency and the United States flared Thursday as a US government representative called a proposal to sanction countries that withdraw agreed upon funding "a direct attack on the United States." A virtual meeting of WADA's Foundation Board saw officials from both the global watch-dog and the US voicing the need for cooperation. But Anthony Jones, representative of the US Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), bristled at a proposal to punish member countries that opt out of funding. That's just what the ONDCP recommended US lawmakers be given the power to do in June, accusing WADA of failing to implement governance reforms. — AFP

## Liverpool's Salah is Covid positive

**Cairo, Egypt:** Liverpool forward Mohamed Salah has tested positive for Covid-19 while on international duty for Egypt without showing any symptoms, the Egyptian Football Association announced Friday.

## Live on TV

## CRICKET

**Women's Big Bash League:** Hobart Hurricanes vs Sydney Sixers from 10.10 am; Sydney Thunder vs Melbourne Stars from 1.35 pm; Sydney Thunder vs Perth Scorchers from 4.50 am (Sunday) on Sony Six

## FORMULA ONE

**Turkish Grand Prix:** Third practice from 2.25 pm, Qualifying from 5.25 pm on Star Sports Select 2, HD

## GOLF

**Augusta Masters:** From 11.30 pm on Star Sports Select 1, HD

## FOOTBALL

**UEFA Nations League:** San Marino vs Gibraltar from 7.30 pm; Cyprus vs Luxembourg from 10.30 pm on Sony Ten 2; Germany vs Ukraine from 1.15 am (Sunday) on Sony Six; Portugal vs France from 1.15 am (Sunday) on Sony Ten 2; Switzerland vs Spain from 1.15 am (Sunday) on Sony Ten 1; Sweden vs Croatia from 1.15 am (Sunday) on Sony Ten 3

## UFC FIGHT NIGHT

Islam Makhachev vs Rafael Dos Anjos and other bouts from 5.30 am (Sunday) on Sony Ten 2, HD

Regd. No.  
TNENG/2010/35692

Printed & Published by  
K. Sudhakar on behalf of  
Deccan Chronicle Holdings Limited  
and Printed at  
Deccan Chronicle Presses situated  
at SP 3, Developed Plot, Industrial Estate,  
Guindy, Chennai - 600 032.  
RNI Registration No: TN ENG/2005/14987  
Ph Nos: 22254747, 22254748, 22254750,  
22254751  
Editor: KAUSHIK MITTER

## SCOTLAND SOAR

## End two decades wait, qualify for prestigious Euro

**Belgrade, Nov. 13:** Scotland qualified for a first major international tournament since 1998 by reaching Euro 2020 thanks to a 5-4 win on penalties over Serbia after a 1-1 draw in Belgrade.

The Scots' demons of two decades without qualifying seemed set to reappear when Luka Jovic's 90th-minute header sent the game into extra time. Ryan Christie's opener had deservedly put the visitors in front during what had been a fine performance from Steve Clarke's men.

But just like in a semi-final shootout win over Israel, Scotland kept their cool with five perfect penalties and finally got over the line when David Marshall saved from Aleksandar Mitrovic.

Goalscorer Christie and captain Andy Robertson welled up with emotion as a generation of Scots can look forward to a major tournament for the first time. There is an extra reward of two matches at Hampden against the Czech Republic and Croatia and a clash with England come June.

Christie missed the play-off semifinal win over Israel last month after he was categorised as a close contact of Stuart Armstrong, who tested Covid-19 positive after joining up with the Scotland squad.

He spoke openly about the mental challenge of self-isolation for 14 days on his return to playing and hoped qualification can offer some relief to those struggling with lockdown restrictions in Scotland.

Scotland are now unbeaten in nine games stretching back 13 months and the confidence Clarke has instilled in his side showed as the visitors controlled the first 90 minutes.

Serbia had all the momentum going into extra time with Clarke having withdrawn Lyndon Dykes, Christie and McGinn towards the closing stages of normal time.

Marshall had to produce a brilliant save from Nemanja Gudelj a winner.

And the Derby goalkeeper was the hero in the shootout after Leigh Griffiths, McGregor, Scott McTominay, Oli McBurnie and Kenny McLean had found the net. — AFP

## THE RESULTS

**Scotland** 1  
(Christie 52)  
**Serbia** 1  
(Jovic 90)  
(after extra time,  
Scotland win 5-4 on  
penalties)

**Hungary** 2  
(Nego 88, Szoboszlai  
90+2)  
**Iceland** 1  
(Sigurdsson 11)

**Slovakia** 2  
(Kucka 17, Duris 110)  
**Northern Ireland** 1  
(Skriniar 88-og)

**North Macedonia** 1  
(Pandev 56)  
**Georgia** 0

## Casey in lead at Masters

**Augusta (USA), Nov. 13:** Paul Casey took full advantage of a three-hour storm delay, matching the lowest major round of his career with a seven-under par 65 Thursday to seize the lead at the Masters.

The Englishman awoke to heavy showers and was happy to wait before setting out on rain-soaked Augusta National.

"I was not relishing the challenge ahead waking up in the rain this morning," Casey said.

There were 44 players who must finish their first round Friday due to darkness because of the delay. And that means Casey is unlikely to finish round two before sunset Friday. But it was worth it.

Casey's only other 65 in a major came in the final round of the 2018 Masters, but as he pondered a day



Scotland players celebrate after winning the Euro 2020 play-off qualification football match against Serbia at the Red Star Stadium in Belgrade on Thursday. — AFP

## Argentina held by Paraguay

**Buenos Aires, Nov. 13:** Argentina had to come from behind to draw 1-1 with Paraguay in a World Cup qualifier at La Bombonera on Thursday, and Lionel Messi had what might have been a winning goal disallowed in the second half.

A Nicolas Gonzalez goal brought Argentina back level after Angel Romero's penalty put Paraguay in front at the home of Boca Juniors.

The result ends Argentina's perfect start in their bid to qualify for the 2022 finals in Qatar, after Lionel Scaloni's team claimed narrow wins last month at home to Ecuador and away to Bolivia.

They thought they had gone in front in the 58th minute when Giovanni Lo Celso pulled the ball back for Messi to sidefoot low into the net, but the goal was eventually disallowed by the Brazilian officials for a foul by Gonzalez at the beginning of the move.

At least Argentina recovered from falling behind midway through the first half, when Romero converted a penalty awarded for a foul by Lucas Martinez Quarta on Newcastle United's Miguel Almiron.

The home side lost Exequiel Palacios to injury soon after, but his replacement Lo Celso delivered the corner for Gonzalez to head in the equaliser four minutes before half-time. — AFP



England's Harry Maguire (centre) in action during the international friendly football match against Ireland at Wembley stadium in London on Thursday. — AFP

## Easy victory for England

**London, Nov. 13:** Gareth Southgate admitted he was impressed with Jack Grealish as the England winger sparkled and Harry Maguire enjoyed a moment of redemption in Thursday's 3-0 friendly win against the Republic of Ireland.

Just 48 hours after the resignation of English Football Association chairman Greg Clarke following his offensive comments about the BAME and LGBT communities, Southgate's side showed no signs of being distracted by the controversy.

After being sent off in his previous England appearance against Denmark, Maguire captained his country for the first time and scored the opening goal at Wembley. It was a welcome boost for Maguire, who has endured a difficult campaign marred by his Greek court case and poor form for Manchester United and England.

Jadon Sancho bagged England's second goal before the interval and Dominic Calvert-Lewin made it three with a second-half penalty.

That was enough to seal England's first success against the Republic since 1985. Grealish, starting against the country he represented at youth level, caught the eye on the left flank as he justified the constant calls from fans and pundits for the Aston Villa star to be given a sustained run in the team.

"The two players in those roles, Jadon and Jack, they've got the freedom to go either side of the pitch and try and create overloads," Southgate said. — AFP

## Aussie coach on guard vs India

**Melbourne, Nov. 13:** Australia head coach Justin Langer has hailed India captain Virat Kohli for taking paternity leave during the tour Down Under but conceded that his absence will definitely affect the visitors during the much-anticipated Test series for the Border-Gavaskar Trophy.

Kohli will return home after the opening Test, which ends on December 21. He has been granted paternity leave by the BCCI to be with his actor wife Anushka Sharma for the birth of their first child in early January.

Langer said he respects Kohli for putting family ahead of cricket.

"Virat Kohli is probably the best player I've ever seen in my life for so many reasons, not only batting but his energy and passion for the game, the way he fields," Langer told reporters by video conference on Friday.

"I cannot believe he displays the energy he does in everything he does and I've got so much respect for him. I've also got respect for him in the sense that he's made this decision (to return for the birth)."

"He's a human being like all of us... if I was giving advice to any of my players I would always say never, ever miss the birth of your children because it is one of the great things you'll ever do," the former Australia opener added.

Kohli will miss the Boxing Day Test in Melbourne (December 26-30), New Year's Test in Sydney (January 7-



**Of course it will have an impact (his absence), but we also know that India beat us last time (in 2018-19). They're a very, very good team, we cannot get complacent for a second with or without Virat.**

— JUSTIN LANGER  
Australia head coach

January 11) and the final game at the Gabba (January 15 - January 19).

Langer said Kohli's absence will definitely impact India but they cannot afford to lower their guard.

"Of course it will have an impact (his absence), but we also know that India beat us last time (in 2018-19). They're a very, very good team, we cannot get complacent for a second with or without Virat," Langer said.

India's tour of Australia begins with three ODIs, followed by as many T20 Internationals and four Tests.

While the first ODI will be held on November 27, the opening Tests is scheduled on December 17 in Adelaide.

— PTI

## JUSTIN BACKS BURNS TO OPEN IN TESTS vs INDIA

**Melbourne, Nov. 13:** Australia head coach Justin Langer has hinted that he is likely to stick with Joe Burns at the opening position with David Warner for the first Test of the four-match series against India despite young Will Pucovski's incredible form.

Burns averaged 32 for Australia last summer and had below-par start to the Marsh Sheffield Shield season with 57 runs at 11.40. Pucovski, on the other hand, has produced successive double hundreds, scoring 202 against Western Australia after an unbeaten 255 against South Australia.

"Will Pucovski is doing everything that's humanly possible to play that first Test, and that's something we have to weigh up ...," Langer was quoted as saying by [cricket.com.au](http://cricket.com.au).

"...last time we played Test cricket, we loved the combination of Joe Burns and David Warner. They've got a real synergy, they work well together, so at this point I'd say that'll remain the same," he added.

Joe Burns and David Warner has scored 1,365 runs at 50.56 as an opening pair, playing an important role in Australia's ascent to the top of the ICC Test rankings. — PTI

## IPL is ready for expansion: Dravid

**New Delhi, Nov. 13:**

Former India captain Rahul Dravid strongly believes that Indian Premier League (IPL) is "ready for expansion" in terms of number of teams without compromising on the quality as well as quantity of talent available in the country. There are talks that the 2021 IPL will be featuring nine teams instead of eight and will go up to 10 teams by 2023, which has always been the BCCI's long-term plan.

The views of Dravid, who is now the director of National Cricket Academy (NCA), were echoed by Rajasthan Royals co-owner Manoj Badale, who felt that a nine-team IPL in 2021 is "definitely possible".

"I feel IPL is ready for expansion in terms of talent, if you look from talent perspective. There are a lot of talented players who are not getting an opportunity



Rahul Dravid

to play," Dravid said. Dravid said that if there are more teams, all the talented players could be fitted in and there won't be a drop in quality.

"So I believe we are ready as there are lot of new names and faces in terms of talent perspective," Dravid said during the virtual launch of Badale's book 'A New Innings', which he co-authored with former English cricketer Simon Hughes. — PTI

## WI SQUAD TO TRAVEL TO NZ POST CLEARING COVID TEST

**Christchurch, Nov. 13:** The entire West Indies cricket contingent has cleared the third and final round of Covid-19 test and will be leaving for Queenstown on Friday ahead of the first warm-up match against New Zealand 'A' beginning November 20.

The Caribbean team has been in isolation since arriving in New Zealand on October 30 for the T20I and Test series. All the members had cleared the first two round of testing.

"All members of the West Indies team have returned negative results from their third and final COVID-19 tests, conducted on Day 12 of the ongoing tour of New Zealand," West Indies Cricket Board said in a statement. — PTI

## Verstappen best at Turkish practice

**Istanbul, Nov. 13:** Red Bull driver Max Verstappen posted the fastest time on Friday in the second practice for the Turkish Grand Prix as speeds improved following a slow first session on a slippery track.

Verstappen was 0.4 seconds quicker than Ferrari driver Charles Leclerc and 0.58 ahead of Valtteri Bottas. Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton was 0.85 back in fourth place on a resurfaced circuit low on grip and which last hosted a F1 race in 2011.

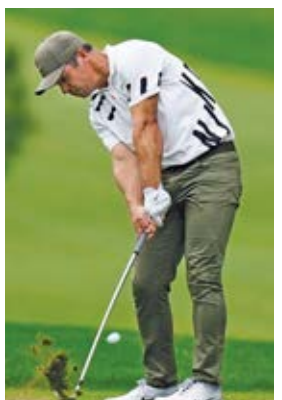
Hamilton is looking to secure his seventh F1 title and equal Michael Schumacher's record. He is the runaway championship leader and only needs to finish ahead of

Bottas on Sunday to win the title.

Verstappen's best lap was 1 minute, 28.33 seconds, considerably better than his fastest time of 1:35.077 in the first session. But although times improved as tires got warmer in the afternoon, Verstappen's leading mark was still three seconds slower than Sebastian Vettel's pole position for Red Bull nine years ago.

Verstappen finished ahead of teammate Alexander Albon and Leclerc, who skidded into a bollard at the pit lane entrance early on.

Meanwhile, Hamilton took no risks and ended that practice run down in 15th place. — AP



Paul Casey in action during the Masters golf tournament in Augusta, Georgia, on Thursday. — AP

with five birdies and an eagle at the par-5 second, the Englishman was bothered by shots he felt he left on the course.

"It was a great round. It was just very solid golf. I

— AFP