



## WINDOWS



An artist gives finishing touch to an idol of 'Asur', decorated to resemble coronavirus, ahead of upcoming Durga Puja festival, at Kumartuli in Kolkata, Sunday

## Maharashtra to relocate Metro car shed at Aarey

**Mumbai:** Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray on Sunday announced the scrapping of Aarey metro car shed and said the project will now come up at Kanjurmarg in Mumbai. In a webcast, Thackeray said the project will be shifted to a government land in Kanjurmarg and no cost will be incurred for the purpose. "The land will be available at zero rate," he said. He said the building which has come up in Aarey forest will be utilised for some other public purpose. ▶ **P3**

## Centre calls Punjab ryots to discuss farm laws

**Chandigarh:** Punjab's farmers' organisations, who have been protesting against the new farm laws, on Sunday said the Centre has once again invited them for talks on the issue on October 14. A decision on whether to accept the invitation will be taken at a meeting in Jalandhar on October 13, they said. The farmers' organisations, whose agitation against the farm laws has disrupted rail traffic and severely impacted coal supply for thermal power plants in Punjab, had last week rejected the Union Agriculture department's invitation to participate in a "conference to address their concerns" on October 8.

## BUSINESS



**Mkts may continue rally in short-term**



It will work. Just wait for a few years!

## Delhi restaurants victims of licence raj, says Kejriwal

**Asks civic bodies to stop issuing licences**

**PURNA SINGH**

**New Delhi:** Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Sunday said the restaurants in Delhi face harassment due to 'licence raj'. He hoped that the city corporation would soon follow the FSSAI directive not to issue food licences.

A few days ago, the Delhi government announced the abolition of police licences and health trade licences for restaurants, which are issued by BJP-ruled city corporations. The government has set a deadline of 10 days to terminate the health trade licences. Corporations allege that the decision of the Delhi government is a 'trick' to weaken the municipal corporations and said that they will seek legal opinion to 'counter' the move by the AAP government.

"Restaurants contribute to Delhi economy and taxes in a big way.

They face harassment due to licence raj. All governments should work together to remove harassment. Central government body FSSAI has directed MCDs to stop issuing food licences. I hope MCDs will comply soon with Centre's directions," Kejriwal said in a tweet on Sunday.

The Delhi government's decision to abolish licences for restaurants was taken at a meeting chaired by Kejriwal. It was attended by restaurant owners.

In the meeting, the restaurateurs had said the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) already issues food safety and hygiene licences. Issuing of health trade licences by local bodies duplicated the task and was irrelevant.

North Delhi Mayor Jai Prakash had said he has sought legal opinion to counter the government's move.

**Continued on Page 5**

## PM launches property cards scheme

### SVAMITVA transforms villages, claims Modi

**PURNA SINGH**

**New Delhi:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday launched the 'Survey of Villages and Mapping with Improved Technology in Village Areas' (SVAMITVA) scheme and hailed it as a 'historic move' that will transform villages in rural India. Through this scheme, Modi said, no bank can deny loans to the people with proper documents.

Through a virtual video-conference, Modi interacted with the beneficiaries of the scheme and said that it will enable people in rural areas to use property as a 'financial asset' for taking loans. "The scheme will also help villagers in taking loans. If they have proper documents of their land and properties, no bank can deny them loans," he highlighted.

The beneficiaries of the new scheme would include 1 lakh property holders who would get 'property cards' by their respective state governments, a statement by the PMO said. These beneficiaries come from over 760 villages across six states. These include 346 in Uttar Pradesh, 221 in Haryana, 100 in Maharashtra, 44 in Madhya Pradesh, 50 in Uttarakhand and two villages in Karnataka. Emphasising on the changes brought in rural India infrastructure under his tenure, Modi said that "today, nearly two crore poor families in the



Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the launch of the physical distribution of property cards under the 'SVAMITVA' (ownership) scheme, via video conferencing, in New Delhi on Sunday

## Modi attacks rivals for opposing agri reforms

**New Delhi:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday hit out at the Opposition, saying those whose politics is powered by brokers and middlemen are spreading 'lies' about his government's reform measures and asserted that the country will not waver from this path. Farmers are not going with those who have opposed 'historic' reforms enacted by his government, he said.

Speaking at a programme to launch the physical distribution of property cards under the 'SVAMITVA' (ownership) scheme, Modi said his government has done more for villages and its residents in the last six years than what was done in the six decades before that. In this context, he referred to a number of projects,

including opening of bank accounts, building of toilets and houses, cooking gas scheme and electrification. Rural India was left to fend for itself by those who ruled the country earlier, Modi said in a swipe at the Congress. Many people don't want villages, poor, farmers and labourer to be 'aatmanirbhar', the prime minister said.

mukh on their birth anniversaries that coincided with the scheme's launch. "I'm delighted that such great work is being done on a day that has historic importance," he said, adding that raising the voice of the village and the poor has

The beneficiaries of the scheme include 1 lakh property holders who will get 'property cards' by their respective State governments. The beneficiaries come from over 760 villages across six States of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Karnataka

been a shared resolve of the life of JP and Nanaji. The PM said, "Nanaji used to say that when the people of the village are stuck in controversies, then neither will they be able to do their development nor the society." The ownership plan is a scheme of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj. The Prime Minister started it on April 24 on the National Panchayat Day. The objective of the scheme is to provide property cards with record of rights related to the owners of households in rural areas.

According to the PMO, this scheme is to be implemented in four years (2020-24) across the country in a phased manner. About 6.62 lakh villages will come under its purview.

## Pak violates ceasefire in Poonch, Rajouri

**Jammu:** Pakistani troops on Sunday shelled mortars in three sectors along the Line of Control in Poonch and Rajouri district of Jammu and Kashmir, a defence spokesperson said.

The shelling from across the border in Degwar and Khari Karmara sectors in Poonch and Rajouri's Sunderbani drew a befitting retaliation by the Indian Army, he said, adding that there was no immediate report of any casualty.

Pakistan initiated unprovoked ceasefire violation by firing with small arms and intense shelling with mortars in Degwar sector around 6.15 pm. It was followed by firing and artillery shelling in Khari Karmara at 6.40 pm, the spokesperson said.

At 6.45 pm, Pakistani troops targeted forward areas along the LoC in Sunderbani sector of Rajouri district, he said.

**POLITICKLE by MANJUL**



## Delhi grapples with poor air

**HANS NEWS SERVICE**

**New Delhi:** The national capital's air quality was recorded in the 'poor' category for fifth consecutive day on Sunday, while a government agency said it is likely to improve slightly in the coming days due to a change in the wind direction.

The city recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) of 218 at 10:30 am, with Jahangirpuri (AQI 283) recording the highest pollution levels in the capital. On Saturday, the 24-hour average AQI stood at 221, which falls in the "poor" category.



An AQI between 0 and 50 is considered "good", 51 and 100 "satisfactory", 101 and 200 "moderate", 201 and 300 "poor", 301 and 400 "very poor", and 401 and 500 "severe".

The Ministry of Earth Sciences' air

quality monitor, SAFAR, said the AQI is likely to improve to the "moderate" category by Monday. Farm fires were observed in Punjab adjoining Pakistan, Haryana, and Uttar Pradesh which is likely to impact Delhi's air quality on Sunday, SAFAR said. However, the wind direction will change to easterly and the impact of farm fires will reduce, it said.

On Sunday morning, Delhi's minimum temperature settled at 19.8 degrees Celsius. The maximum wind speed was 15 kilometers per hour and the direction was west-northwesterly.

**Continued on Page 5**

## Maoists kill TRS leader in TS

**ADEPU MAHENDER**

**Mulugu:** Exactly a week after the top cops' meeting in Venkatapuram, Maoists hit back by killing a TRS leader, thus heralding that they are here to stay and confront. It may be recalled here that Senior Security Advisor to the Union Home Ministry K Vijay Kumar, Telangana DGP M Mahender Reddy and others descended on Venkatapuram on October 4 to devise a plan to suppress the Maoists' insurgency in



the region. Against this backdrop, at least six armed rebels knocked the door of Maduri Bheemeshwar Rao alias Beesu, a small-time politician and a fertiliser

trader in Aluaka village, 18 kilometres from Venkatapuram mandal headquarters and nearly 300 km northeast of Hyderabad, at around 11 pm on Saturday. They asked Beesu to come out but when he refused to do so, five of them barged into his residence. They stabbed him to death. Beesu's wife said even though she profusely urged them, the Maoists killed her husband. It's learnt that the police recovered a knife and two empty bullets at Beesu's residence. **Continued on Page 5**

## 'Feeling Great'

**Says Trump at first event after Covid diagnosis**



**Washington:** President Donald Trump rallied hundreds of cheering supporters for a campaign-style comeback event at the White House on Saturday, jumping back into the election race nine days after being stopped in his tracks by Covid-19.

"I am feeling great!" Trump declared as he stepped out to a White House balcony -- tugging off his mask to address the crowd below, most of them masked under their red "Make America Great Again" hats, but with little social distancing.

"Get out and vote -- and I love you," Trump told supporters, who chanted back "USA" and "Four

more years" throughout the address lasting just under 20 minutes.

Badly trailing his 77-year-old Democratic rival Joe Biden in the polls less than four weeks from Election Day, Trump has been counting the days until he can hit the ground again.

The White House doctor announced late Saturday the president was "no longer considered a transmission risk."

Tests showed there was "no longer evidence of actively replicating virus" and that Trump's viral load was "decreasing," Sean Conley said -- though he did not state that the president is now virus-free.

## GST Council to discuss compensation issue again today

**New Delhi:** The GST Council in its meeting on Monday is likely to discuss the suggestion of non-BJP ruled states of setting up a ministerial panel to develop consensus on the issue of compensation, sources said.

The Council, chaired by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and comprising state Finance ministers, will for the third time in a row discuss the issue of funding the shortfall of Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenue of states.

While some opposition ruled states are demanding that a Group of Ministers be set up to arrive at a decision on the mechanism for funding compensation shortfall,



File Photo

BJP ruled states, which have already opted for the borrowing option given by the Centre, are of the view that they should be given a go ahead so that they can get money quickly.

The single agenda 43rd meeting of the Council will discuss on the way forward, sources said.

In its previous meeting last week, the Council had decided to extend the surcharge on taxes on

luxury goods such as cars and tobacco products beyond June 2022 but failed to reach a consensus on ways to compensate states for loss of tax revenue.

The projected total compensation shortfall in current fiscal stands at Rs 2.35 lakh crore.

The Centre in August gave two options to the states to borrow either Rs 97,000 crore from a special window facilitated by the RBI or Rs 2.35 lakh crore from market and had also proposed extending the compensation cess levied on luxury, demerit and sin goods beyond 2022 to repay the borrowing.

Following demand by some states, the amount of Rs 97,000

crore was increased to Rs 1.10 lakh crore.

As many as 21 states -- which are BJP ruled or have supported it on various issues -- have opted to borrow Rs 1.10 lakh crore to meet the compensation shortfall.

The Centre has released Rs 20,000 crore to the states towards compensation shortfall so far in the current fiscal.

Under the GST structure, taxes are levied under 5, 12, 18 and 28 per cent slabs.

On top of the highest tax slab, a cess is levied on luxury, sin and demerit goods, and the proceeds from the same are used to compensate states for any revenue loss.



# Womenia



## Despite all odds, this homemaker makes a mark

THIRUNAGIRI  
VENKATESHWARA SWAMY

Instead of sitting quiet in the house and spend time watching Television after completing the household works along with sending husband to the office and children to the school, Siliveri.

Padmavathi, a housewife thought of doing something innovative, searched for employment opportunities, learnt business skills, selected a new path and with firm determination she established Ultra-thin sanitary napkin industry, first of its kind in Telangana state.

S Padmavathi, native of Yellandu of Khammam district got married to Rajendar of Karimnagar district in 1996. Deriving inspiration by reading the success stories of women in dailies, she decided to start a small scale business which has scope for creativity and started a Saree painting business after learning it and also given training to the other women.

Later after a few years, she learnt tailoring and opened a tailor shop in Mankammathota and worked as a trainer in Alganoor Mahila Pranganam for four years and gave training to about 500 members of women in tailoring and preparation of napkins under Integrated Skill Development Scheme.

When she was working as a trainer, she realized that many girls and women are facing problems during menses cycle (Menstrual cycle) for not using hygienic sanitary napkins. Some are falling victims to various kinds of diseases due to unhygienic conditions unable to buy the sanitary napkins in the shops which have high prices. To help such girls and women, S Padmavathi established SP industries in the month of February,

2020 by taking loan from the bank with the support extended by the officials she purchased the machinery required from Mumbai and decided to produce sanitary napkins in the name of 'Right-Way'. When she was gearing up to start the production on a large scale by deploying employees, the outbreak of Coronavirus pandemic came as a huge blow to S Padmavathi. Without any production work, paying bank installment-severy month with no income, Padmavathi faced financial problems. But she did not lose hope, for the sake of other women who believed her, she somehow managed to pay them salaries.

She came to know that the Prathima Medical college decided to distribute around one crore masks free to the public. She consulted the management of the college, grabbed the opportunity of making one crore masks and started the works in the SP industry which was established by her with women employees. Hundreds of women employees got employment opportunities during their hard times when the Coronavirus broke out and Padmavathi became a real inspiration to them.

Padmavathi shares, "I established Tailors Cooperative Society in the united Karimnagar district with an aim to help the poor women and provide employment opportunities to them and established around 40 societies across the united district."

Taking her as an inspiration around 120 societies were established across the state in several districts.

Padmavathi also shared that after relaxation was given in lockdown orders, she started production works of Ultra-thin Sanitary napkins first in Telangana state

by taking loan from the Central government under Atmanirbar Bharat Abhiyan Scheme. Around 200 members are working in the industry out of which 85 percent of them are women from weaker sections. She said that she was able to establish such a big scale industry with the support extended by her partners Kavitha, Swaroopa and Ch Swarupa along with her family members and friends.

"The Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao and chief secretary Smitha Sabharwal who came to know about SP industries appreciated and assured me that they would visit once whenever they get an opportunity," She said with a smile on her face.

SUJATA ASSOMULL

The Fashion Week film is here to stay. It does seem like the most socially responsible way of continuing with the fashion week system.

The first fashion week to embrace a full digital format was London Fashion Week in June. You would think going digital would increase social media traction for the industry but Launchmetrics, a company that tracks online activity, noted that the digital version of London Fashion Week social media engagement dropped by 55 per cent when compared to the January version- which was held as a traditional fashion week.

India Couture Week (ICW) held last month was a fully digital event; Lakme Fashion Week which starts on the 21st of this month is also a digital event and the FDCI Lotus Fashion Week has opted for the hybrid 'phygital' format opening next Friday.

Of course we are all new to this medium and we are still adjusting and understanding it—but there are some basic principles that designers need to keep in mind. Having watched over 50 fashion films in the last month alone, I do have some requests to designers in India.

### SWITCH OF THE COMMENTS

During one of the first digital showcases by an Indian couture designer staged at the time of lockdown, the comments were kept on—with bloggers singing praises to the stylists and choreographers, a veteran journalist commenting on outfits as they went down the runway and yesteryear supermod-

els shouting out their love for a designer. Such activity of course takes place during a fashion week—but at the after show cocktails, not while the show is on. The commentary distracted from the show and turned into a backdrop for a digital catch-up.

### EMBRACE THE NEW MEDIUM

The narrative of film must have a point of view that enhances the collection. At these difficult times designers need to make clothes they know will sell, and the film format may actually be a good thing for this. At India Couture Week, Amit Aggarwal's fashion short was shot by Artfoto Studios. On display were lenghas and sari using metallic molded surface details, a look that is very much Aggarwal's trademark.

Right now it makes business sense for designers to stick to their signature look—but they need to inject some freshness, a new perspective. As a designer who has always believed in the use of up-cy-

clad materials and in making bridal weightless- shooting these pieces underwater really emphasized the brand's philosophy. His models were turned into mermaids, and you were transported to an underwater escape. It was creative, conceptual and commercial.

### NO CORPORATE FILMS PLEASE

There is no need to start off the fashion film with a short synopsis of the brand's journey voiced by the designer. Fashion week films are not corporate films. A Wikipedia sounding introduction is not necessary— the press release can include that if you like. Would you start a fashion runway presentation with a slideshow on the history of the brand? Not only is it unnecessarily indulgent, but it means that you managed to bore the audience before the first garment has taken center stage.

### DO NOT MAKE FALSE STATEMENTS

Keep it authentic, film is not a

forgiving medium and there is no room for pretension here. So if you are making a film which is about the ecosystem of fashion; in India the very basis of the industry is our craftsmen, so perhaps that should be your highlight and not celebrity stylists? (I am sure you can guess which India Couture Week film I am referring to here.) And you can't weave in a celebrity showstopper into your film for no reason other than getting eyeballs (Unless of course you are Manish Malhotra— whose tie to films is obvious and not forced).

### EDIT, EDIT, EDIT

A digital audience is even more fickle than a live audience and playing the fast forward button is very tempting. In this format even one outfit can be enough, as Beirut based label Maison Rabih Kayrouz proved during Paris Couture Week. It revolved around the making of one dress, emphasizing that every couture creation is a true work of art. A five minute video with the late Sadiq, an Arab icon providing the background music and young Lebanese dancer, Youssra Mohsen was the model—a true melting pot of many creative genres. The protagonist of the film is a calf length flame orange dress, constructed using a very intricate grosgrain ribbon and cord based process. Ribbon and cord usage is one of this label's trademarks, and for this dress more than 80 meters of ribbon was used. A label that has dressed Celine Dion, Jada Pinkett Smith and Ciara, this dress is bound to find itself on the red carpet as soon as the event season is reinstated.

## A guide to fashion filmmaking



Collection By Dolly J @ FDCI ICW 2020

## Ensuring holistic fitness of mind and body

PUJA GUPTA

The truth is that our body and mind are not separate identities, they are one. Our mind is our subtle self while our bodies are the gross self.

On an average we have sixty to seventy thousand thoughts in a day and a large percentage of these thoughts are stressful especially during the current times, points out Reebok Mind Coach Vrinda Mehta. This excessive stress energy is connected to almost all lifestyle diseases such as dia-

### HERE ARE A FEW SIMPLE TIPS ON HOW MENTAL HEALTH CAN BE KEPT IN CHECK THROUGH POSITIVE LIFE HABITS

betes, hypertension, cardiovascular diseases, obesity, depression, anxiety and much more, she says.

We cannot always control what happens around us but what happens within us can be brought under our control with true knowledge, diligent practice, and patience. Just like we follow a healthy diet and a regular exercise routine for physical fitness we need to have a healthy mental diet of positive thoughts, emotions and regular breathing exercise or pranayama to ensure mental wellbeing.

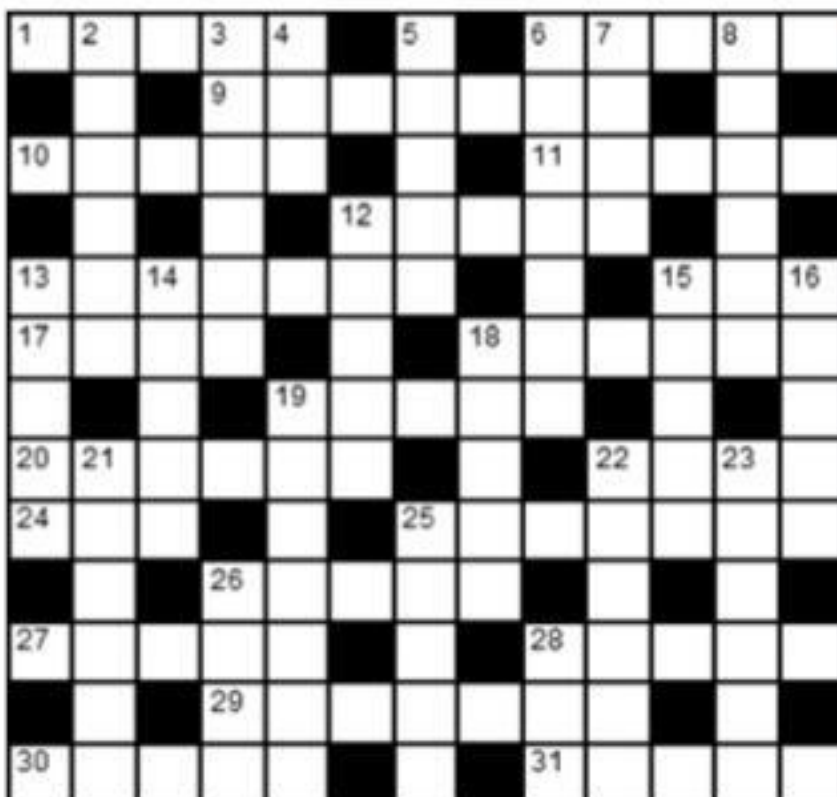
As the World marks Mental Health Day on October 10, she shares a few simple tips on how mental health can be kept in check through positive life habits.

Begin your day with the 5 basic Pranayama or breathing techniques: The Bhastrika, Kapalbhathi, Anulomvilom, Bhramri and Udgeeth Pranayama.

According to the yogic science, our mind and our breathing are directly connected. Include positive affirmations in your pranayama routine. Become aware of your breath. Get into the habit of taking slow deep breaths especially when you are stressed out. Surround yourself with positive people.

Think and talk about positive things. Keep a gratitude journal. Make a habit of writing down 5 things that you are grateful for each day. Connect with nature. Get some sunshine as it is a powerful electromagnetic energy that helps in cleansing and rejuvenation. Reconnect with mother earth by walking barefoot on grass/sand to destress.

Listen to calming soothing music to relieve stress. Get proper sleep by going to bed and waking up at the same time every day and staying away from electronic gadgets before bedtime. Consciously develop a habit of being positive in any given scenario and truly grateful for all that you already have.



SOLUTION TO OCTOBER 10

### CROSSWORD

#### Across

- 1 Crooked (5)
- 6 Old sailors (5)
- 9 Foolish persons, dullards (7)
- 10 Pretend (5)
- 11 Imitating (5)
- 12 Contemptible sorts (5)
- 13 Import goods illegally (7)
- 15 Yellowish matter (3)
- 17 Being in Latin (4)
- 18 Centres of atoms (6)
- 19 Religion of the Koran (5)
- 20 Discourse (6)
- 22 Engrave with acid (4)
- 24 Make a mistake (3)
- 25 Evil (7)
- 26 Act as advocate (5)
- 27 Port of ancient Rome (5)
- 28 Porcine sounds (5)
- 29 Continuing (7)
- 30 Injury (5)
- 31 Burger garnish (5)

#### Down

- 2 Gives off vapour (6)
- 3 Employ (6)
- 4 Be victorious (3)
- 5 Conscious of (5)
- 6 Sports ground (7)
- 7 Serpents (4)
- 8 Taste organ (6)
- 12 Conflict (5)
- 13 Inward feeling (5)
- 14 Theatre attendant (5)
- 15 Walt Disney character (5)
- 16 Yearns, pines (5)
- 18 Titled (5)
- 19 Reykjavik is its capital (7)
- 21 Rapidly (6)
- 22 Flag of nationality (6)
- 23 Slightly mad (6)
- 25 Devastation (5)
- 26 Subatomic particle (4)
- 28 Yoko \_\_\_\_ : wife of John Lennon, the Beatle ? (3)

### SUDOKU



SOLUTION TO OCTOBER 10

### NEWS ROUNDUP

#### Singer Palak Muchhal opens up on life amid pandemic

Singer Palak Muchhal recalls utilising her lockdown days performing online, judging a virtual reality show and shooting for a music video at home. She also got time to spend with her family.

She shares, "I have been recording a lot of songs during lockdown. Having a studio at home is a blessing in disguise and it's the best thing that has happened to us. I have actually recorded more songs than often during lockdown. Live concerts weren't happening but we did some good virtual live concerts. That was a different experience. My recordings have been happening from my studio. I am also judging a virtual reality show and I shot a music video at home."

Apart from working, Palak also created space for personal growth during this phase.

"I was determined to use this time for personal growth, doing things I wouldn't otherwise get a chance to do. Because I keep travelling, shooting and recording, I don't get time to pursue other activities. So, I used this time in learning new things. Being with family was the best thing that happened. Being at home and introspecting kept me busy, and my work wasn't hampered," she added. Palak recently launched a new track, "Saiyaan".

'Saiyaan' is a very very special song because primarily it has been composed by my brother Palash. I've seen him grow in front of me. So, to be in the same studio with him, and to receive direction from him as a composer was a very emotional process for me. 'Saiyaan' is an inter-genre song. It is a classical rock number, and to compose a song in this genre requires a deep understanding of music and sensibility," she shared.





# Nirbhaya and Hathras gang-rapes: 2 lawyers, 2 cases, one destiny



AMITA VERMA

**Lucknow(IANS):** Some call it a coincidence, others call it destiny but both of them say that it is a job for them. Two lawyers who fought the Nirbhaya case in Delhi, now pitted against each other in the Hathras case too.

Seema Kushwaha, who had fought the Nirbhaya case for the girl's family, is now the lawyer for the Hathras victim's family. "Apart from working as a

lawyer, I have also been doing social service, especially for women. I learnt about this incident on September 26 and was in touch with the family after that. I had reached out to the victim on September 29, but unfortunately, she passed away before I could meet her. I have been to Hathras to meet the family and I am touch with them," Kushwaha told IANS on Sunday.

Asked about the coincidence that she will be contesting

against the same lawyer who had fought for Nirbhaya's tormenters, Seema said, "The coincidence is that while I take up cases for victims, mostly women, he takes up cudgels for men. It is more of a gender issue."

A.P. Singh, who has been approached by the Akhil Bhartiya Kshatriya Mahasabha to contest the case on behalf of the four accused, all of whom are Thakurs, told reporters that his job was to fight for his clients and ensure

that innocent people do not go punished.

A.P. Singh, incidentally, has defended the likes of Nirbhaya's accused and Baba Ram Rahim and will now be defending -- the alleged accused in the Hathras case. He denied that he took up controversial cases to garner publicity.

He said, "No one is an accused until proven guilty in court. I am no one to decide what is right or what is wrong. The court will

take that decision. I only do my job." He said that the Hathras incident had been politicised beyond a point and the rape case was an afterthought.

About facing Seema Kushwaha once again in court, Singh said, "It is good that both of us will present our facts again. She is like my younger sister."

Seema will soon appeal court that the case be heard in Delhi. "That's what the family also wants," she said.

## FELUDA test to roll out in next few weeks: Harsh

**New Delhi (IANS):** Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan on Sunday said that rollout of the indigenously-developed faster and cheaper "FELUDA" Covid-19 test is expected in the next few weeks.

"While I cannot put an exact date on the availability, we should expect this test within the next few weeks," he said.

The FNCAS9 Editor-Limited Uniform Detection Assay (FELUDA) test is a paper strip test, similar to a pregnancy test, and has been approved by the Drug Controller General of India for a commercial launch.

Named after the renowned detective created by Satyajit Ray, the test was developed by Tata CRISPR (Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats) and the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research's (CSIR) Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology (IGIB).

Developed by Dr Souvik Maiti and Dr Debojyoti Chakraborty at the CSIR-IGIB, FELUDA has been touted to provide results in 45 minutes and is priced Rs 500.

Harsh Vardhan also said that



based on tests of over 2,000 patients during the trials at the IGIB and on testing in private labs, the test showed 96 per cent sensitivity and 98 per cent specificity. He also said that the test has already been validated by the Department of Atomic Energy's Bengaluru-based National Centre for Biological Sciences, Bangalore.

FELUDA is an alternative to the quantitative RT-PCR tests and experts found it highly specific. As per the experts, it is ca-

pable of detecting low copy number nucleic acids (less viral RNA quantity) as well as single nucleotide variations. It can distinguish between SARS-CoV-2 and SARS-CoV sequences which differ by a single nucleotide.

While RT-PCR needs a few hours, trained manpower and a dedicated and expensive machine, FELUDA provides similar sensitivity and specificity but requires only a basic widely available PCR machine and no extensively trained manpower.

### India's COVID-19 tally crosses 70 L

**New Delhi:** India's COVID-19 tally has crossed the 70 lakh, 13 days after it had crossed the 60-lakh mark, while the number of people who have recuperated from the disease crossed 60 lakh, according to the Union Health Ministry data updated on Sunday. The COVID-19 national recovery rate now stands at 86.17 per cent. The country's COVID-19 caseload mounted to 70,53,806 with 74,383 new infections being reported in the last 24 hours, as the death toll climbed to 1,08,334, the data updated at 8 am showed.

India's coronavirus cases jumped from 10 lakh to 20 lakh in 21 days. It took another 16 days, for the tally to cross past the 30 lakh mark, while just 13 more days to cross the 40-lakh mark and 11 days to go past 50 lakh. The cases rose from 50 lakh to 60 lakh in 12 days. It took 110 days for the COVID-19 cases in the country to reach one lakh while only took 59 days more to go past the 10-lakh mark.

### Father arrested for raping 10-year-old daughter in Mumbai

**Mumbai:** Police have arrested a man for allegedly raping his 10-year-old daughter at his residence in Mumbai's Vakola area, an official said on Sunday.

The 40-year-old accused and his wife were staying separately since the last four years.

While the man was living with his daughter in Mumbai, his wife was staying at Surat in Gujarat.

The Vakola police got a call from the Sion Hospital here, alerting them about the rape of the minor girl after she was taken to the hospital by her mother. When the police reached there, the girl informed them that she was allegedly raped by her father, the official said. The girl's mother told the police that her daughter came to visit her in Surat a few days back.

## Rahul flays Yogi, calls Hathras gangrape a 'shameful truth'

**New Delhi:** Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Sunday attacked the Yogi Adityanath government over the death of the 19-year-old Dalit woman from Uttar Pradesh's Hathras district. The Congress leader claimed that the UP chief minister and the state police authorities have been claiming that the Dalit woman was not raped because for them she was "no one."

Rahul Gandhi alleged that for most Indians Dalit, Muslim and tribal lives do not matter. "The shameful truth is many Indians don't consider Dalits, Muslims and Tribals to be human. The CM & his police say no one was raped because for them, and many other Indians, she was NO ONE," Gandhi tweeted tagging



a media report that claimed that the UP police denied that the victim was raped.

A 19-year-old Dalit woman from Hathras was allegedly raped and attacked by four upper-caste men. She later succumbed to her injuries at a Delhi's Safdarjung Hospital.

The Yogi Adityanath government has been severely criti-

cised for its handling of the case, particularly after the local police cremated the woman's body. The victim's family has alleged that they were forced to conduct the last rites.

However, officials have said the cremation was done "as per the wishes of the family". The CBI has taken over the investigation in the case.

### 18 dead in Thailand bus-train collision

**Chachoengsao:** At least 18 people were killed and more than 40 injured in Thailand on Sunday when a freight train crashed into a bus taking passengers to a religious ceremony, officials said.

The collision, around 50 kilometres (30 miles) east of the capital Bangkok, toppled the bus on its side and sheared off part of its roof. Dozens of injured passengers were rushed to nearby medical facilities for treatment, said provincial hospital director Sombat Chutimanukul. "Four are in critical condition and eight remain under observation" out of the 23 admitted to her hospital, she told reporters.

## TRP Scam: Mumbai police question Republic TV CEO

**Mumbai:** The chief executive officer of Republic TV, Vikas Khanchandani arrived at the Mumbai Police's Crime Branch office earlier on Sunday. Khanchandani is being questioned in the alleged TRP scam, in which Republic TV was named as one among the three channels being probed by the Mumbai Police. The owners of the two other channels Fakt Marathi and Box Cinema -- have been arrested. According to reports, Republic TV's Chief Oper-



ating Officers Hersh Bhandari and Priya Mukherjee have also been summoned by the Mumbai Police. Republic TV's Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Shiva Subramaniam Sundaram also re-

ceived summons by the Mumbai Police.

Mumbai Police chief Parambir Singh has alleged that Republic TV had falsely manipulated TRPs. The racket came to light when BARC, an organization that measures TRP, filed a complaint in this regard through Hansa Research Group Pvt Ltd, the police said. Republic TV has denied all allegations and has claimed that the channel is being unfairly targeted.

### MP Minister courts row over 'sold myself' remark

**Shivpuri (IANS)**

Madhya Pradesh Minister Suresh Rathkheda has sparked a political controversy by his remarks about "selling" himself while switching his loyalties from the Congress to the BJP along with Jyotiraditya Scindia, forcing him to clarify his position. Addressing a public rally at Borhanna village on Saturday ahead of the bypolls in the state, the Scindia loyalist reportedly said: "Some people will come to you and say don't vote for Suresh Rathkheda; he sold you. I sold myself only for serving the interests of the common man in Madhya Pradesh. That's why I left the Congress with Scindia."



### 100% cut-off in DU for 3 UG courses

**New Delhi:** Delhi University announced its first cut-off list for admission to undergraduate courses with Lady Shri Ram College pegging the score at 100 per cent for three Honours courses. This is the first time in five years that a 100 per cent cut-off has been announced for undergraduate admissions. The Central university's cut-off had last touched the centum mark in 2015. Last year, Hindu College had pegged the highest score of 99 per cent for Political Science Honours.

While the 100 per cent cut-offs have been a matter of debate, the required marks were expected to be higher this year as over 1.84 lakh students scored above 90 per cent and more than 41,000 students scored above 95 per cent marks in CBSE's class 12 examination. Lady Shri Ram College For Women (LSR) has pegged the cut off at 100 per cent for three courses for general category aspirants -- BA (Hons) Economics, BA (Hons) Political Science and BA (Hons) Psychology. The college has the highest cut-off among science courses as well.

## 800 acres of Mumbai's Aarey declared forest

**Mumbai:** Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray on Sunday announced the scrapping of Aarey metro car shed and said the project will now come up at Kanjurmarg here. In a webcast, Thackeray said the project will be shifted to a government land in Kanjurmarg and no cost will be incurred for the purpose. "The land will be available at zero rate," he said.

He said the building which has come up in Aarey forest will be utilised for some other public purpose. "About Rs 100 crore expenditure was incurred for the purpose and it won't go waste," he said. Thackeray said the government had earlier declared 600-acre of Aarey land as forest but now it has been revised to 800 acre. There will be no infringement on rights of tribals in the Aarey forest, he added.

"Biodiversity in Aarey needs to be to be conserved and protected. Nowhere is there an 800-acre jungle in an urban setup. Mumbai has a natural forest cover," he said. Cases last year against citizens and environmentalists who protested

against the Aarey project and felling of trees in that area have been withdrawn, he said.

A day after taking oath as Maharashtra chief minister, Thackeray had announced a stay on construction of metro car shed in Mumbai's green lung Aarey Colony, where strong protests had erupted in October last year against the cutting of trees for the work.

The then BJP-led government in Maharashtra had come under fire from green activists in October when more than 2,000 trees were felled for a car shed, to be constructed in Aarey Colony adjacent to the Sanjay Gandhi National Park. The Sena, then the junior partner in the Devendra Fadnavis government, had opposed the felling of trees.

The Bombay High Court on October 4 had refused to declare Aarey Colony a forest and declined to quash the Mumbai municipal corporation's decision to allow felling of over 2,600 trees in the green zone to set up a metro car shed. Hours after the court gave a go-ahead, tree were cut at night, fueling outrage and protests.

## Class 8 pass jobs in WB: Research scholars, postgraduates apply

**Kolkata:** Several research scholars, postgraduates and engineering students in West Bengal have applied to the post of forest assistants, the qualification required for which is class 8 pass, a senior official said on Sunday.

The West Bengal government is hiring 2,000 'Bana Sahayaks' or forest assistants on a contractual basis to protect wildlife and prevent man-animal conflict.

"Many highly-educated applicants have applied for the job and told us that they don't have any hang-ups," said Subir Kumar Guha Neogy, the range officer of the Malda forest Division.

Among those who turned up for the recruitment process are PhD scholars and people having master's degrees, he said.

Sudeep Moitra, a post-graduate in History who applied for the position, said that he would prefer a government job even if it is contractual and requires a much lower qualification given the current situation amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

"The situation of the job market is dismal. The crisis has been aggravated by the COVID-19



pandemic with many people having lost their jobs, companies closed and the private sector freezing recruitment. I want to do any kind of government job even if that is contractual," he said.

Raktim Chanda, an MSc in Economics, said, "Being employed with a salary for a few thousand of rupees is better than doing nothing given the present economic situation."

The candidates applying to the post are being tested for reading

(30 marks) and writing (30) Bengali or any officially recognised language of the state.

Besides, the ability to read English or Hindi (10 marks), general knowledge (20), and personality fitness for forestry works (10) are also being examined.

"What can we do if highly-qualified people such as researchers apply for the job, which is much beneath their academic credentials. We can't prevent them," a senior forest department official in Kolkata said.



## Executive Vs Judiciary in AP: Big reason to worry

It is disconcerting that differences between the executive and the judiciary have emerged in Andhra Pradesh. Perhaps Andhra Pradesh has achieved the distinction of being the first state to lodge a complaint to the Chief Justice of India alleging that a judge of the apex court who is said to be the next in line for the post of Chief Justice was interfering in the judicial processes of the AP High Court. In 2019, we had seen Justice Rang Nath Pandey of the Allahabad High Court writing to Prime Minister Narendra Modi alleging “nepotism and casteism” in the collegium system for appointment of judges. There were also allegations that the selection of judges to both the High Courts and the Supreme Court is done in closed chambers “and over cups of tea” based on lobbying and favouritism. The names of future judges, he said, are made public only once the entire process has been completed. We had also seen former Supreme Court Judge Jasti

Chelmeswar saying that every government makes attempts at controlling judiciary. In India and abroad, governments like a tailor-made judicial system, but some are subtle and sophisticated about it. Chelameswar had even led the unprecedented press conference by four Supreme Court judges against the then Chief Justice of India Dipak Misra alleging that the top court was problematic — multiple benches in the Supreme Court created uncertainty in law.

But never was executive’s profound dissatisfaction with judiciary so evident as it is now in Andhra Pradesh. Though there has been criticism of judgements, never did any government allege that a particular judge (in this case N V Ramana), was interfering in the matters of High Court. The AP government seems to be unhappy with the spate of recent decisions of the High Court which had gone against them and the comments made by the judges during the hearing on many contentious issues. It feels that all the welfare measures it wanted to implement were being stalled by the High Court. What seems to have irked them most is the landing of the issue of the investigation into the alleged inside trading in Amaravati and scrapping of CRDA sometime back in the High Court

and the stay into the probe against the alleged perpetrators of the scam including Dammalapati Srinivasa Rao, former Advocate General and the orders issued by the High Court staying coverage of the same in media.

While it is highly debatable whether such issues should have been raised in public, the executive too needs to ponder over the reasons as to why the High Court had given judgements in certain PILs against the government? Are the courts on the wrong side or is there any flaw in the way certain decisions were taken by the political executive? The government also needs to answer whether it was proper for some people holding constitutional posts to make comments against the judges of the High Court. It had also not taken any action against those who posted objectionable comments against judges on social media forcing the High Court to take it up as suo motto case. It is time the Supreme Court took a serious view of the allegations made by the Andhra Pradesh government and cleared the air or else it could affect the faith of the common man in judiciary. A touch of pragmatism is what the judiciary and the executive need at this juncture.



## LETTERS

### Rudram-I a step ahead in missile technology

DRDO with collective effort of HAL and IAF indigenously developed antiradiation missile Rudram-I. Rudram-I was successfully tested from Su-30 MK-I. Rudram is a Sanskrit word which means ‘remover of sorrows’. Antiradiation missiles are designed to detect, track and neutral adversary’s radars and other radio frequency sources which are part of air defence system. This works on the principle of radio frequency source. This has a passive homing head which can detect, classify and engage targets over a wide range of frequencies. Once target is locked, it is capable of striking the target accurately even if the radiation source switches off in between. This missile can be compared to the US Navy AGM-88E advanced antiradiation guided missile inducted in US Navy in 2017. In the modern-day warfare, more and more network centric technology is boon for the nation.

**Rathna Manoj Kumar**, Chennai, Mancheril dist, TS

### We have right to know facts about coronavirus

After approximately 5,000 hours of uncertainty and anxiety due to Covid-19, the pandemic continues to spread unabated. Our humble question to the world is: When will Covid-19 stop being novel? Why are contrary facts and information about Covid-19 popping up every single day even after 200 days into the pandemic? It is an extreme cause of concern. I represent those confused citizens who get up one day and know something new about Covid-19 from the ICMR and the very next day getting completely contrasting update from WHO or the CDC-USA. Sometimes they say it is air borne and sometimes they say it transmits from surfaces or by heavy droplets etc. Through your newspaper, I urge the WHO to have an authoritarian leadership and lead the world safely; as we are still in extreme uncertainty moving forward to the new normal as the slogan says. Unfortunate, we strongly feel that there is a void in channelling genuine information from these medical bodies. We have the right to know what is happening. I would like conclude by expressing what I feel: ‘Authorised factual information on this virus is the initial vaccine for this virus’.

**Chodagam Sai Ganesh**, Gudimalkapur, Hyderabad

### Potential of corn should be fully exploited

Press reports indicate that agriculture department is worried about large scale cultivation of corn by farmers in the winter season. The problem cited is low demand which may lead to price drop. This may get resolved in some way, however the negativity on corn is not in the interest of our State. Corn is one cereal where high value addition is possible. Apart from food and feed end uses which have not been exploited to full extent on corn and it can be a valuable industrial raw material. Corn-derived products are used in large volumes in fermentation and biotech industries as the base medium. We can have a thriving industrial cluster on this base. GOI is helping the sugar industry by offering high price (Rs 62 per litre) for alcohol produced from sugarcane juice. Corn based alcohol can be lower than this. We are on the threshold of commercialising second generation of bio alcohol from cellulosic materials. Once this technology is standardised, corn stover and corn cobs from one-acre plantation may provide feed stock for thousand litres of bio ethanol. Planners need to consider the possibilities and initiate measures to exploit the potential of this crop.

**B Ranadheer Reddy**, Kukatpally, Hyderabad

### High time to thwart China’s machinations

The views expressed on the expansionist China, (Editorial, Oct 10) are prophetic and an eye opener to many democracies in the world. In this regard, it is no exaggeration to state that the Communist China, under the leadership of Xi Jinping, who is fit to be described as modern day Hitler, with a dangerous policy that pursues territorial expansion and international hegemony, is a threat to world peace today. It is high time for the rest of the world to unite against the evil designs of China, which is moving heaven and earth to expand its footprints over the world both physically and economically. Already, the deadly poisonous dragon has occupied 38,000 sq.km of Indian territory in 1962, and the current campaign of 2020, at LAC, is another attempt to make inroads into Indian territory, but India has successfully defeated the satanic incursions of China. Under these dangerous circumstances, it is the patriotic duty of all the democratic countries in the world to unite, form an alliance and teach China a befitting lesson or two.

**P H Hema Sagar**, Old Alwal, Secunderabad

**thehansreader@gmail.com**

# Sops can’t rev up electronics industry

## THE WAY AHEAD



**Dr Bharat Jhunjhunwala**

Minister of Communications, Electronics & Information Technology Ravi Shankar Prasad has expressed satisfaction that the numbers of mobile phone manufacturers in India have increased from two to 60 in the last five years. In parallel, Secretary Ajay Prakash Shawney has said that 90 percent of the mobile phones being sold in the country are being manufactured here. Further we have had a stream of news reports saying that electronics majors have submitted proposals to invest large amounts in India. Similar announcement was made in 2015 that these companies will invest 17 billion dollars. These are encouraging statements. However, the electronics majors were already present in India in 2016 when the Make in India programme was launched. Foxconn and Lenovo had given contracts to local companies to manufacture their products in Sri City, Andhra Pradesh and Sripurumbudur, Tamil Nadu; and Samsung had its own manufacturing facility in Noida, Uttar Pradesh. Question is this: Why have they not expanded in the last five years. In particular, a production facility of Motorola, a subsidiary of Lenovo, has been lying closed in Chennai. Lenovo has not even restarted its existing plant, let alone making new investment. The announcement made in 2015 that these companies will invest 17 billion dollars has clearly fallen flat.

A top chamber of commerce, Assocham has said in a report that the mobile phones being “manufactured” in India are actually only last line assembly just as the homemaker brings flour, pulse and vegetables and cooks a last line meal in the kitchen. This assembly work is not “manufacture.” The objective of Make in India and Atma Nirbhar Bharat schemes is to create self-dependence. These manufacturers continue to be dependent on the import of parts. This grim reality is seen in the electronics imports of 55 billion dollars against exports of mere nine billion dollars in 2018-19. We are

nowhere near becoming Atma Nirbhar. The truth is that there has been no progress since 2015.

I studied eight posts regarding the reasons of slow progress of electronics manufacturing in India on the internet. Six of eight posts complained about the unavailability of skilled workers. One post explained that our colleges were asking the students to “learn” the function of the 40 legs in an Intel chip — which they needed to memorise. Then the commentator says: “Even if the student were to become a repair technician, he wouldn’t be required to store the function of each of the parts of the dozens of varieties of chips in his mind. Instead, asking the student how he would use the integrated circuit to create a device would have been a hundredfold more stimulating, constructive, and productive.” Alas! The professors in our government colleges themselves do not know how to use the chips; and have no interest in learning it either because their salaries are secured as long as they churn out certificate-holding useless graduates.

Two of the eight posts complained about the cumbersome regulatory framework. I was told by a manufacturer from Bengaluru that the government had recently introduced a requirement that every export consignment would require to be accompanied by a certificate from a chartered accountant. The manufacturer has to now do additional paperwork to get the certificate. This takes an additional two days in delivery. The government is creating such new roadblocks at every step — the beneficiary of which, one may surmise, is the grease money obtained by the officials. Other reasons mentioned in the posts were legal hurdles in implementation of contracts, cost of capital, high rates of tax and cost of land and electricity. I am not convinced of these reasons but there is no occasion to discuss them here.

The government has made a laudable effort and made a scheme to provide 50 to 75 percent capital subsidy for investments in new electronics manufacturing facilities. This is not going to work. It is like giving oxygen to a person dying from malnutrition. As said above, the main roadblocks are our education system and government regulations. Investments will not come unless we solve these problems just as they have not



**The government has made a laudable effort and made a scheme to provide 50 to 75 percent capital subsidy for investments in new electronics manufacturing facilities. This is not going to work. It is like giving oxygen to a person dying from malnutrition. As said above, the main roadblocks are our education system and government regulations. Investments will not come unless we solve these problems just as they have not come after the launch of Make in India in 2016. It must be remembered that our bureaucracy gets more opportunities to get grease money in disbursing these subsidies**

come after the launch of Make in India in 2016. It must be remembered that our bureaucracy gets more opportunities to get grease money in disbursing these subsidies.

Perhaps the government is being driven by the bad advice given by the World Bank. The bank and other multilateral agencies like the United Nations are driven by the interests of the industrial countries. The governments of the countries, in turn, are driven by the multinational corporations. These corporations have no interest in developing manufacturing in India. Their objective, on the contrary, is to kill Make in India so that they can supply electronics goods from their plants in Vietnam and Taiwan where there is greater availability of skilled labour and less extortion by the bureaucracy. Thus, in its recent World Development Report, the World Bank has advised the government of India to reduce import duties. Interestingly, the World Bank has itself said in the same report that the share of international trade in global manufactured goods had increased from 43 percent in 2000 to 53 percent in 2008 when the global financial crisis took place. It declined to 45 percent in 2015 after the crisis. Now, it can only further contract after the corona pandemic. Therefore, the government should not

run after foreign investors as advised by the World Bank. The government must instead think through why would foreign capital come into India when our own high net worth individuals are leaving for better pastures?

The government should solve the basic problems of the economy instead of giving capital subsidies. The professors of government colleges do not themselves have practical knowledge. Their salaries are secure. They do not want to teach. Further, the private universities are unable to charge adequate fees to employ competent teachers since the cost of education in the government colleges is less. There is a need to free government colleges of the decrepit professors. Secondly, the government must reduce the extortion by the bureaucracy. Thirdly, the government will have to reduce the social divisions in the society and have a constructive dialogue with the Opposition; and improve the environment — water and air in particular. Investments - foreign or domestic — will take place when we provide pleasant living conditions. The present hype about the proposals of foreign investments will certainly prove a pipe dream.

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

# Haritha Haram: An emerald that changed landscape of Telangana

**VANAM JWALA NARASIMHA RAO**

According to the latest Forest Survey of India (FSI) report, Haritha Haram in Telangana has helped increase the forest cover and green cover in the State. According to the report, the Recorded Forest Area (RFA) in the State is 26,904 square kilometers of Forest land of which, 20,353 square kilometers is Reserved Forest, 5,939 square kilometers is Protected Forest and 612 square kilometers is Unclassed Forests.

The report says that, three national parks and nine wildlife sanctuaries constitute the protected area network of the State covering 5.08% of its geographical area. In terms of forest canopy density classes, the State has 1,608.24 square kilometers under Very Dense Forest (VDF), 8,787.13 square kilometers under Moderately Dense Forest (MDF) and 10,186.94 square kilometers under Open Forest (OF). Main reasons for the increase in forest cover in the State is due to Telangana ku Haritha Haram.

As a practical example of the Sanskrit adage Krushito Naasti Durbhiksham, Chief Minister K Chandrashekhara Rao has himself thrown up challenge in the form of an innovative programme, ‘Telangana ku Haritha Haram’. The one and only objective of this unprecedented successful programme is to increase the green and forest cover from 24% to 33% in the Telangana State with people’s participation or in other words, the active support of all sections of people.

There are umpteen valid reasons for taking up this ambitious programme on a grand scale. The Forest land in Telangana State is spread over 26,903.70 square kilometers of the total geographical area of 1,12,101 square kilometers, which accounts for 24% of the total geographical area in the State. To increase the green cover, the Telangana government has launched the

flagship programme ‘Telangana ku Haritha Haram’ during 2015-16. The agenda was to plant 120 crore seedlings outside the forest area and 10 crore seedlings in the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) and Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority (HMDA) areas in four years from 2015-16 to 2018-19 and planting and developing of 100 crore saplings inside the notified forests in four years from 2015-16 to 2018-19.

The aim is also to achieve 20 crore seedlings through taking plantations in the degraded forests through Artificial Regeneration Method (AR method). Remaining 80 crores seedlings targets are to be achieved through Rejuvenation of Degraded Forest through Assisted Natural Regeneration (ANR).

As against a target of 20 crores seedlings under the category of Inside Forests Planting, the actual achievement year wise since 2015-16 till the current year, respectively has been: 2.933, 3.933, 3.939, 2.898, 3.537 and 2.039 crores, with a cumulative total of 19.339 crore seedlings.

As against a target of 80 crores seedlings under the category of Inside Forests Planting and Rejuvenation, the actual achievement year wise since 2017-18 till 2019-20, respectively has been: 25.970, 4.570 and 4.727 crores, with a cumulative total of 35.267 crore seedlings.

As against a target of 120 crores seedlings under the category of Out-side Forests Planting, the actual achievement year wise since 2015-16 till the current year, respectively has been: 12.667, 25.862, 28.469, 27.777, 33.043 and 13.472 crores, with a cumulative total of 141.290 crore seedlings.

As against a target of 3 crores seedlings under the category of GHMC Planting, the actual achievement year wise since 2015-16 till the current year, respectively has been: 0.001, 0.849, 0.768, 0.431, 0.717 and 1.957 crores, with a cumulative total of 4.723 crore seedlings.



As against a target of 7 crores seedlings under the category of HMDA Planting, the actual achievement year wise since 2015-16 till the current year, respectively has been: 0.260, 0.970, 0.903, 0.876, 0.881 and 2.339 crores, with a cumulative total of 6.229 crore seedlings.

Cumulatively, as against a target of 230 crores seedlings under all categories, the actual year-wise achievement has been since 2015-16 till the current year, respectively, 15.861, 31.674, 60.049, 36.552, 42.905 and 26.242 crores, with a cumulative total of 213.283 crores seedlings.

The other achievements included, avenue plantations raised about 10,000 kms, 76 forest urban parks created, 59 Forest urban parks being developed in HMDA limits, 6837 Palle Prakriti Vanalu were set up in each Gram Panchayat till date, Pattana Pragathi Vanalu or Yadadri model plantation done in each ULBs nurseries estab-

lished in all 12751 Gram Panchayats and 143 Urban Local Bodies.

Totally 13,721 number of nurseries are established. Monkey food courts are raised about in 4,500 acres in Peddapally, Jangaon, Mulugu, Nirmal, Wanaparthy, Vikarabad, Kamareddy and Jagtial districts. The seedlings planted outside forests areas include the planting in roadside avenues, barren hills, river and canal banks, tank bunds and foreshore areas, institutional premises, religious places, housing colonies, farm bunds, community lands, municipalities, industrial parks etc. by various departments viz., Forest, Panchayat Raj and Rural Development, Excise, Education, Municipal Administration, GHMC, HMDA etc.

A lot of emphasis is given to plantation of fruit bearing plants, flowering plants etc., in and around house premises duly involving the households in the villages. The high-quality fruit bear-

ing grafted plants raised by Horticulture Department are being supplied by Forest Department to the household owners/beneficiaries on free of cost. Apart from the fruit bearing plants, the household owners are also being supplied ornamental plants. The planted seedlings are being maintained by providing tree guards, watering and protection etc., wherever required.

Latest technology is being used to monitor the seedling planted through geotagging. Green Brigades and Haritha Rakshana Committee have been constituted at various levels to ensure participation of the citizens in the programme and to make it a big public movement. So far 30,902 Green Brigade teams have been formed to protect the plants.

In order to involve the maximum population and stakeholders in the programme, publicity campaigns are being taken up through various media like print media, TV and radio channels, pasting posters on RTC buses plying through the State of Telangana and at prominent places.

On the occasion of World Environment Day, Rajya Sabha member Joginapally Santosh Kumar planted a sapling in Shameerpet in Medchel Mandal in Malkajgiri district.

Santosh’s Green India Challenge concept had evoked an unprecedented response from across the world including the Chief Ministers, Union Ministers, MPs, MLAs, film and sports and other eminent personalities as well as common citizens. Santosh’s Green Challenge became viral on the social media and it became a movement all over the country and in some parts of the world. Santosh’s should be congratulated for kicking up the awareness on greenery overnight and his challenge had attained the cult status.

*(The author is Chief PRO to the Chief Minister of Telangana. Views expressed are personal. Inputs from VJM Divakar)*



# Except Naidu, ‘paid artistes’, none opposes capital shift: Botcha

- Claims that people from all 13 districts in State welcome the govt's 3 capitals initiative
- Says the SIT investigation into Visakhapatnam land scam will be completed soon
- The State govt is focusing on Vizag Metro Project and the DPR is being prepared

HANS NEWS SERVICE

**Visakhapatnam:** Minister for Municipal Administration and Urban Development Botcha Satyanarayana said that the decentralisation is opposed by only TDP chief N Chandrababu Naidu and ‘paid artistes’ in Amaravati.

Addressing a press conference here on Sunday, the Minister said that Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy has a clear vision



Minister for Municipal Administration and Urban Development Botcha Satyanarayana addressing a press conference in Visakhapatnam on Sunday

in developing all regions of the State on equal fronts.

Botcha said people from 13 districts of the State are welcoming the three-capital initiative except Naidu and his army. “People know what happened when Naidu called for protest against injustice meted out to Amara-

vati. The decentralisation process has begun on the day it was announced in the Assembly,” the Minister mentioned.

The Minister stated that the Chief Minister is bringing in medical college and super-specialty hospitals in the region to provide medical services to the

interior tribal population. The Minister flayed TDP leader Ashok Gajapathi Raju over his false propaganda against the government. But the TDP leader, the Minister pointed out, who served as an Civil Aviation Minister, failed in establishing Bhogapuram Airport by rejecting the tender of Airports Authority of India. “We have reduced 500 acres allotted for Bhogapuram airport to set up a special economic zone in the surrounding areas. With this, the government will save Rs 2,000 crore as a part of the project,” Botcha said.

Further, the Minister added that the SIT investigation into Visakhapatnam land scam would soon be completed. About the MANSAS Trust row, the Minister said it's a private matter of the family and the State government has nothing to do with it.

The government is focused on Visakhapatnam Metro Project and DPR is being prepared, he stated.

## Jagan’s letter to CJI carries no weight: TDP

HANS NEWS SERVICE

**Amaravati:** Taking exception to Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy writing a letter to Chief Justice of India complaining against judges and courts, senior TDP leader Yanamala Ramakrishnudu said the Chief Minister was making a mockery of democracy and the Constitution and undermining the rule of law.

Ramakrishnudu pointed out that Jagan was A1 in 12 charge-sheets filed by the CBI and 5 charge-sheets filed by the ED. In a statement here on Sunday, Yanamala said that it was indeed an audacious and arrogant move on the part of Jagan Reddy to resort to mud-slinging on the judges directly. No prime accused in so many cases displayed such audacity to attack the courts in the past. This was undoubtedly a huge setback to the judiciary of the nation. In its affidavit, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has stated that Jagan had indulged in corruption to the tune of Rs 43,000 crore.

Ramakrishnudu recalled that

- Senior TDP leader Yanamala says Jagan has been named as A1 in 12 charge-sheets filed by the CBI and in 5 charge-sheets filed by the ED
- Says the CBI mentioned that Jagan indulged in corruption to the tune of Rs 43,000 cr

the Enforcement Directorate (ED) had attached already over Rs 4,000 crore worth property which belonged to Jagan Reddy. A person facing such serious charges by both the CBI and the ED had no moral right to comment on others.

The TDP leader said that Jagan Reddy's letter to the CJI would carry no weight considering his dubious track record of being an A1 in 16 charge-sheets. The letter might be an attempt to browbeat the lower levels of judiciary at a time when the CM's disproportionate assets cases were coming up for daily trials in the CBI Spe-

cial Court, Yanamala said.

The courts had only issued stay orders on the GOs issued by the government since they were in violation of the Constitution and the laws of the land, he pointed out.

Stating that Jagan Reddy began his rule with violations, Ramakrishnudu asked how the government could find fault with the AP High Court decision to issue stay order on the CRDA repeal decision. Yanamala recalled that Amaravati farmers had provided 34,000 acres for the construction of the capital city for the State. It is nothing wrong on the part of the court to block the shifting of government officers when the decentralisation and CRDA Repeal Bills were still pending for final clearance.

The TDP leader demanded the Jagan regime to explain how the courts could be faulted for staying government's decision to change medium of instruction in schools when the Right to Education Act insisted on imparting education in mother tongue.

# Rushikonda beach secures ‘Blue Flag’ tag

- It is among the eight beaches in the country that received the eco label
- Rushikonda beach has been shortlisted for meeting 33 parameters that fall under the four categories of environment education, environment management, safety and security and bathing water quality
- The Society of Integrated Coastal Management issued a letter of award to Bharat Vikas Group India Ltd, Pune, for the creation of infrastructure, pollution abatement and safety surveillance services at a cost of ₹7.35 crore for the project
- Soon, the prestigious Blue Flags will fly high dotting the beach

RANI DEVALLA

**Visakhapatnam:** Rushikonda beach has bagged the much-coveted eco-label ‘Blue Flag’ tag.

Tourism Minister M Srinivasa Rao mentioned that of the 13 beaches across the country that got nominated for the Blue Flag certification, eight have been accorded the tag and Rushikonda is one of them that received the eco label in Andhra Pradesh.

Meeting the parameters set by the Denmark-based Foundation for Environmental Educa-



A view of Rushikonda Beach

tion (FEE) for beaches, the eco label acts as a major boost to the tourism sector.

With this, the Rushikonda beach is heading towards sustainable tourism activities, ensuring coastal protection.

Initiated by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) and the Society for Integrated Coastal Management (SICOM), the Beach Environment and Aesthetics Management Services (BEAMS) project is a part of the World Bank funded Integrated Coastal Management (ICZM) for protection of coastal degradation and development of eco-tourism in India.

Along with the Rushikonda beach, Shivarajpur beach in Guntur, Ghogla in Diu, Kasarkod and Padubidri in Karnataka, Kappad in Kerala, Golden beach in Odisha and Radhanagar in Andaman have been accorded

the Blue Flag tag in the country. Rushikonda beach forms a part of the longest coastline in Andhra Pradesh. Based on a survey conducted, the National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management identified a safe bathing zone stretching up to 250-mt in Rushikonda beach.

The beach dotting Visakhapatnam got shortlisted for meeting 33 parameters that fall into four categories --environment education, environment management, safety and security and bathing water quality.

The Society of Integrated Coastal Management issued a letter of award to Bharat Vikas Group India Ltd, Pune, for the creation of infrastructure, pollution abatement and safety surveillance services at a cost of Rs 7.35 crore for the project.

Soon, the prestigious Blue Flags will fly high dotting the beach.

## Covid-19 recoveries breach 7 lakh mark in AP

- 5,210 new cases in last 24 hours

- 30 deaths reported and toll rises to 6,224

**Amaravati:** The overall number of Covid-19 recoveries in Andhra Pradesh crossed seven lakh on Sunday as the State's aggregate of confirmed positives touched 7.55 lakh.

More than 75,500 sample tests were conducted in 24 hours ending 9 am on Sunday that turned out 5,210 new cases of coronavirus disease.

The latest bulletin said the total number of confirmed cases touched 7,55,727.

In 24 hours, 5,509 patients had recovered while another 30 succumbed to the infection.

The Covid-19 table now showed 703,208 recoveries and 6,224 deaths so far. The active cases reduced to 46,295.

West Godavari district reached the 75,000 mark in total cases after 786 were added in a day while Chittoor went past 70,000 with the addition of 713. East Godavari reported 701 fresh cases of coronavirus and the lowest 161 came from Vizianagaram. Prakasam district reported eight fresh fatalities and Chittoor four. East Godavari, Guntur, Kadapa and Visakhapatnam reported three more coronavirus deaths each, the bulletin said.

## Delhi grapples with poor air

*Continued from P1*

Low temperatures and stagnant winds help in the accumulation of pollutants near the ground, affecting air quality. High levels of air pollution in Delhi is a year-round problem, which can be attributed to unfavourable meteorological conditions, farm fires in neighbouring regions and local sources of pollution.

## Suspecting wife's fidelity, man kills two

**Nellore:** A man killed two persons in Navalakula Thota area in the early hours of Sunday and surrendered before rural police voluntarily. According to Rural CI Srinivasulu Reddy, K Nageswara Rao from Ramateertham has been residing in Navalakula Thota area for the last 15 months along with his wife Nir-mala. He was suspecting his wife fidelity for some time as his distant relative Venkata Ratnam of Ramateertham moving closely with her.

- Two unidentified persons open five rounds of fire killing Mahesh and injuring another person near a bar under the limits of Nunna police station

- Harikrishna, friend of Mahesh, was also injured in the firing and he has been shifted to a private hospital for treatment

- Cops seize a Honda car abandoned by the miscreants at Mustabad in Krishna district

- Police Commissioner B Srinivasulu constitutes 10 teams to nab the culprits

HANS NEWS SERVICE

**Vijayawada:** In a shocking incident, two unidentified persons shot dead G Mahesh, an attender working in the office of the Vijayawada Police Commissionerate, late on Saturday night on the bypass road on the outskirts of Vijayawada and under the Nunna police station limits.

The incident created commotion in the city particularly within



Clues team collecting evidence at Nunna bypass road in Vijayawada on Sunday

Photo: Ch Venkata Mastan

the police department. The culprits opened five rounds of fire killing one person and injuring another.

According to information, Mahesh along with his friends was consuming beer at a bar on the bypass road on Saturday night. Two unidentified persons came to the bar and opened fire at Mahesh. He died on the spot.

The assailants then took the Honda car from the friends of the victim and left the area within no time.

Harikrishna, friend of Mahesh was also injured in the firing incident and was admitted to a private hospital. Harikrishna was in the police custody since the incident took place last night. Commissioner of

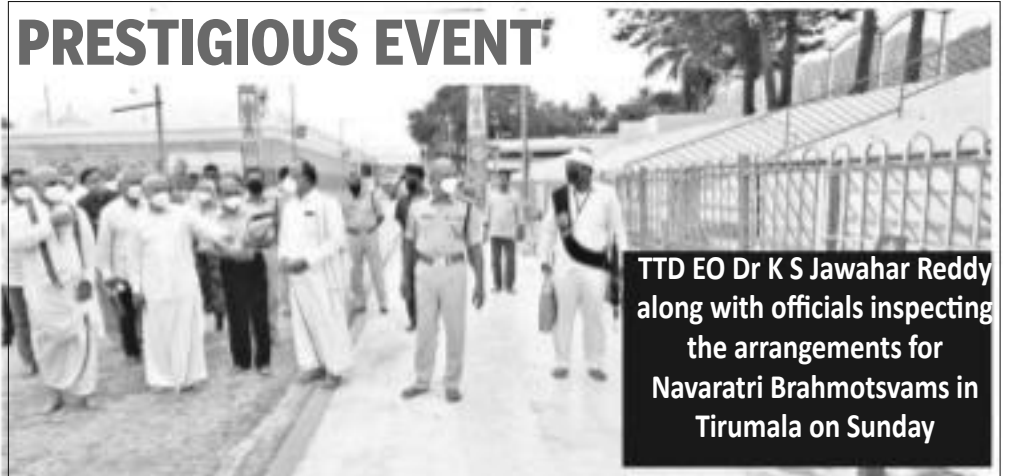
police B Srinivasulu inspected the scene of offence and constituted 10 teams to nab the culprits.

The dog squad and clues team were pressed into service. Initially it was suspected that Mahesh was murdered due to real estate related incident. But, his family said that he had no connection with the real estate business. Sunitha, sister of Mahesh, said he had no enemies and she could not understand why he was shot dead. She said her brother was also preparing for the constables examination and maintaining friendly relations with others. It is suspected that some personal reasons could have led to the murder which took place at about 11.30 pm.

The police verified the CC footage and the call data from the mobile phone of the victim as part of the investigation.

The investigating police seized the car which was used by the culprits. After committing the murder, they abandoned the car at Mustabad. The police seized their Honda car and collecting information about the owner of the car.

It is learnt that the car belonged to one Venkata Rao. The police suspect the car will provide vital information in the investigation.



## TTD EO inspects arrangements for Navaratri Brahmotsavams

HANS NEWS SERVICE

**Tirumala:** Ahead of the ensuing annual Brahmotsavam, Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) Executive Officer Dr K S Jawahar Reddy along with

senior officials inspected the arrangements being made for Navaratri Brahmotsavams in Tirumala on Sunday. The Brahmotsavam is scheduled for nine days from October 16 to 24. As part of it, he visited Vahana Mandapam from where the procession of Vahana Sevas commences daily in the morning and evening hours during the nine-day celebrations and also galleries, where this time the pilgrims will be allowed to sit to witness the Vahana sevas in the four Mada streets around the shrine.

The EO has also observed the markings made in the galleries where the pilgrims

will be seated to witness the Vahana sevas and also at the entry and exist points to guide the pilgrims maintaining physical distance while entering and leaving the galleries following the Covid guide lines.

Additional Executive Officer A V Dharma Reddy, Chief Vigilance and Security Officer Gopinath Jatti and chief engineer Ramesh Reddy explained about arrangements to check spread of coronavirus like installing foot operated sanitisers, thermal checking at various points including in the galleries.

Temple DyEO Harindranath, Addl SP Muniramaiah and others were present.

Meanwhile Anantapur Range DIG Kranti Rana Tata along with Tirupati Urban SP A Ramesh Reddy, senior police officers also inspected various places to oversee the arrangements being made for the orderly movement of the pilgrims following Covid guidelines and also for security during the nine-day Brahmotsavam.

DIG said police identified the pilgrim movements areas to guide them duly observing Covid guidelines like maintaining physical distance and also the shop keepers to keep sanitisers for pilgrims. Adequate police personnel will be posted at Alipiri, the entry point to

Tirumala for checking Tirumala bound vehicles and pilgrims in the pedestrian path ensuring that only darshan ticket holding pilgrim allowed to Tirumala for darshan and witness the Vahanasevas during the Brahmotsavam. Additional SP Muniramaiah, Tirumala DSP Prabhakar Babu and others were present.

## INCESSANT RAINS LASH PILGRIM CITY

HANS NEWS SERVICE

**Tirupati:** The district received widespread rains while incessant rains lashing the pilgrim city since Saturday evening. The district recorded an average rainfall of 32 mm (recorded at 9 am Sunday) while Tirupati Urban and Rural mandals registered a rainfall of 57 mm and 62 mm rainfall more than the district average rainfall on



Sunday. According to official sources, Pakala mandal recorded

the highest rainfall of 120 mm (10 centimeters), followed by Penumur 99, and Gurramkonda and Piler 90 mm each. As many as 20 mandals received rainfall ranging from 40 to 100 mm while 20 more mandals received 20 to 40 mm rainfall. The incessant rain saw waterlogged in many areas causing inconvenience to people while underground electric cable laying, elevated expressway and other

development works going on in the city

added more to waterlogging aggravating the inconvenience. Meanwhile, officials said that this year the district received good rains bringing cheers to the farmers expecting a rich harvest of foodgrains including paddy and groundnut the latter is the main crop in the current Kharif season. Except in June, the district received more than the nor-

mal rainfall

resulting in the district recording 70 per cent rains, more than the normal rainfall.

During 2020-21 upto now, the district received an average rainfall of 742 mm against normal 439 mm while the average rainfall for the year was 995 mm. With more rains predicted by MET officials, the district is expected to reach its normal rainfall this year.





Never invest at unreasonable valuations. Never run for companies which are in limelight  
-Rakesh Jhunjhunwala



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THE HANS INDIA  
DELHI MONDAY 12 OCTOBER 2020

## Mkts may continue rally in short-term

CHERUKURI KUTUMBA RAO

Backed by positive global cues, a strong start to the Q2 earnings season by TCS, dovish commentary from RBI, and hopes that stimulus package to bolster the economy will be announced before onset of festival season; the domestic markets notched strong gains for second consecutive week. The NSE Nifty gained 497 points, or 4.36 per cent, to close at 11,914 and the BSE Sensex climbed 1,812 points, or 4.68 per cent, to finish at 40,510 points. It is pertinent to observe that the seven consecutive days of gains is the longest winning streak seen so far in 2020. Retest of record highs by December 2020 is not ruled out. Broader markets were seen underperforming with 0.3 per cent fall seen in the S&P BSE Midcap index, and flat closing of the S&P BSE Small-cap Index. However, market players expect broader market to witness catch up activity since the Nifty Midcap and Small-cap indices have been forming a higher base at their 80 per cent retracement. Use Q2 results season to reshuffle portfolio with good Mid-cap and Small-cap companies, which are exhibiting good visibility of earnings for coming quarters. The key takeaway from RBI policy is maintenance of accommodative stance, optimism over India's growth story and willingness to take further steps to revive growth. Week ahead will be dominated by Q2 results from India Inc, macroeconomic data such as IIP for August, September CPI and WPI inflation numbers. Markets are expected to continue their rally in the short-term in

### MARKET Khabrein



Pandemic impact on economy will get fresh attention as the Q2 earnings season unfolds further this week

anticipation of further industry proactive measures from the government. Upcoming hearing of moratorium case in Supreme Court is also expected to drive the domestic market next week. For the market to move higher, market players need to see further stimulus from the government, to ensure that the recovery that is still ongoing can be at least smoothed over for next few quarters. The pandemic's impact on the economy will get fresh attention next week as the Q2 earnings

season unfolds further. Key earnings to watch out for would be HDFC Bank, Infosys, Wipro, HCL Technologies, Mindtree and Avenue Supermarts. US Presidential Election: With just 25 days before the US election, the race is dominating traders' attention across the globe. For months, they have been wagering on extreme volatility around the election through the derivatives, stocks and currency markets, wary that the outcome could remain undecided for weeks.

The S&P 500 rose Friday, closing out its biggest weekly advance in three months as investors welcomed signs pointing to a decisive result in next month's US Presidential election. Strategists say surveys and talks with investors have recently found a flip-flop on sentiment in the event of a Biden's win: Investors previously said it would be bad for stocks, but they now are predicting it would boost markets.

**Quote of the week:** Based on my own personal experience – both as an investor in recent years and an expert witness in years past – rarely do more than three or four variables really count. Everything else is noise. – Martin Whitman

### F&O/ Sector watch

On the back of sharp short covering, derivatives segment witnessed robust volumes. Option activity indicates maximum Put Open Interest (OI) at 11,500 followed by 11,000 strike; and maximum Call OI was at 12,500 followed by 12,000 strike. Marginal Call writing was seen in 12,400 and 12,200 strike while Put writing

was seen at 11,500 then 11,800 strike. The Implied Volatility (IV) of Calls closed at 17.54 per cent, while that for Put options closed at 18.97. The Nifty VIX for the week closed at 20.38 per cent. PCR of OI for the week closed at 1.50 up from the previous week indicating put writing. Punters expect Bank Nifty to outperform the markets once again as from technical front Bank Nifty has managed to close above its 200 days exponential moving average on daily charts and given breakout above the same with marginally higher volumes. The immediate resistance for Nifty is placed at 12,000 level, while for Bank Nifty 24,000 to 24,400 zone is immediate resistance. After better-than-expected numbers along with large Rs 16,000-crore share buyback by TCS, market players are expecting overall IT earnings to be strong on the sequential basis given the ramp-up in deals, rising spends by clients and pick in execution along with margin expansion amid cost measures. HCL Technologies is likely to deliver around 5.5 per cent sequential growth dollar revenue followed by Infosys (around 4 per cent) and Wipro (around 3.5 per cent). Wipro is also going to consider the share buyback proposal. Street reports indicate firm trends in both ferrous and non-ferrous metal prices. HR coil prices have notched multi month highs say retailers. Buy on dips Tata Steel, JSW Steel, National Aluminium and Vedanta. Stock futures looking good are Axis Bank, Colgate, Godrej Properties, LIC Hsg, M&M, Motherson Sumi and Ultratech Cement.

## IN SHORT

### Fund raising via equity issues jumps 28% in Apr-Sep

The pandemic may have brought economic activities to a standstill, but fund raising through public and rights of issue of equities increased nearly 28 per cent to Rs 76,830 crore during the first half of financial year 2020-21. During the same period last year, last fiscal, funds worth Rs 60,133 crore were raised through issue of equity shares. The BSE Sensex gained 46.5 per cent in April-September 2020-21 after hitting a low of 25,981 on March 23, 2020. "Resource mobilisation through public and rights issues of equity increased to Rs 76,830 crore during H1 2020-21 from Rs 60,133 crore in the corresponding period of the previous year," said the Monetary Policy Report for October 2020 released by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). It also showed that Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPI) turned net buyers in the Indian equity market after panic sales in March due to flight to safety.

### Fund outflows from equity MFs slow down

Hopes of an impending economic revival has narrowed the rate of net outflows from equity mutual fund schemes in September. The data from the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI) showed that net outflow stood at Rs 734.40 crore in September compared with an outflow of Rs 4,000 crore in August. In July, the net outflows stood at Rs 2,480.35 crore. Contributions through systematic investment remained flat at Rs 7,788 crore over the previous month in September. According to NS Venkatesh, Chief Executive, AMFI: "Steady Y-o-Y as also Q-o-Q rise in average AUMs for the MF industry during the July to September 2020 quarter at Rs 27.74 lakh crore is reflective of continued confidence of growing number of investors in Mutual Fund as an asset class for fulfilling long term wealth creation objective. Preference to Large and Mid-Cap funds, Focused funds category, as also continued strong emergence of ETFs as the low-cost mutual fund investment avenue, have been the high points during September 2020." On the Debt side, investors have preferred to continue with their investment in Banking and PSU Fund, Short Duration Funds as also overnight funds.

### Sebi strengthens debenture trustee role

**New Delhi:** With an aim to protect the interest of investors, capital markets regulator Sebi has strengthened the role of debenture trustees asking them to independently evaluate and monitor the asset cover. The decision comes as several defaults were seen in the debt markets. To give this effect, Sebi has amended debenture trustee norms and ILDS (Issue and Listing of Debt Securities Regulations), the regulator said in two separate notifications. Under the new norms, debenture trustees (DTs) would exercise independent due diligence of the assets on which charge is being created. Before creating a charge on the security for the debentures, DTs will exercise independent due diligence to ensure that such security is free from any encumbrance or that it has obtained the necessary consent from other charge-holders if the security has an existing charge, Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) said.

## New life-time high in sight for Nifty

THOVITI BRAHMACHARY

The Indian stock markets reached to pre-Covid levels and just 4.5 per cent away from their lifetime highs. The benchmark indices rallied all five days during the last week. The NSE Nifty rallied 497.25 points or 4.35 per cent. The BSE Sensex also rallied 4.7 per cent. But the broader indices underperformed as Nifty Midcap-100 fell by 0.2 per cent and Smallcap-100 gained by just 0.3 per cent. The much more comprehensive index with a combination of large, mid and small-caps the Nifty-500 advanced by 3.05 per cent. On the sectoral front, The Nifty IT and private bank indices led the market with 8.6 per cent and 7.4 per cent gains. On the flip side, Media fell by 2.3 per cent, and the Energy index declined by 1.4 per cent. The FIIs bought Rs5,003.51 crore in the first week of the current month while DIIs sold Rs 2,129.97 crore.

The market reached an unbelievable level with gapping up, on every day. The rally erased the saying 'History Repeats' as it did not follow the previous historical bottom formation rules. In every bear market, the bottom formation is either the double bottom or a bottom with positive divergence in the primary indicators.



NIFTY

This time there is no proper bottom formation. This rally is neither V shape nor U shape or even a flat base. Moreover, several bearish patterns have failed since March lows. It did not respect even one bearish formation. The March fall is like 'The Act of God,' and the capitulation is the highest ever. There is a significant difference compared to previous bear market bottom and the current one. Apart from the factors mentioned above, there are exuberant volumes during the first four months of the current rally. Besides the failed classical patterns and candlestick formations, Even the Dow theory also failed in the recent past by not honouring the lower tops and lower bottoms reversal. With these factors, the current rally is a unique one.

The current rally consumed 300 per cent of the Jan-March big fall. It took just ten weeks to fall over 40 per cent from its lifetime high. It consumed 28 weeks to retrace 90 per cent of the fall. I mentioned this bull phase, when closed above the 10,525. Even I

forecasted the fundamental factor PE will reach to 35 level. Now, it is 34.70. We are BANG on our price target and PE ratio.

During the last ten days, Nifty rallied 1,124 points or 10.42 per cent. Out of ten days, it opened with a gap up for nine days. Except for Stochastic oscillator, none of the indicators reached an overbought condition. It is trading 11.02 per cent above the 200DMA, 4.28 per cent above the 50-DMA and 4.21 per cent above the 20DMA. In the recent past, when the Nifty reached above seven per cent, it came back to the mean level or even below that. The NSE Nifty is trading above 200DMA for the past 59 days. Even then the long term averages are not trending up. This is the first concern on an ongoing trend. The other concern is the advance-decline ratio.

The fundamentals are historically at a new level of extended valuations. In the current scenario, continue the bullish approach and keep strict stop losses at the previous bar low. A close below previous bar low could be the first sign of weakness. On the upside, the Nifty may touch a new lifetime high, which is just less than five per cent away.

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

## Relying on average theory may not bode well every time



K Naresh Kumar

This IPL season, when the cricketers are on the field, our screens are lit up with their statistics. Along with the vitals, their strike rates and averages are displayed. Commentators express their perspectives on their stats, while the spectators take side depending on the players. For a player with lesser history, his averages will have tremendous change depending upon this performance, but for seasoned players, the out/underperformance has very little impact of that one game. But the player's reputation is mostly derived from his outstanding performances and thus the higher averages.

Similarly, when we tend to make an investment decision based on the past performance and even when presenting a new idea, we try to extrapolate it backwards to see how it did well in the 'back-testing'. And the next important factor that we arrive to compare is the average performance. No investment avenue is planned to perform at an average, but the performance over a period of time is collated to an average return. It's a trailing indicator which doesn't



saying anything about how a particular investment would do in the future, but certainly gives out an idea of how it possibly could deal a market condition.

Some cricketers are known for their temperament during pressure situations and are considered finishers (of the game) for their consistent performance at crunch times. This doesn't translate to or guarantee a winning just due to their presence at that point of time, but will give us a sense of how they had faced similar situation and possibly help them dwell on that experience to the current situation. It's nothing wrong, but how else is the way to assume or evaluate the performance or a possible performance of a player. Of course, there could be varied number of variables like that of the quality of the opposition, the pitch or the ground and other climate conditions.

Even when comparing investments, we would tend to consider past average as one of the main criteria though variations on the

same metrics as standard deviation, variance, etc., could be used further for better comprehension. However, one has to always keep in mind that reversion to mean is a powerful force. A single player or an investment wouldn't remain at the top of their performance all the time. So, averaged do catch up or one tends to make averages.

So, whenever a new batsman comes to the crease and when the statistics display his average, we can't assume the certainty of him hitting at least that average, but it rarely does happen. Imagine when chasing a total, if all the players hit their averages at their historical strike rates, then matches are won almost always, it doesn't happen in reality. The same is with an investment we can't expect it to perform at its average every year or even during the year of the investment.

When relating the Nifty valuations, we tend hear that the current valuation is above or below the long-term average P/E of the broader index. But a closer observation throws out that it rarely

traded at its average. It's either always overpriced than the average or underpriced to the average. So, you can't make your investment decision based only on this parameter that the current situation is better or worse than the average. It means the current situation could deteriorate further to worsen. And that's reality where we can't enforce assumed certainties.

Maggie Mahar wrote, 'men resist randomness; markets resist prophecy' and this aptly describes how we look at the world. While, we aspire to end up investing in an outlier, the minimum anticipation is that it should give an average return (i.e. similar to a more traditional investment). This probably explains why we end up taking higher risks than that we could handle. We could be deceived into an investment by its average return than if we could actually plot the real return on an annual basis, which could present a realistic situation of that investment.

While it's important for us to have parameters to evaluate an investment decision, it also should be in tandem with the risk profile and timelines. Arguably, an important trait an investor should possess is the flexibility alters or questions their own thesis according to the market. No, it doesn't mean changing the investment philosophy, but altering the execution.

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

## DERIVATIVES OUTLOOK

DASARI SREENIVASA RAO

Options data is indicating wider trading range for the week ahead (October 12-16, 2020) as the highest concentration of Open Interest (OI) was at 12,500CE and 11,000PE. For the previous week ended October 2, the highest concentration of OI was at 11,450CE and 11,400PE. The NSE Nifty recorded addition of 50 per cent OI in the current October series as the aggressive long positions took place.

Dhirender Singh Bisht, senior research analyst (derivatives) at SMC Global Securities Ltd, said: "From derivatives front, once again short covering was seen by Call writers at 11,800 strike and Put writers seen shifting to higher bands, which suggest bullish momentum to remain intact in coming

## Options data holds wider trading range

### NIFTY RECORDS 50% SURGE IN OI IN CURRENT OCTOBER SERIES AMID AGGRESSIVE LONG POSITIONS

week as well."

The 12,500 strike, which also recorded maximum Call OI build-up of 11.29 lakh contracts, has highest Call OI of 32.57 lakh contracts followed by 11,900 strike with 17.79 lakh contracts, 12,300 strike with 17.34 lakh contracts and 12,200 strike with 16.04 lakh contracts. Further, 12,300/12,100/11,900 strikes witnessed reasonable Call OI addition.

The 11,000 strike, which has maximum Put OI addition of 14.44 lakh contracts, recorded highest Put OI of 27.09 lakh contracts followed by 11,700 strike with 22.24 lakh contracts, 11,500 strike with 20.69 lakh contracts and 11,800 strike with 19.39 lakh contracts. The 11,900 strike recorded Put OI build-up of

11.15 lakh contracts, while 11,700/11,500/11,200/11,800 strikes witnessed significant addition of Put OI. "Bullish momentum remained intact in Indian markets in the week gone by as the NSE Nifty surpassed 11,900 level, while Bank Nifty also closed above 23,800 level with gains seen in some of leading names like HDFC twins, ICICI Bank and Axis Bank. Nifty witnessed gains of more than four per cent, while Bank Nifty remained out-performer with gains of more than seven per cent week-on-week," added Bisht.

The NSE benchmark rallied 1,150 points in 10 sessions off the September low of 10,790 level, which hauled daily stochastic oscillator in overbought territory at 94. Thus,

the possibility of temporary breather at the 12,000-12,100 range can't be ruled out, according to ICI-CI Direct.com. However, analysts said such breather should not be construed as negative as the broader structure remains positive. Instead, dips should be capitalized as an incremental buying opportunity in quality stocks amid ongoing Q2FY21 result season. For the week ended October 9, 2020, BSE Sensex further rose by 1,812.44 points or 4.68 per cent and closed at 40,509.49 points from the previous close of 38,697.05 points. Similarly, NSE Nifty gained 497.25 points or 4.35 per cent, to end the week at 11,914.20 points against last week's 11,416.95 level. "The immediate hurdle for Nifty is placed at 12,000 level, while

### TRADING IN DERIVATIVES

Product	Contracts	Turnover (₹ cr.)	Premium (₹ cr)
Index Futures	5,44,368	36,675.25	---
Stock Futures	8,11,302	59,779.13	---
Index Options	1,91,70,414	13,39,584.91	10,742.49
Stock Options	12,54,602	97,007.07	2,462.68
F&O Total	2,17,80,686	15,33,046.36	13,205.17

Source: NSE/ As on October 09, 2020

for Bank Nifty 24,000 to 24,400 zone is immediate resistance," forecasts Bisht. As per the data from ICICI Direct.com, on the weekly options front, continued option writing was seen at ATM & ITM Put strikes leaving limited downsides in the index. Currently, 11,500 Put base shifted to 11,700 level, which should remain an immediate support. At the same time, volatility has moved below 19 levels after testing 23 in the penultimate week.

The positive bias may continue in the broader markets till volatility doesn't move above 22 level.

"The Implied Volatility of Calls closed at 16.13 per cent, while that for Put options closed at 19.30 The Nifty VIX for the week closed at 20.38 per cent. Put-Call Ratio of OI for the week closed at 1.51, up from the previous week indicating Put writing," said Bisht. The NSE Nifty recorded a significant pullback as FPIs continued their buying sup-

port on positive global cues. FPIs bought Rs3,500 crore during the past one week as against their selling of Rs2,500 cr in September. This is indicating that FPIs turned bullish on the Indian markets. Analysts expect that FPIs may continue their buying support in the coming weeks.

### Bank Nifty

Moving further up by 2,864.45 points or 13.65 per cent, Bank Nifty closed at 23,846.80 points against the previous week's closing of 22,246 points. The banking index moved closer to its highest Call base of 24,000 strike. Analysts forecast the ongoing positive momentum may continue in the banking index as investors prefer buying opportunity on declines. "For upcoming sessions, we expect Bank Nifty to outperform the markets once again as from technical front Bank Nifty has managed to close above its 200 days exponential moving average on daily charts and given breakout above the same with marginally higher volumes," remarked Bisht.





## Maoists killing TRS leader creates tension in Bhadrachalam Agency

PV SATYANARAYANA

**Kothagudem:** The warning by Maoists to TRS and BJP leaders will face same fate if they don't resign to their posts, after killing TRS leader Maduri Bhimeswara Rao on Saturday midnight in Mulugu district, made the leaders of all parties' panic. Many leaders in Agency area are reportedly ready to quit as they are giving first priority to their life and families.

It should be noted here that Maoists had killed TRS leader Bhimeswara Rao in front of his family members on Saturday night at Alubaka village in Venkatapuram mandal and left a letter at the spot.

The sudden development has terrorised TRS and BJP leaders in the agency area and many leaders of villages and

mandals have left their houses alone to safe places by leaving their family members back.

It was the second incident in the agency area that Maoists killed TRS leaders. On 12 July 2019, Maoists had kidnaped TRS leader and ex-MPTC N Srinivas Rao and killed him in the forest. It was a big shock to the people and TRS leaders in the agency. After one year, again similar incident happened on Saturday night.

A TRS leader said over phone that they were in deep shock and don't know what to do. He wondered why the Maoists are targeting them though they are not doing any harm to the people and taking up developmental works for the poor.

Immediately after this incident, police alerted all leaders of TRS, BJP and Congress, who

are strong at village and mandal levels and asked them to leave villages. Some prominent leaders left villages with police security and spending time by counting days in towns.

Meanwhile, security has been beefed up and vehicle checking is going on in all villages including border areas. An official said that this incident threw a big challenge to the police as it happened after the DGP and top cops visited Venkatapuram mandal recently.

'Maoists have killed the TRS leader to prove their strength and existence to the police officials, who visited this area a week ago, a leader observed. However, the situation is very tense, and people are unable to lead normal life in agency areas.

## Tribals demand house sites in coal town

HANS NEWS SERVICE

**Kothagudem:** Demanding house sites, tribal people along with their families took out a protest in Kothagudem on Sunday.

It should be noted here that the officials of forest, revenue and police departments had forcibly vacated the tribal families from their houses at Prakash Nagar in Kothagudem last month for the construction of Prakruthi Vanam. The tribals have demanded that the officials must sanction house site in the town. Lamenting that they are living under trees for the past ten days without a house, they appealed the officials concerned to allot house sites to them. They reminded the officials, before vacating them from their houses, had promised of giving house sites to them, but they forgot their promise.

## 'Girls should have equal opportunities'

**Bhongir:** Celebrating International Girls' Day, District Collector Anita Ramachandran along with the officials of District Child Protection, Women and Child Welfare department conducted a webinar on Sunday.

Speaking on this occasion, the Collector stated that it is a right of the girls to get equal opportunities on par with boys and advised to utilise the latest technologies to achieve their life ambitions. She directed the Department of Child Protection to carry out appropriate awareness programmes in collaboration with Education Department so that girls are not deceived by new technologies.

State Child Protection Commission member Bandi Aparna said village-level child protection

committees should be strengthened to prevent sexual assaults on children and instructed the welfare officer to take appropriate action so that the victims will receive immediate financial assistance.

District Welfare Officer Rikala Swarajyam said a child protection mechanism has been set up in the district for the protection of children and added that the needy can call the Child Helpline 1098,100,181 and 108 toll free number and get protection.

District Child Protection Officer Pulugujju Saidulu, CDPOs Jyostna, Shailaja, Mahila Organization State coordinator Sudarshan, ICDS Supervisors, DCP staff, NGO members, Anganwadi teachers and others took part in the webinar.

## YOUTH ELECTROCUTED

**Nadigudem (Suryapet):** 25-year-old Banala Vamshi was electrocuted at Kagitha Ramachandrapuram village of Nadigudem mandal on Sunday. According to sources, Vamshi went to Sagar canal bund and died on the spot after coming into contact with an electric wire that was passing near the bund. The deceased survived with wife and one daughter.



BJP district president Galla Satyanarayana along with party leaders visiting Nelakondapally on Sunday

## Farmers happy over agri Bills: BJP leader

HANS NEWS SERVICE

**Khammam:** BJP district Chief Galla Satyanarayana informed that all farmers across the country are welcoming agricultural bills and are happy for the bills.

On Sunday, along with party leaders, he visited Nelakondapally mandal and interacted with the farmers and conducted awareness on agricultural bills. They distributed pamphlets on the bills and

explained about them. The leaders did farming along with the farmers. Speaking on the occasion, Satyanarayana stated that it is a historical decision taken by the BJP government, stating that agricultural bills are more helpful to the farmers, he called upon the leaders to conduct awareness on the bills to the farmers in the district. He said after the bills, farmers had no headache with middlemen as they can directly

sell their produce in the markets without middlemen.

The BJP leader fired on the Opposition party leaders, who are criticising on the bills, and said that they are trying to prove their existence by making allegation on agricultural bills.

Galla informed that the suicide rate of farmers during the last six years was around 4,600 and now it was reduced to 100 in the last six months.

sarees at Aregudem village of Motakondur mandal on Sunday. Later, Whip Sunitha participated in the general body meeting of farmer producers' company limited at a private function hall in Motakondur. Addressing the gathering, she suggested the farmers to get profits by adding technology to traditional farming. The government is ready to extend all sort of cooperation to the farm-

ers to get self-sufficiency, she added. 'Joint farming will help the farmers to get best yield and marketing facility.'

During a tour of Motakondur, Sunitha inspected the construction works of double bedroom houses in Aregudem village. She was accompanied by mandal special officer Venkat Reddy, ADA Padmavathi, MPP Indira, ZPTC Venkat Reddy, sarpanch M Bala Siddulu and others.

# Women organisations condemn attacks on Dalits

HANS NEWS SERVICE

**Khammam:** Both Central and State governments had failed to control attacks on women, criticised various women associations of Khammam town.

Leaders of National Federation of India Women (NFIW), All India Democratic Women's Association (AIDWA) and Providing Opportunity for Women (POW) have burnt the effigies of State and Central governments at the main centres in Khammam town on Sunday. The associations' leaders condemned the attacks on women across the country, which are increasing day-by-day on Muslim, Dalit women in the country. They said the TRS government utterly failed in preventing the attacks on



Members of women organisations burning effigy of State and Central governments at a main centre in Khammam on Sunday

women and demanded the ruling party leaders to resign to their posts for their failure. They sought the TRS government to set up Mahila Commission immediately in the State to prevent the attacks.

They called on the workers of various organisations to participate in a protest on October 14 in all districts against the attacks on women.

Associations leaders Y Latha Devi, N Rama Krishna, K Srinivas,

T Nirmala, Tati Venkateswarlu, M Ramana, B Ram Koti, G Mastan, B Ramesh, Rajani, Venkata Laxamma, Nageswara Rao, Swarupa and other were participated in the programme.

## Sarpanch suspended for neglecting Rythu Vedika construction

HANS NEWS SERVICE

**Nagarkurnool:** Additional Collector Manu Chowdary on Sunday issued suspension orders against Pandu Goud, sarpanch of Tarnikal village of Kalwakurthy mandal, for showing utter negligence in the construction of Rythu Vedika building.

The State government ordered to complete all 143 Rythu Vedika buildings construction by Dasara festival this year. Despite repeated reminders and persuasion by the officials, sarpanch Pandu Goud neglected to complete the target. After a detailed enquiry on the issue and inspection by Additional Collector Manu Chowdary, following the District Collector's instructions, suspension orders were served against the sarpanch.

District panchayat officer Naresh Mohan said that these orders will be implemented with immediate effect and the contract works of Rythu Vedika will be given to other contractors.



Agriculture Minister Singireddy Niranjan Reddy releasing wall posters of Devi Navaratri Brahmotsavam of Jogulamba Sakthi Peetham, at Government Guest House in Pebbair on Sunday

# Devi Navaratri Brahmotsavam wall posters released

HANS NEWS SERVICE

**Gadwal:** With Dasara festival fast approaching, the district administration is gearing up to celebrate Devi Navaratri Brahmotsavam at Balabrahmmeshwara Swamy temple in Gadwal.

As part of this, Agriculture Minister Singireddy Niranjan

Reddy released an invitation pamphlet and wall poster for the celebrations at Government Guest House in Pebbair on Sunday and informed that Devi Navaratri Brahmotsavam will begin from October 17 and will be celebrated grandly. Alampur Jogulamba Gadwal temple is the only 'Shakti Peetham' in

Telangana and this year it was decided to celebrate Devi Navaratri Brahmotsavam with grand fervor by following Covid-19 norms, the Minister said.

Jogulamba temple Executive Officer Prem Kumar, temple priest Anand Sharma, and others were present on the occasion.

## Hospital chief donates mother's body to government medical college

HANS NEWS SERVICE

**Mahabubnagar:** Standing as an example to others, Dr Ram Kishan, the Superintendent of Mahabubnagar Government General Hospital, has donated the body of his mother, Krishna Bai (84) to District Government Medical College for medical research.

Krishna Bai died of old age-related problems at her residence in Mahabubnagar on October 7. It is learnt that Krishna Bai, who was born in Lingal mandal of Achampet constituency in Nagarkurnool district, right from the beginning was a socially conscious person and served poor Chenchus in Nallamalla forest region by distributing essential commodities and by providing facilities like medical care, education etc during her hey days.

Carrying forward the same values of his mother, Dr Ram Kishan, apart from serving as a government doctor, has conducted free medical camps and provided free medical con-



Krishna Bai (file photo)

sultations to the poor tribals living in the forest region. After his mother's death, Dr Ram Kishan wanted her body to be useful to medical students and doctors for learning and research purpose. Her eyes were donated to the government medical college, he informed.

## 'Rajanna's services unforgettable'

HANS NEWS SERVICE

**Adilabad:** Cement Corporation of India (CCI) Bhunirvasitula Sangam leaders paid rich tributes to their union president late Daratla Rajanna in Belluri village on Sunday. Speaking at a prayer meeting at Rajanna's house, union leader Ashok remembered his services to the union and his friendly nature. He said none can forget Rajanna. Union leaders G Sridhar, B Eshwar, A Kishtu, Ashok, Manohar, G Srinivas, Ushanna, Bollu Vittal, Rajanna, Vinod, U Vittal, O Ashok and others paid tributes on the occasion.



## Officials told to speedup property survey

HANS NEWS SERVICE

**Adilabad:** District Collector Sikta Patnaik directed the district administration to put efforts to bring the district forefront at State level in property survey, after reviewing progress of property survey, works of segregation sheds and rythu vedika buildings and was not happy at the progress of the works.

Later addressing the officials during a tele-conference from her office in Adilabad on Sunday, she told MPDOs, MPOs and other officials to complete survey of 20,000 properties on Sunday (October 11) by working from morning to evening from Sunday to Monday.

The Collector instructed them to overcome survey and network problems and to complete the work with an action plan. The MPDOs were told to increase manpower in large mandals. Informing that land was already allotted for Palle Prakruthi Vanalu, she told the



District Collector Sikta Patnaik addressing the officials through tele-conference from her office in Adilabad on Sunday

officials to complete 100% grounding works within two days and to also to complete segregation shed works, which have been going on for the last

three months in the district. Additional Collector M David told the officials to increase manpower on property survey and the survey teams

must go to villages early in the morning and continue survey till night. He suggested them to take alternative measures to overcome network problems.

# Government Whip distributes Bathukamma sarees

HANS NEWS SERVICE

**Motakondur (Yadadri-Bhongir):** Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao, like an elder brother, distributing saree to women to celebrate the State festival Bathukamma on a grand scale, giving top priority to the culture and traditions of State, Aler MLA and Government Whip Gongidi Sunitha stated. She distributed Bathukamma

sarees at Aregudem village of Motakondur mandal on Sunday. Later, Whip Sunitha participated in the general body meeting of farmer producers' company limited at a private function hall in Motakondur. Addressing the gathering, she suggested the farmers to get profits by adding technology to traditional farming. The government is ready to extend all sort of cooperation to the farm-

ers to get self-sufficiency, she added. 'Joint farming will help the farmers to get best yield and marketing facility.'



# TEWATIA, PARAG STEER RR TO 5-WKT WIN OVER SRH

Dubai (IANS): An unbeaten 85-run stand for the sixth wicket between Rahul Tewatia (45 not out) and Riyan Parag (42 not out) helped Rajasthan Royals secure a memorable five-wicket win against SunRisers Hyderabad at the Dubai International Stadium on Sunday.

Chasing a target of 159, RR were tottering at 78/5 at the start of the 13th over after which the pair turned it around for the 2008 IPL champions. The match mark's a run of defeats for RR that extended to four matches before Sunday's fixture.

Tewatia and Parag capitalised in the death overs after steadying the ship for RR. They smashed 69 runs in the last five overs with Riyan Parag hitting a six off the penultimate ball of the last over to win it for his team.



Earlier, disciplined bowling from Rajasthan Royals kept SunRisers Hyderabad in check, restricting them to 158/4 wickets.

**Brief scores:** SRH 158/4 wkts in 20 overs (David Warner 48, Manish Pandey 54, Jofra Archer 1/25) lost to RR 163/5 wkts in 20 overs (Rahul Tewatia 45 not out, Riyan Parag 42 not out; Rashid Khan 2/25) by 5 wkts.

IPL STANDINGS					
TEAM	M	W	L	PT	NRR
DC	6	5	1	10	1.267
MI	6	4	2	8	1.488
KKR	6	4	2	8	0.017
RCB	6	4	2	8	-0.82
SRH	7	3	4	6	0.153
RR	7	3	4	6	-0.872
CSK	7	2	5	4	-0.588
KXIP	7	1	6	2	-0.381

## Too many holes in the CSK ship, says Dhoni

Dubai (IANS): Chennai Super Kings (CSK) captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni saw his team sink to their fifth defeat of the ongoing IPL season on Saturday with a 37-run loss to Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB). CSK could only manage 132/8 at the end of their 20 overs against a target of 170 runs.

"Too many holes in the ship and when you try to plug one, there is water flowing from another. We need to get our act together. Everything needs to work in the same game to get a result. Once we get a result in our favour, it will be slightly different for us," Dhoni said during the post-match presentation ceremony.

While CSK did well to restrict RCB to 169/4, their batsmen could hardly get going. And Dhoni admitted that batting has been a problem for the three-time champions this season.

During the RCB innings, however, Dhoni said that the team ended up giving too many runs in the last four overs.

"I think the last four overs when we were bowling (didn't go



to plan), before that the bowlers had done a good job. We needed to close it nicely. Batting has been a bit of worry and today also it was evident. We need to do something about it," he said.

"It is almost the same thing that is happening, maybe the individuals are different but I think we are better off playing the other way round - play the big shots and even if you get out it is fine because we can't leave too many after the 15th or 16th over, that just puts too much pressure on the lower order batsmen. "Our batting has lacked a bit of power from the 6th over onwards, individuals get tentative and no matter how much confidence you are giving them, ultimately they have to have their own plan as to how to play," he said. CSK are up against SunRisers Hyderabad next on Tuesday.



## Super Over against Mumbai Indians freed me up: Kohli

Dubai (IANS): Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) captain Virat Kohli said that a pull stroke that he played of Mumbai Indians' Jasprit Bumrah in the Super Over that the two sides had played on September 28 helped him free himself and find form. Kohli scored an unbeaten 90 on Saturday against Chennai Super Kings (CSK), following up on scores of 43 and 72 not out in his previous two matches.

He had managed 14, 1 and 3 in the matches before that. "Before that, I was trying to do too much, taking focus away from what I need to do which is watch the ball and just bat. If you think too much about responsibility, you get burdened and you don't play as a player. Your skills are required for

your team's success," he said in the post-match presentation ceremony in which he was also declared player of the match.

"That Super Over where I had to strike, else we would have lost, freed me up. Then I started enjoying training. The next few sessions were very good from a batting point of view. I was hitting the ball well in the last game as well and wanted to do exactly that today. Training all these days also helped."

Kohli got to his half century in 39 balls after which he and he smashed the next 37 runs in just 13 balls. "It's about understanding the conditions and respecting the game instead of trying to hit every ball into the second tier of the stadium.

## Rahul continues to wear Orange Cap, Purple with Rabada

Dubai/Abu Dhabi (IANS): There is no change in the most runs scorers and most wicket-takers lists after Saturdays double-header. Kings XI Punjabs in-form captain KL Rahul continues to hold the Orange Cap with 387 runs and Delhi Capitals speedster Kagiso Rabada the Purple Cap for having taken the most wickets (15) so far.

An opening batsman from Karnataka, Rahul, whose team has lost six of the seven matches and is placed at the bottom of the table with just two points, is having a glorious run this season. While captaining the KXIP for the first time this season, he has so far scored 387 runs from seven matches at an average of 64.50. The stylish batsman has scored one century and three half-centuries so far. He has also slammed 37 boundaries and 10 sixes.

Interestingly, Rahul's KXIP, Karnataka, and India teammate Mayank Agarwal is second with 337 runs at 48.14 from seven matches. He, too, has scored one century, besides two half-centuries.

If Delhi Capitals are sitting pretty at the top of the points table, it is largely due to the efforts of Rabada. The 'Smiling

Assassin' has so far captured 15 wickets at a strike rate of 9.46 in six matches and has the best bowling effort of 4/24.

In last IPL season, Rabada had bagged 25 wickets in 12 matches at a strike rate of 11.28 for Delhi Capitals as the team



**TODAY'S MATCH**  
Royal Challengers Bangalore vs Kolkata Knight Riders at 7.30pm

reached the playoffs.

Rabada also leads South Africa's bowling attack. Mumbai Indians fast bowler Jasprit Bumrah is second with 11 wickets in six matches.

Thanks to Rabada, Delhi Capitals

now have 10 points from six matches, having won five of those matches. Mumbai Indians, Kolkata Knight Riders, and Royal Challengers Bangalore are jointly placed second, though the net run rate separates them.

## KKR's Sunil Narine reported for suspected bowling action



Abu Dhabi (IANS): Kolkata Knight Riders off-spinner Sunil Narine has once again been reported for bowling with a suspected illegal action during his team's two-run win against Kings XI Punjab in the Indian Premier League here.

"The report was made by the on-field umpires according to IPL's Suspected Illegal Bowling Action Policy. Narine will be placed on the warning list and is permitted to continue to bowl in the tournament," said a statement from the Board of Control for

Cricket in India on Saturday night.

"Another report will result in Narine being suspended from bowling in the IPL 2020 until cleared by the BCCI Suspect Bowling Action Committee," it said.

The West Indian had come under scrutiny earlier as well when he was called for a suspect bowling action, and he was forced to modify his action. He was reported for suspect action back in 2014 too while playing for KKR during the now-scrapped Champions League T20 tournament.

In six matches so far in the ongoing tournament, the KKR bowling mainstay has bagged five wickets in six matches at a strike rate (balls per wicket) of 26.40.



## I believe in turning every adversity into opportunity: Manasi

New Delhi (IANS): With para badminton all set for a debut at the Paralympics this year, India's Manasi Joshi was training hard to give her best in Tokyo. The Covid-19 pandemic outbreak though postponed the Games to next year.

Originally scheduled to take place from August 25 to September 6, 2020, the Games will now be held from August 25 to September 5, 2021. "This year has not been an easy one for any of us," Manasi said.

"I was eagerly looking forward to the Paralympic Games but with it being postponed, I've chosen to see this as an opportunity to practice and train harder," she added.

The para-badminton champion also revealed that she recently got a new blade prosthetic leg in Mumbai and will be adapting to it in time for the Paralympics next year.

"It is a little tough to adapt to this change as you need to learn the technicalities of it. But I believe in turning every adversity into an opportunity, and I will continue to strive harder and get my A-game on for the next year," she said.

Manasi, who lost her left leg in an accident in 2011, grabbed headlines by winning the World Championships in Basel, Switzerland last year. But her pet event -- SL3 singles is not included in the Paralympics. The only way she can qualify now is through the tough women's doubles and mixed doubles categories.

## Nitin Naik bags overall c'ship and boys gold

### Three-day Telangana State Junior Regatta concludes with dramatic results

Hyderabad: The wind gods finally obliged and the race officials were able to pull off a valid Regatta in the Telangana Junior State Sailing Championships at Hussain Sagar on Sunday.

As a consequence the qualifier scores were expunged and only the finals sailed of today were counted turning the tables on its head with dramatically different results.

Dark horse Nitin Naik Kethavath of Nagarkurnool shocked all the top seeds by winning the overall State junior championship and the Boys Gold medal.

Nitin studies at MJPT school and his compatriot Mallesh Gadham from MJPT Wanaparthi also came in from the back and finished 3rd overall to get the boys silver.

Amongst junior girls Lakshmi Chandram dominated with some excellent sailing to finish 2nd overall, just a poje behind Nitin and clinched the Gold for girls followed by Lalitha Majji at Silver, both from Hyderabad.

Preethi Kongari who was ahead by a significant margin at the qualifiers stage but had a terrible day and was pushed down to 5th overall for a bronze amongst girls.

Jaikiran Bolli of the Swaroos also lost out to the MJPT boys despite some brilliant sailing at the qualifiers but managed to get the boys bronze.

"I am happy that the weather finally turned up and we were able to deliver a full series at least in the Junior category and we will resail the Sub Juniors after the exam schedule is over", said Suheim Sheikh the President of the Yacht Club of Hyderabad.

The novices fleet was again shockingly dominated by the boys with Bhanuprakash again of MJPT leading followed by Kevin Raj. Brothers Saathwik and Shruvan Dhoki from Hyderabad closely followed in that order.

The novice girls were led by Deekshita, Rithika and Bushra all of Udbhav School Rasoolpura that has produced 10 top sailors and have represented India.

The prize giving was hosted at the Yacht



Club of Hyderabad and presided over by Lt.Gen KS Rao the President of the Telangana Sailing Association and a circumnavigator himself.

The three-day Telangana State Junior Regatta concluded on Sunday. Organised by the Telangana Sailing Association the first major sporting event witnessed 56 participants, registered from across 16 districts. The tournament held in three categories— Juniors, Sun-Juniors and Novices.

**Overall Positions Juniors**

Nitin Naik Kethavath	Gold	12 Points
Lakshmi Chandram	Silver	13 Points
Mallesh Gadham	Bronze	17 Points

**Junior Girls**

Lakshmi Chandram	Gold	13 Points
Majji Lalitha	Silver	18 Points
Preethi Kongari	Bronze	19 Points

**Junior Boys**


Nitin Naik Kethavath	Gold	12 Points
Mallesh Gadham	Silver	17 Points
Jaikiran Bolli	Bronze	21 Points

**Novice Girls**

Deekshita Komaravelli	Gold	32 Points
Bushra Minaj	Silver	33 Points
Rithika Mudagani	Bronze	33 Points


**Novice Boys**

Bhanuprakash	Gold	17 Points
Kevin Raj	Silver	23 Points
Sathvik Dhiki	Bronze	30 Points
Shruvan Dhoki	4th Pos	31 Points



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