

DECCAN Chronicle

THE LARGEST CIRCULATED ENGLISH DAILY IN SOUTH INDIA

KARIMNAGAR | WEDNESDAY | 20 JANUARY 2021

WEATHER

Max: 29.2°C
Min: 19.4°C
RH: 51%
Rainfall: Nil

Forecast: Partly cloudy sky. Misty morning.
Max/Min temp. 29/19°C

COVID-19 COUNT

CASES (+24,449)
DEATHS (+155)

1,05,96,107 1,52,743

STATE GOVERNMENT BULLETINS

(+256) (+2)

TS: 2,92,128 1,581

(+179) (+1)

AP: 8,86,245 7,142

CASES AROUND THE WORLD

9,62,22,720

DEATHS 20,55,696

COUNTRIES AREAS WITH CASES 219

worldometers.info/coronavirus

ASTROGUIDE

Sarvari: Uttarayana

Tithi: Pushya Shuddha Saptami

Star: Revathi till 12.37 pm

Variyam: Nil

Durmuhurtam: 12.04 pm to 12.49 pm

Rahukalam: 12 noon to 1.30 pm

HILARI CALENDAR

Jamadi-ul-Akhir 6,1442 AH

Fajar: 5.47 am

Zohar: 12.37 pm

Asar: 4.28 pm

Maghrib: 6.10 pm

Isha: 7.21 pm

SUNSET TODAY 6.04 PM

SUNRISE TOMORROW 6.49 AM

MOONRISE TOMORROW 11.10 AM

MOONSET TODAY 11.33 PM

COUNTER POINT



SHORT TAKES

Netaji's b'day is Parakram Diwas

New Delhi: The government has decided to observe January 23 as 'Parakram Diwas' every year to commemorate the birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, Union minister Prahlad Singh Patel said on Tuesday. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will participate in the first Parakram Diwas programme in Kolkata on January 23.

No subsidised food for MPs now

New Delhi: Food served in Parliament canteens for MPs and others will become costlier as a subsidy given for it has been stopped, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla said on Tuesday. The Lok Sabha Speaker said the Parliament canteens will now be run by ITDC instead of Northern Railways.

WhatsApp told to drop changes

New Delhi: India has asked WhatsApp to withdraw changes to its privacy policy the messenger, saying the new terms take away choice from Indian users. The demand creates a new headache for WhatsApp and its parent Facebook, which have placed big bets on the South Asian nation.

NATION | 4

Shivraj signals end of Covid rules in MP

deccanchronicle.com, facebook.com/deccannews, twitter.com/deccanchronicle

WORLD | 5

Joe Biden to take charge today

SPORTS | 8

Sindhu sails into Thai Open second round



Vol. 20 No. 234 Established 1938 | 16 PAGES | ₹6.00



Indian players pose with the winning trophy after defeating Australia by three wickets on the final day of the fourth cricket test match at the Gabba, Brisbane in Australia on Tuesday. — AP

Improbable win for India

MOSES KONDETY | DC
HYDERABAD, JAN. 19

Brisboon! That more or less sums up the Indian cricket team's ecstatic moment in Brisbane which earned them a 2-1 Test series win on Tuesday that will be talked about for years to come. For it took many years coming. Not since 1988 had any team defeated Australia at this venue. And this Indian team was depleted, inexperienced, weak and written off.

However, young India changed the script, and how! Going into the final

"We are all overjoyed at the success of the Indian Cricket Team in Australia. Their remarkable energy and passion was visible throughout. So was their stellar intent, remarkable grit and determination. Congratulations to the team! Best wishes for your future endeavours"

NARENDRA MODI, Prime Minister

Every time we got hit, we stayed put & stood taller. We pushed boundaries of belief to play fearless but not careless cricket. Injuries & uncertainties were countered with poise & confidence. One of the greatest series wins! Congrats India. Every session we discovered a new hero...

SACHIN TENDULKAR

day of the four-match series needing an improbable 324 for victory — the

highest target chased here was 236, seven decades ago — a charged-up India

set out to take the Brisbane bull by its horns.

Opener Shubman Gill (91) and Cheteshwar Pujara (56) did the spadework, before Rishabh Pant strode on to the green Gabba ground and bashed the ball about to drive the side home (329 for 7) in top gear with a stroke-filled 89 not out.

Fuel for the purring Pant engine though was provided by high octane efforts from debutant Washington Sundar (62) and Shardul Thakur (67).

■ Page 2: Siraj halted Australia's second innings

ALL NEW

MOHAMMED SIRAJ | Son of an auto driver from Hyderabad. He lost his father during the tour but decided to stay on. He got a maiden five-for, and picked 13 wickets in 3 Rests. Faced racist abuse.

SHUBMAN GILL | Born in a Fazilka, Punjab, to an affluent farmer family. His grandfather had prepared a pitch in the farm before his father shifted to Mohali to back his ambitions.

SHARDUL THAKUR | From Palghar, Maharashtra, had hit six sixes in an over as a 13-year-old. Travelled to Mumbai daily. Coached by Dinesh Lad, who also coached Rohit Sharma.

WASHINGTON SUNDAR | The name Washington was his father's tribute to his own mentor P.D.

Washington, who had sponsored him. His talent as an off-break bowler came to the fore when Rahul Dravid and Paras Mhambrey told him to focus on his bowling.

NAVDEEP SAINI | Son of a bus driver from Karnal, used to play tennis ball matches for ₹1,000. Delhi first-class player Sumit Narwal brought him for the Ranji Trophy nets where Gautam Gambhir picked him up. He was in Australia as a net bowler.

THANGARASU NATARAJAN | From the remote village of Chinnappampatti in Tamil Nadu, the son of a daily wage labourer couldn't buy bowling spikes, till IPL riches came along. He has built a cricket academy at his native place and helps talented but needy cricketers. He was in Australia as a net bowler.

AP HC quashes FIR on land deal

DC CORRESPONDENT
VIJAYAWADA, JAN. 19

In a major setback to the state government, the Andhra Pradesh High Court on Tuesday quashed the prosecution launched by the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) against some individuals in the sensational "insider trading" case.

The case involved purchase of lands in the new capital area of Amara-vati at cheap rates, by allegedly concealing the capital status that the area was about to get then. The Jagan Mohan Reddy government had registered cases against these individuals based on a complaint that close aides of Telugu Desam chief Chandrababu Naidu and his son Lokesha, who were privy to confidential information about the setting up of the new capital in Amaravati, purchased lands at cheap rates from farmers.

Dealing with petitions filed by the accused seek-

ing quashing of the case, Justice Ch Manavendra-nath Roy said, "The prosecution of the petitioners is wholly unjustifiable and clearly opposed to all cannons and basic tenets of criminal law."

The verdict gained significance as the government registered an FIR also against former advocate-general D. Srinivas and kin of a Supreme Court judge. Aggrieved by the order, the government decided to appeal it in the Supreme Court.

Maintaining that acquiring property is a fundamental right, Justice Roy said private sale transactions carried out with the willingness of the sellers cannot be seen as a criminal act. No criminal liability can be attributed to the accused in the FIR, the court ruled.

The insider trading is essentially an offence in the field of stock market. This is "totally alien to the Indian Penal Code and unknown to our criminal jurisprudence," it said.

SPECIAL STATUS WILL HELP AP: JAGAN TO SHAH

DC CORRESPONDENT
VIJAYAWADA, JAN. 19

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy met Union home minister Amit Shah in New Delhi on Tuesday night and discussed various issues related to the state.

According to reports received here, the CM explained the progress of the Polavaram project and reminded the Centre about the pending funds for allocation to Andhra Pradesh.

He also raised issues related to the AP Reorganisation Act and brought up the issue of shifting of the High Court to Kurnool as part of the YSRC government's decentralisation plan.

The Chief Minister sought special status for AP. He said that it is very necessary for a financially challenged state. New industries will come and jobs will be created, the CM said. He also asked the Centre to release the money due to AP immediately.

AP backroom warriors get into full gear for LS bypoll

DC CORRESPONDENT
TIRUPATI, JAN. 19

The upcoming bypoll for Tirupati Lok Sabha seat is set to witness a quadrangular contest between the YSR Congress, Telugu Desam, BJP-Jana Sena, and Congress. Interestingly, backroom warriors have already fully geared up with election data and strategies towards winning the election for their respective clients.

By-election to Tirupati LS seat will be the first major political battle among parties in the state after the 2019 elections.

In a way, it is going to be a referendum on performance of the YSRC government. However, the major challenge is for the Telugu Desam, which is desperate to retain its existence by winning this seat at any cost, while BJP-Jana Sena combine is also trying to prove its strength by winning the by-poll.

As this LS seat has become a battle of prestige, all political parties

are going all out to win it. To two voters, parties and their candidates are not relying merely on campaigning and poll promises, they are also bringing in specialists tagged as "political strategists" for winning the seat at any cost.

are going all out to win it. To two voters, parties and their candidates are not relying merely on campaigning and poll promises, they are also bringing in specialists tagged as "political strategists" for winning the seat at any cost.

Telugu Desam chief N. Chandrababu Naidu has already engaged political strategist Robbin Sharma, co-founder of I-PAC in the past, but now heading his own political consultancy — Showtime Consulting, to work out strategies for the party in 2024 elections. With the Tirupati by-poll coming up, Naidu is learnt to have deployed Sharma to supervise party's preparation for this election.

Sources in TD said a team under supervision of Robin Sharma is working 10-12 hours a day to finalise plans for formally launching the Tirupati by-poll campaign very soon. The team is regularly interacting with party's coordination committee leaders and giving them directions as to how they can go about appealing voters.

A specific strategy readied for the purpose is TD launching a "Dharma Parirakshana Yatra" from Tirupati on January 21. The party is adopting a three-pronged strategy — Garner Hindu votes, counter the government and exposing government failures — to win the poll.

On the other hand, political strategist Prashant Kishor has recently met Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy. The meeting has gained significance amidst ongoing vandalising of temples and idol in the state. Sources said they discussed the by-poll, for which a notification is around the corner.

NO ROLE FOR SASIKALA IN AIADMK: EPS

G. BABU JAYAKUMAR
AND D. SEKAR | DC
CHENNAI, JAN. 19

Putting an end to all speculations of V.K. Sasikala walking out of jail and turning the political scene upside down in the state, Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami categorically ruled out any possibility of taking her back in the party fold.

Taking questions from the media after meeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi on Tuesday, Palaniswami stated that Sasikala was not part of the AIADMK and there was absolutely no chance of her joining the party.

Vehemently denying the rumours that the BJP was putting pressure on the AIADMK to let Sasikala into the party, he said the AIADMK was now functioning properly without any hitch and there was no need to accommodate any body.

He insisted he discussed only issues relating to the state with the PM.

Allergy patients told to avoid Covishield

New Delhi, Jan. 19: People who are severely allergic to any ingredient of Covid-19 vaccine 'Covishield' are advised not to take it, Serum Institute of India said.

According to the fact sheet for the vaccine recipient by the Serum Institute of India, one should not get the Covishield vaccine if the person had a severe allergic reaction after a previous dose of this vaccine.

The ingredients of Covishield vaccine are "L-

Histidine, L-Histidine hydrochloride monohydrate, Magnesium chloride hexahydrate, Polysorbate 80, Ethanol, Sucrose, Sodium chloride, Disodium edetate dihydrate (EDTA), Water for injection," Serum Institute said.

The fact sheet for the vaccine recipient on the website of the Pune-based vaccine manufacturer is to help the recipient understand the risks and benefits of the Covishield vaccine. —PTI

AMITY | CALL

Zahara Begum asks Muslims to donate for Ayodhya's Ram temple

Muslim lady takes Ram temple's cause

DC CORRESPONDENT
VIJAYAWADA, JAN. 19

Zahara Begum, organiser of Tahera Trust, is on an unusual mission — she is exhorting fellow members of the Muslim community to contribute funds towards the construction of a grand temple for Hindu god Lord Ram at Ayodhya.

Speaking to *Deccan Chronicle*, she recalled that all communities, including Muslims, would pool efforts to support their

Hindu brothers and sisters in organising *pooja* for Vinay-aka Chavithi, Dasara and Ram Navami by offering donations, in the true spirit and tradition of India, and its rich 'Unity in Diversity'.

She appealed to Muslim community to come forward generously to cooperate in all possible manners, including offering donations, towards the construction of Ram temple at Ayodhya in the same spirit.

Ms Zahara appealed to



Zahara Begum

fellow Muslims to donate money through Nidhi Samarpna, during the Nidhi Sekarana programme for building of Ram temple at

Ayodhya, purely on a voluntary basis. She said that Muslims can start contributing doate from ₹10 to any larger amount of their choice towards the fund.

She recalled that while working for years with villages, sometimes remote, though several of them have over the last decade advanced a lot, she had noticed that in almost all villages, Hindus have donated land for construction of mosques, idgahs and also for burial grounds for the Muslim community.

"Non-Muslims have donated a great extent of cultivable land of their volition to Muslims," she said.

Ms Zahara further said, "We are blessed to be in a country where Lord Ram was born. We are fortunate that the temple is going to be built during our time. Lord Ram has taught 'dharma' as a way of life' and stands as an exemplar for the entire world. Let us participate in this divine activity and help in construction of a great Ram temple."

SHORT TAKES

GANGAPUTRA MEMBERS DEMAND APOLOGY FROM MIN.

DC CORRESPONDENT
JAGTIAL, JAN. 19

Deshineni Rajesh, district unit president of the Gangaputra Sangham, on Tuesday demanded that the the government suspend fisheries minister Talasani Srinivas Yadav from the Cabinet for allegedly making derogatory comments against the people of the Gangaputra community.

Around 1,000 Gangaputra community members took out a protest rally from Vaninagar, Dharamshala, to the Collectorate here, and submitted a memorandum to collector G. Ravi. They demanded that Srinivas Yadav apologise to the people of the Gangaputra community. If he does not do so, Rajesh alleged that after laying the foundation stone for the construction of Mudiraj Bhavan at Kokapet, Srinivas Yadav had promised the Mudiraj community that all those who cross 18 years of age will be given first preference to catch fish in water bodies. When CM K. Chandrashekar Rao had declared that the primary right of catching fish belonged to the people of the Gangaputra community, how can the fisheries minister forget the people of the Gangaputra community and speak against them, he asked adding, "Is it not insulting them?"

The members of the association Nachupally Reddy, Jumbharthi Shankar, Rajini Kanth, Bingi Rajesham, Gummu Anjaiah, Pallikonda Ravi, Gummula Rajesh, Gummula Rajanna and Kalleda Gangadhar were among those who present.

SABITHA ORDERS ACTION PLAN FOR SCHOOLS

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, JAN. 19

Education minister Sabitha Indra Reddy on Tuesday directed all educational institutions to formulate and implement an action plan for functioning of classes in accordance with the guidelines issued by the government and asked private schools to play a supportive role. She assured that private institutions will be involved in shaping policies that the government formulates in the future. She was speaking at separate meetings at the SCERT, Hyderabad, with all stakeholders including the Hyderabad School Parents' Association (HSPA) and private institutions bodies TRSMA and PIJAC to hear their grievances, concerns and demands ahead of the February 1 reopening.

In the meeting with the HSPA Sabitha Reddy assured that all safety protocols will be prioritised for students attending school in person, even as there was no pressure on students to do so, and that they could opt for online classes. The minister reiterated that attendance in schools will not be made mandatory.

She announced that said that the syllabus, dates of examinations and practicals related to the Intermediate examinations would be clarified by next week. The syllabus for the Eamcet will be made in line with the syllabus of other entrance examinations held at the national level.

IT MINISTER TO GIVE INDUSTRY AWARDS

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, JAN. 19

The Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry-FICCI Excellence Awards would be presented by minister K.T. Rama Rao along with senior IAS official Jayesh Ranjan. The event would begin at Federation House, Red Hills, at 5 pm. The event would be attended by FTCCI Ramaknath Inani, vice-president Anil Agarwal, Chair Ravinder Modi, and CEO Khyati Naravane. The awards are given to corporates, institutes, entrepreneurs and individuals for outstanding contribution.

The awards are given in the categories of industrial productivity, all-round performance, agro-based industry, marketing initiatives, export performance, renewable energy, employee welfare, corporate social responsibility, product innovation, research and development, information technology, science and engineering, women entrepreneur and social welfare Initiatives for women empowerment.



TRS Andole legislator Chanti Kranti Kiran sets out in a motorcycle procession to raise funds for Ram temple in Ayodhya, on Tuesday.

TRS MLA joins drive to raise funds to build Ram mandir

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, JAN. 19

TRS Andole legislator Chanti Kranti Kiran created a storm on the internet on Tuesday by participating in a rally of Sri Rama devotees to raise funds for the construction of the Ram mandir in Ayodhya.

The participation of the TRS MLA came as a huge surprise. He also donated ₹11.11.

Speaking exclusively with *Deccan Chronicle*, Kiran said that Lord Rama was God for all Hindus and not only for the members of some parties. Therefore, he personally participated the rally to raise funds for the Ram mandir.

"There is no politics in the programme," Kiran said.

Hindus have donated land for Muslims, says Zahara

From Page 1

She said that Muslims can start contributing donate from ₹10 to any larger amount of their choice towards the fund.

She recalled that while working for years with villages, sometimes remote, though several of them have over the last decade advanced a lot, she had noticed that in almost all villages, Hindus have donated land for construction of mosques, idgahs and also for burial grounds for the Muslim

community.

"Non-Muslims have donated a great extent of cultivable land of their volition to Muslims," she said, adding not only giving land, Hindus have also helped construct masjids, idgahs and graveyards.

Ms Zahara further said, "we are blessed to be in a country where Lord Ram was born. We are fortunate that the temple is going to be built during our time. Lord Ram has taught 'Dharma' as a way of life' and stands as an exemplar for the entire

world."

"Let us come together and participate in this divine activity and help in construction of a great Ram temple at Ayodhya with an open heart," she added.

She further said India means spirituality, a rich heritage, multi-traditional, multi-cultural, multi-linguistic milieu, unlike any other country in the world.

People of all communities, including Muslims, have freedoms in India unlike in many other countries and share pride in being Indian.

SIRAJ HALTED AUSTRALIA'S SECOND INNINGS

From Page 1

Tough tailenders put on an incredible seventh-wicket stand of 123 after India were knocked down at 186 for 6 in the first innings, and fast bowler Mohammed Siraj, who took 5 for 73 in Australia's second innings.

It's been a bumpy ride to Brisbane though. The wheels had come off in the first Test in Adelaide last month when Virat Kohli's men were bowled out for a humiliating 36 in the second innings to lose the game by eight wickets. They then lost their captain to paternity leave, and at least six other players to injuries, most of them done in by hostile bowling.

Led by stand-in skipper Ajinkya Rahane, the battered and bruised boys bounced back by punching big to win the Boxing Day Test in Melbourne, fought out a draw in the following game in Sydney before breaching the home side's fortress in Brisbane after 32 years. No wonder they were grinning from ear-to-ear — see 32 teeth?

Then there is 33, Australia's new Catch-22 perhaps. It was the third time that the Aussies lost to India after taking a 33-run lead — at Kanpur in 1979, Adelaide in 2003 and Brisbane now.

G.H. Vihari and Ravichandran Ashwin were India's other heroes during the thrilling series. With the top half gone, they had hung in for four and three hours to score 23 and 39 respectively while enduring hostile bowling to snatch a draw in Sydney that kept the series alive and India floating like a butterfly, before the bee sting in Brisbane.

● **LED BY stand-in skipper Ajinkya Rahane, the battered and bruised boys bounced back by punching big to win the Boxing Day Test in Melbourne, fought out a draw in the following game in Sydney before breaching the home side's fortress in Brisbane after 32 years. No wonder they were grinning from ear-to-ear — see 32 teeth?**

'Bangaru Telangana' only for CM and family, alleges Tarun

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, JAN. 19

BJP national general secretary in-charge of Telangana affairs Tarun Chugh has charged Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao with deceiving the people in the name of 'Bangaru Telangana', but indulging in large-scale corruption and promoting nepotism.

Addressing an executive meeting of the state BJP Mahila Morcha, along with morcha president Geeta Murthi and senior TS leaders Vijayashanthi and D.K. Aruna, Tarun Chugh said it turned out to be "Bangaru Telangana" only for the CM and his family members.

He lambasted KCR government for failing to fulfil any of the promises made in the



BJP MP, Telangana incharge Tarun Chugh, party leader Vijayashanthi, Mahila Morcha president Geeta Murthy seen at Mahila Morcha State executive committee meeting in Hyderabad on Tuesday.

— P. SURENDRA

TRS election manifesto. "In the corruption-ridden government of KCR, unemployment has been increasing, as the CM has failed to give two lakh jobs promised during el-

ections. He is concerned only about his family. That is why KCR rehabilitated his daughter Kavitha as MLC after she lost the Nizamabad Lok Sabha seat, he pointed out.

HSPA seeks Covid-19 testing for school staff

HARLEEN MINOCHA | DC
HYDERABAD, JAN. 19

The Hyderabad Schools Parents Association (HSPA) asked education minister Sabitha Indra Reddy on Tuesday to mandate Covid-19 test for all teaching and non-teaching staff in all schools to ensure that only non-infected persons are allowed inside the premises from February 1, when they reopen.

Questions were raised during HSPA's meeting with the minister on the liability of the schools and the government if any student who goes to school with parental consent gets infected. The government did not respond, sources said.

The minister assured the parents body that such a situation was unlikely and that all safety protocols would be followed, and mandatory Covid-19 testing for staff will be ensured.

Speaking with *Deccan Chronicle*, a senior official in the education department said, "We are following all guidelines issued by the Central and state governments. We cannot guarantee who gets infected while at the school or college. We will follow safety protocols. It is up to the parents and students to identify the situation and consent to taking physical classes, which are not mandatory anyway."

The government assured that after the reopening, regular visits of district nodal officers will take place to ensure that all educational institutions were following the safety protocols. The HSPA raised issues relating to GO 46 violations, and fee regulations in the past few months. They requested the minister to decide a percentage of fee

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, JAN. 19

A five-member Private Institutions Joint Action Committee (PIJAC) and representatives of the Telangana Recognised Schools Management Association (TRSMA) told the government that issues and challenges facing the private institutions need to be resolved before re-opening of schools and colleges on February 1.

The primary demands of both parties at a meeting with education minister Sabitha Indra Reddy was the issuance of guidelines pertaining to reopening of educational institutions, release of the academic calendar, and financial support to budget private institutions to meet the expenditure and losses due to non-receipt of fees.

They demanded that the government bear the sanitisation expenses of budget private institutions, and support students in the form of fee reimbursement.

Contrary to the parents' body demands with regard to GO 46, the private institutions representatives demanded that the government issue guidelines about fee collection of the previous

● **BOTH THE** bodies requested the govt to treat budget private institutions as a separate category and provide relaxation in taxes and utility bills for the lockdown period, and update the payment of salaries, building rents, electricity, water and other maintenance.

and the current academic year.

Both the bodies requested the government to treat budget private institutions (BPIs) as a separate category and provide relaxation in taxes and utility bills for the lockdown period, and update the payment of salaries, building rents, electricity, water and other maintenance. They requested a provision of interest free loans to BPIs, and extension of moratorium period for existing loanes.

The TRSMA requested the minister to grant permission to allow students from Classes 1 to 8 to visit the school for submission of assignments for corrections and clarify doubts till the schools reopen, to minimise learning loss. They demanded an extension of the academic year till July 31, and to conduct the SSC public exams in May.

reduction in view of the pandemic and loss of income of parents. It wanted the government to decide the fee to be paid in proportion to the salaries and rents paid by private schools.

The HSPA demanded expediting the constitution of a fee regulation committee for private schools, along with an official directive to the managements to give a detailed break-up of fees collected by them.

TS RECORDS 256 FRESH COVID CASES, 2 DEATHS

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, JAN. 19

The state's Covid-19 caseload rose to 2,92,128 with 256 fresh cases reported till 8 pm on Monday. The toll from the disease mounted to 1,581 after

two more patients died, translating to a case fatality rate to 0.54 per cent, the state health department's bulletin said on Tuesday.

The GHMC area recorded 51 cases, followed by Medchal Malkajgiri with 17

and Rangla Reddy district 15. The bulletin said 298 people had recovered from Coronavirus between Sunday and Monday, pushing the recoveries to 2,86,542 for a recovery rate of 98.08 per cent.

Narendra Luther passes away

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, JAN. 19

Eminent poet, historian, author and former chief secretary of erstwhile Andhra Pradesh Narendra Luther passed away on Tuesday morning at a private hospital. The 89-year-old, who was suffering from old age issues, breathed his last at a private hospital in the city. He is survived by his wife Bindu Luther, son Rahul Luther and daughter Sandhya Luther.

IAS officer of the 1955 batch, Narendra Luther was an eminent historian of Hyderabad. He wrote extensively about the city's history and culture, with 14 books to his credit. His popular publications include "Hyderabad: A Biography", "Prince, Poet, Lover, Builder, Muhammad Quli Qutub Shah, the Founder of Hyderabad", "Lashkar: The Story of Secunderabad", and a coffee table book — The Prince of Photographers Raja Deen Dayal".

The former chief secretary was also the president of the Society to Save Rocks. He was an authority on rock formations and geology of Banjara



● **IAS OFFICER** of the 1955 batch, Narendra Luther was an eminent historian of Hyderabad.

● **HE WROTE** extensively about the city's history and culture, with 14 books to his credit.

● **THE FORMER** chief secretary was also the president of the Society to Save Rocks.

Hills. He made a documentary titled "Rockumentary" on the subject.

Born in Hoshiarpur, Punjab, in 1932, Narendra Luther spent his formative years in Lahore. At the onset of partition, his family moved to Amritsar. In his autobiography "A Bonsai Tree", Luther wrote in detail about his early years in Pakistan and migration to India. In his message to family of Narendra Luther, Chief Minister K.

Chandrashekar Rao recalled late Narendra Luther's services as a person who worked on the history and culture of erstwhile Hyderabad state and its rulers, apart from being president of the Society to Save Rocks, Hyderabad. The CM lauded Luther's services as a bureaucrat working in various capacities in the united AP government. He conveyed his condolences to members of the bereaved family.

OTHER STORIES

FARMER DIES BY SUICIDE DUE TO FINANCIAL BURDEN

DC CORRESPONDENT
WARANGAL, JAN. 19

A farmer committed suicide by consuming pesticide in agricultural land in Thodellagudem village of Dornakal mandal in Mahabubabad district on Tuesday. The deceased has been identified as 25-year-old Ch. Veera Babu.

According to the police, Veera Babu took the extreme step as he was depressed over losing his standing crops in around eight acres of land. His land is three acres, and the remaining five acres of land was taken for lease. He cultivated cotton and red chilli in the land. He took a loan from the local financiers for his sister's marriage and farming.

He was reportedly being troubled by financiers demanding repayment of the loan. With the financial burden, Veera Babu consumed pesticide in his agricultural land and died on the spot.

Early on Tuesday morning, the neighbour farmers who spotted Veera Babu's dead body informed the family members and the police.

Dornakal, Inspector E. Srinivas said that a case under section 174 CrPC had been registered and the body has been shifted to Mahabubabad Area Hospital for post mortem.

DOUBTS AMONG HEALTH WORKERS ON VACCINE

DC CORRESPONDENT
KHAMMAM, JAN. 19

Are the health workers hesitating to get vaccines? Do they have doubts about the vaccine?

The above doubts surface after noticing the people who administered the 19 vaccine. The medical and health department decided to administer a vaccine to 1729 persons against the target of 2570 on Tuesday. The government increased the number of centres for vaccination from 15 to 26 on Tuesday.

There are reports that many of the Aasha and Anganwadi workers are not turning up at the centres due to apprehensions. The government that administered the vaccine only 30 members in each centre on January 16 and increased the number to 50 by Tuesday. The figure went up to nearly 100 by Tuesday.

Though the district medical health officer of Khammam Malathi claimed that many of the persons had not attended due to their absence in their centres, there are various doubts on the absence of frontline workers for the vaccine. The vaccine is not being done on Wednesday and Saturday and other public holidays.

Malathi said that the health workers should not believe the rumours on vaccines and get vaccines without fail. The doctors of various primary health centres were asked to allay the health workers' fears and convince them to get their Covid-19 vaccine dose.

N. Kanthiah, a social activist in Khammam, said that some of the health workers want to take some time to get the vaccine to prove its effectiveness.

"People in rural areas had their doubts on their own way on the vaccine," he said. He recalled a letter written by medical staff in Delhi hospital to supply covishield than Covaxine to it.



Collector K. Shashanka and CP Kamalasan Reddy inaugurates the employees sports and games meet by releasing the balloons at Ambedkar stadium in Karimnagar on Tuesday.

Employees told to play games to maintain fitness
1,200 government employees participates in the meetDC CORRESPONDENT
KARIMNAGAR, JAN. 19

"When the physical and mental health conditions are perfect, our working and thinking abilities will improve," said district collector K. Shashanka here on Tuesday while urging employees to engage in more of recreational activities.

The collector was inaugurating an 'Employees' games and sports meet' along with police commissioner VB Kamalasan Reddy at the Ambedkar stadium. After taking a guard of honour from the assembled sportsmen, the collector opened the sports meet by lighting the Olympic Lamp and later released balloons in the air in a celebratory spirit.

Shashanka said such

There is also a possibility of bringing out the hidden talents among the employees by way of holding such sports meets and arts festivals. collector urged the employees to spend up to an hour a day on the open grounds

sports and games meets are held for government employees every year in a build-up for the Republic Day celebrations. About 1,200 government employees were participating in the meet this time. They are divided into 10 teams. The competitions will be held in 23 categories.

"Winning and losing are integral to sports and games. We should thus imbibe a sportsman spirit that will help us take both success and failure in a positive way," he said.

The collector noted: "Government employees play a key role in imple-

menting various welfare schemes as also developmental activities. Developmental works, political initiatives, people's involvement and the hard work of government employees are important for success of the democratic system and national growth."

He said that when employees are physically and mentally strong, they can render their services in a better manner. This will help speed up progress of the state and the nation. "There is also a possibility of bringing out the hidden talents among the employees by way of

holding such sports meets and arts festivals," he said.

The collector urged the employees to spend up to an hour a day on the open grounds, playing sports and games. "By participating in sports and cultural activities, employees can develop new relations and also a friendly nature," he noted.

Later, the collector along with the police commissioner played cricket and volleyball by way of an encouragement to the assembled employees. Additional collectors Shyam Prasad Lal, Narasimha Reddy, assistant collector Ankith, district revenue officer Madhava Rao and district youth and sports officer Rajveer Singh were among those present.

Mudirajs demand change in caste category to BC-A

DC CORRESPONDENT
NIZAMABAD, JAN. 19

Members of the Mudiraj community took out a huge rally in Nizamabad on Tuesday demanding fishing rights for the community. The rally started at Rajarajendra crossroads and reached Dharna Chowk via Varni Phulung, Hyderabad road and Old LIC chowrasta. In response to a call given by the State Maharaj Mahasabha, community members including women from across the district took part in the agitation.

Speaking at a meeting that followed, Mudiraj Mahasabha leaders Ande Babanna, Palleyoyina Ashok Mudiraj, and secretary Gangadhar said that minister of Fisheries Talasani Srinivas Yadav had announced that the Mudiraj community members could earn their livelihood through fishing from January 26. On the lines of the Golla, Kurma and other castes,



Mudiraj community members participate in a rally in Nizamabad on Tuesday.

the Mudiraj had sought livelihood through fishing, they said.

"Unfortunately, other community leaders misunderstood the government decision and are blaming minister Srinivas Yadav and others," the leaders said. The TRS government is committed to protecting the interests of all communities that depending on caste-based professions, they said.

"We will live together with understanding,

otherwise we will face problems," they warned. Mudiraj Mahasabha leaders demanded that the community should be changed from BC-D to BC-A category.

The state government should allot two acres of land in each district and sanction ₹2 crore for the community, they said.

Mudiraj Mahasabha office bearers from different districts attended the meeting.

All eyes on elevation of MLC Kavitha

DC CORRESPONDENT
NIZAMABAD, JAN.19

Ruling TRS party scores are eagerly waiting for elevation of MLC Kalvakuntla Kavitha in the state government. They believed she may be inducted into the state cabinet in next expansion. Giving hope to the speculations, Kavitha absent from the general body meeting of Nizamabad zilla parishad held on Monday. Close followers of Kavitha said that she will be seen in a protocol post soon.

Kavitha was elected as MLC from Nizamabad local authorities constituency on October 12, 2020. Members of zilla parishad hoped that Kavitha would have attended the maiden general body meeting, but in vain. Being MLC she supposed to sit in the front row of the venue instead of the dais. Reportedly, the close followers sought Kavitha to attend

BJP SLAMS GOVT FOR NO PUBLICITY OF MODI IN STATE

DC CORRESPONDENT
ADILABAD, JAN. 19

On Monday, the BJP leaders criticised the state government for not giving space to Prime Minister Narendra Modi in its publicity for the welfare schemes for which central govt is funding.

Addressing the BJP district body meeting, Adilabad MP Soyam Bapurao said the officials have failed to mend their ways even after repeated requests to accommodate Prime Minister Narendra Modis' image on the Rythu Veidikal.

He called upon the party cadre to obstruct the inauguration of Rythu Vedikal in their respective areas demanding for including PMS image on Rythu Vedikal since the central government is funding Rs 10 lakh to each Vedika out of a total cost of Rs 22 lakh.

It may be recalled here that BJP leaders picked up an argument with the TRS leaders and officials for not printing prime minister Narendra Modi's image on the use of a flexi during the Covid-19 vaccination at the centres.

The BJP leaders said that it was the BJP which provided the Covid-19 vaccine, and not the state government.

Adilabad BJP district president Payal Shankar and others were present.

● MP Soyam Bapurao said the officials have failed to mend their ways even after repeated requests to accommodate Prime Minister Narendra Modis' image on the Rythu Veidikal.

KCR disrupted private education system in TS: BJP

DC CORRESPONDENT
WARANGAL, JAN. 19

BJP state leader, former minister and Warangal-Khammam-Nalgonda graduate MLC election in-charge Inugala Peddi Reddy lashed out at the Telangana state government for disrupting the existing education system by failing to keep the promise to provide KG to PG free education.

During a meeting with management of private educational institutions at a private college in Hanamkonda, Reddy said that it was not correct of the state government to ignore the sector that employs thousands of unemployed people. He warned that the incumbent government would have to come out of the farmhouse and address the issues or pay a fair price in the coming elections.

Former MLA Yendala Lakshmi Narayana said that the Telangana government should immediately support the education sector. If the

education system is not in order, all sectors are in danger of getting damaged in the future.

BJP Warangal Urban District President Rao Padma said that the government should understand the plight of private educational institutions. It was very cruel of the state government to deceive the educational institutions that had played a leading role in the Telangana state formation movement.

BJP Warangal - Khammam - Nalgonda Graduate MLC Candidate, Secretary-General of State Gujulla Premender Reddy said that he was a person who has taken part in many movements since his student days. He promised to work tirelessly to address educational institutions' problems and the problems of the unemployed once he is elected as MLC.

BJP leaders and representatives of various educational institutions were present, among others.

TRS FEARS MUNICIPAL POLLS AFTER DEBACLE IN DUBBAKA, SAYS SRIDHAR

DC CORRESPONDENT
KHAMMAM, JAN. 19

Bharatiya Kisan Morcha state president Kondapalli Sridhar Reddy said that TRS government is scared to conduct the elections of Warangal and Khammam Municipal Corporation after noticing the debacle in Dubbaka and GHMC elections.

He said that the BJP would file a charge sheet against the TRS government soon. He said that the TRS ministers, MLAs and leaders are doing corruption in sand, soil and lands. The people are vexed with corruption and ready to defeat it.

He said that the BJP would win majority seats and fly the saffron flag in Khammam Municipal Corporation. He addressed

the BJP activists meeting in Khammam on Tuesday. He said that the party workers should complete the forming of booth committees and submit the list within two days. He said that Khammam Corporation's corruption touched to its peak and the people decided to vote out the TRS.

"BJP activists should work as soldiers in Corporation elections and bring all the voters to the booths.

The NDA government's programs should be explained to the people during their campaign", he said, adding that the corruption of corporators of the ruling party should be exposed.

He said that the party had strong support in Khammam and that people were ready to vote for BJP.

SAFE | PASSAGE NH, Rly tracks obstruct tigers to enter Kawal Tiger Reserve

3 underpasses proposed for tiger passage

PILLALAMARI
SRINIVAS | DC
ADILABAD, JAN. 19

The forest department has identified National Highway 363 and the railway tracks in the area as impediments to free passage of tigers into the core area of the Kawal Tiger Reserve (KTR) from Thadoba Andhari and Thippeshwar Tiger reserves bordering Maharashtra.

The forest department has proposed three underpasses or bridges at identified places for smooth passage of tigers on NH-363 and also at the railway track in Komaram Bheem Asifabad (KBA) and Mancherla districts. Proposals for construction of underpasses or bridges for smooth passage of tigers have been submitted to NHA and SCR authorities.

The 94.6km stretch of NH363 is being converted



into a four-lane road - in place of the two-way lane - from Wankidi on the borders of Telangana and Maharashtra to Mancherla of Telangana. Road widening works are in progress and the third railway track is being laid. Works are in progress.

The tigers have not made the core area of KTR as their habitat till now.

After Kawal wildlife sanctuary was declared as a tiger reserve in 2012, lot of funds are being invested in the conservation of forests in KTR, but this is of no use so far. No tiger has made KTR its habitat till

now. A few months ago, a tiger entered KTR's buffer area and returned to its habitat in Maharashtra after wandering in the area for few days.

The third rail track is being laid on the route between Kazipet in Telangana and Ballarshah in Maharashtra under SCR and a four-lane road is erected from Mancherla to Chandrapur. Forest conservator of Adilabad circle CP Vinod Kumar said NH363 and the railway tracks have become an impediment in the smooth passage of tigers into the core area of

the Kawal Tiger Reserve (KTR) from Thadoba Andhari and Thippeshwar tiger reserves bordering Maharashtra.

"Tigers are coming to a certain point but failing to cross the NH and railway tracks due to lack of underpasses and going back to their original habitat." He said the forest department has identified some spots on NH and the railway tracks that are reached by tigers, but these tigers are then going back.

Forest officials say the 'man and animal conflict'

● Kawal wildlife sanctuary was declared as a tiger reserve in 2012, lot of funds are being invested in the conservation of forests in KTR, but this is of no use so far. No tiger has made KTR its habitat till now. A few months ago, a tiger entered KTR's buffer area and returned to its habitat in Maharashtra

and density of tigers could be controlled in the Kagaznagar forest division by providing a safe passage to tigers into KTR from Kagaznagar forest division. Many forest areas in the Kagaznagar forest division fall under the buffer area of KTR. The tigers are migrating to Telangana borders from the Thadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve of Maharashtra.

Forest officials say a fight is going on among the migrated tigers for domination of individual forest territory. This problem has arisen with an increase in the migrated tiger population in the Kagaznagar forest division.

There were incidents of a tiger and a leopard dying after being hit by trains while crossing the railway track on the outskirts of the Sipur (T) mandal headquarters.

CLASSIFIEDS

SITUATION VACANT MEDICAL

DUTY MEDICAL Officers with MBBS qualification and 3 to 5 years of work experience required to work for SVS Medical College Hospital, Mahabubnagar. Please send resume to: medicalsuperintendentsvsmch@gmail.com. Accommodation shall be provided. Contact: 9849158123, 8 8 2 6 7 6 9 4 0 1 (HYCL/2021/C02417)

CONSULTANCY

100% IMMIGRATION to CANADA, UK, Australia made fast & easy for all professions & Graduates. All Visas all countries. For Footproof process & Guidance Ph: 7989125889, 9398438600 (A/2021/C00500)

EDUCATIONAL

CAREER/ENTRANCE COURSES
✓ ONE-SITTING / Fasttrack- Graduations (All), Post-Graduations (All), PG Diplomas, Polytechnic Diplomas,

Secondary (10th) & Senior Secondary (12th). Provided Online results & Online verifications, Eligible for Private & Abroad. Ph: 9912540011, 7337291133, www.hyderc.com (A/2021/C00094)

DISTANCE EDUCATION

✓ CONTACT FOR NCTE- Recognised: B.Ed./M.Ed. No Advance Fee. Only For Educational Consultants. Students Please no call. Contact regarding any Educational Problem/ Guidance. Shiksha Bharti, Varanasi. Email: shikshabharti88@yahoo.com Mob: 9519759663, 995103781. (HYMM/2021/C05866)

EDUCATIONAL

INTER ONE Sitting BIPC, MPC, CEC, Diploma/ B.Sc/ M.Sc In: DMLT, Physiotherapy, Nursing, Optometry, Dental Tech, Hygiene, DMIT, CT Scan, Dialysis, Anesthesia, ECG, X-Ray, BPT, MPT For Training. Ph: 247476873. (HYCL/2021/C02419)

NOTICE

Readers are advised to make appropriate enquiries while responding to advertisements in these columns. Deccan Chronicle Holdings Ltd. does not vouch for any claims made by the Advertisers. The Printer, Publisher, Editor and Owner of Deccan Chronicle Holdings Ltd. shall not be held responsible / liable for any consequences, in case such claims are found to be false.

Deccan Chronicle

BOOK YOUR CLASSIFIED / DISPLAY ADVERTISEMENTS at
EDITION CENTRE :
KARIMNAGAR
H.No. 1-21/12/1, Cherlabhukur Road, Mugdumpur Village, Karimnagar - 505 186
900650508
e-mail: krmadvit@deccanmail.com
9121183123

NEW TAKES



BIDEN PLANS TO REVERSE TRUMP POLICIES

U.S. PRESIDENT-ELECT JOE BIDEN PLANS TO SIGN DOZENS OF EXECUTIVE ORDERS AND SEND SWEEPING BILLS TO CONGRESS IN HIS FIRST DAYS IN OFFICE.

COVID-19 CRISIS

- Seek a \$1.9 trillion spending proposal aimed at accelerating the distribution of coronavirus vaccines while providing economic relief to millions of Americans hurt by the pandemic.
- Impose a mask-wearing requirement on all federal property, planes and buses.
- Extend relief on federal student loan payments and extend an eviction moratorium.
- Sign an executive order that helps schools and businesses reopen safely, expands Coronavirus testing and establishes clearer public health standards.
- Direct federal agencies to take immediate action to deliver economic relief to working families bearing the brunt of the crisis.
- Return the United States to the World Health Organisation. Trump withdrew from the agency, saying it failed to properly oversee the Covid-19 pandemic.

CLIMATE

- Bring the United States back into the Paris Climate Agreement, the global pact forged five years ago among nearly 200 nations to avoid the worst impacts of climate change. Trump vowed in 2016 to pull the US out of the agreement, making good on that promise in November 2020.
- Reimpose methane pollution limits for new and existing oil and gas operations repealed by Trump.
- Using the federal government procurement system - which spends \$500 billion every year - to make facilities more reliant on clean energy and purchase zero-emissions vehicles.
- Ban new oil and gas permitting on public lands and waters, including the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.
- Cancel the permit for the Keystone XL Pipeline, which would carry oil from Canada to the United States.

IMMIGRATION

- Repeal the ban on almost all travel from some Muslim-majority countries.
- Send to Congress a sweeping immigration bill that could legalise millions of immigrants living in the US without legal permission.
- Reinstate the program allowing "Dreamers," people who were brought to the United States illegally as children, to remain in the country.
- Reverse Trump's policy that separated immigrant parents from their children at the border, including ending the prosecution of parents for minor immigration violations, and prioritise the reunification of any children still separated from their families.
- Reverse Trump's more restrictive asylum policies, such as imposing additional restrictions on anyone traveling through Mexico or Guatemala and attempting to prevent victims of gang and domestic violence from receiving asylum.
- End Trump's National Emergency declaration that allowed him to shift federal funds from the Department of Defense to build a wall along the US border with Mexico.
- Order an immediate review of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for vulnerable populations who cannot find safety in their countries ripped apart by violence or disaster. — Reuters

Biden to be sworn in President today

More than 25,000 National Guard troops being deployed to assist swearing-in

Washington, Jan. 19: Joe Biden will be sworn in as the 46th President of the United States, while Kamala Harris will take oath as the first woman Vice President on Wednesday, in the midst of growing concerns over the safety of the historic inauguration following the recent violent attack on the Capitol Hill by pro-Trump supporters.

Chief Justice John Roberts will administer the oath of office to Biden just after the clock strikes 12 (local time) at the West Front of the Capitol — the traditional location — under the unprecedented security umbrella of more than 25,000 National Guards, who have transformed the capital into a garrison city, mainly because of the threat of violent protest by Trump's supporters.

Biden, 78, will take the oath on his 127-year-old family Bible, which will be held by his wife, Jill Biden. Biden, who will be the oldest president in American history, will deliver his first presidential address to the country after taking oath shortly after noon. The historic speech, with the theme of unity and healing, is being prepared by his Indian-American speech writer Vinay Reddy.

Harris, 56, will make history as the first female, first person of colour and first South Asian American vice president when she will be sworn in by Justice Sonia Sotomayor, the first Latina member of the Supreme Court. Sotomayor administered the oath to Biden as vice president in 2013.

She will be sworn in on two Bibles — one that belonged to a close family friend named Regina Shelton and another that belonged to Thurgood Marshall — the country's first African American Supreme Court justice.

This year, however, the transition stands out for its acrimony. The process usually starts straight after the election, but it started weeks late after President Donald Trump refused to accept the result of the November 3 election



A military color guard practices during a dress rehearsal for the 59th inaugural ceremony for President-elect Joe Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris, at the US Capitol, in Washington, DC. The US Presidential inauguration is scheduled today.

Top Indian Americans will address AAPI Inaugural Ball

Washington, Jan. 19: Several eminent Indian Americans including Congressmen and those set to occupy key positions in the incoming Biden Administration will participate and address the Presidential Inaugural Committee's official Asian American inaugural ball here on Tuesday.

Asian American inaugural ball is one of the three additional events announced by the Presidential Inaugural Committee to celebrate

and honour America's diversity in advance of the inauguration of President-elect Joe Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris on January 20.

"We Are One" is the other event hosted to honour and celebrate all within the Black Community and African Diaspora, featuring powerful speakers, inspiring stories, and entertaining performances. "Latino Inaugural 2021: Inheritance, Resilience, and Promise" is the third

event being hosted by PIC in partnership with the Hispanic Federation and over 50 co-host organizations. To be hosted by IMPACT, a leading Indian American advocacy and political action committee, the Asian American inaugural ball will honour and recognise Biden and Harris.

The event will feature remarks from AAPI organisers, political leaders, celebrities and musical, comedy, and cultural performances. — PTI

Biden family Andrea Hall, the first African American female firefighter to become captain of the Fire Rescue Department in South Fulton, Georgia, will recite the Pledge of Allegiance. Singer-dancer Lady Gaga will sing the national anthem and Amanda Gorman, who became the country's first Youth Poet Laureate in 2017, will read a poem she has written for the occasion called "The Hill We Climb."

She would be followed by a performance by actress-singer Jennifer Lopez. Silvester Beaman, pastor of Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Wilmington, Delaware, will deliver a benediction. After the swearing-in ceremony, Biden and Harris will attend a traditional Pass in Review with members of the military on the East Front of the Capitol, signifying the peaceful transfer of power to a new commander-in-chief. — PTI

It's not going to be easy, says Kamala Harris

Washington, Jan. 19: Vice President-elect Kamala Harris has acknowledged the challenges that lie ahead for Joe Biden when he will be sworn in as the 46th President of the United States on Wednesday, saying "it is not going to be easy."

Biden enters the White House on January 20 with the top challenge to lift the country from the devastation of a raging pandemic that has killed more than 3,98,000 Americans and thrown millions into economic distress. "We're going into Wednesday knowing that we're ready to do the work, and we've got a lot of work to do."

It's not going to be easy," Harris told reporters at Martha's Table in Anacostia here on Monday, observing the National Day of Service. Every year on the third Monday in January, Americans honour the slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr., who in the 1950s and 1960s organised non-violent protests for Black equality and voting rights.

The holiday traditionally features people commemorating King's work by participating in community service projects. However, both the pandemic and warnings of violence in cities across the country following the January 6 insurrection by pro-Trump supporters in the US Capitol affected the events this year.

"As we have discussed, Joe has outlined our plan for vaccinations, our plan for recovery, and in particular relief for working people, for families. And there is a lot to do". "Some of them say that ours are ambitious goals, but we do



US Vice President-elect Kamala Harris speaks to the press after participating in a service event to mark Martin Luther King Jr. Day at Martha's Table in Washington, DC. — AFP

believe with hard work and with the cooperation and collaboration of the members of the United States Congress that we can get it done," Harris said in response to a question.

Asked if she felt safe going to the inauguration, amidst intelligence reports of more violent protests by supporters of the outgoing President Donald Trump, she said, "I am very much looking forward to be sworn in as the next vice president of the United States and I will walk there to that moment proudly with my head up and my shoulders back".

Harris, 56, will make history on Wednesday as the first female, first person of colour and first South Asian American vice president. Harris and the future Second Gentleman of the US Doug Emhoff participated in a service event on Monday, packing food into plastic bags which will be distributed. — PTI

Biden team says will not lift travel ban

Washington, Jan. 19: US President-elect Joe Biden's spokeswoman quickly dismissed Donald Trump's announcement Monday that a Covid-19 ban on travelers arriving from much of Europe and Brazil would be lifted, underlining the fractious transition of power.

"On the advice of our medical team, the Administration does not intend to lift these restrictions on 1/26," tweeted Jen Psaki, Biden's press secretary.

"In fact, we plan to strengthen public health measures around international travel in order to

further mitigate the spread of Covid-19." "With the pandemic worsening, and more contagious variants emerging around the world, this is not the time to be lifting restrictions on international travel," she added.

Just minutes prior to Psaki's tweet, President Trump said he would lift the travel ban on Europe and Brazil, although travel bans for China and Iran would remain in place.

"This action is the best way to continue protecting Americans from Covid-19 while enabling travel to resume safely," he said in

a statement released by the White House.

Trump had announced an initial ban on January 31, 2020 on non-American travelers entering from China to stop the spread of the coronavirus. The ban was extended to European countries on March 14, the US shutting itself off from the world as the pandemic entered full force.

Both Biden and Trump's statements come days after the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced that all air passengers bound for the US will be required to test negative

for Covid-19 within three days of their departure.

The test policy will take effect on January 26, and expands on a previous testing rule that targeted Britain and came into effect in December, following the emergence of a Coronavirus variant believed to be more transmissible.

Some epidemiologists have warned it is likely that new, more transmissible variants are already establishing themselves in the United States, the hardest-hit country in the world by the pandemic.

Biden will be inaugurated on Wednesday, after a

rocky handover of power and in the midst of an alarming surge of Covid-19 cases in the US.

Trump for months had refused to accept the outcome of the November 3 election, baselessly insisting the vote had been rigged and ignoring court rulings to the contrary, leaving the country seething with division and anger.

He denied Biden's team access to funds and resources and still has not congratulated Biden or invited him for the traditional tea visit in the Oval Office. — AFP

Trump mulls pardons on final day

KEY DATES OF THE TRUMP PRESIDENCY

From the launch of his campaign in 2015 to his defeat to Joe Biden, Donald Trump's time in the White House was a chaotic roller coaster ride as he shattered norms, shunned allies, bullied anyone who opposed him and governed with laser focus on how his policies would play with his conservative political base.

HERE ARE SOME OF THE MAIN DATES PUNCTUATING TRUMP'S POLITICAL CAREER:

FIRST MOVES

January 25, 2017: Trump signs an executive order ordering construction to begin on the wall he promised to build on the southern US border with Mexico, a key campaign promise he said Mexico would pay for.

January 27, 2017: Trump issues an executive order banning entries from seven Muslim-majority countries — Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen. Amid outrage, the Supreme Court validates the text in the summer of 2018.

June 1, 2017: Trump declares that the US it is pulling out of the Paris climate agreement.

ECONOMY

December 20, 2017: Republican-run Congress passes the biggest tax cuts in 31 years.

May 31, 2018: The US slaps tariffs on steel and aluminum from Mexico, Canada and the European Union.

June 15, 2018: Trump launches a trade war with China by slapping 25 percent tariffs on \$50 billion of imported goods.

September 2019: Unemployment hits its lowest level in 50 years, at 3.5 percent.

DIPLOMACY

December 6, 2017: The Trump administration recognises Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, breaking with long standing US policy and drawing international condemnation.

May 8, 2018: The US withdraws from the international nuclear agreement with Iran and reestablishes US sanctions against the Islamic republic.

October 27, 2019: Announcement that the leader of the Islamic State group, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, was killed in a US military raid in Syria.

January 3, 2020: The powerful Iranian general Qassem Soleimani is killed in a US air strike.

DEFEATS

July 28, 2017: The Senate fails to overturn Obamacare, the Democratic health care plan that Trump had vowed to abolish.

November 6, 2018: The opposition Democrats retake control of the House of Representatives. Republicans retain the Senate.

DIVISION

August 12, 2017: During a rally of far-right activists in Charlottesville in Virginia, a neo-Nazi sympathizer drives his car into a group of anti-racist demonstrators, killing a woman.

February 14, 2018: A 19-year-old former student opens fire in his old high school in Parkland, Florida, killing 17 people. The massacre sparks an unprecedented mobilization of young people calling for gun control. Trump wholeheartedly backs the rights of gun owners.

May 25, 2020: George Floyd, a 46-year-old Black man, dies during an arrest, triggering nationwide protests. Trump takes a law and order approach and calls the demonstrators thugs.



dence in Palm Beach.

Banned by Twitter for his stream of inflammatory messages and misinfor-

mation, he has largely stopped communicating with the nation. He has also yet to congratulate

Biden or invite him for the traditional pre-inauguration cup of tea in the Oval Office.

Instead, Trump has spent his time meeting with a dwindling circle of loyalists who backed him

during a doomed, two-month effort to overturn the results of the November election. — AFP

Dubai, Jan. 19: US President Donald Trump bestowed a rare award on King Hamad of Bahrain on Tuesday, acknowledging the Gulf state's normalisation of ties with Israel on his last full day in office.

Trump, who sees Arab recognition of Israel as a key overseas achievement of his presidency, already conferred the same award on King Mohammed VI of Morocco last week for his move to restore ties.

Announcing his bestowal of the Legion of Merit, Degree Chief Commander, on King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, Trump also paid tribute to Bahrain's hosting of a June 2019 conference on the economic dimensions of his controversial Middle East peace plan, which broke with decades of international consensus and was boycotted by the Palestinians.

"King Hamad has shown extraordinary courage and leadership through his support of the Vision for Peace and his decision to establish full diplomatic relations with the State of Israel," the official Bahrain News Agency quoted Trump as saying. — AFP

DECCAN Chronicle

20 JANUARY 2021

Amid turbulence, Biden's US will re-engage world

It is at a particularly tense moment in American history that Joseph Robinette Biden Jr will take the oath of office on Wednesday. He will be tasked with reuniting a nation fractured by the misrule of Donald Trump, who has disavowed even the normal decorum of transfer of power rituals that exemplify the elegance of democracy. Mr Biden and his deputy Kamala Harris inherit a fractured nation ravaged by the Covid-19 pandemic, economic turbulence and cultural fissures caused by deep racial divisions. Between them, Mr Biden and Ms Harris represent vividly the true state of the United States of today of a mixed racial and cultural milieu but they will be up against a white supremacist cult living in a world of alternate reality that Mr Trump cultivated with his lies and converted into a bankable core of a dangerous vote bank.

The taut atmosphere in fortress Washington as it prepares to deal with violent threats to national security after the Capitol Hill invasion of January 6 is illustrative of what the new presidential team is up against. However distracting and divisive the prospect of convicting Mr Trump in the Senate trial and disbarring him

Pinpricks there may be in US views on J&K, CAA and other matters, but the chances of more meaningful country-to-country ties just got brighter

from holding high office in the future may be, Team Biden will have to address the more immediate and impressive actions he has lined up like the \$1.9 trillion pandemic response that would need bipartisan legislative support and overhaul of health care, education and criminal justice systems with executive decisiveness. And all of that has to be done while attempting to "restore the soul of the nation" that he has promised. There will not be much place for the middle ground when it comes to dealing with facts like institutionalised racism and xenophobic anti-immigration.

Major reversal of policies are anticipated on the mix of sources for the energy grid with greater emphasis on alternative energy sources to keep in line with the Democrats' belief that climate change is real. A greater impact on the people will, however, depend on impetus to the US jobs scene but many nations will be pleased that the country will be rejoining the collective effort to try and bring down global warming. Putting a full stop to the beliefs of Trump Republicans that climate change does not pose a threat would in itself be a great contribution to protecting science and advancing solutions based on it. Leadership from the US in this fight for humanity would be even more welcome.

Sweeping American foreign policy changes can be expected and India, as a more trusted ally of the US in recent history, can hope to do much better than at a time when Mr Trump's empty promises came to nought and India is paying a price in not being able to pick up Iranian oil just as its techies faced hurdles in the H-1B visa program. As a driver of the India-US nuclear deal, Mr Biden is an old hand in dealing with India and his White House administration will have, besides vice-president Kamala Harris, as many as 20 persons of Indian origin with a majority of them in key positions. Pinpricks there may be in US views on J&K, CAA and other matters, but the chances of more meaningful country-to-country ties just got brighter.

Handle Nepal with sensitivity

The inability of Nepal foreign minister Pradeep Gyawali — who was on a three-day visit to New Delhi last week to attend the sixth meeting of the India-Nepal Joint Commission — to call on Prime Minister Narendra Modi in spite of his request for a meeting is in an indicator that India does not regard bilateral relations as being normal until Kathmandu restores status quo ante on the sensitive border issue.

In May last year, Nepal — without warning — incorporated Indian territories of Kalapani, Lipulekh and Limpiyudhara, into its maps. Prime minister K.P. Sharma Oli — raising a nationalist chorus to attract the support of other parties for the move — even had the Constitution changed to show these areas as part of Nepal. More, it placed its military police to demarcate these areas, although these had long been acknowledged as Indian lands by Kathmandu.

The Joint Commission has a development agenda. India stuck to that in talks with the Nepal foreign minister. New Delhi has also promised the Covid vaccine once domestic requirements are met. These steps suggest India's position of maintaining solidarity with the people of Nepal but not necessarily with its government until Kathmandu reverses its unilateral actions on the border issue. Only when that happens is India likely to discuss the boundary question with Kathmandu.

The domestic politics in Nepal is unsettled, and also evidently unstable. PM Oli has dissolved Parliament. National elections are scheduled for April. However, it is to be seen if these can indeed take place in the present atmosphere when the ruling Communist Party of Nepal has, in reality, split. China is taking an unusual interest in the situation and may well engender political impulses to prevent return to status quo ante on the border issue with India. In these circumstances the actions of the various domestic constituencies, including the armed forces and the royalists, besides the Madhesis — the terai people — bear watching. A wobbly Nepal invites undue foreign attention, and the Modi government has not been sensitive enough to this aspect.

DECCAN CHRONICLE

KAUSHIK MITTER
Editor

K. SUDHAKAR
Printer & Publisher

DECCAN CHRONICLE offices are located at:

Hyderabad: 36, Sarojini Devi Road, Secunderabad - 500 003, Ph: 040-27803930-4; Fax : 040-27805256
Vijayawada: No.C-3 & 4 Patamata, Industrial Estate, Auto Nagar, Vijayawada (A.P.), Ph: 0866-2555284/2555287; Telefax: 0866-2555234

Visakhapatnam: Survey No.1/3A Beach Road, Near Kailasagiri Ropeway, Sector-9 MVP Colony, Visakhapatnam - 530 017 (A.P.), Ph: 0891-2552333/2552334; Fax: 0891-2755285

Rajahmundry: Vemagiri, Dhawaleswaram Rd, Rajahmundry, Ph: 0883-2417618/2417208; Telefax: 0883-2417208

Anantapur: Thapovan colony, Bangalore By-Pass Road, Anantapur - 515004, Ph: 08554-276903; Fax: 08554-276904

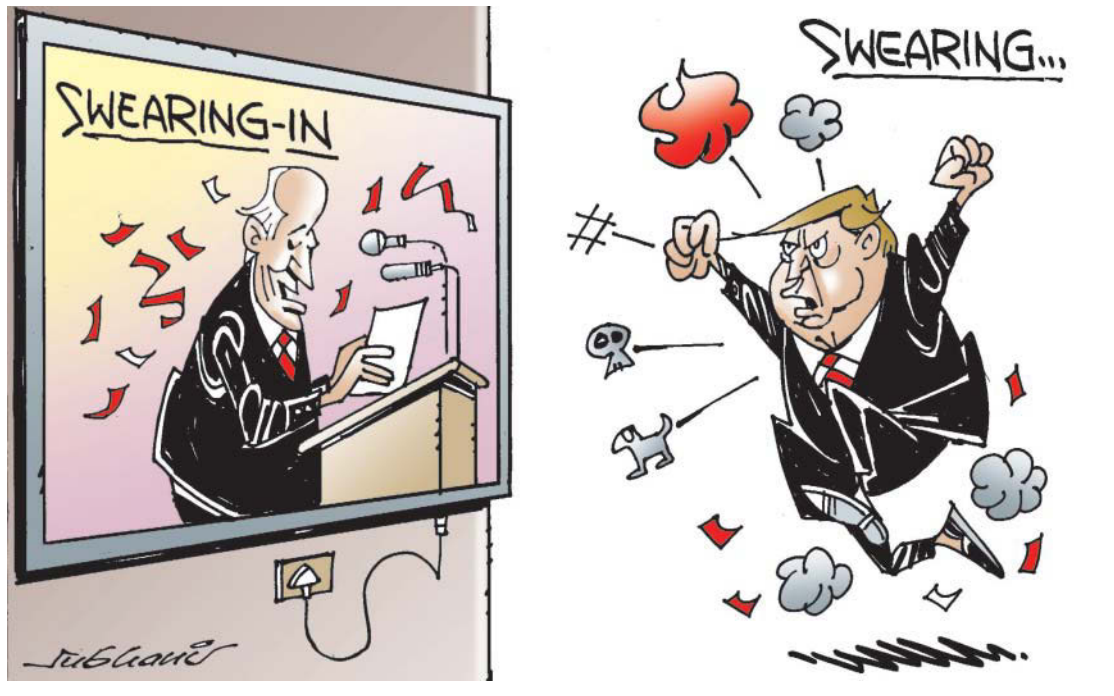
Karimnagar: Survey No.1341, Vavilalapally Colony, Jagityala Road, Karimnagar - 505 001, Ph: 0878-2228908; Telefax: 0878-2220433

Nellore: Survey No.527/2, Burranpur Village, Venkatachalam (M), Chermudugunta Panchayat, Nellore, Ph: 0861-2348581/82; Telefax: 0861-2348580

Chennai: SP-3 Developed Plot, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai - 600 032, Ph: 044-22254747/ 48/50/51; Advt Fax: 22254765/22254766/42305325

Coimbatore: 77, Vivekananda Road, Ramnagar, Coimbatore - 641 009, Ph: 0422 2231255
Gram: CHRONICLE Postal registration no: No. H/SD-348/2006-08

Subhani



Biden has tough task, to keep autocrats in check



Anand K. Sahay

Far & Near

The aftereffects of the attempted "insurrection" at the US Capitol in Washington on January 6, which have turned American society and politics upside down, may be expected to reverberate worldwide. The impact of signal events is not confined to particular geographies. The history of the last 100 years shows this amply.

Although the Indian national movement against colonial rule was not fully formed then, the defeat of Czarist Russia in the 1904-05 war at the hands of Imperial Japan boosted nationalist sentiments in this country and created the confidence that Europeans can be defeated by an Asian country. Later, the Russian revolution of 1917 became an inspiration, creating the sense that the poor can overthrow empires. India's own independence in 1947 had set the tone for the dynamics of decolonisation worldwide.

Enough has been said about the sense of entitlement that sections of white America are thought to harbor, and that it was this feeling that Donald Trump — although he was in the White House — was willing to mobilise in his failed effort to overturn the result of a presidential election that he had lost fair and square. It has also been noted that the great institutions of American democracy held, though their weaknesses have also been widely observed.

As he assumes office on Wednesday, President Joe Biden will no doubt be deeply conscious that he is comes in as the chief at a deeply corroding moment in American life. He may perhaps worry how this may impact his capacity to work at policies in relation to the rest of the world.

America's leadership in the world depended not only on its wealth, its technology, and its great military power, but on its adherence to the idea and rules of democracy in a fundamental way, no matter how flawed this was in the perception of the people of the world. This democracy quotient, which gave the US an edge over any other powerful nation, has been brought into question by recent events.

Governments may continue to kowtow — probably in a wobbly way — to even the reduced US hegemony of the present day since Washington still has enormous financial clout and military muscle, but America has lost the constituency of the people on the world stage.

It is this disenchantment, brought about by events that have played out on television screens across the world, that has now unexpectedly empowered tyrants, authoritarians, semi-despots, crypto-fascists, military dictators, and managers of police states. The overlords of terrorism will now have less to fear.

These recent developments have also denuded America of its legitimacy. The US can no longer call out grimy regimes. These will now be more emboldened than before to inflict pain on sections of their own people and act in conscious denial of humanist values. Their policies are now likely to be less directed toward assuaging the hunger of their own people, and directed more toward aggression, militarism and narrow nationalisms, making the world even more unsafe for the most vulnerable.

Callous authoritarians typically seek to draw acceptance from the atavistic sentiments of the

majority population in society, or on a linguistic majoritarian basis. The people who are not of the same language, religion, ethnic stock as the majority may now expect to suffer more than before from perpetrators that may be direct agencies of the government or civilian gangs which routinely inflict public violence on fellow-civilians as the one-sided, discriminatory State looks on, in some cases still dubiously proclaiming faith in the tenets of democracy.

In India, both variants of the game have found play in recent years. Indeed, there are now not too many examples remaining of properly functioning democracies where the rule of law is for real, or even of seriously aspiring democracies for that matter. The dice was always loaded against the practice of democracy in the last century and in the first two decades of the present. With the fall of America from its pedestal, and India, the most populous aspiring democracy, already having taken a tumble, autocracy will have a field day unless people rise to resist.

America's much-vaunted institutions have just about held in the face of the vicious January 6 onslaught. No section of the US military was (probably) a party to that shame. But sections of the police evidently were. Among the mobilisers and participants were some armed forces and security services veterans, and they went into the Capitol with loaded weapons to look for key elected officials to kill. We might as well be talking about benighted places like Afghanistan or Iraq.

The fate of the Republican Party, the ruling party of the past four years, is uncertain. Many of its senior figures look keen to appease the constituency that raided the Capitol, suggesting that such sections carry traction.

ing about benighted places like Afghanistan or Iraq.

The fate of the Republican Party, the ruling party of the past four years, is uncertain. Many of its most senior figures appear keen to appease the constituency that raided the Capitol, suggesting that such sections carry traction. And this is the party of Abraham Lincoln, mind, not a clone of the Ku Klux Klan or white supremacists. If the fundamentals are to be noted, influential sections of the Republicans look ready to pander to the base that has come to harbour a sense of entitlement because this base has a deep sense of grievance arising from economic fragility and existential vulnerabilities.

Documented studies and surveys suggest that the new generation of Americans, not excluding the white, harbours a disappointment. Their life prospects appear inferior to those that their parents knew. Evidently, there is a serious structural malady which, if left untended, can lead to monstrous political outcomes.

American capitalism, and its military-industrial complex, has permitted the US war machine to rain bombs on countries around the world, restricting the US government's capability to come to the aid of those in trouble in its own society. This is a readymade situation for an ambitious demagogue like Mr Trump to exploit in the future also, and other demagogues in the world to follow his vile example. So, we should all keep our fingers crossed.

It is this situation that the incoming US President has to address on an urgent basis. Mr Biden has a difficult, complex, sensitive job on his hands. If he succeeds, an impulse toward future insurgencies can be held in check. In any event, pressing domestic concerns are likely to demand his immediate attention, but if the new President's energies in engaging with the world are severely rationed, autocrats around the world will be left smiling.

LETTERS

SANITISATION COST

The government had ordered physical classes from February 1. What about the sanitisation of schools and junior colleges? Because they couldn't collect the fee, the managements cannot afford the cost. The government should provide the required material.

S.M. Arif Hussain
Hyderabad

VACCINE CONFUSION

Unfortunate doubts were created in the minds of people due to the emergency use permission given to Covaxin while third phase trials were on. Administering the vaccine with written consent is creating unnecessary confusion as such trials are always voluntary. The government should avoid such a situation in the programmes.

Dr Jaspal Singh Bhatia
Hyderabad

The success rate of Covaxin and Covishield should be recorded and people made aware of it. Measures have to be taken after examining any side-effects caused by the vaccines. People should take protective measures against Covid-19.

Sindhu
Hyderabad

NO WATER

The government is talking about free water supply. We are not getting the regular supply as before. I approached the HMWS&SB office for Akbar Bagh, Malakpet, where they were not prepared to listen to our complaints.

Faiz Mohammed Ansari
Hyderabad

50 YEARS AGO IN

DECCAN Chronicle

PM inaugurates work on Vizag plant today

HYDERABAD, January. 19

The Hyderabad Municipal Corporation proposes to undertake an urban redevelopment programme.

If the proposal materialises, the programme — the first phase of which alone is Rs. five crores — will be the biggest development by the civic body so far.

It is learnt that the Corporation will implement the programme, in three phases, with financial assistance from the Centre.

Skand Tayal



North Korea's Kim sends a clear signal to new US Prez

At the eighth congress of the ruling Workers' Party on January 5-12, North Korea's supreme leader Kim Jong Un (KJU) was bestowed with an additional title of "general secretary". In Communist parties, the general secretary of the central committee is the most powerful post as the party secretariat controls personnel, internal affairs and discipline. In the old Soviet Union, Josef Stalin eliminated all rivals as the CPSU's general secretary. After the abolition in 1982 of the post of chairman of the Communist Party of China, the country's paramount leader is the central committee general secretary, a position held by President Xi Jinping. In North Korea, KJU's father Kim Jong Il as well as the republic's founder Kim Il Sung had occupied this powerful position.

In recent times KJU has shown increasing sensitivity to the poor living conditions of the long oppressed North Korean masses and has given more attention to economic growth. The economy suffered badly from the sanctions imposed by the UN Security Council, the most recent in Resolution 2371 of August 2017. The North Korean regime is faced with an existential dilemma. Any compromise on giving up its nuclear

weapons capacity could threaten the regime's survival as it could open a window for a US-led external attack or internal revolt.

In an autocratic system where the supreme leader is seen as infallible, it was surprising for KJU to accept failures on the economic front. In his address at the congress KJU noted with regret that "the goals we set were immensely underachieved in almost all areas". In a candid assessment reflecting the economy's dire condition, KJU said the last five years were "the worst of the worst" for North Korea.

The North Korean economy, crippled by sanctions, was further hit by the devastating floods of 2020. Western observers estimate North Korea's economy may have contracted by 8.5 per cent last year after a modest 0.4 per cent growth in 2019. Covid-19 has also badly impacted the North Korean economy as it closed its borders with China.

The unprecedented 2018-19 dialogue with outgoing US President Donald Trump was triggered by the North Korean leader in his New Year message of January 2018 in the hope that North Korea may obtain some easing of sanctions without giving up its nuclear deterrence capability. In the three summits

between Mr Trump and KJU in Singapore, Hanoi and the DMZ, the US establishment managed to restrain President Trump from signing a limited deal that would have eased the sanctions without a time-bound roadmap towards "complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearization" of North Korea.

In a signed article in Foreign Affairs last April, then candidate Joe Biden had set out his approach towards North Korea: "I will empower our negotiators and jumpstart a sustained campaign with our allies and others, including China, to advance our shared objective of a denuclearised North Korea." Herein lie the seeds of fundamental differences between the two parties: North Korea's stated objective being "denuclearisation of the Korean peninsula".

At the party congress, KJU issued a stern warning to the incoming Biden administration, threatening to expand its nuclear arsenal. He exhorted his scientists to develop new capabilities of solid-fuel ICBMs, hypersonic missiles and tactical nuclear weapons. This would alarm both South Korea and Japan as any future threat of using tactical nuclear weapons may elicit an equivocal response from the United States'

guaranteed nuclear umbrella. The development of tactical nuclear weapons would also require fresh nuclear testing.

In his opening speech, KJU designated the United States as its "biggest enemy", but also kept the door for dialogue ajar by asserting that the US changing its "hostile policy" was necessary to establish better ties. In his closing remarks, KJU vowed to "strengthen the nuclear war deterrent".

North Korea has not slowed down its development of nuclear weapons and delivery systems. In October, at the military parade marking the 75th anniversary of the Workers' Party, a massive new ICBM was displayed. In another military parade on January 14, North Korea unveiled a new submarine-launched missile claiming it was "the world's most powerful weapon".

To draw Washington's attention, KJU is likely to resume the time-tested North Korean policy of brinkmanship and shrill rhetoric. He may refrain from personal attacks on President Joe Biden but apply pressure by threatening an ICBM or nuclear test. The Trump administration's one success was to pressure KJU to temporarily cease high-profile testing. The last North Korean

nuclear test was in September 2017 and the last ICBM test in November 2017.

After nine years at the helm, the young 37-year-old KJU has evolved as a confident and mature personality. He met President Donald Trump thrice in full media glare and often made extempore unprepared remarks. He has gradually given some visibility to his sister Kim Yo Jong after ruthlessly eliminating any possible challenger to his untrammelled power. However, at the congress, Kim Yo Jong seems to have been dropped from the politburo which she joined as an alternate member last year.

The world at large needs to appreciate KJU's efforts to lead North Koreans in the direction of a better life while ensuring regime survival along with peace and stability on the Korean peninsula. South Korea's President Moon Jae-in is a sympathetic partner of KJU in this endeavour. India would hope that the two Koreas and the US work in harmony to pursue the twin objectives of the denuclearisation of North Korea and peace and tranquility in Northeast Asia.

The writer is a former Indian ambassador to South Korea

quick BITES

INDICATORS		%
Sensex	49398.29	1.72
Nifty 50	14521.20	1.68
S&P 500*	3,788.36	0.53
Dollar (₹)	73.16	0.17
Pound Sterling (₹)	99.61	-0.48
Euro (₹)	88.70	0.34
Gold (10gm)* (₹)	48,480▼198	0.40
Brent crude (\$/bbl)*	55.90	2.10
IN 10-Yr bond yield	5.936	-0.35
US 10-Yr T-bill yield*	1.116	0.019

* As of 8:30 PM IST

J&K Bank to transfer 8.23% stake to Ladakh

J&K Bank said its board has given in-principle approval to transfer 8.23 per cent stake to the Union Territory of Ladakh. The board decided "to give its 'in-principle approval' for implementation of General Administration Department, Govt. of J&K... in terms of which ownership of 8.23 per cent out of its (J&K Govt.) shareholding in Jammu and Kashmir Bank as on Oct. 31, 2019, shall be transferred to UT of Ladakh," it said.

SBI, ICICI & HDFC systemically important banks



The RBI said state-owned SBI, along with private sector lenders ICICI Bank and HDFC Bank continue to be Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs) or institutions which are 'too big to fail'. SIBs are subjected to higher levels of supervision so as to prevent disruption in financial services in the event of any failure. The Reserve Bank had issued the framework for dealing with D-SIBs in July 2014.

Siddhartha Mohanty named as MD of LIC

Siddhartha Mohanty has been appointed as the managing director of the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), according to a Personnel Ministry order issued on Tuesday. He is at present the chief executive officer of the LIC Housing Finance Limited. His appointment is effective Feb. 1.

Panel for uniform professional indemnity policy

An Irda panel has suggested standardisation of the professional indemnity policy under which insurance cover can be provided to brokers, corporate agents, web aggregators and insurance marketing firms. A professional indemnity policy is a liability insurance product that protects individuals giving professional advice and professional entities against negligence claims by their clients for errors and omissions.



Most sectors see employment recovery Jobs move to low productivity fields

SANGEETHA G
CHENNAI, JAN. 19

Jobs have marked a recovery in most sectors but seen a visible shift in their composition. Jobs have moved from higher productivity sectors like manufacturing and services to lower productivity areas such as agriculture and construction.

In fact, agriculture saw higher job generation than pre-lockdown levels while real estate and construction jobs bounced back almost to the FY20 levels. However, manufacturing, which accounted for 40 million jobs in 2019-20, saw employment dropping to 24.6 million in the June quarter of 2020, implying a loss of over 15 million jobs, finds a CMIE report. Manufacturing jobs recovered to 27.1 million in the September quarter and then to 28.8 million in the December quarter. "The shortfall is still quite high at 11.4 million. Every major manufacturing industry, except pharmaceuticals, employed less people in all three quarters of 2020-21 compared to the employment in 2019-20," CMIE said.

Similarly, jobs in the services sector fell to 128 million in the quarter of June 2020 from 154 million in March, recovered partially to 146 million in the September quarter and then 148 million in the December quarter. It is still short of the levels of March 2020. Retail trade, travel and tourism, educa-



- Employment in agriculture exceeds last year's levels
- Real estate and construction record near-complete recovery
- Manufacturing job shortfall is still high at 11.4 million
- Services jobs are still short of March 2020 levels

tion and personal non-professional services took the biggest hit on employment during the last three quarters.

On the other hand, agriculture saw the number of jobs going up during this period. Agriculture, which accounts for about 36 per cent of total employment in India, was the only sector that did not suffer any job loss during the lockdown. Employment in the agriculture sector hovered between 140 million and 150 million till the quarter ended June 2020. It shot up to a record 158 million during the September quarter, which was 5.5 per cent higher than the number of jobs in the year-ago quarter. It declined marginally to 154 million in the December quarter, but it was still 3.5 per cent higher than its level in the

year-ago quarter of December 2019.

"The increase in employment in agriculture during the lockdown indicates both, shift in labour from shrinking employment opportunities in non-farm sectors and also, favourable agricultural conditions during the year. This excess labour flow into agriculture shows in the record area sown under the kharif crops of 2020," said Mahesh Vyas, managing director of CMIE.

Real estate and construction industry saw a near-complete recovery in terms of employment. The industry employed an estimated 61 million persons in 2019-20, which fell to 28 million in the June 2020 quarter but recovered almost all the 33 million job losses by the December 2020 quarter.

HOME FIRST IPO OPENS TOMORROW

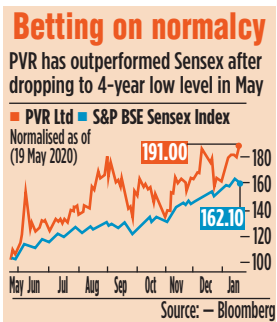
RAVI RANJAN PRASAD
MUMBAI, JAN. 19

Home First Finance Company's initial public offering, aiming to raise Rs 1,153 crore, opens on January 21 in the price range of Rs 517 to Rs 518 per share of Rs 2 face value.

Home First Finance is an affordable housing finance company with 65 branches across 60 districts in 11 states and a Union territory, with major presence in markets such as Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Gujarat.

The company primarily caters to low- and middle-income group housing loans.

"The offer aggregating up to Rs 11,53.71 crore comprises a fresh issue of up to Rs 265 crore and an offer for sale aggregating up to Rs 8,887.1 million by the promoters and private equity investors True North Fund, Bessemer India Capital Holdings and certain individual shareholders," the company said.



tion *Tenet* and superhero movie *Wonder Woman* were the only prominent releases before Tamil action thriller *Master* opened in theatres last week.

"We are hopeful that *Master* will be a case study based on which you will see—over the next few weeks—the Bollywood film guys and more south Indian regional guys planning the release calendar of the films which are currently ready," PVR's CFO Nitin Sood said.

PVR's shares, which snapped eight years of gains to fall about 30 per cent in 2020, have risen almost 14 per cent this year. The Gurgaon-based company reported a loss of Rs 49.1 crore in the December quarter.

E-VEHICLES GET FIRST BATTERY THAT CAN CHARGE IN 5 MINS



RACHEL MORISON
JAN. 19

Israeli company StoreDot Ltd has manufactured the first battery for electric vehicles that can be charged in just five minutes, a step toward making refuelling as fast as cars at a gas station.

The lithium-ion samples were produced by StoreDot's strategic partner in China, Eve Energy Co, and have been used as a demonstration in a two-wheeled scooter. StoreDot said that rapid charging batteries could overcome range and charging anxiety, a critical barrier to mainstream EV adoption.

However, batteries that charge this quickly probably won't be achievable at scale for years with existing charging infrastructure. Degradation relating to use of fast-charging also is an under appreciated issue.

"This is a huge positive to the industry, making rapid charging on the go more convenient and reducing a huge barrier to adoption," David Watson, chief executive officer of EV-charging company Ohme Technologies UK Ltd. "But these benefits will take a while to come on stream."

—Bloomberg

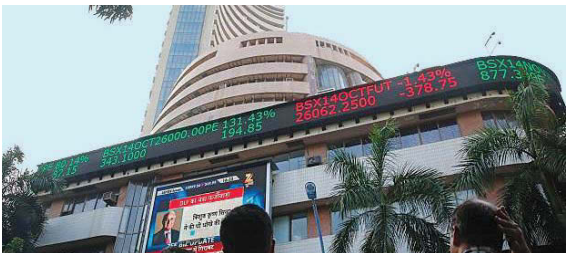
Stocks soar as institutional buyers stay on sidelines

RAVI RANJAN PRASAD
MUMBAI, JAN. 19

Indian stocks rallied on the Asian markets' strength and hopes of the Chinese economy making a strong recovery in 2021 after a four-decade low growth last year. Equities made up most of the losses in the previous two sessions from across-the-board gains on Tuesday.

The Sensex gained 834 points, or 1.72 per cent, to close at 49,398 while the Nifty-50 gained 239.85 points, or 1.8 per cent, to close at 14,521.

However, provisional data showed both foreign portfolio investors and domestic institutions have turned cautious and remained on the sidelines, as FPIs were net buyers by just Rs 257.55 crore while the domestic



institutions were net sellers by Rs 199.30 crore.

The unusual surge in Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index helped other Asian markets to trade higher, leading to gains in the Indian market.

"Asian shares ascended on Tuesday as investors bet China's economic strength would help support growth in the region, even as pandemic lockdowns threatened to lengthen the road to recovery in the West. European stocks climbed

higher on Tuesday, sustained by hopes that an economic recovery following the coronavirus pandemic is not far off," said Deepak Jasani, head of retail research, HDFC Securities.

Among sectoral indices, BSE Realty (4.04 per cent), Metal (3.01 per cent), Auto (1.83 per cent), Capital Goods (2.70 per cent) and Bankex (1.95 per cent) were the major gainers even as all sectoral indices closed with gains.

SALESFORCE INVESTS IN CLOUD STARTUP DARWINBOX

SARITHA RAI
JAN. 19

Salesforce.com Inc is making its first investment in an Indian company, a developer of human resources software that serves several of Asia's largest tech startups.

The US giant's venture arm is leading a \$15 million financing round for Darwinbox, its first in India and its only investment in Asia outside of Japan.

Headquartered in Hyderabad, the startup has already raised \$35 million from backers, includ-

ing Lightspeed India, Sequoia Capital and 3one4 Capital.

Darwinbox counts some of the world's largest brands and Asian startups among its customers including Puma, Nivea, Indonesian online mall Tokopedia and Singapore's Zilingo. It develops touchless attendance systems and provides hiring and onboarding and employment engagement tools to more than a million employees of 500 customers across 60 countries. The startup last raised funds in 2019 and has grown 300 per cent

since then, co-founder Jayant Paleti said. "Adoption of cloud-based services by enterprises was double the global average before the pandemic," Paleti said in a phone interview. The former investment banker co-founded the startup in 2015 along with a colleague and a childhood friend, a former McKinsey consultant. "Since the pandemic, we are seeing a shift to the cloud within a few quarters that would have otherwise taken three or four years," he added.

—Bloomberg

Foreign investment rules in e-com may be tightened

ADITYA KALRA & KRISHNA N. DAS
NEW DELHI, JAN. 19

India is considering revising its foreign investment rules for e-commerce, three sources and a government spokesman told Reuters, a move that could compel players, including Amazon.com Inc, to restructure their ties with some major sellers.

The government discussions coincide with a growing number of complaints from India's bricks-and-mortar retailers, which have for years accused Amazon and Walmart Inc-controlled Flipkart of creating complex structures to bypass federal rules, allegations the US companies deny.

India only allows foreign e-commerce players to operate as a marketplace to connect buyers and sellers. It prohibits them from holding inventories of goods and directly selling them on their platforms.

Amazon and Walmart's Flipkart were last hit in December 2018 by investment rule changes that barred foreign e-commerce players from offer-

Amazon said e-commerce created "huge job opportunities" and is a significant contributor to economic growth. "Any major alterations" to the policy will adversely impact SMEs

ing products from sellers in which they have an equity stake.

Now, the government is considering adjusting some provisions to prevent those arrangements, even if the e-commerce firm holds an indirect stake in a seller through its parent, three sources said. The sources asked not to be named because the discussions are private.

The changes could hurt Amazon as it holds indirect equity stakes in two of its biggest online sellers in India.

Amazon said e-commerce created "huge job opportunities" and is a significant contributor to economic growth. "Any

major alterations" to the policy will adversely impact small- and medium-sized businesses, it said in an emailed statement.

Walmart and Flipkart did not immediately respond.

Yogesh Baweja, the spokesman for the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, which is working on the issue, said any changes will be announced through a so-called "press note," which contains foreign direct investment rules. He did not give details.

"It's a work in progress," Baweja said, adding an internal meeting on the subject last took place about a month ago.

"Of course Amazon's a big player so whatever advice, whatever suggestions, whatever recommendations they make, they are also given due consideration."

The 2018 rules forced Amazon and Flipkart to rework their business structures and soured relations between India and the US, as Washington said the policy change favoured local e-tailers over US ones.

SBI MF LAUNCHES RETIREMENT BENEFIT FUND



RAVI RANJAN PRASAD
MUMBAI, JAN. 19

SBI Mutual Fund has announced the launch of a new fund offer (NFO), SBI Retirement Benefit Fund. The NFO is an open-ended retirement solution-oriented scheme having a lock-in of five years or till retirement age (65 years), whichever is earlier.

The NFO opens on January 20 and closes on February 3.

The fund has four investment plans across a range of risk-profiles like Aggressive, Aggressive Hybrid, Conservative Hybrid and Conservative, which invest across equity and equity-related instruments and debt instruments.

These schemes may also invest in foreign equities, Gold ETFs and REITs/InvITs depending on the asset allocation and investment strategy. SBI Mutual Fund said in a virtual press conference.

"In addition to equity and debt instruments, every plan may take up to 20 per cent exposure to Gold ETFs, up to 10 per cent exposure to REITs/InvITs and foreign securities, including overseas ETF to the tune, up to 35 per cent in Aggressive Plan, up to 15 per cent in Aggressive Hybrid Plan and up to 10 per cent in Conservative Plan," SBI Mutual Fund said.

Systematic investment plan, or SIP, registered for this fund with a tenure of three years plus, has insurance benefits where in case of an unfortunate event the nominee stand to get the benefits. In the first year, the insurance cover will be 20 times the monthly SIP installment, in the second year it will be 50 times the monthly SIP installment, in the third year it will be 100 times.

NO EASY WAY OUT

Sustained geopolitical tensions may affect chip supplies

China's car-chip shortage could persist for a decade

Jan. 19: China's automotive-chip shortage could persist for as long as a decade, but it has little to do with the current supply glitches snarling production, according to the official who oversees the nation's key new energy vehicle technology development platform.

Short-term factors like mistakes in ordering due to incorrect forecasts and factory disruptions because of Covid-19 will resolve naturally, Yuan Chengyin, general manager of the National New Energy Vehicle Technology Innovation Centre, said. Rather, China's rising demand for electric cars, its lack of domestic technical knowhow and sustained geopolitical ten-

sions will emerge as much more serious issues.

"China's chip industry is under tremendous pressure," Yuan said in an interview on Tuesday. "I don't think the issue can be solved overnight."

Carmakers around the world have been hit in recent weeks by a worsening global semiconductor shortage that's led to production cuts and staff layoffs. A deputy secretary general of the China Association of Automobile Manufacturers said last week the chip shortages could've had a relatively big impact on China's car industry from late December and may persist into the second quarter.

The problem as Yuan sees it is more systemic.



Chinese electric car

The nation's supply chain will continue to be vulnerable to global forces until Chinese companies build up their own manufacturing capabilities and make the semiconductors used in electric vehicles themselves.

"That's the huge challenge," said Yuan, who's also behind the country's first government-backed

car-chip industry body, the China Automotive Chip Industry Innovation Strategic Alliance. "If we don't address it, the auto industry could go back to where it was decades ago" in terms of competitiveness.

China imports the vast majority of the chips used in car production. Scaling up won't be easy. There are more than 100 different sorts of chips used in a car, helping to control everything from steering to communication, speed adjustments and power transmission. And the semiconductors for cars versus those in an iPhone or laptop need to be more robust, able to withstand a range of temperatures and much greater forces.

Cars also have longer

lifespans than consumer electronics goods, so the chips need to be highly durable, as well as affordable, considering all automakers are grappling with shrinking profit margins. Additionally, chips used in cars can take up to five years to develop.

Chinese firms need to enhance their competitiveness in the supply chain and speed up development of chips and operating systems, Xiao Yaqing, head of the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology said on January 16.

The chip industry innovation alliance has been identifying semiconductor products that Chinese chipmakers can focus on as a starting point, Yuan said.

—Bloomberg

SHORT TAKES

Shastri in tears after 'unreal' win

Brisbane: Ravi Shastri claims to be anything but an emotional person.

As a 22-year-old captain of the India U-25 team back in 1984, he had stopped the team manager from telling rookie Mohammed Azharuddin about his grandfather's ill health to ensure that the player, who was on the verge of breaking into the Indian team did not leave a match and hamper his chances.

He is a *khadoos* (resilient in Marathi) Mumbaikar who will hardly get mushy. But that was before Tuesday when he watched Rishabh Pant take a lap of honour with the national flag, hand it over to a proud Mohammed Siraj and then to Shardul Thakur.

"I got emotional. I am not someone who generally has tears in his eyes and even I got emotional," the India head coach, still trying to soak in what his wards had achieved, confessed to a quote-hungry media after his team of mostly greenhorns outfoxed Australia 2-1 in a Test series.

"I had tears because this is unreal. What these guys have pulled off will go down in history as one of the greatest series ever played. When you look at the Covid situation and state of injuries and then to show the stomach for a fight, after being bowled out for 36 is unimaginable," said the veteran of 80 Tests.

Known for his one-liners, Shastri was still gathering his thoughts after what unfolded here. "This is the toughest tour ever. Nothing comes closer to this. This surpasses all," he said.

— PTI

Team to get ₹5cr bonus from BCCI

New Delhi: The BCCI on Tuesday announced a ₹5 crore bonus for the Indian cricket team after the Ajinkya Rahane-led side won the fourth and final Test against Australia to clinch the series 2-1 and retain the Border-Gavaskar trophy. BCCI President Sourav Ganguly and Secretary Jay Shah tweeted within minutes of each other to make the announcement. The Board later issued a formal statement, applauding the team. "It was a series that showcased grit, determination and resilience of the highest quality," the BCCI said.

"The Board applauds the efforts displayed by the team on and off the field... The BCCI is proud of this magnificent feat and has announced a cash reward of 5 crore INR to the team," it added.

Ganguly said the "value of this win is beyond any number." "We are extremely proud of the series win. Beating Australia in Australia by a young team will remain etched in the history of Indian cricket forever.

"It cannot get better than this. I am so proud of everyone. Congratulations to Ajinkya Rahane and Ravi Shastri and the rest of the touring party for this remarkable feat," he said. BCCI secretary Jay Shah echoed the sentiment. "Heartiest congratulations to every member of the Indian cricket team. The team overcame the odds, injuries and a tough opposition and showed great character, resolve and courage to win the historic Test series in Australia for the second time in a row." — PTI

Kohli returns for Eng Test series

New Delhi: Virat Kohli returned to lead India against England in the upcoming home Test series while the selectors also recalled all-rounder Hardik Pandya and pacer Ishant Sharma to bolster the squad, announced by the BCCI on Tuesday. Kohli, who headed back to India on a paternity leave after the Adelaide Test, was named in the 18-man squad along with pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah, who missed the final Test in Brisbane against Australia due to an abdominal strain. The squad was named only for the first two Tests of the four-match series, starting on February 5 in Chennai.

Ajinkya Rahane was named as the vice-captain. Mohammed Siraj and Shardul Thakur also kept their places along with Mayank Agarwal. The second Test will also be played in Chennai (February 13-17) while Ahmedabad will host the third (February 24-28) and fourth Test (March 4-8). — PTI



Indian players celebrate with the trophy after defeating Australia by three wickets on the final day of the fourth Test at the Gabba in Brisbane on Tuesday. India won the four-Test series 2-1.

— AP

RISHABASH!

Rishabh leads India to series win after rookies demonstrate daredevilry

Brisbane, Jan. 19: An Indian cricket team saddled with broken bones and battered bodies showed a never-seen-before zeal to retain the coveted Border-Gavaskar trophy with a historic three-wicket win over Australia in the fourth and final Test here, successfully chasing a 328-run target to seal the four-match series 2-1.

A minefield of talent called Rishabh Pant (89 not out off 138 balls) channelled his inner 'Mad Max' to scare the daylight out of the Australians with his breathtaking stroke-play, ending the home team's 32-year-old unbeaten run at the 'Fortress Gabba'.

The result has the potential to end Tim Paine's reign as Australia captain having lost back-to-back home series against India.

"Whether it was with bat, ball or field, every time we had a chance to go ahead in the game, we let it slip," Paine said after the rather poor performance by his team.

The highlights package of Pant's battle with Nathan Lyon can be enjoyed repeatedly in times to come as he demolished the 100-Test man in company of debutant Washington Sundar (22), who

hooked the world's best fast bowler, Pat Cummins, for a six.

No one moved from their seats as Pant cut, drove, and paddle-swept to make a statement to his detractors while gifting India one of their finest overseas wins during the dying moments of the final session with an off-driven boundary.

While Shubman Gill (91 off 146 balls) announced his arrival on the global stage, Cheteshwar Pujara (56 off 211 balls) surpassed all the pain barriers en route his slowest Test fifty that held the game in balance for Pant to launch a final assault.

The Australian team wouldn't feel too good about not being able to win a Test match with an opposition that was finding it difficult to field a fit first XI a day prior to the Test match.

Add to it, the visitors were also left quite hurt by the racial slurs directed at the likes of Mohammed Siraj and Jasprit Bumrah by the crowd during the Sydney Test. The series will be remembered for ages and the impact that Ajinkya Rahane's team had on the cricketing fraternity and the fans in general will be written in golden words when a fresh history of Test cricket after 2000 is written. — PTI



Mohammed Siraj (centre) celebrates India's win with Rishabh Pant at the Gabba in Brisbane on Tuesday. — PTI

AUSTRALIA'S FIRST LOSS AT GABBA AFTER 1988

■ Australia's defeat was their first at Brisbane in 32 years. Last time they lost was against the West Indies in 1988. In between these two defeats, Australia went unbeaten for 31 Tests. The only other venue to witness a longer streak is Karachi, where Pakistan remained unbeaten for 34 successive Tests between 1955 and 2000.

■ India won the four-Test series 2-1 despite losing the first Test match. This is only the fourth instance in which a team has come back from a Test down or worse to beat Australia in Australia. On all the three previous occasions, it was England — in 1882-83, 1911-12 and 1954-55 — who managed that.

PANT SURPASSES DHONI

■ Rishabh Pant became the 68th Indian batsman to complete 1,000 runs in Test cricket. By completing the same in the 27th innings of 16th Test match, he is the fastest among the seven Indian wicket-keeper to score 1,000 runs in Tests. Mahendra Singh Dhoni who completed 1,000 runs in 32 innings of 20 Test matches, held the previous Indian record.

INDIA'S JOINT 4TH SMALLEST WIN IN TESTS

■ India recorded their joint fourth smallest win in Tests by beating Australia by three wickets in fourth Test at Brisbane. India's one-wicket win over Australia at Mohali in 2010-11 is the smallest win followed by two two-wicket victories against Australia at Mumbai in 1964-65 and at Chennai in 2000-01. India also achieved a three-wicket win over the West Indies at Chennai in 1978-79.

■ India's 329/7 is their third highest fourth innings total to win the match. The highest is 406/4 against the West Indies at Port of Spain in 1975-76. India beat England by six wickets at Chennai in 2008-09 after making 387 which is India's second highest fourth inning total to win in Tests.

■ This is also the fifth-highest successful chase in Australia. In the last 20 years, only South Africa have chased down a higher total in Australia, when they scored 414 at Perth in 2008.

— S. PERVEZ QAISER

Biggest moment of life for Pant

Brisbane, Jan. 19: After playing a key role in India's breathtaking and successful run chase in the series-deciding fourth Test against Australia, Rishabh Pant on Tuesday called the historic win as the "biggest moment" of his life.

"This is one of the biggest moments of my life now, and I'm happy that all the support staff and all my teammates supported me even when I wasn't playing," Pant said at the post-match presentation ceremony.

India did not play Pant in

● **Rishabh Pant took the intimidating Australian attack on a challenging fifth day track by the scruff of its neck to conjure up an unbeaten 89-run knock that powered India to a 2-1 Test series victory.**

either the preceding ODI or the T20 series. But the young wicketkeeper-batsman made an impression in the Test series, playing a combative 97-run knock in the second innings in Sydney and again here on Tuesday.

"It's been a dream series. The team management

always backs me and tells me, you are a match-winner and you have to go win the match for the team. I keep thinking every day that I want to win matches for India, and I did it today," Pant said.

Asked about the pitch that had cracks all over, Pant said, "It was a fifth-day

pitch and the ball was turning a bit. I thought I have to be disciplined with my shot selection."

India skipper Ajinkya Rahane initially struggled to find words but gathered himself to praise his courageous teammates.

"It means a lot to us. I don't know how to describe this, but our boys showed a lot of character and determination after the Adelaide Test," Rahane, who led India in the absence of Virat Kohli, said.

"I'm really proud of each individual." — PTI

SCORECARD

Australia 1st Innings 369
India 1st Innings 336
Australia 2nd Innings 294

India 2nd Innings (overnight 4/0): Rohit Sharma c Paine b Cummins 7, Shubman Gillc Steven Smith b Lyon 91, Cheteshwar Pujaralbw b Cummins 56, Ajinkya Rahane c Paine b Cummins 24, Rishabh Pant not out 89, Mayank Agarwal c Wade b Cummins 9, Washington Sundar b Lyon 22, Shardul Thakurc Lyon b Hazlewood 2, Navdeep Saini not out 0. Extras (b-18, lb-8, nb-3) 29. **Total (for 7 wickets, in 97 overs) 329.**

FOW: 18-1, 132-2, 167-3, 228-4, 265-5, 318-6, 325-7.
Bowling: Mitchell Starc 16-0-75-0, Josh Hazlewood 22-5-74-1, Pat Cummins 24-10-55-4, Cameron Green 3-1-10-0, Nathan Lyon 31-7-85-2, Marnus Labuschagne 1-0-4-0.

Rahane credits team effort for win

Brisbane, Jan. 19: For someone who led India to one of their greatest ever series wins, Ajinkya Rahane was at his modest best at the end of it all, saying he looked good as a leader because everyone else contributed.

Rahane and Virat Kohli are contrasting personalities but the former did remarkably well in galvanising the squad after the regular skipper headed back home on paternity leave following the debacle in the first Test at Adelaide.

"It's an honour to lead the country. It was not about me but about the team. I looked good because everyone contributed. For us it was about having that character on the field, having the fighting spirit, the attitude," said Rahane in the post-match presser when

It was really tough after the Adelaide Test but it was all about showing character and fighting spirit. We were not thinking too much about the result. We just wanted to play good cricket. Credit to everyone in the squad including the support staff.

— AJINKYA RAHANE
India stand-in Test captain

asked about his captaincy stint. Rahane's calm demeanour helped the team move on from the Adelaide disaster and he made sure the game was not discussed going forward.

He led from the front in Melbourne with a match-winning hundred to level the series.

The going got tougher with each passing game as the injury list grew but Rahane said it was all about fighting on with the resources they were left with.

"It was really tough

after the Adelaide Test but it was all about showing character and fighting spirit. We were not thinking too much about the result. We just wanted to play good cricket. Credit to everyone in the squad including the support staff."

Rahane will be back to being Kohli's deputy in the upcoming home series against England next month but for now he just wants to savour this victory.

"We all should enjoy this win, not just us but every Indian should enjoy

this. What we did here is historic and we want to enjoy this win tonight and once we land in India we will think about the England series," said Rahane, who too got emotional after Rishabh Pant hit the winning runs.

Chasing 328 at Australia's fortress was a herculean task but Rahane said they were only focussed on playing their normal game.

"This morning we spoke about playing simple cricket. What we did in this tour was fight very hard. Yes, we were looking to play session by session. During tea time, we sent messages to Rishabh but he was always looking to chase the total.

"Credit to him, he took that risk and took on the Aussies. His and Pujara's innings gave the platform to win the game." — PTI



Indian captain Ajinkya Rahane (left) applauds supporters as the team takes a victory lap carrying the national flag around The Gabba in Brisbane on Tuesday.

— AP



WHAT A WIN!!!
Yesssssss. To everyone who doubted us after Adelaide, stand up and take notice. Exemplary performance but the grit and determination was the standout for us the whole way. Well done to all the boys and the management. Enjoy this historic feat lads. Cheers @BCCI.

— VIRAT KOHLI
India captain

Just a remarkable win...To go to Australia and win a test series in this way ..will be remembered in the history of indian cricket forever ..Bcci announces a 5 cr bonus for the team ..The value of this win is beyond any number ..well done to every member of the touring party.

— SOURAV GANGULY
India legend and BCCI prez

Great..Great Job India..!! Winning the series after the dismal 36 is simply out of this world..Congrats @ajink-yarahane88 for breaking the jinx of Gabba...Super..Super team effort..Hail India..!!

— BISHAN SINGH BEDI
Former India cricketer

Many congratulations Team India for the fabulous show of character and skill. A wonderful test series with the perfect result. Hopefully the end of discussion of 4 day tests for a while. #INDvSAUS.

— ANIL KUMBLE
Former India player, coach

This win is going in history books ! Young team beating a experienced Australian side I don't think I was so proud while I was playing for india Flag of India #Unbelievable stuff #test cricket at it's best congratulations boys Man dancingFisted handFisted handFisted hand #IndivsAustralia.

— YUVRAJ SINGH
Ex-India allrounder

Khushi ke maare pagal.
This is the new India.
Ghar mein ghuskar maarta hai. From what happened in Adelaide to this, these young guys have given us a joy of a lifetime. There have been World Cup wins but this is special. And yes,there is a reason Pant is extra special.

— VIRENDER SEHWAG
Ex-India opener

TeamIndia has proved it again by team efforts, great character, courage & max determination! Despite the bruises, the team made it possible for our country. That's why we play for the country's flag to go high every time we perform. #INDvSAUS.

— ISHANT SHARMA
India bowler

No matter what happens, we shall always play like the team called INDIA! You don't get to see such performances everyday. Take a bow champs!

— DINESH KARTHIK
India wicket-keeper

Congrats to the Indian cricket team @BCCI... That's one of the best series wins I can ever remember on Aust soil & to do it after being bowled out for 36, plus a depleted squad-shows tremendous character, resilience, courage & belief.

— SHANE WARNE
Former Aussie spin wizard