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CHENNAI | SATURDAY 21 | NOVEMBER 2020



ASTROGUIDE

Rainfall: Nil

Sarvari: Karthigai 6 Tithi: Sapthami **Star**: Thiruvonam Rahukalam: 9 am to 10.30 am Yamagandam: 1.30 pm to 3 pm **PRAYERS Fajar:** 4.54 am Zohar: 11.58 am **Asar:** 3.12 pm

Maghrib: 5.39 pm

Isha: 6.53 pm **SUNSET TODAY 5.40 PM SUNRISE TOMORROW 6.11 AM MOONRISE TODAY 11.56 AM MOONSET TOMORROW 11.42 PM**



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(+1,686)

TN: 7,66,677

STATE GOVERNMENT BULLETINS

WORLD CONFIRMED CASES

5,76,27,674 **DEATHS** 13,72,099

COUNTRIES, AREAS WITH CASES 218 worldometers.info

LVB resolution: RBI delays final merger

scheme to next week Mumbai: The Reserve Bank did not issue the final merger scheme for Lakshmi Vilas Bank (LVB) with DBS India on Friday as stated earlier and is likely to do so only next week, according to a central bank official. While placing LVB under a moratorium and then issuing a draft amalgamation scheme on November 17, the RBI had said it scheme on November 20 (Friday) so as to help complete the resolution for the 94-year-old lender by December 16.

No power can restore Article 370 in J&K: BJP

Srinagar: The BJP on Friday said any challenge to the abro-gation of Article 370 in the Supreme Court was not a subjudice matter, asserting that no power in the world can restore the special provisions of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir.

COUNTER



How can you recover the money you spent on ticket, votes, campaign...?

STATE | 4 CM condoles soldier's demise, orders job for kin



WORLD | 5 Trump team cries foul over Joe's win

SPORT | 6 Pat looks to keep Kohli quiet



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Terrorists were targeting democracy in J&K: Modi

"Our security forces have once again dis-

DC CORRESPONDENT with agency inputs NEW DELHI, NOV. 20

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who chaired a review meeting on Friday with top security officials as well as the home minister and national security adviser in the wake of the killing of four Jaish-e-Mohammed terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir's Nagrota, asserted the security forces have thwarted their efforts to wreak "major havoc and destruction" in the country.
Government sources said the terrorists were said the description of the sources with the sources with the sources were something "competition between the sources were something to be sourced by the source with the source with the source were sourced to be sourced by the source with the source were sourced to be sourced to b

planning "something big" on the 12th anniversary of the 26/11 Mumbai terror attack next week as a huge quantity of arms ammunition had

Joe Biden wins

Georgia recount

by 12,284 votes

Washington, Nov. 20:

Biden has won the Republican stronghold of Georgia, a top state offi-

cial said after a manual

recount, becoming the

first Democrat to have

President-elect

played utmost bravery and professionalism. Thanks to their alertness, they have defeated a nefarious plot to

target grassroots level democratic exercises in Jammu and

Kashmir," Prime Minister Modi tweeted

Those who attended the meeting included home minister Amit Shah, national security adviser Ajit Doval, foreign secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla and top intelligence officials.

Specific intelligence inputs had revealed some Pakistani terrorists had infiltrated into the country with the specific purmajor terror attack just before the District Development Council local elections in Jammu and Kashmir.

After the meeting, Mr Modi said in a tweet: "Our security forces have once again displayed utmost bravery and professionalism. Thanks to their alertness, they have defeated a nefarious plot to target

In another tweet, he added: "Neutralising of four terrorists belonging

grassroots level democrat-

ic exercises in Jammu and

to Pakistan-based terrorist organisation Jaish-e-Mohammed and the presence of a large cache of weapons and explosives with them indicate that their efforts to wreak major havoc and destruction have once again been thwarted."

Intelligence sources said that besides disrupting the DDC elections, the terrorists were planning a major strike on the 26/11 anniversary.

movement against the Narendra Modi-led cen-The four suspected Jaish tral government. terrorists, who were hid-Telanagana ing in a truck, were killed encounter early Thursday.

Samiti said besides trade organisations, several political party leaders are also in touch with TRS working president K.T. Rama Rao and B. Vinod

KCR firms up

plans to form

anti-BJP front

S.A. ISHAQUI I DC

HYDERABAD, NOV. 20

Telangana Chief Minister

K. Chandrashekar Rao,

who had given a call to

political parties and lead-

ers across the country to

join to fight against the BJP's "anti-people policies" has intensified his

efforts to bring together

anti-BJP forces to build a

in

Sources

the

Udhayanidhi starts

pre-poll campaign

Rashtra

Kumar, in this regard.
Sources said that the pink party boss is in touch with several national leaders of non-BJP parties, who will all unite to oppose the anticipated move from the BJP to move to the 'One Nation, One Poll' idea, most likely in 2022.

DC CORRESPONDENT

DMK youth wing leader

Udhayanidhi Stalin on

Friday launched his party's

75-day campaign ahead of

the Assembly elections due

early next year with senior

leaders set to highlight the

'improper administration'

of the AIADMK govern-

TN bans online gaming, betting

Vol. 16 No. 236 Established 1938 8 PAGES ₹3.00

DC CORRESPONDENT

The Tamil Nadu government on Friday promulgated an ordinance banning online gaming involving betting in the backdrop of a series of suicide by gamers

who allegedly lost money.
Governor Banwarilal
Purohit gave his assent for
the promulgation of the
ordinance to ban online gambling and punish those who organise the games and those who play it.

According to a notifica-tion from Raj Bhavan, the ordinance will be brought in by amending the Tamil Nadu Gambling Act, 1930, and a couple of other legisla-tions, which will enable the banning of computers and other accessories used for playing online rummy.

The punishment for those who play the game will be a fine of Rs 5,000 and six months of imprisonment while those running online gaming houses will be fined Rs 10,000 and jailed for two

The ordinance will also enable stopping of financial transactions taking place online in connection with the games and charge those who manage the organisations conducting the games. Two weeks ago, both Chief Minister Edappadi K.

The punishment for those who play the game will be a fine of ₹5,000 and six months of imprisonment while those running online gaming houses will be fined

Palaniswami and his deputy O. Panneerselvam had said that the state government would be banning online gambling soon that has been ruining the lives of young people.

₹10,000 and jailed

for two years

It may be recalled that it was the AIADMK government headed by J. Jayalalithaa that had put an end to the selling of lottery tickets in the state.

Online gambling has become rampant in the state with people betting from the confines of their homes, without drawing others' attention and turning helpless after losing everything they had.

Demands for banning online gambling have been pouring in from political parties and social activists after a series of suicides by people who lost their money in gambling were reported from many places in the

Sonia forms 3 panels, shifts to Goa due to poor Delhi air

DC CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI, NOV. 20

Congress president Sonia Gandhi on Friday set up three separate panels for discussing policy issues related to economic affairs, foreign affairs and national security before leaving Delhi due to health issues. Ms Gandhi, who has been advised to shift out of Delhi to avoid the heavy pollution in the national capital in view of her chronic chest infection, has moved to Goa for Congress sources said she

won the key battle-After a hand recount of Gandhi. The Congress presnearly five million votes, ident has been under heavy that lasted for several medication following her discharge from hospital in days, Democrat Biden won by 12,284 votes over August, and doctors are concerned about her con-President Trump. sistent chest infection. The Before the recount Mr air pollution in Delhi has Biden's lead was about aggravated her asthma and her chest condition, the 14,000 votes. "Georgia's historic sources added.

Before leaving, Ms Gandhi set up three sepa-rate committees for disfirst statewide audit reaffirmed that the state's new secure paper ballot cussing policy issues relatvoting system accurately counted and reported results," said Georgia ed to economic affairs, foreign affairs and national secretary of state Brad security. Former prime minister Manmohan Raffensperger Singh is a part of all three



Jairam Ramesh Members: P. Chidambaram, Mallikarjun Kharge, Digvijaya Singh **Foreign affairs** Convenor: Salman

Khurshid Members: Anand Sharma, Shashi Tharoor, Saptagiri uiaka **National security**

Convenor: Vincent H. Members: Ghulam Nabi Azad, Veerappa Moily, V. Vaithilingam

Dr Manmohan Singh to be member of all the three committees panels.

The economic affairs committee will comprise former finance minister P. Chidambaram and party

health ministry said.

leaders Mallikarjun Kharge and Digvijaya Singh. Rajya Sabha MP Jairam Ramesh will be its convener.

The committee on for-eign affairs will have Anand Sharma, Shashi Tharoor, Salman Khurshid and Saptagiri Ulaka with Mr Khurshid as its convener. The committee on national security will have leader of opposition in Rajya Sabha Ghulam Nabi Azad, party leaders Veerappa Moily, Vincent H. Pala and V. Vaithilingam, with Mr Pala as its convener.

has constituted three committees to consider and discuss issues and policies related to the subjects of economic affairs, foreign affairs and national security," an official statement from AICC general secretary KC Venugopal said. It is interesting to note

ment. Mr Stalin was briefly that those nominated in detained along with his supporters at Thirukkuthe committees include senior party leaders Ghulam Nabi Azad, Anand valai in Nagapattinam district for violating Covid Sharma, Veerappa Moily and Shashi Tharoor, who norms, sparking protests in different parts of the state were part of the 23 letterwriters seeking an organisational overhaul of the by DMK activists. Police said Mr Stalin and his supporters were held as the campaign violated the social distancing norms of the Covid pandemic. They were lodged in a marriage

hall for about an hour before being released. DMK men staged road rokos in several places in Tiruchy, Karur, Perambalur, Ariyalur, Pudukkottai, Thanjavur,

Tiruvarur and Nagapattinam, party sources said. Mr Stalin launched the campaign Tirukkuvalai, the birth place of late party chief M. Karunanidhi, and said in a tweet that he embarked on the campaign to take the message of his father and DMK leader M.K. Stalin to



Udhavanidhi and his supporters were held as the campaign violated the social distancing norms of the **Covid andemic.They** were lodged in a marriage hall for about an hour before being released various parts of the state to

end the "darkness that has engulfed Tamil Nadu". Participating in a function at Pannangkombu

near Manapparai in Tiruchy district, Mr Stalin said the BJP had taken the ruling AIADMK on lease (kuthagai), and hence, the AIADMK acted against the interests of the state and its people. He also said the AIADMK-BJP alliance will again suffer a major setin the coming back Assembly elections as people are ready to teach them a lesson.

Earlier, Mr Stalin participated in a flag hoisting ceremony under the leadership of party's south disin-charge, Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozhi, in

LAWYERS CAN MEET KERALA SCRIBE IN JAIL, UP TELLS SC

New Delhi, Nov. 20: The Uttar Pradesh government informed the Friday that an advocate can meet Kerala-based journalist Kappan, arrested on his way to Hathras where a young Dalit woman had died after allegedly being gang-raped, in jail to take "instructions and signature" for representing him in courts of law.

Chief Justice S.A. Bobde was critical of some reports November 16 and termed them "unfair", observing that they said that the apex court denied relief to the journalist. "There was very unfair

A bench headed by

reporting about our earlier order. It was said that we denied you relief." said the bench which also comprised Justices A.S. Bopanna and V. Ramasubrama-During the brief hear-

ing, solicitor-general Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Uttar Pradesh government, opposed the KUWJ contention that Mr Kappan was denied permision to meet his lawyers and family and as a consequence, he could not approach the Allahabad high court for the relief.

Centre rushes teams to four states to contain Covid spread

DC CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI, NOV.20

The Union Government has rushed four high level Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Manipur to help the states deal with surging cases of novel coronavirus. Union Health Ministry said on Friday that the teams will visit the districts reporting a high number of COVID-19 cases and support the state efforts towards strengthen-

ing containment, surveillance, testing, infection prevention and control measures, and efficient clinical management of the positive

The central teams will also guide in effectively managing the challenges related to timely diagnosis and follow up. The centre is also contemplating sending high multidisciplinary teams to other States/UTs that are reporting a rise in the Covid-19 positive cases,

India on Friday crossed 90 lakh cases with 45, 882 new detections. The total deaths so far is 1.32 lakh out of which 584 are in the last 24 hours. Officials said the Union Government has advised the State/UT governments to adopt aggressive and widespread testing to ensure that the missed out and undetected positive Covid-19 cases are promptly identified for timely and effective tracing, contain-

India has tested a total of 12,95,91,786 samples, as on date. Close to 11 lakh tests were conducted in the past 24 hours. "High levels of widespread testing have ensured that the cumulative positivity rate is sustained at low levels and is presently following a downward trajectory. The cumulative national positivity rate stands at 6.95% today, less than the 7% mark," the health ministry said.

New Delhi, Nov 20: The navies of India, the United States, Australia and Japan on Friday concluded the second phase of the Malabar naval exercise in the Arabian Sea that involved two aircraft carriers and a number of

the 24th edition of the Malabar exercise was conducted in Bay of Bengal from November 3-6, the second phase was conducted in the Arabian Sea from November 17-20, said a statement by the Indian

the four-day second-phase exercise was participation Indian Vikramaditya carrier battle group and the Nimitz strike group of the US Navy. -PTI

Rajasthan Chief Minister

Ashok Gehlot on Friday said 'love jihad' is a term "manufactured" by the BJP to disturb communal harmony, provoking a sharp reaction from Union minister Gajendra Singh love and marriage.

Shekhawat. In a tweet, Mr Gehlot said marriage is a matter of personal liberty and bringing a law to curb it is unconstitutional.

Hitting back, Mr Shekhawat asked if marriage is a matter of personal liberty "why are the their maiden name or reli-

BJP leaders use the term 'love jihad' while alleging that Hindu women face harassment and forced conversion in the name of

BJP governments in Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Madhya Pradesh have said they are considering enactment of laws to curb such marriages.

But Mr Gehlot said such law will not stand scrutiny in any court. "Love jihad' is a word

"Jihad has no place in love. They are creating an environment in the nation where consenting

adults would be at the mercy of state power. Marriage is a personal decision and they are putting curbs on it, which is like snatching away personal liberty," Mr Gehlot said

manufactured by the BJP to divide the nation and disturb communal harmony," the Congress leader

tweeted. "Jihad has no place in love. They are creating an environment in the nation where consenting adults would be at the mercy of state power. Marriage is a personal decision and they

which is like snatching away personal liberty," Mr Gehlot said.

"It seems a ploy to dis-rupt communal harmony, fuel social conflict and disregard constitutional provisions like the state not discriminating against citizens on any ground," he

added. "Dear Ashok ji, 'love jihad' is a trap that has of young thousands women believing the marriage is a personal affair, where later it turns out it

isn"t. Also, if it is a matter

why are the women not free to keep their maiden name or religion?" he asked. "Why are families of girls

too forced to accept the other religion? Isn't religion a matter of personal liberty?" he tweeted. Mr Shekhawat asked if supporting this in the guise of personal freedom was the 'new communal agenda"

of the Congress. He charged that "manufacturing terms, riots and hatred is a Congress prerogative".

Quad nations complete Malabar naval exercise

The major highlight of frontline warships, sub-marines and maritime air-While the first phase of

Love jihad is BJP coinage to divide nation, alleges Gehlot



OTHER STORIES

Coast Guard foils bid to smuggle vials to Sri Lanka

Chennai: Coast Guard has thwarted an attempt to smuggle to Sri Lanka 50 kgs of multivitamin vials worth ₹ 1.44 lakh, an official said on Friday. The vials were seized at Thangachimadam seashore in Ramanathapuram district, he said in a micro-blogging site.

—PTI

Over ₹4 cr worth smuggled goods seized on Deepavali

Coimbotore: Gold, mobile phones, drones and cigarettes of foreign origin, otally worth ₹4.82 crore, were seized at the airport here on Diwali day, Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) said on Friday. Acting on inputs, passengers arriving from Sharjah by an Air Arabia flight were subjected to intensive checks on Deepavali.

Prince of Arcot urges PM on Haj embarkation point

Chennai: The Prince of Arcot, Nawab Mohammed Abdul Ali, has appealed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi to intervene and restore Chennai international airport, as an embarkation point for Haj pilgrims.

The Prince said that Chennai has continued as an important embarkation point ever since flights were started in the year 1987 to Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. It was shocking and surprising to learn that the Haj Committee of India, Mumbai, has not included Chennai as an embarkation centre for Haj-2021 and pilgrims have been clubbed with Kochi,

Kerala. This would mean that pilgrims will have to travel all the way to Kochi from their three different hometowns, which would cause tremendous difficulties and hardships to the elderly and weak pilgrims, the Prince pointed out in a press release.



Anna University professors and students stage a silent protest on their campus in support of VC Surappa on Friday.

Wealth case: One-year RI for sub-registrar

DC CORRESPONDENT CHENNAI, NOV. 20

A special judge for cases under the Prevention of Corruption Act in Puducherry sentenced a sub-registrar to one-year rigorous imprisonment in a case registered against him by the CBI for amassing wealth disproportionate to his income.

Special judge P. Dhanabal also directed the authorities to confis-cate his properties and

assets worth ₹50,43,193. According to the prosecution, the Anti-Corruption Branch of CBI, Chennai investigated and filed a chargesheet against V. Gurubatham, sub-registrar, Villiyanur, Puducherry in 2008 on charge that he, between January 1, 1996, and April

10, 2008, acquired assets in his name and in the name of his family members to the tune of ₹34,50,82, which was disproportionate

known sources of in-

come.

He failed to explain satisfactorily reasons for amassing assets.

On completion of trial, the special judge convictsentenced Gurubatham to undergo RI for one year and to pay a fine of ₹10,000 for the offences committed under sections 13(2), 13(1)(e) of PC Act 1988.

Another accused Coumoudame Grubatham was acquitted

Gold worth ₹2.06cr seized at airport; 2 held

Chennai: Gold worth In the first incident ₹2.06 crore has been seized in two separate incidents at the airport here and two persons have been arrested in this connection, Customs officials said on Friday. In the first incident on Thursday, gold in paste form and concealed in rectums of plane passengers was seized. Besides,

on Thursday, gold in paste form and concealed in rectums of plane passengers was seized

gold chains and gold plates from six passengers, who arrived from Dubai, were confiscated, the officials said. Two of the passengers were repeat offenders and were arrested, they said.

In the other incident on Friday, gold paste in packets wrapped in adhesive tape and hidden under the aircraft seats were confiscated, they said. The total value of the gold seized on the two days was worth ₹2.06 crore, they said. - PTI

'Unless quality roads are laid, mishaps can't be prevented'

J. STALIN | DC CHENNAI, NOV. 20

Observing that unless quality roads are laid, accidents cannot be prevented, which lead to loss of lives, the Madras high court has directed the state government to file a status report as to the compliance of the orders of the court, which gave comprehensive directions as to the milling/scrapping of existing roads, while laying/relaying of roads.

A division bench comprising Justices N.Kiuba-karan and B.Pugalendhi gave the directive while passing interim orders on



a petition filed by S.M. Anthony Muthu, which sought a direction to the authorities to constitute an expert committee to supervise the rural road works in Kanyakumari district to ensure the execution of the works as per estimates,

milling/scrapping the existing roads and also to check and verify the measurements and quality of the roads after completion of the work, before settling the bills. Unless quality roads are laid, accidents cannot be prevented, which lead to loss of lives. This is an important issue, which has to be dealt with elaborately. Therefore, this court suo motu impleads the secretary to government highways and minor ports department, the secretary to government, municipal administration and water supply department, the secretary to government, rural development and

panchayat raj department, the secretary to govern-ment, PWD, the director, rural development and panchayat raj department and the director of town panchayats as respondents in this writ petition, the bench added. Posting the matter to November 30, 2020, the bench also directed the special government pleader to produce the government Orders/Circulars/Instruc tions which govern the laying/relaying of roads and the particulars/mechanism to ensure the quality of the roads laid/relaid, including the types of tests, check lists, forms, if

Pondy logs 54 new corona cases

Puducherry, Nov. 20: Puducherry added 54 Covid-19 cases while no fresh fatality was reported in the union territory in the last 24 hours, a top Health department official said on Friday.

The 54 new cases were identified at the end of the examination of 3,468 samples, Director of Health and Family Welfare S Mohan Kumar said in a release. Cumulatively, there were 36,585 coronavirus cases after the transfer of two patients to Tamil Nadu, ĥe said.

While 621 cases were active, the total number of patients treated and discharged stood at the Health 35,355, Heann Director department said, adding and the toll remained at 609 as no fresh death was reported in the last 24 hours ending 10 am Friday. -PTI

Soorasamharam held sans devotees in Tiruchendur

ARULOLI M | DC TIRUCHENDUR, NOV. 20

The festive spirit of the Soorasamharam event of Sashti was subdued on the seashore in Tiruchendur on Friday, due to the pan-

The event on the sixth day of the Kandha sashti festival, otherwise would have been witnessed by around a lakh devotees at the second abode of Lord Muruga here, but has only 700, apart from the 2,000 policemen, many of whom were temple priests and HR&CE officials.

VVIPs including ministers, judges and higher police officers, who usually crowded with their friends and relatives, close to the site of Soorasamharam event at the sea shore in front of Arulmigu Subramanya Swamy temple here, weremissing this year, due to

and higher police officers, who usually crowded with their friends and relatives, close to the site of Soorasamharam event at the sea shore in front of Arulmigu Subramanya Swamy temple here, were missing this year, due to corona regulations

VVIPs including ministers, judges

corona regulations. Not even the state HR&CE minister participated in the event. Hundreds of people

from neighbouring disof Tirunelveli, Kanyakumari, Tenkasi, Virudhunagar and Madurai, who reached Tiruchendur hoping to somehow witness the Soorasamharam event, were restricted at the entrance of the temple town, and sent back.

history of the temple, the

For the first time in the

event was held within a closed area of 300x300 metres, said a temple priest.

To prevent participants from taking holy dip in the sea, which is the usual ritual after the event, the way to the sea was closed with tin sheets.

The Soorasamharam commenced at 4:30 pm with the Lord being brought in the temple chariot to the sea shore was completed in just 30 minutes at 5:04 pm.



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Bonded labourers rescued from K'taka

K. SENTHIL NATHAN | DC VELLORE, NOV. 20

Ten months ago, six families hailing from parts of Madhanur in Annaicut, Vellore district, through some agents in Karnataka were taken to Hassan district to work as labour hands in sugarcane harvesting activities. There, they were not provided shelter or food and were treated as bonded labourers. In all, there were 12 adults and 10 children, totaling 22 members.

Realising that they were being treated as bonded labourers they contacted the 'Released Bonded Labourers Association' and informed them about their plight. The coordinator of the association got in touch with Vellore Collector Shanmuga Sundaram, and informed him. He helped rescue the 22 mem-

Ryots seek CBI probe into bribes in DPCs

DC CORRESPONDENT THANJAVUR, NOV. 20

Farmers in the district demanded a CBI enquiry into what they alleged 'bribes taken by staff of TNCSC', while procuring paddy from them during the 2020-21 kuruvai season.



Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami hands over the idols of Ram, Lakshmana and Goddess Sita to the EO of Rajagopal Perumal temple in Anandamangalam in Nagapattinam district for public worship on Friday. The idols stolen in 1978 were traced and returned to India by the London police recently.

CM condoles soldier's demise, orders job for kin

Chennai Nov. 20: Chief Karuppasamy, who was Minister K. Palaniswami on Friday expressed grief over the demise of an soldier from Tuticorin in the state in an accident and ordered the authorities to provide government job to his

Offering his condolences the Chief Minister said in to the bereaved family, a statement. Minister Palaniswami said Naik K Kadambur Raju and col-

serving in the artillery wing of the Indian Army in Ladakh, was killed in a road accident November 18. "It was very distressing. I extend my deepest condolences and sympathies to the family of the late Karuppasamy,'

lector K Senthil Raj visited Karuppasamy's house at Therku Thittankulam village near Kovilpatti and expressed condolences to the family. The minister handed over financial assistance of Rs 5 lakh to the family and assured them of all necessary assistance. Meanwhile, DMK president M K Stalin tweeted

his condolences to the family. Tuticorin Lok

Sabha MP Kanimozhi consoled the soldier's family and handed over Rs 2 lakh aid on behalf of the DMK. Her party would meet the educational needs of the three children of the martyr, she told re-

Poongothai denies media reports

DC CORRESPONDENT CHENNAI, NOV. 20

Poongothai Aladi Aruna, DMK MLA representing Alangulam, denied media reports that she had made a suicide bid on Thursday, which had led to her hospitalization, initially at a hospital in Tirunelveli and then in a corporate hospital in

In a Facebook post on bringing a bad name for

Friday, the former DMK minister said that she had fainted on Thursday morning due to some health complications like low blood sugar and so on and was admitted to the private hospital by her assistants.

Poongothai However, alleged, media outlets had twisted the incident to say that she had tried to commit suicide with a view to

She said it was the great democratic institution DMK that gave her and also her late father Aladi Aruna an address and that she was indebted to late M. Karunanidhi and present party president M. K. Stalin for

So, she urged the media to refrain from spreading false information about

DMK campaign will focus on govt's misrule: Kanimozhi

DC CORRESPONDENT THOOTHUKUDI, NOV. 20

Our party's election campaign will mainly focus the anti-people policy of the Edappadi K Palanisami rule, said DMK MP Kanimozhi Karunanidhi, as she distributed welfare measures worth Rs 16.5 lakh to beneficiaries here on

Kanimozhi said that the DMK manifesto for the 2021 assembly election is under preparation and would include all aspects for the overall development of the state.

She is to kick-start her first phase of election



campaign titled 'Vidiyalai Nokki Stalinin Kural' from the chief minister's home constituency, Edappadi. She said her home campaign would focus on the gross misrule of the AIADMK government for the last 10 years. Responding to Union Home minister Amit Shah's Tamil Nadu visit, Kanimozhi said there was nothing unusual about it.

AIADMK meet discussed party affairs

DC CORRESPONDENT CHENNAI, NOV. 20

Putting to rest the plethora of specula-tions, the AIADMK's advisory meeting on Friday just discussed the party's growth strategy and plans for the elections, a joint press release from party coordinator, O Panneer-selvam, and deputy coordinator, Edappadi K Palaniswami, said.

Held under the leadership of Panneerselvam and Palaniswami, the meeting was attended by AIADMK's zonal incharges, Ministers and district secretaries, the release said.

Earlier, the meeting, called on the eve of Union Home Minister Amit Shah's visit to Chennai, had led to a lot of speculations in politicircles. grapevine was agog with rumours that the meeting will take some cru-

cial decisions on the future course of action vis-a-vis its relations with the BJP. TN government is consis-

tent in its stand that the seven life convicts in the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case be released and would continue to exert pressure on the centre for it, state fisheries minister D Jayakumar said

'Green' award for Gurukulam school

B. RAVICHANDRAN | DC OOTY, NOV. 20

Kudos to the Gurukulam school at Agalar rural limits near here, as it bagged International recognition for the second consecutive year for its unique greening project entitled 'Each One, Plant One, Yearly one', as this year the UK-based green organization 'Green Earth conferred the International CSR (corporate social responsibility) Excellence Award — 2020 on

Gurukulam Correspondent N. Arjunan, who was the brain behind the project, said that the school began the project to inculcate tree planting culture in the children

14

19

Across 6.Groyne (10)

8. Spiteful (5)

14. Astute (5)

10. Fear attack (5)

17. Be worthy of (5)

13. Fireplace shelf (11)

19. Copy out in full (10)

1. Arguments for (4)

2. Undulating (4)

tion to the environment around the local communities with its greening proj-

Gurukulam Correspondent N. Arjunan, who was the brain behind the project said that the school began the project to inculcate tree planting culture in the chil-

This initiative was lauded

by former President Dr APJ Abdul Kalam who envisaged that this initiative would be emulative for others. The school received 'Green Apple Environment Award-2019' from the UK-based 'The Environment Organization' for taking the initiative on this project a decade

From 2017, this project in

QUICK CROSSWORD

the school evolved into "Each One Plant One Yearly One" to help the students to reach out to local communities by planting saplings in village surroundings around the school. For this new initiative, the UK-based 'Green Earth Appeal' conferred the 'International CSR Excellence Award

The award comes not only as a thing of pride to the Nilgiris, but also to the student community who defying the odds, lend their hands in greening the earth.

10

3. Exchange (4)

4. Astound (4)

7. Bad blood (9)

15. Slighty open (4)

11. Crop up (5)

16. Nosegay (4)

18. Polishes (4)

CILATI

12. Tree (3)

5. Produce offspring (9)

9. Private teacher (5)

17. Gloomy darkness (4)

18

Across: 1. Crazes, 3. Fret, 7. Scum, 8. Banner, 10. Pelican, 13. Javelin, 16. Lackey, 17. Safe, 18. Nits, 19. Defeat.

Down: 1. Case, 2. Acumen, 4. Rand, 5. Thrice, 6. Cadaver, 9. Minaret, 11. Stolen, 12. Visage, 14. Scot, 15. Text.

"The school took to this unique project as greening the earth is the natural way to combat climate change and global warming as trees are a known natural carbon controllers, besides releasing the much-needed oxygen in the environment. Arjunan added.

School principal Sureshkumar said that the award and citation were sent to the Gurukulam school from the UK recently. On Friday, Collector J Innocent Divya, felicitated the school for its performance



temple with the flag hoisting ceremony on Friday. -DC

COFFEE-BREAK

Your day todayBy Dr C.V.B. Subrahmanyam ries: Underestimating situations or overconfi-

enormous long-term gains. .



good ideas, you might not be able to translate Taurus: Out-of-the-box ideas will attract attention. Being a team player will speed up work. Your work efforts bring you appreciation and

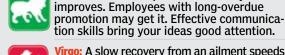
dence could create mistakes. Despite all your



nini: Those in creative arts receive excellent performance reviews. Trusted persons dupe you, causing your existing projects to halt. You'll complete projects on time. Cancer: People in defence and security services



may get restless. Avoid going off on a tangent when discussing issues with others. You'll fail to take support in your endeavours. Leo: Your financial position suddenly



tion skills bring your ideas good attention. /irgo: A slow recovery from an ailment speeds up. Expect a long-distance journey, bringing very good results. Added responsibility bothers you. Real-estate businesspersons may not

keep their promises. You share your b'day with

Jena Malone is an American actress, She is known for her roles in the films like The **Hunger Games:Catching Fire, The Neon** Demon, Nocturnal Animals

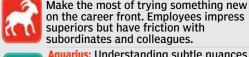


ibra: Entertainment professionals may get more offers with lucrative remuneratio. Your plans find momentum and you'll find desired results at work and home.

Scorpio: Your analytical skills get you to the core of complicated issues. Take a long-term



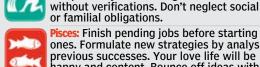
Sagittarius: Be vigilant as overt enemies might harm you. You'll focus on career advancement. Make time for recreation and relaxation today.



superiors but have friction with subordinates and colleagues. uarius: Understanding subtle nuances is your strength. Finances are good; avoid complacency and making commitments

Capricorn: Your social circle will widen.

on the career front. Employees impress



isces: Finish pending jobs before starting new ones. Formulate new strategies by analysing previous successes. Your love life will be happy and content. Bounce off ideas with close associates before taking action.



READING **ABOUT** THE

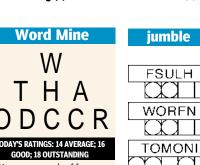
LIGHTER

SIDE

n amusing new paper-back and e-book is 'Bridge With a Twist" by Simon Cocheme (Master Point Press). In 53 chapters covering nearly 200 pages, you are treated to bridge from the bleachers.

The book opens thus: "The first bridge joke I ever heard was 'How do you defeat an Irish slam?' Answer: 'Cash your two aces and sit back and wait for partner to take his trump trick."

book. First, no, there isn't a misprint in the diagram. Cocheme points out that in England, a suit containing only the two, five and nine is called a "Hello, Dolly (Parton)" and written 925! Cocheme was at the Manchester Bridge Club, watching youngsters play. After the simple sequence to After the simple sequence to four hearts, West led the diamond queen. With all the key



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown in today's puzzle? In making a word, each letter may be used once only. Each word must contain the letter at the top of the pyramid. There should be at least one nine letter word. Plurals, foreign words and proper names are not allowed.

> South • 763 • A K 9 8 3 • K 5 • A J 8 diamond in her hand. Then she played three rounds of clubs, putting in West. She switched to a spade, and East Dealer: South Vulnerable: Neither West North Pass P ing that if she took the trick Opening lead • Q

HOTLY TAKEN ROTATE INWARD They had returned, and everyone agreed that the Apollo 11 astronauts were — DOWN TO EARTH heart loser, Cocheme was confident that the declarer, endplaying East anyway. She had either to lead a club, conceding a ruff-and-dis-card, or to play spades. "Well played, Tanya," said Cocheme. "I thought you would go down with all of the finessee wrann." Tanya, would go one down.

Author of little faith! Declarer won with her dia-mond king, cashed the two top hearts, played a diamond to the ace and ruffed the last

"I've heard the big girls talk about finesses in the playground, but I don't think we do them until next term." Copyright United Feature Syndicate (Asia Features)

CALVIN AND HOBBES | Bill Watterson



I MEAN, IN HEAVEN, EVERYONE IS SUPPOSED TO BE HAPPY, RIGHT? BUT PEOIRE WOULDN'T BE HAPPY IT THEY WERE STANKED IN PRINCES BEING EATEN



THE WIZARD OF ID|Parker and Hartsd







ARCHIE|Bill Henry Scarpelli & craig boldman







BLONDIE Dean Young and John Marshall BECAUSE THESE ADD UP TO EIGHTY DOLLARS, AND THE COOKBOOK WAS WHAT A COINCIDENCE! I FOUND FOUR TWENTY DOLLAR BILLS INSIDE THIS OLD COOKBOOK THE REAL COINCIDENCE IS THAT I WAS JUST TRYING TO REMEMBER WHERE I STASHED THOSE TWENTIES PUBLISHED IN 1980! A COINCIDENCE?





TARZAN|Edgar Rice Burroughs







14 PEOPLE DEAD AS CAR COLLIDES WITH TRUCK IN UP

Lucknow/Pratapgarh, Nov. **20:** As many as 14 people, including seven children, died when their car collided with a stationary truck on the Lucknow-Allahabad highway, around 70 km from Pratapgarh district headquarters, an official said on Friday.

The road accident took place late on Thursday night when the victims were returning from a wedding function in the Nawabganj area of Pratapgarh, Additional Chief Secretary, Home, Awanish Awasthi said. Pratapgarh Superintendent of Police (SP) Anurag Arya said the speeding SUV dashed into the truck parked by the road in the Manikpur police station area after one of its rear tyres got

ED FILES MONEY LAUNDERING CASE IN TRP SCAM

punctured near Deshraj Inara.

SAURABH JOSHI | DC MUMBAI, NOV. 20

(ED) on Friday filed a money laundering complaint in connection with the alleged TRP (television rating points) rigging scam case that is being investigated by Mumbai police. The ED officials said that the case was filed by them on the basis of the Mumbai police's FIR. The officials said that they would summon all those named accused in the case for questioning in the fresh case. The Mumbai crime branch is currently probing the case that was filed in October naming Republic TV, two Marathi channels accused of rigging the TRP ratings for their channels with help of some other persons, who are also named in the case.

LoC locals call for 'end to hostility'

Flare up along LoC last week left at least four civilians and an equal number of jawans dead

YUSUF JAMEEL | DC BALKOT (LoC), NOV. 20

"I was away when I received a phone call from my wife saying intense artillery shelling is underway. She asked me what she and other family members should do, stay at home or leave", recalled Abdul Haleem, a resident of Balkote, a sleepy village comprising scattered traditional houses at the foothills just a stone's throw from the Line of Baramulla district.

Alarmed by the grimness of his spouse's voice, Haleem quickly headed for home but, before he could reach there, his wife called up again to inform him that two houses including their's have caught fire due to the artillery fire. "I was shocked and merely asked her if all the family members were safe. I felt relief when told everyone at home has escaped unhurt," Haleem told this newspaper.

Standing beside the debris of his house and that of his uncle's, Haleem said, "You can yourself see everything has been reduced into rubble. What

Pakistanis may do to each other whatever they want to but why should we suf-fer?"

Farooga Begum was not as lucky as her neighbour artillery shell pierced through a wall of her house killing the 35-yearold housewife on the spot. Hum par qayamat guzri hai (we've gone through doomsday)", lamented her husband Bashir Ahmed

Tahir Ahmed Mir, an employee of J&K's department of consumer affairs and public distribution, was distributing ration at a depot in Kamalkote area when a mortar shell fell and exploded a couple of metres away. Mir suffered multiple splinter injuries and died on the way to the hospital. Back in his native village Sultan Daki, the world of his aged parents and siblings lies completely shattered after the tragedy.

Raveel Ahmed, his brother, said, "We were six brothers and one of them has been snatched from us. Our hearts are bleeding". The rage in Ahmed's eves was clearly evident as he repeatedly asked 'Why



Last week's flare up left behind a trail of destruction in villages close to the LoC in Hajipir and Kamalkote sectors of Baramulla district.

us...what was his fault?". The interminable hostility between India and Pakistan troops along the LoC flared up again last week, leaving at least four civilians and an equal number of Indian Army and one Border Security Force (BSF) jawans dead and more than a dozen civilians and three Army personnel injured. Pakistan reported the death of four civilians and one Army soldier and injuries to 12 civilians in cross-LoC firing and shelling on November 12

However, Indian Army

least, 11 Pakistani soldiers and caused "substantial damage" to its infrastructure including ammunition and FOL (Forward Location) Operating dumps and "terrorist launch-pads" across the

"in retaliation to

In their counterclaim, the Pakistan Army claimed inflicting "substantial losses" both in terms of men and material to the Indian troops "in response to their provocative act of engaging innocent civilians"

unprovoked ceasefire vio-

In J&K, many houses in

the LoC Balkote. Gowhalan, Sarai Bandi, Nambla and Gwalta (Baramulla district), Dawar (Bandipore district), Keran (Kupwara district) and Sawjian (Poonch district) were damaged in artillery shelling, forcing the residents to flee to safer loca-

As reported by Pakistan media, 15 residential housa few multi-storey buildings and one shop were gutted and 24 residential houses and a guesthouse suffered partial damage and 20 cattle and eight goats perished in the Indian shelling.
The guns fell silent on

the evening of November 13. Next day when residents returned to the affected villages on the Indian side of the LoC they found their homes burnt or damaged extensively and the household goods strewn and wrecked apart.

countries' armies accused each other of initiating firing and it was not the first time that the exchanges caused deaths among both facing troops and civilians besides leaving a trail of destruction in villages. As per official statistics, 32 Indian Army and Border Security Force (BSF) personnel, 26 militants and infiltrators, 16 civilians and three civilian porters working for the Army or the BSF (total number of casualties was 77) were killed in the incidents of cross-border firing and shelling, clashes and sneak attacks carried out by militants or Pakistan's Border Action Teams (BATs) along the LoC and the IB, so far, this

As the civilians have routinely fallen prey to such exchanges, Nazir Ahmed, asked, "When an artillery shell lands in a house, a cowshed or courtyard we can't immediately say who fired it. But the fact is that it is mainly the civilians on both sides who suffer whenever India and Pakistan troops clash. This has to be brought to a

border-dwellers were also unanimous in demanding early construction of community and individual bunkers in shelling prone areas to

TMC MANTRI COMPARES DIDI WITH NETAJI

RAJIB CHOWDHURI | DC

Trinamul Congress minister Bratya Basu on Friday compared his party supremo and West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee with Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose to fan an eternal "Bengali" sentiment "Bengali" sentiment about the legendary freedom fighter against the Bharatiya Janata Party ahead of the next year's Assembly election. He also branded her party as her own "Azad Hind Fauj" in what may trigger a controversy.

The state science and technology alleged, "it is a fact Bose had to go away from the politics of Bengal and India as the freedom movement was against a colonial power. Exactly the same thing happened after 50 years with Mamata Baneriee. But she did not have to go since her fight was not against any colonial rule for freedom. Mamata Banerjee's battle was on parliamentary democracy for which she formed

Mumbai schools to remain shut till Dec 31

DC CORRESPONDENT MUMBAI, NOV. 20

Amid the rising numbers

of Covid-19 positive patients in Mumbai, the Sena ruled Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) on Friday announced that in the city till December

Earlier, Maharashtra government had planned to open schools from November

According to the circular issued by BMC's edudepartment, although pandemic is under control in Mumbai, schools will remain closed other countries are witnessing the second wave

and considering the situation of the infection of the other states, the possibility of the second wave cannot be ignored in Maharashtra. "The next four to six months are very crucial for containing the pandemic. Hence, the schools in BMC's jurisdiction cannot be

started from November

23rd. All the schools will December 31, 2020.

Maharashtra reported a single day rise of 5,640 Covid-19 new cases on Friday taking its overall tally to 17,68,695 cases while 155 new deaths were reported which pushed the fatality count to

MARRIAGE BETWEEN FIRST COUSINS ILEGAL: P&H HC

Chandigarh, Nov. 20: The Punjab and Haryana High Court has said that marriage between first cousins is illegal.

The court said that marriage which petitioner man wants to perform with a girl, who is his first cousin, was also per se illegal.

"...the submission in the present petition that as and when she (the girl) attains the age of 18 years, they will perform marriage is also per se illegal," the judge said on Thursday while hearing the petition. The assertion came after

a 21-year-old man moved the high court against state of Punjab seeking anticipatory bail in a case registered under Sections 363 (kidnapping), 366A (procuration of minor girl) of the

IPC at police station Khanna City-2 in Ludhiana district on August 18.

The state counsel, while opposing the bail plea moved by the man, contented the girl was a minor and her parents had lodged the first information report as she and the man were first cousins and their fathers were brothers.

WORLD

Trump team cries foul over Joe's win

President Donald Trump and his allies are taking increas the Oval Office come January.

Biden is certain to walk into the Oval Office come January. ingly frantic steps to subvert tne results of the 2020 election, including summoning state legislators to the White House as part of a longshot bid to overturn Joe Biden's victory. Among other lastditch tactics: personally calling local election officials who are trying to rescind their certification votes in Michigan, suggesting in a legal challenge that Pennsylvania set aside the popular vote there and pressuring county officials in Arizona to delay certifying vote tallies.

Election law experts see it as the last, dying gasps of the have been the most secure in

Trump campaign and say history. Days after that state-But there is great concern that Trump's effort is doing real damage to public faith in the integrity of US elections. Sen. Mitt Romney, R-Utah, one of Trump's most vocal GOP critics, accused Trump of resorting to "overt pressure on state and local officials to subvert the will of the people

and overturn the election."
Romney added, "It is difficult to imagine a worse, more undemocratic action by a sitting American President." Trump's own election security agency has declared the 2020 presidential election to

KAMALAA/cdts KoyambeduROHINIA/cdts GOPIKRISHNAA/cdts SaidapetRAJTheatreA/cdts

The increasingly desperate and erratic moves have no reasonable chance of changing the outcome of the 2020 election, in which Biden has now received more votes than any other presidential candidate in history and has clinched the 270 Electoral College votes needed to win.

But the Republican president's constant barrage of baseless claims, his work to personally sway local officials who certify votes and his allies'refusal to admit he lost is likely to have a lasting negative impact on the coun-

Pfizer/BioNTech seek emergency approval from FDA for virus cure

Pfizer and its partner BioNTech confirmed they will apply on Friday for emergency use authorisation for their Coronavirus vaccine, becoming the first to do so in the US or Europe as the pandemic rages around the world.

The vaccine has been developed with breathtakjust 10 months after the genetic code of the Coronavirus was first sequenced. The announcement had been expected for several days, after the companies said that a completed study of trials of the product showed it was 95 percent effective in protecting people from infection. The announcement also confirms w BioNTech's CEO said. what

"Filing in the US repre-

Washington, Nov. 20: in our journey to deliver a Covid-19 vaccine to the world and we now have a more complete picture of both the efficacy and safety profile of our vaccine, giving us confidence in its potential," Pfizer CEO Albert Bourla said.

The vaccine has been unaer evaluation ioi weeks in the European Union, Australia, Canada Japan and the United Kingdom, the companies said. "The companies will be ready to distribute the vaccine candidate within hours after authorisation," their statement said. The Food and Drug Administration has not said how long it will take to study the vaccine data, but the government expects to give the green light for the vaccine in the first two weeks of

WHILE MINISTERS are

usually expected to resign if

they breach the code, it ulti-

mately rests with the prime

minister on whether to take

any action on the independ-

ent Ministerial Code advis-

Code of treating her civil ser-

vants with consideration and

respect. Her approach on occa-

sions has amounted to behav-

iour that can be described as

bullying in terms of the impact

felt by individuals," his report

"To that extent, her behav-

iour has been in breach of the

Ministerial Code, even if unin-

tentionally. This conclusion

needs to be seen in context.

There is no evidence that she

was aware of the impact of her

behaviour, and no feedback was

given to her at the time," it

reads. The report takes note of

the high pressure and demands of the UK Home Office role and

the need for more supportive

leadership from the top of the

department as a "contributory

er's findings.



FRIENDS OF **USA GREETS**

Friends Chennai sent greetings to the Presidentelect of the USA, Joe Biden, through their Senior Vice President Dr Ram Ramanathan. Dr Ramanathan called on the President-elect and personally conveyed the message of goodwill and handed over a letter. Senator Gary Peters was also present when Dr Ramanathan called on Biden in Washington, DC. Friends of USA also greeted the Vice-President Elect Dr Kamala Harris who has her own links to the city of Chennai through her mother.

SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

Tender Notice No.: E-R-T-63-20-21. Name of work: (1) Construction of new control room at Bhilai/TSS of Raipur Division, (2) Provision o children park cum open Gym at Bhilai Colony and Bid closing date on 03.12.2020 is hereby cancelled due to administration reason. For fresh Tender of the subject work bid closing date will be 14.12.2020 with Tender Notice No. E-R-T-66-20-21.
Details are available on our website www.ireps.gov.in

Sr.Divisional Engineer(Line)! PR/R/Engg/IP/111 Raipui

f South East Central Railway & @secrail

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No.ELRESBC-OHE-Gr258-NTPCKDG Date:-17.11.2020 The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tender for the following work:

Name of Work Estimated Cost Design, supply, Rs.11,60,57,877.20/erection, testing & commissioning
of 25 Kv, 50 Hz, single phase, AC electrification including OHE in NTPC siding at Kudgi of Gr.258 (Gadag-Hotgi) of Hubballi Division of South Western Railway under Railway Electrification Projec Bengaluru (Total 68 TKM).

Last date of submission of bids Up to 15:00 hrs of 10.12.2020

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in Deputy Chief Electrical Engineer Railway Electrification, Bengaluru

Douglas Stuart wins 2020 Booker Prize

York-based Scottish writer Douglas Stuart has won the prestigious 50,000-pound Rool-Prize 6 Prize for his autobiographical debut novel he was 16-years-old. After 'Shuggie Bain', a coming graduating from the age tale of love and alcoholism set in 1980s Glasgow and "destined to be a classic", beating five fashion design.

London, Nov. 20: New other shortlisted authors including indian-origin Avni Doshi.

> Stuart, 44, dedicated the book to his mother, who died of alcoholism when Royal College of London, he moved to New York to start a career in

INDIAN RAILWAYS **GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (RAILWAY BOARD) E-TENDER NO.2020RSI1742TC **CORRIGENDUM NO. 4**

1.0 Tender will be closed at 15 00 hours on 18.12 2020 instead of 19.11.2020 2.0 All other terms and conditions of the tender will remain unchanged.

Director, Railway Stores (W) Ministry of Railways, Railway Board, New Delhi. for and on behalf of the President of India

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE



NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER Chief Engineer, Knokan Railway Corporation Ltd., invites Open Tender in Two birt system

through E-Tendering on IREPS Portal from eligible contractors for the following work Tender Notice No.: KR-W-01-58-2020-12. Name of Work: Complete Track Renewal (P. between Km 693/000 to 739/800 UDUPI (UD)-THOKUR (TOK) in AEN/Udupi Section of Karwar Region of Konkan Railway, Kamataka State. Estimated Cost : ₹ 1779.40 Lakhs excluding GST. Closing Date/Time: 11/12/2020 up to 15:00 Hrs. for submission of online offers/bids. Completion Period: Twelve months including monsoon. Manua offers shall not be accepted. Please visit www.ireps.gov.in website for details participation. Conigendum/addendum will be hosted in this website only.

GREATER CHENNAL CORPORATION **Storm Water Drain Department** S.W.D.C.No.B3/1257/1/2020

E- Tenders are invited for the following work as per details furnished below.

Approx. Value of work EMD Eligible Name of the Work including 12% GST Class Restoration and Rejuvenation 1% of Work value from of Murugappa Nagar Kulam in the work Class-I Rs.178.82 Lakhs

Tender last date and time of submission: 09.12.2020 upto 3.00 pm. Bid document will be available in website https://tntenders.gov.in Tender open date and time: 10.12.2020 at 3.30 pm.

Superintending Engineer /SWDD

Walk-in-Interview



Govt. of India) Advertisement No: S-CEM/ESTT/RS/PA& PT - 02/2020

Research Scientists/Project Assistants [ECE] Project Technicians [Electronics] (Contract positions on consolidated salary) For detailed Notification including walk-in dates,

please visit our Website: http://cem.sameer.gov.in Davp:06119/11/0003/2021





| INDICATORS | | % |
|------------------------|-----------|--------|
| Sensex | 43,882.25 | 0.65 |
| Nifty 50 | 12,859.05 | 0.68 |
| S&P 500* | 3,570.89 | -0.31 |
| Dollar (₹) | 74.14 | 0.18 |
| Pound Sterling (₹) | 98.45 | -0.35 |
| Euro (₹) | 87.92 | -0.09 |
| Gold (10gm)* (₹) | 49,551▲65 | 0.13 |
| Brent crude (\$/bbl)* | 44.36 | 0.36 |
| IN 10-Yr bond yield | 5.877 | 0.017 |
| US 10-Yr T-bill yield* | 0.849 | -0.702 |
| * As of 8:30 PM IST | | |

Rabi sowing begins; wheat planted in 97L ha.

Sowing of winter crops has started in the country, with farmers planting wheat in about 97.27 lakh hectare so far in this rabi season, the agriculture ministry said. Wheat is the main winter or rabi crop. Rice and pulses, such as gram, urad, moong as well as oilseeds like groundnut and sunflower, are other rabi crops. Paddy has been sown in more area at 7.26 lakh hectare compared with 6.98 lakh hectare a year ago.

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■RBI panel for 26% promoter stake

Corp. houses set to get banking licence

FALAKNAAZ SYED MUMBAI, NOV. 20

In what could potentially change the landscape of the Indian banking sector, an internal working group of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has suggested that large companies and industrial houses may be allowed as promoters of banks with necessary legislative changes, and large, well-run NBFCs could con-vert into banks after 10 years of operations.

Interestingly, the panel also suggested that the cap on promoters' stake in the long run (15 years) banks may be raised from the cur-rent level of 15 per cent to 26 per cent of the paid-up voting equity share capital

The views gain significance in the light of year-long legal battle between Uday Kotak, promoter of Kotak Mahindra Bank, and the RBI that ended in January this year. Under the current RBI norms, promoters of private banks have to reduce their stake to 40 per cent within three years of operations and then to 20 per cent

within 10 years and to 15 per cent within 15 years. The group headed by RBI executive director P.K. Mohanty was set up in June 2020 to review the extant ownership guidelines and corporate structure for Indian private sector banks with the terms of reference, including the review of the eligibility criteria for individuals/ entities to apply for banking licence, examination of



preferred corporate structure for banks and harmonisation of norms in this regard, and review of norms for long-term shareholding in banks by the promoters and other share-The panel that submitted

its report on Friday said, "Large corporate/industri al houses may be allowed as promoters of banks only after necessary amend-ments to the Banking Regulations Act, 1949 to deal with connected lending and exposures between the banks and other financial and non-financial entities; and strengthening of the supervisory mechanism for conglomerates including consolidated supervision. RBI may examine the necessary

concerns in this regard." Large non-banking finance companies with an asset size of Rs 50,000 including those owned by large corporate houses, may be allowed to convert to private banks subject to completion of 10 years of operations and

legal provisions that may

be required to deal with all

other criteria. The working committee recommended minimum initial capital requirement for licensing new banks should be enhanced to Rs 1,000 crore from Rs 500 crore for universal banks and Rs 300 crore from Rs 200 crore for small finance banks.

"The cap on promoters" stake in long run of 15 years may be raised from the current levels of 15 per cent to 26 per cent of the paid-up voting equity share capital of the bank. This stipulation should be uniform for all types of promoters and would mean that promoters, who have already diluted their holdings to below 26 per cent, will be permitted to raise it to 26 per cent of the paid-up voting equity share capital of the bank. The promoter, if he/she so desires, can choose to bring down holding to even below 26 per cent, any time after the lock-in period of five years," said the report.

For non-promoter shareholding, a uniform cap of 15 per cent of the paid-up voting equity share capital of the bank may be prescribed, the report said.

Gland now among top 10 pharma companies

RAVI RANJAN PRASAD

Hyderabad-based Gland Pharma made a grand debut on the bourses, listing at Rs 1,710 on both NSE and BSE, a premium of 14 per cent over the public issue price of Rs 1,500 per share.

Gland is now among top 10 pharma companies in terms of market value, with a market capitalisation of Rs 29,848 crore at the close of trade on the NSE. The stock touched an

intraday high of Rs 1,850 on both NSE and BSE.

Earlier this month, Gland Pharma raised Rs 6,479.55 crore through an initial public offering priced at Rs 1,490 to Rs ,500 per share with Re 1 face value. The issue was subscribed more than two times but had received very poor response from retail and high networth investors, making its bourses debut quite a suspense till the

last moment.
On the NSE, Gland
Pharma shares finally closed at Rs 1,828 providing public shareholders a return of 21.8 per cent on their IPO investment. On the BSE the stock closed at Rs 1,820.45.

Since retail and high net worth investors had largely skipped the pub-lic offer, there was a rush to buy the shares after the initial listing gains and so the percentage of deliverable quantity od shares was high at 56.25 per cent on the NSE.

Profits zoom, but wages flat at listed companies

SANGEETHA G CHENNAI, NOV. 20

In business, there seems to be no relation between profits and wages. While listed companies made bumper profits in the September quarter, wages have grown in low single digits, much lower than in past several quarters, finds private think-tank

The net profit of listed companies zoomed to record levels, as they grew 209 per cent in the September quarter. Even in the first half of the fiscal, which covered the entire period of the lock down of different intensities and associated uncertainties, the net profits of these companies grew 23.8 per cent. This growth was even higher than 11.8 per cent, the average growth in the past 60 quarters. The data is based on the financial statements of 1,897 companies available in CMIE's Prowess data-

base as of November 11. However, this profit growth seemingly has nothing to do with the wage growth. "In business and far comments are seed for the seeming profit in the seemin ness and for corporate



honchos, there is no relation between growth in profits and growth in wages. The two move completely independently. Corporate managers would minimise their wage bill to maximise their profits," says Mahesh Vyas, managing

director, CMIE.

Amidst lay-offs, salary cut and negligible hiring, wage growth was 2.8 per cent in the first half of the fiscal. Even in the September quarter wage growth stood at 3.7 per cent, which was lower than the average year-onyear growth in wages over the past 60 quarters at 13 per cent. "The low singledigit growth in wages in the last two quarters is therefore very low by historical standards and is in stark contrast to the

extraordinary profits earned by companies,' says CMIE.

Manufacturing companies saw a 9.1 per cent fall in wages in the June 2020 quarter, which was the toughest quarter for them. Sales had shrunk by 42 per cent and net profits by 62 per cent. Then, in the September 2020 quarter, while sales fell again by 9.7 per cent, profits sprang a surprise by scaling up by a hand-some 17.8 per cent. Yet, wages declined by one per cent. Evidently, companies do not apportion resources to labour in any

proportion of profits. In the services sector's case, except for banking and IT, the remaining sectors collectively saw a 9 per cent fall in wages in the June quarter and a 5 per cent fall in the second

"Shareholders are being awarded interim dividends or buy-backs. There is still very little interest in investing into new capacities... Employment in the corporate sector could recover if business picks up again," says

Mills to get ₹12.5K-cr loan to make ethanol

New Delhi, Nov. 20: The food ministry on Friday said it has given in-principle approval to 185 sugar mills and standalone distilleries to avail Rs 12,500 crore of loans for capacity addition of 468 crore litre of ethanol per annum as part of its efforts to achieve 20 per cent blending with petrol.

In the last two years, 70 ethanol projects were sanctioned loans of Rs 3,600 crore.

Apart from promoting ethanol production from sugarcane, the ministry is making efforts to manufacture ethanol using surplus rice with state-owned FCI

as well as maize.

The move is aimed at

boosting ethanol blending with petrol, which now stands near 5 per cent.

Under the ethanol inter est subvention scheme for molasses-based distilleries, the government had opened a window September for 30 days, inviting sugar mills/ distilleries, to apply for the scheme, the ministry said. —PTI

Women's T20 WC pushed to 2023

Dubai: The South African edition of the Women's T20 World Cup was on Thursday postponed by three months to February 2023 to avoid a cluster a big-ticket events in 2022 and manage players' workload, International Cricket Council (ICC) announced on Thursday, The tournament was scheduled in November 2022 but will now be held in February 2023. In August this year, the ICC had postponed the 50 over Women's World Cup slated in New Zealand from 2021 to 2022 owing to pandemic and women's T20 cricket is also set to make its debut in the 2022 Birmingham Commonwealth Games, "The Board confirmed that the ICC Women's T20 World Cup will move from its current slot at the end of 2022 to 9-26 February 2023. If not postponed, the year would have "three major events in 2022 with the Commonwealth Games in July 2022 and the ICC Women's T20 World Cup due to be held in November 2022, ICC said. The ICC said the decision was taken keeping in mind the workload of the players and also considering long

Live on

term interest of women's

cricket.

CRICKET

Big Bash League: Hobart Hurricanes vs Perth Scorchers from 10.10 am; Sydney Sixers vs Melbourne Renegades from 1.35 pm; Perth Scorchers vs Adelaide Strikers from 4.50 am (Sunday) on Sony Six, HD

TENNIS

ATP Finals: Semifinal-1 from 7.30 om. Semifinal-2 from 1.30 am (Sunday) on Sony Six, HD

FOOTBALL

English Premier League: Newcastle vs Chelsea from 6 pm; Aston Villa vs Brighton from 8.30 pm; Tottenham Hotspur vs Manchester vs West Brom from 1.30 am (Sunday) on Star Sports Select 1

Indian Super League: NorthEast United vs Mumbai City from 7.20 pm on Star Sports 2, 3

Italian league: Crotone vs Lazio from 7.30 pm; Spezia vs Atalanta from 10.30 pm; Juventus vs Cagliari from 1.15 am (Sunday) on Sony Ten 2, HD



Pat looks to keep Kohli quiet

Sydney, Nov. 20: Australia speedster Pat Cummins expectedly considers Virat Kohli the "big" wicket he would target in the upcoming series against India and said that keeping the visiting captain quiet would be crucial to the home team's chances.

The Indian cricket team is currently in Australia for a full series that includes three ODIs and many

Mumbai, Nov. 20: Rohit

Sharma's absence from

the upcoming white ball

series is a big "positive"

for Australia but K. L.

Rahul is as good a player

to fill in the void, feels dashing batsman Glenn

Rahul will be Virat

Kohli's deputy in the

white-ball leg since regu-

lar vice-captain Rohit is

recuperating from a ham-

string injury sustained

performer, so consistent

as an opening batsman

He (Rohit) is a class

Maxwell.

during IPL.

Internationals followed Cummins told Fox by a four-Test rubber. The tour will start with the ODIs here on November

"I think every side has that one or two batters and they are the big wickets. Most teams have their captain — Joe Root for England, Kane

Williamson for Zealand. You feel like if you get their wickets that goes a long way in winning

with a couple of (three)

double hundreds. So any

time he is not in the line

up against you, it is a pos-

Maxwell said.

The three-match ODI

"But in saying that,

India have still got back-

ups, more than capable of

playing that role. We saw

K. L. Rahul, the perform-

ance that he put on dur-

ing the last IPL was extraordinary," Maxwell

International

series begins on November 27 followed by

T20

further added.

series.

Rohit's absence will

help us: Maxwell

Cricket.

'He (Kohli) is always a big one. You commenta-tors talk about him nonstop, so hopefully, we can keep him quiet," he added.

Cummins, who has been named in both the white and red-ball squads as vice-captain, is one of the 11 Australian players currently quarantining here after returning from the UAE where he played for

Kolkata Knight Riders in the IPL.

Their quarantine period will end on the eve of the opening ODI against Cricket Ground.

Cummins said Australia is well prepared to give India a tough fight in the

imposing Australian pacer said that over the last couple of years, he has developed as a bowler.

UNTESTED PITCHES ARE A CONCERN: MCC CHIEF

Melbourne, Nov. 20: The drop-in pitches at the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG) which will host the second Test between India and Australia have not been tested and it is a cause of concern, says Melbourne Cricket Club (MCC) chief executive

"It is a concern for me because I would like to give them every opportunity to trial the pitches," Fox was quoted as saying by *Sydney Morning Herald*.

The opening round matches of Sheffield Shield were held in Adelaide instead of MCG due to the Covid-19 outbreak at Melbourne and also plans to have a two-day trial match at the MCG this week also couldn't materialise due to the spread of virus

"It demonstrates how vulnerable we still are day by day. Ideally, we would love to have a game and we are still working on that but, ultimately, it may not happen," Fox further added.

Bagan blast past Kerala in opener

Bambolim, Nov. 20: In their new avatar, ATK Mohun Bagan kicked off the seventh season of the Indian Super League on a high, defeating Kerala Biasters by a solitary goal here on Friday.

hitman Krishna, who was ATK's top goal scorer with 15 goals last season, struck the all important goal after a 67 minute deadlock to give the all important three points for the green-andmaroon brigade.

The Yellow Brigade playing with a heavy defensive lineup of 4-2-3-1 managed to thwart ATKMB throughout the first half but after the hour mark they left a loose ball as the Fijian International pounced on it with a calm and composed finish.

All eyes were on the 131year-old legacy club Mohun Bagan as they were making their ISL debut following their 'marriage' with three-time defending champions ATK.

ATKMB had a dominant first half and made some early inroads with Roy Krishna missing an early chance, even as KBFC enjoyed more ball possession in the first 45 minutes. KBFC, who were the designated home team, looked more threatening and came out with an attacking intent in the second-half.

But KBFC were made to pay for it as Roy Krishna made amends for his three misses in the first half with his poacher goal to become the difference between the two sides.

That goal was enough for ATKMB to sink Kerala Blasters' hearts.

MUMBAI TAKE TO OPEN BID

Vasco, Nov. revamped Mumbai City FC, with 19 new recruits and a Spanish coach of repute, will be aiming for a positive start in pursuit of a maiden ISL title when they take on NorthEast United here on Saturday.

Mumbai City have never and would be hoping that there is a turnaround in fortunes under new coach Sergio Lobera, who had guided FC Goa to a Super Cup win in 2019. Mumbai have two good

strikers in Bartholomew Ogbeche and Adam Le Fondre who can prove to be more than handful for any opposition. The inclusion of Mandar

Rao Dessai has bolstered the team's defence and he coupled with the likes of Sarthak Golui, Senegalese Mourtada Fall and Mohamad Rakip are ready to thwart any attacking

line-up.
On the other hand,
NorthEast United FC under new coach Gerard Nus, would also be aiming for redemption after a poor last season.

They will expect their foreign players to pull their weight with much depending on former Anderlecht and Queens Park Rangers striker Idrissa Sylla and former striker Ghanaian international Kwesi Appaiah.

NADAL KEEPS HOPES ALIVE IN ATP FINALS

London, Nov. 20: Rafael Nadal kept alive his hopes of a first ATP Finals title on Thursday, beating defending champion defending champion Stefanos Tsitsipas 6-4, 4-6, 6-2 in London to qualify

for the Last four. Novak Djokovic too advanced to the semifibeating after Alexander Zverev 6-3, 7-6

top-ranked Djokovic set up a match against Dominic Thiem on Saturday as he goes for a record-tying sixth title at the season-ending event, and a first since

Rafael Nadal will take on Daniil Medvedev in the other semifinal match.

Bouncing back from a straight-set loss to Medvedev on Wednesday, Djokovic broke Zverev to take a 2-0 lead in the first set when his opponent double-faulted on the second break point.

Djokovic saved two break points at 4-2 before clinching the set with a hackhand down the line as he closed in on the net following a serve out

Zverev posed more problems for Djokovic in the second set, and led 2-0 in the tiebreaker. Djokovic then won five of six points and, on his first match point, sent a deep and penetrating forehand that Zverev could only slice into the net on the

Nadal, whose haul of 86 singles titles includes just one on indoor hard courts, is chasing the biggest prize missing from his resume at the eight-man elite event.

INDIA SLIP TO SECOND SPOT

Dubai, Nov. 20: India on Thursday slipped to the second position in the standings of the ongoing World Test Championship (WTC) after the ICC decided to rank teams "in order of percentage of points earned" from the contested matches. Australia (296 points from 3 series) toppled India (360 points from 4 series) in the standing after the revision with a percentage of 82.22 compared to the latter's 75 per cent.

According to current regulations, incomplete matches are treated as draw but after due deliberation, the ICC Cricket Committee, headed by Anil Kumble, recommended that the final WTC standings should be determined on the basis of matches played, which was approved by the

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