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NITISH'S 'LAST ELECTION' REMARK TRIGGERS ALARM

NAYEAR AZAD and YOJNA GUSAI
PATNA/NEW DELHI, NOV. 5

On the last day of the election campaigning for the third and final phase of polling in the state, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar made a fervent plea for votes with the announcement that this would be his last election.

"A day after there is a poll in Bihar and this is going to be my last election. Now tell me, will you vote for our candidate," Mr Kumar said after listing his government's achievements while addressing a rally in Dhamdaha in Purnea district.

■ Full report on Page 6

INDIA WILL NOT BACK DOWN ON BORDER: RAJNATH

PAWAN BALI | DC
NEW DELHI, NOV. 5

Defence minister Rajnath Singh said on Thursday that "no matter what the sacrifice" India was "determined to protect its sovereignty and territorial integrity in the face of unilateralism and aggression", as the military standoff with China in eastern Ladakh is in the seventh month.

Mr Singh's comments while India and China are due to hold the eighth round of corps commanders' level talks on Friday. Till now, the two countries have failed to reach any agreement on total disengagement from the flashpoints.

Biden on cusp of making history; Don path bumpy

Margins put contestants on tenterhooks

Washington, Nov. 5: US Democratic Presidential candidate Joe Biden appeared to be on the cusp of making history along with his running mate Senator Kamala Harris, while President Donald Trump continued to have a bumpy and narrow path to victory as counting of votes in some key battleground States entered its last stretch.

As per projections made by major media outlets, Biden has 264 electoral college votes, just six votes

short of the magical number of 270 out of 538 required to win the presidency. However, for news outlets like CNN, Biden has 253 electoral college votes as it has still not called Arizona, which has 11 votes and counting of votes continued.

Trump is projected to get 214 electoral college votes, which is 56 votes less than the magical figure of 270. Races in some of the key battleground states have not been called yet. These states are Pennsylvania,

Georgia, North Carolina, Arizona and Nevada.

In Pennsylvania, which has 20 electoral college votes, Trump is leading by 135,671 votes with 91 per cent of the votes being counted. Over the past one day, his lead has reduced considerably. In North Carolina, which has 15 votes, the president has a lead of 77,337 votes with 95 per cent of the votes being counted so far.

■ Page 7: Path for victory is easier for Biden

HC ASKS TS TO EXPLAIN LOGIC BEHIND LRS

VUJJINI VAMSHIDHARA | DC
HYDERABAD, NOV. 5

The Telangana High Court on Thursday criticised the state government's decision to regularise unapproved layouts under the LRS through GO 131.

A division bench comprising Chief Justice Raghavendra Singh Chauhan and Justice B. Vijaysen Reddy wondered as to which law enables the state government to issue the GO for the regularisation of unauthorised and unapproved layouts.

■ Page 4: Cops, experts clueless about portal crash

■ Page 2: LRS encourages lawlessness, says HC



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WEATHER

Max: 32.2°C
Min: 15.3°C
RH: 32%
Rainfall: Nil
Forecast: Partly cloudy sky with haze. Max/Min temperature 32/16 °C

COVID-19
COUNT

CASES	DEATHS
(+47,651)	(+728)
84,10,249	1,25,004
<i>covid19india.org</i>	
STATE GOVERNMENT BULLETINS	
(+1,539)	(+5)
TS: 2,45,682	1,362
(+2,745)	(+13)
AP: 8,35,953	6,757

CASES AROUND THE WORLD

4,87,49,441
DEATHS
12,35,479
COUNTRIES, AREAS WITH CASES
215
<i>worldometers.info/coronavirus</i>

ASTROGUIDE

Sarvari: Dakshinayana
Tithi: Nija Ashwayuja Bahula Panchami till 6.35 am
Star: Ardra till 6.43 am
Varjyam: 7.23 pm to 9.04 pm
Durmuhurtam: 8.36 am to 9.21 am; 12.22 pm to 1.07 pm
Rahukalam: 10.30 am to 12 noon
HUJI CALENDAR
Rabbi-ul Awwal 19, 1442 AH
PRAYERS
Fajar: 5.15 am
Zohar: 12.10 pm
Asar: 4.07 pm
Maghrib: 5.49 pm
Isha: 6.58 pm
SUNRISE TOMORROW 6.16 AM
SUNSET TODAY 5.42 PM
MOONSET 10.57 AM
MOONRISE 10.16 PM

COUNTER POINT



SHORT TAKES

LRS ENCOURAGES LAWLESSNESS, SAYS HIGH COURT

From Page 1

Pointing to recent floods which hit Hyderabad and Warangal cities badly, inundating several colonies for weeks, the Chief Justice said it seems that the contention of the Telangana state government that the GO for regularisation was for the planned development is not correct. "It looks like encouraging lawlessness among the layout developers and violators," the Chief Justice said.

Recalling that the LRS scheme was introduced once in every five or six years — like 2008, 2015 and 2020, the Chief Justice asked the Advocate General of Telangana state that how an unauthorised layout developers, builders of unapproved constructions and buyers of such plots and buildings will have the right to not go for unapproved plots and how they will bind to the law if the government itself approves them under the LRS and BPS schemes.

Pointing out at GO 131 allows regularisation of unapproved layouts, which do not have open spaces for parks, schools and amenities, on paying extra, Justice B. Vijayen Reddy asked the Advocate General B.S. Prasad as to how will the government develop amenities in those layouts, when there was no land was provided for them.

However, the court asked an explanation from the government on the contentions raised in the PILs and directed the Advocate General to file affidavits in each PIL separately by explaining its stand.

The bench was dealing with the five PILs, which challenged GO 131. The PILs were adjourned to November 12.

Virus mutations high in women than men

High recovery rate attributed to less virulent virus strain

KANIZA GARARI | DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 5

Mutations are being noticed within SARS Cov 2 virus among asymptomatic and hospitalised patients within India, cutting across age and gender. Mutations, incidentally, are higher among females than in males, according to a study that appeared in peer review of bioRxiv. According to the study, total 198 mutations among asymptomatic carriers and 83 mutations within hospitalised patients have been noted. Those among asymptomatic are termed neutral while those hospitalised are categorised as diseased. However, despite high

mutations, it has been found that virulence or physiology of virus has not changed. For this reason, the effect of SARS Cov 2 has been the same across different regions in India.

Significantly, there have been more asymptomatic carriers. At the same time, those who have recovered from the disease are also high. Incidentally, the recovery rate in India has been the highest at 92 per cent. This is being attributed to the virus being less virulent despite its variations.

The study collected and analysed genome samples from 11 states in India. This revealed the finding that females are

contributing more to accumulating mutations within the virus. However, females between age group 5-34 years are not adding as much to mutations as those above 34 years.

The question before researchers why is accumulation of mutation is more among females. Role of gender in mutation of the virus, where it is replicating faster and showing different behaviour, needs further analysis, say researchers.

When it comes to geographical distribution, it has been found that Telangana has had 154 variations in the virus, Maharashtra 203, Gujarat 199, Odisha 109 and Tamil Nadu 40. But

these are only from samples collected. They are hence minuscule among the number of actual variations that may exist.

There is a reference to sequence Genome ID 458080, which, researchers say, is found more in Telangana. This is helping them study the different variations. Researchers are very clear that mutation of virus is at a faster pace in some geographical locations than in others.

It is too early and difficult for researchers to ascertain what could be the reason for such mutation. They observe that more studies are required to understand reasons for variations in the virus.

WITH 1,539 FRESH CASES, TS STARES AT LARGER CRISIS

BALU PULIPAKA | DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 5

Greater Hyderabad, Ranga Reddy district and Medchal-Malkajgiri district continue to log the highest number of new Covid-19 cases with the health department reporting that for Wednesday, between them, these three geographical areas accounted for 510 fresh Coronavirus infections, nearly a third of the total 1,539 cases found all over Telangana on Wednesday.

While the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation area had 285 new cases, Ranga Reddy had 123 and Medchal-Malkajgiri reported 102 new cases. The department also reported that five more people died from Covid-19 taking to 1,362 the overall deaths in Telangana from the disease. The overall Covid-19 cases in the state now stand at 2,45,682, it said.

The number of people reported to have recovered from Covid-19 in the state, the department said, was 978 and the total recovered cases so far stands at 2,25,664.

There were 18,656 active cases in the state of whom 15,864 were in isolation, either at home or in institutions.



Duddilla Sridhar Babu

MANTHANI MLA TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

DC CORRESPONDENT PEDDAPALLI, NOV. 5

Manthani MLA and former minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu has tested positive for Coronavirus here on Thursday.

In a statement released over his Twitter account, the Congress legislator let it be known that both he and his personal staff have tested positive for Covid-19.

He said he is presently under home quarantine at his house in Hyderabad. He urged people of his constituency not to worry as he was safe and under treatment.

Sridhar Babu appealed to officials, leaders and people, with whom he had come in contact, to get tested for the virus and, if need be, go into isolation.

SCR TO OPERATE SPECIAL TRAIN TO BIHAR

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, NOV. 5.

The South Central Railway will operate a special train from Secunderabad to Sitamarhi in Bihar on November 10. The train will leave Secunderabad at 10 p.m. and reach Sitamarhi at 6.45 the next morning.

According to SCR, the special train, with AC two-tier and sleeper class coaches, will have stops at Kazipet, Ramagundam, Sirpur Kagaznagar, Ballarshah, Gondla, Raipur, Bilaspur, Jharsuguda, Raurkela, Ranchi, Bokaro Steel City, Dhanbad, Madhupur, Jhajha, Barauni Junction, Samastipur and Dharbanga stations.

He added "The blanket market season lasts for just about three months. Traders try to market their wares with pragmatism as the competition is cut-throat."

Sweet 75



Actress Payal Rajput at the launch of the 75th store of Bajaj Electronics at Shaikpet in Hyderabad on Thursday. The 75th store is a flagship showroom of the electronics giant with display of the widest range of gadgets on display.

NIMS DOCTORS NOT PAID DESPITE BUDGET SANCTION

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, NOV. 5

Senior resident doctors of Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences (Nims) have protested against non-payment of their stipends for the past four months despite the budget having been sanctioned. They held placards and circulated their protest pictures on the social media demanding that their dues be paid forthwith.

Delay in payments is because the hospital administration is not releasing the amounts, sources at the hospital stated. Doctors say their dues have accumulated because their payments have not been made on a monthly basis.

With wedding and festival season on, resident doctors are finding themselves in a tight spot due to lack of money.

Traders begin hoarding, not to sell at higher price

ATHER MOIN | DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 5

With possibility of a lockdown being imposed once again with the number of Coronavirus cases increasing in many parts of India, traders within the twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad are learnt to have started hoarding essential commodities, apart from cigarettes and tobacco products.

There are widespread rumours that the central government is proposing to announce Lockdown 2.0 starting as early as November 10.

This is following increased reports of Covid-19 becoming resurgent in several parts of the country. People have started believing the possibility of another lockdown as France, the UK and

Greece have already announced lockdown in their countries to avoid any outbreak spreading wide.

A trader in Nampally said he had recently read a report of AIIMS, Delhi, director Dr. Randeep Guleria warning that a second wave of Coronavirus could have already begun. The AIIMS chief also asked people to confine themselves to their houses and not move out needlessly. In this regard, he also referred to continuous spike of Covid-19 cases in Delhi and other northern states. The likelihood of the situation worsening is also high because of the winter.

The trader pointed out that anticipating the lockdown, wholesale traders have already hiked the prices of essential commodities. He said hoarding has

also started, so that an artificial shortage could be created and priced jacked up. "If we stock essential items now, we will not have shortage of goods once lockdown is imposed. The trader asserted that he is not stocking the items to sell them at higher prices, but to serve his customers in a way that they do not face any difficulties.

A pan shop owner in Abids said if lockdown is imposed, they will not be able to open their outlets as cigarettes and tobacco items do not come under essential items. "I have sold my wife's jewellery to stock tobacco products in a large quantity. I will then be able to sell them at least to my neighbours," he says. The pan shop owner did not mention the price at which he would be selling his hoard.

Man jumps from 3rd floor of ESI hosp

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD NOV. 5

A 32-year-old man jumped to death from the third floor of the ESI hospital in Erragadda on Thursday.

The deceased, identi-

fied as Shekar, was a lorry driver by profession and was a resident of Jeedimetla. He was undergoing treatment for his lungs at the hospital, said the police, confirming that he was not Covid-19 positive.

"Unable to bear the pain, he jumped from the third floor of the hospital and killed himself. Upon receiving the information, a team from SR Nagar police station went to the spot and shifted the body to Gandhi Hospital

for postmortem examination," said the police inspector of SR Nagar, K. Saidulu, adding that no suicide note was found at the scene of offence.

A case was booked under section 174 (suspicious death) of CrPC.

Demand for blankets picks up in city

SANJAY SAMUEL PAUL | DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 5

The drop in mercury levels and the slightly chilly winds over the city during night time have resulted in an increased demand for blankets. The rains that lashed the city and the rest of the state last month in which people lost their belongings has also contributed to more

● **AT PATHAR GATTI** and Dewan Devdi in Old City, the wholesale markets for blankets, traders said they have seen the market picking up with sales soon after the rains stopped.

people heading to stores to purchase blankets. At Pathar Gatti and Dewan Devdi in Old City, the wholesale markets for

blankets, traders said they have seen the market picking up with sales soon after the rains stopped.

"Apart from the general public, even NGOs, social welfare organisations and religious institutions are buying them for distributions in flood-affected areas. We see such bulk purchases meant for distribution every year," said Mohd Ahmed of Mustak Qudri Handlooms at

Pathar Gatti. Fleece blankets are a fairly recent addition to the market and they have effectively replaced the traditional cotton and even woolen blankets. Each fleece blanket costs between ₹100 and ₹300 and bulk supplies come from Delhi," Ahmed said.

Mohammed Shoeb, a retailer, said "from the past two or three days the regular blanket sales too have been catching up. Most

people prefer these, particularly the woven cotton blankets and the woolen ones for their homes. They cost around ₹1,000 and upwards. There is also a great demand for imported blankets during winter."

He added "The blanket market season lasts for just about three months. Traders try to market their wares with pragmatism as the competition is cut-throat."

Durgam Cheruvu cable bridge sees its first car accident

NAVEEN KUMAR | DC HYDERABAD NOV. 5

The Durgam Cheruvu cable stayed bridge, inaugurated recently, had its first road accident on Thursday.


A student and his friend escaped unhurt from the accident when the car they were travelling in, and was being driven over the speed limit on the bridge, slammed into the road divider. The impact was such that it caused one of the tyres to burst and the vehicle overturned. The bridge, connects Jubilee Hills and the Financial District.

According to the police, Iqbal, a BCom second year student of HITAM College, was en route to Gachibowli with his friend on Thursday afternoon at the time of the accident. "Iqbal lost control over the car as he was speed-

ing and rammed his car into a road divider, which caused a tyre burst. The vehicle turned upside down on the bridge. Other commuters who stopped their vehicles, rushed to pull Iqbal and the girl out to safety from the car. The two persons in the car sustained minor bruises," said the police.

Upon information, the Madhapur police team rushed to the spot and shifted the injured to the hospital for treatment. The traffic police towed away the vehicle and eased the traffic congestion caused by the accident on the cable bridge.

"We booked cases under section 336 (endangering life and personal safety of others) of the IPC and Section 184 (dangerous driving) of the MV Act and arrested the 20-year-old," added the police.

<div><div>GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA REVENUE (LA) DEPARTMENT (or) Collector/Joint Collector/ Special Collector (LA)/ SDC (L.A.) FORM - VII (See Sub-Rule (1) of Rule-25 and Section-19 (1) of the Act-30/2013) DECLARATION</div></div>														
Gazette No. HYD/151 No. A/112/2019										Dated: 03.11.2020 Dated: 02.11.2020				
Whereas it appears to the Government of Telangana/ Special Collector, LA & Commissioner, GHMC, Hyderabad that a total of 1159.81 Sq.Yards of land is required in the Shaher-E- Hyderabad Village, Bahadurpura Mandal of Hyderabad District, for public purpose, namely Revised Proposed 60 ft wide road from Tippu Khan Mosque to Purani Haveli Gate from City Civil Court X Road to AP Tribunal X Road post of Chata Kaman.														
Therefore, it is notified that for the above said project in the Shaher-E-Hyderabad Village, Bahadurpura Mandal of Hyderabad District, land measuring more or less 1159.81 Sq.Yards of Standard measurement, whose detail description is as following, is proposed for acquisition:														
S. No.	TS No.	Ward No.	Block No.	Type of Title	Area under acquisition Sq.Yds	Name & Address of person interested	Boundaries				Trees/Structure			
							North	South	East	West	Variety Number	Type	Height	
1	21/3	215	C	Owner	135	Shaik Mohd Idris 22-8-611, 612,613	Owners property	Road	22-8-610	others property	-	-	-	-
2	21/4	215	C	Owner	37.55	Mohd. Hameed Khan, 22-8-610	Neighbors property	Road	22-8-609	22-8-613	-	-	3'	-
3	21/5	215	C	Owner	39.72	Khaja Dilwaruddin 22-8-609	Neighbors property	Road	22-8-608	22-8-610	-	-	2'	-
4	21/6	215	C	Owner	35.9	Mohd Ahsan Ali Khan & Others 22-8-608	Neighbors property	Road	22-8-607	22-8-609	-	-	1'-1/2	-
5	21/7	215	C	Owner	36.75	Mohammed Mujeebuddin, Mohammed Naseeruddin, Mohammed Moinuddin, Mohammed Aliuddin, Maimoona Begum 22-8-607	Owners property	Road	22-8-606	22-8-608	-	-	1'-1/2	-
6	21/8	215	C	Owner	31.5	22-8-606	Owners property	Road	22-8-605	22-8-607	-	-	1'	-
7	21/9	215	C	Owner	29.25	22-8-605	Owners property	Road	22-8-604	22-8-606	-	-	MT	-
8	21/10	215	C	Owner	27.75	Mohd Ahmed 22-8-604	Owners property	Road	22-8-603	22-8-605	-	-	MT	-
9	21/11	215	C	Owner	27.22	Shah Hussain 22-8-603	Owners property	Road	22-8-602	22-8-604	-	-	2'	3'-1/2
10	21/12	215	C	Owner	22.38	Mohammed Kagaliwala 22-8-602	Owners property	Road	22-8-601	22-8-603	-	-	2'	3'-1/2
11	21/13	215	C	Owner	21	Fazal Mohammed 22-8-601	Owners property	Road	22-8-600	22-8-602	-	-	3'	-
12	21/14	215	C	Owner	18.37	Taha Zubain Amer, 22-8-600	Owners property	Road	22-8-599	22-8-601	-	-	2'	-
13	21/15	215	C	Owner	16.12	Abdul Rahman Munawar, 22-8-599	Owners property	Road	Lane	22-8-600	-	-	2'	-
14	48/2	215	C	Owner	36.15	Abid Aziz 22-8-576, 576/1	Owners property	Road	22-8-525	Lane	-	-	C-4'	-
15	48/3	215	C	Owner	13.22	Zahed 22-8-575	Owners property	Road	22-8-574	22-8-576	-	-	1'-1/2	-
16	48/4	215	C	Owner	11.45	Abdul Ahmad 22-8-574	Owners property	Road	22-8-573	22-8-575	-	-	1'-1/2	-
17	48/5	215	C	Owner	10.11	Mohd. Ali 22-8-573	Owners property	Road	Lane	22-8-574	-	-	1'-1/2	-
18	60/2	215	C	Owner	17.77	Pasha Mohinuddin 22-8-558, 557, 556	Owners property	Road	way to Mosque	Lane	-	-	1'	1'-1/2
19	63/2	215	C	Owner	58.81	Sajjad Surena	Owners property	Road	Road	way to Mosque	-	-	C-3'	3'-3/4
20	62/2	215	C	Owner	26.24	Imran Khan, Mohammed Asghar Ahmed Khan	22-8-553, 554	Passage	Road	Owners property	-	-	C-3'	3'-3/4
21	58/2	215	C	Owner	28.88	22-8-554, 554/1	22-8-553, 554	Passage	Road	Owners property	-	-	2'	2'-1/2
22	55/2	215	C	Owner	6.5	Mk. Siddique 22-8-551/1	22-8-550	Passage	Road	Owners property	-	-	2'	-
23	54/2	215	C	Owner	24.58	MA. Mubeeb Siddique, 22-8-550	22-8-549	Road	Road	Owners property	-	-	2'-1/2	-
24	53/2	215	C	Owner	32.66	Shaik Mahmood Ali, 22-8-549	22-8-548	Road	Road	Owners property	-	-	2'	-
25	39/2	215	C	Owner	22.72	A.Murruza 22-8-548	Neighbors property	Road	22-8-548	Owners property	-	-	1'-1/2	-
26	39/3	215	C	Owner	33.74	22-8-545	Owners property	Road	22-8-546	Owners property	-	-	2'	-
27	7/2	215	F	Owner	134.75	22-8-512	Owners property	Road	Lane	Road	-	-	1'	1'
28	14/2	215	F	Owner	29.27	Syed Mejeed & others, 22-8-389/3	Owners property	Road	22-8-381/2	Lane	-	-	1'	1'
29	14/3	215	F	Owner	47.48	22-8-389/2	Owners property	Road	Road	22-8-389/3	-	-	1/2	-
30	25/2	215	F	Owner	77.66	Yaadgaar 22-8-398/2, 395, 394	Owners property	Health post	Lane	-	-	-	1'-1/2	-
31	36/2	215	G	Owner	17.44	Tamezunissa Begum 22-8-405/13	Road	Neighbors property	Road	22-8-405/8	-	-	2'	-
32	36/3	215	G	Owner	11.11	Wajid Bai 22-8-405/8	Road	Owners property	22-8-405/13	22-8-405/7	-	-	2'	-
33	36/4	215	G	Owner	4.44	Tameez Unnisa Begum 22-8-405/7	Road	Owners property	22-8-405/8	22-8-405/6	-	-	2'	-
34	36/5	215	G	Owner	5.83	Balish Begum 22-8-405/6	Road	Owners property	22-8-405/7	22-8-405/5	-	-	2'	-
35	36/6	215	G	Owner	6.38	22-8-405/ 5	Road	Owners property	22-8-405/6	22-8-405/4	-	-	2'	-
36	36/7	215	G	Owner	14.36	Tameez Unnisa Begum 22-8-405/4	Road	Owners property	22-8-405/5	22-8-405/2	-	-	2'	-
Total							Patta 1159.81							
This Declaration is made after hearing of objections of persons interested and due enquiry as provided U/s 15 of the Act No. 30/2013. The number of families likely be resettled due to Land Acquisition is -Nil-														
Mines of coal, iron-stone, slate or other minerals lying under the said land or any particular portion of the said land, except such parts of the mines and minerals which may be required to be dug or removed or used during the construction phase of the project for the purpose of which the land is being acquired, are not needed.														
Sd/- SPL. Dy. Collector, LA, GHMC, Hyderabad														
Sd/- Special Collector (LA), & Commissioner, GHMC, Hyderabadabad.														
DIPR No. 805/LA/PP-Advt/Agency/2020-21														

IN BRIEF

Registration of DOST extended

Hyderabad: The Telangana State Council of Higher Education (TSCHE) on Thursday announced the extension of the last dates of DOST-2020 college confirmation and special phase self-reporting. In an official communication, the TSCHE said that on the requests of the students, parents, and colleges, the last date for online self-reporting of special phase, as well as physical reporting to colleges by candidates has been extended till November 7.

HCI invites forms for 2021 Haj

Hyderabad: Haj Committee of India (HCI) will start receiving online applications through respective state Haj committees from Saturday. The last date for submission of online applications is December 12. As per a HCI circular on Thursday, the action plan for Haj 1442 (Hijri) 2021 has been approved by the Ministry of Minority Affairs. Haj will be taking place under strict norms rules, regulations, eligibility criteria, age restrictions, health and fitness requirements, apart from other conditions that Saudi authorities may impose in view of Coronavirus pandemic. The applicants can fill the form on HCI's website www.haj-committee.gov.in.

5 LVPEI SCIENTISTS RANKED AMONG GLOBAL BEST

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, NOV. 5

Five senior scientists from L V Prasad Eye Institute are listed among the top Indian researchers in a database of 1,00,000 scientists worldwide. Those who achieved the distinction include Dr Gullapalli N. Rao, founder chair, Professor D. Balasubramanian, director-emeritus, Dr Savitri Sharma, director laboratory sciences, Professor Jill Keefe and Dr S Shijvaji while Dr Virender Sangwan and Dr Santosh Honavar also figure in the list. "Congratulations to everyone on the global eye researchers list. With LVPEI dominating the list from India, it is great going indeed for our Institute. I am proud that LVPEI's investment in research of nearly 13% of the budget annually is giving rich dividends," said Dr Rao.

BJP ACTIVIST WHO SET HIMSELF ON FIRE DIES OF CARDIAC ARREST

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, NOV. 5

The BJP activist who was undergoing treatment after attempting suicide by self-immolation at the party state headquarters earlier this week, breathed his last on Thursday night.

Srinivas had doused himself with diesel and immolated himself on Sunday, following which the security personnel at the party state headquarters promptly put off the fire and rushed him to hospital. He was admitted with 58 percent body burns and was in a critical condition.

On Thursday night he suffered a cardiac arrest and was declared dead at 9 pm by the duty doctors.

Srinivas had said he was protesting against TS party president Bandi Sanjay's recent arrest in Siddipet. He alleged that Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao had harassed his party president. Srinivas, from Tammalani Gudem village in Yacharam Mandal, was stated to be active in the party's local wing.

Police said he brought the diesel from a petrol bunk near MJ Market and came to the BJP office between 12.20 and 12.30 pm on Sunday, shouting slogans of 'BJP Zindabad' and 'Sanjayanna Zindabad', he set fire to himself using the diesel.

● **SRINIVAS HAD** doused himself with diesel and immolated himself on Sunday, following which the security personnel at the party state headquarters promptly put off the fire and rushed him to hospital.

11 schools to be penalised

Institutes violated norms by collecting excess fee from students

VUJJINI
VAMSHIDHARA | DC
HYDERABAD, NOV. 5

Explaining that it was strict in compliance with G0 No. 46 not to collect any kind of fees from the students apart from tuition fees, but not to do so for the academic year 2020-21, the Telangana State School Education department submitted to the Telangana High Court that 11 popular schools in Hyderabad are to be

punished for violation of the GO.

Sridevasena, Director of School Education, submitted that the enquiry committees constituted to trace the violators found that the schools found guilty were Mount Litera Zee School in Manikonda (for collecting caution deposit), Meridian School, Banjara Hills (fabrication of fee structure), Oxford Grammar School, Himayatnagar (increase

● **SRIDEVASENA, DIRECTOR** of School Education, submitted that the enquiry committees constituted to trace the violators found that the schools found guilty were Mount Litera Zee School in Manikonda, Meridian School, Banjara Hills, Oxford Grammar School, Himayatnagar, Niraj Public School, Narayana School at DD Colony, Jubilee Hills Public School, Geetanjali Public School, Little Flower Public School, KALPA School and St. Andrews Schools with branches at Marredpally and Bowenpally.

in tuition fee for 3rd Grade), Niraj Public School, (adding lunch fee to tuition fee and collect-

ing admission fee), Narayana School at DD Colony (changing the name of tuition fees as

total fee by adding other fees), Jubilee Hills Public School (adding 3D lab fees and computer lab fees), Geetanjali Public School (collecting tuition and annual fees), Little Flower Public School (increase in fee by adding other fees), KALPA School and St. Andrews Schools with branches at Marredpally and Bowenpally (collecting excess fee). She submitted that action will be taken against all these schools.

NGT tells TS to file report on cracker pollution today

T.S.S. SIDDHARTH | DC
HYDERABAD, NOV. 5

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) on Thursday reserved its orders regarding pollution caused by the use of firecrackers beyond the National Capital Region (NCR) of Delhi and issued notices to 18 states and Union Territories, including Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, where air quality does not meet the Central Pollution Control Board norms.

The Tribunal said its orders would be uploaded on its website by 10.30 am on November 9. The states and UTs have been asked to file reports with the NGT by 4 pm on Friday. It might be recalled that the NGT on Wednesday had expanded the ambit of hearing cases on pollution by use of firecrackers beyond the NCR and issued notices to several states and Union Territories.

COPS ISSUE ORDERS ON CRACKERS

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, NOV. 5

The Hyderabad city police has warned people not to violate rules with respect to bursting of firecrackers and setting off fireworks in public places and public roads, as the activities are strictly prohibited.

In a notification on Thursday, the police stated, "In accordance with the recent directions of the Supreme Court of India, there

shall be a complete ban on bursting of sound emitting firecrackers on public roads and in the twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad. The only time this activity will be permitted is between 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. during the celebration of Diwali festival."

The orders, the police said, will come into force from 6 am on November 12 and will stay in force till 6 am on November 16.

The green panel sought response from Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chandigarh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Hima-chal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tamil Nadu, Telangana and Uttarakhand and West Bengal.

The tribunal said it may have to consider prohibiting the use of firecrackers to protect the health of the vulnerable groups in 122 non-attainment cities—of which even Hyderabad is one—where air quality, as per record maintained by the CPCB, is generally beyond permissible limits.

Woman gangraped, killed

NAVEEN KUMAR | DC
HYDERABAD NOV. 5

A 30-year-old lambada woman, who was reported missing by her family, was found dead near Kollur in RC Puram area on Wednesday. As per a preliminary police report, the woman was allegedly gang-raped and was subsequently murdered.

The deceased, identified by the police as Premalatha, was a resident of Devlath Tanda

in Kollur. Her family filed a missing complaint Wednesday morning. "Her body was found by some local residents in the morning. They informed us on 100. There were no visible injuries on her body," said the police.

Later on Thursday, an investigation was launched and officials identified three men as allegedly responsible for the crime. They were identified as Madhu Nayak, a security guard, Nandu

Yadav and Kutumba Reddy, both real estate agents, all aged between 25 and 30 years. "During interrogations, they said that they were drunk during the assault. On Wednesday, they allegedly kidnapped the victim and took her to an isolated place, where they sexually assaulted her," said the police. Cases were booked against the three under Section 302 (murder), 376-b (rape) and 366 (kidnapping) of the IPC.

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F. No: 4(806)Admn/19-20/BMGF Dated: 05.11.2020

ONLINE INTERVIEW
Eligible and interested candidates are invited for the **online interview** at the ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad-500030 for the recruitment of the following positions as shown below:

S.No.	Position	Important dates
1.	Senior Research Fellow (or) Young Professional II (Three Positions)	Submission of online application: 20th November 2020 Online interview: 26th November 2020 at 10:00 AM
2.	Field Assistant (One position)	Submission of online application: 21st November 2020 Online interview: 27th November 2020 at 10:00 AM

Details of the recruitment are provided at www.millets.res.in. Only the eligible candidates will be informed by email for the online interview.

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IN BRIEF

Two detained for gold smuggling

Hyderabad: Customs officials detained a passenger flying in from Dubai and seized 71.47 grams of gold, worth ₹3.67 lakh, from his possession at the Rajiv Gandhi International Airport (RGIA) in Shamshabad on Thursday morning. According to the officials, a case was booked and the passenger was detained for smuggling of gold. "He arrived in Hyderabad by flight IX 1948 from Dubai with the gold concealed in the zipper of his jeans. It was cut into 12 small cut pieces and sealed in," explained the officials. Further investigation is underway.

Last date extended for scholarships

Hyderabad: The Union ministry for education on Thursday announced extension of the deadline for fresh applications and renewals for national scholarships up to November 30 for the academic year 2020-21, applicable for all students who passed the Intermediate examination. The ministry also announced relaxation of the minimum passing marks criteria, adding that those who have been promoted to the next year/semester eligible for renewal of applications under the scheme for 2020-21 academic year. Candidates can apply on official website scholarships.gov.in. Meanwhile, the list of the provisionally selected candidates has been put up on tsbie.cgg.gov.in.

IIT-H, NMDC TO SUPPORT YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS

HARLEEN MINOCHA | DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 5

The Indian Institute of Technology, Hyderabad (IIT-H) in collaboration with NMDC Limited has launched NICE, an incubation and fellowship programme to support Deep-Tech entrepreneurs.

The five-year joint programme will support 15 fellows and 15 startups by providing them financial aid, mentoring support, co-working space, other infrastructural benefits, with a total budget of ₹10 crore, courtesy of NMDC.

Under this initiative, five startups every year will be given financial aid of up to ₹25 lakh to convert their concept into a scalable business. The programme will also support five fellows every year with a monthly stipend of ₹80,000 for 12 months to support their sustenance and prototype development.

Applications for this fellowship programme will start later this month and can be applied through the NICE website www.niceprogram.in.

4 OF CHADDI GANG GET 4 YEARS RI, ₹10K FINE

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, NOV. 5

Four members of the infamous chaddi gang were convicted by a court to undergo three years of rigorous imprisonment with a fine of Rs 10,000 each. They were arrested by the Meerpet police of Rachakonda. The police had arrested the four persons, identified as Rama Badhiya, Kishan Badhiya, Ravoji Bhadiya and Khajo Mavoji, all natives of Dahod district of Gujarat in 2018 for their involvement in two cases.

Rachakonda Police had invoked PD Act against the gang after their arrest and ensured a speedy trial of their cases while they were in prison.

BADESHA TO GOVT: REVIVE 'T PRIME'

ATHER MOIN | DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 5

Telangana Chamber of Trade and Industries Promotion director Syed Bandagi Badesha urged the state government to revive the 'T Prime' scheme for minorities which was scrapped before it was launched. He said the government had issued GO MS No. 16 (Minorities Welfare Department) in 2018 introducing the scheme to encourage minority entrepreneurs. The government also made a provision of ₹25 crore.

Court requests EC to extend enrolment date

Cites Covid, floods, rains that affected people

VUJJINI VAMSHIDHARA | DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 5

The Telangana High Court asked the Election Commission of India (ECI) and the Chief Electoral Officer, Telangana, to liberally extend the time for enrolment of voters for Graduate constituency MLC elections, by taking into consideration the odd circumstances like recent floods, torrential rains and corona pandemic that have hit the people.

A division bench, comprising Chief Justice Raghavendra Singh Chauhan and Justice B. Vijayen Reddy directed Avinash Desai, counsel for ECI to inform the court by Friday as to whether the eligible voters will have time till December to enroll their names.

The bench was dealing with a petition by T.V. Ramesh, who urged the court to direct the ECI and CEO, Telangana to extend the date for enrolment, which, as things stand, ends on

November 6.

Desai informed the bench that the time-schedule was fixed based on the Statutory Rules of Election Manual and cannot be overridden. However, he sought time to get instructions from ECI, whether it would agree to extend the time.

Responding to the contentions of the ECI counsel, the Chief Justice observed "Those dates which are prescribed by the Election Commission of India may be relevant in nor-

mal circumstances but not during the present circumstances where Covid-19, the recent rains and natural calamity, has left everyone devastated."

Further, the CJ said, "What if tomorrow, our enemy country attacks us and still the ECI wants to stick to its dates... naturally, the ECI should apply its mind to the circumstances prevailing in the country and then decide on the dates. The dates decided by the ECI and SEC are mere directives, not mandatory".

Helping hands



Flood-hit families pick up the things of their choice at the free shopping mela organised at the City Palace Function Hall at Bandlaguda on Thursdsay.

— P. SURENDRA

KAVITHA GREET'S WOMAN FOR MINE AWARD

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, NOV. 5

MLC K. Kavitha on Thursday felicitated Sandhya Rasakatla, the first woman in the Indian mining sector to be awarded with the Underground Second Class Manager's Certificate Competency.

Ms Sandhya has created history by becoming the first woman in the Indian mining sector to be awarded Underground Second Class Manager's Certificate Competency.

The Nizamabad MLC honoured Sandhya at her office by felicitating her for her incredible achievement. In her conversation with Sandhya, Kavitha said she was immensely proud of this daughter from Singareni and that she will always stand by her.

TRS mocks Cong for moving HC over BCs

S.A. ISHAQUI | DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 5

Ruling Telangana Rashtra Samithi has ridiculed Congress for deciding to move Telangana High Court on BC reservations in GHMC, describing the move as Congress accepting defeat in the municipal polls even before it enters the battlefield. Addressing a press conference on Thursday, animal husbandry minister Talasani Srinivas Yadav said by declaring that they would move High Court on BC reservations, Congress has agreed that it cannot win the corporation elections.

He ridiculed the decision of Congress party to allot 50 per cent seats

for BCs in ensuing civic body polls asking, "Will Congress that witnesses several intra-party fights provide a level-playing field to BCs in getting social justice within the party?"

He reminded that it is TRS that has launched several programmes for welfare of BCs in the state under leadership of Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao.

The minister pointed out that the State Assembly has already adopted a resolution seeking 50 per cent reservations for backward classes in the state. Srinivas Yadav alleged that when Congress was ruling, it had always encouraged a particular community and neglected BCs, though they

were in large numbers in the united Andhra Pradesh.

Claiming that it was TRS that had nominated BCs even in general category seats in the local body elections, the minister said that the party has implemented several programmes for welfare of BCs, even though they were not even mentioned in the party manifesto, such as sheep for Golla Kuruma community with 75 per cent subsidy.

He pointed out that beneficiaries from the BC community have also benefited from Kalyana Lakshmi, Rythu Bandhu and Rythu Bima schemes.

He claiming that the TRS candidate in Dubbaka will win.

GHMC divisions to remain same

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, NOV. 5

Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation commissioner D.S. Lokesh Kumar has said that there will be no changes in either the municipal divisions, or reservations

and the norms on these fronts that were followed in the 2016 GHMC council elections will remain in force for the upcoming civic body polls too.

Lokesh Kumar said there were some reports in a section of the media that changes in ward reservation and cha-

nges in the divisions would be made before the upcoming polls. "Such reports are creating unnecessary confusion and they are not true," he said.

The electoral rolls will also be prepared as per the directions of the State Election Commission, he added.

BANDI SLAMS CM FOR HOUNDING BJP POST-BYPOLL

IREDDY SRINIVAS REDDY | DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 5

Telangana BJP president Bandi Sanjay has accused Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao of continuing to hound Bharatiya Janata Party workers even after the bypoll in Dubbak has ended. "They have illegally arrested our cadre in Siddipet even on Thursday," he protested.

In a media statement, Sanjay demanded that the arrested BJP workers be released immediately. "Continuing harassment of our party cadre shows KCR and his party leaders are scared about Dubbak result. TRS is clearly losing the seat that it held," he remarked.

CONG WANTS CENTRE TO TAKE BACK FARM BILLS

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, NOV. 5

AICC in-charge of Telangana affairs, Manikam Tagore on Thursday demanded the Union Government to withdraw the new agri laws. He made the remark after making a spot study of cotton crops that were affected by the recent heavy rains in Moinabad. He was accompanied by AICC secretary Bose Raju, working president Ponnamm Prabhakar and former MLA K Laxma Reddy.

He interacted with farmers and enquired about the loss of their produce and assured them that Congress party would fight for them. Tagore alleged that Chief minister K Chandrashekar Rao was cheating people in the name of 'Banguara Telangana' and charged Rao was only working for his son, daughter and son-in-law and not for the people of the State.

KTR ASSURES PROMOTION OF SME SECTOR

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, NOV. 5

Asking the Hyderabad Software Enterprises Association (HYSEA) members to think of other areas like Uppal, Pocharam, Kompally and Shamshabad, IT and Industries Minister K.T. Rama Rao on Thursday announced opening of a new tower in Kompally for SMEs and also a new cluster in Kollur in the north west.

Addressing the annual summit of HYSEA, the minister said "this is to disperse IT around the city. There are a slew of benefits, including 30% rental rebate for SMEs and anyone who brings in more than 500 employees to the GRID regions."

Rama Rao announced that "we are doing the ground breaking for Kompally tower next week. And we already have more than 200 SMEs interested in taking space here."

He said "we have opened IT towers in Karimnagar, and it is running to full capacity. There is already a demand for phase - II. We are opening towers in Khammam, Nizamabad and Mahabubnagar later this year. Our IT tower in Warangal is running to full capacity." The Minister urged HYSEA to partner with the state government's innovation platform - T Hub and play a key role. He said that the software industry of Hyderabad had shown its resilience during Covid-19 crisis. There were layoffs as usual - part of the private sector, but there were no major layoffs.

In loving memory of

Sri T. Srinivas Rao
(D.O.B.: 17.07.1917 D.O.E.: 06.11.2004)
Our Former Vice Chairman

It is now sixteen years... Your memories of strong leadership and hard work continue to guide and inspire us.

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Matrusri Institute of Post Graduate Studies, Saitabadi, Hyderabad.

OBITUARY
"And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever". *Psa. 23:6*

IYYASWAMY ANNAJI RAO
DOB: 10.08.1939 DOD: 04.11.2020
(India Government Mint)
Token No: 356, General Workshop
Deeply mourned by Family:
+91 9849984707
(S/2021/D00793)

1st DEATH ANNIVERSARY

Sri. M. KANNA REDDY
DOB: 18.7.1934 DOD: 06.11.2019
You are our light, our source of inspiration and strength. You live in our hearts and life for ever. We try to live up to the words you always said "Be Good Do Good".
Inserted by:
Son: **M. Ajay Kumar Reddy & Family**
Ph: 9848028277, 9490189823

9th DEATH ANNIVERSARY

BAHULA SHASTI

KYLASA HARINATH BABU
DOB: 01.06.1943 DOD: 18.10.2011
You are always in our heart.
Inserted by: **K. Laxmi Narsamma - Wife**
K. Sreenivas - Son
K. Sangeetha - Daughter-in-law
K. Sharan - Son
K. Aishwarya (M.S. Australia) - Grand Daughter
K. Aditya Veer - Grand Son

1st Death Anniversary

6th November 2020
Ln. Late. Sri. Ananthula Srinivasulu
"You will always remain in our hearts forever"

Date of Birth: 20.04.1934
Passed Away on 06.11.2019

Inserted by:
Wife - Ananthula Indira Bai & Family Members
91 9849079129, 91 9440801201

IN LOVING MEMORY

Sri. C. C. Mukundan Nambiar
D.O.D: October 30, 2020
The kindness in your heart will remain forever with everyone you touched.
13th day Ceremony will be conducted on November 11, 2020 at 7 a.m. at our residence at Madhapur, Hyderabad.
Inserted by:
All family members, Near and Dear Contact:
Mahesh Nambiar: 8008080970 / 9948847384

4th DEATH ANNIVERSARY

Smt. Dr. P. MAYURA DEVI
(Retd. Principal, A.K. Rajyavaram Women's P.G. College, Ramoji)
Wife: Late Sri. M.C. Venkata Krishna Raja Naidu
DOB: 16-06-1942 DOD: 06-11-2016
Dear Aunt we miss you every movement of our lives.
Inserted by: **P. Subhashini & P.V. Ramesh**
K. Shalini & K.V.V. Prasad
D. Vikram Naidu & Swarna Latha
D. Vallabh Naidu & Shashi Rekha
D. Vidur Naidu & Sandhya & Grand Children
Mobile: 7702022727, 9701902098

8th ANNIVERSARY

AKULA JANAKAMMA
Wife: Late Sri A. Narayana Swamy
Days and years have passed but still you are in our hearts.
From: **AKULA FAMILY**
Ph: 9392403630 / 9390363630

IN LOVING MEMORY
FIRST DEATH ANNIVERSARY
The memory of the righteous is a blessing *Prov 10:7*

MS. CHRISTIANA ANASUYA GAZULA
(Ex. Employee of CSU/CCF / KNH, KNR / Dornakal)
Daughter of Late Rev. Gazula Levi & Late Sowbhagya
DOB: 21st July 1941 DOD: 6th Nov 2019
Inserted by:
Brothers: Deenabandhu Levi, David Krupadanam, Premkumar Levi & Benjamin Simpson
Ph: 9849580805

SALROOZ
30th ANNIVERSARY
IN FOND MEMORY OF

HAJI MOHD. ALI DARVISH RAWZA KHANI BAAD
Namaz-E-Asar at 5.00 p.m. on 6th Nov. 2020 at Darbar-E-Hussaini, Purani Haveli, Hyd.
Inserted by: **DARVISH FAMILY**
(S/2021/D00791)

OBITUARY
In our Hearts forever

B. SURYA PRAKASAM
Date of Demise: 3-11-2020
STATISTICIAN
NIEPD
YOU WILL ALWAYS BE REMEMBERED
A Perfect Gentleman and Great Human being

Years
ADDANKI SURYA PRAKASA RAO
SARADA, RAMA LAXMI-JAGAN, & FAMILY MEMBERS

5th ANNIVERSARY
IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Late Dr. KISHORE CHAND
DOB: 16.08.1955 DOD: 06.11.2015
"Not a day goes by, without remembering you."
Inserted by:
Sneha, Ganesh, Devanshi, Sunitha, Kunal, Puja, Atharv, Vivvan
(S/2021/D00789)

REMEMBRANCE

M. HENRY PAUL
DOB: 26.10.1972 DOD: 6.11.2010
Days turning into years, still our sorrows and tears are running down. The pain in our heart is there forever.
Inserted by: **Family Members**
(S/2021/D00790)

IN BRIEF

ODISHA FARMERS
OPPOSE NEW
FARM LAWSAKSHAYA KUMAR SAHOO |
DC
BHUBANESWAR, NOV. 5

Thousands of farmers under the banner of Naba Nirman Krushak Sangathan on Thursday marched to Bhubaneswar as a mark of protest against the three farm laws passed by the Narendra Modi government in the monsoon session of the Parliament.

The outfit leaders alleged that all democratic norms were flouted to get the three farm reform Bills passed in a hurry.

Before the farmers entered the heart of the city, the police swung into action and stopped the march at Hi-Tech Hospital Square and took into custody several leaders, including Akshay Kumar, Seshadeb Nanda and Manohar Ali.

Protesting the arrest of their leaders, the farmers sat on a dharna on the National Highway 6. A scuffle broke out between the outfit members and police, sources said.

"We are opposing the Central farm laws including the stoppage of the Minimum Support Price system. Due to such laws, the prices of essential commodities have risen sharply. We also demand amendment of the relief code to provide a compensation of ₹15,000 per acre to farmers for crop loss," said Akshay Kumar.

INDIA FUMES
OVER PAK'S MOVE
ON KARTARPURDC CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI, NOV. 5

India on Thursday strongly condemned Pakistan's reported move to "transfer the management and maintenance" of the historic Kartarpur Sahib Gurudwara from the Pakistan Sikh Gurudwara Prabandhak Committee — a body run by Pakistan's minority Sikh Community — to the administrative control of the Evacuee Trust Property Board, a non-Sikh body.

Asking Islamabad to reverse its "arbitrary" decision, New Delhi said Pakistan's move "runs against the spirit of the Kartarpur Sahib Corridor as also the religious sentiments of the Sikh community at large", adding that it exposes the "tall claims of preserving and protecting the rights and welfare of the religious minority communities".

The Kartarpur Sahib Gurudwara — now located close to the Indo-Pak border in Pakistani Punjab — is the site where the first Guru of the Sikhs and founder of Sikhism Guru Nanak had spent the last years of his life in the 16th century AD.

Both countries had inaugurated the Kartarpur Sahib corridor on both sides of the border (Indian and Pakistani Punjab) a year ago for the 500th birth anniversary of the Guru Nanak.

The MEA said, "This unilateral decision by Pakistan is condemnable and runs against the spirit of the Kartarpur Sahib Corridor as also the religious sentiments of the Sikh community at large."

IJU CONDEMNS
ARREST OF
ARNAB GOSWAMI

Hyderabad/Chandigarh, Nov. 5: The Indian Journalists Union (IJU) strongly condemned the arrest of *Republic TV* Chief Editor Arnab Goswami in Mumbai on Wednesday in a closed and then reopened two-year-old case of alleged abetment of suicide. It termed it as an attack on freedom of the press and freedom of expression.

In a statement issued on Thursday, the Indian Journalists Union (IJU) President K. Sreenivas Reddy and Secretary-General, and member of the Press Council of India Balwinder Singh Jammu said the action of the Mumbai Police smacked of political vendetta against a newsmen who was critical of the state government.

The IJU leaders said, "While we do not approve the brand of journalism Arnab Goswami and his Republic TV practice, the arrest and the way he was arrested exposes the political intent of the Mumbai Police, who are considered to be the best in the country. We would like to point out that attempts to silence criticism, however unreasonable it may be, violates the fundamental right of freedom of the press and freedom of expression."

This is going to be my
last election: Nitish

JD(U) says his statement can not be seen as retirement

NAYEAR AZAD | DC
PATNA, NOV. 5

On the last day of the election campaign, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar raised the political pitch by announcing that this was his last election. He gave the statement while addressing a rally in Dhamdaha in Purnea district on Thursday. "All is well that ends well", he said while addressing a gathering of his party's supporters during his public meeting.

While listing his government's achievements during the occasion he said that "a day after there is a poll in Bihar and this is going to be my last elections, now tell me will you vote for our candidate?" His sudden announcement has created a flutter in the political circles especially among NDA leaders who have been aggressively campaigning in Bihar for the last phase of assembly elections.

JD(U) spokesperson Ajay Alok said that "even if he has announced that this is going to be his last elections we know that he will continue to work for the welfare of people. His statement cannot be seen as his retirement, he has a long way to go".

Targeting the opposition alliance, BJP leader Prem Ranjan Patel said that "we don't know what prompted him to announce this but I can say that people of Bihar will not let him retire. People want him because



Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar arrives to offer prayers at the High Court Mazar during Urs festival in Patna on Thursday. — PTI

he has worked for the development of Bihar".

A section in the NDA feels that the aggressive campaigning against him by the Opposition camp may have prompted Nitish to take a decision.

Recently while addressing a rally in Madhubani on Thursday he was speaking about the issue of employment. However, analysts are of the view that he may have said this to attract voters in his party's favour as he has been facing massive anti-incumbency in the polls. The final phase of the polls for 78 seats covers the 16 districts of Seemanchal region and north Bihar having a concentration of Muslims, Yadavs and Dalits.

I NEED NITISHJI'S GOVERNMENT
IN BIHAR, MODI TELLS VOTERSYOJNA GUSAI | DC
NEW DELHI, NOV. 5

As the campaigning for the final phase of assembly polls in Bihar came to an end, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday made an appeal to the voters for retaining Nitish Kumar-led government so as development related policies "atkae nahin bhatkae nahin" (do not get

stalled or astrayed). "I am very much convinced about the development of Bihar. I need Nitishji's government in Bihar so that the all round development does not get stalled or gets astray. I am confident that the strength of a double engine will take Bihar to new heights of development in this decade," the Prime Minister wrote.

- The final phase of polls for 78 seats covers the 16 districts of Seemanchal region and north Bihar having a concentration of Muslims, Yadavs and Dalits.

CENTRAL RAILWAY

CORRIGENDUM

It is hereby notified that Tender Notice No. S.120.TROTATEK.2019-20 which is scheduled to be opened on **10.11.2020**, is now postponed to **08.01.2021** due to administrative reasons. All other terms and conditions will remain the same.

All India Security Helpline 182

No respite in
Covid caseloadVINEETA PANDEY |
DC
NEW DELHI, NOV. 5

Blame it on pollution, festive season gatherings or outings due to lockdown fatigue, the daily cases of coronavirus have started rising in India again after a brief period of decline.

Kerala and Delhi are the biggest contributors in daily cases. Kerala reported 6,820 new cases on Thursday taking the caseload in the state to 4,45,467. Delhi recorded over 6,700 new Covid-19 cases on Thursday, pushing the infection tally in the city to over 4.16 lakh,

while 66 more fatalities, the highest in around four months, took the death toll to 6,769, authorities said.

Also, containing fresh cases comes with a new challenge after the Supreme Court asked the Centre to ban within a month the use of disinfectant tunnels, fumigation, sprays, and ultraviolet rays on human beings as part of tackling Covid-19.

In the last 24 hours, 50,210 fresh cases were reported across India taking the tally to 83.64 lakh. So far 1.24 lakh deaths have occurred out of which 704 took place in the last 24 hours.

Nyay, a boon for
C'garh's economy

Hyderabad, Nov. 5: A wave of joy and enthusiasm strikes the rural areas of Chhattisgarh, especially the agrarian sector with the Rajiv Gandhi Kisan Nyay Yojna, launched by the Chhattisgarh Government, to boost the rural economy.

Within a few months of its launch, it has proved to be a boon for the entire state's economy.

The scheme has strengthened and uplifted the rural livelihood from its core.

Chhattisgarh has bagged the first position nationwide, along with Andhra Pradesh, by collecting 26% more GST in this year's month of October, when compared with the same month last year, amid

the economic slowdown caused due to Covid-19 crisis.

Chief Minister Mr. Bhupesh Baghel led state government, launched the Rajiv Gandhi Kisan Nyay Yojna, on May 21 on the martyrdom day of the late Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

The scheme had derived its initial vision and essence with Rahul Gandhi's Promise of Nyay in his manifesto.

It was decided that to make the rural economy self-sufficient and self-reliant, direct money needs to be transferred into the farmer's bank accounts and not mere loans can solve the existing issues, which are making them weaker day by day.



The Chhattisgarh government launched the Rajiv Gandhi Kisan Nyay Yojna on May 21.

Shah begins WB visit, says
we will create 'Sonar Bangla'RAJIB CHOWDHURI | DC
KOLKATA, NOV. 5

Kickstarting the BJP's campaign for the next year's Assembly Election in West Bengal union home minister Amit Shah on Thursday declared the "wheels of oppression" by the ruling Trinamul Congress on the saffron party workers have rung the "death knell" of Mamata Banerjee government to pave way for the BJP to come to power with

two-thirds majority in the state.

Paying tribute to tribal icon Birsu Munda in Bankura on the first day of his two-day visit, Mr Shah told the media, "The way the wheels of oppression have been run over the BJP workers here, I can clearly see that the death knell of the Mamata Banerjee government has been sounded. In the coming days the BJP will come to power with two-third majority here."

He said, "Bengal is located on the boundary of the country. It's security is related to the internal security of the nation. I appeal the people of Bengal to oust the present government to ensure the nation's security, jobs to the unemployed youth and relief to the poor from their plight. Please give the BJP a chance. We will work all out to create 'Sonar Bangla' under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership."

राष्ट्रीय परीक्षा एजेंसी
National Testing Agency
(An Autonomous Organization under the Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education (GoI))

भारतीय विदेश व्यापार संस्थान
(Indian Institute of Foreign Trade)
(Deemed to be University)

IIFT MBA (IB) – 2021-2023 Entrance Examination
Public Notice dated 6th November 2020

The National Testing Agency (NTA) has been established by Ministry of Education, Govt. of India, as an independent/autonomous, self-reliant and self-sustained premier testing organization. The Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT) was established in 1963 as an autonomous body under the Ministry of Commerce & Industry to contribute in the skill building for the external trade sector of India.

The Computer Based Entrance Test for admission to MBA(International Business) Programme 2021-23 for IIFT Campuses in New Delhi, Kolkata and Kakinada (AP) will be conducted by NTA.

Date of exam	24th January 2021 (Sunday)
Mode of exam	Computer Based Test
Eligibility	Recognised bachelor's degree of minimum 3 years' duration in any discipline with 50% marks in Graduation (45% for SC/ST/PwD) candidates. Candidates appearing in the final year examination of Graduation can also apply. No age limit.
Reservations	Reservation for SC/ST/OBC(NCL)/PwD/Gen-EWS as per Govt. of India rules. Seats are reserved for Non-resident Indians (NRIs) and Foreign nationals.
Date of submission of online applications	From 06th November 2020 to 20th December 2020 . NRIs and Foreign nationals: From 15th January 2021 to 15th March 2021

Scheme / duration / timings / medium / syllabus / fee of examination, intake, reservation of seats, exam cities, important dates, admission procedure etc., relating to the exam are contained in the Information Bulletin hosted on www.nta.ac.in. Candidates who desire to appear in the exam may read the detailed Information Bulletin for IIFT-MBA (IB) 2021-23 Programme and the Prospectus hosted on the Institute's website www.iift.edu and apply online only at <https://iift.nta.nic.in> during the period specified above. The exam fee is also required to be paid online by using debit/credit cards or internet banking or Paytm.

Senior Director (Exams)

केन्द्रीय माध्यमिक शिक्षा बोर्ड
CENTRAL BOARD OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

PUBLIC NOTICE

The 14th edition of Central Teacher Eligibility Test (CTET) which was scheduled to be held on 05-07-2020 (Sunday) in 112 cities all over the country and postponed due to administrative reasons, the said examination will now be held on **31.01.2021 (SUNDAY)**. To maintain social distance and other safety measures, the said examination will now be conducted in **135 cities**. The new examination cities are Lakhimpur, Nagaon, Begusarai, Gopalganj, Purnia, Rohtas, Saharsa, Saran, Bhilai/Durg, Bilaspur, Hazaribagh, Jamshedpur, Ludhiana, Ambedkar Nagar, Bijnor, Bulanshahar, Deoria, Gonda, Mainpuri, Pratapgarh, Shahjahanpur, Sitapur and Udhampur Singh Nagar. A list of such identified cities is available on CTET website www.ctet.nic.in. A large number of requests have been received from the candidates for change of option for their examination city as they have shifted their place due to COVID-19.

Keeping in view the difficulty faced by candidates due to COVID-19, the Central Board of Secondary Education has decided to give one time chance to the candidates for corrections in their option of city from which they want to appear in the CTET examination. The candidates who wish to change their examination city can make on-line corrections from 07.11.2020 to 16.11.2020 upto 11.59 P.M. **Every effort will be made to accommodate the candidates in the cities opted by them but if the situation arises, they can be allotted any city other than the four cities opted by the candidates.** All the registered candidates may also visit CTET website www.ctet.nic.in for further details, if any.

DIRECTOR (CTET) & SECRETARY, CBSE

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Davp 22213/11/0002/2021

DECCAN Chronicle

6 NOVEMBER 2020

Biden or Trump? US is facing uncertain future

Three days after a deeply divided America went to the polls to elect its next President, we still don't know for sure if Donald Trump will stay at the White House for the next four years, or if his Democratic challenger Joe Biden – and his running mate Kamala Devi Harris – will take the oath of office on January 20 next. With this election having seen a record turnout, and over 100 million votes – close to half the total – being cast ahead of the actual date, not to mention the larger-than-usual number of mail-in ballots (particularly due to the Covid-19 pandemic, in which the US recorded the largest number of cases), the counting is still going on relentlessly in several of the so-called “battleground” states.

At the point of writing while it does appear Mr Biden, the former vice-president who served under President Barack Obama, is likely to get a clear majority of the popular vote, and is far closer than Mr Trump, the incumbent, to reaching the 270 magic figure in the Electoral College, and becoming America's 46th President, nothing is ever certain till he actually reaches that mark. That might happen tonight, or sooner, or it may take many days, if not weeks, but the rules of the game require that all ballots must be counted.

Shockingly, however, the sitting President, who is sworn to uphold the US Constitution, doesn't seem to feel so, and in an outrageous statement at the White House on Wednesday demanded the counting be halted and declared that he had already won. This while votes were still being tallied in several states, and he himself was leading in some of them. He also threatened to move the Supreme Court to get the count halted, and by Thursday his campaign's legal teams followed through in Pennsylvania, Michigan and Georgia, and sought a recount in Wisconsin, which had gone in Mr Biden's favour, to stave off the President's defeat. We don't know yet how the US courts, including the Supreme Court (which has a conservative majority inclined towards Mr Trump's right-wing ideology), will react to the President's manoeuvres, but if the vote count is halted anywhere till every ballot was recorded, it will be a terrible negation of the people's rights in a country that prides itself as the world's oldest democracy.

If Mr Biden does succeed finally in making it to the White House, despite all the impediments put in his way, he will find that governing will not be an easy task. Disappointingly for him, the vote on Tuesday was not the decisive rejection of “Trumpism” he and his party had campaigned for, and though the Democrats managed to retain control of the House of Representatives, their likely failure to wrest back control of the Senate means that a Biden administration will face roadblocks all the way, and perhaps be forced to resort to executive orders to deliver on its agenda. While a change of guard in Washington may be welcomed in most of the world, especially among America's closest allies, Mr Biden might find his diplomatic skills may first have to be deployed to work with the Senate's Republican leaders. The strong India-US strategic partnership is expected to remain on track, as it has bipartisan support in America, but New Delhi should be prepared for some pinpricks.

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Alimony guidelines welcome

The Supreme Court's order laying down guidelines for the lower courts when deciding petitions for interim compensation and quantum of maintenance in matrimonial cases is a welcome step on many counts. First and foremost is that there is a set of guidelines to be followed by family courts, magistrates and lower courts to ensure uniformity and consistency in such cases. This should help early settlement of cases as the presiding judges have a solid base to build their orders on. The second is that maintenance will be paid from the date of filing of a petition in a court. This one norm will disincentivise husbands from prolonging such cases, which often end up in the Supreme Court. The court has observed that the pendency of the cases and the final settlement, could take years and the estranged partner would be living a miserable life, unable to meet life's expenses. The guidelines assure the woman a source of money even if it comes bit late. In economic parlance, she can monetise her petition and escape penury.

The apex court has taken care to make the process of deciding alimony as transparent and just as possible. The courts must henceforth take into account the financial position and assets of both the partners before deciding the quantum of maintenance; the expenses of the children and the basic needs, and the spiralling inflation should also be factored in while arriving at a sum. That the court has attached such orders the authority of an order of a civil court will enable the aggrieved partner to approach the authorities to enforce it, should there be a breach. In short, through a single order, the apex court has some shed light into the lives of thousands of women whom patriarchy had dumped into the dungeons of misery on the watch of a heartless judicial system. They can now hope for an escape.

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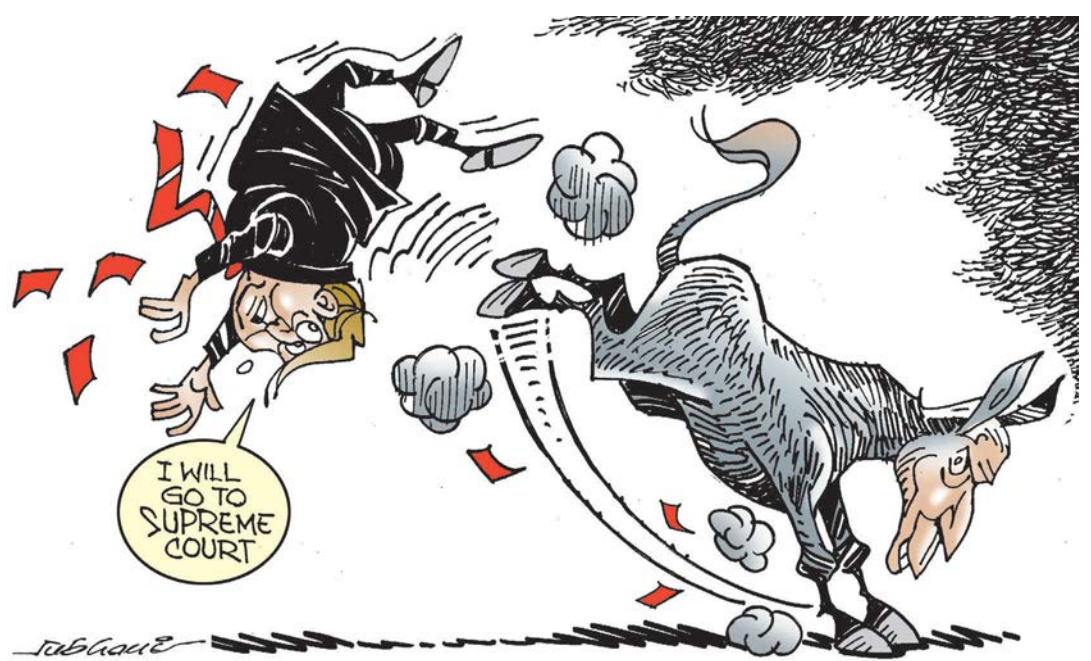
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Subhani



Pakistan in free fall is dangerous for India



Syed Ata Hasnain

Pakistan is in the news again, this time over looming threats to the Imran Khan government from a surprising united Opposition. Coupled with the bankruptcy of the economy, the cozying up to Turkey and Malaysia's wholly Islamist agenda, the fall-out with France over the recent terror and *Charlie Hebdo* cartoon issue, and its retention on the Financial Action Task Force's grey list; all these are creating a spectre of uncertainty and despair. The visible symptoms of the Opposition taking Imran Khan's government to the cleaners are there for all to see. Massive demonstrations under the banner of the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) were held in Gujranwala and other cities. The PDM is an 11-party conglomerate (not an alliance yet) that has surprisingly seen Bilawal Bhutto's PPP and Nawaz Sharif's PML(N), represented physically on the frontlines by his daughter Maryam Nawaz, coming together with Maulana Fazlur Rahman of Jamiat Ulema-e Islam. It includes Balochistan National Party chief Sardar Akhtar Mengal. The objective is to rid Pakistan of the rule of Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), that was catapulted to power by the Pakistan Army in 2018. The ultimate intent is, of course, to remove the all-pervasive hand of the Army from Pakistan's politics. These leaders hope to throw up a civil society movement to achieve that, but Pakistan's civil society along with its media have been emaciated over the years. In 1968, Ayub Khan could be overthrown partially due to the powerful civil society-led movement in the streets, although it did lead to the imposition of martial law. Ever

since the overthrow of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto in 1977, the powerful Pakistan Army has ensured the further weakening of civil society and the media to obviate the possibility of popular street revolts. The “Deep State”, which runs Pakistan, despite the front of so-called elected civilian governments, has cleverly used the draw of religion and ideology along with outsourced power to the clergy to keep intact its influence and power. But now things seem to be changing, with the altered circumstances. Can these circumstances make a difference in the internal power game in Pakistan?

We have earlier seen massive turnouts of people in Pakistan, but mostly on religious and ideological calls. Islamabad was blockaded by such calls many times in the past five years. This time it is for a political cause after long, and unity among political parties isn't something to be easily expected. Things appear much more serious with the two strongest parties PML(N) and PPP having set aside their differences for the moment and agreed upon a compromise leader in Maulana Fazlur Rehman. This unity may not last long due to their regional power bases attempting to upend each other. The PDM proposes to launch a mass protest campaign comprising public gatherings, political rallies, no-confidence motions, en masse resignations from assemblies and, finally, a long march in January that will culminate in a sit-in in Islamabad until their demands are met. Sticking together long enough to see it through will be a major challenge. The Army may have some ways of its own to break this unity; an offer of power to one

party may well be on the cards: anything is possible in Pakistan's fractious politics.

What does favour the Opposition is the abysmal state of the economy and the fact that Imran Khan and the Army have little clue on what to do about it. In addition, the most emotive issue of Kashmir seems to be slipping from the Pakistan government's hands after the Indian moves of August 5, 2019, which abrogated all special constitutional provisions for J&K. In a recent move, Saudi Arabia released a new banknote and the world map displayed on the obverse side of the note doesn't show Gilgit-Baltistan and Kashmir as parts of Pakistan. This coming from a nation that supported Pakistan for many years and was responsible for almost all its economic bailouts clearly shows that its interests do not lie with Pakistan's awkward internal politics or its inability to pursue American-Saudi interests. Pakistan's support to Turkey and Malaysia in an apparent bid to cultivate new power equations within the Islamic world is bringing it to grief with Saudi Arabia. Now with further efforts to be more Islamic than the others, by taking on France, Pakistan is actually falling foul with the Western world in general without considering the future of its economic bailouts; as China's largesse is not unending. China, that invested \$60 billion in the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor project, is also hand in glove with the Islamabad regime in exploiting Balochistan and Sindh, which is

When an adversary's military used to internal control at its bidding and perceived success in a proxy war, suddenly finds itself under pressure from different directions with few good options, it is time for caution

fuelling discontent among the people of these provinces.

Where the Opposition has a slight advantage is that the Army may have no plan to step in to directly rule a nation with a bankrupt economy. Thus, martial law is a long shot and unlikely. The fairly professional Pakistan Army may appear to be united behind its chief, Gen. Qamar Javed Bajwa. However, the ambitions that subordinate generals harbour are rarely known. The batches of generals who were overlooked for the top slot due the controversial three-year extension given to Gen. Bajwa by Imran Khan, would yet wish to see his back. With a new government there could be the possibility of a new Army leadership, though Gen. Bajwa will use all his guile to stay on and be the guiding light to a new dispensation if he ditches Imran Khan.

The Pakistan Army under Gen. Bajwa does not seem to be as intelligently energetic as in the past. Its handling of the Sindh police case in the totally unnecessary effort to intimidate Nawaz Sharif's son-in-law, Safdar Awan, has badly let down its image. What also appears true is the inability of the Pakistan Army to push back sufficiently on J&K. It may rest content with what has happened in Ladakh but another year in J&K with the networks under strain, different leaderships wiped out and fresh ones unable to infiltrate, is likely to see much higher advantage to India. It is at such times that India needs its antennae up higher than usual. When an adversary's military used to internal control at its bidding and perceived success in a proxy war which it intends fighting for long, suddenly finds itself under pressure from different directions with few good options, it is time for caution. A Pakistan in free fall is always unpredictable and thus dangerous.

The writer, a retired lieutenant-general, is a former GOC of the Srinagar-based 15 Corps

LETTERS

COVID TESTING

We need to get serious about Covid (*Asymptomatic data stuns TS, DC, Nov. 5*). It is true that most senior citizens are unable to go to testing centres and prefer to stay home hoping they have no Covid-19. Will the TS government help get senior citizens tested at their homes instead of asking them to go to the testing centres and risking their lives among strangers? All above 50 must be tested at home.

Baru Rajendra Prasad
Hyderabad

Many people, especially the youth, are not taking precautions like wearing masks and maintaining physical distance. We see several youngsters on bikes and groups at eateries without masks. They are likely carriers of the deadly virus to their homes affecting children and elders. Unless strict action is taken against the offenders it is very difficult to contain spread of the infection.

S. Nageswara Rao
Hyderabad

AP GOVERNANCE

In AP, several structural and social changes are taking place. Decentralisation of administration with village secretariats, RBKs, village clinics, renovation of schools, 50 per cent jobs for women, leveraging technology to develop friendly police apps, skill training universities, new hospitals, port development, etc., are just a few additions. If these institutes work even with 75 per cent efficiency, it will go a long way in upliftment of people.

A.R.R. Datta
Hyderabad

50 YEARS AGO IN DECCAN Chronicle

Compensation to princes: Decision deferred

NEW DELHI, Nov. 5.

A special meeting of the Union Cabinet today discussed the draft scheme of compensation and transitory allowances to be paid to the former rulers but deferred a decision.

The matter is again expected to be considered by the cabinet in the next few days.

The main issue posed before the Cabinet was whether it was desirable to take a decision on the compensation question when the legality of the Government's derecognition order was being considered by the Supreme Court.

Raj Mohan Tella



IPL's purpose to boost talent, but cricket should always come first

For a cricket spectator like me, the IPL or the Indian Premier League presents long periods of intense self-absorption. But I am sometimes intrigued by what could have been the actual purpose of this greatly addictive tournament.

Great cricket, a revenue opportunity for the cricket board, advertisers getting to reach cricket-worshipping India, spectators banding together as fan armies — all of this, yes, but the one that appeals to me deeply is this — it is a platform for young cricketers to play, compete with some of the best players in the world and gain that much-needed international exposure.

Imagine a T. Natarajan bowling to Chris Gayle. Or an Ankit S. Rajpoot getting advice from Steve Smith. IPL seems to help in gaining confidence, earning a standing and possibly even bolstering their self-worth. For some of them, it has

paved the way to donning the India colours. If you ask me, this is the real worth of IPL.

“*Yatra pratibha ausara prapnoti-hi*”, which means “Where talent meets opportunity”. This is what is inscribed on the IPL trophy. And this rings so true hearing Hyderabad bowler Mohammed Siraj's down-to-earth articulation of his humble beginnings and passion for cricket. How cricket and his IPL earnings gave him an opportunity to provide basic creature comforts to his parents and brother. This season, Siraj has hit the headlines in IPL for several reasons. And now he is also a part of the Indian Test team. There are many more young cricketers who have stories similar to Siraj's. All of which reflect IPL's real brand purpose.

But does purpose really matter? Especially for brands and businesses? We hear so much talk from mar-

keting wizards that purpose guides brands and purpose it is when you have to connect with the new, thinking consumer. Some pundits even say that purpose means brands having a point of view and appeal to the higher, emotional needs of a consumer. No disagreements on that. But isn't the fundamental question the ability of a brand to deliver a functional benefit, solve a problem or meet a need? Certainly, a brand can advocate a purpose, but while doing that the assumption is that the functional aspects are getting delivered. Because that allows for basic survival of the brand. And purpose helps building on it with elements of emotion and differentiation.

In the difficult times we live in now, when survival of businesses seems to be paramount, functionality is at the core. It cannot be sacrificed for purpose. And merely having one is not enough. What pur-

pose does have a Parle G have, except to give us all a satisfying and value for money biscuit time? It is in fact one of India's most popular comfort food. Or for that matter isn't the purpose of all payment apps to deliver convenience and speed while protecting our details? But if you were to say a hospital brand or an organic food company needs to have a purpose, I would agree. Purpose is not a holy grail. Marketers need to prioritise functionality and layer this with the avowed purpose. I would suggest a four-point check list for deciding on the purpose — understand the functional benefits of your brand, assess the emotional dimensions your brand can shoulder, do a pulse check on your more vocal target audiences, their needs and aspirations, and draw a strong connection between the purpose and your line of business.

Switching back to IPL and brand

purpose in that context — don't we all need to have great, gripping and enjoyable cricket first, then as fans or rather as consumers of cricket, we move our attention to the other outcomes, like young names getting recognised and gaining a semblance of financial stability? Just imagine; if IPL were to only tell you they were bringing young cricketers together and providing them a platform. Would you watch IPL with the same enthusiasm? Well as a fan and cricket lover you would want the big names, the fanfare, the myths and stories that cricket creates and the nailbiting finishes — all of which are the promise of IPL. After that comes the purpose that has let a Mohammed Siraj bowl us over...

Raj Mohan Tella is the founder of Brandlogues, a global brand consulting firm. He can be reached at rajmohan@brandlogues.com.

IN BRIEF THREE HAFIZ SAEED AIDES SENTENCED

Lahore, Nov. 5: An anti-terrorism court in Pakistan on Thursday handed down up to 16 years' imprisonment to three top leaders of the banned Jamaat-ud-Dawah (JuD), including the brother-in-law of Mumbai attack mastermind Hafiz Saeed, in two cases of terror financing.

The Anti-Terrorism Court Lahore convicted Saeed's brother-in-law Hafiz Abdul Rehman Makki, Zafar Iqbal and Muhammad Ashraf in two more cases of terror financing registered by the Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) of Punjab police.

The JuD leaders were present in the court as Presiding Judge Ijaz Ahmad Buttair announced the sentence in two cases of 2019.

VATICAN NOD TO PRIEST SEX ABUSE PROBE

Warsaw, Nov. 5: The Vatican has ordered an investigation into allegations that a now-retired archbishop in Poland was negligent in investigating reports of sex abuse of minors by priests in his Gdansk archdiocese.

The Vatican Embassy in predominantly Roman Catholic Poland said the archbishop of Warsaw had been assigned to conduct the probe and that the preliminary investigation into Archbishop Slawoj Leszek Glodz has been completed. The embassy provided no details about the outcome in a statement issued this week.

Pope Francis accepted Glodz's resignation on his 75th birthday in August, a sign he was taking the allegations against the archbishop seriously. Glodz, who had also served as the chief chaplain of Poland's armed force, denies any negligence. Abuse survivors included Glodz in a report identifying two dozen current and retired Polish bishops accused of protecting predator priests.

Oregon police face off with far-left protesters, arrest 10

Riot declared in Portland, emergency order extended fearing violence

Portland, Nov. 5: Oregon police and National Guard troops in camouflage trucks pursued far-left protesters around the US city of Portland as a riot was declared late Wednesday, making at least 10 arrests.

The northwestern city that has seen continuous protests since summer had been placed on high alert by Governor Kate Brown, who extended an election-night emergency order amid fears of violent clashes over the contested US polls.

A heavy law enforcement presence flooded the streets after a handful of demonstrators broke off from hundreds-strong anti-Trump protests to shatter storefront windows, and a man believed to have thrown a Molotov cocktail was arrested.

The Multnomah County Sheriff's Office cited "widespread violence" in the city's downtown area, including glass bottles thrown at police who advanced on demonstrators. An *AFP* journalist at the scene witnessed two arrests during a skirmish on a street corner that left protester Michael Ream with a bloodied face.

"It's the same thing it always is — just horrible conduct of the police force and the terrible legacy that they carry every day," the 38-year-old PhD student told *AFP* as police handcuffed him.

Asked whether this week's contested election had brought him to the streets, he replied: "More or less. I mean, I haven't been out (protesting) in a while." Portland has seen months of clashes between police and demonstrators, angered at the repeated killings of POC Americans by law enforcement officers across the country. — *AFP*



An Oregon State Trooper hits a protester with his baton while dispersing a crowd of protesters in Portland, Oregon on Thursday. Protests, some peaceful and others violent, broke out in Portland as the presidential election remained undecided. — *AFP*

CHINA HOPES FOR SMOOTH END TO U.S. ELECTION

Beijing, Nov. 5: A wary China on Thursday hoped the US presidential poll would end smoothly and successfully and said that there is a room for cooperation between the two nations despite "some differences," as observers forecast heightening of the rivalry between the top two economies no matter whoever wins. "People are following closely, me included but it seems that the votes are still being counted and results have not come yet," China's Vice-Foreign Minister Le Yucheng said. — *PTI*

Path for victory remains easier for Biden

From Page 1

Trump's lead has reduced considerably in Georgia over the last 24 hours. The state has 16 electoral college votes. After an overnight round of counting, Trump's lead over Biden has come down to just 18,586 votes. Officials have said that they have completed the counting of 96 per cent of the votes.

In Arizona, which has 11 electoral college votes, Biden continues to lead by over 68,000 votes with 86 per cent of the total votes being counted. A traditional Republican State, Trump has been fast catching up with Biden in the last few rounds of counting, but he has a long way to go.

In Nevada, that has six electoral college votes, Biden is leading by nearly 8,000 votes with 86 per cent

of the counting reportedly over. Nevada is a traditional Democratic State, but the race has entered a tight finish.

To reach the magical figure of 270, Trump needs to win Pennsylvania (20), North Carolina (15) and Georgia (16) and either of Arizona (11) or Nevada (six), which appears to be a tall order.

For Biden, the path seems to be much easier. He needs to win any of these States, with Arizona. A win in Pennsylvania would seal the deal for him, even if Trump manages to win rest of the States including Arizona.

The Trump campaign has filed lawsuits in Pennsylvania, Michigan and Georgia. It has also demanded recounting of votes in Wisconsin, a state that has 10 electoral college

votes and Biden has won by 20,534 votes.

Meanwhile Trump in a tweet has demanded that counting of votes be stopped. "STOP THE COUNT," said the President. "ANY VOTE THAT CAME IN AFTER ELECTION DAY WILL NOT BE COUNTED!" Trump said in another tweet. The second tweet of his was flagged by Twitter.

Biden in his tweet insisted that every vote must be counted. Every vote must be counted, he said. "Donald Trump does not decide the outcome of this election and nor do I. The American people decide. That's why we've launched the Biden Fight Fund to ensure every vote is counted, Biden said in a tweet.

Control of the Senate, meanwhile, hung in balance on Thursday, after

Republicans trounced Democratic challengers in crucial states but failed to lock down the seats needed to retain their tenuous majority.

At least one race in Georgia is headed to a January runoff. Contests in three other states remain undecided, leaving the chamber now deadlocked 48-48. An outcome may not be known until the new year.

With the Presidential race between President Donald Trump and Democrat Joe Biden also undecided, the Senate is in limbo because the vice president of the eventual winner's party would serve as a tie-breaker in a split chamber.

In North Carolina, GOP Sen. Thom Tillis hoped to prevail over Democrat Cal Cunningham.

Extradite Nirav, Mallya from UK soon, says India

London, Nov. 5: Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla held talks with British Home Secretary Priti Patel in London during which he strongly underlined India's interest in the expeditious extradition of former Kingfisher Airlines chief Vijay Mallya, who has completed all the legal processes related to extradition from the UK, and fugitive diamond merchant Nirav Modi.

On the last leg of his three-nation Europe tour, Shringla visited London where he held discussions with several UK ministers and officials and during his interactions with Patel and UK Foreign Office Minister for South Asia, Lord Tariq Ahmad, on Tuesday, the issue of economic offenders being extradited to face the Indian judicial system was among the issues raised.

"We strongly underlined our interest in seeing the early, expeditious extradition of Vijay Mallya, who is an economic offender who has completed all extradition procedures in the UK. We would like him to return to India as soon as possible," said Shringla. "Also, Nirav Modi. I raised this with both Lord Ahmad and the Home Secretary, and both took very careful note of our priority and sentiments in that regard," he said. Mallya, wanted in India over fraud and money laundering charges in relation to loans taken out by his now-defunct Kingfisher Airlines from state-owned Indian banks, has been found to have a case to answer in India by the UK courts.

He is currently on bail, undergoing a "confidential" legal issue before Patel can consider sign-



Vijay Mallya



Nirav Modi

ing off on his extradition order. On the other hand, Modi, the fugitive diamond merchant accused of fraud and money laundering in relation to the state-owned Punjab National Bank (PNB), is currently lodged in Wandsworth Prison in London as he fights his extradition to India at Westminster Magistrates' Court.

Shringla arrived in London following visits to Paris and Berlin on Tuesday and has held a series of meetings to cover a wide range of issues, including the India-UK vaccine partnership in a post-Coronavirus world and climate change as well as highlighting India's outlook on the growing importance of the Indo-Pacific region. On India-UK bilateral ties, he noted the backdrop of Britain's exit from the European Union. — *PTI*

FINANCIAL Chronicle

HYDERABAD | FRIDAY | 6 NOVEMBER 2020

quick BITES

INDICATORS		%
Sensex	41,340.16	1.78
Nifty 50	12,120.30	1.78
\$DP 500*	3,513.95	2.05
Dollar (₹)	74.39	0.48
Pound Sterling (₹)	96.84	-0.14
Euro (₹)	87.48	-0.23
Gold (10gm)* (₹)	50,980.158	0.30
Brent crude (\$/bbl)*	40.86	-0.37
IN 10-Yr bond yield	5.858	-0.001
US 10-Yr T-bill yield*	0.766	-0.002

* As of 8:30 PM IST

Hyundai drives in all new i20 at ₹6.8 lakh

Hyundai, India's second biggest carmaker, launched its all-new fourth generation Hyundai i20 premium hatchback with prices for the petrol versions starting at Rs 6.80 lakh and the diesel version starting at Rs 8.20 lakh to aggressively push sales in the festive season. The new Hyundai i20 will take on Tata Altroz, Maruti Suzuki Baleno, Toyota Glanza, Volkswagen Polo and Honda Jazz.

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Recovery halts in Bharat; net 5.5L jobs lost 50L find salaried jobs in October

SANGEETHA G
CHENNAI, NOV. 5

Though close to 50 lakh jobs were created for the salaried class in October, huge employment losses in rural India has halted the job recovery seen in the country since May this year. October recorded the first fall in jobs since May, with around 5.5 lakh losing employment during the month, according to think-tank CMIE. Rural small traders and wage labourers accounted for most of the employment loss.

It looks the job scenario has deteriorated after seeing a rapid recovery from May onwards. CMIE says the process of recovery of

jobs that was robust during May, June and July and slowed down in August and September has now reversed into a fall in employment in October.

Of the 121 million jobs lost in April, 110 million jobs came back during May, June and July. Then, August and September saw the addition of only 5 million jobs. Now, October recorded the first fall since the recovery began, according to CMIE.

The IHS Markit Services PMI survey too found that employment had declined in October, despite the optimism towards the year-ahead outlook strengthening. Amid reports of workers on leave failing to

return and difficulties in hiring staff due to the pandemic, services employment decreased again in October, the survey said.

Commenting on the CMIE survey, Kruti Shah, economist, Emkay Global Financial Services, said the job losses have happened among small traders and wage labourers in the rural areas. The employment among these categories dipped almost 10.6 million from 130 million to 120 million in a month's time. However, the salaried class added close to 5 million jobs and businesses and farmers another five million, which led to a net job loss of 5.5 lakh, she said.

Bharat Biotech Covaxin likely in Feb: ICMR

KRISHNA N. DAS
NEW DELHI, NOV. 5



scientist Rajni Kant, who is also a member of its Covid-19 task-force, said at the research body's New Delhi headquarters on Thursday. "It is expected that by the beginning of next year, February or March, something would be available."

Bharat Biotech could not immediately be contacted. A launch in February would make Covaxin the

first India-made vaccine to be rolled out.

The country's cases of coronavirus infections rose by 50,201 cases on Thursday to 8.36 million, second only to the United States. Deaths rose by 704, with the total now at 124,315. The daily rise in infections and deaths has slowed since a peak in mid-September.

Kant, who is the head of ICMR's research management, policy, planning and coordination cell, said it was up to the health ministry to decide if Covaxin shots can be given to people even before the third-stage trials are over.

— *Reuters*

Flipkart invests in USPL to lift up fashion portfolio

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, NOV. 5

The Flipkart Group on Thursday announced a strategic investment in USPL, a premium youth-focused fashion brand house, in an attempt to strengthen its fashion portfolio.

This is a Series F funding for USPL from the Flipkart Group along with participation from existing investor Accel Partners. This investment will significantly step up the online strategy of USPL by strengthening the existing long-standing engagement between the company and the Flipkart Group.

USPL has built a portfolio of premier fashion brands that uniquely cater to the sensibilities, design and fitment needs for the young Indian. Wrogn, USPL's flagship brand, is one of the fastest growing men's casual wear brands in India at scale and has been amongst the leading brands on Myntra over the last few years.

USPL brands are also present in more than 750 offline retail outlets in over 100 cities in India. USPL has been growing at 40-50 per cent year-on-year, a release said.

Ms. Anjana Reddy, the founder & CEO of USPL, said, "Over the years, USPL has been home to some of India's best-known fashion brands for youth. The last few months have provided a great opportunity for us to consolidate our market leadership among home-grown brands catering to the youth and expand our market share."

RBI makes co-lending easier for banks & NBFCs

FALAKNAAZ SYED
MUMBAI, NOV. 5

In a bid to improve the flow of credit to the unserved sectors of the economy and to make funds affordable for them, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Wednesday revised the guidelines for banks and NBFCs, including housing finance companies, to jointly lend to the priority sector. Analysts said the co-lending scheme would lead to better churning of funds by NBFCs and improve their retail loan growth.

"The primary focus of the revised scheme, rechristened as "Co-Lending Model" (CLM), is to improve the flow of credit to the unserved and underserved sector of the economy and make available funds to the ultimate beneficiary at an affordable cost, considering the lower cost of funds from banks and



greater reach of the NBFCs," the RBI said in a release.

The CLM is an improvement over the co-origination of loan scheme announced by the RBI in September 2018. Under CLM, banks are permitted to co-lend with all registered NBFCs (including HFCs) based on a prior agreement, the RBI said, adding that "the co-lending banks will take their share of the individual loans on a back-to-back basis in their books. However, NBFCs shall be required to retain a minimum of 20 per cent share of the

individual loans on their books. The guidelines state that if the bank can exercise its discretion regarding taking into its books the loans originated by NBFC as per the agreement, the arrangement will be akin to a direct assignment transaction. The NBFC will not have to maintain the minimum holding period (MHP).

Anil Gupta, vice-president and sector head—financial sector ratings, Iera, said, "Under the CLM, if NBFCs and banks have a prior co-lending arrangement, NBFCs can immediately sell down their loan portfolio to banks without completing the minimum holding period requirement under the direct assignment transactions. This would lead to better churning of funds by NBFCs and improve their ability to drive their retail credit growth."

Saudi fund invests in Reliance Retail

New Delhi, Nov. 5: Reliance Industries Ltd's retail arm on Thursday raised Rs 9,555 crore from Public Investment Fund (PIF) of Saudi Arabia, taking total fundraising in the last two months to Rs 47,265 crore.

PIF will take a 2.04 per cent stake in Reliance Retail Ventures Ltd (RRVL), the Indian firm said in a statement.

The investment values RRVL, the retail arm of Reliance Industries Ltd, at a pre-money equity value

of Rs 4.58 lakh crore.

This is second investment by the Saudi Arabian sovereign wealth fund in an Ambani firm. It had previously picked up 2.32 per cent stake in Jio Platforms, the digital and telecom arm of Reliance, for Rs 11,367 crore.

"This investment will further strengthen PIF's presence in India's dynamic economy and promising retail market segment," the statement said. "The transaction is in line with PIF's strategy as a leading global investor with a proven

track-record of investing in innovative and transformative companies globally and develop strong partnerships with leading groups in their respective markets," it said.

India's retail sector is one of the largest in the world and accounts for over 10 per cent of its GDP which presents meaningful growth potential. "I welcome PIF as a valued partner in Reliance Retail and look forward to their sustained support and guidance," Ambani said. — *PTI*

SHORT TAKES

Usman's bro jailed for fake terror plot

Sydney: Australian international cricketer Usman Khawaja's older brother was jailed on Thursday after being sentenced for his actions in framing a colleague using a fake terror plot. Arsalan Tariq Khawaja admitted forging entries in the notebook of his University of New South Wales co-worker Kamer Nizamdeen in August 2018 after being jealous of Nizamdeen's contact with a mutual female friend. Nizamdeen was arrested, locked up in a maximum-security jail for four weeks and incorrectly labeled a terrorist in the media before police discovered he had been set up. Khawaja also admitted phoning authorities in 2017 about a love rival, another man of whom he was jealous, and made visa and terrorism accusations including that the man had trained overseas. In the New South Wales District Court, Judge Robert Weber jailed the 40-year-old Khawaja for four years and six months with a non-parole period of two years and six months. Khawaja made entries on at least 22 pages of a notebook and handed it to university staff. The notebook contained death threats against then Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull and the governor-general, as well as lists to attack police stations, the Boxing Day cricket test match in Melbourne and landmarks. — PTI

1,000th win for Nadal in Paris

Paris: Rafael Nadal became the fourth man to win 1,000 Tour-level matches on Wednesday by beating Feliciano Lopez at the Paris Masters, while Diego Schwartzman and Alexander Zverev also reached the third round. The 34-year-old, who won a record-extending 13th French Open title across Paris at Roland Garros last month, followed Jimmy Connors, Roger Federer and Ivan Lendl in reaching the 1,000 mark. The Spaniard had to fight back against fellow Spanish veteran Lopez, 39, but did enough to win 4-6, 7-6 (7/5), 6-4. Nadal was given a special presentation to celebrate his achievement after the match in a near-empty Bercy Arena, with the event being played behind closed doors after France entered its second coronavirus lockdown last week. Meanwhile, Argentinean Diego Schwartzman moved within one win of reaching the ATP Tour Finals for the first time thanks to a third-round thrashing of Alejandro Davidovich Fokina at the Paris Masters on Thursday. The sixth seed raced to a 6-1, 6-1 victory in only an hour and will face either third seed Daniil Medvedev or Australia's Alex de Minaur in the quarterfinals on Friday. — AFP

Bopanna-Marach make quarters

Paris: India's Rohan Bopanna and Austrian Oliver Marach stunned ninth seeds Fabrice Martin and Jean-Julien Rojer in a hard-fought second round encounter to enter the men's doubles quarterfinals of the Paris Masters tennis tournament here. The unseeded Indo-Austrian pair came from behind to defeat their fancied rivals 3-6, 6-4, 10-8 in the round of 16 tie Wednesday night. After losing the first set, the duo of Bopanna and Marach won the second to put the pressure on the French-Dutch pair. In the tie breaker, the 40-year-old Bopanna brought all his experience into play and was helped by Marach's resolve to win the match. The Indian-Austrian duo will face the eighth seed pairing of Edouard Roger-Vasselin and Jurgen Melzer in the quarterfinals on Friday. Bopanna and Marach had defeated the Serbian pair of Dusan Lajovic and Nikola Cicic 7-5, 7-6 to move into the round of 16. — PTI

Live on TV

CRICKET

IPL: Eliminator — Sunrisers Hyderabad vs Royal Challengers Bangalore from 7.30 pm on Star Sports 1, HD

Women's Big Bash League: Brisbane Heat vs Adelaide Strikers from 6.45 am (Saturday) on Sony Six, HD

TENNIS

ATP Paris Masters: Quarterfinals from 6.30 pm (Session 1) and 11 pm (sessions 2) on Sony Six

FOOTBALL

Italian League: Sassuolo vs Udinese from 1.15 am (Saturday) on Sony Ten 2

WWE

NXT: Bouts from 6.30 am (Saturday) on Sony Ten 1

MIGHTY IN FINAL

Ishan, Suryakumar punch big as Mumbai mum Delhi

Dubai, Nov. 5: Defending champions Mumbai Indians reached their sixth Indian Premier League final beating Delhi Capitals by 57 runs in the first Qualifier on Thursday.

Batting first, MI scored 200 for 5 riding on half-centuries from Suryakumar Yadav (51 off 38 balls) and Ishan Kishan (55 no off 30 balls). Hardik Pandya also scored 37 off 14 balls.

In reply, Delhi Capitals finished on 143 for 8 with Jasprit Bumrah taking 4 for 14.

Suryakumar Yadav's near flawless half-century complemented by Hardik Pandya's death-over fireworks saw Mumbai Indians put up an above-par 200 for 5 against Delhi Capitals in the first qualifier of the Indian Premier League on Thursday.

Surya smashed his way to a 51 off 38 balls to lay a foundation that was enough for Hardik murder the bowling with five sixes in his 14-ball-37.

In between, Ishan Kishan was an ideal anchor with a priceless half-century (55 off 30 balls), adding 60 for the sixth wicket with Hardik in only 3.5 overs.

While Ravichandran Ashwin (3/29 in 4 overs) shone brightly with his cerebral bowling, Shreyas Iyer's captaincy left a lot to be desired due to negative tactics as far as his pace department was concerned.

Starting with left-arm seam of Daniel Sams (0/44 in 4 overs) badly backfired and even worse was Kagiso Rabada (0/4 in 4 overs) and Anrich Nortje (1/50 in 4 overs) also had a forgettable day at the office.

In all, Mumbai Indians hit 15 fours and 12 sixes, a testimony to the number of bad balls bowled by the Capitals attack, especially their speed merchants,



Ishan Kishan of Mumbai Indians plays a shot against Delhi Capitals during their Indian Premier League match at Dubai International Cricket Stadium in the United Arab Emirates on Thursday. — BCCI

who were bowling short of length consistently.

At the start, Rohit Sharma (0)'s dodgy hamstring did play its part as Ashwin bowled an off-break and the MI captain didn't move his front foot enough to cover the spin and was adjudged leg before. De Kock and Surya however continued in full flow as the boundaries and sixes continued to flow from their blades during the 62-run stand in only 6.1 overs. — PTI

SCORECARD

Mumbai Indians Innings: Quinton de Kock c Dhawan b Ashwin 40, Rohit Sharma lbw b Ashwin 0, Suryakumar Yadav c Sams b Nortje 51, Ishan Kishan not out 55, Kieron Pollard c Rabada b Ashwin 0, Krunal Pandya c Sams b Stoinis 13, Hardik Pandya not out 37. Extras (B-1, LB-2, W-1) 4. **Total (for 5 wickets in 20 overs) 200.**

FoW: 1-16, 2-78, 3-100, 4-101, 5-140. **Bowling:** Sams 4-0-44-0, Ravichandran Ashwin 4-0-29-3, Kagiso Rabada 4-0-42-0, Axar Patel 3-0-27-0, Anrich Nortje 4-0-50-1, Marcus Stoinis 1-0-5-1.

Delhi Capitals: P. Shaw c de Kock b Boulton 0, Shikhar Dhawan b Bumrah 0, Ajinkya Rahane lbw b Boulton 0, S. Iyer c Rohit b Bumrah 12, Stoinis b Bumrah 65, R. Pant c Suryakumar b K. Pandya 3, Axar Patel c Chahar b Pollard 42, Sams c de Kock b Bumrah 0, Rabada not out 15, Nortje not out 0. Extras (W-6) 6. **Total (for 8 wickets in 20 overs) 143.**

FoW: 1-0, 2-0, 3-0, 4-20, 5-41, 6-112, 7-112, 8-141. **Bowling:** Boulton 2-1-9-2, Bumrah 4-1-14-4, K. Pandya 4-0-22-1, Coulter-Nile 4-0-27-0, Pollard 4-0-36-1, R. Chahar 2-0-35-0.

Sunrisers look for fresh push

Abu Dhabi, Nov. 5: With momentum on their side, a confident Sunrisers Hyderabad would look for another complete performance to continue their forward march in the IPL when they face a struggling Royal Challengers Bangalore in the Eliminator here on Friday.

Pushed to the wall after a slow start to the tournament, SRH produced a lion-hearted effort in the second leg and peaked at the right time to qualify for the play-offs by finishing third in the league standings, just ahead of RCB.

It has been contrasting results for the two teams in the business end of the tournament.

While RCB suffered four consecutive defeats to finish the league stage at the fourth spot, SRH registered a hat-trick of wins to edge past Virat Kohli's men in the standings.

NUMBERS GAME	
HEAD TO HEAD	
OVERALL:	● Matches: 16 ● Hyderabad: 8 ● Bangalore: 7 ● Tied: 1 (Sunrisers Hyderabad won in super over after match ended in a tie)
MEETING IN 2020	
● Royal Challengers Bangalore beat Sunrisers Hyderabad by 10 runs at Dubai.	● Sunrisers Hyderabad beat Royal Challengers Bangalore by 5 wickets at Sharjah.
FOR THE RECORD	
● Devdutt Padikkal with 472 runs at an average of 33.71 in 14 innings of as many matches is the top scorer for Royal Challengers Bangalore in this IPL.	● Rashid Khan who claimed 19 wickets at an average of 15.57, is the highest wicket-taker for Sunrisers Hyderabad in this IPL.

— S. PERVEZ KAISER

SRH made a remarkable turnaround in their final three games — defeating Delhi Capitals, RCB and table-toppers Mumbai Indians to book their last-fourth berth.

And come Friday, SRH would be brimming with confidence, especially after their 10-wicket win

over MI in the last must-win game.

The credit for SRH's success in the past few matches goes to the opening pair of Warner and Wriddhiman Saha.

The duo has clicked upfront and has so far shared two century stands — 107 against DC

and then 151 against MI.

While Warner has led SRH from the front, scoring 529 runs from 14 games to occupy the second spot in the scorers' list, Saha (184 runs from 3 matches) has proved that the SRH team management has erred in benching him for 11 ties.

On the other hand, knowing very well that another blunder could send them packing, the Kohli-led RCB have a lot to ponder over.

Young Devdutt Padikkal, who scored his fifth fifty of the event in their last game, has been consistent at the top but Kohli needs to step up as of late, his strike rate has come under the scanner.

Kohli and AB de Villiers need to take responsibility in the big match for RCB, which also features the likes of Chris Morris, Shivam Dube and Washington Sundar and bats quite deep. — PTI

Barca, Juve clinch wins; PSG, Man U go down

Paris, Nov. 5: Lionel Messi scored as Barcelona overcame a depleted Dynamo Kiev 2-1 in the Champions League on Wednesday, while Juventus eased Ferencvaros aside and Manchester United slumped to an unexpected defeat in Turkey.

Making his 150th appearance in European competition, Messi dispatched an early penalty at Camp Nou and Gerard Pique headed in Ansu Fati's cross on the hour.

Viktor Tsygankov grabbed a consolation for coronavirus-hit Dynamo as Barca, winless in four games in La Liga, recorded their third successive Group 'G' victory.

Cristiano Ronaldo made his first start for the Italian champions since September after

testing positive for Covid-19 in a 4-1 win at Hungarian side Ferencvaros.

However, the Portuguese star was outshone in Budapest by Alvaro Morata, whose two goals put Andrea Pirlo's team in control.

Paulo Dybala added a third before an own goal from Lasha Dvali, with Franck Boli netting for the hosts in the final minute.

United lost 2-1 against Istanbul Basaksehir. Demba Ba collected the ball just inside his own half and raced through to beat goalkeeper Dean Henderson on 13 minutes, with Edin Visca smashing in a second after Juan Mata was stripped of possession.

Anthony Martial's header cut the deficit before half-time but

United couldn't help but watch their side losing.

Emil Forsberg's penalty earned Leipzig a 2-1 victory as they came from behind to beat a weakened Paris Saint-Germain, dealing a major blow to the Champions League aspirations of last season's runners-up. Angel di Maria had given PSG an early lead in Germany but Christopher Nkunku levelled before half-time for Leipzig and Forsberg converted from the spot in the 57th minute before the visitors had both Idrissa Gueye and Presnel Kimpembe sent off.

Chelsea strolled to a 3-0 win at home against Rennes who saw defender Dalbert sent off after conceding two penalties in the first half.

— PTI

Sophie trailblazes misfiring Velocity

Sharjah, Nov. 5: Left-arm spinner Sophie Ecclestone grabbed four wickets for just nine runs in a sensational bowling display to help Trailblazers beat Velocity by nine wickets in their Women's T20 Challenge match here on Thursday.

Englishwoman Ecclestone, ranked number one in the ICC T20 rankings, was well supported by veteran Jhulan Goswami (2/13) and Rajeshwari Gaekwad (2/13) as Trailblazers dismissed Velocity in 15.1 overs.

Trailblazers then chased down the small target of 48 in just 7.5 overs with opener Deandra Dottin and Richa Ghosh remaining not out on 29 and 13 respectively.

Despite their win against Supernovas on Wednesday, Velocity's net run rate would take a beating after Thursday's loss and that could hit them hard.

It was, however, a quiet start in the run chase for the Trailblazers as the Velocity bowlers denied them any loose balls. Dottin and captain Smriti Mandhana (6) were finding hard to get the boundaries.

Mandhana finally went for the aerial route but perished in the process.

The Trailblazers were 28 for 1 at the end of powerplay and they ended the match in quick time with Ghosh hitting a six to take her side to victory. Velocity captain Mithali



Sophie Ecclestone of Trailblazers in action against Velocity during their Women's T20 Challenge match at Sharjah Cricket Stadium in the United Arab Emirates on Thursday. — BCCI

Raj's decision to bat first backfired as half of her batswomen were back in the dressing room inside powerplay for just 22 runs.

Shafali threatened to play a big innings as she hit a four and a six early one but the seasoned Goswami outfoxed the youngster, sending her stumps cart-wheeling. — PTI

BRIEF SCORES

■ Velocity 47 in 15.1 overs (Shafali Verma 13; Sophie Ecclestone 4-9, J. Goswami 2-13, RS Gayakwad 2-13) lost to Trailblazers 49/1 in 7.5 overs (Dottin not out 29)

Back-to-back games got to us: Mithali

Sharjah, Nov. 5: The legendary Mithali Raj, who is leading the Velocity team in the Women's T20 Challenge on Thursday, admitted the difficulty of play back-to-back matches with less than 12 hours of recovery time in sultry conditions.

Mithali said her side didn't have enough time recuperate as they crumbled to a nine-wicket defeat in the hands of Trailblazers.

"As far as playing in the afternoon definitely we haven't even got 12 hours to recover from yesterday's game."

"So clearly yes, it has been difficult for the girls to prepare themselves and come back and play the

afternoon game after playing last night," Mithali said in the post match press conference.

While the other two teams have rest days between their games, Velocity played two consecutive games in less than 24 hours in addition to the travel between Dubai and Sharjah.

As a result Velocity put up a disappointing show to be bundled for a paltry 47 in 15.1 overs as the Trailblazers chased down the target in 7.5 overs.

Talking about Sophie Ecclestone Mithali said the Englishwomen did well to quickly adapt to the conditions. That's why she's number one. — PTI

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