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HYDERABAD | TUESDAY | 6 OCTOBER 2020

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WEATHER

Max: 32.3°C
Min: 22.8°C
RH: 60%
Rainfall: Nil
Forecast: Cloudy sky. Rain likely in parts of city
Max/Min temp. 33/22°C

COVID-19 COUNT

CASES	DEATHS
(+59,818)	(+886)
66,81,953	1,03,600
covid19india.org	
STATE GOVERNMENT BULLETINS	
(+1,335)	(+8)
TS: 2,00,611	1,171
(+4,256)	(+38)
AP: 7,23,512	6,019

CASES AROUND THE WORLD	
3,55,82,640	
DEATHS	
10,43,812	

COUNTRIES, AREAS WITH CASES 213 worldometers.info/coronavirus

ASTROGUIDE

Sarvari: Dakshinayana
Tithi: Adhika Ashwinyuja Bahula Chavithi till 12.30 pm
Star: Krithika till 5.51 pm
Varjyam: 4.23 am to 6.11 am
Durmuhurtam: 8.31 am to 9.19 am; 10.51 pm to 11.49 pm
Rahu Kalam: 3 pm to 4.30 pm
HJRI CALENDAR
Safar ul Muzaffar 18, 1442 AH
PRAYERS
Fajr: 5.07 am
Zohar: 12.14 pm
Asar: 4.21 pm
Magrib: 6.07 pm
Isha: 7.14 pm
SUNRISE TOMORROW 6.07 AM
SUNSET TODAY 6.00 PM
MOONRISE TODAY 9.03 PM
MOONSET TOMORROW 9.31 AM

**Hathras protesters inked**

Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) MP Sanjay Singh and his supporters argue with police in Hathras, Uttar Pradesh after an unknown person threw ink at them when they went there to meet the family of the 19-year-old who was allegedly gang-raped last month. — PTI

All eyes on Jagan, Modi meet

N. VAMSI SRINIVAS | DC VIJAYAWADA, OCT. 5

release of funds to Polavaram and a Central Bureau of Investigation probe into Amaravati land scam.

The Chief Minister will also participate in the virtual Apex Council meeting convened by Jal Shakti minister Gajendra Singh Shekawat with Reddy and Telangana state Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao.

Though his meeting with the Prime Minister led to speculations that the ruling party might join the National Democratic

Alliance government at the Centre, the Chief Minister's camp ruled out any such possibility.

Party leader and CM's adviser Sajala Ramakrishna Reddy told mediapersons that there was no proposal from the BJP central leadership in this regard and Chief Minister too was clear that the move would be meaningful only when the state gets benefited.

The Chief Minister's recent meeting with Union home minister Amit Shah and the latter scheduling

meeting with the Prime Minister in quick succession coupled with the exit of a few NDA partners at the Centre in the recent past gave room to speculation on the YSR Congress' entry into the Central Cabinet.

"As such, the NDA government does not need new partners at this juncture and we have not received any proposal to join," Ramakrishna Reddy pointed out.

■ Page 2: No way parties will join ideologically

Centre lets schools reopen from Oct. 15

BALU PULIPAKA | DC with agency inputs HYDERABAD, NEW DELHI, OCT. 5

The Union education ministry released guidelines on Monday to gradually reopen schools from October 15, which included cleaning and disinfection of premises, flexibility in attendance, no assessment for up to three weeks and ensuring smooth transition from home-based schooling during Covid-19 lockdown to formal schooling.

It asked the states to frame their own standard operating procedures (SOPs) for health and safety precautions based on their local requirements.

State officials said it is Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao who is expected to take a final call on the reopening of schools and other educational institutions.

It was learnt that officials of the education department and the education minister will deliberate on the central guidelines and the SOPs that could be adopted.

The state officials are expected to discuss the safety precautions, take concerns from parents and school and college managements into consideration and then present their recommendations to the Chief Minister.

■ Page 2: Seat allocation from October 6

■ Page 2: Two recognised parties sought EVM voting

TS, AP STUDENTS IN JEE ADVANCED TOP 10 RANKS

HARLEEN MINOCHA | DC HYDERABAD, OCT. 5

A student each from Andhra Pradesh and Telangana state made it to the national top 10 in the JEE Advanced 2020, the results of which were announced on Monday. Gangula Bhuvan Reddy who secured the all India second rank hails from Produturu in Kadapa, Andhra Pradesh, whereas Hardik Rajpal who stood sixth, is a student of Narayana Junior College in Madhapur.

The JEE Advanced top-10 is Chirag Falor from Pune, who said he has secured admission in the United States' Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

Talking about his feat, Bhuvan, who had scored 99.99 per cent in the JEE Main in January, said that he wants to pursue Computer Science Engineering (CSE) from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay, and go on to become an entrepreneur. He gave credit for his achievement to his parents and teachers.

■ Page 2: Seat allocation from October 6

■ Page 2: Two recognised parties sought EVM voting

Stockholm, Oct. 5: Americans Harvey J. Alter and Charles M. Rice and British-Born scientist Michael Houghton won the Nobel Prize for medicine on Monday for their discovery of the hepatitis C virus, a major source of liver disease that affects millions worldwide.

Announcing the prize in Stockholm, the Nobel Committee noted that the trio's work identified a major source of blood-borne hepatitis that couldn't be explained by the previously discovered hepatitis A and B viruses. Their

work, dating back to the 1970s and 1980s, has helped saved millions of lives, the committee said. "Thanks to their discovery, highly sensitive blood tests for the virus are now available and these have essentially eliminated post-transfusion hepatitis in many parts of the world, greatly improving global health," the committee said.

"Their discovery also allowed the rapid development of antiviral drugs directed at Hepatitis C," it added.

"For the first time in history, the disease can now

GHMC POLLS ON BALLOT PAPERS: ELECTION PANEL

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, OCT. 5

The State Election Commission has announced that it will conduct elections to the GHMC council and other urban local bodies using ballot papers for safety during the Covid-19 pandemic.

State Election Commissioner C. Parthasarathy said the SEC took the decision based on detailed deliberations and the opinions expressed by the political parties.

The SEC said that five out of eight recognised parties and 11 of 18 registered parties had favoured ballot papers.

■ Page 2: Two recognised parties sought EVM voting

MEDICINE | HONOUR Millions of lives saved by work of scientists in 1970, improved global health**Nobel for trio that discovered hep C virus**

Harvey J. Alter, Charles M. Rice and Michael Houghton be cured, raising hopes of eradicating hepatitis C virus from the world population.

The World Health Organisation estimates there are over 70 million

virus carried particular significance this year due to the Coronavirus pandemic, which has highlighted the importance that medical research has for societies and economies around the world. Will Irving, a virologist at the University of Nottingham, said that identifying hepatitis C had been the "holy grail" in medicine.

"After hepatitis A and B were discovered in the 1970s, it was clear there was still at least one other virus or more that were causing liver damage," he said. "We knew there was a

virus in the blood supply, because when people had blood transfusion they would get liver damage," Irving said. "It was recognised as a risk but there was nothing we could do. We didn't know what the virus was and we couldn't test for it."

The prestigious Nobel award comes with a gold medal and prize money of 10 million Swedish kronor (over \$1,118,000), courtesy of a bequest left 124 years ago by the prize's creator, Swedish inventor Alfred Nobel.

— AP

INSIDE

CITY... PAGE 3
₹40 lakh meant for Dubbaka bypoll seized

■ Page 2: Seat allocation from October 6

+

SHORT TAKES
2 parties sought EVM voting

From Page 1
 Two recognised parties and five registered parties had sought EVM voting. Use of ballot papers will reduce the number of people working for the elections. Besides, VVPATs were not available. For this reason, elections to rural local bodies were conducted using ballot papers.

Seat allocation from October 6

From Page 1
 Raipal had emerged as the topper in JEE Main for BArch in January with 100 percentile. Following the declaration of the result, the seat allocation process, or JoSSA counselling registration process, will begin on October 6 and continue till November 9. Of the total 1,50,838 candidates who appeared for the JEE Advanced, 43,204 have qualified as per details released by IIT Delhi.

No way parties will join ideologically

From Page 1
 Sources close to the Chief Minister also maintained that he was of the view that the electoral base of the two parties were different and in no way could the ideologies come together. Secondly, the YSR Congress joining NDA without the state being accorded special category status will only draw criticism that Reddy has compromised on the state's interests to wriggle himself out of the pending CBI cases, a minister said. The Telugu Desam wasted no time and alleged that Reddy was eager to join the NDA government to save himself from court cases. The Telangana High Court has directed the CBI court to take up daily hearing of graft cases pending against the Chief Minister and a few others.

HC: HELP URDU MEDIUM INSTITUTIONS

VUJJINI VAMSHIDHARA DC HYDERABAD, OCT. 5

The Telangana High Court on Monday issued notice to the state government directing it to inform the court by next Monday as to the steps taken in providing adequate facilities in Urdu medium schools and colleges, enabling students to continue their studies through the online mode.

The division bench, comprising Chief Justice Raghavendra Singh Chauhan and Justice B Vijayesh Reddy, was dealing with a PIL filed by Md. Abdul Sami, seeking a direction to the government to take immediate steps to ensure continuation of digital classes for Urdu medium schools. The petitioner lamented that online teaching was only being done in Telugu and English mediums.

The court directed the principal secretary, education, and commissioner and director, Directorate of School Education, to respond to the notice by October 12, duly explaining the endeavour made by the government to ensure that necessary facilities are provided to students in Urdu medium schools and colleges. The bench observed, "why the online classes are not being conducted for students pursuing education through Urdu medium. We have a large population, which is more conversant with Urdu than Telugu."

Request for dream home



Beneficiaries of double-bedroom houses at Sai Charan colony in Musheerabad protest against the state government for the delay in completing the housing complex, during a visit by Union minister of home affairs G. Kishan Reddy and former BJP MLA Dr K. Laxman on Monday.

— P. SURENDRA

COVID CASES CROSS 2 LAKH MARK IN STATE

KANIZA GARARI IDC HYDERABAD, OCT. 5

Telangana state crossed the two-lakh mark in Covid-19 cases on Sunday, the 10th state to do so. The tally now stands at 2,00,611, according to the Covid-19 bulletin issued by the state health department on Monday.

Ahead of Telangana state are Maharashtra with 14.4 lakh cases stands first followed by Andhra Pradesh (7.23 lakh), Karnataka (6.4 lakh), Tamil Nadu (6.25 lakh), Uttar Pradesh (4.17 lakh), Delhi (2.92 lakh), West Bengal (2.7 lakh), Odisha (2.35 lakh) and Kerala (2.29 lakh) cases.

Telangana state recorded its first case on March 2 and reached the 50,000 mark on July 23. The one lakh cases mark was reached on August 22.

On Friday, the state recorded 1,335 new cases and eight deaths. With fewer people opting for tests, the number fell to 36,348. The toll stands at 1,171.

The total number of recoveries is 1,72,388. There are 27,052 active cases and 22,134 are undergoing treatment at home or in home isolation.

A total of 32,41,597 samples have been tested so far by state and private laboratories, and the state stands 12th in the number of tests conducted.

Of the total number of positive cases, 70 per cent or 1,40,428, were asymptomatic. The case fatality rate in Telangana state is 0.58 per cent, according to the health department bulletin.

Despite the low testing, the number of cases recorded in the GHMC area was 262 on Sunday. The government has stated that masks are mandatory and there must be physical distancing practiced strictly but at the ground level there are severe violations.

Regular services at govt hосps restart

BALU PULIPAKA IDC HYDERABAD, OCT. 5

Regular patient services have been restarted in all government hospitals with the exception of Gandhi Hospital, health minister Etala Rajendar said on Monday. "We are looking at and preparing to restart non-Covid-19 services at Gandhi Hospital too. Of the 2,000 beds, around 300 beds are occupied by Covid-19 patients," Rajendar said.

The minister made it clear that all doctors and staff at government

THE MINISTER made it clear that all doctors and staff at government hospitals have to return their regular and full-time duty.

hospitals have to return their regular and full-time duty. Any relaxations in terms of time off for quarantine will be applicable to those on Covid-19 duties, he said.

Speaking to reporters after launching a deworming drive among children, Rajendar appealed to people not to become lax in taking care of their safety in

the light of Covid-19 cases coming down in the state.

"The Bathukamma and Dasara festivals will see thousands of people gathering and everyone must be careful and follow the Covid-19 safety protocols as we should be aware what happened in Kerala during and after Onam festival," he said. He said during the current deworming drive, it is expected that 1.03 crore children will receive the medication that will be distributed by ASHA workers, ANMs and government medical staff.

KCR to review law and order situation in TS

S.A. ISHAQI IDC HYDERABAD, OCT. 5

review the situation.

Incidentally, DGP of Telangana state and Chhattisgarh met in Venkatapuram mandal of Mulugu district on Sunday in the presence of K. Vijay Kumar, senior security adviser, Union home ministry. They discussed recent developments and chalked out strategies to clamp down on left-wing extremist activities in both the states.

Given this background, it is expected that the CM will focus on Maoists activities during Wednesday's meeting.

The meeting is also expected to discuss at length law and order situation in the state, women's safety, protection of forests, controlling timber smuggling, regulating use of drugs like ganja and other issues.

Home and forest ministers, chief secretary, DGP, secretaries, additional DGP, IGS, DIGs, police commissioners and SPs will participate in the meeting.

In recent times, the police have gunned down six Maoists, four in Bhadrakothagudem district and two in Asifabad district. DGP M. Mahendar Reddy has twice toured the erstwhile Adilabad, Warangal and Khammam districts.

There are also inputs from the state and central intelligence agencies of Maoists trying to attract unemployed youth into their party.

The meeting gains significance in view of sudden spurt in movement of Maoists in the state, particularly in erstwhile Adilabad, Warangal and Khammam districts.

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Home and forest ministers, chief secretary, DGP, secretaries, additional DGP, IGS, DIGs, police

SHORT TAKES

HEALTH OF GIRL DUMPED ON STREET IMPROVES

DC CORRESPONDENT
KHAMMAM, OCT. 5

The newborn girl, who is undergoing treatment in the district headquarters hospital after she was dumped on a road by unidentified persons, has been christened Chandra by officials of child welfare department.

Chandra's health is improving and she is responding to the treatment. At birth, she weighed a very low 1.67 kg. The team of doctors, led by superintendent of the hospital D Venkateswarlu, is monitoring the newborn's health. The doctors, who kept her in ICU, removed the oxygen.

District welfare officer C.H. Sandhya Devi and district child welfare officer Vishnuchandana visited the hospital and enquired about her health. Sandhya Devi said "We hope that Chandra will recover soon."

Meanwhile, police have started seeing the CC camera footage to trace the persons who dumped the girl on the road.

MAN SETS MINOR ABLAZE FOR RESISTING ASSAULT

A. RAVINDRA SESHU | DC
KHAMMAM, OCT. 5

A minor girl sustained burn injuries during a molestation attempt by a person in Mustafanagar in Khammam. The condition of the girl is critical and she is undergoing treatment in the district headquarters hospital.

The incident came to light on Monday 13 days after it occurred when the mother of the victim lodged a complaint.

The girl was working as a domestic help in the house of one Allam Subba Rao in Mustafanagar and used to stay there. The son of the houseowner tried to molest her and she resisted. He poured petrol on her and set her alight.

Maraiah, son of Subba Rao, reportedly entered the girl's room on the night of September 19 and tried to molest her. When the girl resisted, he poured petrol on her and set her alight. The girl shouted and ran into Subba Rao's room.

Subba Rao and other family members doused the flames and took her to Puja Hospital for treatment. They threatened the victim's family members not to say anything. The parents informed the hospital her that the girl suffered burns after falling on oil.

Upon the incident coming to light, officials directed district medical and health officer Dr Malathi, to seize the hospital for treating a medico-legal case without informing the authorities.

The issue was taken to the notice of police commissioner Taseer Iqbal, who visited the victim, as also judicial officer Usha Rani Dr Malathi. The testimony of the victim was recorded and she was shifted to the government hospital.

The police took the father and son into custody and the investigation is on.

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RACKET | BUSTED

Kids made to work by bangle makers from 6 am to 11 pm

Cops rescue 20 kids from Bihar

BALU PULIPAKA | DC
HYDERABAD, OCT. 5

Twenty children from Bihar, lured by a woman from their families with the promise of providing them employment, brought to Hyderabad and forced to work as slave labour in bangle manufacturing units, were on Monday rescued by the police.

The accused, Mohammad Thoufiq, Mohammad Sarfaraz, Mohammad Mujahid, and Imtiaz, owned the units where the children were forced to work, were arrested. Their front, a woman identified as Mano Devi from Jethian village in Gaya district of Bihar, is yet to be arrested.

The police rescued the children in an early morning raid on the bangle-making units.

The Balapur police were assisted by A. Venkateshwarlu, state coordinator of Bachpan Bachao Andolan, Child Line

coordinator N. Nageshwar Rao, Ranga Reddy district child welfare committee member.

According to the police the three units were located near

Pink Palace. The police said the children were lied to and enticed to the city for work after their parents were paid some money.

According to Balapur station house officer P. Venkat Reddy, the children were made to work from 6 to 11 pm without rest and were detained in the houses that served as the bangle-making units. The food provided to them was stale and all the children were forced to stay in a congested room under inhuman conditions.

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KTR targets 10L CCTVs in Hyd

Focus to be on outskirts; Mahmood Ali says cameras brought down crime rate

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

A target of installing 10 lakh CCTV cameras across the city should be met to ensure citizen safety, municipal administration and urban development (MA&UD) minister K.T. Rama Rao said on Monday. The city currently has 5.8 lakh CCTV cameras.

"Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao has given the highest priority to citizen safety and has initiated several measures to strengthen security," Rama Rao said.

Chairing a review meeting

along with home minister Md. Mahmood Ali on CCTV cameras' installation in the city with top police officials, Rama Rao said that among Indian cities, Hyderabad has the highest number of CCTV cameras and has bagged the 16th place in the world according to a report.

New investments are being made in Hyderabad resulting in the expansion of the city on all sides, said Rama Rao, instructing officials to install more cameras in the outskirts of the city and municipalities and corporations.

Instructing the MA&UD

● **NEW INVESTMENTS** are being made in Hyderabad resulting in the expansion of the city on all sides, said Rama Rao, instructing officials to install more cameras in the outskirts of the city and municipalities and corporations.

department to coordinate with the police department to ensure all commercial complexes, gated communities, malls, IT parks, parks, shelter homes, govt hospitals

bus terminals and markets install CCTV cameras mandatorily. Rama Rao asked officials to work closely with government departments, public sector undertakings, residential welfare associations to install CCTV cameras where required.

Mahmood Ali stated that the crime rate has come down drastically in the state. He mentioned that the CCTV feed has played a crucial role in resolving many cases.

Director General of Police M. Mahendar Reddy informed the ministers that

the installation of large numbers of CCTVs in the city has helped reduce certain types of crime and has also proved helpful in solving crimes and nabbing criminals.

Asking officials to look into the opportunities of setting up CCTV cameras on the newly built flyovers, metro pillars and also near parks, lakes, and Basti Dawakhana, Rama Rao said "The safety and security levels will grow many folds in the city with the command control centre coming into operation."

ARJITHA SEVAS RESUME AT BHADRACHALAM TEMPLE

DC CORRESPONDENT
BHADRACHALAM, OCT. 5

● **DEVOTEES WERE** also allowed to participate in all puja programmes for the first time.

and Bhadrachalam participated in the various programmes conducted at the temple on Monday.

Temple executive officer T. Sivaji said, "We are taking all Covid-19 precautions. A limited number of devotees will be allowed for Abhishekam that is organised every week on Sunday."

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA REVENUE (LA) DEPARTMENT

FORM-VII
DECLARATION NOTIFICATION

(Under Section 19 (1) and rule 25, subrule (1) of Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act 2013 (Central Act No.30 of 2013))

Collector File No.G1/2357/2019 Date:01.10.2020

Special Deputy Collector and Revenue Divisional Officer, Siddipet File No.B180/2019, Date:01.10.2020

Gazette No.527/2020 Date:01.10.2020

Whereas it appears to the Government of Telangana/Collector that a total of Acre 13.12 Gs. and specified below situated in the limits of Bakriyepet Village of Siddipet (U)Mandal is needed for public purpose namely Excavation of 1-F of main canal for Sri Komaravelli Mallanna Sagar Reservoir under Kaleswaram Project, declaration notification is hereby issued under section 19(1) of Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act 2013.

Therefore, Draft Declaration Notification is issued for the below mentioned during the date of Land 13.12 Gs. situated within the limits of Bakriyepet Village of Siddipet (U)Mandal, to start the land acquisition work.

SCHEDULE

Village: Bakriyepet Manda: Siddipet (Urban) District: Siddipet

S.No	Survey No	Extended Land under acquisition	Name of the Patta/Holder/Enjoyer	Land type	Boundaries	Trees/Pipes/Drain/Wall/Bore and others situated on the Land.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	223	0.18	Boddu Shirisham S/o Narshima	Patta	222	203	221	224	4-Fencing poles 2-Teku Trees
2	223	0.14	Boddu Lakshmi W/o Shirisham	Patta	222	203	221	224	-
3	223	0.04	Kota Chakali Kanakaiah S/o Mallaiah	Patta	222	203	221	224	-
4	224	0.09	Medudhula Lakshmi W/o Narshima	Patta	225	200	203	226	2-Neem Tree
5	224	0.11	Bomma Rangaiah S/o Ramaiyah	Patta	225	200	203	226	2-Neem Tree
6	224	0.14	Medudhula Lakshmi W/o Narshima	Patta	225	200	203	226	1-Palm 1-Neem Trees
7	224	0.23	Medudhula Kanaka Ramulu S/o Narshima	Patta	225	200	203	226	-
8	225	0.16	Padmeshali Sangam	Patta	115	224	220	226	-
9	226	0.25	Bomma Rangaiah S/o Salu	Patta	200	115	225	228	2-Neem Trees
10	226	0.18	Kenniasaram Karuna Shi W/o Mallesham (Docu. No. 4573/2018) Dt: 13.04.2018	Patta	200	115	225	228	43-Fencing Poles
11	239	0.15	Pemberla Bhuchala S/o Kuntaiah	Patta	230	238	240	233	28-Fencing Poles 3-Subabul 2-Neem 2-Teak
12	239	0.15	Mandavaraju Narshima S/o Mallaiah	Patta	230	238	240	233	1-Neem Tree
13	239	0.03	Mandavaraju Narshima S/o Mallaiah	Patta	230	238	240	233	1-Neem Tree
14	239	0.12	Mandavaraju Narshima S/o Mallaiah	Patta	230	238	240	233	2-Narenga Trees
15	240	0.12	Medudhula Malleshwari S/o Chandraiah	Patta	230	243	242	238	1-Neem Tree
16	240	0.12	Bonala Rangaiah S/o Anandam	Patta	230	243	242	238	20-Fencing Poles 1-Teak
17	241	0.22	Medudhula Yadaiah S/o Narshima	Patta	226	242	200	240	-
18	242	0.20	Annam Ramulu S/o Narshima	Patta	243	243	200	245	2-Neem 1-Teak
19	242	0.06	Medudhula Narvana W/o Kistaiah	Patta	241	243	199	245	50-Nigiri 30-Fencing Poles
20	243	1.09	Medudhula Malleshwari S/o Narshima	Patta	242	244	199	245	-
21	243	0.10	Medudhula Ramava W/o Yadaiah	Patta	242	244	199	245	2-Teak
22	244	0.07	Medudhula Mallaiah S/o Narshima	Patta	243	245	198	245	8-Neem 6-Teak 4-Custard apple
23	245	0.29	Sikye Ojavva W/o Pochaiyal	Patta	244	248	198	236	-
24	250	0.10*	Manyla Narayana S/o Laxmijam	Patta	249	276	277	251	Nigiri 20-Fencing Poles
25	250	0.10*	Kachamu Srinivas Mallesham	Patta	249	276	277	251	2-Neem Trees
26	252	0.35	M/s. Heena Layers Firms M.D. Mohammad Abdul Samad	Patta	247	251	249	254	1-Pipeline
27	355	0.05	(Late) D.S. Chandramohan Reddy Wife: Dhanapalli Hymavath	Patta	353	366	354	356	5-Neem 1-Tunna Tree
28	357	1.16	Dhanapalli Hymavath W/o (Late) D.S. Chandramohan Reddy	Patta	359	358	359	VB	-
29	357	0.25*	Myadaboina Kanakaiah S/o Yelliah	Patta	359	358	359	VB	3-Tadi, 2-Chinta 1-Subabul 1-Meli, 1-Teak, 1-Pipe
30	357	0.25*	Myadaboina Anjiahia S/o Yelliah	Patta	359	358	359	VB	-
Total Extent:	13-12								

The Declaration notification is issued after consulting and hearing of the concerned interested parties and enquiry as provided in SGS 15 of Act 2013. As the land acquisition is for the purpose of canals, there were no displaced persons in the village, the question of rehabilitation does not arise.

Mines of coal, iron-stone or other minerals lying under the said land or any particular portion of the said land to be dug or removed during the excavation are not needed.

A plan of the land under acquisition specified above may be inspected in the office of the District Collector, Siddipet or Land Acquisition Officer and Special Deputy Collector (L.A.C),

SHORT TAKES
**HARISH RAO
SAYS CENTRE
MUST BORROW**

From Page 1

Telangana state finance minister T Harish Rao participating in the meeting chaired by Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman via video conference, said that the Centre must borrow the amount and distribute it among the states, rather than make the states approach financial institutions.

Harish Rao demanded that the meeting should first deal with the GST compensation issue before taking up any other agenda item.

He said the TS government was rejecting both options offered by the Centre — the provision of a special window in consultation with the RBI to provide ₹97,000 crore at a nominal interest rate, and state governments borrowing ₹2.35 lakh crore to make up for the GST shortfall in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India.

Harish Rao reiterated that states have the legitimate right to get compensated when there was revenue shortfall, particularly after the Covid-19 induced lockdown had shut all economic activities. Telangana state was supported by West Bengal, Kerala, Chhattisgarh, Delhi and Punjab.

He said that “the government has collected cess for six months and there are three instalments pending to be paid to the state. This must be paid immediately.”

Chief Secretary Somesh Kumar, principal secretary, finance K Ramakrishna Rao and commissioner, commercial taxes, Neetu Kumari Prasad were present in the meeting.

• **HARISH RAO** reiterated that states have the legitimate right to get compensated when there was revenue shortfall, particularly after the Covid-19 induced lockdown had shut all economic activities. Telangana state was supported by West Bengal, Kerala, Chhattisgarh, Delhi and Punjab.

**TWO PUNTERS
AMONG THREE
ARRESTED**

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, OCT. 5

Three persons, one organiser and two punters, were arrested for running an online cricket betting racket and for placing bets on the ongoing IPL cricket matches by the city police on Sunday night.

According to the police, a team of officials from the Central Zone Task Force raided a gaming centre being run at SS Enterprises office in Navodaya Medical Hall building in Red Hills.

During the raid, the police arrested Mahesh Prasad Tiwari, alias Manna, the organiser, and Pathakoti Mukesh Kumar and P Vikram, both punters.

The police said it seized ₹47,240, four mobile phones, a 22-inch LCD TV, one satellite TV set top box and remote control and a notepad.

They also seized a ball point pen.

The arrested men along with the seized property were handed over to the Nampally police.

Eight arrested for cricket betting

BALU PULIPAKA | DC
HYDERABAD, OCT. 5

The Cyberabad police have busted a large and illegal cricket betting racket, arrested eight people including one organiser and seven punters, seized ₹22,89,400 from them, and are on the lookout for nine others involved in the same racket of whom two are organizers and the rest punters.

According to the police, the Special Operations Team from Balanagar, acting on credible information, raided Omkar Opticals, near Suchitra cross-roads in Pet Basheerabad police station limits while the group was indulging in betting on the IPL cricket matches on Sunday evening.

Along with the cash seized, the police also froze a bank account with ₹13 lakh in it, and seized eight mobilephones from the arrested persons.

The arrested were identified as Chandoor Shashank, a

Congress will expose TRS, BJP, MIM nexus: Tagore

Party workers ready to fight Dabbaka byelection: AICC gen secy

BALU PULIPAKA | DC
HYDERABAD, OCT. 5

The Congress in Telangana state is looking forward to rebuilding itself with its committed cadres, faith in the party among the people, according to Manickam Tagore, the All India Congress Committee's general secretary in charge for the state.

Making it clear that there were still challenges that need to be overcome, Tagore, who set himself a target of the Congress winning 79 seats in the Legislative Assembly in the 2023 elections, says he is already encouraged by the willingness of party leaders and workers to come together to give the upcoming Assembly byelection in Dabbaka a serious go.

The AICC general secretary, who recently took over the reins as Congress in-charge for the state, is, however, under no illusion when it comes to the task ahead. In an interview to *Deccan Chronicle*, Tagore peppered his answers with analogies from cricket as he answered questions. Excerpts:

On reining in individual leaders' aspirations and moulding them into working for a common cause

Remember, there was a time when the Indian cricket team was full of stalwarts, several members of the team in the 1990s were former captains. It wasn't easy then to win the World Cup. But when India started winning, it was when the team had a mix of seniors and newcomers who were rearing to go. The team matured and there has been no looking back. The Congress in Telangana state is in a similar situation. There are many senior leaders along with younger leaders. My task is to create an atmosphere of com-



mon ground. And we are on our way to achieving that.

On three most important challenges and advantages Congress has in Telangana

We have a committed cadre, a committed vote share and loyalty among people, and a variety of leadership in the state, each of whom has something to bring to the table.

These are our strengths. The challenges are garnering resources, instilling a teamwork

culture, and exposing the nexus between the TRS, the BJP, and the MIM. The thing is, Telangana state has only the 'First Family' of Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao. The rest of the people in the state do not matter to this government. Our job will be to expose this, relate our actions and plans to the needs of the people.

On how he plans to reach out to the people of the state

Rahul Gandhi always says listen to the people, understand where they are coming from, understand their problems and then find solutions. In Telangana state, 50 of our leaders will visit 12 mandals each and interact with people. We also plan to reach out to 28 lakh farmers.

Our plan is to start a conversation with the people. We have 38 months to go for the 2023 Assembly elections. We

will get there and win 79 seats. This number is based on various factors but these are the seats that we can win.

On the upcoming Dabbaka bypoll and the graduates' constituencies MLC elections

Just on Sunday, I had three meetings on the Dabbaka election. The first two there were many individual voices but by the time the third meeting ended, the mood was one of the need for an effort where everyone pitches in by setting aside any personality issues or differences. Whether it is the Dabbaka bypoll, the MLC elections or the ones for the GHMC Council, these will show whether we are getting to where we need to be for 2023.

These three are like small cricket matches. The World Cup we are aiming for is the 2023 Assembly elections.

WAKF OFFICIALS DETAINED FOR RUCKUS AT UPPAL GRAVEYARD

ATHER MOIN | DC
HYDERABAD, OCT. 5

The Uppal police detained officials of the Wakf Board for raising objections over acquiring of a graveyard land for road widening of national highway without adhering to the provisions of the land acquisition laws. They were later released on the intervention of the director, minorities welfare, Shahnawaz Qasim.

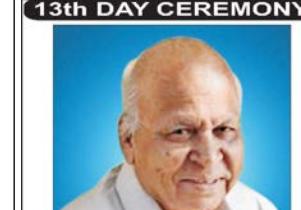
There is a masjid and a graveyard in Survey No. 89 in Uppal village and there were encroachments by local traders.

On the representation of local Muslims, home minister Mahmood Ali had sanctioned ₹18 lakh for erecting a boundary wall to the graveyard. However, locals were creating hurdles in removing the encroachment and erecting the boundary wall.

To ensure protection of Wakf institutions, local Muslims approached the court and obtained directions to construct the boundary wall within three months. It is pertinent to mention that National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) sought the land attached to the masjid and graveyard of 75 feet deep, but Wakf Board objected to it as this would damage graves and was ready to hand over land only 50 feet deep.

When Wakf Board officials reached the site on Monday, they found that the graves were removed and boundary walls were being raised inside the graveyard.

13th DAY CEREMONY



SRI SUDERSHAN DUBEY
(Pappu Raja)

When someone you love becomes a memory, that memory becomes a treasure

Inserted By: Deep Sorrow We Inform the Demise of

PAUL DINESH SIMON
DOB: 26.04.1965 DOD: 06.10.2006

Inserted by: Family Members

Ph.: 9440924949 / 9391133223

**nainam chindam sastrani nainam
dahati pavakah na ca nainam
kledayantyapa na sosayati marutah**

With Deep Sorrow We Inform the Demise of

SRI RAJASEKHARA SASTRY
Rtd General Manager SBH

17th June 1940 - 5th October 2020

In sorrow: Wife - Viju Lakshmi

Son and Daughter-in-Law: Anand

Vaidika and Vaidika

Daughter and Son-in-Law: Sujata and Ravi

Cremation at 11 AM, 6th Oct 2020, At

Vaikuntha Mahaprabhatham Jubilee

Hills. Near GRC Convention, Whisper Valley. Ph: 8008266554

FAMILY MEMBERS

Ph: 040-23343922 / 9394036360

Inserted by: Family Members

DOB: 6.10.1941 DOD: 5.07.2017

KOTA JONES ELDOR
s/o Kota Lawrence

**"...when the dead in Christ shall rise, And
the glory of His resurrection share.. When
theroll is called upon ye'll be there."**

Inserted by: Beloved Wife, Sons,
Daughters-in-Law, Grandchildren
and All Family Members

703220085, 9885256001, 040-23344349

DRDO chief's imposter held

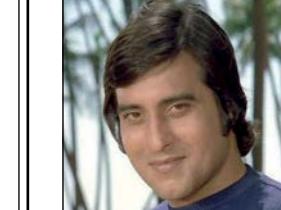
DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, OCT. 5

into contact with a man identified as Murthy Rao at a tea shop opposite the college. When Murthy Rao offered him a job at DRDO, Praveen paid him ₹20,000 from his college free.

But Murthy Rao absconded with the money and Praveen hit upon the plan to pose as someone who can offer others jobs at DRDO and began cheating others, police said.

His first victim was Varakantham Anil Reddy, whom Praveen promised a job as supervisor in the DRDO's finance department and collected ₹3.61 lakh in installments. He made his victim believe that he was DRDO chairman Sateesh Reddy and kept in touch with Anil Reddy on WhatsApp, arranged a fake ID and gave him some fabricated project work.

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE



SHRI SIR VINOD KHANNA

DOB: 6.10.1946

Its your special day today & you are not someone who can be forgotten.

We Miss You!

Inserted by:

DILIP KUMAR DESAI

Ph: 9866331904

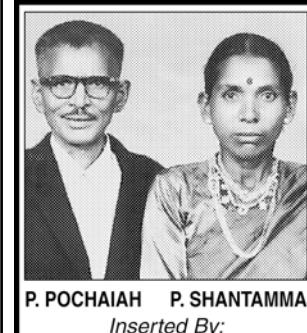
SANTA GHOSH (Kolkata)

HEMNALINI JAMES (Hyderabad)

Inserted By:

FAMILY MEMBERS

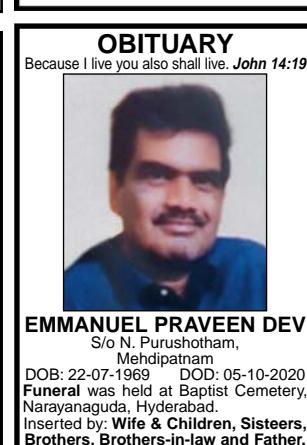
IN FOND MEMORY OF OUR PARENTS



P. POCHAIH P. SHANTAMMA

Inserted By:

FAMILY MEMBERS



EMMANUEL PRAVEEN DEV

S/o N. Purushotham,

Melipatnam,

DOB: 22-07-1969 DOD: 05-10-2020

Funeral was held at Baptist Cemetery, Narayanauguda, Hyderabad.

Inserted by: With Love, Sisters, Brothers, Brothers-in-Law and Father.

Ph: 9849883280 & 9676141600

(S/2021/D00677)

OBITUARY

Because I live you also shall live. John 14:19



Ar. ELSA DOROTHY

DOB: 17.02.1987 DOD: 06.10.2018

You will never be far from us, we still feel your presence and you will always remain in our hearts forever.

Inserted by: Louis, Jayanthi, Johnson, Shrine, Joshua and Tanya

Ph: 986685004, 8374587842

40th DAY MEMORIAL SERVICE



We regret to inform the sad demise of

Miss EDNA LAZARUS

[ON 27th August 2020]

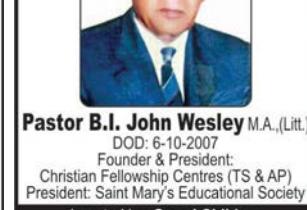
High Mass held at St. Cecilia's Church, Dayanand Nagar Today at 7 a.m.

Inserted by: Brother: Edward Lazarus Nephas, S. Lazarus, Patrick Lazarus and Fly, Vincent Lazarus and Family

Ph: 9848615452

(CA-3428)

2nd DEATH ANNIVERSARY



Pastor B.I. John Wesley M.A.(Litt.)

SHORT TAKES

TODDLER SWALLOWS CRAX TOY, DIES

K.M.P. PATNAIK | DC
VIZIANAGARAM, OCT. 5

An 18-month girl, Mounika, died after swallowing a plastic toy that came as a freebie along with a packet of snacks of Crax at Chinagudabu under Garugubilli police station limits in Vizianagaram district.

The incident took place on Sunday night and came to light on Monday after police registered a case.

Mounika's mother Sandhyarani purchased the packet from a trader in the village on Sunday evening, opened it and handed it over to the girl. Mounika found a small plastic toy inside the packet, which she apparently swallowed. It got stuck in her windpipe, choking her to death.

3 HELD FOR TONSURING BORROWER

DC CORRESPONDENT
JANGAREDDYGUDEM, (WEST GODAVARI), OCT. 5

Lakkavaram police arrested three persons in connection with the tonsuring of 23-year-old Allaka Abhilash of Tadepalligudem. The arrested persons were identified as Yarasani Vijay (22), Rankireddy Markandeya, alias Marks (32), and Sk. Nagur Meeravali (21) of Jangareddygudem.

According to Lakkavaram sub-inspector Kutumba Rao, Abhilash had borrowed ₹28,000 from a girl who is the friend of one of the accused, Vijay, six months back and did not repay it. On Sunday, Vijay and Marks came to Tadepalligudem, abducted Abhilash and took him to Vijay's house. They called a barber and tonsured his head. Abhilash lodged a complaint with Lakkavaram police. Rao said that the third accused is the driver of the car.

Hetero Drugs adopts Mumbapur forest area

BALU PULIPAKA | DC
HYDERABAD, OCT. 5

Hetero Drugs has adopted 2,543 acres of the Mambapur-Nallavelli forest under the Harita Haram program of the state government.

Dr Partha Saradhi Reddy planted a sapling and laid the foundation stone and gave a cheque for ₹5 crore to the government.

The Mumbapur urban forest block is located near Gundlapochampalli, near Outer Ring Road of Hyderabad and Sangareddy districts.

The forest is extended in three compartments and Mumbapur (1,777 acres), Nallavelli (766 acres) have been adopted by Hetero Pharma.

Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao had

recently visited the Narsapur forest and asked officials to take care of forests located near ORR, industrial corridors and highways of Narsapur-Medak Bodhan.

Recently actor Prabhas adopted an urban forest and many more are expected to come forward.

Stabilisation of 2,543 acres by fencing almost 25 km periphery and development of a small eco-park would be taken up by the money donated by Hetero Park.

The 630-metre hilly area located at almost two kms inside the forest would be developed as a view point. Forest officials stated that this effort would increase the population of rare species of trees, deer, wolves, rabbits, peacocks and many other native varieties.

Saanvi enters Asia Book of Records for cooking

DC CORRESPONDENT
VISAKHAPATNAM, OCT. 5

Saanvi M. Prajat, a 10-year-old student of Navy Children School, Visakhapatnam, has entered the Asia Book of Records as well as India Book of Records by preparing 33 food dishes in just one hour.

Inspired by her mother Manjma, Saanvi prepared food items including idly, waffles, corn fritters, mushroom tikka, uttappam, paneer tikka, egg bulls eye, sandwich, papdi chaat,

fried rice, chicken roast, pancake, appam and more. She is the daughter of Wing Commander Prajit Babu. Her mother Manjma is a star chef and a reality cooking show finalist. As a child, Saanvi had always been fascinated by the kitchen. She started cooking at a very early age alongside her mother and grandparents.

Saanvi has participated in several Children's cooking shows. She also has a YouTube channel showcasing her attempts in cooking simple and tasty dishes.

AP records lowest 4,256 fresh Covid-19 cases

DC CORRESPONDENT
VIJAYAWADA, OCT. 5

Andhra Pradesh has registered the lowest-ever new Covid-19 positive cases of 4,256, unlike above 10,000 cases a few weeks ago, raising the overall Coronavirus tally to 7,23,512 during the last 24 hours.

State health authorities have released their Covid-19 bulletin here on Monday reporting that out of 56,145

new samples tested, 4,256 individuals have been found to be infected with Coronavirus.

Out of the 61,50,351 samples tested for Covid-19 so far in the state, 6,66,433 patients have been discharged after recovery and 51,060 patients are still active with the virus. Among the daily new confirmed Coronavirus cases, East Godavari district continues to register the highest number of cases.

Parents worry over reopening of schools

Some schools, teachers also have apprehensions on safety

TS against corporatisation of education, says KTR

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

Though the Centre has issued guidelines for the reopening of schools and colleges for in-class tuition and the state government is working on modalities to do so based on local conditions, parents appear very wary of sending their children back to school.

Some school management and teachers too appear to have reservations on just how safe it might be for children to be back in school. The experiment of allowing students of Classes 9 to 12 to voluntarily go to school to clarify doubts, with the express approval of parents, which was started last month, has seemingly drawn a poor response.

Ghulam Ali, a forex trader, said "I have five children and there are another 15 children in the extended family. All of us have paid the fee on time, but when it comes to our children's health we cannot bargain with that. We will not send them to school unless we are assured that there are medicines to keep them safe or they will get vaccinated for the Coronavirus."

Christina Clementia, a teacher at St Joseph's Public School, feels that the re-opening of schools might not be safe, especially for primary or middle school children. "Normally each class has about 40 to 45 students. Even if the school management takes every precautionary measure, what if one student

K.T. RAMA RAO said that the IT department would provide support to engineering, polytechnic students in placements. He added that the government through its Telangana Academy for Skill and Knowledge (TASK) will help students upgrade their skills and make them industry-ready.

of their teachers and lecturers.

Maintaining that the government was improving facilities of institutions while providing education from KG to PG and simultaneously encouraging small and medium level educational institutions set up in rural areas.

Rama Rao said that the IT department would provide support to engineering, polytechnic students in placements. He added that the govern-

ment through its Telangana Academy for Skill and Knowledge (TASK) will help students upgrade their skills and make them industry-ready.

Representatives of engineering and pharma, vocational, BEd and teacher training colleges brought their issues to the notice of the ministers, who assured to discuss all the issues. Rama Rao stated that the state government has cleared long-pending reimbursement fees amount.

MLC Palla Rajeshwar Reddy, State Planning Board vice-chairman B. Vinod, Telangana State Council of Higher Education's Papi Reddy, Special Chief Secretary, higher education, Chitra Ramachandran, principal secretaries Jayesh Ranjan and Arvind Kumar and secretaries and heads of various departments participated in the meeting.

walks in carrying the virus? This will put all the students at risk," she said.

School managements too have some misgivings about re-opening for physical classes. Sister D. Sujatha, principal of St Theresa's Girls' High School, Sanathnagar, which has a strength of 2,500 students, said "even if all the standard oper-

ating procedures are followed, it will still not be 100 per cent safe for the children."

Voiceing a concern that many other school managements too appear to have on their minds, Sujatha said "Even if we do everything to keep our students safe, what if a child who contracted the virus outside of the school, at home or in his

or her neighbourhood, is later discovered as carrying Covid-19? Then it will be school managements that will be blamed. The schools can easily become scapegoats in such cases."

She added: "My personal opinion is that we need to hold on online classes till a proper solution is found for the Coronavirus."

Protest against exams



Police detain students belonging to the NSUI during a protest demanding postponement of exams, at Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, in Hyderabad, on Monday. — DC

HC to hold daily hearing on Amaravati from today

DC CORRESPONDENT
VIJAYAWADA, OCT. 5

Justice Rakesh Kumar on Monday observed that it would be taking up daily hearing on 229 interlocutory petitions filed on capital city Amaravati and its related issues. The court further observed that it would also take up hearings on petitions filed seeking interim orders.

The HC may take up physical hearing of writ petitions filed once the hearing is completed in the interlocutory petitions.

In a related development, CPI state secretary K. Ramakrishna filed a counter-affidavit in the High Court stating that Amaravati was suitable for being the capital city and ₹10,000 crore was already spent on its development. He said that change of capital city would add cost heavily and felt the need to develop north Andhra districts, Rayalseema region and Prakasam districts in his counter-affidavit.

FORMAT C-2

(for Political party to publish in website, newspapers, TV)
Declaration about Criminal antecedents of candidates setup by the party

(As per the judgment dated 25th September, 2018 of Hon'ble Supreme Court in W.P. (Civil) No. 536 of 2011 (Public Interest Foundation & Ors. Vs. Union of India & Anr.)

Name of Political Party

: TELANGANA RASHTRA SAMITHI (TRS)

Name of Election

: By Election to Telangana State Legislative Council from Nizamabad Local Authorities Constituency

Name of STATE/UT

: TELANGANA STATE

1	2	3	4	5
Sl. No.	Name of Candidate	Name of Constituency	Pending Criminal Cases	Details about cases of conviction for criminal offences
1.	K.KAVITHA Alias KALVAKUNTLA KAVITHA	NIZAMABA D LOCAL AUTHORITI ES CONSTITU ENCY	Metropolita n Sessions Judge cum court of special sessions Judge, Nampally, Hyderabad CC No. 99 of 2018 Charges not yet framed	Under Section 341, 188 of Indian Penal Code - The accused person is in connection with Pro-Telangana agitation cases.
2.	K.KAVITHA Alias KALVAKUNTLA KAVITHA	NIZAMABA D LOCAL AUTHORITI ES CONSTITU ENCY	Metropolita n Sessions Judge cum court of special sessions Judge, Nampally, Hyderabad CC No. 69 of 2018 Charges not yet framed	Under Section 188, 353 and 427 r/w 34 of Indian Penal Code. The accused person is in connection with Pro-Telangana agitation cases.

Signature of the Office bearer of the Political Party

Name: MADIREDDY SRINIVAS REDDY

Designation: General Secretary

TELANGANA RASHTRA SAMITHI (TRS)

FORMAT C-1

(for Candidate to publish in Newspapers, TV)

Declaration about Criminal Cases

(As per the judgment dated 25th September, 2018 of Hon'ble Supreme Court in W.P. (Civil) No. 536 of 2011 (Public Interest Foundation & Ors. Vs. Union of India & Anr.)

Name and address of Candidate : K. KAVITHA alias KALVAKUNTLA KAVITHA Resident of H.No. 8-2-310/A/31/A, FLAT NO 202, HILL TOP RESIDECY, PLOT NO 214, ROAD NO.14, BANJARA HILLS, HYDERABAD, 500034

Name of Political Party

: TELANGANA RASHTRA SAMITHI (TRS)

Name of Election

: By ELECTION TO TELANGANA STATE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Name of Constituency

: NIZAMABAD LOCAL AUTHORITIES CONSTITUENCY

I, K. KAVITHA alias KALVAKUNTLA KAVITHA, a candidate for the above mentioned election, declare for public information, the following details about my Criminal antecedents:

Sl. No.	Pending Criminal Cases		Details about cases of conviction for criminal offences	
	Name of Court	Case No. and Status of Case	Section (s) of Acts concerned and brief description of offence(s)	Name of Court & date (s) of order(s) Description of offence(s) & Punishment imposed
1	Metropolitan Sessions Judge cum court of special sessions Judge, Nampally, Hyderabad	CC No. 99 of 2018 Charges not yet framed	Under Section 341, 188 of Indian Penal Code - The accused person is in connection with Pro-Telangana agitation cases.	NOT APPLICABLE
2	Metropolitan Sessions Judge cum court of special sessions Judge, Nampally, Hyderabad	CC No. 69 of 2018 Charges not yet framed	Under Section 188, 353 and 427 r/w 34 of Indian Penal Code. The accused person is in connection with Pro-Telangana agitation cases.	NOT APPLICABLE

Sd/-

Kalvakuntla Kavitha
Contesting Candidate (TRS)
Nizamabad Local Authorities Constituency

DECCAN Chronicle

6 OCTOBER 2020

Caste & crime: How law loses its way in Hathras

The rape-murder of a Dalit girl in Hathras in Uttar Pradesh, the messy investigation the police has been conducting and the premature conclusions it has arrived at, and the abominable response of the government and a section of society to the entire episode point to the fact that crime, especially, sexual assault, remains a tool in the hands of the powerful without facing a challenge, 73 years after Independence.

Crimes do happen in all societies but how the system responds to it makes the difference. In this instance, all that followed the filing of the first information report look bogus. A senior police official going public saying there was no rape because there was no sperm found on the victim's body violates the sections in the Indian Penal Code which defines what makes an act rape. The burning of the body in the dead of the night by policemen disregarding the wishes of the family and against its will has very little parallel in the country's history. The district magistrate going to the village and suggesting to the relatives against pressing for an investigation is nothing less than criminal conduct to obstruct the path of justice. Reports that the special investigation team is planning to conduct narco-analysis tests on the family of the victim sound eerie and border on the absurd. The stopping of national leaders on their way to the village and the denial of access to the media betray the diabolic plan to undermine efforts to expose the shortcomings of the administration. The public demonstration demanding justice to the accused is, however, not new. The nation had witnessed it happening when an eight-year-old girl was gang-raped, maimed and killed in Kathua in Jammu and Kashmir two years ago. The latest, that the police has filed an FIR saying there is a conspiracy to defame the government and instigate riots under the garb of protests, follows the same pattern the government followed in the Bhima-Koregaon and Delhi riots case. It will not be long before all those who have participated and supported the protests demanding justice in the case could be booked under charges that include sedition. An elected representative blaming the victim creeps it all.

Caste has evolved over centuries and so are the tools of caste oppression. They work on several planes and in layers, and crime is one among them. Their unmaking is not an easy or speedy task but a nation must have it in its thought process if it wants to be called a civilised one. There are laws that view violence on Scheduled Castes and Tribes with serious eyes but they lose their purpose in the hands of officials like the district magistrate of Hathras, who, despite being responsible for its implementation, worked to ensure its defeat.

It is unacceptable that there should be national protests if the rape-murder of a Dalit were to be investigated. There must be legal provisions to make those who are responsible for doing justice in such cases culpable if they fail in their job. That will be a small step towards righting a historical wrong.

Bihar: Battle lines drawn

The battle lines are drawn. The alliances, at least four of them, are nearly settled for the crucial polls to the 243-seat Bihar Assembly (October 28, November 3 and 7). As the first major poll to be held since the advent of the coronavirus pandemic, the Bihar polls assume greater significance. How the voters react to the guest worker crisis, which was triggered by the pandemic and in which several million workers, many of them from Bihar, walked back home with some dying on the road, could constitute a key reaction guiding political fortunes. Besides the human tragedy inflicted upon migrants by an abrupt total lockdown last March, the ruling alliance will also be facing up to the electorate's opinion of how the pandemic was handled in the state.

The eleventh hour twist in the NDA alliance, with the Lok Janshakti Party of Chirag Paswan going on its own and intending to field candidates against Nitish Kumar's JD(U) but not against BJP, changes the equation somewhat, particularly for the incumbent chief minister seeking to continue his long reign. As the dominant national partner, BJP may not feel the full force of this blow though any splinter can only weaken the state alliance. In a larger context, the BJP's not so formidable performances in Assembly polls as evidenced in Gujarat, Karnataka and Maharashtra, may weigh on it once again when it comes to cobbling a coalition majority to extend Nitish's rule.

Ranged against the NDA is the principal Opposition alliance of the RJD, the Congress and the Left. Not looking as intimidating as in the days when this grand alliance used to be called the Mahagathbandhan and with the CM face Tejaswi Yadav and his brother under a cloud facing a murder charge, the alliance has much work to do in its campaign to try and cover ground lost in Bihar since the heyday of the titan Lalu Prasad. The Progressive Democratic Alliance and the RLSP-BSP combine may lend the hustings a keener edge. Needless to say, the stakes are high.

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Subhani



What makes the elite think they're smarter?

Mohan Guruswamy

In their rather ram-bunctious first debate for the US presidency, we saw Donald Trump try to belittle Joe Biden for his education. Mr Biden grew up in the backwoods of Pennsylvania and Delaware, in a family down on circumstances, and went to the University of Delaware, which is a very affordable university. Mr Trump was not smart because of that. He didn't care if Mr Biden went on to study law at the well-regarded Syracuse University. It was Mr Biden's good upbringing that he didn't bring up the matter of Mr Trump's SAT scores, which his sister wrote was taken by a stand-in. Despite this, Donald Trump initially studied at a place called Fordham University and then transferred to Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, where he took a bachelor's degree. Mr Trump obviously thinks this chicanery makes him smart. Money paves the way to admission into the elite American universities like Yale and Brown, where it helps pay for the merit students who win scholarships. Even Harvard, whose gigantic endowment somewhat insures it against checkbook meritocracy, is not immune to blandishments.

People who study at elite institutions like the Doon School in India or Eton in Britain or Exeter in the United States assume certain airs and generally look down on others without rich or well-connected parents. Rajiv Gandhi went to Doon School and liked to flaunt it, though he may not have needed that to qualify as a commercial pilot.

People who go to elite schools or even good English medium schools catering to the wealthy and well connected speak

Prof. Shamus Khan has elaborated it on this sense of privilege and elitism instilled in the institutions in his book Privilege: The Making of an Adolescent Elite at St. Paul's School

English with a different accent, with the regional accent ironed out of it. They are fluent in it and look down at others with condescension. I believe in that archetypal institution of elitism in India, Delhi's St. Stephen's College, they are called "vernacs".

This infantile elitism came to the fore when Mani Shankar Aiyar sneeringly referred to Narendra Modi as a chain-walla who should be selling tea at the AIIC office, turning it into a seminal moment in the 2014 elections.

Harvard economist Raj Chetty has shown that children whose parents are in the top one per cent of earners are 77 times more likely to attend an Ivy League school than are the children of poorer parents - meaning that, in cases like this, admission is less about talent and more about coming from the right family. In that way, privilege casts inherited advantages as "exceptional" qualities that justify special treatment. In other words, elitism tends to make the privileged selfish and self-serving.

Prof. Shamus Khan, the chair of the sociology department at Columbia University, has elaborated on this sense of privilege and elitism instilled in the institutions in his book *Privilege: The Making of an Adolescent Elite at St. Paul's School*.

Khan should know what it means to be inside an elite institution, having been educated at St. Paul's School at Concord, New Hampshire, and then at the equally elite liberal arts institution, Haverford College.

Incidentally, Haverford is one of the most expensive colleges in the US,

making rich parents an added advantage. Fortunately, the massification of education and the steep pyramid to

also has an Oxbridge Society, where the more snooty types who studied Shakespeare in college would meet, presumably to sip sherry. Even St. Stephen's College has its alumni gatherings. I am told that at one such meeting K. Natwar Singh wrote in the visitors' book: "I owe everything I am to the College". Writing next, Mani Shankar Aiyar, never at a loss for words, wrote: "Why blame the college?"

Khan might very well be writing about President Trump when he says: "Such selfish tendencies extend well beyond the way the privileged use untruths to their advantage."

In the mythologies they construct, only those who are truly exceptional are admitted - precisely because they are not like everyone else. Their deans typically welcome newcomers by telling them that they are "the very best students". To attend these institutions is to be told constantly: "You're special, you're a member of the select, you have been chosen because of your outstanding qualities and accomplishments".

Khan writes that schools often quite openly affirm the idea that, because you are better, you are not governed by the same dynamics as everyone else.

They celebrate their astonishingly low acceptance rates and broadcast lists of notable alumni who have earned their places within the nation's highest institutions, such as the Supreme Court. This sense of exclusiveness is fostered in the real world by alumni associations and social clubs, where birds of a feather flock together.

When I returned from Harvard in 1983, I learned there was a Harvard Club in New Delhi, for alumni to periodically meet. I went a few times and then stopped as I found that there were few degree holders there and mostly "alumni" who took short and exorbitantly priced courses for the privilege of wearing a university or college tie. New Delhi

LETTERS

DEMOCRACY

If unrighteousness increases, the BJP and Prime Minister Narendra Modi will fall with the same speed they rose (*Democracy's discontent: Is India for the people?*, DC, Oct. 5). *Ati sarvatra varjyet* (excess of anything is bad) in Sanskrit. M.S. Murty Hyderabad

DHARANI PORTAL

There is an urgent need to explain to people on how to register their assets on Dharani portal. Documents necessary before the enquirer comes for details must be clearly spelt out. Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao is telling officials what to take on the portal. If people are not told about it, will the work go ahead?

C.V.R. Krishna Hyderabad

NAME MISMATCH

On the Dharani portal we need a solution so that name mismatch between GHMC property tax, sale deed and Aadhaar can be sorted out and be linked like how the Income-Tax department did for PAN card and Aadhaar card. My name on sale deed is "Anusheel" (one word) while on property tax it is "Anhusel" because of a typo and on Aadhaar it is "Anu Sheel" which is correct. Because of this, I am unable to update my details online.

Anu Sheel Hyderabad

50 YEARS AGO IN DECCAN Chronicle

No uniform land ceiling

MADRAS, OCT. 5

The Union Finance Minister, Mr. Y. B. Chavan, said today that there could not be a uniform land ceiling all over the country. It would vary from area to area according to the soil and rainfall.

But, Mr. Chavan added answering questions at a press conference here, there should be some reconsideration of the existing ceilings and the family holdings should be taken as the basis for this purpose.

Mr. Chavan said that the present moment the Government was thinking in terms of a ceiling on urban property. Asked how soon this policy would be implemented he said: "Do not talk in terms of any period. Details have to be worked out and a final decision taken."



Aakar Patel

In India, a lot must be done to ensure rule of law prevails

authority at the expense of personal freedoms), like the Prime Minister and the chief minister of Uttar Pradesh, then the same State appears to be undemocratic.

The rule of law exists in states where there is no space for authority to exercise arbitrary power. By that definition, India is clearly not a "rule of law" state. There is actually very little restriction on the arbitrary exercise of authority.

Parliament can be denied the right to vote. People can be denied the right to freedom of peaceful assembly (guaranteed under Article 19) by declaring Section 144 CrPC at India Gate. An entire village can be denied the right to liberty (guaranteed under Article 21) by simply locking it up and not allowing anyone to either go in or out. This is not how democratic states are supposed to function, but it is happening in India. There is no limiting element to how much arbitrary authority can be exercised.

The Constitution does not change and nor are any laws required to be altered here. The State just doesn't have the internal capacity to resist misuse.

This is both true and not true of the Indian State. It is democratic in the sense that it is controlled by political parties which are elected to office for fixed terms.

Theoretically, the judiciary can check the overreach of the government. But the Indian judiciary can be managed by a strong authority in ways that it cannot be in other nations. Judges can be given Rajya Sabha seats and governorships as a reward. Indian judges can appear in their own matter when they are accused of sexual harassment, and their fellow judges will not object to this. This is a violation of one of the fundamental principles of justice, referred to as "nemo iudex in causa sua" (nobody can be a judge in their own cause), but it has happened in India recently. This is not a "rule of law" state.

For it to become one, it must have stronger institutional capacity than it does now. And it must have more participation from the citizenry than it does. Indians pride them-

selves on having one of the highest voting rates in the democratic world, and that is something to be justifiably proud of. In the United States, for example, the voter turnout in the 2016 election that brought President Donald Trump to power was 55 per cent. This was 12 per cent less than the turnout in India's 2019 election, when 67 per cent of the electorate voted. That is a substantial difference.

But Americans participate in the democracy outside of the electoral process too. Protests against the arbitrary use of authority, as seen in the Black Lives Matter movement, in which millions of people dissented against the use of force against African Americans, have brought major changes to law and policy.

In India, such protests are restricted severely by the State, but it appears also to be the case that there is less interest at the level of the Indian citizen in standing up for his or her constitutional rights. This is particularly so on issues where there is no individual or selfish interest. Standing up for others is something that is the bedrock of the rule of law and democratic states. In

India, the authority assumes, perhaps rightly, that protests are localised and limited to those immediately concerned with the issue, and will therefore die down in time.

How do we move from this place to becoming a rule of law nation (something that presumably most of us want)? The answer is not easy, and it is not even clear. For instance, it cannot just be the defeat of one party and the election of another. Because there is no limit to the supply of strong-willed authoritarians and the problem will recur in future.

Something deeper needs to be done and it is not clear whether this change can be produced by external forces or by a single event. The ownership of India as a rule of law democracy must be ultimately with the citizenry. At the moment, it is not. The expectation is that the government will not abuse its authority and that a political party will not misuse the State. What we are seeing today is the clear evidence that this is not enough.

Aakar Patel is a senior journalist and columnist

SHORT TAKES

BOY REBUKED FOR PLAYING ONLINE GAME, ENDS LIFE

AKSHAYA KUMAR SAHOO | DC
BHUBANESWAR, OCT. 5

A 15-year-old boy allegedly killed himself by jumping into a river after being rebuked by his mother for playing games on a mobile phone at Banapur village in Jajpur district, reports said on Monday.

According to reports, the deceased, who had passed the Class X examinations this year, was on Sunday playing the game on a mobile phone when his mother reprimanded him and took away the mobile phone from him.

The boy soon went out of the house and didn't return.

Later, locals spotted the body of the boy floating in a nearby river and informed his family members, who reached the spot and identified the deceased.

The body was recovered by police and sent to the District Headquarters Hospital for post-mortem.

An unnatural death case has been registered in this connection and further investigation was underway.

AUNTS SMOOTHER TODDLER, HIDE BODY

Noida, Oct. 5: Two women were arrested on Monday for allegedly smothering their two-year-old nephew over "jealousy" with his mother in Uttar Pradesh's Greater Noida, police said.

The child was killed on September 29 by her two aunts, who had then covered his body in a blanket and hid it in a wardrobe inside their house, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Central Noida, Harish Chander said.

"The child had gone missing and on September 29, the family had approached the local Surajpur police station where a case for missing was lodged in connection with the matter and probe taken up," Chander said.

Later that night, the toddler's body was recovered from the wardrobe and taken to a hospital where doctors confirmed death and stated asphyxiation as the cause, the officer said.

"The matter was investigated and the two aunts were interrogated based on evidence suggesting their role. The two women have confessed to killing the child and have been arrested," he claimed.

The incident took place when accused Pinki, who is married and is the elder sister of co-accused Rinki, had visited her parent's house, the police said.

Both siblings, around 30 years of age, told police that they were upset with the child's mother Sapna, wife of their brother, over her attitude towards them, according to the police.

They were also "jealous" of Sapna as their brother took her side and often taunted the sisters on various issues, giving rise to hatred among them that led to the extreme step by the duo, the police said.

BRICS SUMMIT TO BE HELD ON NOV. 17

SRIDHAR KUMARASWAMI | DC
NEW DELHI, OCT. 5

The five-nation grouping BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa) will hold its summit on November 17 via video-conference under Russian chairmanship, Russia confirmed on Monday.

Both Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping apart from Russian President Vladimir Putin are expected to represent their countries.

The event will be significant, given the military tensions between two of the members — India and China although the BRICS charter does not permit any bilateral issues between any two members to be discussed or raised.

In a statement, Russia said, "The theme of the meeting of the leaders of BRICS countries is 'BRICS Partnership for Global Stability, Shared Security and Innovative Growth'."

The main purpose of the Russian BRICS Chairmanship in 2020 is to contribute to raising living standards and quality of life of our peoples".

Russia added, "This year the five countries have continued close strategic partnership on all the three major pillars: peace and security, economy and finance, cultural and people-to-people exchanges."

Big success



JEE Advanced 2020 Bihar topper Shubh Kumar celebrates with his family members after the announcement of the results, at his residence in Patna on Monday. Pune boy Chirag Falor has bagged the top rank in the JEE Advanced. In total, 1.6 lakh students had registered for the exam and 1.5 lakh appeared for it. Over 43,000 candidates, including 6,707 girls, have cleared the exam.

Tejashwi, Tej Yadav booked in murder case

NAYEAR AZAD | DC
PATNA, OCT. 5

RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav and his elder brother Tej Pratap along with four others were booked on Monday for the murder of former RJD leader Shakti Malik.

The incident occurred in Purnea district on Sunday. The police investigating the case said that Shakti Malik was at his residence when he was gunned down by three armed men.

Others who have been named in the FIR are Anil Sadhu, Kalo Paswan, his wife Sunita Devi and Manoj Paswan.

Anil Sadhu is son-in-law of union minister Ram Vilas Paswan. He was earlier with the LJP.

The deceased wife Khushboo Devi in her complaint to the police also pointed at a serious political conspiracy behind the murder of her husband.

Sources said that Shakti Malik was trying for a ticket from Raniganj seat in neighbouring Araria district. Soon after his murder on Sunday a video clip surfaced in which the deceased was seen making allegations against Tejashwi Yadav and Anil Sadhu for demanding ₹50 lakh for a ticket to contest on RJD ticket.

"A case has been registered and the investigation is underway", Purnea SP Vishal Sharma said.

Sources from Purnea told this newspaper that the police were also analyzing Shakti Malik's phone records, his source of income and bank details.

They said that during the initial probe police



Tejashwi Yadav



Tej Pratap

found that he was expelled from the RJD in September after he leveled serious allegations against top RJD leaders.

The probe also revealed that he had political enmity with a local leader Kalo Paswan who was also interested in contesting from Raniganj seat on RJD ticket.

Meanwhile, the incident has raised the political temperature in Bihar.

The NDA leaders while demanding an explanation from Tejashwi Yadav and Tej Pratap said that "CBI probe should be ordered to find out the truth behind the incident". However, the RJD have called the allegations and FIR an attempt to tarnish the image of Tejashwi Yadav in view of the Assembly elections.

"All this is being done in view of the Assembly elections. The allegation against Tejashwi Yadav and Tej Pratap is politically motivated and baseless", RJD spokesperson Mrityunjay Tiwary said.

Another CPM local leader hacked to death in Kerala

Party holds RSS-Bajrang Dal responsible; 3rd CPM worker killed in 2 months

BJP protests as Barrackpore MP's close aide shot dead

RAJIB CHOWDHURI | DC
KOLKATA, OCT. 5

Another political murder rocked Kerala on Sunday night when a CPM local leader was hacked to death in Chittalingad in Thrissur district of Kerala.

The deceased was identified as P.U. Sanoop, 36, branch secretary of Chittalingad unit of CPM.

The incident happened at around 11 pm on Sunday when Sanoop was shot dead late on Sunday evening at Titagarh in North 24 Parganas of West Bengal.

Accusing the ruling Trinamul Congress of the murder, the BJP called a 12-hour Barrackpore bandh in protest on Monday. The party workers blocked roads at various places and staged demonstrations.

However, the agitation became violent when the workers allegedly hurled bombs and pelted stones while clashing with the police. The police then lobbed teargas shells to disperse the protesters.

Shukla, a resident of Kharda, was a strongponent of Mamata Banerjee government of Titagarh with multiple criminal cases against him.

He had switched over to the TMC from the CPI(M) but on not getting a ticket from any party for the Municipal Election in 2015, he contested as an independent candidate and won to become a councillor of the Titagarh Municipality.

Last year Shukla, following Singh's footsteps, and drug peddling in the area," he added.

This is the third CPM worker to have been murdered in Kerala in the last two months. Earlier on August 30, two CPM youth wing DYFI activists were hacked to death in Venjaramoodu in Thiruvananthapuram district.

Meanwhile, the state

The post-mortem report revealed 14 bullet injuries on the body showing how mercilessly the councillor was killed in absence of his security personnel.

joined the BJP. At around 9 pm on Sunday, a gang of four on two motorcycles allegedly opened fire on him at Purani Bazar in Titagarh where he was talking to some BJP workers in front of a party office. With bullet injuries, he was rushed to BN Bose Hospital, which referred him to a private hospital in Kolkata.

The private hospital declared him brought dead. Shukla's murder took place hours after Singh threatened the Mamata Banerjee government of a "guerrilla" style rally by the BJP which will shake its state secretariat Nabanna in Howrah on September 8.

Singh said, "He was like my brother who used to protect me always. Barrackpore and Bengal will not forget his sacrifice. He was killed when he returned to the party office. The TMC and police will have to suffer for their misdeeds." Many senior

cadres and leaders in the state with the objective of creating law and problems.

He said the BJP-RSS and Congress want to provoke the CPM cadres.

The CPM state leadership has appealed to party workers to maintain restraint even in the face of such grave provocations.

POLITICAL KILLINGS NEW NORMAL IN BENGAL: BJP

New Delhi, Oct. 5: After a BJP leader was shot dead outside a police station in West Bengal, the saffron party slammed the TMC government on Monday, saying the state has become the "killing fields" of its workers and "political killings" have become a new normal.

The West Bengal police, however, stated, "A person was shot dead last evening in Titagarh area of Barrackpore. Police is investigating the crime and looking into all possible reasons including personal enmity because the victim was accused in some cases of murder and attempt of murder. Please do not jump to conclusion without proper investigation. Irresponsible comments on social media tantamount to interference in the investigation. Please refrain from this."

The government has entrusted its criminal investigation department for a probe.

Meanwhile, a high drama unfolded in the evening after Shukla's body was post-mortened at Nil Ratan Sircar Medical College and Hospital in Kolkata.

The post-mortem report revealed 14 bullet injuries on the body showing how mercilessly the councillor was killed in absence of his security personnel who were apparently on leave on Sunday.

The government has entrusted its criminal investigation department for a probe.

He had switched over to the TMC from the CPI(M) but on not getting a ticket from any party for the Municipal Election in 2015, he contested as an independent candidate and won to become a councillor of the Titagarh Municipality.

Last year Shukla, following Singh's footsteps, and drug peddling in the area," he added.

This is the third CPM worker to have been murdered in Kerala in the last two months. Earlier on August 30, two CPM youth wing DYFI activists were hacked to death in Venjaramoodu in Thiruvananthapuram district.

Meanwhile, the state

unit of the party has given a call for protest across the state on October 6.

CPM state secretary Kodiyeri Balakrishnan said one of the assailants was a former Congress worker which clearly indicated the nexus between the Congress and BJP.

The CPM state leadership has appealed to party workers to maintain restraint even in the face of such grave provocations.

Making similar allegations about the RJD in poll-bound Bihar, Patra said a young Dalit leader, Shakti Malik, was killed after he left the RJD. — PTI

BJP-LJP will form next govt in Bihar: Chirag

New Delhi, Oct. 5: A day after walking out of the NDA in Bihar targeting Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, Lok Janashakti Party (LJP) president Chirag Paswan appealed to people against voting for Kumar's JD(U) and claimed that an alliance of his party and the BJP will come to power in the state after the Assembly polls.

In an open letter, Paswan told the voters of Bihar that a vote for the Janata Dal (United) will force the migration of their children tomorrow as he sought their support for his party candidates in the three-phase poll starting October 28.

The LJP on Sunday decided to put up its candidates against the JD(U) citing "ideological differences" with the party to assert that it will not accept Kumar's leadership of the National Democratic Alliance.

The road ahead is not easy for the LJP but we will fight and win too," Paswan said.

All LJP MLAs will work under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, he added.

The 37-year-old leader also made a reference to his ailing father, Union minister Ram Vilas Paswan, who has undergone a heart surgery at a private hospital in Delhi and is expected to remain hospitalized for some time. He spoke of his "Bihar first, Bihar first" vision document and said his father would be proud that his son has stuck to the issue he had raised through it.

Citing his party's differences with the JD(U), Paswan said be it the growing bureaucracy in Bihar, the ruling party's treatment of its allies or its agenda, people's grievances are not being addressed either by the officials or the chief minister.

— PTI

Odisha temple built in Gandhiji's honour is in a shambles

AKSHAYA KUMAR SAHOO | DC
RAIRAKHOL (ODISHA), OCT. 5

It's a temple-like structure with all geometrical requirements. Like any other temple, it has got a sanctum sanctorum, but the deity placed in it is not Lord Brahma, Vishnu or Maheswar nor any other Hindu god or goddess... it is the statue of Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of

Nation. Unlike most of the temples where Brahmins are priests, here a Dalit man performs this role.

Called Gandhi Mandir, this temple located at Rairakhol in Sambalpur district, has become a favourite place of worship for people of all faiths.

Preaching humanity and brotherhood, Gandhi Mandir, established in 1972 by Abhimanyu Kumbhar, a former MLA who passed away on July 26, has also turned a place of pilgrimage for people of Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh and Jharkhand.

Hundreds of people visit this temple everyday to see for themselves its uniqueness and the rituals.

The priest at Gandhi Mandir does not chant Vedic hymns or mantras. He chants Gandhi's favourite song 'Raghupati Raghav Rajaram, Patit pavana Sitaram.'

And what do the devotees or visitors offer the deity?

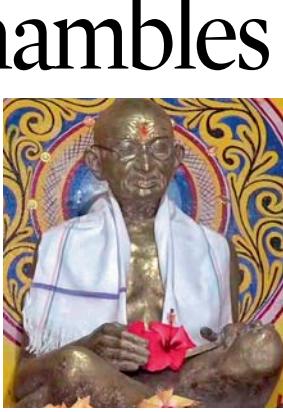
"Unlike other temples where different sweet dishes are offered to the deities, here the deities offer only basil leaves and flowers to Gandhi as a mark of their respect and sing his favourite song," says Abhimanyu Chhuria, the priest.

The temple has a story behind its construction.

Kumbhar, born on March 4, 1928 at Mathapali in Sambalpur district, had a chance interaction with Mahatma Gandhi during the latter's visit to the area in 1940s.

Sambalpur district, had a chance interaction with Mahatma Gandhi during the latter's visit to the area in 1940s.

"Abhimanyu Kumbhar was impressed with Mahatma Gandhi and decided to build a temple in his honour. With the cooperation of the local people the temple was built. Not only the local residents but people from other districts and states also visit this place to offer



Gandhi's idol in the Sambalpur temple.

SHORT TAKES

CBI: ABETMENT TO SUICIDE NOT RULED OUT IN SSR CASEDC CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI, OCT. 5

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Monday said it has not ruled out abetment to suicide and all aspects of actor Sushant Singh Rajput's death are being probed in light of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) report ruling out foul play in his death. The AIIMS report has ruled out murder countering the claims of the actor's family. The Mumbai police have meanwhile stated their stand is vindicated and the conclusions were all as per the findings of the probe conducted by the Bandra police station.

The AIIMS had earlier confirmed on September 29 that there was no trace of poisoning in Rajput's body, ruling out murder. The final report was issued by the AIIMS in which they confirmed no foul play in his death. The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) and the Enforcement Directorate (ED) will conduct their probe in the drugs angle and money laundering respectively.

INDIA REPORTS LESS THAN 1000 COVID DEATHSDC CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI, OCT. 5

Even though the daily detection of fresh Coronavirus cases have come down compared to last month, a very high number of cases still continue to be reported from ten states in the country. At this speed, the gap between the total number of Covid-19 cases between India and the USA is fast narrowing down and on Monday, this gap had further reduced to about 10 lakh.

The US at present has 76.44 lakh overall cases while India's case tally rose to 66.49 lakh by Monday evening, though the Union health ministry's early morning data put the total numbers at 66.24 lakh with 74,442 new cases. The total deaths in India is 1.02 lakh out of which 903 deaths were reported on Sunday.

On the other side, India has for straight two weeks maintained a steady trend of recording less than 10 lakh active Covid-19 cases while the number of people who have recovered reached 55.87 lakh taking the recovery rate to 84.34 per cent. In the last 24 hours, 76,737 persons were discharged from medical supervision whereas 74,442 fresh infections were reported during the same period.

"The new recoveries have exceeded new cases in recent days," officials said. 75 per cent of the new recovered cases were recorded in 10 states and UT — Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala, Odisha, Delhi, West Bengal and Chhattisgarh.

MYANMAR HANDS OVER 22 INSURGENTSSRIDHAR KUMARASWAMI | DC
NEW DELHI, OCT. 5

India on Monday expressed its appreciation to Myanmar for handing over 22 insurgents to India, with the two sides also "discussing maintenance of security and stability in their border areas and reiterated their mutual commitment not to allow their respective territories to be used for activities inimical to each other".

In a major move, it is reliably learnt that India has also proposed to construct a petroleum refinery in the Thanlyin region of Myanmar near Yangon city to boost energy security with the likely investment expected to be about US\$ 6 billion.

The discussions happened during the two-day joint visit of Army chief Gen. M.M. Naravane and Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla to Myanmar that culminated on Monday.

As a mark of India's solidarity with Myanmar in fighting the Covid pandemic, both also presented 3,000 vials of Remdesivir — used in anti-Covid treatment — to the Myanmar side.

New Delhi conveyed India's willingness to prioritise Myanmar in sharing vaccines as and when these become available. The Rohingya issue and India's assistance to development programmes in Myanmar's Rakhine province was also discussed, with India conveying its "support for ensuring safe, sustainable and speedy return of displaced persons to the Rakhine state".

IAF EVEN READY FOR TWO-FRONT WAR, SAYS BHADAURIAPAWAN BALI | DC
NEW DELHI, OCT. 5

Indian Air Force chief Air Chief Marshal R.K.S. Bhadauria said on Monday there is no question that in any conflict scenario China can get the better of "us" and asserted that Indian Air Force is prepared to even deal with a two-front war along the northern and western borders.

He said that integration of Rafales along with upgraded operational capabilities of current fighter jets "gives us the ability to shoot first and strike deep and hard, even in contested airspace."

"If you are asking me whether we came close to striking? No. Were we prepared? Yes," he said on India-China stand-off during his annual Air Force Day press conference.

However, he added that there is no question of underestimating the adversary which has invested heavily in its defence in the last few years.

The Air Chief Marshal said the Air Force is deployed at all relevant operational locations.

"We are deployed at all relevant operational locations, required to access this area. Be rest assured that we have deployed strongly and firmly to handle any contingency," he said.

"Let me share with you with confidence that operationally we are amongst the best," he said. He said that Indian Air Force immediate offensive deployment of combat ready units in response to the stand-off along the LAC is indicative of "our operational state today."

"Our airlift capability was also brought into focus as we supported the Indian Army in rapid mobilisation of troops and equipment to operational areas at a pace which our adversary didn't expect," he said.

He said that the Air Force has operationalised the recently acquired Rafale, Chinook, and Apache aircraft and integrated them into its current concept of operations in record time. Asked about the scenario over the next three months in eastern Ladakh, the Air Chief said it depends on how the talks progress.

"We hope that the talks will progress along the lines that are expected. Current progress is slow, what we see is an increase in the effort to dig-in for winter, in terms of forces on the ground, in terms of deployment of air assets in airfields close by. Defence forces see the ground reality. Our further action will depend on ground realities," he added.

R.K.S. Bhadauria



Students during a protest rally in Kolkata on Monday, over the death of a 19-year-old Dalit woman who was allegedly gang-raped two weeks ago — PTI

VIDEO OF MP MINISTER DISTRIBUTING MONEY TO FIVERABINDRA NATH CHOUDHURY | DC
BHOPAL, OCT. 5

A video showing Madhya Pradesh food and civil supplies minister Bisalihal Singh, also a likely candidate of ruling BJP for Anuppur seat in the November 3 by-elections, distributing money to the children in his constituency on Monday went viral.

The nearly half-minute video clip showed Mr Singh carrying a bundle of currency notes of ₹100 denominations and presenting them to girls.

His followers were heard in the video clip shouting slogans praising him and BJP on the occasion. A BJP flag was seen hoisted atop a house in the background in the video clip.

The video triggered a political row with the Congress accusing the minister of trying to influence the voters in his constituency by distributing money among them. The party on Monday lodged a complaint with the EC demanding action in the matter.

"The minister was clearly seen distributing money to the people in the video. He was trying to influence voters by opening his purse for them. It clearly violates the model code of conduct of elections", Congress spokesman Bhupendra Gupta told reporters.

He said that the party moved the EC demanding action against Mr Singh as well as BJP for violating the model code of conduct.

Mr Singh, however, denied the charges.

"It is an old video. The distribution of money to the girls was a part of *Kanya Puja* (worshipping of girl children), a tradition followed by BJP ministers when they visit the villages", he explained.

INDIANS OBJECT TO TEJASHWI SURYA'S EVENTVINEETA PANDEY | DC
NEW DELHI, OCT. 5

A group of Indians living in Germany have objected to the presence of BJP MP Tejashwi Surya at an event — India Startup conference 2020 — saying the man is "communally divisive speaker" and a "highly polarising figure".

Meanwhile, the security of the family of the 19-year-old Dalit woman has been tightened and her brother has been provided with two gunners, a senior Uttar Pradesh government official said Monday.

"Security has been tightened around the victim's house in Hathras and her family members have also been provided security," Additional Chief Secretary (Home) Avanish Kumar Awasthi said.

In the village, 12-15 PAC personnel have been deployed for "24-hour security" of the family, Hathras police said, adding that two security men have been deployed for the brother.

— PTI

Woman travels over 800 km from UP to file rape case

Woman reaches Nagpur to register zero FIR for crime in Uttar Pradesh

Hathras case: FIR for bid to trigger caste-based conflict

Bhim Army Chief and Azad Samaj Party Founder Chandrashekhar Azad addresses a press conference on Hathras case and other issues in New Delhi on Monday.

trigger caste-based conflict and these are serious offences considering the current situation in the region, the officer said, adding the investigation is underway.

According to local officials, the Hathras police have so far registered around a dozen complaints under the IT Act related to the Dalit girl's case and they are being probed by the Cyber Cell.

The Dalit teen had died of grievous injuries in a Delhi hospital on September 29, a fortnight after she was allegedly raped at her village by four upper caste men.

She was cremated in the early hours of September 30. While the family claimed the cremation was carried out against their wishes, the police said the last rites in the dead of the night were held "as per the wishes of the family".

The incidents have trig-

gered massive outrage across the country, bringing severe flak for the government of UP which has now recommended a CBI probe into the whole episode.

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— PTI

IMT highways project is aimed at opening the gate to Asean**Steps on to complete Trilateral Highways**MANOJ ANAND | DC
GUWAHATI, OCT. 5

In what is set to change the economic scenario of land-locked north-eastern states, the government of India is making an all out effort to complete the ambitious Trilateral Highways project connecting northeast India to southeast Asia through land-route.

This is what has been informed by external affairs minister Dr S. Jaishankar in a letter to Asom Gana Parishad (AGP) MP Birendra Prasad Baishya in response to a special mention he had made on September 23 in the Rajya Sabha regarding early

completion of the India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway project.

The India-Myanmar-Thailand (IMT) highways project is aimed at opening the gate to Asean through the land.

The project will boost trade and commerce in the Asean-India Free Trade Area, as well as with the rest of Southeast Asia.

India has also proposed extending the highway to Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam.

Jaishankar in his letter said that India has undertaken two projects in Myanmar under the 1,360-km Trilateral Highway project that starts from Moreh in India to Mae Sot in Thailand.

Work on the 69 bridges, including approach roads, in the TKK section was

held up after the contractor was terminated in December 2018 due to unsatisfactory performance.

In August 2020, the Manipur High Court dismissed the contractor's appeal and upheld the termination.

After the High Court's order, work on the first bridge between Moreh and Tamu (Myanmar) is expected to start soon.

The remaining 68 bridges will be taken up separately after revising the technical and cost parameters, Jaishankar said.

The 1,360 km long India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway is an initiative pertaining to the

three countries.

India is undertaking the construction of two sections of the Trilateral Highway in Myanmar namely — the construction of 120.74 km Kalewa-Yagy road section and construction of 69 bridges along with the approach road on the 149.70 km Tamu-Kyigone-Kalewa (TKK) road section.

In this regard, India and Myanmar had signed an agreement in 2016 as part of the "Act East Policy" and boost road connectivity in the region.

The highway will run from Manipur's Moreh town to Mae Sot in Thailand through Myanmar.

Didi opposes NEP, to write to Modi

RAJIB CHOWDHURY | DC
KOLKATA, OCT. 5

tion policy will have no such ranks. These ranks will be abolished. If the rank system is removed then those students, who achieve it and take pride in themselves to get a lifetime certificate at the start of their career, will feel deprived," Ms Banerjee told the meritorious students of various board examinations at their felicitation ceremony on virtual mode.

She added, "As a result they will lose an opportunity. We think we should write against it. We are writing (to the Centre) that we do not accept this education policy which does not judge someone by merit or qualification despite brave effort."



IN BRIEF
Wildfires raze homes in NZ

Wellington: Wildfires have destroyed up to 50 homes in New Zealand, authorities said Monday, saying it was a miracle no one was hurt as "a wall of orange" razed most of a remote South Island village. The blaze began in a mountain forest early Sunday morning and, fanned by strong winds, swept through the village of Lake Ohau, forcing residents to flee for their lives. Fire and Emergency New Zealand said the unpredictable winds made fighting the fire "challenging" and by Monday afternoon it had burned 4,600 hectares of land.

Waitaki District mayor Gary Kircher said the tiny Lake Ohau community had been devastated. "Of the 60 or 70 houses, we believe that the majority have gone," he told Radio New Zealand. "The reality is that it's a minor miracle no one has been harmed. If it had been another 15-20 minutes it would have been a very different story."

Mali releases 180 jihadists

Bamako: Malian authorities have released 180 Islamic extremists from a prison in the capital and flown them to the country's north, an official confirmed late Sunday, fuelling speculation that a prominent opposition politician held by jihadists could soon be freed after more than six months in captivity. The militants who abducted Soumaila Cisse back in late March were believed to be seeking a prisoner exchange with the Malian government. Some 70 men were released on Saturday and another 110 on Sunday, according to an official who spoke on condition of anonymity due to the sensitivity of the matter. There was no immediate comment late Sunday from Mali's transitional government, which was only recently put in place more than a month after the country's democratically elected president was ousted in a military coup. Cisse, a 70-year-old who has run for Mali's presidency three times, was campaigning.

Bomber targets Afghan Gov, kills 8

Kabul: A suicide car bomber targeted the convoy of a provincial governor in eastern Afghanistan on Monday, killing at least eight people, including four civilians, government officials said. The governor, Rahmatullah Yarmal, was unarmed in the attack in Laghman province, according to his spokesman, Asadullah Dawlatzai. Four of Yarmal's bodyguards were killed, the spokesman said, adding that about 38 people — both military and civilians — were wounded in the attack, which took place in provincial capital Mazar-i-Sharif. Dawlatzai said 36 civilians were among the wounded, including children, as well as two other bodyguards of the governor. The explosion also left several badly damaged vehicles at the attack site. The wounded were taken to the city's main hospitals. No one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack but both the Islamic State and the Taliban are active in the area. Both groups have carried out attacks in the past against Afghan government representatives, security and defence personnel, and civilians.

DUBAI TO UNVEIL WORLD'S LARGEST FOUNTAIN OCT. 22

Dubai, Oct. 5: In a bid to make a Guinness World Record, Dubai is all set to unveil the world's largest fountain on October 22.

The fountain will be located at the Pointe, a lifestyle and dining destination, and will be spread over 14,000 sq ft of sea water while its super shooter will be 105-metre tall and have over 3,000 LED lights. Omar Khoory, managing director, Nakheel Malls, said, "We look forward to the inspiration this will bring customers at The Pointe, residents of Palm Jumeirah, our retailers, tourists and the wider community."

Ahmed Al Khaja, CEO of Dubai Festivals and Retail Establishment (DFRE), said the Palm Fountain is yet another incredible addition to Dubai's list of world-famous landmarks and is sure to be a big draw among residents and visitors alike. The Palm Fountain will have 20 bespoke shows with five different shows running daily between sunset and midnight (7 pm to 12 am) while swaying to an array of popular songs including Khaleej, pop, classic, international and more.

Washington, Oct. 5: US President Donald Trump made a surprise drive-past to greet his supporters outside a military hospital where he has been admitted since Friday for the treatment of the deadly Coronavirus, drawing criticism from Democrats and a leading medical expert.

The brief drive through Rockville Pike in Bethesda, a Maryland suburb of Washington DC, that separates the National Institute of Health and Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, brought cheers to his supporters who have been praying for the 74-year-old's health ahead of the presidential election next month.

"They love our country. I am really appreciating all of the fans and supporters outside of the hospital. The fact is, they really love our Country and are seeing how we are MAKING IT GREATER THAN EVER BEFORE!" Trump said in a tweet soon after his unannounced drive-past. Trump, a Republican is seeking another term in the White House. He is

being challenged by former Vice-President Joe Biden of the Democratic Party in the November 3 election. Trump and the First Lady Melania tested positive for Covid-19 on Thursday night.

Trump was shifted to the military hospital on Friday, which his doctors and White House said was taken out of abundance of caution. On Sunday, before going out to wave at his supporters, Trump in a video posted on his Twitter handle said he will give "a little surprise to some of the great patriots, who have been on the streets, and they have been out there for a long time".

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quick BITES

INDICATORS %

Sensex	38,973.70	0.71
Nifty 50	11,503.35	0.76
S&P 500*	3,394.34	1.37
Dollar (₹)	73.29	0.18
Pound Sterling (₹)	94.90	0.31
Euro (₹)	86.06	0.29
Gold (10gm)* (₹)	51,192▼389	0.75
Brent crude (\$/bbl)*	41.57	2.30
IN 10-Yr bond yield	6.004	0.008
US 10-Yr T-bill yield*	0.752	0.058

* As of 9:30 PM IST

India Inc foreign borrowings drop 47% in August

India Inc's foreign borrowings fell by over 47 per cent in August this year to \$1.75 billion from \$3.32 bn in August 2019, RBI data showed. Of the total, \$1.61 bn was raised through ECBs, while the rest \$145.74 million was raised by issuing rupee denominated bonds, or masala bonds. A total of \$1.57 bn was raised by various companies through the automatic route, while the rest \$35.93m came in via the approval route.

Adani completes Krishnapatnam Port acquisition



Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Limited (APSEZ) said it has completed the acquisition of Krishna-patnam Port Company Ltd (KPCL) for an enterprise value of Rs 12,000 crore. In a BSE filing, Adani said the acquisition will result in APSEZ having a controlling stake of 75 per cent in KPCL from the CVR Group and other investors. In FY21, the port is expected to generate an Ebitda of about Rs 1,200 crore.

SpiceJet to start London flights from December 4

SpiceJet said it will operate non-stop flights connecting Delhi and Mumbai with London from Dec. 4. Spicejet is the first Indian low-cost carrier to operate flights to the UK. The Delhi-London flight and the Mumbai-London flight will operate under the air bubble agreement with the UK. SpiceJet will use an Airbus A330-900 Neo for these flights, CMD Ajay Singh said. The 371-seater twin-aisle A330 has 353 economy seats.

MS selects over 2,500 educators, 49 schools in India

On the occasion of World Teachers' Day on Oct. 5, Microsoft said it has welcomed 4,366 Microsoft Innovative Educator Experts (MIEE) onboard its Microsoft Innovative Educator (MIE) programme from the Asia region—a twofold increase from the previous year. In India, 2,669 experts joined the ranks of MIE experts in the region. The MIE programme recognises global educators using technology.

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■ Current fiscal to get ₹5 L cr against ₹14.2 L cr last year Investment proposals plunge to 16-year low

SANGEETHA G
CHENNAI, OCT. 5

At an estimated Rs 5 lakh crore, new investment proposals by both government and private sector this fiscal would fall to the lowest level in 16 years. Large infrastructure projects by the Centre alone can improve the investment climate, according to private think-tank CMIE.

Proposals worth Rs 58,700 crore were made for creation of new capacities during the September 2020 quarter and the revised investment data for the June quarter stood at Rs 69,100 crore. Prior to the lockdown, new investment proposals averaged between Rs 300,000 crore and Rs 400,000 crore per quarter. In better times, these averaged twice as high.

"Even in the second quarter of the lockdown, which saw significant relaxations, new investment proposals continued to remain as depressing as they were when the lockdown began," said Mahesh Vyas, managing director of CMIE.

Five projects collectively accounted for half the new investment projects proposed in the September quarter. These are Rs 7,000-crore solar power project in Rajasthan by Solar Energy Corporation, Rs 5,400 crore solar cells manufacturing project in Chennai by Vikram Solar, Rs 5,000 crore biotech and life sciences park in Bengaluru by the Government.

Till now cumulative new investment proposals in 2020-21 have been Rs 1.3 lakh crore. "We do not expect new investment proposals to cross Rs 5 lakh crore this year," said CMIE, adding this is the lowest level seen since 2004-05.

In 2017-18, the country saw investment proposals valued at Rs 15 lakh crore.



BIZ RETURNING TO PRE-COVID LEVELS: HDFC

New Delhi, Oct. 5:

Housing finance major HDFC Ltd on Monday said its individual loan disbursements in the second quarter of 2020-21 reached 95 per cent of the level in the year-ago period and September saw the strongest recovery since the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic,

business is returning to pre-crisis levels.

The individual loan business has continued to see a month-on-month improvement in July-September 2020, HDFC said in a regulatory filing.

Loan applications received during the quarter grew by 12 per cent over a year ago, it said. —PTI

ment of Karnataka, Rs 3,250 crore solar power project in Telangana by Singareni Collieries, and a multi-location Rs 5,200 crore electric vehicle plant in Uttar Pradesh by Edison Motor India.

"We too expect the investment cycle to be delayed. The first six months were almost a wipe out, as the economy was not functioning. Overall, we too think that investment proposals will be at least 50 per cent down due to high inventories in the system, lower trade activity, low domestic demand induced by lower mobility, low income

levels and higher uncertainty," said Kruti Shah, economist, Emkay Global Financial Services.

According to CMIE, the situation can change if the central government makes large investments into infrastructure. "So far, the government has shown no signs or any inclinations to make large capacity building investments this year. The corporate sector does not have a good reason to expand capacities at this time," it said.

A sample study of 2,329 companies shows that asset utilisation was at an all-time low in 2019-20. The corporate sector is laden with excess capacity.

Besides, there is considerable demand uncertainty. The prolonged lockdown has led to job losses and also income contraction. It is not clear when jobs and incomes will return to a growth trajectory from there. Till then, companies are likely to focus more on cost management than on expansion.

"Private investments are not going to pick up this year. In order to meet fiscal deficit targets, state governments have been cutting their capex every year. This year too states might cut their capex by 20-25 per cent. This will delay the investment cycle. Further, once the moratoriums have gone, we will get a clearer picture of the banking system and we would be able to assess whether the revival in investments can happen in two years," said Shah.

Though the figure came down slightly to Rs 14.6 lakh crore in 2018-19 and to Rs 14.2 lakh crore in 2019-20, investments in 2020-21, at Rs 5 lakh crore, could be 65 per cent lower than the previous year.

"We too expect the investment cycle to be delayed. The first six months were almost a wipe out, as the economy was not functioning. Overall, we too think that investment proposals will be at least 50 per cent down due to high inventories in the system, lower trade activity, low domestic demand induced by lower mobility, low income

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—PTI

TCS m-cap crosses ₹10 lakh cr

RAVI RANJAN PRASAD
MUMBAI, OCT. 5

IT major Tata Consultancy Services has become the second company to cross market capitalisation of Rs 10 lakh crore after Reliance Industries.

TCS shares gained over 7.5 per cent on Monday, touching an all-time high price of Rs 2,727, after the company in a late Sunday announcement said its board will consider a buyback proposal at its October 7 meeting.

As the second quarter earnings season for IT companies takes off later this week, TCS buyback announcement is the second forward looking statement after HCL Technologies raised its September quarter revenue outlook recently.

The TCS board is meeting on October 7 to approve the financial results for the second quarter.

TCS shares finally closed 7.30 per cent up at Rs 2,706.85 on the BSE. The market capitalisation of TCS at Monday's closing price stands above Rs 10.15 lakh crore on the BSE.

Last share buyback by TCS worth Rs 16,000 crore took place in August-September 2018.

Other IT stocks like Wipro (6.73 per cent) and Infosys (3.00 per cent), HCL Technologies (1.25 per cent), also gained, anticipating similar buyback announcements during the Q2 earnings season.



Divided GST Council to meet again on 12th

MADHUSUDAN SAHOO
NEW DELHI, OCT. 5

Even after more than seven-and-a-half hours of brainstorming, the GST Council, on Monday, failed to reach consensus on ways to compensate states, as the state finance ministers were split on political lines on the Centre's borrowing formula.

However, it was decided that Rs 20,000 crore of compensation cess collected this year would be disbursed to the states on Monday night itself and Rs 24,000 crore of IGST to be released to the states that had received less earlier, will be disbursed by the end of next week."

She also said the council decided to extend the period of GST cess collections to compensate states beyond the June 2022 timeframe.

Of the two options presented before the states, the first is a special window through which the states, in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India, make an additional borrowing of Rs 97,000 crore. The amount can be repaid from future cess collection. The second option is to borrow the entire Rs 2.35 lakh crore shortfall.

Revenue secretary Ajay Bhushan Pandey said that the total shortfall in collection of GST estimated at 2.35 lakh crore, out of which the total shortfall Rs 97,000 crore is on account of GST shortfall, while the rest is due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

It has also reported that at least 21 states, mostly ruled by BJP or their allies supported the Centre on the issue and had opted to borrow Rs 97,000 crore.

Google delays payment rules as Paytm offers alternative

SARITHA RAI
OCT. 5

Google is delaying planned changes to its in-app payment rules in India by six months, backing down after some of the country's largest developers and startups threatened to band against the US search giant.

The new fund will invest in 25 top domestic health care companies and 20 top US-listed health care companies by market cap.

This launch marks global index products provider MSCI's foray into the Indian market.

The new fund will invest in 25 top domestic health care companies and 20 top US-listed health care companies by market cap.

Radhika Gupta, MD & CEO, Edelweiss Asset Management, during the virtual new fund offer launch, said, "Domestic and global stock investing boundaries are blurring, as returns are becoming more important."

"The fund's 70 per cent weightage is on Indian healthcare....The remaining 30 per cent weightage will be on 20 stocks listed in the US."

Paytm founder Vijay Shekhar Sharma was among the most vociferous in opposing Google's pay-



ment rules at a meeting held by dozens of startup executives last week. The 56 founders gathered to challenge the Mountain View, California-based company—which Android mobile operating system has over nine-tenths of India's market share—after it announced that it will require all developers to adopt its billing system and accompanying 30 per cent cut of transactions. It will also start charging newer categories of online services like education and online dating the same fee.

"We are setting up listening sessions with leading Indian startups to understand their concerns more deeply," Google wrote on its blog. "And we're also extending the time for developers in India to integrate with the Play Store, which had 12 million visits from beta testers in September."

implement the UPI for subscription payment option that will be made available on Google Play."

Less than 3 per cent of developers with apps on the Play store sold digital goods over the last 12 months and about 97 per cent of those developers already use Google Play's billing system, according to the company. Paytm is launching its Mini App Store with the aim of driving a self-sufficient India and retain consumer spending within the country, the startup said in a statement on Monday.

Pioneered by Tencent Holdings Ltd's WeChat, mini apps are custom-built, low-cost software for basic mobile phones that offer users an app-like experience without the need to download full versions.

Domino's Pizza, Decathlon, ride hailing service Ola and online pharmacy Netmeds are some of the brands already available on the beta version of Mini App Store, which had 12 million visits from beta testers in September.

—Bloomberg

Instead, Reliance is now keen to invest more in digital content creation. Digital media and entertainment is an essential telecom unit Jio's digital business strategy, they said adding Reliance plans to invest aggressively and grow the digital media business.

Reliance, they said, wants to retain management control over the digital operations and invest behind creating India's No.1 OTT destination as

RIL calls off merger of Viacom18 with Sony

New Delhi, Oct. 5:

Mukesh Ambani-led Reliance Industries has called off the proposed merger of his group's entertainment business with Sony Pictures Networks India following a strategic rethink.

There is a lot of interest from content companies and production houses in partnering with Reliance and Jio, and investors are keen to back such partnerships, they said.

An email sent to Reliance for comments remained unanswered.

Viacom18 Media Pvt Ltd is a joint venture between TV18 Broadcast Ltd and Viacom Inc. TV18 owns 51 per cent share in the unit.

Domestic passenger traffic in September grew to 39 lakh passengers, up 37 per cent from August.

In terms of capacity deployment too, the aviation sector saw a sequential recovery of 33 per cent over August, though it was down 46 per cent from September 2019 levels.

The average daily departures in September 2020 were 1,311, lower than the average daily departures of 2,874 in September 2019. But the departures were better than 930 in August 2020.

The average number of passengers per flight during September 2020 stood at 98, as against an average of 133 passengers per flight in September 2019.

Thus, it is expected that the domestic aviation industry operated at a passenger load factor (PLF) of 63 per cent in September as against 85.5 per cent in the same month last year, that too on a low capacity. The PLF for September was similar to August despite the increase in capacity deployment by 37 per cent. Overall, from May 25 till September 30, the total domestic passenger traffic stood at 11 million," said Kinjal Shah, vice president, Icra.

The civil aviation ministry had permitted domestic flights to resume their operations from May 25 with one-third of their approved capacity of summer schedule 2020. Later the capacity was increased to 45 per cent with effect from June 27 and to 60 per cent from September 2.

MID-OCTOBER | FEST This isn't expected to be a banner year for holiday sales

Covid advances US holiday shopping season



SHORT TAKES

Fitness test twice a year for coaches

New Delhi: Stressing on the importance of staying fit, the Sports Authority of India (SAI) has instructed all its employed coaches to undertake fitness tests twice a year.

The SAI has also asked the coaches to maintain records of the tests in their personal files.

"The fitness tests would be set on the guidelines of Age

Appropriate Fitness Protocol that was launched by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 24th September 2020, during the Fit India Dialogue, and are the first-ever set of age appropriate fitness tests that have been launched in India," the SAI said in a statement.

These fitness tests have been drafted by a committee of experts, who, after a detailed discussion and review, finalised the fitness protocols for each age group. — PTI

TT camp for elite players postponed

New Delhi: The national camp for elite table tennis players has been indefinitely postponed yet again with some of the players unwilling to travel while those willing are waiting for the facility at the SAI Campus Bengaluru to be functional.

Table Tennis Federation of India, which is currently being re-organized by the government, has been trying to assemble players under one roof since August. The latest attempt was aimed at starting a three week camp from October 15. "Some players are willing to travel, some players want to train overseas and the venue too is not ready yet and our delegation is not helping either (since we can't approach the government)," TTFI secretary general M.P. Singh said.

Most of the male players including Sharath Kamal are ready to travel for the camp but majority of the female players don't want to venture out of their hometown. — PTI

Lopetegui's Sevilla frustrate Barca

Barcelona: Sevilla's energetic defending ensured Ronald Koeman's Barcelona dropped their first points in the Spanish league. Sevilla held Barcelona to a 1-1 draw at Camp Nou on Sunday.

Barcelona and Sevilla have a game in hand and trail Real Madrid by three points.

Challenging Barcelona and defending champions Madrid for the title is not out of the question for Julen Lopetegui's well-disciplined Sevilla after this performance.

A pressure defense anchored by Fernando and Jules Kounde shut down Lionel Messi for long periods and forced Barcelona into making an unusual number of bad passes. "Getting a point at this ground is always tough, (but) I am not satisfied. We had our chances. It is too bad we couldn't have gotten a better result," Lopetegui said. — AP

Korda asks Nadal for his autograph

Paris: It's not often that a tennis player calls being on the wrong end of a 6-1, 6-1, 6-2 Grand Slam result "super awesome" or "definitely the best moment of my life." It's also rather rare for a player to go up to the net and ask the guy who just beat him for an autographed shirt.

Sebastian Korda, the 20-year-old American qualifier who lost to Rafael Nadal by the above scoreline in the French Open's fourth round Sunday, still was beaming afterward.

Meanwhile, Alexander Zverev lost 6-3, 6-3, 4-6, 6-3 to Jannik Sinner in the fourth round at Roland Garros. — AP

Live on TV

CRICKET
IPL: Mumbai Indians vs Rajasthan Royals from 7.30 pm on Star Sports 1, HD

Australia Women vs New Zealand Women: Third ODI from 5.40 am (Wednesday) on Sony Ten 2, HD

TENNIS
French Open: Matches from 2.30 pm on Star Sports, Select 2

BASKETBALL
NBA Finals (Game 4 of best-of-7): Los Angeles Lakers vs Miami Heat from 6.30 am (Wednesday) on Sony Six, HD

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DELHI'S ROYAL WIN

Capitals thrash Bangalore by 59 runs to go top of table

Dubai, Oct. 5: Delhi Capitals defeated Royal Challengers Bangalore by 59 runs in an Indian Premier League match here on Monday.

Sent into bat, Delhi Capitals scored 196 for four in their stipulated 20 overs.

Marcus Stoinis top-scored for DC with 53 off 26 balls while Prithvi Shaw (42), Rishabh Pant (37) and Shikhar Dhawan (32) also made substantial contributions at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium.

Chasing a formidable target of 197, RCB were restricted to 137 for nine.

With 43 off 39 balls, RCB skipper Virat Kohli was the highest scorer for his side even as the others failed to impress.

For the Capitals, pace spearhead Kagiso Rabada ended with excellent figures of 4/24 in four overs.

Earlier, Australian all-rounder Stoinis, who was dropped on 30 by Yuzvendra Chahal, made RCB pay for the mistake as he raced to his 53 in just 26 balls, hitting two towering sixes and six fours.

Shaw, however, missed what would have been a well-deserved half-century.

Shaw provided a blazing start, hitting three fours off pacer Isuru Udana in the game's very first over. His innings was laced with five boundaries and two maximums.

The opening duo of Shikhar Dhawan (32 off 28-balls) and Shaw put up a 68-run stand and looked to go the distance before the RCB bowlers made a splendid comeback.

Mohammed Siraj provided the first breakthrough for his team by removing the dangerous looking Shaw.

After Udana accounted for Dhawan, Devdutt Padikkal pulled off an excellent catch at the boundary to dismiss DC's in-form skipper Shreyas Iyer (11). — PTI



Delhi Capitals batsman Marcus Stoinis plays a shot on way to his half-century against Royal Challengers Bangalore in an Indian Premier League match at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium on Monday. — BCCI

IPL POINTS TABLE						
Teams	P	W	L	N/R	Pts	NRR
Delhi Capitals	5	4	1	0	8	+1.060
Mumbai Indians	5	3	2	0	6	+1.214
Royal Challengers Bangalore	5	3	2	0	6	-1.355
Kolkata Knight Riders	4	2	2	0	4	-0.121
Rajasthan Royals	4	2	2	0	4	-0.317
Chennai Super Kings	5	2	3	0	4	-0.342
Sunrisers Hyderabad	5	2	3	0	4	-0.417
Kings XI Punjab	5	1	4	0	2	+0.178

Tabulated as Played, Won, Lost, No Result, Points, Net Run Rate

SCORECARD

Delhi Capitals: Prithvi Shaw c de Villiers b Siraj 42, Shikhar Dhawan c Moen b Udana 32, Shreyas Iyer c Devdutt Padikkal b Moeen 11, Rishabh Pant b Siraj 37, Marcus Stoinis (not out) 53, Shreyas Iyer (not out) 11. Extras: (lb-4, w-4, nb-2). Total: (for 4 wkts, in 20 overs) 196.

FoW: 1-68, 2-82, 3-90, 4-179.

Bowling: Isuru Udana 4-0-40-1 Washington Sundar 4-0-20-0 Navdeep Saini 3-0-48-0, Yuzvendra Chahal 3-029-0, Mohammed Siraj 4-0-34-2, Moeen Ali 2-0-21-1.

Royal Challengers Bangalore: D. Padikkal c Stoinis b Ashwin 4, Finch c Pant b A. Patel 13, V. Kohli c Pant b Rabada 43, AB de Villiers c Dhawan b Nortje 9, Moeen Ali c Hetmyer b A. Patel 11, Washington Sundar c Ashwin b Rabada 17, S. Dube b Rabada 11, I. Udana c Iyer b Rabada 1, N. Saini (not out) 12, Mohammed Siraj b Nortje 5, Y. Chahal (not out) 0. Extras: (lb 4, w 7) 11. Total: (for 9 wkts, in 20 overs) 137.

FoW: 1-20, 2-27, 3-43, 4-75, 5-94, 6-115, 7-118, 8-119, 9-127.

Bowling: K. Rabada 4-0-24-4, A. Nortje 4-0-22-2, R. Ashwin 4-0-26-1, A. Patel 4-0-18-2, H. Patel 4-0-43-0.

Injured Mishra to miss IPL



reasons this year.

BHUVI OUT OF IPL, MAY MISS AUSTRALIA TOUR AS WELL

Sunrisers Hyderabad pacer Bhuvneshwar Kumar was also ruled out of the ongoing IPL with a thigh muscle injury which could also end his hopes of being a part of the Indian team's tour of Australia later this year.

Bhuvneshwar sustained the injury while bowling the 19th over of Chennai Super Kings' innings dur-

ing their October 2 clash here and hobbled out of the field after just one delivery.

Bhuvneshwar Kumar is out of IPL with a thigh muscle injury. It is probably a grade 2 or 3 injury, which could mean that he would be out for at least 6 to 8 weeks. It might effectively rule him out of India's tour of Australia," a senior BCCI official said.

Bhuvneshwar had been in decent form during this year's IPL with an economy rate of less than 7 in four games with three wickets.

His injury will be a massive blow to SRH as they struggle for quality death bowlers in his side which is short on experience.

In the case of Bhuvneshwar, he might stay back in the UAE as the Indian team's physio Nitin Patel is also there as part of the BCCI's medical team.

Being a centrally-contracted player, Bhuvneshwar's rehabilitation will be entirely looked after by the BCCI.

— PTI

— PTI

RESISTANCE TO CHANGE IS CSK'S KEY TO SUCCESS

Dubai, Oct. 5: Chennai Super Kings' "reticent" approach to change when faced with poor results has been the key to its success over the years, said head coach Stephen Fleming, citing veteran Australian all-rounder Shane Watson as a shining example of what the side has achieved.

Watson finally came good with an unbeaten 83 off 53 balls in his fifth game as an opener, helping CSK an emphatic 10-wicket win over Kings XI Punjab here on Sunday.

"I think it helps as players know they get more opportunities... We are reticent to changing the team other than realising the areas that we are not happy with. Also you are not sure if that change will help or not," Fleming said.

"We try and improve and if players are doing the right thing we will back them as long and even longer than possible," CSK's long-serving coach added.

Asked about Watson finding form after a string of failures, Dhoni said, "It's

— PTI

— PTI

not about being more aggressive. He was hitting it well in the nets and what you need is to do that in the middle. It was just a matter of time.

"Faf is like a sheet anchor for us, keeps playing those shots in the middle. He can always confuse the bowler with the lap shots and all coming in. They complement each other."

He said his side banks on consistency in selection and head coach Stephen Fleming should be given credit for it.

"He (Fleming) does much credit for that. The good thing is we have one plan. It's not that we don't have debates, but it's one plan, that's the relationship between us."

— PTI



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