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HYDERABAD | THURSDAY | 18 FEBRUARY 2021

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Max: 32.0°C  
Min: 18°C  
RH: 33%  
Rainfall: Nil

Forecast: Cloudy sky.  
Misty morning. Max/Min  
temp. 32/18 °C

### COVID-19 COUNT

CASES (+12,511)	DEATHS (+91)
1,09,49,355	1,56,035

### STATE GOVERNMENT BULLETINS

(+148)	(+1)
TS: 2,96,943	1,620
(+51)	(+2)
AP: 8,89,010	7,165

### CASES AROUND THE WORLD

11,02,11,925	DEATHS 24,34,029
COUNTRIES, AREAS WITH CASES worldometers.info/ coronavirus	219

### ASTROGUIDE

Sarvari; Uttarayana  
Tithi: Magha Shuddha Shashti  
till 8.17 am

Star: Bharani till 2.53 am (Friday)

Varjyanam: 10.38 am to 12.27 pm

Durmuhuram: 10.35 am to  
11.21 am; 3.11 pm to 3.57 pm

Rahukalam: 1.30 pm to 3 pm

HIJRI CALENDAR

Rajab 5,142 AH

PRAYERS

Fajar: 5.41 am

Zohar: 12.40 pm

Asar: 4.42 pm

Maghrib: 6.24 pm

Isha: 7.32 pm

SUNRISE TOMORROW 6.40 AM

SUNSET TODAY 6.19 PM

MOONSET 11.49 PM

MOONRISE 10.51 AM

### COUNTER POINT



We can't afford gas!

### INSIDE

CITY... PAGE 2  
Lawyer couple hacked to death on street

## NO SOLUTION FOR DISPUTED LANDS IN STATE

L. VENKAT  
RAM REDDY | DC  
HYDERABAD, FEB. 17

There seems to be no solution in sight for disputed lands in Telangana even three years after land records purification drive was taken up by the state government.

Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao's repeated instructions, directives and deadlines to collectors and revenue officials in all districts to resolve disputed land issues have not yielded results.

Over 6.5 lakh acres of land parcels in Telangana are presently locked in disputes and litigations, which were kept under Part-B during land records purification drive, three years ago.

The CM ordered a massive land records purification drive in 2017, across Telangana, saying that "existing records were rectified last in 1936, during the Nizam's period" and non-rectification in later years led to land disputes.

Mr Rao said that land disputes will end with this drive and Telangana will become a "land disputes-free state".

Following this, the revenue and agriculture departments have taken up this drive in 10,875 revenue villages in 568 mandals between September 2017 and February 2018.

■ Page 4: 93% lands are litigation-free in TS

## PRIYA ACQUITTED IN DEFAMATION CASE BY AKBAR

SUPARNA SHARMA | DC  
NEW DELHI, FEB. 17

There were tears, hugging and jubilation in and outside the court of additional chief metropolitan magistrate Ravindra Kumar Pandey on Wednesday afternoon when he threw out Rajya Sabha member M.J. Akbar's criminal defamation case against journalist Priya Ramani, saying the court believed her and that a man's "the right to reputation cannot be at the cost of dignity" of women.

Acquitting Ms Ramani and accepting her contention that Mr Akbar was not a man of "stellar reputation", the judgment said even a man of social status can be a sexual harasser and uphold a woman's right not to complain.

■ More reports on Page 7

## ₹100/litre petrol, PM faults predecessors

New Delhi, Feb. 17: On a day when petrol crossed the ₹100 mark, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday said the middle-class would not be burdened if the previous governments had focused on reducing India's energy import dependence.

Without referring to the relentless increase in retail fuel prices, which are linked to international rates, he said India import-

ed over 85 per cent of its oil needs in the 2019-20 financial year and 53 per cent of its gas requirement.

"Can a diverse and talented nation like ours be so energy import dependent?" he asked, addressing an online event to inaugurate oil and gas projects in poll-bound Tamil Nadu.

"I do not want to criticise anyone but I want to say (that) had we focused on reducing India's energy import dependence earlier, our middle-class would not be burdened."

our middle-class would not be burdened," he said.

Price of petrol crossed the ₹100 per litre mark in

**I DO not want to criticise anyone but I want to say (that) had we focused on reducing India's energy import dependence earlier, our middle-class would not be burdened.**

NARENDRA MODI, PM

oil needs, retail rates are benchmarked to international prices, which have spiralled in recent weeks.

Opposition parties including Congress have criticised the price hikes, blaming it on the Modi government raising taxes to scoop out the benefit that arose from international oil rates ploughing to a two-decade low in April/May last year.

While global crude oil rates have rebounded with

pick up in demand, the Narendra Modi government has not restored the taxes, which are at a record high.

Central and state taxes make up for 60 per cent of the retail selling price of petrol and over 54 per cent of diesel.

The Prime Minister further said it was a collective duty to work towards clean and green sources of energy as well as energy independence. —PTI



Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao plants a sapling of Rudraksha as part of Koti Vruksharchana on the occasion of his 67th birthday on Wednesday. — DC

## TRS LEADERS PLANT 1 CR SAPLINGS

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, FEB. 17

The 'Koti Vruksharchana' programme to mark Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao's 67th birthday on Wednesday saw thousands of people, including ministers, MPs, MLAs, students and government officials and workers, join in the drive to plant one crore saplings across the state.

At Pragati Bhavan, minister and TRS working president K.T. Rama Rao, along with his family planted a sapling, while TRS MLC K. Kavitha planted saplings at her residence here in the city. Elsewhere, minister T. Harish Rao planted a sapling in Siddipet.

Among those who joined in the effort to mark a green birthday for the Chief Minister were Legislative Assembly Speaker Pocharam Srinivas Reddy who planted a sapling in the Assembly complex.

■ Page 4: Saplings planted across state

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### POLL | PLAN

## Saffron party makes changes to office layout for electoral success

## BJP acquires Vastu power to win TS

IREDDY SRINIVAS  
REDDY | DC  
HYDERABAD, FEB. 17

The BJP has added a new weapon in its arsenal in their fight against the TRS — good fortune that follows after ensuring compliance with Vastu. The saffron party has decided to overhaul its office Vastu set-up.

The BJP's current strategy is to continue its winning momentum, further strengthen the party rapidly in Telangana and make a successful bid for coming to power in next assembly elections.

The party got trounced in the last Assembly elections

defects" in the layout of the office and make it compliant with Vastu shastra.

After discussing with key leaders, BJP state president Bandi Sanjay Kumar has decided to go ahead with the changes to the architectural and interiors setup of the state BJP office.

The BJP's current strategy is to continue its winning momentum, further strengthen the party rapidly in Telangana and make a successful bid for coming to power in next assembly elections.

and won a lone assembly seat out of 119 seats.

After the Assembly elections, the party's previous



The BJP office at Nampally being altered as per Vastu.

president Dr K. Laxman too had pinned the defeat to "structural defects" in the state office building. At the time too, key leaders consulted prominent Vastu pandits to suggest changes and alterations to the construction inside the office.

Based on the directions of Vastu pandits, the party demolished the restrooms which were located at a "non-suitable place" and made other minor repairs on some windows and doors.

■ Page 2: BJP feels Vastu is only hindrance in TS

# CLASSIFIEDS

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## OTHER TAKES

8 TNVS ACTIVISTS  
DETAINED OUTSIDE  
CM CAMP OFFICEDC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, FEB. 17

As many as eight activists from the Telangana Navnirman Vidyarthi Sena (TNVS) were detained under preventive custody by the Panjagutta police after they gathered outside the Chief Minister's camp office to meet the CM K. Chandrashekhar Rao to solve issues in the Universities of Telangana state.

According to the police, while they were on bandobast duty at the camp office the BB1 gate, about eight members from the Telangana Navnirman Vidyarthi Sena (TNVS) assembled in front of them. They were identified as Chintala Pavan, 27, Gubba Sahit, 24, Kondaveeti Sai Ram, 25, Tummala Durga Prasad, 27, Kondakalla Vishnuvardhan, 24, Sabavat Narsimha Naik, 24, Malkapur Mahender, 24, and T.N Shiva Prasad, 30. "The group, under the leadership of Chintala Pavan, gathered near the camp office, formed an unlawful assembly and created nuisance by obstructing the free flow of traffic. They had gathered without any permission demanding to meet the Chief Minister of Telangana State, K. Chandrashekhar Rao, without any permission, to solve the issues in the universities in the Telangana State," said the police.

UoH PROFESSOR  
DIES IN ROAD  
ACCIDENTDC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, FEB. 17

A professor of Hyderabad Central University who was working as Hindi instructor for the 'Study in India Programme' died in an accident at Udaipur in Rajasthan.

The deceased, Bhavani Aadimulam, 40, was also the alumnus of the Department of Hindi at the University of Hyderabad.

"Prof. Bhavani and her daughter were travelling on a scooter when she reportedly lost control of the handle and both fell off the vehicle, following which Bhavani was run over by a speeding truck. She succumbed on the spot while her daughter survived with minor injuries," police said.

Prof. Bhavani was working with Shikshantar Andolan in Udaipur in the areas of education and spreading awareness on the environment and more.



A nun puts ash on a devotee during the Holy Mass on Ash Wednesday at St Mary's Basilica in Secunderabad on Wednesday. The Lent season, reminding the faithful, "Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return," is a season for repentance.

— R. PAVAN

## Lenten season starts with Ash Wednesday

**Churches begin 40-day fasting with special prayers**

SANJAY SAMUEL PAUL | DC  
HYDERABAD, FEB. 17

The holy season of Lent began with Christians observing Ash Wednesday in the city this Wednesday. The occasion was marked by special prayers in churches, starting a period of fasting.

The foreheads of the devout and the faithful were smeared with ashes by priests at the churches. Traditionally, the ashes are made from burnt palm leaves and represent repentance, humility, and mortality.

Lent is a season when people are reminded that humans are made of dust and everyone returns one day to being dust. Sacrifices

of Jesus Christ are remembered, and this is the season for the faithful to forgive others for their wrong deeds. Lent, a 40-plus days period before Easter, provides an opportunity for Christians to draw themselves closer to God.

At St Mary's Basilica, Secunderabad, the mass was attended by a swarm of devotees, and ashes were applied by the clergy and nuns. Vicar General Swarna Bernard, addressing the gathering, said, "Ash Wednesday reminds us of penance, it is a participation in sufferings of Jesus Christ, that taught us how to live a selfless life."

Rev Sanjay Paul, Pastor, Methodist Church at

Lalapet, said, "It's a gentle reminder to seek the Lord. We are all made of dust and we will return to dust form. Our lives should be the manifestation of true Christians. Christ showed us the way and we will follow his teachings."

Capt Alwyn Menezes, who attended the mass at St Anthony's church Gandhinagar, RK puram, Secunderabad, said, "For us more of Bible reading will be there and most of us will be fasting and praying. The first mass started at 6.30 am, in Tamil, followed by applying of ashes. For the whole day, the church was open for adoration. By evening, there was stations of the Cross."

## Man held for duping job aspirants

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, FEB. 17

A 46-year-old was arrested from Kurnool by the CCS Hyderabad team for cheating job aspirants to the tune of ₹1.61 crore on the pretext of providing Group-D jobs in the SCR dept in Secunderabad.

According to the police, Pinjari Khaja was apprehended on Tuesday night by the CCS Hyderabad team. He colluded with another accused person, who is

believed to be providing jobs with the influence of higher officers in the railway department without any exam, the aspirants paid huge amounts of money from nearly 25 persons, with each candidate paying ₹6 to 7 lakhs to them. A total of ₹1.61,50,000 was collected from the victims," said the police.

The team arrested the accused and produced him before the court in Hyderabad, who remanded him to judicial custody.

men would be providing jobs with the influence of higher officers in the railway department without any exam, the aspirants paid huge amounts of money from nearly 25 persons, with each candidate paying ₹6 to 7 lakhs to them. A total of ₹1.61,50,000 was collected from the victims," said the police.

The team arrested the accused and produced him before the court in Hyderabad, who remanded him to judicial custody.

## 'Vidyakansha' sets up smart classrooms in state govt schools

HARLEEN MINOCHA | DC  
HYDERABAD, FEB. 17

Even as students from across the country were trying to shift to online schooling during the Covid-induced national lockdown, three alumni from Indian School of Business, Hyderabad (ISB) Aishwarya Mishra, IIM Bangalore Alumna Arushi Verma, and IIM Ahmedabad alumna Vartika Chaudhary are providing a ray of hope to millions of such students.

They joined hands last May and floated 'Vidyakansha', a non-profit organisation that provides quality online education free of cost to rural students.

Vidyakansha has now partnered with the Telangana government to revolutionise digital learning in government schools. The NGO has signed an agreement with Mulugu District Collector, Krishna Aditya, for establishing smart classrooms in the district's government schools, which would be a gateway for quality teaching by volunteer-teachers, during school hours with the proactive support of the school authorities and their teachers.

They started this initiative in Bihar with five volunteers teaching 10 students over WhatsApp. The trio was able to highlight the glaring gaps when it came to making available quality education in the interiors.

"With schools shut down, and no provisions or resources for online education, the dropout rate soared in rural government schools. It was a rude wake-up call for

### 91st BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

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Ex M.P (Rajya Sabha)

President

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CWC Member,  
Former Labour Minister, Gov. of AP

We wish him a happy & long life on his 91st Birthday, Thursday 18.02.2021 Harsha Gardens MGR Nagar bus stand, Karasangal, Vandalur-Oragadam-Walajabad, road Padappai, Tamil Nadu-601301.

May Almighty bless him with good health & long life to serve the cause of working class, organised & unorganised labour sector farming community and downtrodden.

With best wishes from  
Deccan Chronicle Employees Union &  
All the Employees of Deccan Chronicle Holdings Ltd.



### APOLLO HOSPITALS TO ESTABLISH 3D PRINTING LAB

DC CORRESPONDENT

HYDERABAD, FEB. 17

The Apollo Hospitals group on Wednesday announced that it will soon establish a 3D printing lab at its facility in Jubilee Hills here in the city with the new addition enabling doctors to design and 3D print patient specific implants. The new facility will enable doctors to visualise and print implants for complicated cases.

Announcing this, chairman of Apollo Hospitals Group C. Pratap Reddy said Apollo, with this latest addition, has shown it continues to be a pioneer in bringing latest medical technology for its patients.

Calling 3D printing of implants and prosthetics the future of personalised healthcare, Dr Reddy said this technology was "transforming the medical environment providing a fast, accurate and economical solution to take medical care to the next level! As healthcare evolves, 3D-printing will play an important part of this future transformation."

Sangita Reddy, joint managing director, Apollo, said, "3D-printing is today used in a wide range of healthcare settings and is helping to save and improve lives in ways never imagined until now. This technology has many applications in healthcare and the in-house 3D-printing lab at the hospitals will enable better patient care and treatment planning."

According to Firoza Kothari from Anatomiz3D: "The collaboration with Apollo Hospitals, will result in making customised medical devices easily accessible to patients, for an enhanced quality of life."

### MAN BOOKED FOR ATTEMPT TO MURDER

DC CORRESPONDENT

HYDERABAD, FEB. 17

A 36-year-old man was booked for attempt to murder by the Panjagutta police for attacking his wife on early Wednesday morning following family disputes.

A statement was taken from the victim, Shivkar Keerthi, 33, wife of Shivkar Nagendar, from the private hospital as she was undergoing treatment, wherein she stated that married Nagendar in 2008 and that they have one child. She stated that her husband frequently picks up quarrel with her since their marriage and about 5 months ago, following a fight, she went to her parents house and decided visit him occasionally.

## Babus have outdated version of Civic Act

MADDY DEEKSHITH | DC

HYDERABAD, FEB. 18

● OFFICIALS SAID the higher officials who took charge recently have been moving them from pillar to post to get copies of the GHMC Act in order to help them acquaint with the necessary legal matters for day-to-day discharge of responsibilities, like issue circulars and notices or in giving reply to queries from citizens.

● SOURCES SAID that repeated reminders to the legal wing to provide copies of the GHMC Act did not help.

● A GHMC official said money is a big problem for the corporation. It is virtually bankrupt.

Most of the officials have been delivering their duties only based on instructions from the higher authorities but not by reading the rules by themselves. Some officials are completely ignorant about the GHMC Act and will just dance to the tunes of their higher authorities", this official said.

He said the GHMC has been managing the corporation with about 30,000 employees, and there are just about five copies of the Act.

The official said money is a big problem for the corporation. It is virtually bankrupt. It now has no choice but to enhance the property tax. Rates for the residential properties were last revised in 2002 and commercial taxes revised in 2008. Lack of financial prudence has left the corporation in the lurch and the property tax collections, even record numbers, will not rescue the corporation from the deep financial abyss.

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## SHORT TAKES

## MAHBUBNAGAR CROSSES GREEN CHALLENGE TARGET

DC CORRESPONDENT  
KURNOOL FEB. 17

Green Challenge in Mahbubnagar district surpassed target as 5.21 lakh saplings planted against 5 lakhs. About 400 Palamur University students formed into the cartographic shape of Telangana state and planted saplings to raise them as a shaped up green cover in the university premises.

District Collector S' Venkat Rao said Women groups from Manymakonda, and medical college students also participated in the Green Challenge in great numbers.

## COURT GRANTS BAIL TO ONLINE GAMING ACCUSED

VUJINI VAMSHIDHARA | DC HYDERABAD, FEB. 17

The Telangana High Court on Wednesday granted bail to Gujarat-based businessman Naisar Shailesh Kothari, who was arrested under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA). He is accused of being involved in crypto-currency trade and played a key role in some companies that were into online gaming, cheating, and diverting profits to China.

Justice G. Sri Devi passed the order to the petition filed by Kothari seeking bail in connection with the ED case registered against him on August 17, 2020. The court, while granting the bail, asked him to furnish a personal bond of ₹ five lakh.

## AUSPICIOUS DATES FIXED FOR TTD'S KALYANAMASTU

DC CORRESPONDENT  
TIRUPATI, FEB. 17

A team of Vedic pandits of TTD fixed auspicious dates for the Kalyanamastu mass marriage programmes and handed over the Lagna Patrika to TTD Executive Officer Dr K.S. Jawahar Reddy here on Wednesday.

The team comprised veteran Vedic scholar G. Bala Subramanya Shastri, Dharmagiri Veda Vignana Peetham principal K.S.S. Avadhani, chief priest of Tirumala temple Archakam Venugopala Deekshithulu and former Agama advisor of TTD Vedantam Vishwanath Bhattacharya. They met at Nada Neerajana platform to deliberate and finalise the muhurat for the prestigious programme.

Speaking to media persons later, the EO said that the pandits finalised three auspicious dates in 2021, including May 28 between 12.34 pm and 12.40 pm; October 30 between 11.04 am and 11.08 am and November 17 between 9.56 am and 10.02 am.

He said that Kalyanamastu is aimed at organising free mass marriages for couples from poor families. "It was successfully conducted in six phases between 2007 and 2011 as part of Hindu Sanatana Dharma Pracharam programme.

In its last board meeting, the TTD Trust Board, under the Chairmanship of Y.V. Subba Reddy, decided to resume the programme. Now, the pandits have finalised the dates", he added.

Later, trays consisting of the sacred material, including Lagna Patrika, vermillion, turmeric, kankanas and fruits were carried by Dharma Reddy and pundits to Srivari temples. As per custom, the patrika was placed at the lotus feet of Lord Venkateswara and special pujas were performed.

## L&amp;T Serene County barricaded



Residents of L&T Serene County in Gachibowli protest against the TS Transco department who barricaded the colony and began digging the land with the help of police to lay a 400 KV line. The residents say they did not receive any notice that the roads would be dug up in order to take precautions before the digging started. — R. PAVAN

## Two peddlers arrested, drugs worth ₹3.5L seized

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, FEB. 17

The North Zone Task Force team, along with the Nampally police, seized ₹3.5 lakh worth drugs from two interstate peddlers after a raid at a hotel in Nampally on Wednesday.

The accused were identified as Iftekhar Ahmed Waqar Ahmed, 34, and Nandipati Krishna Kishore Reddy, 45, said the police.

The men were nabbed following a raid at a hotel in the Nampally area, who illegally procured drugs and were found in possession of narcotic drugs like heroin and mephedrone. They were

in the city in order to deliver the same to needy customers at a high price to earn easy money illegally.

It was revealed during the investigation that one Mohammed Salman was acting as their associate and organizer from Hyderabad.

Officials seized 30

grams of heroin, 30 grams of mephedrone, ₹7,000 in cash, two smartphones and one digital weighing machine along with 30 empty plastic sachets.

Waqar Ahmed has a habit of clubbing in Mumbai and consuming drugs and to gain easy money, he came in contact with a Nigerian drug peddler in Mumbai and started supplying narcotics to known and needy customers. He came in contact with Kishore Reddy and Salman during his drug trade, who started supplying drugs to the Hyderabad crowd," said the police.

As per the instructions of Salman, Waqar Ahmed purchased heroin and mephedrone from Mumbai and brought them to Hyderabad. While they were waiting at the hotel in Nampally limits in order to deliver the drug to customers, officials nabbed them.

The seized material, along with the accused persons, were handed over to the Nampally police for further investigation.

## PART OF HILL FALLS ON HOUSES IN AHMEDNAGAR

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, FEB. 17

A part of the hill in Ahmednagar Division of First Lancer broke down on Wednesday evening and fell on two houses. Though the houses have been damaged, luckily, none was injured.

GHMC mayor Gadwal Vijayalakshmi visited the spot and interacted with officials as well as Mehdi patnam corporator and former mayor Majid Hussain.

The latter informed her rocks of the hill have fragmented earlier too. Majid Hussain said there is need to check the strength of boulders and also raise a retaining wall around the hillock as dense population resides in the area. The Mayor assured them that GHMC will ensure the safety of residents.

● **GHMC MAYOR** Gadwal Vijayalakshmi visited the spot and interacted with officials as well as Mehdi patnam corporator and former mayor Majid Hussain.

## Naidu suffers humiliating defeat in Kuppam bastion

DC CORRESPONDENT  
VIJAYAWADA, FEB. 17

In a humiliating defeat, 90 per cent Telugu Desam-backed candidates lost elections in Gram Panchayats falling in Kuppam Assembly constituency represented by the party supreme and former Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu.

Kuppam is such a stronghold for Chandrababu Naidu that he has won for seven consecutive terms since 1989. Even in the last gram panchayat polls held in 2013, the TD-backed candidates won in 81 panchayats out of 93.

The jubilant ruling party leaders attributed the TD's rout in the ongoing local body polls including those falling in Kuppam to the success of welfare initiatives launched by Chief Minister Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy.

Till the last reports came in the ruling YSR Congress-backed candidates won in 74 panchayats out of 89 where the polls were held.

The TD supporters won in 14 panchayats

only. The counting is still on in one panchayat where also the YSR supporter has been leading with more than 300 votes.

The jubilant ruling party leaders attributed the TD's rout in the ongoing local body polls including those falling in Kuppam to the success of welfare initiatives launched by Chief Minister Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy.

The TD and its chief Chandrababu Naidu's plunge into obscurity seem to have come to a logical conclusion with the former CM failing to secure his bastion. Time has come for

Chandrababu Naidu to move out of Kuppam in search of a safe seat. But the question may arise where he will have to go," said Agriculture Minister K. Kannababu reacting to the TD's rout in Kuppam and the ruling party bagging more than 80 per cent panchayats across the State so far.

The welfare schemes have been changing the lives of poor who have been expressing their strong desire to further strengthen the Chief Minister, he added.

Botsa Satyanarayana, Municipal Minister said results were endorsement of Jagan Mohan Reddy's leadership and reflection of successful delivery of the schemes to all sections of people.

YSRC MLA Malladi Vishnu said people of Kuppam were vexed with Naidu for neglecting development which Jagan government undertook in an unprecedented manner though it is represented by the opposition leader.

Campaign convenor Syeda Sajida Begum said that during the 10-day campaign, street corner meetings, family get-togethers, competitions, family quiz, interfaith dialogues, international webinar and panel discussions with lawyers, family counselors and educators will be held. "We will try to highlight the shared family values of every culture and motivate youths to respect the feelings of elders and restore their rights," she said.

recent report of the National Women's Commission, domestic violence rose dramatically during the Covid-19 lockdown, while other survey reports say the increase in domestic violence is at a 10-year-high. It could be worse as only seven per cent of such instances get reported.

Divorce rates have also increased and family disputes skyrocketed, she said.

The women's wing's vice president Ayesha Sultan said elders in the society too are facing difficulties. "Children are not ready to keep their parents with

them. Restoring the basic status of the family and giving proper direction and support to this end is the need of the hour," she said.

Campaign

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Syeda Sajida Begum

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## SOCIAL CAUSE

**Increase in domestic violence is at a 10-year-high**

ATHER MOIN | DC  
HYDERABAD, FEB. 17

The Jamaat-e-Islami Hind (JIH) has said it would educate people to inculcate strong family values, and warned that trends in the society like disinterest in marriage and urge for live-in-relations, abortions and homosexuality posed serious danger to social well-being.

The president of the women's wing of JIH, Asiya Tasneem, said the organisation would launch a 'Strong Family, Strong Society' campaign on Friday that would highlight the dangers of seek-

ing happiness outside of marriage.

Addressing the media, Asiya said a family is the basic building block of a society and the foundation of civilisation. "Adoption of Western culture and values is eroding the importance of this basic social unit."

She said that as per a

recent report of the National Women's Commission, domestic violence rose dramatically during the Covid-19 lockdown, while other survey reports say the increase in domestic violence is at a 10-year-high. It could be worse as only seven per cent of such instances get reported.

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The women's wing's vice president Ayesha Sultan said elders in the society too are facing difficulties. "Children are not ready to keep their parents with

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# DECCAN Chronicle

18 FEBRUARY 2021

## Kiran Bedi pawn in BJP power games in Pondy

The removal of Kiran Bedi as lieutenant governor of Puducherry is only a subplot in a long political drama in the Union territory. The larger plot is the use of the political toolkit named "Operation Kamal (Lotus)" to destabilise the Congress government of V. Narayanasamy by engineering the defection or resignation of MLAs. That it happened with finality at a time when the polls are probably just a couple of months away is incidental to a pattern of inducements from the national ruling party succeeding in bringing down an elected non-BJP government. With the resignation of four MLAs, the government is in a minority in the 30-member Assembly and the chief minister would be expected to put in his papers and assume the role of a caretaker till the polls or face a trust vote, which he would lose.

Moving Kiran Bedi out is like manoeuvring a piece on the chessboard. She was far more powerful than a pawn in playing her role as the trusted

lieutenant who did not allow an elected government to function smoothly in carrying out even welfare programmes

territory even if it has a government elected by the people.

The shifting of the lieutenant governor and placing a seasoned political figure like the Telangana governor Tamilisai Soundararajan temporarily in charge may smoothen the run-up to the polls but the people would be deciding who will rule Puducherry for the next five years. With heavy anti-incumbency said to be weighing against the Congress, its staunch southern ally, DMK, has been increasingly chary of continuing with the arrangement. The current scene only increases the desirability of aligning with the NR Congress of former CM Rangasamy, who becomes a major player in the Tamil-speaking former French colony that goes to the polls along with Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Assam and West Bengal this summer.

Having lost Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh after the last general elections and Goa without even getting to re-establish its rule there, the Congress is proving somewhat inept at keeping its flock together in the face of the allure of defections. The coincidental visit of Rahul Gandhi at a time of trouble for the Puducherry government may not have done much to enhance the prospects of keeping the alliance together. Facing a poll after a tumultuous four-and-a-half years spent bickering over the differences between the CM and the lieutenant governor may just mean that a weakened Congress would be facing a big challenge. Of great interest would be who the voters would choose in this scenario.

## Bangla verdict is welcome

The death sentence handed out by a Bangladesh trial court to five Islamist extremists for the murder of blogger Avijit Roy in 2015 points to the seriousness with which that country deals with the murderous spin some people gave to their religion. The Bangladeshi government's hot pursuit of Islamist militants who wanted to destroy voices other than theirs has resulted in the sentencing. The six convicted militants — one of them got life sentence — belong to domestic militant group Ansar Ullah Bangla, which the police says is inspired by al Qaeda. The group is suspected to be behind the murders of more than a dozen secular activists and bloggers in the country.

Bangladesh saw violent incidents involving religious extremists between 2013 and 2017, and the mass murder of 22 people in a café in upmarket Dhaka in 2016 was the worst of them. The mindless attack jolted the civil society and forced the government to relentlessly pursue the cases. The latest verdict must bolster the country's determination to deal with religious obscurantism with an iron hand.

Bangladesh has passed through instances of turmoil that few nations would have. It's the child of a war, and was orphaned while being a toddler. Its democratic system was upset several times; extremists managed to have a say in the matters of a state, albeit for a brief while. Its original liberal constitution underwent massive changes in-between. Despite all this, the inherent values the people of Bangladesh held dear to their hearts got the nation back on the inclusive, secular, liberal track.

Every society benefits by being inclusive; it gives every member a chance to rise to her full potential to the benefit of all. Militant groups, whether they are inspired by religious or political thoughts, kill this possibility and drive people into manmade ghettos where they languish. This verdict is a pointer to the fact that Bangladesh has no plans to allow such a thing to happen to itself.

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Chandrajit Banerjee

## Budget 2021 puts green recovery at the centre of policy framework

The Union Budget 2021-22 presents a structured approach geared to put our country on the path of green recovery post the Covid-19 pandemic. The Budget has a long-term vision for this decade on environmental sustainability. It is marked by wisely planned investments in the control of air pollution, providing potable water, deep-sea biodiversity conservation and promoting renewable energy. Environment forms an integral part of Budget's six pillars.

The pillar on "Health and Wellness" has integrated air pollution management, waste and control of pollution, and investment in providing a potable water supply with a five-year plan. This includes the adoption of the "One Health" approach by linking the health of humans, and biodiversity and ecosystem services. Air pollution in urban cities is becoming an extremely critical issue and, according to the Global Burden of Disease study, 1.67 million deaths were attributable to air pollution in India. The high burden of death and disease caused by

air pollution and its accompanying adverse economic impact from loss of output could hamper India's ambition to become a US \$5 trillion economy by 2024. The gravity of the situation has been taken into account and the finance minister has done well by prioritising 42 urban centres with a million-plus population for acting on air pollution control with ₹2,217 crores. This can help create the infrastructure to build science-based evidence, which can feed into the action plans for these urban centres under the National Clean Air Programme.

India's urban population is expected to grow to 814 million by 2050, stressing our cities. There will be a need to boost the environmental infrastructure to mitigate the impacts of urbanisation. Issues of air quality, water availability, waste disposal and energy consumption must be addressed. Great forethought and meticulous planning have been put into increasing the depth and width of the Urban Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0 in five years with a substantial allocation of ₹1,41,678 crores. The

mission will integrate waste management, reduce single-use plastic, make for effective waste management from construction and demolition activities and implement bioremediation of all legacy dump sites. Investment in increasing public transport of about ₹18,000 crores will further help in controlling air pollution.

Moving towards use of renewable energy to meet India's energy requirements is one of the priorities of this Budget. It has planned an investment of ₹2,500 crores in solar and renewable energy sources. The government has also announced a national hydrogen mission, to be launched in 2021-22, for generating hydrogen from green power sources. India can take a lead in green power sources with its continued investments in non-fossil based fuels. This builds a good momentum towards meeting India's commitments in the Paris Agreement.

The government will launch a Deep Ocean Mission with a budget of ₹4,000 crores for the next five years. This mission will refine our understanding of ocean depths, through

mapping biodiversity and climate change issues and enabling technological research for ocean exploration along with implementing measures to conserve biodiversity. This should facilitate the adoption and implementation of nature-based solutions and build climate resilience.

It is encouraging to note that the Budget has also integrated substantial investments over the next five years in science and technology areas to encourage research on health and technology innovation. The proposed fund of ₹50,000 crores over five years will address the national priority thrust areas of enhancing security and promoting well-being.

India aspires to be self-reliant and a global manufacturing champion and, to meet this objective, substantial investment is required with respect to technology research. Moving in the right direction, an investment of ₹1.97 lakh crores, over five years starting FY 2021-22 has been prioritised in 13 sectors.

The major challenges of this decade are climate change, air pollution, bio-

diversity loss and availability of fresh water required for the health and wellness of humankind. Rebuilding the ecological infrastructure is critical. The actions planned under this Budget will enable India to address these issues. The planned investments will enable conservation of resources whose scarcity affects the poorest. CII recommends that the government enable multi-level collaboration with industry, civil society, academia and institutions, among other stakeholders. The government also needs to ensure delivery of these actions through awareness creation at the sub-national level, supporting scientific data collection, technological innovation and uniform policy frameworks.

The government has taken bold steps towards integrating environment and climate change in the first Budget of the decade and CII is confident that this will enable inclusive and sustainable growth.

The writer is the director-general of the Confederation of Indian Industry

Subhani



## 'Vaccine passports': Key to safe travels is flawed

Sunanda K. Datta-Ray

Reflections

**S**tranded in London because of the Covid-19 pandemic-related travel restrictions, I cannot but welcome any innovation that might facilitate my return to India. But having grown up in Kolkata, I am also acutely aware of the self-defeating flaw from which the proposal for what are called "vaccine passports" suffers.

Even in the 1960s an Indian going abroad had to be armed with a little booklet certifying that he or she had been vaccinated against yellow fever and (I think) the plague. No traveller from Kolkata that I knew of ever suffered the needle — a small payment, perhaps ten or fifteen rupees, to the travel agent produced the booklet with a convincing array of official-looking seals.

Kolkata cannot have been unique among Indian cities. In fact, an American diplomat once told me that no matter what ingenious devices were introduced by the state department in US visas, Indian forgers were always a step ahead. No one recommends illegal travel, but as the floods of refugees from West Asia and across the Mediterranean confirm, travel is often essential for survival. Nor was Mark Twain's observation that "travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry and narrow-mindedness" only for the rich.

The summer holidays are a sacred ritual for most British people, and the Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, is under intense pressure to allow his fellow citizens to go abroad later this year. The assertion by Matt Hancock, his Cabinet colleague who is responsible for health, that the government has

no plans to issue "vaccine passports" because "going on holiday is illegal in this lockdown" has not gone down very well.

People are piqued by the mounting evidence that the sleight of hand that was once practised by Indians is common among others too. Under universal lockdown rules, all travellers need to have proof of that they have tested negative for Covid-19 within three days of departure. If, for instance, Air India had not suspended its direct London to Kolkata flight, I would have to take the test in London and the result would be emailed, printed or sent as a text message both to the airline and to the authorities in Kolkata.

This is where things are said to be going wrong, with thousands of passengers entering Britain every week with fake negative Covid-19 test certificates. "We're catching up to 1,000 passengers every day with a fake certificate," says Lucy Moreton of the British immigration service. "But that's just the tip of the iceberg. There is no international standard." Certificates are not standardised. "Each country — and within that, each company — produces something different," Ms Moreton adds. "There is no way to know which are real and which are not."

What makes matters worse is that over 40 per cent of British voters accuse the government of lying about the pandemic. They think it is a coverup and a conspiracy involving politicians, scientists and journalists, and certainly not sufficient reason for forbidding foreign travel.

Nadhim Zahawi, Mr Johnson's Iraqi-born vaccines minister, admits that an interna-

tional certificate is currently being discussed, but insists that any such document will not be called a "vaccine passport". Whatever the name, it has always been clear that the vaccinated will be given documentary proof of immunisation. The leaflet asking me to report for my first jab had pictures of the Covid-19 vaccination card with instructions to "keep [it] safe".

Newspapers recently received support from many quarters. Saga, the British travel company for passengers aged over 50, has announced that people who register for its holidays or cruises in 2021 must be fully vaccinated. The Australian airline Qantas says it will eventually require proof of a coronavirus vaccine to board its flights. Etihad Airways and Emirates will also use a digital travel pass so that passengers can prove they have been vaccinated or tested for Covid-19.

The International Air Transport Association is developing such a pass to be shown at border control or to airlines at the time of check-in. Such a requirement would not be altogether new. I have mentioned Indian travel in the 1960s. Britain still requires visa applicants from certain countries to produce a certificate proving they have had a recent TB test. Many governments also require a vaccine certificate for diseases such as yellow fever and polio.

Ideally, people who have been immunised against coronavirus should carry an official card or digital certification, possibly on an app, which would enable governments around the world which want to open up travel again to do so without too much risk of infection. Two British developers, MVine and IProvo, are reportedly working on an immunity and vaccination passport which is being tested by the National Health Service. It would enable a person's test results or vac-

ination status to be registered and proved without extensive new infrastructure.

The proposal has received support from many quarters. Saga, the British travel company for passengers aged over 50, has announced that people who register for its holidays or cruises in 2021 must be fully vaccinated. The Australian airline Qantas says it will eventually require proof of a coronavirus vaccine to board its flights. Etihad Airways and Emirates will also use a digital travel pass so that passengers can prove they have been vaccinated or tested for Covid-19.

The main objection seems to be that vaccine passports will prevent travel by people from countries that will not get vaccines for months, or even years. There is also the ethical question of those who for one reason or another refuse to be vaccinated.

The writer is a senior journalist, columnist and author

## LETTERS

### STERILISING DOGS

We animal lovers are concerned about the so-called street dogs sterilisation in Hyderabad through Blue Cross/PFA and GHMC. Many of us who took care of stray dogs since they were pups, suddenly find people taking away our dogs for sterilisation and dislocating them in completely different areas.

When we confronted these people with photographs and videos of those dogs to be returned to us, they completely denied taking the dogs.

Shalinii Devnani  
Hyderabad

### WARY OF CHINA

It is surprising and shocking that China agreed to disengage its troops from Eastern Ladakh suddenly. You have rightly cautioned to be slow and careful about the Chinese moves in the light of past experiences. We will have to play the game to achieve our objectives.

Y.Bharadwaja  
Secunderabad

### 50 YEARS AGO IN DECCAN Chronicle

#### Leopard in NGRI premises

HYDERABAD, February 17 The appearance of a leopard in the premises of the National Geophysical Research Institute on the outskirts of the city, has spread panic among the residents of the area and the neighbourhood.

A police party headed by the Assistant Commissioner of Police, Mr. Guruswamy rushed to the spot hearing the news. Mr. Guruswamy and Mr. Hayling, a local hunter led the search party which unsuccessfully scoured the area within a radius of three miles. The search would resume tomorrow morning, it was learnt.

The dotted quadrangle which has been prowling the 'Geophysics' complex for the past sometime was this afternoon spotted by a group of men and women cutting the grass. Rashid, a driver, told this reporter that he saw the animal atop a small rock around 12.30. Another woman said she suddenly came face to face with the animal last evening around 4.00. She said she was greeted with a mild growl. When she raised hue and cry, none responded. So, she had to run away, the woman added.



Chandrajit Banerjee

Editor

DECCAN CHRONICLE

18 FEBRUARY 2021



## IN BRIEF

## NO COVID DEATHS IN 18 STATES

DC CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI, FEB. 17

As active cases of coronavirus continue to be on a decline, no deaths were reported in 18 states and Union Territories in the last 24 hours. On the other hand, recoveries continue to be the rise and cumulative recoveries have now reached 1,06 crore.

In the last 24 hours 11,610 fresh cases and 100 deaths were reported. High number of cases continue to be reported from Kerala and Maharashtra.

Maharashtra chief minister Uddhav Thackeray warned of imposing fresh lockdown measures if Covid appropriate behavior was not followed. He has directed local bodies to take punitive action against people and establishments found violating Covid norms and standard operating procedures.

India's total active caseload currently stands at 1.36 lakh and consists of just 1.25 per cent of the country's total positive cases. "All States and UTs have reported a decline in active cases in the last month. Maharashtra has shown a substantial decline in active cases from 53,163 on January 17 to 38,307 on February 17," health ministry said in a statement.

Meanwhile, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi accused the Centre of being "grossly" negligent and overconfident about the handling of the coronavirus situation, saying the pandemic was not over yet.

The comments came after South African and Brazilian variants of the pathogen were reported to have entered India.

## BRIDE ELOPS WITH LOVER ON WEDDING DAY

AKSHAY KUMAR SAHOO | DC BHUBANESWAR, FEB. 17

A bride on Tuesday evening eloped with her lover before the wedding ceremony at Malpada village in Odisha's Kalahandi district.

Shockingly, the family members of the bride got her minor sister married to the groom. However, the Jaipatna Child Development and Protection Officer (CDPO) and local Jaipatna police, on being informed about the incident, reached the groom's village Tentulikhuni and rescued the 15-year-old girl.

Subsequently, the girl was handed over to her family members.

"The girl can either stay at her house or at a hotel if she wishes so. She will be allowed to stay with her husband at her in-laws' place after she attains 18 years of age," an official of Child Line, a statutory body for protecting children, said.

## Activists hail verdict in Priya Ramani case

New Delhi, Feb 17: Activists and lawyers were among the scores of people to welcome a Delhi court's decision to acquit journalist Priya Ramani in the defamation case filed against her by former Union minister M.J. Akbar, against whom she had made allegations of sexual harassment, saying the verdict will give courage to more women to speak up against abuse and exploitation.

A Delhi court on Wednesday acquitted journalist Ramani in Akbar's criminal defamation case against her over the allegations of sexual harassment, saying a woman has the right to put grievances before any platform of her choice even after decades.

Kavita Krishnan, secretary of the All India Progressive Women's Association, said the verdict empowers women.

"Bravo #PriyaRamani. Your abuser @mjakbar hit you with a SLAP suit but you stand vindicated. Verdict empowers women, saying we should understand that sometimes a victim may for years not speak up due to mental trauma, cannot be punished for raising her voice against sexual abuse," she tweeted.

## Events at border illustrative of confident India: PM

Confidence is a very big asset, says Modi

## Combined Commanders meeting soon

DC CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI, FEB 17

Mumbai, Feb 17: India is brimming with confidence, and the events on the borders and the government's decision to liberalise geospatial data are representative of the same, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Wednesday.

Modi said in the past, security considerations were the biggest red light which prevented the government from undertaking the measure to liberalise map making and access to geospatial data.

In the remarks, which come amid a slew of reports suggesting a disengagement between Indian and Chinese forces in icy heights of Eastern Ladakh, Modi said the confidence is a very big asset.

Today, India is brimming with confidence. We are seeing it on the borders, he said, without explicitly mentioning the thaw with China after nearly 10 months of a standoff.

It can be noted that there was a heavy troop and military hardware buildup in the Himalayan region since last summer, after China moved troops to newer grounds amid the pandemic.

One of the many confrontations turned ugly leading to deaths of soldiers in fist-fights and warning shots were also fired in another instance. The troops continued to be on vigil braving the hostile winter and according to reports, there has been a disengagement on the banks of Pangong Tso and south of it.

Addressing the annual Nasscom Technology and Leadership Forum organised by the IT industry lobby grouping, Modi said the decision to liberalise the geospatial data and map making is not just restricted to the area of technology, nor should it be seen as another administrative reform where the government exists a particular challenge.

This decision is illustrative of India's capabilities. India is confident that even after this decision, we can ensure our security and also give an opportunity for the country's young population to excel at the world stage, Modi said.

He said the decision will strengthen the technology startup ecosystem and ensure that it can endure. It will help the IT sector and also strengthens the wider Aatmanirbhar Bharat mission focused on self-reliance, the PM said.

Our young entrepreneurs need full freedom to take advantage of the opportunities made available at the world stage. It is precisely

and Nicobar Command. The Chief of Defence Staff will also be attending the meeting. Mr Modi is expected to be given a briefing on the progress made in the field of the creation of theatre commands. Of all the theatre commands under plan, Air Defence Command is likely to be implemented first.

The Prime Minister will be given a detailed presentation on the restructuring of the Army formations in view of the recent Chinese aggression in the Ladakh sector. During the Combined Commanders' Conference in Jodhpur, the government had cleared the creation of Defence Cyber Agency and Defence Space Agency along with their research components. Kevadia is a town in Gujarat famous for the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's statue known 'Statue of Unity'.

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Besides, last year in July as tensions soared with China, the defence ministry also delegated the powers to armed forces for progressing

citing issues with red tape for long, but pointed out that the red light of security prevented movement on the same.

Our young entrepreneurs need full freedom to take advantage of the opportunities made available at the world stage. It is precisely

urgent capital acquisition cases upto ₹300 crore to the to meet their emergent operational requirements.

The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved financial powers to clear projects worth up to ₹200 crore to Deputy Chief of Army Staff, Air Officer Maintenance and Deputy Chief of Integrated Defence Staff as well as to additional director general of Indian Coast Guard.

Financial powers up to ₹100 crore has been delegated to General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief at Services Command and Regional Commanders, Indian Coast Guard.

this thinking which has led to this decision, he said.

In his address, the Prime Minister urged startup founders to think on how they can create institutions which can outlive this century, rather than focusing on valuations or exit strategies.

— PTI

**LOOKING FOR SOMETHING?**  
We have it for you  
**DECCAN CHRONICLE**

## EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

## E-Tender Notice

E-Tender are invited for execution of the following works by Divisional Railway Manager (Engg.) E.C. C. Railway, Dhanbad:-

S.N.1. E-Tender No.: 139-DHN-2020-21

Name of the work with its location & completion period : Repair & Improvement of Pipe line from Damodar river to filter house at Phusro under Asstt. Engineer (2), E.C. Ry. Gomot. 02 (Two) Month. Approx. cost of work (in Rs.) : 18,14,957.30 2. E-Tender No. : 140-DHN-2020-21 Name of the work with its location & completion period : Provision of fencing, hexagonal block & approach road at different gates in Dhanbad Division under jurisdiction of Sr. DEN (4)/DHN. 12 (Twelve) Months Approx. cost of work (In Rs.) : 28,28,318.03 3. E-Tender No. : 141-DHN-2020-21 Name of the work with its location & completion period : Repair of existing track, Construction of RCC drain and Boulders pitching for avoiding water log at IOC SKTN Siding under ADEN/CPU on permanent basis. 10 (Ten) Months. Approx. cost of work (In Rs.) : 22,30,872.93 4. E-Tender No. : 142-DHN-2020-21 Name of the work with its location & completion period : (Balance work) Up gradation of coaching pits of Dhanbad Coaching Depot under ADEN/IGMCO. 08 (Eight) Months. Approx. cost of work (In Rs.) : 1,17,78,674.13 5. E-Tender No. : 143-DHN-2020-21 Name of the work with its location & completion period : TWS+WCMS (189 Sets) and SEU (200 Sets) regarding raising of speed to 160 KMPH on existing PKA-MPO section in Grand Chord route of DHN Division under Sr. DEN/2/DHN. 24 (Twenty Four) Months. Approx. cost of work (In Rs.) : 4,33,31,988.76 6. E-Tender No. : 144-DHN-2020-21 Name of the work with its location & completion period : Tender for licensing of fishing right in West Loco Tank, Dhanbad for five years. (2020-21 to 2024-25). 05 (Five) Years. Approx. cost of work (In Rs.) : 2,31,73/- Date & Time for closing and opening of e-tender: Date of closing of e-tender at 17:00 hours on 15.03.2021. Date of opening of e-tender from 12:00 hrs. on 16.03.2021. Website particulars : http://www.reps.gov.in No manual tender will be accepted against e-tendering.

Divisional Railway Manager (Engineering), East Central Railway/Dhanbad

PR/1475/DHN/ENGG/T-20/21/48

## EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

## E-Tender Notice

E-TENDER NOTICE NO.-ECR-CAO-C-N-ETN-58-20-21

E-TENDER IS INVITED ON BEHALF OF THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA FOR THE UNDERMENTIONED WORK.

Particulars : S.N. 1. Name of work with its location : Protection work of slope

and toe of embankment by turfing, by crated boulders apron at toe and pitchings between (KM 75600-76080 (L&R), 76080-77680 (L&R), 77260-77860 (L&R), 77860-78360 (L&R), 78535-79515 (L&R), 79867-80067 (L&R), 80311-80511 (L&R), 80511-80982 (R), 80982-81515 (L&R), TB YARD (R), 82640-88437 (L&R), 88437-90909 (R), 90099-91620 (L&R), 91620-92402 (L), 92402-93602 (R)) in Supaul-Saraigarh section of Samastipur division of East Central Railway. 2. Approx. cost of work : Rs. 495627959.32 3. Date and time for closing of tender : 12.03.2021 at 14:30 hrs. 4. Website particular, Notice board location where complete details of tender can be seen and addressed of the office from where the tender form be purchased etc: The above E-Tender, E-tendering document alongwith full information is available on website i.e. http://www.reps.gov.in

Note : In case of any discrepancies found in tender notice, English version will be final. Tenderers are requested to visit the website http://www.reps.gov.in at least 15 days before last date of closing for latest corrigendum/corrections etc in response to this E-tender.

CAO/Con/North EC Ry. Patna

PR/1473/CON/ENGG/T-20/21/48

## Congress sweeps Punjab civic elections, boost for Amarinder

Chandigarh, Feb 17: The ruling Congress won six municipal corporations and emerged as the largest party in the seventh, sweeping the urban body polls in Punjab on Wednesday.

The Congress won in Bathinda, Hoshiarpur, Kapurthala, Abhar, Batala and Pathankot, in the civic polls held against the backdrop of the farmers' agitation. In Mohali, it needed victories in six more wards to control the municipal corporation. The counting for

another municipal corporation will take place on Thursday. In addition, results for 109 municipal corporations are also expected.

The outcome comes as a boost for the Congress, which has been backing the protest by farmers a majority of them from Punjab and Haryana against the BJP-led government at the Centre. The Congress is also eyeing a win in the Assembly elections, which are just a year away.

Punjab Congress chief Sunil Jakhar said people have rejected the negative politics of parties like the BJP, SAD and AAP. He rooted for renomination of Chief Minister Amarinder Singh when assembly elections are held early next year. I would like to launch a campaign, 'Captain for 2022'. Only he can steer the ship of the state through these turbulent times when Punjab is being discriminated against by the BJP-led Centre, he told reporters. — PTI

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA  
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR, SANGAREDDY

## FORM-VII

(See Rule 1(1) of Rule-25 and Section-19(1) of the Act - 30/2013)

No.G2/146/2020 DECLARATION Dt : 15-02-2021

Whereas it appears to the Government of Telangana/ Collector that a total of about Ac.1.15 gts Land is required in Patancheru village and Mandi in S.Yo. 192 & 197 for public purpose, namely " Formation of Grid Road".

Therefore declaration made for a piece of land admeasuring, more or less Ac.1.15 gts of standard measurement under acquisition for the above said project in the village : Patancheru, Mandi: patancheru, District: Sangareddy whose detailed description is as follows :

District: Sangareddy Mandal: Patancheru Village: Patancheru

S.No. Sy.no. Type of Land Area under Acquisition AC/Gs

1 192/A Patta/Dry 1.01

Amarsa Reddy  
S/o. Vinod Reddy

Pedda Vagu  
S/o. Vinod Reddy

Sudha S/o. Vinod Reddy

Amar s/o. Vinod Reddy

Laxmi S/o. Vinod Reddy

Venka S/o. Vinod Reddy

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

B.Sudhakar S/o. Vinod Reddy

P. Arun Reddy S/o. Vinod Reddy

B. Sudhakar S/o. Vinod Reddy





#NARESH 57  
RELEASING  
TOMORROW



## quick BITES

INDICATORS	%
Sensex	51,703.83 -0.77
Nifty 50	15,208.90 -0.68
S&P 500*	3,904.91 -0.70
Dollar (\$)	72.75 -0.06
Pound Sterling (\$)	101.22 0.04
Euro (\$)	88.10 0.28
Gold (10gm)* (\$)	46,102 ▼717 1.55
Brent crude (\$/bbl)*	63.60 0.39
IN 10-Yr bond yield	6.030 0.13
US 10-Yr T-bill yield*	1.285 -0.014

\* As of 8:30 PM IST

## SAT stays Sebi order banning Kishore Biyani

The Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT) has stayed the Sebi order that banned Future Retail chairman Kishore Biyani and some other promoters from the securities market for one year. The SAT has listed the matter for final disposal on April 12 and said the effect and operation of the impugned order shall remain stayed till then. On Feb. 3, the Sebi had barred Biyani and others for one year for indulging in insider trading.

## Startups told to build institutions, not just valuations



Prime Minister Narendra Modi urged India's startup founders to think how to create institutions and not focus on valuations alone. Addressing a Nasscom event, Modi said that startups should not restrict themselves only to valuations on exit strategies. They should think of creating an institution that can outlive this century by creating world-class products that will set the global benchmark of excellence.

## DRL launches cancer treatment drug in US

Dr Reddy's Laboratories said it has launched cancer treatment drug capcitabine in the US market. The drug is a therapeutic equivalent generic version of Xeloda (capecitabine) tablets approved by the US FDA. Quoting IQVIA health data, DRL said the Xeloda brand and generic had US sales of about \$90 million for the most recent 12 months ending in October 2020. The tablets are available in 150 and 500 mg strengths.

## Granules India gets FDA nod for hypokalemia drug

Granules India on Wednesday said that the US Food & Drug Administration has approved its Abbreviated New Drug Application for Potassium Chloride Extended-Release Capsules. The drug is indicated for the treatment of patients with hypokalemia with or without metabolic alkalosis and in patients with hypokalemic familial periodic paralysis. The drugs would be manufactured at its Hyderabad plant.

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## ■ CECPA covers financial services as well Mauritius trade pact, telecom PLI cleared

New Delhi, Feb. 17: The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved a comprehensive economic cooperation and partnership agreement (CECPA) with Mauritius and a Rs 12,195-crore production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme for telecom gear manufacturing.

The CECPA, a kind of a free trade pact, to be signed between India and Mauritius at a later date is aimed at liberalising norms to boost two-way commerce.

The agreement, cleared by the Cabinet meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, would cover 310 export items for India, including foodstuff & beverages, agricultural products, textile & textile articles, base metals, electricals & electronic items, plastics & chemicals, and wood & its articles.

Mauritius would benefit from preferential market access into India for 615 products, including frozen fish, specialty sugar, biscuits, fresh fruit, juices, mineral water, beer, alcoholic drinks, soaps, bags, medical & surgical equipment and apparel, according to a government statement.

In such an agreement, two trading partners cut or eliminate duties on a host of products besides liberalising norms to promote services trade.

The pact would cover trade in goods, rules of origin, trade in services, Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) measures, dispute settlement,



movement of natural persons, telecom, financial services, customs procedures and cooperation in other areas.

The bilateral trade between the countries dipped to \$690 million in 2019-20 from \$1.2 billion in 2018-19. While India's exports in 2019-20 aggregated at \$662 million, imports stood at \$27.89 million.

The over Rs 12,000-crore production-linked incentive scheme is expected to encourage production of telecom equipment worth Rs 2.44 lakh crore and create direct and indirect employment for about 40,000 people, Union minister Ravi Shankar Prasad said after the Cabinet meeting. The PLI scheme for telecom will be operational from April 1, 2021.

"In the coming five years we hope to have incremental production of Rs 2,44,200 crore, export worth Rs 1,95,360 crore, direct and indirect employment to 40,000 people and tax revenue of approximately Rs 17,000 crore to the country," Prasad said.

According to an official statement, the scheme is expected to bring investment of over Rs 3,000 crore and generate huge direct and indirect employment and taxes both.

Separately, the Union food processing industries ministry said it has cleared 20 projects worth Rs 363.4 crore under two central government schemes. The government will provide a grant-in-aid of Rs 102.91 crore for these projects, which together are expected to generate 12,000 jobs and benefit 42,800 farmers, it said in a statement.

The projects have been cleared under the Scheme for Creation of Infra-structure for Agro-Processing Cluster (APC) and the scheme for Creation/Expansion of Food Processing and Preservation Capacities (CEFP) under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY) approved in May 2017. — Agencies

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## SHORT TAKES

## Du Plessis retires from Test cricket

Johannesburg: Faf du Plessis, the last survivor of South African cricket's golden age in Test cricket, announced on Wednesday that he had retired from Test matches with immediate effect.

Du Plessis, 36, said in a statement on his Instagram account that he would continue to be available for one-day and Twenty20 internationals.

"The next two years are ICC T20 World Cup years. Because of this, my focus is shifting to this format and I want to play as much of it as possible around the world so that I can possibly be," he said.

Du Plessis went on to score 4,163 runs in Test matches at an average of 40.02.

He hit 10 centuries and made his highest score of 199 against Sri Lanka on his home ground at Centurion Park last December. — AFP

## Vrashank, Ayush chess champs

Hyderabad: Vrashank Chouhan and Ayush Jain won the Junior and Open categories respectively at the 17th Brilliant trophy Chess tournament that was conducted online on www.lichess.org due to Covid-19 pandemic.

Vrashank of Udaipur (Rajasthan) won the event by scoring 11 points out of 12 rounds. Shamabhi was second with 10.5 points while Premcharan took the third place with 10 points.

In the Open category, Ayush Jain of Udaipur (Rajasthan) emerged winner with 10 points out of 12 rounds. Mathizagan and Nirajan tied for second place with 9.5 points each — the former won the tie-break.

**Following are the age group winners:** Boys U-15 — 1. Ch. Mokshagna, 2. Tuladhar Reddy. Girls U-15 — 1. A.Sahithi, 2. Naannya. Boys U-13 — 1.

Shamabhi, 2. Premcharan. Girls U-13 — 1. Harshitha Agarwal, 2. P. Sethi Srivalli. Boys U-11 — 1. Ojas Saharan, 2. Namana Arora.

Girls U-11 — 1. Sahasra Samudrala, 2. Shriya Mahesh. Boys U-9 — 1. Aahan Samyak, 2. Reyansh Bharadwaj. Girls U-9 — 1. Jenthisha N, 2. Anaya Agarwal. Boys U-7 — 1. Havish Kovidh, 2. Balandanand Ayyappan. Girls U-7 — 2. Aadtri Abhishek. Best Veteran — P. V. Satyanarayana. Best Woman — Akshara Sriphani.

## Dattatraya is chief referee

Hyderabad: The Cycling Federation of India has nominated K. Dattatraya as Chief Commissaire (chief referee) of the 17th National (Senior, Junior & Sub-Junior) Mountain Bike Cycling Championship to be held at Gadag in Karnataka from February 19 to 21. Nearly 500 cyclists and officials from 28 States and units of the country are participating in the championship. Dattatraya is general secretary of Telangana Cycling Association, an Executive Member of the Cycling Federation of India and also an Executive Committee Member of the Telangana Olympic Association.

## Oly minister Seiko likely Tokyo chief

Tokyo: Japan's Olympic Minister Seiko Hashimoto has been chosen as the top candidate to replace Tokyo 2020 chief Yoshiro Mori after he resigned over a sexism row, reports said Wednesday.

The panel charged with selecting Mori's replacement met for a second day, with multiple major Japanese media outlets reporting its members had settled on Hashimoto as best suited to the job. Hashimoto is a seven-time Olympian who competed at both winter and summer Games, and is currently one of just two women in Japan's cabinet.

Public broadcaster NHK, citing unnamed sources, said the selection committee had "narrowed down the candidates to Hashimoto" after meeting behind closed doors. — AFP

## Live on TV

**TENNIS**  
Australian Open: Women's semifinals from 8.30 am; Men's semifinal from 2 pm on Sony Six, Sony Ten 2, HD

**CRICKET**  
IPL Player Auction: From 3 pm on Star Sports 1, Star Sports 1 HD

**FOOTBALL**  
Europe League: Real Sociedad vs Manchester United from 11.25 pm on Sony Ten 2; Granada vs Napoli from 1.30 am (Friday) on Sony Six; Benfica vs Arsenal from 1.30 am (Friday) on Sony Ten 2

## AUCTION IN ACTION

## Uncapped Azharuddeen and Shahrukh up for grabs

C. SANTHOSH KUMAR | DC  
CHENNAI, FEB. 17



Australia's Glen Maxwell plays a reverse sweep in this file photo.

As the second Test between India and England was over as a contest by lunch on day four, England allrounder Moeen Ali used the opportunity to send out a strong message. Moeen smoked a few lusty blows and smashed India's Axar Patel for a hat-trick of sixes before England were bowled out. A left-handed batsman who also bowls off-spin, Moeen is one of the overseas players to watch out for in Thursday's 'mini' IPL auction where franchises will be looking to pick up a few pieces to solve the jigsaw puzzle ahead of season 14.

After picking eight wickets on a turning Chepauk track, Moeen, who was released by Royal Challengers Bangalore, couldn't have chosen a better place to showcase his big-hitting skills.

Chennai Super Kings are looking for a foreign player and also an off-spinner to replace Harbhajan Singh and Australia's Shane Watson. Moeen fits the bill.

CSK would also be weighing other options such as the reliable Steve Smith (released by

Rajasthan Royals), the swashbuckling Glenn Maxwell (released by Punjab) and No.1 T20 batsman Dawid Malan (who played for Hobart Hurricanes in the Big Bash League).

CSK CEO K. S. Viswanathan said their requirement is a foreign batsman. CSK have ₹19.9 crore to spend for six slots, including an overseas player. "There are a few choices available in the pool. It can even be a rookie," he said, keeping his cards close to his chest.

After the Covid-19 lock-

down forced the 2020 IPL to go overseas, the next edition is expected to be back in India. A state, most likely Maharashtra, with multiple venues will be chosen to host the cash-rich league. "If it's going to be in India, pitches are likely to assist spinners. Our core team which remains intact was built looking at our home venue. So, it plays a key role in the auction dynamics," said Viswanathan.

After removing 'XI' from their name, the rebranded Punjab Kings will splurge at the auction table on Wednesday. They have the

highest remaining purse at ₹53.2 crore. They have nine slots to fill and five of them are for foreigners. Rajasthan Royals and Royal Challengers Bangalore have ₹37.85 crore and ₹35.40 crore in their pockets to pick nine and 11 players, respectively. Having released an array of fast bowlers — Lasith Malinga, Mitch McClenaghan, James Pattinson, Nathan Coulter-Nile — Mumbai Indians' primary target would be getting a couple of seamers.

As Delhi Capitals' assistant coach Mohammed

## NUMBERS GAME

292

Number of cricketers set to go under the hammer. As many as 1,114 cricketers had initially registered for auction. The final list was then pruned after the eight franchises submitted their shortlist of players.

164

Number of Indian players in the fray.

128

Number of overseas players including three from Associate Nations will be up for grabs.

If it's going to be in India, pitches are likely to assist the spinners. Our core team which remains intact was built looking at our home venue. So, it (venue) plays a key role in the auction dynamics.

— K. S.  
VISWANATHAN  
CEO of Chennai Super Kings

₹2 crore

The highest reserve price. Two Indian players — Harbhajan Singh and Kedar Jadhav — and eight overseas players — Glenn Maxwell, Steve Smith, Shakib Al Hasan, Moeen Ali, Sam Billings, Liam Plunkett, Jason Roy & Mark Wood have chosen to be slotted in the highest bracket.

25  
Max squad size

8  
Max overseas players

₹85 cr  
Salary cap per team

Franchise	Purse left	Available slots	Overseas
Punjab	53.20	9	5
Rajasthan	37.85	9	3
Bangalore	35.40	11	3
Chennai	19.90	6	1
Mumbai	15.35	7	4
Delhi	13.40	8	3
Kolkata	10.75	8	2
Hyderabad	10.75	3	1

(All amounts in crore)



LIST OF CAPPED PLAYERS

Base prize	Total players	Indians	Overseas
2 crore	10	2	8
1.5 crore	12	—	12
1 crore	11	2	9
75 lakh	15	—	15
50 lakh	65	13	52

## Basketful of smiles



Players of the Pushpan Sports Academy Girls U-14 team are all smiles as they receive the CM KCR Basketball one-day tournament trophy after beating Victory Playgroup 28-11 in the final played at the VPG in Hyderabad.

## NZC MAY ALLOW ITS PLAYERS TO TURN UP IN IPL

Auckland, Feb. 17: New Zealand Cricket has indicated that it may not block its players from fully participating in the upcoming IPL if the knockout phase matches of the lucrative league clash with the Test series opener in England beginning on June 2, according to a report.

It has been reported by stuff.co.nz that the IPL-bound New Zealand players may miss the matches of the limited overs tour of Bangladesh.

Kane Williamson, Trent Boult, Lockie Ferguson, Mitchell Santner and Tim Seifert are bound for IPL and they could be joined by several teammates among 20 New Zealanders entered in Thursday's player auction. — PTI

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## Tsitsipas upsets Nadal, in semis

Melbourne, Feb. 17: Stefanos Tsitsipas ended Rafael Nadal's Grand Slam record bid in five gripping sets on Wednesday in the Australian Open quarterfinals.

Greece's Tsitsipas looked down and out after losing the first two sets but after edging the third he was a different player, taking upper hand over a subdued Nadal to win 3-6, 2-6, 7-6 (7/4), 6-4, 7-5.

Tsitsipas, 22, stunned Roger Federer in the 2019 last 16 before being halted by Nadal in the semis, but he turned the tables to set up a last-four meeting with Russia's Daniil Medvedev.

Underlining the scale of the upset, it was only the second time Nadal has lost a Grand Slam five-setter from two sets to love after his defeat to Fabio Fognini at the 2015 US Open.

Daniil Medvedev came

## THE RESULTS

**Men's singles quarterfinals:** Stefanos Tsitsipas (GRE x5) bt Rafael Nadal (ESP x2) 3-6, 2-6, 7-6 (7/4), 6-4, 7-5; Daniil Medvedev (RUS x4) bt Andrey Rublev (RUS x7) 7-5, 6-3, 6-2.

**Women's singles quarterfinals:** Karolina Muchova (CZE x25) bt Ashleigh Barty (AUS x1) 1-6, 6-3, 6-2; Jennifer Brady (USA x22) bt Jessica Pegula (USA) 4-6, 6-2, 6-1.

## Mbappe hat-trick stuns Barcelona

Barcelona, Feb. 17: Kylian Mbappe ripped Barcelona apart on Tuesday by scoring a stunning hat-trick in a 4-1 rout to put Paris Saint-Germain on the brink of the Champions League quarter-finals.

Mbappe underlined his status as the rising superstar of world football with a ruthless display of finishing at Camp Nou that will go down as one this competition's most devastating individual performances.

He eclipsed Barca's Lionel Messi, whose opening goal from the penalty spot had been reduced to nothing more than a footnote by the final whistle.

Moise Kean also headed in midway through the second half, carelessly left unmarked from a free-kick as PSG pulled away to win this first leg, and perhaps the tie.

Barcelona will no doubt draw upon the spirit of their 'Remontada' in 2017, when they won the second leg 6-1 to overturn a 4-0 deficit from the opening game in Paris.

— AFP

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## Snubbed Arjun slaps sharp with another 7-star show

**Saaketh, Teja, Jai, Takshit, Kaustub, Chandan, Abhishek, Avanish, Ilyaan, Dheeraj, Krithik, Haseeb, Osama shine**

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, FEB. 17

Hyderabad top division's highest wicket-taker G. Arjun left his selection snub behind to take another seven-wicket haul, his third this season, to lead the performers in the Hyderabad Cricket Association's A-1 Division three-day league matches on Wednesday.

Leg-spinner Arjun took 7 for 68 for Balaji CC against Rohit XI to take his tally to 52 from six matches, a tight slap across the faces of those who ignored him for selection in the State side for the Vijay Hazare Trophy in favour of a bowler of the same genre with lesser wickets.

Saaketh Sai Ram of Central Excise also took seven wickets. However, his 7 for 48 could not save his side from losing to BDL, for whom K. Hima Teja took 6 for 27.

K. Jai Dev Goud was the other big performer. He hit 187 in 211 balls for Secunderabad Nawabs in their match against Mahmood. Teammates A. Takshit Rao (114) and P. B. Kaustub Rao (5/37) also came up with good shows.

In another match, Evergreen piled a mammoth 610 against a hapless Enconse with Chandan Sahani (143) and Ilyaan Sathani (102 n.o.) being the main scorers.

A. Avanish Rao (123) and S. Dheeraj Goud (103) of Apex CC; Krithik Reddy (108) of Gouds XI; Abhishek Murugan (5/34) of Sportive; Khalsa's Md Haseeb (115) and Osama Bin Waseem (5/23) were the other performers.

**Brief scores:**

**A-1 DIVISION (THREE-DAY) LEAGUE**

■ Balaji CC 205 in 52 overs (Paras Raj 50, Geeta Krishna 30 Nitin Sai Yadav 4/54, Prashanth Raj 4/79) & 207/5 in 34 overs (Aliga Vinay 40, Shanawaz Khan 36, Paras Raj 67, S. Ganesh 61) vs Rohit XI 280 in 90 overs (Rohit Reddy 96, V. K. Siddhartha 34, G. Arjun 7/68 – 18-2-68-7)

■ Central Excise 165 in 45.2 overs (Tarun 50, Akash Sana 3/16, Pranav Varma 3/15) 119 in 29 overs (P. S. Chaitanya Reddy 33, K. Hima Teja 6/27 – 6-2-27-6) lost to BDL 142 in 34.3 overs (Yashwanth Reddy 30, B. Tejoudhar 55, Saaketh Sai Ram 7/48 – 16.3-3-48-7) & 146/4 in 31.1 overs (B. Revanth 45, N.



G. Arjun



Saaketh Sai Ram



K. Hima Teja



Abhishek Murugan



Avanish Rao



Ilyaan Sathani

■ Ignored for selection in the Vijay Hazare Trophy squad despite being the highest wicket-taker in the top division league, G. Arjun got another seven-wicket haul, his third of the season and in the first match post the selection fiasco, to send out a strong message to the Hyderabad Cricket Association administrators who played foul.

Sandeep Goud 39 n.o., Ibrahim Ali Siddiqui 3/39), Points: BDL 6, Central Excise 0,

■ Secunderabad Nawabs 360/9 dec in 87.3 overs (A. Takshit Rao 36, K. Jai Dev Goud 187 – 21lb, 24x4, 3x6, T. Harish Singh 53, Azmath Khan 4/61, A. Ranjith Kumar 3/42) & 289/5 in 40 overs (A. Takshit Rao 114 – 79b, 11x4, 5x6, T. Harish Singh 72, V. Shashi Naidu 37, B. Pramod Mahajan 39, Abhishek Madhav 3/38) vs Mahmood 118 in 39.1 overs (P. B. Kaustub Rao 5/37 – 13.1-3-37-5) & 116 for no loss in 20 overs (A. Ranjith Kumar 75 batting).

■ Enconse 193 in 52.4 overs (Abdul Owais Wahed 42, Ilyaan Sathani 3/35, Rahul Buddhi 3/31) & 90/4 in 20 overs (Owais Abdul Wahed 33 batting) vs Evergreen 610 in 88.2 overs (Chandan Sahani 143 – 57b, 11x4, 12x6, Ilyaan Sathani 102 n.o. – 95b, 13x4, G. Aniketh Reddy 75, Vignesh Agarwal 54, Ishan Sharma 59, Rahul Buddhi 37, Mayank Gupta 41, Atul Vyas 3/72, Abdullah 3/72)

■ Apex CC 216 in 53.1 overs (A. Avanish Rao 123 – 147b, 19x4, D. Sai Siddhartha 4/16, M. Sri Sai Vasith 4/60) & 270/5 in 40 overs (S. Dheeraj Goud 103 – 100b, 9x4, M. Anirudh Yadav 65, Md Zafarullah Khan 3/69) vs Sri Chakra 237 in 76.4 overs (Md

Zafarullah Khan 78, V. Rohit 60, S. Vikrant 4/38)

■ Gouds XI 103 in 30.2 overs (Rishikesh Reddy 44, Abhishek Murugan 5/34 – 10-2-34-5) & 167/5 in 40 overs (Krithik Reddy 108 – 133b, 16x4, 1x6) lost to Sportive 347 in 82.1 overs (Rachnesh Dubey 54, Rohit Yadav 31, Abhishek Murugan 37, Chaitanya 30, Anuj Yadav 64, Mohit Soni 40, D. Prakash Jain 4/75). Points: Sportive 8, Gouds 0.

■ Khasla 474/8 in 90 overs (Md Haseeb 115 – 114b, 16x4, 2x6, C. P. Venkatesh 62, Farham Abuzar 54 n.o., Vishal S. Rathore 53, K. Aryan Krishna 43, Devesh Daima 38, Prithvi Reddy 34, C. Srikrish 3/80) bt Jai Bhagwathi 170 in 47.4 overs (S. Abhinav 35, Syed Firasuddin 30, Osama Bin Waseem 5/23 – 11.4-6-23-5) & 203/9 in 40 overs (R. Sai Kumar 92, Farzam Abuzar 3/30). Points: Khasla 8, Jai Bhagwathi 0.

■ Cambridge XI vs Continental (Continental) did not report to the ground. Cambridge XI claimed walkover.

■ Cambridge XI 5, Continental 0.

■ Zinda Tilismath vs Hyd Bottling (Hyd Bottling did not report to the ground. Zinda Tilismath claimed walkover).

Points: Zinda Tilismath 6, Bottling 0.

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