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HYDERABAD | WEDNESDAY | 10 MARCH 2021

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TS RERA: P02200001827

**WEATHER**
  
 Max: 35°C  
 Min: 20°C  
 RH: 64%  
 Rainfall: Nil

Forecast: Partly cloudy sky. Max/Min temp: 36/21°C

**ASTROGUIDE**
 Sarvari; Uttarayana  
 Tithi: Magha Bahula Dwadashi till 2.42 pm  
 Star: Sravani till 9.04 pm  
 Varjyan: 1.11 am to 2.50 am (Thursday)

 Durmuhuram: 12.00 pm to 12.50 pm  
 Rahukalam: 12 noon to 1.30 pm

HIJRI CALENDAR

Rajab 25,1441 AH

**PRAYERS**

Fajar: 5.28 am

Zohar: 12.37 pm

Asar: 4.44 pm

Maghrab: 6.30 pm

Isha: 7.38 pm

SUNSET TODAY 6.24 PM

SUNRISE TOMORROW 6.28 AM

MOONRISE TOMORROW 3.30 AM

MOONSET TODAY 2.51 PM

**COUNTER POINT**

There is no room inside... we have to stop Operation Akash!

**SHORT TAKES****357 arrested for fake GST invoices**

New Delhi: GST officers have arrested 357 persons, including 12 chartered accountants, in about four months as part of its drive against fake invoices to check tax evasion, sources said. Since mid-November, 3,500 cases have been booked and 10,400 fake GSTIN entities have been unearthed by GST intelligence and Central GST officers so far.

**Centre firm on privatisation**

New Delhi: The scope for sale of minority stakes in public sector companies has reduced and strategic disinvestment would be the primary mode for disinvestment receipts going forward, MoS finance Anurag Singh Thakur said on Tuesday. He said the government has realised Rs 20,627 crore as disinvestment receipts till March 3.

## Collector jailed for contempt

**Court punishes three officials for non-payment of compensation**

VUJJINI VAMSHIDHARA | DC HYDERABAD, MARCH 9



The court pulled up Siddipet collector P. Venkatrami Reddy, IAS officer Krishna Bhaskar, and erstwhile RDO Siddipet Jayachandra Reddy

served as Siddipet collector for eight months and is now Rajanna Siricilla collector, and erstwhile revenue divisional officer of Siddipet Jayachandra Reddy, saying they were guilty of wilful disobedience of the court's order.

Justice M.S. Ramachandra Rao was dealing with a contempt petition filed by Ganda Tirupathi and another person from Vemula-

ghat village of Thogota mandal in Siddipet district. The petitioners complained that the interim orders issued by the court on land acquisition for the Mallanagar project were not heeded to by these officers and they were responsible for eviction of the petitioners from his own land, without complying with the procedure.

■ Page 2: HC held officials guilty on two counts

## Poll panel shifts Bengal's top cop

RAJIB CHOWDHURI | DC KOLKATA, MARCH 9

In a major step against favourite bureaucrats of West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, the Election Commission on Tuesday evening removed Director General of Police Virendra from his post with "immediate effect" ahead of the Assembly elections.

The 1985-batch IPS officer of West Bengal cadre has been in the good books of the Trinamul supremo since her second stint as railway minister as he was posted in the Railway Protection Force on central deputation.

He was replaced by IPS officer Nirajnayan Pandey two batches his junior. In his last assignment, Pandey was DG (administration).

Informing its decision to ChSef secretary Alapan Bandyopadhyay, the EC said Virendra

"should not be given any post which directly or indirectly relates to conduct of election." It told Bandyopadhyay to file a compliance report by 10 am on Wednesday.

Rangasamy had been playing truant for some time, sending across subtle messages without explicitly stating anything, that he might go it alone in the elections.

Sources said he feared a reprisal from the voters for aligning with the BJP.

Also Rangasamy was peeved that the BJP was planning to install its own candidate as CM.

On Tuesday it was announced that the NR Congress will contest 16 seats in Puducherry with the AIADMK and BJP sharing 14 seats.

### AINRC TO LEAD BJP, AIADMK P'CHERRY FRONT

DC CORRESPONDENT CHENNAI, MARCH 9

N. Rangasamy of the NR Congress, one of the parties that collaborated with the BJP to pull down the Congress Puducherry government, came clean on his decision to join hands with the BJP for the polls.

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Also Rangasamy was peeved that the BJP was planning to install its own candidate as CM.

On Tuesday it was announced that the NR Congress will contest 16 seats in Puducherry with the AIADMK and BJP sharing 14 seats.

## TS BUDGET SESSION FROM MARCH 15

● The Budget session of the Telangana Legislature will commence on March 15 and the Budget will be presented on March 18, said a notification issued on Tuesday.

■ REPORT ON PAGE 3

## TS employee unions to back TRS in MLC polls

L. VENKAT RAM REDDY | DC HYDERABAD, MARCH 9

The TRS is upbeat over the support extended by various employees unions to the party candidates for the upcoming graduate elections to the Legislative Council.

As the March 14 polling day nears, the unions are announcing their support to the TRS one after the other, contrary to reports that employees are angry with the government for delaying the Pay Revis-

ion Commission (PRC) report and the hike in retirement age.

Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao's 'strategy' in deputing ministers as election incharges to 'negotiate' with employees unions is yielding results in the form of support for the elections.

The incharge ministers who are holding separate meetings with employees unions every day could convince them that the TRS government will give the PRC and other benefits soon after the

MLC polls.

The idea behind these meetings is to convey the message to employees unions that the TRS government will remain in power until December 2023, irrespective of the outcome of the MLC polls and it's the TRS government that has to give PRC or any other benefit.

Employees unions also want to avoid a confrontation with the TRS government.

■ Page 2: Emotional appeal to unions helps TRS

## Uttarakhand CM Trivendra resigns

**BJP MLAs to meet today to elect new CM**

DC CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI, MARCH 9

Facing discontent from a section of BJP MLAs and ministers over his style of functioning, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat on Tuesday tendered his resignation as the party's top brass did not want the growing dissension to dent the party's poll prospects.

With the Assembly polls just 10 months away and the Congress, the main Opposition party, now in disarray, the BJP leadership did not want to take any chance to give strength to the Opposition camp, including the AAP, which has decided to contest the polls this time. Rawat would have completed four years in office on March 17.

Sensing that the CM's resignation could upset his supporters and his constituency, Mr Rawat, who had held a meeting with BJP president J.P.



Trivendra Singh Rawat

Nadda in New Delhi on Monday, said it was a "collective decision" taken by the party leadership that someone else should lead the state now. Mr Rawat's Cabinet colleague Dhan Singh Rawat, who is also his batchmate from college, is said to be the frontrunner to succeed him.

The names of Union minister Ramesh Pokhrayal "Nishank", Rajya Sabha MP Aril Baluni and senior leader Ajay Bhatt are also

decided someone else should lead the state now.

Earlier, before going to Raj Bhavan, Mr Rawat was closeted with his associates at the CM's residence, including Cabinet minister Madan Kaushal and Dhan Singh Rawat.

After submitting his resignation, Mr Rawat addressed a press conference at his residence and said the party had "collectively decided" someone else should lead the state now.

"I feel really honoured that my party gave me the opportunity to serve Devbhoomi for nearly four years," said Mr Rawat.

**EASY ACCESS****State and Centre to share cost of land acquisition**

## RRR to get TS budget boost

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, MARCH 9

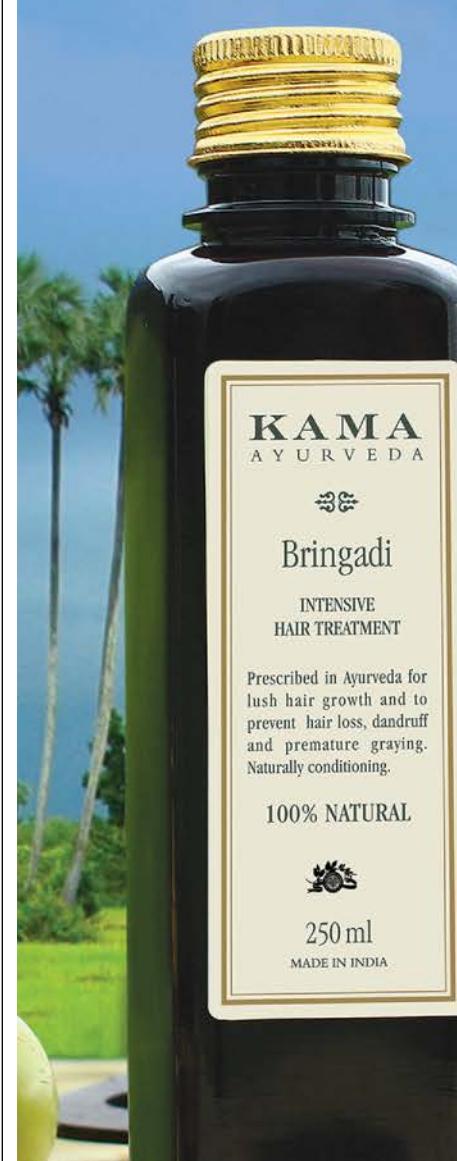
The long-pending 340-km Hyderabad Regional Ring Road (RRR) project is set to get a boost in the upcoming State Budget. As part of the budget preparatory meetings, Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao has directed officials to sanction the required funds for the project which is estimated to cost ₹15,980 crore.

Sources said the funds sanctioned in the Budget will be utilised for land

acquisition. The state government has agreed to pay 50 per cent of land acquisition cost while the Centre will bear the other half, they added. The project will improve connectivity between ORR and major urban clusters around Hyderabad. It comprises two parts — a ₹9,500 crore northern part and a ₹6,480 crore southern portion. The Centre granted in-principle approval for the northern part on February 21 while it assured that it would consider approval for the southern part later.

Union minister Nitin Gadkari assured that the RRR will be built in three years, provided that the government completes the land acquisition work quickly.

The project will connect Sangareddy, Narsapur, Toprur, Jagdevpur, Choutuppal, Shadnagar and Sangareddy and serve 40 per cent of the population of the state. It will connect national highways 65 (Pune-Machilipatnam), 161 (Sangareddy-Nanded-Akola), 765D (Hyderabad-


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WANTED AN Accountant having 5 years experience with good knowledge of GST and work experience on Tally ERP. Contact: thefirstgroupdevelopers@gmail.com (HYMM/2021/C07957)

WANTED SENIOR Accountant Min 5years Experience to head accountants department for 100% export oriented company based in kushaiguda. Good communication skills in English essential. Knowledge of Zohobooks will be advantageous remuneration around 30,000/- PM apply with full name to PO Box no: 37, Ecil post Hyd-062 ph: 0421744737 (HYMM/2021/C07870)

## ADVT. SALES & MKTG.

REQUIRED AN experienced area sales manager for telangana districts(minimum of 5 yrs exp) Experienced in grocery/ kirana market (FMCG) Salary: Rs.20,000- Rs.30,000. (based of experience) Contact: 9701592445, 952764563. (HYCL/2021/C07969)

EXECUTIVE WHO are interested to work for driving AMCs for Medical Equipment company. Job includes extensive travelling. Any Degree. Walk-in interview. Contact: 9849933492. Email ID: samtecm@gmail.com (S/2021/C02588)

WANTED 1 Typist, 1 Dispatch Clerk, 2 Sales & Marketing personnel at JHM Waters Pvt. Ltd., Secunderabad, dealing in Valves, Fittings & Pipes. Experience of 1 year or more within the required field. Interview on 13/03/2021. Call: 9538935840 (W/2021/A7001246)

WANTED SALES Mens for Secunderabad & Hyderabad, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh. Experienced in food product. Wanted 3 wheeler Auto Drivers & Delivery Boys. Qualification SSC with licence. Cell: 9985062550/ 9848066228. (S/2021/C02417)

## ENGINEERS

WANTED SITE Supervisor for a Reputed Construction Company. Graduate/Diploma in Civil Engineering with minimum 3 years experience in the similar capacity. Contact 9866624321. (B/2021/C01109)

WANTED MECHANICAL engineer for Patancheru Hyderabad factory with 10 years experience in fabrication, mechanical auto car machine and labour resource @18000PM all inclusive interested ed candidate apply ztypd@gmail.com 9515668101. (HYMM/2021/C07948)

## HOTEL

WANTED FRONT Office Executive and Marketing Executive for Hotel Heritage Inn, P.G.Road, Sindhi Colony, Secunderabad. Contact: 9246192085, 040-66488588. (S/2021/C02613)

## LECTURERS

WANTED EXPERIENCED Biology/Zoology Lecturer to teach NEET-2021, NCERT Syllabus. Contact: Shiry Focus Academy, 1st Floor, Kothapet, Hyderabad. Cell: 9701017801, 8374287245. (HYCL/2021/C0324)

WANTED PART/ Full Time Lecturers in Physics, Computers, Statistics, Chemistry to handle Degrees & PG Classes, Lab Demonstrators & Lab Technicians for Chemistry, Micro Biology, Computers, English & Receptionist. Send Resume to: pragaticollegekph@gmail.com Director, Pragatic Degree & PG College, Bhagyanagar Colony, Kukatpally, Cell: 9849484835, 9849500392. (HYCL/2021/C0324)

## MULTIPLE VACANCIES

A LEADING Real Estate Developer Requires Sr. Engineers, Site Admin, Project Manager, Quality Control, Architect, MEP Engineers, Plumbing, Walk-ins Monday-Saturday 11am- 4pm. Contact HR Modis Builders 4th floor, Ashoka Hitech Chambers, Banjara hills, Road No.2, Hyderabad. Ph:040-66336633, 9703265353. Email: careers@modibuilders.com (B/2021/C01148)

WANTED 1-2XRS Experienced inside sales Representatives, Digital marketing Analyst & PFP Developer work place at A.S.Rao Nagar. Salary best in the industry. Ph:8247534465 (HYMM/2021/C07941)

LOOKING FOR min 2to3 years exp in outdoor work and office assistant Driving License is must, Walk-in Interviews Corporate Bounteez Contact: 66755520. (HYMM/2021/C07968)

VATSON REQUIRES Site Engineers, Production Engineers (Diploma/B.tech, Mech/ Civil, Exp: 0-5 years), Storekeeper cum Office Assistant, ITI fitters, welders & Lathe machine operators. Mob: 8966551030 Website: www.vatsion.com Location Komapally (HYMM/2021/C07946)

A WELL Reputed Real Estate Company Wanted Telecaller's (F), Marketing Executives(M) for Kondapur Branch, 9247300001, 9025500006. (HYMM/2021/C0306)

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WANTED AN Efficient & Experienced Principal Teacher Also Committee & Competent Teachers to Teach III-VIII English Medium. Also Required Principals & International Schools is Preferred. Profound Subject Knowledge & Fluency in English Are Essential. Exceptional Salaries For Outstanding Candidates. The Interested May send their resume to: ginja1976@gmail.com Ph:9441000001, 773201249. (HYCL/2021/C07873)

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WANTED LADY Teachers fluent in English to teach Science and Social for Primary & Secondary. Highly Qualified. Contact: 9246192085. Theresa's High School, Sharada Nagar, Safilguda, Malkajgiri, Secunderabad. Ph:9866114716. (S/2021/C02585)

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## CHANGE OF NAME

PADAMATI Venkata Madhavareddy Rd No. 101 Manikanta Residency Raghavendra Colony, Beeramguda, Sangi Reddy Dt. T.S. changed his name as Veligala Venkata Madhavi Rani (HYMM/2021/C07966)

I, KOUSAR Begum, Residing at H.No.8-2-647/8-19/11, flat-202 sec 104, Maruthi, Mahabubnagar (Present Address), previously used to reside at H.No.8-3-58/F, Teachers Colony, Mahabubnagar, have changed my name to Kousar Parveen and will be known as Kous

## SHORT TAKES



## Ex-army officer adopts lion

**Hyderabad:** Octogenarian A. Krishna Murthy, a retired army officer, on Tuesday adopted an Asiatic Lion (male) for a period of 54 days. To this end, he handed over a cheque of ₹15,000 to V.V.L. Subhadra Devi, curator, Nehru Zoological Park.

## MAN GETS LIFE TERM FOR RAPING MINOR

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, MARCH 9

A 26-year-old man has been sentenced to life imprisonment by the Ranga Reddy court for raping a minor girl. The accused, Sai, a painter, was arrested last year by the Parigi police. "Sai's mother, who was named as an accomplice, was sentenced to undergo three years of imprisonment," police said. Sai was accused of raping the minor, his neighbour, on January 18, 2020.

## CS URGED TO PROTECT WAKF PROPERTIES

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, MARCH 9

Wakf Board Chairman Mohammed Saleem on Tuesday requested Chief Secretary Somesh Kumar to ensure incorporation of Wakf properties as protected land under the Registration Act and update the revenue record on par with the Wakf record.

He thanked the Chief Secretary for issuing GO Ms No. 15 directing the registration and revenue departments and the municipalities not to endorse transactions pertaining to Wakf lands and avoid giving construction permits unless the minorities welfare department authorises them.

Saleem requested the Chief Secretary to instruct the district collectors, municipal commissioners and police officers to cooperate with the Wakf Board in protecting Wakf properties and removing the encroachments. He said that the board had already sent district wise details of Wakf properties to the registration and revenue departments.



Air Marshal R.D. Mathur hands over the station crest to Air Force Station, Begumpet, on Tuesday.

## AIR MARSHAL HANDS OVER STATION CREST

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, MARCH 9

A ceremonial parade was organised on Tuesday to hand over crests to the Air Force Station, Begumpet, and 19 TETTRA School, Hyderabad. Air Marshal R.D. Mathur, Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Training Command, reviewed the parade and handed over the station crest to Group Captain Sunil Tomar, Station Commander, Air Force Station Begumpet and the Unit Crest to Wing Commander Joginder Kumar, Commanding Officer 19 TETTRA School.

The crests of the formations and units are approved by the President, the Supreme Commander of Armed Forces, and have great historical and sentimental value. They depict the role of the formation, its aspirations and portrays its deeds of glory in the past and uniqueness.

The motto of Air Force Station Begumpet is Gyanam Samyagvekshanam, taken from the Sandila Upanishad which emphasizes the importance of knowledge leading to insight. The motto of 19 TETTRA School, 'Prashikshnen Naipyunyan' portrays the essential virtues of the unit as skillfulness through training.

## Blood donation camp



Additional commissioner of police, traffic, Anil Kumar, inaugurates a blood donation camp organised by the Hyderabad City Police at Mudfort in Secunderabad on Tuesday.

— S. SURENDER REDDY

## BUDGET SESSION TO BE HELD FROM MARCH 15 TO 31

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, MARCH 9

The Budget session of the Telangana Legislative will commence on March 15 and the Budget will be presented on March 18. Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan issued a notification to this effect on Tuesday.

Official sources said the session will commence with the address by the Governor to the joint meeting of the Assembly and the Legislative Council. The following day there would be a condolence resolution on the demise of sitting MLA Nomula Narasimhaiah and former MLAs. The discussion on the Governor's speech will take place on March 17 and finance minister T. Harish Rao will present the Budget on March 18. The session is likely to conclude on March 31.

Teachers alleged that the salaries are not being released despite the allocation of budget and approval of salary bills by the treasury.

They also complained that the aided school staff were facing severe financial difficulties due to non-receipt of regular salaries for the past three months.

In recent times, pensionary benefits of retired employees,

General Provident Fund (GPF) loans, final payments, medical claims, leave salaries have only accumulated at e-Kuber, rather than being released, they said.

Culties due to non-receipt of regular salaries for the past three months.

In recent times, pensionary benefits of retired employees, General Provident Fund (GPF) loans, final payments, medical claims, leave salaries have only accumulated at e-Kuber, rather than being released, they said.

Teachers alleged that the salaries are not being released despite the allocation of budget and approval of salary bills by the treasury.

"While most teachers are waiting for salaries of January and February, for some even the December salaries have not been released yet," said TSUTF president K. Jangayya and general secretary Chava Ravi.

They also complained that the aided school staff were facing severe financial diffi-

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## IN BRIEF

**Ravi welcomes SC decision on quota**

**Hyderabad:** Former Congress MP Mallu Ravi welcomed the decision of the Supreme Court to have a relook at the 50 per cent ceiling on reservation, in which it has asked for the opinion of all states for constituting a special bench. "We want Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao to take this opportunity and ask for more than 50 per cent reservation. In the present situation, the reservations are considered not only on social and educational background but on economic background also. Considering this, the reservations can go above 50 per cent," Ravi said.

**CIRCULARS ON MIN. WAGES IN GULF DRAW FLAK**

NARENDER PULLOOR | DC NIZAMABAD, MARCH 9

The circulars issued by the ministry of external affairs, reducing the minimum referral wages (MRW) for Indian workers recruited for Gulf countries, have drawn flak from migrant workers and various associations of Gulf migrants.

They expressed the fear that the circulars would affect 88 lakh Indian migrant workers in the Gulf countries. The ministry issued two circulars on September 8 and 21, 2020. According to these, the minimum referral wages of Indians who work in Qatar, Bahrain, Oman or the UAE have been reduced to \$200 (₹15,000) and in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia to \$245 and \$324 respectively.

The Central government's decision to reduce minimum referral wages by 30 to 50 per cent risks the livelihoods of migrant workers, the associations complained. "It would also shatter the dreams of the current and prospective migrants from India."

The Centre has been fixing minimum referral wages to regulate the wages of Indian migrant workers employed in countries falling under the category of Emigration Check Required (ECR). The rationale is that it ensures Indian migrant workers a decent minimum wage. Migrant rights organisations in Telangana state have recorded testimonies of migrants who were promised higher wages prior to their departure which were later reduced following the issuance of the wage circulars in September last.

Speaking to *Deccan Chronicle* from New Delhi after meeting the minister of state for external affairs V. Muraleedharan, Gulf Migrants' Rights and Welfare Federation president Kotapati Narasimha Naidu said the minister has promised to roll back the circulars.

"The minister told us that it was in the interest of Indian workers that the government issued the circulars, which would protect workers vis-a-vis minimum wages during the Covid-19 pandemic," he said.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

My clients Mr. Lallu Belli, Mr. J.R. Someshwar and others of Karthika, Secunderabad, are the absolute owners and possessors of property admeasuring Ac. 12.21 gts., by Sl. No. 100/1 situated at Tirumaligiri Village, the then Taloj West Hyderabad District.

It had come to my clients notice that persons with no right or claim have filed fraudulent documents in favour of one Mr. R.S.R. Jewellers, Pvt. Ltd. who claims to have raised mortgage loan from State Bank of India, and on its default the said bank is seeking to auction away the property. My clients have filed CCA No. 425 of 2016 before the Hon'ble High Court against the said R.S.R. Jewellers and SBI. There are other cases before the Civil Court as well as Debt Recovery Tribunal, and all of them are pending.

It has now been noticed by my client that the bank has proposed e-auction of a part of our clients land in Sl. No. 100/1, admeasuring 4122.86 sq.yards or 5446.72 sq.meters.

General public are hereby cautioned not to deal with the said property or enter into any negotiations with public or private Bank of India in respect of the property of my clients referred above, and any such dealing would not be binding on my clients. Anyone doing so would be doing at their own risk and cost.

Smt. V.HARI HARAN, Advocate

1-1-336/35, Vivek Nagar,

Chikkadapally, Hyderabad-500020.

Ph: 040-27631606, 27671620

(S/2021/D01320)

**SHORT TAKES**  
**FOUNDATION FOR COW AS NATIONAL ANIMAL**

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, MARCH 9

The Yuga Thulasi Foundation had called for a 'Go mahagarjana' on April 1 to press its demand to make the cow the national animal. Kollisetty Shiva Kumar, who is spearheading the movement, said, "The TID has passed a resolution and sent it to the Centre to declare the cow as the national animal."

The foundation has also called for a ban on beef sale. All goshala organisers will stage a protest against beef sales.

**LVPEI GAVE 61,063 CORNEAS LAST YEAR**

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, MARCH 9

The L.V. Prasad Eye Institute (LVPEI) said on Tuesday that it had distributed 61,063 corneas last year for corneal transplants across India.

The eye bank programme which is operational in all the affiliated hospitals across India have collected corneas despite the lockdown and in the post-lockdown situation. The initial three months of lockdown had no activity but from June onwards the eye donations improved.

Dr Sunita Chaurasia, consultant cornea services and medical director said, "In June it was only 10 to 15 per cent and improved in October to 70 per cent. It is now back to 100 per cent. The eye donation programme is carried out by affiliate hospitals and they are the major contributors in ensuring that the donor tissues are properly stored."

The corneas are then moved to the eye bank from where they are given to those who are suffering from corneal blindness.

Dr Prashant Garg, head, eye banking services, LVPEI, said, "1.1 million Indians suffer from corneal blindness. Corneal transplantation using corneas donated by individuals upon their death is the only known cure. Quality donor tissues are gathered and they are stored properly to ensure that the transplant takes place easily."

**TRIO ARRESTED FOR POACHING BLACK BUCK**

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, MARCH 9

A man who was hunting black bucks and selling their meat in the city was apprehended along with a buyer and his associate by the South Zone Task Force along with forest department officials on Tuesday. Officials rescued a black buck and seized deer parts from their possession.

The prime accused, Chavan Shankar Baba, a farmer and resident of Kuber mandal in Nirmal district, used to catch black buck by using a net trap near a small sanctuary near Bhainsa. He and another accused, Mohd Zubair, 26, of Nizamabad, had trapped black bucks more than 10 times.

Another accused was identified as Mohd Salmanuddin, 27, a resident of Asifnagar. Another suspect, Imran, was reportedly absconding. Zubair acts as a mediator, said Hyderabad police commissioner Anjan Kumar.

As per the requirement of Salmanuddin, Zubair contacted Shankar Baba to arrange for deer meat, following which he hunted two black bucks. Salmanuddin allegedly purchased the deer for ₹15,000. Later, the trio proceeded to Nirmal district and collected the deer's head and legs for ₹7,000. The gang sold some meat to Imran, a native of Bodhan, and returned to the city.

# BJP rides high on Dubbak, civic poll wins, eyes N'sagar

IREDDY SRINIVAS REDDY | DC  
HYDERABAD, MARCH 9

The Nagarjunasagar bypoll is posing considerable challenges to the BJP following recent political developments in the state, though the saffron party has continued to maintain its aggressive stand on various issues.

While BJP's opponents are the powerful ruling party and a politically strong Congress personality in K. Jana Reddy, there are two groups at loggerheads within the saffron party. One owes its allegiance to BJP state president Bandi Sanjay Kumar. The other is being promoted by recently elected Dubbak MLA M. Raghunandan Rao. This apart, the BJP high command too is silently working behind the scenes over the choice of the party candidate. There are many candidates vying for the BJP ticket in Nagarjunasagar.

According to sources, the BJP high command is fishing for a candidate from Yadav community whom the ruling party denies the ticket. The saffron leadership is clear that there will be a triangular contest, leading to splitting of votes. The party will have to formulate its policy accordingly.

BJP sources feel Jana Reddy is a spent force and will be unable to muster votes. That will help the BJP candidate win. The saffron party is expected to finalise its candidate only after TRS declares its nominee.

The Nagarjunasagar bypoll is keenly watched after BJP pulled off a sensational



N. Ramchander Rao, BJP MLC candidate for Hyderabad-Ranga Reddy-Mahbubnagar graduates constituency, arrives to address the Osmania University non-teaching staff during his campaign on Osmania University campus on Tuesday.

— P. SURENDRA

victory in the Dubbak bylections and stopped TRS to a major extent in GHMC elections.

The Congress has considerable support in the constituency. The last general elections were won by TRS candidate Nomula Narasimhaiah by just 7,000 votes.

Raghunandan Rao is believed to have recommended to the high command that the party ticket be given to Nivedita Reddy, who had previously lost the election. The Sanjay group is, however, pointing out that Nivedita had got only 2,000 votes in the past. But Raghunandan Rao team is reportedly throwing its weight behind Nivedita's candidature.

TRS has realised that unlike in the past, the sympathy factor is no longer working. According to ruling party leaders, names of Legislative Council chairman Gutta Sukhendar Reddy, Nomula Narasimhaiah's son Bhagat, M.C. Kotireddy, Tera Chinnapareddy and MP Badugula Lingaya Yadav are being considered before zeroing in on a candidate.

who defeated the veteran Jana Reddy from Nagarjunasagar. Thus BJP wants to field a BC leader, especially from Yadava community.

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The TRS, on the other hand, is taking strategic steps to

ensure that it retains the Nagarjunasagar seat, particularly after facing reverses in Dubbak and GHMC elections. The ruling party wants to break the saffron party's winning streak.

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Arvind Suspects TRS BEHIND BHAINSA CLASHES

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, MARCH 9

BJP MP from Nizamabad D. Arvind suspects ruling TRS is behind the recent clashes in Bhainsa town. He has called on all communities among Hindus to unite and protect Hindutva in the state.

Addressing a press conference at his residence in Banjara Hills here on Tuesday, Arvind accused the district collector of supporting those behind the incident. He said he intended to request Central agencies to inquire into the Bhainsa incident.

The BJP MP criticised minister K.T. Rama Rao for merely tweeting and demanded that an inquiry by a sitting judge be ordered into the clashes. Making controversial comments against Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao and Rama Rao, Arvind alleged that both are risking lives of Hindus for their vote bank politics.

He described home minister Mahmood Ali as being incompetent and charged him with favouring Muslims and not treating all communities equally. He said if law and order cannot be handled, the BJP will show how it could be done.

The MP accused the MIM of trying to evict Hindus from Bhainsa with the help of the state government.

He alleged that MLC K. Kavitha had surpassed her brother Rama Rao in grabbing lands. He stated that both the brother and sister pose a threat to Telangana community. He asked Rama Rao to come out from the Bollywood drug condition.

**MAKING CONTROVER-SIAL** comments against Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao and Rama Rao, Arvind alleged that both are risking lives of Hindus for their vote bank politics.

Community organisations have decided to constitute a task force to curb the menace of dowry. In a roundtable meeting convened by Tehreek Muslim Shabban, participants stressed that a drive must be started to reform certain practices.

This meeting was conducted against the backdrop of Ayesha Khan, married for nine months, who made an emotional video before dying by suicide in Ahmedabad's Sabarmati river.

# Five held for killing for insurance money

## Cops arrest two for ATM robbery

Hyderabad, March 9: Five persons were arrested in Nalgonda district for allegedly killing people and running over the bodies with different vehicles to make it look like a road accident and claiming insurance, police said on Tuesday.

They used to select simple people and those addicted to liquor and purchase term insurance policies by paying the premium on their behalf.

The fraudsters were in connivance with the family members of the deceased and others and claimed insurance amounts from private insurers to the tune of more than ₹1.59 crore after making road accident claims aggregating over ₹3.39 crore, Nalgonda superintendent of police A.V. Ranganathan said.

The prime accused, who earlier worked in a finance firm, conspired with other accused and during 2013-17 and committed at least five offences — four murders and portrayed one natural death as accidental

deaths, police said. However, the modus operandi came to light after police got information that on February 24 this year, a man was killed but it was projected that he died in a road accident. Postmortem reports revealed the cause of death of the man due to homicidal injury. — PTI

## Aruna accuses KCR of being cruel towards Mahbubnagar

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, MARCH 9

Bharatiya Janata Party vice-president D.K. Aruna on Tuesday alleged that Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao is being spiteful towards people of erstwhile Mahbubnagar district by not keeping his promises made to them.

She was addressing a meeting of graduates in the Alampur Assembly constituency as part of her campaign in favour of BJP candidate N. Ramchander Rao from the Hyderabad-Mahbubnagar-Ranga Reddy MLC constituency.

Aruna said the state gov-

ernment is neglecting modernisation of Rajolibanda Scheme and its canals, apart from Tummilli LRS. She pointed out that no funds have been allotted by the state government for development of the only Shakti Peetham in Telangana — the Jagulambet temple — though the Centre has granted ₹37 crore for the shrine. She charged that no buildings have been constructed for residential schools in old Mahbubnagar district. A 100-bed hospital has not been sanctioned as promised.

The BJP leader said neither jobs have been given to unemployed in the state nor ₹3,016 of promised monthly

unemployment allowance is being extended. Only the family of Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao is prospering through commissions in construction of projects, while people of Telangana are getting impoverished by the day.

She asked graduates to vote in favour of the BJP candidate with the same spirit they had shown in Dubbak bypoll and GHMC elections.

Former minister A. Chandrasekhar, BJP state general secretary Bangaru Sruthi, district BJP president Ramachandra Reddy and other leaders participated in the meeting.

Arvind Suspects TRS BEHIND BHAINSA CLASHES

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, MARCH 9

unemployment allowance is being extended. Only the family of Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao is prospering through commissions in construction of projects, while people of Telangana are getting impoverished by the day.

The state BJP president said whatever development programmes in Telangana — Harihaaram, drainage setup, community halls or other schemes, they could not have been implemented without central funds.

The MP said he respected Professor Kodandaram but wondered whether the latter had fought for public issues. He warned that TRS could benefit if votes are split (by Kodandaram who is also contesting the MLC polls).

Sanjay questioned why the Chief Minister has not visited Bhainsa, where communal violence keeps recurring.

Several people have been injured seriously in Sunday's incident, he pointed out.

BJP state president praised his party's MLC candidate G. Premender Reddy for fighting and going to jail several times over people's issues. He asked voters to elect the BJP candidate.

Arvind Suspects TRS BEHIND BHAINSA CLASHES

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, MARCH 9

THE DRYNESS is caused as the blinking of eyes is reduced to 10 times from 40 times per minute.

Overuse of gadgets. The dryness is caused as the blinking of eyes is reduced to 10 times from 40 times per minute.

Dr Atul Gupta, ophthalmologist with the government medical college explains, "The dry eyes problem has multiplied ten times during the pandemic and many of them are reaching out to doctors for help. In the past, only IT staff suffered

from it. Now a lot of staff from banks, insurance, realty sector as also students are coming with complaints. Many conclude this to be a problem with their sight and insist on having eye-check-up. It is actually their continuous work and less exposure to oxygen in the outside environment that aggravates the condition."

Eye lubricants take atmospheric oxygen to revive. For 10 months, there was restricted movement outside, and now too people are careful. To add to it, summer heat dehydration

is setting in which is also affecting the eyes.

Dr Vijay Kiran, senior ophthalmologist, explained, "Preventive measures involve that one must look at an object 20 feet away for 20 seconds every 20 minutes and then resume work. It is important for eyes to blink every minute as this is a healthy trend."

Parents and schools are counselled to use these preventive measures to help their children cope with the use of gadgets till the educational institutions resume full-time classes.

He described home minister Mahmood Ali as being incompetent and charged him with favouring Muslims and not treating all communities equally. He said if law and order cannot be handled, the BJP will show how it could be done.

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# DECCAN Chronicle

10 MARCH 2021

## Speed up vaccinations, refresh awareness drive

India has of late been witnessing a surge in the daily caseload of Covid-19 infections with the numbers going up for the last six consecutive days; it is above 18,000 in the last four days. The number of active cases has also registered an increase for five consecutive days. At present, six states — Maharashtra, Kerala, Punjab, Karnataka, Gujarat and Tamil Nadu — together account for more than four-fifth of the total cases now. Given the pattern of the virus spread, it is not before weeks if not days that the pandemic will create another wave that could force the nation to go in for another shut down.

India had on January 16 rolled out an ambitious vaccination plan that, in its first phase, sought to inoculate three crore frontline workers, including healthcare professionals. The target has now been met by two-thirds, with the number of people who have received at least one dose standing at 2.26 crore. The second phase, launched on March 1, seeks to inoculate 27 crore people aged above 60 and those above 45 with co-morbidities. As of now, nine lakh people who belong to these categories have been given the jab.

A realistic assessment of the spread of the pandemic and the speed with which the vaccination programme progresses calls for increased efforts on both the counts — a massive awareness campaign to stop the spread of the virus and a revitalised vaccination programme. The daily caseload numbers reached their peak in October and then started a downward journey. Except the Union government and some states such as Kerala, none seems to have kept a tab on the numbers. Worse, the attitude of most states and the people there has been akin to a situation where the virus has ceased to be a threat.

The world in general, and India in particular, are better equipped to take on the virus than we were a year ago. Our knowledge base has improved, the protocols are in place and the healthcare professionals are trained to handle even extreme situations. However, the people's attitude has become less than acceptable. The government must re-launch on a war footing the campaign focussing on the importance of social distancing, wearing of masks and hand hygiene. It must also revisit the restrictions on gatherings, especially social, political and religious ones, which can turn super spreader events.

India vaccinated more than 16 lakh people on Monday, the highest since the programme started. At the present rate, India will take another year to vaccinate at least half of the population. This is unacceptable. There may be many hurdles, from the shortage of raw material for vaccine manufacturing to the logistical issues to the technical glitches in the CoWin app, and the government must meticulously strive to remove them. It must also open up the programme for all sections of the population, co-opt as many institutions, and make the process easier. Unless we speed it up and cover a reasonable share of the population, we can't say goodbye to the uninvited guest.

## The royal underbelly

The world is horrified at Meghan Markle and Prince Harry's revelation that racism towards Meghan was the principal reason they fled their royal home to find freedom in California. But it should not be so because systemic racism is stark reality, more so in the world of privilege that British royalty lives in. Harry's indictment of his own family for not fighting the racist attacks hurled at his biracial wife Meghan and his multiracial son Archie, whose skin colour was a matter of concern to the palace even before he was born, is a pointer to how institutionalised royal reticence is. A disparaging term like 'The Firm' may have been seen as appropriate even for an insider.

Oprah Winfrey's skills at bringing the angst out of celebrities by playing the agony aunt may have helped smear British royalty and its stiff upper lip ways with hate while a more defensive UK might set the story of a second sensational interview by an ex-royal after Diana's exposé on BBC in 1995 in a different perspective. His marriage may have helped liberate Harry from the trappings of power and privilege and the service Harry has rendered his family is to save it from racism though his flight to the US may be seen in the UK as pique since Archie was denied a princely role and a place in the queue to the crown.

The alacrity with which Buckingham Palace ordered an inquiry against Meghan on charges of bullying staff comes in sharp contrast to its reluctance to probe Prince Andrew's links to the convicted Jeffrey Epstein and his shenanigans with underage girls. This should give more grist to Republicans in Britain as well as the Commonwealth, which Queen Elizabeth II heads by virtue of her record years on the British throne. Diana and Meghan did the democratic world a favour in boldly exposing the underbelly of the royal family, which by itself is an anachronism in the modern age.

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Dilip Cherian  
**Dilli Ka Babu**

## Coalition karma takes babu to chief secy spot

A coalition alliance government creates its own special dynamics, which affects the bureaucracy uniquely. In Maharashtra, which has a three-party alliance, this was seen when the 1985-batch IAS officer Sitaram Kunte was named the state's new chief secretary. Sources say that Mr Kunte was ignored by the previous BJP government during whose tenure he was commissioner of the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC).

His fortunes changed for the better in the Shiv Sena-led government of chief minister Uddhav Thackeray. However, while the chief minister and the Congress Party were said to be keen on his appointment, the National Congress Party chief Sharad Pawar was reportedly less than enthusiastic, initially. However, Mr Kunte

managed to make it to the top post, although he snuffed the chance of his batchmate Praveen Prades, who was widely expected to be appointed to succeed Sanjay Kumar.

Mr Prades had even returned from the UN in the hope of becoming the new chief secretary. Mr Kunte's elevation has led to the appointment of M.K. Srivastava, a 1986-batch IAS officer, in his previous office of additional chief secretary for home.

**MIND THE 'S' WORD**  
A communication issued by T.M. Yanthan, commissioner and secretary to Nagaland governor R.N. Ravi, to chief secretary J. Alam, has directed the state government to warn officials that they could face penal and disciplinary action if they post "seditious or subver-

sive content" on social media. Apparently, it had come to the notice of the governor's office that "some government servants are indulging in seditious and subversive writings challenging the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the country" on social media platforms.

Sources say that a copy of Mr Yanthan's letter has been also marked to Union home secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla. This suggests, they say, that the governor has kept the Centre in the loop and may even have been directed by Delhi to take action against government officials posting seditious content.

Apparently, this is the second letter from the governor's office to the state chief secretary. Last year, he had directed the state government to prepare a database of state government employees' family mem-

bers and relatives who were in "underground organisations".

However, ominous though it may sound, some observers feel that Mr Ravi is merely reiterating the conduct rules for government servants and people should not read too much into this. Your thoughts?

**TENURE ROW**  
Who has the authority to take a call on the posting of officers of the director-general of police rank in Haryana? This has become a point of contention between Haryana chief minister Manohar Lal Khattar and his home minister Anil Vij. The officer at the centre of it all is DGP Manoj Yadava, a 1988-batch IPS officer, reportedly hand-picked by Mr Khattar for the post.

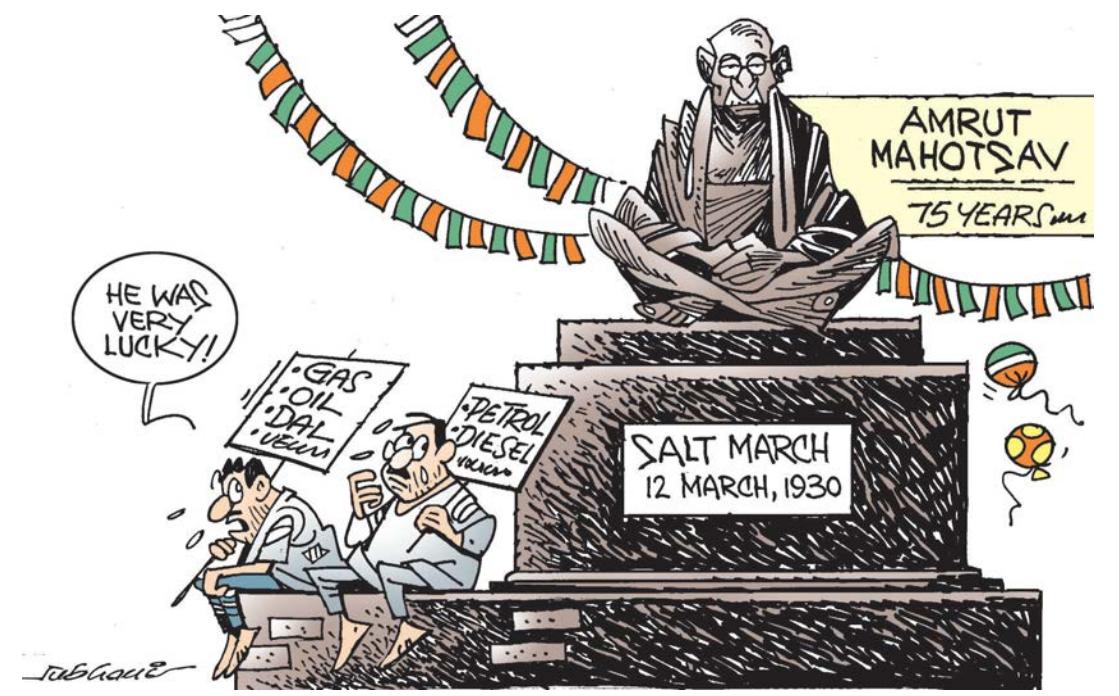
It appears that Mr Vij wants a change of DGP despite Mr Yadava having over four years of service

left. The minister recently directed additional chief secretary (home) Rajeev Arora to send a panel of officers to the UPSC to be considered for the next DGP. According to sources, once the minimum tenure of two years ends, the state government has the option of deciding to continue with the current DGP or replace the officer. In the present case, the government has extended Mr Yadava's tenure beyond February until further orders.

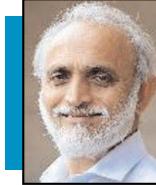
Sources say that Mr Khattar is unlikely to seek a replacement for Mr Yadava, who has done a long 15-year stint at the Intelligence Bureau (IB) before returning to his parent cadre. But Mr Vij, say sources, is sticking to his stance.

*Share a babu experience! Follow dilipcherian@Twitter.com. Let's multiply the effect.*

Subhani



## Modi's pan-Indian image won't help BJP win polls



Parsa  
Venkateshwar  
Rao Jr

**U**nlike in West Bengal, the Left Democratic Front (LDF) led by the CPI(M) and the United Democratic Front (UDF) led by the Congress in Kerala leave no space for a new player with a north Indian ideology

The focus of the Assembly elections in four states and a Union territory — starting at the end of this month and spread over the whole of April — in West Bengal and Assam in the east, and Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Kerala in the south — has centred around West Bengal and the big question is whether the BJP under Prime Minister Narendra Modi will breach the final barrier, as it were, for the right-wing saffron party. It has turned out to be a battle between West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee of the Trinamul Congress and Prime Minister Modi of the BJP. As has become the norm with the Modi-centric BJP in the past seven years, the laurels for the victory always go to Mr Modi because the party is but a symbol for the most domineering politician in the country today. The reality, of course, is much more complicated and the magic factor of Mr Modi has huge limitations.

Though the party had won Assam in 2016 for the first time, the right-wing majoritarian sentiment in that state was well represented by the Congress and the Asom Gana Parishad (AGP) from 1985 onwards. The breakthrough for the BJP in Assam in 2016 has nothing radical about it. Assam, however, poses its own set of challenges for the BJP this time round. The Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA), with its vicious Hindutva slant, is a sore point in the state where Bangladeshi migrants — whether Hindu or Muslim — are the source of local resentment and discontent. The Hindutva rhetoric does not mean much here.

West Bengal remains the big prize in the east for the BJP. It has eluded the party with its majoritarian colours. The party considers this

election as the final push at the final frontier.

That is why it has become much too loud and much too bitter. The CPI(M)-led Left Front and the Congress still remain marginal players. And the battle between Mr Modi and Ms Banerjee, despite the Prime Minister's pan-Indian standing, is reduced to a local tussle. If Ms Banerjee prevails, it will be a huge blow to Mr Modi. And the bets are hugely hedged in the matter.

In Tamil Nadu and in Kerala, the BJP is a small player. It is reconciled to play second fiddle to the ruling All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK) in Tamil Nadu and confined to the 20 Assembly seats allotted to it. It would have to ride to victory on the back of the AIADMK because it has no presence of its own. The BJP cannot hope to give wings to its Hindutva ideology in the state because the Dravidian politics — (anti-Hindi and indirectly anti-North Indian anti-Hinduism represented by the BJP) and the Hindutva nationalism, again a North Indian concoction — does not pass muster.

Even the Congress, with its benign pan-Indian outlook, has become a small player in Tamil Nadu and it has been given just 25 seats in these elections by the dominant regional Opposition party, the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK). After the death of the icons,

**The CAA, with its vicious Hindutva slant, is a sore point in Assam where Bangladeshi migrants, whether Hindu or Muslim, are the source of local resentment. The Hindutva rhetoric does not mean much here.**

The party considers this

the DMK's Karunanidhi and the AIADMK's Jayalalithaa, it seemed the spell of Dravidian politics would end, and national parties like the Congress and new entrants like the BJP would become the big players. The seat allocation for the two national parties by the dominant regional parties is a clear indication that the local in terms of ideology outflanks the national in Tamil Nadu. Tamil and Dravidian nationalism are unlikely to fade away simply because the stars who represented them have died.

Unlike in West Bengal, the Left Democratic Front (LDF) led by the CPI(M) and the United Democratic Front (UDF) led by the Congress in Kerala leave no space for a new player with a north Indian ideology to break into the crowded political space in the country.

Kerala is a complex mosaic of castes and communities, where the Nayar and Ezavas on one hand, Christians and Muslims and the Communists jostle with each other. The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) has been fighting a fierce and bloody battle with the Marxists in parts of northern Kerala. Political violence is as rampant in Kerala as it is in West Bengal. The RSS and the Marxists have been hacking each other's cadres with ruthless regularity. The BJP has been trying to use the RSS' base to make headway, but it has not succeeded in any major way.

The dominant parties in all these poll-bound states are forced to reckon on with the smaller political formations. In Assam, the BJP cannot afford to ignore the Bodos. When the Bodo People's Front broke away from the BJP-led

coalition

This is why the majoritarian tyranny of the BJP kind has to give way to rainbow coalitions. Assembly elections in India are always a lesson in democratic politics.

**The writer is a Delhi-based commentator and analyst**

## LETTERS

### METRO HAWKERS

The state government has a responsibility to help the unskilled persons/hawkers who are making their living by selling different types of items such as readymade garments, leather bags/goods, toys etc., under the Sultan Bazaar Metro flyover since decades. A rent of ₹4,500 per month with a security deposit of ₹9,000 to HMRL is too costly for them.

**Katuru Durga Prasad Rao**  
Hyderabad

### GOOD INITIATIVE

I fully endorse the initiative on electric vehicles (*TS policy fuels boom in sale of electric vehicles, DC, March 9*). Such a measure will greatly help to scale down air pollution inter alia with other benefits. I was in China and observed electric vehicles were popular.

**Dr Shankar Chatterjee**  
Hyderabad

### WOMEN'S DAY

At least on International Women's Day, women's wings of political parties could have given a break to politics and, instead of speaking for the party, could have joined to speak for all ordinary women who have nothing to do with parties. No wonder the women are unable to form a party only for women with men getting them less 25 per cent reservation in the party.

**N. Nagarajan**  
Hyderabad

### CORRUPTION

Corruption has spread like a deadly virus among officials in government departments where 10 of them have been caught red-handed by the Anti-Corruption Bureau while accepting bribe. I hope that ACB will catch more big fish in near future. I wonder when a vaccine will be developed to wipe out corruption.

**D. Manoj Kumar**

### 50 YEARS AGO IN DECCAN Chronicle

#### K Asif dead

**BOMBAY**, March 9  
Mr. K. Asif, a well-known film producer-director died of heart attack in Bombay this evening. He was 48. He is survived by his wife and two daughters.

Mr. Asif who went to film actor Sanjeev Kumar's residence this evening complained of chest pain and before he could removed to hospital he passed away.

Mr. Asif had produced and directed a number of pictures including 'Phool' and 'Moghul-E-Azam' which was a box office hit. 'Phool' was his first film with the biggest star cast.

**Source** say that Mr. Asif is unlikely to seek a replacement for Mr. Yadava, who has done a long 15-year stint at the Intelligence Bureau (IB) before returning to his parent cadre. But Mr. Vij, say sources, is sticking to his stance.

*Share a babu experience! Follow dilipcherian@Twitter.com. Let's multiply the effect.*

**IN BRIEF**

**Al-Badr chief killed in gunfight**

**Srinagar:** J&K police on Tuesday claimed that Al-Badr militant outfit chief Gani Khawaja has been killed in a gunfight raging in Tujar Sharif area outside the Valley's northwestern town of Sopore. Inspector general of police Vijay Kumar said Khawaja was one of the most wanted militants and termed his killing as "a major success" for the security forces combating a three-year-old insurgency in J&K. A report from Sopore said that, at least, two militants were trapped in the area after a joint team of security forces laid siege to it on Tuesday evening. Kumar was quoted by local news agency GNS as saying the operation was "carried cleanly on a very specific input which was received by the police earlier during the day."

**Hiren's wife blames Vaze**

**Mumbai:** The wife of Mansukh Hiren, the owner of the vehicle found near industrialist Mukesh Ambani's residence, has alleged that her husband was murdered by assistant police inspector Sachin Vaze. In her complaint, she also said that the vehicle in question was also in possession of Vaze since November 2020. Hiren's wife Vimla also claimed in her statement, copy of which is with this newspaper, that her husband told her that Vaze had asked him to get himself arrested and he would ensure his bail in a few days. The officer had resigned from the police force in 2007 and joined Shiv Sena in 2008. He was reinstated in the police department on June 6 last year.

**GOYAL REBUTS DIDI'S CLAIM OF NO RAILWAY HELP**

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
KOLKATA, MARCH 9

Railway minister Piyush Goyal has refuted West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's allegation of non-cooperation by his ministry officials to the fire brigade in fighting the devastating fire which claimed nine lives at the Eastern Railways' office in New Kaliaghata Building on Strand Road in Kolkata on Monday evening.

Four fire-fighters Girish Dey, Gaurav Bej, Aniruddha Jana, Binam Purakait, four railway staff RPF Constable Sanjay Sahni, deputy chief commercial manager Partha Sarathi Mondal, senior commercial clerk Shrawan Pandey and senior technician Sudip Das and an assistant sub-inspector (ASI) Amit Bhawal of the Kolkata Police boarded two lifts against the rule to reach the source of fire at the 13th floor of the high-rise.

Seven of them were charred to death in one elevator while two others died of suffocation inside another. Visiting the spot Banerjee accused "the railways of non-cooperation by not providing the building map to the fire brigade."

Early on Tuesday Goyal, mourning the loss of lives, tweeted, "Railway officials including the GM are at the site and are working in coordination with the state govt for rescue and relief efforts. We are committed to doing everything possible to ensure safety of all concerned. All possible assistance has been provided by the Railways to the state govt during this unfortunate fire accident. A high level inquiry consisting of four Principal heads of Railway departments has been ordered to ascertain the cause of the fire."

The inquiry report is expected in two weeks.



Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal along with BJP supporters arrives to file his nomination for the upcoming state Assembly elections in Majuli on Tuesday.

## Scindia 'dismisses' Rahul's CM offer

**RABINDRA NATH CHOUDHURY | DC**  
Bhopal, March 9

Rahul Gandhi's offer of post of chief minister of Madhya Pradesh to senior BJP leader Jyotiraditya Scindia if he returned to Congress on Tuesday kicked up a storm with the latter calling it a misplaced concern.

"I wish Rahul ji had shown similar concerns when I was in Congress", Scindia, who quit Congress and joined BJP in March last, told this newspaper.

Gandhi's remarks on Scindia have raised eyebrows in Congress circle here also with a section of party leaders wondering if he was throwing a bait (to make Scindia chief minister) to woo him back to the Congress fold.

"Gandhi's statement creates an impression that something is cooking up between Scindia and Congress. But, I think it is an immature statement and may cause damage to the party in Madhya Pradesh.

This may alert and antagonise two key leaders of Congress in MP, Kamal Nath and Digvijay Singh, both of whom are considered arch rivals of Scindia", a senior Congress leader here said requesting not to be quoted.

Interestingly, Congress MLA and former Union minister Kantilal Bhuria, considered a staunch loyalist of Singh, said Scindia would be taken back into Congress if he apologised in public for quitting the party.

"Bhuria's statement is nothing but a joke since the question of Scindia returning to Congress does not arise", Chaturvedi said.

## Didi warns BJP not to play Hindutva card in Bengal

Asks voters to make 'April Fool' of saffron party by defeating Adhikari

**RAJIB CHOWDHURY | DC**  
KOLKATA, MARCH 9

### Poll seizures: Assam breaks all records, items worth ₹18 cr seized

**Guwahati, March 9:** Assam broke all previous records in seizures of cash, liquor, drugs and other goods in the run-up to the Assembly polls with various agencies already confiscating over ₹18 crore worth of items and arresting around 110 people in the last 11 days, officials said on Tuesday.

The highest amount of seizures worth over ₹5.72 crore took place during the 24 hours, starting 9 am on Sunday, an official said. After the polls were

sider, I should not have been the CM! An outsider cannot be a CM here."

To strike a chord with the locals a day before filling her nomination in Haldia, in the district, the TMC supremo further explained why she has chosen to fight from Nandigram.

"Bhowanipore was my home seat. If I would have contested there, I would not have to do anything...

When I last visited Nandigram, it was lying vacant. It had no MLA because he (Adhikari) had resigned. I then asked you if I could contest here. I wanted to know your stand. You said it would be great. I saw your enthusiasm.

Nandigram lives in both my eyes. That is why I selected it," she said.

Tearing into her opponent and former Cabinet colleague for branding her as an "outsider" in his home turf, the CM, who has coined the same slogan against the BJP, wondered, "Some people are calling me an outsider! I am from Bengal. How can I be an outsider? The only difference is my native place is Birbhum while yours (Suvendu) is Nandigram. Had I been an out-

notified on February 26, all constituencies in Assam formed a minimum of three Static Surveillance Teams (SST) and Flying Squads (FS) each, with some even having six such teams each, he added.

"We have a minimum of 756 teams working across the state. The seizures by all state and central agencies along with SST and FS have crossed all figures of last elections," the official said.

Since the Model Code of

Conduct came into force, the agencies have seized an overall ₹18.31 crore worth of items till Monday, according to the daily seizure report of the Election Department, Assam.

It includes ₹4.27 crore in cash, liquor (3.58 lakh litres) worth ₹5.52 crore, ₹4 crore worth drugs and other narcotics substances, ₹1 crore worth precious metals such as gold and silver, and ₹3.52 crore of other items like different freebies. — PTI

### Kamal's MNM signs MoU with allies

**G. BABU JAYAKUMAR & D. SEKAR | DC**  
CHENNAI, MARCH 9

Actor Kamal Haasan's Makkal Neethi Maiam, which has been scouting for allies to face the April 6 Assembly elections as a combine, finally decided on an alliance with the Indhiyanaya Katchi of TR. Parivendhar and All India Samathwa Makkal Katchi, founded by actor Sarathkumar.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed by leaders of the three parties, more in the form of a business deal,

said that MNM would take a lion's share of 154 seats, while the IJK and AISMK will get 40 seats each.

The agreement, worded in English and have signatures of three witnesses, drew flak from many on social media as the general practice in the state is to have such deals written in Tamil with the number of seats allotted for the parties mentioned in it.

But the MoU of Haasan spoke about objects and goals. It said that parties join together to bring in change in Tamil Nadu.

Another Muslim party, Indian National League,

led front after breaking away from the AIADMK coalition on the hope that the DMK would at least offer one seat each to the two leaders.

While rumours started floating that the two parties had withdrawn their letters of support given to the DMK as they felt neglected by the DMK, Tamim Ansari denied it.

Another Muslim party, Indian National League,

whose emergent State executive met in Chennai on Tuesday, also decided to extend support to the DMK-led front. It accused the AIADMK government of being subservient to the BJP at the Centre.

Meanwhile, DMK MP S. Jagtharkshan, who is in charge of Puducherry, came out with a statement denying speculations on his switching over to the BJP.

Meanwhile, DMK MP S. Jagtharkshan, who is in charge of Puducherry, came out with a statement denying speculations on his switching over to the BJP.

British High Commissioner had told reporters last Friday, in reference to the ongoing protests by farmers predominantly from some of the northern Indian states.

"Things that happen in India have ripples in the UK," Ellis said, in an obvious reference to the large Indian-origin community there about the concerned three farm Bills and also about the Indian government's efforts to resolve the issue in talks with farmers.

"This is an internal issue of India. We look at it. That is for India to resolve," he



### PRAFULLA MAHANTA NOT TO CONTEST POLLS

**MANOJ ANAND | DC**  
GUWAHATI, MARCH 9

In what has surprised many political observers, veteran AGP leader and two-time chief minister of Assam Prafulla Mahanta, has decided not to take part in the ongoing state Assembly election.

Mahanta, who was denied the party ticket from Barhampur from where he won for six consecutive terms, said he was "hurt because of the party's weak stand in defending regionalism, a cause that formed the very basis of AGP".

According to the seat-sharing agreement between AGP and BJP, the Barhampur seat has gone to the saffron party which has fielded Jitu Goswami as its candidate.

Mahanta's decision of not contesting elections this time was conveyed by his wife and former Rajya Sabha member Joyshree Goswami Mahanta.

The detailed terms and conditions for the Chair, Fellowship and Internship and the respective Application Forms and pro formas are available on the Rajya Sabha Research and Study Scheme website: <http://rajyasabha.nic.in>.

Duly filled in applications along with duly filled in pro formas for Dr. S. Radhakrishnan Chair and Rajya Sabha Fellowships may be sent through e-mail to [rksahoo.rs@sansad.nic.in](mailto:rksahoo.rs@sansad.nic.in) and for Rajya Sabha Student Engagement Internships at [rssei.rsr.sansad.nic.in](mailto:rssei.rsr.sansad.nic.in) or before 31st March, 2021.

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### CONTRACTS DEPARTMENT

Tender Enquiry No: HO(Contracts)/NISP/O&M/CHSGP Dated: 10.03.2021

NMDC Limited, A "NAVARTANA" Public Sector Company under Ministry of Steel, Govt. of India, invites online bids from experienced domestic bidders for "Operation and Maintenance (O&M) of Cast House, Tuyere Platform & SGP Area for a period of 2 Years for 3.0MTPA Integrated Steel Plant at Nagarpur near Jagdalpur, Chhattisgarh State". The detailed NIT and Bid documents can be viewed and / or downloaded from NMDC website <http://www.nmdc.co.in>, Central Public Procurement portal (CPP PORTAL) <http://www.eprocure.gov.in> / epublish/app and MSTC portal <https://www.mstccommerce.co.in> from 10.03.2021 to 31.03.2021.

For accessing the Bid document from NMDC website, the bidder has to register as 'New User' in Bid section at NMDC's website link <http://www.nmdc.co.in/nmdctender/default.aspx>. For accessing the Bid documents from Central Procurement Portal [www.eprocure.gov.in](http://www.eprocure.gov.in), the Tenderer has to click on "Latest active Tenders".

For accessing the bid document from MSTC, bidders to visit website [http://www.mstccommerce.co.in/eprochome/nmdc\\_buyer\\_login.jsp](http://www.mstccommerce.co.in/eprochome/nmdc_buyer_login.jsp) and search Tender Event No. NMDC/HO/114/20-21/ET/822. Bidders are requested to register as 'New Vendor' for downloading the tender document. For further help refer to 'Vendor guide' given in MSTC website.

The bidders are requested to submit their bids through online mode and details of submission of bid through online are given in NIT. The Bidders on

**BLOCKBUSTER JUSTICE**

**SANDHYA35-RTC X ROADS**  
ENJOY 4K LASER PROJECTION & DOLBY  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

**SAPNA35-ABIDS-6.00, 9.15PM**

**MANJU70-11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00**

**SIVAPARVATHI70MM-6.30, 9.30PM**

**SRIKRISHNAUPPAL-11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15**

**LAXMISHAMSHABAD-11.30, 2.30, 6.15, 9.15**

**KRISHNAALIYABAD-11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM**

**VENKATESWARA GUMMADIDHALA**  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

**LAXMIKALA11.30, 6.15PM**

**OAMB 11.05, 1.55, 7.35, 10.40PM**

**INJRA VENKATARAMANA/PADMAVATHI**  
9.15PM (ONE SHOW)

**ASIAN CINEMAS**  
RADHIKA-10.50, 1.40, 7.40PM  
CINESQUARE-4.00, 10.10PM  
GPR-1.30, 4.45PM | MCUBE-1.45, 7.05PM

**INOX**  
GVK-10.35, 4.10PM  
MP-11.30, 6.25PM  
GSM-12.20, 3.35, 6.45, 10.00PM

**Cinépolis**  
CCPL-10.20, 4.00, 10.10PM  
MANTRA-10.40, 1.50, 7.20, 10.35PM  
DSL-12.40, 4.00, 7.10PM | SUDHA-1.15, 7.05PM

**PRASAD'S**  
2.15, 7.15PM  
4.30 PM  
10.00  
1.10, 4.30

**PVR**  
FORUM-4.25, 7.45, 10.55PM  
INORBIT-10.55, 4.30, 7.10PM  
CENTRAL-10.25, 1.15, 4.30PM  
RK-11.55, 4.30PM | PRESTON-4.00PM

**Hitech-4.05, 10.15PM**

**L&T-10.00, 2.05, 4.10, 10.20PM**

**IRRUMMANZIL-2.55, 10.30PM**

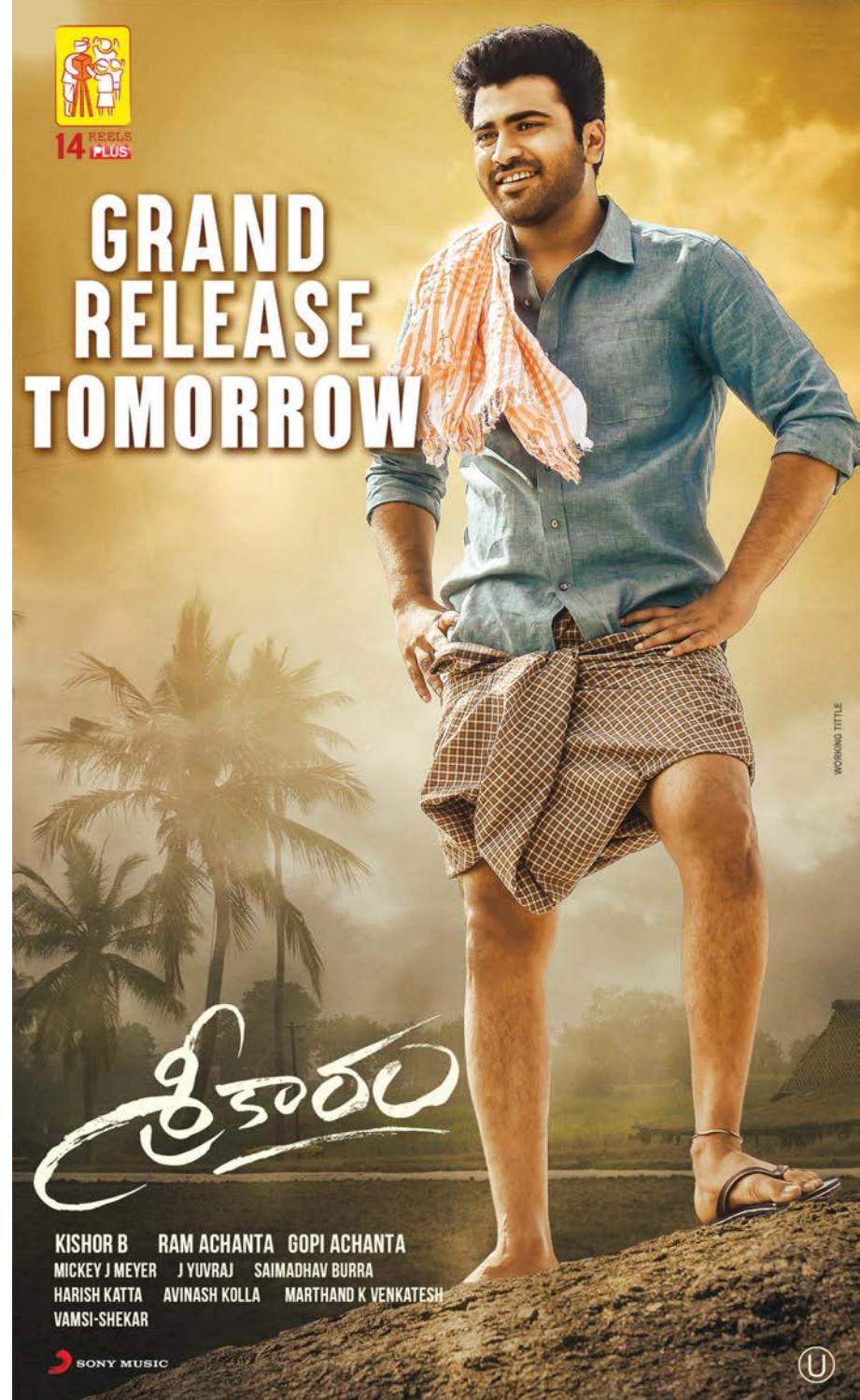
**MUSARAMBAGH-1.10, 3.25, 7.30PM**

**CHANDANAGAR-3.15PM**

**DILSHUKNAGAR-10.30, 4.15PM**

**BALANAGAR-10.25, 4.40PM**

**MIRAJ CINEMAS**  
AMEERPET 1.15, 7.15PM  
PLATINUM 11.50, 1.30, 7.15, 10.20PM



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**CHALLENGING STAR DARSHAN in & as FROM TOMORROW**

**Robert**

**SHANTI70MM**  
NARAYANAGUDA  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

**RAJADHANI COMPLEX**  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

**ANJALI70MM**  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

**LAXMIKALACINEPRIDE**  
11.30, 6.30PM

**OAMB AMB CINEMAS-7.30PM**

**ASIAN CINEMAS**  
GPR-4.30PM  
Komppally-4.40PM  
Radhika-4.30PM | Mcube-4.20PM  
Cinesquare-10.45, 7.45PM

**PVR**  
Forum-1.20, 7.35, 11.00pm  
Irrummanzil-6.35, 10.00pm  
RK-4.45PM | Central-4.50, 10.50pm  
Inorbit-1.00, 7.15pm  
Priston-7.25pm | L&T-6.50, 10.15pm  
Moosarambagh-6.35, 10.00pm  
Galleria-12.50, 4.00, 7.25pm

**INOX**  
GVK-10.30, 7.15PM  
MP-10.20, 7.10PM  
GSM-11.20, 6.35, 10.20PM

**TIVOLI**  
4.10, 4.15  
10.00 PM  
11.00 PM

**Cinépolis**  
CCPL-3.30, 10.15PM  
SUDHA-3.55, 10.20PM  
MANTRA-3.30, 9.45 | DSL-2.30, 9.25

**MIRAJ CINEMAS**  
IDPL-11.00, 7.30PM  
GEETH-6.15PM  
SHALINI-11.00, 7.00PM  
1.40, 10.30  
GLOBAL CINEMAS RELEASE

**MAHA SHIVARATRI ATTRACTION**

**SANDHYA35MM**  
(ENJOY 4K LASER PROJECTION & DOLBY ATMOS SOUND SYSTEM)  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

**INJRA VENKATARAMANA/ PADMAVATHI COMPLEX**

**PRASAD**-8.45, 11.00, 1.30, 3.45, 6.15, 8.30, 11.00PM

**OAMB** 10.30, 1.45, 4.55, 7.00, 10.25

**MULTIFLEX VJUJA LASHI** 11.00, 1.55, 4.50, 7.50, 10.50

**ASIAN CINEMAS**  
SIVAGANGA-11.15, 2.00, 6.15PM  
GPR-10.40, 1.25, 7.30, 10.20PM

**RADHIKA**-10.30, 1.30, 7.00, 9.50PM  
**MCUBE**-10.40, 1.30, 4.30, 7.00, 10.10PM  
**UPPAL**-10.50, 1.30, 4.30, 7.30, 10.20PM  
**CHINTHAL**-11.00, 2.00, 6.30PM

**10.40, 1.30, 4.10, 7.20, 10.00PM**

**MJR**-10.50, 1.40, 4.40, 7.00, 9.50PM

**LAXMIKALA**-1.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15

**INOX** GSM-11.45, 12.45, 3.00, 4.00, 6.15, 7.15, 9.30, 10.30PM

**GVK**-10.00, 1.05, 4.15, 7.20, 10.30, 10.50MP-9.50, 12.50, 4.00, 7.15, 10.30PM

**Cinépolis** MANTRA-10.00, 11.00, 1.55, 4.50, 7.45, 10.30PM

**CCPL**-10.00, 11.15, 1.45, 4.30, 7.55, 10.40

**SUDHA**-10.30, 1.25, 4.20, 7.10, 10.05PM

**PVR** RK-11.20, 1.10, 7.45, 10.25PM

**ICON**-1.15, 3.10, 7.20, 9.15PM

**PRESTONE**-1.45, 4.40, 7.35, 10.30PM

**FORUM**-10.10, 11.10, 2.05, 5.00, 7.15, 7.55

**INORBIT**-10.20, 2.05, 5.00, 7.35, 7.55, 10.50

**CENTRAL**-10.05, 1.25, 4.10, 7.10, 10.30PM

**GALLERIA**-10.05, 11.10, 2.05, 5.00, 7.55, 10.10, 10.50PM

**IRRUMMANZIL**-12.40, 2.05, 5.00, 7.55, 10.50

**MOOSARAMBAGH**-12.40, 2.05, 5.00, 7.55, 10.50

**MIRAJ CINEMAS**  
CHANDANAGAR-12.00, 4.00, 9.45PM  
SHALINI-10.15, 2.00, 4.45, 7.30, 10.45PM  
BALANAGAR-10.15, 1.15, 4.15, 7.15, 10.15

**11.00, 5.05, 8.00, 10.55**

**TIVOLI** 11.15, 2.10, 4.45, 10.00PM

**PLATINUM** PLATINUM GACHIBOWLI

**GOLD** GOLD

**AMEERPET** AMEEPET

**KARTHIKEYA EXHIBITORS RELEASE**

**GRAND RELEASING TOMORROW**

**SANDHYA35MM**  
(ENJOY 4K LASER PROJECTION & DOLBY ATMOS SOUND SYSTEM)  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

**BRAMARAMBA70MM**  
11.30, 2.45, 6.30, 9.45PM

**SHIVAPARVATHI70MM**  
11.30, 2.30, 6.30, 9.30PM

**MEGA70MM-DSNR**  
11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM

**MANJU70MM-SEC'BAD**  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

**MAHALAXMI COMPLEX**  
11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM

**TARAKARAMA** METRO70MM  
11.15, 2.15, 6.00, 9.00

**SANTOSH70MM** KUMAR70MM  
11.30, 2.30, 6.30, 9.30

**SENSATION** SWAPNA COMX  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

**VIJETHA70MM** SUPER70MM  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

**AMBA70MM** SREERAMANA  
11.30, 2.30, 6.30, 9.30

**SRLATHA70** SAMPOORNA  
11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15

**RAMAKRISHNA** VIMAL70MM  
11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15

**SRINIVASA70** TALLURI COMPLEX  
11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15

**MUKUND70MM** NARTHAKI70  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

**IRRUMMANZI70** BHUJANGA70  
11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15

**KRISHNAGARAM** SIVASAKTHI  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

**LAXMI SHAMSHABAD** SIVARANJANI  
11.30, 2.30, 6.15, 9.15

**SANTOSH70MM** SREEPREMA  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

**SV CINESQUARE** MAHESWARI70  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

**VENKATASAI** VENKATESWARA  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

**KARTHIKEYA EXHIBITORS RELEASE**

**JAI LAVA KUSA**  
BUCHIBABU SANA  
KAREN YEREMI  
SHAMMI SAMOKEE  
AVINASH KILLA  
DEVI SRI PRASAD  
SUPER HIT 4th WEEK

**SUDARSHAN35MM**  
(ENJOY 4K LASER PROJECTION & DOLBY ATMOS SOUND SYSTEM)  
11.00, 2.15, 6.00, 9.15PM

**EESHWAR70-11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00**

**MAHALAXMI-11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM**

**SANGEETH70-11.30, 2.30, 6.30, 9.30PM**

**RAJADHANI COMPLEX-DSNR**  
11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM

**VISWANATH70-KUKATPALLY**  
11.45, 2.45, 6.45, 9.45PM

**SRISAIRAM70-MALKAJGIRI**  
11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM

**SRIRAMULU70-MOOSAPET**  
11.30, 2.30, 6.30, 9.30PM

**RANGA70MM-11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM**

**SRILAXMI70MM** SRIDEVI R.C.PURAM  
12.00, 3.00, 7.00, 10.00PM

**SUSHMA70MM** VIMAL70MM  
11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM

**TALLURI CINEMA**-2.15, 6.00, 9.15PM

**PRASAD'S**-12.00, 2.45, 8.15, 11.00PM

**AMB** 10.30, 1.30, 4.25, 7.45, 10.20PM

**ASIAN CINEMAS**  
RADHIKA-1.20, 7.20PM  
GPR-10.10PM  
MCUBE-4.20, 10.35PM  
CINESQUARE-1.25, 7.15, 10.30PM  
10.30, 11.40, 4.15, 5.00, 11.00PM

**PLATINUM** BIG SCREEN 6.00PM

**PVR** FORUM-11.45, 4.20, 10.40PM  
GALLERIA-10.10, 1.10, 7.30, 10.40PM  
ICON-12.55, 9.40PM | RK-11.00PM  
CENTRAL-10.05, 1.30, 10.35PM  
INORBIT-10.05, 2.15, 7.40, 10.30PM  
IRRUMMANZIL-4.20, 7.20, 10.00PM  
PRESTON PRIME-12.50, 7.10PM  
MUSARAMBAGH-12.15, 4.20, 6.35, 10.40PM

**1.35, 7.25PM** 4.10, 10.00PM

**INOX** 2.30, 6.15, 9.30PM

**FORUM** 10.05, 2.55, 7.15, 9.50PM

**GOLD** 1.40, 4.45, 10.00PM

**AMEERPET** 1.20, 4.20, 7.20PM

**LAXMIKALA-MOOSAPET** 2.30, 6.15, 9.30PM

**STAR CINEMAS** 1.00, 4.20PM

**CCPL**-10.30, 4.30, 7.05, 10.35PM

**MANTRA**-10.50, 2.10, 4.35, 7.50, 10.50

**SUDHA**-10.10, 2.05, 4.25, 7.45, 10.40PM

**DSL**-11.40, 3.10, 6.20, 10.20PM

**MIRAJ CINEMAS**  
SHALINI/SHIVANI-10.45PM  
BALANAGAR-10.45PM



**2nd WEEK**

**SHANTI** 70MM NARAYANAGUDA  
(FULLY RENOVATED)  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

**BRAMARAMBA** 70MM  
11.30, 2.45, 6.30, 9.45PM

**KONARK** 70MM-DSNR  
11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM

**LAXMIKALACINEPRIDE**  
2.30 & 9.30PM

**NARTHAKI** 11.30, 2.30, 6.30, 9.30

**SRINIVASA** 70MM-UPPAL  
11.15, 2.30, 6.15, 9.30PM

**SIVAGANGA**-11.00, 6.00PM  
**RADHIKA**-4.40, 10.40PM  
GPR-11.00, 1.50, 10.35PM  
MCUBE-1.25, 7.35PM|**SHA**-11.30, 6.30PM  
CINESQUARE-10.45, 4.40, 10.40PM  
NARAPALLY-1.35, 10.10PM

**OAMB** 10.30, 1.50,  
7.25, 10.10 **BVK** 10.35PM

**PRASAD'S** 5.15PM **CINEPLANET**  
1.40, 7.00, 10.10

**TIVOLI** 1.45,  
10.15PM **PLATINUM** 12.30, 5.15  
WHERE CINEMA MEETS LEISURE 7.45, 11.00

**Cinépolis** CCPL-1.30, 4.20, 7.35PM  
**MANTRA**-11.05, 4.35, 7.15PM  
DSL-12.20, 3.00, 9.40PM|**SUDHA**-1.20, 7.35PM

**INOX** GVK-10.05, 7.05PM|MP-1.30, 10.20PM  
GSM-11.40, 6.20, 9.30PM

**2** 1.45,  
10.45PM **BIG Cinemas** 10.10, 4.15,  
10.20PM

**PVR** RK-3.05PM|**PRESTON**-1.55PM  
**IRRUMMANZIL**-1.25, 10.00PM  
**ICON**-4.25, 10.30PM  
**GALLERIA**-1.10, 7.20PM  
**MUSARAMBAGH**-4.45, 10.30PM  
**INORBIT**-1.15, 10.20PM  
**CENTRAL**-4.25, 10.20PM  
**FORUM MALL**-11.25, 5.10, 10.40PM  
**BALANAGAR**-10.45, 1.45, 7.30  
**GEETHA**-12.30, 9.30PM  
**SHALINI**-11.00, 7.30PM

**THRILLING HIT**

**POWER PLAY**

**SANDHYA** 70MM  
(ENJOY 4K LASER PROJECTION & DOLBY ATMOS)  
11.15, 2.15, 6.00, 9.15PM

**SHIVAPARVATHI** 70-11.30, 2.30PM

**SREERAMANA** COMPLEX-11.00, 6.15PM  
11.00, 6.00PM

**PADMAVATHI** COMPLEX-KACHIGUDA  
9.00PM(ONE SHOW ONLY)

**SANTOSHIBPATNAM** SAMPOORNAA70  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM  
11.15AM(ONE SHOW)

**SRILATHA** 70MM  
6.15, 9.15PM  
SV CINESQUARE  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

**SENSATION** INSO  
9.00PM(ONE SHOW)  
11.15, 6.15, 9.15PM

**SAPNA** ABIDS-11.30, 2.30PM

**MCUBE**-10.50AM  
Sivaganga-2.15PM  
Gpr-7.40PM|Sha-2.15PM

**OAMB** AMB CINEMAS-1.30PM

**MJR Square**-7.30PM

**INOX** GVK-3.55, 10.00PM|GSM-2.25PM  
MP MALL-11.45, 6.20, 9.30PM

**CCPL** 1.30PM|MANTRA-2.40PM  
DSL-12.00PM

**PRASAD'S** 6.00PM  
10.55 4.30PM  
11.00, 4.45 PLATINUM 2.25,  
CARNIVAL 8.40PM

**MIRAJ** CINEMAS DILSHUKNAGAR-10.45, 7.15  
BALANAGAR-10.40, 8.00PM  
CHANDANAGAR-6.30PM

**PRASAD'S** 11.00, 7.50PM  
SEC'BAD 11.20AM

**PVR** RK-8.05PM|PRESTON-7.50PM  
CENTRAL-10.50, 4.40, 10.20PM  
GALLERIA-11.25, 5.30, 8.10, 10.10PM  
FORUM-11.00, 1.40, 4.45, 7.30, 10.10PM  
INORBIT-11.35AM, 10.30PM|ICON-1.55, 7.35  
MUSARAMBAGH-2.05, 7.20PM

## PHILIPPINE COPS, MAYOR KILLED IN LATEST VIOLENCE

Manila, March 9: Police killed a central Philippine city mayor and two of his aides, while two of the police officers were killed in the latest deadly violence involving the police force, officials said Tuesday. "I can only assume that this was a mistaken encounter," Brig. Gen. Ronaldo de Jesus, a regional police commander, said. — AP

## INDIA'S FIRST MOVIE BASED ON CROSS TIME CONNECTION NOW SHOWING



**SANDHYA** 35MM  
(ENJOY 4K LASER PROJECTION & DOLBY ATMOS)  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00PM

**PVR** INORBIT-4.50PM|RK-12.05PM  
PRESTON PRIME-1.00, 6.00PM  
CENTRAL-7.25PM|GALLERIA-7.15PM

**INOX** GSM-4.40PM|GVK-1.30PM  
MP-1.10PM

**CCPL**(MALKAJGIRI)-10.30PM  
SUDHA-10.30PM

**MIRAJ** CINEMAS SHALINI/SHIVANI-2.00PM  
BALANAGAR-1.45PM

KARTHIKEYA EXHIBITORS RELEASE

# Protesters defy Myanmar curfew

## Military junta curbs media coverage

Yangon, March 9: Demonstrators in Myanmar's biggest city came out Monday night for their first mass protests in defiance of an 8 pm curfew, seeking to show support for an estimated 200 students trapped by security forces in a small area of one neighbourhood.

The students and other civilians earlier took part in one of the many daily protests across the country against the military's seizure of power last month that ousted the elected government of Aung San Suu Kyi. The military government also placed a major curb on media coverage of the crisis.

It announced that the licences of five local media outlets — *Mizzima*, *DVB*, *Khit Thit Media*, *Myanmar Now* and *7Day News* — have been cancelled. "These media companies are no longer allowed to broadcast or write or give information by using any kind of media platform or using any media technology," it said on state broadcaster *MRTV*.

All five had been offering extensive coverage of the protests, often with live steam-

ing video online. The offices of *Myanmar Now* were raided by the authorities Monday before the measure was announced. The government has detained dozens of journalists since the coup, including a *Myanmar Now* reporter and Thein Zaw of *The Associated Press*, both of whom have been charged under a public order law that carried a penalty of up to three years in prison.

The night's street protests began after police cordoned off part of Yangon's Sanchaung neighbourhood and were believed to be conducting door-to-door searches for those who fled attacks by security forces to seek shelter in the homes of sympathetic strangers. News of their plight spread quickly on social media, and people poured into the streets in neighborhoods all over the city to show solidarity and in hopes of drawing some of the pressure off the hunted protesters.

On some streets, they constructed makeshift barricades with whatever was at hand. In the Insein district, they spread across road junctions, singing songs, chanting pro-democracy slogans and banging objects together. The diplomatic missions of the United States, Britain, Canada and the European Union all issued statements urging the security forces to allow the trapped people to return safely to their homes.

Although all have been sharply critical of the Feb. 1 coup and police violence, it is unusual for such diplomatic statements to be issued in connection with a specific, ongoing incident. "There is heightened tension caused by security forces surrounding Kyun Daw Road in Sanchaung Township, Yangon. We call on those security forces to withdraw and allow people to go home safely," said the US Embassy's statement. By midnight, Myanmar time, there had been no reports of clashes between police and protesters, although security forces chased crowds, harassed residents watching from windows, and fired stun grenades. They also were some reports of injuries from rubber bullets.

— AP

## Palace silent on Harry, Meghan tell-all interview

London, March 9: Buckingham Palace is said to be in turmoil on Tuesday, a day after Prince Harry and Meghan Markle's explosive interview with American chat show host Oprah Winfrey was aired in the UK and even Prime Minister Boris Johnson was asked to comment on the allegations of racism that had emerged.

According to some British media reports, a palace statement has been prepared but Queen Elizabeth II is yet to sign it off as crisis talks continue after

damaging claims emerged around the 39-year-old former actress' suicidal thoughts as a newly-married Duchess of Sussex. Harry, 36 and Meghan also revealed some racist undertones within royal ranks as unnamed royals raised concerns over the skin tone of their first-born son, Archie, even as they were told he would not be made a prince and therefore not provided with security.

"I have always had the highest admiration for the Queen and the unifying role that she plays in our country and across Commonwealth," said Prime Minister Boris Johnson, when asked about the allegations during a Downing Street briefing.

"As for all other matters to do with the royal family, I have spent a long time now not commenting on royal family matters and I don't intend to depart from that today," he said, refusing to be drawn into the controversy.

Opposition Labour leader Sir Keir Starmer said allegations made in the interview should be taken "very, very seriously".

— PTI

## EQUATORIAL GUINEA EXPLOSIVES DEATH TOLL RISES TO 98

Dakar, March 9: The death toll from a series of explosions at a military barracks in Equatorial Guinea rose by dozens to at least 98 killed after more bodies were recovered, the government said Tuesday.

The blasts on Sunday in the Mondong Nkuantoma neighbourhood of the coastal city of Bata also wounded at least 615 people, authorities said. The government said that 316 of the injured have been discharged and 299 remain in care in various hospitals in the city.

More than 60 people were also rescued from under the rubble by the civil protection corps and fire service, the government said. President Teodoro Obiang Nguema said the government will hold an emergency meeting to look into how victims can quickly receive aid from Equatorial Guinea before international aid arrives.

Investigations into the blast have begun, he said in a Tuesday statement. The president initially the explosion was due to the "negligent handling of dynamite" in the military barracks and the impact damaged almost all the homes and buildings in Bata. The vice president, who is also charged with defense and security, Teodoro Obiang Mangue, said Tuesday that investigations so far showed the fire may have begun when a farmer set fire to his plot to prepare it for food production and a breeze spread the flames to the nearby barracks where the high-caliber ammunition was stored.

Images shown on state TV showed plumes of smoke rising above the explosion site as crowds fled. Roofs of houses were ripped off. Equatorial Guinea, an oil-rich West African country of 1.3 million people located south of Cameroon, was a colony of Spain until it gained its independence in 1968. Bata has roughly 175,000 inhabitants.

— AP

● **THE GOVERNMENT** said that 316 of the injured have been discharged and 299 remain in care in various hospitals in the city. More than 60 people were also rescued from under the rubble.



కోంతల

ANIL RAVIPUDI PRESENTS  
గాల్ నీపుల్

S KRISHNA ANISH

SAI SRIRAM ACHU RAJAMANI AS PRAKASH TAMMIRAJU  
MIRCHI KIRAN RAMAJUGAYYA SAstry NAGAMOHAN BABU M NARENDRA RAMA KRISHNA BA RAJU



Releasing worldwide Tomorrow!



"SOMETIMES FACTS ARE STRANGER THAN FICTION"

FANTASTIC HIT

PR PICTURES RELEASE AVANTHIKA PRODUCTIONS ADITYA MUSIC

"SOMETIMES FACTS ARE STRANGER THAN FICTION"

U/A

Forum-1.30, 7.45PM|Central-1.15, 7.30PM

Inorbit-2.10, 7.15PM|Hitech-12.45, 6.00PM

L&T-4.15, 10.15PM|RK-10.45PM

Preston prime-9.00PM|

Moosarambagh-3.45, 9.00PM

Irrmanzil-1.15, 6.30PM

PRASAD'S 9.00, 3.00PM MALLAPUR 10.30, 7.30PM

INOX GVK-10.20PM | GSM-3.35PM MP MALL-10.10PM

CCPL-10.20PM|DSL-10.00PM MANTRA-10.40PM | SUDHA-10.20PM

SHALINI/SHIVANI-2.00, 7.45PM BALANAGAR-2.00, 7.45PM CHANDANAGAR-6.45PM

KOMPALLY 4.20PM MALLAPUR 4.50 PM UPPAL 4.20 PM

ASIAN CINEMAS 4.10PM PVR PICTURES RELEASE 9963883444

**IN CINEMAS  
★TOMORROW★**

**గండు స్వంతు**  
S. KRISHNA - ANISH

SHINE SCREENS  
ANIL RAVIPUDI PRESENTS

IMAGESPARK  
MARCH 11<sup>TH</sup> WORLD WIDE RELEASE

**SUDARSHAN 35MM**  
[4K & DOLBY ATMOS]  
11.00am, 2.15, 6.00, 9.15pm

**VISHWANATH 70MM**  
11.45am, 2.45, 6.45, 9.45pm

**RAJADHANI DELUXE**  
11.00am, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00pm

**MUKTA A2 RAMAKRISHNA**  
11.30am, 2.30, 6.00, 9.15pm

**EESHWAR, Attapur**  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

**MAHALAXMI, Kothapet**  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

**SRLAXMI 70MM**  
12.00pm, 3.00pm

**PRASADS MULTIPLEX** - 8.45am, 11.15, 1.30, 4.00, 6.15, 8.45, 11.00pm

**AMB** - 11.00am, 1.55, 4.25, 7.50, 10.35pm

**TIVOLI CINEMAS** - 2.00pm, 4.50, 7.20pm

**MJR SQUARE** - 10.40, 1.50, 4.30, 7.30, 10.10

**CINESQUARE** - 10.55, 1.20, 4.40, 7.00, 10.10

**RADHIKA** - 10.50, 1.10, 7.40, 10.20 I

**M CUBE** - 10.50, 1.50, 7.30, 10.20 I

**CINEPLANET** - 10.50, 1.50, 7.50, 10.40 I

**SHIVAGANGA** - 11.00am, 6.00, 9.00 I

**GPR** - 10.50, 1.35, 7.40 I **SHA** - 2.30, 9.45

**PVR CINEMAS**

**FORUM** - 10.35, 11.20, 1.45, 2.05, 4.50, 7.35, 7.55, 10.20pm | **RK** - 11.00am, 2.15, 5.00, 8.10pm

**INORBIT** - 10.15, 11.20, 2.05, 4.50, 7.35, 10.20pm

**L&T** - 10.05, 11.20, 2.05, 4.50, 7.15, 7.35, 10.20 I

**MOOSARAMBAGH** - 1.45, 3.35, 4.30, 7.15, 10.00pm

**IRRUM MANZIL** - 1.45, 3.35, 4.30, 7.15, 10.00pm

**CENTRAL** - 11.35, 2.20, 5.05, 8.15, 10.50pm I

**ICON** - 2.15, 5.00, 7.45, 10.30pm I

**Cinépolis**

**DSL** - 11.45am, 1.30, 4.30, 7.30, 10.20pm

**MANTRA** - 10.20am, 12.55, 4.20, 7.45, 10.20pm

**CCPL** - 10.30am, 12.45, 4.55, 7.40, 10.25pm I

**SUDHA** - 11.15am, 2.00, 4.45, 7.40, 10.25pm I

**INOX**

**GVK** - 10.35am, 1.25, 4.30, 5.10, 7.50, 10.40pm I

**GSM** - 12.00pm, 1.10, 3.00, 4.10, 6.00, 7.10, 9.00, 10.10pm | **MP** - 9.50, 12.35, 4.50, 7.45, 10.40pm

**MIRAJ CINEMAS**

**SHALINI** - 11.00, 1.15, 5.15, 8.00, 10.30pm

**BALANAGAR** - 11.45, 2.30, 5.15, 8.00, 10.45pm

**CHANDANAGAR** - 12.15, 3.30, 6.30pm

**PLATINUM** - 9.00am, 2.45, 7.30pm

**S2 CINEMAS** - 11.20, 2.05, 8.15, 11.00pm

**TALLURI THEATRES** - 11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15

**CARNIVAL CINEMAS** - Ameerpét

**SREERAMULU 70**  
11.30, 2.30, 6.30, 9.30

**RAJALAXMI 70**  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

**SUSHMA 70MM**  
11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15

**SENSATION SUNSHINE**  
11.00am & 2.00pm

**BR HITECH 70**  
2.00pm & 9.15pm

**SHARADA 70MM**  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

**ASIAN SWAPNA** 11.15am & 2.30pm

**THIS YEAR'S FUNNIEST FILM  
RELEASING TOMORROW**

**SWAPNA CINEMA**

**Releasing worldwide  
TOMORROW**

**DEVI 70MM**  
(4K & Dolby Atmos)  
11.00am, 2.15, 6.00, 9.00pm

**ARJUN 70MM**  
11.30am, 2.30, 6.30, 9.30pm

**MALLIKARJUNA 70**  
11.15am, 2.30, 6.15, 9.30pm

**KONARK 70MM**  
11.15am, 2.15, 6.00, 9.15pm

**SANGEETHA 70**  
11.00am, 2.30, 6.00, 9.00pm

**MAHALAXMI 70**  
Kothapet

**PRASADS MULTIPLEX** - 11.30am, 2.15, 5.00, 7.45, 10.30pm LARGE : 8.45, 11.45am

**AMB CINEMAS** - 10.40am, 11.10, 1.20, 2.10, 2.35, 4.30, 6.30, 7.35, 10.00, 10.25

**PVR CINEMAS**

**RK** - 10.00, 4.05, 7.15, 10.40pm

**CENTRAL** - 10.00, 1.10, 4.20, 7.30, 10.40pm

**FORUM** - 10.00, 10.30, 1.10, 4.20, 7.30, 7.50, 10.40, 11.00 | **ICON** - 12.00, 4.10, 6.05, 10.50

**MOOSARAMBAGH** - 1.00, 4.10, 6.20, 7.20, 10.30 | **IRRUM MANZIL** - 1.00, 4.10, 6.20, 7.20, 10.30 | **GALLERIA** - 10.00, 10.20, 1.30, 4.40, 7.20, 7.50 | **PRESTON** - 12.30, 3.40, 6.50, 10.00 | **INORBIT** - 10.05, 11.10, 2.05, 5.00, 7.55, 10.50

**ASIAN CINEMAS**

**GPR** - 10.30, 1.15, 4.20, 7.20, 10.10 I

**M CUBE** - 10.30, 1.40, 4.10, 7.20, 10.00

**CINEPLANET** - 10.30, 1.20, 1.45, 4.25, 7.00, 10.20 | **RADHIKA** - 10.40, 4.20, 7.20, 10.10 I

**CINESQUARE** - 10.30, 10.40, 1.40, 4.10, 4.45, 7.20, 9.50 | **MJR** - 10.30, 1.20, 4.10, 7.20, 10.30

**INOX**

**GVK** - 10.20, 1.40, 4.20, 7.40, 10.20, 11.00pm

**MP MALL** - 10.00, 1.25, 3.25, 6.45, 10.10pm

**GSM MALL** - 11.30, 12.30, 3.00, 4.00, 6.30, 7.30, 10.00pm

**Cinépolis**

**DSL MALL** - 12.10, 3.40, 7.10, 10.40pm

**MANTRA MALL** - 10.30, 1.05, 4.30, 7.05, 10.40pm

**CCPL MALL** - 10.30, 1.15, 4.40, 7.00, 10.50pm

**SUDHA** - 12.45, 4.00, 7.20, 10.35pm

**MIRAJ CINEMAS**

**SHALINI** - 10.00, 1.30, 4.15, 7.45, 11.00pm

**BALANAGAR** - 10.00, 1.00, 4.30, 7.45, 11.00pm

**CHANDANAGAR** - 1.00, 7.00, 10.00pm

**TIVOLI** - 11.00, 1.50, 4.40, 7.30, 10.20pm

**BVK** - 10.45am, 1.45, 4.45, 7.45, 10.45pm

**PLATINUM** - 9.00, 11.45, 2.30, 5.15, 8.00, 10.45pm

**S2 CINEMAS** - 10.00, 4.20, 7.40, 10.40pm

**LAXMIKALA**  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

**ASIAN SHA**  
11.15, 6.00, 9.15

**SHIVAGANGA**  
2.15pm & 9.15pm

**TALLURI**  
ECIL X Road

**GOKUL 70MM**  
11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15

**SREERAMANA**  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

**SAI RANGA 70**  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

**ALANKAR 70**  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

**JYOTHI 70MM**  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

**SAI POOJA 70**  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

**SRI KRISHNA 70**  
11.00, 2.15, 6.00, 9.15

**VYJAYANTHI**  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

**GANESH 70MM**  
11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15

**ASIAN SWAPNA**  
11.00, 6.15, 9.15

**VENKATARAMNA**  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

**RAMAKRISHNA**  
11.00am & 9.00pm

**SENSATION SUNSHINE**  
6.15pm & 9.30pm

**BR HITECH 70**  
6.30pm & 9.30pm

**SRI LAXMI 70**  
7.00pm & 10.00pm

**BRIDGE FILMS**

**FAMILY ENTERTAINER**

**SAPTAGIRI 70MM**  
11.00am, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00pm

**MAHALAKSHMI**, Kothapet  
11.00am, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00pm

**RAJDHANI COMPLEX**  
11.00am, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00pm

**MALLIKARJUNA 70MM**  
11.15am, 2.30, 6.15, 9.30pm

**MUKTA A2 RAMAKRISHNA 11.30am**  
Daily 2 Shows : 11.30am, 6.00pm

**SHARADA 70MM**  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

**AMBA 70MM**  
11.30, 2.30, 6.30, 9.30

**SRIKRISHNA 70MM**  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

**PRASAD MULTIPLEX** - 6.00pm

**TIVOLI CINEMAS** - 11.15am

**FORUM** - 10.35am, 1.30, 7.35, 10.30pm

**MOOSARAMBAGH** - 4.25pm, 9.25pm

**IRRUM MANZIL** - 1.25, 4.25, 9.45pm

**GALLERIA** - 10.15, 1.20, 4.20, 10.15pm

**CENTRAL** - 11.35am & 7.40pm

**INORBIT** - 11.40am, 4.15, 10.50pm

**RK** - 11.25am, 8.05pm

**INOX GVK** - 3.35pm | **GSM** - 5.10pm

**DSL** - 4.00pm | **MANTRA** - 12.00pm

**6.30pm** | **CCPL** - 1.45, 4.45, 7.45pm

**FROM THE MAKERS OF "STREE"  
COMES ANOTHER HORROR COMEDY**

**DEVI 70MM-RTC X ROADS**  
(Enjoy 4k laser projection & dolby atmos)  
11.00, 2.15, 6.00, 9.15PM

**ARJUN 70-11.30, 2.30, 6.30, 9.30**

**MEGHA 70-11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM**

**VENKATARAMANA KACHIGUDA**  
2.30, 6.00, 9.00PM(2 SHOWS)

**LAXMIKALACINEPRIDE**  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

**AMB CINEMAS**  
10.50, 1.35, 4.30, 7.25, 10.20PM

**PRASAD MULTIPLEX**  
9.00, 2.30, 5.15, 8.00, 10.45PM

**ASIAN CINEMAS**

**SIVAGANGA** - 2.00, 9.00PM

**RADHIKA** - 10.40, 1.30, 4.35, 7.30, 10.30PM

**MCUBE** - 10.40, 1.40, 4.30, 7.25, 10.20PM

**CINESQUARE** - 10.40, 1.35, 4.30, 7.25, 10.20PM

**CINEPLANET** - 10.45, 1.45, 4.35, 7.35, 10.20PM

**Forum** - 11.00, 12.00, 2.00, 5.00, 8.00, 11.00PM

**Inorbit** - 11.00, 2.00, 5.00, 8.00, 11.00PM

**Icon** - 12.15, 3.15, 6.15, 9.15, 10.15PM

**Galleria** - 11.00, 2.00, 5.00, 8.00, 11.00PM

**Irrummanzil** - 12.45, 3.45, 6.15, 9.15PM

**Musarambagh** - 12.15, 3.15, 6.15, 9.15PM

**Prestone** - 12.00, 3.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

**RK** - 10.30, 1.30, 7.40, 10.40PM

**GVK** - 10.50, 1.20, 4.00, 7.30, 10.50PM

**MP** - 10.50, 1.00, 4.00, 7.15, 10.30PM

**GSM** - 11.30, 1.00, 2.50, 4.20, 6.10, 9.30, 11.00PM

**CCPL** - 10.50, 1.05, 4.10, 7.20, 10.30PM

**MANTRA** - 10.50, 1.05, 4.10, 7.15, 10.20PM

**DSL** - 12.30, 3.50, 7.10, 10.30PM

**SUDHA** - 11.00, 1.05, 4.10, 7.15, 10.20PM

**BALANAGAR** - 1.15, 7.15, 10.15PM

**IDPL** - 11.00, 2.00, 5.00, 8.00, 11.00PM

**SHALINI** - 11.00, 2.00, 5.00, 8.00, 11.00PM

**CCPL** - 2.00, 9.00PM

**TIVOLI** - 11.00, 1.50, 4.40, 7.30, 10.20PM

**PLATINUM** - 10.40, 1.30, 4.25, 7.25, 10.20PM

**SAIPOOJA 70MM-11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM**

**ALANKAR 70MM**  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

**AMBA 70MM**  
11.30, 2.30, 6.30, 9.30PM

**BR HITECH 70MM**  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

**SAIRANGA 70MM**  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

**SUPER 70MM**  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

**JYOTHIR.C.PURAM**  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

**SAMPOORNA 70MM**  
2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM

**SV CINESQUARE**  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

**SVC MAHALAXMI**  
11.15, 6.00 & 9.00PM

**TALLURI COMPLEX**  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

**RAMAKRISHNA 35MM**  
11.30, 2.30, 6.30, 9.30PM

**ASIAN MUKUND**  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

**ANJALI 70MM**  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

**BHJANGA 70**  
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

<

## quick BITES

INDICATORS	%
Sensex	51,025.48
Nifty 50	15,098.40
S&P 500*	3,891.38
Dollar (₹)	72.92
Pound Sterling (₹)	101.35
Euro (₹)	86.84
Gold (10gm)*	43,996.35
Brent crude (\$/bbl)*	67.77
IN 10-Yr bond yield	6.206
US 10-Yr T-bill yield*	1.544
	-0.050

\* As of 8:30 PM IST

## GST fraud of over ₹20,100 cr found in Nov.-Jan.: FM

The government has detected GST fraud of Rs 20,124 crore between November 9, 2020 and January 31, 2021, finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman said. A special drive against unscrupulous entities for availing and passing on input tax credit (ITC) fraudulently on the strength of fake/bogus invoices is being carried out, she said in a written reply to the Rajya Sabha. She said 2,692 cases were booked by the officers.

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## Firms keen on hiring apprentices Worst-hit sectors back in job mkt

SANGEETHA G  
CHENNAI, MARCH 9

Some of the worst pandemic-hit sectors have re-entered the job market this year, but with a tight fist. Travel & hospitality and beauty & wellness, which were battered by the lockdowns and subsequent travel restrictions, are back in the job market with intentions to hire apprentices.

With companies focusing on cost optimisation, large-scale apprenticeships has become the new trend in the post-pandemic job market. Out of the 18 sectors reviewed by Teamlease Services for its Apprenticeship Outlook Report for January to June 2021, more than 16 were keen on hiring apprentices. This is because apprentices are paid stipends, and not wages as in case of regular employees, and usually stipends are far less than regular wages.

While manufacturing, automobiles and ancillaries and retail are the leaders in hiring apprentices, more services sectors are now taking baby steps in the job market.

The hiring intents of travel & hospitality and beauty & wellness were at 10 per cent and 5 per cent, respectively, in the previous half-year between July and December 2020. They have now made a remarkable turnaround with a growth of 34 per cent and 31 per cent, respectively.

"What is very interesting to note is the current pro-



jections, which not only indicates an overall increase in hiring, but the fact that sectors like travel and hospitality as well as beauty and wellness which were adversely hit by the pandemic, are now showing aggressive turnaround in their apprenticeship hiring sentiments," said Sumit Kumar, vice president-NETAP, TeamLease Skill University.

However, the hospitality industry is not in full agreement with the survey, dismissing it as a city-specific trend. "It is not a general trend. The hospitality sector is far from a significant recovery and that will happen when international travel and MICE (meetings, incentives, conferences and exhibitions) segments pick up. But companies in places which have reported lesser pandemic cases and increased flow of domestic travellers could be hiring apprentices. With limited revenue and high operational cost, hospitality companies are looking at ways for cost optimisation by avoiding tradition-

al HR practices and going for apprentices," said Jaison Chacko, secretary general of the Federation of Hotels and Restaurants Association of India.

According to the Teamlease report, around 41 per cent of the employers are keen on hiring apprenticeships in the January-June period, 8 per cent higher compared to the previous half year.

There is buoyancy towards the concept of apprenticeship and more than 58 per cent of the companies reviewed were keen on increasing their apprenticeship hiring.

More employers are realising the merit of the apprenticeship model to build a robust pipeline of employable talent, it said.

"In fact, from 2018, to now, we have seen a 2.5 per cent annual growth in employers, who are willing to increase their apprentice intake. This positive momentum has happened despite the dip in the labour market during the Covid-19 lockdown," said Kumar.

## MUTUAL FUND AUM HITS ₹32.3 L CR DESPITE ₹10K CR EQUITY OUTFLOW

RAVI RANJAN PRASAD  
MUMBAI, MARCH 9

The asset under management (AUM) of the mutual fund industry touched a new all-time high of over Rs 32.29 lakh crore in February on continued bull run in the equity market post-budget and the return of investors to hybrid funds and ETFs amid divergent trends.

Data released by the Association of Mutual Funds in India (Amfi) shows despite higher outflow of Rs 10,468 crore (Rs 9,253 crore in January) from pure equity funds for the eighth month in a row and debt fund inflow of a mere Rs 1,734 crore, mark-to-market gains in equity-oriented funds and inflows from systematic investment plans (SIPs) helped the average AUM for February to rise to Rs 32.29 lakh crore.

Hybrid funds and exchange traded funds, including gold ETFs, saw inflows worth Rs 4,702 crore and Rs 3,898 crore, respectively.

N. S. Venkatesh, chief executive, Amfi said: "SIP AUMs as also retail equity folios, are at an all-time high at Rs 4.21 lakh crore and 8.07 crore, respectively, reflective of continued disciplined approach adopted by the retail mutual fund investors."

However, the monthly SIP contribution for February 2021 has come down by Rs 495 crore (to Rs 7,528.14 crore) owing to less number of working days in February and the shortfall would get accumulated and reflected in March 2021 monthly data, the Amfi chief executive said.

## Foreign investment is good for women

SANGEETHA G  
CHENNAI, MARCH 9

Foreign investment is good not just for the economy but for women as well. Foreign direct investment (FDI) and the operations of multi-national enterprises (MNEs) tend to have a positive influence on the economic well-being of women.

According to a UN study involving India and Bangladesh, increased FDI and operations of MNEs are associated with higher employment of women and positive social improvements in India.

MNEs influence gender equality in host countries directly through employment practices and indirectly through spillovers in local labour markets.

On an average across developing countries, foreign affiliates employ about 5 percentage points more female administrative workers than local firms, finds a report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

In India, increased FDI is associated with higher employment of women, particularly unskilled women. In addition to the positive impacts of foreign investment on female employment, research has shown important positive social improvements for women in terms of reductions in crime and delayed marriage and childbearing with the expansion of domestic policies toward women.

In South Asia, an area of the world with poor policies and practices regarding women, it appears that an expansion of foreign investment may help with female empowerment, says the UNCTAD.

The Geneva-based body studied the situation in



The report also looked at India's foreign investment liberalisation in the 1990s to explore the role global integration plays in enhancing female empowerment. Areas of the country with a stronger foreign presence reported declining number of rapes, showcasing a positive social spillover from multinational enterprises.

Meanwhile, a Moody's report said closing gender gaps widened by the pandemic could help boost the recovery of emerging economies and improve their credit ratings.

Major emerging economies have increased measures to help women, who have been disproportionately hit by the pandemic as lockdowns forced many to leave their jobs to take care of their children. Help includes direct cash transfers, training and credit lines for female business owners, Moody's Investors Service.

Implementing similar measures coupled with more structural changes to secure women's access to education and employment could bring sustainable recovery with improvements in productivity and consumption in developing nations, it said.

## GAMES

### SHORT TAKES

#### Bhadradri off to flying start in TCA

## Katyayani fastest, smashes records

Abhilash, Nithya, Nihar, Charles also win multiple medals at State swimming meet

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, MARCH 9



● Katyayani, a ninth standard student of Nasr Girls School, set new meet record by clocking 0:28:12 in the 50 metres freestyle race before cutting through the 100 metres with a cool timing of 01:03:67.

● On the men's side, Ch. Abhilash of Khammam was the fastest of the meet, clocking 0:55:56 to win the 100m freestyle race. Abhilash also won the 50m freestyle, 50m butterfly, 100m butterfly and 200m freestyle races.

● 400m Freestyle Women: 1. Vritti Agarwal (RR) 5:05:01, 2. Eeshita Rasamayi (Warangal) 08:32:93.

● 100m Backstroke Men: 1. Y Hemanth Reddy (RR) 01:04:17, 2. M Suhas Preetham (Hyd) 01:05:57, 3. Duanish Sharma (Hyd) 01:12:33.

● 100m Backstroke Women: 1. Sri Nithya Sagi (RR) 01:12:46, 2. Aditi Nadella (Hyd) 01:27:22.

● 800m Freestyle Men: 1. Y. Charles Finney (RR) 11:09:44, 2. M. Rajender (Warangal) 11:37:10, 3. Akhil Nagula (Warangal) 11:48:28.

● 800m Freestyle Women: 1. Vritti Agarwal (RR) 10:05:06, 2. M. Anitha Karimnagar (22:26:12, 3. Soumya Karimnagar) 22:36:73.

● 200m Backstroke Men: 1. B. Sai Nihari (RR) 02:14:04, 2. Duanish Sharma (Hyd) 02:42:85, 3. Arjun Kandoli (Hyd) 02:44:49.

● 200m Backstroke Women: 1. Sri Nithya Sagi (RR) 02:36:30, 2. Aditi Nadella (03:07:55).

● 200m Breaststroke Men: 1. G. Vishnu Vardhan (RR) 02:23:35, 2. Udit Kothari (Hyd) 02:23:64, 3. Ishan Dubey (Hyd) 02:30:06.

● 200m Breaststroke Women: 1. M. Rithika (Nizamabad) 02:29:03, 2. T. Sai Pragna (Nizamabad) 02:44:20, 3. Sri Jani (RR) 02:44:55.

● 100m Butterfly Men: 1. Ch. Abhilash (Khammam) 02:05:04, 2. Mohan Gupta (Hyd) 02:33:35, 3. Arjun Kandoli (Hyd) 02:34:42.

● 200m Butterfly Women: 1. Vritti Agarwal (RR) 02:13:76, 2. D. Dhriti (Hyd) 02:59:90, 3. Eeshita Rasamayi (Warangal) 04:56:00.

● 200m Butterfly Men: 1. M. Vishnu Vardhan (RR) 02:23:35, 2. Udit Kothari (Hyd) 02:23:64, 3. Ishan Dubey (Hyd) 02:30:06.

● 200m Butterfly Women: 1. M. Rithika (Nizamabad) 02:29:03, 2. T. Sai Pragna (Nizamabad) 03:14:85, 3. Sri Jani (RR) 02:36:55.

● 100m Individual Medley Men: 1. T. Sai Pragna (Nizamabad) 02:59:22, 2. Gagan Sri (Hyd) 03:20:98, 3. Dhruti K (Hyd) 03:24:37.

● 1500m Freestyle Men: 1. Y. Charles Finney (RR) 20:59:54, 2. K. Raghabender (Khammam) 22:30:93, 3. K. Lalit Sagar (RR) 22:32:68.

● 200m Individual Medley Women: 1. T. Sai Pragna (Nizamabad) 02:59:22, 2. Gagan Sri (Hyd) 03:20:98, 3. Dhruti K (Hyd) 03:24:37.

● 1500m Freestyle Women: 1. Vritti Agarwal (RR) 18:30:75, 2. Eeshita Rasamayi (Warangal) 33:41:05.



India's Smriti Mandhana en route to her unbeaten 80 against South Africa in their second ODI in Lucknow on Tuesday. The hosts won by 9 wickets — BCCI

## Smriti, Jhulan star as India level series

Lucknow, March 9: Veteran Jhulan Goswami's four-wicket haul was beautifully complemented by Smriti Mandhana's sparkling 80 not out as Indian women outplayed South Africa by nine wickets in the second ODI to level the five-match series 1-1.

The 38-year-old Goswami returned with figures of 4/42 and was ably supported by fellow seamer Mansi Joshi (2/23) and left-arm spinner Rajeshwari Gayakwad (3/37) as India dismissed South Africa for a paltry 157 after opting to bat.

Earlier, Lara Goodall was the most successful batswoman for South Africa as she scored a 77-ball 49, while skipper Sune Luus chipped in with a 57-ball 36.

**Brief scores:** South Africa 157 in 41 overs (Goodall 49, Goswami 4/42) lost to India 160/1 in 28.4 overs (Mandhana 80 not out, Raut 62 not out, Raut 62 not out).

## CONSISTENCY, FITNESS ARE JHULAN'S SUCCESS MANTRAS

Lucknow, March 9: In her late 30s, veteran India pacer Jhulan Goswami knows that consistent performance, backed by supreme fitness, is paramount to stay relevant in the Indian women's cricket team.

Goswami, who is 38, is the highest wicket-taker in women's ODIs with 231 scalps.

"Representing India is the biggest motivation for me. I don't think you have to look elsewhere for motivation," Goswami said.

"You cannot belong to the team if you don't perform your best everyday. It's important for us to maintain our fitness and come out strong on the field. It's not going to be easy," she added.

The pacer from Bengal had called it quits from T20I format in 2018 in a surprise announcement ahead of the T20 World Cup in the West Indies. — PTI

## Live on TV FOOTBALL

English Premier League: Manchester City vs Southampton from 11:30 pm on Star Sports Select 1, HD

Champions League: Round of 16, second leg — PSG vs Barcelona from 1:30 am (Thursday) on Sony Ten 2, HD

NXT: Bouts from 6:30 am (Thursday) on Sony Ten 1, HD

WWE

England vs Scotland from 11:30 pm on Star Sports Select 1, HD

UEFA Euro 2020: Group F: Italy vs Turkey from 11:30 pm on Star Sports Select 1, HD

UEFA Euro 2020: Group F: Spain vs Poland from 11:30 pm on Star Sports Select 1, HD

UEFA Euro 2020: Group F: France vs Germany from 11:30 pm on Star Sports Select 1, HD

UEFA Euro 2020: Group F: Portugal vs Hungary from 11:30 pm on Star Sports Select 1, HD

UEFA Euro 2020: Group F: Croatia vs Iceland from 11:30 pm on Star Sports Select 1, HD

**SHORT TAKES**  
**Sharath downs world No. 16**

Doha: Indian paddler Achanta Sharath Kamal stunned world number 16 Patrick Franziska to progress to the men's singles pre-quarterfinals of the World Table Tennis Star Contender series here on Tuesday. Sharath Kamal, ranked 32, beat his higher-ranked rival from Germany 12-10, 3-11, 11-7, 7-11, 11-9 in the second round match. He will now face the winner of the match between Egypt's Ahmed Saleh and German Dimitrij Ovtcharov in the pre-quarters on Wednesday. However, G. Sathiyam and Manika Batra bowed out after suffering defeats in their respective singles second round matches. While world number 63 Batra lost 7-11, 6-11, 7-11 to Japan's Mima Ito, who is ranked third in the world, Sathiyam was beaten by Japanese sensation and world No.5 Tomokazu Harimoto 4-11, 5-11, 8-11.

**Delhi to bid for 2048 Olympics**

New Delhi: The Delhi government aims to host the 2048 Olympic Games and it will create whatever infrastructure and facilities required for it, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said on Tuesday. Delhi hosted the first Asian Games in 1951, and the ninth edition in 1982. "Delhi will bid for the 2048 Olympic Games. We will create whatever infrastructure and other facilities are required for it," Kejriwal said during a post-budget press conference. Presenting the budget earlier in the day, Deputy Chief Minister Sisodia said, "There is another big dream related to sports which I am placing before this house... It is a dream to organise the Olympic Games in Delhi. "The 32nd Olympic Games are to be held in Tokyo. The next three host cities have also been decided. Our government aims to bring the sports facilities and the atmosphere towards sports competitions to such a level through the new Sports University that we can apply to host the 39th Olympic sports competitions for 2048," he further said. — PTI

# WEIGHT & WATCH

Stokes reveals players had sudden weight loss during last Test

Ahmedabad, March 9: Ben Stokes has revealed that he and his teammates endured sudden weight loss during the fourth and final Test against India here after a stomach illness hit the tourists before the match.

England lost the Test series 1-3 after going down in the final match by an innings and 25 runs last week.

"Players are totally committed to England and I think that was emphasised last week when a few of us went down with illness that made operating in 41 degree heat particularly taxing," Stokes told UK's *Daily Mirror*.

"I lost 5kg in a week, Dom Sibley 4kg and Anderson 3kg among others. Jack Leach was ducking off the field in between bowling spells and spending more time than is ideal in the toilet."

— BEN STOKES  
England star all-rounder



Ben Stokes in this file photo. — AP

## ASHWIN WINS PLAYER OF THE MONTH AWARD

Dubai, March 9: India's premier off-spinner Ravichandran Ashwin was on Tuesday named the ICC men's Player of the Month (February) for his stellar show against England in a four-match Test series at home which his side won to qualify for the World Test Championship final.

England's Tammy Beaumont was adjudged the women's Player of the Month.

In the three Tests he played, Ashwin scored a 106 in the second innings of India's second Test victory over England at Chennai and took his 400th Test wicket in the third Test victory at Ahmedabad.

Besides the century, Ashwin scalped a staggering 24 wickets against England in February to help India pocket the four-match Test series 3-1 and help his team secure its spot in the WTC final against New Zealand at the iconic Lord's in June.

Scoring a total of 176 runs across these games and taking 24 wickets, Ashwin was the unanimous choice to win in the men's category for February and garnered the most votes in the fan vote, the ICC said.

England Test captain Joe Root and West Indies Test debutant Kyle Mayers, who scored a 210 to help his team successfully chase 395 and win the first Test against Bangladesh, were nominated alongside Ravichandran Ashwin for the honour. — PTI

Azhar flicks, says HCA mess is old

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
HYDERABAD, MARCH 9

A day after being criticised for Hyderabad being ignored as a venue for the upcoming IPL, Hyderabad Cricket Association president Mohammad Azharuddin hit back at former secretary and BCCI interim president N. Shivlal Yadav saying his team is in the current situation because of the mismanagement of previous regimes.

Azhar was all aggression as he addressed the press flanked by Apex Council members at the Gymkhana ground on Tuesday. "I just cannot drag the IPL to Hyderabad," he burst out.

"I went all the way to Ahmedabad and spoke to the BCCI secretary, who said he would do his best but with Chennai and Bangalore already in the BCCI was not in favour of a third venue in south India. It was tough but I tried my best. I tried to phone the Governing Council members also but they didn't answer my calls. However, I am still at it. If something were to go wrong at any of the venues, Hyderabad should be part of the backup plan," he explained.

"Today past officials are making a hue and cry about IPL not being played in Hyderabad, I would like to ask them why did they not have a match in the City during the 2011 World Cup?" he countered.

Taking a dig at past bodies, Azhar said: "The HCA was burdened when we took over. There were tax and PF issues with appeals and showcase notices pending. We somehow settled everything by paying heavy fines."

Then, "institutional clubs have been privatised, leading to court cases that have stalled a round of the league matches. How could Union Bank of India become Kun? Similarly, district teams are being

HCA president Mohammad Azharuddin addresses the press on Tuesday.

controlled by individuals."

"So much muck has gathered in the HCA over the years. If this goes on I may have to write to the Board and the Government and ask them to initiate inquiries with different agencies into the wrongdoings of the past that are having a cascading effect," he said.

However, Azhar conceded HCA league standard needed improvement. "I saw a batsman who said he scored a double century and two tons but he couldn't even connect a single ball at the nets," he revealed. For the record, all the teams play in the A-1, 2, 3 divisions.

Asked about the team selection controversy for the Vijay Hazare Trophy, Azhar said "we will definitely look into it. This has been happening for so many years."

He attributed the delay in conduct of AGM to Covid restrictions. "Now, we will make all pending appointments such as the selection committee, cricket advisory committee among others at the AGM this month-end. However, I spoke to a lot of senior players but they want money to be on the panel. Nobody wants to work for free," he said.

As a parting shot, Azhar reassured his team and cricketers that he is hands-on: "I am on the front foot, will always be."

## Jaidev, Ganesh, Rahul, Arvind top Tilak, Abrar, Khader, Harshith, Shakeer, Krishna, Babillail, Nikhil, David, Subhajit, Ghazi, Afzal, Arjan, Jayant, Nishant, Mudassir also shine in league

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
HYDERABAD, MARCH 9



**A. Arvind** 60, **Tilak Varma** 5/62 vs Jai Bhagwathi 2/0 in 4 overs. **Md Abrar Mohiuddin** 5/62 vs Jai Bhagwathi 2/0 in 4 overs.

**Combined District** 324/7 in 68.4 overs (Rithwik Surya 31, B. Vikram 77, **G. Ganesh** 160 — 164b, 23x4, 2x6, Shareef Pathan 3/25) vs Enconse.

**AOC** 432 in 89.1 overs (**G. Rahul Singh** 148 — 119b, 26x4, Sachinanand Pandey 77, Amit Pacheria 70, Sachin Shinde 48, Neel Chakravarthi 3/66, N. Anirudh 3/43) vs Zinda Tiliampati.

**Gemini Friends** 257/9 68.5 overs (**T. Tilak Varma** 111 — 140b, 11x4, 4x6, Abdul Ela Al Qureshi 53, M. Abhirath Reddy 43, G. Aniketh Reddy 3/52, Vamsi Krishna 3/58) vs Evergreen 38/2 in 13 overs.

**Khalisa** 111 in 35.2 overs (**A. Arvind Swamy** 5/8 — 8-4-8-5, G. Arjun 4/31) vs Baalaji CC 226/7 in 39 overs (Paras Raj 90 batting, B. Raja Shekar 68, Prithvi Reddy 4/50).

**UBI vs Deccan Chronicle** 253 in 65.5 overs (**Varnu Goud** 98, E. Srikrishna Reddy 65, M. A. Khader 5/37 — 11-2-37-5) vs Union Bank of India 100/2 in 29 overs (Naveen Reddy 54).

**Cambridge XI** 189 in 61.2 overs (Ashish Srivastav 39, Vinay Yadav 34, Rishiket Sisodia 36, Amit Singh 36, **Harshith 5/37 — 16-4-37-5**) vs Hyderabad Bottling 145/7 in 23.1 overs (Vinay Goud 47 batting, Mohit 3/45, Shashank 3/21).

**EMCC vs SCRSA** (EMCC did not turn up for the match, SCRSA claimed walkover). **Points:** SCRSA 6, EMCC 0.

**Jai Hanuman** vs R Dayanand (Jai Hanuman did not turn up for the match, R. Dayanand claimed walkover). **Points:** R Dayanand 6, Jai Hanuman 0.

**Rohit XI** 179 in 41.1 overs (M. Nitin Sai Yadav 55) vs Sri Chakra 156/1 in 39 overs (Sai Koushik 60, T. Rohan 82 batting).

**Charminar** vs Apex CC (Apex CC did not turn up for the match, Charminar claimed walkover). **Points:** Charminar 6, Apex 0.

**Gouds XI** vs Mahmood CC (Mahmood CC did not turn up for the match, Gouds XI claimed walkover). **Points:** Mahmood CC 6, Gouds XI 0.

**P. Nikhil** 5/62 vs Mahmood O. **Points:** Mahmood O. claimed walkover.

**Two-DAY LEAGUE** 68.4 overs (Md Shakeer 170 — 160b, 21x4, 3x6, Jyothi Sat Krishna 117 — 138b, 15x4, 2x6, Nishanth Yadav 58, K. Chandrasekaran 45) vs Galaxy 31/1 in 8 overs.

**MCC** 118 in 36.2 overs (K. Arjun Reddy 50 n.o., **Mohammed Babillai** 6/25 — 10-4-25-6) lost to Deccan Wanderers 120/1 in 19.1 overs (Kanthi Kiran 43). **Points:** Deccan Wanderers 5, MCC 0.

**New Blues** 423 in 83.4 overs (**P. Nikhil** 133 — 146b, 4x15, 6x6, Vipin Choudhary 36, Sumeet Joshi 87, Waseemuddin 42, K. Sri Harsha 4/104) vs Classic 53/1 in 8 overs.

**Mahabubnagar District** 263 in 72.4 overs (**David** 116 — 160b, 13x4, 2x6, Kishore 33, MD Shadab 31, Y. Chay 3/72) vs Yadav Dairy 22/1 in 15 overs.

**Sai Satya** 271 in 60.5 overs (**Jitesh Reddy** 45 n.o., **Subhajit Nag** 110 n.o. — 104b, 12x4, 3x6, **Ghazi Abbas** 5/91 — 18-2-91-5) vs Hyderabad Wanderers 71/1 in 23 overs.

**Green Turf** 290 in 55 overs (**Syed Afzal** 104 — 95b, 17x4, Guraram Sarika 92, Abdul Baqui 31, S. Vibgesh 4/43) vs Oxford Blues.

**Visaka** 307 in 77.5 overs (**P. Arjan Raj** 100 — 118b, 13x4, 3x6, Md Farees Shareef 63, A. Vigneshwar 53, Rithish Reddy 33, Shaik Sahl 4/56) vs Vijay Hanuman 23/0 in 6 overs.

**RJCC** 235 in 75 overs (Shrunnith Reddy 97, **B. Jayant Reddy** 5/18) vs Tirumala CC.

**New Star** 159 in 53 overs (Yash Raj 49, Mirza Mudassir Baig 39 n.o., **Nishant Reddy** 5/18) vs Tirumala CC.

**One-DAY LEAGUE** 53/1 in 30.4 overs (Arvind Shetty 43, D. Varun 3/23). **Points:** Canara Bank 5, Eklavaya 0.

**Azad CC** vs Kishoresons (Kishoresons did not turn up for the match, Azad CC claimed walkover). **Points:** Azad CC 5, Kishoresons 0.

**Sri Shyam CC** vs Medak District (Medak District did not turn up for the match, Sri Shyam claimed walkover). **Points:** Sri Shyam 5, Medak District 0.

**Decan Colts** 370/6 in 47 overs (Purina 77, Manoj Kumar 79, Tanvik 35, Vinod 55, Giribabu 38, Rahul 3/77) bt AB colony 104 in 30 overs (Nitin 31, Kamal 5/14).

**Lal Bahadur CC** 197 in 45 overs (Pranav 46, Chanda 46, Prem Sundar 4/31) bt Mahaveer CC 158 in 43.5 overs (Raheem 37, Sushil 3/28, Chanda 3/55).

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