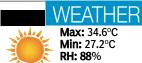
THE LARGEST CIRCULATED ENGLISH DAILY IN SOUTH INDIA VISAKHAPATNAM | MONDAY | 7 SEPTEMBER 2020



Rainfall: Trace Forecast: Drizzle. Max/Min temp. 34/27ºC



DEATHS CASES (+990)(+90,890)

42,00,366 71,663 covid19india.org STATE GOVERNMENT BULLETINS

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4,417

CASES AROUND THE WORLD

2,72,15,198 **DEATHS** 8,85,932

AP: 4,98,125

worldometers.info/ coronavirus

ASTROGUIDE

Sarvari; Dakshinayana Tithi: Bhadrapada Bahula Panchami till 9.38 pm Star: Bharani full day Varjyam: 4.11 pm to 5.59 pm **Durmuhurtam:** 12.38 pm to 1.27 pm; 3.05 pm to 3.54 pm Rahukalam: 7.30 am to 9 am **HIJRI CALENDAR** Muharram 18, 1442 AH

PRAYERS Fajar: 5.50 am **Zohar:** 1.30 pm **Asar:** 4.45 pm Maghrib: 6.15 pm

Isha: 8.15 pm **SUNSET** TODAY 6.06 PM **SUNRISE TOMORROW 5.44 AM MOONRISE** TOMORROW 9.27 PM **MOONSET** TODAY 9.37 AM



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IN BRIEF **Full refund for**

lockdown tickets

New Delhi: Full refund shall be provided by airlines immediately for tickets booked during the Covid-19 lockdow for domestic or international travel within the lockdown period, civil aviation regulator DGCA has proposed in the Supreme Court. For all other cases, the airlines shall make all endeavors to refund the collected amount within 15 days, the Director General of Civil Aviation said in an affidavit. The DGCA said that after various rounds of deliberations between the stakeholders including the airlines, they have arrived at a proposed workable solution.



NATION 4

BJD MP to get divorce from actress wife



S. UMAMAHESHWAR I DC

India on Sunday surpassed Brazil's Coronavirus tally

and is now behind only the

United States as far as

Covid-19 cases are concerned. The country has reported 90,890 new cases

on Sunday, taking its aggre-

gate case count to 42,00,366,

compared to Brazil's 41.23

With the Unlock 4 guide-

lines coming into effect from Monday, there could

be a further spurt in cases

as they allow large-scale

public transport systems

like Metro Rail to resume

and also let more people participate in social events.

tively crossed Brazil's fig-

ure on Saturday, the Latin

American country re-established its unenvious lead

on India later on as it came

out with its fresh numbers.

However, with the differ-

ence between India and

Brazil widening to 77,000,

India went out of reach for

Brazil, which has been

Though India had tenta-

lakh cases.

HYDERABAD, SEPT. 6

WORLD 5

• INDIA NOW has 15 per

THE COUNTRY went up

the ladder for Coronavirus

infections in spite of test-

ing six times fewer people compared to the US and

IF IT matched the test-

long been the world's num-

reporting a daily case addi-

tion of around 45,000 as against India's 85,000.

According to health econ-

omist Rijo M. John, India

now contributes about 30

per cent of daily cases

India now has 15 per cent

Coronavirus patients. The

country went up the ladder

for Coronavirus infections

in spite of testing six times

fewer people compared to

global

reported across the world.

the total

the US and Brazil.

ing metric of the US and

Brazil. India could have

ber one in Coronavirus

cent of the total global

Coronavirus patients.

Brazil.

infections.

Harris won't trust Don word on Covid vaccine SPORTS 6

If India were to match the

testing metric of the US and

Brazil, the country could have long been occupying

the world's number one in

A serosurvey in Pune con-

cluded that over half of its population would have

been contracted by the

virus. The survey in most

other cities indicated an

infection rate of over 20 per

cent. In Hyderabad, a study

showed that actual infected patients in the city could be

six times more than the

As many as 1,065 deaths

were reported in the past 24 hours, taking the total fatal-

ities in the country to 70.626

and is ranked third in the

world behind the US and

Brazil. The current Case

Fatality Rate in India is 1.72

per cent.
Though government offi-

cials have been quoting low death rates to deflect criti-

cism over ineffective han-

dling of Covid pandemic, a

report in the scientific jour-

nal *Lancet* expressed doubt

about the country's official

Coronavirus infections.

Chennai to take on Mumbai in opener

India overtakes Brazil in

Covid as Unlock 4 starts

30% of new virus cases reported worldwide from India



Covid-related death fig

According to official Union health ministry

data, India's recovery rate,

picked up. For the second

successive day, India clocked a record recovery

of more than 70.000 patients

in a single day. The total

numbers of recoveries have

reached nearly 32 lakh, tak-

ing the country's recovery

According to economist

Prof Shamika Ravi, Tamil

Nadu and Maharashtra

have been two of the largest

Covid-19 India hotspot

states since the beginning.

'Tamil Nadu is showing

stabilisation at 6,000 cases

daily, while Maharashtra is

still on exponential growth

— reporting higher daily

cases — now at 17,500 daily," she said. For several days now, AP has been

reporting over 10,000 cases

behind Maharashtra in the

daily caseload. On Sunday

23,350 cases and AP 10,794.

Maharashtra

day and stands just

rate to 77.32 per cent.

at the same

deccanchronicle.com, facebook.com/deccannews, twitter.com/deccanchronicle, google.com/+deccanchronicle

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Guarding skies



An IAF fighter jet flies over Ladakh amid the prolonged India-China stand off in the region on Sunday. Indian and Chinese militaries held another round of talks on Sunday to calm tensions as the situation remained "delicate" with both sides rushing additional troops and weapons after last week's confrontations.

India on alert along LoC as China uses proxy Pak

DC CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI, SEPT. 6

Following specific intelligence inputs that China could use Pakistan to trigger large-scale viola-tions along the border, the Border Security Force and the Army have been put on high alert along the international border and the Line of Control (LoC).
"We have specific

inputs that Pakistan could try and foment trouble along the borders. But we have taken adequate preventive measures and substantially increased our security presence along the Indo-Pak border," a senior BSF official said. India and China are

engaged in a four-month long tense military standoff in the Ladakh sector and tensions between the

 A SENIOR BSF official said they had specific inputs that Pakistan could try and foment trouble along the borders and have taken adequate precautions

two armies flared up again last week after India, in a preemptive move, occupied around two dozen peaks on the southern banks Tso Pangong Spanggur Gap.

Given the tense situation along the Indo-China border, there are intelligence inputs that in an attempt to divert the focus and attention of Indian security forces, China could use Pakistan to start an armed offensive along the border and LoC by violating cease-

Earlier, the home min- northern borders.

istry had increased the presence of forces along some parts of the Indo-China border, particularin Sikkim and

Uttarakhand.
Close to 100 companies or 10,000 personnel of para-military forces have been rushed to border areas. Most of the additional security companies that were deployed along Chinese borders are those that were pulled out of Jammu and Kashmir a couple of weeks back. Both ITBP and SSB have beefed up security in the Doklam region in Sikkim and Kalapani region in Uttarakhand following increased

Chinese activity.
CDS General Bipin
Rawat had on Thursday

said that Pakistan could try to take advantage of any threat along India's

60-yr-old temple chariot destroyed VADREVU SRINIVAS I DC during the Hindu month of Magha (February), the deities are carried in the The chariot of the ancient

Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy temple Antarvedi in Sakhinetipalli mandal of East Godavari district was gutted in a fire at about midnight of Saturday. It is said that the teakwood chariot was made 62 years ago, and stood 40-

After the celestial mar-

chariot at the head of a pro-According to sources, the

fire in the chariot woke up people in the neighbourhood who immediately called the fire department. The fire personnel rushed to the spot but the chariot was gutted by then.

sic and Clues teams to gath-

whether there was any foul play and pressed into service a dog squad to track any possible perpetrators of the act. Apart from a possible conspiracy, police is also examining whether

there was any other reason for the fire, like a short cir-It was said that some beggars were moving in the

vicinity of the temple. The police deployed foren-Page 2: Sangh members

MENTALLY-ILL MAN ARRESTED FOR FIRE

Kakinda, Sept. 6: A mentally disturbed person was picked up by police suspecting that he might have a role in setting fire to the chariot at Antarvedi of Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy temple, said East Godavari SP. — DC

Phase-II clinical

be known in two months and the reports would be sent to NLS and DRDO," said a senior doctor, who is part of the clinical tri-als. Dr Y. Gyana Sundar Raju, professor of general medicine, is the principal investigator of the study.

The state government last month had approved two clinical trials in

The second trial, part of phase-2 and 3, is a single

A team of experts from various departments are co-investigators for the studies. A notification will be issued calling for volunteers soon, a senior professor of AMC said.

Covaxin developed by Bharat Biotech and ICMR, is still pending with the Directorate of Medical Education.

LEGISLATORS TEST COVID +VE

MD ILYAS | DC

Three MLAs of ruling YSR Congress have con-Coronavirus. tracted One of the three — Pithapuram MLA Pendem Dorababu — has been airlifted to Bengaluru on Sunday after his condi-

Dorababu tested positive for Covid-19 on Saturday. He was admit-

Dorababu is the first MLA of AP to be shifted to a neighbouring state

Two other MLAs, who have been infected with Covid, are Dr. Tippeswamy of Madakasira and Meka Venkata Pratap Appa Rao of Nuzivid.

■ Page 3: Nuzvid MLA is

drug trial at KGH

K.M.P. PATNAIK I DC VISAKHAPATNAM, SEPT. 6

King George Hospital (KGH) began clinical trials of drugs developed by Navitas Life Sciences (NLS) in association with DRDO.

According to Dr P.V. Sudhakar, principal of Andhra Medical College and superintendent of KGH, this is a phase II clinical trial of the drug for the treatment of moderate to severe Covid-19

'The first results would

AMC and KGH according

to a communiqué issued by the Directorate of Medical Education.

blind randomised control study to determine the safety and immunogenicity of the Coronavirus vaccine developed by the Serum Institute of India. This study has the support of Indian Council for Medical Research, AMC and KGH and Dr B. Devi Madhavi, professor of community medicine, is principal investigator.

The approval for conducting clinical trials for

THREE YSRC

VIJAYAWADA, SEPT. 6

tion worsened.

ted to a private hospital in Kakinada. As his condition deteriorated, he was airlifted in a helicopter to Bengaluru.

for treatment.

STATUTE | CHECK Judgment gave permanence to Indian Constitution Seer behind defining verdict dead

Sept. 6: Kesavananda Bharati, 79, on whose petition the Supreme Court delivered the landmark judgement on the celebrated doctrine of basic structure of the Constitution, died here

on Sunday.
Police said Kesavananda
Bharati Sripadagalvaru
died at the Edaneer Mutt here due to age related ailments. "As per the information with us, he passed away at around 3.30 am on Sunday," police said. The case in which Bharati



principle that the Supreme

basic structure of the Constitution and the ver-dict involved 13 judges, the largest bench ever to sit in the apex court. While the seer did not get the relief he wanted, the

case became significant for its landmark judgment which clipped the widest power of Parliament to amend the Constitution and simultaneously gave judiciary the authority to review any amendment. Former Judge of Madras

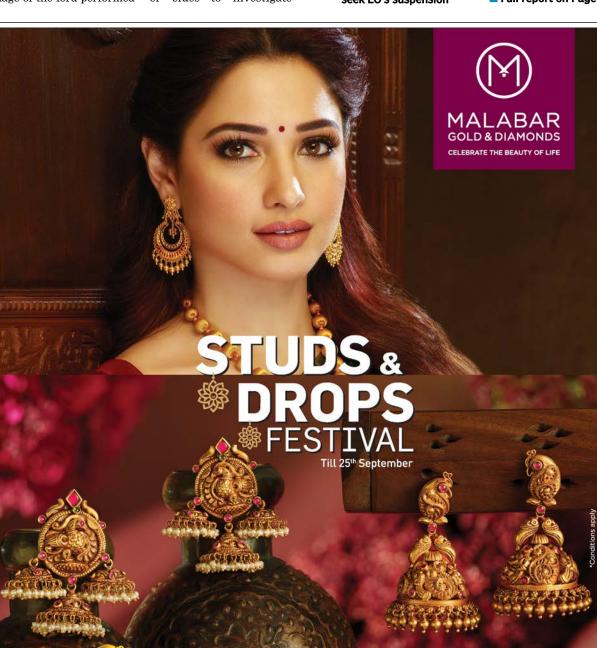
High Court Justice K

Court is the guardian of the

Chandru said: "The Kesavananda Bharati case is significant for its ruling that the Constitution can be amended but not the basic structure.

Senior Advocate Arvind P. Datar said when some parcels of land of the Edaneer Mutt were acquired under the land reform laws of Kerala, Bharati moved the Kerala High Court against it and partially succeeded.

■ Page 2: SC said Parliament can't emasculate Constitution



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SHORT TAKES

PARLIAMENT CANT EMASCULATE BASIC FEATURES

FROM PAGE 1

However, when the 29th Constitutional Amendment was adopted by Parliament giving protection to Kerala Supreme Court challenging it.

The apex court ruled that the 29th Amendment is valid and held that the two Kerala land Acts that were included in the Ninth Schedule are entitled to the protection of Article 31B of the (validation of certain acts and regulations) Constitution.

The verdict had held that though Parliament has power to amend under Article 368 of the Constitution, it did not have the power to emasculate its basic features.

The case of Kesavananda Bharati vs State of Kerala was heard for 68 days and continues to hold the top spot for the longest proceedings ever to have taken place in the top

The hearing in the case commenced on October 31, 1972, and concluded on March 23, 1973 and it's the most referred to case name in Indian Constitutional law.

'Kesavananda Swamiji, the seer of Edneer Mutt was a rare blend of philosopher, classical singer and a cultural icon. His patronage of Yakshagana was crucial in reviving this traditional theatre form in Karnataka. #Kesavananda-Bharati," Naidu tweeted. The Prime Minister said on

his twitter handle, "We will always remember Pujya Kesavananda Bharati Ji for his contributions towards community service and empowering the downtrodden. He was deeply attached to Indias rich culture and our great Constitution. He will continue to inspire generations. Om Shanti." -PTI

MAN, DAUGHTER **KILLED IN ROAD** ACCIDENT

DC CORRESPONDENT ISAKHAPATNAM, SEPT. 6

A 34-year-old man and his four-year-old daughter died on the spot when their two-wheeler was hit by a lorry from behind at Chodavaram road in Anakapalle mandal in Visakhapatnam district on Sunday morning. The man's wife escaped unhurt.

The deceased were identified as A. Raju and A. Hayathi, both residents of Malkapuram area and native of Madugula mandal.

According to reports, the incident reportedly occurred when the trio was heading to their native village. While Raju and Hayathi died on the spot, the wife of Raju escaped with minor injuries.

ONE SPILLWAY GATE LIFTED AT SRISAILAM

DC CORRESPONDENT KURNOOL, SEPT. 6

With rising water levelled in Krishna rivers, Tungabhadra Srisailam dam has opened one spillway gate on Sunday. Priyadarshini Jurala project on Krishna river is discharging 52,000 cusecs of water into the Srisailam reservoir while Sunkesula Barrage is letting out 4.345 cusecs of water. The dam received a total of 56.238 cusecs of water until Sunday evening.

The water level at Srisailam reservoir is measured at 884.9 feet against the total height of 885 feet. The quantum of water stored is 215.3263 TMC against its full capacity of 215

However, the dam officials released 96,567 cusecs of water including 28.029 cusecs to Nagarjunasagar by lifting seven crest gates so far.

Probe ordered into fire mishap

Authorities were probing whether the fire was the result of negligence or sabotage

VIJAYAWADA, SEPT. 6

government Sunday ordered a probe into the fire that destroyed

the chariot of the Antarvedi Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy and said a new chariot would be built to replace it.
Endowment minister
Velampalli Srinivas Rao
said that the fire was "very
sad and unfortunate" and

that endowment additional commissioner Ramchandra Mohan had been appointed to probe the incident. He warned of stern action if anyone was found to have set off the

Minister Rao on Sunday called up endowments commissioner P. Arjun Rao and district superintendent of police Adnan Nayeem Asmi over the

He added that the authorities were probing whether the fire was the result of negligence or sabotage. Officials of the endowments department have been asked to take steps for the construction of a new chariot.

Srinivas Rao sau social media campaign diversion of Srinivas Rao said the alleging diversion of endowment funds to the welfare department was false. He said funds were false. He said funds were directly sanctioned to the AP Brahmin Welfare Corporation by the government for YSR Pension Kanuka, Jagananna Vidya Deevena, YSR Vahana Mitra, Chedu, Netanna Mestham and other wal-Nestham and other welfare schemes.

The minister alleged that TD chief N. Chandrababu Naidu had demolished 40 temples during his tenure and gave the Vijayawada Kanakadurga temple lands to TD leaders on sim-ple lease in violation of

He alleged that Naidu had neglected Brahmin welfare and claimed that Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy gave priori-ty for the development of



The chariot of lord Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy temple in Antarvedi before and after it got fire in the early hours of Sunday in East Godavari district.

Minister Venu said that the new chariot would be made by the time of the celestial marriage of the Lord. He said that the incident has been taken to the notice of Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy and endowment minister V. Srinivas.

Endowment minister Velampalli said the social media campaign alleging diversion of endowment funds to the welfare department was false.

the community had sanctioned funds to the Brahmin Corporation. On other issues, he said that an ACB probe had been ordered into the illegalities registered at the risailam temple and a vigilance probe had been ordered the temple into Simhachalam

MD ILYAS

VIJAYAWADA, SEPT. 6

and Telugu Desam chief

N. Chandrababu Naidu on

Sunday slammed the

and resettlement (R&R)

package. He asked the gov-

ernment to explain how

the displaced families

could be expected to

vacate their villages with-

out getting compensation.

Mr Naidu alleged that

the authorities were forc-

ing over 2,369 families of

Tallapodduru village to

move out without first set-

tling their R&R package.

Alleging discrimination

in payment of compensa-

tion, the former $C\bar{M}$ said

only 500 families were

given rehabilitation pack-

age while the rest in the

He further suggested

that the authorities keep

in mind the danger posed

Coronavirus and restrain

from evicting the vil-

lagers

the public by

village were left out.

government for

Police pick up mentally ill person in chariot burning

DC CORRESPONDENT KAKINADA, SEPT. 6

A mentally disturbed person was picked up by police suspecting that he might have a role in setting fire to the chariot at Antarvedi of Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy tem-

East Godavari superintendent of police Adnan Nayeem Asmi told *Deccan* Chronicle that the man was moving under suspicious circumstances around the temple. He said that the police teams speeded up investigation to take into custody more

suspects.
The police are said to

Jana Sena leaders said that if the CC Cameras have functioned, the culprits would have found and they blamed the endowment department officials on the incident.

Peddapuram MLA Nimmakayala China Rajappa expressed shock and said that a detailed probe should be conducted into the incident.

have found a stick that might have touched a live prankster was trying to stir a beehive in a tree beside the chariot, causing short circuit and resultant burning of the chariot. BJP state presi-dent Somu Veerraju wrote a letter to Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy and expressed his anger over the burning of the chariot. He said that similar earlier incidents in temples were attributed to the acts of mentally ill

persons and demanded probe by a sitting High Court judge.

AP Archaka Samakhya state general secretary Agnihotram Atreyababu and organising secretary Peddinti Rambabu requested the endowments minister to provide protection

Sangh seeks EO's suspension

FROM PAGE 1

CCTV cameras were said to be not functioning at the spot, which led to reli-gious organisations to sus-pect the role of some endowment officials in the incident. East Godavari SP Adnan

Nayeem Asmi said wrong-doers would not be spared in the event that the fire was deliberately caused by

was defiberately caused by some persons. He said that as per the complaint lodged by the temple authorities, the Sakhinetipalli police had registered a case and were investigating. He said that investigating. He said that special teams had been formed to investigate the

fire.
BC welfare minister Ch. Srinivasa Venugopala Krishna, Amalapuram MP Chinta Anuradha, Razole MLA Rapaka Vara Prasad, East Godavari collector D. Muralidhar Reddy, SP Asmi, and others visited

Asmi, and others visited the spot on Sunday. Collector Muralidhar Reddy said that a commit-tee comprising the super-intendent of police, dis-trict fire officer, AP Transco superintendent engineer and other officials had been appointed to inquire into incident. The members of the RSS, Bajrang Dal and Vishwa Hindu Parishad took up an agitation in the temple premises and demanded the suspension of temple executive officer N.S. Chakram for the fire. They tried to drag him out of his office but were foiled by the police. They demanded that the government should make another chariot before the celestial celebrations of Lord Lakshmi Narasimha

Swamy. BJP and Jana Sena leaders visited the temple and

LORD RAMA AND ARJUNA TOOK DARSHAN AT SHRINE

VADREVU SRINIVAS | DC KAKINADA, SEPT. 6

The Lord Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy temple at Antarvedi, located on the sea shore of Sakhinetipalli mandal of East Godavari district, has a history that is believed to date back thousands of years. It is also among the

Swamy temples.

As per the Puranas, Lord
Rama, Goddess Sita and
Lakshmana took darshan of the Lord at the temple, as did Arjuna in

Dwaparayuga.

The temple is believed to have been built in 300 BC.
About 100 years ago, a fisherman, Koppanathi Krishnamma, donated thousands of acres of land to the temple. Devotees believe that Lord Narasimha Swamy would protect them from natural disasters. Others visit the temple, believing the Lord would keep away poverty and help them develop their businesses.

Former Gollapalli Surya Rao visited the temple after Sunday's chariot fire.

expressed their resentment at the incident. Ayyaji Vema, BJP Amalapuram parliament district president and former MLA, said the endowment department bed ment department had failed to keep away beggars in the vicinity of the temple as they are making use of Ganja and other

LEFT PARTIES THREATEN TO **SMASH AGRI SMART METERS**

CORRESPONDENT VIJAYAWADA, SEPT. 6

Communist parties are threatening to launch agitation in protest against the government's proposal to fix smart meters to agriculture pump sets under Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT). They have threatto smash the meters to be installed as part of pilot project in Srikakulam district.

CPI state secretary K. Ramakrishna said the move was against the policy of free power supply to farmers and warned that they would not allow commercialization of scheme.

A meeting was held here on Sunday to discuss the issue in which leaders of various political parties and organizations participated.

Mr Ramakrishna said that Left parties were strongly opposed to the DBT scheme and appealed to support them. Mr Ramakrishna said that the government should give up the idea of directly transferring cash to the accounts of farmers and should consider installing meters at the sub-sta-

Naidu demands rehabilitation TD demands explanation Former chief minister

DC CORRESPONDENT VIJAYAWADA, SEPT. 6

'harassing' evacuees of Gandikota project in Kadapa district by deny-ing them rehabilitation Leader of Opposition in AP Legislative Council, Ramakri-Yanamala shnudu on Sunday accused the Jagan Mohan Reddy government of having ulterior plans to impose an overall financial burden of ₹24,000 crore on the Discoms by not making required payments to them every year. He demanded the CM to explain why his regime has not yet cleared ₹4,802 crore dues to the Discoms in the very first year itself. He lamented that the YSRC government was not only destroying the power sector but also cutting the throats of farmers by installing smart meters on agricultural pump sets.

Mr Ramakrishnudu has suggested the YSRC regime check its default in payments to the power utilities before making allegations against the previous TD rule. He mentioned that the Discoms faced a deficit of ₹6,052 crore last year, but the government cleared just ₹1,250 crore leaving pending payments of ₹4,802 crore. He further men-

from Jagan on Discom dues TD SHEDDING CROCODILE TEARS **ON FARMERS' ISSUES, SAYS NANI**

Perni

DC CORRESPONDENT VIJAYAWADA, SEPT. 6 Appealing to the farmers not to fall prey to the false propaganda Chandrababu Naidu and vested interests, informaminister tion Venkataramaiah Nani said that Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy government will provide free power to the farmers and the smart meters are only to bring in accountability and transparency in to the sys-

Speaking to media here on Sunday, the Minister said, Chandrababu Naidu has ditched the farmers during his tenure, where he did not pay ₹970 crore to the farmers towards paddy procurement and the previous Telugu Desam government owed ₹8,000 crore to Discoms. Mr Nani claimed that

Mr Naidu has no moral right to speak on agriculture as he always considered it was a non-prof-

economy. He failed to waive the

He stated that though Chandrababu government had ordered for firing at agitators seeking roll back of power tariff hike at Basheebagh earlier, TD leaders are now shedding crocodile tears on farmissues to mislead

farming community.
Mr Nani clarified that the State government will not put any additional burden on farmers with the introduction of Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).

would be pushed into losses up to ₹24,000 crore, and

itable venture which does not contribute to the Stat

loans of farmers as promised but had only cleared a fraction of it which shows his intent and he speaking for farmers' cause was futile.

tioned that the Discoms all this burden would have to be borne by the next

Land-grabbers arrested in Vizag

K.M.P. PATNAIK I DC

The city police restored another stretch of land to its rightful owner and arrested six persons accused of land grabbing.

arrested persons as Jami Satya Ravi Kishore, Ganta Ravi Kishore, Pilla Pothina Ramu, Yallavamma. Pothina Potnuri Narasa-yamma Yeddipilli Paidikonda, all belonging

The police identified the

to Visakhapatnam city.
Giving details of the case, ACP (north), A. Ravi Shankar Reddy, said Datti Laxmanarao, from Venkatarajapuram, ammapeta, Vizianagaram said he and two others purchased 1146.13 square yards and another bit of land measuring 125.86 square yards, covered in survev number No. 249/10, Durg-anagar, Madhura-wada, Visakha-patnam by way of registered sale deeds.

They purchased the land from Dhanaraj Kalyani in 2003 and later constructed a compound wall. Since then, they have been in peaceful possession of property, paying property taxes.

He said the accused persons created a fraudulent and forged document and executed a deed of parti-

THE ACCUSED trespassed on the property, damaged part of the compound wall and constructed a thatched shed.

THE MAIN ACCUSED in the case, Kishore, erected a board of ownership and emplo-yed some labour to keep watch on the board.

tion into five unequal shares to an extent of 2,323 square yards and got it registered at a sub-regoffice istrar's Dwarakanagar Visakhapatnam.

The accused trespassed on the property, damaged part of the compound wall and constructed a thatched shed. The main accused in the case, Kishore, erected a board of ownership and employed some labour to keep watch on the board.

The ACP said that after investigation, all the six persons were arrested and remanded to the court for judicial cus-

He said a close watch has been kept on landgrabbing activities and legal action will be initiagainst those ated involved in grabbing government or private lands.

COUNTER | CLAIM Rankings worked out through a survey during January and February 2020: Minister TD takes credit for EoDB rank, YSRC dismisses claim

MD ILYAS | DC VIJAYAWADA, SEPT. 6

The opposition Telugu Desam and ruling YSR Congress claimed the credit for the top rank secured by the state in Ease of Doing Business (EoDB).

Soon after the Union finance ministry announced the nation-wide rankings, TD leaders were quick to claim that the honour was the fruit of the hard work done by the previous Chandrababu Naidu govern-

ment. Countering the opposition claim, the ruling party said the top EoDB rank was testimony to the excellent performance and recognition for Chief Minister Jagan Mohan Reddy's government.

Leader of opposition in the Legislative Council Yanamala Ramakrishnudu termed it as a shame on the part of the YSRC government to claim the credit for the EoDB top rank achieved by the state even though Aayog's

Minister for industries Mekapati Gautam Reddy was of the view that the top rank represented the ease of doing business in the state with increased transparency, efficiency and effectiveness of the government regulatory functions

Preparedness Index gave AP 20th place reflecting poor performance of the Jagan government. He asserted that the EoDB first rank was the result of vious TD's rule. earlier TD government's "The same Mr performance. TD national general secre-

tary and MLC Nara Lokesh criticised Mr Jagan for 'hanging his stand' on EoDB after coming to power. He said Jagan called those who gave EoDB top rank to AP unwise and stupid, but after becoming CM. he swallowed his pride and boasting about the top rank as an achievement of his government though it was actually a progress report on the pre-

"The same Mr Jagan who once spread lies that not a single job was created during the Chandrababu Naidu regime was now forced to accept the fact that over 39,450 industries and 5.13 lakh jobs were created during the previous government," the TD MLC said.

Former state Planning Board vice chairman Ch. Kutumba Rao echoed the sentiments of Mr Lokesh. Minister for industries Mekapati Gautam Reddy

was of the view that the top rank represented the ease of doing business in the state with increased transparency, efficiency and effectiveness of the government regulatory functions. These rankings worked out through a survey of the investor community during January and February 2020 truly stood testimony to the investor-friendly commitment of the state and transparent governance, the minister said and dismissed the TD claim.

DROP PLANS TO HIKE TAXES IN **URBAN AREAS, URGES APUCF** DC CORRESPONDENT

VIJAYAWADA, SEPT. 6

Urban Citizen Federation has opposed proposed hike in taxes in urban and municipal

Federation convener Ch. Babu Rao said that the Congress government already increased professional tax, registration and user charges for various services and now proposed to raise taxes in municipal and urban areas which would put additional financial bur- dropped.

den on 1.50 crore people in the state. He said that municipalities were acting like busi-

ness organisations imposing burden on people by collecting user charges for garbage lifting, drinking water supply, etc. The government increased registration fee in towns increased ignoring the fact that the Covid-19 pandemic dealt a deadly blow to financial position of the people, he said and demanded that the proposal to raise taxes

IN BRIEF

Free yoga training for Tirupati public

Tirupati: With an aim to strengthen one's immunity and beat the severe acute respiratory syndrome illness, caused by Covid-19, the Municipal Corporation of Tirupati (MCT)

has launched a free yoga training program for city residents here on Sunday. The corporation has collaborated with Chittoor District Yoga Association for the training programme and professional yoga trainers were

involved to conduct the programme at the open auditorium in Prakasam park. Along with the over 150 city residents, municipal commissioner P.S. Girisha also participated in the training session, led by District

Yoga Association president Srinivasulu Naidu and practised different basic yoga asanas. The Commissioner said that the free yoga training program has been started with an aim to prevent the spread of Covid-19 by educating people and creating awareness among them.

Withdraw decision to fix metres: CPM

Rajahmundry: The CPM Rajahmundry unit demanded the state government to withdraw GO No. 22 on fixing agri smart metres to farmers pumpsets. Addressing the party activists at the CPM district committee meeting here on Sunday, CPM Rajahmundry unit secretary T. Arun Kumar said that the merging the free power scheme with the cash transfer system and fixing of agri smart metres will become a curse to the farmers in the future. When the people are facing hardships due to Covid-19 crisis, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is trying to burden the people in the name of reforms. He criticised Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy for not making any effort to bring funds from the Union government. He sugggested the

the Union government rather than thinking of fixing agri smart metres. All the opposition parties in AP have been opposing the merger of the free power scheme with the fund transfer scheme and fixing of metes to the farmers pumpsets.

Chief Minister to focus on col-

lecting the dues and funds from

Covid cases touch 5L

AP registers 70 new deaths in the last 24 hours

MD ILYAS | DC VIJAYAWADA, SEPT. 6

Registration of above 10,000 Covid-19 positive cases per day in Andhra Pradesh continued on the 11th consecutive day on Sunday with registration of 10,794 new virus cases during the past 24 hours.

With this, the total number of Coronavirus cases in AP has reached 4,98,125 on Sunday among which 99,1689 are active cases, 3,94,019 patients recovered patients have died.

Among all the districts in Andhra Pradesh, East Godavari is at the top in registering the highest number of Covid-19 cases. The single-day highest cases on Sunday have, however, been reported from Nellore district.

The state registered as many 70 new deaths during the past 24 hours. The

highest number of nine deaths have been reported from Chittoor district, followed by eight each in Anantapur, Guntur and Prakasam, seven in Kadapa, five each in West Godavari, East Godavari and Visakhapatnam, four each in Krishna, Kurnool Nellore, two in Srikakulam and one death

in Vizianagaram district. As many as 72,573 Coronavirus tests have been conducted in the past 24-hours. 10,794 of them turned out positive. AP has so far tested a total of 4,10,780 samples

for Coronavirus and is at the top place in the country in conducting of Covid-19 tests. As many as 11,915 patients have recovered from Coronavirus in the

charged from various hospitals in the state. The single day highest

past 24 hours and dis-

itive cases have been registered in Srikakulam disnumber of 1,299 Covid-19 cases has been registered in Nellore district in the trict, increasing the total positive cases to 27,984 in past 24-hours, increasing the total to 37,278 in which which 7,065 are active 6,673 are active cases. The second highest number of

Anantapur registered 753 new positive cases in the past 24 hours, increasing the total positive cases trict, increasing the total to 45,300 in which 6,020 are to 66,948 in which 14.454 are active cases. West Godavari district is in the active cases. 703 new Corona positive cases third place registering 1,101 new positive cases, increasing the total posihave been registered in Guntur district, increasing the total positive cases tive cases to 42,903 in to 40,135 in which 7597 are which 2,832 are active cases. Chittoor district registered 927 new Corona active cases. 593 new Corona positive cases have been registered in Vizianagaram district. 24 hours, increasing total increasing the total posipositive cases to 42,561 in tive cases to 23,911 in which 8,979 are active which 8,876 are active cases. 904 new Corona poscases. 573 new Corona positive cases have been registered in Kadapa district, istered in Visakhapatnam district, increasing the tive cases to 31,481 in total positive cases to which 8.052 were active 40,787 in which 6,503 are cases, 818 new Corona pos-

Woman Covid patient dies by suicide at Nellore GGH

AVINASH P. SUBRAMANYAM | DC TIRUPATI, SEPT. 6

A 60-year-old woman, who was undergoing treat-ment for Covid-19 at the Government General Hospital in Nellore, allegedly died by suicide early on Sunday morning.

The incident has sent shock waves among patients and staff of the GGH. The woman's son has, however, has lodged a complaint at Dargamitta Police Station seeking a probe into her death.

According to Dargamitta circle inspector Nageswaramma, the victim, a resident of Municipal Quarters at Kondadibba in Mulapeta area of Nellore city, was admitted to a private hospital in Nellore on

■ HER SON Ganesh, in his complaint, stated that his mother had complained of frequent vomiting since her admission to the ward. She called him on Friday night and told him that she was not feeling well, as she had vomited several

September 1 for some ailment. Next day, the private hospital asked her to get a Coronavirus test done at Nellore GGH after she showed some symptoms of the virus.

She tested positive on September 3 and was admitted to the isolation ward in GGH.

Her son Ganesh, in his complaint, stated that his mother had complained of frequent vomiting since her admission to the ward. She called him on Friday night and told him that she was not feeling well, as she had vomited

several times. On Sunday, at around 4.30 am, Ganesh got a phone call from a woman, believed to be another patient in the isolation ward, informing him that his mother's body has

been found on the second floor of GGH.

The son immediately rushed to the hospital and saw his mother's body.

He lodged a complaint with the police stating that he was suspicious about her death and demanded a probe. Dargamitta police have registered a case with crime number 397/2020 under section 174 CrPC. Investigation is underway.

16-YEAR-OLD **DROWNS IN PENNA**

DC CORRESPONDENT KADAPA, SEPT. 6

A sixteen-year-old boy Ranjith from Proddutur Rameswaram drowned Penna river

Sunday morning. He, along with his friends, went to Penna for swimming but was carried away after entering the water.

The fire department recovered his body. The officers alerted the

people living near the river not to enter into the waters for a few days. This morning, water was released to Penna river from Mylavaram reservoir and the flow is which drowning could

Beach side story



1,244 cases has been regis-

tered in East Godavari dis-

positive cases in the past

itive cases have been reg-

increasing the total posi-

People visit the Beach road neglecting the Covid-19 protocol in Visakhapatnam on - K. MÜRALIKRISHNA

Nuzvid MLA in quarantine in Hyd

From Page 1

MLA Pratap had been actively involved in public events since the past five months and tested positive two days ago. He has, however, maintained that he is in good health and is currently under quarantine in

Hyderabad. CM Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy called Tippeswamy and inquired about his health condition. The CM has wished speedy

recovery for Pratap and Dorababu too. According to sources, Dorababu's relatives run a hospital in Bengaluru. After they came to know that he was suffering from Covid-19, they decided to airlift him to their hospital in the neighbouring state. The

MLA obtained a "No

Objection Certificate'

ities before he was airlifted to Bengaluru. Two of his family members accompanied him in the same helicopter. His followers also gathered at the Police Grounds and gave him a send-off. Meanwhile, Polavaram

from the district author-

MLA T. Balaraju has also fallen ill and has isolated himself at his home. Deputy Chief Minister

Kalikrishna Alla Srinivas (Nani), who holds the Medical and Health portfolio, said Balaraju had strived hard during the recent floods and had fallen ill. He has been advised rest at home. The Deputy CM wished speedy recovery for Balaraju.

Earlier, a dozen YSRC MLAs had contracted Coronavirus They have all undergone treatment and recovered

3 SPECIAL TRAINS TO CLEAR RUSH

Visakhapatnam: The railways launched three special trains that will have stoppages in Visakhapatnam. The Visakhapatnam-Korba train will leave daily from September 12 from Vizag at 8.05 pm and in return direction, the train will start at 4.10 from Korba on September 13. The Tiruchchira-palli-Howrah-Tiruchchirapalli will leave Tiruchchirapalli at 4.20 pm every Tuesday and Friday from September 15.



W/o.Late. Rev. Perumalla Christopher DOB 13-08-1956 DOD 05-09-2020 Funeral was done at New Bhoiguda CSI Cemetery, 3 P.M. on 06-09-2020. Memorial Service on 07-09-2020 at Holy Cross Convent Hall Beside residence, 7.00pm H.No: 6-1-295/5A, PadmaRaoNagar, Secunderabad

Inserted by: FAMILY MEMBERS

Ph: 9705310008, 9951412008, 9701006123

2 more rest houses converted to CCC

DC CORRESPONDENT TIRUPATI, SEPT. 6

Chittoor district administration has converted two more TTD rest houses – Sri Govindaraja Swamy and Sri Kodandarama Covid care centres and enhanced the overall bedstrength to 5,200. Tirupati MLA Bhumana Karunakar Reddy, collector Bharat Gupta, SP Ramesh Reddy inaugurated the facilities here on Sunday.

Speaking to mediapersons, MLA Mr Bhumana said, in view of possible spike in the Covid-19 cases due to the arrival of Tamil Nadu based pilgrims to the city during the auspicious Peratasi month, I have requested the TTD administration to cancel the issuance of time slotted

NAGESWARA RAO

The National Highways

Authority of India (NHAI)

is preparing a detailed proj-

ect report for the construc-

tion of a new four-lane high-

way from Kadapa to

The central government

has approved the construc-tion of a new greenfield express highway connect-ing Kadapa and Chittoor

districts. It is learnt that in

addition to widening the

existing two-lane road only

in a few places, new road construction will be given

In addition to the accident-

free road construction, the

new road is designed to

greatly reduce travel time.

Traffic congestion on this

road was surveyed between

2016 and 2018. It was found

that more than 20,000 vehi-

cles were moving per day.

route, which was originally

an inter-district highway,

was identified as NH-716

two years ago. The present

two-lane road has many

curves, turns. Accidents

Kadapa-Renigunta

BALLEDA I DC

KADAPA, SEPT. 6

Tirupati.

high priority.

Kadapa-Tirupati

Tirupati, though several pilgrims were disappointed with this decision.

MLAappealed to the denizens to get treatment in government hospitals for free of cost instead of spending huge amounts by going to corporate hospitals. Mr maintained that he had availed treatment in staterun Ruia hospital after he got infected with the virus. Collector Dr Narayana Bharath Gupta said that

they had increased the number of beds from up to 5200 with the support of Covid-19 co-ordination com mittee in the district. The collector advised

patients who are not having tion, to admit at the government hospitals treatment.

2 Mee Seva operators

major breakthrough, pathri police busted a five-member

The police identified the gang fabricated at least 800 records in since January.

It is suspected the Mee Seva organisers in many parts of the state are involved in fudging the details of people using

Rural police arrested a gang of five for changing details on Aadhaar cards

through illegal methods. The SP said that the gang was involved in the activity for last 8 months.

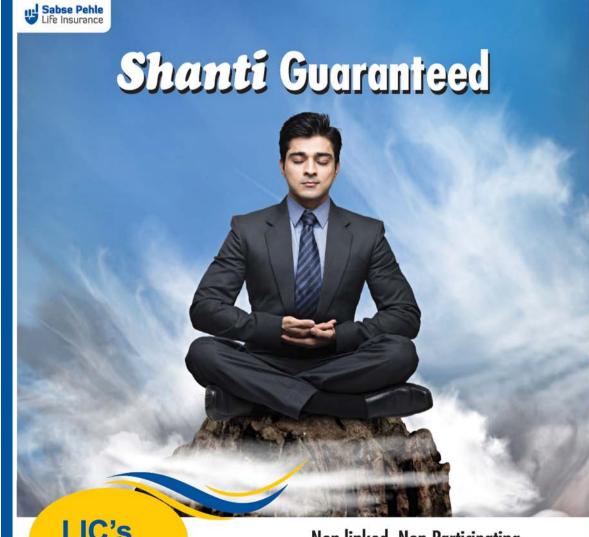
The gang was collecting huge amounts from the people to change their details on the cards and make them eligible

Four laptops, four keyboards, four mikes, two iris scanners, one xerox machine, paper cutter, four biometric devices, Mee Seva key pen drive, laminator, printer, 3 color printers and oth-

held for fudging cards

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for government schemes, mainly YSR Cheyutha and old age pensions.



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Zindagi ke saath bhi, Zindagi ke baad bhi.

SOMETHING? highway underway often occur due to non-visi-bility of upcoming vehicles

due to the hilly terrain. Following the orders of the central government, the NHAI is proposing a new greenfield express way from Kadapa to Renigunta which is expected to be complete

From there to Renigunta, it is about 20 kilometers. A new four-lane road is being proposed on the other Mumbai-Chennai railway

by 2024-25. It is 117.6 km

from Kadapa to the district

border, Kukkaladoddi area.

For this, 446 hectares of land will be acquired in the district. A toll plaza will be set up at the existing two-lane road from the ring road junction to Kadapa General Hospital to

Bhakarapeta. A high flyover bridge will be constructed to cross the Chennai-Mumbai railway

line from Bhakarapeta. The cost of the highay is estimated to be ₹3,000 crore is to be estimated. A total of 446 hectares of land to be acquired for the construction of this highway in Kadapa district.

HOSKOTE NAGA BHUSHANAM | DC Anantapur SP Satya Esubabu said Tadipatri

including two Mee Seva fabricating of Unique ID records by using fake Pan cards, making them eligible to get govern-ment schemes like YSR Cheyutha.

Aadhar card details by collecting hefty amounts from people in Guntakal and Tadipathri areas

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ers were seized.

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AMBULANCE DRIVER HELD FOR RAPE OF PATIENT

Pathanamthitta, Sept. 6: A 19-year-old woman Covid-19 patient was allegedly raped by an ambulance driver while shifting her to a first line treatment centre near here, police

Taking note of it, the state women's commission registered a case on its own into the incident, which drew wide condemnation from the Opposition Congress and BJP, even as health minister K.K. Shailaja said strict instructions had been given to take strong action against the cul-

prit.
"This is an unfortunate incident. We have given strict directions to take strong action against the culprit," she said in Thiruvananthapuram.

The ambulance Noufal (29) was taken into custody on Sunday based on a complaint by the victim's mother to the hospital authorities and the police.

UJJAIN TEMPLE TO OFFER 'PURE MILK' TO STATUE

RABINDRA NATH CHOUDHURY I DC BHOPAL, SEPT. 6

ancient shrine Mahakaleswar in Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh is planning to raise cows to meet the demand for milk in the wake of the recent directive by the Supreme Court to offer only pure milk to the jyotirlinga in

the temple.

The temple administration is working out a plan to procure 150 Gir cows and to raise them in the shrine to make their milk available to the devotees to offer to the jyotirlinga, worshipped in the sanctum sanctorum of the eighteenth-century shrine.

'The temple administration is mulling over procuring Gir cows, a famous breed in India. to raise them in the gaushala or cowshed of the temple to meet the demand for pure milk in the shrine," temple administrator, S.S. Rawat, told this

newspaper on Sunday.
According to him, around 1,000 litres of milk is being offered to the jyotirlinga by

devotees every day.

The temple can build its captive reserve of pure milk to make it available to the devotees by raising the cattle breed, a senior temple admin-

GANJA SMUGGLERS THRASH HOME **GUARD TO DEATH**

AKSHAYA KUMAR SAHOO | DC

A home guard died after allegedly being thrashed by a group of ganja smugglers near Chaulimendi under Balimela police limits in Odisha's Malkangiri district on Sunday.

According to reports, more than 100 persons disguised as kanwariyas were carrying the contraband using slings.

Acting on a tip-off, the police on Saturday night intercepted them near Chaulimendi for

The accused attacked the cops, during which home guard Banabasi Maharana was grievously injured. The accused fled the spot after assaulting the cops.

The victim was rescued and rushed to the Mathili Hospital, where he succumbed to his injuries on Sunday morning while undergoing treatment.

SHEIKH HASINA **PAYS TRIBUTE TO MUKHERJEE**

6: Prime Dhaka. Sept. Minister Sheikh Hasina on Sunday paid rich tributes to former president Pranab Mukherjee and said he was a true friend of Bangladesh, as the country's Parliament adopted a condo-

lence motion over his death. He was a true friend of Bangladesh since our 1971 Liberation War, Hasina told the maiden session of Parliament called for the secsession of ond time since the outbreak of

the Covid-19 pandemic. The country's Parliament adopted a condolence motion to mourn the demise of Mukherjee and several distinguished Bangladeshis who

died recently. Mukherjee, 84, died on Monday in New Delhi follow-ing a 21-day battle with multi-

ple ailments. The former president was cremated with full state honours on Tuesday.

TA battalions deployed along LAC

TA units are in addition to 2 Mountain Divisions from Bareilly, HP-Ladakh Scouts, SFF

VIKRAM SHARMA I DC

With situation along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh hotting up leading to massive deployment of forces — especially those well-versed with the art of sur-vival in inhospitable terrains and harsh weather and fight the enemy -Territorial Army (TA) battalions, comprising people from Ladakh are the latest addition in the troop deployment at strategic points to thwart any designs of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) of China. The TA had played a key role alongside the Army in the 1962, 1965 and

1971 wars.
The TA units, sent The TA units, sent recently to the strategic heights to assist the Army, are in addition to the deployment of two Mountain Divisions from Bareilly and Himachal Pradesh — Ladakh Scouts, Special Frontier Force Special Frontier Force besides the existing three divisions of 14 Corps apart from the Indian Air Force making it the first of its kind deployment at the LAC, post the 1962 Sino-

• TERRITORIAL ARMY is a unique concept wherein any citizen can join the force while continuing with their main profession and serve the Army when required.

India war. Each division has between 17,000 and 20,000 soldiers. Recently, the Army has put on hold the premature retirement of thousands of JCOs and jawans, who have been asked to be ready for deployment at

notice.

The TA shot to prominence after cricket stars like Kapil Dev, M.S. Dhoni, Rajasthan Deputy Chief Minister Sachin Pilot and some from the South Indian film industry joined the force and under-

went training.
Sources told Deccan
Chronicle that the "home
and hearth" units of the TA, which was raised on the concept of the "son of the soil," is coming in handy at this crucial time. The soldiers in this force are locals who are wellversed with the terrain and geography of the area

and have the required survival skills. During peace time, these units, though well-trained, are used for mundane tasks within Army establishments.

While the TA has been supporting the Army in carrying out anti-insur-gency operations in Jammu and Kashmir, this would be the first time that they have been given bigger operational roles in the ongoing stand-off with the PLA. Known as the 'citizen's Army' wherein any citizen can volunteer to join the TA and serve the Army when required, the TA units form the second line of defence.

"Since the unit comprises Ladakhis, who are tough, intelligent and know the region like the back of their hand, it was decided to deploy them at various heights," sources

Raised in October 1949, the size and task of TA has increased manifold over the years. It now has a strength of about 45,000 and sources said there are major plans in the pipeline to further make the TA strong and give bigger

Govt to improve livelihood of those living on borders

MANOJ ANAND | DC GUWAHATI, SEPT. 6

Amid escalating border tension with China, the Government of India has embarked upon an ambitious multi-pronged strategy to strengthen the border management along the international border with China by launching schemes aimed at improving the standard of living of people in those areas where they can become important stakeholders in border management.

The secretary of the border management wing of the ministry of home affairs Sanjeeva Kumar visited Ladakh to monitor the implementation of the horder area development scheme along the border with China. Authoritative security sources in the ministry of home affairs told this newspaper that the ministry has asked

respective state governments and union territories to prepare the schemes in consultation with the border guarding forces and submit it to the border management wing of the Ministry of Home Affairs

Pointing out that improving road connectivity is the key component of the scheme, security sources said that the ministry has already started massive exercise to improve the connectivity along the international border with Stressing the need for

augmenting connectivity along the China border under the present circumstances security sources said that several road projects are at various stages implementation. Creation of border outposts is another key component of the scheme.

Infrastructure develop-

ment from zero to ten kilometres from the internaority under the border areas development scheme, security sources said adding that adequate funds are being pumped in for speedy implementation of the schemes submitted by the state governments.

Informing that the gov-ernment of Arunachal Pradesh, which has a long international border with China, is doing a good job in improving infrastructure along the international border with the funds provided by the ministry, security sources said that senior officers are in constant touch with the chief secretaries of the border states and a team of senior headed officers Sanjeeva

Management, has also been monitoring the execution of the schemes.

THACKERAY GETS THREATENING CALL, SECURITY BEEFED UP

Mumbai, Sept. 6: An unidentified man allege-dly called up Mahara-shtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray's personal residence 'Matoshree' in Bandra here, saying that he was calling from Dubai on behalf of fugitive underworld don Dawood Ibrahim, a police official said on Sunday.

The caller rang up twice around 10.30 pm on Saturday, following which the police beefed up security at Thackeray's bungalow located in Kalanagar Colony, the official said. "Someone called up on

'Matoshree' phone number two times on Saturday night and said Dawood Ibrahim wanted to talk to the CM. However, the telephone operator did not transfer the call to the CM," the official

"The caller did not reveal his identity, but only said that he was calling from Dubai on behalf of Dawood Ibrahim. Both the calls were received around 10.30 pm," he added. — *PTI*

Offering prayers



Devotees offer prayers at the Hazrat Nizamuddin Dargah after it reopened in New Delhi on Sunday, during Unlock 4.0. Union minister for minority affairs Mukhtar Abbas Nagvi was among the people who paid obeisance to Sufi saint at Hazrat Nizamuddin Aulia .

K'TAKA LABOUR **MANTRI TESTS +VE FOR COVID**

Bengaluru, Sept. 6: Karnataka Labour Minister A. Shivaram Hebbar on Sunday said he and his wife have tested positive for the Covid-19 and would be under treatment in their home itself being asymptomatic.

"Me and my wife underwent Covid-19 test and have been found positive for the virus. Since there are no symptoms of Covid-19, we decided to remain in home quarantine on doctors' advice and are getting treatment at home," Hebbar tweeted.

Rahul slams govt for 'faulty GST'

DC CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI, SEPT. 6

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi lashed out at the centre over the contraction of the economy and linked it with a 'faulty GST'. "Another big reason for record GDP contraction is Modi government's Gabbar Singh Tax (GST). Many have been badly affected by this - lakhs of poor families, crores lost their jobs, states' economy was affected (sic)," he said in a post on Twitter.

In a video, which he shared with the post, the former Congress president is heard saying: "GST

was the second biggest attack on the unorganised sector. GST was UPA's idea one tax, intended to simplify the system. NDA's GST was different

— four different types of tax slabs, up to 28 per cent tax, it has become complicated. Small enterprises cannot pay this amount. These four slabs are only meant to help the privileged, the country's most powerful businessmen in the country."
He added: "NDA's GST

has left states at receiving end. Centre is not able to pay the states. The GST is not just a failure, it's an attack on poor." In the last leader

couple of days, the Congress leader has been doing a series of videos attacking the government over its policies. In his third video of the

four-part series, he also accused the government of allowing 15-20 businessmen of having the reach to manipulate the tax payment and farmers, labourers and small businesses of not having similar

leverage. Meanwhile, the Bharatiya Janata Party on Sunday hit back saying "a little knowledge is a dangerous thing" and asked when will the Congress stop

Reminding the former Congress president that he had to once "apologise' to the Supreme Court for one of his lies, the ruling party claimed that the Congress leader wants to have a tax regime where airplane and slippers are taxed same and essential commodities and services which have no tax are brought under the tax

The BJP has claimed that the contraction in the GDP was from April to June when the country was under complete lockdown and barring essential services there was no economic activity.

in Sushant case DC CORRESPONDENT MUMBAI, SEPT. 6

NCB grill Rhea

The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) on Sunday grilled actor Rhea Chakraborty from noon to evening in connection with the drugs case pertaining to Sushant Singh Rajput's suicide. The central agency summoned her early in the day adhering to which she appeared at the agency's office in Ballard Estate, South Mumbai. The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), who is probing the suicide to ascertain the motive behind the actor's extreme step, meanwhile grilled the late actor's sister Neetu at the DRDO guesthouse on Sunday, where the visiting team

has set up their base.
The NCB officials
grilled Rhea on the lines of the disclosures made by her brother Showik, Raiput's former house Samuel manager Miranda and arrested drug peddler Abdul Basit Parihar. While the probe has revealed that Parihar supplied drugs and Showik facilitated its procurement, the latter has claimed to have done that at the behest of his sister Rhea, a claim made by househelp Dipesh Sawant

too in his statement. The agency was also provided with the chats and text messages exchanged between Rhea and other suspects in which they discussed the procurement of narcotics, by the Enforcement Directorate (ED), which is probing the alleged money laundering involved in the suicide. The NCB used these premises to summon Rhea to question her on the procurement, consumption and peddling of

narcotics. "Rhea kept denying the charges despite being put up with relevant material supporting it. She may be confronted with other arrested accused as a part of the investigation," said an officer privy to the outprescription.

NCB RAIDS B'LURU **CORPORATOR'S HOUSE FOR SON**

VINAY MADHAV I DC BENGALURU, SEPT. 6

While the Bengaluru police are busy with the Sandalwood drug link case, the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) raided the house of a Bengaluru corporator in connection with drug racket involving suicide of actor Sushant Singh

The NCB raided the house of Mahalak-shmipura ward corporator, Keshavamurthy, who belongs to the Congress, in search of son Yashas, who is said to be involved in drug supply Mumbai celebrities.

According to regional officers, they had issued a notice to Yashas on September 2, to appear before NCB officials in Mumbai. His name cropped up when the NCB was investigating the drug angle in Bollywood. One of the accused, Mohammed, mentioned Yashas' name. Yashas was in contact

with Mohammed and was organising parties in Goa and Mumbai. He has close contacts with Hindi film actors. The NCB had asked Yashas to appear before them September 7.

investigation.

Sawant was produced before the holiday court on Sunday that remanded him to the NCB custody for further investigation. The officials said that he has also stated that he saw Rajput smoking up while he worked there.

The CBI's confrontation was on the lines of her and other family members knowing of the dead actor's psychological condition and allegedly suggesting medication with-

MARITAL I DISPUTE Varsha reportedly stayed with her husband only 18 months Mohanty filed divorce petition: Lawyer

AKSHAYA KUMAR SAHOO I DC

BHUBANESWAR, SEPT. 6

The controversy surrounding BJD MP, Mohanty, allegedly harassing his actress wife Varsha Priyadarshini, took a new twist on Sunday after the lawmaker's legal counsel informed the media that his client has filed a divorce petition in the court of principal judge, Family Court, Patiala House, New Delhi, seeking

"My client has filed a

Section 13 (i)(a) of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 on the grounds that the marriage between the two has never been consummated and as such no child was born. Though the couple got married on February 8, 2014, Varsha stayed with her husband only for 18 months. The married life was full of cruelty, tyranny, misery, harassment and suffering for Anubhav and his family members," Ashwini Dubey, the legal counsel of the lawmaker, told a local television channel here

Delhi.
In his divorce petition, a copy of which is with this newspaper, the respondent (Priydarshini) fears the pain while thinking about having sexual intercourse. As such, she never allowed the petitioner (Anubhav) to consummate their marriage. Whenever the petitioner tried to even touch the respondent, she never allowed it. This behaviour made the petitioner uncomfortable and unhappy. The petitioner never felt he was married as the respondent never gave

over the telephone from him the pleasure of being married, reads the peti-

> The petition says that the respondent did not allow the petitioner to establish a physical relationship on their first night after marriage and clearly told the petitioner that she is going to take three-four months to get comfortable and would allow physical relations only then. The petitioner appreciated the feelings of the respondent and gave her time to become comfortable.

> content Anubhav's divorce is in

sharp contrast with the allegations levelled by Varsha.

In a petition filed before the sub-divisional judicial magistrate court, Čuttack Anubhav with domestic

violence. The actress, while accusing Anubhav of being an alcoholic, has said that though she insisted on a child, the actor did not show any interest.

Varsha has demanded a monthly maintenance and an indemnity of ₹15 crore from her actor-turned-lawmaker husband

AHEAD OF POLLS, BJP RELEASES POSTER SEEKING JUSTICE FOR SSR

NAYEAR AZAD I DC PATNA, SEPT. 6

A BJP poster campaign

seeking justice for actor Sushant Singh Rajput, has created a flutter in poll-bound Bihar. Opposition parties are of the view that posters

and pamphlets have been released to influence voters ahead of the assembly elections scheduled in October-November this

Talking to reporters in Patna, Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) spokesperson, Mrityunjay Tiwari, said, "Tejaswi Yadav was the first to demand a CBI probe into the case but

never used it for political reasons. It's tragic to see BJP doing politics over someone's dead body.'

Dismissing the opposition's allegations, BJP leaders in Patna said that the posters were released the art and culture wing of the party and has nothing to do with politics. According to BJP spokesperson, Nikhil Anand, "Sushant is the son of the soil who represented Bihar in Hindi cinema. His untimely death has been a shock to all of us which is visible not only in the Bihar but globally. Bihar BJP has stood by the demand of justice for the late actor.



SHORT TAKES **BERLUSCONI RESPONDING TO VIRUS DRUGS**

Rome, Sept. 6: Former Italian Premier Silvio Berlusconi is responding "optimally" to Covid-19 treatment but is the most vulnerable type of patient and is in "the most delicate phase" of the virus, his personal doctor said on Sunday.

Dr Alberto Zangrillo repeated Sunday that he nevertheless remained "cautiously optimistic" about Berlusconi's recovery. The three-time premier turns 84 in a few weeks and has had a history of heart problems that required being fitted with a pacemaker sever al years ago.

Zangrillo suggested Berlusconi wouldn't be released anytime soon, recalling that the virus "requires adequate treatment and takes its time.'

SPEAKING ILL OF PEOPLE WORSE Than Virus: Pope

Vatican City, Sept. 6: Speaking ill of other people and spreading gossip is worse than Covid-19 and Satan is the worst offender of all, Pope Francis

said on Sunday. When people see someone making a mistake, "the first thing we usually do is go and tell someone else about it. Gossip like this closes off the community," the pope said in comments on a passage in the Bible where Jesus talks about what must be done to welcome back into the community those who have committed errors.

"The great gossip is Satan who always says bad things about people," Francis said. Satan "is a liar who seeks to divide the Church, to drive our brothers apart, so that they are no longer a community," he

MOM KILLS 5 KIDS, GERMAN CITY MOURNS

Berlin, Sept. 6: More than 800 people came together for a memorial for the five children who were allegedly killed by their mother at their home in the western city of Solingen, the German news agency dpa reported on Sunday.

Neighbours, friends and others mourning the deaths of the five young children lit candles Saturday night in front of the building where they had lived. They brought flowers, toys and balloons with the names of the dead children them: Melina, Leonie, Sophie, Timo and Luca, dpa reported.

It's nard to mourn on your own, to express your sadness, Hans-Peter Harbecke, a neigh bourhood organiser, told public broadcaster WDR. "It's easier when you're together, it's more intensive as a community.' Prosecutors have charged the 27-year-old mother of the five children, who were found dead at their home on Thursday, with murder.

The killings have caused widespread shock in Germany. Investigators have said that postmortem examinations on the children, who were between 1 to 8 years old, showed signs of sedation and suffocation, but it was still unclear how exactly they died.

HEZBOLLAH, **HAMAS CHIEFS MEET OVER TIES**

Beirut, Sept. 6: Leaders of Lebanon's Hezbollah and the Palestinian Hamas movement, met to discuss diplomatic normalisation between the Jewish state and Arab countries, a report said on Sunday.

They stressed the "stability" of the "axis of resistance" against Israel, the Hezbollah-run Al-Manar TV channel reported, without saving where or when the meeting took place. Hassan Nasrallah, head of

Iran-backed Hezbollah movement, was pictured meeting Ismail Haniyeh, who heads the political bureau of Hamas, the Islamist movement that control the Gaza

They discussed "political and military developments in Palestine, Lebanon and the region" and "the dangers to the Palestinian cause" including "Arab plans for normalisation" with Israel, Al-Manar said.

The meeting comes after an August 13 announcement that the Jewish state and the United Arab Emirates have agreed to

normalise ties.
While the US-backed diplomatic drive aims to boost a regional alliance against Iran. Palestinians have condemned it as a "stab in the back" as they remain under occupation and don't have their own state.

1 killed, 7 hurt in late-night stabbings in Birmingham

Victims were drinking, dining at outdoor tables, UK cops launch manhunt

police said a murder inquiry has been launched on Sunday after one man was killed and seven peo-ple injured in multiple stabbings overnight in the city of Birmingham.

According to reports, West Midlands Police believe the victims were picked at random and do not believe the incident was terror or gang related. While a man and a woman are battling serious injuries, the injuries of five others are not thought to be life-threatening, the

A hunt has been initiated for a male suspect, who is believed to have gone on a stabbing spree, starting at Constitution Hill in Birmingham. "The events during the early hours of this morning are tragic, shocking and understand-ably frightening," said Chief Superintendent Steve Graham, responsible for policing in Birmingham.

"Please be assured that we are doing absolutely everything we can to find whoever was responsible and try to understand what exactly happened. We have well-rehearsed plans for dealing with major incidents," he said, calling on the public to remain vigilant and report

anything suspicious.

The force is also calling for anyone with CCTV or mobile footage to contact the police. The police believe the incidents, which took place between 12.30 am and 2.20 am local time, are linked and are following a number of lines of enquiry.



Police forensics officers gather evidence inside a cordon on Hurst Street, following a major stabbing incident in the centre of Birmingham, central England, on Sunday.

An increased uniformed and armed response has been put in place across the city. The West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner David Jamieson, said: "Last night's events are truly terrible and have shocked the people of Birmingham, the West Midlands and the country." "My first thoughts are with the victims and their families at this time. I have every faith in West

working extremely quickly on this investigation." Earlier, the police had declared a "major incident" as cordons were put up and an investigation was launched following reports of the stabbings.

A major incident describes any situation involving serious harm or a security risk to the public and covers special arrangements for all of the emergency services to West Midlands Police attended and some of the

stabbings and are working to establish the details after they were called to reports of one stabbing just after midnight in the city centre. Officers have set up a

cordon at the junction of Hurst Street, a popular nightlife area in the city centre referred to as the Village, and and Street. Bromsgrove services Emergency

said they are uncertain as injured to the motive behind the rushed t injured people were rushed to local hospitals. A heavy police presence cers urged people to remain calm and stay away from the area as cordons remain in place.

Many people had been seated at outdoor tables eating and drinking on Saturday evening just before the incident. The streets in the area had already been closed to traf-

Wouldn't trust Trump's word on vaccine: Harris

Washington, Sept. 6: Democratic vice presidential nominee Kamala Harris said in comments released on Saturday that if a Coronavirus vaccine is available before November's election, she would not take President Donald Trump's word on its safety and efficacy.

Trump faces intense pressure to curb the contagion that has clouded his re-election prospects, sparking worries his administration could rush vaccine research to fit a political timetable.

would not trust Donald Trump and it would have to be a credible source of information that talks about the efficacy and the reliability of (a vaccine)," Harris said.

I will not take his word for it." A shot against the virus that has killed over 188,000 in the US and hob-bled the world's largest economy has become another flashpoint ahead of the November 3 vote.

This week news broke that the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention asked states to sweep away red tape that could prevent a network of vaccine distribution centers being "fully oper-ational by Nov 1, 2020."The US Food and Drug Administration has also raised the possibility that a vaccine might be given emergency authorization before the end of trials.

Trump dangled the possibility in front of supporters last week at the Republican National Convention saying the US "will produce a vaccine before the end of the year, or maybe even sooner.' However, Anthony Fauci, the country's leading infectious disease expert, said on Thursday that the initial results of vaccine trials could come in "Nov-

ember or December."
Fauci said that being ready in October, before the election, is "unlikely, not impossible." White House spokeswoman Kayleigh McEnany denied any pressure to get the vaccine out before vot-

EX-FBI AGENT LABELS U.S. PREZ AS 'CRUEL'

Washington, Sept. 6: Peter Strzok spent his FBI career hunting Russian and Chinese spies, but after news broke of derogatory text messages he had sent about President Donald Trump, he came to feel like he was the one being hunted.
There were menacing

phone calls and messages from strangers, and anxious peeks out window shades before his family would leave the house. FBI security experts advised him of best practices — walk around your car before entering, watch for unfamiliar vehicles in your neighbourhood — more commonly associated with mob targets looking to elude detection.

Being subjected to outrageous attacks up to and including by the president himself, which are full of lies and mischaracterisations and just crude and cruel, is horrible," Strzok said in an interview.

"There's no way around it." A new book by Strzok traces his arc from veteran counterintelligence agent to the man who came to embody Trump's public scorn of FBI and his characterisation of its Russia investigation as a witch hunt.'

The texts cost Strzok his job and drew vitriol from Trump. But even among Trump critics, Strzok isn't a hero. His anti-Trump texts on a government phone to an FBI lawyer gave Trump and his supporters a major opening to undercut the bureau's credibility right as it was conducting one of the most consequential investigations in its history.

ers head to the polls. "No one is pressuring

the FDA to do anything,' she said Thursday. "The priority here is saving lives." — AFP

NIRAV MODI EXTRADITION IRIAL IU RESUME

London, Sept. 6: Fugitive diamond merchant Niray Modi, who has been lodged at a prison in London since his arrest in March last year, is set to appear via videolink for the second leg of his extradition trial at a UK court on Monday.

The 49-year-old jeweller is fighting extradition charges related to the estimated \$2-billion Punjab National Bank (PNB) fraud and money laundering case brought by the Indian government, being represented at Westminster Magistrates' Court in London by the UK's Crown Prosecution Service (CPS).

In line with the Coronavirus lockdown District restrictions. Judge Samuel Goozee directed Modi's appearance from a room in Wandsworth Prison in south-west London with social distancing norms in place for the part-remote setting for the five-day hearing scheduled to conclude

on Friday. Justice Goozee had presided over the first leg of the extradition in May, during which the CPS sought to establish a prima facie case of fraud and money laundering against Modi. The upcoming hearings are ear-marked to complete those arguments after the Indian government had submitted additional "corroboratory evidence".

It will then go on to deal with the additional extradition request, made by the Indian authorities and certified by UK Home Secretary Priti Patel earlier this year, which add on the charges of "causing the disappearance of evidence' and intimidating witnesses or "criminal intimidation to cause death' against Modi. -PTI

Belarus braces for new silent mass protest over Lukashenko

nds of Belarusians staged a peaceful new march on Sunday, keeping the pres-sure on strongman Alexander Lukashenko who has refused to quit after his disputed re-election and turned to Russia for help to stay in power. Holding red-and-white

flags and placards, protesters including many students took to the streets of the capital Minsk despite authorities mounting a massive show of force and detaining some demonstrators. Troops, water cannon,

armoured personnel carriers and armoured reconnaissance vehicles were deployed to the city centre ahead of the march and metro stations in Minsk's centre were

closed. Unprecedented protests broke out after Lukashenko, who has ruled the ex-Soviet state for 26 years, claimed re-election with 80 percent of the vote on August 9.

Opposition Svetlana Tikhanovskaya says she won the vote but Lukashenko's security forces have detained thousands of protesters, many of whom accused police of beatings and torture. Several people have died in the crackdown.

Tikhanovskaya Belarus under pressure from authorities and took shelter in EU member Lithuania.

Belarusians have been demonstrating across the country for nearly a month even though the

Police declare Portland stir a 'riot', open fire, tear gas

Portland, Sept. 6: Police of protesters in an ensu- "This is a riot. Police are arrested dozens of people and used tear gas against use through a residential disperse. People are nunareas of demonstrators in Portland on late Saturday as the western US city marked 100 days since Black Lives Matter protests erupted against racism and police brutality.

Police quickly declared the rally a "riot" after protesters hurled Molotov cocktails at them, and they responded with a barrage of tear gas to disperse the crowd.

injured by the fire bombs, police said

At least one person was Officers arrested dozens

TROOPS, WATER

sonnel carriers and

armoured reconnais-

sance vehicles were

deployed to the city cen-

protest movement lacks a

clear leader, with many

activists jailed or forced

taking to the streets until

"Lukashenko must go,'

Nikolai Dyatlov, a 32-year-

tre ahead of the march

and metro stations in

Minsk's centre were

out of the country. Many say they will keep

Lukashenko quits.

old protester, said.

closed.

cannon, armoured per-

wanted to prevent us from marching," said 20-yearold protester Jay, her eyes red from the tear gas. "It's our constitutional right to be here and to express ourselves."Police said people were "engaging in tumultuous and vio-

conduct thereby

intentionally or recklessly

creating a grave risk of causing public alarm."

district of east Portland. throwing Molotov cock "It was Day 100 for Black tails," Portland Police said on Twitter. The nightly Lives Matter protests in Portland since George protests were sparked by the death of George Floyd Floyd's murder and they while in police custody in Minneapolis in May.

Floyd's death triggered similar protests nationwide, but it is in Portland a city of 6.50.000 that is more than 70 percent white — that activists have remained on the streets practically every night, demanding racial justice and police account

Cops swoop down on Hong Kong protesters

Nearly 300 people were arrested by Hong Kong police on Sunday as riot officers swooped on democracy protesters opposed to the postponement of local elections.

Sunday was meant to be voting day for the city's partially elected legislature, one of the few instances where Hong Kongers get to cast ballots. But the city's pro-Beijing leader Carrie Lam sus-

Hong Kong, Sept. 6: pended the polls for a year citing the Coronavirus angering the pro-democracy opposition who had been hoping to capitalise on seething anti-

government sentiment. Throughout the afternoon officers were heckled by people shouting slogans such as "Give me back my vote!" and "Corrupt cops!" as officers conducted multiple stop and searches and ordered crowds to disperse.

Berlin, Sept.6: Germany, the current head of the European Union, will discuss possible sanctions against Russia over the

likely on Russia

Navalny case curbs

poisoning of Alexei Navalny if the Kremlin does not provide an explanation soon, its foreign minister said on Sunday. Russian opposition leader and anti-corrupopposition

tion campaigner Navalny fell ill on a flight last month and was treated in a Siberian hospital before being evacuated to Berlin. Germany said last week

there was "unequivocal evidence" that President Vladimir Putin's top foe had been poisoned using Soviet-era nerve agent Novichok. "We have high expecta-

tions of the Russian government to solve this serious crime," Heiko Maas told German daily Bild. "If the government has nothing to do with the attack, then it is in its own interest to back this up with facts."

If Russia does not help clarify what happened "in the coming days", Germany will be compelled to "discuss a response with our allies," Maas said. The crime

Navalny was a violation of the international Chemical Weapons Convention and there must be an appropriate response, he said. "When we think about sanctions, they should be as targeted as possible." leaders and Russians have expressed horror at what Navalny's allies say is the first known use of chemical weapons against a high-

profile opposition leader on Russian soil. The Kremlin has denied responsibility for the attack and Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov has said that Germany is yet to share any findings with Moscow's prosecu-

Foreign spokeswoman Zakharova on Sunday accused Germany of stalling efforts to probe the Navalny case.

"Berlin is stalling the process of investigation for which it's calling. On purpose?" she said on

SPACE | MISSION | Spacecraft was launched on board a Long March-2F carrier rocket on Friday

China's reusable spacecraft lands successfully

Beijing, Sept. 6: China's experimental which was reusable spacecraft, launched into orbit two days ago, successfully returned to its predeter-mined landing site on Sunday, according to the official state media.

spacecraft launched on board a Long March-2F carrier rocket from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center on Friday. The successful return an important breakthrough in china's

research on spacecraft which will provide a more convenient and economical way for the peaceful use of space, state-run *CGTN TV* reported.

Chinese military offiferent," they said.

IT HAS flown four classified missions to date, carrying secret payloads on long-duration flights in Earth orbit, the

cials, who were tightlipped about the launch earlier, said there were many firsts in this launch. 'The spacecraft is new, the launch method is also dif-An official, quoted by the

Hong Kong-based South

Post report said. Friday's launch comes weeks after China launched Tianwen-1, the country's first Mars mission, from Hainan in late July.

China Morning Post on Sunday, declined to comment on the details of the

look at the US X-37B." The X-37B is an unmanned space plane that op-

erates like a smaller version of the space shuttle. which is launched by a rocket and cruises back to earth for a runway landing. It has flown four classified missions to date, carrying secret payloads on long-duration flights in Earth orbit, the Post report said. Friday's

launch comes weeks after

mission but suggested China launched Tianwen-"maybe you can take a 1, the country's first Mars 1, the country's first Mars mission, from Hainan in late July

The China National Space Administration said its spacecraft, including an orbiter, lander and rover, was performing well on its way to Mars. A month before that, China completed the network of satellites for its BeiDou navigation network, a competitor to the Global Positioning System (GPS) system of the US. -PTI



China's reusable spacecraft aboard a Long March-2F carrier rocket.

IPL FIXTURES

SHORT

Football champ

Veeru no more

Visakhapatnam: Former international footballer V. Veeru Babu died at a hospital where he was undergoing treatment here on Saturday. He was 63 and is survived by his wife and three sons. Called the "Little Goal-getter" by fellow players, the Visakhapatnam-born Babu played for Railways for several years. He also played for Bengal Nagpur Railways (BNR Club). Babu was the vice-captain of the India Railways team during 1981 World Railways Football Championship in Nigeria, and was appreciated with \$200 cash prize by the Nigerian Railways for his performance. Kosaraju Gopal Krishna. President of APFA and DFA, said it was a big loss to the community. - PTI

Shuttlers back at training today

New Delhi: Top singles players such as Saina Nehwal and Kidambi Srikanth will finally resume training from Monday as the Sports Authority of India (SAI) gave its go-ahead to the national badminton camp at the Pullela Gopichand Academy in Hyderabad under strict Covid-19

guidelines The camp, to continue till September 27, is being organised to help 26 players prepare for the Thomas and Uber Cup tournaments, beginning in Aarhus, Denmark, from October The players who will be part of the camp include Nehwal, Sai Praneeth, P. Kashyap, Srikanth, Lakshya Sen (all singles) women's doubles pair of Sikki Reddy and Ashwini Ponappa, along with seven coaches, four support staff and three sparring

England seal T20 series vs Oz

partners. - PTI

Southampton: Jos Buttler made a dashing 77 not out as England beat Australia by six wickets in a series-clinching win in the second Twenty20 international at Southampton on Sunday. Victory saw England go an unbeatable 2-0 up in a threematch contest. England, set 158 to win, finished on 158-4 with seven balls to spare. Brief scores: Australia 157/7 in 20 overs (Finch 40, Stoinis 35) lost to **England 158/4** in 18.5 overs (Jos Buttler 77 n.o., D.

Malan 42; Ashton Agar 2/27). Regd No.J/VM-RNP/72 d and Published from Visakha by K. Sudhakar on behalf of Deccan Chronicle Holdings Limited at Deccan Chronicle Press, Survey No.1/3A, Beach Road, Near Kailasagiri Rope Way, Sector-9, M.V. P. Colony, Fax: 2755285. Grams: CHRONICLE Editor: Aditva Sinha. RNI Registration No.44813/85.

STERLING SHOW

Raheem's heroics power England past Iceland

Paris, Sept. 6: European heavyweights England, world champions France, holders Portugal and Belgium all enjoyed winning starts to their UEFA Nations League campaigns on Saturday even if there were signs of inter-national rust following the Coronavirus shutdown.

England needed a stoppage-time penalty to beat Iceland 1-0 while France saw off Sweden by the same scoreline.

Portugal shrugged off the absence of Cristiano Ronaldo to thrash Croatia with top-ranked Belgium coming away from Denmark with a 2-0

In Reykjavik, Raheem Sterling's last minute penalty salvaged England from another embarrassing result against Iceland. Gareth Southgate's men

also survived going down to 10 men and seeing Birkir Bjarnason miss a late spot-kick for the hosts. Four years on from one of English football's most embarrassing nights in

losing 2-1 to Iceland at Euro 2016, England were far from the free-scoring force that romped through Euro 2020 qualifying in their first match for 10 months. Harry Kane had an early

goal wrongly ruled out for offside before Kyle Walker was sent-off for two bookable offences 20 minutes

All of Iceland's good defensive work was undone in the 89th minute



England's Raheem Sterling (left) in action during the UEFA Nations League football match against Iceland in Reykjavik, Iceland, on Saturday. England won 1-0.

THE RESULTS

Iceland **England** (Sterling 90+2-pen) **Denmark**

Belgium (Denayer 9, Mertens 77)

(Mbappe 41)

Portugal (Joao Cancelo 41, Diogo Jota 58, Joao Felix 70, Silva 90+5) Croatia (Petkovic 90+1)

also harshly dismissed for a second booking when he blocked Sterling's shot

with his arm.

Kylian Mbappe scored with France's only shot on goal in Solna to give the world champions a 1-0 victory over Sweden.

Mbappe picked up the ball wide of the goal in the 41st minute, squeezed past two defenders, waited for goalkeeper Robin Olsen to go down and then clipped the ball inside the post

In Porto, Cristiano Ronaldo was missing with an infected toe - caused by a bee sting according to Italian media Portugal were still too good for a disappointing Croatia. Joao Cancelo, Diogo Jota, with his first international goal, Joao Felix and Andre Silva were all on target for Portugal who also hit the woodwork three times.

Serena survives Sloane scare

New York, Sept. 6: Serena Williams battled into the US Open last 16 Saturday.

chasing Williams. record-equalling Grand Slam title, came from a set down to oust 2017 champion Sloane Stephens 2-6, 6-2, 6-2, in what she called an 'intense" encounter on Arthur Ashe Stadium.

'In that first set I don't think she made any errors, honestly. She was just playing so clean and I just said, 'I don't want to lose in straight sets'," said Williams, who will play for a place in the quarter-

stunned Williams at the Western & Southern Open last month, progressed with a 6-3, 6-1 dismantling of America's 22nd seed

Amanda Anisimova. Back on the court on Saturday, Russian third seed Daniil Medvedev, Italv's sixth seed Matteo Berrettini and Andrey Rubley, all entered the last 16 with easy three-set

Second seed Dominic Thiem also progressed to round four, overcoming 2014 champion Marin Cilic

6-2, 6-2, 3-6, 6-3. 94th-And Canada's eighth-seeded shocked Spaniard Roberto Bautista

seed Alex de Minaur upset 11th-seeded Russian Karen Khachanov.

In the women's draw. unranked Bulgarian Tsvetana Pironkova, playing her first tournament in three years, knocked out 18th seed Donna Vekic. Second seed Sofia Kenin defeated Tunisia's Ons Jabeur 7-6 (7/4), 6-3.

THE RESULTS

Men's singles third round: Casper Ruud (NOR x30) 6-4, 6-4, 6-2; Andrey Rublev (RUS x10) bt Salvatore Caruso (ITA) 6-0, 6-4, 6-0; Frances Tiafoe (USA) bt Marton Fucsovics (HUN) 6-2, 6-3, 6-2; Daniil Medvedev (RUS Sorana Cirstea (ROU) 6-3, 2-6, 7-6 (9/7); Elise Mertens (BEL x3) bt Jeffrey Wolf (USA) 6-3,

bt Roberto Bautista (ESP x8) 7-5, 2-6, 4-6, 6-3, 6-2; Alex De Minaur (AUS x21) bt Karen Khachanov (RUS x11) 6-4, 0-6 4-6, 6-3, 6-1; Felix Auger-Aliassime (CAN x15) bt Corentin Moutet (FRA) 6-1, 6-0, 6-4; Dominic Thiem (AUT x2) bt Marin Cilic (CRO x31) 6-2, 6-2

Women's singles third round Alize Cornet (FRA) bt Madison Keys (USA x7) 7-6 (7/4), 3-2 retired: Tsvetana Pironkova (BUL) bt Donna Vekic (CRO x18) 6-4 6-1 Maria Sakkari (GRE x15) bt Amanda Anisimova (USA x22) 6-3, 6-1; Serena Williams (USA x3) bt Sloane Stephens (USA x26) 2-6, 6-2, 6 2; Victoria Azarenka (BLR) bt Iga Swiatek (POL) 6-4, 6-2 Karolina Muchova (CZE x20) bt x16) bt Caty McNally (USA) 7-5,

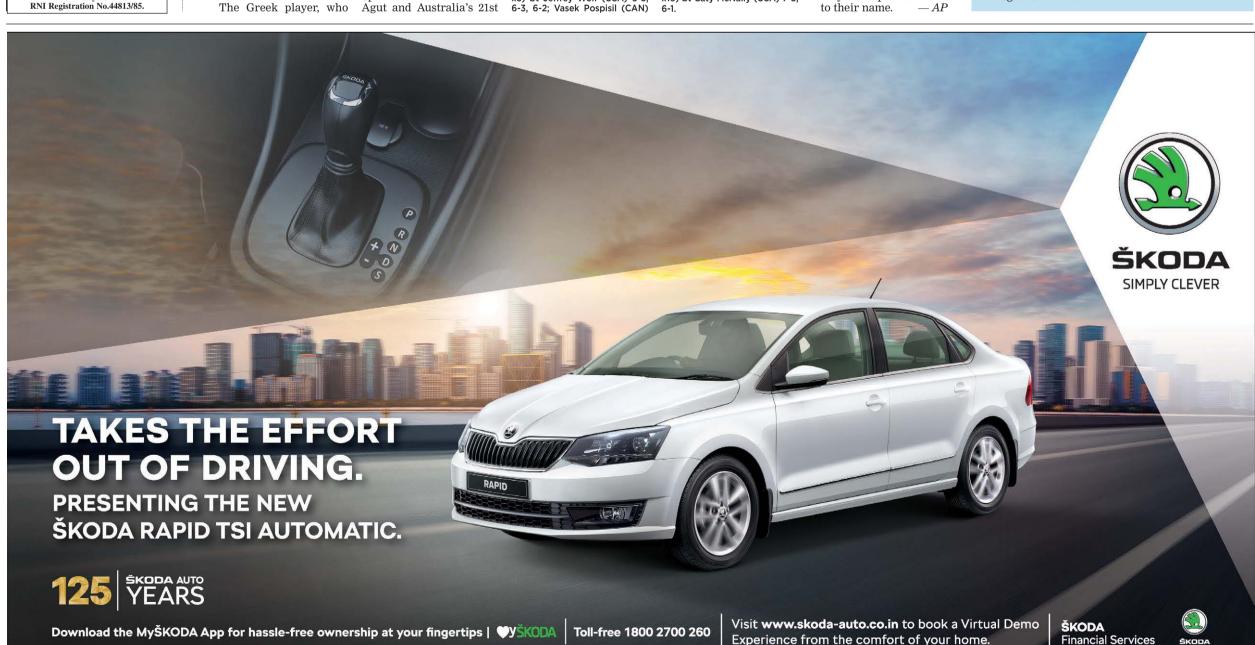
GASLY TAKES 1ST FORMULA 1 RACE

Monza (Italy) Sept. 6: AlphaTauri Pierre Gasly claimed an unlikely victory at the Italian Grand Prix after a thrilling race which world champion Lewis Hamilton given a 10-second penalty and both Ferraris fail to fin-ish at their home circuit on Sunday.

It was Gasly's first-ever win in Formula One. He finished 0.415 seconds ahead of McLaren driver Carlos Sainz and 3.358 ahead of Racing Point's Lance Stroll on a surreal-looking podium. All won a race and each had only one top-three finish to their name.

Venue 19-Sept 7.30 pm MI vs CSK Abu Dhabi 20-Sept 7.30 pm DC vs KXIP Dubai 21-Sept 7.30 pm SRH vs RCB Dubai 22-Sept 7.30 pm RR vs CSK Sharjah 23-Sept 7.30 pm KKR vs MI Abu Dhabi 24-Sept 7.30 pm KXIP vs RCB Dubai 25-Sept 7.30 pm CSK vs DC Dubai 26-Sept 7.30 pm KKR vs SRH Abu Dhabi 27-Sept 7.30 pm RR vs KXIP Sharjah 10 28-Sept 7.30 pm RCB vs MI Dubai 11 29-Sept 7.30 pm DC vs SRH Abu Dhabi 12 30-Sept 7.30 pm RR vs KKR Dubai 13 1-Oct 7.30 pm KXIP vs MI Abu Dhabi 2-Oct 7.30 pm CSK vs SRH Dubai 3-Oct 3.30 pm RCB vs RR Abu Dhabi 3-Oct 7.30 pm DC vs KKR Sharjah 4-Oct 3.30 pm MI vs SRH Sharjah 4-Oct 7.30 pm KXIP vs CSK Dubai 5-Oct 7.30 pm RCB vs DC Dubai 6-Oct 7.30 pm MI vs RR Abu Dhabi 7-Oct 7.30 pm KKR vs CSK Abu Dhabi 8-Oct 7.30 pm SRH vs KXIP Dubai 9-Oct 7.30 pm RR vs DC Sharjah 10-Oct 3.30 pm KXIP vs KKR Abu Dhabi 10-Oct 7.30 pm CSK vs RCB Dubai 26 11-Oct 3.30 pm SRH vs RR Dubai 27 11-Oct 7.30 pm MI vs DC Abu Dhabi 28 12-Oct 7.30 pm RCB vs KKR Sharjah 29 13-Oct 7.30 pm SRH vs CSK Dubai 30 14-Oct 7.30 pm DC vs RR Dubai 31 15-Oct 7.30 pm RCB vs KXIP Sharjah 32 16-Oct 7.30 pm MI vs KKR Abu Dhabi 33 17-Oct 3.30 pm RR vs RCB Dubai 34 17-Oct 7.30 pm DC vs CSK Sharjah 18-Oct 3.30 pm SRH vs KKR Abu Dhabi 36 18-Oct 7.30 pm MI vs KXIP Dubai 37 19-Oct 7.30 pm CSK vs RR Abu Dhabi 38 20-Oct 7.30 pm KXIP vs DC Dubai 39 21-Oct 7.30 pm KKR vs RCB Abu Dhabi 40 22-Oct 7.30 pm RR vs SRH Dubai 41 23-Oct 7.30 pm CSK vs MI Sharjah 42 24-Oct 3.30 pm KKR vs DC Abu Dhabi 43 24-Oct 7.30 pm KXIP vs SRH Dubai 44 25-Oct 3.30 pm RCB vs CSK Dubai 25-Oct 7.30 pm RR vs MI Abu Dhabi 46 26-Oct 7.30 pm KKR vs KXIP Sharjah 47 27-Oct 7.30 pm SRH vs DC Dubai 48 28-Oct 7.30 pm MI vs RCB Abu Dhabi 49 29-Oct 7.30 pm CSK vs KKR Dubai 50 30-Oct 7.30 pm KXIP vs RR Abu Dhabi 51 31-Oct 3.30 pm DC vs MI Dubai 52 31-Oct 7.30 pm RCB vs SRH Sharjah 1-Nov 3.30 pm CSK vs KXIP Abu Dhabi 1-Nov 7.30 pm KKR vs RR Dubai 2-Nov 7.30 pm DC vs RCB Abu Dhabi 3-Nov 7.30 pm SRH vs MI

Monza (Italy), Sept. 6: Mick Schumacher, son of legendary Formula One driver Michael, won for the first time this season in the European Formula 2 Championship on Saturday at Monza in Italy. The Italian Luca Ghiotto with Dane Christian Lundgaard in third.



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