

# DECCAN Chronicle

THE LARGEST CIRCULATED ENGLISH DAILY IN SOUTH INDIA

HYDERABAD | FRIDAY | 9 JULY 2021

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

Vol. 84 No. 189 Established 1938 | 20 PAGES | ₹6.00

83408 36222 / 70953 33335 www.aparnaconstructions.com



**PLAY THE PERFECT HOST @ YellowBells**

Spacious party &amp; event lawn



2, 2.5 &amp; 3 BHK Apts. | 1294 – 1911 Sft.

₹4599/Sft.

BOOK TODAY

Marketing Office open on Sunday also

Value Housing

Powered by hmda

TS RERA: P02200002940



\*T&amp;C Apply. Images used are for illustrative purpose only.

## SHORT TAKES

Follow rules, Twitter told

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court on Thursday told the Centre it was free to take action against Twitter Inc in case of any breach of the new IT Rules, even as the new IT minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said those who live and work in India will have to abide by the rules of the country. Twitter told the HC it appointed an interim chief compliance officer in India, and will fill it in eight weeks as per rules.

Report on Page 7

## SC rejects FB's summons plea

New Delhi: The Supreme Court dismissed the plea by Facebook India vice-president and MD Ajit Mohan challenging the summons issued by Delhi Assembly's Peace and Harmony committee for failing to appear before it as witness in a matter relating to the north-east Delhi riots last year. A SC bench termed Mohan's plea as pre-mature and said nothing happened against him before Delhi Assembly's panel.

Report on Page 7



G. Kishan Reddy takes charge at the tourism and culture ministry at Shashtri Bhavan in New Delhi on Thursday. Later, he took charge of Ministry for development of north-eastern region (DoNER) — D. KAMRAJ

## Kishan: Will achieve PM vision

DC CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI, JULY 8

Union minister G. Kishan Reddy, elevated to Cabinet rank, took charge of the departments that are newly assigned to him from this week including tourism, culture and north east region development, at the respective offices here on Thursday.

He took charge as tourism minister and min-

ister for development of north-eastern region (DoNER) after taking charge as culture minister at Shashtri Bhavan. Also present were Shridip Yesso Naik and Ajay Bhatt, who will be the ministers of state in the tourism department.

Speaking to the media, Reddy said he will work for achieving the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi with full commit-

ment. "The kind of transformation that the North-Eastern Region experienced in the last seven years in all spheres of life is both incredible and unprecedented," he said.

He said that, under the guidance of Modi, he will try to complete all the pending projects within the stipulated time-frame.

Page 2: Kishan thanks ex-DoNER minister

## FRENCH COURT LETS CAIRN SEIZE 20 INDIAN PROPERTIES

New Delhi, July 8: In a setback to India, Britain's Cairn Energy Plc has secured a French court order to seize some 20 government properties in Paris to recover a part of the \$1.72 billion due from New Delhi following an arbitration panel overturning levy of retrospective taxes.

The centrally located properties mostly comprise of flats, valued at more than 20 million euros, were used by Indian government establishment in France, three people with direct knowledge of the matter said.

The French court, Tribunal Judiciaire de Paris, on June 11 agreed to Cairn's application to freeze (through judicial mortgages) residential real estate owned by the Government of India in central Paris, they said adding the legal formalities for the same was completed on Wednesday evening.

While Cairn is unlikely to evict the Indian officials residing in those properties, the government cannot sell them after the court order.

Page 10: Didn't get French court order: FinMin

# Covid-19 fight gets a ₹23,123-cr boost

New ministers take charge, get down to business

VINEETA PANDEY | DC  
NEW DELHI, JULY 8

● SUPPORT WILL be provided to Central hospitals, AIIMS, and other institutions of national importance for repurposing 6,688 beds for Covid-19 management.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's new ministers took charge of their respective ministries on Thursday and got into working mode immediately, taking some major decisions during the Cabinet meeting. In the first major decision of the new Cabinet, the Union government approved a ₹23,123 crore Covid-19 emergency fund to fight the pandemic.

The Cabinet also approved modifications in the Central Sector Scheme of financing facilities under the "Agriculture Infrastructure Fund".

"It has been said that Agricultural Produce Marketing Committees (APMCs) will no longer exist under the new farm laws. The government clarified that the Mandi system will not end. Instead, it will be strengthened further. In view of this, the Cabinet has approved APMC access to Agriculture Infrastructure Fund, which was announced in the Union Budget," agriculture minister Narendra Singh Tomar said while announcing the decision. He added that in due course more resources will be provided to the APMCs. "₹1 lakh crore allocated under the Atmanirbhar Bharat to Farmers Infrastructure Fund can be used by APMCs," said Mr Tomar.

"To increase coconut farming, we are amending the Coconut Board Act. The Coconut Board president will be a non-official person. He will be from the farmers' community who knows and understands the work in the field," Mr Tomar said while giving details of the other Cabinet decision related to his ministry. Making an

announcement with regard to the Covid-19 fund, new Union health minister Mansukh Mandaviya said a ₹23,000-crore relief package has been announced to deal with the devastation caused by the second wave of the virus and added this fund will be allocated to states after consulting them. The minister said this scheme aims to accelerate health system preparedness for immediate responsiveness for early prevention, detection and management, with the focus on health infrastructure development, including for paediatric care.

Under this, support would be provided to Central hospitals, AIIMS, and other institutions of national importance for repurposing 6,688 beds for Covid-19 management.

Support will also be provided for implementation of the Hospital Management Information System in all district hospitals of the country.



**MALABAR GOLD & DIAMONDS**  
CELEBRATE THE BEAUTY OF LIFE

**ONE INDIA ONE GOLD RATE**

BUY GOLD AT ONE BEST RATE ACROSS INDIA!

**FAIR PRICE PROMISE**  
For Everyone, Everyday, Everywhere.

Choose from a wide range of beautiful designs crafted in pure gold. Reasonable value addition for everyday designs, and principled value addition for intricate designs. With one best gold rate across the country, and value-added services, we assure that you get absolute value for your purchase. After all, it's our promise.

VALUE ADDITION 5.9%	VALUE ADDITION 4.9%	VALUE ADDITION 4.9%	VALUE ADDITION 4.9%
VALUE ADDITION 6.9%	VALUE ADDITION 11.9%	VALUE ADDITION 12.9%	VALUE ADDITION 6.8%
VALUE ADDITION 13.9%	VALUE ADDITION 10.9%	VALUE ADDITION 13.9%	VALUE ADDITION 11.9%

**SPECIAL PRIVILEGES FOR WEDDING PURCHASES**  
Book your jewellery by paying minimum 10% onwards in advance and get the jewellery at the booked rate or prevailing rate whichever is lower.

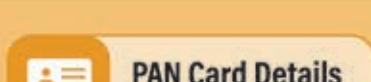
To browse our exquisite collection and to buy online visit [www.malabargoldanddiamonds.com](http://www.malabargoldanddiamonds.com)



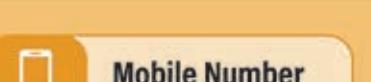
**IMPORTANT**

**UPDATE YOUR PAN CARD FOR CONTINUED, HASSLE FREE SERVICES.**

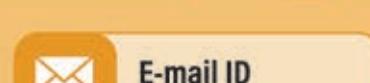
**ACCESS ALL ONLINE LIC SERVICES BY UPDATING:**



PAN Card Details



Mobile Number



E-mail ID

Visit [www.licindia.in](http://www.licindia.in) for online services and updation.

SMS YOUR CITY NAME To 56767474

Call Center Services (022) 6827 6827

LIC Download LIC Mobile App "MyLIC"

Follow us :     LIC India Forever IRDAI Regn No.: 512

BEWARE OF SPURIOUS PHONE CALLS AND FICTITIOUS / FRAUDULENT OFFERS. IRDAI is not involved in activities like selling insurance policies, announcing bonus or investment of premiums. Public receiving such phone calls are requested to lodge a police complaint.

For more details on risk factors, terms and conditions, please read the sales brochure carefully before concluding a sale.



**LIC**  
भारतीय जीवन बीमा निगम  
LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION OF INDIA

10 PROMISES FROM MALABAR & DIAMONDS

1.Complete Transparency 2.Assured Lifetime Free Maintenance 3.Zero Deduction Gold Exchange 4.100% BIS 916 Hallmarked Gold 5.Tested & Certified Diamonds 6.Guaranteed Buyback 7.Complimentary Jewellery Insurance 8.Fair Price Policy 9.Responsibly Sourced Products 10.Fair Labour Practices

NOW IN KOMPALLY(HYDERABAD) & ELURU. TEL: 1800 572 0916, 040-68138916

INDIA | USA | SINGAPORE | MALAYSIA | UAE | QATAR | KSA | OMAN | KUWAIT | BAHRAIN



# CLASSIFIEDS

## FOR SALE AUTOMOTIVE

## FOUR WHEELERS

**MAHINDRA XUV** 500 WB Model Early 2013. Pearl White Color, Fancy Number, Done 1.06 lacs kms, New 4 Tyres, Sparingly used, immaculate Condition. Ph: 93992405437. (A/2122/C00279)

**DR. DRIVEN** Jeep Compass, longitude 2017 model, White color in excellent condition, 75,000km driven for Sale. Contact: 8008877701, 7675819777. (S/2122/C00624)

**2014 INNOVA** personal used and Baleno automatic 2018 for Sale. Both are Very Excellent condition. Only Genuine buyers Contact: 6303169435. (S/2122/C00644)

## FOR SALE PROPERTY

## AGRICULTURE

**A FERTILE** Piece of Land Measuring about Ac 35-00gts. Situated @ Panyala village, Kondapalli Mandal, Secunderabad with the Facility of Power supply & Water source for irrigation, is for Sale. (35kms from ORR) Interested parties may contact on 9246155163. (HYMM/2122/C002459)

## COMMERCIAL

**COMMERCIAL RETAIL** Space For Sale in Banjara hills on Lower Ground floor 200sqft. Well Maintained Building with ample Car Parking. Contact: 7799222012. (HYCL/2122/C00624)

**COMMERCIAL COMPLEX** For Sale/ Lease, Including 2Ac Movie Theaters, 2Ac Function Halls, And 2Floors Retail Space, 115,000sq.ft. Including Cellar Parking. Located On NH.16, Chikalakuripet, Guntur. Ph: 13109901838 (Usa) 9849013340 (HYMM/2122/C002446)

**COMMERCIAL BUILDING** for Sale/ Lease @Gachibowli musnud, Opposite Central mall, Beautiful galleried & Marble elevation, Total 9000sqft Carpet area, G+3 plus 2BHK/ office space, Ready to use, Lift 2sides roads & Entrance, 430sq.yds land, 9car&10 2wheelers parking. Suitable Restaurants, Hospitals, Super Markets, Software Co., Furniture, Furnishings, Lights, Jewellery, Clothing, Clear title. Ph: 9502032226. (HYMM/2122/C00249)

**FOR SALE** Commercial Shop 850sqft on 1st Floor in Tobacco Bazaar Behind Mahaniketan Temple Secunderabad Contact: #642222221 (HYMM/2122/C002463)

**KOMPALLY, DEVAR** Yamzal 100' Road, HMDA Commercial Plot, 2024 Sq.yds. 3 Side Road for Sale. Contact 988521950, 9014674090. (B/2122/C00622)

## FLATS

## DOUBLE BEDROOM

**TWO 2BHK** Flats West/ facing on the 5th Floor. Gated Community in Aramangal Circle near Pillar-295 with all amenities like area 1007 & 1000sqft. Contact: 9347514121, 9986365067. (HYMM/2122/C002488)

**BANDLAGUDA JAGIN** 2BHK Flat W/F with all amenities in a gated-complex for sale with 2baths one car park. Ph: 9347514121, 9986365067. (HYMM/2122/C002484)

**MANIKKALI, BHAKTIPUR** 2BHK Flat, 1200sqft, fully furnished, 1st floor, North face, Rate: 65lakhs HMDA approved. Flat for sale. Contact: 8978820567 (HYMM/2122/C002491)

## THREE & MORE

**3BHK APARTMENT** For Sale in Banjara hills. Well Maintained Building with Swimming Pool, Gym, Terrace Garden, Private Reception. For Residents with 24hrs Back Up Generator and Security. Contact: 7799222012. (HYCL/2122/C00623)

**3BHK APARTMENT** For Sale at Film Nagar, Phase-2, Super Luxurious 3300sqft, East Facing, 1Apartment Per floor, Swimming Pool, Security and 24hrs Back Up Generator. Contact: 7799222012. (HYCL/2122/C00621)

**FOR SALE** 3BHK 2400sqft 3rd floor South face Ultra Luxury fully furnished with 2car parking at Film Nagar call: 7702333555 (HYMM/2122/C00248)

**4BHK 27145FT** Flat E/W on the 25th Floor in a Residential District ready for interiors servitronics in a G-Community. Ph: 9347514121, 9986365067. (HYMM/2122/C002485)

**4BHK 5642SQFT** 4th Floor N/F, one apartment per floor in a Gated Community in Jubilee hills with servant room. Call: 9347514121, 9986365067. (HYMM/2122/C002487)

**3BHK SEMI** Furnished 1436sqft apartment with one car park for sale besides SD Eye Hospital, Mehdipatnam. Call: 9347514121, 9986365067. (HYMM/2122/C002486)

**MADHAPUR, KAKATIYA** Hills, North East Corner Plot, 3 BHK, 2750 Sq. ft. 10th Common, 2 car parking, Italian marble, 125 VDS A/C, wardrobes, 100% Vastu, 24 hrs water, 2-1/2 year Old. Ph: 9246539235, 9995177514. (B/2122/C00286)

## INDEPENDENT HOUSE

**THREE & MORE**

**FOR SALE** 500 Sq.yds Independent House, Ground Plus 2 At Prime Location Boggulukunta Abids Contact: 9899998234/ 9000008040 (HYMM/2122/C002479)

**FILM NAGAR, Jubilee Hills,** Independent House, Three Bedrooms, Drawing, Living, Kitchen, Portico and servant quarter. Contact: 8008300177/ 040-35533619. (HYMM/2122/C002482)

**JUBILEE HILLS** 4750 sft, 5 bedroom, 6 bathroom, Semi independent house, Multi Purpose Hall (also used as an office) with bathroom and pantry. Servant quarter, 2 parking, 1st floor facing north east slope, 100% vastu. Surplus water. Centrally located close to Hospital Schools, Check post, KBR Park. Contact: 8019608540. (A/2122/C00203)

## INDUSTRIAL SHEDS

**AVAILABLE ON LEASE** Industrial shed for Godown/ Warehouses/ Industry purpose. 70,000sqft. Land already obtained. Can be build within 3months to suit your requirement. At Kucharam on the National Highway 44frontage 400ft Contact: 7993333351. (W/2122/AT00036)

## FOR SALE AUTOMOTIVE

## FOUR WHEELERS

**MAHINDRA XUV** 500 WB Model Early 2013. Pearl White Color, Fancy Number, Done 1.06 lacs kms, New 4 Tyres, Sparingly used, immaculate Condition. Ph: 93992405437. (B/2122/C00279)

**DR. DRIVEN** Jeep Compass, longitude 2017 model, White color in excellent condition, 75,000km driven for Sale. Contact: 8008877701, 7675819777. (S/2122/C00624)

**2014 INNOVA** personal used and Baleno automatic 2018 for Sale. Both are Very Excellent condition. Only Genuine buyers Contact: 6303169435. (S/2122/C00644)

## FOR SALE PROPERTY

**A FERTILE** Piece of Land Measuring about Ac 35-00gts. Situated @ Panyala village, Kondapalli Mandal, Secunderabad with the Facility of Power supply & Water source for irrigation, is for Sale. (35kms from ORR) Interested parties may contact on 9246155163. (HYMM/2122/C002459)

## COMMERCIAL

**COMMERCIAL RETAIL** Space For Sale in Banjara hills on Lower Ground floor 200sqft. Well Maintained Building with ample Car Parking. Contact: 7799222012. (HYCL/2122/C00624)

**COMMERCIAL COMPLEX** For Sale/ Lease, Including 2Ac Movie Theaters, 2Ac Function Halls, And 2Floors Retail Space, 115,000sq.ft. Including Cellar Parking. Located On NH.16, Chikalakuripet, Guntur. Ph: 13109901838 (Usa) 9849013340 (HYMM/2122/C002446)

**COMMERCIAL BUILDING** for Sale/ Lease @Gachibowli musnud, Opposite Central mall, Beautiful galleried & Marble elevation, Total 9000sqft Carpet area, G+3 plus 2BHK/ office space, Ready to use, Lift 2sides roads & Entrance, 430sq.yds land, 9car&10 2wheelers parking. Suitable Restaurants, Hospitals, Super Markets, Software Co., Furniture, Furnishings, Lights, Jewellery, Clothing, Clear title. Ph: 9502032226. (HYMM/2122/C00249)

**FOR SALE** Commercial Shop 850sqft on 1st Floor in Tobacco Bazaar Behind Mahaniketan Temple Secunderabad Contact: #642222221 (HYMM/2122/C002463)

**KOMPALLY, DEVAR** Yamzal 100' Road, HMDA Commercial Plot, 2024 Sq.yds. 3 Side Road for Sale. Contact 988521950, 9014674090. (B/2122/C00622)

## FLATS

**REAL ESTATE**

**LAND REQUIRED**

**PLOTS FOR SALE** Area 4840 Sq.yds. -1 Plots, 2420 Sq.yds. -2 Plots Commercial Plots Facing Main Road Available at Kattenedd. Contact: No.9866079317. (HYMM/2122/C002406)

**PATANCHERUVU- SULTANPUR** HMDA Approved Layout, Plot No.000145/Lop/HMADA/2021 Near to Miyapur, Channagaram, BELH. Bank Loan Available. Ph: 8688023402/ 8688021014. (HYCL/2122/C00730)

**GATED COMMUNITY** Premium Location 200 sq.yds, South Facing, Tirumala Enclave (within Kausalya Estate) Karkhana, Secunderabad for details. Ph: 8008977701, 7675819777. (S/2122/C002452)

**PREMIUM PLOTS** 12Lakhs on words. DTPC/ RERA 100% Developed Gated Community Ready for Construction Near Shadnagar Toll Plaza 7382096759 (HYMM/2122/C00218)

**OPEN PLOTS** Near Yacharam Main Road Sathya Golden Gate Phase-2, DTPC Venture Near Pharmacy, Low Price. Ph: 9391123929. (HYMM/2122/C01708)

## REAL ESTATE

## LAND REQUIRED

**LAND REQUIRED** On Development Basis For a well Established Construction Company. Residential Or Commercial Property in and Around Attapur, Suchitra, Circle, Kokapet, Narsingi Clear Title And Free of Litigation. Contact: 7799222012. (HYCL/2122/C00622)

**D.T.P OPERATORS**

**FIVE YEARS** experienced DTP Operator in Coreldraw for Label Printing company, Secunderabad. Part time also preferable. Immediate appointment. Contact: 9989286000. (S/2122/C00646)

## DRIVERS

**WANTED: FEMALE** Car Driver Minimum 2years Experience For Mnc Company At Hi-Tech City. Full Time Job Salary 17500/- Per Month +All Benefits Esi & PFI Contact: 9885910270 / 9885919607 (HYMM/2122/C02477)

## ENGINEERS

**REQUIRED SITE** Supervisor and Site Engineer With or Without Experience in Layouts and Construction Field, Ph: 9652714305, 831763079 saisnilayaproperties2018@gmail.com (HYMM/2122/C02448)

## HOTEL

**JOB OPENINGS** for Chinese Chef, Captains, Sr Stewards and Stewards with atleast 2years of Experience for Restaurant at Madhapur, Hyderabad. Contact: +91900422794 (HYMM/2122/C02457)

**WANTED MALE** & Female Supervisors for out door Catering purpose Ph No. 9059900451, 9059900496. (S/2122/C00633)

## LECTURERS

**WANTED ASSISTANT PROFESSORS**, Associate Professors & Professor Hotel Management, Nutrition & Dietetics Postgraduate degree with minimum 55% marks in relevant subject. Retired persons may also apply. Interested candidates email one page bio-data to: audiegreecollege@gmail.com (Secretary). (S/2122/C02458)

## MANAGERS

**WANTED SMART** Marketing Managers M/F Package will be discussed after personal interview. Call: 9902646657. (HYCL/2122/C00728)

## INDEPENDENT HOUSE

**SINGLE BEDROOM**

**MAIN ROAD**, opp Bhavan's New Science college, Narayanaguda, 1st floor 700 sqft. 3 Rooms with kitchen, 24 hr water, Single Scooter parking. Contact: 917700981, 9889650315. Rent Rs.11,000/- (A/2122/C00189)

**MOTORCYCLE/ SCOOTER** fully equipped service centre- 3000 sqft at Begumpet near Minister Road, Hyderabad. Rent Rs.65/- sqft. Ph: 9849018426. (S/2122/C00642)

## FLATS

**THREE & MORE**

**1250SQFT GROUNDFLOOR** showroom space previous tenant Bullet showroom and 8500sqft commercial space in upper floors can be divided in portions above central bank adjacent ESI Metro station, accessible to heavy vehicles, Facing Bombay. Ph: 9059357760, 9849018243. (HYCL/2122/C00237)

**MAIN ROAD** 600SQFT Office space on 1st Floor at Divya APT. Beside G.Pilla Reddy College, Mehdipatnam Suitable for clinic. Ph: 9246151761. (HYMM/2122/C02379)

**SECURITY**

**WANTED CCTV** Operator BMS Operator with 4-5 years of experience for Raidurgam, Madhura Nagar, Salary 20,500 for 26 days 8 hours. Contact Experts group 7799772813, 8341823571. (S/2122/C00641)

## MANAGERS

**WANTED MAINTENANCE** Manager with Minimum 5years Experience in Maintaining Villas at Kompa. Please Send Resumes Email to: wahedk121@gmail.com (HYCL/2122/C00625)

**WANTED BUSINESS** Manager M/F Telecaller. Female. Qualification: Any Degree. Salary: 15k- 20k. Contact: 9399976799. (HYCL/2122/C00721)

## NOTICE

**NOTICE** Readers are advised to make appropriate enquiries while responding to advertisements in these columns. Deccan Chronicle Holdings Ltd. does not vouch for any claims made by the Advertisers. The Printer, Publisher, Editor and Owner of Deccan Chronicle Holdings Ltd. shall not be held responsible / liable for any consequences, in case such claims are found to be false.

## TAX CONSULTANTS

## WEATHER

**Max:** 28.8°C  
**Min:** 21.2°C  
**RH:** 75%  
**Rainfall:** Nil

**Forecast:** Cloudy sky. Light to moderate rains.  
Max/Min temp. 32/23°C

## ASTROGUIDE

**Plava:** Uttarayana  
Tithi: Jyeshta Bahula Amavasya full day

**Star:** Arudra till 11.11 pm  
**Varijam:** 6.07 am to 7.52 am  
**Durmuhurtham:** 8.27 am to 9.19 am; 12.47 pm to 1.39 pm

**Rahuakalam:** 10.30 am to 12 noon

**HIJRI CALENDAR**

Zeeqad 27,1441 AH

**PRAYERS**

Fajr: 4.38 am

Zohar: 12.31 pm

Asar: 4.56 pm

Maghrib: 7.00 pm

Isha: 8.16 pm

**SUNRISE TOMORROW** 5.48 AM

**SUNSET TODAY** 6.54 PM

**MOONSET** 6.31 AM

**MOONRISE** 6.55 PM

COUNTER POINT



Now, I am  
feeling well!

## IN BRIEF

**National Lok Adalat  
in TS tomorrow**

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, JULY 8

The Telangana State Legal Service Authority called on litigants, whose cases are pending in courts, to make use of the national Lok Adalat, which will be held in every court's premises across the state on Saturday. This is the second such Lok Adalat this year with two more slated for September 11 and December 11.

Principal judge of Ranga Reddy district courts, Radha Rani and City Civil court chief judge, C. Sumalatha, appealed to litigants, advocates and government agencies to take advantage and settle the pending cases in a short time. They said the cases would be settled with solutions amicable to both parties.

**GOVERNMENT  
SILENCE WORRIES  
THEATRE OWNERS**

SANJAY SAMUEL PAUL | DC  
HYDERABAD, JULY 8

Even ten days after the Covid-19 lockdown restrictions were lifted completely in the state, theatres continue to remain closed, with exhibitors, worried over operating costs, wary of opening the doors.

There are 480 single screen theatres and 250 multiplex theatres in the state. Their operators say that they are waiting for the government to take a call on their requests for restoration of parking fee, grant of exemption from GST, waiver of minimum demand charges for electricity, and rebate on property tax. When the first lockdown was imposed in March last year, all theatres were shut down. However, some opened their doors when restrictions were lifted on December 4. But, poor patronage from moviegoers made it difficult before the second lockdown was imposed.

Some theatre owners, who requested anonymity, said that they were still waiting for the issue of orders by the state government on the promise made during GHMC elections year that the minimum electricity demand charges will be waived.

"Government silence is quite worrying. Theatres are no longer sustainable. The government must step in with relief measures," a theatre owner said.

According to Ram Mohan Rao, chairman of Telangana State Film Development Corporation, "the matter has been explained to the cinematography minister as well as to the chief secretary. They assured to fix a meeting with the Chief Minister after which a final decision could be taken."

# Delay in hiring APPs angers HC

Court told TS to fill 174 posts of additional public prosecutors in January

VUJJINI  
VAMSHIDHARA DC  
HYDERABAD, JULY 8

A division bench of Telangana High Court comprising Chief Justice Hima Kohli and Justice B. Vijayesh Reddy lambasted the state government and TSLPRB for taking nine months to complete the process of filling up 151 posts of Additional Public Prosecutors (APPs).

The court made it clear to the recruiting agency

that it should complete as early as possible. The Board issued the notification on July 4.

The High Court had directed it in January to fill up the 174 APP posts, as nearly 50 per cent of them were vacant. In view of a shortage of APPs, many criminal cases have not been disposed of and causing more dismay is that cases have been piling up for the past four years.

However, the Telangana Home department was not

**IN VIEW** of a shortage of APPs, many criminal cases have not been disposed of and causing more dismay is that cases have been piling up for the past four years.

inclined to issue the notification. In its June 16 hearing, the court was set to issue contempt proceedings against the Principal Secretary but on a plea by the government counsel, the court issued show-

cause notice as a last chance to Principal Secretary Ravi Varma to appear before the court.

Meanwhile, the latest notification puts the vacancies at 151. Moreover, the required time to complete the process was mentioned as 263 days. The bench said that it was an unreasonable long time, considering that half of the criminal courts in the state do not have regular APPs. A faster process can help

strengthen criminal courts. Principal secretary of home department and Chairman of TSLPRB were directed to file fresh affidavits furnishing the fresh updated timeline process for the said recruitment process.

Incidentally, many young advocates are decrying that the age-limit for aspirants has been fixed at 39 years. They urged the government to make it up to 44 years as the posts were not filled up since 2013.

## 6 ARRESTED FOR DUPING NRI OVER LAND PAPERS

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, JULY 8

The Medchal police on Thursday arrested six men for forging documents of a land parcel owned by an NRI and selling it.

Police said that the accused, identified as S. Amarendra, 50, a resident of HMT Colony in Nacharam, B. Ramarao, 60, from Moosarambagh, Naveen Kumar, 48, from Begumpet, M. Sathyaranaya, 60, D. Muralidhar Rao, 68, from Dilukhnagar and K. Shiva Kumar, 43, from Ambepet forged the General Power of Attorney documents for a plot in Balajinagar in 2009. Three more associates of the gang, B. Maheshwar Yadav, N. Srinivas and K. Deepika, were reportedly absconding.

"They forged the documents by impersonating the original owner, B. Samuel Samson, 62, a retired teacher residing in New South Wales in Australia. They then executed a sale deed and sold the land," Medchal police said, adding that based on a complaint from Samson's brother-in-law, G. Vijayasarathy, a case was booked and the arrests were made.

## MISSING YOUTH FOUND DEAD IN WALL COLLAPSE

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, JULY 8

A 25-year-old man who was reportedly missing by his family was found crushed to death in a wall collapse due to heavy rains in the city on late Wednesday night in SR Nagar.

A complaint was received by the police on Thursday morning around 1 am that N. Ashish, a student from Kalyan Nagar area of Hyderabad, had not returned home after going for a walk at around 6 pm on Wednesday. The complainant, N. Gangadhar Rao, Ashish's brother, searched all possible places and also asked with his friends and relatives about his whereabouts but in vain.

"During the course of investigation, a body was recovered from a site where a wall had collapsed due to heavy rains and after shifting it to a hospital, it was identified to be that of Ashish. Accordingly, the family was informed about the same and the body was moved for post-mortem examination," said the police, adding that it was suspected that he might have been standing near the place for shelter from the rain when the wall collapsed on him.

The arrested persons were identified as Mohd Shahnaaz, 21, a mobile phone technician, Mohd Mohsin, 24, a fruit vendor, Mir Rahman Ali Nadeem, 19, a degree student, Syed Shahnaaz, 20, an electrician and Mohd Sumair, 20, a paan shop worker.

Some theatre owners, who requested anonymity, said that they were still waiting for the issue of orders by the state government on the promise made during GHMC elections year that the minimum electricity demand charges will be waived.

"Government silence is quite worrying. Theatres are no longer sustainable. The government must step in with relief measures," a theatre owner said.

According to Ram Mohan Rao, chairman of Telangana State Film Development Corporation, "the matter has been explained to the cinematography minister as well as to the chief secretary. They assured to fix a meeting with the Chief Minister after which a final decision could be taken."

## Helpful gesture



Hyderabad Police Commissioner Anjani Kumar along with Additional Police Commissioner (Traffic) Anil Kumar inaugurates the blood donation camp organised by the traffic police department to help thalassemia patients at Pingali Venkatrami Reddy Garden, Lower Tank Bund, in Hyderabad on Thursday.

— P. SURENDRA

## Physician warns of re-infection in TS

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, JULY 8

Despite the figure of new cases getting reduced, and with 11,206 active cases in the state, data evaluations by Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) reveal that for one symptomatic positive case there are 10 to 30 asymptomatic cases and 20 untested cases.

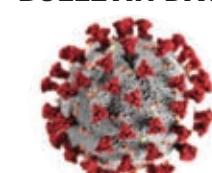
The out-patient departments in Covid-19 designated hospitals are seeing one case in three days.

Dr Kishan Rao, senior general physician in Ranga Reddy district, explained, "There are some who have not completed the treatment course or have not taken proper rest. Re-infection is

noted in these cases.

People must follow the protocols of home treatment

### DAILY COVID BULLETIN DATA



### Update: Cases | Deaths

Fresh Cases	731
Deaths	4
Tests Done	1,02,761
Active Cases	11,206
Total Cases	6,29,785
Total Deaths	3,714

### Highest New Cases

GHMC (Hyderabad)	80
Khammam	64
Nalgonda	56
Warangal Urban	46
Karimnagar	46
Khammam	44

### Lowest New Cases

Narayanpet	2
Kamareddy,	
Komarambheem Asifabad	3
Jogulamba Gadwal	4
Nirmal, Vikarabad	5
Nizamabad	6

numbers have boosted the confidence of people that the virus has disappeared, which, they assert, is a myth.

Dr Narsinga Reddy, senior member of Indian Medical Association, says

"The virus has not gone anywhere. We have 85 per cent of asymptomatic cases and for that reason there is a natural immune response.

With vaccination there is protection but that does not mean that masks, handwashing and social distancing can be given up.

To ensure that the vaccine works better, people must continue to follow Covid Appropriate Behaviour.

That will not only keep them safe but also help others to be safe."

revealed that the woman could have taken the extreme step due to financial hardships. "We are verifying with witnesses if there were any issues between the couple, which could have forced her to take this step. No suicide note was found," police said.

Officials revealed that Umarani was married to Venkatesh for about 14 years and was residing at Ramnagar.

"Venkatesh's brothers were also residing in adjoining houses in the same locality. As usual, Venkatesh slept in

the open area outside the house and Umarani along with the children went to sleep inside the house. However, early on Thursday, Venkatesh woke up to the cries of their youngest daughter, Shainy and tried to open the door but in vain. He then broke open the door with the help of other family members to find his wife and two elder daughters hanging from an iron beam," said the police.

Cases were booked following a complaint and the bodies were shifted for post-mortem.

India took excess antibiotics in first Covid wave: Study

KANIZA GARARI | DC  
HYDERABAD, JULY 8

**A TOTAL** of 216 million doses in excess were used of the 16,290 million doses sold in India. Sales of azithromycin was 34.4 per cent, doxycycline was 25 per cent and faropenem was 23 per cent higher. These three medicines were highly used during the peak period of the first wave.

**THERE IS** a need to strictly check the sale of antibiotics over the counter and that would require a robust system of tracking the batches of medicine which is far from reality.

inspectors say that it is not possible due to e-prescriptions. With no proper format in place and no laws for e-medicine, it is a grey area so far, they add.

Sales of medicine is the only yardstick measure the use of antibiotics among the population. Dr Sai Kumar Katam, president of Doctor of Pharmacy Association says, "Everyone diagnosed with Covid-19 was given antibiotics in which azithromycin, doxycycline, ciprofloxacin, norfloxacin and ofloxacin were very high. Antibiotics were sold as over-the-counter drugs and there have been no control measures in place, despite these being scheduled H drugs. The high use of these drugs will only aggravate the present condition and will lead to another superbug."

There is a need to strictly check the sale of antibiotics over the counter and that would require a robust system of tracking the batches of medicine which is far from reality.

Dr T. Pavan, senior general physician explains, "The use of antibiotics is for secondary bacterial infections only. But in the second wave too, there has been misuse, overuse and abuse of medicinal drugs. Due to this reason, there have been problems of black fungus, alteration of gut microbes leading to problems of gastro-intestinal tract. Impact of the second wave is being seen after the peak has ceased."



Telangana state Advocate General B.S Prasad and Advocates Association president Ponniam Ashok Goud inaugurate the vaccination drive for advocates.

## Free vaccine

## IN BRIEF

## Ceremony to promote organ donation

**Hyderabad:** Telangana Organ Donors Association (TODA) president Gudur Narayana Reddy held an inaugural ceremony in the city to promote organ donation in the state

on Thursday. Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) state president and Member of Parliament Bandi Sanjay was called as the chief guest.

Bandi Sanjay, who released the logo of TODA, said that through the association, he was able to help several Covid patients to get plasma. "The Plasma Donors Association has helped more than 8,500 Covid patients in the past one and half years. Though the people are much aware about the importance of eye donation, there was not much awareness about the importance of organ donation in general in the state.

"There is a need to bring a change in the society towards organ donation," he said.

## DASOJU SLAMS COPS FOR 'FAKE CASES' ON CONG. LEADERS

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
HYDERABAD, JULY 8

AICC national spokesperson Dr Dasoju Sravan rebuked Telangana police for filing false cases against his party leaders and activists by bowing down to pressure from TRS leadership. He came down heavily against the police force for using the swearing-in of the new TPCC team to harass Congress workers.

Speaking to reporters here on Thursday, Dr Sravan found fault with the double standards of police and highlighted their inaction and incapability in dealing with the illegal and anti-social activities of TRS leaders.

It is unfortunate that the police are even using a TPCC event for booking false cases.

"We applied for permission for taking out Revanth Reddy's rally from Peddamma Thalli temple to Gandhi Bhavan, but police denied permission with ulterior motives and they are now filing false cases", he said.

"Telangana police are giving lame excuses like violating Covid rules and causing traffic problems. If this argument bears strength, then why spare Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao, who made a mockery of Covid norms in Vasalamarri, where thousands of people had congregated", he said.

## RLIS PROJECT DETRIMENTAL TO ECOSYSTEM: TS

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
HYDERABAD, JULY 8

The Telangana State Irrigation Department has said that construction work taken up by Andhra Pradesh government with respect the Rayalaseema Lift Irrigation Scheme (RLIS) on River Krishna will impact the well-being of the ecosystem of Amrabad Tiger Reserve in Telangana. In response to a report "TS has no clue of sanctuaries" in these columns on July 8, the Irrigation Department officials clarified said the inclusion of reference to Amrabad Tiger Reserve in the letter written by Dr Rajat Kumar, the Special Chief Secretary (irrigation), to the Member Secretary, Expert Appraisal Committee, (River Valley Projects) in the Ministry of Environment and Forests, was "with full awareness and intention."

The Irrigation Department said the reference to Amrabad Tiger Reserve in the annexure to the letter was "with full awareness and intention. The massive blasting and construction activities at RLIS may cause disturbance and affect wild life and the ecosystem of the Amrabad Tiger Reserve as it is situated very close to the RLIS location, across the river."

## KTR: 'New beggars' on padayatra in TS

## Minister to BJP, Cong: Show states with sops like TS

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
HYDERABAD, JULY 8

TRS working president and IT minister K.T. Rama Rao has cautioned the people of Telangana against "new beggars" who arrived in Telangana and are going to undertake padayatras soon.

Referring to proposed padayatras by BJP state president Bandi Sanjay and TPCC chief Revanth Reddy, Rama Rao urged the people to show them the development brought about by the TRS government in the past seven years, when they visit their towns and villages as part of the padayatras.

Rao was addressing party workers at Telan-

gana Bhavan on Thursday after K. Mallaiah, leader of the pro-BJP Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS) in Singareni Collieries, joined TRS.

"The season of padayatras has begun in Telangana. New beggars have arrived in the state. They don't know anything except criticising KCR. They think that by criticising KCR they could emerge as big leaders. They are now making statements about padayatra. I request Telangana people to question whether any BJP and Congress government in any state implemented the welfare schemes and development programmes with the same verve as

the TRS government showed in Telangana," KTR said.

KTR challenged Bandi Sanjay and Revanth Reddy to show one Congress or BJP-ruled state in India where popular schemes like Rythu Bandhu, Rythu Bima, or the 24x7 free power to farmers were extended to farmers.

"Show one state other than TS, that is supplying treated drinking water to every household through taps and also uninterrupted power to all sectors.

The minister said no one has the strength or capacity to defeat Chief Minister Chandrasekhar Rao in Telangana. "Bandi and Revanth

should realise that KCR is not just like any other political leader. You are trying to confront a warrior who fought and achieved Telangana State against all odds."

"If they want to beat KCR, they should be able to love Telangana more than KCR does. If they learn this, they can hope to get at least a few votes in the next round of elections. We have seen how people crushed BJP and Congress in the recent MLC elections, the Nagarjunasagar Assembly bypoll and the municipal polls. A TRS youngster half the age of Congress heavyweight Jana Reddy defeated him in Nagarjunasagar," Rao said.

## Revanth finetunes Cong. protest plan

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
HYDERABAD, JULY 8

TPCC president and MP A. Revanth Reddy conducted a series of meetings with district and state level party leaders at Gandhi Bhavan here on Thursday. They pertain to the agitation programmes the party has lined up. The meeting was attended by Telangana in-charge Manickam Tagore, AICC secretaries Bosu Raju, Srinivasan Krishnan and senior leader KVP Ramchander Rao.

Interacting with DCC presidents, Reddy said that agitation programmes will be conducted from the to state level. Protests against the steep increase of petrol and diesel prices will be conducted on July 12 across the state. Cycle rallies and pulling of bullock carts will be taken up.

TPCC will take up 'Chalo Raj Bhavan' programme on July 16. Reddy asked party leaders to expose the high-level corruption by TRS leaders.

Meanwhile, Congress leaders also decided to take up 48 hours of deeksha against the TRS government. The date of deeksha will be announced soon, said TPCC campaign committee chairman Madhu Yashki. Speaking to newsmen, he said that each working president will look after four Parliamentary constituencies. Former deputy chief minister Damodar Raja Narsimha will be party in-charge for the Huzurabad by-election, he added.

Working presidents Geeta Reddy, Anjan



TPCC president and MP A. Revanth Reddy meets district and state level party leaders at the Gandhi Bhavan in Hyderabad on Thursday.

— S. SURENDER REDDY



The day after demitting office of PCC president, Uttam Kumar Reddy tours his Parliamentary constituency and participated in several programmes at Huzurnagar and Kodad.

## CONG. REMEMBERS YSR ON B'DAY

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
HYDERABAD, JULY 8

Ramchander Rao, AICC leaders, TPCC working presidents and others garlanded the statue of Rajasekhar Reddy at Panaghatta.

Congress leaders recalled the services of YSR on the occasion. Congress leaders also garlanded the portrait of YS Rajasekhar Reddy at Gandhi Bhavan on the occasion.

Congress leaders paid rich tributes to former chief minister YS Rajasekhar Reddy to mark his 72nd birth anniversary here on Thursday.

TPCC chief A.Revanth Reddy, Telangana Congress in-charge Manickam Tagore, close associate of YSR, KVP

Ramchander Rao, AICC leaders, TPCC working presidents and others garlanded the statue of Rajasekhar Reddy at Panaghatta.

Congress leaders recalled the services of YSR on the occasion. Congress leaders also garlanded the portrait of YS Rajasekhar Reddy at Gandhi Bhavan on the occasion.

## BJP eyes MIM-free Hyderabad: Bandi

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
HYDERABAD, JULY 8

vernment is a decisive step forward in taking the party to power here.

He alleged that chief minister Chandrasekhar Rao neglected the legacy of social reformers like Babasaheb Ambedkar and Jyotiba Phule but the BJP paid rich tributes to their services.

Bandi accused the TRS and KCR of supporting acts of water mafia bent on taking away a major share of Krishna Basin water. "KCR is running a com-

mission raj" and not for the development of the state, he said.

He expressed the fear that Hyderabad is becoming a hub for terrorists as also of Rohingyas and said, "The old city is not the Jageer of MIM".

"As and when the BJP comes to power in Telangana, we will reconstruct the Bhagyalakshmi temple at the spot where it was located at Charminar," he said.

He also said the BJP will set up a statue of BR Ambedkar at the city centre.

## Asset managers don't pay Wakf Board

**ATHER MOIN | DC**  
HYDERABAD, JULY 8

The Telangana State Wakf Board has been sitting pretty on a Wakf Fund to which a revenue of ₹5,000 crore or more is generated every year from the properties at its command, but are not passed on to it by those who manage these properties.

The Chowmohalla Palace and the Naukhanda Palace in Aurangabad are among 70 Wakf properties managed by the Nizam Auqaf Committee (NAC). As per Section 72 of the Wakf Act

1995, payment of 7 per cent of the income derived annually from all properties managed by the NAC should go to the Wakf Board.

However, no money is coming, and the Wakf Board is cash-strapped. Vested interests are playing havoc with the system; and political bosses are allegedly closing their eyes to ensure electoral and money support from such interests.

Officials of the Wakf Board say there was no information on dues from these income-generating properties. The board does not

even have details as to how long the payments for the Wakf Fund have not been received from those who manage these properties.

Here, one such prime Wakf property is the Jala Bazar, having more than 200 shops. This complex alone generates more than ₹2.5 crore in income every year by way of rent.

If the likes of the Chowmohalla Palace are included, the approximate income on various Wakf properties from which 7 per cent of the money earned must go to the

Wakf Board comes to around 5 crore a year.

As per Section 72 of the Wakf Act, "Mutawalli of every Wakf, the net annual income of which is not less than ₹5000, shall pay annually, out of the net income derived by the Wakf, contributions not exceeding seven per cent of such annual income, as may be prescribed, to the board for the services rendered by such board to the Wakf."

The law also mandates every Mutawalli to prepare a budget and submit audit reports of income and expenditure to the board. Neither the Mutawallis submit the budgets nor has the Wakf Board been insisting on Mutawallis sticking to rules.

In the Nizam era, Wakf institutions were under the control of the Umoor-e-Mazhab (Ecclesiastical Department). After the formation of Andhra Pradesh state, the Wakf Board was reconstituted and these institutions were brought under its purview. However, the management of certain properties was kept under the NAC.

## KOMATIREDDY RELENTS, SAYS JIBE WAS OUT OF FRUSTRATION

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
HYDERABAD, JULY 8

Congress MP Komatireddy Venkata Reddy on Thursday clarified that he had made certain comments against the new TPCC committee out of distress, but there is no personal intention to blame anyone.

"I strongly aspired for the TPCC president post, but the high command chose A. Revanth Reddy and it hurts me. Being a senior leader, I

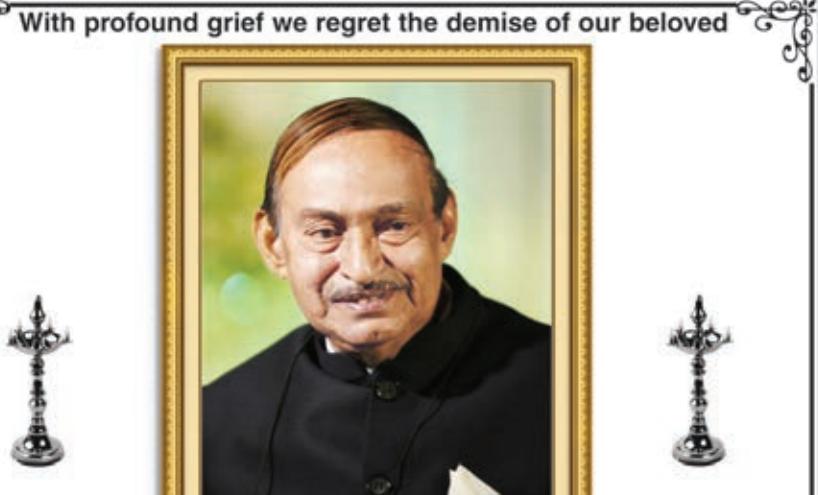
expressed my views frankly, but it was not intended to blame anyone", he said.

Speaking to reporters after taking part in former chief minister Y.S. Rajesekhar Reddy's birth anniversary at Bhuvanagiri, Venkata Reddy said that some political parties had invited him into their fold.

"I will continue in Congress and want to bring back the party into power. If all party leaders work together, we can come to power in

2023", he said. Despite sitting in Gandhi Bhavan, all leaders should stay in their respective constituencies for party victory, he suggested. Party activists are facing a difficult situation in the state as they had lost properties and were facing false cases. Coming to their aid is needed, he opined.

Reportedly, the high command directed Venkata Reddy not to air his views on TPCC new office-bearers after his outburst.



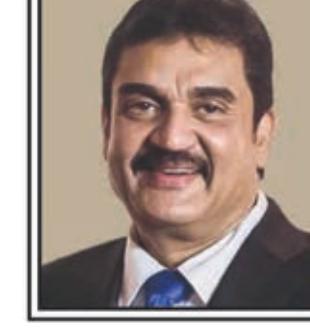
## THIRD DEATH ANNIVERSARY



M.S. DHAMODHARAN  
(Retd. EME Records)  
We miss you every moment of our lives  
Lives you live in the hearts of the loving family. You left behind.  
Inserted by: Wife. Smt. D. Vasudha & Family Members.

(S/2122/D00418)

## 1st DEATH ANNIVERSARY



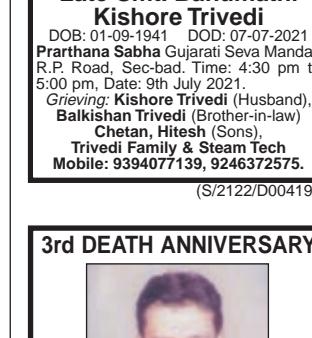
Sri Bhanu Murthy Bejgam  
Founder chairman of Vesu Group  
18th June 1964 - 09th July 2020

We miss you every moment of our lives  
You live in the hearts of the family as amazing person  
You are the source of inspiration and guide to so many lives  
You will be remembered forever

In Remembrance  
Wife : Padma Bejgam, Bejgam Family Members and Vesu Group Himayatnagar Hyd.

(S/2122/D00419)

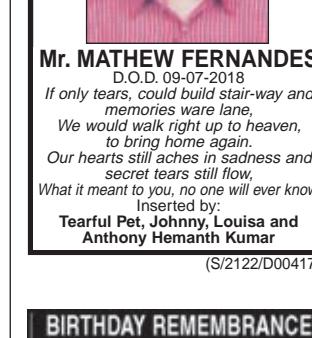
## OBITUARY



Late Smt. Banumathi Kishore Trivedi  
DOB: 08-08-1944 - DED: 09-07-2021  
Prarthana Seva Gruha Seva Mandal, R.P. Road, Sec-6, Date: 9th July 2021.  
Grieving: Kishore Trivedi (Husband), Balkishan Trivedi (Brother-in-Law), Chetan Hitesh (Sons), Trivedi Family & Steam Tech  
Mobile: 9394077139, 9246372575.

(S/2122/D00419)

## 3rd DEATH ANNIVERSARY



Mr. MATHEW FERNANDES  
D.O.B. 09-07-1918  
If only tears could speak - one-way and memories were lane  
We would walk right up to heaven, to bring home again.

Our hearts still aches and secret tears still flow,  
What it meant to you, no one will ever know.

Inserted by:  
Tearful Pet, Johny, Louisa and Anthony Hemant Kumar

(S/2122/D00417)

## 24th DEATH ANNIVERSARY

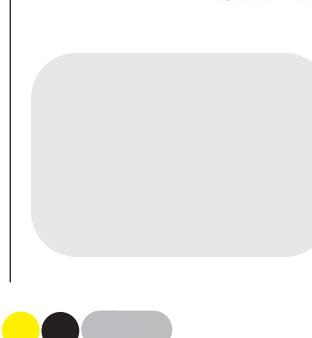


GOLI ESWARIAH  
(SECUNDERABAD)  
Expired: 9-7-97  
Ever remembering you with Love and Respect.

Inserted by  
FAMILY MEMBERS

(S/2122/D00417)

## BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE



K. THARUN KUMAR [Tingu]  
DOB: 9-7-1993 DOD: 22-3-2008  
S/o Mrs. & Mr. Karunade

**SHORT TAKES**  
**KRISHNA WATER ROW: MEETING POSTPONED**

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, JULY 8

The Krishna River Management Board (KRMB) has postponed the three-member committee meeting scheduled to be held on Friday to resolve the ongoing Krishna water dispute between Telangana state and Andhra Pradesh.

The KRMB said the fresh date for the meeting will be announced later.

The KRMB convened the meeting on July 9 after the AP government complained against the TS government for taking up hydel power generation at irrigation projects on Krishna river, namely Nagarjunasagar, Srisailam and Pulichintala, thereby leading to depletion of water levels in reservoirs and pushing AP into irrigation and drinking water crisis.

However, the TS government strongly demanded the postponement of the meeting and instead wanted a full body KRMB meeting to be held at a mutually convenient date after July 20. New KRMB chairman MP Singh assumed office in Hyderabad only on Wednesday. Against this backdrop, the KRMB decided to postpone the meeting.

**JAGAN'S BAIL:  
RAJU SUBMITS ARGUMENTS**

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, JULY 8

In a petition before the CBI court, seeking cancellation of bail granted to YS Jagan Mohan Reddy in the disproportionate assets cases, petitioner Raghurama Krishnam Raju and the respondent placed their written arguments before the CBI court on Thursday.

Jagan claimed in his written arguments that Raghurama Krishnam Raju is not an aggrieved party vis-a-vis these cases. "He is not involved in any manner in the cases filed by me CBI, Jagan said.

Also, Jagan submitted that Raghurama Raju claimed that he was interested in matters of public importance, but the requisite criteria for 'being an aggrieved person' does not apply to him, Jagan said.

**THREE INJURED AS EXPLOSIVES SET OFF**

DC CORRESPONDENT  
KHAMMAM, JULY 8

The explosive disposal plan of police created tension after the material exploded suddenly at Mangalampadu under Khammam Rural on Thursday.

As per available details, following court instructions, personnel from Khammam Rural police station decided to dispose of the explosives that were seized while they were being shifted illegally. A bomb disposal team from Hyderabad was asked to monitor the disposal act being undertaken by 20 persons. The explosives, including gellatins, detonators and black powder were shifted to an open area in Mangalagudem. The police blasted detonators first, followed by gellatines.

Later, they dug a massive trench by using JCB and dropped the black powder in it. Unfortunately, the black powder exploded while opening a black powder bag. A spark came while dropping the powder into the trench and it exploded with a thunderous sound.

# Clean our streets, remove waste, plead residents of Moghalpura

Complain that GHMC staff failed to lift garbage on regular basis from area

**ATHER MOIN / DC**  
HYDERABAD, JULY 6

Residents of Moghalpura have complained about poor cleaning of streets and negligence in the removal of garbage. They have urged the GHMC to step up the sweeping of the roads and streets.

The sanitation staff is repeatedly failing to lift garbage on a regular basis in the Moghalpura area.

Residents stressed that the garbage issue should be resolved soon. "The waste is not lifted from garbage bins for days. After the onset of Monsoon, the area is faced with not just waterlogging but also of rotten garbage heaps. This is posing a grave health threat to the locals, particularly children," they said.

The residents feared that if cleanliness is not maintained, viral infections would be the result.

"Sweepers are not to be seen for days. I do not know whether the civic body has allotted a sweeper for this area at all," said Moghalpura Water Tank resident Mohammed Azhar. "They do not even clean the main roads for weeks. The contractor has apparently not hired the approved number of sweepers," he said.

Nikhat Zareen of Hari

**● THE RESIDENTS**  
feared that if cleanliness is not maintained, viral infections would be the result.

Bowlil alleged that the GHMC has not supplied garbage bins to households and no one comes to collect the garbage from houses. Hence, residents throw the garbage on the roadsides.

Shaik Imran of Urdu Ghar said no regular street cleaning is carried out by the GHMC. All types of dirty materials are dumped on the roads and street-corners, leading to the presence of stray dogs all through the day.

Even area Corporator Nasreen Sultan is not happy with the way the sanitation section of the GHMC functioned. "The grievances of the residents are genuine. GHMC officials are not providing details of the sanitary staff."

"In our division, there are three sanitation units and each unit shall have 18 sweepers. But, rarely are even seven members hired in each unit. I had written to municipal administration minister K.T. Rama Rao highlighting the malfunctioning of GHMC, but this also proved futile," she added.



Garbage lies piled up in the Sultan Shahi playground and Moghalpura water tank. Locals complain of lack of cleaning and maintenance by the authorities as sanitation staff fail to lift it regularly.



— DC

## SC seeks state reply on Polavaram project

**New Delhi, July 8:** The Supreme Court on Thursday sought the response of the Telangana government and others on an appeal filed against an NGT order which had accepted the recommendations of a committee relating to the Polavaram project.

A bench of Justices S.A. Nazeer and Krishna Murari issued notices to Telangana and Ponguleti Sudhakar Reddy (original petitioner in NGT) challenging the order of the tribunal and tagged the appeal with a similar matter. The apex court was hearing the appeal filed by Odisha government against the September 18, 2020 order of the NGT con-

tending that it has erroneously accepted the report of a committee without affording the state an opportunity to be heard.

The Odisha government argued that it was not made a party in the plea, there was no representative of the state on the committee and no notice was issued to it in the matter.

A bench of Justices S.A. Nazeer and Krishna Murari issued notices to Telangana and Ponguleti Sudhakar Reddy (original petitioner in NGT) challenging the order of the tribunal and tagged the appeal with a similar matter. The apex court was hearing the appeal filed by Odisha government against the September 18, 2020 order of the NGT con-

cerning that it has erroneously accepted the report of a committee without affording the state an opportunity to be heard.

Moreover, the Tribunal has no jurisdiction to transfer proceedings to the Supreme Court. All other recommendations are accepted and action may be taken by the Project Authority and concerned States viz. AP, Chattisgarh, Odisha and TS and the Central Water Commission.

— PTI

## Modi lauded for empowering OBCs

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, JULY 8

of the Council of ministers, the message was that the government is keen on empowering OBCs.

Laxman said that the youngest post-independence Cabinet aims at social and geographical inclusion as there is adequate representation for SCs, STs and women across regions. He praised Modi for creating separate ministries for fisheries and handlooms thereby underscoring the government's desire to support those sections of people, whose livelihood is threatened by globalisation.

He recalled that the many governments in the past used the names of Mahatma Gandhi and Dr Ambedkar to pay lip-service to the marginalised sections.

## Reject Acharya's plea, urges CBI

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, JULY 8

Strongly objecting to the plea by retired civil servant B.P. Acharya to remove his name in a case filed by CBI against Jagan Mohan Reddy and others.

In the counter-affidavit, CBI submitted that it has evidence that Acharya played key role as the then APIIC vice-chairman and MD, in allotment of huge value land to Indu Techzone, which is owned by Shyam Prasad Reddy, a close aide of YS Rajashekhar Reddy.

remove his name in a

case of land allotment to Indu Tech Zone, one among the 11 cases filed by CBI against Jagan Mohan Reddy and others.

In the counter-affidavit, CBI submitted that it has evidence that Acharya played key role as the then APIIC vice-chairman and MD, in allotment of huge value land to Indu Techzone, which is owned by Shyam Prasad Reddy, a close aide of YS Rajashekhar Reddy.

remove his name in a

## Living on the edge



A nala with a semi-constructed boundary wall poses great threat to passersby and residents of Mahatma Gandhi Nagar near Shaikpet in Hyderabad.

— R. PAVAN

**SIBLING PAIN**

**AP CM hits out at Naidu for not stopping projects built by TS during his tenure**

DC CORRESPONDENT  
ANANTAPUR, JULY 8

Making it clear that YSRC's exclusive focus was on Andhra Pradesh, Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy on Thursday said that neither he nor his party would participate in the politics of any other state.

Reacting to his sister Y.S. Sharmila launching a political party in Telangana state for the first time, Jagan Mohan Reddy said, "Either Jagan or his party would never involve in the

**● HE ALSO** advised the TS government against politicising water issues as farmers in both Telugu states are equal.

politics of Telangana State or Karnataka or Tamil Nadu. We seek cordial relationship with neighbouring states. That's why we would not interfere in the political affairs of neighbouring states."

Jagan Mohan Reddy addressed a public meeting after a long time at Rayadurgam in Anantapur

district following all Covid protocols on the occasion of the 72nd birth anniversary of Dr Y.S. Rajasekhar Reddy.

Jagan Mohan Reddy, however, objected to the Telangana state government trampling on the rights of Andhra Pradesh to utilise allocated water sources from Srisailam as it would affect the drought-hit Rayalaseema region.

He also advised the TS government against politicising water issues as farmers in both Telugu states are equal.

"We will not interfere in their affairs but some MLAs have been making tall claims. When the state was united, the allocation of Krishna waters was done for the three regions — Rayalaseema, Coastal Andhra, and Telangana. After the state was bifurcated, there was a tripartite agreement signed by the Centre, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana on June 19, 2015 with clear earmarking of river water allocations," Jagan recalled.

"Unless the water level at

Srisailam rises to the full capacity of 885 feet, Pothireddypadu will not get water. Except in the last two years, water at Srisailam had reached 885 feet only for 20 to 25 days in the last two decades."

He said Andhra Pradesh cannot draw water unless the water level at Srisailam reaches 881 feet. "However, Palamuru Ranga Reddy, Dindi, and Kalwakurthi projects are drawing water even when the water level is 800 feet and are generating hydel power at 796 feet in Telangana."

"When Telangana could draw water at 800 feet, what was wrong if AP does the same by claiming its rightful share of water using lift," he asked.

In a scathing attack on former chief minister N. Chandrababu Naidu who failed to stop the water projects in Telangana during his term, he said, "I would like to ask him as to why he did not open his mouth during his term when the Telangana government started the Palamuru Ranga Reddy, Dindi and other projects."

## YSRC's sole focus on AP, not other states: Jagan

DC CORRESPONDENT  
ANANTAPUR, JULY 8

**LT. GEN. ATULYA VISITS SEC'BAD MILITARY STATION**

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, JULY 8

Lt. Gen. Atulya Solankey, GOC, Sudarshan Chakra Corps, visited the Secunderabad Military Station on Thursday to review the operational readiness of the Bison Division. There, he was briefed by Maj. Gen. Prit Pal Singh, GOC, Bison Division, on a variety of aspects for operational preparedness, security situation and administration for the welfare of the troops in the formation.

The General Officer also visited Batticaloa Brigade, Mehdipatnam, and Bowenpally Garrisons to review their readiness.

**Union Bank of India**  
Support Services Department, CO Annexe - Hyderabad  
Telephone no : 040-23252444, 23252414/2439  
email : gad@unionbankofindia.com  
TENDER REFERENCE NO: SSD/ANNEX-HYD/05/2021 D/L09.07.2021

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FOR COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL MAINTENANCE CONTRACT (CAMC) TOWARDS MAINTENANCE AND SERVICING OF AIR CONDITIONERS PROVIDED AT SAIFABAD BUILDING, KOTI AND SOMAJIGUDA BUILDINGS.**

Union Bank of India invites sealed bids (in two bid system) from eligible established Agencies for maintenance and servicing of Air Conditioners other than Central AC plant. The detailed information regarding eligibility norms and tender document is available on the Bank's website [www.unionbankofindia.co.in](http://www.unionbankofindia.co.in) and [www.eprocure.gov.in](http://www.eprocure.gov.in). The last date for submission of tender is **31.07.2021 till 3.00 pm**.

The Bank reserves the right to reject any or all applications without assigning any reasons whatsoever.

Chief Manager

**GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA PANCHAYAT RAJ ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT**  
O/o The Regional Officer, Regional Office PR Nalgonda  
"e" PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE  
e-Proc.T.N.No.PR/48,49,50/2021-22 D/L-07-07-2021  
No of works (3) Name of the Work Balance work Construction of Road from Nakkalapally to Thondlai (Vla) Sabbidigudem of Nakkalapally (M) in Nalgonda Dist. HMDA Grant Package No.I & II in Bommalaramaram Mandal. Total ECV:655.00 Lakhs. Tenders Download Start & End DT-19-07-2021 to 26-07-2021. for further details e' Procurement Market place i.e. [www.eprocurement.gov.in](http://www.eprocurement.gov.in). Sd/- Regional Officer, DIPR No.1544-PDCL-Agency/ADVT/1/2021-22, D/10-07-2021 Regional Office PR Nalgonda

**HYDERABAD METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**  
Public Notification U/s. 15 (1) of HMDA Act 2008  
(Government Memo. No.14535/P/Plg/1/2020, Dt:12-04-2021)  
In exercise of powers conferred by Sub-Section (1) of Section 15 of HMDA Act, 2008 (Act No.8 of 2008), it is proposed to make the following draft variation to the land use envisaged in the notified Revised Master Plan-2021 approved vide G.O.Ms.No.288 MA&UD, Dt:03-04-2008. The site in Plot No.45 in Sy.No.46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52 & 53 of Kotagedu Village & Sy.No.28, 29, 27 & 28 of Kotagedu Village, G.O.Ms.No.288 MA&UD, Dt:03-04-2008 is now proposed to be designated as Commercial use zone. The details of the above are available in websites : <https://gazette.telangana.gov.in/> & <https://www.hmda.gov.in/>. Objections/Suggestions would be considered from any person or body to the Principal Secretary, MA & UD, Dept., Telangana Secretariat, Hyderabad within Fifteen (15) days from the date of publication of this Notice.  
DPR No.1544-PDCL-Agency/ADVT/1/2021-22, D/10-07-2021 Sd/- For Metropolitan Commissioner, HMDA

**PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD.**  
(Regd. Office PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala)  
Corporate Identification Number: U40109PB2010SGC033813 | website: [www.pspcl.in](http://www.pspcl.in) (Contact Number : 96461-18774)  
Tender Enquiry No. MQP-183/2021-22/PO(M) | Dated: 08-07-2021  
Chief Engineer/Metering, C-3, Shakti Vihar, PSPCL, Patiala, invites E-tender for Procurement of 10,000 "ISI" marked, LT AC 3-phase, 4-wire, Whole Current, Static Intelligent Bi-Directional AMR compatible Consumer Energy Meters with "Optical Port" & RS-232 port\*, of rating 10-60 Amperes 50 Hz, 415 volts (3x240 volts) of accuracy class-I for Net Metering for Grid Interactive Roof-Top Solar Photovoltaic Power Plants. For detailed NIT and tender specification, please refer to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from 08.07.2021 from 05:00 PM onwards.  
Note: Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>  
C-259/21 RO : 76155/12/346/2021/5859

**TSRTC TENDER NOTIFICATION**  
Sealed Tenders are invited for various outsourcing activities in the units of Hyderabad Region. Interested participants visit our website: <http://tsrtc.telangana.gov.in> (Tenders). TSRTC reserves the right to cancel/ reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons thereof.  
No M2797/01/2021-HR, dated 05.07.2021  
Sd/- Regional Manager, Hyderabad Region  
RO No.1938-PDCL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2021-22 D/07-07-2021

**ICAR-Indian Institute of Oilseeds Research**  
Rajendranagar, Hyderabad-500 030, Telangana State, India  
Tel : 040-24682008, Website:

# DECCAN Chronicle

9 JULY 2021

## Modi tries to change the optics as polls lie ahead

Prime Minister Narendra Modi shuffled his pack of ministers in so extensive a fashion on Wednesday that the exercise does not fit under the commonplace rubric of a "cabinet reshuffle". The extensive changes, not seen in years, seemed a thoroughly pre-meditated affair.

The PM's consultations with the ruling party's organisational leadership, as well as consequential colleagues such as home minister Amit Shah, on likely changes to be made to the Union council of ministers, had been on for many weeks. Looking at the wide-ranging changes made, the confabulations indicate that political considerations linked to elections were the paramount criteria.

The thrusting of a thoroughly deserving Ashwini Vaishnaw, a former IAS officer with a distinguished quality higher education and experience as a senior corporate professional as well as entrepreneur, into the Union cabinet although he joined the BJP only two years ago, can only be called a happy happenstance.

Not too much by way of political messaging need be read into this. For the sake of the country, this minister entrusted with key portfolios, will perform well. But we should be cautioned that there is no direct correlation between high-grade education and success as a minister even in the case of those with experience of administration, as is the case with Mr Vaishnaw.

If Mr Vaishnaw's case is a fluke, the case of urban affairs minister Hardeep Singh Puri is one of deserved promotion to cabinet status. Mr Puri is energetic, articulate, and politically combative principally with those that the PM likes to combat with — namely, ear-marked Opposition leaders. He has taken on the Central Vista project, of which the PM is deeply enamoured, with a rare passion at the risk of flying in the face of the consequences.

considered view of a wide array of professional experts. That has evidently stood him in good stead in addition to his other qualities.

No tears are expected to be shed for those who were shown the door, though the shunting out of a few high-profile individuals such as Ravishankar Prasad and Prakash Javadekar, besides Harsh Vardhan, appears intriguing. Equally intriguing to some is the continuation of some in the cabinet committee on security (ministers of home, defence, finance and foreign affairs).

It is perhaps fair to say that in so centralised a government as the one which Mr Modi presides over, all except the most routine decisions are taken at the apex level. From that angle, ministers are generally chosen — or dropped — for considerations relating to social constituencies and likely electoral value in future polls.

Important state elections are due in early 2022 and 2023 and the Lok Sabha poll in 2024. There is not much time left to refurbish with the help of caste or regional groupings.

Thus, the PM has placed additional emphasis on OBC, dalit and tribal communities in different states, especially UP, Gujarat and Bihar, and noticeably lessened the representation of individuals of the so-called upper castes. This in part may explain the cases of Mr Prasad and Mr Javadekar.

Before the pandemic, the Modi dispensation had bent its energy in unproductive, ideological directions through issues such as CAA and triple talaq, raising the storm in Kashmir, and mishandling key economic decision. With polls looming, the changes in the Union council of ministers at least serves as new optics.

## A dream run for Mithali

**N**ot without good reason was she nicknamed "Lady Tendulkar". The batswoman of the Indian women's cricket team Mithali Raj has displayed a similar appetite for scoring. She has even beaten the master batsman for defying age at the batting crease by playing on into her 39th year and outscoring the batswomen of the world in accumulating 10,337 international runs across the three formats and overtaking England's Charlotte Edwards. Making her international debut in 1999 at the tender age of 16 much like Sachin who she idolised, Mithali has stayed the course while overcoming the vicissitudes and not without suffering the personality politics that sport invariably wallows in.

Once accused of putting self before team and slow scoring not in tune with collective priorities while being dropped down the batting order in WT20Is from her regular opener's slot, Mithali announced her retirement from the shortest format but went on to conquer peaks in Tests and ODIs. Her brushes with the current coach and team mates may have marked a sordid chapter in the history of women's cricket in India, which for long has been the ultimate amateur sport to play which cricketers of the fairer sex have had to make several sacrifices. To her credit, she made up with everyone and even today captains the Test and ODI teams to try and fulfil the highest team ambitions.

An opening "batter", to use the preferred unisex modern day term they borrowed from baseball, Mithali has an orthodox style and prefers to play in the classic V while showing a penchant for quick scoring by using her skills and power to play to the outside. It is only lately that women cricketers of India have received due recognition in decent match fees, annual contracts and training and travel commensurate with their efforts though their overall treatment may be far below what true gender equality might entail. BCCI taking over the women's game has invested it with resources but one would hope that Mithali and her cricketing colleagues would get greater opportunities to follow their passion.

DECCAN CHRONICLE

K. SUDHAKAR  
Printer & Publisher

DECCAN CHRONICLE offices are located at:

Hyderabad: 36, Sarojini Devi Road, Secunderabad - 500 003, Ph: 040-27803930-4; Fax: 040-27805256  
Vijayawada: No.C-3 & 4 Patamata, Industrial Estate, Auto Nagar, Vijayawada (A.P), Ph: 0866-2555284/2555287; Telefax: 0866-2555234  
Visakhapatnam: Survey No.1/3A Beach Road, Near Kailasagiri Ropeway, Sector-9 MVP Colony, Visakhapatnam - 530 017 (A.P), Ph: 0891-2552333/255234; Fax: 0891-2417618/2417208; Telefax: 0891-2417208  
Anantapur: Thapovan colony, Bangalore By-Pass Road, Anantapur - 515004, Ph: 08554-276903; Fax: 08554-276904  
Karnimangar: Survey No.1341, Vavilalapally Colony, Jagityala Road, Karimangar - 505 001, Ph: 0878-2228908; Telefax: 0878-2220433  
Nellore: Survey No.52/2, Burrampur Village, Venkatachalam (M), Chemmudugunta Panchayat, Nellore, Ph: 0861-2348581/82; Telefax: 0861-2348580  
Chennai: SP-3 Developed Plot, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai - 600 032, Ph: 044-22254747/ 48/50/51; Advt. Fax: 22254765/22254766/42305325  
Coimbatore: 77, Vivekananda Road, Rammagam, Coimbatore - 641 009, Ph: 0422 2231255  
Gram: CHRONICLE Postal registration no: No. H/SD-348/2006-08

KAUSHIK MITTER  
EditorFaizan  
Mustafa

## The 'recusal' in Mamata's case: Can a judge be truly impartial?

Justice Kausik Chanda of the Calcutta high court, in his 13-page order, finally recused himself from hearing the election petition of West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee against the BJP's Suvendu Adhikari, who was declared the winner in the prestigious Nandigram constituency. The basic argument was that the judge's relationship with the BJP was "comprehensive and inextricably intertwined, personal, professional, ideological and a long standing continuous one". He headed the BJP's legal cell prior to his appointment as additional solicitor general in 2015.

What is bias? Whose perspective of bias matters? Whether a judge in spite of his close association with a political party can still be impartial, particularly against a chief minister who opposed his confirmation as a judge, were some of the vital questions involved in this case.

Justice Chanda initially had not agreed to recuse himself, saying that doing so would mean giving in to a media trial. But now he has finally decided to recuse in order to save the judiciary, as he says a national con-

troversy had been deliberately created and the people involved in this case belong to the highest echelon of state politics. He also said that a "trial before this bench will be a tool to aggrandise themselves". Using extremely strong words, he went on to say that "it would be contrary to the interest of justice if such an unwarranted squabble continues along with the trial of the case, and such attempts should be thwarted at the threshold". However, by imposing a ₹5 lakh fine on Ms Banerjee, the act of recusal has lost some of its grace, though some of the tweets against the judge were condemnable. Similarly, going to the Chief Justice for transferring case to another bench was in really bad taste.

The impartiality of a judge is the first principle of a fair judicial process. Though it is difficult to define impartiality in exact and precise terms, every judge must keep in mind what American judge Learned Hand had once said: "What do I mean by impartiality? I mean you must not introduce yourself, your own preconceived notions about what is right."

Recusal of a judge is sought when there are doubts on his impartiality.

In fact, it is the foremost duty of a judge to remove every sense of injustice and the possibility of appearance of bias not only from the minds of the parties but even the public at large, or at least well-informed observers of the judicial process.

A judge should ideally recuse from a proceeding in which his impartiality "might reasonably be questioned". To begin with initially, as was held in Sir Nicholas Bacon (1563), a judge was expected to recuse if he had a "direct pecuniary interest" in the matter before him. In the United States, in 1792, recusal principles based on British common law were given statutory recognition.

Subsequently, the recusal law was further broadened with the "automatic disqualification" becoming the rule. It was termed as the "bright line rule" and covered clear-cut cases of bias. In case of appearance of bias, arguments should be made, and this was called the "rule of reason or per se rule".

Bias sways judgments as it is a particular influential power leading inclination of mind in a particular direction. Lord Esher in Allinson vs General Council of Medical

Education Registration (1894) had observed that the question was not that the judge was in fact biased. Lord Hewart famously observed in *Rex vs Sussex* (1924) that a reasonable suspicion of bias was enough to exclude a judge.

Whose perspective of bias should really matter? The Supreme Court, in the Ranjit Thakur case (1987), observed that "as to the tests of likelihood of bias, what is relevant is the reasonableness of apprehension in the mind of the party. The proper approach for the judge is not to look at his own mind and ask himself, however honestly, 'am I biased'; but to look to the mind of party before him". Though Justice Chanda did raise this question in Para 16 of his order, in Para 17 he said the "appearance of impartiality should not be viewed from the perspective of a common man". Justice Chanda said it was for the court to decide that on the given facts, whether a well-informed, reasonable man would perceive bias. He explicitly observed: "The past association of a judge with a political party by itself cannot form apprehension of bias." He even refused to attach any weight to the argument that Mamata Banerjee had

opposed his confirmation as a permanent judge.

Two Supreme Court judges, Justices Indira Banerjee and Aniruddha Bose, had on their own recently recused themselves from the Narada case. Former Supreme Court judge Arun Mishra's refusal to recuse from the Constitution Bench in the Indore Development Authority case (2019), where his own judgment was under review, was a bad precedent.

All human beings are entitled to see themselves as fair and unbiased. But in the judicial process, judges don't have that privilege as it's not their assessment that matters, but it's for others to evaluate their fairness and impartiality. The guarantee of due process is violated if people think the judge being a fallible human being in this particular matter may not hold his balance. Justice Chanda therefore deserves appreciation as propriety, not legality, was the real question, as justice is after all rooted in people's confidence.

The writer is an expert in constitutional law and vice-chancellor of Nalsar University of Law, Hyderabad

Subhani



## Loans, not relief: A raw deal for the urban poor

Karan Thapar

As I See It

I am rarely surprised when people in government say silly things. It happens all over the world with a frequency that's quite frightening. Indeed, I sometimes wonder if it's a necessary qualification for the high office they hold? But a recent op-ed by our own chief economic adviser, arguing that government-backed loans are a better way of helping the urban poor than an employment guarantee scheme, is in a class of its own. Krishnamurthy Subramanian's article stands out for two reasons — the convoluted logic of his arguments as well as the moral ambivalence of his conclusion.

The CEA's article begins by arguing that an urban version of MGNREGA, the rural employment guarantee scheme, would be the wrong way of helping the urban poor devastated by the second wave of Covid-19. First, he claims, there are "large inefficiencies that stem in normal times from the permanent entitlement" that an MGNREGA-style scheme creates. He doesn't say what these are but still insists they are "hard to unwind". And because an urban job guarantee "would suffer the same fate" he's against it.

Second, he argues, urban skill levels vary and, therefore, a "one wage for all will not work as (it does) with rural MGNREGA". This is his second reason for ruling it out.

Third, he says, "an urban-job guarantee programme would... increase migration into urban areas". This is because the urban wage level would have to be higher than a rural one. That, he believes, is the magnet which would attract rural hordes to our cities.

Frankly, these are spurious arguments. For a

start, the "inefficiencies" are neither specified nor explained. I wonder why? Then, the claim that because skills vary wages must also differ begs the question why. That isn't the case in rural India, where MGNREGA pays landowners the same as landless labour. More tellingly, in Western democracies, the unemployment benefit is the same whether you're an out-of-work CEO or a factory floor technician. So, why should it have to be different in urban India?

And the claim that an urban MGNREGA would increase migration is, at best, only one reason why rural-to-urban migration happens and, arguably, by no means the most important.

However, despite the deficiencies in his argument, this blithe dismissal of the idea of an urban MGNREGA opens the way for the CEA to claim a better way of helping the urban poor is a government-backed loan scheme run by micro-finance institutions. This is because MFIs have "about two crore borrowers" from "urban and semi-urban areas". Therefore, he concludes, "MFIs have a large reach to the urban poor". Because the urban poor are migrants from other states, an entitlement-based scheme's reach would be less. But he simply asserts this. He provides no proof.

Now comes the morally ambivalent bit of the CEA's logic. "When a loan is given by (an) MFI and fully guaranteed by the government, this scheme serves as a quasi-cash transfer targeted to the genuinely distressed". But on what basis does he make that assumption? Grameen Bank — and let's not forget our own MFIs — succeeded because the poor honour their debts. It's the rich who don't. Think of Vijay Mallya, Nirav Modi and Mehul Choksi.

Third, an employment

It is a mean-spirited, low-hearted and unkind way of treating your fellow citizens. Boris Johnson and Rishi Sunak would have been kicked out of office if this is how they had responded to urban unemployment in Britain.

Alas, he has chosen to behave like Marie Antoinette. She offered cake when there was no bread. He's offering loans to people who can't afford debt!

The writer is a television commentator and anchor

## LETTERS

### CM'S PROPERTY TAX

Surprised to note that the CM's office owes ₹2.5 million to the GHMC ever since the TRS came to power (TS owes tax worth ₹678 cr to GHMC, DC, July 8). I wish to know if there is any provision in the law that allows governments to indulge in 'book adjustment' as per the report while the citizens are constantly reminded to pay tax on time.

Lalitheswara Raju  
Hyderabad

### RAIN, POWER CUTS

Rains or no rains, residents of Attapur feel the brunt of outages all year around (Heavy downpour floods many areas, disrupts power supply, DC, July 8). Since the beginning of April this year, we had at least 28 outages till date, this is only those that were reported to the department. Actual outages are much higher.

Anil Tarun  
Attapur

### DILIP KUMAR DEMISE

With the sad demise of Dilip Kumar, it is curtains down on a golden era of Indian cinema. His contribution to film industry is unparalleled. As Amitabh Bachchan summed it up, "Whenever history of Indian cinema will be written, it shall always be 'before Dilip Kumar' and 'after Dilip Kumar'."

Jitesh Mathur  
Hyderabad

### 50 YEARS AGO IN DECCAN Chronicle

#### India must go nuclear — MPs

NEW DELHI, JULY 8. A demand for India going nuclear was voiced by several Members from both sides of the House during an inconclusive discussion on the demands for grants for the Ministry of Defence in the Lok Sabha today. Members said that just as no country had come to the aid of Bangladesh when it was overrun by West Pakistani troops, no country could be depended on to help India against a possible nuclear attack from China. If India wished to survive, she must be completely self-reliant in defence preparations and must be at least China's equal in nuclear capabilities, no matter what cost it entailed.

## SHORT TAKES

## MIGRATORY BIRDS THROG BHITARKANIK

Kendrapara, July 8: With the onset of monsoon, thousands of migratory waterbirds from across the country have made the marshy wetlands of Bhitarkanika National Park in Odisha's Kendrapara district their temporary home for the annual nesting and breeding season, a senior forest official said on Thursday.

The arrival of the local migratory birds has reestablished Bhitarkanika as one of the prominent heronries of Odisha, Rajnagar Mangrove (Wildlife) Forest Division DFO Jagyandatt Pati said.

"With the commencement of the rainy season, local migratory species have arrived in batches at the Bagagahan herony for seasonal nesting. They have built nests and laid eggs atop the mangrove trees. Their sojourn would last for at least three months from now, after which they would start their homeward journey," he said.

There has been a sizable congregation of these monsoon birds this year. They are still arriving in batches. The headcount of these winged species will be conducted next month. Last year, 97,866 birds were counted nesting at the national park, Pati said.

There is ample food for the birds as the place, crisscrossed by innumerable water inlets and nullahs, is free of human interference, the DFO said.

**WOMAN FALES HUSBAND'S DEATH FOR INSURANCE**

Ahmedabad, July 8: A 35-year-old woman was arrested on Thursday for allegedly faking her husband's death using forged documents and claiming ₹18.5 lakh from his insurance policy in Gujarat's Ahmedabad city police said.

The city crime branch has arrested the accused woman Nanda Marathi and Harikrishna Soni, a doctor, on the charges of cheating and forgery, an official said.

The woman's husband Nimesh Marathi approached the crime branch on Wednesday after learning that his wife had allegedly claimed ₹18.5 lakh from his life insurance policy by showing him dead in 2019, the official said.

During the probe, the police found that Nanda had taken the help of Soni to get a report stating that her husband had died during treatment in March 2019, and based on that report, civic authorities issued a death certificate, he said.

The accused, without her husband's knowledge, submitted the documents to two insurance firms to claim a sum of ₹18.5 lakh, the official said, adding that further investigation is underway.

**PVTG IN ODISHA WINS BATTLE AGAINST COVID**

AKSHAYA KUMAR SAHOO | DC BHUBANESWAR, JULY 8

People belonging to the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG) have proved themselves to be completely resilient to the severity of the Coronavirus. None of the 314 persons from the PVTG communities died of the disease, Odisha health department officials said.

According to Odisha chief minister Naveen Patnaik, the state government stood by the PVTG people during the pandemic which resulted in zero casualties.

"During their sickness, the PVTG patients were given the best possible medical care. Their family members were also provided with sanitation kits. Besides, each PVTG patient was given ration kit worth ₹2,500 and ₹1,800 as wage compensation," Patnaik said.

In fact, the Odisha government on Wednesday disbursed special Covid assistance of ₹5,000 each to 64,214 PVTG persons through virtual mode. The Chief Minister asked them to get vaccinated against the disease and abide by the norms of social distancing and wearing masks.

"You are not alone, the state government is all along with you (tribals) during the crisis. I know that the pandemic has affected the livelihoods of the poor people in the state. The government is with you. The government is working for your welfare," Patnaik said.

Odisha has 13 PVTGs — Bonda, Birhor, Chukta Bhunja, Didayi, Dungaria Kandha, Hill Kharia, Juang, Kutia Kondh, Lanjia Saora, Lodha, Mankirdia, Paudi Bhuyan and Saora living in 1,679 villages.

## DELHI RIOTS: SC DISMISSES PLEA BY FACEBOOK INDIA'S V-P

PARMOD KUMAR | DC with agency inputs  
NEW DELHI, JULY 8

The Supreme Court on Thursday dismissed a plea filed by Facebook India's vice-president and MD Ajit Mohan challenging the summons issued by the Delhi Assembly's Peace and Harmony committee for failing to appear before it as witness in connection with the north-east Delhi riots last year.

Recognising the powers of Delhi Assembly's committee to summon officials of the social media platform for deposition, a Supreme Court bench headed by Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul termed Mohan's plea pre-mature, saying nothing has happened against him before the Assembly panel and that he has the option of not answering questions before the committee if they fall within the prohibited domains.

Senior advocate Harish Salve, appearing for the Facebook official, said that setting up of the peace panel was not the core function of Delhi Assembly as law and order falls under the domain of the Centre in the national capital.

The bench, also comprising Justice Dinesh Maheshwari and Justice Hrishikesh Roy, said: "The Assembly admittedly does not have any power to legislate on aspects of law and order and police... As such, any representative of the petitioners (Ajit Mohan/Facebook) would have the right to not answer questions directly covered by these two fields (law and order and police)."

Pronouncing the judgment, Justice Kaul, however, held, "In the larger context, the concept of peace and harmony goes much beyond law and order and police, more so in view of on-the-ground governance being in the hands of the Delhi government," and added that the committee has the "right to seek information on any matter related to peace and harmony without encroaching (the) domain of the central laws."

"Social media platforms have the power and potential to influence people across the border. Debates on these platforms, like Facebook, have the potential to polarise the society and less informed individuals may not verify the information and take it as gospel of truth," the court said, commenting on the role of social media.

The petitioners had challenged last year's September 10 and 18 notices issued by the committee which sought Mohan's presence before the panel probing the Delhi riots in February and Facebook's role in the spread of alleged hate speeches.

**RECOGNISING THE** powers of Delhi Assembly's committee to summon officials of the social media platform, SC bench termed Mohan's plea pre-mature.

**COVID | EFFECT**

Himachal Pradesh declares 3-day state mourning as a mark of respect to Singh

## Former Himachal CM Virbhadra Singh no more

Shimla, July 8: Six-time Himachal Pradesh chief minister and senior Congress leader Virbhadra Singh died here early Thursday after prolonged illness. He was 87.

The veteran leader breathed his last at the Indira Gandhi Medical College (IGMC) here at 3.40 am, senior medical superintendent, Dr. Janak Raj, said.

Singh suffered from a heart attack on Monday and was critical since then. He was put on ventilator support on Wednesday after he had breathing problems, he added.

The nine-time MLA and five-time MP is survived by wife Pratibha Singh and son Vikramaditya Singh. While his wife is a



Beneficiaries wait in queues to receive Covid-19 vaccine dose at a vaccination centre in Jabalpur on Thursday. — PTI

## TN: IT WILL NOW BE 'UNION GOVERNMENT' IN TEXTBOOKS

G. BABU JAYAKUMAR & D. SEKAR | DC CHENNAI, JULY 8

The term Union government would replace Central government in all textbooks published by the Tamil Nadu Textbook and Educational Services Corporation, its newly appointed chairman, Dindigul Leoni, said on Thursday.

After meeting Chief Minister M.K. Stalin at the Secretariat, Leoni said he had been entrusted with the responsibility of bringing out textbooks based on the syllabus prescribed for State board schools following the 'Samacheer Kalvi' (equality in education) system.

School books should be produced with a view to making students love learning and not see education as a burden, he said, adding that he was elated over being made the chairman of the Corporation.

To a question on PMK Youth Wing president Anbumani Ramadoss demanding the withdrawal of his appointment, accusing him of denigrating women through his remarks, Leoni said there was no need for him to reply.

Leoni said that he had clarified on the allegation several times in the past and pointed out that even Anbumani Ramadoss had spoken disparagingly of the former Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami.

Not just the PMK leader, who tweeted that there could be no worse means of insulting the post of text book society chairman than giving it to Leoni, several people took to social media flaying the appointment after it was announced by the State government on Wednesday.

In fact, social networking sites saw a slanging match between those who opposed the appointment and those who supported Leoni, who is popular in the State as a public speaker, debater and television anchor for the past few decades.

# Those who live in India must abide by its rules: IT minister

HC rules that Centre free to take action against Twitter for any breach of rules

New Delhi, July 8: The Delhi High Court on Thursday told the Centre it was free to take action against Twitter Inc in case of any breach of the new IT Rules and that no interim protection was granted, even as the new IT minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said those who live and work in India will have to abide by the rules of the country.

It is made clear that since this court has not passed any interim order, this court has granted time to Respondent No 2 (Twitter Inc) to file affidavit, no protection is granted. It is open to Centre to take action against the Respondent 2 in case of any breach of the rules, a bench of Justice Rekha Palli said while listing the matter for further hearing on July 28.

Senior advocate Sajan Poovayya, representing Twitter, told the court it was not seeking any protection either.

The consequence (of non-compliance) is that the protection to intermediaries falls off. I'm not seeking any protection, he said.

Meanwhile, Vaishnaw while responding to a question by reporters on the issue of Twitter not adhering to the IT rules said whosoever lives and works in India will have to abide by the rules of the country.

The US-based company has been in the eye of a storm over its alleged failure to comply with the new IT rules in India, which mandates, among other requirements, the appointment of three key personnel — chief compliance officer, nodal officer and grievance officer by social media platforms with over 50 lakh users. All the three personnel have to be residents in India. While the rules came into effect on May 26, Twitter is yet to adhere to the social media guidelines, despite repeated reminders from the government.

Vaishnaw, a Rajya Sabha member from Odisha, on

Wednesday took oath as the Cabinet Minister and was given the charge of Railways along with the IT ministry. He replaced senior BJP leader Ravi Shankar Prasad in the IT ministry.

At the high court, Justice Palli also directed that affidavits on compliance with the rules be also filed by the officers appointed by Twitter under the new IT Rules.

"Twitter prays for two weeks' time for filing notarised affidavit of competent official of respondent no 2 (Twitter Inc). Two weeks time is granted. Scanned copies to be filed by Tuesday, July 13," the court said after Poovayya submitted that he would get notarised affidavit from the US and the same would require some time.

The high court on July 6 had directed Twitter to

inform it by July 8 as to when it will appoint a resident grievance officer (RGO) in compliance with the new IT Rules.

Poovayya told the court that pursuant to the direction, a note was filed, clarifying the status of appointment of the interim chief compliance officer (CCO), interim RGO as well as a nodal contact person on interim basis.

While an interim CCO

has already been appointed on July 6, an interim RGO and interim nodal contact officer will be appointed by July 11 and within two weeks, respectively. Poovayya told the court and said that Twitter was actively recruiting for permanent position.

He said that usage of interim would not lessen the responsibilities imposed on these officers to ensure compliance with the new IT Rules. — PTI

# Assam: Murder accused killed while trying to escape from police custody

MANOJ ANAND | DC GUWAHATI, JULY 8

In yet another incident of alleged attempt of fleeing from police custody, Assam police on Wednesday night shot dead one person accused of murdering a home guard constable in Chirang district.

Police said that Abdul Khaleque was arrested on charges of murdering Wahid Ali, a home guard posted at Bijni police station, on Tuesday evening.

Home guard constable Ali was attacked with sharp weapons and killed in some personal dispute.

Chirang superintendent of police Gaurav

ACCORDING TO police, since May, at least eight persons have been injured in self-defence and to recover the snatched weapon the police team was compelled to open fire, he said that police team resorted to controlled minimum firing targeting non-vital organs.

Meanwhile a drug mafia in Dibrugarh, who too tried to escape from the police custody, was shot at and sustained injuries on Wednesday.

It is significant that incidents of police opening fire at alleged criminals while trying to flee from custody have increased in Assam in the recent weeks.

According to police records, since May, at least

eight persons have been injured in police firing while allegedly trying to escape. It includes persons accused of drug peddling, cattle smuggling, dacoity, kidnapping and even a 62-year old rape accused.

This has come close on the heels of Assam chief minister Himanta Biswa Sarma's recent remark in the conference of police inspectors and officers in charge of police stations where he said, "Police shouldn't shoot them in the chest, but law permits shooting them in the leg. Police in Assam shouldn't be scared in taking such action. But no such action should be taken against innocent persons."

# FIRE BREAKS OUT IN CBI BUILDING

New Delhi, July 8: A fire broke out in the CBI building at CGO complex in Lodhi Road area on Thursday morning, officials said.

Fire officials said a call about a blaze was received at 11.36 am. Six fire tenders were rushed to the spot and the blaze was brought under control, a senior fire official said.

The fire had broken out in the transformer and AC plant rooms in the second basement of the building, he said. The police rushed to the spot after they received a call about the fire, officials said. A lot of smoke was coming out from the basement of the building. Fire tenders, PCR vans, CAT ambulances reached the spot. — PTI



Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur pays his last respects to former CM Virbhadra Singh, in Shimla on Thursday. — PTI

Singh was the leader of Opposition from March 1998 to March 2003. The veteran Congress leader also served as union deputy minister, Tourism and civil aviation, minister of state for industries, union minister of steel and Union minister of micro, small & medium enterprises (MSME). — PTI



## SHORT TAKES

## FIRST ZIKA VIRUS CASE REPORTED IN KERALA

Thiruvananthapuram, July 8: In the first case of Zika virus in Kerala, a 24-year-old pregnant woman has been diagnosed with the mosquito transmitted disease, State Health Minister Veena George said on Thursday.

There are 13 other suspected cases of the virus from Thiruvananthapuram, the minister said adding the government was awaiting confirmation from the National Institute of Virology (NIV) in Pune.

Of the 19 samples sent from Thiruvananthapuram, 13 health workers, including doctors, are suspected to be positive for Zika, the minister said.

The woman, hailing from Parassalain Thiruvananthapuram district, who is undergoing treatment at a private hospital here, delivered her baby on July 7.

She had been admitted to the hospital on June 28 with fever, headache and red marks on her body.

The tests conducted at the hospital confirmed that she was positive following which her samples were sent to NIV, Pune. The condition of the woman was satisfactory.

Though she does not have any travel history outside the state, her house is on the Tamil Nadu border. A week ago, her mother had also shown similar symptoms, a government release added.

The symptoms of Zika are similar to dengue including fever, skin rashes and joint pain.

## ED QUESTIONS KHADSE FOR 9 HOURS

**SONU SHRIVASTAVA**  
MUMBAI, JULY 8

Former Maharashtra minister Eknath Khadse was grilled by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Thursday for close to nine hours in connection with a case pertaining to a 2016 land deal at Bhosari area in Pune. The ED allowed Mr. Khadse to leave the office after the interrogation.

Mr. Khadse reached the ED office in South Mumbai at 11.00 am along with his lawyer and left the office around 8.00 pm. His son-in-law Girish Chaudhary was arrested by the ED on Wednesday in connection with an alleged money laundering linked to a land deal in Pune's Bhosari.

While leaving the federal agency's office, Mr. Khadse did not speak to the media. However, his lawyer Mohan P. Tekwadi told the reporters that Mr. Khadse had answered all the questions of the ED and also handed over some documents related to the case to the federal agency.

The ED wants some more documents in the case, which will be given to the investigating agency in the next 10 days, he said.

## ANNAMALAI IS NEW BJP CHIEF IN TAMIL NADU

**G BABU JAYAKUMAR & D SEKAR | DC**  
CHENNAI, JULY 8

Former IPS officer K. Annamalai was made the president of the State BJP with immediate effect on Thursday following the induction of L Murugan, the previous incumbent, into the Union Ministry in the reshuffle that was effected on Wednesday.

The elevation of 37-year-old Annamalai, who was hitherto a State Vice President, as the president was announced by BJP National General Arun Singh on behalf of the party president Jagat Prakash Nadda.

Murugan's appointment as Minister of State for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, Information and Broadcasting was welcomed by the State with Chief Minister M K Stalin and Leader of the Opposition Edappadi K Palaniswami greeting him.

Stalin spoke to Murugan over phone and requested him to have the state interests in mind while functioning as a Union Minister. Murugan too assured his cooperation for the development of the State.

Palaniswami tweeted his congratulatory message to Murugan, wishing him the very best in his new role in the service of the people. Leaders of the BJP State unit, greeted Annamalai just as the announcement came in from New Delhi. 'We are excited to work with you to grow the party,' said Gayathri Raghuram, party's president for the arts and culture wing.



Minister of state for health Bharti Pawar arrives to assume office in New Delhi on Thursday. Pawar, who succeeded Ashwini Kumar Choubey, took charge as the minister of state for health and family welfare. - PTI

## RANE MADE UNION MINISTER ONLY TO TARGET US, SAYS SENA

**Mumbai, July 8:** Narayan Rane was inducted in the Union cabinet only to attack the Shiv Sena, the party claimed on Thursday, also alleging that the purpose of creating a new ministry of cooperation was to "harass" the sector which has strong presence in Maharashtra.

Rane, a former Sena leader who left the party over 16 years ago, took oath as minister in the Narendra Modi government on Wednesday.

Sena's chief spokesperson Arvind Sawant said here that after taking charge of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Ministry, Rane's first comments were against Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray.

"He said nothing about his portfolio and what he proposed to do for the MSME sector," said Sawant, a former Union minister himself.

Rane reportedly said that Thackeray, who heads the Sena, was not large hearted enough to congratulate him on becoming a Union minister.

"He has been inducted in the Union cabinet only to attack the Sena without fulfilling any other responsibility," Sawant said.

In a dig at Rane's portfolio, Sawant said, "For Maharashtra, this is improvement of sorts, from 'heavy' to 'micro'."

Sena had handled the heavy industries portfolio when it was part of the BJP-led NDA. — PTI

## NCW seeks report on 'auctioning' of women

**New Delhi, July 8:** The National Commission for Women on Thursday wrote to the Delhi police chief seeking a probe into a now-defunct website allegedly uploading pictures of many Muslim women with derogatory remarks and had put them up for "auction".

The commission has asked for a detailed action taken report within 10 days, it said.

NCW Chairperson Rekha Sharma has requested Delhi Police Commissioner Balaji Srivastava's intervention to investigate the website that put up pictures of many Muslim women with derogatory remarks.

In a statement, the NCW said it has taken suo motu cognisance of a media report which mentions that a website called 'Sulli Deals' on an internet platform named 'Github' was

## MSME minister assures steps to promote GDP growth

## New Governor of MP takes oath

**RABINDRA NATH CHOUDHURY | DC**  
BHOPAL, JULY 8

Tribal leader of BJP in Gujarat and former minister Mangubhai Chaganbhai Patel on Thursday took oath as the 30th governor of Madhya Pradesh.

In the culture ministry, Meenakshi Lekhi and Arjun Ram Meghwal took charge as ministers of state. Ms Lekhi along with Raj Kumar Ranjan Singh also took charge as MoS in the ministry of external affairs. The ministry, headed by foreign minister Dr S. Jaishankar, now has three MoS, the third one being V. Muraleedharan.

Former MoS finance Anurag Thakur, the new Union minister for information and broadcasting and youth affairs, sports, along with the new Union health minister and Mr Tomar, briefed the media about the decisions taken by the new Cabinet.

The last Cabinet meeting was held on June 30 when former I&B minister Prakash Javadekar and Ravi Shankar Prasad had briefed the media.

The Prime Minister has induced 36 new faces in his Cabinet, promoted seven existing ministers and dropped 12 senior ministers.

Member of Parliament from Uttar Pradesh,

Anandiben Patel, who held the additional charge of governor of MP since June last year, was present on the occasion.

MP chief minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan and leader of Opposition Kamal Nath were also present.

The six-time MLA Mr Patel (77), a native of Navsari in south Gujarat, was a minister in the BJP government in Gujarat.

He was also the deputy speaker of Gujarat Assembly in 2013.

Anupriya Patel, returned to the Cabinet as MoS commerce.

Bureaucrat-entrepreneur-turned-politician Vaishnav, 51, took charge as the country's new Railway Minister.

Vaishnav also holds two other important portfolios of Communications and Electronics and Information Technology.

"I thank the honourable Prime Minister for the great opportunity he has given me to serve the nation. Telecommunications, IT and Railways.

There are lots of synergies in the three and I will be working to ensure that his vision is implemented," Vaishnav told reporters.

Darshana

huge opportunities. "Textiles is a big sector for employment so this is a big opportunity. The government will try to give a big support to the income of all the people employed in this sector, especially women," he told reporters.

"We will ensure that this sector can be further improved and exports can be boosted," he added.

Minister of State for Textiles Darshana Vikram Jardosh said she will help grow and promote the textile sector and make it a key sector for 'Make in India'.

BJP Lok Sabha member Bhagwanth Khuba took charge as Minister of State for New and Renewable Energy as well as for Chemicals and Fertilisers.

Bhagwanth Khuba took charge as the new Minister of State for Finance. Ajay Bhatt, an MP from Uttarakhand, assumed office as Minister of State in the defence ministry and bureaucrat-turned-politician Raj Kumar Singh assumed charge as the Minister of Power and New & Renewable Energy.

Shiv Sena leader Narayan Rane took charge as the new Union MSME (micro, small and medium enterprises) Minister. Rane said the ministry will work in the direction of creating more jobs and promoting GDP growth.

"We will think of steps to promote GDP growth and the creation of jobs for youth," he said.

## Border areas to get high-frequency jammers soon

**DC CORRESPONDENT**

NEW DELHI, JULY 8

The Union Home Ministry has in an important move, which has serious security implications, decided to immediately release additional funds for installing at least "15 high-frequency jammers" along the India-Pakistan border that will block frequency and signals of Pakistani mobile towers.

Sources claimed that at least ₹100 crore will be released immediately and if required the ministry will provide more funds for this security drive in the border areas.

If required the Home Ministry would immediately sanction additional funds but will not allow frequency of Pakistani mobile towers to be accessed in India as this is being seen as a major security hazard.

Security in J&K is at all-time high presently in wake of the spate of drone attacks on defence installations in the Jammu and Kalachak regions.

Realising the seriousness of the issue, the Home Secretary immediately ordered release of additional funds of at least ₹100 crore for installing jammers at 15 different locations in the border region.

If required the Home Ministry would immediately sanction additional funds but will not allow frequency of Pakistani mobile towers to be accessed in India as this is being seen as a major security hazard.

Security in J&K is at all-time high presently in wake of the spate of drone attacks on defence installations in the Jammu and Kalachak regions.

The meeting was also attended by Intelligence Bureau Director Arvind Kumar and J&K police chief Dilbagh Singh.

The location of these 15 high-frequency jammers is being kept a secret as it could warn Pakistani agencies which may then try and shift the location of their mobile towers.

Senior security and Intelligence officials expressed concern over the location of the Pakistani mobile towers close to the Indian border as their frequency could be accessed by residents

## INDIA HITS OUT PAK ON LAHORE BLAST ISSUE

**SRIDHAR KUMARASWAMI | DC**  
with agency inputs

NEW DELHI, JULY 8

Two Army soldiers and as many six militants are reported to have been killed and another soldier injured in a gunfight in Sunderbani area close to the Line of Control in Rajouri district.

The Army said that the slain militants were part of a large group of infiltrators which had sneaked into J&K from Pakistan-occupied Kashmir but was challenged and quickly engaged in a gunfight by alert Indian troops early Thursday.

Pakistan has claimed that India was behind the blast.

New Delhi also referred to Islamabad as a "vested interest" present in the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), a forum predominantly comprising Muslim-majority nations, and confirmed a meeting between its ambassador to Saudi Arabia and the secretary general of the OIC on July 5, adding that the forum was asked "to correct some of the misperceptions about India that are perpetrated by vested interests in the OIC".

One report said two soldiers were injured in a clash with suspected militants in Nowshera sector of the LoC.

Meanwhile, the J&K police and the Army said that four local cadres of Lashkar-e-Tayyaba and Al-Badr were killed in two separate gunfights that took place southern Pulwama and Kulgam districts.

The war of words between the two has again escalated after reported back-channel talks that led to the ceasefire in February.

New Delhi also referred to Islamabad as a "vested interest" present in the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), a forum predominantly comprising Muslim-majority nations, and confirmed a meeting between its ambassador to Saudi Arabia and the secretary general of the OIC on July 5, adding that the forum was asked "to correct some of the misperceptions about India that are perpetrated by vested interests in the OIC".

One report said two soldiers were injured in a clash with suspected militants in Nowshera sector of the LoC.

Meanwhile, the J&K police and the Army said that four local cadres of Lashkar-e-Tayyaba and Al-Badr were killed in two separate gunfights that took place southern Pulwama and Kulgam districts.

## SC lens on marathon arguments, voluminous written submissions

## SC bats for crisp and precise judgments

**PARMOD KUMAR | DC**

NEW DELHI, JULY 8

intends to trigger a debate among the legal fraternity by bringing to notice the importance of "succinctly framed written synopsis in advance, and the same being adhered to in course of oral arguments to be addressed over a limited time period and more crisp, clear and precise judgments so that the common man can understand what is the law being laid down."

Noting that the hearing

in challenge by the social media platform Facebook to the summoning of its managing director of India operations Ajit Mohan by the committee on Peace and Harmony of Delhi assembly lasted for over 26 hours, Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul heading a three-judge bench in his post-script said, "We really doubt whether any judicial forum anywhere

will be able to

refer to Article 6 of the European Convention on Human Rights, which while recognising the right of fair trial and public hearing, qualifies it to be completed "within a reasonable time".

This is intrinsically, the court said, linked to administering justice without delays.

The court also noted that the US Supreme Court is more restrictive in its time frame – not that UK Courts are far behind.

"The norms and the traditions take care of the requirement of restrictive time frames to address submissions", the post-script said while referring to the restrictive practices in the European and US Supreme Court.

Pointing out that the delays in judicial proceedings has been the bane of our country and there can

not be a "refusal to part ways from old practices especially when they have outlived their purpose", the court said that it is "the litigants who bear the costs of our complex and prolonged adjudicatory process".

Noting that at present top court has 67,898 pending matters, the court said, "Our concern is if this is how the proceedings will go on in the future, it will be very difficult to deal with the post-Covid period, which is likely to see a surge in the number of cases pending adjudication."

Being even handed, Justice Kaul in his post-script said, "We are conscious of equal responsibility" and it is the "need of the hour to write clear and short judgments which the litigant can understand."

**SHORT TAKES**  
**EXILED TURKISH SCRIBE ATTACKED OUTSIDE HOME**

Ankara, July 8: A Turkish journalist, who is critical of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's government and has been living in exile in Germany, was injured after being attacked outside his home by three men who reportedly warned him to stop writing.

Erk Acarer, a columnist for Turkey's independent *Birgun* newspaper, said in a video posted on Twitter that the attack occurred late Wednesday in the courtyard of his home outside Berlin.

He sustained some swelling on his head and was kept at a hospital for several hours for observation.

**4TH RAJAPAKSA SIBLING JOINS LANKAN GOVT.**

Colombo, July 8: Basil Rajapaksa, the youngest of the four Rajapaksa siblings, was sworn in as Sri Lanka's Finance Minister on Thursday, marking the further consolidation of political power by the powerful clan in the island nation.

Basil, 70, became the fourth Rajapaksa brother after President Gotabaya, 72, Prime Minister Mahinda, 75, and Agricultural Minister Chamal, 78, to enter the Cabinet.

He took the oath before President Gotabaya. With the entry of Basil in the Cabinet, there are as many as seven family members in the top echelons of the government.

The Finance Ministry until Thursday morning was under PM Mahinda Rajapaksa. Mahinda has now been given a new portfolio of economic policy and plan implementation.

**BELARUS GOVT BLOCKS TOP MEDIA OUTLET**

Kyiv (Ukraine), July 8: The Belarusian authorities on Thursday blocked the website of a leading online media outlet and detained several of its journalists, the latest move in a sweeping crackdown on dissent and independent media in the ex-Soviet nation.

Belarus' Information Ministry said it has blocked *Nasha Niva*'s website after the Prosecutor General's office had accused it of posting unspecified unlawful information.

The Belarusian Association of Journalists (BAJ) said that the authorities conducted searches at *Nasha Niva*'s offices, detained its chief editor Yohor Martsinovich and editor Andrei Skurko and searched their apartments. Another four *Nasha Niva* journalists couldn't be reached.

**SAUDI PRINCE MEETS BLINKEN IN LOW-KEY US VISIT**

Washington, July 8: Saudi Arabia's deputy defence minister met Wednesday with Secretary of State Antony Blinken on a low-key visit to Washington focused partly on Yemen as the United States takes a greater distance with its ally.

Khalid bin Salman — the younger brother of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, who US intelligence says ordered the murder of US-based journalist Jamal Khashoggi — was the highest-ranking visitor from the kingdom to visit Washington since President Joe Biden took office.

The State Department said the prince met senior State Department officials Victoria Nuland and Derek Chollet and that Blinken participated in only part of the meeting — similar to Prince Khalid's reception a day earlier.

**BHANDARI UK EXTRADITION HEARING IN FEB.**

London, July 8: A UK court presiding over the extradition case of Sanjay Bhandari, an accused arms dealer wanted in India on money laundering and tax evasion charges, on Thursday set the trial date in the case for February 2022.

District Judge Michael Snow heard that the case involves two extradition requests from the Indian authorities for Bhandari, the first related to money laundering and the second to tax evasion.

The 59-year-old, who was present in the dock at Westminster Magistrates' Court in London for the case management hearing, spoke only to confirm his name and to say that he does not consent to being extradited to India.

He will remain on conditional bail until the extradition hearing next year, with some relaxed bail conditions agreed by the court on Thursday.

# Fire after blast at major Dubai port

Police find blaze occurred on a cargo ship at dockside 14 after visiting the incident site

Dubai, July 8: An explosion inside a container on a ship docked at the Dubai port caused a massive fire on the vessel and shook the gleaming commercial hub of the UAE, authorities said on Thursday.

The blast occurred in the container aboard the vessel, preparing to dock away from the Jebel Ali Port's main shipping line at around midnight on Wednesday. There were no reported deaths or injuries and the fire is under control, authorities said.

There were 14 sailors aboard the ship, who were

evacuated safely. "A fire has been reported to have broken out in a container within a ship anchored in Jebel Ali Port. A Dubai Civil Defence team is working to put out the blaze," Dubai Media Office said in a tweet on their official account. Director-General of Dubai Civil Defence Major General Rashid Thani Al Matrooshi said the Jebel Ali Port fire has been brought fully under control and the cooling process is underway. Teams took 40 minutes to control the blaze.

The blaze sent up giant

orange flames on the vessel at the Jebel Ali Port, the ninth-largest port in the world and the biggest in the region. The blast was heard across parts of Dubai, with residents hearing a loud explosion, according to witnesses.

Panicked residents filmed from their high-rises as a fiery ball illuminated the night sky. Residents from Marina, JVC, and Emirates Hills said that they heard a loud explosion that shook their doors and windows. The Dubai Media Office posted a video of firefighters putting out the

blaze at the port.

Lt General Abdullah Khalifa Al Marri, Commander-in-Chief at Dubai

Police went to the fire site and said the fire occurred on a cargo ship at dockside 14, *Gulf News* reported.

"The ship was carrying 130 containers. Three containers contained flammable materials. There were no explosives inside it or radioactive materials" Lt Gen Al Marri said.

An investigation is ongoing to determine the reason behind the fire. Jebel Ali Port Authorities said they took all necessary measures to ensure the normal movement of ships in the port. Operated by the Dubai-based DP World, the port can berth some of the world's largest ships. The port is not only a critical global cargo hub

but a lifeline for Dubai and surrounding emirates. DP World describes Jebel Ali Port as a "gateway hub" and a "vital link in the global trade network" that connects eastern and western markets.

The company did not immediately issue any public statement on the blast. Port Jebel Ali was constructed in the late 1970s to supplement the facilities at Port Rashid. Dubai is the region's trade, business and tourism hub. The city is also one of the safest cities in the world. — PTI

## Taliban surround city, Kabul sends in commandos

### BORIS: MOST UK TROOPS OUT OF AFGHANISTAN

London, July 8: Prime Minister Boris Johnson confirmed Thursday that most British troops have left Afghanistan, almost 20 years after the UK and other Western countries sent troops into the country to engage in what they described as a "war on terror."

Johnson stressed that the threat posed by al-Qaida to the UK has substantially diminished, but he sidestepped questions about whether the hasty military exodus by the country and its Nato allies risks undoing the work of nearly two decades or leaves Afghanistan vulnerable to the Taliban, which has made rapid advances in many northern districts.

He declined to give details about the troop withdrawal, citing security reasons. But he said that "all British troops in Afghanistan are now returning home".

— AP

agency, but were later pushed back.

Qala-i-Naw resident Aziz Tawakoli said Taliban fighters were still roaming the city, however.

"You can see them going up and down the streets on their motorcycles," he said.

— AFP

Zuma turns himself in for prison term

that Zuma was in their custody.

Zuma's decision to obey the Constitutional Court order comes after a week of rising tensions over his prison sentence.

Zuma was sentenced to 15 months in prison for contempt because he defied a court order for him to testify before a judicial commission investigating widespread allegations of corruption during his time as the country's highest court, the Constitutional Court, that he should serve a prison term for contempt of court.

President Zuma has decided to comply with the incarceration order. He is on his way to hand himself into a Correctional Services facility in KZN (KwaZulu-Natal province), said a tweet posted by the Zuma Foundation.

Soon after the South African police confirmed

— AP

## Israeli Army demolishes Palestinian's house



An Israeli army unit demolishes the house of Palestinian American Muntasser Shalaby, accused of being involved in a deadly attack on Israelis in May, using controlled explosions in the West Bank village of Turmus Ayya, north of Ramallah, on Thursday.

— AP/PTI

## ALLY QUILTS BUT MALAYSIA PM STILL IN POWER

Kuala Lumpur, July 8: Malaysia's attorney general said Thursday that Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin remains in power until it can be proven in Parliament that he has lost majority support. The country was in political limbo after the United Malays National Organization, the largest party in the governing alliance, pulled its support for Muhyiddin.

The head of UMNO urged Muhyiddin to step aside for an interim leader to take over until a general election can be held safely during the Coronavirus pandemic. It marked the culmination of months of tensions since Muhyiddin took power in March 2020 after initiating the downfall of the reformist government that won the 2018 election.

His Bersatu party joined up with UMNO, which was ousted in the 2018 polls, and others to form a new government. But the alliance was unstable with a razor-thin majority in Parliament and UMNO was unhappy at playing second fiddle to Bersatu. The announcement could trigger the collapse of Muhyiddin's unelected government and fresh elections, although polls are unlikely during the raging pandemic. Attorney General Idrus Harun said there is no clear evidence that Muhyiddin has lost majority support in Parliament. He said this can only be decided by lawmakers in the lower house.

— AP

## 36 U.S. STATES FILE LAWSUIT AGAINST GOOGLE

Washington, July 8: As many as 36 US states and Washington DC have filed a lawsuit against Google, alleging that the search engine giant's control over its Android app store violates antitrust laws.

The lawsuit alleges that through a series of exclusionary contracts and other anticompetitive conduct in the Google Play Store, Google has deprived Android device users of robust competition that could lead to greater choice and innovation, as well as significantly lower prices for mobile apps.

New York Attorney General James and the coalition co-led by the attorneys general of Utah, North Carolina, and Tennessee also accuse Google of requiring app developers selling in-app digital content through apps purchased via Google's Play Store to use Google Billing as a middleman, forcing app consumers to pay Google's commission up to 30 per cent indefinitely.

Google has served as the gatekeeper of the internet for many years, but, more recently, it has also become the gatekeeper of our digital devices resulting in all of us paying more for the software we use every day. James alleged.

Once again, we are seeing Google use its dominance to illegally quash competition and profit to the tune of billions. — PTI

## Haiti hunts down Prez assassins

Port-Au-Prince, July 8: Haiti police killed four "mercenaries" they said were behind the assassination of President Jovenel Moise Wednesday and took two more into custody, as the impoverished and crisis-hit Caribbean nation was pitched into uncertainty.

Police did not identify the suspects or say what their motives were for the gun attack on Moise and his wife Martine, who survived, at their private residence in the capital Port-au-Prince in the early hours of Wednesday.

In a last-minute plea to avoid going to prison, Zuma's lawyers had written to the acting chief justice requesting that his arrest be suspended.

— AP

With the UN Security Council scrambling to hold an emergency meeting, set for midday Thursday, interim Prime Minister Claude Joseph declared a national "state of siege" and said he was now in charge of the country.

The airport was closed

in Port-au-Prince, but witnesses said the city was quiet with the streets deserted and no extra security forces on patrol. Police said late Wednesday they had been combing the city ever since the attack.

"Four mercenaries were killed, two were intercept-

ed under our control. Three policemen who had been taken hostage have been recovered," said Leon Charles, director general of Haiti's national police. The attack took place around 1:00 am (0500)

— AFP

## China introduced rules to stop worsening eyesight, online addiction

## Midnight patrol to root out underage gamers

Beijing, July 8: Chinese tech giant Tencent has rolled out a facial recognition "midnight patrol" function to root out children who are masquerading as adults to get around a government curfew on underage gamers.

Online gaming giant Tencent this week moved to close those loopholes by implementing facial verification checks on anyone playing with an adult ID after the curfew.

Tencent also said it would start requiring users to pass a facial recognition test when changing safety settings designed to let parents limit their chil-

dren's game usage, as "some children have stolen their parents' phones" to modify the settings in order to play games.

"Kids, put your phones away and go to sleep," the company said in a statement played on

mobile phones, which have been blamed for social ills including online addiction and near-sightedness in children.

Since 2018 the government has introduced a host of new rules, including harsher restrictions on virtual depictions of violence as well as a quota on the number of online games approved each year.

— AFP



## Quick passes



England supporters celebrate the Euro semifinal victory over Denmark at Boxpark Croydon in London on Wednesday. — AFP

## England charged for fans laser point

UEFA on Wednesday opened disciplinary proceedings and charged England over their fans' behaviour during their Euro 2020 semifinal victory over Denmark, including allegations a laser was pointed at goalkeeper Kasper Schmeichel's face.

Photos in the British press showed the green light of a laser being pointed at Schmeichel's face just before Harry Kane's extra-time penalty.

Some supporters at Wembley also booted during the Denmark national anthem.

European football's governing body on Thursday said it had charged England for "use of laser pointer," "disturbance caused during the national anthem" and "lighting of fireworks" by their fans.

Schmeichel saved Kane's penalty, but the England captain scored the rebound to give Gareth Southgate's men a 2-1 victory which sealed England a place in their first major tournament final for 55 years. — AFP

## Refereeing in semis sparks controversy

Perhaps the first contentious refereeing decision of the European Championship went England's way.

Raheem Sterling burst into the penalty area in extra time of the semifinal match against Denmark and appeared to lose his balance following a challenge by Joakim Maehle. The England winger eventually fell to the ground after a nudge from another Denmark player, Mathias Jensen.

The referee pointed to the penalty spot, the decision stood after a review by the video assistant referee and Harry Kane scored off the rebound after the penalty was saved to give England a 2-1 win and a spot in the Euro 2020 final.

Denmark coach Kasper Hjulmand said he cannot understand how such a big call was made at such a crucial moment.

Hjulmand said, "I couldn't see that as a penalty. — AP

## Sterling defends dubious penalty

Raheem Sterling said a foul on him that led to England's winning goal in their 2-1 extra-time victory over Denmark in Wednesday's Euro 2020 semifinal was a "clear penalty".

"I went into the box and he stuck his right leg out, and it touched my leg so it was a clear penalty," Sterling told ITV.

"It was a top performance — we had to dig in deep after the first goal we conceded in the tournament, and we regrouped well and showed a good team spirit to come back and win the game."

"It was difficult going behind but we knew we had to stay patient — we knew with the legs we've got, the aggressiveness and the power we have in the team, it would be a matter of time before we broke them down," he added.

England reached their first major final since winning the 1966 World Cup. — AFP

# QUEEN'S GAMBIT

English survive Dane scare, in major final after 55 years

London, July 8: England will play in their first major tournament final for 55 years after coming from behind to beat Denmark 2-1 after extra time in front of a delirious 65,000 crowd at Wembley in Wednesday's Euro 2020 semifinal.

Mikkel Damsgaard's stunning free-kick after 30 minutes threatened another semifinal disappointment for Gareth Southgate's side, three years on from losing in the last four of the World Cup. But Simon Kjaer's own goal eight minutes later and Harry Kane's extra-time winner on the rebound after his penalty was saved by Kasper Schmeichel means England will attempt to win the European Championship for the first time when they face Italy back at Wembley in Sunday's final.

Defeat ends Denmark's fairytale run to the semifinals, the furthest they have been at a tournament since winning Euro 92.

The Danes' tournament began in nearly-tragic circumstances when star midfielder Christian Eriksen suffered a cardiac arrest in their opening game against Finland.

Kasper Hjulmand's men have since ridden an emotional wave and played plenty of slick football in sticking four goals past Russia and Wales on their way to the semifinals.

However, England's huge advantage in having six of their seven matches on home soil has paid off as they were the physically fresher side in the latter stages.

Raheem Sterling produced a national record run of seven consecutive clean sheets, but were finally breached in spectacular fashion by Damsgaard's free-kick that flew into the top corner.

Any questions over how Southgate's men would react to falling behind for



England players celebrate after captain Harry Kane (on ground) scored the side's second goal during the Euro semifinal against Denmark at Wembley Stadium in London on Wednesday. — AFP

<b>England</b>	<b>2</b>
(Simon Kjaer 39-og, Harry Kane 104)	
<b>Denmark</b>	<b>1</b>
(Mikkel Damsgaard 30)	

post. Denmark settled after a shaky start and started to pose a threat themselves as Pierre-Emile Hojbjerg shot straight at Jordan Pickford before Martin Braithwaite and Damsgaard saw efforts fly off target.

England were on a national record run of seven consecutive clean sheets, but were finally breached in spectacular fashion by Damsgaard's free-kick that flew into the top corner.

Sterling should have equalised when he fired straight into Schmeichel's midriff with just the 'keeper to beat.

Moments later, the hosts were level when Kane

freed Bukayo Saka down the right and Kjaer turned into his own net under pressure from Sterling.

Denmark's exertions in being forced into a 9,000-kilometre (5,592-mile) round trip for their quarter-final win over the Czech Republic showed in the second half as they desperately tried to keep England at bay.

Schmeichel produced another stunning save from Harry Maguire's header low to his right, while Kane could not get a telling connection in a goalmouth scramble in the 96th minute.

Hjulmand made all five of his allotted substitutions before the 90 minutes were up to give his side an extra boost of energy, but they could not get any forward momentum.

Schmeichel kept his side in the game in extra time with another agile low save to his right to deny Kane before repelling a Jack Grealish piledriver.

England's pressure finally paid off in controversial circumstances when Sterling was awarded a soft penalty for a challenge by Joakim Maehle in the 104th minute. — AFP



England coach Gareth Southgate gestures during the Euro semifinal against Denmark at Wembley Stadium in London on Wednesday. — AFP

## PUMPED UP GARETH EYES EURO TITLE

London, July 8: Gareth Southgate has urged England to conquer one last "massive hurdle" as they aim to cap their historic Euro 2020 campaign with victory against Italy in Sunday's final.

For the first time since beating West Germany in the 1966 World Cup final, England will contest the title match of a major tournament.

It will be their first European Championship showpiece, against an Italy side who last won the tournament in 1968.

"This group of players have been fantastic to work with, their togetherness, those not in the team supporting their team mates, they deserve what's happening," he said.

"They've been a joy. We have one more step against a fantastic team who are unbeaten in how many matches."

"We know the size of the task. But what a brilliant moment for us. Let's savour tonight, then we can think about that on the coach back to Burton," Southgate added.

"The big advantage was having our fans in those moments of the game where we had to dig in and towards the end where we had a little wobble when all we needed to do was to keep the ball," he said.

"When you've waited as long as we have that was inevitably going to be part of the mindset. We've got to enjoy the fact we're in the final but there's one more massive hurdle to conquer. It's a great game to look forward to. Finals are there to be won," he added.

— AFP

"I stayed calm, there was no panic."

"These games are about character, digging in and belief. This will just give us more belief going into Sunday now," the match

winner further added.

England will face Italy in Sunday's final with another huge home crowd on their side at Wembley.

"It's going to be an amazing occasion for sure. As the game gets closer the excitement and nerves will kick in," added Kane.

"It's going to be a special day, but we need to make sure we are on the winning side." The winning penalty came about in controversial circumstances as Raheem Sterling went down in the box under minimal contact from Joakim Maehle.

"We said all along, we've learned from 2018 but it's about doing it on the pitch. We stayed calm, there was no panic."

— HARRY KANE  
after England 2-1 victory against Denmark

"I thought it was a penalty. I thought I should've had a penalty in the second half as well. It probably evened itself out over the game," he added.

— AFP

## Three key turns in England show

London, July 8: England reached the Euro 2020 final with a tense 2-1 win against Denmark after extra time at Wembley on Wednesday.

Let's look at the three things we learned after Harry Kane's goal sent England to their first major final in 55 years.

STERLING SPARKLES

Raheem Sterling ended England's last European Championship campaign vilified after a lacklustre performance in their humiliating exit against

minnows Iceland in 2016.

Fast-forward five years and the England fans who had turned Sterling into public enemy number one were cheering his name to the Wembley rafters.

It was Sterling who carried the biggest threat for England on a night when Denmark's obdurate defence posed a formidable barrier.

Even in extra time, when England were in danger of being taken to the lottery of a penalty shoot-out, Sterling kept demanding the ball as he probed away

chanting throughout the tournament. Schmeichel made superb saves to repel Raheem Sterling's close-range effort in the first half and Harry Maguire's looping header early in the second period. The last Danish goalkeeper to have more saves in a Euro match than Schmeichel's six against England was his father Peter in 1992 against Germany.

SAKA REPAYS FAITH

With England in desperate need of a quick response to Denmark's shock open-

ing, Bukayo Saka showed why Gareth Southgate has such faith in the teenager.

The Arsenal forward delivered a vibrant display in the Last 16 victory against Germany before missing Saturday's quarter-final win against Ukraine with a minor knock suffered in training.

He raced into the penalty area and whipped a low cross towards Raheem Sterling, with Simon Kjaer's attempt to block only succeeding in diverting the ball into his own net.

er. Bukayo Saka showed why Gareth Southgate has such faith in the teenager.

The Arsenal forward delivered a vibrant display in the Last 16 victory against Germany before missing Saturday's quarter-final win against Ukraine with a minor knock suffered in training.

He raced into the penalty area and whipped a low cross towards Raheem Sterling, with Simon Kjaer's attempt to block only succeeding in diverting the ball into his own net.

Captain Kjaer is sorry for defeat

## COACH KASPER BEMOANS LATE PENALTY IN LOSS

Copenhagen, July 8: Denmark captain Simon Kjaer said he was disappointed their unforgettable Euro 2020 run came to a halt in the semifinals following Wednesday's 2-1 loss to England.

"It's been a fantastic adventure. I'm sorry that it's now finished but that's how it is," Kjaer told Danish public television station DR1.

"The support we've received goes beyond anything we hoped for. I'm proud but I'm also disappointed that we're not going all the way to the final," he added.

Denmark took the lead at Wembley through a brilliant free-kick from Mikkel Damsgaard, but Kjaer scored an own goal before Harry Kane hit the winner in extra time.

"We played very well in this match. If we had been a bit sharper at certain points in the first half we could have scored another goal," said Kjaer.

The loss marked the end of a remarkable tournament for Denmark, who went through the trauma of Christian Eriksen's cardiac arrest in their opening game. "I'm at a loss for words. It's a bit difficult to say what it is. I'm proud of the group and those who took part in this adventure.

England coach Gareth Southgate said there is VAR so I assume they checked it and stuck with the referee's decision. — AP

London, July 8: Denmark coach Kasper Hjulmand says he cannot understand how a decisive penalty was awarded against his team in the 2-1 loss to England in the European Championship semifinals.

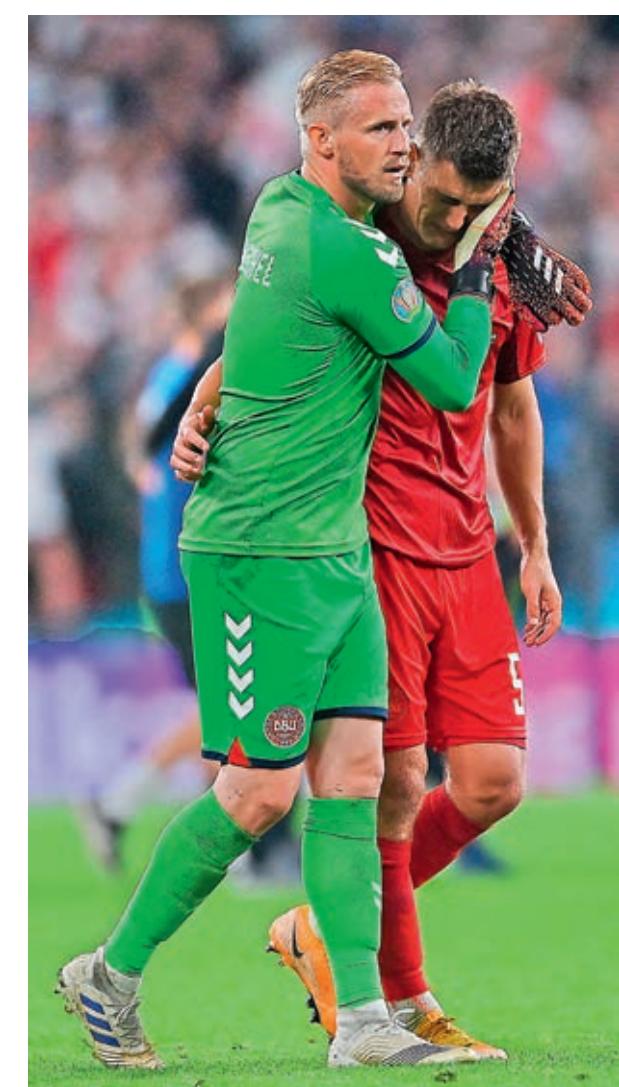
Raheem Sterling lost his balance following a challenge in the area by Denmark defender Joakim Maehle and then fell to the ground under pressure by Mathias Jensen in the first half of extra time.

A penalty was awarded and the decision stood following a video review. Harry Kane's spot kick was saved but he put in the rebound for the winning goal.

"It was a penalty that shouldn't have been a penalty and it's something that annoys me right now," said Hjulmand.

"It's one thing to lose a game but this is a disappointment. It's bitter," the dejected Denmark coach further added.

England coach Gareth Southgate said there is VAR so I assume they checked it and stuck with the referee's decision. — AP



Denmark's goalkeeper Kasper Schmeichel (left) hugs his teammate Joakim Maehle after their loss in the Euro semifinal match against England at Wembley Stadium in London on Wednesday.

## Excited Verratti awaits 'epic' final

Rome, July 8: Italy midfielder Marco Verratti believes Sunday's Euro 2020 final against England will be one for the ages, as the Azzurri look to win the tournament for the first time since 1968.

Having failed to qualify for the last World Cup, Roberto Mancini has defied expectations and led Italy on a national record 33-match unbeaten run, leaving them on the cusp of a second European crown.

"We want to win. We will face a very, very tough team who want to win. It's a dream for us to win this European Championship," Verratti said.

"There is a lot of enthusiasm around Italy. We weren't given credit abroad but I think Italy are climbing back to where they belong," he added.

"We must focus on our playing style. We must put aside everything else. These matches can put you under a lot of pressure, but I think the team that plays in a great stadium, a great final."

"It's the dream you have as a kid as a footballer. I think it will be an epic final, history-making either way."

"We must focus on our playing style. We must put aside everything else. These matches can put you under a lot of pressure, but I think the team that plays in a great hand," he added. — AFP

## SHORT TAKES

**Thakur is new Sports Minister**

**New Delhi:** Anurag Thakur on Thursday took charge as the country's 17th sports minister, succeeding Kiren Rijiju. The 46-year-old former BCCI President was given responsibility of sports and youth affairs along with the Information and Broadcasting ministry after he took oath as a cabinet minister on Wednesday.

He comes into office at a time when the nation's athletes are in the final stage of their preparations for the Olympic Games from July 23. "Whatever good work that has been done so far under Kiren Rijiju will continue. I would like to take everyone along and work for betterment of Indian sports," he told reporters after taking charge. — PTI

**India stars sought after at Oz T20**

**Sydney:** Indian players, led by teen sensation Shafali Verma, have emerged as the hottest overseas property for the Women's Big Bash League, considering they will already be in Australia before the event kicks off on October 14.

The tournament schedule was announced on Thursday.

India play three ODIs, a pink ball Test and three T20s against Australia in September-

October.

Since they would have already done their 14-day quarantine upon arrival in Australia, it makes a lot easier for the teams to sign them.

Sydney Sixers are close to formalising a deal with Shafali and left-arm spinner Radha Yadav.

According to cricket.com.au, Smriti Mandhana Harmanpreet Kaur, Deepthi Sharma, Jemimah Rodrigues and Poonam Yadav could also be in demand for their services in WBBL. — PTI

**SDFC gets top turf for training**

**Hyderabad:** The Sreenidhi Deccan Football Club (SDFC) has upgraded its facility. On Thursday, the first 11-a-side artificial football ground of FIFA Pro Quality was inaugurated at the Sreenidhi Football Village near Aziz Nagar in Hyderabad.

The new ground is made with field turf from USA, which provides a natural, enjoyable game for players with high performance and stability. The turf is

the same quality used by

European top clubs like

Barcelona and Arsenal at their

training facilities.

During the official inspection, All India Football Federation's Sunando Dhar (CEO, Leagues)

said SDFC is poised to create a

ripple effect in Indian football

with its multiple programs and innovative coaching.

**Hyderabad FC rope in Ogbeche**

**Hyderabad:** Adding experience to their attack ahead of the upcoming Indian Super League season, Hyderabad FC have completed the signing of

Nigerian World Cupper

Bartholomew Ogbeche for the 2021-22 season.

The 36-year-old won the ISL double of the League Winner's Shield and the ISL Trophy with Mumbai City last season.

**Siva ambassador for handball cup**

**Hyderabad:** Handball coach Siva Kumar has been appointed South Asian Ambassador for the Interamnia World Cup handball tournament scheduled to be held in Teramo, Italy, in July next year. Siva is a handball coach at St Francis College for Women in Begumpet, Hyderabad, and also the joint secretary of Hyderabad District Handball Association.

**2-yr jail sentence for golfer Cabrera**

**Buenos Aires:** Argentine golfer Angel Cabrera, a former Masters and US Open champion, was sentenced to two years in prison on assault charges against his former partner.

A court in the province of Cordoba convicted the 51-year-old for assaulting, threatening and harassing Cecilia Torres Mana, his partner between 2016 and 2018. — AP

**BARTY IS ON****Ashleigh into first Wimbledon final**

**London, July 8:** Ashleigh Barty said she would be able to experience for real a childhood dream of playing in the Wimbledon final after she produced an impressive display to beat 2018 winner Angelique Kerber 6-3, 7-6 (7/3) on Thursday.

The 25-year-old Australian will play former world number one Karolina Pliskova of Czech Republic in the final. Pliskova had never been beyond the fourth round at Wimbledon but showed great resilience in coming from behind to beat second seed Aryna Sabalenka 5-7, 6-4, 6-4 in the semifinal.

"Angelique brought the best out of me and now I have a chance on Saturday to live out a childhood dream," said Barty in the immediate aftermath of her victory.

Barty is the first Australian woman to reach the final since her idol and mentor Evonne Goolagong Cawley won her second Wimbledon title in 1980.

"It's incredible, it was as close to as good a tennis match that I have ever played," said Barty who fired eight aces and 38 winners.

Barty recovered from 1-4 down in the second set to triumph and move one win away from capturing a second Grand Slam title after her 2019 French Open victory. Barty was able to put together a sequence of winning points that Kerber was unable to match — twice rattling off 10 points in a row. Kerber, also a former Australian Open and US Open champion, saw her 10-match win streak end at the hands of Barty.

— AFP



Ashleigh Barty returns to Germany's Angelique Kerber in the Wimbledon semifinals on Thursday. — AP

**Will not rush into retirement: Fedex**

**London, July 8:** Roger Federer crashed out of Wimbledon in the quarter-finals at the hands of Poland's Hubert Hurkacz on Wednesday, but insisted he will not be rushed into retirement even with his 40th birthday just five weeks away.

Federer, the 20-time Grand Slam title winner, 6-3, 7-6 (7/4), 6-0 to a player 15 years his junior.

It was only the eighth-time Wimbledon champion's 14th defeat at the tournament in 119 matches and his first straight-set loss since an opening-round exit against Mario Ancic in 2002.

"I don't know, I really don't know. I've got to regroup," said Federer when asked if his Wimbledon career was over.

"With everything that comes after Wimbledon,

— AFP

we were always going to sit down and talk about it because clearly now Wimbledon is over. I got to take a few days. Just see, Okay, what do I need to do to get in better shape so I can be more competitive," he said.

Those discussions will

also centre on his participation in the Olympic Games in Tokyo which start in just over two weeks' time.

"Of course I would like to play it again, but at my age you're just never sure what's around the corner. I will take my time, not feel rushed by you guys or anybody else," Federer said, adding, "The team and me were actually very happy I made it as far as the quarters here. That's how it goes. I'll be fine. I have perspective about it, so it's all good."

— AFP

**Fans banned at Olympics amid state of emergency****SINDHU, PRANEETH GET EASY DRAWS IN TOKYO**

**Kuala Lumpur, July 8:** Rio Games silver medalist and reigning world champion P. V. Sindhu and B. Sai Praneeth have been handed easy draws for the Tokyo Olympics beginning on July 23.

While Sindhu has been seeded sixth and drawn in

Group 'J' of women's singles, Praneeth was seeded 13th in Group 'D' of men's singles competition. World No.10 men's doubles pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty are in Group 'A'.

Sindhu will face Hong Kong's world No.34 Cheung Ngan Yi and Israel's Ksenia Polikarpova, ranked 58th, in the league stages, while Praneeth will have to go past world No.29 Mark Caljouw of Netherlands and Israel's Misha Zilberman, ranked 47. Group toppers will qualify for knockout stages.

Chirag and Satwiksairaj will have to compete against top seed Indonesian pair of Kevin Sanjaya Sukamuljo and Marcus Fernaldi Gideon, Chinese Taipei's world No.3 Lee Yang and Wang Chi Lin and England duo of Ben Lane and Sean Vendy. — PTI

self-isolation at the five-star hotel that lodges IOC members.

Suga said the state of emergency would go into effect on Monday and last through August 22. This

means the Olympics, opening on July 23 and running through August 8, will be held entirely under emergency measures. The Paralympics open on August 24. — AP

**New Innings**

Hyderabad Ranji Trophy captain Tanmay Agarwal (fourth from left) and his cousin Siddhant (third from left) pose with the family after marrying Nitisha (fourth from right) and Muskan (third from right) respectively, in Hyderabad on Wednesday night.

**Steady start for Sportive**

**DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, JULY 8**

Sandy Goud and Shamukha scored half centuries in the little action possible on the opening day of Hyderabad Cricket Association's top league on Thursday.

Of the six matches scheduled, first day's play in five games was called

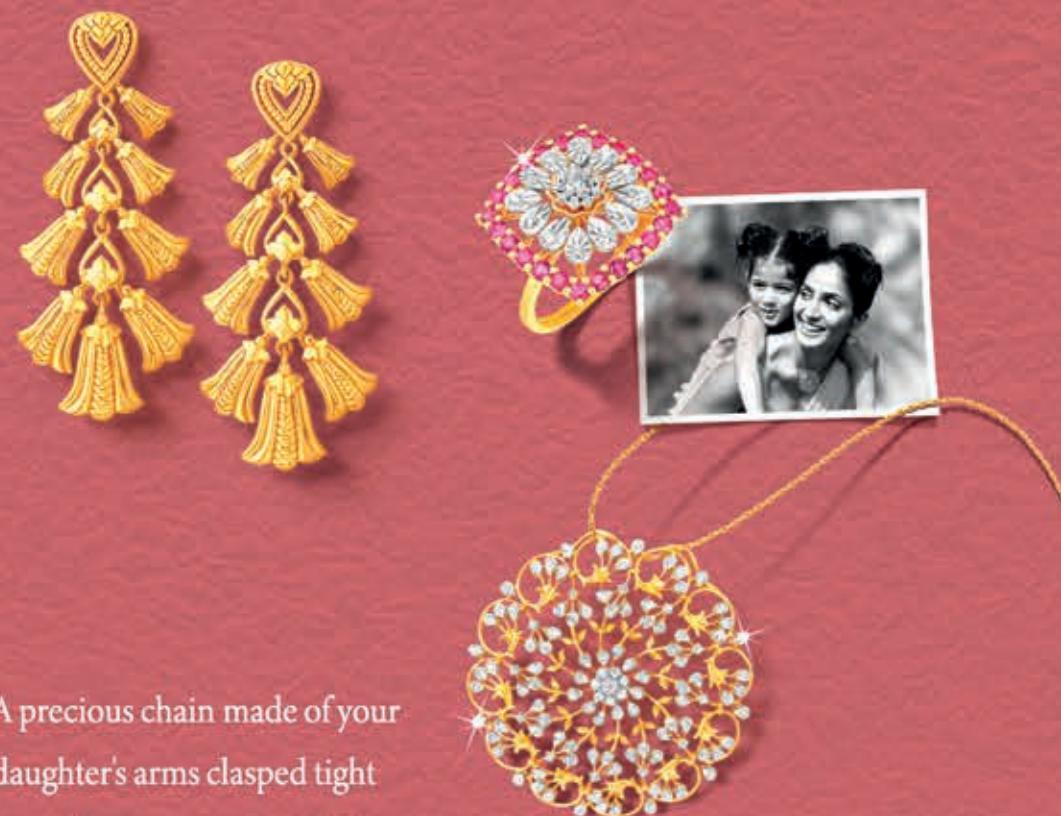
off without a ball being bowled due to wet outfield resulting from overnight rain.

However, the three-day match between Sportive and Sri Chakra saw the former making 248 for 8, thanks to decent knocks from Sandy Goud (71) and M. A. Shamukha (83). For Chakra, T. S. Rakshit took four wicks

ets conceding 36 runs.  
**Brief scores:**  
**THREE-DAY LEAGUE**  
**Day-1:**

■ Sportive CC 248/8 in 63 overs (Sandy Goud 71, M. A. Shamukha 83, T. S. Rakshit 4/36) vs Sri Chakra.  
■ EMCC vs Deccan Chronicle; Budding Stars vs R. Dayanand; Central Bhagwathi vs MP Colts; Apex vs Jai Bhagwathi (Day 1 called off without a ball being bowled due to wet outfield).

**SOMETIMES, THE GREATEST TREASURES ARE HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT.**



A precious chain made of your daughter's arms clasped tight around you, as you turn into her majestic ride for the day.

Dazzling rings of hot jalebis made by grandpa, as he laughs like a little boy, reminiscing tales of mischief from his childhood days.

Diamonds and hearts in the hands of old friends as they sit cross-legged on the carpet, sipping on piping hot adrak chai.

These moments, tucked away in our everyday lives, often pass us by. But if we took a moment, a little pause to truly cherish them, they could become sparkling gems that shine on as timeless memories.

At Tanishq, we bring you **an exquisite new collection** to adorn these little big moments of life.



TANISHQ  
PRESENTS

*little big  
Moments*

• Gold Standard Safety Protocol • 100% Vaccinated Store Staff • UV Sanitization of Jewellery

\*T&C Apply \* To locate your nearest store and know more, visit online at [tanishq.in](http://tanishq.in) or 0366920017. Buy online at [tanishq.in](http://tanishq.in) or Download our App Follow us on

New stores now open at Jubilee Hills, Eluru, Vizianagaram, Rajahmundry - Pushkar Ghat