

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE
PROPERTY

FARM HOUSES-SITES

CUSTOMIZE VILLAS 3SL 303sqyds, farm houses, resorts, sandalwood, 100acres community, Rs. 5999 per acre, per sqyd. Mumbai highway dasashilpet, 7416613247 (HYMM/2021/C06359)

FLATS

DOUBLE BEDROOM

URGENT FLAT For Sale, Newly constructed 2BHK Flat on Fourth Floor for sale in Bagh Lingampally (Aman Residence), Possession immediately Genuine Buyers only. Contact 9032517147 Brokers Excuse (HYMM/2021/C06474)

INDEPENDENT HOUSE

THREE & MORE

PREMIUM VILLAS in Gated community for Sale at Moksha @ 1.70 crs (Special Offer available). Contact: 7353565358 (HYMM/2021/C06215)

LAND

RESIDENTIAL PLOT for sale at Huda Colony, Chandanagar, 250 square yards. Prime location. Contact: 7032534353. (HYMM/2021/C06471)

PLOTS

GENUINE HMDA plots Available @ Taramatipt (ORR Exit No -10) Surrounded by Nagole, RFC, Infosys and Aims. Ph. 9948438722 (HYMM/2021/C06053)

RENTALS

COMMERCIAL

KUKATPALLY, NEAR Phase 9 Gokul Society, 9 Two Bedroom Flats, Each Flat 900sqft. Rent 1500/- Plus Maintenance, only for Offices, Hostel, Bachelors. Ph: 9246042013/ (HYCL/2021/C06267)

OPEN LAND For Warehouse Available in Yedagirigudem For Rent 2/- SFT, Hurry Contact: Ph: 7702533941 / 7675920584. (HYMM/2021/C06482)

FLATS

DOUBLE BEDROOM

2BHK SEMI Furnished Flat for Families only, at opposite DLF Gate No.3, Gachibowli. Contact: 9177548969. (HYCL/2021/C06216)

FOR RENT: Miyapur Main Road Little Rock Apartments, Opp. Sitara Hotel, Two Bed Room Flats 4th Floor, No Lift, One Bath/Tollet, 5 KM's To Hitec-city, Rent: 7000 Plus 3 Months Deposit. Ph: 9849222397 / 8011254892. (HYMM/2021/C06481)

INDEPENDENT HOUSE

THREE & MORE

INDEPENDENT ROW house in Jakkiguda, Road No.44 available for Rent with 5 Bedrooms along home theatre, total 5,000 sft with all facilities. Ph: 9849988681. (B/2021/C00898)

LEASE

COMMERCIAL

SCHOOL/ COLLEGE Building for Rent/ Lease/ Sale. 8000sqft with Parking, Fire safety, Old Malakpet, Near Race Course. For Details: Ph: 9182572924. (HYCL/2021/C02560)

SITUATION VACANT

ACCOUNTS & FINANCE

URGENTLY REQ Sr Accountant 3-5Yrs with Strong Tally & GST Knowledge in Medical/ Pharma Industry is preferred, Jr Accountant 1-3Yrs with Tally Exp. Admin with MS Office Exp Required for Naryanaguda Office. 9000421777 (HYMM/2021/C06475)

MALE/ FEMALE Commerce Graduates minimum 3-5 years work experience in Tally and MS Office. Age below 35 years. Contact No: 8866666506, 8866666505. (Between 10am to 6pm). (S/2021/C02085)

REQUIRED FEMALE for Accounts Assistant. Must know Hindi, English, Telugu, Tally knowledge compulsory. For Jeedimella Office. Walk-in interview at Perfect Engineers, # 90/G, Phase-1 (Hyderabad). Pollution Control Committee, Jeedimella. Address: Rainbow Archives 3rd Floor, Pillar No.180, Attapur, Hyderabad-30. (HYMM/2021/C06476)

ADVT. SALES & MKTG.

WALK-IN INTERVIEW Looking for Sales and Telecallers (females) Should be Fluent in English, Enthusiastic and Optimistic. Salary 20K to 25K plus commission. Interview on 2nd Feb 2021. Call: 9912641692, 730454596, Prime & Prestige Builders. Address: Rainbow Archives 3rd Floor, Pillar No.180, Attapur, Hyderabad-30. (HYMM/2021/C06477)

ARCH & INTERIOR DSNSR

CIVIL SITE Engineer-Supervisor Min 3-5 yrs experience in Residential-Industrial building @ KATEDHAN Industrial Area HYD - what app on 09423859597. (W/2021/AT001030)

CALL CENTER / BPO

DSA of MNC Bank Requires Telecallers (M/F) Freshers (8-10%) & Experience (12k-15k). Sales Executives. Team Leaders & Backend can also apply at Near Erramanzil Metro Station. Contact: 8367562344, 7989952300, 955009611. (A/2021/C00530)

CHEMISTS

SPARKVEE FINE chemicals Pvt Ltd. Immediate hiring Position- R&D and QC chemist Qualifications- Candidates with B.Sc. MSC organic chemistry background with relevant experience of about minimum 2years. QC chemist with minimum 2years experience of GC/HPLC analysis please send your resume to pranav@sparkvee.com call:917792371 for interview. Job location: Cherlapally IDA, Hyderabad. (HYMM/2021/C06476)

D.T.P OPERATORS

REPUTED ADVERTISING Agency requires DTP Operator, full time job. Candidates must have 2- 3 years experience in graphic design, communication and presentation skills. Expert knowledge of Crocodile & Photoshop is a must. Location Lakdikapul. Contact or WhatsApp: 9885012340. (B/2021/C00889)

LECTURERS

WANTED FULL-TIME faculty for Commerce & Accounts (Freshers are also welcome). Required Recreational & Counseling, New Matriculation Degree College, Hyderabad. Ph: 8688858551/ 9912528954. (HYMM/2021/C06478)

MANAGERS

WANTED PROJECT Engineer for a Put Limited Civil and Interiors Work Experience Minimum 2-4 Years Fluency in English and Hindi is Must. Email: durga@spandrelmail.com. Contact: 9246392254 (HYCL/2021/C02591)

FABINS IS hiring store Managers. Walk-in interviews from 10:30 AM. Contact: 9652412234 for directions. (HYMM/2021/C06470)

MEDICAL

DR.SHANTABAI HOSPITAL Urgently Requires Female Receptionists, Staff Nurses, Billing Executives. Contact: Mr. Tuljaram - 7093330116/ 23202163. (HYCL/2021/C02639)

REQUIRED DOCTORS for Siddha Health Care (Chakrashidhi Health Center) at moksha from Administration Background. Job Description: Patient Counselor/ Coordinator Qualification: MBBS, BDS, BHMS contact: 9121222891. (HYMM/2021/C06477)

SKIN & Hair clinic in Warangal is hiring dermatologist doctors. Interested candidates please forward your CV to info.amyraclinic@gmail.com, call: 03036752095. (HYMM/2021/C06478)

MULTIPLE VACANCIES

WALK-IN INTERVIEW: Incredible Exhibition & Event Management Services. Venue: Rent a desk, 2nd floor, Floor apartments Banjali Hills Rd#3. Date 3rd Feb. Fee: Rs. 1000/- for one day. Application for all candidates in Exhibition & Event industry. Health & Fire safety officers. Event managers/ Traffic marshalls/ Security officers, House keeping staff. For Details: 9793750247/ 7411350989. Email: amit@global4you.com Mob: 9915976963, 99150103781. (HYMM/2021/C06479)

WANTED ADVOCATE (5yr exp in real estate/ revenue) and PA for Director (4yr exp). Email CV to hr@pvdevelopers.com (HYMM/2021/C06480)

YOUNG MALE Female Aspirants/ Aiming To Reach Monthly 6 Digit Income. Apply Now. Government Employees Also Preferred. Preference: Ph: 939240816 (HYMM/2021/C06483)

INTER ONE Siting BIPC, MPC, CEC, Diploma in Engg, S.C.V., Sc.D, DMV, Dental Technology, Nursing, Optometry, Dent Hygiene, DMV, CT Scan, Dialysis, Anesthesia, ECG, X-Ray, BPT, MPT for Training. Ph: 9247476873. (HYCL/2021/C02561)

OFFERING PARAMEDICAL Courses Duration: 3 Months/ 6 Months/ High Multipurpose Health Worker, MLT, Radiographer, Physiotherapist, SMT, Technician, MRI Technician, Ayurvedic Nursing, Pharmacy Eligible 10th & Above. Amerpet. Ph: 9182749365/ 7075826265. (HYCL/2021/C02554)

WANTED SALES Executives (3yr real estate exp) & Manager (5yr real estate exp) and Telecaller (5yr real estate exp). Email CV to hr@pvdevelopers.com (HYMM/2021/C06481)

OFFERING PARAMEICAL Courses Duration: 3 Months/ 6 Months/ High Multipurpose Health Worker, MLT, Radiographer, Physiotherapist, SMT, Technician, MRI Technician, Ayurvedic Nursing, Pharmacy Eligible 10th & Above. Amerpet. Ph: 9182749365/ 7075826265. (HYCL/2021/C02554)

INTER ONE Siting BIPC, MPC, CEC, Diploma in Engg, S.C.V., Sc.D, DMV, Dental Technology, Nursing, Optometry, Dent Hygiene, DMV, CT Scan, Dialysis, Anesthesia, ECG, X-Ray, BPT, MPT for Training. Ph: 9247476873. (HYCL/2021/C02561)

MANAGEMENT SEATS are available in M.Sc & M.Com. Contact: Sree Vani Women's Degree & PG College, Malakpet, Hyderabad. Ph: 9846322704, 9240227331. (B/2021/C00896)

CHANGE OF NAME

I PALLAVI Prasad (Existing) Name of spouse as per change of next-of-kin POR, Service Document, Pension (Official), stamp of Avanika Lakshmi, Narasimha Prasad Rd/Flat 401, Bliss Shivam, Shivam Road, Nallakunta, Hyderabad, have changed my name from Pallavi Prasad (Existing) to TV Vijaya Lakshmi (New Name). As per Affidavit dated 22-01-2021. (S/2021/C02158)

FINANCE

LUCKY DRAW System once get the name in lucky draw then no need to pay further EMI amount, 2-1/2, 5, 10 lakhs chits available. Ph: 9878868725. (HYCL/2021/C02600)

CHITFUNDS

TARUNASI BOREWELLS 6 1/2 2500ts, 4 1/2 1000ts drilling, flushing & rebores. Contact: 9848806662, 9000991144. (HYCL/2021/C02639)

BOREWELLS

LAKSHMI NARSIMHA Borewells 6 1/2 - 2500 ftts & 4 1/2" Dia- 1000 ftts under roof. 6-1/2 1000 ftts drilling, Flushing & Re-bores. Reasonable Price. Contact: 9963719624, 8919376513. (S/2021/C00155)

SRI VENKATESHWARA Borewells, 6 1/2, 2500, feet. 4 1/2, 1000, feet, Drilling, Flushing & Re-bores on reasonable rates. Contact: 9014992129, 7396352095. (S/2021/C02148)

EDUCATIONAL

CONTACT FOR NCETE Recognised: B.Ed./M.Ed. No Advance Fee. Only Educational Consultants. Students Please no call. Contact regarding any Educational Problem/ Guidance. Shikshak Bharti, Varanasi. Email: shikshabharti88@yahoo.com Mob: 9915976963, 99150103781. (HYMM/2021/C06478)

DISTANCE EDUCATION

WANTED ADVOCATE (5yr exp in real estate/ revenue) and PA for Director (4yr exp). Email CV to hr@pvdevelopers.com (HYMM/2021/C06480)

EDUCATIONAL

OFFERING PARAMEICAL Courses Duration: 3 Months/ 6 Months/ High Multipurpose Health Worker, MLT, Radiographer, Physiotherapist, SMT, Technician, MRI Technician, Ayurvedic Nursing, Pharmacy Eligible 10th & Above. Amerpet. Ph: 9182749365/ 7075826265. (HYCL/2021/C02554)

INTER ONE Siting BIPC, MPC, CEC, Diploma in Engg, S.C.V., Sc.D, DMV, Dental Technology, Nursing, Optometry, Dent Hygiene, DMV, CT Scan, Dialysis, Anesthesia, ECG, X-Ray, BPT, MPT for Training. Ph: 9247476873. (HYCL/2021/C02561)

OFFERING PARAMEICAL Courses Duration: 3 Months/ 6 Months/ High Multipurpose Health Worker, MLT, Radiographer, Physiotherapist, SMT, Technician, MRI Technician, Ayurvedic Nursing, Pharmacy Eligible 10th & Above. Amerpet. Ph: 9182749365/ 7075826265. (HYCL/2021/C02554)

INTER ONE Siting BIPC, MPC, CEC, Diploma in Engg, S.C.V., Sc.D, DMV, Dental Technology, Nursing, Optometry, Dent Hygiene, DMV, CT Scan, Dialysis, Anesthesia, ECG, X-Ray, BPT, MPT for Training. Ph: 9247476873. (HYCL/2021/C02561)

LOST

I, K Harshavardhanreddy S/O K Chandraprabhu My Document No: 99/B/ lli/2010 And Sale Deed Document No: 135/2010 Was Missing. I Dropped My Valuable Documents Near Fruit Market, Kotapet. Dated On 03-10-2018. If Any One Find Please Contact: K.Chandraprabhu Reddy 9949099984. (HYMM/2021/C06469)

MOSQUITO NET

MOSQUITO MESH: Glass Fiber with different systems. Detachable Velcro, openable with Aluminium powder coated frames for windows, Doors, Roll-on, U-PVC Sliding systems. For Estimation, Installation: Call:Satyendra Creations. Ph:8326647852, 9849057513, w.w.w.satyacreations.in (HYCL/2021/C02640)

TEACHERS

WANTED TEACHERS to Teach High School except Telugu & Hindi. Contact Personally with Bio-data. Shanthi Nikethan High School, 3-4-308/8, Beside HP Petrol Pump, Kachiguda, Hyderabad-500084. (S/2021/C00927)

POULTRY

VENCOPP CHICKEN rich in protein, best in taste & emoji. Vencopp Hyderabad Zone price per kg. Farm Gate Rs.84. Ready Live Bird Rs.106. Dressed with skin Rs.154. Skinless Rs.175. Ph: 27992239. (HOPE) (S/2021/C01895)

PEST CONTROL

SPECIALIST PEST Control Cockroach Treatment, Termites, New Construction Treatment, 10 years 2019January - 30th Feb 2020. 10am-5pm. Emailed: Ph: 9989808181, 988956152/ 988956152/ Professional Effective Treatments: Cockroaches, Termites, Woodbores, Bedbugs, Ants, Rodentrats, Honeybees, Lizards, Mosquitoes, Centipedes, Spiders, Sanitization. (HYMM/2021/C06458)

PACKERS & MOVERS

SURYA PACKERS & Movers Professional in Packing & Moving of Household Goods, Cars for Local & Countrywide. Ph: 9849478333, 8008478333, 040-27244117. www.suryapackersmovers.com. E-mail: suryapackers6@gmail.com (HYMM/2021/C06468)

WANTED CUSTOMER

Service Officer for Logistics company at Patna. Experience in handling, Experience of about 5 years. Contact: 9889560606, 9339194629. (HYMM/2021/C06459)

SHORT TAKES
GOVT HIKE CAPITAL OUTLAY FOR DEFENCE

New Delhi, Feb. 1: Narendra Modi government on Monday hiked the "capital outlay" for defence modernization by 18 per cent to ₹1.35 lakh crore in Union Budget 2021-22 amidst stand-off with the China.

"This is highest ever increase in capital outlay for defence in 15 years," said defence minister Rajnath Singh.

Meanwhile, Fifteenth Finance Commission of India on Monday in a report tabled in the Parliament recommended setting up a ₹2.38 lakh crore non-lapsable Modernisation Fund for Defence and Internal Security (MFDIS) to bridge the gap between projected budgetary requirements and budget allocation for defence and internal security. Finance ministry indicated that it has in-principle accepted this recommendation.

Last year India spent additional ₹23,000 crore on emergency arms procurement by army, navy and air force as tensions with China heightened after Galwan Valley incident. This took the revised budget estimate for capital outlay to ₹1.34 lakh crore in 2020-21 against allocation of ₹1.13 lakh crore. This means that there is 0.40 per cent increase in budget allocation for capital outlay in 2021-22 when compared to revised estimates of 2020-21. In the Union budget army has been allocated ₹36,480 crore, Navy ₹33,253 crore.

GOVT DEPTS TO ADD OVER 1.4L JOBS: BUDGET

New Delhi, Feb. 1: Over 1.4 lakh jobs are estimated to be created between March 2019 and March 2021 in various central government departments, according to the Union Budget presented on Monday.

The strength of government establishments was 32,71,113 as on March 1, 2019, which is estimated to increase to 34,14,226 by the first day of next month—an increase of 1,43,113, it said.

The budget documents have given a break-up of the jobs estimated to be created in central government departments between 2019 and March 2021.

As many as 2,207 jobs are estimated to be created between March 2019 and March 2021 in the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare. Its actual strength of 3,619 as on March 1, 2019, has been estimated to be increased to 5,826 by March 1, this year.

Similarly, 1,058 jobs are estimated to be created in the Ministry of Civil Aviation by the beginning of next month. Its actual strength of 1,254 on March 1, 2019, would increase to 2,372 by March 1, 2021, it said.

As many as 12,537 new civil jobs are likely to be created in the Defence Ministry. Its strength was 80,463 in March 2019 and is estimated to increase to 93,000 by March 1, 2021.

The Culture Ministry is estimated to add 3,638 jobs, 2,859 by the Ministry of Earth Sciences, 2,263 by the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, 2,204 by the Ministry of External Affairs, 2,139 by the Department of Commerce and 1,452 by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, between this two-year period, according to the Budget 2021-22. —PTI

PUBLIC NOTICE

General Public here by informed that my client has intended to PURCHASE the Land for valuable and settled sale consideration, that piece and parcel of the land in Sy No. 131/aa, extent of Ac06-30gts, Land in Sy. No. 132 extent of Ac04-03gts, Land in Sy No. 132, to an extent of Ac02-20gts, and Land in Sy No. 133, to an extent of Ac09-23gts Total admeasuring Ac22-37gts, situated at PENDYALA village, MAHESHWARAM Mandal, Ranga Reddy District, AND land in Sy No. 295/aa, extent of Ac02-06½ gts situated at KALWAKELE village, MAHESHWARAM Mandal, Ranga Reddy District, Telangana State from Sri Ponnannamani Gangadhar Rao S/o. Late Venkateshwara Rao age 55 Years, O/o : Business, R/o 2-10-1684, Chaitanyaapur, Karimnagar, Sri Gujja Rama Rao S/o. G. Rajeshwari Rao age 61 Years, O/o : Business, R/o 1-1-151, Alexander Road, Secunderabad, R.V.S. Rama Krishna Rao S/o Surya Narayana Rao, age 59 years, O/o : Business, R/o 2-4-193/35/A, Sha Ali Baroda Hyderabad, R. Narasimha Rao S/o Venkata Subba Rao, age 53 years, O/o : Business, R/o 15-16-52(1), Poduru, West Godavari District, and paid some substantial advance amount, pro looking to enter in to the Sale Deed as soon as possible and the balance sale consideration is to be paid by my client at the time of registration of the schedule property on their names / nominees. The Land Lords got ownership and legal rights, through Registered Sale Deeds Document No. 9768/2006 dt. 30th June 2006, Document No. 8193/2008 dt. 4th Sep. 2008, Document No. 10014/2006 dt. 5th July 2006, Document No. 9963/2008 dt. 1st Dec. 2008, Document No. 8622/2020, Document No. 8623/2020, and Document No. 8624/2020 dt. 29th May 2020. The schedule properties are mutated in the revenue records. Thus, the executant has become sole absolute owner of the schedule property.

The vendors assure and covenant that there are no encumbrances, charges, mortgages, etc., gift or court proceedings (civil or criminal) whatsoever in respect of the schedule property and that, further assure that the schedule agricultural lands are not covered under any statutory provision having any clqg against alienation of the land. If any person (s) or institution (s) asserting / aver any claim right, title or interest over the above said schedule property having any objection of any manner to the above said transaction i.e. lease, mortgages, attachments, sale, prior sale, charges, gift, court proceedings (Civil or Criminal) pending, license, trust, legal hereditary rights, gratification right, security or surety etc., whatsoever in nature and there are any prior agreements, counter orders, disputes, litigations or any tax or revenue attachments or notices from the authorities in respect of the said property or relating thereto etc., may put forth/submit his / their objections before the undersigned along with (original) documentary proof within 10 (Ten) days from the date of publication of this notice. If objections are not received within said period my client will proceed with the execution of Sale Deed, on the basis that there are no claims of whatsoever nature in respect of the above said property and any objections raised thereafter will not be entertained, and my client will not accountable and bind on future proceedings.

Sd/- **A. VENKATARAMANA REDDY**, Advocate.
 R/o Flat No. 504, NMR Residency, Friend's Colony, Chanda Nagar, Hyderabad. -TS, Mob.: 9440401098

SAFE TAP WATER FOR 2.8 CR HOUSES MOOTED

Sitharaman announces urban component of Jal Jeevan; announces ₹50,000 cr outlay

New Delhi, Feb. 1: A whopping ₹50,000 crore has been earmarked for the Jal Jeevan Mission in Budget 2021-22, even as finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman Monday announced the scheme's urban segment that aims to provide tap water connections to 2.86 crore households.

In the Budget, the Drinking Water and Sanitation Department under the Jal Shakti Ministry has been allocated ₹60,030 crore while ₹9,022.57 crore has been earmarked for the Department of Water Resources, the River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation.

Jal Jeevan Mission is aimed at providing safe and adequate drinking water through individual household tap connections by 2024 to all households in rural India.

The DWS has seen a hike of more than three times in its budget allocation. In 2019-20, the DWS was allocated ₹18,264.26 crore. It came down marginally to ₹17,023.50 in 2020-21. In the coming fiscal year, the DWS has been earmarked ₹60,030 crore.

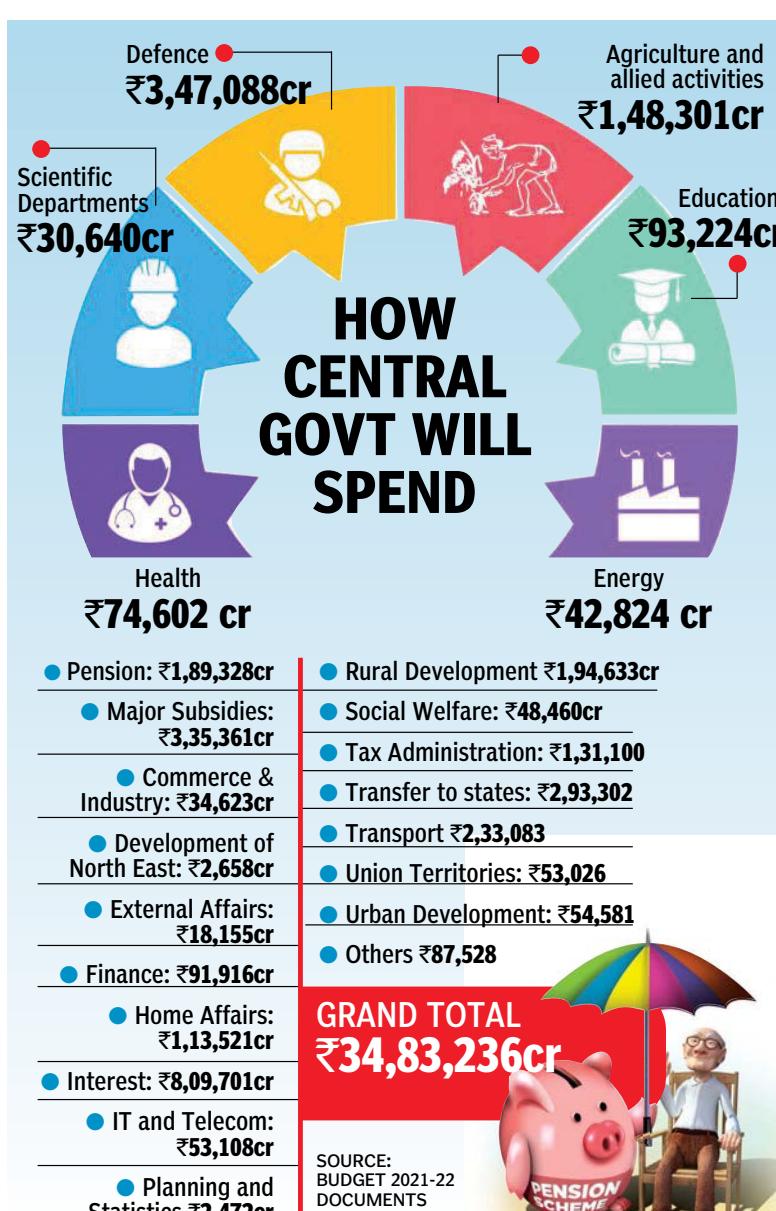
In this budget, ₹50,000 crore has been earmarked for this scheme. Additionally, the finance minister announced the urban segment of this scheme.

The ambitious urban segment of the mission will be implemented over five years with an outlay of ₹28,70,000 crore.

"The Jal Jeevan Mission (urban) will be launched. It aims at universal water supply in all 4,378 Urban Local Bodies with 2.86 crore household tap connections, as well as liquid waste management in 500 AMRUT cities. It will be implemented over 5 years, with an outlay of ₹28,70,000 crores," Sitharaman said in her budget speech.

Launched in 2019, the Jal Jeevan Mission, a flagship programme of the Modi government, aims to provide tap water connections to rural households by 2024. So far, tap water connections have been given to 3.3 crore rural households.

It also aims to assist, empower, and facilitate states in planning of participatory rural water supply strategy for ensuring potable drinking water security on long-term basis to every rural household and public institution like gram panchayat, school, etc. —PTI



15K schools to turn anchors for implementation of NEP

New Delhi, Feb. 1: Over 15,000 schools will be qualitatively strengthened as per reforms proposed in the new National Education Policy (NEP), which will help in handholding and mentoring other schools, according to the Union Budget for 2021-22 announced on Monday.

A total of 100 new Sainik Schools will also be set up in partnership with NGOs, private schools and states.

"More than 15,000 schools will be qualitatively strengthened to include all components of the National Education Policy. They shall emerge as exemplar schools in their regions, handholding and mentoring other schools to achieve the

ideals of the policy," Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said in her budget speech.

Making board exams easy, reduction of curriculum to core concepts, replacement of 10+2 structure of school curricula with a 5+3+3+4 structure and teaching up to at least class 5 in the mother tongue or a regional language, are among the many school education reforms outlined in the new National Education Policy, which was announced last year.

This is the first budget after the notification of the new National Education Policy. They shall emerge as exemplar schools in their regions, handholding and mentoring other schools to achieve the

funds for the Kendriya Vidyalayas saw an increase as Kendriya Vidyalayas have been issued ₹6,800 crore for the upcoming financial year as compared to ₹5,516 crore in fiscal 2021. —PTI

₹35k crore for Covid vaccine

New Delhi, Feb. 1: The government on Monday proposed a budget outlay of ₹2,23,846 crore for health and wellbeing in 2021-22, an increase of 137 per cent from the previous year, with ₹35,000 crore earmarked for Covid-19 vaccine in the upcoming fiscal. Presenting the budget, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman positioned health and wellbeing as one of the six crucial pillars of 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' (self-reliant India).

"Health and wellbeing have formed the topmost priority of the Union government during the ongoing Covid-19 health crisis. It is the foremost of the six crucial pillars that form the foundation of the Union Budget," she said.

"I have provided ₹35,000 crore for Covid-19 vaccine in Budget Estimates 2021-22. I am committed to providing further funds, if required," she said.

Lauding the Budget, Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan said ₹35,000 crore allocated for Covid-19 vaccines and commitment to providing further support as needed will help end this pandemic and expedite economic recovery as well.

Underscoring the importance of health and wellbeing for the growth and development of the country, the allocation has been increased to ₹2,23,846 crore in budget estimate 2021-22 as against this year's budget estimate of ₹94,452 crore.

In this budget, ₹71,2-68.77 crore has been allocated to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. In the last budget, ₹65,011.8 crore was initially allocated for the financial year 2020-21, but in revised estimates it was increased to ₹78,866 crore because of Covid-19. —PTI

MORE FUNDS ALLOTTED FOR FARM SECTOR

ANIMESH SINGH | DC
 NEW DELHI, FEB. 1

Even as farmers agitating against the three contentious farm laws have now decided to dig in their heels for the long haul, especially after the violent incidents of Republic Day and coercive measures by police to evacuate them from Delhi's various entry points, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman while presenting the budget for 2021-22 said that the minimum support price (MSP) was almost 1.5 times the production cost.

Opposition members shouted slogans, seeking repeal of the three farm laws when she spoke about MSP hike during her budget speech.

Ironically, after lakhs of migrants were forced to trudge thousands of kilometres to their native places after the sudden imposition of lockdown in March 2020.

GOVT TO AMEND APPRENTICESHIP ACT TO ENHANCE OPPORTUNITIES: FM

New Delhi, Feb. 1: To enhance opportunities for youth, the government on Monday proposed to amend the Apprenticeship Act and realign the National Apprenticeship Training Scheme for post-education apprenticeship, training of graduates and diploma holders in engineering.

Presenting the Budget for 2021-22 in Parliament, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said over Rs 3,000 crore will be set aside for this purpose.

"In 2016, we had launched the National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme. The government proposes to amend the Apprenticeship Act with a view to further enhancing apprenticeship opportunities for our youth," Sitharaman said. —PTI



DOB: 27.1.1949 DOD: 25.1.2021

(S/2021/D01175)

IN LOVING MEMORY

I will dwell in the House of Lord forever. Ps. 23:26



GANTA SUDHAKARA RAO
 S/o Area Manager, Indian Oil Corp.
 Ex-Member of NEON International Org.
 DOB: 30.06.1939 DOD: 02.02.2017
 Inserted By: Wife, Children
 And Grand Children

(S/2021/D01079)

IN LOVING MEMORY

I have fought the good fight. I have finished the race. I have kept the faith. 2 Timothy 4:7



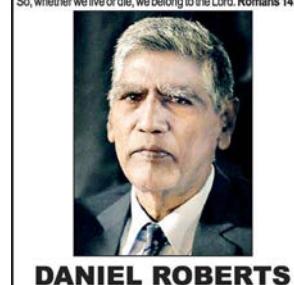
Late B. J. Emmanuel Raj
 S/o Mrs. ANSH Deva Kumar & Mr. B.S. Joshi (B.H.E.L.)
 Born on: 31st December 1990
 Called to Glory on: 02.02.2020
 Thanksgiving Prayer Meeting will be held on 2nd Feb. 2021 at 11 am at House No. 5226, Rd No. 5, Mac Society, B.H.E.L., R.C. Puram, Hyd

Inserted By: Bolly Samuel Joshi Father, Mother, Wife & Daughter, Ph: 98855 63602, 99663 87995

(S/2021/D01175)

1st Death Anniversary

If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. Romans 14:8



PULLEMALA BAL RAM GOUD
 Retd. Addl. DSP death on 1-2-2021
 Cremation held on 02/02/2021 at Nagole SMASHANAVATIKA
 Family members

(S/2021/D01175)

SHRADHANJALI

The memory of the righteous is a blessing. Proverbs 10:7



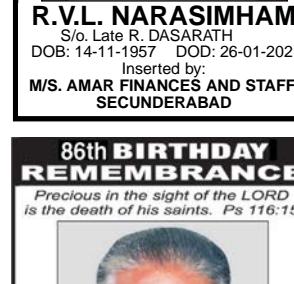
DANIEL ROBERTS
 DOB: 12.12.1944 DOD: 02.02.2020
 Your life was a blessing. Your memory a treasure. You are loved beyond words and missed beyond measure.

Inserted By: Chavva Nagamani Family

(S/2021/D01175)

SHRADHANJALI

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R.V.L. NARASIMHAM
 S/o Late R. DASARATH DOB: 14-11-1948 DOD: 26-01-2021
 Inserted By: M/S. AMAR FINANCES AND STAFF SECUNDERABAD

(S/2021/D01175)

IN LOVING MEMORY

The memory of the righteous is a blessing. Proverbs 10:7

SHORT TAKES
FISCAL DEFICIT AT 9.5% IN FY21, 6.8% IN FY22

MADHUSUDAN SAHOO | DC
NEW DELHI, FEB. 1

With macroeconomic uncertainty in the time of the Covid-19 pandemic, the government, on Monday, pegged the fiscal deficit for the year 2020-21 at 9.5 per cent of the gross domestic product (GDP). However, Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman, while presenting the Union Budget for 2021-22, also proposed a gradual fiscal consolidation path to bring down fiscal deficit to 4.5 per cent by FY26.

"The expenditure for the next fiscal has been pegged at ₹34.83 lakh crore, which includes ₹5.54 lakh crore of capital expenditure. The fiscal deficit for FY21, pegged at 9.5 per cent of GDP, will bring down to 6.8 per cent in FY22," she said, adding that the Centre will approach the market to borrow an additional ₹80,000 crore to fund the FY21 fiscal deficit," the finance minister said in her budget speech.

**PLUG & PLAY
TEXTILE PARKS TO
BOOST EXPORTS**

New Delhi, Feb. 1: The government on Monday unveiled a scheme for setting up mega textile parks in the country, as part of the Centre's efforts to position India as a fully integrated, globally competitive manufacturing and exporting hub for the sector.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman made the announcement while presenting the Budget 2021-22 in Parliament.

"A scheme of mega investment textile parks will be launched in addition to the PLI scheme," Sitharaman said.

She informed that 7 mega textile parks will be launched in three years as part of the scheme. The mega textile parks will have integrated facilities and quick turnaround time for minimising transportation losses, eyeing big-ticket investments in the sector.

The textile ministry had recently said a scheme and a Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel (MITRA) Park, in over 1,000 acres of land with state-of-the-art infrastructure, common utilities and Research and Development (R&D) lab, are under consideration.

So far, 59 textile parks have been sanctioned under the scheme for integrated textile parks, out of which 22 have been completed.

— PTI

Red carpet for foreign insurers

A largely under-penetrated insurance market may lure foreigners to India

UNDER THE new policy, the positions of majority directors on the board and key management should be filled by resident Indians.

AT LEAST 50 per cent of the directors must be independent directors and a fixed percentage of the profits must be retained as general reserves.

The new structure, the majority of Directors on the Board and key management persons would be resident Indians, with at least 50 per cent of Directors being Independent Directors, and specified percentage of profits must be retained as general reserve."

Ashvin Parekh, managing partner at Ashvin Parekh Advisory Services LLP, said, "It is a long awaited reform and should be welcomed as it would bring in about ₹30,000 crore in the insurance sector over the next three years. But it will take some time since it would require an amendment in the Insurance Act. Another important

point is that since foreign capital can come in any form, we could also see activity from private equity, venture capital firms and FIIs."

In 2015, when the FDI limit was lifted from 26 per cent to 49 per cent, Indian management control clause was inserted into the Act. This clause stated that all major board decisions, strategies and appointments could be done in Indian insurance companies only if a majority of the Indian shareholders give their nod. Although the expectation was that the insurance sector would get fresh capital of ₹25,000 crore, the actual infusion into the sector was just around ₹5,400 crore after the 2015 FDI hike as Indian promoters of existing companies monetised their investments by selling their stake to the foreign joint venture partners. The premise that higher FDI would increase insurance penetration appears faulty as despite 20 years of privatisation and raising the FDI limit, India's insurance penetration (life and non-life) languishes much below the world average.

Bad bank set to clear NPA mess

**FALAKNAAZ SYED | DC
MUMBAI, FEB. 1**

Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday announced a slew of proposals for the banking sector — the most important of them being the proposal to set up a bad bank that would buy distressed assets out of the books of public sector banks thereby freeing funds for lending. She also announced a capital infusion of ₹20,000 crore into state owned banks to boost credit growth.

In a post-budget press briefing, financial ministry officials said the structure will be set up with public and private sector banks. "Banks will put together initial capital, which will be cash neutral (to the government) into the ARC," said Debasis Panda, financial services secretary.

COMPLIANCE WORRIES EASED, TAX HOLIDAY EXTENDED FOR START-UPS

**SANGEETHA G. | DC
CHENNAI, FEB. 1**

The Budget has relieved small companies from compliance worries. It has also proposed to extend the tax holiday and capital gains exemption for start-ups by one more year. "I propose to

revise the definition under the Companies Act, 2013 for small companies by increasing their thresholds for paid up capital from "not exceeding ₹50 Lakh" to "not exceeding ₹2 crore" and turnover from "not exceeding ₹2 crore" to "not exceeding ₹20 crore," the Finance Minister said.

De-nationalisation of banks to begin finally

**FALAKNAAZ SYED | DC
MUMBAI, FEB. 1**

Apart from a strong disinvestment pipeline comprising BPCL, Air India, Shipping Corporation of India, among others in FY22, the government on Monday proposed to privatise two public sector banks starting with divestment of two PSU banks, in a bid to expedite long-awaited reforms in the banking sector. We believe merged PSU banks like Bank of Baroda, Punjab National Bank or non-merged banks like Bank of India, Bank of Maharashtra, may be on the radar.

Meghna Suryakumar, Co-Founder & CEO, Credithwatch, "This should bring in more professionalism and sophistication into the banking industry. It comes nearly 52 years after the nationalisation of banks in India, but it's still a great time to do this!"

In 2019, it had sold a majority stake in cash-strapped lender IDBI Bank to Life Insurance Corporation of India, effectively privatising the lender.

Kajal Gandhi, banking and

FUNDING TO BE STEPPED UP FOR NIP, SAYS FM

New Delhi, Feb. 1: Expressing commitment to augment the country's infrastructure, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday proposed to significantly enhance capital expenditure to ₹5.54 lakh crore in the next fiscal, besides creating institutional structures and giving a big thrust to monetising assets to achieve the goals of the National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP).

Sitharaman said NIP, that was launched in December 2019 with 6,835 projects, has now been expanded to 7,400 projects and around 217 projects worth ₹1.10 lakh crore under some key infrastructure ministries have been completed.

"For 2021-22, I propose a sharp increase in capital expenditure and thus have provided ₹5.54 lakh crores which is 34.5 per cent more than the BE of 2020-21," the finance minister said.

In 2019, it had sold a majority stake in cash-strapped lender IDBI Bank to Life Insurance Corporation of India, effectively privatising the lender.

The move would help meet the disinvestment target and reduce the fiscal constraints.

"The government will bring necessary legislative changes in this parliamentary session to enable this divestment plan," Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman said during her Budget speech on Monday.

She, however, did not specify which banks the government was looking to sell stake in, or how much it would divest.

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It's let-down like never before: Cong

**SHIVRAJ SAYS
BUDGET WILL
PROPEL GROWTH**

**RABINDRA NATH
CHOUDHURY | DC**

Bhopal, Feb 1

New Delhi, Feb 1: Asserting that the Union Budget was a "let-down like never before", the Congress on Monday claimed that it will unravel soon and described it as one that has deceived people of India, especially the poor, the working class, migrants and farmers.

The party also described the imposition of cess on petrol and diesel in the budget as a "vengeful act" against the thousands of farmers who took out the tractor rally.

The opposition party said it was a case of "wrong diagnosis and prescription", and that Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman could have been "brave" by extending help to the poor, but chose to be "timid".

Attacking the Centre, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi alleged that the Narendra Modi government plans to handover India's assets to crony capitalists.

"China occupied our territory & killed our soldiers. PM spends Diwali with them for PR photo-ops. Why hasn't he increased the Defence Budget for them," Gandhi tweeted.

His party colleague P Chidambaram also said Sitharaman "deceived" those who were listening to her speech, especially the MPs, had no clue that she imposed cesses on a large number of products including petroleum and diesel - ₹2.50 on petrol per litre and ₹4 on diesel per litre.

"It was a vengeful act against the thousands of farmers who took out the longest tractor rally in history. It was also a cruel blow to federalism because the states do not get a share of the revenue from cesses," the former finance minister said while addressing a press conference.

He said this was a "cruel blow" to the average citizen, including farmers.

"She deceived the people of India, especially the poor, the working class, the migrants, the farmers, the industrial units that had been closed down permanently, and those who had lost their jobs, both regular and informal, and are still looking for jobs," he alleged.

Asked about measures in the budget to give fillip to infrastructure, he said, "This budget may have a mind behind it, but it certainly does not have a heart behind it."

The former finance minister also said that on a 10-point test suggested by him earlier, the budget fails on nine points and has barely passed on one of them.

Sitharaman presented the budget for 2021-22 in the Lok Sabha from a tablet, instead of a conventional paper document, the first paperless budget since Independence.

Reading out a party statement, Chidambaram said Sitharaman did not mention about the defence sector at all, "as if the Chinese had vacated occupied Indian territory".

She did not mention that the defence expenditure in 2021-22 will not see any significant rise, he said, adding that the farm sector has been "shortchanged".

- PTI

Budget anti-people, says Mamata

RAJIB CHOWDHURY | DC

Kolkata, Feb 1

West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee on Monday described the first paperless union budget as "anti-people" and a "disguised" and "camouflaged" deception by an "incognito government" at the Centre.

The Trinamul Congress supremo also slammed the budgetary proposals for privatisation of many central public sector undertakings while expressing fear of another round of fuel price hike soon.

At the Uttar Banga Utsob (North Bengal Festival) inauguration in Siliguri, Ms Banerjee claimed, "God knows what this budget is all about! It is anti-people, anti-farmer and anti-country. I asked Amit Mitra, our finance minister who is among a few with good knowledge about the global economy, to tell me about the budget in a nutshell. He said, it is disguised and camouflaged to deceive the people. That means it is a fake budget of an incognito government."

Lashing out at the Centre for its privatisation drive in the government sector, she argued, "From railways to port to airport to insurance, everything is being sold. 23 more PSUs are in line. How much more money do they (BJP) need?"

of building road in Bengal. While Bengal is showing the way, there is no need to build road here. You better go to the farmers and spend the money after them while abolishing the three farm laws. We will get our roads built. Do not play such politics in the time of election," she told the Centre.

On the Centre's proposal for the tea workers' welfare in two states including West Bengal, Ms Banerjee pointed out, "Before the last election they promised to open all the tea gardens here. Without fulfilling that, they today talked of allocating ₹1,000 crore for tea gardens. They only spread lies instead of doing anything."

Mocking the allocation of ₹25,000 crore for a 675-km-long Kolkata-Siliguri National Highway network as a poll-gimmick ahead of the Assembly Election in the state, the Trinamul Congress chief not only rejected it but also asked the Centre to utilise the fund for the farmers' welfare.

"When we are doing everything, what else will you do in new Kolkata-Siliguri route? Are you trying to teach Bengalis to do Hamaguri (crawling)? Ahead of the polls, they are now talking

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GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA Office of the District Collector At Medak FORM-VII (See Sub-rule (1) of rule-25 and Section 19(1) of the Act-30/2013) DECLARATION

District Collector, Medak No.G/1/2020 Dated: 21-01-2021
Gazette No. 139 Dated: 24-01-2021

Whereas it appears to the Government of Telangana, that a total extent of Ac.81-17, land is required in Pillutlu Village of shivampet Mandat, Medak District for public purpose namely Kaleshwaram Project Konda Pochamma Sagar - Shrivampet Canal Reach-II in the village limits of Pillutlu Village of shivampet Mandat, Medak District, Narsapuram (M), Narsapuram (M), Medak (D) to K.M. 73.00 at Chippalurthi (V), Narsapur (M), Medak (D) under Konda Pochamma Sagar, Siddipet District.

Therefore declaration is made, that for the above said project in Pillutlu Village of shivampet Mandat, Medak District a piece of land measuring 81.17 acres less Ac. 81-17 gts., whose detailed description is as follows under acquisition:

District : Medak **Mandal: shivampet** **Village: Pillutlu**

PATTA LAND SCHEDULE

Sl. No. **Survey No.** **Nature of Land Classification** **Area** **Graduate Father/Husband Name** **Boundaries** **Structures & Trees**

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DECCAN Chronicle

2 FEBRUARY 2021

Budget's thrust is good, now govt must deliver

In the most trying circumstances created by the unprecedented Covid-19 pandemic, every section expected something from the finance minister. But Nirmala Sitharaman, thankfully, didn't indulge in any welfare grandstanding and presented her third Budget that can be described as the best possible in the current scenario. It is by far the most promising Budget delivered under the Narendra Modi government in terms of its intent and direction. It is heartening that Budget 2021-22 has exclusively focused on job creation by creating conditions that could boost industrial growth.

At the core of the Budget are the government's huge allocations for infrastructure through expenditure on the railways and roads and policy support to the automobile and construction sectors via tax and customs duty concessions and a vehicle scrappage policy. The proposal to expand freight corridors and introduce lighter metro rail versions will have two effects—one, boosting construction business and thereby creating jobs, and two, offering an alternative to fossil fuel-based modes of transport. An additional deduction of ₹1.5 lakhs in IT for people to buy an affordable house could boost realty demand.

The major miss in the Budget is its failure to spend adequate resources to improve healthcare infrastructure to make the country ready to deal with any future pandemics

The policy direction given by the government's decision to continue the disinvestment, indeed privatisation, of Central government enterprises more vigorously by including two more public sector banks other than IDBI Bank could finally reshape the Indian economy by removing the deadwood. The decision to set up an Asset Restructuring Company—or a "bad bank"—to take over the non-performing loans of public sector banks could be a step in the direction of their disinvestment, as it would restore state-owned lenders to the pink of health and help the government realise a better valuation for its stake. The decision to monetise non-core assets is a step in the right direction as PSEs sit on huge tracts of land and buildings.

The establishment of a new development finance bank is a result of the late realisation that commercial banks with short-term depositors cannot fund projects with long gestation periods. The decision to raise foreign direct investment in insurance companies and to allow foreign firms to have management control with safeguards could invigorate the financial sector, especially the insurance space that requires promoters with deep pockets. It could become a game-changer if the government follows the same policy in the other sectors.

The proposal to extend social security to informal workers could set the stage for drastic labour reforms, which India badly needs if it seeks to become the base for companies looking for an alternative to China. There is relief that the minister did not resort to a new cess to fund the Covid-19 vaccination programme. The prices of some imported electronic items, including mobile phones, chemicals, refrigerators, among others, may see a small increase in prices to boost local manufacturing.

The major miss in the Budget is its failure to spend adequate resources to improve health infrastructure to make the country ready to deal with any future pandemics. Despite its tall claims to hiking healthcare spending to ₹2.23 lakh crores from ₹9,452 crores, the actual hike for healthcare is just around ₹20,000 crores, with the remaining funds going to water projects and vaccination programmes. But despite the misses, the intent and direction of the Budget are good, and the government must work on delivering on its promises as early as possible.

Myanmar back to square one

The military brass of Myanmar taking over the country again in the early hours of February 1 may have surprised the world but it does not come as a shock. Five years of faux democracy have been brought to an end with the once revered leader and torchbearer of freedom for the Myanmarese, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, arrested again. A one-year state of emergency has been declared after the military took the reins back from an elected government and placed it squarely in the hands of Gen. Ming Aung Hlaing.

The reason given for the transfer of power is voter fraud in the elections held last November, which must be the weakest excuse and apparently taken right out of Donald Trump's playbook. The toughest sanctions of the West on the feared generals have had little effect historically but the United States minced no words on Monday in decrying the coup that mocks the winds of freedom that blew across the isolated country and led to Suu Kyi leading the first civilian government in half a century after a landslide victory for her party in 2015.

As a neighbour sharing a 1,600-km border with Myanmar, India must view the development with grave alarm as rebel groups of the Northeast may be emboldened to carry out operations in India knowing they can seek refuge across the border more freely now. The coup adds to the feeling that there is some kind of domino effect around the region with neighbours willingly falling into China's sphere of influence.

Myanmar's generals, beholden to China for years for supporting their illegal military rule, will only be too pleased. Even the veneer of democracy in a country in which the Army wrote the rulebook to reserve 25 per cent of the seats for itself in Parliament has been wiped out. We now fear even more for the fate of the Rohingyas, whose lot in genocidal tyranny got no sympathy from Ms Suu Kyi though it cost her the shining knight image globally.

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Chandrajit Banerjee



Game-changer that will help enable growth with inclusion

Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman has presented the Union Budget 2021-22 amidst extraordinarily difficult times created by the Covid-19 pandemic. Our GDP growth is estimated to witness the largest ever contraction of 7.7 per cent during the present year. Besides, the paucity of fiscal space, constraints within the financial sector to lubricate the system and headwinds from the global economy are the other challenges which could impact the country.

Under the circumstances, the finance minister must be commended for presenting a landmark Budget. The Budget has deployed varied policy levers to rebuild the economy devastated by the pandemic and steer it towards full revival and growth. The provisions serve to galvanise the growth enablers to build a robust and competitive India, in line with the "Atma Nirbhār Bharat" vision. At the same time, the Budget also focuses on social welfare and inclusion by addressing the issues of employment generation.

Standing on six strong pillars, the Budget seems to have played just the right strokes to stimulate investment and physical and social infrastructure and the focus on augmenting capital

expenditure is in line with the CII's recommendations. Further, the disinvestment roadmap, asset monetisation, ensuring simplification, predictability and stability in tax policy, financial sector reform and inclusion, steps to increase India's involvement in global value chains and measures to facilitate innovation, among others, are all moves that will help India get back to its potential growth rate.

The immediate concern of the finance minister has been to reinvigorate the economy, stimulate demand and alleviate widespread distress emerging from the Covid-19 setback. Against this backdrop, the Budget has taken a pragmatic decision of adopting a counter-cyclical fiscal policy impulse to resuscitate growth with inclusion. The rise in capital expenditure in the Budget also underscores the commitment towards improving the quality of fiscal spending by channelling expenditure in productive areas such as physical or social infrastructure.

However, fiscal prudence has not been discarded. A clear medium-term roadmap has been delineated for a return to the path of fiscal consolidation as the finance minister plans to bring down the deficit to less than 4.5

per cent of GDP by 2025-26. There is also transparency in the Budget as off-balance-sheet financing is gradually being brought into the mainstream.

There are several positives in this Budget on the infrastructure front. Some of the key initiatives such as the setting up of the National Asset Monetisation Pipeline, creating economic corridors, setting up of seven Mega Investment Textile Parks, and giving a choice to consumers to pick from more than one distribution company to buy power, among others, are noteworthy and will have a spillover effect on the economy. Successful implementation of these infra projects will be the key for the country to get back to the trajectory of pre-Covid growth track and create much needed jobs at the bottom of the pyramid. The setting up of a Development Finance Institution (DFI) to finance infrastructure and key sectors of the economy will address the long-term funding problem of the infrastructure sector.

India at present spends a meagre 1.3 per cent of GDP on healthcare, that is lower than the desired level of six per cent. Hence, the government's prescription to make an unprecedented 137 per cent hike in expenditure on healthcare and well-

being is spot on. The specific allocation for Covid vaccination is also significant as it will boost sentiments and help in the economic recovery. The launch of a new Centrally funded scheme, the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana, Mission Posham 2.0 and the commitment of providing ₹35,000 crores for Covid-19 vaccines in FY22 are all encouraging developments.

The finance minister has made bold announcements in the direction of making the financial sector future ready. These include setting up a "bad bank" in the form of Asset Reconstruction and Management Company, increasing the FDI limit in the insurance sector to 74 per cent and the proposal to disinvest two public sector banks, the IPO of LIC and one general insurance company in FY22. These are game-changing initiatives that would buttress growth revival in the real sector of the economy.

The Budget has taken major strides towards building a climate of business confidence among entrepreneurs. Announcements such as extending decriminalisation of business laws to LLPs under Companies Act 2013, setting up the Dispute Resolution Committee to reduce litigation among taxpayers, strengthen-

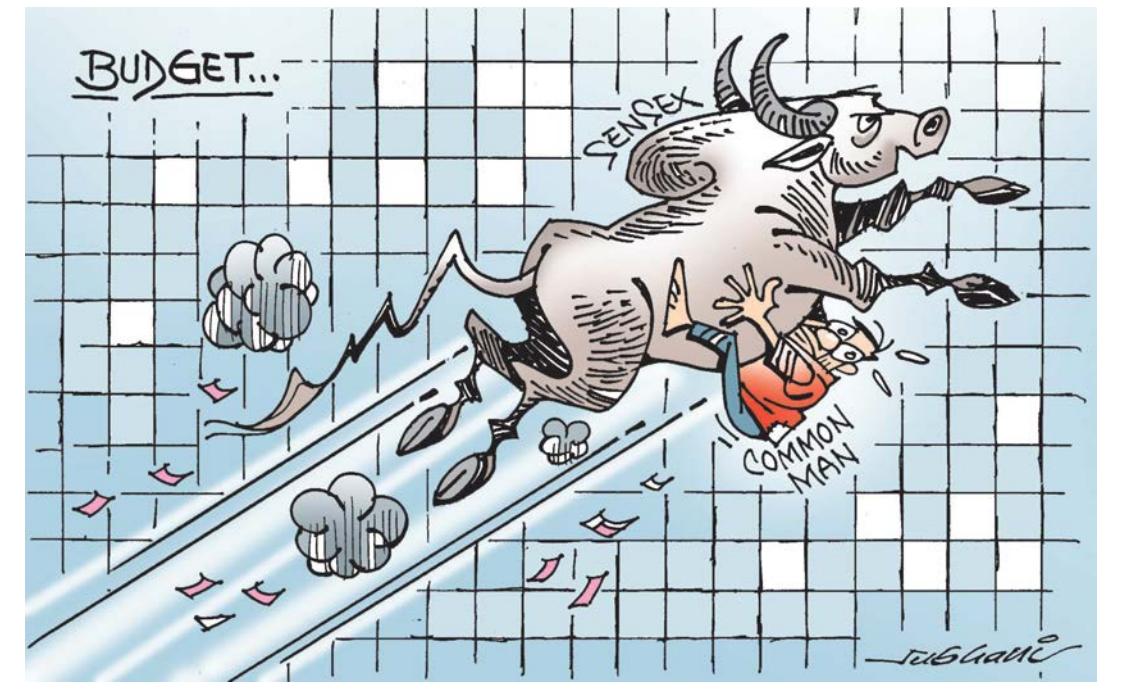
ing of the NCLT framework for speedy dispute resolution, making the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal faceless and jurisdiction-less, will be well received. The other announcements like reducing the timeframe for reopening of income-tax assessment cases from six years to three years, putting a monetary limit of over ₹50 lakhs in a year for reopening of serious tax evasion cases will improve the business climate by reducing harassment to taxpayers.

On the indirect tax front, the reduction in customs duty on certain inputs and raw materials including long products of alloy & non alloy stainless steel, copper scrap, among others, that have seen a sharp price increase in the last few months, is laudable as it will help to keep the prices of the final products competitive. The government has also reiterated its commitment to help industry get integrated in global value chains by focusing on facilitating import of raw material and thrust on value added exports.

Overall, this is a development-oriented and pragmatic Budget which will help reset growth while promoting social inclusion.

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

Subhani



State back in saddle; can pvt sector drive growth?

Partha Venkateshwar Rao Jr

It was a sober budget for sombre times. Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman delivered her third Union Budget without rhetorical flourishes.

It was not the "once in hundred years" Budget the finance minister had promised. There is nothing bold or imaginative. It is the usual State-led Budget. But her quotation from Rabindranath Tagore, "Faith is the bird that feels the light and sings when the dawn is still dark", reflects the mood of the government. There is the feeling that the economy is at the end of the Covid-19 tunnel, and the post-pandemic turnaround is around the corner.

Ms Sitharaman has announced a huge capital expenditure outlay across sectors from health to infrastructure, and even to the financial sector, by setting up a Development Financial Institution with a capitalisation of ₹20,000 crores. She wants the DFI to develop a lending portfolio of ₹5 lakh crores. The political message is quite clear: that the State is back in the economic saddle. The Economic Survey 2020-21, placed in Parliament on January 29, had strongly recommended that in a time of crisis caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, the State should step in. The Budget has followed the advice proffered in the Survey.

But the catch lies in this. Most of the capital expenditure is directed toward projects that have a long gestation period, whether it is increasing health centres or setting up biological safety level laboratories or the national institutes of virology. It will take more than a few years for these to become functional in a

meaningful sense. At the most, it would create enough jobs in the construction sector as well as through recruitment for the facilities to be set up.

The ₹5.54 lakh crore capital expenditure outlay for 2021-22, a 34.5 per cent increase over the ₹4.12 lakh crore Budget estimate of 2020-21, may look sharp, but given the economic challenge, this incremental change is indeed quite modest.

The fiscal stimulus that the industrialists and analysts were looking for was that of an immediate one through direct and indirect handouts that would help in jiggling the economy. But the finance minister has refused to go the populist way, something that the Narendra Modi government has resisted through its grandstanding of the Atma Nirbhār Bharat packages through the different stages of the lockdown. The stimulus remains an indirect one. The government is willing to create financial institutions like DFI to funnel financial flows. The government itself will stick to building biological safety laboratories and virology centres.

The finance minister, who is a firm believer in economic reforms and a liberalised economy, found her hands tied, but she has held out the hope that privatisation will continue. She has announced that the government has approved the strategic disinvestment policy, though the details have not been spelt out. She seems to believe that the sale of Air India, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd et al. would be completed this year, and she has set the disinvestment target of ₹1.75 lakh crores, of which, the minister said, ₹1,18,101 lakh crores, was for capital expenditure.

The vague hope entered

The government does

not seem to be too afraid of the 9.5 fiscal deficit for 2021, and it is hopeful that the deficit will be gradually reduced to 4.5 per cent by 2025-26. This looks like a realistic pathway. This would be feasible if the economy recovers its growth rate and tax and other revenues improve in the next couple of years.

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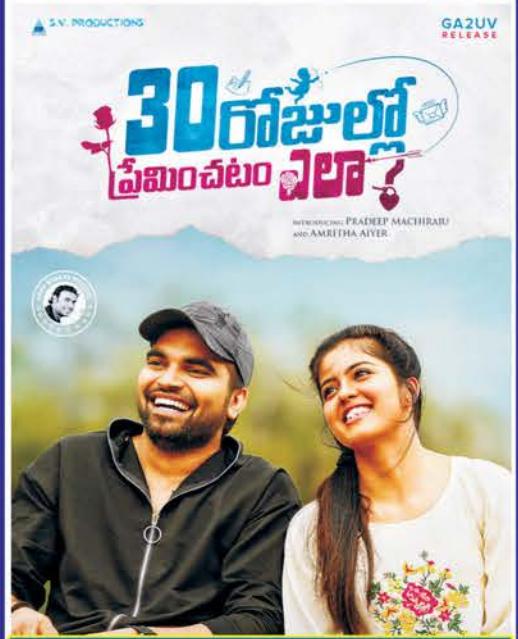
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FDI

FEEL GOOD LOVE STORY
Don't miss begining



SUDARSHAN 35
(Enjoy 4k laser projection & dolby atmos sound)
RTC X ROADS
11.00, 2.15, 6.00, 9.15PM

MEGHA70MM-DILSKNAGAR
11.15,2.15,6.15,9.15PM

MALLIKARJUNA 70MM
11.30,2.30,6.30,9.30PM

MAHALAXMI COMPLEX
11.00,2.00,6.00,9.00PM

PRASANTH70MM-SEC'BAD
11.00,2.00,6.00,9.00PM

VENKATARAMANA/PADMAVATHI
11.15 & 6.15PM(2 SHOWS)

OAMB
10.30, 10.55, 1.30, 1.45, 4.25, 4.40, 7.10, 7.45, 10.10, 10.35PM

PRASAD MULTIPLEX
11.45, 2.30, 5.15, 8.00, 10.45PM

UPPAL-10.50,1.45,4.40,7.35,10.30

RADHIKA-10.45,1.35,4.30,10.15PM

MCUBE-10.40,1.35,4.30,7.25,10.20PM

GPR-10.40,1.35,4.30,7.35,10.25PM

SIVAGANGA-11.15,2.15,6.15,9.15PM

KOMPALLY-10.50,1.45,4.40,7.35,10.30

10.50,1.45,4.40,7.35,10.30PM

TIVOLI EXTREME
11.00,2.00,4.45,7.40,10.30PM

PVR FORUM-10.40, 11.20, 12.00, 1.45, 03.05, 04.50, 06.10, 07.55, 09.15, 11.00PM

RK PLEX-10.40, 1.45, 04.50, 07.55, 11.00PM

INORBIT-10.00, 11.50, 1.05, 2.55, 4.10, 06.10, 7.15, 09.15, 10.20PM

CENTRAL-10.40,12.05,1.25,1.45,4.50,7.55,11.00

ICON-01.15,4.20,6.10,7.25,9.15,10.30PM

GALLERIA-10.00,12.05,1.05,3.10,4.10,6.15,7.15, 9.20,10.20PM

IRRUMANZIL-12.15,3.20,4.20,6.25,7.25,9.30,10.30

MUSARBAGH-12.00,1.05,3.50,6.10,7.25,9.15,10.30

CCPL-10.30,12.15,3.40,5.30,7.05,10.30

DSL-10.30,12.30,4.00,7.25,9.00,10.50

MANTRA-11.00,12.30,2.25,3.55,7.20,9.00,10.45PM

SUDHA-11.45,3.10,6.35,10.00PM

10.10,1.35,4.40,7.30,11.00PM

S2 CINEMAS MALLAPUR
10.50,12.00,3.05,6.10,7.25,9.15,10.30PM

BVK MULTIPLEX LBNAGAR
10.45,1.45,4.45,7.45,10.45PM

PLATINUM PLATINUM GACHIBOWLI
11.00,1.30,4.45,7.15,10.30PM

MIRAJ CINEMAS CHANDA-12.00,3.15,6.30,9.45PM

BALANAGAR-10.20,11.00,1.30,2.00,4.40,7.50,11.00

KOTHAPET-10.20,11.00,1.30,2.00,4.40,7.50,11.00

INOX GVK-10:40,12:05,3:30,6:55,9:15,10:20

MP-11:00,12:00,3:25,6:50,9:30,10:15PM

GSM-11:00-00,12:15,2.30,3:40,6.00,7.00,9:30,10:30

SANGEET 70MM-R.C.PURAM
(Fully renovated with latest equipment)
11.30, 2.30, 6.30, 9.30PM

SRI SAIRAM 70MM-MALAKAJGIRI
11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM

RAMAKRISHNA 35MM-ABIDS
11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM

SUSHMA 70MM
SRIDEVIRCUPURAM
11.15,2.15,6.15,9.15PM

VYJAYANTHI 11.00,2.00,6.00,9.00PM

SRLAXMI 70 12.00,3.00,7.00,10.00PM

RANGA 70MM
11.00,2.00,6.00,9.00PM

EESHWAR70MM
SAIRANGA70MM
11.00,2.00,6.00,9.00PM

BR HITECH70MM
SUPER70MM
11.00,2.00,6.00,9.00PM

SREERAMULU
SRIDEVI70-CH.GUDA
11.30,2.30,6.30,9.30PM

SREERAMANA
VIMAL70MM
11.15,2.15,6.15,9.15PM

AMBA70MM
SHARADA70MM
11.30,2.30,6.30,9.30PM

VIJETHA70MM
SSV CINEPARK
11.00,2.00,6.00,9.00PM

SREEPREMA 70
SIVARANJANI
11.00,2.00,6.00,9.00PM

KRISHNAALIYABAD
TALLURI
11.00,2.00,6.00,9.00PM

METRO70MM
NARTHAKI
11.30,2.30,6.00,9.00PM

GANESH 70MM
SENSATION SUNSHINE
11.30,2.30,6.30,9.15PM

SANTOSH IBPATNAM
JYOTHIIDA BOLLARAM
11.00,2.00,6.00,9.00PM

SAIPOOJA70
KRISHNA NAGARAM
11.00,2.00,6.00,9.00PM

SRINIVASA70MM
ASIAN MUKUND
11.00,2.00,6.00,9.00PM

VENKATASAI
11.00,2.00,6.00,9.00PM

ED seizes assets of Musaddilal Gems

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, FEB. 1

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) attached assets worth ₹130.57 crore of the owner of Musaddilal Gems and Jewels Pvt. Ltd. in relation to a demonetisation case.

The assets include 41 immovable properties, stock in trade worth ₹18.69 crore, shares worth ₹63 lakh and gold jewellery and other assets seized during earlier searches valued at ₹83.30 crore.

Investigations revealed that Musaddilal Gems and Jewels, Vaishnavi Bullion Private Limited, and Musaddilal Jewellers Pvt. Ltd. had deposited ₹111 crore in demonetised ₹500 and ₹1,000 notes in their bank accounts immediately after November 8, 2016.

They raised fake cash receipts and sale invoices showing that around 6,000 fictitious customers had visited their showrooms to purchase gold jewellery between 8 pm and midnight on November 8, immediately after the demonetisation announcement," the ED said.

The investigation revealed that the owner of Musaddilal Gems and Jewels, Kailash Chand Gupta, and his sons, following the advice of Sanjay Sarda, their chartered accountant, had raised fabricated invoices. Sarda had advised them to raise fabricated invoices below ₹2 lakh so that there would be no need to provide KYC proof or PAN of customers, ED said. He also contributed demonetised cash for conversion and received a hefty commission.

"We are scared of catching the virus, but more excited to be able to see our friends and

14K high schools reopen after about 11 months

Majority parents feel confident in sending kids to school

HARLEEN MINOCHA | DC
HYDERABAD, FEB. 1



Students of Johnson Grammar School at Nacharam are checked for their temperature on their first day at school in the ongoing academic year.

— DEEPAK DESHPANDE

After almost 11 months, students stepped out with books and bags in hand, as over 14,000 high schools, about 2,500 junior colleges and over 1,000 graduate and postgraduate colleges started physical classes on Monday. Students and teachers obliged the mask mandate, a new normal at educational institutions, and maintained social distance.

As per data released by the education department on Monday, the total attendance stood at 45 per cent for Classes 9 and 10. High school students at private and government

schools seemed excited about meeting their classmates after the long gap. Parents felt confident in sending kids to school.

"We are scared of catching the virus, but more excited to be able to see our friends and

of Johnson Grammar School, Nacharam, said, "We did not expect such a huge turn-out on the first day itself. The parents came to drop their kids and even took a tour of the premises to ensure the safety of their child. I think they went back satisfied."

Schools have set up special time tables to accommodate both in-person and online classes. There is also a system at some schools where each class batch has been allotted alternate days to attend online and physical classes.

Minu Salooja, assistant director, Glendale Academy, said the response among parents was picking up and several have consented to sitting for physical exams. She added that it is likely that in the coming weeks, more students will come to school considering the positive response on the first day.

City roads see 46% fewer deaths in motor accidents

NAVEEN KUMAR | DC
HYDERABAD, FEB. 1

The High Court has asked the government to explain its stand following a petition challenging the GO issued for further continuation of the tenure of Prof. T. Papi Reddy as chairman of the TS Council for Higher Education (TSCHE), even though he has attained the age of 65.

Justice Abhinand Kumar Shavili sought the explanation within two weeks. He was dealing with the quo warranto petition that challenged the extension of tenure.

Papi Reddy had been appointed chairman of TSCHE on August 5, 2014, for three years which was extended on August 4, 2017, for a further three years. This extension expired August 3, 2020, and Prof. Papi Reddy attained the age of 65 in 2019. But the government issued GO 115, on July 17, 2020, extending the term until further orders.

The official said nine deaths had occurred due to speeding vehicles. Of the other victims, one was on the cellphone, another was driving drunk. One fatality was caused when the driver tried to avoid a dog on the road and another due to negligence.

"Six riders were not wearing helmets and one of them did not have the helmet strap fastened," said the police.

Hyderabad traffic police is conducting regular drives to curb drunk driving, enforcement against specific violations which endangers the lives of the commuters as well as other road users is carried out for the safety of citizens.

Counselling is being given to each such driver in the presence of their Parents/spouse/guardian at Traffic Training Institute (TTI) Goshamahal and Begumpet.

"During the National Road



Infosys employees take part in road safety awareness campaign on the occasion of Road Safety Month at the Khairatabad circle on Monday.

— S. SURENDER REDDY

1,201 COMMUTERS BOOKED FOR DRUNK DRIVING IN JAN; 246 CHARGESHEETS FILED

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, FEB. 1

Chanchalguda jail. The remaining 955 violators will also be produced in court after filing chargesheets against them," said the traffic police.

They said those convicted of drunk driving and other traffic violations may face difficulties in getting government jobs, passport and visa clearance.

The Metropolitan Magistrate courts have sentenced four persons to jail. "They were sent to

Safety Month meetings are being conducted with stakeholders and others. We encouraged pedestrians by erecting signages and

providing railing on the central medians so that pedestrians and zebra crossings," Anjani Kumar said.

Gov. honours Kanaka Raju

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COVID-19 COUNT

CASES	DEATHS
(+13,678)	(+112)
1,07,66,550	1,54,509

STATE GOVERNMENT BULLETINS

(+118)	(+2)
TS: 2,94,587	1,601
(+64)	(+1)
AP: 8,87,900	7,154

CASES AROUND THE WORLD

10,36,52,661
DEATHS
22,40,544

COUNTRIES, AREAS WITH CASES 219
worldometers.info/coronavirus

SHORT TAKES

MAN SET ON FIRE OVER PREVIOUS ENMITY

DC CORRESPONDENT

HYDERABAD, FEB. 1

Unidentified persons set a man on fire alleged due to previous enmity at Sultapur in Balapur here on Monday. Rachakonda police said Harish, 28, from Jillelaguda, survived the attack which took place at a secluded place, and is now in hospital.

"The men, who are yet to be identified, allegedly doused Harish with petrol before setting him on fire. He was shifted to Osmania General Hospital with grievous burn injuries by the locals and his condition is said to be critical," said the Balapur police, who booked a case and started investigating.

● **HARISH FROM JILLELAGUDA,** survived the attack which took place at a secluded place.

CRIME BEAT

PARKED CAR CATCHES FIRE

Hyderabad: A parked car caught fire in Chintalmett of MM Pahadi on Monday morning. No injuries were reported. Locals noticed the car going up in flames on the roadside and immediately alerted the police and the fire department. "Fire personnel reached the spot and doused the flames. The car was badly damaged. The cause of fire will be estimated post inspection," said the Rajendranagar police.

BCOM 2ND YEAR STUDENT BOOKED FOR PAPER LEAK

DC CORRESPONDENT

HYDERABAD, FEB. 1

The Panjagutta police will be filing a chargesheet against a BCom second year student after he was booked for leaking a question paper via WhatsApp. Following a complaint from the principal of New Science College, Ameerpet, Panjagutta police lodged a complaint against Faizul Rahman Khan, 24, from Shadan College in

Khairatabad, stating that he had leaked the BCom second year Statistics question paper on Saturday from the examination centre.

Police said that during the principal's inquiry, she had found that Khan had leaked a question paper through WhatsApp to another student. "We have booked a case against him and sent notices to him. A chargesheet will be filed in the case," police said.

ADULTERATED TEA POWDER: 3 ARRESTED

DC CORRESPONDENT

HYDERABAD, FEB. 1

The North Zone Task Force, along with the Afzalgunj police, apprehended three persons and seized adulterated tea powder worth ₹1.40 lakh from them at Gowliguda, Afzalgunj.

DC CORRESPONDENT

HYDERABAD, FEB. 1

● **POLICE SAID** that the accused thought up the plot of adulterating tea powder and sought the help of his friends. He purchased spurious tea powder sachets for a lower rate and it sold at higher rate.

Police said that Mahendra Singh Rajput, 35, thought up the plot

of adulterating tea powder and sought the help of his friends. He purchased spurious tea powder sachets for a lower rate and it sold at higher rate.

● **HOMEGUARD FRAC-TURED** his hand and is undergoing treatment.

HOME GUARD HIT BY BIKE, INJURED

DC CORRESPONDENT

HYDERABAD, FEB. 1

A homeguard sustained injuries after a speeding bike rammed into him near Tondupally toll plaza while trying to escape from a vehicle checking point on Monday evening.

The checkpost had been set up by the Shamshabad police and traffic police.

"Homeguard Venkat Ram Reddy was signalling a biker to stop

for checking near the plaza when the vehicle dashed him. The homeguard was thrown

about 10 metres under the impact," said the police.

He fractured his hand and is undergoing treatment.

"Efforts are on to catch the biker," added the police.

● **HOMEGUARD FRAC-TURED** his hand and is undergoing treatment.

SCB targets OGBs to fill its coffers

Owners earn ₹2 to ₹10 cr per annum on rents

T.S.S. SIDDHARTH I DC

HYDERABAD, FEB. 1

In a bid to fill up its coffers, the Secunderabad Cantonment Board (SCB) on Saturday decided to train its guns on the Old Grant Buildings (OGBs) that fall under its limits. A majority of the OGBs are located in Sikh Village while a few are in Balamraji, Bowenpally and other areas.

From 2018, officials of the SCB have assessed 86 OGBs

of the British era as part of the triennial revision.

In the meeting of the board, it was alleged that several of these OGBs have lent their open spaces to function halls, furniture showrooms, car showrooms from whom they collect rent in lakhs. On average, the owners of these OGBs earn ₹2 crore to ₹10 crore per annum only on rentals.

"In the meeting, on Saturday we discussed the free water scheme which is effective in the GHMC. We asked the officials to tell us why the same was not available in the SCB limits," J. Rama Krishna, former vice-president of the board, told *Deccan Chronicle*.

The special item for this meeting was the OGBs, he said. "The board took cognisance of this issue and said that it would have a fact-finding committee (FFC) to look into these buildings," Rama Krishna said.

DC CORRESPONDENT

HYDERABAD, FEB. 1

Senior doctors on Monday started a relay hunger strike to protest against 'mixopathy' proposed by the Centre, at the Indian Medical Association's (IMA) local headquarters at Abids. The protest will go on till February 14.

The Indian Medical Association has given a call to all its units to strongly oppose the mixing of different medical streams, a proposal made by the Centre under which doctors from traditional medicine streams will be trained in modern medicine and can even be allowed to perform surgery.

The doctors stated that they were not against the AYUSH systems but do not want mixing of medical streams.

The Indian Medical

Monday. The number tests fell to 17,686. The new cases in the GHMC limits fell to 26 followed by Ranga Reddy district at 13. The government asked everyone to follow safety protocols of wearing masks and maintaining physical distancing.

● **THE IMA** has given a call to all its units to strongly oppose the mixing of different medical streams, a proposal made by the Centre under which doctors from traditional medicine streams will be trained in modern medicine.

All streams must practice their systems and mixing will lead to confusion and bad outcomes for patient care.

Doctors on hunger strike over Centre's 'mixopathy'

State records 118 new cases, 2 deaths

DC CORRESPONDENT

HYDERABAD, FEB. 1

There were 118 new cases and two deaths in the state due to Covid-19 on Sunday. The total number of cases stood at 2,94,587 and the toll at 1,601, the state health department said on

Association in a statement said that they do not want the government to interfere with modern allopathic system of medicine.

The doctors stated that they were not against the AYUSH systems but do not want mixing of medical streams.

The Indian Medical

Plea to suspend release of Pearl killer rejected

Islamabad, Feb. 1: The Pakistani Supreme Court on Monday rejected the government's request to suspend the order to release British-born al-Qaeda terrorist Ahmed Omar Saeed Sheikh and his three aides in the brutal murder of American journalist Daniel Pearl, days after it announced to formally join the review proceedings against the accused amid mounting international pressure.

The court, however, extended the interim detention order of main accused Sheikh and his aides — Fahad Naseem, Sheikh Adil and Salman Saqib — by one day to hear the government's position on the case.

During the hearing on Monday, the Attorney General of Pakistan requested the Supreme Court to suspend the decision to release the accused so that he could argue the case in detail. The apex court rejected the request, according to a report in *The Express Tribune*.

The Supreme Court on Thursday ordered the release of the accused by

January 28 judgement.

Pearl, the 38-year-old South Asia bureau chief for *The Wall Street Journal*, was abducted and beheaded while he was in Pakistan investigating a story in 2002 on the links between the country's powerful spy agency ISI and al-Qaeda. Let's hear the government's position and recall of the court's January 28 judgement.

Amid mounting pressure from the US and the UN, a spokesman of the Attorney General of Pakistan (AGP) on Saturday announced that the federal government will file an appropriate application before the apex court to be allowed to join as a party in the proceedings and further seek review and recall of the court's January 28 judgement.

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SHORT TAKES
Sports takes a big hit in budget

New Delhi: The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic was felt on the national sports budget as the central government on Monday allocated ₹2,596.14 crore for the financial year 2021-22 – a reduction of ₹230.78 crore when compared to the amount earmarked initially for the previous year.

In the last financial year, the government had allocated ₹2,826.92 crore for sports, which was later revised to ₹1,800.15 crore because of the lack of activity caused by the pandemic. This year's allocated amount is ₹795.99 crore more than the revised budget of 2020-21.

However, the spending last year was severely impacted after Tokyo Olympics was postponed, domestic events were cancelled in almost all sports and no foreign training and competition was possible for most of the Indian athletes. The sports ministry bears the cost of all foreign training and competition, including participation in the Olympics. — PTI

Corentin as tennis out of quarantine

Melbourne: France's Corentin Moutet burned his credentials with a battling come-from-behind win over American Frances Tiafoe, but his veteran compatriot Richard Gasquet crashed at the first hurdle as the ATP Tour resumed on Monday. NextGen star Moutet, 21, ousted 2019 Australian Open quarterfinalist Tiafoe 3-6, 6-4, 6-4 in the Murray River Open, one of two ATP events being run concurrently at Melbourne Park ahead of next week's Australian Open.

But 14th seed Gasquet didn't fare as well, crashing to 194th ranked American Mackenzie McDonald 7-6 (7/2), 7-5. Top seeds Stan Wawrinka and Grigor Dimitrov had byes into the second round.

Slovenian Aljaz Bedene and big-serving South African Kevin Anderson were among the winners. The biggest names in the game, including Novak Djokovic and Rafael Nadal, are playing the ATP Cup teams event, starting on Tuesday. — AFP

Hockey women hold Argentina

Buenos Aires: The Indian women's hockey team put up a spirited performance to hold formidable Argentina to a 1-1 draw and end their Tour on a high note, here on Sunday. Skipper Rani struck for India in the 35th minute while Emily Forcherio scored for the home team through a penalty stroke. This was India's fourth scheduled match against the world No. 2 ranked side after the third match to be played on Saturday was abandoned due to incessant rains.

The Indians played with an intent to secure the elusive win against Argentina in their last match of the tour. But the experienced home team continued to showcase a dominant performance. — PTI

Whistleblowing platform launched

Lausanne: The International Testing Agency (ITA) on Monday announced the launch of a new whistleblowing platform to report suspicions of doping in sport. The ITA, which was created in 2018 in cooperation with the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and the International Olympic Committee (IOC), said the "Reveal" platform would be an "additional opportunity for informants to speak out". "Not only does it provide our organisation with a new essential tool which will strengthen our fight for clean sport, it gives the sport and anti-doping community wider coverage of whistleblowing opportunities," said ITA director general Benjamin Cohen. WADA already runs a similar platform called "Speak Up!". — AFP

Live on TV

FOOTBALL
English Premier League: Wolves vs Arsenal from 11.30 pm on Star Sports Select 1, HD; Manchester United vs Southampton from 1.45 am (Wednesday) on Star Sports Select 1, HD

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IN A NUTSHELL

A man of few words, Natarajan vows to stay humble

C. SANTHOSH KUMAR | DC CHENNAI, FEB. 1

T. Natarajan is yet to come to terms with his newfound stardom. The left-arm pacer who hails from a humble background shot to fame after a stellar performance in the IPL and his exploits as a debutant in the Australia series have taken him further to dizzying heights.

Back home after a whirlwind overseas trip, Natarajan's life in Chinnappampatti, a non-descript village in Salem, has turned upside down. He has scores of fans and YouTubers crowd his home and he gets mobbed during temple visits.

The Tamil Nadu cricketer is humbled by how the public is celebrating his success, but finds it a bit awkward that he's not able to roam around freely. "Many fans come from faraway places hoping to meet me. It's all new to me. It still feels like a dream. I was waiting for a chance to play IPL. Once I began doing well there, five months just flew past. I have come up the hard way and that (humbleness) will never change," said Natarajan who resumed training on Monday.

Among the surprise visitors are directors and story writers from the Tamil film industry. As Natarajan's rags-to-riches story has caught the imagination of the youth, they want to capture it in a biopic. But Natarajan says his focus remains on playing for the country.

"A lot of people seem to be interested in my biopic. When I wasn't there, they came home to talk about the project. Right now, I don't want to think about anything else. I want to do my job properly and cement my position in the Indian team," he added.

Natarajan has made crores through his IPL contract and an array of sports management companies are trying to rope him in with plump contracts. However, his family hasn't forgotten their humble beginnings. Natarajan's mother still runs a roadside stall that



T. Natarajan.
— Instagram

sells fried chicken.

"After I bagged my first IPL contract, I told my parents they needn't to work anymore. But they have their own reasons to continue working and I respect that. My mother said she can't stay idle at home after having slogged throughout her life. When I got married, she said she would stop working gradually. Later, she said she couldn't sleep peacefully without running her shop. So, I left the choice to her," said Natarajan, who brought home a suitcase full of clothes for his newborn daughter after the Australia Test.

Natarajan thought his "life was over" when he was reported for suspect action on his Ranji debut in 2015. But he worked tirelessly under former TN Ranji spinner Sunil Subramanian to correct the action. "It was a time when I thought everything was over. I struggled a lot. It affected me mentally. But, my friends, coaches at Chemplast, Bharat Reddy sir, motivated me a lot. Sunil sir helped me change my loading and run-up. By working on these two aspects, I was able to bowl again normally. But it took a year's time.

"I didn't understand what was going on at that time. The terminology that they used was foreign to me. My only aim was to go there, correct my action and come back to play for TN again. I was not thinking whether the

method they used was right or wrong. I didn't even doubt if I did this, will it work. I just worked to get it fixed. I bowled for long hours there. Even if they asked me to stop, I continued playing. All I had was the belief that I could overcome this hurdle," he added.

Natarajan said his aim is to play all formats for India. "BCCI is making sure I am managing my workload judiciously. I am keen to work on my strength and endurance levels in the coming months. Having played continuously for the last six months, BCCI had given me rest for some weeks. This is the first time I've played for six long months at a stretch in my life," he said.

"I didn't understand what was going on at that time. The terminology that they used was foreign to me. My only aim was to go there, correct my action and come back to play for TN again. I was not thinking whether the

Leach wants to make impact against India

DC CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI, FEB. 1

England left-arm spinner Jack Leach said bowling to top quality Indian batsmen at their own backyard is the ultimate challenge in Test cricket.

"India have come back from a great win in Australia, but I think it is just a great opportunity for all of us to test ourselves against possibly the best side in the world and do that here in India, my first time in India. This is the dream you have, to come to places like these. Obviously, it is a fantastic opportunity, and I want to enjoy it," said Leach, who took

10 wickets in England's 2-0 Test win over Sri Lanka recently.

England were the last team to clinch a Test series in India when they pulled off a stunning win in 2012-13 with spinners Graeme Swann (20 wickets) and Monty Panesar (17) playing key roles.

With a lot of right-handed batsmen in India's line-up, Leach is excited at the prospect of testing them.

"I see that as a good thing for me and I feel like I can make a good impression."

Leach said he has watched a lot of videos of Swann and Panesar, but he wouldn't be trying to copy them. "Monty bowled a lot quicker through the air, and that on a spinning wicket can be very tricky. For me, I am probably not going to be bowling at the same speeds, but it's probably more about how the ball gets there in terms of trajectory and things like that."

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England have named the likes of Moeen Ali, Dom Bess and Jack Leach as spinners in their squad. While Ali is an experienced campaigner with 181 wickets from 60 Tests, Bess and Leach have played 12 Tests each, taking 31 and 44 wickets respectively.

"I don't see England winning any of the Test matches with the kind of spin attack it has.

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I DON'T SEE ENG WINNING ANY TEST AGAINST INDIA: GAMBHIR

Mumbai, Feb. 1: Former India opener Gautam Gambhir does not see the visiting England team winning any Test in the upcoming four-match series with the kind of spin attack it has.

England have named the likes of Moeen Ali, Dom Bess and Jack Leach as spinners in their squad. While Ali is an experienced campaigner with 181 wickets from 60 Tests, Bess and Leach have played 12 Tests each, taking 31 and 44 wickets respectively.

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50% CROWD TO BE ALLOWED AT SECOND TEST

DC CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI, FEB. 1

The second India-England Test starting here at the M. A. Chidambaram Stadium on February 13 will have spectators with 50 per cent stand occupancy, confirmed a Tamil Nadu Cricket Association official. Tickets will go on sale after the BCCI makes the announcement. TNCA is mulling over the possibility of selling them only online to avoid serpentine queues in front of the box office.

The Chepauk stadium can accommodate 45,000 spectators. But with the BCCI demarking a few areas as no-entry zones, only about 15,000 tickets are expected to go on sale.

The TNCA is also contemplating allowing media and officials from member clubs for the opening Test starting on February 5.

According to sources, the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) had requested that matches be played behind closed doors. After the latest development, an ECB spokesperson said: "We are not going to comment on speculation. We are still waiting to hear from the BCCI in terms of their protocols for the forthcoming Test series."

TEAM INDIA HIT THE GROUND RUNNING

After completing six days of quarantine, members of Team India began their preparation for the England Test series on Monday evening with a two-hour session under lights. "Three RT-PCR tests for Covid-19 were conducted at regular intervals. All tests have returned negative," said a note from BCCI.

All the England players too are out of quarantine after their PCR tests returned negative. They will train for the first time as a full group at the stadium on Tuesday afternoon.



International shooter Kynan Chenai of Hyderabad.

Hotshot Kynan traps Asian gold

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, FEB. 1

● The Hyderabad shooter got 145 birds out of 150 to emerge winner in the Men's Trap event and make his 30th birthday sweater.

Kynan Chenai triggered his top performance to win gold in the 1st Asian Online Shooting Championship that saw 274 shooters from 22 countries take part in the two-day competition organised by the Kuwait Shooting Federation.

The Hyderabadi shot down 145 birds out of 150 to emerge winner in the Men's Trap event that concluded on Saturday and make his 30th birthday sweater.

Kynan was consistent over six rounds, shooting 24 of the 25 birds in five and getting a perfect score in the fourth to aggregate an impressive 145.

Kuwait's Naser Meqlad took silver with a score of 144. He scored a perfect 25 in the first, fourth and sixth rounds but the 23s in the second, third and fifth affected his overall tally.

Prithviraj Tondaiman of India was third with 143.

In Women's Trap, Rajeshwari Kumari led an Indian clean sweep with a score of 138. Shreyasi Singh shot down the same number of birds but was placed second on count-back while Manisha Keer came in third with a score of 111.

India's other gold winners were Saurob Chaudhary in the Men's 10m Air Pistol and Divyanshu Singh Panwar in the Men's 10m Air Rifle.

Arjun Babuta (silver in Men's 10m Air Rifle), Manu Bhaker (bronze in Women's 10m Air Pistol), Sarabjot Singh (bronze in Men's 10m Air Pistol) and Deepak Kumar (Men's 10m Air Rifle bronze) were India's other medallists.

Abhiram has Star in a spin

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, FEB. 1



Abhiram Devarkonda of Swastik Cricket Club hogged the spotlight at the Hyderabad Cricket Association's A-2 Division league matches with a rich haul on Monday.

The off-spinner snared six wickets while conceding just 24 runs to pack off New Star for paltry 95. Abhiram also bowled four maidens in the 11 overs that he sent down.

In reply, Swastik lost four wickets of their own before overhauling Star's score, thanks to Anikrit's unbeaten 47 that enabled them to wrap up the two-day match on the first day itself.

In another match, SN Group 203 against Lords. Nishanth Reddy (49) and Aryaman (32) were the contributors of note even as Sohail took 3 for 38 for the rival side.

Lords were 125 for 2 by close of play on Day One with Jasper batting on 36.

Brief scores:
A-2 DIVISION (TWO-DAY)
Day-1:
■ New Star 95 in 40.5 overs (Deepak Naik 30), **Abhiram Devarkonda 6/24 — 11-4-24-6** lost to Swastik CC 96/4 in 26.5 overs (Anikrit 47 n.o).
Points: Swastik 5, New Star 0.
■ SN Group 203 in 65.5 overs (Aryaman 32, Nishanth Reddy 49, Sohail 3/38) vs Lords 125/2 in 28 overs (Jasper 36 n.o).

Reds back in groove, Tuchel celebrates first Blues win



Liverpool's Mohamed Salah (right) scores against West Ham in their EPL match in London on Sunday.

now level with Barca on points, both of them struggling to keep pace in the title race.

Barca's win at least maintains their momentum while Messi's 650th club goal may have carried extra satisfaction for the Argentinian, who had the details of his contract published in the Spanish newspaper *El Mundo* on Saturday night.

El Mundo claimed the deal signed by Messi in 2017 shows he could earn up to 555 million euros over its four years.

PSG SUFFER FIRST LOSS UNDER POCHETTINO

Paris Saint-Germain suffered their first defeat under Mauricio Pochettino as lowly Lorient fought back to

— AFP