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JH plot sold for record ₹43cr

TS government hopes rise to mop revenues in realty boom

L. VENKAT
RAM REDDY | DC
HYDERABAD, FEB. 15

One swallow does not make a summer. But a single transaction of a prime land in the city has soared hope in the financially parched soul of the state government.

A recent land transaction in Hyderabad, which has boosted the confidence of the state government, was recorded when a private property, measuring 1,837 square yards in Jubilee

ALTHOUGH REALTORS claim that it was not uncommon for plots to fetch between ₹1.50 lakh to ₹2 lakh per square yard in the posh Jubilee Hills area, what surprised everyone was the price shooting up to ₹2.20 lakh in this latest transaction.

Hills, was purchased for a record price of ₹41.3 crore, reflecting the start of another realty boom.

The unidentified buyer,

who purchased the plot for the record sum, is purportedly the owner of a pharma company, who paid ₹2.27 crore stamp duty and ₹20 lakh towards registration fees to the government on January 28. Realtors say that this is "an expensive deal" for a plot of this size in these times.

The government is now hoping that it will now surely be able to mop up nearly ₹15,000 crore through sale of prime government land parcels on the city outskirts this year.

■ Page 5: Over 1 lakh plots were sold in two months

NO COVID CASE IN 13 DISTRICTS IN TWO WEEKS

BALU PULIPAKA | DC
HYDERABAD, FEB. 15

One-thirds of Telangana state's 33 districts have reported zero fresh cases of Covid-19 even as the total cases for Sunday fell to less than a hundred.

According to the state health department, the 13 districts, including Naray-anpet that had been Covid-19 case-free for around two weeks now, did not report any fresh cases.

The rest of 20 districts, including Hyderabad, reported 99 new Covid-19 cases for Sunday.

However, the state health department also reported two more deaths from Covid-19 in the state.

■ Page 5: Only 2 dists report 2-digit cases

NBWs against two in 'Toolkit' case

DC CORRESPONDENTS
NEW DELHI/MUMBAI, FEB. 15

Non-bailable warrants were issued against two more people for allegedly sharing the "toolkit" related to the farmers' protest on the social media, two days after it arrested climate activist Disha Ravi over the case.

The Delhi police procured NBWs against lawyer Nikita Jacob and environmental activist Shantanu Muluk over the toolkit.

Centre makes local data for maps easy

New Delhi, Feb. 15: In sweeping changes in the country's mapping policy, the government on Monday liberalised norms governing the acquisition and production of geospatial data, a move that will help in boosting innovation in the sector and create a level-playing field for public and private entities. Minister Harsh Vardhan said due to this policy, the whole sector will open up and geospatial data of value of ₹1 lakh crore can be acquired and used by 2030. — PTI

RFID chips to track missing pets

MADDY DEEKSHIT | DC
HYDERABAD, FEB. 15

Good news for pet owners! The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) plans to inject radio-frequency identification (RFID)-based chips in dogs and other animals to enable owners locate them in case they are found missing.

The chips would have a reader in which the vaccination and other details of dogs/animals would also be included. The corporation would provide the chips at a nominal cost of ₹100.

The corporation has also decided to launch the GHMC ABC application which is under final stages of testing. According to GHMC officials, the corporation is

receiving numerous dog-missing complaints. Therefore, before issuing the pet licence, the corporation plans to get the service provider inject the chips into dog's body. The agency will also provide the dog owner with equipment to read the data.

■ Page 5: Chips will also store vaccination, owner details

PAGE 3 | LEOPARD SPOTTED AT RAJENDRANAGAR, CREATES PANIC

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CLASSIFIEDS

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COMMERCIAL

SALE OF Two Ashok Leyland buses of Educational Institute, Model: 2005, vehicles are in good running condition. Quote immediately. For more details Contact: 9177220635 & 9908176475. (A/2021/C00580)

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OFFICE SPACE @Lakdikapul, A.C.Guard, 400 sqft., for Sale or Lease on Ground floor. Contact: 9502769345. (HYMM/2021/C07045)

NEW COMMERCIAL Space 2000-5000sqft 3rd&4th Floor, N/E Entrance, Ample Parking, Good Vastu, 100% Clear Title @Ramkote (Mani Ratan No.3) Towers Only Buyers Call: 9100015559 (HYMM/2021/C06928)

FARM HOUSES-SITES

CUSTOMIZE VILLAS 3SL 303sqyds, farm houses, resorts, sandalwood, 10acres community. Rs. 5999 offer 4200 per sqyd. Mumbai highway sadashivpet. 7416613247. (HYMM/2021/C06997)

FLATS

THREE & MORE

ABIDS, FLAT For Sale, 2nd Floor, 5 Bedrooms, 5-Halls, 3100 Sft Flat-400ft Parking, 3cars Parking, 100 Square Yards Undivided Share, 11years Old, Recently Renovated, Excellent Condition, Contact: 2pm to 5PM, Ph:9248061627. (HYCL/2021/C02883)

RARELY USED deluxe flat with immediate possession admeasuring 2660sqft with 110sq Yards undivided share of land at 4th floor Opp: Indian Bank, West Marredpally, Secunderabad for sale. Parties may contact: 8790057592 (HYMM/2021/C07042)

INDEPENDENT HOUSE

THREE & MORE

VILLA AT Hillridge Gachibowli near MSFTV Infosys. Gated community 5200Sft 640 Yds. Contact 960933544 (HYMM/2021/C07043)

PREMIUM VILLAS in Gated community for Sale at Mokila @ 1.70 crs (Special Offer available). Contact: 735385358 (HYMM/2021/C07041)

PLOTS

AUSHAPUR GATKESARI National Highway, North Facing commercial plot 1400sq.yds perfect vastly for sale. ph.9848923494, 9177641296 (HYMM/2021/C07053)

825 SQ.YDS plot perfect vastu North facing, South West Boulder (Heavy) North extended superb location with serinity and peace for sale @ Road No.46 Jubilee hills. Rate Rs.3 Lakhs per yard. Contact 7382228090. (B/2021/C01017)

GENUINE HMDA plots Available@ Tarampari (ORR) Ext - No -10 Surrounded by Nagole, RFC, Ainfosys. Ph:9948438722 (HYMM/2021/C06767)

PAYING GUEST

GUEST HOUSE type accommodation with T.V. Hot and Cold water, washing clothes etc., at Diamond Point, Secunderabad. Ph:7673941234, 9603211166 (HYMM/2021/C06804)

RENTALS

COMMERCIAL

SHOP FOR Rent At MPM Mall Big Bazar, area 600+600=1200 Sft, Abids main road, entrance from shop, two side corridor. Ph:9295905676. (S/2021/C02319)

FLATS

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3 BHK semi furnished, first floor, two car parking lots, Banjara Petals Apartment, Road No.5, Banjarahills available on Rent. Rs.45k PM (negotiable). Ph:9885274000, 9246361235. (B/2021/C00991)

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DOUBLE BEDROOM

MLA COLONY, Banjara Hills, 2BHK, 1500sqft, newly renovated, 24/7water, parking, semi-furnished, independent house, peaceful location, 29500/- month, 9848533987. (HYMM/2021/C07049)

THREE & MORE

VASANTHA CITY, villa 14, West facing Bulidg 450sqft. Full furnished Home theatre. Near Hitex city MMTS, railway station. Contact: 988567250, 9701866242 (HYMM/2021/C06952)

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AGRICULTURE

FENCED FARM Land 3 Acres Two borewells, open well, 50 metres from Nagarjuna Sagar Road, Yacharam, Dhira, 9885362002. Eco-friendly! (A/2021/C00585)

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3RD AND 4th floor, Suraj bhan Jewellery hub building @Gachibowli main road, diagonally Opp. Al-saba restaurant, Beautiful elevation, Automatic lift. Each floor 2750sqft. sbp. Suitable for Software companies, architects, furnishing, offices. Contact: 7702035236. (HYMM/2021/C07061)

SITUATION VACANT

ACCOUNTS & FINANCE **ACCOUNTS MANAGER** for granite quarrying &slabs manufacturing unit. 3+years experience knowledge of Book-Keeping, Taxation, Tally, Excel is compulsory. Good communication, own conveyance must. Good Salary, Responsible Position in Hyderabad. Email- graniteworksindia@gmail.com (HYMM/2021/C06841)

WANTED JUNIOR Accountant Knowledge in Tally with Own Bike, 1-2years Experience at IDA Nacharam, Immediately Contact with Resume: 9059945690 (HYMM/2021/C07059)

WANTED MALE Candidates preferably aged between 21-28years Fresher/ Exp 1-5yrs as Accountant (B.Com with Tally Knowledge) Secretary Secunderabad, Please Contact: 9676265869, 9849411494. (HYMM/2021/C06600)

ADVT. SALES & MKTG.

REQUIRED: AREA Sales Manager, Sales Officer, Sales Executive for Telangana. FMCG experience preferred. Contact: +91-9493129865, +91-8295037500. (HYMM/2021/C06904)

UNISTAK NEEDS Sales Executives, Candidates should be presentable, good in communication, willing to travel extensively across Telangana/ North Karnataka. Salary best in Industry. Base Hyderabad. Mobile: 9395360050. (S/2021/C02304)

CALL CENTRE

WE ARE Hiring! Wanted Experienced Telugu callers & Team Managers (Male) with good communication skills in Telugu/ English/ Hindi. Opportunity to earn huge incentives. Office@ Himayathnagar ph 9849070575 (HYMM/2021/C06499)

URGENT REQUIREMENT

for 20 No's Telugu/ Kannada M/F Telecallers, Digital Marketing Executive (SEO), Marketing Executive (Salary upto 20K)+ Incentives (Exp/ Fresher), for Healthcare Company @Bowenpally, Secunderabad. Contact us: 9550404045/ 9030016222. Walk-in or Send resume to: resumestart2013@gmail.com (HYCL/2021/C02900)

WALK - IN

WANTED FEMALE telecallers for day shift. Should know Telugu, Hindi, English languages Banking, contact: 9948521927 (HYMM/2021/C07044)

COMPUTERS

REQUIRED DTP Operator Should have knowledge in PageMaker & CorelDraw with high typing speed in English, Urdu & Telugu. Mail CV: career@hidayah.in Contact: 9154685992, 9012084708. (HYCL/2021/C02895)

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DESIGNER PRE-ENGINEERING building, Steel, fabricating building, Jubilee hills, Cellar rock cutting, Civil contractors, Civil Engineers, Rolling Shutters, Windows Manufacturers, Cement ready made mixture, Brick, Total station, Auto-cad Designer, PEB Erection Team. Contact: 8341029768/ +17034380016 (USA) (S/2021/C02284)

LECTURERS

WANTED EXPERIENCED Lecturers for Degree College: English, Physics, Maths, Commerce, Statistics, Zoology & System Admin. (Male). Contact: 9246805891. Email: m@ghomega.hr@gmail.com. (HYCL/2021/C02988)

MANAGERS

ESTATE MANAGER: Diploma in hotel management with 8-10 experience in managing hospitality in a star hotel. Interested can mail your CV to hr@arcfin.in (W/2021/A00110)

MEDICAL

WANTED ELECTRICIAN, Nurses, Drivers, Accountant, Watchmen, Krishna, Childrens Hospital, Lakdiyapool. Contact: 9849017077, Dr.B.Krishna Reddy. (HYCL/2021/C02901)

MULTIPLE VACANCIES

SOUTHERN PLANTAIDS Pvt Ltd required at Balanagar, Hyderabad. Staying near to Balanagar area only. 1)Ordinary to handle estimate for client for repair of chain pump Block-INDEX. 2)Telecaller. Kindly forward your CV/ Resume to our Email: info@southernplantaids.com (S/2021/C02316)

WANTED BUSINESS

Associated (Commission Basis), Telecallers (Salary Basis) for a reputed Real Estate company. Ph:9550111116, 953301217 (HYMM/2021/C06994)

INDEPENDENT HOUSE

DOUBLE BEDROOM

MLA COLONY, Banjara Hills, 2BHK, 1500sqft, newly renovated, 24/7water, parking, semi-furnished, independent house, peaceful location, 29500/- month, 9848533987. (HYMM/2021/C07049)

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VASANTHA CITY, villa 14, West facing Bulidg 450sqft. Full furnished Home theatre. Near Hitex city MMTS, railway station. Contact: 988567250, 9701866242 (HYMM/2021/C06952)

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FENCED FARM Land 3 Acres Two borewells, open well, 50 metres from Nagarjuna Sagar Road, Yacharam, Dhira, 9885362002. Eco-friendly! (A/2021/C00585)

CONSULTANCY

REPUDIED PVT Ltd Company for its Defence project at Kanpur requires ITI Filters/ Electricians having 2 yrs industrial experience. Apply complete bio-data, expected salary email: kanpur1@hpehyd.com (W/2021/A00118)

REPUDIED PVT Ltd Company for its Defence project at Kanpur requires ITI Filters/ Electricians having 2 yrs industrial experience. Apply complete bio-data, expected salary email: kanpur1@hpehyd.com (W/2021/A00120)

OTHER VACANCIES

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TEACHERS

TRAINED TEACHERS For Maths, Science, Telugu (I-VII), Pay 10k- 18k, Nagarnagar High School, Srinivasnagar, Jagadgiriguda, Ph:8978018886. (HYCL/2021/C02897)

WANTED HINDI, English and Maths teachers for upper primary classes for a high school in ayyappa society, madhapur, cont:9989213162, 9542769386 (HYMM/2021/C07057)

REQUIRE TEACHERS (female only) who can handle classes LKG & UKG, Class 1 to 6, Telugu, English & Science, Contact to 100 Hindi & English & Computers for a School at Padmarao Nagar within 5kms distance. Forward your resume to sankaravadiyalaya8@gmail.com (HYMM/2021/C06915)

TEACHING Requirement for Hyderabad city Train on Coverts Pvt Ltd Plot No. C-14, IDA Uppal, Hyderabad, 500039, Chanda nagar, Madinaguda, Patancheruvu, pragathi Nagar, Hafeezpet, Bachupally, LB Nagar, Santosh Nagar, Manikonda, Mehdipatnam, Tolichowki, Call, Email: 8448185066, Mrs. Latifa 6309333510 Email: sheetrakon.in (HYMM/2021/C02790)

TECHNICAL

WANTED AIR Conditioner Technician with minimum two years experience who can handle installation breakdown and AMC calls interested candidates can approach Harsha Enterprises, Begumpet, Hyderabad. Ph:9849286090, 8501885556. (HYCL/2021/C02269)

TUTOR

REQUIRES HOME TUTOR to teach Maths and Economics for NIOS (open schooling) for Senior Secondary ie. 11th and 12th. Contact: 9849042461. (HYCL/2021/C02900)

WALK - IN

FEMALE COMPUTER Graduate MS Office 5 yrs exp. Konapur 779901567. (HYMM/2021/C07048)

BUSINESS OFFER

OPPORTUNITY Requirement for Hyderabad city Track on Couriers Pvt Ltd Plot No. C-14, IDA Uppal, Hyderabad, 500039, Chanda nagar, Madinaguda, Patancheruvu, pragathi Nagar, Hafeezpet, Bachupally, LB Nagar, Santosh Nagar, Manikonda, Mehdipatnam, Tolichowki, Call, Email: 8448185066, Mrs. Latifa 6309333510 Email: sheetrakon.in (HYMM/2021/C02790)

WALK - IN

FEMALE COMPUTER Graduate MS Office 5 yrs exp. Konapur 779901567. (HYMM/2021/C07048)

Leopard on prowl again in city limits

Walamtari, surrounding areas in Rajendranagar scared

SANJAY SAMUEL PAUL | DC
HYDERABAD, FEB. 15

Reports of a leopard again being on the prowl in Rajendranagar area and an eye-witness account of a leopard attacking two cows in the early hours of Monday have spread scare among inhabitants of Walamtari and surrounding areas.

Forest department officials said a preliminary inspection of the location where the leopard "attacked" the cows did not yield any evidence of a big cat presence or pug marks. The caretaker of the cattle, Ahmad, however reiterated that he saw a leopard attacking the cows around 3.15 am on Monday.

Two months ago, in December last, the forest department had trapped a leopard that was found on a road near the Katedan industrial area. It was subsequently released in the Amrabad Tiger Reserve. According to Rajendranagar police inspector K. Kanakaiah, the forest department is investigating the incident of leopard sighting. As per Ch Shivaiah, forest divisional officer of Shamshabad, "Our team patrolled the area and did not find any pugmarks. We have placed nine camera traps to try and get a picture of leopard movement in the

area. We will also place trap cages."

Resident Ragadampalli Shravani said the area where the leopard attack on cows had happened was full of scrub, with vast campuses of government institutions, open areas and hillocks. "This is an ideal place for a wild animal to take shelter, as most of the other areas around the city have been taken over by real estate agents," he said.

In-charge district veterinary officer of Vikarabad, V. Sadanandam, said, "These wild animals are scared of humans as also sounds and lights. The leopard might have travelled for the prey and taken the refuge in the hillocks. Leopards usually travel during the nights and can cover a distance of upto 20-30km a night."

He added, "The Amangal forest areas as well as Vikarabad forests are not far off from Rajendranagar. Amangal is about 30km away and Vikarabad forests 60 km away, distances that a leopard can cover easily under the cover of darkness."

No mixopathy, we've enough doctors, says IMA

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, FEB. 15

The Indian Medical Association on Monday called on all allopathic doctors to continue their protests against the 'mixopathy' plans of the Central government that seek a convergence of traditional medicine such as Ayurveda, Unani and Homoeopathy with Allopathic care.

The IMA, which was strongly opposed to these plans from day one, on Monday said one of the reasons that the government gave for promoting mixopathy was shortage of doctors in rural areas and that the organisation was readying to attend to this issue.

In a release, the IMA said, "As the government is repeatedly saying that lack of doctors is the reason for mixopathy, we are preparing a list of junior doctors ready to serve in any part of this country as per the pay scales

of the Central government and for that we are preparing and inviting applications for the same from willing junior doctors. We will submit a list of 1,500 IMA doctors, who are willing to work in any part of the India."

The IMA also called on its members to continue their protests, educate people over the dangers of mixopathy and create awareness in the society on this issue.

IT ALSO will fight the menace of mixopathy by all means including any legal battle and political lobbying

of the Central government and for that we are preparing and inviting applications for the same from willing junior doctors. We will submit a list of 1,500 IMA doctors, who are willing to work in any part of the India."

The IMA also called on its members to continue their protests, educate people over the dangers of mixopathy and create awareness in the society on this issue. It also will fight the menace of mixopathy by all means including any legal battle, political lobbying and massive sustained struggle.

Man booked for bid to encroach park

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, FEB. 15

A man was booked by the Panjagutta police for demolishing a part of a park compound wall in an attempt to allegedly encroach the space. The case was booked following a complaint from Vamshi Krishna, Deputy Commissioner of circle number 17, Khairatabad Zone, GHMC, said the police.

"Mr Krishna said in his complaint that his office has received a complaint on Monday from the residents of the Venkataramana Colony, duly stating that some of the land-grabbers/encroachers are attempting to occupy the land belonging to the colony park which is covered under W.P. No. 8795/2018 between Bollaiboina Manjulatha and GHMC.

The place also has a High Court interim order enforced, which says that it "shall not change the nature of the subject land," said the police.

Accordingly, the police inspected the above site and it was noticed that in the process of occupying park, land encroachers had demolished the part of the park

BOY DROWNS IN POND PLAYING WITH FRIENDS

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD FEB. 15

A minor boy, aged around 12, drowned in a pond while he was out with his friends at Mairadevpally area of Rajendranagar on Monday.

According to the police, the boy, identified as Ibrahim, was out with four of his friends and had gone to swim in a nearby pond.

"While in the water he started to drown and shouted for help but in vain. The area locals rushed to his rescue but he had already died when they fished his body out," said the police, who reached the spot following a dial 100 call and shifted the body for a post-mortem. A case was booked under section 174 (suspicions death) of the CrPC by the Mairadevpally police.

compound wall by using a JCB by Pallapu Arun. Further investigation is under progress.

Fire breaks out in private firm of multistoried building

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, FEB. 15

A fire broke out at a private firm in a multi-storyed

building on the Himayatnagar main road in Hyderabad on Monday evening. No injuries or casualties were reported,

fire officials said. According to the police, a short circuit is suspected to be the cause of fire. "People were still inside the build-

ing when the fire broke out. It was the staffers who noticed fire and smoke in the office located on the third floor and immediate-

ly alerted the police and the fire department," said the fire officials.

Following the call, a fire engine was sent to the spot

and the fire was doused. The incident led to a traffic snarl for some time and it was controlled by the Narayanguda traffic police.

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Registered and Corporate Office: Plate - A, 6th Floor, Office Block, Tower-2, East Kidwai Nagar, South Delhi, New Delhi 110023, India. Contact Person: Jasmeet Singh Marwah, Company Secretary and Compliance Officer; Telephone: +91 11 2290 0600; E-mail: cs@raitelindia.com; Website: www.raitelindia.com; Corporate Identity Number: U64202DL2000GOI07905

OUR PROMOTER: THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA, ACTING THROUGH THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

INITIAL PUBLIC OFFERING OF UP TO 87,153,369 EQUITY SHARES OF FACE VALUE OF ₹ 10 EACH ("EQUITY SHARES") OF RAILTEL CORPORATION OF INDIA LIMITED (OUR "COMPANY" OR THE "ISSUER") THROUGH AN OFFER FOR SALE BY THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA, ACTING THROUGH THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA (THE "SELLING SHAREHOLDER"), FOR CASH AT A PRICE OF ₹ [•] PER EQUITY SHARE (INCLUDING A SHARE PREMIUM OF ₹ [•] PER EQUITY SHARE) (THE "OFFER PRICE"), AGGRGATING TO ₹ [•] MILLION (THE "OFFER"). UP TO 500,000 EQUITY SHARES MAY BE RESERVED FOR ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES (THE "EMPLOYEE RESERVATION PORTION"). THE OFFER LESS EMPLOYEE RESERVATION PORTION IS REFERRED TO AS THE NET OFFER. THE OFFER WILL COMPRIZE A NET OFFER OF UP TO 86,653,369 EQUITY SHARES AND THE EMPLOYEE RESERVATION PORTION OF UP TO 500,000 EQUITY SHARES.

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Employee Reservation Portion: 500,000 Equity Shares

Price Band: ₹ 93 to ₹ 94 per Equity Share of face value of ₹ 10 each.

The Floor Price is 9.30 times the face value of the Equity Shares and the Cap Price is 9.40 times the face value of the Equity Shares.

Bids can be made for a minimum of 155 Equity Shares and in multiples of 155 Equity Shares thereafter.

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Investors are required to ensure that the bank account used for bidding is linked to their PAN.

UPI – Now available in ASBA for RIBs applying through Registered Brokers, DPs & RTAs. RIBs also have the option to submit the application directly to the ASBA Bank (SCSBs) or to use the facility of linked online trading, demat and bank account.

*ASBA has to be availed by all the investors except anchor investors. UPI may be availed by RIBs.

For details on the ASBA and UPI process, please refer to the details given in ASBA Form and Abridged Prospectus and also please refer to the section "Offer Procedure" beginning on page 353 of the RHP. The process is also available on the website of Association of Investment Bankers of India ("AIBI") and Stock Exchanges in the General Information Document. ASBA Forms can be downloaded from the websites of BSE Limited ("BSE") and National Stock Exchange of India Limited ("NSE"), and together with BSE, the "Stock Exchanges" and can be obtained from the list of banks that is displayed on the website of SEBI at www.sebi.gov.in.

**List of banks supporting UPI is also available on the website of SEBI at www.sebi.gov.in. For the list of UPI Apps and Banks live on IPO, please refer to the link: www.sebi.gov.in. ICICI Bank Limited has been appointed as Sponsor Bank for the Offer, in accordance with the requirements of the SEBI Circular dated November 1, 2018. For related grievance investors may contact: ICICI Securities Limited - Mr. Shekher Asnani / Mr. Rupesh Khan (+91 22 2288 2460) (raitel.ipd@icicisecurities.com); IDBI Capital Markets & Securities Limited - Mr. Indrajit Bhagat / Mr. Sumit Singh (+91 22 2217 1700) (raitel.ipd@idbicapital.com) or SBI Capital Markets Limited - Mr. Sambit Rath / Mr. Karan Savardekar (+91 22 2217 8300) (raitel.ipd@sbcaps.com). For UPI related queries, investors can contact NPCI at the toll free number: 18001201740 and Mail Id: ipo.up@npci.org.in.

Risks to Investors:

- The three Book Running Lead Managers associated with the Offer have handled 27 public offers in the past three years, out of which 12 issues closed below the offer price on listing date.
- Average cost of acquisition of Equity Shares for the Selling Shareholder in Offer is ₹ 10 per Equity Share and Offer Price at upper end of the Price Band is ₹ 94.
- Weighted average return on Net Worth for Fiscals 2020, 2019 and 2018 is 10.47%.
- The P/E of Nifty Fifty as on February 9, 2021 is 41.97.

BID/OFFER PROGRAMME

BID/ OFFER OPENS TODAY

BID/ OFFER CLOSES: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2021

In case of any revision in the Price Band or in the case of force majeure, banking strike or similar circumstances, our Company may, for reasons to be recorded in writing, extend the Bid / Offer Period for at least three additional Working Days following such event, subject to the total Bid / Offer Period not exceeding ten Working Days. Any revision in the Price Band, and the revised Bid / Offer Period, if applicable, shall be widely disseminated by notification to the Stock Exchanges by issuing a press release and also by indicating the change on the websites of the BRLMs and at the terminals of the Syndicate Members, and by intimation to Self-Certified Syndicate Banks ("SCSBs"), the Sponsor Bank, and other Designated Intermediaries, as applicable.

The Offer is being made in terms of Rule 19(2)(b) of the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Rules, 1957, as amended ("SCR"), read with Regulation 31 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Issue of Capital and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2018, as amended ("SEBI ICDR Regulations"). The Offer is being made through the Book Building Process in terms of Regulation 6(1) of the SEBI ICDR Regulations, wherein not more than 50% of the Net Offer shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis to Qualified Institutional Buyers ("QIBs") ("QIB Portion"), provided that our Company and the Selling Shareholder in consultation with the BRLMs, may allocate up to 60% of the QIB Portion to Anchor Investors, on a discretionary basis (the "Anchor Investor Portion"), of which one-third shall be reserved for domestic Mutual Funds, subject to valid Bids being received from domestic Mutual Funds at or above the price at which Equity Shares are allocated to Anchor Investors. Further, 5% of the QIB Portion (excluding the Anchor Investor Portion) shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis to Mutual Funds only and the remainder of the QIB Portion shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis to all QIBs (other than Anchor Investors), including Mutual Funds, subject to valid Bids being received at or above the Offer Price. Further, not less than 15% of the Net Offer shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis to Non-Institutional Bidders and not less than 35% of the Net Offer shall be available for allocation to Retail Individual Bidders in accordance with the SEBI ICDR Regulations, subject to valid Bids being received from them at or above the Offer Price. Further, up to 500,000 Equity Shares may be offered for allocation and Allotment on a proportionate basis to the Eligible Employees Bidding in the Employee Reservation Portion, subject to valid Bids being received from them at or above the Offer Price. All Bidders (other than Anchor Investors) shall only participate in the Offer through the Application Supported by Blocked Amount ("ASBA") process by providing details of their respective bank account (including UPI ID for RIBs using UPI Mechanism) (UPI ID, RIBs and UPI Mechanism are defined hereinafter) wherein the Bid Amounts will be blocked by the SCSBs or under the UPI Mechanism, as the case may be, to the extent of relevant Bid Amounts. Anchor Investors are not permitted to participate in the Anchor Investor Portion through the ASBA process. For details, see "Offer Procedure" on page 353 of the RHP.

Bidders/Applicants should ensure that DP ID, PAN and the Client ID and UPI ID (as applicable) are correctly filled in the Bid cum Application Form. The DP ID, PAN and Client ID provided in the Bid cum Application Form should match with the DP ID, PAN, Client ID available in the Depository database, otherwise, the Bid cum Application Form is liable to be rejected.

Bidders/Applicants should ensure that the beneficiary account provided in the Bid cum Application Form is active.

Bidders/Applicants should note that on the basis of the PAN, DP ID and Client ID as provided in the Bid cum Application Form, the Bidder/Applicant may be deemed to have authorized the Depositories to provide to the Registrars to the Offer, any requested Demographic Details of the Bidder/Applicant as available on the records of the depositories. These Demographic Details may be used, among other things, for giving Allotment Advice or unblocking of ASBA Account or for other correspondence(s) related to the Offer. Bidders/Applicants are advised to update any changes to their Demographic Details as available in the records of the Depository Participant to ensure accuracy of records. Any delay resulting from failure to update the Demographic Details would be at the Bidders/Applicants' sole risk.

CONTENTS OF THE MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION OF OUR COMPANY AS REGARDS ITS OBJECTS: For information on the main objects of our Company, investors are requested to see "History and Certain Corporate Matters" beginning on page 146 of the RHP, and Clause III of the Memorandum of Association of our Company. The Memorandum of Association of our Company is a material document for inspection in relation to the Offer. For further details, see "Material Contracts and Documents for Inspection" on page 395 of the RHP.

LIABILITY OF THE MEMBERS OF OUR COMPANY: Limited by shares.

AMOUNT OF SHARE CAPITAL OF OUR COMPANY AND CAPITAL STRUCTURE: As on the date of the RHP, the authorised share capital of our Company is ₹ 10,00,00,000 divided into 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of face value of ₹ 10 each. The issued, subscribed and paid-up Equity share capital of our Company is ₹ 3,20,384,070 divided into 320,938,407 Equity Shares of face value of ₹ 10 each. For details of the capital structure, see "Capital Structure" beginning on page 77 of the RHP.

NAMES OF THE SIGNATORIES TO THE MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION OF OUR COMPANY AND THE NUMBER OF EQUITY SHARES SUBSCRIBED BY THEM: The President of India and his nominees signed our Memorandum of Association, following which an initial allotment of one Equity Share each was made to Ashok Kumar, N. K. Chidambaram, R. N. Kumar, A. K. Chopra, A. K. Misra, Rajendra Kashyap and Akhil Agarwal (as nominees of the President of India).

LISTING: The Equity Shares when offered through the RHP are proposed to be listed on the Stock Exchanges. Our Company has received in-principle approvals from BSE and NSE for listing of the Equity Shares pursuant to their letters dated each November 4, 2020. For the purposes of this Offer, BSE shall be the Designated Stock Exchange. A copy of the RHP has been and the Prospectus shall be filed with the Registrar of Companies, N.C.T. of Delhi and Haryana ("RoC") in accordance with Section 26(4) and Section 32 of the Companies Act, 2013. For details of the material contracts and documents that will be available for inspection from the date of the RHP upto the Offer Closing Date, please see "Material Contracts and Documents for Inspection" beginning on page 395 of the RHP.

DISCLAIMER CLAUSE OF SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE BOARD OF INDIA ("SEBI"): SEBI only gives its observations on the offer documents and this does not constitute approval of either the Offer or the specified securities stated in the Offer Document. The investors are advised to refer to page 330 of the RHP for the full text of the Disclaimer Clause of SEBI.

DISCLAIMER CLAUSE OF BSE (The Designated Stock Exchange): It is to be distinctly understood that the permission given by BSE

SHORT TAKES
TS READIES REPORT FOR NITI AAYOG MEETING

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, FEB. 15

Chief Secretary Somesh Kumar on Monday directed officials to prepare a brief note highlighting the achievements of Telangana State to be submitted to Chief Minister K Chandrashekhar Rao ahead of the February 20 Niti Aayog meeting.

He said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi will preside over the sixth governing council meeting of the Niti Aayog, which Rao will participate via video conference.

Somesh Kumar directed the officials to prepare a table indicating the ranking of the State in various indicators as envisaged by Niti Aayog.

The state government's inputs on key issues and policies should be presented in the report based on Rao's vision, he said. He specifically mentioned that initiatives like TS-iPASS, KCR Kits, Rythu Bandhu, Rythu Bima and the areas where the state is at the forefront, should be highlighted.

The meeting was attended by senior bureaucrats Rani Kumudini, K. Ramakrishna Rao, Sunil Sharma, Arvind Kumar, Jayesh Ranjan, B. Janardhan Reddy, S.A.M. Rizvi, Navin Mittal, Christina Z Chongthu and Divya.

ATTENTION DIVERSION GANG MEMBERS HELD

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, FEB. 15

A six-member attention diversion gang, including four women, was apprehended by the Hyderabad Task Force team from Monda Market in Hyderabad on Monday. Silver ornaments worth ₹2.5 lakh and an autorickshaw were seized from them.

According to the police, the arrested were identified as Y. Renuka, 40, M. Kiran, 40, Y. Tulasi, 24, Y. Swetha, 22, Y. Raju, 29, and Elizabeth Rani, 25, all natives of Prakasam of Andhra Pradesh and habitual offenders who were previously involved in several cases, said the police, adding that, the gang would conduct a race in an auto and target jewellery shops posing as customers.

"They were involved in three cases reported recently, including two under the Hyderabad police commissionerate limits and one under Rachakonda. The gang poses as customers and enters jewellery shops and after diverting the attention of shopkeepers, steals silver ornaments," said the police.

Following a complaint, police collected footage from around 200 surveillance cameras, verified the modus operandi and identified the culprits, who were arrested and produced before court.

TRS BETRAYING PEOPLE, SAYS CONGRESS

DC CORRESPONDENT
KARIMNAGAR, FEB. 15

City Congress president Komatireddy Narendar Reddy on Monday condemned comments of Karimnagar Municipal Corporation (KMC) mayor Y. Sunil Rao that Congress party leaders are on padayatras to gain political mileage for themselves.

Addressing a press conference here, Narendar said that the mayor had enjoyed all major posts in Congress before joining TRS for his own political benefit and becoming Karimnagar city's mayor. Such a person has no right to comment against committed leaders of Congress party.

KCR likely to skip SZC meeting

Home minister Amit Shah will chair the meet to resolve issues between southern states

L. VENKAT RAM REDDY | DC
HYDERABAD, FEB. 15

Uncertainty persisted over Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao's participation in the 29th Southern Zonal Council meeting in Tirupati on March 4, which will be chaired by union home minister Rajnath Singh.

However, KCR had depoted ministers and officials for these meetings on his behalf.

This is the first meeting being chaired by Amit Shah after he took charge as home minister in May 2019. Since it is being held in the neighbouring

Telugu state, it assumed political significance and led to a debate as to whether KCR would turn up for the event.

2015, the 27th meeting in Thiruvananthapuram (Kerala) in December 2016 and the 28th meeting in Bengaluru (Karnataka) in September 2018. These meetings were chaired by then Union home minister Rajnath Singh.

However, KCR had depoted ministers and officials for these meetings on his behalf.

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Telugu state, it assumed political significance and led to a debate as to whether KCR would turn up for the event.

AP TO HOST SOUTHERN ZONAL COUNCIL MEETING IN TIRUPATI ON MARCH 4

DC CORRESPONDENT
VIJAYAWADA, FEB. 15

Andhra Pradesh would host the 29th edition of the Southern Zonal Council meet in Tirupati on March 4. The meeting will be chaired by Union home minister Amit Shah.

The SZC comprises Andhra Pradesh,

Telangana state, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry while the Union Territories like Andaman and Nicobar Islands and the Lakshadweep would be special invitees. Chief ministers/Lt. governors, chief secretaries, government advisers and senior officials will attend the meet.

Though there was never a complete attendance of all CMs in any SZC meeting earlier, the CMs of

other states participated at least once. If KCR attends the meet this time, it would be his

fourth visit to AP after Jagan Mohan Reddy became the CM.

Mr Rao visited Vijayawada to attend the swearing-in ceremony of Jagan as CM in May 2019 and again in June 2019 to extend an invitation to Jagan to take part in the Kalesharam project inauguration. KCR visited Tirumala temple in May 2019. Mr Rao and Jagan last met at Pragathi Bhavan in January 2020, which was their fourth meeting to discuss on the water sharing disputes and other bifurcation issues. However, disputes cropped up later between both the states over the Srisailam water following

Jagan's decision to divert water for the Pothireddy project in May 2020. As no meeting happened between Jagan and KCR since then, it triggered speculations that the bonhomie between them was over.

If KCR attends the SZC meeting this time, it will pave way for his meeting with Jagan after a long time and have discussions to resolve contentious issues between TS and AP.

The SZC comprises AP, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana and Puducherry as members and CMs of these states have to take part in the meeting to resolve issues between them.

GOVT FAILS TO RECONSTITUTE HAJ COMMITTEE

ATHER MOIN | DC
HYDERABAD, FEB. 15

The state government failed to reconstitute the State Haj Committee before the expiry of the term of the existing committee as mandated in the Haj Act. The term of the previous State Haj Committee expired on January 24, 2021. In case Saudi Arabia allows Indian pilgrims for Haj 2021, the State Haj Committee has to complete various processes at an extra pace which needs supervision by a Committee constituted under the Haj Act. The Section 22 of the Haj Committee Act says: "The state government shall take all necessary steps for the reconstitution of a new committee at least four months before expiry of the term."

Farm laws not anti-farmers: Kishan

IREDY SRINIVAS REDDY | DC
HYDERABAD, FEB. 15

Union minister of state for home affairs G. Kishan Reddy emphatically stated on Monday that there was "absolutely no harm to farmers as a consequence of the new agri laws", and alleged that the "opposition parties were provoking farmers for their political survival".

Mr Reddy clarified that there was no ban on IKP centers (agricultural mandis) for purchasing agri products at the village level and appealed to farmers to think positively and understand the benefits from the new laws.

Kishan Reddy participated in several programs, including the MLC elections preparatory and Mahila Morcha intellectual meetings, along with party state president Bandi Sanjay Kumar and other key leaders in Hyderabad.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr Reddy exhorted the cadre to work even harder to ensure the party grows in the state.

He praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi's revolutionary decisions for developing the nation, including the farm laws. He recalled



Union minister of state for home G. Kishan Reddy inaugurates the meet on women entrepreneurs, academicians and intellectuals, organised by the BJP Mahila Morcha in Hyderabad on Monday.

— S. SURENDER REDDY

the Modi government reforms on tax, one nation, one tax system, and demonetization had served a death blow to terrorist groups and their activities in India. He said that the new education policy (NEP) has helped students and encouraged local languages.

Mr Reddy alleged that opposition parties were misleading farmers through "false propaganda" against the union government. He pointed out that the Telangana government too had made allegations against the Centre to instigate

them. Mr Reddy asked farmers to defeat the TRS party and the KCR-led government for its anti-farmer behaviour, reminding them of incidents where farmers were handcuffed and arrested for demanding their rights.

In another meeting of women intellectuals, the union minister praised women, who comprise half the population and had risen to institutions positions in all sectors and great institutions on the dint of their hard work and talent.

Kishan Reddy said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Modi, the union government had

taken up an ambitious agenda of removing redundant laws and changing those laws which were past their utility. Mr Reddy said that the union government would seek and consider opinions from judges, senior IAS and IPS officers, and other key members in social service for changing laws for the betterment of the nation.

He exuded confidence that the BJP would bag both the two graduate MLC seats, saying common people, employees, students and all other sections of public in Telangana were seething with anti-TRS emotions.

After the meeting, Kishan Reddy visited surviving family members, who were injured in the Araku accident in AP recently, at their Shaikpet home in the city. He said that he had instructed the Chief Secretary of Andhra Pradesh for providing better treatment of injured persons. He also ordered officials to file a case against the travel agency and take action.

The minister also visited the BJP OBC cell national president Dr K. Laxman's residence, for expressing his condolence at his recent bereavement. Dr Laxman lost his brother recently.

2-WAY TRAFFIC OPENS ON DABEERPURA MAIN ROAD

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, FEB. 15



TPCC chief N. Uttam Kumar Reddy hands over B forms to MLC candidates G. Chinna Reddy and Ramulu Naik in Hyderabad.

lying vacant in various departments. He said the delay in the recruitment process has deprived thousands of students, who participated in the Telangana movement, from getting a government job.

Similarly, the Congress leader said that the TRS government lured jobless youth in 2018 Assembly elections by promising them a monthly unemployment allowance of ₹3,016. However, this promise too has not been fulfilled, even after nearly two-and-a-half years. He alleged that the Chief Minister has been openly cheating jobless youth ever since he came to power in June 2014.

Mr Reddy also alleged that gross injustice was being done to government employees. He said that the revision of pay scales was long overdue. He further said that the new PRC has disappointed employees by recommending a fitment of a mere 7.3 per cent. He reiterated the demand that employees be given a fitment of not less than 43 per cent.

The Pay Revision Commission, in its recent report, has disclosed that over 1.91 lakh posts were

neglected everyone else," he alleged.

The TPCC chief said that "educated youth must unite to defeat the corrupt and unethical regimes" of the TRS and BJP.

Criticising Chief Minister Rao, Mr Reddy said that the promise to fill one lakh vacant posts in government departments before the 2014 elections still remains unfulfilled.

The Pay Revision

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WEATHER

Max: 33.2°C
Min: 19.5°C
RH: 31%
Rainfall: Nil

Forecast: Partly cloudy sky.
Misty likely. Max/Min temp. 33/19°C

COVID-19 COUNT

CASES	DEATHS
(+9,447)	(+84)
1,09,25,278	1,55,840

STATE GOVERNMENT BULLETINS

(+99)	(+2)
TS: 2,96,666	1,618
(+30)	(+1)

CASES AROUND THE WORLD

10,95,45,726
DEATHS
24,14,794

COUNTRIES, AREAS WITH CASES

219
worldometers.info/coronavirus

ASTROGUIDE

Sarvari: Uttarayana
Tithi: Magha Shuddha Panchami till 5.46 am (Wednesday)

Star: Revati till 8.58 pm

Variyam: 7.44 am to 9.30 am

Durmuhuram: 9.04 am to 9.49 am; 11.14 pm to 12.04 am

Rahuakalam: 3 pm to 4.30 pm

HIJRI CALENDAR

Rajab 3,1442 AH

PRAYERS

Fajar: 5.42 am

Zohar: 12.40 pm

Asar: 4.41 pm

Maghrib: 5.23 pm

Isha: 7.31 pm

SUNRISE TOMORROW 6.41 AM

SUNSET TODAY 6.18 PM

MOONSET 10.13 PM

MOONRISE 9.41 AM

COUNTER POINT



IN BRIEF

MLA: KATORA HOUZ WILL BE RESTORED

DC CORRESPONDENT

HYDERABAD, FEB. 15

Katora Houz near Golconda will be restored to its old glory soon, Karwan MLA Kausar Mohiuddin announced on Monday. He said he has interacted with Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation commissioner Somesh Kumar. The corporation has sanctioned ₹3.6 crore for restoration and development of Katora Houz, he stated.

Katora Houz, shaped like a bowl, was constructed in 1560. The old retaining boundary wall of the one-km radius pond had collapsed due to heavy rains, causing floods in October last year. Walls along 350 metres had also caved in.

Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), in collaboration with Telangana Tourism Development Corporation Limited (TTDCL) and GHMC, had in 2019 decided to renovate and develop Katora Houz as a tourist spot. But these could not be taken up earlier.

The MLA said following representation by Hyderabad MP Asaduddin Owaisi, GHMC has agreed to restore Katora Houz.

Restoration works include drilling of 4 bore-wells, de-silting the pond, construction of retaining wall and pathways, illumination around the pond, landscaping and beautification, apart from boating activity, he added.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA (ASI), in collaboration with Telangana Tourism Development Corporation Limited (TTDCL) and GHMC, had in 2019 decided to renovate and develop Katora Houz as a tourist spot.

Lukewarm response for online pet registrations

Out of 40K dogs, only 150 receive licence from GHMC

GHMC to give 'dignified' cremation to animals

DC CORRESPONDENT

HYDERABAD, FEB. 15

Online licence was issued to only about 150 dogs out of a pet dog population of 40,000 in the city so far by the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC).

The online registration system was introduced during the first week of November last. A reason for the poor response is that the civic body has not made any significant effort to raise awareness. Officials claim the online registration is a continuous process and the corporation has set a target of issuing 10,000 online licences this year.

Pet owners can log on to the website www.ghmc.gov.in, click on the 'Our services' section, choose the option to fill an application for a licence via online and enter some details. They will have to pay no more than ₹50 for the licence. A unique identification number will be provided to the dog after registration.

Pet owners are required to submit their dog's recent vaccination certificate, residence certificate by way of a copy of the electricity/water/house tax bill, Aadhaar card or driving licence and a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the neighbours. The application will be forwarded to the veterinary assistant director or deputy director of the GHMC zone, who will verify the same and issue the licence. This apart, pet owners should produce proof that the dog has been given an anti-rabies vaccination.

A civic official said issuing online licence for pet dogs is a continuous process. Posters about this will be pasted at all private vet clinics. A few posters were already pasted at a few vet clinics, as a result of which 150 online registrations were done so far, he said.

The chip will be provided with a unique ID number. Information including the names of the pet and the owner, his/her residential address, history of the dog's vaccination, the next vaccination date, and the latitude and longitude information will be stored in the chip.

The corporation will intimate the next vaccination date through a text message to the owner. Officials would check the database at regular intervals. If the vaccination data is not updated for a period of a year, the pet owner will be prosecuted.

In case of any dog missing complaint, the GHMC would press its teams into action. With the help of the RFID reader, the dog squads can easily identify the dog, its location and go through medical history.

"Once we place the RFID

be stored for at least 15 days and then, on request, this would be handed over to the owner. Crematoriums will also have a waiting room for mourners and toilet facility.

The animal crematorium at Fathullaguda is nearing completion. A private agency that has bagged the project at Mahadevpur is yet to begin the construction. Each crematorium has two electric furnaces with a trolley on the outside to carry the bodies of pets,

the service is also open to cattle and other animals. The furnaces can carry a maximum weight of 300kg while their coils can absorb a temperature of 100 degree celsius.

The corporation would charge about ₹2,500 for the last rites. "About ₹1,500 worth of electricity will be used for the cremation of body. ₹1,000 will be collected as maintenance charge. For those who cannot afford the charges, NGOs would bear the cost," a GHMC official said.

RFID chips will also store vaccination, owner details

From Page 1

reader near the chip, the history of the pet will be displayed with a beep sound on the monitor. If we detect fake ownership, the guilty will be prosecuted. The pet owner should immediately report to the GHMC in case a pet dog is found missing," a GHMC official said.

He said a Noida-based company has given the representation on the chip's functioning. The firm has promised to provide quality chips at a nominal price of ₹100. The price might even come down. "The RFID tags would likely be used in a month's time. It is yet to receive the final nod from the higher authorities." The IT wing has done multiple testing, he said.

The GHMC has developed an ABC application to minimise the stray dog menace. Dog catchers should take live photos using the app, in which the location-

al longitude and latitude will be marked. After performing animal birth control (ABC) and anti-rabies vaccination (ARV) programmes, the dogs have to be left in the same location, through live photos, for approval from the app.

The official said that this data will not only help the corporation squads track the location of stray dogs but also control the menace in the GHMC limits. GHMC would spend ₹1,500 on each dog in the city limits for vaccination and birth control operations. After implementing a pilot project pertaining to the ABC and ARV programmes, the civic body would, in conformity with the Animal Welfare Board of India and Animal Birth Control (Dogs) Rules 2001, invite tenders and shortlist five animal welfare organisations to sterilise about 10,000 stray dogs for a year, officials said.

(From left to right) L&T Metro Rail COO Anil Kumar Saini, president of Apollo Group Hospitals Dr K. Hari Prasad, Addl. Commissioner of Police (Traffic) in Hyderabad Anil Kumar, heart recipient Singareddy Kanakareddy, HMRL managing director N.V.S. Reddy, heart and lung transplant surgeon of Apollo Dr Alla Gopala Krishna Gokhale and regional CEO of Apollo hospitals Y. Subramanyam at a press conference to announce the successful heart transplant conducted with the cadaver heart transported by the HMRL.

— BY ARRANGEMENT

Heart transplant patient recovers

DC CORRESPONDENT

HYDERABAD, FEB. 15

A terminally-critical patient, who received a heart transplant at Apollo Hospitals on February 2, was discharged on Monday, 13 days after the Hyderabad City Police and the Hyderabad Metro Rail Limited joined hands with the hospital in a bid to rush a brain-dead donor's heart across the city — from Nagole to Jubilee Hills — in record time.

Addressing a press con-

ference to mark the discharge of the 44-year-old Singareddy Karnakreddy who was the recipient of the heart, Dr A. Gopala Krishna Gokhale, the heart and lung transplant specialist at Apollo Hospital, said that normally, there is a window of up to four hours for a heart transplant but in Karnakreddy's instance, because of how critical he was, they had less than two hours to ensure success of the transplant operation. Dr

Gokhale said it was a spontaneous thought to ask Metro Rail if it could help out as transporting the heart by road, even if a green channel could be created, would have cut into precious time and taken an hour or so.

This was the first time ever that a Metro train was used anywhere in the world to transport a human organ, said Dr K. Hari Prasad, president, Apollo Group of Hospitals. He thanked the Metro would continue to provide such assistance in the future too.

farmer from Arekudem village in Nalgonda district, the city police and Metro Rail authorities for making it possible to save the life of a critically-ill patient.

The press conference was also addressed by N.V.S. Reddy, the HMRL managing director, Anil Kumar, the Additional Commissioner of Police (Traffic), and Anil Kumar Saini, chief operating officer of L&T Metro Rail, who said the Metro would continue to provide such assistance in the future too.

3 of family drown as car falls into canal

DC CORRESPONDENT

JAGTIAL, FEB. 15

In a tragic incident that occurred in the early hours of Monday, three members of a family died and one sustained minor injuries when the car they were travelling in fell in the Sri Ram Sagar Project (SRSP) canal at Medipally.

The deceased were identified as advocate Katkaneni Amerandar Rao (58), resident of Housing board colony here, his wife Shirisha (52) and daughter Shreya (25).

WHEN THE car was near Kattekunta village, the driver failed to control the wheel and fell into the SRSP canal.

Amerandar's son Jayanth survived with minor injuries.

According to police, the four were going to their native Jogiinpally village for taking part in celebrations organised in the village temple.

When the car was near Kattekunta village, the driver failed to control the wheel and fell into the

SRSP canal. Jayanth, who was driving the car, managed to open the door and swam to safety in the canal. The remaining three struck in the car were swept away by the heavy flow of water.

Jayanth after coming out of the canal informed the locals who in turn conveyed the information to the officials police and revenue department. They tried to retrieve the car from the canal.

Although a crane did bring out the vehicle, the other three died of suffocation.

The police sent the bodies to the government main hospital for post-mortem and started investigation by registering the case.

Amerandar was a relative of TRS party's Jagtial MLA, Dr Sanjay Kumar. Having learnt about the accident, the MLA along with district collector, G. Ravi, district superintendent of police Sindhur Sharma and additional collector B. Rajesham visited the hospital and consoled Jayanth.

Shreya was engaged recently.

Over 1 lakh plots were sold in two months

From Page 1

ALL REGISTRATION OFFICES are witnessing a heavy rush of property registrations for the past three months, after the launch of Dharani portal in November 2020.

About 1.10 lakh sale deeds were registered for open plots between December 21, 2020, and February 10, 2021, which fetched ₹456 crore revenue to the government.

Majority of these transactions pertain to lands on city outskirts in the Ranga Reddy and Medchal-Malkajgiri districts.

The government wants to cash in on the realty boom and proposes to raise at least ₹10,000 crore through sale of lands in the upcoming budget to cover up for financial losses suffered last year due to the pandemic and lockdown.



Canines and canine handlers undergo training during a two-day basic induction course at the Integrated Intelligence Training Academy in Moinabad on Monday.

Canines trained to detect explosives, find narcotics

DC CORRESPONDENT

HYDERABAD, FEB. 15

The two-day 20th batch of basic induction course for canines and canine handlers began here on Monday. Training has been imparted to 50 canines of five different breeds in explosives sniffing as also narcotic identification and tracking, along with 80 canine handlers/spare handlers, for eight months.

As many as 669 canines and 965 handlers/spare handlers have been trained since 2004.

The agility tests of the canines are conducted on a daily basis. "If any canine shows mediocre performance, extra care is taken by instructors to improve their performance."

Mock drills are conducted with a view to having a real-time experience for the canines in sniffing activities for explosives, liquor and

narcotic detection in public places like bus stations, railway stations and airports," explained the police officials involved in the exercise.

They said a mid-term test and a final test are conducted in explosive/narcotic sniffing, tracking and guarding for four months.

The performance of both canines and canine handlers is evaluated through tests on a monthly basis.

and a specialised category training, explosive/narcotic/liquor sniffing, tracking, assault and guarding for four months.

The performance of both canines and canine handlers is evaluated through tests on a

IN BRIEF

Tiger-kill found in Bejjur mandal

Komaram Bheem, Asifabad: A tiger-kill was found in the rivulet on the outskirts of Kukuda village in Bejjur mandal of this district on Monday. Villagers found the carcass of the cow was half-eaten by a wild animal.

The incident spread panic among the villagers. The forest staff visited the spot and verified the pugmarks of the tiger to identify the direction in which the tiger moved after killing the cow. An alert has been sounded for the area.

TRS LURES NEW CADRE WITH ₹2L INSURANCE COVER

DC CORRESPONDENT
ADILABAD, FEB. 15

The ₹2 lakh insurance cover being provided to them has drawn appreciation from all TRS workers, who are confident that this will help in surpassing the 50,000 enrollment target set for MLAs during the ongoing membership drive.

Senior leaders appointed as observers for the membership drive in each Assembly constituency are motivating the cadre and second-rung leaders to explain about the benefits of the enrolment as a party member and how the insurance cover helped many families to withstand tragedies caused by death in road accidents.

Many party workers received the amount within a few days of submitting the death certificate to the state office through the district committee.

On the occasion of party membership drive in Nirmal, Minister Allola Indrakaran Reddy said it is only TRS party that is providing ₹2 lakh insurance cover to its members. He appealed to members to persuade villagers to take party membership.

Meanwhile, they all have intensified the membership drive since the last date for enrollment is set for February 26. Leaders point out that when the top leadership is spending huge money on their welfare measures, the money being collected as membership fee is meagre, comparatively speaking.

AP HC CLEARS DOOR DELIVERY OF RATION GOODS

DC CORRESPONDENT
VIJAYAWADA, FEB. 15

Andhra Pradesh High Court allowed door delivery of essential commodities under public distribution system in rural areas in the state.

A single judge bench, headed by Justice DVSS Somayajulu after a hearing in the case on Monday issued an interim order suspending the State Election Commission's earlier order disallowing door delivery of essential commodities in rural areas as it would amount to violation of poll code in the wake of ongoing gram panchayat polls.

Now the civil supplies authorities can continue supply of essential commodities under PDS at the doorstep of the beneficiaries even in rural areas in the state. The court posted the next hearing to March 15.

● **A SINGLE** judge bench, issued an interim order suspending the SEC's earlier order disallowing door delivery of essential commodities.

In celebration

Students of Army Public School strike a pose after performing a cultural programme at the Swarnim Vijay Varsh celebrations at the AOC Centre in Secunderabad on Monday.

— S. SURENDER REDDY

TS not to reduce fuel prices

Based on latest rates, petrol in city costs ₹92.26/litre, diesel ₹86.23/litre

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, FEB. 15

Telangana government has no plans to reduce petrol and diesel prices in the state like its Assam counterpart. The BJP-led regime in Assam has slashed petrol and diesel prices by ₹5 per litre by withdrawing additional cess on petrol and diesel. This was announced in Assam Legislative Assembly as part of the state's 2021-22 Budget on Saturday.

Petrol and diesel prices in Telangana are continu-

ing to break all-time records since past six days. On Monday, petrol in Hyderabad cost ₹92.26 per litre and diesel ₹86.23.

In January 2015, TS government had added ₹2 on every litre of petrol and diesel to the then existing VAT of 31 percent and 22.25 per cent respectively. However, in February of the same year, it removed the ₹2 per litre hike while raising the VAT rate to 35.20 per cent and 27 percent respectively on petrol and diesel. These VAT rates have continued to remain in force for over

six years now. In 2013, when petrol and diesel prices peaked across the country, then UPA government had appealed to all states to reduce their VAT on fuel and lessen the burden on common people. Following this, then Congress government of undivided AP led by Chief Minister N. Kiran Kumar Reddy reduced VAT on fuel from 33 per cent to 31 per cent.

Now though, Telangana state government has no plans to adopt either previous Congress government's policy or the latest

Assam government's initiative. Official sources in Finance Department said the government cannot afford to lose even a portion of its own tax revenue, as it has already suffered loss of over ₹60,000 crore revenue in 2020-21 fiscal due to Coronavirus pandemic.

"The state government is primarily surviving owing to VAT on fuel and liquor, as all other sectors have taken a severe beating due to Covid-19. Taxes on fuel alone contribute more than 25 per cent of state's

total tax revenues. The government earns ₹800 crore per month on an average through VAT on fuel. It cannot risk losing this revenue when the state's current financial condition is adverse. As is, the government is struggling to mobilise funds for its welfare schemes, development programmes, and salaries and pensions for staff. For this reason, no proposal like Assam will be incorporated in the upcoming budget 2021-22 to reduce taxes on fuel," sources clarified.

AP Urban Local Body poll to organised on March 10

DC CORRESPONDENT
VIJAYAWADA, FEB. 15

The State Election Commission issued notification to resume the paused election process for conducting elections to urban local bodies, including 12 municipal corporations and 75 municipalities/nagar panchayats. Elections would be held from 7 am to 5 pm on March 10.

The SEC, in a statement released here on Monday, stated that though it issued notification for conduct of elections for 12 municipal corporations and 75 municipalities/nagar panchayats on March 9 of last year, and had completed 'scrutiny of nominations' on March 9, the process was stopped because of fears amid Covid-19. The SEC said that it had decided to resume the paused election process from the stage of 'withdrawal of candidature' and issued notification for conduct of polls.

As per election schedule, date of commencement of withdrawal of candidature is from 11 am to 3 pm on March 2; last date for withdrawal of candidature is March 3; date of publication of the list of candidates after 3 pm on March 3; polling date March 10; re-poll, if any, on March 13 from 7 am to 5 pm while date of counting of votes is from 8 am on March 14.

With the issue of notification, model code of conduct has come into force in the urban areas in the state. Election will be held in 12 municipal corporations, including Vizianagram, Greater Visakhapatnam, Eluru, Vijayawada, Machilipatnam, Guntur, Ongole, Chittoor, Tirupati, Kadapa, Kurnool and Anantapur.

Election will be held in 75 municipalities/nagar panchayats including district-wise: Srikrakulam-Ichapuram, Palasa-Kasibugga and Palakonda; Vizianagaram-Bobbili, Parvathipuram, Salur and Nellimarla; Visakhapatnam-Nelamanchili; East Godavari-Amalapuram, Tuni, Pithapuram, Samalkot, Mandapet, Ramachandrapuram, Yeleswaram, Gollaprolu and Mummidivaram; West Godavari-Narsapur,

**BUREAU OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY**
(A Statutory body under Ministry of Power, Government of India)

4th Floor, Sewa Bhawan, R. K. Puram, New Delhi – 110066

Website: www.beeindia.gov.in, Ph: 011-26766700

**KIND ATTENTION : ENERGY USERS IN 13 NOTIFIED SECTORS****Submission of Report on the Status of Energy Consumption under Energy Conservation Act 2001 (52 of 2001)**

All users/class of users of energy in the following energy intensive sectors having Annual Energy Consumption of and above the specified limit shown against the following energy intensive sectors are notified as designated consumers vide S.O. 394 (E) dated the 12th March, 2007, S.O. 3542 (E) dated 29th Dec. 2015, S.O. 1388(E) dated 02nd May, 2017 and 502147 (E) Dated 17th June, 2020, under clause (e) of section 14 of the Energy Conservation Act (52 of 2001).

S. No.	Notified Sector	Threshold Energy Consumption in metric tonne of oil equivalent (mtoe) per year
1.	Aluminium	7,500
2.	Cement	
	(a) Integrated Cement Unit	30,000
	(b) Cement Grinding Unit	10,000
3.	Commercial Buildings or Establishments	
	(a) Hotels	500
	(b) Airports	500
4.	Chlor-Alkali	12,000
5.	Electricity Distribution Companies (DISCOMs)*	-
6.	Fertilizer	30,000
7.	Iron & Steel	20,000
8.	Pulp & Paper	20,000
9.	Petroleum Refineries	90,000
10.	Petrochemical units having gas crackers or naphtha crackers or both	1,00,000
11.	Railways	
	(a) All Zonal Railways (Traction)	70,000
	(b) Workshops	750
	(C) 8 Production Factories of Railways namely, ICF, RCF, CLW, DLW, DCW, RWF, MCF & RWP	-
12.	Textile	3,000
13.	Thermal Power Stations	30,000

* All entities having issued distribution licence by State/Joint Electricity regulatory commission under electricity Act, 2003 (36 of 2003) are Notified as Designated Consumers (DCs) vide S.O. 3445(E) dated 28.09.2020.

All units/establishment consuming more than the listed threshold energy consumption under respective sectors, notified by the Central Government under S.O. 687 (E) dated the 30th March, 2012, S.O. 1264 (E) dated 31st March, 2016 and S.O. 998(E) dated 30th March, 2017, S.O. 1409(E) dated 28th March, 2018, S.O. 1473(E) dated 29th March, 2019, S.O. 1254(E) dated 13th April, 2020 are requested to submit to the concerned designated agency, with a copy to the Bureau of Energy Efficiency, a report on the status of Annual Energy Consumption, together with their annual production, for the last two years, namely, 2018-19 and 2019-20 in Form 1 notified under clause (l) of Section 14 of the Energy Conservation Act, 2001 (52 of 2001), duly authenticated by the Energy Manager/Chief Executive Officer.

A copy of the required sector applicable Pro-forma or Form-I could be downloaded from BEE website : <https://beeindia.gov.in/content/pat-perfoma>

If any person fails to submit a report on the status of annual consumption etc by 31st March, 2021, he shall be liable to a penalty under clause 26 of the Energy Conservation Act, 2001.

For more information/query please contact us on 011-26766700 or send mail on newdc@beenet.in.

Mission Director
NMEEE

REALTY MATTERS

Jagan proposes clear titles at affordable prices

DC CORRESPONDENT
VIJAYAWADA, FEB. 15

Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy has called for providing plots with clear titles at an affordable price to the middle class people. They should be free of any dispute or litigation, he insisted.

He held a review meeting on urban housing and solid waste management with minister for municipal administration Botsa Satyanarayana and other senior officials at his camp office here on Monday. Speaking on the occasion, he directed officials to provide plots having all requisite permissions at an

affordable price and on a non-profit basis to the middle income group people. He said providing plots must be a continuous process in the state.

Reddy called upon officials to come up with plans in order to provide plots to the eligible beneficiaries as and when they seek such plots. He asked officials to make

all efforts to provide high living standards to the middle income group families.

The officials briefed about town plans being implemented in various states and how they could create a land bank for the scheme and alongside development of infrastructure. They proposed ring roads around towns and felt the need to prepare designs of ring roads in such a way that they should benefit both the government and the people who give their land for construction. They suggested smart town layouts around the ring roads.

As per the plan, 18 layouts

would be developed in 12 towns initially and the design of smart towns to be at least in 25 to 200 acres area depending upon the size of the local population. Moreover, the layout has to be prepared within 18 months after the works begin. With regard to solid waste management, the government will start a 'Clean Andhra Pradesh' programme with a 100-day action plan in order to keep the state clean. There are plans to rope in NGOs and the general public in the programme. There will be 3,825 garbage collection vehicles, auto-tippers and over 6,000 bins and waste management facilities would be set up in the municipalities.

Amid Maoist threat, Greyhounds, CRPF deployed in agency**DC CORRESPONDENTS**

● **REPORTS SAID** nearly 1,500 personnel from Greyhounds and CRPF have been deployed in Rampachodavaram and Yetapaka divisions for conducting the third phase elections in agency areas

Rampachodavaram and Yetapaka divisions are being considered as extremist-affected areas but the attention is more on Chinturu, Yetapaka, Kunavaram, Gurthedu and other 25 villages.

Taking the threat seriously, no candidates filed their nomination papers for Jenjeri gram panchayat in Peda Bayulu mandal of Visakhapatnam district.

Reports said nearly 1,500 personnel from Greyhounds and CRPF have been deployed in Rampachodavaram and Yetapaka divisions for conducting the third phase elections in agency areas in East Godavari district.

Police officials are coordinating with their counterparts from Sukuma (Chhattisgarh) and Malkangiri (Odisha) and other places in the two States and also Visakhapatnam district to prevent any untoward incidents.

East Godavari Collector D. Muralidhar Reddy visited Rampachodavaram and reviewed arrangements with ITDA project officer Praveen Adhithya on Monday.

In Visakhapatnam, armed police personnel would be deployed in all the 237 of 244 gram panchayats going to polls in Paderu division. The tribal areas remained sensitive in all the elections and in the fresh call, the Maoists termed the local body elections as bogus and appealed to the people to oust the exploitative parties.

NORTHERN RAILWAY**Global Invitation of "Expression of Interest"**

Name of work/ E.O.I	'Exploring the availability of system for automatic camber measurement system for monitoring static and dynamic camber and associated field data and real time processing for static and dynamic camber at predetermined points using suitably configured and proven equipment'
Cost of Invitation Form	0 (Free of cost)
Date for submission of Invitation	Latest by 10.03.2021
Website particulars where complete details of Invitation can be seen & downloaded	web site www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in
EOI No:	32-EOI-ACMS-BL-TKJ-2021 Date: 15.02.2021
	333/2021
	Serving Customers With A Smile



IN BRIEF

FOREIGN SECRETARY TO VISIT MOSCOW

DC CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI, FEB 15

Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla will visit Moscow on a two-day official visit beginning Wednesday to hold the next round of India-Russia Foreign Office Consultations with Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Morgulov, during which "the two sides will review the entire gamut of bilateral relations, including the forthcoming high level exchanges", New Delhi announced on Monday.

Russian President Vladimir Putin was initially expected to visit India last year for the India-Russia Annual Summit but both the visit and Summit could not take place then due to the Covid pandemic. Both India and Russia are time-tested friends and continue to have a strong relationship especially in the defence and civil nuclear sectors.

In a statement on Monday, the MEA said, "Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla will pay an official visit to Moscow on 17-18 February 2021 at the invitation of Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Mr. Igor Morgulov. Foreign Secretary will hold the next round of India-Russia Foreign Office Consultations with Deputy Foreign Minister Morgulov, during which the two sides will review the entire gamut of bilateral relations, including the forthcoming high level exchanges."

COVID: NIGHT CURFEW IN 4 GUJ CITIES EXTENDED

DC CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI, FEB 15

Amid a significant decline in the number of active cases of Covid-19 in the country, particularly National Capital Delhi, the government has asked all Central government employees to start attending offices as it was before lockdown.

There will be no exemption to any category of employees, except for those living in the containment zones. Such staff and officers will work from home and come to office only after their containment zone is de-notified. Offices will, however, follow staggered timings to avoid overcrowding in workplaces and meetings will be largely conducted through video conferencing. Biometric attendance for the time being will remain suspended. All department canteens too will be opened with safety protocols in place to avoid crowding.

The country on Monday registered 11,649 fresh cases and 90 deaths. While new cases in most of the states are on a decline, in a major worry Maharashtra has once again started reporting high number of cases.

India till now has vaccinated 85.16 lakh persons.

Meanwhile, Gujarat announced to extend its 12 am to 6 am curfew in four cities - Ahmedabad, Surat, Vadodara, and Rajkot - till February 28.

SPURIOUS LIQUOR CLAIMS 4 LIVES IN MADHYA PRADESH

RABINDRA NATH CHOWDHURY | DC
BHOPAL, FEB 15

Four people died after consuming 'spurious' liquor in Chhattarpur district, police said on Monday. The incident took place in the village of Paretha.

According to the police, around 150 people had gathered at the place of one Shital Ahirwar (60) in the village for a party on February 9.

Some of them procured liquor of brand 'Dilse' from a liquor contractor hailing from Uttar Pradesh.

Many of them who consumed the liquor were taken ill, according to the police.

While Ahirwar's son died on Friday, he succumbed on Saturday. Two more people, Tulsidas Brar and Laturam Ahirwar, died on Sunday night.

"Viscera of the four deceased were sent for tests", Chhattarpur district superintendent of police Sachin Sharma said. A team of district officials and police officers rushed to the village to ensure proper medical treatment of the affected people.

The incident comes in the wake of the death of 24 people caused by spurious liquor in Morena district in Chambal division in the state last month.

SC TELLS FB, WA: YOU MAY BE \$2-3 TR COMPANY, BUT...

PARMOD KUMAR | DC
NEW DELHI, FEB 15

Holding that people's privacy is more important than money, the Supreme Court on Monday issued notice to the Centre, WhatsApp and its parent company Facebook on a plea challenging its new privacy policy about which reservations have been voiced in certain sections.

"You may be a \$2-3 trillion company, but people's privacy is more valuable and it is our duty to protect their privacy," said a bench headed by Chief Justice Sharad A Bobde, noting that the people have grave concerns about privacy.

The Court was hearing a plea seeking to restrain WhatsApp from implementing its new privacy policy in India. The application has been moved by two college students - Karmanya Singh Sareen and Shreyas Sethi in a matter pending before a Constitution bench wherein 2016 policy is under challenge.

The petition sought a direction to the web service platforms to apply the same privacy policy which is made applicable to the users in the European Union region.

Senior lawyer Shyam Divan, appearing for the petitioner told the apex court that WhatsApp has in January "come up with a new privacy policy."

"One set of privacy standards apply to Europe and a different set of standards apply to Indians. This happens when the Personal Data Protection Bill is pending," Divan said while asserting "there is a huge differentiation between Europeans and Indians".

Senior counsel Kapil Sibal, who appeared for WhatsApp, denied that the users' data would be compromised by the new policy.

"This 2021 policy is applicable everywhere apart from Europe as it has a law. If India has a law, we will follow the same," he said.

At this the CJI asked him to put that on oath.

WhatsApp had earlier in January renewed its terms of service and privacy policy.

Covid cases jump in Maha



A Royal Bengal Tiger jumps from a pond inside an enclosure at the Byculla Zoo in Mumbai on Monday. The zoo reopened on Monday after 11 months of closure due to the coronavirus pandemic. The "3T formula" of tracing, testing and treatment will have to be implemented strictly to tackle a rise in Covid-19 cases in some parts of Maharashtra, state health minister Rajesh Tope said in Aurangabad on Monday.

- PTI

BJP, Oppn clash over climate activist's arrest

Vij calls for 'extermination of seeds of anti-nationalism'

Chandigarh, Feb 15: The action taken by the Delhi Police on an FIR related to a toolkit shared by climate campaigner Greta Thunberg in support of the ongoing farmer protests has triggered a war of words between the Opposition and the ruling BJP.

Accusing the government of "murdering democracy" by using force against a 21-year-old, the Opposition on Monday said the voice of India cannot be silenced even as the BJP defended the action, saying a crime is a crime no matter at what age.

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi led the Opposition offensive following the arrest of 21-year-old Disha Ravi in the case and said the country will not be silenced.

"Your lips are free to speak. Say that the truth is still alive. They are scared, not the country," he said in a tweet in Hindi.

"India will not be silenced," he added.

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said, "Arrest of 21 year old Disha Ravi is an unprecedented attack on Democracy. Supporting our farmers is not a crime."

RJD leader Manoj Jha said democracy is under threat. "I am worried about democracy, as it is passing through the most difficult times," he said.

Union minister and Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Gajendra Singh Shekhawat tweeted: "If age is the criteria then Param Veer Chakra Second Lt Arun Khetarpal, martyred at 21 is who I am proud of. Not some toolkit propagandists."

BJP general secretary B L Santosh tweeted, "21 year old environment activist...student...Are these credentials for becoming a part of breaking India forces? How does she get the access for editing tool kit...? Why she is part of anti-national WhatsApp groups...? Many questions...But only one answer...21 year old."

Creating a Twitter storm and protesting outside Indian embassies, were listed to support the protest.

"Whoever harbours the seeds of anti-nationalism in their mind, that has to be destroyed from the roots (*samool naash*), be it #Disha_Ravi or anyone else, Vij said in a one line tweet in Hindi.

Meanwhile, in comment on the arrest of climate activist Disha Ravi, Haryana Home minister Anil Vij on Monday urged "extermination from the roots" wherever seeds of anti-nationalism found.

The minister's remarks came two days after Disha Ravi was held by the Delhi Police for allegedly sharing with climate activist Greta Thunberg the toolkit related to the farmers' protest against the Centre's farm laws.

The Delhi Police had claimed that the 21-year-old activist was an editor of the "toolkit Google doc" and "key conspirator" in the document's formulation and dissemination.

In the document, various urgent actions, including

DYFI worker, hurt in police lathicharge, dies

RAJIB CHOWDHURI | DC
KOLKATA, FEB 15

A DYFI worker Moidul Islam Midya (31), who was critically wounded allegedly in the police lathicharge during last week's Nabanna rally of the Left parties' youth wings demanding jobs, succumbed to injuries at a private nursing home, prompting the CPI(M), its ally Congress and the BJP in the Opposition to accuse the Mamata Banerjee government of his "murder".

The auto-rickshaw driver from Kotulpur in Bankura was the breadwinner of his family.

On February 11 he participated in the DYFI-SFI march which turned violent as the rallyists and police clashed with each other. With deep injuries Moidul was rescued from Esplanade. He was rushed to a clinic from where he was later shifted to a private nursing home run by CPI(M) leader and doctor Fuad Halim.

Dr Halim said, "On February 13 morning, Moidul was admitted after his medical tests showed development of an acute kidney failure. It happens only when muscles get hit continuously to become wounded and it's internal protein comes out and blocks the kidney through blood. He had massive muscle injuries from the lathicharge by the police."

CPI(M) MLA Sujan Chakraborty claimed, "A bright youth was murdered and turned into a corpse."

Leader of the Opposition Abdul Mannan alleged, "It is a brutal murder which reflects unlimited atrocities of an autocratic government."

State BJP president Dilip Ghosh said, "This is unfortunate. Trinamul Congress government has lost its control over everything."

Wondering if Mr Chakraborty talked of getting her call about the DYFI worker's death first, the chief minister however said, "Any death is sad and unfortunate. Post mortem report will reveal the cause of death. But the police was neither informed nor complained about it. Family of the deceased was not

MAA KITCHEN: DIDI LAUNCHES MEALS FOR ₹5

DC CORRESPONDENT
KOLKATA, FEB 15

What appears to be yet another attempt by her to outclass the BJP with sops for the voters in poll-bound West Bengal, chief minister Mamata Banerjee on Monday launched a scheme 'Maa Kitchen' offering daily meal at ₹5 to the poor.

The menu includes rice, daal, vegetables and egg (one piece) curry in a plate available on a first come first served basis from 1 pm to 3 pm.

Kickstarting the project from Nabanna, Ms Banerjee informed that her government would bear a subsidy of ₹15 per plate in the initiative which would be run by self-help groups and would expand across the state.

Two outlets have been started in South Kolkata.

"It is a unique idea which was announced in the state budget. I will go to taste the food one day. This programme is aimed for the common people. It will create a business setup," Ms Banerjee said about the concept which is the brainchild of election strategist of the ruling Trinamul Congress: Prashant Kishor. The move resembles to 'Amma Kitchens' launched by late AIADMK leader J Jayalalithaa in Tamil Nadu.

informed also though the youth was admitted to a hospital two days ago. He might have had a kidney or any other ailment before his death."

"Any hospital is mandated to share information with the local police station in such cases. But it was not done. I told Mr Chakraborty that I am ready to provide a job and financial assistance to the family of the deceased," he added. Post-mortem report, however, indicated of assault only on the legs of the deceased, according to the police.

Agitated over his death, some DYFI cadres heckled a cop and torn apart his uniform during a protest in the city.

3 forest guards attacked by timber mafia in MP

DC CORRESPONDENT
Bhopal, FEB 15

Three forest guards were brutally attacked by timber mafia in a wildlife sanctuary in Madhya Pradesh, officials said on Monday.

The incident occurred inside Panna National Park on Saturday.

According to local subdivisional officer (SDO)森林 Dinesh Singh Gaur, the three forest guards who were unarmed confronted them, leading to attack on them by the timber mafia goons.

Chatrapal, however, somehow managed to escape from their clutches and saved himself by hiding in a nearby bush.

His two other colleagues were brutally attacked with axes by the goons, causing grievous injuries to them. He later alerted his higher authorities about the incident.

Later the injured guards were rushed to the nearby government hospital.

The condition of two injured officers is stated to be critical.

Three suspects were picked up from the nearby village for interrogation in connection with the incident, the forest officer said.

This was the second attack on forest guards by the goons in the last 10 days.

On February 5, a forest guard, identified as Madanlal Verma (52), was shot dead by the poachers in Ratnapura forest range under Punjapur reserve forest in Dewas district.

He had filmed his own murder on his cell phone camera while challenging the poachers.

Home Ministry sources said that the ITBP has

taken timely action by enhancing deployment along the Indo-China border so that the Chinese security personnel do not try any transgression exercise in other sectors.

"We had some information that in an attempt to deflect attention from the ongoing disengagement process in Ladakh, Chinese PLA could create problem in some other areas along the border. So we have deployed additional ITBP troops in Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, higher and remote areas of Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh. Our security forces are alert and we will not let PLA

create any further mis-

chief," a senior Home Ministry official remarked.

Both Indian and Chinese security forces agreed on a withdrawal formula in the Ladakh region following prolonged negotiation lasting several months.

But Indian security forces remain on "very high alert" all along Indo-China border.

Sources said that all sector commanders of the ITBP are taking daily reports from even advance and remote check posts on Chinese activity in their respective zones. These daily reports are then compiled and a detailed analysis is being sent to the Home Ministry.

EAM: ASSAM IS SPRINGBOARD OF ACT EAST POLICY

MANOJ ANAND | DC
GUWAHATI, FEB 15

External Affairs Minister (EAM) S Jaishankar here on Monday said that Assam is the springboard of India's Act East Policy which aims at to create connectivity that will make the state more energetic, contributing and employed.

Asserting that all-round development of Assam is central to the success of the policy, the minister told reporters that Prime Minister Narendra Modi is deeply committed to the development of Assam, and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)-aided projects in the state are examples of how international partnerships can contribute to the development of states. The minister, accompanied by Japanese Ambassador Satoshi Suzuki, was here to review JICA-assisted projects.

U'KHAND | TRAGEDY Toll stands at 54 while officials say 150 people are still missing

Atmosphere in Tapovan village grim as kin lose hope

Tapovan, Feb 15: As bodies are being continually pulled out of the muck-filled power project tunnel here, the atmosphere outside is getting grimmer with families of the missing people losing hope of seeing them alive. Every time a body is brought out of the adit tunnel, families waiting outside for over a week, take some time to pluck up the courage to see if the mortal remains are of a loved one or not.

And the temporary relief of not finding a family member among the dead is brief as they are soon gripped by despair when

Satyapal would return alive. But now we will have to return home with my brother's body. It's unbearable," said his elder brother.

Over a dozen relatives of Bartwal including his brother, who had been camping in Chamoli on February 7 and his brother's phone was switched off. We had been scouring different areas of Tapovan and Joshimath for four days in search of Jitendra until his body was brought out of the tunnel on Sunday. It's tragic," Jitendra's younger brother Pavan said.

Mother Chuttuk Devi and other family members of Mithilesh Kumar, who has been missing after flash floods in Chamoli district of Uttarakhand, at her village Chokad, in Ramgarh district of Jharkhand on Monday.



Mother Chuttuk Devi and other family members of Mithilesh Kumar, who has been missing after flash floods in Chamoli district of Uttarakhand, at her village Chokad, in Ramgarh district of Jharkhand on Monday.

DECCAN Chronicle

16 FEBRUARY 2021

21-year activist's arrest is a blot on India's democracy

While it's in the fitness of things to expect the judicial system to speak up to protect a citizen against the State's over-reach and high-handedness, it is no surprise that civil society across the country should be furious over the arrest of the 21-year-old Bengaluru climate activist Disha Ravi by the Delhi police over the weekend.

In a Kafkaesque act, a Delhi police team swooped on Ms Ravi at her home in the southern metropolis, whisked her to Delhi without even informing her parents, and produced her before a magistrate without the benefit of counsel, a legal requirement. The activist was charged with being part of a conspiracy with "Khalistan" proponents and is being held for sedition and causing disaffection against the State.

Ms Ravi appears to be a supporter of the ongoing farmers' agitation in the country. In support of this and to oppose the high-handed police action over it, global celebrities, including teenaged Swedish environment activist Greta Thunberg, sent out tweets, unleashing a ferocious campaign, much to the discomfort of the government. FIRs were filed against Ms Thunberg and others for sedition. In the government's eyes, she is guilty of spreading the idea of a "toolkit" to back the farmers' agitation.

In order to understand the maliciousness, indeed the enormity, of what the Indian State has done by arresting Ms Ravi (and two others), it is important to be aware that this so-called "toolkit" is not a handbook of terrorism.

In fact it's no more than guidelines on ways to propagate the farmers' cause through the social media, and is a common expression among activists of all kinds. Indeed, it's no more than what the Hindutva brigade, including the ruling party, have been doing. The difference is that the causes of the climate activists and the Hindutva group are vastly different, with the latter identifying

with vile ones like the so-called "love jihad", false propaganda of cow killing against Muslims and dalits, spreading fabrications against their political opponents, and disseminating hate against all voices that call for social harmony and sanity. Ms Ravi's "crime" is that she edited two lines of Ms Thunberg's "toolkit". It is for this that the Delhi police is calling her an "editor" of the "toolkit". Since an outfit called the Poetic Justice Foundation, which apparently supports the idea of "Khalistan", a woolly-headed thought in the minds of some persons of Indian origin in the West, also backs the farmers' cause, all supporters of Indian farmers are being mischievously sought to be equated with "Khalistan" supporters. The practice of such sleight-of-hand by the government is clearly meant to discredit the farmers' agitation. This is a sign of the government running out of ideas about how to contain it. It is not inconceivable that the ground is also being prepared to play the State violence card against the farmers and their leaders, and Ms Thunberg or Ms Ravi, and others like them, are just collateral damage.

But taking unlawful actions against a young woman barely out of her teens can backfire. To many ordinary people, it seems that the Delhi police, which directly operates under the Union home ministry, is degenerating into becoming the praetorian guard of the government in power.

Trump escapes conviction

Former US President Donald Trump may have escaped conviction by the Senate, but history will judge him culpable for the attack on democracy. Only seven Republican Senators voted to convict, like 10 Congressmen had done in the House of Representatives vote to impeach him for the second time. The action of 43 other Republican senators to vote against his conviction wasn't due just to partisanship. Self-preservation was their primary motive, petrified as they were by the prospect of a backlash by the Trump loyalists of a party that has been hijacked by the far right and swears blind loyalty to a President who subverted hoary democratic norms that embroiders American history.

The impeachment managers had built a compelling narrative in the House and laid before the Senate a body of irrefutable video evidence of the armed insurrection on January 6 that Mr Trump may have helped unleash through his bizarre hold on a highly motivated section of conservatives. Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell chastised Mr Trump in a telling comment after the vote but hid behind a fig leaf of technicality in the presumed illegality of putting on trial an ex-President. The law may still get Mr Trump for his big lies on the election result, his overt canvassing of officials to overturn the popular verdict and his open embrace of retaliatory violence in egging on supporters.

Evidence has it that Mr Trump did little to act as legislators in the joint session of Congress at Capitol Hill and his own vice-president, Mike Pence, were scared for their lives. It is a comment on the popular vote in today's America that Mr Trump drew 76 million votes, the most after Joe Biden. Truth may have caught up with Mr Trump already. It is also reflected in the world's highest death toll as the President abdicated his responsibility in dealing with the coronavirus as he stood for re-election. What we have to fear is the Trump legacy of alternative facts, conspiracy theories and brazen thuggery. Democracy may have to face many more battles for survival against Trumpism.

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K. SUDHAKAR
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Subhani



How PM can win hearts, keep bills, end protests



Sriram Karri

A political stalemate deadlocked in a seeming binary is dangerous. It is erroneous, an optical illusion, which often arises out of a bankruptcy of ideas premised in possibilities, leaves both sides strongly entrenched in a zero-sum game. The binary has left its predictable trail of bitterness on both sides of the current battlelines.

Hail George W. Bush, the modern proponent of the equation: You are with us or against us! But this is actually from a more ancient playbook.

It was the general-aristocrat from Athens who would famously terrify opponents and convert every debate into a seesaw for testing loyalties as he would thunder: Whose side are you one? Cleon, clearly, in 430 BC, was ready for Twitter trolling.

You are either with the farmers, a monolith, with one voice and demand, or with the government — says the modern commandment — no debate or amendment. This law limiting our positions and possibilities for a resolution to a mere binary isn't going away.

What follows is stereotyped playing the player, not the ball. You are a Khalistani anarchist, anti-Indian, out to destroy India's sovereignty at the behest of a neo-nationalist cabal or a puppet of a fascist Hindutva government, out to pledge the farmers' destiny to a corporate crony club.

Even Arundhati Roy, who famously opposed Mr Bush's binary of having to choose between a "malevolent mullah or a mad Mickey Mouse" in the war against terror early in the new millennium,

This indicated a reversal of progress that had been hard to win. Even in states such as Kerala, which continued to lead in these indicators, the levels recorded in 2019-20 were poorer than the 2015-16 figures.

The survey put out data for 22 states and Union territories and an analysis of 10 major states was conducted. Anaemia among children was higher in all the 10 states in 2019-20 compared to 2015-16. In Gujarat, Himachal, Maharashtra and West Bengal, a higher percentage of children were wasted in 2019-20 compared to 2005-06. In 7 of the 10 states analysed, a higher percentage of children were underweight (low weight for age) in 2019-20 compared to 2015-16.

Stunting (low height for age) was higher in six out of the 10 states compared to 2015-16. The study also found that the incidence of diarrhoea had increased in half the states, including Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka and West

food too expensive for a nation of over 1.3 billion.

A benevolent surgical strike on farmers' hearts

Enough commentary has flowed through editorials, columns, feisty television debates and vituperative social media exchanges about the transformed nature of the agitation. Not just Sikhs from Punjab but Jats, predominantly BJP voters and building blocks of Hindutva, are now resolved to stay put on the ground till the bills are withdrawn.

After Republic Day and the tearful breakdown of Rakesh Tikait, the bills have been reduced to a backdrop, an excuse. The protests are no longer primarily about fears around the potential reduction or doing away with minimum support prices (MSPs), or ending of the mandi system, or the visceral paranoia around corporates getting legal backing to do contract farming or store grain — it is now about hurt farmers set against the hubris of the government.

If the farmers were not emotionally hurt, their pride not invested in staying put on the ground, they would have been convinced by Narendra Modi's defence in Parliament of the three bills. Mr Modi has put the cart ahead of the horse in trying to logically convince people who are plain angry and see the government as arrogant. The resolution can only begin by appealing to the hearts of the Jat farmer protesters with an act to show that the government is not arrogant.

In the next many days, on any day and at any hour of his choosing, Mr Modi should just walk into a protest site and spend several hours. Let him make some rotis at

In the next many days, on any day of his choosing, Mr Modi should just walk into a protest site and spend several hours.

Bengal. In Bihar it was up from 10.4 per cent in 2015-16 to 13.7 per cent in 2019-20. This is the reality of the situation. We can debate what has caused this and that can wait for another day. The problem is that the Budget that was presented by Nirmala Sitharaman did not acknowledge and therefore didn't accommodate this problem. The mid-day meal scheme, on which crores of children depended for their one good meal of the day, found its budget cut from ₹13,400 crore in FY 2021 to ₹11,500 crore in 2022. This was lower in nominal terms than what it had been seven years earlier. Inflation adjusted, it was 38 per cent lower. The Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS), meant to provide pre-school children with food, education, primary healthcare, immunisation, health checkups and referral services to children under six and their mothers, was also lower in nominal terms, at ₹16,888 crore in FY 2022 versus ₹18,691 crore in 2014-15. The programme, running rural anganwadis or creches, is meant to improve the nutritional and health status of children "to lay the foundation for proper psychological, physical and social development of the child", to "reduce the incidence of

mortality, morbidity, malnutrition and school dropouts", and "to enhance the capability of the mother to look after the normal health and nutritional needs of the child through proper nutrition and health education".

Inflation adjusted, this figure was 36 per cent lower for 2022 than it had been the year Prime Minister Narendra Modi took over.

Poshan Abhiyan, the flagship programme meant to improve nutritional outcomes by 2022, was also damaged. The government had released only 46 per cent of the annual outlay by October '21, and for 2022 the budget was cut by 27 per cent.

The drinking water and sanitation department saw its budget officially rise from ₹21,000 crore to ₹60,030 crore, but of that ₹50,000 crore was for the "Central road and infrastructure fund", suggesting a fudge to avoid embarrassing questions. The numbers seemed deliberately made hard to compare with previous spends. ICDS was clubbed with Poshan Abhiyan, the Scheme for Adolescent Girls and the National Creche Scheme, and the whole thing was called Saksham. Its budget for 2022 was less than the previous year's

LETTERS

FREE WATER SUPPLY

House owners are enjoying free water, but what about tenants? Several owners are collecting water charges from tenants apart from trying for new connection. Earlier, tenants paid the bill but now there is a fixed charge every month for drinking water. The benefits from government never reach the common people and the rich enjoy.

Ravi Sharma
Hyderabad

INSPIRING DOCTOR

Kudos to the Odisha doctor who is selflessly devoting his time and energy in serving the ailing people putting his life in jeopardy (*Odisha doctor opens 'One-Rupee' clinic to serve poor*, DC, Feb. 15). Patients rely on doctors. There is nothing better than some soothing words and a touch of humanity. This will go a long way in building the bond.

Fatima Zafar
Secunderabad

PARKING LOTS

The fault for poor parking spaces in commercial buildings lies with the municipal corporation and their corrupt practices (*Activities demand parking lots at commercial areas*, DC, Feb. 15). People need to think twice before taking out their vehicles.

P.J. David
Hyderabad

ZOO INITIATIVE

Kudos to Nehru Zoological Park for such initiatives (*Boost for animal adoption scheme*, DC, Feb. 14). Epru's family members have shown us the path by adopting the animals.

Dr Shankar Chatterjee
Hyderabad

50 YEARS AGO IN DECCAN Chronicle

Supplies along Ho Chi Minh trail cut

KHE SANH, February 15 South Vietnamese forces in Laos have totally stopped the movement of troops and supplies along the Ho Chi Minh trail, the General directing the operating said here today.

Lieutenant General Hoang Xuan Lam, commander of the estimated 13,000 troop in Laos told newsmen South Vietnamese soldiers were at the junction of the main road of the trail and had stopped any movement along it.



Aakar Patel

Vital areas in kids' health left ignored in Budget 2021

The Union Budget delivered earlier this month was praised for two things. First, that it was spending money in the right place: capital expenditure, which would create value over the long term. And second, that it was transparent. The deficit is three times what it should be, but at least the government has accepted it. Perhaps these two things are enough to make it a good Budget, though one doesn't know. There has not really been any Budget I can remember that made any difference to most people's lives, except perhaps one, and that was in 1991.

However, it is clear the Budget has ignored something that was really urgent. The National Family Health Survey 2019-20, conducted by the government, revealed some terrible numbers.

On four key metrics which represent the nutritional status of children, states recorded a significant fall in 2019-20 compared to the levels in 2015-16. In states like Gujarat, Maharashtra and West Bengal, the share of anaemic and wasted (low weight for height) children was significantly higher than the levels recorded 15 years earlier in 2005-06.

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The writer is a columnist and a senior journalist



2nd WEEK

DEVI70MM-RTC X ROADS
(ENJOY 4K LASER PROJECTION & DOLBY ATMOS)

11.00, 2.15, 6.00, 9.00PM

ARJUN70MM-11.30.2.30,6.30,9.30PM**KONARK70MM-11.15.2.15,6.15,9.15****TALLURI70MM-11.15.2.15,6.15,9.15****SRLAXMIKALAMANDIR-6.30,9.30PM****AARADHANA70**
11.00,2.00,6.00,9.00PM**SRINIVASA70MM**
11.00,2.00,6.00,9.00PM**SAMPOORNA70**
11.15.2.15,6.15,9.15PM**JYOTHIRCPURAM**
11.00,2.00,6.00,9.00PM**BHUJANGA70MM**
11.00,2.00,6.00,9.00PM**SIVASAKTHI70MM**
11.00,2.00,6.00,9.00PM**OAMB 10.30AM, 1.55PM, 4.20PM, 7.55, 10.40PM****4.45,7.00, 9.45PM****1.45,7.45, 10.10PM****GPR-1.50,7.30PM****RADHIKA-1.40,7.45PM****UPPAL-1.40,7.45,10.10PM****MCUBE-1.50,7.40,10.40PM****INORBIT-1.20,7.20,10.15PM****CENTRAL-2.10,7.35,10.30PM****FORUM-11.00,1.50,5.00,7.55,10.50PM****GALLERIA-11.00,4.15,8.05,11.00PM****IRRUMMANZIL-12.20,6.20,9.15PM****MUSARAMBAGH-12.20,6.20,9.15PM****PRISTON-3.50,6.50,9.40PM****ICON-12.45,7.05,10.00PM | RKC-4.15,9.45PM****GVK-10.20,7.30,10.40PM****MP-1:50,7:30,10:30PM****GSM-1:50,4.50,7:50,10:50PM****11.00,2.10,7.50,10.45PM****LAXMIKALA-2.45,9.45PM****MANTRA-11:00,1.55,7.30PM****CCPL-10.00,12.50,7.30PM****DSL-1:00,7.35,10.35PM****SUDHA-12:15,7.10PM****SHALINI-11.30,8.00,10.50PM****CHANDANAGAR-3.15,9.45PM****BALANAGAR-11.30,8.00,10.50PM****10.20,1.30,6.00,7.30,10.30PM****01.15,4.00,10.15PM****PLATINUM****WHITE CINEMA WEST LUXURY****TIROLI-7.45PM**

RELEASING ON 19th

VFF

VISHWAS FILM FESTIVAL

VVF

NOW SHOWING
SUDARSHAN35
RTC X ROADS
(ENJOY 4K LASER PROJECTION & DOLBY ATMOS)
11.00, 2.15, 6.00, 9.15PM

Covid-19 safety standards for our audiences.
1. 100% Fresh Air every second.
2. NO RE-CIRCULATION OF AIR.
3. Large & Spacious Auditoriums.
4. Sanitization done after every show.
5. Thermal Check & Mask Compulsory.
6. Hand Sanitizers everywhere.

NOW SHOWING
Bolo Hau
Say Yes To Love!
Directed by Dhanrajgir
Dhanrajgir Productions
KUMAR70MM-KACHIGUDA
11.30, 2.30, 6.00, 9.00PM
METRO70MM-BAHADURPURA
11.30, 2.30, 6.00, 9.00PM
Dhanrajgir Productions-9121681745

EMOTIONAL HIT SEE TODAY

SUDARSHAN
35MM (ENJOY 4K LASER PROJECTION & DOLBY ATMOS SOUND SYSTEM)
11.00, 2.15, 6.00, 9.15PM

OAMB
10.00, 10.20, 1.10, 1.20, 4.25, 4.35,
7.25, 10.25, 10.35PM

10.00, 11.45, 12.00, 1.15, 2.30,
5.15, 8.00, 11.00, 2.15, 2.45, 5.00,
5.30, 7.45, 8.15, 10.30, 11.00PM

ASIAN CINEMAS
SHA-11.00, 2.15, 4.5, 6.15, 9.30
GPR-10.20, 10.40, 1.35, 4.30, 7.25, 10.20PM
RADHIKA-10.30, 1.20, 4.15, 4.30, 7.10, 10.05PM
SIVAGANGA-11.00, 2.15, 2.45, 6.00, 9.15PM
MCUBE-10.20, 10.50, 1.15, 1.35, 4.10, 4.50, 7.05
7.30, 10.00, 10.30PM
CINESQUARE-10.20, 10.40, 1.15, 1.35, 1.55, 4.10,
4.40, 7.05, 7.35, 7.40, 10.00, 10.40PM

HEART TOUCHING LOVE STORY SEE TODAY

SUDARSHAN
35MM (ENJOY 4K LASER PROJECTION & DOLBY ATMOS SOUND SYSTEM)
11.00, 2.15, 6.00, 9.15PM

SV EESHWAR-11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00
SANGETH-11.15, 2.15, 6.00, 9.00
MAHALAXMI-11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM

RAJADHANI COMPLEX
11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM

VISWANATH70MM
11.45, 2.45, 6.45, 9.45PM

MALLIKARJUNA70MM
11.15, 2.30, 6.15, 9.30PM

VENKATARAMANA/PADMAVATHI
11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM

TARAKARAMA70MM
11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM

SRI SAIRAM70-MALKAJGIRI
11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM

SRIRAMULU70-MOOSAPET
11.30, 2.30, 6.30, 9.30PM

MANJU 70MM
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

GOKUL 70MM
11.30, 2.30, 6.30, 9.30PM

SRILAXMI 70MM
12.00, 3.00, 7.00, 10.00PM

SENSATION SUN
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

AMBA 70MM
11.30, 2.30, 6.30, 9.30PM

SAIPOOJA 70MM
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

BR HITECH 70
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

VIMAL 70MM
11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM

SAIRANGA 70
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

SARADA 70MM
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

SV CINESQUARE
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

KRISHNA NAGARAM
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

SIVARANJANI
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

GANESH 70MM
11.30, 2.30, 6.15, 9.15PM

ASIAN MUKUND
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

JYOTHI DALBLRM
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

SUSHMA 70MM
11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM

RANGA 70MM
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

SRIDEVI R.C.PURAM
11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM

SREERAMANA
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

VYJANATHI 70
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

RK 35MM
11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM

VIJETHA 70MM
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

ALANKAR 70MM
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

SUPER 70MM
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

SRIKRISHNA 70
11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM

VLS SRIDEVI 70
11.30, 2.30, 6.30, 9.30PM

SANTOSH HIBPATNM
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

NARTHAKI 70
11.30, 2.30, 6.30, 9.30PM

TALLURICINEMA
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

SREEPREMA
11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM

Meghan in the family way again

London, Feb. 15: Britain's Prince Harry and his wife Meghan Markle are expecting their second child, their spokesman said in a Valentine's Day announcement on Sunday. The couple released a black and white image of them under a tree, all smiles, with Markle, 39, showing signs of pregnancy.

"We can confirm that Archie is going to be a big brother," the spokesman said, referring to the couple's son. "The Duke and Duchess of Sussex are overjoyed to be expecting their second child." Meghan and Harry, 36, who is Queen Elizabeth II's grandson, quit frontline royal duties in March last year and now live in California. The news follows Markle's disclosure in *The New York Times* in November that she had suffered a miscarriage in July.

A Buckingham Palace spokesman said: "Her Majesty, Duke of Edinburgh, Prince of Wales and the entire family are delighted and wish them well."

Misan — PTI

Harriman, a friend of the couple who took the photograph they released, wrote on Twitter: "Meg, I was there at your wedding to witness this love story begin, and my friend, I am honoured to capture it grow." The couple's departure last year — dubbed "Megxit" by the British press — was a far cry from 2018, when they married in a ceremony at Windsor Castle watched around the world. The mood soured as reports circulated about a rift between Harry and his brother Prince William, second in line to the throne.

Since leaving, they have launched several legal cases against news outlets alleging invasion of privacy — including one that ended on Thursday with a victory against Associated News papers in the UK.

The cases have attracted criticism from some, as the couple are also launching themselves into the public eye with high-profile commercial projects.

— PTI

The SANA news agency claimed that Syrian air defences shot down most of the missiles, which it said were fired from Syria's Israeli-occupied Golan Heights. The Britain-based Syrian Observatory said

Beirut, Feb. 15: Israel fired several missiles early on Monday targeting areas near the Syrian capital, Damascus, Syria's state news agency reported. An opposition war monitor with a network of activists on the ground, said the strikes hit positions of the Syrian army's Fourth Division in the mountains near the highway that links Damascus with the Lebanese capital of Beirut. It said another strike hit Syrian army positions in Kiswah, just south of Damascus.

The Observatory said that of the nine Iranian-backed fighters killed, seven were near the Damascus highway and two in Kiswah. Weapons depots were also struck in both areas, it added.

Syria's foreign ministry filed a complaint with the UN Security Council and called on the international community to condemn Israel and prevent it from carrying out such attacks in the future. Israel has launched hundreds of strikes against Iran-linked military targets in Syria over the years.

— AP

NYC stabbings: Suspect arrested

New York, Feb. 15: A 21-year-old Brooklyn man was arrested in the fatal stabbings of two people on New York City subway trains, police said Sunday.

Rigoberto Lopez was taken into custody Saturday night and was formally arrested Sunday on charges of murder and attempted murder, police said. One of the victims was discovered dead on a train in Queens late Friday with several stab wounds to his neck and torso, police said.

Two hours later, a 44-year-old woman was found stabbed to death in a subway car in upper Manhattan. Two nonfatal attacks — one involving a 67-year-old man and the other involving a 43-year-old old man — also occurred in upper Manhattan.

Authorities believe all four victims were homeless. Police said they believe Lopez may have committed all of the attacks. It wasn't clear if he had an attorney who could speak for him.

Police leaders said they would deploy an additional 500 officers into the subway system to guard against future assaults.

— AP

10 dead, 9 missing as rain triggers Indonesia landslide

COLD WEATHER FRONT HITS GREECE WITH SNOW IN CENTRAL ATHENS

Athens, Feb. 15: A cold weather front has hit Greece, sending temperatures plunging from the low 20s Celsius (around 70 Fahrenheit) on Friday to well below freezing on Monday, and seeing snowfall in central Athens.

Authorities appealed to the public to restrict their movements outside to the essential only, while the main highway leading north out of the capital was shut due to snowfall. Temperatures in part of Kozani in northern

Greece fell to as low as minus 20 degrees Celsius (minus 4 Fahrenheit) while gale force north winds battered Greece's islands, with gusts reaching 118 kilometers per hour (73 miles per hour).

Power cuts were reported in the Sporades islands in the Aegean. Government spokesman Christos Tarantilis said crews were working to restore electricity, after the cuts were apparently caused by trees falling onto power lines.

— AP

Britain's chief mouser celebrates 10 years on the prowl at Downing St.

London, Feb. 15: Larry the cat, a four-legged inhabitant of London's 10 Downing St., is marking a decade as Britain's mouse-catcher in chief on Monday. The tabby cat was recruited by then-Prime Minister David Cameron to deal with a pack of rats seen scuttling close to the British leader's official residence, and entered Downing Street on Feb. 15, 2011. The former stray, adopted from London's Battersea Dogs and Cats Home, was given the title Chief Mouser to the Cabinet Office, an unofficial pest control post.

He was the first cat to hold the rat-catching portfolio since the retirement of Humphrey in 1997, and has loyally served three prime ministers. But it seems like yesterday that Larry was just another cat as opposed to a media superstar — said Lindsey Quinlan, the head of cattery of Battersea.

— AFTER THE December 2019 election, rumours swirled that Larry might be headed for retirement with the news that the new prime minister, Boris Johnson, was a dog man.

However, despite the prime minister moving Jack Russell cross Dilny into Downing Street, Larry remained in office. His grip on the public imagination is clear — and political leaders know better than to ignore that popularity. The tomcat was a sentimental topic of conversation in Cameron's final appearance in Parliament as prime minister when he said he wanted to quash a rumour that — perish the thought — he didn't like Larry. And just to prove it, he whipped out evidence: A picture of Larry lying on his lap. "He belongs to the house and the staff love him very much — as do I," he said at the time, explaining why he wasn't taking Larry with him after leaving office. After the December 2019 election, rumours swirled that Larry might be headed for

retirement with the news that the new prime minister, Boris Johnson, was a dog man.

However, despite the prime minister moving Jack Russell cross Dilny into Downing Street, Larry remained in office. Reports of his rodent-killing abilities vary. Larry became known for his occasional scraps with neighbouring cats — especially Palmerston, chief mouser to the Foreign Office across the street — and fondness for sleep. Palmerston has retired to the country, so things have been a bit quieter of late.

These days Larry, now 14, is often seen by photographers patrolling his turf. Visitors to the building can sometimes find him napping on a ledge above a radiator or sleeping on a floor, where dignitaries occasionally have to step over him. At the heart of government, he specialises in power naps.

— AP

quick BITES

INDICATORS	%
Sensex	52,154.13
Nifty 50	15,314.70
S&P 500*	3,934.83
Dollar (₹)	72.68
Pound Sterling (₹)	101.02
Euro (₹)	88.19
Gold (10gm)* (₹)	46,826.19
Brent crude (\$/bbl)*	63.13
INR 10-Yr bond yield	6.022
US 10-Yr T-bill yield*	1.210

* As of 8:30 PM IST

Exports rise 6% in Jan; trade deficit narrows

Growing for the second consecutive month, the country's exports rose 6.16 per cent year-on-year to \$27.45 billion in January following healthy growth in pharma and engineering sectors. Commerce ministry data showed trade deficit narrowed to \$14.54 billion from \$15.3 billion a year ago. The deficit was \$15.44 billion in December. Imports in January 2021 rose 2 per cent to \$42 billion.

WPI inflation rises to 2.03%, food prices ease



The wholesale price-based inflation rose sharply to 2.03 per cent in January on costlier non-food manufactured items and experts are projecting further uptick in the rate of price rise in the next few months. The WPI inflation was 1.22 per cent in December 2020 and 3.52 per cent in January last year. Food inflation in January stood at (-) 2.8 per cent, against (-) 1.11 per cent in the previous month.

RBI sets up panel on urban coop banks

The Reserve Bank set up a committee to draw a vision document for strengthening urban cooperative banks and exploring the potential of consolidation in the sector. The committee, to be headed by former RBI deputy governor N. S. Vishwanathan, will suggest effective measures for faster rehabilitation and resolution of UCBS and also assess their potential for consolidation in the sector.

IT industry to grow by 2.3% in FY21: Nasscom

The Indian IT industry revenues are set to grow by 2.3 per cent to \$194 billion in FY21 and the exports will go up by 1.9 per cent to \$150 billion, industry lobby Nasscom said. The industry remained a net hirer in the fiscal year, with 1.38 lakh new jobs added to take overall employment to 44.7 lakh. "We have emerged more resilient and more relevant from the crisis," the body's president Debjani Ghosh said.

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JLR to spend \$3.5 bn annually on electrification Jaguar cars to become all-electric from 2025

MICHAEL GONSALVES

PUNE, FEB. 15

Tata Motors-owned British luxury car maker Jaguar Land Rover, or JLR, plans to make its coveted Jaguar brand to be an 'all-electric luxury brand' to rival Tesla from 2025.

The move will see Jaguar completely axe the petrol engines that made its name within the next four years.

JLR will invest about 2.5 billion pounds (\$3.5 billion) annually into electrification and related connected technologies, the company said on Monday.

It plans to introduce six fully electric Land Rover variants in the next five years and aims to electrify all its models by 2030, it said.

JLR's new chief executive officer Thierry Bollore made the announcement on Monday with the new 'Reimagine' strategy also committing to retaining its production facilities in the UK. Bollore said Land Rover will phase out diesel engines from 2026 and invest more heavily in hydrogen fuel cell technology.

JLR said it will have prototypes using hydrogen fuel cells on Britain's roads within the next year, as part of a long-range investment plan.

JLR has introduced plug-in hybrid variants of models, including the Range Rover Sport and new Defender but its only fully electric vehicle is the I-Pace SUV, which it started selling in 2018.



RENAULT KIGER STARTS AT ₹5.45 L

MICHAEL GONSALVES

PUNE, FEB. 15

French car giant Renault has introduced its all-new Kiger, compact SUV at Rs 5.45 lakh at pan-India showroom, disrupting the growing B-SUV segment in Asia's third biggest car market.

Renault's first compact SUV is sold in four trim levels and four engine-gearbox combinations in the Rs 5.45 lakh to Rs 9.55 lakh range.

Renault's aggressive pricing means that the new Kiger undercuts all its compact SUV rivals. Apart from its Nissan sibling, the Magnite, the Renault Kiger rivals

other sub-4m SUVs like the Hyundai Venue, Kia Sonet, Mahindra XUV300, Tata Nexon, Ford EcoSport, Maruti Suzuki Vitara Brezza and Toyota Urban Cruiser.

"With this outstanding pricing, Renault Kiger is surely set to radically alter the dynamics in the B-SUV segment," Venkatram Mamillapalle, country CEO & MD at Renault India, said.

Renault Kiger is designed with collaboration of France and India teams. It is developed and produced in India, for Indian customers first, before it is taken globally.

Car companies the world over are following zero-emission strategies to meet tough carbon dioxide emission targets in Europe and China.

Jaguar Land Rover is one of the hardest hit by the downturn in demand for

diesel vehicles in recent years.

Its range of models across both brands relied heavily on diesel engines, which have seen sales tumble in the years since the German Volkswagen emissions cheating scandal rat-

TESLA EYES PLANT NEAR BENGALURU

SARITHA RAI

FEB. 15

Tesla Inc is closing in on an agreement to make electric vehicles in India, opening up a new growth front after founder Elon Musk set up plants in the US and China. Tesla has picked Karnataka for its first plant, the state's chief minister said over the weekend. The automaker has been negotiating with local officials for six months and is considering car assembly in the suburbs of Bengaluru, people familiar with the matter said.

Tesla is conducting due diligence for office real estate in the region and plans to set up an R&D facility. Tesla has focused on Bengaluru because it's shaping up to be a hub for electric vehicles and aerospace manufacturing talent, they said. —Bloomberg

itled the industry in 2015.

Ballore was drafted into JLR last July.

JLR said it was a "on a path towards" a double-digit operating profit and positive cash flow, and aims to achieve positive cash without debt by 2025.

Work, remote education, travel restrictions and manufacturing shutdowns led to a sluggish H1'20, which saw a 26 per cent decline over the same period in 2019.

However, H2'20 recovered with 19 per cent growth as markets reopened gradually. Lockdowns and restrictions rendered an urgent need for devices supporting activities such as entertainment, work from home, and remote learning, resulting in more devices per household, and leading to a resurgence in demand for consumer devices including smartphones, consumer notebooks, and tablets in 2020.

The online channel outpaced the overall market, growing by 12 per cent annually with a 48 per cent market share in 2020. The segment clocked a record 51 per cent share in

Babus out? Govt mulls new panel to speed privatisation

SIDDHARTHA SINGH

FEB. 15

India is considering setting up a body comprising independent experts that will take over the role of privatising state-run companies once the government decides to divest, according to people with knowledge of the matter.

The panel will replace bureaucrats, who currently manage privatisation, as well as minority stake sales, the people said asking not to be identified because the discussions

keep a "bare minimum presence" by running companies in atomic energy, space & defence, transport & telecommunications; power, oil & coal; banking & financial services, according to the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management.

India plans to raise 1.75 lakh crore (\$24 billion) selling stakes in state-run firms next fiscal, finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman said while presenting the budget. —Bloomberg

Smartphone sales clock record growth in Q4

SANGEETHA G

CHENNAI, FEB. 15

The fourth quarter of year 2020 saw record sales of smartphones in India at 45 million units. However, for the year as a whole, the smartphone market de-grew 1.7 per cent—the first decline after several years of runaway growth. But the online channel continued to grow even during the pandemic-hit year.

According to global market intelligence firm IDC, the October-December quarter posted record fourth-quarter smartphone shipments of 45 million devices, growing 21 per cent over the same quarter in 2019.

A total of 150 million smartphone units were sold in 2020, which was 1.7 per cent less than what was sold in 2019. Stay-at-home mandates, remote

work, remote education, travel restrictions and manufacturing shutdowns led to a sluggish H1'20, which saw a 26 per cent decline over the same period in 2019.

However, H2'20 recovered with 19 per cent growth as markets reopened gradually. Lockdowns and restrictions rendered an urgent need for devices supporting activities such as entertainment, work from home, and remote learning, resulting in more devices per household, and leading to a resurgence in demand for consumer devices including smartphones, consumer notebooks, and tablets in 2020.

The online channel outpaced the overall market, growing by 12 per cent annually with a 48 per cent market share in 2020. The segment clocked a record 51 per cent share in

Japan sights recovery, Nikkei at 1990-high

THIRTY SOMETHING



GEOROID REIDY & TOSHIRO HASEGAWA

FEB. 15

Japan's Nikkei 225 Stock Average touched 30,000 for the first time since August 1990 on signs economic recovery is intact at home and on progress with the US stimulus package.

The gauge rose as much as 1.6 per cent on Monday, taking it a step higher on the climb back to its bubble-era levels. While equities globally have hit new heights in recent months, the Nikkei 225 still needs to gain almost another 30 per cent to surpass its record of 38,915.87. That was reached in the final trading session of 1989, before the index went on to lose

more than half its value in three years after the economic bubble burst.

The brief breach of the 30,000 shows "all sorts of investors are jumping in to buy Japanese equities with a totally bullish view," said Shoji Hirakawa, chief global strategist at Tokai Tokyo Research Institute.

In data announced Monday, Japan's gross domestic product (GDP) grew an annualised 12.7 per cent from the prior quarter in the three months through December, as exports continued to roar back, businesses started to invest again and government stimulus fuelled consumer spending despite the coronavirus. —Bloomberg

HUL expects Covid-hit products to rebound



New Delhi, Feb. 15: FMCG major Hindustan Unilever expects its "Covid impacted" product categories, such as ice-cream and vending solutions, to rebound strongly in 2021 with increase in mobility.

In an investor presentation, the company said categories such as skin care and colour cosmetics, which slowed down last year, will also rebound.

"These categories remain structurally attractive for us," HUL said in its presentation.

On the other hand, the company said "Covid obsessive" categories such as hand sanitisers and hand wash, which saw a sharp surge during the pandemic, are expected to normalise this year. The hand sanitiser category surged 16 times in 2020 compared to 2019, while the hand wash category grew 1.5 times.

Categories such as hand, body and face care, classified as "Covid resistant" items are expected "to normalise with increase in mobility in 2021."

From a peak decline of 73 per cent in the second quarter of the calendar year 2020 during the lockdown, these have recovered with the gradual unlocking that the country went through, to a decline of 51 per cent in the third quarter and 30 per cent in the fourth quarter.

Similarly, the company said "Covid impacted" categories, which include ice cream, food solutions business and vending business are also expected "to rebound strongly in 2021 with increase in mobility." —PTI

GULF EXODUS: S&P WARNS OF RISKS AHEAD

FARAH ELBAHRAWY

FEB. 15

S&P Global Ratings said Gulf Arab economies suffered population losses as a result of an "exodus" of expatriate workers, warning the outflow could complicate their diversification in the long run.

The population across the Gulf Cooperation Council may have declined

by 4 per cent last year, according to a report on Monday.

The share of foreigners relative to citizens is set to drop through 2023 "because of subdued non-oil sector growth and workforce nationalisation policies," S&P credit analysts led by Zahabia Gupta said.

"GCC countries' productivity, income levels, and economic diversification

may stagnate in the long term without significant investment in the human capital of the national population and improvements in labour market flexibility," they said.

The six nations comprising the GCC—Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Qatar, Kuwait, Bahrain and Oman—are fully dependent on foreign workers in industries. —Bloomberg

Op. The main challenge in making alternatives to milk chocolate is ensuring it blends well with cocoa and sugar for a creamy texture. Other substitutes, such as soy or almond formulas, can create off-notes, von Maillet said.

The bar, which uses a rice-based formula as a milk substitute, took about two years to develop. While there are quite a few small labels that make vegan milk chocolate, most

of the popular brands haven't yet joined in on the trend. Lindt & Sprungli AG, better known for its Easter bunnies wrapped in golden foil, has started selling oat milk-based chocolate bars under its Hello label. Mars Inc has introduced a vegan version of its Galaxy bars in the UK. Mondelez International Inc's Cadbury has also

announced plans to make plant-based milk chocolate. Demand for plant-based food is growing everywhere," von Maillet said in a phone interview. "KitKat was a logical choice, as it's by far the biggest brand and a global brand."

Confectionery is one of Nestle's last categories to join the plant-based trend. Nestle Purina last year introduced a blended pet food line, adding insects and plant protein from fava beans and millet to the meat protein.

Nestle introduced

sausage substitutes last year and also makes

plant-based mince and

non-dairy ice cream and coffee products.

—Bloomberg

of Nestle's last categories to join the plant-based trend. Nestle Purina last year introduced a blended pet food line, adding insects and plant protein from fava beans and millet to the meat protein.

Nestle introduced

SHORT TAKES

Rahul climbs to 2nd spot in T20

Dubai: India's K.L. Rahul moved up a place to second, while his captain Virat Kohli retained the seventh spot in the latest ICC men's T20I rankings for batsmen released on Monday.

With 816 rating points, Rahul is behind leader David Malan (915) of England, while Kohli has 697 points in his kitty.

Australia's white-ball skipper

Aaron Finch (808) also

improved a rung to be placed

third while Pakistan captain

Babar Azam (801) slipped to

fourth place.

Rahul and Kohli are the only two Indians to feature in the top-10 among batsmen. No Indian also featured in the top-

10 among bowlers and all-

rounders in the latest T20I

rankings. Among bowlers,

South Africa spinner Tabraiz

Shamsi grabbed a career-best

second position. — PTI

Lukaku shines as Inter go atop

Rome: Romelu Lukaku scored twice to reach 300 career goals as Inter Milan moved above AC Milan to the top of Serie A with an impressive 3-1 home win over Lazio on Sunday.

Lukaku's brace came in the first half as Inter made the most of their city rivals' surprising 2-0 loss at Spezia on Saturday.

Inter, bidding for a first Scudetto since winning the treble under Jose Mourinho in 2010, are now one point clear of AC Milan.

The stage is set for a mouthwatering Milan derby at the San Siro next Sunday.

Earlier, Roma beat Udinese 3-0

to climb back to third. — AFP

Siva bags best pole diver award

Hyderabad: P. Siva Reddy of Andhra Pradesh was adjudged the best Pole Diver and was awarded with the ₹50,000 for his spectacular show in the KKF's Super League Kho Kho Tournament at Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium in New Delhi on Monday. Despite Siva's heroics Jaguars went down to Panthers 35-43 in the semifinals.

However, Maharashtra's Pratik

Waikar continued his phenomenal show at the KKF 2021

Super League Kho Kho Tournament as Pahadi Bills lifted the trophy with a convincing six points win in the thrilling final against Panthers. KKF doled out ₹7,85,000 total prize money to players. Also, three Maharashtra players picked the best achievement awards for their fine run in the tournament.

Ramji Kashyap of Solapur was adjudged the best chaser and

Thane's Mahesh Shinde

received the best runner award with each of them receiving ₹50,000. In the women's tournament, Panthers emerged as the winner with a dominating show throughout the tournament.

Ramu, Syed shine as Khammam win

Hyderabad: Ramu, Syed Sajeed and Tarun hogged the second-day's spotlight in the Telangana Cricket Association's U-19 East Zone Inter Districts state championship on Monday.

Mulugu's Syed (4/24) bowled well to help his side grab a one-wicket victory over

Mahabubabad, who failed to defend 95 runs. Mahabubabad's Tarun also impressed with 5/17 but his effort went in vain.

In another match, Ramu (4/18) and Pranay (63) stole the show for Khammam who restricted Warangal Rural to 100 runs and earned a 22-run victory.

BRIEF SCORES

■ Mahabubabad 94 in 15.2 overs (Sameer 41 n.o., Syed Sajeed 4/24) lost to Mulugu 97/9 in 20.1 overs (Tarun 5/17)

■ Khammam 122/9 in 20 overs (Pranay Lendi 63, Laxman 2/15) bt Warangal Rural 100 in 16.5 overs (Ramu Ram 4/18)

Live on TV

TENNIS

Australian Open: Quarterfinals from 5.30 am, from 1.30 pm on Sony Six, Sony Ten 2, HD

CRICKET

India vs England: Second Test, Day Four, from 9.20 am on Star Sports 1

FOOTBALL

Indian Super League: Hyderabad FC vs Kerala Blasters from 7.20 pm on Star Sports 2, 3

A-SHHHH!

Ashwin silences pitch critics with batting masterclass

C. SANTHOSH KUMAR | DC

CHENNAI, FEB. 15

It was midway through the morning session. There was a sudden flurry of activity in the India dressing room. Having been reduced to 106 for six, India's second essay was expected to fold soon. When R. Ashwin, at No. 8, walked in to join his skipper Virat Kohli in the middle, the Chepauk crowd greeted their local hero with a rapturous welcome. Over the next few hours, the cheers only grew louder. The roar reached a crescendo when Ashwin celebrated his fifth Test century, punching the air and driving his arms aloft towards the spectators.

It was a carnival at the M.A. Chidambaram Stadium, post-tea, with chants of 'Ashwin...Ash-win' reverberating through the stands. His scintillating knock — 106 off 148 balls — not only brought India on the verge of restoring parity in the four-match series against England, but also silenced those who had criticised the pitch.

Set a target of 482, England were in a shambles at 53 for three in 19 overs at stumps. India have two more days to bag the remaining wickets and achieve what will be a roaring comeback.

A day after taking a five-for to bowl England out cheaply, Ashwin delivered a masterclass on batting on turning tracks. It was the third time in his career that Ashwin bagged a five-wicket haul and scored a ton in the same match. Only the legendary England all-rounder Ian Botham has done it more (five times).

The intention was clear from the minute Ashwin took the guard. He swept off-spinner Moeen Ali for a boundary towards midwicket in the second ball he faced. After a couple deliveries, he played reverse-sweep for another boundary. He then pulled, cut and even swatted forehand to punish the bowlers. England were also guilty of giving three reprieves to Ashwin, who was dropped on 28, 56 and 70.

The partnership between Ashwin and Kohli — 96 runs off 177



R. Ashwin celebrates his century against England on the third day of their second Test in Chennai on Monday. — BCCI

balls — pushed India's lead past 400. It was one of those rare days when Kohli's well-compiled half-century — 62 off 149 — became a mere footnote. Kohli fell to Ali for the second time this match. The skipper was not too pleased with Nitin Menon's lbw call even after the third-umpire upheld the decision. The way Ashwin nursed the tail-enders Ishant Sharma and Mohammed Siraj en route to his century was entertaining. A straight punch past mid-on off Stuart Broad and a slog-sweep off Ali had the crowd on its feet.

Earlier in the morning, it took Kohli 20 balls to get off the mark after he walked following Cheteshwar Pujara's bizarre dismissal in the opening over of the day. Rohit Sharma's departure, after being stumped while stretching to defend a Jack Leach delivery, reduced India to 55 for three.

Rishabh Pant who tried to take on Leach perished soon. Ajinkya Rahane's back-to-back boundaries off Ali eased some pressure. But he eventually fell to the off-spinner, giving a simple catch to a short-leg fielder.

Initially, Moeen showed signs of nerves and was maybe a touch anxious, but as the game got on, he became more positive about his performance. I'm stoked for him — just gutted that he didn't get a five-for. He probably deserved it, if not two. I thought he bowled enough good balls to be able to get that but it just didn't work out for him," said Jeetan.

"I am sure Moeen will be very pleased with that in his comeback Test. To bowl 60 overs, to contribute like he has. The one thing he's got left now is another contribution with the bat."

SCORECARD

India 1st Innings: 329
England 1st Innings: 134
India 2nd Innings (overnight 54/1): Rohit Sharma st Foakes b Leach 26, Shubman Gill lbw b Leach 14, Cheteshwar Pujara run out (Ollie Pope/Foakes) 7, Virat Kohli lbw b Moeen 62, Rishabh Pant st Foakes b Leach 8, Ajinkya Rahane c Ollie Pope b Moeen 10, Axar Patel lbw b Moeen 7, Ravichandran Ashwin c Ollie Stone 106, Kuldeep Yadav lbw b Moeen 3, Ishant Sharma c Ollie Stone b Jack Leach 7, Mohammed Siraj not out 16. Extras (b-5, lb-15) 20. **Total (all out in 85.5 overs):** 286.

ForW: 1-42, 2-55, 3-55, 4-65, 5-86, 6-106, 7-202, 8-210, 9-237, 10-286.
Bowling: Ollie Stone 6.5-1-21, Jack Leach 33-6-100-4, Moeen Ali 32-7-98-4, Joe Root 4-0-15-0, Stuart Broad 9-3-25-0, Daniel Lawrence 1-0-7-0.

England 2nd Innings: Rory Burns c Kohli b Ashwin 25, Dom Sibley lbw b Patel 3, Dan Lawrence batting 19, Jack Leach c Rohit Sharma b Patel 0, Joe Root batting 2. Extras (b-4) 4. **Total:** (for 3 wkt, in 19 overs): 53.
ForW: 1-17, 2-49, 3-50.
Bowling: Ishant Sharma 2-1-6-0, Axar Patel 9-3-15-2, Ravichandran Ashwin 8-1-28-1.

NUMBERS GAME

ASHWIN'S THIRD ALLROUND DOUBLE IN TESTS

Ravichandran Ashwin recorded his fifth century after scoring 106 off 148 balls in the second innings of the second Test against England on Monday. It was his third century when batting at No. 8. Only one batsman — New Zealand's Daniel Vettori — has scored more hundreds when batting at No. 8 or lower. He has four at No. 8 and one at No. 9.

● Ashwin took 5/43 in the first innings. It was the third instance when he scored a century and taken five-for in a Test match.

● England's Ian Botham holds the record. Botham has done it five times in his 102-Test career. Four all-rounders have achieved this feat two times — West Indian Garry Sobers, Pakistan's Mushtaq Mohammad, South African Jacques Kallis and Bangladesh's Shakib Al Hasan.

● Three Indians who have achieved this double in a Test are Vinoo Mankad (184 & 72 and 5/196 against England at Lord's in 1952) and Polly Umrigar (172 not out & 56 and 5/107 against West Indies in Port-of-Spain in 1962).

— S. PERVEZ QASIER

When Ashwin was dropped from team for playing sweep

DC CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI, FEB. 15

R. Ashwin who swept his way to a brilliant century in the second Test against England on Monday revealed that he was once dropped from a team for playing that cross-batted shot. After the last Test, we were thinking of how to counter Jack Leach (left-arm spinner) and bringing sweep to the game. The last time I was sweeping was probably when I was 19 years old. I got dropped from the side for playing a couple sweep shots, and

maybe never played a sweep in the last 13-14 years," informed Ashwin who became the second Indian after Kapil Dev to score a 1,000-plus and 100-plus wicket against England.

Ashwin credited India batting coach Vikram Rathour for his recent improvement. "I've been practicing that shot (sweep) for the last 10 days under the supervision of Rathour. I am really thankful that the plan has really paid off. Rathour has been very helpful in trying to explore new options. He

is someone who has helped me to go out there and express myself."

After Kohli's dismissal, Ashwin had to protect his tailenders Ishant Sharma and Mohammed Siraj to complete his century. He forged a 27-run stand with Ishant, while Siraj and Ashwin put on 49 runs for the final wicket.

When Ashwin reached his triple-figure score, Siraj was more jubilant at the other end. "It was exciting to see how excited he was when I got my hundred and that says a few things about how the dressing room is."

Man Utd falter, Auba wins it for Arsenal

that had conceded 24 goals in taking just one point from their previous seven home games.

At the Emirates Stadium, Aubameyang scored his first ever Premier League hat-trick to get the Gunners back on track after two successive defeats and three games without a win.

Aubameyang has endured a difficult season marred by poor form and his mother's illness, which prompted him to take a leave of absence recently. "The hat-trick means a lot. It's been a tough time for me," Aubameyang said.

Everton missed the chance to move level with

Southampton (Ings 25)
Wolves (Nevens 53-pen, Neto 66)

West Brom (Diagne 2)
Manchester United (Fernandes 44)

Arsenal (Aubameyang 13, Bellerin 45)
Leeds (Struijk 58, Costa 69)

Everton (Fulham 16)
Fulham (Maja 48, 65)

THE RESULTS

Premier League

1 Southampton

2 Wolves

3 West Brom

4 Manchester United

5 Arsenal

6 Leeds

7 Everton

8 Fulham

Spanish League

1 Getafe

2 Real Sociedad

3 Valencia

4 Levante

5 Osasuna

6 Espanyol

7 Villarreal

8 Gerard

Depleted Madrid Win Again

Real Madrid

2 Valencia

3 Espanyol

4 Gerard

5 Gerard

6 Gerard

7 Gerard

8 Gerard

Asian Le Mans

1 Toyota