THE LARGEST CIRCULATED ENGLISH DAILY IN SOUTH INDIA

CHENNAI | TUESDAY 10 | NOVEMBER 2020

WEATHER Max: 31°C

Rainfall: Nil ASTROGUIDE

Sarvari: Aippasi 25 Star: Puram Rahukalam: 3 pm to 4.30 pm

Yamagandam: 9 am to 10.30 am **PRAYERS Fajar:** 4.52 am Zohar: 11.58 am **Asar:** 3.12 pm

Maghrib: 5.41 pm Isha: 6.54 pm

The all-new i20 has arrived.



CORONA

Turn to Centre Spread A HYUNDAI

CASES (+31,420)

(+340)85,85,331 1,26,994

covid19india.org

DEATHS

STATE GOVERNMENT BULLETINS (+2,257)

WORLD CONFIRMED CASES

TN: 7,46,079 11,362

5,10,19,347 **DEATHS**

£12,66,074 COUNTRIES, AREAS WITH CASES 216

worldometers.info

TN theatres to reopen today with old movies

Chennai: Though the state government gave the green signal to open theatres from Tuesday with SOPs, movie buffs will have to settle for old films and other language movies during this Deepavali. The standoff between producers and film exhibitors over the controversial virtual print fee (VPF) issue is not yet



I will not accept defeat even if I lose!



STATE | 4

TN reports 18 deaths, lowest in 5 months



Russia, China will not greet

WORLD | 5 Biden till poll result official

SPORT | 6 Natarajan added to India T20 squad

COVID-19 PRECAUTION

cities with poor air quality

the air quality during

November falls under

the 'poor' and above

aggravate Covid-19 infec-

The ban was imposed ahead of Diwali, which falls on November 15, to prevent

any further rise in air pollu-

tion -- already in the

'severe" zone in Delhi-NCR

because of the bursting of

Only green crackers -- con-

sidered to be less polluting -

will be sold in the cities

category

firecrackers.

NGT bans firecrackers in



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Bihar counting today, Cong rushes leaders

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SREEPARNA CHAKRABORTY, NAYEAR AZAD | DC NEW DELHI/PATNA, NOV. 9

Bihar is looking at a generational change in politics with the exit polls predicting that the Mahagathbandhan led by the Rashriya Janata Dal's Tejashwi Yadav and including the Congress is on its way to dethrone old socialist warhorse Nitish Kumar, the Bihar Chief Minister who leads the JD(U)-BJP combine.

But it remains to be seen whether the "Grand Alliance" of the RJD, the Left parties and the Congress will manage to romp home to po-wer, as most of the exit polls have projected, or will merely emerge as the single largest entity, leaving the field open for post-poll alliances.

In case of a fractured mandate, it will be interesting to see which way the small caste-based parties swing as the process of government formation kicks off. Counting will be taken up at 55

GO on in-service

quota for MED

PG seats issued

DC CORRESPONDENT

CHENNAI, NOV. 9



Continuity or change?

Total no of seats: 243 For majority: 122

NO OF SEATS CONTESTED **Grand Alliance NDA** RJD: JDU: 115 Congress: 70 BJP: 110 CPI (ML): 19 VIP: 111 CPI: HAM: 7 CPI(M):

No of centres: 55 centres

Yadav, the son of forme rCM Lalu Prasad Yadav. Bihar has 243 Assembly constituencies, and the most keenly watched on Tuesday will obviously be Raghopur in Vaishali district, from where Mr Teiashwi Yadav is

centres in 38 districts across

the state Tuesday morning.

Most exit polls have predict-

ed a rout for the ruling JD(U)-BJP combine and a

resounding victory for the

Grand Alliance led by Mr

seeking election. Mr Yadav is currently a member of the Legislative Council and this is his first Assembly election. The Congress, which does not want to take chances with exit polls predicting victory fo the allinace, has reportedly rushed general secretaries Randeep Singh Surjewala and Avinash Pandey to coordinate party's moves and frustrate attemps by the NDA to poach its MLAs.

Counting to

begin at:

8 am

Tejashwi has a

RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav celebrated his 31st birthday on Monday with simplicity, and also urged party workers and posters were erected to wish him on his birthday and out a message of restraint and avoid visiting his house to personally greet him," the

quiet birthday ahead of results DC CORRESPONDENT

PATNA, NOV. 9

to avoid visiting his house to greet him. However, in few places in Patna, hoardings projected him as the future chief minister of Bihar. However, the RJD chief sent simplicity by celebrating a quiet birthday. "It's the personal decision of Tejashwi Yadav to celebrate his birth-day with simplicity. So, the party humbly requests youto

and towns where the air quality is "moderate", the tribunal ordered, and also cial drives to check air pollution from all sources in view of its potential to Covid-19 vaccine works 90%: Pfizer

Union

New York, Nov. 9: Pfizer Inc and BioNTech SE on Monday said their vaccine candidate was found to be more than 90 per cent effective in prevent-

DC CORRESPONDENT

National

Tribunal on Monday imposed a total ban on the

sale and use of firecrackers

in New Delhi and its adjoin-

ing areas, across the entire National Capital Region, which includes Gurgaon and Faridabad in Haryana

and Noida, Greater Noida

and Ghaziabad in Uttar

Pradesh, from midnight on

Tuesday till November 30. The NGT's ban on crack-

ers is also applicable to all cities and towns in the

country where the air qual-

ity during November falls

under the "poor" and above category. The NGT, in its

order, also directed all

and

Territories to initiate spe-

Green

NEW DELHI, NOV. 9

ing Covid-19. "Today is a great day for science and humanity. The first set of results from our Phase 3 Covid-19 vaccine trial provides the initial evidence of our vaccine's ability to prevent Covid-19," Pfizer chairman and chief executive officer Albert Bourla

"We are reaching this vaccine development programme at a time when the world needs it most with infection rates setting new records, hospitals nearing over-capacity and economies struggling to reopen," he added.

After discussion with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the companies recently elected to drop the 32-case interim analysis and conduct the first interim analysis at a minimum of 62 cases, the company

"We are a significant step closer to providing people around the world with a much-needed breakthrough to help bring an end to this global health crisis. We look forward to sharing additional efficacy and safety data generated from thousands of participants in the coming weeks," Mr Bourla said. BioNTech co-founder and CEO Ugur Sahin said: "The first interim analysis of our gl provides evidence that a vaccine may effectively prevent Covid-19. This is a vic-

tory for innovation, science and a global collaborative effort." The Phase 3 clinical trial of BNT162b2 began on July 27 and has enrolled 43,538 participants to date, 38,955 of whom have received a second dose of the vaccine candidate as of November 8, 2020, the statement said.

The NGT's ban on timing of use to two hours, crackers is also as specified by the state, applicable to all "due to Covid" cities and towns in the country where

"If nothing is specified, the timing will be 8 pm to 10 pm on Diwali and Gurupurab, 6 am to 8 am on Chhatt Puja and from 11.55 pm to 12.30 am during Christmas and New Year's Eve," the order read.

For "other areas", where the air quality is better, the NGT has made the cracker ban optional, but directed the states to "initiate spe-cial drives to contain air pollution from all sources in view of Covid-19".

The tribunal directed the chief secretaries and DGPs of all states and UTs to issue and circulate orders with appropriate enforcement guidelines to all district magistrates, police chiefs and state pollution control boards.

Delhi reports its highest ever tally of 7,745 new

DC CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI, NOV. 9

Covid-19 cases

Delhi has overtaken Maharashtra and Kerala in the reporting new cases of Covid-19 and on Monday added 7,745 infections, the Union health ministry said on Monday. Nationally, the total caseload increased by 45,903 in the last 24 hours, 75 per cent of which come from 10 ıe miı

Delhi's 7,745 new cases is also its highest tally so far. The national capital is followed by Maharashtra with 5,585 cases and Kerala with 5.585 cases

'New daily cases continue to trend downwards with the success of Jan-Andolan promoting Covid appropriate behavior," the ministry

The trend of recoveries outnumbering new cases has continued for the 37th day with 48,405 cases recovering in a span of 24 hours as against 45,903 infections being reported during the same period.

The active caseload at present stands at 5.09.673 which comprises 5.96 per cent of the total Covid-19 cases. The recovery rate has also been boosted with the trend of recoveries exceeding new cases and presently stands at 92.56 per cent.

TV journo murdered for reporting land, ganja sale

SINDHIYA SAMUEL, P. A. JEBARAJ I DC CHENNAI, NOV. 9

Two Government Orders (GOs) were issued on Monday providing 50 per In a shocking incident, G. Moses, 26, a journalist workcent reservation for in-sering with Tamizhan TV, a vice candidates in the admis-Tamil television channel. sion for post graduate super speciality (DM/MCh) medical courses in government colleges and post-graduate courses (MD,MS and MDS) academic year 2020-21. Accordingly, 50 per cent of 2020-21. academic the DM/MCh. seats in govgovernment ernment medical colleges have been allocated to in-service candidates of Tamil the police arrested four members of such a gang. Nadu and the remaining 50 per cent seats to the govern-Moses ment of India.

The seats for the in-service candidates of the state would be filled up based on the marks obtained in the Neet-SS and the director of medical education would obtain a bond from the candidates that they would serve the government till their retire-

For the MD, MS and MDS admissions, the existing method of allotting 50 per cent of seats to the Centre would continue and of the 50 per cent seats meant for the state, half of them would be exclusively earmarked for in-service candidates working in government health institutions in the state. The seats would be filled up on the basis of marks obtained in the Neet-PG examination.



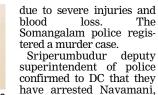
was hacked to death by a gang outside his house at Kundrathur in Kanchipuram district on Sunday night. Police sources said e murder to be an after-effect of his reporting on illegal sale of house hearing poramboke screaming for help. land and ganja sales in the area. Hours after the attack,

was covering Sriperumbudur and Kundrathur areas for the channel. His father Gnanaraj Jesudasan is a reporter with an evening Tamil daily. Moses was at his home in



Pudhu Nallur village, when he received a call from an unidentified man asking him to come out of the his father rushed out of the

Moses, who was facing death threats, was attacked with sickles by a gang, who fled the spot leaving him in a pool of blood. Moses suffered severe injuries on head and hand and was immediately rushed to the Chromepet government hospital. However, he died



have arrested Navamani, 26, Vignesh, 19, Venkatesan, 18 and Manoj, 19. Further investigation is underway. Moses had recently reported on the ganja sales had been facing threats from the group. The culprits had been suspecting Moses of passing on information to the police.

Jesudasan told police that his son was always vocal about the issues happening in the region. Earlier there was a problem due to land grab and ganja sales and he went there and reported about it. Since then he faced

Save fishermen's boats in Lanka, parties tell PM

Chennai, Nov. 9: Opposition parties, including the DMK and MDMK, on Monday urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to take immediate steps for the release of over 100 impounded mechanised boats of Tamil Nadu fishermen from Sri Lanka or ensure compensation. The CPI and AIADMK's ally DMDK also

urged the Centre to get the boats released swiftly.

DMK MP Kanimozhi said

a Lankan court has given a judgment for 'destroying or auctioning" the boats, which are the source of livelihood of the fishermen. "The ministry of external affairs should immediately intervene and take steps to ensure for

return of the boats of Tamils by the Sri Lankan government," she said in a tweet.

Kanimozhi alleged Ms Tamil Nadu fishermen continued to face attack by the Lankan Navy and also lost their fishing gear and boats. Officials in Rameswaram.

quoting information received by them, had on Sunday said a court in Jaffna has permitted authorities to destroy several Indian mechanised fishing boats seized in the last 3-4 years for allegedly crossing into the island nation territory.

Citing news reports, MDMK general secretary Vaiko said thje news was shocking. "Of the over 100 boats, as many as 88 were from Rameswaram," Vaiko, a Rajya Sabha MP, said in a letter to Modi. "The government of India should take up this issue with the Sri Lankan government either for releasing the boats or to pay due compensation to the boat owners of Tamil Nadu. I would request you to take immediate effective steps in this regard," Vaiko said in



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