

DECCAN Chronicle

THE LARGEST CIRCULATED ENGLISH DAILY IN SOUTH INDIA

HYDERABAD | TUESDAY | 22 SEPTEMBER 2020



WEATHER

Max: 30.9°C
Min: 22.0°C
RH: 75%
Rain: Nil

Forecast: Cloudy sky.
Rain likely. Max/Min
temp. 32/22 °C

COVID-19 COUNT

CASES	DEATHS
(+73,910)	(+1,047)
55,57,573	88,943
covid19india.org	
(+1,302)	(+9)
TS: 1,72,608	1,042
(+6,235)	(+51)
AP: 6,31,749	5,410

CASES AROUND THE WORLD

3,14,05,983	DEATHS
9,67,505	
COUNTRIES AREAS WITH CASES	213
worldometers.info/coronavirus	

ASTROGUIDE

Sarvari: Dakshinayana
Tithi: Adhika-Ashvina Sudha
Shashthi till 9.35 pm
Star: Anuradha till 7.22 pm
Variyam: 12.46 am to 2.18 am (Wednesday)
Durmuhuram: 8.32 am to 9.20 am; 10.57 pm to 11.45 pm
RahuKalam: 3 pm to 4.30 pm
Hijri CALENDAR
Safar ul Muzaffar 4, 1442 AH
PRAYERS
Fajr: 5.06 am
Zohar: 12.19 pm
Asar: 4.30 pm
Maghrib: 6.19 pm
Isha: 7.26 pm
SUNSET TODAY 6.12 PM
SUNRISE TOMORROW 6.05 AM
MOONSET TODAY 10.53 AM
MOONRISE TOMORROW 10.24 PM

COUNTER POINT



We should bring a Bill for a paperless session!

IN BRIEF

LS passes FCRA Amendment Act

New Delhi: Lok Sabha on Monday passed a Bill to amend the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act that seeks to make it mandatory for office bearers of any NGO to provide their Aadhaar numbers at the time of registration and also bring various other changes. The minister of state for home Nityanan Rai said it was not against any religion or NGO as concerns were raised.

■ Report on Page 6

NO CEILING Navy selects 2 women officers as airborne tacticians

Rafale to get 1st woman pilot

PAWAN BALI I DC
NEW DELHI, SEPT. 21

Indian women on Monday made a major stride in military aviation in Navy and Air Force.

A woman fighter pilot will be flying the Rafale, the Indian Air Force's latest acquisition and an advanced fighter aircraft. She will be joining Squadron No. 17 'Golden Arrows' at the Ambala Air Force Station.

The fighter pilot, who is reported to be already flying one of Air Force jets, is undergoing training on the Rafale. India had earlier this month inducted five



Sub Lt. Riti Singh and Sub Lt. Kumudini Tyagi, the first women airborne tacticians who will operate from deck of warships at Southern Naval Command, Kochi on Monday.

Rafale jets into the IAF and some more are expected to come next month from France.

The Indian Navy said on

Monday that two women officers have been selected as "observers" (airborne tacticians) in the helicopter stream. This will make

them the first women airborne combatants to operate from warships.

Earlier, entry of women was restricted to fixed wing aircraft that took off and landed ashore. Previously some women medical officers have served for short period on warships.

Sub Lieutenant Kumudini Tyagi and SLT Riti Singh are a part of a group of 17 officers of the Navy who were awarded their "wings" on graduating at a ceremony held on Monday at INS Garuda, Kochi.

They will undergo "specialist training" for the particular helicopter on which they will be deployed.

NATION | 5

NCB to summon Rakul, Sara Ali Khan



SPORTS | 11

Djokovic warned for obscenity on court

TABLOID

Bollywood's racist saga



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Schools reopen



Students attend a class at St Peter's High School in Secunderabad to clarify doubts on Monday. Some students turned up at private schools after they were reopened as part of Unlock 4.0. ■ Report on Page 2

8 Oppn MPs suspended for 'unruly behaviour'

RS chairman refuses no-trust motion against dy chairman

DC CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI, SEPT. 21

A day after Rajya Sabha witnessed unruly scenes with some members tearing papers, climbing on tables, shouting slogans and throwing the rule book at the Chair, eight members of Opposition parties were on Monday suspended for their "unruly behaviour" for the remainder of the monsoon session.

Commenting on their suspension, Rajya Sabha chairman M. Venkaiah Naidu said that some members "grossly crossed all barriers of all parliamentary decorum and etiquettes... thereby bringing down the prestige of the House."

Opposition members say that the chaos ensued when the Chair did not allow division of votes on the farm Bills, which was passed by voice vote.

Those suspended from the Upper House include TMC's Derek O'Brien and Dola Sen, AAP's Sanjay Singh, Congress' Rajiv Satav, Ripun Bora and Syed Nazir Hussain, CPI(M)'s K.K. Ragesh and Elamaram Kareem.

Opposition parties hit out at the government over the



Eight suspended RS MPs display placards as they protest over their suspension in New Delhi on Monday. — PTI

MAMATA CALLS SUSPENSION OF MPs AS 'FASCIST'

RAJIB CHOWDHURI I DC
KOLKATA, SEPT. 21

Trinamul president and West Bengal Chief Minister on Monday described the suspension of her party's MPs for the remainder of the Parliament session as "unfortunate", "autocratic" and "fascist".

"Suspension of the MPs who fought to protect the interests of farmers is unfortunate and is reflective of the autocratic mindset of the government that does not respect democratic norms. We won't bow down and will fight this fascist government in Parliament and on the streets..," she tweeted.

She later claimed, "We watched in surprise on Sunday when votes and division were sought on the farmers' Bills, how shamefully the Bills were passed in the Rajya Sabha as the BJP MPs were present in lesser numbers than that of the Opposition."

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SHORT TAKES

WOMAN GOVT EMPLOYEE ASSAULTED

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, SEPT. 21

A woman government employee was allegedly assaulted by a man, a former colleague, over personal issues at her office in Kamareddy district on Monday, police said.

The woman suffered an injury on the nose when the man, who had earlier worked with her and was now stationed in another office, attacked her, they said. She was treated as an out-patient at a hospital.

The woman lodged a complaint and a case would be registered after obtaining permission from a concerned court as it was a non-cognisable offence, police added.

8 ORGANS OF DEAD YOUTH DONATED

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, SEPT. 21

Eight organs of a 21-year-old man who had been declared brain dead were donated to the Jeevandan scheme of the government.

The kidneys, lungs, heart and liver and corneas of Kumar Vislavish were harvested. Hyderabad traffic police provided a green channel to transport the organs from KIMS Hospital at Kondapur to its Secunderabad wing.

An ambulance carrying the heart and lungs could cover the 19.6 km distance between the two hospitals 14 minutes. Kumar was declared brain dead after intensive treatment in KIMS hospital at Kondapur. He lost control of his bike at Peddapalli and suffered severe head injury on September 18.

His mother Maru and brother Rajesh consented for organ donation to the Jeevandan scheme.

GOVT TO PERMIT CAPPING DRAINS: KTR

From Page 1

The MA&UD minister said government will soon provide all permissions as well as the support required to take up the works.

He observed that most of the nallas which are less than two metres wide are located in densely populated areas. They needed to be covered and all precautions taken to avoid any untoward incidents. With regard to nallas, which are more than two metres wide and where capping is not feasible, the minister directed officials to take up fencing works as per National Green Tribunal and Supreme Court guidelines. He wanted GHMC officials to also focus on new areas, where new nallas are getting added with expansion of city limits.

TELANGANA MAN FOUND DEAD IN VISAKHAPATNAM

K.M.P. PATNAIK | DC
VISAKHAPATNAM, SEPT. 21

A 32-year-old man from Chityala village of Nalgonda district in Telangana state was found ablaze in Gajuwaka abutting the National Highway in Visakhapatnam early on Monday.

Locals said they were horrified to see the middle-aged man in flames on the roadside at Srinagar, Gajuwaka. They immediately alerted the Gajuwaka police, who came to the spot and identified the deceased.

An empty petrol can and a match box were found near the body. Reddy had unloaded some cargo at the Autonagar industrial area on Sunday. "As per circumstantial evidence, we presume it could be a case of suicide. Reddy was 32 and unmarried," said a senior police officer.

Locals said that the body was found near the scrap shops. Locals said illegal activities have been taking place near the scrap shops at the Srinagar area for the past few months.

Police shifted the body to King George Hospital morgue for autopsy and informed their family members.

Police said that they have registered a case under Section 174 of CrPC (suspicious death) and the investigation is on.

The police is scanning CCTV footage from near the crime scene.

ANDHRA PRADESH ASKS IF PROBE CAN BE STAYED

From Page 1

The petition asked whether any proposed accused or suspect had the right of hearing in the court even before the registration of the FIR under the provisions of Criminal Procedure Code, 1973. It asked whether the High Court ought to have interfered with the investigation process as it was the domain of the investigation agency.

The petition asked whether the investigation process against any person ought to be stayed when there are prima facie allegations against the proposed accused or suspect in the FIR. It also asked whether protection orders could be granted against accused persons who had not even approached the court. The petition asked whether the Advocates Act, 1961 prescribed protection to an advocate accused of having committed cognisable offence under the IPC, 1860.

The state government requested the SC to consider quashing the gag order and the stay order on investigation. It opined that the petition by the accused for gag order was misconceived and said that investigation was the domain of the investigation agency and the courts were not supposed to interfere. The government said there was no provision in the Advocates Act, 1961 prescribing protection to the advocates.

IMA OPPOSES DIGITAL HEALTH MISSION POLICY

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, SEPT. 21

Indian Medical Association has strongly objected to the draft National Digital Health Mission policy, stating that privacy is the right of the patient and confidentiality in doctor-patient relationship will be infringed by the policy. The IMA pointed out that there are no appropriate laws regarding data privacy and data protection and that makes everyone vulnerable. The availability of data to insurance companies for health claims can be misused for not paying the clients, it said. Digital health systems will lead to more evidence-based practice, and this means the cost of treatment will increase for patients. It stated that it is important that health data must not be exploited by insurance companies, medical device makers, pharma companies and corporate facilities.

Plan to make govt hospitals robust: Etala

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, SEPT. 21

Disease mapping of fluoride, malaria, measles and others is important so that the health map of the state can be drawn, health minister Etela Rajendar stated on Monday.

The focus on reforms in the government sector is aimed at ensuring that the maximum number of patients are treated in the government sector. There is a comprehensive action plan being drawn for improving the health care systems in the state, Rajendar said.

For the first time, the Telangana state government claimed to have returned all the expired medicines in its warehouses and withheld payments to suppliers who had provided these medicines.

The department is taking up the training of primary health care workers who are an important segment and they will be trained to give confidence to refer cases to the government hospitals and not the private sector.



A disaster response management team conducts rescue operation in Saroornagar Lake on Monday after Naveen Babu went missing.

— P. SURENDRA

Fast flowing stream swept away Naveen

45-yr-old electrician was the sole breadwinner for his family

MADDY DEEKSHITH | DC
HYDERABAD, SEPT. 21

Naveen Babu

Sumedha parents file complaint

SANJAY SAMUEL PAUL | DC
HYDERABAD, SEPT. 21

open nala. Colony residents also gave representations to KTR, the mayor, and the corporator to solve the problem posed by the open nala. But no one has responded."

"If those in responsible positions had acted earlier, our daughter would have been safe today. We feel that no parent should suffer like us in the future. No child should again face the same fate. Therefore, demanding justice for Sumedha, we have filed a complaint against the municipal administration minister and others, who are decision makers," Sukanya Kapooriya said.

A delegation of the Congress led by senior leader Dasoju Sravan told media: "The Congress appreciates the determination of Sumedha's parents. We will stand by them in their fight for justice for Sumedha."

The senior Congress leader said the police had filed a missing case in case of Sumedha's death, that too against an assistant engineer (AE) and avisional dngineer (DE). "This is nothing but shielding those in power and making lower-ranking employees scapegoats. KTR, te mayor, zonal commissioner, and the corporator are responsible for the death of Sumedha," Sravan added.

Online drug delivery spreading fast in towns

KANIZA GARARI | DC
HYDERABAD, SEPT. 21

IN THEIR suggestions to the National Health Authority for the draft digital policy, offline pharmacists have pointed out the confidentiality aspect which is an important factor in dispensing medicines.

During the pandemic, the shift to tele-consulting by doctors and digital prescriptions of medicines has allowed e-pharmacy to emerge as an effective alternative. It has not only been convenient but also safe for consumers.

In Medlife, explained, "The shift before the pandemic was noted among senior citizens and those suffering from chronic diseases who opted e-pharmacy services. We are adhering to all laws and no data confidentiality that will be violated. Digital health services are the future and it is going to benefit citizens like it has done during the pandemic."

Streamlining accessibility of medicines is the need of the hour as was noted in the case of remdesivir injections.

Yogesh Shukla, director

The digital platform created by the company Cipla allowed for verification not only by doctors and pharmacists but also gave patients the medicine at an affordable price.

The offline chemists under the All India Organisation of Chemists and Druggists have stated that the Centre must first amend the Drugs Act and its allied laws and implement a strong data protection Act so that the people have confidence in pharmacies.

The organisation has stated that protection of health profile in the digital era is important and the right of the citizen who wishes anonymity and privacy about health conditions cannot be encroached.

Their contention is that e-pharmacies will encroach on these basic rights. The surge during pandemic is viewed only as a short-term gain by chemists who state that the offline business is based on their relationship and confidence building measures over years with the customer.

Few students turn up at pvt schools on Day 1

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, SEPT. 21

SCHOOL MANAGEMENTS collected consent forms from parents stating that the travel and risk factors during will be their responsibility and not that of the school.

MIDDLE LEVEL corporate schools had some students coming in from Class 9 to 12. There are no regular classes and students can go to school to clarify their doubts.

With schools not arranging transport in view of the Covid-19 guidelines, only those who had their own transport went to school. Students have been allowed to go to school voluntarily, and with a consent letter from their parents.

School managements collected consent forms from parents stating that the travel and risk factors during will be their responsibility and not that of the school.

Middle level corporate schools had some students coming in from Class 9 to 12. There are no regular classes and students can go to school to clarify their doubts.

CBSE schools which had a few children in the higher classes have ensured that there was one student per bench, and a lot of distance maintained. The number of benches in the classrooms was reduced. Schools were also sanitised.

The schools were open for a short duration and there was no recess or

CM stresses on transparency in land portal

S.A. ISHAQUI | DC
HYDERABAD, SEPT. 21

Assembly during the recent session had announced that the Dharani website will be used as a tool to reduce corruption and improve transparency in land transactions. This is the only solution to end all woes regarding land transactions, he said.

The Chief Minister said that anyone can check the details on the Dharani website from any part of the country.

"One can view and download the details of any land, the portal will have all the necessary information."

The Chief Minister said mutation of land will be made through Dharani portal after the new Revenue Act comes into force.

22,990 patients under home care for Covid

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, SEPT. 21

THE TOTAL number cases of cases is now 1,72,608 and the toll 1,042. Of the total cases, 1,20,826 were asymptomatic and 51,782 had symptoms.

working and they can reach out. On Monday morning, we notice severe cases coming to hospital due to the holiday on Sunday." The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation area recorded the highest number of cases at 266, followed by Karimnagar at 102. Ranga Reddy district had 98 new cases, Siddipet 92, Nalgonda 70 and Warangal Urban had 62.

From September 14 to September 20, the number of new cases recorded were GHMC 2,127, Karimnagar 844, Nalgonda 872, Siddipet 738 and Warangal Urban 661 cases.

Unnecessary travel by people and not following the protocols of wearing masks and maintaining physical distancing were stated to be the main reasons for the spread of the disease in the rural areas, a health official said.

IN BRIEF

Raigir rly station renamed Yadadri

Hyderabad: The railways has approved the change in the name of Raigir railway station located on the Secunderabad-Kazipet section of the Secunderabad division of the South Central Railway as Yadadri railway station, according to a press release. The request had been made by the state government, which is upgrading facilities at the famous Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy temple at Yadadri, to give it a distinct identity. The station is located about 9 km from the Yadadri temple.

HC REFUSES BAIL TO CHILD KIDNAPPER

VUJINI VAMSHIDHARA | DC
HYDERABAD, SEPT. 21

The Telangana High Court on Monday refused bail to a convict who has been sentenced for kidnapping a child of his relative.

Clarifying that bail can never be given on the grounds of no-objection from the victim, the court observed that such practice could lead to either using money power or muscle power by the accused against the victim to get an affidavit in his or her favour;

The convict, who was jailed for kidnapping a child and demanding ransom for his release, approached the High Court challenging the trial court judgment.

He urged the court to grant interim bail by furnishing a no-objection affidavit from the victim, who was not a major.

CITY RESIDENT ADOPTS RHINO AT NEHRU ZOO

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, SEPT. 21

A great Indian one-horned rhinoceros at the Nehru Zoological Park was adopted by one Om Prakash Agarwal. The rhino, named Sai Vijay, was adopted for a period of three months for an amount of ₹25,000.

This comes on the eve of International Rhinoceros Day on September 22.

To mark the day, the Nehru Zoological Park would conduct online quiz competitions for all the age groups and the link for the same would be shared on the zoo's Twitter account @nehruzoo.

"The zoo has three rhinos, two males and a female. The great Indian one-horned rhinoceros is a precious animal endemic to India and is found in the Kaziranga National Park," said NZP curator N. Kshitij.

Last year, the city zoo exchanged a male rhinoceros, Ramu, aged about four years, with the Chennai Zoo under the animal exchange programme in return for two hippopotamuses.

GENE EDITING TECH TO BREED HEALTHY ANIMALS

KANIZA GARARI | DC
HYDERABAD, SEPT. 21

Genomes of the buffalo and cattle have evolved similarly in domestication, according to a study carried out by the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB). It showed that gene-editing techniques can help to breed healthy animals.

Domestication and gene-editing techniques are associated with milk yield, disease resistance, stature and birth weight. Both these animals have been bred by humans and their traits are similar when it comes to domestication.

Scientists at CCMB suggested that gene-editing technique will allow propagation of genes selectively and improve productivity and health of agricultural animals in low and middle income countries.

Dr Rakesh Mishra, director at CCMB, explained, "Using both methods of gene-editing and selective traditional breeding, the health of cattle breeds can be improved. This will help to meet the ever-increasing demand for milk. The dairy farmers rely on buffaloes for good production and these methods will work towards improving the health of animals."

The study was carried out for a decade and published in Nature Communications.

GHMC prepares ground to hold polls via paper ballots

Final decision to be taken in October on method of voting for civic polls

MADDY DEEKSHITH | DC
HYDERABAD, SEPT. 21

boxes.

The State Election Commission (SEC) had at a review meeting held last week asked GHMC officials whether elections should be held with EVMs or ballot boxes in view of the Covid-19 pandemic. It appears from Monday's development that the GHMC may be moving towards paper voting.

GHMC sources said the Lokesh Kumar interacted with municipal unions

● **THE STATE ELECTION**
Commission (SEC) had at a review meeting held last week asked GHMC officials whether elections should be held with EVMs or ballot boxes in view of the Covid-19 pandemic.

including those affiliated to the BJP and the TRS. They said that Kumar directed additional commissioner N. Yadigiri Rao to serve official notice to

vacate union offices within a week to start the polls arrangements.

This newspaper tried to reach the GHMC commissioner but he was not available.

A final decision will, however, be taken in the second week of October when officials of the SEC and GHMC meet.

Meanwhile, the SEC has instructed the GHMC to follow Covid-19 precautionary guidelines during

the election on par with those issued by the Election Commission of India for the Bihar polls.

The SEC has decided to limit the voter strength at each polling station to 800 in the context of Covid-19 to maintain physical distancing. The commission had directed officials to train GHMC officials on using software applications for preparation and publication of electoral roll.



Residents walk in knee-deep water after rainwater flooded the road and entered houses at Mittalnagar at Jillelaguda, Hyderabad. Continuous rain in the last three days has left many areas badly affected.

— P. SURENDRA

Sunshine gives rain-affected city a break

KTR instructs officials to take all precautions, relief measures

T.S.S. SIDDHARTH | DC
HYDERABAD, SEPT. 21

After four consecutive rainy days, the sun broke out in the city on Monday. This, officials of the meteorological department said, is because the winds that were carrying the cumulonimbus clouds have moved northwards, and there would be showers in the northern districts.

On Monday, only Quthubullapur received rainfall measuring 5.5 mm (till 8 pm). In the state, the highest rainfall was registered at Narnoor mandal in Adilabad at 74.5 mm.

"We predict that the weather would continue to remain dry for the next 24 hours. The reason for this is because all the humidity-laced winds, that would form clouds, are moving northwards. That is why the districts in the northern parts of the state would witness rainfall," Dr K Nagarathna, director, Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), Hyderabad, told Deccan Chronicle.

She did not rule out the chances of light drizzles in isolated parts of the city.

District authorities said rainfall of around 7.1 cm caused large-scale damage to standing paddy, cotton and maize crops, while several water bodies are overflowing with huge inflows because of heavy rains over the district during the last two days. Paddy crop was damaged in Dursched, Mughdampur, Che-

With more rains expected, Rama Rao asked senior officials to cancel the leaves of all employees and directed them to stay on the field. He asked the officials to conduct surprise inspections from time to time. MA&UD officials informed Rama Rao that Hyderabad had received heavy rainfall of 54 cm in the last 10 days. The rain had fallen in the gap of a

few hours each day, leading to waterlogging in low-lying areas. The officials informed the minister that about 170 rescue teams were working in Hyderabad.

Rama Rao instructed officials to identify and demolish the buildings which are on the verge of collapsing. He asked the officials to form teams to monitor areas prone to waterlogging. Officials were

asked to send out safety and security guidelines to private contractors who have taken up construction work in the city.

Rama Rao instructed the officials to take up repair works on roads damaged by the rains. He also asked them to rope in the entomology department workers to ensure sanitation works are taken up after the rains stop.

Karimnagar low-lying areas inundated

PULI SHARATH KUMAR | DC
KARIMNAGAR, SEPT. 21

Several low-lying areas within the Karimnagar Municipal Corporation limits and villages surrounding it have been inundated following heavy rains that lashed the city on Saturday night.

District authorities said

rainfall of around 7.1 cm caused large-scale damage to standing paddy, cotton and maize crops, while several water bodies are overflowing with huge inflows because of heavy rains over the district during the last two days. Paddy crop was damaged in Dursched, Mughdampur, Che-

rlabhatkar and Champaipalli villages. Cotton and corn crops were damaged partially in Nagunur and Gopalapuram villages. With drains overflowing, there was water-logging in Bus stand, Kaman Chorwasta, Police Commissionerate, Mukarampura, Housing Board Colony, Mankammathota, Rekurthi and Collectorate areas. Vehicular traffic was disrupted.

People of many colonies in KMC limits faced problems with water entering their houses. Disaster response teams have been straining hard to remove the water. The electricity substation at Bhagatnagar got flooded with water. City mayor Y. Sunil Rao and mu-

nicipal officials inspected the sub-station and made arrangements for pumping out the water. With forecast of more rains for the coming three days, officials have advised people not to venture out of their houses.

District collector K. Shashanka has ordered officials

of departments concerned to remain alert and prevent any untoward incidents. He instructed officials not to leave headquarters but prepare themselves to deal with any unusual situation.

He asked them to move people from dilapidated houses to safer places.

Rekurthi submerged in floodwater due to heavy rains in Karimnagar district.

of departments concerned to remain alert and prevent any untoward incidents. He instructed officials not to leave headquarters but prepare themselves to deal with any unusual situation.

He asked them to move people from dilapidated houses to safer places.

Owners tried to save money by not registering plots, find difficulty in getting land regularised

On Old City outskirts, landowners don't have papers

ATHER MOIN | DC
HYDERABAD, SEPT. 21

Plot owners on the outskirts of the Old City are unable to apply for regularisation of their plots under the 'Telangana Layout Regularisation Scheme' as most of them do not possess sale deeds. Those who enjoy possession based on notary documents are not able to fill online applications.

The state government introduced the scheme for plots

existing in non-approved layouts. It was stipulated that owners of such plots and developers of unauthorised layouts have to submit an online application before October 15.

This is meant for plots which are transferred under the registered sale deed. There is no provision for applying for a plot which was purchased but registered sale deed was not made so far. A few people who tried to avail this opportunity are not able to submit online applica-

tions as they have no valid purchase documents.

Many are not aware of which survey number their plot bears.

In areas around the Old City, there are hundreds of unauthorised layout bits and people purchased them on notarised documents.

They are now worried about their fate as they have no legal document, which proves their ownership. Many citizens have built houses on their land without obtaining permits from the

civic body. Such people have to regularise their land and construction.

For instance, thousands of people are enjoying possession of a piece of land without having registered sale deed in Bandlaguda, Shaheen nagar, Hafiz Baba Nagar, Amannagar, Wadi-e-Mustafa, Jalpally, Wadi-e-Saleheen, Osman nagar, Sadatnagar, Errakunta, Yerrakunta, Ghousenagar, Mohammad Nagar, Quba Colony and Jaber Colony.

Considering this situation, MIM leader Akbaruddin Owaisi urged the government to give some relaxation to such people who had purchased the plots in unauthorised layouts and government lands oblivious of the facts and were cheated into it.

Mohammed Naseer Giyas, a vernacular journalist, said more than 80 per cent plots in the outskirts around Old City have been sold on notary documents. To save money, people

did not register their lands with the department, while many poor and illiterate people envisage that the notary document is enough to prove that they are clear title holders.

He said the government should provide an opportunity to those people who do not have a registered sale deed. If the government did not grant relaxation, thousands of poor people would lose their right over the land they possessed.

Uttam says farm Bills meant to help corporates

S.A. ISHAQUI | DC
HYDERABAD, SEPT. 21

The MP said that the bills had snatched away the protection granted to the farming community by the Constitution. Private institutions have been given licence to exploit farmers.

He said there was no mention of the MSP to the farmers in the bills, and no provision has been made to regulate contract farming. The new bills had finished the system of market yards where farmers sell their produce.

Citing an instance, he said the market yards were abolished in Bihar in 2006 and farmers of that state were unable to get MSP for their produce. While farmers of Telangana state and elsewhere were selling paddy for ₹1,815 per quintal, those in Bihar were forced to sell for just ₹1,300.

Stating that the new law does not specify that the contract price should be above the MSP, Uttam Kumar Reddy pointed out, "It is clear that the new law doesn't have empowerment or protection or price assurance for farmers. The amendment to the Essential Commodities Act will promote hoarding of food commodities by corporations. There is absolutely no restriction on farmers or farmer producer organisations (FPOs) from stocking produce and selling it."

Rules were flouted and precedents were not followed while passing the bills in the Rajya Sabha, the TPCC chief said.

KTR says, farmers are not celebrating

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, SEPT. 21

IT minister K.T. Rama Rao on Monday asked that if the agriculture bills passed by the NDA government were truly a watershed moment, why was no farmer celebrating and why were NDA allies resigning.

He was responding to the message Prime Minister Narendra Modi posted on Twitter: "A watershed moment in the history of Indian agriculture! Congratulations to our hardworking farmers on the passage of key bills in Parliament, which will ensure a complete transformation of the agriculture sector as well as empower crores of farmers."

In another post, Rama Rao slammed BJP MPs from the state for claiming that the Centre released ₹7,000 crore to fight Covid-19 while it gave only ₹290 crore.

widespread jubilation & cheer among farming community across the state. If the #AgricultureBills2020 is truly a watershed moment, why is no farmer celebrating & why are NDA allies resigning?"

The NDA government in response to a question answered that all they had released to Telangana was ₹290 crore. What an absolute shameful distortion and misleading propaganda," Rama Rao said.

TRS corporator arrested for assault

SANJAY SAMUEL PAUL | DC
HYDERABAD, SEPT. 21

TRS corporator Rangam Narendra Yadav, and his family members for asking him to remove the car which was wrongly parked, was on Monday arrested by the Serilingampally police. The incident was exclusively reported by Deccan Chronicle.

Twenty-year-old Ananya Kurikala, a student of fine arts, was assaulted around

11.30 pm on September 12 when she asked the corporator to move his SUV that was blocking the way of her Ananya's car from going to her villa at Lakshmi Vihar Phase 2, Nallagandala, Lingampally.

The frightened family lodged a complaint against Nagender Yadav and a case was registered under Cr.No.633/202. Police said they had arrested Nagender Yadav after investigation and he would be produced before the court for judicial remand.

SHORT TAKES
CITY RECONNECTS WITH DOHA AFTER LOCKDOWN

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, SEPT. 21

Shamshabad airport has resumed services to Doha with Qatar Airways beginning operations after the lockdown. Etihad Airways resumed its tri-weekly service between Hyderabad and Abu Dhabi on Sunday. Emirates, Fly Dubai and Air Arabia have already restarted services to the UAE. All passengers will have to adhere to the Covid-19 safety guidelines.

Karthik Viswanathan, area sales manager, South Asia, Qatar Airways, said the services had resumed due to the air bubble agreement between the two countries. Qatar Airways flies twice a week to Doha from Hyderabad.

5-DAY BAN ON DARSHAN AT ANTARVEDI TEMPLE

VADREU SRINIVAS | DC
KAKINADA, SEPT. 21

Darshans at the Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy temple in Antarvedi of Konaseema area in East Godavari District have been stopped for five days. Revenue and police officials cancelled darshans from September 14 to 20 citing severity of Covid-19 cases in the village, including 60 police personnel and some agitators.

On Monday, endowment officials of the temple made all arrangements and opened the temple doors to allow the devotees for darshans.

"The sub-collector office instructed us not to allow darshans up to September 25," said temple executive officer Y. Bhadraji. He said reopening of darshan will be decided by higher officials. However, he said that the daily rituals for deities would continue.

Meanwhile, the internal and external security system in the temple is being strengthened in the aftermath of the chariot burning incident at the temple. Police officials found that CC cameras were not functioning when the chariot was getting burnt. Now, new CC cameras are being installed.

"Already 29 cameras have been installed and another five will be installed soon. Seven cameras have been installed around where the chariot is placed," said Bhadraji.

He also said that efforts for building a new chariot are being expedited and the necessary wood has been purchased. The cut wood may be carried to the temple on September 27. The Annadana Prasadam programme for devotees has been in vogue for several years. Now, the prasadam is being given to police personnel, who are on duty.

BJP MEN FILE COMPLAINTS ON AP MINISTER

DC CORRESPONDENTS
KAKINADA, TIRUPATI, SEPT. 21

BJP and Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha leaders said that they had lodged complaints against civil supplies minister Kodali Venkateswara Rao (Nani) for his alleged attacks in temples.

BJP Amalapuram Parliamentary district president Manepalli Ayyaji Vema and others said they lodged a complaint against Rao in Amalapuram police station.

Vema alleged that the minister had hurt the sentiments Hindus with his derogatory comments against Hindu gods and temples. He demanded that Rao resign as he had violated the Constitution.

Rajahmundry Rural BJP leader Y. Yesu and others lodged a complaint with Bommaru police. Bommaru circle inspector K. Lakshmana Reddy said that the BJP leaders submitted only a representation and not a complaint and no case was registered on the matter.

In Tirupati, local BJP functionaries lodged a complaint against Rao with the Tirupati Urban police on Monday, alleging that his remarks on the declaration of faith at Tirumala temple at a recent press meet were objectionable and hurt the sentiments of Hindus.

The activists, led by party spokespersons Bhanu Prakash Reddy and Samanchi Srinivas, tried to meet the SP, Avula Ramesh Reddy at the district police office. However, he was not available at that time and the BJP leaders handed over the complaint to officials at the DPO and sought the police to book cases against Kodali Nani under Sections 295, 295A and 153A IPC.

Traffic chaos



Autorickshaw drivers rush towards passengers coming out of the Secunderabad railway station, creating a traffic jam and posing inconvenience to other road-users early on Monday. — DEEPAK DESHPANDE

5-DAY BAN ON DARSHAN AT ANTARVEDI TEMPLE

VADREU SRINIVAS | DC
KAKINADA, SEPT. 21

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Son abandons mom after she tests +ve

Cops intervene, unite 65-year-old woman with family

NARENDER PULLOR | DC
NIZAMABAD, SEPT. 21

A 65-year-old woman was abandoned by her family when she returned home after getting treated for Covid-19 at the Government General Hospital in Nizamabad. Police intervened and reunited the woman with her family on Monday.

Gangoni Balamani had been staying in an old age home. She was admitted to the

Nizamabad Government General Hospital by the old age home after she contracted Coronavirus.

Following treatment, Balamani tested negative and the hospital discharged her. As the old age home was closed, she returned to her home at Rotarynagar colony in Nizamabad, where her son was staying.

However, her son Gangoni Rammohan, who is working with TS Southern Power Distribution Company, posted it on social media.

After the report went viral, Nizamabad Town circle inspector B. Satyanarayana and IV

locked the house and left along with his family members, afraid that they all may contract Coronavirus.

Following this, since past the few days, the elderly woman was forced to stay in front of the locked house. Noticing this, neighbours filmed her pathetic condition on cellphones and posted it on social media.

Nizamabad GGH superintendent Dr. Prathima Raj too came forward to help the elderly woman.

town sub-inspector M. Laxmaiah rushed to Rotarynagar and found Balamani.

They policemen then located her son Rammohan and counselled him about taking care of his mother. Officials of District Legal Services Authority also counselled the family. The family thus got reunited.

Samudrala Dayakar Rao, left for Heavenly Abode on 20-9-2020. Inserted by: G. Purnakanta Rao and Family G. Ajith Reddy and Family

Let us remember and pray for our beloved IRENE J. LIMA who left us last year on September 22nd, 2019. Since we are unable to gather together to honor her memory because of the Covid19 restrictions, we can do so by privately lighting a candle, diya or agarbatti and pray for the happy response of her soul. May she rest in peace. God bless you! Her Sister Lillian (Lily) R. Nath (nee Lima) Her Brother Father Vivian Ben Lima (S/2021/D00583)

SHRADDHANJALI

I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever. Ps.22:6 Sixth Anniversary In Memory Of

Sixth Anniversary In Memory Of

Mrs. Janet Adams (W/o Mr. B. J. David) Retd. HM, ZPHS, Malkajgiri Called to Glory on 22.09.2014 Tributes by Staff & Families of Spireo Publishing Company (CA-3424)

OBITUARY

Mrs. Janet Adams (W/o Mr. B. J. David) Retd. HM, ZPHS, Malkajgiri Called to Glory on 22.09.2014 Tributes by Staff & Families of Spireo Publishing Company (CA-3424)

VUPPALA AMARNATH DOD 15TH SEPT. 2020 INSERTED BY Katepalli Srinivasulu & Family Linga Sunil & Family Kalakunta Shanker & Family Ganga Arvind Kumar & Family Molugu Narendra Kumar & Family

MEMORIAL SERVICE Jesus said: He that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live. John 11:25

CHIGURUPATI RATNARAJ DOB: 10-8-1956 DOD: 22-8-2020 A Prayer Meeting will be held at 12 noon on 22-09-2020 at CSI St. Pauls Church, Sanathnagar, Hyderabad. Inserted by: Father Chigurupati George (Retd. Govt. H.M.) Wife: Ch. Priscilla, Daughters: Ch. Lubna & Family, Ch. Sheeba (S/2021/D00620)

SAD DEMISE And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. (Ps 23:6) IN LOVING MEMORY OF

EDDU G. ASHIRVADAM (Retd. Superintendent of Public Gardens) E. SUDHAKAR ASHIRVADAM Retd. Govt. School Teacher Inserted by: Mrs. E. Rachel Vijayalaxmi Charan & Family & Relatives.

And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. (Ps 23:6)

Mrs. PIDAKALA LILLIAN ROY W/o Major Pidakala Lionel Roy (Retd. Major) Inserted by: Son-in-Law Linda Ragini Prem Swarup Grand Sons: 1. Abhishek Caleb, 2. Abhinav Bro-in-law, Sis's-in-law, Nephews, Nieces, Grand Children, Relatives & Friends.

4th DEATH ANNIVERSARY (B/2021/D00061)

Mrs. A.G. PAVITRA RAGHAVAN Medical Executive (Medical Bionic Pvt. Ltd.) S/o A.N. Govind Raj "We Miss You Chintu" by: Mom - Dad - Anna, Bhabhi Rohan & Amulya (S/2021/D00617)

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever. Ps.22:6 Sixth Anniversary In Memory Of

Sixth Anniversary In Memory Of

Mrs. A.G. PAVITRA RAGHAVAN Medical Executive (Medical Bionic Pvt. Ltd.) S/o A.N. Govind Raj "We Miss You Chintu" by: Mom - Dad - Anna, Bhabhi Rohan & Amulya (S/2021/D00617)

ELEVENTH DEATH ANNIVERSARY I will make thy name to be remembered in all generations. Ps.45:17 IN EVER LOVING MEMORY OF

KONGALETI RUTH MERCY Born on : 5-9-1981 * Promoted to Glory : 22-9-2000 "You were blessing to our life we thank God, you were there and thank Him for the life we have been allowed to share" Parents : K. Venkateswara & Sarojini Brothers: Sudhakar, Sudesh Babu, Nirmala and Family Members H.No:243-G, Phase-II, Jangiriyapet, Miyapur, Hyd. (S/2021/D00615)

6th ANNIVERSARY Dr. K. SEETHAMMA Retd. DMO (S. C. Ry) DOD: 22-09-2014 MAY HER SOULREST IN PEACE. Fondly remembered by: K. SRINIVAS (Son) & All Family Members Cell: 09831055188

Dip in new Covid cases in AP

DC CORRESPONDENT VIJAYAWADA, SEPT. 21

falling down, giving the much-needed relief to both the state government and people at large.

The Coronavirus bulletin issued by state health authorities on Monday reported that out of 56,569 samples tested during the last 24 hours, 6,235 individuals have tested Covid-19 positive, raising the state, recording the highest number of 1,262 Covid cases during the last 24 hours.

The number of deaths also has come down to

51, though taking the overall death toll to 5,410. The state government has so far tested 51,60,700 samples for Covid-19.

Of them, 5,51,821 patients have been discharged after recovery, while 74,518 patients are still undergoing treatment for Coronavirus.

East Godavari is continuing to lead the state, recording the highest number of 1,262 Covid cases during the last 24 hours.

REMENBRANCE 60th Death Anniversary

MOTILAL PATNY Expired on 22-09-1960 "Your memories are live in our hearts forever."

From: Patny Parivar

(S/2021/D00615)

ELEVENTH DEATH ANNIVERSARY

Mrs. A.S. GEETHA W/o Mr. S. Siva Kumar

Inserted by:

A. Ujwal Kumar (Son), Father-in-Law, Mother-in-Law, Brothers-in-Law, Sisters, Brothers, Sisters-in-Law, Nephews, Nieces, Kith, Kin and Mother

(S/2021/D00615)

TRIBAL LEADERS, HEALTH WORKERS HOLD PROTEST

DC CORRESPONDENT ADILABAD, SEPT. 21

Adivasi leaders of Thudumdeba and medical staff staged a dharna in front of the office of the district medical and health officer in Adilabad, alleging that the medical officer and health supervisor of the primary health centre in Neredigonda were harassing medical staff and workers. They are inquiry into the harassment, and action.

DR. T. SUBHASH BABU
GENERAL PHYSICIAN AND CONSULTANT DIABETOLOGIST
FOUNDER PRESIDENT: THE HYDERABAD CANINE CLUB
31.01.1943 - 21.09.2020

WIFE: DR. T. ARUNA SUBHASH
DAUGHTER: MS. T. USHA SRU
GRANDSON: ROHIT KUMAR
GRANDDAUGHTER-IN-LAW: KASI ANNAPURNA

& MANAGING COMMITTEE OF THE HYDERABAD CANINE CLUB

In loving memory of Sri K. Kameswara Rao (D.O.B.: 31.05.1929 D.O.E.: 22.09.2015) Our Former Secretary and Vice-Chairman

It is now five years... Your memory of strong leadership and hard work continue to guide and inspire us.

Sponsored Institutions:

MVIS Engineering College, Nadiguda, Hyderabad.

Matsru Engineering College, Salabub, Hyderabad.

Matsru Institute of Post Graduate Studies, Saidabad, Hyderabad.

I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Late G. JAYASREE (Dy. Thahasidar) D.O.B.: 22-09-1984

Inserted by:

Husband: Dr. M. Jagannath

SHORT TAKES

2 DIE AS HEAVY RAINS CONTINUE TO LASH KERALADC CORRESPONDENT
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,
SEPT. 21

Kerala continued to receive heavy rains on Monday with the meteorological department sounding orange alert for 10 districts.

Orange alert has been sounded in Kottayam, Ernakulam, Idukki, Thrissur, Palakkad, Malappuram, Kozhikode, Wayanad, Kannur and Kasargod. With the state also getting heavy rainfall in catchment areas, shutters of Kundala, Kallarkutty, Malankara and Ponnuthura dams were opened following which water level increased in Periyar, Muvattupuzha river and Muthirapuzha. Authorities have also sounded alert in Idukki district, which is prone to landslides.

A yellow alert has been sounded in Alappuzha, Pathanamthitta and Kollam districts. The met department has forecast rains till Tuesday. A low pressure has formed over the northeast Bay of Bengal and neighboring places on Sunday. This led to widespread rainfall in many districts of Kerala over the last 24 hours.

According to State Disaster Management Authority two persons died in rain related incidents in Thiruvananthapuram and Kasargod districts.

According to IMD, Hosdurg in Kasargod received nine cm rainfall while Vythiri in Wayanad district got 9.4 cm. Muniar and Peerumedu in Idukki district and Nedumangad in Thiruvananthapuram received seven cm rainfall.

FIRE BREAKS OUT IN ODISHA'S HOSP, NO CASUALTIESAKSHAYA KUMAR
SAHOO | DC
BHUBANESWAR, SEPT. 21

A fire broke out on Monday afternoon at the ICU ward of the Sadguru Hospital that was treating Covid patients in Jagatpur in Odisha's Cuttack district, leading to panic among the patients. No casualty was reported in the mishap.

According to chief fire officer Sukanta Sethi, 24 patients were in the ICU on the first floor when the fire broke out. There were a total of 127 patients in the hospital. The cause behind the fire was not known.

"All patients are being shifted to Ashwini Covid Hospital in Cuttack, SUM Covid Hospital in Bhubaneswar and other Covid care centres (CCCs)," Sethi said.

Recalling the fire, a patient said: "At around 1 pm, we heard a loud noise. Later, the entire hospital was filled with smoke. There was utter chaos and patients came out of the building using mobile flash lights."

Senior officials, including police commissioner Sudhan-su Sarangi, Cuttack deputy commissioner of police Prateek Singh, Cuttack Municipal Corporation (CMC) commissioner Ananya Das immediately reached the spot and coordinated the rescue operation.

Health minister Naba Kishore Das ordered a probe into the incident. "A detailed inquiry would be conducted jointly by energy and fire services departments to ascertain what caused the fire," said Das.

Welcome back

Visitors to Taj Mahal enjoy as it re-opens for public after being shut for over six months, amid the Coronavirus pandemic, in Agra on Monday. Only 5,000 tourists will be allowed each day at the Taj Mahal - 2,500 before 2 pm and the rest after.

— PTI

MP farmers get one rupee compensation for crop harm**PM's crop insurance scheme becomes butt of ridicule for them**RABINDRA NATH
CHOWDHURY | DC
BHOPAL, SEPT. 21

village under Betul district have received ₹1 as compensation for damage to their crops in 2019. They were among 22 lakh beneficiaries in the state.

Chief minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan released the insurance amounts to these farmers a couple of days ago.

Similarly, Mulia Bai of Sehore village under Shyampur district has received ₹4 as relief for crop damage she had suffered in 2019, while Puspa

● CHIEF MINISTER
Shivraj Singh Chouhan released the insurance amounts to these farmers a couple of days ago.

Bai of Chhapri village under the same district got ₹7.

Radhashyam, Bholaram,

Mangilal and Amit Parmar of Sehore district have received ₹16, ₹18, ₹18 and ₹23 respectively, according to executive president of the state unit

of Kisan Congress Kedar Serohi.

"There are thousands of farmers in the state whose insurance amounts were less than ₹100.

They are compiling data on farmers who have received ridiculously meagre amounts under the scheme to take up their cases with the government," he added.

A senior officer in the state agriculture department told *Deccan Chronicle*, on condition of anonymity, that a direc-

tive has been issued by the government to insurance companies to probe into such cases.

"The issue has come to the notice of the state government. The state agriculture department has asked the insurance company to go deeper into the matter," he added.

Meanwhile, Chouhan has indicated that plans are afoot to fix a minimum honorarium, under the scheme to avoid such embarrassing situations.

NCB to summon Sara Ali, Rakul Preet in drugs caseSAURABH JOSHI | DC
MUMBAI, SEPT. 21

sages accessed by the NCB.

The NCB has stated that the summons will be sent to Sara, Rakul and Simon soon and that the day for grilling them is yet to be decided.

Investigators said that after these and some other names came up, it was later found that they would frequent Rajput's farmhouse in Lonavala.

The allegations state that the group did marijuana and cannabis. The officials recorded statements of several witnesses in and around the farmhouse and the allegations have now been verified.

The trio will be questioned about the parties and other visitors who

also visited there. The NCB is also likely to summon another actress who was also allegedly one of the frequent visitors at these parties.

"The summons will be sent soon and they will be questioned this week," said an NCB officer.

The NCB on Monday grilled Saha in connection with the text messages of her being asked for narcotics substances.

The officials had also summoned Shruti Modi,

Rajput's manager for questioning however she had to be left without grilling on September 16 as one of the members of the Special Investigation Team (SIT) of NCB had contracted Covid-19.

RANAUT DENIES BMC'S CHARGE OF ILLEGAL ALTERATIONS IN HER OFFICEDC CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI, SEPT. 21

Actor Kangana Ranaut on Monday denied the Mumbai civic body's claim in the Bombay High Court that she had made illegal structural alterations at her Pali Hill bungalow, part of which was demolished on September 9.

In a rejoinder affidavit filed in response to the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation's (BMC) reply to her plea, Ranaut stated she didn't make any structural changes or repairs illegally.

Ranaut also denied that

Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation					
Sl. No.	NIT NO.	Name of work	Estimate cost (Rs. In Lakhs)	Start Date/Last Date & Time for Receipts of Bids	Name & Address Officer Cell No.
1.	27/CTO/GH/MC/SLP2/2020-21 (Item No.01 to 10) Dt. 21.09.2020	Sanitation comprehensive O&M for commercial premises in various circles of Secunderabad Zone, GHMPC	1,633.57	24.09.2020 @ 2:00PM 03.10.2020 @ 2:00PM	Sr.P.China Rephy EE, Division-21 Ph. No. 040-23033163

Further details can be seen on the website <https://tender.telanganacorp.gov.in>

RO No: 5204-PP/CL/ADVT/1/2020-21, SLP Zone :GHMC

Sd/- Executive Engineer & CTO

Chandanagar Division-21, SLP Zone :GHMC

India records 86,971 Covid cases DESPITE RISING VIRUS CASES, NO MORE LOCKDOWN IN MPDC CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI, SEPT. 21

the toll reached 87,882 with 1,130 fresh fatalities. However, compared to 12 lakh tests conducted on Saturday, Sunday saw 7.31 lakh tests that resulted in a drop in new case detections.

Health ministry officials underlined that the country's recovery rate of Covid-19 cases is now 80.12 per cent with over 90,000 recoveries recorded for the third consecutive day. In the last 24 hours, 93,356 patients were discharged. Officials added 12 States and Union Territories have registered a recovery rate more than the national average of 80 per cent and 79 per cent of the new recovered cases are from 10 states and Union Territories.

The total recovered cases are 43.96 lakh as India tops the global figure for total recoveries. "It accounts for more than 19 per cent of the world total," an official said. Maharashtra has alone contributed more than 20,000 and Andhra Pradesh has contributed more than 8,000.

Amid spike in Covid-19 cases in Madhya Pradesh, state home minister Narottam Mishra on Monday ruled out the possibility of taking recourse to lockdown again to deal with the pandemic in the state in the 'interest of economy'.

Talking to reporters on the sideline of monsoon session of state assembly, Mishra said people needed to follow the Covid-19 guidelines such as maintaining social distance, avoiding crowds and washing hands, strictly, to shield them from the virus.

"We are currently working on a twin-plan to deal with the crisis. We need to combat the pandemic as well as ensure speedy

recovery of the economy. We can't afford another lockdown in view of the economic crisis caused by the pandemic," he added.

Earlier in the day, making a statement in the semi-virtual session of the assembly, chief minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said Madhya Pradesh has tackled the Covid-19 situation better than other states.

He said an effective mechanism has been put in place to deal with the pandemic and also better arrangements have been made to treat the Covid-19 patients. As on Monday, the state has reported 108167 coronavirus positive cases and 2007 deaths.

While 78 members were present in the house, 23 others participated in the proceedings online.

INDIAN RAILWAYS**NOTIFICATION FOR INVITATION OF TENDER (NIT)**

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA (BHARAT SARKAR)

MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (RAIL MARTALAYA)

Rail Bhawan, Raisina Road, New Delhi-110001, INDIA

Email-drsm@rb.railnet.gov.in

Electronic bid invitation for Design, Development, Manufacture, Supply, Integration, Testing and Commissioning of IGBT based 3-phase propulsion, control and other equipment for train sets suitable for operation on 25 KV AC OHE system conforming to RDSO specification no. RDSO/PE/SPEC/ EMU/0196-2019 (Rev.0) along with addendum/corrigendum including CAMC.

E-Open advertised tender with e-Reverse Auction No. WTA-515

Electronic bids are invited for and on behalf of the President of India from established and reliable manufacturers or their subsidiaries/associates, for supply of the following items:-

Description	Qty. (16 car rake)	Ultimate Consignee
Design, Development, Manufacture, Supply, Integration, Testing and Commissioning of IGBT based 3-phase propulsion, control and other equipment for train sets suitable for operation on 25 KV AC OHE system conforming to RDSO specification no. RDSO/PE/SPEC/EMU/0196-2019 (Rev.0) along with addendum/corrigendum including CAMC.	24 Nos. of 16 Car Rakes	Deputy Chief Materials Manager, Furnishing Depot, Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Chennai-38
	10 Nos. of 16 car rakes	Deputy Chief Materials Manager, Furnishing Depot, Rail Coach Factory (RCF), Kapurthala.
	10 Nos. of 16 car rakes	Deputy Chief Materials Manager, Furnishing Depot, Modern Coach Factory (MCF), Rae Bareli.

EMD Amount Rs. 50 Lakhs (Rupees Fifty Lakhs)

Last date for submission of Bids As per IREPS (17.11.2020)

2047/20 Joint Director/Railway Stores(M) for and on behalf of the President of India

"SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE"

KAFEEL KHAN ALLEGES TORTURE IN JAIL

Gorakhpur (UP), Sept. 21: In a letter to a group of UN human rights experts, paediatrician Kafeel Khan has alleged that he was "tortured" in Mathura jail where he was lodged under the NSA for allegedly giving provocative speeches in AMU during the anti-CAA stir in December 2019.

"I was tortured mentally as well as physically, denied food and water for many days, and treated inhumanely during months of incarceration in a congested, overcrowded

prison," he wrote to the United Nation human rights expert group.

Dr Khan, who is now out on bail, wrote to the UN human rights group of experts on September 17 with reference to their June 26 letter, in which they had urged the Indian government to release him.

"The use of stringent national security laws/UAPA against political dissenters, in the absence of any appeal, is something to be condemned in all cases," Dr Khan said.

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA ROADS & BUILDING DEPARTMENT	
e"- PROCUREMENT NOTICE	
e" CTN No:15/CR/ENC/DCE(R)-2020-21:	Dt:18.09.2020
1. Online tenders are invited under e-procurement platform for one bridge work (Balance work) in Mahabubnagar District (First call) taken up under Corenet Non Plan, vide Engineer-in-Chief (R&B) SR.CRN & Managing Director, TSRCDC.	2. Tenderers can download the tender schedules and have further details from emarket place i.e. www.eprocurement.gov.in .
The last date of receipt of tenders is 30.09.2020 upto 3:30 PM.	3. (a) Tender Enquiry No. : DPS/HRPU/NFC/PT/TPT/CAP/11117 (b) Description : Advance Configuration of Grinding Machine – Qty. 1 No., details as per tender specifications (c) Last date for submission of online pre-bid queries : 01/10/2020 upto 2:00 PM (d) Last date for Submission of Bid Online : 02/11/2020 upto 2:00 PM (e) Tender Fee : NIL (f) EMD : ₹ 10,00,000.-
RO.No.504-DPL/AGENCY/ADVT/1/2020-21	Sd/- Engineer-in-Chief (R&B) SR.CRN & MTSRDC

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SHORT TAKES**ONION FARMERS LIKELY TO SUFFER ₹5K CR LOSSES**

BHAGWAN PARAB | DC MUMBAI, SEPT. 21

Maharashtra farmers are likely to suffer huge losses of over ₹5000 crore owing to Centre's decision to ban the export of onions. The move is likely to benefit China and Pakistan in the international market, said agriculture experts.

At the end of the summer harvest season, growers in Maharashtra had stored up around 27 lakh tonnes of onion, of which 60 per cent stock remains. After the ban was announced, truckloads of onions have been stranded at several places like Nashik, Pune, Nagpur and Solapur. The produce is likely to be damaged due to the ban causing loss to exporters as well as farmers.

According to the experts, the ban has come at a time just when the onion prices had started rising after remaining low for several months. The average trade rate, which was ₹20 per kg in July in the country's biggest onion market at Lasalgaoan had now touched ₹35 per kg and was expected to go up further. Maharashtra is the largest onion producing state in the country.

Last year, the delayed monsoon had caused heavy damages to the onion crop. The farmers also initially witnessed difficulties to export onion due to the Coronavirus pandemic. But the export was later streamlined and in the last eight months, nearly 16 to 17 lakh tonnes of onion was exported.

UMAR KHALID'S BAIL APPLICATION DISMISSED

New Delhi, Sept. 21: A Delhi court has dismissed an application by former JNU student leader Umar Khalid, arrested under the stringent anti-terror law Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, seeking permission to meet his family during his police custody.

Khalid is in police custody for 10 days, till September 24, in a case related to the large conspiracy in the communal violence in north east Delhi in February. He was arrested on September 13 and the next day the court allowed police to interrogate him in its custody saying it was a fit case for police custody remand. The police had said that they wanted to confront him with documents running into 11 lakh pages.

Additional Sessions Judge Amitabh Rawat dismissed his application seeking permission to meet his family members saying there were no merits in it. "The counsel for the accused (Khalid) had made specific request for allowing the meeting time of accused with the counsel during police custody remand and the same was allowed for every day for 30 minutes during the entire police custody remand. Counsel for the accused is meeting the accused every day during the remand in terms of the order dated September 14. There was also an apprehension of safety raised by the counsel for the accused," the Judge said.

ANSARI'S WIFE, SONS BOOKED FOR PHONY LAND DEALS

Ghazipur (UP), Sept. 21: Gangster-turned-politician Mukhtar Ansari's wife and their two sons have been booked for allegedly buying two plots of government land in the city illegally and fraudulently, an official said on Monday.

Nine others involved in selling the plots to the trio too have been booked on cheating and forgery charges, a Revenue Department official said.

One of the plots of land, on which Ansari's wife Afsa Ansari and their sons Abbas Ansari and Umar Ansari, have built a hotel in Mahuva Bagh locality, was bought by them on April 29 2005, he said.

The land is located in Mohammadpur area and was marked as barren land in the government records, he said, adding they yet managed to buy the land.

Similarly, another piece of land was illegally bought by Afsa Ansari on September 23, 2005 and she also got its ownership changed in revenue records, he said.

An FIR was lodged in Ghazipur Kotwali police station on Sunday after detailed investigations, lasting over two months, on directions of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, the official added.

India firm on demand for disengagement

Tough negotiations held during the Corps Commanders level meeting; meeting going on after 13 hrs

PAWAN BALI | DC
NEW DELHI, SEPT. 21

Corps Commanders from India and China on Monday held another marathon meeting to try to resolve the over four-month-long military stand-off between the two countries at eastern Ladakh. There is a possibility that negotiations will continue on Tuesday too.

For the first time the representative from the ministry of external affairs, joint secretary (East Asia) Naveen Srivastava, took part in the meeting. The presence of the representative from MEA was to signal that India was serious to resolve the stand-off with China through discussion and negotiations.

Senior officials here said that there was no information about another round of meeting on Tuesday. Tough negotiations were being held during meeting which had lasted 13 hours and was going on at the time of going to press.

The Indian delegation is headed by 14 Corps Commander Lt. Gen. Harinder Singh. Lt Gen P.G.K. Menon, who is likely to replace Lt Gen Singh next month, was also present.

"Flora and fauna in

Tso and Gogra Post-Hot Springs. The People's Liberation Army of China has also been preventing Indian patrols in the Depsang sector. India has made it clear that since it was China that had transgressed, it will have to make the first move towards disengagement. In all previous meetings China has refused to disengage from the Pangong lake and Gogra Post.

India wants restoration of status quo ante of April at Eastern Ladakh.

The meetings with Chinese military tend to be lengthy as discussions usually need to be translated from English to Chinese language and then again from Chinese to English. The meeting started around 9:30 in the morning at Moldo on the Chinese side of the Line of Actual Control (LAC) near the southern bank of the Pangong Tso where shots have been fired for the first time in 45 years.

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"Flora and fauna in

VIKRAM SHARMA | DC
HYDERABAD SEPT. 21

Once the sun goes down, and night vision devices are focussed on the enemy, venomous pit vipers, fury marmots, Himalayan wolves, red fox, Himalayan ibex and more keep popping up on their sights. Amid the barren rock faces and mountains under crystal clear skies, these animals, their trills and their glowing eyes divert the attention of the forces, albeit temporarily. Rarely, the elusive snow leopard would appear like lightning and vanish, so do a few other rare Himalayan animals.

For the soldiers of the Army and the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) deployed on the mountain tops and ridge-lines along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Ladakh, it is not only the People's Liberation Army (PLA) of China soldiers or the harsh weather that give them company.

"Flora and fauna in



File picture of a snow leopard in the mountains of Ladakh.

With close to 250 species of rare birds and animals, the mountainous areas of Ladakh is flocked by wildlife enthusiasts who have often captured animals after days or even months of camping.

Wildlife enthusiasts are worried that the massive deployment of men and material along the LAC will take its toll on the wildlife.

musk deer, the Himalayan tahr, ibex, Bactrian camels, blue sheep and the

Snow leopards and brown bear, though very rare, have been spotted. The venomous pit vipers which can be crystal clear due to complete silence in the mountains, especially after dark," sources within the forces told Deccan Chronicle. Though working in the most tough conditions, they say that sometimes their mood lightens up when they spot

the rare animals.

With close to 250 species of rare birds and animals, the mountainous areas of Ladakh is flocked by wildlife enthusiasts who have often captured animals after days or even months of camping.

Among the most frequently spotted animals are the Himalayan marmots who adapt themselves perfectly in harsh terrains at altitudes of over 15,000 feet, the Himalayan wolves,

crossing Indian and Chinese territory all the time.

The doctors who travel with each Army unit stock up on anti-venom injections and other medications required to treat snake, scorpion or even insect bites — something soldiers suffer regularly at the borders with both Pakistan and China.

The border stand-off with China aside, wildlife enthusiasts are worried that the massive deployment of men and material along the LAC will take its toll on the wildlife.

Another wildlife activist said that the Himalayan animals are used to living in a peaceful habitat, which is now completely disturbed in the otherwise peaceful mountains.



National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and fire brigade rescue an injured person at Bhiwandi in Thane district on Monday. — PTI

13 killed as 30-year-old building collapses on sleeping residents

SHAHAB ANSARI | DC
MUMBAI, SEPT. 21

At least 13 people including seven children were killed and many others are feared trapped after a three-storey building collapsed at Bhiwandi in Maharashtra's Thane. Officials said that 20 people, including a 4-year-old boy, were rescued.

According to Bhiwandi police a case under section 337, 338 and 304 (2) of the IPC was being registered against the owner of the building identified as Sayeed Ahmed Jilani.

The police ruled out any possibility of finding more survivors or bodies in the debris.

The incident happened at around 3.40 am when a three-storey building collapsed and people were fast asleep at that time.

According to an eyewitness, soon after the incident local people started a rescue operation and pulled out some people

from the rubble. Soon a team of Thane Disaster Response Force (TDRF) reached the spot and started rescue operation.

Those rescued include a four-year-old boy identified as Ubed Qureshi while among the dead was a two-year-old boy.

The ill-fated Jhiliani building was constructed around 30 years ago at Narpoli's Patel Compound near Dhankar Naka. According to an official it had 40 rooms and around 150 people were residing in it.

It has also come to light that the building was not in the list of dilapidated structures of Bhiwandi-Nizampur Municipal Corporation (BNMC) said, "The building was on a dangerous building list and notice was issued by the civic body to vacate it."

The BNMC has suspended two senior officials in connection with the building collapse. An official release said the then Assistant Municipal Commissioner Sudam Jadhav and an engineer and Verification Officer Dudhnath Yadav have been suspended. An inquiry committee has also been set up and will include the assistant town planner.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed his grief over the incident and tweeted, "Saddened

persons trapped in the debris.

Bhiwandi on Monday received good rains which disturbed the rescue operation to some extent.

Dr Pankaj Asiya, the Municipal Commissioner of Bhiwandi-Nizampur Municipal Corporation (BNMC) said, "The building was on a dangerous building list and notice was issued by the civic body to vacate it."

The BNMC has suspended two senior officials in connection with the building collapse. An official release said the then Assistant Municipal Commissioner Sudam Jadhav and an engineer and Verification Officer Dudhnath Yadav have been suspended. An inquiry committee has also been set up and will include the assistant town planner.

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by the building collapse in Bhiwandi, Maharashtra. condolence to the bereaved families. Praying for a quick recovery of those injured. Rescue operations are underway and all possible assistance is being provided to the affected."

Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray also expressed pain over the incident and his office has instructed the administration to ensure proper rescue operation and treatment to the injured.

The Chief Minister was supposed to e-inaugurate a newly constructed flyover in the town at 1:30 pm. However, that event was cancelled because of the building collapse.

Thane guardian minister Eknath Shinde said the collapse would be probed. He visited the site and announced a compensation of ₹5 lakh to the kin of each victim.

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Kerala has given administrative sanction to set aside ₹50L

Kerala hikes grants for transgenders

DC CORRESPONDENT
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, SEPT. 21

function of their sexual characteristics are altered.

The minister said administrative sanction has been given for setting aside ₹50 lakh for this purpose. The sex reassignment surgery from female to male is complicated and a series of procedures is required. In view of the high cost involved, the government decided to raise the amount.

The cost of surgery for male to female is comparatively less requiring a

maximum up to ₹2.5 lakh. The government has sanctioned ₹25 lakh for such surgeries for five beneficiaries and an equal amount for reassignment surgery from male to female for 25 beneficiaries.

The amount will be sanctioned based on the report of the technical committee after the surgery.

Of the programmes being implemented by the social justice department to bring the community into the mainstream, the scheme providing financial

grant for sex reassignment surgeries is one of the most significant ones.

There have been instances in the state when surgeries could not be completed due to lack of funds.

Considering the importance of reassignment surgeries among the transgender community in Thiruvananthapuram. The facility was aimed at providing safe accommodation for transgender persons undergoing sex change surgeries or other emergency situations.

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Farmers, Beware of lies

Farm Bill paves way for prosperity

Lies

Farm bill is conspiracy for denying Minimum Support Price to farmers

Now the Mandis will end

Farm bill is anti-farmer

Large companies will exploit farmers in the name of contract

Farmer's land will be given to the capitalists

Benefit to big corporate, loss to farmers

Truth

Farm bill has nothing to do with the Minimum Support Price, MSP is being given and will be continued in future too.

Mandi system will continue as it is.

Farm bill gives freedom to farmer. Now farmers can sell their crop to anyone, anywhere and it establishes One Nation One Market. Now the farmer will be able to earn more profit by partnering with large food processing companies instead of being dependent on others.

Agreement will enable the farmers to get pre-fixed price, but farmer cannot be bound against his interest by the agreement. The farmer will be free to withdraw from the agreement at any stage, without incurring any penalty.

The bill clearly directs that the sale, lease and mortgage of farmer's land are completely prohibited. The agreement will be of crops not of land.

In many States, farmers in collaboration with large corporates are successfully producing crops such as sugarcane, cotton, tea and coffee. Now small farmers will get higher benefit and they will also get the benefit of technology and equipment with assured profits.



"Indian farmer of 21st century will cultivate freely without any restrictions. Farmer of 21st century will sell his produce wherever he wants and wherever he gets better price."

Shri Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

Free Farmer

Empowered Farmer

DECCAN Chronicle

22 SEPTEMBER 2020

House norms junked to deliver govt's farm laws

The Centre's use of sledgehammer tactics to ram through the passage of two controversial agriculture-related bills in the Rajya Sabha was unfortunate, to say the least, and there are several questions being raised on whether the government did indeed have the numbers, given that it doesn't have a clear majority in the Upper House. The conduct of deputy chairman Harivansh, who was in the Chair, in repeatedly rejecting vociferous Opposition demands for a roll call instead of a voice vote therefore gives rise to doubts. A voice vote is fine if there are no doubts about the outcome, such as when these same Bills were passed last week in the Lok Sabha, where the government has a brute majority, but normal parliamentary convention dictates that even if a single member says "nay" as the presiding officer declares "the ayes have it", the voice vote is halted and a division called, so each MP's vote can be counted. This is what should be done whenever the numbers are not clear, as on Sunday. It is true this government has managed to pass controversial legislation earlier in the Upper House over the past year or so, despite not having a majority, but two non-Congress Opposition parties which had voted with the treasury benches on those occasions – Telangana Rashtra Samithi and Biju Janata Dal – were opposing these two Bills, as was the Shiromani Akali Dal. Had there been a roll call, it would have been instructive to ascertain from where the government got the numbers.

The reason the Rajya Sabha exists is to examine legislation in detail, to revise or refine bills, which can ideally be done by referring them to a select committee, whose members can move amendments. Unlike what this government may think, it's not meant to just rubberstamp the Lok Sabha's decisions. That is what the Opposition first sought on Sunday; but even if the government was in a hurry, it should have allowed a discussion and made modifications based on the members' inputs before putting it to a vote. It was this unseemly haste to cut the discussion short so that the minister's reply could be over the same day, instead of deferring it till Monday, that triggered the outrage and led to the ugly scenes in front of the Chair that were visible to all.

It must be said that the behaviour of some Rajya Sabha members, particularly Trinamul Congress' Derek O'Brien and several others, was unbecoming for those serving in what is called the House of Elders. Not only is entering the Well a breach of the rules, the snatching of House papers, tearing up bills, throwing books at the presiding officer and trying to snatch his microphone are beyond the pale for legislators. It was inevitable stern action would follow, but Rajya Sabha Chairman M. Venkaiah Naidu should have, in suspending Mr O'Brien and seven other MPs on Monday, also scrutinised the ways in which the deputy chairman rode roughshod over parliamentary norms to deliver the legislation that the government had sought.

Helping or hurting farmers?

Perhaps, the Opposition woke up late and could put up only a hit-and-miss resistance to the travesty of farmers' rights that was perpetrated in Parliament on Sunday in the guise of passing two ill-conceived farm bills. After all, the Farming Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Bill, 2020, and the Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Bill, 2020, were passed as ordinances as early as June by the Modi government. But it is important to examine its solid offence against them if only to plan course correction.

The Congress has taken on the government on the issue of Minimum Support Price (MSP), dubbing the Bills as "black laws" and refusing to sign on the farmers' "death warrant". Why is the government running away from its obligation, it asked and indeed, outside of empty promises and the unreasonable accusation of misleading the farmer, the government had no answer. In neither of the Bills is the pricing of the farm produce referenced to the MSP.

The government says the first law will allow intra-state and inter-state trade of farmers' produce beyond the physical premises of APMC markets, thus giving freedom to farmers and traders to sell or purchase products anywhere. But this freedom was available with farmers, so what the new Bill is selling to them and what price it will extract in its name remain two critical questions. The proposed law provides traders with the freedom to buy farmers' produce outside APMC markets without having a licence or paying fees. Two equally important questions, raised by the Trinamul and Left parties, respectively, are: (a) why has the Centre chosen to legislate on a state subject? (b) Why were farmers, who hit the streets, not made party to the consultations?

The general consensus that has emerged is that the Bills are meant to corporatise agriculture but there is scant concern as to whether or not it will convert the largest Indian professional group into bonded labourers in consequence. Under the garb of reforms, an inefficient and desperate government is abdicating its duty to ensure that farmers get a fair price and that food prices are affordable. Can a private member's bill offer a token protest and a document for days ahead?

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Hyderabad: 36, Sarojini Devi Road, Secunderabad - 500 003, Ph: 040-27803930-4; Fax: 040-27805256
Vijayawada: No.C-3 & 4 Patnamata, Industrial Estate, Auto Nagar, Vijayawada (A.P.), Ph: 0866-255284/2555287; Telefax: 0866-2555287
Visakhapatnam: Survey No.1/3A Beach Road, Near Kailasagiri Ropeway, Sector-9 MVP Colony, Visakhapatnam - 530 017 (A.P.), Ph: 0891-255233/255234; Fax: 0891-2755285
Rajahmundry: Venagari, Dhawalewaram Rd, Rajahmundry, Ph: 0883-2417618/2417208; Telefax: 0883-2417208
Anantapur: Thapovan colony, Bangalore By-Pass Road, Anantapur - 515004, Ph: 08554-276903; Fax: 08554-276904
Karimnagar: Survey No.1341, Vavilalapally Colony, Jagityala Road, Karimnagar - 505 001, Ph: 0878-2228908; Telefax: 0878-2220433
Nellore: Survey No.52/7, Burnpur Village, Venkatachalam (M), Chemmudugunta Panchayat, Nellore, Ph: 0861-2348581/82; Telefax: 0861-2348580
Chennai: SP-3 Developed Plot, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai - 600 032, Ph: 044-22254747/48/50/51; Advt. Fax: 22254765/22254766/2230525
Bengaluru: 5th Floor, MTCL Commercial Complex, 80 Feet Road, Koramangala, Bengaluru-560 095 Ph: 080-43460500; Fax: 080-22960525
Cochin: 77, Vivekananda Road, Ramanagar, Coimbatore - 641 009, Ph: 0422 2231255
Kochi: No.3-B, 3rd Floor of DD TRADE TOWER, Kaloor-Kadavathura Road, Ernakulam, Ph: 0484-4039408
Thiruvananthapuram: St Joseph's Press, TC 15/1040, Cotton Hill, Thycaud (PO), Thiruvananthapuram 695 014
Kozhikode: Door No 6/1002 E, First Floor of City Mall, Opp. YMCA, Kannur Road, Kozhikode - 673 001, Fax: 0495 4019 018
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Subhani



Rethink policy on Tibet, use Dalai help on China



Claude Arpi

It seems obvious to everybody that the Chinese leadership has blundered in jumping too fast and too deep into the Ladakh adventure. A few ambitious generals in Chengdu's Western Theatre Command sold the idea to President Xi Jinping to advance the Line of Actual Control (LAC); and in the process the trust built during the Wuhan Consensus in 2018 and the Chennai Connect in 2019 between the leaders of India and China has vanished in the ice-cold waters of Pangong Tso. Not only has the bonhomie shown earlier this year become past history, but China has taken a beating on the economic front and this is just beginning.

There is a character of Moliere, the famous 17th century French playwright who keeps repeating throughout the play "*Mais que diable allait-il donc faire dans cette galère?*" (It can be translated as: "but what the hell were they doing in this galley?"), though "galère" has two meanings in French, one is "galley", the other one is "mess"; and it describes perfectly Xi Jinping's unnecessary and (messy) rowing in the Ladakh "galère". Some in India have suggested using "ten thousand methods" to tackle the Middle Kingdom; the "Tibet Card" is one of these means.

Though the term "card" may not be adequate, one can certainly speak of the Tibet factor in the India-China ties. Jawaharlal Nehru, during his first encounter with the Dalai Lama in Mussoorie in May 1959, made it clear that India would not politically support Tibet, but New Delhi would help to rehabilitate Tibetan refugees and provide education to its youth. The Prime

Minister spoke rather rudely to the Tibetan leader, who was probably shaken by this first encounter. What choice did he have but to accept Nehru's decision? The Prime Minister had enunciated India's first Tibet policy; humanitarian support, yes, political support, no.

But this can be changed. Even if the Government of India has not wanted to be politically involved, the age-old relations between India and Tibet have remained alive; we have seen it since the beginning of the present crisis in Ladakh.

After visiting Tibet in 1957, Apa Pant, the political officer in Sikkim, wrote a long note; he openly said that the Chinese officers were not interested in harmony and compassion, but in power and material benefit"; Pant spoke of the confrontation of two different worlds: "The one so apparently inefficient, so humane and even timid, yet kind and compassionate and aspiring to something more gloriously satisfying in human life; the other determined and effective, ruthless, power-hungry and finally intolerant. I wondered how this conflict could resolve itself, and what was India's place in it."

The kinship of shared values and history between India and Tibet should meet the Tibetan leader and clearly indicate that India stands by him for whatever mode of reincarnation or emanation he may choose and that India will continue to provide a "special guest status" to the 15th Dalai Lama.

Meetings with the Prime Minister as well as the external affairs minister and the national security adviser need to be organised at the earliest; it can establish

The most radical step would be to give some kind of recognition to the government in exile; it may not happen immediately, but it is good to remember that when the Tibet issue came before the United Nations in 1965, Rafiq Zakaria, India's then permanent representative, read a long statement, before voting in favour of the resolution; Zakaria said: "As the days pass, the situation becomes worse and cries out for the attention of all mankind. As we know, ever since Tibet came under the stranglehold of China, the Tibetans have been subjected to a continuous and increasing ruthlessness which has few parallels in the annals of the world. In the name of introducing 'democratic reforms' and fighting a 'counter-revolution', the Chinese have indulged in the worst kind of genocide and the suppression of a minority race."

It is necessary to rethink what could be a new approach towards Tibet and the Tibetan refugees in India. Perhaps, instead of having a new policy only for Tibet, it would be wiser to have a common policy for the Himalayan belt and Tibet, which have shared countless cultural, spiritual, strategic and economic similarities.

An Office for Northern Frontiers and Tibetan Affairs could be created, perhaps under the Cabinet Secretary to ensure proper coordination.

This office would look after not only the development of border areas, but also work with the Tibetans, keeping in mind the welfare and customs of the local Himalayan population and refugees; this would include, among other measures stopping the migration of the local populations towards the big cities; the building of infrastructure, revival of border trade, trans-border pilgrimages and promoting Tibetan culture (particularly Tibetan medicine).

Today like yesterday, the relations with the Dalai Lama are crucial.

The views of both the Government of India and the Office of the Dalai Lama need to be harmonised; unless both sides work together, any new policy will have no meaning. Ultimately, New Delhi should get the Dalai Lama more involved in Indian affairs, especially in relation to the northern borders; at the same time, the Dalai Lama should definitely not be encouraged to go on a pilgrimage in Wutai Shan (China) at the present juncture.

As a first step, the foreign secretary, the present incumbent being himself a Buddhist, should meet the Tibetan leader and clearly indicate that India stands by him for whatever mode of reincarnation or emanation he may choose and that India will continue to provide a "special guest status" to the 15th Dalai Lama.

Meetings with the Prime Minister as well as the external affairs minister and the national security adviser need to be organised at the earliest; it can establish

LETTERS

ONLINE EDUCATION

Online education is not the complete solution for students. Parents are worried about the present system because everyone is not having computers and internet. It's better if the government can change the academic year from January to December due to the present pandemic.

P. Samuel Suresh
Hyderabad

RUTHLESS TRADERS

Ever since the lockdown, shopkeepers selling meat, vegetables, fruits and other daily necessities were charging exorbitant prices and treating customers rudely. If a middle class person faces innumerable problems to meet his needs, we can't even imagine the situation of the poor people. I request all traders to strictly follow pricing rules and use correct weights.

Dastagir Nawaz
Hyderabad

ARBITRARY DECISION

When Covid-19 hit Assembly and Parliament, the session was either curtailed or postponed sine die (*Lok sabha may curtail session fearing Covid*, DC, Sept. 20). If a few members tested positive, how can the entire session be dropped? It is escapism under the pretext of Covid. Why is the same rule not applicable to all government offices despite many employees being positive? Is government not bothered about the life of its employees?

Ramaraju B.
Hyderabad

Email your letters to info@deccanmail.com, editor@deccanmail.com. You can also send them to Editor, Deccan Chronicle, 36, Sarojini Devi Road, Secunderabad-500 003.

50 YEARS AGO IN DECCAN Chronicle

Syrians capture key city in Jordan

TEL AVIV, Sept. 21.

A Syrian armoured force has captured the northern Jordanian town of Irbid, an Israeli military source said today. It said the Syrians took control of the town either during last night or early today. Irbid is Jordan's second largest city and a key strategic point in the defence of the north.

Reports from Beirut says, King Hussein's 40th armoured brigade fought a tank battle with superior forces of Syrian tanks today for possession of Irbid, Amman Radio reported.



Aakar Patel

It is not seen in that way, especially in our part of the world, but the criminal justice system is deliberately designed to protect the rights of the accused. And this is the correct way of seeing it. Why? Because in a criminal case there are two parties. The accused individual versus the State. The State controls the laws under which the system operates. It appoints, pays the salaries of and manages the police forces who arrest and investigate. The State appoints and pays the prosecutors who will represent it against the individual. The State pays and promotes the judges who determine innocence or guilt.

All these powers are with the State. There is no power with the individual. Most accused in India have no money even to get proper legal representation and therefore defend against the State. That is why we have the principle of "innocent until proven guilty" because the understanding is that the State has overwhelming and terrible power in a criminal case and there is a mismatch. Even though justice is represented as a blind woman with balanced scales, the scales are

Even with more power against the individual than any other modern democratic nation, the Indian government seeks more. Uttar Pradesh has set up a police force that can arrest without a warrant and without the orders of a magistrate. This is a power that other states and even the Centre has.

not balanced, and the State can load as much weight as it wants to on one side. We have seen evidence of the State's mischief in the way that the 2020 Delhi riots are being prosecuted. The majoritarian ideology of a political party is finding expression in the criminal justice system because it is in control of a state machinery with overwhelming power.

In India after Independence, the State has not been satisfied with the amount of power it has and has needed more. This is not a problem because there is nobody stopping

the State from giving more power to itself except the voters. And voters in India have little interest in the criminal justice system. Most middle-class individuals do not think it concerns them. The State can give itself whatever powers it wants. And what it wants is a reversal of innocent until proven guilty and make it guilty until proven innocent. And in India the State has been giving itself this power to reverse the fundamental principle of the criminal justice system.

Laws that Indians protested against when they were being written by the British in a colonial system can be written up and implemented today by a democratic state though their effect on the individual is the same. The Rowlett Act, over which the Jallianwala Bagh protesters had gathered, allowed preventive detention. This is a power under which the State can arrest individuals without any crime being committed, on the assumption that they may commit a crime in future. This is until proven innocent. Today India has many laws that are similar which have been written by our democra-

tic State which allow preventive detention. Every state has more than one such law and the Centre has them as well. This is why the protesters, including women, in the Delhi riots can get bail but still remain in jail as there are many options for the State to keep them locked up without conviction. But most of us do not seem to mind this.

Many laws that the government has written for itself, including Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, on money-laundering and even on cow slaughter has a reversal of the burden of proof. This means that until the individual can prove their innocence to the satisfaction of the State, they can be kept locked up and prosecuted. Such laws do not exist elsewhere in the civilised world.

We have no civic or popular pushback

against this sort of acquisition of power by the State. In the absence of this, the State will continue to acquire more power against us. What we have in India today is autocracy and tyranny in practice under a democratic name. I do not make this accusation against any party because governments are run by different political parties at the level of the states. There is no difference between one part of India and another in this matter. It is also true that under a government at the Centre that wants to enthusiastically expand its power the real danger of this is being seen.

We may not like the individuals who are being tried by the criminal justice system today because we have made up our minds that they are bad people, even though we have never actually met them. But this dislike is not the reason why we should approve the State being given overwhelming power against the individual because this principle is wrong in law and unjust on the face of it.

Aakar Patel is a senior journalist and columnist

IN BRIEF

**Canadian ex-PM
Turner dies at 91**

Brussels: European Union foreign ministers on Monday were weighing whether to impose sanctions on dozens of Belarus officials, including President Alexander Lukashenko, after holding talks with his exiled main opponent. The EU has drawn up a list of around 40 people it could hit with asset freezes and travel bans in response to irregularities in the August 9 elections that gave Lukashenko a sixth term in office, and over the crackdown that followed. The question is whether to include Lukashenko, who has repressed opposition and independent news media during 26 years in power and refuses to talk with protesters. Some EU countries want to gradually ramp up pressure if he refuses to enter into dialogue, rather than hit everyone at once.

**Stolen fuel:
Mexico nabs 21**

Mexico City: Mexican authorities said Sunday they have seized a ship, arrested 21 crewmembers and shut down a warehouse presumably used to store stolen fuel along the Gulf of Mexico. The navy statement said the warehouse was located along a coastal highway in the state of Tabasco while the ship was anchored in the port of Coatzacoalcos in neighbouring Veracruz state. It said it found 16 storage tanks for fuel in the warehouse, along with five trucks. Two other trucks were found supplying the ship with apparently stolen fuel. It didn't specify where the fuel had come from. The government of President Andrés Manuel López Obrador has been crusading against rampant fuel thefts, often from clandestine taps into pipelines, that it says have looted public finances.

**Suga, Trump
hold phone talk**

Tokyo: Japan's Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga held his first talks with US President Donald Trump since he took office, a diplomatic phone call that was one of his first as the country's leader and one that highlights the close tie between the two allies. Suga was elected as Japan's new prime minister last Wednesday, replacing Shinzo Abe, who forged close personal ties and regularly held meetings and phone calls with Trump. Abe stepped down due to ill health after nearly eight years in office. "I told him that the Japan-US alliance is the foundation of regional peace and stability, and we agreed to continue to coordinate closely," Suga told reporters late Sunday night after the call with Trump. Suga said Trump also said he wanted to further develop the alliance together.

**ISRAEL TO
EXTRADITE
WOMAN TO OZ**

Jerusalem: An Israeli court on Monday approved the extradition of a former teacher wanted in Australia on charges of child sex abuse, paving the way for her to stand trial after a six-year legal battle. Malka Leifer, a former educator who is accused of sexually abusing several former students, has been fighting extradition from Israel since 2014. Leifer maintains the her innocence and the battle surrounding her extradition has strained relations between Israel and Australia. Earlier this month, Israel's Supreme Court rejected an appeal by Leifer's attorney over a Jerusalem court's ruling that she was mentally fit to stand trial, saying it was "putting an end to the saga that has been drawn out for many years." On Monday, the Jerusalem District Court ruled that Leifer would be deported to Australia to stand trial for 74 charges of child sex abuse, lawyers said.

Critics, including Leifer's alleged victims, have accused Israeli authorities of dragging out the case for far too long. Earlier this year an Israeli psychiatric panel determined Leifer had lied about suffering a mental condition that made her unfit to stand trial.

As a result of the findings, Israel's Justice Ministry said it would move to expedite her extradition. Three sisters — Dassi Erlich, Nicole Meyer and Elly Sapper — have accused Leifer of abusing them while they were students at a Melbourne ultra-Orthodox school. AP does not usually identify alleged victims of sexual abuse, but the sisters have spoken publicly about their allegations.

Support for Assange

Protesters stand opposite the Central Criminal Court, the Old Bailey, in London, Monday, as the Julian Assange extradition hearing to the US continues. — AP

Madrid shuts, US toll near 2 lakh**UK medical adviser: Covid cases could rise exponentially**

Madrid, Sept. 21: A million people in and around the Spanish capital on Monday were under a new lockdown to contain another Coronavirus surge, as the US death toll neared 200,000.

The global death toll stood at 961,531 at 1100 GMT on Monday, according to an AFP tally based on official statistics, with more than 31 million infections.

The restrictions in Madrid will last for two weeks, affecting people living mainly in densely populated, low-income neighbourhoods who will be allowed only to travel for essential reasons such as work, medical care or taking children to school.

Police cars stopped vehicles at random on a main avenue in Puente de Vallecas, a working class neighbourhood in southern Madrid, to check if people had a valid reason to leave the area.

Most accepted the measures with resignation but some complained that the restrictions were not imposed across the affected region.

"You can't close one part of a neighbourhood and not another one, one street yes, and one street no. So, either you close everything, which will be catastrophic, or you close nothing," said Alejandro Campos, a 30-year-old travel agent.

The United States remains the hardest-hit nation in the world, with more than 6.8 million cases and deaths approaching 200,000 people.

— AFP

could see 50,000 new cases a day by mid-October without further restrictions. Their warnings indicate that tighter lockdown measures on household interactions and hospitality businesses are imminent.

"We have, in a bad sense, literally turned a corner, although only relatively recently," said Whitty. "If this continued, the number of deaths directly from Covid will continue to rise, potentially on an exponential curve, that means doubling and doubling

and doubling again. And you can quickly move from really quite small numbers to really very large numbers because of that exponential process," he warned.

Both senior scientific experts, addressing their first briefing without being accompanied by either PM Boris Johnson or a senior Cabinet minister, were brought in to issue a stark warning that the UK was headed in the "wrong direction" and lay the groundwork for further UK-wide curbs.

**CZECH HEALTH
MINISTER QUILTS**

Prague, Sept. 21: The Czech Republic's health minister has resigned amid a record rise of Coronavirus infections.

Adam Vojtěch says his move should create space for a new approach to the pandemic. The country coped well with infections in the spring but has been facing a record surge of new confirmed cases over the past week.

On Thursday, the day-to-day increase of new cases was higher than 3,000. It is not clear who will replace Vojtěch, who was under pressure from the opposition to resign.

— AP

Singapore develops robot for swab tests

Singapore, Sept. 21: Singapore has developed a robot that carries out nasal swabbing to diagnose Covid-19, in a bid to reduce healthcare workers' risk of exposure to the coronavirus, it said.

The robot helps address the limitations of manual Covid-19 swab tests by reducing the need for trained manpower, standardising the consistency of the swabs taken and "providing greater throughput" of swab tests as the robot does not suffer from fatigue. The SwabBot is a "self-administered" robot, meaning patients can activate and terminate the process at will.

— AP

taking of Covid-19 swab tests, will help reduce healthcare workers' risk of exposure to the coronavirus, it said.

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— AP

2 killed clearing WWII bomb in Solomons**BULGARIA COURT JAILS DUO FOR LIFE
OVER 2012 ISRAELI BUS BOMBING**

Sofia, Sept. 21: A Bulgarian court on Monday sentenced two men to life in prison for their involvement in the 2012 bombing of a tourist bus that killed five Israeli tourists and their Bulgarian bus driver and injured nearly 40 people.

Meliad Farah, a dual Lebanese-Australian national, and Hassan El Hajj Hassan, a dual Lebanese-Canadian national, were sentenced in absentia as their whereabouts are unknown, said prosecutor Evgenia Shtarkelova.

On July 18, 2012, Mohammad Hassan El-Husseini, a French-Lebanese national, blew himself up on a tourist bus at the airport in the Bulgarian Black Sea resort of Burgas.

According to witness, the man was trying to put his backpack inside the luggage compartment of the bus along with the Israeli tourists when it exploded.

— AP

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— AP

**FILM | FEST All of this year's top winners at Toronto International Film Festival are directed by women
In these listless Covid times, is Nomadland the film of '20?**

SUPARNA SHARMA | IDC
New Delhi, Sept. 21

In these listless, Covid-times, Chinese-American director Chloé Zhao's *Nomadland*, about a woman who travels through the American West in a van after losing her job and her home, seems to be the film of the year. On Sunday, *Nomadland* took home the People's Choice Award at the Toronto International Film Festival 2020 (Tiff). Just last Saturday, it received the Golden Lion Award for the best film of 2020 Venice International Film Festival. That's an

accomplishment no other film can lay claim to. Venise is 77 years old, and Tiff is 11 years old. *Nomadland* stars two-time Oscar winner for best actress, Frances McDormand as Fern, along with many "actual nomads" that Ms Zhao cast while on her own travels through the area. An adaptation of journalist Jessica Bruder's non-fiction book, Ms Zhao has scripted and edited the film which is scheduled to release in theatres in December.

Two things set apart the Toronto International Film Festival from others in the group of Big 4 — Cannes, Venice, Berlin and Toronto.

First, unlike the others, Tiff consciously, doggedly and sincerely pursues inclusivity in the films, directors and actors it picks to showcase during the 11-days festival. It also actively seeks to widen and enlighten conversations around films by bringing in "women, people of colour, people with disabilities, and people from the LGBTQ communities" — the marginalised, who are often not seen on or behind the screen. Every year Tiff also seeks out and opens its doors to journalists from under-represented sections. That changes not just what we view, but also how we

view and talk about films.

Second, Tiff has, over the years, earned a reputation for being what I call the "Oracle of Oscars". With sharp accuracy, Tiff audiences have been picking and rewarding films that go on to be nominated for various categories at the Oscars, often winning best picture

and other awards.

All of this year's top winners at Tiff are directed by

women. The first runner-up in the best film category was *Regina King's One Night in Miami*, that brings together Muhammad Ali, Malcolm X, singer Sam Cooke and NFL legend Jim Brown for night to discuss race.

For India, however, the film of the year of Covid is most likely Chaitanya Tamhane's *The Disciple* that Tiff's artistic directors called a "masterfully composed second feature" which "examines a lifetime journey devoted to the art of Indian classical music".

Mr Tamhane's last film, *Court*, was India's official

Thai democracy plaque removed**It was installed Sunday at Sanam Luang**

Bangkok, Sept. 21: A plaque honouring struggles for democracy in Thailand was removed from a royal field less than 24 hours after being installed by anti-government protesters and was submitted as evidence in connection with a complaint by officials that its installation was illegal, police said on Monday.

The plaque had been installed Sunday at Sanam Luang, the historic field in the capital where tens of thousands of people rallied peacefully over the weekend. The two-day demonstration was the largest this year by protesters who are calling for new elections and reform of the monarchy.

THE TWO-DAY
demonstration was the largest this year by protesters who are calling for new elections and reform of the monarchy.

pavement and held a short religious ceremony.

"At the dawn of September 20, here is where the people proclaim that this country belongs to the people," read part of the inscription. Student protest leader Parit "Penguin" Chirawak, who was among those who installed the new plaque, said that its removal did not matter.

"What matters is this plaque, and its message has been installed in the people's hearts," Parit said on Monday as he headed to the prosecutors' office to deal with legal charges stemming from previous protests.

The protesters' demands, including limiting the king's powers, establishing tighter controls on palace finances and allowing open discussion of the monarchy, are controversial because the monarchy is considered sacrosanct in Thailand.

The activists are considered especially bold because there is a harsh law mandating a three- to 15-year prison term for defaming the royal institution. A representative of the protesters on Sunday delivered a petition addressed to the king seeking royal reforms.

The new round brass plaque was installed Sunday by activists who made a hole in the Sanam Luang

— AP

Joe: Don't jam through Ginsburg replacement

Philadelphia, Sept. 21: Joe Biden on Sunday slammed President Donald Trump and leading Senate Republicans for trying to jam through a replacement for the late Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg and urged more senators to stand with a pair of GOP colleagues who oppose the election-season rush. The extraordinary televised plea from the Democratic presidential candidate to Republican senators reflected the ferocious manoeuvring that has followed Ginsburg's death at 87 on Friday.

Her passing upended a campaign that had, until then, focused on Trump's handling of the Coronavirus pandemic, the nation's economic collapse and racial unrest that has stoked protests in US cities. Trump has said he intends within days to name a woman to succeed the liberal icon, and Senate Majority Leader

Joe Biden

McConnell was moving ahead swiftly with plans for confirmation hearings and votes.

Just hours before Biden spoke, a second Republican senator, Lisa Murkowski of Alaska, joined Sen Susan Collins of Maine in opposing efforts to fill Ginsburg's seat before the next president is elected.

It takes four Republicans to break ranks to keep Trump's nominee off the court. Attention quickly focused on Sen. Mitt Romney of Utah, who voted to convict Trump on one count of impeachment, and Sen. Chuck Grassley of Iowa, a former chairman of the Judiciary Committee.

— AP

Arrest over ricin envelope addressed to White House**NEBRASKA MAN CHARGED IN DEATH OF PROTESTER DIES BY SUICIDE**

Omaha (US), Sept. 21: US authorities confirmed an arrest Sunday over an envelope addressed to President Donald Trump that contained a substance identified as the poison ricin.

The suspect was a woman who was carrying a gun when she was arrested by authorities, according to US media reports.

"I can confirm that an arrest was made at the Peace Bridge in Buffalo, New York," Customs and Border Protection supervisory officer Aaron Bowker told AFP, referring to the bridge that connects Canada and the US state of New York.

US media reported Saturday that authorities had intercepted an envelope laced with ricin addressed

a news release. His attorney Stu Dornan, said in a news conference Sunday evening that Gardner's death was a suicide.

"Unfortunately there are two men who have died in a terrible tragedy," Dornan said. "It's a terrible tragedy for the Omaha community, it's a terrible tragedy for James Scoular and his family. It's a terrible tragedy for the Gardner family."

— AP

to Trump. The letter was discovered earlier last week and did not reach the White House, according to *The New York Times*

and CNN.

The Times said it was believed that the letter was mailed from Canada.

— AP



A scene from *Nomadland*.

entry to the Oscars in 2015. It didn't make it to the nominations.

The Oscars are still eight months away — the ceremony will take place on April 25, 2021, and the eligibility criteria has been extended to Feb. 28, 2021. But if Tiff

audiences have got it right this time, we may see Mr Tamhane at Hollywood's Dolby Theatre, celebrating a film that tells the story of an "idealistic young performer who dreams of capturing the magic of a musical tradition."

Or as one Twitter review described the film, "AaaaaaaaAaaaaaa..."

quick BITES

INDICATORS	%
Sensex	38,034.14 -2.09
Nifty 50	11,250.55 -2.21
S&P 500*	3,235.29 -2.54
Dollar (₹)	73.38 0.10
Pound Sterling (₹)	94.39 1.05
Euro (₹)	86.73 0.39
Gold (10gm)* (₹)	50,104▼1,611 3.12
Brent crude (\$/bbl)*	41.22 -1.93
IN 10-Yr bond yield	6.016 0.002
US 10-Yr T-bill yield*	0.661 -0.033

* As of 9:30 PM IST

Gold, silver prices decline on rupee appreciation

Gold prices fell ₹326 to ₹52,423 per 10 gram in the national capital on Monday, in line with a weak global trend, rupee appreciation and the recovery of United States dollar, according to HDFC Securities. In the previous trade in New Delhi, the precious metal had closed at ₹52,749 per 10 gram. Silver prices also declined ₹945 to ₹68,289 per kilogram from ₹69,234 per kilogram in the previous trade.

Investors pull out ₹3,907 cr from debt MFs in Aug



After recording net inflows for four months in a row, debt-oriented schemes witnessed a net outflow of ₹3,907 crore in August, largely on the back of a significant pull out from overnight and liquid fund categories. Investors are focusing on fixed income categories having relatively shorter duration profile, given the current interest rate scenario, Morningstar India associate director Himanshu Srivastava said.

HDFC Bank denies charges levelled in class action suit

HDFC Bank on Monday denied the allegations of misleading claims levelled by a US-based law firm to seek damages in a class action suit. Rosen Legal last week filed the class action suit seeking damages for the losses incurred by investors because of alleged "materially false and misleading" representations by HDFC Bank. It had specifically named the bank's CEO Aditya Puri and others as defendants.

Strategic reserves helped India save ₹5K cr: Pradhan

India saved over ₹5,000 crore when the country in April-May used two-decade low international oil prices to fill up its three strategic underground crude oil storages, petroleum minister Dharmendra Pradhan said on Monday. "Taking advantage of the low crude oil prices, India purchased 16.71 million barrels of crude in April-May, 2020 and filled all the three strategic petroleum reserves," Pradhan said.

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Market fall wipes out ₹4.5L cr

Spurt in Coronavirus cases in Europe, US trigger panic sale in global markets

RAVI RANJAN PRASAD
MUMBAI, SEPT. 21

The Sensex fell 811 points and the Nifty-50 over 250 points or over two per cent apiece as negative global cues from Europe and Hong Kong rattled the sentiment of investors.

The fall in the Indian market was the worst among the Asian peers which closed early. Hong Kong's Hang Seng index fell 2.06 per cent, the second worst fall after the Indian markets.

The second wave of spurt in Coronavirus cases being reported in Europe and the reports of

suspicious transactions at top global banks led to sell off in European markets as it opened. This had an impact on the Indian market from around 12.30 pm and sell off intensified in the last two hours of trading impacting all sectors and segments of the market.

The Nifty-50 index lost 254.40 points or 2.46 per cent to end the day at 11,250.55. The Sensex closed 811.8 points or 2.09 per cent down at 38,034.14.

Broader market selling was even worse, BSE Mid-cap index fell 3.43 per cent and BSE Small-cap index fell 3.61 per cent. In the

EU on the brink of a second wave, most heads of states in the EU are talking about a second lockdown.

ARJUN YASH MAHAJAN,
Reliance Securities

biggest single-day fall this month, investors lost notional wealth amounted to over ₹4.5 lakh crore.

Foreign portfolio investors and domestic institutional investors both turned net sellers of equi-

ties worth ₹539.81 crore and ₹517.95 crore respectively.

"Weak European markets and concerns over the rising pandemic saw a sharp sell-off in the Indian market. The global market collapsed on concerns of growing outbreak of the Coronavirus. The United Kingdom government gave an alert that the country is at a "critical point" in the Covid-19 pandemic and that a second lockdown could be needed to stop the renewed spread of the disease," said Shrikant Chouhan, executive vice-president,

research, Kotak Securities.

Only three from the Sensex and Nifty-50 stocks basket managed to close in the green — Kotak Mahindra Bank, Infosys and TCS.

Among the sectoral indices Nifty Bank (-3.36 per cent), Nifty Auto (-4.40 per cent), Nifty (-4.46 per cent) and Nifty Realty (-5.98 per cent) topped the losers list.

It seems the market would remain under pressure as the American markets opened sharply lower too and Covid lockdown fears are haunting markets once again.

SBI kicks off restructuring of retail loans

FALAKNAAZ SYED
MUMBAI, SEPT. 21

In line with the directives of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), State Bank of India (SBI) on Monday announced a restructuring scheme for its retail borrowers, who were affected by Covid-19 pandemic. Other banks too are in the process of identifying retail loans that need to be restructured.

SBI has launched an online portal where its customers can check their eligibility for the restructuring of their retail loans such as home loans, auto loans, personal loans etc.

The portal is available on <https://bank.sbi/> or <https://sbi.co.in>.

Customers, however, will have to approach SBI branches to complete the process. Under the resolution framework framed by RBI, borrowers whose loan accounts were classified as standard and have not defaulted for equal to or more than 30 days as on March 1, 2020, and their incomes have been impacted by Covid-19 are eligible for restructuring of their loans. However, the restructuring will come at a cost.

SBI's individual borrowers upon logging in the portal will be asked to key in their account number. After completion of OTP validation and inputting a few necessary information, the customer will come to know their eligibility and receive a reference number. This reference number will be valid for 30 days and within which time customers can visit the branch to complete the required formalities. The bank will assess applications based on whether borrowers have lost their jobs or seen incomes reduced or their business have been impacted as a result of the pandemic.

Retail customers will be offered a simple option to opt for a moratorium upto a maximum of 24 months or reschedule of instalments and extension of tenure by a period equivalent to the moratorium granted subject to a maximum of two years.

FIRMS STRUCK OFF

3.8 LAKH

Under Section 182 of the Companies Act, companies, other than government companies and companies less than three years old, are allowed directly or indirectly to contribute to any political party with the approval of their boards of directors.

More than 3.8 lakh companies have been struck off from official records under the companies law during the past three years based on non-filing of financial statements consecutively for two years or more.

The Special Task Force set up by the government to look into the issue of shell companies has recommended the use of certain red flag indicators as alerts for identification of shell companies.

NPAs in pharma biz see a steady decline

SANGEETHA G.
CHENNAI, SEPT. 21

Route Mobile made a strong debut on bourses as it listed at ₹717 on NSE and at ₹708 on BSE, which more than double its public issue price at ₹350 per share. Later, Route Mobile closed more than 86 per cent up at ₹651 on the BSE and at ₹650 on NSE.

Earlier, Route Mobile's ₹600 crore initial public offer received a huge response from public investors as it was subscribed over 74 times. The stock touched a high of ₹735 on both BSE and NSE.

The market cap of the company after close of trade stood at ₹3,701.98 crore on BSE.

Rajidipkumar Gupta, founder, managing director & CEO, Route Mobile after successful listing said, "Excluding the anchor participation, we drew close to 15 lakh applications for our IPO from institutions, HNIs and the retail investors. I am humbled by the response."

The pharmaceutical sector has been demonstrating a healthy trend both in terms of credit growth and decline in NPAs.

Credit portfolio by value stood at ₹78,000 crore as of February 2020, with a year-on-year growth of nearly nine per cent. In fact, the industry has been witnessing continuous growth in credit over the previous 12 quarters, as

per a report by CRIF and SIDBI. Almost 76 per cent of the overall credit by volume and 23 per cent in terms of value are concentrated in the MSME borrower segment.

The report projects that the credit to the sector will grow by 13 per cent by March 2021 to nearly ₹37,000 crore. The credit availed by the mid and large firms which stood at ₹66,900 crore in December 2019 may increase by 19 per cent by March 2021.

The industry has largely seen a healthy portfolio

with NPAs declining every quarter in the last one year. As of February 2020, the pharma NPAs stood at 9.5 per cent, declining by three per cent in a span of one year and by 0.9 per cent over the previous quarter.

ByteDance, Oracle issue contradictory statements on control of US operations

TikTok Global's ownership turns contentious

New York/Beijing, Sept. 21: ByteDance and Oracle Corp issued conflicting statements on Monday over the terms of an agreement they reached with the White House over the weekend to allow TikTok to continue to operate in the United States, casting doubt on US President Donald Trump's preliminary blessing of the agreement. China's ByteDance was racing to avoid a crackdown on its popular short-video app after the US commerce department

said on Friday it would block new downloads and updates to the app. US officials had expressed concern that the personal data of as many as 100 million Americans that use the app was being passed on to China's Communist Party government.

A successful deal would allow Trump to drop his threat of shutting down TikTok and avoid alienating its army of young users ahead of the US election this November. ByteDance said on Monday that it will own 80

per cent of TikTok Global, a newly created US company that will own most of the app's operations worldwide. ByteDance added that TikTok Global will become its subsidiary.

Oracle and Walmart, which have agreed to take stakes in TikTok Global of 12.5 per cent and 7.5 per cent respectively, had said on Saturday that majority ownership of TikTok would be in American hands. On Monday, Oracle said ByteDance's ownership of TikTok would be distributed to ByteDance's

investors, and that the Beijing-based firm would have no stake in TikTok Global.

Trump signed an executive order on August 14 giving ByteDance 90 days to relinquish ownership of TikTok. Oracle's account of the deal would mean that ByteDance would be complying with that order, while ByteDance's account would represent a policy reversal for Trump.

The White House referred to a Fox News interview on Monday, in which Trump said that

Oracle and Walmart will have "total control" over TikTok. "If we find that they don't have total control, then we're not going to approve the deal," Trump said.

The commerce department postponed a ban on downloads and apps to the TikTok app that was due to take effect on Sunday by one week, to give the companies time to finalize the deal.

The Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States, a US government panel that reviews deals for potential national security risks, has been overseeing the negotiations.

Some sources close to the deal have sought to reconcile the discrepancies by pointing out that 41 per cent of ByteDance is owned by US investors, so by counting this indirect ownership TikTok Global would be majority owned by US parties. One of the sources said the deal with Oracle and Walmart values TikTok Global at more than \$50 billion.

—Reuters

ACCESS | CONTROL

ByteDance, Oracle issue contradictory statements on control of US operations

TikTok Global's ownership turns contentious

New York/Beijing, Sept. 21: ByteDance and Oracle Corp issued conflicting statements on Monday over the terms of an agreement they reached with the White House over the weekend to allow TikTok to continue to operate in the United States, casting doubt on US President Donald Trump's preliminary blessing of the agreement. China's ByteDance was racing to avoid a crackdown on its popular short-video app after the US commerce department

said on Friday it would block new downloads and updates to the app. US officials had expressed concern that the personal data of as many as 100 million Americans that use the app was being passed on to China's Communist Party government.

A successful deal would allow Trump to drop his threat of shutting down TikTok and avoid alienating its army of young users ahead of the US election this November. ByteDance said on Monday that it will own 80

per cent of TikTok Global, a newly created US company that will own most of the app's operations worldwide. ByteDance added that TikTok Global will become its subsidiary.

Oracle and Walmart, which have agreed to take stakes in TikTok Global of 12.5 per cent and 7.5 per cent respectively, had said on Saturday that majority ownership of TikTok would be in American hands. On Monday, Oracle said ByteDance's ownership of TikTok would be distributed to ByteDance's

investors, and that the Beijing-based firm would have no stake in TikTok Global.

Trump signed an executive order on August 14 giving ByteDance 90 days to relinquish ownership of TikTok. Oracle's account of the deal would mean that ByteDance would be complying with that order, while ByteDance's account would represent a policy reversal for Trump.

The White House referred to a Fox News interview on Monday, in which Trump said that

Oracle and Walmart will have "total control" over TikTok. "If we find that they don't have total control, then we're not going to approve the deal," Trump said.

The commerce department postponed a ban on downloads and apps to the TikTok app that was due to take effect on Sunday by one week, to give the companies time to finalize the deal.

The Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States, a US government panel that

reviews deals for potential national security risks, has been overseeing the negotiations.

Some sources close to the deal have sought to reconcile the discrepancies by pointing out that 41 per cent of ByteDance is owned by US investors, so by counting this indirect ownership TikTok Global would be majority owned by US parties. One of the sources said the deal with Oracle and Walmart values TikTok Global at more than \$50 billion.

—Reuters

SHORT TAKES

Djokovic warned for obscenity

Rome: Novak Djokovic claimed a record 36th Masters crown on Monday, beating Argentine Diego Schwartzman 7-5, 6-3 in the final of the Italian Open. For Djokovic it was a fifth title in the warm-up clay-court tournament for next week's French Open.

Earlier, Djokovic knows it isn't model behaviour when he loses his cool on the tennis court. Yet he just can't help himself. Exactly two weeks after he was defaulted from the US Open, and a day after he was warned by the chair umpire for breaking his racket in a fit of rage, Djokovic received an obscenity warning midway through a 7-5, 6-3 win over Casper Ruud in the semifinals Sunday. The obscenity came in the third game of the second set, by which time Djokovic had a running dialogue with the chair umpire over a series of contested calls. — Agencies

Halep bags her first Italian trophy

Rome: Top seed Simona Halep won her first Italian Open title on Monday after defending champion Karolina Pliskova retired injured while trailing 6-

0, 2-1 in the final. Halep was competing in her third Rome WTA final, having finished runner-up in 2017 and 2018 on the clay at the Foro Italico. "Finally after two finals I could win this title. In 2013 I started to go in the top in world tennis. I enjoyed and I really was happy on court that I could play the semifinals back then. Since then I have started to play really well," she said. Meanwhile, Indian tennis player Prajnesh Gunneswaran overcame a sluggish start to advance to the second round of the French Open men's singles qualifying event but country's top player Sumit Nagal bowed out after he lost 6-7 (4), 5-7 to Germany's Dustin Brown.

— Agencies

Pogacar crowned Tour champion

Paris: Slovenian rookie Tadej Pogacar won the Tour de France on Sunday, riding triumphantly into Paris in the race leader's yellow jersey at just 21 years old.

Pogacar became the Tour's youngest champion since 1904 as Ireland's Sam Bennett won the 21st and final stage after the eight-lap dash around the iconic Champs-Elysees to clinch the green sprint points jersey.

The champion mounted the podium as the sun set behind the Arc de Triomphe to pick up the best climber's jersey, the white top young rider's prize and finally the Tour winner's famous yellow jersey. "I can't find the words to thank everyone, but it's been amazing this three weeks where the fans cheered me all the way," said Pogacar. Long-time race leader Primoz Roglic ended second ahead of Australia's Richie Porte. — AFP

Bryson wins US Open golf title

New York: Bryson DeChambeau has only just started experimenting with golf after his scientific approach was validated with a US Open victory Sunday at Winged Foot.

Bryson defied conventional wisdom in the way he won his first major title, blasting drives to record lengths and relying on wedges and putting skills to reduce the fear of escaping dense rough.

"I kept telling everybody it's an advantage to hit it farther," said DeChambeau.

"It was a tremendous advantage this week."

It's no wonder, then, that DeChambeau is already working on more wonders ahead of the Masters in November.

DeChambeau's 325 yards off the tee set a record for any US Open champion even though he found only 23 of 56 fairways over four rounds. — AFP

Live on TV

CRICKET

IPL: Rajasthan Royals vs Chennai Super Kings from 7.30 pm on Star Sports 1, HD

England Women vs West Indies Women: First T20 from 10.30 pm on Sony Six, HD

TENNIS

ATP Hamburg European Open: Second day's action from 2 pm on Sony Six, HD

BASKETBALL

NBA Western Conference Finals (Game 3 of best-of-7): Denver Nuggets vs Los Angeles Lakers from 6.30 am (Wednesday) on Sony Six, HD

SUN GOES DOWN

Spectacular collapse hands match to Kohli's RCB

Dubai, Sept. 21: Royal Challengers Bangalore beat Sunrisers Hyderabad by 10 runs in their IPL match here on Monday.

Chasing a target of 164, the SRH were all out for 153 in 19.4 overs, despite a 43-ball 61 from in-form England wicketkeeper-batsman Jonny Bairstow.

Earlier, Devdutt Padikkal's impressive 56 on debut and a typical explosive half century by AB de Villiers (51) helped Royal Challengers Bangalore post 163 for 5 after they were sent in to bat.

The class and calmness Padikkal (56 off 42, 8 fours) showed in his first high-profile game was remarkable, so much so that Australian limited overs captain Aaron Finch (29 off 27) was happy to play second fiddle at the other end.

Sunrisers pulled things back in the middle overs following a 90-run opening stand between Padikkal and Finch. De Villiers (51 off 30) came up with crucial boundary hits towards the end to take the team score past 160.

The 20-year-old Padikkal, possessing a near perfect balance in the crease, played all around the ground, playing the pull and aerial cover drive with equal confidence.

Padikkal got going with three boundaries in an over off left-arm pacer T. Natarajan. The left-handed opener brought up his half-century with a slog sweep over the fielder at deep square leg.

With the openers looking good, RCB



Devdutt Padikkal of Royal Challengers Bangalore hit a six on way to his half-century in the IPL match against Sunrisers Hyderabad at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium in Dubai on Monday. — BCCI

Royal Challengers Bangalore:

Devdutt Padikkal b Shankar 56, Aaron Finch lbw b Abhishek 29, Virat Kohli c Rashid b Natarajan 14, AB de Villiers (run out) 51, Shivam Dube (run out) 7, J.R. Philippe (not out) 1. Extras: (lb-1 nb-2 w-2) 5. Total: (for 5 wkt, in 20 overs) 163.

FoW: 1-90, 2-90, 3-123, 4-162, 5-163. Bowling: Bhuvneshwar Kumar 4-0-25-0, Sandeep Sharma 4-0-36-0, T Natarajan 4-0-34-1, Mitchell Marsh 0-0-6-0, Vijay

Scorecard

Shankar 1.2-0-14-1, Rashid Khan 4-0-31-0, Abhishek Sharma 2-0-16-1.

Sunrisers Hyderabad:

David Warner run out 6, Jonny Bairstow b Yuzvendra Chahal 61, Manish Pandey c Navdeep Saini b Yuzvendra Chahal 34,

Priyam Garg b Shivam Dube 12, Vijay Shankar b Yuzvendra Chahal 0, Abhishek Sharma run out 7, Rashid Khan b

Navdeep Saini 6, Bhuvneshwar Kumar b Navdeep Saini 0, Sandeep Sharma c Virat Kohli b Dale Steyn 9, Mitchell Marsh c Virat Kohli b Shivam Dube 0, T Natarajan (not out). Extras: (nb-0, w-8, b-5, lb-2) 15. Total (In 19.4 overs) 153.

FoW: 1-18, 2-89, 3-121, 4-121, 5-129, 6-135, 7-141, 8-142, 9-143, 10-153.

Bowling: D. Steyn 3.4-0-33-1, U. Yadav 4-0-48-0, N. Saini 4-0-25-2, Washington Sundar 1-0-7-0, Y. Chahal 4-0-18-3, S. Dube 3-0-15-2.

Punjab appeal 'short run' error

Dubai, Sept. 21: Kings XI Punjab lodged a formal complaint on Monday over anumping error which proved critical in their narrow Indian Premier League loss to the Delhi Capitals.

The second match of the world's richest Twenty20 tournament ended in a tie on Sunday before Punjab lost out in a super over.

But in the 19th over of Punjab's chase, square-leg umpire Nitin Menon had signalled Chris Jordan for a short run — not grounding his bat inside the crease when running between the wickets.

TV replays showed Jordan's bat was in the crease. But nothing could be done as the third umpire does not have the authority to overturn an on-field call, unless it is referred for review.

"We have appealed against the decision which could have been corrected had technology been brought into play," a senior Kings XI official said on condition of anonymity.

"This one run could prove costly at the business end of the tournament when teams battle for a play-off berth."

Appeals are made to the match referee, who in this case was

'HURT' AGARWAL REGRETS LOSING AGAINST CAPITALS

Dubai, Sept. 21: Crestfallen after losing their IPL opener, Kings XI Punjab batsman Mayank Agarwal said it feels terrible to not close off the game after making a strong comeback against Delhi Capitals.

Chasing 159 to win, KXIP were looking down the barrel at 55 for 5 but Agarwal's blistering 89-run knock took them to 157. They needed one run off the final two balls but Marcus Stoinis' twin strike took the game to the Super Over, which they lost on Sunday night.

"We had a tough day. There are a lot of positives to take out. The way we came back was fantastic, the way we bowled with the new ball was terrific. It really hurts to not close off the game from the situation we were in, feels terrible," Mayank told KXIP TV.

"This is just the first game. We can get things rolling again, let's see how we will go in the coming games. I think to play a game like that first up was fantastic. Everyone was up for it, guys really put in the effort," Mayank added.



ASHWIN TO MISS NEXT IPL MATCH?

Dubai, Sept. 21: Senior India off-spinner Ravichandran Ashwin is hopeful of recovering from his shoulder injury as his pain has subsided considerably and the scan reports have been "encouraging" after a nasty fall during Delhi Capitals' IPL opener against Kings XI Punjab.

Ashwin endured dream and nightmare in a space of six deliveries as he scalped two KXIP batsmen and then suffered a jerk on his left shoulder trying to dive and stop a run off his own bowling.

"I was in pain as I left the field last night, but the pain has settled down and the scan reports are pretty encouraging too. Thanks for all your love and support," Ashwin tweeted.

Earlier, skipper Shreyas Iyer had also exuded confidence that his senior bowler will be fit in a few days.

"I briefly spoke to Ashwin, and Ashwin said he'll be ready for the next game. But at the end of the day it's the physio's decision," Iyer said after the match here on Sunday night.

"He's a strong-minded guy and hopefully he will be available," he added.

— PTI

RR have task cut out against CSK

Sharjah, Sept. 21: A depleted Rajasthan Royals have an onerous task of stopping the mighty Chennai Super Kings on a Sharjah belter with no Ben Stokes in their line-up but skipper Steve Smith's availability after recovering from a concussion injury has lifted some gloom ahead of their IPL match on Tuesday.

The absence of Stokes would severely impact Royals' campaign at least in the first half of the tournament because of the balance he brings to the side but having Smith in the playing XI would mean that the contest will not be without a fight.

Steve is available. It's fantastic especially on the back of some setbacks back in the UK. It's obviously great to have your skipper available for the first game as I've said before we are in really good hands," he said.

Stokes' father's illness has kept him out of action for some time now and his absence, certainly in the first half of the league, would disturb the balance of the Royals, perennial under-performers.

Apart from premier all-rounder Stokes, also absent from the first match will be Jos Buttler, their impact player at the top-order. The England batsman will be missing the first game as he arrived separately with his family and need to undergo mandatory 36-hour quarantine in Dubai.

Last edition's runner-up, CSK exacted revenge on defending champions Mumbai Indians, beating them by five wickets in the tournament opener. — PTI

NUMBERS GAME — CSK vs RR

HEAD TO HEAD

OVERALL:

- Matches: 21
- Chennai won: 14
- Rajasthan won: 7

MEETING IN 2019

- Chennai Super Kings beat Rajasthan Royals by 8 runs at Chennai.
- Chennai Super Kings beat Rajasthan Royals by 4 wickets at Jaipur.

FOR THE RECORD

- Murali Vijay, who

smashed 148 sixes in 164 innings of 167 matches, needs just two sixes to become the 86th batsman to hit 150 sixes in Twenty-20 cricket.

David Miller, who hit 495 fours in 288 innings of 319 matches, requires just five fours to become the 48th batsman to hit 500 or more fours in Twenty-20 cricket.

— S. PERVEZ QAISER

IPL POINTS TABLE

Teams	P	W	L	N/R	Pts	NRR
Royal Challengers Bangalore	1	1	0	0	2	+0.500
Chennai Super Kings	1	1	0	0	2	+0.486
Delhi Capitals	1	1	0	0	2	+0.000
Kings XI Punjab	1	0	1	0	0	+0.000
Kolkata Knight Riders	0	0	0	0	0	+0.000
Rajasthan Royals	0	0	0	0	0	+0.000
Mumbai Indians	1	0	1	0	0	-0.486
Sunrisers Hyderabad	1	0	1	0	0	-0.500

Tabulated as Played, Won, Lost, No Result, Points, Net Run Rate

Covid-free Gaikwad returns to training

Dubai, Sept. 21: Chennai Super Kings batsman Ruturaj Gaikwad is back in training ahead of Tuesday's IPL game against Rajasthan Royals after clearing the two mandatory COVID-19 tests.

The 23-year-old from Maharashtra had tested positive for COVID-19 and was in quarantine for two weeks. He missed CSK's tournament opener against defending champions Mumbai Indians on Saturday.

"The first thing you wanna see on a Monday morning. Look who's back! Smiling face with heart-shaped eyes #Ruturaj

— PTI

Davis dazzles, Lakers nail Nuggets

Los Angeles, Sept. 21: Anthony Davis drained a three-pointer as time expired to seal the Los Angeles Lakers' 105-103 victory over the Denver Nuggets Sunday for a 2-0 lead in the NBA Western Conference finals.

Davis scored 31 points and pulled down nine rebounds, and LeBron James added 11 rebounds as the Lakers turned back the determined Nuggets — who had taken a 103-102 lead on Nikola Jokic's driving basket with 20.8 seconds remaining.

Jokic scored 11 straight points for the Nuggets down the stretch, finishing with 30 points, six rebounds and nine assists to lead Denver.

Jamal Murray added 25 points, and the Nuggets battled in a furious fourth quarter but finally came up short.

Davis and Jokic traded baskets down the stretch, Jokic tipping in a miss from teammate

SHORT TAKES

**Hyderabad FC
rope in Sandaza**

Hyderabad: Hyderabad FC on Monday signed Spanish forward Francisco Sandaza on a one-year deal ahead of the Indian Super League scheduled to begin in November.

The 35-year-old signed from Spanish Segunda (second) Division side Alcorcon, becoming the sixth new foreign signing for the club this season.

"I am very happy and excited to sign for this club. It is a new challenge in my career and I am eager to arrive in India start training with my new teammates," said Sandaza.

Sandaza rose through the ranks at Leganes and Coslada before turning out for his hometown side CD Toledo. He then moved to Valencia Reserves and after playing for Onda and Pucolos on loan, Sandaza joined Scottish Premier League side Dundee United in 2008 where he claimed a Scottish FA Cup trophy. He then moved to England, signing for Brighton and Hove Albion where he won the English League One. — PTI

**Sipovic signed by
Chennaiyin club**

Chennai: Two-time champions Chennaiyin FC has signed up Bosnia and Herzegovina centre-back Enes Sipovic for the 2020-21 Indian Super League season, the club announced on Monday. The towering 6'6" feet defender joins the former ISL champions on a free transfer after a stint at

Qatar top-flight side Umm

Salal SC.

According to a statement issued by the franchise, Sipovic is CFC's third signing ahead of the upcoming season, following the arrival of Indian full-backs

Reagan Singh and Chhuantea

Fanai recently.

Sipovic, who just turned 30 last week and will be the first Bosnian to feature in the ISL, is excited about playing in India and is looking forward to joining the ranks of new CFC head coach Csaba Lszl.

"I was instinctive that India will be my next destination. I am very happy to be part of such a beautiful club. I have been following Chennaiyin since its very first season in 2014 under Marco Materazzi. — PTI

SUPERMANE!

Liverpool ride on Sadio's brace to boss over Chelsea



Sadio Mane of Liverpool celebrates after scoring a goal against Chelsea during their English Premier League match at Stamford Bridge Stadium in Fulham, South West London, on Sunday. Liverpool carved out a 2-0 victory. — AP

Madrid held by Sociedad

Madrid, Sept. 21: It wasn't the best of starts for

defending champion Real Madrid, which needed a good performance by goal-

keeper Thibaut Courtois to salvage a 0-0 draw at Real Sociedad in the Spanish league.

Graham Potter's side raced into a two-goal lead after just seven minutes at St James' Park thanks to the brace from French striker Maupay.

Also, Leicester City got better of Burnley 4-2 to go top of the table on goal difference. — AFP

defending champion Real Madrid, which needed a good performance by goal-

keeper Thibaut Courtois to salvage a 0-0 draw at Real Sociedad in the Spanish league.

With a squad mostly unchanged from last season, Madrid looked out of rhythm on Sunday and couldn't get more than a point in a lackluster match at the Reale Arena

in the Basque Country. Zinedine Zidane's team struggled in attack and saw Sociedad create some of the most dangerous chances, including one by forward Alexander Isak just before halftime that forced Courtois to make a superb save with his legs as he charged out from the goal. Madrid had won 10 of its last 11 league matches last season to clinch its first title in three years. It is trying to

lift back-to-back league trophies for the first time since 2007-08.

Meanwhile, Granada also won its second in a row, beating winless Alaves 2-1 at home with goals by Roberto Soldado and Darwin Machs.

Also, the club from southern Spain had defeated Athletic Bilbao in its opener, and was coming off a 4-0 win over Albania's Teuta in Europa League qualifying. — AP

LEIPZIG LEAVE LOWLY MAINZ IN TATTERS

Berlin, Sept. 21: RB Leipzig showed no signs of missing Timo Werner on Sunday as they strolled to comfortable 3-1 home win over hapless Mainz in their first Bundesliga game of the season.

Third in the table and Champions League semi-finalists last season, pundits in Germany had predicted a tougher ride for Leipzig this year after they sold star striker Werner to Chelsea.

Yet Julian Nagelsmann's side were at their free-flowing best as they started the new campaign in front of 8,500 fans, chalking up 23 shots on their way to a deserved win.

Leipzig's Emil Forsberg opened the scoring from the penalty spot that came after just a quarter of an hour, as Olmo was tripped by Leandro Barreiro in the box and Forsberg slotted home the resulting penalty.

The 21-year-old, who tested positive for Coronavirus on September 7, was on target from the penalty spot in the 38th minute. Angel di Maria added a second just before half-time and Marquinhos headed the third after 66 minutes. PSG continued to control the game after the break and were rewarded with a third when Marquinhos got in front of the defence to head home.

Mbappe thought he had



Kylian Mbappe (left) of Paris Saint-Germain controls the ball during the French League match against OGC Nice at The Allianz Riviera Stadium in Nice, south-eastern France, on Sunday. PSG won 3-0. — AFP

Mbappe scores in PSG victory

Paris, Sept. 21: Kylian Mbappe returned to the starting line-up for Paris Saint-Germain on Sunday and scored the opener in a 3-0 win at Nice which marks another step on the road to recovery for the French champions.

"I'm impressed by his performance after only one training session with the team," said coach Thomas Tuchel.

It was a second successive French league win for PSG who began the season still smarting from defeat in the Champions League final.

They lost their opening two games and the second ended in a mass brawl against Marseille which led to the suspension of Brazilian forward Neymar.

With Marco Verratti also back, PSG rarely looked troubled in the sunshine of the Mediterranean. — AFP

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