

In April 2016, the UN General Assembly had proclaimed the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition from 2016 to 2025, recognizing the need to eradicate hunger and prevent all forms of malnutrition worldwide.

Womenia

TWEET PATROL



YAMI GAUTAM
@YAMIGAUTAM

Thank you, Avinash ! Hope such conversations & perspective leads to a secure & dignified path for everyone, where the priority is to generate & create impactful work of substance, enjoy this journey & yet retain who you actually are



For a new glow on that special day

All women deserve to be appreciated, respected and admired on this special day. Read these expert tips that will help you take the plunge

AS women's day is around the corner, we all feel the need to spread love, beauty and celebrate our femininity.

All women deserve to be appreciated, respected and admired on this special day. Find the right hairstyle and colour for you and get brilliant beauty tips that shave minutes off your routine and years off your look. Look your radiant best with these head-to-toe beauty tips. These expert tips will help you take the plunge

To add romance and shimmer to day make-up on the special occasion of Women Day, apply a light colour eye shadow like mauve, or light brown over the entire upper eyelid. Then use dull gold or silver shadow on the upper lid closer to the lashes and also to highlight under the brows.

Choose a pink blusher and be subtle. Powder blushers are easier to apply. The aim should be to give the complexion a healthy glow. Remember the



shimmer above the cheekbones with a highlighter.

If you want to line the eyes, use an eye pencil or eyeliner, close to the lashes. Go light on the use of liner, but apply more mascara. Make sure the lashes do not stick together. Brush out the eyelashes with an eyelash comb. For the night, try the smoky-eyed look. Apply liner very close to the lashes and then smudge them with a sponge-

tipped applicator.

For dull and tired eyes, dip cotton wool pads in rose water and use as eye pads over closed lids. Lie down and relax while the mask dries. It helps to remove fatigue and brighten the eyes. The fragrance of rose has a calming effect on the mind.

To add body to the hair, comb all the hair to one side, blow-dry the hair and then comb the hair to the other side

and repeat the blow drying. Or bend down and blow-dry the hair upside down, brushing the hair from back to front. It is particularly convenient if the hair is short.

Use natural material for accessories, like necklaces and chains made of colorful wooden beads or shells, wooden bangles, terracotta earrings and necklaces. The outfit too should be casual and yet romantic, like long skirts with

floral prints, or wide pants with colorful tops with crochet, lace or embroidery.

Skin and hair care tips

Use a facial scrub, applying it on the face and rubbing gently with small circular movements. Wash off with water.

This helps to prevent blackheads and brightens the skin. Facial scrubs are easily available. Always wash or cleanse the face at night, to remove pollutants that have been deposited on the skin during the day. Wash hair with clean and fresh water. Take half-teaspoon

shampoo, dilute with a little water and then apply. Work up lather and rinse well with water. For oily hair, add the juice of a lemon to a mug of water and use as a last rinse after shampoo. For dry hair, apply a few drops of hair serum or leave-on hair conditioner after shampoo.

Follow a skin care routine

You can start from basic steps like Cleanse, tone and moisturize in early years. When your skin starts showing fine lines or wrinkles on face and hands

then you must choose herbal products which are regenerative, boosts skin elasticity, and deeply moisturizes the skin. As we grow older, facial skin starts to lose firmness and it gets drier.

Mix a mask at home with two teaspoons wheat bran (choker), one teaspoon each of ground almonds (badaam) curd, honey and rose water. Mix everything together into a paste and apply on the face, avoiding the lips and area around the eyes. Wash it off after 20 minutes.

Lavender bath salt

lavender bath salt in your baths could help you balance the pH levels in your body. It also helps moisturize and exfoliate the skin. Its aroma acts as a pain reliever thus helping uplift mood. Add 3 spoons of Lavender Bath Salt to warm water and stir well. Settle in and soak your body or feet into this warm water.

A long-lasting lipstick is a bliss for a long working day, but the simple idea of removing it, hassles us. Take this simple tip for getting rid of it by simply drizzling some sweet.

Apply almond oil over a cotton ball and dab it over your lips. It will moisturize your lip skin making the lips soft and supple. This is quite healthy and cheap also when compared to those expensive company makeup removers

A Bindi is an integral part of make-up for Karva Chauth. Look for a decorative bindi, to match the colour of your bridal dress. A bindi, studded with small sparkling stones, combined with a bright colour would be most attractive.

No limit for art



Kuchipudi dancing awards under the name of Kuchipudi dancer late Sobha Naidu were held at Central Court Hotel in Hyderabad on Thursday. Dr Padmaja Reddy of Pranav Institute of Kuchipudi Dance held the event under the name of 'Sobha Naidu Awards 2021.' Hyderabad Mayor Gadwal Vijaya Lakshmi graced the event and presented the gifts to the winners. She also launched a book on Kuchipudi dance written by Dr Padmaja Reddy. Speaking there, Vijayalakshmi said that there is no limit for art.



Cute, sassy hairstyles for college girls

HAIRSTYLES are very necessary to set that new glamorous fashion statement that you want to pull off and picking the right hairstyle for you could be a very tricky experience.

Not all hairstyles suit everyone though there are a few flexible hairstyles that suit all kinds of face types. For any college girl having just the right hairstyle is as important as carrying a book or a pen because your hairstyle is a necessary factor in completing your look. Everyone is usually always on the lookout for the hairstyle for college girls.

Braided bun

This is perfect for the hot and humid weather. Also, for girls who like not to be disturbed by her hair, this is the perfect hairstyle. Tie your hair in a braid pattern and then wrap it up to form a simple bun. Enclose the braid tightly with bobby pins or tic tac clips so that they stay in place.

Low bun

This is the trendy and stylish way of sporting a hairdo in college. This is a simple bun but it is usually done on the side and is done a bit low so that you get that casual and carefree look. This looks perfect with a simple top and jeans.

Ponytail with hair wrap

Everyone loves ponytail but how about doing a ponytail with a twist. Once when you finish the ponytail, enclose your hair with a rubber band. Post that, take a bit of hair and encircle it on your rubber band covering it fully. This will give the look of natural hair in place of a rubber band. This is simple but chic and has a minimalist style.

Side ponytail

Another simple twist to a ponytail which looks extremely glamorous and stylish. Just create a simple side ponytail and leave the hair hanging loose. You can also wrap your hair over the rubber band, just like we did in the last step.

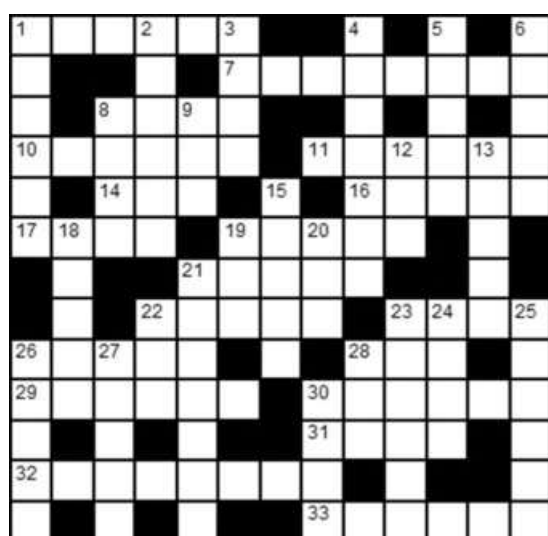
Mohawk braid

This is a tight braid which looks amazing and gives a kickass attitude picture. The braid is done slightly high and it is usually very tight and is done from the centre of your head and at the back, a good length of hair is kept hanging loose.

Undone bun

This is another casual hairstyle for college girls which is perfect to be done in a little time.

Here, you can manage even with uncombed hair. Just take the hair and then tie them at the top with your hands only. You can insert the end into the bun also. If you have thick hair, then this will work. Else, just enclose the hair ends with a simple clip or hairpin.



SOLUTION TO MARCH 4

CROSSWORD

Across

- 1 Bratislava native (6)
- 7 Bouquets (8)
- 8 Joy (4)
- 10 Popular search engine (6)
- 11 Shakespeare's Two Gentlemen of _____ (6)
- 14 Wicked (3)
- 16 Classical Greek style (5)
- 17 Commotion (4)
- 19 Sprang (5)
- 21 Intended (5)
- 22 Impertinent (5)
- 23 As bear it is major or minor but in the sky (4)
- 26 Circling path (5)
- 28 Genetic-code molecule (3)
- 29 Bell-shaped hat (6)
- 30 Raises or hauls up (6)
- 31 Hankering (4)
- 32 Not cowed (8)
- 33 Envelop (6)

Down

- 1 Marsh plants (6)
- 2 Crude (6)
- 3 Major leg joint (4)
- 4 Proof of purchase (7)
- 5 Artificial fibre (5)
- 6 Esau's father (5)
- 8 Asian desert (4)
- 9 Years ago, years ago (3)
- 12 Decay (3)
- 13 Notches (5)
- 15 Arrive at (5)
- 18 Whirl (5)
- 19 Monetary unit of Romania (3)
- 20 Some (3)
- 21 U.P. city (7)
- 22 Intentionally so written (3)
- 23 Worldwide relief org. (6)
- 24 Foolhardy (4)
- 25 Ridiculous (6)
- 26 Happen (5)
- 27 A cleaning compound (5)
- 28 Small round mark (3)
- 30 Conceal (4)

SUDOKU



SOLUTION TO MARCH 4



The game changers

'GAME Changers' is a pan India competition for women-led startups. This will offer women entrepreneurs the chance to get their dream project funded through an exclusive group of reputed VCs by pitching to them. Apart from a plaque, this includes mentorship, leadership training, and workshops from reputed organizations to help their business grow.

FICCI-FLO is a professional organization with over 8,000 women pan India, across 17 chapters who are either entrepreneurs, professionals, or family-managed businesswomen across industries. Through these awards, the organization aims to recognize & celebrate the zestful entrepreneurial spirit of women entrepreneurs whose ideas and innovations have positively impacted the business and social ecosystem.

"The Game Changer Awards will recognize women who have overcome all odds to build innovative and game-changing products that cater to the needs of the society. This is aligned with FICCI -FLO's mission to promote women entrepreneurs," said Maloo Natarajan, Chairperson FICCI-FLO, Mumbai.



UP has got no fundamental right to seek Ansari's transfer, SC told

NEW DELHI

THE Supreme Court on Thursday was told by Punjab government and gangster-turned-politician Mukhtar Ansari that Yogi Adityanath-led government has got no fundamental right to seek his transfer from Rupnagar jail to a district jail in Banda in Uttar Pradesh.

The Uttar Pradesh government has moved the top court seeking a direction to the Punjab government and Rupnagar jail authority to immediately hand over the custody of Ansari, an MLA from Mau constituency, to

the district jail Banda. A bench of Justices Ashok Bhushan and R S Reddy said that it will pronounce its verdict on the plea of Uttar Pradesh government and petition of Ansari seeking transfer of the cases against him outside the State.

During the hearing, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for Uttar Pradesh government referred to the prison rules and said that though the State does not have fundamental rights, but it can espouse the cause and the fundamental rights of the victims and it may assume the position of the vic-



tim. He said that the submission that the State does not have any fundamental right is wrong as the State can always assume the role of the victim and the society at large.

Mehta said that Ansari had flouted the jail manual rules and right of the victim and the State at large cannot be overlooked and the accused cannot be allowed to jettison the fair trial. He said that this court under Article 142 can order transfer of Ansari from Punjab jail to a jail in Uttar Pradesh as around 14 and 15 cases are at final stages. "If video conferencing is the

most equitable medium to conduct criminal trials then a person can be tried while remaining in the United Kingdom", Mehta told the bench.

Senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi, appearing for Ansari, submitted that because of his political affiliation to a party in opposition, he is being targeted. "My co-accused in a case was encountered. Uttar Pradesh has an axe to grind against Punjab and the Court should not allow its shoulders to be used to fire a gun. This should not be allowed", Rohatgi said.

Senior advocate Dushyant

Dave, appearing for Punjab government said that the criminal proceedings against Ansari has been going on in Uttar Pradesh for past 14/15 years and the present writ petition of Uttar Pradesh is not maintainable and it be dismissed. He said that UP has made repeated efforts and it has been told by the Punjab jail authorities that Ansari has been unwell. Dave said that Central government owned PGI Chandigarh has been given medical certificates to Ansari from time to time and the response of the Punjab government has been based on medical records.

Inter-faith couple attempts suicide

LUCKNOW: An interfaith couple attempted suicide by consuming an overdose of sleeping pills, after the man was accused of luring the woman under the new anti-conversion law.

According to reports, a woman went missing from her Jankipuram residence on Tuesday, following which her father lodged a case under the anti-conversion law against a man belonging to another community.

SHO, Jankipuram, Brijesh Singh said: "One Vijay Prakash, a resident of Jankipuram, lodged a complaint against a youth Shahrugh, 26, accusing him of luring away his daughter Dipti, 24, to change her religion for marriage. Prakash said his daughter was missing Tuesday night. We lodged an FIR of kidnapping, abducting or inducing the woman to compel her for marriage, and under anti-conversion law."

Police started conducting raids to locate the couple and Shahrugh's family said they would cooperate in finding the two.

The family of the accused called officials and informed them that they were bringing the couple to the police station.

"During questioning, Shahrugh and Dipti said they were adults and wanted to marry each other. We noticed that both were very drowsy and on checking, we recovered a suicide note from Shahrugh's pocket," said Singh.

Minor gang raped in UP, 2 cops suspended

GORAKHPUR

TWO police personnel have been suspended for not registering the FIR of a minor rape victim in Gorakhpur.

Senior police officers swung into action after a video of the girl, relating to the incident went viral on the social media.

According to reports, the incident took place when the victim, who works as a dancer in an orchestra group, was returning home after a programme.

She was accosted by a group of boys on a motorbike who gagged her and dragged her into a house where they raped her by turns.

After the accused left the house, the girl came out and started screaming. The local residents collected on the spot and someone recorded a video as she related the sequence of incidents.

The local people took her to the police station but when the police refused to lodge her FIR, one of them uploaded the video on the social media.

After this, the SSP got the FIR registered against the accused under sections 346, 76 of IPC and POCSO Act.

The chowki in charge and a constable have been suspended.



UP man cuts off daughter's head, takes it to police post

HARDOI

A MAN allegedly beheaded his 17-year-old daughter in Uttar Pradesh's Hardoi district and then went to a police station with her severed head, officials said.

The accused disclosed that he took the step in a fit of rage after seeing his daughter in an objectionable position, police said. Sarvesh beheaded his daughter with a sharp-edged weapon at Pandetara village

and started walking towards the police station with her severed head, triggering panic in the area. The man was then brought to the Majhila police station, 143 km west of Lucknow, officials said.

Superintendent of Police Anurag Vats said the father had been arrested and further action was being taken. Top police officers of the district reached the spot following the incident.

Food fest recreates flavours of old Delhi

NEW DELHI

A food festival here has recreated the sweet and sour, hot and tangy flavours of old Delhi, sans the crowd and the fear of the coronavirus.

The 11th edition of "Dilli 6" food festival is serving tender 'galouti kebabs', and the popular 'Daulat ki chaat', alongside jalebis and 'shahi tukda', in the sanitised environment of

Crowne Plaza Today in Okhla, with all COVID-19 protocols in place.

The two-week-long festival that takes foodies on a Mughlai-Anglo Indian food trail starting from 'Ghalib's Dilli' and all the way to 'Lutyens' New Delhi', covers the two most gastronomically significant eras in the history of the city -- 'The Last Mughal Emperor' and 'The Emergence of British Raj'.

The menu, a mix of the best street delicacies and Anglo-Indian specials, boasts of lip-smacking dishes like 'chicken pakoda', 'kachori chaat', fruit sandwich, 'matar kulcha', railway mutton curry, Calcutta devil egg, 'daak bungalow mutton curry' and country

captain chicken. A stall serving the much relished deep-fried breads from Chandni Chowk's iconic "paranthe wali gali" is also part of the spread. "I went to Chandni Chowk to source all masalas and other ingredients to prepare the feast. This was done to ensure that there is no compromise on authenticity as well as safety. "Everything you see in the menu is prepared in-

house from scratch.

For some stalls, like for a chat counter, we have vendors from Chandni Chowk serving here," said

chef Dev Raj Sharma. To showcase a true culinary and cultural 'jugabandi' of Ghalib's Delhi and Lutyens' New Delhi, the organisers have put up unique dining experiences in the form of "Shayari Durbar" and "Viceroy's House". Highlights include a 'Dilli Junction' (1864) station created to offer a "dine inside the train" experience, and a private dining experience at "Namak Haram Ki Haveli", themed after Bhawani Shankar Khatri who is said to have betrayed the Marathas by siding with the British.



Gurugram: Driver fined ₹5K for spreading garbage

GURUGRAM: A team of the Municipal Corporation of Gurugram (MCG) imposed a fine of Rs 5,000 on a car driver identified as Rajat Singh over dumping garbage in the Sector-29 area here, officials said on Thursday.

A civic body official said that the MCG is keeping an eye on offenders and fines are being imposed.

Jitender, an MCG official, said that he along with his team was present in Sector-29 area on Wednesday to take stock of the cleanliness in the area. "We noticed that a car driver threw garbage out of his car. The team stopped the car driver on the spot and forbade him to do so and in violation of the Solid Waste Management Rules-2016, he was challaned for Rs 5,000 on the spot," he said.

According to MCG Joint Commissioner (Swachh Bharat Mission) Dheeraj Kumar, spreading garbage on roads, streets, drainage, sewerage, empty plots and public places is a punishable offence under Solid Waste Management Rules-2016 and Haryana Municipal Corporation Act-1994. Those who do so are fined as per rules.

"We appeal to the people not to spread the garbage anywhere, also not to allow others to spread it. If a person spreads garbage, then he should fulfill his social responsibility by informing the Municipal Corporation of Gurugram about it. With the joint efforts of all of us, Gurugram will become a clean, beautiful and better city and we will be able to achieve better sanitation ranking in Swachh Survekshan-2121," Kumar said.

CENTRE'S NEW AGRI LAWS UNCONSTITUTIONAL: SIDHU

CHANDIGARH

DESCRIBING the new farm laws as "un-constitutional and illegal", former Punjab minister Navjot Singh Sidhu on Thursday said they were an attack by the Centre upon the federal structure and the right of states to frame legislations. He said the new laws will lead to auctioning of land in Punjab and leave its residents as "slaves" and asked the Congress government in the state to take "bold and solid steps" to meet the "aspirations" of people protesting against the legislations. "The

new farm laws are unconstitutional and illegal. It's an attack by the Centre on the right of states to frame new laws and the federal structure," he told reporters here. Referring to the ongoing farmer protest against the laws, he said the peasantry has never lost a battle. The Punjab Assembly had passed Bills last year to negate the three farm laws.

The bills are pending for approval of the governor. Sidhu said, "Minimum support price must be given on pulses and oil seeds by the Punjab government. This will help in crop diversification." He also

stressed upon providing bargaining power to farmers by way of giving them holding capacity of perishable crops through storage facilities and infrastructure development.

He sought amendment in the cooperative act to giving powers to farmers to set up a cooperative body. "This will help farmers to manage crops and give them collective strength," he added. Sidhu said that farmers will be able to fix rates of their produce through co-operation and this will give them bargaining powers.

'Haryana job quota law will spell disaster for industrial development'

NEW DELHI

INDUSTRY body Ficci on Thursday said the Haryana government's new legislation that provides reservation in private jobs for local candidates will "spell disaster" for industrial development in the state.

Ficci President Uday Shankar said the government's move to reserve 75 per cent jobs for the local population in private sector will spell disaster for the industrial development and private investment in the state.

"Investors and entrepreneurs need to source the best human resources available in the country to be competitive and successful.

To force them in such a regressive straight-jacket will force them to look beyond Haryana and this will ultimately hurt the interests of the state," Shankar



said. Further, the industry body said it believes that this move is against the spirit of the Constitution that gives the citizens of India the freedom to work anywhere in the country. Anupam Varma, partner at law firm J Sagar Associates, said the vesting of authority in a state government to decide the qualification, and skill etc. of employees of a private employer will be inimical to the ease of doing business initiatives of the central government.

"The power of entry and inspection given to the authorised officers would open a pandora's box of grievances and harassment of employers," Varma said. According to him, the legality of the Act is prima facie suspect and may not be able to withstand judicial scrutiny on the touchstone of Article 19(1)(g) and 16(2) of the Constitution of India. "The Act impinges upon the sacrosanct fundamental right of freedom to practice any occupation or busi-

ness. The implementation of the Act just when the industrial and business activities are resuming after the COVID pandemic might result in an exodus of investors from the state," Varma said.

On Wednesday, industry body CII urged the Haryana government to "re-look" at the legislation, saying reservation impacts productivity and competitiveness. Haryana Governor Satyadeo Narain Arya has given assent to the bill providing 75 per cent reservation in the private sector to job seekers from the state. The quota will initially apply for 10 years. Apart from tackling unemployment among local people, the state government has said the law will discourage the influx of migrants seeking low-paid jobs, which has a significant impact on local infrastructure and leads to the proliferation of slums.

"A premium Co-Living Space"

PROPERTY MULTIPLIER
WITHOUT ADDITIONAL INVESTMENT

KT Residency approved by Approved No. PO2400001598

SAFE

Earn extra sft*

AFFORDABLE

9% to 11% Returns

NO MAINTENANCE

Assured rental income for 20years

+91 95337 76694

www.ktresidency.com | sales@kapilproperties.com

Prestigious honour for Governor Dr Tamilsai

Dr Soundararajan selected for the ‘Top 20 Global Women of Excellence-2021’ Award

HYDERABAD

GOVERNOR Dr Tamilsai Soundararajan has been selected for the prestigious “Top-20 Global Women of Excellence-2021 Award.” The international award is being given by the US Congressman Danny K Davis-headed Multi Ethnic Advisory Task Force, Illinois.

The jury, in a congratulatory letter to Dr Tamilsai Soundararajan, mentioned that, “you have been chosen to be honoured as you are an ardent advocate of Women’s Rights, Gender Parity, and Women’s Equality and your outstanding contribution to the society.”

The award jury appreciated the efforts of Dr Tamilsai Soundararajan in making a difference to the society through her relentless efforts in fighting for the women’s rights and gender-equality and empowerment.

- The US Congressman Danny K Davis-headed Multi Ethnic Advisory Task Force jury selects the Governor for the award
- Dr Soundararajan will be honoured with the award at the 9th Annual Congressional International Women’s Day Gala at Illinois
- She has been chosen for the award for advocating women’s rights, gender parity, and women’s equality by the jury

The award will be presented during the 9th Congressional International Women’s Day Gala at Naperville, Illinois, the USA, on March 7. Dr. Tamilsai Soundararajan, who is currently holding an additional charge as the Lt. Governor of

Puducherry, will accept the honour through a virtual mode from Puducherry.

Among the 19 other awardees of this year’s Top-20 Global Women of Excellence included the USA Vice-President Kamala Harris. Remaining 18 awardees are from different countries across the globe. The awardees were selected from a host of nominations all over the world.

The annual Congressional International Women’s Day celebrations are aimed at celebrating the social, economic, political, and cultural achievements of women.

The Governor has been in public service for the past four decades. She started fighting for the women rights and gender parity since her medical college days.

Women empowerment, besides the tribal welfare, health and education, is her subject of special interest.

TRS deploys battery of KTR’s aides for N’Sagar bypoll fight

- MLAs appointed as in-charges for each of the seven mandals
- In-charges are said to be closely associated with KTR
- TRS learned its mistake from Dubakka polls
- MLAs asked to campaign door-to-door

K CHANDRASHEKAR HYDERABAD

AS the TRS begins preparations for the upcoming Nagarjunsagar by-elections, the party leadership has appointed MLAs as in-charges for each of the seven mandals in the constituency. The team of leaders are said to be the

close aides of the TRS working President KT Rama Rao.

However, though the Election Commission is yet to announce the schedule for the bye election, the ruling party has already initiated a plan of action to win it. It is said that the Dubbaka polls has taught TRS a lesson.

According to party leaders, the Chennai MLA Balka Suman has been appointed as the incharge for Peddapur Mandal, Ramagundam MLA K Chander is given the responsibility of Anumula Mandal. While, the Devarakonda MLA Ravindra Kumar has been appointed as the incharge for Tirumalagiri Mandal, Nalgonda MLA Kancharla Bhupal Reddy has been given the incharge for Gurrampode Mandal, Miryalguda MLA, N Bhaskar Rao is made the incharge for Nidamanuru, Mahabubabad MLA, for Tripuraram Mandal, B Shankar

Naik has been appointed as in-charge and the Armoor MLA A Jeevan Reddy has been appointed in-charge for Madgula-pally.

Moreover, the MLAs have been directed to stay in the constituency with their followers until the elections are held. It is said that the MLAs will plunge into massive campaigning.

While, a few MLAs including Suman, Jeevan Reddy, Chander, Shankar Naik and others have already taken up meetings in their respective mandals. They were seen speaking about the schemes of the government including Rythu Bandhu, Pensions and others which they

said were given even during the difficult Covid times also.

The leaders were also directed to initiate door-to-door campaigning, meetings and padayatras along with their teams.



LEGAL NOTES

TS govt directed to appoint DoP soon

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD

THE Telangana High Court Division Bench comprising of Chief Justice Hima Kohli and Justice Bollam Vijayans Reddy took up hearing a suo moto taken up PIL calling for records pertaining to the appointment of Public Prosecutors.

Chief Justice Hima Kohli expressed serious concern over the undue delay on the part of the Telangana government in not appointing sufficient number of Public Prosecutors to the 570 criminal courts spread across the State.

The Division Bench was not at all impressed by the submissions made by the Government Pleader for Home Srikanth Reddy, who informed the court that the State government has taken initiative in appointing 212 Public Prosecutors against 414 existing vacancies and efforts are still on to fill up the remaining vacancies.

Advocate General Banda Shivananda Prasad had held elaborate deliberations with the Home Secretary and other officials, due to which the appointments have materialised and efforts are being made to fill up the remaining vacancies.

CJ Hima Kohli, after hearing the contentions of the GP for Home, observed that six months was not enough for the State government to complete the process of appoint-

ment of the Public Prosecutors as the last order was on September 22, 2020 and now, the State government comes before the Court today (Thursday) and seeks some more considerable time for making appointments.

Such an undue delay appointments of PPs will deprive justice to the needy as the Public Prosecutors are the backbone of the Criminal Justice System and the entire trial of criminal cases depends on the assistance rendered by the Public Prosecutors to the court and non-appointment of PPs delays justice, CJ stated.

While reiterating the contention of the GP for Home that 212 Public Prosecutors have been appointed as of now, CJ Hima Kohli observed “that means again one Public Prosecutor managing 2 courts as there are 570 criminal courts in the State, which ultimately delays trial and justice is deprived and delayed to the needy.

Further, Chief Justice took serious note of the fact that the post of Director of Prosecution is still lying vacant and expressed concern over non-appointment of a regular officer in this post as one officer, who is already held up with the work is being given additional charge.

The Director of Prosecution plays a crucial role in the appointment of the Public Prosecutors, observed CJ.

The matter adjourned to April 1, 2021.

ILLEGAL CONSTRUCTIONS IN KUKATPALLY HB COLONY

HC directs TS Housing Board, GHMC chief to hold joint inspection

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD

WONDERING, why the officials of the Telangana Housing Board and the GHMC officials didn’t respond to the representation of the petitioner, a NGO, Community Organisation for Peoples Emancipation, who had repeatedly made redundant representations pointing out about the illegal and rampant unauthorised constructions in the 3rd Phase, Kukatpally Housing Board colony, despite that the officials turned a blind eye.

On Thursday, the Division Bench headed by the Chief Justice Hima Kohli and Justice Bollam Vijayans Reddy directed the Chairman, TS Housing Board and the Commissioner GHMC to carry out a Joint Inspection of the premises in 3rd Phase of the Kukatpally Housing Board Colony and if at all, any unauthorised and illegal constructions raised by private persons are found, immediate steps should be taken by the TS Housing Board.

The Division Bench issued notices to the Telangana government, Housing Board, Commissioner GHMC and the four private persons directing them to respond to the notices by filing their reply affidavits by officials and the private persons within 4 weeks.

The private parties who have raised illegal and unauthorised constructions in the pertinent lands (common areas) of Kukatpally Housing Board are also directed to respond to the contentions of the petitioner, Community Organisation for People’s Emancipation, a NGO seeking a direction to demolish all the illegally raised unauthorised constructions.

Justice Bollam Vijayans Reddy, during the course of adjudication said that these houses were built 20-30 years back and as the family increases, the residents of this housing board are expanding their houses by resorting to illegal and unauthorised constructions, flouting the rules in vogue.

On the next date of hearing, the Telangana Housing Board and GHMC Commissioner should also furnish site inspection report and subsequent action taken. The case has been adjourned to July 22, 2021.

Active Covid cases on rise in Telangana

Greater Hyderabad saw maximum number of cases at 25 followed by Medchal Malkajgiri (11) and Rangareddy (10). No new cases were reported in four districts while in the remaining 27 districts the daily count was in single digit



HYDERABAD

THE number of active Covid cases in Telangana continues to be on rise as the state recorded fewer recoveries than the new infections during the last 24 hours.

According to the daily media bulletin released by the health department on Thursday, the State added 36 active cases during the period. The total number of active cases now stands at 1,948 including 835 who were in home/institutional isolation. The State reported 152 new cases during the last 24 hours, pushing the cumulative tally to 2,99,406. Two more persons succumbed to the virus, taking the death toll to 1,637.

The fatality rate remained 0.54 per cent against the national average of 1.4 per cent. While 44.96 per cent of the deaths occurred due to Covid, 55.04 per cent had comorbidities.

Greater Hyderabad saw maximum number of cases at 25 followed by Medchal Malkajgiri (11) and Rangareddy (10). No new cases were reported in four districts while in the remaining 27

districts the daily count was in single digit.

A total of 114 people recovered during the last 24 hours, taking the cumulative recoveries to 2,95,821. The recovery rate stands at 98.80 per cent against the national average of 97.1 per cent.

The health authorities conducted 41,201 tests during the same period. As many as 36,003 samples were tested in government labs, 5,198 in private labs. According to the Director of Public Health and Family Welfare, the cumulative number of tests rose to 88,42,852. Samples tested per million population climbed to 2,37,583. The daily testing target for the state is 5,600 as per the WHO benchmark of 140 tests per million per day.

Over 92 per cent of the beds in hospitals treating Covid cases remained vacant. As many as 8,217 beds out of 8,577 beds in 62 government hospitals were vacant. Similarly, in 216 private hospitals 6,885 out of 7,638 beds were vacant.

V-P bats for teaching in mother tongue in schools

HANS NEWS SERVICE TIRUPATI

VICE-PRESIDENT M Venkaiah Naidu underlined the need for teaching in mother tongue at least up to high school education. Addressing the students of IIT Tirupati on Thursday on the occasion of its ‘6th Institute Day’, he wished all books including medicine, engineering, law, research, etc., should be taught in mother tongue to the students.

The government administration should also be in people’s language. The language used for arguments, counter arguments and judgements in courts should be in the mother tongue so that the people will know about what is argued in their cases. Thus, the unity of the country will be further strengthened. Being well-versed with different languages, one can be more equipped to meet the challenges. One should not forget mother, mother tongue, mother land and mother institution, he underlined.

He expressed happiness that his dream of IITs, IIITs, IISER, etc., had become true for which he fought in Parliament during the state reorganisation process. He recalled that he laid the foundation stone for IIT Tirupati on March 28, 2015, which got a full-fledged shape now. With IIT, IISER and IIIT along with other universities the area has become a major educational hub.

He advised the students to connect with India’s ancient culture while studying modern cutting edge technology. They should learn not only quantum physics and artificial intelligence but also explore the rich cultural heritage. As He opined that Covid taught a lesson to everyone which the country has controlled better. Saying that 98 per cent farmers were not infected by the virus, he said that the food habits, hardworking methods and physical exercises might be the main reasons for that. Later, he walked on to the students and had a chat with them.

IIT director Prof K N Satyanarayana said that the institute is having 1,050 students and they have designed about 70 projects. Deputy Chief Minister K Narayana Swamy, TUDA chairman Chevireddy Bhaskar Reddy, Srikalahasti MLA B Madhusudan Reddy, IIT faculty and students took part.

Earlier, public representatives and officials, including collector M Hari Narayanan, Urban SP Ch Venkata Appala Naidu, airport director S Suresh and others received him at the airport. BJP leaders G Bhanuprakash Reddy, Kola Anand, K Ajay Kumar and others were also present.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY

Women staff to get 5 more CLs

HANS NEWS SERVICE AMARAVATI

THE state government has decided to celebrate the International Women’s Day on a grand note and has taken some key decisions for the safety, welfare and empowerment of women.

During the review at camp office here on Thursday, it is decided that on the eve of International Women’s Day (IWD), the state government will organise a candle rally across the state on March 7 and felicitate two women constables from each wing. The state government also decided to announce a special day off for all women working in the police department on March 8.

The government will set up 2,000 stands with QR code for easy download of Disha app and would conduct short film competitions on women’s safety and empowerment. The government will provide 10 percent discount on purchase of mobile phones at selected shopping malls on IWD to women who download Disha app. It has been decided to or-



Chief Minister looks at the teaching aids being supplied to YSR Pre-Primary Schools during a review on Anganwadis at his camp office on Thursday

ganise annual health check-up for Anganwadi employees.

Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy agreed to give additional five casual leaves to female employees and also announced Rs 5 lakh on behalf of the government to the Non-Gazetted Women Employees Union. An MoU would be signed among SERP, MEPMA

and Hindustan Lever to ensure sanitary pads are made available in YSR Cheyutha shops at more affordable price compared to open market. The state government will lay special focus on training of girls of Plus-1 and Plus-2 to prepare for competitive exams.

Reviewing YSR pre-primary schools, the Chief Minister in-

spected the books and teaching aids designed for pre-primary children, which were displayed by the officials of women and child welfare department. The Chief Minister also reviewed the progress of Nadu-Nedu works in Anganwadis. Construction of new buildings and revamping of existing buildings is being done in 44,119 Anganwadi centres. He said he said the work on Anganwadi buildings should be started simultaneously in urban and rural areas.

The government will provide 4,17,508 books for children of PP-1 class and 4,17,508 books for PP-2 children and the distribution of books will start on March 20 and set to be completed by April 5. The government has already distributed 16 of the 26 teaching aids to Anganwadis and the remaining 10 teaching aids will be distributed within a month. The Chief Minister directed the officials to provide English-Telugu dictionary in schools and ensure the students learn the meaning of a new word every day and said to implement a similar program

in Anganwadi centres.

The officials said the details on YSR Poshana and YSR Sam-poorna Poshana plus is being provided through posters and they are being set up in village, ward secretariat and Anganwadi centres. They said an SOP book is being provided with the prescribed rules on providing good food and hygiene to children and videos regarding the same are being shared to the students.

Women and child welfare minister Thaneti Vanitha, DGP Gautam D Sawang, higher education special chief secretary Satish Chandra, municipal and urban development Principal secretary Y Srilakshmi, women and child welfare principal secretary AR Anuradha, medical and health principal secretary Anil Kumar Singhal, panchayat raj, rural development principal secretary Gopal Krishna Dwivedi, GAD principal secretary Shashi Bhushan Kumar, Home department principal secretary Kumar Vishwa-jeet, DIG (Technical Services) G Palaraju, Health and Family Welfare and other officials were present.

Falling standards force Sherwood to advertise for admissions

There are a number of church factions fighting for control over the trust that manages the school

SUKANT DEEPAK
NEW DELHI

ONE of the best known private schools in India, Sherwood College, Nainital, boasting of alumni, including Amitabh Bachchan, Kabir Bedi, and politician Jitendra Prasada, besides a host of civil servants recently advertised for admissions for the session 2021-22, much to the surprise of many.

Though they have advertised in the past too, it is not very often that one comes across an advertisement for admissions from one of the oldest schools in India, established in 1869, which has always had a high rejection rate considering its immense

popularity. The 'Old Sherwoodians' society, however, feels that it is the consistent falling of standards under the management and the never-ending controversies that has resulted in many parents taking their wards out of the school, thus forcing the institution to advertise. It may be noted that a row erupted at the school in October last year when the current Principal, Amandeep Sandhu was suspended over allegations of financial irregularities.

In December, the interim Principal, Peter Dhiraj Emmanuel, the police and representatives of the diocese of Agra were not allowed to enter. The gates were locked, and a notice pasted that those without a Covid negative test would not be allowed to enter



the campus. At that time, the principal, Amandeep Sandhu had told the media that the school did not have any Chairman of the society and the Bishop of Agra had no authority, therefore Emmanuel was not correct.

Speaking to IANS, Sunil Issar, secretary of Old Sherwoodians claimed that the school was going through its lowest phase. "The utter mismanagement and self-goals of the school administration has rendered a huge blow to the school's reputation. No wonder, we are witnessing many parents taking their wards out. Thus, the advertisements," he said. Although admitting that owing to pandemic, the popularity of boarding schools around the country is not really high, Issar

feels that the recent controversies surrounding the school have done an irreparable damage to the brand.

"There are a number of church factions fighting for control over the trust that manages the school. Several self-appointed bishops have come up. The current Principal has aligned himself with them and what has ensued is utter chaos," laments Issar.

Demanding that the government should step in take interim control of the school till the ownership controversy is solved, Issar, adds, "I studied there from Class 3 to 12, and it hurts me tremendously to see the current standard of the institution which is not only losing students but also failing to attract the best of them owing to all the con-

troversies surrounding it."

Jangever Singh, media adviser to MP Sukhbir Badal (President of Shiromani Akali Dal), a former student of Sherwood College feels that not just the controversies surrounding the institution, it is the diminishing popularity of boarding schools that is also forcing such institutions to now advertise heavily for admissions. "There are excellent schools even in tier-II cities now, so why would parents want their children to go to hostels? When it comes to Sherwood, and many other top boarding schools, they are getting a lot of students from tier-III cities, so anyways the standard of intake has gone down, forcing many parents to think twice about sending their wards there."

India not utilising vaccine to full capacity: Delhi HC

'It is either being donated or sold off to foreign countries'

Court asks Serum Institute, Bharat Biotech to disclose capacity

NEW DELHI

THE Delhi High Court on Thursday showed apprehensions over non-utilization of coronavirus vaccine to its full capacity by the country, asserting that it is either being donated or sold off to foreign countries rather than being provided to Indians.

Justice Vipin Sanghi made the observations while hearing a suo motu public interest litigation concerning vaccination of judges, court staff and lawyers on priority and for them to be treated as front-line workers so that they could receive it without limitations of their age or physical condition.

In the recent phase of the vaccination drive which commenced on March 1, the government is inoculating only those who are over 60 years of age and for people aged 45 and above with specified comorbid conditions. The priority was first given to the healthcare and frontline workers.

Justice Sanghi said, "If the ca-



Senior citizens arrive to receive their first shot of Covid vaccine at Thane Municipal Corporation Vaccination Centre on Thursday

capacity of the two vaccine manufacturers were being utilized to the full and then the restrictions were to be put, it would have been one thing. We should not have the situation where we are not even utilizing the full capacity."

His remarks came after Covishield and Covaxin vaccine manufacturers Bharat Biotech and Serum Institute of India apprised that the capacity to vaccinate the judicial staff is available.

"They have the full capacity to

manufacture and supply. We are not utilizing it because of our restricted control approach. We are either donating or selling it off to foreign countries rather than giving it to our own people. It is well settled and the experts are also saying that there should be a sense of urgency in this process of vaccination," the judge said.

He said that the present petition is to find out if the whole judicial system can be prioritized without age limit and co morbidity.

The court then issued slew of directions. Bharat Biotech and Serum Institute of India have been directed to file affidavits on -- capacity to manufacture the vaccines and the unutilized capacity.

The Government of India has been asked to indicate the transport capacity of the vaccine and the extent to which it is being used. The Centre has also been asked to explain the rationale over strict class of persons that can be vaccinated.



A Jharkhand police personnel, injured during an IED blast allegedly triggered by Maoists in West Singhbhum district, being taken for treatment in Ranchi on Thursday

3 cops killed in Maoist attack

RANCHI

THREE Jharkhand Police personnel were killed and two others injured, including one from CRPF, as an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) went off in West Singhbhum district on Thursday morning.

The explosive device was planted by the Maoists.

The incident took place around 8.45 a.m. when a "pressure IED blast" took place in thick forested area near Hoyahatu village under Toklo police station area in West Singhbhum. Central Reserve Police Force's (CRPF) 197 Battalion along with the

Jharkhand Jaguar (AG 11) of the state police were on an operation in the area when the incident took place, said CRPF Spokesperson Dalip Ambesh said.

"Reportedly three 'jawns' (personnel) of JJ martyred, one jawan of JJ sustained serious injury and one jawan of 197 Battalion of CRPF sustained minor injury in IED Blast," Ambesh initially said.

As Jharkhand is afflicted by the scourge of extremism, the state government on February 19, 2008 sanctioned the creation of 20 Assault Groups (AGs) of Special Task Force (STF) for eradication of extremist activities.

VISHRAM GRAH



Labourers rest inside a pipe on a hot day, at Sion in Mumbai on Thursday

7.2 magnitude earthquake shakes New Zealand

WELLINGTON

A severe 7.2 magnitude earthquake struck off the east of New Zealand's North Island on Friday, prompting a tsunami warning, and authorities advised people in coastal areas to move immediately to high ground.

Tsunami waves were possible within 300 km of the quake's epicentre, the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center (PTWC) said.

"Anyone near the coast who felt a long or strong quake should move immediately to the nearest high ground, or as far inland as you can," the National Emergency Management Agency said in a tweet.

There was no immediate report of damages. New Zealand government's seismic monitor Geonet pegged the quake at a magnitude of 7.2 with a depth of 94 km (58 miles). More than 60,000 people reported feeling the quake on GeoNet's website, with 282 people describing the shaking as "severe" and 75 saying it was "extreme". Most others described it as light.

BJP's flip-flop on 'metroman' as CM candidate

THIRUVALLA/KOCHI

HOURS after tweeting that E Sreedharan, popularly known as 'metro man', will be the BJP's chief ministerial face in the next month's Kerala state polls, Union minister V Muraliedharan clarified that the party had not taken a decision on it.

Defending his tweet, V Muraliedharan later commented that he was under the impression that the announcement to the effect was made by the party chief.

Earlier, curtains came down on Sreedharan 24-year long career with the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation as he wore the DMRC's outdoor uniform one last time on Thursday ahead of his political journey with BJP.

"This will be the last day I will be wearing this uniform", 88-year old Sreedharan, acclaimed for the efficiency in completing big infrastructure projects, said announcing the completion of re-construction of a flyover here under his supervision much ahead of the stipulated time.

Clad in the DMRC outdoor uniform, the technocrat, who recently joined the BJP, visited the Palarivattom flyover on Thursday morning for an inspection before handing it over to the Roads and Bridges Development Corporation (RBDC) of the Kerala government for inauguration.

He said the flyover, whose reconstruction was taken up in September last year, was ready and the state government can decide the date of its inauguration.

"I wore the DMRC's typical outdoor uniform for the first time in November 1997 in Delhi. Same practice I continued for the last 24 years," Sreedharan said.

The "Metroman", who is prepared to contest the April 6 Kerala assembly polls on the BJP ticket, said he will file the nomination papers after resigning from the post of DMRC's Principal Adviser.



Metroman E Sreedharan (right) visits Palarivattom Bridge, in Kochi on Thursday

Sena out of WB polls, to back Mamata

MUMBAI: The Shiv Sena has decided to opt out of the West Bengal Assembly elections, but the party has decided to 'wholeheartedly' support All India Trinamool Congress leader and CM Mamata Banerjee, a top official said here on Thursday.

Sena MP and Chief Spokesperson Sanjay Raut said that since the Bengal polls are turning out to be "Didi vs All", the Shiv Sena has decided not to contest the elections, but will stand in solidarity with her. "Looking at the present scenario, it appears like a 'Didi vs All' fight. All M's - Money, Muscle and Media - are being used against Mamata Didi. We wish her a 'roaring success', because we believe she is the real 'Bengal Tiger'!" said Raut.

50% quota for women in jobs in Assam: Cong

DISPUR: The Congress said on Thursday that if the opposition 'Mahajot' or grand alliance is voted to power in Assam, it will ensure 50 per cent reservation for women in government jobs. All India Mahila Congress president Sushmita Dev said the Congress-led alliance will focus more on the upliftment of women and youths. "When the Congress-led grand alliance will form the government, we will implement 50 per cent reservation for women. This will be one of the first things we're going to do," she said. Dev asserted that the Congress and the grand alliance believe in accountability and the guarantee of jobs.

BJP, AINR-Cong rift may play spoilsport in Pondy for NDA

CHENNAI

EVEN as the BJP is going full throttle to capture power in Puducherry, there is a road block in front of it. Former Chief minister of Puducherry, N Rangaswamy who has floated the AINR Congress, is sulking over the public statement made by the Union home minister Amit Shah that Pudcherry will have a BJP Chief minister, during a programme last week.

Rangaswamy's camp is of the opinion that other than nominated legislators, BJP has yet to open an account in the state and that Shah's statement is an overambitious one and that this would do more harm than good for the party. Rangaswamy, who was on a spiritual tour, had communicated to BJP national president JP Nadda that his party may have to contest alone given the situation. Sources in the BJP indicated that the situation is not out of control and the party is trying to patch up the differences with the powerful leader. While the saffron camp is expecting a landslide with the support of AINR congress and AIADMK, the contention of those close to Rangaswamy is that the BJP has less than 3% vote share in the previous assembly elections and that the party will have to strive hard to make any dent in the state politics. Rangaswamy wants to become the Chief minister and if the BJP national leadership agrees on this, there will not be much difficulties in forming a government. The DMK, Congress camp is also in uncertainty after the V Narayanaswamy government resigned and several legislators jumping fence.

'Even porn shown', SC calls for regulation of OTT content

The top court indicates that there should be a body like Censor Board which screens the films

NEW DELHI

THE Supreme Court on Thursday expressed displeasure on streaming of films on web platforms without any prior screening of the content and also cited some films having pornographic content.

The observation was made by the top court during the hearing of a plea by Amazon Prime Video India head Aparna Purohit against Allahabad High Court order, which declined to entertain her anticipatory bail in connection with the FIRs lodged against her over the web series 'Tandav'. A bench headed by Justice Ashok Bhushan said: "There should be some screening of

content on web platforms). There is pornography in some films." Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, representing the Uttar Pradesh government, said some programs have filthy abuses. Senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi, appearing for Purohit, contended this "as a matter of free speech" and cited that his client is not the producer of the show, instead an employee of the company which is streaming the web series Tandav.

Justice Bhushan replied that a balance needs to be struck in such matters and reiterated there should be some screening by somebody. The top court indicated that there should be a body like censor board which screens the films.



A counsel in the matter informed the top court that the government has recently notified OTT guidelines. The top court scheduled the matter for further hearing on Friday.

In January, the top court refused to grant interim protection to Tandav crew from any coercive action and had asked them to move the concerned courts to seek bail in the matter.

Purohit has been accused of inappropriate depiction of Hindu deities, Uttar Pradesh Police personnel and for adverse portrayal of a character in the role of prime minister in the web series.

On February 25, the Allahabad High Court declined to

grant her anticipatory bail in the matter. The high court had observed, "Western filmmakers have refrained from ridiculing Lord Jesus or the Prophet but Hindi filmmakers have done this repeatedly and are still doing this most unabashedly with Hindu gods and goddesses". One Balbir Azad lodged an FIR on January 19, 2021, at Rabupura police station of Greater Noida.

Azad had alleged that the web series had deliberately denigrated Hindu gods and goddesses and depicted Uttar Pradesh and its police in a poor light.

Several other FIRs have also been lodged in states like Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Bihar and Delhi against the web series.

TODAY'S QUOTE

Indo-Bangla ties truly 360° partnership

“Prime Minister Narendra Modi's planned visit to Dhaka later this month will surely be very memorable. Our relationship is so broad & our comfort level so high that there is no domain today that is left untouched. It is a truly a 360 degree partnership.”

— S Jaishankar, Union Minister




EMPLOYMENT

Hiring activities spike in Feb

Digitisation and automation have resulted in a record sequential growth of 33 per cent in hiring activities in February 2021. According to the Naukri JobSpeak Index hiring in the IT-software/software services industry registered a record growth of over 33 per cent in February compared to January due to increased adoption of digital technologies in India.

FOREX (buy rates in ₹)			
US Dollar	77.22	South	
Euro	92.06	African Rand	5.56
UAE Dirham	21.82	Hong Kong Dollar	10.8
Thai Baht	2.76	Japanese Yen	0.78
British Pound	105.55	New Zealand Dollar	55.47
Australian Dollar	59.55	Saudi Riyal	21.35
Canadian Dollar	60.45	Swedish Krona	9.92
Swiss Franc	82.12	Singapore Dollar	57.4



DELHI FRIDAY 5 MARCH 2021

BIZ BRIEFS

Hitachi holds virtual meet

Hitachi Ltd and Hitachi India Pvt Ltd successfully concluded the Hitachi Social Innovation Forum 2021 India virtually on Thursday. The two-day virtual event brought together business leaders from varied business backgrounds and discussed subject matters like Artificial Intelligence in post-Covid India, how cash and digital economy go hand in hand in a developing economy, re-imagining mobility in the aftermath of Covid-19, shifting to electric vehicles (EVs), necessity of integrated renewable energy significance and potential of technology in key areas like manufacturing, e-education, healthcare, agriculture etc. Bharat Kaushal, Managing Director, Hitachi India said, “We at Hitachi are actively partnering with the Government of India to hasten its digital journey, leveraging our vast experience in OT X IT to pioneer social innovation business solutions that empower millions to lead a better quality of life”.

Pearson's new centre

Pearson has launched a new PTE Centre, which will offer PTE Academic Test (Pearson Test of English) at Gayatri Vidya Parishad College of Engineering in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, to cater to the demand of study abroad aspirants. The centre is fully equipped with state-of-the-art facility security measures and will increase accessibility for a fast, flexible, secure, and unbiased exam for test takers to ascertain their English language skills for the purpose of study and work abroad. Ramananda SG, Vice President, Sales & Marketing, Pearson India, said: “The new test centre in Visakhapatnam is aligned with Pearson India's aim to increase the reach of PTE Academic centres across India to offer easy, local access to a globally recognized, fast and reliable English language proficiency test for immigration and study abroad opportunities to aspirants.”

Vax centres' map unveiled

MapmyIndia, winner of AatmaNirbhar App challenge, launched maps and nearby search features to help Indians find coronavirus vaccination centres across the country. The Government of India has also integrated these features into covid.gov.in, their official corona vaccination registration portal to guide people who can search on these websites to find their nearby centres. “Since pandemic entered India, MapmyIndia took upon the task of real-time geospatial mapping all corona related places - testing, treatment and isolation centres as well as containment zones. To make the critical vaccination effort seamless, MapmyIndia has put all the vaccination centres across India on MapmyIndia's maps,” said Rohan Verma, CEO, MapmyIndia.

'No prior nod for Jet slots'

The winning bidder for the now-defunct Jet Airways will have to apply for slots as there cannot be any deemed approval for the slots, according to submissions by the Civil Aviation Ministry (MoCA) and regulator DGCA. MoCA and DGCA mentioned their stance to the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT), which had on February 25 sought their responses to Jet Airways' slots issue. NCLT is considering the resolution plan submitted by Kalrock-Jalan Consortium for the airline. The plan has already been approved by the Committee of Creditors (CoC). According to the replies submitted by MoCA and DGCA, they are not in principle objecting to the resolution plan but that there cannot be any deemed approval on the slots.

Wipro acquires UK-based Capco for ₹10,500 crore

Indian IT major will close its biggest ever buyout deal by June

NEW DELHI

IT services major Wipro on Thursday said it has signed an agreement to acquire London-headquartered Capco, a global management and technology consultancy, in a \$1.45 billion (over Rs 10,500 crore) deal.

This will be the biggest ever acquisition by Wipro. In a regulatory filing, Wipro said the acquisition will strengthen its position as a consulting and IT services provider to the Banking, Financial Services and Insurance (BFSI) sector, provide access to marquee BFSI clients and create a large global financial services practice for the company with a strong consulting footprint.

Clients will benefit from a combination of Wipro's capabilities in strategic design, domain and consulting, digital transformation, cloud, cybersecurity, data and IT services with Capco's deep domain and consulting capabilities across banking, payments, capital markets, insurance, risk and regulatory offerings, it added. The transaction is expected to



be completed during the quarter ending June 30, subject to requisite regulatory approvals and customary closing conditions.

Founded in 1998, Capco works with more than 100 clients and has many long-standing relationships with the world's leading financial institutions. It has over 5,000 consultants based in more

than 30 global locations across 16 countries.

The company's consolidated revenues for the year ended December 2020 was ₹720 million. “We are very excited to welcome Capco's admirable leadership team and employees, and global clients, to Wipro. Together, we can de-

“Wipro and Capco share complementary business models and core guiding values, and I am certain that our new Capco colleagues will be proud to call Wipro home — Thierry Delaporte, Wipro CEO and MD



liver high-end consulting and technology transformations, and operations offerings to our clients.

“Wipro and Capco share complementary business models and core guiding values, and I am certain that our new Capco colleagues will be proud to call Wipro home,” Wipro CEO and Managing Director Thierry Delaporte said. Capco CEO Lance Levy said the companies will together offer bespoke transformational end-to-end solutions, now powered by innovative technology at scale, to create a new leading partner to the financial services industry.

“We look forward to leveraging the complementary capabilities and similar cultures of both companies to drive industry change and offer exciting opportunities for both our clients, and our people,” Levy said.

The deal will require antitrust approvals under the competition laws of the US, Germany, Canada, Brazil and Austria along with other regulatory approvals, the filing said.

NBFCs, HFCs to see 10% asset growth in FY22

MUMBAI

AFTER a growth moderation in FY21, non-banking finance companies (NBFCs) are estimated to witness a 9.5 per cent jump in their assets under management in FY22, a report said on Thursday. Housing Finance Companies (HFCs) will post a higher growth at 10 per cent as home sales go up, India Ratings and Research said, maintaining its 'stable' outlook on both NBFCs and HFCs for FY22.

It estimated the growth to slow down to 4-5 per cent for NBFCs and 6.5 per cent for HFCs in FY21, driven largely by the impact of the coronavirus pandemic. The system liquidity has improved considerably while the majority of large non-banks have strengthened their capital buffers and the sector has started witnessing disbursement growth, the rating agency said. The wide differential among NBFCs' funding costs is likely to push the sector to consolidate, especially in the sectors with a thin margin profile and limited product differentiation, it said, adding the strong regulatory support in FY21 ensured adequate liquidity. From an asset quality perspective, wholesale NBFCs will face challenges in FY22, the agency said and maintained the negative outlook on such entities.



Stress due to the pandemic has moderated due to government schemes which have led to lower softer delinquencies and moderate addition to Gross Non-Performing Assets (GNPAs), it said, pointing out that the overall stressed assets will be higher than a recent RBI estimate of 8 per cent. The system-level stressed assets for NBFCs stood at 8 per cent on September 30, 2020 as per the RBI report, and between 1.5 to 3 per cent of the book would get restructured and an addition of up to 1.5 per cent will happen to be the GNPA, taking the overall stressed book to between 9.5-11 per cent, it estimated. Many large NBFCs raised capital before Covid-19 and during the pandemic, resulting in strengthened capital buffers to absorb the above stress along with carrying Covid-related provision. The credit cost will normalise for non-banks in FY22 as the provision hit was taken in FY21 itself.

Mkt snaps winning streak amid global equity retreat

MUMBAI

SNAPPING its three-session winning run, benchmark BSE Sensex plunged by around 599 points to crack below the key 51,000-level on Thursday due to heavy selling in financial, energy and IT stocks amid a meltdown in global shares.

Asian and European markets tumbled as another rise in US bond yields fanned fears of higher inflation that may prompt central banks to raise interest rates.

Intra-day, the 30-share BSE barometer fell as much as 905 points before ending the session at 50,846.08, showing a decline of 598.57 points or 1.16 per cent. Of 30 Sensex shares, 25 closed with losses. The broader NSE Nifty closed down by 164.85 points or 1.08 per cent at 15,080.75 with 38 of its constituents ending in the red zone. On the Sensex chart, HDFC, L&T, SBI, Axis Bank, Bajaj Finserv and HDFC Bank were major laggards. Mortgage major HDFC fell the most by 2.62 per cent. Bajaj Finserv dropped 2.49 per cent, SBI by 2.28 per cent, Axis

Sensex drops 599 pts, Nifty settles at 15,080; finance, IT stocks major laggards



Bank by 2.24 per cent, HDFC Bank by 2.1 per cent and ICICI Bank by 1.73 per cent. Larsen & Toubro declined by 2.31 per cent, NTPC by 1.6 per cent, Bharti Airtel by 1.24 per cent and Reliance by 1.17 per cent. IT stocks Infosys, Tech Mahindra, HCL Tech, and TCS also saw losses of up to 1 per cent. “Domestic equities traded lower today mainly on weak global cues...Financials and Metals indices were keg drags today, while FMCG, Pharma and IT indices were resilient. A sharp 6 bps rise in 10-Year US treasury yield made investors jittery today,” said Binod Modi, Head - Strategy at Reliance Securities. Over the previous three sessions, the Sensex had risen by 2,344.66 points or 4.77 per cent, while

Nifty had added 716.45 points or 4.93 per cent. UltraTech Cement bucked the trend and rose by 4.07 per cent to become lead gainer among Sensex stocks. DrReddy rose by 1.63 per cent, Asian Paint by 0.65 per cent while Maruti and HUL also advanced. BSE Midcap index also advanced 0.48 per cent while Smallcap index rose by 0.80 per cent. But largecap followed the benchmark to end lower by 0.46 per cent. Among sectoral indices, BSE metal emerged as the top loser with 2.31 per cent drop. BSE finance declined 1.46 per cent and bank by 1.45 per cent.

Of 19 sectoral indices, 11 ended in the red.

Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services said, “Domestic markets along with its global peers mirrored the wounded trend of the US market. The surge in US bond yields added selling pressure in technology stocks, forced Wall Street to close lower.

SIMTS summit to conclude tomorrow

HANS BUSINESS HYDERABAD

DENTAL College of Chennai-based Saveetha Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences (SIMTS) is organizing its 8th edition of Transdisciplinary Annual Research Summit from March 1 to 6. This year, 650 students who presented the 2105 scientific posters will be rewarded with a total of 415 prizes.

Eminent personalities from different specialties like Dr Neelima Mishra, Scientist 'G', SERB, Dr. Neelam Mittal, Dental Council of India, Dr. Sijju Mathew, president of Indian Society of Orthodontics, and other reputed professors took part in the summit. The college has created equal platform and provided opportunities for all the students from undergraduate to postgraduate level, with no restrictions in terms of area of interest in research or technical intricacies involved there in. “Our work is recognized as 7,905 publications in renowned journals (6,089 in Scopus indexing, 1,122 in WOS indexing and 694 in PUBMED indexed journals). A research based approach is the need of the hour in anything and everything,” said Dr NM Veeraiyan, Founder & Chancellor, SIMTS.

India gets \$67.54-bn FDI in April-Dec 2020

NEW DELHI

INDIA attracted total FDI inflow of \$67.54 billion during April to December 2020, Centre said on Thursday. Accordingly, it is the highest ever inflow for the first ninth months of a financial year and 22 per cent higher as compared to the first ninth months of 2019-20 which stood at \$55.14 billion.

Besides, FDI equity inflow grew by 40 per cent in the first nine months of FY21 to \$51.47 billion from a year ago period of \$36.77 billion.

“FDI inflow increased by 37 per cent in third quarter of 2020-21 (\$26.16 billion) compared to third quarter of 2019-20 (\$19.09 billion). FDI inflow showed positive growth of 24 per cent in the month of Decem-

ber 2020 (\$9.22 billion) compared to December 2019 (\$7.46 billion),” an official communique said.

According to the Centre, FDI is a major driver of economic growth and an important source of non-debt finance for the economic development of India.

“It has been the endeavor of the Government to put in place an enabling and investor-friendly FDI policy. The intent all this while has been to make the FDI policy more investor friendly and remove the policy bottlenecks that have been hindering the investment inflows into the country.” “The steps taken in this direction during the last six and a half years have borne fruit, as is evident from the ever-increasing volumes of FDI inflows being received into the country.”



Kom enters 51kg semis

CASTELLON (SPAIN): In her first match in a year, six-time world champion MC Mary Kom beat Gior-dana Sorrentino of Italy to reach the women's 51kg semi-finals and ensure a medal at the Boxam Elite International tourney here.

Mary Kom has already qualified for this year's Olympic Games in Tokyo, having earned a quota place.

Earlier, World Championships bronze medallist Manish Kaushik made an impressive comeback in the ring as he outpunched Spanish opponent Rad-douane Ammari 5-0 to enter the quarter-finals in the 63kg light welterweight category. Another Indian, Mohammed Husamuddin (57kg), also made his way into the quarter-finals with a comfortable 4-1 score-line against local boy Juan Manuel Torres.

Haryana boxer Kaushik, 25, couldn't compete in the ring since Asian Olympic Qualifiers held in March last year due to injuries and is making a re-turn after more than a year's break.

Familiar foes FC Goa, Mumbai City face off in playoff curtain-raiser

MARGAO: One of the most consistent teams in the history of the tournament, FC Goa will look to take a step closer to their maiden ISL title when they face table-toppers Mumbai City in the first leg of their semifinal fixture here on Friday. Goa have secured playoff qualification a record six times but they could never manage to lift the ISL trophy, having lost the finals on two occasions.

Come Friday, the Gaurs will look to put it past League Shield winners Mumbai City FC to inch closer to the dream of lifting their first-ever trophy. Having qualified for the playoffs for the fourth-straight time, Goa are only behind Mumbai in terms of goals scored, alongside NorthEast United. They have form backing them too, having been unbeaten in 13 games now -- a feat no other side has managed in Hero ISL history.

ENGLAND IN A SPIN

Ashwin, Axar bundle out visitors for 205; India 24 for one

AHMEDABAD

ENGLAND'S batsmen lost the battle of both mind and skills in yet another shoddy performance to surrender the momentum to India with Axar Patel and Ravichandran Ashwin calling the shots on the opening day of the fourth and final Test here on Thursday.

After five innings, England crossed the 200-run mark but a total of 205 in 75.5 overs was certainly not what Joe Root had expected when he called it right at the toss on a day which would have ideally been best for batting.

There was turn and bounce but the pitch was far from being a minefield that some of the England batsmen save Ben Stokes (55, 121 balls)

made it out to be. For India, spinners Axar Patel (26-7-68-4), Ravichandran Ashwin (19.5-4-47-3) and Washington Sundar (7-1-14-1) toyed with the already messed up minds, clueless on how to deal with the conditions. Mohammed Siraj (14-2-45-2) also played his part to perfection with the semi-new and old ball, hurrying the batsmen with sheer pace as he did with Jonny Bairstow.

India ended the day at 24 for 1 with wily old James Anderson (5-5-0-1) accounting for an out-of-form Shubman Gill (0). Rohit Sharma (8 batting, 34 balls) and Cheteshwar Pujara (15 batting, 36 balls) were holding fort for the home side.

A cursory look at the England line-up, loaded with an extra batsman, will reveal that four -- Stokes, Bairstow (28, 67 balls), Dan Lawrence (46 off 74 balls) and Ollie Pope (29 off 87 balls) got starts but failed miserably on the conversion part. The others came in and went without breaking a bead of sweat. It was as if already in their minds, they were playing on a track they thought would turn square.

Stokes was a cut above the rest both in defence and offence before a moment's indecision cost him his wicket. Washington

angled one in and Stokes was on backfoot after initially trying to come forward preempting an off-break. The ball didn't turn and hit the back leg with clear indication of crashing into the leg stump. Stokes' dismissal, after a good show, upset the team's rhythm just when it was looking to redeem itself after a poor first session.

Similarly for Lawrence, who was ready to play the attacking game, and Pope, intent on using his footwork to defend while negating the turn. There was always going to be a delivery with their name written all over it.

In case of Lawrence, he was beaten by the away turn when he danced down the track only to be stumped. In case of Pope, the strategy that kept him on course brought about his downfall. He came out when Ashwin changed the line of his delivery, dropping it a bit short and the attempted flick went between his legs and Gill had a reflex catch at forward short leg. Patel, whose straight deliveries have scarred the English batsmen, was again menacing in the first session with Siraj giving him good support. Stokes and Bairstow, during their 48-run stand, showed that if one can trust their defences, batting was n't impossible.

Both played the spinners close to their body on most occasions and especially on the front-foot. But on a track like this, no batsman would feel completely set and that's what happened with both Bairstow and Stokes.

Indian captain Virat Kohli celebrates with bowler Axar Patel as the latter takes the wicket of England batsman Daniel William Lawrence during the first day's play of the 4th and last Test of the series on Thursday

SCOREBOARD DAY 1

England 1st Innings		
Zak Crawley c M Siraj b A Patel	9	
Dom Sibley b A Patel	2	
Jonny Bairstow lbw b M Siraj	28	
Joe Root lbw b M Siraj	5	
Ben Stokes lbw b W Sundar	55	
Ollie Pope c S Gill b R Ashwin	29	
Dan Lawrence st R Pant b A Patel	46	
Ben Foakes c A Rahane b R Ashwin	1	
Dom Bess lbw b A Patel	3	
Jack Leach lbw b R Ashwin	7	
Extras: (B-3, LB-5, NB-1, WD-1)		10
Total: (all out in 75.5 overs)		205
Fall of wickets: 1-10, 2-15, 3-30, 4-78, 5-121, 6-166, 7-170, 8-188, 9-189.		
Bowling: Ishant Sharma 9-2-23-0, Mohammed Siraj 14-2-45-2, Axar Patel 26-7-68-4, Ravichandran Ashwin 19.5-4-47-3, Washington Sundar 7-1-14-1.		
India 1st Innings		
Shubman Gill b J Anderson	0	
Rohit Sharma batting	8	
Cheteshwar Pujara batting	15	
Extras: (NB-1)		1
Total (For one wicket in 12 overs)		24
Fall of wickets: 1-0.		
Bowling: James Anderson 5-5-0-1, Ben Stokes 2-1-4-0, Jack Leach 4-0-16-0, Dom		



SWISS OPEN SUPER 300

Sindhu, Jayaram, Srikanth enter last 8

BASEL

INDIAN shuttlers P V Sindhu, Kidambi Srikanth and Ajay Jayaram had a good day in office as they advanced to the quarterfinals of singles competition at the Swiss Open Super 300 badminton tournament here on Thursday.

Indian mixed doubles pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Ashwini Ponnappa also progressed to the quarterfinals, continuing their recent good run in international badminton.

World champion P V Sindhu hardly broke any sweat, beating USA's Iris Wang 21-13 21-14 in the women's singles competition, while former world no 1 Srikanth notched up a 21-10 14-21 21-14 victory over world no 50 Thomas Rouxel of France and Jayaram eked out a hard-fought 21-18 17-21 21-13 against third seeded Dane Rasmus Gemke in their respective men's singles second round matches. Satwik and Ashwini, who reached the semifinals at Toyota Thailand Open Super 1000 in January, defeated the Indonesian combination of Rinov Rivaldy and Pitha Haningtyas Mentari 21-18 21-16 in a mixed doubles second-round match.

While second seed Sindhu meets fifth seeded Thai Busanan Ongbamrunphan next, fourth seed Srikanth, who had won the title in 2015, will face sixth seeded Thai Kantaphon Wangcharoen and Jayaram will be up against another Thai Kunlavut Vitidsarn, seeded eighth, in the last-eight stage.

Satwik and Ashwini will meet the winner of the match between fifth-seeded Malaysians Tan Kian Meng and Lai Pei Jing and Germany's Jones Ralfy Jansen and Kilasu Ostermeyer. However, Sourabh Verma lost 17-21 14-21 to eighth seeded Thai Kunlavut Vitidsarn to crash out of the men's singles event.

Earlier, two-time former champion Saina Nehwal bowed out of the tournament after a hard-fought first-round loss in the women's singles opening round on Wednesday night.



कपिल चिट्स

ప్రతి బంధం ఎంతో విలువైనది

నమ్మకం మీద నిలబడిన బంధం చాలా విలువైనది

“ కపిల్ చిట్స్ ” మీ కలలకు సాకారం.