

DECCAN Chronicle

THE LARGEST CIRCULATED ENGLISH DAILY IN SOUTH INDIA

HYDERABAD | FRIDAY | 2 APRIL 2021



WEATHER

Max: 39.1°C
Min: 22.2°C
RH: 20%
Rainfall: Nil

Forecast: Partly cloudy sky. Max/Min temp. 40/23°C

ASTROGUIDE

Sarvari: Uttarayana

Tithi: Phalguna Bahula Panchami till 8.17 am; Phalguna Bahula Shasti till 5.58 am (Saturday)
Star: Jyeshta till 3.44 am (Saturday)

Varjyam: 10.32 am to 12.02 pm

Durmuhurta: 8.40 am to 9.28 am; 12.44 pm to 1.33 pm

Rahu Kalam: 10.30 am to 12 noon

Hijri Calendar

Sha'bani 19, 1442 AH

PRAYERS

Fajar: 5.10 am

Zohar: 12.30 pm

Asar: 4.41 pm

Maghrib: 6.35 pm

Isha: 7.44 pm

Sunset Today 6.29 PM

Sunrise Tomorrow 6.09 AM

Moonrise Today 11.26 PM

Moonset Today 9.51 AM

COUNTER POINT



How about conferring this award on him at a mega election rally?

SHORT TAKES

GST collections cross ₹1.23 L cr

New Delhi: GST collections in March touched a record high of over ₹1.23 lakh crore, a 27 per cent growth over the year-ago period, the finance ministry said. "GST revenues crossed above ₹1 lakh crore mark at a stretch for the last six months and a steep increasing trend over this period are clear indicators of rapid economic recovery post pandemic," the ministry said.

Report on Page 9

Prez recovers after surgery

New Delhi: President Ram Nath Kovind on Thursday said he is recovering well after his bypass surgery and thanked doctors and caregivers. The president said he was touched by messages from citizens and leaders from across the country and abroad wishing him speedy recovery. "It's difficult to express in words my gratitude to you all!" Kovind said. Kovind, 75, had on Tuesday undergone a cardiac bypass surgery at the AIIMS here.

THURSDAY | SENTIMENT

Award for superstar on his favourite day

Rajini wins Dadasaheb Phalke



ANUPAMA SUBRAMANIAN | DC with agency inputs CHENNAI, APRIL 1

It looks like the Dadasaheb Phalke jury had done their homework on Rajinikanth's 'Thursday' sentiments and timed its award accordingly. Superstar Rajinikanth was conferred with the 51st Dadasaheb Phalke award on a Thursday, a day he considers special and when he schedules important events.

Prakash Javadekar, Union minister of information and broadcasting, took to social media to share the news. He wrote, "Happy to announce #Dadasaheb Phalke award for 2020 to one of the greatest actors in history of Indian cinema Rajinikanthji. His contribution as actor, producer and

screenwriter has been iconic."

The jury for this year for the prestigious award included ace playback singer Asha Bhosle, director-producer Subhash Ghai, Malayalam superstar Mohanlal, music composer and singer Shankar Mahadevan and actor-politician Biswajeet Chatterjee.

Presented annually at the National Film Award cere-

mony, the Dadasaheb Phalke Award recognises 'outstanding contribution to the growth and development of Indian cinema.' Instituted in 1969, Amitabh Bachchan was awarded with the honor in 2019.

Rajinikanth is the 12th south Indian to be conferred with this award. Legends like Dr Rajkumar, Sivaji Ganesan, Akkineni Nageswar Rao, K. Balachander and K. Vishwanathan have been awarded before.

The legendary actor has been honoured with the Padma Bhushan and Padma Vibhushan in the past.

Rajinikanth dedicated the award to those who made him what he is now: "I dedicate this award to my friend and bus driver Raj Bahadur, who discovered my acting talent and encouraged me, my elder

brother Sathyendarayana Rao Gaekwad, who sacrificed a lot to make me an actor while struggling with poverty, my guru K. Balachander, who created this Rajinikanth," he said.

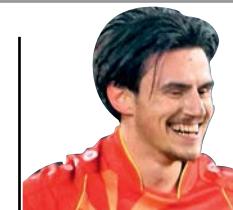
In a statement he also dedicated the award to producers, directors, technicians, distributors, theatre owners, media, the Tamil people, "who have given me my life, and my fans across the world."

Rajinikanth said he thanked the government and Prime Minister Narendra Modi for conferring him the "Indian cinema's highest honour."

His long-time co-actor and friend Kamal Haasan said on Twitter: "...The award is 100 per cent appropriate for Rajini, who has proven that he can win over fans by appearing on screen."

WORLD | 10

Court lets Rana to file reply



SPORTS | 13

Macedonia stun Germany

TABLOID

Flamboyant stars seem to live a fabulous life



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BJP will win 200+ in WB: Modi

Calls TMC shool (thorn) for West Bengal, asks if Mamata will contest from another seat

RAJIB CHOWDHURI | DC
KOLKATA, APRIL 1

Old small savings deposit rates for fixed income investors will stay as the Centre on Thursday withdrew its decision to cut interest rates saying that the "orders were issued by oversight and shall be withdrawn".

The decision to rollback was taken hours after the government announced the steepest cut in the rate on small savings schemes on Wednesday. The government, however, said the rate cuts are in line with overall interest rate movement in the financial system.

Sources said that the government's surprise rollback decision on small savings schemes is an attempt by the BJP to contain the fallout of the decision hitting the common man in the ongoing elections in West Bengal, Assam and other states.

PAKISTAN GETS COLD FEET ON INDIA TRADE

Islamabad, April 1: In a volte-face, Pakistan's Cabinet on Thursday rejected a proposal of the Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) to import cotton and sugar from India, according to a media report.

The decision comes a day after Pakistan's new finance minister Hammad Azhar on Wednesday announced to lift a nearly-two year old ban on the import of cotton and sugar from India after a meeting of the ECC chaired by him.

However, a Cabinet meeting chaired by Prime Minister Imran Khan on Thursday rejected the ECC proposal to import cotton yarn and sugar from India, Geo TV reported, citing sources. There was no official word on the decision of the Cabinet.

Ahead of the Cabinet meeting, Khan's close aide and minister for human rights Shireen Mazari said that all ECC decisions have to be approved by Cabinet and only then they can be seen as "approved" by the government. "All ECC decisions have to be approved by Cabinet & only then they can be seen as 'approved by govt'! So today in Cabinet there will be discussion on ECC decisions & then govt decision will be taken!" Mazari tweeted. — PTI

sons, two municipal vice-chairpersons, three zilla parishad territorial committee (ZPTC) members, five mandal presidents, 50 mandal parishad territorial committee (MPTC) members and 137 sarpanches covering every village and mandal.

The constituency has six mandals: They are Gurrapodu, Peddavura, Tirumalagirisagar, Halia, Nidamanoor and Tripuraram, besides a part of Madgulapalli mandal. In the last Assembly polls in December 2018, TRS candidate Nomula Narasimhaiah secured a majority over the Congress candidate K. Jana Reddy in all the mandals except in Tripuraram where he trailed by 235 votes.

The TRS dominance in this constituency was proved yet again in the gram panchayat, mandal and zilla parishad and municipal polls held soon after, in 2019, in which the TRS made an almost clean sweep.



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee at a polling station during the second phase of West Bengal Assembly Polls, at Boyal in Nandigram on Thursday. — PTI

80% VOTING IN W. BENGAL, 77% IN ASSAM IN PHASE 2

Kolkata/Guwahati, April 1: Sporadic violence took place in West Bengal while Assam witnessed peaceful polling, barring a firing incident, as people in large numbers exercised their franchise in both states in the second phase of the assembly elections on Thursday.

Officials said that over 80.43 per cent voter turnout was reported from 30 constituencies in West Bengal up to 5 pm, while Assam registered 77.21 per cent voting in 39 seats till 6 pm. West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee accused central forces deployed in Nandigram constituency, where she is locked in a fight with her former aide Suvendu Adhikari, of helping the saffron party under instructions from Union home minister Amit Shah.

Allegations of booth capturing and partisan behaviour prompted the EC to seek a report on an incident in Boyal village where the TMC boss was seized by BJP supporters.

■ Page 2: Mamata dials Governor for rescue

■ More reports on Page 6

Nandigram turns violent

RAJIB CHOWDHURI | DC with agency inputs
KOLKATA, APRIL 1

Despite prohibitory orders issued under Section 144 of the CrPC, massive presence of Centre-ordered paramilitary forces and aerial surveillance by the Election Commission, Nandigram — the hot seat

in West Bengal Assembly elections where Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee is taking on her protégé-turned-adversary Suvendu Adhikari — reeled under violence on Thursday, leaving Ms Banerjee stranded at a polling booth for over two hours.

Ms Banerjee had to be rescued by Central para-military forces stationed in the state after she was confined at a polling booth in Nandigram amid an extremely tense face-off between the BJP and Trinamool Congress supporters.

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HYDERGUDA OPP: Apollo Hospital, Pioneer Chambers, 1st Floor 1370Sft Commercial Space For Sale Rent Value 25,000/- Price: 82Lacs (Negotiable) Ph:9866420000 (HYMM/2021/C00679)

✓ JUBILEE HILLS, Road No-45, 1464 Sq.yards, North Facing Commercial plot for sale. 100% Vastu. For more details 9704222345. (HYCL/212/C00002)

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SAINIKPURI 3 & 4 BHK flats, 1500 sft to 2460 sft with all amenities, 100% vastu. Ready to occupy, gated community. www.happyhomeshyderabad.com. Ph:7729999728 & 7729999732. (S/2021/C02793)

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HOUSE FOR Sale at Nimboladda, Kachiguda, Opp. Sadanand Hotel, Near Mankalamma Temple, Area 322 Sq.yds, G+1, 6000sft. Contact Ph:8008003093. (HYCL/212/C00005)

PREMIUM VILLAS in Gated community for Sale at Akola @ 1.80s (Special Offer available). For further details, Contact: 7353585358 (HYMM/2021/C00810)

PLOTS

EACH PLOT 1000sq.yards, Plot no.7 and 8, Uma Gardens, Azingzra cross road, Himayat Nagar, 9059837792. (HYMM/212/C00014)

HMDD OPEN Plots Available at Very Low Cost With In The Radius of 3.5km From B.B.Nagar Aims Along With Construction, Bank Loans Available Ph:9010688385. (HYMM/2021/C00792)

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FOR SALE 900sqyards (167sqyards-2nos and 233sqyards -2nos) HMDD approved 3side road, corner plotters and west facing- at Apple County, Chatanpally Village, Shadnagar Municipality, Faroongnagar Mandal, Ranga Reddy District. No Brokers. Contact: 9912514937. (HYCL/212/C00033)

✓ PHARMACY, SAGARHIGHWAY yacharam DTCP approved 70 acres fully developed layout. "Temple trees" adjacent to 100ft roads, Bank loan available. Persoyal 7999/- more details ph:7097623456 (HYCL/212/C00011)

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RENTALS

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central building Begumpet for immediate occupation. Contact 9849165045. (W/2021/A001362)

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SHORT TAKES
'NO MASK, NO MEDICINE' AT MEDICAL SHOPS

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, APRIL 1

The state government on Thursday said the 'no mask, no medicine' rule must be strictly implemented by all medical shops. The government also instructed medical shops not to sell any medications meant for fever, cough and cold, unless a customer produces a prescription from a doctor for the same.

The orders, issued in the wake of increasing Covid-19 cases, directed medical shop owners and personnel that anyone who visits a medical store and displays symptoms that could be related to Covid-19, must be directed to themselves tested.

ARMY GIVES AI SYSTEM TO STOP ACCIDENTS TO TS

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, APRIL 1

Telangana on Thursday received an artificial intelligence (AI)-based accident prevention system which the Road Transport Authority will put to test on heavy vehicles.

The system, developed by the Military College of Electronics and Mechanical Engineering (MCEME), was handed over to the state government by Lieutenant General T.S.A. Narayanan, Commandant, MCEME and Colonel Commandant Corps of EME, to Jayesh Ranjan, principal secretary, information technology.

The MCEME had in the recent past carried out AI-based projects, which are being further developed as deployable systems.

COPS ARREST TWO FOR CHAIN SNATCHING

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, APRIL 1

The East Zone Task Force of Hyderabad nabbed two men and seized a stolen gold chain weighing 3 tolas from their possession.

The accused were identified as Rupesh Singh, 45, and Lakshminikant Modhani, 56, said the police.

The arrest was made following a complaint from Palakonda Saraswathi, 64, wherein she stated that on Tuesday, while she was buying lemons from a vendor on the road near Vasundara Degree College, Adikmet main road, two bike-borne men snatched her 30-gram gold mangalasutra that she was wearing.

Based on the complaint, CCTV camera footage from the vicinity were checked, the men identified and arrested. The accused persons, along with recovered property, were handed over to Nallakunta Police for taking further action against them.

MIM LEADER HACKED TO DEATH IN CITY

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, APRIL 1

An MIM leader from Hyderabad was hacked to death in broad daylight on the busy Mailardevpally road on Thursday afternoon. According to the police, the victim, Asad Khan, 40, was ambushed by a group of men near Indian Function Hall when he was heading towards Shastripuram on his bike.

Asad was the prime accused in two murder cases reported earlier. In 2018, he allegedly got one Amjad Khan killed at Shastripuram. The Hyderabad police had invoked the Preventive Detention Act on Asad Khan in 2018.

Of the attack on the MIM leader, K. Narasimha, Mailardevpally police station house officer said, "The perpetrators, who are yet to be identified, fled the place in an autorickshaw after the murder. We suspect that previous enmity related to the Amjad Khan murder case is the reason behind the attack."

Asad Khan was rushed to Osmania General Hospital with severe bleeding injuries to the head and neck, where doctors pronounced him dead.

The video of the murder, shot by locals, started doing rounds on social media platforms with netizens questioning the policing in the city.

The Mailardevpally police, who have started investigation by registering a case under section 302 (murder) of the IPC, said that efforts are on to trace and nab the men behind the crime.

Tweak vaccine drive: Expert

Wants India to remove age barriers, capitalise on its Pulse Polio programme experience

BALU PULIPAKA | DC
HYDERABAD, APRIL 1

India could have done better with its Covid-19 vaccination strategy and relying on the possibility of developing herd immunity may not serve the purpose of containing a resurgent Coronavirus, according to an infectious diseases specialist.

According to Dr Ranga Reddy Burri, president of the Infection Control Academy and honorary professor at University of Hyderabad, India could have designed a vaccination strategy appropriate to its needs and population instead of following the Western model of starting the vaccination drive for senior citizens.

Instead, India, should, at least now, remove all age limits for vaccination and accelerate the drive to enable the young and economically active population to come out and be part of the economic activities that need to pick up further, he said. Incidentally, this is also the strategy the Telangana state government has been urging the Centre to follow. Considering that a large percentage of senior citizens are not active and surplus availability of vaccine unlike in other countries is just not available in India, certainly not on an equitable basis, the Centre may tweak its vaccination strategy to avoid further deterioration of situation and to safely restart all engines of economy, Dr Ranga Reddy told *Deccan Chronicle*.

India, he said, should capitalise its experience from the Pulse Polio programme, and redesign the Covid-19 vaccination system to provide the vaccines at home to people, and that the authorities should increase the number of vaccination centres from the current 10,000 government and 20,000 private centres.

These measures will help India gain some much-needed traction against Covid-19 which is witnessing a resurgence in the disease. Several states are already ringing alarm bells, fast-filling ICUs and increasing pressure on their healthcare systems. With the situation going from bad to worse, a new lockdown, though currently being talked about as a remote possibility for now, could be an option to stop the further escalation of the spread of Covid-19.

Getting the vaccination strategy right with the right kind of tweaks, will help stop the many mistakes in virus control that India is still allowing to happen, he said.

Participating in an emergency teleconference meeting on Thursday, Rajendar asked doctors to provide quality services and ensure that people do not succumb to the disease.

According to government doctors, who briefed the minister, it was noted that people were coming late to hospital and the crucial 'incubation time' was lost in serious cases.

A senior government doc-

tor on condition of anonymity said, "The serious cases are coming to government hospitals after the patients have visited private hospitals. Earlier, they all used to come to the government hospitals, which saved precious time. Only serious cases are being admitted in government hospitals. For mild cases kits are being provided for home treatment."

Another government doc-

tor explained, "We are admitting more people in serious condition from the 30-45 years age-group. This vulnerable population is coming with high viral load. Most of them are asymptomatic and it is only CT scans that provide a clear picture."

Rajendar took stock of the

medical equipment like personal protection kits, remdesivir injections, N 95 masks,

liquid oxygen tanks, bulk cylinders and tablets in different hospitals. He also asked

doctors to instill confidence among the people about the availability of medicines. Remdesivir must not

be procured in black as it is abundantly available with the government, he urged.

All healthcare workers

have been asked to work round-the-clock and additional staff would be hired on a temporary basis. In the villages, ground-level medical staff plays a major role in preventing spread of the virus. People must be counselled about staying within their zone and avoiding unnecessary travel.

Travel to different states must be avoided as the situation in all states is getting grim. Medical and health officials from districts neighbouring Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Chhattisgarh must be on alert, he said.

They have been asked to carry out robust surveillance by testing, tracking and treating cases.

KANIZA GARARI | DC
HYDERABAD, APRIL 1

Health minister Etala Rajendar urged hospital superintendents and health officials to take steps to ensure that the Covid-19 death rate comes down.

Everyone knows by now vaccination is the best possible way to get out of this mess. The other possible way is to get herd immunity, which is a riskier, long-drawn process involving at least 70 per cent of the population getting immunity. Achieving herd immunity is also uncertain as newer strains and variants are emerging which probably could be resistant to current vaccines," says Reddy.

A senior government doc-

tor stressed that those above 45 years of age must take the free vaccine from govt hospitals. All govt hospitals have vaccination centres and vaccines are the way to fight the disease.

tor on condition of anonymity said, "The serious cases are coming to government hospitals after the patients have visited private hospitals. Earlier, they all used to come to the government hospitals, which saved precious time. Only serious cases are being admitted in government hospitals. For mild cases kits are being provided for home treatment."

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All healthcare workers

Etala: Ensure death rate comes down

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, APRIL 1

The Covid-19 vaccination drive received a fillip on Thursday with everyone over the age of 45 becoming eligible to receive the jab. So far, vaccination was reserved for those older than 60 years, and those between 45 and 59 years with comorbidities, apart from healthcare workers and frontline staff.

In a letter to states and Union Territories, the Union health ministry said vaccination will be

available at designated centres, both government and private, on all days of April. There will be no

break in vaccination days and the service will be available even on officially announced public holidays across the country.

In Telangana, the health department said that as on March 31, a total of 12,64,026 doses of vaccine had been administered in the state. Of these, 10,24,990 persons received their first dose.

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centres, both government

and private, on all days of

April. There will be no

second dose as well.

Dr Vikas Bhatia, executive director, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Bibinagar, said everyone over the age of 45 should get vaccinated, adding that vaccination will be available everyday starting from 9 am to 4 pm. He urged people to follow Covid-19 precautions such as wearing masks, observing physical distancing norms, and hand sanitisation.

Officials said there is increased likelihood of heat illness symptoms in people who are either exposed to sun for a prolonged period or are doing heavy work. There will be high health concern for vulnerable people — infants, elderly, people with chronic diseases.

"Due to increase of heat conditions and maximum temperatures rise during 12 noon to 3 pm, the public is advised not to go outside during the period," it said and recommended intake of liquids like oral rehydration

solutions very likely to occur at isolated pockets in the districts of Bhadrakot, Khammam, Suryapet, Nalgonda,

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Mahbubnagar and Nagarkurnool."

salts (ORS) and water. It

advised people to stay in cool and shaded areas, avoid heat exposure and dehydration.

However, there could be good news ahead.

According to a seasonal

outlook released by the IMD for April, May and June, the maximum temperature in the state would be slightly less than the normal values.

"Over Telangana maximum temperatures are likely to be slightly less to the normal value (-0.17)

during April to June with a probability of 40 to 50 per cent," said IMD director Dr K. Nagarathna.



People cover their heads with cloth to save themselves from scorching heat. The traffic during noon has dropped drastically due to heat. — P. SURENDRA

bolaram (39.7°C), Patigada and Narayanguda (35.5°C).

The IMD in its warning said: "Heat wave condi-

WIFE OF SR POLICE OFFICER HOSPITALISED AFTER VACCINE

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, APRIL 1

and ECG were closely monitored at OGH. Hyderabad police commissioner Anjani Kumar spoke to the doctors at the Osmania Hospital about her condition. She was discharged after three hours as her condition was stable. Health officials stated that there were no complications and it was only a mild effect due to the vaccine administration.

TS RECORDS 887 FRESH COVID-19 CASES, 4 DEATHS

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, APRIL 1

The number of Covid cases in the state surged to 887 on Wednesday, a rise of over 200 cases in a day and an increase of more than 400 cases in two days. On Monday, the state had recorded 483 cases and on Tuesday, 684. The caseload stood at 3,08,776 on Wednesday, the state health department bulletin said.

There were four more deaths due to the disease on Wednesday, taking the toll to 1,701.

The number of cases in the GHMC area crossed the 200-mark and stood at 201, against 184 on Tuesday and 145 on Monday. The number of active cases has increased to 5,511 with 2,166 persons in home and institutional isolation.

The districts on the city outskirts also witnessed a huge rise in numbers, with Medchal Malkajgiri reporting 79 cases and Ranga Reddy 76. Medchal Malkajgiri has recorded 364 cases from March 25 to March 31.

Nirmal district saw 78 registered on Wednesday — March 25, there were only eight cases there. On March 30 the district saw 30 cases and on March 31, 78.

Jagital district recorded 56 cases, taking the caseload since March 25 to 147. Other districts which are seeing a surge in cases are Nizamabad (45), Sangareddy (36), Mahbubnagar (22), Kamareddy (27) and Karimnagar (23) cases. The government tested 59,297 samples, 46.8 per cent of them primary contacts and 12.1 per cent secondary contacts. The government said 79.9 per cent patients were asymptomatic.

RENT / LEASE COMMERCIAL / INDUSTRIAL BUILDING @ IDA UPPAL			
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CONTACT: 9346208952, 9848906119 karunakar@sreedi.com.in			

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA REVENUE (LA) DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF THE COLLECTOR, RANGAREDDY DISTRICT FORM-F (See Rule 7(c))

IN BRIEF

KCR for Good Friday prayers as per rules

Hyderabad: Chief Minister K Chandrashekhar Rao recalled the commitment of Jesus Christ to humanity and his teachings on the occasion of Good Friday, observed by Christians to commemorate the day Jesus was crucified.

The CM said, "The Christ's teachings of peace, patience, and love even the enemy should be a way forward for humanity." In the wake of the Coronavirus re-emergence, the CM urged the Christians to conduct Good Friday prayers in accordance with the Covid-19 rules.

23-yr-old held for vulgar messages

Hyderabad: A 23-year-old was arrested by the Rachakonda cybercrime police on Thursday for harassing women on social media platforms by sending vulgar messages and posts.

The accused, Medipally Rohit, was allegedly addicted to watching porn on his mobile.

"In January, he created a fake Instagram account on the name of 'Srvan_685' and started sending vulgar messages and memes to random women through a group called 'Fun Club,'" police said. Following a complaint, officials collected technical evidence and arrested Rohit.

HC REJECTS CASH-FOR-VOTE SCAM APPEAL

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, APRIL 1

The Telangana High Court on Thursday rejected the appeal of R. Uday Sinha, one of the accused, seeking discharge in the cash-for-vote scam of May 2015.

Justice Shamim Akther rejected the appeal, stating that when the case was in the trial stage, it would not be proper to discharge the accused. Uday Simha was arrested along with A. Revanth Reddy, then a Telugu Desam leader and now with the Congress, while giving ₹50 lakh to Elvis Stephenson, a nominated MLA, to vote in favour of a Telugu Desam Candidate in the Legislative Council elections.

Earlier, the ACB court had also rejected the discharge petition of Uday Simha following which he moved the High Court with an appeal petition.

In another development on Thursday regarding the cash-for-vote scam case, the ACB court recorded the statements of Stephenson, who first lodged the complaint with the ACB, about the proposal given to him by Revanth Reddy and others, asking him to vote in favor of the TD candidate.

FOOD STALL OWNER STABBED TO DEATH

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, APRIL 1

Sardar Satnam Singh, 38, owner of a food stall, was found stabbed to death at his residence in Suryanagar, Chikkadpally, late on Wednesday night. Police said his family was staying at the Gowliguda gurdwara from March 10, leaving Satnam Singh with one Nishanth Singh, 18, a native of Haryana, who works at his food stall at Narayanguda.

Satnam Singh's body was found by some friends who went to meet him, said Chikkadpally inspector P. Shiva Shankar Rao. Police said Nishanth Singh was missing and not reachable over the phone, while Satnam Singh's mobile phone was also missing.

Roads without plans

After a fresh layer of road was laid, the rotary in front of Public Gardens has almost come to the level of the road.

Government toughens stand on 'undivided share' land sale

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, APRIL 1

Chief Secretary Somesh Kumar on Thursday met with representatives from Credai (Confederation of Real Estate Developers Association of India) and real estate organisations regarding issues pertaining to property transactions of undivided share (UDS) of land. TS RERA (Real Estate Regulatory Authority) representatives informed that sales of UDS would lead to cheating of the general public.

Accordingly, the secretary, RERA, and commissioner, IG, stamps and registrations, were directed to issue instructions against such sales.

The public were advised not

to buy UDS lands of such firms, which could lead to litigation in the future as they were not registered with the TSRERA. Ravi Gupta, principal secretary, home, was asked to look take appropriate action against fraudulent sales.

The TS RERA said certain promoters, builders and developers are marketing and selling units in undivided share of lands in projects which are yet to be launched or constructed, at nominal or discounted prices. "This is not in consonance with Section 3 of RERA Act. The sale of such lands without prior registration of the project with TS RERA shall attract penalty up to 10 per cent of the total project cost under Section 59 of the RERA Act," the TS RERA said.

It added, "Appropriate action shall also be initiated against such promoters, builders and developers." It cautioned that as such properties will not be registered with TS RERA, the public must not to buy flats or plots in UDS lands as there is a high risk of getting cheated.

The commissioner and IG of registration and stamps department also issued a circular which said that a few builders, developers, promoters and individuals were offering built-up area in the guise of undivided share (UDS) of land in projects, which are yet to be launched, at nominal or discount prices. The amount collected is being diverted for other purposes.

TRS' annual plenary likely to be delayed

Party has planned to celebrate 28th anniv in a big way

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, APRIL 1

● THIS YEAR'S plenary assumed significance as it marked two decades of the party's founding. Last year, the event was cancelled in view of the Covid related lockdown.

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Last year, the event was cancelled in view of the Coronavirus related lockdown. In April 2019, the party did not hold the plenary due to the Lok Sabha elections in April-May.

As per the party constitution, organisation-

al elections should be held every two years to elect the party president.

The last organisational elections were held during the 2018 plenary in which TRS president K. Chandrashekhar Rao was re-elected.

On February 7 this year, addressing the TRS state executive committee meeting at Telangana Bhavan, Chandrashekhar Rao had said that the party will hold the plenary in a grand manner on April 27 to mark the 20th anniversary of the party's formation, followed by a public meet-

ing with one lakh people.

He launched the party membership drive on February 12 and set a target of enrolling not less than 50,000 members in each of the 119 Assembly segments. He said that the election of new committees from the ward to the state level would commence on March 1.

All these dates were missed as the Legislative Council elections in March and the u p c o m i n g Nagajuna Sagar Assembly bypoll on April 17 kept the party leadership engaged.

BJYM activists felicitate Telangana state BJP president Bandi Sanjay with a sword during the state executive meeting at the BJP office in Nampally on Thursday.

—P. SURENDRA

VIJAYASHANTI ACCUSES CM OF HARASSMENT

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, APRIL 1

BJP senior leader and former MP Vijayashanti on Thursday alleged that Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao was harassing her by filing illegal cases against her even after nine years. She said she would remain undaunted irrespective of how many cases he filed against her.

Vijayashanti was speaking after appearing in the Nampally court for a 2012 case filed against her at Mahbubabad during the statehood agitation.

She had high respect for the judiciary and the verdict would be based on facts.

"I was in TRS in 2012 and campaigned on behalf of the party. Cases were registered against me due to failure to get specific permission from the authorities," she explained.

She alleged that when people like her were on the streets during the movement, Chandrashekhar Rao, who claims to be the leader of the movement, was only concerned about his farm house and Pragathi Bhavan.

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BJYM activists felicitate Telangana state BJP president Bandi Sanjay with a sword during the state executive meeting at the BJP office in Nampally on Thursday.

—P. SURENDRA

Don't need cadre who fear police cases: Bandi

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, APRIL 1

BJP state president Bandi Sanjay Kumar stated that the party was able to rise to high levels because many activists had sacrificed their lives for it.

He urged the cadre to work hard to achieve their goals in Telangana state and reiterated that BJP would not have any electoral alliance.

Addressing a Yuva Morcha executive meeting here on Thursday, Sanjay Kumar asked the cadre to continue the hard work and ensure that the party comes to power in the state in

2023. He cautioned that the party will have no need of activists who fear police cases and arrests.

Sanjay said that they would hoist the party flag at Golconda Fort and alleged that Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao was enjoying power that came to him following sacrifices of countless martyrs during the statehood struggle. Rao was running a corrupt administration like the Razakars, he alleged.

Sanjay, the Karimnagar MP, condemned TRS leaders for spreading false news that they will an alliance in the next

election. He said the job notification before the Nagajuna Sagar byelection was aimed at influencing the voters.

The government was encouraging corporate education institutions to loot people.

Sanjay expressed unhappiness at the decision of the intellectuals in the MLC graduates elections.

He slammed the IPS officer, who claimed that during Bhainsa incident, Hindu Vahini activists had attacked journalists.

Yuva Morcha president Bhanu Prakash presided over the meeting.

Sanjay, the Karimnagar MP, condemned TRS leaders for spreading false news that they will an alliance in the next

Memorial Service

Remember His wonderful deeds which He has done, His marvels and the judgments from Him

I Chronicles 16:12

Mrs. Pindiga Sarah Mathews

W/o Late P.N. Mathews

DOB: 25.12.1924

Burial at: CSI Cemetery Mettuguda, Secunderabad on 02.04.2021 @4:00 PM

Inserted By: FAMILY MEMBERS

Ph: 9849647939, 9848322311

SHRADHANJALI

8th Aug 1940 to 30th Mar 2021.

Our beloved and revered Capt.

Manohar Sharma Ji

left for heavenly abode on 30th March 2021.

Praying to the Almighty to grant eternal

Peace to the departed soul.

A Tribute to Sharma Ji, our loving friend forever.... Cherish your friendship, Your

Positivity and Inner Strength... Gone but never

forgotten. The light of our lives...

Ashok Savita Luthra

Avinash Meena Gupta

OBITUARY

It is with great sadness that we

announce the demise of our

loving friend

Vinay Golem

DOD: 29 Mar 2021

We will miss you every

moment of our life

Naveen Rao Kattela

Anthony Ross,

Narsimha Reddy,

Ranjith Kavali,

Prasanna Kandula,

Tulsi Kanna,

Amjad Khan

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Deep Sunaina Mohan

Indira Vij

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Mina Lamba Verma

Pradeep Alka Chowdhari

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SHORT TAKES**GOVT: 'ORDER' ON
SHOP CLOSURE
AT NIGHT IS FAKE**DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, APRIL 1

A fake government order, purportedly announcing restrictions on working hours for shops and other business establishments, that made quick rounds on social media platforms on Thursday night was quickly shot down by the state government as an act of mischief.

Soon after a copy of 'G.O. No 45' dated April 1, that said establishments should shut down at 6 pm with immediate effect and stay closed till 8 am every day, began making the rounds. Chief Secretary Somesh Kumar stated that the government had not issued any such order.

He made it clear that the state government is not considering any type of a lockdown in the state.

**CITY TO WITNESS
FIRST NINE-DAY
DANCE FEST**DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, APRIL 1

The Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority (HMDA) will be organising the first-of-its-kind nine-day dance festival from April 3.

Addressing the media on behalf of the Hyderabad Dance Festival, actress Faris Abdulla of 'Jathi Ratnalu' fame encouraged dance enthusiasts to participate in the workshops — live or online. The festival brings together panel discussions, workshops and performances for professionals, enthusiasts and connoisseurs alike.

Arvind Kumar, senior officer, expressed happiness in supporting the festival, saying, "Hyderabad has always been at the forefront of the performing arts. Sham-e-Hyderabad is one such event in which dancers of repute — Padma Shri and Sangeet Natak Akademi awardees — will be performing for the people."

Mahehwari, part of the organising team, said that to create something grand, it takes energy from a lot of people and communities to come together. "I have been lucky to witness that growth with each year in this beautiful city."

The other two founders of the Hyderabad Dance Festival — Mohit Sridhar, a Kathak icon and Vaibhav Kumar Modi, a Kathak student — anticipate beautiful dance creations as a result of the festival. Vaibhav Modi said that the festival is "poised to project Hyderabad as a global stage where year on year the best can come forward to celebrate dance and the spirit of Hyderabad."

Information on all workshops, panel discussions and performances that are a part of the festival can be found on their website hyddancefestival.com or in the social media handles.

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Maundy Thursday

Father Thumma Solomon, parish priest of St Mary's Basilica, washes the feet of parishioners during Maundy Thursday, in Secunderabad.
— S. SURENDER REDDY.

**Inter students seek
reopening of colleges**

They say online classes have been of no use, want practicals

HARLEEN
MINOCHA | DC
HYDERABAD, APRIL 1

The second closure of education institutions is proving to be difficult for all stakeholders. This time it is the student community demanding the reopening of colleges ahead of the approaching examinations.

At least 70 students from 10 junior colleges, including Sri Chaitanya Junior College, Narayana Junior College, FIITJEE, gave representations to the TS Human Rights Commission, education minister Sabitha Indra Reddy and TS Board of Intermediate Board (TSBIE) secretary Syed Omar Jaleel, demanding the reopening of colleges ahead of the practical and final exams scheduled next month.

Speaking to *Deccan Chronicle*, several students, on condition of anonymity said they need physical classes for at least a few weeks to be able to confidently sit for the exams.

"Our future depends on these exams," said one student. "Online classes have been of no use to us. Teachers have given us the theoretical, boorish explanations. The

re have been no practical classes, or even doubt clearing sessions. How are we supposed to clear our practicals in such a situation?" they said. The situation was worse for BPC students, heading for the medical courses, who have to take practical exams in the next two weeks, they said.

Another student from the BPC stream said, "While we understand that it has been an unusual academic year and circumstances for the 2020 batch have been something no other has seen before, right now we are more concerned about what the future holds for us. We could lose out on a lot of opportunities if we don't get to do our best in our final exams. We were not given enough time to prepare for these exams."

The education department authorities acknowledged the representation from students.

There has been no further response from them on the issue.

60-70 students of at least 10 junior colleges in the state assembled outside the TSBIE office and met with the education minister to request reopening of colleges with Covid protocols in place.

The ministry said the Indian mission in Berlin has opined, based on his OCI card (which is issued after due verification only to foreign citizens and not to Indians) and German passport, that Dr. Chennamaneni is a German citizen.

"The German Embassy in New Delhi, when approached, has stated that a person might hold a German passport, but he or she does not have to be a German citizen. But Dr. Ramesh Chennamaneni continued to be in possession of a German Passport and travelled abroad using his German Passport even after acquisition of Indian Citizenship on 3 February 2009," the home ministry explained in an additional affidavit submitted before the court.

Documents containing Dr. Chennamaneni's immigration details regarding his travel to and from India were placed before the high court by the home ministry, which has taken these from the online Immigration, Visa and Foreigners Tracking (IVFRT) system.

The ministry also informed the court that Chennamaneni had obtained a German passport in 2013, by stating that he was a German Citizen.

The Court has adjourned the case for two weeks, as counsel for Chennamaneni sought to file a counter affidavit.

**HC dismisses PIL against
'dubious' treatments in hosp**DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, APRIL 1

The Telangana High Court on Thursday dismissed a public interest litigation (PIL) filed by journalist Narendra Kapizet, seeking to direct Care and Global Hospitals to pay ₹50 crore for alleged negligence and unethical practice assuring to increase the height of people, among other 'dubious' claims.

A division bench, comprising Chief Justice Hima Kohli and Justice B. Vijayen Reddy was dealing with the PIL filed in 2016.

After noticing several medical negligence cases in cor-

height of a software profes-

sional.

He urged the court to appoint an expert committee to probe into the illegalities and suggest remedies for bringing accountability in the private health system and strengthening the public health system.

porate hospitals, the petitioner approached the court, seeking a redressal forum for the victims who suffer financial losses and anguish.

In the petition, he cited neg-

ligence by Care Hospital in not diagnosing cancer in a woman who later died of the disease. He also mentioned the surgery at Global Hospital for increasing the

height of a software profes-

sional.

However, the bench was not inclined to pass any directions and advised the petitioner to make a representa-

tion to the government on the issues raised in the petition.

**Body of man found
inside refrigerator**DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, APRIL 1

The body of a man was found partially stuffed inside a refrigerator at his house at Karmikanagar of Jubilee Hills on Thursday evening. It is learned that one person has surrendered before the police while a woman was taken into custody for questioning for the murder.

Police said the victim, Mohd Siddiq Ahmed, 35, a tailor, was residing the rented house along with his wife Rubina. Two days ago, Rubina went to her parents' house. On Thursday, the homeowner grew suspicious as Ahmed was not seen and tried to call him over the phone.

Jubilee Hills police, who reached the house and found the body, police said. "We suspect that the killers tried to keep the body in the refrigerator to decompose," said S. Rajeswar Reddy, Jubilee Hills inspector.

Police shifted the body for the post-mortem examination, booked a case and began an investigation.

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**GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
Office Of The District Medical & Health Officer,
Medchal-Malkajgiri District**

Date:30.03.2021, Notification No: 2161; L.No.2161/E/E/NC Clinics/DM&HO/MDCL/2021 Paper notice for the below vacant posts of (NMHP, NPCDCS, NPC) under National Health Mission on contract basis in the office of District Medical and Health Officer.

1. Psychiatrist - 1 post 2. Physiotherapist - 1 post 3. Staff Nurse - 4 posts Application forms and recruitment rules can be downloaded from www.medcal.telangana.gov.in under the recruitment tab. Filled forms can be submitted at the office of the district medical and health officer, B-Block, 1st floor, Collector Complex, Keesara-501301 on all official working days from 06-04-2021 to 09-04-2021. Timing: 11.00 AM to 4.00 PM

Sd/- District Medical & Health Officer, Medchal-Malkajgiri District R.O. No.: 3-DP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2021-22

**ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION TRAINING & RESEARCH INSTITUTE
HYDERABAD
Tender Notice****EOI for empanelment of Experts**

Environment Protection Training & Research Institute (EPTRI) invites Expression of Interest (EOI) from Reputed Consultants/ Firms for empanelment to take up study of "Performance evaluation of Sewage Treatment plants".

The complete details of scope of work and application are available in www.eptri.telangana.gov.in website.

Interested Consultant/ Firms having relevant work experience may submit their EOI by 5 pm on 07.04.2021 to E.P.T.R.I 91/4, Gachibowli, Hyderabad, Sd/- Director General R.D.O. No.: 1670-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2021-22

**ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION TRAINING & RESEARCH INSTITUTE
HYDERABAD
EOI NOTICE****EOI for empanelment of Consultants/ Firms/ Experts**

Environment Protection Training & Research Institute (EPTRI) invites Expression of Interest (EOI) from Reputed Consultants/ Firms for empanelment to take up the work of Preparation of DPR for UGD system along with STPs for 12 ULBs in the Telangana State"

The complete details of scope of work and application are available in www.eptri.telangana.gov.in website. Interested Consultant/ Firms having relevant work experience may submit their EOI by 5 pm on 15.04.2021 to E.P.T.R.I 91/4, Gachibowli, Hyderabad.

R.O. No.: 1662-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2021-22 Sd/- Director General

**Department of Atomic Energy
Hyderabad Regional Purchase Unit****Corrigendum to e-Tender Notice**

Last Date for Submission of Online Bid against NIT No.: DPS/HRPCU/NFC/PT/TPT/ENG/17083 is extended upto 09/04/2021 up to 2:00 PM.

Visit https://etenders.dpsdae.gov.in for details.

[DPS/HRPCU/NFC/2021/66C2]

**GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
HYDERABAD ROAD DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED**

e-procurement Notice No. 07/E/SE/DEE/HRCL/2020-21 DT.31.03.2021

Online tenders are invited under e-procurement platform for one (1) work at an estimate cost of Rs. 55.00 Lakhs.

Tenderer can download the tender schedules from e-market place ie., "www.tender.telangana.gov.in" from 08.04.2021 3.00PM onwards.

The last date and time of receipt of Bids is on or before 22.04.2021 upto 3.30PM. The date of Opening of Technical Bid : 22.04.2021 at 4.00 PM. Date of opening of Price Bid: 27.04.2021 at 5.00PM. Further details are available at e-procurement market place ie., www.tender.telangana.gov.in

SUPERINTENDENT ENGINEER HRCL, Hyderabad

RO NO: 1664-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2021-22

**NORTHERN RAILWAY
Tender Notice****Invitation of Tenders through E-Procurement System**

Principal Chief Materials Manager, Northern Railway, New Delhi-110001, for and on behalf of the President of India, invites e-tenders through e-procurement system for supply of the following items:-

Sr. No. Tender No. Brief Description Qty. Closing Date

01 02211929 Disconnecting and Earthing Device 150 NOS 28.04.2021

02 19210961 Set of Single Duct Leather Bellow for Traction Motor 50 SET 30.04.2021

03 19210772 Membrane for Hurth Coupling of WAP-5 Loco 306 NOS 01.06.2021

04 02211918 Blower Fan Motor 1.1 KW 389 NOS 17.06.2021

NOTE: 1. Vendors may visit the IREPS website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in for details.

2. No Manual offer will be entertained.

Tender Notice No. 01/2021-2022 Dated : 01.04.2021

752/2021

Serving Customers With A Smile

QUICK ACTION

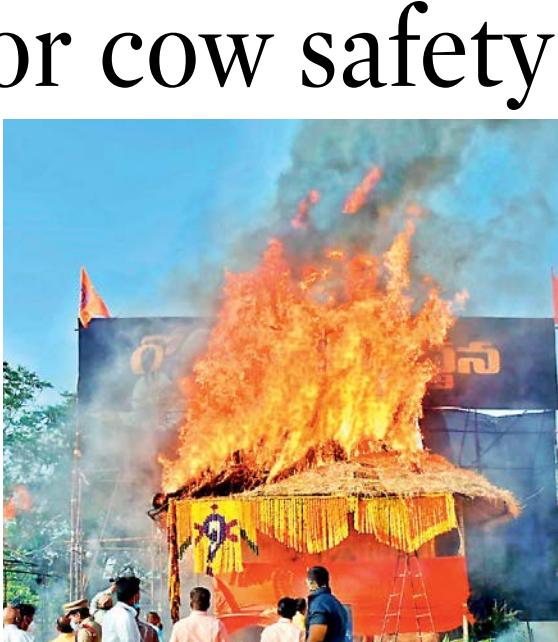
Swami: One must understand a cow is scientifically close to nature

SANJAY SAMUEL
PAUL | DC
HYDERABAD, APRIL 1

The movement to protect cows is not political but something that is needed for the well-being of society and general happiness of the people, said Tridandi Chinna Srimannarayana Ramanuja Jeeyar Swami on Thursday.

Addressing the Go Maha Garjana public meeting at NTR Stadium here, the Chinna Jeeyar said that governments were never serious about implementing a 2005 judgment by the Supreme Court on cow protection. Cows, he said, have known abilities to help control spread of diseases. Society, by keeping cows safe, can reap various benefits including keeping natural calamities at bay.

The killing of cows is not sanctioned in any religious text, the Chinna Jeeyar said, adding that religion aside, one must understand that a cow is scientifically close to nature.



Though the past governments had done little, the Prime Minister Narendra Modi government was setting right past mistakes. Kolisetty Shiva Kumar, chairman of Yuga Tulasi Foundation and member of the TTD Trust Board, who organised the event, made it clear that negligence on part of the governments to protect cows will not be tolerated any more.

Setting a 90-day deadline for stopping illegal trans-

port of cows and their slaughter, he said violators must be strictly punished. He demanded that the government set up special patrols on highways to stop illegal transportation of cows, punish veterinarians who give fake ill health certificates for cow enabling their slaughter, and institute a scheme on the lines of Rythu Bandhu to provide ₹20,000 a month to each goshala for upkeep of cows.

Portions of cows and their slaughter, he said violators must be strictly punished. He demanded that the government set up special patrols on highways to stop illegal transportation of cows, punish veterinarians who give fake ill health certificates for cow enabling their slaughter, and institute a scheme on the lines of Rythu Bandhu to provide ₹20,000 a month to each goshala for upkeep of cows.

Portions of cows and their slaughter,

SHORT TAKES

JAWAN BEGINS KASHMIR TO KANYAKUMARI RUNYUSUF JAMEEL | DC
SRINAGAR, APRIL 1

An Army corporal on Thursday began a walk from Kashmir to Kanyakumari with a resolve to set a Guinness World Record.

Naik N.A. Velu P. of the Army's 60 Para Field Hospital who was sent off from the headquarters of the Chinair or 15 Corps headquarters here by his colleagues on the journey covering a distance of approximately 4,300 kilometres within 50 days is an "ultra-marathoner who is attempting a Guinness book of world record, defence spokesman Lt. Colonel Emron Musavi said.

He was flagged off from 92 Base Hospital at Srinagar with a heart-warming gathering of enthusiasts.

ODISHA SIZZLES UNDER SEVERE HEAT WAVEDC CORRESPONDENT
BHUBANESWAR, APRIL 1

Bhubaneswar which on Wednesday recorded the country's maximum temperature of 44.2 degrees Celsius, continued to sizzle under intense heat wave on Thursday. The city, according to local meteorological office sources, recorded 39.8 degrees Celsius temperature.

While Angul and Talcher recorded the highest 42.7 degrees Celsius temperature, mercury hovered over 40 degrees Celsius in at least 13 other cities.

Stating that the heat wave conditions would continue till next 24 hours, the weather department cautioned people not to venture out under the scorching sun.

Like Wednesday, normal life was severely affected on Thursday after mercury began to shoot up after 8 am.

Soon after, the local Met office posted a tweet warning people to avoid direct heat exposure till 4 pm. The Regional Meteorological Centre forecasted that there would be a fall in temperature in the state from Friday.

TIGERESS FOUND DEAD IN MP RESERVE FORESTDC CORRESPONDENT
Bhopal, April 1

A female tiger died in Bandhavgarh reserve forest core zone which was struck by a wildfire a couple of days ago, forest officers said on Thursday. Carcass of the 13-year-old tigress was found in Rahania forest beat area under Magadhi range in the reserve late on Tuesday night, field director of Bandhavgarh tiger reserve Wincent Rahim said.

Post-mortem of the body was done on Wednesday by the veterinary doctor of the range Nitin Gupta in the presence of representatives of National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) and senior officers of the state forest department including Rahim.

The post-mortem report, made public late on Wednesday night, suggested that the big cat may have succumbed to injuries caused by a fierce fight with another tiger, a senior forest officer told this newspaper.

"Prima facie it appears the tigress had suffered grievous wounds due to a tussle with a male tiger during their mating. The big cat had injury marks on her shoulder and neck. She may have succumbed to her injuries", Rahim said.



People queue up to vote on Thursday during the second phase of Assembly elections in East Medinipur district of West Bengal.

— PRITAM BANDYOPADHYAY

Cong, AIUDF aim to make big gains in Assam 2nd phase**Assam records 73% polling in 39 Assembly constituencies in phase-II**MANOJ ANAND | DC
GUWAHATI, APRIL 1**Assam polls battle between 'jhoooth' & 'vikas', says Modi**DC CORRESPONDENT
GUWAHATI, APRIL 1

In the second phase of polling, Assam on Thursday recorded more than 73 per cent polling in 39 Assembly seats spread across six different regions of the state. The Nowrang seat recorded the highest turnout of 83.10 per cent.

The six regions which went to polls on Thursday included Southern Assam's Barak Valley with 15 seats, Central Assam's 12 seats, Hill districts' five seats, Bodoland Territorial Council's four seats, Kamrup rural's two seats and one seat of lower Assam.

The political battles are also different in each of these regions. The biggest chunk of seats in the second phase are in the Barak Valley, in southern Assam. Bengali speaking voters are in a majority in this region, which has a sizable number of migrants, both — Hindus and Muslims. The BJP has traditionally been stronger among Bengali Hindus.

This region also has a sizable number of Muslim population — 60 per cent in Hailakandi district, 56 per cent in Karimganj district and 37 per cent in Cachar district. The Barak Valley Muslims are also Bengali speaking. In the 2016 Assembly polls, the BJP had won eight out of 15 seats, the All India United Democratic Front (AIUDF) four and the Congress three.

This time, however, the equations have changed with the Congress and AIUDF joining hands. In 2016, out of the eight seats BJP won, four were due to a vote split between the Congress and AIUDF. This time the two parties have come together therefore, the alliance is hoping its chances of inflicting heavy losses on the BJP in this region.

Three seats each in Darrang, Morigaon, Nagaon and Hojai districts also voted in the second phase of polling on Thursday. Five seats in Nagaon have already voted along with Upper Assam in the first phase of polling.

Like Barak Valley, Central Assam too has a sizable Muslim population, though it is a mix of Assamese and Bengali speakers.

Muslims account for 56 per cent of the population in central Assam's Nagaon district, 52 per cent in Morigaon, 53 per cent in Hojai and 64 per cent in Darrang. This region, too, is likely to witness a major impact of the Congress-led grand alliance with AIUDF.

In 2016, NDA had won 9 out of 12 seats, but four of these were due to a split in votes between the Congress and AIUDF. The political observers are of view that the NDA may have to struggle to hold on to its seats in this area too.

The battle for one seat — Barhampur in Nagaon district has also become interesting as the BJP has taken over the seat of its ally AGP, denying a ticket to former chief minister and AGP stalwart Prafulla Kumar Mahanta.

The polling in Assam was almost peaceful with a significant number of voters turning up since morning hours to exercise their franchise on Thursday.

missing and it asked the ruling BJP to answer about his whereabouts.

Congress leader Manish Tiwari who is camping in Guwahati told reporters, "Congress-led Mahajot candidate from Tamulpur constituency, Ranga Basumatary of BPF was made to disappear. It's the Assam government and BJP's responsibility to answer where he is. We demand from the Election Commission that a probe should be done in this matter."

However, soon after Ranga Khungur Basumatary, who is also known as Ram Das Basumatary appeared before the media to announce his retirement from the election.

Earlier on Thursday Congress claimed that its Mahajot candidate from Tamulpur constituency is

met me a short while ago. He has expressed his desire to join BJP and retire from the election."

The order said that Raja had described Stalin as a child of good relationship and good birth and Edappadi K. Palaniswami as a child of a bad relationship and a prematurely born child at Keelapalur.

Raja was asked to give his explanation after the ECI obtained a factual report from the CEO and on the basis of preliminary reports and transcripts of his speeches made at Keelapalur and Meensuruti.

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Meanwhile in a related development, the EC on Thursday issued a notice to Assam minister Himanta Biswa Sarma for his alleged remark of misusing NIA against Congress candidate. The EC asked Sarma for submitting an explanation by April 2.

RAJA BANNED FROM CAMPAIGN FOR TWO DAYSDC CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI, APRIL 1

Former union minister and DMK deputy general secretary, A. Raja, has been debarred from campaigning for '48 hours with immediate effect' by the Election Commission of India, which was not satisfied with his reply to a notice sent to him on a complaint by the AIADMK.

The ECI order on Thursday reprimanded Raja for violating the Model Code of Conduct and delisted him as DMK's star campaigner, besides advising him 'to be watchful and not to make impudent, indecent, derogatory, obscene remarks and lower the dignity of women in future during election campaign.'

The AIADMK's complaint dated March 27, alleging that Raja had made a derogatory and scandalous speech during a campaign on March 26 at the Thousand Lights constituency, was forwarded by the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) of Tamil Nadu to the ECI.

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Odisha infant dies as doc gives injection after 'Google search'AKSHAYA KUMAR SAHOO | DC
BHUBANESWAR, APRIL 1

A couple hailing from Odisha's Nabarangpur on Thursday alleged that their six-month-old infant son suffering from pneumonia died after he was administered an injection which was prescribed by the doctor after a 'Google search' at Dabugam Health Centre.

The local medical officer, however, denied the allegation and said proper injection was given to the infant. According to the reports, Prasant Bisoyee of Badaolama village in Nabarangpur district on

Thursday took his critically ill son to the Dabugam Health Centre after his condition deteriorated.

The doctor who attended the infant wrote the prescription after searching the medicine on Google, he said.

"The doctor advised that my son needed a life-saving injection. He prescribed the injection not from his memory but after doing a Google search. Soon after the baby was administered the injection, he closed eyes and died," Bisoyee added.

"The doctor didn't bother to refer us to the Umerkote hospital in time where we could have availed better treatment," he alleged.

On the other hand, the medical officer at the health centre rubbished the allegation of 'Google search' medication.

"There was no medical negligence. The child suffered from severe pneumonia and was admitted to the hospital in a critical condition. Appropriate medicines were used. But, he was in the last stage," said Subhasis Sahoo, the medical officer at Dabugam. "They took the patient to Umerkote, but returned mid-way after his condition deteriorated. When they reached here the patient had become very critical," Sahoo claimed.

Harihar, April 1: The Kumbh Mela formally began in Haridwar on Thursday with several restrictions imposed on devotees coming to attend the event amid rising cases of Covid-19 in various states including Uttarakhand.

Officials associated with organising the event, including Mela Officer Deepak Rawat, Mela IG Sanjay Gunjal and Haridwar SSP Janmejay Khanduri, worshipped in temples along the banks of the Ganga to pray for a safe and unhindered Kumbh fair. Checking on

Uttarakhand's borders with Uttar Pradesh at Narsan in Roorkee and Kashipur in Udhain Singh Nagar district has been intensified to ensure that only people with a negative RT-PCR test report proceed for the Kumbh Mela.

"Besides registering on our portal, it is compulsory for devotees to bring a negative RT-PCR test report with them," Mela Officer Deepak Rawat said.

A negative RT-PCR test report before arrival has been made mandatory for devotees gathering for the Kumbh fair.

The high court has also

Kumbh by the Uttarakhand High Court. In an order on Wednesday the high court said a negative RT-PCR certification will be compulsory even in the case of devotees who have received the first dose of the Corona vaccine.

Devotees who have taken the anti-Covid vaccination will have to show their certificates and follow the anti-Covid guidelines like wearing masks, maintaining social distancing and frequently undertaking hand sanitisation in the Kumbh Kshetra.

The high court has also asked the health authori-

pandemic.

In normal circumstances, Kumbh is held for nearly four months. Its last edition was held in Haridwar from January 14 to April 28 in 2010.

Between April 1 and 30, there will be three major bathing dates (shahi snan or royal baths) on April 12, 14 and 27.

Besides the shahi snan dates when people descend in droves on the banks of the Ganga in Haridwar for a holy bath, a heavy turnout of devotees is also expected on the occasion of Chaitra Pratipada on April 13 and Ram Navami on April 21. — PTI

Troops sent to stop Myanmar refugees' entryDC CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI, APRIL 1

been rushed to the Myanmar border.

Sources said so far it has been decided that illegal migrants will not be allowed into India. However, as a humanitarian gesture, Indian security forces have been providing food, medicine and water to some residents of villages in Myanmar which are close to the border. However, they are not being permitted to cross over into India.

Top security sources said that the Cabinet Committee on Security, which is likely to meet sometime next week, will discuss the Myanmar situation in detail.

A decision could also be taken on the crucial issue on whether some refugees from Myanmar should be allowed inside India purely on a temporary basis till the time the situation normalises in Myanmar.

"So far government policy is clear that no illegal migration would be allowed from Myanmar. But maybe some relaxation could be given only on temporary and humanitarian basis to give shelter to some refugees."

Following the tense situation in Myanmar it is has been decided that additional central paramilitary forces like ITBP, SSB and Assam Rifle have

COVID UPDATE**NEW VARIANT FOUND IN J&K, 461 NEW CASES REPORTED**RABINDRA NATH CHOUDHURY | DC
with agency inputs
BHOWAL, APRIL 1

The number of Coronavirus cases are increasing with each passing day in Jammu and Kashmir.

On Thursday, as many as 461 fresh cases of the virus were reported including 361 from the Valley and 100 from Jammu region of the Union Territory which is the highest daily rise this year.

Also, four more people died of the infection, raising the toll to 1,998. "The total number of Covid-19 positive cases in J&K has risen to 1,31,421. However, only 2,874 are active positive whereas 1,26,549 patients have recovered and 1,998 have died," an official spokesman said in Jammu.

Several areas in the Valley have been declared contaminated zones following residents in fairly large numbers contracted the virus.

Also, eight schools have been shut for three to seven days after the swab samples of more than 60 students and half a dozen teachers collected during a recent drive by the J&K Health Department turned positive for the virus.

The Jammu & Kashmir government had on Tuesday announced a slew of measures to contain Coronavirus in view of fresh surge in positive cases.

HOLY GATHERING It is for the 1st time in history that the event is held for just a month**Kumbh Mela begins in Haridwar**

ties in Haridwar to ramp up testing from 5,000 per day to 50,000. Uttarakhand reported 293 positive Covid-19 cases on Wednesday with Dehradun and Haridwar districts accounting for a majority of them. Dehradun reported 171 cases followed by Haridwar which reported 70, the Covid Control room in Dehradun said.

It is for the first time in the history of the grand religious congregation held on the banks of the Ganga in Haridwar once in 12 years that its duration has been curtailed to just one month due to the

Just watched Wild Dog. It's an edge of the seat thriller. A nice gem from Telugu Cinema, that will make us proud.

- Sankalp Director - GHAZI, ANTARIKSHAM

I enjoyed watching Wild Dog. It is very gripping. Couldn't take my eyes off the screen. Never seen this side of Nagarjuna Sir. He is at another level in this film.

- Ravikanth Perepu Director - KSHANAM, KRISHNA AND HIS LEELA

An out of the box script with edge of the seat action sequences. The film has been made with utmost sincerity and dedication.

- Swaroop RSJ Director - AGENT SAI SRINIVAS ATHREYA



SANDHYA 35MM

11.00am, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00pm

SHANTI 70MM

11.00am, 2.15, 6.00, 9.15pm

ARJUN 70MM

11.30am, 2.30, 6.30, 9.30pm

KONARK 70MM

11.15am, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15pm

SHIVAPARVATHY 70MM

11.30am, 2.45, 6.30, 9.45pm

INDRA VENKATARAMANA

11.15am, 2.15, 6.00, 9.30pm

MANJU 70MM

11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

TALLURI

11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

RAMAKRISHNA 35

SREERAMANA 70

11.30, 2.30, 6.00, 9.15

11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

SHARADA 70MM

BHUJANGA 70

11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

GOKUL 70MM

AMBA 70MM

11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15

11.30, 2.30, 6.30, 9.30

SENSATION INSOMNIA

RAJ LALAXMI 70

11.30, 2.30, 6.30, 9.30

11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

VYJAYANTHI 70

SUSHMA 70MM

11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15

VIJETHA 70MM

SAI RANGA 70

11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

BR HITECH 70

SUPER 70MM

11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15

SV CINESQUARE

VLS SRIDEVI 70

11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

11.30, 2.30, 6.15, 9.15

SRI PREMA 70

SRI SAI RAM 70

11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15

ASIAN SWAPNA

SANTOSH 70

11.15, 2.15, 6.00, 9.00

11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

JAGDAMBA 70

SHIVRANJANI

11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

JYOTHI IDA BOLARAM

KRISHNA CINEMA

11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

MAHESHWARI

VENKATASAI 70

11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

VENKATESHWARA

LAXMI

11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

Shamshabadi

ASIAN MUKUND

KRISHNA CINEMA

11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

- Sankalp Director - GHAZI, ANTARIKSHAM

- Ravikanth Perepu Director - KSHANAM, KRISHNA AND HIS LEELA

- Swaroop RSJ Director - AGENT SAI SRINIVAS ATHREYA

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11.30am, 2.45, 6.30, 9.45pm

INDRA VENKATARAMANA

11.15am, 2.15, 6.00, 9.30pm

MANJU 70MM

11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

TALLURI

11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

RAMAKRISHNA 35

SREERAMANA 70

11.30, 2.30, 6.00, 9.15

11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

SHARADA 70MM

BHUJANGA 70

11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

GOKUL 70MM

AMBA 70MM

11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15

11.30, 2.30, 6.30, 9.30

SENSATION INSOMNIA

RAJ LALAXMI 70

11.30, 2.30, 6.30, 9.30

11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

VYJAYANTHI 70

SUSHMA 70MM

11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15

VIJETHA 70MM

SAI RANGA 70

11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

BR HITECH 70

SUPER 70MM

11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15

SV CINESQUARE

VLS SRIDEVI 70

11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

11.30, 2.30, 6.15, 9.15

SRI PREMA 70

SRI SAI RAM 70

11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00

11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15

ASIAN SWAPNA

SANTOSH 70

11.15, 2.15, 6.00, 9.00

ASIAN CINEMAS

its showtime!

SCHEDULE FOR TODAY
WEAR MASK STAY SAFE

FROM TODAY **FROM 9th APRIL**

FROM 16th APRIL

ASIAN RADHIKA-KAPRA

WILD DOG (U/A)(TEL) 10.40, 1.20, 4.00, 7.10, 10.00PM
JATHI RATNALU (U) 1.30PM
SULTHAN (U/A)(TEL) 10.30, 7.30, 10.30PM (TAMIL: 4.30PM)
RANG DE (U/A)(TEL) 10.50, 1.40, 7.20PM
YUVARATNA (U/A)(TEL) 4.20PM
GODZILLA Vs CONG (2D)(ENG) 10.20PM

ASIAN GPR-KUKATPALLY

WILD DOG (U/A)(TEL) 10.30, 1.20, 4.30, 7.20, 10.10PM
JATHI RATNALU (U)(TEL) 4.20, 10.20PM
SULTHAN (U/A)(TEL) 10.40, 4.10, 7.30, 10.30PM
RANG DE (U/A)(TEL) 10.50, 1.30, 7.40PM
YUVARATNA (U/A)(TEL) 1.40PM

ASTAN MCUBE-ATTAPUR(FULLY RENOVATED)

WILD DOG (U/A)(TEL) 10.20, 1.20, 4.20, 7.15, 10.10PM
JATHI RATNALU (U)(TEL) 7.25PM
SULTHAN (U/A)(TEL) 10.40, 1.40, 4.40, 7.35, 10.30PM
RANG DE (U/A)(TEL) 10.30, 1.30, 10.20PM
ARANYA (U/A)(TEL) 4.30, 10.20PM
YUVARATNA (U/A)(TEL) 4.25PM | FLIGHT (HIN) 10.30PM
GODZILLA Vs KONG (2D)(ENG) 11.00, 4.50, 7.40, 10.40PM

SWAPNA COMPLEX-KATTEDHAN

WILD DOG (U/A)(TEL) 11.15, 2.30, 6.15, 9.30PM
RANG DE (U/A)(TEL) 2.45, 9.45PM
SULTHAN (U/A)(TEL) 11.30, 6.30PM

ASIAN SIVAGANGA-DILSHUKNAGAR

WILD DOG (U/A)(TEL) 11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM
RANG DE (U/A)(TEL) 2.15, 9.15PM
SULTHAN (U/A)(TEL) 11.15, 6.15PM

ASIAN CINESQUARE(FULLY RENOVATED)

WILD DOG (U/A) 10.20, 1.20, 4.20, 7.10, 10.00PM
SULTHAN (U/A) 10.40, 4.10, 4.40, 7.30, 10.20PM
RANG DE (U/A) 10.30, 4.30, 10.10PM
JATHI RATNALU (U)(TEL) 1.30, 7.20PM
ARANYA (U/A)(TEL) 1.50, 7.50PM | LEGACY (ENG) 1.50PM
YUVARATNA (U/A)(TEL) 4.25PM | FLIGHT (HIN) 10.30PM
GODZILLA Vs KONG (2D)(ENG) 11.00, 4.50, 7.40, 10.40PM

ASIAN LAKSHMIKALA-MOOSAPET

WILD DOG (U/A)(TEL) 11.15, 2.30, 6.15, 9.30PM
SULTHAN (U/A)(TEL) 11.30, 6.30PM
RANG DE (U/A)(TEL) 2.45, 6.30, 9.45PM
JATHI RATNALU (U)(TEL) 2.45PM | YUVARATNA (TEL) 11.00AM
GODZILLA Vs KONG (2D)(TEL) 9.35PM

ASIAN CINEPLANET-KOMPALLY

WILD DOG (U/A) 10.30, 1.20, 4.20, 7.10, 10.00PM
SULTHAN (U/A) 10.40, 1.30, 4.10, 7.20, 10.15PM
RANG DE (U/A) 10.40, 1.40, 7.30PM
JATHI RATNALU (U) 4.30, 7.40PM
ARANYA (U/A) 10.30PM
YUVARATNA (U/A) 1.50PM
GODZILLA Vs KONG (2D)(ENG) 11.00, 4.50, 10.25PM

ASIAN MJR SQUARE-NARAPALLY

WILD DOG (U/A) 10.20, 1.20, 4.10, 7.10, 10.10PM
SULTHAN (U/A) 10.40, 1.40, 7.40, 10.35PM
RANG DE (U/A) 10.50, 1.30, 7.30, 10.20PM
JATHI RATNALU (U) 4.40, 10.30PM
ARANYA (U/A) 4.30PM | YUVARATNA (U/A) 4.50PM
GODZILLA Vs KONG (2D)(ENG) 1.50, 7.50PM

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FROM TODAY

DREAM WARRIOR PICTURES PRESENTS

WILD DOG

FROM THE MAKERS OF **WILD DOG** & **WILD DOG 2**

WILD DOG (U/A)(TEL) 10.40, 1.20, 4.00, 7.10, 10.00PM
JATHI RATNALU (U) 1.30PM
SULTHAN (U/A)(TEL) 10.30, 7.30, 10.30PM (TAMIL: 4.30PM)
RANG DE (U/A)(TEL) 10.50, 1.40, 7.20PM
YUVARATNA (U/A)(TEL) 4.20PM
GODZILLA Vs CONG (2D)(ENG) 10.20PM

DEVI 70MM-RTC X ROADS
ENJOY 4K LASER PROJECTION & DOLBY ATMOS SOUND SYSTEM
11.00, 2.15, 6.00, 9.00

BRAMARAMBA 70MM
11.30, 2.45, 6.30, 9.45

RAJADHANI COMPLEX
11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15

SIRIRAMULU 70MM
11.30, 2.30, 6.30, 9.30PM

LAXMIKALACINEPRIDE
11.15, 6.00PM(2 SHOWS)

OAMB **10.15, 1.20, 4.15, 7.15, 10.05**

PRASAD'S Multiplex
8.45, 11.45, 5.15, 7.30, 10.45PM

ASIAN CINEMAS

Radhika-10.30, 7.35, 10.35PM
MCUBE-10.30, 1.30, 4.30, 7.35, 10.40PM
Cinesquare-10.35, 1.35, 4.35, 7.35, 10.40PM
GPR-10.40, 4.10, 7.30, 10.35PM
Sivaganga-11.15, 6.15PM
Sha Complex-11.00, 6.00PM
MJR Square-10.40, 1.40, 7.40, 10.40PM

TIVOLI X-TREME **11.00, 1.45, 4.45, 10.20PM**

PVR CINEMAS

Central-10.20, 4.45, 7.00, 10.20PM
Inorbit-10.00, 1.00, 4.20, 7.40, 11.00PM
Galleria-10.30, 1.00, 4.20, 7.40, 11.00PM
Tamil Version: 01.50pm
RK PLEX-10.15, 4.20, 7.40, 11.00PM
Irrummanil-12.00, 3.20, 4.05, 6.40, 10.00PM
Hitech-12.00, 3.20, 4.25, 6.40, 10.00PM
Musarabagh-12.50, 3.05, 4.10, 7.30, 10.50PM
Forum-10.00, 1.00, 4.20, 7.15, 7.40, 11.00PM
Tamil: 10.40AM, 10.30AM
Preston-12.30, 3.10, 6.30, 9.50PM

ASIAN PLAZA **10.40, 1.40, 4.10, 7.30, 10.30PM** **2** **10.00, 1.00, 4.20, 7.40, 11.00PM**

PLATINUM **10.00, 12.00, 5.10, 7.40, 10.45PM**

WORLD

DECCAN CHRONICLE | HYDERABAD | FRIDAY | 2 APRIL 2021

pg 8

Extradition: US court lets Rana file reply

Washington, April 1: A US court has acceded to the request of Pakistani-origin Canadian businessman Tahawwur Rana, who is sought for his involvement in the

2008 Mumbai terror attack, to file an additional reply against his extradition to India.

The in-person extradition hearing of 59-year-old Rana, who has been

declared a fugitive by India, is scheduled for April 12.

The United States has supported India's request for his extradition to India. US District

Court Judge in Los Angeles Jacqueline Chooljian, in his brief order on Wednesday, said: Rana shall file a surreply of no more than 20 pages by not later than April 5. The government may, but is not required to file any surrebuttal to the surreply, which may not exceed 20 pages, by not later than April 12. — PTI

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AMB CINEMAS

WELCOME TO AMB'S GOLD CLASS MOVIE EXPERIENCE!

SCHEDULE FOR TODAY

WILD DOG (TELLUGU 2D (U/A)) 10.30 AM, 11.05 AM, 1.25 PM, 4.20 PM, 4.35 PM, 7.00 PM, 7.20 PM, 10.10 PM

SULTHAN (TELLUGU 2D (U/A)) 10.15 AM, 1.20 PM, 4.15 PM, 7.15 PM, 10.05 PM, 10.20 PM

ARANYA (TELLUGU 2D (U/A)) 1.25 PM, 7.30 PM, 10.20 PM

GODZILLA VS KONG (ENGLISH 2D (U/A)) 11.00 AM, 1.55 PM, 4.40 PM, 7.40 PM, 10.20 PM

KOI JAANE NA (HINDI 2D (U/A)) 4.10 PM

LEGACY OF LIES (ENGLISH 2D (U/A)) 10.55 AM, 4.15 PM

UPCOMING ATTRACTIONS

9th APRIL

16th APRIL

BOOK YOUR TICKETS ON www.ambcinemas.in OR [bookmyshow](http://bookmyshow.com)

SAFETY PROTOCOLS ARE STRICTLY FOLLOWED.

FROM TODAY

DREAM WARRIOR PICTURES PRESENTS

WILD DOG

FROM THE MAKERS OF **WILD DOG** & **WILD DOG 2**

WILD DOG (U/A)(TEL) 10.40, 1.20, 4.00, 7.10, 10.00PM
JATHI RATNALU (U) 1.30PM
SULTHAN (U/A)(TEL) 10.30, 7.30, 10.30PM (TAMIL: 4.30PM)
RANG DE (U/A)(TEL) 10.50, 1.40, 7.20PM
YUVARATNA (U/A)(TEL) 4.20PM
GODZILLA Vs CONG (2D)(ENG) 10.20PM

INOX **GVK-10:20, 1:50, 3:20, 6:50PM, 10:20PM**

MP **10:20, 1:50, 3:20, 6:50, 10:20PM**

GSM **11:00, 12:45, 2:40, 6:20, 10:00PM**

TAMIL **7.05PM**

Cinépolis **CCPL-9.00, 12.25, 7.15, 10.40**

MIRAJ CINEMAS **1.30PM**

SUDHA **9.00, 12.25, 3.50, 7.25, 10.40PM**

MANTRA **10.00, 12.55, 7.15, 10.40PM**

TAMIL **4.10PM**

DSL **11.20, 1.00, 3.00, 6.40, 10.20PM**

MIRAJ CINEMAS **10.45, 1.40, 4.20, 7.30, 10.30PM**

PLATINUM-GACHIBOWLI **10.00, 12.00, 5.10, 7.40, 10.45PM**

SHALINI **10.00, 1.15, 4.30, 7.45, 11.00PM**

CHANDANAGAR **12.00, 3.15, 6.30, 9.45PM**

BALANAGAR **10.00, 1.15, 4.30, 7.45, 11.00PM**

MULTIPLEX **10.45, 1.40, 4.20, 7.30, 10.30PM**

MAHALAXMI COMPLEX-KOTHAPET **11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM**

INJRA **VENKATARAMANA/PADMAVATHI 11.30, 6.15PM(2 SHOWS)**

RAMAKRISHNA 70MM-ABIDS **11.30, 2.30, 6.00, 9.15PM**

SRINIVASA 70MM **11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15**

SRIDEVI R.C.PURAM **11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00**

SWAPNA KATEDHAN **11.15, 2.15, 9.00PM**

AARDHANA 70MM **11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00**

YAKUTHMAHAL **6.30, 9.30PM**

KRISHNA ALIYABAD **11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00**

SRI SAPIOJA 70MM **11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00**

SIVASAKTHI 70MM **11.00, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00**

GANESH 70MM **11.30, 2.30, 6.15, 9.15**

KARTHIKEYA EXHIBITORS RELEASE **11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15**

Navula Ratnalu !! **4th Week**

SANDHYA 70 **11.15am, 2.15, 6.00, 9.15pm**

MALLIKARJUNA 70 **11.15am, 2.30, 6.15, 9.30pm**

KONARK 70MM **11.15am, 2.15, 6.00, 9.15pm**

SANTOSH ABIDS ANJALI 70 **11.30, 2.30, 6.00, 9.00** **11.15, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15**

PRASADS : **2.30pm, 5.15, 8.00pm**

AMB **1.30, 7.10, 10.15pm**

PVR

FORUM **10.15, 4.45, 10.40 I**

MOOSARAMBAGH **1.25, 7.40pm I**

IRRUM MANZIL **4.25, 10.20pm I**

GALLERIA **11.10, 10, 20pm I**

ICON **1.35pm I**

PRESTON **7.10pm I**

CENTRAL **10.40pm I**

INORBIT **1.20, 7.25 I**

GPR **4.20, 7.20pm I**

M CUBE **7.25pm I**

CINEPLANET **1.30, 7.40pm I**

RADHIKA **1.30pm I**

MJR **4.40, 10.30pm I**

CINESQUARE **1.30, 7.20pm I**

LAXMIKALA **2.45pm I**

INOX **GSM MALL- 12.10, 3.10, 6.40, 10.10 I**

GVK **1.00, 6.50 I**

MP **11.00, 7.10 I**

DSL MALL **12.00, 3.30, 7.00pm I**

MANTRA **10.00, 1.15, 7.10pm I**

SUDHA **1.05, 7.10pm I**

SHALINI **1.40, 7.30pm I**

BALANAGAR **1.40, 7.30pm I**

CHANDANAGAR **4.30pm I**

BVK **4.00, 10.00pm**

TIVOLI **10.45, 7.40, 10.30pm**

PLATINUM **12.00, 5.30, 10.45pm**

BRIDGE FILMS

SUDARSHAN 35MM **11.00am, 2.15, 6.00, 9.15pm**

MEGA 70MM **11.15am, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15pm**

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quick BITES

INDICATORS	%
Sensex	50,029.83
Nifty 50	14,867.40
S&P 500*	4,009.89
Dollar (₹)	73.11
Pound Sterling (₹)	101.03
Euro (₹)	85.99
Gold (10gm)* (₹)	44,701 ▲881
Brent crude (\$/bbl)*	64.00
IN 10-Yr Bond yield	6.177
US 10-Yr T-bill yield*	1.679 -0.067

* As of 8:30 PM IST

No issues with bulk messages, asserts Trai

New Delhi: As bulk messages came into force, Trai asserted that no major disruptions were noticed for commercial messages and OTP generation in sectors such as banking, healthcare and government services, and that issues were limited to "few" cases. Trai said reports from telcos indicated that "no major issues came to notice" and that "messages which are in accordance with regulations are getting delivered successfully".

Wipro to acquire Oz's Ampion for \$117 million



Wipro said it will acquire Ampion, an Australia-based provider of cyber security, DevOps and quality engineering services for \$117 million (about Rs 857 crore). The acquisition of Ampion is an important step for Wipro in this direction, and strengthens the commitment towards clients and stakeholders in Australia and New Zealand, Wipro said. The acquisition is expected to close in the June quarter.

Mastercard to put \$100mn in Airtel Africa's money biz

Airtel Africa on Thursday announced that Mastercard would invest \$100 million (about Rs 733 crore) in its wholly owned subsidiary Airtel Mobile Commerce BV (AMC). Mastercard would hold a minority stake in AMC on completion of the deal, with Airtel Africa continuing to hold the majority stake, an Airtel statement said. Sources said Mastercard would get about 3.75 per cent stake in the firm.

NSE reduces mkt lot size for Nifty 50 derivatives

The NSE has slashed the market lot size for derivative contracts on Nifty 50, a move that will reduce the burden of excessive upfront margins for retail traders. The lot size has been reduced to 50 from the existing 75. The cut will reduce the margin requirements for futures trading by one-third, stockbroking firm Fyers CEO Tejas Khoday said. Currently, traders need about Rs 1,73,000 to trade one lot, he said.

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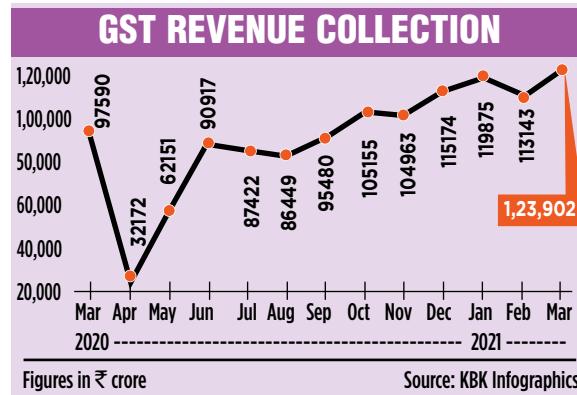
■ Collection tops ₹1 L cr for 6th month in a row GST mop-up hits record ₹1.23 lakh crore in March

FC BUREAU

NEW DELHI, APRIL 1

In line with the trend of constant recovery in GST revenues over the past five months, the gross goods and services tax (GST) revenue collected in March 2021 stood at a record high of over Rs 1.23 lakh crore. The total revenues earned for the month are 27 per cent higher than the GST collected in the same month last year, according to finance ministry data released on Thursday.

"The gross GST revenue collected in the month of March 2021 is at a record of Rs 1,23,902 crore, of which CGST is Rs 22,973 crore, SGST is Rs 29,329 crore, IGST is Rs 62,842 crore



(including Rs 31,097 crore collected on import of goods) and Cess is Rs 8,757 crore (including Rs 935 crore collected on import of goods)," the ministry said.

The GST collections for March this year is the six consecutive month of revenue crossing Rs 1-lakh crore mark. The finance ministry said that a steep increasing trend over this

period is a clear indicator of a rapid economic recovery post-pandemic.

The revenues from import of goods was at 70 per cent higher and the revenues from domestic transaction (including import of services) are 17 per cent higher than the revenues from these sources during the same month last year. The GST revenue witnessed growth rate of (+) 41 per cent, (+) 8 per cent, 8 per cent and 14 per cent in the first, second, third and fourth quarters of this financial year, respectively, as compared to the same period last year," it said.

The Centre has settled Rs 21,879 crore to CGST and Rs 17,230 crore to SGST.

MICHAEL GONZALVES

PUNE, APRIL 1

Most carmakers in the country—such as Maruti Suzuki, Hyundai, Tata Motors, Kia Motors, Mahindra & Mahindra, Toyota Kirloskar Motors, Renault, Ford Motor, Honda Cars, MG Motor and Nissan Motor—on Thursday reported substantial year-on-year sales growth in March 2021 in comparison to the unusual low sales in March 2020 because of the lockdown.

These 11 of the 14 carmakers in India who control 99 per cent of India's domestic car market

clocked a 126 per cent jump in March sales to 3,15,946 units, up from 1,39,761 cars sold in March 2020 when the lockdown had begun to hit production.

Car sales have been improving in the last few months and March showed a substantial year-on-year growth.

Maruti Suzuki, which sells one car out of two bought in India, reported 91.76 per cent sales growth to 1,46,203 units last month compared to 76,240 units sold in March 2020.

Hyundai, the South Korean carmaker, clocked a 100 per cent rise in domestic sales during

March to 52,600 units as against 26,300 units sold in the same month last year.

Tata Motors, India's third biggest carmaker, recorded a 422 per cent increase at 29,654 units as compared to 5,676 units sold in March last year. This is the highest-ever sales in a month for the company in nine years. A total of 705 Nexon EVs were sold in March.

Korean brand Kia Motors logged a 123 per cent growth in volumes to 19,100 units against 8,583 units.

Sales at Mahindra & Mahindra, the SUV specialist, climbed 394 per cent to 16,700 units during the month against 3,383 units

sold in March last year.

Similarly, Toyota Kirloskar Motors posted a 114 per cent sales increase to 15,001 units as against 7,023 units, clocking the best monthly sales for it since 2013.

Sales at French car brand Renault also jumped 278 per cent at 12,356 units last month against 3,269 units sold in February last year.

Ford Motor India clocked 7,746 units sales in March, a growth of 120 per cent from 3,519 units.

Sales at Honda Cars India was up 92 per cent at 7,103 units versus 3,697 units. Its production in March was impacted due to a shortage of semiconductors.

Car sales rebound in March

FC BUREAU

NEW DELHI, APRIL 1

Exports increased by 58.23 per cent to \$34 billion in March on the back of healthy growth in key sectors like engineering, gems and jewellery and pharmaceuticals, provisional data from the commerce ministry showed.

Exports during April-March 2020-21, however, decreased by 7.4 per cent to

31,000 Covid-19 vaccine doses that India delivered to Paraguay were sent from Hyderabad, aboard a Cathay Pacific cargo flight which carried the 10,000 vials of the vaccine. The shipment left from Hyderabad on March 26 on a cargo only passenger plane of Cathay Pacific.

The vaccines were stored between 2 and 8 degrees Celsius as mandated from the time of acceptance of the shipment to its delivery. According to the air-lines, the shipment was first taken to Hong Kong, where it was transferred to a cargo freighter plane and then flown to Miami, USA, before the final leg of the journey to Paraguay in South America.

In a release, the airlines' regional general manager for South Asia, Middle East and Africa, Marck Sutch, said Cathay Pacific Cargo was happy to be able to support vaccine delivery during this crucial time. Our 'Vaccine Task Force' is well equipped to handle the shipments with utmost care."

Similarly, exports stood at \$21.49 billion, which was a decline of about 34 per cent over March 2019 due to the global slowdown.

"India's merchandise exports in March 2021 were \$34.0 billion as compared to \$21.49 billion in March 2020, an increase of 58.23 per cent," the ministry said in a statement.

It said that the "first time ever in a month," the exports crossed \$34 billion.

Exports jump 58% to \$34 bn

FC BUREAU

HYDERABAD, APRIL 1

The recent shipment of 10,000 Covid-19 vaccine doses that India delivered to Paraguay were sent from Hyderabad, aboard a Cathay Pacific cargo flight which carried the 10,000 vials of the vaccine. The shipment left from Hyderabad on March 26 on a cargo only passenger plane of Cathay Pacific.

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Earlier in the day, Moitra had tweeted a picture of an amendment in Finance Bill, 2021, saying the complicated words in the amendment is in reality a Special Gulf workers tax.

This amendment has not altered the taxability of salary income earned by non-resident Indian citizens in the Gulf countries. Their salary income earned in the Gulf countries would continue to be exempt in India, the Office of Finance Minister tweeted.

Moitra had tweeted a picture of an amendment in Finance Bill, 2021, saying the complicated words in the amendment is in reality a Special Gulf workers tax.

"FM going back on her words. Hardworking Indian workers in Saudi/UAE/Oman/Qatar can be taxed EXTRA," Moitra tweeted.

Sitharaman said the amendment in the Finance Act, 2021, has merely incorporated general definition of the term "liable to tax" in the Income Tax Act to provide clarity.

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SHORT TAKES
Female lifter fails dope test, axed

New Delhi: A woman weightlifter, who was part of the ongoing national camp at the National Institute of Sports in Patiala, has been provisionally suspended after testing positive for banned substance.

The weightlifter, a national record holder and who has participated in several international tournaments including the Commonwealth Championship where she won gold, was set to be a part of the Indian team for the Asian Championship to be held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan from April 16 to 25.

"Yes, she has failed a dope test. The report came about 10-15 days back," a source in the Indian Weightlifting Federation (IWF) confirmed.

Taking a break from the national camp, the weightlifter went home in October last year when national coach Vijay Sharma and star lifter Mirabai Chanu had travelled to the United States.

After she returned to the camp, her sample was collected by the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) in November last. The weightlifter had allegedly consumed a supplement that contained the prohibited substance. — PTI

Ex-Olympian guilty of drug smuggling

Brisbane: Former two-time Olympic silver medallist canoeist Nathan Baggaley and his younger brother have been found guilty of plotting to smuggle 200 million Australian dollars (\$150 million) worth of cocaine into Australia. The 45-year-old Baggaley and his 39-year-old brother Dru were charged with attempting to import 650 kilograms of cocaine in 2018. After about eight hours of deliberating, a Brisbane Supreme Court jury found both men guilty on Thursday. Nathan Baggaley won two canoeing silver medals at the 2004 Athens Olympics and also was a three-time world champion. But his career was tarnished with drug scandals testing positive for banned steroids in 2005 and also being jailed with Dru Baggaley 10 years later for his role in a drug manufacturing syndicate. The Baggaley brothers will be sentenced on a date yet to be decided by the court. — AP

Telangana draw a blank in cycling

Hyderabad: Telangana failed to win even a single medal at the 72nd Senior, 49th Junior & 35th Sub-Junior National Track Cycling Championship that concluded at SATS Velodrome in Osmania University, Hyderabad, on Wednesday.

It was a major embarrassment for the hosts, who had fielded 42 athletes, none of whom could make the podium in the 44 events that were part of the championships in which 552 players from 24 states participated. Officials presenting medals was the closest locals could get to the podiums.

However, the meet saw 14 records being broken. Records fell in the Men's Elite Team Sprint (Manipur), Men's Elite Sprint ESWO (Andaman and Nicobar), Team Pursuit (SSCB), Individual Pursuit (Anil Manglani from RSPB) and 1 km Time Trial (Amarjeet Singh, Punjab), Women's Elite Individual Pursuit (Swasti Singh), Team Pursuit (RSPB). The Junior Men broke four records while the Junior Women and Sub-Juniors Boys beat one record each.

20 players in lead at Senior chess

Hyderabad: International Master Rahul Srivatsav is sharing the lead with 19 others after Round Three of the Telangana State Senior Fide Rated Chess Championship being organised by the Telangana State Chess Association at the Lal Bahadur Shastri Stadium here.

Top seeds Bharat Kumar Reddy Poluri, Kheerthi Ganta, Krishna Karthik N, Sushanth Kamabashetty, Karyasheel P, Rajsekhar B, Shaati Majumder, and Md Bashir Imrose are among leaders who have three points each.

Third round (selected results): Gudla Shanth Kumar (2) lost to Rahul Srivatsav (3), Bharat Kumar Reddy Poluri (3) bt Mahendar (2), Teertha Abhinav (2.5) drew with Raghav Srivathsav (2.5), Aditya Varun Gampa (3) bt Surya Alakanti (2).

Live on TV

CRICKET
 South Africa vs Pakistan: First ODI from 1.30 pm on Star Sports 1, HD

LIONS ON PROWL

After last year's low, there is lot to gain for CSK

Chennai, April 1: The return of Suresh Raina could boost the batting department but spin-reliant Chennai Super Kings will have to adapt to conditions which may assist pacers as they seek to improve upon their nightmarish show of last season.

Three-time champions CSK had a flop show last season, avoiding the wooden spoon thanks to a few victories at the back-end of the league phase as they failed to make the play-offs for the first time in the tournament's history. CSK have oodles of experience, which will stand them in good stead in crucial situations. The inspirational leadership of Dhoni is another advantage for the team. The return of Raina will strengthen the batting unit which faltered far too often in last year's IPL in the UAE.

A batting line-up of Raina, along with Faf du Plessis, Dhoni, Ambati Rayudu, Ravindra Jadeja, Sam Curran, new recruit Moeen Ali and fast improving Ruturaj Gaikwad could prove a handful for rival bowling attacks and big scores could set the platform for the bowlers to do their job.

With the likes of Lungi Ngidi, Shardul Thakur, Curran, Deepak Chahar in the line-up, CSK have a decent bowling unit. A team comprising ageing stars proved CSK's undoing last season and they have stuck pretty much to the core squad. In the fast-paced world of T20s, senior stars could prove to be a handicap. — PTI



CSK skipper Mahendra Singh Dhoni and Suresh Raina (left) share light moment in this photo. — Twitter

Hazlewood pulls out of IPL

Melbourne, April 1: Australia and Chennai Super Kings fast bowler Josh Hazlewood has pulled out of the upcoming edition of the Indian Premier League to take a small break from cricket and keep himself fresh for the Ashes and the T20 World Cup later this year.

Hazlewood was to depart with other Australia's IPL-bound players and join CSK but decided to skip the cash-rich league,

which will start on April 9 and go on till May 30, and spend time at home for the next two months.

"It's been a long 10 months in bubbles and quarantine at different times, so I decided to have a rest from cricket and spend some time at home and in Australia in the next two months," Hazlewood was quoted as saying by *cricket.com.au*.

"We've got a big winter ahead. The West Indies is

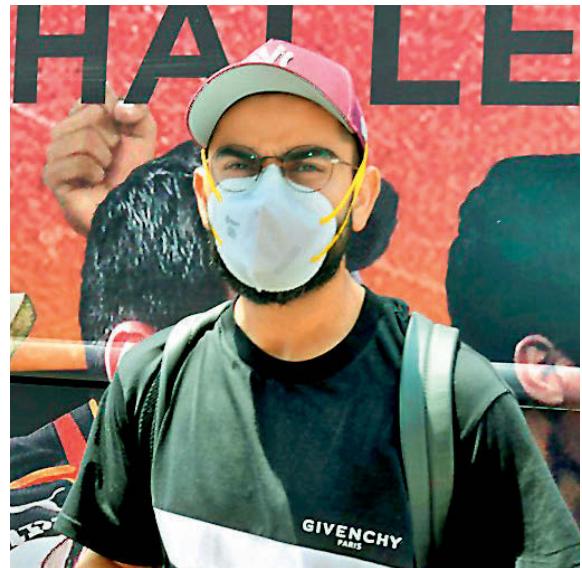
going to be a long tour with Bangladesh (T20 tour) potentially thrown on the end of that. Then potentially the T20 World Cup leading into the Ashes, so it's a big 12 months.

"As it always is with Australia, and I want to give myself the best chance to be mentally and physically ready for that," he added.

He follows Josh Philippe (RCB) and Mitchell Marsh

(SRH) in withdrawing from the IPL, while some other Australians may consider opting out also, according to the report.

Hazlewood has been under restrictions from July last year before leaving for England with Australia's limited-overs team where he was in strict bio-secure lockdown before heading to the UAE for the IPL where again safety protocols were tight. — PTI



Royal Challengers Bangalore captain Virat Kohli (left) and star batsman AB de Villiers join the RCB squad in Chennai on Thursday ahead of upcoming edition of the Indian Premier League. — Twitter



Umesh Reddy ready to hit the deck for DC

IPL WILL BE A HUGE BENEFIT TO US: STOKES

Mumbai, April 1: The increased participation of English players in the IPL, where there is constant pressure to perform, will benefit them during the T20 World Cup to be held in India later this year, reckons star all-rounder Ben Stokes.

This year, there are 14 England cricketers contracted to play IPL, Eoin Morgan, Jos Buttler, Stokes, Johnny Bairstow, Moeen Ali, Sam Curran, Tom Curran, Sam Billings, Liam Livingstone and Dawid Malan.

"Yes — the percentage of English players in the IPL has probably grown in the last five or so years," Stokes told *Sky Sports*.

"Not only is that great for the individual but it is also great for the players involved in the England set-up; it gives them experience in the most high-profile competition in the world but not only that — you are under constant pressure to perform," he added.

"I just want to do well whenever I have the ball in my hand. I will definitely give my best for my team and keep getting better everyday," he said in a DC release.

Yadav, who has picked up 119 wickets in 121 IPL matches, said he felt at home in the Delhi Capitals camp. — PTI

Germans beaten in Cup qualifier

Paris, April 1: Germany suffered a stunning 2-1 home loss to North Macedonia in World Cup qualifying on Wednesday, while defending champions France edged Bosnia and Herzegovina 1-0 and England beat a Poland side missing the injured Robert Lewandowski.

Napoli midfielder Eljif Elmas secured a famous victory for North Macedonia in Duisburg, scoring five minutes from time to give his country a second win from three Group 'J' matches.

Veteran striker Goran Pandev, 37, put the visitors in front just before half-time but Ilkay Gundogan levelled from the spot after Leroy Sane was fouled in the area. Timo Werner missed a glorious chance after coming off the bench, and Elmas condemned the four-time world champions to a first defeat in qualifying for the global showcase since 2001 when he steered in a cut-back from Arijan Ademi.

GRIEZMANN STARS FOR FRANCE

Antoine Griezmann scored the only goal of the game in Sarajevo as France recorded a second away win in four days over Bosnia following their 2-0



North Macedonia's Goran Pandev (right) is congratulated by his teammates after scoring his side's first goal against Germany during their World Cup 2022 qualifying match in Duisburg, Germany, on Wednesday. — AP

THE RESULTS

North Macedonia	2	Italy	2
(Pandev 45+2, Elmas 85)	1	(Stefano Sensi 48, Ciro Immobile 90+4-pen)	0
Germany	1	Lithuania	0
(Gundogan 63-pen)			
England	2	France	1
(Kane 19-pen, Maguire 85)	1	(Griezmann 60)	0
Poland	1	Bosnia and Herzegovina	0
(Moder 58)			
Spain	3	Georgia	1
(Olmo 34, Torres 36, Moreno 75)	1	(Khvicha Kvaratskhelia 78)	0
Kosovo		Greece	1
(Halimi 70)		(Kakabazde 76-og)	

NAOMI SURRENDERS TO SAKKARI, MEDVEDEV ALSO IS OUT OF MIAMI

Miami, April 1: Top-seeded Daniil Medvedev crashed out of the Miami Open Wednesday on a day of upsets that also saw Australian Open champion Naomi Osaka ousted from the quarterfinals.

Seventh-seeded Spaniard Roberto Bautista Agut beat Medvedev 6-4, 6-2, for his third win in as many meetings with the Russian who was runner-up to Novak Djokovic at the Australian

Open and ascended to No. 2 in the world with his victory at Marseille in March.

Women's world No. 2 Naomi Osaka — seeded second behind Ashleigh Barty in the prestigious ATP Masters and WTA hardcourt tournament — had bowed out hours earlier, the Japanese star's 23-match winning streak coming to a crashing halt with a 0-6, 4-6 loss to Greece's Maria Sakkari. — AFP

Laxmi-Rithika best pair; Hrishik-Dhiraj also win

DC CORRESPONDENT
 HYDERABAD, APRIL 1

Both teams went toe-to-toe in the first set and slugged it out for points before Karteek & Arnav clinched it at 7-5. Buoyed by the lead, they turned up heat in the second to go full throttle before sealing it at 6-3 and with it, the title.

Earlier in the semifinals, Karteek & Arnav sailed past K. S. Dheeraj & Ribhav Kiran of Tamil Nadu 6-2, 6-3.

In the final, Karteek and Arnav dished out



G. Sai Karteek Reddy (left) of Telangana and Arnav Pathange of Karnataka pose with their trophies after winning the doubles title at the All India National Ranking tennis tournament being held at Lakeview Tennis Academy in Hyderabad.

Rithika defeated Yashasri & Sreemanya in straight sets 6-0, 6-1. Hrishik & Dhiraj were stretched by Nikhil D'Souza & P. Sandilya before clinching the boys title round with a 6-4, 3-6, 11-9 scoreline.

Boys U-16 singles semifinals: Chris Hamilton bt Harsha Perla 3-6, 6-3, 7-6 (7-3); T. Sri Pranav bt P. Sandilya 6-4, 6-1.

Boys U-16 doubles final: Laxmi Siri Dandu/ Rithika Kakaramudi bt Yashasri P/ Sreemanya A 6-0, 6-1.

Boys U-16 doubles final: Hrishik Vavilapally/ Dhiraj Reddy bt Nikhil D'Souza/ P. Sandilya 6-4, 6-1, 10-5.

Girls U-16 doubles final: Laxmi Siri Dandu/ Rithika Kakaramudi bt Yashasri P/ Sreemanya A 6-0, 6-1.

Boys U-16 doubles final: Hrishik Vavilapally/ Dhiraj Reddy bt Nikhil D'Souza/ P. Sandilya 6-4, 6-1.

Boys U-16 doubles final: Laxmi Siri Dandu/ Rithika Kakaramudi bt Yashasri P/ Sreemanya A 6-0, 6-1.

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