

# DECCAN Chronicle

THE LARGEST CIRCULATED ENGLISH DAILY IN SOUTH INDIA

HYDERABAD | SATURDAY | 14 NOVEMBER 2020

## WEATHER

Max: 29 °C  
Min: 20°C  
RH: 60%  
Rainfall: Nil  
Forecast: Partly cloudy sky with haze. Max/Min temperature 29/20 °C

## COVID-19 COUNT

CASES	DEATHS
(+44,876)	(+535)
87,72,776	1,29,221
<a href="http://covid19india.org">covid19india.org</a>	
(+ 997)	(+4)
TS: 2,55,663	1,397
(+1,593)	(+10)
AP: 8,51,298	6,847
CASES AROUND THE WORLD	
5,34,94,241	
DEATHS	
13,05,908	
COUNTRIES, AREAS WITH CASES	217
<a href="http://worldometers.info/coronavirus">worldometers.info/coronavirus</a>	

## ASTROGUIDE

Sarvari: Dakshinayana  
Tithi: Nija Ashwayuha Bahula Chaturdasi till 2.17 pm  
Star: Swati till 8.08 pm  
Varjyanam: 1.04 am to 2.29 am (Sunday)  
Durmuhurtam: 6.64 am to 7.54 am  
Rahu Kalam: 9 am to 10.30 am  
HIJRI CALENDAR  
Rabbi-ul-Awwal 27, 1442 AH  
PRAYERS  
Fajr: 5.17 am  
Zohar: 12.10 pm  
Asar: 4.05 pm  
Maghrab: 5.46 pm  
Isha: 6.56 pm  
SUNRISE TOMORROW 6.20 AM  
SUNSET TODAY 5.40 PM  
MOONSET 4.19 PM  
MOONRISE 4.07 AM



Not dry fruits, our company has given a very expensive gift pack to the managers... one kg onions!

## SHORT TAKE

## India test-fires QR-SAM missiles

New Delhi: India successfully test-fired on Friday the Quick Reaction Surface-to-Air Missile (QR-SAM) system at an integrated test range in Chandigarh off the Odisha coast, officials said. The successful test-firing of the QR-SAM, having a range of around 30 km, paves the way for its commercial production, they said. It directly hit a Banshee pilotless target aircraft at medium range and medium altitudes.

## 20k fewer voters for GHMC council

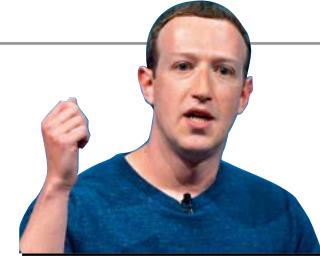
Hyderabad: The GHMC Council elections will see about 20,000 fewer voters exercising their franchise next year, according to the final electoral rolls that were published by the State Election Commission (SEC) on Friday. The electoral list shows 74,04,017 persons as being eligible to vote for the GHMC Council's 150 wards or divisions.

Full report on Page 5

## INSIDE

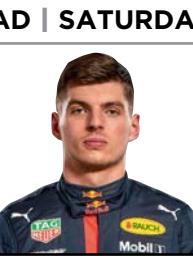
CITY... PAGE 2  
Asifabad tiger back in Maharashtra

CITY... PAGE 5  
Sec'bad club manager killed in road mishap



## WORLD | 8

Zuckerberg first tech leader to greet Biden



## SPORTS | 11

Verstappen fastest at Turkish GP practice

## TABLOID

The spirit of Diwali lives on

[deccanchronicle.com](http://deccanchronicle.com), [facebook.com/deccannews](http://facebook.com/deccannews), [twitter.com/deccanchronicle](http://twitter.com/deccanchronicle)

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DC wishes its readers a happy and prosperous Diwali



Devotees light earthen lamps on the banks of Sarayu River during Deepotsav celebrations in Ayodhya on Friday. A world record 6,06,569 diyas were lit in addition to a laser and sound show for the event. — PTI

HOLIDAY NOTICE | The offices of Deccan Chronicle will remain closed today for Diwali. There will be no edition on Sunday, Nov. 15, 2020

## India to get traditional drugs centre

DC CORRESPONDENT  
with agency inputs  
CHENNAI, NOV. 13

In a move that provides international recognition to Ayurveda and makes India a hub for traditional medicine, the World Health Organisation (WHO) on Friday said that it would set up the Global Centre of Traditional Medicine in the country.

"I am pleased to announce that we have agreed to open a WHO Global Centre of Traditional Medicine in India to strengthen the evidence, research, training and awareness of tra-

tional and complementary medicine," said WHO director-general Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus in a video message, at an event organised to mark the fifth Ayurveda Day.

At the event, Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated two future-ready Ayurveda institutions located in Jaipur and Jamnagar to the nation.

"This new centre will support WHO's efforts to implement its traditional medicine strategy 2014-2023 which aims to support countries in developing policies and action plans to strengthen the

role of traditional medicine as part of their journey to universal health coverage and a healthier, fairer and safer world," he said.

The World Health Organisation defines traditional medicine as "the sum total of the knowledge, skills, and practices based on the theories, beliefs, and experiences indigenous to different cultures, whether explicable or not, used in the maintenance of health as well as in the prevention, diagnosis, improvement or treatment of physical and mental illness".

Globally, each culture has evolved its own system of medicine using herbs or animal products or inorganic chemical compounds.

The prominent traditional systems of medicine include those evolved by Indian, European, Persian and the Chinese. India has two types of traditional medicines — Ayurveda and Siddha.

"Traditional systems of medicine such as Ayurveda can play an important role in integrated people-centric health services and healthcare, but they have not received enough attention," he said.

Control have been damaged."

Indian military sources said at least eight Pakistani soldiers were killed and 12 others injured on Friday after Indian Army pounded several of their positions along the LoC in north Kashmir with anti-tank guided missiles and artillery guns in response to unprovoked ceasefire violations in multiple locations by troops of the

neighbouring country.

Late on Friday evening, Pakistan's Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) in a statement admitted that one Pakistani soldier was killed and five others were injured in the Indian firing and shelling. It, however, also said that four civilians were also killed and 12 others injured in what it termed as "deliberate attempt" by the Indian Army to target civilian population in PoK.

Several ammunition dumps, FOL dumps and multiple terrorist launch-pads across the Line of Control have been damaged.

Earlier in the day Mr Kumar had met the state's governor Phagu Chauhan and handed over his resignation. He also recommended the dissolution of the state Assembly. The governor accepted the resignation and asked him to continue as the caretaker chief minister till the new government is formed.

The development paves way for the formation of the next government in Bihar. The tenure of the current Bihar legislative Assembly is scheduled to end on November 29.

"It has been decided that a meeting will take place on Sunday afternoon where the newly elected MLAs will choose their leader and it will stake claim to form a new government in the state," Mr Kumar said after the meeting at his residence.

Despite the JD(U)'s low tally, Mr Kumar is all set to take oath for the fourth consecutive term as Chief Minister.

bypoll. The focal centres of political parties are salons, gyms, slums, tea points and local kirana stores, where people congregate in large numbers. They want to learn the current opinion of voters regarding the incumbent corporators.

The city wings of various political parties have constituted several teams to know the way wind is blowing in the 150 divisions of the GHMC. Teams are speaking with youth to learn their opinion on the upcoming civic body polls.

and whether the Dubbak bypoll outcome will have any impact on hustings in the city.

"In past two days, at least 20 people from all political parties have been asking people sitting in salons who they would vote for during the GHMC polls.

## SC allows green crackers in TS

Modifies HC order which imposed total ban on sale, bursting of firecrackers for Diwali

DC CORRESPONDENT  
with agency inputs  
NEW DELHI, HYDERABAD, NOV. 13

The Supreme Court on Friday modified the Telangana High Court order of Thursday that imposed a complete ban on the sale of firecrackers during Diwali, and said that the directions of the National Green Tribunal (NGT) on bursting of firecrackers keeping in mind the pollution levels need to be followed.

The NGT, on November 9, had said that firing of crackers will be banned in cities where the average of ambient air quality during November 2019 was in the 'poor' and worse categories. In cities or towns where air quality is 'moderate' or below, only green crackers can be sold.

The timings for use and bursting of crackers should be restricted to two hours during festivals like Diwali, Chhath, New Year, Christmas Eve, as may be specified by the state concerned, the NGT had said.

Following this, the Pollution Control Board of Telangana state stated the

THE VACATION bench of Justices A.M. Khanwilkar and Sanjiv Khanna said the TS government should follow NGT guidelines on bursting Diwali crackers.

The Supreme Court bench, meanwhile, asked the Telangana state government to comply with directions of the NGT issued on November 9.

Senior advocate Salman Khurshid appeared for the organisation on whose plea the top court issued notice to the state government for November 16.

"In the meantime, the impugned judgment and order of the HC stands modified and is brought in line with the directions issued by the NGT vide comprehensive order dated November 9, which applies even to Telangana state," the Supreme Court said.

"For, no reason much less special reason is noted in the impugned order for departing therefrom. All concerned in Telangana state must comply with directions of the tribunal in its letter and spirit" the court ordered.

### CHUGH MADE BJP INCHARGE IN TS, ARUNA IN K'TAKA

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, NOV. 13

Gearing up for the GHMC elections, the BJP on Friday appointed general secretary Tarun Chugh as the party's state in-charge.

Chugh, from Punjab, will also look after the BJP's political affairs in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh. Chugh was elevated as general secretary in the changes made by BJP president J.P. Nadda in September.

The BJP appointed former minister and BJP vice-president D.K. Aruna as co-incharge of Karnataka BJP affairs.

Union minister V. Muraleedharan has been appointed to AP with Sunil Deodhar continuing as co-incharge.

Senior leader P. Murlidhar Rao has been appointed MP in-charge, along with Pankaja Munde. Elsewhere, the party appointed former Union minister Radhamohan Singh as the in-charge for UP in place of senior leader Om Prakash Mathur, and retained general secretary Kailash Vijayvargiya in West Bengal. The party also appointed IT cell head Amit Malviya as co-incharge of West Bengal where Assembly polls are scheduled next year.



Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao greets the newly nominated MLAs at Pragathi Bhavan on Friday.

## State selects 3 for MLCS seats

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, NOV. 13

The state Cabinet on Friday proposed the names of poet-lyricist Goreti Venkanna, former minister Baswaraaju Saraiyal and Aryavysya Sangham leader Boggarapu Dayanand for nomination to the Legislative Council and forwarded the names to Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan.

The names were cleared by a Cabinet meeting that was chaired by Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao. Reacting to the nomination, Saraiyal said, "KCR has given me an opportunity to serve the most backward communities in the state." He said, "We have achieved Telangana with a united

struggle and we will take it forward to achieve the Chief Minister's dream of Banaru Telangana."

He said he was ready to any responsibility be given to him by party working president and minister K.T. Rama Rao in the ensuing elections to the GHMC. The three nominees met the Chief Minister at Pragathi Bhavan in the evening and thanked him for proposing their names. The Chief Minister felicitated them and they later met K.T. Rama Rao.

Venkanna is popular for his songs reflecting the lives of the people in Telangana, particularly the rural areas.

Page 2: Saraiyal was only washerman minister

## LoC flares up, 4 security men, six civilians killed



A Pakistani bunker is hit by an Indian Army artillery shell at Uri along the LoC on Friday.

neighbouring country.

Late on Friday evening, Pakistan's Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) in a statement admitted that one Pakistani soldier was killed and five others were injured in the Indian firing and shelling. It, however, also said that four civilians were also killed and 12 others injured in what it termed as "deliberate attempt" by the Indian Army to target civilian population in PoK.

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and whether the Dubbak bypoll outcome will have any impact on hustings in the city.

"In past two days, at least 20 people from all political parties have been asking people sitting in salons who they would vote for during the GHMC polls.

They want to know how the sitting corporator has performed; whether s/he is corrupt or their spouse is indulging in corruption.

We are happy that crowds have increased at our salons," says M. Rameesh, treasurer of the Secunderabad Salons Association.

Mallesh, a resident of Kacheguda, recounted: "Local representatives of all political parties are asking us whether a particular party can field its candidate in the GHMC polls. They are enquiring about

multiple things like the candidate's image, his/her connection with the public, whether s/he has been helping people in an emergency or crisis situation.

Response of most people is that the incumbent candidate has not been of any help. As such, it will not be a cake walk for any political party, including the TRS, BJP, MIM, or the Congress," Mallesh maintained.

The TRS is trying to showcase its development agenda through advertisements in distribution of compensation to victims is coming of use for the Opposition.

## Salons, gyms, tea joints in city become venues to get support of people

## Parties piggyback on festival to campaign

MADDY DEEKSHITH | DC  
HYDERABAD, NOV. 13

Political parties in the city are busy preparing ground for the much-awaited Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) polls. While Telangana Rashtriya Samiti is popularising how it has developed the city in the past six years, Opposition parties are conducting ground surveys to woo young voters who have played a vital role in defeating the ruling party in the Dubbak byp

ASTROGUIDE  
FOR SUNDAY

**Sarvari:** Dakshinayana  
**Tithi:** Nija Ashwarya Bahula Amavasya till 10:38 am  
**Star:** Vishakha till 5:17 pm  
**Varjyan:** 8:51 pm to 10:16 pm  
**Durmuhuram:** 4:06 pm to 4:51 pm  
**RahuKalam:** 4:30 pm to 6 pm

**HIJRI CALENDAR**  
Rabrib-ul Awwal 28, 1442 AH

**PRAYERS**

Fajar: 5:18 am  
Zohar: 12:11 pm  
Asar: 4:05 pm  
Magrib: 5:46 pm  
Isha: 6:56 pm

**SUNRISE MONDAY** 6:20 AM  
**SUNSET SUNDAY** 5:40 PM  
**MOONSET** 4:20 PM  
**MOONRISE** 4:07 AM

## SHORT TAKES

HC SEEKS REPLY  
ON REGISTRY  
OFFICE HOLIDAY

VUJJINI VAMSHIDHARA | DC  
HYDERABAD, NOV. 13

The Telangana High Court sought a detailed explanation from the state government by December 10 on issuance of GO No. 102, which declares a holiday in stamps and registration department from September 8 until further orders.

The division bench, headed by Chief Justice Raghavendra Singh Chauhan, was dealing with a PIL by Mannaram Nagaraju, president of the Lok Satta Party, Telangana state, who sought directions to declare the GO as unconstitutional and violative of the Registration Act.

Buchi Babu, counsel for the petitioner, submitted that the GO violates Sections 43, 48 and 69 of Telangana Registration Rules. At least franking services, administration of marriage, will deeds, mortgage deeds and others shall be continued. Without these services, the people are suffering a lot, counsel submitted.

SARAIAH ONLY  
WASHERMAN  
MINISTER

From Page 1

Venkanna was born in Gowraram village of Nagarkurnool district in 1963. A recipient of several awards, he has been conferred the Kaloji award, instituted by the state government, in 2016 for his contribution to the literary field and the Kabir Samman national award of the Madhya Pradesh government last year.

Saraiah from Warangal district was born on December 5, 1955. He was elected MLA for three consecutive terms between 1999 and 2009. He was BC welfare minister in the Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy Cabinet. Prior to that, he was a three-time corporator in the Warangal Municipal Corporation where he also served as vice-chairman of the council. He is the only legislator from the washerman community in south India.

Dayanand took voluntary retirement from his job as deputy director, protocol, in the undivided Andhra Pradesh and joined the Telugu Desam. He joined the TRS in 2014. Dayanand is life-time chief adviser and past president of Vasavi Seva Kendra and an active member of the Arya Vysya community in the state.

VENKATA BACK  
AS SIDDIPET  
COLLECTOR

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, NOV. 13

The state government on Friday night posted P. Venkata Rami Reddy back as collector of Siddipet district. He had been shunted out of Siddipet following an Election Commission directive ahead of the Dubbik by-election and shifted to Sangareddy district. His spot had been taken by Bharati Hollikeri from Mancherial district. With the election process complete, Rami Reddy was posted to Siddipet and Bharati Hollikeri sent back to Mancherial. Following this, the government relieved Sikta Patnaik of full additional charge as Mancherial collector. Sangareddy collector M. Hanumanth Rao had been transferred to Medak district. During the transfer of Rami Reddy, Hanumanth Rao was brought to Sangareddy district and given full additional charge of Medak, which he is now relieved of. The government transferred Dr V. Venkateswarlu, collector of Medchal-Malkajgiri. Hyderabad collector Sweta Mohanty has been given full additional charge of Medchal-Malkajgiri.

## KTR: KCR wants more welfare plans for poor

CM strives to make TS top state in all fields: Minister

MADDY DEEKSHITH | DC  
HYDERABAD, NOV. 13

Municipal administration and urban development (MAUD) minister K.T. Rama Rao on Friday said Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao has been urging officials and ministers to increase the state revenue and to initiate different welfare programmes for the poor and needy. He said that the government is extending all support to people during the Covid-19 pandemic and has offered immediate relief to families, which were affected due to the recent rains.

Speaking after inaugurating a sports complex in Sanathnagar, Rama Rao said that the Chief Minister has been striving to make Telangana the top state across all fields. He said "As a progressive government, all we expect your continued support and blessings." He inaugurated different development works, including sports complex, library and laid the foundation stone for a theme park at Nehru Park at a total cost of over ₹19 crore.

Animal husbandry minister Talaosani Srinivas Yadav, who represents



Urban development minister K.T. Rama Rao works out after inaugurating a sports complex in Sanathnagar on Friday. — DC

Sanathnagar Assembly constituency, said he had worked as a minister for five terms and worked with different governments but none could match the vision and speed of the TRS government. He said that earlier even for getting ₹5 lakh sanction to dig two borewells in the constituency, several meetings had to be conducted.

In the TRS government's reign, nearly ₹800 crore development works were sanctioned for Sanathnagar constituency, he informed to loud cheers from the gathering.

Srinivas Yadav said that in the past the Congress government had sold the land meant for a sports complex to the Provident Fund office at Sanathnagar. He said GHMC had allocated another land for the office and today a multipurpose sports complex became a reality due to the support extended by the MAUD Minister.

"Past governments focused on the welfare of their own party members, family and relatives. Chandrashekhar Rao says that people are our bosses. That's the difference between the earlier governments and the one headed by TRS," he said.

## Asifabad tiger back in Maha: Forest officials

BALU PULIPAKA | DC  
HYDERABAD, NOV. 13

Two days after killing a 22-year-old tribal youth in the forests of Asifabad district, a large male tiger, believed to be a transient that entered Telangana state made its way back to Maharashtra, state forest department officials have said.

On Wednesday, the tiger killed Sidam Vignesh from Digidia village in Dahegaon mandal and the incident sent waves of panic among residents in the area. "The size of the pugmarks indicates that it is a large male. Also, the pugmarks do not match any of the resident tigers in Asifabad district," a senior forest official said.

On Friday, Sirpur MLA Koneru Konappa, accompanied by forest and police department officials met with Vignesh's family and handed over a cheque for ₹5 lakh from the forest department to Vignesh's father towards compensation.

The forest department said that though the tiger was tracked through its pugmarks all the way into Maharashtra, strict vigil was continuing with teams of its officials and animal trackers keeping a watch over the area.

C.P. Vinod Kumar, conservator of forests, Adilabad, has formed seven teams, each with five expert tiger trackers, to conduct round-the-clock patrolling in the limits of the seven villages near Digidia.

The sarpanches of the villages and residents have formed their own teams to protect the people and livestock.

In his latest report from the field, Vinod Kumar, according to the department, reported that fresh pugmarks of the tiger were found and tracked to Penchikalpet village bordering Maharashtra in Kagaznagar forest division.

Meanwhile, two large tiger trap cages that were installed on Thursday, will continue to be used to



Forest department officials unload tiger trapping cages. They have been installed and camouflaged and are currently being used with bait animals in the hope that if the tiger returns, it might get lured into trapping itself in one of the cages. — DC

## SBI ADOPTS 15 ZOO TIGERS FOR 1 YR

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, NOV. 13

Nehru Zoological Park on Friday saw animal adoptions, release of some young ones for public display, and a simple but poignant memorial for Suzi, the chimp that died on Thursday.

The State Bank of India adopted 15 tigers for a year, the ninth time in a row it has done so, and handed over ₹15 lakh towards adoption charges.

The cheque was handed over by SBI's chief general manager (CGM), Hyderabad Circle, Om Prakash Mishra, to Principal Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force) R. Shobha at the zoo. Saplings were planted to mark the occasion.

The day also saw five jackal puppies being released into an enclosure for public viewing, by

Mishra and Shobha. The puppies, eight months old, were born just after the Covid-19 lockdown was enforced.

The loss of Suzi, the beloved chimpanzee on Thursday to a massive cardiac arrest, was also mourned at a simple memorial ceremony with a photograph of the ape at which the forest, zoo officials and others placed flowers and offered rich tributes to Suzi.

Mishra, speaking later, said SBI is playing vital role in the conservation of tigers at Nehru Zoological Park and expressed happiness on the management of tigers and the zoo. He assured that SBI will continue to adopt tigers in the future too.

Sobha thanked Mishra for the great gesture towards wildlife conservation through the bank's animal adoptions for the ninth consecutive year.

A top department official here confirmed that the tiger had subsequently moved into Maharashtra territory but that patrolling by tiger trackers and officials will continue.

Meanwhile, two large tiger trap cages that were

installed on Thursday, will continue to be used to

Maharashtra.

trap the animal in case it

returns. It is not uncommon for tigers from

Maharashtra to cross the

Pranhita river that forms the border and enter Telangana state.

These transient tigers

usually spend a few days

or weeks in Telangana

state and return to

Maharashtra.

Meanwhile, two large tiger trap cages that were

installed on Thursday, will

continue to be used to

protect the people and

livestock.

The managements of pubs which allow customers to drive out under the influence of alcohol will be booked for culpable homicide not amounting to murder, which leads to a jail term of 10 years, said the Cyberabad police.

The Cyberabad commissionerate, which witnessed two fatal accidents in the last week involving drunk driving, will book those who cause accidents leading to fatalities by booking them under 304-II of the IPC (culpable homicide not amounting to murder), said police commissioner V.C. Sajjanar.

"No one can escape the legal action after causing a road accident under the influence of alcohol," he said. He said the managements of pubs who are aware that their customers are too drunk to drive the vehicles will be prosecuted under the relevant provisions of law.

"The police is forming special teams to work continuously to apprehend the persons who cause road accidents and flee the scene. More stringent action under such persons will be taken," Sajjanar said. "If anyone does not cooperate for an alcohol test, action will be taken under Section 205 of the MV Act, which presumes that the person is drunk," added the official.

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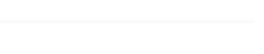
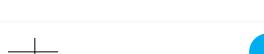


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**IN BRIEF**

**Gov, KCR extend Diwali greetings**

**Hyderabad:** Governor Tamilsai Soundararajan and Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao greeted the people of Telangana state on Diwali. The Governor said, "This festival of lights signifies the victory of righteousness over the evil." She said that in line with the Prime Minister's river, people should buy our festival material from indigenous manufacturers and bring brightness in their lives. The Governor appealed all to celebrate Diwali while following Covid-19 protocols. Chief Minister Chandrashekhar Rao said every household should light up their homes with the Karthik diya and there should be the light of happiness in the eyes of farmers. He hoped that Diwali would drive away darkness with the light of wisdom.

**Cong invites GHMC poll aspirants**

**Hyderabad:** The state Congress has invited applications from candidates who are interested in contesting the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation elections. On Friday the party issued a schedule for such people to drop their written application form in the prescribed format in Gandhi Bhavan. TPCC president N. Uttam Kumar Reddy in a note said that November 18 was the last date for submission of applications. Recently, the Congress had decided to collect a non-refundable fee of ₹10,000 from applicants belonging to the open category, and ₹5,000 from applicants belonging to the SC, ST, BC communities.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given to the general public that the son of Sri. Sudhir Kiran, Ms. Journa Potharu and Mr. Rohith Bandekar who were employed with Abacus Real Estate Private Limited ('Company') as sales personnel for the Company's project known as 'Kalpataru Residency' at Sanath Nagar, Erragadda, Hyderabad, have been terminated from employment with effect from 5 November 2020 and have been prohibited from representing the Company in any capacity whatsoever.

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# Bandi flays CM on crackers ban

Govt failed to protect Hindu sentiments in High Court, says TS BJP chief

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
HYDERABAD, NOV. 13

High Court. Sanjay expressed concern over traders who had bought firecrackers worth lakhs of rupees for sale during Diwali. He wondered why the state government did not ban firecrackers in advance, but went on to issue no objection certificates (NOCs) and permitted opening of cracker shops. He demanded that the CM come to the aid of small business people who had already bought firecrackers for sale but cannot do so now.

The state BJP chief said that pollution had not come in way of 192 countries bursting crackers on their festivals or New Year, while the ban was brought in for Diwali.

The locals saw through the game-plan of Chief Minister K. Chandrashe-

## DUBBAK MARKS BEGINNING OF END OF KCR'S RULE, POLL DREW NATIONAL ATTENTION: BJP

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
KARIMNAGAR, NOV. 13

The Dubbak byelection triumph is dedicated to the true workers of BJP and to party activist Srinivas, who died by suicide in Hyderabad, said party's state chief Bandi Sanjay Kumar here on Friday. The BJP leaders felicitated Sanjay for the victory. Sanjay thanked the people of Dubbak and the victor, M. Raghunandan Rao, and said the election had attracted the attention of the nation.

The locals saw through the game-plan of Chief Minister K. Chandrashe-

kar Rao and taught him a fitting lesson. The verdict marks the beginning of the end of his rule, Sanjay said.

He said that the BJP, which started its political journey with just two Lok Sabha seats in 1984, is now ruling the country. A similar story will be replicated statewide, he asserted. He took a dig at the CM for being silent when the people faced problems during the recent rains and floods. He wondered whether ₹10,000 that the government claims to have distributed to the victims was enough.

On farming, he said that on the Chief Minister's advise, farmers had cultivated the fine variety of rice in about 30 lakh acres but the government without fixing the MSP was betraying them, he said.

## NO MAROON PASSBOOKS IN TRIBAL AREAS, DIRECTS HC

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
HYDERABAD, NOV. 13

Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee president N. Uttam Kumar Reddy has strongly condemned the TRS government for not helping the residents of Osmannagar which has remained inundated a month after the heavy rains and floods hit the city.

Accompanied by senior Congress leaders, Uttam Kumar Reddy visited Osmannagar in Maheshwaram Assembly constituency, in Hyderabad on Friday.

they to live in inhuman conditions, the TPCC chief said.

"While the conditions in Osmannagar are the worst, it is not an isolated case. Several localities in Hyderabad have not received help from the state government. TRS and MIM leaders have swindled more than half of ₹550 crore which the state government claims to have spent on flood relief," the TPCC chief said.

Uttam Kumar Reddy

## PINK NETS PLACED ATOP SEPTIC TANK PIPES TO CONTAIN MOSQUITO MENACE

**PILLALAMARI SRINIVAS I DC**  
ADILABAD, NOV. 13

Bizarre as it may sound but mosquito nets are being used for septic tank pipes as a means to control mosquito menace, courtesy of Adilabad municipal officials. They have come up with the 'innovative' idea of tying small mosquito nets at the opening of septic tank pipes. This comes after the rise in dengue fever cases in several colonies here.

Ironically, the nets are in pink colour that bears a striking resemblance to the TRS flag. Officials say that the mosquitoes are entering houses through toilet pipes and even breeding inside them.

Municipal councillors are going around colonies and urging households to make use of the septic tank pipe mosquito nets being distributed free by the municipality. Some house owners have shown interest.

Adilabad Municipal TRS floor leader Bandari Satish said the authorities were distributing the mosquito nets in order to control mosquitoes from entering houses. He said they had procured 20,000 specially stitched small mosquito nets at a cost of ₹1 lakh with self-help group members and distributing them to households. He said mosquitoes are breeding more in septic tank pipes than in drainages. Satish said Adilabad is the first municipality to come with such an innovative idea.

## Budget slashed for Urdu Academy, schemes hit

### GOVT ALLOCATES ₹1,518 CRORE FOR WELFARE OF MINORITIES

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
HYDERABAD, NOV. 13

Telangana State Urdu Academy is concerned over the state government not releasing the budgeted amount for various schemes the academy is expected to implement during the current financial year.

The government had provisioned ₹10.51 crore for the TS Urdu Academy during 2020-21 but the same was revised to ₹8.8 crore. The government, which had earmarked ₹2.13 crore for preservation and promotion of Urdu language, brought down the amount to ₹1.27 crore in the revised budget.

The government allotted ₹2.55 crore for construction of Urdu Ghar-cum-Shadikhana, ₹90.43 lakh for staff salaries and ₹1.07 crore for other expenditure.

However, it has just

released only ₹1.28 crore for construction of Urdu Ghar-cum-Shadikhana.

Sources said though the government had sanctioned ₹4.40 crore for 26 schemes to preserve and promote Urdu language, it has not

yet release a single pie.

Social activist Syed Ifteqar Hussaini says Urdu Academy has become paralysed due to lack of funds.

"How can the academy carry out its activities under such circumstances?" he asked.

the agitation programme. Muslim youth also discussed the issue after Juma prayers in various masjids and decided to restart the protest.

### OBITUARY

For the righteous will never be moved; he will be remembered forever. Ps 112:6



**Mr. SANJAY UPPATI**

Son of late U. Prasad Rao and Mrs U. Lailitha Prasad.

DOB: 1st Oct 1974 DOD: 12th Nov 2020

Funeral is Today 14-11-2020, Saturday

Inserted by: Wife: U.Sabita Sanjay, Daughter: Shriya Uppati, Son: Sameet Uppati and Uppati family Ph:9866192215

### BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

That which is born of the flesh is flesh and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. John 3:6



**Late Sri. Karkala Rajendra David**

We turn back, but don't find you in person, but your memories are still with us

Inserted by: K.Esther Rani (Wife)

K.Ruth Swarnalatha (Daughter)



**K. URMIKA REDDY**

W/o Late K.V. Reddy

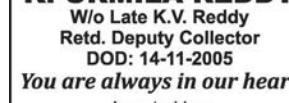
Retd. Deputy Collector

DOB: 14-11-2005

You are always in our heart

Inserted by: K. VINOD REDDY & FAMILY

Cell: 88855 55677



**15th ANNIVERSARY**



**K. RUMILA REDDY**

W/o Late K.V. Reddy

Retd. Deputy Collector

DOB: 14-11-2005

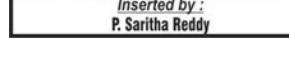
You are always in our heart

Inserted by: K. VINOD REDDY & FAMILY

Cell: 88855 55677



**26th ANNIVERSARY**



**Smt. P. SIRISHA REDDY**

DOB: 16-06-1961 DOD: 14-11-1994

In fond remembrance of my dearest Sister

Inserted by: P. Saritha Reddy



**14th DEATH ANNIVERSARY**



**Shri KAMALA DAYANANDAM**

National Champion in Cycling & Veteran Athlete

Your Ideas and Vision you'll always be there in our hearts

In fond remembrance: Daughters, Sons, Grand Children and Kamala Samasthaman

Cell No. 9866209473, 7093081508, 9550414675

Inserted by: Sons, Daughter-in-Law, Daughter

Son-in-Law, & All Dubey Family

15-6-158, Kolsawadi, Begumbazar

Ph: 9392211870



**SHRADDHANJALI**

3rd Anniversary

Your life was a blessing, your memory a treasure, You are loved beyond words and missed beyond measure.

**IN LOVING MEMORY**

Mrs. Shashi Aggarwal, Neeraj & Ishita Aggarwal, Shivaansh and Aahaan and All who remember and miss him dearly.



Left us on 14.11.2017

With great sadness, we announce the loss of Mr. YERUVA RAYAPPY REDDY

Husband of Mrs Y. Ignatia Reddy

DOB: 28 April 1932, DOD: 11 November 2020

Mass at St Mary's Basilica at 10:00 am on Monday 16 November 2020. Funeral Service at Bhoiguda Catholic Cemetery, Secunderabad.

Inserted by Family Members:  
Susheela & Raja Gade,  
Dr Raja & Aruna Yeruva, Jay & Nymphea,  
Pauleena & (Late) Dr Rajeev Kambam,  
Ravi & Lavanya Yeruva and  
Aruna & Mohan Simham.

Grandchildren and Great-grandson  
(S/2021/D00820)



**SHRADHANJALI**

1st ANNIVERSARY



**VIJAY KUMAR AGGARWAL**

10-05-1948 - 15-11-2019

In Loving Memory:

NIRMAL AGGARWAL (WIFE),

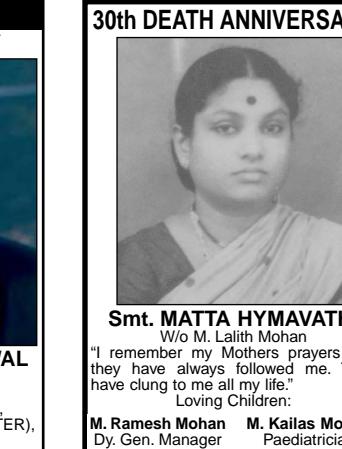
SANDHYA AGGARWAL (DAUGHTER),

TEAM AT VIJAY SHEETS & STRIPS PVT. LTD.

And all those who remember and miss him deeply.

VIJAY SHEETS & STRIPS PVT. LTD.

(S/2021/D00825)



**Smt. MATTHA HYMAVATHI**

W/o M. Lalith Mohan

"I remember my Mothers prayers and they have always followed me. They have clung to me all my life."

Loving Children:

M. Ramesh Moh

## IN BRIEF

## Uppala is new chairman of TTDC

**Hyderabad:** Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao on Friday appointed Uppala Srinivas Gupta as chairman of the Telangana Tourism Development Corporation.

Gupta holds an MA in political science from Osmania University. Gupta, from the Aryavarsya community, was an active leader in the state Congress till he joined the TRS a few years ago.

## Constable tries to end life

**Hyderabad:** A constable of the Chaitanya puri police allegedly attempted to end his life by consuming pesticide at the Gaddiannaram fruit market on Thursday night. Before doing so, the constable, K. Naresh, 40, called up his colleague on the phone, told him he would be ending his life due to family problems and disconnected the call abruptly, said the police. "His colleagues traced him to the market, where he was found unconscious as he had consumed the pesticide, and rushed him to a nearby hospital," said Chaitanya puri inspector B. Rav Kumar. Naresh is under observation, the inspector said.

## Three of a family die by suicide

**Komaram Bheem-Apisabab:** Three members of a family died by suicide over a family quarrel in Burepalli village in Chithalamanepalli mandal on Friday. Shyamala, 30, left home with her elder daughter Srividya, three years old, and younger daughter who is one and a half years old, home after quarreling with husband Nakka Raju, 35, on Thursday night. Raju followed them for some distance and took Srividya home.

## OWAISI GIVES FLOOD RELIEF KITS IN HYD

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
HYDERABAD, NOV. 13

MIM president Asaduddin Owaisi distributed flood relief kits from the Salar-e-Millat Educational Trust at KG among the affected people at PG Campus, MM Colony, Bandlaguda. MIM Assembly floor leader Akbaruddin Owaisi said the MIM had extended financial aid not only during the flood but also during the lockdown without discriminating against caste, religion and region. "We have spent ₹11 crore since the lockdown. Through the Trust, we spent ₹6.5 crore during the lockdown. We have distributed 5,000 kits containing 33 essential items including utensils and clothes worth ₹2.5 crore among the flood victims," he said. "Fifteen medical camps have been held in flood-affected areas, 24,000 persons were treated and free medicines were distributed while 30 patients were admitted in our hospitals," Akbaruddin said. Giving details of other relief efforts, he said, "we also ensured that the debris in tonnes was removed within a week. Our workers helped the residents in cleaning the houses."

## Festive mood on



Citizens line up at the MJ Market for purchasing flowers on the eve of Diwali, in Hyderabad on Friday.

P. SURENDRA

## 20K fewer voters for GHMC polls

## SEC's list shows more women voters

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
HYDERABAD, NOV. 13

THE STATE Election Commission (SEC) on Friday published the final electoral rolls in the GHMC limits for the elections.

more voters according to the SEC data.

There is, however, a decrease in the number of male voters, from 39,69,007 when the votes were cast the last time in the GHMC Council elections, to 38,56,617 now. That means 1,12,390 fewer men will be voting in the GHMC polls.

There will now be 9,248 polling stations, against 7,757 in 2016.

The publication of final voters lists sets the stage for the issue of the election notification. The State Election Commission (SEC) on Friday published the final electoral rolls in the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) limits for the elections. Voters can check the list at their

respective ward and tahsildar offices.

If there are any issues, voters can file their claims in Form-6 with the electoral registration officer of the Assembly constituency concerned. The claims can be filed till the date of issue of notification by the State Election Commission. The list is also available on the SEC website <https://tsec.gov.in>.

The draft list of polling stations in respect of 150 wards of the GHMC Council has also been published by the returning officers.

That list has been published in the office of deputy commissioner, ward office, revenue divisional office and tahsildar's office among others.

After receipt and disposal of claims, objections and suggestions received up to 5 pm on November 17, the returning officer will publish the final list of polling stations on November 21.

## Habitual offender held, 33 tolas of gold seized

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
HYDERABAD, NOV. 13

by police stations of Hyderabad, Nizamabad and Karimnagar since 2007, said the police, adding that he was also convicted in a rape case and was lodged in the Kolhapur jail of Maharashtra earlier.

Hyderabad police commissioner Anjani Kumar said that Shaik lures the victims by offering gifts in lucky draws and persuades them to collect it in per-

son. He would ask them to leave their gold ornaments at home.

Once the target turned up, he would drop them at a random place to await further instructions. In the meanwhile, he heads to their residence and collects their gold ornaments, the commissioner said.

On Friday, upon receiving credible information, the police arrested Shaik.

The accused, Afatah Ahmad Shaik, 39, of Chandrayanagutta, has been booked in 23 cases

## Secunderabad Club manager dead, drunk techie rams car into his bike

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
HYDERABAD, NOV. 13

## Drunk youth drives away cop's car

**DC CORRESPONDENT**

HYDERABAD, NOV. 13

A drunk youth from Hyderabad, who was stopped along with his friends by the inspector of Miryalaguda Rural in Nalgonda, drove the cop's car away during questioning and crashed into another vehicle during his escape.

The police chased the vehicle for about 7 km before catching the man, identified by Sonu Vamshi. According to the police, his parents later claimed that Vamshi was mentally unstable.

Miryalaguda Rural inspector, Ramesh Babu said the incident occurred

in the jurisdiction of Miryalaguda One Town police around 11.30 pm on Thursday. The cop was patrolling the area when he found three boys consuming liquor by the road at Edulaguda and stopped his vehicle to speak to them.

"While he was questioning them, it was learnt that they were celebrating the birthday of one of them. While the police were enquiring, Vamshi took off in the police car while the inspector was talking to his friends Bantu Sai Kiran, 19, and D. Mahesh, 19. He drove towards Suryapet and rammed the car into a vehicle coming from the opposite direction, damaging

and started working on technical evidence to trace the driver. "We learnt that he has roamed around the city for a few hours and checked into an room near JNTU Metro Station at around 5 am, where he was hiding. Our team picked him up from the place and his blood sample was collected. The sample will be sent to FSL for verification and to confirm his drunken state dur-

ing the accident," added the official.

Vishwanath, a resident of Bachupally, works at a firm in Mohali and has been at home since the lockdown was announced.

## Priest held for denying Dalit family entry into temple

**ANUDEEP CEREMILLA | DC**  
WARANGAL, NOV. 13

as the priest said Dalits are not allowed to enter the temple.

Several people belonging to the Dalit communities protested in front of the Anjaneyaswamy temple in Ganeshwada, Jangaon, on Friday demanding action against priest Gangu Anjaneya Sharma.

According to local resident Lakkappalli Bhaskar, the priest refused to perform prayers when his family visited the temple. A further humiliation, he pointed out, was that they were forced to leave the premises

speaking to the priest. When he saw my wife, he stopped her immediately and asked us to leave the premises," Bhaskar said.

The police visited the spot after a large number of people gathered in front of the temple. A complaint was filed in the Jangaon police station and the priest was booked. Jangaon police inspector D. Mallesh said they are investigating the case and collecting the statements of eye-witnesses.

## 2 I-T INSPECTORS TAKE BRIBE, HELD

New Delhi, Nov. 13: The CBI has arrested two Income-Tax inspectors in Hyderabad for allegedly accepting a bribe of ₹80,000 for closing a pending tax matter, officials said on Friday.

The central agency arrested income-tax inspectors Thota Purushotham Rao and Itta Upender Rao, both posted at Ayakar Bhavan, Hyderabad, for allegedly receiving the bribe, they said.

It is alleged that the complainant had a pending tax matter for which the duo demanded the bribe, they said. —PTI


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**GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA**  
 Office of the Director, Heritage Department,  
 (Formerly Archaeology and Museums Dept.)  
 Government of Telangana, Guntur, Hyderabad

File No.B1/160/2015-K  
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 1. (a) Tender Enquiry No.: DPS/HRPU/NFC/PT/TPT/CAP/1158  
 (b) Description: Development, Supply, Installation and Performance Demonstration of Vison-based system for Inspection of Appendages Welded Tubes – Qty. 1 No., details as per tender specifications (c) Last date for submission of online pre-bid queries: 04/12/2020 upto 2:00 PM (d) Last Date for Submission of Bid Online: 04/01/2021 upto 2:00 PM (e) Tender Fee: NIL (f) EMD: ₹ 1,30,000/-  
 2. (a) Tender Enquiry No.: DPS/HRPU/NFC/PT/ENG/17004  
 (b) Description: Procurement of 8 Nos. of Roll Shafts and 8 Nos. of Bearing Sleeves for 75 VMR Pilger Mill details as per drawings and tender specifications (c) Last Date for Submission of Bid Online: 23/11/2020 upto 2:00 PM (d) Tender Fee: NIL (e) EMD: ₹ 1,20,000/-  
 3. (a) Tender Enquiry No.: DPS/HRPU/NFC/PT/ENG/17001  
 (b) Description: Fabrication & Supply of Liners for 750 KG batch size with Free Issue Material – Qty. 500 No., details as per tender specifications (c) Last Date for Submission of Bid Online: 20/11/2020 upto 2:00 PM (d) Tender Fee: NIL (e) EMD: ₹ 1,10,660/-  
 4. (a) Tender Enquiry No.: DPS/HRPU/NFC/PT/TPT/CAP/1196  
 (b) Description: Design, Manufacture and supply of Deburring Machine – Qty 2 Nos. details as per tender specifications (c) Last date for submission of online pre-bid queries: 23/11/2020 upto 2:00 PM (d) Last Date for Submission of Bid Online: 23/12/2020 upto 2:00 PM (d) Tender Fee: NIL (e) EMD: ₹ 2,00,000/-  
 5. (a) Tender Enquiry No.: DPS/HRPU/NFC/PT/TPT/ENG/17000  
 (b) Description: Lifting Attachment with Heavy Shield for Transfer of Long Components by EOT Crane – Qty 2 Nos. details as per tender specifications (c) Last date for submission of online pre-bid queries: 10/12/2020 upto 11:00 AM (d) Last Date for Submission of Bid Online: 12/01/2021 upto 2:00 PM (d) Tender Fee: NIL (e) EMD: ₹ 2,23,020/-  
 Visit <https://etenders.dpsdae.gov.in> for details.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
 MINISTRY OF TEXTILES  
 Office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms  
 Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi

No. 3/2020-DCH/P&E/Award Date: 10th November, 2020  
**CORIGENDUM**  
 Subject:- Extension of date for submission of applications for handloom awards (Sant Kabir Award, National Award, National Merit Certificates) for the year 2019-reg.  
 Please refer this Office advertisement No. 4102/11/0005/2021 which was published Pan India on 01-09-2020 in various National / Regional Newspapers wherein applications are invited for various categories of Handloom awards (Sant Kabir Awards, National Awards & National Merit Certificate including Kamala Devi Chattopadhyay Award) with the last date of submission of application was 16-11-2020. It is notified that the last date for submission of applications for the above handloom awards for the year 2019 is extended upto 31-12-2020. All other terms and conditions will remain same. For detailed information please visit the website:- [www.myhandlooms.gov.in](http://www.myhandlooms.gov.in) & [www.handlooms.nic.in](http://www.handlooms.nic.in).  
**Development Commissioner for Handlooms,**  
**Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi**

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
 MINISTRY OF TEXTILES  
 Office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms  
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**Development Commissioner for Handlooms,**  
**Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi**

daval 4102/11/0006/2021

# DECCAN Chronicle

14 NOVEMBER 2020

## Brainstorm revival steps to take in the short term

**A**nnouncing the third tranche of the stimulus package on Thursday, finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman said the government's focus was on bringing back the economy on the growth path. The stimulus package was estimated to be ₹2.7 lakh crore, which translates to 1.4 per cent of the GDP. The package touches upon all key segments of the economy, such as industry, agriculture, employment generation, real estate and infrastructure, among others. Reforms address some of the long-pending demands of the industry, such as production-linked incentives, which could potentially attract companies that want to diversify their supply chains.

Notwithstanding its goal, the package does not give the economy and the people what they need right now: Revival of demand. Most of the announcements on Thursday were of the medium-term nature. They are, no doubt, good, but they won't provide any solution to the current problem, which is sagging demand. The Covid-19 pandemic has made several contact-intensive industries to shut or operate at abysmally low capacities, which resulted in massive retrenchments. While this had eliminated the enormous purchasing power that these people collectively wielded, the reluctance of those having cash to splurge in these uncertain times has further mauled the demand in the Indian economy.

**Retail inflation continued to be high, which, unless addressed immediately, could affect people's lives and also slow down India's economic recovery**

fiscal component — the money spent by the government — would be less than two per cent of the GDP. Further, the government expects no additional borrowing. In the backdrop of falling tax revenue, no additional borrowing means the government would be diverting other budgeted expenditure for spending on the stimulus package, which means it won't spend any extra money.

Incentives offered for real estate, and housing could improve home sales and have a spill-over effect on other businesses, such as furnishing and building products, and create employment in the construction sector. This alone, however, cannot restore the demand in the economy. If one goes by data of inflation and industrial production (IIP), there is nothing to cheer about as yet. The demand for capital goods, which indicates a booming economy, continues to be in the negative territory. Retail inflation continued to be high, which, unless addressed immediately, could affect people's lives and also slow down India's economic recovery. John Maynard Keynes said, "In the long term, we are all dead."

## Owaisi's reach is growing

**T**he Hyderabad-based All India Majlis-e Ittehadul Muslimeen (or Muslim Unity Party) and its leader Asaduddin Owaisi have lately drawn analytical attention. Were it not for this party being in the fray in the recent Bihar Assembly polls in a Muslim-preponderant region, many think the NDA might have lost to the Mahagathbandhan, the Opposition coalition of the RJD, Congress, and Left parties. The AIMIM won five seats and 1.24 per cent of the votes, but this percentage would be higher if voting for only the Seemanchal region is considered. If the AIMIM had received just half a per cent fewer votes, the anti-NDA parties could have made it.

But it is clear that Mr Owaisi has every right to contest elections where he wishes. It is for the anti-BJP parties (the so-called secular forces typically) to open political channels to the AIMIM. This is not likely to be easy, though. To begin with, Mr Owaisi aims for Muslim votes. Therefore, the parties that attract his ire in an election are those that have traditionally attracted Muslim votes. This is why, politically, he does not go for the BJP and its allies, giving them an easy ride. In that sense Mr Owaisi's forays in Muslim areas are useful to the BJP. But what appears evident is that Mr Owaisi is doing his best to grow the AIMIM as an all-India Muslim party, inasmuch as the BJP is a Hindu party. In 2015, his party drew a blank in Bihar but this time round it has won as many as five seats. In Maharashtra Assembly too it has won seats and also has an MP from that state. Now the AIMIM leader has announced his intention to fight in West Bengal and UP. The continued existence of caste and religious parties is not healthy for the spread of the democratic ethos in this country. Identity-based electoral and political consolidation is a complex phenomenon but in part it derives from the failure of centrist forces represented by the Congress or the Janata Party earlier, or even the Left.

DECCAN CHRONICLE

K. SUDHAKAR  
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Farrukh  
Dhondy  
**Cabbages & Kings**



"Why do we in temperate India  
Read about poetic snows  
Which foreign poets celebrate  
In metaphors none of us knows?  
Yes, we sing hymns to the monsoon,  
The downpours which each year  
Bring promises of renewal  
When thunderous clouds appear.  
— From Godrej to Road Rage by  
Bachchoo

Dear Narendra Saheb,  
Pradhan Mantri,

## Open letter to PM Modi: Let Bharat Mata set an example

**I**address you as a petitioner on a matter which has, I am sure, occupies the minds of millions in our constantly changing world. I mean, as you can see from global reports, particularly in the last weeks from France and Vienna, that there have been murders and terrorist attacks in the name of Islam in Europe. After the beheading of a schoolteacher in France and the murder of people in the Notre Dame cathedral of Nice, President Emmanuel Macron declared his policy of war on Islamist terrorism. He was, commendably, careful to say that his offensive was not against the religion but against those that interpret it as an injunction or licence to

murder the innocent.

He has declared a relentless campaign by the French state to eliminate terrorism emanating from this particular interpretation of Islam which, according to very many scholars, and to the philosophy of many schools of the religion, is anti-Islamic and amounts to the ideas of deviant savants who instituted death-cults and insisted they were the authentic religion.

President Macron's declared offensive is fraught with difficulty as the French police say they have 20,000 individuals whom they need to keep under surveillance as they have indicated in one way or another their adherence to or sympathy for the ideas of the contemporary death-cult. Mr Macron's initiative is welcomed by the citizens of France but his efforts and that of the French state, or that of the Austrians, British, other Europeans, Americans or even the Pakistani state (which has been ambivalent towards this phenomenon) will obviously not solve what is now a universal occurrence. The Trump administration of the US didn't seem to distinguish between Islam and the Islamicist death-cults. Mr Trump

and his aides perhaps didn't understand any distinction and declared bans on citizens of certain parts of the globe.

The reason is that Islam today is a universally divided house. In the states which call themselves Islamic, the factions of Sunnis and Shias fight and kill each other in terror attacks as in Pakistan, or in factional armies supported by foreign powers, as in Syria, or as opposing national states with deadly foreign-manufactured-and-marketed weapons as in the Yemen. ISIS, declaring itself heir to the world, began its murderous campaigns in Islamic countries, fighting Muslims in the name of Islam.

No country, no state, has gone any distance to set any sort of example to bring peace where there is war and hope where there is the underlying despair that leads to the murder of innocents. The wisest world opinion has concluded that only Muslims can bring about this peace or defeat of death cults in the Islamic world. That's as obvious, gentle reader, as the nose on your face (apologies to Surpanakha of the *Ramayan* who had hers cut off by Lakshman). But can they? Unlike Christianity, Islam

has no Pope or archbishop to make a ruling. The fatwas abound, the killing continues.

And yet Narendraji, there is one country that can offer examples of an attitude, a policy, strategies towards the future and set patterns and ideals for the rest of the world. Yes, Pradhan Mantri, that country is Bharat Mata.

The theology of Islam didn't come to India in the shape of Muslim conquest. It came in the guise of the Sufi evangelists, the Chishtis and the Olyas. A scholar and prince such as Dara Shikoh, the brother of the biggest Aurangzeb, recognised the closeness of Sufi Islam to the philosophical Advait Vedant of Shankara.

Every religion has beliefs and writings from the past which the modern worshipper discards and is forced, by sheer common sense and humane values, to neglect as things which have outlived their origins. No Christian should act on the dictates and punishments that Leviticus prescribes in his book in the Bible. Just so, there are passages in the Hindu scriptures about castes and the status of women which don't accord with the democracy that brought your party and you to power. Of

course, all the modern movements of Hinduism understand that.

Millions of our citizens go to temples to worship and also make a pilgrimage to Ajmer to the shrine and presence of a Sufi saint.

Yes, as my late friend V.S. Naipaul insisted, we should tell the truth about the atrocities that were visited by conquerors on the Indian population. Nothing should be swept under the carpet, including the atrocities, through thousands of years, of the ruling upper castes against those born as lower.

In the moments of the Black Lives Matter *morchas* in the United States and Britain we saw whites and blacks saying let us, while acknowledging it, put the history of division behind us.

I address this to you, Narendraji, as being uniquely placed in the world to lead a country with a unique history to put the divisions of that history behind us and discover, recognise the inevitability of and anoint the avatar of the future India... of freedom from the devils of conflict. *Jai Hind!*

Ever,  
Farrukh Dhondy

Subhani



## How to be a good loser... Don needs crash course



Shobhaa De

**Had it not been for the most charismatic living politician (Obama), Orange Hair would have cruised back in. This is the thing about democracies, the lowest common denominator generally leads the rally.**

cannot be manufactured by managers and agents. It is so evident that these two all-time great tennis champions possess the one quality that separates the men from the boys — an abundance of confidence. Compare them to the Joker with his tantrums on and off the court, and one can easily see who wins the popular vote.

It is said true character gets revealed not when you lose even bigger. Some of our superstars in Bollywood and cricket need to remind themselves of this aspect of competition — films flop, someone else gets the role, heartbreaks happen, box office records are broken, more wickets are taken, and the spotlight shifts to the next one and the next one. True achievements never tarnish. In India, we have any number of sterling examples — men and women, who inspire generations to put the best foot forward and not obsess over "legacy".

There is something truly hideous about boastfulness, especially during a time like this, when the whole world is dealing with stress and confusion. Chest thumping is easy — watch an alpha male gorilla to figure out how it's done. But when the prevalent and dominating political culture in the country actively advocates beligerent egotism and steps in with unseemly alacrity to "save" a particularly obnoxious television anchor who has made a career out of bulldozing opponents and fabricating narratives, it is best to say "Hari Om!", and remind ourselves that even the mighty eventually fall with a thud despite all the cushioning provided by powerful mentor-sponsors. You can be the biggest loser on earth while foolishly believing you have won! BTW, the biryani in Talaja remains top class.

Readers can send feedback to [www.shobhaade.blogspot.com](http://www.shobhaade.blogspot.com)

### LETTERS

#### JUDICIARY'S APATHY

The High Court order on crackers is yet another example of judiciary's apathy (*HC tells TS to ban crackers on Diwali, DC, Nov. 13*). How did the court expect small merchants to recover their investment within half-a-day's notice?

**K.R.K.S. Murthy**  
Hyderabad

#### DIWALI CRACKERS

It is unfortunate that somebody has to force people and the government to fulfil their responsibility in tackling Covid. Earlier, the High Court had pulled up the state for fudging data on Coronavirus cases and Covid tests. Hope the state government will take proactive measures in dealing with the pandemic.

**Dr O.Pradas Rao**  
Hyderabad

#### PLIGHT OF INNOCENT

In thousands of cases, innocent people are being accused on the basis of an FIR without looking into facts and are being harassed by police/courts/and other law enforcement agencies. Even High Courts do not distinguish between the innocent and the accused. As a result thousands of innocent people are being deprived of their personal liberty and freedom. Many of them, I am sure, do not have the means to approach the apex court for relief. Why can't an innocent person get automatic relief within a given time frame, and be set free?

**B.K. Mohanty**  
Hyderabad

#### 50 YEARS AGO IN DECCAN Chronicle

#### 300 killed in E. Pak tidal wave

CALCUTTA, Nov. 13 About 300 people were feared killed in today's cyclone in the coastal areas of Khulna district of East Pakistan. Deputy High Commissioner of Pakistan A.K. Choudhury told UNI here tonight.

He said the reports he had received said Khulna district bore the brunt of the storm.

He said weather reports indicated that another cyclone was likely to hit its parts of East Pakistan tonight.

A tidal wave, apparently started by a hurricane, has hit the island of Dubla in the Bay of Bengal and is feared to have washed away several thousand Hindu pilgrims.

## SHORT TAKES

## NCB GRILLS ARJUN RAMPAL IN DRUGS PROBE

SAURABH JOSHI | DC  
MUMBAI, NOV. 13

The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) on Friday grilled actor Arjun Rampal, days after grilling his girlfriend Gabriella Demetriades, in connection with the Bollywood drugs consumption and peddling probe. The questioning went on till late in the evening after it started at around 11 am. The actor allegedly submitted a medical prescription to the NCB in support of the tablets that were seized from his residence.

Rampal was grilled from 11 am to 6 pm by a team of NCB at their Ballard Pier office. The investigators said that Rampal was initially summoned by the NCB on Wednesday but he turned up on Friday. While the officials grilled the actor, his friend who is also a foreign national, Paul Giryard was arrested by the NCB officials, on Thursday. He was summoned and grilled by the NCB following which he was placed under arrest. Prior to the questioning of Rampal, the NCB grilled his girlfriend for two consecutive days.

## KUNAL KAMRA REFUSES TO SAY SORRY

New Delhi, Nov. 13: A petition was on Friday filed in the Supreme Court seeking initiation of criminal contempt proceedings against stand-up comic artist Kunal Kamra for his alleged scandalous tweets against the apex court.

The plea was filed a day after Attorney General K.K. Venugopal granted consent for initiation of criminal contempt proceedings against Kamra, saying the tweets are in bad taste and it is time that people understand that attacking the apex court brazenly will attract punishment under the Contempt of Courts Act, 1971.

The consent of either the Attorney General or the Solicitor General is necessary, under section 15 of the Contempt of Courts Act, 1971, for initiating contempt proceedings against a person.

Kunal Kamra on Friday refused to retract his controversial tweets against the Supreme Court or apologise for them, saying he believes they speak for themselves.

"The tweets I recently put out have been found in contempt of court. All that I tweeted was from my view of the Supreme Court of India giving a partial decision in favour of a Prime Time Loudspeaker, he said in a statement addressed to Venugopal and the judges on his Twitter page. My view hasn't changed because the silence of the Supreme Court of India on matters of other's personal liberty cannot go uncriticized. I don't intend to retract my tweets or apologise for them. I believe they speak for themselves, he added."

## Festive spirit at its peak



Devotees decorated Kedarnath temple with 10 quintals of flowers in Kedarnath on Friday on the eve of Diwali festival. President Ram Nath Kovind on Friday asked people to take a resolve to become a lamp of hope and prosperity for the poor, destitute and needy this Diwali by sharing happiness.

## FORMER NC MLA BARRED FROM TRAVELLING TO DUBAI

DC CORRESPONDENT  
SRINAGAR, NOV. 13

A former National Conference (NC) lawmaker claimed on Friday that he was prevented from travelling to Dubai by the Immigration officials at New Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport and was forced to return to Srinagar.

Altaf Ahmed Kaloo, the NC's former MLA representing Pahalgam constituency of Anantnag district, said that he was stopped at the immigration counter at the IGIA, detained for more than four hours and barred from travelling to Dubai where he had to attend a function of the extended family.

"I was barred from boarding a Dubai-bound airplane. I was scheduled to visit Dubai to attend a family function but to my shock, I was stopped and detained for more than four hours," he told reporters here.

He claimed that the officials concerned told him that he figured in the exit control list which also has 37 other politicians from Jammu and Kashmir "who won't be allowed to travel outside country".

## PM'S DREAM IS TO MAKE AYODHYA VEDIC RAMAYANA CITY: ADITYANATH

Ayodhya, Nov. 13: Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Friday said it was Prime Minister Narendra Modi's dream to develop Ayodhya as "Vedic Ramayana City" and it should be the most beautiful city.

"Our generation is not only fortunate to see the start of the construction of a Ram temple here but we also attended the historic event. In the struggle of 500 years, many saints passed away with a dream to see the start of construction. I thank PM who is the one who implemented the ideology of Ram Rajya," Adityanath said

while addressing the fourth "Deepotsav", an event to mark Diwali here.

The Prime Minister had performed the 'bhoomi pujan' of a SC-mandated Ram temple in Ayodhya on August 5 this year bringing to fruition the BJP's 'mandir' movement that defined its politics for three decades and took it to the heights of power.

The Chief Minister said when he used to come here for development work, those who met him only used to say, "Yogiji Ram mandir nirman karwaye" (Yogiji get the construction of Ram temple done). — PTI

## Delhi reports over 7k Coronavirus cases

Home ministry is monitoring the sharp increase in cases

DC CORRESPONDENT  
With agency inputs  
NEW DELHI, NOV. 13

Officials added with the consistent decline in the active cases, the cases per million in India is among the lowest in the world. India's average cases per million stand at 5,930.

With over 7,000 cases in a day, Delhi is one of the epicenters of the virus followed by Kerala and West Bengal. However, northern states like Haryana and Rajasthan that have seen a drop in new cases are once again reporting a surge in fresh cases.

The home ministry which is closely monitoring the sharp increase in Coronavirus cases in the national capital is of the view that the cases would start coming down and the situation would once again return to normality within the next 8 to 10 days. By normal we mean that the number of cases being reported daily would once again drop drastically to less than 1,000 daily," a senior home ministry official said.

Ministry officials claimed that the medical facilities in the city were adequate. Even in private hospitals, officials added the situation was under control with adequate beds being available even in the ICU.

Both Delhi government and the ministry have already reserved a large number of beds in private hospitals for the

In fact, in the last 24 hours there have been 100 deaths due to Coronavirus in the capital.

This has forced home secretary Ajay Bhalla to personally take charge of the situation and hold regular review meetings on the issue.

"We have done our own internal assessment and are of the opinion that the situation should once again return to normal within the next 8 to 10 days. By normal we mean that the number of cases being reported daily would once again drop drastically to less than 1,000 daily," a senior home ministry official said.

The home ministry also emphasised that Metro rail travel should be carefully regulated as per Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).

"The recent surge in the number of active cases was attributed to the festival season, which has witnessed greater movement of people, accompanied by laxity in adhering to the basic principles of safe Covid-19 behaviour," the statement said.

The strategy to contain the spread of Covid-19 in Delhi, especially keeping in view the festive season and decreasing temperatures accompanied by rising pollution, was discussed at length with representatives of the health ministry and experts.

With 44,879 fresh cases, India's overall tally of Coronavirus reached 87.28 lakh on Friday. However, the number of active cases are 4,84,547 and the total recoveries have crossed 81.15 lakh taking country's recovery rate to 92.97 per cent.

The death toll has reached 1,28,663 after 547 more fatalities were reported in the last 24 hours as case fatality rate declined to 1.47 per cent.

"India continues to report a trend of steadily declining active cases. For the third day after the active cases dropped below the 6 lakh mark after nearly three months, progressive decline has been maintained. The active cases have dropped to only 6.97% of the total positive cases of the country demonstrating a steady falling percentage of the total cases," Union health ministry officials said.

The home ministry which is closely monitoring the sharp increase in Coronavirus cases in the national capital is of the view that the cases would start coming down and the situation would once again return to normality within the next 8 to 10 days.

Delhi has been recording more than 7,000 cases on average over the last few days in view of the ongoing festive season, increased pollution and onset of winter.

## Didi reaches out to Adhikari to stop him from quitting

RAJIB CHOWDHURI | DC  
KOLKATA, NOV. 13

begun. So in a way Kodiyeri's exit has come as a relief to the cadres who would have otherwise faced hostile questions during the campaign apart from the scathing attack from the opposition parties.

The CPM is also under severe attack from the Opposition parties over the arrest of chief minister Mr Pinarayi Vijayan's former principal secretary M Sivasankar in connection with his alleged links in gold smuggling and money laundering cases.

Though the CPM has tried to distance itself from Sivasankar's alleged illegal activities and the government had placed him under suspension, the opposition wants the chief minister to be held accountable for the 'anti-national' acts like gold smuggling and money laundering which were carried out by his staff members right under his nose.

While Kodiyeri's decision to step down may have brought some relief to the CPM, with investigating agencies not only digging deep into the gold smuggling and money laundering cases but also as the Marxists allege "playing politics by selectively leaking out probe details to the media at the behest of BJP-led government at the Centre" the ruling LDF is undoubtedly faced with a daunting task this poll season.

The campaign for the local bodies poll being held in the state on December 8, 10 and 14, has already

Banerjee at the state secretariat.

At around 8.30 pm Kishor along with three members of his IPAC team visited Adhikari's residence at Shantikunj in Contai of East Midnapore.

The TMC heavyweight and his brother, Dibyendu Adhikari through her election strategist Prashant Kishor with offers of talks and post in her desperate bid to stop his defection to the BJP ahead of the next year's Assembly election.

Adhikari, however, remained out of her radar Revolting against the Trinamul supremo's style of leadership at various rallies under apolitical banner, the Nandigram MLA has been maintaining distance from her and the ruling party for the last several months.

The heavyweight minister with three key portfolios was also conspicuous by his absence in the recent cabinet meeting chaired by sources.

But Shubhendu refused to speak to Kishor after his father called him up. A proposal of a meeting between the CM and Shubhendu with an offer of a key post for him in the party was given to Sisir then before Kishor left with his team, sources said.

SE (LBM) invites percentage rate tender on behalf of Director, NID AP, from the reputed firms for Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of IT equipment at NID Andhra Pradesh, estimated cost of the work Rs. 26,76,000/-, for tender document and other details visit NID Andhra Pradesh's website www.nid.ac.in.

davp 05218/11/0001/2021  
Sd/- DIRECTOR

**GOVERNMENT OF CHHATTISGARH, WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT**

**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER KHARUNG WATER RESOURCES DIVISION, BILASPUR DISTT. - BILASPUR (C.G.)**

e-Procurement Tender Notice

eProcurement Portal: <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>

(FIRST-CALL)

**SYSTEM TENDER NO. 68957 / NOTICE INVITING TENDER NO. 18/SAC/2020-21 DATED: 10-11-2020**

Online Tenders are invited for the following works up to 01-12-2020 (17.30 Hours IST).

System	Tender No.	Group No.	Name of Work	Probable amount of Contract
68957			Construction of Shivghat Barrage on Arpa River	Rs. 4826.81 Lakhs

The details can be viewed & downloaded online directly from the Govt. of Chhattisgarh Integrated e-Procurement Portal (<https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>) from dated 17-11-2020 at 17.31 hours (IST) onwards.

Note: All eligible / interested contractors / bidders are mandated to get enrolled on the Integrated e-Procurement Portal (<https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>) and get approval on specific vendor class from PWD under centralized contractor / supplier registration in order to download the tender documents and participate in the subsequent bidding process.

Sd/- Executive Engineer  
Kharung W.R. Division  
Bilaspur (C.G.)  
For, Chief Engineer  
Hasdeo Basin Water Resources Deptt.  
Bilaspur (C.G.)

G-84888/3

## EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

## E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tender Notice No. Com-Dev-ARA-DNR-20  
Notice for calling of two packet open e-tender for award of contract of ARA Goods shed and subsequent incentive for a period of 05 years.

Particulars: Sl. No. Name of the work with its location : Notice for calling of two packet open e-tender for award of contract for development of ARA Goods shed and subsequent incentive for a period of 05 years. 2. Tender value : Rs. 4,50,00,000/- 3. Earnest Money : Rs. 3,75,000/- 4. Date & Time fixed for bidding of e-tender and opening of e-tender : Last date and time for bidding of e-tender-Upto 12:00 hrs. on 07.12.2020. Date and time for opening of e-tender - After 12:00 hrs on 07.12.2020 5. Website particulars & Notice Board Location where complete details (Notice and tender documents) of tender can be seen : Website particulars - [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in). Notice Board Locations - Office of the Sr. Divnl. Commi. Manager, East Central Railway, Danapur.

Divisional Railway Manager (Comm) East Central Railway, Danapur PR/941/DNR/COM/L720-21/40 Stay Protected from Corona Wear your mask properly Frequently wash your hands with soap Maintain safe distance

NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE

## EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

## Tender Notice

No. DNR/S&T/Sig/2020/17 Danapur, dtd. 12.11.2020, Divisional Railway Manager (Signal & Telecom), East Central Railway, Danapur Division, for and on behalf of President of India invites tenders on web portal [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) for the following works: 1. Name of work with its location: Various signalling works in connection with track renewal work, shifting of gate, cable replacement by HDI and manual method in Danapur division. 2. Approximate cost of work: Rs. 19,50,95,583. Earnest Money: Rs. 24,780/- 4. Last Date & Time of Submission: Up to 15.00 hrs. on 09.12.2020 5. Opening of tender: 15.30 hrs. on 09.12.2020 6. Website particulars where detail of the work and criteria can be seen: [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in). 7. Address of the office from where detail information can be obtained: Sr. Divn. Signal & Telecommunication Engineer, East Central Railway, Danapur. Note: Any corrigendum if required will be uploaded on above website before 14 days.

Asstt. Signal & Telecom Engineer East Central Railway, Danapur PR/926/DNR/S&T/T/20-21/44 Stay protected from Corona Wear your mask properly Frequently wash your hands with soap Maintain safe distance

NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE

## EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

## E-TENDER NOTICE

e-tender Notice No 44 of 2020-21(Open-Engg/DDU) On line (through e-tendering) for the following work is invited by DRDN/Engg/DDU for and on behalf of the President of India for experienced and financially as well as technically sound contractors including those enlisted with the Railway, CPWD, BSNL, MES, PWD and other public sector undertakings.

Tender No. 37-DDU-SRDEN-I-20-21 (i) Name of work with its location : Through switch Renewal and crossing renewal with 60 Kg to 12 & 1 in 8.5 under Sr. DEN(I)DDU. (ii) Approx. cost of the work : ₹ 22,184,856.61 (iii) : Earnest Money : ₹ 2,609,000.00

Tender No. 38-DDU-SRDEN-I-20-21 (i) Name of work with its location : Manpur - Sonenagar- Strengthening/ rebuilding roads on dedicated freight corridor footer route under DEN(I)cays (ii) Approx. cost of the work : ₹ 37,052,119.00 (iv) : Earnest Money : ₹ 3,554,000.00 (v) Date & time for submission of e-tender : 04.12.2020. Up to 12:00 hrs. (vi) Website particulars of e-tendering : [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in). Divisional Railway Manager East Central Railway, Pl. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya PR/942/DDU/ENG/T/20-21/44 Stay Protected from Corona Wear your mask properly Frequently wash your hands with soap Maintain safe distance

NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE

## EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

## e - Tender Notice

e-tender is invited on Behalf of the President of India for the under mentioned work: Sl. No. 1. Name of the work with its location: Composite Work (Civil & Mechanical) involving construction of industrial shed with Pre-Engineered Building (PEB), Service building, Electrification and illumination works, Procurement and commissioning of specified Mechanical Machineries & Plant and other associated Civil, Electrical, Mechanical & Telecom works in connection with Facilities for POH of DEMU/EMU at C&W Workshop, New Bongaigaon (NBQS), Northeast Frontier Railway. E-tender No. 2020/WP/ S&T/NBQS/ DEMU/WT-02/Open 2. Approx. Cost of the work: Rs. 19,067,632/43. 3. Earnest money to be deposited: Rs. 11,034/0/- 4. Date and time for closing of tender: 15.12.2020 up to 12

**IN BRIEF**  
**'Yorkshire Ripper'**  
**UK killer dies at 74**

**London:** A notorious British serial killer dubbed the "Yorkshire Ripper" after murdering 13 women across northern England between 1975 and 1980 died on Friday aged 74. Sutcliffe was convicted in 1981 of 13 murders and seven more attempted murders after a reign of terror that is still seared on the public memory. He received 20 life sentences and was ordered to serve at least 30 years in prison, but in 2010 a High Court judge ruled that he should never be freed.

Sutcliffe had tested positive for Covid-19 but according to British media reports this week had refused treatment.

No immediate cause of death was given. Boris Johnson's spokesman said the prime minister's thoughts were with the victims, survivors and their families, calling Sutcliffe "a depraved and evil individual".

**7 killed in Beijing factory explosion**

**Beijing:** Authorities say seven people have been killed and one injured in a factory explosion southwest of Beijing. The expanded polyethylene plant in Hebei province's Wuji county went up in flames around 6 pm on Thursday. Expanded polyethylene is a type of foam used in packaging and other industrial uses. The county government said search and rescue work has been concluded and the cause was under investigation. With its heavy industrial base, China suffers frequently from factory fires and explosions. In August 2015, a massive warehouse explosion rocked the port city of Tianjin, killing 173 people and injuring nearly 800. Investigators found the warehouse held illegal stores of ammonium nitrate, which caught fire and caused a series of blasts.

**Suicide bomb kills 2, 4 hurt in Afghan**

**Kabul:** A suicide car bomb exploded at the western entry gate of the Afghan capital on Friday killing at least two government security troops and wounding four others, an Afghan official said. Interior Ministry spokesman Tariq Arian said the explosion targeted a government forces checkpoint near the gate. No one immediately claimed responsibility, though suspicion immediately fell on the Taliban. Violence and chaos have increased in Afghanistan in recent months even as government negotiators and the Taliban are meeting in Qatar to find an end to decades of relentless war in Afghanistan. The two sides have made little progress. The attack on the army checkpoint follows weeks of violence, including an attack by gunmen earlier this month claimed by the Islamic State group affiliate at Kabul University that killed 22 people, mostly students.

**RISHI SUNAK LIGHTS DIWALI CANDLES**

**London,** Nov. 13: UK Chancellor Rishi Sunak marked the festival of Diwali by stepping out of his No. 11 Downing Street home in London to lay out a rangoli decoration and light four diyas at the doorstep. The 40-year-old Indian-origin finance minister, who is married to Akshata Murthy – the daughter of Infosys co-founder Narayana Murthy, has spoken about being a "proud Hindu" over the years.

His celebratory gesture on Thursday night marks a first for Downing Street, which annually sees the UK Prime Minister host a Diwali gathering and an Annakut, or spread of festive food, from London's Swaminarayan Mandir next door at No. 10. Sunak's message this Diwali was for British Hindus to follow the lockdown rules and refrain from the usual tradition of getting together with friends and family.

"I know how difficult it is not to be able to see each other," Sunak said. "Just a couple more weeks and we are going to get through this and it's going to be so much better on the other side. We will have lots of happy times afterwards."

But, to keep everyone safe right now, just follow the rules," he said. Diwali – which symbolises the spiritual victory of light over darkness, good over evil and knowledge over ignorance – will be celebrated on Saturday.

# Hesitant China finally congratulates Biden

**Chinese foreign ministry is more forthcoming on Harris' win**

## Mark Zuckerberg 1st tech giant head to acknowledge Biden

### NO EVIDENCE AMERICAN VOTE WAS COMPROMISED, SAYS ELECTION BODY

**Washington, Nov. 13:** Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg has become the first head of a US tech giant who has acknowledged Democrat Joe Biden as the next president of the country, a media report has said.

Zuckerberg told his employees that the outcome of the November 3 election is now clear and Biden was to take over as the new president of the country, BuzzFeed, which obtained an audio of the meeting, reported on Thursday.

"We respect the American people's choice and we extend congratulations to Biden and Harris and we understand that the result of the US presidential elections will be determined following the US laws and procedures," Wang said.

China initially hesitated to congratulate Biden, a Democrat, after Republican incumbent President Donald Trump refused to concede. On November 9, Wang had declined to congratulate Biden on his victory, saying the outcome of the American election should be determined by the country's laws and procedures.

He, however, was more forthcoming on the victory of Harris as the first woman Vice-President-elect. When reminded about Chinese President Xi Jinping's statement calling for greater gender equality in a recent UN conference on women and does China have any comment on Harris, Wang quoted a Chinese saying which states women hold half of the sky. "In China, there is a saying that women hold half of the sky. China has been committed to realising gender equality and advancing women's development around the world," he said.

The order listed 31 companies on Thursday it said China was using for the "increasing exploitation" of US investment capital to fund military and intelligence services, including the development and deployment of weapons of mass destruction.

US-China relations have deteriorated sharply during Trump's presidency, and this was the latest in a series of executive orders and regulatory actions that have targeted China's economic and military expansion.

On Friday, Beijing lashed out at the US for "abusing state power to arbitrarily oppress Chinese companies", saying the move "severely undermines" trade and investment cooperation between both countries.

Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin told a regular press briefing that the US should "stop its wrong behaviour" and withdraw its decision.

"This measure not only severely harms the legitimate rights and interests of Chinese companies, it also hurts the interests of international investors including those from the US," Wang said.

— AFP

## Chinese firms out of bounds in US

**Washington, Nov. 13:** US President Donald Trump has signed an executive order banning Americans from investing in Chinese firms deemed to be supplying or supporting Beijing's military and security apparatus, earning a sharp rebuke from China.

The order listed 31 companies on Thursday it said China was using for the "increasing exploitation" of US investment capital to fund military and intelligence services, including the development and deployment of weapons of mass destruction.

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— AFP

## UK PM's top aide to exit amid power struggle

**London, Nov. 13:** The disquiet caused by a power struggle at the very top of the UK government, which spilled out into the open earlier this week with a high-profile exit from Downing Street, seemed to intensify on Friday as it emerged that UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson's senior-most aide is to also resign by Christmas next month. Dominic Cummings, one of Johnson's most influential and high-profile aides as his Chief Strategy Adviser, has not formally announced his resignation but a Cabinet minister confirmed that he is on his way out.

"He'll be missed... But advisers come and go," UK Transport Secretary Grant Shapps told Sky News. "In any government, you require people who are going to shake things up and come up with ideas, and he's actually been that person," he said.

As part of Johnson's top team, Cummings, 48, is widely credited with helping secure the UK Prime Minister's thumping General Election victory in December 2019.

The largely behind-the-scenes influencer found himself in the limelight earlier this year when he was accused of breaching lockdown rules by making

a trip from London to the north-east of England, at a time when he feared he could have contracted Coronavirus.

There were resounding calls for him to step down or be sacked but he instead hosted a press conference to deny allegations of wrongdoing. In a blog post in January, Cummings had hinted that he planned to leave his role by the end of the year, saying he hoped to make himself "largely redundant" by then.

However, according to sources being quoted across the UK media, the exit of one of his own close allies in Downing Street – Lee Cain as the No. 10 Director of Communications – had precipitated his exit plans.

It comes as the United States, already the world's

largest hit country, experiences its third and worst-by-far spike in Coronavirus cases.

— AFP

## EU threatens new curbs on Belarus

**Brussels, Nov. 13:** The European Union warned Friday that it could impose further sanctions on targets in Belarus and condemned the death in police custody of an opposition activist.

"This is an outrageous and shameful result of the actions by the Belarusian authorities," spokesman Peter Stano said of 31-year-old Roman Bondarenko's death.

Bondarenko, an artist and former soldier, was arrested on Wednesday following a dispute in a Minsk square that has become a regular meeting place for the opposition.

Witnesses said unrest erupted between protesters hanging red-and-white ribbons – the colours of the opposition – and plainclothes police

who were removing them.

He was pronounced dead on Thursday, triggering a wave of outrage among the Belarusian opposition, who believe Lukashenko's security forces are ultimately responsible.

Stano, spokesman for EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell, said he "died after several hours of surgery in a hospital in Minsk due to serious injuries caused, according to reports, by the brutality of plain clothed policemen."

The EU statement noted that Belarus authorities are guilty of direct violence against the population and of creating an environment in which such "lawless, violent acts can take place."

— AFP

## VIRAL | VIDEO Stunt 'violated the professional requirements' for protection of panda

## Korean group's panda stunt angers China



Rose, Jenni Kim, and Lisa of Blackpink perform at the Coachella Music & Arts Festival in Indio, California. A publicity stunt involving South Korean girl group

Blackpink and a cuddly baby panda has prompted outraged comments and calls for an apology from some in China.

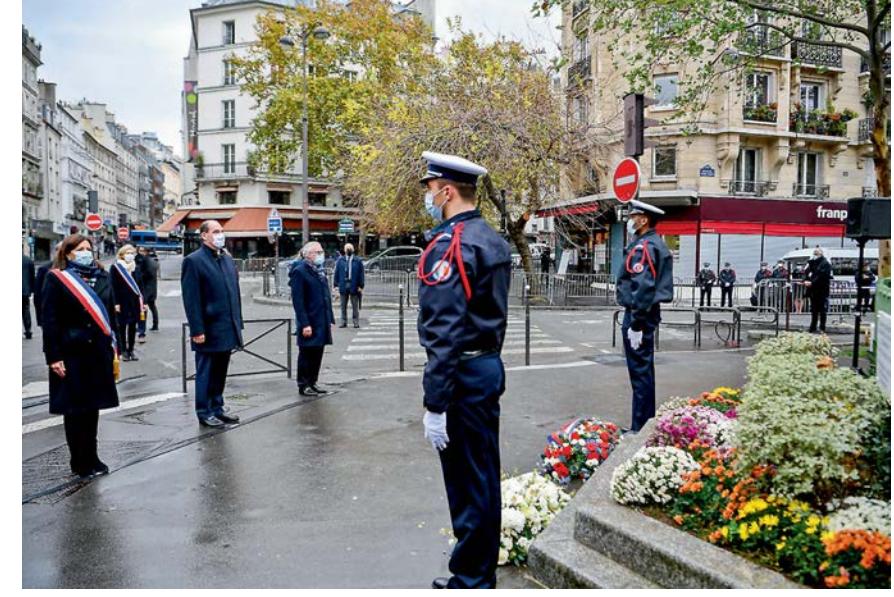
In comments under a posting of national broadcaster CCTV's report on the controversy, users called for apologies from the band and their management and some form of explanation from the zoo itself. "If it's all about the money and you cannot or don't wish to take proper care of (the pandas), then give them back to us," wrote one person, using the name Jenea\_y. "K-pop" bands such as Blackpink are hugely popular in China, as well as in South Korea, Japan and

elsewhere. But politics poses a particular challenge for those seeking fame and fortune in the vast Chinese market. Any hint of criticism of China's ruling Communist Party – and its take on major historical events – or support for an independent Taiwanese identity or for the pro-democracy movement in Hong Kong can bring a major fan backlash, egged on by state media and Chinese diplomats.

South Koreans tend to be the biggest targets of such attacks, along with Americans and Japanese. Last month, Chinese nationalists unloaded on South Korean boy band BTS after its leader thanked Korean War veterans for their sacrifices.

— AP

## France remembers 2015 Paris attacks



Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo, left, and French Prime Minister Jean Castex, 2nd left, participate in a wreath laying ceremony, marking the 5th anniversary of the November 13, 2015 attacks outside the Bonne Biere cafe bar in Paris, on Friday. In silence and mourning, France is marking five years since 130 people were killed by Islamic State extremists who targeted the Bataclan concert hall, Paris cafes and national stadium. — AP

## Obama recalls Rahul as a 'student eager to impress'



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi with former US president Barack Obama.

— Twitter

and Rahm Emanuel, but not the beauty of women, except for one or two instances, as in the case of Sonia Gandhi."

Former US Secretary of Defence Bob Gates and former Indian prime minister Manmohan Singh both came across as having a kind of impulsive integrity, the review states.

It added that Russian President Vladimir Putin reminds Obama of the tough, street-smart ward bosses who used to run

the Chicago machine.

"Physically, he was unremarkable," Obama writes of Putin.

The 768-page memoir, expected to hit the stands on November 17, chronicles Obama's childhood and political rise, before diving deeply into his historic 2008 campaign and first four years in office.

Obama was the first African-American president of the United States. He visited India twice as the US President – in 2010 and 2015.

— PTI

## US makes comeback in Covid restrictions as infections surge

### PESHAWAR HC CJ WHO SENTENCED MUSHARRAF DIES OF CORONAVIRUS

**Washington, Nov. 13:** The mayor of the United States' third biggest city Chicago issued a new stay-at-home advisory on Thursday, as the country's Covid-19 outbreak shattered records in the absence of a national strategy by President Donald Trump.

Lori Lightfoot called on the Midwestern city's 2.7 million people to go out only for essential tasks or to attend work or school, to scrap Thanksgiving plans and to avoid travel.

"Every single one of us needs to step up and Protect Chicago right now, or 2020 could go from bad to worse," said an explanatory note on the city's website.

It comes as the United States, already the world's

largest hit country, experiences its third and worst-by-far spike in Coronavirus cases.

— AP

hardest hit country, experiences its third and worst-by-far spike in Coronavirus cases.

He belonged to Dikhan district of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. Seth tested positive for COVID-19 on October 22 and was subsequently admitted to a hospital in Peshawar. He was later shifted to Kulsum International Hospital in Islamabad, where he succumbed to the deadly viral infection on Thursday, the officials said.

He was 59 and is survived by his wife and a daughter. He belonged to Dikhan district of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. Seth tested positive for COVID-19 on October 22 and was subsequently admitted to a hospital in Peshawar. He was later shifted to Kulsum International Hospital in Islamabad, where he succumbed to the deadly viral infection on Thursday, the officials said.

President Trump, who has focused his energies recently on trying to overturn the election victory of his rival Joe Biden through legal challenges, rarely talks about the pandemic anymore, but has always opposed sweeping lockdowns.

— AFP

## SHORT TAKES

## BRITISH PM HAILS ATLANTIC OCEAN'S NEW MARINE ZONE

London, Nov. 13: Prime Minister Boris Johnson hailed the creation of a large marine preservation zone in the Atlantic Ocean on Friday, burnishing his green credentials days after finding common ground on climate change with U.S. President-Elect Joe Biden.

In a slickly-produced video published on Twitter Johnson said he was delighted at the creation of a reserve around the South Atlantic British Overseas Territory of Tristan da Cunha — the world's most remote human settlement.

He used the video to promote the climate change agenda he wants to push under Britain's leadership of the COP26 UN Climate Change Conference.

"We have a real chance to push for urgent action on climate change, to protect our planet and all its fantastic biodiversity on land and sea," he said.

"We must make this a reality." The 687,000 square kilometre (265,252.18 square miles) marine reserve will close 90% of waters around the volcanic island to harmful fishing methods, and mining. It takes Britain past a target of protecting 4 million square kilometers of ocean.

# Typhoon leaves high water, mud in Philippines, 30 dead

**3.8 mn households in metropolitan Manila, outlying provinces lost power**

Manila, Nov. 13: Thick mud and debris coated many villages around the Philippine capital on Friday after a typhoon caused extensive flooding that sent people fleeing to their roofs and killed at least 39 people. Thousands of people have been rescued, though waters have mostly receded.

The military was rescuing people in places where waters remained high. Amphibious assault vehicles usually used in counter-insurgency operations were deployed for the rescue work, military chief of staff General Gilbert Gapay said in an emergency meeting with disaster-response officials.

"We'll continue to look for the missing, help in damage assessment," Gapay said. He reported 39 deaths and 32 other people missing. Typhoon Vamco passed north of Manila between Bulacan and Pampanga provinces overnight Wednesday and early Thursday, toppling power poles and trees and



A resident uses a dust pan to shovel away muddy water next to debris in front of her flood-damaged home in a residential area in Marikina City, suburban Manila, on Friday. — AFP

damaging homes. More than 3,500,000 people had been evacuated to safety, mainly residents fleeing vulnerable coastal and low-lying areas before the typhoon hit. Philippine National Police said more

than 1,00,000 people had been rescued, including 41,000 in the capital region. At least 3.8 million households lost power in metropolitan Manila and outlying provinces, but crews have restored elec-

tricity in many areas and power was expected to be fully restored in about three days.

Government offices were closed and classes suspended for public schools on Friday. Vamco

**PHILIPPINE NATIONAL**  
Police said more than 10,000 people had been rescued, including 41,000 in the capital region.

**TENS OF THOUSANDS**  
of people remain displaced. The Philippines is hit by about 20 typhoons and tropical storms each year and also had active seismic faults and volcanoes, making it one of the world's most disaster-prone countries.

hit the Philippines on the heels of Typhoon Goni, one of the strongest typhoons in the world this year, which left more than 30 people dead or missing and damaged or destroyed 27,000 houses.

Tens of thousands of people remain displaced. The Philippines is hit by about 20 typhoons and tropical storms each year and also had active seismic faults and volcanoes, making it one of the world's most disaster-prone countries. — AP

# Saudi reports fire at oil terminal after Huthi attack

Riyadh, Nov. 13: A fire broke out at an offshore Saudi oil terminal after two explosives-laden boats launched by Yemen's Huthi rebels were intercepted by Saudi-led troops, the energy ministry said on Friday.

The "limited fire" at a terminal off the southern province of Jizan caused no casualties, a ministry statement carried by the official Saudi Press Agency said.

The fire erupted after the coalition on Wednesday intercepted and destroyed two boats rigged with explosives, which were launched by the Iran-aligned rebels.

"The operation, which occurred in close proximity to a floating offloading platform that belongs to the Jizan oil products terminal, resulted in a limited fire on the platform's floating hoses," the ministry said.

The fire has been dealt with according to the rules. Yemen is mired in civil war between the Huthi rebels, who control the capital Sanaa, and a beleaguered international

ly recognised government supported by the Saudi-led coalition.

The Huthi rebels have stepped up attacks on neighbouring Saudi Arabia, mainly targeting southern provinces along their shared border.

Saudi Arabia has repeatedly accused Iran of supplying weapons to the Huthis, a charge Tehran denies.

The attack highlights the vulnerability of Saudi Arabia's oil infrastructure as the war grinds on.

In September 2019, attacks on the Abqaiq processing plant and Khurais oilfield temporarily halved the kingdom's crude output and caused turmoil on global energy markets.

The United States and Saudi Arabia held Iran responsible for those attacks.

After the latest assault, the ministry said "such criminal acts directed against vital facilities do not target the kingdom alone, but also the security of oil exports, the stability of energy supplies to the world". — AFP

## Storm Eta wrecks havoc in S. Mexico

Villahermosa, Mexico, Nov. 13: Torrential rain from Hurricane Eta and water discharged from a dam that had reached capacity meant continued flooding in parts of the southern Mexican state of Tabasco On Thursday.

At least six regions, including Centro, where the state capital of Villahermosa is located, were severely affected, with around 12,000 people forced to take refuge in shelters.

flood from the second floor of his home.

Local authorities have reported eight deaths in recent days, and 1,50,000 affected by rivers that overflowed their banks when Eta arrived from the Caribbean, inundating Central America and

"What we want most is food and sustenance," cried a man who watched the

southern Mexico with rain. And on top of that, two towns were flooded when the Federal Electricity Commission (CFE) released water from the Penitas dam, which had reached its maximum capacity.

Locals in hard-hit area Macusapano told AFP that water levels had exceeded buildings' first floors.

"There are people who don't even have clothes. I left everything, it was a tremendous thing," said Macusapano resident Teresa Cordoba, who had to abandon her house. "We

don't have anybody's help here, we're abandoned." Residents were seen resorting to canoes — some improvised — to check up on their houses or loved ones.

Many flood victims retreated to the upper levels of their houses, preferring to stay home for fear of looting or encountering Covid-19 in shelters.

The government of Tabasco, a coastal state that has also seen flooding in previous years, has threatened to sue the CFE for damage caused by the dam overflow. — AFP

## 2nd Libya shipwreck raises toll to 100

Tripoli, Nov. 13: A shipwreck off the Libyan coast has killed 20 people, Doctors Without Borders (MSF) said, just hours after news of a separate incident in which at least 74 migrants died.

MSF teams in the northwestern city of Sorman "assisted three women as the lone survivors of another shipwreck where 20 people drowned," the group said on Thursday on Twitter.

"Rescued by local fishermen, they were in shock and terrified; they saw loved ones disappear

beneath the waves, dying in front of their eyes," it added.

Earlier Thursday, the UN's International Organisation for Migration (IOM) reported "a devastating shipwreck" which claimed the lives of at least 74 migrants today off the coast of Khoms, a port city 120 kilometres (75 miles) east of the Libyan capital Tripoli.

It said that 47 survivors had been brought back to shore and 31 bodies retrieved, adding that the boat was reported to be carrying more than 120 people.

Bodies from that shipwreck were lined up grimly along the beach on Thursday, some still wearing European shores, it said.

More than 11,000 others have been returned to Libya, it added, "putting them at risk of facing human rights violations."

Human traffickers have taken advantage of persistent violence in Libya since the 2011 overthrow of dictator Moamer Kadhafi, turning the country into a key corridor for migrants fleeing war and poverty in desperate bids to reach Europe. — AFP

## LEISURE

### BRIDGE | Susanna Gross

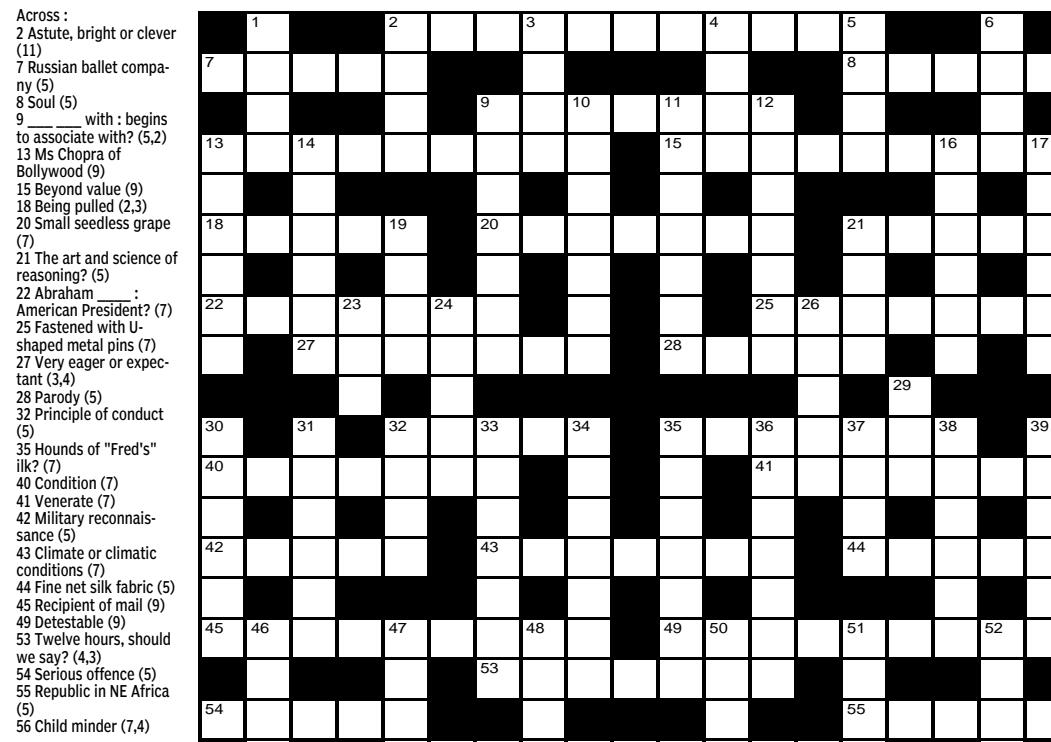
Dealer North				Neither vul			
♦ Q10 8 4	♦	♥ Q10 6	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦
♦ Q10 6	♦	♦ 2	♦	♦ 10 9 5 4 2	♦	♦	♦
♦ K 9 2	♦	♦ A 3	♦	♦ A K Q J 7 5 3	♦	♦ A K 8 7	♦
♦ K 9 8 7 5 4 2	♦	♦ A J 7 6 5 3	♦	♦ 9	♦	♦ 9 8 4	♦
♦ 6	♦	♦ Q J 3	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦
West Pass	North 2♣ Pass	East 2♣ Pass	South All Pass				

It's been a busy week of bridge. First came the Lady Milne, the women's home internationals. As the host nation, England had two teams; my partner Qian Li and I qualified for the second. I've played in the Lady Milne quite a few times before, and it felt strange and slightly unreal to be doing so online this year — especially as my partner was in China. Still, it was fun, and we finished third, a hair's breadth behind Wales (but some way behind England's first team).

Next came the OCBL international mixed teams: I was lucky enough to be on Jonathan Harris's team. Jonathan is one of the most delightful people I've met through bridge, and his team is hard to beat for warmth, camaraderie and sheer fun. I partnered Steve Root, and I hope not for the last time: his witty comments and quips at the table (in the 'chat box') made me laugh so much I nearly lost the plot once or twice. I also enjoyed his beady-eyed declarer play and his bold bidding — which was well-rewarded on this hand.

Steve's 2♦ was strong and artificial. Although we'd agreed that a 2M response promises two of the top three honours (and nothing much outside), I just couldn't bring myself to bid anything other than 2♥, and so Steve naturally leapt to 7♦. South led a trump. Steve won in dummy, played a club to hand, ruffed a club, ruffed a spade and ran his diamonds, squeezing North in hearts and clubs. Easy!

### SUNDAY CROSSWORD – 960



#### SOLUTION FOR CROSSWORD - 950

B	H	A	B	H	R	O	C	K	S	C	O	L	D	S
Y	I	E	B	U	A	E	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
P	A	R	T	T	T	N	U	L	L	L	L	L	L	L
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44
40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54
45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59

#### WIN A PRIZE

Heres your chance to win a cash prize of \$200 each. All you need to do is rush in your completed crossword entry to us by Wednesday with your full name and address. Mark the envelope to:

**Sunday Crossword-960**  
**Sunday Magazine, 36, S.D. Road,**  
**Secunderabad-03**

**WINNERS OF CROSSWORD 958**  
**H.Rajendra Prasad**  
Hyderabad  
**U.N.Murthy**  
Secunderabad

#### CROSSWORD JIGSAW



#### STRIKE OUT



Answer for last week's

### PHANTOM



### GARFIELD



### BLONDIE



# quick BITES

INDICATORS	%
Sensex	43,443.00
Nifty 50	12,719.95
S&P 500*	3,566.86
Dollar (₹)	74.61
Pound Sterling (₹)	98.19
Euro (₹)	88.11
Gold (10gm)* (₹)	50,425.24
Brent crude (#/bbl)*	42.87
IN 10-Yr bond yield*	-0.66
US 10-Yr T-bill yield*	5.878
US 10-Yr T-bill yield*	0.024
US 10-Yr T-bill yield*	0.893
As of 8:30 PM IST	0.007

Fuel demand sees first annual growth since Feb.

The country's fuel demand posted its first yearly increase since February as a spurt in diesel demand ahead of the festival season pushed consumption to pre-Covid-19 levels. Total demand for petroleum products rose 2.5 per cent in October to reach 17.77 million tonnes as compared to 17.34 mt a year back, according to provisional data published by the oil ministry's Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell.

Forex reserves surge \$7.78 bn to record \$568.49 bn



The country's foreign exchange reserves jumped by a massive \$7.79 billion to touch a lifetime high of \$568.494 billion in the week ended November 6, RBI data showed. In the previous week ended October 30, the reserves had increased by \$183 million to \$560.715 billion. The jump in reserves was mainly on account of an increase in foreign current assets, which increased by \$6.403 billion to \$524.742 billion.

Experts can submit Budget ideas via e-mail

The finance ministry said a dedicated e-mail ID would be created to receive suggestions from industry bodies and experts on the Union Budget 2021-22, instead of physical pre-Budget consultations that have been happening over the years, owing to the pandemic situation. Also, the Centre's 'MyGov' portal would provide a platform to receive ideas from public on the Budget and would remain open from November 15 to 30.

China halts seafood imports from Indian firm

China has suspended the import of seafood products from an unnamed Indian company for a week, starting from Friday, after traces of Covid-19 were reportedly found on the outer packaging of some samples of frozen cuttlefish exported by the firm. China's General Administration of Customs suspended the import of seafood products from an Indian company for one week the state-run Global Times reported.

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## Poonawalla says inoculation may begin next month

CHRIS KAY  
NOV. 13

The world's largest vaccine maker is ramping up production of AstraZeneca Plc's Covid-19 shot, aiming to have 100 million doses ready by December for an inoculation drive that could begin across India that same month.

If final-stage trial data show AstraZeneca's candidate gives effective protection from the virus, the Serum Institute of India Ltd—which is partnered to produce at least one billion doses—may get emergency authorisation from New Delhi by December, said Adar Poonawalla, chief executive officer of the family-owned firm in Pune.

That initial amount will go to India, Poonawalla said in an interview on

Thursday. Full approval early next year will allow distribution on a 50-50 basis with India and Covax, the World Health Organization-backed body that's purchasing shots for poor nations. Serum, which has tied up with five developers, has so far made 40 million doses of AstraZeneca's vaccine in the past two months and aims to start manufacturing Novavax Inc.'s contender soon.

"We were a bit concerned it was a big risk," said 39-year-old Poonawalla. But both AstraZeneca and Novavax's shots "are looking pretty good."

The haste underlines Poonawalla's confidence in one of the main vaccine front-runners. AstraZeneca CEO Pascal Soriot has said he is preparing for the possibility of large-scale vaccina-

VACCINE MAKERS STAKING REPUTATIONS: GLAXO CEO  
THOMAS MULIER &  
THOMAS BUCKLEY  
NOV. 13

Vaccine makers have a lot at stake if any of the shots designed to protect against Covid-19 fail, according to Emma Walmsley, CEO, GlaxoSmithKline Plc

The industry's commitment will help ensure that the shots that do make it to the market are safe after a one-year development cycle, which is a fraction of the normal time need-

tions as early as December and once the UK grants its own emergency licence, Serum will submit that same data to Indian counterparts.

Drugmakers are just

ed, the head of the largest vaccine maker said.

"The world will pay a very big price, not just for Covid, but beyond that if we break trust in the quality of vaccination," she said in a TV interview.

Walmsley also said the pandemic has mobilised the world to find faster solutions, with businesses working in concert with regulators to speed the roll-out of inoculation without compromising on safety.

Still, further vaccines are needed to make the world safe from Covid, she said.

—Bloomberg

"real, real shot over the next decade to improve the productivity of R&D and science in my industry incredibly," she said.

The race to develop vaccines and treatments for Covid is set to permanently accelerate drug discovery, Walmsley said. Advances in processing genetics and genomics data, as well as developments in artificial intelligence and machine learning, have a

now getting data that will show how well their vaccine candidates work, but there are plenty of hurdles remaining as the global race to find an effective shot against the pathogen reaches its final stages. Astra and co-developer University of Oxford still need to see testing results. And even if their vaccine proves effective and gets a nod from regulators, there

are questions over how easily and quickly the shot can be distributed.

Poonawalla reiterated that it will take until 2024 to vaccinate the entire world and two years to see a real reduction in infections, due to affordability and manufacturing hurdles.

After talks with the government, Poonawalla said he is confident in their plans to get initial vaccines to the vulnerable and frontline workers. The challenge will be in getting it to India's 1.3 billion population, especially in the vast countryside where past inoculation drives have struggled due to patchy health networks.

He said AstraZeneca has a significant edge over a rival candidate from Pfizer Inc. and BioNTech SE. Expensive cold-chain infrastructure is needed to

transport and store that vaccine at -70 degrees Celsius. Poonawalla said it was "just impossible" for most of the world to use at scale, compared to those his company will produce that can be stored at fridge temperatures.

"I don't think even 90 per cent of the countries will be able to take it, because you just don't have deep freezers everywhere," he said of the Pfizer shot. "In a pandemic, always remember that simplicity is the key."

New Delhi has set aside about Rs 50,000 crore (\$6.7 billion) for vaccines, people with knowledge of the matter said last month. However, in September, Poonawalla argued that India would need Rs 80,000 crore. Poonawalla declined to comment further.

—Bloomberg

## Jewellers say sales back by 65-70%; light-weight pieces in demand

## Dhanteras exceeds expectations

SANGEETHA G  
CHENNAI, NOV. 13:

Despite being overshadowed by pandemic fears and gold price rise, Dhanteras this year clocked 65 to 70 per cent of the sales volume of last year. Dhanteras sales were much better than that of Akshaya Tritiya, which was washed out by the lockdown.

"Jewellers have reported that they have garnered 65 to 70 per cent of last year's sales volumes," said Somasundaram P.R., managing director, India, World Gold Council.

According to him, foot-

falls were much better, which indicates that customers braved the pandemic to grab the yellow metal on the auspicious day.

Organised players have seen better sales as part of the shift in customer preference that has been underway in recent years.

"In terms of volumes, we would have reached 65 per cent of last year and in terms of value it would be around 80 per cent, as the gold prices are much higher than last year's Dhanteras," said Joy Alukka, chairman, Joyalukkas.

Gold prices are higher by more than 30 per cent this time compared to last



Dhanteras. The higher prices too have dampened the sales.

"There is a popular perception that gold prices have gone up due to the

pandemic and now that a vaccine is likely to be released soon, prices might cool down to previous levels. Many customers have been postponing their wedding purchases expecting that prices will come down," said Somasundaram.

According to Bachchraj Bamalwa, past chairman, All-India Gems and Jewellery Trade Federation, customers preferred to pick up light-weight jewellery as a token on the auspicious day.

"Digital platforms are receiving new customers and they are becoming an integral part of the jewellery industry. Even during Akshaya Tritiya, organised players have been promoting online sales," said Soma-sundaram.

September quarter.

Online players as well as organised players who have been promoting digital sales, have seen better sales this time compared to last year. Online jeweller Melorra has seen maximum demand for light-weight jewellery coming from young adults between the ages of 25-35 years.

"Digital platforms are receiving new customers and they are becoming an integral part of the jewellery industry. Even during Akshaya Tritiya, organised players have been promoting online sales," said Soma-sundaram.

As real estate deals returned, October saw the highest ever monthly PE/VC investments worth \$8.4 billion.

Private equity and venture capital investments in October touched \$8.4 billion, 2.6 times higher than \$3.2 billion in October 2019 and 1.9 times than \$4.4 billion in September 2020.

At \$3.7 billion across seven deals, real estate was the top sector and accounted for 44 per cent of all investments in October. This was greater than investments received by the sector in the past 14

## Highest ever PE/VC funding in October

SANGEETHA G  
CHENNAI, NOV. 13

months combined, says an EY release.

The largest deals in October 2020 saw Brookfield acquiring 12.5 million square feet commercial space from RMZ Corp, including its shared working space COWRks, followed by Blackstone buying the rental income assets of Prestige Group for \$1.6 billion.

Between January and September, investments in real estate and infrastructure were down 82 per cent to \$2.9 billion against \$16.1 billion during the same period last year. The share of these sectors was just 10 per cent of the total PE/VC investments till September.

## VITOL TO BUY OIL LIQUIDS MADE FROM TYRES

ANDY HOFFMAN & LARS ERIK TARALDSSEN  
NOV. 13

Vitol Group, the world's biggest independent oil trader, is betting on a new technology to produce hydrocarbon liquids from recycled car and truck tyres.

The trading giant unveiled a 10-year off-take agreement on Friday to buy and sell naphtha, distillates and bunker fuel produced by Norwegian startup Wastefront AS. The products will be produced at a tyre recycling plant in Sunderland, UK, starting in 2023.

The agreement marks the latest foray by big energy merchants seeking greener alternatives to traditional sources of oil. Vitol has already invested in a company turning plastics into oil liquids as well as another that is using coal waste to produce fuels.

Vitol has been in talks with Wastefront for about two years, providing advice to the startup as to how best to use its technology and ensure it had a commercial outlet. Chris Baker, a senior executive at the trading house, said.

"It's to help make sure it happens," he said.

It's also another move by Vitol to stake out a fresh position in the life-cycle of transportation vehicles. The trading house recently took a surprise leap into the used car business with a startup called Vava Cars.

The recycled tire oil products will amount to about 30,000 tonnes a year—the equivalent of about 220,000 oil barrels. That's a drop in the ocean compared to Vitol's total daily traded volumes that topped 8 million barrels a day in 2019.

Most waste tyres in Europe are exported for re-use or recycling in developing countries. Wastefront plans to build more plants now.

—Bloomberg

## Market looks bullish as Samvat 2077 dawns

RAVI RANJAN PRASAD  
MUMBAI, NOV. 13



equity market during the year, taking the count of registered investors to over 5.67 crore.

Due to the huge volatility seen post the Covid break out, the Sensex had slipped from a January 2020 high of 42,273.87 to

25,639.90 in March. But the process of unlocking from June led to revival in the market and the indices galloped like never before and in a span of five months the Sensex regained pre-Covid levels and even surpassed January 20, 2020 high to set a new high at 43,708.47.

Now Samvat 2077 begins on Saturday with a special Diwali Muhurat trading session in the evening i.e. on November 14 where analysts expect the bullish tone to continue.

Sameet Chavan, chief analyst-technical and derivatives, Angel Broking, said, "Year 2020 has not been great for mankind as we have had to make a lot of forceful changes in our lives. The

pandemic weighed down heavily on health as well as on economies across the world. But it seems that slowly and steadily things are coming back to normal. In fact, a lot of positivity across the globe lifted markets at fresh record highs.

All's well that ends well and hence, from hereon we can see a brighter picture till the next Samvat. Looking at the daily chart, we can observe a couple of encouraging developments.

"On the upside, the next milestone of 13000 is likely to be achieved (by the Nifty-50) very soon; in fact, we do not rule out the possibility of reaching 13100-13200 in the forthcoming week itself."

## RBI's Patra says bond rates rest on complex relationships

FC BANKING BUREAU  
MUMBAI, NOV. 13



Global uncertainty and liquidity are the main drivers of the term premium—the difference between long and short-term bonds—and has a limited correlation to the market's inflation expectations, RBI deputy governor Michael Debabrata Patra has said in a paper.

Patra's views have come just weeks after the monetary policy committee (MPC) last month saw dissension by newly appointed external member Jayanth R. Varma on the transmission to markets achieved through monetary policy.

The argument between the two centres around whether the nation's steep yield curve reveals a lack of market confidence in the RBI's inflation estimates or is a reflection of excessive focus on old data. Both Patra and Varma are members of the six-member MPC.

In the article, Patra says the term premia in bond markets depends on complex relationships. "The underlying relationships that drive term premia are complex and constantly shifting. Empirical analy-

sis over the period from January 2006 through September 2020 suggests that global uncertainty and liquidity are the main drivers of the term premium. Even the premium plan is just \$20 a year. That's a fraction of the \$70 that US customers shell out and illustrates the challenge the company faces as it takes its streaming platform to more countries.

The growth of Disney+, which launched a year ago, has far exceeded the expectations of both Wall Street and the company itself. It was a bright spot in Disney's latest quarterly results, released on Thursday. But keeping up its pace will mean tapping markets with less spending power.

"If you get enough sheer volume, you can make it work even at a relatively low price per subscriber," said David Heger, an analyst at Edward Jones.

The company serves India and Indonesia with a product called Disney+ Hotstar, a rebranded plat-

form born out of a business acquired from Fox last year. Those two developing countries now represent 18.4 million Disney+ subscribers.

## SHORT TAKES

Prajnesh downs Sock, in quarters

Cary, North Carolina (USA): Fighting hard, Prajnesh Gunneswaran prevailed over tough nut Jack Sock in three sets to sail into the quarter-finals of the Atlantic Tire Championships, an ATP Challenger event here.

The fourth-seeded southpaw beat the former top-10 American 6-7(3), 6-2, 7-6(5) in a tight round two contest, which lasted almost three hours.

The gritty Indian broke the serve of Sock, who reached a career-high singles ranking of eight in 2017 but is now placed 253, thrice and dropped his own serve only once in the slugfest.

Prajnesh, ranked 146, next faces Brazilian qualifier Thomaz Bellucci for a place in the semi-finals of the \$52,080 hard court tournament. — PTI

## Liverpool's Salah is Covid positive

Cairo, Egypt: Liverpool forward Mohamed Salah has tested positive for Covid-19 while on international duty for Egypt without showing any symptoms, the Egyptian Football Association announced Friday.

Medical swabs on the national team "showed that our international player, Mohamed Salah, Liverpool star, was infected with the Coronavirus", it said in a tweet.

It added that he was "not suffering from any symptoms". The tweet said other members of the Egyptian national team tested negative. Salah was observing medical protocols agreed in consultations between doctors in Egypt and Liverpool, a Coronavirus hotspot, and self isolating in a Cairo hotel room. — AFP

## Handball polls on December 6

Hyderabad: The Hyderabad District Handball Association is conducting elections on December 6 at the Akshara International School in LB Nagar, Hyderabad, according to a press release.

Two representatives each, preferably the president and secretary of the member association are eligible to participate in the elections. In their absence two representatives duly authorised jointly by the president and secretary will be acknowledged for onward submission to Returning Officer L. Srinivasa Rao, Advocate, the release read.

All the affiliated member associations have to submit the names of the two representatives attending the elections along with photographs in the specified format to the Telangana Handball Association general secretary by hand or before November 23, 5 pm.

## Condolence meet for TT's Sultan

Hyderabad: A condolence meeting in memory of S. M. Sultan, former secretary of the Andhra Pradesh Table Tennis Association (APTTA) and senior vice president of the Table Tennis Federation of India (TTFI) was held at Anandnagar Welfare Association Sports Academy in Hyderabad on Friday.

The poignant meet was attended by Telangana State Table Tennis Association president A. Narasimha Reddy, secretary P. Prakash Raju, vice presidents A. Narasimha Rao and Amrullah Dasthani, players, officials, parents among others.

## Live on TV

**CRICKET**  
Women's Big Bash League: Hobart Hurricanes vs Sydney Sixers from 10.00 am; Sydney Thunder vs Melbourne Stars from 1.35 pm; Sydney Thunder vs Perth Scorchers from 4.50 am (Sunday) on Sony Six

**FORMULA ONE**  
Turkish Grand Prix: Third practice from 2.25 pm; Qualifying from 5.25 pm on Star Sports Select 1, HD

**GOLF**  
Augusta Masters: From 11.30 pm on Star Sports Select 1, HD

**FOOTBALL**  
UEFA Nations League: San Marino vs Gibraltar from 7.30 pm; Cyprus vs Luxembourg from 10.30 pm on Sony Ten 2; Germany vs Ukraine from 1.15 am (Sunday) on Sony Six; Portugal vs France from 1.15 am (Sunday) on Sony Ten 2; Switzerland vs Spain from 1.15 am (Sunday) on Sony Ten 1; Sweden vs Croatia from 1.15 am (Sunday) on Sony Ten 3

**CUF FIGHT NIGHT**  
Islam Makhachev vs Rafael Dos Anjos and other bouts from 5.30 pm (Sunday) on Sony Ten 2, HD

# SCOTLAND SOAR

## End two decades wait, qualify for prestigious Euro

Belgrade, Nov. 13: Scotland qualified for a first major international tournament since 1998 by reaching Euro 2020 thanks to a 5-4 win on penalties over Serbia after a 1-1 draw in Belgrade.

The Scots' demons of two decades without qualifying seemed set to reappear when Luka Jovic's 90th-minute header sent the game into extra time.

Ryan Christie's opener had deservedly put the visitors in front during what had been a fine performance from Steve Clarke's men.

But just like in a semi-final shootout win over Israel, Scotland kept their cool with five perfect penalties and finally got over the line when David Marshall saved from Aleksandar Mitrovic.

Goalscorer Christie and captain Andy Robertson welled up with emotion as a generation of Scots can look forward to a major tournament for the first time. There is an extra reward of two matches at Hampden against the Czech Republic and Croatia and a clash with England come June.

Christie missed the play-off semifinal win over Israel last month after he was categorised as a close contact of Stuart Armstrong, who tested Covid-19 positive after joining up with the Scotland squad.

He spoke openly about the mental challenge of self-isolation for 14 days on his return to playing and hoped qualification can offer some relief to those struggling with lockdown restrictions in Scotland.

Scotland are now unbeaten in nine games stretching back 13 months and the confidence Clarke has instilled in his side showed as the visitors controlled the first 90 minutes.

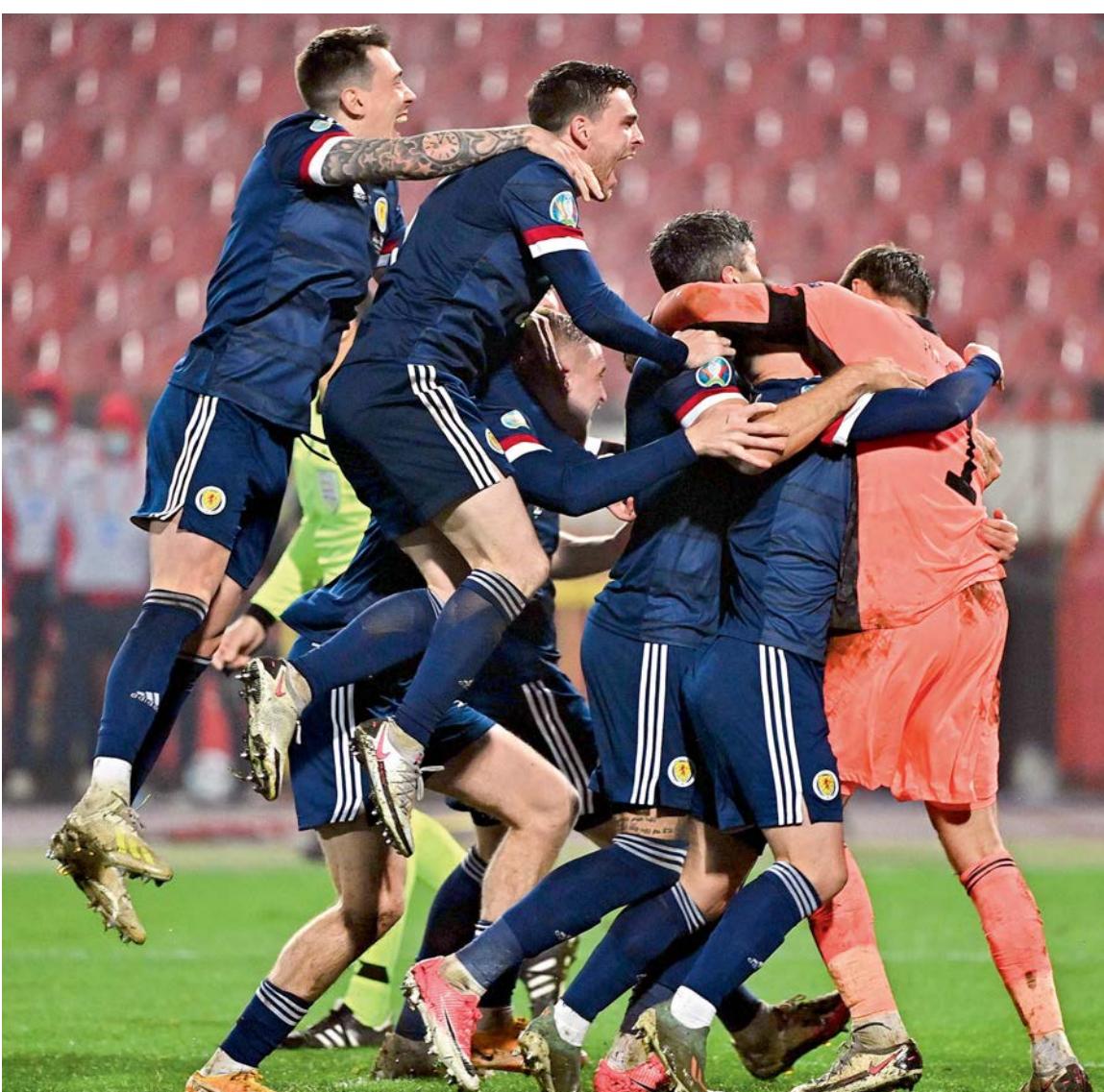
Serbia had all the momentum going into extra time with Clarke having withdrawn Lyndon Dykes, Christie and McGinn towards the closing stages of normal time.

Marshall had to produce a brilliant save from Nemanja Gudelj a winner.

And the Derby goalkeeper was the hero in the shootout after Leigh Griffiths, McGregor, Scott McTominay, Oli McBurnie and Kenny McLean had found the net.

### THE RESULTS

Scotland (Christie 52)	1
Serbia (Jovic 90+)	1
(after extra time, Scotland win 5-4 on penalties)	
Hungary (Nego 88, Szoboszlai 90+2)	2
Iceland (Sigurdsson 11)	1
Slovakia (Kucka 17, Duris 110)	2
Northern Ireland (Skrinjar 88-og)	1
North Macedonia (Pandev 56)	1
Georgia	0



Scotland players celebrate after winning the Euro 2020 play-off qualification football match against Serbia at the Red Star Stadium in Belgrade on Thursday.

— AFP

## Argentina held by Paraguay

Buenos Aires, Nov. 13: Argentina had to come from behind to draw 1-1 with Paraguay in a World Cup qualifier at La Bombonera on Thursday, and Lionel Messi had what might have been a winning goal disallowed in the second half.

A Nicolas Gonzalez goal brought Argentina back to level after Angel Romero's penalty put Paraguay in front at the home of Boca Juniors.

The result ends Argentina's perfect start in their bid to qualify for the 2022 finals in Qatar, after Lionel Scaloni's team claimed narrow wins last month at home to Ecuador and away to Bolivia.

They thought they had gone in front in the 58th minute when Giovani Lo Celso pulled the ball back for Messi to sidefoot low into the net, but the goal was eventually disallowed by the Brazilian officials for a foul by Gonzalez at the beginning of the move.

At least Argentina recovered from falling behind midway through the first half, when Romero converted a penalty awarded for a foul by Lucas Martinez Quarta on Newcastle United's Miguel Almiron.

The home side lost Ezequiel Palacios to injury soon after, but his replacement Lo Celso delivered the corner for Gonzalez to head in the equaliser four minutes before half-time. — AFP



England's Harry Maguire (centre) in action during the international friendly football match against Ireland at Wembley stadium in London on Thursday.

— AFP

## Easy victory for England

London, Nov. 13: Gareth Southgate admitted he was impressed with Jack Grealish as the England winger sparked and Harry Maguire enjoyed a moment of redemption in Thursday's 3-0 friendly win against the Republic of Ireland.

Just 48 hours after the resignation of English Football Association chairman Greg Clarke following his offensive comments about the BAME and LGBT communities, Southgate's side showed no signs of being distracted by the controversy.

After being sent off in his previous England appearance against Denmark, Maguire captained his country for the first time and scored the opening goal at Wembley. It was a welcome boost for Maguire, who has endured a difficult campaign marred by his Greek court case and poor form for Manchester United and England.

Jadon Sancho bagged England's second goal before the interval and Dominic Calvert-Lewin made it three with a second-half penalty.

That was enough to seal England's first success against the Republic since 1985. Grealish, starting against the country he represented at youth level, caught the eye on the left flank as he justified the constant calls from fans and pundits for the Aston Villa star to be given a sustained run in the team.

"The two players in those roles, Jadon and Jack, they've got the freedom to go either side of the pitch and try and create overloads," Southgate said.

— AFP

Verstappen fastest in Turkey practice

Istanbul (Turkey), Nov. 13: Red Bull driver Max Verstappen posted the fastest time Friday in the second practice for the Turkish Grand Prix as speeds improved following a slow first session on a slippery track.

Verstappen was .4 seconds quicker than Ferrari driver Charles Leclerc and .58 ahead of Valtteri Bottas. Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton was .85 back in fourth place on a resurfaced circuit low on grip and which last hosted a Formula One race in 2011.

Hamilton is looking to secure his seventh F1 title and equal Michael Schumacher's record.

He is the runaway championship leader and only needs to finish ahead of Bottas on Sunday to win the title.

Verstappen's best lap was 1 minute, 28.33 seconds, considerably better than his fastest time of 1:35.07 in the first session.

But although times improved as tyres got

warmer in the afternoon, Verstappen's leading mark was still three seconds slower than Sebastian Vettel's pole position for Red Bull nine years ago.

Verstappen was even further behind Juan Pablo Montoya's track record of 1:24.77, when the inaugural race was held in 2005.

Several drivers had difficulties controlling their cars during the second practice. Williams driver George Russell slid sideways across the track and teammate Nicholas Latifi lost the rear of the car. So did AlphaTauri driver Daniil Kvyat and Alfa Romeo veteran Kimi Raikkonen, who won the inaugural race when he was 25. Driving under a cloudy sky and cool temperatures in the first session, Verstappen finished ahead of teammate Alexander Albon and Leclerc, who skidded into a bollard at the pit lane entrance early on.

Hamilton took no risks and ended that practice run down in 15th place. — AP

## CARIBBEANS CLEAR COVID TEST ON KIWI TOUR

Christchurch, Nov. 13: The entire West Indies cricket contingent has cleared the third and final round of Covid-19 test and will be leaving for Queenstown on Friday ahead of the first warm-up match against New Zealand 'A' beginning November 20.

The Caribbean team has been in isolation since arriving in New Zealand on October 30 for the T20I and Test series. All the members had cleared the first two rounds of testing. "All members of the West Indies team have returned negative results from their third and final Covid-19 tests, conducted on Day 12 of the ongoing tour of New Zealand," West Indies Cricket Board stated. — PTI

## Aussie coach on guard vs India

Melbourne, Nov. 13: Australia head coach Justin Langer has hailed India captain Virat Kohli for taking paternity leave during the tour Down Under but conceded that his absence will definitely affect the visitors during the much-anticipated Test series for the Border-Gavaskar Trophy.

Kohli will return home after the opening Test, which ends on December 21. He has been granted paternity leave by the BCCI to be with his actor wife Anushka Sharma for the birth of their first child in early January.

Langer said he respects Kohli for putting family ahead of cricket.

"Virat Kohli is probably the best player I've ever seen in my life for so many reasons, not only batting but his energy and passion for the game, the way he fields," Langer told reporters by video conference on Friday.

"I cannot believe he displays the energy he does in everything he does and I've got so much respect for him. I've also got respect for him in the sense that he's made this decision (to return for the birth)."

"He's a human being like all of us... if I was giving advice to any of my players I would always say never, ever miss the birth of your children because it is one of the great things you'll ever do," the former Australia opener added.

Kohli will miss the Boxing Day Test in

Melbourne (December 26-30), New Year's Test in Sydney (January 7-January 11) and the final game at the Gabba (January 15-16).

"Of course it will have an impact (his absence), but we also know that India beat us last time (in 2018-19). They're a very, very good team, we cannot get complacent for a second with or without Virat."

— JUSTIN LANGER  
Australia head coach

## GLITZY IPL IS ALL SET FOR EXPANSION, SAYS DRavid

New Delhi, Nov. 13: Former India captain Rahul Dravid strongly believes that Indian Premier League (IPL) is "ready for expansion" in terms of number of teams without compromising on the quality as well as quantity of talent available in the country. There are talks that the 2021 IPL will be featuring nine teams instead of eight and will go up to 10 teams by 2023, which has always been the BCCI's long-term plan.

The views of Dravid, who is now the director of National Cricket Academy (NCA), were echoed by Rajasthan Royals co-owner Manoj Badale, who felt that a nine-team IPL in 2021 is "definitely possible".

"I feel IPL is ready for expansion in terms of talent, if you look from talent perspective. There are a lot of talented players who are not getting an opportunity to play," Dravid said, adding if there are more teams, all the talented players could be fitted in and there won't be a drop in quality.

— PTI

## MSK Academy champions

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, NOV. 13



The MSK Prasad International Cricket Academy team pose with trophies and medals after winning the RVM Cup U-16 tournament in Hyderabad.

In reply, T-11 could not match the might of the MSK bowlers and managed a mere 169 for 8 in their stipulated overs. Atchut was the pick of the bowlers, taking 4 wickets while conceding 169/8 in 30 overs (Abhinav 62, Aziz 32, Atchut 4/32, Abhinav 2/4). Man of the Series: Abhinav. Man of the Series: Yash Satwalekar. Best Fielder: Advaita.

## JOHNSON, FRITTELLI, CASEY IN AUGUSTA MASTERS LEAD

Augusta (Georgia, USA), Nov. 13: Top-ranked Dustin Johnson and South African Dylan Frittelli grabbed a share of the lead after Friday's conclusion of the storm-hit first round of the Masters while Rory McIlroy struggled to make the cut.

They matched England's Paul Casey by shooting seven-under-par 65 in concluding their darkness-halved opening rounds at storm-hit Augusta National before returning to the rain-softened layout for round two.

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Editor: Kaushik Mitter

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