

VENKAIAH RECOVERS FROM COVID, TO RESUME NORMAL ACTIVITIES

Vice-President M Venkaiah Naidu on Monday tested negative for Covid-19, his office said. The Vice-President had tested positive for coronavirus on September 29. The 71-year-old was asymptomatic and in good health. He was under home isolation during his recovery from the infection. "As per today's RT-PCR test conducted by AIIMS, both the vice president and his wife Usha Naidu have tested negative for covid-19," the Vice President's Secretariat said in a statement. Naidu is in good health and is expected to resume normal activities soon as per doctor's advice, it said. "He thanked all those who prayed for his well-being," the

PARLE NOT TO ADVERTISE WITH CHANNELS AIRING TOXIC CONTENT

 P_{decided} that they will not be advertising their products on Indian media channels that promote and show aggressive and toxic content. A senior Parle G official. Krishnarao Buddha, said that the company will refuse to advertise on news channels that are toxic or involved in the alleged TRP scam. Buddha added that the company was in talks with other advertisers so that they can collectively put a restraint on

advertising on such channels in order to send a clear message. This decision comes from Parle after the massive outrage over alleged 'TRP Scam' in which certain media channels are involved

WRF (12km) RAINFALL (mm) FORECAST FOR 48HR Valid from 08:30 am of 13-10-2020 am of 14-10-2020



Govt announces cash-for-LTC, festival advance to boost consumer demand

statement said





SC seeks Centre's reply on pleas challenging farm laws



MET dept issues red alert for Telangana

PNS HYDERABAD

The India Meteorological Department has issued 'Red Alert', predicting extremely heavy rainfall for 14 districts of Telangana for Tuesday. In their alert, the weathermen said that the extremely heavy rainfall could lead to massive flooding and water logging in many low-lying areas in the districts.

The IMD said that reservoirs will overflow or reach the danger marks, apart from trees and electric poles getting uprooted. "This could lead to disruption of transport in tricts of Telangana on Tuesday.





some areas of the districts for

some hours to even a few

days. Agriculture lands can be

submerged and crop damage is

predicted," the IMD alert said.

expected in Siddipet, Janagaon

Peddapalli, Karimnagar, J.

Bhupalapally, Mulugu, Bhadradri Kothagudem, Warangal (U &R),

Warangal (U &R), Mahbubabad, Khammam,

Nalgonda, Y. Bhuvanagiri and

very likely to occur at a few

places in the remaining dis-

Heavy to very heavy rain is

Survapet districts.

As per the IMD, flooding is

GHMC staff gets ready for 'deluge'

HYDERABAD: With the Met department predicting very heavy rains in the city for next two days, the expected rain fall according to some models is 90mm - 160mm. GHMC Commissioner DS Lokesh Kumar said, "This is a deluge-like situation and very serious as there is every possibility of inundations and related flooding issues.

AMERICANS MILGROM, WILSON WIN NOBEL PRIZE IN ECONOMICS

Americans Paul R Milgrom and Robert B Wilson have won the Nobel Prize in economics for "improvements to auction theory and inventions of new auction formats." The winners were announced Monday in Stockholm by Goran Hansson, secretary-general of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences. The award caps a week of Nobel Prizes at a time when much of the world is experiencing the worst recession since World War II because of the

impact of the coronavirus pandemic. Technically known as the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel, the award was established in 1969 and is now widely considered one of the Nobel prizes.



Two employees of sub-broking firm Karvy - a branch manager and assistant branch manager -- were on Monday arrested by the Central Crime

ed by the Central Crime Station (CCS) police for allegedly indulging in stock investment fraud. Based on the complainant from Ramarao Nagaraj, an NRI, lodged on September 25, CCS police booked a case on charges of cheating and mis-appropriation of stockholding of the victim. The police arre-sted G. Mounika (25), branch sub-broking office at Tarnaka.

The complainant stated that Without their consent and

knowledge, the firm traded on the demat account of the complainant and caused loss of total stock worth Rs 1 crore," said CCS ACP SV Hari Krishna.

CLOTH MASKS MY PROTECT FROM VIRUSES ONLY IF WASHED DAILY

 $C {\rm loth}$ masks may reduce the transmission of viruses such as SARS-CoV-2, which causes COVID-19, only if they are washed daily at high temperatures, according to a study. "Both cloth masks and surgical masks should be considered 'contaminated' after use," said Professor Raina MacIntyre, from the University of New South Wales in Australia. "Unlike surgical masks, which are disposed of after use, cloth masks are re-used. While it can be tempting to use

the same mask for multiple days in a row, or to give it a quick hand-wash or wipeover, our research suggests that this increases the risk of contamination," Maclintyre said. The researchers analysed data from a RCT they published in 2015.



'Witch hunt':

moves court

In a latest development, leading Bollywood producers approached the Delhi High

Court on Monday seeking to

restrain Republic TV and

Times Now from making or publishing allegedly "irrespon-

sible, derogatory and defam-atory remarks' against film

industry and conducting

media trials against its members on various issues."

The lawsuit by four Bollywood industry associa-

tions and thirty four leading

producers have also sought to restrain them from interfering

with the right to privacy asso-

ciated with people from

A few of the producers who

have approached the Delhi

High Court include Karan

Johar, Aamir Khan, Anil

Kapoor, Farhan Akhtar, Ajay

Devgn, Salman Khan, Shah

Rukh Khan and other big

production houses of the film

Bollywood.

industry.

Bollywood

PNS NEW DELHI

sted G. Mounika (25), branch manager and Shivini Gari Shetty Vasundhara (41), assistant branch manager of Karvy

he and his wife invested Rs 1 crore in their demat account at the Karvy branch at Tarnaka. On pretext of activation of their demat accounts, Mounika and Vasundhara took signatures on blank papers in February 2018.



Newly-elected MLC K Kavitha meets her father and Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao soon after the election result was declared on Monday.

Kavitha enters state politics with a bang PNS HYDERABAD favour of TRS.

Representatives of local Kalvakuntla Kavitha, former bodies elected on Congress Nizamabad Lok Sabha and BJP tickets also voted for Member and daughter of TRS Kavitha, causing huge embarsupremo K Chandrasekhar rassment to respective party leaderships. Kavitha displayed an upper Rao, made a grand entry into Telangana state politics by registering an emphatic win in

It has sought direction to Republic TV, its editor-in-chief Arnab Goswami and reporter Pradeep Bhandari, Times Now, its editor-in-chief hand right from the first round itself when she secured 531 out of 600 votes and received another 197 votes in the sec-Rahul Shivshankar and group editor Navika Kumar, and unknown defendants as well as ond round.

She won with a thumping social media platforms to majority of 672 votes against refrain from making or pubest opponent and BIP lishing allegedly irr who received 56 votes.



Modi sowing seeds for farmers' rosy future



TODAY

ALMANAC Month & Paksham

Ashwin (Adhik) & Krishna Paksha Panchangam Tithi: Ekadashi: 02:35 pm Nakshatram: Magha: 10:54 pm Time to Avoid: (Bad time to start any important work) **Rahukalam:** 02:57 pm – 04:24 pm Yamagandam: 09:07 am - 10:34 am 11:42 am – 01:11 pm, Varjyam: 12:00 am – 07:37 am Gulika: 12:02 pm - 01:29 pm Good Time: (to start any important work) **Amritakalam:** 08:40 pm – 10:09 pm Abhiiit Muhurtham: 11:38 am - 12:25 pm



AP HC orders CBI probe into defamatory remarks

PNS HYDERABAD

The Andhra Pradesh High Court today ordered a probe by the Central Bureau of Investigation into defamatory social media posts on its judgments.

Notice was issued to 49 leaders and activists of the state's ruling YSR Congress Party and the agency was ordered to file cases against all those who slander judges.

PNS HYDERABAD

vague in nature"

Coronavirus.

The Telangana High Court on

Monday described a report filed by the state government on its handling of the Covid-

19 pandemic as "drafted in a

clever manner and totally

High Court, dealing with a

batch of petitions, warned the

State government that it faces

a notice of contempt for

attempting to mislead the

court with regard to number

of Covid-19 tests being con-ducted by it, the number of

deaths and so on, due to

the people should not be kept

in the dark by being presented

a wrong picture of the pandem-

ic. It said that despite being

aware of the fact that a second

The bench made it clear that

A division bench of the

Don't play with

lives of citizens: HC

TS warned over 'cleverly drafted but

vague report' on dealing with Covid

Pending LRS applications will be disposed under new rules

PNS HYDERABAD

Telangana government has decided to process all pending applications under the previous LRS scheme, introduced in 2015, under the present LRS.

Secretary Principal Arvind Kumar on Monday issued a memo stating that there was no need to apply under the new scheme afresh wherein applications are pending under the old scheme.

Government in the state.

the court said, adding that the

State administration must

increase the number of beds to

bring them as per WHO

guidelines.

2020 rules 2015 rules ■ 10% of the penal amount (minimum Rs ■ Conversion charges

10,000) shall be paid along with the will be remitted within 3 application form Balance amount months - by shall be paid within 6 months from January 31, the date of submission of 2021, failing application. which regularisation In case of applications that are won't be found to not be in accordance considered. with the rules, orders shall be As per 2020 issued rejecting them as early as rules, appeals are to possible, but not beyond six months from be disposed of within 7 the last date of receipt of applications. days

CBI puts Hathras case FIR on website, removes within hours

PNS NEW DELHI

Hours after putting the Hathras rape case FIR on its website, the CBI removed it sensing possible violation of a Supreme Court order that

police. The agency, however, did not retract or remove its media statement from the website. The FIR withheld the name of the Hathras victim, concealed using a whitening ink, but it was decided to withdraw it from public domain to avoid unnecessary controver-

Congress and BJP failed to retain their deposits, thanks candidate Lakshmi Narayana to cross voting by members of respective parties in

derogatory and defamatory remarks against Bollywood.

TS to create 30,000 jobs in AI in next two years

PNS HYDERABAD

The Telangana State government is working towards creating 30,000 jobs in the next two years in the Artificial Intelligence sector.

the bypoll for the Nizamabad

Local Bodies constituency, on

Kavitha polled a whopping

728 of the 823 possible votes,

while candidates of both the

Monday.

The State government has identified 19 different job roles in this area. Based on the job role, people, particularly students, will be trained through Telangana Academy for Skill and Knowledge (TASK). TASK currently offers four courses on Artificial Intelligence at subsidised fees for students.

ly - data sets and high perfor-Principal Secretary Jayesh Ranjan said that skilling is mance computing, skilling, highly important when it bias, research and innovation, comes to new technology and adoption in governance and Investment fund. One of the the State government has plans to create 30,000 jobs in 19 job core pillars of our AI strategy roles in the next two years is research and innovation itself. "We have created a dedand we want to capitalise on icated institution T-AIM in the pool of researchers, instipartnership with NASSCOM tutes available in Hyderabad," whose focus is driving the six the Principal Secretary said. pillars of AI framework name-



Hyderabad gets **Applied AI Research** Centre

HYDERABAD: The Government of Telangana in collaboration with Intel India, IIIT-Hyderabad and Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) announced the launch of INAI, an applied AI research centre in Hyderabad on Monday INAI is an initiative to apply AI to population scale problems in the Indian context, with a focus on identifying and solving challenges in the healthcare and smart mobility segments through strong ecosystem collaboration The centre is anchored at IIIT-H. Speaking at the inauguration, Union Minister for IT Ravi Shankar Prasad said, "I am happy that they have taken up Intel and the Telangana government took up the initiative of INAI.

Power outage leaves Mumbai in the dark for hours

A rare citywide power outage paralysed Mumbai on Monday, halting local train services, trapping people in lifts and disrupting work from home adopted by millions during

Power restoration efforts began on war footing and pocket-wise resumption in supply was started around 12 noon onwards, nearly two hours after the outage.

from-home becoming the norm, employee output was *impacted* as the homes do not have power back-ups

tions, beginning with CR's Harbour Line. The trains are carrying only essential ser-



inconvenience.

and Central Railway blamed the power cut from Tata Power (their power supplier) for the disruption in services. With work-from-home

Both the Western Railway

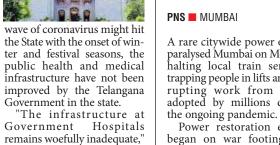
becoming the norm across the services sector, employee output was impacted as the homes do not have power back-ups like institutional bodies.

However, a few were not so lucky, like the employees working in an upscale business vices workers at present, which complex in central Mumbai helped minimise the passenger who found themselves stuck in an elevator during times of

social distancing. After a few jittery minutes, they were evacuated. In June 2018, there was a widespread power outage in the city and adjoining areas due to a technical glitch and also led to sustained period of loadshedding for some consumers.

Maharashtra's Power Minister Nitin Raut said the trouble on Monday emanated from Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Company (MSETCL) facilities during a planned maintenance work.





Trains services took two and half hours to resume opera-

sy, sources said.

FIRs in cases of rape and sexual assault, including those against minors, should not be put in public domain by



hyderabad 02



When Prime Minister Narendra Modi telephoned Suresh Chandra, a common man in Uttarakhand, on Sunday morning to enquire about implementation of his Swamitwa Scheme, the latter, overjoyed at speaking to the PM, said that identification of assets under the scheme was done in the most transparent way in his village. Chandra said that the property cards issued would help

them get loans easily. The PM spoke to farmers in six states to obtain feedback on the new scheme -- The

Swamitwa scheme. The scheme aims at surveying villages and mapping them with the help of new technologies. The scheme is described as 'revolutionary', one that could change the contours of villages.

People can download prop-erty cards by clicking the SMS link sent to their mobile phone. The cards will have a unique number, somewhat like Aadhaar. The scheme facilitates villagers to convert their assets into economic wealth

Gradually, the scheme will

Modi sowing seeds for farmers' rosy future

be implemented in towns and cities. The card contains succession records of the property, including details of the previous owners. It also features details of loans availed from government agencies and pending cases against the property and details of tax paid and so on.

The scheme will be initially implemented in 763 villages in six states and benefit lakhs of people and subsequently, across the country.

Survey of rural UP, Haryana, Maharashtra, Uttarakhand, MP and Karnataka was done with the help of the Survey of India. Panchayat raj and revenue

officials conducted physical surveys in the villages and prepared property cards. The Union government will implement the Swamitwa scheme in 6.6 lakh villages in the next four years in phases.

The fact remains that 60 percent of the people living in rural areas have no proper

The PM spoke to farmers in six states to obtain feedback on the new scheme -- The Swamitwa scheme. The scheme aims at surveying villages and mapping them with the help of new technologies. The scheme is described as 'revolutionary', one that could change the contours of villages

doubling of farmers' income as his objective. documents for their properties. Under the Swamitwa

He doubled allocations to scheme, ownership of properagriculture in the Budget and ties will be fixed and propertook steps to reduce the cost of agricultural tools, ensure ty cards would be distributed and prices of properties will be remunerative price for the Once implemented, the produce, to provide market facilities for farmers' produce scheme would result in 100 percent property tax recovery before the harvested crop gets damaged and to provide alterby panchayats as against the 19 percent currently. Ever since Modi came to native economic sources to the farmer. He declared these as power, he has been trying to his government's policy

make villages economically umpteen times. The attitude of the PM is to self-reliant. He spoke to farmers many times and shared his implement his ideas at any views with them. He declared cost. That was why he got the



Y SATYA KUMAR **BJP** National Secretary

agriculture laws enacted and started Swamitwa scheme. The opposition propaganda

against the new farm laws are anti-farmer, did not garner enough support from the farmers. Moreover, farmers are eager to grab the opportunities that the government is creating for them. The Modi government has decided to dispel myths about the new agriculture laws by holding

talks with them.

visited villages and started creating awareness TRULY about the new **SPEAKING** laws. BJP leaders and activists have been holding awareness meetings extensively.

When changes do take place and when revolutionary changes are occurring from the grassroots level in the country, some kind of opposition to them is natural.

When economic reforms were introduced in the country earlier, such cacophony was heard. Over time, when have no regard for the poor, villages and the country at large. Their only agenda is to the reforms started yielding results, the people rejected the oppose development. Is Rahul Gandhi justified in calling the PM, who took a opposition contention.

When in power, the Opposition parties paid no heed to the problems faced by farmers, but have started shedding crocodile tears now.

The farmers have started taking note of those who lootnoticing that the Modi goved the country. ernment is facilitating access

Eight Union Ministers have to new markets without destroying the MSP sys-

tem. In spite of huge agricultural production in the country and food grain stocks increasing, farmers are unable to market them.

The Opposition parties

bold step to revolutionise the

agriculture sector, a coward?

Modi had to retort by saying

that the people have started

Rural people, compared to

Eight Nagarjunasagar

project gates lifted

The strength of the Congress and other parties, Not only corporates, but who turned rural voters into also farm producers organisatheir traditional vote banks, tions ensure that markets are has been on the wane. Modi's continuously supplied with policies have started impactagricultural products. The new technologies unveiled will free farmers from the clutches of middlemen. ng the villages positively.

voter response in 2014.

urbanites, observe governance

keenly. Trends of the last several years indicate the enthu-

siastic participation of rural

voters in the poll process

cated that more rural voters

exercised their franchise in

favour of the BJP in 2019,

when compared to the rural

Lok Neeti-CSDS study indi-

compared to urban voters.

Sensing that the soil under their feet slipping, the Opposition is perturbed at Modi implementing comprehensive reforms and organisational changes in rural India and started slinging mud at him.

The Opposition may cry hoarse about Modi's policies, but would not be able to stop him from implementing them. There is no doubt that the

agricultural laws, Swamitwa like scheme have earned a permanent place for Modi in people's hearts.

TS adds 1,021 fresh cases

PNS HYDERABAD

Telangana recorded 1,021 new Covid-19 cases, pushing the tally of infections to 2,13,084, while the death toll rose to 1.228 with six more fatalities, the state government said on Monday. The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation accounted for 228 of the 1,021 fresh cases, followed by Medchal Malkajgiri (84), Rangareddy (68), Karimnagar (67) and other districts, it said in a bulletin, providing data as of 8 pm on October 11.

Banswada CI in ACB net PNS HYDERABAD

The ACB officials on Monday arrested Circle Inspector of Police, Banswada Rural Circle while accepting a bribe of Rs 10,000. According to the officials, the accused Chamanthula Tata Babu, was caught red handed at his residence when he demanded and accepted the bribe of Rs 10,000 from the complainant Meghavath Prathap Singh.

Prisoners make a killing rearing country chicken

decided.

PNS HYDERABAD

Life convicts in the open air Cherlapally prison are into farming these days. The jail authorities say that the prisoners are being trained in various aspects of farming so that they can lead a bright life beyond the barriers of the jail. Already, the prisoners of Cherlapally Open Air Jail have been growing 100 per cent organic vegetables and fruits at its farms since 2013.

As immunity has become the buzzword in the wake of Covid-19, officials at the are helping prisoners to start an avocation on their own after their release from incarceration. The department is procuring newborn chicks and raising them for 40 to 45 days in a dedicated enclosure spread on a one-acre land on the premises of the open air prison. The prisoners are being trained in rearing country chicken, quail birds and fish so

that they will be able to earn an

independent livelihood and

will have no difficulty in join-

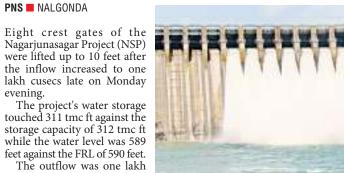
ing the mainstream of society.

Mysuru brand of country and chicken popular Kadaknath variety of poultry birds are being reared by inmates of the jail. In specially erected sheds, the inmates are rearing the domestic poultry birds at the rate of 500 for each batch. The jail outlets sell the birds once in four months. Jailor Ashok Kumar says that two batches of Mysuru country poultry birds have been sold so far. The variety enjoys popular demand from customers, who have been making

impressed by the taste of fish being reared in the jail. She was said to have specially ordered fish twice from the jail. Arrangements are under way to grow fishlings in the jail tank this year too. To improve oxy-gen in fish tank, domestic ducks are also being reared. According to jail superinten-

the authorities target is to prevent the inmates from resorting to crime again. Rajiv Trivedi, Director-General of Prisons Department, said that the open air jail is a good experiment to drive away fear among the inmates to join the

mainstream society. Therefore, the jail has been imparting them with some skills. A rural atmosphere is being created in the open air ments, he added.



Don't play with lives of citizens: HC

Continued from Page 1

cusecs, including water

released to the left canal and

the SLBC low-level canal.

evening.

Karnataka and Telangana The bench made it clear that regarding the total number of the State Government should positive cases detected, numfurnish the correct data about ber of deaths reported and so coronavirus deaths in Telangana. It said that public on due to Covid-19. The court also directed the state government to increase the number health employees and workers of mobile testing vans in the of the state government, Municipal Corporations and interest of lakhs of homeless havats must not be persons and the destitute σram I diverted to work for other government schemes or programmes like Dharani. The court told the employees that they must work dedicatedly for improving the health conditions in the state. It also said that the public health workforce in the Government must be strengthened further. The uation. bench directed the government to submit information of the states of Maharashtra, hearing.

Pending LRS applications... **Continued from Page 1**

He said that since all underlying terms and conditions remain exactly the same, KTR has agreed to allow the old applications to be processed under the new scheme. As per the memo, there are a number of applications applied under the previous scheme for various reasons, including NOC from revenue or irrigation authorities, title aspects and payment of bal ance LRS charges. Arvind Kumar directed the GHMC, HMDA, KUDA and Commissioners of all ULBs to examine and dispose of the pending LRS applications as per new LRS 2020 rules by December 31, 2020. Meanwhile 12.76 lakh applications were received for LRS as on Monday with maximum applicants from Gram Panchayats and municipalities accounting to about five lakh each.

TS to create 30,000 jobs...

phone calls to the jail making enquiries when the next sale of the poultry birds would be. The open air jail has also

taken up rearing of quail birds. These birds are being reared in natural conditions feeding them with Godrej poultry feed. The open air jail officials procure chicks of quails from hatcheries in Shamirpet. The quail meat is said to have medicinal values. Sundays, one can see serpentine queues in front of the outlets selling quail meat at the jail. Governor Tamilisai Sounderrajan was so

dent Dasaradharami Reddy,

jail by encouraging inmates to undergo training in agriculture and dairy development. Once released from jail, the jail authorities help inmates get jobs in petrol stations and factories. In all, 300 released prisoners have been shown place-

'Witch hunt': Bollywood...

Continued from Page 1

The suit filed through DSK Legal firm said, this comes in the wake of these channels using highly derogatory words and expressions for Bollywood such as 'dirt', 'filth', 'scum', 'druggies' and expressions such as 'it is Bollywood where the dirt needs to be cleaned' and many such other comments as mentioned by PTI.

Soon after the Bollywood 'biggies' moved the high court, #BollywoodStrikesBack started trending on Twitter with many supporting the producers decision to go against the mentioned news TV channels.

HYDERABAD

BULLION RATES

₹0

0

RATES ₹/KG

Dressed/With Skin

CHICKEN

Without Skin

EGG

RATES ₹/100

HYDERABAD

VIJAYAWADA

RETAIL PRICE

VISAKHAPATNAM 522

Broiler at Farm

₹ 63, 800 (1kg)

₹ 53, 310 (10 gm)

₹215

₹244

₹148

515

529

₹5.28

Continued from Page 1

The Telangana government has an ambitious plan for setting up an Investment fund for Artificial Intelligence to further propel the ecosystem in the state. However, due to the economic conditions across the world, the State government couldn't secure funding commitment. Jayesh Ranjan said, "We plan to set up an AI Investment Fund, but we couldn't secure funding commitment but will continue to work towards it. While there are a lot of gloomy things, we have been able to maintain the momentum, using AI tools

and we are on course. He said that the addition of an applied AI research centre INAI is a jewel in the crown of the State as it will truly play the

Hyderabad gets Applied AI Research Centre

Continued from Page 1

I compliment this initiative and hope it will bring in multiple relevant institutional help to unfold dimensions of AI - Smart Mobility and Quality Healthcare." The Applied AI Research Centre was launched during the opening of the all.ai 2020 Virtual Summit and AI for Youth symposium. Prime Minister Narendra Modi. in his letter to Intel. said. "I am sure Applied AI Research Centre named INAI will further innovation and the spirit of enterprise aimed at

fall on Monday. The state gov-

and resolved with priority.

role of taking the city many leagues ahead in the area. It may be mentioned here that the Telangana government recently tied up with the

providing latest solutions to some of the challenges in the social sector. May INAI true in its Tamil Meaning of 'bringing together' bring human intent and Artificial Intelligence together to create a better society." Nivruti Rai, Country Head, Intel India said, "The launch of the Applied Al Research Centre. initiatives to train students on AI readiness skills and the all.ai 2020 Summit reinforce our commitment towards realizing the exponential impact of AI in an inclusive. collaborative and responsible manner.

World Economic Forum on showcasing how bias in Artificial Intelligence can have adverse consequences on governance.

CBI puts Hathras case FIR on...

Continued from Page 1

In December, 2018, a Supreme Court bench headed by Justice Madan B Lokur directed the print and electronic media to not reveal the identity of victims of rape and sexual assault "even in a remote manner". The apex court said FIRs in cases of rape and sexual assault, including those against minors, should not be put in public domain by police. The issue had cropped up when the court was hearing a batch of petitions filed after the rape and murder of a paramedic student on December 16, 2012, in New Delhi to support the initiatives on women's safety across the country.

Power outage leaves Mumbai in... Continued from Page 1

Tata Power, which is into both generation and distribution, attributed the outage to a simultaneous substation tripping at 1010 hrs at staterun transmission company MSETCL's two substations in the suburbs of Kalwa and Kharghar.

Power outages were reported from suburbs like Thane, Panvel, Dombivili and Kalyan as well, along with those in the island city and the suburbs.

With the number of COVID-19 infections still very high and many patients recovering in hospitals including specially-created facilities rendering services like oxygen supply, Municipal Commissioner of Mumbai I S Chahal instructed staff to bolster diesel supply to last up to eight hours and also scout for mobile diesel generator vans which are used at film shoots as a standby.

The bench also directed it to submit state and district disaster management plans before the court. It further directed the state to have a vigilance wing and create a special helpline facility for the victims of domestic violence cases during Coronavirus sit-

Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh,

The division bench later posted the matter to November 19, 2020 for further

AP HC orders CBI probe into defamatory remarks...

Continued from Page 1

The tough action from the court came days after Chief Minister Jaganmohan Reddy complained to the Chief Justice of India that the High Court Chief Justice and four other judges were acting against his elected government at the behest of a senior Supreme Court judge, who he said, was close to TDP chief Chandrababu Naidu. A Telugu Desam leader who was earlier a police officer, Monday said the controversial remarks on social media were "made with a plan". Contending that the judgments of the High

Court were "misrepresented",

the court said the "objectionable comments" were tarnishing the reputation of the judiciary. The court had taken cognizance of the social media posts after a lawyer filed a petition, bringing the matter into its attention. The court had asked the state government to investigate the issue but said today that the Criminal Investigation Department of the state police did not respond appropriately, so a request was made for a CBI investigation.

The CBI has been given eight weeks to file a report on the matter. The judges have asked the government to cooperate with the CBI.

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA ENDOWMENTS DEPARTMENT E-TENDER/TENDER CUM PUBLIC AUCTION NOTICE E-TENDER/TENDER CUM PUBLIC AUCTION NOTICE The Following property is proposed for sale through e-lender () lender cum public auction: (1) Location: Reakurg Navishtasa (V) Settingamaly (M), Range Rody District, Tolangana. (2) Estient: Sy/No.33 Extent 0-15 gurdas or 1815 Sq.Yds. (3) Useef Price Faued Rs.(70006-Soventy Trousandont) por Sq. Yd. (4) Tonsier / Public Auction Dispositi Rs.25 (50,0001-) Rupess Twenty two Lakta onty in the name of Estie Stat. Sama Lawrenin Mathaesi Tempis, Lawrantageth, Roarkey (V), Seringerpredy (M), Range Rody District, Dy way of DD or Busineer, Checus, (3) Submission of E-Tenders: 11-10-2020 at 11:004/M, (8) Lawt date of submission of E-Tenders and Inders: 25-10-2020 at 11:00 AML (7) Date of Public Auction: 25-10-2020 at 11:15 AM, (8) Place of Public Auction: AI Sy/No.33, Rodkurg Navanitata (V) Settingamouth (M), Range Rody District, 9) Contact Officer / Persons: TSI Names/ This, Muthasi & Herediary Trustee. (2) Sett. Subari 100 For further details: See Website: https://enterlet.eiangam.gov/in Rody District 100 Contact Officer / Persons: TSI Names/ This, Muthasi & Herediary Trustee. 100 For further details: See Website: https://enterlet.isingamouth.gov/in Rody District 100 Contact 10:50-PI/CL-AGEINCY/IADVT11/2020-21 101 G/D No. 1015-PI/CL-AGEINCY/IADVT11/2020-21 Hereditary Trustee

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MET dept issues red alert for Telangana

Continued from Page 1

ernment has issued an adviso-On Monday, the state was ry to all district collectors under 'orange-alert' wherein commissioners of police, and heavy to very heavy rain Superintendents of Police to occurred in the state. The remain alert. District SPs to heavy rains are due to the Station House Officers have depression which is going to been warned of heavy rains for make landfall between the next three days across the Narsapur and Visakhapatnam, state. The DGP urged all police close to Kakinada early on commissioners to be vigilant. October 13. Under its influ-He said that all the police offience, enhanced rainfall activcers should be on duty for 24 ity is expected across Telangana hours to ensure that no inconfrom Tuesday to Thursday. venience is caused to the pub-As per TSDPS, State Average lic. The DGP asked the peo-Rainfall on Monday was 13.4 ple of the state to Dial 100 mm against a normal of 3.7 wherever they encounter any mm. Medak, Kamareddy, difficulties. It was clarified that all incoming calls mainly to Jagtial, Siddipet, Sangareddy and Jogulamba Gadwal dis-Dial 100 should be taken up tricts received very heavy rain**GHMC** staff gets ready for 'deluge'

Continued from Page 1

GHMC has readied designated relief centres and evacuation points such as schools, community halls to attend to any eventuality. On Monday, the highest rainfall of 59.5 mm was recorded at Uppal, followed by 56 mm at Serilingampally. Average rainfall in GHMC limits was about 19.5mm as of 7 pm on Monday The EV&DM wing has alerted the monsoon emergency teams and stationed them at possible inundation locations. As many

overflow and 29 water logging complaints were received by Due to the recent rainfall in the Himayatsagar reservoir catchment area, the floodwater level in the reservoir reached 1,762.00 feet (2.603 tmc ft). HMWSSB said, "According to the IMD, Telangana is likely to few days. As the floodgates of Himayatsagar Reservoir have possibility of raising the gates anytime.

GHMC on Monday due to rains. receive heavy rainfall in the next reached 1,763.00 feet, there is a

as 211 complaints of drainage



hyderabad 03

Crooks cash in on e-KYC loopholes

DURGA PRASAD SUNKU HYDERABAD

Cyberabad cyber crime police who are investigating the OLX fraud case found 23 bank accounts with one of the accused involved in the offences. The police have issued notices to respective banks regarding how they opened the accounts with improper KYC details.

Special team of Cyberabad police who nabbed OLX fraudsters in Rajasthan and brought them on transit warrant came across different fascinated things during their preliminary field work and investigation.

Firstly, the accused persons who were school dropouts were able to cheat the persons who are professionals in

Information Technology and

well educated senior citizens. Secondly, their expertise in usage of technology. The accused used the e-KYC to

open scores of bank accounts which were used to dump cheated money. The banking sector which had presumed it

Minister Eatala Rajender.



would be a 'game changer' had really come handy for the fraudsters.

We have sent notice to two banks in which these 23 accounts were opened asking to furnish the discrepancies which led to opening fraudu-lent bank accounts," said M

Through e-KYC option there is no need of a customer to go to bank and submit documents

Ravinder Reddy who is investigating the case.

Transport workers protest,

Associations

E-KYC became quite popular during the lockdown as people fear to step out in wake of Covid. The banking industry promoted e-KYC as the solution for the customer to open bank accounts and other banking transactions during Covid. Through e-KYC option

there is no need of a customer to go to bank and submit doccer

uments physically. In this e-KYC customer who wanted to open bank accounts had to do a live video call and submit the documents digitally. Using the loop holes the accused opened bank accounts on different names and used them for cheating public, said police officer.

Meanwhile, Cyberabad cyber crime police sought the ten days custody of accused."Our primary focus will be about money trail like where are they investing the

money or saving it. Further, how they managed to get hands on hundreds of fraud SIM cards and bank accounts. How are they planning the frauds and cheating the gullible pub-

lic," shared Investigation offi-

1 more killed in wall collapse

KTR seeks evacuation of dilapilated buildings

PNS HYDERABAD

Following two different incidents of wall collapse killing three persons over the past two days, Municipal Administration and Urban Development Minister KT Rama Rao directed the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) officials to issue notices and evacuate those living in dilapidated buildings to avoid loss of life.

A seven-year-old girl died when the wall of a house col-lapsed at Chikkadpally on Monday.

The victim, Jayasree, 7, lived along with her parents and sib-lings at Sanjaynagar in Chikkadpally and according to the police, the family had recently started demolishing their old house to construct a new house. However, a small portion of the house was yet to be demolished.

On Monday morning, Jayasree along with her mother Vijaya Laxmi and sibling Divya were removing the debris in the compound when a portion of the wall collapsed on them. All three sustained injuries and were rushed to a private hospital where doctors pronounced Javasree dead while two others are undergoinstructed the officials to pay ing treatment for injuries, the Chikkadpally police said. special attention to not only



The police have booked a case and shifted the body of the child to the Osmania Hospital mortuary

Likewise on Sunday, Parveen Begum, 42, and Anees Begum, 18, were killed in Hussain Alam area after a house collapsed in old city. In total as many as seven persons were injured over the past two days. Minister KT Rama Rao directed Assistant City Planners and Town Planning Staff to be on high alert due to incessant rains. GHMC Commissioner D S

Lokesh Kumar on Monday

dilapidated buildings but old compound walls and retaining walls of cellars adjoining open lands. He said, "The people residing adjoining the old walls and retaining walls shall be advised to vacate immediately to safeguard their lives.'

Excavation of cellars is not allowed in the city.

Commissioner said, "In case of already dug cellar and work in progress check safety of surrounding buildings and ensure that all standard safety precautionary measures such as soil strengthening, construction of retaining hall, barricading around the land, etc., are taken immediately".

5-yr-old boy

riding pillion

dies as truck

hits scooter

A five-year-old boy was killed after he fell off a scooter on

which he was pillion riding, after a mini delivery truck

rammed the scooter from behind at Tarnaka under

Osmania University police

station limits on Monday

The deceased was identi-

PNS HYDERABAD

afternoon.

Minister to monitor attendance of docs PNS HYDERABAD report every morning at 11 am

Health Minister Eatala Rajender will be monitoring the attendance of the doctors in all Non-Covid government hospitals.

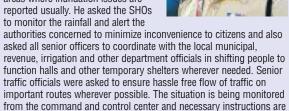
Director of Medical Education instructed the hospital authorities that a xerox copy of attendance register should be submitted to the office of the Health Minister.

All non-covid teaching hospitals in the state that resumed their regular OP and elective treatments were told to submit doctors daily attendance

CITY LIGHTS

City Police Commissioner asks SHOs to stay on alert

City Police Commissioner Anjani Kumar has asked all the SHOs/ACPs to be on alert in view of the heavy rains expected in the city in the next 72 hours. Anjani Kumar asked officials to be alert, especially at low-lying areas along the Musi River, Tank Bund, Mir Alam and other areas where inundation issues are reported usually. He asked the SHOs



PNS HYDERABAD later sent to office of Health

The transport workers in Telangana have been protesting for some time for the state government to help them financially. However, seeing that they weren't aided, they now are demanding minimum wages to be paid every month to all the workers, despite no work.

Manchireddy Rajender Reddy, Telangana Lorry Association President said, "We have been asking the gov-ernment to help us for so long now, however they haven't been able to. We are now demanding minimum wage. If, like other employees, the transport workers too had some money every month during the pandemic they wouldn't be

share that other states are paving minimum wages

The other associations also

egories. Shaik Salauddin, the State President of Telangana Four Wheeler Drivers' Association shares, "Lakhs of people didn't earn a rupee for months in ing it to their notice, the government hasn't helped us at all. However, it's necessary that the government listens to us now. We need some amount to keep us afloat. The government can decide the amount that they think a family needs to survive and share that with us. We have already talked about EPF facility. The drivers of Telangana are in need of help and the government should

Cricket betting racket busted, 7 bookies held

PNS HYDERABAD

The Special Operation Team (SOT) of Madhapur along with Rajasthan Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) busted a cricket betting racket and arrested seven bookies in the city on Sunday night, the e said on Mon

The arrested persons were



held for dacoities

PNS HYDERABAD

Three people from Nepal including a woman, part of a nine-member gang which was allegedly involved in two dacoity cases here, have been arrested, police said on

coordination with Uttar and servants and lures them esh Police Uttarakhand

fied as Sheik Omar, 5, a resident of Moulali. According to the police, Sheik Omar along with his the other accused, involved in the two dacoity cases reported in the first week of October, relative Md Yousuf, 26, was are absconding, police said According to police, the gang leader identifies people, on the way to Chaderghat to his relative's residence. When the vehicle reached Tanaka

who are from nearby villages in Nepal and working in cities and was taking a U turn, a mini delivery truck which Monday. The Telangana Police in and Mumbai as housemaids was behind them rammed the scooter. Subsequently, the five-ear-old Sheik Omar fell into committing crir

us. The private employers are

demand support from govt to DME office, which will be

To ensure strict compliance of removal of quarantine instructions, daily attendance of doctors is being sought by the Health Minister. As per the Superintendent of Osmania

Hospital Dr B Nagender, "All the doctors should endorse their signature in the atten-dance register before 9.30 am or the forwarded copy of daily attendance will mismatch with sent copies to the office of Health Minister.

knee deep in debts. We really hope the government listens to

to labours of various categories including transport workers giving up to Rs 15,000 every

month as minimum wages, so why can't the government."

share that several other states already are paying minimum wages to labours of various cat-

Telangana. And despite bring-

support us.'

GHMC receives over 1,000 rain related grievances in four days



being issued to the ground level officials.

Hvderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) received 1,275 rain related grievances from citizen until 12 October

Reddy has reportedly offered

to quit to balance caste and

district equations in the

Cabinet to make way for

district is represented by

Speaker Pocharam Srinivas

Reddy and Prashanth Reddy,

both from Reddy community

and accommodating one more

person from the forward

castes from the same district

in the form of Kavitha would

that Kavitha's tenure to the

Council would be only for 15

months -- till January, 2022 -

TRS insiders rule out the possibility of a Cabinet reshuf-

fle before completion of all

polls in Telangana by March

2021, which include GHMC, MLC and Warangal,

Khammam municipal corpo-

dated following disqualifica-tion of the sitting TRS MLC R

Bhoopathi Reddy who defect-

ed to Congress before 2018

The by-elections were man-

- as it was a bypoll.

It may be mentioned here

The erstwhile Nizamabad

5 pm. Majority of the complaints were related to drainage over flow while 299 were water logging complaints. On Tuesday alone, 211 complaints were related to drainage overflow. Nearly 69 complaints were related to road repairs. About 64 complaints were related to fallen trees or branches.

Kavitha enters state politics with a bang

Kavitha.

be difficult.

rations.

Assembly polls.

Continued from Page 1

Subhash Reddy of the Congress secured a meagre 29 votes, while 10 votes were rejected.

The Electoral College for the seat comprised representatives of local bodies in undivided Nizamabad district. They include MPTCs, ZPTCs, councillors, corporators and ex-officio members. The original strength of

TRS in the local bodies is 494, followed by Congress with 140 members, BJP 84, AIMIM 28, independents 66 and others 12.

TRS leaders and cadre broke into celebrations even before the formal announcement of the result.

Kavitha's grand victory has triggered a debate in the TRS of her inclusion in the KCR Cabinet anytime soon. However, the Cabinet has already reached the threshold and a Minister has to step down to pave way for Kavitha's entry

Party sources said R&B minister Vemula Prashanth

Hyderabad has been Hreeling under heavy rainfall over the past four davs. Since 9 October, the Greater

Nehru Zoo park 'in good shape'

PNS HYDERABAD

It has been a week since the in the city has also Nehru Zoological Park in affected the Hyderabad opened its doors number if people again for common public and looks like people were waiting visiting the zoo for this retreat.

"Although, there is not as many people as there used to The heavy rain fall in the be, we still had at least 1000 city recently has also affected footfall daily and about 2000 the number if people coming in the Zoo. Kshitija said, "The over the weekend. We expect bigger problem is that there is a steady increase," shares Zoo's curator N Kshitija, adding, a water logging in the safari area. We had closed it for 'However I have to add that this is approximately onecleaning anyway. But the water fourth of the people who used to come daily before the Covid for nalas has entered the grounds and is a bit of a trouble. Apart from that, every-thing is fine." pandemic."

While the Zoo is open for the visitors, closed areas within its premises including reptile house, aquarium and the Natural History Museum hasn't been opened due to safety reasons. The Zoo authorities are also making sure that they have volunteers watching over the crowd to not form a group and keep moving.

identified as Ashok Kumar Chalani, Ganesh Malchalani, Pankaj Seth, Surendhar Chalani, Beraram Purohith, all hailing from Rajasthan and Manoj Pasman from The heavy rain fall Bihar.

After receiving credible information, the police officials raided a flat in Blossom Chamber Apartment in Indira Nagar and arrested all the accused on Sunday night. According to the police,

the main accused Ashok Kumar was involved in online cricket betting and used to collect money through agents from Rajasthan, Bangalore, Mumbai, Delhi and Hyderabad.

Meanwhile, the Central Zone Task Force team busted a cricket betting racket and arrested two persons. Acting on a tip off, the police team raided AN National Travels near Nampally railway station and caught Mohammed Silar Baba, 27 and Syed Sajeed, 27, both residents of Habee-bnagar, who were allegedly organising cricket betting on the ongoing IPL matches and collecting money from punters in the city.

Police and Sashastra Seema Bal arrested the trio including gang leader Netra Bahadur Shahi from the India-Nepal border and from here, they said.

Police recovered Rs 5.2 lakh and gold ornaments weighing about 300 grams, collectively worth Rs 20 lakh from their possession, Cyberabad Commissioner of Police VC Sajjanar said. A driver and a woman cook, who are among

As part of the plan, the gang leader gives them (housemaids) sleeping pills to be mixed in their owners food and beverages and once they fall unconscious, the maids call his team members over mobile.

The other team members enter the premises and commit theft of valuables like gold, cash and they flee to Nepal through different routes, police added.

down on the road due to impact and sustained grievous head injury. The boy was rushed to Gandhi Hospital where he was declared brought dead by the duty doctors.

Based on the complaint from the victim's family members, Osmania University Police booked case and took the accused driver identified as N Shiva into custody

Body of newborn girl found in nala

PNS HYDERABAD

A body of newborn girl was spotted in a nala near the Kapra lake on the outskirts of the city on Monday morning. The police said that the child. whose umbilical cord was still intact, could have been thrown into the nala a couple of days ago and the body surfaced after the increased water level from the continuous rains subsided.

According to the police officials at the Kushaiguda police station, under whose jurisdiction the nala falls, a passerby

rheumatic and musculoskele-

tal diseases. Arthritis affects

approximately 350 million peo-

ple worldwide, including near-

culvert between Shubodaya colony and Laxmi Narsimha Colony near Kapra.

The police said that the child might have been killed because it was born out of an illicit affair or the parents did not want a girl child. A case under Section 318 of the IPC has been registered at the Kushaiguda police station. The police are verifying CCTV cameras for clues and are also inquiring in the surrounding residential areas for details of pregnant women or women who had recently given birth.

women in the 30-60 years age

band, autoimmune ailments

occur due to changes in the

genetic or hormonal imbal-

ances. And to control the prob-

lem, it is important to keep

weight under check, avoid

Vitamin-D deficiency, get treat-ed for PCOD problems (if

any), and stay safe if prone to

noticed the child's body float-

ing in a corner of the nala and alerted the police.

Police said that the nala travels from the Kapra lake to Nagaram lake near Keesara. The body was found near a

Arthritis patients suffering due to fewer rheumatologists

PNS HYDERABAD

India needs more than 20,000 rheumatologists as lakhs of patients are suffering due to non-availability of rheumatology services in most of the hospitals and thousands dying due to delayed diagnosis and lack of proper treatment facilities across the country, said experts on the occasion of World Arthritis Day.

The country has only about 800 rheumatologists against the requirement of more than 20,000

'There are only a few rheumatology teaching centres. We need more DM, DNB and fellowship programmes in

rheumatology to cater to our needs. National Medical Council (NMC) should take necessary steps to increase rheumatology training centres in India. NMC should allow more postdoctoral (post MD) rheumatology fellowship programmes across India in all teaching hospitals," said Dr V. Sarath Chandra Mouli, Consultant Rheumatologist, KIMS Hospitals.

Recently, the Zoological Park has called citizens to

adopt an animal. Talking

about the initiative, Kshitija

adds, "We have received bril-

liant responses. In fact 15 of

our 27 animals have been

already adopted. The tigers

have taken the cake as they are

a hit among the children."

He said the NMC will have to ensure training on a large scale as by merely allowing 100 teaching hospitals to have two fellows per hospital per year, it will take 100 years to train 20,000 rheumatologists. World Arthritis Day was



first observed in 1996. It was started by Arthritis and Rheumatism International to increase global awareness about

ly 100 million people in India. Arthritis is a group of diseases, which cause inflammation of the joints. It can affect one joint or multiple joints. There are more than 100 different types of arthritis, with different causes and treatment methods. The most common types are Osteoarthritis, Rheumatoid Arthritis, Systemic Lupus Erythematosus or Spondyloarthritis and Gout. 'Human immune system normally fights infections and

respiratory problems," said Dr Srujana, Rheumatologist, Medicover Hospitals. Dr Sarath Chandra Mouli believes that the situation can provides protection to us. And be improved by better educating general practitioners, by when this system gets disturbed, the white blood cells also making patients aware of damage our ability to fight relevant symptoms and by autoimmune ailments like increasing the number of arthritis. Seen mostly among trained rheumatologists.





hyderabad 04

TRS' 'Operation Akarsh' stumps Congress

K VENKATESHWARLU HYDERABAD

Leaders from Opposition parties are making beeline to join the ruling TRS in Dubbak. On Monday, Congress party senior leader Maddula Nageshwar Reddy, who unsuccessfully contested from Dubbak constituency in 2018, joined the ruling party in presence of Finance Minister T Harish Rao at Telangana Bhavan. Earlier this week, two kev leaders of the Congress -Venkata Narasimha Redddy and Manohar Rao - from the constituency along with over 2,000 followers joined the TRS.

Following this, Congress deployed its army in the constituency. Telangana state Congress Affairs in-charge Manickam Tagore directed the party leaders and activists to strive hard for the victory of the party candidate by staying in the constituency and appointed village wise incharges. He further directed the party leaders to stay in the Dubbak till the election.

However, the party is failing to protect its local leadership in Dubbak. The leaders, who expected party ticket, Komatireddy Venkata Narsimha Reddy, Bumpally Manohar Rao, Bangaraiah and several others already joined

PNS HYDERABAD

The Congress and BJP are

Rao instead of targeting TRS

targeting Finance Minister T Harish

candidate Sujata in Dubbak since

the former is the sole and whole in

the constituency. Targeting Harish

Rao is the campaign style adopted



Finance MInister T Harish Rao welcoming Congress leaders into the TRS fold at Telangana Bhavan on Monday

Earlier this week, two key leaders of the Congress - Venkata Narasimha Redddy and Manohar Rao - from the Dubbak constituency along with over 2,000 followers joined the ruling TRS party

the ruling TRS. Harish Rao, who was successfully in continuing his operation 'akarsh', has stated that the Congress party has no leaders left in Dubbaka now. Harish Rao is back to back shocks to the opposition Congress by inducting party senior leaders from the constituency.

Congress leaders who are

campaigned vigorously in

constituency to defeat the

In 2018 elections, Harish Rao

constituencies claimed to the

strongholds of the Congress. In

TRS leaders campaigned in the

Huzurnagar elections too, crucial

campaigning in Dubbak.



the local conditions. One of

the party leaders said that

In Dubbak, Opposition banks on targeting Harish Rao

some leaders are seriously participating in the campaign but all are not with the same vigor. This will cost the party interests in case the party won't change its strategy, he opined.

He further said that the party leaders from all over the state are camping in Dubbak but they are failing to participate in campaign along with the local leaders. However, the ruling TRS leadership is in full josh' with the local flavour. However, the ruling party is not leaving any chance to the opposition parties and doing all sorts of efforts to attract the voters and leaders from opposition parties.

constituency remained backward.

victory in Dubbak as a matter of

prestige and all crucial leaders of

the party have been camping in

the constituency. Former Minister Peddi Reddy

has been campaigning for the BJP

candidate. The top BJP leaders in

The Congress took electoral

Harish takes a dig at Uttam

PNS HYDERABAD

Finance Minister T Harish Rao on Monday took a dig at TPCC Chief N Uttam Kumar Reddy and asked the latter to reveal if he can ensure the victory of Congress candidate in Dubbak when he himself failed in his own constituency, Huzurnagar. The people of Dubbak will give

a befitting reply to the Congress. What happened in Huzurnagar will repeat in Dubbak," said the Finance Minister. He suggested the Congress party leaders to introspect themselves as to why the Congress leaders are leaving the party. "Now there are no local

leaders in the Congress in Dubbak," he said. "The Congress leaders will be shocked after opening the ballot boxes on the result day. The Congress and BJP leaders are Tigers only before the mikes. We are ready to explain to the people the work we have done. Is BJP and Congress ready as what they have done?," he questioned. While inducting Maddula Nageshwar Reddy into the party at Telangana Bhavan on Monday, Harish said that Nageshwar Reddy stood in second place in 2018 elections in Dubbak while contesting from Congress party.

If Uttam can ensure victory of Dubbak candidate, why he failed in his own Huzurnagar constituency, Harish Rao asked TPCC chief Uttam

Finding fault with CLP leader Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka for stating that the Congress would obstruct the Pharma City, Harish said that the youth are waiting for

Pharma City expecting jobs in it. "The Congress leaders have stated that they will obstruct Kaleswaram project and filed cases in the past. The Congress didn't give drinking water to the people. The people are saying 'no' to the Congress, which says no to all works taken up by the TRS government," he said. He said that the TRS government provided drinking water to Dubbak and asked the people to think as to who is supplying drinking water to every household

and cadres. Harish Rao has been

highlighting provision of drinking

water to Dubbak through Mission

workers, handloom weavers. Rvtu

Asara pensions, Kalyana Lakshmi

which saw people suffering due to various problems and anti-farmer

He has been appealing to voters to

policies of the BJP government.

give their vote to the TRS

and other schemes. He was also

critical of the Congress regime

Bhagiradha, pension to beedi

Bandhu, Rytu Bima schemes,



Congress demands survey of OBC voters

PNS HYDERABAD

Dasoju Sravan AICC spokesperson and senior Congress leader Dr Dasoju Sravan warned Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao of severe backlash from OBCs, if government does not conduct caste census to ascertain OBCs population and provide reservations accordingly in the upcoming Muni Corporations elections. Municipal

Stating that the TRS government has been betraying OBCs through political trickery, Dasoju Šravan demanded for conducting OBCs census through BC Co-operative Finance Corporation and also implementing OBCs categorisation even in elections alike in education and employment spheres.

"TRS government is betray-ing OBCs through political trickery. In the Panchayat Raj Act brought out in 2018, the government announced 34 per cent reservations for OBCs to woo them. But the same government has obstructed the implementation of these reservations in the Panchayath Raj elections by adopting sly tactics. A Gopal Reddy, a TRS leader, approached the High Court against 34 per cent reservations for OBCs, saying that it will breach 50 percent cap on reservations rule. The Telangana Government announced that it will approach the Supreme Court to ensure 34 per cent reservations and cheated OBCs. The TRS government misled OBCs and had done a huge disservice to them, by filing Special Leave Petition in Supreme

demanded for conducting OBCs census through BC **Co-operative** Finance **Corporation and** also implementing OBCs categorisation Court in the morning and withdrawing it in the evening.

AICC spokesperson

As a result, OBCs have lost opportunities in Panchayath Raj elections. Telangana Government is once again trying to deceive OBCs in Municipal Corporations elections and called for a Special Assembly Session to make amendments to GHMC Act. But now we are warning Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao that, OBCs we will launch a mass agitation against TRS Government, if it goes ahead to conduct Municipal Corporation elections without taking up OBC voters survey and categorisation," said Sravan, speaking at Gandhi Bhavan in Hyderabad on Monday.

Earlier in the day, senior Congress leader Dr Dasoju Sravan released a letter written to Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao requesting Government to conduct OBCs voters survey and categorisation of BCs.

Cong prepares action plan for Dubbak by-poll PNS HYDERABAD

Telanganga Congress Affairs in-charge Manickam Tagore on Monday asked the boothlevel in charges to prepare an action plan to get at least 400 booth in vote ea

Raghunandan Rao, former by TPCC president N Uttam Kumar Congress candidate. Going by the state and at national level have minister Peddi Reddy in his been proceeding to Dubbak to Reddy, MPs Revanth Reddy and these, the Congress is of the view campaign. The BJP candidate has Komatireddy Venkat Reddy, campaign on behalf of to target Harish Rao to defeat the been questioning Harish Rao what Congress working president Mallu Raghunandan. But Harish Rao has TRS. Harish Rao has been did he do to develop the Dubbak Bhatti Vikramarka and other targeting BJP candidate been drawing up strategy his constituency since the

Revanth invites Thota Kamalakar to join Congress

PNS HYDERABAD

TPCC working president and Malkajgiri MP A Revanth Reddy on Monday held discussions with Kisan Morcha state Tota Kamalaka



on the part of BJP to give ticket to the leaders who committed mistakes by suspending the leader strived hard for the sake of the party," he said. It may be recalled that the tate BJP has suspended Thota

SIGHT TO BEHOLD



characteristic style. He is

intensifying campaign with the help of local MP Prabhakar Reddy

and TRS leaders in undivided

Congress party ticket aspirants

Manohar Rao, Venkat Narsimha

Reddy and Chindam Raiu Kumar

Congress, Harish Rao has been

to the TRS and dealt a blow to the

busy holding meetings with youth

association and taking part in bike

rallies. He has been holding review

meetings with the party leaders

Medak district. He wooed

Reddy, who was recently expelled from the BJP.

It is learnt that Revanth Reddy assured Kamalakar Reddy that the latter will have a bright future in the Congress party. On Monday, in Mirudoddi mandal, Revanth Reddy, along with mandal incharges met Kamalakar Reddy at his residence and invited him to join the Congress party. Revanth Reddy said that Kamalakar Reddy also agreed to join after due consultation with his colleagues,.

Speaking to the media,



Revanth said that Kamalakar Reddy worked in the BJP with commitment. He stood on top in a waging fight against the TRS.

"It is atrocious on part of BJP give ticket to M young leaders like Kamalakar Reddy. As part of it, I came to invite Kamalakar Reddy to

Raghunandan Rao, who lost three elections consecutively. The Congress party needs

join Congress. It is atrocious

Kamalakar Reddy from the party when the latter launched a scathing attack on the party leadership for giving Dubbak ticket to M Raghunandan Rao. On the other hand, Revanth

also questioned the TRS leadership to reveal as to why the party didn't give Cabinet berth to Ramalinga Reddy though he was elected four times. He said that Dubbak bye-elections TRS in-charge and Finance Minister T Harish Rao's condition in the TRS party is similar to Tahasildar in the TRS government.

Dubbak by-election.

"Late Cheruku Muthyam Reddy won the seat in 2009 from Congress party and in the same manner, the party should win big in upcoming by election," he said. Participating in a review meeting in Dubbak late on Monday night, Tagore asked the party leaders and cadre to strive hard to attract the voters. TPCC chief N Uttam Kumar Reddy said that party candidate Cheruku Srinivas Reddy will file his nomination on October 15.

Plasma Donors Assn expands base

PNS HYDERABAD

Telangana Plasma Donors Association has extended its services to Warangal city. Telangana Plasma Donors Associa tion president Gudur Naraya na Reddy said that keeping the demand for plasma in Warangal and Hanumakonda cities, they have decided to extend the services



He informed that EV Srinivas has been appointed as vice president of available to treat the

ma has been proved to be incharge of the TPDA operthe one of the best treatations in Warangal and Hanamkonda. He said Srinivas would coordinate with patients who require plasma and also with hospitals. He said that as per World

TPDA and he would be the

Health Organisation spread of Corona would continue for few more months and

ment methods to treat the patients He said they have been planning to extend the TPDA Khammam

Karimnagar soon. He said that through TPDA so far they have provided plasma no dependable medicine is thousand one Coronavirus patients

patients. He said that plas-

services

defeat BJP candidate. Thammineni on Monday revealed that TJS chief Prof M Kodandaram is not ready to extend its support to Prof K Nageshwar if TRS backs the latter to defeat BJP's sitting MLC N Ramchander Rao.

While announcing CPM's decision of extending support to the independent candidate Prof Nageshwar's in Hyde rabad-Rangareddy-Mahbu bnagar graduate MLC constituency and CPI candidate B Jayasarathi Reddy's candi-dature in Nalgonda-Khammam-Warangal graduate MLC constituency, along with four other Left Parties, Veerabhadram alleged that they worked together along with Kodand aram, Cheruku Sudhakar and TDP over demolition of secretariat

issue. The Left parties tried to work unitedly even in MLC elections. Even the CPI also



C) and CPI (ML-Liberation) have

occasion, the Left parties leaders

opposition parties, however, Left

due to lack of unanimity among

opposition parties. Chada Venkat

Reddy said that they tried to get

Telangana Inti Party and others,

consensus in this regard. He called

upon the graduates to enrol their

votes to extend their support to

unanimity with TDP, TJS,

however, they failed to get

Left parties.

Parties are fielding their candidates

have said that they seriously tried

announced their decision on

to field single candidate from

Monday. Speaking on the

Will TRS back Nageshwar to defeat BJP?

Left to extend support to Nageshwar, B Jayasarathi

PNS 📕 HYDERABAD

On the other hand, five Left parties have decided to extend their support to the CPI candidate B Jayasarathi Reddy for Nalgonda-Khammam-Warangal graduate MLC constituency and independent candidate Prof K Nageshwar contesting from Hyderabad-Rangareddy-

Mahbubnagar graduate MLC constituency. Left parties leaders -Chada Venkat Reddy (CPI), Thammineni Veerabhadram (CPM), Janakiramulu (RSP), Prasad (Forward Block), Murahari (SUCI-

made it clear to Kodandaram port to Kodandaram. But that it will withdraw their Kodandaram said that the TJS will not extend its supcandidate in case the Congress extends its support to Prof Nageshwar in

case TRS extends its support to Prof Nageshwar as rumors already spread in this regard.

"Kondandaram made it clear that TJS's main oppo-nent is TRS and not BJP when we sought their support. We asked Kodandaram to reveal as to whom TJS would extend its support among BJP and Nageshwar in case TRS extends its support to the latter. Then Kodandaram made it clear that TJS's main opponent is TRS only. Even he didn't come to the meeting held on Sunday. However, Left parties main opponent is BJP. We will extend our full support to independent candidate Prof Nageshwar and CPI candidate Jayasarathi Reddy," he said.

Thammineni's statement clearly states that there is a scope that the TRS may extend its support to Prof Nageshwar to defeat BJP candidate N Ramchander Rao, who is sitting MLC from Hyderabad-Rangareddy-Mahbubnagar graduate MLC constituency. Ramchander Rao was elected as a Graduate Constituency MLC by defeating TRS candidate Devi Prasad in the last elections

Chicken, eggs turn costlier in TS

PNS HYDERABAD

Chickens don't fly high, but chicken prices do. Chicken prices, which were anchored well below Rs 200 a kg, are rocketing yet again. In a month, the prices have increased by at least Rs 50 a kg.

Similarly, the cost of eggs has also increased. On Sunday, a kg of chicken was sold at Rs 260. This is attributed to increased consumption of chicken and eggs by people to improve their immunity against Coronavirus.

Moreover, doctors have also advised patients to consume chicken and eggs. The owners of chicken outlets say that the



people have been regularly the sale of fish and meat has increased and the sales consuming chicken twice or thrice a week now. Prior to reached peak levels now. The Covid, these families used to daily of sales of eggs is put at have chicken only once in a 2 crore as against 1.80 lakh week. Besides chicken, eggs, prior to the outbreak of the

According to chicken stall owners, people have been regularly consuming chicken twice or thrice a week now

pandemic. In retail market, the cost of an egg has increased from Rs 5 to Rs 6. The Telangana Poultry Federation state president Errabelli Pradeep Rao has commented that the increased consumption of chicken and eggs would be a temporary phenomenon.

eni Veerabhadram's remarks against TJS indicate that the ruling TRS may support Prof in K Nageshwar, independent and candidate from Hyderabad-Rangareddy-Mahbubnagar graduate MLC constituency, to

CPM state secretary Thammin

MLC ELECTIONS

PNS HYDERABAD

nation 05



UP govt being 'unethical', not doing its job: Rahul

PNS NEW DELHI

Stepping up their attack on the Uttar Pradesh government over the Hathras case, Con gress leaders Rahul Gan dhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Monday accused it of being insensitive and unethical, and said authorities are indulging in victim-blaming instead of

putting criminals in jail. A 19-year-old Dalit woman from Hathras district was allegedly raped and attacked by four men, and she later succumbed to injuries at a Delhi hospital.

The Congress leaders also launched a social media campaign, urging people, especially women, to speak up for the Hathras victim.

'The government's attitude in the Hathras incident is inhuman and unethical. They are engaged in protecting the criminals rather than helping the victim's family," Rahul Gandhi said.

"Let us take one step towards change, let us raise our voice against the injustice being done



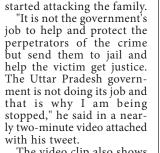
The government's attitude in the Hathras incident is inhuman and unethical. They are engaged in protecting the criminals rather than helping the victim's family, said Rahul Gandhi

hashtag

to women all over the country," he said in a tweet in Hindi, using the SpeakUpForWomenSafety".

family," he said. The former Congress president said a few days ago, the moment he reached the before he could reach Hathras,

he was stopped by authorities.



The video clip also shows footage of his visit to Hathras and how he was stopped.

"I want to tell the government to start doing its job of sending the criminals to jail and protect the victims. This is not the story of just one woman, this is the story of lakhs of women in India. Lakhs of women are looking up to the government, which is not doing its work," Rahul Gandhi said

"I fail to understand, why was I stopped and not allowed to "We all need to exert meet with the Hathras victim's pressure on the government and help change the society, Rahul Gandhi alleged that because what is being done to the mothers and daughters victim's house and talked to in the country is grossly her family, the government unjust," he also said.



failed to contain Covid spread, says Congress PNS BENGALURU

The Congress in Karnataka on Monday claimed Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa reshuffling his cabinet by changing the Health Minister is proof of the government's miserable failure in handling Covid. Minister B Sriramulu was divested of the Health and Family Welfare portfolio by Yediyurappa today and it was allocated to Medical Education Minister K Sudhakar. "The Cabinet Reshuffle done by CM @BSYBJP is proof of this government's miserable failure in handling the Pandemic. The fact that the Health Minister has been changed adds credence to our charge that this Govt's incompetency has led to massive loss of life and livelihood," Shivakumar

SC seeks Centre's reply on pleas challenging farm laws

PNS NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court Monday sought the Centre's response on a batch of petitions challenging the constitutional validity of the newly enacted three contentious farm laws. A bench headed by Chief Justice S A Bobde, in a hearing conducted via video conferencing, issued notice to the central government and sought its reply within four weeks.

The bench expressed surprised on seeing a battery of law officers, including Attorney General K K Venugopal and Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing in the matter even before the issuance of the notice.

"AG, SG, ASG all appear in a matter where there is no cause of action...This in common parlance is called an 'overkill'," it said.

Venugopal told the court that the Centre would be filing a consolidated reply to the petitions.

The bench, also comprising Justices A S Bopanna and V Ramasubramanian, was hearing pleas filed by RJD lawmak-



The bench expressed surprised on seeing a battery of law officers, including Attorney General K K **Venugopal and Solicitor General Tushar** Mehta, appearing in the matter even before the issuance of the notice

er from Rajya Sabha, Manoj Jha and DMK Rajya Sabha MP from Tamil Nadu, Tiruchi Siva, and one by Rakesh Vaishnav of Chhattisgarh Kisan Congress.

The three laws -- Farmers' (Empowerment and Protec tion) Agreement of Price Assurance and Farm Services Act, 2020; Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce

(Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2020 and The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Act 2020 -- took effect from September 27 after President Ram Nath Kovid's assent.

The petitions alleged that these laws would dismantle the Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) system intended to ensure fair prices for farm products.

INDIA CORNER Woman held with 110 grams of smack worth Rs 10 lakh



55-year-old woman was arrested from north Delhi's Majnu Ka Tilla for allegedly supplying drugs in the national capital, police said on Monday. A total of 110 gra ms of smack worth around Rs 10 lakh in the international market was recovered from her possession, they said. The accus ed has been identified as Seema, a

resident of Aruna Nagar in Majnu Ka Tilla. She was previously involved in a culpable homicide case registered at Civil Lines police station. Deputy Commissioner of Police (north) Anto Alphonse said they received a tip-off and apprehended the woman. During interro gation, she disclosed that she was in the business of selling drugs for the past few months. She used to purchase the drugs from a man named Sanju, the DCP said. Further investigation is in progress and efforts are being made to get to the source from where drugs were being supplied, police added

Kalyan Singh recovers from Covid, discharged from hospital

ormer Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister and BJP leader Kalyan Singh has been discharged from a Ghazi abad hospital after recovering from coron

MP bypolls: Chouhan hits back after Cong's 'nange-bhooke' jibe

PNS BHOPAL

A day after a Congress leader called him "nange bhooke ghar ka" (from a poverty stricken household) during a bypoll campaign rally, Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan hit back on Monday claiming hailing from a poor background allowed him to understand the pain of the deprived and downtrodden.

Addressing a rally on Sunday in Rajpur in Ashok nagar, Congress farmers' cell leader Dinesh Gurjar highlighted Chouhan's humble origins and that of "big industrialist" former chief minister Kamal Nath.

"Kamal Nath desh ke doosre

that's why I understand their

tweeted.

pain. I am poor and, therefore, ensure poor children go to school by becoming their mama (as the CM is affectionately called by supporters). I am poor, therefore, I perform kanyadaan (giving away the bride) of daughters of poor families.

Addressing a rally in Guna, Chouhan lashed out at the Congress over the "nange bhooke" remark and took a swipe at Nath by stating "I understand the pain of the poor but an industrialist won't". The BJP and the Congress are in a bitter tussle for 28 MP Assembly seats where bypolls are scheduled for November 3.

Adhere to Covid norms, says Mamata PNS KOLKATA

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said there are instances of COVID-19 becoming air borne and the community transmission of the contagion has started in the state and urged people to strictly adhere to the regulations during the coming festive season. Banerjee, who was speaking after a cabinet meeting, said "I ask everybody to follow the COVID-19 safety protocols during the festive season. There are instance of community transmission of COVID-19 and also the contagion becoming air borne." State CS Alapan Bandopadhyay said measures are being taken bring down the cost of coronavirus tests.

Richa, Payal get 2 days to file consent terms

PNS NEW DELHI

The Bombay High Court on Monday granted two days time to actor Richa Chadha and aspiring actor Payal Ghosh to file 'consent terms' for settling the dispute between them with regard to the defamation suit filed by Chadha against Ghosh.

Last week, Chadha filed the suit against Ghosh for making a "false, baseless, indecent and derogatory" statement against her and sought monetary compensation as damages.

Ghosh, while levelling allegations of rape against filmmaker Anurag Kashyap, had also dragged Chadha and two other female actors into the controversy. Ghoshs lawyer Nitin Satpute told the high



court last week that his client regrets the statement she made, and sought to withdraw it and apologise. On Monday, Chadhas lawyer Saveena Bedi Sachar, however, told a single bench of Justice A K Menon that the defendant (Ghosh), after the court hearing last week, put up a post on her social media saying she would never apologise. Justice Menon then asked Satpute if Ghosh was interested in settling the matter with Chadha.

Dissent brewing in Tripura BJP over CM's leadership **Bihar minister** dies of PNS AGARTALA 25 of the 36 BJP rule" byDeb have ruined the appointments with Prime



number ke udyogpati hai. Shivraj ki tarah nange bhooke ghar ke nahi (Kamal Nath is a big industrialist. He is not

like Shivraj (Singh Chouhan) who is from a poverty-strick-en household)," Gurjar said in the presence of the senior Congress leader who was state CM till March.

Responding on Twitter, Chouhan said. "I am from a nange bhooke ghar ka, and

avirus, an official said on Monday. Kalyan Singh was admitted to Ghazi abad's Yashoda Super Speciality Hospital on September 16



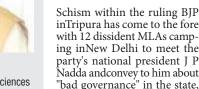
after he tested positive for the infection. He was shifted from Lucknow's Sanjay Gandhi Postgraduate Institute of Medical Sciences to the hospital near the Kaushambi Metro station here. The hospital's Medical Superintendent, Dr Anuj Agarwal, told PTI that the BJP leader tested negative for the infection on Saturday. Singh suffered from other health problems like diabetes, high blood pressure, Parkinson's disease, kidney and heart-related issues. Singh expres sed gratitude towards the hospital staff for the treatment and said he was happy after being acquitted in the Babri mosque demolition case

Nirbhay missile develops technical snag during trial

he Nirbhay subsonic cruise missile, having a range of around 1,000 km, developed a technical snag during a test firing on Monday at a facility in Odisha, forcing its developer DRDO to abort the trial, official sources said. The missile was test-fired by the



Defence Research and Dev elopment Organisation (DRDO) from an integrated test range in Balasore in Odisha at around 10:30 AM. "Minutes later, the missile developed a technical snag following which the trial process was aborted. The DRDO is analysing all the details," said a source. The DRDO has already carried out several successful trials of the 'Nirb hay' missile since October 2014. The state-of-theart missile, which can be deployed from multiple platforms, has a speed less than that of sound (Mach 0.8). Powered by a solid rocket motor booster developed by the Advanced Systems Laboratory (ASL), the missile has an operational range of 1000 km, officials said.



inTripura has come to the fore with 12 dissident MLAs camp-ing inNew Delhi to meet the party's national president J P Nadda and convey to him about "bad governance" in the state, which, theysaid, could lead to its downfall in the 2023 Assemblyelections.

The team of legislators include former state health Asish Saha, Sushanta Choudhury,Ramprasad Pal and Diba Chandra Hrankhawl.

MLAs now want a change, and a proper reshuffling in the council of ministers. said a member of the team

"Twenty-five of the 36 BJP minister Sudip Roy Barman, MLAs now want a change, and a proper reshuffling in the council of ministers headed byBiplab Kumar Deb so that



good governance could be delivered topeople," a member of the team said on condition of anonymity. He also alleged that "poor leadership and mis-

now"alienated from people, but lost ground could be restored withthe delivery of good governance". Sushanta Choudhury, for-

mer youth Congress president, who had joined the BJP before the last Assembly elections heldin February 2018, told reporters here over the phone that they are hopeful to meet BJP's national president Roy Barman, former Tripura JP Nadda andother organisational leaders to discuss on the Pradesh Congress Committee currentsituation. He also said president, had joined the safthey have a plan to seek fron party in 2017.

uister Narendra N Home Minister Amit Shah. "Neither the government nor the party is moving in the right direction. All the pre-poll promises, mentioned in theparty's Vision Document, were made to be fulfilled. Theseshould be reflected in action, but we are far away fromreality. We want to highlight what is happening in the state,"Choudhury said. Sudip

post-Covid complications PNS PATNA

Bihar minister for backward and extremely backward class welfare Vinod Kumar Singh died on Monday at a hospital in Delhi due to post-COVID 19 complications, family sources said. He was 55. He is survived by wife Nisha and two daughters. Singh, a BJP MLA from Pranpur constituency in Katihar district, had tested positive for COVID-19 on June 28 and subsequently recovered.

Shortly after, however, he suffered a brain haemorrhage and had to be airlifted to a private hospital in Delhi, where he breathed his last.

Mourning the demise of Singh, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar announced that he would be cremated with full state honours.

"He was an efficient administrator and a popular leader. I am personally pained by Singh's untimely demise. His death has caused an irreparable loss to the states political spectrum and the society," Kumar said. Sources in the BJP said the party is likely to field Nisha Singh from Pranpur constituency.

Kejriwal joins AAP Punjab unit protest at Jantar Mantar

PNS NEW DELHI

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal participated in a protest organised by Punjab unit of Aam Aadmi Party and demanded a complete roll-back of the three recently enacted central farm laws.

Addressing his party workers from Punjab at the Jantar Mantar agitation, Kejriwal said the AAP has a very clear stance on the farm laws. "We want a complete rollback of the



three laws. It is non-negotiable," he asserted, "Second, a law on MSP (Minimum Support Price) must be brought in the country. The

with farmers in this fight and as Delhi chief minister, I support you in this protest."

Kejriwal said some parties are indulging in politics over the three contentious farm laws. "When the bill was being made a leader of the national party was present in the com-

mittee, and who congratulated the BJP for making the law, and made sure that the bill got passed and when it was passed they are protesting. Are people whole of Delhi is standing stupid?" Kejriwal said.

Two LeT militants killed in encounter

PNS SRINAGAR

Two Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT) militants, including a top Pakistani commander invol ved in several recent attacks on security forces, were on Monday killed in an encounter in Old Barzulla area here, police said.

was a Pakistani and a top com-Security forces launched a mander of the LeT named cordon and search operation Saifullah, who was involved in in Old Barzulla area of the city several recent attacks on secuhere in the early hours of rity forces in and around Monday morning after receiv-Srinagar.

Khandu thanks Centre for developing infra in border states

PNS ITANAGAR

Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu on Monday expressed gratitude to the Centre for developing modern infrastructure in border states.

Despite harsh conditions and unpredictable climate, engineers and workers of the BRO toil day and night to build roads and bridges and maintain the existing ones, he

said. Khandu virtually attend-

Yomi, Tanchen Panga in West Siang, Ungu in Upper ed the dedication of 44 Subansiri, Siang in Siang and Sigit in Upper Siang district, bridges in several parts of the country, including eight in Arunachal Pradesh, by Defence Minister Rajnath a communiqu said. He hailed the Border

Singh. Singh also virtually laid the foundation stone for the Nechiphu Tunnel on the BCT Road in West Kameng Roads Organisation (BRO) for starting work on the 450 m D-shaped two-lane Nechiphu Tunnel which will district. Bridges were inaugubypass a portion of the BTC rated at Yasong and Sarti in Road that remains foggy Anjaw district, Karteso Kong throughout the year, causing and Kangdang Sila in Shiaccidents

Is Prashant Kishor helping Chirag Paswan?

PNS PATNA

With Chirag Paswan becoming a strain on Bihar's ruling National Democratic Alliance (NDA) in the run-up to this month's election, the BJP's damage control machinery has pulled out the one name that has been credited with past election successes of both Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Nitish Kumar - poll strategist Prashant Kishor.

The BJP's refusal to act against Chirag Paswan, who is contesting separately from the

The BJP's refusal to act against Chirag Paswan has deeply upset the Bihar Chief Minister's JDU

NDA and has pledged to fight Nitish Kumar in the polls, has deeply upset the Bihar Chief Minister's JDU. The JDU cannot believe that

Chirag Paswan can get away with so many infractions with-



out the blessing of the BJP leadership. The latest provocation from the Lok Janshakti Party leader is his tweet thanking PM Modi for his support after his father Ram Vilas Paswan's

death. There is no mention of Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, the NDA's face in Bihar.

Bihar BJP leaders, facing relentless criticism from their ally for not taking on Chirag Paswan publicly, are pitching the idea that Prashant Kishor is actively counselling him. They are busy looking for the "PK" imprint on Chirag

Paswan's moves so far. They

detect signs in the way he

cleared the names of all his poll

candidates and released a let-

ter to BJP president JP Nadda

complaining about Nitish

ing specific inputs about the presence of militants in the

The forces retaliated, ensu-

ing an encounter, the official

said. Two militants were killed

in the gunfight, the official

said. DGP Dilbag Singh said

one of the two killed militants

area, a police official said.

Paswan's death on Thursday evening. Though Prashant Kishor has not been to Bihar, his home state, since February, BJP leaders like Sushil Modi have hinted that he is remotesteering Chirag Paswan to get back at Nitish Kumar. The Chief Minister, who

Kumar, hours before the offi-

cial announcement of his father

and LJP chief Ram Vilas

had made Prashant Kishor his deputy in 2018, sacked him in January after he publicly attacked him over a range of subjects.



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Betting on Taiwan

India should stay just under the diplomatic threshold and engage more visibly with Taiwan, especially in economic ties, to keep China in check



n any other year, the Taiwanese National Day celebrations in India wouldn't have assumed such political proportions had both nations not been at the receiving end of China's maximalist ambitions. So they needed to make a statement about standing by each other in the face of a shared geo-political threat. In a move laden with a message to China, posters of the event were put up outside the Chinese embassy by a ruling BJP member, though they were taken down later on the grounds of not having the required permission. But they had served their purpose. Similarly, Taiwan's President Tsai Ing-wen thanked "dear friends in India" for send-

ing wishes for the annual celebration, clearly intended to rile up China further after its embassy issued a "letter" to the Indian media to not cover Taiwan's National Day as it would violate our "One China" policy. Not only that, she even mentioned the Ladakh standoff in her speech among many examples of Chinese expansionist tendencies in the region. What China does not understand is that the Indian media is free to pursue its own policies independent of the official Government line and is not beholden to follow it. The "One China" policy means that the Government doesn't have diplomatic ties with Taiwan, though both sides have trade offices which operate as de-facto embassies. Beyond the officialese, Taiwan has always been building stronger economic and cultural associations with India. In fact, it is looking at India as a potential business destination as the US trade war with China has pushed its companies to look for newer markets. Besides, to counter China's colonial takeover of the economic and cultural space in south and southeast Asia with its Belt and Road Initiative, Taiwan has set up its own southbound policy. This focusses on strengthening ties in the areas of culture, tourism, education and trade with 18 southeast and south Asian countries, with India being pitched as one of the pivotal collaborators. The new President is pursuing this aggressively one-on-one with each nation. Trade between India and Taiwan will likely touch \$10 billion over the next few years and this has led to synergies across sectors with consistent media coverage of the same. Little wonder then that the Ministry of External Affairs dismissed the Chinese embassy's instructions, saying the "free" Indian media would report "as it sees fit." China must realise that the Indian media does not operate by the rules and framework of its own Press, which is an extension counter for its propaganda. And as a free medium in a democracy, India allows debates and discourse on everything, including foreign policy, and allows even dissent. Besides, it has only to measure the coverage and importance that Chinese President Xi Jinping is given whenever he visits India. The Government may have to be vigilant about sensitivities and anxieties but the Indian media is well within its right to criticise China and give space to Taiwan. Even if China insists on "good faith", it must realise that it has long broken that understanding with predatory moves in Ladakh and insisting on reclaiming border positions from 1959. And in a hostile environment, diplomatic niceties cannot be expected. Still India has never subverted the rule of law so far despite Chinese provocations.

Meanwhile, Taiwan, too, has used its National Day to reassert its political and cultural identity and undercut its existence as tied to the mainland. It commemorates a 1911 uprising in the central Chinese city of Wuhan against the nation's last imperial dynasty. This led to the creation of the Republic of China, which leader Chiang Kai-shek then brought to Taiwan seven decades ago when he fled Beijing as the Communist Party took power. It is just about remembering a historical event but allows Taiwan to technically bypass anything that would suggest total independence. Yet it allows it wiggle room to assert its historical, political and cultural identity subtly. And leverage itself vis-a-vis China, which has been breathing down on it by sending jets in the Taiwanese straits. As far as India is concerned, it can use its proximity to Taiwan more effectively and discomfort China just like it does by using Pakistan against us. The first blow could be economic, by reducing dependence on Chinese goods and moving to high quality Taiwanese products, particularly in the technology and electronic space. The Government has been overtly careful about relations with Taipei for fear of a Chinese hitback. In return for increased Taiwanese investment, it can widen its access to our markets and act as an enabler of Taiwan's inclusion at all global commercial and strategic bodies and cooperation groups. This way it can have an ally in China's immediate neighbourhood and use it as an irritant alongside the Quad initiative with the US, Australia and Japan. That China is uneasy about the Indian attempt to encircle it is evident from its mouthpiece *Global Times*, saying such closeness to Taiwan would "only exasperate the already soured China-India ties." In fact, India can very well use Taiwan and the Tibet question — by joining the US-led campaign on the latter — to force China into yielding some ground at the negotiating table. Intransigent though it might be, Beijing realises that it cannot risk open hostility with India in a post-pandemic world where opinion is loaded heavily against it. Besides, India can stay just under the diplomatic threshold and niggle China. Instead of being muted, it can be visibly seen to heighten its confabulations with Taiwan and Tibetan representatives, just about enough to pressure China. It is high time we tweak our status quoist positions.

opinion Consensus is vital

Had the Government chosen a Standing Committee scrutiny or even had a dialogue with farmers, the opposition to farm laws could have been avoided



PRIYADARSHI DUTTA

he new farm laws might not be as disruptive as their critics want us to believe. They are apparently as logical and timely reforms as interventions like State procurement and notifying of Minimum Support Price (MSP) had been in the mid-1960s. The ruling and Opposition parties are engaged in a wholly avoidable fracas, both refusing to view things in totality. The Opposition is indulging in loathing and fearmongering, reminiscent of the times when economic liberalisation was introduced in 1991. Paradoxically, it was the Congress' Government then. The party now is behaving differently when in the Opposition.

The Government's cavalier attitude to the Opposition parties' stance is equally uncharitable. Motives have been imputed to their decision. They are accused of having a vested interest in the Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC)-run mandis, besides being friendly towards the middlemen who call the shots in those market yards. Ironically, on the National Agriculture Market portal (eNAM), started by the present Government in 2016, there were no less than 83, 958 commission agents registered as on August 31. Why is the Government promoting middlemen here?

The fear that APMC-run mandis would be abolished is largely unfounded. The eNAM platform can today boast of connecting about a 1,000 of them across 18 States and three Union Territories (UT). However, the passage of the Bills was not preceded by any kind of consensus-building. There was no dialogue with the farmers' unions, State Governments or the Opposition parties. The laws were rushed through the Ordinance route on June 5. This starkly contrasts with the spirit of federalism and the consensus model that marked the implementation of rices Tax (GST)

Central legislation. It was one of the key legislations enacted during the Green Revolution era. Still, one is reminded of how the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Government approached the contentious subject of contract farming. This was envisaged in the National Agriculture Policy 2000. Instead of bringing a Central law, the Government in 2003 circulated a Model Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Act to the States for adoption in 2003. The ensuing UPA-I Government continued the policy. Contract farming was included as an option in the National Farmers Policy (2007). By August 2007, a total of 15 States had brought amendments in the APMC (Regulation) Acts based on the model legislation. Why did the four Labour

Codes, recently enacted, did not become a source of dispute despite the presence of controversial provisions? This was because the Codes, meant to reduce 29 existing labour laws into four legislations, were vetted by the department-related Standing Committee of the Lok Sabha. It was chaired by Bhartruhari Mahtab of Janata Dal. The Government agreed to several suggestions of the committee How justified is the claim that previous governments had kept the farmers in chains? Such a view stems from inadequate appreciation of facts. Definite pro-farmer measures were taken by Indian National Congress since 1937 when it formed gov-

ernments in coalition in seven out of 11 provinces (under Government of India Act 1935). These included debt relief measures, tenancy reforms and licencing and regulation of money lenders and so on. But separation from Burma (now Myanmar) from the Indian Union in 1937 stressed rice availability in India.

India's agricultural policy since Independence was aimed at attaining food security. With fragmented landholdings, inadequate electricity supply, pitiable irrigation facilities and poor acreage, production was insufficient. To bridge the requirement and availability of food grains, India entered into an agreement with the US under their Public Law 480 on August 29, 1956. It allowed India to obtain wheat, rice, cotton, dairy products and tobacco in Indian rupees. It could not, however, be denied that import of food grains, in excess of the market requirement, de-incentivised the farmer to produce more. The production increased as the imports were brought down to realistic levels around 1966. Howey the completion of the Bhakra-Nangal Dam on Beas-Sutlej (1963) was an achievement of the Jawaharlal Nehru Government, which accelerated the advent of the Green Revolution.

1966). It had its origin in the decline in wheat production, consecutively between 1962 to 1964, and decline and marginal recovery of rice production during the corresponding period. This compelled the Government to revisit its open market policy for wheat and modest control on transport and sale of rice. The severity of the food shortage could be understood from the sheer number of speeches that Shastri delivered on the subject as the Prime Minister. His Selected Speeches, published by the Publications Division, Ministry of I&B (1972) categorises a total of 10 under "Food

Problems? The Shastri Government moved in towards a regime of greater regulation and control on sale, purchase and movement of food grains. On January absence of a legal architecture to protect his/her interests. 1, 1965, two new organisations were created, which became the hallmark of the Government's intervention in the agricultural sector. These were Food Corporation of India (FCI) and Agricultural Prices Commission (now Commission for Agricultural Costs and farmers A line The ambit of Prices). have saved the Government from putting eight Cabinet Government procurement, which was limited to a few edible items in the beginning, now extends to 23 items (in addition to sugarcane). The developments since the Green Revolution (1967) have (The writer is an author and led to the growth in acreage independent researcher based in New Delhi. The views expressed and food surplus situation. Time is ripe for addressing the *here are personal*)

neglected problem of agricultural marketing. In pursuit of doubling the farmers' income by 2022 (from the level of 2016), the Narendra Modi Government formed a committee led by Ashok Dalwai, IAS. The committee produced a 14-volume eminently readable report. Though the decision to "liberalise" the farm was not among its direct recommendations, one has to realise that significant decisions are always political rather than bureaucratic in nature. The farmers must have better alternatives for remunerative pricing with legal safeguards. Even today, there is no legal restriction on farmers selling his/her product in the open market. What cripples the farmer, however, is not merely the logistical problem but also the

À single line in these Acts, like "notwithstanding anything contained in the aforesaid sections, no trade transactions should take place below the notified MSP", would have allayed the misgivings of the

Twin feats

As 'emperor of clay', Rafael Nadal equals Roger Federer's feat while Lewis Hamilton equals that of Schumacher



he year 2020 will go down as a weird year in more ways than one. The finals of the French Open tennis tournament and a Formula 1 Grand Prix race in Germany taking place on the same Sunday is far from usual. Instead of huge crowds enjoying the long days of the northern European summer, the French Open and Eifel Grand Prix at the Nurburgring saw a sparse scattering of spectators, even though that in itself was unthinkable a month ago. But the few who attended saw history being made. In tennis, the man from Mallorca, Rafael Nadal, won his 13th title in Paris in the last 15 years, not only equalling Roger Federer's record of 20 men's

singles Grand Slam tennis titles but also reaffirming his title as the "Emperor of the Clay Court." And the man he defeated, Novak Djokovic, is no slouch either, forming the third arm of the tennis triumvirate. Since 2003's Wimbledon Championship won by Federer till the tournament that just ended in Paris, these three men have won a simply astounding 57 of the 71 Grand Slams on offer. Yet, among them, only Nadal has made a championship truly his own. Federer has held the record for more than 11 years, from his Wimbledon 2009 win right after he broke Pete Sampras' record of 14. And Nadal's game rose to the occasion as he excelled his own style and tactics and demonstrated a rare tautness.

Then there is Lewis Hamilton, a man who clearly dominates his sport by a country mile. On his way to equalling the legendary Michael Schumacher's record of seven world titles at the Nurburgring, a race track close to the German driver's hometown, he created a record of 91 Formula 1 race wins. If the British driver keeps on racing in 2021, no one will bet against him becoming the first man to win 100 Formula 1 races and setting a new record of world titles. Then there were heart-touching moments. Just as Federer had warm words of encouragement for Nadal, Schumacher's son, Mick, presented Hamilton with one of his father's helmets. Had he been well, Schumacher would have himself been there. Like Nadal, Hamilton has others nipping at his heels. Unlike Nadal, he has no other person with whom he needs to share the greatness in his generation. Of course, one can argue that tennis is a sport where the quality of the equipment does not make such a great difference but Hamilton is at another level. The world might have lost a great summer of sport in 2020 but we are in for a fantastic autumn of sports.

The matters concerned with agriculture being under the State list in Schedule VII of the Constitution called for Centre-State consensus

The legislative competence of Parliament to discuss a Bill on a subject placed in the State list (Schedule VII of the Constitution) was questioned by some members. However, we have precedence of the Seeds Act, 1966, which is a

Like in Raiasthan, the attack on a

temple priest in Gonda district by

the land mafia to grab the temple

land is shameful. Now, even the

saints are not safe under the

Government led by a saint.

BSP leader

-Mayawat

The current regime of MSP and Government procurement is a legacy of the short-lived Lal Bahadur Shastri Government (June 11, 1964 to January 10, Ministers on ground (not including the Agriculture and Farmer Welfare Minister Narendra Singh Tomar) to convince agitating agriculturists.

In terms of addressing testing, tracing and treatment, what the Trump administration has offered is wholly insufficient **US House Speaker** -Nancy Pelosi

Whether you call them Faroog Gandhi or Rahul Abdullah. there's no difference between the two Both are the same totally same. Both are two sides of the same coin

BJP spokesperson Sambit Patra

Roland Garros means everything to me. We've played plenty of times together: one day wins one, another day wins the other

Tennis player -Rafael Nada



EDITOR LETTERS 0 T. ΗE

Control air pollution

Sir — The air quality index (AQI) in the capital remains 'poor" as there has been a rise in the concentration of both PM10 and PM2.5 pollutants. According to the System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting And Research (SAFAR), PM10 pollutants are expected to reduce to 238, a scale which falls under the "moderate" category, during this week while PM2.5 pollutants are expected to reach 117, which falls under the "poor" category. SAFAR also estimated around 448 stubble-burning fires on October 10. However, due to the transport-level wind speed, which is not so calm, the high accumulation of pollutants in Delhi is not happening. It is said that the impact of stubble fire is likely to reduce due to change in wind direction. This comes as good news as high pollution levels coupled with the ongoing pandemic will be life-threatening. The Government should take strict measures to ensure the AOI level doesn't increase. Also, as the festive season approaches, a blanket ban on fire crackers should be announced. Nihal Rai Noida

Protest is a salient feature of democracy

he problem with the ruling by the Supreme Court on protests in public places vis-a-vis Shaheen Bagh is that it verges on a judicial certainty and might render democracy less vibrant. It is paradoxical that a peaceful democratic protest that won wide approbation as an assertion of people's power and as a template for the conduct of the protesters and the rightness of their cause was termed as an "encroachment" and an "obstruction." The site was only incidental to the protest, its proximity to the protesters' homes explained its choice. The intention of the protesters was bona fide, it was to persuade the Government to revisit a discriminatory law and not to block the thoroughfare. The inconvenience caused to commuters by "occupation" of a narrow part of a wide road (half of it was barricaded by the police) cannot be measured against the larger consequences of the amended law.

On the face of it, the ruling looks acceptable as it guarantees the right to free movement, but it may, in effect, emasculate protests. When it comes to accord

porate giants.

Farmers' issue

Sir — The Government had set a target of doubling farmers' income by the year 2022 but given the economic state of the country, this won't be possible any time soon. Adding to it, the three farm Acts that were recently passed by Parliament would lead to farmers being "reduced to farmworkers" and big corpora-



ing democratic space for citizens to protest, laws have to be enforced in a flexible manner. One of democracy's strength is its resilience to accommodate protests and respond to them creatively. The apex court needs to revisit India's history and then decide if a designated area for protests really justifies its cause?

G David Milton Maruthancode

tions taking over "large swathes **CBI takes up Hathras** of land". The Opposition needs

Sir - The Central Bureau of to continue opposing the Acts and pressure the Centre for pro-Investigation (CBI) has taken farmer reforms that include the over the investigation of the gang-rape and murder case of the Minimum Support Price (MSP) guarantee. Farmers should be 19-year-old Dalit woman of free from exploitation not only Hathras, Uttar Pradesh. The by intermediaries but also by coragency's move came almost eight days after UP Chief Minister Yogi Abdussalam Adityanath recommended a CBI Mumbai probe, amid a growing political storm over the death of the victim and her hurried cremation by the administration in the absence of her family. The Opposition has even called for the CM's resignation over the issue. The CBI has already registered a case against one of the accused, earlier registered at Chandpa police station in Hathras. This will be a chance for the Centre to separate itself from the UP Government that has been grossly mishandling the case. The CBI shouldn't let the State manipulate the findings and build a strong case based on facts and make sure that the victim gets justice.

Bhagwan Thadani Mumbai

Strict punishment

Sir - Angry with his wife for refusing to source money from her parents, a 26-year-old man in Ramamurthy Nagar, Bengaluru, has allegedly burnt her private parts. The police should take strict action against the culprit and the victim needs to be given security.

MN Qasmi Kolkata

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com



FIRSTCOLUMN Feminine but not weak

Women have been fighting many battles for long and this time is no exception. Let us take care of the elderly, the children and be kind yet strong



POOJA CHAUHAN

ou never know how strong you are until being strong is the only choice you have," goes a famous saying. It resonates with the situation that the world is going through now and echoes the emotions that all of us have been experiencing over the past few months due to the pandemic and the subsequent lockdown. The new work from home routine, along with managing home schooling, parenting and household responsibilities are forcing us all, particularly women, to stretch our time and strength to the limit. The numerous tasks are lined up like dominoes every day and each role commands meticulous precision and cautious treading, lest one incorrect step creates a devastating cascading effect.

As the pandemic confined us to our homes, the constant feeling of being overwhelmed kept coming back. And as I looked around and connected with other mothers and working women, the same sentiments were echoed by all. However, women are not frail creatures mentally. Right from Jijabai, the exemplary mother of the Maratha warrior king Shivaji, to Jacinda Arden, the youngest Prime Minister in the world who was lauded for her effective leadership in pandemic management in New Zealand, the examples of strong women are far too many. In fact, Arden saved her country from the serious repercussions of Covid while also fulfilling her responsibilities as a nursing mother of twins. Young mothers can relate to her as they juggle between working for or leading organisations, nurturing children and managing homes and careers. We all can really try and do the perfect "balancing act."

Women across the globe experienced a profound shift in their lives as the unprecedented circumstances led to a loss of normal routines and managing tasks with an intensity that never existed before. Tasks that had previously been distributed among various stakeholders, including grandparents, house helps and even schools, have fallen squarely on parents and even more disproportionally on women. But women have risen to so many challenges before as well. It is the unique ability that women have of empathy, trust and effective communication that has led them in managing this uncharted territory. Women have a whole mix of life's experiences with them, which makes them the right candidate to take charge of this pandemic. They become fiercely protective of their families and specially of their children and it is this attitude in the midst of the Coronavirus outbreak that has stopped many women from venturing out of their homes without a solid reason for it.

The resilient core of women and their empathetic outlook towards society make them strong individuals and it is precisely because of this reason that seven out of every 10 health workers are women, says a World Health Organisation (WHO) study. But in all this chaos lies an opportunity to learn. Seeking help from the family and their cooperation in managing everyday jobs is something women will have to do. Even a "supermom" cannot do everything alone. One cannot expect the work of a parent, teacher, homemaker and a working woman to be accomplished in the same 24 hours with outstanding results. This time away from school has also given parents, particularly mothers, an opportunity to train and guide their children and make them step up and take on more responsibilities. Dividing household chores, setting up rewards for completion of dedicated tasks or even applauding their efforts would go a long way in inculcating a sense of responsibility in young minds.

We must thank the world for allowing technology to be an integral part of our lives today as it has played a key role in helping us to adjust to this new normal. It made life bearable during the lockdown by keeping us occupied with entertainment, enabled communication and made accessibility to education and the necessities of daily lives easy, at the click of a button. Not only that, technology has aided millions in keeping their jobs and meeting their professional commitments by allowing online access to work and managing responsibilities without having to venture out. The outbreak has not only changed the course of lives of people all over the world but has also created a humanitarian revolution that will lead to the emergence of better human beings globally. We have great opportunities to be humane today, be it towards our loved ones, families, co-workers or even a stranger on the street struggling with life's problems. By serving, helping, giving to others and by taking time out for ourselves, going back to the basics and respecting nature, COVID has made us evolve as humans. It is important for women to support other women in these trying times. Women have been fighting many difficult battles for long and this time is no exception. Let us together take care of the elderly in our families and around us, nurture children, take care of the men and be compassionate yet strong. (The writer is Chairperson, Amity Humanity Foundation and Amity School of Film and Drama)

analysis

POINTCOUNTERPOINT

A LOT HAS BEEN GOING ON, A LOT OF PEOPLE HAVE A LOT TO SAY. THINGS ARE CONFUSING AND STRESSFUL. BUT I'D LIKE TO THINK I'VE FIGURED SOME STUFF OUT. —FILM DIRECTOR **IRA KHAN**



THERE CAN BE MANY REASONS FOR DEPRESSION BUT IT'S GENERALLY DIFFICULT FOR KIDS FROM BROKEN FAMILIES. A TRADITIONAL FAMILY SYSTEM IS VITAL. -ACTOR **KANGANA RANAUT**

A step in the right direction

It is good that the RBI has kept the repo and reverse repo rates unchanged or else in the current economic scenario any further cut would have been infructuous



UTTAM GUPTA

n the last bi-monthly Monetary Policy Committee's (MPC) review announced by its Governor Shaktikanta Das on August 6, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had kept the policy repo rate unchanged at four per cent. It had also kept the reverse repo rate or the interest rate the banks get on their surplus funds parked with the RBI unchanged at 3.35 per cent. It continued with the "accommodative" stance of the monetary policy as long as necessary to revive growth and mitigate the impact of COVID-19, while ensuring that inflation remains within the target.

remains within the target. In the build-up to the next bi-monthly review (originally scheduled for October 1, which was post-poned to October 9, due to the delay in appoint-ment of three external members of the MPC), there was an expectation that there wouldn't be any changes this time round. Things have happened on expected lines even as the RBI has maintained sta-tus quo on key policy rates. There are four major reasons as to why any fur-

There are four major reasons as to why any fur-ther action in gliding the policy rate on the down-ward trajectory — as demanded by a certain section of the industry — was totally unnecessary. First, ever since the incumbent Governor took

charge (December 2018), the RBI has handed out a cumulative reduction in repo rate of 2.5 per cent. Of this, during 2019, a total cut of 1.35 per cent was delivered in five instalments, the last one being under the policy review announced on October 4, 2019. This brought down the rate from 6.5 per cent in the beginning of the year to 5.15 per cent on its close. The apex bank also tried to boost the economy by pumping liquidity using policy instruments such as Open Market Operations (OMOs).

The above policy moves were made in the backdrop of the slide in the real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth that had commenced in the third quarter of the financial year (FY) 2018-19 and continued all through FY 2019-20, the intent being to not just contain the slide but also to revive it. Yet, the deceleration continued with growth plunging to a little over three per cent during the last quarter of FY 2019-20 and the yearly figure settling at a low of 4.2 per cent. But that did not deter Das from con-

tinuing with a cut in the policy rate. On March 27, he reduced the poli



banks by way of corresponding reduction BUSINESS SENTIMENT in the lending rate. If transmission is not even 50 per cent then, why keep harping AND BOOST on a cut in the policy rate. Are we to infer INVESTMENT; TACKLE that banks are pocketing the differential? The truth is, we are trying to see a strong NPAs ON A correlation which either does not exist or WAR FOOTING; is very feeble, if at all there is one. A bank fixes the interest rate it charges from bor-GOAD rowers based on the interest rate it pays BANKS INTO on deposits, plus cost of its intermediation. PROACTIVELY It has also to factor in the cost of non-per-TAKING UP forming assets (NPAs) or loans which can't PROJECT be recovered. Even as the policy rate is LENDING; posited as an external benchmark for AND RESULT IN D RESULT IN determining lending rate, the latter can't STERN MEASURES mer. A perfect correlation would have TO DEAL WITH been possible if only the RBI was its sole SCAMS WITH GREATER EMPHASIS ON

by them have crossed ₹8,00,000 crore. Apart from the disruption caused by the contagion and the resultant compression in demand for credit, sanctions and disbursements have also been impacted by the banks' increasing risk-aversion and conservative approach to lending.

Fourth, the initial uninterrupted spell of lockdown for three months and even thereafter, intermittent lockdowns at the State/local level, have exterminated demand on a scale never seen before. Apart from lakhs of businesses downing shutters, millions losing jobs or facing cut in wages and salaries, even those who survived the COVID onslaught and had surpluses, could not spend (due to the sheer compulsion of "social distancing", forcing prolonged closure of a vast swathe of businesses especially in the service sector, like restaurants, cinema halls, multiplexes, ourist destinations and so on

power, reduced the NPAs of Banks/NBFCs and increased their ability to lend more.

Unlike the pall of gloom surrounding the August meeting of the MPC, this time the RBI exudes confidence even as the Governor sees the "Indian economy entering into a decisive phase, seeing easing of contraction in various sectors. Deep contractions of Q1 are behind us and silver linings are visible in easing caseloads across India." He also sees retail inflation to be moderating from the third quarter onward, driven by a bright agriculture out-look and oil prices remaining rangebound. The Governor has also promised measures as necessary "to assure market participants of access to liquidity and easy finance conditions" (₹20,000 crore-OMO auction next week and On-tap TLTROs of ₹1,00,000 crore to be made available till March 2021 — linked to the repo rate — are some of the steps in this direction).

per cent. This was followed by a further cut of 0.4 per cent on May 22, thus delivering a total reduction of 1.15 per cent post-pandemic. Das also announced on March 27 and April 17 measures like reduction in the cash reserve ratio (CRR), auction of Targeted Long-Term Repo Operations (TLTRO), hike in accommodation under the Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) and so on, to inject total liquidity close to ₹5,00,000 crore.

Despite these measures, growth during the first quarter of the current FY plunged to minus 24 per cent. During the second quarter ending September 30, though the situation was not as bad, the growth was still lower than during the corresponding quarter of 2019 (for the whole of the current year, Das has projected a decline of 9.5 per cent — that, too, is predicated on positive growth during the last quarter). These trends clearly show that neither reduction in policy rate, nor pumping liquidity in the system are working.

Second, according to Das, of the 1.35 per cent reduction in the policy rate during the pre-COVID phase, only about 0.6 per cent was transmitted by

EMPHASIS ON PREVENTION. WITHOUT THESE, ANY STIMULUS WON'T BE OF MUCH USE IN LIFTING THE ECONOMY

with funds for onward lending (this was done during FY 2019-20 and on a much larger scale during the current year), the latter have not stepped up lending. During 2019-20, bank credit grew by 6.1 per cent, less than half of the 13.4 per cent growth registered during 2018-19. The trend has got aggravated during the current year. Overall non-food credit off-take from the banking system declined by ₹1,40,000 crore to over ₹90 lakh crore during April-July, 2020.

On April 17, while announcing reduction in the reverse repo rate from the existing four per cent to 3.75 per cent, Das had argued it would goad banks to lend to businesses instead of parking excess funds with itself (they were then holding a gargantuan ₹6,90,000 crore with the RBI). The rate has since been further lowered to 3.35 per cent to ensure that banks don't keep the money with the apex bank; instead lend. Yet, the excess funds parked

The gravity of incapacitation engineered by the pandemic can be gauged from the fact that currently, cash with the public is at a historic high of about ₹26,00,000 crore or 15 per cent of the GDP (assuming 10 per cent contraction in nominal terms during FY 2020-21) — up from the ₹17,00,000 crore it was at the time of demonetisation in November, 2016.

A major factor that has a profound impact on demand has a lot to do with scams galore. These involve siphoning off funds from banks, non-banking finance companies (NBFCs) or even directly from the public (say by builders) and so on. Running into hundreds of thousands of crores, these add to the personal wealth of a select few, which is either stashed abroad or kept within India as "undisclosed income" (black money). Had this money remained with millions to whom it actually belongs, this would have added hugely to the purchasing

These are add-ons to the existing pool of measures in the same category. Just as those measures failed to deliver, it is unlikely that these incrementals will do any better. It is good that the RBI has kept the key policy rates like repo and reverse repo rates unchanged or else in the current scenario, when the economy is besieged with structural constraints, any further cut thereof would have been rendered infructuous. A holistic approach is needed to address the structural constraints of the economy. This should encompass policy reforms to lift business sentiment and boost investment; tackle NPAs on a war footing; goad banks into proactively taking up project lending; and result in stern measures to deal with scams with greater emphasis on prevention. Sans these, any stimulus won't be of much use in lifting the economy.

(The writer is a New Delhi-based *policy analyst)*

A free constitutional body for SCs/STs needed



Article 338 and 338A of the Constitution have to be amended, conferring powers upon the commission to take action against State offenders



CHITTARVU RAGHU

he Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 was enacted with the objective of protecting marginalised communities against discrimination and atrocities by the upper castes and the rich and privileged. Section three of the Act enunciates the nature of various actions against a SC/ST person to constitute an offence punishable under it.

The provision stipulates that any act, which is derogatory to human dignity, constitutes an offence under the Prevention of Atrocities Act, 1989. The Supreme Court, too, in the Nandini Sundar case, observed that the Constitution itself, in no uncertain terms, demands that the State shall September 29. A statement has been

promote fraternity among all citizens such that the dignity of every person is protected, nourished and promoted. The conduct of the police in cremating the Dalit gang-rape victim from Hathras, allegedly without the consent of the family members, constitutes an offence under the Prevention of Atrocities Act, 1989.

The Hathras gang-rape and the subsequent events leading to the cremation of the victim by the police in the dead of night raises the question whether the State had responded to the incident as required?

The incident shows that the atrocities committed against the Dalit girl were two-fold. First, the gang-rape of the victim by the accused, who allegedly belong to the upper caste and second, the conduct of the police in cremating the body after sunset, allegedly without the consent of family members.

The conduct of the police raises a suspicion that officials were trying to protect the accused. She was allegedly attacked on September 14 and succumbed to her injuries on

strive incessantly and consistently to made by the police that the postmortem report does not disclose any evidence of rape. Obviously since the post-mortem was conducted after a apse of more than eight days of the alleged incident, there is a big possibility of the evidence of rape getting erased. However, there is a dying declaration made by the victim that she was subjected to gang-rape, which is admissible in evidence.

Now the issue is whether the State can remain a silent spectator without responding against the alleged conduct of the police in cremating her body without the consent of the family members, which also constitutes an

atrocity under the Prevention of Atrocities Act, 1989. The response of the State in the present scenario is only at the mercy

of the politicians who are running the Government. There is no "body" constituted under the Constitution, which in such circumstances can take cognisance of the conduct of the erring officials involved in the alleged crime and take necessary action against them without the interference of the Government.

Though Article 338 of the

Constitution contemplates the setting up of the National Commission for SCs and Article 338A of the Constitution constitutes a commission for STs, they are only recommendatory bodies. The Constitution only confers power upon them to prepare reports and the President shall cause all such reports to be laid before each House of Parliament, along with a memorandum, explaining the action taken or proposed to be taken on the recommendations relating to the Union and the reasons for the nonacceptance, if any, of such suggestions.

Obviously the President will be acting on the aid and advice of the Ministers. Therefore, the commission cannot take action against the people, who are involved directly or indirectly in the entire episode. The implementation of the recommendations of the commission is within the domain of the political system. Therefore, there is no other Constitutional provision or a created body, which comes to the rescue of the victim when the Government does not respond in a proper manner.

vided by the Constitution to respond to such a situation. The apex court, while deciding the review petition of Dr Subhash Kashinath, observed that the prevailing conditions in various areas of the country show that the SCs/ STs are still struggling for equality and for exercising civil rights. They have been suffering ignominy and abuse and they have been outcast socially for centuries. It was also observed that every person has the right to live with dignity and the right to die with dignity, too.

In fact, the Supreme Court, while upholding the constitutional validity of the Prevention of Atrocities Act, 1989, observed that all the three ideas, liberty, equality and fraternity, are intimately linked. The right to equality sans liberty or fraternity would be chimerical, as the concept known at present would be reduced to equality among equals, in every manner a mere husk of the grand vision of the Constitution.

Likewise, liberty without equality or fraternity can well result in the perpetuation of existing inequalities and worse, result in licence to indulge There has to be a mechanism pro- in society's basest practices. It is fra-

ternity, poignantly embedded through the provisions of Part III, which assures true equality, where the State treats all alike, promises the benefits of growth and prosperity to all, with equal liberties to all, and what is more, guarantees that every person treats every other citizen of the country in a like manner.

Obviously, the State actors at the higher level due to political interference would not respond as the situation mandates. There has to be an independent body which can spring into operation to take necessary action against erring State officials. Therefore, Article 338 and 338A of the Constitution have to be amended, conferring powers upon the commission to take necessary action directly against the State or non-State actors who indulge in illegal acts. Unless such a suitable amendment is made incorporating such powers, justice cannot be done to victims and there cannot be any effective implementation of the Prevention of Atrocities Act, 1989.

(The writer is Advocate, at the Andhra Pradesh and Telangana High Courts)



PROTECT THE CONSUMER

To truly put an end to illicit activities that harm the consumer, the Government of Nepal and lawmakers must have the will to push through stronger measures. It may be too much to ask our subpar leaders and representatives to forgo relations with their alleged corporate masters, but the least they can do is set up a consumer court system in the country that will quickly and satisfactorily resolve consumer protection issues. (The Kathmandu Post editorial)



money 08

It also demanded that the

ed

During this extend-

d period, CREDAI-MCHI

wants that sim-

ple interest should be

charged at a rate

equivalent to

rate of interest

offered by banks

on fixed deposit.

The interest so

Chairman of CREDAI and

chairman of ATS group, said the loan restructuring mech-

anism announced by the RBI

would not benefit many play-

ers and demanded that all

those loan accounts which

were not NPA on March 1 this

He said the industry is fac-

ing working capital challenge

as demand has gone down. Highlighting the impor-

tance of the sector and need

year should be restructured.

Govt announces cash-for-LTC, festival advance to boost consumer demand

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday announced a payment of cash in lieu of LTC and Rs 10,000 festival advance to government employees to stimulate consumer demand during the festival season and boost the economy.

She also announced additional capital spending and Rs 12,000 crore, 50-year interestfree loan to states to boost the economy that has been battered by the pandemic and the resulting lockdown.

At a news conference, she said the government will give its employees income-taxexempt cash vouchers in lieu of their entitled travel allowances this year.

This cash will have to be spent on buying goods that attract 12 per cent or more GST -- a condition which eliminates the possibility of the cash being spent on food items. Central public sector enter-

MONEY MATTERS

Beleaguered Sahara group on Monday said it has paid Rs 3,226 crore to more

than 10 lakh members of its

four associated cooperative

credit societies in the last 75

against requests from people

who had complained about

days, including some payments

prises and banks will also follow the cue and give cash in place of leave travel concession

(LTC) as travelling during the pandemic is near to impossible. Additionally, the government will as a one-time measure give Rs 10,000 salary loan

to all its officers and employees as festival advance. These two measures are "expected to create a consumer demand of about Rs 28,000

crore", she said. The government, which had in May announced a Rs 20 lakh crore 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' stimulus, is pushing ahead with a full opening to try

to boost the economy ahead of the usually high-spending festival season. A tough lockdown imposed to stem the spread of coronavirus had resulted in the economy contracting by a record 23.9 per cent during April-

June Together with the loan to states and additional capital spending, Sitharaman said,



"very rough estimate is that potential private sector spend-ing through LTC tax benefit will be at least equal to the government employee-led demand of Rs 28,000 crore and the total

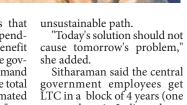
additional demand estimated to exceed Rs 1 lakh crore". She further said that the measures by the government to stimulate demand must not

burden the common citizen with future inflation and must not put government debt on an

PNS NEW DELHI

Essar Ports on Monday said it witnessed a 12.5 per cent rise in cargo handling to 12.6 million tonne (MT) in

12.6 million tonne (M1) in the September 2020 quarter as compared with the previ-ous quarter, despite COVID-19 challenges. The port had handled 11.2 MT cargo in the



to anywhere in India and one hometown; or two for the home town). Air or rail fare, as per scale/entitlement, is reimbursed and in addition, leave encashment of 10 days (pay plus DA) is paid.

Nirmala Sitharaman also announced additional capital spending and Rs 12,000 crore, 50-year interest-free loan to states to boost the economy

Due to COVID-19, employees are not in a position to avail LTC.

In lieu of one LTC, a cash payment will be made -- full payment on leave encashment and payment of a fare in 3 flat-rate slabs depending on the class of entitlement. Fair payment will be tax-free.

An employee, opting for this scheme, will be required to buy

mode.

1,900 crore.

goods/services worth 3-times the fare and 1-time the leave encashment before March 31, 2021, she said adding money must be spent on goods attracting GST of 12 per cent or more from a GST registered vendor and through digital

If central government employees opt for it, the cost will be around Rs 5,675 crore. Employees of public sector banks and PSUs will also be allowed this facility and estimated cost for them will be Rs

The tax concession will be allowed for state government/private sector too, for employees who currently are entitled to LTC, subject to following the guidelines of the central government scheme. Demand infusion in the economy by the central government and central PSE/PSB employees is estimated to be Rs 19,000 crore. Demand infusion by state government employees will be Rs 9,000 crore.

Credai seeks fiscal sops for realty sector

PNS NEW DELHI

ers. CREDAI's Maharashtra chapter CREDAI-MCHI had Realtors' apex body Credai on filed a petition in the Supreme Monday said the industry is Court seeking waiver on interest as well as interest on intergoing through a lot of pain due to the COVID-19 pandemic est during the moratorium and urged the government to period on term loans. take fiscal measures for CREDAI-MCHI has sugimproving the liquidity posi-tion of cash-starved developgested that the interest and interest on interest should be

waived for March- August ers. The industry body, which represents more than 20,000 builders from across India, has 2020 period on all loans and advances given to all borrowers engaged in real estate secsought financial support in the tor who are not declared as NPA till February end. form of interest waiver and extension of moratorium period till March 2021 for the real moratorium policy be extend-ed by the RBI till March next estate sector that has been badly impacted by the coroyear.

navirus pandemic. Т h Confederation of Real Estate Developers' Associations India (CREDAI)

fears job losses as well as delays and defaults in delivering the projects to homebuyers if

charged be capitalised by the government does not extending the residual tenure come to the rescue. of loans. Getamber Anand, the past

There is a pain in the industry because of the cash flow issues. The sector deserves a little sympathetic look and industry need to be supported," said Irfan Razack, the past Chairman of CREDAI, in an interview with PTI. Razack, who is the CMD of the country's leading realty firm Prestige group, said the industry does not want any loan waiver but some rebate in interest and interest on interest so that developers can make up for the losses

incurred during the lockdown period. Razack urged the government to take a "compassionate" view for survival of the industry as it provides huge number of white collar jobs as

for a financial package to revive the industry, Kunal Vajani, Head of Chambers BlackRobe Chambers, said the real estate sector contributes about 5-6 per cent of the GDP and is the second largest employer as well as supwell as employment to labourports 270 ancillary industries.

Miko raises Rs 23cr in funding from Stride Ventures, Chiratae Ventures

PNS NEW DELHI

Stride Ventures on Monday said it has led an investment round of Rs 23 crore in Miko, an India-born robotics firm.

All existing investors including Chiratae Ventures, YourNest Venture Capital and a group of angels led by former Nasscom Chairman Keshav

growth in engagement during

the pandemic surpassing 70

Founded in 2015, Miko was set up by Sneh R Vaswani, Prashant Iyengar and Chintan Raikar. The company's Miko 2 is a robot that can see, hear, sense, express, talk, recognise faces, remember names, identify moods, initiate a conversation and learn from its own

develop a bond with a child,

the statement said.

kids, the statement said.

cooperative society members

delayed payouts. The group said there has been some delay in payments, primarily due to an embargo imposed for last eight years by the Supreme Court, while approximately Rs 22,000 crore of its funds, including interest amount, are deposited in the Sahara-Sebi account, which was created to refund bondholders of two group firms. In a statement, Sahara said Sebi has been able to repay only Rs 106.1 crore to the investors in these eight years despite repeated attempts, which the group said only affirms its view that there are no claimants left as most bondholders were already repaid before it was asked by the regulator to deposit the money.

Sahara says Rs 3,226 cr paid to

Walmart, Flipkart Group pump in addl investment in Ninjacart

W Announced a fresh round of investment in Bengaluru-based business-tobusiness (B2B) supply chain company Ninjacart. disclose the amount being invested. The transaction is expected to close by the end of the month



previous quarter. 'For the quarter ended September 30, 2020, it (Essar Ports) has recorded a revenue in power and steel sectors,' for 12.6 MT of cargo, up by the company said in a statement. 12.5 per cent from previous quarter ended June 30, 2020, For the six months ended overcoming the challenges

league of 'unicorns'

September 30, the company posed due to the COVID-19 recorded 23.8 million tonnes



Essar Ports' cargo handling rises 12.5 pc

in April as India introduced a nationwide lockdown to contain the spread of coronavirus, it said

'Our terminals have clocked a revenue for cargo



Gold prices rose by Rs 240 to Rs 52,073 per 10 gram on Monday amid rupee depreci-ation, according to HDFC Securities.

The precious metal had closed at Rs 51,833 per 10 am in the previous ti

Silver prices also jumped

Rs 786 to Rs 64,927 per kilo-

gram from Rs 64,141 per

kilogram in the previous

trade. "Spot gold prices for 24

carat in Delhi were up Rs 240

on rupee depreciation,"

HDFC Securities Senior

Analyst (Commodities)

Tapan Patel said. The rupee

snapped its three-session

winning run on Monday,

slipping 12 paise to close at

73.28 against the US dollar

amid weakening Asian peers

In the international mar-

ket, gold was trading lower at

USD 1,925 per ounce, while

silver was flat at USD 25.26

against the greenback.

per ounce.

handling of 23.8 million tonnes for the six months with a growth 12.5 per cent in the second quarter of 2020-21, compared to the first quarter of the same financial year," said Essar Ports MD and CEO Rajiv Agarwal. Essar Ports has four oper-

ational terminals in India one each in Hazira and Salaya (both in Gujarat) on the western coast, and in Visakhapatnam and Paradip on the eastern coast.

The current operational capacity of the port terminals in India is 110 million tonnes per annum

In the coming months, Ninjacart will use the capital to expand to new markets and build new offerings and supply chains for emerging customer segments, while continuing to innovate on the supply chain to make it more efficient, reliable, and profitable, a statement said. "This follows the investment made by Walmart and the Flipkart Group in December 2019, as the companies continue to focus on ensuring access to high quality fresh produce for consumers and retailers while creating economic opportunities for farmers through the continued use of technology," it added. For Ninjacart, this further deepens the partnership with Walmart and the Flipkart Group to improve its offerings and enhance customer experience, it said. Ninjacart was founded by Thirukumaran Nagarajan, Kartheeswaran K K, Ashutosh Vikram, Sharath Loganathan and Vasudevan Chinnathambi in 2015.

Honda Cars expands online sales platform

onda Cars India on Monday said it has expanded its online sales platform to offer safe and convenient car buving experience to its customers With the online retail platform. which is backed by its sales network. customers can now complete their car buying



journey in six easy steps from the comfort of their homes, without having to visit the dealership, Honda Cars India Ltd (HCIL) said in a statement. The automaker had launched the first phase of the initiative with the start of online bookings in April this year. "Since the launch of 'Honda from Home' initiative, we have cumulatively received over 2.4 lakh high intent customers visiting the platform in the past five months," HCIL Senior Vice President Rajesh Goel said.

MG Motor India starts 2nd phase of innovation programme

G Motor India on Monday said it has V started the second phase of its initiative to support innovations in the mobility sector - 'MG Developer Program & Grant 2.0'. The programme aims to identify and endorse new-age

solutions that improve customer experiences as well as efficiency of the automotive sector and in the second phase its scope is being expanded with a wider ambit, including new categories such as sustainability, ease of business and innovation in times of COVID-19, the company said in a statement. The 'MG Developer & Grant' is conducted in partnership with global technology leaders, including Adobe, Cognizant, SAP, TiE-Delhi NCR, Unlimit, and MapMyIndia. "It is further open to external developers - such as students, startups, innovators, inventors, and tech enterprises – as well as internal teams of MG Motor and its channel partners, the company added

existing investor

Payments solution provider

Razorpay Razorpay on Monday said it has gained the

'unicorn' status after having

raised USD 100 million fund-

ing from GIC, Sequoia Capital

PNS NEW DELHI

Witnessing a 300 per cent growth in its business during the past six months, Razorpay said it has raised a Series-D fundraising of USD 100 million, giving the company more than USD 1 billion in valuation.

expects RazorpayX and Razorpay Capital to contribute This round was co-led by to 35 per cent of its revenue, Singapore's sovereign wealth with a 100 per cent rise in the fund GIC and Sequoia India, company's count of partner along with participation from businesses. The funds raised Ribbit Capital, Tiger Global, Y will also be used towards hiring Combinator and Matrix additional 500 employees by the Partners.

end of the current financial year, Razorpay plans to use the new funding to further strengthen and accelerate two it said. The new funding gives Razorpay USD 206.5 million in investments since its inception new product lines in 2014, including the recent RazorpayX, neo-banking plat-form; and Razorpay Capital, USD 75 million Series-C funding in 2019.

Itel forays into smart TV segment

its lending arm and invest in

new initiatives to empower

small and medium enterpris-

By 2020-21, the company

es (SMEs).

PNS NEW DELHI

Smart devices maker Itel on Monday announced its foray into smart LED TV segment in India and said it aims to capture 6-8 per cent market share in a year.

The Transsion India Group firm launched six new televisions across different screen sizes of 32 inch to 55 inch in the price range of Rs 8,999 to Rs 34,499, respectively.

All the television sets will be portfolio is targeted at first-



made in India, Itel said in a statement.

"We are excited to announce the extremely aggressive and feature-packed TV portfolio for the Indian consumers. The Talapatra said.

time buyers and also those who want to upgrade from CRT TVs to keep pace with their digital lifestyle needs without compromising on quality and overall experience," Transsion India CEO Arijeet Talapatra was quoted as

saying in the statement. The company will provide a 2-year warranty on television sets. "Itel TV plans to capture a market share of 6-8 per cent

within one year of its launch,"

Murugesh participated in the round, a statement said.

After the US expansion of Miko, it has now scaled its user base in more than 90 countries, it added.

The company saw over 20

Sensex pares early gains, ends modestly higher

PNS MUMBAI

Equity benchmark Sensex pared early gains but managed to end 84 points higher on Monday following the finance minister's announcements to revive festive demand in the economy.

After rallying nearly 400 points in morning trade, the 30-share BSE index pared most gains to end 84.31 points or 0.21 per cent higher at 40,593.80

Similarly, the NSE Nifty rose 16.75 points or 0.14 per cent to close at 11,930.95.

the Sensex pack, spurting over 2 per cent, followed by Infosys, Asian Paints, HCL Tech, Maruti, PowerGrid, ICICI Bank and TCS.

Airtel, ONGC, HDFC Bank, resulting lockdowns.

IndusInd Bank and Bajaj Auto were among the laggards. Govt extends Traders said benchmark indices traded with a positive tenure of 3 exec bias through the day, but market participants turned cautious after Finance Nirmala

directors of Canara Bank

PNS NEW DELH The government has extend-

ed the tenure of three executive directors of Canara Bank and Indian Overseas Bank for a period of two years, the lenders said on Monday.

The tenure of executive directors Debashish Mukherjee and Matam Venkata Rao has been extended for two years, or until further orders, whichever is earlier beyond their currently notified terms which expire on February 18, 2021 and October 8, 2020, respectively, Canara Bank said in regulatory filings.

The extension has been given as per the notification of the Department of Financial Services, the Finance Ministry dated October 10, Canara Bank said. Chennai-headquartered Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) in a separate filing said the government has extended the term of Ajay Kumar Srivastava as executive director for a period of two years beyond his currently notified term which expires on October 8, 2020, or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

Hiring activities improve in September

PNS MUMBAI

With life returning to normalcy gradually, hiring activities grew 24 per cent in September as compared to the previous month mostly driven by pharmaceuticals and education sectors, according to a report. At 1,755 job postings, there

was an improvement of 24 per cent in hiring activities last month compared to August with 1,413 listings, according to the Naukri JobSpeak Index for September 2020.



The Naukri JobSpeak is a monthly index that calculates and records hiring activities based on the job listings on Naukri.com website monthon-month. The growth was

propelled by industries like pharma, which saw 44 per cent rise in hiring activities, FMCG (43 per cent), education and teaching (41 per cent) and IT (32 per cent), it said. Further, Îy, it added.

the report said the opening up of the economy with unlock measures and increased mobility led to an improvement in hiring activities in industries like real estate (44 per cent), auto and ancillary (29 per cent) and hospitality and travel (48 per cent) compared with August. Key industries such as

BPO and ITES (29 per cent) and banking and financial services (33 per cent) continued to post robust growth sequential-

Meanwhile, the report also revealed that metros, which were reeling under various lockdown measures earlier, posted strong double-digit growth in September compared to August with Pune (26 per cent) leading the pack followed by Hyderabad and Chennai (24 per cent) and Bangalore (14 per cent

growth). Tier II cities like Ahmedabad (34 per cent), Chandigarh (39 per cent) and Jaipur (36 per cent) also saw a significant uptick in hiring

festival season and boost the

economy, Sitharaman on

She also announced addi-

tional capital spending and Rs

activities, it added. Hiring also grew across the board in terms of experience bands with the demand for midmanagement professionals (8-12 years) up by 27 per cent against August followed by 0-3 years of experience (25 per cent), 4-7 years (23 per cent), 13-16 years (24 per cent) and less than 16 years by 19 per cent.

Miko 2 addresses a complex million interactions on its platneed-gap of education, techform and also witnessed an immediate increase in demand nology, entertainment and as parents are hunting for an hence an enabler in effective alternative to screens for their parenting, it added.



Minister Sitharaman's press conference to announce the stimulus measures. In a bid to stimulate consumer demand during the

Monday announced a payment of cash in lieu of LTC and Rs 10,000 festival advance to government employees.

ITC was the top gainer in

12,000 crore, 50-year interestfree loan to states to boost the economy that has been bat-

On the other hand, Bharti tered by the pandemic and the

G Follow us on @TheDailyPioneer facebook.com/ dailypioneer

> Tuesday October 13, 2020

CINEWA-HELPING MOVE BEYOND PRIVILEGE

the pioneer

Lyderabad

Caste genre films are the new beginnings to Indian film industries. In the past few years, we did see anti-caste movies making waves in several dialects. And as the pyre was lit for the Dalit victim a little after midnight on September 30, just outside her village Boolgadhi in Hathras district, under the watchful eye of 300 policemen, it makes us realise the

Ensuring holistic fitness of mind, body

he truth is that our body and mind are not separate identities, separate identifies, they are one. Our mind is our subtle self while our bodies are the gross self. Coach Vrinda Mehta shares a few simple tips on how mental health can be

On an average we have sixty to seventy thousand thoughts in a day and a large percentage of these thoughts are stressful especially during the current times, points out Reebok Mind Coach Vrinda Mehta.

This excessive stress energy is connected to almost all lifestyle diseases such as diabetes, hypertension, cardiovascular diseases, obesity, depression, anxiety and

like we follow a healthy diet especially when you are stressed out. and a regular exercise routine for physical fitness we need to have a healthy men-tal diet of positive thoughts, emotions and regular breathing exercise or pranayama to ensure mental wellbeing."

stressed out. Surround yourself with positive people. Think and talk about positive things. Keep a gratitude journal. Make a habit of writing down 5 things that you are grateful for each day. grateful for each day. Connect with nature. Get

some sunshine as it is a powerful electromagnetic energy that helps in cleansing and rejuvenation. Reconnect with mother earth by walking barefoot on grass/sand to destress.

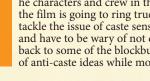
Listen to calming soothing music to relieve stress. Get proper sleep by going to bed and waking up at the

same time every

staying away from electronic

Consciously develop a

gadgets before bedtime.

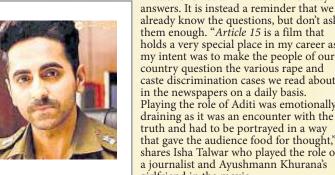


he characters and crew in the caste thematic films have a lot more at stake as the characters and crew in the caste thematic times have a lot more at stake as the film is going to ring true at some point based on real-life incidents. They tackle the issue of caste sensitively, recognise its evils beyond the seven seas, and have to be wary of not dramatising or sensationalising the story. Let's go back to some of the blockbuster caste-driven movies that highlight the appetite of anti-caste ideas while moving toward a positive direction of progression.

It's about the indignities endorsed by the caste-system in modern-day India that don't play it cool. Inspired by the real-life Badaun killings, this film features policemen hushing up the murder and gangrape of three 15-year-old girls because they belong to a lower caste. The film has the stench of honesty. What do you do when the system is the bad guy? There are no rev-

elations here. We've read about such cases, we've sighed at these horrors. Article 15 is not a film in search of easy





already know the questions, but don't ask them enough. "Article 15 is a film that holds a very special place in my career as my intent was to make the people of our country question the various rape and country question the various rape and caste discrimination cases we read about in the newspapers on a daily basis. Playing the role of Aditi was emotionally draining as it was an encounter with the truth and had to be portrayed in a way that gave the audience food for thought," shares Isha Talwar who played the role of a journalist and Ayushmann Khurana's girlfriend in the movie.

The story covers issues that would tug at the heart of any individual with an iota of conscience of the story with an iota of conscience and sensitivity — In a village in north India lives a little Dalit boy called Santu who longs for an education. Caste is practised, lived, and accepted in this setting but flinching at the

same time. "The roles I play or the characters I choose might seem unconventional but if you look at them closely, these are characters of them closely, these are characters of real people. I played an upper caste, rich landlord in which I had to put in a lot of effort to perfect the body lan-guage, the dialect, the attitude. The movie tries to explore a love affair also between two people who restrict their feelings because of the prejudice attached to the relationship. Whether this kind of love was instified or not is this kind of love was justified or not is for the audience to judge," asserts Sanjay Suri on playing an indomitable role in the movie Chauranga.



paradoxical lives we are living in, by PNS



abya, the film's dark-skinned protagonist is an awkward yet winsome teenager from a Dalit family who lives in a shack at the fringes of the village. He has a crush on Shalu, a classmate, who hails from an upper caste and therefore, a well-to-do family. The differences in their background and colour of skin are all important, as they are anywhere in India, even to this day. This is as much a film about coming to terms with one's identity as it is about young love. "We believe in the tokenism of standing up but what are we doing to uplift fellow citizens who are beset with ugly caste-based prejudices? We are backward in every sense. We struggle with our educational and financial problems so maybe creative expression comes much later. If even ten of us resolve to change our attitudes, a change will begin," says acclaimed Marathi writer Manjule.



The plot of the movie is based on some-thing that India has experienced for ages — caste-inequality/caste-discrimina-tion. Even today, this inhuman practice exists in some rural parts of India. This is a story of millions of people who were subjected to slavery and were deprived of basic needs such as food and water basic needs such as food and water.



angasthalan

uranga

The Dubai-return brother I seeks to change the status quo. Sukumar plays a clever game with this mass/class mix of sib-lings. He makes a movie about a morally uplifting social uprising. He also makes a movie about carefully nurtured vigilante justice. "Everyone is united and comes to the rescue of others when there's a need in a village.

Although they might have plenty of differences among themselves they are very true to what they believe in is good or bad. There's a lot of drama in every village and we tried to reflect that in our film. This is what makes a rural drama like Rangasthalam so interesting. It's raw and pure in its own way," director Sukumar had reportedly stated.

Caste is a way of life for several families and communities in India, it is at the roots of several communities' foundation, lacking moral virtues. How do we reform the idea of caste? How do we seek caste-free individuals? We desperately need many more anti-caste movies to take on the monster of caste? much more, she says.

We cannot always control what happens around us but what happens around us out what happens within us can be brought under our control with true knowledge, diligent practice, and patience. "Just

breathing are directly cor nected.

Udgeeth Pranavams.

kept in check through posi-

Begin your day with the 5 basic Pranayama or breathing techniques: The

Bhastrika, Kapalbhati, Anulomvilom, Bhramri and

According to the yogic sci-

ence, our mind and our

tive life habits.

Include positive affirma-tions in your pranayama routine. Become aware of your

habit of being positive in any given scenario and truly breath. Get into the habit of grateful for all that you already have. taking slow deep breaths

An enchanting Sufi track

iving us a special glimpse into the beautiful frames of Halal Love Story, Amazon Prime Video released the first song promo of the Malayalam comedy-drama. The soulful song titled Sundaranayavane produced by Rex Vijayan, is sung and composed by Shahabaz Aman, with its beautiful lyrics penned by Muhsin Parari.

EMBRACING ALL THAT GOD HAS **BLESSED US WITH AND PRAISING IN** HIS GLORY, THE LEAVE EVERYONE

The video has Raheem. played by Nasser Karutheni, travel across the magnificent and scenic backwaters of Kerala, in what seems to be a journey back home for the character. Embracing all that God has blessed us with and praising in his glory, the music is sure to leave every one enchanted. Speaking about the song, popular Indian playback singer Shahabaz Aman said, "Creating music for Halal Love Story was a different experience altogether, especially Sundaranayavane. The lyrics are extremely pure and irrefutably heartfelt that will

completely transport one into a state of bliss. Muhsin has

done an incredible job with the lyrics and it was a great pleasure to have sung and composed this song."

Additionally, the music album of Halal Love Story also features a song by prolif-ic composer Bijibal and the background score is by Yakzan Gary Pereira and Neha Nair. On creating music alongside Shahabaz, music producer Rex Vijayan said, "Halal Love Story's soundtrack is quite Sufi-laden. The melodies will instantly absorb you and depict an amalgamation of love and praises to the almighty. I am confident that the audiences will enjoy the music as much as they do the film."



ENCHANTED



technology



ivo has announced a new smartphone in its Y series called 'Vivo Y73s' with 5G network support, a mid-range MediaTek Dimensity processor and a triple-lens rear camera module in China. The Vivo Y73s 5G is priced at 1,998

Yuan (\$298). Currently, there is no information on whether the Vivo Y73s 5G will head to markets outside of China, reports GSMArena.

The smartphone has a 6.44-inch AMOLED display with a water-drop notch. It supports 1080 x 2400 pixels full HD+ resolution and a 20:9 aspect ratio. The phone offers a screen-to-body ratio of 90.1 per cent.

The device comes equipped with the MediaTek Dimensity 720 processor. The company has announced the smartphone in a single 8GB RAM and 128GB storage option.

The smartphone houses a 48MP main camera with f/1.79 aperture, an 8MP superwide lens with a 120-degree field-of-view with f/2.4 aperture, and a 2MP portrait shooter with f/2.4 aperture.

The phone supports photography features such as night mode, macro shots, 10x digital zoom, EIS,

and 4K video shooting. The Vivo Y73s 5G has a front-facing camera of

16MP with f/2.0 aperture. supports 18W dual-engine fast charging through USB-C. The handset houses a 4,100mAh battery that

OnePlus to launch 2 Nord smartphones on October 26

martphone maker OnePlus is reportedly planning to launch two new Nord smart-J phones — the Nord N10 5G and Nord

GizmoChina. OnePlus Nord N10 5G is said to feature a 6.49-inch FullHD+ display with a refresh rate of 90Ĥz.

The OnePlus Nord N10 5G is

said to be the device codenamed

"Billie" and may have a price tag

N100 — on October 26.

of under \$400, reports

The smartphone is likely to be powered by the Qualcomm Snapdragon 690 SoC with 6GB RAM and 128GB of onboard storage. In terms of optics, the device

is said to come with a quadcamera setup at the back con-sisting of a 64MP primary cam-era, 8MP wide-angle lens and a 2MP sensor.

Meanwhile, OnePlus Nord 100 is also expected to come with the Qualcomm Snapdragon 690 processor under the hood with 6GB of RAM and 128GB of

internal storage. The smartphone may get a triple camera setup at the back housing a 48MP primary cam-era, 8MP secondary lens and a 5MP camera. The phone may have a 16MP selfie shooter.



Sony launches new full-frame mirrorless camera in India

onv on Mondav announced Alpha 7S full-frame mirrorless camera series with 'Alpha 7S III' for Rs 3,34,990 in India.

The camera features a brand new 12.1MP back-illuminated full-frame image sensor with ultra-high 's' series sensitivity and over 15 stop wide dynamic range, video-recording capabilities including 4K 120pi and 10-bit 4:2:2 colour depth, the company said in a statement.

"Alpha 7S III combines the classic S series sensitivity with a feature set, performance level and

user experience that is simply unmatched in the industry today at any price segment," said Mukesh Srivastava, Digital Imaging Head at Sony India.

The camera comes with a new heat-dissipating mechanism, dualslot relay recording, enabling over one-hour of 4K 60p movie shooting until battery ends, a new auto-focus system and a touch-screen interface and side flip LCD screen.

The new CMOS image sensor and BIONZ XR image processing engine in the Alpha 7S III aims to delivers legendary S-series sensitivity with significantly enhanced colour reproduction and texture

renderings for improved overall

image quality. In addition, real-time tracking and real-time eye AF are available in Alpha 7S III to maintain constant focus on the intended sub-

ject. Sony said its advanced realtime eye AF improves detection performance by 30 per cent over the previous system, thanks to the new image-processing engine. It ensures accurate, reliable detection, even when the subject's

face looks away. Real-time eye AF is automatically initiated when an eye is detected.

The new Alpha 7S III camera will be available from October 15.

Motorola Revou, ZX2 smart TVs launched at RS 13,999

lipkart has launched a new range of Motorola smart TVs in India. The new Motorola smart TVs start at Rs 13,999 with the base model offering a 32-inch display. In total there are four

new Motorola smart TVs. The new smart TVs are cate-gorised in two different ranges where Motorola Revou is for the premium models, and ZX2 is for the budget ones. Motorola Revou 55-inch UHD TV is priced at Rs 50,000, and the 43-inch model is priced at Rs 30,999. Motorola ZX2 32-inch HD smart TV costs \$13,999, and the 40-inch FHD smart TV has a price tag of Rs

smart 1 v has a price tag of Ks 19,999. The new Motorola smart TVs will go on sale from October 15 onwards on Flipkart. In terms of specs, Motorola Revou and ZX2 smart TVs are powered by a 1.5GHz CA53 mud crea processor paired with quad-core processor paired with 2GB of RAM. Motorola Revou offers 32GB of internal storage

while the ZX2 range comes with while the ZX2 range comes with 16GB. All four smart TVs run Android 10 TV out-of-the-box. The smart TVs are also equipped with Dolby Atmos, Dolby Audio, Dolby Studio Sound, Dolby Vision and HDR 10.

The Motorola Revou smart TVs have very thin bezels with a soundbar attached, and a single stand at the bottom. The 55-inch model also comes with two speakers, and two tweeters with 50W sound output. On the Motorola ZX2 there are two stands but no presence of a soundbar. The Motorola ZX2 smart TVs have two speakers and two tweeters and offer a total sound output of 40W. Flipkart also launched

Motorola smart appliances along with the smart TVs. The lineup includes smart 1 vs. The lineup includes smart AC, refrigerators, and washing machines. The Motorola smart appliances will also go on sale during the Big Billion Days Billion Days.



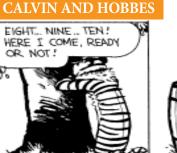
FUN

















GARFIELD



NANCY



GINGER MEGGS





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ACROSS

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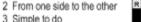
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DOWN

1 A keyboard instrument





SOLUTION



tollywood

Nandini Reddy is in talks to direct the **Telugu-Tamil** bilingual from a script of Ashwin Saravanan, NAGARAJ GOUD reports



Samantha and Nandini **IN DISCUSSIONS FOR A THRILLER**

est friends' aside, the actor-director duo of Samantha and Nandini Reddy struck gold with Oh Baby last

year. Taking their profession-al relationship forward again, we have exclusively learned

that the duo is in discussions for a new feature. Sony Pictures is attached to pool in financial resources for the project, a thriller.

A well-placed source close to the development tells us that this was the same project that Game Over director

Ashwin Saravanan was supposed to direct. "Due to some unavoidable reasons, he couldn't take up the directorial reins but parted with the script to Sony. Shortly

production house had a discussion on who would steer

it forward. Nandini emerged as a common choice. In fact, the director was onto something else when this offer came by. She heard the story and later briefed Sony about thereafter, Samantha and the the vision she had for it.

They liked it." The source adds, "Nandini

is sifting through the complete script right now and is working on some changes. The thriller genre is a new space for her and she is excited about it. The film will be a Telugu-Tamil bilingual. Samantha has a line-up

of films up next but she has

committed to this project long back, so it's likely it will get precedence. Sony is looking at Januaryend or February next year to have the cameras rolling."

Poorna in another femalecentric film

ctress Poorna will be playing the lead in Ananda Bhairavi director Karri Balaji's next, Backdoor, the muhurat of which was held in Hyderabad on Monday. B Srinivas Reddy is producing the film under Orchid Studios.

Speaking to The Pioneer, the director said the filming will begin from November 22 in Hyderabad and the plan is to wrap it up in a start-to-finish schedule of 25 days. "The film is being made to be sent for national and international festivals," he pointed out and added that it narrates how backdoors have become common these days for people to get their work done. "What work Poorna

embarks on through the backdoor and the obstacles she confronts is what the film treads." Balaji noted that Pranav has been roped in to compose the music, while Chota K Prasad will scissor it. Speaking about Ananda Bhairavi, an action-drama, he stated that the final schedule will

> begin from Novemberend.



Using a vanity van is scary right now: Venkat

fter more than six months of staying indoors, actor Venkat has resumed filming Ichhata Vahanamulu Nilaparadu (IVN), fronted by Sushanth and newbie Meenakshi Chaudhary, earlier this month. Shooting in the new normal is tough, he admits. "We have to take a lot of precautions while going about our job. During rehearsals, we are wearing masks but while shooting we can't, right? So, coupled with fear, there is always an element of risk involved" the actor who will be seen as Meenakshi's brother in the concept-driven thriller inspired by a real incident, tells us. He continues, "The unit, however, is adhering to safety protocols. There is a disinfectant chamber, so are gloves, sanitizers and masks at one corner. Using a vanity van is scary right now. Which is why, I'm not letting my assistants and make-up men enter it as a precautionary measure. I'm carrying a surface disinfectant as well," he smiles. Venkat realizes the need of the hour is to boost immunity levels and although he is a regular at the gym, he is taking vitamin 'C' and 'D' pills. "I've also included Dabur Chyawanprash in my diet," the actor, who is required for IVN later this week, concludes, signing off. -NG



Swara Sagar in demand

When the second state of t

begun and the director is happy with the work of the composer." A romantic family drama inter-spersed with a lot of humour, the unti-tled film will be launched on Dasara later this month. The shoot will kick off next month in Hyderabad with a week schedule. The second schedule, howev-er, will be held in 2021, as Shaurya needs to complete his existing commitneeds to complete his existing commit-ments. Majority of the film, a produc-tion venture of Ira Creations, will be shot in Hyderabad while a small sched-ule requires the unit to travel to a green extting Sai Sairam has hear remained in ac setting. Sai Sriram has been roped in as the cinematographer.



SHAURYA AND RITU

VARMA'S ROMANTIC

DRAMA RESUMES



aunched in February earli-er this year, Sithara Entertainments next with Naga Shaurya and Ritu Varma was shot in Hyderabad for 10 days

Hyderabad for 10 days before the pandemic suspended the schedules. And now after seven months, the unit has resumed filming in Hyderabad on Monday. Lead pair is participating in the shoot. The production house said they are following safe-ty measures for a smooth conduct of the shoot. of the shoot.

of the shoot. A pure love story which traces the journey of a guy and girl, who are honest and live by principles,

the film marks the directorial debut of Souujanya Medarametla. Hyderabad aside, Visakhapatnam, Kerala, Darjeeling and Dehradun will host different schedules of the film.

The likes of Nadiya, Murali Sharma, Vennela Kishore, Praveen, Ananth, Kireeti Damaraju and Rangasthalam Mahesh are playing

supporting roles. Souujanya has assembled a strong technical team in place for the film. While Vamshi Pachipulusu, who shot Adivi Sesh-starrer Evaru last year, will be the comperatory will be the music will be ren cameraman, the music will be ren-dered by Vishal Chandrasekhar.



PTI SHARJAH

here on Monday.

way their innings.

Overall, they outplayed us in all the departments. We need to work on our mindsets Definitely, 170-175 on the board would have looked completely different

we have three bowlers who can bowl at 140 consistently, for any team to have three bowlers who can bowl quick and swing the ball is really good

RCB THUMP KKR



The kind of cricket we are playing, gives us a lot of confidence. It's important to have momentum with us, and it was a perfect day for us

All bowlers were confident and were executing what we had planned. I feel we had avoided a few mis-fields and drops, the result might have been different.

Pain no barrier for Tewatia IANS NEW DELHI managed to get to his fifty and told

Rahul Tewatia's explosive batting in the ongoing IPL 2020 may have come as a surprise to many but those who have played with him for long know what he is capable of.

Tewatia played with a fractured foot in a Dehradun Gold Cup tournament, immediately after last year's IPL for his office team and smashed 197 against a strong Food Corporation of India (FCI) team that included the likes of Rishi Dhawan, who has played for the national team.

Praveen Thapar, who is a former Delhi Ranji player and captains the Income Tax Department team that Tewatia plays for, told IANS: "He (Tewatia) was hit by a yorker on the right foot dur-ing a game and suffered a hairline fracture. Our next match was against FCI and he didn't want to play. He kept saying 'I can't. "We insisted, saying

he doesn't need to run but just bat. After much reluctance he went on to bat and struggled initially as it was painful. He took singles only when the ball went deep and didn't take doubles.

"After the first five overs, when I went in, he said he couldn't continue. I told him to

take it five overs at а time. Η

BCC

me he couldn't continue. I pressed on. With 50 in the basket, he changed gears, starting to play his shots. His second fifty came in just 15-20 deliveries. Once he reached 100 in the 22nd over, he said he couldn't continue as the pain got aggravated. But I asked him to try another five overs, and then another five overs. He carried on. Unfortunately, when he was on 197, he went for a scoop and was brilliantly caught at short fine-leg. The shot was certain to fetch him a four or a double but the fielder plucked it out of thin air," added Thapar.

Thapar recalls another match played last year in December when Tewatia injured his hand during a tournament in Faridabad. The 27-year-old was struggling to bowl, with split webbing on little finger, but still bowled and picked three wickets, overshadowing better-known India players like Yuzvendra Chahal, Jayant Yadav and Aniket Chaudhary, who are his teammates at I-T department. Thapar has seen

Tewatia since he was 14 and also got him to play for Delhi's Malviya Club.

"We'd use him at the top of the batting and he knew how to exploit the field restrictions.



ΠUΠ

Rohit Sharma receives special momento after he plaved his Mumbai Indians/Twitter 150th IPL game for Mumbai Indians



Krunal Pandya receives badge from Mumbai Indians skipper Rohit Sharma after his match winning performance on Sunday Mumbai Indians / Twitter



RCB 194/2 (20 overs); KKR 112/9 (20 overs) B de Villiers smashed 73 not out off just 33 balls in A magnificent batting display to power Royal Challengers Bangalore to 194 for two against Kolkata Knight Riders in their Indian Premier League match thoot De Villiers looked effortless in finding the gaps, smashing six sixes and five fours in the company of skipper Virat Kohli (33 not out off 28 balls) as the duo put together an unbroken third wicket stand of 100 runs from 7.4 overs to take the team out of a middle-over muddle. On a pitch that was slowing down, spinner Varun Chakravarthy bowled a tidy 0/25 from four overs, while young pacer Kamlesh Nagarkoti (0/36 from four overs) cleverly mixed up his deliveries with cut-ters to put brakes on RCB mid-Opener Aaron Finch (47 from 37 balls) looked sluggish in the middle and struggled to find boundaries before being castled 221

by Prasidh Krishna. With boundaries drying up, De Villiers unleashed his array of shots against a disciplined Nagarkoti, smashing him for consecutive sixes, over midwicket, one of which hit a running car.

The South African raced to his fifty in 23 balls as KKR new-ball bowlers Pat Cummins cruised to 83 runs from the last and Prasidh Krishna. five overs to prop up the total.

Earlier opting to bat, RCB stadium in Prasidh's first over,

Ishant out of IPL CSK look to turn

PTI 📕 DUBAI

Veteran pacer Ishant Sharma was on Monday ruled out of the Indian Premier League with a rib-cage injury, his team Delhi Capitals said.

Ishant is the second Delhi apitals player to be ruled out after leg-spinner Amit Mishra, whose campaign ended due to a ring finger fracture sustained during one of the earlier match-



and took the attack on KKR

Finch clubbed one out of the

PTI 📕 DUBAI to seek a replacement with two senior bowlers ruled out of the remainder of the IPL, Ishant's absence wouldn't hurt them as much as Mishra's, simply because of the wrist spinner's role on the higger UAF rounds

order to.

After facing brickbats for persisting with Kedar Jadhav, Time is fast running out for the CSK dropped him in their last Mahendra Singh Dhoni-led Chennai Super Kings, a team match and his replacement which desperately needs its bat-Narayan Jagadeesan (33 off 28) ting to click when it takes on Sunrisers Hyderabad here on made a decent score in the company of Ambati Ravudu

other way round - play the big shots and even if you get out, it is fine because we can't leave too many after the 15th or the 16th over. That just puts too much pressure on the lower order bats-

men. On the howling

ing the Hyderabad outfit badly as at one stage, they looked in complete control after posting a competitive 158 for 4.

Batting has not been SRH's concern at all as the likes of Jonny Bairstow, skipper David Warner, Manish Pandey and Kan

Bowling in absence of their ace spinner Sunil Narine who was left out after being reported for suspect action, Chakravarthy bowled a tidy spell.

AB de Villiers and Virat Kohli during Indian Premier League at the Sharjah Cricket Stadium openers Finch and Padikkal while the talented youngster fuller delivery. started off in a blazing fashion

Padikkal hit back-to-back boundaries off Cummins. But boundaries soon dried up after the Power-Play with Russell giving the breakthrough

by cleaning up Padikkal with a

"Fast bowler Ishant Sharma experienced an acute episode of left rib cage pain while bowling at a team training session on October 7, 2020 in Dubai," Delhi Capitals said in a statement.

"Subsequent investigations revealed that he sustained a left internal oblique muscle tear. This injury will unfortunately rule him out of the remainder of the IPL

Ishant has played 97 Tests, 80 ODIs and 14 T20Is for India. But his participation in the Test series in Australia later this year will now depend on how his rehabil-

Delhi Capitals had tried all their pacers and Harshal Patel seemed to have fit the bill as far as head coach Ricky Ponting is

concerned. In case, Delhi Capitals replace Ishant with a pacer, they have Pradeep Sangwan among net bowlers, who can directly integrate with the team.

DC could also look for a second Indian wicketkeeper in case Rishabh Pant's hamstring injury break takes more than a week. With Shimron Hetmyer being dropped at the expense of wicketkeeper Carey, Delhi

Capitals can check with Rajasthan Royals if they have any plans to release one of their keeper Anuj Rawat as a part of mid-season transfer.

Tuesday in a battle to keep its IPL hopes alive.

The three-time champions and last edition's runner-up, CSK are seeking a revival of fortunes after suffering five defeats in seven games.

They are currently at the penultimate position in the eightteam standings halfway into the

tournament. Considered one of the most successful chasers in the history of IPL with a chase-master in Dhoni, CSK's batting struggle this year can be gauged from the fact that all their defeats came while going after targets.

While Shane Watson and Faf du Plessis have had decent outings so far, CSK need a stronger show from its faltering middle (42 off 40). However, ĆSK's chase fell apart after the duo departed.

The likes of Sam Curran, Ravindra 🚲 Jadeja and Dwayne Bravo too failed to come to the team's rescue

Dhoni himself has not been able to force the pace while chasing and the skipper had no qualms in admitting the flaws in his batting department.

"Batting has been bit of a worry. We need to do something about it," Dhoni had said.

"I think we are better off playing the

Deepak Chahar and Jadeja were impressive the other night and Bravo's return was a welcome relief but the likes of Curran, Shardul Thakur and Karn Sharma need to pull up their performances.

The tie also provides Dhoni and Co. A chance to avenge their seven-run loss to SRH in their previous outing.

SRH, on the other hand, are a only a tad better-placed than CSK at the fifth spot with three wins from seven games.

But the the five-wicket defeat to Rajasthan Royals on Sunday would be hurtWilliamson are all among runs and have the ability to shoulder the responsibility on their own.

But it is the bowling unit which let SRH down on Sunday.

Despite losing senior pacers Bhuvneshwar Kumar and allrounder Mitchell Marsh to injuries, SRH have shown tremendous fighting abilities with Rashid Khan and yorker specialist T Natarajan doing the job for the side.

But on Sunday SRH let Royals off the hook in the middle overs after reducing them to 78 for 5.

The likes of Sandeep Sharma, Khaleel Ahmed and young Abhishek Sharma are the weak links in bowling which they need to address.



5.08 pm - 12 Oct 20

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7	10	CSK	7	2	5	-0.588	4
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PTI MILAN

Portugal and France lost their Perfect records in this sea-son's UEFA Nations League after playing out a 0-0 draw against each other, and Belgium saw its 13-match unbeaten run ended by a 2-1 defeat against England.

Two of the sport's best forwards were kept quiet at a chilly Stade de France on Sunday.

Portugal star Cristiano Ronaldo had a good chance in the second minute of injury time, but goalkeeper Hugo Lloris palmed away his angled shot from the left. France's Kylian Mbappe was substituted near the end after having failed to make an impression against the Nations League champion's resolute defense.

Portugal stays top in Group 3 of League A, ahead of France on goal difference, with both teams on seven points.

Third-place Croatia has three points after beating Sweden 2-1. Substitute Andrej Kramaric scored the winner in that match, nine minutes after coming off the bench.

ENGLAND COMEBACK

England came from ty cancelled out Romelu ry over a top-ranked team in which beat Iceland 3-0.

England's Harry Kane, right, holds off Belgium's Toby Alderweireld during the UEFA Nations League

behind to beat Belgium and Lukaku's spot kick in the first nine years. move top in Group 2 of League

Marcus Rashford's penal-looping, deflected shot clinched England's first victo-

half before Mason Mount's England moved a point ahead of second-place Belgium and three above Denmark

STALEMATES

Italy was held to a 0-0 draw against Poland but remained top of its group after the Netherlands drew by the same score against Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The match was supposed pit two of Europe's top to goalscorers against each other in Robert Lewandowski and Ciro Immobile. However, Italy coach Roberto Mancini surprisingly left Immobile on the bench

Italy is a point above the Netherlands and Poland in Group 1 of League A. It plays the Netherlands on Wednesday.

HAALAND HAT TRICK

Erling Haaland netted a hat trick to help Norway thrash Romania 4-0 and assuage its European Championship playoff disappointment.

Alexander Sørloth scored Norway's other goal. Haaland already has six goals in the competition.

Norway lost a Euro 2020 playoff to Serbia on Thursday. Norway is level on six

AP

points with leader Austria in oup 1 of League B. Austria beat host Northern Ireland 1-0.



ple of years and the COVID-19

enforced break helped him to

work on his body and game.

second half of the draw.

spree last year, claiming as many

as five titles, including two BWF

World Tour Super 100 top hon-

ours - SaarLorLux Open and Dutch Open - to zoom to 32nd in the international standings.

trating wait for Lakshya, who is

currently ranked world No 27.

But with the deadly pan-

PTI ODENSE (DENMARK)

Olympic hopeful Kidambi Srikanth and fast-rising Lakshya Sen will look to strike the right note from the word go as they return to competitive badminton at the USD 750,000 Denmark Open, which will restart the calender after a COVID-19 forced seven-month hiatus.

With Saina Nehwal and Parupalli Kashyap withdrawing from the tournament at the eleventh hour, all eyes will be on Srikanth and Lakshya as they resume their title hunt at the Super 750 event

Former world no 1 Srikanth, demic bringing everything to a halt in March, it has been a fruswho had claimed the Denmark title three years back, had been battling a series of injuries and indifferent form in the last cou-

Uttarakhand is now ready to go full throttle when he begins his campaign here with a clash against France's Christo Popov, who won the first medal for his country at the World Junior Championships last year.

"I have improved a lot and I am in a better shape than last year. It is the first event for everyone, so I can't expect anything, will just go all out from the start," Lakshya said.

"I got a lot of confidence after training for the last few months but unless I play matches, put myself in a pressure situation, I won't be able to assess myself. So I am really excited."

Besides, Ajay Jayaram and The 27-year-old from Subhankar Dey too will be Guntur will look for a fresh start aiming to go deep in the men's singles draw that has been left as he tries to rediscover his old self and reclaim the lost glory. He depleted due to the withdrawals of the Japanese contingent, will open against world no 52 including world champion Toby Penty of England in the Kento Momota, world no 35 Koki Watanabe, world no 11 Lakshya, on the other hand, had been on a title-winning Kanta Tsuneyama.

Former world no 13 Jayaram, who was missing in action due to a long injury layoff, was finding his groove early this year when he reached the semifinals at Barcelona Masters. But the health crisis halted his progress and he can't wait to go all out when he takes on local favourite and world no 3 Anders Antonsen in the The 19-year-old from opening round.