www.thehansindia.com

VOL. 10 | NO. 211 | TUESDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2021 | AMARAVATI | PAGES 12 | ₹5.00

Forecast: Sunny. Temp: Max.34°C. Min.19°C. Humidity: 33% Sunrise: 06:32 Sunset: 06:10



Trust, Reliability & Service

Synonymous with

## NS ● Simultaneously published from Hyderabad | Warangal | Tirupati | Amaravati | Visakhapatnam | Khammam | Kurnool | Delhi ● ● Follow @ 🚺 /thehansindia | 🔍 /thehansindiaweb |@ /thehansindia |@ /thehansindia | 😔 /thehansindia 🗕



Dozens of skaters took to the frozen surface of Amsterdam's historic Prinsengracht canal at Amsterdam in Netherlands as the deep freeze gripping Europe briefly made it possible to skate on a small section of the canal for the first time since 2018. People skated and walked on a small stretch of ice between two bridges close to the landmark Westerkerk before growing cracks in the ice forced all but the most daring off the ice

#### 19 more Covid vaccines in pipeline

NEW DELHI: Nearly 19 coronavirus vaccine candidates are in different clinical trial stages and may be available in the coming months, Health Minister Harsh Vardhan said on Monday. Addressing the media, Vardhan said that in the next 2-3 weeks, vaccination against Covid-19 will be started for people above 50 years of age. "About 18-19 vaccine candidates against Covid-19 are in the pipeline and are in preclinical, clinical and advanced stages. We are hopeful that we will be able to offer newer vaccines to India in the coming months," Vardhan said

#### NTPC to pay ₹20 lakh to kin of **Tapovan victims**

JOSHIMATH: State-run power giant NTPC on Monday said it would pay a compensation of Rs 20 lakh each to the families of labourers who died in the recent flash flood at its Tapovan-Vishnugad hydel project in Uttarakhand. A workforce has been set up at the plant to coordinate with the administration and gather all required information about every missing worker, NTPC's spokesman RP Jayada said. He said rescue work is underway on a war-footing at Tapovan-Vishnugad project site by multiple agencies to reach people believed to be trapped inside the tunnel. Real-time information is being shared with the

# **SC slaps notice** on WhatsApp, FB

## WhatsApp may be worth \$2-3 tn, people value privacy more, says the apex court

#### NEW DELHI

THE Supreme Court issued notices to popular social media platforms WhatsApp and Facebook on a plea against its new privacy policy here on Monday. The apex court said people had grave apprehensions on loss of privacy, making it clear that it was the court's duty to protect this right as it heard an application against WhatsApp's new privacy policy.

The observation came as senior advocate Shyam Divan, representing petitioner Karmanya Singh Sareen, sought direction to restrain WhatsApp from implementing its new privacy policy in



India. "They have come up At this, Chief Justice SA Bobde replied, "We will issue with new differentiating privacy policy for the Euronotice in the matter."

peans and different set of A bench, headed by the rules applicable to Indians," Chief Justice and comprising Divan argued. He added that Justices AS Bopanna and V Ramasubramanian, told the till the time new data protection law came into force in counsel for WhatsApp, "Peo-India, WhatsApp should not ple have grave apprehensions about loss of privacy. bring its new privacy policy.

You may be 2 or 3 trillion-

dollar company, but people value their privacy more than your money. we have to protect people's privacy." Senior advocates Kapil Sibal and Arvind Datar, appearing for WhatsApp, strongly contested Divan's argument, saving that the Delhi High Court is already seized of the matter. Sibal said that Europe had a different set of data privacy laws, and WhatsApp's new privacy policy for India is similar to policy applicable in the US, Australia and other countries. "The fact is that this policy was applicable to the rest of the

world except Europe. Continued on Page 7

Centre releases GST compensation of ₹2,167 cr to AP

#### HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

THE Finance Ministry on Monday released 16th weekly instalment of Rs 5.000 crore to the States to meet the GST compensation shortfall, taking the total amount released so far to Rs 95,000 crore.

Till now, 86 per cent of the total estimated GST compensation shortfall has been released to the States and Union Territories (UTs) with legislative assembly. Further, additional bor-

rowing permission of over

## **Municipal** polls on March 10

HANS NEWS SERVICE AMARAVATI

THE AP State Election Commission (SEC) issued notification for the conduct of elections to 12 municipal corporations and 75 municipalities/nagar panchayats in the State here on Monday.

It may be noted that the election process was completed up to the state of scrutiny of nominations on March 14, 2020, and the commission stopped the election process midway due to Covid-19 pandemic. Now the SEC will continue the election process from the stage of withdrawal of candidature.

As per the notification, the commencement of withdrawal of candidates will be on March 2 from 11 am to 3 pm, last date of withdrawal of candidature on March 3 after 3 pm and date of polling will be March 10 from 7 am to 5 pm. Repolling, if any, will be conducted on March 13 and date of counting will be held on March 14 from 8 am onward.

With the issuing of election notification, the model code of conduct has come into force in the State from Monday. However, Opposition parties including the TDP, the Congress, the CPI (M) and the Jana Sena felt that the SEC should have cancelled the previous elections that were held about one

#### RACHABANDA LIKELY FROM UGADI

HANS NEWS SERVICE AMARAVATI

lish its superiority in air combat over China and Pak-WITH the positive response from people towards YSRCP governistan, India would start testing the Astra Mark 2 beyond ment during the present panchavat polls and successful imvisual range air-to-air missile, which would be capable plementation of welfare schemes announced under of taking down enemy air-Navaratalu programme of YScraft from a range of 160 RCP election manifesto, Chief kilometres. Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy is likely to organise Rachabanda

The extended range Astra Mark 2 would give India an edge over its adversaries and

AJIT K DUBEY

NEW DELHI

IN a step that would estab-

PM to address experts for effective implementation of budget the participation of more



would add more lethality to the second half of this year and we are hoping to see the its fighter jets in aerial combat, like the one which hapmissile fully developed by pened a day after the Bal-2022," government officials akot airstrikes on February said.

The next-generation mis-"The trial for the Astra sile is expected to be opera-Mark would be starting in tional by the next year-end,

residency

former Central Air Commander Air Marshal SBP

Sinha (Retd) said. The retired officer has been associated with the Astra missile programme for a long time now

The Astra is a beyond visual range air-to-air missile (BVRAAM), which flies over four times the speed of sound at Mach 4.5. Efforts are now on to integrate the over 100-km strike range missile on the indigenous fighter aircraft LCA Tejas.

The all-weather day and night capable Astra, which currently has a strike range of around 100 km, will eventually replace the expensive Russian, French and Israeli BVRAAMs that are currently imported to arm IAF fighters.

Rs 1.06 lakh crore was

granted to the States. As part

of that amount raised

through special window

passed on to Andhra

Pradesh is Rs 2,167.20 crore

and Rs 1,703.56 for Telan-

The Centre set up a spe-

cial borrowing window in

October 2020 to meet the

estimated shortfall of

Rs1.10-lakh crore in revenue

due to GST implementation.

The borrowings are being

done through this window

by the Centre on behalf of

the States and Union Terri-

gana.

tories.

The Indian Air Force and Indian navy have already given orders for 288 Astra Mark-1 Missiles which are already "proven" on the Russian-origin Sukhoi-30MKI fighters. (ANI

year ago and started the process once again.



agencies involved in the exercise to expedite it, Jayada said.



ou are being arrested for sedition. You read Greta's tweet but did't troll her!

Minister is said to be keen to start the programme which is aimed at getting direct feedback

programmes in the State soon.

Though there is no official

confirmation, speculations are

rife that the programme would

be launched from Ugadi. Chief

from people about the implementation of welfare programmes. Sources say that by nar on Tuesday for consul-Ugadi, the local body elections will also be over and hence Ugadi could be the best and ausof the Union Budget 2021picious date to launch the pro-22 in the infrastructure gramme.

NEW DELHI PRIME Minister Narendra Modi will address a webi-

than 200 panelists, including representatives of major financial institutions and funds, concessionaires tation on the roadmap for and contractors, consulteffective implementation ants and subject matter experts, the Prime Minister's Office said in a statement. sector. The webinar will see **Continued on Page 7** 

26, 2019.

## Govt eases curbs on geospatial data for map-making

NEW DELHI

lated and aspects such as prior approvals for survey-IN sweeping changes in the ing, mapping and for buildcountry's mapping policy, ing applications based on the government on Monday that have been done away announced liberalisation of with, Department of Science norms governing the acquiand Technology Secretary Ashutosh Sharma said. For sition and production of geospatial data, a move that Indian entities, there will be will help in boosting innovacomplete deregulation with no prior approvals, security tion in the sector and create a level-playing field for pubclearances, licenses, for aclic and private entities. quisition and production of Under the new guidelines, geospatial data and geospathe sector will be deregutial data services, including

maps, he said. Prime Minister Narendra Modi said the liberalisation of policies governing the acquisition and production of geospatial data is a "massive step in government's vision for an Aatmanirbhar Bharat". The reform will benefit the country's farmers, start-ups, private sector, public sector and research institutions to drive innovations and build scalable solutions, he said. Continued on Page 7

## Nanosatellite to carry Bhagavad Gita, *PM Modi's photograph into space*

NEW DELHI

A nanosatellite is all set to take a photograph of PM Narendra Modi and a copy of religious book, the Bhagavad Gita to space. In addition to these, names of 25,000 individuals were also be carried by the Satish Dhawan Satellite (SD SAT) that is due of be launched by the end of this month from the space centre at Sriharikota. The nanosatellite has been developed by a private firm



SpaceKidz, reported a naname and photograph of tional daily. the prime minister on the 'We have also added the top panel with the words

Atmanirbhar mission. This satellite has been completely developed and fabricated in India, including the electronics and circuitry," Dr Srimathy Kesan, founder and CEO of SpaceKidz India revealed to the daily Hindustan Times. The names of Dr K Sivan, Chairperson ISRO and Dr R Umamaheswaran, ISRO's Scientific Secretary have also been etched at the bottom panel of the nanosatellite.

Continued on Page 7



### "A premium Co-Living Space"

PROPERTY MULTIPLIER WITHOUT ADDITIONAL INVESTMENT

TResidency approved by TTRRERA Approved No. PO2400001598

SAFE

AFFORDABLE

**NO MAINTENANCE** 

Earn extra sft\*

9% to 11% Returns

Assured rental income for **20years** 

## +91 95337 76694

www.ktresidency.com | sales@kapilproperties.com





