www.thehansindia.com Forecast: Sunny. Temp: Max.34°C. Min.18°C. Humidity: 30% Sunrise: 06:38 Sunset: 06:13

🔸 Simultaneously published from Hyderabad | Warangal | Tirupati | Amaravati | Visakhapatnam | Khammam | Kurnool | Delhi 🖜

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WINDOWS 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 com-

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

ing months," Vardhan said

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-Vishnu-

gad project site by multiple agencies to reach people believed to be trapped inside the tunnel. Real-time information is being shared with the agencies involved in the exercise to expedite it, Jayada said.



Centre may put 4 banks on sale



SC slaps notice on WhatsApp, FB

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

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 with new differentiating privacy policy for the Europeans and different set of rules applicable to Indians," Divan argued. He added that till the time new data protection law came into force in India, WhatsApp should not

bring its new privacy policy.

At this, Chief Justice SA Bobde replied, "We will issue

notice in the matter." A bench, headed by the Chief Justice and comprising Justices AS Bopanna and V Ramasubramanian, told the counsel for WhatsApp, "People have grave apprehen-

sions about loss of privacy.

You may be 2 or 3 trilliondollar 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, saying 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

MLC candidates hunt for jobless graduates

Film showcasing TRS rule to hit screens on KCR's birthday HANS NEWS SERVICE

HYDERABAD

THE TRS has found a new way to resurrect the entire movement for Telangana State and showcase various schemes and welfare measures it had taken up during its rule since formation of the State in the form of a documentary film.

According to party sources, a 30-minute short film made in 3E technology on the life of TRS president K Chandrasekhar Rao is ready and would hit the small screen and social media on Wednesday at Jalavihar on the occasion of birthday celebrations of KCR. The party feels that this could help stir the sentiment factor and could help the party in the MLC elections as well as the byelection to the Nagarjuna Sagar Assembly constituency.

The film is directed by popular director Bandook Lakshman. The first view of this short film will be presented at a public meeting



ant LCD screens.

The documentary starts with the birth of KCR and will show in detail the agitation for separate Telangana, the scenes during the passage of Telangana Bill in Rajya Sabha and celebrations in the State. The documentary also showcases various developmental schemes implemented by the TRS government during the last six years. Apart from the docu-

mentary, the party leaders are releasing five songs. The songs are sung by popular folk and playback singers, including Satyavathi Rathod who is popularly known as Mangli, Madhu

The full songs would be released on the same day, said Cinematography Minister Talasani Sriniyas Yaday.

MLC Kalvakuntla Kavitha will offer a sari of gold weighing 2.5 kg (with some donations by the devotees) to Goddess Balkampet Yellamma. Special prayers and pujas would be organised at Ujjaini Mahankali temple in Secunderabad and Bangaru Maisamma temple in Parsigutta and saris would be distributed to women. Abhishekam and Ganapati Kalvanam at Ganesh temple in Secunderabad will also be performed.

Continued on Page 7

Centre releases **GST** payout of₹1,703.56 for Telangana

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD: The Finance Min-

istry 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 borrowing permission of over 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 Telangana. The Centre set up a special borrowing window in Octoher 2020 to meet the estimated shortfall of Rs1.10-lakh crore in revenue due to GST implementation.



Rangareddy- Mahbubnagar and Nalgonda, Warangal-Khammam graduates' constituencies. With the stage set for issuing of notification for the two MLC seats undergraduate constituencies, all podemic in villages.

litical parties are busy identifying the unemployed graduate voters in those constituencies. This is followed by identifying private teachers who lost their jobs in the corona pan-

The idea is to lure the voters by offering financial help and other benefits. It is being said that these potential voters are being offered anything up to Rs 10,000. Not just that in some cases the MLAs were recommending benefits under the Chief Minister's Relief Fund to the needy. Meanwhile, the TRS

party has asked the respective MLAs from the pollbound areas to ensure victory of the party candidate. Other parties have also asked their leaders to see that no stone was left unturned.

Of the total number of 5 lakh voters, nearly 30 per cent of them are said to be unemployed youth. It is being said that local leaders will give half of the amount first and the second half will be given on the day of

According to rough estimates all parties put together are likely to spend nearly Rs 50 crore as part of poll expenses. The main contests in the

polling.

field are TRS MLC P Rajeshwar Reddy, Gujjula Premendar Reddy BJP and -Telangana Jana Samithi leader Prof M Kodandaram. The prominent candi-

dates for Hyderabad - Rangareddy- Mahbubnagar are BJP MLC N Ramchander Rao, G Chinna Reddy Congress and Prof K Nageshwar. The TRS may not field any candidate, according to sources. The total number of

graduate voters in the constituency were 5,17,888 which has been doubled compared to the last council elections

PM to address experts for effective implementation of budget

NEW DELHI

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi will address a webinar on Tuesday for consultation on the roadmap for effective implementation of the Union Budget 2021-22 in the infrastructure sector. The

webinar will see the par ticipation of more than 200 panelists, including representatives of major financial institutions and funds, concessionaires and contractors, consultants and subject matter experts, the Prime Minister's Office said in a statement.

data for map-making maps, he said. Prime Min-

IN sweeping changes in the lic and private entities. Under the new guidelines,

the sector will be deregu-

ing, mapping and for building applications based on that have been done away with, Department of Science and Technology Secretary Ashutosh Sharma said. For Indian entities, there will be complete deregulation with no prior approvals, security clearances, licenses, for acquisition and production of geospatial data and geospatial data services, including

ister 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

Govt eases curbs on geospatial

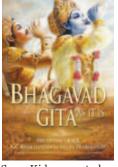
New Delhi

country's mapping policy, the government on Monday announced liberalisation of norms governing the acquisition and production of geospatial data, a move that will help in boosting innovation in the sector and create a level-playing field for pub-

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 national daily. 'We have also added the

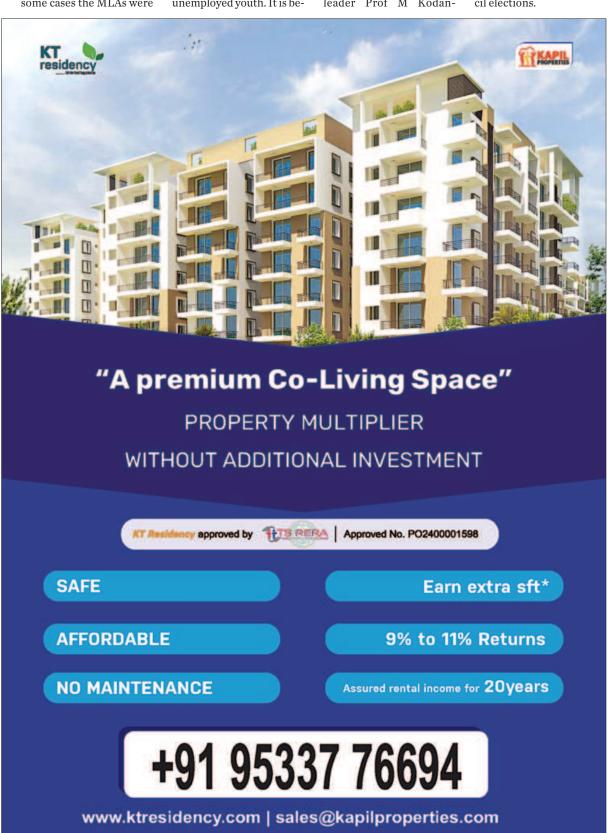


the prime minister on the

top panel with the words

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



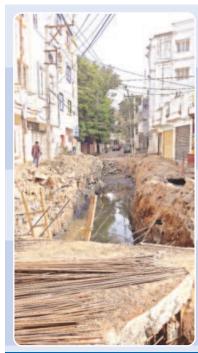


Crores of rupees go down the box drain

MD NIZAMUDDIN Tolichowki

IT has been more than three months since the works of SW box drain started, by digging up and cutting the connectivity between different localities at Nizam Colony of Tolichowki. Trying to provide a permanent solution for the persistent sewage problem, the ongoing works have already changed hands of three contractors further delaying the works and keeping the residents wondering if it would be completed by next

According to residents, the works of box drain was started in the beginning of November and ever since the residents of the locality and motorists were struggling to reach their destinations. Now that schools have reopened the dug pits were posing risks to the children. This is the only parallel lane connecting Hakeempet Road to Al-Hasnath Colony, besides the main road (below flyover). It has prompted motorists to use smaller lanes



thus causing inconvenience to locals and damaging existing roads. "We are hopeful that at least now we could breathe easy. But the works are going on at The works of box drain began in November

Box drain could provide permanent solution to persistent sewage problems

The works have already changed the hands of three contractors

With works at snail's pace residents wonder if it would be completed by next monsoon

snail's pace causing undue hard-

ships to all. Already covid has

impacted our business and these

works have pushed us to the

wall," lamented, Kishan, who



runs a laundry shop. Even other businesses in the area have been affected due to the ongoing works. While those who took up the works are also

MOHAMMED HUSSAIN

KING KOTI

AT a time when the Telangana

restoration of heritage struc-

government is keen in taking up

tures, the King Kothi Palace, the Nizami historical epicenter in

the city, awaits its turn to get rejuvenated. A portion of the main

entrance of the palace popularly

called 'Purdah Gate' a landmark

roof and wall collapsed on Monday revealing its red bricks.

regretting, as sewerage waters gushing from the existing pipelines sometimes overflow affecting the ongoing works. "We regret taking up the work, as it has already eaten up Rs 40 lakh and the work appears going nowhere," said one of the contractor's men at the spot.

Considered to be second phase in construction of box drains, the cost of existing works is estimated to be Rs 1.2 cr. Already GHMC has spent Rs 90 lakh on the first box drain on the roadside. Following the completion of works, the third box drain is being planned near the Nizam Colony's mosque which has an estimation of another Rs 1.4 cr.

Speaking to The Hans India, Nanal Nanar division Corporator Mohammed Naseeruddin said that as the contractors keep changing, the box drain works have been affected. Sometimes huge boulders are causing trouble. "This is the last leg of the works to resolve the sewage overflowing issue completely. The boulder is being demolished now," he said.

Sorry state of King Kothi palace

Road safety awareness rally held



HANS NEWS SERVICE Yousufguda

NCC cadets of government High School Yousufguda Telangana battalion conducted National Road Safety month awareness rally in Yousufguda on Monday. Students campaigned at zebra crossing to spread the importance of wearing helmet, following traffic rules and main-

taining speed limit. SR Nagar Traffic Police personnel also attended the programme and guided the students to follow safety rules. They appreciated the school management and the students for conducting the awareness rally. School Headmaster Narasimha, School NCC Officer Prabhakar, Traffic police Tirumalah & school NCC cadets participated in the rally.

RICH TRIBUTES TO FREEDOM FIGHTER



Leaders of various parties paying floral tributes to Telangana Armed Struggle freedom fighter and veteran CPI leader, ex-MP Bommagani Dharmabiksham on occasion of his centenary celebrations inaugural fu0nction at Desodharaka Bhavan, Basheerbagh, on Monday

Teachers demand promotions

HANS NEWS SERVICE

Leaders of all teachers' associations in Hyderabad district on Monday met Education Minister Sabitha Indra Reddy and demanded immediate promotions, without the involvement

Church of South India-Diocese of Medak
St. George's Degree & PG College for Women, Abids, Hyderabad-01 liated to Osmania University Affiliated to Osmania University

www.stgdcw.com grammarcollege@gmail.com
Applications are invited from the eligible candidates for the following subjects
Teaching: Commerce, Computer Science, Psychology, Journalism, Political Science
English Literature, Management Studies.
Non-Teaching: Librarian, Computer Lab technician.
Eligibility: Qualifications as per OU norms and Regular PG in concerned subject
with minimum 55%. Applicants can send their CV with relevant documents to the
Principal on or before 25th February 2021, by 4 PM.

Sd/- Special officer St. George's Institution:

ADARSHNAGAR

of the management of their institutions. In a memorandum submitted to Reddy, the leaders wanted upgradation of teachers as school assistants, deputy DEO, junior/DIET lecturers. MLC Janardhan Reddy headed the delegation



• A portion of the main entrance of the palace popularly called 'Purdah Gate' a landmark roof and wall collapsed on Monday

• If King Kohti Palace gets restored, then it could be one of the tourist jewels

 Several representations were made by the citizens, historians and heritage activists but all

A city-based historian Syed Meraj Nawab noticed that a roof made up of wooden completely came down breaking its all joints and fell on road. Earlier, in the recent heavy rains followed by floods, there was a similar dam-

Since 2018, a large number of neritage activists and citizens have been urging the Telangana government to take up the restoration works of King Kothi Palace, which needs urgent attention but till now they didn't receive any response from the government.

Agasthy Kantu, said, "Hyderabad has a habit of hiding its most beautiful heritage buildings behind high and ugly walls to ward off encroachers or simply

because there is no appreciation of their significance – from the book 'The Last Nizam' and King Kothi Palace is an example for these lines."

Anuradha Reddy, INTACH (Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage) convenor for the Hyderabad chapter, said, "The King Kohti Palace will brin much needed prosperity and associated development to the city, if it gets restored then it could be one of the tourist jewel."

Though several representations were made by the heritage activists but all in vain.

Recently, the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) restored the Moazzam Jahi (MJ) Market, "We urge the Telangana government to protect the King Kothi the palace as it is in dilapidated condition and

slowly falling down."

However, in 2018 the Municipal Administration and Urban Development (MA&UD) department recruited a special officer in charge of heritage restoration, who asked the Hyderabadis to suggest which are other heritage structures that need to be restored, preserved and protected, while several representations were made by the citizens, historians and heritage activists but till now there has been no response from the concerned department.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-(IREPS) TENDER NOTICE NO. 20 UBI 2020-21 Dated: 11.02.2021

Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited

Regd office: 27BKC, C 27, G Block, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai - 400051 Corporate office: Kotak Infiniti, Bldg No 21, Infinity Park, General AK Vaidya Marg, Malad (E), Mumbai - 400097 www.kotak.com

AUCTION-NOTICE

That the below mentioned Borrower/s had availed gold loan facility against security of the gold ornaments/ items, as specified below. The Borrower's defaulted in due repayment of the installments and outstanding dues and as a result of which the Bank was constrained to issue notices calling upon the Borrower/s to repay the outstanding amounts. However, the Borrower/s has failed to repay/clear his outstanding dues thereby compelling the Bank to auction the gold ornaments pledged in favour of the Bank.

The auction of the below mentioned gold ornaments would be held at: Date: 24-FFR-2021 & 25-FFR-2021 & 26-FFR-2021 Time: 11 00 AM Place: Respective Branch Pre

ApplApac	Party Name	State	Sub Location	Branch Name	Gross Wgt	Auction Date
GLN1643981	Anumandla Pallavi Devi	TELANGANA	HYDERABAD	Habsiguda	154.40	25-Feb-21
GLN1838848	Anumandla Pallavi Devi	TELANGANA	HYDERABAD	Habsiguda	85.20	25-Feb-21
GLN1860795	Bapurao Shivajirao Bamne	TELANGANA	HYDERABAD	Himayatnagar	91.00	26-Feb-21
GLN1217265	Bhagyavathi Kashini	TELANGANA	HYDERABAD	Banjarahil	564.90	26-Feb-21
GLN1409727	Bitla Srividya	TELANGANA	HYDERABAD	Ramanthapu	145.70	26-Feb-21
GLN1586643		TELANGANA	HYDERABAD	Ramanthapu	105.20	26-Feb-21
GLN1812475	Dasari Narsimulu	TELANGANA	HYDERABAD	Somajiguda	23.70	24-Feb-21
GLN1803401	Earsani Balakrishna	TELANGANA	HYDERABAD	Ramanthapu	40.30	26-Feb-21
GLN1312526	G Sreesailam	TELANGANA	HYDERABAD	Himayatnagar	445.10	26-Feb-21
GLN1586754	Kolluru Raja Annapurna Swapna	TELANGANA	HYDERABAD	Sardarpat	33.70	24-Feb-21
	Malpani Mamatha	TELANGANA	HYDERABAD	Sanathnagar	122.60	26-Feb-2
GLN1860443	Malpani Mamatha	TELANGANA	HYDERABAD	Sanathnagar	137.20	26-Feb-2
	Marella Vijaya Kumar	TELANGANA	HYDERABAD	Habsiguda	23.90	25-Feb-2
GLN1559054	Marella Vijaya Kumar	TELANGANA	HYDERABAD	Habsiguda	24.20	25-Feb-2
GLN1627922	Marella Vijaya Kumar	TELANGANA	HYDERABAD	Habsiguda	33.30	25-Feb-2
	Marella Vijaya Kumar	TELANGANA	HYDERABAD	Habsiguda	27.50	25-Feb-2
GLN1435939	Md Afroz	TELANGANA	HYDERABAD	Somajiguda	20.00	24-Feb-2
GLN1658974	Md Abdul Kalam	TELANGANA	HYDERABAD	Sanathnagar	46.20	26-Feb-2
GLN1787773	Muralidhar Reddy Kankara	TELANGANA	HYDERABAD	Himayatnagar	88.80	26-Feb-2
GLN1873675	Muralidhar Reddy Kankara	TELANGANA	HYDERABAD	Himayatnagar	87.30	26-Feb-21
GLN1794532	Parsi Karthik	TELANGANA	HYDERABAD	Himayatnagar	31.20	26-Feb-2
GLN1859825	Prashanth Kumar Chavva	TELANGANA	HYDERABAD	Bheltowns	55.50	25-Feb-2
GLN1811570	R Jayaprakash	TELANGANA	HYDERABAD	Bheltowns	113.70	25-Feb-21
GLN1791153	Ravi Varma	TELANGANA	HYDERABAD	Sanathnagar	135.10	26-Feb-2
GLN1534219	Sahaja Pendyala	TELANGANA	HYDERABAD	Ameerpet	78.00	26-Feb-2
GLN1591810	Sahaja Pendyala	TELANGANA	HYDERABAD	Ameerpet	108.40	26-Feb-21
GLN1869721	Sri Harsha Manikanta Anj Munipalle	TELANGANA	HYDERABAD	Sardarpat	24.60	24-Feb-2
GLN1721376	V Venkataramana	TELANGANA	HYDERABAD	Habsiguda	58.90	25-Feb-2
	Venu Gopal Atluri	TELANGANA	HYDERABAD	Sanathnagar	14.70	26-Feb-2
GLN1841096	Dwarapureddi Janardhan Naidu	TELANGANA	HYDERABAD	Ameerpet	13.30	26-Feb-2

verification together with two recent photographs on the day of auction. The Bank reserves the right to change the venue/date/time of auction or cancel the auction without any notice to bidders.

The cost of the auction process will be debited to the customer account. Bank reserves the right to recover the balance amount from the customer if the bid amount is insufficient to meet the payoff amount of the account. For any further details regarding the terms and conditions of the auction, you are required to contact the below mentioned

Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd., Ph - 9700699936

HISTORY KING KOTHI PALACE

ORIGINALLY it was known as Devdi by its constructor and renowned architect late Kamal Khan, then it was acquired by the Nizam of Hyderabad. Mir Osman Ali Khan and it is said that the Nizam renamed the prop-

erty from Nazri Bagh to King Kothi Palace.

The Nizam then inhabited the estate after his ascension to the throne in 1911, while his father stayed on at Chowmahalla Palace. Passers-by then carved 'KK' originally stood for Kamal Khan on the accessible walls of the palace, which irked its royal resident- after all why must the estate have the markings of its predecessor? He then passed a farmaan, or Royal Charter, to name the building as King Kothi or 'king's mansion.' The King Kothi Palace is a 2.5 lakh sq.ft. the property was the

last official residence of the Nizam of Hyderabad wherein he

Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of India visited King Kothi Palace.

The main entrance of the palace, popularly called the 'Purdah Gate,' is a landmark and it is erected at the western side houses the main King Kothi building as well as the Nazri Bagh

> residential building. This gate was covered by a curtain in the event the Nizam was present, now only the bare gate remains. It is always draped in a curtain even though the last Nizam left the palace many years ago.

Of the three principal buildings of the King Kothi complex, the main building (which now houses a hospital) and the Mubarak Mansion (Nazri Bagh) accommodates the offices of the Nizam's private estates (Sarf E

The Usman Mansion, the third building, was demolished in the 1980s, and in its place a new hospital building was constructed by the

state government. There is a large amount of work to be done at King Kothi Palace. If one is to completely restore the palace, considering the once quoted value of the estate being

T BJP condemns Owaisi's statement on Hyderabad

HANS NEWS SERVICE $\mathbf{H}_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{E}\mathbf{R}\mathbf{A}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{A}\mathbf{D}}$

TELANGANA BJP has strongly condemned AIMIM president and Hyderabad MP Asaduddin Owaisi's "irrelevant & irresponsible' statement on Hyderabad and few other cities being made union territories by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government in the near future.

In a statement, party chief spokesperson K Krishna Saagar Rao said that "It is evident that the MP misused the Parliament to parrot baseless statements, coached possibly by Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao to obfuscate voters in the upcoming MLC elections".

He alleged that Asaduddin as a loyal ally of TRS was trying to help the Telangana party to sail

through MLC elections by this manufactured issue, as TRS was facing serious opposition in teachers, government employees and youth segments, who happen to be the graduate voters in these elections. The BJP warned both TRS and AIMIM to desist from these cheap political theatrics by spreading fake news and manufacturing imaginary issues for political expediency.

The undersigned on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders (IREPS) for the following works: Name of Work Approx. Value 1. Hubballi Division: Rs. 2,79,27,856.70/-Sub Work-1: Hubballi - Gadag section:- Construction of RCC side drains 26.5-47.3 for a length of 2.2 km. Sub Work-2: Hubballi - Chikjajur section:- Construction of RCC side drains in cuttings between Km. 420.800 - 430.7 for a length of 3.2 km. 2. Hubballi Division: Rs. 3.64.58.068/ 2.] Hubballi Division: [Rs. 3,64,58,068]Sub Work-1: Bagalkot - Vijayapura section:- Construction of RCC side drains in cuttings between Km. 109/600-113.00 for a length of 3.4 km. Sub Work-2: Vijayapura - Hotgi section:- Construction of RCC side drains in sufficient beautiful and the section of RCC side states in sufficient beautiful and section of RCC side section in sufficient beautiful and section in sufficient beautiful section in sufficient beautiful sufficient beautiful section in sufficient beautiful section in sufficient beautiful sufficient beautiful section in sufficient beautiful sufficient beautiful sufficient beautiful section in sufficient beautiful sufficient sufficient beautiful sufficient sufficien drains in cuttings between Km. 229/00 to 232/300 for a length of 3.30 km. 3. Hubballi Division: Rs. 1,54,88,269/-Hubballi - Alnawar section:-construction of RCC side drains in cutting between Km. 490/300 to 492/700 for a length of 2.4 Km.

492/700 for a length of 2.4 km.

4] Hubballi Division: Rs. 4,38,91,500/
Sub Work-1: Hiring of Truck for Track maintenance for PWI's under Senior Divisional Engineer/West/Hubballi jurisdiction. Sub Work-2: Hiring of Truck for Track maintenance for PWI's under Senior Divisional Engineer/East/Hubballi jurisdiction. Sub Work-3: Hiring of Truck for Track maintenance for PWI's under Truck for Track for Track for Track maintenance for PWI's under Truck for Track for East/Hubballi jurisdiction. Sub Work-3: Hiring of Truck for Track maintenance for PWI's under Senior Divisional Engineer/Central/Hubballi jurisdiction. Sub Work-4: Hiring of Truck for Track maintenance for PWI's under Senior Divisional Engineer/Head Quarters/ Hubballi jurisdiction for a period of 24 5. Hubballi Division: Rs. 41,49,877/

Londa - Miraj section: Repairs to compound wall boundary wall by released sleepers with levelling of ground for newly created Shedbal Ballast Depot.

6. Hubballi Division: Rs. 12,08,58,753/-Supply of ballast at Londa Depot in Senior Divisional Engineer/West/ Hubballi jurisdiction (Two Packet

7. Hubballi Division: Rs. 10,82,01,379/-Construction of RCC side drains in Senior Divisional Engineer/West Hubballi jurisdiction for a length of 17.9 Km. (Two Packet system).

Last date of submission of bids Up to 11:00 hrs of 12.03.2021 For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in



Mettuguda graveyards to get facelift

Govindhapuram graveyard to be turned into a model facility

• Graveyards shall be equipped with a compound wall, parking area, electrification, water facility, fresh-up area, burning platform, prayer hall, ash storage facility, waiting area and other necessary arrangements

• GHMC is trying to ensure enough space for all religions so that graveyard can be utilised by any religious person

VASAVI KALERU LALAPET

AS part of the development activities in Mettuguda division, a very old graveyard in Lalapet will be getting a facelift.

According to officials, developments for the crematorium were being planned and compound walls were being constructed for the graveyards. The graveyards shall be equipped with a compound wall, parking area, electrification, water facility, fresh-up area, burning platform, prayer hall, ash

storage facility, waiting area and other necessary arrangements. GHMC is trying to ensure enough grave space for all religions so that graveyard can be utilised by any religious person.

Explaining the status of graveyard beautification works in Lalapet, Padma Latha, Deputy Engineer, GHMC,

Mettuguda said, "We have identified a few graveyards in Mettuguda, which can be developed. Few of them are in worse conditions which do not even have basic facilities like water supply and others. On the stretch from Tarnaka towards Lalapet, we have identified a graveyard which needs basic facilities and we will be developing it in this month. Another Arya graveyard needs washrooms and seating facilities. We are

taking over the development works at an estimated budget of Rs 30 Lakh and we will be finishing the construction works by the end

Similarly, Govindhapuram graveyard would be turned into a model graveyard with a much-needed facelift. "Even the graveyard at Govindhapuram in Mettuguda is being developed. The construction works are underway. Granites are being laid for seating facility and bathrooms are being constructed. It would be one of a kind model graveyard in Mettuguda with all the



needed facilities. We are also constructing an office room for the supervisors to monitor the graveyard", she added.

"Graveyards have been encroached and visitors are left without basic facilities like washrooms and water taps in Mettuguda. Most of the graveyards do not have compound walls which must be constructed on a priority," felt K Sanjeev Kumar, a resident of Mettuguda.

Ambulance flips over near Shadnagar toll plaza

RANGA REDDY

AN ambulance of a private hospital flipped over near Shadnagar toll plaza on Monday. This accident took place when the ambulance was taking a dead body from Hyderabad to Mahabubnagar. Moreover, the people traveling in the ambulance were severely injured.



Illegal banners: More supporters of Mayor fined

ADARSH NAGAR

HYDERABAD Mayor Gadwal Vijayalaxmi supporter Atish Agarwal and Shravan Kumar were fined by the Enforcement, Vigilance and Disaster Management (EV&DM) wing of GHMC on Monday for erecting illegal congratulatory banners of the Mayor, which was a clear violation of civic norms. Earlier on Saturday Rs 4.35 lakh was fined by EVDM wing. Varying sums were imposed as fine on a few other supporters as well for putting up similar banners and hoardings in different parts of the city, with some of the denizens coming forward and pointing out on Twitter that these were illegal, the EVDM has been clearing the banners besides levying penalty.

Workshop on sexual harassment held

JUBILEE HILLS

A training Programme on how to face sexual harassment at workplace was organised by National Commission for Women at Dr B R Ambedkar Open University Campus in Jubilee Hills on Monday. Dr Rajulben L Desai, a member of National Commission for Women, New Delhi, oversaw the session on "How to face sexual harassment at workplace". 13 universities from Telangana state have participated in the training programme. She enlightened the participants on the latest judgment of Supreme Court and stressed the need of the internal committee to universities. She emphasized on the responsibilities of the internal committee members. She urged to utilise the services provided by the Central government for the safety and security of women and shed light on the functioning of Sakhi one stop centres which are working for the safety of women.

Thunder showers likely in 6 districts

HANS NEWS SERVICE **BEGUMPET**

THE IMD bulletin on Monday lightning very likely to occur on February 17 and 18 at isolated places in Adilabad, Kumaram Bheem, Nirmal, Jagtiyal, Nizamabad and Karinagar districts.

The warning comes in the wake the persisting cyclonic circulation over the north Madhya Maharashtra and its neighbourhood extending up to 0.9 km above the mean sea level.

According to the City forecast, on February 18 and 19 there would be generally cloudy sky with light rain. The night temperature during the two days would be 20 degrees Celsius each. The day temperatures would be 33 degrees Celsius each. The bulletin said the lowest minimum temperature in the State of 15.8 degrees Celsius was recorded in Medak. There was an appreciable rise in night temperatures ranging from 2.1 to 4 degrees Celsius in some parts. They were normal in most parts and below normal by -1.6 to -3 degrees Celsius in some others

The night temperatures registered elsewhere in the State were: Ramagundam 17.2, Hakimpet 17.8, Mahbubnagar 18.8, Dundigal 18.6, Nizamabad 19.9, Khammam & Nalgonda 19.6 each, Hanamkonda & Hyderabad 19.5 each, Bhadrachalam 19, Adilabad 20.2

The day temperatures in Mahbubnagar and Bhadrachalam touched the day's high of 34.6 degrees Celsius each. They were followed by Adilabad 34.3, Nizamabad 33.8, Ramagundam 33.6, Medak 33.2, Nalgonda & Khammam 33 each, Hyderabad 32.1, Hanamkonda 32, Dundigal & Dundigal 31.9 each, Hakim-

₹ 2L CMRF cheque handed over to Kadthal resident

HANS NEWS SERVICE KADTHAL

KALWAKURTHY MLA Jaipal Yadav distributed Chief Minister Relief Fund (CMRF) cheque worth Rs 2 lakh to Ravi, a resident of Gaddamidhi Thanda in Kadthal on Monday. Speaking on the occasion, the MLA said that the government has been providing monetary assistance to the poor and the needy through CMRF. The people should utilise this opportunity, he said, adding that the Telangana government always comes to the rescue of poor who are in serious need. Elaborating various developmental and welfare schemes undertaken in the constituency, he said all schemes implemented by the government were aimed at benefiting all sections of society. ZPTC Dasharath Nayak, PACS chairman Gampa Venkatesh, Mandal TRS presi-Srinivas Reddy, sarpanches Harichand Nayak, Tulasiram Nayak, TRS leaders and others were present.

Arts College hotspot for selfie videos

MOHAMMED HUSSAIN OSMANIA UNIVERSITY

WHEN a City-based freelance photographer spotted some teenagers shooting videos in front of iconic OU Arts College building on Sunday, he was puzzled. Sanjay Borra soon figured out that they were recording themselves on a video-sharing mobile application. The young and restless have a tendency to try out new mobile applications in order to gain quick popularity on the web and social media.

Taking chance on holiday, some youngsters gathered on the OU campus for filming themselves. The group was seen climbing the fountain in front of Arts College and recording videos, which will be set to music or voice-over immediately to be uploaded on video-sharing application from there to other social media platforms.

Several incidents have been reported on death of youngsters while shooting videos and trying out various dangerous challenges, like Blue Whale and KiKi

A senior police official told The Hans India that patrolling vehicles have observed youngsters After ban on TikTok youth sharing videos on Indian apps



recording videos on Tank Bund, Necklace Road and other public places both during day and night. "The police asked them not to do so. To gain popularity they record videos by risking their life," he observed.

There have been several accidents where youth were caught by the police during late nights near Tank Bund, as they recorded videos on speeding bikes or cars on City roads. This trend became popular with the Chinese application 'TikTok'. After India banned the Chinese app in June 2020 a large number of TikTok users felt sad and were looking

for other video-sharing apps. Though TikTok was banned, the craze remains among youth. They are still seen filming and recording videos on Indian mobile applications, like Roposo App, Chingari App, Vigo Video, Dubsmash, MX TakaTak, Moj Josh and Snack Video

This give parents and teachers cause for concern after the popularity of dangerous online dares such as the Blue Whale Challenge and KiKi Car.

Apart from recording videos near heritage sites, roads, public parks, nowadays youth are seen at schools, colleges and universities. They are filming themselves on various sites for uploading musically-recorded footage on video-sharing applications developed in the country.

A parent came to know about a child when a teacher caught her recording video in class. "I was not aware of my child, who is still in VIII class, carrying her mobile phone and recording video in school," said Shiva Laxmi, a resident of Malkajgiri.

"Parents were so happy that the government banned TikTok. But, similar apps have been developed in the country and a large number of youngsters are still seen making clips and uploading them on the app hoping they would get popularity by recording videos in different styles and at various locations, said a parent.

KATORA HOUZ TO REGAIN ITS PAST GLORY

- Following the October rains the condition of Katora Houz turned worst and the retaining wall also collapsed
- **GHMC Commissioner Lokesh Kumar sanctioned Rs 3.6 crore for** development of the 450-year-old Katora Houz
- The restoration works includes drilling of 4 borewells, desilting, Illumination of the entire tank, construction of pathways, landscaping and a boating activity

HANS NEWS SERVICE GOLCONDA

WITH GHMC commencing the beautification works, the 450year-old Katora Houz situated in the vicinity of Golconda Fort will be regaining its past glory of the tank. After several representations with Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and Telangana Tourism Development Corporation for the restoration by the public representatives, now the civic body would be commencing the beautification works at the tank. According to Karwan MLA Kausar Mohiuddin, following the

October rains the condition of Katora Houz turned worst and the retaining wall also collapsed. Observing the condition, last month Hyderabad MP Asaduddin Owaisi proposed for the development of Katora Houz to the Telangana State Tourism Development Corporation (TSTDC) and appealed to sanction funds and to turn the historic tank as a tourist attraction, but due to non-availability of the funds with tourism department, it has requested to arrange the funds through GHMC. "After the representation was passed by the TSTDC for the restoration, GHMC Commissioner Lokesh Kumar on February 15 sanctioned an amount of Rs 3.6 crore for development of Katora Houz," added MLA.

The restoration works includes drilling of 4 borewells, desilting and cleaning of debris inside the tank, Illumination (lighting) in the entire tank, construction of pathways, landscaping and area beautification, and a boating activity. The works also include the construction of a retaining wall which was collapsed in October rains. As soon as the funds are released the restoration works will commence.

Katora Houz is one of the heritage structures in the historic Golconda Fort. It is the largest tank in the city which comes under the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), later handed over to the Tourism department for further development. Katora Houz is a four-acre, perfectly symmetrical man-made lake constructed in 1560 during the reign of Ibrahim Qutb Shah (1550-80). It was filled with water from the Talab-e-Durg (now Durgam Cheruvu).





DABEERPURA ROAD THROWN OPEN FOR PUBLIC

HANS NEWS SERVICE **DABEERPURA**

THE residents of Dabeerupura and surrounding localities can now breathe easily after the Dabeerpuranala works which started almost 2 years back were completed. Dabeerpura road which was closed for the ongoing works was also thrown open to commuters.

On Monday, Hyderabad MP Asaduddin Owaisi along with MLA, corporators and GHMC officials reviewed the works and reopened the road for general

It is considered as one of the important projects in the Old City to stop constant overflowing of the nala during every monsoon. The works were sanctioned after the area was flooded in heavy rains witnessed in 2019.Former GHMC Commissioner M Dana Kishore in May 2019sanctioned a total amount of Rs 1.90 crore which includes the works of desilting, removing of debris and constructing new pillars, nala

Pasha Quadri said, "The works were delayed due to technical issues like shifting of electric poles. While the recent rains (during monsoon) have caused delay for works like the construction of retaining wall, slab and other construction works." During inspection, Asaduddin also instructed the concerned officials to start the second phase works of nala near the Purani Haveli road to Ganga Nagar. A separate amount of Rs 1.9 crore was also sanctioned for the works.

Reacting over the latest development the local activists welcomed the much awaited development. "On several occasions, Principal Secretary (MA&UD) Arvind Kumar, Hyderabad MP Asaduddin Owaisi, GHMC Commissioner Lokesh Kumar, Zonal Commissioner Ashok Samrat, MLA Syed Ahmed Pasha Quadri paid visits and inspected the works. Now finally after almost 2 years the works are completed," exclaimed Abdul Rahman social activist.

Residents sigh a relief as nala works for over 2 year gets completed



- AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi along with MLA, corporators and GHMC officials reviewed the works and reopened the road
- An amount of Rs 1.90 crore was sanctioned for desilting, removing of debris, constructing new pillars, nala widening and laying of slabs
- Locals hope that the works will stop regular overflowing of nala during every monsoon

BJP declares candidates for MLC polls

Ramchander Rao, Premender Reddy to contest Graduate polls

HYDERABAD

BJP has announced its candidates for two graduate MLC seats on Monday. Sitting MLC N Ramchander Rao representing Mahabubnagar-Hyderabad-Rangareddy Graduates constituency and Premender Reddy from Warangal-Nalgonda-Khammam Graduate constituency



are the new candidates declared by the party. The Election commission

has already announced the schedule for these polls to be held on March 14 Sunday. According to the poll body schedule, the nominations can be filed till February 23, scrutiny on February 24 and withdrawals on February 26. While the Hyderabad segment has 5,21,386 voters, Warangal

KCR working for tribal welfare: Malla Reddy

HYDERABAD

LABOUR Welfare and Employment Minister Ch Malla Reddy on Monday claimed that the Telangana government offered priority for welfare of tribals and enabled them rule their lambada thandas.

Speaking to press persons, he said that Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao has offered a minister post to woman leader Satyavathi Rathod. The Minister maintained that the KCR governtransformed labma-

dathandas into village panchayats and pushed local leaders to rule themselves. "The KCR government like no other states offers funds for these thandas to push development programs. The villages of lambadas are now getting a facelift due to our government efforts. Gurukul institutions were set up for the tribals education and extended Rs 20 lakh for abroad studies. Telangana is number one in welfare schemes and other states are following us," he added.

Mayor to take oath on Feb 22

segment has 4,92,943 votes.

HANS NEWS SERVICE ADARSH NAGAR

THE newly elected Mayor of Hyderabad, VijayalaxmiGadwal will be taking Oath on Feb 22 and will start working from her new office which is getting ready on the 7th floor of the GHMC head office.

While she would be having a new office, the old office of Mayor will be provided to the Deputy Mayor, Mothe Srilatha. On Monday, scores of visitors paid her at her residence and wished her on beginning new journey as Mayor of the City.

Applications invited for **T-Seva Centres**

HYDERABAD

T-SEVA Centre has invited applications from interested candidates for opening T-Seva Online Centres at all cities, districts, mandals and panchayats areas across Telangana State.A subsidy of 25 percent will be offered in the registration fee under Telangana self-employment scheme to SC, ST, BC, EBC, Minority, Women candidates and Ex-Servicemen.

T-Seva Online Centre provides PAN Card Enrolment and Correction, AEPS (Aadhaar Enabled Payment System) - Micro ATM, Bharat Bill payments, Bus, Rail and Flight Tickets, All Bank Money Transfers, Telecom Recharges - Pre-paid, Post-paid, Landline, DTH, Data Cards, Insurance payments, New DTH Applications, Bank Payments Bank, Opening of New accounts, issue of debit cards, Cash Deposits, Cash withdrawals, Insurance Services, Gold loans request, Cash in services for more than 20 Companies, Skill Development Admission Services.

The last date for applying is February 27.Online applications can be sent on the website: www.tsevacentre.com. For more information contact: 8179955744.

TITA Symposium 2021 held on grand note

GACHIBOWLI

TELANGANA Information Technology Association (TITA) organised its Symposium 2021 at Westin Hotel here on Sunday. It began on a grand note with Fusion Arts troupe of Telangana Department of Language and Culture presenting an outstanding performance.

Chairman of TITA Advisory Council Jayesh Ranjan presided over the Annual Meeting of the Association. He appreciated the Association's Global Governing Council for taking up various schemes aimed at public welfare through digital initiatives.

TITA Global President Sundeep Kumar Makthala presented

a special photo painting portrait to Jayesh Ranjan. The Association also felicitated senior journalist Sridhar Surineni who was selected as Information Officer with Indian Information Serv-

TITA Global Governing Council members this time were selected based on interviews by TSPSC former member C Vittal, TITA Advisor Sangameshwar Rao. The Association conducted a training session for its District Secretaries on honing leadership

Swartham, a film exclusively directed and acted by techies was screened at the venue. Sundeep Makthala felicitated the film

crew. Also, the Association awarded Verified Badges to various companies like SlickTalks company, Kotla Group, South Africa based We Help, vidyarthi.com and The Startup Works. Speaking on the occasion Venkatrama, a member of TS Council for Higher Education expressed happiness over the various programmes undertaken by TITA. He said that the TSCHE was willing to reach MoU with the Association.

TITA Vice President Bojjam Rana Pratap, Ashwin Chandra Valaboju, Naveen Chintala, Governing Committee members Srikant Badiga, Goverdhanand others were present.

Increasing ST quota; Ball lies in Centre's court, says Talasani

BANJARA HILLS

ANIMAL Husbandry Minister Talasani Srinivas Yadav said that the Central government has to decide on increasing reservations for scheduled tribes in the country.

He took part in SanthSevalal Maharaj Jayanthi held on a grand note at Telangana Bhavan on Monday. Speaking on the occasion, he said the Telangana government has passed a resolution in the Assembly to increase ST reservations and



urged the Centre to take necessary steps. "However, the Centre is yet to take action in this regard. It is supposed to give suitable reservations to the ST community to develop in all segments," he added.

The minister lauded the state

government and chief minister K Chandrashekar Rao forimplementing several schemes for the welfare of SCs and STs. "The government has upgraded lambada thandas to village panchayats. We are giving funds for these tribal villages to have all facilities. KCR offered minister post to Satyavathi Rathod who is a tribal leader he said," he added.

Ministers Srinivas Yadav, Malla Reddy, Satyavathi Rathod and other leaders attended the

TRS govt to present its schemes at Niti Aayog

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

THE Telangana government will present a report on the State's achievements at the NitiAyog governing council meeting to be chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on February 20.

Various State initiatives, such as TSI-PASS, KCR KITS, RythuBandhu ,Rythu Bhima, and areas where the it is in forefront across the country will be highlighted in the report. Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao is likely to attend the virtual meeting.

State Chief Secretary Somesh Kumar on Monday held a meeting with top officials and instructed them to prepare a note on State achievements.

CPM stages protest over fuel price hike

HANS NEWS SERVICE MUSHEERABAD

ACTIVISTS of CPI(M) City unit on Monday demonstrated at RTC Crossroads to protest the 'indiscriminate' increase of petrol. diesel and LPG gas. They set fire to an effigy of the Central government. Addressing the demonstrators, City secretary M Srinivas pointed out that the rising fuel prices would burden people, when those at international level were on a downward trend. He

attributed the price rise to levying of tax by the government. Srinivas said the new prices of petrol in City were Rs.92, diesel Rs.80 and LPG Rs.821. This was 'unjustified'. He demanded the BJP-led government to step down for failing to control fuel prices. The CPI(M) leader criticised the Centre for neglecting the problems of farmers, workers and commoners. Among those who took part in the demonstration were City Executive members M Srinivas Rao, M Dasarath, M Mahender, G Naresh, N Marenna.

TS-MESA calendar launched

HANS NEWS SERVICE NAMPALLY

SWETA Mohanty, Collector & District Magistrate of Hyderabad District inaugurated the TS-MESA (Minority Employees Service Association) New Year 2021 wall calendar and table calendar of Revenue Department in the collectorate chamber on Monday.

Mohammed Younus, president, TS-MESA, Hyderabad presided over the function and Syed Abdul Irshad, vice president, Md Fazal ul Rahman, general secretary, Md Zahuruddin, working president and other office bearers of TRESA attended the function.



Sharmila to launch party in May or July

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

FORMER AP Chief Minister Y S Rajashekara Reddy's daughter Sharmila is making fast political moves aiming to launch her political party in Telangana. Soon after returning from Bengaluru on Monday, she held a meeting with a select group of leaders and intellectuals here. Sharmila is likely to announce the launch of her political outfit on May 14-the day YSR assumed CM's office in 2004---or on July 8--her father's birthday. She is likely to announce some major decisions on those days.

Earlier, she planned to float the party in April. But the AP CM YS Jagan Mohan Reddy's sister deferred the plan as she wanted to hold a series of meetings with YSR supporters to ascertain the political situation in Telangana.

Leaders said that Sharmila will take more time to launch the party. After the by-poll to the Nagarjunasagar Assembly constituency and elections to two graduate constituencies and She will meet RR & Hyderabad leaders on Feb.20

 Senior Cong leader M Ranga Reddy calls on Sharmila



seven municipalities, including Warangal and Khammam corporations, she would plunge into action.

Her 'padayatra' from Chevella (where YSR also took out yatra before 2004 elections) in May or July is in pipeline. After the meeting with old Nalgonda district leaders, she will meet Ranga Redy and Hyderabad leaders on February 20. Senior Congress leader and former MLC M Ranga Reddy called on Sharmila ahead of the meeting.

Graduates must reject corrupt TRS & BJP: Uttam

TELANGANA Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) President N Uttam Kumar Reddy has expressed confidence that the Congress party would win the elections for the Mahabubnagar-Rangareddy-Hyderabad and Khammam-Warangal-Nalgonda graduates' constituencies of

NAMPALLY

Telangana Legislative Council. He was addressing a press conference at Gandhi Bhavan on Monday after officially handing over B-forms to the Congress candidates - former minister G Chinna Reddy (Mahabubnagar-Rangareddy-Hyderabad) and ex-MLC Ramulu Naik (Khammam-Warangal-Nalgonda). He said that the party has picked highly efficient, able and committed leaders as its candidates for MLC polls. "Chinna Reddy holds a PhD degree in Agriculture and is known for his honesty and simplicity. He has been serving the people selflessly without having expectations. Ramulu Naik was born into a poor family and came up in his life after hard struggle. He played a key role during the Telangana movement. Chinna

Reddy and Ramulu Naik are highly capable of serving the people, especially in addressing the needs of graduates, including employees and jobless youth," he added.

The TPCC Chief said that the educated youth must unitedly defeat the corrupt and unethical regimes of TRS and BJP. Criticising Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao, he said that the promise, made in 2014 elections, of filling one lakh vacant posts in government department remained unfulfilled. "The Pay Revision Commission, in its recent report, has disclosed that over 1.91 lakh posts were lying vacant in various departments. He said the delay in the recruitment process has deprived thousands of students, who participated in the Telangana movement, from getting a government job.TRS government lured jobless youth in 2018 Assembly elections by promising them Rs 3,016 dole every month. However, this promise was not fulfilled even now. KCR has been openly cheating the jobless youth ever since he came to power in June 2014. Revision of pay scales was long overdue.

Further, the new PRC has disappointed the employees by recommending a fitment of mere 7.3 per cent. Employees be given a fitment of not less than 43 per cent," he added.

Uttam Kumar Reddy said that the BJP Govt at the Centre has been doing injustice to Telangana since the beginning. He said Telangana remained neglected in the Union Budgets since 2014. Further, he said that the promises which were made under Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act were yet to be fulfilled. He ridiculed Telangana BJP President Bandi Sanjay's attempts to incite communal hatred in the state. "BJP leaders often talk about Ram Mandir. We are also Hindus and we are not against the construction of Ram Mandir in Ayodhya. But why BJP leaders are not showing similar affection with Ram Mandir inBhadrachalam? Why is the BJPgovernment trying to give away temple lands to private parties?" he asked.

Uttam Kumar Reddy appealed to the people to elect Congress candidates to restore morality in politics and democracy in Telangana.

Reddy expresses confidence in Congress winning the upcoming MLC elections for two graduate constituencies



 Criticises CM KCR for failing to fulfill his 2014 electoral promise of one lakh jobs till now

Ridicules the BJP government at the Centre for neglecting Telangana in the Budget

 Says TRS government lured jobless youth in 2018 Assembly elections by promising them ₹3,016 dole per month

> Questions why BJP leaders not affectionate towards Ram Mandir in

Bhadrachalam



5.6 lakh to cast votes in to MLC constituencies

HANS NEWS SERVICE TANK BUND

THERE are 5.6 lakh voters in the two MLC graduates constituencies for which elections would be held on March 14. In Hyderabad district 169 polling centres have been set up.

This was stated by GHMC Commissioner D S Lokesh Kumar here on Monday at a review meeting with the nodal officers on holding of elections.

Lokesh Kumar stated that the L B Indoor stadium has been temporarily

SOUTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

Follow us on @SCRailwayindia
Details of the Tender Notices of
S.C Railway can be seen on our
basite: www.scr.indianrailways.co

India, the undersigned invites e-tender for the following works up to 14.00 hours on 10-03-2021. S.No.1. e-Tender No. 01_W_SC_21_OT. Name of the work: VKB-PRLI Section:

(1) Proposal for closure of manned LC No.39 at Km.82/11-12 between

MTV-BIDR stations by constructing RCC box as RUB/Subway under

Sr.DEN/West/SC section

(2) Proposal for closure of manned LC

No.60 at Km.118/13-14 between

HBU-BHLK stations by constructing

RCC box as RUB/Subway under

Sr.DEN/West/SC section.

(3) Proposal for closure of manned of

LC No.75 at Km.148/13-14 between

KCP-KMNR stations by constructing

RCC box as RUB/Subway unde

Sr.DEN/West/SC Section.

(4) Proposal for closure of manned LC No.85 at Km.175/4-5 between UDGR-

HER station by constructing RCC box

as RUB/Subway under

Sr.DEN/West/SC section.

Approx.Tender Value in Rs.

6,77,96,981/-. Completion period in

Months: 09. Maintenance period in

S.No.2. e-Tender No.

02_S_SC_21_OT. Name of the work: KZJ-BZA section: Proposed

construction Road under bridge

(RUB) in lieu of LC No.111 (M) UP,

DN & 3rd line portion at KM 502/21-23

at CHINTAKANI and

NAGALWANCHA stations as precast

RCC Box of size 1x5.50x5.00m by box

pushing method. Approx. Tender

Value in Rs.:6.30.61.677/-

Completion period in Months: 09.

Maintenance period in Months: 36.

S.No.3. e-Tender No.:

03_S_SC_21_OT. Name of the

work: MTMI-JNPD Section -

Supplying, fabricating and erecting

welded built - up steel height guage for

existing RUB's between JPTN-JNPD

stations under ADEN/MDR sub

division Approx. Tender Value in

Rs.: 82,92,316/-. Completion period

in Months: 06. Maintenance period

S.No.4. e-Tender No.:

04_S_SC_21_OT. Name of the

work: SC Division: Provision of lift at

WL station in Platform No.4(BZA end

FOB). Approx. Tender Value in Rs.:

23.67.965/- Completion period in

Months: 04. Maintenance period in

S.No.5. e-Tender No.:

05_N_SC_21_OT. Name of the

work: KZJ-BPQ section: Proposed

construction Road under bridge

(RUB) in lieu of LC No.65 (M) at KM

231/26-28 between BELLAMPALLI-

RECHINI stations by pushing method.

Approx. Tender Value in Rs.:

5,74,30,274/-. Completion period in

Months: 09. Maintenance period in

S.No.6. e-Tender No.:

06 N SC 21 OT. Name of the

work: KZJ-BPQ section: Proposed

construction Road under bridge

(RUB) in lieu of LC No.56 (M) UP, DN

& 3rd line portion at KM 260/46-261/2

between PEDDAMPET

MANCHIRYAL stations. Approx.

Tender Value in Rs.: 8,83,16,110/-.

Completion period in Months: 09.

Maintenance period in Months: 36

S.No.7. e-Tender No.:

07_N_SC_21_OT. Name of the

work: KZJ-BPQ section- Proposed

construction of Road under bridge

(RUB) in lieu of LC No. 35(M) at Km.

Peddapalli stations. Approx. Tender

Value in Rs.: 5,74,32,700/-

Completion period in Months: 09.

Maintenance period in Months: 36.

S.No.8. e-Tender No.:

08_N_SC_21_OT. Name of the

work: KZJ-BPQ section- Proposed

construction of Road under bridge

(RUB) in lieu of LC No. 33(M) at Km.

307/14-16 between Potkapalli

Kolnur stations. Approx. Tender

Value in Rs.: 5,74,32,700/-

Completion period in Months: 09.

Maintenance period in Months: 36.

.Tenderers should participate

through e-tendering only and no

2.All the prospective tenderers are

requested to remit Cost of EMD (if

applicable) through online payments

3. The Railway reserves the right to cancel the tender without assigning

4.All the prospective tenderers are

advised to get GSTIN identification

Sr. Divisional Engineer/Co-ord/

Nos. and submit along with their offer.

any reason thereto

manual offers may be considered.

301/22-24 between Kolnur

in Months: 06.

Months:36

Months: 36.

169 polling centres set up in **Hyderabad district**

selected as the distribution, reception and counting centre. He directed the officials concerned to arrange webcasting in every polling booth, besides providing basic facilities.

The GHMC commissioner said as the model code of conduct has already ing constituted to enforce it. Additional GHMC Commissioner Priyanka Ala has been appointed as the returning officer (RO) for the elections.

According to Lokesh Kumar, the nominations would be received in her office located on the third floor of the main GHMC building. The election staff would themselves go to identified senior citizens aged over 80 years and Kovid positive persons to help them cast votes, a press release issued by

ELECTION TIMETABLE

Date of election notification:	February 16				
Filing of nominations:	February 23				
Scrutiny of nominations:	February 24				
Date of withdrawal:	February 26				
Date of polling:	March 14 8 am to 4 pm.				
Counting of votes:	March 17				
Date of closure of poll process:	March 22				
Nodal	officers & duties				
G venkateshwarlu:	SDC LA (Printing of ballot papers,				
	arranging ballot boxes)				
P Saroja:	AC-admin (Election material, stationery)				
B Santosh, IAS: AC-health & sanitation					
(Micro observer & health care)					
Jairai Kennedy:	AC-finance, IT (IT, webcasting)				

Crocodile strays into village

HANS NEWS SERVICE VIKARABAD

AC-UCD-electrical (Training)

(DRC, provision of basic facilities)

CA-maintenance

Director, EV & DM (Law & order, transport)

(media cell, paid news, voter awareness)

Chief Valuation Officer (Report, return)

Personnel Officer LWS (Postal ballots)

OSD OCD Estate Officer (24X7 call centre)

J Shankarayya:

Mohd Ziauddin:

Venkataramana:

Mahesh Kulkarni:

G Balanarsimha Swamy:

Anuradha:

VishwajitKampati:

Secunderahad invites e-tender o behalf of the President of India for the following works in Single packet system of tendering. S.No.1. NIT No.: E(GS)/CN/26/2020

2021 Dt. 12-02-2021. Name of the work: Sub: Tender No.13/2020-21/E-GS-CN-GTL: Construction Guntakal Division:- (A) Electrification of bye-pass cabin (1No) GY and new Platform at Gooty connection with construction of new bye-pass line. (B)Shifting Modification of Existing Undergroun Power line/Cable line crossings shifting of Poles LT/11kv(1No)8 Dismantling, etc, which are infringing in the New BG Doubling Line between Dharmavaram-Renigunta connecting line. Estimate Cost Rs. 6935939.60/- EMD: Rs.NIL Document Cost: Rs.NIL Completion period: 12 (TWELVE) Months. Date of closing

08.03.2021at15.00 hrs. 1) For bid document and other details please login to website https://www.ireps.gov.in.

2)Payment of Earnest Money Deposit and Cost of Tender document should be only through Net Banking/paymen gateway facilities made available online in IREPS.

3)Tenderer can submit their offers online during tender submissio period which is fifteen days period to closing of tender

4)Tenderer should watch for any Corrigenda (issued online only) upto the date of commencement of the Tender submission period.

Deputy Chief Electrical Enginee (Works) Secunderabad

Date:12.02.2021

Senior Divisional Electrica Engineer/Maintenance/Guntaka acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tender for the following works.

Tender No.: GTL-EM-29-2020-21 Guntakal Division - Outsourcing of non-core activity of cleaning and maintenance of batteries, lights, fans of TL coaches of Daily/Non daily trains at Primary Maintenance Depots a Tirupati for a period of two years Approximate Value: Rs.2,97,37,874/-Closing date and time: 10.03.2021 at 12.00 hrs.

For Bidding the tender and other details login http://www.ireps.gov.in Corrigendum of tender, if any will be ssued online only. Tender Documer may be downloaded from http://www.ireps.gov.in by the tenderers at free of cost.

Note: To participate/Bid in this e-Tender, tenderer should have vali DSC (Digital Signature Certificate). Sr. Divisional Electrical Enginee

For further tender conditions / details and for downloading the tender documents, Please visit website at https://www.ireps.gov.in or www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in

PEOPLE of Balkal village in Vikarabad district on Monday were flabbergasted when a crocodile was found in an open pit that was dug up quite a few days back by

Upon witnessing a crocodile warming in a pit on Monday morning, the locals soon informed the officials of the Forest Department. Later, the officials along with local police visited the spot and with utter difficulty, caught the crocodile and securely fastened the reptile with the help of rope.

Later, the officials of the Forest Department released the crocodile into Manjira Wildlife Sanctuary in San-



Leopard on prowl again, attacks cow

RAJENDRANAGAAR

A big cat, presumably a leopard, has created flutter again in Rajedranagar on Sunday night. The wild cat attacked a cow at Fatima farmhouse near Himayat Sagar area under Raiendraagar at around 3am on Sunday night. However, the pack of stray dogs in the farmhouse forced the big cat to run amok empty-handed without feeding on the prey, informed a caretaker of the farmhouse.

"This is not the lone incident. Earlier, the big cat attacked around three animals in the farm, but no compensation was yet received from the government. Now the leopard again attacked the cow and grievously injured her. While the dogs started fiercely barking at the beast, I started beating the plastic drums to chase away the leopard," he added. The chaos is back in the area after a lull of four months when an elusive leopard - that give sleepless nights to locals for almost four months after it was first spotted sitting in a middle of a road at Katedhan area under Rajendranagar on May 14 last year. It was finally caught by Forest Officials in



Officials told to clear certificates in a week

Uday Pulluri Adarsh Nagar

REACTING over the increasing complaints over delay in issuing birth and death certificates, the GHMC Additional Commissioner (Health), Santosh Badavat warned the staff to restore the public confidence and clear whatever pending applications.

During a meeting with staff, he brought to their notice that people were lodging complaints over the delay from different parts of the city. He warned that if they were not cleared within a week's time then action would be initiated against them. A GHMC official on condition of anonymity said that all the Assistant Medical Officers for Health (AMOH) working at different circles were summoned to the head office on Monday. They were instructed to issue all the pending applications within a week or to put their papers (resign).

As per the complainants, they have been making rounds at the GHMC offices for getting the certificates for days. "I believe because of the lack of coordination between Mee-Seva centres and GHMC circle offices it is being delayed. I could not get birth certificate of my son, even after applying for days," said a complainant, who applied at Secunder-

17TH ANNUAL BRAHMOTSAVAM



Annapurna Sahita Kasi Visweswara (Shiva) Temple at Seetharam Nagar in Safilguda, Secunderabad, celebrated the second day of the three-dayannual Brahmotsayamon a grand note on Monday Priests performed homam. The temple committee has invited devotees to participate in large numbers to mark the concluding day celebrations on Tuesday.

HANS CLASSIFIEDS

CHANGE OF NAME & D.o.B.

I, S.No.JC 669644H Sub/Clk(SD) Chittaranjan Tripathy, R/o.Bijay Tower-II, Flat No.410, Khodasingi, Berhampur, Odisha that my wife name and DOB is to be changed from Sarmistha Dash, DOB:18-8-1982 to SHARMISTHA DASH, DOB:18-7-1982.

I ZULFEQAR/ZULFEQUAR, holder of passport No. E-7568799, R/o. 20-2-419/A, Hussainialam, Hyderabad. That I corrected spelling AND ADDED SURNAME Lashkari. Hence I should be called as ZULFEQUAR ALI LASHKARI, only.

(TH_24374)

I. ZULEKHA W/o. Zulfaguar Ali Lashkari, holder of passport No. J-6327601, R/o. 20-2-419/A, Hussainialam, Hyderabad. That I added surname Lashkari, Hence I should be called as ZULEKHA LASHKARI W/o. ZULFEQUAR ALI LASHKARI, only.

(TH_24374)

I, MUTTUNURU SAIKIRAN R/o 4-66 Plot No 44 Bhagya Nagar Colony Hydershakote Cyberabad 500091 Ts Changed My Name As MUTHUNURU SAIKIRAN S/o MUTTUNURU SATYANARAYANA

(TH_24374)

I,VISHAL KUMAR R/o. 14-2-516 Gosha Mahal Chandanwadi Hyderabad 500012 Ts Changed My Name As VISHAL KUMAR JANGID S/o. RAJENDER PRASAD JANGID

(TH_24374)

I, MUKESH KUMAR JHANGIR R/o. 4-5-135 Attapur Village Near Old Post Office Hyderabad 500048 Ts Changed My Name As MUKESH KUMAR JANGID S/o Rajender Prasad Jangid

(TH_24374)

THE

I, RAJENDER PRASAD R/o 14-2-516 Gosha Mahal Chandanwadi Hyderabad 500012 Ts Changed My Name AS RAJENDER PRASAD JANGID S/o PRABHATI LAL.

(TH_24374) I, SRINIVASA REDDY MITTA R/o.1-

55/B, Dameragidda Village, Chevella Mandal, Rangaerddy Dist-501503, Changed My Name as SATHYA **NARAYANA REDDY MITTA S/o** Late. Venkata Ranga Reddy Mitta

I, SRILATHA DAMIDI R/o. H.No:1-

(TH_24374)

55/B, Dameragidda Village, Chevella Mandal, Rangaerddy Dist-501503, Changed My Name as LATHA DEVI MITTA W/o Venkata Ranga Reddy Mitta.

I, MOHAMMED GHOUSUDDIN S/o .Mohammed Abdul Raheem R/O Hno 16-3-94, Chanchalguda, Hyderabad, T.S. Hence Forth Shell Be Known As, MOHAMMED GHOUSE

(TH_24374)

I, BHUPATHIRAJU MANAV VARMA R/o. F.No.1204, Block-2, My Home Vihanga, Gopanapally, Serilingampally, Cyberabad, T.S. Changed My Name As BHUPATHIRAJU MAADHAV VARMA S/o Bhupathiraju Raghunath Raju.

(TH_24374)

(TH_24374)

1. NAGLILANCHA SREENTVASA RAO R/o 6-105/1/76, Plot No-76, Godavari Homes, Vennalagadda, Qutubullapur, Hyd-55, Changed My Name As NAGULANCHA SRINIVAS RAO S/o Nagulancha Pullaiah.

(TH_24374)

I, RAJAGOPAL RAMANUJAM R/o .1-128, flat-A-108, surya towers, bhavani nagar, behind Anutex, malkajgiri, Hyd-47, TS, require the name to be changed as RAJAGOPALAN RAMANUJAM S/o Rajagopalan krishnaswamy Ayyaswamy.

BHMS" 10L-25L PACKAGE B.V.Sc." 35L-50L PACKAGE GCS: Mahesh: #101, B Block iridevi Apartments, Beside Union Bank odel House Lane, Opp: Srinivasa ENT Hospital warakapuri Colony, Panjagutta, Hyderabad

'BDS" 8L-30L PACKAGE

BAMS" 12L-30L PACKAGE

9966135111/9966356111 9966296111/9966489111

I. Marketing Directors 2. Deputy Directors 3. Sr. General Managers

4.General Managers 5. Marketing Executives

9849721489/9014558126

I. NAYINI BALA LAXMI W/o. Navini Yellalah R/O. H.No.17-96, SR Nagar Colony, Siddipet, T.S. Changed My Name As

I, JYOTULA NIKITHA REDDY R/o. P No 8, Janaki Enclave, Rd No 9, Saroomagar, Rachakonda-2, T.S. Changed My Name As GUDURU NIKITHA REDDY D/o. Guduru Raghuram Reddy.



I,YELAERI PRUTHHVI CHARY S/o. Yelaeri Manohar R/o.45-116/74, Shiridi Nagar St. No.2, NMDC. East Anand Bagh. Malkaigiri Hvd. While I was Returning From my Exam Center to Lakdikapool I have Lost My Original Passport Bearing No. R0140541/22-5-2017 At HYD if anybody Founds- 9110719104.

(TH_24374) PUBLIC NOTICE

lient NAWAB MIR ARJUMAND ALI

HAN Son of Nawab Mir Jaffer Ali Khar

GREENCITY, PHALGUNA,

RATHANBHAI, VASUNDARA

SRIMITRA, VANASTHALI HILLS.

We also Purchase Across

Hyderabad

, PREETHI LATHA TADAKA, D/o Tadaka

Yadagiri, have lost my ICSE(Indian Certificate

Secondary Education) March, 2014, Newdelhi

with UNIQUE ID: 5753014, RAMADEVI

PUBLIC SCHOOL, Hayathnagar, Hyderabad.

while floods in Hyderabad on November 2020.

If anybody found please cont: 7981769105.

I, KASALA ANJI REDDY S/o: K.Narayana Reddy

R/o:Plot No.7,8,15 (P), Sai krishna Residency,

Gayathri Nagar, Suchitra Kompally Hyderabad, have

Lost my original Sale deed Document No:

4579/2002 Regd.at SRO Medchal, misplaced at

Bowenpally while shifting house on 02/02/2021.if

I B.BHADRAMMA W/o B.Brahma Chari would

like to inform the general public notice that

I have misplaced my original sale deed

document no 6365/1991 Regd at SRO

UPPAL office. Sale deed was misplaced in

house in recently occurred floods 2020. If any

one found it. Kindly Cont: 9959828650

anybody found Contact; 9948553612

LOST

(TH_24374)

(TH_24374)

esident of King Kothi, Pardah Gate, limayath Nagar, Hyderabad - 500 029 elangana State that he intend to sel nis Mumbai Property having address at TS No. 359 (Part) admeasuring 5563.26 Square Yards Situated a Malbar Hill, Mumbai Division, Mumba 400 006. (Hereinafter referred to said operty), We hereby wish to investigate he title of Ownership of its Owner o the said. If any person/s Financial nstitution having any claim or interest n the said above mentioned property by way of Sale, Exchange, Mortgage, ease, Trust, Inheritance, Lien, Gift, lequeath, Easement or whatsoever are hereby requested to make the same

Sd/- K. JAFFAR, Advocate Chamber: 3-4-174/7/1/B, Beside Bantia Showroom, Pillar No. 140, Hyderguda, Attapur, Hyderabad-48, Cell: 9440072580

known to as at my office within Fifteer

(15) Days hereof. Failing which any such

claim or demand if any of such person

shall be treated as waived and no

binding on my client and the sale and

transfer of the aforesaid property shall

be proceeded and complete.

LOSS OF DOCUMENTS

, G. RAVI KIRAN S/o. Late G NARASIMLU, R/o. H.No: 15-88, P & 1 Colony, Dilsukhnagar, Hyd-060, T.S. have lost my all original documents Passport bearing No. H674116/B00313450, Registered Sale Deed bearing Doc.No.1724/1974, Caste certificates Legal heir certificate, our father's Death Certificate, Ration Card and Maharashtra Driving License No. MH1 12-20110064497, Driving License No. DL-3AP0117402008 were flooded away because of recent heavy floods and heavy rains in Saroornagar area in

(TH_J.Sandeep)



Obituary ads

For booking ads, please contact:

Cell: 8498084260, Mail: hans.scheduling1@hmtv.in Office Address: #8-2-268/1A/2/8, Plot No.-3, Aurora Colony, Road No.-3, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad-500 034



ROAD WORKS TURN ATTAPUR A PERILOUS ZONE

ATTAPUR

THE wayside digging works being taken up in Rajendranagar area is causing great inconvenience to road userseven leading to accidents and making the stretch a perilous route to drive.

Similar works have been taken up at other arterial roads in Rajendranagar under Comprehensive Road Maintenance Programme (CRMP). The situation of road from Pillar No. 245, Sulemannagar to 294 Shivrampally turned the stretch into perilous routes as most of the passengers were losing balance of the vehicles while passing through the rough and uneven five-km stretch.

It is said that road works, whichhave been taken up in six circles such as Charminar, Falaknuma, Rajendranagar, Malakpet, Santoshnagar and Chandrayangutta in Charminar Zone, were awarded to MVenkatarao Infra Projects Private Limited. The road cutting works for underground gas pipelines were also taken up from Pillar No.294 Shivrampally to Pillar No.118 Attapur on the other side of the same road only to add more woes to already perturbed

While the ramp works were al-

No.165, opposite to RDO office Rajendranagar, the milling of road from Pillar No. 245 Sulemannagar to 294 Shivrampally and road cutting works from Pillar No. 294 Shivrampally to Pillar No.118 Attapur makes both side of the stretch a complete perilous route for the commuters.

"The contractors leaving the works incomplete for weeks is the main cause for several accidents every day while the situation turns worst in the night when visibility is very low," informed Kamelakar Jitender, activist and a resident of Attapur.

"Both sides of the road from Shivrampally to Attapurare not safer for driving as on one side road cutting works are undergoing while on another the road is left uneven and damaged for a few kilometers. Moreover, the works are being taken up without having a caution board on either side of the road putting the commuters completely into dark about the situation ahead," said Mujahid Mohiuddin Khudri, another resident of Golden Heights Colony, Upperpally, Rajendrana-

Meanwhile, the officials of executing agency MVenkatarao Infra Projects Private Limited did not respond to multiple calls for comment.



Road works are being taken up under Comprehensive Road Maintenance Programme (CRMP) in Rajendranagar

The road cutting works for underground gas pipeline is being carried out from Pillar No.294 Shivrampally to Pillar No.118 Attapur

CHILDREN'S CANCER DAY

Child patients steal cancer awareness show

HANS NEWS SERVICE BANJARA HILLS

TO mark Children's Cancer Day Monday, BasavaramaTarakam Indo-American Cancer Hospital and Research Institute, here, organised a special awareness programme and cultural events $\hat{b}y\,c\bar{h}ild$ patients.

Dr Raghava Rao Polavarapu, prominent US child specialist and Trust Board Member (TBM) of the institute, JSR Prasad, another TBM, and newly appointed TBM Nara Brahmani attended.

Addressing the gathering, paediatric oncologist Dr.Veerendra Patil said child cancer cases were rising. Every year 70,000 children were getting affected. He pointed out that 80 per cent of these cases could be cured, while stressing the need for creating awareness. Lack of awareness was forcing many children to stay away from treatment.

Dr Senthil Rajappa, head, medical oncology wing, said while treating cancer children was itself a problem, the other issue was the discrimination they faced. 'The agony faced by their parents was causing severe anxiety'. He offered to provide help/relief in fee to those facing treatment and other issues.

Brahmani said she considered a blessing to work for the insti-



BasavaramaTarakam Indo-American Cancer Hospital & Research Institute organised a special awareness & cultural event by child patients

tute in accordance with the wishes of her grandfather NTR. She noted that the institute stood first in two Telugu States.

Members of 'PaduthaTeeyaga' and cine playback singers Narsimha and Sairam rendered several film songs. Songs by child patients, Sameer and Manongna, were well received.

Magician Muralikrishna's performance received praise.

Those who present included institute COO G Ravi Kumar, Dr.T S Rao, medical director, Dr Kalpana Raghunath, associate director, Dr PaniKoteswara Rao, medical superintendent, many doctors and parents of cancer pa-

CRIME CORNER

Migrant minor lured & raped

HANS NEWS SERVICE DUNDIGAL

A 14-year-old girl was lured and allegedly raped by a labourer at Suraram under Dundigal police limits on Saturday night. The police complaint was filed on

According to the police, the victim and her parents—both construction labourers--migrated to City from UP five years ago. While her parents were away on Sunday night, the suspect, who is a neighbour, lured her with food. As she

walked away with him, he took her to his room and allegedly raped her. He threatened with dire consequences if she revealed the incident.

When her parents reached home, the girl's mother noticed changed behaviour. She questioned the girl. As the victim was unable to bear the trauma, she broke down and revealed the horrendous incident. The parents filed a complaint. Based on it, a case was registered. Special teams were formed to nab the culprit, said the police.

he did not know swimming, he

drowned. As it was early hours

nobody noticed the boy. After a

few hours passers-by found the

body and alerted the police. The

body was retrieved and parents

informed. The body was

handed over to parents after

post-mortem at OGH mortu-

ary, said the police.

2 youth killed trying to dodge pothole

Were crushed under wheels of truck

HANS NEWS SERVICE Afzalganj

IN a tragic incident, two youngsters riding a bike were killed on the spot in wee hours of Monday, as they tried to dodge a pothole on the main road at MGBS and fell down. They were crushed under the wheels of a truck moving in the same

They were handed over to fam-

direction. The victims were identified as Fasi Khan (19) and

Mohsin (23). The bodies were sent for post-mortem at OGH mortuary.

ilies. Legislator of AIMIM

the families that they will be given justice at the earliest. According to the police, the

mishap took place when duo was returning from a function. The truck driver fled from the spot. Special teams have been

victims' residences. He assured

4 transgenders held for creating ruckus

Ahmed Pasha Qadri visited the

HANS NEWS SERVICE PET BASHEERABAD

THE Pet Basheerabad police on Monday arrested four transgenders for creating ruckus during a house-warming programme. According to police, they went to the programme on Sunday and de-

manded money from the house- owner. Though, he paid money, they were not happy

with the amount and demanded more which he declined. The transgenders created ruckus and threw mud/stones on walls/windows and displayed their private parts while standing near entrance. They ran away from when the house-owner threatened to inform the police. He filed a police complaint, based on which, after collecting technical evidence, the transgenders were arrested and sent to judicial custody, said the police.

Minor boy drowns in lake HANS NEWS SERVICE and entered the water body. As

MAILARDEVPALLY

IN a tragic incident, a 13-yearold boy, who wanted to learn swimming but was being stopped by parents, went to swim in a nearby lake under Mailardevpally police limits on Monday morning and drowned.

According to the police, the boy went out for a swim alone

District Library holds committee meeting

HANS NEWS SERVICE RANGAREDDY

DISTRICT Library Development Committee Chairman Kappati Pandu Ranga Reddy held a plenary meeting with the members of district library association in Saroornagar on Monday.

During the meeting the committee suggested for an app regarding the libraries and the books in the libraries for the people of Rangareddy district. On this occasion the members have reviewed the works of libraries in various mandals. The construction of new libraries in Nedunur, Emjapur and Ravirala villages were also discussed.

District Library Development committee members Dayanand, Anand Reddy, Srinivas Reddy ,District Panchayat Raj Officer Ganesh, District Library organization secretary Manoj Kumar and others were also present.



Rusted vehicles get new lease of life

RANGAREDDY

THE district is in the process of converting obsolete vehicles into scraps, this seems to be especially the case with autos. People are obtaining permits from the officials saying that they have made old autos into scrap and are buying new vehicles. The old ones are still roaming on the roads again as usual. It is hoped that with the new legislation in the latest budget, such matters will be fully checked. The government has banned permits for the purchase of new autos in Greater in view of pollution and traffic congestion. No permits have been issued for five years. Although auto associations have already asked the officials about the matter, the file has not moved forward. Many people buy and drive autos in the city for employment along with the unemployed. Some $\,$ are renting on a daily basis and running these to support families.

Lime lighting the demand for autos, people are converting the old autos into new ones and are reselling them. In fact those that are 15-20 years old should be made into scrap and only then it is possible to buy a new auto by taking a license with that chassis number. This is where some wit is on dis-





play by few people. The Nagole Center is in the process of converting old vehicles into scraps, few autos have not been converted into scrap here. They are being repaired and sold again. Air pollution has been increasing with obsolete vehicles. In the Hyderabad transport department alone, there are a total of 6.81 lakh vehicles that have crossed 15-20 years. If Ran-

gareddy and Medchal districts are combined the count of 15-20 years old vehicles will cross 15 lakh. According to the rules and regulations, such vehicles should pay green tax to get on the roads, which is not being followed by anyone. According to the new budget, if such vehicles are not made into scrap they are likely to face heavy fines if they get on roads.

Sabitha, Sathyavathi takes part in TRS membership drive

HANS NEWS SERVICE CHEVELLA

EDUCATION minister SabithaIndrareddy and Women and Children welfare minister Sathyavathi Rathod participated in the membership of Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS) drive held in Chevella on Monday.

On this occasion Education minister SabithaIndrareddy called upon the party leaders and cadre to put up a collective effort to see that greater numbers of enrolments are from Chevella. Sabitha said that the Telangana government is striving for the betterment of the people and the

Speaking about the Palamuru

project she said that the government is striving to complete the works of the Palamuru project to the earliest. She further added that after the TRS government has come in governance, investors have invested Rs. 2 lakh crores and established 14,000 companies. She also said that the Telangana government has been providing drinking water to the public through Mission Bhagi-

This membership drive has been conducted under the auspices of Chevella MLA Kale Yadaiah. Nagarkurnool MP Ramulu MLC MahendarReddy, RangareddyZP Chairperson Anitha Reddy, InchargeGattuRamachander and others were also present.



Lions Club holds health camp

HANS NEWS SERVICE SHADNAGAR

MLA Anjaiah Yadav inaugurated the mega health camp at Buggareddy gardens in Shadnagar on Monday.

Lions Club of Shadnagarand Vijaya hospital jointly organised the mega health camp for people suffering from cardiac problems to mark Chief Minis-

ter KChandrashekar Rao's birthday, which is onFebruary 17. Shadnagar Municipal chairman Narender, Farooqnagar ZPTC Venkatraman Reddy, Lions Club region chairman G Narayana, zonal chairman A Srinivas Reddy, secretary Murali, doctors Chandhulal Rathod, Sudheer Reddy, Prem Saikumar and others were pres-



TTD to develop Veda Pathasala in Keesaragutta

AFTER his inspection at TTD Pathashala Keesaragutta, near Hyderabad on Monday, EO Dr K S Jawahar Reddy instructed the engineering officials concerned to send proposals to take up the development works of the Vedic institution to improve facilities to cope with the increased strength of students in the Veda pathasala. Earlier, Vedapathasala Principal D Mallikarjuna Avadani informed EO that the hostel facility in the Pathasala is sufficient to accommodate only 40 pupils whereas there are 120 students studying at present in Veda Pathashala at Keesaragutta stressing the need of construction additional rooms to cope with the increased strength of students. He also sought EO for construction of a compound wall direly required to prevent wild animals straying into Yagashala and Vedapathashala premises for the safety of teachers and students.

The EO directed the officials concerned to send a detailed proposal immediately to take up the development works without any delay. Later the vedic students brought to the notice of TTD EO that though they have become accomplished pundits after pursuing eight years Vedic course in TTD, they are denied

TIRUPATI

Venkateswara at Tirumala on Sundav

while the common pilgrims availing

the free darshan off line SSD tokens

have to wait 3 days for darshan with

THE highest number of 56,448 pil-

grims had darshan of Lord



TTD EO Dr K S Jawahar Reddy inspecting TTD Veda Pathashala in Keesaragutta, near Hyderabad on Monday

employment in Vedic related posts by the Endowments Department of Telangana State. The EO told them that he will definitely discuss the issue in the ensuing TTD Trust Board Meeting which is slated on February 27 to take it to the notice of the Telangana government. The EO had darshan of Sri

56,448 pilgrims have darshan at Tirumala

TTD is issuing 22,000 offline SSD to-

kens for free darshan against 25,000

for darshan. This apart, ticket holders

donors including Srivani Trust donors

special entry tickets of Rs 300 daily

of various Arjitha sevas (virtual),

and also Supatham and VIP break.

the rush remaining unabated.

Ramalingeswara Swamy in Keesaragutta temple. TTD EO also visited TTD Information Centre, Kalyana Mandapam, Guest House, Dining Hall which are under renovation in the centre at Himayat Nagar area of Hyderabad city. The officials concerned informed the EO that the works will be com-

With the pilgrim rush steadily picking

up, the SSD tokens for darshan on

Tuesday and Wednesday were al-

ready exhausted while tokens for

reports last came in on Monday.

darshan on February 18 up to evening

6 pm slot were also over when when

According to TTD sources the de-

pleted by this April. Later he also visited the SVBC Studio, HDPP Office and interacted with the employees in the city. Medchal Malkajgiri Additional Joint Collector Vidyasagar, TTD DyEE Nagaraju, AEO C Naik, AEO Ramesh, Manager of Kalyana Mandapam Ramesh were also present.

Common pilgrims availing offline free darshan token have to wait for days for darshan

tails of the pilgrims who had darshan of Lord in the last three days are 48,846 on February 12 which jumped to 54,134 on February 13 and further increased to 56448 on February 14.

HC suspends SEC order on delivery vehicles



Says the State Election Commission can't stop vehicles supplying food to the people

The SEC earlier suspended ration door delivery vehicles for 4 weeks in rural areas in view of Model Code

AMARAVATI

IN a major relief to the state government, the Andhra Pradesh High Court on Monday suspended the State Election Commissioner (SEC) Nimmagadda Ramesh Kumar's orders restricting rice door delivery service during the ongoing elections.

The court said the State Election Commission (SEC) cannot stop the government from using mobile delivery vehicles to supply food to the people.

Earlier, the SEC ordered that the government cannot use these mobile vehicles for a period of four weeks, in view of the ongo-

ing rural local bodies' elections. The SEC personally examined a delivery vehicle to see if these vehicles will allegedly exert any influence on the polls as they would fan out across the nooks and corners of the villages, carrying ration rice for beneficiaries.

Many decisions of Ramesh Kumar are being challenged in the court by the state government and there seems to be no end to the bickering between the state and the SEC

Earlier, he issued a gag and home confinement order on panchayat raj minister Peddireddi Ramachandra Reddy which was also suspended by the court but

CM stresses on affordable

plots to middle class

Kodali Nani's house motion plea posted to tomorrow

 HC seeks video clippings of Minister's comments

 To appoint a senior advocate as amicus curiae to assist in this case

AMARAVATI

THE AP High Court posted the hearing on house motion petition filed by civil supplies minister Kodali Venkateswara Rao (Nani) to Wednesday, February 17.

It may be noted that the State Election Commission (SEC) issued show-cause notice and a gag order on him for his remarks on the commission as well as State Election Commissioner Nimmagadda Ramesh Kumar last week. The SEC also directed the Krishna district SP to register a case on the minister.

with some riders.

The court is also poised to hear a case on civil supplies minister Kodali Sri Venkateshwara Rao, against whom the SEC ordered a

In this regard, the minister

filed House motion petition. When the advocates of the both the parties explained their stand to the court, the court observed that the case should be examined in detail and posted the next hearing to Wednesday. The court said that it would appoint a senior advocate as amicus curiae to assist it in this case. It ordered the petitioner to submit necessary video clippings. The court also directed the advocate of SEC to submit video tapes of the minister's comments by Wednesday.

The SEC advocate appealed the court to take action after examining the video clippings of the minister's press meet. He said that the minister used objectionable language towards

The court observed that it cannot decide on the case without examining the video clippings of the minister's press meet.

case to be registered.

The commission has already successfully completed two phases of rural local bodies elections, even as two more are due.

Govt eases curbs on geospatial data for map-making

Continued from P1

Science and Technology Minister Harsh Vardhan in a press conference said the easing of norms will greatly help in several sectors that were suffering because of nonavailability of high-quality maps.

"Availability of comprehensive, highly accurate, granular and constantly updated representation of geospatial data will significantly benefit diverse sectors of the economy, significantly boost innovation in the country and greatly enhance its preparedness for emergency response," Vardhan said.

He said earlier even the Survey

SC slaps notice

In Europe, it is different be-

cause they have a special law,"

Solicitor General Tushar

Mehta, representing the Cen-

tre, said the right to privacy

they cannot compromise

with the privacy of people.

had already delayed the im-

plementation of its new pri-

vacy policy till May 15 this

which is returnable before this date. The bench said it is

impressed with Divan's submission that while the Data

Protection Bill is about to be

brought into force, What-

sApp is framing a policy to

share data. Datar also said

that the messages were en-

The top court directed

WhatsApp and Facebook to

file their statement contest-

Chief Justice told the What-

thought if a message was sent

from a person to another and

whole thing was disclosed to

this is not happening, Chief

Justice Bobde disagreed, say-

ing that they are telling infor-

mation heard and read through news reports, and if

WhatsApp disagrees, it

should clarify this on oath.

As counsel contended that

then to a third person, the

Facebook.

ing the contentions in the

present application. The

sApp counsel that people

crypted end to end.

year and sought a notice

was a fundamental right and

Divan cited that WhatsApp

on WhatsApp,

Facebook

Continued from P1

he argued.

of India, the organisation entrusted with making maps, had to seek permission for mapping from different agencies, thus delaying its work by at least three-to-six months. In a series of tweets, Modi said, "Our government has taken a decision that will provide a huge impetus to Digital India.

Liberalising policies governing the acquisition and production of geospatial data is a massive step in our vision for an Aatmanirbhar Bharat," he said. The move will unlock tremendous opportunities for the country's start-ups, private sector, public sector and research in-

NEW DELHI: A delegation of the

Andhra Pradesh BJP unit led by

its president Somu Veerraju and

comprising former Union minis-

ter D Purandesawari, former MLA

P Vishukumar Raju and MLC P V

N Madhav met Union minister for

steel, Dharmendra Pradhan here

on Monday and urged him to re-

visit the decision to privatise the

RINL (Visakhapatnam steel

plant). They said a SWOT

(Strengths, Weaknesses, Oppor-

tunities and Threats) analysis of

Continued from P1

stitutions to drive innovations and build scalable solutions. This will also generate employment and accelerate economic growth, he stressed. 'India's farmers will also be benefited by leveraging the potential of geospatial and remote sensing data.

Democratising data will enable the rise of new technologies and platforms that will drive efficiencies in agriculture and allied sectors.

"These reforms demonstrate our commitment to improving ease of doing business in India by deregulation," he said.

the plant would reveal that it

would be an excellent profit-mak-

ing unit which had also an emo-

tional connect with the Telugus.

Meanwhile, in his three-page let-

ter to Dharmendra Pradhan, Veer-

raju said the government should

instead work out an agreement

between NMDC (National Min-

eral Development Corporation)

and Vizag Steel for supply of iron

ore from NMDC at cost-to-cost

basis or cost-plus marginal profit

basis for next five years.

BJP seeks NMDC lifeline for VSP

Nanosatellite to carry Bhagavad Gita,

SpaceKidz reportedly asked the individuals who are interested to

which 1,000 names are of people from outside India. "We decided to

do this because it will spark interest of the people in the mission and

names will be given boarding passes, she added. Satish Dhawan Satel-

payloads, including one to study space radiation, another for studying

the magnetosphere, and one that will demonstrate a low-power wide-

area communication network. A Brazil's earth observation satellite

Amazonia-1, 20 co-passenger satellite and a demonstration satellite

space science," Dr Kesan said. The people who have send in their

lite, that is scheduled to the launched on February 28 by the polar

satellite launch vehicle (PSLV-C51), will also carry three scientific

send their names to the space and received 25,000 entries, from

PM Modi's photograph into space

HANS NEWS SERVICE **A**MARAVATI

Officials propose

ring roads

construction of ring

roads around towns

Smart township layouts

will come up around

Govt to start Clean

programme with a

keep the state clean

100-day action plan to

Andhra Pradesh

CHIFF Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy suggested changes in the proposals made for providing infrastruc-

ture facilities in smart townships. In a review on solid waste management and urban housing at his camp office in Tadepalli on Monday, the Chief Minister said the goal was to provide high living standards to middle class people and directed the officials to provide undisputed and cleartitled plots with all the required permissions at affordable prices on non-profit basis to them.

The officials discussed with the Chief Minister several town plans already being implemented in various states and also how to create land bank for the scheme and develop infrastructure. The Chief Minister said providing plots at affordable prices to



Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy making suggestions on the proposals on smart townships submitted by officials during review on waste management and urban housing at Tadepalli on Monday

middle class people is a continuous process and plans should be made to provide plots to eligible beneficiaries as and when they apply.

The officials laid proposals for building ring roads around the towns. The designs of roads should be such that both the government and people who give land for the construction should be benefitted and smart towns' layouts should come up around the ring roads. It was decided initially to develop 18 layouts in 12 towns. The proposals are made for designing smart towns of at least 25 acre to 200 acre, depending on the population of cities and towns. The plan is to prepare the layout within 18 months after works start.

The government will start Clean Andhra Pradesh (CLAP) programme with a100-day action plan to keep the state clean. Plans are afoot for NGOs and public participation in the programme which will have 3.825 garbage collection vehicles, more auto tippers, and over 6,000 bins and waste management systems in municipalities. The Chief Minister said to start bio-mining and there should be change in cleanliness in the state with these programmes.

Municipal and urban development minister Botcha Satyanarayana, Solid and Liquid Waste Management Task Force chairman Alla Avodhva Ramireddy, municipal and urban development principal secretary Y Srilakshmi, municipal administration commissioner M M Nayak, CCLA special commissioner Narayana Bharat Gupta, finance secretary Gulzar, TIDCO MD Ch Sridhar and other senior officials were present

TDP TO STAGE STATE-WIDE STIR FOR VSP ON FEB 18

HANS NEWS SERVICE MANGALAGIRI

TDP national president N Chandrababu Naidu on Monday called upon his party leaders and cadres to take part in massive protests all over the state on February 18 to denounce the privatisation of the Visakha Steel Plant (VSP).

Naidu stressed the need for waging a relentless agitation against the ruling YSRCP secret plans in the deal with the South Korean company, POSCO. It was only to save himself from his illegal investments cases that Chief Minister Y S Jaganmohan Reddy was bent on handing over the steel plant to private hands, he alleged. In a statement here, the former

 Party national president accuses Jagan of privatising VSP to save himself from cases

 Alleges that the CM has set his sights on steel plant surplus lands

chief minister asserted that their party would do everything possible to prevent the state government from carrying out its nefarious designs any further. Protest rallies would be organised from village to state level.

He alleged that the Chief Minister had apparently struck a secret deal with POSCO only to grab the surplus lands of the VSP which have got a

very high value in the market. "Out of his unquenchable thirst for personal gains only, the Chief Minister was prostrating before the Centre with respect to the steel plant issue," he said.

Naidu deplored that in the name of privatisation, the steel plant has been weakened without trying for mines exclusively meant for it.

The people of the state achieved the industry after fighting a prolonged struggle in the past. Once again, it was for the whole people of AP to agitate and save the steel plant from all future threats. It was high time to teach a strong lesson to the ruling YS-RCP, he said. Naidu said that the VSP was protecting the livelihoods of over 40,000 people directly and another 50,000 workers indirectly.

SEC urged to banish anti-social elements from Kuppam

 TDP chief in a letter to the poll panel points to attempt on life of **Congress leader** Suresh Babu in Pacharlapalli village

 Demands release of TDP sarpanch candidate and other leaders in Avulavaripalem village in Krosuru mandal of Guntur district

HANS NEWS SERVICE MANGALAGIRI

TDP national president N Chandrababu Naidu on Monday demanded the State Election Commission (SEC) to take step to banish troublemakers and outside miscreants from the villages in Kuppam Assembly constituency in order to ensure a free and fair panchayat election.

Naidu said that on February 14, an attempt was made on the life of District Congress Committee (DCC) president Suresh Babu at Pacharlapalli village in Gudupalle mandal by a miscreant with knife. The attacker has attacked four other people also when they were trying to protect Suresh Babu. The Opposition leaders were being attacked with an ulterior plan to demoralise them in the panchayat elections, he alleged.

Naidu said that the State Election Commission (SEC) should act swiftly and ensure that the gram panchayat elections being held on February 17 would be conducted peacefully in a free and fair manner. For this, additional protection forces shall be deployed and all the non-bona fide outsiders should be sent out of villages in Kuppam Assembly segment. Simultaneously, inquiry shall be conducted into the presence of anti-social elements and miscreants in villages and action be taken against the culprits.

In a separate statement, Naidu condemned the arrest of the TDP sarpanch candidate along with some others in Avulavaripalem village in Krosuru mandal in the Guntur district on false charges and demanded their immediate release.

by Pixxel will also be carried in the same mission. **Film showcasing TRS rule to** hit screens on KCR's birthday

Continued from P1

The party leaders would be offering shawl at Gurudwara and Chadar at Yousufain Dargah and special prayers in churches. The party leaders would be planting about one crore saplings in the State. Various sports events, including cricket, volleyball and others are under way in the name of KCR Cup and the prizes would be distributed on Wednesday. Sports Authority of Telangana State (SATS) Chairman A Venkateshwar Reddy is taking up yagam.

Need to spread equitable distribution of vaccinations

WHO and partners have learnt from the mis-steps in response to the 2009 H1N1 influenza pandemic1 and established the Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator to promote equitable access to vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics. Most low-income and middle-income countries (LMICs) face difficulties in accessing and delivering vaccines and therapeutics for COVID-19 to their populations. Multinational agencies, financial institutions, and wealthier countries should consider measures that could provide relief to indebted LMICs.

The World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, and others need to lead an international initiative to mobilise support for LMICs in need. Many LMICs do not have an established platform for vaccinating their adult populations. Although it is feasible to deliver COVID-19 vaccines to health-care and other frontline essential workers, in some LMICs it will be difficult to effectively reach and vaccinate with two doses all elderly populations and individuals with co-morbidities, given insufficient mechanisms to identify

The ultracold chain requirements of mRNA

COVID-19 vaccines are likely to be an insurmountable hurdle. The infrastructure for vaccination in many LMICs is already inadequate, as shown by the 19.7 million under-vaccinated infants globally. Strengthening the capacity of LMICs to do clinical trials and promoting LMIC participation in research are crucial. Tracking the safety and effectiveness of different COVID-19 vaccines over time in various populations and settings will necessitate improvements in pharmacovigilance.

Regulatory authorities in many LMICs need to be strengthened and could benefit from a programme of national and international support, as well as regional cooperation and reliance mechanisms. As part of internationally coordinated actions, Covid-19 technologies should be transferred to LMIC-based manufacturers, accompanied by regulatory guidance. Efforts to boost local manufacturing capacity in LMICs will contribute to equity, global solidarity and global health security. India and South Africa have called for the suspension of intellectual property rights related to Covid-19 vaccines to improve access for LMICs, a move now supported by many other countries, but opposed by the pharmaceutical industry, which cites the disincentive to innovation.

There are further challenges. Governments in LMICs with strong private health sectors, as those in high-income countries, will need to manage the inherent potential for inequity, whereby the rich could access Covid-19 vaccines before individuals with less access to private care who may be at increased risk of severe disease and death, such as older people and those with comorbidities. LMICs affected by war, civil conflict, economic crises, or natural disasters, or with large refugee populations or populations with special needs or vulnerabilities need additional support for vaccines and vaccination under extremely difficult operational conditions.

Re-examining global governance structures, including the UN and its Security Council, is much needed so that the voices and interests of billions of people in LMICs are better represented and recognised. Global support to multilateral institutions is essential to sustain their support to LMICs to facilitate vaccinations globally. The Covid-19 pandemic shows that no nation can stand alone. We are all part of a common humanity that requires us to respect our diverse experiences, cultures, and countries and forge partnerships that better serve the interests of all, as the health experts world over aver.

Upholding 'secrecy' in Lok Pal selection



and general ministration demands the transparency about any selection or recruitment for public office. The Department of Personnel and Training rules and Office Memo-

randa also guide the CPIOs to place entire record of recruitments and promotions and transfers in the public domain on their own.

Lok Pal is an anti-corruption institution which is supposed to decide the legal action on complaints of abuse of authority for gain in a transparent manner. Though law was passed in 2013, the NDA Government could not appoint the Lok Pal and Lok Ayuktas since 2014 till recently. The high-level committee headed by the Prime Minister will appoint Lok Pal and others, which is expected to maintain the minutes of meetings that has to be in public domain as per law and rules.

But, according to CIC order dated January 28, the CPIO of DoPT has denied the minutes of the selection process of Lok Pal. Though CPIO did not invoke any 'exception', but his denial was upheld by CIC as valid. The CIC wrongly quotes the two Supreme Court judgements and gives order exactly opposite to SC orders.

The CIC cited SC order 15th Feb 2019 in Anjali Bharadwaj v Union of India which directed disclosure of all details of appointment of Information Commissioners which was complied with by DoPT. But it denied sharing the minutes of Lok Pal appointment which was made by almost similar Selection Committee.

Another case cited is: Common Cause A Registered Society vs. Ajay Mittal[Contempt PET.(C) No. 714/2018 in W.P.(C) No. 245/2014] relating to the constitution of the Lok pal, wherein the SC said: "...So far as the prayer for putting the names recommended by the Search Committee in the public domain is concerned, we have considered the provisions of Section 4(4) of the Act and it is our considered view that no direction from the Court should be issued in this regard. Rather the matter should be left for a just determination by the Selection Committee as and when the meeting of the Committee is convened.'

A simple reading of Section 8(1)(b)would have been sufficient to know that disclosure of minutes was not prohibited by SC. Section 8(1)(b) says: information which has been expressly forbidden to be published by any court of law or tribunal or the disclosure of which may constitute contempt of court". This decision shows that Selection Committee if believes in

transparency should decide to disclose. There is no prohibition imposed by SC.

Appellant Anjali said the contempt petition was filed when despite the court's 2017 ruling, the Centre failed to appoint a chairperson and members of the Lokpal. She pointed out that Section 4(4) of the Lok pal Act which states that the Selection Committee shall regulate its own procedure in a transparent manner for selecting the Chairperson and Members of the Lok pal.

 $The \, Central \, Information \, Commission$ has affixed its seal to non-disclosure of minutes of the anti-corruption body allowing secrecy in appointment process much against the letter and spirit of Right to Information Act and good governance

Thus, selection process of Lok Pal is the 'secret' according to latest order of the CIC, most unfortunate. Secrecy breeds corruption. There are two tragedies: Lok Pal, which is expected to introduce transparency in all governance wings fights against transparency, the DoPT and CIC Saroj Punhani supports

Nowhere the order of CIC does support its conclusion that information sought 'confidential' 'secret' and 'fiduciary' in nature. One can find collegium conclusions in Supreme Court but not details of appointment of Lok Pal either from Lok Pal or DoPT. The CIC has simply listed the CPIO's illegal and illogical contentions and approved at the end, without giving any justification.

Anjali Bharadwaj has filed RTI application in November 2018 with the Department of Personnel and Training, seeking records related to the process of selection of the chairperson and members of the Lok pal.

Authorship: A new concept

The DoPT refused to provide a copy of the minutes of the meetings of the Selection Committee claiming the authorship of such documents which include 3-5 high level dignitaries does not vest in the Department of Personnel and Training and same have been shared as secret document. This raises fundamental question - who is the author of file of selection committee? It is neither poetry nor a story for someone to author it. Posts are advertised, applications are submitted, and selection committee conducts the process. None is author or owner of a file. Any file is built on application and ends with decision. Everyone who adds a comment is a contributor and each owns it. RTI recognizes holding the file not owning. And the DoPT which is nodal agency to implement RTI does not know it. Civil servants feel they are subordinate to DoPT and do not displease the boss.

The CIC has no jurisdiction or legal



When Cabinet decisions are disclosable along with entire material after decision was taken, how can any other body be considered as 'high level authority'? Is that committee higher in level than the Cabinet? How the 'level' of authority prevents the disclosability? The CIC should have answered these questions

provision to examine the authorship of 'file' and deny it without referring to any clause of exception. The CIC's judgment is a shock to RTI activists as it laid down a new precedent of rejecting the appeal though no exception is attracted.

Sealed cover: Sealing transparency

The CPIO thought that confidentiality of the said record can be gauged by the fact that the averred minutes of the Selection Committee were received in a sealed cover by the DoPT and that it had been presented before the Supreme Court too in a sealed cover. The CIC did not explain who and why the minutes was categorised as 'secret' and on what grounds? Is it CIC's new concept that sealing the cover itself is 'secrecy' and every post and courier that goes in sealed cover, should never be opened?

The Commissioner understood that the information belonged to Lok Pal and thus it was 'third' party information with DoPT, which was given in sealed cover. Perhaps CIC assumes that anything given in sealed cover is 'top secret'. It is a clear misuse of third-party provision as 'exception' though there are several judicial pronouncements that information could be denied only under Sections 8 and 9 of

It also exposed the CPIO's knowledge

of RTI, who thinks that consent of third party is needed. If that is so, why did he not consult Lok Pal, who might have consented for disclosure. It is pathetic that CPIO and first appellate authority of DoPT thinks that because third party is 'higher level" committee, the information should be totally 'secret'. The CIC did not bother to ask CPIO why he did not pursue the process of consulting third party. From CPIO of DoPT to CIC, an independent authority, they go by their own sense of transparency ignoring the RTI Act completely.

When cabinet decisions are disclosable along with entire material after decision was taken, how can any other body be considered as 'high level authority'? Is that committee higher in level than the cabinet? How the 'level' of authority prevents the disclosability? The CIC should have answered these questions.

Another wonderful idea of CPIO of DoPT floated was that minutes of a decision-making committee 'is holding it in fiduciary in nature' and hence should be denied. The CIC did not find it unreasonable and did not give any reasons.

The Government was never ready to constitute the Lok pal, though Act was passed in 2013. Even after the SC direction, the process did not begin. Only after contempt petition was pressed, the Selection Committee met. The Committee consists of the Prime Minister (Chairperson), Speaker of the House of the People, the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, the Chief Justice of India, or a Judge of the Supreme Court nominated by CJI and an eminent jurist, as recommended by the Chairperson and other members. As none was recognised as the Leader of Opposition (LoP) in the Lok Sabha after the 2014 elections, Committee met without the LoP and selected the Chair and other members of Lok Pal in 2019. The CIC, sadly, agreed with DoPT and Lok Pal in denying the information without reasoned application of any exception.

(The writer is Professor of Law, Bennett University and former Central Information Commissioner)

Design education for new millennials

PROF A BALASUBRAMANIAM



ESIGN education is changing," says the Design Guru Don Norman, Professor Emeritus, UC San Diego, and author of the famous book, 'Design of everyday things'. He further calls for a new paradigm in design education: "Design education has to move away from schools of art and architecture and move into the schools of science and engi-

neering. We need new kinds of designers, people who can work across disciplines, who understand human beings, business, and technology and the appropriate means of validating claims."

The reason for this simple. Design itself is changing and evolving: from a predominantly form-giving activity to a strategic problem-solving one. Design thinking is the new mantra for innovation. Technology institutes and Management firms are seen to invest more and more in Design. Millennials are advised to understand the changing scenario of the profession, as they embark on the journey for a career in Design.

Design education is responsible

Students of Design must understand that the profession needs to be responsible. From a merely form giving activity that was creating aesthetically interesting products, the profession of Product Design is now contributing to sustainable living by innovating with materials, technology and processes. Products that end up in landfills are frowned upon. There is also this growing concern for planet-friendly products as opposed to user-friendly products that pollute the earth. Curriculums are therefore being transformed to include sustainable production processes, eco-friendly materials and design projects focus more on helping humankind than create wasteful products.

Design education gets generic

There was a time when specialisations were the norm. Industrial Designers went on to specialise in Product Design, which progressed into Interior Product Design, and further into Bathroom Designers! Such specialisations are not working any more. Customers are happy to deal with Interdisciplinary designers who are generalists who can tackle a plethora of problems straddling different specialisations. Progressive Universities like JKLU have included Interdisciplinary Design programmes to cater to this requirement.

Design education is getting digital

The pen has been sacrificed for the stylus. The paper for screens. Designers have gone completely digital. There is therefore, this need for an urgent revamping of the course contents to make digital learning, online classes and bite-sized inputs. Take for instance, a discipline like Communication Design. All new programmes have extensive emphasis on the digital way of learning.

Design education is about co-creation

Designers used to work in silos, developing new products and patenting their innovations. There is, however, a new breed of designers who are open and develop products that include all the stake holders of the project. Co-creation is gaining ground and copy-left is the new normal. Design schools are now getting the millennials to collaborate on digital platforms, working across time-zones and developing solutions collectively for the problems of the world.

Design education is multi-disciplinary

Designers who learn in special institutes dedicated to design, miss out a multi-disciplinary approach to problem solving. Inputs in sociology, psychology, finance and management make design professionals more ready for solving real-life problems. Critical thinking and systemic thinking processes are taught in new institutes of Design for making them develop into a well-rounded professional.

JKLU for future-ready education

The future of design is all pervading. It has to cater to all sectors of the economy. The divisions and specialisations are blurring. The world is shrinking and one can no more afford to work in silos.

Designers will be expected to take on leadership roles and have to become more disruptive and innovative, responsible and inclusive. They should learn to cultivate empathy to cater to the last individual. Sustainability will become the mantra for the future of design. Imagination will become paramount and creativity will be the key to solving world's problems.

The Institute of Design JKLU is ready for the challenge. New curriculums are embedded with Communication and Critical thinking classes. Interdisciplinary Design is an option for the generalist designer. Communication Design programme is predominantly digital. Co-creation is the norm, as students from Technology, Management and Design get together for classes and projects. We are poised to bring about a new paradigm in design education. One that is contemporary and relevant for the new millennials. $\,$

(The author is with JK Lakshmipat University, Jaipur)

Drains in Indore being turned into playgrounds for residents

SUNDEEP POURANIK



THIS Madhya Pradesh city, ■ which has been awarded the title of the country's cleanest city four times, is now converting open drains filled with garbage into playgrounds where cricket and football matches are being played.

The process from waste collection to its disposal has been given a new dimension in In-

dore by creating a new drainage model.

The form of the drains flowing in Indore is being transformed through the Sirpur Dhar Road to the Aam wali Pulia and the meeting of drains at Chandan Nagar.

Residents and large outfalls have been identified by the municipal corporation under the river-drain outfall taping work and after trapping these by laying down a sewerage line, the sewerage falling into the primary sewerage line of the city was stopped, causing the sewage flowing in the drains to now be transferred directly to the Sewage Treatment Plant. The corporation is doing plantation work on a large scale to beautify and protect the environment on both sides of the drain as well as taping it. Due to these efforts made by the Corporation for the Kanh-Saraswati river and purification of drains, the drain at Chandan Nagar has completely dried up.

A similar process has been followed from Shiv Nagar to Kailash Chaudhary Park Nagar, Virat Nagar, Udyog Nagar, Khatipura and Azad Nagar which meets the drain in the Kanh river. This drain has also dried up and at a particular place a football match was played after which a cricket match was also played there.

Municipal Commissioner Pratibha Pal said Indore is the first city where drain and sewerage water used to flow once, but now the entire drain has dried up as a result of sewer taping done under the 'River-Drainage Sanitation Campaign'. Where it was not possible to stand near these drains due to the stench and filth, a 'Nullah cricket match' was organized in the past few days.

Superintendent Engineer Mahesh Sharma and Gopal Jagtap of Institution 'Basics' said 'Hamara Nullah, Hamara Abhiyan' was started under which the drains are drying up and the residents are playing football and cricket there. Residents of Chandan Nagar also took an oath of maintaining cleanliness as well as not throwing any garbage and litter into the drains.

Civilised behaviour missing

YOUR editorial 'Cuss words the new normal' (15th Feb) aptly sums up the decadent state of ever-falling standards of public decorum among large number of our politicians. Not only in politics, even in our ordinary lives, cuss words seem to have become quite common, as frequently evidenced in street brawls, road rage cases, informal meetings and discussions. There is a general tendency to browbeat a person with a differing viewpoint with loudmouthed rhetoric, provocative gestures and even casting unwarranted aspersions.

Cutting across all sections of society, people generally have no qualms about calling each other names. Unfortunately, this malaise has even afflicted the average household, where arrogant behaviour seems to hold sway. It is high time that due primacy is accorded to polite and courteous behaviour in our day-to-day lives. These values need to be inculcated in children in right earnest in their infancy and both educational institutions and parents can play a highly pro-active role in this regard. In the state legislatures and Parliament, the speakers and leaders of different parties should keep a hawk's eye on the general behaviour of the elected representatives and take appropriate deterrent steps for curbing any deviant mannerism.

Amit Banerjee, New Delhi

India should maintain vigil in Ladakh

THE India-China agreement on disengagement at Pan-■ gong Tso in Ladakh is certainly a promising start towards peace. However, stabilising the borders could take a long time. The Indian and Chinese troops are expected

to stop their forward positions on either side of Pangong in a phased manner. The troops will have to return to the pre-April 2020 position.

However, the surprisingly hasty decision of China to withdraw its troops raises doubts about its intentions. What could have prompted China to take such a hasty decision? It is reasonable to assume that Beijing's strategic move is linked to the US factor of interfering in the Ladakh standoff. In spite of the attempts by both countries to end the row peacefully through dialogue, talks between the two sides remained in a state of complete deadlock.

The takeaways are clear here: China has been moving cautiously since the Biden administration took a decision on the China-centric Quad and indo-Pacific strategy. In the recent telephonic conversation between US President Joe Biden and Prime Minister Narendra Modi, both of them had reiterated their commitment to a strong India-US relationship. China's disengagement could be linked to deterring India from joining the US-led alliance. China wants to lessen the prospect of India partnering with the new administration to form an anti-China coalition.

It is a fact that earning US support is essential for India's standing up to China. China believes that if India-US relationship is further strengthened under Biden administration, it will reinforce the US-led alliance. Notwithstanding the fact that the disengagement is unquestionably positive, India must monitor the progress closely and press for the resolution of all remaining issues including the Depsang plateau.

Venu GS, Kollam

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LETTERS

Wanted a new law for exports NEW agricul-tural-law for



exports is required (not for corporates or brokers eating into farmers' profits). Everyone wants raise in salary / income. Why not farmers? Exports will avoid the main problem of accumulation of unsold / stationary stocks. This way it is possible for the government to buy food

grains from farmers for maximum support price / reasonable price and export the accumulated stocks. Also with profits from exports at hand, it is easy for government and farmers TEAM (with sharing of investment burden) to set up long-term warehouses / godowns to store the harvest, buy the vehicles to speedily transport the harvest to godowns to save it from sudden rains, possible are:- crop rotation, latest technology introduction etc.

Many suggest that private investment arrangement in production of crops will nullify loan taking by small farmers via mortgaging assets. In case of spoilt-crop, loss burden is reduced for farmer (as part of loss is shared by the private investor). Money-Amount burden for agricultural loans write off to farmers too gets reduced to government of India.

Madhav P, Secunderabad

TRS believes in deeds, not in words: Minister Vemula

HANS NEWS SERVICE NIZAMABAD

R&B and Legislative Affairs Minister Vemula Prashanth Reddy said the TRS government and Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao don't believe in words but in deeds and fulfil his promises to the people.

On Monday, he inaugurated several development projects undertaken with Rs 1 crore in Balkonda constituency and Bheemgal Municipality of Nizamabad district. Speaking on the occasion, Minister Prashanth Reddy said that the people of Bheemgal believed in TRS and elected TRS candidates in all the 12 wards in the municipality, hence they have the responsibility to fulfill the promises given to them.

He assured of sanctioning 100-bed hospital soon, a promise given during Assembly elections. Stating that politics means serving people, he said that their politics should be to improve villages and benefit farmers. Informing that there are still three more years before the next elections, he said one should strive to develop beyond parties and without criticising others.

Later, the Minister participated in the official Jayanti function of Sevalal



R&B and Legislative Affairs Minister Vemula Prashanth Reddy garlanding Telangana Thalli idol in Balkonda on Monday

FIRST-HAND EXPERIENCE

Agri Minister buoyed by potato yield in own farm

HANS NEWS SERVICE

HYDERABAD

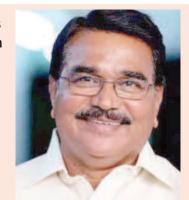
HOW about practising before preaching? Exactly this is what the Agriculture Minister, S Niranjan Reddy, seems to be following. The Minister who was irked with the hike in potato prices in recent times had decided to encourage farmers in State cultivate potatoes. But before approaching the farmers, the Minister first wanted to cultivate potatoes in his own farm in Wanaparthy on experimental basis. Soon, he planted potato crop in one-fourth of an acre and ended up gaining reasonably good harvest.

The jubilant Minister is now planning to approach farmers and share his experience backed with agriculture department's feedback, which had said that the land and climate in Telangana were as good as other States where potatoes are being cultivated.

As the potatoes have consistent demand all-round the year, the fluctuation in prices would be minimal and help farmers gain profits, the Minister said,

• Niranjan Reddy gets satisfying yield from one-fourth of acre

 Wants to encourage **Telangana farmers** take up cultivation of potatoes which has demand all-round the year



adding that on an average a farmer can get a maximum yield of 100 to 120 quintals per acre. "When it comes to prices, the rate per quintal in the market would be around Rs 1,000 to Rs 1,200. Sometimes, it might even touch Rs 2,000. The farmers will gain revenues of Rs 1 lakh per acre after deducting the investment," he said.

Niranjan Reddy said that potatoes were one of the vegetables with the highest consumption rate. But, the cultivation of the crop is not preferred in southern States for reasons unall the southern States have to heavily depend on potato supplies from north and this demand can be addressed if farmers here take up potato cultivation, he opined. Investment to cultivate pota-

known. Along with Telangana,

toes in an acre comes to about Rs 45,000 and the crop comes to harvest in 85 to 90 days after the plantation. But, if the time frame goes beyond 90 days, then the yields would be more, the Agriculture Minister said, hoping that farmers in the State take up potato cultivation.

Withdraw farm laws, demands Rythu Garjana

HANS NEWS SERVICE Кнаммам

RYTHU Garjana demanded the Union government to withdraw farm laws, which are against the farmers and to abolish amendment in power bill.

All India Kisan Mazdoor Sangam general secretary Dr Ashish Mittal, Kecchala Ranga Reddy, State Kisan Mazdoor Sangam general secretary V Venkata Ramaiah, Prof Kodandaram and CPI (ML) New Democracy State joint secretary Potu Ranga Rao alleged that the Union government was trying to suppress farmers' struggle in New Delhi. They faulted the Centre's stringent action against farmers who are fighting for their justified demands at national capital.

The leaders also found fault

with Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao for not responding to the farmers' struggle and not commenting against the Central government. They called upon intellectuals and people to support farmers' fight against agriculture bills and to become aware that both Central and State governments are not supporting farmers. They gave a call to farmers across the country to come forward to fight against illegal laws brought by the Union government. Coming to local issues, they demanded distribution of pattas to podu cultivators and stop attacking podu cultivators. They also demanded issuance of new ration cards; pension to people, who crossed 57 years; allotment of house sites; and sanctioning of Rs 5 lakh to eligible poor.

Earlier a massive rally was

taken out in the town.



Leaders of CPI (ML) and All India Kisan Mazdoor Sangam taking out a rally in Khammam town on Monday

Suspecting fidelity, man kills wife

HANS NEWS SERVICE MAHABUBABAD

A man stabbed his wife to death at Namalapadu forest area under Bayyaram mandal in Mahabubabad district on Monday. The victim has been identified as Saritha (25) of Penugonda village under Kesamudram mandal

According to police, accused A Naresh, a driver working in Mahabubabad, got married to Saritha some four years ago and used to beat his wife suspecting her fidelity. As a result, Saritha along with her children has been staying with her parents at Jayyaram village of Chinnagudur for some time.



Telangana Nayara Petroleum Dealers' Association formed

HANS NEWS SERVICE

HYDERABAD

TELANGANA Nayara Petroleum Dealers' Association (Regd No. 2136/2018) is an association of dealers/franchise of Nayara Energy Ltd (Formerly Essar Oil Ltd). Dealers are involved in retail

trade of petroleum products (petrol/diesel/ lubricants, etc) with brand of Nayara/Essar petrol pumps. The Association was formed to facilitate, act as catalysts to achieve the aims, goals of the entire family of Nayara Energy Ltd., to reinforce core values of EXCEL (Energetic Xtraordinary Courageous Ethical Lead).

6 hurt in centring collapse

HANS NEWS SERVICE MAHABUBABAD

had a narrow escape when the centring for the construction of the building entrance of the new Integrated Collectorate Complex collapsed in Mahabubabad on Monday. However, the mishap left six workers, who were fixing the centring, with injuries. District Collector VP Gautham inspected the construction site and



elicited information about the incident from the Roads & Buildings (R&B) Department.

Speaking to reporters, Gautham said that six workers sustained minor injuries and they

are being treated at the Government Area Hospital. According to preliminary information, centring collapsed as iron rods bent. The Collector directed the R&B officials to submit a detailed report on the incident. Municipal Chairman P Rammohan Reddy also visited the construction site. Mahabubabad Town Inspector J Venkataratnam said that they have not received any complaint from the district administration about the mishap.

BJP to fly in party bigwigs for Nagarjunasagar bypoll

HANS NEWS SERVICE

HYDERABAD

THE Bharatiya Janata Party, which had shocked the ruling Telangana Rashtra Samithi with its performance in Dubbaka bypoll and in Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation elections, has shifted its focus to Nagarjunasagar and planning to hold huge public meeting by February end by inviting its national leaders.

The party, which had gone aggressive after Dubbaka bypoll, is now targeting the Sagar constituency where it has little presence. However, the party leaders are hopeful of repeating Dubbaka and GHMC victory in the forthcoming bypoll to Sagar constituency.

While the party had already initiated the exercise to gain foothold in the district, it had also recently taken up protest on tribal issues, including tribal lands in Gurrampodu which had led to a tense situation with police even lathicharging the protestors. The tribals here make up 40 per cent of the electorate and are crucial in deciding the fate of

candidates. According to State BJP president Bandi Sanjay, the party would soon have a huge

- Plans to hold huge public meeting by February end
- Despite dismal presence, party hopeful of winning the seat

public meeting, possibly by February end, in Nagarjunasagar Assembly constituency. The party would be bringing in senior leaders, including Union Ministers from New Delhi to campaign, as it did for Dubbaka and GHMC

Sanjay said that the party would win the Sagar bypoll along with two council seats going for polls in March, adding that all key leaders would campaign for the party candidates. Meanwhile, the party has decided to appoint one in-charge for every 50 voters who would be in constant touch with them and ensure they vote for the saffron party.

Nine kids from two Telugu States selected for Arithmetic Genius -2020

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

NINE kids from the two Telugu States got qualified for SIP Arithmetic Genius, All India Online Contest 2020 to be held on February 21. These kids between the age groups seven and nine will represent Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

These nine kids competed with as many as 5,000 kids at Regional Level and then got qualified after a rigorous four-month selection process. Out of the 5,000 participants 1,000 students were shortlisted. From these 1,000 students, the above nine got selected to represent both the Telugu States at National Level informed Uma Swaminathan, Regional Head of SIP Academy in, an official release.

These 9 kids include Karri Kranthi Manaswi of Niraj Public School, Begumpet; T. Aasritha of Dev Public School, Safilguda and Sarayu Erukulla of Phoenix Greens International School Kokapet, Chirag Mohanty - St Michaels School, Marredpally; Anvitha Chapa - Johnson Grammar School Mallapur; D. Saurav - Johnson Grammar School, LB Nagar; G. Satya Hasini - Bharathi Vidya Bhavan, Tirupati; Mandala Nutan



Karri Kranthi Manaswi, T Ashritha, Sarayu Erukulla, Anvitha, Chirag, Saurav, Akshitha, Bhargav, Satya Hasini

Bhargav - Amrita Vidyalayam,, Mahendra Hills, Secunderabad; K. Akshitha - The Secunderabad Pub-

lic School, Malkajgiri. Out of these 9 kids, 3 kids - Karri Kranthi Manaswi of Niraj Public

School, Begumpet; T. Aasritha of Dev Public School, Safilguda and Sarayu Erukulla of Phoenix Greens International School had emerged as Telugu States' Champions. SIP Arithmetic Genius, All India



Online Contest 2020 was organised by SIP Academy across the country. A total of 27,000 students competed in this competition from across India. Out of which 9 winners from each State will compete at the Nationals. More than 100 students will vie for the national honours at the 5th Season of SIP Arithmetic Genius, All India Online Contest 2020.

Amid the pandemic, this edition was organised online competition for the first time in the past four years. The objective of this year's online contest is to engage home struck students more meaningfully and help them improve arithmetic skills, Arithmetic skills, Uma Swaminathan, Regional Head of SIP Academy said.

3 of a family die as their car plunges into SRSP canal

HANS NEWS SERVICE

JAGTIAL

EVEN before people forgot the incident of car falling in a canal in Warangal district, same kind of mishap took place on Monday morning in Medipally mandal of Jagtial district. Three members of a family were killed after the car they were travelling plunged into SRSP canal and one escaped narrowly.

fied as Katkuri Amarendar Rao, his wife Sirisha and daughter Shreya. Rao's son Jayanth managed to escape from the water.

Amarendar Rao, an advocate of Jagtial town, along with his family was going to his native place Joginipally village to attend temple festival. When the car reached Medipally, Jayanth, who was driving the car, lost control of the wheel and plunged into the canal.

Jayanth escaped from car by opening the door but the remaining three got stuck in the car and died. Police rushed to the spot and removed the car from the canal with the help of crane and sent the bodies to Jagtial Government Hospital for postmortem. It's learnt that Amarendar was a close relative of MLA Sanjay Kumar. It's also learnt that his daughter Shreya's engagement was conducted recently.



The car that fell into SRSP canal in Medipally mandal on Monday morning

BJP to expand base in Nepal, Lanka: Oppn slams Tripura CM's statement

'When Home Minister was the BJP's national president, he during a meeting with us in Agartala had said that we have extended our base across India. Party's philosophy enlarged to many Asian and African countries'

AGARTALA

OPPOSITION Left parties and Congress on Monday criticised the BJP leadership after Tripura Chief Minister Biplab Kumar Deb's reported comments to extend the base of the saffron party in Nepal and Sri Lanka.

The opposition parties said that the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party's plan and target to expand its base in Nepal and Sri Lanka are against India's foreign policies and these cannot be done as the two countries are sovereign nations.

Deb while addressing a party meeting here on Saturday reportedly quoted Union Home Minister Amit Shah, and said: "When Home Minister was the BJP's National President he during a meeting with us in Agartala had said that we have extended our base

across India. Now we have to go to Sri Lanka and Nepal." The Chief Minister said that the BJP would form government in West Bengal. Kerala, Tamil Nadu and the party would remain in power in Tripura for 30 years as the CPI-M would be finished in the next assembly elections in 2023. "The BJP is the largest party in India now. It has maximum numbers of MPs, MLAs and other elected members," Deb said. The BJP, however, also supported the Chief Minister's views. Party spokesman Nabendu Bhattacharjee said that not only Sri Lanka and Nepal, the BJP's philosophy is being extended in many Asian and African countries. "Our targets and plans are not to form governments in those states. Our "Pracharaks" (functionaries)



are broadening BJP's philosophy and belief in those states. If the people of those countries accept our principles and viewpoints then the future course of action would be shaped," Bhattacharjee told the media on Monday.

Sharply criticising the Chief Minister's announcement, Communist Party of India-Marxist central committee member Jitendra Chowdhury said that Deb's speech is a combination of arrogance and ignorance.

Chowdhury, a former Tripura Minister, said that Deb's speech in a public forum portrayed the approach and method of governance that was prevailing in Tripura after the BJP-IPFT (Indigenous People's Front of Tripura) alliance came to power three years ago. "The BJP-led

governments both at the Center and the states have forcefully muted all kinds of civil liberties, freedom of speech and all pillars of democracy while a total law-lessness has been prevailing in Tripura.

"It has been revealed further from Deb's speech that the top brass in BJP is engaged in the internal affairs of our neighbouring countries, which is contrary to our long cherished foreign policy since independence," the veteran tribal leader and former Lok Sabha member said. He alleged that it is extremely unfortunate that this same BJP and their governments have brought sedition charges against the innocent citizens to silence the dissent voices, and octogenarian Varavara Rao, Gautam Navlakha and teen ager Disha Ravi like people are not spared.

96% Covid warriors skip 2nd dose

'7,668 beneficiaries received the second jab, which is just 4 per cent of the over 1,91,000 healthcare workers who received their first dose on Jan 16'

New Delhi

IN what could eventually become worrisome, 96 per cent of Covid Warriors have not been turning up for the second dose of the Covid-19 vaccine.

On Saturday, 7,668 beneficiaries received the second jab, according to the provisional data released by the Union Health Ministry, which is just 4 per cent of the over 1,91,000 healthcare workers who received their first dose on January 16, according to News18 report.

The two vaccines that have been cleared for used in India – Covishield and Covaxin – require that two doses be given 28 days apart. However, as per the recommendation of the apex drug regulator, the doses can be taken within a window of four to six weeks.

The government has set a deadline of March 1 to complete the vaccination of the frontline workers across the country, with a five-day period for "mop up" activity to vaccinate those who might have been missed out, said joint secretary of the Union health ministry, Mandeep Bhandari. For healthcare workers, the deadline is February 20.

India has been recording a steady decline in the number of daily new deaths since October 1, 2020, while the national recovery rates amongst the highest in the



'Vaccination for above 50 in 3 weeks'

NEW DELHI The Union government will begin vaccination drive for around 27 crore Indians above the age of 50 three weeks from now, Union Health Minister Harsh vardhan said on Monday.

"Three weeks from now, the government will start giving doses of coronavirus vaccines to 27 crore persons above the age of 50," he said at a press briefing here. An expert group on vaccination will discuss how to pay for the doses for those above 50, he added.

Maha Minister bats for 3T formula

Aurangabad: The "3T formula" of tracing, testing and treatment will have to be implemented strictly to tackle a rise in COVID-19 cases in some parts of Maharashtra, state health minister Rajesh Tope said . Talking to reporters, Tope said the state government had managed to flatten the curve in the last one month as far as daily addition of cases was concerned, but a recent rise in numbers in Mumbai, Wardha and some other pockets was "alarming".

world, the Union Health Ministry said on Sunday. "Since 1st October 2020, the nation has seen an unabated decline in Case Fatality Rate. The Case Fatality Rate today stands below 1.5 (1.43 percent). India's Case Fatality Rate is one of the lowest in the world," it said. The recoveries have surged to 1,06,11,731 with 11,016 patients getting discharged in a span of 24 hours. "India's Covid-19 recovery rate of 97.31 per cent is amongst the highest in the world. The difference between the recovered and active cases has grown to 1,04,74,164 as on date," the ministry highlighted.

Meanwhile, the night curfew, currently in force in four major Gujarat cities, including Ahmedabad, to stem the COVID-19 spread, was on Monday extended till February 28, officials said. However, in a concession to people, the curfew from now on in Ahmedabad, Surat, Vadodara and Rajkot will be in force between midnight and 6 am instead of the earlier 11pm to 6am, they added.

The Centre on Monday approved the proposal of the Press Information Bureau's journalist welfare committee to provide as financial relief Rs 5 lakh each to families of 39 journalists who died due to the coronavirus, a panel member said. The government has earmarked an additional fund for this purpose for the Journalist Welfare Committee (JWC), and journalists from across India will be covered under the scheme.



Rupani collaspes, tests Covid +ive

AHMEDABAD

GUJARAT Chief Minister Vijay Rupani has tested positive for coronavirus, said a hospital where the CM is admitted after he fainted in a rally. He has mild symptoms and his condition is stable, the Ahmedabad-based medical facility said on Monday. On Sunday, Rupani, 64, fainted on stage while addressing a rally in Vadodara for the upcoming civic polls in the state, following which he was flown to Ahmedabad and admitted to the U N Mehta Heart Hospital here. Rupani's sample was collected on Sunday night and sent for RT-PCR test which has come out positive for coronavirus, said a health bulletin issued by the hospital on Monday. "His symptoms are mild and his condition is stable," it said. The hospital also said the chief minister fainted on Sunday due to "tiredness and physical weakness". His ECG, blood test and other examinations were conducted and their results are normal, it said. State Deputy Chief Minister Nitin Patel told reporters that on Sunday night it was decided to keep Rupani under observation for 24 hours. "After his test report came out positive for coronavirus, he is being treated for the infection as per the course and protocol," said Patel.

15 killed after truck overturns in Jalgaon

JALGAON

Fifteen people were killed and five others injured after a truck carrying labourers overturned and fell into a roadside pit in Maharashtra's Jalgaon district in the wee hours of Monday, police said.

The accident took place near a temple in Kingaon village around 1 am when the papaya-laden truck was on its way to Yawal tehsil in Jalgaon from Dhule, an official from Yawal police station said.

The deceased included two children, aged 3 and 5 years, and a 15-year-old girl. A 14-year-old boy, who was sleeping on top of the truck, escaped unhurt, the official said. The labourers belonged to Abhoda, Vivra, Kerhala villages and Raver tehsil in the district, he said.

PM Narendra Modi expressed grief at the loss of lives. The Maharashtra government announced an exgratia of Rs 2 lakh to the kin of each of the deceased. After the accident, police and some locals rushed to the spot and the truck was brought out of the pit with the help of a JCB machine, the police official said.

Two more activists on police radar Toolkit makers on the run

New Delhi

NON-BAILABLE warrants have been issued against a Mumbai lawyer and a Pune engineer for allegedly creating a protest toolkit backing the farmers' agitation along with arrested climate activist Disha Ravi and collaborating with pro-Khalistani elements, Delhi Police officials said on Monday.

Lawyer Nikita Jacob and engineer Shantanu, who are absconding, also attended a Zoom meeting organised by 'pro-Khalistani' group Poetic Justice Foundation, Joint Commissioner of Police (Cyber) Prem Nath said.

The three had created the toolkit and sent it to others, officials said as a fierce political debate broke out between the opposition and the ruling BJP over the action against 21year-old Ravi in the case related to the "toolkit Google doc" that came to light when it was shared by global climate campaigner Greta Thunberg. "Disha, Shantanu and Nikita created and edited the toolkit. Disha sent the toolkit to Greta Thunberg through Telegram. Disha deleted a Whatsapp group which she created to spread the toolkit. Due procedure was followed when Disha was arrested."

Nath said.
Ravi was arrested from Bengaluru
on Saturday and sent to police remand for five days by a Delhi court
on Sunday with officials claiming she
was an editor of the "toolkit Google
doc" and "key conspirator" in its formulation and dissemination.



Historian Ramchandra Guha (right) along with other activists holds placards during a protest against the arrest of climate activist Disha Ravi, in Bengaluru on Monday

Nikita moves HC for bail

Mumbai Mumbai-based lawyer-activist Nikita Jacob moved the Bombay High Court for anticipatory bail after a Delhi court issued a nonbailable arrest warrant against her. Jacob's plea for an urgent hearing was mentioned by her lawyer Abhishek Yende before Justice P.D. Naik on Monday who has posted the matter for Tuesday.

A practicing lawyer since the past six years, Jacob is a resident of Goregaon and has been active in public causes.

Terming the Delhi Police FIR as "false and baseless", she sought transit anticipatory bail for a period of four weeks to enable approach the court in Delhi concerned and apply for a pre-arrest bail.

Is State so weak? Sibal

New Delhi: The Congress termed the arrest of climate activist Disha Ravi as 'shocking' and 'unfortunate' and asked if the 'state was so weak that a tweet threatened its security'. "Is the State so weak that a tweet threatens its security? Is the state so paranoid that a 22 year is a national security threat? Is the state so intolerant that it cannot tolerate youth standing with farmers? Is this the "badlav" Modiji wanted?": Congress leader Kapil Sibal tweeted. The party's Deputy leader in Rajya Sabha, Anand Sharma tweeted: "Police should recognise her right to liberty and courts must respect the Supreme Court Judgement which says bail is the rule and Jail an exception. "

What is a toolkit?

A toolkit, simply put, is a document created to explain any issue. It also provides information on what one needs to do to address the issue. This might include information about petitions, details about protests and mass movements and so on. The toolkit that Thunberg shared, tries to "explain the farmers' protests" in the national capital.

"This is a document meant to enable anyone unfamiliar with the ongoing farmers protests in India to better understand the situation and make decisions on how to support the farmers based on their own analysis," the toolkit states.

The toolkit then goes on to apparently summarise the situation of farmers in India and talks about the Centre's recent agriculture legislations.

agriculture legislations.

"Instead of being supported to become self-reliant and prosperous, a majority of farmers are increasingly being subjected to the control of large corporations and international institutions whose sole focus is profits, and necessarily involves increased exploitation of nature," the toolkit states.

It further lists out what actions one can take to support the farmers' protests and the Delhi Police is currently trying to ascertain who created it.

War of words between BJP, Oppn

New Delhi

Accusing the government of "murdering democracy" by using force against a 21-year-old, the Opposition said the voice of India cannot be silenced even as the BJP defended the action, saying a crime is a crime no matter at what age. Congress leader Rahul Gandhi led the opposition offensive following the arrest of 21-year-old Disha Ravi in the case and said the country will not be silenced.

"Your lips are free to speak. Say that the truth is still alive. They are scared, not the country," he said in a tweet in Hindi. "India will not be silenced," he added. Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said, "Arrest of 21 year old Disha Ravi is an unprecedented attack on Democracy. Supporting our farmers is not a crime."

RJD leader Manoi Jha said democracy is under threat. "I am worried about democracy, as it is passing through the most difficult times," he said, Union Minister and BJP leader Gajendra Singh Shekhawat tweeted: "If age is the criteria then Param Veer Chakra Second Lt Arun Khetarpal, martyred at 21 is who I am proud of. Not some toolkit propagandists." BJP general secretary B L Santosh tweeted: "21 year old...environment activist...student...Are these credentials for becoming a part of breaking India forces? How does she get the access for editing tool kit ...? Why she is part of anti-national WhatsApp groups...? Many questions...But only one answer...21 year old." "Bengaluru, Greta Thun-

Disha argued her own case

Disha Ravi did not have her own

lawyer when she was produced in court with charges of sedition and conspiracy. According to Disha Ravi's legal team, she argued her own case before the magistrate. In a post, lawyer Rebecca John has alleged "shocking abdication of judicial duties". According to her, the magistrate failed to ensure that Disha had legal representation in court. "Deeply disappointed by the conduct of the duty magistrate... who remanded a

young woman to five days in police

that she was being represented by

custody, without first ensuring

counsel," Ms John wrote.

berg, Vegan, sole bread winner, student. 21 year old, passionate activist...so many attempts to white wash a sin...!! Not one anarchist ready to answer the question...How 21 year old student got access to edit Toolkit." he asked. Former Union ministers P Chidambaram and Jairam Ramesh have also come out strongly against the police action in the case, accusing the government of running an authoritarian regime as it was threatened by a student. "I strongly condemn the arrest of Disha Ravi and urge all students and youth to raise their voices to protest against the authoritarian regime."

Forging and fabricating medical prescription of Sushant Singh Rajput

Mumbai HC refuses to quash FIR against sister Priyanka Singh

Mumbai

THE Bombay High Court on Monday refused to quash an FIR lodged against late actor Sushant Singh Rajput's sister Priyanka Singh for allegedly forging and fabricating a medical prescription for her brother. A division bench of Justices S S Shinde and M S Karnik, however, quashed the FIR against Meetu Singh, another sister of

The court said while there was prima facie evidence against Priyanka Singh, the case against Meetu Singh does not stand. "We are of the considered opinion that the FIR against petitioner Meetu Singh does not survive,"

the bench said. "However, the FIR against petitioner Priyanka Singh is not quashed as we prima facie find that a case is made out," the court said.

The bench said its judgment shall not cause an impediment for the investigating agency to probe the FIR and submit whatever report it deems fit. The sisters had approached the HC seeking to quash the First Information Report (FIR) lodged for alleged forgery and fabrication of a medical prescription for their brother for anxiety issues. The FIR was lodged against Priyanka Singh, Meetu Singh and doctor Tarun Kumar of Delhi's Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital by the Bandra police in Mumbai on September 7 last year, based on a complaint filed by Rajput's



girlfriend Rhea Chakraborty. As per the complaint, Rajput's sisters and the doctor prepared a forged and fabricated prescription for anti- depressants for the actor a few days before his death

Rajput, 34, was found dead at his home in suburban Bandra on June 14 last year. His father K K Singh later lodged a case of abetment of suicide and cheating against Chakraborty and her family members. The CBI is conducting a probe into the case.

After registration of the FIR against Rajput's sisters, the Bandra police forwarded the case papers to the Central Bureau of Investigation, as per directions of the Supreme Court which had said all cases pertaining to the death of Rajput shall be probed by the CBI. Senior counsel Vikas Singh, appearing for Rajput's sisters, had argued that telemedicine practice guidelines permitted a

doctor to prescribe medicines after online consultation. He had claimed that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Rajput could not go for physical consultation.

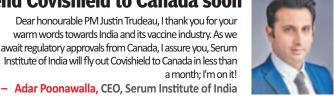
Chidambaram said.

Even assuming that such a prescription was procured, there was no evidence to show Rajput consumed any medicines, Singh told the court. Senior counsel Devdutt Kamat, appearing for the Mumbai police, had opposed the plea and said there was no online consultation done. Rhea Chakraborty's advocate Satish Maneshinde had also opposed the plea of Rajput's sisters, and said one of the circumstances that may have led to the actor's death was the "dangerous cocktail of drugs, narcotic substances and medicines"

TODAY'S QUOTE

Will send Covishield to Canada soon

Dear honourable PM Justin Trudeau, I thank you for your warm words towards India and its vaccine industry. As we await regulatory approvals from Canada, I assure you, Serum Institute of India will fly out Covishield to Canada in less than a month: I'm on it!



PROFIT Sidbi Q3 profit rises by 9%

Small Industries Development Bank of India (Sidbi) on Monday reported 9 per cent growth in net profit at Rs 630 crore for December guarter 2020-21. In the year-ago period, its profit stood at Rs 578 crore. During the first nine months of 2020-21, Sidbi's net profit rose 38.4 per cent to Rs 2,165 crore.

FOREX (bu	n ₹)	Park	
US Dollar	77.05	South	PTA
Euro	92.61	African Rand	5.79
UAE Dirham	21.77	Hong Kong Dollar	10.78
Thai Baht	2.8	Japanese Yen	0.79
British Pound	105.12	New Zealand Dollar	55.24
Australian Dollar	59.36	Saudi Riyal	21.3
Canadian Dollar	60.27	Swedish Krona	10.1
Swiss Franc	84.87	Singapore Dollar	57.69

HYDERABAD TUESDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2021

BIZ BRIEFS

Navi General's health plan

NAVI General Insurance has launched a two -minutes online retail health insurance product. Customers can buy health insurance via the Navi health in surance app through a quick and completely paperless process and the policy issued to them instantly on the app. The product offers customizable health insurance cover ranging from Rs 2 lakh to Rs 1 cr for individuals and families. The policy offers comprehensive health insurance that covers more than 20 health benefits including in-patient hospitalisation, pre and post hospitalisation expenses, Covid-19 hospitalisation, domiciliary hospitalization etc. Ramchandra Pandit, MD & CEO, Navi General Insurance, said: "With our health insurance offering, our objective is to radically simplify health insurance for individuals and families."

Udaan expands supply chain

UDAAN announced that its supply chain and logistics capability to serve small businesses across the country, through udaanExpress, has been strengthened to over 10 mn sq. ft. of warehousing space. This warehousing capacity is 230 acres. The achievement of this milestone has been made possible through capacity expansion and addition of new warehouses, taking the total number of warehouses to 200, spread across the country. Sujeet Kumar, co-founder, udaan said: "We are committed to offering world class, tech-enabled and cost-effective supply chain & logistics solutions, in addition to the benefits of eCommerce scale, to small businesses of Bharat. The latest capacity expansion to 10 million sq. ft. allows our customers a better and hassle-free inventory management."

Bada Business nires more

WITH a post Covid surge in digital learning, EdTech startup Bada Business expanded its workforce by almost 300 per cent this financial year, adding over 300 employees to its work force across the country. The platform offers a series of online business training and skilling programmes for small entrepreneurs and wantrepreneurs. Founded by business trainer Dr Vivek Bindra in 2019. Bada Business is a rare case of a bootstrapped startup crossing Rs 100 crore in revenue within two years of starting up. "In a post Covid environment, not only has digital learning witnessed a boost, there has also been a surge in requirement for up-skilling and business training for entrepreneurs looking to adapt their businesses to the new normal. We have witnessed a soaring demand," said Dr Bindra, CEO, Bada Business.

Eupheus raises \$4.1mn

Eupheus Learning a Delhibased leading B2B EdTech company has raised \$4.1 million in series B funding round. The round is led by United Education Company, Kuwait's leading company in the education sector and Al Ravan Holding Company in which UEC holds a majority stake, offering different curriculum to cater to the Kuwait's markets diverse demographic composition. The company is the largest outreach platform for schools with an ecosystem of 13,000 schools, driving partnerships with 5,000 schools covering 4 million students. Shaikha Dana Nasser Al-Sabah, chairperson, UEC, said: "We are excited to partner with Eupheus Team as they continue their journey in fast-growing EdTech market with their innovative and differentiated offerings".

Centre may put 4 banks on sale

HANS BUSINESS

New Delhi

THE central government has shortlisted four mid-sized state-run banks for privatisation, under a new push to sell state assets and shore up government revenues, Reuters news agency reported quoting three government sources.

Privatisation of the banking sector, which is dominated by public sector banks (PSBs) with hundreds of thousands of employees, is politically risky because it could put jobs at risk, but Prime Minister Narendra Modi's administration aims to make a start with second-tier banks, the report said. The four banks on the shortlist are Bank of Maharashtra, Bank of India, Indian Overseas Bank and the Central Bank of India, two officials told Reuters on condition of anonymity as the matter is not yet public. Two of those banks will be selected for sale in the next financial year which begins in April, the officials said. The shortlist has not previously been reported.

The government is considering mid-sized to small banks for its first round of privatisation to test the waters. In the coming years it could also look at some of the country's bigger banks, the officials said.

The government, however, will continue to hold a majority stake in

वैंक ऑफ़ इंडिया Bank of India Relationships beyond banking. सेन्ट्रल बैंक ऑफ़ इंडिया Central Bank of India

PSB SALE LIST Bank of Maharashtra

Bank of India

Indian Overseas Bank Central Bank of India

Privatisation of the banking sector, which is dominated by public sector banks (PSBs) with hundreds of thousands of employees, is politically risky because it could put jobs at risk

India's largest lender State Bank of India, which is seen as a 'strategic bank' for implementing initiatives such as expanding rural credit. A finance ministry spokesman declined to comment on the matter.

India's deepest economic contraction on record caused by the pandemic is driving the push for bolder reforms, economists say. Government also wants to over-

haul a banking sector reeling under a heavy load of non-performing assets, which are likely to rise further once banks are allowed to categorise loans that soured during the pandemic as bad. PM Modi's office initially wanted four banks to be put up for sale in the coming fiscal year, but officials have advised caution fearing resistance from unions representing the employees, the report added.

Demand for completed flats rise in 2020: Survey

New Delhi

DEMAND for completed residential properties is rising compared to that for under-construction flats, as the share of ready-to-move-in homes in the total housing sales in 2020 rose to 21 per cent from 18 per cent in the previous year, according to News Corp-backed realty brokerage firm PropTiger.

A total of 1,82,640 units were sold in the 2020 calendar year, of which 21 per cent were in the RTMI (ready-to-move-in) category and 79 per cent were under-construction, PropTiger said quoting its Real Insight report for 2020. In 2019, a total of 3.47.590 units were sold of which 18 per cent were RTMI, it said in a statement. PropTiger research found that the share of RTMI in the total sales has been on the rise since 2016.

The share of RTMI in total sales during 2015 was 7 per cent, which increased to 10 per cent in 2016, 12 per cent in 2017, 15 per cent in 2018 and 18 per cent in 2019, the statement said. "Risk-averse home buyers are increasingly opting for readyto-move-in flats. Even in underconstruction properties, the preference is towards branded developers or those with an impeccable track record of execution," said Dhruv Agarwala, Group CEO, Housing.com, Makaan.com PropTiger.com.

Sensex hits 52,000 mark on global cues

Rallies 610 points as investors pile

MUMBAI

THE Sensex rallied 610 points to finish above the 52,000-mark for the first time while the Nifty soar past 15,300 on Monday as investors piled into banking and finance stocks amid a bullish trend overseas

Supportive macroeconomic

data and unabated foreign fund inflows added to the momentum, traders said. After touching a record high of 52,235.97 during the day, the 30-share BSE Sensex ended 609.83 points or 1.18 per cent up at its new closing peak of 52,154.13. Similarly, the broader NSE Nifty soared 151.40 points or 1 per cent to finish at a record 15,314.70. It touched an intra-day peak of 15,340.15. Axis Bank led the Sensex gainers' chart, climbing 5.88 per cent, followed by ICICI Bank, Bajaj Finance, SBI, IndusInd Bank, HDFC, Bajaj Finserv and HDFC Bank. On the other hand, Dr Reddy's, TCS, Tech Mahindra, HUL, Asian Paints and Titan were among the laggards, sliding up to 1.77 per

"Indian market opened on a positive following upbeat peers in Asia as Nikkei 225 crossed

into banking, finance stocks 30,000 for first time in more than three decades with Japan's economy growing 12.7 per cent on an annualised basis in October to December last year," said Narendra Solanki, Head - Equity Research (Fundamental), Anand Rathi. Meanwhile, the wholesale price-based inflation rose sharply to 2.03 per cent in January on costlier non-food manufactured items. Indicating some signs of recovery, industrial production recorded a positive growth of 1 per cent in December while retail inflation cooled to a 16-month low of 4.06 per cent in January, as per data released post market hours on Friday. Sector-wise, BSE bankex, finance, realty, industrials, telecom and healthcare indices rallied up to 3.31 per cent, while IT, consumer durables,

> Broader BSE midcap and smallcap indices surged up to 1.40 per cent. Elsewhere in Asia, bourses in China and Hong Kong were closed for the Lunar New Year holidays, while Tokyo and Seoul ended with strong gains.

metal and teck ended in the red.

OpenTeQ rolls out new integrated tech solutions

HANS BUSINESS HYDERABAD

OPENTEQ, a global digital solutions and IT services company, has announced its new integrated technology solutions for customers. The IT solutions will help businesses modernise their operations by integrating software and systems to meet their technological needs.

OpenTeQ, with over a decade of experience, offers a wide spectrum of services and solutions like development and integrabusiness tion,

processes services, engineering services, quality assurance and testing, digital engagement, data and analytics and Cloud-enabled IT operations. With these services, all enterprises can streamline their business processes and create business models to meet changing market needs, the company said in a statement.

"As businesses today continue to migrate critical workloads, enter-

prises need to focus on digital transformation and smart use of IT services. With our new integrated solutions, we can confidently help enterprises modernise workloads and enable digital acceleration, thereby increasing productivity and reducing IT costs. We want to be the trusted technology partner, delivering the best-suited technology consulting and services to em-

power our clients," said Narendra Anumolu, Director, OpenTeQ Technologies

OpenTeQ's services

include application, development and integration, business processes services, engineering services, quality assurance and testing, digital engagement, data and analytics, and Cloud-enabled IT operations. The objective is to also enable clients to draw deep insights and predictive analysis in real-time to uncover new business opportunities, increase operational efficiencies, empower employees, and offer a better experi-

ence to their customers.

NCDEX set to launch Hi-pro soybean meal **futures tomorrow**

New Delhi

LEADING agri-commodity bourse NCDEX on Monday said it will launch futures trading in animal feed 'Hi-pro soybean meal' on February 17. The futures contracts in Hi-pro soybean meal, expiring in the months of March to September will be available for trading at the time of the launch. The contract will have a trading and delivery unit of 10 tonne. The basis centre and additional delivery centre for the contract would be Indore in Madhya Pradesh and Latur in Maharashtra, respectively, the exchange said in a statement. Hi-pro soybean meal is an animal feed with the high protein content of 50 per cent or more as compared with around 46 per cent in normal soymeal.

With the launch of Hi-Pro sovbean meal contract, NCDEX Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer Vijay Kumar said the exchange has achieved a key milestone of having all the major tradeable products in soybean complex on the derivatives platform.

Sreemukhi promotes Luvih cosmetic retailer

HANS BUSINESS HYDERABAD

NEW retailing brand Luvih has on Sunday forayed into beauty products retailing business. Luvih means beauty in Sanskrit. Promoted by noted anchor and actress Sreemukhi, Rasgau International, which owns Luvih brand, will initially sell perfumes in the outlets. Soon the company will introduce beauty, grooming, haircare products. Sreemukhi is also the brand ambassador for the product.

Perfumes from 80 brands including 40 international brands will be available. They are priced from Rs 299 to Rs 7,500. During the first year of its operations. Luvih will introduce 10 global perfume brands for the first time in India. A total of 300 products will be on sale. Products of 110 brands will be available online as well.

"I have been thinking of setting up a business for quite some time. I have now got partners who understand my thoughts. The experience they have in retail business will help Luvih brand. Demand for perfumes



(From left) Rasagau International Directors Tirupati Rao Vojja, Srikanth Avirneni, Sreemukhi and Vijay Adusumilli, launching the brand

and other cosmetics is on the rise in villages too. My objective is to provide self-employment opportunities for the youth through franchise, with small investment," said Sreemukhi, Director, Rasgau International, V Tirupati Rao, Srikanth Avirneni and Vijay Adusumalli are the other company directors.

Luvih has signed an agreement with Linen House, which sells linen garments, for setting up shop-inshop outlets. These outlets will be opened in 23 outlets of Linen House located in Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. The brand is also talking to other retail chains for shop-in-shop outlets.

Israeli firm signs deal to transfer crop breeding programme

HANS BUSINESS HYDERABAD

NRGENE, an Israeli genomics artificial intelligence (AI) company, on Monday signed an agreement with Indian seed genetics startup Foragen Seeds to transfer its India-based, eightyear-old crop breeding programme of maize, rice and chillipepper to the latter.

This agreement is to advance the field breeding programme of elite seed development and product commercialisation in India. NRGene has carried out broad molecular breeding projects for the Indian market. The germplasms and breeding materials will significantly help in developing a robust commercial product pipeline suited to the various climate zones in India and other tropical and sub-tropical countries. "We look forward to see our elite germplasm cultivated across India, providing Indian farmers with extra yield and quality," said Dr Gil Ronen, NR-Gene CEO.

The following are the large and

medium scale industries that are

A Raju MAHABUBNAGAR

PALAMURU region of erstwhile Mahabubnagar district is unfortunately known for its backwardness, and large migrating labor population since past many decades, however, ever since the beginning of open economy and industrial liberalization in 1990s onwards, the industrial sector in the district has been moving on a fast track, where in hundreds of large, medium and small scale industries have set up their manufacturing bases across various parts of the district and have been providing employment to the local population sine past over 3 decades now.

However, the industrial growth in Mahabubnagar had further accelerated ever since the establishment of the green filed Industrial Park Special Economic Zone (SEZ), an exclusive pharmaceutical and allied industrial hub at Jadcherla, in the year 2008. To begin with, the erstwhile Mahabubnagar district's industrial sector which was initially given the push 3 decades ago has established various small, medium and large scale industries in various parts of the district. The most prominent among all these industrial zones is the Kottur Industrial Development Area (IDA), which was established during 1990s on wards. This industrial area had grown at a rapid pace in the district and it is spread over

Palamuru fast picking up industrially

District offers umpteen opportunities for investors

more than 180 acres in the Kottur Mandal of erstwhile Mahabubnagar district. Apart from Kottur IDA, there are 5 other important industrial zones that came up subsequently which include one Industrial Estate in the district located at Mahabubnagar and 4 Industrial Development Areas at Kottur, Jadcherla, Palem, and Gadwal. Almost all plots, sheds and shops that have been developed are allotted to the entrepreneurs except in Gadwal.

All these industrial areas have brought in a sea change in the overall outlook of the erstwhile Mahabubnagar district, where in, lakhs of people who used to migrate for livelihood could now earn their living due to the employment opportunities available for the local people in these industries.

As per the latest statistics available from the district industries department there are at present 60 Large and Medium Industries in the sectors of basic metals, fibre glass, pharmaceutical formulations, particle board manufacturing, poultry, and textiles. In addition to this, there are over 3,308 registered small scale / tiny industries with an overall in-



vestment of Rs 154.10 crore. It is estimated that all these industries provide employment to more than 50,000 people in the district.

The main reason for the fast pickup of industrial sector in the erstwhile Mahabubnagar is its proximity to Hyderabad city and the international airport located at Shamshabad in Ranga Reddy district, adjoin erstwhile the district

With the establishment of the airport, it has enhanced the establishment of export oriented units in the district. "Erstwhile Mahabubnagar had attracted a large scale, national and international companies to its industrial areas. Particularly, the Pharma SEZ at Jadcherla and upcoming small and medium scale industries elsewhere in the district has really changed the face of the Palamuru region. From being negatively labeled as a labor migration district, today we are witnessing reverse migration to the district, where in hundreds and thousands of people from other states are coming to Mahabubnagar in search of livelihood.

However, apart from the existing industries, the district has ample opportunities to attract investors in various sectors like agro based industries, food processing industries, fiber and cement manufacturing industries, steel manufacturing industries and others," said Sdistrict collector S Venkat Rao.

Mega projects

ITC Limited had proposed to established a 2 lakh ton ECF Pulp Mill and 92 lakh ton coated wood free paper machine in area of about of 1,000



hectares. The proposed cost of entire project is Rs 2500 crore. The Plant requires 21 cusecs of water for day throughout the year. Land has been identified in Gadwal, Pebbair, Makthal and Maganoor mandals of Mahabubnagar district. The suitability of the land for the project has to be finalized by M/s ITC Limited.

Grasim Industries Limited, an Aditya Birla Group company, which is a leader in the field of textiles, having a turnover of Rs.25000 crore per annum has proposed to establish a polyfibre unit in Mahabubnagar district. The project is proposed to be implemented in three phases with total outlay of Rs 2100 crore. The project requires an area of around 1,000 acres. The land identification for the project is under process.

coming up newly in Mahabubnagar and they have already filed for single window clearances system for obtaining various clearances/approvals from different department. These industries are under active implementation and are likely to go into operation shortly. Some of these ininclude, Hoffamann International Limited located at IDA, Kottur, high security vehicle registration plates making, Abhedya Industries Ltd located at Kottur, makers of all types of BOPP filters, Dayakar Sugar (P) Ltd., at Balakistapur village, Binjusaria Sponge and Power (P) Ltd at Shadnagar, Sponge Iron, pig iron makers, Bilasraika Sponge Iron India Pvt. Ltd., at Gundla Potkapally in Balanagar mandal, Indo American Paper Products Limited, at Nandigaon in Kothur mandal, Surva Jyothi Spinning Mills Ltd., at Maktal, M.S.Ingots, Steel Toling Sponge Iron, Kedia Alloys Ltd, at Thimmapur, GVK Novopan Inds. (P) Ltd and various other industries have established bases in Mahabubnagar district.

Apart from the above industries, one more mega industry is coming up in State - Jai Raj Ispat Limited. Announcing its decision to set up a steel plant in Dharur mandal of Gadwal in the district. The proposed steel plant will come up in 250 acre land in the southern region of the district.