

ANALYSIS 7 AUTONOMY PLUS ACCOUNTABILITY

MONEY 8 \$271 BN CONSUMER SPENDING TO SHIFT FROM CASH TO CARDS, DIGITAL

PAGE 12 SALAR JUNG MUSEUM... A DESTINATION TO OFFER SOMETHING ETERNAL

HYDERABAD, WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 25, 2020; PAGES 12 ₹3



the pioneer



RANA OPENS UP ABOUT HIS HEALTH ISSUES

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'SWADESHI' TOOTER MODELLED AFTER FB, TWITTER

Tooter is a new social media platform that seems to be gaining traction for being "swadeshi" or made in India. Tooter, as the name suggests, is conspicuously modelled after the microblogging platform Twitter.



AMID 'LOVE JIHAD' ROW, UP CLEARS ORDINANCE ON FORCED CONVERSIONS

Amid furious nationwide debate over "love jihad" - the right-wing conspiracy theory that Muslim men enter into relationships with Hindu women to forcibly convert them - the Uttar Pradesh government on Tuesday evening passed an ordinance to check forced religious conversions.



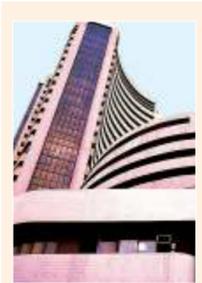
REPUBLIC TV OFFICIAL AMONG 12 NAMED IN FAKE RATINGS SHEET

A Republic TV official has been named in a charge sheet filed in the fake ratings case by the Mumbai police today. Ghanshyam Singh, Republic TV's Head of Distribution, is among the 12 accused named in the 1,400-page charge sheet.



PREZ TAKES CUSTOM-MADE AI-ONE AIRCRAFT INAUGURAL FLIGHT

President Ram Nath Kovind boarded the Air India One-B777 aircraft on Tuesday for its inaugural flight to Chennai, according to a Rashtrapati Bhavan statement.



Markets surge to lifetime highs; Nifty breaches 13K

8



TRS leaders are comedians

4



Local body elections allow parties to correct course

2

BJP would do 'surgical strike' on Old City: TS BJP prez Sanjay

Owaisi and KTR ask 'why surgical strike on Indians?'

NAVEENA GHANATE HYDERABAD

No doubt, BJP has time and again publicised the "surgical strike" against Pakistan as proof of the "strong and decisive leadership" of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.



TS BJP chief Bandi Sanjay addressing a rally at Habsiguda in Hyderabad

Habsiguda in Hyderabad, while campaigning for the GHMC polls. He raked up 'surgical strike' in reply to AIMIM president Asaduddin Owaisi's poster on Monday: "If there are 30,000 Rohingyas in Hyderabad, what is Union

Home Minister Amit Shah doing? Is he sleeping? If Rohingyas are included in electoral lists in Baldia. Tell me 1,000 names of Rohingyas in Hyderabad?"

2

Entire south will be safronised beginning Hyd: BJP MP

PNS HYDERABAD

BJP youth wing president Tejasvi Surya on Tuesday claimed the entire of south India will be 'safronised' with the BJP winning elections beginning with the GHMC polls.



the whole of South India will be safronised, Surya, an MP said. Hyderabad was a great city and it needed a new vision and governance which only the BJP leadership can give, he

claimed. Telangana was formed following a lot of struggles and sacrifices and it was not the property of one family, he said, attacking Rao, popularly known as KCR.

The BJP leader said while KCR promised "Golden Telangana", it was only his party and his family "got gold" while the youth of the state did not get anything. It was only in the BJP where a common worker coming from a modest family can rise to be the national president of the party, he said.

Meanwhile, Surya alleged he was stopped by the Police from entering the OU campus. However, the Police denied it and said the MP went inside the campus and conducted a meeting 'peacefully'.



India bans 43 more mobile apps

PNS NEW DELHI

India banned 43 mobile applications on Tuesday including Alibaba Group Holding Ltd's e-commerce app Aliexpress in a new wave of web sanctions targeted at China with whom it has engaged in a months-long standoff at a Himalayan border site.

The 43 mostly Chinese origin apps, which also include a few dating apps, threaten the "sovereignty and integrity of India", the technology ministry said in a statement.

2

Rains in city over next 3days due to Nivar

PNS HYDERABAD

Cyclone Nivar over southwest Bay of Bengal has moved westwards and lay about 380 km east-southeast of Puducherry and 430 km south-southeast of Chennai on Tuesday. The storm system is expected to intensify and become

a 'very severe cyclone' by 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday and make landfall between Karaikal and Mamallapuram around Puducherry late in the evening with wind speeds in the range of 120-130 km per hour, gusting to nearly 145 kmph.



2

Ready to fly to countries like Saudi: Govt

PNS NEW DELHI

The government is ready to fly passengers to countries like Saudi Arabia whenever they remove restrictions on the entry of Indian nationals, the Civil Aviation Ministry said on Tuesday. It said India has been operating international flights under Vande Bharat Mission since May 6 and now has air bubble arrangements with 22 countries.

are ready to fly passengers to these countries when the restrictions are eased," the ministry said on Twitter.

Under the bilateral air bubble pacts, the airlines of both countries can operate international flights with certain restrictions.

While India resumed scheduled domestic passenger flights on May 25 after a gap of two months, scheduled international passenger flights continue to remain suspended in India since March 23 due to the pandemic.

TRS leaders face flak from public during campaign

K VENKATESHWARLU HYDERABAD

Though there is a marked dip in temperatures in the city, TRS leaders are facing increasingly torrid times as they fan out across Hyderabad to seek votes for the party candidates in the ensuing GHMC polls.

While most citizens remain polite and smile, nod and say they would vote for the TRS, there are some that utilise the opportunity to question the ruling party leaders on the pathetic state of roads, flood relief and other issues.

In several wards like Himayat Nagar, Uppal, Alwal,

Boudhanagar and Yapral, TRS leaders had to face the wrath of the people.

On Tuesday, TRS leaders Gangula Kamalakar and Danam Nagender, who were campaigning in Chandanagar and Khairatabad, were accosted by protesters.

The angry citizens told Gangula and Nagender that they did not receive flood relief and asked them to go back. The duo was forced to beat a retreat, sensing that cajoling the people and dodging the issue won't work.

Likewise, it was a bitter experience for Deputy Speaker Padma Rao in Boudhanagar,



where he was asked what had been done to resolve the issues plaguing the division. Malkajgiri MLA Mynampally



Hanumanth Rao wasn't left in peace in Yapral, where the failure of the administration to repair the road was pointed out

in so many words. Hanumanth Rao had to sign a note stating that if the road was not repaired, he would get it done at his personal expense. Corporators are also facing flak about the flood relief and assistance. Uppal TRS candidate Shalini Bashkar's husband was shooed away by a woman shopkeeper who was neglected when the city was flooded recently.

Not just TRS, even AIMIM president Asaduddin Owaisi faced the ire of the people at Jambagh. Women questioned the Hyderabad MP over flood relief.

12

TODAY ALMANAC Month & Paksham: Kartik & Shukla Paksha Panchangam Tithi: Ekadashi: 05:09 am (Next Day) Nakshatram: Ulara Bhadrakapsa: 05:20 pm Time to Avoid: (Bad time to start any important work) Rahukalam: 12:03 pm - 01:26 pm Yamagandam: 07:53 am - 09:16 am Varjyam: NIL Gulika: 10:39 am - 12:03 pm Good Time: (to start any important work) Amritkalam: 12:59 pm - 02:46 pm Abhijit Muhurtham: NIL HYDERABAD WEATHER Forecast: Partly cloudy Temp: 29/19 Humidity: 49% Sunrise: 06:26am Sunset: 05:39pm Current Weather Conditions Updated November 24, 2020 5:00 PM

Local body elections allow parties to correct course

Generally, elections to the local bodies in any state reflect the mixed opinion of the people as they are mostly conducted between two general elections. Also, the ruling party is at a slight disadvantage, since the 'honeymoon' period is just about ending and the people waiting for the ruling party to fulfil its poll promises get restless.



At the nook and corner of the constituency while in local body polls, it's the credibility of the candidate that is under scrutiny of the voter. Importantly, results of local body elections tend to influence both the Opposition and ruling party to do a course correction, hence these polls are considered important in more ways than one for all stakeholders.

Also, voters are generally more invested in local body elections since their choice will affect their immediate vicinity.

The importance of local body polls can be gauged by the violence that followed the MCH elections held on February 15, 1986. Opposition parties, particularly the Congress, held NTR responsible for irregularities that took place during those polls.

Then, film star-turned-politician NT Rama Rao had completed three years in office and the electorate was getting restless. Resultantly, nearly

half of urban local bodies were bagged by the Congress. Interestingly, one Opposition leader described NTR as 'Idi Amin (the dictator Uganda) of India' and accused him of sabotaging the democratic process.

Undoubtedly, the AIMIM will have to work extra hard if it wants to extend its reach beyond these 45 divisions. The most obvious way to do this is to target the TRS, attacking the ruling party over the recent floods, at the same time cornering the BJP by accusing it of provoking voters on religious lines

Coincidentally, the then President of Philippines Ferdinand Marcos was unseated on the same date, leading to enthusiastic Congress leaders saying that NTR will meet the same fate as the dictator. The next year, 1987, elections to the urban local bodies were conducted in Undivided Andhra Pradesh. The Congress, despite having tasted defeat at the hands of NTR twice (1983 and 1985) in a row, managed to bag 10 municipalities across the state.



M D RATNA KUMAR
Senior Journalist

The party's performance in the elections to the local bodies propelled Congress to power in the 1989 elections, a perfect example of how results in such elections could make a difference to the fortunes of a political party.

and pressed its cadres to conduct sessions on strengthening the system and grant it more powers.

The then Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly YS Rajasekhara Reddy and Pradesh Congress Committee president M Satyanarayana Rao closely monitored the situation to instil confidence in the party cadres who in turn actively participated in elections by implementing 'select and elect' policy framed by party leadership. This ensured genuine candidates got an opportunity to contest.

parishad chairmanship in the same polls.

But can the TRS, a party that has registered stunning victories in the State live up to its promise of winning more than 100 divisions in the GHMC this year?

It's a known fact that AIMIM depends on polarisation of votes and has been holding sway on no less than 45 municipal divisions over the years.

Undoubtedly, the AIMIM will have to work extra hard if it wants to extend its reach beyond these 45 divisions. The most obvious way to do this is to target the TRS, attacking the ruling party over the recent floods, at the same time cornering the BJP by accusing it of provoking voters on religious lines.

the day, the AIMIM can be relied on to extend support to the TRS and help it capture the Mayor's post.

It may be mentioned here that the TRS is more or less assured of the Mayor's post as it has a sizeable number of ex-officio members in the GHMC in the form of MPs, MLAs and MLCs. With this background, the comments of MIM senior legislator Mumtaz Ahmad Khan that his party could topple the TRS government if necessary, could be seen as a deliberate attempt to create confusion in the minds of people over the understanding between MIM and TRS and to give no scope for BJP to benefit from this friendship.

Doublespeak is now a malaise common to all political parties and we may see more of this before campaigning for the GHMC elections ends.

IT'S TIME WE SAID NO TO OVERUSE OF ANTIBIOTICS

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

What if the drugs that are supposed to cure do more harm? Overuse of antibiotics has now become a menace to humanity. That is why the World Health Organization (WHO) has identified it as a serious disaster. For the first time in over two years, it has conducted a comprehensive survey of antibiotic use in 114 countries. From 18th to the 24th of this month, the World Antibiotics Awareness Week was a warning to all nations.



WHO has expressed concern that over seven lakh people worldwide die every year due to the diseases caused by germs that are resistant to the use of antibiotics. It warns that if this situation continues, one billion people will die each year in the world by 2050. By 2030, 2.40 crore people will be destitute due to the inactivity of antibiotics and the death of someone in their family. India is a leader in the use of stray antibiotics. It is estimated that up to one lakh people die here every year. 58 thousand of them are children.

tance to antibiotics because of chemicals in the water and affect 70 percent of us. According to research by the National Dairy Research Institute, 14 per cent of the 44 milk samples collected in and around Delhi contained antibiotics. E. coli bacteria in milk samples collected in Rajasthan are not subject to 70 percent of the antibiotics currently in use.

antibiotics anywhere in the world. WHO is concerned that tuberculosis, malaria, gonorrhoea, pneumonia and urinary tract infections may become a problem as the microbes increase their resistance to current antibiotics.

Having children under the age of five among them is of further concern. It is estimated that by 2050, 15 lakh people will die in the country every year.

Having children under the age of five among them is of further concern. It is estimated that by 2050, 15 lakh people will die in the country every year. The use of certain types of antibiotics in our country increased from 8.5 million units to 13.2 million units between 2001 and 2015. Medical experts estimate that each person consumes an average of 14 antibiotic pills a year. Since 2014, CDSCO has listed 24 types of antibiotics. That is, it should not be used without a doctor's prescription. But, those are being used.

Of the 774 samples collected from pigs and 74 samples were bacteria resistant to antibiotics. For the Vibria bacteria found in 82 samples of fish, 90 percent of the available antibiotics are not effective. According to CDDP research, Hyderabad has a large number of pharmaceutical manufacturing plants, which deposit high levels of antibiotics in ground-water and surface water near wastewater treatment plants. All kinds of antibiotics are getting into our bodies.

If we have about a billion trillions of living cells in our body, we have more than 10 trillion of bacteria in our body too. Especially in the intestines, on the skin, in the nose, in the nostrils, and in the lungs. These are the good and the bad bacteria. Bacteria in the gut help keep our immune system strong. Without these good bacteria, it is difficult for us to stay healthy. However, when antibiotics are used, not only the bad bacteria but also some good bacteria die. Bacteria and viruses are two types of microorganisms that cause all kinds of diseases. Antibiotics can only kill bacteria. Antibiotics do little to control viral infections. Unaware of this, we use antibiotics for colds and flu, which are viral infections. Using this will increase the strength of the bacteria in the body without destroying the virus.

increased resistance to antibiotics, which can lead to drug-free conditions even for minor ailments. It has become common to use antibiotics for colds, coughs and fevers.

Doctors also prescribe antibiotics for bacterial infections of cattle, chickens and goats. Antibiotics given by doctors affect only 30 percent of our body directly. However, pesticides used in agriculture, chemicals, antibiotics used in chickens, buffaloes, and other animals increase their resis-

There are vaccines for flu, pneumonia, rotavirus, diarrhoea, diphtheria, whooping cough, typhoid and measles. It is better to give them in advance. Hand, water, food hygiene, vaccinations, and good nutrition can all help prevent infections. WHO recognizes that there is no one-size-fits-all approach to the use of

Other factors include

There are many ineligible medical practitioners in Telangana villages. Antibiotics are given for every minor ailment and the curable diseases get worse. Pesticides are sprayed on the crops. Used for vegetables and grains. Humans also have traces of such chemicals after eating them.

These are the findings of the WHO. Countries should formulate a national action plan to reduce the use of antibiotics.

A robust regulatory system should be put in place to prevent the use of pesticides in agriculture and livestock-induced antibiotics.

38-yr-old techie set ablaze by kin

PNS ■ JAGTIAL

A 38-year-old software engineer was allegedly set ablaze by his relatives after pouring petrol on him at Balwanthapur village of Mallial Mandal in this district on Monday night.

was responsible for her husband's death due to performing witchcraft, set him ablaze allegedly with the help of others by pouring petrol on him before locking him in a room.

According to police, Racharla Pawan Kumar, a software engineer from Alwal in Hyderabad went to Balwanthapur village along with his wife Krishnaveni to console the family members of Jagan who died 12 days back with illness.

On information provided by Krishnaveni, Police who reached the spot broke open the door and found the charred body of Pawan Kumar.

Police also suspected the hand of others in the heinous act.

The deceased Jagan, the brother-in-law of Pawan Kumar was staying along with his brother Vijay.

Jagti Deputy Superintendent of Police Venkataramana who visited the spot said that two people were taken into custody and the details would be announced later in the day. Further investigation is underway.

Jagan's wife Sumalatha who suspected that Pawan Kumar

Rains in city over next 3 days due to Nivar...

Continued from page 1

It is very likely to intensify further into a 'severe cyclonic storm' during next 12 hours and into a 'very severe cyclonic storm' during subsequent 12 hours.

As per IMD, thunderstorm accompanied with lightning is likely to occur at isolated places over Telangana over the next three days.

Cyclone Nivar is going to bring light to moderate rains in Telangana as well, with heavy rains in isolated places on Wednesday. The state capital is going to witness generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thunderstorms from 25 Nov- 27 Nov.

Hyderabad, Medchal Malkajgiri, Yadadri Bhuvanagiri, Jangaon, Nalgonda, Suryapet and Khammam of Telangana

From 25-27 November, heavy rain is likely to occur at isolated places in the districts of Jogulamba Gadwal, Wanaparthy, Nagarkurnool, Mahabubnagar, Narayanpet, Vikarabad, Rangareddy,

As per IMD, thunderstorm accompanied with lightning is likely to occur at isolated places over Telangana over the next three days.

BJP for 'becho', TRS for 'socho': KTR

Continued from page 1

Rao said his government's many achievements included providing water facility to drought-prone areas through the Kaleswaram project water, 'Rythu Bandhu' investment support scheme for farmers, insurance and free power supply to them and addressing power shortage in the state

bring in crores of Rupees as revenue, were being 'sold', drawing a sharp response from senior party leader Muralidhar Rao.

Rama Rao said BJP leaders cite losses as the reason for trying to 'sell off' Air India as part of disinvestment, but have no clear answer when asked why they propose a similar exercise for LIC which is running at a profit.

Rama Rao said BJP leaders cite losses as the reason for trying to 'sell off' Air India as part of disinvestment, but have no clear answer when asked why they propose a similar exercise for LIC which is running at a profit.

Rao, who is also Municipal Administration Minister, said BJP should clarify whether the NDA government at the Centre has provided even an additional rupee to Hyderabad and Telangana in the last years. He demanded to know why Public Sector Units, which

Muralidhar Rao slammed the comments, telling reporters that a false campaign was being carried out that PSUs like LIC and BSNL are being sold off.

ment which revived the PSU at Ramagundam (in Telangana)? ...Is it not the BJP government which expanded the NTPC," he asked.

On Rao's reported comments that the state gets only 25 paise from the centre for every Rs one contributed by it, the BJP leader asked who then would meet the country's defence expenditure and added that it was the language of naxalites.

Envoys from...

Continued from page 1

two of which are Serum Institute of India and Gennova Biopharmaceuticals.

The Prime Minister's visit, if it takes place, would be aimed at reviewing the status of the vaccine candidate for coronavirus infection and to know about its launch, production and distribution mechanisms, Rao said.

"We have not received any official communication from the PMO. However, we are making preparations for the probable visit (of the PM)," Rao told reporters.

BJP would do 'surgical strike...

Continued from page 1

Terming it as a reflection of 'hate politics' pursued by BJP, TRS working president K T Rama Rao said: "Surgical strike on Hyderabad?! Has this person gone completely insane for a few votes and seats!?"

KTR sought to know whether Minister of State Kishan Reddy would condone his colleague and MP's "reprehensible, hate-filled statements?"

KTR asked "How can you compare green Hyderabad with terrorist bases in Pakistan?" He said people will do a surgical strike on the incompetent rule of BJP. He said, "Hyderabad is within the country, not at the border or in an enemy country". KTR asked whether, for sake of a few votes, BJP will kill crores of Hyderabadis? He said, "If you know the value of the word vision, do a surgical strike on poverty unemployment problem, backwardness, religious hatred, women harassment. Do a surgical strike on those who have damaged the economy with wrong decisions". KTR sought to know whether Minister of State Kishan Reddy would condone his colleague and MP's "reprehensible, hate-filled statements?"

Sanjay, reply to KTR's tweets, said: "A surgical strike on illegal intruders is mandatory. You are daydreaming of winning elections with the votes of foreign intruders. Not just on foreign traitors, we will do surgical strike on 'Telangana robbers' on corruption, family ownership, corrupt contractors, real estate, your friend's drug deal and real grabbing". Sanjay said, "It is dangerous for the state to run a government under the influence of alcohol. Winning elections based on votes of intruders is dangerous for country".

India bans 43 more mobile apps

Continued from page 1

India has previously banned more than 170 apps saying they collect and share users data which could pose a threat to the state.

investor in Indian fin-tech firm Paytm and also backs online grocer BigBasket.

The moves, which India's technology minister has referred to as a "digital strike", were initiated after 20 Indian soldiers were killed in a skirmish with Chinese troops at a disputed Himalayan border site in June.

Its subsidiary UC Web laid off staff in India earlier this year after New Delhi first banned 59 Chinese-origin mobile apps that included UC Web's browser and two other products.

Aliexpress is not a major player in India's fledgling e-commerce market, which is led by Walmart Inc's Flipkart and Amazon.com Inc's local unit. It is, however, popular with some motorcycle enthusiasts and small shopkeepers, who use it to source cheap goods. The move is another setback for Chinese giant Alibaba, which is the biggest

The Chinese tech giant was also forced to put on hold its plans to invest in Indian companies following the border tensions between the two nuclear-armed countries, Reuters previously reported.

India's slew of app bans have also jolted the ambitions of Chinese tech titans such as Bytedance and Tencent in the South Asian country, which is trying to reduce Beijing's influence in its burgeoning internet economy.

HYDERABAD BULLION RATES	
GOLD	₹ 50,400 (10 gm)
SILVER	₹ 980
SILVER	₹ 64,500 (1kg)
SILVER	₹ 2200
CHICKEN RATES ₹/kg	
Dressed/With Skin	₹166
Without Skin	₹188
Broiler at Farm	₹114
EGG RATES ₹/100	
VIJAYAWADA	445
HYDERABAD	445
VISAKHAPATNAM	435
RETAIL PRICE	₹4.45

Cautious about side effects of vaccine, KCR tells Modi

Continued from page 1

Its vaccine too may have different side effects in different regions. Hence, initially let the Centre send a batch of vaccine doses to the States, which can be administered on some people. Let us assess the situation after administering vaccines to these people and then administer it to the rest," the Chief Minister said.

Let us assess the situation after administering vaccines to these people and then administer it to the rest, the CM said

people above 60 years and those suffering from acute diseases. A prioritized list (of categories of people) in this regard should be prepared," he said.

Later, Chandrashekhara Rao reviewed the situation with the officials. He instructed them to create the required infrastructure facilities and put in place a network of cold storage units across the State. He suggested that committees should be

constituted at the State, district and mandal levels to conduct the vaccination programme. "The vaccine should be given first to the Covid-19 warriors and frontline workers like the medical staff, the police and people working in other departments as well as to

Chief Secretary Somesh Kumar, CMO Principal Secretary S Narsing Rao, Principal Secretary for Medical and Health Murtuza Rizvi, Director of Medical and Health Srinivas Rao, Director of Medical Education Ramesh Reddy, Kaloji Narayana Rao University of Health Sciences Vice-Chancellor B Karunakar Reddy, Member of Covid Experts Committee Gangadhar and others participated in the review meeting.

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Metro cops for Hyd a distant dream

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

It has been three years since the launch of Metro Rail services. It has been a year since all the routes have become available. Proposals for the establishment of a separate department were shelved at the outset. It was initially decided in 2017 to set up a Metro Rail Police Force (MRPF) unit for Metro Rail, but that decision had not been implemented yet.

High-level meetings on duty policies, staffing and others related to MRPF were also held. It covered a number of key issues related to the safety of Metro rail and railway stations. Proposals with comprehensive reports in this regard had been sent to the government, but not a single step forward had been taken.

The state police department and the Hyderabad Metro Rail have been working to put in place a special security unit along with security measures since the beginning of the first phase of the Metro Rail. It was decided in principle to provide the same level of security for this ambitious project.

A total of 65 stations and three depots have been set up



for Metro Rail. It was hoped that the authorities would set up three units in the city at the rate of one MRPF station for every 22 metro rail stations.

As per the initial decision, proposals have been prepared to set up these at NGBS, Parade Grounds and Ameerpet. The decision was made as the two corridors had interchange stations and were the largest.

It was decided to set up a team led by an essay-level officer for each Metro station. Plans are in place to have

MRPF police on duty in three shifts for a total of 24 hours. In each shift, it is planned to have an essay, a head constable, three constables and a female constable.

It is estimated that a total of 1,525 personnel will be assigned to the MRPF along with an inspector level officer-in-charge, two DCPs and two other ACPs for each of the two Metro railway routes. It is also estimated that Rs 60 crore is required annually for their maintenance.

It is also planned to deploy She Teams at the stations to check the brats. The number of team members may increase in special cases. If all these stop at the status of proposals the safety and security of the metro travelers may be seriously compromised. At present two or three constables are being assigned by the local base officers.

In addition to the MRPF, the Civil and Armed Reserve (AR) police also felt that there should be a special act in line with the

idea of making partners in Metro security. Plans are afoot for the MRPF staff to be taken on deputation from the Civil and AR divisions of the Police Department.

It was felt that the government should be asked to set up special metropolitan courts to deal with cases registered in connection with these stations and crimes committed within that range. It was also demanded that a special police station for the MRPF be set up.

About 90 percent of these items seemed to get a break in the beginning. It is against this background that all are still at the level of proposals.

With the launch of the Metro Rail and its uninterrupted running, these proposals have been forgotten by almost all sections of the state government.

Now that enthusiasm, which was in the early days before the Metro Rail started, is no more. In addition, HMR is now plagued by a number of issues, such as the impact of the lockdown and reduced occupancy when services are restarted. Under these circumstances it cannot be assumed that the proposals of setting up of MRPF will come to fruition.

'TS govt ignored MMTS'

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The Multi-Modal Transport System (MMTS) has been serving many citizens of the city. However, despite being an important part of the city transportation system, some projects of the MMTS have been halted due to lack of funds.

Recently, after Municipal Administration and Urban Development Minister KT Rama Rao tweeted about the developments done in Telangana in the past five years, Railway activist and the General Secretary of Suburban Train Travellers' Association Noor Ahmed Ali, shared that the TS government has not allocated any funds for the MMTS Phase II project.

He shares, "To say that MMTS is ignored by the state government would be an understatement. The total cost of MMTS Phase II is around Rs 817 crore. The project is a joint one by the Ministry for Railways and the Telangana government on the basis of cost-sharing (one third by the South Central Railways and two thirds by the state government). The state government initially released Rs 129 crore out of the Rs 544 crores they



Medchal. However, due to lack of funds the project is still hanging."

The MMTS Phase II is an 84 km suburban railway project connecting Moulali, Sanathnagar, Tellapur, Ramachandrapuram, Medchal, Bolarum, Secunderabad and Falukunuma. "The work between Ghatkesar and Sanathnagar is also quite slow due to land issues with the Military authorities. I believe that if the state has the will to complete the project, they will find a way to do so. The city really needs a line between Medchal to Lingampalli to suit the commuters going and coming from Hitec City," Noor Ahmed Ali added.

were suppose to pay. The South Central Railways, thus ended up spending more than its share.

They spent about Rs 391 crores. Several works including electrification between Secunderabad - Bolarum - Medchal, which is 28 kms long was done, including doubling between Bolarum and

CITY LIGHTS

IIT-Hyd to hold two-day international workshop

Indian Institute of Technology-Hyderabad (IIT-H) will host a two-day international workshop on "Laboratory Astrophysics with Intense Laser: Particle Generation and Application" on December 7 and 8. It is being organised by Dr Vandana Sharma, Associate Professor, Department of Physics, IIT-H in association with University of Oxford UK, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research and Central Laser Facility. The workshop covers broadly two topics, Intense Laser Physics - Generation and its Applications and Laboratory astrophysics with Lasers. The last date to register is November 25. Participants from different parts of the world will present results on laser particle generation, acceleration, detection and secondary emissions and their applications.



IIT-H in association with University of Oxford UK, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research and Central Laser Facility. The workshop covers broadly two topics, Intense Laser Physics - Generation and its Applications and Laboratory astrophysics with Lasers. The last date to register is November 25. Participants from different parts of the world will present results on laser particle generation, acceleration, detection and secondary emissions and their applications.

BM Birla Planetarium in Hyderabad to reopen today

BM Birla Planetarium will be reopened on Wednesday with strict Covid guidelines. In a release here on Tuesday, its Director Dr B Siddarth said that the B M Birla Planetarium will be reopened starting



Wednesday while strictly following all measures of sanitization, hygiene and maintaining social distancing norms as spelt out by Ministry of Home Affairs guidelines and orders of the Telangana Government. For further details and booking contact Mr Haribabu Sharma, Technical Officer @ 23235081, the release added.

IACC to host webinar on visa-related issues

Indo American Chamber of Commerce (IACC), Telangana & AP leadership had a virtual interaction with Joel Reifman, Consul General, US Consulate Hyderabad here in the city on Tuesday. The leadership of IACC, comprised of S. Purnachandra Rao, National President, IACC; Vijaya Sai Meka, Chairman, IACC AP & TS Chapter; Srikanth Badiga, Immediate Past Chairman; Dr. Ramkumar Rudrabhatla, Vice Chairman, CN Rao, Vice Chairman. In this virtual interaction which lasted little over an hour, we discussed among many issues, bilateral Trade opportunities for Industries and SMEs, focusing Telangana & Andhra Pradesh. We also had detailed deliberations on Visa and related issues, especially for students, informed Vijaya Sai Meka. We proposed to Consul General to organize a webinar jointly for which he readily agreed. The same will be hosted very shortly. This will disseminate detailed information about Students Visa and related issues. This will be organized for the benefits of students of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, he added.



State logs 921 fresh Covid cases, tally reaches 2.65 L

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Telangana reported 921 new Covid-19 cases, taking the state's tally to over 2.65 lakh, health officials said on Tuesday.

The state saw more recoveries than new positive cases during the last 24 hours. A total of 1,097 people recovered during the period, taking the total number of recoveries to 2,52,565. The recovery rate at 95.28 is higher than the national average of 93.7 per cent.

Four more persons succumbed to the virus taking the death toll to 1,437.

The fatality rate remains at 0.54 per cent against the national average of 1.5 per cent. According to the director of public health and family welfare, 44.96 per cent of the deaths were due to Covid while the remaining 55.04 were on account of comorbidities.

Of the fresh positive cases, Greater Hyderabad accounted for 146 cases. Medchal Malkajgiri district reported



the second highest number at 81 followed by Bhadradi Kothagudem (71), Rangareddy (61) and Nalgonda (49). Nine out of 33 districts in the state reported new cases in single digits.

According to the daily media bulletin released by the office of the director of public health and family welfare, the total number of active cases stands at 11,047 of which 8,720 are in home or institutional isolation.

Laboratories in the state conducted 42,740 tests during the last 24 hours, taking cumulative number of tests to

52,01,214.

Of the fresh tests conducted during the last 24 hours, 41,363 samples were tested in government-run laboratories and 1,377 samples in private. Eighteen government-run laboratories, 50 private laboratories and 1,076 Rapid Antigen test centres are conducting the tests in the state.

Samples tested per million population ratio rose further to 1,39,742.

The daily testing target for the state is 5,600 per day as per the World Health Organisation (WHO) benchmark of 140 per million per day.

CHIT FUND FRAUD Man held for duping depositors of Rs 1cr

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The CCS cops arrested a person for cheating the public to the tune of Rs 1 crore in the name of chit fund business.

Based on a complaint, CCS, DD arrested Munugoti Harinath of Pragathi Nagar in Kukatpally on Monday. A complaint was lodged by Y Rajeswar stating that a person Harinath was running an unregistered chit-business in the name of Harinath Enterprises for the last 25 years.

But since November 2019, he started avoiding the payments. Further, he transferred his property on his wife's name and remained absconding.

Basing on the report a case was registered and investigated into. The probe revealed that Harinath has collected huge amounts from innocent members under the guise of running of non-registered chit business illegally and subsequently failed to repay the amounts to depositors, thus cheating gullible customers.

Ghana national held in Hyd for drug peddling

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

A 32-year-old Ghana national was arrested here on Tuesday by the Excise Enforcement officials on charges of peddling cocaine and over 60 grams of the narcotic seized from his possession, officials said.

On receiving reliable information, a team of Excise Enforcement sleuths kept a vigil near a hospital and caught the Ghana national when he came to deliver the cocaine to a customer and seized 61 grams of cocaine from him, they said.

SCR shifts focus to haulage of parcels

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

With South Central Railway (SCR) laying special focus on transportation of essential commodities during the Covid pandemic, parcel loading in SCR has registered 100 per cent increase during the current financial year.

According to SCR officials, the parcel transportation till November 21 has doubled when compared with the previous year loading in the same period. The division recorded loading of 12,029 tonnes of parcels in 505 parcel vans during the current year against 6,003 tonnes of parcels transported in 210 vans last year.

The parcel transportation to the farther destinations like Howrah, Nizamuddin, Guwahati and Ludhiana helped in connecting more places for supplying essential commodities during the hour of need. It also led to register 40 per cent more revenue than the previous year.

During Covid situation, the main motto of Railways was to keep supply chain intact.

The SCR has been prompt in introducing time tabled parcel trains. According to the demand, parcel transportation has been carried out to farther destinations from Kacheguda and other major stations of Hyderabad division.

2 house burglars arrested, 36 tolas of gold recovered

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The sleuths of special operations team Balanagar arrested two interstate house burglars and recovered 36 tolas of gold ornaments.

The police claimed to have been solved 7 house burglaries since 2017 with the arrest of the accused. The police have recovered country made weapons from the possession of accused. The accused were identified as



Faheem and Mursaleem both hailing from Uttar Pradesh. The accused met in Moradabad jail while they were jail birds and further strengthened their bond. The accused hatched a plan to

commit house burglaries and travel through the country in car.

Speaking about the Modus Operandi VC Sajjanar said, "The accused duo used to target the locked houses in isolated colonies where there is no movement of common public. Accordingly they used to break the door locks and commit theft of valuable gold and other items from the houses and escape from the scene with the booty."

Cabbies can be fined if they cancel trip

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

One of the most common problem faced by people when they rely of the Cab aggregators to commute in the city, is the driver cancelling the trip ever do often. City activist, Vijay Gopal, recently shared details about how aggregator drivers can be fined if they cancel the ride booked by passenger.

All you have to do is after booking the cab take a screenshot of the cab number. If the driver cancels the ride, you can share the screenshot along with the date, time and location with the city traffic police. The cab driver will be fined for Rs 500 for the same.

However, this is not a new law. Shares, Vijay, "This rule has been there since long actually. As per the Section 178 in The Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, there is a penalty for travelling without pass or ticket and for dereliction of duty on the part of



conductor and refusal to ply contract carriage. However, people don't know about it."

He adds, "Last year, the city traffic police had even talked about this rule. However, to save their drivers, the cab

aggregators had changed the App interface. While people could see the cab number and driver details even after the driver cancels the ride. That's not the case now. This I suggested that people take the screen-

shots first, as soon as the cab is booked." Several citizens have thanked Vijay for sharing the information on Twitter. Many have even reported the cab drivers, who ditched them after confirming the ride.

2 held with drugs worth Rs 20 lakh

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

In a joint operation Excise District task force, Malkajgiri team and Uppal Excise Police busted illegal drugs manufacturing unit in Balanagar and arrested two persons.

The officials recovered 5 kg of Alprazolam worth of Rs 20 lakhs. Efforts are being made to nab the mastermind behind the smuggling operation.

Excise police of Uppal intercepted two persons suspiciously carrying a bag and nabbed them when the accused tried to escape from the spot on the sight of police.

The two accused were identified as P Manikyala Rao, 36, and A Koti Reddy, 56.

On close examination of the accused persons, excise officials found a bag in which 1 kg of Alprazolam, which is an offence under NDPS Act.



Subsequently, police seized Alprazolam drug and arrested them. The probe revealed that since few months the accused were supplying Alprazolam worth Rs 4 lakh per kg to customers.

On further investigation, the accused disclosed that on the behalf of the main accused N Venkateshwar Rao, they were manufacturing the drug at T.I.E. Balanagar, Phase II.

Following which the police raided the premises and seized 4 kgs of Alprazolam, other solvents and machinery used for production of Alprazolam.



GREATER HYDERABAD
DECISION -2020

Ballot Battle



Shabbir condemns Sanjay's remarks on 'surgical strike'

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Former Minister and ex-Leader of Opposition in Telangana Legislative Council Mohammed Ali Shabbir has condemned State BJP President Bandi Sanjay's statement wherein he promised that his party would conduct surgical strike on Old City after winning GHMC elections.



"As a Member of Parliament, Sanjay must know that surgical strikes are conducted in enemy's land and not in our own country. Is he trying to say that Old City of Hyderabad is not part of India? He should be ashamed of himself for stooping to such a low level just to win a few seats in GHMC elections. He is clearly trying to create a divide in the society on the basis of religion and it is highly regrettable that neither the Election Commission nor the Hyderabad Police are taking any action against him for such provocative statements," Shabbir Ali said in a media statement on Tuesday. He said that the issue of Rohingyas should be dealt by the Central Government. Therefore, instead of making communalising the peaceful atmosphere in Hyderabad, he should question his own party (BJP) which is in power for the last six years, as to why it failed not resolve the issue.

KCR'S ANTI-BJP CONCLAVE

NON-BJP PARTIES DOUBT KCR'S TIMING AND AGENDA

K VENKATESHWARLU
■ HYDERABAD

Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao had recently announced to rally all non-BJP parties and conduct a non-BJP parties conclave in Hyderabad in the second week of December against the anti-farmer, anti-labour, anti-people, PSU divestment policies of Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government at the Centre.

However, KCR and TRS party skipping similar anti-BJP conclaves earlier held or attempted by few non-BJP parties between 2015 and 2018 are now haunting KCR's proposed anti-BJP conclave in Hyderabad. Though KCR made this announcement last week, there has been no official confirmation from any parties on participating in KCR's conclave so far. The timing of KCR's announcement on anti-BJP conclave is said to be the apprehensions behind the anti-BJP parties in rallying behind KCR.

This is because KCR skipped or ignored similar anti-BJP conclaves planned or held by anti-BJP



parties earlier between 2015 and 2019 when TRS was stronger and BJP was very weak in Telangana. Now TRS is facing political threat from BJP after the saffron party trounced pink party in the recent Dubbak Assembly bypoll, known to be the strong bastion of TRS and too the home turf of KCR.

TRS is also facing the toughest fight ever from BJP in ensuing GHMC polls on December 1. This can be gauged from the fact that KCR and his son KT Rama Rao are targeting only BJP in GHMC poll campaigning and

they are completely ignoring Congress, which hitherto was known to be the TRS party's arch rival and the prime opposition in Telangana.

KCR and KTR have turned GHMC polls as a battle between TRS and BJP and both are targeting none other than Prime Minister Narendra Modi in their meeting. In this backdrop, regional parties are apprehensive behind the intentions of KCR in declaring war on BJP and Modi only after TRS started facing the threat from saffron party while ignoring similar anti-BJP conclaves held

However, KCR and TRS party skipping similar anti-BJP conclaves earlier held or attempted by few non-BJP parties are now haunting KCR's proposed anti-BJP conclave in Hyderabad

earlier by other non-BJP parties when TRS was stronger in Telangana.

TDP chief and then Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu made an attempt to hold anti-BJP conclave in New Delhi in December 2018. Though he did not meet KCR then seeking his support due to his 'political rivalry' with KCR, he met various other leaders including Mamata Banerjee, Akhilesh Yadav, Arvind Kejriwal etc. However, Naidu stated that "KCR is welcome to attend this conclave". But, KCR simply ignored it and the said meeting was postponed as all parties were busy with 2019 April Lok Sabha polls.

Prior to that, AAP chief and Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal announced to hold anti-BJP Chief Minister's conclave in October

2018 and invited all non-BJP CMs. KCR ignored this meeting too. Prior to that, the same Kejrival held anti-BJP conclave in September 2015 and invited all non-BJP parties, which too was ignored by KCR.

Eventually, West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee and former Tripura CM Manik Sarkar had made it to the event while other leaders sent just letters of support. KCR did not send even a letter of support. In April 2018, Kerala government convened non-BJP southern states finance minister's meeting to discuss and protest against the ill-treatment and bias towards Southern States by Modi government by changing the 'terms of reference' for Finance Commission, for devolution of funds alleging that they were 'favouring northern states.'

MEASURES TO INCREASE VOTER TURNOUT IN HYD

As you are aware that the poll percentage during 2009 and 2016 GHMC elections was below 50 per cent, inspite of sincere efforts made by the election authorities to create awareness among the voters to franchise without fail.

It is observed that one of the main reasons for low poll percentage was non-distribution of voter slips by the field level functionaries. To overcome this lacuna, measures shall be taken up during these GHMC ordinary elections

- The field level functionaries shall distribute the voter slips door to door by November 25, 2020 visiting all houses allotted to them.
- They shall submit a report to the concerned Deputy Municipal Commissioner stating that number of voter slips allotted to them for distribution, number of voter slips distributed and balance with reasons for not distribution.
- The Deputy Municipal Commissioners shall visit atleast 30 per cent of the households and ascertain the proper distribution of voter slips.

TPCC RELEASES MANIFESTO

Cong taps TRS promise, woos voters with 30K Its

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

A day after TRS announced 20,000 litres of free drinking water per month to city households if voted to power in the civic polls, Telangana Congress on Tuesday promised 30,000 litres free in its manifesto for the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation elections.

The Congress also promised to give Rs 25 lakh ex-gratia to the kin of those who lost their lives in the recent heavy rains, besides Rs 5 lakh to every damaged house and Rs 2.5 lakh to partially damaged ones.

Similarly, every flood-affected family would be given Rs 50,000, the party said in its manifesto, released by Manickam Tagore, AICC in charge of Telangana.

Polls for GHMC will be



held on December 1 and counting of votes will be taken up on December 4.

Pure drinking will be provided free of cost by setting up RO (Reverse Osmosis) water vending machines in slums and double bedroom housing

complexes. The party promised to bring Covid treatment under 'Aarogyasri', a government health insurance scheme and free local transportation for women, students, divyangans (differently abled) and senior

citizens in Metro rail, MMTS (Multi Modal Transport System) and RTC buses. It also promised complete waiver of property tax and electricity bills to shops belonging to barbers, washermen, carpenters and goldsmiths and

added that permission would be given free of cost by GHMC for these communities.

TPCC President Uttam Kumar Reddy, who was also present at the function, told reporters that nobody in Telangana believes that TRS and AIMIM do not have any understanding. "When AIMIM is going all out to Bihar, UP, Maharashtra and Karnataka and contesting elections, why can't it contest in all 150 seats of GHMC? Why is it contesting lesser seats than it did during the last GHMC polls? People should understand the inner meaning of it," he said.

AICC spokesperson Shavan Dasoju said GHMC generates around Rs 1 lakh crore per annum and the KCR government in return offers peanuts to the city.

POLL BATTLE



The TRS is making the most of the Hyderabad Metro Rail pillars for the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation elections while opposition parties are crying foul.

— SV CHARY



MIM responsible for backwardness of Old City: TPCC leaders

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee Minorities Department Chairman Abdullah Sohail on Tuesday alleged that MIM was responsible for backwardness of Old City of Hyderabad as it did not allow any developmental activity.

Speaking to media persons while participating in the election campaign in Puranapal Division for Congress candidate Ahmed Aslam Shareef, who is just 22-year-old, Abdullah Sohail said that the MIM leaders kept people mentally engaged on communal and irrelevant issues while ignoring the real issues that concern their day-to-day lives.

"While the entire Hyderabad transformed to a developed region in the last few decades, especially under

Congress regimes, MIM leaders did not allow any kind of development or major projects in this part of the city," he said.

Abdullah Sohail also alleged MIM was directly helping the BJP strengthen its base across the country. "MIM President Asaduddin Owaisi is not interested in expanding his party's base. But he is helping the BJP polarise voters on the basis of religion. He is keen to contest elections in States like Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and West Bengal. But he is not capable of venturing out of Old City of Hyderabad and a few Muslim-dominated areas in new city. Why is MIM contesting on just 51 out of 150 divisions? If Asaduddin Owaisi can go to Bihar and West Bengal to forge alliances and convince voters, then why is not trying this in Telangana?" he asked.

'TRS leaders are comedians'

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Terming the TRS party as a 'comedians' party and a bundle of 'lazy leaders' party, Nizamabad MP D Arvind said that it is not possible for TRS to win elections further with Telangana sentiment.

He alleged that the Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao is competing with Brahmanandam and IT Minister KTR is competing with Babu Mohan in providing comedy. He criticised that the Minister KT Rama Rao failed to bring a single industry to Hyderabad city.

While addressing the media at BJP's state party office on Tuesday, Arvind asked the Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao to tell



whether the latter will show direction to the nation who never goes to the Secretariat.

He alleged that the KCR's family is taking Rs 15 lakh in the form of salaries but the TRS government is giving Rs 2,016 pension to one family though they are eligible for more. However, the TRS government failed to give a single

ration card for the last six-and-a-half-years. He made it clear that the BJP will distribute Rs 25,000 per each flood victim if it wins the Mayor post in GHMC elections. He alleged that the State Election Commission has become a puppet in the hands of the TRS government.

Finding fault with the TRS government for stating that it is supplying 24-hours power supply, Arvind asked KCR to tell which state is not supplying power for 24 hours. He alleged that the TRS government collected three times more power tariff in the name of Coronavirus. He asked KCR to tell whether free power assurance to Rajaka and Nayi Brahmins is not for GHMC elections.

TRS lodges complaint against MP Arvind for removing flexis

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS) has lodged a complaint with the Banjara Hills police against BJP MP Arvind seeking action against him for removing flexis of TRS party. The TRS party leaders have asked the police to book Arvind under Defacement of Property Act 1985 and requested to prosecute the BJP leaders in accordance with law.

The party leader T Madhusudhan has submitted the complaint, which said, in view of upcoming elections, the TRS party has approached GHMC and State Election

Commission (SEC) for the advertisement of their party for placing flexies and sought permission for the same, accordingly on November 23.

GHMC sanctioned permissions and as per the norms and directions of GHMC, TRS party paid appropriate charges to the GHMC and placed flexies and hoardings in various places in Twin Cities including Banjara Hills by spending huge amounts.

However, on November 23 during afternoon hours, BJP MP D Arvind along with other leaders have high-handedly removed the flexies of our TRS party president and

Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao and TRS working president and Minister KT Rama Rao comprising of TRS party election advertisement which were placed abetting to KBR Park road.

These illegal acts by D Arvind and his associates are amounting to criminal offences and illegal. On the other hand, defacement of advertisements on permitted properties of GHMC is against the rules and regulations. Hence the above said and his men are liable to be punished under section 3 of Defacement of Property Act 1985.

52 ex-officio votes to play a crucial role

DURGA PRASAD SUNKU
■ HYDERABAD

The votes of 52 ex-officio members will play a crucial role in electing the Mayor in upcoming Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) polls. Experts are contemplating that elections might favour the ruling party and question the rationale behind including ex-officio members.

In the upcoming GHMC

elections around 150 corporators would get elected who in turn elect a Mayor. Usually to win the Mayor seat, the aspirant should have a minimum majority of 100 votes. Here comes the role of the 52 ex-officio voters (MLAs, MLCs and MPs) who play a significant role as they have the right to vote in electing Mayor.

Speaking to The Pioneer, General Secretary of Forum for Good Governance Padmanabha Reddy questions



the rationale behind MP and MLC's choosing the Mayor.

"They should be refrained from electing the Mayor. What

is their role in GHMC? They are elected for legislative assembly and they should work for betterment of their constituency. The inclusion of ex-officio members only favours the ruling party who had majority making it a one sided game against the principles of constitution," Padmanabha Reddy said.

Lamenting about the process, Professor PL Vishweshwar Rao, Convenor Telangana Democratic Forum

said, "Ex-officio members are not accountable to the people and they don't even have idea about the ward wise problems of people. Many of them are nominated posts they don't have to be involved in this. And therefore they should neither indulge in focused discussion nor planning to solve those issues. Further summing up, they are neither answerable nor accountable to the people how can they elect Mayor impartially."

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA									
REVENUE (LAND ACQUISITION) DEPARTMENT									
FORM-VI									
PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION									
(See sub rule (1) of rule - 19 and Section -11(1) of the Act 30(2013))									
COLLECTOR JAGTIAL No. G1/772/2020									
RDO JAGTIAL No. E/642/2020									
Whereas it appears to the Government of Telangana / Collector, Jagtial that a total of 80.21 Acres of land specified in the Schedule below situated in the limits of DEVIKONDA Village of PEGADAPALLI Mandal of Jagtial District is required for public purpose, namely, Draw and lifting of Additional 1.10 TMC of water / day (361 cumecs) from the foreshore of Sripada Yellampally Project to drop into Mid Manair Reservoir with intermediate Balancing Reservoir with components such as approach channels, lined Gravity Canals, CM&D works lifts, Pressure Mains with all associated Civil, Electro Mechanical & Hydro Mechanical works under Kaleshwaram Project Link-11.									
In exercise of the powers conferred U/s 10-A, the State of Telangana issued G.O.Ms.No. 35 I&CAD (LA.R&R/A2) Dept., dated 30.06.2017 and the same has been published in the Telangana Gazette No. 206, dated 19.07.2017 exempting the application of Chapter-I & III of the LARR Act 2013 to the Kaleshwaram Project. Therefore there is no requirement of following the procedure contemplated under Chapter II & III of the LARR Act 2013 to the present Land Acquisition which is meant for as detailed above which is part of Kaleshwaram Project.									
SCHEDULE									
Village: Devikonada Mandal: Pegadapalli District: Jagtial									
Sl. No.	Area	Name & Address of person interested	Director	Structure	Direction	Structure	Direction	Structure	Direction
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	0.1000	Addashu Lachiah S/o Venkataram	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
2	0.1000	Addashu Rajesham S/o Venkataram	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
3	0.1100	Thota Sathiah S/o Odaiah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
4	0.1340	Mittapelly Mallesham S/o Rajesham	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
5	0.1340	Mittapelly Venkatesh S/o Rajesham	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
6	0.3000	Thota Sathiah S/o Odaiah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
7	0.1100	Thota Sathiah S/o Odaiah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
8	0.1000	Kunturi Chandraiah S/o Saiju	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
9	0.1000	Kunturi Chandraiah S/o Saiju	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
10	0.1150	Davu Thirupathi S/o Peddha Maliah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
11	0.1150	Davu Thirupathi S/o Peddha Maliah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
12	0.2050	Gadapa Santha W/o Maliah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
13	1.1700	Kasati Malava W/o Shankaraiah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
14	0.0300	Pedduri Rajesham S/o Venkiah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
15	0.0300	Pedduri Laxminarayana S/o Venkiah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
16	0.1000	Nama Thirupathi Rao S/o Hanumantha Rao	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
17	1.1500	Davu Thirupathi S/o Peddha Maliah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
18	0.0600	Davu Thirupathi S/o Peddha Maliah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
19	0.2500	Davu Thirupathi S/o Peddha Maliah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
20	0.0300	Davu Peddha Maliah S/o Peddha Maliah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
21	0.1400	Davu Lingiah S/o Peddha Maliah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
22	0.0600	Davu Peddha Maliah S/o Peddha Maliah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
23	0.1600	Davu Lingiah S/o Peddha Maliah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
24	0.0500	Davu Thirupathi S/o Peddha Maliah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
25	0.0350	Davu Peddha Maliah S/o Peddha Maliah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
26	0.0600	Davu Lingiah S/o Peddha Maliah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE

Sl. No.	Area	Name & Address of person interested	Director	Structure	Direction	Structure	Direction	Structure	Direction
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
27	0.2300	Davu Thirupathi S/o Peddha Maliah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
28	0.0400	Kasheti Bhuchiah S/o Ramaiah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
29	0.0200	Neelam Rajiah S/o Hanumaiah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
30	0.0800	Neelam Rajiah S/o Hanumaiah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
31	0.1300	Addashu Lachiah S/o Venkataram	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
32	0.0500	Addashu Rajesham S/o Venkataram	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
33	0.1950	Addashu Lachiah S/o Venkataram	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
34	0.0600	Parre Mallesh S/o Ramaiah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
35	0.0600	Parre Rajaraju S/o Venkataram	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
36	0.0150	Addashu Lachiah S/o Venkataram	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
37	0.1200	Parre Saritha W/o Rakesh	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
38	0.1200	Parre Saritha W/o Rakesh	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
39	0.3300	Rajanna Mallamma W/o Rajaraju	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
40	0.3300	Rajanna Laxmi W/o Gattiah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
41	0.1850	Rajanna Mallamma W/o Rajaraju	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
42	0.1850	Rajanna Laxmi W/o Gattiah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
43	0.3400	Gutta Pochiah S/o Jangaiah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
44	0.1500	Kondapaka Bheemiah S/o Rajiah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
45	0.0700	Saini Lingiah S/o Eliah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
46	0.1000	Gutta Pochiah S/o Jangaiah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
47	1.1100	Boddu Anjali W/o Laxman	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
48	0.1100	Boddu Anjali W/o Laxman	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
49	0.0600	Lanka Venkataiah S/o Rajesh	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
50	0.2200	Mahanik Ravi S/o Lasmaiah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
51	0.1700	Lanka Venkataiah S/o Rajesh	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
52	0.0800	Lishetty Veeriah S/o Venkat Ramaiah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
53	0.2000	Rayagala Narasava W/o Buhcaiah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
54	0.1500	Eragandula Peddha Venkai S/o Narasiah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
55	0.0700	Velama Anjiah S/o Rajiah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
56	0.1800	Lishetty Jayal S/o Venkata Ramaiah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
57	0.0800	Lishetty Jayal S/o Venkata Ramaiah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
58	0.2000	Eragandula Laxmi W/o Lachiah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
59	0.2200	Velupula Rajiah S/o Narasiah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
60	1.0000	Davu Malava W/o Sathiah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
61	0.2200	Davu Veeramma W/o Lingiah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
62	0.2500	Davu Maliah S/o Komurely	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
63	0.2500	Davu Rajanna S/o Chinnna Maliah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
64	0.1000	Sana Venkataiah W/o Venkataiah	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
65	0.05	MD Hussian S/o Raja Mahmood	E.No.128 NS.No.481 S.No.61	NE	128/01	128/01	NE	128/01	NE
66	0.1100	Balkashetty Shoba W/o Mohan	E.No.147 NS.No.158 S.No.148	NE	147/01	147/01	NE	147/01	NE
67	0.0050	Edla Narasiah S/o Lasmaiah	E.No.148 NS.No.154 S.No.151	NE	148/01	148/01	NE	148/01	NE
68	0.0050	Edla Laxmi W/o Rajiah	E.No.148 NS.No.154 S.No.151	NE	148/01	148/01	NE	148/01	NE
69	0.0400	MD Raja Mahmood S/o Peddha Raja Mahmood	E.No.148 NS.No.154 S.No.151	NE	148/01	148/01	NE	148/01	NE
70	0.0300	Edla Rajiah S/o Bhoomiah	E.No.148 NS.No.154 S.No.151	NE	148/01	148/01	NE	148/01	NE
71	0.0400	MD Hussian S/o Raja Mahmood	E.No.148 NS.No.154 S.No.151	NE	148/01	148/01	NE	148/01	NE
72	0.0400	MD Hussian S/o Raja Mahmood	E.No.148 NS.No.154 S.No.151	NE	148/01	148/01	NE	148/01	NE
73	0.0400	MD Hussian S/o Raja Mahmood	E.No.148 NS.No.154 S.No.151	NE	148/01	148/01	NE	148/01	NE
74	0.0400	MD Hussian S/o Raja Mahmood	E.No.148 NS.No.154 S.No.151	NE	148/01	148/01	NE	148/01	NE
75	0.0400	MD Hussian S/o Raja Mahmood	E.No.148 NS.No.154 S.No.151	NE	148/01	148/01	NE	148/01	NE
76	0.0400	MD Hussian S/o Raja Mahmood	E.No.148 NS.No.154 S.No.151	NE	148/01	148/01	NE	148/01	NE
77	0.0400	MD Hussian S/o Raja Mahmood	E.No.148 NS.No.154 S.No.151	NE	148/01	148/01	NE	148/01	NE
78	0.0400	MD Hussian S/o Raja Mahmood	E.No.148 NS.No.154 S.No.151	NE	148/01	148/01	NE	148/01	NE
79	0.0400	MD Hussian S/o Raja Mahmood	E.No.148 NS.No.154 S.No.151	NE	148/01	148/01	NE	148/01	NE
80	0.0400	MD Hussian S/o Raja Mahmood	E.No.148 NS.No.154 S.No.151	NE	148/01	148/01	NE	148/01	NE
81	0.0400	MD Hussian S/o Raja Mahmood	E.No.148 NS.No.154 S.No.151	NE	148/01	148/01	NE	148/01	NE
82	0.0400	MD Hussian S/o Raja Mahmood	E.No.148 NS.No.154 S.No.151	NE	148/01	148/01	NE	148/01	NE
83	0.0400	MD Hussian S/o Raja Mahmood	E.No.148 NS.No.154 S.No.151	NE	148/01	148/01	NE	148/01	NE
84	0.0400	MD Hussian S/o Raja Mahmood	E.No.148 NS.No.154 S.No.151	NE	148/01	148/01	NE	148/01	NE
85	0.0400	MD Hussian S/o Raja Mahmood	E.No.148 NS.No.154 S.No.151	NE	148/01	148/01	NE	148/01	NE
86	0.0400	MD Hussian S/o Raja Mahmood	E.No.148 NS.No.154 S.No.151	NE	148/01	148/01	NE	148/01	NE
87	0.0400	MD Hussian S/o Raja Mahmood	E.No.148 NS.No.154 S.No.151	NE	148/01	148/01	NE	148/01	NE
88	0.0400	MD Hussian S/o Raja Mahmood	E.No.148 NS.No.154 S.No.151	NE	148/01	148/01	NE	148/01	NE
89	0.0400	MD Hussian S/o Raja Mahmood	E.No.148 NS.No.154 S.No.151	NE	148/01	148/01	NE	148/01	NE
90	0.0400	MD Hussian S/o Raja Mahmood	E.No.148 NS.No.154 S.No.151	NE	148/01	148/01	NE	148/01	NE
91	0.0400	MD Hussian S/o Raja Mahmood	E.No.148 NS.No.154 S.No.151	NE	148/01	148/01	NE	148/01	NE
92	0.0400	MD Hussian S/o Raja Mahmood	E.No.148 NS.No.154 S.No.151	NE	148/01	148/01	NE	148/01	NE

Freedom of choice

Allahabad HC dismisses case alleging love jihad, upholds the right to personal liberty of mature adults but UP pushes ordinance



Unfortunately, it is left to the courts these days to defend personal liberties of citizens. For politics brazenly tramples them. And given the implications of proposed legislations by certain State Governments to criminalise inter-faith marriages, ostensibly to stop conversions in the guise of love, the Allahabad High Court did some tough talking. Denouncing a previous single-judge bench decision that declared religious conversions only for the sake of marriage as unacceptable, it said such a ruling was “bad in law” because it overrides the right to life and personal liberty of mature adults. Defending the right of a Hindu

girl to marry a Muslim man, who converted to Islam voluntarily and whose parents filed the case, the Bench made it clear that two mature individuals were entitled to a freedom of choice under Article 21 of the Constitution. No doubt the court foresaw what attributing ulterior motives to every inter-faith relationship and subjecting each to societal perception could do. For example, even if the partners were to choose conversions on their own, could their disagreeing and vindictive families stop them with a new love jihad law? The court even warned how such obstructive norms on inter-religious marriages could affect “unity in diversity.” And then came its most scathing observation that targetted the Islamophobia implicit in all such proposed legislations: “We fail to understand that if the law permits two persons even of the same sex to live together peacefully, then neither any individual nor a family, nor even the State can have an objection to the relationship of two major individuals who out of their own free will are living together.” And by consistently highlighting that adults were entitled to live free without being monitored by societal malice, the court sought to douse the fire around the growing love jihad campaign. Of course, the ruling did not deter the Yogi Adityanath Government from issuing a punishing ordinance the same day to check forced conversions and marriages based on them.

The worst affected will be women, who continue to fight against and are killed by the devil called family or community honour, the terms of which are framed for the convenience of a patriarchal society. If as an adult, she loses the right to choose her kind of life, nothing could be more disempowering. And laws on love jihad anyway are built on the assumption of young women being impressionable than decisive. For example, both the UP ordinance and the Madhya Pradesh Government’s Dharma Swatantra Bill 2020 make coercing an individual into marriage a punishable offence, non-bailable in nature, deserving of a five-year rigorous punishment. Question is how would you prove coercion if the girl in question is already hostage to her dissenting family and cowering in fear? How would she give her independent opinion? This is why the Supreme Court in the Kerala love jihad case separated the 24-year-old girl from both her family and husband before respecting her choice. The Kerala High Court had handed over Hadiya’s guardianship to her parents, who locked her down for 11 months and discontinued her studies at a college in Salem, fearing her husband Shafin was indoctrinating her. The apex court appropriately prioritised individual freedom of an adult while separating the particularities of whether all of her choices were born of her freewill or were they imposed, given her supposed “conversion”, or indeed if she had the ecosystem to decide for herself, free of pressure and insinuation. That’s why it freed Hadiya from her parents, even kept her away from her husband. And in the end found that her relationship was genuine. It proved that the rights of two adult people to be together cannot be infringed upon on the ground of societal taboos, an alleged threat perception or external bogeyism. But even if the court respects the couple’s choice, where is the security guarantee? For example, the UP ordinance says that in case someone wishes to convert after marriage voluntarily, s/he will have to apply to the district magistrate two months in advance. In MP, that sanction has to be taken from a collector. In a society that is yet to come out of the revenge code of honour killings, would not a public declaration of love and conversion invite a hitback? We just saw the backlash following an advertisement campaign by a jewellery brand of an inter-faith marriage, where none of the partners were shown as changing their religion. If that had to be taken down, imagine what could happen to two people making independent choices. It is not that there aren’t laws against forced conversions. Section 366 of the Indian Penal Code criminalises any act of kidnapping, abducting or inducing a woman to marry by force and punishes such an act with imprisonment for up to ten years. Besides, according to the Government’s own admission in Parliament, the term “love jihad” had not been defined under any law and no case had been reported or registered by any Central agency. Where then is the need for a law in the first place? Also, doesn’t a love jihad law go against the grain of the BJP’s pet agenda of the Uniform Civil Code, which would bring all inter-faith marriages under a common set of rules? Of course, nobody wants to see reason when the politics of polarisation has completely taken over the collective mindspace. Even now, inter-faith marriages are few and far between. According to the India Human Development Survey, only about five per cent of all marriages are inter-caste and inter-faith relations are even fewer. A 2016 survey by Social Attitudes Research for India (SARI) found that the majority of respondents opposed inter-caste and inter-religious marriages. In Delhi, about 60 per cent of both Hindus and Muslims were against them. Then there are legal challenges for ordinary couples trying to get a marriage registered under the Special Marriage Act, with courts insisting on all sorts of conditions. Love is never under discussion.

Bad idea

The Reserve Bank of India would do well to prevent corporates from entering the banking sphere



While Raghuram Rajan often sounds like he is yet to come to terms with his effective removal from the Governorship of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), he and his successor Viral Acharya do have a point when they panned the idea mooted by the central bank to allow the corporate sector to enter banking. In a piece, they argued that this would be devastating and would lead to “connected banking” and it isn’t hard to see their point of view. We have seen what happens with “connected banking” and the dramatic collapse of Yes Bank and the more recent rescue of Laxmi Vilas Bank by the RBI are cases in point. As Rajan and Acharya asked, “How can a bank make good loans when it is owned by the borrower?”

The central bank would be stupid to ignore the advice of its own former honchos as well as India’s top legal eagles that were consulted on this. India has had far too many banking disasters in the recent past for another one to be made through bad policy making. Even if the RBI promises to continue through regulatory oversight, the scandals involving Vijay Mallya and Nirav Modi highlight that promoters can bend the rules and cover their tracks (for a while at least) if they want to. Even if corporate-owned banks are prevented from giving loans to non-financial entities of the corporate, what will stop them from giving loans to relatives of bureaucrats and politicians in order to curry favour? Even in the best-run banks, allegations of underhand dealings and impropriety exist as we are learning in the case of ICICI Bank and its disgraced former chief executive against whom there are damning allegations. Instead, it would be more prudent for the RBI and the Ministry of Finance to explore possibilities of privatising India’s burdensome public-sector banks. Are the rule changes being made to assist one or two particular corporate groups in India and make them even stronger? Until the RBI and the government cannot answer this one question, one will assume it to be true. Ergo, this bad idea should be dispensed with forthwith. As for private lenders failing, just remember the lasting impact of the IL&FS fiasco.

The Nagrota link

Connecting the dots between Pakistan and the Nagrota encounter is crucial to deny Islamabad a convenient plank of dismissing it as a local expression of animus



BHOPIINDER SINGH

The lacklustre township of Nagrota, just outside the unplanned concrete of Jammu city, was once best-known for housing the largest military corps in the world, White Knights Corps or the XVI Corps, as also for rehabilitating fleeing Kashmiri Pandit migrants from the Valley. The small garrison town snakes around the lifeline of the Jammu-Kashmir highway, which connects the Jammu plains to the Kashmir valley, bisected by the Pir Panjal ranges and the minor Trikuta mountains, which harbour the Vaishno Devi shrine in one of their heights, along with the Nagrota dwelling, in the foothills. Another 54 km down the same road is the Indian Army’s Northern Command headquarters at Udhampur.

The conspicuous presence of the Indian military in this township, barely 40 km from the nearest Pakistan border, as also its service mandate of overseeing operations along the “live”, strategic and frequently contested Line of Control (LoC) with Pakistan, has drawn unwarranted attention of those who seek to create terror and violence, as per the direction of their handlers across the LoC. Four years ago, terror had struck Nagrota as heavily-armed terrorists had sneaked across the border and fired indiscriminately at the sentries guarding the resident 116 Medium Regiment. A hostage-like drama had ensued and by the time the situation was neutralised, seven Indian soldiers and three terrorists were killed. All indications at the Nagrota site had pointed to the role of the terror organisation, Jaish-e-Mohammed, as notes recovered from the slain terrorists pointed to the involvement of the so-called “Afzal Guru Squad.” The said group had earlier carried out similar terror attacks at Pathankot, Baramulla, Uri and so on. Last year this group was responsible for a deadly strike, involving at least 350 kg of explosives at Pulwama, which had killed 40 Indian security personnel – this provocation had led to the reciprocal Balakote airstrike by the Indian Air Force. Last week, Jaish-e-Mohammed resurfaced again when four of its terrorists were killed in a fierce encounter on the Jammu-Srinagar highway, at Nagrota again.

What is significant is the irrefutable Pakistan hand in the lat-



est encounter, as the Bhawalpur-based jihadist group, Jaish-e-Mohammed, owes its genesis and sustenance to the Pakistani establishment or the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI).

At an oversimplified level, there is also a turf war among the competing insurgent groups in the Kashmir Valley, where the once predominantly local “pro-independence” groups have been marginalised and it is only those with State support from across the LoC for being “pro-Pakistan” (or at an even more extremist level, the pan Islamic Caliphate-seeking groups), who have managed to hold sway. Jaish-e-Mohammed has the notoriety of having Masood Azhar as its ideologue and leader, who has been declared an international terrorist by the United Nations Security Council. He also infamously and incredulously got support from China, which vetoed moves to put him on the UNSC sanctions committee on “technical grounds” and even posited the flimsier excuse of “lack of evidence.” The realpolitik of Pakistan and China in supporting Jaish-e-Mohammed aside, which brooks no morality or consistency in international affairs (hence the perennial struggle for Pakistan in avoiding getting “blacklisted” by the international watchdog agency, FATF for sponsoring terror), the outfit is banned by UN and almost all Western and even Islamic countries like UAE. Owing to global pressure, Pakistan was forced into the sham of banning the same though the group kept renaming itself as Tehrik-ul-Furqan,

“**PAKISTAN SHOULD BE DISALLOWED THE WINDOW OF TRANSITION BETWEEN THE CHANGING US REGIMES TO FURTHER ITS NEFARIOUS DESIGNS, ESPECIALLY AS TRUMP HAD GIVEN IT THE LONG ROPE TO ENSURE US TROOP WITHDRAWAL FROM AFGHANISTAN**”

then Khuddam ul-Islam, then Al-Rehmat Trust and, so on and so forth. Amid all pressures, Masood Azhar remained loyal to the Pakistan “Deep State” and it paid him back by allowing a free run to his group’s operations and machinations in Kashmir. Temporary “protective custody” enforced on Azhar from time to time has impressed no one, and his ability to sustain his operational capabilities in Jammu & Kashmir points to the continued handiwork of the Pakistani establishment, solely and wholly.

The latest Nagrota incident reeks of the scale, sophistication and brazenness of Pakistani complicity. The sheer cache of arms from the terrorists (11 AK-47, three pistols, 29 grenades, six UBGLs, mobile devices and so on) and the subsequent unearthing of a 150-metre long tunnel in the nearby Samba area for the facilitation of the cross-border movement, is impossible without State support. The construction of this tunnel has all the hallmarks of engineering complexities (at least 25-30 metres deep and almost 2.5 metres wide) and facilitation, which could not have been arranged without the acquiescence and material support from the nearby Pakistani posts of Rajab Sahib and Asif Sahib. The presence of the protective *Sarkanada* (elephant grass) on the Pakistani side of the tunnel to hide the literal spade work is self-explanatory. To suggest ignorance or naivete in overlooking the efforts and time to construct such a sized tunnel and arrange for the disposal of the dug-out soil without its

discovery by the Pakistani patrol and posts, is unthinkable. Rightfully, an indignant New Delhi summoned the Pakistan charge d’affaires with incriminating evidence towards a “major attack to destabilise the peace and security.” This was expectedly denied by the Pakistani Foreign Office, as it has done for decades even though it has earned international ignominy as the “nursery” for global terror.

Importantly, India has dialled up the charges against Pakistan, with the Prime Minister himself tweeting about the incident. This escalation is timely as neighbouring Afghanistan is imploding with terror unleashed by the Pakistan-supported Taliban and the situation is expected to worsen. Pakistan should be disallowed the window of transition between the changing US administrations to further its nefarious designs, especially as Donald Trump has given it the long rope in order to fulfil his personal commitment of troops withdrawal from Afghanistan. Nailing Pakistan with “naming and shaming” is the key to ensure that the global pressure does not wane. Connecting the dots between Jaish-e-Mohammed and the Nagrota encounter is crucial to deny Islamabad the convenient postulation of Nagrota as a local expression of animus. Pakistan has been and continues to be the singular source of armed terror in Kashmir – Nagrota has proved this yet again.

(The writer, a military veteran, is a former Lt Governor of Andaman & Nicobar Islands)

SOUNDBITE

The BJP has been constantly targeting political opponents like this. Have you ever heard about any CBI or ED raids on people linked with the BJP?



Maharashtra Revenue Minister —Balasaheb Thorat

My father’s wish was to see me play for India and make the nation proud. Now, all I want to do is fulfill my father’s dream.



Indian fast bowler —Mohammed Siraj

I call myself a Manist. I believe men should be feminists and women should support men. Then automatically the world will become a better place!



Actor —Bidita Bag

Every child deserves quality education and this includes the right to have access to safe and clean drinking water and toilet facilities in schools. I hope we can contribute to this.



Former India cricketer —Suresh Raina

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Be responsible

Sir — People must follow COVID-19 safeguards or else this pandemic will destroy many lives and the economy of the nation, too. Governments all over the country will have to get very strict with people endangering others by not following Coronavirus protocols. For instance, the Delhi Government is penalising those who are not wearing masks in public places even as a third COVID-19 wave spreads through the State. The Madhya Pradesh Government, too, has launched the “*Roko, Toko* (stop, and check)” campaign to admonish and penalise those people who refuse to wear masks in public places. Over ₹1.34 crore has been collected in Madhya Pradesh’s Jabalpur district alone due to the fines slapped on people violating COVID-19 protocols under this campaign.

Many other States, too, have been mulling imposing restrictions on citizens in order to break the COVID-19 infection chain. Till we don’t get the vaccine, people will have to mask up and observe social distancing and hygiene protocols. But the sad reality is that people are not tak-

Owaisi needs to join secular forces

Apparently Asaduddin Owaisi has gained in visibility, grown in stature and emerged as a political player who could influence electoral outcomes in his own way in constituencies with a certain percentage of Muslim voters. Certainly it was to the credit of his party, the All-India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimin (AIMIM), that it won five seats in the recently-held Bihar Assembly election. But then it cannot evade the question whether it didn’t help split the secular vote and facilitate the BJP-led combine’s return to power in some measure.

Of course, Owaisi has justifiable reasons to oppose the Congress, which hesitates to take a principled stand on secularism. The party’s soft Hindutva line is quite obvious and its Muslim appeasement has not gone beyond the votebank. It has not taken a clear stand on the discriminatory amendment to the citizenship law, abrogation of Article 370 and so on. The Sachar Committee report showed the destitution of the Muslims as a community and debunked the “Muslim appeasement” myth. Still it shouldn’t be difficult for Owaisi to make “tactical” preferences going by the track records of the Congress and the NDA. Politics in our diverse and disparate country is complex as evidenced by the differences between AIMIM and TRS in the run-up to the civic election and



requires a lot of skill to uphold principles and the country’s overall interest.

Owaisi has to concede that he has fewer reasons to adduce for not combining forces with parties like the RJD, the TMC and the DMK. By winning a few seats here and a few seats there, the AIMIM cannot substantially contribute to the fight against the Hindutva forces. By fielding candidates in constituencies where it will indirectly help the BJP, it will only earn the “BJP’s B-team” tag. AIMIM has no option but to join the secular forces or come clean on its political ambitions.

David Milton Maruthancode

We are to blame

Sir — The visuals of the national Capital covered in smog are a testament to the dangerous levels of pollution in North India. It is worrying that people are having to bear the brunt of the COVID-19 pandemic and the

dangerously high levels of pollution, the latter adding to the number of deaths in the country each year.

Apart from the meteorological and geographical factors, we only have ourselves to blame for this sorry state of affairs. Burning of waste and bonfires, bursting of firecrackers despite restrictions, emissions from vehicles, construction dust, polluting industries, coal-fired power plants, biomass burning and cooking fires have quickly deteriorated the air quality to hazardous levels.

Research has proven that the Coronavirus and toxic air are closely connected and both affect the respiratory system.

Health experts confirm that there is a direct correlation between the rise in air pollution and more and more people becoming susceptible to COVID-19 and falling sick as the pollutants carry the virus and allow it to stay for a longer duration of time. We are in the end paying for our own mistakes and blatant violation of anti-pollution norms.

Ranjeet Singh Noida

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

FIRST COLUMN

Time to board the algo-trading bus

AI's modus operandi involves mining the relevant stock data, performing the required and appropriate analysis and making a quick decision



GAURAV GARG

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is revolutionising every aspect of our lives, right from chatbots on websites to applications in defence systems. It is also being comprehensively used in the field of analytics. Trading, i.e. buying and selling of shares, is no exception to it too and over the years, AI has gradually become an integral part of the trading environment. Financial markets are so dynamic that it is sometimes difficult to take proper decisions on particular stocks as there are many factors to consider and the decision to buy or sell must be taken on a split second basis. Emotions are the biggest enemy of the trader in the market but it becomes very difficult to control them. This is where AI plays a major role in helping traders. AI is a programme to which we provide algorithms. An algorithm is a set of instructions using which AI learns and understands its role and executes the required functions. The advent of Information Technology has disrupted many activities and now many advanced methods are available, which have made trading an easy process for the public at large with required tools at its disposal.

The use of AI in trading is generally known as algo-trading because the AI programme receives the algorithm, using which it helps investors trade. These empower AI with complex mathematical models and techniques to take proper decisions regarding the optimal quantity of stocks to buy and decide the price for execution. This removes emotions from the scene and effectively processes various factors at the same time in order to make an appropriate decision. Another important aspect which works in favour of algo-trading is that the reaction time is extremely fast as compared to humans and decisions can be made in a wink. With the advent of tools like neural networks, algo-trading has become refined and more efficient as it continuously learns from the environment. This Machine Learning (ML) is what makes algo-systems quite reliable.

Automation of trading activities is very beneficial as the strategies are scientific, and being rule-based, the approaches are very disciplined. Hence, AI has proved to be a very good monitor of the stock markets with a quick response to any anomaly or change. This is very useful when there are a number of asset classes or scrips and keeping an eye on them continuously is not possible for one person to do efficiently. As opposed to this, AI has the ability to process a humongous amount of historical stock data, analyse the market behaviour and capitalise on any particular pattern or expected movement, such as price action. This has also led to the elimination of a lag between the action in the market and a trader's reaction to it, basically making trading real-time. In many cases this has bestowed people using neural networks with an added advantage over their competitors and traders who are still using manual methods.

However, AI and ML need not be used for developing trading strategies alone and can be used for many other purposes like liquidity searching, creating model portfolios for the clients and so on. The traditional technical analysis, which is known to traders at large, sometimes fails to catch the statistical elements in the markets as this can only be identified after considerable examination. But AI can help overcome this problem as it can eliminate confirmation-bias. AI does not account for subjective valuation and, therefore, investments based on pure quantitative and scientific basis can be made and the so-called "luck-based" trading can be avoided. Comprehensive statistical tools and appropriate mathematical models help to identify the proper time and optimal level for entering the market. With a considerable study of historical data, appropriate indicators and predictors can raise the red flag ahead of other market participants. With the arrival of neural network tools, AI can be put to use for predictive trading, i.e. it can analyse news, information, blogs and so on and come up with a trading recommendation. Although AI is costly due to the huge amount of R&D as of now, it is only logical to assume that it will become cost-effective in the long-term. Since it is just a programme, it has no impediments like fatigue and thereby it keeps the integrity of vital financial decisions intact.

In a nutshell, the AI's *modus operandi* is mining the relevant stock data, performing the required and appropriate analysis and making a quick decision. Such an investment decision will be scientific, calculated, unbiased and free from emotions.

With the increased usage and development of technology, it will not be wrong to say that AI will play a dominant role in the financial markets in the near future. As with other emerging technologies, the immediate implementation of AI may not be round the corner but with gradual evolution and development, of both software and hardware, AI or algo-trading are on their way to becoming the future of trading. The faster traders get used to the fact, the better it is for them because the future is here.

(The writer is Head Research, CapitalVia Global Research Limited, Investment Advisor)

FIRST THE BJP TARGETTED SHARAD PAWAR AND THEN MANY OTHER OPP LEADERS IN RAJASTHAN AND OTHER STATES. THIS IS VENDETTA POLITICS. —NCP MINISTER CHHAGAN BHUJAL

POINTCOUNTERPOINT



PRATAP SARNAIK IS NO SAINT AND THE ENFORCEMENT DIRECTORATE ACTION IS BEING TAKEN AS PER THE LAW. —BJP LEADER AND MP NARAYAN RANE

Autonomy plus accountability

The liberty of the Vice-Chancellor of a university is not a shield against malpractices. In a democratic set-up, all individuals, no matter how high an office they hold, are accountable



DEVENDER SINGH ASWAL

Disciplinary action against over a dozen Vice-Chancellors (V-Cs) of Central Universities (CUs) over the last few years has been a cause of consternation. However, the polarised politics of universities views this from diametrically opposite prisms. While a larger segment hails it as much-needed spring cleaning, some consider it a pernicious design to whittle down institutional autonomy and academic freedom. The overall spectacle is worrisome and needs to be seen in the correct perspective, albeit in a detached manner.

The office of the V-C is an exalted one, and the academia views him as a friend, philosopher, guide and the high priest of the temple of higher learning. The constituting Act and the statutes, Ordinances and regulations of every university vest the V-C with certain powers and autonomy so that s/he executes her/his office efficiently and faithfully. The autonomy of the V-C is not a shield against accountability. In a democratic set-up, all individuals, no matter how high an office they hold, are accountable. In fact, higher the station, greater is the public scrutiny.

The Constitution of India guarantees equality before the law and equal protection of the laws. It is unsparingly unexceptional as the President of India, too, can be impeached by the Parliament for violation of the Constitution. All public functionaries and public bodies are ultimately accountable to the legislature through the Minister-in-Charge.

The Indian higher education system, which is the second-largest in the world, comprises 54 Central Universities, 411 State Universities, 123 deemed universities and 282 private universities. The V-C is the chief executive and the administrative head of the university. A great responsibility, therefore, lies with the V-Cs in terms of the implementation of the national higher education policy, institutional reforms, nurturing the spirit of enquiry and research, building an ecosystem of innovation and adoption of international best practices of good governance.

According to the University Grants Commission's (UGC's) handbook, "the V-C has to evolve as the leader of a symphony orchestra" with the attributes of developing teams and teamwork. S/he also has to build partnerships and collaborations delicately intertwined with collegiality, friendship and intellectual engagement. This goes hand in hand with devising a deliverable action strategy, ensuring accountability of the self and various governing bodies of the university and steering an institutional monitoring and evaluation mechanism on the university's performance, built on transparency. An ideal V-C is a great visionary, a true leader able to procure willing cooperation of the teachers, a constant source of inspiration to the students, an ace administrator who is able to maintain a conducive educational ecosystem, and is well-acquainted with the latest developments so as to bring global visibility to the university.

Plus, s/he must have the highest level of competence and her/his integrity must be beyond reproach. Like Caesar's wife, the V-C must be above suspicion. S/he must execute her/his office faithfully and diligently and ensure that the provisions of the constituting Act, statutes, ordinances and regulations are fully observed. S/he must make various appointments as per procedure, delegate powers for day-to-day work to the officers of the university and audit their performance and exercise all administrative, disciplinary and financial powers as defined in the statutes and ordinances.

In fact, the catalogue of duties of the V-C is vast and varied, which adds a certain aura of reverential



THE VENEER OF AUTONOMY CANNOT CONCEAL OR CAMOUFLAGE ACTS OF OMISSION AND COMMISSION. A ZERO-TOLERANCE APPROACH TOWARDS CORRUPTION DEMANDS THAT THE GOVERNMENT BE SWIFT AND SURGICAL TO WEED OUT CORRUPTION OR UNETHICAL PRACTICES. THE IMPORT OF THE OFT QUOTED STATEMENTS 'MINIMUM GOVERNANCE' AND 'MAXIMUM GOVERNANCE' AND 'LIGHT BUT TIGHT REGULATIONS' IS LOUD AND CLEAR

mystique to the office. S/he represents the vibrant face of the university, engages in constructive stable policy dialogue with the Government, other universities, research funders and academia. It's for these reasons that the V-Cs are selected by the Visitor (the President in case of Central universities and the Governor in case of State Universities) from the panel recommended by the search committee. This committee comprises three to five members who are persons of eminence in the sphere of higher education and the choice of the V-C is based on rigorous screening of the academic attainments and administrative experience of the people on the panel.

Interestingly, the V-Cs, who faced the axe, were appointees of the same Government. A critical scrutiny of the disciplinary proceedings initiated against the V-Cs broadly falls into four categories: Allegations of financial irregularity; allegations of dereliction of duty and defiance; wrongful appropriation of funds and academic fraud.

The Visitor does not initiate disciplinary proceedings against a V-C *suo motu*, but on the aid and advice of the Ministry of Education or the concerned administrative Ministry. This is because Central universities relating to maritime, agriculture, aviation, sports education, and so on, fall outside the domain of the Education Ministry. The trigger point for initiating disciplinary action is provided by the media, complaints by legislators, students and teachers and in some cases, the Chancellors themselves have demanded enquiries against the V-Cs. So, the Visitor is duty-bound to refer the complaints to the administrative Ministry for ascertaining facts and considered advice with respect to the corrective action required to be taken.

Some glaring examples of acts of omission and commission deserve mention. President Pranab Mukherjee

approved the sacking of the V-C of Visva Bharati university, Sushanta Duttagupta, for alleged irregularities in appointments and flagrant violation of financial rules. The V-C of Pondicherry University, Chandra Krishnamurthy, was removed for alleged academic fraud (that is claiming to have written three books though an enquiry allegedly revealed authorship of only one). The V-C of Mahatma Gandhi Central University, Arvind Agrawal, allegedly resigned when governments sought his comments on the allegations of fudging vital information in his C-V.

Similarly, amid a spate of questions in Parliament and public complaints about financial and academic irregularities, the V-C of Allahabad University, RL Hangloo, allegedly resigned before the Union Government could initiate punitive proceedings. The V-Cs of HN Bahuguna Garhwal University, JL Kaul, and Manipur University, AP Pandey, were sacked for alleged financial irregularities and long absence from duty. The V-C of Tripura University, V Dharurkar, resigned when a sting operation showed him receiving alleged bribe.

In cases where the V-Cs appropriated funds for purposes other than the approved budget heads, the enquiries were closed as there was no personal pecuniary gain or enrichment. The cases of Dinesh Singh, V-C, Delhi University and Talat Ahmad of Jamia Millia Islamia fall in this category, both of whom were known for their competence and integrity. The V-C of Jamia Hamdard, Seyed Ehtesham Hasnain, a deemed to be university (self-financed but partly funded by the UGC), has been suspended by the Chancellor following the decision of the UGC to set up a fact-finding committee to probe allegations.

The Centre has no say in the appointment or removal of the V-C of a deemed university. In a recent case, the Tamil Nadu

Government ordered an inquiry against Anna University V-C, MK Surappa, following complaints of alleged financial irregularities and malpractices in semester examinations and re-evaluation, even though the DMK has demanded his sacking.

The burning question is whether stringent disciplinary action against the V-Cs impinges upon the autonomy and academic freedom of the universities, which are emulated as role models and occupy a place of pride in the academia globally? Will these penal actions impact, dilute or undermine the autonomy and freedom of the institutions of higher learning? Autonomy and academic freedom are crucial to the well-being and smooth functioning of universities and key to attaining excellence in a globally-competitive environment.

The National Education Policy, 2020, lays great focus on the autonomy of institutions of higher learning, making every college in course of time an autonomous, degree-granting college and making India a global hub of education. It is, therefore, the right time to ponder and look to the future as autonomy is not a goal to be pursued in itself, but a fundamental prerequisite for universities to be able to develop strategic profiles, operate in a competitive environment, deliver on their very important societal duties in an ecosystem of transparency and accountability.

The veneer of autonomy cannot conceal or camouflage acts of omission and commission. A zero-tolerance approach towards corruption demands that the Government be swift and surgical to weed out corruption or unethical practices. The import of the oft quoted statements "minimum Government and maximum governance" and "light but tight regulations" is loud and clear.

(The writer is former Additional Secretary, Lok Sabha and an author)

India needs to bite the bullet to fight climate change

When 51 per cent of pollution is caused by industries, we cannot harp on the progress we made by reducing cooking smoke and transitioning to a better bulb



KOTA SRIRAJ

The recently-concluded G20 summit was the 15th meeting of the grouping. It was expected to be held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia but due to the Coronavirus pandemic, it was conducted virtually. On this year's agenda was the socio-economic and environmental impact of tourism and how both, tourists as well as local communities, stand to benefit from tourism as a bridge between different societies.

However, the spotlight was on a side event, titled "Safeguarding the Planet: The Circular Carbon Economy Approach", that was

addressed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The event garnered appropriate attention as the environment is increasingly being seen to be on the back foot, especially as battered economies open up after a pandemic-induced lockdown.

Addressing the meeting, Modi assured the grouping that India, as a signatory to the Paris Agreement, was effectively meeting its targets on climate change. One of the ways it was doing so was by popularising LED lights that have become instrumental in saving 38 million tonnes of carbon dioxide each year. Similarly, the Ujjwala Scheme provides clean cooking energy to 80 million households across the country, making it one of the largest green energy drives. Modi highlighted India's plans to achieve its 175 GW clean energy target by 2022 and its ambition to be in a position to achieve 450 GW of clean energy by 2030. Though these are commendable efforts towards negating the

adverse effects of climate change, the question we need to ask ourselves is, are they enough?

Recently, the Prime Minister of the UK, Boris Johnson, unveiled a "10-point plan" to tackle global warming. The most notable point was the plan to ban the sale of new petrol and diesel vehicles from 2030 onwards. In fact, plug-in hybrid vehicles, too, will face the axe after 2035. This unprecedented step towards cleaner transportation has captured the world's imagination, thanks to the scale of the proposed initiatives to address the problem of climate change.

While curbing air pollution, the step would ensure unprecedented demand for electric vehicles (EVs), too. The EV segment in the UK has already been stimulated by the allocation of 1.3 billion pounds to bolster the charging infrastructure throughout the nation. This is further complemented by a funding of 582 million pounds to aid in EV manufacturing and an additional

500 million pounds funding to help the auto industry conduct research and development on EV batteries.

This policy of the UK to put the "environment first" in the post-pandemic economic scenario is silencing critics, who regularly hauled up the lacklustre environmental commitments of Great Britain. With this one proposed step of deleting fossil fuel guzzlers from its roads, Britain would make a huge difference in its carbon emission numbers and alternatively put its EV usage, which is currently stuck at 10 per cent, on a fast track.

To its credit, the UK has shown that in order to make an impact, the fight needs to be taken to where it matters. In this case, other secondary sources of pollution have been bypassed and vehicular pollution has been met head-on.

There is a lesson for India here. Incremental successes in the fight against climate change and pollution are akin to winning smaller battles while losing the larger war to pro-

tect the environment. India, too, needs to come out and identify the largest polluters boldly without the concerns of a backlash.

In a nation where 51 per cent of air pollution is caused by industries, our claim to fame cannot be the progress we made in reducing the smoke from the cooking stoves of our villages or transitioning to a better bulb. The Government has to have the political will to come out with stringent measures to curb industrial pollution.

If anybody can achieve this, it is the Modi Government because it has the mandate of the people and is not dependent on any coalition partners to hammer through difficult decisions if it wants. And its increasing clout in both Houses of Parliament will also make it easier for it to make the changes on the ground if it wants to win the war against pollution and negate the effects of global warming.

The Centre has to be cognisant of the fact that 21 out of the 30 most polluted cities of the world are in

India and millions of people daily breathe in air that is 10 times more polluted than the norms specified by the World Health Organisation. This daily trial by pollution takes a toll on the health of citizens, with nearly two million Indians dying a premature death every year due to pollution-related complications. The reach or the lack of it of the Government's authority and efficacy of its rules can be gauged by the fact that crop residue burning continues defiantly in Delhi-NCR in spite of the best efforts of the Delhi Government, the Centre and the judiciary.

One of the major reasons for Western nations succeeding in matters pertaining to common good is their higher levels of awareness regarding societal and common good. In India it is more like "each man to himself". This attitude puts common assets such as environmental concerns firmly in the back seat. The Government, under pressure to show progress on pressing environ-

mental issues, clutches at nominal achievements and leaves bigger problems for another day. India must fight the bigger battles first. Industrial pollution is one of them and in the post-pandemic era, where every nation is re-scripting its economic journey based on a "green industrial revolution", India must not be left behind.

In order to make a successful transition from polluting industrial infrastructure to a green one, India will have to take bold measures such as cutting down on coal consumption for generating power, rapidly increasing the infrastructure to include clean energy in our daily lives such as EV technologies and, of course, ensuring that polluting industries are shown the door.

Green industrial revolution can usher in the next phase of economic growth for India. The more we delay clean industries, the more we deny ourselves this growth.

(The writer is an environmental journalist)

Markets surge to lifetime highs; Nifty breaches 13K

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Equity benchmarks Sensex and Nifty rallied to fresh lifetime highs on Tuesday following heavy buying in banking, financial, realty and auto counters amid persistent foreign capital inflows.

A strengthening rupee also boosted market sentiments, traders said.

After scaling a record intra-day high of 44,601.63, the 30-share BSE Sensex ended 445.87 points or 1.01 per cent higher at a record 44,523.02.

Similarly, the broader NSE Nifty rose 128.70 points or 1 per cent to close above the 13,000-mark for the first time at 13,055.15. Axis Bank was the top gainer in the Sensex pack, surging around 4 per cent, followed by M&M, HDFC Bank, ITC, SBI, ICICI Bank, Maruti, Kotak Bank and Sun Pharma.

On the other hand, HDFC, Titan, Nestle India, Bharti Airtel, ONGC and Infosys were among the laggards. Sector-wise, BSE bankex, auto and finance indices rose up to



2.37 per cent. Foreign institutional investors remained net buyers in the capital market as they purchased shares worth Rs 4,738.44 crore on Monday, according to provisional exchange data. The rupee appreciated 10 paise to close at 74.01 against the US dollar. Elsewhere in

Asia, bourses in Hong Kong, Tokyo and Seoul ended with significant gains, while Shanghai closed in the red. Stock exchanges in Europe were trading on a mixed note in early deals. Meanwhile, Brent crude futures, the global oil benchmark, rose 0.85 per cent to USD 46.45 per barrel.

'DCGI will give EUA for Oxford's vax immediately after MHRA nod'

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Biocon Executive Chair person Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw on Tuesday said hopefully drugs regulator DCGI will give EUA for the Oxford-AstraZeneca's COVID-19 vaccine as soon as

it gets approval. "100 Million Doses By January," Says Adar Poonawalla On Oxford Vaccine - DCGI will give EUA after MHRA in December to start vaccination in India which is the need of the hour," Mazumdar-Shaw said in a tweet.

\$271 bn consumer spending to shift from cash to cards, digital

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

About 66.6 billion transactions worth USD 270.7 billion are expected to shift from cash to cards and digital payments by 2023 in India, and further increase to USD 856.6 billion by 2030, a report by Accenture said on Tuesday.

This rapid shift to digital payments due to the COVID-19 pandemic is urgently increasing the need for banks to modernise their payment systems, the report, titled 'Playing the Long Game in Payments Modernisation', said.

The report is based on a survey of 120 payments executives at banks globally regarding the transformation of their payments business, as banks make multi-year investments to compete with non-bank digital-payments providers and comply with new regulations.

Conducted between July and August this year, the report surveyed markets including Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, India, Norway, Singapore, Thailand, the UK and the US. It noted that the expected drop in cash volume is based on GlobalData and Accenture Research assumptions. Also, the forecast of non-cash transactions in con-



sumer spending is calculated using cash evolution data and MSC rates provided by GlobalData.

The report forecasted that nearly 420 billion transactions worth USD 7 trillion, globally are expected to shift from cash to cards and digital payments by 2023 - and increase to USD 48 trillion by 2030.

"In India, 66.6 billion transactions worth USD 270.7 billion are expected to shift from cash to cards and digital payments by 2023 - and increase to USD 856.6 billion by 2030," it said. The rapid move to digital payments has put additional pressure on banks, with three-quarters (75 per cent) of surveyed bank executives saying that the pandemic has

increased the urgency of their plans to modernise payment systems, the report added.

"COVID-19 has accelerated the shift to digital payments at a pace banks could not have predicted. The pandemic will permanently change how consumers shop and pay for products as they prioritise convenience above all else," Sulabh Agarwal, who leads Accenture's Payments practice globally, said.

He added that while banks' investments in new payments have focused primarily on meeting compliance deadlines, the way they will drive value moving forward is by embracing the changing consumer dynamic and improving the customer experience.

Sebi bans Tips4Market, proprietor for providing unauthorised trading tips

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Regulator Sebi has barred Tips4Market and its proprietor Mahesh Vaghajbhai Ramani from the capital markets for providing unauthorised trading tips to investors.

Besides, they have been prohibited from carrying out investment advisory services till further orders.

Sebi conducted a preliminary examination and found that Tips4Market (T4M) was soliciting and inducing investors to deal in securities market on the basis of invest-



ment advice, stock tips among others, prima facie, without having the requisite registration as mandated under the IA norms.

The amount of money, prima facie, observed to have

been collected by the company was Rs 96.6 lakh from investors through such services.

By indulging in such activities, they violated the provisions of investment advisers (IA) Regulations, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) said in an interim order last week.

Sebi has directed T4M and its sole proprietor Ramani to "cease and desist from acting as an investment advisor" until further orders.

They have been asked to immediately withdraw and

remove all advertisements, in relation to their investment advisory activity until further orders.

Further, the regulator has prohibited them from diverting any funds raised from investors and restrained them from disposing of any assets, whether movable or immovable, including money lying in bank accounts, except with the prior permission of Sebi.

Sebi has asked them "not to access the securities market and buy, sell or otherwise deal in securities in any manner whatsoever, directly or indirectly, until further orders".

Rupee settles 10 ps higher at 74.1 against \$

PNS ■ MUMBAI

The rupee appreciated by 10 paise to close at 74.01 against the US dollar on Tuesday against sustained foreign fund inflows and positive development over coronavirus vaccine.

Traders said investor risk sentiment improved amid growing hopes of an early rollout and efficacy of COVID-19 vaccines. Besides, strong domestic equities, sustained foreign fund inflows and weak American currency also supported the local unit.

At the interbank forex market, the domestic unit opened at 74.10 against the US dollar and then touched a high of 73.88 and a low of 74.12 in day trade. The local unit finally ended at 74.01 against the greenback, registering a rise of 10 paise over its previous close.

On Monday, the rupee had appreciated 5 paise to settle at more than two-week high of 74.11 against the US dollar.

Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was down 0.32 per cent to 92.20.

FIMI to Centre: Ban export of iron pillets

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Miners' body FIMI has urged the Centre to immediately put a complete ban on illegal exports of iron ore pellets stating that such a move would help meet the domestic requirement of the key material used in making steel.

In a recent letter to Steel Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, FIMI also made a plea to the government for urgent intervention to introduce a price monitoring and regulation mechanism for sale of steel by integrated producers so as to ensure that there is no unreasonable hike in domestic steel prices due to any increase in international iron ore prices.

"We also request you to put immediately complete ban on illegal exports of iron ore pellets by private entities other than exports by KIOCL. Such a facilitation would lead to meet the requirement of iron ore of domestic steel industry to this extent," the Federation of Indian Mineral Industries (FIMI) said.



The steel sector has been facing an acute shortage of iron ore, which is a key raw material for making steel.

"It can starkly be observed that 9 million tonnes of iron ore pellets have been exported mainly illegally by the pellet manufacturers other than KIOCL.

"Moreover, 62-64 per cent Fe (iron) is required for manufacturing of pellets. Had this illegal exports of pellets by private entities not been allowed, domestic steel industry would have met their requirement to that extent," FIMI said.



India's two-wheeler exports to see growth

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

India's two-wheeler exports will see sustained growth in the second half of next fiscal after witnessing temporary hurdles in the first half this year due to COVID-19 and weakened crude oil prices, hurting the economies of key exporting destinations, according to ratings agency Ind-Ra.

Exports momentum is expected to continue in the remaining part of FY21 and FY22, primarily driven by the exporting countries' lower penetration level, demand for usage as commercial fleet, stability in crude prices, lack of public infrastructure and aver-



sion to public transport amid COVID-19, India Ratings and Research said in a statement.

India exports two-wheelers mainly to African, Asian and Latin American countries, constituting 37.5 per cent, 22.9 per cent and 21.4 per cent, respectively, during the first half of FY21, it added.

Colombia, Nepal, Bangladesh and Philippines together accounted for around 50 per cent of the total exports in FY20 (in terms of value)," the rating agency said.

Indian OEMs will continue to gain traction for their key offering on the back of their strong market position and robust distribution network, it added.

Indian two-wheeler manufacturers such as Bajaj Auto and TVS Motor Co will benefit from their exports-focused business model, with almost 49 per cent and 26 per cent, respectively, of their total sales volume in the first half of FY21 coming from exports, it said.

MONEY MATTERS

Gold plunges Rs 1,049; silver tumbles Rs 1,588

Gold prices plunged by Rs 1,049 to Rs 48,569 per 10 gram in the national capital on Tuesday following weak global cues and rupee appreciation, according to HDFC Securities. In the previous trade, the precious metal had closed at Rs 49,618 per 10 gram. Silver also faced selling pressure as it tumbled by Rs 1,588 to Rs 59,301 per kg from Rs 60,889 per kg in the previous trade. In the international market, gold was quoting lower at USD 1,830 per ounce and silver was flat at USD 23.42 per ounce. "Gold prices traded lower in the morning trade extending decline on vaccine hopes and Biden's white house transition as US President," HDFC Securities Senior, Analyst (Commodities) Tapan Patel said.



Covid vaccine: India Aatmanirbhar for syringes, says industry

An industry body of syringe and needle manufacturers on Tuesday said that it has written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi offering an additional capacity of over 350 million syringes per month depending upon the requirements during the vaccination programme against the COVID-19. This capacity is already built up by the manufacturers taking learning from mask and PPE kits experience India faced in March and April 2020, All India Syringe & Needle Manufacturers Association (AISNMA) said in the letter. "All the members of the association would like to assure the nation that our country is 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' on the availability of syringes and we as a country don't even have to look outside for our coming up requirements," it added.



Delhi ranks 27th, Mumbai 33rd as growing prime residential market

India's national capital has been ranked 27th, while Mumbai and Bengaluru were placed at the 33rd and 34th positions respectively in a global index that measures annual price appreciation of luxury residential properties, according to a Knight Frank report. Auckland in the Australasia region topped the index with 12.9 per cent price appreciation in the July-September quarter, compared to the same period last year. Manila and Shenzhen were at 2nd and 3rd positions respectively with 10.2 per cent and 8.9 per cent price rise. The property consultant on Tuesday released its Prime Global Cities Index Q3 2020 report. In the Q2 (April-June) report, Bengaluru and Delhi were at 26th and 27th positions, while Mumbai was ranked at the 32nd position.



Sl. No.	Area	Plot No.	Area	Plot No.	Area	Plot No.	Area	Plot No.
1	Ramagiri Raju S/o Venkati	10000	Ramagiri Raju S/o Venkati	10000	Ramagiri Raju S/o Venkati	10000	Ramagiri Raju S/o Venkati	10000
2	Mohammad Rajmahammad S/o Pedda Rajmahammad	00650	MD Hussain S/o Pedda Rajmahammad	00650	Mohammad Rajmahammad S/o Pedda Rajmahammad	00650	MD Hussain S/o Pedda Rajmahammad	00650
3	Parre Raju Boyi S/o Pocharajan	001700	Parre Raju Boyi S/o Pocharajan	001700	Parre Raju Boyi S/o Pocharajan	001700	Parre Raju Boyi S/o Pocharajan	001700
4	Burakala Laxmi W/o Raja Boye	00300	Burakala Laxmi W/o Raja Boye	00300	Burakala Laxmi W/o Raja Boye	00300	Burakala Laxmi W/o Raja Boye	00300
5	Ramagiri Kamala W/o Venkati	02800	Ramagiri Raju S/o Venkati	02800	Ramagiri Kamala W/o Venkati	02800	Ramagiri Raju S/o Venkati	02800
6	Parre Rajaboye S/o Pocharajan	00450	Parre Rajaboye S/o Pocharajan	00450	Parre Rajaboye S/o Pocharajan	00450	Parre Rajaboye S/o Pocharajan	00450
7	Kolluri Anjali W/o Laxman	02000	Kolluri Anjali W/o Laxman	02000	Kolluri Anjali W/o Laxman	02000	Kolluri Anjali W/o Laxman	02000
8	Chanda Laxmi W/o Malaiiah	02700	Chanda Laxmi W/o Malaiiah	02700	Chanda Laxmi W/o Malaiiah	02700	Chanda Laxmi W/o Malaiiah	02700
9	Madapalli Venkaiiah S/o Narasaiiah	01500	Madapalli Venkaiiah S/o Narasaiiah	01500	Madapalli Venkaiiah S/o Narasaiiah	01500	Madapalli Venkaiiah S/o Narasaiiah	01500
10	Mothu Kistaiiah S/o Narasaiiah	01100	Mothu Narayana Reddy S/o Kista Reddy	01100	Mothu Kistaiiah S/o Narasaiiah	01100	Mothu Narayana Reddy S/o Kista Reddy	01100
11	Mothu Apoorva D/o Dharmodar Reddy	00800	Mothu Apoorva D/o Dharmodar Reddy	00800	Mothu Apoorva D/o Dharmodar Reddy	00800	Mothu Apoorva D/o Dharmodar Reddy	00800
12	Mothu Manohar Reddy S/o Narasimha Reddy	02100	Mothu Manohar Reddy S/o Narasimha Reddy	02100	Mothu Manohar Reddy S/o Narasimha Reddy	02100	Mothu Manohar Reddy S/o Narasimha Reddy	02100
13	Mankali Madhurama W/o Lasmaiah	02500	Mankali Madhurama W/o Lasmaiah	02500	Mankali Madhurama W/o Lasmaiah	02500	Mankali Madhurama W/o Lasmaiah	02500
14	Boddu Devamma W/o Malaiiah	01700	Boddu Devamma W/o Malaiiah	01700	Boddu Devamma W/o Malaiiah	01700	Boddu Devamma W/o Malaiiah	01700
15	Mandepalli Venkaiiah S/o Narasaiiah	02200	Mandepalli Venkaiiah S/o Narasaiiah	02200	Mandepalli Venkaiiah S/o Narasaiiah	02200	Mandepalli Venkaiiah S/o Narasaiiah	02200
16	Mandepalli Venkaiiah S/o Narasaiiah	02200	Mandepalli Venkaiiah S/o Narasaiiah	02200	Mandepalli Venkaiiah S/o Narasaiiah	02200	Mandepalli Venkaiiah S/o Narasaiiah	02200
17	Juttu Karakaiiah S/o Venkata Rajam	01200	Juttu Karakaiiah S/o Venkata Rajam	01200	Juttu Karakaiiah S/o Venkata Rajam	01200	Juttu Karakaiiah S/o Venkata Rajam	01200
18	Lyshtetty Veeraiiah S/o Venkata Ramakiah	00300	Lyshtetty Veeraiiah S/o Venkata Ramakiah	00300	Lyshtetty Veeraiiah S/o Venkata Ramakiah	00300	Lyshtetty Veeraiiah S/o Venkata Ramakiah	00300
19	Mankali Mallesh S/o Lasmaiah	00300	Mankali Mallesh S/o Lasmaiah	00300	Mankali Mallesh S/o Lasmaiah	00300	Mankali Mallesh S/o Lasmaiah	00300
20	Juttu Karakaiiah S/o Venkata Rajam	00300	Lyshtetty Rammoohan S/o Shanikaraiiah	00300	Juttu Karakaiiah S/o Venkata Rajam	00300	Lyshtetty Rammoohan S/o Shanikaraiiah	00300
21	Lyshtetty Srinivas S/o Rajaiiah	00300	Lyshtetty Srinivas S/o Rajaiiah	00300	Lyshtetty Srinivas S/o Rajaiiah	00300	Lyshtetty Srinivas S/o Rajaiiah	00300
22	Mankali Mallesh S/o Lasmaiah	00300	Mankali Mallesh S/o Lasmaiah	00300	Mankali Mallesh S/o Lasmaiah	00300	Mankali Mallesh S/o Lasmaiah	00300
23	Juttu Maheswari W/o Satish	01000	Juttu Maheswari W/o Satish	01000	Juttu Maheswari W/o Satish	01000	Juttu Maheswari W/o Satish	01000
24	Lyshtetty Laxmi W/o Malaiiah	00725	Lyshtetty Laxmi W/o Malaiiah	00725	Lyshtetty Laxmi W/o Malaiiah	00725	Lyshtetty Laxmi W/o Malaiiah	00725
25	Lyshtetty Narasaiiah S/o Hammandu	00875	Lyshtetty Narasaiiah S/o Hammandu	00875	Lyshtetty Narasaiiah S/o Hammandu	00875	Lyshtetty Narasaiiah S/o Hammandu	00875
26	Lyshtetty Laxmi W/o Malaiiah	00480	Lyshtetty Laxmi W/o Malaiiah	00480	Lyshtetty Laxmi W/o Malaiiah	00480	Lyshtetty Laxmi W/o Malaiiah	00480
27	Lyshtetty Laxmi W/o Malaiiah	00225	Lyshtetty Laxmi W/o Malaiiah	00225	Lyshtetty Laxmi W/o Malaiiah	00225	Lyshtetty Laxmi W/o Malaiiah	00225
28	Lyshtetty Narasaiiah S/o Hammandu	00225	Lyshtetty Narasaiiah S/o Hammandu	00225	Lyshtetty Narasaiiah S/o Hammandu	00225	Lyshtetty Narasaiiah S/o Hammandu	00225
29	Lyshtetty Veeraiiah S/o Venkata Ramraiah	00125	Lyshtetty Veeraiiah S/o Venkata Ramraiah	00125	Lyshtetty Veeraiiah S/o Venkata Ramraiah	00125	Lyshtetty Veeraiiah S/o Venkata Ramraiah	00125
30	Lyshtetty Narayana S/o Ramaiiah	00190	Lyshtetty Narayana S/o Ramaiiah	00190	Lyshtetty Narayana S/o Ramaiiah	00190	Lyshtetty Narayana S/o Ramaiiah	00190
31	Lashetty Srinivas S/o Rajaiiah	00250	Parre Rajanarasu S/o Narasaiiah	00250	Lashetty Srinivas S/o Rajaiiah	00250	Parre Rajanarasu S/o Narasaiiah	00250
32	Juttu Karakaiiah S/o Venkata Rajam	00200	Lyshtetty Laxmi W/o Malaiiah	00200	Juttu Karakaiiah S/o Venkata Rajam	00200	Lyshtetty Laxmi W/o Malaiiah	00200
33	Lyshtetty Laxmi W/o Malaiiah	00075	Lyshtetty Laxmi W/o Malaiiah	00075	Lyshtetty Laxmi W/o Malaiiah	00075	Lyshtetty Laxmi W/o Malaiiah	00075
34	Parre Rajanarasu S/o Narasaiiah	00300	Parre Rajanarasu S/o Narasaiiah	00300	Parre Rajanarasu S/o Narasaiiah	00300	Parre Rajanarasu S/o Narasaiiah	00300
35	Lyshtetty Rajaram S/o Venkata Rajam	02000	Lyshtetty Rajaram S/o Venkata Rajam	02000	Lyshtetty Rajaram S/o Venkata Rajam	02000	Lyshtetty Rajaram S/o Venkata Rajam	02000
36	Parre Vijaya W/o Laxman	00700	Parre Vijaya W/o Laxman	00700	Parre Vijaya W/o Laxman	00700	Parre Vijaya W/o Laxman	00700
37	Parre Rajanarasu S/o Narasaiiah	00300	Parre Rajanarasu S/o Narasaiiah	00300	Parre Rajanarasu S/o Narasaiiah	00300	Parre Rajanarasu S/o Narasaiiah	00300
38	Parre Vijaya W/o Laxman	00700	Parre Vijaya W/o Laxman	00700	Parre Vijaya W/o Laxman	00700	Parre Vijaya W/o Laxman	00700
39	Lyshtetty Rajaram S/o Venkata Rajam	00250	Lyshtetty Rajaram S/o Venkata Rajam	00250	Lyshtetty Rajaram S/o Venkata Rajam	00250	Lyshtetty Rajaram S/o Venkata Rajam	00250
40	Lyshtetty Malaiiah S/o Venkatesaram	00250	Lyshtetty Malaiiah S/o Venkatesaram	00250	Lyshtetty Malaiiah S/o Venkatesaram	00250	Lyshtetty Malaiiah S/o Venkatesaram	00250
41	Sunkari Kondaiiah S/o Venkaiiah	00700	Balesani Venkatesh S/o Malaiiah	00700	Sunkari Kondaiiah S/o Venkaiiah	00700	Balesani Venkatesh S/o Malaiiah	00700
42	Boddu Lalithamma w/o Lingaiiah	01000	Boddu Lalithamma w/o Lingaiiah	01000	Boddu Lalithamma w/o Lingaiiah	01000	Boddu Lalithamma w/o Lingaiiah	01000
43	Parre Rajanarasu S/o Narasaiiah	00500	Parre Rajanarasu S/o Narasaiiah	00500	Parre Rajanarasu S/o Narasaiiah	00500	Parre Rajanarasu S/o Narasaiiah	00500
44	Boddu Lalithamma w/o Lingaiiah	02000	Boddu Lalithamma w/o Lingaiiah	02000	Boddu Lalithamma w/o Lingaiiah	02000	Boddu Lalithamma w/o Lingaiiah	02000

This notification is made under the provisions of Section 11(1) of The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 [Act No. 30/2013], to all whom it may concern.

A plan of the land may be inspected in the office of the District Collector, Jagtial / Revenue Divisional Officer, Jagtial on any working day during the working hours. The Government of Telangana / Collector-cum-Appropriate Government is pleased to authorize Officer Revenue Divisional Officer, Jagtial and their staff to enter upon and survey land, take levels of any land, dig or bore into the sub-soil & do all other acts required for the proper execution of their work as provided and specified in Section 12 of the said Act.

Under section 11(4) of the Act, no person shall make any transaction or cause any transaction of land i.e. sale / purchase, etc., or create any encumbrances on such land from the date of publication of such notification without prior approval of the Collector.

Objections to the acquisition, if any, may be filed by the person interested within 60 [sixty days] from the date of publication of this notification as provided under section 15 of the Act before the District Collector.

Land Acquisition Officer & Revenue Divisional Officer, Jagtial

Additional Collector, Jagtial

District Collector, Jagtial

DIPR R.O. No. 859/LA/PP/Adv/Pub/2020-21

Author-readings, a delight for bookworms

What do we mean by a reading culture? Simply put, it's an environment where readings by an author are valued, promoted, and actively encouraged by avid bookworms. Paro Anand, the award-winning writer is an outgoing woman and a

spotlight lover who shines at readings. Her recent author reading of *Pure Sequence* at Goethe Zentrum shows how comfortable she is while reading out her favourite facets aloud. A platform like an author-reading is very interesting for fans who would like to meet the author, who want to

hear from them directly and have the opportunity to ask you questions in person.

A bit of an insidious performer that she is, it left a long-lasting impact on her listeners that surely convinced all of them to buy the new book!

"This is a story about older women but it is not only for older women. It is for anyone who wants to live life to the fullest. *Pure Sequence* is my homage to wonderful women and the power of friendship, especially during the advancing years. The pile of books on my bedside table is not a tottering moun-

tain but a seemly, humble little hill. At a literary fest, I like to pop into some unusual sessions where authors I may never have read before, are speaking," Paro Anand shares.

On her author-reading experience she goes on to say, "Similarly in my case, it's sometimes important to taste a story that is out of one's algorithm. What about an author whose words you've never tasted? That's why in my author readings, my blurbs

are always so impactful that it allows my book enthusiasts to stay and listen to me."

Readers are finding more creative, fun, and useful ways to stay connected during this weird time of social distancing and it seems to be fun!

A PLATFORM LIKE AN AUTHOR-READING IS VERY INTERESTING FOR FANS WHO WOULD LIKE TO MEET THE AUTHOR, WHO WANT TO HEAR FROM THEM DIRECTLY AND HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO ASK YOU QUESTIONS IN PERSON.



Sesame Street Muppets debut in India

The iconic US children's television show *Sesame Street* has made its debut in India with the launch of new YouTube channels in Hindi and Telugu — *Sesame Workshop*. It brings educational content featuring the colourful and furry Muppets of *Sesame Street* to children across India.

Both channels will stream a variety of content for kids aged 3-8 years and will introduce Indian kids and families to favourite global Muppet characters such as Elmo, Cookie Monster, Abby Cadabby, and many more.

Sonali Khan, Managing Director of *Sesame Workshop* — India, said, "Now more than ever, young children and families need quality early learning at home and the *Sesame Street* Muppets are here to help with the playfulness and humour for which the brand is known for around the

world. With many children remaining out of school, our new YouTube channels will bring early learning to young children at a time critical to their healthy development, all at no-cost to families and accessible at any time."

She added, "The content launching today on *Sesame Workshop* — India's YouTube channels will foster children's curiosity, learning, and healthy development, along with fun for the whole family. We know children around the world identify with *Sesame Street* Muppets in a powerful way, and we're thrilled to bring friends like Elmo, Cookie Monster, and Abby Cadabby to families across India in Telugu and Hindi."



'Downsizing is the new way forward'

The battle of entertainment

The country thrives on theatrical entertainment, the moment there is an announcement of a new movie, social media and our homes are abuzz with news of it. Surely, theatres know how to woo audiences with their resonating power, exciting angles and larger-than-life visuals. I love a cinema's essence over OTT streaming because there's a certain aura created by a cinema hall.

Ultimate portrayal

Serials show what viewers want and viewers want what the serials show! In this cycle, there has come a change of content. There is a growing demand for niche content and there is potential in the television industry. With times changing, our directors and scriptwriters are having a growing understanding of the market and the guts to present some-

thing new to the viewers. Nowadays, serials are garnering attention due to the iconic negative characters too. Many beautiful actresses are willingly playing an antagonist without being image-conscious.

The future, apparently, looks bright for television in Telangana.

The camaraderie

A strong companionship is a must on sets. I'm affected by the way my co-actor behaves with me. I don't have any favourites, yet I can state this: that it makes a huge difference while performing with them depending on the rapport I have with them. I have had my co-actors giving me ample room to flourish, which has always in turn strengthened my

chemistry with them and increased some warmth.

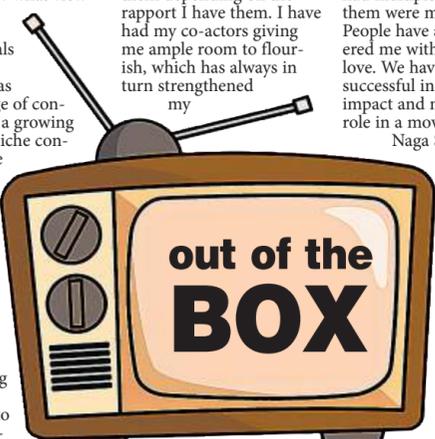
Acting after Covid 19

For a while, the novel Coronavirus has put our professional lives on hold. Even now, multiple cancellations, postponements, or changes keep happening often, for the safety measures of cast and crew. If any of us is tests positive, the whole shooting can stop, which is scary! Downsizing is the new way forward.

Memorable role

All my roles that have had multiple layers to them were my favourite. People have always showered me with so much love. We have always been successful in creating an impact and my upcoming role in a movie starring Naga Shaurya is going to be my new launchpad after television.

Some actors are really the star of shows, their presence is what uplifts an entire scene or pushes the story forward capturing the audience's interest. One such Telugu television actress is Poornika Saanve, whose face is the most recognised across mainstream television channels in Telugu. From playing the character of 'Chandramukhi' for Sun TV to currently being the lead actress of ETV's soap *Amma* to being the upcoming lead actress for *Guppadanta Manasu* on Star Maa, Poornika entered the world of Telugu glitz and glam through several channels. While she has aspirations to making it to movies, she's taking a detour with television shows and ad films, enjoying her projects on screen, she says, in her conversation with *The Pioneer's* SHIKHA DUGGAL



what's brewing?



● Chanda Sharma



● Visakha Agarwal



● Manasa



● Hithish and Jyothi



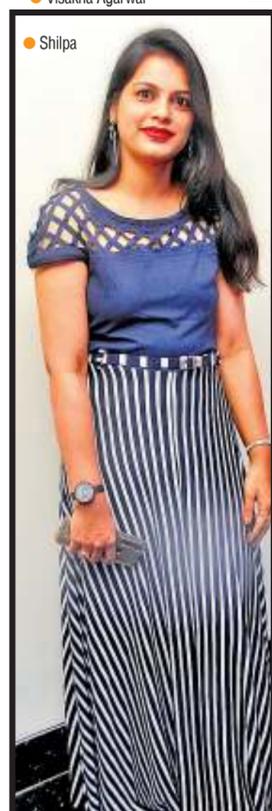
● Manisha



● Kajal



● Sandhya



● Shilpa



● Milap and Sushila Bokadia

WINTER BLUES

JCI Hyderabad Deccan, a Non Profit Organisation, hosted its 24th Charter NyT to give away its coveted 'Deccan Ki Kasti' award amid lots of dancing, music, cheering, dining and so much more on Sunday at The Park, Somajiguda. With 'Nautical' being the theme, everybody was dressed in blue and gave their best shot!



● Vibha



● Sonal



● Sheetal



● Madhuri

FUN

ARCHIE



CALVIN AND HOBBS



GARFIELD



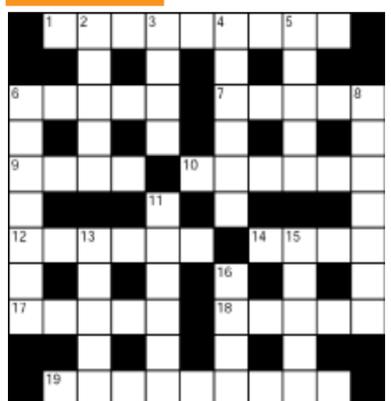
REALITY CHECK



SPEED BUMP



CROSSWORD



NANCY



SUDOKU

2			8		3			
3		1	7	5				8
				6	4			1
		2	9					5
4						1	7	
6		4	3					
4				1	6	9		8
9		8						4

Yesterday's solution

5	8	9	1	3	4	6	2	7
7	3	4	9	2	6	1	8	5
2	1	6	8	7	5	3	4	9
3	4	2	7	6	9	5	1	8
8	9	5	4	1	3	2	7	6
6	7	1	2	5	8	9	3	4
1	5	7	6	8	2	4	9	3
4	2	3	5	9	7	8	6	1
9	6	8	3	4	1	7	5	2

Rules
 • Each row and column can contain each number (1 to 9) exactly once.
 • The sum of all numbers in any row or column must equal 45.

ACROSS

- 1 All people
- 6 Fixes
- 7 On the way out
- 9 Too
- 10 An underground room
- 12 Class
- 14 A long seat for several people
- 17 Tiny
- 18 Unlocks
- 19 Replying

DOWN

- 2 A planet
- 3 A prickly flower bush
- 4 Pleaded
- 5 A dentist's machine
- 6 A disease with spots
- 8 People from Germany
- 11 Come next
- 13 Madrid is the capital of this country
- 15 Sea
- 16 Having very little money

SOLUTION

P	H	O	T	I	N	G		
R	O	S	T					
E	I	N	T	I	A			
F	O	R	G	O	T	S	H	O
E	R	S	T					
R	E	E	K	D	E	G	R	E
R	R	C	A	E	N			
E	A	R	T	H				
D	O	I	C	N	D			
B	R	A	N	C	H	E	S	



RANA OPENS UP ABOUT HIS HEALTH ISSUES

In an interview with Samantha on her chat show *SamJam*, the actor finally ended his silence on facing severe health issues, a fact he had earlier denied

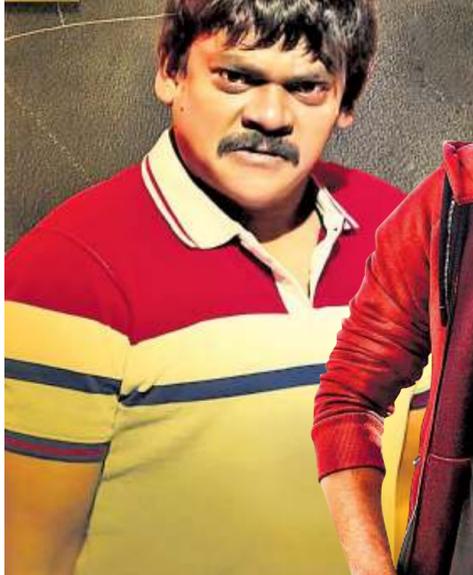
Rana Daggubati who appeared in Samantha Akkineni's chat show *SamJam* recently, has finally ended his silence on facing severe health issues, a fact he had earlier denied. The actor broke down as he addressed his past illness. "When life was on a fast forward, there was suddenly a pause button. There was BP, calcification around the heart and you have failed kidneys... It could have been a 70 per cent chance of stroke or haemorrhage and 30 per cent chance of death straight," Rana told Samantha.

The actor, who married sweetheart Miheeka Bajaj earlier this year, had left his fans baffled as he shared a photo where he was looking extremely lean. As fans asked about his wellbeing online, the

actor had taken to Twitter to share an update about his health. "Hearing lots of strange things about my health, I'm fine guys just some BP based issues I'm addressing. Will be fixed and sorted soon," he had written, adding, "Thanks for the concern and love but don't speculate it's my health not yours ;)"

Rana had later told news agency IANS, "I think there was enough speculated about it and I am tired of clarifying that I am absolutely fine and healthy. So, I think rumours about my health are now a boring topic. Whenever I leave Hyderabad, people get apprehensive, but I am thankful for the love and the concern people have been showering on me."

However, rumours had suggested that he was going abroad for a kidney transplant. People close to him had denied the news, chalking up his international visit to prep for an upcoming film.



Wrong Gopal Varma to hit screens on Dec 4

The film *Wrong Gopal Varma*, directed by senior journalist Prabhu, will hit screens on December 4. With music composed by Shakeel, the title song of the film has already gone viral. The film about filmmaker who once was in the top league and in the limelight for very long, also who makes controversial comments and statements has now turned a filmmaker directing obscene movies is being directed by journalist Prabhu with the name *Wrong Gopal*

Varma, that fiercely calls out his antics and brands him as one creating 'social pollution', the film, even before its release, is winning accolades all across. Apart from commenting on various incidents and people, the filmmaker has also courted controversy with his remarks on filmmakers and actors from the industry, earning their wrath. Prabhu's film has already stirred an interesting discussion in the news and on social media and fans and haters alike, can't wait for the film to hit the screens.

Another milestone for Butta Bomma...

Ala Vaikunthapurramloo, starring Telugu superstar Allu Arjun and actress Pooja Hegde, became an instant hit on release earlier this year, and the popular track of the film, *Butta Bomma*, has now garnered over 450 million views.



An excited Pooja took to Instagram stories to share the news. She posted a still from the song. It has "#BUTTABOMMA 450 Million+ views" written on it. On the image, she wrote, "This one has become unstoppable... Thank you for all the love."

The song was released on Youtube in February this year. It currently has 450,913,957 views.

Ala Vaikunthapurramloo is an action-drama directed by Trivikram Srinivas. The film also features Tabu, Jayaram, Sushanth, Navdeep, Nivetha Pethuraj, Samuthirakani, Murali Sharma, Sunil, Sachin Khedekar, and Harsha Vardhan.

Butta Bomma had even become a blockbuster on short-video making application TikTok. Users were seen performing the superhit hook step from the number.

Makers of *Vidyarthi* hopeful of a January release



The shooting of the film *Vidyarthi*, which will have actor Chethan Cheenu and Instagram sensation Bunny Vox in lead roles has wrapped its shoot. Alla Venkat is producing the film under Mahas Films banner. With the tag line, *A Lone Fight For Love*, makers of the film are hoping to finish production works by the end of December and have a January 2021

release. Talking about the film, producer Venkat said, "The recently released teaser and a song from the film received a great response from the audience." Director Madhu Madasu added, "The film is based on true events. Everyone has a story. Every story has love. At a time when we're going as far as Mars in the field of science and technology, some people are unwilling to cross their boundaries because of untouchability. To bring people's attention to this very issue, this film is being made. We hope it'll bring about the change we want it to."

Gopichand's *Seetimaarr* in final leg of shooting

Actor Gopichand and mass Director Sampath Nandi's combinational sports action film *Seetimaarr*, being made with a backdrop of the mass game — Kabaddi, is being shot at record speed and is in its final leg of shooting. The team has released a video of erecting huge set for the film by production team. Makers of the film said that they're taking all necessary precautions and will complete the entire shoot in a non-stop schedule. Gopichand, who is struggling to get a hit, will be seen as a Kabaddi coach for the Andhra women's team and actress Tamannaah as the Telangana female team's Kabaddi coach.

The first look posters of the film garnered terrific response. Presented by Pavan Kumar and Produced by Srinivasaa Chhitturi under Srinivasaa Silver Screen banner, *Seetimaarr* is being made with big budget and high technical values. Melody Brahma Mani Sharma is composing the music. Digangana Suryavanshi will be seen in a special role as a village girl while Bhumika is playing another crucial role. Posani Krishnamurali, Rao Ramesh, Rehman, and Bollywood actor Tarun Arora are playing other key roles.

Nag impressed with *Bangarraju*?

After *Soggade Chinni Nayana*, one of the biggest hits in Akkineni Nagarjuna's career, the director of the film Kalyan Krishna Kurasala has announced a prequel titled *Bangarraju*. As the director failed to impress Nag with the script, the actor had moved on with other projects, putting *Bangarraju* on the back burner. The latest we hear is that Kalyan Krishna has finally managed to impress Nagarjuna with the final draft of *Bangarraju* and that the script has been locked. An official confirmation regarding the same is awaited.

Meanwhile, Nagarjuna has completed the shooting of *Wild Dog* and he is to start the shooting of his next in the direction of Praveen Sattaru.





SALAR JUNG MUSEUM... A DESTINATION TO OFFER SOMETHING ENDURING



Over a period of time, apart from its political prominence, the city of Hyderabad gained a high point of focus to be a land of bewitching attraction due to its fabulous history behind on the sands of time. The precious glory that hugged every page of history went on spilling endless effulgence on Hyderabad down the generations ever since its formation and transformed the city into an evergreen dream land for the people live here and for the visitors who come from all corners of the world. Each monument echoes a tale of its own through a sonorous tune. The architectural beauty of the monuments entwined with the engrossing backdrop surrounding them fills the hearts with fenceless ecstasy. For the long chain of monuments and historical places in and around Hyderabad, Salar Jung Museum is always reckoned as the most beautiful place to visit, behold and rejoice upon for its priceless treasure of antique artefacts and ancient pieces of art. Innumerable people from every nook and corner set their foot in the premises of Salar Jung



Museum only to carry bagful of memories back home and ruminate them for the rest of the life. The main architect who made this wonder to happen in Hyderabad was Nawab Mir Yousuf Ali Khan was the then Prime Minister of Hyderabad during Nizam's rule. With an immeasurable passion for the everlasting works of art from all over the world, he nurtured the habit of collecting the ancient pieces of several models ranging from clocks, swords and statues by spending the most of his money. Long before realizing his desire to furthermore gather to secure to fulfill his undying interest for the pieces of art, he breathed his last. The whole treasure of his collections was laid in Diwan Devdi and were put to exhibition now and then in the same ancestral palace. After naming it as Salar Jung Museum, Jawahar Lal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of Independent India, officially opened it on December 16, 1951 for regular public viewing. From then on, every piece kept for delighting the visi-

BIRYANI POLITICS Beef vs pork in GHMC elections

NAVEENA GHANATE
HYDERABAD

Nothing is complete without the mention of Hyderabad Biryani - that includes election campaign. On Tuesday, BJP MLA Raja Singh advised Asaduddin Owaisi to eat Pork Biryani. This comes as a retort to Owaisi's remark on Monday where he

advised BJP to eat some biryani from Alhamdulillah hotel which is popular for making Beef dishes. He advised them to do so as BJP leaders are frustrated. Taking a similar jibe, Goshamal MLA in retort said, "In our area, Valmiki community makes good biryani with pig. If

you are fond of eating biryani, come I will offer a delicious biryani. Do campaign, but you will fail if you use Biryani and Hindu-Muslim in campaign." This apart, the demand for Biryani has grown in the city in view of elections. Biryani is being handed out to activists and people involved in election campaign as lunch and dinner. Several hotels in the city have reported bulk orders.



Owaisi holds padayatra in Hyd's Ghansi Bazaar

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) chief and Hyderabad MP Asaduddin Owaisi on Tuesday campaigned at Ghansi Bazaar division in the old city. The seat was won by the Bharatiya Janata Party during the last GHMC elections. Asaduddin Owaisi covered the lanes and bylanes of Ghansi Bazaar along with Charminar MLA Muntaz Ahmed Khan and Mohd Ghouse who recently returned to AIMIM fold from the Congress. Parveen Sultana, wife of Mohd Ghouse, is contesting from Ghansi Bazaar division on AIMIM ticket. During the programme, Asaduddin interacted with the people of the locality and assured to take up various developmental works in the division. He said that with the help of MLA and MP funds, several works were taken up in the division by the AIMIM party in recent years.

TRS leaders face flak from public...

Continued from Page 1

They pointed out that the leaders were not available when they were facing a crisis, so there was no need for politicians to come seeking votes. Owaisi returned — without answering the women. It's not just in the field that the TRS leaders are experiencing some bitter moments — on Tuesday, Minister KT Rama Rao, during his interaction with representatives of educational institutions, was asked about

the delay in extending the recognition of almost a thousand institutions. Additionally, the academic year has not been declared in Telangana because of which no new students are taking admissions. Even on Monday, builders had put KTR in a spot, listing out issues on halting of property registrations, RERA delays, streamlining of the HMDA, zone conversion issues, LRS pending files, fire NOC, temporary electric connections and more.

Cops organise flag march ahead of elections

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Ahead of the GHMC elections, Rachakonda police have organised a flag march at various places across the commissionerate here on Tuesday. Police commissioner Mahesh M Bhagwat along with the TSSP platoons, City Armed Reserve, Mounted Police and the law and order police personnel conducted the flag march for a distance of about 5 km in Neredmet, Kushaiguda and Jawaharnagar areas covering four GHMC wards under sensitive locations. Mahesh Bhagwat said the flag march was conducted to



A total of 250 personnel comprising 129 civil police force, 121 TSSP to be deployed in polling locations

create a sense of confidence among the public in view of the elections. "In democracy, exercising the franchise is a responsibility of every citizen and they should vote for a bright future," he said. A total of 250 personnel comprising 129 civil police force and 121 TSSP to be

CP: Permission must for meetings, rallies

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

With the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) elections round the corner, Cyberabad Police Commissioner VC Sajjanar has issued an order asking all political parties and candidates to take prior permission for conducting public meeting, rallies, sound system from the nodal officers concerned. In the order, Sajjanar said the organizers or contesting candidates should apply for permission in a written format to the zonal DCPs or ACPs, well in advance, at least 48 hours. In another order, the commissioner warned political parties against opening their election party offices at a close proximity of their opposition parties. Parties should not open election offices within a radius of 100 meters of the existing office of other political party, he said.



TRS follows social justice: Minister KTR

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

TRS working president and Minister KT Rama Rao reiterated the commitment of the TRS government to support Backward Castes and make efforts for their upliftment in society. He stated that the government was not only implementing various welfare schemes for different BC communities, but the party was also providing them with equal or more opportunities in State politics. Addressing members of about 40 BC communities' representatives who extended their support to TRS in GHMC elections on Tuesday, Rama Rao said Chief Minister K Chandrashekhara Rao treats all communities equally and had been working with the lone motto of



'increasing wealth and distributing it among the poor'. "Every white ration card holder from any community, is a beneficiary of the State government's welfare schemes," he said. He stated that the BC communities also will benefit from the recent decisions of providing

free drinking water upto 20,000 litres per day and 50 per cent waiver of property tax. The TRS working president pointed out that the TRS had followed social justice and provided representation for BCs in 75 of total 150 divisions of

GHMC. He stated that about 85 of 150 seats were given to women candidates. Citing the Chief Minister's assurance to provide three MLC seats to the members of Padmashali, Nayi Brahmin and Kummari communities, he said that the party will give tickets to

those who could fight the elections and also fill nominated posts with other deserving candidates from various communities. Health Minister Eatala Rajender said while the previous governments have only treated the backward castes as mere vote banks, the Chandrashekhara Rao government made specific efforts for their upliftment and ensured a dignified life in the society. "The Chief Minister took several initiatives for both economical and social upliftment of different communities in the State," he said. He recalled that while the entire country was gripped in panic during Covid-19 lockdown, the State government continued its welfare schemes for the weaker sections and the elderly persons.

IT Minister assures private edu institutions of all help

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

IT Minister KT Rama Rao said on Tuesday that the State government would work towards resolving pending issues of private educational institutions. Interacting with Telangana private school and college managements here, KT Rama Rao said the government was aware of the demand of private educational institutions for a separate slab for property tax and electricity bills. A meeting would soon be held with heads of the institutions and officials concerned and a decision would be taken, he said. On reopening of schools, KT Rama Rao said

most parents were still apprehensive about sending their children to school. He cited the example of schools reopening in Andhra Pradesh which resulted in teachers getting infected with Covid-19, which was a worrying factor. Stating that before the formation of Telangana, educational institutions and apartments had to depend on power generators and inverters for power supply, Rao said six months into the new State, power supply issues were solved with power supply now being round the clock. Earlier, in a blistering attack on the BJP, KT Rama Rao said in the last six years,

not a single central educational institution was sanctioned for the State. "Did the BJP sanction a single educational institution to Telangana? They did not give us an IIM, NID IISER, or Navodaya school for our new districts. Moreover, they canceled the IITR that was sanctioned for Hyderabad," he said. Listing out the various initiatives of the State government, from Annapurna centres, Basthi Dawakhanas, She Teams and the upcoming drinking water reservoir at Keshavapuram, KT Rama Rao said the waste collection and management system in the city too was the most advanced in the country.