

**ANALYSIS 7**  
BANKS' BAILOUT —  
MAKE IT TRANSPARENT**MONEY 8**  
SENSEX, NIFTY TICK HIGHER TO FRESH  
RECORDS; AUTO STOCKS IN TOP GEAR**SPORTS 12**  
SAMSON'S 82  
TAKE RR TO 164

HYDERABAD, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2021; PAGES 12 ₹3



the pioneer

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AWARDS  
MOTIVATING  
ME TO DO  
BETTER: POOJA

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- ❑ The monsoon session adjourned till October 1 due to rain
- ❑ Four gates of Gandipet, two of Himayatsagar lifted
- ❑ Rajendranagar in Hyderabad receives 111.8 mm rains
- ❑ 195 teams, 8 boats, 45 JCBs in GHMC to mitigate impact

# Cyclone Gulab brings heavy rains across TS

NAVEENA GHANATE  
■ HYDERABAD

Cyclone 'Gulab', which made landfall in Srikakulam of Andhra Pradesh earlier in the day, induced rains in Telangana throughout Monday, with the impact gradually reducing by the evening.

The impact of the rains was such that the monsoon session of the State Legislature was adjourned till October 1, to enable the Members go to their respective constituencies and address the grievances of people affected by rains and oversee relief operations.

As of 11 pm on Monday,

Bachodu in Khammam received 151.5 mm rainfall, Wyra received 142.8 mm, Marrigadda in Siricilla 182.3 mm, Vemulawada received 182 mm, Chityal 172.3 mm, Sirikonda in Nizamabad 165.8 mm and Jammikunta in Karimnagar received 157.3 mm. Mulugu, Regonda, Venkatapur, Rajendranagar and Kamapur each received more than 100 mm rainfall.

In Hyderabad, Rajendranagar received 111.8 mm rainfall. The State typically receives 2.7 mm rainfall on September 27, but the quantum recorded on Monday was 12.2 mm.

As per the IMD, the deep depres-

sion weakened into a depression at 5:30 pm and lay centred over North Telangana and adjoining South Chhattisgarh and Vidarbha.

While the entire state was drenched, it was north Telangana that was severely impacted by rains. The IMD issued a red alert on Monday for nearly 14 districts including Nirmal, Nizamabad, Jagtial, Rajanna-Sircilla, Karimnagar, Peddapalli, Bhadrachalam, Khammam, Mahabubabad, Warangal (Rural), Warangal (Urban), Janagaon, Siddipet and Kamareddy.

## KCR reviews rain situation with CS, announces holiday

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Chief Minister K Chandrasekhara Rao on Monday directed officials to be on high alert in view of heavy rains under the impact of Gulab cyclone and announced that all the government offices, educational institutions including schools and colleges would remain closed on Tuesday.

KCR, who is in Delhi, reviewed the situation with Chief Secretary Somesh Kumar via video conference.

## TS destination for industry, RBI, Niti Aayog, Centre acknowledged progress: KTR

ML MELLY MAITREYI  
■ HYDERABAD

Telangana State has become the destination of every industry because of its progressive and industry-friendly policies and the development achieved by the State in the last seven years is testimony to the able leadership of Chief Minister and stable governance, said IT and Industry Minister K T Rama Rao on Monday.

KTR said that the Chief Minister has put an end to power holidays suffered by the industries in the undivided State and ensured 24x7 power within six months after formation of the State with his planning and execution skills.

The progress achieved by Telangana in various sectors and its per capita income growth has been acknowledged by RBI, NITI Aayog in their reports and Union



Ministers in Parliament, the Minister said.

Delving at length on the investments in IT and industry, the number of units that came to the State and direct and indirect jobs generated, KTR gave a detailed account backed by the statistics during a short discussion in the Assembly here.

## KCR farsighted, thinks big: KTR

Giving an insight to the way the mind of Chief Minister K Chandrasekhara Rao works, his son and IT Minister said that the TRS supremo always thinks big and has a grand vision as "if one has to compete with China and other big countries, one should think of economics of scale to bring down the cost of production. Speaking during the short discussion progress of IT and Industry in the Assembly here on Monday, KTR said during the Covid pandemic, one realised industries here were dependent on China for bulk drugs, intermediaries, chip required in automobile industry et al. Indicating that Chinese hegemony was visible because the country thought big, he said that KCR too thinks big. For instance, a major project like Pharma city coming up at Muthcherla in Maheshwaram and Ibrahimpatnam constituencies in southern part of Hyderabad is targeted to attract investments to the tune of Rs 60,000 crore to Rs 65,000 crore.



## Incessant rain enforces Opposition bandh

K VENKATESHWARLU  
■ HYDERABAD

While the State police department did its best to foil the combined efforts of the 19 political parties to enforce the bandh, the Opposition parties got help from the most unlikely of sources – the weather.

The end result was that the bandh was successful in places like Khammam, and partially so in Hyderabad.

The police clampdown on the Opposition leaders was total – they did not hesitate to take into custody anyone trying to enforce the bandh call across the state.

Opposition leaders and activists did achieve marginal success on their own – they managed to get schools and some business establishments closed. The Opposition leaders reached bus depots early in the morning and blocked the vehicles from leaving the depots till 10

AM at some places and 12 noon at places like Warangal, Hanamkonda and others.

The Bharat Bandh was called by farmer unions, and backed by 19 political parties protesting the "anti-people policies of State and Union governments, especially the three contentious farm laws and the spiralling prices of fuel."

The Opposition managed to get business centres, shops and other establishments closed till noon.

In Hyderabad, the State government succeeded in getting RTC services continue without interruption. Even shops and other business establishments remained open. Only the JNTU postponed its ongoing exams for Monday; Osmania and Telugu universities successfully conducted their exams but schools remained reclosed in Hyderabad city.

## Tikait to address 'kisan mahapanchayat' today

PNS ■ RAIPUR

Bharatiya Kisan Union (BKU) leader Rakesh Tikait will address a 'kisan mahapanchayat' in Rajim in Chhattisgarh's Gariaband district on Tuesday, organisers of the event said.

The event will be held from 11 am under the aegis of Chhattisgarh Kisan Majdoor Mahasangh (CKMM), an umbrella body of farm outfits, at Krishi Upaj Mandi premises, Tejram Vidrohi, convenor of CKMM's organising committee, said on Monday.

"Leaders of Sanyukt Kisan Morcha from Delhi, Rakesh Tikait, Yogendra Yadav, Medha Patkar and others will attend the event."

## India's Covid vax coverage crosses 86 cr

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The cumulative number of Covid vaccine doses administered in the country crossed 86 crore on Monday, the Union health ministry said.

## Politicians-police nexus a new trend: SC

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Terming alleged nexus between politicians in power and the police officers as the new trend in the country, the Supreme Court Monday orally questioned as to why it should protect such police officers in criminal cases after the regime change.

The observations of the bench headed by Chief Justice N V Ramana came on an appeal of Gurjinder Pal Singh, suspended

Director of Chhattisgarh Police Academy, who has rushed to the top court seeking protection from coercive action after the Congress-led state government lodged the third FIR against him for an incident that had taken place in 2016.

The bench, which sought response of the state government and protected him from any coercive action concerning the third FIR for three weeks, took

note of the submissions of senior advocate Vikas Singh, appearing for the suspended police officer, and said the proximity with the power leads to a situation, being faced by the petitioner when others come at the helm.

This is what happens when you are so close to the government and do these things...you have to pay back one day with the interest. When you are good with the government, you extract money, when another government comes you have to pay back.

## Land survey for Mumbai-Hyd bullet train project commences

PNS ■ THANE

Villagers from Thane district of Maharashtra were on Monday informed about the proposed Mumbai Hyderabad High-Speed Rail or bullet train project, the feasibility of which is currently being surveyed.

If given nod, the high-speed rail line will connect Mumbai, Pune and Hyderabad through 11 stations in Maharashtra and Telangana, a National High-Speed Rail Corporation (NHSRC) official said.

NHSRC deputy general manager N K Patil made a detailed presentation on

the project in the presence of Thane Deputy Collector (Land Acquisition) Prashant Suryavanshi and other officials.

He told the meeting that the entire 649.76 km route will be a green corridor. The work of preparation of the DPR (Detailed Project Report) is presently underway. The bullet train will reduce the travel time between Mumbai and Hyderabad from the

present 14 hours to just three hours, he said.

A total of ten stations including Thane, Navi Mumbai, Lonavala, Pune, Baramati, Pandharpur, Solapur, Gulbarga, Vikarabad and Hyderabad are included in the proposed project. The rail line will cover four districts of Thane, Raigad, Pune and Solapur.

A total of 1200 hectares of land will be required in the Thane district. The proposed rail corridor is planned to run along major expressways, national highways, greenfield areas, and may pass through arterial roads of the intermediate city road network for high-speed rail connectivity between different cities along the corridor. Drones are being used for the survey of the land required for the project, officials said.



## Owaisi seeks 'Muslim Bandhu'

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Hyderabad MP Asaduddin Owaisi has demanded Rs 10 lakh for each of the poorest Muslim households on the lines of the Dalit Bandhu scheme.

"Muslims in Telangana face deprivation that is similar to Dalits in the State. However, Muslims do not receive the same kind of government support as Dalits do," the MP said.

Reminding that the government recently started the Dalit Bandhu scheme, the MP tweeted: "It's the country's largest cash transfer programme. And visionary step by CM KCR sir. We welcome the scheme and demand that TS govt take similar affirmative action for Muslims - not on the basis of religion but on strength of their deprivation and marginalisation".

## 'Oppn turning out to be TRS govt's brand ambassadors'

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Opposition leaders on their padayatra have indirectly become brand ambassadors of TRS government, quipped IT Minister KT Rama Rao on Monday.

Making this observation in lighter vein during a short discussion in the Assembly, KTR said the through videos of their padayatra posted on social media, the opposition leaders were showing tanks and ponds brimming with water, green fields, good roads, drinking water supplied to every household, tanks full of fish etc., to the public.

These videos reflect the development and welfare programmes being implemented by Chief Minister K Chandrasekhara Rao, he said. "I can't help but thank them indirectly for being brand ambassadors of the State government's work wherever they go," KTR said.

In another instance, the Minister said that AIMIM member Akbaruddin Owaisi and BJP mem-

ber Raja Singh, who normally do not agree on anything, shared a similar view about the progress of the IT sector in Telangana.

He was referring to their remarks earlier on discussion on IT and Industry in the Assembly and said everyone in Telangana across the political spectrum, has become a part and parcel of IT progress in the State.

In another instance, he took pot shots against one opposition leader's call for 'Nirudyoga Garjana' and another leader's call for 'Million March by the unemployed', and recounted the number of vacancies filled in the government sector and lakhs of jobs generated in the industry and IT sectors over the last seven years.

KTR made it clear that for any government, be it Congress or BJP, it would not be possible to provide government jobs to all the youth. The only way to generate lakhs of direct and indirect jobs was through attracting private investment in industrial and IT sectors, the Minister said.



**TODAY**

**ALMANAC**

**Month & Paksham:**  
Bhadrapada & Krishna Paksha

Panchangam

**Tithi :** Saptami 18:16

**Nakshatram :** Mrigashirsha 20:44

**Time to Avoid :** Time to Avoid (Bad time to start any important work)

**Rahukalam :** 3:05 pm - 4:34 pm

**Yamagandam :** 9:07 am - 10:37 am

**Varjyam :** 6:04 am - 7:51 am

**Gulika :** 12:06 pm - 1:35 pm

**Good Time :** (to start any important work)

**Amritakalam :** 10:49 am - 12:37 pm

**Ahhijit Muhurtham :** 11:42 am - 12:30 pm

**HYDERABAD WEATHER**

**Forecast:** Thunderstorm

**Temp:** 28/29

**Humidity:** 98%

**Sunrise:** 6:05 am

**Sunset:** 06:08 pm

Current Weather Conditions  
Updated SEPTEMBER 27, 2021 5:00 PM



# Modi utilised the UNGA forum to tell the world of the greatness of India, again

The greatness of my country is that a tea vendor is standing in front of you to address this august gathering, Prime Minister Narendra Modi told the UN General Assembly on Saturday.

India, which he described as 'mother of all democracies', has proven that unity in diversity is possible, Modi said. The only country home to people speaking several languages, different lifestyles and food habits is India, he said, adding that diversity brings recognition to India.

For a tea vendor to continue in power for 20 years without interruption – 13 years as Chief Minister of Gujarat and seven years as the Prime Minister– and addressing the UN General Assembly four times is a wonder of democracy, he said.

His speech in Hindi has made every Indian feel

proud. Whenever Modi addresses the global fora, he never fails to praise India.

He cites achievements of Indian intelligentsia and touches upon valuable preaching of poets and philosophers to highlight the greatness of the country.

Addressing the 76th UNGA as the first speaker, his 22-minutes-long speech was punctuated with mention of the greatness of India. He stressed on the inseparable link India has with the rest of the world by saying that the world develops only if India develops and winds of transformation blow across the globe only if they sweep across India.

Successes achieved by India in science and technology are useful to the world, he declared, saying that the country, in spite of having limited resources, developed the first DNA vaccine that is administered to all those

**Modi took part in the first face-to-face meeting of Quad countries. Leaders of these countries held crucial deliberations on the issues raised by Modi in UNGA, including China's expansionist moves and developments taking place in Afghanistan.**

over 12 years of age. The country achieved major success in this regard, he said.

Modi highlighted the successes of India while assailing the countries that encourage terrorism.

He called upon all nations to stand against the countries that are likely to exploit the sensitive situation in Afghanistan to their selfish advantage. He called for safeguarding the seas – which is the lifeline of international trade – so that they are not against using them for their expansionist ideas.

The whole world is aware



**Y SATYA KUMAR**  
BJP National Secretary

his set objectives.

With the US withdrawing its troops from Afghan soil, the world is keenly observing the situation there. The world is seeing Pakistan's efforts to promote terrorism in Afghanistan to meet its selfish goals. The superpowers did not pay attention earlier to India's contention to brand Pakistan as a terrorist nation. But, the world cannot

forget the mayhem created by terrorists in the USA on September 11, 20 years ago.

Even Pakistani journalists were critical of the attempts by their country's premier Imran Khan to portray terrorists in J&K as freedom fighters.

Imran Khan's contention that former US President Ronald Reagan invited Mujahedeen to the White House reduced him to a laughing stock.

India dismissed Imran Khan's speech as worthless. A 25-year-old woman Sneha Dube who is working as first secretary in UNO, representing India, tore apart the speech point by point.

She cornered Imran by saying: "Imranji, stop spreading falsehoods about India, which is home to mil-

lions of minorities who live safely in the country. First you better vacate the areas in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir."

Humiliating Pakistan in front of the world with the help of a young woman diplomat is part of India's strategy.

During his three-day tour, Modi held fruitful talks with US President Joe Biden, Vice-President Kamala Harris, Australia Prime Minister Scott Morrison and Japan's Premier Yoshiga Suge.

He took part in the first face-to-face meeting of Quad countries.

Leaders of these countries held crucial deliberations on the issues raised by Modi in UNGA, including China's expansionist moves and developments taking place in Afghanistan.

The priority India got at

this meeting was not ordinary. Partnering with India on issues like terrorism, expansionist ideas, drugs and so on stands as an example the priority India gets in international issues.

Joe Biden declared that the US would support India's bid for permanent member status in the UN Security Council and its entry into the Nuclear Suppliers Group. He praised Modi for extending strong leadership to the Security Council in August last.

It's clear that Modi at the age of 71 years, never tires as he reviewed development works like construction of new Parliament House after returning home from his 65-hour whirlwind tour.

Untiring Modi's leadership and his friendship with several top leaders of the world is indeed a matter of pride for the people of the country.

# IAS officers in AP, TS have cake, and get to eat it too

**SNCN ACHARYULU**  
■ HYDERABAD

IAS officers, especially the ones serving as Chief Secretaries, are as blue-eyed boys of the Chief Ministers in both Telugu states.

Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao and former Andhra Pradesh chief minister N Chandrababu Naidu set a new tradition by giving posts to retired IAS officers, and this trend is being followed by YS Jaganmohan Reddy.

While KCR appointed Rajiv Sharma and SK Joshi as Advisors after their retirement as Chief Secretaries, Jagan appointed Nilam Sawhney as State Election commissioner (SEC) after her superannuation.

Now, incumbent Chief Secretary Aditya Nath Das has been appointed Government Advisor even before his retirement. Das will retire by the end of this month and after he demits office as Chief Secretary, he will be stationed at Delhi as Advisor to Andhra

Pradesh with Cabinet rank.

Compared to IPS officers, IAS officers are much more in demand after their retirement. Several Chief Secretaries in both Telugu states have been appointed as Advisors, but very few DGPs have been thus honoured.

At present, over ten IAS officers have been given new posts after their retirement in both the Telugu States. Not only new posts, Chief Secretaries are given extension of service ranging from three to six months in their post,

with the permission of the Union government, and later given new assignments. This obviously does not apply to all Chief Secretaries - only those in the good books of Chief Ministers are bestowed such an honour.

When asked why the governments give new assignments to IAS officers after their retirement and not to IPS officers, a senior IAS officer said that the IAS officers have a more 'better grip' on administration than their IPS counterparts.

# Kavitha demands government to solve problems of rural local bodies

**PNS ■ HYDERABAD**

To the surprise of many in the ruling TRs, MLC Kalvakuntla Kavitha on Monday expressed unhappiness over the woes of public representatives in the local bodies across the State.

Speaking in the Legislative Council, Kavitha said that the situation was such that there were no chairs for local bodies' public representatives to sit. She urged Panchayat Raj Minister Errabelli Dayakar Rao to take interest in addressing the problems of the local bodies' public representatives.

"MPs and ZPTCs don't even have proper offices in the newly set up mandals. They are facing a lot of problems in ex-

cutting their official duties," the TRS MLC told the Council during Question Hour. "The situation is such that MPTCs do not get the respect they deserve. The Fifteenth Finance Commission has cut Rs 500 crore of the funds allocated to rural local bodies. However, Chief Minister Chandrasekhar Rao has been compensating for this by allocating funds from the State Exchequer. Still, a lot needs to be done for rural local bodies," Kavitha said.

She asked the Minister to give powers to MPTC and ZPTCs, by bringing in amendments to the existing laws if needed, so that they could hoist the National Flag in schools.

MLC Tera Chinnappa Reddy said that the Pro-Tem Chairman V Bhooopal Reddy was also elected through local bodies MLC elections and was well aware of the problems faced by MPTCs. He said that the Panchayat Raj Minister has to initiate steps to resolve the problem.

Responding to the demand, Dayakar Rao assured that he would resolve the issues raised by the Members. He said that he will conduct a meeting with the MLCs elected through local bodies before the monsoon session ends.

It may be recalled that Kavitha was elected to the Council through Nizamabad local bodies.

# Ex-employee of Axis bank cheats people of Rs 17 cr

**PNS ■ HYDERABAD**

The Jubilee Hills Police on Monday arrested a person for cheating victims in the guise of investment in stock market.

The accused was identified as Raviprolu Sri Harsha, 36, an ex-employee of Axis Bank in Abu Dhabi. After a complainant D Ravi Shankar, a resident of Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad lodged a complaint that the accused cheated the complainant and several others of 17 crores, the police registered a case and arrested the accused in Mohali of Punjab.

# TS destination for industry, RBI, Niti..

*Continued from page 1*

Summing up the industrial progress of the State, the Minister said: "Telangana became the destination for every industry- from tractors to helicopters, 'Yerra bus' to electric bus to Airbus, tiles to textiles and apps to Apple maps."

Telangana's TSiPASS single window system was introduced within three months of State formation for speedy clearances as the Chief Minister, with his foresight, realized that inviting investments in a big way was the only way to generate employment for lakhs of students

graduating from colleges.

"No administration in any country or State could provide jobs for all its youths in the government sector. In Telangana with about four crore population, not more than two percent of the population – about seven to eight lakh – could be provided government jobs. Thus the private sector would be the only major source of employment generation," KTR said.

Providing statistics as proof of success of the single window system-TSiPASS, he said that 17,302 industrial units with Rs 2.2 lakh-crore investments came to the State.

**CM KCR thinks...**  
*Continued from page 1*  
The State thus planned the biggest pharma city/cluster and acquired 10,400 acres of the proposed 12,000 acres. "To attract industries and generate jobs for our children, we need to acquire and allocate lands for projects and industries for the major benefit of all. Unfortunately opposition parties are indulging in cheap politics. The State has not yet allotted even one acre to pharma units but an opposition leader alleged that the government which acquired an acre at Rs 15 lakh was selling land at Rs 2 crore per acre."

# KCR asks Piyush Goyal to explore paddy export option

**PNS ■ HYDERABAD**

Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao on Monday asked Union Food and Civil Supplies Minister Piyush Goyal to consider the possibility of exporting rice to other countries.

The Chief Minister, who is still in Delhi, met Goyal along with Planning Board Vice Chairman B Vinod Kumar and officials, and discussed paddy procurement concerns of Telangana in the wake of Food Corporation of India imposing certain conditions.

This was KCR's second meeting with Goyal in as many days, as the FCI officials wanted more details.

Vinod Kumar said that Chief Minister came to Delhi to resolve the paddy procurement issues as the paddy yield in the State increased by five times.

"The Chief Minister requested the Centre to consider export of rice. Telangana is the only State which has been procuring every grain cultivated by farmers, but with FCI indicating it could not procure more as its godowns were already full for next four years, it would be the Centre's responsibility to seek other avenues, including export of food grains," Vinod Kumar said.

# Funds spent not a burden but investment: KTR

**ML MELLY MAITREYI**  
■ HYDERABAD

Municipal Administration and Urban Development Minister KT Rama Rao on Monday said that the second phase of Strategic Road Development Programme is being finalised and loans taken for infrastructure projects should be looked at as investment for future development of the city.

He was replying to MIM MLA Akbaruddin Owaisi who, during the Question Hour in the Legislative Assembly, sought details of the loans taken for

SRDP and the interest being paid by the government. "Any investment on infrastructure is investment for future development. The government raised Rs 5,900 crore term loan from SBI and it was paying Rs 296 crore towards debt servicing per year," said KTR in his reply.

He added that if someone however felt GHMC was in debt trap, they should know that the loan was backed by State government guarantee.

The second phase of SRDP was being finalised, KTR said and asked Akbaruddin Owaisi to give his recommendations in

writing. The MIM MLA responded by saying that while 22 projects were completed so far under the SRDP in the city, not even one work was completed in the Old City. "Of the 24 ongoing projects, five to six were in Old City," he said.

KTR explained that the Strategic Road Development Programme was taken up with perfect planning and based on traffic studies done for about three years. The loans raised for the SRDP should not be seen as a debt burden as every link road would give rise to economic activity, he said.

Replying to Akbaruddin Owaisi and other Members, the Minister said that SRDP was a meaningful policy formulated after a lot of thinking and taking suggestions from the consultants Lee Associates, to facilitate the emergence of Hyderabad as a global city.

He said SRDP works worth Rs 1,545 crore comprising flyovers, RoBs, were in progress in the Charminar or South zone. He assured Akbaruddin Owaisi that the Bahadurpura flyover and other projects ongoing in the Old City would be expedited.

# Incessant rain enforces...

*Continued from page 1*

The police arrested Opposition leaders in the morning and shifted them to police stations when they tried to enforce the bandh in Hyderabad.

Elsewhere at Hayathnagar bus depot, the clothes of TJS chief Prof M Kondandaram were torn while he was arrested. The TJS condemned the police act and described it as intentional.

The police arrested the Congress MLAs who came in horse carriages from the Ambedkar statue at Tank Bund to the Assembly.

Among those detained were CLP leader Mallu Bhatti Vilkmarama, Sridhar Babu, Seethakka and MLC Jeevan Reddy who came in a carriage pulled by horses.

When the Congress MLAs

demanding that the carriage be allowed inside the Assembly premises, they were stopped. The MLAs staged a sit-in before the Assembly gate and were taken into custody for their troubles. They were shifted to the Ramgopalpet police station.

Meanwhile, the police arrested TPCC chief A Revanth Reddy at Uppal depot and shifted him to the Uppal police station.

Speaking to the media, Revanth Reddy demanded the Centre to repeal the "anti-farmer laws and reduce fuel prices". He alleged that the Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao has been misleading Telangana youth.

Revanth Reddy said that more than 400 farmers have lost their lives during the agitation against farm laws over the last 10 months.

# Owaisi seeks...

*Continued from page 1*

Owaisi said that the AIMIM would be raising this demand in the ongoing Assembly session and is confident that the Chief Minister would extend the scheme to economically backward Muslims.

The MP participated in a discussion where experts provided empirical data on social, educational and economic backwardness of Muslims in Telangana.

Pointing that there are around 8.8 lakh Muslim households in Telangana, he said that CESS has estimated that approximately 8.5 percent of Muslims live Below the Poverty Line.

Owaisi said, "It is safe to assume that at least 1 percent to 2 percent of these households live in abject poverty and need urgent measures to protect them".

CHICKEN RATES ₹/KG	
Dressed/With Skin	₹264
Without Skin	₹284
Broiler at Farm	₹147
EGG RATES ₹/100	
HYDERABAD	438
VISAKHAPATNAM	470
VIJAYAWADA	441
RETAIL PRICE (IN HYDERABAD)	₹4.38

# CM reviews rain situation with ...

*Continued from page 1*

As the rains were expected to last for two more days, he asked Chief Secretary to take all required measures and precautions to prevent loss of life and property.

The revenue and police departments should coordinate and take up relief operations, the Chief Minister said.

Following KCR's instruc-

tions, the Chief Secretary held a video conference again with the district Collectors.

Somesh Kumar also reviewed the situation with DGP Mahender Reddy, R&B Special Chief Secretary Sunil Sharma, Panchayat Raj Secretary Sundeeep Kumar Sultania, Disaster Management Secretary Rahul Bojja and others.

**PNS ■ HYDERABAD**

The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation has constituted 195 monsoon emergency teams, 139 static teams and two special teams to mitigate the impact of Cyclone Gulab.

Another 71 teams and 33 mobile teams have been set up by the CRMP while 237 pump sets, two boats per zone and eight over have been put on standby, by the DRM.

Also, the authorities have at

their disposal 45 JCBs and 55 power cutting machines to be used to clear uprooted trees.

Municipal Administration and Urban Development Special Principal Secretary Arvind Kumar directed the authorities to remain vigilant in the wake of heavy rains in Hyderabad city due to the impact of Gulab cyclone and take steps to prevent any loss of life or property. On Monday evening, the Special Chief Secretary held a teleconference with the GHMC Commissioner, Zonal

Commissioners, Director of Municipal Affairs and others on the orders of the Municipal Minister.

**Citizens advised not to open manhole covers**

HMWSSB MD Dana Kishore on Monday advised city dwellers not to open manhole covers under any circumstances.

"If a manhole cover is damaged anywhere, inform the Water Board customer care No. 155313," Dana Kishore said.

He directed the Water Board

officials to take all possible precautionary measures and ensure there is no inconvenience to the people due to the incessant rains. He also asked ERT teams to be vigilant.

**195 teams, 8 boats, 45 JCBs in GHMC to tackle Gulab impact**

The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation has constituted 195 monsoon emergency teams, 139 static teams and two special teams to mitigate the impact of Cyclone

Gulab. Another 71 teams and 33 mobile teams have been set up by the CRMP while 237 pump sets, two boats per zone and eight over have been put on standby, by the DRM.

**Cyclone Gulab brings heavy rains across TS**

The Weather department has issued a Flash Flood Risk (FFR) alert. As per the weatherman, the severe impact of Cyclone Gulab has abated, but it will continue to rain on Tuesday as well.

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# CYCLONE 'GULAB' INTENSIFIES, FLASH FLOOD WARNING FOR TS

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The India Meteorological Department, Hyderabad on Monday issued a Flash Flood Risk (FFR) alert for Telangana for the next 24 hours.

In the forecast, it said the watersheds in the districts of Bhadradi Kothagudem, Khammam, Adilabad, Bhuvanagiri, Asifabad, Mancherla, Nirmal, Warangal, Peddapally Karimnagar, Rajanna Sircilla, Jayashankar Bhupalpalle, Mulugu, Jagtial, Mahbubabad, Janaganan can expect flash floods as chances are moderate to high during the next 24 hours.

According to the IMD, the cyclonic storm Gulab has now intensified into a deep depression and lay over 18.4 degrees

north latitude and 82.8 degrees east longitude around 110 km of Jagdalpur and 140 km of Kalingapatnam.

Owing to this, Telangana is very likely to have very to very heavy with extremely heavy rain in few districts of the state.

"At present, the deep depression lay over Telangana and its adjoining areas and under its influence Telangana, is very likely to have very to very heavy with extremely heavy rain in few districts of the state. During the next 24 hours likely to hours Telangana is likely to have wind of 30-40 kmph gasping to 45 kmph," said K Nagarathna, Scientist from Meteorological Centre, Hyderabad, She further said the deep depression at present

is moving in the west direction at the speed of 14 kmph for the last three hours.

Sushant Kumar Behera, Team Commandant, NDRF said that after the cyclone there is a chance of a flash flood and his team is ready for any situation.

"This Kalingapatnam area is vulnerable, when cyclone Gulab made landfall here many trees were uprooted and roads were blocked. Since yesterday our team is clearing the roads. Today also we removed two trees from the road. The land-fall was not intense and we did not evacuate any people but after the cyclone, a flood situation may arise and we may evacuate people. Our team is ready to handle any situation," said Sushant Kumar Behera.



## Traffic advisory issued

**PNS I HYDERABAD:** In view of the incessant rains in Hyderabad since morning and consequent water logging the Cyberabad Police has issued a traffic advisory for people travelling to Mehdiapatnam. Due to water logging at Malkam Cheruvu area in Hyderabad, the Cyberabad Traffic Police has advised motorists travelling towards Tolichowki-Mehdiapatnam

route to take diversion at Gachibowli Junction-Narsingi-Tipu Khan Bridge-Langarhauz-Nannal Nagar-Mehdiapatnam. Otherwise motorists can also take the Biodiversity-IKEA-Durgam Cheruvu-Jubilee Hills route to avoid the water logging happening at the Malkam Cheruvu due to continuous rains since morning. The advisory was issued at 5:52 PM.

## Top cops of city appeal people to stay indoors

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The police officials of the tri-commissionerates have issued alert over the heavy rains in Hyderabad.

The police officials are all set to prevent any untoward incidents due to rains in the city.

The Commissioner of Police, Hyderabad, Anjani Kumar has appealed to the people to stay indoors as the city witnessed heavy rain on Monday and it will continue on Tuesday.

The Police Commissioner

appealed to the residents to 'Dial 100' for any help.

The Commissioner of Police, Cyberabad, Stephen Ravindra has informed that all the police teams are working in coordination with the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) staff.

The Commissioner of Police, Rachakonda, Mahesh Bhagwat has also appealed to the people to stay at home. Residents can call the police for any help, he said adding that they are ready to take up rescue operations.

### MORE RAINS IN STORE

Thunderstorm accompanied with lightning with a wind speed 30-40 kmph very likely to occur at isolated places in many districts of Telangana. The IMD said heavy rains could lead to massive water pooling on roads and low lying areas and traffic congestion at most locations. The rains could also submerge agriculture land or damage crops, result in falling of tree and electric poles and electricity, water and other social disturbances for few hours.



### GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TOLD TO WORK IN COORDINATION

The state government has already alerted the district collectors in view of the forecast of heavy rains. Chief Secretary Somesh Kumar held a teleconference with the district collectors and directed them to open special control rooms in all the districts to monitor the flood situation. Somesh Kumar asked the collectors to work in coordination with police and other line departments. The district officials were directed to be on alert with regard to low-lying areas, keep a vigil and take necessary measures on the tanks likely to breach.

### GHMC ON HIGH ALERT

In Hyderabad, high alert warning has been issued in view of the heavy rainfall prediction for the next three days. Meteorological Centre, Hyderabad has forecast heavy rains throughout the day resulting in local floods. Disaster Response teams of Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) were on high alert to prevent inundation "Rainfall to intensify into heavy & very heavy rainfall in the next 4-6 hours & incessant rainfall may continue for the next 48 hours. High Alert has been issued to all personnel & teams of GHMC. Citizens are advised to avoid any unnecessary travel," tweeted director, enforcement, vigilance and disaster management, Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation. Meanwhile, Special Chief Secretary of Municipal Administration Arvind Kumaer issued an advisory on Monday. "Please avoid any travel tomorrow and try to stay indoors. Our Disaster Response Force, directorate of enforcement, vigilance and disaster management and Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation teams are working 24/7 but water logging and inundation are inevitable, especially in low lying areas due to incessant rains and it's best to exercise caution," Arvind Kumar tweeted.

### VARSITIES POSTPONE EXAMS

Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University (JNTU) Hyderabad has postponed the exams scheduled for September 27. The university announced that B.Tech/ B.Pharm/ Pharm D/ Pharm D (PB), regular and supplementary exams scheduled on September 27 have been postponed and the rescheduled date will be announced later. Andhra University also announced postponement of exams of under graduate (professional)/post graduate and professional courses scheduled for September 27.



## Body of drowned techie found near Neknampur tank

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The police and municipal authorities have found the body of the man who drowned in an open nala at Manikonda on Saturday night.

The man was identified as Rajnikanth, 42, a software professional who works at Shadnagar and is a resident of Secretariat colony in Manikonda. The man was washed away after falling into an open drain in the colony at around 9 pm on Saturday night when it was raining heavily, police officials said.

After the incident, teams of the local municipality, police and the DRF teams of GHMC launched rescue efforts. Later, authorities lost hope to find him alive and intensified efforts to trace at least the body.

## Police erect barricades at lakes to prevent mishaps

PNS ■ KHAMMAM

Commissioner of Police, Khammam, Vishnu Warrior has directed the police personnel to remain on the alert in view of the heavy rains lashing the district under the influence of cyclone Gulab.

In a statement issued here on Monday, CP directed the police officials to identify the low-lying areas, roads and villages facing the threat of inundation under their police station limits and take precautions to prevent loss of life and property.

The top cop asked the police personnel to regulate the traffic by erecting barricades near tanks and ponds to prevent accidents.

He asked the police personnel to hold consultations

with roads, transport, electricity and other relevant departments' officials to avert any eventuality and loss of life due to floods triggered by rains.

The police have been asked to work in coordination with revenue and R and B department officials to take precautions.

Road transport communications have been affected at several places, while the police have stopped plying of vehicles on Konijerla to Kothagudem via Pallipadu and Yenkurru. Similarly, the roads in Wra, Madhira and Sattupalli Assembly constituencies have been damaged at several places due to overflowing of the sluices, the SP said asking the police to alert people about it.

## Vanadurga Bhavani temple closed

**PNS I MEDAK:** Erstwhile Medak district has witnessed heavy to very heavy rain in the past 24 hours with floodwater from Singur entering the Vanadurga Bhavani temple and flowing over the bridge that connects the temple. It was stated that the rains may continue for another 48 hours. In Medak town, some low-lying areas were inundated. As of Monday evening, the Vanadurga Bhavani temple in Edupayala was closed as floodwater entered the temple premises. The police personnel have erected barricades to prevent devotees visiting the temple. Irrigation department officials have cautioned the people living in the catchment areas of the Manjira river to take precautions.



## District officials told to give update for every two hours

PNS ■ MEDCHAL MALKAJGIRI

Medchal district Collector Harish has asked the district machinery to take all the precautions to rule out any loss of life and loss of property in the wake of heavy rains lashing the district under the influence of cyclone Gulab.

Addressing revenue, irrigation officials, municipal com-

missioners, mandal level officers through tele conference on Monday, he said, quoting high alert sounded by Met office for the next 48 hours, that the district machinery should be on its toes and protect people living in low-lying areas.

As tanks, streams and rivers are likely overflow their banks, the people living in remote

areas should those who live in low-lying areas should not go near water bodies.

He wanted officials to send reports every two hours. In case of any problems due to rains, the people should call the control room set up in Collectorate on 94924-0978, 08418297820 for district machinery to respond and implement relief measures.

## 32 gates of SRSP lifted to release 1.78 lakh cusecs

PNS ■ NIZAMABAD

As many as 32 gates out of the total 42 crest gates of Sriram Sagar project (SRSP) have been lifted to release 1.78 lakh cusecs of water to the downstream at 5 pm on Monday.

This is the second time that water in such huge quantity was released downstream of the project.

The reservoir was filled to its full capacity of over 1,091 ft for

the first time in 1983, prompting officials from the Irrigation department to discharge over 1,000 TMC of water downstream into Godavari then. On Sunday, 1.99 lakh cusecs of water was discharged through 32 of the 42 gates that were raised up to four feet height. Officials are constantly monitoring the water levels in the reservoir since IMD has forecast more rains due to the impact of cyclone 'Gulab'.

## TSSPDCL sets up control room

TSSPDCL CMD G Raghuma Reddy on Monday said a control room was set up at the SCADA office to monitor the power situation in the wake of heavy rainfall predicted due to the impact of cyclone 'Gulab'.

**MUFFAKHAM JAH COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY**  
(Private Un-Aided Minority Institution)  
(Affiliated to Osmania University and Approved by AICTE)  
'Mount Pleasant' 8-2-249 to 267, Road No.3, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad-500 034, Telangana, India | Tel: 040-23280306

**Notification-Admission to B.E. 1<sup>st</sup> year under "B-Category" (2021-22)**  
Application forms from eligible Minority & Non-Minority Students are invited for admission into B.E. 1<sup>st</sup> year in the following courses under category "B" seats for the academic year 2021-22. Application form can be downloaded from the website [www.mjcet.ac.in](http://www.mjcet.ac.in) / obtained from the Society's office:

Course	CSE	ECE	IT	Mech.	Civil	AI&DS	AI&ML	EEE
Intake	120	120	120	120	120	60	60	60
B-Category 30%	36	36	36	36	36	18	18	18

Filled in application form along with copies of relevant certificates, documents and registration fee of Rs.300/- (non-refundable) by D.D. in favour of "Principal, Muffakham Jah College of Engineering & Technology", payable at Hyderabad, may be submitted in person in the college on all working days between 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. or sent by post, so as to reach us **on or before 05.10.2021**. The admission will be as per the orders of the Government of Telangana and the guidelines issued by the Competent Authority.

**Tuition Fee for Rs.1,10,000/- p.a. & Other Fee Rs.5,000/-**

Hony. Secretary

**SULTAN-UL-ULOOM COLLEGE OF PHARMACY**  
(Approved by AICTE & PCI. B. Pharm programme Accredited by NBA)  
(Affiliated to JNTU-H)  
(Private Un-Aided Minority Institution)  
'Mount Pleasant' 8-2-249 to 267, Road No.3, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad-500 034, Telangana, India | Ph. No: 040-23280233

**Notification-Admission to B. Pharmacy 1<sup>st</sup> Year & Pharm.D 1<sup>st</sup> year under "B-Category" (2021-22)**  
Application form from eligible Minority & Non-Minority for admission into B.Pharmacy 1<sup>st</sup> year & Pharm.D 1<sup>st</sup> year under category "B" for the academic year 2021-22. Application form can be downloaded from the website [www.sucp.ac.in](http://www.sucp.ac.in) / obtained from the Society's office:

Course	B.PHARMACY	PHARM.D
Intake	100	30
B-Category 30%	30	9

Filled in application form along with copies of relevant certificates, documents, and registration fee of Rs.300/- (non-refundable) by D.D. in favour of "Principal, Sultan-ul-Uloom College of Pharmacy", payable at Hyderabad, may be submitted in person in the college on all working days between 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. or sent by post so as to reach us **on or before 05.10.2021**. The admission will be as per the orders of the Government of Telangana and the guidelines issued by the Competent Authority.

**Tuition Fee for B.Pharmacy Rs.98,000/- p.a. & Other Fee Rs.10,000/-**  
**Tuition Fee for Pharm.D Rs.80,000/- p.a. & Other Fee Rs.7,000/-**

Hony. Secretary



# Relations between Telugu States and Centre see changes with time

SNCN ACHARYULU  
■ HYDERABAD

Relations between the Chief Ministers of both the Telugu States and the Union government, particularly Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home minister Amit Shah have changed over the past two years.

In the immediate aftermath of the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao distanced himself from Modi and Amit Shah, the undisputed top leaders of the BJP while Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jaganmohan Reddy maintained close relations with them.

In fact, Jagan used to meet the PM and Amit Shah frequently, but KCR met them over a year after the General



Elections. In this one year period, Jagan met the Modi-Shah duo at least four times.

But now the situation has basically reversed - while KCR is maintaining close relations with Modi and Amit Shah, YS Jagan has restricted his Delhi

visits. In September, KCR met the PM once and Amit Shah twice.

Interestingly, during his recent visit to Delhi, KCR met Amit Shah thrice on Sunday. In the meeting organised by the Ministry of Home Affairs on

the Naxals issue, KCR met Amit Shah. After the meeting, the duo met separately for about one hour.

Later Amit Shah hosted a dinner for select Chief Ministers, in which KCR was among the guests.

Meanwhile, Jagan was to attend the meeting but was forced to cancel his trip at the last minute.

In recent days, Jagan has not met Modi. In fact, over the recent days, relations between YSR Congress Party and the BJP-led Union government have not been as good as they once were, with leaders of both the parties making some critical comments against each other.

At the State level in AP and Telangana, relations between BJP and the ruling parties are always not good, but the BJP

national leadership maintains a cordial relation with both the Telugu states. During his recent visit to Telangana on September 17, Amit Shah was not as critical of KCR as he had been on earlier occasions.

At the same time, KCR did not react to Amit Shah's comments against the TRS government. This was a marked departure from the past when the Chief Minister himself would personally rebut every single criticism by the Union Home Minister at media conferences. Also, the Prime Minister or Amit Shah have never personally criticised Jagan, but left this responsibility to some Union Ministers and BJP leaders. Perhaps this may have something to do with the fact that the YSRCP has a sizable number of MPs in both Houses.



## Cadres of oppn parties stage protests, rasta roko braving rain in Khammam

PNS ■ KHAMMAM

Braving heavy rain, leaders of all the opposition parties, barring the TRS, on Monday staged protest as part of 'Bharat bandh' against Prime Minister Narendra Modi's anti-farmer, anti-worker and anti-people's policies.

In fact, right from early morning the leaders of Joint Action Committee (JAC) picketed near Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TSRTC) bus station and did not allow to operate the bus

services on Monday. Shops and establishments closed their shops voluntarily pledging support to the Bharat bandh.

At several important intersections in the city, the JAC leaders were seen observing rasta roko braving heavy down pour in the district.

Leaders of Congress, CPI and CPM addressing the participants of the protest found fault with the Central government for its posture against the farmers. They alleged that Prime Minister Narendra

Modi has been encouraging Ambanis and Adanis to the detriment of farmers. They said the Centre is in hand-in-glove with middlemen and corporates and entered into clandestine agreements with industrialists to cheat the farmers.

They questioned the Prime Minister whether the cries of farmers for justice had fallen on his deaf ears. They said that the BJP rulers are cutting off the hands that feed them predicting that the days are numbered for the BJP.



## Submit DDs to avail subsidised sheep: Talasani

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Animal Husbandry Minister Talasani Srinivas on Monday urged eligible persons from Golla and Kurma communities to submit demand drafts to avail subsidised sheep under the sheep distribution scheme. "We will expedite the process of distributing sheep once the beneficiaries submit their demand drafts to officials concerned in the districts," he said, replying to questions from members in the State Assembly here.

He informed the House that the Centre had appreciated the scheme aimed at empowering families that were continuing in traditional occupations.

The Centre also appreciated the mobile veterinary clinics that were introduced in the State, he said, adding that the Centre planned to launch similar facility across the country.

## Protesters picket at RTC bus depot

PNS ■ MAHABUBNAGAR

As part of observing the Bharat Bandh on Monday against the Central government's policies, the bandh was successful in Mahabubnagar district with the opposition parties enforcing the bandh from the morning hours.

They observed bandh from the morning in Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TSRTC) bus station and did not allow the buses to leave the bus station.

Local CPI, CPM and Congress leaders and activists of these parties picketed near the bus station raising slogans



against Centre's policies.

Shops and business establishments closed their shutters voluntarily pledging support to the Bharat Bandh. The RTC buses did not show up on roads until afternoon.

The leaders of various parties have obstructed the movement of vehicles on national highway too.

CPI district secretary B Paramesh Goud condemned the anti-farmer policies of Modi government and expressed wonder at the Centre not responding to farmers' stir that has been continuing in Delhi for the past 10 months.

He predicted that the Modi rule at the Centre would not last long. The TRS, initially

opposed the anti-farmers' policy but, kept mum when the Opposition parties gave a call to observe bandh. He suspected that there is a clandestine understanding between the TRS and the BJP.

Several parties have been demanding the Centre to stop its anti-people's policies and withdraw its black laws. Leaders and activists of affiliated organisations of opposition parties took part in the protest programme in a big way. Later, they courted arrest. Two town police took the protesters into their custody to facilitate plying of RTC buses.



## Educational institutions closed in Godavarikhani

PNS ■ PEDDAPALLY

As part of Bharat bandh to protest against Prime Minister Narendra Modi government's agricultural laws, all educational institutions remained closed in Godavarikhani on Monday, according to DYFI and AISF leaders.

District presidents of DYFI and AISF Sagar and Preetam Ramchander said that the students are at peril due to anti-people policies of the Central government. Breathing fire against the Modi government, the activists said that securing government jobs would become a herculean task for the unemployed as the Modi government has been privatis-

ing railways, airways and roadways.

Similarly, the government schools and colleges would disappear on account of the new education policy, they said apprehending threats to saffronisation of education.

The education will be out of bounds for the poor students in future, they said warning the government against privatisation of the public sector and withdraw the new education policy.

Otherwise, they said that they would step up the agitation.

AISF and DYFI leaders Avinash, Vamsee, Krishna, Satish, Raj Kumar and others took part.

## 24-year-old doctor from T'gana dies of heart attack in Goa

PNS ■ MANCHERIAL

Dr M Neha, a young MBBS graduate of Mancherial, died of a heart attack in Goa on Sunday morning. Her body was brought to Mancherial on Monday. According to the family, Neha, 24, died of cardiac arrest in Goa where she was celebrating her 23rd birthday with friends.

She had left home on Thursday, celebrated the occasion on a grand note and later spoke to her parents. She complained of chest pain and died on the spot at around 4 am on Sunday.

## Cops arrests leaders of student organisations for protests, rally

PNS ■ WARANGAL

The Joint Action Committee of PDSU, AISF, SFI, PDSU and NSUI has expressed concern over state and Central governments supporting the private investors and for implementing laws in legislative bodies.

As part observing Bharat bandh on Monday against the Central government policies, all educational institutions remained closed on Monday. Students of Junior College at Asoka Centre boycotted the classes and took out rally to bus stand. Leaders of the students and youth organisations

condemned Prime Minister Narendra Modi for trying to hand over agriculture to businessmen like Ambani and to make farmers as their vassals by passing agricultural laws.

Privatisation of the PSUs, demonetisation of big currencies are some of the measures to hand over public assets to the private parties, they said calling it atrocious.

The government has failed to stop the online education of Byjus and Vedanta discouraging the government institutions, they said. They called for government withdrawing the New Education Policy pro-

nounced in 2020 as it is driving wedge between various communities. They demanded the Centre to increase budgetary allocations for education in Union Budget by 100 percent and wanted the state government to increase it three fold.

They condemned the hike in prices of petroleum products by the centre to trouble the poor and middle classes. They warned the TRS government that its fall would be inevitable unless it sends a resolution adopted on the floor of the state assembly against the anti-farmers' rally and send it to the government.

## 'It's lawyers' responsibility to safeguard Constitution'

PNS ■ SIDDIPET

Former IPS officer-turned BSP leader RS Praveen Kumar has said that the responsibility of safeguarding the Indian Constitution rested with all in general and with lawyers in particular.

Addressing the members of Siddipet Bar Association here on Monday, he alleged that the TRS and BJP have been cheating the people of the state. Telangana State, which is the result of struggles by the weaker sections of society, is now held captive by a family, he lamented. He also expressed concern over the Centre disposing of the PSUs and rendering injustice to the poor.

The rulers of the state wanted the rulers to remain the rulers forever. Praveen Kumar called for nationalising the family assets of Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao.

The government has been cheating the people in the name of welfare measures. In the name of cast and religion, people are made to become beggars, he lamented. He appealed to the lawyers to defeat the TRS and BJP and give their vote to the BSP. BSP national coordinator and Rajya Sabha member Ramji Gautam of UP gave vent to his ire on the BJP, in the name of Ram Mandir issue, saying that it has been provoking the Hindus and creating bad blood among various faiths.



CULTURAL FETE

Officials organised cultural events at Bhongir Fort in Yadadri Bhongir district on World Tourism Day celebrated on Monday. Children display dance and yoga skills at the fort.

## India's biggest urban eco-park in Mahabubnagar to house zoo

PNS ■ MAHABUBNAGAR

District Collector S Venkata Rao has said that the district has many tourist attractions, including the 2,087-acre KCR urban eco-park, the biggest in the country, a banyan tree that dates back to several hundreds of years (Pillalamarri), Koil Sagar project and Koilkonda Fort and others.

Lighting a lamp to mark the inauguration of the World Tourism Day celebrations at KCR urban eco-park here on Monday, the Collector said that every week many visit Mayuri park which is on the outskirts of Hyderabad.

He asked Divisional Forest Officer to spend proposals to set up a zoo park in the KCR urban eco-park as the Minister ordered establishing it there.

Venkata Rao asked the district tourism officer to operate buses to the tourist places in the district by creating a tourist circuit of important tourist attractions.



He asked him to take steps to promote temple tourism along with eco-tourism.

Additional Collectors Tejas Nandlal and Sita Rama Rao, DEO Usha Rani, district officials, tourism department officials,

teaches and students took part in the event.

The district Collector and Superintendent of Police distributed prizes among winners of various competitions held on the occasion.

# Citizens of Telangana pay rich tributes to Konda Lakshman Bapuji

PNS ■ SIDDIPET

Finance Minister T Harish Rao has hailed late Konda Lakshman Bapuji as the ray of hope for the down-trodden sections of society and the first person to agitate for statehood to Telangana. He said that Bapuji fought for the welfare and development of the down-trodden sections all through his life.

He paid rich tributes to Konda Lakshman Bapuji on the occasion of his 106th birth anniversary here on Monday and lighted a lamp near the portrait of Konda Lakshman Bapuji. Later, he unveiled statue of Bapuji in Gajwel. On the occasion, he recalled selfless service of Bapuji.

Achieving *Bangaru Telangana* would serve as a true tribute to Bapuji. The state government has been leading the state on the road to progress in the shortest possible time living up to the expectations of Bapuji.

He said that the state government would observe birth and death anniversaries of Bapuji officially.

Meanwhile, Siddipet Police Commissioner Joel Davis has lauded Konda Lakshman Bapuji as a great man who worked for the welfare and development of all sections of society.

He garlanded the portrait of Konda Lakshman Bapuji at the police commissioner's



office and paid rich tributes to him.

Joel Davis described Lakshman Bapuji as the first every person to agitate for statehood to Telangana. He took part in freedom struggle

of the country and observed certain values all through his life. In all stages of agitation for statehood to Telangana, he served as a great source of inspiration for others. He worked for strengthening of

cooperative sector.

Additional DCPs Srinivasulu, Mahender, Narayana, Rameshwar, Special branch inspector Kranti Kumar, AO Savita, commissioner's office employees and

others were present on the occasion.

**A true democrat**

**Medchal Malkajgiri:** Administrative Officer in Collectorate Venkateswarlu on Monday garlanded portrait of Konda Lakshman Bapuji and paid rich tributes to the late leader.

He hailed Konda Lakshman Bapuji as a true democrat, who had participated in Quit India Movement and Freedom Struggle.

District BC welfare officer Jhansi, CPO Mohan Rao, DEO NSS Prasad and officials of various departments in the Collectorate and others took part in the event.

**Emulate his ideals**

**Peddapalli:** District Collector Dr Sangeeta Satyanarayana on Monday paid rich tributes to Konda Lakshman Bapuji in connection with his 106th birth anniversary at a programme held in Collectorate. Later, she placed a wreath at the martyrs' memorial in the town.

She recalled his achievements and said that he was the first people's representative to resign from government to take part in the movement for Telangana in 1969. Prior to that, he held the portfolios of handlooms, small-scale industries and excise in Damodaram Sanjeevaiah Cabinet.

He was first elected as MLA in 1952. He took an active part in non-Mulki agitation. He was the deputy speaker from 1957-60. He went on to become minister twice.

Even in the second phase of the movement for Telangana, led by KCR, the nonagenarian Bapuji took part in indefinite fast at Jantar-Mantar in Delhi.

She said that he wished that the weaker sections of society to come up in life till he breathed his last.

He was instrumental in formation of the Handloom Weavers' Cooperative Society in Hyderabad in 1950.

She called upon one and all strive to emulate his ideals.



## INDIA CORNER Cong's Rajani Patil set to enter RS unopposed from Maha

Senior Congress leader Rajani Patil is set to be declared elected unopposed to the Rajya Sabha from Maharashtra after the opposition BJP on Monday withdrew its candidate from the next month's bypoll. The by-election was necessitated due to the death of sitting Congress MP Rajeev Satav in May. His term in the Upper House of Parliament was till April 2, 2026. Monday (September 27) was the last day of withdrawal of nomination papers for the October 4 by-election. The BJP had fielded Sanjay Upadhyay for the bypoll and he has now withdrawn from the race, paving the way for Patil (62) to get elected unopposed. Patil and Upadhyay were the only candidates in the fray. Talking to reporters here, Upadhyay said Congress leaders in the state had appealed to the BJP to withdraw its candidate so that the Congress nominee gets elected unopposed. "I have withdrawn my nomination on the party's directives," he said. "The decision to withdraw my candidature was taken in a meeting of the state BJP core committee," Upadhyay said. Last week, Maharashtra Congress president Nana Patole and his party colleague and minister Balasaheb Thorat had met Leader of Opposition in the Assembly Devendra Fadnis of the BJP and urged him to facilitate unopposed election of Patil.

## Maha CM calls for providing high-quality service to tourists

Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray on Monday said tourists should be provided high-quality facilities so that they will become brand ambassadors of the state. He also said if tourists become brand ambassadors there will be no need to appoint a separate brand ambassador for Maharashtra. "Atithi Devo Bhava" (Guest is God) is our culture and hence, if we make all the facilities available to them even foreign tourists will recommend others to visit Maharashtra," Thackeray said while addressing a function commemorating the World Tourism Day. He said the tourism department remained neglected earlier. "We are now paying attention to tourism as we have understood its importance," he said, adding that tourism is the mainstay of revenue for many states and countries. Thackeray's son Aaditya Thackeray heads the Tourism department in the Shiv Sena-led MVA government. The chief minister said the state cabinet will hold a meeting on Deccan Odyssey, a luxury tourist train. Maharashtra tourism secretary Valsa Nair had requested the CM to conduct such a meeting with a view that tourism in the Konkan belt will get a boost.

## Vaccination key for revival of tourism sector: Union Minister

Union Tourism Minister G Kishan Reddy on Monday said his ministry is talking to various stakeholders for the recovery of the tourism sector affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, while stressing that vaccination is key for its revival. On the occasion of World Tourism Day, the Union tourism ministry organised a conference on 'Tourism for Inclusive Growth' here. Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla was the chief guest at the event. Speaking on the occasion, Reddy noted that the tourism sector was the worst-hit during the pandemic. "The government has taken various measures for its revival and recovery, including five lakh free VISAs for foreign tourists," he said. The minister said the Centre has also announced various packages and relaxations for the sector in the aftermath of the pandemic. Asking all the stakeholders in the tourism sector to focus on health and safety issues in the wake of the pandemic, he said, "Vaccination is key for the revival of the tourism sector and India has already vaccinated more than 85 crore people." Asserting that the country has an immense potential for tourism, Reddy said his ministry has been organising various events for promoting tourism in far-flung and unexplored areas of the country.

# PIL petitioners must do HW, can't ask for everything: SC

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court Monday said those filing public interest litigations (PILs) must do their homework and bear in mind that they cannot just ask for everything under the sun.

The burden is on the PIL petitioner to show any shortcoming in a matter of policy and it should be backed with some data and examples, the apex court said.

A bench of Justices D Y Chandrachud and B V Nagarathna refused to entertain a PIL seeking direction for implementation of the National Health Policy-2017, besides other prayers including livelihood for the dependents of COVID-19 victims, and asked the petitioner to file a fresh pleas backed by data and examples. At the outset, the bench said, "You see, the problem with these kinds of petitions is that you have too many prayers. If you seek just one prayer, we may deal with it, but you claim to seek everything under the sun".

The petitioner cannot just leave everything to the court or the State and has to point out specific examples or data showing the shortcomings in the



implementation of policy, the bench added.

Advocate Shruvan Kumar, appearing for petitioner C Anji Reddy, said that he has given the example of one Ramesh from Andhra Pradesh who has, due to non-availability of free and affordable health facilities to the poor and middle class people, spent lakhs of rupees for hospitalization during COVID-19 pandemic.

The bench said, "You must come with proper petition and proper prayers before the court. We are willing to issue notice in the matter and not dismissing it but you should show something with some

data. We cannot issue an all India direction on the basis of one Ramesh Kumar of Andhra Pradesh. What is the source of information about him?"

Shruvan said he has attached some data which shows that for non filling of vacancies for doctors in government hospitals, people are forced to move to private hospitals.

The bench said that besides a report of National Health Mission giving data, there is nothing in the petition and the petitioner must do some more homework.

"You cannot just annex a report and expect the court to take charge. These are policy

matters. You cannot just say implement the health policy. You cannot just simply say implement the budget of 2021. You have to specify the short-fall and indicate how there has been failure in compliance. You are not bereft of the burden of pleadings just because this is a PIL," it said.

It further told Shruvan that the petitioner has to do his homework, give the specific examples, collect the data and indicate the critical areas as per him, so that the court can issue notice to the concerned authority or government.

The counsel said it would be difficult to procure the data for the petitioner.

"If it is difficult, then tell your client to rest in peace. Obviously, it is difficult and why should it not be difficult? This is not a case of a prisoner writing his individual grievance on a postcard, where we would intervene immediately. You are raising a policy issue which may have nationwide ramification, so have to bear the burden," the bench said.

The top court allowed the petitioner to withdraw the petition and granted liberty to file another petition with specific data and examples.

## Man sets himself on fire near Stalin's house over poll paper

PNS ■ CHENNAI

A man whose nomination to contest the rural civic poll in Tuticorin District was rejected, set himself on fire near Chief Minister M K Stalin's residence here on Monday, creating a flutter. Identified later as A Vetrimaran, he got close to the house of Stalin on Chittaranjan Salai and took the extreme step to press his claim for acceptance of his nomination to contest for the post of village panchayat president, a release said.

Police personnel in the

vicinity doused the fire and rushed him to the Government Kilpaik Medical College Hospital, where Health Minister Ma Subramanian visited him.

Rural civic polls are set to be held on October 6 and 9 in Tamil Nadu. The 'ordinary' civic polls cover nine reconstituted districts in addition to polls to fill vacancies (casual election) in 28 other districts.

Belonging to Jameen Thevar Kulam village in Kovilpatti taluk of Tuticorin district, Vetrimaran alleged (in a representation addressed to Stalin)

that the nomination papers filed by him and his wife were rejected by an official and sought immediate acceptance of their papers.

This is to contest for the post of village panchayat president, reserved for Scheduled Castes. He also named a few persons and alleged threat from them to kill him and sought action.

In a video clip made available to the media, the Minister was heard assuring the man in the hospital that his grievance would be addressed and advised him to get treated for his wounds.

## CBI interrogates TMC MLA in I-Core scam

PNS ■ KOLKATA

The CBI on Monday interrogated TMC MLA Madan Mitra in connection with the multi-crore I-Core ponzi scam, officials said.

Mitra, a former minister in the Mamata Banerjee government, appeared before the CBI's Economic Offences Wing at the CGO complex in Salt Lake, they said.

The agency had also summoned his son Swarup in connection with the same case on Monday. But, officials said, he will appear on Tuesday instead.

## TMC workers carrying out 'state-sponsored' violence: BJP

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The BJP on Monday lashed out at the Trinamool Congress over the alleged attack on its senior West Bengal leader Dilip Ghosh, accusing TMC workers of carrying out "state-sponsored" violence. BJP chief spokesperson Anil Baluni said the conduct of the TMC since the party's third straight win in the assembly polls recently has 'ashamed' democracy.

Referring to the alleged manhandling of Ghosh by TMC workers, he said, "This is all visible on the television, and it is very distressing. What has happened has denigrated democracy." "The TMC is not allowing its rivals level-playing field. Our leaders are not being allowed to even campaign as TMC goons are engaged in state-sponsored violence."

When a leader like Ghosh, who has been given security, has to face such attacks, then the fate of the common man can be imagined, Baluni, also a Rajya Sabha MP, said.

## Charges against Amazon serious, can't be ignored, points out Cong

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

A day after RSS-linked weekly "Panchjanya" dubbed Amazon as "East India Company 2.0", the Congress on Monday said whatever the Sangh says is irrelevant as it does not say anything in national interest, but in the interest of the ruling BJP.

Congress spokesperson Pawan Khara, however, said the allegations against the US e-commerce giant are serious and cannot be ignored.

"The issue of Amazon is a serious one and it merits everybody's attention. The allegations against Amazon are very serious and they cannot be ignored," he said.

Asked about the comments of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), Khara said, "What the RSS says about Amazon is irrelevant because there is a duet going on between the RSS and the BJP."

"We have seen that duet and they stand exposed in the farmers' agitation. We have seen the dubious role played by the Bharatiya Kisan Sangh as it has



not come in support of the farmers even for one day in the last 10 months."

The Congress leader said "nobody takes what the RSS says seriously anymore, because they do not speak the language in national interest, they talk in the interest of the BJP." Amazon was dubbed as "East India Company 2.0" by "Panchjanya", which has also alleged that the firm has paid crores of rupees in bribes for favourable government policies. In its latest edition, which will hit the stands on October 3, the RSS-linked

weekly has carried a cover story that is highly critical of Amazon.

"Whatever the East India Company did in the 18th century to capture India, the same is visible in the activities of Amazon," the article titled "East India Company 2.0" reads.

Claiming that Amazon wants to establish its monopoly in the Indian market, it says, "For doing so, it has started taking initiatives for seizing the economic, political and personal freedom of the Indian citizens."

## Congress asks Modi to talk to agitating farmers

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

As farmers across the country held protests as part of the Bharat Bandh, the Congress on Monday urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to talk to agitating farmers and listen to their legitimate grievances.

The Congress also alleged that instead of redressing the grievances of farmers, the government is trying to paint them as enemies of the country and that is why the farmers are protesting on the roads. The Bharat Bandh was called by the Samyukta Kisan Morcha, an umbrella body of 40 farm unions, to demand repeal of three agri laws enacted by the Centre.

Expressing support for protesting farmers, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi said the farmers' non-violent 'satyagraha' is still resolute but the "exploitative" government does



not like this and that is why a 'Bharat Bandh' has been called.

Posting rhyming lines in Hindi on Twitter, Gandhi said, "Kisano ka ahimsak satyagraha aaj bhi akhand hai, lekin shoshankar sarkar ko ye nahi pasand hai, isliye aaj Bharat Bandh hai (Farmers' non-violent satyagraha is resolute even today, but the exploitative government does not like this and that's why it is Bharat Bandh today)."

Congress spokesperson

prime minister."

"You have to listen to your country and when 60 per cent of your country speaks, please speak to them," he said.

"You have a strange confidence and a strange belief in your diversionary tactics and you are very confident that come elections and you will be able to distract the attention of the country again from the basic fundamental critical issues that the farmers face today. But, I am sorry this would not happen again," the Congress leader claimed.

He alleged that the government has imposed GST on agri equipment and as if this was not enough, it went ahead without due process of consultations with stakeholders and "bulldozed all democratic norms and parliamentary practices" and brought these three "black" laws, which the farmers are protesting against.

## No major impact of cyclone Gulab, says Odisha govt

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The Odisha government on Monday said cyclone Gulab did not have much impact on the state following its landfall in neighbouring Andhra Pradesh but road connectivity was partially affected due to landslides and uprooting of trees in some places of Gajapati, Koraput and Malkangiri districts.

Special Relief Commissioner P K Jena said administrations of seven cyclone-hit districts - Ganjam, Gajapati, Kandhamal, Rayagada, Koraput, Malkangiri and Nabarangpur - have been asked to submit damage assessment reports in the next five days.

The East Coast Railway said 16 trains have been cancelled in view of waterlogging on

tracks in the Visakhapatnam-Vizianagaram-Rayagada section.

Cyclone Gulab made landfall at a place in Andhra Pradesh, about 95 kilometres from Gopalpur in Odisha where a large number of people have been evacuated as a precautionary measure.

Jena said the state government has so far evacuated 46,075 people, including 1,533 pregnant women, to safe places, where the district administrations have made arrangements to provide dry and cooked food to them.

Fishermen have been advised not to venture into westcentral and northwest Bay of Bengal and along and off Andhra Pradesh and adjoining Odisha coasts in the next 12 hours, the IMD said in a bulletin on Monday morning.



## 25 trains affected due to Bharat Bandh

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

About 25 trains have been affected due to the Bharat Bandh called by farm unions on Monday to protest the Centre's three agri laws, officials said.

"More than 20 locations are being blocked in Delhi, Ambala, and Firozpur divisions. About 25 trains are affected due to this," a spokesperson for the Northern Railway said. Officials said the Delhi-Amritsar Shan-e-Punjab, New Delhi-Moga

Express, Old Delhi-Pathankot Express, Vande Bharat Express from New Delhi to Katra, and Amritsar Shatabdi are some of the trains that have been affected.

The bandh started at 6 am and will continue till 4 pm. In the North-Western Railway zone, rail traffic on the Rewari-Bhiwani, Bhiwani-Rohtak, Bhiwani-Hisar and Hanuamgarh-Sadulpur-Sriganganagar-Fatui sections has been affected due to the farmers' agitation.



## Delhi's historic Coronation Park turns into 'swampland'

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Overgrown vegetation, lawns and pathways around the iconic Coronation Pillar and Rajera statues flooded with rain water -- the sight at a historic park here, where 'New Delhi' was born in 1911, is anything but visitor-friendly.

The place holds great historical significance as the third Delhi Durbar was held on this very site, where King George V and Queen Mary were coronated as the emperor and the empress of India on December 12, 1911, and the British monarch had also announced the shifting of the capital from Calcutta to Delhi.

On World Tourism Day on Monday, the towering obelisk

with a flight of stone steps lay surrounded with thick overgrown vegetation and stagnated rain water, turning the once verdant lawns into practically a swampland.

The marble-made grand statues of King George V and of the four Viceroys, Lord Hardinge, Lord Willingdon, Lord Irwin and 9/27/2021 4:49:51 PMLord Chelmsford, stood stoically amid a mess created by the monsoon rains, which on few days in the recent past had caused massive waterlogging in various parts of Delhi with record rainfall.

To make matters worse, heritage enthusiasts and other people visiting the historic Coronation Park in north west Delhi's Burari area, were not

allowed to enter the park on Sunday by security guards, who cited "lodging of paramilitary personnel" on its premises as the reason.

The massive heritage site falling under the Delhi Development Authority, sits next to Burari grounds, also owned by the DDA, where a large number of farmers protesting against the new farm laws, had earlier camped amid heavy security deployment. The main farmer protests are happening at Delhi border areas. The security guards on duty at the Coronation Park said that visitors are not being allowed for a long time as paramilitary personnel are lodged in a building on its premises.

However, a senior official of

the DDA, when contacted, said, "No such official order has been issued. The park is open to public."

On December 15 last year, PTI had reported a similar hardship faced by visitors who were turned away by guards citing the same reason.

"The lawns of the park are open to the public. It is a public park and meant for them only. We will convey it to the ground staff, to not stop anyone from entering the park. There should be no confusion," a senior DDA official had then said.

Delhi-based heritage enthusiast Astha Khanna, 25, went to the park on Sunday but returned with an unpleasant experience.

## Cong burns effigy of BJP leader for remarks against Gandhi family

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Congress on Monday burnt an effigy of BJP national general secretary Dushyant Kumar Gautam in protest against allegedly making objectionable remarks against the Gandhi family.

Congress workers gathered outside the party office here and burnt an effigy of the BJP leader in protest.

They also lodged a complaint at Paltan Bazar police station demanding action against Gautam.

Addressing a meeting of BJP Mahila Morcha here on Sunday, Gautam had said, "Indira Gandhi, Rajiv Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi did not marry Hindus but members of their family publicly claim to be Hindus and 'janeu'-wearing Brahmins.







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PAPER WITH PASSION

## Inhumane

Dalits in India live in a sorry state, whether it is spoken about or not

In the 21st century, while India plans to reach the Moon and Mars, Dalits cannot afford to go a hundred yards riding a horse. In a country that the Government wants to make self-reliant as a way out of its economic morass, Dalits dare not make themselves “*aatma nirbhar*”. What is a more unnerving aspect of our ultra-modern society is the inglorious fact that the Government authorities are, as we speak, formally searching for hamlets and villages where untouchability is still practised with two hoots to the law. The search follows two quick incidents of untouchability reported from the Koppal district of Karnataka within a fortnight. In the first instance, a Dalit family was fined ₹25,000 by upper caste village elders because their three-year-old child entered a temple. Dalits are banned from entering the temple in that village. In the second incident, a Dalit youth was asked to pay ₹11,000 for entering a temple in another village.



The fine would be used to purify the temple, the upper caste villagers told him. These incidents are not new. They happen dime a dozen in most Indian States. Dalits have no right to worship, believe, celebrate or cremate their dead on public property because the upper castes treat all public property as fief and the Dalits have none in their names.

However, what is startling is the Koppal administration telling the media that untouchability is still practised in 25-30 villages in that district. The very admission of such a fact is violative of the Constitution but all that the administration and the

police are willing to do is search for those villages. Obviously, they are not going to find them because nobody will admit to practising untouchability. What is scary is the routinisation of the Indian, casteist social order, immune to the Constitution, even as the society claims to embrace modernity. The Dalit is so untouchable s/he can get killed for touching an animal. A youth was hacked to death in Gujarat in 2018 because he rode a horse. In 2019, a Dalit groom's family was socially boycotted because he sat on a horse, again in Gujarat. In 2020, a Dalit youth found out being an army jawan does not make him immune to upper caste taunts as he was forced down from his horse, also in Gujarat. After dozens of similar cases were reported in Uttar Pradesh, a Dalit groom in Meerut managed to reach the bride's home on his horse because of police protection. The only consolation for the poor Dalits is that even prosperous Dalits suffer the same insults. Young Dalits get a taste of the discrimination quite early, during mid-day meals in schools. Whom can Dalits turn to seek equality as human beings in everyday life and not be beaten or killed for wearing new clothes or walking on a paved street or drinking water from a public tap?

### PICTALK



Tourists paragliding at Solang Valley, near Manali

PTI

## High time

It's time to take a leaf out of Kerala's book to take steps to nurture our next generation

Come November 1 and schools and colleges in Kerala would reopen after a 21-month hiatus caused by COVID-19. November 1 assumes significance as it was on this day in 1956 that the State came into existence following the merger of Travancore, Kochi and Malabar. This is the longest ever closedown seen in the educational sector of the State known more for its militant trade unionism and student agitation. The LDF Government, led by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, has been doubly cautious about announcing the lifting of lockdown in schools and colleges because of the 'once bitten twice shy' syndrome experienced by the State. Vijayan had declared on May 8, 2020, that Kerala had become COVID-free, thanks to the State's well-functioning health sector. However, within weeks, the pandemic returned with renewed potency and caused devastating havoc by claiming nearly 25,000 lives. This time round, the State administration is leaving no stone unturned to ensure student safety. The bio-bubble scheme under the

Government's consideration envisages three offline classes and an equal number of online classes for each batch of students. Only those parents who are confident of the cleanliness of the schools need send their wards for physical classes. The rest could continue with the on-line sessions which are in vogue now.

Another Government initiative is the de-addiction centres planned across the State to ensure that students do not fall to drugs. Narcotics smugglers are out in the open across the State and schools and colleges are on their target. Since the lockdown was slapped in the State, another social evil in the name of online games has hit Kerala. This has resulted in suicides by students and parents, who were left in financial distress. Vijayan said that all police inspectors have been instructed to establish close rapport with head masters and parent teachers' associations to save students from drug pushers and online gaming operators. The State also saw some students resorting to the extreme measure of suicide because of mental agony arising out of the absence of peer company. The partial opening of schools is expected to go a long way in resolving the issue while the students have to be trained to face the changed lifestyle as they emerge from COVID-19. Life will not be the same anywhere in India and Gen-Next should be warned about the ground reality. This step should be replicated across India.

# The history of the Assam problem

The tale of illegal migrants into Assam is old, told by all observers but swept under the carpet by the Congress and its Muslim supporters



PRAFULL GORADIA

What happened in Darrang district a few days ago, where by two alleged infiltrators were killed, was sad but reflected the historic agony of the Assamese people. Under the Government of India Act of 1935, provincial governments were formed by political parties. Soon enough, a Sir Mohammed Saadulla of the Muslim League became the Premier. In the 1937 elections, the League led by MA Jinnah was disappointed with its meagre winnings in UP, the largest province. Talk of a distinctly separate Muslim holy land began in seriousness.

The idea was first concretely mooted by the poet Iqbal who presided over the 1930 League session at Allahabad. A few years later, Cambridge University scholar Chaudhry Rehmat Ali worked out a theoretical note and innovated the name Pakistan, the land of the devout. Jinnah's idea was that five provinces should form the holy land including Assam, Bengal, North-West Frontier, Punjab and Sindh. Balochistan came in later. From the Muslim majority angle, Assam appeared touch and go to Jinnah although the Hindu impression was that they had a clear majority. Premier Saadulla got down to the business of facilitating as many east Bengali Muslims to come across and settle in Assam. A whispering campaign was started that the Adivasis were not really Hindus but worshipped animals or were Christian. There was thus a race to somehow prove that there were more Muslims in Assam than Hindus.

In the course of a discussion at Shillong in 1945, Viceroy Lord Wavell noted in his diary that while the reason for the encouragement of this migration was officially justified as being to grow more food, the real object was to increase Mohammadans (as recorded by BK Nehru in his book *Nice Guys Finish Second*). The tale of illegal migrants into Assam is an old one told by all observers but swept under the carpet by the Congress and its Muslim supporters. Other distinguished Muslims like Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and late Pakistan PM Zulfikar Ali Bhutto,



who openly expressed the view that without Assam, the economy of East Pakistan could not be complete.

The entire episode is heart rending for those who care for Assam. The writer has often visited the state and seen all its tea growing sub-districts. He was there for some ten days during the 1983 elections, which were boycotted by those who loved Assam. In many of the assembly constituencies, the voting was pathetically low although the Hiteswar Saikia Government had ensured perfect law and order. Most of the electoral officers in the heartland constituencies and the booths therein were manned by men flown in from other States. Nevertheless, for five days, the Assamese districts seemed as dead as graveyards.

Quoting from the *Hindustan Standard*, a well patronized Kolkata daily of those days, Rajendra Prasad in his book *India Divided*, stated: "It is sad but by no means improbable that in another 30 years Sibsagar district will be the only part of Assam in which an Assamese will find himself at home."

The Census Report of 1941 completes the story with a short but significant sentence, quoted: "The most noticeable rise in the Muslim population



A WHISPERING CAMPAIGN WAS STARTED THAT THE ADIVASIS WERE NOT REALLY HINDUS BUT WORSHIPPED ANIMALS OR WERE CHRISTIAN. THERE WAS THUS A RACE TO SOMEHOW PROVE THAT THERE WERE MORE MUSLIMS IN ASSAM THAN HINDUS

is in Assam and once again represents migration from Mymensingh and east Bengal generally." This policy of colonisation of Assam by the Muslims of Bengal was continued under the joint auspices of the Muslim League ministries of Sir Saadullah in Assam and Sir Nazimuddin in Bengal, as the following Bengal Government communiqué published in the press, in the last week of October 1944, shows. It goes on to quote the Census Report of 1941: "The Government of Assam in their resolution dated the 21st June 1940 prohibited settlement of land with persons coming from outside the province after the 1st January, 1938 — The Bengal Legislative Council went on to appeal to the Governor to ask for the Viceroy's intervention in Assam.

Dr Prasad quoted a retired SP Desai (ICS) writing in *Hindustan Standard* of December 1944: "Every day, new bamboo sheds and temporary huts are springing up in the reserves. I found that the immigrants absolutely ignore the local officers." The few Nepali graziers and Assamese Pamas finding no protection from anywhere give 'dohai' in the name of the King Emperor. Verily, the cup of humiliation for the Assamese was full.

Thus the Indira Gandhi

Government in collaboration with Assam CM Hiteswar Saikia suppressed the people of Assam and their sentiments. They continued to protest and agitate but to no avail. As if to rub salt on their wounds, the Central Government passed the pernicious Illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunals) Act in 1983. Hereby, in Assam the onus of proving that a particular person is an infiltrator rested with his complainant or the Government of Assam, not on the suspect. The Foreigners Act of 1946, whereby the onus of proving his bona fides is on the suspect, continued to apply to all other States in India. The only exception made was Assam to help out the illegal migrants. When travelling from Guwahati to Shillong, one does not spontaneously realise when one has crossed from Assam to Meghalaya. Yet in the latter State, the Central law was the old 1946 Act! Such was the discrimination against the Assamese people.

(This is part of an ongoing series on India making multi-dimensional advancement across States and nations).

(The writer is a well-known columnist, an author and a former member of the Rajya Sabha. The views expressed are personal.)

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### FARMERS' BHARAT BANDH

Sir — It is uncharitable to say that the Bharat Bandh called by farmer unions has caused 'disruption', 'inconvenience' and 'hardships' for the public when it is a life-and-death struggle for them. It is important that we keep a sense of proportion. The do-or-die spirit with which the farmers are protesting reveals their deep disquiet over the three farm laws enacted to pave the way for the dismantling of the MSP system, takeover of the agriculture sector by big corporate houses and the eventual loss of agricultural land. It is futile to try and trivialise the farm protests and show them in a negative light, given the rightness of their cause and the mass support for them.

The support extended by the Opposition parties to the ongoing protests is not 'pandering' to the farmers when elections in several States are around the corner. To say that the farmers are 'egged on' by the Opposition is an insult to the integrity of both the farmers and the Opposition. The ruling party can easily outsmart the Opposition by repealing the three farm laws. The attempt to pit the protesting farmers against 'common citizens' is eminently avoidable. Farmers are a part of social organisms; they are ordinary, decent, hard working people for anyone to speak ill of them or attempt to trash their reputation.

G David Milton | Maruthancode

### ABOLISH MISUSED EXEMPTIONS

Sir — The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) should widen the scope of Form 26AS of Income Tax Act by auto-inclusion of allowable deductions like investment in Public Provident Fund, LIC policies, Government securities, mutual funds etc. Insurance companies should be directed to compulsorily put PAN number and Aadhar number on policies. The outdated Income Tax Act, 1961, with so many amendments should be replaced by an altogether new and simplified Act as repeatedly assured by the Government.

Our political parties are rich enough to spend heavily for their political purposes which regrettably also includes costly

## Seven years in orbit



It's truly delightful and a matter of pride to know that India's Mars orbiter has completed seven years in its orbit, well beyond its designed mission life of six months. The Mars Orbiter Mission (MOM), also called Mangalyaan, was the maiden interplanetary mission of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). It was launched in November 2013 and the probe was successfully inserted into Martian orbit in September, 2014 in its first attempt. The successful survival of the Mangalyaan during all these years has enabled the ISRO to continuously mon-

itor the spacecraft and its scientific instruments giving the scientists enough time to analyse and study the strengths and the glitches so that these could be made useful in future space missions. The longevity of the MOM has raised the confidence of ISRO scientists.

Mangalyaan's success in the red planet's orbit is sure to be an impetus in ISRO's ambitious space exploring plans like - launching its own space station, the Chandrayaan mission, Aditya L1, the mission to explore the Sun's corona and so on. The biggest advantage is that other nations have begun to keenly observe our low cost space technology. While the developed countries spend billions on space missions, India has been able to do the same on a low budget but precisely and flawlessly. It stands testimony to our accomplishment in space exploration that many nations rely on ISRO for launching their satellites into space using our rockets.

M Pradyu | Kanpur

super-luxury stay of MLAs in costly five-starred resorts and hotels for immoral ways of toppling or saving Governments. Tax-exemptions in respect of political parties are also heavily misused by an ever-increasing number of registered political parties with most of them not having contested any election. Considering massive misuse of tax-free agricultural income by super rich celebrities and heavy spending on ongoing farmers-agitation, agricultural income should also be taxed by having a basic exemption-limit of ₹5 lakh with various deductible investments or spending clubbed together for maximum rupees two lakhs.

Subhash Chandra Agrawal | Delhi

### THE CYCLONE NAMED 'GULAB'

Sir — The cyclonic storm 'Gulab' is likely to move nearly westwards and cross north Andhra Pradesh-south Odisha coasts between Kalingapatnam and Gopalpur around Sunday evening, the Cyclone Warning Division revealed. The Odisha Government has already mobilised men

and machinery and launched an evacuation drive in seven identified districts in the southern parts of the State.

Over the next three days, the sea condition will be rough to severe and fishermen in Odisha, West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh have been asked to not venture into east-central and adjoining northeast Bay of Bengal. It is understandable to issue a cyclone warning by raising the red flag in coastal areas of these two States.

A visual storm warning signage is permanently hoisted at the mast of ports to alert ships of the weather condition in the ports they approach, that is the common practice. While certain countries hoist flags, India uses distinct signs for day and night. Day signals are a combination of cylinders and cones, while night signals are red and white lamps. Deep depression intensifies and it is indeed a dangerous signal for the coastal areas.

MR Jayanthi | Mumbai

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

## SOUND BITE

The farmers' non-violent 'satyagraha' is intact today but the exploitive Government doesn't like it and that is why Bharat is 'bandh'.



—Congress leader

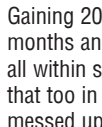
Rahul Gandhi



Now is the time to eliminate nuclear weapons from our world and usher in a new era of dialogue, trust and peace for all people.

—UN Secretary-General

Antonio Guterres



Gaining 20 kg in six months and losing it all within six months that too in my thirties messed up many things in my body.

—Actor

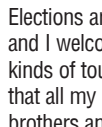
Kangana Ranaut



It is difficult. You have been playing Test cricket for five months and suddenly you have to come and play white-ball cricket.

—Chennai Super Kings batter

Ravindra Jadeja



Elections are close and I welcome all kinds of tourism so that all my Goan brothers and sisters have access to a new business in Goa.

—Goa Chief Minister

Pramod Sawant



FIRST COLUMN

CHILD ADVERSITY AND CHRONIC PAIN

It is necessary to understand what links early life adversity to poor adult health



TIM HALE

There is a widely held belief that our health is largely preordained by the genes we inherit from our parents. Indeed, this lottery of inheritance plays an instrumental role in some health outcomes. Early onset diabetes is an example of an inherited disease which, although debilitating, is relatively uncommon with only three new cases per 100,000 children in India. Late onset diabetes is much more common afflicting 12 per cent in urban populations and, like most predominant diseases, lacks a clear pattern of inheritance. The evidence suggests a greater role for nurture (environment) rather than nature (genes) in maintaining well being. That is good news because we can improve the environment. Chronic pain (pain that lasts longer than three months) is another debilitating con-



dition that lacks clear genetic origins. It is much more common than all forms of diabetes, estimated to affect approximately 20 per cent of adults in India. A report this year reveals that pain of the lower back and extremities afflicted 83 per cent of an adult population in rural Gadchiroli in Maharashtra in a period of one year, leading to 11 lost workdays per study participant.

In addition to unquantifiable personal suffering, the estimated economic costs of lost work and medication are staggering; each person with pain lost 4.9 per cent of the annual per capita regional income. Even a small reduction in the prevalence of chronic pain would be exceptionally beneficial. Unfortunately, pain treatment options have limited efficacy and for many recurring chronic pain becomes a way of life. However, not all adults living in similar circumstances are vulnerable to chronic pain. Some are remarkably resilient. If this is not because of genetics, then why are some vulnerable and others resilient? The answer may lie in exposure to childhood adversity. Adverse childhood experiences include physical or emotional abuse, neglect and domestic violence. The World Health Organisation describes adverse childhood experiences as the most common and intense childhood stressors. Many of us experience at least one and children exposed to several adverse events are likely to have more frequent and severe health problems later in life, including chronic pain. Furthermore, childhood adversity is emerging as a leading contributor to health disparities, disproportionately affecting the poorest in society. There is a strong relationship between exposure to childhood adversities and social deprivation. However, there is a lack of screening for exposure to childhood adversity, which might otherwise enable targeted health interventions. Reasons for this include inconsistent screening methods and poor understanding of factors that may contribute to vulnerabilities following exposure. The Consortium Against Pain Inequality (CAPE), led by the University of Dundee, seeks to overcome these deficiencies in understanding. CAPE will develop a comprehensive tool for screening exposure and establish mechanisms linking early life adversity to chronic pain in adulthood. By understanding what links early life adversity to poor adult health, we hope to address pain inequality by identifying those at greatest risk and providing tailored interventions. By raising awareness of the long-term impact of childhood adversity we will promote efforts to improve childhood and adult well being.

(The writer is Professor of Anaesthesia and Principal Investigator of the Consortium Against Pain Inequalities at the University of Dundee, UK. The views expressed are personal.)

# Banks' bailout — Make it transparent

The proposed 'bad bank' scheme by the Government is merely an attempt at using taxpayers' money for bailing out NPA-afflicted banks



UTTAM GUPTA

In the Union Budget for 2021-22, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had proposed setting up of a bad bank. Crafted as National Asset Reconstruction Company Limited (NARCL), it will bundle up all the non-performing assets (NPAs) of banks and sell them to investors such as private equity funds, alternative investment funds (AIFs) and so on, by putting a turnaround plan in place. On September 16, 2021, she announced the broad contours of the action plan.

Under it, the NARCL will purchase NPAs from banks under 15:85 structure, wherein it will pay up to 15 per cent of the agreed or discounted value of the loans in cash and issue Security Receipts (SRs) for the rest. The Government will provide sovereign guarantee - valid for a period of 5 years - for the SRs issued by NARCL. The guarantee would be invoked to cover the loss being the difference between the realized value (resolution/liquidation) and face value of SRs. A provision of ₹30,600 crore has been made for this purpose.

The Indian Banks' Association (IBA) has already started the process with incorporation of the NARCL and applied to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for a license as an Asset Reconstruction Company (ARC) with a capital base of ₹6,000-crore. The public sector banks (PSBs) will have 51 per cent ownership in the NARCL. The remaining shareholding will vest in 16 entities including private banks and non-bank finance companies.

The NARCL is intended to resolve stressed loan assets above ₹500 crore each amounting to about ₹200,000 crore. In phase I, it will take over fully provisioned assets of about ₹90,000 crore while the remaining assets would be transferred in phase II.

High NPAs have been haunting the Modi Government ever since it took charge in 2014. In 2016, it enacted the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC), an overarching law that gives lenders and banks the power to drag defaulting borrowers to a judicial authority. It also amended the Banking Regulation Act giving RBI powers to force banks to act within strict timelines.

As per RBI circular dated February 12, 2018, for accounts with aggregate exposure of over ₹2,000 crore, as soon as there was a default in the account with any lender, all lenders - singly or jointly - shall initiate steps to cure the default by preparing a resolution plan. The plan had to be readied within 6 months from the default date. If not, proceedings under IBC would be initiated by referring the case to National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) which would get six months to resolve.

According to a statement in parliament by Minister of State for Finance Bhagwat K Karad, PSBs alone have



THE NON-PERFORMING ASSETS HAVE BEEN HAUNTING THE MODI GOVERNMENT SINCE 2014. IN 2016, IT ENACTED THE INSOLVENCY AND BANKRUPTCY CODE (IBC) THAT ENABLES LENDERS AND BANKS TO DRAG DEFAULTING BORROWERS TO A JUDICIAL AUTHORITY. IT ALSO AMENDED THE BANKING REGULATION ACT, GIVING THE RBI THE POWERS TO FORCE BANKS TO ACT WITHIN STRICT TIMELINES

(The writer is a policy analyst. The views expressed are personal.)



recovered over ₹500,000 crore. The NPAs ought to have gone down by this much but the decline is only about ₹200,000 crore and the difference of ₹300,000 crore is due to fresh slippages. This figure excludes the Covid period — March 1, 2020 to March 24, 2021 — during which banks were not allowed to recognize bad loans. On their inclusion, we could get back to March 31, 2018 level.

Much lower yield than expected from the IBC mechanism has a lot to do with a revised RBI circular dated June 7, 2019 — issued under Supreme Court orders - which took away powers from the banking regulator and gave too much of flexibility to the latter in working out the resolution plan. Effectively, it rendered the IBC process dysfunctional.

Now, the Government wants the 'bad bank' do the trick. Look at the first lot of ₹90,000 crore. These loans being in default for over 3 years, the banks have already made a full provision and captured in the profit and loss figures. There is no compulsion on them to recover this money. They will not object to NARCL paying a very low price.

However, what prevents other asset reconstruction companies (ARCs) from bidding for a higher price. Indeed, the proposed mechanism requires NARCL to go for the "Swiss Challenge" auction wherein other ARCs will be invited to better the offer made by it.

However, in the present case, this will not work as the bank would play safe by giving asset to NARCL whose SRs enjoy sovereign guarantee.

As for the remaining ₹110,000 crore for which a lower provision has been made and the chances of recovery are better, the bank could have reason to offer lower discount on the face value. This is provided transfer happens fast. If, this is delayed and default period increases even exceeding three years, the fate of these loans too will be no different from those in the first lot.

In short, the entire bad loan book on offer (read: ₹200,000 crore) would be available to the 'bad bank' at heavy discount to the face value. What if this is fixed at say 18 per cent?

In absolute terms, this works out to ₹36,000 crore. Of this, NARCL pays 15 per cent or ₹5400 crore in cash to the banks and for the balance ₹30,600 crore, it will issue SRs. To redeem them, the former must realize at least ₹30,600 crore from selling the NPAs to investors. If, the NARCL doesn't realize even one rupee, then also it need not worry as SRs valued up to ₹30,600 crore being guaranteed by the Union Government, the latter will pay for it in full.

Short of jargon and high-sounding phraseology, the proposed 'bad bank' is merely an attempt to use tax payers' money

for bailing out NPAs afflicted banks. Put simply, of the ₹200,000 crore, the Union Government will give ₹30,600 crore by way of sovereign guarantee and the rest (sans a tiny sum of ₹5400 crore) as direct budgetary support.

The Government should stop taking recourse to disingenuous methods. Instead of following a circuitous route, making things non-transparent, setting up new institutions, adding to administrative and overhead costs and so on, it should candidly accept the dire need to inject that much capital in to the banks and give it from the Budget. During the last four years, it gave them ₹300,000 crore to deal with their NPAs; it can give a further ₹200,000 crore.

At the same time, to recover bad loans and stem their proliferation, first, it should revitalise the IBC mechanism by restoring the February 12, 2018 circular and strengthening the NCLT; secondly, expeditious disposal of challenges to NCLT orders in High Courts and SC; thirdly, stepping up 'tracking' and 'surveillance' within banks for early detection of bad loans including frauds (at present, it takes years for them to report) and lastly, stem corruption and nepotism.

Sans these harsh steps, the tide of NPAs will not stop forcing the Government to repeatedly bail them out.

## POINT COUNTERPOINT

THE BJP DID NOT LET DIDI ATTEND THE ROME PEACE MEETING AS SHE IS MORE POPULAR THAN MODI.  
—TMC GENERAL SECRETARY ABHISHEK BANERJEE



NO POLITICAL LEADER IN THE COUNTRY, LET ALONE DIDI, MATCHES PM MODI. ABHISHEK SHOULD WAIT FOR 2024.  
—BJP LEADER SUVENDU ADHIKARI



# US corp pledge elusive; bad bank is expensive

Economic development is a complex matter. The Government alone cannot make it happen but needs the involvement of all — businesses and the public

The visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the US has tried to kindle hopes in an economy that needs investment but the American companies have not yet given any firm commitment to him. He held meetings with five global CEOs for potential investments.

India has taken many steps to bring in reforms through an asset reconstruction construction company (ARC) or the bad bank, lower interest rates, networked businesses and chain of roads. Companies like Qualcomm have investments in wireless modem, digital media networking, dairy transportation and defence. Now Modi has suggested to them to invest in hi-tech sectors and



SHIVAJI SARKAR

(The writer is a senior journalist. The views expressed are personal.)

in measures to strengthen innovation ecosystem. General Atomics, which opened its first office in India in 2018, is making significant contributions to deepen India-US defence and security cooperation. It is working with both governments to provide India with the latest defence systems.

Investments in real estate too are always lucrative. Blackstone has so far invested \$15 billion in real estate, private equity, real estate, education, fashion, packaging and housing finance. It would continue to do so as per the assurance of its CEO Stephen Schwarzman.

Blackstone Real Estate Fund is said to be the largest owner of commercial real estate in India. The company



played a key role in launching India's first real estate investment trust (REIT) along with its partner Embassy Group in 2019 and has since then launched two REITs in the country.

The Quad is a symbolic multilateral body. It provides a platform to seek cooperation from like-minded countries on issues like ensuring respect for territorial integrity, sovereignty and peaceful resolution of disputes. Quad leaders agreed to scale up collective

strategic cooperation.

There may be gains in the future. As of now, there are only expectations amid not-a-so-good domestic economic situation. The country's non-performing assets have increased. Steps like taming inflation, the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Act, Real Estate Regulatory Act, and GST did not add to the desired growth. These have shaken the system and market confidence. The rules are more stringent and do not help the people. The foreign investors though keen to invest may also have apprehensions, which the scrapping of the retrospective taxation may partially help resolve.

Corporate tax rates were cut but it ignored the pivot the individual. His taxes peaked during 2019. It hit the basic

capacity of the individual to ride through a crisis like the COVID-19 pandemic situation. At 42 per cent plus various cesses, India has the highest tax rates. The gestures by foreign countries would not be enough to bring that confidence back. It would be welcome even now to cut the income tax rates. It would boost the individual's capabilities and benefit the whole economy as the individual consumes more.

The lower interest rate is playing havoc along with tax deductions on deposit hedging against inflation that interest accrual does. It affects the developmental process. To accelerate development, the interest rates must be lowered. Economic development is a complex matter. The govern-

ment on its own cannot make it happen. It needs the involvement of all — businesses and the public in their various spheres of activity. The country needs to ponder how the entire system is revamped.

The new ARC or the bad bank with the limited government guarantee will remove ₹22.14 lakh crore (\$30 billion) of NPAs from the system. Since now it will be now under one entity resolution would be easier, it is being said. Bad bank is not all virtue.

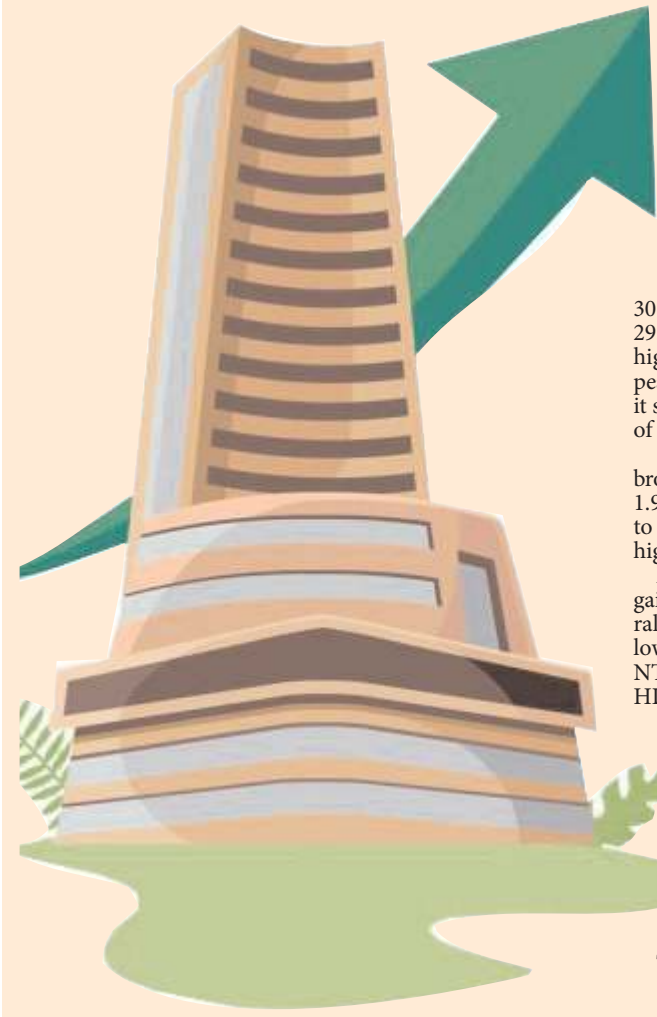
The world experience with bad banks is that they have excessive and hidden fees, bouncing cheques, expensive debits, big banking errors and failure to honour promises. It can create a new kind of market in dealing with stressed loans but there

are apprehensions that asset buyers may resort to harsh unethical methods.

In a difficult situation, new methods are inevitably tried out but it has to be remembered that all Euro-US models of capital market should not be copied as the financial literacy is poor here. Moreover, Indian society is far more complex and heterogeneous. A complicated system may not be a proper solution. Hiving off bad assets may be practical but settling or reselling those for realization of dues is not easy and would have many complications as each of the cases are different. True, the nation will chart out its course. Setting the new course is not easy and none as of now has a clear idea how it would function.



# Sensex, Nifty tick higher to fresh records; auto stocks in top gear



PNS ■ MUMBAI

Equity indices pared most of their early gains but managed to close at fresh lifetime highs on Monday as robust buying in RIL and auto stocks offset profit booking in the IT pack. Rising for the third straight session, the 30-share BSE Sensex ended 29.41 points or 0.05 per cent higher at its new closing peak of 60,077.88. Intra-day, it soared to an all-time high of 60,412.32.

On similar lines, the broader NSE Nifty inched up 1.90 points or 0.01 per cent to end at its fresh lifetime high of 17,855.10. Maruti Suzuki was the top gainer in the Sensex pack, rallying 6.53 per cent, followed by M&M, Bajaj Auto, NTPC, Reliance Industries, HDFC Bank and UltraTech Cement. On the other hand, HCL Tech, Tech Mahindra, Bajaj Finserv, Infosys, L&T, Nestle India and HUL were among the main laggards, shedding up to 4.58 per cent. The market breadth was

negative, with 17 of the 30 Sensex components ending in the red, while 13 mustered gains.

"Domestic equities traded range-bound amid positive cues from global equities. Heavy profit-booking in IT and pharma nullified the impact of sharp recovery in auto stocks," said Binod Modi, Head - Strategy at Reliance Securities.

Auto stocks witnessed strong rebound as continued underperformance for last couple of months, expectations of improvement in demand scenario from October and positive commentary from select companies about semiconductor issue made investors buy quality names in OEMs, he noted. Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services, said, "Due to profit booking in IT, Pharma and FMCG, domestic markets failed to uphold its winning streak to close flat in a volatile session."

"Really stocks continued its rally on positive developments in the sector while the sentiments in the auto sector were lifted on expectation of better sales numbers for September. The market is also awaiting the release of August's core

sector output data and September's manufacturing PMI data this week," he added.

Sectorally, BSE auto, realty, energy, oil and gas, bankex and utilities indices rallied as much as 3.11 per cent, while IT, tech, healthcare and FMCG indices closed lower.

Broader BSE midcap and smallcap indices ended on a flat note.

Asian markets were mixed after China's central bank announced fresh liquidity measures amid the continuing debt crisis at real estate giant Evergrande. Bourses in Hong Kong and Seoul ended with gains, while Shanghai and Tokyo were in the red.

Stock exchanges in Europe were trading on a positive note, led by German shares after federal election results showed that the hard-left Linke party did not get the requisite votes to enter parliament.

Meanwhile, international oil benchmark Brent crude climbed 1.32 per cent to USD 78.25 per barrel.

The rupee weakened by 15 paise to close at 73.83 against the US dollar on Monday as a stronger greenback against key rivals and rising crude oil prices weighed on investor sentiment.

## Fraudsters shift their focus to logistics and online dating

PNS ■ MUMBAI

With the restart of economic activity, fraudsters have shifted their focus to target unsuspecting people from travel and leisure, communities (online forums) and logistics sectors, a report said on Monday.

Digital fraud attempts from India grew 269 per cent in the travel and leisure segment, 267 per cent in communities which also includes online dating and 94 per cent in logistics over the same in the year-ago period, the report by credit information company Transunion said.

Transunion monitors digital fraud attempts after analysing data from over 40,000 websites and apps contained in its fraud analytics offering to come up with the trends.

"This quarter (April-June), as countries began to open up more from their COVID-19 lockdowns and travel and other leisure activities became more mainstream, fraudsters



clearly made this industry a top target," its senior vice president Shai Cohen at the global fraud solutions unit said.

The pandemic accelerated community (i.e. online dating) and online retail transactions which require logistics, and fraudsters have recognized this, Cohen said.

"In India post the unlocks, travel and leisure has increasingly become a target as the industry recovers and fraudsters are looking to capitalise as more transactions return to this industry," Cohen said. The top type of fraud in the

travel and leisure segment pertains to credit cards while under the communities head which also includes dating, it is profile misrepresentation that is used the most, the report said, adding it is shipping fraud in the logistics sector which is a favourite with the fraudsters.

Some industries also saw a decline in fraud attempts, the study said, pointing to cases such as telecommunication (down 96 per cent), retail (down 24.88 per cent) and gambling (down 31.53 per cent).

## India to showcase its achievements and cultural diversity at Dubai Expo

PNS ■ DUBAI

India will showcase its major achievements while simultaneously exhibiting the beauty of Indian art, culture and cuisine at the Expo 2020 Dubai that kicks off here on October 1, the Indian embassy said.

The 183-day event, which would culminate on March 31, 2022 will also make the world experience India's cultural diversity, ancient treasures, business achievements and leading opportunities with cutting-edge technologies at the Indian pavilion.

The India Pavilion is one of the largest pavilions at the Expo 2020 Dubai and will feature an innovative kinetic facade made up of 600 individual colourful blocks.

"The world will experience the country's cultural diversity, ancient treasures, business achievements, and leading



opportunities with cutting-edge technologies at the pavilion. It will showcase a modern India, high on technology while simultaneously exhibiting the beauty of Indian art, culture and cuisine during the 183 days that the event will run....," the statement said. According to the agenda, 11

key themes will be represented at the pavilion, including climate and biodiversity, space, urban and rural development, tolerance and inclusivity, golden jubilee, knowledge and learning, travel and connectivity, global goals, health and wellness, food agriculture and livelihoods and water.

## Paradeep Phosphates gets Sebi's go-ahead to float IPO

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Leading fertilizer company Paradeep Phosphates has received Sebi's go-ahead to mop up funds through an initial public offering (IPO).

The IPO comprises fresh issue of equity shares worth Rs 1,255 crore and an offer for sale (OFS) of up to 12,00,35,800 shares by its existing shareholders and promoters, according to the draft red herring prospectus (DRHP).

Under the OFS, Zuari Maroc Phosphates Pvt Ltd (ZMPPL) will offer up to 75,46,800 shares and up to 11,24,89,000 equity shares will be offered by Government of India.

Paradeep Phosphates, which filed preliminary IPO papers with the regulator in August, obtained its observations on September 22, an update with the Securities and

Exchange Board of India (Sebi) showed on Monday.

In Sebi parlance, issuance of observations implies its go-ahead to float IPO.

Currently, ZMPPL holds 80.45 per cent and Government of India own 19.55 per cent stake in the company.

Proceeds of fresh issue will be used to partly finance the acquisition of the fertiliser manufacturing facility in Goa, for payment of debt and general corporate purposes.

Paradeep Phosphates is primarily engaged in manufacturing, trading, distribution and sales of a variety of complex fertilizers such as di-ammonium phosphate (DAP) and NPK fertilizers.

Its fertilizers are marketed under brands like 'Jai Kisaan - Navratna' and 'Navratna'.

## LOD unveiled for contactless shopping experience

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Tech major Lenovo on Monday announced the launch of its omnichannel platform Lenovo OnDemand (LOD), which is designed to provide a contactless shopping experience to customers.

The LOD platform offers a hyperlocal experience, where customers are shown inventory of the nearest store selected for their area, enabling users to reach out to offline retailers via the online channel, Lenovo India Head of Consumer Business Dinesh Nair said. He added that the digital store - which is available 24/7 - will offer customers the choice of getting the product delivered at their doorstep within 24 hours or schedule a pickup from the store at their convenience. "This initiative regulates the number of users in stores as Lenovo aims at observing social distancing and hence maintaining safety of the customers...This platform also facilitates the future readiness for small retail/partners as they continue to compete and grow in the phygital world," he noted.

## IL&FS Fin Services plans to sell 62 NPAs accounts

PNS ■ MUMBAI

IL&FS Financial Services (IFIN), wholly-owned subsidiary of Infrastructure Leasing and Financial Services, on Monday placed 62 non-performing asset (NPA) accounts worth Rs 4,297 crore on sale.

The lender said the sale of NPAs will be done through the 'Swiss Challenge' route.

Under the Swiss Challenge method, the highest bid in the first round of bidding becomes the base price for bidders, including for the highest bidder, to place counter-bids in the second round of bidding. The asset goes to the highest bidder in the second round.

"Applications are invited from eligible entities for the purchase of identified loans provided by IFIN to third party borrowers (i.e. entities that do not form part of IL&FS Group) that are categorised as non-performing assets," IFIN said in a public announcement.

The sale asset book comprises 62 accounts with a total outstanding principal of Rs 4,297 crore. The eligible applicants will have to submit a binding bid for purchasing the entire sale asset book comprising all 62 accounts, it said.

IFIN also said it has received a binding offer from an initial bidder for the asset book.

## Sebi cancels registration certificates of two brokers

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Markets regulator Sebi has cancelled registration certificates of Joindre Commodities Ltd and Pragma Commodity Brokers Pvt Ltd for failing to fulfill the "fit and proper" criteria by allowing their clients to trade in illegal contracts on National Spot Exchange Ltd (NSEL).

The brokers were members of NSEL and had facilitated trading in paired contracts on the NSEL platform.

In September 2009, NSEL introduced the concept of "paired contracts" on its platform, which involved buying and selling the same commodity through two different contracts at two different prices wherein investors could buy a short duration settlement contract and sell a long duration



settlement contract and vice versa, with the same counterparty at the same time, the regulator noted in separate orders passed on Friday.

Such contracts were "ex facie illegal" and NSEL was in effect running a financing transaction assuring a fixed rate of returns under the garb of paired contracts.

Conditional exemption was granted from the provisions Forward Contracts Act, 1952

for forward contracts of one-day duration for sale and purchase of commodities traded on NSEL and the conditions placed an absolute bar on short sales and stipulated that all outstanding positions at the end of the day, must result in delivery of commodities.

However, Forward Markets Commission found that 55 contracts offered for trade on NSEL were with settlement periods exceeding 11 days and all such contracts traded on NSEL were in violation of FCRA and the condition that no short sale by members of the exchange shall be allowed was not being met by NSEL.

Since Joindre and Pragma Commodities were members of the NSEL and had participated in / facilitated trading in paired contracts on the NSEL platform, Sebi initiated enquiry

proceedings against them and appointed a designated authority to enquire into whether they were 'fit and proper' to continue to hold the certificate of registration as Trading and Clearing Member.

Designated authority concluded that they were not "fit and proper" in terms of stock broker regulations and intermediaries regulations and that the registration granted to them as commodities derivatives broker be cancelled.

"The Noticee by allowing its clients to trade paired contracts which were ex facie illegal, as noted above, and that too for a period of over two years, has failed in conducting its business in conformity with the standards expected to be maintained by registered securities market intermediaries," Sebi said.

## Jaipur, Goa most booked leisure destinations among Indians

PNS ■ MUMBAI

Jaipur and Goa have emerged as the top booked leisure destinations as several states have eased COVID-19 related restrictions for travellers to boost the tourism and hospitality sector, as per a report.

In India, Goa, Jaipur, Manali, Ooty and Mysore are the top-ranked leisure destinations among domestic travellers, according to Indian hospitality startup OYO's Unlocking Travel Report 2021.

Unlocking Travel Report 2021 is based on actual bookings on OYO platform during August - September 2021 and advance bookings from October 2021-January 2022, across different geographies. According to the report,



most Indians are preferring long weekends for leisure destinations, as there was a spike

in bookings during Janmashtami and Ganesh Chaturthi.

For the upcoming long weekends of Dussehra and Guru Nanak Jayanti, the OYO

data shows that travellers are opting for holidays across India's leisure destinations - with Jaipur topping the list, followed by the beautiful beaches of Goa, it added.

Meanwhile, the report also revealed that in the UK, there is a high preference for travel on short weekend breaks, followed by school holidays and business trips.

In the UK, OYO's booking trends for September reveal that the British are heading to London, followed by Bath, a well-being destination, mainly known for its beautiful ancient Roman Baths, it stated.

As per advance booking trends in the UK, Christmas, New Year, Black Friday, and Boxing Day are the most

sought-after long weekends for travel, it added.

Meanwhile, in the US, big cities and coastlines dominate travel preferences for Americans as travel opens up across the country, the report said.

Americans are heading to New York, Hawaii (3 islands), Las Vegas, Orlando and Key West, indicating that travellers have a strong preference for lively nightlife, amusement parks, entertainment hotspots and beaches, according to the report.

Based on OYO's advance booking data between October and December 2021, Americans are looking forward to travelling on Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Eve long weekends.

**GREAT HYDERABAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION**  
NIT No. E/5626/25/13/2021-22/141. Dated: 27-09-2021  
Name of the Work: Laying of VDDC roads from Existing Co Road to Pochamma Temple, H.No.2-1-146/13 to H.No.2-1-146/3 at Road No.6 Sai Ram Nagar in Ward No.11 Nagole of Hayath Nagar Circle-3, GHMC. Estimate Amount: Rs.7.70 Lakhs. Last Date & Time for receipts of Bids: 29.09.2021 @ 11.00 AM. Name & Address Officer Cell No: Sri K. Ramesh Babu Executive Engineer, Hayath Nagar Circle-3, GHMC (M): 8790374055 & 7331189513. For further details can be seen at e-procurement @ <http://www.e-procurement.telangana.gov.in/> R.O. No. : 16397-PPVCL/ADVT/11/2021-22 EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, HAYATH NAGAR CIR-3, GHMC

**GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA ROADS & BUILDINGS DEPARTMENT**  
D.O. No.25/ENC(R/MDK/REG/DEE/2021). Dated: 25.09.2021  
e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE  
(1) On line tenders are invited on "e" procurement platform in Sangareddy, District under Non-Plan/FOR2021-22 (i) Seven (7) Road works under Non-Plan (MOR) for 1st call.  
(2) Tenderers can download the tender schedules from e-market place i.e., "tender.telangana.gov.in". The last date of receipt of tenders is 12.10.2021 upto 3.30 PM for road works. (3) Further details can be seen at e-procurement market place i.e., "tender.telangana.gov.in" Sd/- Engineer-in-Chief (R&B) State Roads & CRN R.O.No: 628-DPCL-AGENCY/ADVT/11/2021-22

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INTAKE 240 180 120 180 180 60 60  
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Application Forms & Instructions to candidates can be downloaded from [www.cmrtc.ac.in](http://www.cmrtc.ac.in) or obtained from college. Filled in applications along with relevant copies of certificates and Registration Fee of Rs.2000/- (Non-Refundable) in cash or by D.D. (CMR Technical Campus) can be submitted in person or speed post on any working day between 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. on or before 04-10-2021. The Admissions will be made as per the norms of Govt. of TS.  
\* Subject to approval of JNTU Hyderabad Date: 28.10.2021 Tuition Fee: Rs. 80,000/- Sd/- Chairman





## FREEING RURAL WOMEN FROM DRUDGERY

SHIKHA DUGGAL

As one of the biggest industries in the world, it's surprising to learn that the way fashion operates today is something explicable to look at! Who would have thought that by the time we approach 2021, our clothing will be made with the help of renewable energy resources!

With this, we have deftly approached the 'insta-age' of technology so much that one couldn't have imagined India's first 'Solar-Vastra' clothing coming our way. We got in touch with the founder of 'Greenwear', Abhishek Pathak who is all about bringing the traditional concept of 'Khadi' with the absolute amalgamation of weaving it with the help of solar panels!

Talking about the unique concept that he has applied into the forces, he says, "Usually to craft khadi wear, the yarns are spun on the 'charkhas' as everyone knows, however, we make use of solar energy! Many want to know why I took this drastic step of blending sustainable fashion into technology. Let me clear the air, lately, I realised that spinning is not something that all of us have inherited from our ancestors, rather it is more of drudgery. I decided to free the rural women from this menial work. It's of no use where there is less produce and source of income, it's a waste of your energy right? What we began as a pilot project in Bihar, today is coming into so much use!"

Yarns are spun on solar charkhas, fabrics are woven on solar looms and garments are stitched on solar sewing machines — this is how the chain of these solar-vastras work. The mission 'Solar-charkha' by

Greenwear, backed by Powering Livelihoods programme jointly run by CEEW and Villgro Innovation Foundation, addresses three pressing issues: pollution, poverty and women empowerment! The textile designer continues, "I envision ushering a world where tradition and technology are infused together to optimally serve the nature and mankind with same attention. As a textile designer, I know the intricacies of Khadi wear, however, when it comes to the consumers, apprehensions begins. There are so many myths

attached to it that it makes the concept feel so unfair. Khadi has still not lost its charm! Another important aspect of khadi-

wear is the onset of 'barter system', it still persists. With the initiative of 'go local for vocal', jhadi is glamourised all over again."

This is how he's pushing the textile boundaries in terms of solar fibres! It's like khadi has now got a new super power. The idea behind this 'solar-vastra' was to have zero harmful effects on the environment!

The textile designer picked up pace and is becoming more responsive to market needs and will be the likely winner in this fast-changing modern environment. "We are still not completely there dominating the sustainable fashion trend, it's a vast concept. It seems to be a huge millennial trend, but it still confuses me (he laughs). I see it in a mechanised term! I am all for influencing people to be environmentally conscious, but I keep that space open for interpretation for my consumers. My sole aim is to bring the much-needed change to the fashion industry, that's it."

This concept of solar-vastra has become part of the physical high street experience in India now. Inspired by the sustainable fashion scene, Abhishek is celebrating the artisanal textiles leading the way for new creatives to follow.

attached to it that it makes the concept feel so unfair. Khadi has still not lost its charm! Another important aspect of khadi-



## Have a happy, healthy heart

As we're inching closer to World Heart Day (September 29), it's high time we realise and raise awareness around Cardiovascular disease (CVD), including heart disease and stroke which are steadily on the rise globally. CVD remains the world's number one killer, resulting in 18.6 million deaths a year and is the leading cause of mortality in India as well. This year, in sync with the current healthcare crisis that the world is facing the theme of World Heart Day is 'Use heart to connect'. Centered on this theme, the aim is to harness the power of the digital medium to improve awareness across people and prevent and better manage CVD globally.

### Here are a few tips for a healthy heart:

1. Stop smoking — no ifs, ands, or (cigarette) butts.
2. Focus on the middle — smaller waist line.
3. Play between the sheets. Yep, having sex can be heart healthy

4. Knit a scarf. For the 'uncrafty' lot who don't do needles, a jigsaw puzzle works great too!

7. Power up your salsa. A good salsa rich in antioxidants is a great snacking choice when paired with low-fat chips or fresh veggies, adding soluble fiber (such as that found in beans and other legumes) into your diet helps lower bad (LDL) cholesterol

6. Let the music move you.

7. Go fish.

8. LOL, laugh out loud.

9. Stretch it out.

10. Raise a glass. Red wine offers more benefits than other alcoholic beverages. Moderation is key here, and you should talk to your doctor about potential benefits and risks.

11. Shun the salt.

12. Move it, move it, move it.

13. Know your numbers. Keeping your blood pressure, blood sugar, cholesterol, and triglycerides in check are important for good heart health. Learn the optimal levels, and don't skip your regular physical exams.

14. Eat chocolate.

15. Let your housework work for you.

16. Go nuts. Almonds, walnuts, pecans, and other tree nuts deliver a powerful punch for lowering your risk of cardiovascular and coronary heart disease.

17. Consider pet therapy. Our pets give

us more than unconditional love.

18. Start and stop. And start again. During aerobic workouts, interval training (varying your speed and intensity in short bursts) will boost your calorie burn.

19. Take the scenic route home, eliminating stress while driving will help lower your blood pressure, which your cardiovascular system will appreciate.

20. Make time for breakfast. This is the one meal you shouldn't skip. The good-for-you benefits of eating a healthy breakfast are numerous. What is included in a healthy breakfast? Whole grains (whole grain rolls, cereals, etc.), low-fat protein (i.e. hard-boiled egg, turkey bacon), low-fat dairy (skim milk, low-fat yogurt or cheese), and fruits and vegetables.

21. Fake your fitness. Park on the far side of the parking lot, take the stairs, walk and talk with a friend instead of e-mailing, play with your kids at the park. It all adds up to better health.

22. Brew up a heart healthy potion.

Sip on green or black tea, drinking tea can improve arterial health.

23. Smile and say, "How does my heart look?"

Good dental hygiene does more than keep your pearly whites glistening. It may affect your overall health.

24. Walk it off. A five-minute walk will do wonders for clearing your head and lowering your stress levels.

25. Pump some iron. Aerobic activities, effect on weight control is awesome—more muscle mass means burning more calories.

26. Find your happy place. A sunny outlook is good for your heart, those who are happy tend to have lower levels of the potentially harmful hormone cortisol and other stress-inducing chemicals.

(The author, Dr Subhash Shiwtarkar is a Consultant at the Department of Cardiology, Jaslok Hospital & Research Center.)



## TAAPSEE RACING TO THE FINISH LINE

Annies Screwvala's RSVP and Mango People Media are all set to bring you an edge-of-the-seat, sports drama, *Rashmi Rocket* headlined by the incredibly talented Taapsee Pannu. Directed by Akarsh Khurana, the highly anticipated film will premiere on ZEE5 and promises a unique storytelling experience with their unparalleled content.

Set in the salt marshes of Kutch, the film is about a young girl from a small village, blessed with a gift.

She's an incredibly fast runner who dreams of crossing the finish line. In the journey to fulfilling her dreams, she soon realises that the race to the finish line is peppered with many hurdles, and what seems like an athletic contest turns into her personal battle for respect, honour, and even her very identity.

Always the one to take on hard-hitting and socially relevant subjects, Taapsee Pannu says, "This film is very differently special. I've always been approached when either the script or the director is ready to make the film but one line

of this story fell in my lap in Chennai and then from there to it becoming a full fledged film has been a feeling I haven't experienced with any other film before. Everyone was just so sure about the story from day 1 that it was never a tough job to convince any of the stakeholders to join hands and give their best for this film. Hence the result of this film will affect me a lot more than my other films. Also, I'm extremely proud of it."

Living up to the movie title, the trailer of *Rashmi Rocket* showcases an inspiring narrative of its lead

protagonist and her journey to become *Rashmi Rocket*. It's full of impactful dialogues, emotions, and a lot of drama with Taapsee Pannu's acting prowess taking centre stage. The versatile actress appears strong and sensitive in equal parts which balances the palpable energy of the film. Giving her a thrust is the impeccable and talented supporting cast. Don't miss the moment with Taapsee holding India's flag that will surely give you goosebumps and the belief that the trailer was worth the wait!

Says filmmaker Akarsh

Khurana, "When Pranjal and Taapsee got Nanda's story idea to me, I was instantly hooked because while it is a film that covers a lot of ground, it is essentially about the triumph of the human spirit. It also offered the opportunity to tackle some serious issues, while still being emotional and gripping. I couldn't wait to sink my teeth into it. And now I can't wait for people to see the final outcome."

Produced by Ronnie Screwvala, Neha Anand and Pranjal Khandhdiya, the film is written by Nanda Periyasamy, Aniruddha

Guha and Kanika Dhillon and also stars Supriya Pathak, Abhishek Banerjee, Priyanshu Painyuli and Supriya Pilgaonkar.

Adds producer Ronnie Screwvala, "So many immensely talented youth do not reach their full potential or even have opportunities owing to the obstacles the system and society throw at them. *Rashmi Rocket* is one such example of someone who overcame those hurdles and faced those obstacles head on. It's a story of resilience, determination and above all the fighting human spirit."





Akansha



Rebecca



Barkha



Ashith Ragi



Kunal Joshi



Amith and Sanjay

## READY TO ROCK

**H**ard Rock Cafe has another destination in Hyderabad! Bringing the iconic mix of their love of music with that of food, Hard Rock is now at Hitech City, on the ground floor of Salarpuria Sattva in Knowledge city. Foodies from all over the city were seen at the shiny new cafe earlier this week, partaking in all things delicious.

## PARTY



Ramu



Rekha Lahoti



Geet Gupta



Ajith Dutta

## HORSING AROUND

**T**he exhibition named 'Where did the horses go' was formally inaugurated at Kalakriti Art Gallery's new building, Road No 04, Banjara Hills, over the weekend. The exhibition is open till October 23. Presenting many exquisite works of contemporary art, the exhibition drew in a crowd on the very first few days.

## LISTINGS:

### WHAT I THE WORLD ON MY PLATE

**T**ravel restrictions spoiling your plans? Take your taste buds on a trip around the world with 45th Avenue's wide assortment of global cuisines! From rich Italian pasta to decadent French desserts, from authentic Asian curries and Mediterranean recipes to fine Belgian chocolate - get a taste of the world on your plate. **WHEN** | September 27 to October 4. **WHERE** | 45th Avenue, Jubilee Hills.

### ZEE TELUGU LAUNCHES MAYAADWEEPAM

**E**veryone has grown up listening to and enjoying folk tales, being absorbed into the world of captivating storytelling and adventures. No matter how much one likes to be part of such stories, chances are very few. But, if one gets a chance to solve mysteries and live larger, then? After the resounding success of the previous season that left viewers demanding for more, *Zee Telugu* presents *Mayaadweepam* with another exciting season after seven long years. Ohmkar, dearly called Annaya (big brother), returns as the host along with the legendary *Pillamarraju* and *Onti Kanna Rakesh* starting from October 3 at 9 pm only on *Zee Telugu* and *Zee Telugu HD*.

## AUSTERITY AND PEACE



**I**n 2008 Jain businessmen, professionals, women, women entrepreneurs lived a life of a Jain monk for a day to experience a monk's life. Joseph, a Christian teacher too, who preaches non-violence through paintings, took part in the initiative at Jaya Gardens in Somajiguda. The program was organised under the aegis of Shri Vardhman Stanakvasi Jain Shrivak Sangh Ameerpet.

## FUN

### ARCHIE



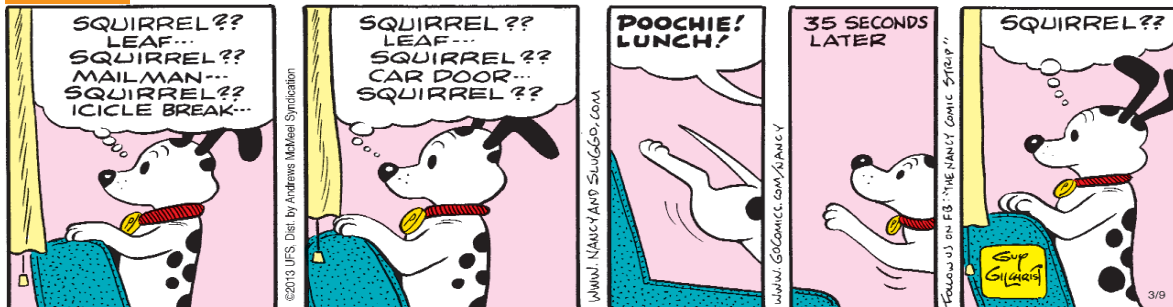
### CALVIN AND HOBBS



### GARFIELD



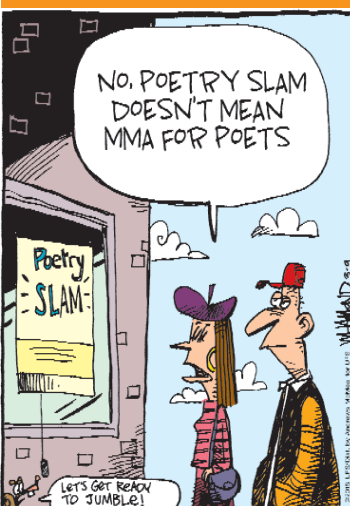
### NANCY



### GINGER MEGGS



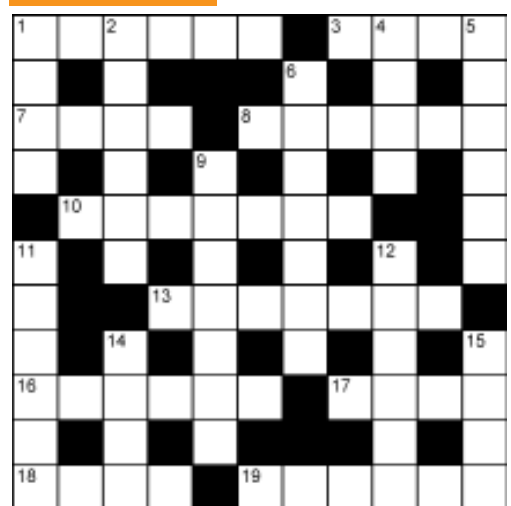
### REALITY CHECK



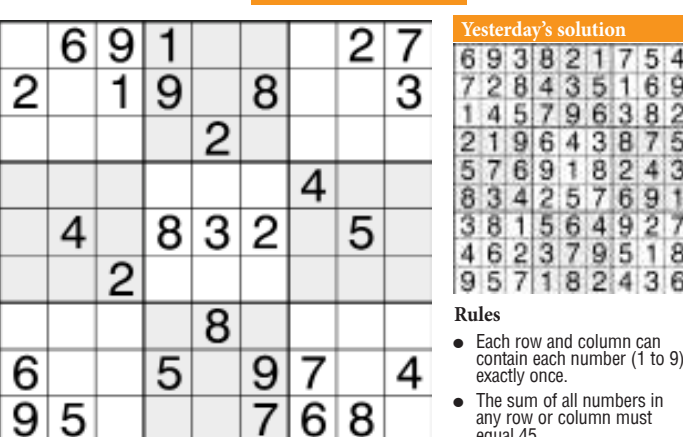
### SPEED BUMP



### CROSSWORD



### SUDOKU



**Yesterday's solution**

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

**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

- Opposite of brother
- A fairy's magic stick
- A bird's bill
- To stay
- Opposing
- A deer's horns
- Weapons with long blades
- A tube in the body which carries blood
- Seven days
- A paper handkerchief

- Houses for dogs
- A small bomb made for throwing
- A puzzle with lots of pieces
- Welcomes
- Stopped sleeping
- One time

### DOWN

- Cries with big gasps
- Frightened
- A camel rider in the desert
- An animal like a small horse with big ears





Boxing legend

MIKE TYSON joins Vijay Deverakonda's Liger

Boxing legend Mike Tyson is set to make his debut in Indian cinema with the upcoming sports drama feature *Liger*, starring Vijay Deverakonda. Making the announcement, Vijay took to Twitter and said, "We promised you Madness! We are just getting started :) For the first time on Indian Screens. Joining our mass spectacle — #LIGER The Baddest Man on the Planet The God of Boxing The Legend, the Beast, the Greatest of all Time! IRON MIKE TYSON"

*Liger* is directed by Puri Jagannath who is also backing the film via his banner Puri Connects along with Karan Johar's Dharma Productions.

Dharma Productions made Tyson's casting announcement on its offi-



cial Twitter page. "Introducing the master of the ring to the Indian screens! Kicked to announce that the dynamite @MikeTyson has joined the cast of #Liger!" the tweet read.

While details of Tyson's role are yet to be revealed, as per the teaser video it appears he will face off with Deverakonda's character in the boxing ring.

Considered to be one of the greatest heavyweight boxers of all time, Tyson most famously played a fiction-

alised version of himself in the 2009 Hollywood hit film *The Hangover* and its 2011 sequel *The Hangover Part II*.

He has also starred in *Ip Man 3*, the 2015 film in the popular Hong Kong martial arts film series.

Also featuring Ananya Panday, *Liger* will be released theatrically in five languages — Hindi, Telugu, Tamil, Kannada and Malayalam.

The makers are yet to announce the release date.



The reopening of cinemas in many parts of the country, especially Maharashtra, has rekindled hope in the entertainment industry for their upcoming releases. Several

Adipurush to release in August 2022

Bollywood films revealed their release dates during the weekend, and on of the biggest has to the announcement of *Adipurush*'s release date, which the makers revealed on Monday.

The much-awaited film will release on August 11, 2022. It will be the Independence Day weekend, hence, the makers of the film intend to get the most out of it.

Directed by Om Raut, *Adipurush* will see Prabhas in the lead role of a character inspired by Lord Ram, while Kriti Sanon will be seen as Sita. Saif Ali Khan plays the antagonist Lankesh, inspired by Ravana, in *Adipurush*, while Sunny Singh will be seen as Laxman.

With many Bollywood, Hollywood and Tollywood films in the pipeline, the coming days will see some films clashing at the box-office, and so *Adipurush* will clash with Akshay Kumar and Bhumi Pednekar's *Raksha Bandhan*. Directed by Aanand L. Rai, the film will also drop on August 11, 2022 and that makes it one of the biggest box-office clashes.



AWARDS MOTIVATING ME TO DO BETTER: POOJA

SHIKHA DUGGAL

When an actress wins an award, it sometimes becomes a difficult feeling to express it, however, actress Pooja Hegde couldn't have stopped herself from conveying the feeling of winning an award on a momentous occasion like SIIMA that holds so much regard for the Tollywood industry! The accomplished actress has won two awards back to back, latest being for the 'Best Actress in a Leading Role' at SIIMA. A vast honor for her, according to sources, she was deeply venerated by the Telugu film fraternity for the recognition of her work in the cinema busi-

ness. In all high esteem, she shares with *The Pioneer*, "I have been travelling, shooting and dubbing without any breaks since the past few weeks, so when I received two awards for being the best actress consecutively, I was just so overwhelmed. And I had this whole new motivation at work to push myself even more, because it just hits you that there are people out there who are really appreciating you and your work."

While the *Ala Vaikunthapurramuloo*... fame is super busy hopping from city to city for her country-wide lineup of films, she made it a point to take out time for the prestigious award function too!

Acknowledging the immense hard work of the other contenders, Pooja Hegde is all about believing in herself. Talking about the character for

which she bagged the best actress title, the artist tells us, "*Ala Vaikunthapurramuloo* is one of the most special films of my career and it will always remain so. I also feel really blessed to have all these amazing and lovely fans who keep showering me with so much of their precious love."

As far as she believes, all are truly winners and none of the other actresses is in any way less efficient than the other.

Meanwhile, on the work-front, her lineup includes films like *Bhaijaan* opposite Salman Khan, *Cirkus* with Ranveer Singh, *Most Eligible Bachelor* with Akkineni Akhil, that is releasing soon.

She also has the pan-India romantic drama *Radhe Shyam* with Prabhas, *Acharya* with Chiranjeevi and Ram Charan, *Beast* with Thalapaty Vijay and *SSMB28* with Mahesh Babu. She's sure on a roll!

PUSHPA MAKERS TEASE FANS AHEAD OF SECOND SONG RELEASE



The last leg of Allu Arjun's *Pushpa*, which is directed by Sukumar, is currently happening at a brisk pace. The entire crew of the film has jetted off to the picturesque location to shoot a song, according to reports. So, the second lyrical single will be released soon. Mythri Movie Makers, the makers of *Pushpa* took to Twitter to share a picture from the location. The film's team, artists and caravans which can be surrounded by a beautiful lake was seen in the picture. Sharing the picture, the makers wrote, "A song from #PushpaTheRise was shot at a beautiful and picturesque location a few days back. Update about the most awaited Second Single soon #Pushpa #ThaggedheLe."

The film has been shot in various beautiful locations and looks like a promising action thriller. Other than Allu Arjun, the film also stars Rashmika Mandanna, Fahadh Faasil, Jagapathi Babu, Prakash Raj, Dhananjay, Sunil, Harish Uthaman, Vennela Kishore, Anansuya Bhardwaj and Gritej in pivotal roles. Devi Sri Prasad is composing the music for the film. Bankrolled by Mythri Movie Makers and Muttamsetty Media, *Pushpa-The Rise* will release on December 25, 2021.

Sesh defeats dengue, says he's "recovering"

Major star Adivi Sesh who has been hospitalised due to dengue finally returned home all healthy and is currently recuperating after the illness.

Adivi Sesh was admitted to AIG Hospital on September 18 after experiencing a fall in platelet count. In the first conversation with his fans after the illness, Sesh tweeted on Monday: "Back home. Rest & Recuperation."

He also took to Instagram to share the update and wrote: "Thank you for all the good energy sent my way."

The actor has been advised rest for a few days before jumping back into work.

Sesh will soon be seen in bilingual film *Major*. He has also started shooting of *Hit 2*, produced by Nani.

Besides these two, Sesh has *Goodachari 2* lined up, the much anticipated sequel of his 2018 film by the same name.



Konda Polam trailer raises hopes

Known to make critically acclaimed films with commercial elements, director Krish is all set to enthrall with his upcoming flick *Konda Polam* starring Vaishnav Tej and Rakul Preet Singh. As the release date is fast approaching, the makers are opting for vigorous promotions.

On Monday, the makers released the theatrical trailer that uncovers what the film is all about and the kind of breath-takingly courageous journey we are going to experience in theatres. The trailer begins with showing Vaishnav Tej facing embarrassment in the city during his interviews. He returns to his village as a failure and he gets an opportunity to prove his calibre. He, along with his father, take their sheep to the hill place, as the village suffers

water problems. The trailer also captures the beautiful romance between Vaishnav Tej and Rakul Preet Singh.

Vaishnav faces the obstacle of tigers and robbers in the forest. How he protects the sheep forms the crux of the movie. The trailer is highly impressive with all the emotions incorporated in it.

Krish's making, Gnana Shekar VS's beautiful camera work, MM Keeravani's magical BGM, coupled with wonderful performances of Vaishnav Tej and Rakul Preet Singh are the major highlights of *Konda Polam* trailer.

The story is adapted from novel written by Sannapureddy Venkata Rami Reddy. Produced by Saibabu Jagarlamudi and Rajeev Reddy under First Frame Entertainment, *Konda Polam* will hit the screens on October 8.



NEW VENTURE

Tanishk Reddy presents AV Creative Arts productions' 'Production No.1' was launched in the city on Monday. The film will feature Tanishk himself and actress Ankita Sahu in lead roles. The film is being directed by Madhav Murthy and produced by Richa Bhatnagar and Vijayalaxmi. The project took off with a puja ceremony at the Ramanaidu Studios. Chief guest Venkat Yadav (Praveen) kickstarted the movie with the first clap, while Jyotsna turned on the camera.







# Samson's 82 take RR to 164

PTI ■ DUBAI

Skipper Sanju Samson produced a well-calculated 82-run knock on a sluggish track to help Rajasthan Royals reach 164 for five in their Indian Premier League match against Sunrisers Hyderabad, here on Monday.

It is second consecutive fifty for Samson after conjuring up an unbeaten 70 against Delhi Capitals on Saturday.

The captain sent the ball seven times to the fence and three times over it in his impressive 57-ball innings, with which he became the leading run-scorer (433) of the season, surpassing Delhi Capitals' Shikhar Dhawan (430).

Yashasvi Jaiswal (36) and Mahipal Lomror (29 not out), who was dropped twice (23 and

29), were the other two batters to provide valuable contributions on a wicket where the ball did not come on to the bat easily for a major part of Royals innings.

Asked to bowl, pace spearhead Bhuvneshwar Kumar (1/28) bowled a splendid length ball, on leg stump which worked perfectly for SRH as the dangerous Evin Lewis (6) hit straight to Abdul Samad at deep backward square leg in the second over.

Despite snaring Lewis' wicket early, the Sunrisers bowlers were guilty of bowling wide and short and Jaiswal took the opportunity to counterattack. The youngster, who smashed four boundaries and a six, played some splendid shots with skipper Samson also slowly finding his feet as the two collected 46 runs in the

Powerplay.

The duo went on to share a 56-run stand before Sandeep Sharma (1/30) got rid of Jaiswal, who had hit a stunning six just a ball earlier.

To keep the pressure on the Royals, SRH skipper Kane Williamson brought in star Afghan leg-spinner Rashid Khan (1/31) back into the attack and a mis-hit by Liam Livingstone (4) meant the move was met with the desired result.

With Lomror playing second fiddle to perfection, Samson took over the proceedings. But Siddharth Kaul (2/36) bowled a great last over, dismissing Samson and Riyan Parag (0) to restrict the Royals to 164 after being hit for 20 runs in his third over.

Rajasthan Royals:

Evin Lewis c A Samad  
b B Kumar 6  
Yashasvi Jaiswal  
b S Sharma 36  
Sanju Samson c J Holder  
b S Kaul 82  
Liam Livingstone c A Samad b R Khan 4  
Mahipal Lomror not out 29  
Riyan Parag c Roy  
b S Kaul 0  
Rahul Tewatia not out 0  
Extras:(B-1, LB-3, NB-3) 7  
Total (For 5 wickets in 20 overs) 164  
Fall of wickets: 1-11, 2-67, 3-77, 4-161, 5-162.  
Bowling: Sandeep Sharma 3-0-30-1, Bhuvneshwar Kumar 4-1-28-1, Jason Holder 4-0-27-0, Siddharth Kaul 4-0-36-2, Rashid Khan 4-0-31-1, Abhishek Sharma 1-0-8-0.

Match: 41	IPL 2021	Sept 28	3:30 pm
Kolkata Knight Riders	VS	Delhi Capitals	
Sherjah Cricket Stadium, Sharjah			
Kolkata Knight Riders			
Total IPL matches played: 202			
Won: 103 Lost: 99			
Highest total: 245/6			
Delhi Capitals			
Total IPL matches played: 204			
Won: 94 Lost: 108			
Highest total: 231/4 No results: 2			
Head-to-Head in IPL			
Matches played: 26			
KKR Won: 14 DC Won: 12			
Highest total: 210/8 Highest total: 228/4			
KBR Sports Graphics			

Match: 42	IPL 2021	Sept 28	7:30 pm
Mumbai Indians	VS	Punjab Kings	
Zayed Cricket Stadium, Abu Dhabi			
Mumbai Indians			
Total IPL matches played: 213			
Won: 124 Lost: 89			
Highest total: 223/6			
Punjab Kings			
Total IPL matches played: 200			
Won: 92 Lost: 108			
Highest total: 232/2			
Head-to-Head in IPL			
Matches played: 26			
MI Won: 14 PBKS Won: 12			
Highest total: 223/6 Highest total: 230/3			
KBR Sports Graphics			

TEAM	PLD	NET RR	PTS
1 CSK	10	+1.069	16
2 DC	10	+0.711	16
3 RCB	10	-0.359	12
4 KKR	10	+0.322	8
5 PBKS	10	-0.271	8
6 RR	9	-0.319	8
7 MI	10	-0.551	8
8 SRH	9	-0.637	2

## 'Content' Moeen Ali retires from Test cricket

PTI ■ LONDON

England's spin bowling all-rounder Moeen Ali on Monday announced retirement from Test cricket to prolong his career in white-ball formats, saying he is "content" despite the widespread belief that he could have achieved a lot more.

The 34-year-old leaves the Test arena with 2,914 runs in 64 matches at an average of 28.29.

Besides his five centuries with the bat, Ali has taken 195 wickets with his off-spin bowling at an average of 36.66 since his Test debut in 2014.

"I'm 34 now and I want to play for as long as I can and I just want to enjoy my cricket," Ali said.

Ali, who has not played a lot of Test cricket since the 2019 Ashes, was recalled for the recent home series against India. He was apparently not comfortable with the thought of staying away from family for extended periods.

He had made up his mind even before the COVID-19 protocols were shared with the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) for the Ashes tour to Australia.

According to a press release issued by England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), Ali hopes that his Test career will inspire and open the door for other British Muslims to play for England.

"Test cricket is amazing, when you're having a good day it's better than any other format by far, it's more rewarding and you feel like you've really earned it."

Ali had already informed his England captain Joe Root and head coach Chris Silverwood of his decision.

will miss just walking out there with the lads, playing against best in the world with that feeling of nerves but also from a bowling point of view, knowing with my best ball I could get anyone out.

"I've enjoyed Test cricket but that intensity can be too much sometimes and I feel like I've done enough of it and I'm happy and content with how I've done."



## Shafali Verm, Radha Yadav sign up for Sydney Sixers in WBBL



FIANS ■ SYDNEY

Two-time Women's Big Bash League (WBBL) champions Sydney Sixers have signed up Indian youngsters Shafali Verma and Radha Yadav ahead of seventh season of the tournament.

The announcement of Shafali and Radha signing up with the Sixers comes a day after the duo of Smriti Mandhana and Deepti Sharma were announced to join defending champions Sydney Thunder.

On Sunday, Shafali scored 56, her maiden half-century in ODIs as India ended Australia's 26-match winning streak. She

is expected to open the batting alongside Australia's Alyssa Healy. Radha, the left-arm spinner, is a part of India's squad for the T20I series against Australia in October.

Shafali and Radha will join Healy, Ellyse Perry, Ashleigh Gardner, Stella Campbell, Erin Burns and former Australia batter Nicole Bolton. "This is a very good opportunity for me and my goal is to just enjoy myself, to make some new friends and have fun. I want to play WBBL and back myself and just believe in myself," said Shafali in a statement by the club on Monday.

## Stop cursing India for Kiwis, England pullouts, BCCI official to Pakistan

FIANS ■ NEW DELHI

Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has recently faced a severe blow after New Zealand and England cancelled their respective tours. The Kiwis cited security as a reason whereas England stated the 'mental and physical well-being' of the players was an issue. The cancellation of the tours has affected Pakistan financially and 'morally' as well. The newly appointed chairman of PCB Ramiz Raja lambasted the two nations for abandoning their respective series.

However, now some of the Pakistan Ministers and former cricketers have started 'dragging India's' name in their statements. They are also allegedly blaming BCCI for the cancellation of their tours.

To this, a senior BCCI official told FIANS that Pakistan has an old habit of 'using' India's

name in all their 'big or small news' that too without any proof. "We wish Ramiz Raja good luck...Pakistan cricket reaches new heights under him. We want to clear one thing that the BCCI has no role in the cancellation of England and New Zealand tours to Pakistan."

"We don't have time for all this...And also, I don't know why some ex-Pakistan players are cursing the IPL (Indian Premier League) for no reason? I read somewhere that Raja said that the Aussie players have even changed their DNA for the sake of the money they make by playing in the IPL. He accused Aussies of playing happily against India without their usual aggressive approach. "Now from where the IPL came here? What kind of frustration is that? We understand you are feeling bad but there is no need to drag India everywhere," official added.

## Heavy rain, cyclone alert forces BCCI to delay start of domestic season

New Delhi: The start of India's domestic season has been delayed by two days with the Under-19 events for boys and girls pushed back to September 30 due to a cyclone alert in south Odisha and north Andhra Pradesh coasts.

The U19 Boys Vinoo Mankad Trophy

and U19 Girls One-Day tournament was scheduled to begin on Tuesday across seven venues. Heavy rain is expected in Hyderabad and Bhubaneswar, that are among host cities for the matches along with Indore, Vizag, Surat, Rajkot and Nagpur.

"Owing to the incessant rain and the

cyclone alert issued by MET, the BCCI is compelled to postpone the start of the group stage from 28.09.2021 to 30.09.2021," wrote Dhiraj Malhotra, BCCI General Manager — Game Development — in his letter to the seven host associations.

PTI

## Mumbai City FC sign goalkeeper Mohammad Nawaz

FIANS ■ MUMBAI

Mumbai City FC have signed up goalkeeper Mohammad Nawaz on a three-year contract until May 2024, the franchise announced on Monday. The 21-year-old, a product of AIF Elite Academy, joins the defending ISL champions from FC Goa.

Nawaz secured a move to FC Goa in 2018, where he featured for the club's reserve team in the I-League 2nd Division and was later handed his first team debut during the 2018-19 campaign, the club informed in a release on Monday. Having played an instrumental role in the FC Goa's successful campaigns in 2018-19 and 2019-20,



winning the Super Cup and the League Winners' Shield, the 21-year-old custodian became a pivotal member of Gaurs' set up. He recorded as many as nine clean sheets in 33 appearances in his first two seasons with the Goan side.

Mohammad Nawaz said: "I would like to thank Mumbai City FC for showing faith in me and giving me the opportunity to play at a club that wants to win games and win trophies. I had a chance to speak to many of my friends who are now my teammates and they spoke highly of the great culture at the club. I'm looking forward to getting started on this exciting journey with my new family and achieve great things along the way."

## Arsenal humiliates Spurs, seasons head in opposite direction

AP ■ LONDON

However bad things have seemed for Arsenal over the last decade, beating Tottenham at the Emirates Stadium can usually be relied on.

Just not usually as emphatically as Sunday's north London derby triumph — a 3-1 victory helping to clear the early-season gloom for Mikel Arteta's side.

Never before in the Premier League has Arsenal scored three goals as quickly in a derby. The goals inside the opening 34 minutes from Emile Smith Rowe, Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang and Bukayo Saka rattled Tottenham and gave Arsenal fans an afternoon of gloating in the late September sun.

"It's quite easy when you have boys like this — they always listen, always ready to learn," Aubameyang said. "They feel free when they play. That's why they're doing amazing."

It was a month ago as August was drawing to a close that Arsenal had opened the season with three losses — including at defending champion Manchester City — without scoring while Tottenham was top with a perfect start.



Arsenal's Bukayo Saka, centre, celebrates after scoring his side's third goal during the English Premier League soccer match between Arsenal and Tottenham Hotspur at the Emirates stadium in London, Sunday.

The captain wanted to put things right.

After the game after City, we needed to have a chat between players," Aubameyang said. "We're doing really well right now." The only thing consistent this month for Tottenham has been losing all three games and conceding

three in each. Arsenal, meanwhile, has won all three games since the international break.

But in a sign of recent inferiority for the neighbors, they aren't challenging at the top but midtable with Arsenal 10th on goal difference and Tottenham 11th in the standings.

Spurs haven't won at Arsenal in the league since 2010, and they did everything to ensure that dismal run wouldn't end.

Just look at how much space was gifted to Arsenal to launch the attack that ended in the opening goal in the 12th minute.

Smith Rowe wasn't tracked by the visitors as he found space in the penalty area to get on the end of Saka's cross, evading a futile late tackle by Davinson Sanchez to net.

"I've always wanted to score against Tottenham in a derby," the 21-year-old academy graduate said. "It's just the best feeling ever." Arteta will be feeling relieved.

"He just tells us to keep calm," Smith Rowe said, "and he encourages us."

A couple of months into the job, Tottenham manager Nuno Espirito Santo was unable to have any impact in preventing this humiliation.

"I am very honest," he said. "If the game plan didn't work out the way you wanted, it's because you didn't decide it well."

Not even Harry Kane, stopped from joining Manchester City, could come to the rescue.

In fact, the striker managed

to give away the ball inside Tottenham's half to Thomas Partey that led to Arsenal scoring again on the break.

Kane did try to recover the situation as Arsenal advanced, but his tackle on Saka could not prevent him from getting the shot away to add the third.

Although Son Heung-min turned in a cross from Sergio Reguilon in the 79th, there would be no late Tottenham comeback. Especially not after Lucas Moura had a strike tipped onto the crossbar by goalkeeper Aaron Ramsdale.

"It is one of the nicest things I have experienced in this stadium," said Arteta, who has finished eighth in both of his seasons in charge of Arsenal.

It was at Arsenal in November 2020 that Raúl Jiménez suffered a head injury from a clash with David Luiz that might have ended the Wolverhampton striker's career.

He's back this season and now scoring again. It was a moment of magic that clinched a 1-0 victory over winless Southampton.

Wearing protective head gear, the Mexican breezed through the defense in the 61st minute before striking past goalkeeper Alex McCarthy.

## AIBA WORLD BOXING C'SHIPS TO ALLOW SPECTATORS

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Spectators will be allowed at next month's men's world boxing championships in Serbia, the International Boxing Association (AIBA) announced on Monday, making it the first major event in the sport to welcome back fans since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The AIBA, in a statement, said that tickets have gone on sale for the October 24 to November 6 showpiece, where India will be represented by a full-strength 13-strong squad featuring Asian medal-winners like Deepak Kumar (51kg), Shiva Thapa (63.5kg) and Sanjeet (92kg).

"Spectators are allowed at the 2021 AIBA men's World Boxing Championships at Stark Arena in Belgrade, Serbia. Tickets for the main AIBA event went on sale via official tickets partner eSfinity on the website eSfinity.RS, the AIBA said.

AIBA President Umar Kremlev said he is eager to see fans back in the arena after COVID-19 health safety protocols forced many sporting events to become made for television in the last year and half.

"We are waiting for boxing fans from Serbia and around the



CHAMPIONSHIPS SCHEDULE	
October 24:	Opening Ceremony
October 25-November 2:	Preliminaries
November 3:	Rest Day
November 4:	Semi-finals
November 5-6:	Finals

globe to attend AIBA World Boxing Championships," Kremlev said.

"For us, it will be the first major event with spectators after the start of the pandemic. We are happy to welcome everyone in Belgrade at Stark Arena. I expect tough fights, beautiful victories and bright emotions from the tournament. Our boxers will deliver a great show for everyone," he added.

For the first time in AIBA's 75-year history, the medal winners at the championships will be rewarded with significant prize money.

The prize money fund has been set at USD 2.6 million.

The prize for first place is USD 100,000. The silver-medallists will receive USD 50,000 and both bronzes in each weight category will walk away with USD 25,000.