JIO KILLER APP SERVES ₹13.500

PA SPOILER ON ZOOM PARTY

WORLD 7

DEMOCRACY BOOKS DISAPPEAR

FROM HONG KONG LIBRARIES

SPORT 8

BAIRSTOW, MOEEN

IGNORED FOR 1ST TEST



sunday pionee

www.dailypioneer.com





USUALSUSPECTS SWAPAN DASGUPTA

Modi paying China in its enigmatic coin

Among the features of Chinese culture that both amuses and contuses outsiders is the ability to talk in riddles—and conveniently attribute it to either Conflucius or some unnamed rold Chinese philosopher. In a study of the streetypes that have marked Western — and not merely Western — understanding of China, historian Christopher Frayling in his book The Yellow Peril: Dr Fu Manchu & The Rise of Chinaphobia observed: "Most Americans' knowledge of 'Conflucianism' seemed to be pedantic aphorisms of be philosophical, fictional, asexual Hawaiian-Chinese detective from Honolulu, Charlie Chan: Hasty conclusions easy to make, like hole in water It is difficult to pick up needle with boxing glove. Conflucious says, "No man is poor who have worthy son."

On his part, Mao Zedong, the "Great Helmsman", was a great one for elliptical alphorisms. Some of his sayings such as "imperialism is a paper tiger", "a revolution is not a dinner party" and "one spark can light a prairie fire" have become all-time favourites, to be used in discourses both profound and utterly non-serious. Beyond the ridiculous, however, it is important to note that political communication in China has more often than not, been centred on tangential aphorisms such as Deng Xiaoping's famous: "No matter if it is a white cat or a black cat; as long as it can catch mice, it is a good cat" or "To be rich is glorious" — sayings that defined move away from the Maoist legacy.

In the last years of Mao's life, for example, there was a fierce struggle for political supermey between the so-called

expansionism is over" is a clear indication that China has received the message loud and clear. This is why it makes sense to proceed with exceptional care and speak in riddles - just as China has been accustomed to doing

cat or a Dieux Aug.

early of the be rich is glorious" — sayings in a coordinate away from the Maoist legacy.

fierce struggle for political supremacy between the so-called gang of Four led by the Beijing's quick response to Mndis "the age of and the pragmatists who rallied behind Zhou Ental. A feature of this battle was the feature of this battle was the use of Mao's scathing criticism of Beethoven, Schubert and Mozart that ran parallel to his less acceptable denunciation of acceptable denunciation or Confucius. In the bizarre world of China 1974, this gratuitous attack on the stalwarts of Western classical music — and Beethoven enjoyed a huge popularity in China — was widely intercreted as criticism of China — was widely interpreted as criticism of Jiang Qing because at some point in the past she had hosted a Western classical

music concert.
The invocation of this Chinese custom of what a Bengali

The invocation of this Chinese custom of what a Bengali proverb — dating back to the politically incorrect era — described as "beating the maid to teach the wife a lesson" is pertinent in the context of some criticisms levelled against Prime Minister Narendra Modi's speech to the Indian soldiers in the Ladakh sector of the Line of Actual Control. In his speech at Nimu, the Prime Minister asserted that "the age of expansionism is over; this is the age of development. Whenever we have seen expansionist tendencies, these have spelt dangers for world peace." Modi's critics, many of whom have now expediently chosen to assume the mantle of ultra-nationalism, were unhappy that there were no direct references to China. To them, the Prime Minister was being wilfully evasive by not naming the adversary responsible for the deaths of 20 soldiers in the Galwan Valley last month. It was hinted that the leader had no stomach for a confrontation and was being ultra-caultious, for fear of offending China.

They need not have worried about the Prime Minister's message not getting through and being lost in the mythological haze of the Shiva Puran and ambiguity. Accustomed as it is to elliptical messages, Beijing was quick to respond, describing the allusion to expansionism as "exaggerated and fabricated." It warned India against making any strategic miscalculations in its China policy, a clear indication that it had received the message loud and clear.

For Beijing, an unarmed but lethal skirmish along the

ar. For Beijing, an unarmed but lethal skirmish along the For Beijing, an unarmed but lethal skirmish along the LAC — replete with disputed boundaries and contested maps — was intended as a localised and targeted attack on India. In its view, India was too big for its own good and needed to be shown its place, just as it was in 1962. From China's perspective, a localised hit on an India that had earlier demonstrated its disinclination to fight back with gusto, made sense. However, Modi's response has not been along expected lines. First, there seems a determination to physically and militarily resist all Chinese incursions along the LAC. There

militarily resist all Chinese incursions along the LAC. There are the interminable negotiations involving military and civilian officials on both sides, but India is not shying away

are the intermination regolations involving imitary and civilian officials on both sides, but India is not shying away from military deterrence.

Secondly, while botstering India's capacity along the LAC, Mod has extended the battle to the economic front by banning Chinese apps on grounds of national security and putting obstacles in the path of Chinese investments, services and goods. India, in effect, has done what many countries have been contemplating but haven't actually done so. The Indian measures correspond to a growing anti-China mood in large parts of the world.

Finally, Indian diplomacy is quietly but quite decisively taking steps to mobilise international opinion. This is being done to ensure that in the event of any escalation along the LAC, it will be linked to the wider war to resist China's post-Bett and Road hegemonism. In effect, India is willfully taking the war away from its status as a localised battle over maps and plugging it into the larger disquict over the new Chinadominated global order that Xi Jinping is keen to usher. In short, it is drawing the entire Chinese ecosystem into the battle.

This is why it makes sense to proceed with exceptional

tie. This is why it makes sense to proceed with exceptional care and speak in riddles — just as China has been accustomed to doing. There will be a time to communicate with greater forthrightness. That time has not yet come. For the moment the phoney war must go on.

Record sowing as migrants return home

High kharif sowing in UP, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, while Punjab registers decline

RAJESH KUMAR I NEW DELHI

A fter returning of migrants in April and May ahead of the onset of monsoon due to the nationwide lockdown, Bihar, Chhattisgarh and Uttar Pradesh have witnessed a record sowing of kharif crops of ar. Interestingly, the area sown in Punjab is estimated to have declined due to lack of farm labourers.

According to Agriculture Ministry's data, the area under kharif crops increased by 88 per cent over to 433 lakh hectares till Friday as against 230 lakh

hectares in the corresponding week last year.

Due to good rainfall and adequate farm labourers, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Chhattisgarh have witnessed a record sowing of kharif crops so far. The Ministry's data showed that the area sown in Bihar is estimated 5.11 lakh hectare as against 1.17 lakh hectare last years during the same period. Similarly, Uttar Pradesh has witnessed kharif crops plantation of 5.96 lakh crops plantation of 5.96 lakh hectare as against the 1.52 lakh

hectare last year. Both these States have

Punjab has reported decline in kharif crops sowing due to shortage of farm labourers in the State

The area under kharif crops increased by 88 per cent over to 433 lakh hectares till Friday as against 230 lakh hectares in the corresponding week last year

Oilseeds and pulses, which are predominantly rain-fed crops, recorded highest increase as compared to the

Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh reported maximum increase in pulses sowing so far There is also a 100 per cent jump in cotton planting to 91.7 lakh hectares with Maharashtra and Telangana planting cotton over 33 lakh hectares (4.6 lakh hectares) and 15 lakh hectare (7.9 lakh hectare), respectively

电影影响 2003年1月1日 11日 11日 11日 11日 Similarly, Chhattisgarh which also saw migrants' influx, reported 13.40 lakh hectare kharif crops sowing compared to 4.38 lakh hectare last wear 4s per the Ministry's

paddy over 68 lakh hectare so far as compared to 49.2 lakh hectares last year. Punjab has reported decline in kharif crops sowing due to shortage of farm labour-ers in the State. The area sown

lakh hectare as compared to 21.07 lakh hectare last year. Big farmers have managed to bring back labourers from Bihar and UP while the small and mar-ginal farmers are finding diffi-cult in the absence of labour-ers during the kharif sowing

ers during the Kharii sowing season.

The Ministry's data showed oliseeds and pulses, which are predominantly rain-fed crops, recorded highest increase as compared to the same period last year. With Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra planting soyabean over 42.2 lakh hectares and 29 lakh hectares and pared to 8.5 lakh hectares and 1 lakh hectares, respectively, during the corresponding period the total area under soyabean cultivation commed 225 per cent to 109

under soyabean cultivation zoomed 225 per cent to 109 lakh hectares.

Flights to Kolkata from hotspot cities on hold

No flights to Kolkata from Delhi, Mumbai, Pune, Nagpur, Chennai and Ahd from July 6 to July 19

SAUGAR SENGUPTA KOLKATA

The Central Government
has suspended flights linking Kolkata's NSI Airport to six
hotspot cities of Delhi,
Mumbai, Pune, Nagpur in
Maharashtra, Chennai in Tamil
Nadu and Ahmedabad in
Gujarat following a request
from Bengal Chief Minister
Mamata Banerjee.
A statement issued by the
airport authorities said, "It is
informed that no flights shall
operate to Kolkata from Delhi,
Mumbai, Pune, Nagpur,
Chennai and Ahmedabad from

July 6 to July 19, 2020 or till fur-

July 6 to July 19, 2020 or till fur-her order whichever is earlier."
According to sources, the order was circulated by the air-port slot allocation team fol-lowing directives from the Aviation Ministry.
Earlier, The State Government had requested the Centre to suspend flights to and from these cities following which a letter from the State Chief Secretary was sent to the Aviation Ministry, It said, "West Bengal is also witnessing a steep rise in cases. A large num-ber of cases have been report-ed from people coming in the



Lords return to abode in Puri

The Holy Trinity returned to their Ratna Singhasan in the Shreemandir here on Saturday after 11 days of their annual Rath Yatra that had begun on June 23 this year. The return of Lord Jagannath, Lord Balabhadra and Devi Subhadra to their abode was preceded by Niladri Bije rituals by servitors

at the temple's Lions Gate in the absence of public devotees due to the Covid-19 restrictions as was on the other occasions of the Rath Yatra events this year. As per tradition, Lord Jagannath offered Rasagola to His and His siblings' way to the temple to please the goddess over Her anger for His absence in the shrine leaving Her alone.



WHO 1st got virus outbreak info from its office, not China

Geneva: China did not come forward on its own to report to the World Health Organisation (WHO) that it had a problem in Wuhan following the virus outbreak late last year, according to the updated information the UN health agency posted about how it has handled the Covid-19 crisis so far.

On December 31, 2019, the WHO's Country Office in

faced influx of migrant work-ers during the lockdown peri-od. UP and Bihar that account-ed for nearly 75 per cent of

trains ferrying migrants back received 1,723 and 1,680 shramik trains respectively.

State from outside with infec-

State from outside with infection. The Government of West Bengal has decided to stop or curtail the movement of incoming flights and trains into the State.

The Chief Minister too had told the media "though our recovery rate at more than 65 per cent is higher than the national rate we have problems with the infected people coming from outside, particularly the hotspot areas. . . I have asked the Chief Secretary to were ding flights from both the chief of the control of the chief of the control of the chief of the control of the chief of the chie

China picked up a media state-ment by the Wishan Municipal Health Commission from their website on cases of "viral pneu-monia" in Wushan, according to the chronology of events enu-merated by the WHO. On January I, the WHO request-ed information on the report-ed cluster of atypical pneumo-nia cases in Wushan from the Chinese authorities. IANS

last year. As per the Ministry's data, farmers have planted

about 21,000 cases, out of which 6,200 are still active. Maharashtra with a total of 1,92,990 confirmed cases is the worst-hit State in the courty. Tamil Nadu has 1,02,721 cases whereas Delhi is at third spot with about 95,000 cases. Gujarat has registered about 34,600 infections.

AND E S.

13 kids test Covid positive at Noida juvenile home test came on Thursday itself, and 13 of the immates were found positive. Of them, seven were new immates, who had been serving the mandatory isolation of 14 days in two separate rooms inside the premises. While there are three rooms which have been reserved for the new immates to serve quarantine, the remaing reside in five different halls. However, there are multiple common areas used by all the immates. And officials suspect that **All 162 inmates**

undergo tests STAFF REPORTER NOIDA

At least 13 inmates of the Ajuvenile home in Noida tested positive for coronavirus on Thursday and they have been sent to Government Institute of Medical Sciences (GIMS) in Greater Noida for treatment. There are total 162 children at the observation home and Covid antigen and PCR tests were conducted on all the inmates and 17 staffers of the observation home throughout Thursday.

The results of the antigen

inmates.

And officials suspect that the six other old inmates could have contracted Covid since they were using the same wash-rooms, water coolers in the common area.

"The health department

"The health department officials were of the view that the old immates got infected possibly because they used the same washrooms, water coolers and touched walls and windows of the premises. Anyway, we are offering warm water, tea to the inmates twice to the inmates to de gargies. The water coolers have been removed, said Dharmendra Maurya, caretaker of Noida observation home.

5 more die of virus in State; total toll 34

- 495 new patients detected; cases reach 8,601
- Day's highest 261 cases in Ganiam
- 229 recover; total recoveries 5,934

PNS BHIIRANESWAR

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Five more persons succumbed to Covid-19 on Saturday, increasing the death toll to 34 in the State. Three deaths were reported from Ganjam district and two from Khordha district.

"Regret to inform that five Covid positive patients passed away while under treatment in hospital. It included a 51-year-old man of Bhubaneswar, a suffering from pleural tuberculosis, a 64-year-old man of Bhubaneswar, suffering from diabetes, a 50-year-old man of Ganjam, a suffering from diabetes and hypertension, a 27-year old man and a 35-year-old man, also Ganjam district, the Health and Family Welfare Department said.

And as many as 495 new positive cases were detected on the day. With this, the total positive cases surged to 8,601. While 355 were from quarantine centres, 140 were local contacts.

For the second consecutive day, Ganjam district recorded the day's highest cases of 261 followed by followed by Khordha 50, Sundargarh 36, Mayurbhanj 28, Angul 24, Puri 18, Baleswar and Cuttack 13 each, Jagatsinghpur and Bhadrak 12

each, Nabarangpur 11, Jharsuguda and Kandhamal eight each, Koraput and Malkangiri five each, Gajapati seven, Bargarh two and Dhenkanal and Nayagarh one each. However, 229 more

patients recovered from the disease on Saturday, increasing the total recoveries to 5,934. The highest 91 recovered in Ganjam district, followed by 29 in Khordha, 26 in Gajapati, 15 in Jharsuguda, 12 in Balangir, 11

each in Jagatsinghpur and Mayurbhanj, eight in Jajpur, six in Kendrapada, five in Keonjhar, four each in Cuttack and Sundargarh, three each in Bhadrak and Nayagarh and one in Baroarh

Record single-day surge of 45 +ve cases in BBSR

• TOTAL MOUNTS TO 414; 31 PATIENTS RECOVER • 11 MORE TEST POSITIVE IN CUTTACK CITY

PNS BHUBANESWAR/

The capital city
Bhubaneswar witnessed a
sharp increase in Covid-19
cases by registering a record 45
new ones on Saturday.
Among them, 37 were
from quarantine centres and
the rest eight were local contacts. With this, the city's total
ally rose to 414, which include
160 active cases, the
Bhubaneswar Municipal
Corporation (BMC) said.
The quarantine cases
included nine cases, all men of
Mancheswar near Pratidin
newspaper office linked with
an earlier positive case, five

cases including a woman of Nuagaon near Samantrapur, three cases, all women staffs of a private hospital, a man of Chandras-ekharpur Maitri Vihar linked with an earlier positive case, at men of Aiginia and Satyanagar linked with earlier positive cases, three cases, all men, near Kalinga Bakery in Mancheswar, one case of Saheed Nagar linked with an earlier positive case and a man of Bharatpur linked with an earlier case.

The local contacts included a man of Baramunda near Shaktt Guest House linked with an earlier positive case, a man of Kedar Gouri near Ravi Talkies, a woman of Salia Sahi cases including a woman of Nuagaon near Samantrapur,

near Shani Mandir a Khandargiri near Amri Hospital linked with an earlier positive case, a man of Subash Nagar in case, a man of Subash Nagar in Dumduma, a man of Jambeshwar Patna in Old Town, a man of MLA Colony linked with an earlier positive case and aman of the Chandrasekharpur district centre, amid the surgin number of positive cases, 31 patients recovered in the city on Saturday.

Meanwhile, Cuttack city reported 11 cases on the day. The cases included five from the Acharya Harihar Regional Cancer Centre (AHRCC) and six from a private nursing

six from a private nursing home at Chauliaganj.

Dark and loving it

sunday pioneer

HOME THEATRE

FLORIDA
SonyLiv
Original Series, Season 1,
Episodes 10
*ing: Kirsten Dunst, Theodore
Pellerine, Ted Levine
Rated: 7.5/10

Pellerine, Tod Levine
Rated: 7.5/10

In this dark, senseless world of ultimate individual enterprise, you would get so many negative vibes that chugging along the 10 episodes will become compulsive. It all starts with Krystal Stubbs also known as the Aligator Widow after her husband gets eaten up by one, leaving her homeless, penniless and for what it matters, betrayed.

The series takes some gestation episodes to get going but once it does, Crystal's compulsions, situations, survival kits and her undying ambition to make money gets to you in more ways than one. You squirm, you get annoyed, you cringe and yet to support her fast growing unholy endeavours which leave no friend or foe untouched. Played to the hilb by a well endowed Kirsten Dunst, OBGICF, is a ditty on capitalism and some say, draws its marrow from the famous homeselling chain Amway.

Amwayish or not, it's all due to the machinations of a ruthless entrepreneurial modes which makes them mortgage their lives in the service of Garbo, the God who is the real demon.

Lives are torn apart, marriages break, loving couples and fathers

Lives are torn apart, marriages break, loving couples and fathers turn into maniacal liars — all this as Garbo makes his money by giving his workforce pittance. Whoever deigns to raise a protest or even an eyebrow is dealt with by his naked foot assassin.



The story is dark, truthfully loose on honesty, too dependent on everything that's not really right but the way it is woven through may get it some converts.

There is humour to break into

There is humour to break into the intense intrigue, there is pathos by the intense intrigue, there is pathos to ruffle up an unconventional romance, there is a mirror to a dream that is very American, and there is a lot more for you to spend some time with this series.

Put together by Robert Funke

There is humour to break into scenes are so raw and telling that the very any flow in the properties of the properties. But that would be putting it will catch the eye as much as the some time with this series.

Put together by Robert Funke

and Matt Lutsky, the story encases the pull and predicament of capitalism in its most naked form, eating into middle class mentalities like a moth on a mission. Some scenes are so raw and telling that you are almost driven away from your part shopping binge.



Interesting only in parts

LOST BULLET Netflix *ing: Alban Lenoir, Nicolas Duvauchelle, Ramzy Bedia Rated: 5/10

Tow we know that whatever the case maybe, the bad guys always end up in the docks and the guy we thought was the bad one, ends up saving the day. It boggles the mind how the writers can come up with a storyline where the only person who is able to act the bad guys is the bad guy himself. That does sound familiar and something that we find in our Bollywood movib.

So while the faces may not be familiar, there is a connection. Also, there is the whole chase sequence that even though one knows that the baddies will die there is a kind of fascination to keep clued in as to how things will progress, ablett along the expected lines, this one hour 33-minute French film that is dubbed in English has interesting moments but it is definitely not a patch on the Fast and Furious series when it comes to rigged cars that move at lightning speed.

But if you love cars and know anything about the engines and how the mechanics work, you may want to see this one.

—Shalini Saksena

Plan Your Week

In the web world, there are plenty of shows that tell the stories of solid, complicated, diverse women who are strong in a myriad of ways. Fighting all odds of stereotyping male dominated characters, there have been instances in the web world particularly where women characters have been portrayed in the new light and have turned to be beautifully multifaceted. From Sushmita Sen in Disney+ Hotstar's Aarya to Ashana Kumra in Voot Select's Marzi to Dia Mirra in Zee 5's Kaafir have reminded us to stand up for what we want, fight our foes fiercely. Some of them build a successful career, others find their love and calling, and some discover some unexpected talent. But all of them teach millions of female viewers to be brave and confident in a rightful way.

Here are the 8-power packed and stellar performances by the brilliant women in the industry Sushmita Sen (Disney+Hotstar's Aarya)

A loveable wife and doting mother of three, Sushmita Sen owns every scene, and deals with every emotion, be it disappointment, betrayal, love, anger, and frustration, with utmost finesse. Portraying the qualities and characteristics of the modern woman, Aarya shovcases strength, grace, and vulnerability without compromising on either.

Dia essays a young Pakistani mother who comes to India under a strange series of circumstances and is unable to go beach me. Portraying the pleasant, sensible victim of border politics, Dia Mirraz (Zee5's Kaafri)

Dia essays a young Pakistani mother who comes to India under a strange series of circumstances and is unable to go beach home. Portraying the Auton un a manner that evoke empathy rather than pity.

Ashana Kumra (Voot Select's Marzi) n the web world, there are plenty of shows that

the narrative, that foo in a manner that evokes empathy rather than pity.

Aahana Kumra (Voot Select's Marzı)
From dealing with love and quitt in relationships to trying to fight the patriarchal system, the series shows what a woman coming out and accusing a man of rape goes through.

Aahana setals the show with her performance where you see her crumble and feel her frustration and anger when she is not heard.

Shobita Dhufipala (Amazon Prime Video's Made in Héaven)
Shobita's character is an overused and banal trope of the cold-hearted gold digger who is as

trope of the cold-hearted gold digger who is as calculating as she is emotional. Tara is a confused



mix of all these odd and conflicting personality traits, which makes hers one of the most complex, multi-faceted female characters.

Nebs Sharma (Noot Select's (liegar).

A new lawyer trying to make it in this cutthroat word, passionate about her work, great work this own to severy outspeken. Neha sleps out of her starry image as a no-nonsense lawyer and certainly delivers one of the best performances of her career.

Ashvin Bhave (Noot Select's The Raikar Case) Plays the over-protective mother and wife, who transforms from being the meek matriarch to being the lady that stands like a rook with her family no matter what, to the venonous serpent who lurks undermeath yet no one is aware of it.

Lara Dutta (Disney-Hotstar's Hundred). A glamonous woman who turned heads and set hearts affutter, and yet hardly ever a tough-as-nails cop staring down male subordinates, Lara Dutta defined powerful. What's more? Saumya Shukla portrayed by her flawed yet funny, strong yet scared character with a talent that only a few knew about.

Kirl Kuhari (Amazon Prime Video's Four More Shots Please)

Kirl has always handpicked roles of a stronger

Kirll Kulharı (Amazon Pinne Vineus 3 7 cm. m. Shots Pleass)
Kirli has always handpicked roles of a stronger and independent woman. The actor plays the role of Anjana, a successful lawyer and a single mother, in the show. Outlining a strong female friendship as the narrative and the everyday struggles they overcome in their individual lives. It a call to the modern woman and her inner strength with compelling leads and story lines.

INDIA GLOBAL WEEK

hemed #BeTheRevival, India Global Week 2020 will be organised from July 9 - July 11, 2020. Over the course of three days, attendees will deliberate and discuss the business, strategic and cultural opportunities that India is

presented with as it looks to take its position on the global stage of great nations. Organised by India Inc. Group - the UK headquartered media house - the three-day online webinar will include sessions on Geopolitics, unee-uay online webinar will include sessions on Geopolitics, Business, Arts & Culture,

Emerging Technologies, Banking and Finance, Pharma, Defence and Security, Social Impact and the Indian Diaspora. The event will also feature high-powered country sessions on Australia, Japan, Singapore, the United Japan, Singapore, the United States and the United Kingdom

> There were a few apprehensions.

One, once you get busy with a shoot, you forget about social

distancing. Second, sometimes you just forget to wear a mask and you can't just take this risk while on the sets. These are the two

'I would love to do action drama'

MADHURA NAIK, model-turned-actor who has been part of TV shows like Iss Pyaar Ko Kya Naam Doon and Tumhari Pakhi, speaks with SHALINI SAKSENA about how her acting career began and the biggest attraction of being on the small screen

■ From modeling to an actor, how has the experience been?

It has been amazing and I can't complaint. I started my modeling career in Paris. I just wish I had explored this more instead of coming to Mumbai and doing TV. There were some decisions that I was not sure of since I was only 18. If I could turn back time and go back to Paris, it would be a dream come true.

■ How did your acting career begin?

Modeling and acting were nowhere on the radar. I was studying Science and wanted to be a Genetic Engineer. But the road completely changed for me. What I am doing now, I am thoroughly enjoying.

■ Why TV?

road completery changed for me, what a mad doing how, I am thoroughly enjoying.

• Why TV?

Nobody from my family is from the entertainment industry. They are all doctors or engineers. After my assignment got over in Paris, I was asked to come back. I was staying in Europe, there was a huge cultural gap between the two countries. The modeling world is also so different from India hence I was asked to come home. But I did a music video for Universal and that was the video that Ekta (Kapoor) had seen. Everything that happened was by fluke. It is only recently that I have started making career choice because it has taken me such a long time to understand how the industry works and looking to doing web series not that TV has taken a backseat.

• You have done so many TV show, what has been the attraction?

For me, doing TV is just like any other job I got into acting by a casting agent for a Balaji show. Since then it has been from getting into one contract to another. That is the reason how and why I ended up being part of so many back-to-back TV shows. It has been a combination of quantity of work with quality.

• What is a character that you loved doing?

I loved playing Tanushree Ambolkar

What is a character than you doing?

I loved playing Tanushree Ambolkar in Pyaar Kii Ye Ek Kahaami. A lot of people enjoyed watching the show. One of the reasons I enjoyed the role was because Ambolkar played fashionista in the serial and I love to dress up and got to wear the kind of clothes I wanted to wear. Everything about that character fell into place.

How important is it to identify with

the character one plays?

It has become an important part of me now after doing TV for so many years where I am able to understand that content. However, there were times when I faced challenges while doing a show that I could not relate to like the show Naaqin were I played a shapeshifter. I couldn't relate to it. It was not like a sci-fi horror



drama. In Naagin, it was a full-on family drama and in the middle of it, one was shape-shifting and I couldn't find a

what kind of roles do you love doing?

I been looking forward for a project that has action. I want to portray a strong character. It could be a cop or an action-

driven role. Does that mean that you have had some sort of training in doing action sequences?

sequences?

No, I have not taken any formal training. But when I was in school it was compulsory to be part of Tackwondo and gymnastics. We had to be part of other sports as well. Since childhood, I have been drawn to sports so n action show is right up my ally. Also, once doesn't see too many woman-centric characters on TV so I would love to explore this genre.

Are the OTT platforms changing the

content being shown?

Definitely. I have been watching a lot of shows now which have the concept of woman-centric drama. The latest one is Aryaa starring Sushmita Sen. Because of OTT platforms, a lot of content is being rediscovered or is very close to reality. I am looking to doing more web series. My web show is releasing this month — The Ghost Thesis — a horror drama. I recently finished dubbing for it. I play a professor here and am part of a team who go hunting for a ghost in a palace.

here and am part of a team who go hunting for a ghost in a palace.

• How do you choose your projects? Do you have a checklist?

I don't have one. I wish I had it. We don't decide what kind of content comes our way. Sometimes, if you have a huge list of projects coming your way, it may be possible to choose but the kind of work hat I get for TV is usually family drama or saas-bahu sagas. There is no checklist.

With Unlock 2.0, the shooting for several TV shows has resumed. MUSBA HASHMI speaks with actors who share their experience of adapting to the new normal on the sets

From the chart topper Kumkum Bhagya to the kids' most loved shows and Aladin: Naam Toh Suna Hoga, our favourite shows are ready to air fresh episodes after a three-month hault. Actors covered in masks and the crew in PPE kits, is the new normal on the sets, joining the bandwagon is the sanitiser which is now leading from the front.

bandwagon is the santitiser which is now leading from the front.

Like everyone else, the actors are also struggling to maintain social distancing on the sets and not let the pandemic affect their acting skills.

"Day one on the set was extremely difficult. You wake up and get to hear so many deaths and the increasing number of cases every day. It is indeed disheartening. It affects you in some or the other way. You have the fear of catching infections. However, we all are taking utmost precautions and there is a process of sanitisation that we have to go through before entering the sets. Also when you are shooting, you have your co-actors and it becomes extremely difficult to maintain social distancing. The new normal on the sets has changed completely. Siddharth Nigam, who plays changed completely," Siddharth Nigam, who plays Aladdin in Sony Sab's *Aladdin:* Naam Toh Suna Hoga, tells

The whole day on the sets, The whole day on the sets, he says, is spent on what if we catch infection. "Earlier, our focus was completely on the scene, but now we have to take care of other things as well," Ninam cave.

care of other things as well," Nigam says.

But like every coin has two sides, Nigam feels that there are certain pros and cons of the shoots resuming.

"The good thing is that a lot of people have got their jobs back. The ones who were sitting at home, unsure of what the future will bring are now back at work especially all te technicians and the spot dadas. They can now earn a living, But one con of this new normal is that, earlier we had a cast and crew of 200 people



Karan Jotwani, who plays Neel in Qurbaan Hua

but now that has been reduced to 50. But then it is for everyone's safety only," he Principal of the English medium section of the school. I am looking forward to playing this character and I hope the audiences will enjoy it too."

everyone's safety only," he adds.

Chhavi Pandey, who plays
Tara in Sony Sab's Tera Kya
Hoga Alia, tells you that she
is excited to get back to
work after a long gap. too."

Karan Jotwani who
plays Neel in Zee TV's *Qurbaan Hua* tells you
that his first first day on that his first first day on the set was exciting yet apprehensive but the production house has made sure that the set is sanitised regularly. "That's how it was. But that was okay be cause everyone was a little apprehensive

apprehensive difficul about getting back to work amid the Coronavirus sure care," Jotwani says.
The biggest
apprehension was to
follow all the norms
and guidelines
while shooting. of Tara is relegant and sinow going to

– Karan Jotwani

"There were a few apprehensions. One, once you get busy with a shoot, you get busy with a shoot, you forget about social distancing. Second, sometimes you just forget to wear a mask and you can't just take this risk while on the sets. These are the two fears that I had," he tells you. For Jotwani, adapting to the new normal is neither hard nor that easy. "This is one thing that we have to live with. The rising number of cases are of course a cause of ourry but then the recovery rate of patients is high. Having said that, no one wants to get through the pain of being diagnosed with COVID-19. I agree that it is the new normal, but all we need to do is to be patient and take proper safety measures," Jotwani adds.

aution has been taken to avoid errors or omissions, this publication is being sold on the condition and understanding that infor orchaser of this publication or not for the result of any action taken on the basis of this work. All disputes are subject to the exclu-hed in this newspaper. The printer, publisher, editor and any employee of the Pioneer Group's will not be held responsible for ust information given in this publication is merely for reference and must not be taken as having authority of or binding in any way on the w exclusive jurisdiction of conseptent court and forums in Delhi/New Deh only, Readdes are advised and requested to verify and seek approximation of column and by the adventisers of the products S services and shaff not be made responsible for any kind of column and the products of the products of services and shaff not be made responsible for any kind of the services of the products S services and shaff not be made responsible for any kind of the services of the products of services and services are services of the products of the services of the services

SHUTDOWN IN CUTTACK | VSSUT shut till Jul 11 as 5 staffs test Covid +ve **CITY TILL JULY 8**

Malisahi declared containment zone PNS © CUTTACK The administration on Containment in the city. The order would come into force with immediate effect after the weekend shutdown. All non-essential travels

The administration on Saturday decided to clamp shutdown in the areas under the Cuttack Municipal Corporation (CMC) till July 8 to cut the chain of transmission in the city, which has seen a spurt of Cowid-19 cases in the last few days.

CMC Commissioner Ananya Das ordered shutdown of the entire civic body juris-

would be strictly prohibited. All non-essential shops and com-mercial establishments would remain shut.

remain shut.

However, healthcare services and medicine shops would be allowed to open at regular hours. The emergency services including electricity and water supply would function as usual.

EMPLOYEES ASKED NOT TO LEAVE HEADQUARTERS:

The essential shops including grocery, vegetables and milk shops would be allowed to open from 5 am to 6 pm adhering to the physical distancing norms. Online delivery of all essential items would be allowed.

Meanwhile, the CMC on the day declared Malisahi in Ranihat Ward-31 as a containment zone after detection of a number of positive cases in the area in the last couple of days. During the containment period, the CMC will carry out active contact tracing and sanitisation drives in the area. institution till July 11 in view of some employees testing positive for Covid-19.

However, the authorities have asked all the employees not to leave the headquarters. In case of violation of the order, concerned employees would face disciplinary actions as per OCS (CC and A) Rules 1962 and penalties too, read a notification issued by the uni-

PNS III SAMBAI PIIR

The Veer Surendra Sai University of Technology (VSSUT), Burla authorities have announced closure of the institution till July 11 in view

versity on Friday.

The employees, who are currently outside the head-quarters, have been directed to report to the Registrar about their arrival. They will remain in self quarantine for a period of 14 days and, for that, the days would be counted as leaves.

The Registrar of the university took the decision after a 52-year-old Assistant Professor tested positive for the virus. The teacher is the wife of a Nalco official, who succumbed to the deadly virus in Angul district recently.

The Assistant Professor has been shifted to a special Covid Hospital in Cuttack. According to latest infor-mation, swab samples of as many as 60 employees of the VSSUT were sent for Covid test VSSUT were sent for Covid test following the woman teacher was found positive. Of them, four tested positive during the last 24 hours, informed the Sambalpur district administration. The entire university campus has been sanitised. Meanwhile, the district administration announced a 24-hour shutdown for the entire district on Sunday in

ENTIRE SAMBALPUR DIST SHUT DOWN TODAY view of growing number of Covid cases. The Covid count of the district rose to 70 after six new cases detected during the last 24 hours. As per the order, there would be no vehicular move-

ments, excepting for emer

gency purposes.

During shutdown, medical establishments and medicine stores would be opened and movement of ambulances, wehicles of medical personnel, fire services and Central and State Government officials on emergency duty would be allowed.

Institutional quarantine must in R'kela

PNS III BOLIBKELA

n view of the rising Covid-19

In view of the rising Covid-19
Cases across the State, the
Rourkela Municipal
Corporation (RMC) has decided not to allow copie coming
from the hotspot districts for
home quarantine option.

The RMC said people
coming to the steel city from
districts like Khrodha, Ganjam,
Bhadrak, Baleswar,
Nayagarh, Puri, Cuttack,
Igastisnighpur, Kendrapada,
Jajpur, Mayurbhani, harsuguda
and Balangir would have to
undergo institutional
quarantine mandatorily for 14
days.

Tourist sites to reopen from July 6

KHANDAGIRI, RATNAGIRI, DHULI AMONG MANY

PNS BHUBANESWAR

During Unlock 2.0, con-cerned authorities have decided to reopen several mon-uments and museums in the State under the ASI, Bhubaneswar Circle from July 6 (Monday). In Bhubaneswar, Khandagiri and Udayagiri hills and Raja-Rani Temple would be opened. In Cuttack, the Barabati Fortress would be opened.

Sarangarh in Cuttack, Sarangarh in Cuttack, Jaugada in Ganjam, Papnasini Tank in Khordha, Dhauligiri in Khordha, Sisupalgarh in Bhuabneswar, Ruined Fortress Chaudwar, Buddhist temples at RI, DHULI AMONG MANY

Lalitagiri in Cuttack, Four
colossal images, Varahi,
Chamunda, Indrani and
Kalijug, Buddhist sites of
Ratnagiri and Udaygiri and
Langudi Hill, Chandeswar pillar and Atharanulla in Jajpur,
Ravana Chhaya and Stiabhinji
in Keonjhar, Badvapur, Kuchai,
Kuliana and Haripur Fort in
Mayurbhanj district and
Vikramkhol Rock in
Jharsuguda would be opened.
Besides, Bhimakand in
Anugul, Chausathi Yogini
Temple in Balangir, Ananta
Sayi Vishnu Saranga in
Dhenkanal and Asurgarh Fort
in Kalahnadi district would be
reopened.

Ganjam Covid situation belies Govt claims: BJP PNS III BRAHMAPUR

DJP Ganjam district presi-dent Bibhuti Bhusan Jena has alleged that the State Government though beating the drum that Odisha has become a role model in the entire world in contraining and controlling Covid-19 pandem-ic, but the ground reality in Ganjam belies the high sound-ing claims. Odisha on Friday reported a record 561 new Covid-19 cases spread over 20 districts.

Odisha on Friday reported a record 561 new Covid-19 cases spread over 20 districts. Ganjam district alone report-ed the highest 283 cases which is shocking.

is shocking.

Notably, 75% of the total
Covid-19 death cases are from



Ganjam. This figure is a clear indication as to how the State Government is careful and competent to contain and con-trol Covid-19 pandemic and prevent its spread to commu-

Ganiam became a hotspot Ganjam became a hotspot and epicentre of Covid-19 cases because there is no proper coordination between the dis-trict administration, police, healthcare officials and other prominent warriors on the one hand, and chaotic conditions in

institutional quarantine centers coupled with rules flouted by the suspected patients, he said. BJP suggestions included immediately provide adequate security to Corona warriors and provide them sufficient PPE kits without any delay; open three full-fledged Covid-19 Hospital in Brahmapur, Bhajanagar, and Chhatrapur, correct figures pertaining to corona patients ward/street wise, not to make thermal screening a farce, start ward/street wise, not to make thermal screening a farce, start serological test and vest the supervision and monitoring charge of Covid cases in the hands of an additional rank of officer among others.

CM, PRADHAN HAIL PARADIP PORT

For emerging No.1 in cargo handling

PNS III RHUBANESWAR

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik and Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan have congratulated the Paradip Port authorities for handling the highest volume of cargo. Patnaik said his father Biju

Painaik said his father Biju Patnaik would have been proud of the State's giant strides in maritime trade. "Congratulations to Paradip Port for becoming No-1 major port for cargo handling in the country. Biju Babu would

have been proud of Odisha's giant strides in maritime trade. A tribute to Odisha's glorious seafaring history," tweeted the Chief Minister.

Pradhan said PPT has set a new millestone in cargo handling.

"Yet another milestone for Paradip Port. Happy to learn that the Port has achieved the highest volume of traffic i.e. 52,73 million tonnes among all the major ports in India during April-June 2020," tweeted Pradhan.

Make PSs welcome for public: DGP

PNS CUTTACK

PNS ■ CUTTACK

GP Abhay in a videoconference from the State police headquarters on Saturday stressed on making the police stations safe and more welcoming for the public. During the meeting, discussions were held on various important issues. The DGP directed to make the CCTVs of police stations functional round the clock and tamperproof.

He emphasised on policing and enforcement of Covid precautions (mask, social distancing, hygiene) change in work processes (arrest, interrogation). Besides, supply of PPEs, sanitisers, face shields to policy in the meeting. Some other miscellaneous matters were also discussed. Among others, Additional DGP (HQs), IGP (Modernisation.). IGP (Provisioning.), IGP (Provisioning.), IGP (Provisioning.), SCRB Director and Special DGP, Intelligence.

(Modernisation.), IGP (Provisioning.), IGP (Personnel.), SCRB Director and Special DGP, Intelligence, IGP (Operations) and SIW DIG were present.

In Kendrapada: Cured corona patient's family ostracised



PNS M KENDRAPADA

A case has come to the fore in Kendrapada district in which a cured corona patient's family has been ostracised by fellow villagers. Life has become a hell for the family members at Baidimala village under Chandiagadi GP of Aul block

ince last five days. The fellow since last five days. The fellow villagers, being panicked that they would be infected with the trus, have barred the family to draw water from village tube-well and forced the village gro-cery shopkeeper not to deliver commodities to it. Even, the family members are restricted from going to their relatives'

house at the same village.

When contacted, district
Collector Samarth Verma said
the matter has come to his
notice and he has already
directed the local BDO to look into it and take stern action against the villagers who are responsible for the concerned family's plight

Demos, rallies banned in State Capital concerned police stations to

PNS III BHUBANESWAR

In view of the rising cases of In view of the rising cases or in a coronavirus cases in Bhubaneswar and frequent violation of the lockdown guide-lines, the Bhubaneswar dunicipal Corporation (BMC) on Saturday banned rallies by political parties or any other organisations in the city.

The BMC also asked the

take immediate appropriate legal action to stop demon-strations and rallies.

The BMC also cited some recent instances when some

demonstrations have been demonstrations have been noticed, for which complaints have been lodged by BMC with the respective police stations for legal action. Such congregations are expressly prohibited as per national directives issued by the (Union) Ministry of Home Affairs. Further, these activities have also been prohibited as per Clauses 4(a)(iv) and 8(e) of recently-issued Odisha Govt

guidelines," the order said. guidelines," the order said.
However, Samajwadi Party
State president Rabi Behera
termed the ban on rallies and
demonstrations undemocratic
as it violates the Constitutional
rights. Hence, the order must
be withdrawn immediately, he
demanded. All democratic
opposition parties should be
united to protest the BMC's
decision, said Behera.

2 IAS, 6 OAS officers sent to Ganjam

To manage Covid situation

PNS BHUBANESWAR

The State Government on Saturday deputed two IAS and six OAS officers to manage the Covid-19 situation in Ganjam district that has reported 2,066 positive cases and 20 deaths, highest figures among the districts.

The district witnessed

spike of 216 cases during the last 24 hours against 283 cases the previous day. Thus, the district reported about 500 Covid cases in the last two days.

As per the notification issued by the General Administration Department, Works Department Deputy Secretary Parul Patawari has been appointed as Special ADM of Ganjam in-charge of Chatrapur Subdivision and Puri DRDA PD Vishal Singh appointed as Special ADM of

Ganjam in-charge of Bhanjanagar Subdivision. The six OAS officers who have been given responsibility of managing Covid at block levels are Sudhakar Nayak, Padmanav Behera, Lokanath Dalabehera, Shaktikanta Ray, Chitaranjan Mohanta and Suvendra Kumar Samal.

By Sunday evening, 1,219 of 2,066 cases had recovered while 826 infected persons were undergoing treatment in the district.

Ganjam couple ends lives after son's death

BRAHMAPUR: An elderly

BRAHMAPUR: An elderly couple allegedly committed suicide at Narayanpursasan village under the Kabisuryanagr police station in Ganjam district on Friday after being unable to bear the death of their son. According to reports, deceased Simanchal Satpathy (27) was undergoing treatment at a hospital in Bhubaneswar and breathed his last on Friday evening.

Depressed by the death, his father and mother took the extreme step of ending their lives. While his father was found hanging from a tree near the house, the body of his mother was found hanging inside the house. Police have recovered the bodies for postmortem and initiated investigation into the matter. Source said that Simanchal was working as a teacher. He was on Corno a duty at a quarantine centre in the set we have the set was not the set of the set teacher. He was on Corona duty at a quarantine centre in Kabisuryanagar area. He was shifted to the SUM Hospital in Bhubaneswar after he devel-oped breathing problems on July 1. His swab sample was sent for Covid test.

'Appoint OICs, frame Lokayukta Rules'

RTI forum also seeks activists' protection

PNS BHUBANESWAR

The Odisha Soochana Adhikar Abhijan on Saturday submitted a memo-randum to Chief Secretary Asit Tripathy urging for appointment of Information
Commissioners, formulation
of Lokayukta Rules and provisions for protection of RTI

"Over 12,000 cases are

Over 12,000 cases are pending for disposal. Cases filed in 2016 are being listed now for

hearing in 2020

THE MEMORANDUM READ now for hearing in 2020. The delay has not only frustrated appellants but also encour-aged the erring PIOs. Kindly, appoint at least two

Information Commissioners

intormation Commissioners against vacant posts soon," the memorandum read.

"Lokayukta Rules are required for effective implementation of the Odisha Lokayukta Act. We, thus, want enactment of Lokayukta Rules," wrote convenor Pradip Pradhan.

lishment of an RTI Cell and a provision of protection for RTI activists as assaults on them is rising day by day.

Gopalpur Mayfair sealed, fined ₹50K

Bridegroom, father, uncles arrested violating Covid norms

PNS III BRAHMAPUR

The Ganjam district administration on Saturday sealed Hotel Mayfair at Gopalpur for allowing a marriage to be held in its premises in violation of Covid-19 guidelines.

The bridegroom, barats and parents didn't use facemask and maintain social distancing.

The hotel has been sealed for seven days. The administration also imposed a fine of Rs 50,000 on the hotel. Later, the Gopalpur police arrested the bridegrooom, his

arrested the bridegrooom, his father and three uncles for violating Covid guidelines during the marriage procession. The matter came to light

The hotel has been sealed seven days. after the visuals of the marriage procession went viral on the

No Bol Bam this yr

In view of the Covid-19 situ-dation, the State Government on Saturday ordered ban on Bol Bam devotees offering prayers at Shaivaite shrines. Special Relief Commissioner (SRC) Pradeep Jena said no Bol Bam devotees or Kanwariyas would

devotees or Kanwariyas would be allowed to congregate, carry water from water bodies and walk on public roads to pour the sacred water on Shiva Lingas in the month of Shravan as the entire activity has extensive potential of spreading the Covid-19 pandemic.

In Nabarangpur: Man kills baby son, throws body in drain

PNS ■ NABARANGPUR

In a deeply shocking incident, a man killed his 20-day-old son and threw the body into a drain in Nabarangpur district

The accused Basudev Jani of Gaibandha village under the Jharigaon police limits has been arrested.

been arrested.

According to police, Jani, who has his wife and a three-year-old daughter, had developed an extramarital affair

the woman became pregnant with Jani's baby, villagers decid-ed that she would stay in his

ed that she would stay in nis house.

The woman gave birth to Jani's son on June 10. On June 29, Jani took the baby with him when the infant was sleeping near his mother and abscond-ed. The woman searched for the baby but in vain. She lodged a police complaint. Police on Friday (July 3) nabbed Jani, who confessed to his crime.

unan. He too demanded estab

procession went viral on the social media that showed participants dancing together without maintaining social distancing and wearing masks.

The Regional Transport Office (RTO) has also impounded the vehicle in question.

STONE LAID FOR KHALLIKOTE VARSITY CAMPUS NEW PREMISES TO COME UP AT PALUR HILL PG Council Chairman Prof

PNS III BRAHMAPUR

PNS ■ BRAHMAPUR

The students and faculties of the Khallikote Cluster University have a reason to be happy now as the long-awaited foundation-stone of its new campus was laid down at Sat-Chit Ananda Vihar at Palur Hill here on Wednesday.

Chancellor of Universities and Gowernor Prof Ganeshi Lal laid the foundation stone through videoconferencing from the Raj Bhavan, Bhubaneswar.

Vice-Chancellor Prof Amarendra Narayam Mishra, Registrar Kishore Chandra Das,

PG Council Chairman Prof Yogesh Kumar Pranigrahi, Professor in charge, Central Library Dr Jyotshna Sahu, Assistant Prof Dr R Kampa and Dr Mrutunjaya Sethi were pre-sent here. In view of Covid pan-demic, all wore facemasks and maintained social distancing. Even scribes were not invited for Covid. The new campus would have independent structures and blocks such as Administrative Block, Central Library, Language Block, University Health Center, Central Computer Lab, audito-rium, separate boys' and girls hostels and staff quarters.

The new campus will come up over 20 acres of land. The university has availed a grant of Rs 27 crore under the RUSA scheme, said sources. The CPWD has undertaken the construction work for which payment have been released and the CPWD has already started construction work for the new campus. After functioning in the Khallikote Autonomous College campus here for four years, the university was shifted to a rent-ed building at Kanishi on the NH last year. The Government is now bearing monthly rent of Rs 8 lakh.



DD to broadcast live aarti of Amarnath shrine from today

In the absence of the start of annual pilgrimage to the holy cave shrine of Amarnath, located at a height of over 13,000 ft above the sea level, the public broadcaster, boordarshan is all set to broadcast live telecast of special aarti, two times during the day starting from July 5 till August 3.

the day starting from July 5 tul August 3.
CEO Prasar Bharti, Shashi Shekhar in a tweet said "Happy to share that the Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board in association with Prasar Bharati will bring the live telecast of Aarti from the Holy Cave of Shri Amarnathji on various Doordarshan channels ".
Lt-Governor Girish Chandra Murmui s expected to

Chandar Murmu is expected to visit the holy cave shrine to per-

form the special pooja.

Teams of State disaster
Response Force (SDRF) have
also been deployed along the
yatra route in the wake of
VVIP visit.

The public broadcaster has
offered two slots of 30 minutes
each for the live telecast. The
first telecast will take place at
7.30 a.m in the morning and
the second at 5.00 p.m in the
evening, official sources said.

the second at 5.00 p.m in the evening, official sources said. The special arrangements have been made in the wake of the prevailing situation due to Covid-19 pandemic across the

intry. A fifteen member team of A fifteen member team of Doordarshan is already camp-ing in the shrine area to make necessary arrangements for the live telecast.

In the absence of the start of the annual pilgrimage, as per

its original schedule, Shri Amarnath Shrine Board authorities had approached the national broadcaster,

national broadcaster, Doordarshan, to explore the possibility of live telecast from the cave shrine. After receiving clearance from their head office, the technical teams were rushed to the spot to assess the ground situation and make necessary

situation and make necessary arrangements.
On the other hand, Shri Manranth Shrine Board Authorities are fully geared up on ground zero and making all necessary arrangements for the start of the yatra at the earliest.
So far, Shrine Board authorities have decided to conduct the yatra via Baltal route. The annual pligrinage will not be allowed via another traditional route of



Pahalgam.
At least four helipads and At least four helipads and a base camp have been made operational to facilitate pilgrims via Baltal route.

The 16 km track on this route is more treacherous and difficult to climb.

nelipads and ther logistics have been kept in place to ensure incident free and cilitate pilutte.
ack on this therous and the rough the read to security arrangements will be made to ensure safety of the pilgrims.

The public broadcaster has offered two slots of 30 minutes each for the live telecast. The first telecast will take place at 7.30 am and the second at 5 pm, official sources said

Last year, the yatra was sus-pended on August 2 in the wake of terror threats and recovery of explosive material and other items along the yatra route. e. Shri Amarnath Shrine

Shri Amarnath Shrine Board, under the chairmanship of Lt- Governor Girish Chandar Murmu is expected to take a final decision on the con-duct of the yatra soon after the reopening of Durbar move offices from July 6 in Srinagar. On its part, Shri Amarnath

Shrine Board authorities are preparing for conducting annual pilgrimage for a small period after taking all necessary precautions in the wake of Covid-19 pandemic.

As per the initial proposal discussed during the previous review meetings, the annual pilgrimage is expected to begin in the third week of July 2020. However, the final decision will be announced after reviewing the prevailing situation. So far nine out of 10 districts in Kashmir valley have been declared 'red zones' due to spread of coronavirus.

A total number of 8019 cases have been reported in the union territory of annum and Kashmir. Out of this, 2825 are active positive.

The pilgrims visiting the

The pilgrims visiting the ine will have to undergo

mandatory Corona screening before entering the borders of Jammu and Kashmir at different locations. After finalising the final dates of the yatra, Shri Amarnath Shrine Board authorities are expected to issue a set of guidelines to be followed by the pilgrims if they wish to undertake the pilgrimage to the cave shrine.

The final decision whether to allow pithoo and ponywallhs is expected to be announced after the final decision is taken on the date of start of yatra this year.

The Union Territory administration is also in touch with some socio religious organisations who are expected to set up community kitchens to provide refreshments to the pilgrims during the yatra period.

Kerala: Conmen target upcoming actors during corona 65 die, 4,280 afflicted in TN

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN III KOCHI

KUMAR CHELIAPPAN © KOCHI

A dozen female film and TV
Aartists of Kerala have complained to the Ernakulam City
Police about a gang that threatens
them with kidnaps, ransom money,
forced flesh trade and gold smuggling, according to Vijay Sakhare,
City Police Commissioner.
The first artist to boldly file a
complaint with the police was
Shamma Kasim, an upcoming film
star, who complained to the police
that a five-member gang was trying to extort money from her and
kidnap her for ransom
. She told the police that
a gang approached her parents with
a marriage proposal for a youth
working in a West Asian country.
They even sent the Kasims photographs of a Dubai based youth as
the prospective groom. Shamma's
parents received phone calls from

the so called 'parents' of the youth and it ended up in the arrest of ten persons. It was their dubious behaviour that evoked doubts in the minds of Shamna's parents, the artist told media persons.

"Shamna Kasim is just the tip of the ice berg. The gang has established contacts with many artists and some of them have confided to the police the entire happenings. This is not just a one-off crime affair. A massive operation is underway to exploit the film stars," said Sakhare.

The modus operandi of the gang is as follows. They collect the contact numbers of the gullible stars, approach them with marriage proposals, roles in films, advertisement films and fully paid trip to West Asian countries for stage shows.

"These stage shows are a

national activities. There are enough links pointing towards smuggling of gold and narcotics making use of the services of these stars, said a senior police officer on condition of anonymity.

The gang members are skilled enough to take pictures and videos of these unsuspecting stars and later they bakcmal them with these pictures. "Many have fallen into sex trade as well as gold/narcotics smuggling as a result of this tactics, said the police officials.

Mankombu Gopalakrishnan, dubbing direct or, lyricist and script writer, is of the view that many upcoming stars and mimicry artists in Mollywood (as Malayalam film industry is known) might have fall-

in Mollywood (as Malayalam film industry is known) might have fallen into this trap. "The last two years have been a period of crisis due to the floods of 2018 and 2019. The year 2020 has been devoured by coronavirus. More than the income

from films, these stars were surviving on the income from stage shows. The floods and the corona pandemic derailed their livelihood and most of them are facing uncertainty, said Gopalakrishnan. Lalithasree, actress and dubing artist, based in Chennai, too agreed to what Gopalakrishnan said. "Their dreams have no borders and limits. Whatever they earn is sequandered away through shopping and high style living. They were expected the nature's fury and the corona pandemic would strige them like this. We have the case of Sushant Singh Rajput before us. Ill not be surprised if some stars from Malayalam film industry choose the path of Rajput. Situation is really bady, said Lalithasree. Ernakulam Police is probing the matter. Ten persons have been arrested so far and three of them managed to get bail and come out.

On Saturday, 2,214 patients were discharged from various hospitals in the State and this took the number of persons cured of the pandemic till date to 60,592

State. On Saturday, 2,214 patients

State. On Saturday, 2,214 patients were discharged from various hospitals in the State and this took the number of persons cured of the pandemic till date to 60,592.

The State Government in its mission to identify and isolate the coronavirus continued to open more laboratories as part of its aggressive testing. The day saw three more laboratories starting testing for covid-19 taking the total number of laboratories in the State to 94. Tamil Nadu ratories in the State to 94. Iamil Nadu is ahead of other States in the num-ber of testing . While Maharashtra with a population of 12.31 crore tests 8,521 persons per million, Tamil Nadu's figure is 16, 325 persons for every million. Neighbouring Kerala

tests 7,087 per million of its population.

On Saturday, 35, 426 persons were tested all over the State and total number of persons tested till date reached 1,25 million.

Out of the 65 who breathed heir last on Saturday, 59 died with co-morbidities. Chennai accounted for 37 deaths.

The capital city continued to lead the table with highest number of covid patients. 1,842 persons in Chennai were diagnosed with the pandemic on Saturday. Chengalpet (2,15), Kancheputram (1,34) and Thiruvallur (251) the three neighbouring districts which have been locked down till July 5 along with Chennai did not show any signs of abaumatid and show the signs of the state of the

abatement.

Madurai tested 352 positive cases while Thiruvannamalai (173) and Ramanathapuram (149) emerged as areas of worry for the authorities.

Covid-19: 5 deaths in Noida. CMO among 83 new patients

PTI ■ NOIDA (UP)

PTI■ NOIDA (UP)

Uttar Pradesh's Gautam Buddh Nagar on Saturday recorded five more deaths due to Covid-19, while 83 more people, including the chief medical officer, were found positive for the infection in the district, official data showed.

The death toll due to the novel coronavirus has now reached 28 while the tally of positive cases rose to 2,646, the highest for any district in the state, according to the data stellaged by UP Health Department of the district of the district, it showed.

So fan 1,646 patients have got district of the district, it showed.

district, it showed.

The recovery rate improved to 62.20 per cent from 59.98 per cent on Friday. It was 61.60 per cent on Thursday, 64.47 per cent on Wednesday, 65.36 per cent on Monday, according to official statistics.

statistics.

The mortality rate of positive patients grew to 1.05 per cent from 0.89 per cent on Friday. according to the statistics.

CMO Deepak Ohri had developed influenza-like illness after which he was tested for Covid-19 and resulted in positive, Gautam Buddh Nagar officials said.

. "He has been admitted to an "He has been admitted to an isolation ward for treatment. His condition is stable," District Surveillance Officer Sunil Dohare said. Meanwhile, semior doctor Nepal Singh will officate as the chief medical officer of Gautam Buddh Nagar, the officer said, adding the CMO's office has been sanitised as per protocols for Covid-19.

On the other hand, 3,328 tests were carried out for Covid-19 across Gautam Buddh Nagar on Saturday, according to official

tests were carried out for Covid-19 across Gautam Buddh Nagar on Saturday, according to official data.Of the total tests, 20 were TrueNat, 1,512 were RTPCR and 1,796 were antigen-based test-ings, the data stated, adding that 1,488 surveillance teams were deployed for door-to-door screening in the district. Gautam Buddh Nagar cur-rently has the second highest active cases of COVID-19 after adjoining Ghaziabad district (1,118) in the state. They are fol-lowed by Lucknow (490), Kanpur Nagar (328), Meerut (283), Varanasi (231), Aligarh (210), Bulandshahr (167) and Mathura (153), the data stated.

No let up in cases as 240 more test +ve in Kerala

There was no let up in the number of coronavirus cases in Kerala as 240 persons were diagnosed with the pandemic on Saturday. This is the highest number to test positive for coronavirus in the State till

for coronavirus in the State till date, according to a press release issued by Health Minister K K Shylaja. This is a major setback for Kerala which had declared on May 8 that the coronavirus curve has been flattened in the curve has been flattened in the State which meant that the pandemic has been totally eliminated. But the Covid-19 virus has returned with full 'vigour' and afflicted more number of people. The release said that as on Saturday, there were 2,129 persons under treatment in

various hospitals. The day saw 209 patients getting cured of the pandemic and reaching home safe.

209 patients getting cured of the pandemic and reaching home safe.

The minister put the blame on the expatriates and people who returned to Kerala from other parts of the country for the hike in the number of cases. Out of the 240 persons diagnosed with the pandemic on Saturday, 152 were from foreign countries while 52 were from other States of India, said the release, 367 persons were hospitalised on Saturday. There are 135 hotspots in the State.

Situation in Ernakulam and the capital city of Thiruvananthapuram continued to be grave on Saturday. Community transmission of the pandemic has become a reality in the capital city maken

ing it a dangerous zone to visit.
Kadakampalli Surendran,min-ister for tourism, temple administration (devaswam) and cooperation pleaded with the people of the capital city to maintain social distancing and wear face masks without failure. "What I see in the city is over-rowed market places."

ure. "What I see in the city is overcrowded market places, shopping malls, public parks where people openly violate the covid-19 guidelines. This is disappointing and worrismer," said the minister who cautioned the people that if they flout the rules, the administration may have to resort to extreme measures.

extreme measures.
Shops and establishments
have been asked to down the
shutters by 7pm. The main
vegetable and commodities
market at Palayam and Chalai
has been closed down.

4 DIE IN BENGAL POLITICAL CLASHES, BOMB BLAST

Four people died in Bengal on Saturday with two falling prey to political clashes between the ruling Trinamool Congress and the Socialist Unity Centre of India (SUCI) at Kultali in South 24 Parganas. The other two died while making bombs which accidentally went off in a house in Murshidabad district, police said.

asid. In the first case a TMC worker was allegedly lynched by a 300-strong crowd mostly led by reported SUCI workers after a senior leader of that party was reportedly killed by the TMC men

men. While a district Trinamool leader Saukat Mollah said the SUCI and the CPI(M) goons attacked and hacked a local TMC leader Aswhini Manna to death. The death was a result of

clashes between the two sides that continued for several hours, locals said.

On the other hand SUCI

locals said.

On the other hand SUCI leadership said that one of their district committee members Sudhanshu Jana was abducted from his house by the Ashwinis men where after he was killed and hung from a tree.

While locals said that the clash was the result of a power tussle at Manipith-Baikunthapur panchayat others said that things came to a flash point after Sudhanshu gheraoed the local TMC office alleging nepotism and corruption in distributing post Amphan relief.

"As people came out in large number to protest against massive corruption in distribution of relief funds to the people—as is the case throughout the State — the TMC leader Ashwini Manna went out with

his supporters to teach the SUCI leaders a lesson and went about torching their houses. This led to mass fury when villagers mounted a counter attack," former SUCI MP Tarun Mandal said.

A large posse of police has been deployed in the sensitive

A large pose or poince has been deployed in the sensitive area and investigations are on, district authorities said.

The second incident happened at Suti town in Murshidabad districts Jangipur sub-division where two goons died while they were making bombs. Some other people have been injured and were being treated in a nearly hospital, police said adding the house has been damaged completely, and its owner is on the run.

The wife of the house owner was being questioned in converse in the sub-

was being questioned in con-nection with the incident, the officer said.

Fresh surge in cases causes alarm in Agra

With 14 new Covid-19 cases and three deaths in the last 24 hours, alarm bells have begun to ring in the Tajcity. The district authorities have reviewed the grim situation and scaled up testing in the hotspots.

to the transfer of the spike in cases, the authorities have again raised the number of containment and buffer zones to 68. Earlier, the number had dropped to 54.

The new cases have taken telly to 1,267. Six patients were discharged after recovery. The death toll now stands at 90, while the total number of discharged patients is 1,040. Health officials said the number of active cases now was 137.

ber of active cases now was 137.
The recovery rate is 82.09
per cent.

Akshay Kumar's flying visit to Nashik stirs row amid lockdown

TN RAGHUNATHA III MUMBAI

Dollywood mega star Akshay
Kumar's recent "secree" flyring
visit to Nashik and his stay at a
nearby resort for some medical
treatment has sparked a controtropy over the "secreey" maintained and the manner in which
the actor managed to obtain onthe easter which the case of the control
anding of his chopper at a private
helipad and stay at the resort.

Three days after Akshay flew
in a private helicopter and landed
at a private helicopter and landed
at a private helipad of Sagkal
Knowledge Hub, at Anjaneri on
the outskirts of Nashik and later
stayed at a luxuury resort "Grape
County" located on the
Trimbakeshwar Road, a lot of
details of his "secret" visit to the
grape city have emerged.

According to available information, the actor was received by
exclusived and the control of the control
and the control of the control of the control
and the control of the control of the control
and the control of the control of the control
and the control of the control of the control of the control
and the control of the control of the control of the control of the control
and the control of the

Nashik, said: "I have no informa-Nashik, Said. Thave in minima-tion about the actor's visit to Nashik. If there are any (lockdown) violations relating to the actor's visit, an inquiry will be conduct-ed into them".

The local media grilled the The local media grilled the minister on how the actor was permitted to fly in a chopper from Mumbai to Nashik at a time when the inter-district travel continues to be regulated and whether he had been granted permission to land at a private helipad.

The local journalists also wants.

landing of his chopper at a private helipad and stay at the resort.

Three days after Akshay flew in a private helicopter and landed at a private helipad of Sapkal Knowledge Hub, at Anjaneri on the outskirts of Nashik and later stayed at a luxury resort "Grape County". Iocated on the Trimbakeshwar Road, a lot of details of his "secret" visit to the grape city have emerged.

According to available information, the actor was received by prominent office bearers of the educational institution and some district officials on his arrival at a private helipad of Sapkal Knowledge Hub. Even at the resort, police officials were present. However, a lot of "secrecy" had been maintained over the actor's visit to Nashik.

Asked whether the actor had obtained necessary permissions from the authorities for his visit, Maharashtra Food & Civil Supplies Minister Chagan Bhujbal feigned ignorance about the actor's visit, Coming as it did in the midst of the ongoing lockdown.

Bhujbal, who incidentally the district guardian minister of

"Let me make it very clear tha "Let me make it very clear that the police had not provided any security to the actor. Hence there should not be any misgivings over the actor's visit to Nashik," Bhujbal said.

i. Informed sources, meanwhile, said that the private helicopter which flew the actor to Nashik, had applied permission from the dis-trict administration for landing of chopper. For this purpose, the Nashik rural police gave "No Objection Certificate" to the heli-

Nashik rural police gave "No Objection Certificate" to the helicopter fir with ten conditions. Prima facie appears that the district administration gave permission to the private helicopter firm for landing the chopper at Sapkal Knowledge Hub.

At a time when the people have to still obtain e-passes for inter-district travel in Maharashtra, there are no official details as to how the actor managed to obtain all permissions from the authorities for his visit to Nashik.

Akshay's flying visit to Nashik.

Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray travelled by a ferry from Mumbai to Raigad last mouth to assess the situation arising out of Cyclone and drove by road from Mumbai to Solapur for Maharaphic Haksadshi annual puja' at Pandharpur town early this. On his part, senior minister Ashok Chavan travelled by road from Manded to Mumbai for his Covid-19 treatment.

Virus damages endocrine system badly

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE IN NEW DELHI

People with endocrine disorders may see their condition worsen as a result of Covid-19, researchers have said in a study published in the journal of Endocrine Society.

The virus that causes Covid-19 binds to the ACE2 receptor, a protein which is expressed in many tissues. This allows the virus to enter endocrine cells and cause the mayhem associated with the disease, said study researcher Noel Pratheesean

ALL2 receptor, a protein which is expressed in many tissues. This allows the virus to enter endocrine cells and cause the mayhem associated with the disease, said study researcher. Noel Pratheepan Somasundaram from the National Hospital of Sri Lanka.

"We explored the previous SARS outbreak caused by the very rvicsimilar virus SARS-CoV-1 to advise endocrinologists involved in the care of patients with Covid-19," he said.

According to the study, SARS-CoV-2 or dataset loss of smell and gain entry to the brain. In past coronavirus infections such as the SARS-epidemic in 2003, many patients developed a post-viral syndrome with fatigue.

This could in part be caused by adrenal insufficiency, a condition where the adrenal glands do not make enough cortisol, as a result of damage to the pituitary system. During the SARS epidemic, patients who developed adrenal insufficiency typically recovered within one year.

"Testing for cortisol deficiency and treating patients with steroids may become a vital treatment strategy," Somasundaram said.

"Very recent studies have demonstrated lowered mortality in severely ill patients with Covid-19 also could lead to new cases of diabetes and worsening of existing diabetes.

The SARS-CoV-2 virus attaches to ACE2, the main entry point into cells for coronavirus, and disviptis insulin production, causing high blood glucose levels in some patients.

Ram temple trust members to meet on July 18 in Ayodhya

Ayodhya: Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra trust will meet here on July 18 to discuss the way forward of temple construction and the date for bhoomi pujar (land worship). An invitation has been sent to all the members of the trust the trust. "The trust meeting has been

"The trust meeting usa occur called in Ayodhya on July 18. Right now stones which have gathered moss are being cleaned," the trust general sec-retary Champat Rai said. He said there is no discus-

He said there is no discussion among the saints on the issue of increasing the height of the temple. "I have met 200 saints and seers in the last 15 days," he said. He said the work of lining is being done on the levelled land. The line disappears due to rains. Now the temple site is being demacrated with pegs. The L&T company is doing this

work. He said that any statement on the start of temple construc-tion and 'Bhoomi Pujan' in the

tion and Bhoomi Pujan' in the month of Shrawan is just imag-inary. No decision has been taken yet, he said. Ashish Sompura, son of Chandrakant Sompura, the chief architecture of the Ram temple model has taken the charge of the technical work. He oversaw the workshop. He said, "The stones have been lying here for a long time. They have turned black and are being cleaned to shine."

Talking about increasing

cleaned to shine."

Talking about increasing the height of the temple, Sompura said, "It will be decided in the trust meeting. But the old stones will be used. The stones will be coated so that they do not loss shine. Some stones have degraded and will be changed. The life of these stones is about 1,000 years."

Delhi BJP reorganisation process begins: 35 teams formed to shortlist names for block unit presidents

New Delhi: The process of reorganisation of Delhi BJP has begun with the formation of 35 teams to shortlist names of local teams to shortlist names of local leaders to be appointed as presidents of the party's block units. The 35 teams, each comprising two senior leaders, will shortlist by July 9 the names of potential block-level workers to be

appointed as presidents. The shortlisting process will begin from July 6, said a senior Delhi BJP leader.

BJP leader.
The party has decided to keep the upper age limit for block presidents to 45 years in order to groom young leadership at the local level. There are 280 block units of the BJP in Delhi.

BJP a party for service of society, says Modi

PISS m New DELHI

Stating that the BJP is not merely an "election winning machine" but an organisation for the service of the society, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday lauded the "seva" of the party workers in the time of cornovairus crisis and suggested that every 'mandal', district and State prepares a digital work of its experiences during the pandemic and releases it by September 25, on the birth anniversary of the Bharatiya Ina Sangh and BJP ideologue Deen Dayal Upadhyay.

The Prime Minister, who was reviewing the work of narty workers in the last four

The Prime Minister, who was reviewing the work of party workers in the last four months of crisis and watching the presentations of seven BIP states through video conferencing, said the digitalisation from all tiers could finally be converted into one that of the entire country. This prime the future generation, not only within the country but globally too.

within the country but globallytoo.

Modi said digitalisation should be done at least in three languages-mother tongue, Hindi and English. He said the work would give a great strength and inspiration to those who would get to read the "commendable service" done by lakhs of people during

SIMMERING INDO-CHINA TENSION

Almost all top leaders, including BJP President J F Nadda, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman

Rajnath Singh, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, and BJP-run State Chief Ministers including Yogi Adityanath, Shivraj Singh Chouhan and BJP state presidents were present in the BJP Headquarters here. The Programme was titled "Seva hi Sanghthan".

Modi said he was proud that BJP proved that Sevice was its primary aim and power was only a means to an end. "This tradition we inherited from our founding fathers and their hard work".

He said some observers see an organisation in context of elections only. "For us organisation in mans service for everyone's happiness and the idea of-Nation first," Modi said and went on to say that BJP had tried to build an equal society.

He said BJP today repre-

had tried to build an equal society.

He said BJP today repre-sents all section of society with 52 dalit MPs, 43 tribal MPs, 130 OBC MPs and also having 150 tribal MLAs in "Vidhan Sabhas".

Presentations were made before the Prime Minister by the state unit chiefs of seven

Cong reminds Modi of

following 'raj dharma'

to look eye-to-eye at China and unequivocally tell them to retreat from their illegal and brazen occupation of Indian territory. Mr Prime Minister, this is the only raj dharmá that you must follow, Sibal said at AICC virtual Press conference.

"They say 'pictures do not lie.' Will the Prime Minister now tell the nation is this Indian territory on which radars, helipad and other structures have been built by the Chinese in a brazen act of transgression?

"Have the Chinese in a brazen act of transgression?

"Have the Chinese occupied our territory in Galwan Valley, including 'Patrol Point 14', where our 20 jawans of the 16 Bihar Regiment made the supreme sacrifice? Has China also occupied our territory in Piot Springs?' the Congress leader asked.

"Has China occupied our territory up to 'Y-Junction' (18 kms inside the LAC) in the Depsang plains, threatening India's strategic DBO airstrip, which is the lifeline of modification of 1962 and the raof expansionism is over, the former Union Minister aid Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of the country, had told China then that India will never accept the Chinese claim-line.

Modi exhorts tech community to participate in 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat App Innovation Challenge'



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

sentations detailed the distri-bution of food packets, face masks, 'Paduka' and help ren

bution of food packets, face-masks, Paduka' and help ren-dered to stranded migrants in reaching their native places. Bihar state unit president maintained that but for the help provided by them not even 10 per cent of migrants could have made it to their homes during the lockdown. Intervening during the sihar session, the Prime Minister briefly spoke in the native language while lauding the work done by the party work. He said UP and Bihar has a great challenge and will have to work with the same zeal in future. Similarly, he congratulated Assam unit saying they worked Assam unit saying they worked rence in BIP increased in the state.

e. Modi asked all state units

Modi asked all state units to be alert and aware of the approaching festival season as "coronavirus danger is still the state units to send their presentations directly to him. Nadda said 22 crore food packets were distributed in the last 68 days and 5 crore "Modi ration kits" were also delivered.

Chinese 1959 line, whatever the consequences and how-ever long and hard the struggle may be. The Congress leader said paradoxically, the Chinese 1959 line clearly depicted the entire Galwan Valley in India and was only on June 16, 2020, a day after the fatal clashes, that Chine formally

laid claim, for the first time ever, to the entire Galwan

Close on the heels of ban-ning 59 Chinese apps, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday invited the start-up and tech community to par-ticipate in the 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat App Innovation Challenge' and exhorted them to create an 'Aatmanirbhar App Ecosystemi. "Who knows, I may also use some of these apps made by ou," Modi said in a write-up on LinkedIn. In a tweet, Electronics and

you," Modi said in a write-up on LinkedIn.

In a tweet, Electronics and Information Technology (IT) Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad said that the PM has launched the challenge to encourage Indian application developers and innovators.

Today, there is immense enthusiasm among the technology and the products, which is a supplied to create world class 'Made in India App's, Modi said.

To facilitate their ideas and products, the Ministry of Callettonics and Information Technology along with the Atal

Innovation Mission are launching the 'Aatmanii'bhar Bharat App Innovation Challenge', the prime minister tweeted sharing the link to the LinkedIn post. Modi had given a call for an 'Atmanir'bhar Bharat' (a self-reliant India) and had urged people to be 'vocal for local' products. He said the app innovation challenge is for those who have such a working product or if they feel they have the vision and expertise to create such products. "I urge all my friends in the

and expertise to create such products.

"I urge all my friends in the tech community to participate", he said while sharing the write-up 'Let us Code for an Aatmanirbhar Bharat'.

India has a very vibrant tech and start-up ecosystem, which has done India proud nationally as well as globally, Modi said.

The country's youth have excelled in providing tech solutions across sectors, he said.

The COVID-19 pandemich as also brought about a big disruption, which is being tack-

lives, the Prime Minister pointed out.

Everyone is aware of the huge potential of the market and the scale products can achieve if they can satisfy the demand, he said.

Nowadays, was are seeing huge interest and enthusiasm among the start-up and tech ecosystem to innovate, develop and promote homegrown apps, Modis said.

"Today, when the entire ation is working towards creating an Aatmanirbhar Bharat, it is a good opportunity to give direction to their hard-work and mentorship to their talent to evolve apps which can satisfy our market as well as compete with the world', he said in the write-up.

To help the start-up and

pete with the world", he said in the write-up.

To help the start-up and ech community achieve this objective, the challenge will run in the world of the start o

grounds of ensuring security and safety of Indian cyber space.

Zova Khan becomes India's first transgender operator of Common Service Centre



Zoya Khan from the Vadodara district of Gujarat has become the first transe

has become the first transgen-der operator of the Common Service Centre (CSC) in India. Union Minister of Electronics and Information Technology, Ravi Shankar Prasad shared the news with

office on his Twitter handle.
"Zoya Khan is India's first
transgender operator of
Common Service Centre from

Ielemedicine consultation. Her vision is to support the transgender community in making them digitally literate & give them better opportunities, he said.

. Common Service Centres are facilities provided by the Government of India for deliv ering e-Services to rural and remote locations where avail-ability of computers and Internet was negligible or most-ly absent.

Modi's visit to military hosp in Leh -

Army rubbishes claim over hastily assembled hosp, fit soldiers posing as injured



The Army on Saturday termed reports in social media as malicious claiming a hastily assembled hospital and fit soldiers posing a sinjured during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to a military hospital in Leh on Friday. Taking exception to reports initing the event was staged, the Army said these were malicious and unsubstantiated accusations' in some quarters regarding the status of the facility visited by the Prime Minister.

Minister.

It is unfortunate that aspersions are being cast on how our brave Armed Forces are treated. The Armed Forces give the best possible treatment to their

ed. The Armed Forces give the best possible treatment to their personnel, the statement said. It is clarified that the said facility is part of the Crisis Expansion capacity of 100 beds and is very much part of the General Hospital complex. The COVID-19 protocol had necessitated some wards of the General Hospital to be converted into isolation facilities. Hence, this hall which otherwise was normally used as a Training Audio Video Hall was converted into a ward ever since the hospital was also designated as COVID treatment hospital. The injured braves have been kept there since their arrival from Galwan to ensure

The injured braves have been kept there since their arrival from Galwan to ensure quarantine from Covid areas. Army Chief General MM Naravane and the Army also visited the

iniured braves in

the same location

on earlier occasions, it said quarantine from COVID areas. Army Chief General M M Naravane and the Army Commander have also visited the injured braves in the same location on earlier occasions, it

said.

After the bloody skirmish
on June 15 in the Galwan valley leaving 20 Indian army
personnel dead, the injured soldiers were kept there to ensure
isolation from COVID-19 affected areas.

attected areas.
On a surprise visit to
Ladakh on Friday, Modi
addressed troops at Nimu outside Leh and later visited the
Leh military hospital and met
the soldiers.

Stop-gap: ITBP director continues to helm BSF

line.

According to Sibal, Nehru
wrote to China, saying India
will never submit to the
demand for it to accept the

to at least special about it.
Sibal also asked Modi to stop doing the politics of "illusion and delusion" and showing "red eyes" to China, and protect Indian territory.
"The times warrant India

A day after Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Leh and addressed the soldiers, the Congress on Saturday said time has come for him to follow his "raj dharma" and tell the people of the country about the reality of Chinese "incursions". The grand old party also countered BJP's claim that it was only Modi to visit a front-line. Former Union Minister Kapil Sibal said former prime ministers Indira Gandhi and Lal Bahadur Shastri had visited forward locations to boost the morale of Indian soldiers and Jawaharlal Nehru too had also visited soldiers in the forward locations in NEFA in 1962 to boost their morale.

"But it appears that our prime minister stayed 230 km away in Nimu, Leh", Sibal said, ing a swipe at Modi's visit. Posing a set of five questions to the Prime Minister, Congress asked Modi to say whether the actual picture of "Chinese occupation of our territory" up to the "Finger 4 Ridge" in the truth on the ground.

Sibal used satellite images of Ladakh's Pangong Tso from May and June to show Chinese structures in the area and asked the Prime Minister to at least speak the truth about it

RAKESH K SINGH III NEW DELHI

The BSF that secures the frontiers on Bangladesh and Pakistan continues to be head-ed by the ITBP Director General SS Deswal in a stop-gap measure for the last nearly four months after the former BSF chief Vivek John't was repatriated to his parent Madhya Pradesh cadre on March 11.

The ITBP is the designated border-guarding force and Lead Intelligence Agency on the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with China while the BSF is in a similar role along the frontiers with Bangladesh and Pakistan. For the last over two months, the Indian Forces are in a standoff positions with the Chinese Army at several points along the LAC in eastern Ladakh where the role of the ITBP has further increased as additional troops have been

rushed to augment a matching response to the buildup of the Chinese forces amid the ten-sions between the two

countries.

The BSF also faces additional threat along the International Boundary (IB) with Pakistan in Rajasthan and with Pakistan in Rajasthan and Punjah as Pakistan's army is a "brother" army for Chinese counterparts and can potentially play a spoilsport in the event of an escalation with Beijing. The need for a full-fledged chief of the BSF is the need of the hour, inciden exist.

the BSF is the need of the hour, insiders said. While Johr is a 1984 batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of the Madhya Pradesh cadre who heads the police in the State, Deswal is a Haryana cadre officer of the same batch and took additional charge of the BSF on March 11 when the ITBP was one of the lead forces managing quarantine facility

in the country to screen and quarantine, at its Chhawla camp here, the Indians and foreigners evacuated from Wuhan which was then the epicentre of the Covid-19.

Besides the charge of ITBP, Deswal continues to hold the additional responsibility of the BSF till now.

"Consequent upon repa-

additional responsibility of the BSF till now. Consequent upon repatriation of Vivek Johri, (1984, IPS officer of MP cadre), Director General Border SecurityForce to his parent cadre, competent authority has approved that SS Deswal (1984-batch IPS officer of the Haryana cadre), DG, ITBP (Indo-Tibetan Border Police) shall hold additional charge of the post of DG SF vice Shr Vivek Johri, till the appointment and joining of the successor or until further orders, whichever is earlier," an order issued by the Home Ministry on March 10 had said.

Health Ministry revises dosage of Remdesivir for Covid-19 patients Remdesivir on day one and 100 milligram for the next four days. The Ministry had on June 13 allowed the use of



laid claim, for the first time ever, to the entire Galwan Valley. "Isn't it correct that the local councillors of Ladakh, including BJP councillors, submitted an emoorandum to Prime Minister Modi in February about the capture of our land by China? What action did the prime minister take? Had he acted, wouldn't we have been able to pre-empt the brazen Chinese transgressions?" Sibal asked which was also seconded by the his party colleague and a former Jammu Kashmir Chief Minister Chulam Nabi Azad. In a clear message to The Union Health Ministry Ton Friday revised the pre-scribed dosage of anti-viral drug Remdesivir for coron-avirus patients from six days

to five.

According to the updated version of its Clinical Management Protocol for the

The Ministry had on June 13 allowed the use of remdesivir for "restricted emergency use" in moderate coronavirus cases.

Hyderabad-based drugmaker Hetero has the approval to manufacture remdesivir for the treatment of coronavirus patients.

patients.

Last month, the company had said that it will deliver the first set of the medicine to Maharashtra, Delhi, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat ata price of ₹5,400 per vial.

Modi stresses on need to adopt organic-natural farming practices on a cluster-based approach

Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad.

In a clear message to China, Modi on Friday said the era of expansionism is over and that India's enemies have seen the "fire and fury" of its armed forces, as he made an unannounced visit to Ladakh, signalling India's firmness in dealing with the border row with the neighbouring country.

In an address to troops in Nimu, the prime minister paid glowing tributes to the 20 Indian Soldiers killed in the Galwan Valley clashes and said tales of the bravery and valour of the armed forces are echoing in every part of the PNS IN NEW DELHI

Reviewing the progress of aggriculture research, extension and education in India through video conference, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the American desired to adopt organic and natural farming practices on a cluster based approach. He exhorted the need to create awareness regarding inclusion of millets like Jowar, baijar, ragi and several other minor millets in diet to ensure a healthy diet. PM appreciated the efforts owards developing varieties focusing on specific requirements of agro-climatic zones and exhorted the need for developing forward and backward linkages to assure better returns to farmers.

Reviewing the contributions of ICAR in developing new breeds of cattle, sheep and goats, PM Modi stressed the need for research on indigenous breeds of dogs and horses. PM Modi exhorted that study of grasses and local fodder crops should be undertaken to understand their nutritive value.

At the meeting, Dr.

der crops snouder be understand their nutritive value.

At the meeting, Dr. Trilochan Mohaptra, Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research cum-Secretary, Department of Agricultural Research extremely priorities, performance and pre-paredness to face various chal-lenges. ICAR has developed geo-referenced Organic Carbon Map of India, identi-fied 88 bio control agents and 22 Bio pesticides which can promote organic agriculture.
According to the agriculture according to the agriculture ministry, the PM directed

Stephen .

that start-ups and agri-entre-preneurs need to be promoted to ensure innovation and use

preneurs need to be promoted to ensure innovation and use of technology in agriculture and allied sectors.

He highlighted the need to leverage information technology to provide information to the farmers. PM Modi also directed that Hackathons may be organised twice a year to solve identified problems and meet design needs for tools and equipment that can reduce drudgery if farming activity, given that a large number of farm workers are women.

The yasid the PM appreciated the efforts towards developing varieties focusing on specific requirements of agroclimatic zones and exhorted the meed for developing forward and backward linkages to assure better returns to farmers.

The PM highlighted they

The PM highlighted that avenues for enhancing bic ethanol from sugarcane and other crops need to be explored.

explored.

In an effort to bolste
'Kuposh Mukt Bharat' (India
free from Malnutrition) 70 bio
fortified varities with enhanced
Iron, Zinc and Protein conten
have been developed. Bhagwa agwa, M.P. Madhyam/97832/2020

a variety of Pomegranate, is rich in Iron, Potassium, Vitamin C and Anti-oxidants. Poshan Thali and Nutriagardens are being promoted through Krishi Vigyan Kendras. Pilots were conduction of the Potagon Strain Comment of the Potagon Strain Carlo Handle Strain Vigyan Kendras and 450 model farms. In its presentation ICAR highlighted the Magic seeder in Punjab, Haryana and Delhi to address the problem of stubble burning after the harvest of paddy crop. There is a reduction of 52% in comparison to 2016.

CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF PSYCHIATRY

Corrigendum

With reference to published notice in this With reference to earlier published notice in this newspaper on dated 22.06.2020 for inviting tender for appointment of agency for watch and ward services at Central Institute of Psychiatry, Ranchi, few modifications have been made and a Revised Notice is uploaded on our official website i.e. www.cipranchi.nic.in as well as in CPP Portal Website i.e. at the www.eprocure.gov.in.

CIP, Ranchi, Jharkhand

CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER (IT)

MADHYA PRADESH MADHYA KSHETRA VIDYUT VITARAN COMPANY LIMITED MADITICS: Indertaking)
NISHTHA PARISAR, BIJALEE NAGAR, GOVINDPURA, BHOPAL-23
Phone No.0755-2602033-36, Fax: 2589821 Bhopal, Dated : 04.07.2020

	TE	NDER NO	TICE				
MPMKVVCL, Bhopal, invites bids for following item through e-tendering							
Tender Specification Number	Particulars	Approx. Value (Rs.)	Tender Fee (Rs.)	Date of Pre-Bid Conference	Date of opening of tender		
MD/CZ/SE/IT/ Tender/34 Dt. 04.07.2020	Appointment of an agency for Al Powered Automated Conversation Recognition and Response System at MPMKVVCL, Bhopal.	3.12 Crore	5000+GST @ 18% =5900 Plus Processing Fee	17.07.2020 at (12:00 pm)	28.07.2020 at (03.30 pm)		

Jio killer app serves ₹13,500 pa spoiler on Zoom party

While video conferencing happ. Zoom has a 40-minute limit on group meetings in its basic or free plan, JioMeet, soft launched on Google Playstore and iOS on Thursday, has a 24-hour limit on group meetings, as the solid property of the plant of the plan

Coal production nil in

most mines during 3-day

strike: Trade union leader

rienced intense competition since it was established in 2011 and yet we have become the platform of choice for millions

The three-day nationwide strike by coal workers against the Government's decision to open the sector for private players led to almost nil production in most of the mines, and dispatch of the fuel was totally blocked, a trade union leader said on Saturday.

union leader said on Saturday. Five trade unions, including RSS-affiliated Bharativa Mazdoor Sangh, of Coal India have been on strike since Thursday to protest against the government's decision to start commercial coal mining. The three-day strike in coal industry is big success...In most of the mines (in all the three days), production was nil and the dispatch was totally

Noida Authority is providin online services for its allottee

online services for its allottees, residents, farmers and investors. Due to coronavirus, most of its services have been made online by the authority. The desired information/information can

be obtained as soon as people be obtained as soon as people sit at home.

In order of the above, online services, Mitra App, Problem Solving System, WhatsAppp and Helpline Centre are also working by the

of participants around the world.

We know what it takes to become the unified communications platform we are today, including the immense amount

including the immense amount of work and focus required to create our frictionless user experience, sophisticated security, and scalable architecture. The zero restriction on time limit targets is disrupting the Zoom digital experience. For instance in education, with 24-hour free JioMeet sessions, teachers will not be required to cut short their classes as they are forced to using Zoom. Similarly student work be restricted to limit their questions and this may enhance the learning experience in both formal and informal education. experience in both t informal education

Friends, alumni networks and relatives will now not need to be caught in the "tyranny of 40 minutes," the free time allowed by Zoom runs out. National and international seminars will experience complete migration a similar limitation because without any entry fee they can host their research - and conversation can spill ower beyond 40 minutes easily for mutual benefit. Sales demonstrations, especially, say, SMEs, kiranas, will be disrupted leading to enabling e-commerce. Likewise, brokers and any others needing constant and prolonged group video connectivity.

Collaborative cultural.

nectivity.

Collaborative cultural, social, musical, spiritual and events can be held which are livelihood source of performers and continue to keep social structure and fabric alive. Likewise democratic events.

Likewise democratic events.

Besides a price tag of zero, in terms of features and functionality JioMeet score on advantages. In a Zoom meeting, users can't expand a participant's video.

The Central Government is

going all out to ensure that liquidity concerns of the MSME sector are addressed on priority under its Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme

(ECLGS).
As of July 1, 2020 public sector and private banks have sanctioned loans worth over ₹

IANS III NEW DELHI

In JioMeet meetings users can expand any participant's video or Shared Screen's video by a double tap. JioMeet has 2 advanced

by a double tap.

JioMeet has 2 advanced meeting settings over and above Zoom options. Allow participants only from my organization: If enabled only users from host's organsation (eg tcs.com or hll.com) can join that meeting. No potential snoops from other IDs.

It does not allow guest users, If enabled every user will be required to Sign Up before joining the meeting hence restricting anonymous users from joining the call.

Unlike Zoom, JioMeet users can switch from one device to another without dropping out of the call. Zoom allows Sign Up only with Email ID.

IioMeet allows sign up only with Email ID.

Email ID.

JioMeet allows sign up with Email Id and mobile number.

Inside the call, Zoom

1.10 lakh crore under the 100 per cent Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme, of which more than ₹52,000 crore has already been disbursed.

There has been a big jump in sanctions in the last couple of weeks. And just in the last six duren by the Learning has been disputable.

of weeks. And just in the last six days up to July 1 sanctions have increased by a whopping ₹ 10,000 crore while disbursement has increased by ₹ 7,000

'Threatened' Zoom says not worried about JioMeet competition

1:1 video calls and hosting meetings with up to 100 par-ticipants. The application has

In a tweet, office of Finance

more than 1,00,000 times on Google Play Store within no time. Zoom has experienced intense competition since it was established in 2011, and yet we have become the plat-form of choice for millions of

Zoom added.JioMeet has created a solid buzz in India. Other highlights in the desi video meet app include easy sign up with either mobile number or email ID, meeting in HD audio and video quality.It offers support where the users can click on a JioMeet invite link and join from his or her browser without downloading the application.

Back-end technology optimises experience with HD video quality even at lower bandwidths and intuitive and user-friendly inter-

itive and user-friendly inter-face enhances overall confer-encing experience.

FOR REGENT ENTERPRISES LTD

Place:New Delhi

DIN:05308192



The following Tenders have floated online. Tenderers requested to visit the www.lreps.gov.in and submit offers online. The Tender Descr City. EMD, SD may be se website. Offers submitted ma will not be accepted. Offers by

www.ireps.gov.in."
Tender No BRIEF DESCRIPTION
82.20.5106 High Flow Nasa 80.20.5001 Lube Oil 15 W 40 B4.19.5003A Composite Decora Glass Fabric reinfo Plastic sheet

93.19.1031A Compreg Playwood 83.20.1550B White Security Bond Paper 29.20.1399 Axle Box Bearing

Note:- Due dates of Tender Opening: S.No.1. on 22.07.2020 S.No. 02 to 03 on 27.07.2020; S.No. 06 or 07.08.2020.

Principal Chief Materials M

With Reliance Jio launching a Make in India free video-conferencing application JioMeet that directly takes on Zoom, the US-based company said on Saturday they are not worried about the upcoming competition and know what it takes to become a successful unified communications platform.

JioMeet offers enterprisegrade host control and security that and can be used for 1:1 video calls and hosting meetings with up to 100 par-

form of choice for millions of participants around the world," the company said in a statement." We know what it takes to become the unified communications platform we are today, including the immense amount of work and focus required to create our frictionless user experi-ence, sophisticated security, and scalable architecture,"

Liquidity to MSME rises as bank sanctions cross ₹1.10L cr biggest fiscal component of the ₹20-lakh crore Self-Reliant India Mission package announced by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in May-To ensure that the scheme achieves its objective of providing adequate liquidity to the MSME segment during the current difficult period, the finance ministry has regularly A finance ministry statement said that banks from both public and private sector have contributed to the success of the ECLGS. Of the ₹52,000 crore dishursement multicrore disbursement, public sector banks have released ₹ 33,000 crore to about 12,59,000 MSME accounts while private banks have disbursed \$19,000 crore to about 1,45,000 accounts.

M Taj Mukarrum assumes

charge of Director

In a tweet, office of Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said: "As of July 1, the total amount sanctioned under the 100 per cent Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme by #PSBs and private banks stands at ₹1,10,343,77 crore, of which ₹52,255.53 crore has already been disbursed."

The ECLGS scheme is the

Coal India, NLC India JV to pump in ₹12,000cr to install3,000-MW solar power assets

PTI ■ KOLKATA

Coal India Ltd (CIL) and NIC India will jointly develop solar power assets of 3,000 MW with a likely invest-ment of around \$12,000 crore, sources said on Saturday.

nies had on Friday said they would form a JV to develop 5,000 MW of solar and thermal decide the final contour project. At present, sol for each MW is are

project. At present, solar capex for each MW is around ₹4

blocked," Nathulal Pandey, president of HMS-affiliated Hind Khadan Mazdoor Federation, said. However, a Coal India official has said that coal production was 4.81 lakh tonne on Thursday, which is close to 38 per cent of the normal 13 lakh tonne per day, called to a werage of 10 days immediately prior to stoppage of the operations. CIL despatched 5.78 lakh tonnes of the first day of strike. This is around 42 % of the normal officials of the mortal officials with the more of Called Fiday, which is 42.7% of the 10 days average production (from June 22 to July 1) of 12.969 lakh tonne.

And by visiting the Gre Noida Authority's web

5,000 MW of solar and thermal power assets across the country."A solar JV is already in process of formation with an initial capital of ₹10 lakh. Once the company is formed, the respective company boards will

for each MW is around \$4 crore," they said. The Government plans to impose 20 per cent basic customs duty duty on imported solar panels to boost the domestic industry, the sources said.

NFL records all-time

high fertilizer sale of 12.85 LMT in Q1

New Delhi: Breaking all previous records, NFL has achieved high-est-ever fertilizer sale of 12.85 Lakh MT in first quarter (April-June) of this

Noida Authority's website (https://investgnida.in/Homea spx) can be accessed by clicking the link titled 'Contemporary content'. Information on the following joints/update status and pending cases can be obtained by clicking on the following:

1- Mitra App
2- Online Services.
3- Department wise Pendency.

(April-June) of this financial year.
This is about 21.5% higher than the sales of 10.57 LMT made by company in the first quarter of 2019-20.

3- Department wise Pendency. The new facility for gener-al public/Greater Noida resi-dents has been started by the Greater Noida Authority. Other than significant growth in Urea sale, P&K fer-tilizers also recorded a growth

of 13% during the quarter. In the month of June'20, the comthe month of June 20, the com-pany sold 5.30 LMT of fertil-izers, up by 15.5% than the 4.59 LMT sold in the same month previous year.

(Finance), POWERGRID

New Delhi: M Taj Mukarrum has assumed the charge of Director (Finance) of Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID) on 4 Limited (POWERGRID) on 4 July, 2020. Prior to taking up this assignment, he was work-ing as Executive Director (Finance), POWERGRID. M Taj Mukarrum has about thir-ty five years of experience in Power Sector which includes Power Sector which includes Long term Financial Planning, Financial Concurrence, CAPEX & O&M payments, vetting of Detailed Project Reports (DPR)/Revised Cost Estimates (RCE), Coordination for Project Financial Viability Appraisal by external profes-



sional Agencies for Consultancy Business Vertical including Smart Grid and Energy Efficiency such as Electric Vehicle Charging (eV), Energy Audits, setting up Smart Grid Cities Railway

COVID - 19 PARCEL CARGO EXPRESS TRAINS

BOOK YOUR PARCEL IN TIME-TABLED PARCEL CARGO EXPRESS TRAINS (PCETs)

Northern Railway is operating Parcel Cargo Express Trains (PCETs) to ensure the faster and Time-Tabled delivery of parcel containing important and essential commodities. Interested rail users may book their parcels in these trains for its designated destinations and stoppages enroute. List of PCETs originating/terminating over Northern Railway is as under:-

Spl. No.	Station From	Dep. Time	Station to	Arr. Time	Days of Run	Dates of run
00401	Guwahati	01:30	New Delhi	13:15	Fri, Sun	Upto 31.12.2020
00402	New Delhi	14:30	Guwahati	02:30	Tue, Thu	Upto 31.12.2020
00463	Howrah	17:30	Amritsar	08:45	Mon, Sat	Upto 31.12.2020
00464	Amritsar	18:00	Howrah	08:30	Wed, Fri	Upto 31.12.2020
00465	Guwahati	01:30	Amritsar	19:45	Wednesday	Upto 31.12.2020
00466	Amritsar	07:50	Guwahati	02:30	Friday	Upto 31.12.2020
00467	Howrah	17:30	Amritsar	06:30	Thursday	Upto 31.12.2020
00468	Amritsar	20:40	Howrah	08:30	Monday	Upto 31.12.2020
00621	KSR Bengaluru	17:00	Hazrat Nizamuddin	14:00	Wed, Fri	Upto 25.12.2020
00622	Hazrat Nizamuddin	21:00	KSR Bengaluru	18:30	Fri, Sun	Upto 27.12.2020
00761	Renigunta	06:00	Hazrat Nizamuddin	15:20	Tue, Sun	Upto 07.07.2020
00762	Hazrat Nizamuddin	06:00	Renigunta	16:15	Tue, Thu, Sun	Upto 09.07.2020
00763	Hyderabad Deccan	19:30	Amritsar	09:10	Friday	Upto 25.12.2020
00764	Amritsar	05:00	Hyderabad Deccan	18:20	Monday	Upto 28.12.2020
00901	Bandra Terminus	20:00	Ludhiana	03:00	Tue, Wed Fri, Sun	upto 14.07.2020
00902	Ludhiana	23:30	Bandra Terminus	06:30	Tue, Thu Fri, Sun	upto 16.07.2020

The parties interested to book their Parcels in these trains may contact the concerned Divisional Officer / Parcel Supervisor. Division wise contact numbers of concerned Officers / Supervisors are available on Northern Railway's website www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in at About us>Covid Corner>Covid_19 Parcel Trains section.

The time table and operation status of all the above mentioned trains can be seen on the National Train Enquiry System (NTEs)





NORTHERN RAILWAY Your Convenience - Our Concern

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

SEARCH FOR MISSING



General Public is hereby informed that one lady Namely: Sangeeta, W/o: Shailender, R/o: H.No. WZ-520, 4th Floor, Naraina Village, New Dethi, Age: About 30 Years, Height: 5'3". Complexion: Shallow, Face: Round, Built: Medium, Hair: Normal Long Black, Wearing: Red Colour Suit, Salwar and Black Colour Leather Chappal in foot has been missing since Salwar and Black Colour Leather Chappal in foot has been missing since 22.06.2020 from her house. In this regard DD No. 8A, Dated 23.06.2020 has been lodged at PS. Naraina, Delhi.

Greater Noida Authority

providing online services

efforts are being made for timely and timely disposal of applications, complaints and applications received by the Authority. In the order of the above, a brief description of the settlements made in a month through various online services, Mitra app etc.

A month ago, the facility of Citizen Dash Boardwas started under which any person of general public, institution, intellectual and journalists, etc. can go to the above dash board to get the desired information,

to get the desired information, information and the latest sta-tus of pending case.

has been lodged at PS. Naraina, Delhi.
Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing lady but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing lady please inform the undersigned.

PS. Naraina, Delhi Ph.: 011-25891181, 25892010, 8750871122



General public is hereby informed that a boy (depicted in the photo) namely Putul Kumar S/o Ramesh Bhatia R/o Village Punas, P.O. Biroli, P.S. & Distt. Samastipur, Bihar Aged: 15 years, has been reported missing since 30.01.2019 vide FIR No. 22/19 Dated 30.01.20019 u/s 363 registered at Police Station - Inderpuri, New Delhi. His physical description is as under:-

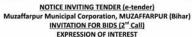
Complexion : Wheatish, Height : 5', Face : Round, Build ning: wearing green colour shirt, blue colour pan

Any person is having any information or clue about this missing boy may inform SHO, Inderpuri, New Delhi at E-mail: cice@bi.gov.in or Website: http://cbi.nic.in, Tele No.: 24368639/24368641, Fax: 24368639,

SHO: P.S. Inder Puri, New Delhi Ph.: 011-25832201, 8750871123



MUZAFFARPUR SMART CITY LIMITED



Muzaffarpur Smart City invites online proposals through this Expression of Interest for selection of a Agency to provide Green building consultancy to meet minimum GRIHA star rating for selected Buildings in the Administrative zone of Muzaffarpur city under smart city mission.

1. Date of Important Events

SI.No

SI.No	Description	Date
1	Online Sale/Download date of EOI documents	From 13.07.2020 (10:00 Hrs.) Till 20.07.2020 (14.00Hrs) (www.eproc.bihar.gov.in.) (Under Muzaffarpur Smart City Limited)
2	Pre EOI submission meeting	16-07-2020 (15:00 Hrs.) (At Conference Hall, MMC, Muzaffarpur)
3	EOI Submission Date (online)	21-07-2020 Till 15.00 Hrs.
4	EOI Submission in Hardcopy	22-07-2020 Till 15.00 Hrs.
5	EOI Opening Date	23-07-2020 At 16:00 Hrs.
6	Date for Presentation of methodology	25-07-2020 (15:00 Hrs.) (At Conference Hall, Muzaffarpur Municipal Corporation, Muzaffarpur).
7	Date for announcement of shortlisted bidders	28-07-2020 (Through E-mail to successful bidders)
8	Date(s) for Technical Discussions/ Clarifications leading to Formulation of RFP	30-07-2020 (Venue and Time will be announced)
9	RFP Publication Date (Tentative)	31-07-2020

For Queries & Clarifications, se muzaffarpursmartcity.mscl@gmail.com uzaffarnur ulb@email.com 8 Managing Director-Cum-CEO Muzaffarpur Smart City Ltd.

PR No. 0003388/NJ.NJ.12020-21

नोवल कोतीना के संबंध में विस्तृत जानकारी एवं सहयोग हेतु 🐼 राज २००० 🍋 104 पर संपर्क कर सकते हैं

US sends aircraft carriers to South China Sea WHO team to visit

Washington: Two US aircraft carriers were conducting exercises in the disputed South China Sea on Saturday, the US navy said, as China also carried out military drills that have been criticised by the Pentagon and neighbouring states.

China and the United States have accused each other of stoking tension in the strategic patterns at a time of the control of the states have accused each other of stoking tension in the strategic patterns at a time of the states have a state of the states and the states are stated to the states are stated to the states and the states are stated to the states

of stoking tension in the strate-gic waterway at a time of strained relations over everything from the new coronavirus to trade to Hong Kong. The USS Nimitz and USS Ronald Reagan were carrying out operations and exercises in the South China Sea "to support a free and open Indo-Pacific," the navy said in a statement. It did not say exactly where the exercises were being conducted in the South China Sea, which extends for some



of which is claimed by China despite the protests of its neigh-bours.

"The purpose is to show an unambiguous signal to our partners and allies that we are ty and stability," Rear Admiral George M. Wikoff was quoted as saying by the Wall Street Journal, which first reported

the exercises.
Wikoff, commander of the
strike group led by the Ronald
Reagan, said the exercises were
not a response to those being
conducted by China, which the
Pentagon criticised this week as
"counter-productive to efforts
at easing tensions and maintaining stability
China displayed the Didn't child the China
China dardrille on Erds
with the China
with th

China dismissed the US criticism of its drills on Friday and suggested the United States was to blame for increasing tensions. US carriers have long carried out exercises in the Western Pacific, including in the South China Sea, according to the US navy.

At one point recently, the United States had three carriers in the region. China announced last week it had scheduled five days of drills starting July 1 near the Paracel

N Korea says it has no

Islands, which are claimed by both Vietnam and China. Vietnam and the Philippines have also criticised the planned Chinese drills, warning they are the create tension in the Could create tension in the region and impact Beijing's relationship with its neigh-bours.

The United States accuses

China of trying to intimidate Asian neighbours who might want to exploit its extensive oil

want to exploit its extensive on and gas reserves.

Brunei, Malaysia, the Philippines, Taiwan and Vietnam also lay claim to parts of the South China Sea, through which about \$3 trillion of trade passes each vesses each vess.

of trade passes each year.

The US statement said the naval exercises gave commanders the flexibility and capabilities "that only the US Navy

China next week to investigate virus origin

New Delhi: Amid global concerns that China delayed giving information regarding the novel coronavirus outbreak, a team of WHO (World Health Organisation) will visit the

Organisation) will visit the country next week to investigate the origins of the virus and its spread to human beings.

The visit will take place more than six months after the WHO's Country Office in China picked up a statement from the Wuhan Municipal Health Commission on cases of viral pneumonia. WHO Director-General Dr. Tedros Alberton, Godes and Country Country Office in China Country of the Country of Director-General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus spoke in January about an agreement with China for sending a team of international experts "as soon as possible" to work on increasing the understanding of the outbreak

outbreak. Covid-19 has killed over

Covid-19 has killed over 500,000 people in the world and cases and deaths are increasing by the day.

In an exclusive interview with ANI, Dr Soumya Swaminathan, Chief Scientist, WHO said that a "thorough investigation" needs to be done into the origins of the virus.

into the origins of the virus. She said that the WHO has been working with the Chinese

government for the visit. " A team is going to China next week to investigate the origins of the virus," Swaminathan told

ANI.
"What is needed now is a What is needed now is a good investigation going back before December to find out where and how it jumped from animal to human. Was there any intermediate animal or not or it directly jumped from bat to humans which are also possible?

But have been implicated in

directly jumped from bat to humans which are also possible? Bats have been implicated in other viral diseases — Nipah for example. It is possible it came directly. It is also possible that there was an intermediate animal-like in the case of SARS. That thorough investigation still needs to be done," she said. Dr. Swaminathan said that the Chinese government had reported an outbreak of "typical pneumonia cases" from Wthan on December 31. "Our WHO country office in China picked it up and on January 1, WHO activated its international mechanisms which we do as part of international health regulations whenever there's any new signal gets reported. It is conveyed to everyone so that the whole world knows about it," she said. AGENCY

Nepal's ruling communist party meet to

Heavy rain floods

southern Japan,

presumed dead

Tokyo: Heavy rain in southern Japan triggered flooding and mudslides on Saturday, leaving

over a dozen

the NCP required more time to forge an understanding on the outstanding issues.

The meeting has been postponed as NCP chairpersons Oli and Pushpa Kamal Dahal Prachanda were busy holding internal consultations amid the rift in the party.

"The Standing Committee meeting has been postponed until on Monday as both the chairs needed time for further discussions," said Bishnu Sapkota, the press advisor to Prachanda. The meeting was supposed to begin at the Prime Minister's official residence in Baluwatar to find a way out from the intra-party crisis which is dragging the ruling

Hong Kong: Books written by

Democracy books

Hong Kong libraries

disappear from

Oli for his anti-India remarks.

"The Prime Minister's remarks that India was conspiring to remove him was neither politically correct, nor diplomatically appropriate," he said on June 30.

Wong said he believed the

Wong said he believed the removal of the books was sparked by the security law. "White terror continues to spread, the national security law is fundamentally a tool to incriminate speech," he wrote on Facebook, using a phrase that refers to political persecution.

cution.

Searches on the public library website showed at least three titles by Wong, Chan and local scholar Chin Wan are no

Seoul: North Korea on Saturday reiterated it has no immediate plans to resume nuclear negotiations with the United States Unless Washington discards what it describes as "hostile" polices tward Pynnyvang.

describes as "hostile" polices toward Pyongyang. The statement by North Korean First Vice Foreign Minister Choe Son Hui came days after President Donald Trump's former national secu-rity adviser, John Bolton, told

reporters that Trump might seek another summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un as an "October surprise" ahead of the US Presidential

rejected North Korean demands for major sanctions relief in exchange for a partial surrender of its nuclear capability. Kim entered 2020 vowing to bolster his nuclear deterrent

plans for talks with US

Kim entered 2020 wowing to bolster his nuclear deterrent in face of "gangster-like" U.S. Sanctions and pressure.

Choe's statement followed a series of similar declarations by the North that it would no longer gift Trump with high-profile meetings he could boast of as his foreign policy achievements unless it gets something substantial in return.

"Is it possible to hold dialogue or have any dealings with the US which persists in the hostile policy toward the DPRK in disregard of the agreements laready made at the past summit?" Choe said, referring to North Korea by its formal name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. People's Republic of Korea.

"We do not feel any need

to sit face-to-face with the U.S., as it does not consider the DPRR-U.S. Dialogue as nothing more than a tool for grappling its political crisis," she said.

Some analysts believe North Korea would avoid serious negotiations with the November presidential election as there's a chance U.S. Leadership could change.

The North in recent months have also been ramping up pressure against South Korea, blowing up an interfection and there's north Korean liaison office in its territory and threatening to abnation a bilaterial military agreement aimed at reduce tensions.

It follows months of frustration over Seoul's unwillingness to defy US-led sanctions and restart joint economic projects that would breathe life into the North's broken economy.

in large groups.

The discord was height-

WHO first got virus outbreak info from its office, not China



Geneva: China did not come forward on its own to report to the World Health Organisation (WHO) that it had a problem in Wuhan following the virus outbreak late last year, according to the updated information the UN health agency posted about how it has handled the Covid-19 crisis so far.

On December 31, 2019, the WHO's Country Office in China picked up a media statement by the Wuhan Municipal Health Commission from their website on cases of "viral

website on cases of "viral pneumonia" in Wuhan, according to the chronology of events enumerated by the WHO.

On January 1, the WHO On January 1, the WHO requested information on the reported cluster of atypical pneumonia cases in Wuhan from the Chinese authorities. On January 2, the WHO representative in China wrote

representative in China wrote to the National Health Commission, offering WHO support and repeating the request for further information

on the cluster of cases.

According to the WHO,
Chinese officials provided

Actording to the WHO.

Chinese officials provided information to it on the cluster of cases of 'viral pneumonia of unknown cause' identified in Wuhan only on January 3.

The updated timeline of WHO's response to Covid-19 posted this week covers events up to June 26.

This timeline supersedes the timeline statement published in April 2020.

US President Donald Trump had earlier accused the WHO of being lenient on China. Trump also suggested that the virus might have originated in a laboratory in China. However, he did not present any However, he did not present any

However, he did not present any evidence to back up the claims.

The UN health body in a media briefing earlier this week said that it would send a team to China next week to prepare to investigate the source of the virus responsible for Covid-19 which has so far killed over 525,000 people worldwide.

IANS

decide PM Oli's fate deferred till Monday

Kathmandu: A crucial meeting of Nepal's ruling communist party to decide the political future of embattled Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli was postponed until Monday to allow more time for the top leadership to iron out their differences over his autocratic style of functioning and anti-India statements.

The meeting of the Nepal Communits Party's 45-member powerful Standing Committee was scheduled to be held on Saturday at 11 AM local time. But it was postponed at the last minute. Prime Minister's press advisor Surya Thapa said the meeting was postponed until Monday as the top leaders of

meeting was postponed untu Monday as the top leaders of

communist party cose to a split. During the meeting, majority of the party leaders were expected to demand Olis resignation from the post of Prime Minister accusing his government of falling to live up to the people's expectations and responding effectively to the COVID-19 pandemic. Many top leaders, including former prime minister Prachanda, have also slammed Oli for his anti-India remarks. "The Prime Minister's

Kim and Trump have met summit in February last year in Vietnam, where the Americans

Trump, Biden fight for primacy on social media platforms

Washington: On an average day, President Donald Trump sends about 14 posts to the 28 million Facebook followers of his campaign account. His Democratic rival, Joe Biden, delivers about half that many posts to an audience of just 2 million

delivers about half that many posts to an audience of just 2 million.

The numbers are similar-ly skewed in other spheres of the social media landscape.
On Twitter, Trump's 82.4 million followers dwarf Bidens. longer available for lending at any of dozens of outlets across the city.

An AFP reporter was unable to find the titles at a

million followers dwarf Biden's
6.4 million. The president has
spent years cultivating a ragtag
digital" army" of mem makers and political influencers
who retweet campaign mes
sages hundreds of times daily.
Trump is outspending Biden
on Google and YouTube advertising by nearly 3 to 1.

As his reflection bid faces
growing obstacles, his primacyin the dizzying digital world
is one of his top advantages,
giving him a massive platform to connect with supporters and push a message
that ignores his vulnerabilities
related to the pandemic,
unemployment and race relations. public library in the district of Wong Tai Sin on Saturday Wong Tai Sin on Saturday afternoon.

The city's Leisure and Cultural Services Department, which runs libraries, said books had been removed while it is determined whether they violate the national security law.

"In the process of the review the books will not be available for borrowing and reference," it said.

The law targets acts of subversion, secession, terrorism

subversion, secession, terrorism and colluding with foreign forces.

AFP

Biden and his allies are

now working feverishly to establish a social media force of their own.

For the first time, Biden outspent Trump on Facebook advertising in June, pouring twice as much money into the platform as the president. AP "It will not happen."
The speech and fireworks at Mount Rushmore came against the backdrop of a pandemic that has killed over 125,000 Americans. The president flew across the nation to gather a big crowd of supporters, most of them maskless and all of them flouting public health guidelines that recommend not gathering in large groups.

we will not be demeaned, and we will not be intimidated by bad, evil people," Trump added.

Tokyov Heavy rain in southern Japan triggered flooding and mudslides on Saturday, leaving more than a dozen people presumed dead, about 10 missing and dozens stranded on rooftops waiting to be rescued, officials and news reports said. More than 75,000 residents in the prefectures of Kumamoto and Kagoshima were urged to evacuate following pounding rains overnight. The evacuation was not known how many actually fled." I smelled mud, and the whole area was vibrating with the whole area was vibrating with river water. I've never experienced anything like this," a man in a shelter in Yatsushiro city, in western Kumamoto idd NHK TV. He said he flee early fearing a disaster. NHK footage showed large areas of Hitoyoshi town in Kumamoto in undated in muddy waters that gushed out from the Kuma River. Man cars were submerged up their windows. Mudslides mashed into houses and floodwaters carried trunks from uprooted trees. Several people were standing atop a convenience store as they waited for rescuers. App US envoy forges ahead with troubled Taliban peace deal

Islamabad: Washington's envoy to Afghanistan stressed Saturday the economic benefits of the peace deal with the Taliban, forging ahead with an agreement that has run into new political obstacles both in the US and regionally.

Zalmay Khalilzad was wrapping up a week-long trip that included stops in Uzbekistan, Pakistan and the Gulf state of Qatar, where the Taliban negotiators are head-quartered.

Taliban negotiators are head-quartered.

The US signed a peace deal with the Taliban in February to end 19 years of war in Afghanistan.

Khalibad has sought to stress the economic benefits of the peace deal throughout his tour. In a series of tweets early Saturday, the US. Envoy said he had met with the Qatar Investment Authority and the Taliban's chief negotiator Mullah Abdul Ghani, in the Tiny Gulf state's capital of Doha.

"We agreed development

However, Washington has recently become embroiled in

reports that Russia was paying money to insurgents with links to the Taliban to kill American and NATO soldiers. AP

CRITICS OF US-TALIBAN DEAL SAY **MILITANTS CAN'T BE TRUSTED**

AP WASHINGTON

Intelligence that Afghan Imilitants might have accepted Russian bounties for skilling American troops did not scuttle the US-Tailban agreement or President Donald Trump's plan to withdraw thousands more troops from the war.

sands more troops from the war.

It did give critics of the deal another reason to say the Taliban shouldn't be trusted.

The bounty information was included in Trump's pres-ident's daily intelligence brief on Feb. 27, according to intel-

ligence officials, and two days later, the US and Taliban signed

alter, the US and Taliban signed an agreement in Qatar.

The agreement clears the way for America to end 19 years in Afghanistan and gives Trump a way to make good on his promise to end US Involvement in what he calls "endless wars."

On March 3, three endless wars."

On March 3, three days after the agreement was signed, the president had a 35-minute phone call with Mullah Abdul Chani Baradar, a co-founder of the Taliban and head of their political office in Qatar.

Trump pushes racial division, flouts virus rules at Rushmore

rules at Ki
Mount Rushmore National
Memorial (US): At the foot of
Mount Rushmore on the eve of
Independence Day, President
Mount Rushmore on the eve of
Independence Day, President
Donald Trump made a direct
appeal to disaffected white voters four months before Election
Day, accusing protesters who
have pushed for racial justice of
engaging in a "merciless campaign to wipe out our history."
The president dug further
into American divisions on
Friday, offering a discordant
into en an electorate battered by
a pandemic and wounded by
a pandemic and wounded by
a pandemic and wounded by
a pandemic following the
high-profile killings of Black
people. He zeroed in on the
desecration by some protesters
of monuments and statues
across the country that honour
those who have benefited from
slavery, including some past
presidents. "This movement is
openly attacking the legacies of
every person on Mount
Rushmore," Trump said.
He lamented "cancel culture" and charged that some on
the political left hope to "defame
our heroes, erase our values, and
indoctrinate our children."
He said Americans should
speak proudly of their heritage
and shouldn't have to apologize
for its history.
"We will not be terrorised,
we will not be demeased and

for its history.

"We will not be terrorised,

The discord was height-ened as the Trump campaign confirmed during the presi-dent's speech that Kimberly Guilfoyle, a top fundraiser for the campaign and the girlfriend of Trump's eldest son Donald Trump Ir, had tested positive for the coronavirus while in South Dakota. HIMALAYA FOOD INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

merly, Himalaya International L CIN: L70102DL1992PLC04739 Regd. Office: 118, 1st Floor, 12 Gagandeep Building, Rajendra Pla Tel., +91 11 45108609, Fax: +91 1704 225178

Results of Postal Ballot (E-voting)

Pursuant to Section 108 and 110 of the Companies Act, 2013 (the Act) read with Rule 20 and 22 of Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014 and Regulation 44 of the Listing Regulations, 2 the Company had conducted Postal Ballot (conducted through the remote e-voting system only) for see approval of shareholders for the resolutions mentioned below:

The details of results of e-voting are as follows based on the Sc Special Resolution to Issue of Equity Shares on Preferential Allotment E No. of Shares | No. of Shares | Total No. | % of total R Resolution No. 1 % of total Net (In percentage N.A. 29123313 ess: Invalid Votes N.A 29123313 29123313

Resolution No. 2	Special Resolution to issue and allot Share Warrants on Preferential Basis						
Particulars	No. of Shares (through Postal Ballot)	No. of Shares (through E-voting)	Total No. of shares	% of total Net valid votes (In percentage)			
Total no. of Votes received	-	29123313	29123313	N.A.			
Less: Invalid Votes		0	0	N.A.			
Net Valid Votes		29123313	29123313	100			
Votes in Favour of Resolution		29120933	29120933	100			
Votes against the Resolution		2380	2380	0.			

General public is hereby informed that one male namely Abhishek Singh, Slo Sh. Vir Bahadur Singh, Rio: B-62, Tihar Village, New Delhi, Permanent Address: Village, Address: Vol. Built: Strong, Mentally Week, wearing Green colour T-Shirt, Sky Blue colour Half wear and Blue Chappal in feet, has been missing from his house since 11.06.2020 at 03:30 PM. In this regard a DN No. 014, dated 13.06.2020 has been a DD No. 01A, dated 13.06.2020 has been registered at P.S. Hari Nagar, Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the male but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about him please inform undersigned.

SEARCH FOR MISSING

compromise on pay dispute



men and women a revenue-sharing arrangement and faced a significant knock-on

The Australian Cricketers Association, which represents players, rejected the forecasts as

But CA on Saturday agreed

Pakistani legends like Javed Miandad, Mohammad Yousuf or Younis Khan," Azam said during a teleconference as per Cricket Pakistan.

players was averted on Saturday after the governing body with-drew a contentious projection of financial losses from the coro-navirus pandemic.

irus pandemic. The decision to "reset"

The decision to "reset" negotiations follows the resignation last month of CA chief executive Kevin Roberts, with his interim replacement Nick Hockley vowing to repair relations between the two sides.

The body in June forecast revenues would fall by nearly 50% in the 2020-21 financial year despite the pandemic hitting in the off-season and India's lucrative Test tour this year still set to go abead.

set to go ahead.

Australian players, both

sented by the Covid-19 pan-demic and should provide our stakeholders with renewed clar-ity and confidence about the summer ahead," CA said in a summer aneau, statement. "Calculating revenue projec "2 months ahead during

"Calculating revenue projec-tions 12 months ahead during a once-in-a-century pandemic has not been without its chal-lenges, but we believe we have arrived at a position that pro-vides all parties with greater cer-tainty about how to navigate the next year."

The move is seen as a com-

t year. The move is seen as a common-sense approach from both sides, given the picture for the cricketing summer ahead remains unclear.

hasty and issued the governing body with a notice of dispute, which could have led to a court standoff. But CA on Saturday agreed to postpone its projections until it had a clearer idea of the financial impact of the pandemic. In turn, the ACA withdraw its notice of dispute.

"Today's agreement is a significant step forward in cricket's response to the challenges pre-

cricketing summer ahead remains uncleave to So far, only two tours involving Australia have been impacted by coronavirus—a two-Test tour of Bangladesh and a limited overs visit from Zimbabwe that have both been cancelled. There is also doubt over whether Australia will be able to host the T20 World Cup, but its four-Test series against India scheduled to start in December is still expected to go ahead. Officials also remain hopeful of having crowds for the popular T20 Big Bash League. P17

Cricket Australia, players reach Windies must draw on Headingley spirit: Simmons



West Indies' batsman Sharmarh Brooks plays a shot during day three of West Indies warm-up match at Old Trafford AP

West Indies coach Phil West Indies coach Phil Simmons says his team will have to avoid early debades which have often affected its overseas campaigns and take inspiration from the 2017 Headingley Test win to start the three-match series against England on the front foot. A batting failure saw West

England on the front foot.

A batting failure saw West Indies lose the opening match against England in Birmingham by an innings and 209 runs during their last Test tour in 2017. But they staged a remarkable comeback in the second Test, chasing down 322 to record a five-wicket win in Headingley. "We are drawing on that. The Test match before Headingley we were horrible and that seems to be like that most times we go on tour. We

and that seems to be like that most times we go on tour. We are trying to make sure that bad match is taken out of the equa-tion and we start properly," Simmons said during the Cricket, on the Inside webinar.

"We are playing against in the world and we need to start on the front foot. We're trying to bring back memories of Headingley and get the psychology right."

The three-match Test series, which will mark the resumption of International cricket following the coronavirus-forced break, begins at Agaes bowl in South and the series of the se

Pope says absence of fans won't affect intensity

England middle-order bats-man Ollie Pope says the absence of spectators in the first Test against the West Indies will not lessen the teams intensity. The three-Test series will be played behind close doors due to the Covid-19 pandem-ic. The second and third Test will be held in Manchester (July 16-20 and July 24-28). "When we have bic crowds."

will be fleat in Mathemset, "When we have big crowds in and the Barmy Army are here it is amazing but we'll still be playing Test cricket and it's still the pinands' intra-squad warm-up game.

"Even if there's not a single person in the crowd it's still what we all dreamed of doing. There will still be the same nerves in the morning because so much rides on it. When that Test match starts up, crowd or no crowd, you are going to be really up for it."

no crowd, you are going to be really up for it."

The 22-year-old right-handed batsman said playing without spectators doesn't affect the quality of cricket.

"Whether we are going to play a bit of music out of the speakers I'm not sure but we

scored runs here," he said.

scored runs here," he said.

"(Shai) Hope has got backto-back hundreds here. It's
about getting to the mental
stage where you are prepared
for a Test match in England,
because it's different to many

other places. "The next three days of



A general view as the first ball is bowled during day one of a warm-up match by England, at the Ageas Bowl in Southampton Al

England, at the Agass Bowl in Southam can find ways of creating our own atmosphere I'm sure. We've got to find a ways to do that when we get on top or when we need a bit of energy."

Pope said the intensity of the intra-squad three-day warm-up game at the Ageas Bowl here has put the team in the right direction ahead of the opening Test.

The practice game between Team Stokes and Team Buttler ended in a draw on the final day on Friday. Pope made 55

practice is about sharpening up the skills. But mentality is the big thing."

The Test series will be held behind closed doors due to Covid-19 pandemic and Simmons said it might affect a few seniors but for most it won't be an issue to play with-

not out in Team Buttler's sec-ond innings to go with his 25 in the first.

"The quality of competi-tion going on out there was really high-class throughout the three days. I think were get-ting there. We're all moving the right direction," Pope said after the game.

"I felt metty good in the

e game.
"I felt pretty good in the rst innings, and it was nice to first innings, and it was nice to spend a bit more time out there today. We're all moving in the right direction."

out spectators.
"I think maybe ... The senior guys it might affect a few of them because they are used to sold-out matches in England. But in the Caribbean there's not much crowds for Test so we are kind of accus-tomed to that," he said.

Inzamam throws weight behind Babar to do well in all formats

Pormer Pakistan captain Inzamam-ul-Haq has backed rising star Babar Azam, saying the Pakistan white-ball skipper has the numbers to back him amid constant comparisons with Virat Kohli. "Babar is always compared to Virat Kohli but the latter has played a lot more cricket and

played a lot more cricket and if you look at their stats and performances at the stage Babar is now, he has not done badly at all," Inzamam told a

TV channel.

The two modern-day greats are time and again pitted against each other, by fans and critics alike, for the additional critics alike, for the additional consistency.

incredible consistency.

Azam recently stated that he doesn't want to be compared with India captain Kohli but with some of the top-class batsmen that have donned the jersey of Pakistan in the past.

"I don't want to be compared with Virat Kohli. It would be better if people compare me with one of the

CHENNAI (PTI): Former India

seamer Aavishkar Salvi has been appointed head coach of the Puducherry senior team for the upcoming domestic season. The development was confirmed by a Cricket Association of Pondicherry (CAP) official who also informed that former Mumbai first-class cricketer Onkar Khanvilkar will be assistant coach and former Rajasthan

Aavishkar Salvi is new

Puducherry head coach

Recreational cricket to return in England on July 11

PTI LONDON

The England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) has announced the resumption of recreational cricket from July 11 after Prime Minister Boris Johnson gave the green light

t. The ECB's announcement The ECR's announcement on Friday night came after Johnson made a U-turn after his earlier suggestion that teas and dressing rooms were among major obstacles in the amateur and grassroots game — a traditional feature of British summertime — returning amid the Covid-19 pandemic.

An ECR statement said the UK Government's

curing a telecoherence as per Cricket Pakistan.

Azam and his Pakistan teammates have already touched down in England for their much-anticipated series in August which includes three Tests and as many T20Is.

"Babar struggled initially in Test cricket but we never had any doubt about his ability so we persisted with him and see today where he is standing in all formats," Inzamam added. An ECB statement said the UK Government's announcement pertaining to recreational cricket applies at this time to England only. "The ECB is delighted that the UK Government has given the green light for recreational cricket in England to return from Saturday 11 July," the statement said.

"The latest update from the UK Government signals progression from Step 3 to Step 4 of ECB's roadmap to return for the recreational game, meaning competitive

step 4 of ELSS roaming to return for the recreational game, meaning competitive cricket matches in England with adjustments to respect hygiene and social distancing would be permitted."

Earlier on Friday, PM Johnson made a U-turn from his reservation of return of recreational cricket, saying he "sought scientific advice after being "stumped."

"We do want to work as fast as possible to get cricket back, and we will be publishing guidelines in the next few days, so that cricket can resume in time for next weekend," he said.

Bairstow, Moeen ignored for 1st Test

MANCHESTER: Wicket-keeper Jonny Bairstow and spin bowl-ing all-rounder Moeen All were on Saturday left out of Englands 13-man squad for the first 'bio-secture' Test against West Indies, starting July 8. Ben Stokes will lead the side and the squad features pacers James Anderson, Stuart Broad, Jofra Archer and Mark Wood in addittion to all-rounders Stokes

Jofra Archer and Mark Wood in addition to all-rounders Stokes and Chris Woakes.

In the spin department, England have gone with Dominic Bess. Jack Leach has been left out of the main squad and is among reserves.

The most Notable omissions from the 30-man training squad include Bairstow and Mocen.

Moeen.

Bairstow's position in the side had first become uncertain side had first become uncertain in 2019 after a prolonged run of low scores. He was initially left out of England's squad for their tour of New Zealand but was able to find a spot due to injury to Joe Denly.

to Joe Denly.

Bairstow then got a spot on the tour of South Africa but scored only ten runs in two innings of the one Test he played. That left him with a tally

he would get back to India

he would get back to India in time for a national camp, whenever it was held, meant that Nieva ended up staying put in Patiala. "I have not seen my wife and daughters for six



of only 334 runs in 2019 at an

or only 334 runs in 2019 at an average of 18,55.

Moeen took a break from red-ball cricket after being dropped from England's set up mid-way through the Ashes. He went wicket-less his first bowlwent wicket-less his first bowling innings in the warm-up match and picked up two wickets in the second, but Bess and Leach both got more wickets. SQUAD: Ben Stokes (c), James Anderson, Jofra Archer, Dominic Bess, Stuart Broad, Rory Burns, Jos Buttler (wk), Zak Crawley, Joe Denly, Ollie Pope, Dom Shley, Chris Woakes and Mark Wood.

We stay clear of engagement with Kohli: Hazlewood

Australia pacer Josh Hazlewood says his team prefers to 'stay clear of engagement' with Indian captain Virat Kohli whenever he is batting as it brings out the best in him. Hazlewood and his proven pace colleagues will be up against the Kohli-led Indian team if its upcoming tour of Australia goes on as scheduled. Speaking on Star Sports show Cricket Connected, Hazlewood talked about bowling to Kohli.

"We try to probably stay clear of engagement, obviously. I think that was fully evident throughout the (last Test) series (in 2018)" Kohli said.

"I think he likes to get in that tussle and it probably brings out the best in him, especially when he's batting, that was always a no-go-zone for the bowlers."

However, the ploy is not quite the same when Kohli is leading the team out on the field, according to Hazlewood.

"I think it's a different case if the guys are batting and he's

in the field, you know they can get him engaged there and sort of work him out a little bit



"Busines."
"But certainly when he was batting, it was just leaving him to his own devices, and hopefully, we get him in a bit of a switched off mood and take advantage of that," the pacer said, referring to the planned upcoming engagements.

During the show, 3 at Brisbane.

bowlers with his workman-lik

one season. Confirming the development, Salvi said, "This is my second stint with Puducherry as I was their head coach for the first season. This time, they have reappointed me" "It is exciting. We don't know when the cricket season will start, but still if an association is preparing themselves, it is a good thing to be part of it," added Salvi, who played four ODIs for India. Indian coaches to get 4-yr contracts, 2-lakh salary cap to be removed

All the appointments are for

NEW DELHI: The Sports Ministry on Saturday removed the ₹2 lakh cap on the salary given to Indian coaches for training elite athletes in a bid to encourage them to produce better results. The move is also aimed at attracting former players to become high performance trainers.

ministry's decisi after the ministry's decision to extend the contracts of all for-eign coaches till September 30 next year. "Several Indian coaches are showing very good results and need to be rewarded for their hard work. The Government is

hard work. The Government is also keen to attract the best coaching talent from across the country to train elite athletes and we do not want the cap on com-pensation to be a deterrent for good coaches to join," Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju said.

The ministry release said the

Minister Kiren Rijiju said.

The ministry release said the increased remuneration and longer contract period "is to attract ex-elite athletes into the high performance sporting ecosystem, and to use their experience and skill to train athletes bound for major international competitions, including the Olympics.

The future hiring — both

Indian and foreign — will be for a four-year cycle in sync with the Olympics to ensure continuity. Indian Olympic Association (IOA) welcomed the move, saying it will encourage domestic coaches to produce better results as they have been put on par with their foreign counterparts. "IOA and National Sports Federations whole-beartedly appreciate the decision of the Sports Ministry to remove salary and the same and the sports of the spo

"This decision is also encouraging for more sportspersons to choose coaching as a profession now. With new steps to improve the coaching education, domestic coaches would be on par with international coaches in the future."
The ministry said eminent coaches already working in various Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) would also be allowed to join on deputation and be eligible for the 4-year contract as well as the higher salary structure. The remuneration will be decided on the basis of their performance as an athlete as well as

his or her success as a coach.

"All new coaches and existing coaches who are given the new contract will be imparting training at National Camps and SAI's National Center of Excellence (NCOEs), and will be allocated in the National Secret. selected jointly by the Sports Ministry and the National Sports Federations," a ministry release

said. Welcoming the move, chief national badminton coach Pullela Gopichand said: "This is a long standing request of the sporting fraternity. I am very happy with the decision because it will give a great boost to the overall sporting ecosystem by attracting many talented coaches and eminent ex-athletes to ion the morfession."

attracting nany warms of the profession."

The Sports Ministry will also resume grassroot-level talent scouting with an eye on 2028. Olympics when the situation arising out of the Covid-pandernic improves.

The elite Indian coaches/ex athletes, including those from the PSUs and leading sports promotion boards will be part of the Talent Scouting Committee which will be touring various parts of the country to scout raw talent in the age group of 10-15 years.

PTI



Boxing camp at NIS likely from August 1: Nieva

able to go." Nieva said that there have been conversations with the BFI about potentially going back home. "But the situation was very difficult. There were no flights and we also wanted to start the camp in lung."

flights and we also wanted to start the camp in June. I want to start the camp before I go over there because it is possible that once I go I won't be able to return, he said.

While his wards are trickling back into the facility, Nieva cannot meet any of them yet as they have to first go through their mandatory self-isolation period. "Before the lock-down we sent all the boxers home. Now the boxers are coming back, the first

batch of 13 men and three

batch of 13 men and three women have arrived. I cannot meet any of them for the next one week at least. There are more to come in the coming weeks," he said. In keeping with the SAI Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for the resumption of training, the boxers arriving at NIS are those in the mix for the Tokyo Olympics. "For more people to join and get ready it will take a minimum of two weeks. So I would be very happy if we can start a camp by August 1. We believe that we should be able to start something before August 1 maybe even from July 15. "But I know that (the situation is such that) you

say one date and then the next week, it gets changed. So I won't speculate on the dates. We will try to get them all here in the next

adtes. We will try to get them all here in the next two three weeks but it's okay if that is also post-poned by one or two weeks because there is no urgency. There are no competitions right now so we have time. But yes, if they are here by August 1 it will be good, he said.

Contact training between the puglilists seems an unlikely prospect for the foreseable future. SAI's SOP states that sparring and even use of a ring will not be permitted. However, considering the fact that Nieva believes the first thing they would need to do is get the boxers down to their normal weights, the lack of sparring is not a big worry at the moment.

"The biggest thing is

weights, the lack of spar-ring is not a big worry at the moment.

"The biggest thing is that some boxers have gained weight. They are above their normal weight which is expected in this sport. So we will have to get them to come down to their proper weight first. As I said, there is a lot of time so no urgency of any kind," he said. IANS

Jaipur to get new 75K capacity stadium

JAIPUR: Jaipur shall soon be getting one of the largest cricket stadiums in the world, with a seat-ing capacity to accom-modate around 75,000

spectators The s. world-class The world-class green stadium shall have modern grand pavilion stands, corporate boxes, plush sports field, modern dub house and many other world class features for indoor games and sports training facilities, said Rajasthan Cricket Association (RCA) Secretary Mahendra Sharma. He added that the stadium will be the stadium will be spread over 100 acres of land. "The land has been

"The land has been finalised in Chonp village, 25 km from Jaipur on the Jaipur-Delhi Highway and the construction is expected to begin in the next four months," he added.

Sharma said that these compute to the statement

Sharma said that those coming to the sta-dium, including players as well as the audience, would get world-class facilities. There would be flood lights installed in

accordance to the ICC guidelines, with mod-ern pressbox for media and broadcast. A parking facility to accommodate around 4,000 vehicles would be

made in the stadium

made in the stadium.
Sharma informed
that this will be the third
largest stadium after the
Motera Stadium in
Ahmedabad and the
Melbourne Cricket
Ground in Australia.
While Motera has a seating capacity of 1.10 lakh,
the MCG can accommodeta 1.00 lebt spectores the MCG can accommo-date 1.02 lakh spectators. The stadium would

further accommodate further accommodate two practice grounds which can be used for Ranji Trophy matches. Also, there will be two restaurants, 30 practice nets for players and a press conference room with a seating capacity of 250.

The stadium would be constructed in two

seating capacity while the second would have a seating capacity of 30,000. IANS



With only essential services being permitted during the lockdown, CGS Hospital in Gurugram, remained open to deal with all sorts of veterinarian crisis. From feeding the strays to handling emergency surgeries, all vets were on duty with staff, in spite of the possibility of Covid-19 exposure on a regular basis, writes DR SALISHA WHITNEY CORREIA

"We are serving a mission much greater than ourselves, and in helping the voiceless at this time of strife, we are truly following the Veterinarian's Oath"

he novel coronavirus, COVID-19, has caused a sudden change in the operations worldwide. With the lockdown commencing March 22, 2020, citizens were urged to stay at home to contain the spread of the virus. To keep ourselves entertained, many of us resorted to watching online films, many of which were ironically based on Virus outbreaks! One noticeable feature in most of these: That of the world't hemed movies is the these 'End of the world' themed movies is the absence of the adversities faced by

these End of the world 'themed movies is the absence of the adversities faced by animals/pets.

The sudden home confinement of the human race has altered the lives of animals, pets and strays alike. On the one side, nature was its best with self purification of rivers, migratory birds returning to nest, turtles seen on the Mumbai coast after decades, multiple sightings of peacocks, etc. and then, you have the species that has domesticated itself over the years, namely, cats and dogs suddenly left stranded without a constant source of food owing to closure of restaurants and malls. Pet dogs had to be restricted to relieving themselves on a balcony or a diaper mat at one end of a room due to confinement constraints. All outdoor activities for pets came to a halt. Many pet owners have mentioned that their pets were initially overjoyed to have their parents home all day. As with us, everyone wants their space, and pets started demanding some quiet at home. Then came the question of pet health care.

With only essential services being permited during the lockdown, veterinary clinics remained open for limited hours with curtailed staff. CGS Hospital (a unit of CGS Charitable Trust), which is a part of the philanthropic wing of DLF Ltd., situated in Grurgram, remained open only for emergencies primarily only during the first week, but alter due to increased number of pet illness cases, surgeries, pet hospitallastion and critical care requirements, the hospital was routinely functional. Most of the pet clinics being closed or running for a few hours only with shortage of staff caused an increase in mootafil at CGS Guring the lockdown period. All vets were on duty with staff, even though

sit was difficult at times for veterinary nursing staff to cross the Delhi border and no public transportation in Gurugram as well. Veterinarians at the hospital were extremely committed to helping pets in need in spite of the possibility of Covid-19 exposure on a regular basis.

The Pasha wing, a dedicated unit of CGS Hospital committed primarily to serving destitute dogs and cats was also functional daily to help stray dogs and cats as most NGOs also were providing only Emergency cases. A notable mention is the successful surgery of stray dog, Ruby, who was struggling to deliver at the side of the road for two days, and owing to the lockdown, her regular feeders

stray dog, Ruby, who was struggling to deliver at the side of the road for two days, and owing to the lockdown, her regular feeders and caretakers couldn't reach her. However, one family managed to bring her in the wee hours of the morning for an emergency Caesarean section that managed to atleast preserve the life of one puppy after rigorous veterinary neonatal care. The jubilant cries of that healthy puppy gave reward to the attending vet's sleepless night!

With restaurants and roadside eateries shut, as an initiative to help the hungry and starving stray dogs and cats, CGS Hospital provided fresh food to approximately 300-500 stray dogs. These strays were fed twice daily by the hospital team.

It is only when one believes that there is light at the end of the tunnel, can one emerge as one's best self and truly help another self-lessly. This was aptly showcased by two daily wage labourers who when rummaging through the garbage at Sikanderpur found an emacated sickly puppy. They immediately rushed on foot to the hospital for urgent veterinary care and continued to bring that puppy for the next five days, both in the morning and evening for necessary treatment. Blessed is the man who has nothing and yet gives. They even managed to rustle up a small leash and collar and gave the chap a name —

"Blessed is the man who has nothing and yet gives." They even managed to rustle up a small leash and collar and gave the chap a name — Lucky! And indeed, lucky he was! This incident moved me to tears and reinforced our belief in the goodness of humanity.

"Fearing Pandemic Covid-19 is not the answer to the current situation. CGS hospital is here to help you and your pets. We are reaching out to both pet owners to quell doubts regarding the spread of Covid in pets," says Dr. Samar Singh Mahendran, Director, CGS. The CGS Vets also provided free tele-OPD assistance to our regular



DR. SAMAR SINGH MAHENDRAN

FEARING PANDEMIC COVID-19 IS NOT THE ANSWER TO THE CURRENT SITUATION. CGS HOSPITAL IS HERE TO HELP YOU AND YOUR PETS. WE ARE REACHING OUT TO ALL PET OWNERS TO QUELL DOUBTS REGARDING THE SPREAD OF COVID IN PETS

clients who were unable to bring their pets to the hospital.

During the 100 days of lockdown, the hospital kept even functional advanced diagnostics like Computerised Tomogragaphy (CT) Scan, which was exceptionally beneficial to diagnose a disc prolapse in suddenly paraplegic Labrador, Max. Dr. Vikash Chauhan, a certified veterinary radiologist at CGS hospital said: "Unfortunately due to the lockdown, many veterinary clinics and external labs weren't open routinely and pets were affected. We managed to diagnose three cases of long standing intestinal perforations via abdominal CT Scans and successfully operated and saved the lives of those pets. The joy and satisfaction of a life saved is the ultimate reward."

and similar in the same and successing open and satisfaction of a life saved is the ultimate reward?

Outdoor pets sometimes find it hard staying indoors and numerous reports of falls of cats and dogs from high rise building terraces and balconies during the lockdown was strange. Three cats had to undergo surgery to repair their hard palate injuries. Mirza, the yorkie who had a Humpty-dumpty like fall and fractured his femur, has recovered well post fracture stabilisation surgeries at the Hospital. It is best that pets aren't allowed to venture out onto roof tops on their own and are supervised when left on balconies to relieve themselves.

Stray dogs seemed to have claimed the streets during the initial lockdown phase but as the lockdown opened, a drastically high number of road accidents resulting in fractures were noticed sadly.

Pet shops in most areas were closed and even online supply of pet supplies was lagging behind. Regular deworming and even open supply of the supplies was lagging behind. Regular deworming and ectoparasite treatment was not easily available to pet owners and thus began the vicious cycle of intestinal worm infections.

Lyla, a friendly Dobermann was presented with the complaint of chronic vomiting. She was diagnosed with oesophageal nodules that medical treatment she deserves.

Minimally invasive diagnostic and surgical options have been in focus in the medical world recently. Lyla and many other pets have benefitted from Endoscopic and laparoscopic procedures at the hospital.

Richard, the diabetic Labrador, had his vision restored just this month at the Ophthalmology Unit of CGS hospital.

vision restored just this month at the Ophthalmology Unit of CGS hospital.



Dr. Shriram Ganesan, the veterinary ophthalmologist has treated many emergency trauma cases, corneal ulcers, glaucom taumia cases, corneal uncers, glaucoma and cataract cases in pets during this lockdown period, referred from far and wide. Some pet owners have crossed state borders with spe-cial permissions just to treat their pets' ocular issues due to lack of such expertise at their towns.

issues due to lack of such experies at their towns.

Loneliness and a need for companionship has lead to a sudden surge in the number of puppies adopted or purchased in Delhi NCR. Sadly, many of them tend to fall prey to viral infections like Parvo virus and require hospitalisation. The hospital infectious ward was filled during the lockdown phase but thankfully, most puppies emerged triumphant over the disease. There is always a special bond between each vet and a Parvo survivor puppy. Having personally treated quite a few during this phase and now vaccinating them post recovery, it is always a special experience for me. There is no thank you as heartfelt as seen in the eyes of a Parvo survivor pup!

These are only a few examples of pets helped by dedicated vets at CGS Hospital. Veterinarians all over the world need to be

Veterinarians all over the world need to be applauded for the wonderful work they are doing inspite the odds. It is our profession,

toning inspire the objects and per support, not only the vets, but each and every employee of veterinary hospitals and clinics continue to brave the objects and cats that come to them. We believe in our hearts that we too are COVID Warriors!

The writer is a post graduate veterinary surgeon practising at CGS Hospital, Gurugram.





GRASPING GURUISM

Unfettered devotion is how spiritual journeys begin. They culminate with the realisation of the divinity within, says HINGORI, as he shares what makes a guru



ou, me, the birds, the bees, the tree, its roots and every atom in the cosmos, are part of the same source — the supreme consciousness. Experientially understanding this is where we need to get to. The buck starts from, and eventually comes back to zwe.

where we need to get to. The outs-starts from, and eventually comes back to you.

We aspire for divinity even though we are already divine, unaware of our true whole self. Instead, we search for divinity in other people, places and things. Which door we knock on is all destury's play, and if destiny is kind to one, we will find on the other side of the open door, a Siddh Guru, who will lead so not to the path of spiritual evolution, back to our true selves.

In principle, a guru is not a person, but a concept that embodies infinite wisdom and universal knowledge. Thus, in a guru-disciple relationship, the disciple emulates not the person he refers to as his guru — but his gunas (qualities). With all the technology, information and spiritual content being so easily available in every lan-guage, do people still need a guru?

Most of us know ourselves at a superficial level. That is, what we per-creive ourselves to be. Or worse, what we believe others perceive of us.

A Siddh Guru who has the intuitive knowledge to recognise you beyond your physical self, knows you at the

three distinct levels of the body, mind

three distinct levels of the body, mind, and spirit. He knows you not only in the physical form you are in now, but also who you were and will be in lives of the past and future A siddli gural adways knows the strength of a potential disciple's spirit. He will also try to sense the connection between the person's destiny and his spiritual growth. Nobody can introduce you to you, he introduces you to you, he introduces you to you, he introduces you to your destiny and gunus, help introducing you to you to you on an a-is-where-is-basis. He leads you to understand and enget you to you for which you have he had not always the sense of the

A GURU GIVES KNOWLEDGE, *GATI* AND CLARITY: FACILITATES THE LIFTING OFF OF THE VEIL OF MAYA; AND WALKS YOU THROUGH EVERY STEP OF REALISATION THAT THE WORLD WE PERCEIVE IS ONLY A The final stage however, is not of worshipping the guru, but instead, worshipping the guru within YOU. While devotion is a matter of heightened emotion, acceptance is a more centred approach without emotion as its power source. Therefore, even though the journey may start with devotion, it ends with acceptance and self-worship. It is not easy to assess the stage of evolution of spiritual people. There is no standard metric. A man on the street may be more spiritually advanced than one in saffron. Looks and style, knowledge of scriptures and oratory abilities do not necessarily a spiritualist make. There are other attitudes and intended that the spiritual ladder. A guru looks for certain qualities in his disciple:

Sense of Awareness: For a disciple to observe his own thoughts, reactions and actions, which your guru may require you to change for your improvement.

Hestbillity, your guru may want for you to have mouldability and

improvement.

Flexibility: your guru may want for you to have mouldability and nimbleness to change behaviour and reaction patterns set from past experiences.

riences. Non-dogmatism: Dogmatic thinking chains one down to rituals, defeating the purpose of freeing you from the illusion that is maya. A guru wants a disciple to let go of this one

DELUSION, THE REALITY LIES BEYOND IT. HE TEACHES YOU NOT ONLY TO ACCEPT BUT ALSO TO LIVE THIS REALITY

form of execution.

Sense of Sacrifice: There cannot be service without sacrifice and practice. To acquire certain spiritual skills, one may need to sacrifice certain pleasures. Sheer Guts: Spiritual service includes safeguarding people against such external forces and negative energies transmittable through practices like black magic.

Initiative: While philosophy does sound impressive, it takes initiative and intent to put that philosophy into practice and go beyond expected levels of attainment and act intuitively.

Obedience: Disobedience and boedience are the snakes and ladders in the game of Guruism. Disobedience leads your guru to relinquish his responsibility towards you as you have shown a lack of faith in him.

Loyalty: Loyalty to the guru and his mission is a critical component for acceptance by any spiritual master. Spiritual training in physical presence of the guru ensures an interaction, where one learns not only through theory but also from the teacher's responses, body language, instant corrections and so on. The guru often leads by example and its a disciple's curriculum to perfect the prescribed practices and not just understand theory. There is vast difference between attending a lecture in a classroom and reading scriptures online.

Discipleship needs continuous monitoring and interraction. Such training in physical preserves of the guru as a crutch, and not a launch pad It is necessary for us to understand that a guru is the remover of ignorance and admonitions. Many use their guru as a crutch, and not a launch pad It is necessary for us to understand that a guru is the remover of ignorance and admonitions. Many use their guru as a crutch, and not a launch pad It is necessary for us to understand the end who bestows internal knowledge.

Physical presence of the disciple to practice and instructions.

Many a súddi guru can awaken the power of knowledge or intuition in his disciples by using their will power or spiritual energy. A guru gives knowledge, and instructions in the sound in the po



HIDDENSOULS PRAMOD PATHAK

The new



Human mind is the main source of stress as well as its main victim. Stress has always been a major psychosomatic issue afflicting human health from ancient to the modern times. For the ancient man, the problem was anxiety of the uncertain. Little knowledge, naturally, proved dangerous. The irony is that with more knowledge, we worry more now. As technology infiltrated our lives, life got derailed, and went offline. George Orvell's proverbial big brother is getting bigger causing more and more anxiety and stress to human beings. Auditor that was supsort to make like see has become a cause for concern. While the banks are insisting on data and digitastion, the cyber thugs are swindling money from accounts with consummate ease giving sleep-less nights to the customers. But this is not the only cause of online driven anxiety. The Coronakuni, as we can call it now, is giving a double whammy. On the one hand warnings galore from many sources are scaring people to abnormal levels, while on the other, the work from home is making many experience virtual hell. A new mega organism, the online CEO, has emerged on the scene. Relaxing in the cool climes of homes the corona age boss is keeping all employees in his loop on the toes. Shooting mails at the oddest of the hours he is issuing directives by the minute. One step forward two steps backwards, that is the nature of command, because he himself is not sure what to do. Needless to say all this is leading to excessive stress as the hapless employees are continuously on aler for the next mail or WhatsApp message on their mobiles. These nightmarish experiences are slowly but surely threatening to become a full blown health crisis. Already, anxiety and stress related disorders are on the rise and frustration is leading to depression and even suicides. And you cannot blame this on Corona only. It is the big bug, the bloated bossy ego of haughty minded people that is the root cause. While Corona related data of distress is available, the online distress is making life more mise

Vedic astrology & earthquake

Indian astrology, using the Panchang, can calculate the upcoming astronomical events with complete accuracy, says ACHARYA PRAVEEN CHAUHAN

The world today is technologically very advanced. But, despite these has been able to predict the occurrence, place of origin or the frequency of the earthquake. Although science has been successful in setting up departments and a Richter scale to measure an earthquake, but, they are still lacking in predicting time, place and frequency of an earthquake. Scientists only accept a hardriguence of these earthquakes — movement of tecton plates, breaking of rocks within the earth surface; increase of temperature in the innermost earth surfaces leading to gas formation and eventually volcanic eruption.

formation and eventually voicanic erup-tion.

Vedic Astrology is part and parcel of the Vedas. Astrology is the science of knowing what lies in the future. The utili-ty of astrology is as clear as that of meteo-rology. But, a meteorological department can only predict the weather for only a few days with the help of their devices. Indian astrology contains a few point-ers about the future of earthquakes, with the help of which the astrologyers predict the occurrence of these earthquakes. However, Indian astrology, using the Punchang can calculate all the upcoming astronomy events with complete accuracy.

Eclipse and earthquake: No earth carinquake: No earth-quake ever happens during the eclipse period. However, there is a probability of earthquake in the coming post-eclipse lunar phase of full moon or new moon (Purnima and Amavasya, respectively).

Time of earthquake: As per vedic astrology, the probability of occurrence of the earthquake is high during mid-day (12 pm) to sunset and from midnight to sunrise.



Retrograde Planet and earthquake: When major planets such as Jupiter, Mars and Saturn move to retrograde, there is a chance of earthquake.

Planetary transits and earthquake:
In Planetary transit, apart from the position of major planets such as Jupiter.
Saturn and Mars, there should be a compliance in the positions of major astronomical bodies such as Moon and Rahu, like: Mars and Saturn should be opposite to each other; Sun, Mars, Saturn and Rahu in Kendra (1st, 4th, 7th and 10th house of horoscope); Sun, Mars, Saturn and Rahu transit to 8th house of horoscope; Shadashhak Yoga of Mars and Saturn, Mars and Rahu, and Sun and Mars.

Such planetary transit situations

increase the prevalence of an earthquake

Months and earthquake: As per Vedic astrology, there is a high-probabili-ty of earthquakes during summer (mostly May and June) solstice, and winter (most-ly December and January) solstice.

Meteorite and earthquake: There are

Meteorite and earthquake: There are several meteorites in the universe. But, when these meteorites are in proximity to the earth or sun, the chances of the occurrence of the earthquake increases.

Apart from these, the position of Uranus, cruel planets (kur grah) and the collision of stars too have an important role in bringing about a disastrous and devastating earthquake.

The writer is a Delhi-based Astrologer and Palmist and can be reached at inho@lastropraween.com

What matters in the long run

One must figure out what suits one's nature, circumstances, available resources, while in quest for God, writes AJIT KUMAR BISHNOI

The answer is quality of life. The word quality is defined as the standard of something when it is compared to other things like how good or bad something is. Why is quality of life all important? Because we are rechand souls and very small. This smallness is in comparison to God, whose paral souls and very small. This smallness is in comparison to God, whose paral souls and very small. This smallness is in comparison to God, whose paral God is omnipresent. The Cosmic design does not allow us to ever get bigger, because the sligger soul will begin clashing for supremacy.

How can we improve our situation? The answer again is we can improve full regulating for up the superspective attention as long as they are useful. It is not possible to exist well on the basis of your laurels. That was earlier. This world is very cruel in this respect. Even the family members begin to treat those, who are no longer useful as burth. We cannot blame anyone for this, because there are always duties for everyone. In my case, if I spend a lot of time establishing a better connection with God by doing various spiritual practices, I am given respect of froing that. Rather my families. er connection with God by doing various spiritual practices, I am given respect for doing that Rather my family feels more secure due to my spiritual acts. Following 'dharma' is very important for me. Inst defines my personality. Doing 'paropkar' (good deeds by helping others) is similarly very satisfying to me, that is whatever I can do, limited as I am due to my resources. Resources are important to me. I am still engaged in doing business. These resources allow me facilities and comforts, which are important to me. Essentially, I am a householder; becoming a samrayasi is not my god in this life. Writing on spiritual topics, which relate



to current events as far as possible gives me enormous satisfaction, because God is involved in this activity. He guides. This activity actually gives me the maximum satisfaction. I mostly judge myself on the progress mode on this front.

Lastly, my connection with God provides to me everything superior like peace, bliss, support, security, guidance, wisdom, help, energies of various kinds like 'atmabalai' — the strength of the soul, maintenance of my family and forgiveness for mistakes made by me, independent of the most of the most of the control of the most of

character and attitude. Without them, the quality can be ordinary only. What we aim for must be lasting. This is ensured by a connection with God, who controls everything mine or yours. And this connection will ensure peace, without which there is no superior existence.

without which there is no superior existence.

In the end, I must mention that sense enjoyments occupy an important place in our lives, but these should be appropriate only, that is what is required indeed by our bodies, minds, intelligence, etc. Anything beyond degrades does not enhance the quality of life. Sense pleasures of momentary nature are always temporary. They should not dominate our psyche. Only then, we will advance in the quality of life index. And this effort should be ongoing life after life, because we exist eternally. We should ensure that the next life will be better than the present one. The Cosmic design allows this continuity; we should take advantage of it. After all, the next life will also surely come.

Bishnoi is a spithusi wither and can be reached at spiritusi@ajitbishnoi.com



India, China's quest for influence in S Asia

Even as the whole world is facing an unprecedented global health and humanitarian crisis with the rapid spread of Covid-19 pandemic, China sees this as an opportunity to push her geopolitical agenda. And, the same is explicitly evident in South Asia and the Indian Ocean region where China is unmistakably aiding her geopolitical agenda with humanitarian assistance. Unlike region where China is unmistakably aiding her geopolitical agenda with humanitarian assistance. Unlike India, the Chinese approach in South Asia or in the Indian Ocean region (IOR) is neither benign nor in accordance with the principle of mutual benefits and inclusiveness. In fact, it is merely guided by China's national interest. And, interestingly, amused with growing Chinese influence in their economic and security domains, many small countries of the region are not interested to realise the long term consequences of China's growing clouts. As most of the small countries of South Asia and the IOR are set to face worse economic crisis in the post Covid period, China is ready to exploit the situation for its own political, economic and strategic gains.

The recent report titled "A Global Survey of US-China Competition in the Coronavirus Era" by Hudson Institute, the USA, explicitly mentioned that China's immediate goal in South Asia is to limit any "defance" from Iodia and initial simmediate goal in South Asia is to limit any "defance" from Iodia and

explicitly mentioned that Chinase immediate goal in South Asia is to limit any 'defiance' from India and thwart its expanding partnership with the US. Chinase penetration into India's region of influence (South Asia and IOR) is indeed a strategic loss for India. The neighbours in the Chinese debt trap are undoubtedly a potential threat for India's security. Further, the report rightly mentioned that now China, the second largest economy in the world, is succeeding its South Asia strategy through the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), which distributes loans and invest in large infrastructure projects invest in large infrastructure projects

invest in large infrastructure projects across the region.

After Pakistan and Sri Lanka, now Nepal, despite some resistance from its own citizens, is preparing to plunge into Chinese debt trap. Nepal's recent political adventure, the constitutional claim after updating the country's map without historical facts and evidence, is merely a conspiracy by ruling political party to ignite the anti-India sentiments for immediate domestic political gains and to domestic political gains and to appease China. Certainly, it will not be prudent to blame India's neighprudent to blame India's neigh-purhood policy for such a muddle



in the Indo-Nepal bilateral ties.

The small countries of the region such as Sri Lanka, Nepal, and Maldives choose to prefer "omni directional friendship with shifting litls" where ruling party or parties and their leaderships primarily determine the direction of the tilts. The change of guards in Sri Lanka and Maldives in 2015 and 2018 respectively assured the curtailment of Chinese influence in their respective countries. The ouster of the pro-China Mahinda Rajapaska Government in Sri Lanka in 2015 and the Abdullah Yameen Government lin Maldives in 2018 was sighing of relief for India; while to sighing of relief for India; while to India's chagrin, KP Oli returned as Prime Minister of Nepal in 2018. India, China's jostle for influence

in the region is continued during pandemic also, although, means and intentions are not the same. Yet, mid of the Covid-19 crisis, India has scaled up its diplomatic outreach and humanitarian assistance in the most part of the world, including South Asia and the IOR. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's initiative to create an emergency Covid-19 fund for SAARC countries, India's Covid medical diplomacy and the Indian Army and Navy's initiatives to help the neighbouring countries to deal with the growing numbers of coronavirus cases in such an unprecedented situation at domestic from the such as the such a must be appreciated. India's Covid medical diplomacy is not only about export of medicine, but also includes

officials of health-care professionals of SAARC countries and dispatch of the teams of military doctors to Maldives, Nepal and Kuwait. India supplied medicine, both on commercial and the grant basis, to more than 100 countries. But immediate neighbourhood remains the key priority for India as it supplied the medicine to immediate neighbours by Indian aircraft and Air force flights and to others by commercial couriers.

For India, Covid-19 pandemic is an occasion to coordinate, cooperate and lend assistance to smaller neigh-

an occasion to coordinate, cooperate and lend assistance to smaller neigh-bours to fight against pandemic and create greater impact in the long term. Medical diplomacy has emerged as an effective tool of India's Covid diplomacy, and certainly

enhancing India's goodwill with many countries. But China is not ennancing indias goodwili wire.

many countries. But China is not
behind; during the Covid pandemic, China is enhancing its influence
in the region by providing medical
hardware and other assistance to
smaller countries of the region.

China, which has already made her
potent presence in the region through China, which has already made her potent presence in the region through various means such as economy, trade, defence and soft power, is now ready to neutralise the Indian efforts in her immediate neighbourhood. And, undoubtedly, this is one of the key reasons why despite the good intension and approach India's neighbourhood first policy has not been much successful in last decades to meet the expectations.

How to manage China's rising

How to manage China's rising profile in South Asia in the post-

Covid period will certainly be an uphill task for India. However, it was never an easy task for any extra regional powers to dominate the periphery of any regional powers, advantage of geography blends with lepl India to balance China in the region. Although, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to regain its influence in the Modi, to regain its influence in the region India is making all efforts to

Modi, to regain its influence in the region India is making all efforts to engage neighbours more meaningfully, but the situation demands some extra efforts and calibrations. Finding ways to correct the past mistakes in the neighbourhood policy is one of the most daunting tasks for India's foreign policy makers.

In the neighbourhood, India needs to embrace the logic of economic interdependence and ensure the timely completion of ongoing connectivity and development projects. During his six years of tenure, Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited all neighbouring countries and ensured satisfactory progress on political, diplomatic as well as physical connectivity fronts. New Delhi seems determined to connect eastern neighbours through BBIN (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, and Nepal) sub-regional initiative and with the construction of more than 10 new check points to facilitate trade 10 new check points to facilitate trade and movement of vehicles along the 10 new check points to facilitate trade and movement of vehicles along the borders of eastern neighbours Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh and Myanmar. Complaining against Chinese economic influence in the neighbouring countries and China-linked security concerns in India's vicinity, intangible or tangible, is indeed a futile exercise. However, India should avoid the habit of downplaying China-related security concerns in South Asian water. The China's base and port strategy in South Asian water. China's base and port strategy in South Asian littoral states or in the IOR or presence of Chinese submarines in the Andaman water are definitely not only to serve the China's commercial interest. To balance China in South Asian water or in the IOR, beside the capacity building and capacity enhancement, with or without Quad India should not hesitate in engaging the US and other like-minded major and middle powers in the region, especially in the vicinity of the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal.

(The writers are Delhi-based International relations and foreign policy analysts) China, which has already made her potent presence in the region through various means such as economy, trade, defence and soft power, is now ready to neutralise the Indian efforts in her immediate neighbourhood And, undoubtedly, this is one of the key reasons why despite the good intentions and approach, India's neighbourhood first policy has not been much successful in last decades to meet the expectations. India needs to correct the past mistakes in the neighbourhood policy to overcome Chinese sinister designs





OTHERVOICE

A mission towards Atmanirbhar Bharat

During Covid times, as we prepare ourselves for a new world, our focus has to be on the importance of indigenous research and development of impact-driven innovation that is key for India's march towards an Atmanirbhar Bharat



RENU SWARUP

The unprecedented situation which has arisen globally because of the Covid-19 pandemic has brought before the world many valuable learnings—sustainable and collabings — sustainable and collab-orative practices to become self-reliant are the truest har-bingers of healthy societies, economies and healthier nations. As we battle Covid-19 today and reconcile with the possibility of a new endemic infectious disease, we must realise that "atma nirbharta" is the only way to not only cush-ion us from the socio-eco-nomic blow that this pandem-ic has dealt us but also prepare nomic blow that this pandemic has dealt us but also prepare us for what lies ahead in a post Covid-19 world. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given a clarion call to all our scientists, start-ups, industry saying that "a self-reliant India is the only way forward — Atmanirbhar Bharat."

The Department of Biotechnology (DBT), since its very inception in the late 80s, has been committed to delivering solutions for societal

delivering solutions for societal delivering solutions for societal challenges with a focus on "Make in India." Today, as we are positioned from discovery research to translational research, from academia to startups from institutional col-laboration to knowledge trans-lational clusters DBT has trans-formed the scientific innova-tion content in India.

formed the scientific innova-tion spectrum in India. As appropriately said by our Prime Minister it is imper-ative that we don't conflate a self-reliant India with a self-centered India. International



cooperation and collaboration India's progress will undoubtedly contribute to undoubtedly contribute to global progress. The Department of Biotechnology and its Public Sector BIRAC (Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council) has epitomised this value by initiating multiple collaborative research and development programmes with several countries and philanthropic organisations in diverse areas of biotechnology.

Vaccine research and

development has been a core focus-area for DBT. In a matter of national pride, in 2018, ter of national pride, in 2018, ROTAVAC — a vaccine to fight rotavirus developed with support from the Department of Biotechnology — became India's first indigenous vaccine to be prequalified by WHO. Rotavirus is a highly contagious disease that claims lives of nearly half a million children every vear across the world nearly nair a million children every year across the world — prequalification allowed ROTAVAC to be procured by GAVI and UN agencies for use in low and middle-income

countries. Today 1 out of 6 chilmanufactured vaccines. In 2019, DBT launched the Ind-2019, DBT launched the Ind-CEPI mission programme aligned with the Global CEPI, to calibrate efforts on devel-oping vaccines for diseases in India that could have epidem-ic potential, even as it prepares a multi-year plan to focus on development of vaccines for malaria, dengue, chikungunya and tuberculosis. Similarly, since 1987, the Indo-US Vaccine Action Program (VAP), a bilateral

programme of the DBT, Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India; and the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases of the National Institutes of Health, the USA, has supported count-less research and capacity strengthening programmes in strengthening programmes in priority areas like viral hepati-tis (such as hepatitis C), typhoid, rabies, rotavirus diar-rhoea, acute respiratory infec-tions, tuberculosis, parasitic diseases (leishmaniasis, malaria), HIV co-morbidities, strep-tococcal infections and dengue It's no surprise then that the Indo-US VAP has been recog-Indo-US VAP has been recog-nised internationally as a model bilateral programme in biomedical research. The Indo-EU collaboration for develop-ment of an influenza vaccine is another such example. In our effort towards self-reliance, Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC), established by the

Department of Biotechnology, has consistently exemplified the ideation-to-innovation model by identifying and incubating efforts towards needs-based product-focused research and development.

product-to-uses and development.

More recently, in the fight against Covid-19, DBT-BIRAC has led from the front. Within the first few weeks of the Covid-19 pandemic, DBT-BIRAC announced a Govid-19 pandemic, DB1-BIRAC announced a Covid-19 research consortium to develop safe and effective biomedical solutions to combat SARS-CoV-2. The consortium

response and has, so far, sup-ported over 70 proposals for development of diagnostics, vaccines, novel therapeutics, repurposing of drugs and other technologies to find solutions for the healthcare solutions for the realistate challenges of this pandemic. More than 20 different Vaccine Candidates are being developed by our indigenous developers from industry, startups and academia.

A true example of our mission towards self-reliance is

A true example of our mission towards self-reliance is the development of indigenous diagnostic kits for Covid 19. In March 2020, when the first few testing activities began we were totally dependent on imported kits. The Government took immediate action and with a combination of enabling policies and funding opportunities, today we have over 20 Indian manufacturers and a kit production capacity of more than 1 lakk tits per day. To meet this requirement, the Department of Biotechnology and BiRAC through the National Biopharma Mission have set up a manufacturing complex at AMTZ. Visbaleanatham. The phopharma Mission have set up a manufacturing complex at AMTZ Vishakapatnam. The requirement of indigenous components, reagents and other related parts is now being met through N-BRIC, a National Biomedical Resource Indigenisation Consortia set up in a PPP model to cater to our

needs to meet the targets of Atmanirbhar Bharat. BIRAC has been fast tracking many innovations such as

tension monitoring which ar critical in Covid-19 manage ment. Similarly, several com-panies are being supported to scale-up production and manscale-up production and man-ufacturing of testing and screening kits, PPEs, ventila-tors, etc. From extending financial support to solutions that are ready for deployment to accelerating vaccine devel-opment and encouraging vac-cine research, DBT-BIRAC are playing a catalytic and enabling role in battling Covid-19 with indigenous solutions through its 16 research institutes, more than 1000 startups, and 50 its 16 research institutes, more than 1000 startups, and 50 bio-incubators. The DBT-BIRAC team is also working along with the Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) to provide a rapid response regulatory framework for the discovery to delivery process of Covid-19 innovations.

As the world is looking at finding quick solutions for meeting the huge healthcare challenges which Covid-19 outbreak has brought before us, our effort is to ensure that our

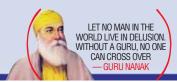
our effort is to ensure that our

our effort is to ensure that our innovations continue to focus on scalability, sustainability and replicability.

As we prepare ourselves for anew world, our focus has to be on the importance of indigenous research and development of impact-driven innovation, this is key for our march towards an 'Atmaniribhar Bharat.'

(The writer is Secretary, Department of Biotechnology, Government of India)





























ARIES March 21-April 19

This week you would be conscious about your health and devote time towards your well-being. Every action makes a difference. Think positive, follow wellness practices and remember that healthy mind stays in a healthy body. Success is guaranteed. On the career front, you need to be alert, agile and patient as you attempt to juggle between your family, friends, work, finances, health and new challenges this week. Prioritise your needs and activities and carefully manages your time Financial constraints may be felt of manage your time. Financial constraints may be felt and you may find it difficult to start a new venture due to lack of funds. You will feel lucky in the matters of the heart. Things are smooth and you will enjoy the company of your loved ones.

Lucky number 22



LEO July 23-Aug 22

Bring balance in work and family; body and mind. You are very imaginative and spend a lot of time thinking, dreaming and weaving stories. The desires and passions would be on a high this week, making you a weak person. would be on a high this week, making you a week person. Vour efficiency may go down. Physical exercise will help you stay grounded. On the career front, things will move as per your desire, yoliny you much soop eand hopes for the future. Be prepared for a surprise. An important project may be assigned you. You may work for a cause and attain immense satisfaction. You are earing and generous to the needs of your loved ones and devote a lot of time looking after them. You may feel alone in the later part of the week and may plan something excling with your loved ones.



SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 21

SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 21

Working on keeping a balanced perspective about life will help you to stay healthy this week. Moderation is an important part of living a sensible and healthy life. Those suffering a health isse, must consult their dorbor and get themselves examined. On the professional front, you are the leader and people will look for your guidance. Focus your attention completely on your goal and be very careful not to reveal any weaknesses or personal dobut. Through will power and self-control you will come out with the solutions for tough times. You enjoy the company of friends and relatives. Things should be going well especially on the love front. You can look forward to at least one pleasant reunion with someone that you have been apart from for some time.



TAURUS April 20-May 20

ENUMO A PAIR 20-May 20
Some negative forces are at play against you this week. Be caudious of your health. This is a time when you need to watch out against pressure — overwork, exertion, and stress. Addictions and obsessions could get dominant upon you. Pay attention to diet, exercise, and making time to rest and eat healthy food. Career-wise, new job opportunity is on the cards. If you are trying to switch over or looking for your career to start, this is the time when you are called for. Those in business will earn good money this week. This is still a time that calls for financial restraint. Save for the hard days. Be open to new possibilities and stimulate your imagination to allow your talent to unifol. You may end or op to to close a stale relationship with the one you loved.



VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

This week is good in terms of health. You are in a mood to entertain and socialise. This will prove to be refreshing, rejeventing and give you hopes and dreams. Joy and celebrations are on the cards. Caree-wise, this week is mixed with positive and negative energies. You have both mental and physical agility. Anticipation makes you an avid learner and an excellent student. Your sharpened skills would motivate you to perform exceptionally welf. You will experience a sudden personal growth if you use your energies for something meaningful. This is a good time for you in terms of a relationship. If you are already committed, make sure that your communication is very clear. Ensure to take that your communication is very clear. Ensure to take some time to talk to each other.



CAPRICORN Dec 22-Jan 19

Some external forces are likely to cause worry this week. Some external forces are likely to cause worry this week. Health may be the other eason for stress. Trust your instincts and don't fill yourself with negative feelings. Do not pet upset and restless. Meditation, yoga and Pransyam activities would be good for you at this time. Gather your strength and self-confidence. Professionally, your work will pick up momentum, though, in the beginning, you would be slightly apprehensive and negative. In later part, you may be affired up of the issues that you are particularly passionate about. This week if you have set your mind to accomplish your posits you can achieve anything you desire. You will fall short of words to express yourself when it comes to love. True love allows for space between the lovers.



GEMINI May 21-June 20

Health-wise, things would be satisfactory. You will experience prosperity, progress and happiness this week. You are likely to have several clear flashes of week. You are likely to have several clear flashes of important spiritual insights during this period. Share and discuss with others, you are all on a spiritual journey, and your insights are likely to be valuable for others. Some doubts on the career front will become clearer but all is not revealed at this point. This week you are focused in your approach. A pleasant surprise you are rocused in your way soon concerning work. You may come up with some new processes that make your work-life simpler and less stressful. This is the time to stay away from building new relationships. Time is not right for deep bonding and pure love.

Lucky number 12



LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

LIBMA Sep 23-Oct 22

Health-visc, this week will be fabulous. If you are waiting on lest results of some kind, they are likely to be good. You will be calin, releved and inspired. You are in totine with your spiritality now and that relevant a great totine with your spiritality now and that relevant a great more for you to reach out to others, and to share your visigonar and jey. Something may be troubling you concerning you receive high professional life. Worrying about your pick control with you can control, and by yo leave your anokely behind. Be open and straightforward in your approach for with you can control, and by the personal front. Your spouse may have other provides in life than your love. This is not a time to be at out in rage, instead, ook at the situation from a place of love and compession.



AOUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

Health needs attention. Find means to relax. Laughter is the best remedy. The stress of work could be neutralised by enjoying yourself and create a lighter environment. Entire blastness in everything that is associated with exercise. Make it a way of living, relaxation and your emotional and mental wellbeing. On the career front, you are successful in performing tasks that involve cooperation and team harmony, You are going to get a great deal accomplished with high spirit in a short period. If you are committed, your relations will be more mature and have understanding. This is a good time to take important decisions related to the relationship. This is the time when you can fuse life in dead relationships.



CANCER June 21-July 22

Medical issues need immediate attention. You may need to a change your routine, environment or experiment with different spiritual traditions. Listen to experiment with different spiritual traditions. Listen to your body. Grooned look and good communication skills work wonders at work. Focus on your working style, attitude and your dealings with the people around you. Bring desirable changes if you see that things are not moving as per your requirements. Be a good listener. Co-operation and harmony at the workplace will get you great results. This week does not predict a sound relationship. You may feel emotionally hurt and broken. Love relationships could be disheartening. Try to sort out the differences and find a solution.



SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

This week you will not compromise on health issues, which is good. You can create order out of chaos by carefully categorising your thoughts and mapping out what needs to be done in order to solve the problem. Try to be little flexible, sensitive and soft in your approach. Career-wise, you have a shap mind and are ready to take risks. Your professional approach at this time will benefit you. Avoid silly debates ofterwise, you will find yourself in a heated argument. You'll find a solution to a recent quarrel but don't be your prick stop you eating immediate clarification. This is an excellent time for a new the control of the property of t



PISCES Feb 19-March 20

You need attention and care of the loved ones. Any health problems manifesting now may be a result of neglected emotional issues. Create your energy and enthusiasm. Find the most upbeat and spiritually wave person that you know, and talk to him/her about what makes them tick. You will learn helpful things, You may have recently come through a very difficult time on the career front. Make sure that you don't make the same miskakes that will contribute to the problem. Worrying about your job is not going to help matters. You are not in a mood to tolerate boss order or higher tone. Patience is the key. You are tully charged up with emotions and sentiments. You try to fulfill the demands of loved ones. This is a good time to express feelings if you love someone.



Truth is simple, spontaneous

he truth is simple and sponta-neous. It is within everybody's sight. We just need to look at things with an open mind. The paradox, however, is that simple truth eludes our however, is that simple truth eludes our attention. Our mind has become so complexed that we can't take note of simple things. We rather prefer going in circles in search of underlying truth, more often ending up having a fractioned view.

We all know that when glaciers melt, water streams emerge, which ends in the sea. All through its run, it extends life. But for water there will be no vegetation are growned in feet up olife Ernit

in the sea. All through its run, it extends life. But for water there will be no vegetation on ground, in fact, no life. Fruit born by trees and the crops grown sustain us. If we stop eating but we can still live on water, but mind will stop working. So goes the saying. "Anna se buddhi, jala se prana", meaning that food grains nourish our mind, and water sustains life. Not only that, the trees absorb carbon dioxide that our body discharges, and in turn, release fresh oxygen to sustain our life. The trees also maintain weather cycle. Water running down the stream, as also in the sea evaporates, leaving behind all impurities, forms cloud and then rains to

recharge our water resources and life cycle. This way you can see, how inter-connected and interdependent our lives

You don't need a rocket science to You don't need a rocket science to understand such fundamental truth. Such truths not in our reckoning, we lose track of our collective obligations, and remain centred to our self-centric aspirational urges. Otherwise, we would have cared not to vitiate environmental conditions — not been careless to pollute our water resources and the environment around. Had the people in Wuhan state of Chian maintained their sense of hygiene, they would not have picked up the Coronavirus, which has overtaken the whole world. In fact, we have lost our sense of proportion so overtaken the whole world. In fact, we have lost our sense of proportion so much that but for pandemics overtaking us, we don't remember that the world is a unified organism, where no individual has a reality independent of the whole. The obvious implication is that if ever something happens at one end of this world, its effect will reach far and wide and so it happened. This pandemic is therefore a wake up call for all of us. The question now is: how to remain live to the above realities. It is again, not



a rocket science. You just need to clear off the clutters of mind, purify your mind so as to rise above all its limitations and preconditioning, and truth will be forthcoming spontaneously. The other day I was being interviewed on the probable outcome of the recent eclipse. One of the viewer asked me: "Sun is the soul of the earth. If the Sun itself becomes afflicted during eclipse, how can people on earth remain good?" Well, a cloud coming in way of the solar light, will though restrict its reach to us, but can't anyway bring down the solar intensity. During the solar eclipse, Moon comes in between the Sun and Earth, and so, it is almost like a temporary clouding effect. The Sun can no way be afflicted at all, I answered. The anchor then asked me: "Sir, the pundits are suggesting so many remedial measures to ward off the evil influence of eclipse, but you have taken an altogether different approach. How is this differsures to ward off the evil influence of eclipse, but you have taken an altogether different approach. How is this difference in approach?" Well, the pundits are stuck to their beliefs, and so are having a coloured vision of this natural annular phenomenon, mostly to serve their vested interest. Any of the remedial measures they are suggesting can't appease the cosmic forces nor could they change

their course. Nobody on the earth is their course. Nobody on the earth is capable of changing the course of nature. We have to bear with intelligent-ly, what the cosmos offers. Well, on my part, I am looking at the whole phe-nomenon holistically and with an open

nomenon holistically and with an open mind, free from any preconditioning whatsoever. So, I am able to see truth in black and white.

Truth of life is that the cosmos is subject to continued twists and turns and with related bearing on our life cycle. We can't change nature's course. But we can certainly negotiate with the challenges coming our way intelligently and minimise the damage, as we have been successively doing during cyclones and such natural calamities. The call of the time is to purify our minds. We may and such natural calamittes. The call of the time is to purify our minds. We may then remain alive about the living realities of life. We may be able to spontaneously and effortlessly strike truth. Accordingly, we could prepare ourselves to negotiate with the challenges coming our way intelligently.

The writer is an astrologer, vastu consultant and spiritual counsellor. Write to him at G-102, Bitarat Nagar, New Friends Colory, New Dilm-1102.

, рикиат мадат, New Friends Colony, New Delhi-110 025 Tel: 91-11-49848475/9818037273

TEAM AGENDA DESK > NAVNEET MENDIRATTA, CONSULTING EDITOR I ★ LAYOUT AND DESIGN > SATISH CHANDRA JAKHMOLA, SENIOR EDITOR (CREATIVE)