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INDIA'S COUNTER STRATEGY

**WORLD 8**  
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**SPORT 12**  
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## China passes buck as India blames it for LAC brawl

### New Delhi accuses Beijing of flouting LAC pacts, China retorts India crossed border

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

India and China blamed each other on Thursday over the bloody LAC brawl, with each side holding the other responsible for tension along the Line of Actual Control.

While India accused China of disregarding mutual agreements leading to the brawl on June 15 in the Galwan valley leaving 20 Indian Army personnel dead, China said the Indian side crossed the LAC for provocation and attacked the Chinese border troops and the Indian forces seriously violated agreements on border issues between the two countries.

Reiterating India's position, External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Anurag Srivastava said here the Chinese side departed from previously agreed understanding in respect to the Galwan valley area and sought to erect structures just across the LAC.

"When this attempt was foiled, Chinese troops took violent actions on June 15 that directly resulted in casualties," the Spokesperson asserted. He said the conduct of Chinese forces this year has been in complete disregard of all mutually agreed norms.

On the other hand, Chinese ambassador to India

Sun Weidon said, "The onus is not on China. The Indian side crossed the LAC for provocation and attacked the Chinese border troops. The Indian forces seriously violated agreements on border issues between the two countries."

He said China was ready to work with India to resolve stand-offs and cautioned "suspicion and friction" was a wrong path to follow.

India and China are able to properly manage their differences, and called upon New Delhi to avoid taking actions that may "complicate" the situation in eastern Ladakh. He went on to add that at present, the overall situation in the China-India border areas is "stable and controllable."

"We hope the Indian side meets the Chinese side halfway, avoids taking actions that may complicate the border situation and takes concrete actions to maintain stability in the border areas," he said in an interview to PTI.

But India insisted that the Chinese tried to change the status quo in Ladakh in mid-May with the MEA saying India had registered its protest through diplomatic and military channels.

On June 6, the senior commanders of both the armies



Satellite image suggests recent Chinese construction in Galwan valley

Agency

agreed on a process for de-escalation and disengagement along the LAC that involved reciprocal actions.

However, the Chinese side departed from these understandings in respect of the LAC in the Galwan valley area and sought to erect structures just across the LAC. When this attempt was foiled, Chinese troops took violent actions on June 15 that directly resulted in casualties. Thereafter, both sides remain deployed in large numbers in the region, while

military and diplomatic contacts are continuing, Srivastava said. He also said since early May, the Chinese side has been amassing a large contingent of troops and armaments along the LAC. This is not in accordance with the provisions of our various bilateral agreements, the Spokesperson said.

Meanwhile, the Chinese Ambassador said "mutual respect and support" is a sure way and meets the long-term interests of both countries, but at the same time, largely put the

onus on India to ease tension in the region.

"China and India are both large developing countries and emerging economies with more than one billion people, and both have the historic mission of realising our own development and revitalisation," he said.

"Under the guidance of the important consensus reached by the leaders of the two countries, we are ready to work with the Indian side to properly deal with the current situation, jointly uphold peace

and stability in the border areas, and ensure a sound and steady development of bilateral relations," Sun said.

The Chinese envoy repeated his Government's stand that Indian troops are responsible for the Galwan valley clashes, and indicated that the onus was on India to improve the situation in eastern Ladakh.

The Ambassador said the two sides kept peace for decades in Galwan valley, adding since the beginning of 2020, the Indian side has built facilities at or the crossing of the LAC in the Galwan valley, "constantly changing the status quo of ground control."

On May 6, he claimed the Indian troops crossed the LAC in the Galwan valley by night and trespassed into Chinese territory. "They resorted to violent means to create a stand-off between the two sides and built infrastructures in an attempt to maintain a permanent presence," he alleged.

The ambassador said the Indian side promised in the talks on June 6 that they would not cross the estuary of the Galwan river to patrol and build facilities, adding the two sides agreed to build observation posts on either side of the Galwan river mouth.

"However, after the commander-level meeting, when the situation on the ground was already easing, the Indian border troops copped out on the consensus reached at the commander-level meeting, demanded that China dismantle its observation post," he said.

## Army drones, ITBP keep watch on PLA

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Amid the continuing face-offs at various points along the LAC in eastern Ladakh, the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) has ramped up deployment in the area as the Army has pressed heavy duty drones to keep an eye on the Chinese troops' activities.

The ITBP has withdrawn 20 companies (2,000 personnel) from various counter-insurgency operation roles for deployment in Ladakh, sources said, adding the move came after a review on the situation by the Union Home Ministry.

ITBP is a Central paramilitary under the Home Ministry tasked to secure the nearly 3,500 km Line of Actual Control along the frontier with China. ITBP is also the Lead Intelligence Agency in the LAC.

Meanwhile, the agencies have spotted tactical drones from China's People's Liberation Army scouring Indian positions in eastern Ladakh.

The Chinese drones are estimated to be deployed for tactical reconnaissance and

## Chinese drones spotted doing reconnaissance in four Indian positions

were spotted at four Indian positions over the past few weeks.

Responding to the Chinese measure, to the Indian Army has also deployed heavy duty drones to gather intelligence on movement of Chinese troops and their activities.

Indian Army's 14 Corps has deployed Heron Medium Altitude Long Endurance (MALE) drones for surveillance along the LAC.

These heavy duty drones have an endurance of over 24 hours and can fly 10 km high.

Ground troops are equipped with portable drones that can be launched by soldiers.

An unspecified number of 'SpyLite' mini Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) systems were acquired by the Indian Army exclusively for high-altitude surveillance in the Ladakh sector.

Continued on Page 4

## RGF took Chinese funds, then Cong recommended biased FTA: BJP

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Raising the pitch of its political attack on the Congress over the India-China border stand-off, the BJP on Thursday said that the Chinese Government made a donation of ₹90 lakh to Rajiv Gandhi foundation (RGF), which in turn recommended a free trade agreement with China, tilted heavily in favour of Beijing.

Union Minister and senior BJP leader Ravi Shankar Prasad alleged that RGF which he consider as an "extension" of the Congress received bribes from Chinese embassy.

Reacting to the allegations on Rajiv Gandhi Foundation receiving some donation from Chinese Embassy in 2005, Congress chief spokesperson Randeep Surjewala said the BJP was trying to divert attention.

Continued on Page 4

## 3,000 hotels, restaurants in Delhi boycott Chinese goods, nationals

### Delhi Hotels and Restaurant Owners Association informs its decision to CAIT

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

In view of the recent face-off with China, the Delhi Hotels and Restaurant Owners' Association (DHROA) on Thursday announced to boycott Chinese goods as well as not provide accommodation to Chinese nationals in the budget hotels and guest houses in the city.

Delhi has about 3,000 budget hotels and guest houses with about 75,000 rooms have decided to extend its support to "Boycott Chinese Campaign" call taken by the Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT), said Praveen Khandelwal, CAIT general secretary.

"We are pleased to inform you that our association has decided to wholeheartedly support the campaign of CAIT and as such we have decided to boycott Chinese goods which are being used in our hotels and restaurants and henceforth we shall not be using any Chinese products in our establishments," the Delhi Hotel &



Restaurant Owners Association said in the letter to CAIT.

Mahendra Gupta, general secretary of DHROA said the manner in which the Chinese army is behaving with Indian forces at the borders which resulted in killing of 20 Indian soldiers, the hotel industry is deeply upset and having a gross resentment against China and therefore it was decided to join the protest by CAIT.

Sandeep, president of DHROA, said the association has also decided not to use any Chinese made products in their hotels and guest houses like furniture, kitchen accessories, cutlery, decorative items etc. Khandelwal while wel-

coming the decision of the hotels association said with such a decision it is quite evident that people from all walks of life are more willing to join the campaign of the CAIT.

"The CAIT will now make all efforts to rope in other various sectors like farmers, transporters, small industries, consumers, hawkers, self entrepreneurs, women, entrepreneurs, etc will make an appeal to them to join the campaign," he said.

The Delhi Hotels and Restaurant Owners' Association further said it will also contact hotel associations of other states to make a similar decision.

## Maha, TN, Delhi keep pace; Covid count soars by 17,900

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In the biggest day spike, Maharashtra on Thursday reported 4,841 fresh cases and 192 deaths. Tamil Nadu followed Maharashtra by adding a record number of 3,509 cases and 45 deaths. Delhi kept pace with these two States and recorded 3,390 fresh cases and 64 deaths.

With this India's death count crosses 15,000 (15,303) mark and total number of cases stood at 4,90,880 with over 17,900 cases in a day.

Besides, over 30 personnel attached to Naval Air Station INS Parundu and eight more personnel of Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) tested positive in the last 24 hours. Taking note of the highest number of cases, a Central team led by Health Ministry Joint Secretary Lav Agarwal will visit Gujarat, Maharashtra and Telangana from 26 to 29 June, and will interact with State officials and coordinate with them to strengthen ongoing efforts for management of Covid-19.

According to Maharashtra health department, the number of cases in the State now stands at 1,47,741 with active cases of 63,342. The total deaths stand at 6,931, with 192 new deaths in the last 24 hours. Mumbai has reported 1,365 fresh cases and 58 deaths, taking the total number of cases in the city to 70,990 and deaths to 4,060. Senior BJP leader Devendra Fadnis has alleged that the Maharashtra Government has not reported around 1,000 deaths in the State so far.

Continued on Page 4

**Covid-19 IN INDIA**

**TOTAL CASES: 4,91,168**

**DEATHS: 15,308**

**RECOVERED: 2,85,664**

**ACTIVE: 1,90,141**

STATES	TOTAL CASES	DEATHS	RECOVERED
Maharashtra	1,47,741	6,931	77,453
Delhi	73,780	2,429	44,765
Tamil Nadu	70,977	911	39,999
Gujarat	29,578	1,754	21,506
Uttar Pradesh	20,193	611	13,119
Rajasthan	16,296	379	12,840
West Bengal	15,648	606	10,190
Madhya Pradesh	12,595	542	9,619
Haryana	12,463	198	7,380
Telangana	11,364	230	4,688
Andhra Pradesh	10,884	136	4,988
Karnataka	10,560	170	6,672
Bihar	8,488	56	6,480
Assam	6,647	9	4,034
Jammu & Kashmir	6,549	90	3,967
Odisha	5,962	24	4,291

## CAPSULE

### 107 KILLED IN LIGHTNING STRIKES IN BIHAR, UP

Patna: Thunderstorms and lightning have wrought havoc in Bihar over the past two days, claiming 83 lives, leaving many injured and causing widespread damage to property, the State disaster management department said here on Thursday. At least 24 people were killed and 12 others injured on Thursday in similar incidents of lightning in various districts of the Uttar Pradesh, officials said in Lucknow.

### PAK TERROR SAFE HAVEN: UN EXHORTS MEMBERS

United Nations: UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres expects all member States to "live up" to their obligations under the relevant Security Council resolutions, his spokesperson has said, after a US report noted that Pakistan remains a safe haven for terrorists as it did not take actions against JeM founder Masood Azhar.

### PATANJALI CLAIMS IT BROKE NO RULES

Dehradun: Under flak over the launch of a drug it claims to be a cure for Covid-19, Ramdev's Patanjali Ayurved on Thursday insisted that it broke no law.

## TikTok star Siya Kakkar kills self

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

A 16-year-old Tik Tok star allegedly committed suicide by hanging herself at her residence in East Delhi's Geeta Colony area, police said on Thursday.

The deceased girl, Siya Kakkar, had over one million followers on the short-video platform, and another 1.35 lakh on Instagram.

Her father found her hanging around 9 pm on Wednesday, police said.

No suicide note was recovered from near the body. The body was sent to Subzi Mandi Mortuary for post-mortem. The reason behind the extreme step is yet to be ascertained. Inquest proceedings have been initiated, the officer said.

## CBSE cancels pending Class X, XII exams

### 30 lakh students to be graded on basis of last three tests or write exams when situation improves

PNS/AGENCIES ■ NEW DELHI

The CBSE on Thursday conveyed to the Supreme Court that the rescheduled pending examinations of Class X and XII have been cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The examination were rescheduled from July 1-15. This means over 30 lakh stu-



dents will now be graded on the basis of their last three tests or given an option to appear for exams when the situation is conducive. It is expected to take a final call on this issue on Friday.

A decision on rescheduling the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) for IITs and the NEET test for medical colleges will also be based on the Supreme

Court's verdict for CBSE Board exams. While engineering entrance exam JEE-Mains is scheduled from July 18-23, medical entrance exam NEET is to be held on July 26.

The decision was taken by the CBSE after Delhi, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Odisha conveyed their inability to conduct examinations in the coronavirus crisis. The ICSE Board too said it has cancelled its Class X and XII board exams with no option of re-examinations. The Supreme Court will issue a comprehensive order pertaining to matter on Friday.

Continued on Page 4

## Pak's continuation in FATF grey list vindicates India's position: MEA

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

India on Thursday said Pakistan's continuation in the "grey list" of global terror financing watchdog, Financial Action Task Force (FATF), vindicated its position that the western neighbour has not taken any appropriate action against terror networks.

"It vindicated our position that Pakistan has not taken appropriate action against terror outfits," MEA Spokesperson Anurag Srivastava said during an online media briefing.

FATF on Wednesday decided to keep Pakistan in the "grey list" for failing to check flow of money to terror groups.

## No need to visit Covid Care Centres for clinical assessment in Delhi

SAPNA SINGH ■ NEW DELHI

Covid-positive patients will not be required to visit Covid Care Centres for a clinical assessment for home isolation or hospitalisation, Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia said after an SDMA meeting on Thursday.

Sisodia said it has been decided to withdraw the Centre's order regarding the requirement of Covid Care Centre visit by Covid-positive persons at the State Disaster Management Authority (SDMA) meeting which was attended by Lieutenant Governor Anil Bajjal.

Sisodia said those found

Covid-19 positive would be clinically assessed by medical officers at their homes. The Deputy CM, who is also handling the additional portfolio of the Health Minister, said the "home isolation has been highly successful in Delhi and around 30,000 coronavirus patients had been cured."

After his meeting with officials, Bajjal tweeted, "The SDMA approved the modification of SOP for home isolation for Covid-19 patients to meet the twin objectives of containment of local spread and provision of timely medical care for the positive cases to save precious lives."

Continued on Page 4

# PM, CM to participate in mega job event online

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be virtually participating in a mega job event set to be hosted by the UP government in which the state government will be announcing jobs to one crore persons, including migrants as well as those already residing in UP. During the programme, a second phase of granting loans to MSMEs will also be held. This is the biggest employment programme in the country where Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath will also participate virtually and speak with the beneficiaries from Lucknow.

The PM will also hold online interactions with beneficiaries from six districts that have availed of the state's large-scale program to provide employment and self-employment. This will be the second such participation by the PM after he did a virtual launch of the PM Garib Kalyan Yojana in a village in Bihar last week.

Three categories of beneficiaries of the employment programme will participate in the programme. First, the benefi-



ciaries of the Union government scheme of self-reliance; second, those who got employment in MSME sector with which the UP government had also signed the MoU for providing employment to the migrant workers; and third, the self-employment category of people who have started the enterprise with the loan arranged by the government.

This will be the second such participation by the PM after he did a virtual launch of the PM Garib Kalyan Yojana in a village in Bihar last week. Officials of various government departments said that additional jobs created under MGNREGA and unskilled jobs related to the real estate and construction sector will make for more than

half of the total one crore job announcements, along with those created by the Public Works Department. Second, those workers who have found employment in MSMEs through the various MoUs that the state had signed with industry associations like Indian Industries Association (IIA), FICCI as well as NAREDCO, will also be given job certificates.

An industry association representative, however, said these numbers are still picking up. People looking for self-employment, mainly in the agro-processing unit, will also be given loans. Last month, the UP government had distributed loans to the tune of Rs 2,000 crore to nearly 57,000 entrepreneurs. National Real Estate

Development Council (NAREDCO), which had signed an MoU with the government to provide 2.5 lakh jobs, has agreed to employ one lakh workers from 63 districts immediately at various construction sites.

On the other hand, more than 57 lakh people were employed under MGNREGA ten days back. A large part of agricultural work is also being done through MGNREGA like desilting of canals, excavation of ponds and levelling of agricultural land, with at least an 8-10% increase in area under cultivation as well, a senior Agriculture department official said.

Since the UP government had called for 'departmental convergence' under the national rural jobs scheme, the PWD is augmenting work using MGNREGA funds, thus being able to contribute more to the job creation process. A PWD official said that around 50,000 jobs have been created mostly in rural areas, making use of additional MGNREGA funds. These include construction of village roads as well as shoulder lanes in urban area.

# Govt takes MSME lane to assuage migrants' plight

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Assessing the ramifications of the phenomenal Covid-related influx of nearly 30 lakh migrant workers into UP in advance, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath set up a high-powered body to draw a blueprint to alleviate the condition of the returnees in mid-April itself.

The state government was posed the gigantic challenge of providing alternative jobs to the returnees near their places of nativity and safeguard their livelihood needs.

The high-powered committee was asked to draw a roadmap for creating local level jobs under 'One District, One Product' (ODOP) scheme and also facilitate credit through bank loan melas across the state. In May, Industry associations were brought on board for providing employment to the migrants.

In the meantime, the CM directed officials to expedite the process of skills mapping of migrants and thrash out a plan of involving Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector and different industry bodies for mass employment.

Subsequently, the varied skills of nearly 20 lakh migrant workers were identified, including electronics, electrical, real estate, data entry, furniture, carpentry, auto mechanic, mobile phone repair, garment etc. Simultaneously, the state government also started devel-



oping UP as a textile manufacturing and exporting hub on lines of Vietnam and Bangladesh. The government also announced setting up of a Migration Commission coined Kaamgar / Shramik (Sevayojan evam Rozgar) Kalyan Aayog for facilitating jobs and social security to migrant workers and finding a long term solution to prevent migration of workers from the state. Besides, District Employment Exchanges were also roped in for providing jobs by sharing skill database of incoming workers. The government also leveraged the Central stimulus package to provide housing facilities to migrants. To facilitate MSME

sector, the government also announced necessary amendments in MSME policy and expand industrial land bank for attracting investment. This was set to pave the way for development of the state and also absorb more migrant workers.

Under the Rs 20 Lakh crore economic stimulus to overcome Covid-19 challenge, the Centre announced a scheme to help migrant workers in getting residential accommodations. The Centre would provide affordable housing to migrants and urban poor under the flagship Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) scheme.

Besides to alleviate their problems, the UP government

also arranged for 1,650 Shramik Special trains to ferry workers from other states and also deployed nearly 12,000 UP Roadways buses to ferry them.

In May last week, the state government signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with industry chambers - Indian Industries Association (IIA), FICCI, Laghu Udyog Bharati (LUB) and National Real Estate Development Council (NAREDCO), for providing employment to more than 11 lakh migrant labourers.

The government shared the migrants' database with the industry associations, so that they could be absorbed in different industrial, real estate and manufacturing units as per their skills and experience.

Recently, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said that till now, these migrant workers were contributing towards the development of other states, but now the state government would harness their skills for building a new Uttar Pradesh. The CM also acknowledges the faith reposed by the industry in the potential of these workers. Yogi also lauded UP-based industries for paying salaries and wages to their workers even during lockdown period.

"More than 94 per cent or 75,000 industrial entities paid nearly Rs 1,700 crore in wages to their workers, although they were not operational," the CM said.

# India's first Migrants Commission set up to provide help to returnees

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Aiming to provide employment to workers at the local level and protect their rights, especially in private and non-government sector, the state government set up Migrant Workers' Commission - the first in the country.

Government spokesman Siddharth Nath Singh said, "With this, workers in the state will have access to employment by skill development and help in adding momentum to the state's economy. This Commission will be pivotal in providing social and economic security to workers and ensure all-round development."

Singh said that UP Labour (Employment exchange and Job) Commission also known as Migrant Workers' Commission would provide maximum employment to workers at local level in private and non-government sector as per their

skills. The Chief Minister or one of his cabinet colleagues will be the Chairman of Migrants Commission while Minister for Labour and Service Planning, will be its Convenor. Besides,

Minister for Industrial Development and Minister for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and Export Promotion Bureau will be vice-chairpersons. Commissioner for Infrastructure and Industrial Development will be a member secretary. Besides, Agriculture, Rural Development minister, Agriculture Production Commissioner, Additional Chief Secretary, Principal Secretary, Labour and Employment Exchange, representatives of industrial and labour outfits nominated by the Chief Minister, five representatives interested in development of industries and workers nominated on his behalf and special invitee will be its mem-

bers. The government spokesperson said that several economic activities came to a grinding halt due to lockdown and workers were the hardest hit. "After a huge number of workers returned to UP, it was a challenge to accommodate them. The CM initiated several steps including payment of Rs 1,000 as sustenance allowance and creation of maximum labour days under MGNREGA," he said. "The Migrants Commission will be a link between workers and industries and provide skilled labourers to concerned units as per demand. In addition, it will also impart training to hone skills as per industry demand. Training opportunity will also be available through apprenticeship in units," he said.

Singh said that the commission will also be a facilitator for demand of workers from other states and countries. "The Commission will also provide minimum basic facilities like housing and insurance to workers," he said. "With the help of Employment Exchange department, the Commission will set up a portal with data about workers' skills so that they could be adjusted in any industrial unit as per requirement," he said. To ensure that work was being performed as per target of the Commission and state-level board, a district-level committee would be formed in all districts under respective District Magistrates. This committee would have 10 more members with Chief Development Officer being the vice-chairman. "The Commission will meet monthly, the Board will meet every fortnight and district level committees will hold meetings once a week. The DM will provide input on the report of every meeting to state-level board," Singh said.

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"With the help of Employment Exchange department, the Commission will set up a portal with data about workers' skills so that they could be adjusted in any industrial unit as per requirement," he said. To ensure that work was being performed as per target of the Commission and state-level board, a district-level committee would be formed in all districts under respective District Magistrates. This committee would have 10 more members with Chief Development Officer being the vice-chairman. "The Commission will meet monthly, the Board will meet every fortnight and district level committees will hold meetings once a week. The DM will provide input on the report of every meeting to state-level board," Singh said.

# UP engages 57.13L workers in MNREGS

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Uttar Pradesh has etched history by creating over 7.93 crore man days work engaging 57.13 lakh workers under MGNREGA scheme - the highest in the country. The rural employment generation scheme has not only transformed the face of villages, but also helped in the revival of 21 rivers of the state.

Additional Chief Secretary (Information) Awanish Kumar Awasthi said that 57.13 lakh workers are working in MGNREGA across 56,981 of the total 58,000 panchayats across the state. The work being supervised by Panchayati Raj department has created 7.93 crore man days in the state so far.

"This constitutes 18 percent of national employment and is a testimony that UP tops in generating employment under MGNREGA across the country," Awasthi said. Officials said that the maximum number of 1.91 lakh workers were engaged in Sitapur, followed by 1.60 lakh in Basti. Among other states, Rajasthan engaged 53.45 lakh workers under MGNREGA, Andhra Pradesh 36 lakh and Bengal 26 lakh. Madhya Pradesh enrolled 23.95 lakh people under this employment generation scheme.

Government data said that UP has about 1.80 crore MGNREGA job card holders and of them, 85 lakh were active. Besides construction work in gram sabha, restoration of rivers, construction of rural roads, digging of ponds and pits for plantation drives and other works were being carried out under the rural job scheme to employ people.

Principal Secretary (Panchayati Raj and Rural Development) Manoj Kumar Singh said that 15 lakh additional workers were added to the list recently. "While these workers are being engaged in different jobs, a large number are

engaged in water conservation projects like deepening of ponds and river rejuvenation projects," he said. During and after the lockdown, over 30 lakh migrant workers returned to their native state of Uttar Pradesh.

Gram pradhan of Cgunka village (Sitapur) Misri Lal said that among 62 labourers working under MGNREGA, 35 were migrant workers who returned home from other states during lockdown. "They have been digging to construct a chak road which will prevent rain water from flooding farms and improve mobility of people," he said. Virendra Sharma of Keshavpur village in Azamgarh, is one such migrant returnee, who has been employed through MGNREGA scheme. He used to work in Delhi and earn Rs 350 per day but he had to return home by hitch hiking and was later dropped home by a government bus. "I returned as I did not have options. There was no

work. I waited for a month and when lockdown was extended, I decided to return home. Now, I am working as a MGNREGA worker and sustaining my family," he said. Block Development Officer (BDO) of Pehla in Sitapur, Sandeep Kumar said that the process of payment takes a week after creation of muster rolls but it is regular. "Those with job cards get work immediately and migrant workers are being given job cards within a day. Workers are coming to us daily and we are providing them work," he said.

"We have started renovation of government schools, Panchayat bhawans and Aanganwadi bhawan to generate employment for migrant workers," he said. Earlier Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath launched Operation Kayakalp creating works like renovation of schools, Panchayat bhawan, community toilets to provide employment to migrant returnees.

# Centre lights up children's future through solar lamps

Lucknow (PNS):

The Union government is virtually lighting up the future of children by arranging solar lamps in impoverished districts where power supply was poor. The initiative will also open a window of opportunity for women to earn by repairing lamps when needed. The Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy plans to distribute over 34 lakh solar lamps to school children in these power deficit districts of Uttar Pradesh.

The project coined Solar Urja through Localisation for Sustainability (SoULS) is being operated in association with Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay and Energy Efficiency

Services Limited (EESL).

Women Self-Help Groups were involved in the initiative, trained about operation of solar study lamp, including assembly, distribution and repair and maintenance and encouraged to open their own shops. By assembling and distributing solar lamps, SHG members would earn Rs 12 to Rs 17 per unit. A Class VII student of Adarsh MD Shiksha Sadan (Unnao), Samiksha said that the solar lamp has greatly helped her in studies. "Power failure in our village was frequent which adversely affected my studies. But the lamps distributed in our village transformed our lives," she said.

# Women SHGs emerge champions in corona era

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

With financial crunch gripping the nation due to lockdown and thousands of migrant workers losing their jobs and returning to native towns, Self-Help Groups (SHGs) 'didis' working under National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) have emerged as real champions during the Corona pandemic.

Amid the ongoing fight against the virus, success stories of these women are surfacing across UP. These women not only added to their bank balances my making masks, personal protective equipment (PPEs), sanitisers etc, but also spread awareness about the pan-

dem, delivered essentials and provided financial assistance to rural folks. These SHGs have emerged as effective frontline responders, reaching the last mile and ensuring an immediate relief and socio-economic security to the country's most vulnerable. Lauding their efforts, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath while set up a revolving fund of Rs 218.49 crore which was sent to around 36,000 families under Rural Livelihood Mission (RLM). The CM said "If guided and supported properly, the SHGs can do anything. If revolving funds and community investment funds were given to women SHGs consistently, they could emerge as a perfect example of rural self-reliance."

Rural Livelihood Mission Director, Sujeet Kumar too hailed the success stories of SHGs during the pandemic. "Under our guidance, women SHGs active in 453 blocks of 52 districts proved that they were the real champions. These women tirelessly worked in the most adverse condition with dedication and supported their families," said Kumar, narrating a series of success stories of these SHGs. "Mask connects you with the World", was the slogan of women SHGs in Bijnore, who took up mask making, realising its importance and spiking demand. Familiar to sewing, they took up mask making by arranging cloth, thread, machines, which was not easy as

markets were closed due to lockdown. A total of 378 members of 177 SHGs took training in mask making and managed 26875 meters of cloth from Khadi Gramudiyog. They prepared 2,75,000 masks and earned Rs 14.44 lakh in the process and could support their families. The Bijnore story was taken up by women SHG of Chitrakoot where 143 members of 50 SHGs prepared 65,000 two and three-layer masks and earned Rs 13 lakh. Similarly in Gonda, SHGs manufactured 50 lakh masks, 8000 liters of sanitiser, 25,000 PPE kits. Similar success stories poured in from Fatehpur, Kannauj, Mirzapur, Shravasti, Lakhimpur Kheri, Jhansi, Ferozabad and

other districts. The Rural Development department roped in women SHGs to get over 11 lakh masks and nearly 9,000 PPE kits stitched for health and police personnel fighting the pandemic on the frontline. The department has churned out 2,000 PPEs to be provided to Army hospitals. It has also tied up with Khadi industries for getting cloth for producing masks.

Besides, the Chief Minister initiated the appointment of 58,000 banking correspondents - Sakhis, enabling rural women to link up with banks and carry out transactions by visiting door-to-door, digitally. Through this, bank visits for people could be minimized negating the spread of Corona infection. Each Sakhi would be paid Rs 4,000 monthly for next six months and Rs 50,000 would be given for the device for conducting transactions. Besides, the banks would also pay them commission on the transaction.

The UP government also provided a revolving fund of Rs 218.49 crore to around 36,000 families under Rural Livelihood Mission (RLM). Through this, women engaged in sewing, embroidery and making of disposable plates, spices and masks would be supported financially and promote self-employment and self-reliance. Such women SHGs have also been roped in by the state government to stitch 1 crore school dresses ahead of the new academic session.

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## Yogi Adityanath regime a saviour



Deep Chand Chauhan

The Covid-related lockdown clamped to prevent community spread of the viral infection entailed a huge crisis, especially for the poor and marginalised sections. Business establishments were suddenly closed and the economy hurtled down a spiral.

In that scenario daily wage earners faced the toughest time of their lives but for them, the Yogi regime emerged as a saviour. The government not only provided us free ration, but also gave us sustenance allowance for three months. Even migrant workers who returned from other states, got free ration.

## Govt provided help



Neeraj Kumar

The Yogi government really helped the poor and distressed during lockdown. Now in Unlock, people were being given work under MGNREGA. The government also provided us food grains and offered affordable housing.

## No let-up in support for PM Modi, CM Yogi



Siraj ul Hasan

The corona pandemic affected the normal life of the citizens but the people supported Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath in letter and spirit. On its part, the government provided free food grains to the poor and needy. Taxi operators, rickshaw peddlers and others survived the crisis because of the help extended by the government.

## Government schemes saved the day



Ali Baksh

At a time when we were struggling for two square meals a day, the schemes run by the Yogi government during the emergency saved the day for my family. While we were provided free ration and sustenance allowance for three months, I was also given a ration card so that the food supply need we taken care of in future. When I told some officials about our plight, we were given a house under PM Awas Yojana and it was given power connection under Sabuhagya Yojana. The government also started an old age pension for me which would make life easier for me and my wife Ameena. Besides, my daughter Bittan's husband Hussain was provided a loan with which he started a 'atta chakki' in the neighbourhood. I can only thank the Yogi government for showering us with all the necessities when we needed them the most.

## Sustenance allowance in bank accounts



Badka Kesarwani

As lockdown was clamped life came to a total standstill. After struggling for few days, we started getting cooked food and later food-grains, which was followed by sustenance allowance in our bank accounts. But the most important thing that came our way was the government initiative of arranging for a long term source of earning by giving loans. Besides hundreds of workers who returned to the nearby villages from other states were provided free transit, medicare and later ration and sustenance allowance. Now the government has arranged for their employment through various MGNREGS projects of road construction and renovation of school and Panchayat bhawan. This regime has really cared for the poor and needy.

## Artisans affected



Like the rest of the districts of Uttar Pradesh, far flung Chitrakoot too suffered its share of agony during lockdown, even more. The district is part of Bundelkhand region and has been in news for drought for consecutive years and also for its religious importance. While salaried people and businessmen somehow waded through the lockdown crisis, artisans engaged in wooden doll making were badly affected. Over the decades, no state government even cared to think about us. But the Yogi government gave us a ray hope by starting the 'One District One Product' and including wooden dolls on its list. Bu this, our endeavour has looked up. The free food, ration and sustenance allowance came in real handy during the crisis. Also bank were ready to give us small loans to invest in our business and revv it up. This has been a long term solution for which generations have been striving. I thank the present government for caring to alleviate our situation.



# रोजगार का नया अभियान हर श्रमिक-कामगार को काम

## गरीब कल्याण रोजगार अभियान

के  
अन्तर्गत

आत्मनिर्भर  
उत्तर प्रदेश  
रोजगार कार्यक्रम  
का शुभारंभ

उत्तर प्रदेश के  
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देखा जा सकता है।



## नरेन्द्र मोदी

प्रधानमंत्री द्वारा

(वीडियो कॉन्फ्रेंसिंग के माध्यम से)

गरिमामयी उपस्थिति

## योगी आदित्यनाथ

मुख्यमंत्री, उत्तर प्रदेश

दिनांक: 26 जून, 2020 | समय: पूर्वाह्न 11:00 बजे  
स्थान: लोक कल्याण मार्ग, नई दिल्ली एवं लखनऊ



### अन्य कार्यक्रम

- 1.25 करोड़ कामगारों का विभिन्न परियोजनाओं में नियोजन
- आत्मनिर्भर भारत पैकेज: 2.40 लाख इकाइयों को रु. 5,900 करोड़ का ऋण वितरण
- 1.11 लाख नई इकाइयों को रु. 3,226 करोड़ का ऋण वितरण
- विश्वकर्मा श्रम सम्मान योजना एवं एक जनपद-एक उत्पाद योजना में 5000 कारीगरों को टूल-किट वितरण

रोजगार से जुड़ी संपूर्ण जानकारी के लिए अपने नजदीकी  
ग्राम पंचायत या विकास खंड कार्यालय से संपर्क करें।

ग्राम्य विकास विभाग, उत्तर प्रदेश

# Now, LNJP patients can connect to family via video call

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Thursday launched a video call facility for coronavirus patients admitted at the Lok Nayak Jai Prakash (LNJP) hospital to talk to their loved ones.

Interacting and boosting the morale of doctors treating Covid-19 patients there, he said, "We are launching a new technological facility. Till now, the problem was that if a COVID positive patient was admitted to the hospital, relatives of the patient were not able to meet them or talk to

them. The relatives and family members were not able to get information on the condition of the patient. Now, tablets have been installed in every ward of the hospital. The family members can visit the hospital and talk to the patient through video conferencing."

A team of doctors said that LNJP has been declared as the first purely dedicated Corona care hospital in the country with 2000 beds, all attached with oxygen support. Around 2751 patients have been recovered and discharged successfully by the hospital, which is the highest recovery



figure country-wide. The facilities provided by various wards including the gynecology ward, surgery ward, were also pre-

sent to the CM and the Dy CM.

A help desk has been established in hospital and tablets have been installed in coronavirus wards and at a counter outside, which can be used by patients and their relatives for video calling.

Various technological advancements such as the installation of CCTV cameras, TVs, etc were also portrayed during CM visit there.

Dy CM Shri Manish Sisodia suggested that the use of these tablets is also beneficial for the doctors and the administration to be in regular

touch with the patients, instead of physically being present besides the patient which exposes them to the risk of Corona.

Briefing the media following his visit, CM Arvind Kejriwal said, "It has been 100 days since the LNJP hospital has been working on the treatment of Corona patients. LNJP was declared a COVID-19 hospital on March 17. It is the country's largest COVID-19 dedicated hospital, and since March 17, it has successfully treated 2,700 COVID positive patients and sent them home. It is the only COVID-19 hos-

pital in the country with 2,000 beds."

Kejriwal said that corona patients with mild symptoms or who are asymptomatic are generally treated at home itself. The patients who are very serious and are need hospitalization, are admitted to LNJP.

"Their treatment was also not easy. But, all the doctors, without thinking about themselves or their families, have worked here day and night for the service of the people. You may imagine how difficult it is for the doctors to spend so many hours in a PPE kit. The medical team, nurses, and doc-

tors of the LNJP hospital are doing a tremendous job. Recently, the media had highlighted some lack of facilities in the hospital, and I want to say that all these inadequacies are because of the administration and the government. The doctors and nurses are doing a great job, and there is no lack in their service to the people. We are trying our best to do away with those shortfalls, and we have overcome some of them. You can keep telling us the shortcomings and we will keep on improving and addressing them," Kejriwal said.

## Alarm system in Covid coaches at Shakurbasti for emergency

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Northern Railways has decided to install an alarm system in Covid care coaches stationed at Shakurbasti railway station to deal with any emergency situation. A senior northern railway official said that if a patient presses the call bell in case of emergency, a red light fitted outside the coach will come alive with a loud sound.

"This will also be simultaneously displayed on the board installed in the doctor's coach, where the bulb against the coach number will light-up with an alarm sound. This will enable the caregivers to immediately rush to the particular coach to attend to the sick person," he said.

Applying their ingenuity the railway engineers have developed a circuit system whereby each Covid care coach will be provided with an alarm bell. On the other end, a display board with light and sound connection against each coach number has

been installed in the coach housing the doctors and specialized medical staff, northern railway said in a statement.

General Manager of Northern and North Central Railways Rajiv Chaudhry had advised to install an emergency alarm system in each coach during the inspection.

The first patient arrived at the Shakurbasti railway station on Wednesday. Indian Railways has converted its mobile coaches as isolation centers, the Northern Railway said in a statement, adding that these coaches considered as additional health facilities have an advantage as they can be moved anywhere in the country through the rail network in a short span of time.

"This attempt was done to provide additional quarantine centers during the ongoing global health crisis of coronavirus Covid-19" he said.

The northern railways had placed 503 isolation coaches at

nine stations of Delhi area since June 17 on the demand of the Delhi government, it said.

As per the agreement between the state government and Ministry of Railways, arrangement have been made such as providing basic infrastructure, cleaning and sanitization of platforms, providing housekeeping materials, management of bio-toilets, power and electric supply arrangements, watering, communication facilities, signage and marking of different areas besides others, he added.

"The northern railways will also provide catering services including three times meals a day and tea in the morning and evening. The Railway Protection Force (RPF) will provide security at the railway station premises and the platform area where the coaches are placed. Delhi Police will be in-charge of the security arrangements outside and adjoining areas of the station," he said.

## Containment zones in G'gram to be shut for 2 weeks

PARVESH SHARMA ■ GURUGRAM

The containment zones of the Gurugram district will soon be shut for around 2 weeks a meeting in this regard was held between the senior officials of the district administration and the police department on Thursday.

However, sources claim that the orders are expected on Thursday evening or Friday morning under which the containment zones are expected to be locked down for about two weeks to curb the COVID transmission.

Gurugram now has 108 containment zones and an equal number of buffer zones in the district which was

announced by the district administration.

The number of containment zones in the district has increased to 108 from 98. Of these, 100 containment zones have been set up in Gurugram block, 4 in Pataudi and 3 in Sohna and one in Farrukhnagar. Thus a total of 98 containment zones have been made in the district.

Sources said the district administration will make efforts towards curbing transmission of the deadly virus during the partial lockdown and residents of the area would be confined to their areas and work from home.

"As the district has received antigen-testing kit and screening of the patients has already



been started. The positive cases will be isolated and treated. The contacts will be quarantined. The district will follow a partial-lockdown wherein clusters and containments will be

official requesting anonymity.

The officials further said the district authorities isolated positive cases aggressively to stop the spread of infection in addition to taking initiatives like fever camps, doorstep initiatives, screening and mobile vans.

Meanwhile, On Thursday, the district health department detected 89 fresh Covid-19 cases, taking the total to 4,851. Of this, 3,040 people have recovered and one died. The Covid-19 toll has reached 76 in the district.

Gurugram now has 1,735 active cases, including 1,190 in-home isolation. Remaining 396 patients are admitted in private, government and Covid care centres in the district.

## RGF took...

From Page 1

Along with the Union Minister, BJP President J P Nadda also levelled the same charges at the Congress party at a virtual rally in Madhya Pradesh accusing RGF of accepting a donation of Rs 90 lakh from China during 2005-06.

Nadda said he was surprised to see that the Foundation had accepted donations from China which were used to carry out studies and promote free trade in India.

"I was surprised to see that Rajiv Gandhi Foundation had received a donation of Rs 90 lakh from People's Republic of China and Chinese embassy. These donations were then used to carry out studies and

promote free trade in the country. There are many ways of corruption and Congress party should explain what studies were carried out using these donations," Nadda said.

Prasad accused the RGF of receiving donations from the Chinese embassy in India in 2005-06. The donation was included in the list of general donors, he said.

Congress president Sonia Gandhi is the chairperson of the RGF and its board has Dr Manmohan Singh, Rahul Gandhi, P Chidambaram and Priyanka Gandhi.

"Did the then UPA Government take a bribe from the Chinese? Is it not true that after taking this donation, the foundation recommended a free trade agreement with China, which was heavily tilted in favour of the Chinese,"

Prasad said.

The Minister alleged that the then UPA Government did not mention this donation anywhere in the Government records. "The Congress must answer that if they took money from the Chinese embassy, how this money was put to use?" he said.

Prasad said after receiving the bribe the then Government allowed Chinese favourable trade balance which went against the interests of the country. He accused the Congress of quid pro quo and asked them to come clean on the alleged donations.

BJP has also asked the Congress to clear air on the MoU it had with the Communist Party of China (CCP) in 2008 in the presence of Sonia and Rahul and its relations with CCP.

## Easy money for luxury pushes youth to crime

Police arrest 4,000 accused, who didn't have previous crime records, of snatching, robbery, theft

SHEKHAR SINGH ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police is going all out to catch the first timers with no previous criminal history. Within a short span of five months, the Delhi Police while looking for proclaimed offenders has managed to nab over 4,000 novice accused who didn't have previous crime records.

Interestingly, these newbies, between age group of 16 to 25, indulged in heinous and street crimes, to earn quick and easy money for lavish style opted to go in the 'Crime World'.

According to sources, around 4,000 men including juveniles were nabbed for their alleged involvements in snatching, robbery, theft and other heinous crimes from

January 1 to May 31 this year. "Most of these newbies were nabbed from National Capital's South and Outer North districts. In south district, police have apprehended around 750 of newbies while 800 were nabbed in Outer North district," said the sources.

According to a senior police official, tracking the criminals was a task for police as in most of the cases they were looking for offenders who were recorded in their books.

"In most of the cases the teams were busy searching records of previously involved criminals but investigations led to the arrest of criminals with no previous crime record. There were delays in solving some cases as well,"

said the senior police official.

He further revealed that interrogation in cases revealed that these criminals entered the world of crime in order to make quick money or to have a lavish lifestyle. Several of them revealed that unemployment was also a reason for them to indulge in crime.

"These criminals were involved in all sorts of crime including heinous as well. But most of them were booked for petty crimes like snatching, robbery, possession of cannabis, theft etc," he added.

Aditya Okhade, a social activist said that the lockdown has played a major part in leading the criminals to take these steps.

"Several have been left unemployed while many took it as an opportunity to make money. A sharp rise in crime by the first time committers was noticed during the nationwide lockdown," said Okhade.

"There is increase in first

time offenders recently could be due to unemployment and a wish to live lavish life and above all uncertainty of future. The young want to acquire material possessions like electronic gadgets and mobiles to satisfy themselves instantly," said Dr Arti Anand, Consultant clinical psychologist, Sir Gangaram hospital.

According to Anil Mittal, the Additional Public Relation Officer (APRO), Delhi Police, the police is running a Yuva Scheme (youth scheme) in its 21 police stations across the city, which aims at the young boys and girls, who following the bad circumstances had committed crime and have fulfilled their legal proceedings, for generate employment.

"In the scheme youths are trained in various programmes like hotel management, sweeping classes, hardware repair work, basic computer training and hair dressing etc," said Mittal.

## Keep strict vigil in crime-prone areas, Bajjal directs police

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Lieutenant Governor Anil Bajjal on Thursday instructed Delhi Police to keep a strict vigil and increase its presence in crime-prone areas for deterrent measures to ensure a crime-free Delhi. The direction was issued on Thursday in a review meeting on law and order situation in Delhi chaired by Lieutenant Governor.

"Reviewed law and order situation in Delhi. Directed Delhi Police to increase presence in crime prone areas and use deterrent measures to curb various street crimes," he said in a tweet. Bajjal also instructed senior police officers to maintain close coordination with central agencies and neighbouring states in view of upcoming Independence Day.

"Instructed for keeping strict vigil at state borders and maintaining close coordination with central agencies & neighboring states to prepare for Independence Day. Delhi Police to take steps to increase prosecution and conviction rates to ensure law and order," he tweeted. In tweets, Bajjal also told Police to take steps to increase prosecution and conviction rates to ensure law and order in the capital which registered a sudden spike in street crimes after the opening of lockdown.

## Army drones, ITBP keep watch on PLA

From Page 1

The acquisition was made from a joint venture of Cyient Solutions and Systems and Israeli firm BlueBird Aero Systems in 2018. These drones have the capability to operate in adverse weather conditions and at a service ceiling of over 10,000 metres (10 km) or 30,000 feet and are capable of generating real-time video footage in all weather conditions.

According to reports last month, Chinese Communist mouthpiece Global Times reported that its new unmanned helicopter drone could be deployed along the LAC.

The AR500C can take off at an elevation of 5,000 metres and has a service ceiling of 6,700 metres and an endurance of five hours with a maximum speed of 170 km. The maximum takeoff weight of the UAV is 500 kg, the report claimed. Service ceiling refers to the maximum height at which a system can operate.

## CBSE cancels...

From Page 1

Central Board of Secondary Education informed the Supreme Court that they have decided to cancel the Class X and XII examinations scheduled from July 1-15 due to the Covid-19 pandemic, and they would be conducted later.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehtatold a Bench headed by Justice AM Khanwilkar that the scheme has been formulated to assess the performance of Class XII students on the basis of their performance in last examinations. The top court was also informed that the students will have the liberty to opt either for the examinations, to be conducted later, or go with the assessment process based on past performance.

CBSE exams were postponed on account of the coronavirus pandemic but parents of students appearing for the exam wanted the Board to declare the CBSE 12th result on the basis of exam already conducted and to calculate it on an average basis with internal assessment marks of remaining subjects. The concerned parents and other stakeholders said students might be exposed to Covid-19 infection if they have to appear in the examinations.

Earlier this month, Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia wrote to HRD Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank', urging him to cancel pending board exams, citing the spike in Covid-19 cases and high number of containment zones in the city. The Supreme Court asked the Centre and the CBSE to issue fresh notification in connection with Class XII exams, clarifying the option between internal assessment and exams later.

"Clarify the date of results," said the Bench, noting that the

CBSE will have to submit a fresh draft notification cancelling Class XII Board exams and affidavit on Friday morning, before the top court continues to hear the matter again at 10.30 am. The apex court also sought clarity on the beginning of the new academic year.

It told Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, representing the Centre, that the CBSE is willing to conduct exams when the situation is conducive, but this may vary from state to state. "Will the decision be taken by a Central authority or will the state government take the decision? How are you going to deal with that situation?"

Mehta replied that the decision must be taken according to the situation. To this, the bench said should not the solution be pan-India?

"You have not said when you will decide on this issue, and when you will take stock of these things. Some time frame will have to be given," noted the Bench.

Continuing its queries, the Bench said, "What about State regional board exams... the CBSE does not hold all the exams. The State Board is also there." Mehta replied that the instructions from the controller of examinations are that exams are controlled centrally. "State boards assist the CBSE," he replied.

The Bench observed that the Government should modify the draft notification and include the state board issue. "Clear the stand that decision will be taken at the central level and not at the state level... other courses will have to be delayed till CBSE exam results come out," it said.

## No need to visit Covid...

From Page 1

"It was discussed that the twin goals to be achieved through effective surveillance system and home isolation are to ensure containment of local spread including in the family and community and provision of timely medical care in case medical condition of the Covid positive person in home isolation worsens," a statement from Raj Niwas read.

Sisodia, said the LG has agreed to revert to the old system where a team led by the district surveillance officer (DSO) will visit the house of the Covid positive patient to decide whether home isolation can be recommended.

"Only those COVID positive persons are allowed for home isolation who have adequate facility at home to keep them separate from family," said

the Delhi Government, adding, "this would require physical verification by surveillance teams. Similarly, for monitoring of medical condition of Covid positive persons, trained professionals are required to daily follow up with the concerned individual."

In SDMA meeting, it was decided that the patient shall be allowed home isolation if, as per the assessment of home isolation team sent by the District Surveillance Officer, the patient is mild/pre symptomatic/asymptomatic and has a residence of two rooms or a separate room and a separate toilet for the patient. S/he will be provided a contact number for any consultation required by him along with details of CATS Ambulance call number for transfer to hospital in case symptoms develop.

## Maha, TN...

From Page 1

Mumbai's Dharavi has reported 11 new cases, taking the total number of cases in the densely populated region to 2,210. Also no new deaths have been reported for more than a week in the largest slum of Asia. One of the major reasons behind sharp decline in the number of cases is said to be the Maharashtra Government's Rapid Action Plan under which the health officials conducted door-to-door screening of individuals in the slum. On the other hand, Dadar witnessed a spike in the number of Covid-19 cases as 27 people tested positive in a single day. Since the past few days, the area had seen 15 new cases daily on an average. A 53-year-old officer, posted as an Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI) with the Marine Drive police station succumbed to infection.

Hair salons and gyms in Maharashtra will be allowed to reopen from June 28. According to State

Health Minister Rajesh Tope, the State Government would conduct antigen tests, which would provide results of the Covid-19 tests within an hour, unlike the current waiting period of over 24 hours. The State Government has also written to the Centre seeking postponement of the examinations of post-graduation students pursuing medical courses in the wake of the coronavirus outbreak.

Tamil Nadu reported 3,509 new virus cases, the highest single day increase so far, and 45 fatalities taking the infection count to 70,977 and death toll to 911. Former India cricketer Robin Singh was fined Rs 500 and his car impounded for allegedly violating lockdown rules in Chennai. According to State Government's health bulletin, the new cases include 1,834 from Chennai, which is also the highest till date and the State capital's share was 47,650 in Tamil Nadu's tally of 70,977. A 31-year-old woman was among the dead and in total 42 had co-morbidities and three none, it said. The number of active cases was 30,064 while 2,236 patients were dis-

## Haryana not inking any new deal with Chinese firms: Khattar

Karnal: The Haryana Government is not signing any new business pact with Chinese firms and recently cancelled tenders for two power projects worth ₹750 crore in which they were the lowest bidders, Chief Minister M L Khattar said on Thursday.

"As far as Haryana is concerned, no new agreement is being signed with Chinese companies," said Khattar, when asked about the State Government's response to the rising anti-China sentiments amid the increasing Indo-China border tensions.

Khattar said the State Government will give priority to Indian companies.

charged from various hospitals and in total 39,999 people have got cured.

Delhi, is at the third spot in the country which reported 3,390 fresh cases and 64 virus-related deaths in the last 24 hours, taking the total number of cases to 73,780 and deaths to 2,429. In a meeting with Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) meeting, Lieutenant Governor Anil Bajjal has decided that all cases which test positive by rapid test for Covid-19 antigen will be examined by Medical Officer on duty at testing site to assess the severity of illness. It also decided that only those coronavirus patients who do not have adequate facilities at home to ensure isolation, will have to be shifted to Covid-19 care centres and other medical facilities.

Uttar Pradesh has reported 654 new cases and 15 deaths in the last 24 hours, taking the total tally of coronavirus cases to 19,557 including 6463 active cases. The total death tolls jumped to 611. Uttar Pradesh's eight districts -- Gautam

Interacting with media persons after holding a janata darbar in his home constituency here, Khattar said the State Government recently cancelled its Power Department's two tenders worth ₹750 crore, which were likely to be allotted to Chinese firms.

Notably, the Haryana government had on June 20 decided to float fresh tenders for installing pollution control units at two of its thermal plants in the state.

Earlier, it had launched tenders for the work, which also attracted bids from some Chinese companies. The State Government earlier this month scrapped the process of assigning the contract. PTI

Buddh Nagar, Ghaziabad, Hapur, Bulandshahr, Meerut, Muzaffarnagar, Baghpat and Shamli districts-- account for about one-third of the active corona cases. Gautam Buddh Nagar has a maximum of 654 active cases followed by Ghaziabad (501), Hapur (318), Meerut (248), Bulandshahr (226), Muzaffarnagar (87), Baghpat (77) and Shamli (55). Eight personnel in escort, guard, telephone duty of Joint Police Commissioner, Law and Order, Lucknow tested positive for Covid-19 after which the officer went in home quarantine. Gujarat's corona infection tally jumps to 29,578 with 577 new cases and fatality count rises by 18 new deaths to 1,754 in the last 24 hours. With 238 new patients detected, cases in Ahmedabad rise to 19,839, death toll in district rises to 1,390 with 12 persons succumbing.

West Bengal reported 475 new cases and 15 deaths in a single day, taking the tally to 15,648. The total fatalities now stand at 606. Haryana reported 453 fresh cases, taking the tally to 12,463.

# BJP lambasts Cong on 45th yr of Emergency

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Senior BJP leaders slammed the Congress on the 45th anniversary of Emergency on Thursday, alleging that the interests of "one family" prevailed over those of the party and the country.

BJP president JP Nadda also joined other BJP leaders and union ministers including Ravishankar Prasad and Piyush Goyal, in condemning emergency and suspension of civil rights to "save the power of one person".

Nadda tweeted "India salutes all the dignitaries who, despite enduring torture, fiercely opposed the Emergency. It was the tenacity of our satyagrahis that India's democratic values successfully won over a totalitarian mindset."

Union Home Minister and former BJP President Amit



Shah criticised former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi saying one family's "greed for power" led to the imposition of Emergency 45 years ago and the country was "turned into a prison."

In a series of tweets, he said freedom was "trampled over" and "atrocities were committed on the poor and downtrodden."

"On this day, 45 years ago one family's greed for power led to the imposition of the

Emergency. Overnight the nation was turned into a prison. The press, courts, free speech... all were trampled over. Atrocities were committed on the poor and downtrodden," Amit Shah tweeted.

The Home Minister further stated that the Emergency was lifted due to the efforts of lakhs of people and democracy was restored in India but it remained absent in the Congress.

## Centre is run by only two persons: Cong

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Congress on Thursday hit back at Union Home Minister Amit Shah over his attack on the 45th anniversary of the Emergency asking why the BJP-led Centre that runs a "majoritarian rule" is described as a "Government of two people".

Congress' chief

"The interests of one family prevailed over party interests and national interests. This sorry state of affairs thrives in today's Congress too!" Shah said.

In another tweet, the Union Home Minister asked the Congress to question itself on

spokesperson Randeep Surjewala said the country's ruling party needs to answer why horse trading and mass defections capture its only legacy.

"As India's ruling party, BJP needs to answer: Why is its majoritarian rule described as Govt of 2 people only and all others as mere side kicks," he asked on

Twitter. "Why is horse trading, mass defections and institution capture its only legacy? Why is it obsessed in its vile hatred of Nehru-Gandhi's (sic)," Surjewala asked.

Congress leader Pawan Khara said an "undeclared Emergency" has been imposed in the country under Prime Minister Narendra

Modi. "In the last six years, the way the Prime Minister has tried to weaken democracy and destroy democratic institutions, an undeclared Emergency has been imposed in the country," he said at a press conference, adding that this is dangerous for a democracy.

Senior BJP leaders slammed the Congress on

the 45th anniversary of Emergency on Thursday, alleging that the interests of "one family" prevailed over those of the party and the country.

Shah alleged that the "Emergency mindset" still prevailed in the Congress and that the "sad truth" was that leaders were feeling suffocated in the party.

Prasad said emergency was imposed to save the post of the then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi who was disqualified by a court judgment. He said civil rights were suspended and "even media was not spared".

Prasad said emergency was imposed to save the post of the then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi who was disqualified by a court judgment. He said civil rights were suspended and "even media was not spared".

## RAMPING UP COVID-19 MGMT

### Centre rushes team to Guj, Maha, Telangana

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

As India witnessed the highest spike of almost 17,000 fresh Covid cases in the past 24 hours, the Centre has rushed a team led by its Joint Secretary Lav Agarwal, to Gujarat, Maharashtra and Telangana to strengthen Covid-19 management efforts in these States.

The team will be in the three States between June 26 and 29 to coordinate with the State officials and review the measures undertaken by the states for containment of novel coronavirus, which has so far infected a total of 4,73,105 people across the country.

Maharashtra has reported the highest number of cases at 1,42,900, Gujarat 28,943 while Telangana has so far reported 10,331 cases, according to Health Ministry data.

The decision was taken when India on Thursday witnessed highest spike of almost

17,000 fresh Covid cases in the past 24 hours, with Maharashtra, Delhi and Tamil Nadu contributing more than 62 per cent, while the overall fatalities rose to 14,894.

According to the Health Ministry data, 418 new deaths were reported in the last 24 hours.

The Ministry, meanwhile, said the recovery rate is 57.43 per cent amongst Covid-19 patients and a total of 13,012 patients have been cured during the last 24 hours. Thus, so far, a total of 2,71,696 patients have been cured.

The modelling study, published in the European Respiratory Journal, found that the COVID-19 pandemic could significantly increase the global burden of TB.

It estimates at least

### Delays in diagnosis, treatment may lead to 95K more TB-related deaths in India over next 5 yrs

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Disruptions to health services, and delays in diagnosis and treatment due to Covid-19 pandemic may lead to 95,000 additional tuberculosis (TB) related deaths in India over the next five years, according to a study published on Wednesday.

The modelling study, published in the European Respiratory Journal, found that the COVID-19 pandemic could significantly increase the global burden of TB.

It estimates at least

110,000 additional deaths from TB in India, China, and South Africa unless health services are maintained and strengthened.

The researchers from the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) and Lancaster University in the UK noted that before COVID-19 outbreak, over 4,000 people were dying from TB every day.

They estimated additional TB deaths and cases in China, India and South Africa over the next five years by examining the impact of var-

ious reductions in social contacts and on health services due to COVID-19.

Though they hypothesised that social distancing might reduce TB incidence as Mycobacterium tuberculosis, the bacteria which causes the disease, is transmitted via droplets in the air - similar to the coronavirus, the researchers said that even after taking into account this potential reduced TB transmission, the most likely scenario was estimated to result in more than 110,000 additional TB deaths.

Following efforts to ramp up facilities across the nation, there are in total 1,007 diagnostic labs, of which 734 are in the Government sector and 273 private.

## TMC attacks Centre for rising petroleum prices

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

While the BJP is building up a political atmosphere against the Trinamool Congress ahead of the next year's Assembly elections by taking on the Mamata Banerjee Government on a number of issues — from corruption to law and order situation to nepotism and poor handling of the corona situation — the Bengal ruling outfit on Thursday built up a counterattack holding the Narendra Modi Government responsible for the rising petrol prices at a time when the country is passing through one of its worst economic slowdowns.

Attacking the BJP for doing business with petroleum prices when the people of the country were languishing TMC ideology and Legislator Arup Chakrabarty said "due to the poor and unplanned handling of the corona situation the Central Government has suffered a huge

loss in its revenue... as the central exchequer has almost gone dry they are using petroleum to make up for the loss which is why the oil prices are rising steeply despite the fact that world over the petro-prices have gone down."

Attacking the BJP for "failing to fulfill all its promises from bringing back black money from abroad and putting them in the citizens' accounts and providing 2 crore jobs yearly" Chakrabarty said "this is the same party that had said that it would pull down the dollar-rupee ratio so that our currency would cost below ₹50 per US dollar... but in reality today one dollar makes ₹75.50". Calling the BJP Government "thoroughly anti-people" he further said "when Manmohan Singh Government left in 2014 petrol sold for Rs 56 --- though one barrel crude costs \$71.32 in the international market --- and today it sells for Rs 76.45 --- when the same one barrel costs \$ 42.79"

## YES BANK CASE

### CBI files chargesheet against Rana Kapoor, Wadhawan & others

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

The CBI on Thursday filed a charge sheet against Yes Bank's founder Rana Kapoor, M/s Dewan Housing Finance Ltd, its promoters Kapil Rajesh Wadhawan, Dheeraj Rajesh Wadhawan and M/s DOIT Urban Ventures (India) Pvt. Ltd (DUVIP), its promoter Ms. Roshni Kapoor and others in the in the ₹3,700-crore Yes Bank fraud case.

The others named in the charge sheet filed in Special CBI City sessions court were M/s Belief Realtors Pvt. Ltd; M/s RKKW Developers Pvt. Ltd. The CBI filed the charge sheet in connection with a case of cheating and criminal conspiracy registered on March 7 this year against Kapoor and his family members for allegedly colluding with DHFL's promoter Kapil Wadhawan and his family members.

The CBI has in all booked 12 accused including Promoter/Director of M/s Yes Bank Limited, Mumbai based private companies and other Directors of private companies and unknown others under sections 120 of IPC (conspiracy) and sections 7,12 and 13(2) r/w 13(1)(d) of PC Act 1988 and substantive offences on the allegations of fraud against Yes Bank.

## Salons to reopen in Maha from Jun 28

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Come June 28, salons will reopen across Maharashtra with some restrictions and guidelines in place. However, it will take some more time before the State Government decides to allow reopening of "Beauty Parlours"

For the time being, the saloons will limit themselves to cutting hair.

The barbers have not been permitted to the shave beards of their clients yet. Similarly, no decision has yet been taken to reopen "beauty parlours" A decision to reopen the saloons was taken at a State Cabinet meeting held here on Thursday.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER X'TH CIRCLE, U.P. JAL NIGAM, AGRA Ref. No. 762/Nivada/19 Dated 20-06-2020

SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTICE

U.P. Jal Nigam, E-tenders are invited for Retrofitting of various water supply schemes of district Mainpuri under Jal Jeevan Mission Program. Tender document shall be available at e-procurement website http://etender.up.nic.in. Interested contractors may view & download tender document and upload their tender, duly filled, online as per schedule given below:- Date for:- NIT Date\* 20-06-2020 At 10.00 A.M., Publishing Date\* 27-06-2020 At 10.00 A.M., Document Download / Sale Start Date\* 27-06-2020 At 10.00 A.M., Pre Bid Meeting Date\* 29-06-2020 At 15.00 Hrs., Bid Submission Start Date\* 02-07-2020 At 10.00 A.M. Bid Submission Closing Date\* 09-07-2020 Up to 5.00 P.M. Bid Opening Date\* 10-07-2020 At 15.00 Hrs.

## Lightning kills 83 in Bihar, 24 in UP

Patna: At least 83 people were killed by lightning in various districts of Bihar, and 24 in Uttar Pradesh while many people were reported to be injured as heavy rain and thunderstorms lashed several areas of north India on Thursday, a Government official said.

Out of the 83 dead in Bihar, 13 people were killed in Gopalganj district alone.

According to reports, 8 people were killed in Madhubani and Nawada district each, six each in Bhagalpur and Siwan, and five each in Banka, Darbhanga and East Champaran districts.

Apart from this, three persons were killed by lightning in Khagaria and Aurangabad districts each, two each in Jehanabad, Kishanganj, West Champaran, Jamui, Purnia, Supaul, Kaimur and Buxar and one each died in Saran, Shivhar, Samastipur, Madhepura and Sitamarhi, according to officials.

Gopalganj District Collector Arshad Aziz told IANS that according to information received so far, 12 to 13 people have died in lightning strikes in the district. He appealed to the people to remain indoors during the rain and not to stand under trees if outside.

Most of the people who died were working in the fields. The injured have been admitted in hospitals.

Heavy rain with thunderstorms and lightning has lashed various parts of Bihar even before the onset of the monsoon in the state.

Meanwhile, in Uttar Pradesh, in the midst of the ongoing coronavirus crisis, 24 people died in lightning strikes in the state amid heavy rain and thunderstorm. Out of them, nine died in Deoria district alone.

## 3,509 afflicted in TN, 45 die

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ CHENNAI

Till Thursday evening, Tamil Nadu has seen 70, 977 persons testing positive for coronavirus, according to a media release issued by the State Government. On Thursday alone, 3,509 persons (highest number till date since the first case of virus was detected in the State) were diagnosed with Covid-19 and the day also saw 45 patients succumbing to the pandemic. The death toll in the State as on Thursday touched 911 making Tamil Nadu a land of death.

On a day even veteran physicians like Dr CV Krishnaswamy stood perplexed over the ever increasing numbers of patients and deaths refusing to divulge what they feel about the unabated pandemic, the only relief worth mentioning was the 2,236 patients who were discharged from various hospitals, taking the number of patients cured off this disease to 39,999.

Thursday also saw 30, 307 persons getting tested in 88 laboratories across the State taking the total number of persons tested till date to 9.6 lakh.

Underscoring the fact that patients with comorbidity (suffering from serious ailments like diabetes mellitus, hypertension, coronary problems, kidney disorder) are at risk, 42 of the persons who breathed their last on Thursday had comorbidities.

## 2 ultras killed in J&K, terror module busted

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

Two Lashkar-e-Tayyeba (LeT) terrorists were neutralised by the joint teams of security forces in village Hardshiva of Sopore while another encounter was launched in Tral area of Awantipora late Thursday evening. In a related development, another terror module linked to proscribed terror outfit LeT was busted by the Budgam police with the arrest of five terrorist associates.

According to a police spokesman, the operations were launched on the basis of specific intelligence input about the presence of terrorists in the area. So far, 121 terrorists have been eliminated by the security forces in different anti terrorist operations in Jammu and Kashmir since January 2020. According to a police spokesman, jawans of 22RR, 179Bn CRPF and JKP were participating in the operations.

The hiding terrorists were given an opportunity to surrender before the security forces but instead of paying heed to these appeals they fired indiscriminately upon the joint search party, which was retaliated leading to an encounter. "In the ensuing encounter, two terrorists were killed and their bodies were retrieved from the site of encounter. The identification and affiliation of the killed terrorists is being ascertained. However, as per credible sources the killed terrorists belonged to proscribed LeT terrorist outfit", police spokesman said.

## Record 4,841 +ve in Maha, 192 die

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Maharashtra appeared to be still not out of the woods on Thursday, as it witnessed 192 more deaths and it registered a record daily tally of 4,841 infected cases.

Out of the total deaths reported during the day, 109 deaths occurred in the last 48 hours and rest 83 are from the previous period. With the fresh fatalities, the total number of deaths went up to 6931 in the state in a major spike in the infections, as many as 4841 people tested positive for Covid, taking the total number of infected cases in the state to 1,47,741.

Of the 83 deaths that took place earlier, Mumbai accounted for 40 deaths, while there were 31 deaths in Thane district and Municipal Corporations in Thane district, 4 deaths each in Palghar and Solapur and one death each in Malegaon, Yavatmal, Jalgaon and in Pune.

"These 83 deaths have been shown in the progressive figures instead of showing in daily figures. This report is prepared based on figures provided by the authorized laboratories on Central Government's Covid-19 Portal. Because the laboratory report scrutiny and the availability of figures accordingly is an ongoing process, state cumulative numbers are subject to change," a state health bulletin said.

## Adhir Chowdhury asks Govt to drive out PLA

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

The Congress queered the Ladakh pitch further with party leader in Lok Sabha Adhir Chowdhury on Thursday asking the BJP Government to push back the Chinese Army from the Indian land that they had encroached.

The Congress leader who had a field experience of tackling the CPI(M)'s 'red brigade' of Bengal, said instead of being "cowed down" by the "Red Army" India should use its armory to teach the Chinese a lesson. The large Indian arsenal was not for hatching eggs he said. "China is furtively and fervently encroaching our land in a steady manner, much to the peril of Indian security and territorial integrity. It is a catch-22 situation for us, but we cannot afford ourselves to be cowed down by the red army," he tweeted.

The Chinese army "are to be repulsed back by whatever means, our arsenals are not meant for hatching eggs, so strike back, drive back, force back the Chinese aggression, god will be Indian in deciding the course of conflict," he added amid reports of further build-up at the Indo-China border.

Much like the two armies the Congress and the BJP engaged each other following the alleged Chinese intrusion which however was denied by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Border tensions and subsequent brawl claimed 20 Indian soldiers on June 15 while the Chinese side lost about 45 fighters.

## 123 test +ve in Kerala

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

There was no respite in Kerala's tryst with the high number of coronavirus cases even on Thursday as the State tested more than 100 covid-19 cases successively for the seventh day. According to Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan who briefed the media, the State diagnosed 123 persons with coronavirus on Thursday.

The Chief Minister said the hike in the coronavirus cases was due to expatriates and persons from other parts of the country who returned to Kerala. Out of the 123 persons tested positive on Thursday, 84 were those who returned to the State from abroad while 33 were from other parts of the country.

344 persons were hospitalized across the State on Thursday while 1.59 lakh were under observation. "Till date we have diagnosed 3,726 persons with covid-19 while as on Thursday, 1,761 persons were under treatment for the pandemic," said the chief minister. Vijayan said the stringent quarantine protocols being followed by his government has helped the community transmission of the covid-19 pandemic from 93 per cent of the expatriates.

## Maha allows setting up of shacks in 8 beaches in Konkan

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

In an effort to push tourism in coastal areas of Maharashtra, the State Government on Thursday decided to allow setting up of eco-friendly shacks in eight beaches in Konkan region.

An initiative of Tourism Minister Aditya Thackeray, the beach shack project is being undertaken as a pilot project. Initially, the State Government will allow the setting up of shacks in Guhagar and Aaravali beaches of Ratnagiri district, Kunkeshwar and Tarkarli in Sindhudurg district, Varsoli and Diveagar in Raigad district and Kewla and Bordi in Palghar districts.

The decision to allow setting up of eco-friendly shacks in eight beaches in the Konkan region was taken at the State Cabinet meeting held here in the afternoon.

"Today I'm thankful to my cabinet colleagues for passing two key policies for tourism development in Maharashtra. 1) Beach Shacks: 8 beaches in Maharashtra have been approved for eco friendly Beach Shacks. This will be a major tourist facility. 80% employment to locals is a must," an elated Aditya tweeted in the evening.

Office of the Principal, Govt. College for Women, Narnaul

One Lab attendant is required in this college. Interested candidate may submit their Resume with Original testimonial and self attested photocopies as detail given below.

S.N.	Departments	Qualification	Date of Interview	Time
1	One Lab Attendant, Part-2	Matric with Science	08.07.2020	11.00 AM

- No TA/ DA will be paid for Interview.
- The post are purely temporary and their service will automatically terminated at any time if regular incumbents join.
- His/ Her at least 12 month & more experience as Lab Attendant will preferred.
- His/ Her name should be registered Employment Exchange at least 3 years.
- His/ Her required minimum one year Computer Diploma.

Sd/- Principal, Govt. College for Woman Narnaul. RO NO. 81456 Dt. 25-06-2020

## Ayurveda vs Ramdev

By claiming a drug for COVID while procuring its licence as a preventive, Patanjali has diluted research into our herb heritage



If the slew of products, from disinfectants to immunity boosters, is any indication, then a subsidiary economy has evolved from the fear of the pandemic. So anything claiming preventive properties against the virus is vanishing off the shelves. But it is just that, preventive, and not a cure. That, however, has not stopped some adventurous companies from claiming that they have the cure at a time when doctors, scientists and pharmaceutical companies are scrambling for a drug or a vaccine. Alternative medicine systems like homeopathy, Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani offer prophylactics, too, but their effectiveness as a cure is still untested. Yet much like all precautionary protocols, these, too, can be effective in proofing immunities. So Yoga guru Baba Ramdev's outrageous claim that he has found two new medicines — Coronil and Swasari — that cost ₹545 and have shown a 100 per cent recovery rate in patients within just 14 days has done a great disservice to the cause of traditional medicine, which has slowly established its place in our overall health and well-being routine. Worst, even assuming that Ramdev did indeed chance upon a magic elixir from the treasure trove of Himalayan herbs, he applied for a licence duplicitously, claiming that his was a cold, cough and fever drug with immunity-boosting properties. And once the licence was got and the time came for a rollout, he claimed it was a cure. Even his insistence that he had tested the drug in clinical trials at the Jaipur-based National Institute of Medical Sciences and Research (NIMS) rang hollow with the Rajasthan Government denying any knowledge of such an experiment. The Ministry for AYUSH, too, stopped the drug promotions, saying it had no information on either formulations or their efficacy in tests. Besides, Ramdev's Patanjali group sidestepped the Drug Controller General of India, whose approval must be sought before a medicine is put out in the market. On the contrary, he flooded fawning media houses with his invention, all of whom forgot to ask the right questions of him. Some insiders say that Patanjali did test the drug on suspects, asymptomatic and mildly symptomatic patients but stayed away from severely symptomatic patients and those with acute respiratory distress syndrome. Baba Ramdev is still adamant about his cure and claiming communication gaps but how can one trust a man, who had said he could cure homosexuality through yoga, at face value? Besides, who would condone his flagrant violation of codes and the mockery of our drug laws? Anyway, this episode has exposed how our drug regulation regime can be played around with by unscrupulous businesses. And for somebody like Ramdev, who has a hold of the public consciousness courtesy his advertisement blitzkrieg, he inevitably ends up looking like a victim of the big pharma lobbies rather than an offender. If found guilty, he and his firm can be booked under two Acts, the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940, and the Drugs and Magic Remedies (Objectionable Advertisements) Act, 1954. These seek to prohibit advertisements for "remedies alleged to possess magic qualities" or "misleading advertisements", which give a "false impression regarding the true character of the drug." There is provision of a six-month prison term and fine for the first conviction, extendable to one year for repeat offenders. But all such clauses mean nothing because of a glaring loophole. The owner of a company making such claims could absolve himself if he shows that the offence was committed without his knowledge or if he can prove that he exercised all due diligence to prevent the offence from being committed. Most companies have got away by exploiting this condition and Patanjali, which has good connections with the powers that be, isn't likely to be booked but asked to lie low instead.

Drug control laws need more teeth since they have an impact on our public health policies and the Advertising Standards Council of India has aired concerns time and again over the glaring mismatch between promotion campaigns and the actual potency of the peddled drug. The Health Ministry has even released the draft of Drugs and Magic Remedies (Objectionable Advertisements) (Amendment) Bill, 2020. The proposed penalty for first conviction is now up to two years and fine up to ₹10 lakh. A second conviction would lead to an imprisonment of up to five years and fine up to ₹50 lakh. But more deterrence needs to be built in, like scrapping licences. For this is not the first time that Patanjali is overselling itself to vulnerable Indians hoping to avoid visits to the doctor. Back in 2016, it was fined ₹11 lakh for "misleading ads", "misbranding" and "misrepresentation" of its products like honey, salt, mustard oil, jam and *besan*, which failed to meet quality standards. In 2017, the Army suspended the sale of its popular *amla* juice to soldiers and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in Haryana judged its cow ghee as "substandard and unsafe." The biggest casualty has been ayurveda, which indeed has the capacity to root out stubborn diseases. In fact, scientists from Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi, in collaboration with AIST, Japan, have found that the herb, *ashwagandha*, may hold a strong potential in fighting COVID-19 and are carrying out further research. Ayurveda has never been in conflict with science. Baba Ramdev should understand that first.

## Hurting China or ourselves?

With shipments from China under more scrutiny at Indian ports, we may well end up affecting manufacturing more



The news filtering out that several container shipments from China across various Indian ports have been held up by the Customs department for intense checking should not have come as a surprise to anyone who has been following current events lately. Yes, India has become addicted to cheap Chinese products — from consumer products such as toys and smartphones to intermediate goods such as plastics and paints as well as finished capital goods. Heck, every single bronze panel on the much-touted "Statue of Unity" was finished in China simply because India did not have the casting capacity or technology. Our imports from China

have grown in multiples over the past decade as cheap Chinese goods have seduced Indians, from consumers to traders and industrialists. Every single one of us must share the blame.

But in the aftermath of the face-off at the Galwan Valley that taught Indian policymakers the lesson that China speaks with a forked tongue, there has been a rush to extricate India from the Chinese supply chain. On the face of it, this might seem like a worthwhile move but is slightly silly. For example, take the issue with Ford, which uses some Chinese intermediate components on the cars that it further exports out of India. In fact, many Indian exports, even that of textiles and pharmaceuticals, depend on Chinese intermediate products and capital goods. While running intense inspections on containers arriving from China might seem like a worthwhile task, even those disinclined to Beijing might feel that it is useless right now. Yes, we should raise duties and even restrict imports from China in sectors where India has manufacturing capabilities. Just before the clash in Ladakh, India cracked down rightly on the wanton import of tyres from China because it has a whole host of manufacturers in this space. Other sectors like these that have been hollowed out by Chinese imports have to be protected now even if that means that the Indian consumer must pay a higher price. We have to build our manufacturing capabilities. This will be expensive but will add to the Indian economy. Like Pawan Goenka, Chief Executive of Mahindra & Mahindra, said, if Indian automotive manufacturers and their Tier-I equipment suppliers just halved their imports in the next few years, an additional ₹75,000 crore of manufacturing value can be created in India. This is a worthwhile cause to be worked upon. A knee-jerk reaction right now might be counter-productive.

# India's counter strategy

India must take the lead in the South Asian region by accelerating economic activities and involving other nations in integration projects. This can serve as a deterrent to China



NISHIKANT DUBEY

Ever since independence, India's stated objective in the South Asian region has been to pursue friendly relations with its immediate neighbours. An official foreign policy planning document published by the Congress regime in early 1992 states that India respects the territorial integrity of its neighbours and intends to work for mutual cooperation on a bilateral basis. Our attempts to build a solid and constructive relationship with neighbouring nations have been successful. India shares land and maritime boundaries with nine countries: Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka and Afghanistan from Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK). In particular, Pakistan and China have come to challenge India's sovereignty on a regular basis. The traditional friction between India and Pakistan in my estimation is the principal threat to regional stability in South Asia. Mutual distrust and lingering hostility have provoked four wars between the two countries since 1947. However, India holds superiority in military strength in the foreseeable future. A major stumbling block to long-term improvement in relations with Pakistan is its infiltration into Kashmir and regular proxy wars here in cohorts with various terrorist organisations.

On the other hand, for India, China, too, has been a long-term threat. Our security concerns with it begins at the Himalayas and our forces have steadfastly resisted all attempts of invasion by the People's Liberation Army (PLA). In recent times, China appears to be less interested in resolving boundary issues and has instead become more assertive about claiming various regions of Ladakh and the North-east. First came an attempted inroad into Doklam and more recently the face-off at the Galwan Valley. All such skirmishes have necessitated a relook at India's Tibet policy. In particular, two unilateral concessions have been made: First, we supported the One-China policy. And second, we accepted China's sovereignty over Tibet. However, during the British era, Tibet was an independent nation and the British Government was the guarantor of its independence from China. The rights India retained in Tibet under the Simla Convention of 1914 were adequate for us to insist upon the maintenance of its autonomy. Britain preserved all these rights in Tibet as an autonomous region was vital for British India's safety and security. However, in 1954, Nehru conceded



Tibet to China to "maintain regional stability."

The Indo-Bhutan Treaty of Peace and Friendship of 1949 and the 1950 Indo-Nepal Treaty of Peace and Friendship were signed in continuation with similar pacts issued by British India. The 1816 Treaty of Sugauli with Nepal, the Treaty of Punakha in 1910 with Bhutan and the Simla pact of 1914 with Tibet continued after India's independence and it was former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru's duty to uphold the listed treaties. Thus, Nehru's decision to forego Tibet's sovereignty and boost China's imperialistic mindset was illegal.

On multiple accounts, India followed the "Panchsheel" principles, an agreement solely responsible for bringing instability to South Asia and the growth of China's imperialistic mindset. The two mistakes Nehru committed in violation of the Panchsheel Agreement were: First, in 1954, he supported China's claim to Tibet and the Aksai Chin to "maintain regional stability." Second, in 1955, in an attempt to befriend the USSR, Nehru supported its claim over Hungary at the UN.

These two decisions have had drastic effects on India's foreign policy, its relations with other countries and its ability to maintain sovereignty. When China attacked India in 1962, the USSR did not come to India's aid as Nehru had expected. This because China was a communist

state. The rest of the world did not help India since it had supported the USSR at the UN against NATO and its allies.

China followed a three-pronged approach to destabilise the region in the early 1950s.

**Economically:** China is the biggest trading partner for a number of neighbouring countries. This helps it gain political leadership in the South-Asian region. This is evident from the way it deals with Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Nepal and Afghanistan. All these nations have been provided with funds worth billions of dollars for the completion of key projects, to settle border disputes and use their sovereign land for China's military outreach.

**Militaristically:** China invaded Tibet in the 1950s and has unsuccessfully attempted a similar approach with India and Bhutan during the past half-century or so. It has mocked the maritime sovereignty of other countries by expanding its borders in the South China Sea and restricting the ability of countries like Japan, Taiwan, Philippines and Vietnam to conduct trade.

**Intimidation:** China attempts to resolve border issues only when it feels insecure. The demarcation of the border between Russia and China started after an agreement in 2004 and the projects were completed in 2009 after war-like threats. Likewise, China and Vietnam completed demarcation of their

border in 2009 in a similar fashion.

It is time that India supports Tibet's claim of being an independent nation. Since China has not been acting in accordance with the international treaties signed by it (the Chinese agreed to grant Hong Kong autonomy till 2047), why should India act in accordance with any bilateral agreement it has with China? India can propose a Himalayan economic zone comprising Tibet, Xinjiang, Nepal, Bhutan and the Indian Himalayan regions. Common Buddhist heritage should be a factor in the creation of this economic zone. India can encourage tourism to Buddhist sites in India and build closer defence relations with Japan, Myanmar and Vietnam. Our planners should increase defence operations in Arunachal Pradesh, Ladakh, Sikkim and the joint Andaman and Nicobar as a deterrent to the Chinese moves in the Himalayas and Bay of Bengal in retaliation to India's noble efforts.

The pace of socio-economic activities in South Asia will accelerate if India becomes a key factor of this change. The other problem in the region is uncontrolled population growth. The population of South Asia is set to increase from about 1.8 billion to over 2.5 billion by 2050. This will cause tremendous stress on the already stretched resources and create highly concentrated areas, incapable of sustaining human

populations. This will also undoubtedly lead to mass starvation and inhuman living conditions. We should accelerate the process of economic cooperation and involve other nations in regional integration projects. In the light of these changes, India's foreign policy would face several challenges and would require a broader approach.

Domestic factors will increasingly influence foreign policy and Prime Minister Narendra Modi is aware of this. He is attempting to protect the interests of the people in India's bordering nations. He has not only been hearing and understanding people's issues but has also addressed them. Terrorism, organised crime, human trafficking, cybersecurity and Weapons of Mass Destruction proliferation continue to pose challenges to Indian security. Dealing with such challenges requires an effective counter-terrorism policy. A forward-looking approach on cooperation with neighbours to manage the borders, cybersecurity, science and technology, agriculture, education, culture and capacity-building is needed. This will meet the challenges of terrorism and of non-traditional security.

On various fora, India has created committees dedicated to resolving issues regarding national security and regional peace. South Asia cannot remain immune to the developments in the extended neighbourhood and the world in general. Thus, our neighbourhood policy is bound to be affected by developments elsewhere. It is vital that India connects with the Gulf, Central Asia, South-East Asia, and the Indian Ocean islands to ensure that its neighbourhood policy remains unaffected.

If India is able to create regional stability in the region and raise the demand of Tibet's independence in accordance with the Simla Pact, especially when resentment against China has increased owing to the COVID-19, it will be able to muster the support of Western and South-East Asian powers alike in its attempt to abolish China's imperialist mindset. In the coming years, China will also find itself in the midst of an economic crisis due to numerous businesses shifting to either India or other South Asian nations. A two-pronged approach will force China to resolve border disputes with India. In the game of cricket, there is a saying, offence is the best defence. India should initiate the offensive against China for its territorial defence and for stability in South Asia.

(The writer is a BJP leader and Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha. Views expressed are personal.)

## SOUNDBITE

Democratic organisations adapt better and overcome challenges. Democracy is a constant work in progress, requiring commitment, sacrifice and honest introspection.



**Congress leader**  
—Milind Deora

Neotism exists everywhere. It's a little more in our industry. You (the audience) make us who we are. Who will stay and who will be thrown out is decided by you.



**Singer**  
—Kumar Sanu

Perhaps the best thing I can say... is that we are encouraging both parties (India-China) to engage in dialogue on the issues on the border and sort it out between them.



**British Prime Minister**  
—Boris Johnson

It's not that we didn't play good cricket earlier, but somehow we didn't have any achievement to show. Before this, it was only hockey that we were masters at.



**Indian cricketer**  
—Mohinder Amarnath

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Make up for the loss

Sir — In India, the nationalist chorus is "boycott China" while in America, it is "boycott Indians" via the temporary suspension of the H-1B visas. US President Donald Trump has exercised his sovereign right to scrap work visas to save American jobs. During the 2016 presidential polls, he had promised a manufacturing renaissance that would bring back millions of jobs to Americans. As the next round of election is knocking at the door, it appears that all such promises were nothing but rhetoric. With a second term at stake for Trump, economists and industry representatives say the President has a mixed record on job creation that falls well short of his promises.

By putting a stay on H-1B visas, the Trump administration believes it can open up employment opportunities for Americans in an economy that has reported record job losses. Trump has made it clear that he sees restricting immigration as a key poll plank; it is likely that as the election draws closer, the world will see further action on

### Better coordination needed to ride out crisis

As more expatriates from across the globe and the red-zone States started testing positive for COVID-19, the disease curve suddenly assumed a skyward trajectory. Kerala's fight has turned fiery and grim yet again. With the onset of Vande Bharat, the mission to evacuate non-resident Indians, Keralaites started arriving at their home State in huge numbers. The flow still continues unabated. On June 24, the State reported 152 COVID-19 cases, of which 98 were expatriates, 48 from other States and only eight through contacts. As the Chief Minister had warned, the danger of community transmission, which has not happened yet, is real and near because the virus is close by for a sneak attack.

It seems Corona has befuddled Indian rulers. Wuhan in China had the first reported infection on November 17 and it started spreading rapidly. One after another, continents fell to its attacks. The World Health Organisation (WHO) declared the COVID-19 as a pandemic on January 30. India went quietly under lockdown on March 24. But the question that arises is: Couldn't the Government have begun the evacuation mission immediately? During earlier days, infections were not this rampant in the Gulf countries, the Middle East and South Asia. Further, Kerala had proposed that testing be made compulsory before boarding. To a



reporter's question, a Central Minister, who hails from Kerala, replied, passengers would be tested according to the protocol set by the Health Ministry. Yet, small children, pregnant women and senior citizens travelled alongside the infected unknown. Strangely, for some, the insistence for diagnostic test before boarding is cruelty but pushing an entire community to the killer contagion is not. States have to function strictly within the guidelines set by the Centre but people suffer from the consequences of the acts of both the Centre and the State.

**Haridasan Rajan**  
Kozhikode

fingers at the immigrants. The suspension until December will have limited impact on Indian IT companies given travel restrictions that are in place. Moreover, the paradigm shift to work from home has accelerated offshoring processes aided by cloud services. The hit will be taken largely by the US technology industry and international students hoping to stay on after graduation.

**N Sadhasiva Reddy**  
Bengaluru

### Weigh your options

Sir — A Bill has been introduced in the US Congress to consider Tibet as an independent country, just like they did for Hong Kong. The world order has changed. Before announcing Tibet as an independent country, India must either match the economic equation with China or engage in a military pact with ASEAN or NATO. NAM has lived its life. It is time to bid it farewell.

**Harpreet Sidhu**  
Via email

the issue. Considering this, *Aatmanirbhar Bharat* is not just Prime Minister Narendra Modi's rhetoric but the need of the hour.

**Bidyut Kumar Chatterjee**  
Faridabad

### Limited impact

Sir — In an election year, US President Donald Trump has unleashed a *brahmastra* from his

executive powers by suspending H-1B and other work visas until December. Trump is obviously appealing to a domestic constituency facing job losses during the pandemic by pointing

Send your feedback to: [letterstopioneer@gmail.com](mailto:letterstopioneer@gmail.com)

**FIRST COLUMN**

## Nix regulatory barriers

The winds are currently in our favour with the US and Europe increasingly looking at a new world economic order with a seat for India



KUMARDEEP BANERJEE

Sun Tzu, a Chinese general, military strategist, writer and philosopher, wrote "no nation benefits from prolonged warfare." Nothing seems to resonate more today, with two mighty nations, accounting for about 37 per cent of the entire global population, enmeshed in a deadly wrestling manoeuvre. India needs to think deeply before it shuts the door on Chinese-origin money and goods.

Major ports across the country, including Chennai and the west coast, have reportedly created additional checkpoints for shipments coming in from China, many of which would require physical verification. The intention here is in line with India's strategy of making itself self-reliant in manufacturing and creating more local jobs. However, the collateral here is disruption or perhaps stalling of the objective called "Atma Nirbhar Bharat." Consider this. The Government recently announced several policy measures and set-up a high-level task force to make the country a manufacturing hub for electronics and allowed several incentives for setting shop. These include huge land parcels, faster clearances, access to cheaper loans and tax sops.

China had stopped being a destination for long-term manufacturing ever since it started making aggressive imperialist overtures at the geo-political stage and copying/substituting proprietary products with Chinese labels and flooding global markets, specially those in its neighbourhood. The ongoing pandemic, with its origin in China, compelled world manufacturers to set up shop in other destinations with similar advantages. India, with its huge labour force, available land parcels with a globalised democracy and digital connect is an attractive first choice.

However, take the instance of a major Information Communication Technology (ICT) manufacturer present in India for nearly two decades since 1996. This US firm has ICT manufacturing, software services, BPO, analytics and research and development centres here and also unites a bunch of technology leaders — which promise to power the drive of digital transformation. The current pandemic furrowing through the country has expedited digitalisation of key services and sectors of national importance like healthcare, banking and education to name a few. This, taken together with India's favourable electronics manufacturing policy, opens up the possibility for this manufacturer to expand line capacity, bring fresh investments and create additional jobs. However, the company says it has witnessed disruptions and the reasons are collateral rather than strategic.

There are increasing signals of protectionism and non-tariff barriers being considered to restrict import in the near future. An example of non-tariff barrier would be additional delays at ports and physical scrutiny of goods to ascertain their country of origin. Now, the electronic industry is heavily dependent on global supply chains to manufacture a single product. A simple LCD screen will have its components manufactured across geographies before being finally put together in one country and preferably exported back to other geographies, even as much of it may be domestically taken off shelves. Due to the ongoing trade wars, many global companies have diversified their supply chains, including manufacturing units across various Asian countries but it will take a couple of years for this disruption to stabilise. Put simply, this means that manufacturing all the components of the LCD screen in India will take a few more years and much more product regulations easing.

That brings us to the real challenge to India emerging as a global manufacturing hub at least for electronics. A standalone component imported into India is subjected to multiple tests and standards regulations before it lands at a consumer's workplace. Most of these components are part of global supply chains which ultimately feed into the final finished product in a particular country. Most of the global companies are already subjecting their components to internationally-recognised safety tests and orders. Consider for a moment the number of models one single product can have and therefore the minor changes made to components. Now, subjecting all these globally-certified supply chain components to retesting in India has the potential to upset the entire idea of 'Make in India.'

The Government has to realise that moving all global supply chains, at least for electronics manufacturing, is neither feasible nor advisable. Most manufacturers will be persuaded to do so in the long-term provided regulatory chokes, at various stages of product-making including getting stuck at ports, are removed. Nowhere is the demand being raised for keeping the tap open for China to flood India — directly or through Beijing-indebted economies — with low quality products and kill local manufacturing. The ask is for creating mutually-beneficial trade corridors.

If India has to shine and usher in a \$10 trillion economy, it has to do so strategically at the global trade negotiating high table. The winds are currently in our favour with the US and Europe increasingly looking at a new world economic order with a seat for India. (The writer is a policy analyst)

THE MUSIC MAFIA IN THE INDUSTRY HAS BEEN CREATING ROADBLOCKS IN THE CAREER PROGRESSION OF NEW AND ASPIRING TALENT.

—SINGER  
SONU NIGAM

**POINTCOUNTERPOINT**



T-SERIES GAVE YOU A BREAK IN THE INDUSTRY AND PUSHED YOU AHEAD. YOU HAVEN'T INTRODUCED ANY TALENT INTO THE INDUSTRY.

—DIRECTOR AND PRODUCER  
DIVYA KHOSLA BHUSHAN KUMAR

# Urban India's Achilles heel

Spatial and structural characteristics of urban India indicate that cities, especially slums and the suburbs, are likely to remain hotspots for diseases like COVID-19 in the coming months



SOUMYADIP CHATTOPADHYAY SIMI MEHTA

Symmetric to global trends, urbanisation in India has spread rapidly. This has led to the reordering of the urban periphery through complex processes of displacement of the central population to the margins and the creation of new functional nodes away from the traditional core. Adaptation to such realities came to a grinding halt when the pandemic hit the country. As has been evident, people of urban India — especially those living in slums and peri-urban areas — are more vulnerable to the rapid spread of COVID-19. This has brought to the fore the importance of the ways in which city governments are working to combat the spread of the virus. There is no denying that the inter-related dimensions of mobility and demographic change, infrastructure and governance influence the preparedness of urban India in outbreak management, right from disease prevention to mitigation and possible responses.

**The dynamics of demography in the cities and COVID-19:** High population densities in cities are major factors influencing the spread of disease. According to the Census 2011, India experienced a 37.14 per cent decadal growth in the number of slum households with 104 million people living in ghettos in 2013, as per the data of Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA). Almost two-thirds of statutory towns in India have slums.

An overwhelming majority of the families living in the densely-populated areas of slums and peri-urban areas are migrant workers who are engaged in urban informal activities characterised by low wages, severe competition, tenuous job security with the need to travel daily to the city core to earn their livelihoods. Lack of work opportunities during the lockdown forced many of them to return to their villages. Such mobility patterns, owing to myriad social and political economic factors, bear the risk of spread of contagious diseases to the peripheries.

This points to the fact that infrastructure development for the benefit of this section of the urban population has not been adequate. A vast majority of the urban population, living in slums and peri-urban areas, lacks access to basic urban services, including water, electricity, sanitation, solid waste management and housing facilities. As per the estimates of the Technical Group on Urban Housing Shortages (2012-17) housing shortages are projected to increase to 34 million by 2022. According to the 2012 National Sample Survey (NSS), slums are incredibly packed spaces where three-fourths of India's slum tenements are cramped within two hectares.

In such a situation, an outbreak of Coronavirus in places with unsafe and precarious living conditions, where even the basic preventive measures like social distancing and frequent hand-washing are impossible to achieve, could easily turn into a grave public health emergency. Indeed, the outbreak of contagious diseases is less of a "natural" disaster but emerges alongside social and spatial inequalities in housing and access to basic services.

**Governance deficits:** The deplorable state of urban services is typically attributed to poor financial health and lack of planning, which in turn are linked to weak institutional capacities and the absence of effective governance structures in Indian cities. The 74th Constitutional Amendment Act (1993) promised to improve the



**BUILDING MUNICIPAL CAPACITY TO PREPARE ACTION PLANS IN ADVANCE FOR BETTER PREPAREDNESS ON THE GROUND, PROVIDING EMERGENCY RESPONSE TRAINING AND IMPROVING COORDINATION WITH OTHER KEY DEPARTMENTS, LIKE THE NATIONAL DISASTER RESPONSE FORCE, SHOULD FEATURE IN ANY NATIONAL URBAN POLICY FRAMEWORK AND HAS TO BE NECESSARILY EMBEDDED IN THE CITIES OF A 'NEW INDIA'**

delivery of basic services by devolving resources and decision-making powers to local governments. Political empowerment is weakened by infrequent elections of Urban Local Bodies (ULB) and most States rest the executive authority of city governments on the State-appointed Commissioner, with the Mayor and city Councillors having very little authority over management, let alone on emergencies like COVID at the city level.

Although, city governments are expected to have complete authority to carry out functions, including water supply, sanitation, solid waste management, public health and slum improvement, yet the actual devolution of responsibility to the municipalities, even after 25 years of decentralisation, can at best be described as partial.

State Governments control key healthcare infrastructure such as hospitals, clinics and primary healthcare centres and even these institutions lack human resources, including medical officers and skilled staff. Overlapping institutional roles and responsibilities raise questions as to who should deliver urban basic services and the problems become far severe in case of managing and preventing potential outbreaks. This is very evident in the recent war of words between the Delhi Government and municipal bodies over inadequate beds in hospitals for the treatment of COVID-19 patients.

**Capacity constraints:** Infirm financial health of the ULBs has a regressive impact on their capacity to provide basic services. Assignment of finances is completely left to the discretion of the State Governments and ULBs can levy and collect only those taxes that are specified by the States. Municipal finances are in a grossly unsatisfactory state as they collect far less revenue

than what is necessary to cover even the cost of providing urban basic services, let alone tackling any health emergencies. Lack of adequate skilled staff at the ULB level is another major drawback as there is far less emphasis on the institutional capacity of the local government. Appropriate institutional capacity enables ULBs to make policy decisions and implement them, in the manner they want, to produce the outcomes they desire.

**The way forward:** In essence, spatial and structural characteristics of urban India indicate that cities, especially slums and the suburbs, are likely to remain hotspots for diseases like COVID-19 in the coming months. An ability to monitor rural, urban and inter-urban migration will be crucial to mitigate the spread of this disease. Therefore, it would be useful to plan and implement a slew of short-term measures, including aggressive and affordable testing, tracing and quarantining of infected people, provision of door-to-door drinking water and mobile toilet facilities in densely-populated slum and peri-urban areas.

This pandemic provides an opportunity for genuinely empowering ULBs that should not go to waste. Cities with well-functioning governance and health infrastructure are better placed to manage pandemics and excess mortality than those that do not. In other words, the governance conundrum along with poor planning and weak healthcare systems can undermine the efforts to combat the pandemic and build upon the confusion, fear and panic.

Interestingly, in November 2019, the Global Parliament of Mayors met in Durban and the members committed to develop regional and local networks to advance the dissemination of

trusted public health information. They also pledged to promote information sharing and communication measures in and between cities to prevent and reduce the international spread of infectious diseases.

In the medium and long-term, it is pertinent to identify the lacunae in city planning and the underlying socio-economic determinants of public health and resilient cities. This would help to streamline resource flows to vulnerable areas more effectively. It is equally important to create a city-level pandemic preparedness index, using details of a ward/locality/neighbourhood-wise vulnerable population and hospital-wise beds and ICU capacities. It will serve as an evaluation tool (similar to the Rapid Urban Health Security Assessment Tool developed by Georgetown University) to assess city-level public health preparedness and response capacities.

It is important to support the city governments to prioritise, strengthen and deploy strategies that promote urban well-being and health security. This pandemic provides a rare opportunity to work in tandem with the ULBs and genuinely empower them to discharge their functions.

Building municipal capacity to prepare action plans in advance for better preparedness on the ground, providing emergency response training and improving coordination with other key departments, like the National Disaster Response Force, should feature in any national urban policy framework and has to be necessarily embedded in the cities of a 'New India.'

(Chattopadhyay is an Associate Professor of Economics at Visva Bharati University, Shanti Niketan and a Visiting Senior Fellow at IMPRI and Mehta is CEO and Editorial Director, IMPRI)

# The politics of sanctions doesn't work

Out of 116 cases of global sanctions being imposed during the 20th century, in only six cases did the target Govt yield to demands



GWYNNE DYER

Last week, the US imposed new sanctions on Syria. This is part of a "sustained campaign of economic and political pressure" to end the nine-year war by forcing President Bashar al-Assad to UN-brokered peace talks where he would negotiate his departure from power. Assad's wife was already cross about not being able to shop at Harrods or Bergdorf Goodman, so he should crumble any day now.

Other things are crumbling already. Ordinary people's incomes are collapsing (down by three-quarters since the beginning of the year).

The price of food in Syria has doubled. Lebanon next-door, already in a financial meltdown, is now seeing its large trade with Syria vanish as well. Even those Syrians who support the regime — around a third of the people who have not fled the country — will have a much harder time, but they won't desert the regime.

The more prosperous ones depend on Assad's regime for their income and the poorer ones are mostly minorities who fear they will be slaughtered if the jihadis win.

The US decision to raise the pressure on Assad is probably a random by-product of President Donald Trump's obsessive campaign against Iran (which has been helping the Syrian regime stay afloat). If Trump even knows that the remaining rebel groups in Syria are by now all led by fanatical Islamists linked to the al-Qaeda, the group that organised the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the Twin Towers, he doesn't care.

The Syrian tragedy is mainly due to endless foreign interventions. The Syrians, who called for an end to Assad's regime in the 'Arab Spring' of 2011, were just like the young men and women who started demanding the fall of Egyptian dictator Hosni Mubarak at the same time. They were both genuinely popular movements, not fronts for jihadis.

The Egyptian protesters won, there was a free election and then the army struck back in 2013, slaughtered several thousand people in the streets of Cairo and put General Abdel Fatah el-Sisi in power, where he remains to this day. Egypt is at peace, although hundreds more have probably died in Sisi's prisons since then and thousands have been tortured.

The Syrian protesters didn't get that far. They were driven from the streets — but then various foreign powers started organising the rebels and giving them arms. The war has lasted another eight years and some-

where between 4,00,000-7,00,000 Syrians have been killed. Five million Syrians have fled abroad and another five million are displaced within Syria.

So here's the question: Would you prefer Egypt's fate or Syria's? Both countries are still tyrannies but one is literally in ruins, with half the population out of their homes, and the other had a few thousand deaths. It's a no-brainer, isn't it?

The Syrian power struggle would probably have ended in an Assad victory around the same time that General Sisi took over in Egypt if the US, Turkey and Saudi Arabia hadn't begun sending the Syrian rebels arms and money. The US motives were mixed but the Turks and the Saudis, both led by different kinds of militant Muslims, just saw an opportunity to replace a secular regime with a hard-line Islamist one. They would probably have succeeded if Russia had not intervened to save Assad in 2015 and

Syria would probably be divided today between al-Qaeda and the Islamic State. The groups linked to al-Qaeda absorbed or destroyed all the others and today they rule over a single province in north-west Syria under Turkish protection. But still the war drags on.

If any of these outside players had been willing to put its own troops in the ground, the war would at least have ended years ago (though it might have ended badly). But none of them were willing to risk their own soldiers' lives — not even the Russians, who stick to air strikes. And now the US is hitting Syria with even bigger sanctions.

When governments impose sanctions, they usually explain that they had to "do something" but the new sanctions will hurt ordinary Syrians very badly. They might be justified if there was a reasonable chance that more sanctions could bring Assad's regime down but there's no chance of

that and everybody knows it.

In a famous paper in 1997, Robert Pape of the University of Chicago showed that out of 116 cases of international sanctions being imposed during the 20th century, in only six cases did the target Government yield to the demands of the country imposing the sanctions. The success rate has not improved since. It has been 70 years since the US imposed sanctions on North Korea and the Kim family is still in power. It is 60 years since it put sanctions on Cuba and the Communists still rule. It has been 40 years since Washington slapped sanctions on Iran and the Ayatollahs still rule. Not to mention Zimbabwe (sanctions since 2003), or Venezuela (2006), or Russia (2014).

"Doing something" feels good but it doesn't usually do much good.

(Gwynne Dyer's new book is 'Growing Pains: The Future of Democracy and Work'.)



**FOREIGN EYE**



**STAND UP TO CHINA UNITEDLY**

The US Secretary of State, Mike Pompeo, recently assailed China over its treatment of Uighurs in Xinjiang and its border clashes. European nations cannot counterbalance China without the US and many show no desire to do so. Those who wish to challenge China's human rights abuses or increasing forcefulness must reach out to strengthen bonds globally, including with Asian democracies. (The Guardian editorial)

# US REPORT ON PAK TERROR SAFE HAVEN

## Abide by UN resolutions: Guterres to all members

**United Nations:** UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres expects all member states to "live up" to their obligations under the relevant Security Council resolutions, his spokesperson has said, after a US report noted that Pakistan remains a "safe haven" for terrorists as it did not take actions against JeM founder Masood Azhar.

The US State Department, in its Congressional-mandated 2019 Country Reports on Terrorism on Wednesday, said Pakistan remained a "safe harbor" for regionally-focused terrorist groups and that the sus-

pension of US aid to the country remained in effect throughout 2019.

Stéphane Dujarric, responding to a question during his daily press briefing, said while he will not comment on the report issued by the US State Department, "Obviously, as a matter of principle, we do expect all member states to live up to their obligations as laid out in any relevant Security Council resolution or Security Council decision."

The report said Pakistan took "modest steps" in 2019 to counter terror financing and restrain India-focused militant

groups from conducting large-scale attacks following the Pulwama attack in February, but it remained a "safe harbor" for regionally focused terrorist groups.

It further said that Pakistan took action against some externally focused groups, including Lashkar e-Taiba founder Hafiz Saeed but did not take action against Jaish-e-Mohammed founder and UN-designated terrorist Azhar and 2008 Mumbai attack 'project manager' Sajid Mir, both of whom are believed to remain free in Pakistan.

The UN 1267 Sanctions Committee designated Azhar as a global terrorist in May last year, slapping an arms embargo, asset freeze and travel ban on him, 10 years after India's first move to have him black-listed at the UN.

Following the designation, the State Department said that the designation is an "important step" in promoting a peaceful and stable South Asia.

The US designated Azhar as a Specially Designated Global Terrorist in 2010. **PTI**

While the report recognizes that al-Qaeda has been seriously degraded in the region, it neglects to mention Pakistan's crucial role in decimating the terror group's network, thereby diminishing the threat that the terrorist group once posed to the world, the FO said.

"Similarly, the report acknowledges the sharp decrease in the incidence of terrorist attacks in Pakistan but neglects to explain that this was only possible because Pakistan's resolute counter-terrorism operations have targeted proscribed groups and outfits without discrimination," it added.

The FO said that Pakistan was still facing the threat of terrorism from externally based and foreign sponsored groups, like the TTP, ISIS-K and others and pointed out that the report was either silent or vague on the origins and locations of these terrorist groups. **PTI**

## Pak expresses disappointment over US report that described it as 'safe haven' for terrorists

**Islamabad:** Pakistan on Thursday expressed its disappointment over the US State Department's report which described the country as a "safe harbor" for regionally-focused terrorist groups.

The State Department, in its Congressional-mandated 2019 Country Reports on Terrorism, said on Wednesday that Pakistan remained a "safe harbor" for regionally-focused terrorist groups and that the suspension of US aid to the country remained in effect throughout 2019.

"Pakistan is fully aware of its responsibilities as a sovereign state. We reject any insinuation about any safe haven. Pakistan will not allow any group or entity to use its territory against any country," the Foreign Office said, commenting on the report.

It said the report was "self-contradictory and selective in its characterization of Pakistan's efforts for countering terrorism and terrorist financing." **PTI**

## PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJANA

The Empowered Officer, Tripura RRDA on behalf of Governor of Tripura invites the percentage rate bids in electronic tendering system for construction of road under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in the district of **Dhalai for 1 number of package** with estimated cost totaling to ₹ 1396.90 Lakh including performance based maintenance for five years from the eligible contractor of appropriate class registered with PWD / TTAADC / MES / CPWD / Railway / Other State PWD / Central & State Public Sector undertakings\*.

Date of release of Invitation for Bids through e-procurement :- **24/06/2020 (dd/mm/yyyy)**  
Last Date/ Time for receipt of bids through e-procurement :- **23/07/2020 upto 1500 HRS.**  
For further details please log on to **www.pmgstenderstrp.gov.in**

**Sd/-**  
**Empowered Officer, Tripura RRDA**  
7th Block, 2nd Floor, Secretariat Building, Agartala  
ICAC-762/2020-21

**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER SUB TRANSMISSION DIVISION DODA, (E-mail: xensddoda@gmail.com Tel. Fax: 01996-233076) CIN No. U40300JK2013SGC003898**

**EXTENSION NOTICE** Dated 24.06.2020

Due to poor response to e-NIT No. 15 of 2020 dated:- 30.05.2020 for the Rate contract for execution of various works involving Lifting of materials from Divisional store Doda/ Sub Store Kishwar, Transportation, Erection of Poles, Conductor, Guys and other allied line materials as and when required for repair and Maintenance of existing 33 KV Transmission lines wherever required in district Kishwar, the last date submission of bid is extended upto 01.07.2020 and date of opening is 03.07.2020.

All other terms and conditions remain unchanged.

No. DIP/J-1707/20 Sd/- Executive Engineer  
Dated: 24.06.2020 Sub Transmission Division, Doda.

**PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited**  
(Regd. Office PSEB Head Office, The Mall Patiala-147001)  
Corporate Identity Number: U40109PB2010SGC033813  
Website: www.pspcl.in

**E-Tender Enquiry No. 275/P-1/EMP-W-11709 Dt. 19-06-2020 Tender ID: 2020\_POWER\_48905\_1**

**Scope of Work:** Mtc. of railway track in GGSSTP railway yard (equated length 35.266 kms) and railway track from Ropar railway station to GGSSTP railway station (RTP Block section) equated length 7.506 kms.  
EMD: Rs. 3,52,00,000 for contractors and Co-op Societies will submit the EMD as per Pb. Govt. notification dated 4.11.2019 issued by Registrar Co-operative Societies Punjab or at amended rates as applicable.

Date & time upto which tender shall be received / uploaded 24.07.2020 & 11.00 AM  
Date & time of opening of tender 30.07.2020 & 11.30 AM  
Tender specification can only be downloaded from PSPCL website <http://tproc.punjab.gov.in> & no hard copy of the same will be issued by this office.

**Note:**

- In case any difficulty regarding uploading of the tender the prospective bidders are requested to get clarification from this office and/or e-procurement system Government of Punjab Contact No. +91-(172)-2970284/63. It is also requested to get their digital signature well in time so as to submit tenders through e-tendering only.
- It is informed that in case the tender process is not completed due to any reason no corrigendum will be published in newspapers. Detail regarding corrigendum may be seen on website tproc.punjab.gov.in.

Dy. G.E./ Monitoring  
GGSSTP, Roopnagar

RTP-28/2020  
RO 40380 Consumers are requested to deposit their Electricity Bills in time.

## GLOBE TROTTERING

**Minsk:** The president of Belarus has accused unidentified forces in Russia and Poland of interfering in the country's presidential election, in which he is seeking a sixth term. Speaking at a meeting on Thursday, Alexander Lukashenko alleged that "puppet masters" in the two countries are behind those campaigning to run against him in the upcoming election.

**Singapore:** Singapore's former PM Goh Chok Tong on Thursday announced that he is retiring from politics and will not run in the upcoming elections, after having served as a parliament member for over 40 years.

**Ankara:** A top Turkish official has denounced a memoir by former U.S. National Security Advisor John Bolton, saying it contains "misleading, one-sided and manipulative" accounts of Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's conversations with his U.S. counterpart, Donald Trump.

**Washington:** The United States has doubled the bounty to \$10 million for information leading to the capture of the Islamic State's new leader Amir Muhammad Sa'id Abdul-Rahma al-Mawla.

**Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia):** The Mongolian People's Party retained a strong parliamentary majority, preliminary election results showed Thursday, as the U.S.-allied nation sandwiched between Russia and China held onto its democratic principles amid economic woes.

**United Nations:** The UN humanitarian chief warned that without massive financial support, Yemen will "fall off the cliff," with many more people starving to death, succumbing to Covid-19, dying of cholera and watching their children die because they haven't been immunized for killer diseases.

## Japan confirms it's scrapping US missile defence system

**Tokyo:** Japan's National Security Council has endorsed plans to cancel the deployment of two costly land-based US missile defence systems aimed at bolstering the country's capability against threats from North Korea, the country's defence minister said Thursday.

Defence Minister Taro Kono said the country will now revise its missile defence programme and scale up its entire defence posture.

The council made its decision Wednesday, and now the government will need to enter negotiations with the US about what to do with payments and the purchase contract already made for the Aegis Ashore systems.

Kono announced the plan to scrap the systems earlier this month after it was found that the safety of one of the two planned host communities could not be ensured without a hardware redesign that would be too time consuming and costly.

"We couldn't move forward with this project, but still there are threats from North Korea," Kono said at a news conference Thursday.

Japan will discuss ways to better protect the country and the people from the North's missiles and other threats, he said.

The Japanese government in 2017 approved adding the two Aegis Ashore systems to enhance the country's current defences consisting of Aegis-equipped destroyers at sea and Patriot missiles on land.

Defence officials have said the two Aegis Ashore units could cover Japan entirely from one station at Yamaguchi in the south and another at Akita in the north.

The plan to deploy the two systems already had faced a series of setbacks, including questions about the selection of one of the sites, repeated cost estimate hikes that climbed to 450 billion yen (USD 4.1 billion) for their 30-year operation and maintenance, and safety concerns that led to local opposition.

Kono said Japan has signed contract worth nearly half the total cost and paid part of it to the US.

He said Japan is trying to get the most out of what it has already paid, though he did not elaborate. **AP**

## With a job at Trump, Pelosi unveils new 'Obamacare' bill

**Washington:** Flipping a dismissive jab at President Donald Trump, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi unveiled a plan Wednesday to expand "Obamacare," even as Trump's administration is about to file arguments in a Supreme Court case to strike it down.

Pelosi announced an upcoming floor vote on her measure, setting up a debate that will juxtapose the Democrats' top policy issue, Trump's unrelenting efforts to dismantle Obama's legacy, and the untamed coronavirus pandemic.

On Thursday, the Trump administration is expected to file papers with the Supreme Court arguing that the Affordable Care Act is unconstitutional.

Pelosi wants her bill on the

House floor Monday. Trying to overturn a health insurance expansion providing coverage to about 20 million people "was wrong any time," Pelosi said.

"Now, it is beyond stupid," she added. "Beyond stupid."

COVID-19 cases are rising in major states like Texas, Florida and California, and millions of workers who have lost coverage in the economic shutdown to contain the virus can rely on the health law as a backup.

The White House said Pelosi is just playing politics. "Instead of diving back into partisan games, Democrats should continue to work with the president on these important issues and ensuring our country emerges from this pandemic stronger than ever,"

spokesman Judd Deere said Wednesday in a statement.

Pelosi's legislation has no chance in the Republican-controlled Senate. Her bill would expand subsidies, allowing more people to qualify for coverage under the ACA.

It would financially squeeze some states that have refused to expand Medicaid under the health law.

And it would empower Medicare to negotiate prescription drug prices — a position Trump once favoured but later abandoned.

It would also undo the Trump administration's expansion of short-term insurance plans that don't have to cover preexisting medical conditions, something Democrats say will undermine a central achievement of the ACA. **AP**

## Israeli annexation could unleash Mideast violence: UN envoy

**Jerusalem:** The UN envoy for the Middle East warned Israel on Thursday that carrying out its plans to annex parts of the West Bank could set off a spasm of violence that would upend Israeli-Palestinian relations and reverberate across the region.

Speaking to a group of foreign correspondents in Jerusalem, Nickolay Mladenov, the UN special coordinator for the region, said any Israeli unilateral action will "will have economic and security repercussions on the ground that will affect the lives of both Israelis and Palestinians." "Surely any such moves will be met by counter moves by the Palestinian Authority and they have already started," he told members of the Foreign Press Association, noting how the Palestinians have absolved themselves from abiding by past agreements with Israel.

"For now we have the clear commitment by the Palestinian leadership that they will do everything in their power to contain law and order in the areas they control," he said.

"But as the money runs out and as the political prospects become more grim, I feel that it will become more difficult or impossible in the future." His stern warning comes amid a flurry of international pressure on Israel to recant on its plans.

On Wednesday, the head of the Arab League warned a high-level U.N. Meeting that any annexation would inflame tensions and endanger peace in the Middle East, and could ignite "a religious war in and beyond our region." More than a thousand European lawmakers also signed a joint letter protesting Israel's plan, saying such a move would "be fatal" to hopes for a peaceful resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Emboldened by the Trump administration's favorable Mideast plan, and eager to establish its permanent eastern border, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has promised to begin annexing parts of the West Bank that have Israeli settlements, perhaps as early as next week. **AP**

## PIA grounds 150 pilots with 'dubious licences'

**Islamabad:** Cash-strapped Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) on Thursday announced that it has grounded 150 pilots with "dubious licences", a day after the preliminary probe report of the Karachi plane crash blamed the pilots and the air traffic control for the tragedy that killed 97 people.

"Grounding so many pilots will affect the PIA flight operation," the spokesperson for the national carrier said, adding that they have already dismissed six pilots with fake degrees.

Those pilots who get their licenses verified will be allowed back on duty, Geo News quoted the PIA spokesperson as saying. The national flag carrier on Thursday said it has grounded

150 pilots with "dubious licences", a day after the report of the plane crash blamed the pilots and the air traffic control (ATC) for the incident, the report added. "We have asked the Civil Aviation Authority to send the list of the remaining licenses," the spokesperson said. "We acknowledge the report and are working on making our standard better." In a letter to the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), PIA chairman requested the aviation authority for details of the remaining pilots with dubious and fake commercial licenses.

"Action will be taken against all those pilots with fake licenses," PIA chairman said, adding they will take all the necessary steps to make the commercial operation safe. **PTI**

## Eiffel Tower reopens, ending 104-day shutdown

**Paris:** Marking another milestone in France's recovery from coronavirus lockdown, the Eiffel Tower reopened to visitors Thursday after its longest-ever closure in peace time: 104 days.

Tourists who are trickling back to Paris were delighted to find the landmark open when some other attractions in the French capital remain closed. The Louvre Museum isn't reopening until July 6.

"It's very special, very special because it's only the Paris people," said Annelies Bouwhuis, a 43-year-old visitor from the Netherlands.

"We've seen a lot Paris

people enjoying their city, enjoying their parks without all the tourists."

Lifts that usually whisk visitors up the 324-meter (1,063-foot) tall wrought-iron Eiffel Tower remain closed, so for now people have to take the stairs.

Of the tower's three decks, only the first two reopened. Those who made the climb Thursday were rewarded with far-away views and a light breeze in scorching summer weather.

"I booked the first slot because afterward it will be very hot," said Sabine Peaufils, a 57-year-old Parisian. "This is a real pleasure." **AP**

## Who would be the first to get a Covid-19 vaccine?

**Washington:** Who would be the first to get a COVID-19 vaccine? Probably people in the country where the first effective vaccine is developed.

About a dozen different vaccines are in various stages of testing worldwide, including in Britain, China and the US.

This week, Dr. Anthony Fauci, the top US infectious disease expert, said he is cautiously optimistic there will be a COVID-19 vaccine by the end of the year or early 2021.

Several wealthy countries have already ordered millions of doses of those experimental vaccines. Britain and the US, for example, have invested in a vaccine candidate being devel-

oped by Oxford University and produced by AstraZeneca. If it works, UK politicians have said Britons will be vaccinated with it. The US expects to start stockpiling it this fall and also has invested in other vaccine candidates. Groups including the vaccine alliance GAVI are also working to buy doses for poor countries and AstraZeneca has agreed to license its vaccine to India's Serum Institute for the production of 1 billion doses. WHO is drafting guidelines for the ethical distribution of vaccines. How vaccines are distributed within a country will vary. Last week, U.S. Officials said they were developing a tiered system for that. **AP**

## Around the Globe

**Dakar:** Senegal's national television says President Macky Sall is going into quarantine after being exposed to someone who tested positive for the new coronavirus.

**Paris:** France is stepping up efforts to root out hidden clusters of coronavirus infections by offering tests to nearly 1.3 million people in the Paris region. The expansion of France's testing program was announced Thursday by the health minister, Olivier Veran, in an interview with the newspaper Le Monde. Health authorities will send out coupons that people can exchange for a test.

**Johannesburg:** Africa's coronavirus cases have surged to more than 336,000, an increase of nearly 10,000 infections from Wednesday evening. That's according to the Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The jump is largely due to South Africa announcing its largest daily number of new cases: 5,688.

**OFFICE OF THE PROJECT MANAGER, CONSTRUCTION UNIT, UTTARAKHAND PEYJAL NIGAM COLLECTORATE COMPOUND, RUDRAPUR, DISTT. UDHAM SINGH NAGAR**

Ref. No. 822/Nivda/165 **E-Tender Notice** Date: 24.06.2020

1. Name of the work: REMAINING WORKS OF DE-SILTING & REPAIRING OF PONDS AND OTHER APPURTENANCE WORKS AT GOVT. FISH FARM, DHAURA, KICHAH (UDHAM SINGH NAGAR)

2. Estimated Cost:- Rs. 63.18 Lakh

3. Period of Completion:- 06 Month

4. Date and Time of availability of Bid documents in the portal: 25.06.2020 (17.00 hrs)

5. Last Date / Time of receipt of bids in the portal: 16.07.2020 (17.00 hrs)

6. Date & Time of Technical bid Opening :- 18.07.2020 (12.00 hrs)

7. Name and Address of the Officer Inviting bid: Er. Om Prakash, Collectorate Compound, Rudrapur (Udham Singh Nagar).

8. Pre-bid meeting details (if required) Date & Place:- 30.06.2020 (13.00 hrs) Rudrapur.

9. For further details, details of subsequent Amendment / correction documentation etc. may be obtained from the e-Procurement portal [www.uktenders.gov.in](http://www.uktenders.gov.in)

**Project Manager**

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**

**TENDER NOTICE**

Re-invitation of Tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement System)

1. Name of work with its location	Hiring of (02) Two Nos. Non AC road Multi Utility Vehicle (INNOVA, SCORPIO/BOLERO OR EQUIVALENT on monthly basis in the jurisdiction of Dy. CE/BL/TJK for office use, for a period of two year.
2. Approx. Cost of work	Rs. 24,64,994.52
3. Earnest Money	Rs. 49,300.00
4. Completion period of the work	(24) Twenty Four Months
5. Cost of Tender form	Rs. 3,000/- <b>Note:</b> Cost of EMD & Tender Form should be in the form of net banking or payment gateway only. FDR will not be accepted as cost of tender invited on IREPS as per Railway Boards letter no. 2015/ICE/ICT/5/1 dated 31.08.2016
6. Date & time for submission of tender & opening of tender	Upto 15.00 hrs. on 16.07.2020. Opening of tender after 15.00 hrs. on same day
7. Website particulars where complete details of Tender can be seen & downloaded	Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. <a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a>

No.: 32-W-MUV-HIRE-DLI-20 Date: 25.06.2020. 1434/2020

Serving Customers with a Smile

**AXIS BANK** Retail Asset Centre, Delhi: Axis Bank, Ground Floor, Shop No.03,03(A), 04 & 05 Mega City Mall MG Road Gurgaon. 122001. Also at: Axis Bank Limited, III Floor, Red Fort Capital Parswanath Tower, Bhai Veer Singh Marg, Near Gole Market, New Delhi -110001, Retail Asset Centre, Ghazabad: BF-1/A,2,3, 1st Floor, Aditya City Centre, Nili Khans-1, Indrapuram, Ghazabad-201012, Retail Asset Centre Faridabad: Axis Bank Ltd. SCO-8, Huda Shopping Centre, Sec. 16, Faridabad, Haryana-121002, Retail Asset Centre Gurgaon: Axis Bank Ltd. - ASC Gurgaon, SG-107, DLF Galleria Complex, Near Post Office, DLF City Phase 4, Gurgaon-122009, Corporate Office: Axis House, Block-B, Bombay Dyeing Mills Compound, Pandurang Budhkar Marg, Worli, Mumbai-400025, Registered Office: 'Trishul', 3rd floor, opposite Samarshwar Temple, Law Garden, Ellisbridge, Ahmedabad-380006

**POSSESSION NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002**

Whereas The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Axis Bank Ltd. under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued demand notice upon the Borrower(s) Co-Borrower(s) Guarantor(s) /Mortgagor(s) mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The Borrower(s)/Co-Borrower(s) Guarantor(s) /Mortgagor(s) having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower(s)/Co-Borrower(s) Guarantor(s) /Mortgagor(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/ here under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates.

The Borrower(s)/Co-Borrower(s) Guarantor(s) /Mortgagor(s) in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of Axis Bank Ltd.

The Borrower(s)/Co-Borrower(s) Guarantor(s) /Mortgagor(s) attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Name of Borrower / Co-borrower	Description of Property	1. Date of Demand Notice	2. Date of Possession	3. Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)
M/s Auto Needs ( Proprietorship Firm) At - 97/1, Safe Express Building, (Opp. Fun and Food Village) Kapashera Delhi - 110037	Primary Security - Hypothecation Charge over entire current assets and movable fixed assets of the company both present and future.	1. 5-Oct-19	2. 22-Jun-2020	3. Rs. 2,89,29,779/-
Also At - : M/s Auto Needs (Proprietorship) Firm 501/2, Mehrauli Road, Gurgaon Haryana -122001	All that part and parcel of Free Hold Commercial Property bearing No - 501/2, Mehrauli Road, Gurgaon admeasuring 204 Sq. Yrd. Bounded as under :-	1. 5-Oct-19	2. 22-Jun-2020	3. Rs. 2,89,29,779/-
2. Mr. Viveek Goel (Proprietor of M/s Auto Needs) S/o - Sh. Mool Chand Goel, R/o-H. No - 76, Sector -15, Part -I, Gurgaon Haryana -122001	North-As per the Sale Deed East-As per the Sale Deed South-As per the Sale Deed West-As per the Sale Deed	1. 5-Oct-19	2. 22-Jun-2020	3. Rs. 2,89,29,779/-
3. Mr. Sharad Goel , S/o - Sh.Mool Chand Goel, R/o -H.No - 76-77, Sector -15, Part -I, Gurgaon Haryana -122001	North-As per the Sale Deed East-As per the Sale Deed South-As per the Sale Deed West-As per the Sale Deed	1. 5-Oct-19	2. 22-Jun-2020	3. Rs. 2,89,29,779/-

The above-mentioned Borrower(s)/Co-Borrower(s) Guarantor(s) /Mortgagor(s) are hereby given a 30 days' Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold on the expiry of 30 days' from the date of publication of this Notice, as per the provisions under the Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Date : 26-06 -2020  
Place : Delhi

Sd/-  
Authorized Officer,  
Axis Bank Ltd.,

**GOVT. OF MAHARASHTRA**  
Public Works Division, Pune - 411 001  
Phone No. 020/26122485 & 26122414 Fax No. 020/26122485  
Web- www.mahapwd.com & e-mail- pune.ee@mahapwd.com

**E-TENDER NOTIFICATION NO. 1 FOR 2020-2021 (Short Period)**  
**Corrigendum No. 5**

This office e-Tender Notice No. 1 For 2020-2021 and Corrigendum No. 1 Published in Daily New Paper and any technical reasons Please read the changes for Work Name, Estimated Cost and Tender time schedule as mentioned below for **Work No. 4.**

Name of Work	Providing, Supplying, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Fire Fighting and Fire Detection Services and Installation of Tensile Fabric Roof and Miscellaneous Civil Work in G+11 Multistoried Building and Martuary Building at Sassoon General Hospital and B. J. Medical College Pune.
Estimate Cost	Rs. 3,95,40,486/-
Last Date of Sale of Tender Document	Dt. 06/07/2020 @ 18.00 hrs.
Pre-bid Meeting	Dt. 01/07/2020 @ 11.00 hrs. In the Office of The Chief Engineer, P.W. Region, New Central Building, Pune -1.
Last Date of online Submission of Tender	Dt. 06/07/2020 @ 18.00 hrs.
Period of online Tender opening	Dt. 08/07/2020 @ 10.00 hrs. (If Possible)

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer,  
Public Work Division,  
Pune 411001.

# Indians' money in Swiss banks down 6% in 2019

Hits third lowest in over

PTI ■ NEW DELHI/ZURICH

Funds parked by Indian individuals and enterprises in Swiss banks, including through India-based branches, fell nearly 6 per cent in 2019 to 899 million Swiss francs (₹6,625 crore), annual data from Switzerland's central bank showed on Thursday. This marks the second consecutive year of decline in aggregate funds of Indian clients with all Swiss banks, taking the figure to the third low-

est level in more than three decades since 1987 when the Swiss National Bank (SNB) began compiling the data.

The total amount of CHF 899.46 million, described by the SNB as aggregate 'liabilities' of Swiss banks or amounts due to their Indian clients at the end of 2019, included CHF 550 million (over ₹4,000 crore) of customer deposits; CHF 88 million (₹650 crore) held via other banks; 7.4 million (₹50 crore) through fiduciaries or trusts; and CHF 254 million (₹1,900 crore) as 'other amounts due to customers' in form of securities and various financial instruments. All the

four components declined during 2019. These are official figures reported by banks to the SNB and do not indicate the quantum of the much-debated alleged black money held by Indians in Switzerland. These figures also do not include the money that Indians, NRIs or others might have in Swiss banks in names of third-country entities.

According to the SNB, its data for 'total liabilities' of Swiss banks towards Indian clients takes into account all types of funds of Indian customers at Swiss banks, including deposits from individuals, banks and enterprises.

# Stocks edge higher on Wall Street following mixed data

AP ■ WASHINGTON

Stocks edged higher on Wall Street in early trading Thursday as investors weigh a mixed batch of economic reports highlighting the damage that the coronavirus lockdowns have inflicted on the economy.

The S&P 500 was up 0.2 per cent, recovering from an initial slide of 0.9 per cent. Gains in the financial, energy and technology sectors helped lift the market, outweighing losses in companies that rely on consumer spending, utilities stocks and elsewhere. Bond yields fell, another sign of caution in the market.

The Commerce Department said that the US economy shrank at a 5 per cent rate in the first three months of the year. A far worse decline is

expected for the current quarter due to the pandemic. The Labor Department said another 1.5 million laid-off workers applied for unemployment benefits last week. That marks the 12th straight drop, a sign that layoffs are slowing, but remain at a painfully high level.

On a more encouraging note, the government said orders to American factories for big-ticket goods rebounded last month from a steep pullback in April and March as the economy began to slowly reopen.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 93 points, or 0.4 per cent, to 25,538. The Nasdaq, which hit an all-time high earlier this week, gained 0.1 per cent. Small company stocks were faring worse than the rest of the market.

# Sebi relaxes preferential issue pricing norms; makes fund raising easier for cos amid COVID-19

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The regulator's board, during its meeting on Thursday, also cleared amendments to insider trading regulations and decided to streamline settlement regulations to make procedures faster and more effective.

Sebi has decided to allow acquisition of shares through stock exchange settlement process by way of bulk or block deals during an open offer subject to certain conditions.

Experts opined that changes in the pricing guide-

lines for preferential issues would help promoters and investors to infuse funds into companies that are facing various challenges due to the pandemic.

Providing a "temporary" relaxation, Sebi said there would be an additional option for pricing methodology with respect to preferential issues. In cases where the new option is exercised, there would be the requirement of three-year lock-in period for such shares.

In a statement issued after the board meeting, the regulator said there have been

numerous representations from various stakeholders for temporarily liberalising regulations relating to raising of capital from securities market.

The option in pricing would be available for the preferential issues made between July 1 or date of notification of amendment to the regulations, whichever is later, and December 31.

Under this option, in case of frequently traded shares, the price of the equity shares to be allotted pursuant to the preferential issue should not be less than higher of either of two levels.

# US GDP fell at 5.0% rate in Q1

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The US economy shrank at a 5.0% rate in the first quarter with a much worse decline expected in the current three-month economic period because of the coronavirus pandemic. Commerce Dept reported on Thursday that the decline in the gross domestic product, the total output of goods and services, in the Jan-Mar quarter was unchanged from the estimate made a month ago. That was the sharpest quarterly decline since an 8.4% fall in the fourth quarter of 2008 during the depths of the financial crisis. The first quarter decline reflected just two weeks of the shutdowns that began in many parts of the country in mid-March.

# Nirmala Sitharaman rues import of even Ganesha idols from China

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said on Thursday there was nothing wrong in imports to spur growth but wondered why even Ganesha idols should be bought from China. Importing raw materials that were not available in the country and needed for our industries was not wrong, she said addressing the BJP's Tamil Nadu unit workers via a virtual link. "There is nothing wrong in imports that would spur production and create job opportunities and it can be done definitely," she said while speaking on the Centre's Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan initiative. However, imports that could

not bring benefits like employment opportunities and support growth would not help self-reliance and the Indian economy, she said. Ganesha idols made of clay have been traditionally bought from the local potters during Ganesha Chaturthi festival every year, she said. "But today, why even Ganesha idols are imported from China... why such a situation... can't we make a Ganesha idol from clay, is it the situation?" she asked. She wondered if importing household products used every day like a soap-box, plastic items or incense sticks used for pooja purposes would support self-reliance especially when such products were made locally by Indian firms.

# Isolation coaches set up Northern Rlys at Shakuribasti

NEW DELHI: In an attempt to provide additional quarantine centers during the ongoing global health crisis of coronavirus 'Covid-19' Indian Railways had converted its mobile coaches as isolation centers.

These coaches considered as additional health facility have an advantage as they can be moved anywhere in the country through the rail network in a short time where ever the health care facilities are limited. On the demand of the Delhi Govt, Northern Railway had placed 503 isolation coaches at 9 stations of Delhi area since 17.06.2020.

# Republic of Mali has awarded Project Management Consultancy contract to NTPC

New Delhi: In an event held on 24th June, 2020, chaired by the Hon'ble Minister of State for Power, NRE, Skill Development and President of International Solar Alliance (ISA), Mr RK Singh and Honorable Ambassador of Mali HE Sekou Kasse handed over the Project Management Consultancy award letter to Mr. Gurdeep Singh, CMD NTPC, for development of 500 MW Solar park in the Republic of Mali.

ISA is an international, inter-Governmental organisation, based in India, created with the vision and leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister, Sh. Narendra Modi and announced jointly with President of France during

COP21 held in Paris in 2015. ISA's vision is for a large-scale solar revolution, hinges on creating a facilitative international ecosystem that enables access to science and economic resources, reduces the cost of technology and capital, facilitates price reduction, and enables development of storage technology and innovation. With its scale and authoritative understanding of the energy transition opportunities of diverse economies, ISA is the world's foremost energy transition catalyst for bringing a change from energy poverty to energy empowerment.

The event was hosted by ISA in the Ministry of Renewable Energy, New Delhi, and graced by the dignitaries.

# GM Northern Railway inspects Covid care centre

NEW DELHI: General Manager Northern & North Central Railways, Sh. Rajiv Chaudhry visited the Covid Care Centre set up at Shakurbasti Railway station. The Centre has been created using 50 Isolation coaches provided for this purpose.

He took stock of the facility, he was briefed about the work done by Northern Railway in maintaining the coaches and the premises. Addressing Railway and State government officials present there GM encouraged and appreciated the efforts being put in by them to mitigate the suffering of the people due to the pandemic. Interacting with



the media Sh. Chaudhry said that the Indian Railways will put in all its efforts and resources to help the Nation overcome this crisis. As more and more patients are coming in to stay in these coaches we are enhancing the amenities. He also added that 503 isolation coaches have been placed in different stations of Delhi Area to be used as Covid care centers by the Delhi Govt if need arises.

# Boycotting Chinese products may not be feasible: FIEO

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Boycotting Chinese products may not be feasible for India as the domestic industry is dependent on inputs from the neighbouring country, the Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) said on Thursday. FIEO president SK Saraf said that India needs to be cautious while banning or restricting Chinese goods. It is "not feasible as we are dependent so much on Chinese products," he told reporters. India can cut its dependence on Chinese goods only when it becomes self-reliant and start producing same

goods in India or source from other markets.

In the wake of increasing border tensions between the two countries, voices are getting stronger to restrict or boycott Chinese goods in the country.

He added that it should be left with the people whether they want to buy Chinese goods or not.

FIEO director general Ajay Sahai said "knee jerk" reaction on Chinese goods is not good.

According to the federation, India's exports to China grew from \$16.5 to \$16.95 billion in 2019 while imports declined from \$73.8 billion to \$68.2 billion in 2019.

# People with no income still higher than pre-COVID levels, poor most affected by crisis: Study

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The COVID-19 pandemic has been difficult for the country's poor going by income generation and consumption data, according to an analysis of data of 5 lakh people for May by a credit risk assessment company.

The COVID-19-induced lockdown that started on March 25 and is yet to be lifted has hit the economic activity. Sights of millions of walking, cycling or hitching rides back home have led to concerns over sustainability for the poor. Private think-tank CMIE

had said that unemployment in India had risen to 27 per cent as of May 3 and has improved later. In its analysis, Creditvidya said even though there was a decline in the number of people with no income in May at 7.5 per cent of the workforce as against 9 per cent in April, the same was elevated when compared with the pre-COVID levels of 6 per cent.

However, incomes seem to be muted, as the percentage of workforce with earning less than ₹3,000 a month continues to be elevated at 24 per cent of the workforce as against 15 per cent before the onset of the crisis, it said.

"Covid-19 has magnified the fault lines within the consumer economy, especially income inequality," it said. On the usage front, it pointed to the mass market segment (those earning between ₹10,000-20,000 per month) data, which is showing a 40 per cent decline in consumption as compared to the pre-COVID levels.

The mass market segment constitutes for 70 per cent of the population, it said, adding that consumption declines are prevalent in the other 30 per cent as well for May.



Narendra Bhusan, Chief Executive Officer, Greater Noida Industrial development authority, and Covid-19 in charge took meeting to analyse surveillance activities in containment zones and gave guidelines run the operations

# APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that this person Named: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: 40-45 Years approx, Sex: Male, Height: 5'7" approx, Complexion: Wheatish, Wearing: Blue shirt and black jeans pant has been found dead on 21.06.2020 in front of Rawalpindi Jewellers, in the area of PS Subzi Mandi, Delhi.

In this regard a DD No. 18A, dated 21.06.2020 has been lodged at P.S. Subzi Mandi, Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this person but no clue has come to light so far.

Any person having any information or clue about this person may kindly inform to the following.

SHO P.S. Subzi Mandi, Delhi DP/309/N/2020(UIDB) Ph.: 011-23823161, 23827354

# APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of male Namely: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: about 48 years, Height: 5' 8", Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Oval, Hair: Black & White, Wearing: Blue colour pant & yellow colour T-Shirt, who was found dead at National Highways-08 opposite NH-8 in Delhi. In this regard a case DD No. 61A Dated 20.06.2020 has been registered at P.S. Vasant Kunj, Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone nos.

Sd/- SHO P.S. Vasant Kunj, Delhi DP/166/SW/2020(UIDB) Tel.: 011-26139361, 9650698123

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
TENDER NOTICE  
Name of work: Fabrication, supply, installation & commissioning of rain water arrester for roof in LHB type AC coaches (1st AC, II AC, Chair Car & Pantry Car) of Delhi Division. Tender No.: 30-Elect-IT-Chg-2020-21. Approx cost of the work in (Rs.): Rs. 31,59,000/-. Cost of tender form : Rs. 3,540/-. Address of the Office: Sr. Div. Elect Engineer/Chg/Northern Railway, New Delhi. Earnest Money: Rs. 63,200/-.

**SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY**  
TENDER NOTICE No. 09/2020 Dated: 22/06/2020  
The undersigned on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Open Tender through IREPS only for supply of following items: Tender closing Time: 14:00 Hrs.

Sl	Tender No.	Description in brief	Qty.	Tender Due on
1	38201354	Coupler Body for Non- Transition CBC.	220 Nos.	02.07.2020
2	75201053A	Densified Thermal Bonded Polyester Blocks.	6087 Nos.	09.07.2020
3	17205015	Dumper Primary Vertical 13.83 mm.	200 Nos.	09.07.2020
4	17205017	Gear case assembly kit consisting 8 items.	40 Nos.	09.07.2020
5	50201052	Lead acid cell 2 volt 80 AH.	6178 Nos.	09.07.2020
6	17205016	Set of Brake hanger assemblies.	20 Sets.	10.07.2020
7	18205016	Dynamic brake contractor repair kit.	300 Nos.	11.07.2020
8	30201250	Kit of brake gear bushes for bogie mounted brake cylinder air brake coaches consisting of 5 items.	1700 Sets.	13.07.2020
9	45201289	Starter lead acid battery capacity 8V/290AH.	67 Nos.	13.07.2020
10	33201077B	Brake calliper unit left and right version.	75 Nos.	13.07.2020
11	33201088E	Brake disc for wheel set for LHB.	185 Nos.	14.07.2020
12	30201438	Anchor link assembly.	2600 Nos.	14.07.2020
13	12205001	MG Excitation Controller.	2 Nos.	15.07.2020
14	56201093	PVC Insulated, Armoured, Unscreened, Underground Railway Signalling Cable Copper conductor conforming.	300 KM	15.07.2020
15	18201123	Contactors ST to EMD Part No.9325207.	56 Nos.	15.07.2020
16	18205013	Relay AC lamp proving plug-in-type, style QECX 'AC-Led' all aspects. Relay unit with in-built current transformer type.	30 Nos.	15.07.2020
17	45201080	Brushless DC (BLDC) Railway carriage fans, 110V.	2141 Nos.	15.07.2020
18	17205020	Brake Controller to NYAB/KBL.	10 Nos.	16.07.2020
19	30201329	Foot Step arrangement assembly complete.	3000 Nos.	16.07.2020
20	33201234	Inter car gangway.	200 Nos.	16.07.2020
21	33201030A	Secondary lateral damper.	465 Nos.	16.07.2020
22	56201017	Relay AC lamp proving plug-in-type, style QECX 'AC-Led' all aspects. Relay unit with in-built current transformer type.	3000 Nos.	20.07.2020
23	301911018	Rear Cover for axle box (Aluminium die casting).	5150 Nos.	21.07.2020
24	30201692	Set of lavatory doors arrangement for Non-AC coaches.	230 Sets.	21.07.2020
25	30201100	Axle box Housing Finished.	800 Nos.	23.07.2020
26	30205002	Supply of Stainless steel modular toilet for Double acting hydraulic shock absorber for vertical application.	140 Sets.	23.07.2020
27	30201177	Double acting hydraulic shock absorber for vertical application.	590 Nos.	23.07.2020
28	33201032A	Secondary vertical damper.	1290 Nos.	23.07.2020
29	30201362	Enhanced draw hook.	300 Nos.	28.07.2020
30	30201684	Foot Plate arrangement for UIC Vestibule.	300 Nos.	04.08.2020

For details log on to website: www.ireps.gov.in  
PUB/78/AA/PRB/SWR/2020-21 Principal Chief Materials Manager, Hubballi

# UNIDENTIFIED DEAD BODY



General Public is hereby informed that one person Namely: Unknown S/o: Unknown, Address: Unknown was found dead under Hanuman Mandir Flyover, Kashmir Gate, Delhi on 08.06.2020 in the area of P.S. Kashmere Gate, Delhi. In this regard a

case has been lodged vide DD No. 06A UJ/ 174 Cr.PC dated 08.06.2020 at P.S. Kashmere Gate, Delhi. The description of the dead person is as under: -Age: Approx 35 years, Sex: Male, Height: 4'11", Complexion: Shallow, Face: Round, Built: Medium, Wearing: Pink colour T-shirt and black colour lower. If any one having any information about this dead person please inform undersigned.

SHO P.S. Kashmere Gate, Delhi DP/305/N/2020 Ph.: 011-23967889, 8750870123

# Appeal For Identification



General public is hereby informed that this person Name : Unknown S/o : Unknown, R/o : Unknown, Age : 30-35 Years, Sex : Male, Height : 5 Ft. 5 Inch, Complexion : Wheatish, Face : Long, Built : Thin, Black : Black, Wearing : Checkdar Nikkar and Bare Footed, has been found dead on 17.06.2020 on Footpath, In Front of Shop No. 1481, Elgin Electronics, Opp. Gauri Shankar Mandir, Chandni

Chowk, Delhi and dead body preserved in Subzi Mandi Mortuary for 72 hours. In this regard a DD No. 56-A Dated 17.06.2020 has been lodged at P.S. Kotwali, Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this person but no clue has come to light so far.

Any person having any information or clue about this person may kindly inform to the following.

SHO DP/303/N/2020(UIDB) Ph.: 011-23977100, 8750870121

# WESTERN RAILWAY

**PLASTIC BOTTLE CRUSHING MACHINES**  
e-Tender Notice No. CA11 Bottle Crushing 20 Dated: 24.06.2020 Deptt: Commercial Executive: Sr. DCM Work and location: Tender for Supply, Installation, Operation & Maintenance of 33 Plastic Bottle Crushing Machine (PBCMs) at 23 stations over Mumbai Division of Western Railway, on self-financing and license fees basis with opportunity to generate revenue through advertisement rights on body of machine and by sale of Plastic Flakes. (Stations are : Marinelines, Charni Road, Grant Road, Mahalaxmi, Khar Road, Santacruz, Vileparle, Jogeshwari, Goregaon, Dahisar, Mira Road, Bhayandar, Naigaon, Palghar, Boisar, Umergaon, Billimora, Udvarda, Vapi, Valsad, Navsari, Udhna Jn., Surat) First Year Reserve Price: ₹ 1/- (Excluding Taxes, etc.) Approx. Cost of work: ₹ 61 for 5 yrs (Excluding Taxes, etc.) Cost of Tender Form: ₹1,000/- EMD: ₹5,000/- Website where Tender Form is available: www.ireps.gov.in Completion Period: Five Years Date & Time of Closing of Online report: Approx. Cost of work: ₹ 88,73,70,507.72/- EMD: ₹5,96,900.00/- Date & Time of submission: on 28/07/2020 till 15:00 hrs. Date & time of opening: on 28/07/2020 at 15:30 hrs. Regarding detailed nature of work, containing cost of tender document (non refundable), EMD, eligibility criteria, similar nature of work, detailed tender conditions, please visit www.ireps.gov.in Manual offers will not be considered. D-15

# WESTERN RAILWAY

**ROB/FOB REPAIR WORK**  
Divisional Railway Manager (WA), Western Railway 6th Floor, Engrg. Deptt., Mumbai Central, Mumbai-400008 invite E-tender as per following details Executive: DEN (Br) BCT, Tender Notice No.: BCT/20-21/149, dtd. 25/06/2020. Work and location: Repairs to MCGM ROBs and MCGM FOBs including old staircases on condition basis etc. between Churchgate-Khar Section as per IT report. Approx. Cost of work: ₹ 88,73,70,507.72/- EMD: ₹5,96,900.00/- Date & Time of submission: on 28/07/2020 till 15:00 hrs. Date & time of opening: on 28/07/2020 at 15:30 hrs. Regarding detailed nature of work, containing cost of tender document (non refundable), EMD, eligibility criteria, similar nature of work, detailed tender conditions, please visit www.ireps.gov.in Manual offers will not be considered. D-15

# New Okhla Industrial Development Authority

Main Administrative Building, Sector-6, Noida, G.B. Nagar, (U.P.) Website : www.noidaauthorityonline.com

# E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tender are invited from firms/contractors registered with UPLC Locknow for the following jobs against which bids can be uploaded and same shall be opened/downloaded as per schedule mentioned. The details and conditions of all tenders are available on Noida Authority's official website: www.noidaauthorityonline.com http://etender.up.nic.in. Please ensure to see these websites for any changes/amendments & corrigendum etc.

- (A) 1. 09/GM(K)/SM-WC-10/ET/2020-21, Name of Work:- M/o Road (M/o Goal Chakkar at Sector-150) Noida, Cost - Rs. 30.21 Lacs
- 2. 04/GM(K)/SM-WC-7/ET/2020-21, Name of Work:- Strengthening of Road (P.L. DBM and BC Layer on NEPZ road Sector-81 to Irrigation drain in Sector-81) Noida, Cost - Rs. 43.73 Lacs
- 3. 10/AdvT./Tehsildar/2020-21, Name of Work:- ADVERTISING RIGHTS ON UNIPOLE ON SECTOR-16A & SECTOR-16B (FOR ONE YEAR) NOIDA, Cost - 69,12,000.00

Which can be uploaded by date 02.07.2020 upto 5.00PM. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on date 03.07.2020 at 11.00AM.

General Manager Noida CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA

## Trend Blazer

### 'Film on corrupt practices of B'wood'

Actor **ABHAY DEOL** has taken a dig at Bollywood, saying "one could make a film about the corrupt practices" prevailing in the film industry.

Abhay penned his thoughts on Instagram while recalling the shoot of his 2012 release, *Shanghai*, which revolves around the issue of corruption in politics.

"*Shanghai*, released in 2012. Directed by Dibakar Banerji, this film puts systemic corruption in politics front and center, with devastating impact. Extremely relevant today. Looks like these days one could make a film about the corrupt practices of Bollywood," he wrote.



**'My heart goes out to each person in the theatre industry who is going through these tough times. Our community has always been close-knit and we need all the support we can get. I am more than happy to do my bit for the people who have made me everything I am today. It is important that people unite to support the foundations of the theatre community.'**

—Aahana Kumra

Actor **AYUSHMANN KHURRANA** says he is a huge fan of Aamir Khan's work and that he learnt something from him even before he stepped into Bollywood.



He shared that he purposely didn't see the original version of *Shubh Mangal Saavdhan* because of the lesson he received from Aamir.

"I was an MTV presenter and I remember I was interviewing him for *Ghajini*. I asked him this question, 'How is the film different from the original?' He said, 'I've not seen the original'. I was really fascinated. So I found that to be a great lesson," said Ayushmann.

### 'Couldn't get Rachel off my back'

Actor **JENNIFER ANISTON** says her iconic role of Rachel Green in *Friends* left her feeling typecast in Hollywood, which she couldn't escape.

Aniston opened up about how difficult it was to "shed" her role, which she played for 10 seasons on *Friends*.

She said that things changed when she got the leading role in the 2002 film *The Good Girl*.

"*The Good Girl* was the first time I got to really shed whatever the Rachel character was, and to be able to disappear into someone who wasn't. That was such a relief to me. But I remember the panic that set over me, thinking — oh god! I don't know if I can do this. Maybe they're right," she recalled.



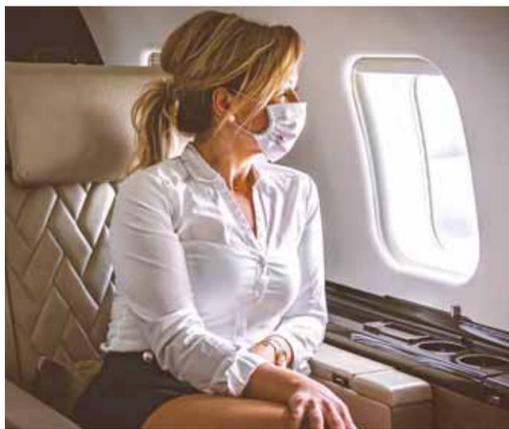
The post-pandemic world will spur a new travel segment, that of private charter fliers. And this may not be limited to the upper crust but open up to family groups, who may pool their dedicated budgets to hire an aircraft and fly to their destination and back. Instead of mini-breaks and vacations, there might be that just one big trip that people may splurge on. Companies, who traditionally flew their executives on first-class, are now finding it safer and more economical to fly the same group of people on a private aircraft. Or so an industry study would have us believe.

Unlike commercial airlines, private charters do not require you to pass through lengthy security screening, various touch points or come in contact with fellow travellers. Commercial fliers have over 200 touch points at the airport, while private jets have as little as 30. Instead, it gives you the assurance of exemplary safety record and cleanliness standards. Kanika Tekriwal, CEO and founder, JetSetGo Aviation, tells us that neither do the guests have to arrive early, nor do they have to face security queues at the airport. Without much of a stretch, one can avoid immigration and Customs during international flights and directly get on-board.

COVID-19 has completely

## CHANGE OF TRAVEL PLAN

Private charters are being hired by not just high-fliers but by regular commercial passengers and families pooling resources for safety, says SAKSHI SHARMA



**Unlike commercial airlines, private charters do not require you to pass through lengthy security screening, various touch points or come in contact with fellow travellers**

changed the way consumers engage with products and make their purchase decisions. Says Kanika, "Now safety and well-being are coming at a price. But people do not mind spending some extra amount for peace of mind during a break." She gets up to 20 enquiries a day on chartered flights, 70 per cent of which are from a new customer profile. "We are seeing a lot of requests coming from parents whose children were stuck in colleges or schools and from families who were stuck elsewhere apart from their hometown during the lockdown. There is also a big surge in requests from people who had sick parents or adults stuck in different cities. Also, we received requests from small businessmen who had travelled to close deals and were stuck," says she. There are some affordable options too like booking a seat rather than booking an entire plane and much more.

There are several companies that offer charter flights for

business travellers specifically. For PrivateFly, business aviation really matters as it saves time, both on the ground and in the air. EvoJets is another such company that specialises in arranging corporate air travel solutions that help businesses. There are various modern private business jets that come fully equipped with the latest business amenities, such as wireless internet and satellite phones. Some even have private boardrooms to conduct important meetings in-flight. Not only this, charter companies even organise business dinners which allow the traveller to optimally utilise his travel time.

Travel choices are going to be need-based more than indulgence, for example a family event, as per Nishant Pitti, EaseMyTrip CEO and co-founder. Says he, "Part of the new mindset of the jet set is now centered around social distancing, one of the essential guidelines for inhibiting the spread of COVID-19. So even though the travel sector as a whole is currently down, private jet demand is much stronger than it was before." Vares Chhokra, Regional Director, South Asia and Middle East, Cosmos Vacations, tells us that leisure travel may see temporary stress on demand due to changed personal financial dynamics but will probably mutate to a larger family outing.

### Excited to return as Kabir: Amit

Actor Amit Sadh's first look in *Breathe: Into The Shadows* has been unveiled. The actor, who is reprising his revered role as Inspector Kabir Sawant in the crime thriller web series, is seen mysteriously landing up in a jail, raising curiosity amongst the viewers.

Why is our beloved inspector in a prison? Was it a faux play of power and deceit or did he seriously commit a crime so grave that put him behind the bars? While we don't know the reason behind this new twist, it certainly adds an interesting layer to the mystery of this series.

Amit said, "Excited to return as Kabir in a new, unimaginable avatar! *Breathe* and Kabir have connected with fans all over the world and the show's theme of going the distance to protect the ones you love, has resonated all across. This new story has become even more special with Abhishek and Nithya joining in and together, we can't wait to take you back to the world of *Breathe*. This time, *Into The Shadows*." The series marks the digital debut of Abhishek Bachchan and Nithya Menen, who will be seen in the lead roles, along with Saiyami Kher.

(The Amazon Original is slated to release on July 10 on Amazon Prime Video.)



## How will the market evolve?

As the country emerges from the Chinese contagion, how will the Indian automotive market recover? A few thoughts on some trends that will emerge in the coming months



This will, in turn, hurt new car sales since replacement buying is traditionally 60 to 70 per cent of the sales. People are unsure of future incomes, many of us have seen salaries being cut. Buyers who changed cars the moment their loan periods ended will keep their current vehicle for an extended period of time even if they have not suffered a loss.

There is another interesting dynamic in the market of late, rising fuel prices and the situation in Delhi, where diesel is now more expensive than petrol. Now, this is actually in line with Europe, where

diesel costs more than petrol. But diesel still makes sense if you drive long distances as a diesel motor burns far more efficiently. That said, with the lakh plus price difference between a diesel and petrol vehicle, the cost benefit of diesel will not kick in until you start driving 2,500 kilometres a month at the very least. I'm a petrolhead and I've never been a huge fan of diesel. 'Dieselgate' did ruin many perceptions about diesel. Yes, on a per-gram of carbon basis, diesel is still cleaner per kilometre than petrol, but even BS6 diesel has far higher levels of

other pollutants such as NOx and Sulphur Dioxide. However, these prices should also drive a demand for more economical cars. Given that engines are already burning very lean, the two-litre petrol on the 2020 Hyundai Elantra that I'm driving currently is delivering a higher fuel economy (11.5 kmpl) than the 1.2 litre engine that was fitted on my old 2010 Hyundai i20 (approximately 11 kmpl). Both naturally aspirated engines from the same manufacturer.

So an additional economy will likely be driven by higher levels of hybrid technology in the

coming years — not just 'mild' hybrids with start-stop technology but more vehicles with 48V electrical systems and battery packs that will drive 20 to 30 per cent higher economy levels.

I do not believe India will move to an 'electric' future rapidly and there is a very simple reason for this, which is China. Recent geopolitical events have displayed that we cannot trust the neighbouring country, a push to further electrification will drive manufacturing value from Indian factories to China's giant battery plants. Hybrid vehicles will not

require the massive battery packs of full electric vehicles. Then there is the Fuel-Cell Vehicle issue and Hydrogen, where India's massive push towards renewable energy might work towards more hydrogen technology. While generating hydrogen is an energy negative process, we can use excess wind and solar capacity to electrolyse water and generate hydrogen as energy storage. Less dependence on China, Japan and South Korea (that is Toyota, Honda, Suzuki and Hyundai-Kia) are promoting the hydrogen alliance big-time. Watch this space.

What does the current geopolitical situation mean for the likes of Shanghai Automotive Industrial Corporation (MG Motor), their Hector, the plans of Great Wall Motor as well as all those Indian brands importing container loads of Chinese electric two-wheelers? Not good frankly, while I do not believe India can extricate from depending on Chinese components even for the automotive business anytime soon, given that the costs of Chinese components is so much lower in China. I do believe that this has been a monumental miscalculation by the Chinese administration and it will impact Chinese brands in India in the long-run. There is a reason that SAIC wanted everyone to believe that the MG Hector is a British car, but it is a Chinese car, designed and tested in China. It just wears a British badge. This is not like Jaguar Land Rover, which is a British firm owned by an Indian company or Volvo, a Swedish firm owned by China. This is a Chinese product with a British badge. There will be a short-term and medium-term impact here.

Anyway, there will be several other interesting trends to watch, including whether consumers will shift preferences away from large, expensive Sports Utility Vehicles towards smaller and more economical hatchbacks and sedans? How will price elasticity evolve in the Indian market and many more. All food for thought in the coming weeks and months.



was estimated to be valued at \$18.5 billion, and by 2025, it is expected to reach \$40.6 billion. Plant-based sources of protein are a win-win situation for both your health as well as the health of the planet. However, it is essential to mix up the sources so that no vital components are missing. Legumes such as lentils, beans, peas, peanuts, nuts; and seeds like almonds, walnuts, hazelnuts, pecans, chia seeds; whole grains such as teff, wheat, oats, buckwheat, serve as great sources of protein. One can also go for vegetables that are a great storehouse of protein, such as broccoli, asparagus, Brussels sprouts and corn.

There are many naturally growing superfoods that are responsible for improving the overall immune system of the body. These include spirulina, kale, acai berries, mushrooms, kiwi, beets, cauliflower, spinach, cacao, ginger, cinnamon, green tea, to name a few. Superfoods are usually rich in antioxidants that help in preventing cancer and the fibre keeps diabetes at bay along with digestive problems. Although the Indian diet already contained most of the superfoods, people have now consciously started including them in their plant-based diets. They are also known to reduce inflammation, regulate metabolism, and shield the organs from toxins.

While it might be difficult to get all the nutrients when strictly on a plant-based diet, which makes it essential to add plant-based supplements to ensure that the body gets all the nutrition it needs. These supplements are known to offer various health benefits that are often difficult to source from those which are loaded with artificial ingredients. To give a brief overview, these supplements are organically made from fruits, vegetables, spices, nuts, seeds, leaves and other natural ingredients. Plant-based supplements are minimally processed, thereby reducing the toxicity risk.

Plant-based ingredients provide improved bioavailability, which means the body can effortlessly handle and use the nutrients that it receives. Also, plants are the ultimate source of a complete range of vitamins, minerals, phytonutrients and aromatic oils. All these nutrients tend to work together and removing one of them will deprive the body from an overall growth. They contain all the vital co-nutrients as they are directly extracted from the plants. Additionally, since they do not include any artificial flavours, chemicals, and fillers, the supplements retain the natural taste, which is also a great way to check the quality.

While most of us like to play safe while choosing our food, it is equally important to choose them wisely. Plant-based diet when coupled with plant-based supplements can help in achieving the desired health and warding off physical complications.

*(The writer, MIHIR GADANI is the co-founder of OZIVA.)*

# A ladle and a stir

TLC's latest show, *The Missing Apron*, helps to instill confidence in those who worry about not being able to cook



Over the last two-three months, many of us have been forced to enter the kitchen and don that apron we have barely touched until now. Some people have embraced the challenge wholeheartedly and are chronicling their adventures on social media with #QuarantineCooking, while there are still a few others who seem to be finding it difficult to tell apart the *karchhi* from the *kadhahi*.

To help all those who're keen to learn easy to do recipes, TLC launched an interesting new show titled — *The Missing Apron* — where Cyrus Sahukar learns easy-peasy-lemon-squeezy cooking tips and some mouth-watering food under renowned chef Ananya Banerjee's guidance from the comfort of his own home. The show, supported by Rooh Afza and India Gate, is all set to tickle your taste buds.

Cyrus Sahukar said, "It's been so many days alone at home without knowing anything about cooking. I have realised that not everyone wants to be a masterchef. Sometimes you just want to get away by a couple of easy to cook recipes. Shows like this provides access to three ingredients recipes to all those who doesn't like to spend much time on tedious cuisines. The Sous Chef takes inspiration from this reality



and parallels our everyday as I learn cooking online from chef Ananya Banerjee. I think everybody can easily connect to this show.

Elaborating further, chef Ananya Banerjee said, "Cooking can seem like a daunting task if one isn't used to entering the kitchen. However, once you start cooking, you realise that it's not that difficult. And sometimes, the simplest of recipes can yield the most delicious of results. The idea of *The Missing Apron* is to instill confidence in those who worry about not being able to cook. One doesn't need to be a professional chef to create wonderful meals. A little bit of patience and some creativity can help anyone turn into a good cook."

# PUTTING HEALTH FIRST

A plant-based diet has many benefits as it is primarily responsible for improving the overall immune system of our body



The world is increasingly subscribing to the idea of a plant-based diet owing to its myriad health benefits. A healthy plant-based diet serves as a potent option when it comes to curbing lifestyle diseases such as obesity and even the more risky ones, such as cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes and more. This diet is low in fat, and therefore, reduces the chances of cholesterol, control blood pressure and helps in losing weight.

There is no denying the truth that India is on its way to becoming the breeding ground of some deadly ailments, such as diabetes and other cardiovascular diseases. And many researchers claim that consuming a plant-based diet will significant-

ly help in lowering the risk of such illnesses by about 40 per cent. As a result, Indians are becoming aware of the benefits of a plant-based diet, which is slowly entering the mainstream. The trend is particularly prevalent among people who identify themselves as environmentalists and animal lovers.

One of the main reasons why India is marching towards a plant-based diet is that the social media has played an unquestionable role in influencing the younger generation. The internet is strewn with influencers who bust all the stereotypes that usually revolve around plant-based diets. Therefore, the internet, as a global platform, has helped people in looking at what it really is.

Consequently, more Indians are coming forward and signing up for a life that is sustainable, ethical, healthy and driven by compassion with the help of a plant-based diet.

A balanced plant-based diet should consist of grains, fruits, vegetables and legumes. Moreover, traditionally Indian staple diet includes pulses, cereals, legumes and sprouts, making a meat-free diet reasonably easy to follow.

Apart from the more general nutrients that one can derive from a plant-based diet, plant proteins and superfoods, specifically stand out due to their unparalleled health advantages. Moreover, the plant protein market has witnessed a substantial growth globally. In 2019, the market

## R E C I P E S



### GOAT CHEESE, GRIDDLED CHERRY AND GREMOLATA TOAST

**WHAT YOU NEED**

- Small bunch flat leaf parsley (roughly chopped)
- Zest of 1 orange
- Small clove of garlic (minced): 1
- Extra virgin olive oil: 2 tbsps
- A pinch of salt and pepper
- Cherries (cut in half and destoned): 100 gm
- Sourdough bread: 8 slices
- Soft goats' cheese: 120 gm
- California walnuts (toasted and roughly chopped): 60 gm

**METHOD**

- To make the gremolata, mix together the parsley, orange zest, garlic, extra virgin olive oil and season to taste.
- Heat a griddle pan until searing hot. Then place the cherries in cut side down. Sear for two minutes.
- Lightly toast the bread until golden brown and spread goats' cheese on top of each slice. Top each toast with the cherries, gremolata and finish with a sprinkle of walnuts to serve.

Courtesy: Celebrity chef Sabhyasachi Gorai.

**CHICKEN MOLE**

**WHAT YOU NEED**

- Peanut oil: 1 tbsps
- Skinless boneless chicken thighs: 2 pounds
- Chicken stock: 1 cup
- Orange juice: 1 cup
- Onions (sliced): 1 pound
- Almonds (sliced): 1/2 cup
- Garlic cloves (sliced): 2
- Cumin seeds: 2 tsp
- Coriander seeds: 2 tsp
- Dried red chillies (stemmed, seeded and rinsed): 2 ounces
- Raisins: 1/4 cup
- Orange peel (orange part only)
- Oregano (dried): 1/2 tsp
- Mexican chocolate (chopped): 100 gm

**METHOD**

- Fresh cilantro (chopped):
- Mexican chocolate (chopped): 100 gm
- Prunes (dried)
- Sugar poached apricots

● Heat one tablespoon oil in a large pot over medium-high heat.

● Sprinkle chicken on both sides with salt and pepper. Add chicken leg to pot; sauté until lightly browned and add more oil as needed for about three minutes per side.

● Transfer chicken to large bowl.

● Return chicken and any juices to pot. Add broth and orange juice; bring just to boil.

Reduce heat to medium-low; cover and simmer until chicken is tender and just cooked through for about 25 minutes.

● Meanwhile heat one tablespoon oil in heavy large saucepan over medium-high heat. Add onions and sauté until golden brown for about 18 minutes.

● Reduce heat to medium. Add almonds, garlic, cumin and coriander. Sauté until nuts and garlic begin to colour for about two minutes. Add chilli and stir until beginning to soften, about two minutes.

● Using tongs, transfer chicken to large bowl. Pour chicken cooking liquid into



saucepan with onion mixture (reserve pot). Add raisins, orange peel, and oregano to saucepan.

● Cover and simmer until chillies are very soft, stirring occasionally, about 30 minutes. Remove from heat; add chocolate. Let it stand until chocolate melts and sauce mixture cools slightly for about 15 minutes.

● Working in small batches, transfer sauce mixture to blender and puree until smooth; return to reserved pot. Season sauce to taste with salt and pepper. Coarsely shred chicken and return to sauce; stir to coat.

● Garnish with micro greens.

Courtesy: Executive chef Saurabh Srivastava, Aloft Hotels.

**SPICED ALMOND BANANA JAGGERY CAKE**

**WHAT YOU NEED**

- Butter (unsalted): 1/2 cup
- Jaggery powder: 1/2 cup
- Cinnamon: 1 1/2 tsp
- Nutmeg (ground): 1/4 tsp
- Almonds (sliced): 1/2 cup
- Sugar: 3/4 cup
- Eggs: 3
- Orange zest: 2 tsp
- Banana (ripped and mashed): 1 1/4 tsp
- All-purpose flour: 3 cups
- Baking powder: 1 1/2 tsp
- Baking soda: 1 tsp
- Salt: 1/2 tsp
- Buttermilk: 2/3 cup

**METHOD**

- Melt 1/4 cup of the butter and pour two tablespoons of the melted butter into an eight-cup pan.
- Brush the butter over pan sides and bottom. Mix together



jaggery, cinnamon, nutmeg and almonds.

● Sprinkle the bottom of pan with half the jaggery mixture; combine the remaining mixture with the remaining melted butter

and set it aside.

- In a large bowl, beat remaining 1/4 cup butter with granulated sugar until blended. Beat in eggs, one at a time, until blended. Then beat in mashed banana.
- Mix all-purpose flour, baking powder, soda and salt. Add to banana mixture along with the buttermilk; stir until well blended.
- Pour half the batter into prepared pan. Spoon remaining jaggery sugar mixture evenly over top; cover with remaining batter.
- Bake in a 180 degree oven for about 50 minutes until a long wood skewer inserted into the thickest part of the cake comes out clean.
- Cool the cake on a rack for about five minutes.
- Invert cake onto a serving plate. Serve the cake warm or cool.

Courtesy: Chef Manish Malhotra, Indian Accent.

**ONION BHAJJIS**

**WHAT YOU NEED**

- Onions (sliced)
- Besan
- Ajwain
- Cumin seeds
- Turmeric powder
- Red chilli powder
- Salt

**METHOD**

- Add three to tablespoon besan to the onions in a bowl.
- Then add one tablespoon of Ajwain, cumin, turmeric, red chilli powder and salt as required.
- Add little water, mix and keep it aside for 10 minutes.
- Pre heat oil in a pan.
- Make small dumplings of the mixture and deep fry it till it gets golden brown.
- Stain the oil. Use napkins to remove excess oil.
- Serve the hot and crispy bhajjis with sauce.

Courtesy: Chef Sandesh Kore, Lecturer, ITM Institute of Hotel Management.



# ONE STEP CLOSER

Fabinho's masterclass puts Liverpool on cusp of first English title in three decades

AFP ■ LIVERPOOL

Liverpool are on the brink of clinching the Premier League title after the leaders powered to a 4-0 win against Crystal Palace, while Anthony Martial hit a hat-trick in Manchester United's 3-0 victory over Sheffield United on Wednesday.

Jürgen Klopp's side took control thanks to first-half goals from Trent Alexander-Arnold and Mohamed Salah behind closed doors at Anfield.

Fabinho and Sadio Mané netted after the interval and Liverpool will be crowned champions if Manchester City fail to beat Chelsea at Stamford Bridge on Thursday.

If second-placed City win in west London, then Liverpool could wrap up their first English title for 30 years in their next game — against Pep Guardiola's side at the Etihad Stadium on July 2.

"Imagine if the stadium could have been full and people could have experienced that Live. It would have been amazing," Klopp said.

"The atmosphere on the pitch was incredible. That was the best counter-pressing game I have ever seen behind closed doors. The attitude the boys showed was amazing."

Asked if he would be watching when City face Chelsea, Klopp added: "Tonight was a big step, that's clear. I have to watch the game tomorrow because we play them one week later. That's being professional and doing my job."

After a drab goalless draw at Merseyside rivals Everton on Sunday, the champions-elect were far more vibrant and Alexander-Arnold opened the scoring with a superb free-kick in the 23rd minute.



Fabinho scores Liverpool's third goal against Crystal Palace during Premier League clash at Anfield on Wednesday

AP

Salah doubled the lead in the 44th minute, taking Fabinho's lofted pass and guiding in his 21st goal of the season.

Fabinho scored with a thunderous 30-yard strike in the 55th minute and Mané capped a fine move in the 69th minute as Liverpool moved 23 points clear of City.



**MARTIAL'S HAT-TRICK**  
United are still far off challenging again for titles at the top of the table, but there are growing signs of momentum for Ole Gunnar



Solskjaer's men as they extended their unbeaten run to 13 games. Martial produced two predatory first-time finishes before half-time to put United in command at Old Trafford.

The hosts could have piled on much more pain after the break, but were content with one more goal as Martial completed his first career hat-trick with a cheeky chip from Marcus Rashford's pass.

**'DREAM BIG'**  
Fifth-place could still be good enough for a place in next season's

"We've worked hard for this over the past few years and as a squad this is what we've dreamed of. We're in a good position so hopefully we'll be able to get across the line pretty soon."

— TRENT ALEXANDER-ARNOLD

"Since I came here I said I want to win the Premier League with the team. The city didn't win it for a long time, so it was the right time."

— MOHAMED SALAH

"It was the best counter-pressing behind closed doors ever. The attitude we showed tonight, the passion we showed, was exceptional and we played some outstanding football."

— JURGEN KLOPP

Champions League depending on the outcome of City's appeal against a two-season ban from European competition.

And Wolves remain level on points with United in fifth after continuing their perfect restart with a 1-0 win over Bournemouth.

Just as in a 2-0 victory at West Ham on Saturday, Adama Traore and Raul Jimenez combined to break the deadlock as the Mexican powered home a header for his 24th goal of the season.

Defeat leaves Bournemouth still in the bottom three on goal difference and there are now three teams tied on 27 points as Aston Villa struck late to claim a 1-1 draw at Newcastle.

While any hope of Norwich hauling themselves out of trouble now looks forlorn as the Canaries fell to a second home defeat in a week.

Michael Keane scored the only goal as Everton won 1-0 at Carrow Road to move above Arsenal into 10th. Norwich remain rock bottom, six points adrift of safety.

# Captain Fantastic

Ramos scores stunning free-kick in Real's win

AFP ■ MADRID

Sergio Ramos' sensational free-kick helped Real Madrid move back above Barcelona to the top of La Liga as they defeated Real Mallorca 2-0 on Wednesday.

Ramos brushed aside Gareth Bale to take the shot and justified his claim with a curling strike into the top corner after 19-year-old Vinicius Junior had put Madrid in front in the first half.

Madrid's victory at the Alfredo di Stefano Stadium means they are level again on points with Barcelona but sit above their title rivals in the table due to a superior head-to-head record.

"There are seven finals left," said Ramos. "There will be only one league in the year of coronavirus and we want to win it for the fans."

Bale has been hardly used since La Liga resumed on June 11 but Zinedine Zidane continued his rotation policy and handed the Welshman his first start since February 16.

Yet an underwhelming display is unlikely to push Bale back into Zidane's preferred eleven as Vinicius enhanced his case with another lively, if erratic, performance.

The Brazilian also hit the crossbar in the first half. "I'm very happy with the team's performance and my own," said Vinicius.

"I worked very hard at home to get in this shape. This run of matches is like a World Cup, you have to be in the right shape every three days and



Ramos scores stunning free-kick in Real's win

fired up." Ramos, though, stole the show with his brilliant free-kick, taking his personal tally to a career-best eight goals for the season, after he became La Liga's highest ever scoring defender on Sunday by scoring a penalty against Real Sociedad.

The only worry for Madrid was that Eden Hazard was taken off shortly after the hour, raising doubts over whether the Belgian is fully fit or completely confident in his troublesome ankle.

There was also time at the end for history to be made as Mallorca's Luka Romero became the youngest player ever to play in La Liga, aged 15 years and 219 days.

Earlier, Real Sociedad suffered a third consecutive defeat at home to Celta Vigo to leave their challenge for Champions League qualification in tatters.

Iago Aspas' penalty on the stroke of half-time was enough to seal a 1-0 victory for Celta Vigo, who move eight points clear of Mallorca in 18th.



## US Open to hold wheelchair event



AP ■ NEW YORK

US Open organisers said on Wednesday they will include a wheelchair tournament at this year's Grand Slam following a player backlash over their decision to scrap the event as part of measures to curb the spread of Covid-19.

The United States Tennis Association's announcement comes five days after the national governing body said it was rethinking their decision and that it could have better communicated with wheelchair athletes.

"The decision was made following multiple virtual meetings with a group of wheelchair athletes and the International Tennis Federation over the last week," the USTA said in a statement.

"The 2020 US Open Wheelchair Competition will feature men's and women's singles and doubles and quad singles and doubles, with draw sizes similar to past US Opens."

## Dope-cleared Sanjita to get Arjuna

**NEW DELHI:** Cleared of doping taint, two-time Commonwealth Games Gold-winning weightlifter Sanjita Chanu will finally get the coveted Arjuna award which has been on hold since 2018.

A Sports Ministry source confirmed that Chanu will be conferred with the Arjuna as per a 2018 Delhi High Court order, which directed the selection committee to consider her and keep the decision in a sealed cover to be disclosed only if she was absolved of the doping charges.

"Sanjita (Chanu) is absolved of all the doping charges by the International federation, so we will have to abide by the Delhi High Court order and consider her for the Arjuna award," the ministry source said.

After she was ignored for the 2017 Arjuna Awards,



Chanu had filed a writ petition before the Delhi HC challenging the decision to exclude her from the list of those recommended for the coveted honour. During the pendency of the case, she tested positive for a banned substance in May 2018.

Indian Weightlifting Federation secretary general

also confirmed the development. "It's confirmed, Sanjita will get her 2018 Arjuna award," he said without getting into details.

The 26-year-old had won back-to-back Gold medals in the 2014 and 2018 Commonwealth Games in the 48kg and 53kg categories respectively.

PTI

## Lazio falter in title race

Inzaghi's men suffer first league defeat in 9 months to stay four points behind Juventus

AFP ■ BERGAMO

Title-chasing Lazio suffered their first Serie A defeat in nine months, falling 3-2 at Atalanta on Wednesday to stay four points behind leaders Juventus after surrendering a two-goal lead.

Lazio, playing their first game since February 29 after the coronavirus lockdown, thanked a Marten De Roon own-goal for putting them ahead after six minutes in Bergamo with Sergej Milinkovic-Savic adding a superb second from distance five minutes later. But Robin Gosens headed fourth-placed Atalanta back into the game seven minutes before the break with Ruslan Malinovskyi rifling



in the equaliser on 66 minutes. Jose Luis Palomino then sealed the home win 10 minutes from time.

Lazio — bidding for their third Serie A title after 1974 and

2000 — have lost just three times in the league this season. Their most recent defeat before Wednesday was 1-0 at the hands of Inter Milan on September 25.

"We knew that returning against Atalanta was one of the worst opponents to have," said Lazio coach Simone Inzaghi whose side were held 3-3 by the Bergamo side in Rome in October.

"Unfortunately the title race gets more complicated and we regret this, because we're coming off a long series of unbeaten games. I don't like losing and the lads are a little down."

Atalanta are four points behind third-placed Inter Milan, who were held 3-3 at home against Sassuolo.

## Skriniar, Conte banned

**MILAN:** Inter Milan defender Milan Skriniar was suspended for three matches on Thursday following his red card in the match against Sassuolo.

Skriniar was shown a second yellow card on Wednesday and was given an automatic one-match ban for the sending off but was further punished for "making an offensive remark to the referee along with a blasphemous exclamation."

Inter coach Antonio Conte will also be suspended for Sunday's match at Parma after picking up his fifth booking of the season.

Elsewhere, Roma stay fifth, six points behind Atalanta, after a hard-fought 2-1 win over relegation-threatened Sampdoria thanks to a second-half Edin Dzeko brace — two volleys, one with his left foot and the other with his right.

## Clare to become 1st female MCC president

PTI ■ LONDON

Former England captain Clare Connor is set to become the first female president of the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC), guardian of the laws of the game, in its 233-year history.

Connor was on Wednesday named as the successor to current chief Kumar Sangakkara, who steps down from the post next year.

The nomination of Connor, who is currently the ECB's managing director of women's cricket, was made by Sangakkara himself during Wednesday's Annual General Meeting.



Connor will take up the post on October 1 next year, pending approval by the club's members, as Sangakkara has been invited to remain in the role for a second twelve-month tenure due to the impact of Covid-19 on the

cricketing landscape.

"I am deeply honoured to be named the next President of MCC. Cricket has enriched my life so deeply already, and now it hands me this wonderful privilege," said Connor, who was made an Honorary Life Member of MCC in 2009.

Connor made her England debut in 1995 at the age of 19, and took over the captaincy in 2000, leading England at Lord's against Australia a year later.

An all-rounder who bowled left-arm spin, Connor led England women to their first Ashes triumph in 42 years, overseeing a 1-0 series win in 2005.

## Archer to join team at Ageas Bowl

LONDON (PTI):

England pacer Jofra Archer was on Thursday cleared to join his teammates at Southampton's Ageas Bowl ahead of the three-Test series against West Indies after he was tested Covid-19 negative for the second time.

The 25-year-old Archer did not join the team's training earlier after a member of his household fell ill. He had tested negative for Covid-19 the first time too but the decision to

go through another test was a precautionary measure.

"Jofra Archer has tested negative for Covid-19. He will join the England camp at Ageas Bowl later today and will be free to start training tomorrow with the rest of the group," the ECB tweeted on Thursday.

Besides Archer, all other English cricketers vying for places in the squad for the upcoming Test series also returned negative for Covid-19.

## Crawley eyeing spot in top 3 for WI series

PTI ■ LONDON

Young batsman Zak Crawley believes there is still room for him in England's top order for next month's Test series against West Indies and he will strive to earn that place.

The 22-year-old, who has scored one fifty in the four Tests, is the third choice opener for England after Rory Burns and Dom Sibley. He had made his debut against New

Zealand at Hamilton last November

For the number three position, he has to put up a better show than Joe Denly, who averages 30 in 14 Tests without scoring a hundred.

"No, I don't feel the decision has been made," Crawley said of the top-order selection.

"The following couple of weeks in the nets and the warm-up game (which begins next Wednesday) are a good chance for me to stake my claim," he was quoted as saying by Skysports.

Crawley, who scored a career-best 66 in his last Test against South Africa and also shared a century-stand with Sibley, said he will keep working hard to stay in contention if he misses out in the opening Test.

"If they all score good runs it would be hard for me to break into the side. But there are six games to play so I won't give up hope if I'm not picked for the first. I'll work as hard as I can to get into that side," he said.

England are currently training ahead of their three-Test series against the West Indies, starting with the opening game on July 8.

I was shocked when I got the news from the Adria Tour. We played without any audience for weeks, so we have been more than happy about the fans at the event. We trusted the Serbian government's corona rules, but we have been too optimistic. Our behavior was a mistake, we acted too euphorically. I am extremely sorry. I've now got tested five times within the last ten days and the result was always negative. I wish everyone who is infected all the best and a quick recovery.

World number three Dominic Thiem is "extremely sorry" for the way players conducted themselves at Adria Tour event after which four players tested positive for the coronavirus, the Austrian said on Thursday

**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, RAYAGADA (R&B) CIRCLE, RAYAGADA**  
e-Procurement Notice  
Bid Identification No. SE (RANDB) RGDA- 02/2020-21 (Online)  
No. 665 Date. 20.06.2020  
INVITATION FOR BIDS

1.	The Superintending Engineer, Rayagada (R&B) Circle, Rayagada on behalf of Government of Odisha invites percentage rate bids in double cover mode to be received in online mode only for the construction of works as detailed in the table below.	
2.	Nature of work	Road works
3.	No. of work	1 (One) no. of work
4.	Estimated Cost. (Approximately)	Rs. 842.43
5.	Bid Cost	Rs. 10,000/- (each)
6.	Class of Contractor	"Special" Class/ Super Class as per Financial Eligibility.
7.	Availability of Bid Documents in the website	11.00 Hrs of Dt. 01.07.2020 to 16.00 Hrs of Dt. 16.07.2020
8.	Date of opening of Bid	11.00 Hrs of Dt. 17.07.2020.
9.	The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website: <a href="https://tendersodisha.gov.in">https://tendersodisha.gov.in</a> . Any Addendum/Corrigendum/cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website. The authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids without assigning any reason thereof.	

Sd/- Superintending Engineer  
Rayagada (R&B) Circle, Rayagada  
OIPR : 34128/11/0002/2021

**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER PHULBANI (R&B) CIRCLE, PHULBANI**  
Phone : - 06842 254004 Email: sermbphulbani@gmail.com  
INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)  
Bid Identification No. SE-(R&B)-PLB- 02/2020-21  
No. 588 Dated. 17.06.2020

1	The Superintending Engineer, Phulbani (R&B) Circle, Phulbani on behalf of the Governor of Odisha invites percentage rate bid in double cover system in ONLINE MODE for construction of Bridge works detailed in the table below from eligible contractors.	
2	Nature of work	Bridge work
3	No. of tenders	3 Nos of Bridge works
4	Tender cost	Rs. 10,000/- (through online) only.
5	Class of Contractor	'B', 'A' & Special class
6	Date & Time of sale & receipt of bids	10.00 AM of 30.06.2020 to 5.00PM of 14.07.2020
7	Date of Opening of bid	11.00 AM of 15.07.2020
8	The Bidders shall have to participate in online bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website <a href="https://tendersodisha.gov.in">https://tendersodisha.gov.in</a> . Any addendum/Corrigendum / Cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website. The authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids without assigning any reason.	

OIPR:34129/11/0002/2021 Sd/-E.R.M.K.Tripathy Superintending Engineer, Phulbani (R&B) Circle, Phulbani