

MONEY 6

WILL SPEAK TO BANKS TO FACILITATE CASH FLOW, ENSURE TIMELY ACCESS: FM

WORLD 7

COVID-19 INFECTIONS TOP 6L GLOBALLY

SPORT 8

VIRAT 'BOSS' OF INDIAN CRICKET

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USUAL SUSPECTS
SWAPAN DASGUPTA

India has not lost its head in corona crisis

As of Saturday morning (9.45 am), the fourth day of the national lockdown, the number of coronavirus cases in India has touched 873. Does this mean that we are still behind the curve or, as many of the "experts" suggest, this is just the lull before the country experiences the pandemic tsunami?

Like the overwhelming majority of India, I don't know. Over the past three weeks all of us have been subjected to so many conflicting versions of this global epidemic that has changed the world in ways that none of us thought was possible that we have stopped trying to be amateur pundits. When the WHO announced that every corner of the world was vulnerable to the what President Donald Trump evocatively describes as the "Chinese virus", every person seemed to have a view of what needed and didn't need to be done. These ranged from doing as little as possible but acquiring immunity through different means to suggesting policy prescriptions. Today, the voices of the loud know-alls are becoming less and less heard. The "experts" have their views, but no one is sure whether this expert view will outlive 48 hours.

A strange form of collective helplessness is visible. As law-abiding citizens, the overwhelming number of Indians have confined themselves to their homes, hoping that after April 15 they will be able to pick up the pieces and return to the daily routine. Meanwhile, watching a re-run of the Ramayan, what many of us experienced each Sunday morning in the late-1980s, will have to suffice.

In moments such as this, there is an irresistible temptation to outsource decision-making to a higher authority. For most it is God - articulated in different ways. But this unseen force isn't the only one we bank on. The secular authority we put our trust in moments of anxiety is the Government. Although the trust is never blind, there is the temptation to let others - with information, expertise and resources at their command - take decisions and do the thinking on our behalf. This relationship of the citizen with the state is based on trust and - but only to a limited extent - coercion. If the trust broke down, there is no lathi-waving policeman who would succeed in imposing a national lockdown.

A national lockdown has been successfully undertaken in a country of India's size and diversity. I don't know if the lockdown will achieve its objectives. I pray it does. But regardless of the outcome, how we have conducted ourselves makes me proud to be an Indian. It also makes me proud of our leader

In recent history there are times when either trust breaks down completely or competing authorities start pulling in different directions. I always cite the example of what happened in France in the spring of 1940 when the German army broke through the seemingly impenetrable Maginot Line. The authority of the all-powerful French state broke down and produced social chaos. It was this upheaval that led to collaboration with the Germans and the trust placed in Marshal Pétain and his fragile Vichy regime.

It may sound politically incorrect to say so, but imminent military defeat does not always lead to social breakdown and chaos. By the beginning of 1945, for example, it was sufficiently clear that the collapse of Nazi Germany was only a matter of time. There was just no way that Hitler's regime would be able to withstand the combined might of the USA and the Soviet Union. The Germans didn't give up and fought bitterly, despite the huge military and civilian casualties. But what has escaped attention is the fact that an unending tale of military defeats since mid-1944 and the decimation of nearly every German city by enemy bombers didn't lead to a social breakdown, as happened with less provocation in France. Till the very end the authority of the German state remained intact.

It is of course possible to read these two experiences with reference to the type of regimes France and Germany had at these moments of upheaval. France in 1940 was democratic while Germany in 1945 was a regimented, totalitarian state. Maybe totalitarian states have a better record of holding a society together in times of crisis. If, for the moment, the theory of COVID-19 being a grand Chinese conspiracy is ignored, it is worth looking at the relative success of the authorities in managing the total lockdown of Wuhan. True, the extent of inconvenience was perhaps understated by the absence of an open media and the rigid control that the state maintains over its citizens. But in the face of the pandemic, such extreme measures can be condoned.

It is the inability of democracies to emulate the Wuhan model that has led to Western European countries shying away from cracking the whip, leaving the last mile to people's good sense and failing to meet the desired objective. Apart from Northern Italy and Spain where the number of deaths have skyrocketed, most other democratic countries have faltered in imposing lockdowns.

It is in this context that the national lockdown in India must be seen. Frankly, if it hadn't been Narendra Modi at the helm, lesser leaders would have preferred to have settled for half-measures, citing a combination of economic constraints and human deficiencies. India is a democracy and there is total freedom for intellectuals, contrarians and the fifth columnists to point to deficiencies, real and imaginary. The international media, particularly those based in the Anglophone world, also find it easy to present India as a land of chaos, heartlessness and stupid bigotry. There is enough in the subcontinent to feed this appetite. But what needs careful scrutiny is the fact that a national lockdown has been successfully undertaken in a country of India's size and diversity. The economic costs of this lockdown will be unimaginably high. But the fact that we have put people over money is reason enough to believe that India hasn't lost its head in a crisis.

I don't know if the lockdown will achieve its objectives. I pray it does. But regardless of the outcome, how we have conducted ourselves makes me proud to be an Indian. It also makes me proud of our leader.

Migrants march to different tune

As exodus hits social distancing, Shah asks States to use diaster relief fund to rehab migrants

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The panicky march of the thousands of migrant workers is turning out to be a major stumbling block for the Centre in its effort to enforce social distancing to curb the spread of coronavirus. With experts warning that such untruly assembly could help the contagion to explode - two migrant workers from Rajasthan tested positive on Saturday - the Home Ministry has come out with a measures to deal with the grave situation.

The measures include raising tents along the highway to accommodate these workers and provide them food and medical assistance. The march of the migrants has alarmed health experts, who feel that it will defeat the very purpose of the lockdown. Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar has also expressed unhappiness over the move by States Governments to arrange buses for migrant workers who want to return to Bihar.

"The entire purpose of lockdown will be defeated if thousands of migrants are sent to Bihar by buses. My Government has already asked the Bihar Resident Commissioner in New Delhi to coordinate with different State Governments and reimburse the cost involved in providing food and shelter to migrants who are on their way to Bihar. We have already announced ₹100 crore package for them," said Nitish on Saturday.

Nitish was right in his apprehension. At least two migrant workers, who travelled from Indore to Rajasthan amid coronavirus lockdown in the country, have now been found positive for COVID-19.

Against the backdrop of these developments, Home Minister Amit Shah on

Saturday spoke to many Chief Ministers to accommodate the migrant labours in the States itself by providing food and shelter, rather than transporting them to their home States. Shah said the Government is committed to offer all support to migrant workers during the lockdown period and suggested that schools and colleges can be used for sheltering the migrant workers.

The Home Ministry changed the guidelines of State Disaster Relief Fund (SDRF) to allow States to use the fund for the purpose of rehabilitation of the migrant workers.

"With the intent of Modi Government to provide all possible support to migrant workers, the Union Home Secretary has again written to States requesting them to immediately set up relief camps for migrant workers/pilgrims, etc, who are returning to their domicile States or trying to do so during this lockdown period.

States have been advised to give wide publicity and awareness, using public address systems, technology and by utilising the services of volunteers and NGOs," said the Home Ministry in a statement.

The Ministry also asked States to set up tented accommodation to ensure that these persons will stay in the relief camps till the lockdown orders are in place. The shelters are to be organised, keeping in view various precautions including social distancing, with adequate medical check up drives to identify and separate cases requiring quarantine or hospitalisation.

Meanwhile, Road Transport Minister Nitin Gakari asked NHAI chairman and toll operators to provide all help to migrant workers by providing food and water. "I have advised chairman NHAI



Migrants wait to board buses to their native village, during a nationwide lockdown imposed in the wake of coronavirus pandemic, at Anand Vihar in New Delhi on Saturday
Ranjan Dimri / Pioneer

and Highway Concessioners/toll operators to consider providing food, water or any kind of support to migrant workers/citizens who are trying to reach to their respective native places. At this time of crisis we have to be compassionate for our fellow citizens," he said.

Commerce and Railways Minister Piyush Goyal has appealed to Industries and trade bodies to take care of their workers and not allow them to go to home States in the time of crisis.

In a video conference, Goyal said, "Don't let your workers go away" to the industrialists across the country. Talking to representatives from various manufacturing, industry and trading associations, he said they are not only their assets and resources, but also could become potential carriers of COVID-19, if they are allowed to migrate to leave en masse during this pandemic.

Delhi-UP border choked as labourers rush to Bihar, UP

Kejriwal says Govt has arranged buses for migrant workers, but urges them to stay on

SHEKHAR SINGH ■ NEW DELHI

Left without any source of income, thousands of migrants mostly from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar on Saturday hit the streets and highways connecting Delhi-NCR in hope to get support from the Government to reach their homes.

Their exodus choked Delhi-UP border at Ghazipur



Migrants walk to their villages amid the nationwide lockdown at Delhi Uttar Pradesh Border on Saturday PTI

and Anand Vihar bus terminal was crowded with people trying to get into buses to head for Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. Meanwhile, Delhi

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Saturday said his Government has arranged for buses to transport migrant workers who were already walking back via roads to their respective home States.

Also, the CM appealed to migrant workers leaving Delhi to stay back. Kejriwal in his Press briefing on Friday announced that food will now be served in 325 Government schools after which the Government will officially have the capacity to feed 4 lakh people across 500 centres. Delhi Minister Rajendra Pal Gautam went to Anand Vihar to meet migrants.

Cases near 1K, fight stepped up

No community transmission; dedicated Covid hospital set up

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The count of confirmed COVID-19 cases raced towards 1,000 on Saturday, but the Centre maintained that India is yet to witness community transmission of the viral infection and it is focusing on management and prevention of the disease by ramping up Covid-19 hospitals, sample testing, contact-tracing besides intensifying social distancing measures.

According to Statewide confirmed case tallied by dif-

ferent monitoring sites, the total number of positive cases stood at 944 on Saturday evening. However, the Health Ministry's Saturday morning count showed 877 positive cases in the country. The tally was not revised till late in the evening. The pandemic has claimed 20 lives in the country.

With cases on the rise, the Centre has asked the State Governments to set up health check-up camps and tents for migrant labourers who are travelling back to their native places to prevent them from spreading the disease, if any.

Giving details of the steps being taken to combat coronavirus which has killed over 28,000 people across countries, Health Ministry Joint Secretary Lav Aggarwal said that doctors from the States are



A police officer requests commuters to stay at home during a nationwide lockdown to limit the spread of the virus in Chennai on Saturday PTI

being trained on management of Covid-19 patients with the help of AIIMS in Delhi while rigorous contact-tracing is underway. Many States are in the process of setting up dedicated Covid-19 hospitals.

They have also been asked to ramp up their capacity to manage an increasing number of cases. At least 17 States have started work on it.

'Quarantined' man bites woman to death

Theni: A young man under home quarantine for coronavirus after return from Sri Lanka suddenly ran out of his house nude and fatally bit a 80-year old woman in his neighbourhood in a village near here, police said on Saturday.

Govt procures 5 lakh testing kits from US

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Amid clamour over lack of a coronavirus testing facility in India, the Government has been able to procure five lakh additional testing kits from the US.

R Gangakhedkar, the Head of ICMR, said on Saturday the country has now 111 Government testing labs and only 30 per cent of facilities are put to use so far.

He said 44 private laboratories have been given approval for testing and 400 people have been tested in private sector.

Gangakhedkar added that the country is now fully equipped to deal with the situation.

CAPSULE

GOVT PROBES KERALA MAN ROLE IN KABUL ATTACK

New Delhi: Central security agencies are looking into the role of a Kerala man believed to be a member of the ISIS, which has claimed responsibility for the Kabul gurdwara attack in which 25 people were killed, officials said on Saturday. Mohammed Muhsin (28), a resident of Kasargod, went to the UAE in 2018 from where he is believed to have joined the ranks with the global terrorist organisation in Afghanistan, they said.

BRAIN FEVER STRIKES BIHAR, 2 KIDS ADMITTED

Muzaffarpur: Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES), also known as brain fever, that had killed about 200 children in the State last year, has struck this north Bihar town again in what could be a double whammy in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic.

Sea of corona queries floods Government helplines

Agriculture Minister provides list of 3,700 people stuck in different states

PNS ■ RANCHI

Chief Minister Hemant Soren today said that State Government is strengthening the system to fight Coronavirus epidemic. Agriculture Minister Badal met the CM here on Saturday and handed over a detailed list of about 3,700 people, who are stranded in other States due to lockdown. The Minister said that most of these people are labourers. Now these people are not able to access other



Agriculture and Animal Husbandry Minister Badal hands over detailed list of residents of Jharkhand stuck in other states due to lockdown to Chief Minister Hemant Soren in Ranchi on Saturday PNS

essential items including food. The CM said that due to the lockdown, there are many problems in bringing them back. "To provide them all the

necessary and basic facilities the government is in constant touch with the governments of those states. The government has given responsibility of the

senior officials for this. They have been instructed to take all necessary steps to provide relief to the stranded people," he said.

There was also a discussion on the problems being faced by the people of Jharkhand trapped within the State and in other states due to the lockdown. The CM said that all necessary action is being taken in this direction. "People should not have problems due to lockdown. Full care is being taken and I am monitoring the situation," said the CM.

The Agriculture Minister also apprised the CM about the acute shortage of animal fodder in the State due to the lockdown. He said that due to lack

of animal feed, the life of the animals has come to a halt. So, necessary steps have been taken to ensure the availability of animal feed. Soren said that he will soon hold a high level meeting with the officials regarding this matter.

The CM agreed to the idea of the Agriculture Minister that the sale of vegetables at the government rate should be ensured through Veg Fed. There was also a detailed discussion between the CM and the Agriculture Minister on the arrangement of purchasing milk from milk producers. The CM said that there is no loss to milk producers, nor wastage of milk, the government is serious in this direction. In the event of

the corona virus entering the third stage a detailed discussion took place on what arrangements should be made to deal with it.

The CM said that all government hospitals as well as private hospitals with facilities of ventilation will be prepared for the same. Necessary instructions will be given to the officials to strengthen the system and isolation wards in all the hospitals. Instructions have also been given to officers to complete all the preparations. Badal apprised the CM of a young man from Dumka, who is trapped in Pune. His mother has passed away, but he is unable to return due to the lockdown.

'An actor should never say never'

Known for shows like Kalash and Bepanah Pyaar, APARNA DIXIT loves experimenting with roles and genres. She speaks with MUSBA HASHMI about her latest show and how she has evolved



What is your role in Pyaar Ki Luka Chuppi?

I play Srishti, a small-town girl with values. She is extremely talented but when it comes to love and family, she is emotional and thinks only from her heart. Her satisfaction lies in little pleasures of life and is family-oriented who believes in success but not at the cost of relationships. A lot of people will find the character relatable.

One thing that you like and dislike about your character?

I love everything about my character. From being soft spoken to respecting everyone, Srishti is a love driven person and has no anger or ego issues. The only thing that I dislike is, how she allows people to take her for granted which she will start realising soon. With different experiences in life, she is now learning to take a stand for herself.

From Mahabharata to now Pyaar Ki Luka Chuppi, how has your journey been?

My journey has been beautiful. I have played some amazing characters in the past and made friends for life in this journey. I feel grateful to be a part of this industry which has blessed me in ways for which I can't be thankful enough.

What was the most challenging project?

The most challenging project is also the one that is close to my heart — *Kalash*. I loved the graph that my character had. I got to play various shades and try different looks.

How do you think you have evolved as an artist?

An artist is always evolving. With

every new character that you play, a new project that you do, you learn something new. You become better at the craft day by day. As an artist, I am always on the go to learn and explore new things. It is a never-ending process.

With every new character that you play, a new project that you take, you learn something new. You become better at the craft day by day. As an artist, I am always on the lookout to learn and explore new things. This is a never-ending process

How do you think TV has evolved?

The last couple of years have seen an evolution in content with the shifting paradigm. Over the last decade, television has evolved progressively. The industry is witnessing a revolution by portraying strong independent female protagonists. Serials are being made where the conversation is around strong women characters. There are stories of empowerment of women

from small towns and villages of India which are finally being told. Content on TV is progressively influencing the lives of audiences who are now readily accepting strong headed women who are finally speaking up for themselves.

Having explored different genres, which one did you enjoy the most?

Having played various characters over the years, daily soaps have been the most enjoyable to me as I get to dramatise all emotions and the situations and story lines are also quite relatable. I absolutely enjoy every bit of my time on the sets which makes me enjoy my work all the more.

A role that you would say no to. I believe as an actor it is important to explore every role. An actor should never say never.

Currently, I am only focusing on my show *Pyaar Ki Luka Chuppi* which airs on Dangal TV. If you engage yourself in different projects at the same time, you tend to lose focus. Therefore, I want to concentrate only on this show first. Rest only time will tell.

TELLYTALE

PUJA'S WEDDING



POSTPONED

Actor Puja Banerjee, who recently made her comeback on TV with *Star Bharat's* mythological show as grown-up Vaishno Devi, had recently announced her wedding with actor Kunal Verma on social media. She made an announcement that she will tie the knot on April 15 and started preparing for her wedding. Puja and Kunal's wedding was supposed to take place in a traditional Bengali ceremony. However, the couple is now contemplating postponing their nuptials due to the coronavirus scare.

According to sources, Puja had applied for leaves and production house had granted her the same. As of now their wedding shopping has also come to a halt and Puja is spending time at home with her family due to lockdown situation in the city.

Puja shares: "The situation is such that we have to sit with our families and decide the situation after March 31."

Well let's hope, Puja and Kunal get married soon and their fans get to witness this grand moment in the coming days.

MEET KANNIKA'S BEST FRIEND

Kanikka Kapur, also known as Suman from the most loved show of Sony Entertainment Television *Ek Duje ke Vaaste 2* reveals on how she would select her partner. Kanikka is her Daddy's princess and certainly



would not take any decision without considering with her father and she has the same clause for her future boyfriend.

Kanikka is best friends with her father and shares all aspects of her life with him. Her father too understands her and supports her and guides her wherever the need be. Kanikka who recently turned 25 has revealed that her father has no problems with her dating somebody. It is just that the guy should follow some clauses set by her father. Speaking about the same Kanikka Kapur aka Suman said: "I am comfortable sharing my personal life with my parents and they have been supportive of it. I am currently not dating anyone but my father has surely set some clauses for me if I date someone in the future." When asked about what kind of a guy she or her father wants, she said: "The guy should be as responsible as I am. Currently I am focusing on my career and I expect the guy to do the same. Looks doesn't matter to me, but the guy should focus on building up his own career and support me in what I do. It is okay for me to date a guy who is outside of the industry, he should also respect my parents and treat them like his own. Also, he should have my father's approval. In short, my king will select my prince charming."

The current track of Kanikka's show is taking a major twist as Shruvan's secret would be revealed in Anish's party and the new friends Suman and Shruvan would be seen fighting while Suman slaps Shruvan. What is this secret? Will the two star-crossed lovers unite back?

Puja shares: "The situation is such that we have to sit with our families and decide the situation after March 31."

ENT SPECIALISTS ON IBD

Sony Entertainment Television's latest offering, *India's Best Dancer* is garnering a lot of positive attention for its interesting content and the variety of talent that is being showcased on the dance show. The contestants who have come from different cities across the country are battling it out with each other only to bag the coveted title of India's Best Dancer. While the judges, Malaika Arora, Geeta Kapur and Terence Lewis are evaluating contestants on three factors mainly ENT, which is Entertainment, Newness and Technique, they are having a tough time scrutinising them considering the phenomenal

talent that is being featured in the show.

One such talent who left the judges spellbound with her performance is Swetha Warrior from Kerala. Swetha performed western-classical fusion along with choreographer Aishwarya on the song *Dilbar*. She got positive comments from all three judges for her act. However, Malaika was quite intrigued by her performance and was happy to know that both Swetha and her choreographer Aishwarya hail from Kerala, which is also where Malaika belongs to. So much so that Malaika even coined a term for the two, she said on the show she would like to call them "Malla ke Mallus." Seeing them perform took the dancing diva back to her roots in Kerala and she even complimented their act in Malayali.

Swetha, who was happy to receive good remarks from judges, said: "I started dancing when I was three and half. My mother is my inspiration. She is a professionally trained dancer and I still learn from her." Swetha's mother was touched seeing her daughter perform on stage and the mother-daughter duo later even performed *Bharatanatyam* on the song *Aani Je Tomar* in front of the judges.

SIDDHAANTH'S TRANSFORMATION

Siddhaanth Vir Surryavanshi has been a popular TV face for years now and he has a massive fan following, especially amongst the ladies. Being part of several top shows, we've seen him don several looks. But for Zee TV's upcoming fiction show — *Kyun Rishton Mein Katti Batti*, the actor wanted to have a slightly different look. Playing a dashing, jet setting businessman on the show, he had to look a certain way and the makers experimented with several looks with the actor before arriving on one!

To be the hot and happening Kuldeep as they had envisioned, Siddhaanth had to reinvent his fitness regime. He along with the makers wanted to break the image of onscreen fathers and hence, they planned to make him look like a desirable man with quite the physique. Thus began the actor's transformation where he had to lose some of his belly fat, build six pack abs and gain some muscle. For the same, he went on a special diet and



worked out regularly for a period of six months and, well, the results speak for themselves. But the transformation wasn't easy for Siddhaanth! The actor had recently undergone a surgery and just as soon as he recovered, he took on the role and committed himself to playing it to the hilt!

The actor revealed: "You know, there is this notion in everyone's mind that all the fathers on TV shows look a certain way. But who says dads can't be sexy? So, to break this mindset, we finalized on a ripped

look and I knew there was a lot of hard work in store for me, especially post my surgery. After being diagnosed with stage one arthritis in my shoulder last year, I had to get a surgery done for the same. In fact, when the show was offered, I was still undergoing rehab. But my transformation phase helped me not only get into the skin of the character but also feel fitter overall."

Talking about his regime, Siddhaanth mentioned: "I just worked out regularly for six months, not missing one day or one session. Having three different trainers allowed me to focus on all the aspects of my body and they helped me tone down and get into the shape that we envisioned for Kuldeep. I also focused on my diet, which comprised of healthy alternatives and protein-rich food which helped us achieve the ripped body look."

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, ग्रामीण विकास विभाग (ग्रामीण कार्य मामले),

कार्य प्रमंडल बोकारो शुद्धि पत्र

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कार्यपालक अभियंता एन0आर0ई0पी0, बोकारो

Plan Your Stay At Home Sunday

No chai breaks, no gossip sessions, no work buddies for 16 more days. While it's for our safety, work from home can get exhausting. From staring at your laptop for 10 hours to shuffling between multiple team calls, the one thing that can pump up your day, is some soothing music with a Bollywood *taika*. Right?

We feel you and hence MTV Beats is here for you with a special line-up of artists and shows that you must follow to pump yourself up, while you stay put glued to your keyboards.

Jam it up with your favourite artists!

The next few days we are all going to be locked down at our homes for the sake of our own well being. But who says the lockdown has to be sad or boring? We have curated a special line up of artists who will dedicate a few minutes of their day during each of your working days from home with #MusicBeatsMusicFromHome. Watch your favourite artists jam on the social media pages of MTV Beats and make the social media environment, musically +ve.

Log in and move to the melodious tunes of Darshan Raval, Dr Palash Sen, Shalmali, Nikita Gandhi, Shashwat Singh, Jonita Gandhi, Dhvani Bhanushali, Tulsi Kumar and Akull, who join you for jamming live on Instagram their homes for a week. An exciting surprise awaits you by a popular singer in the live session, stay tuned to know who and what that will be! Fans can also dedicate songs to their loved ones with MTV Beats Farmaaisah, where the artists will perform to the song requests during the Live and also call out the endearing dedications.

Not just that, fans will also get a chance to do a social-distancing chat and interact with the artist during the LIVE using the dual



video feature on Instagram. Who knows, you can be the lucky one talking to Darshan Raval tomorrow! So, keep your eyes on the Instagram page of MTV Beats, sharp at 5 pm.

Work from home playlists for all the busy-bees.

When work from home gets tough, MTV Beats gets going! As you dabble through a never ending to-do list, soothe yourself by listening to Bollywood melodies like *Hawayein* from *Jab Harry Met Sejal*, *Humraah* from *Malang* and *Shayad* from *Love Aaj Kal* and more on the channel. We're sure that nothing will motivate you more than a soulful splash of your favourite songs. Tune-in to the work from home playlist specially curated for the Bollywood *keeda* in you, anytime on MTV Beats.

Time to turn up the heat at home.

Party Kami Hai, Hum Party Kareng...but *Apne Ghar Pe!* Take a break from the monotony and dance your heart way with MTV Beats. Tap your feet to the rocking beats of *Haa Main Galat, Illegal Weapon 2.0, Muqabala* and wake up the disco dancer in you, with the House Party Playlist

to keep you pumped up and happy all the time.

Fitness is the new fun, with Sunny Leone.

21 din, Fitness in! Who would want to miss out on a workout when you have Sunny Leone as your fitness trainer? The ever-gorgeous Sunny Leone is here to give you some easy fitness tips on how to be Fit and Fab with FitStop, starting 26th March, every day at 9am only on MTV Beats. Sweat it out with your charming gym trainer and make your workout regime a fun-tastic one!

Choose your favourite 'Desi Kalakaar of the Month'.

Baithe Baithe kya karein, karna hai kuch kaam! MTV Beats is here to entertain you, all day long! Head to the social media pages of MTV Beats to choose your favourite 'Desi Kalakaar of the Month' with three easy steps. Together with the mentors, Akasa, Amit Mishra and Meet Bros, you can also judge and vote for your favorite participant on Desi Kalakaar, with just one click! Singing superstar ban ne ke liye chahiye sirf talent aur internet connection, and MTV Beats is here to give you the best platform with MTV Beats ke Desi Kalakaar.

उप श्रमायुक्त का कार्यालय, बोकारो (अनुमण्डल कार्यालय, चास, बोकारो के निकट) (Email Id- dlcbokaro@gmail.com)

सभी नियोजकों एवं कामगारों के लिये सूचना

झारखण्ड सरकार स्वास्थ्य, विकासा, शिक्षा एवं परिवार कल्याण विभाग के आदेश संख्या- 98/एच0एस0एन0, दिनांक- 22.03.2020, उपायुक्त-सह-जिला दण्डाधिकारी, बोकारो के जिला गोपनीय शाखा पत्रांक- 738/गो0, दिनांक- 23.03.2020 एवं उपायुक्त-सह-जिला दण्डाधिकारी का कार्यालय, बोकारो जिला आपदा प्रबंधन प्राधिकार का ज्ञापक- 702/रा0, दिनांक- 25.03.2020 के आदेशानुसार दिनांक- 22.03.2020 से 14.04.2020 तक तालाबंदी (Lockdown) की गई है। जिसमें सभी दूकानें, व्यवसायिक प्रतिष्ठान, कार्यालय, फ़ैक्ट्री, गोदाम, सप्ताहिक हाट-बाजार एवं सभी प्रकार के निर्माण कार्य आदि की संपूर्ण गतिविधियाँ बंद रहेंगी।

उपरोक्त आदेशों एवं निर्देशों के आलोक में बोकारो जिले के संबंधित सभी नियोजकों को निर्देश दिया जाता है कि पूर्व से कार्यरत वैसे मजदूर जो पूर्णतः तालाबंदी (Lockdown) अवधि में कार्य नहीं कर पा रहे हैं, उन्हें उनकी देय मजदूरी का भुगतान करना सुनिश्चित करेंगे।

यदि किसी कामगार को पूर्णतः तालाबंदी (Lockdown) अवधि का देय मजदूरी का भुगतान नहीं होता है तो श्रम, नियोजन एवं प्रशिक्षण विभाग, झारखण्ड सरकार के श्रमिक हेल्प लाईन नं0- 18003456526 में सूचना दें।

"भीड़-भाड़ से दूर, स्वच्छ एवं सुरक्षित रहे और कोरोना वायरस के संक्रमण से मुक्त रहें" ₹0/-

PR 227589(Labour Employment and Training)19-20*D श्रम अधीक्षक, बोकारो 1-सह-बोकारो 2

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल संख्या-2, धनबाद

अति अल्पकालीन निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या- 22/2019-20

- विभाग का नाम :- पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग, झारखण्ड, राँची।
- विज्ञापनदाता का नाम :- कार्यपालक अभियंता, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल संख्या-2, धनबाद।
- परिमाण विपत्र बिक्री की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय :- दिनांक - 07.04.2020 अपराह्न 1:00 बजे तक।
- निविदा प्राप्ति की तिथि :- दिनांक - 09.04.2020 अपराह्न 3:00 बजे तक।
- निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय :- दिनांक - 09.04.2020 अपराह्न 3.30 बजे।
- परिमाण विपत्र बिक्री का स्थान :- कार्यपालक अभियंता, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल सं0-2, धनबाद।
- निविदा प्राप्ति का स्थान :- कार्यपालक अभियंता, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल सं0-2, धनबाद।
- निविदा खोलने का स्थान :- कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल सं0-2, धनबाद।
- कार्य की विस्तृत विवरणी :-

क्र0	कार्य का नाम	गुप सं0	प्रमण्डल / प्रशाखा का नाम	प्राकलित राशि (लाख रु0 में)	अग्रदान की राशि	परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य (रु0 में)	कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि
1.	Repair & Maintenance of Drilled Tubewell in different block in District Dhanbad with all labours & vehicle for major & minor repairing of D/T under D.W. & S. Division No-2, Dhanbad. (For Month April 2020 to July 2020)	A	Dhanbad	225409.00	4550.00	500.00	4 माह
		B	Baliapur	329130.00	6600.00	750.00	4 माह
		C	Tundi	467115.00	9350.00	750.00	4 माह
		D	East Tundi	368035.00	7400.00	750.00	4 माह
		E	Topchanchi	385655.00	7750.00	750.00	4 माह
		F	Baghmara - (Baghmara Section)	287914.00	5800.00	750.00	4 माह
		G	Baghmara - (Katras Section)	481406.00	9650.00	750.00	4 माह

कृपया निविदा की नियम एवं शर्तें कार्यालय सूचना पट एवं वेबसाइट www.daa.jharkhand.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है। संवेदक निविदा जमा करते समय परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य बैंक ड्राफ्ट तकनीक बीड के साथ अनुदान करेंगे जो कार्यपालक अभियंता, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल संख्या-02, धनबाद के पदनाम से होगा जो लौटाया नहीं जायेगा।

कार्यपालक अभियंता, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल संख्या-2, धनबाद। PR 227600 Drinking Water and Sanitation(19-20)D



नोवेल कोरोना वायरस से न घबराएं खुद बचें और सबको बचाएं

कोरोना से जुड़ी जानकारी या समस्या बताने के लिए
आप **181** पर फोन कर अपनी बात रख सकते हैं।

श्री हेमन्त सोरेन, मुख्यमंत्री, झारखण्ड

सूचना एवं जनसंपर्क विभाग, झारखण्ड सरकार



कोरोना वायरस के बचाव

- अपने हाथ साबुन और पानी या अल्कोहल युक्त हैंडरब से साफ करें।
- खांसते और छींकते वक्त अपनी नाक और मुंह टिश्यू या मुड़ी हुई कोहनी से ढकें।
- जिन्हें सर्दी या फ्लू जैसे लक्षण हो तो उनसे 1 मीटर की दूरी बनाकर रखें।
- प्रभावित देशों से यात्रा करके आने वाले व्यक्ति को कम से कम 14 दिनों तक होम आइसोलेशन में रखें।



Jharkhandi labourers unable to reach officials: Babulal Marandi

PNS ■ RANCHI
BIP Legislative Party leader Babulal Marandi today said that the State government officials are apathetic towards the agony of Jharkhandi people stuck outside the State. Marandi said that the nodal officers appointed by the government are not receiving the desperate calls of people, who want to share their problems with the government. Marandi said that the CM should take cognisance of the matter and issue strict instructions for the same. Meanwhile, the State BJP unit has also urged the government to conduct random sampling and increasing the number of investigations being conducted for the coronavirus infection. So far, only 160 investigations have been done in

Jharkhand whereas 4600 people have been screened in Maharashtra. State BJP spokesperson Pratul Shahdev said that so far all the residents of Jharkhand are fortunate that there has not been a single case of coronavirus infection. But, he also said that in recent times millions of Jharkhandis working from other states including Maharashtra, Kerala have returned to their State. Monitoring their health is very important and random sampling should be done among the returning people. Pratul said that if the state government is ready to do random sampling of people returning to the State in a big way in recent times then it should start



immediately. If private labs are providing this facility in Jharkhand at the same rate, then the government should consider giving conditional permission for this by thinking on all aspects. The RAR should also prepare an action plan on the problems arising after reverse migration. Millions of people, who have returned from outside are unemployed and are sitting idle at home, he said.

Ranchiites stay at home in lockdown

Government extends assistance to labourers

PNS ■ RANCHI

Streets in Ranchi were relatively emptier on Saturday in comparison with the first three days of the lockdown – an indication that awareness about the gravity of the situation and the importance of social isolation was gradually finding buyers in the State capital. Vegetable markets on Saturday were also less crowded, and even the ones present at the markets maintained safe distance from one another. Vegetable sellers at Morhabadi Bazar said that Bazar was bustling on Thursday and Friday. However, the number of customers reduced considerably on Saturday. “People were panic-buying on the first three days of the lockdown. Maybe that is why the vegetable markets and grocery shops were overcrowded,” said Bansi Mahato, a vegetable vendor at Morhabadi Ground.



A deserted view of Harmu Road during the nationwide lockdown in the wake of coronavirus pandemic, in Ranchi on Saturday. Vinay Murmu photo

The District Administration has tightened the noose around citizens who tend to violate the lockdown norms and move out of their houses without any genuine purpose. Police personnel deployed across the city dealt with such people with an iron fist on Saturday and ensured that commoners do not move out of their houses. Rakesh Pandey, a police personnel deployed at Harmu Chowk

said, “People who have a valid reason to come out of their houses – like buying grocery, medicines or vegetables – are allowed to cross this square. On the first day of the lockdown, many youths came out on bikes, and had to use mild force to force them indoors,” he said. While many activists are raising concerns over the future of daily wage labourers, the Government has issued phone numbers of different IAS officers to address problems of labourers returning from different States of India. According to sources working closely with daily wage labourers, the COVID-19 pandemic has led to return of more than one lakh labourers from across the country to Jharkhand. The same facility is also available for Jharkhand labourers who are stuck in other States during the lockdown, a

press communiqué from the Government said. Although rail services have come to a standstill during the 21-day lockdown, South Eastern Railways on Saturday sanitised bogies of different passenger trains in a bid to ensure that they are safe for passengers when rail services resume, a press communiqué from South Eastern Railways said. Railway staff was also provided hand sanitizers and masks on Saturday. Different offices at Railway Stations in Ranchi and Hatia were also sanitised on Saturday, sources said. Meanwhile, hospitals remained vacant on Saturday. Barring a few patients visiting the Outdoor Patient Department (OPD), there was no major rush at any of the Government hospitals. The fear of getting infected by Coronavirus also kept commoners away from private hospitals in the State capital. The Government has set up isolation wards in all Government hospitals as well as some private hospitals in Jharkhand. However, no patients has tested positive for Coronavirus in the State so far. Only suspected patients are being kept in the isolation wards across Jharkhand, health officials said.

People to get cooked food at police stations



PNS ■ RANCHI

A police officer distributes food among needy people during the total lockdown in the wake of coronavirus pandemic, in Ranchi on Saturday. Ratan Lal photo

State Government will provide cooked food (Khichdi) to the needy and poor from the mid of next week at every Police Stations (PS) of the State till the end of the ongoing nationwide Lockdown. The Lockdown, announced by the government to prevent Coronavirus to spread through social isolation, has rendered many people jobless. Almost all shops and business activity are closed during the lockdown and people are facing problem of hunger. The State Government with intention to provide food to these poor and needy people will distribute cooked food (Khichadi) at all PS under Chief Minister Dal Bhaat Scheme apart from 377 such centers already providing food to needy and poor across various part of the State. Jharkhand Pradesh Congress Committee (JPCC) Chief cum Food and Supplies

Minister, Rameshwar Oraon on Saturday said that the State Government is prepared a plan to provide cooked food from Police Stations and due to Bank holiday on Saturday the fund in this regard could not be sent to PS to arrange basic requirements to start the programme. “On Monday the Government will provide fund to every PS for the programme and I think the cooked food will be distributed from either on Tuesday or from Wednesday so that people should be hungry due to ongoing Lock Down,” said Oraon. The Minister said that the Government is leaving no stone unturned to provide every basic facility to the people of the State during this period. He appealed to the people that they should follow the guidelines of social isolation as Corona virus infection became

global epidemic as most of the developed Countries are badly affected with it. The State Government already announced to give two month’s ration to card holders in the last week of March and they will also get the rations who have applied for the cards. Oraon said that the Government has decided that it will keep 2000 packets ready for emergency in every district for the poor, laborers and the helpless. “In every packet, 2 kg of Chuda, half a kg of Jaggery, half a kg of Gram will be kept. Apart from it a total of 5000 similar packets will be prepared for the State Capital. There is a provision of 1 kg of Pulses by the Government of India, which the State Government will provide to the people of the State. Earlier the State Government used to give 1 kg of Salt, now it will give 2 kg of salt,” he added.

Ranchi Mayor donates 5 months salary, ₹5 cr from civic funds

PNS ■ RANCHI

In an attempt to boost morale of people to fight against Corona virus epidemic, Ranchi Mayor Asha Lakra on Saturday announced that the municipal body will provide Rs 1 crore from the Civic Amenities Fund and she has also donated her 5 months salary to Ranchi Municipal Corporation (RMC). Speaking to media after holding review meeting on sanitizing preparation, Lakra appealed to the people of the State Capital especially the elite, to come forward to help the Civic Body in the hour of crisis. The Mayor said that being the Capital of the State, all the centers of the Government are here. “In such a situation, the Government should have come forward and give fund to

the Corporation but it is not arranging a fund even after 20 days is not right. After the lockdown was imposed, the corporation was constantly trying to ensure that the Government would arrange funds immediately, but nothing like this happened. In such a situation, the danger of cleanliness has come in front of the Capital,” she added. Elaborating future plan Lakra said that the changes will be made in the cleaning system of Ranchi. “The entire city will be cleaned by dividing it into five zones. Additional laborers will be employed for this. Sanitization should be done regularly in all areas of the City so that somehow the virus can be dealt with properly,” she added. Apart from this, the Mayor also instructed for regular cleaning of drains, spraying of



bleaching powder throughout the city. She also directed the officials of the civic body to prepare a list of laborers residing in all the wards who do not have any food arrangement. Speaking about future plan for upcoming summer season Lakra assured that the people of the City will not face shortage of water in any area. “A lot of policemen are stationed at the square-intersections, they will get drinking water by tankers.

Temperature rise likely in coming days

PNS ■ RANCHI

For the residents of Jharkhand, the temperature is gradually rising which could also have a positive impact as it could reduce the effect of any virus. According to the Meteorological Centre Ranchi, for the next five days the weather is likely to remain dry and the maximum as well as minimum temperature will gradually increase. In the past 24 hours, the temperature recorded across the State was around normal or above normal by a few degrees Celsius. “Till the third week of March, the temperature across the State was mostly below normal. But now it is gradually increasing. In the next few days the temperature is likely to further increase by a couple of more degrees which is normal for this time of the year,” said Deputy Director, MET Centre Ranchi, Abhishek

Anand. As per the weather bulletin released on March 28, in the last 24 hours, the maximum highest temperature was recorded in Jamshepur at 37.6 degree Celsius while Chaibasa was at 37.4 degree Celsius. The maximum temperature in the State capital was at 34.1 while Daltonganj and Bokaro were recorded at 36.8 and 36.1 degree Celsius respectively. The minimum temperature was also above normal across the State. In Ranchi the minimum temperature was 1.5 degrees above normal at 20.4 degree Celsius. While in Bokaro, it was 3.9 degrees normal at 20.5 degree Celsius. As per the communiqué, from March 29 to April 1, the maximum temperature in Ranchi and its surrounding areas will be at 35 degree Celsius while the minimum will be around 20- 21 degree Celsius.

Vegetable prices soar during lockdown

PNS ■ RANCHI

As the ongoing nationwide lockdown entered day four, city residents are now facing a new challenge- a steep rise in the prices of vegetables. Tomatoes which just last week was at Rs 25 per Kg are now being sold at Rs 60 for the same quantity. Similarly prices of all green vegetables like bottle gourd, spinach and cabbage has also almost doubled during this period. “The price rise in the vegetables could be due to the difficulty in movement between two districts as well as two states. Small farmers who would generally get their produce on a cycle to the City are doing so anymore as they could be scared of getting caught by the police. If there is an increase in the number of positive cases, the government will extend the lockdown most likely and



Street vendors selling vegetables during the lockdown in the wake up of coronavirus pandemic, in Ranchi on Saturday. PNS

the prices may further increase,” said Deputy Chief Medical Officer (CMO) CCL Hospital, Dr Rajkumar. Dr Rajkumar further emphasised that people should avoid eating uncooked veggies. “In the present situation, it is being advised that raw vegetables should not be consumed. Any vegetables once brought home should be thoroughly washed and cleaned before cooking.” “Vegetables across Ranchi are easily available in all the localities. Presently, the prices of all vegetables have increased by about 20 to 30 percent. Chances are that the prices may further rise but people don’t need to panic about it. India is a country of farmers with an agriculture based economy. The Ranchi district administration is also working on all fronts and ensuring that basic necessities are available to people from all strata of the society during this time,” said Dr SS Harsh, CMO, Central Government Health Services Lalpur.



Police personnel feed cows on a street during the total lockdown in the wake of coronavirus pandemic, at Doranda in Ranchi on Saturday. Vinay Murmu photo

38 labourers reach home after 200 Km walk

PNS ■ GOMIA

After the lockdown caused by the Coronavirus, the migrant labourers engaged in construction work in various district of Jharkhand and West Bengal are forced to return to their villages. About 200 labourers reached Dania railway station in Gomia block in district on Friday evening.

More than three dozen laborers were later transported to Harladih Giridih, Tetulmari, Dhanbad, Rajganj, Bajjudih Bokaro, Ranchi, Chandrapura and Telo working in Chatra, Latehar and Asansol (WB) amid a 21-day nationwide lockdown in view of the spread of coronavirus.

The labourers were returning home on foot alongside railway tracks, when police rescued them from Dania railway station in Bokaro after getting information. Jyotilal Besra, resident of Tetulmari in Dhanbad district, Vipin Murmu of Rajganj, Gopin Murmu of Bajjudih, Nitesh Hembram, Neeraj Hembram and Basudev Hembram, residents of Harladih in Giridih district said that there was no work in districts so they did not want to stay here.

"Buses and other road transportation were not available, so we decided to go home on foot and have reached here by walking



through the rail tracks without having food for the last three days," a labourer said. These people are part of the 37-member group that started through the rail tracks on Wednesday.

Imtiaz Raja, who lives near Irba Apollo Hospital in Ranchi district, said, "I know about the risk of the virus but we are helpless. How will we survive for three weeks without earning?" he asked.

Imtiaz works as a labourer in a private company in Asansol. He said that dozens of labourers are still stuck in different states who have taken their way on foot.

Police station in-charge of Jageshwar Bihar police station Vishnu Saha said that the police personnel have provided food and water to them and they talked to Bokaro District Transport Officer Santosh Garg and informed

them about this. After that the district transport Officer, showing immediate activism, sent a bus at Dania railway station in Gomia from which they were sent to their respective destination.

Garg said that middle and upper class people are locked in their houses and there is not even such a big crisis on the economic front, but the working class, they were working in the unorganized

sector is worse than this captive. He said that labourer have been walking on foot for last three days, it is probably also effective on his health, Civil Surgeon of the district are in contact, he will be provided their health facilities, after which they will also be given quarantine if they see the condition or symptoms of corona are found. Thereafter, the process of being released into their ancestral houses

5-bed quarantine centres to come up in every panchayat



PNS ■ JAMSHEDPUR

The district administration has directed the block development officers of all the 11 blocks to prepare 15-bed quarantine center in block headquarters while all the 231 panchayat should have 5-bed quarantine center.

"We are taking every possible step to combat challenges posed by coronavirus. We have asked the district officers to come up with quarantine centres across the district so that patients can be kept isolated," said Ravi Shankar Shukla, deputy commissioner.

He went on to inform that the BDOs will make arrangements. Isolation centres have come up in several places in the city but the idea is to ensure such places in rural areas too. He also informed that several people who returned from abroad have been home quarantine and no positive case has been reported in the city so far.

Meanwhile, administration

has also made arrangements for CM Dal Bhat Yojna. Meals on wheels is feeding people at Rs 5 only. To provide best benefits for those people who are suffering from poverty, government of Jharkhand introduced the scheme of providing food.

The scheme, which was initiated by the chief minister of Jharkhand during the year 2011, has been opened across various places and they were all performing well. State government along with good Samaritans are reaching people in the time of need. Several organisations are helping people indoors. Youths of Jamshedpur have turned good samaritans by getting into a similar exercise while helping out citizens consigned to their homes after a 21-day nationwide lockdown.

Members of Jamshedpur unit of Marwari Yuva Manch, a social outfit, are providing groceries, medicines and blood to the citizens, especially the elderly. "We have released several numbers so that people can

reach us and we can help them. We are presently covering Jugsalai and Adityapur.

Localities like Mango, Sakchi, Kadma, Soanri and other localities will be come under the ambit of effort after taking permission from the district administration," said a member of the Manch. The friends are already on the job and have delivered blood and groceries to some needy people.

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272 in isolation wards across Jharkhand

Seventy three thousand travelers in home-quarantine

PNS ■ RANCHI

At least 272 suspects of COVID-19 were admitted in isolation wards of various hospitals across Jharkhand as of Saturday, an official communiqué from the National Health Mission (NHM) said. On the other hand, a whopping 73,000 odd emigrants with travel history to different affected States in India were kept in home-quarantine across Jharkhand, it added.

While Jharkhand is among the few States that have not reported even a single case of

Coronavirus, doctors and health workers here have collected samples of at least 179 patients so far and 175 of them have tested negative.

The lab test reports of the remaining four suspects are awaited, NHM officials said. Besides the 73,000 travelers on home-quarantine and 272 at hospitals, the State has also maintained surveillance on 911 passengers - this mostly includes people who have traveled from foreign countries, sources in NHM said. Out of the 911 passengers under surveillance, 163 have completed their observation period of 28 and came out asymptomatic, health officials said.

The number of travelers identified in Jharkhand witnessed an over 50 per cent

increase in 48 hours or so. The number of such "emigrants" reported on Thursday was 45,000 and it rose to 73,000 on Saturday - a pattern that indicates that many residents of other States have traveled to Jharkhand after the Coronavirus outbreak, officials from the Health Department said.

On Saturday, health workers here collected samples of 26 suspects and the lab test reports of 22 of them came out negative, the NHM said in an official statement issued on Saturday evening. Some doctors have also raised concerns over the lack of testing facilities in Jharkhand. They said that the lack of testing could be a reason for no reportage of positive cases. The President of

Indian Medical Association's (IMA) Jharkhand Chapter has also written to the health secretary, Nitin Madan Kulkarni, here raising concern over the testing procedure followed in Jharkhand.

In his letter, he said that the travelers were screened with a thermal scanner, and the ones who take paracetamol may not get identified even if they have fever. He also said that asymptomatic carriers of the virus may pass on the disease to other people, and therefore, the administration must put every traveler under strict surveillance.

Meanwhile, the State has set up isolation wards with a total of 1469 beds across Jharkhand. The figures include the beds in Government hos-

pitals, private hospitals and other facilities. A 243-bed isolation centre has also been set up at Khelgaon in Hotwar to treat patients if there is a spike in the number of cases in Jharkhand.

As the country is under a lockdown for 21 days, the virus, which entered India through Kerala, has already infected nearly 1000 people and claimed 19 lives in the country. Coronavirus - a mysterious virus that was first reported in Wuhan City of China - has spread to most of the European nations and claimed several thousand lives.

It has also wreaked havoc on USA - a country that has far better health facilities than India.

PAINTING COMPETITION ORGANISED FOR KIDS IN STATE

PNS ■ RANCHI

In a bid to engage children in constructive activities during the lockdown period a painting competition is being organised in the State by noted tribal expert and writer from Jharkhand Subhashish Chakraverty. Chakraverty said that at this time there is a need to maintain positive thinking among the children as the children will also only hear about the Corona disaster through their parents,

neighbourhood and TV throughout the day and in this uncertainty, they are unknowingly getting involved. Children from class one to eight can send their paintings through April 20 through WahtsApp no. 8983699900. The paintings will be selected by noted painter Siraj Saxena. Three selected paintings will be felicitated and the winner will be presented with an artwork signed by Siraj Saxena, whose paintings, ceramics,

wood, print art have been in the media for the past 22 years and he has held 26 solo and 125 art exhibitions abroad so far. His paintings and ceramics are installed in many important art museums of the world - National Gandhi Museum - Delhi, Ministry of External Affairs - India, All India Radio, Press Trust of India, Rothko Art Center - Latvia, England Art Center - Poland, Otto Neymar Hostin Museum - Germany etc.

GOVT NOTIFIES SUKHDEO SINGH AS NEXT CS

PNS ■ RANCHI

State government of Saturday issued notification making 1987 batch IAS officer Sukhdeo Singh as the new Chief Secretary of Jharkhand. Singh was posted as Development Commissioner with additional charge of Additional CS of Home, Prisons and Disaster Management and Commercial Taxes departments along with MD of GRDA. According to the notification the posting will be effective from April 01, 2020,



when incumbent CS Dr DK Tiwari will retire from his post.

The government also transferred and posted 1994 batch IAS officer Rajeev Arun Ekka as Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister.

Bokaro administration asks to enlist, quarantine 'visitors'

PNS ■ RANCHI

Deputy Commissioner, Bokaro Mukesh Kumar has instructed all the Block Development Officers and Zonal Officers to enlist and place in home quarantine all the people of Jharkhand are returning to their villages. Regular checkup of all such persons is necessary and primary health check-up of the person and take action to check them out if symptoms appear, he said.

Kumar directed the officers to take necessary action by conducting a special campaign preparing the list of all such persons and identifying the symptoms of their possible diseases prepare provide detailed information to Civil Surgeon.

Kumar also instructed the management of all public sector undertakings and private companies in the district to

A round circle has been made outside all the shops and ATMs under Chas Municipal Corporation so that same will not allow people to come in contact with each other, nor will there be gathering. Municipal Commissioner Shashi Prakash Jha has called a meeting with e-rickshaw drivers to make home delivery of the material

ensure regular sanitisation in their respective areas by tankers and other means.

He asked all to ensure that there is no congestion, especially in areas where there is excessive congestion. Sanitize people and provide reports regularly.

Also order has been issued to operate petrol pump daily from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm while delivering fuel all to maintain a safe distance to prevent possible infection spread.

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DC Mukesh Kumar and SP Sujata Kumari Veenapani inspected various Road intersections and markets in the city. During the inspection it was found all the shops and the market were closed & directed administration for strict compliances of order.

Palamu police cooked food for poor people

PNS ■ DALTONGANJ

Palamu police give knockings at poor people's house to give them cooked food. The poor man at his door steps just blinks his eyes in sheer bewilderment and ecstasy to find cops' hands carrying cooked food for them.

Until recently a police knocking meant either 'hunt' for the fugitive or to serve warrant or to pick up the accused. But this time it is hot cooked fresh food from cops to poor.

This makeover of face of police here is all for a directive of DGP M V Rao who in one of his tweets has asked cops to give all help like food to destitute, homeless, sick and those also who cannot buy food for them.

SP Palamu Ajay Linda and his team Sandip Kr Gupta, Vijay Kumar and Shambhu Kr Singh and others are right on it following the tweet of the DGP. Cops began to serve food right

from Friday in Palamu. Khichdi was prepared right in the premise of the town police station Daltonganj on Friday which was monitored by SDPO Sadar Sandip Kumar Gupta and overseen by the officer in charge Anand Kumar Mishra.

Linda said, "Friday was a takeoff day of outreaching cooked food by cops to the poor and from today Saturday it will be further fine tuned in. Our cops are all determined to serve the poor." Linda said, "Our cops reached food to Mushar Tola the overlooked hamlet of this civilization where our cooked food was relished by the poor and one woman there even collected it in her utensil for her family to consume."

He said, "Cops are giving good quantity cooked food. It is not that only a few morsels are there. It is so sufficient that our given cooked food can be a meal next time also for one or two members of the family." SDPO Gupta said, "Big police stations have set a

target to reach cooked food to 150 while for smaller ones it is 100. Town, Chainpur, Ramgarh, Satbarwa PS etc have started giving cooked food at the door steps of the poor." Gupta said "Under directive of SP Linda we have put our men to identify vulnerable groups of people and their localities who have food crisis as this group will be taken care of by us on priority."

SDPO Hussainabad Vijay Kumar said, "Cops are reaching cooked food to poor living in Ravidas Mohalla about 7 Kms away from Japla police station. Haidernagar, Mohammadganj police stations too are doing the same work for the poor."

Chhaterpur SDPO Shambhu Kumar Singh, "Brother of a rescued naxal girl telephoned me from Bangaluru seeking my advice if he can start coming on foot from Bangaluru to Palamu in this time of distress to which I asked him to stay where he is there."

Bokaro DC, officials make donations to fight Coronavirus

PNS ■ BOKARO

Deputy Commissioner Bokaro including other district administrative officials have stepped up for a contribution to fighting coronavirus pandemic.

Deputy Commissioner Mukesh Kumar has given an assistance of Rs 21000 to the District Disaster Fund through a check from his personal account while Deputy Development Commissioner Ravi Ranjan Mishra given Rs 15000, Additional Collector Vijay Gupta 15000, Director DPLR Pashupati Nath Mishra 15000, Sub-Divisional Officer Chas Shashi Prakash Singh have also donated Rs. 15000 in the District Disaster Relief Fund. In this lock-down period common people will not have to suffer, said Mukesh. He appealed from mass to cooperate for a noble cause.

Anyone can contribute either through Cash or Cheque in a bid to do his bit and help those who are in need. District Cooperative Officer Rakesh Kumar can be contacted on mobile no. 7004499896 for assistance," he said. The DC instructed to all public sector undertakings and private com-

panies to ensure regular sanitation by spraying phenyl, sanitizers in their respective areas by tankers and other means. DC along with Superintendent of Police Bokaro Sujata Kumari Veenapani visited in the remote areas of Gomia block

and distributing food grains, Bitten Rice (Chiwda) Jaggery (Gur) in Chaliatand village of Badki Chindari Panchayat and in Chatro Chatti among the poor. DC also visited Birhor's (a primitive tribe) village at Jhumra and distributed food grains among them. DC urged

people to stay home, keep social distance, wash your hands continuously with soap or handwash, consume hot beverages. In the case of non-compliance with the lockdown guidelines issued for the prevention of coronavirus, strict action would be taken. To pre-

vent coronavirus infection and possible epidemics all petrol pumps have been asked to operate daily from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.

The order issued for the petrol pump will not apply to those petrol pumps located on the National Highway.



Be prepared, PM tells AYUSH professionals



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Maintaining that the country must be ready to use the entire healthcare workforce to meet the Covid-19 challenge, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday asked Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy (AYUSH) professionals to be in all readiness so that if the need arises, help from private doctors connected with alternative medicine system may be sought by the Government.

Currently, there are 7,99,879 AYUSH professionals from various streams across the States. It has been observed that Indian rural health system is totally dependent on ayush practitioners and Government hospitals.

The National Health Policy 2017 has already advocated mainstreaming the potential of AYUSH systems within a pluralistic system of Integrative healthcare.

Interacting with AYUSH professionals, he also underlined the importance of countering and fact-checking unsubstantiated claims of AYUSH having cure for the disease. He asked AYUSH scientists, ICMR, CSIR and other research organisations to come

together for evidence-based research.

Interacting with AYUSH professionals from around the country through video conferencing, the Prime Minister said that there role has increased manifold in the ongoing efforts to tackle COVID-19.

He also observed that the network of AYUSH practitioners is spread throughout the length and breadth of the country and "it is imperative for them to utilise this network, while working according to WHO guidelines, to spread the message of good practices which need to be adopted in the efforts to control the spread of the virus."

Last week, the Union Cabinet had approved the inclusion of AYUSH Health and Wellness Centre (AYUSH HWC) component of Ayushman Bharat in the National AYUSH Mission (NAM). It aimed at establishing a holistic wellness model based on AYUSH principles and practices focusing on preventive, promotive, curative, rehabilitative and palliative healthcare by integration with the existing public health care system.

Modi also praised the AYUSH Ministry in promoting yoga at home to de-stress the mind and strengthen the body during this difficult phase.

Modi also suggested that AYUSH medicine producers

Modi interacts with Chhaya, frontline warrior against corona

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Prime Minister also interacted with Chhaya, a nurse of Pune's Naidu hospital, to applaud frontline corona warriors like her and a medical student from Kashmir, Nizam, who was rescued from Wuhan, to know his experience and take feedback about the Government's assistance to him and 60 other students along with him.

could utilise their resources towards producing essential items like sanitisers which are in high demand and exhorted them to utilise the platform of telemedicine to reach out to the public and generate constant awareness to fight the pandemic. He also highlighted the importance of enforcing social distancing with full vigour to counter the spread of the pandemic.

The AYUSH practitioners also lauded the Prime Minister for leading the country's fight against COVID-19 and talked about the impact of these traditional practices towards boosting immunity.

All BJP MPs to release ₹1 cr each from their MPLAD fund: Nadda

DEEPAK K UPRETI ■ NEW DELHI

BJP president J P Nadda on Saturday announced that all party MPs will release ₹1 crore from their annual development fund to the Central relief fund to fight coronavirus pandemic even as he, through a video-conferencing, spoke to State BJP presidents of West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka and reviewed party's programme to feed five crore people daily.

Nadda, who announced BJP parliamentarians' contribution of ₹1 crore through MPLADS (Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme) fund, also said that all party MPs and MLAs will donate their one month salary as well towards the country's fight against the pandemic.

"All MPs & MLAs of Bharatiya Janata Party will donate their one month remuneration/salary to the central relief fund to support the fight against Covid-19. All MPs of BJP will release Rs 1 crore from their MPLADS fund to the central relief fund in support to fight against Covid-19," he said in his tweet.

The party at present has 386 MPs — 303 in Lok Sabha and 83 in Rajya Sabha. An MP gets ₹ 5 crore every year as part of the MPLADS.

Nadda through videoconferencing reviewed party's cooked food distribution programme by speaking to state

presidents, General Secretaries, senior office bearers, MPs, MLAs and district presidents of West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka, and sought them to make the food distribution a success. He said not a single person should be left hungry "in this hour of crisis".

BJP General Secretary (Organization) B L Santosh was present during the meeting.

Nadda asked BJP workers to help out administration of respective states in the conduct of transportation and enforcement of lockdown as also assist the people who are self-quarantined. BJP has an estimated 11 crore of workers and is thus also recognized as the largest party in the world. A week before the lockdown, BJP had cancelled its all programmes across the country.

BJP president appreciated union health ministry's establishment of a task force, purchase order of 40,000 new ventilator, five lakh antibody kit through ICMR and seven lakh RNA kit and described it as positive step. Modi-government has made provision of ₹15,000 crore to deal with COVID-19.

Nadda highlighted Prime Minister's "statesmanship" during the crisis and his meetings with every section of society and in this series recalled his videoconferencing with the editors of print and electronic media as also with RJs (radio jockeys).

BRO personnel working hard to replace 'Daporijo bridge'

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Notwithstanding the threat of COVID-19, the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) personnel are working relentlessly to completely replace Daporijo bridge (430 feet Multi-Span Bailey Bridge), the only lifeline of Upper Subansiri district, Arunachal Pradesh to restore Lines of Communication for all 451 villages and security forces located along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) facing China.

The armed forces have also activated isolation wards near the LAC and the Line of Control (LOC) facing Pakistan to deal with any case of the pandemic. The Army may also recall retired personnel with medical expertise if a need arises to shore up resources.

Giving details of the BRO undertaking the mission to construct the bridge, officials said here on Saturday more than 100 personnel of 23 BRTF/Project Arunank, on special request from the local administration, is working in full swing in spite of the dilapidated state of the existing bridge.

They said the BRO is committed to opening this vital line of communication by planned date, with all necessary precautionary measures. This bridge will ensure uninterrupted supplies like food and ammunition to the soldiers deployed on the LAC besides catering to the needs of the local population, sources said.

The BRO is the lead construction agency to build strategically important roads all along the LOC and LAC in inhospitable terrain and inclement weather. At present, the BRO is entrusted with the responsibility of constructing 72 strategic roads mostly in states having the LAC facing China.

Given this backdrop, the BRO in the northern part of the country is presently engaged in snow clearance operations on Manali - Leh axis, day and night despite inclement weather and COVID 19 threat to provide relief to Lahaul valley and Ladakh in an earlier time frame. Presently, Rohtang Pass and Baralacha Pass are being cleared by four snow clearance teams. This is the first time, BRO personnel were inducted by air to Sarchu to carry out snow clearance of mighty Baralacha Pass from Sarchu side.

In a connected issue, Director General Armed Forces Medical Services (AFMS) Lt General Anup Banerji said here isolation wards at peripheral hospitals were activated at Army formations along LOC and LAC.

Moreover, "Intensive information, education and communication campaigns are going on for serving personnel. Leave extension of those on leave as well as curtailment of leave to bare minimum have been imposed. Segregation facilities have been set up to observe troops already back

from leave from various States," he said.

As regards the ongoing efforts to fight the pandemic, he said 28 Service Hospitals were earmarked as COVID hospitals for managing purely Corona virus cases. This will include Armed Forces as well as civilian patients transferred from state health authorities, in case their capacity is overwhelmed.

Banerji also said as of now, there are five hospitals across Army, Navy and Air Force which can carry out COVID test. These include Army Hospital Research and Referral, Delhi; Command Hospital Air Force, Bangalore and Armed Forces Medical College, Pune; Command Hospital (Central Command) Lucknow; Command Hospital (Northern Command) Udhampur. Six more hospitals are being equipped shortly with the resources to begin testing.

On the availability of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), the AFMS chief said it is a challenge at national as well as global level, adding that advisory for rational usage of PPE has been issued to the Services.

"The AFMS is presently geared up with adequate PPEs for use in our hospitals. Additional procurement is also being planned to tide over crisis foreseen during the coming weeks and months since the Armed Forces have been directed to augment medical resources for the civil health set up also," he added.

Min urges corporate, biz houses based along highways to help migrant workers on move



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Union Minister Ravishankar Prasad on Saturday said he would advise corporate and business houses, which have their factories or premises along the highways or roadsides, to provide help to migrant workers on the move in the wake of coronavirus shutdown.

"If any India corporates have factories or premises along roads in Delhi, UP or Bihar, I would advise them to make arrangement for their food and shelter after isolating them," said Prasad even as he pointed out that the

Government was reviewing the situation on a daily basis.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has tasked all in the government to take a specific responsibility and spoken to all Chief Ministers and bodies of pharmacist and doctors, he said adding constant supervision is being made as to how masks, ventilators or other medical equipments are being purchased.

On why the Government did not envisage workers' exodus and make arrangements while it airlifted Indians from abroad, Prasad said if workers had stayed back provisioning for food would have been

made. "If you go out, you are inviting trouble... Long walk of 500 km is not acceptable," he said.

The Minister said he has personally spoken to 19 District magistrates and SPs in Bihar and has been told by them that all migrant workers who have come from abroad and outside Bihar have been quarantined.

Prasad said the Uttar Pradesh Government has opened community kitchens at different places to provide support to labourers on the roadsides. He said all States including Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh were cooperating and working in unison.

Online education on rise since corona outbreak

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

With people and students staying indoors ever since the beginning of the country wide lockdown, there has been an increase of users on the digital platforms of education.

According to the HRD Ministry, the digital education initiatives have registered an increase in users and HRD Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank said that the access to the National Online Education Platform SWAYAM and other Digital Initiatives has tripled in the last one week.

The increase in the users is also because of the provision of free access. Earlier the courses on SWAYAM were time bound and students needed to register in advance.

The SWAYAM courses can now be viewed by any learner free of cost without any registration. About 50,000 people have accessed SWAYAM since March 23, 2020. This is over and above the 25 lakh students/learners who are already enrolled in the 571 courses of the January 2020 semester of SWAYAM. SWAYAM has about 1900 courses which can be accessed by people in over 60 countries. The videos of the SWAYAM Prabha DTH TV channels are viewed by around 50,000 people every day. The National Digital Library is now being accessed by about 43,000 people daily which is more than double of the usual number of persons accessing it. The Education portals of NCERT like Diksha, e-pathasala, NROER and NIOS and the other ICT initiatives like Robotics education (e-Yantra), Open Source Software for Education (FOSSEE), Virtual experiments (Virtual Labs) and Learning programming (Spoken tutorial) are also experiencing very large access rates.

UP to release 11K prisoners for 8 weeks

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The Uttar Pradesh Government ordered the release of around 11,000 convicts and undertrials housed in 72 jails of the State to ease overcrowding and thereby prevent the spread of coronavirus.

A high-level committee headed by senior judge of Allahabad High Court, Justice Pankaj Kumar Jaiswal, and two

members, Additional Chief Secretary (Home) Awanish Awasthi and DG (Jails) Anand Kumar made the recommendation to the Government which was approved by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Saturday.

Of the prisoners to be released are 8,500 under-trials and 2,500 convicts.

Earlier, the Supreme Court had ordered all states to con-

sider the release of convicts on parole, whose punishment was not of more than seven years, so that the jails could be saved from overcrowding to prevent the spread of virus among prisoners.

As per officials, undertrials would be given bail for eight weeks on personal bonds while the convicts would be given parole for eight weeks in a similar manner.

Human rights bodies ask police to ensure marginalised are not mistreated during lockdown

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Amnesty International and the Human Rights Watch (HRW) on Saturday urged police forces in the country to act with restraint while maintaining law and order during the coronavirus lockdown.

The lockdown has left millions stranded, struggling to search for food and water, Amnesty International India (AII) executive director Avinash Kumar said in a statement. "Unfortunately for these people, a state machinery has become a larger threat than the COVID-19 pandemic," he said.

This is "unfortunate" and the Indian Government must

ensure that "insensitivity and brute force be replaced by people-friendly measures in battling the pandemic," he said.

Kumar said India should respect and protect the rights of those under quarantine and ensure that their basic needs are met, including adequate shelter, food, water and sanitation.

HRW South Asia director Meenakshi Ganguly too urged Indian authorities to ensure that everyone has access to food and medical care, and that the poor and marginalised are not mistreated or stigmatised.

"The Indian Government's responsibility to protect its people from the outbreak should not come at the cost of

human rights violations," she said.

Tens of thousands of out-of-work migrant workers are stranded with rail and bus services shut down in the country. "Police actions to punish those violating orders have reportedly resulted in abuses against people in need," she alleged.

"Indian police should be ordered to act with restraint while enforcing the lockdown. In several states, photos and videos show police beating people who are trying to get essential supplies. In West Bengal,

police allegedly beat a 32-year-old man to death, after he stepped out of his home to get milk," she said.

Cong forms task force to mitigate people's sufferings



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Congress on Saturday constituted a task force to intensify efforts of party-ruled States to deal with the situation due to COVID-19 and help mitigate the sufferings of people.

The task force includes former Union Ministers P Chidambaram, Jairam Ramesh, M Veerappa Moily and Tamradhwaj Sahu.

A statement from the AICC said that the Congress president Sonia Gandhi has constituted a task force to intensify the efforts of Congress-ruled State Governments to deal with the situation prevailing on account of COVID-19, in a coordinated manner.

The members of the task force will start work immediately with the respective Congress-ruled State Governments to ensure that the daily distress and suffering of people is mitigated, the statement said.

"P Chidambaram, Jairam Ramesh, Tamradhwaj Sahu and Veerappa Moily, i.e. the chairmen of respective manifesto implementation committees in the Congress-ruled States will be its members," the Congress communication added.

The Congress has been criticising the Centre for not initiating enough measures to mitigate the sufferings of the poor and marginalised, who are facing hardships in view of the countrywide lockdown declared by the Prime Minister.

UP Govt: Nobody will die for want of food

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Declaring that no one would die of hunger in Uttar Pradesh, Additional Chief Secretary (Home) Awanish Awasthi said that community kitchen and doorstep delivery of food items had eased the situation with the masses getting essential commodities at home.

"Community kitchens have started serving people who are poor and have lost employment due to the lockdown. Till date, 527 kitchens are functioning and catering to 1.37 lakh people," Awasthi told media persons in Lucknow on Saturday.

The additional chief secretary said that people who were on roads were being fed at every place even as Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath exhorted them to stay at one place so that the district authorities

The additional chief secretary said that people who were on roads were being fed at every place even as Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath exhorted them to stay at one place so that the district authorities could take care of their needs.

could take care of their needs. Awasthi said that doorstep delivery of food items had been a success as the number of delivery vans had gone up to 26,298.

"Besides, the government has roped in 8,833 provision stores to deliver products at homes while 8,852 vans are being used for supply of over 15 lakh litres of milk," he said.

Talking about the supply of

foodgrains through Public distribution system (PDS), Awasthi said that of the 3.23 crore ration cards in the State, 1.94 crore had been given foodgrains so far and 70 lakh below poverty line (BPL) card holders had been given free ration.

The additional chief secretary said that 58,552 gram pradhans were contacted through the CM Helpline along with 11,000 counsellors to make them aware about the facilities.

Besides, he said, 11,900 complaints received on CM Helpline 1,076 were resolved.

Giving details of the action taken against people for violating lockdown, Awasthi said that 4,642 FIRs were registered against 14,115 accused under Section 188 of the Indian Penal Code.

Besides, he said, 24 FIRs were registered against traders selling products at higher rates.

Punjab, Haryana farmers explore 'sell-from-farm' option to neutralise 'corona effect'

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

Given the mass exodus of labourers due to the nationwide lockdown, farmers of Punjab and Haryana are exploring the option of 'off-market' sale or what they call it as 'sell-from-farm'. For its part, the Maharashtra Government has asked farmers to form groups to sell vegetables and other essential items directly to consumers during the lockdown and to allow farmers to ferry the produce. Presently, 1,600-1,800 wholesale mandis has started func-

tioning partially and fully despite the shortage of labourers. There are 6,900 mandis in the country.

Farmers across the country are in panic because the ripening fruits and vegetables will rot because mandi operations have almost stopped, and labour cannot reach farms due to transport bottlenecks. Marketing of produce is now becoming a challenge for the farmers. Officials of Haryana Agriculture Department said that farmers who usually sell their crops through an established supply chain that was set

up by the Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee's (APMCs) have adopted a method to avoid market yards and sell their produces from their doorstep. Several farmers have started to sell their products from the farm and started supplying through their tractors.

According to farmers, losses will mount because it is harvest time for grapes, watermelons, bananas, muskmelon, chana, cotton, chillies, turmeric, jeera, coriander, onion and potato. Farmers are more concerned about dispose of their veg-

etables and fruits that is perishable.

Yudhvir Singh of Bharatiya Kisan Sangh, claimed that most of the APMCs are closed at all major markets. "There are restrictions regarding the movement also. So in a scenario like this, the farmers have no option but to sit at home with their produce lying on the field. Therefore, more and more farmers are now resorting to this mode of trade because they need money immediately so that by March end, they can repay their loan obligations," Singh added.

Binod Pandey of All India Kisan Mahasanghan said that at a time when APMCs are closed and supply chains are disrupted, the off-market sales model may rescue many farmers, who are often found off-guard and are vulnerable in times of natural calamities or market-driven fluctuations. "Therefore, more and more farmers are now resorting to this mode of trade because they need money immediately so that by March end, they can repay their loan obligations," Pandey added.

Officials of agriculture

ministry said that in Haryana, most of the APMCs have been closed. Some of them are opened but facing uphill tasks due to shortage of labourers.

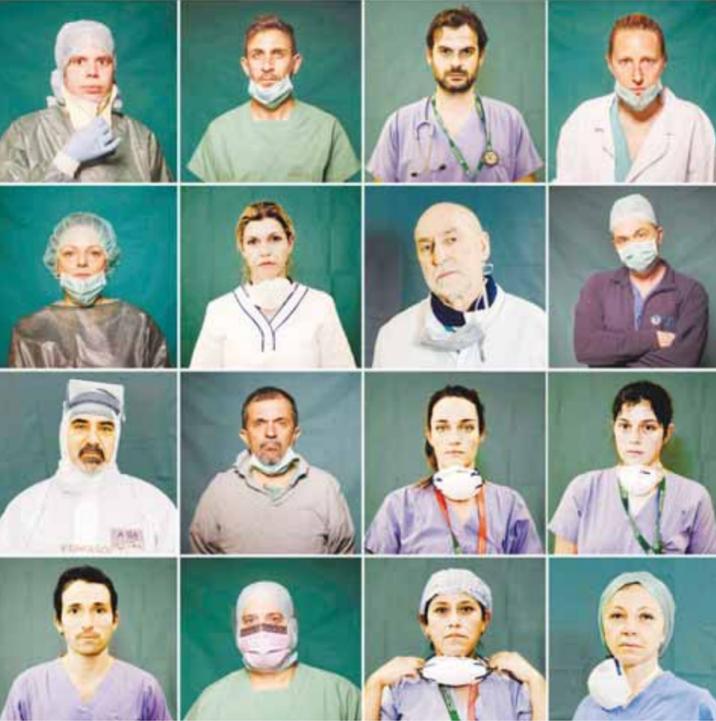
In Gujarat, There was confusion as grain APMCs has been told to open markets on Thursday, but on Friday said that they had spoken to farmers and traders, with all of them having agreed to resume on April

2. In Mumbai, several restrictions have been imposed on mandis to avoid gatherings. However, most mandis dealing in essentials have started func-

tioning. Grain market, vegetables, onion-potato all have resumed operations with staggered timing for loading, unloading and traders. According to officials of Ministry of Agriculture, over 2,000 wholesale mandis have started functioning after the nationwide lockdown across the country. In Azadpur mandi, which is Asia's largest subzi mandi also are opened. There is no shortage of vegetables and fruits but there is no labour. Several trucks of farmers come to Azadpur on Saturday.

The agriculture ministry says there is no scarcity of vegetables and fruits in mandis. The grain mandis get activated during the time of harvest. Right now, the focus is on vegetable and fruit mandis. To normalise supply in major cities, the Centre has asked Mother Dairy's Safal vegetable outlets in Delhi, Safal Bangla retail outlets in Kolkata, Hopcoms retail outlets in Bengaluru and similar outlets in Chennai and Mumbai to monitor movement of supplies and coordinate with local administration.

ITALY'S MEDICAL HEROES



A combo of portraits of Italian doctors and nurses taken during a break or at the end of their shifts in Rome, Bergamo and Brescia, Italy. The intensive care doctors and nurses on the front lines of the coronavirus pandemic in Italy are often almost unrecognizable behind their masks, scrubs, gloves and hairnets their only barrier to contagion. Associated Press photographers fanned out to photograph them during rare breaks from hospital intensive care units in the Lombardy region cities of Bergamo and Brescia, and in Rome. In each case, doctors, nurses and paramedics posed in front of forest green surgical drapes, the bland backdrop of their sterile wards

Tech volunteers use 3D printers to make crucial virus masks

Edinburgh: 3D printer owners across Britain have answered the call of health leaders by teaming up to produce thousands of face visors to protect medical workers from being infected with coronavirus. The project, known as 3DCrowdUK, launched on Monday after medical institutions raised the alarm about potential equipment shortages due to the closure of supply factories affected by the virus. "We are basically getting all the people around the country who have 3D printers and we're enlisting them in our project to create face shields for the NHS," digital artist and 3D printer owner Seb Lee-Delisle told AFP. "We literally set it up on Monday and by now we have got hundreds and hundreds of people involved." The shortage of masks arose after factories in China closed due to the spread of the coronavirus in January and February. The masks are easy to assemble. Once the 3D printer has created the headband, a plastic film is placed on the front and elastic attached the back to hold it in place. AFP

Clashes erupt as people try to enter virus-hit Hubei

Beijing: In a rare display of public anger in China, dozens of people in central Hubei province, the epicentre of the coronavirus outbreak till recently, attacked official vehicles after they were stopped from crossing a bridge and travel to neighbouring Jiangxi after the lifting of the lockdown. Hubei province with over 56 million people was kept under lockdown from January 23 as part of aggressive measures to bring down COVID-19 cases which rapidly spread in the area. Videos on Chinese social media on Friday showed unprecedented scenes of police from Hubei and Jiangxi clashing on the bridge connecting the two provinces over barricades erected from stopping Hubei people from moving out over fears of coronavirus spreading. Policemen from both sides argued over how to verify if people were allowed to enter Jiangxi, according to local media reports. It was a major relief for millions of people in Hubei province, when the Chinese Government which kept it under lockdown lifted the restrictions on travel. The Government will permitted people from the province to travel if they hold a green health code, meaning no contact with any infected or suspected COVID-19 cases. PTI

Virus prevention measures turn violent in parts of Africa

AP ■ JOHANNESBURG
Police fired tear gas at a crowd of Kenyan ferry commuters as the country's first day of a coronavirus curfew slid into chaos. Elsewhere, officers were captured in mobile phone footage whacking people with batons. Virus prevention measures have taken a violent turn in parts of Africa as countries impose lockdowns and curfews or seal off major cities. Health experts say the virus' spread, though still at an early stage on the continent, resembles that of Europe, adding to widespread anxiety. Cases across Africa were set to jump above 4,000 on Saturday. Abuses of the new measures by authorities are an immediate concern. PTI

Wall Street tumbles after US tops world in virus cases

FIANS ■ NEW YORK
US stocks ended significantly lower amid the fast-growing spread of coronavirus in the country. On Friday, the Dow Jones Industrial Average slumped 915.39 points, or 4.06 per cent, to 21,636.78. The S&P 500 decreased 88.60 points, or 3.37 per cent, to 2,541.47. The Nasdaq Composite Index shed 295.16 points, or 3.79 per cent, to 7,502.38. Xinhua news agency reported. 10 of the 11 primary S&P 500 sectors traded lower, with energy down 6.93 per cent, becoming the worst-performing group. Utilities climbed 0.53 per cent, the only gainer among the sectors. The US became the country with the most COVID-19 cases worldwide on Thursday, according to Johns Hopkins University. As of 2 pm Eastern Time on Friday (1800 GMT), there were 94,238 confirmed cases in the United States, with 1,438 deaths, data from the university's Centre for Systems Science and Engineering showed. A shocking number of Americans applied for jobless benefits last week due to the coronavirus outbreak. US initial jobless claims, a rough way to measure layoffs, were registered at 3,283,000 in the week ending March 21, an increase of 3,001,000 from the previous week's revised level, the Department of Labor reported Thursday. The reading easily crushed the previous record rise of 695,000 in October 1982. Following a Senate approval earlier this week, the US House of Representatives on Friday passed a US \$2 trillion COVID-19 stimulus package by voice vote, sending it to President Donald Trump for signature. PTI

Pak anti-graft body summons Sharif in 34-year-old case

Lahore: Former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, who is set to undergo a heart procedure next week in London, has been summoned by 34-yr-old anti-graft body to appear before it on March 31 for allegedly misusing his power in a land case when he was chief minister of Punjab province in 1986. PTI

PUBLIC NOTICE
ICICI Bank
Branch office: ICICI Bank Ltd, Shal tower Plot no 23, New Rohtak Road, Karol Bag, New Delhi -110055
Authorized Officer of ICICI Bank hereby inform that all scheduled auctions, to be held for the period between April 1, 2020 till April 14, 2020 under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 stands postponed until further notice, due to unprecedented outbreak of Corona Virus (COVID-19). The list of auction that has postponed given hereunder:

Sr. No	Name of Borrower(s)/Co Borrowers/ Guarantors	Details of the Secured asset (s) with known encumbrances, if any	Scheduled Date & Time of Auction
1.	Satyaveer Singh (Borrower), Suman (Co-Borrower), LBDEL00001386142	Flat No. 1, 1st Floor, Plot No. S-2, Block-A, Shalimaar Garden Extension-2, Ghaziabad (UP)- 201002 Area of Property- 600 Sq Feet, Types of Property: Residential Flat	April 09, 2020, From 12:00 PM onwards

Dated: 28-03-2020
Place : Delhi/NCR
Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

UJVN LIMITED
(An Uttarakhand Govt. Enterprise)
H.O.: UJVN/1, Mahatma Bhagat Singh Road, Dehradun - 248006. CIN No. U41010/UP/2009/SCC028586
Tel.: 0135-2763508 Fax: 0135-2763507 Website: www.uttarakhandjalvdyut.com

Date Extension Notice-2
Due to unavoidable reasons, the dates of tender invited for "Hiring the services of Ambulances, fitted with all standard accessories, medical facilities and fittings as required for round-the-clock duty (i.e. 24X7), on rental basis for 12 months for nearby village affected people of Vyasi project" against NIT No. 09/UJVNL/03/EE(Civil-I)/VP/2019-20 are hereby extended as follows:
1. Last Date/Time for receipt of bid : 20.04.2020 up to 17.00 Hrs.
2. Date of opening of bid: 21.04.2020 at 15.30 Hrs.
All other terms & conditions of the tender shall remain unchanged. Details of Tender & subsequent addendum/corrigendum/cancellation etc. may be obtained from the Nigam's website www.uttarakhandjalvdyut.com.
Executive Engineer (Civil-I)
Vyasi Project, Lakhwar Bhawan, Dakpathar
Ref. No.: 178/Dated : 27.03.2020
"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

Himalaya Food International Ltd
(Formerly, Himalaya International Limited)
Regd. Office: 118, 1st Floor, 12 Gagandeep Building, Rajendra Place, New Delhi-110008
Tel. +91 11 45108609, Fax: +91 1704 225178
E-mail id: cs@himalayainternational.com
website: www.himalayafoodcompany.com

NOTICE
Notice is hereby given that the Extra ordinary General Meeting (EGM) of the Company had scheduled at Head office of Company at Village ShubhKhera, Paonta Sahib, Himachal Pardesh-173025 on Monday, 30th March, 2020 at 3.00 P.M. to transact the business as set out in the notice convening the said Extra ordinary General Meeting.
However in the light of recent decision of 21 days lockdown in Whole Country by Govt. of India on account of the spared of the COVID-19 pandemic, the said EGM has been postponed till the situation normalised. The details of the same will be shared with shareholders in due course. Company will intimate Rescheduled date with shareholders when situation normalised.
For Himalaya Food International Ltd.
Sd/-
Place: Delhi
Date: 28.03.2020
Surabhi Maheshwari
(Company Secretary)

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that a girl namely **Kanchan Bahadur**, R/o **H.No. 22, Gali No. 6, Sainik Enclave-2, Mohan Garden, Delhi**, Age : 25 yrs., Height : 5 ft., Complexion : Fair, Face : Round, Wearing : **White Colour T-Shirt, Black Colour Pant and Black-Red Colour Chappal in Feet**, has been missing / kidnapped since **11.03.2020** from the area of PS. Ranhola. In this regard a case **DD No. 33-A dated 12.03.2020** has been lodged at PS. Ranhola, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local Police to trace out the missing / kidnapped girl but no clue has come to light so far.
if anyone have any information about this missing / kidnapped girl please inform undersigned
Website: http://cbi.nic.in, Email: cbc@cbi.gov.in, Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641, Fax: 011-24368639
SHO
PS. Ranhola, Delhi
DP/97/OD/2020. Ph.: 011-28363001, 28363002, 28363003

Will speak to banks to facilitate cash flow, ensure timely access: FM

PTI ■ NEW DELHI
Lauding efforts of bankers in this difficult time, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Saturday said that she will speak to all banks to facilitate cash flow and enable timely access to all. She also assured that she will talk to states and ensure that there are no restrictions in the movement of cash, bankers, vendors or bank mitra. "Appreciate the service Bank Mitra/Banking Correspondents are undertaking across the country. Will talk to states — request no restrictions in their movements. Will speak to all banks to facilitate cash flow. Let's ensure timely access to all," the Finance Minister said in a series of tweets. It is to be noted that the Government earlier this week announced a slew of measures, including direct benefit transfer of cash assistance to poor, old age people and disabled, for mitigating hardship posed by outbreak of coronavirus. "The entire banking fra-

Tata Trusts announces ₹500 cr to fight COVID-19

FIANS ■ MUMBAI
In one of the biggest gestures of corporate benevolence, the Tata Trusts on Saturday announced an amount of Rs 500 crore to fight the COVID-19 pandemic raging around the world. Tata Trusts Chairman Ratan N Tata said the current situation in India and across the world is of grave concern and needs immediate action. "In this exceptionally difficult period, I believe that urgent emergency resources need to be deployed to cope with the needs of fighting the COVID-19 crisis, which is one of the toughest challenges the human race will face," Tata said. He made a pledge to protect and empower all affected communities with a commitment of Rs 500 crore for waging the "war against virus". The amount would be used

Tata Sons announces ₹1K cr

Mumbai: Tata Sons announced an additional Rs 1,000 crore support towards fighting COVID 19. This is in addition to the Rs 500 crore announced by the Tata Trusts. N Chandrasekharan, Chairman Tata Sons said, "The current situation in India and other parts of the world owing to the impact of COVID 19 is very worrisome and requires our very best action." and knowledge management and training of health workers plus the general public. He said Tata Trusts, Tata Sons and Tata Group companies are joined by committed local and global partners and the government to fight this crisis on a united public health collaboration platform which will strive to reach sections that are underprivileged and deprived. "We are deeply grateful and have immense respect for every person of member organisations who have risked their lives and safety to fight this pandemic," Tata said in a statement.

Infosys terminates services of employee making inappropriate post on social media

New Delhi: Infosys on Friday said it has terminated the services of the employee who had made an "inappropriate post" on social media related to the coronavirus outbreak. Infosys, in a tweet from its official handle, said social media post by the employee is against its code of conduct and its commitment to responsible social sharing. "Infosys has completed its investigation on the social media post by one of its employees, and we believe that this is not a case of mistaken identity," it noted. The individual, whose post triggered an outrage on Twitter on Thursday, had said "Let's join hands, go out and sneeze with open in public. Spread the virus". IANS

GEM creates separate page for medical equipment to help Govt fight Covid-19

New Delhi: Public procurement portal GEM has created a dedicated page on its platform for medical and protective equipment like thermal scanners, biohazard bags and disinfectants to help the Government fight Covid-19 pandemic, an official said. It has created several categories for medical supplies such as COVID-19 sample collection kit, reusable vinyl/rubber gloves (cleaning), eye protection (visor/goggles), disposable thermometers, single use towels, thermal scanner, cardiac monitors, ICU beds, ambulance, stretcher, wheel chair, portable x-ray machines and surgical isolation face shield, among others. PTI

Hyundai Motor's CSR arm ordering advanced testing kits for coronavirus from Korea

PTI ■ NEW DELHI
Hyundai Motor India Foundation (HMIF), the CSR arm of Hyundai Motor India, on Saturday said it is ordering advanced diagnostic testing kits for coronavirus infection from South Korea as part of its measures to combat the pandemic. These advanced kits have a very high level of accuracy and can help serve over 25,000 people, Hyundai Motor India Ltd (HMIL) said in a statement. "Post receiving the shipment, the kits will be distributed in consultation with the Centre, and state governments to the hospitals in affected areas," it added. PTI

Mother Dairy doubles supply of fruits, vegetables to over 300 tonne/day in Delhi-NCR

New Delhi: Mother Dairy has doubled its supply of fruits and vegetables in Delhi-NCR at over 300 tonne per day to meet the rising demand amid the nationwide lockdown even as it faces some logistics challenges, a senior company official said. "Before the lockdown, we used to supply 160-180 tonne of fruits and vegetables per day in Delhi-NCR through our Safal retail stores. Now, we are supplying more than 300 tonne every day," said Pradipta Sahoo, business head of Safal. On Friday, Mother Dairy supplied 320 tonne, he said adding the company could increase it to up to 400 tonne per day. He pointed that there are logistics challenges like shortage of labourers and transportation issues but the company is managing. PTI

Telcos to opt for EMI moratorium; tariff to remain stable: COAI

New Delhi: Debt-ridden telecom operators are likely to opt for three-month moratorium to avoid cash crunch during the lockdown, industry body Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI) said on Saturday. The telecom operators have spoken in favour of raising mobile call and internet rates at the earliest, however, they will keep the prices stable during the lockdown period, COAI DG Rajan S Mathews told PTI. "There is debt of around Rs 1.6-2 lakh crore that telecom operators owe to Indian banks. They will opt three-month moratorium in loan repayment to help them maintain cash flow. It is a relief for them," Mathews said. COAI also allied fear of hike in tariff by the telecom operators. PTI

Cyber security risk increases amid 'work from home' trend

FIANS ■ NEW DELHI
With companies across the globe turning to work from home, via the online medium amid the COVID-19 outbreak, threats to cyber security have increased. Deepak Bhawnani, CEO at Alea Consulting said: "Companies, large and small, will be impacted due to ramifications of work from home, as this will lead to cyber security risk concerns. Proprietary corporate data is being accessed from laptops and home PCs that may not have the same level of firewall and security as in-office setups. Management and IT managers will subsequently need to reassess the risk to their data, and proactively evaluate their data loss prevention processes, as this can impact their reputation going forward, he added. Further, cybercriminals has also started to exploit fears around the COVID-19 outbreak to conduct email scams, phishing and ransomware attacks. Palo Alto Networks' Regional Vice President for India & SAARC Anil Bhasin said: "Cyber-criminals have been exploiting fears around the COVID-19 outbreak to conduct email scams, phishing and ransomware attacks. These emails and messages entice users to open malicious attachments by offering more information related to the COVID-19 situation but contain malicious files masked under the guise of links, pdf, mp4 or docx files. With employees taking to work-from-home, cyber security threat multiplies, says Debasis Mukherjee, VP, Regional Sales APAC at SonicWall. "These are exactly the times when hackers get creative with their malicious intent of hacking into devices and stealing data," Mukherjee said. From creating malicious links to developing otherwise unsuspecting apps, the hackers of the digital age are getting creative in executing their attacks. PTI

BRIEFS

NHPC AIRLIFTS MEDICAL MATERIALS TO IMPHAL
New Delhi: Keeping in view COVID-19 pandemic and 21 days countrywide lockdown to fight the crisis, in a major humanitarian gesture, NHPC Limited, India's premier hydropower company has arranged airlifting 2.6 metric tonnes of medical materials for Government of Manipur from New Delhi to Imphal on March 28. AK Singh, Chairman and Managing Director, NHPC said, "NHPC is fully committed to stand with the nation in this moment of crisis and has already earmarked Rs 4.5 crore to fight the COVID-19 pandemic in the country. The timely supply of medical material is most crucial and therefore we have aided the airlifting of medical material to Imphal which is remotely located and difficult to reach by road."
NTPC WITH NATION TO FIGHT AGAINST CORONAVIRUS
New Delhi: NTPC Ltd, India's largest power producer, has stepped up its vigil against global pandemic of COVID-19 by converting its hospitals into dedicated Covid-19 units. NTPC has already utilised its 45 hospitals/health units to make isolation facilities and procured requisite number of equipment for the medical staff to handle such cases effectively. As many as 121 beds, with all facilities, have been turned into isolation wards in these hospitals.

GLOBAL DEATH TOLL OVER 28,000

While US now leads world in reported infections — with more than 1,04,000 cases — 5 countries exceed its roughly 1,700 deaths: Italy, Spain, China, Iran and France

Virus infections top 6L worldwide, long fight ahead

AP ■ BERLIN
The number of confirmed coronavirus infections worldwide topped 6,20,000 on Saturday as new cases stacked up quickly in Europe and the United States and officials dug in for a long fight against the pandemic.

The latest landmark came only two days after the world passed half a million infections, according to a tally by John Hopkins University, showing that much work remains to be done to slow the spread of the virus. It showed more than 6,07,000 cases and a total of over 28,000 deaths.

While the US now leads the world in reported infections — with more than 1,04,000 cases — five countries exceed its roughly 1,700 deaths: Italy, Spain, China, Iran and France.

"We cannot completely prevent infections at this stage, but we can and must in the immediate future achieve fewer new infections per day, a slower spread," German Chancellor Angela Merkel, who is in quarantine at home after her doctor tested positive for the virus, told her compatriots in an audio message. "That will decide whether our health system can stand up to the virus."

The virus already has put health systems in Italy, Spain and France under extreme strain. Lockdowns of varying severity have been introduced across Europe, nearly emptying streets in normally bustling cities, including Paris where

drone photos showed the city's landmarks eerily deserted.

Merkel's chief of staff, Helge Braun, said that Germany — where authorities closed nonessential shops and banned gatherings of more than two in public — won't relax its restrictions before April 20.

Spain, where stay-at-home restrictions have been in place for nearly two weeks, reported 832 more deaths on Saturday, its highest daily total yet, bringing its total to 5,690. Another 8,000 confirmed infections pushed that count above 72,000.

Doctors, nurses and ambulance drivers in its worst-hit regions are falling ill at an alarming rate and working nonstop. More than 9,000 health workers in the country have been infected.

"We are completely overwhelmed," said ambulance medic Pablo Rojo at Barcelona's Dos de Maig hospital. "Seven or eight (patients transported today) and all with COVID-19. ... And the average age is decreasing. They're not 80 years old anymore, they are now 30 and 40 years old."

"Sometimes you become a bit paranoid, you don't know any more when you pick up the phone if you have cleaned your hands, if you've sanitized them or not. You touch your face with your hands," Rojo said.

Spain has struggled to get coronavirus tests and protective gear for health workers. The government has started flights



This image taken from drone video shows the empty streets of Paris around the Arc de Triomphe during lockdown

AP

to transport the supplies directly from China to reduce waiting times.

As the epicenter has shifted westward, the situation has calmed in China, where some restrictions on people's lives have now been lifted. Six subway lines restored limited service after the city had its official

coronavirus risk evaluation downgraded from high to medium on Friday. Five districts of the city of 11 million people had other restrictions on travel loosened after their risk factor was downgraded to low.

For most people, the coronavirus causes mild or moderate symptoms, such as fever and cough that clear up in two to three weeks. But for others,

especially older adults and people with existing health problems, the virus can cause more severe illness, including pneumonia, and lead to death.

More than 130,000 people have recovered, according to Johns Hopkins' tally.

In one way or another, the effects of the COVID-19 outbreak have been felt by two powerful and the poor alike.

On Friday, British Prime Minister Boris Johnson became the first leader of a major country to test positive for the virus.

He said he would continue to work from self-quarantine. Countries are still scrambling bring home some citizens stranded abroad by border closures and a near-shutdown of flights. On Saturday, 174 for-

eign tourists and four Nepali nationals on the foothills of Mount Everest were flown out days after being stranded on the only airstrip serving the world's highest mountain.

In neighboring India, authorities sent a fleet of buses to the outskirts of the capital to meet an exodus of migrant workers desperately trying to reach their home villages during the world's largest lockdown.

Thousands of people had fled their New Delhi homes after Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced a 21-day lockdown that began on Wednesday and effectively put millions of Indians who live off daily earnings out of work.

In parts of Africa, virus prevention measures have taken a violent turn as countries impose lockdowns and curfews or seal off major cities, with police in Kenya firing tear gas and officers elsewhere captured in mobile phone footage whacking people with batons.

In the United States, New York remained the worst-hit city, but Americans braced for worsening conditions elsewhere, with worrisome infection numbers being reported in New Orleans, Chicago and Detroit.

New Orleans' sprawling Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, along the Mississippi River, was being converted into a massive hospital as officials prepared for thousands more patients than they could

accommodate.

In New York, where there are more than 44,000 cases statewide, the number of people hospitalised with COVID-19 passed 6,000 on Friday, double what it had been three days earlier.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo called for 4,000 more temporary beds across New York City, where the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center has already been converted into a hospital.

The struggle to defeat the virus will take "weeks and weeks and weeks," Cuomo told members of the National Guard working at the Javits Center.

President Donald Trump invoked the Defense Production Act on Friday, ordering General Motors to begin manufacturing ventilators.

Trump signed a \$2.2 trillion stimulus package, after the House approved the sweeping measure by voice vote. Lawmakers in both parties lined up behind the law to send checks to millions of Americans, boost unemployment benefits, help businesses and toss a life preserver to an overwhelmed health care system.

Dr. John Brooks of the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention warned Americans remained "in the acceleration phase" of the pandemic and that all corners of the country were at risk.

"There is no geographic part of the United States that is spared from this," he said.

Around the Globe

Scottish Secretary Alister Jack has developed symptoms of COVID-19, as the number of people with the coronavirus to die in the UK Passed the 1,000 mark on Saturday

The streets of Moscow were eerily quiet on Saturday with shops and restaurants shuttered after new measures to combat the spread of the coronavirus came into force. Officials in the Russian capital this week stopped short of imposing a full lockdown, but ordered elderly residents on Thursday to stay and home and closed all non-essential services for one week from Saturday

Four passengers have died aboard cruise ship carrying scores of people with flu-like symptoms that has been stranded off Pacific coast of South America for several days, liner company said. The Zaandam, with 1,800 passengers on board, is currently in Panama's territorial waters, having been prevented from docking in several countries due to virus fears

Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong on Friday said "the tide is still coming in" as the city-state reported 49 new confirmed coronavirus cases, taking the number of COVID-19 patients in the country to 732. Lee said the tide has not turned here. "The tide is still coming in and we have to keep a very vigilant eye as the virus is still getting into Singapore," he said

With families across Europe confined to their homes to curb the spread of the novel coronavirus, fears are rising of a surge in domestic violence. From Berlin to Paris, Madrid, Rome and Bratislava, associations that help victims of domestic violence have sounded the alarm after Europe overtook China to become the epicentre of the pandemic. "For many people, their home is already not a safe place," says the German federal association of women's counselling centres and helplines (BFF)

Canada Prime Minister Justin Trudeau: No Canadians with symptoms can board planes, trains

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has announced the donation of 2,50,000 protective face masks, which had just been located in United Nations storage facilities, to the United States for use in hard-hit New York City

US Navy hospital ship heading to NYC for coronavirus aid

Washington: President Donald Trump will send off a naval hospital ship on Saturday before it heads to New York City, as he aims to highlight the federal response to the coronavirus pandemic. The USNS Comfort, a 1,000-bed hospital ship, had been undergoing planned maintenance, but was rushed back into service to aid the city which is now the epicentre of the nation's outbreak. It is scheduled to arrive

Monday at a Manhattan pier a week after its sister ship, the USNS Mercy arrived in Los Angeles to perform similar duty on the West Coast. The president acknowledged that making the 140-mile trip to Naval Station Norfolk wasn't necessary, but said he was doing it to recognize the work of sailors and medical professionals who worked to get the ship out of maintenance more than a week ahead of schedule. **AP**

Spain counts 832 deaths in 24 hours, pushing toll to 5,690

Madrid: The death toll from coronavirus in Spain surged over 5,600 on Saturday after a record 832 people died in 24 hours, and the number of infections soared over 72,000, the government said.

Spain has the world's second-highest coronavirus death toll after Italy with 5,690 fatalities. The number of confirmed cases have jumped

to 72,248 as the country moves to significantly increase testing.

Although Spain's latest figures showed a daily increase of more than 8,000 cases, the rate of new infections appears to be slowing, with officials saying the epidemic appeared to be nearing its peak.

Madrid remains the worst-

hit region, with 2,757 deaths and 21,520 infections, leaving hospitals and mortuaries overwhelmed, and the regional authorities working to open a second temporary morgue in an unused public building near the airport to house the dead. An initial site was opened last week at the ice skating rink at the Palacio de Hielo (Ice Palace) shopping centre. **AFP**

Abe says country at critical stage

Tokyo: Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe says the country is at a critical stage in dealing with coronavirus infections but not at a point to declare a state of emergency.

Abe says Japan has managed to keep clusters under control by carefully following infection routes. But the initial strategy is now having a difficulty, with a rise of infections that are no longer traceable -- an early sign of infection explosion.

He says once there is infection overshoot, "our strategy of slowing down the peak of the infections will instantly fall apart." He adds "under the current situation, we are just barely holding up. But I understand we are standing on the edge." Abe convened a taskforce Thursday, the day after Tokyo Gov. Yuriko Koike made a



stay-at-home request to its 14 million residents after seeing a spike in the number of new cases of the COVID-19 to 41.

Japan has 2,180 confirmed cases, including 712 from a cruise ship, with 59 deaths, according to the Health Ministry. **AP**



A Lebanese activist tries to set himself on fire in protest after security forces ask protesters who have been holding a sit-in in Martyrs Square to dismantle their tents and go home in line with a nighttime curfew imposed by the Government to help stem the spread of the coronavirus in Beirut, Lebanon on Friday **AP**

UK VIRUS DEATHS PASS 1,000: OFFICIAL

London: The number of coronavirus deaths in Britain jumped by 260 in one day to pass 1,000, official data showed on Saturday, the day after Prime Minister Boris Johnson himself tested positive. At 5:00pm (1700 GMT) on Friday, the death toll was 1,019, up from 759 at the same time on Thursday, the health ministry figures showed.

As of 9:00am on Saturday, a total of 120,776 people in Britain had been tested, of whom 17,089 were confirmed positive.

Johnson and his health minister, Matt Hancock, were confirmed on Friday to be among those infected, although both said they had only mild

symptoms. Their cabinet colleague, Scottish Secretary Alister Jack, revealed on Saturday that he too had developed mild symptoms and was self-isolating, but had not been tested.

In a video message on Friday from Downing Street, where he lives and works, Johnson said he would continue to lead the government's response to the outbreak.

Media reports suggest his pregnant partner, Carrie Symonds, who normally lives with him in Downing Street, moved several days ago to the couple's south London home to self-isolate there. **AFP**

Brazil's Bolsonaro makes life-or-death gamble

Rio De Janeiro: Even as coronavirus cases mount in Latin America's largest nation, Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro has staked out the most deliberately dismissive position of any major world leader, calling the pandemic a momentary, minor problem and saying strong measures to contain it are unnecessary.

Bolsonaro says his response to the disease matches that of President Donald Trump in the U.S., but the Brazilian leader has gone further, labeling the virus as "a little flu" and saying state governors' aggressive measures to halt the disease were crimes.

On Thursday, Bolsonaro told reporters in the capital, Brasilia, that he feels Brazilians' natural immunity will protect the nation. "The Brazilian needs to be studied. He doesn't catch anything. You see a guy jumping into sewage, diving in, right? Nothing happens to him. I think a lot of people were already infected in Brazil, weeks or months ago, and they already have the antibodies that help it not proliferate," Bolsonaro said. "I'm hopeful that's really a reality." A video titled "Brazil Cannot Stop"

that circulated on social media drew a rebuke from Monica de Bolle, a Brazilian senior fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics.

"Do you know what will happen, Bolsonaro? Brazil WILL stop. Your irresponsibility will bring thousands to avoidable deaths," she tweeted Friday.

"The destroyed lungs of these people, as well as the organs of those who won't be able to have medical care, will fall on your lap. And Brazil will not spare you," Bolsonaro, 65, shows no sign of wavering even as the nation's tally of confirmed COVID-19 cases surpasses 3,400, deaths top 90 and Brazilians overwhelmingly demand tough anti-virus measures. Pollster Datafolha this month found 73% of people supported total isolation, and 54% approved of governors' management of the crisis. Bolsonaro's backing was just 33%.

Does Bolsonaro actually believe, as he says, that the virus will be vanquished by a cocktail of drugs and Brazil's tropical climate? It's possible, but analysts say a more calculated political gamble may underlie his increasingly defiant position. **PTI**

Vatican official tests positive

Vatican City: The Vatican says neither Pope Francis nor any of his closest aides are involved with six cases among Vatican residents or employees who tested positive for COVID-19.

Vatican spokesman Matteo Bruni has confirmed news reports earlier in the week that an official of the Holy See's secretariat of state office tested positive for the coronavirus. Bruni also has confirmed that the official lives at the Santa Marta hotel where Pope Francis lodges, too.

The health condition of the official "doesn't at the moment present any particular critical" aspects, according to Bruni. But as a precaution, the official has been admitted to a Rome hospital for observation.



Bruni says more than 170 COVID-19 tests have been conducted on Vatican employees and residents of the hotel. The Vatican hasn't specified if Francis was tested.

But Bruni added: "I can confirm that neither the Holy Father nor his closest collaborators are involved" with infected cases. **AP**

UJVN LIMITED (An Uttarakhand Govt. Enterprises)
H.O. "Ujjawal" Maharani Bagh, GMS Road, Dehradun-248006
Telephone- 0135-2763508, 2763808, Fax-0135-2763507
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website: www.uttarakhandjalvidyut.com

Time Extension Notice-II

In reference to e-Tender No. 13/E.E.(Gen)/RPS/Kig/2019-20 invited by this office it is to inform that time extension notice has been uploaded on e-procurement portal. Please quote your bids accordingly. For further details kindly log on to <http://uktenders.gov.in>. All other terms & conditions of tender shall remain unchanged.

1. Last Date/Time for receipt of bid in the portal : 20-04-2020 up to 16:00 Hrs.
2. Last date of submission of original documents : 21-04-2020 up to 17:00 Hrs.
3. Date of opening of bid on the website : 24-04-2020 at 11:00 Hrs.

No. 176/ Date: 27.03.2020 Executive Engineer (Generation)
"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

UJVN LTD.
H.O. "UJJAWAL" Maharani Bagh, G.M.S. Road, Dehradun-248006
Telephones : 0135-2763508, 2763808, Fax: 0135-2763507
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866 Website: www.ujvnl.com

Date Extension Notice -1

Due to unavoidable reasons, the dates of tender invited for "Finishing Work of Hathiyari Power House of Vyasi HEP (120 mw) in District Dehradun (Uttarakhand)." against NIT No: 10/UJVN/03/EE(Civil-I)/VP/2019-20 are hereby extended as follows:

1. Last Date/Time for submission of bid on the portal : 20.04.2020 up to 17:00 Hrs.
2. Last date & Address for Submission of original documents : 21.04.2020 up to 17:00 Hrs in Office of the Executive Engineer (Civil-I), Vyasi Project, Lakhwar Bhawan, Dakpathar (Distt-Dehradun).
3. Date and time of opening of bid on the website : 22.04.2020 at 15:30 Hrs.

All other terms & conditions of the tender shall remain unchanged. Details of subsequent addendum/corrigendum/cancellation etc. may be obtained from the website. Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal "<http://uktenders.gov.in>"

Letter No. 180 Executive Engineer (Civil-I)
Dated : 27.03.2020 Vyasi Project, Lakhwar Bhawan, Dakpathar
"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

UJVN LIMITED
H.O. "UJJAWAL" MAHARANI BAGH, GMS ROAD, DEHRADUN-248006
(Tele.: 0135-2763508, 2763808, Fax: 0135-2763507)
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866, website: www.uttarakhandjalvidyut.com

Date Extension Notice - 2

Due to unavoidable reasons, the dates of tender invited for "Procurement of TMT bar of grade Fe-500 conforming to IS:1786 for Vyasi HEP" in District-Dehradun (Uttarakhand)." against NIT No: 08/UJVN/03/EE(Civil-I)/VP/2019-20 are hereby extended as follows:

1. Last Date/Time for submission of bid on the portal: 20.04.2020 up to 17:00 Hrs.
2. Last date & Address for Submission of original documents: 21.04.2020 up to 17:00 Hrs in Office of the Executive Engineer (Civil-I), Vyasi Project, Lakhwar Bhawan, Dakpathar (Distt-Dehradun).
3. Date and time of opening of bid on the website: 22.04.2020 at 15:30 Hrs.

All other terms & conditions of the tender shall remain unchanged. Details of subsequent addendum/corrigendum/cancellation etc. may be obtained from the website. Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal "<http://uktenders.gov.in>"

Executive Engineer (Civil-I)
Vyasi Project, Lakhwar Bhawan, Dakpathar
पत्रांक सं 179 / दिनांक 27 / 03 / 2020
"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

Virat 'boss' of Indian cricket

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Head coach Ravi Shastri has called Virat Kohli the "boss" of Indian cricket and said the support staff is there to "take the burden off" the skipper.

Batting maestro Kohli has been at the heart of India's world-record 12 Test victories in a row on home soil.

"The captain is the boss, I always believe that. The job of the coaching staff, as far as I'm concerned, is to prepare the guys in the best possible way to be able to go out there and play brave, positive, fearless cricket," Shastri said.

Shastri was speaking to former England captains Nasser Hussain and Michael Atherton and Rob Key during a *Sky Cricket Podcast*.

"The captain leads from the front. Yes, we are there to take off the burden but you leave him to do his job in the middle. The captain sets the tone and is encouraged to set the tone. In the middle, he controls the show."

Shastri, who took over as the head coach in 2017, largely attributed India's march to top of the ICC Test rankings to Kohli.

He also spoke about how Kohli's relentless focus on fitness rubbed on to his teammates.

"When you talk about fitness, the leadership came from the top and that is Virat. He is not a guy to mess around."

"He woke up one morning and said 'I want to play this game I want to be the fittest player in the world and compete against the best in all conditions' and he let his body go through one hell of a lot."

In recent years, Kohli is one of the very few regulars of the team to have played almost non-stop, across formats.

"It was not just the training but the sacrifices he made with his diet. I could see that change happening all the time. He got up one day and said 'Ravi, I'm vegetarian!'"

"When he sets those standards, it rubs off on others. Test cricket for

Anushka Sharma
@AnushkaSharma

Meanwhile, in quarantine..



10:31 am · 28 Mar 20 · Twitter Media Studio

It is not often that the Indian cricketers get time off the field, but the coronavirus outbreak has seen them get a break and the players are looking to not only follow the dikt of the government and stay indoors, but also looking to make the most of it by spending time with their loved ones. Skipper Virat Kohli can be seen getting a haircut from wife Anushka Sharma in a latest Instagram post. In the video posted by Anushka, Virat says: "This is what quarantine does to you, you allow things like these to happen, getting a haircut with the kitchen scissors. Beautiful haircut, by my wife."

us is the biggest form. It's the benchmark. We want to set standards," Shastri said.

'WELCOME REST'

Sport coming to a standstill owing to the COVID-19 pandemic is a "welcome rest" for India cricketers, feels Ravi Shastri, who has spent barely 10-11 days at home since leaving for the World Cup last May.

"(This rest) cannot be a bad thing because towards the end of the New Zealand tour, you could see some cracks coming up when it came to mental fatigue, physical fitness and injuries," Shastri said.

According to him, the players may use the time to re-energise themselves, especially after a gruelling New Zealand tour where India played five T20Is, three ODIs and two Tests.

"The amount of cricket we have played over the last ten months, that was beginning to take its toll. Guys like me, and some other guys from the support staff, we left India on May 23 for the World Cup in England. Since then we have been at home for 10 or 11 days."

"There are certain players who played all three formats, so you can imagine the toll it has taken on them, especially being on the field, adjusting from T20s to Test match cricket and all the travel that goes with that because we travelled quite a lot," Shastri said.

After the World Cup, the Indian team travelled to the West Indies, then played a long home series against South Africa that was followed by a full tour of New Zealand.

"So it has been tough but a welcome rest for players," the coach said.

India is currently in a 21-day lockdown and according to Shastri, his players knew something like this was imminent when the series against South Africa, right after the New Zealand tour, was called off.

"It came as a shock but to be honest, having been on the road during the South Africa series, we guys anticipated it," he said.

"We knew something was on the cards as the disease had just started spreading. When the second ODI was called off, we knew something was gonna happen and a lockdown was imminent."

"I think the players knew it was coming, they sensed it in New Zealand. There were apprehensions towards the end of that tour, when flights were coming through Singapore, out of Singapore."

"By the time we landed (in India), I thought we got out at just the right time. There were only two cases in New Zealand at that time, that has rocketed now to 300."

"The day we landed, that was the first day they were screening and testing people at the airport. So (we came back) just in the nick of time."



Colin de Grandhomme celebrates Virat Kohli's wicket AP

Kohli wasn't only one to struggle in NZ: Hesson

IANS ■ BENGALURU

Former New Zealand coach Mike Hesson feels that India were probably the best equipped team to have played a Test series in New Zealand in recent years even though they ended up losing 2-0. India were completely outplayed by the Kiwis, losing the first Test by 10 wickets and the second by seven. But the former Kiwi coach begs to differ and feels that the conditions were tough.

"I thought India are probably be the best equipped to have travelled to New Zealand, but the conditions were challenging," Hesson told the *Mumbai Mirror*. "They weren't ridiculous in any means, and they were challenging in both games (in the two Tests which India lost)."

India had batted first in both Tests and Hesson said that was an important factor as conditions got better as the matches wore on.

"The New Zealand conditions were challenging for everybody, especially in the first innings. Things certainly got easy later on. The first innings was challenging for anyone coming from overseas," he said.

Hardly any Indian batsman made a mark in the series, including captain and second ranked Test batsman in the world Virat Kohli. Hesson feels that Kohli and the others simply didn't get any time to adjust to the conditions.

"When the ball seams, there is very little time to adjust. You need time to adjust your technique. He certainly was not the only one (to have struggled). Also, New Zealand's plans for Virat were exceptional. New Zealand have had the best of attacks for a long time and they challenged the Indians," he said.



Indian skipper Virat Kohli arrives for team's practice session PTI/File Picture

झारखण्डवासियों के लिए सूचना

नोवेल कोरोना वायरस से न घबराएं घर में रहें, सुरक्षित रहें

लॉकडाउन के दौरान अगर कहीं फंसे हैं तो श्रम विभाग कंट्रोल रूम के निम्न नंबरों पर संपर्क करें

हेमन्त सोरेन, मुख्यमंत्री, झारखण्ड

कंट्रोल रूम नंबर

0651-2490037	0651-2490052
0651-2490055	0651-2490058
0651-2490083	0651-2490092
0651-2490104	0651-2490125
0651-2490127	0651-2490128

P.R. 227605 (Labour Employment and Training) 19-20

श्रम, नियोजन एवं प्रशिक्षण विभाग, झारखण्ड सरकार

नोवेल कोरोना वायरस (COVID-19) के लक्षण एवं बचाव के उपाय

कोरोना वायरस कैसे फैलता है?

कोरोना वायरस आमतौर पर एक संक्रमित व्यक्ति से दूसरे व्यक्ति में फैलता है :-

- छँसने तथा छींकने से।
- नजदीकी व्यक्तिगत संपर्क यथा छूना या हाथ मिलाना।
- किसी संक्रमित वस्तु या सतह को छूना फिर बिना हाथ धोए अपने नाक, मुँह या आँखों को छूना।

कोरोना वायरस के लक्षण

- बुखार
- खाँसी और छींक
- साँस लेने में तकलीफ
- सिर दर्द

कोरोना संक्रमण से बचाव हेतु क्या करें - क्या ना करें

क्या करें ✓

- ✓ खाँसते और छींकते समय अपने मुँह को रुमाल/टिशू पेपर अथवा मुड़े हुए कोहनी से ढकें।
- ✓ अच्छे तरीके से नियमित अंतराल पर अल्कोहल युक्त सेनेटाइजर अथवा साबुन से बहते पानी से हाथों को रगड़ कर साफ करें।
- ✓ यदि आप में कोरोना वायरस के लक्षण दिखे तो 14 दिनों तक लोगों के संपर्क में नही आएँ तथा भीड़-भाड़ वाली जगह से दूर रहें तथा लोगों से कम से कम 1 मीटर की दूरी बनाकर रखें।
- ✓ उपयोग के पश्चात् टिशू पेपर को बन्द कूड़ेदान में ही फेंके एवं बाद में इसे जला दें अथवा गहरे गड्ढे में डाल कर मिट्टी से ढक दें।
- ✓ यदि आपको खाँसी, साँस लेने में परेशानी या बुखार हो, तो मास्क का उपयोग करें एवं अविद्यमान स्वास्थ्य केन्द्र से संपर्क करें।
- ✓ नियमित रूप से साफ-सफाई का ध्यान रखें।

क्या ना करें ✗

- ✗ संक्रमित व्यक्ति अपने मुँह, नाक एवं आँख को छूने के बाद, जब तक हाथों को साफ नहीं करते हैं तब तक किसी सामान को नहीं छूएँ।
- ✗ हाथ नहीं मिलावें और विशेष मेटल युक्त सामग्रियों को बेवजह छूने से परहेज करें।
- ✗ संक्रमित व्यक्ति इस्तेमाल किये गये टिशू पेपर एवं मास्क को इधर-उधर ना फेंके।
- ✗ सार्वजनिक स्थलों पर विल्कुल ही नहीं रुकें।

अधिक जानकारी के लिए

सभी झारखण्डवासी राज्यस्तरीय टोल फ्री नंबर 181 पर संपर्क करें।
राष्ट्रीय टोल फ्री नं० 1075 झारखण्ड टोल फ्री नंबर 104

स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय भारत सरकार के 24x7 हेल्पलाइन नं. +91-11-2397 8046 पर कॉल करें या ई-मेल करें idspjharkhand2@gmail.com

स्वास्थ्य, चिकित्सा शिक्षा एवं परिवार कल्याण विभाग, झारखण्ड सरकार

the pioneer agenda

There's no bad
consequence to loving
fully, with all your heart.
You always gain by
giving love
— Reese Witherspoon



FROM THE INSIDE

Beyond political ideologies

Spiritually conscious people respect all others on a spiritual plane, irrespective of their material position



Revive age-old traditions

It is time to remember our collective obligations, remain alert, and revive our tradition of maintaining cleanliness



STOP, LOOK & GO

RULES OF COMMUNICATION ON SOCIAL MEDIA

In times when social media is proving to be an important tool of information and expression, it is best to use this medium effectively to build relationships with people in your areas of interest and engage with them. Treat people with the same respect as you would expect from them, writes HORY SANKAR MUKERJEE

Social media is new opium of our masses. A two-way gate, where you listen to people and connect with people, instantaneously. Almost everyone uses it, in some form or the other, consciously or unconsciously guilty of making mistakes. With its rising popularity comes the challenges of bullying, trolling, circulating fake news, misinformation, violence, FOMO (Fear of missing out) and manipulations of facts. In such volatile environments, the onus cannot be put on 'no one', but 'everyone'. It becomes essential that we act 'now' to communicate with a sense of responsibility, empathy, care and compassion. The 'traffic light' approach-stop, look and go, is the first check point for you.

Stop: Stop before you read, write and post. Pause for a minute. You probably may want to revisit if you want to read, write or post.

When I started investing, I had an ocean of information floating around, later to realise that I do not have enough bandwidth to read, much of it being repetitive and things I never need to know. I pruned it down to two, saving time. Social media is loaded with information. Everything that you read; you forget some, retain some and use some of this information later. What goes in, eventually, comes out in some form. Ensure that you are reading or writing about things which is worthy of your attention and not garbage for your mind, heart and soul. Would you be more interested to read about a celebrity and his Mauritius vacation or a scientific invention that has the potential to change the world? While both are okay depending on 'who you are, what you want to read and where your interests lie', thumb rule is to 'downplay what you do not want to read'. Keep asking, 'am I enriching myself by reading this piece of information?' If yes, move ahead, if no, shun it down or block it. Limit yourself to an area or two that interests you. It could be your hobby, research, work or a social group.

The post that you just read is a wonderful piece and it agrees/disagrees to your established thought processes. Your hand itches to put down some comments, give a 'piece' of your mind to the author or laud him. Do you want to spend your precious minutes and is it worth doing it? If you are still not convinced, think about the dog who barks when your car passes by. It really does not matter for both. Irrespective of what role you play (dog or the driver), remember that the dog will forget after your car has passed and the driver will not have a second glance on you. When you are hurt, angry, rejected, dejected, in pain, avoid writing. When you want to vent out your frustration, correct someone who is grossly incorrect, bully someone or troll, rethink your decision. Applauding, appreciating, sharing

your thoughts can be done without being a miser or sarcastic.

Stop being a virtual source of junk or a JIJO — Junk In, Junk Out. We have this precarious habit of sending out the information to everyone we know, or 'think' we know. Stop being the middleman for junk. People probably may be thoroughly offended with the piece of information shared, and you risk losing your personal brand and reputation. Be careful with your action. First, avoid spreading information unless it comes from an authentic source and second, avoid passing it on to others. If at all you need to, ensure that the information you spread around, is not negatively impacting any person, organisation or group adversely.

Look: Look, if your words or actions would demean someone, socially, physically or mentally. Are you being sarcastic, rude or just posting to have fun at the cost of the other? Is your intention good and acceptable?

If you have now decided to write it down, forward or post, ensure that you have a sanity check in place. Avoid the usage of 'biased' words. Ascertain your company's policies on social networking. Avoid posting or writing on topics related to acts that are defamatory, political, or religious in nature. Ensure that the nature of your post is not damaging you or your organisation's reputation. Are you oversharing, things which are untrue or unverifiable? Are you reacting to events or incidents, especially when things are flaring up? Are you lying or speaking half the truth? If yes, hold your message back. Remember that your image will be associated with 'your' content. Would you like to risk your reputation?

Go: Go, only if you are clear of your conscience that this is now ready for sharing, reading and adds substantial value to your readers. Posting to the social media means exposing yourself to everyone. Remember that some organisations as well as governments take keen interest in what you post. Their decisions as well as your future employment opportunities and your image can be severely affected based on what you post or what your interests are.

Communicating in the world of social media is different and complex. The audience is diverse and can reach out to everyone. You also need to keep doing the right things to keep your audience engaged. Here are some tips that are likely to help you:

Get your facts: Have you done your research for what you want to write. If you want people to read, you will need to engage them in a few words. The relevance of your content would matter the most to your audience. Understand your audience before you write and post. Get the right demographics



IN THIS CHAOS OF ENGAGING IN MULTIPLE SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS AND DELIVERING ENGAGING CONTENT TO YOUR AUDIENCE YOU NEED TO BE EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT WITH WHAT YOU DO. IF YOU ARE THE ONE, WHO ENGAGES MOSTLY INTO READING AND NOT GENERATING CONTENT, YOU SHOULD SPEND TIME CHOOSING ON WHAT YOU INTEND TO READ OR NOT TO READ/COMMENT



and their level of understanding. Write content that is original or things that people would not have read anywhere. Your audience will check the 'freshness' of your post before it is read till the last.

Choose the right social platform: Choose the right platform. While posting on all platforms seems beneficial, it may not actually have the desired results. Find out what works for you. Do not spend money on a medium (if you are running a business) and forcing it to work for you. What works in Twitter, does not work with Facebook or vice versa.

Talk in a language, they understand: If you are a technology consultant writing a blog, you will need to use terminologies that your audience understand. Ensure that you know for whom you are writing and what you are writing. Keep it simple, precise and clear. Remember the KISS principle — Keep it simple, silly. Keep your language simple, easy to comprehend. Use headings, bullets and images. Avoid writing dragging paragraphs with one or two central ideas.

Use the 'right' images and videos: Never under play or over play with this powerful tool. It helps you tell a story and a picture is worth thousand words. But when the content is lousy and boring and refuses to engage the audience, it creates negativity. It can make or break your post, therefore use with clarity and be clear about how it helps you achieve your objective.

Call to action: Do you want only likes or upvotes or do you want to hear from your audience, or do you want them to share the content? Prompt your audience with what action you would want them to take. If you have not, then probably they would not.

Cross promote your profile or other content: If you are using multiple platforms or writing on different topics that interests you, ensure that you are cross promoting yourself. Ensure that you link to other articles, posts and write ups that interest you or encourage people to click on other things that you would have written.

In this chaos of engaging in multiple social media platforms and delivering engaging content to your audience you need to be effective and efficient with what you do. If you are the one, who engages mostly into reading and not generating content, you should spend time choosing on what you intend to read or not to read/comment. Follow the traffic light approach and spend a part of your day engaging with social media content.

If you are the one doing both, you may find yourself hard pressed against time. Your effectiveness will be guaranteed when you make the best use of the platforms. Here are things that would help you become effective:

First, give it some quite time of your day. It

should not be the first thing in the morning, while driving or on the dining table but some time to respond to the social media activities. Ensure that you are not at the habit of responding immediately nor delaying your responses. You must have something original to offer or a pressing need. If you are talking something which people already know, you will not be able to garner their interest.

Second, cut down on peer pressure to 'be in'. 'Are you on Instagram?' and you immediately start off with an account. You are a member of many such platforms, which you rarely visit or maintain. Can you find out a way to rationalise your social platform requirements? Can it be limited to only three? Ask these questions: First, are my contacts available in the platform I am using? Second, does the connections really justify a new platform? Third, how much of my leftover time will it take to manage this new platform.

Third, if you are managing your business and needs to connect to your customer or stakeholders, you cannot be doing it, alone. Take professional help. Agencies that will help you get your word ahead. In case you cannot, fix up a person from your organisation who would be doing that.

Fourth, remember that managing social media for businesses are different from that of individuals. The approach, methodology, purpose, usage, time required would be different. Responding to the messages, creating engaging content and writing is different. Use the most suitable platform. Don't force it to work. Consider your limitations.

Fifth, acknowledge that social media is a two-way communication method. Just as you write, it is important to listen. When you listen, you tend to understand the likes and dislikes, of your audience, sharpening yourself. This needs a balance with your interests and skills sets. People will read you or follow you only when you are consistent. If you are irregular or spending too little time, posting or writing, your audience will not be incentivised to come back to read. A teaser on 'what follows next' can also motivate people to come back.

Use social media effectively to build relationships with people in your areas of interest. Share your expertise, offer help and engage with them. Treat them with the same degree of respect you would give, when you meet them in person. There is no denying that social media is effective in connecting with people and an excellent way to collaborate. But be aware that it is making us indolent and disrupting our need for a great conversation.

The author is Principal — Education, Training and Assessment at Infosys Ltd; Author of The Gift of the Gab: The Subtle Art of Communicating, published by SAGE Publications India

Lessons to learn from deferral of Olympics

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) at last postponed the Tokyo Olympic 2020 for a year. Echoing the sentiments of the sporting community world over, its president Thomas Bach said, "These postponed Olympic Games will need compromises by all of the stakeholders." It's not only Japan, particularly the city of Tokyo, but also thousands of sportspersons and allied agencies who were supposed to be an integral part of this landmark event have all been hit by the deadly Covid-19.

The historic flame of the Olympic was handed over by Hellenic Olympic Committee president Spyros Capralos to Naoko Imoto (former Olympian swimmer), who represented the Tokyo Organizing Committee, on March 19. And the flame reached Japan through a special aircraft named "Tokyo 2020 Go". As a significant part of the Olympic Movement, the flame is quite often linked to the messages of hope and peace. The Tokyo 2020 torch relay concept known as "Hope Lights Our Way" was designed to unite the entire Japanese people with emotion. But then unfortunately, before the flame was to be started from Fukushima to the rest of Japan on March 26, the IOC took the historic decision to push the Games to the next year. Though it was nearly sure for an immediate cancellation of the Tokyo Games, yet the Japanese Government was hoping against all odds to organise it.

The opening ceremony for the Olympic Games was supposed to start on July 24 and the Paralympics were scheduled from August 25. Interestingly, Tokyo, one of the most populous cities in the world, was going to host the largest sporting event of the globe. By the end of the 2019, the organisers calculated the total cost of the Games around 1.33 trillion yen i.e. 1.12 billion Euros.

And this entire cost was incurred by three parties --- the City of Tokyo, the Japanese Olympic Organizing Committee and the Central Government of the country. But the experts say the real cost of organising this mega event would be ten times higher



A banner for the Olympic torch relay is removed at J Village where torch relay was scheduled to start, in Hirono, Fukushima Prefecture, on March 26

than what has been revealed in public so far.

The mascot of the Tokyo 2020 "Miraitowa" has a personality inspired by the Japanese proverb, "learn from the past and develop new ideas". It is taken from Japanese words, "mirai" meaning "future" and "towa" meaning "eternity". Thus this mascot represents the idea that this game will lead to a future of everlasting hope in the hearts of everyone around the world.

If we look at the history we observe that it was only the historical World Wars that led to the cancellation of the Olympics in the past. But the current trend is that other phenomena such as politics, terrorism and pandemics with global underpinnings have forced all of us to call of such sports extravaganzas. Since the opening of the

Modern Olympic Games in Athens (Greece) in 1896, the game has only been cancelled three times --- first during the World War I in 1916, second and third time during the World War II in 1940 and 1944. It must be noted here that until the advent of coronavirus pandemic, that has forced the IOC to postpone the Olympic, the game has weathered all other crises in the past. In 1916, the German Empire was to host the Olympic but with the outbreak of the First World War, it was simply cancelled.

Many of the nations who were to send participants to the games had eventually indulged into the war. In 1940, the Summer and Winter Olympics were to be held in Japan, but it forfeited its rights as it got involved in a war with China. Else Japan would have been the

first non-Western country to host the games. Again London was to host the Games in 1944 and because of the Second World War, it was summarily cancelled.

Though opinions vary, economic analysts simply come to one single point: As the Games has been postponed, the toughest task for the Japanese economy would be to wading through the prolonged pandemic in the days to come. Now, the rechristened Olympic 2021 will have to be planned entirely on the basis of a new global sports calendar.

And also Bach clarified that rescheduling is not restricted just to the summer months. All the options are on the table, before and including the summer of 2021. The IOC has given the responsibility to a task force called "Here We

Go" to find out all possibilities for organise this historic event held once in four years. The team's job is to interact with probably 33 sports federations and to look into the world sports calendar so as to plan the grand Olympic 2021.

But what now seems is that the IOC is working with the other sports organisations to arrange a July-August window to fix the dates for Tokyo Olympics 2021. This time could be better as the Tennis Grand Slams of Wimbledon and the US Open slated to end respectively in mid-July and in late August. John Coates, the chief of the Coordination Commission of the IOC is hopeful that within a month the final dates for Olympic 2021 may be locked.

It is also agreed that more or less the same arrangements

would be there for the Games in 2021 such as the planning the marathon in northern city of Sapporo instead of Tokyo to escape the heat. This would be finally boosting the lost morale of many investors and sponsors of various events as now they all could focus on channelising their resources.

Hope lies ahead for sure. The health experts, researchers and pharmaceutical enterprises all together are working hard to bring out an effective drug to stop the deadly Covid-19. At this juncture, the world community badly demands leadership and unity among the nations. Accusing one another for spreading the virus and movement of the migrants would not definitely provide us any solution. It's just a virus and a lethal one. Countering the same requires precaution first

and of course timely supply of drugs at an affordable price.

Taking hard decisions and then delivering better is a daunting task. What Bach looks forward is simply this only. Even he is eyeing on all options, and one of them could be planning the games just before the start of the Japanese summer season.

At this gloomy scenario, mixed feelings are being aired by sportspersons all around the world. This deferring may lead to an end of the active careers of our time. Because some of the greats, like Michel Phelps, who have been named as the most decorated athlete in Olympic history, is now talking about the "mental health" of the players across the world. To him the postponement is nothing but a "total bamboozle" so to say. Yes it's true. Many of them would be suffering from high levels of depression.

Certainly apart from ones who are purely garrulous, we must understand the depth and impact of the Covid-19. Postponing at this moment is not a gaffe; it is absolutely a wise decision.

Fighting this pandemic is like a countering a "Third World War", but without arms and ammunition. The last two World Wars had witnessed the pouring of large sums of money, muscle power and sophisticated weapons, including the most deadly atomic bombs. But then still we are all looking for an opportunity to fight, though not a real war, but of course a virtual one. Days of sabre-rattling have gone. A real and extremely poisonous threat in the form of Covid-19 has taken a toll on humanity for now.

Keeping the global preparedness in mind, we all must realise the fact that we need a robust strategy, particularly public health emergency to handle such epidemics. Life certainly comes first; thus creating kerfuffle around such crisis would only lead to more panic among the commoners. The global sports community must be really hopeful that this pandemic will teach all of us a strong lesson to usher into a Tokyo 2021 with renewed vigour and conviction.

(The writer is an expert on international affairs)

Keeping the global preparedness in mind, we all must realise the fact that we need a robust strategy, particularly public health emergency to handle pandemics like Covid-19. Life certainly comes first; therefore creating kerfuffle around such crisis is a folly. Rather, we must gather courage to fight the menace out and look forward to Tokyo 2021 with renewed vigour and conviction



MAKHAN SAIKIA

PERSPECTIVE

Misinformation militates against Covid-19 management

While there is a minor issue like a slight mismatch between the figures of Covid-19 cases in India reported by the Government of India and those by global bodies like Worldometer, the more serious and exigent matter is the coronavirus misinformation that is flooding social media.

We are dealing with an unprecedented pandemic and in such a catastrophic situation, we should rely only on authentic sources of information. All data and measures taken or suggested are regularly updated at WHO and the Government of India websites. Accordingly, on issues related to symptoms, treatment and other Covid-19 related management practices, public should pay heed to only that information available on the official resources i.e., Ministry of Health at the Central and State Governments or their appointed spokespersons.

Misinformation which is being spread in the public sphere through various social media channels, intentionally or inadvertently, about Covid-19 is going to hinder the management and treatment of the pandemic.

There have been reports on the social media about some people associated with the Government machinery endorsing unscientific treatments to deal with Covid-19.

We need to learn from the experience of other countries so as to not repeat the same

mistakes. Nigeria had faced tremendous problems in managing the Ebola crisis due to misinformation campaign in 2014. Even now despite only 39 cases, the Nigerian Government has found it difficult to control misinformation related to Covid-19.

As per a Global Development Community Media (a well-known media platform associated with reputed world development agencies) report written by William Worley and Vidya Krishnan, the level of misinformation being spread about Covid-19 is the highest in India. It has highlighted a number of incidents of conflicting information coming out of official and non-official sources, besides the social media.

Some samples from their report are: 1) While, the Health Ministry, including the Public Health Foundation of India, is working closely with the World Health Organization to launch a coordinated response, another arm of the Government — AYUSH Ministry — has been at the centre of a large-scale misinformation campaign that undermines the Health Ministry's response. This needs to be corrected. 2) Second incident is that of a politician who was proposing raw cow urine (*gaumutra*) as a treatment of Covid-19, even while the scientists, including those in India, are battling to find a solution.

Similarly if we scan the



In this photo taken March 24, 2020, a sign posted at The Reef Capitol Hill, a marijuana store in Seattle, outlines social distancing separation requirements intended to slow the spread of the new coronavirus

social media, especially YouTube, one can find solution being suggested by all and sundry, ranging from outright astrology to homemade remedies, without any scientific backing.

Information of some myths prevailing in the social media domain such as "longevity of coronavirus", "non-survivability of the virus in hot climate", "totkas", "possible alternate medicines to cure Covid-19", "holding the breath, to check if someone is affected by corona" and so on will only cause com-

plications and problems in management of affected cases. Towards this end, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's strong message of not taking any medicines without proper consultation with a qualified doctor hopefully will go a long way in curbing the misinformation campaign.

However, the PM's call has to be backed by a focused mechanism to eradicate the menace of misinformation campaign. How can we do it? Some of the measures suggested are as follows. 1)

Ministry of Health can set up a task force in consultation with Ministry of Information to scan the social media and put out the truth on regular basis in the form of press briefs or press bulletins using all available media networks for countering or clarifying such messages and information. It is not that the task force should respond to every fake and silly news. However, it must put out clarification on any incorrect and fake news item that is likely to cause harm to human lives and national economy. If we do

not curb the misinformation campaign in time, the 21-day lockdown may not be fully successful and as PM Modi had warned nation will have to pay a heavy price in terms of unprecedented loss of human lives and economic cost.

2) Second measure could be co-opting the technical giants like Facebook, WhatsApp, twitter and other technical firms to direct all searches related to Covid-19 lead either to Ministry of Health or Ministry Information or WHO sites only, so that peo-

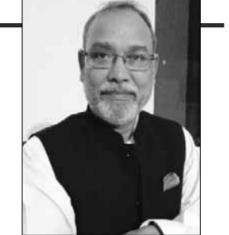
ple are given correct information. As per the report mentioned above, some of the big technological companies are already helping the WHO in this regard. There is a need for Indian Government to also see the feasibility of doing the same in our context.

3) While the Government has launched an awareness campaign about Covid-19 through caller tunes and advertisements, there is need for a focused nationwide programme on important aspects dealing with the pandemic at a fixed time in the day with repeat broadcast by all TV and radio channels. This slot must capture the highlights of the day and important procedures to be followed in managing Covid-19.

The importance of curbing misinformation can be best understood by the statement made by WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus. He had said recently that "Misinformation about Covid-19 is not limited to India. We're not just fighting an epidemic; we're fighting an infodemic." Therefore, in this period of infodemic, the safest advice is to stay indoors, wash hands regularly, maintain social distancing, and if in doubt seek early medical assistance and help Government help you in remaining safe.

(The writer is retired Lt General and former Chief of Staff Eastern Command)

The Government should rope in social media giants to plan a mechanism that all searches about the pandemic reach the Government/WHO websites in order to stem the flow of canards



DUSHYANT SINGH



YOUR WEEK AHEAD

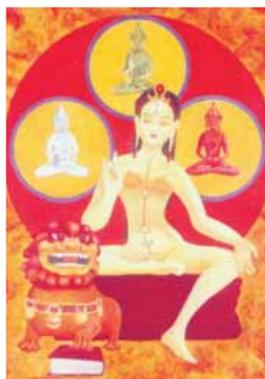
MADHU KOTIYA



ARIES March 21-April 19

Your emotional well-being will decide the state of your health. Channelise your energy in the right direction and you will find yourself in the pink of health. In your professional life, you are fairly clear about your goals and what you have to do to achieve those goals. A stimulating time with heaps of opportunities puts your determination and ambition at a higher notch. Business dealings and negotiations are favoured, especially for long-term investments and real estate. This is the right time to make long term strategies and plan ahead. The card indicates a sharp focus on your intimate relationship. Be sensitive and passionate towards your partner. You may meet a new admirer, who shares the same mind-set.

Lucky number 21
Lucky colour Peach
Lucky day Tuesday



LEO July 23-Aug 22

You need to be careful while exercising this week, as you are prone to mild injury or sprain. At work, you will be very professional and follow the company policy to the letter. You are likely to make new friends and admirers. You will have a lot of work on your plate that you must take up. Dedication towards task is important, but oversteering yourself may prove counter-productive. Do not hesitate to seek help, if needed. It will ease pressure off your back. On the personal front, the week indicates love, harmony and friendship. This is a good time to relax and have fun with the loved ones. Your loving and friendly mood will make you popular. This is an excellent time for dating because your charm and beauty will attract genuine, honest love.

Lucky number 31
Lucky colour Red
Lucky day Wednesday



SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 21

Health is good this week. Continue with your daily exercise or yoga routine. If you have not yet started, then this is a good time. You will feel driven to succeed at something with a strong sense of purpose and initiative. You will face all challenges with great courage and fighting spirit. This week, you would be able to finish a lot of work in a short amount of time. It is a favourable time for business matters and negotiations. Financial situation is not good, avoid lavish spends. You will be more emotional and sensitive than usual. This is a great time to talk about relationship issues because you will be in touch with your true feelings. You will generally know how people are feeling and will be more sympathetic and nurturing than normal.

Lucky number 20
Lucky colour Sky Blue
Lucky day Friday



TAURUS April 20-May 20

Even though you enjoy good health this week, you need to be vigilant. Those with existing health problems are likely to find a way to recovery. Maintain a positive mind-set and things will surely come easily to you. In professional life, your talent will help you distance yourself from difficulties and you will feel optimistic about future. Work wise, you will gain the confidence that you have always dreamt of. New opportunities, in terms of a new venture or projects, are indicated. A few of you may decide to leave a job that no longer works for your betterment. It is a great time to interact with others. You are likely to have an open and honest communication with your partner. The discussions that you engage in now are likely to be of a serious nature.

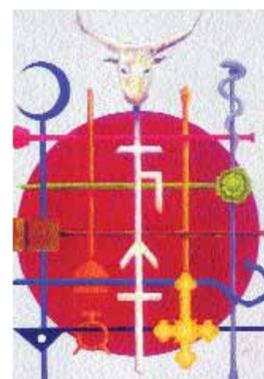
Lucky number 10
Lucky colour Camel brown
Lucky day Sunday



VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

Health is satisfactory this week. Those going through health problems, must fix the root cause. Seek proper consultation to find solution to your problems. Cards indicate a positive, new beginning at work. If you have had a difficult time in the recent past, then know that things are likely to get better very soon. New possibilities in this week will escalate your chances of making new discoveries and fetching new admirers. Some of you may expect a good news, possibly a promotion. In personal space, you will probably want to nurture and protect your partner. Most of all, you will want to cuddle and kiss them, to give them kindness, love and affection. Someone will call you out of the blue, or you will plan a reunion with a lover or an admirer.

Lucky number 13
Lucky colour Turquoise
Lucky day Friday



CAPRICORN Dec 22-Jan 19

Your health is in good state. This week you are in a greater psychic/intuitive phase. It is important that you trust your instincts and pay heed to signs. At work, your mind is likely to be very active. Make sure to communicate your thoughts to others. Fine tune your goals and make clear plans and strategy to reach your objectives. This is a good time to discuss these plans with others because you will get good feedback and support. There will times when you may become a victim of confusion that will lead to insecurity. But, the bad time shall pass. Expect a slight delay in your travel plans. Romance is blossoming this week. You are likely to take your relationship to the next level. Those who are single may have to wait for some more time.

Lucky number 30
Lucky colour Green
Lucky day Thursday



GEMINI May 21-June 20

Health is excellent this week. Despite your busy schedule, you will take time out to relax and rejuvenate. Those with pre-existing health issues, will find a way to their recovery. The card indicates that people around you will appreciate your efforts, and notice the quality of your work. Keep doing what you are doing, as you are on the right track. You will have a lot of luck in investments. Property dealings are likely to be resolved. This week will bring peace and harmony to your life. This is a great time to relax with the loved ones. Your loving mood will make you sexually attractive to your partner. Studies and exams should go well, especially in technical areas like the sciences, computers and mathematics.

Lucky number 12
Lucky colour White
Lucky day Monday



LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

After a bad phase, this week brings you a big relief in terms of positive health. You will be able to revive the inner child like energy and be active the entire week. Things are looking good on professional front. You will be able to fulfill your long term ambition. Whatever you put your mind to should lead to lasting results and achievements. People around will look up to you for a sound advice. You must have a profound vision and a vigilant analysis of all the plans and strategies which will enable you to move towards success. Socialising and love life will benefit from extra charisma and intellectual attractiveness. You may find yourself taking care of family matters such as insurances and wills. You can be confident about making commitments.

Lucky number 11
Lucky colour Pink
Lucky day Monday



AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

Health looks good. Those dealing with existing health issues are likely to recover. This week brings quick thinking, decisiveness and influential communication style. This makes it an apt time for debating, asking for favours and public speaking. You can expect positive reactions and valuable assistance. The forceful nature of your communication makes it a perfect time to defend yourself and your loved ones. Those in academics, this is a good time for studying and sitting for exams. This is also a good time for making important decisions, negotiations and business dealings. Your romance seems to be a little disturbed this week. Try to keep a two-way communication with your partner to avoid any misunderstandings.

Lucky number 14
Lucky colour Brown
Lucky day Wednesday



CANCER June 21-July 22

You are likely to face health issues this week. Therefore, you need to be careful. Those facing ailments may breathe easy as things will get a lot better. On the work front, your innovative spirit will help you expand your horizons and reach new goals. Later this week, you can expect an exciting news and stimulating conversations which will lead to a wise business deal. Some of you may face competition at work. Stay alert as someone may try to frame you for something serious. This is a good time to be with your partner, friends and family. You may forge new friendships or a significant new romance may begin. Your improved charm will fetch you popularity, so your dating should be successful.

Lucky number 22
Lucky colour Grey
Lucky day Friday



SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

This week your health will be good. Try not to get into ego conflicts and retreat to a safe place where you can develop your creative, spiritual and generous nature. You will be smart and optimistic at work and will accomplish all your incomplete tasks. You can expect some exciting opportunities coming later this week. Waiting task for some news on domestic front will make you feel frustrated. Love life looks satisfying. You will maintain a better harmony in your relationships and will have a greater ability to express your love and affection towards your partner. Travelling to far off destination to meet someone is on the cards. Those thinking for investments, think and discuss with your close people before taking any actions.

Lucky number 10
Lucky colour Silver
Lucky day Saturday



PISCES Feb 19-March 20

You will enjoy good health this week. Continue with your meditation and yoga routine, as it will keep your mind fresh and connected to your inner soul. Those who are dealing with health issues, need to take things seriously and go for proper treatment. Your ability of quick thinking and determination will make this week an apt time to prepare long term plan on work front. Networking with some promising contacts will allow you to make a change. You will have a better mental energy and concentration, and this will help you to succeed in studies or researches. Do not worry about taking risks as this week luck will be in your favour. You can expect some exciting news in your love life. You are likely postpone your travel plans to another day.

Lucky number 28
Lucky colour Orange
Lucky day Tuesday

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ASTROTURF
BHARAT BHUSHAN PADMADEO

Revive age-old hygiene traditions

The whole world is faced with a panic situation because of coronavirus scare. With over 175 countries in its grip, and the number of casualties heavily mounting, the pandemic is taking a toll on the physical and mental health of people and the state. The entire world is in a lockdown state and all of this is certainly going to take a toll on our economy, which was already hit hard.

Such situations serve as a reminder about the harsh realities of life, which most of us, caught up in the mundanities and routine, often forget. Ancient Indian learned masters, through allegories and similes, tried to raise our consciousness and make us aware that the world is a unified organism. One, that is set into an interdependent framework, where no individual has a reality independent of the entirety. The obvious implication is that resonance of the echoes at one end of the globe shall have far reaching consequences. That makes it imperative that aberration of even a few, knowingly or inadvertently, could threaten our very existence. So, no wonder, what began in China, has spread its wings all across the globe.

That calls for remaining conscious about our collective obligation even while pursuing one's individualistic aspirational urges.

The above concept seems to have gone out of the reckoning of most of the leaders of leading nations, not to say anything on individual beings. Otherwise, they would not be passionately trying to excite emotional chord of people to build up their vote bank, as has been evident in the recent years. The present crisis is a wake-up call for them. If, however, they join hands, quality of human life may improve substantially, not simply in terms of health but economy as well. Statistics available suggest that whenever world trade goes strong, each country's economy grows. But whenever world trade took a downturn in the past, world war happened.

The universe being a unified organism, would also mean that there remains connect and correspondence between the cosmic line up, continuously changing, and the live world on the earth. That offers us with the opportunity to foresee things expected to happen through prognosis of the changing dynamics of the planetary line up in the



cosmos. Most important markers in this respect, in so far as mundane matters are concerned, are major eclipses happening every year.

During eclipse, the Sun, which is supposed to be health manager of the Universe comes under cloud together with Moon which signifies masses. Whenever the Ascendant at time when the Sun and Moon are in exact conjunction, has close linkage with the death indicating 8th house denominator, points to the possibility of heavy mortality. Major eclipses during the years, 1915, 1918, 1920, 1957, 1968, and 2009 bear testimony to the above fact. No wonder pandemic overtook almost the whole world during those years when more than hundred thousand people died because of one form of virus or the other.

Another common factor noticed, except in 1920 was cluster of more than four planets on eclipse axis. But then, in 1920's chart, death indicating 8th lord Saturn was placed adverse to Rahu. The Sun and Moon were ill-disposed off to mischievous Neptune and Uranus, meaning massive death unusual way. Kindly recall my discussion on eclipse chart of December 26, 2019 in the opening issue of the year. There was a

cluster of seven planets — the Sun, Moon, Mercury, Jupiter, Ketu, Saturn, and Pluto on the eclipse axis. Out of them, Saturn and Pluto are death indicating planets, the latter being more lethal. If that would not be enough, even the 8th lord Mercury happened to occupy lunar constellation owned by another death indicating planet Ketu. What further worsened the situation was placement of Rahu in Mercury owned sign Gemini. Even otherwise, Gemini relates to lungs.

Be in mind: the world is premised on the concept of 'Unity in Diversity'. Accordingly, it's time now that we resolve to remember our collective obligations, remain alert, and revive our age-old tradition of maintaining cleanliness. Till recent past, in our villages, whenever somebody came from outside, they washed their hands and feet before entering the house. Even as on date, Muslims wash their hands, feet and face before they enter the Mosque to offer their prayer.

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