OPINION 6

EDUCATING A

GLOBAL CITIZEN

WORLD 8

UK SC TO DECIDE IF ISIS BRIDE

CAN BE BACK TO LONDON

SPORT 12

AT 34, MY DAYS ARE

NUMBERED: WARNER

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Late City Vol. 14 Issue 324 *Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable

BAFTA COMES TO INDIA: TIM HUNTER 11 VIVACITY

DELHI LUCKNOW BHOPAL BHU

DEHRADUN, TUESDAY NOVEMBER 24, 2020; PAGES 12 72

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SC raises concerns over Covid relapse

Apex court asks Centre, States to file status report in 2 days on steps taken to deal with situation; Maha told to be prepared for worst in Dec

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday said that the Covid-19 situation has worsened in Delhi and gone out of control in Gujarat even as it warned Maharashtra to be prepared for the worst in December. Expressing concern over the surge in number of Covid-19 cases across the country, the court asked the Centre and all States to flie within two days status reports detailing the steps taken to deal with the situation.

Things have worsened in Delhi especially in November. You file a status report on what steps have been taken," a Bench headed by Justice Ashok Bhushan told Additional Solicitor General Sanjay Jain, who was appearing for the Delhi Government.

"In Gujarat, the situation is going out of control," said the Bench, also comprising Justices RS Reddy and MR Shah.

"There is spike in cases and this is only November. Prepare for the worst in December. You have to take steps," the Bench fold the lawyer appearing for Maharashtra.

The Bench was hearing a

told the lawyer appearing for Maharashtra.

The Bench was hearing a matter regarding the need for proper treatment of Covid-19 patients and dignified handling of dead bodies in the hospitals. It has posted the matter for further hearing on November 27.

The court pointed out that Covid-19 cases have risen Covid-19 cases have risen across the country especially in Delhi, Maharashtra and Gujarat and noted the submissions of Solicitor General Tushar Mehta who said steps are being taken to deal with the

situation in Delhi. Iain told the Bench that as

per earlier order of the SC, an expert committee has been constituted and other directions have also been complied with by the Delhi Government. He said that a separate space has been of 385 bodies. We have no difficulty that you doing; the been difficulty that you doing; the Beach observed and asked Jain to fire a status rough the space of the control of the Cont

Those from NCR, Guj, Raj, Goa must carry RT-PCR -ve

report with them

In a safety precaution taken in

In a safety precaution taken in view of increasing Covid-19 cases in the national Capital and three other States, the Maharashtra Government on Monday made it mandatory for



A health worker collects samples from a passenger for the Covid-19 test, as coronavirus cases surge across Delhi, at ISBT Kashmere Gate in New Delhi on Monday

Ranjan Dimri I Pic

Covid -ve report must for entering Maha

HC DECLINES 'HAI F-BAKED' PLFA FOR IMMEDIATE LOCKDOWN IN DELHI

LUCAUUWN IN DELHI
New Delhi: The Delhi High
Court on Monday declined to
entertain a plea seeking directions to the AAP Government
to immediately place the city
under lockdown in view of the
rhsing Covid-19 cases and air
pollution levels, saying the
petition was "half-baked" and
unnecessary".

OXFORD UNIVERSITY VACCINE 'EFFECTIVE' AT PREVENTING COVID-19: SHOWS 70% PROTECTION

London: The vaccine candidate being trialled by Oxford University on Monday presented crucial Phase 3 interin results which show that it is "effective" at preventing Covid-19 and offers a high level of protection from the deadly virus.

le the second pandemic wave if it hits the State. My request to people is to take all health pre-cautions," he had said.

said.
Amid speculation that started brewing a few days ago that Maharashtra may suspend

that Maharashtra may suspend train and air transport services between Mumbai and Delhi, Uddhav Thackeray made the first move when the State made compulsory for those arriving in Maharashtra by air, train and road to carry RT-PCR negative test report with them.

TOTAL

CASES: 91.75.627 DEATHS: 1,34,213 RECOVERED:

86,00,057 ACTIVE: 4.39.280

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/Idiidid5iilid	17,04,301	40,000	10,34,793
Carnataka	8,74,555	11,678	8,38,150
Indhra Pradesh	8,62,758	6,948	8,42,416
amil Nadu	7,71,619	11,622	7,47,752
Cerala	5,67,204	2,072	4,99,338
Delhi	5,34,317	8,512	4,88,476
Jttar Pradesh	5,28,833	7,582	4,97,475
Vest Bengal	4,59,918	8,072	4,26,816
Odisha	3,14,629	1,710	3,06,726
elangana	2,64,128	1,433	2,51,468
Rajasthan	2,47,168	2,181	2,20,871
Bihar	2,31,044	1,227	2,24,701
Chhattisgarh	2,23,436	2,732	1,99,311
laryana	2,19,963	2,216	1,97,335
Assam	2,11,682	975	2,07,525
Gujarat	1,98,899	3,876	1,81,287

TOTAL CASES DEATHS

At least 5 die of MBBS, students, **Covid an hour in** Delhi in 24 hours

Covid-19 fatalities have increased in the mational Capital with at least five people dying of the deadly virus every hour on an average in Delhi in the last 24 hours.

While a total of 511 Covid-19 deaths were recorded across the country in the past 24 hours, Delhi accounted for the largest chunk of such fatalities with 121 fatalities, the data updated at 8 am showed.

tatalities with 121 fatalities, the data updated at 8 am showed.

This was accounted for the largest chunk of such fatalities across the country, which recorded an average of 21 deaths in this period.

period.

The analysis was based on the data from the Union Health Ministry which gave the total number of deaths recorded in the country and all States and UTs due to Covid-19 in the past 24 hours.

dentists to assist in Covid-19 care

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Monday ordered the fourth-fifth-year-MBBS students and dentists to be allowed to assist in hospitals and Covid-19 ICU units to meet the manpower shortage.

His decision came after a surge in the coronavirus cases and fatalities reported since last week in the national Capital.

According to an official order, the fourth-and-fifth-year MBBS students and dental doctors will assist duty doctors at the honorarium of \$1,000 for an eight-hour shift and \$2,000 for a 12-hour shift per day.

The Delhi Government, in its order, had also said in the case of interns, the honorarium would

The Delhi Government, in its order, had also said in the case of interns, the honorarium would be over and above their stipend. According to Government database, Delhi has reported 40,212 active cases, 4,81,260 recoveries, and 8,391 deaths.

all domestic passengers traveling to Maharashtra by air, trains and roads from the National Capital Region and the States of Rajasthan, Gujarat Maharashtra Chief Mande Gao to arry RT-PCR negative test report with them. Amid a fear of a second Covid-19 wave gripping Waharashtra in the wake or increasing incidence of Covid-19 in New Delhi, Ahmedabad and Surat, the Maharashtra Government put in place a mechanism to prevent the passengers carrying Covid-19 the State, we cannot lower in the State health authorities are well-equipped to tack-China's mad infra push along LAC alarms India

Bunkers, roads, dwelling units in eastern sector of **LAC** besides Ladakh

While efforts are on to vold stand-off through sustained dialogue, China continues with a continue of the cont

Ladakh.

These developments come at a time when the two sides are preparing for the ninth round of Corps Commander-level talks soon. While both the commanders reiterated their commitment to continue talks,



Indian security establishment. Earlier, rapid construction was only confined to Ladakh sector of the LAC in the back-

sector of the LAC. in the back-drop of the face-offs. However, the furious pitch of work in the East in Doklam near Sikkim is a cause of serious concern, sources said here on Monday. The Doklam region saw more than 70-day long face-off in 2017 after India objected to construction of a road by China here. The increases received

diplomatic and military levels. In the latest developments, satellite images show construction of hardened ammunition bunkers, two kilometers from Sinche-La (pass) on the eastern periphery of the Doklam plateau near the border between Bhutan and China. The new structures will enable the Chinese troops to withstand intense cold there and face any challenge with sufficient logistical support, sources said here. diplomatic and military levels

High-resolution images from Maxar Technologies indicate road access from the site of the bunkers to the Sinche-La pass, which is then connected to an all-weather road constructed by Chinese workers that stretches across the Skilometre-wide Doklam plateau. The new bunkers and construction of the road on the Doklam plateau after the standoff in 2017, the construction of a "village" and 9-kilometre track adjacent to the plateau are strong indications that China has no hesitation in construction activity in territory which Bhutan claims to be its own.

own. A September 2020 study by STRATFOR, the world's leading geopolitical intelligence platform, said the 2017 Doklam crisis "appears to have shifted China's strategic objectives, with China more than doubling its total number of air bases, air defence positions and heliports near the Indian border ports near the Indian border over the past three years."

AIMIM leaders join TMC to stop minority votes' division

In a sudden development, a number of All India Majlise-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) men, including their senior leader Anwar Pasha, on Monday joined the Tiriamool Congress in an apparent bid tost op division of minority votes in Bengal by claiming Asaduddin Owaisi-led party was only acting as a "polariser of votes" to help the BJP.

The AIMIM, however, claimed, Pasha was just a 'party was the properties of votes and the TMC leadership was trying to fool the masses.

masses.
Alleging that a few people are trying to steer the country towards destruction using religion, Pasha said those who are eyeing Bengal at present, whether "wearing saffron or green", should know that there is no place for creating religious

divisions in the State.

"AIMIM has played a hand in the polarisation of votes in Bihar and thus helped the BJP in forming the Government there, but this will not happen in Bengal," he said.

Pasha, who was welcomed to the TMC fold by Ministers Bratya Basu and Moloy Ghatak, said that 30 per cent of West Bengal's population are Muslims, asserting that the political developments in Bihar cannot be emulated in Bengal.

Urging Muslims in the State to stand by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, he said the AIMIM chief should not come to Bengal.

Owaisi had said on Sunday that the party is deliberating with the West Bengal unit more to see the said of the said on Sunday that the party is deliberating with the West Bengal unit more to see the said on Sunday that the party is deliberating with the West Bengal unit more than the party is deliberating with the West Bengal unit more than the party is deliberating with the West Bengal unit more than the party is deliberating with the West Bengal unit more than the party is deliberating with the West Bengal unit more than the party is deliberating with the West Bengal unit more than the party is deliberating with the West Bengal unit more than the party is deliberating with the West Bengal unit more than the party is deliberating the party in the west Bengal unit more than the party is the west Bengal unit more than the party is the west Bengal unit more than the party is that the party is the west Bengal unit more than the party is the west Bengal unit more than the party is the west Bengal unit more than the party is the west Bengal unit more than the party is the west Bengal unit more than the party is the west Bengal unit more than the party is the west Bengal unit more than the party is the west Bengal unit more than the party is the west Bengal unit more than the party is the west Bengal unit more than the party is the west Bengal unit more than the party is the west Bengal unit more than the party is the west Bengal unit more than the party is the west Bengal unit more

Owaisi had said on outside, that the party is deliberating with the West Bengal unit over contesting the assembly elections and will take a decision

created in the minds of minori-ties over CAA and NRC and the West Bengal CM "is fight-ing for us and has taken to the

ing for us and has taken to the streets to support us.

"Making a law in Parliament is not the end, it has to be implemented on the ground," he said.

Senior AIMIM leader and

ground," he said.
Senior AIMIM leader and in-charge of Bengal, Asim Waqar, declined to attach much importance to the development and urged the TMC not to fool the masses with their "drity tricks."

"Those who have joined to TMC today are neither leaders nor office bearers of the state AIMIM unit. They are just party workers, just like lakhs of AIMIM workers across the state. The TMC should stoppursuing such dirty tricks. Their joining would not have any impact on our prospects in Bengal, Waqar said.

MINIMUM TEMP IN DELHI DROPS TO 6.3 DEGREES C

CAPSULE

DRUPS 10 6.3 DEGREES C
New Delhi: A cold wave gripped
Delhi on Monday as the
minimum temperature dropped
to 6.3 degrees Celsius, five
notches below normal and the
lowest in the month of November since 2003 according to the India

MARKETS WEATHER POWERED BY LATE GENERAL MEDIA (F) LTD

Kerala puts on hold changes in Police Act after criticism

The CPI(M)-led Left front Government in Kerala on Monday decided to put on hold a controversial amend-ment to the Police Act as the law triggered a political storm across the country with many describing the measure as an assault on freedom of expres-sion and media. Shortly after CPI(M) gen-eral secretary Sitaram Yechury

Shortly after CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury announced in New Delhi that the amendment providing for up to five years jail term to those making defamatory social media posts would be reconsidered, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said his gov-ermment was not "intending" to implement it now.

Further action would be taken after detailed discus-

sions in the Assembly and hearing views from various quarters, he said, with the announcement coming amid widespread criticism of the amendment and protests by Congress and threat by BJP to legally challenge it.

Congress and threat by BJP to legally challenge it. While the Government has said it brought the amendment through an ordinance to check cyberbullying, opposition par-ties and even Left sympathisers have slammed it, saying it was against the freedom of speech and media.

and media.

Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly Ramesh Chennithala dubbed as a "hoax" Vijayan's statement that his Government was not intending to implement the act and demanded that it be

Veteran Congress leader and a three-term former Assam Chief Minister Tarun Gogoi died here on Monday while undergoing treatment for post-Covid-19 complications, State Health Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said. Gogoi, thrice Chief

Biswa Sarma said.
Gogoi, thrice Chief
Minister of the state from 2001
to 2016, breathed his last at the
Gauhati Medical College and
Hospital (GMCH) at 5.34 pm,
Sarma said. He was 84 and is
survived by wife Dolly, daughter Chandrima and son Gaurav.

survived by wife Dolly, daugh-ter Chandrima and son Gauray, a Lok Sabha member.

The veteran Congress leader was first admitted to the hospital on August 26 after test-ing positive for Covid-19 and was discharged for a brief peri-od before being admitted again on November 2.

His condition deteriorated on November 21, following multi-organ failure and was put

Gogoi, former Chief Minister



Gogoi succumbs to post-Covid disease

on invasive ventilation. Gogoi was given dialysis on Sunday. His condition deteriorated further over the past few hours and the hospital where he was admitted said he was "very, very critical".

"Extremely sad to know of the demise of Shri Tarun Gogoi, former Chief Minister

ical and administrative experi-ence. His long tenure in office was a period of epochal change in Assam," President Ram Nath tweeted.

Expressing his anguish at the death of Gogoi, Prime Minister Narendra Modi

described him as a popular leader and weteran administrator who had years of political experience in Assam as well as at the Centre.

Modi tweeted, "Sri Tarun Gogoi li was a popular leader and a veteran administrator, who had years of political experience in Assam as well as the Centre. Anguished by his saxing away. My thoughts are with his family and supporters in this hour of sadness. Om Shanti."

"Shi' Tarun Gogoi was one of the tallest leaders of the Congress party, admired and respected for his extraordiary wisdom, vision and ability. With his long years of experience as an MLA, an MP, a Central Minister of Assam, he was someone to whose unfailingly wise counsel and advice we could always turn to," said Congress chief Sonia Gandhi.

Capital's air slips to 'very poor' as wind loses speed

STAFE REPORTER NEW DELHI Monday m

The worsening of the air in Delhi for the next two days has been attributed to slow winds and low wentilation as on Monday Delhi's air quality deteriorated to the "very poor category after nearly 10 days, Government agencies said.

Stubble burning which

said.
Stubble burning, which
accounted for 12 per cent of
Delhi's PM2.5 pollution on
Sunday, contributed six per
cent on Monday.
According to the Central
Pollution Control Board
(CPCB) mobile app, SAMEER,
the city's air quality index
(AQI) was recorded at 281 on

Monday morning and deteriorated to 302 in the evening, It was 274 on Sunday, It was 251 on Saturday, 296 on Friday, 283 on Thursday.

An AQI between zero and 50 is considered "good", 51 and 100 "satisfactory", 101 and 200 "moderate", 201 and 300 "poor", and 401 and 500 "severe, according to the Ministry of Earth Sciences air quality monitor, SAFAR, "Stubble burning share in PM2.5 in national Capital's air is estimated as six per cent for oday (Monday), mainly because calm wind is likely to hold intruded mass for a day." SAFAR said.



husbandry & fisheries: CM

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Chief minister Trivendra Singh Rawat has directed that the works being undertaken by the Animal Husbandry department for employment generation under the Mukhyamantri Swarozgar Yojana should be reviewed at the state level on a monthly basis. The CM said this while chairing a review meeting of the Animal Husbandry and Fisheries department here on Monday The CM also inaugurated the animal husbandry and Fisheries department here on Monday The CM also inaugurated the animal husbandry department's toll free number 1800-120-8862 on the occasion.

Rawat said that there are considerable employment opportunities in the spheres of agriculture, animal husbandry and fisheries. For this, the public should be made aware of the various works being undertaken by the department and the various government schemes. Focus should also be laid on how to increase the income of rearrest through wool production and value addition for good use of wool. Regular monitoring should be done to ascertain which districts are

doing well in poultry, dairy, wool production and other sectors along with districts where more work needs to be done. The department should make efforts to increase the annual income of farmers and cattle rearers.

and cattle rearers.
Rawat said that cooperatives should be formed for
increasing the income of cattle rearers so that they are able
to enhance their profits
through dairy production and
its marketing. Special efforts
are also needed for growth
centres as they can play an
important role in income
generation through dairy
products. products.

The CM said that the

The CM said that the state government intends to remove the load of fodder from the heads of women on which the animal husbandry department also needs to focus. Every year a number of accidents occur due to wild animals and when women fall while carrying fodder back to home. The department should focus on how to ascertain adequate food for ascertain adequate food for milch cattle at home. Stating that women are working well

will be achieved if they should are linked to skill develop-ment and other

are linked to skin develop-ment and other activities.

Officials informed that 523 beneficiaries had been provided loans by the depart-ment under the Mukhyamantri Swarozgar Yojana. Among mountain states, Uttarkhand is ranked second in dairy production. Under the National Animal Disease Control Programme 17.34 lakh cattle have been vaccinated in the state. Under the National Livestock Mission, the Centre has released Rs 16.80 croe for 2020-21. 2020-21

released Rs 16.80 crore for 2020-21.

Reviewing the fisheries department, the CM said that funding should be increased for fisheries. He further said that trout farming should also be encouraged. Fisheries enable good income at low cost so people should be encouraged for it, he added.

State minister for Animal Husbandry, Rekha Arya, chief secretary Om Prakash, secretary R Meenakshi Sundaram and other officials concerned were also present in the meeting.

Boost income through animal | Jain flaggs off three equipped ambulances

Delhi Power Minister Satyendar Jain flagged-off three fully equipped ambu-lances donated by BSES Yamuna Power Limited (BYPL). under its Suraksha initiative. The keys to the ambulances were handed over to the min-ister by the BYPL CEO P R Kumar.

Kumar
The three Life Support ambulances were in-turn hand-ed-over by the Minister to the senior officials from the three Delhi Government hospitals, GTB Hospital, GB Pant Hospital and Lal Bahadur Hospital and Lal Bahadur gotten the patients in East and Central Delhi.

Apart from the ambu-lances, the BYPL CEO also lances, the BYPL CEO also handed over 50 automatic sanitiser cum thermal temperature scanner machines to the Minister. These will be installed at Mohalla Clinics in East and Central Delhi. Thirty such machines were handed over to the office of DCP, East Delhi a few days earlier.

Over the next-few days, three more life support ambulances will be handed-over to the Delhi Government by BSES Rajdhani Power Limited (BRPL) CEO Amal Sinha for the use of Covid patients in Delhi.



Delhi Health Minister Salyendar Jain inspects the ambulance donated by BSES to GB Pant, GTB and LBS hospital part of it's social responsibility, during handing over ceremony at Delhi Secretariat

According to a BSES spokesperson, "Complimenting the efforts of the Delhi Government, BSES discoms have been playing their part in the fight against Covid. Dry food rations, Hygiene kits and

few months, over 2 lakh gloves, 2 lakh masks, over 20,000 hygiene kits, and 6000 PPE kits have been provided by the dis-

have been provided by the dis-coms."
"Apart from this, discom-promoted Women Self Help Groups are stitching affordable and reusable masks for hun-

dreds of people residing in the slums Besides helping these women supplement their loss of income during the pandemic, they are also being distributed amongst the needy and the vullerable population", he said.

Pollution led to high Covid death rate in city: Jain

Delhi Health Minister Deln Health Minister
Satyendar Jain on Monday
attributed the high Covid-19
death rate in the national Capital to the pollution caused by
stubble-burning and expected
a downtrend in it in the next

The pollution due to stub-ble-burning has caused prob-lems in breathing and those who had Covid-19 inhaled the

who had Covid-19 inhaled the smoke, which aggravated the seriousness, he said.

Jain said that its effect on the city's Covid-19 death rate will go away in the next two-three weeks since pollution due to stubble-burning has lessened in the last few days.

The health minister further said that there was heavy pol-



lution due to stubble-burning amid the Covid-19 pandemic and it came as a double attack. amid the Covid-19 pandemic and it came as a double attack. Since the pollution due to stubble-burning is less now, the downtrend in deaths will be there in a few weeks," Jain said. This was the fifth time in 11 days that the daily number of deaths crossed the 100-mark in the national Capital.

The authorities reported 111 deaths on Saturday, 118 on Friday, 131 on November 18,

the highest till date, and 10-101. November 12. Delhi has reported a death rate of 1.58 per cent among COVID-19 patients as compared to the national fatality rate of 1.48 per

cent. Experts attribute the high figure of daily COVID-19 deaths in the national capital to a large number of "critical" non-resident patients coming to the city for treatment, an unfavourable weather, pollution and a better "reporting and mapping" of fatalities. They say the easing of restrictions has exposed the vulnerable population, such as the elderly and those having comorbidities, to the deadly virus.

virus.

Jain said the number of fresh cases as well as the posi-

tivity rate is gradually going down in Delhi, showing that the COVID-19 situation is

down in Delhi, showing that the COVID-19 situation is improving.

Since November 7, when the positivity rate was more than 15 per cent, it has come down to over 12 per cent now. The number of fresh cases was over 8,500 on November 10, which reduced to 6,746 on Sunday, he said.

The health minister said 9,418 hospital beds have been occupied by COVID-19 patients in Delhi currently, whereas 7,900 are still vacant. Delhi recorded 6,746 fresh COVID-19 cases on Sunday and a positivity rate of 12.29 per cent, while 121 more fatalities pushed the city's death toll due to the disease to 8,391, authorities said.

Hold Punjab, Haryana CMs liable for pollution: Atishi to air quality panel

STAFF REPORTER

As MILA and chairper-Soon of the Environment Committee of Delhi Assembly Atishi on Monday met the newly-appointed panel for Air Quality Management and urged it to hold Chief Ministers of Punjab and Haryana liable for causing pollution in the national Capital. Talking to the media after the meeting, Atishi said two

main issues wer raised with the commission. "The commission was requested to fix the accountability of the Chief Ministers of Punjab and Haryana on the issue of burning stubble and take strict action against them by filing a case.

Atishi said that the commission was also requested to order the governments of Punjab and Haryana to resolve the stubble burning with bio decomposer technology.

"This is effective as well as an efficient alternative to this problem. Secondly, we have also requested them to take stringent action against the chief ministers of Punjab the chief ministers of Punjab and Haryana for they have failed to curb stubble burning. The Air Quality Commission has the power to take legal actions and can order jail to anyone causing pollution. We have requested them to hold them accountable for the pollution caused in Delhi," she said.

Sisodia: Govt to reduce performance security to 3% of value of contract

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Considering the problems obeing faced by commercial entities and contractors, the Delhi Government has decided to reduce performance security from existing 5-10 to 3 per cent of the value of the contract for all existing contracts.

Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia informed that all tenders or contracts issued and concluded till December 31, 2021 should also have the provision of reduced performance security.

Delhi Government has also noted that 'Additional Performance Security' in case of Abnormacly in case of Abnormacly Low Bids (ALBs) is being taken from the contractors by various departments though there is no provision for the same in General Financial Rules or the Manuals for Procurement, he said.

It has also been decided that no provisions should be that no provisions should be that no provisions should be the property of the same in General Financial Rules or the Manuals for Procurement, he said.



kept in the bid documents regarding Additional Security Deposit/Bank Guarantee (BG) in case of Abnormally Low Bids, Sisodia added.

The Delhi Government is in receipt of many representations that on account of slow-down in the economy due to the pandemic, there is acute financial crunch among many commercial entities and contractors, which in turn is affecting timely execution of the contractors, which in turn is affecting timely execution of the coning timely execution of the con-tracts. The deputy further said that it has been decided by the

Delhi Government that no provisions regarding bid secu-rity should be kept in the bid documents in future and only provision for 'Bid Security Declaration' should be kept in the bid documents, as it has the bid documents, as it has been noted that bid security or earnest money deposit is still being taken from the contractors by various departments. Sisodia informed that the instructions will be applicable for all the tenders issued till December 31, 2021.

'North Corporation doesn't maintain property tax account

Aam Aadmi Party (AAP)
Achief spokesperson
Saurabh Bhardwaj on Monday
accused the leaders of BJPruled North Corporation of
being involved in "massive"
manipulation of the rented and commercial properties as the civic body does not maintain any account related to property tax despite the direc-tion issued by the apex court in

tion issued by the apex court in 2002.

"The property tax collection is the key way of revenue for the municipal corporations across the country. According to a data this year the North MCD was supposed to receive RS 2838 crore from the property tax but the MCD has collected as the MCD was supposed to receive RS 2838 crore from the property tax but the MCD has collected as the MCD has collecte RS 2838 crore from the property tax but the MCD has collected only Rs 1703 crore. The biggest betrayal by the BJP ruled North MCD is that they do not maintain any proper documentation regarding the collection of preparity. collection of property tax. There is no way to find out how much corruption or financial



key way of revenue for the municipal corporations across the country. According to a data this year, the North MCD was supposed to receive ₹2.838 crore from the property tax but the MCD has collected only ₹1.703 crore

The property tax collection is the



disputes they have.
"In 2017 before the MCD election the BJP claimed that election the BJP claimed that they will replace all the sitting councillors because there were various corruption charges against them. After the elec-tion, the BJP wom in all the three municipal corporations of Delhi but the corruption did not go away and flourished in a massive way," he said. Bhardwaj said, "The local MCD officials decide about the property tax collection from an individual establishment. They can change the usage of the property which means if a property is rented then they can show that it is not rented If the property is vacant then they can show that it is being

used for commercial purposes.
Moreover, very significantly
there is no report or documentation of the fact regarding
the property tax exemption.

In 2002 when this law was
passed then the BIP ruled
MCD decided to conduct a survey of all these properties but
this nothing happened, he said.

The audit report noted
that the survey was never conducted after the implementation of the unit area method of
the property tax nor were the
property tax returns scrutinised hundred per cent. In
absence of survey and nonscrutinised PTRs, loss of reveue on account of property
tax cannot be assessed. They
have never maintained any
kind of assessment books," he
added. have never maintained any kind of assessment books," he added.

PUBLIC NOTICE

10.11.2020.

Drunk man rams car into main gate of Safdarjung tomb STAFF REPORTER III NEW DELHI

STAFF REPORTER IN NEW DELHI

A 32-year-old man rammed his car into the main gate of the Safdarjung tomb in central Delhi in the hourly early hours of Monday. Police said the man was allegedine to the safdarjung tomb in central Delhi in the hourly early hours of Monday. Police said the man was allegedine to the safdarjung tomb in central Delhi in the safdarjung tomb. The man has been identified as Vijay Bahri, a resident the will person

"The vehicle also hit the notice board of the monument made of stone and damaged it. Bahri was indication in the safdarjung tomb." The vehicle also hit the notice board of the monument made of stone and damaged it. Bahri was indication and the safdarjung tomb. The vehicle said. He was rushed to the Rammundar Lohia (RML) hospital, 'said the senior police official. "He did not sustain any serious injury. An FIR Code (IPC), section 3 of the Prevention of Damage to Code (IPC), section 3 of the Prevention of Damage to the monument," he said.

2 held for raping, molesting 28-year-old Mumbai-based freelance event manager

STAFF REPORTER ■

The Delhi Police has arrested two
Them for allegedly raping and
molesting a 28-year-old Mumbaibased freelance event manager in
Delhi's Aerocity area.
They have been identified as
Sandeep Mehta (57) and Naveen
Dawar (47), both eatery owners in
Haryana's Sonipat.

Dawar (47), both eatery owners in Haryana's Sonipat. According to a senior police official, the incident was reported on Friday and the woman told the police that she met Mehta on social media. "She came to Delhi on Wednesday and was staying at a hotel in Aerocity. The next day, she

met Mehta and his friend Dawar at met Mehta and his friend Dawar at Connaught Place. The woman alleged that Dawar tried to molest her. Later, Mehta came to drop her at the hotel and allegedly raped her inside her room," said the senior police official. Mehta took her from the hotel and after dropping her at Anand Vihar, fled, police said, adding that the woman thereafter made a PCR call

"Mehta was booked under sec-"Mehta was booked under sec-tion 376 (rape) and is in police cus-tody, while Dawar, who was booked under section 354 (assault or crim-inal force to woman with intent to outrage her modesty), has been sent to judicial custody," said police.

CANCELLATION OF TRAINS DUE TO MEGA TRAFFIC-CUM-POWER BLOCKS

In order to upgrade the existing rail infrastructure and to enhance the passengers and road safety, Moradabad Division of Northern Railway will launch Foot Over Bridges (FOB) at Althal, Rishikesh, Haridwar & Motichur stations and a Limited Height Subway (LHS) at Lavel Crossing No. 16 at Jwalapur Yard. Further, Division will also undertake the work of launching of Girders on Road Over Bridge (ROB) between Motichur & Railwala Stations. To execute these works, the Moradabad Division will take Mega Traffic-Cum-Power Blocks on different dates upto 27.11.2020. Consequently, the following trains will remain cancelled on dates shown against each:

CANCELLATION OF TRAINS			
Train No. & Train Name 017/02018 New Delhi-Dehradun-New Delhi Shatabdi Express 091/02092 Kathgodam-Dehradun-Kathgodam Jan Shatabdi Exp 887/04888 Barmer-Rishikesh-Barmer Special	Date of Cancellation (from Originating Station)		
02017/02018 New Delhi-Dehradun-New Delhi Shatabdi Express	23, 24 & 27.11.2020		
02091/02092 Kathgodam-Dehradun-Kathgodam Jan Shatabdi Exp	24 & 27.11.2020		
04887/04888 Barmer-Rishikesh-Barmer Special	23, 24 & 27.11.2020		
04113 Prayagraj Jn Dehradun Special	23.11.2020		
04114 Dehradun-Prayagraj Jn. Special	24.11.2020		

Enquiry No. 139 or visit Indian Railways website www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in

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Covid-19 death toll reaches 1,162 in State

Seven deaths, 376 fresh cases of disease reported on Monday

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The death toll from the novel
Coronavirus (Covid-19) in
Uttarakhand climbed to 1162
on Monday with the state
health department reporting
seven deaths from the disease.
The department also reported
376 fresh cases of the disease on
the day which further increased
the tally of the disease to 71632
in the state. The authorities discharged 428 patients from diffreent hospitals of the state affer
their complete recovery on
Monday. A total of 65530
patients have so far recovered
from the disease in the state.
The recovery percentage from
the disease is now at 91.48
while the sample positivity rate while the sample positivity rate

is 5.70 percent.

Five patients of the disease



were reported dead at Sushila Tiwari government hospital on Monday Similarly one patient each of Covid-19 was reported dead at the Mahant Indiresh hospital, Dehradun and HNB Base hospital Srinaear.

Srinagar.
Out of the 428 patients discharged on Monday, 116 were from Pauri, 87 from Nainital, 49 from Dehradun and 34

190 Horauti, 87 incil Namital, 49 from Dehradun and 34 from Tehri.

The provisional state capital Dehradun is continuing to reel under the onslaught of the virus. Here the health department reported 133 fresh cases of the disease on Monday. The department reported 49 cases of Covid-19 from Haridwar, 47 from Nainital. 26 from Pauri.

Pithoragarh, 18 from Champawat, 12 each from Tehri, Udham Singh Nagar and Uttarkashi, 11 from Almora, five from Rudraprayag and four from Bageshwar on Monday Monday. Uttarakhand now has 4298

U'hand Governor admitted in AIIMS-Rishikesh

She was tested positive for Covid-19 on



a team of five specialist doctors which would monitor the health of the Governor on a daily basis. Following her admission in the hospital, CT scan of the chest was done and

blood samples were taken for the tests. The Dean, hospital administration, AIIMS Rishikesh, U B Mishra said that Maurya is healthy and a team

BJP ready for Assembly polls, confident of bigger victory than last time



PNS DEHRADUN

The Bharatiya Janata Party is ready for the 2022 Vidhan Sabha elections in Uttarakhand. The party will contest the polls on the issue of development as envisioned by Prime Minister Narendra Modi along with the historic achievements of the Narendra Modi along with the historic achievements of the State and Central governments. The BJP State president Banshidhar Bhagat said this while addressing the media at his residence here on Monday.

Bhagat said that the party.

Monday.

Bhagat said that the party is confident that in the coming Vidhan Sabha election, it will win more than 57 seats it had won in the last election to once won in the last election to once again form the government in Uttarakhand. The BJP will select its candidates on the basis of performance. He said that though the party will get a survey conducted about six months before the election. Replying to a query. Bhagat said that a Modi wave is very much active across the nation and its

effect was seen in the recent elections in Bihar and other elections. The BJP will defi-nitely benefit from the Modi wave in the Vidhan Sabha elec-tions in Uttarakhand too, he added.

tions in Uttarakhand too, he added.

He further informed that the BJP national president JP Nadda will be on an Uttarakhand tour on December 5, 6 and 7. During his tour of the state, Nadda will hold 14 meetings which will include meetings with ministers, MLAs, position holders and other organisational categories. Stating that the BJP national president is starting his national tour with Uttarakhand, Bhagat said that the party workers are enthusiastic about Nadda's state tour. Bhagat said that after Nadda's visit, he will undertake a tour of all the Vidhan Sabha constituencies and also spend the night in most of the constituencies.

Regarding former chief minister and senior Congress leader Harish Rawat's statement

that he would retire from politics after Rahul Gandhibecomes the PM, Bhagat said that Rawat seems to be intent on spending his whole life in politics because Rahul Gandhi will never become the Prime Minister and Rawat will never retire from active politics. Welcoming the chief minister Trivendra Singh Rawat's decision to reinstate the river status for Ganga at Har Ki Paidi in Haridwar, Bhagat said that the mistake made by the then chief minister Harish Rawat would now be rectified. Regarding the state government's performance, the BJP State president said that in more than three and a half years in office so far the State government received the full support of the Central government. Due to the chief minister's will power and vision about 85 per cent of the promises made in the party's election manifesto have been fulfilled so far while the remaining will be fulfilled in a few months, he added.

Many important trains cancelled

Traffic in U'khand to remain affected due to rail block for constructing foot over bridge in Laksar

PNS DEHRADUN

Many important trains con-necting Uttarakhand with different parts of the country would remain affected due to the traffic block taken by the northern railways in the the traffic block taken by the northern railways in the Laksar- Haridwar rail section. The rail block has been neces-sitated due to the construction of a foot over bridge on Laksar-Haridwar section of Moradabad railway division.

The chief public relations offi-cer (CPRO) of Northern Railways, Deepak Kumar said that the train number 02017/02018 New Delhi-Dehradun- New Delhithat the train number 20217/02018 New DelhiDehradun- New DelhiDehradun- New DelhiStatabdi express special would remain cancelled on November 23, 24 and 27. Similarly the train number 02091/02092 Kathgodam DehradunKathgodam express special would would remain cancelled on November 24 and 27. Train number 04887/04888 BarmerRishikesh express special would not operate on November 23, 24 and 27. Similarly Prayagraj pehradun express special would remain cancelled on November 23 and 27. Similarly Prayagraj special express (train number 04113) would remain cancelled on November 23 while Dehradun- Prayagraj special express (train number 04114) would not operate on November 24.

Negi seeks probe against sexual abuse of minor by uncles

PNS © DEHRADUN

The State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (SCPCR) has received a complaint from a 17 year old girl who has alleged that her material uncles tried to sexually assault her while her mother and grandmother did nothing despite being aware of the situation. The complainant who arrived in the commission on Monday mentioned to the chairperson of SCPCR, Usha Negi that she basically belongs to Haryana but she was living with her uncles and grandmother in Dehradaun during the lockdown. Her mother was lira with along with her younger sister and brother in Haryana about which the complainant came to know later, said Negi. When her mother returned to her grandmother's house, the



complainant told her about the attempt of sexual assault but her Negi said that the co attempt of sexual assault but her mother did not support her, said Negi. However, the younger sister of the com-plainant mentioned to her that the man living with them in Haryana sexually abused her too, informed Negi. She further informed that the complainant told about this to her father who took his children back to Haryana where they have flied a complaint against the moth-

er and her alleged partner.
Negi said that the complainant arrived in the commission with her father and
since the complainant was a
minor, the commission provided her counselling too. Negi
stated that she has written to the stated that she has written to the deputy inspector general/senior superintendent of police of Dehradun to submit the investigation report and actions to be taken against the culprits within 15 days.

Will retire in 2024 after making RaGa PM, says Harish Rawat

Minister Subodh Uniyal had recently advised Rawat to retire

In a strong message to his detractors in the Congress party and outside it, former chief minister and general secretary of All India Congress Committee (AICC), Harish Rawat has said that the would not retire from active politics before 2024. In his facebook post, which immediately became a talkine point diately became a talkine point. facebook post, which immediately became a talking point on Monday, the former CM said, 'many people are waiting anxiously for my retirement. I would retire but in the year 2024 after making Rahul Gandhi, the prime minister of the country. My well wishers who are waiting for my retirement should have to wait until then.'

It is worth mentioning here that on the issue of rebels coming back to Congress party's fold the

camps headed by former
CM Rawat
and Pradesh
Congress
Committee
(PCC) chief
Pritam Singh
had sharply
divided opinion. Amid these agriculture
minister
Subodh
Uniyal who
too had
switched

sides before the assembly elections of 2017, stated that Congress is a sinking ship and advised that Harish Rawat advised that Harish Rawat should retire from politics. In his unique style, Rawat replied to Uniyal's barb by stating that some warriors after taking classes from RSS are targeting him but they had just been born when he was preparing for the next battle after facing first electoral defeat. Rawat also took the



Congress leaders to the task that recently has been targeting him for defeat of Congress party in the elections of 2017. These people have not remembered their ancestors as many times they have reminded me about my electoral reverses. Many of these have not been able to get the candidate of the party elected in their own wards," said Rawat in his post.

Technical glitch in DSCL portal to be resolved by November 25

Due to a technical glitch in Limited (DSCI) portal, hose who have registered in the portal as volunteers for the district literacy campaign will have to wait for two more days to get the response from the administration. Many locals who have applied to be volunteers in Padho Doon Badho Doon campaign of Dehradun district administration stated that it has been over a monthsince they applied and they are yet to receive any response from the administration. It will be recalled that about 35,000 people in the district were found Due to a technical glitch in the Dehradun Smart City

out to be illierate in the survey done by Anganwadi workers and the chief development offi-cer (CDO) Nitika Khandelwal had informed that the district administration has already educated people in 11 Gram Panchayats so far with the help of the volunteers.

Panchayats so far with the help of the volunteers.

Regarding the issue of no acknowledgement to some applicants who registered in the portal to be volunteers, Khandelwal had said that there was some glitch in the DSCL website which would be resolved soon but the issue still persists in the portal. Several volunteers are still waiting for the response of the district administration. Talking

about the issue in the website, the public relations officer (PRO) of DSCI. Preran Dhyani stated that the site was under maintenance for past few days and though most of the maintenance work is done, there are still some glitches in the site was under which will be sorted out completely by November 25. As per the officials, there are about 60 volunteer registrations so far and the eligible applicants will be accepted as volunteers once the issue gets resolved. It is pertinent to mention here that any educated person can apply to be a volunteer for the literacy campaign at https://dsclservices.org.in/volunteer.php as there is no age bar.

Coaching centres await students in Dehradun

Though the State Government has allowed Government has allowed the coaching centres to operate from November 10, the operators of these institutes are still waiting for the students to join back the classes. Khajan Rana from Uttarakhand Coaching and Library Association (UCLA) stated that there are hardly ten students in a coaching centre since the administration permitted the classes.

According to him, there are

classes.

According to him, there are many competitive exams coming up and the owners of coaching centres were optimistic that at least 40 percent

to 50 percent students will join classes but most of the students are still reluctant. Most of them are still in other districts and mountainous regions while the recent increase in Covid-19 cases has also worsened the condition, said Rana. He also informed that none of the students of board classes joined any institutes too. "Most of the students will probably join classes next year only. However, most of the coaching institutes are opening institutes irrespective of the number of students present and though there are very few students when actually take e-classes, we have continued them too," added Rana.

Locals complain about overflowing garbage near bins, MCD blames irresponsible residents

Overflowing garbage bins have become one of the Orkinowing gatoage oms have become one of the most prominent issues in Dehradun city. Several garbage bins can be seen in various roadside sites of the city surrounded with both biodegradable waste. One of the similar cases can be observed near the Lakshman Chowk area in Gandhigram ward (number 45) where an overflowing garbage bin surrounded by trash every day is causing a nuisance to locals in the Park Road area. According to one of nuisance to locals in the Park Road area. According to one of the locals, Madhukar Dhiman, the people including some sanitation workers throw all kinds of garbage in and out-side the bin that include bio-medical waste too. This issue of overflowing garbage bin is not a recent issue. We are fac-ing this problem here for the last many years. We have com-plained to several authorities concerned like Dehradun mayor and municipal com-missioner but nothing has been done in this matter,*

said Dhiman.

Moreover, the councillor of the ward, Meenakshi Maurya also stated that she has complained to the Municipal Corporation of Dehradun (MCD) and a team of the corporation also inspected the place but nothing changed. The main issue is that most of the locals do not dump their garbage in the door to door collection service. The municipal workers take the garbage from the dustbin regularly but the garbage container site returns to the same condition again. I even started door to door collection service for locals three times a day in the area so that they refrain from throwing garbage there but still, they continue to do it, said Maurya. She added that the garbage bin was even covered with a tarpaulin cover but it made the situation worse. The garbage was being thrown in the drains and the open areas and we could not allow this so we had to uncover the bin. The locals will have to act responsibly which seems to be the only solution to this



issue," said Maurya. K Singh said that the main Responding to this, the senior municipal health officer Dr R not hand over domestic

remove the garbage bin from that area which is not possible. Where would we move it to? The issue is that the locals

Where would we move it to?
The issue is that the locals
dump the garbage in the overflowing bins and outside it,"
said Singh. He also said that
the corporation covered the
bin a few days back so that
people refrain from dumping
garbage there to which
Maurya and Dhiman have
claimed that it was done by
them and not by the MCD.
Meanwhile, Singh said
that to tackle such issues
across the city, the corporation
will soon issue notices to such
people who are not dumping
domestic garbage in the door
to door collection service. The
locals will have to show the
receipts of the bill they receive
for the door to door collection
service proving that they han
dower their garbage to the
sanitation workers, stated
Singh. He said that if they fail,
MCD will suse motices to
such locals as a first warning
and will even impose a penalty later on of minimum Rs 500
under anti-littering Act if they
continue to violate rules.

Thousands of Govt teachers seek transfer

More than 3500 teachers have applied for transfer under rule 27 of transfer act

PNS DEHRADUN

The state government has declared the ongoing year as zero year for transfers but has opened a window for the employees suffering from serious diseases, parents of especially abled and those having some serious issue. As per the rules the transfer of these employees would be made under rule 27 of transfers act. The education department of the state is now grappling with the enormous number of transfer applications of teachers made under the rule 27. The department has received more

than 3500 transfer applications of the teachers. The
department has forwarded
these applications to the state
administration. Now after
scrutiny at the state administration level, these applications
would be placed before the
chief secretary. It is worth
mentioning here that to give
relief to the teachers who genuinely need transfer in the
zero transfer year, the education secretary R Meenakshi
Sundaram had directed the
education fepartment to seek
applications from eligible
teachers under section 27.

In response to the department's order, a large number of
teachers applied for the transfers. It is learnt that about
1500 applications are of primary teachers and remaining
of the Licensed Teachers (LT)
and lecturers.

The secretary has made it
clear that the department
would check the eligibility of
the teachers for transfers and
to officials would be held
responsible for the transfers.



COVID-19

Solution to virus elimination lies in rapid testing

Testing half the population weekly with inexpensive, rapid-turnaround Covid-19 tests would drive the virus toward elimination within weeks — even if those tests are

toward elimination within weeks — even if those tests are significantly less sensitive than gold-standard clinical tests, claim researchers.

The observation holds importance in the context of India where while RT-PCR is considered the gold standard for Covid-19 testing because of the high sensitivity of the test, Rapid antigen testing (RAT) is preferred in areas where mass-scale testing needs to be deployed for it gives results in minutes and is cheaper. The test is highly specific, which means it can accurately detect true positive cases.

However, because of the limitations of the test in terms of not being that accurate in

true positive cases. However, because of the limitations of the test in terms for not being that accurate in detecting true negatives, the Indian Government has advised states to mandatorily test through RT-PCR all RAT negative samples of individuals hearing Covid-19 like symptoms. RAT is also quicker and gives results in minutes rather than hours taken to get RT-PCR which is a complicated test requiring a specialised aboratory.

Study lead author Daniel Larremore from the University of Colorado Boulder in the US

supports RAT test as he said, "Our big picture finding is that, when it comes to public health, it's better to have a less sensitive test with results today than a more sensitive one with results tomorrow."

people tend to experience symptoms, and when they become contagious. They then used mathemat-ical modeling to forecast the impact of screening with dif-ferent kinds of tests on three hypothetical scenarios in 10,000

inspace to december the tests on three hypothetical scenarios in 10,000 individuals; in a university-type setting of 20,000 people; and in a city of 8.4 million.

When it came to curbing spread, they found that frequency and turnaround time are much more important than test sensitivity. For instance, in one scenario in a large city widespread twice-weekly testing with a rapid but less sensitive test reduced the degree of infectiousness of the virus by 80 per cent.

The Covid-19 caseload breached the 91-lakh mark

I breached the 91-lakh mark on Monday as India registered less than 50,000 infections daily since November 8, while the death toll climbed to 1,33,738 with 511 new statilities. The Union Health Ministry said that less than 50,000 cases trend assumes significance as several countries in the Western Hemisphere are witnessing a surge in cases at the onset of winter. The number of people who have recu-

(polymerase chain reaction) test, which takes up to 48 hours to return results, reduced infectiousness by only 58 per cent. When the amount of testing was the same, the rapid test always reduced infectiousness better than the slower, more sensitive PCR test. That's because about two-thirds of infected people have no symptoms and as they await their results, they continue to spread the virus. "This paper is one of the first to show we should worry less about test sensitivity and, when it comes to public health, prioritize frequency and turn-around," said senior co-author Roy Parker.

Parker. The study also demon-

perated from the disease has surged to 85,62,641 which exceeds active cases by 81,19,155.

81,19,155.
A total of 44,059 people were found infected with Covid-19 in a span of 24 hours with ten states and UTs contributing to 78.74 per cent of the new infections.

the new infections.

Delhi reported 6,746 cases in a day followed by Maharashtra recording 5,753 new cases while Kerala reported 5,254 daily cases.

Of the 511 case fatalities reported in a span of 24 hours,



Union Home Minister Amit Shah launches a mobile laboratory that will conduct free RT-PCR tests for Covid-19 here and the results will be available in six to eig

AstraZeneca: We will have 200 million doses by end of 2020

PNS NEW DELHI

Stating that its Covid-19 vaccine could be around 90 percent effective, and potentially cheaper to make, British drug-maker AstraZeneca on Monday said it will have as many as 200 million doses by the end of 2020 — around four times as many as US competitor Prizer.

Seven hundred million doses could be ready globally as soon as the end of the first quarter of 2021. The combined analysis from both dosing regimens resulted in an average efficacy of 70 per cent. The vaccine was 90 per cent effective in preventing Covid-19 when it was administered as a half dose followed by a full dose at least a month later, according to data from late-stage trials in Britain and Brazil. No serious safety events were confirmed, the company said. "This means we have a vaccine for the world," said Andrew Pollard, director of the Oxford University vaccine group that developed the drug.

The vaccine's cost works out at just a few dollars a shot, ut a just a few dollars a shot,

Harming that the table t

a fraction of the price of drugs from Pfizer and Moderna, which use a more unconven-tional technology. And it can be transported and stored at normal fridge temperatures, which propo-nents say would make it easi-er to distribute, especially in poor countries, than Pfizer's, which needs to be shirned

rents say whoun make a case ro distribute, especially is poor countries, than Pfizer's which needs to be shipped and stored at -70C, the sort of temperature typical of an Antarctic winter.

The effectiveness of AstraZeneca's vaccine depend-do nthe dosing, and fell to just 62 per cent when given as two full doses rather than a half-dose first. But scientists cautioned against seeing this as evidence that it would be less useful than rivals. Vaccines from Pfizer and Moderna each prevented about 95 per cent of cases according to interim data from their late-stage trials.

Think it is a real fools cannot be a start trying to pick errand to start trying to pick.

"I think it is a real fools errand to start trying to pick these three (Pfizer/Moderna/ Astra) apart on the basis of snip-pets of phase 3 data from press releases," said Danny Altmann, professor of immunology at Imperial College London.

PM: Constructed key buildings within time

PNS NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra
Modi on Monday said his
Government initiated the conmany major buildings in the Capital which were
in limbo and were only on files
for the past two decades and
finished the work well before
the targeted time.

Inaugurating the new three
towers with 76 apartments for
MPs, Modi cited that many
important buildings like
National War Memorial,
Ambedkar International
Centre, National Police
Memorial and CIC building
construction of major buildings
struction of major buildings

from mid 2014.

Modi said delay in con-struction of major buildings leads to economic burden. "It also leads to economic burden thus erious efforts to overcome this problem began especially after 2014.

The decades old problems

after 2014.

The decades-old problems can be resolved by finding solutions to them and not by

iding. Not only the accommoda-Not only the accommoda-tion for MPs, there were several projects in Delhi which had been lying incomplete for many years, and were in limbo. Construction of several build-ings began during this Government itself and was completed in the stipulated time, even before the scheduled time. When there was the Government of Atal Bihari



Vajpayee ji, discussion began on the Ambedkar National Memorial. It took several years for its construction and it was completed only after the formation of this Government.

"The Doctor Ambedkar International Centre was built by this government after a long wait of 23 years. The new building of the Central Information Commission was completed by this Government. The country was, for decades, discussing a proposal of the War Memorial. The brawe soldiers of our country were expecting and demanding this for a long time. Our Government also had the privilege of constructing a war memorial near India Gate in

memory of the country's mar-tyrs. Thousands of policemen in our country have sacrificed their lives to maintain law and order. Thousands of policemen order. Thousands of policemen have been martyred. The National Police Memorial in their memory was also built by this Government," said Modi, narrating several projects completed by his Government on time. Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, Union Ministers Prahlad Joshi and Hardeep Puri were present in the function. The 76 new residences for MPs have been built within 27 months at a cost of Rs 188 crore, in three towers named after Rivers Ganga, Yamuna and Saraswati.

CBI books UP resident for impersonating agency official

India Covid-19 caseload breaches 91-lakh mark

The CBI has registered a case against an accused, resident of Jwal Khera, Bulandshahr and Shivpuri Choraha, Tehsil Kol, Aligarh (Uttar Pradesh) on the allegations that he has been impersonating himself as RR Singh, DIG, CBI, Delhi for his

impersonating himself as RK sligh, DIG, CBH, Delhi for his personal gain.

The agency also conducted searches on Monday at the premises of the accused which led to recovery of two country made firearms and some incriminating documents in connection with the alleged crime.

The accused Rajiv Singh was impersonating as the CBI DIG for personal gains, officials said, adding investigation is continuing in the case.

Meanwhile, the agency on Monday arrested an absconding accused in an ongoing investigation of a case against a Kolkata-based Ponzi company.

company.

A case was registered

74.95 per cent are concentrated in ten states and UTs. Delhi, with 121 reported deaths, con-tributes 23.68 per cent to the new fatalities, the ministry said,

Maharashtra saw a fatality count of 50 while West Bengal followed closely with 49 new

fatalities.
India's present active case-load (4,43,486) comprises 4.85 per cent of the total cases, and has been sustained below the 5 per cent mark. The national Covid-19 recovery rate continues to be above 93 per cent as 93.68 per cent of all cases

against the Ponzy company) and others. "It was alleged that the Managing Director of the (accused Ponzi company) in (accused Ponzi company) in pursuance to a conspiracy with other Directors of said Group of Companies (a Ponzi Company) had illegally collected Re 45-64 crore (approximately) from the investors under various fraudulent schemes on assurance of paying high returns on such investments on maturity, the CBI said in a statement.

on maturity, the CBI said in a statement.

It was further alleged that the accused fled away after cheating the said investors and misappropriated the invested money.

money. The arrested accused SK Nazubuulla, Managing Director of Angel Agritech Group of Companies (a Ponzy Company), was produced before the Court of ACJM, Baruipur (West Bengal) and remanded to 10 days police Baruipur (West Bengal) and remanded to 10 days police custody, officials added.

Foreign Secy briefs envoys of key nations on attempts by JeM to carry out terror attack in J&K

to carry out terror attack in J&K

New Delhi: Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan
Shringla on Monday briefed top emoys of key nations,
including the US, Russia, France and Japan on the
planned terror attack by Pakistan-based terrorist
group JeM in Nagrota in Jammu which was foiled
by security forces on November 19, sources said.

The heads of missions were provided with a
comprehensive "information docket" giving the
details of the incident, and also list of items and munition recovered from terrorists, clearly indicating their
Pakistani origins. The envoys were sensitised about
India's concerns regarding Pakistans' sustained
efforts to "destabilise" the situation in Jammu &
Kashmir and to "subvert" upcoming local elections
and democracy in the union territory, sources said.

"In terms of the bigger picture, it was clear that
the terrorists were planning the biggest terror attack
in India since Pulwama in February 2019 and the
implications can be guessed, "said a source, adding
that details of JeM's involvement in previous such
incidents were also shared with the envoys.

Four suspected JeM terrorists, who were hiding in a truck, were killed by security forces near
Nagrota in an encounter on Thursday morning after
which the government asserted that a major terror attack was foiled by the Indian security forces.

It was the first of several briefings to be conducted by the MEA in small groups in view of the
Covid-19 situation, the sources said adding other
secretaries will also be holding similar sessions with

secretaries will also be holding similar sessions with heads of missions of other countries.

CPWD using PEB technology at Africa Avenue in national Capital to cut pollution, water consumption in construction

PNS III NEW DELHI

PNS NEW DELHI

To reduce pollution caused by construction activities, the Central Public Works Department (CPWD) is using pre-engineered building (PEB) technology to build 44,000 sqm built up area in three blocks of G+8 storey at KG Marg, and 49,000 sqm built up area in four blocks of G+7 storey at Africa Avenue in the national Capital. The technology being used will also help to reduce water consumption during the construction.

PEB is the one which is engineered in a factory and assembled on site.

The Construction Material is Preplanned using advanced Modelling Techniques of BIM/Building Information System). Fab ricated at Shop and Brought to Site in completely knockdown (CKD) condition, assembled and Erected at Site with Nut-bolts reducing Time of construction.

Erected at site with Nutr-boils reducing 1 ime of construction.

According to the CPWD, the foundation consists of reinforced cement concrete with crystalline admixture and zinc cathodic protection system to reduce porosity of concrete and corrosion of reinforcement bars, thus increasing its durability.

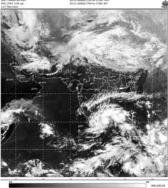
Nivar likely to make landfall along TN coast tomorrow

Cyclone Nivar is brewing in the Bay of Bengal and might make landfall along the Tamil Nadu coast between Karaikal and Mahabalipuram on the afternoon of November 25. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has upgraded the tropical threat to Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Puducherry coasts to a severe cyclone and issued an advisory to this effect.

This will be the first cyclone to make landfall on the Indian coast in 2020 and the second to form in the North Indian Ocean region after severe cyclone Gati in the Arabian Sea in 2020. The months from October to December are cyclone season' and see several originate in the Bay of Bengal.

According to the IMD, Nivar currently lies as a depression some 600 km south south east of Puducherry in the Bay of Bengal. I will intensify into a deep depression by the evening of November 23 and a cyclone by the morning of November 23 and a cyclone by the mage of 100-110 kollometres per hour, with gusts of up to 120 km. I mage of 100-110 kollometres per hour, with gusts of up to 120 km. I might bring heavy cainfall to the southern states of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Padesh, Karnataka and Telangana from November 24-26.

The IMD warned that the severe cyclone may infilic damage to thatched houses/ huts with the possibility of rooftops being blown off and untattached



IMD satellite image captured on Monday shows a depression over the Bay of

metal sheets flying away. metal sheets flying away, Damage to power and communication lines could be expected. Kutcha roads may suffer major damaged while it would be less severe to pucca roads. Escape routes could get flooded after breaking down of tree branches and large avenue trees getting uproted. The severe cyclone can also cause major damage to banana and papaya trees, horticulture and crops, orchards and coastal crops.

The sea condition was 'rough to very rough' (wave heights of 8-20 ft) over South-

West and adjoining West-Central and South-East Bay along and off Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and south Andhra Pradesh coasts and over the Gulf of Mannar on Monday afternoon.
Fishermen are advised not to venture into South-West and adjoining West-Central and South-East Bay; the Gulf of Mannar, and along and off the Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and south Andhra Pradesh coasts from Monday to Wednesday. Those out into the sea already are advised to return to the coast

Union Cabinet Secy chairs meet tioned that the impending Cyclone is going to affect coastal areas of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry between 24th to 26th November, 2020. "The Cabinet Secretary mentioned that we all are aiming at zero loss of life and early restoration of normalcy in the affected areas. He mentioned that the advi-

Union Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba on Monday chaired a meeting of the National Crisis Management Committee (NCMC) to review the status of impend-ing Cyclone through video conferencing with the Chief Secretaries of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry.

Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry. The Chief Secretaries of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry briefed the NCMC about their prepared-ness and mentioned that the authorities are fully prepared to meet any eventuality. They also informed about the coor-dination with the NDRF and other agencies to meet this challence.

other agencies to meet this challenge.
"Director General, India Meteorological Department made a presentation on the present situation and men-tioned that the status is being shared with the concerned State Governments. He men-

early restoration of normalcy in the affected areas. He mentioned that the advisories to fishermen not to go into the sea should be strictly implemented. People living in 'kutcha' houses may be advised suitably according to the situation, he added; said Cabinet Secretariat in a statement.

Secretaries from Home, Power, Telecommunication, Civil Avviation, Shipping, Health Ministry, Chairman, Civil Avviation, Shipping, Health Ministry, Chairman, Railway Board, Member Secretary, NDMA, DG, NDRF and representative of Ministry of Defence also informed the NCMC about the arrangements and assistance to the concerned States.

and avoid the above sea areas.

Throughout August, the Arabian Sea was warmer than usual by two-three degrees Celsius. While the normal sea surface temperatures here are about 28-29°C, the temperatures this August reached up to 29-31°C. The sea surface temperatures in the Bay of Bengal are also in the range of 29-30°C, according to IMD's latest cyclone update. A deep depres-sion in October had also carried much more rainfall than nor-mal, causing extremely heavy rainfall in many parts of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

Riots case: SC rejects plea of Delhi Police challenging

bail granted to man

New Delhi: The Supreme Court dismissed the plea of the Delhi Police challenging the bail granted to a man, who has been accused of selling a SIM card on a fake ID to a Jamia Millia Islamia University student, which was allegedly used for inciting violence during the protests here in February against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA). A bench headed by Justice Ashok Bhushan rejected the appeal of the police against the October 23 order of the Delhi High Court granting bail to the

October 23 order of the Delhi High Court granting bail to the accused, observing that the police have not shown that he was party to a conspir-acy to organise protests against the CAA.

Alleging that the SIM card obtained on a fake ID was used to coordinate protests against the CAA, the police had invoked the stringent UAPA against the accused. PTI

Palghar lynching case: SC adjourns to next week plea seeking CBI probe

Seeking CBI probe

New Delhi: The Supreme
Court on Monday adjourned to
next week hearing on the pleas
seeking a probe by the Central
Bureau of Investigation (CBI)
or a court-monitored SIT into
the Palghar mob lynching incident. A bench headed by
Justice Ashok Bhushan
adjourned the matter after
Solicitor General Tushar Mehta
requested for adjournment of
the case to the next week.
Maharashtra Government
had earlier informed the apex
court that all guilty police officials have been primised or supended from services.
"Departmental enquiry was
ordered against police personnel, who have been prima-facie
found negligent and derelict in
the performance of their duties
in handling the incident and
preventing the commission of a
crime at and around the time of
the incident," the Maharashtra
Government had submitted in
a status report.

SC extends parole of Rajiv Gandhi assassination convict

for medical check up for medical check up
New Delhi: The Supreme
Court on Monday extended by
a week the parole of AG
Perarivalan, serving life sentence in the Rajiv Gandhi
assassination case, for undergoing medical check-up.
A bench comprising
Justices L Nageswara Rao,
Hemant Gupta and Ajay
Rastogi also directed the Tamil
Nadu Government to provide
police escort to Perarivalan
Uring his visit to the hospital
Uring his visit to the hospital
Convict by the Madras High
Court, was ending on Monday
and now stands extended by one
more week. As prayed for, we

and now stands extended by one more week. "As prayed for, we further extend the parole of the petitioner by one week from today and direct the respondent — State of Tamil Nadu to provide the pecessary police escort — State of Tamil Nadu to provide the necessary police escort to the petitioner to enable him to visit the hospital for treatment. List the matter on January 19, 2021, for final disposal," the bench said.

PTI

Recoveries outnumber new coronavirus cases in 24 hours in Kerala

Thiruvananthapuram: Recoveries outnumbered the new Covid cases in Kerala in the last 24 hours as fewer sam-ples were tested. In the past 24 hours, with

In the past 24 hours, with 35,659 samples send for testing only 3,757 new Covid cases were reported taking the total tally to 5,00,089 while 5,425 people recovered from the virus.

According to a statement According to a statement issued by state Health Minister K. K. Shailaja, the active cases in the state were reported to be 64,166 whereas with 22 more



deaths due to Covid the total death toll reached 2,071. 3,14,543 people are under

608 recoveries in J&K in 24hrs against 351 new Covid cases

masks in Goa

Srinagar: Recoveries continued to outnumber the new Covid cases in J&K on the second consecutive day on Monday as 608 patients were discharged while 351 tested positive in the last 24 hours.
Out of 351 new Covid cases, 185 were reported from Jammu division.
He total tally of UT reached 1,06,899 while the total recoveries were reported to be 99,827.
So far, 1,641 people have succumbed to the deadly virus, including 12 who lided on Mondor 3 active cases is 5,431 out of which 1,882 are from Jammu division and 3,549 are from Kashmir division.

IANS

In Creased to ₹200

Panaji: Fine for not wearing masks in public places in Gao has been doubled from Rs 100 to Rs 200, Chief Minister Parmod Sawant said on Monday.
Sawant also said urged people not to visit beaches, airports, railway stations and bus stands without masks in order to control the pandemic.
"Ill now we have been charging Rs 100 (per offence). From today onwards the fine (for not wear public, people will have to wear masks or they will be compulsorily fined, Sawant said.

The cMis comments come after a busy tourist weekend in Goa, during which thousands of tourists the divident masks on beaches, bus stands, airport. If this happens, only then we will be able to control the pandemic, Sawant said.

Fine for not wearing | Shut down Goa casinos amid increase in Covid cases: AAP

Panaji: Amid reports of more than a dozen persons testing positive for Covid-19 in Goa's offshore casinos, the Aam Aadmi Party on Monday demanded the closure of the industry, fearing an increase in novel coronavirus in the state.

Addressing a press configuration of the coronavirus in the state.

ence in Panaji on Monday, Goa Aam Aadmi Party spokesperson Surel Tilve said, if the rush to the state's casinos is not controlled, the state may witness a second wave of infections. "It is already difficult to con-trol the flow of tourists to Goa's casinos. It is getting out of con-trol. Covid-19 cases in casinos have also increased. The gov-ernment is just trying to appease

the lobby by allowing this trend to continue," Tilve told a press conference in Panaji. "We fear that if the chaos

"We fear that if the chaos continues, Goa may witness a second Covid-19 wave sooner than later," Tilve said. Goa has a confirmed tally of 46,826 positive cases, while 677 persons have died in the state after testing positive for Covid-19.

Goa's state capital Panaji, off which most of the offshore casinos are anchored in the Mandovi river, witnessed chaos over the weekend with thousands of tourists making a beginned to the contract of the con line for casinos without main-taining social distancing norms and wearing masks.
The melee even forced

Panaji M.L.A. Atanasio Monserrate to step out onto the streets with local municipality officials in tow, in a bid to manage the traffic chaos as well as fine casino visitors for not wearing masks.

When asked about the increase in Covid-19 cases detected in Goa's casinos, the Bip M.L.A said: "You can ask the Chief Minister that because he has permitted the casinos to open."

Casino operations, which were shut down in Goa in March due to the pandemic, restarted operations from November 1 this year. There are six offshore and around 10 onshore casinos operating in the state. IANS

Shah sharing lunch with tribal photo op: Didi | Minor arrested for | Goa BJP steers clear of cow

Bengal Chief Minister on OMOnday launched a scathing attack on the BJP Government, particularly Union Home Minister Amit Shah — for playing to the gallery while having lunch with tribal and poor people — inviting instantaneous attack from the State BJP leadership that hit out at her for unleashing a "criminal and cut money raj" in the State. Launching a no-holdsbarred attack on the Home Minister, Mamata said how he

Minister, Mamata said how he had shared lunch with a tribal family in Jangal Mahal only fora photo opportunity. "Recently the

Home Minister came and held a drama taking lunch with a tribal family which was told that he would stop at their house for having lunch — but fact to be fired bink five star food was comprised of Basmati rice though for the purpose of publicity they made some women to chop vegetables in front of the camera which he never had."

Comparing Shah's visit with her own Banerjee who was on a three-day Bankura visit said, "... in contrast 1 just made an unscheduled stop at tribal residences discussed their problems with them sitting on charpais tribance. Taking a dig at Shah for gar-

of the total vote percentage in jangalmahal the tribal people make for about 44 opercent vote share impacting about 45 seats. Incidentally the tribal population had overwhelmingly voted for the BJP in the 2019 general elections

tions.

Attacking the BJP for bringing outsiders' (read the leaders from the sossession.

Attacking the BJP for bringing outsiders' (read the leaders from the sossession other States to supervise lecticioering in Bengal) to win elections Baneriee said 'they are bringing people from outside Bengal and will spend huge cash to get votes ... you accept that ill-gotten cash but don't vote for them as the cash they will give the Chief Minister.

The minor has been arrested from the sushes are supervised by the superv

issuing threats to Yogi on WhatsApp

Lucknow: A minor has been arrested for allegedly sending a threat message to Uttar Pradach Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. A mobile phone and a SIM card were recovered from his possess ent on the emergency helpeds. Whatsa

slaughter ban row in K'taka

Panaji: State BJP president Sadanand Shet Tanavade steered clear of queries related to an impending ban on cow slaughter in Karnataka and its impact on beef availability in Goa, which imports nearly all its slaughtered beef from the Southern state. "What they are doing in the Karnataka assembly it is their deci-

Karnataka assembly would be passing a strict law banning slaughter of cows in Karnataka.

Tanavade also said that just because the Goa desk in-charge has advocated the ban in Karnataka, it does not mean that the same norm would be applied in Goa, where begi is routinely creamed by the same norm would be applied in Goa, where beef is routinely consumed by more than 30 per cent of the state's minority population and by thousands of tourists, who visit the state every year. "See he (Ravi) is an MLA, so what he needs to do (in Karnataka) is a dif-

ne needs to do (in Karnataka) is a dif-ferent matter. Just because they do it there, that means it will happen here. It is not the case. It is a different issue there," Tanavade said.

BJP flag removal from MLA's car: AMU to challenge court order in SC

In the matter of removing the BJP flag from the Scorpio vehicle of MJP MLA Dalvir Singh's grandson, the Aligarh Muslim University administration will challenge the matter in Supreme Court against the decision of the lower court

the decision of the lower court of High Court. Professor Shafe Qidwai of the Public Relations Department of the University told that on 22 October 2019, Prof. Bibi Singh, the member of Prof. Bibi Singh, the member of the university's proctor team, did his duty by taking off the flag of a political party mount-ed on a vehicle inside a uni-versity campus as per univer-sity rules.

Hathras rape accused sent to Guj for narco, polygraph, brain mapping test

PRADEEP SAXENA III HATHRAS

PRADEEP SAXENA III HATHRAS

Narco, polygraphy and brain
mapping tests will be conducted on the four accused in the
hathras rape case. After taking its
permission from the Hathras
court, the CBI took the four
accused from Aligarh jail to
Gujarat under the Police Guard
protection and will remain in the
Gandhi Nagar Jail of Gujarat.

The four accused in the
rape and murder of the girl in
Chandpa, Hathras were in the
Aligarh district jail. The Gli
interrogated the accused for
several days.

According to the sources, the
four had given consent to the
narco, polygraphy and brain
mapping test. After getting their
consent, the CBI sought permission to conduct these tests in
the ADJ-SCST Act from the
court of Hathras and requested

that these tests will be conduct-

that these tests will be conducted in a laboratory in
Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
On this request of the CBI,
the court gave permission and
mentioned in the order that the
four will be kept in Gandhi
Nagar jail till the completion of test process as per the

In the test process as per the requirement.

After getting this order, CBI sought security from Hathras SP to transport the four from Aligarh Jail to Gandhi Nagar Gujarat. In this sequence, SP Hathras took the security guard from jail and sent them to Gujarat while arranging for the security guard and vehicle from the police line.

These four have now reached Gujarat.

Now the process of testing will be completed in a couple of days. Only then they will be brought back.

Victim's family living in fear of lives

withdrawn, their life might be in danger, claims a civil right body.

The People's Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL) demanded security for the family through the Nirbhaya fund.
PUCL members Kamal Singh, Alok, Shashikant, Farman Naqvi and K B Maurya told that the whole family is in a way under house arrest conditions and their normal social life has been cut off.

has been cut off.

The victim's family members are in the fear for their lives that once the CRPF protection is withdrawn, their lives might be in danger. The upper caste people will not allow them to live in the village or they may threaten their lives.

PUCL members also said that case should be filed against the officials who cremated the victim's body in a hurry. They said that action should be taken against district magistrate Praveen Kumar, SP Vikram Veer and the area SHO

The victim's body was cremated in the middle of the night hurriedly. Her family members claimed that the cremation, was without their consent and they were not allowed to bring the body home one last time.

Couple found hanging from tree in Mathura

Mathura (Uttar Pradesh): A young couple was found hanging from the same tree in Mathura's Piprauli village. The decased have been identified as Pankaj and Jyoti, both 21-years-old. They were found hanging from a tree just about 100 metres behind their houses. Both belonged to the same caste. Preliminary investigations revealed that they were in a relationship for the past few years and wanted to get married. However, the girl's parents were not ready to accept their relationship as the duo was distantly related.

AMU faculty delivers keynote address

Aligarh: "The New Education Policy (NEP) Allgah: "The New Education Policy (NEP) 2020 has a commendable vision; it will enable the education system to constantly reform itself. This, in itself, will be a remarkable achievement," said Prof Nafees Ahmad Ansari, Director, Centre for Distance and Online Education, Aligarh Musting Injewsth. (AMIL)

Andhra registers 545 Covid cases, tally 8.62 lakh

Amaravati: Andhra Pradesh has registered 545 new Covid cases, increasing the State's tally to 8.62 lakh, even as 1,390 persons recovered from the virus on Monday.

Guntur district accounted for the highest number of cases in the past 24 hours at 117, followed by East Godavar (104), West Godavari (76), Krishna (44), Chittoor (32), Kadapa (31), Nellore (30), Prakasam (25), Visakhapatham (21), Anantapur and Srikakhalm (19 each), Vizinagazarm (17) and Kurnool (10).

With the new additions, East Godavari continues to shoulder the highest number of cases at 1.21 lakh.

Meanwhile, 10 more people succumbed to the virus, raising the total number of Covid deaths in the state to 6,948.

6,948.
Chittoor district has witnessed the highest number of Covid deaths at 822.
On Monday, 1,390 persons recovered from the virus to increase the total number of recoveries to 8.42 lakh, nar-On Monday, 1,590 persons recovered from the virus oo increase the total number of recoveries to 8.42 lakh, nar-rowing the gap between total infections and recoveries.

Of the 8.62 lakh cases, active cases have plummeted

Of the 8.62 lakn cases, active control to 13.394.

Andhra Pradesh has the highest ratio of Covid tests per million samples in the country. It has tested 1.8 lakh people for every million population while the national average is 95.590.

The southern state's positivity rate currently stands at 893 per cent.

IANS

BOLLYWOOD DRUG MAFIA NEXUS CASE -Mumbai court grants bail to comedian Bharti, husband Harsh

TN RACHINATHA III MUMBAU

A Special court here on Monday granted a bail to television comedian Bharti Singh and her husband Harsh Limbachiya against a bond of Rs 15,000 each in the drugs seizure and consumption case filed against them by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB).

A day after they were sent judicial custody till December 14, 36-year-old Bharti and 33-year-old Harsh, Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate at Esplanade Court allowed the bail application of Bharti and her script writer-producer husband Harsh and ordered their release against a bail bond for

her script writer-producer husbard Harsh and ordered their
release against a bail bond for
Rs 15,000 each.
Rs 15,000 each.
It is bard was arrested
O Saturday evening, Harsh
was placed under arrest by the
NCB after 15 house of questioning on Sunday morning.
Their arrests came after the
NCB seized 86.5 grams of
Cannabis during the raids conducted on their office and residence in north-west Mumba
on Saturday. While the NCB
seized 65 gram of Cannabis
from Harsh sproduction house
at Versova. 21.5 grams of the
same drug and unaccounted
cash of Rs 1.49 lakh were
seized from the residence of
Bharti and Harsh at Andheris
Lokhandwala Complex.
Bharti is understood to
have told officers that she
would smoke weed procured
by her husban. Harsh told the
investigators that he purchased
Cannabis from a peddler. Of
the procured cannabis, he
would keep a part of the contraband at his office, while he
would keep he remaining drug
at his for consumption.

During their questioning by the NCB, Bharti and her bushand reportedly confessed to having possessed and consumed cannabis (ganja).

Both have been booked under sections 20(b)(ii)(A) (involves small quantity of drugs) and 80() (possession of drugs) and 27 (consumption of drugs) and 27 (consumption of drugs) and the NDPS Act.

The raid on the homes of Bharti and her husband Harsh and their subsequent arrest came after their names figured in the custodial interrogation of a 21-year-old drug trafficker whom the NCB officials had arrested earlier the day on Saturday. During the raid conducted at a location in Khar Danda area, the investigators seized various drugs including 15 blots of LSD (commercial quantity), ganja (40 gm) and Nitrazepam (psychotropic medicines).

Bharti and Harsh are being investigated in connection with the Bollywood-drug mafia case registered by the NCB in the

Bharti and Harsh are being investigated in connection with the Bollywood-drug mafia case registered by the NCB in the wake of the alleged suicide of Bollywood actor Sushant Singh Rajput.

Sushant, it may be recalled,

Sushant, it may be recalled, was found hanging from a ceiling fan in his closed room of his duplex flat at Mont blanc building at Bandra's Carter Road in north-west Mumbai on June 14.

Earlier, on November 9, the NCB had raided the residence of Bollywood actor Arjun Rampal on November 9, his and his live-in friend Gabriella Demetriades' questioning and the subsequent arrest of his Australian friend Australian friend Australian friend Australian friend Australian friend Paul Bartel was on Friday arrested by the NCB in the much-discussed Bollywood-drug mafia nexus

Rampal and Gabriella were questioned later. The NCB had earlier last month arrested a South African national Agisilaso Demetriades – the brother of Rampal's live-in partner Gabriella Demetriades from Lonavla near Pune. Agisilaos is allegd to be a part of a larger drug syndicate oper-ating in Bollywood, which is being investigated after the death of actor Sushant Singh Rajput. .. Rampal and Gabriella v

death of actor Sushant Singh Rajput.
Earlier on November 8, the NCB officials had carried out searches at film producer Firoz A. Nadiadwalais residence along Gulmohar Cross Road at Juhu Vile Parle Development (JYPD) Scheme in north-west Mumbai and seized a total of 171.1 em of various druss and

Mumbai and seized a total of 717.1 gm of various drugs and arrested five persons, including Firoz A. Nadiadwala's wife Shabana Saec.

Nearly twenty persons -including Sushant's girlfriend Rhea Chakraborty and her borther Showik: — have so far been arrested in connection with a case registered by the NCB on August 28, two days after it registered a case suo moto.

arte to ringgas on words years to the CB had registered a case sum to the CB had registered a second case after it told the Mumbai court that it wanted to "to uproot the dring citadel in Mumbai" especially in Bollywood." Subsequiently, Rhea wag ganted conditional in the Sushant death-related drug case on October 7, 2020. As par of the investigations, the NCB had earliequestioned Bollywoods prominent actresses. Deepika and the NCB had cardial actresses. Deepika Aguatons, Sara Ali Khan, Shraddha Kapoor and Rakul Preet Singh.

BSF guns down intruder along IB in Samba

PNS III JAMMU

A lert jawans of the Border Security Force (BSF) gunned an intruder along the International border in the Samba sector late Monday evening while foiling an infiltration bid from across the border.

On Sunday, a cross border

On Sunday, a cross border tunnel was detected by a joint team of BSF and Jammu and Kashmir police near the Regal border post in the Samba sec-

border post in the Samba sector.

In another related development, the DGP J&K police Dilbagh Singh Monday presented rewards to the personnel who were part of the Ban Toll Plaza encounter.

On the occasion, DGP also announced that shields already issued in Kashmir valley would also be provided to the personnel in Jammu zone. He said that protection jackets and helmets with higher level

of protection would also be made available to increase the safety and capability of J&K personnel fighting against ter-rorism. He said that BP vehi-cles with additional features rorism. He said that BP vehi-cles with additional features would also be provided to increase the efficiency of per-sonnel on the anti-terror front. He also sought reports from the field officers and personnel with regards to the safety gears and other requirements and assured that highlighted requirements would be redressed on priority. Meanwhile, a senior secu-rity expert in Jammu Brigadier (Retd) Anil Gupta Monday expressed grave concern on the repeated failure of the BSF and J&K Police to prevent infiltration through the International Border (IB). In a written statement, Brig Gupta stated that this is the 4th or 5th time when a tun-nel has been detected after the infiltration has taken place.

SEARCH FOR MISSING MALE

General Public is hereby informed that General Public is nereby informed that one male (depicted in the photo) namely Amit Kumar Malik S/o Yogender Pal Singh R/o H.N.b.-10/157, Sec-18, Rohini, Delhi Aged-29 Years has been reported missing since 12.11.2020 at about 6:30 PM vide DD No.95-A Dated 13.11.2020 registered at Police Station Subhash Place, Delhi. His physical description is as under:-



Complexion: Shallow, Height: 5'6", Face: Long, Built: Thin, Clothing: Red coloured checked Shirt, Cream coloured pant and White sky blue shoes in feet. Any person having any information/Clue about this missing male, may inform SHO, Subhash Place, Delhi at

E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in or website: http://cbi.nic.in Tele No.: 011-24368638 or 24368641 FAX No.: 011-24368639 Sd/-SHO, Subhash Place, Delh Tel.: 011-27353014, 27351724 DP/505/NW/2020

Public Notice Be it nown to all that my clients Sh. Rajeev Kmm Guiry Sol Leth Sh.Chup Singh and Smt Munch Kumsin Wife Rajeev Kmms Guiry Sol, Singh Basan, Knich Mobelmy Lether Vortice I 100023 pas drowned their son Wishel Basand in Niville Johnson of the Mobelmy Lether Vortice I 100023 and Sweeted all relations swith though to their Misdeed, Meglet-Livensweets and to their Misdeed, Meglet-Livensweets and to their Misdeed, Meglet-Livensweets and the Misdeed Anglet-Livensweets and t

PUBLIC NOTICE Control of the Section of the Sectio

rate in writing to the undersigned within 7 days elow address. Lucem Legal LLF 269, Rama House, Ground Floor isjid Moth ,Opp. Uday Park, South Ext.ll New Delhi-49, Contact #011-4004631

SOUTH DELHI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

VIGILANCE DEPARTMENT
25° Floor, Civic Centre, J.I.N. Marg. Minto Road, New Delhi-110002
1, 1/61/2003/Vig.P/2020/903

NOTICE NOTICE

By virtue of this notice, Shri Deverde Gupta, Sio Shri Sumer Chand Gupta, E.E. running unauthorisedly absent, is hereby directed to collect the copy of inoutive preor in chargeshet No. 181/2008/CPC/Ng/DA-11833 dated 3 12 200 mt the Vg. Deptt. South DMC. 26° Floor, Civic Centre, J.L.N. Marg. New Delhi- Q2, without Any further notice.

No. 52/DPIIS/2020-21

DIRECTOR OF VIGILANCE RO No. 52/DPI/S/2020-21

RAJASTHAN STATE ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION, JAIPUR рамазі пам этаніс кодо і ікальучик і СОКРОКАТІОМ, JAIPUF E-BID NOTICE विगम की 28 नकारा योहनों का ई-ऑक्शन येव-लाईट Transport Rajasthan.gov.in/sarte vd rsrte.procure247.com के नक्यम से जहां है. जैसी के कि किये के किया का कि किया किया कि किया किया कि

S. No.	Event's Name	EMD Deposit Start Date	EMD Deposit End Date	BID Start Date	End Date
1	TATA STAR LINE 12 BUSES	05.11.20	24.11.20	24.11.20	25.11.
2	LEYLEND ORD 02 BUSES	05.11.20	24.11.20	24.11.20	25.11.
3	LEYLEND ORD 01 BUSES	05.11.20	24.11.20	24.11.20	25.11
4	TATA SLEEPER COACH 01 BUS	05.11.20	24.11.20	24.11.20	
5	TATA ORD 12 BUSES	05.11.20	24.11.20	24.11.20	25.11

DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL
DELHI 4 TH FLOOR, JEEVAN TARA BUILDING, PARLIAMENT STREET, NEW DELHI- 110001 Case Details Godara Yard, Khewat No: 166/1, Near Atul Kataria Chock, Behind Gyan Devi School, Sec-17, Sukhrali, Gurugram-122022 IA NO 1002/19 AND OA NO 304/2108, ICICI Bank Ltd. Vs SUKHIJA HOSPITALITY PRIVATE LIMITED 10-Dec-20 from 11:00 Am 02:00 pm : 10-Dec-20 from i 11:00 Am to 02:00 pm IA NO937/19 & QA 3 57 000/-

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ite in the auction.

Ity approved bidder shall have to deposit sale amount (Excluding EMD amount) within 5 days from date by the way of pay order/demand draft/RTGS/NEFT. In case if you fail to make the remaining it within 5 days, your EMD amount will be forfered.

The intending bidders may visit at ICICI Bank Ltd, 1st Floor, SD Tower, Community Center, Plot no-7 Rohini Sector-8, New Delhi-110085, for details and inspection of the said hypothecated vehicle.

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Good enough?

The AstraZeneca vaccine has been clinically tested to have an average efficacy of 70 per cent. We still need containment drills



ith India clearly in the midst of a third wave — some might even call it a tsunami wave — some might even call it a tsunami of new Coronavirus cases — we should not be surprised. Even a cursory glance of what happened during the 1918-1919 Spanish influenza pandemic should have warned us to be prepared for winter, because even a century ago, there was a massive increase in cases in winter when the cold compromises lungs thanks to congestion and any influenza virus can be devastating. With the Delhi and Gujarat governments in a state of panic, it is almost certain that cases will begin to increase across the country whether

the authorities admit to them or not. But there is some positive news with British phar-maceutical firm AstraZeneca, which has jointly developed a vaccine with University of Oxford to combat the Coronavirus, coming out with its trial results. That is because the Serum Institute of India (SII) has been a partner to this research as well and has promised that it will produce hundreds of millions of doses of this vaccine for Indians. Yet, the results have only indicated an average of 70 per cent efficacy with two full doses taken a month apart and up to 90 per cent when an initial half dose is combined with a full dose taken after one month. Promisingly, the vaccine doesn't need super-cold storage like the ones developed by Pfizer and Moderna, requiring only refrigeration. It also appears that as many as five other promising vaccine candidates might make it to the markets

However, as we have maintained, the development of a vaccine is not equal to its deployment. Also, if as the trials have indicated, with at least one-and-a-half doses required for maximum efficacy. India will need a whopping two billion doses. Even if costs are kept in check, this is looking at a time frame that might take well over three-four years to inoculate a substantial number of Indians in order to gain a decent amount of protection. At the same time, because efficacy is not the same as effectiveness, even with 90 per cent efficacy, the Coronavirus will continue to pop up, tens of thousands will continue to get infected and many more will die before the Wuhan pandemic truly settles down. Till then, preparedness and preventable behaviour are the only containment devices against an unexpected surge and given India's population density, we better rec-oncile ourselves to the fact that our crests will be a constant for some time. Maharashtra, which has been the worst-affected State in the country, fighting the longest battle and is now threatened with a new front, has finally released its new screening SOPs that make a RT-PCR test report mandatory for visitors who are travelling to the State from hotspots. All entry points to the State will have testing and screening centres for those not carrying such a report. This is the first time that international travel protocols are being followed domestically and perhaps would be adopted by other States, too, to keep the numbers down. It is a shame indeed that the Supreme Court has had to pull up State Governments on laxity and seek a status report on preparedness. The court also had to get into the nitty gritties of ensuring dignified treatment of the dead and vetting hospital conditions to treat the sick. A fatigue has undoubtedly set in, socially, psychologically and physically. Doctors are the worst affected, some of whom need to be relieved with younger colleagues now being drafted in to ease frontline pressure. Anticipation is the best defence now. The pandemic has forced Governments to invest in public health like never before but now investments in vaccine manufacturing and deployment will be the challenge. These are positive developments but let us not pretend that the news of a vaccine is a silver bullet that will magically cure the world.

Putin's *nyet* to Biden

Russia yet to acknowledge US President-elect given his past stance on sanctions. Can arms control break the ice?



In all world leaders are already confabulating with President-elect Joe Biden, Russian President Vladimir Detic in the confabulation of V President Vladimir Putin is not ready to acknowledge the US' chosen leader just yet. In fact, given his history with US President Donald Trump, his latest diplomatic stance portends what the latter might be up to. One that's serious enough for Putin to acknowledge Although the electoral certification process technically is still on. Biden has emerged the clear winner from the State-by-State vote tallies. And the Electoral College is expected to formally confirm the results on December 14. Trump may exhaust all legal options and challenge counts but the margins are by now too large to change the outcome in his favour. But he

sure is making the transition difficult, determined to make Biden's job difficult and most importantly, fairly decided about weighing his rival down with his flamboyance and show him as a weak leader, who doesn't deserve to be in a chair that demands his kind of robustness. Putin's words on State TV would seem like they were scripted by Trump himself as he said he would work with "anyone who has the confidence of the American people. But that confidence can only be given to a candidate whose victory has been recognised by the opposing party, or after the results are confirmed in a legitimate, legal way." The contrast is sharper as in 2016, Putin had wasted no time in congratulating Trump for winning the election. Of course, Clinton had conceded the day after the vote and the Russian involvement in influencing the election in Trump's favour is not quite a secret. So beyond the personal equation, Putin's continued deference to Trump as a world leader seemed less than diplomatic, considering the impact it could have on US-Russia relations and global geopolitics. Putin, of course, claimed that his latest stance wouldn't impact mutual relations much as they were "already ruined." The Trump Administration has already withdrawn from the Open Skies Treaty and the Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty. Thanks to the US, Russia is already under international sanctions for actions, including its annexation of Crimea from Ukraine in 2014 (one where Biden had a key role to play), interference in the US election in 2016 and reported involvement in a nerve agent attack in the UK in 2018. So unless Putin is humouring Trump in the run-up to 2024, which the latter is seemingly keen to contest, and investing for the future, little else makes sense. Besides, Trump's "America first" policy and withdrawal from global arenas of conflict had helped Russia somewhat regain its heft and self-worth in Europe in the power vacuum thus caused, all the way up to Turkey. With Biden's renewed commitment to world bodies, particularly NATO, Russia's clout could be considerably diminished. In fact, it could be blindsided again.

The Kremlin has historically not been comfortable with the Democrats and finds Biden an impediment, given his tough stance on Putin. As Vice-President, Biden had stridently pushed for sanctions against Russia in response to the 2014 Ukrainian crisis. With no signs of conflict resolution on that count, Putin now expects tougher counter-measures against him. Besides, given Biden's stance that morality must play a role in US foreign policy, Russia fears sharper US condemnation of its rights issues and what the US considers "subversive" activities in the neighbourhood. This brand of US exceptionalism is antithetical to Russia's newly extended sphere of influence. All through his campaign, Biden did mention Russia's meddling in US elections as also its alleged endorsement of Taliban attacks on US troops in Afghanistan. So rightfully, Putin does expect a hitback and is probably raising his stakes to deflect the US. Of course, Biden and his team are pragmatic and a balanced lot and would not want to precipitate a crisis, working on areas of mutual interest. The renewal of arms control could be a starting point. Biden has already said that he wants extension of existing or new treaties on reducing US-Russian nuclear arms. That works with the Russians, too

opanion

Educating a global citizen

Character-building just cannot be envisioned in isolation unless linked to culture. The NEP respects Gandhi's vision of young Indians



J.S. RAJPUT

licies are formulated on the strong foundation of the outcomes of incisive analyplastrong foundation of the outcomes of incisive analysis of past experiences coupled with futuristic vision that could respond to emerging issues, concerns and aspirations. Gandhiji consistently articulated the India of the death of the concerns and aspirations. Gandhiji consistently articulated the India of the death of the concerns and his concerns about the impediments ahead. These are evident in the seven social sins he published in the Young India of October 22,1925. These are politics without principles, wealth without work, pleasure without conscience, knowledge without character, commerce without morality, science without humanity and worship without scarling. No policy, the one education included, can ignore the contemporary severity of these sins. Irould also be withessed in the seven tension dentified in the report to UNESCO of the International Commission on Education for the Debores Commission Report. These are the tensions between global and

Delores Commission Report. These are the tensions between global and local, universal and individual, term and short term considerations, the need for competition and concern for opportunity, extraordinary expansion of knowledge and the human beings capacity to assimilate, and finally, the conflict between the spiritual and the material. One could, in the present context, reformulate them but it would be perious to neglect amy of these. The mulate them but it would be perilous to neglect any of these. The "sins" are taking stronger roots while the "tensions" are disturbing human habitation and systems that are already under severe strains and ing moral, ethical and humanistic

considerations.
An incisive scrutiny of the
National Education Policy (NEP
2020) would indicate the extent to
which both the sins and tensions
need to be responded to, as is essenment nodu the sais and reissons med to be responded to, as is essential to prepare human beings imbued with character, commitment and concern. It acknowledges the guiding light it derived from the "rich heritage of ancient and eternal Indian knowledge, wisdom and truth is considered the highest goal of human life. The NEP mentions, "The aim of education in ancient India was not just the acquisition of knowledge as preparation for life in this world, or life beyond schooling but for the complete realisation and liberation of the Soul. World class

institutions in India, such as Takshashila, Nalanda, Vikramshila and Vallabhi, set the highest standards of multi-disciplinary teaching and research and hosted scholars and students from across backgrounds and countries. The ancient Indian system of education valued the pursuit of knowledge with the sole objective of utilising it for the welfare of humanity: "Let all be happy, let all be healthy; let all see good around and let none suffer pain of any kind." Could there be a better comprehension of the dent's full human potential. Higher education, the NEP-2020 Higher education, the NEP-2020 acknowledges, must aim to develop good, thoughtful, well rounded and creative individuals. Obviously, the school education would take note of these aspects in the most sensitive years. Recommendations on multi-disciplinary universities, robust autonomy, revamping of curriculum and pedagogy, reforms in governance of higher education Institutions (HEIs), creation of National Research Foundation pain of any kind" Could there be a better comprehension of the essential unity of human beings as one family? And in a family, differences and diversities are accepted and respected. This is what the NEP has imbibed in word and spirit. It recalls how the products of ancient Indian edu-cation system strived tirelessly to make seminal contributions in diverse fields of knowledge, including mathematics, astrope-including mathematics, satvestop-including mathematics, satvestop-

Institutions (Fizis), retailution (NRF) and National Research Foundation (NRF) and National Educational Technology Forum (NETF) would be positive additions to the quality and contemporary relevance of the future model of Indian education.

Indian could finally turn into an international education hub and certainly attract attention of the corresponding international institutions. The proposed changes in structure, flexibility, autonomy, pedagogy, multi-dimensionality, assessment procedures, including transfer of credit systems, would remove several agonising technicalities. The availability of internationally relevant curricula in the history, heritage and culture of India, as also modern subject areas, could attract a sizeable number of foreign students, helpingus achieve the goal of 'internationalisation at home.' Some well-thought out suggestions fike opening of foreign campuses by established Indian institutions and permitting top international universities to operate in India would effectively put Indian education firmly on the international podium, with dignity, credibility and expectations. Shared courses with reputed international institutions could pase the way for a much needed morale boost make seminal contributions in diverse fields of knowledge, including mathematics, astronomy metallurgs, surgery, health, architecture, engineering, ship building, maygation, yog, fine arts and so much more. Every hudian student—inheritor of this great legacy — must be made familiar with it and accept the responsibility to enhance it further through excellence in his chosen area of activity and experies. Each one of them is an inheritor of the legacy of luminaries. Each one of them is an inheritor of the legacy of luminaries. Each one of them is an inheritor of the legacy of luminaries. Backaracharya, Brahmagupta, Nagarjuna, Gautama, Maitreyi, Gargi and Thritvalluvur.

Once the NEP 2020 is implemented appropriately, no Indian "Every learner would be exposed to modern knowledge that would be given to him/her in institutions following the most modern pedagogy, and with due unphasis on critical thinking, creativity and innovations. It would aim at developing a student of the control of

cautious about certain aspects though. Global credibility and recognition would require certain minimum levels of infrastructure and facilities which, sadly enough, are still missing in a large number of education institutions across the board. The NEP 2020 assures availability of all of these: "Every classroom shall have access to the latest educational technology that enables better learning experiences." There can be no compromise on the professionally acceptable teacher-taught ratio. This raises several related requirements. Quality just cannot be raised by engaging guest teachers, teachers on lecture-based payments, para teachers and keeping more than a million posts of school teachers vacant for decades together! In HEIs, the quality of products, research and innovations would be greatly impeded if there are 40-60 per cent vacant academic positions. The NEP 2020 boldly acknowledges this concern and articulates." The teacher must be at the centre of the fundamental reforms in the education system. The new education policy must help re-establish teachers, at all levels, as the most respected and essential members of our society. Decause they truly shape our next generation of citizens. It must do everything the proposer teachers. because use truly stage can tea-generation of citizens. It must do everything to empower teachers and help them do their job as effectively as possible. Expressing serious concern on the quality of teacher education, the recom-mendation is to replace by 2030 all of the present one-year school teacher preparation programmes by four-year integrated teacher education programmes. It may be worthwhile to recall that the four-year integrated teacher prepara-tion programmes began in the four institutions of the NCERT in 1964-64, and the products

were indeed far ahead of others in their professional performance in schools and teacher education institutions. Unfortunately, the module was not replicated. In higher education, the policy acknowledges the "criticality, quality and engagement" of the faculty. It also accepts that "faculty motivation" remains far lower than the desired level. Several steps have been listed to attract "the best, motivated, and capable faculty in the HEIS." The right-teacher-student ratio, access to education technology, freedom to design their own cur-

The right-teacher-student ratio, access to education technology, freedom to design their own curricular and pedagogical approaches, incentives like appropriate rewards, promotions, recognition and movement into institutional leadership are included in the list.

In his book of 1932, Remakers of Mankind, Carl Washburne writes that when asked, "What is your goal in education when India obtains self-rule?", Gandhi answered, "Character-building, I would try to develop courage, strength, virtue, the ability to forget one-self in working towards great aims. This is more important than literacy, caademic learning is only a means to this great end. Character formation was the strength of the traditional Indian system of knowledge quest that included creation, generation, utilisation and transfer of knowledge to generations ahead. With all the experiences eained elob utilisation and transfer of knowly the dept of generations ahead. With all the experiences gained globally in varying contexts and approaches, it is now accepted globally that education in every country must be rooted to culture and committed to progress. Character-building just cannot be envisioned in isolation unless linked to culture. No culture would flourish in isolation and curyouth can become global citizens only when they are made well aware and conversant with our youth can become global citizens only when they are made
well aware and conversant with
heir own culture before being
introduced to others. India
apinfully suffered as the transplanted system deliberately kept
young "educated" Indians away
from getting familiar with the
nuances of their own culture,
they were systematically indoctrinated in the "superiority of the
Western culture." This was very
comprehensively articulated by
Gandhiji in the Young India of
Esptember 1,1921. "It is my firm
opinion that no culture has a treasure so rich as ours. We have not
known it, we have been made
even to depreciate its value. We
have almost ceased to live it." Let
us hope that the proposed educational reforms would prepare
young people with credentials,
and they would be looking after
the masses. Education must lead
to human dignity for one and all.

(The courtors works in to human dignity for one and all.

(The author works in education and social cohesion)



ing and encourage our young to compete with and excel among SOUNDBITE

Virat Kohli will he missed But like I say, in adversity comes opportunity. There are a lot of young guys on the side and it's an opportunity for them.



You just cannot create the right atmospherics in a virtual concert. There is no intimacy, no immediate feedback and no interactio with the audience.

Singer —Pankaj Udhas



I've got to learn next year to get off my devices. You scroll through social media for your news and it's just bad anyway which just brings you anxiety and puts you in depression.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Will Cong ever act?

Will Cong ever act?

Sir — The Congress Party has suffered a debacke in the just-concluded Bihar elections due to its political blunders and poor organisation. It has also suffered defeat in the byelections in different States.

Because of the worrisome state the party is in all over the country, senior leaders like Kapil Sibal and P Chidambaram have lashed out against the present leadership of the Congress. They have echoed the words of those members of the grand old party who wrote a dissent letter in August. The Congress Party has become weak because of the trust deficit, loss of public appeal, identify politics and political polarisation. There is a crisis of leadership due to the lack of vision and idealism. Brainstorming by senior leaders and dissenters in a democratic sprit of accommodation will help overhaul the party. A graceful and dignified change of leadership can also help open a new and meaningful chapter in its history.

This, in turn, will help build.

leaders..., new and meaningtui cumposits history. This, in turn, will help build a strong Opposition, which is essential for the growth of a healthy and vital democracy in

No room for divisive politics in TN

he announcement about the continuity of the AIADMK-BJP alliance in Tamil Nadu has finally laid all speculation to rest. The reception given to Union all speculation to rest. The reception given to Union Home Minister Amit Shah by the party's top leadership has confirmed that the AIADMK Government's led of the NOA Government's apron strings. This is partly attributed to the tear of Central agencies being unleashed upon its leaders. Interestingly, the number of AIADMK cadres out to greet Shah was more than the BJP's men. Significantly, the "Go back Amit Shah" hashtag hat was trending showed the strong and-BJP sentiment that is prevailing in the State as it is inhospitable terrain for divisive politics, sepecially on religious grounds. With the sealing of the AIADMK-BJP pact for the Asembly election, the prospect of any significant political realignment or formation of a third front, making it artingular contest has now receded. At the same time,

ical realignment or formation of a third front, making it atriangular contest has now receded. At the same time, the moves by late Jayalaithaa's companion, Sasikala, who will be out of jail by January 27, superstar Rajnikanth and MK Alagiri will be watched with interest. In the present political situation, the ideological incompatibility between a Dravidian party and a Hindufus-oriented party could get starker. This would be to the discribation of host the pocifice, it be election.

to the disadvantage of both the parties as the election nears. Obviously the State unit of the BJP has made the restrictions on idol immersion during the Vinayaka



Chaturthi an issue. It has invoked the traditional Tamil deity Lord Murugan and undertaken the Vetrivel Yatra (why bring Muruga Peruman from the shrine to the street?) despite the denial of permission because of the COVID-19 pandemic. As an ally, the AIADMK support COVIL-19 pandemic. As an ally, the ALAUMK SUpport-ed the BUP on the passage of the Citizenship Amendment Act and the three farm Acts. True, the BUP holds sway over much of the country but it has only a negligible pres-ence in Tamil Nadu. In its eagerness to gain a toehold and build a base in the State by piggybacking on the AIADMK, the BUP could bangain for seats disproportion— ate to its strength. Overall, the DMK looks the firm favourite to occupy Fort St George. 6. David Milton

the country. Any nation that does not have a strong Opposition to keep the ruling Government in check is in trou-ble and can become totalitarian. Krishan Malhotra Ambala Cantt Help others in need

 We are being buffeted by yet another wave of the pan-demic. As feared by health experts, the cold, the pollution

and the cavalier attitude of the and the cavalier attitude of the milling masses roaming around in overcrowded mar-kets without masks during the festive season have led to this surge. Many States are again thinking of going into a lock-

down. This will be nothing short of a disaster for our country as the economy, which has been ailing for quite some time now, cannot take yet another hit.

Amid all this, we cannot income the poor who have been forced out of even daily wage and minimum wage jobs. Also, street vendors have been struggling. With the unlocking of the country, their lives were just about getting back on track again as people had begun spending.

Now, if there is another lockdown, the wheels of the economy will stop moving again and the poor will be left to starve and fend for themselves in a nation that does not have unemployment benefits or social security. Till we get a Universal Basic Income in India, we as citizens of the country, should find it in our

India, we as citizens of the country, should find it in our hearts to help the underprivileged. We need to stop being so self-centred and reach out and

listress. **Ashmit Aaron** *Noida*

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

analysis

FIRSTCOLUMN

Shape the future at cyber speed

Being prepared to weather any storm is possible with the right digital strategy and continuous, concerted effort



ALOK OHRIE

The need for businesses to digitally transform themselves is something that has been discussed for years. However, as we saw in the 2018 Digital Transformation index that serves as a benchmark for computerisation technology adoption among organisations, many enterprises' digital transformation programmes did not keep up with the advancements in computing power and the influx of emerging technologies. Coupled with the imperative to adapt to today's unprecedented business disruption, the need to digitally it has form has never been more urgent and challenging. It is encouraging to see that many enterprises are rising to the occasion. In the 2020 Digital Transformation Index, it was found that 95 per cent of respondents in India have successfully accelerated at least some of their transformation programmes this year. This shows immense progress in computerisation. However, there is still a lot of work to be done. As it is, continuous digital transformation is not easy, with 97 per cent of Indian businesses facing entenched barries to cyber networked business processes as they navigate their future.

By committing to continual transformation — even amid uncertainty such as the kind the world is facing right now — businesses can help to shape their ideal future. The response to the COVID-19 pandemic has illustrated that organisations can be nimble and transform quickly. A third have already extended their business domain, however, what companies do next with digital transformation in grained in the DNA of their business, end-to-end. And even though they are leaders in cyber networked business processes, they recognise that change requires continuous effort — with he need for businesses to digitally transform themselves is

even though they are leaders in cyber networked business processes, they recognise that change requires continuous effort — with more "Digital Leaders" accelerating their transformation programmes this year compared to "Digital Laggards", meaning those that don't even have a computerisation plan or their investments in such technology are few and far between. Here is some inspiration from more mature digital businesses as they consider how to implement an ongoing advancement plan for their firm:

Data privacy and cybersecurity: These are constant and evolv-ing concerns that should not be overlooked. Mature digital busies recognise more often than others that data privacy and cyber security warrant proper consideration. In fact, 47 per cent Indian businesses are of the opinion that data privacy and cybersecurity are the major barries in their digital transformation journey. Budget and resources: Financial constraints — both budget

pressures and lack of economic growth — have not slowed down transformation for the more mature digital businesses. They posi-

pressures and lack of economic growth—have not slowed down transformation for the more mature digital businessess. They position Information Technology investments as strategic drivers for innovation instead of thinking of them as a cost. However, a whopping 32 per cent Indian respondents said that lack of budget and resources is a barrier to digital progress in their organisation.

Data is the fileblood of a company: As we move towards a Zettabyte era, the ability to extract insights from data will become a major stumbling block if it is let unresolved. There is hope that the recent disruption will ignite a new wave of data-first, data-anywhere businesses. We found that 94 per cent of Indian organisations agree that extracting valuable insights from data will be more important for their business than ever before as one of the great benefits of this is the ability to track metrics and nanlyse them. Using these insights allows firms to optimise their strategies and processes for better results. In businesses, two things matter more than most — costs and revenue. It's possible to make massive changes to both by integrating data-based insights into the company culture. However, working towards this change sooner rather than later is imperative.

Overal, businesses should be applauded for adapting so quickly to the extreme and sudden onset of disruption from recent events.

ly to the extreme and sudden onset of disruption from recent events. Some companies were poised to respond better than others, based on where they were on their digital journey. However, being prepared to weather any storm is possible with the right digital strat-egy and continuous, concerted effort. In this hyper-connected data decade, every business needs to be a cyber business to survive and thrive. With digital disruptors

snapping at the heels of many sectors, success will come to the organisations that ensure their workforce is skilled in the best practices of the digital age. Moreover, this change must be woren into the DNA of the firm and championed by its leadership to have a

POINTCOUNTERPOINT

WITH THE AMENDMENT TO THE POLICE ACT. THE KERALA GOVERNMENT IS TRYING TO SILENCE THE VOICE OF THOSE WHO CRITICISE IT. -LEADER OF OPPOSITION IN THE ASSEMBLY





MANY HAVE VOICED CONCERN OVER THE ACT'S AMENDMENT. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES. THE **GOVERNMENT DOES NOT WANT TO IMPLEMENT IT.** -KERALA CHIEF MINISTER

Fertiliser DBT an illusion

Despite tall claims made by the UPA and the NDA dispensations since 2012, a gradual transition to direct cash or benefit transfer of subsidy to the farmers has not been done



UTTAM GUPTA

the additional provision of ₹65,000 crore towards fertiliser subsidy (over and above the ₹71,000 crore allocated in the Budget for 2020-21), that was announced by the Finance Minister under "Stimulus-III" on November 12, will help in clearing all pending dues to the industry. This has led the latter to believe that this is a present as are adult transition to direct cabo expenses to a greatly transition to direct cabo expenses.

cursor to a gradual transition to direct cash or benefit transfer (DBT) of subsidy to the farmers. This is illusory, as despite tall claims made by the UPA and the NDA dispensations since 2012, this has not been done. The dominant sumbling blocks are a threat to the viability of high cost units in the public sector, including revival projects viz Sindri, Gorakhpur, Barauni and so on. Plus there is the risk of inviting the farmers' wath if subsidy does not reach them in time. Bureaucratic red tape is a third major factor. Till these are addressed, DBT to farmers wont see the light of the day.

In the Budget for 2012-13, the then UPA Government had announced tracking the movement of fertilisers from retailers to farmers, and linking part of the subsidy payment to manufacturers for sale to farmers by retailers. In the mid-year conomic analysis of 2012-13, the Finance Ministry came out with a blueprint on modalities for implementing the Budget announcement. Pilot projects in 10 districts spread over nine States were to be launched, which were to be followed by DBT in these edistricts from April 1, 2013. Concurrently, the Government planned to track fertilisers movement in the whole country. A pan-India launch was contemplated from April 2014.

Even as the Department of Fertilisers developed the technology platform called e-Pertiliser Monitoring System (e-FMS) to execute the blueprint, the DBT remained on paper. Meanwhile, the DBT remained on paper. Meanwhi



THE SUBSIDY MAY BE COMPUTED ON A PER HECTARE BASIS AND GIVEN ANNUALLY AS MOOTED BY THE COMMISSION FOR AGRICULTURE COSTS AND PRICES. IN ITS RABI REPORT AN RABI REPORT FOR THE 2021-22 MARKETING YEAR, IT HAS PROPOSED A SUBSIDY OF ₹5,000 PER YEAR TO BE GIVEN IN TWO TRANCHES OF ₹2,500 EACH IN THE KHARIF AND RABI SEASONS. THIS SHOULD BE GIVEN ONLY TO THE SMALL AND THE SMALL AND THE SHALL AND THE SHALL AND THE SHALL AND THE SMALL AND THE S

GIVEN ONLY 10
THE SMALL AND
MARGINAL
FARMERS OR
THOSE WITH
LAND HOLDINGS
OF LESS THAN TWO HECTARES



a low level, unrelated to the cost of production and distribution, which is higher. It reimburses the manufacturers for the bontfall as subsidy on a "unit-specific" basis under the New Pricing Scheme (NPS). The current MRP of une as indiculously low at ₹3,360 per tonne even as the cost can vary from about ₹1,5000 per tonne to ₹2,5000 per tonne. Even as all units (31) sell urea at the same price, each one of them gets paid on the basis of its own production cost. Thus, a efficient unit producing at say ₹15,000 per tonne, gets a subsidy of ₹9,640 per tonne wherea another producing at \$2,500 per tonne, gets a subsidy of ₹9,640 per tonne wherea sanother producing at \$2,500 per tonne, gets a subsidy of ₹9,640 per tonne wherea subsidy of ₹9,640 per tonne wherea subsidies of \$7,500 per tonne, gets a subsidy of ₹9,640 per tonne wherea subsidies of \$7,500 per tonne, gets a subsidy of ₹9,640 per tonne wherea subsidies of \$7,500 per tonne, gets a subsidy of \$7,500 per tonne, for \$7,500 per tonne, gets a subsidy of \$7,500 per tonne, gets \$7,500 per tonne

to fix the MRP at ₹24,000 per tonne. Now, if instead of routing through the Monufacturers, the subsidy is to be given directly to farmers, the transition in case of P and K fertilisers may not face much of a hurdle. The subsidy of ₹10,000 per tonne or ₹500 per bag (50 kg) of DAP can be credited to a farmers' account even as the manufacturer will sell at the market-based price, say ₹34,000 per tonne or ₹100 per bag, this being the cost of the most efficient producer (this could also be an average of all units depending only market dynamics evolve). However, the farmer will have to spend ₹500 per bag

extra at the time of purchase, though he will get back this amount from the Government as subsidy later.

extra at the time of purchase, though he will get back this amount from the Government as subsidy later.

In the urea segment, however, the transition will be tough for manufacturers as well as farmers. For producers, since each one of them will have to sell at the most efficient producer or the industry average, will either have to perform or wind up. As for the farmer, he will have to spend, at the time of purchase, at least thrice (based on the market price of \$15,000 per tonne or \$750 per bag) of what he is spending now.

The Government has fears on both counts. On the production front, there are several public sector plants, which fall in the high, cost zone and hence risk being chopped under the DBT. Even the revival projects, like Sindri, Gorakhpur and Barauni, on completion (2021) will have a production cost of over \$30,000 per tonne. Hence it won't be viable under the wregime. As for farmers, it risks inviting their wrath if subsidy money does not reach them in time, which is inveitable if the budgetary allocation is inadequate. There are other roadblocks which are not so explicit. Under the present system of ura being available at a throwaway price of \$3,560 per tonne, a mere one-outh of the cost, alboix os operators make a quick buck by diverting it to chemical industries or sunugling it to neighbouring countries. This wort be possible without the tact iconsent of those in the hot seat. Further, urea improrts are canalised through State agencies like the Minerals and Metals. Trading Corporation (MMTC), State Trading Corporation (STC) and there is a lot to gain for deci-

sion-makers. Clearly, there are vested interests in continuing with the status quo.

nterests in continuing w Unless the above Unless the above roadblocks are cleared, the transition to DBT will be next Unless the above roadblocks are cleared, the transition to DBT will be next to impossible. But this is doable provided Modi sheds his plan of linking development of eastern India with the revival of Sindri, Gondhpur, Baranii (alternatively, their production cost needs to be cut drastically) pledges to fully find subsidy requirement (if it can be done for 2020-21, why not every year then); ruthlessly applies his dictum of "naw khanor, ga, haw khanor doonga (neither will I take bribe nor will I let amyone des take it)"; and does away with bureaucratic red tape by removing all controls, including on urea import. The subsidy may be computed on a per hectare basis and given annually as mooted by the Commission of Agriculture Costs and Prices (CACP). In its Rabi report for the 2021-22 marketing year, it has proposed a subsidy of \$5,000 per year to be given in the Atharif and Rabi seasons. This should be given only to the small and marginal farmers, i.e. those with land holdings of less than two dectares. Further, a cultivator must not be denied subsidy merely because s/he does

hectares. Further, a cultivator must not be denied subsidy merely because s/he does not own the land tilled by her/him. The Gowernment should garner data on all 140 million farm households and put it on a web portal. This is an absolute must to ensure that no one is left out. At present, there is a voida seven under PM Kisan, just about 80 million farmers are receiving the eligible amount of 76,000. Under a business as usual scenario, leav-ing out 60 million from subsidy payments could be catastrophic. ing out 60 million from subsidy payments could be catastrophic. (The writer is a New Delhi-based pol-

maximum impact. With a strong ally by your side, businesses of varying sizes, industries and digital maturities can find ways to adapt to new routines and push the frontiers of what's possible. (The writer is president and MD, Dell Technologies, India) BJP yet to consolidate Hindu votes down South

Success has been eluding the saffron party so far as its penetration has been restricted to Karnataka. It has failed in TN, Puducherry and Kerala

KALYANI SHANKAR

fter the big win in the Bihar Assembly elections this month Assembly elections this month, the BJP is now focusing on the South, where Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Puducherry are going to the polls early next year. Elections are scheduled for West Bengal and Assam, too. Will the BJP achieve its goal of gaining a foothold in the South? Success has been dulling the offern where the soft of the south of the soft of the West Bengal and Assam, too. Will the BJP achieve its goal of gaining a handle in the South? Success has been eluding the suffron partys of are as its penetration has been restricted to Karnataka. It has failed in Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Kerab because of historic, religious, social and ideological reasons. The BJP firmed up its poll alliance with the ruling AIADMK during the weekend. Eyebrrows were raised at this early pactawhen the State's Deputy Chief from other parties. Recently, the

Minister and party coordinator O Panneerselvam announced it at a function attended by Union Home Minister Amit Shah. Though the lad AIADMK Chief J Jayalalithaa had a good equation with Prime Minister Namer Alabame Minister Amit Shah. Prime Minister Namer Alabame Minister Shamed Sha Minister and party coordinator O

actor-turned-politician and Congress spokesperson Khushbu's joining of the party was a significant event. So the big question is why was the BJP unable to make inroads in Tamil Nadu till now?

to make inroads in Tamil Nadu till now?

First of all, the saffron party had no tall leaders to match the iconic Dravidian leaders like M Karunanidhi. Jayalalihaa and MC Ramachandran. It is likely to be Modi versus DMK chief MK Stalin now. Second, the BJP is perceived to be a North Indian Brahminical party and the well brahminical party and the wall brahminical party and the wall brahminical party and the wall brahminical party and the word mani-limid agiation in the 60s. The Dravidian parties. Third, Tamil Nadu saw a huge mani-limid agiation in the 60s. The Dravidian parties in Findian the Modi Government is in favour of it: Fourth, influenced by the anti-Bahmin movement of the 50s and the 60s, many (dominant in north-west parts of Tamil Nadu, Thevars (dominant in southern part of the State in the Kongu belt in the west), have sprung up in the last three decades, resulting in the splintering of votes. Fifth, the Christianity and its hostility to Islam

and other religions has no takers in the South. The BJP's polarising tactics won't work in the South. Sixth, new parties have sprung up with two untested superstars – Kamal Haasan and Rajinikanth — on the horizon.

The DMK has been making poll preparations for some months now and MK Stalin has already announced an alliance with the Congress. The 2019 LOK Sabba, the Congress-DMK combination swept the polls. The State has been alternating between the DMK and the AIADMK and now it is the turn of the DMK. It was only is the turn of the DMK. It was only in 2016 that the AIADMK got a sec-

The neighbouring Puducherry often reflects Tamil Nadu's politics. In any case, it is a small Union Territory and has just one seat in the Lok Sabha. Currently, the Congress is ruling in the State.

Currently, the Congress is ruling in the State.

Kerala is a different story. The Left-led Left Democratic Front (LDF) and the Congress-led United Democratic Front (UDF) alternate in power. It is the UDF's turn now. The BJP has not been able to penetrate much in the State despite the ground-work done by the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS).

Further, the Kerala electorate sists of a sizeable number of

Further, the Kerala electorate consists of a sizeable number of Christians and Muslims and they remain non-BJP voters.

In 2019, the LDF posted a land-slide victory, winning 19 of the 20 seats while the UDF won just one seat and the BJP got zero seats. The RSS tried on mobilise support on the contentious Sabarimala issue but the counter-mobilisation presented an effective alternative control.

With more literate voters, Kerala alternates between the Communists or anti-Communists. The BJP is seeing slow growth in the State because of it. While the minority communities in the State have successfully ensured the protection of their respective cultures, the Hindu community has relentlessly ceded its own cultural space. The BJP is taking advantage of it, but it is taking time to translate into votes.

Also, the BJP is facing factional-

of it, but it is taking time to translate into votes.

Also, the BJP is facing factional ism in Kerala. The RSS has cautioned the central leadership that the friction in the State unit could impact the performance in the polls.

Kerala won kudos in containing the COVID-19 pandemic. A few months ago it looked as if the LDF

could return to power but that came to a screeching halt in July after the Chief Minister's Office was found to be allegedly involved in a gold smugging scan. Several protests broke out across Kerala after the smuggling of 30 kg gold worth 14.82. Zoroe through diplomatic channels came to light on July 5. The case is currently being probed by the ED, the National Investigation Agency and the Customs Department. Another nail in the coffin was the recent promulgation of The Kerala Police (Amendment) Tordinance, 2020. Vide this Ordinance, a new Section 118A was introduced in the Kerala Police (Amendment) Gridmance, 2020. Vide this Ordinance, a new Section 118A was introduced in the Kerala Police (Amendment) Gridmance, a new Section 118A was introduced in the Kerala Police (Amendment) Gridmance, a new Section 118A was introduced in the Kerala Police (Amendment) Gridmance and of the West of the West





sation against COVID-19 are developing fast. The last vaccination emotions, and immunisation may require fundamental rethink that many hoped this pandemic reappraisal of who and what is valued, and how we should be living and relating

'Biden to pick Antony Blinken as State Secy'

Washington: Joe Biden intends to pick his trusted foreign policy advisor Antony Blinken as the US Secretary of State and Jake Sullivan as National Security Advisor, media reports said on Monday, as the President-elect is poid to make his first round of Cabinet announcements on Tuesday.

Tuesday.

Blinken, 58, has served as the Deputy Secretary of State in the second term of the Obama administration and National Security Advisor to Biden when he was the vice president.

president. A strong India-hand, Blinken was the top foreign policy advisor to the Biden campaign.

President-elect Joe Biden intends to nominate Antony Blinken to serve as secretary of State, turning to a trusted diplomat and foreign-policy adviser to oversee his work to rebuild US relationships around the globe, according to people familiar with the deci-

reported. "President-elect Joe Biden is planning to announce that he has selected Antony Blinken, one of his closest and longest-serving foreign policy advisers, as secretary of state," The Washington Post said.

"Jake Sullivan, another top Biden advisers, is expected to be named as national securi-ty adviser, according to two people familiar with the announcement," the daily said. Last week, Biden said he

had decided on his name for the Treasury Secretary. PTI

New Zealand's Ardern offers virus know-how to Joe Biden

Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern on Monday became the latest world leader to congratulate President-elect Joe Biden on his election victory, saying she offered to share her nation's expertise on dealing with the coronavirus.

Ardern said the tone of the hone of the phone call was a constant of the control of

Ardern said the tone of the 20-minute phone call was warm and that Biden spoke very favorably about how New Zealand was handling the pan-

"What has been really at the center of our response has

"What has been really at the center of our response has been some fundamentals around testing, contact tracing, isolation," Ardern said.
"That's over and above what we've done at our borders." New Zealand has been largely successful in eliminating the virus after imposing a strict lockdown in March and closing its borders. Only 25 people in the nation of 5 million have died from COVID-19.

US TROOP WITHDRAWAL

China worried Afghan may become hotbed for Uighur militants Kabul, saying "China will con-tinue to firmly support the Afghan government and peo-ple in their efforts to combat terrorism and safeguard the national stability and their own

Beijing: A wary China on Monday urged the US to with-draw its troops from Afghanistan in an "orderly and responsible manner" amidst increasing concern and responsible manner" amidst increasing concern here that the war-torn country, which shares borders with the volatile Xinjiang province, could become a breeding ground for Uighur Muslim militants.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian's remarks came after acting US Defence Secretary Christopher Miller last week said that the US

Miller last week said that the US would cut its military presence in Afghanistan to 2,500 troops from 4,500 by lanuary 15.

"China calls on foreign troops to leave Afghanistan in an orderly and responsible manner, give terrorist forces no breathing space and contribute to Afghanistan peace and reconcillation process," Zhao teolod a media briefing here.

He also condemned the recent Islamic State attack on

at US withdrawal from Open Skies **Treaty with Russia**

China lashes out



Beijing: China on Monday lashed out at Washington over its withdrawal from the "Open Skies Treaty" with Russia, say-ing the move undermined mil-itary trust and transparency and imperiled future attempts at arms control

national stability and their own security."

Observers say that America's latest plan to speed up the withdrawal of more troops from Afghanistan may have troubling consequences for China as Washington's withdrawal also coincides with its move to lift the ban on the Uighur militant group -- the East Turkestan Islamic Movement (ETIM).

Earlier this month, the and imperiled future attempts at arms control. The treaty, to which China is not a signatory, had allowed each country overflight rights to inspect military facilities. That leaves only one arms-control pact still in force between the former Cold War foes, the New START treaty, which limits the number of nuclear warheads each may have. That treaty will expire in February and the Trump administration had said it want interested in extending it unless China also joined, something Beijing says it will not do. AP Movement (ETIM).

Earlier this month, the Trump administration, in a sudden move, lifted the ban on the separatist ETIM, which has been designated as a terrorist organisation by the UN's 1267 counter-terrorism committee in 2002 for its alleged association with al-Qaida, Osama bin Laden and the Taliban.

PTI

UK SC to decide if ISIS bride can be back to London

London: Britain's Supreme Court is set to decide whether a woman who ran away from her London home as a teenager to join the Islamic State group is Syria can return to the UK.

She says she married an

The British government is fighting to keep Shamima Begum from coming back to the country where she was

born.

At a hearing beginning on Monday, it is challenging a lower court's ruling that Begum can return to Britain to mount a legal challenge aimed at restoring her UK citizenship, which was revoked on national courties resourch.

which was revoked on national security grounds.

The Court of Appeal said in July that "the only way in which she can have a fair and effective appeal is to be permitted to come into the United Kingdom."

But James Eadie, a lawyer acting for the UK government, told the Supreme Court justices that Begum "is considered to pose a real and current threat

to live under IS rule.

She says she married an Islamic State member from the Netherlands and had three children, all of whom have died.

She resurfaced at a refugee camp in Syria in 2019 and told reporters she wanted to come home, but was denied the chance when then-Home Secretary Sajid Javid revoked her citizenship.

He argued that she was Bangladeshi by descent and could go there.

The situation has thrown into sharp relief the larger question of how Western societies deal with people who joined IS but want to go back to their home countries.

Begum challenged the decision, arguing she is not the clitzen of another country and that Javids decision left her stateless.

AP

First Americans could be vaccinated next month: House vaccine chief

Washington: The first (December 11).

Americans to receive a "Our plan is to be able to

Americans to receive a COVID-19 vaccine could be as early as the second week of December, according to the White House vaccine czar. American pharmaceutical giant Pfizer and its German partner BioNTech submitted an application to the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on November 20 for emergency use authorisation for its COVID-19 vaccine candidate. An FDA vaccine advidate. An FDA vaccine advidate. didate. An FDA vaccine advi-

didate. An FDA vaccine advisory committee is slated to meet December on 10.
Dr Moncef Slaoui, the head of the US coronavirus vaccine programme said that it means, if authorised by the FDA, the vaccine could be rolled out the next day

Burkina Faso counts ballots: extremist threats affected vote

Ouagadougou: Votes are being counted in Burkina Faso after Sunday's presidential and leg-islative elections, where threats of extremist violence linked to

(December 11).

"Our plan is to be able to ship vaccines to the immunisation sites within 24 hours from the approval, so I would expect maybe on day two after approval, on the 11th or on the 12th of December," he told CNN on Sunday.

The vaccine, which requires two doses, has been shown by tests to be 95 per cent effective. Pfizer hopes to produce up to 50 million doses by the end of the year.

US pharmaceutical company Moderna has also reported that its vaccine is nearly 95 per cent effective, according to the vaccine in the company is expected to seek approval for the vaccine in the coming weeks. islative elections, where threats of extremist violence linked to al-Qaida and the Islamic State prevented parts of the country from casting ballots.

Election workers began the counting after polls closed by holding up the ballots up for observers and marking the votes on a chalkboard beside the candidate's name. Preliminary results are expected within the next two days.

While there were no reported incidents of major attacks, threats of violence prevented people from casting ballots in hard-hit parts of the country, in the North, Sahel and East regions. Nearly 3,000 polling stations expected to open yesterday didn't, preventing up to 350,000 people



Election officials count the ballots in at a polling station in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, for the presidential and legislative elections late on Sunday AF

from voting, said Newton Ahmed Barry, president for the National Independent Electoral Commission, on local televi-sion.

In Tapoa province in the , 224 polling stations out of 335 didn't open, according to a report from CODEL, a local

HK's Joshua Wong to plead guilty to protest charges

Hong Kong: Prominent Hong Kong pro-democracy activist Joshua Wong said on Monday that he plans to plead guilty to charges related to a demon-

that he plans to plead guilty to charges related to a demonstration outside police head quarters during anti-government protests last year.

Ahead of a court hearing Monday, Wong said that he and fellow activist Ivan Lam would both plead guilty to organizing, taking part in and inciting protest outside police head quarters in Wan Chai last fune. Both Wong and Lam were concerned about the situation in areas weakened by insecurity'. Iocal officials in the Sahel and Center North, the epi-centers of the volence, told the AP people were angry about not being able to vote.

AP

passion to whom we love, so much that we are willing to sac-rifice the freedom of our own. I'm prepared for the thin chance of walking free." Those found guilty of taking part in an unlawful assembly could face as long as five years in prison depending on the severity of the

long as five years in prison depending on the seventyl of the offense.

Wong rose to prominence as a student leader during the 2014 Climbrella Movement prodemocracy protests and is among a growing number of activists being charged for various relatively minor offenses since Beijing in June imposed a sweeping national security law on the territory that has severely restricted political speech. Pro-democracy supporters have said the legal charges are part of a campaign to harass and intiminidate them.

French ex-Prez Sarkozy stands trial for corruption

Paris: Former French
President Nicolas Sarkozy ges
on trial Monday on charges
of corruption and influence peddling in a phone-tapping scandal, a first for the 65-year-old
politician who has faced several other judicial investigations since leaving office in
2012. Sarkozy is being accused of

pledge to defend Philippines

Manila: President Donald Maniia: President Donaid Trump's administration pro-vided precision-guided mis-siles and other weapons to help the Philippines battle Islamic State group-aligned militants and renewed a pledge militants and renewed a piedge to defend its treaty ally if it comes under attack in the dis-puted South China Sea. National Security Adviser Robert O'Brien represented Trump in Monday's ceremo-

ny at the Department of ny at the Department of Foreign Affairs in Manila, where he announced the delivery of the cache of mis-siles and bombs to the Philippine military. Trump pledged to provide the \$18 million worth of missiles in a phone conversation with

phone conversation with Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte in April. O'Brien expressed condo-lences to the Philippines after

back-to-back typhoons left a trail of death and devastation in the country and outlined US Help to the country battle the coronavirus pandemic.

The US assistance projects normalcy in Washingtons foreign relations as Trump worked to challenge the results of the November 3 presidential election, claiming he was a victim of fraud. Duterte had saked Filipino Americans to yote for Trump but congratulated Joe Biden, through his spokesperson, for winning the election.

O'Brien has represented Trump in a recent online summit between the U.S. And leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and an expanded East Asia summit of heads of state attended by China and Russia that was also held by video and hosted by Vietnam.

90.78,208.78/-

US provides missiles, renews | Yemen rebels claim attack on Saudi oil facility in Jiddah

Dubai: Yemen's Houthi rebels said they struck a Saudi oil facil-

said they struck a Saudi oil facility in the port city of Jiddah on Monday with a new cruise missile, just hours after the kingdom finished hosting its virtual Group of 20 leaders summit. The kingdom did not immediately acknowledge any attack as videos on social media suggested a fire at an Aramco oil facility.

Brig. Gen. Yehia Sarie, a Houthi military spokesman,

tweeted that the rebels fired a new Quds 2 cruise missile at the facility. He posted a satel-lite image online that matched Aramco's North Jiddah Bulk Plant, where oil products are stored in tanks.

That facility is just south-east of Jiddah's King Abdulaziz International Airport, a major facility that handles incoming Muslim pilgrims en route to nearby Mecca.

orby Mecca. Online videos appeared to

show a tank farm similar to the bulk plant on fire. Details of the

bulk plant on Inr. Details of the videos posted predawn Monday matched the general layout of the bulk plant.
Saudi state-run media did not immediately acknowledge the Houthi claim.

the Houthi claim.
Saudi Aramco, the kingdom's oil giant that now has a sliver of its worth traded publicly on the stock market, did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

AP

Officials: 113 bodies found in secret graves in Mexico

Mexico City: Mexican authorities have recovered 113 bodies and additional human remains from a secret grave outside the western city of Guadalajara. Jalisco state Attorney Gerardo Octavio Solís said on

Gerardo Octavio Solis said on Sunday night that 30 of the vic-tims had been identified. The state is home to Jalisco

nas a 1 ne state is nome to jainsco
New Generation Cartel, one of
Mexico's most violent and
powerful. More bodies have
AP been found in secret graves

there than in any other state in recent years. According to Mexico's

According to Mexico's Interior Ministry, from 2006 Interior Ministry, from 2006 through September 30 of this year, 897 bodies had been recovered from secret graves in Jalisco, 605 of those during the administration of President Andrés Manuel López Obrador who took office in December 2018.

The burial ground in E. Salto, southeast of Guadalajara, was found in October. AP

NORTHERN RAILWAY Tender Notice No. 82205012 date: - 23.11.2020 Invitation of Tenders through E-procurement system chief materials manager, Northern Railway, New Delhi-110001, for and of the President of India Invites - shortest through e-procurement system in

supply of the following items:-				
S. No.	Tender No.	Brief description	Qty.	Closing date
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South Africa judge files criminal complaint against ex-Prez Jacob Zuma

Johannesburg: A South African judge said he will file a criminal complaint against former South African president Jacob Zuma after he staged a dramatic walkout while attend-ing a commission of inquiry looking into corruption during his tenure from 2009 to 2018.

Zuma left the commission after Deputy Chief Justice Raymond Zondo dismissed an application asking him to recuse himself as chair of the inquiry. Zuma alleges Zondo is biased against him.

Zuma has been asked to respond to various allegations implicating him from at least 35 affidavits by witnesses who have appeared before the commission. Zuma left the commission

sion.
These include allegations,

among others, that he was involved in ensuring that mem-bers of the controversial Gupta

bers of the controversial Gupta family secured lucrative state contracts and influenced his appointments of cabinet ministers. Zondo announced Monday that he would also file an application to the Constitutional Court, the highest court in the country, to enforce a summons issued against Zuma and compel him to appear before the commission.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER Date- 23.11.2020

For and on behalf of UJVNLtd, Executive Engineer (Civil), Pashuloi Barrage Rishikesh, invites sealed & separate tenders from interested contractors for following work:-

1.Tender Notice Reference: NIT No.-14/2020-21/EE(C)/Pashulok Barrage:-Annual Horticulture Upkeeping & Sweeping Cleaning Work of Chilla Power House Premises at Chilla. 2. Estimated Value of Tender: - Rs. 24,29,445.51 Only

3. Date of availability of bid document on website: - 23.11.2020 4. Last Date for Submission of Tender: -14.12.2020 upto 14:00 Hrs. (IST).

For eligibility criteria and full and further details kindly visit our web site. The tenders can be downloaded from our web site i.e. www.uttarakhandjalvidyut.com and tender cost shall be paid at the time of submission of Executive Engineer (Civil)

"AVOID WASTEFUL USE OF ELECTRICITY"

SEARCH FOR MISSING GIRL



General public is hereby informed that one girl namely Anita D/o Pappu R/o House No. CN-4, Gali No. 11, Parasa House No. CN-4, Gall No. 11, Parasa Ram Ka Makan, Sushant Vihar, Delhi. Age: 15 yrs, Height: 5; complexion wheatish, face oval, Build thin. Wearing Blue colour suit and salwar and blue colour hawai chappal in feet is missing since 20.10.2020 from the area of PS Swaroop Nagar, Delbi. Delhi

In this regard a FIR No. 512/2020 dated: 20.10.2020 U/s 363 IPC has been registered at PS Swarooop Nagar, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing girl, but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this missing girl may kindly inform to the following.

E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in Fax: 011-230111334 Ph.: 011-23014046 011-23015218 P.S. Swaroon Nagar, Delhi Ph.: 011-27811415, 7065036327

WESTERN RAILWAY E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE No.S/28/2020 Date 19.11.2020 Tender T.O.D. S. N. Short Description of item 723 Security Plate for Centre Pivot Arrangement 724 Resistor R P Q O P for Relay

rww.wr.indianrailways.gov.in For Principal Chief Materials Ma For Principal Chief Materials Ma | For Principal Chief Materials Mater **UNIDENTIFIED DEAD BODY**

General Public is hereby informed that an one make person was found lying dead on the footpath of Mahila Park, Chandni Chowk, Delhi dated 19.11.2020. In this regard a Vide DD No. 55A, dated 19.11.2020 has been received for the footpath of the person video of the footpath of the footpat



SHO
P.S. Kotwali, Delhi
Ph.: 011- 23977100, 8750870121 DP/740/N/2020

Videosigned being the Authorizeu of Security Interess and Enforcement of Security Interess (Enforcement of Security Interess Section 13 (12) gread with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement of Interest Security Abhay Raj Singh & Durg Pal Singh/ LBDEL00001322367 T- 3/13-05, Valley View Est n. Haryana/ Nov 18, 2020 Rs. 6,83,107.57/-

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

Delhi NÇR Pat No- 207, 2nd Floor, C- II, Belverde Charmwood Village, Suraj Kund Road, Faridabad/ Nov 18, 2020 LBFDB00001181891 Druary 26, 2020 Rs. 15,58,036/-Hatinder Taneja & Rachna Taneja/ LBGUR00002382513 rashanth Kumar & arika Gera/ BNOD00004358586 ebruary 22, 2020 Flat No CVN- T 10-09/84, 9th Floor, CHD Van Tower 10, Sector- 71, Gurgaon/ Nov 18, 2020 Delhi

July 23, 2020 Rs. 90.45.995/-402 A, Tower B- 3, Aloha, AEZ Inspirations, Sector- 57, Gurgaon 122010/ Nov 18, 2020 bove-mentioned borrowers(s) guarantors(s) are hereby given a 30 day notice of the state of public ovisions under the Rules 8 and 9 of Security interest (Enforcement) Rules

Date: November 24, 2020 Place: Delhi NCR

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Markets march higher | Momentum of economic reforms will on vaccine progress

RIL, IT STOCKS **SPARKLE**

Equity benchmarks made a winning start to the week on Monday as positive results from another COVID-19 vaccine candidate bolstered investor confidence globally. A recovering rupee and unabated foreign fund inflows added to

traders said.
After touching a record intra-day high of 44,271.15, the 30-share BSE Sensex ended 194.90 points or 0.44 per cent higher at 44,077.15.

Rupee extends gains by 5p to end at over 2-week high against dollar

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The rupee appreciated by 5 paise to settle at more than two-week high of 74.11 against the US dollar on Monday tracking positive domestic equities and weak American currency.

rency.

At the interbank forex market, the domestic unit traded in a narrow range as rising COVID-19 cases off-set positive sentiments surset positive sentiments sur-rounding the progress on the vaccine front.

AstraZeneca on Monday said that late-stage trials of its COVID-19 vac-cine were "highly effective" in preventing disease.

Similarly, the broader NSE Nifty rose 67.40 points or 0.52 per cent to close at 12,926.45. ONGC was the top per-former on the Sensex chart,

surging 6.84 per cent, followed by IndusInd Bank, Infosys, Tech Mahindra, Bajaj Finserv, Reliance Industries, HCL Tech and TCS.

and TCS.

Index heavyweight
Reliance Industries climbed
2.72 per cent, accounting for
most of the Sensex's gains,
after the Competition
Commission on Friday evening
said it has approved the conglomerate's proposed acquisition of Future Group's retail
assets.

On the other hand, HDFC, ICICI Bank, Axis Bank, SBI

Gold futures gain on spot demand

Gold prices rose ₹45 to ₹45 to ₹50,257 per 10 gram in futures trade on Monday as speculators created fresh positions on firm spot demand.

On the Multi Commodity Exchange, gold contracts for December delivery traded higher by ₹45, or 0.09 per cent, at ₹50,257 per 10 gram in a business turnover of 5,544 lots.

Fresh positions built up

lots.
Fresh positions built up
by participants led to the rise
in gold prices, analysts said.
In the international
market, gold traded 0.03 per
cent higher at USD 1,878.80
per ounce in New York.

continue, FM assures industry

PTI I NEW DELHI

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday assured the industry that momentum of economic reforms will continue to make India a hotspot of global invest-

"The momentum for reform shall continue. Several more active reform-related steps are being taken up,"

Bank licences to corporates a

dations of the report are worth adopting the one to allow corporate houses into banking should not be taken up.
"To the contrary, it is even more important today to stick to the tried and tested limits on corporate involvement in banking," said the article.
Sharing the article on Linkedin, Rajan said that he thinks the proposal as a "bad idea".

idea".

It said that there are two primary rationales for not allowing corporates into banking, first being that industrial

'bad idea': Raghuram Rajan

India a hotspot of global investment.

India has turned the crisis created by COVID-19 pandemic into an opportunity to push the economic reforms, which remained pending for decades, she said while addressing the National MNC's Conference 2020 organised by the industry chamber CII.

"Even at the time (of COVID pandemic, the Prime Minister has not lost an opportunity to take deep reforms, to undertake those kinds of reforms which have not seen the light of the day over the decades.

"The momentum for

and M&M were among the main laggards, slumping up to 3.55 per cent.
Global equities were on the upswing after Oxford University and AstraZeneca announced that their COVID-19 vaccine candidate was found to be around 90 per cent effective in preventing the disease. This is the third major vaccine trial to have reported encouraging results, after Moderna and Pfizer came out with positive Phase 3 data.

"While global cues remained favourable, a sharp rebound in IT, pharma, metals and Reliance Industries led domestic equities to register currents are the source with the control of the state of the sta and Reliance Industries led domestic equities to register further gains. However, profit booking was witnessed in select heavyweight financials after recommendation of IWG (Internal Working Group) of RBI did not favour them much, which led financials to end in red today.

Sitharaman said. government will continue with disinvestment agenda, she being professionalised and the added.

Govt's 'unprecedented' reforms to usher in new era of growth: Kant

governance and economic fronts by the government will usher in a new era of growth

usher in a new era of growth and prosperity.

Kant also stressed the need to increase expenditure on research and development and strengthen intellectual property rights (IPR) laws.

"The economic and gov-ernance reforms undertaken by the government have been quite unprecedented and they

New Delhi: Niti Aayog CEO
Amitabh Kant on Monday
said that "unprecedented" said. "We are making states
reforms undertaken on both
governance and economic
business parameters. We are
business parameters. We are will usher in a new era of growth and prosperity, he said. We are making states compete on case of doing business parameters. We are ranking states and naming and shaming them; he said while addressing a virtual event organised by industry body CILListing out reforms undertaken by the government in recent times, Kant said as the world battles contraction in conomic growth. traction in economic growth, India has initiated reforms in key sectors including agri-culture, labour and mining.

India exports 11mn smartphones in Jan-Sep

Gurugram:The exports of smartphones from India is expected to cross \$1.5 billion (by value) this year - constituting 98 per cent of the total mobile phones exported from the country, a new report said on Monday. A total of 12.8 million mobile phones were exported from India from January to September this year and of these, 10.9 million units were smartphones, according to market research firm techARC. IANS

INBRIEF

DR BRIJ MOHAN MISHRA IS NDMC NEW SECRETARY
New Delhi: Dr. Brij Mohan Mishra, an IAS officer of the 2008 batch of
AGMUT cadre. assumed

AGMUT cadre, assumed charge as Secretary - Nev Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) today.Dr. Brij Mohan Mishra succeeds Shri Amit Singla who has been transferred as a Secretary (Health and Family Welfare), Department of Health and



Family Welfare, Govt. of NCT of Delhi. Dr Brij Annon Mishra has held several important assignments in the past, serving in Municipal bodies and States Government/UTs in Delhi, Arunachal Pradesh and Andaman & Nicobar Government/U is in Delni, Arunachiai Pradesh and Arunachiai or Inscordation Island. He has served in the Delhi Government in the capacity of Deputy Commissioner (Revenue) in East and South Delhi. He has also worked in South and East Delhi Municipal Corporations in the capacity of Deputy Commissioner and in North Delhi Municipal Corporation in

PUBLIC AWARENESS OFFICER TO ACCELERATE AWARENESS

Mahendra Soni said that to control the increasing number of corona waterions som said that to comin of the increasing intended in combined cases in the state, it is necessary that the common man is constantly made aware of the measures to fight the disease and prevent it. He said that in the fourth phase of this awareness campaign being carried out across the state, there is a need to take public awareness work out across the state, there is a need to take public awareness work more seriously and to spread the message through innovations. Shri Soni was addressing a meeting of District Public Relations Officers held through VC on Monday. He took detailed information about the various activities being conducted in his district from the District Public Relations Officers as part of the public awareness campaign against Gorona cross the state.

Campain agains corone across one state.

MEN NORTHERN RAILWAY HOLDS PERFORMANCE REVIEW MEETING NEW DELHI: Deliberations held on issues and cases related to Safety, Rail, Rail-weld fractures and health of Bridges with lowering of Temperature, Increase in USFD Testing, Night Viglis, Material Briure Issues of Rolling stock, Training and Counseling of Staff, Digitalization and Implementation of e-office over Northern Railway Sh. Ashutosh Gangal, General Manager Northern Railway Sh. Ashutosh Gangal, General Manager Northern Railway the departmental heads of Northern Railway through wideo conferencing from Baroda House, Mr headquarter office in New Delhi today, The General Manager shared about the restoration of train movement to Punjab from today afternoon.

MOTOR INSURANCE REVIVE ON FESTIVE AUTO SALES JUMI MOUNT INSOURNIES TEVILE OF TESTIVE AUT SALES JUHP New Delhi: They be up in auto sales during the festive season has revoed up the business of insurers with motor premiums increasing 3 per cent yoy in Cotober 2020. Motor premiums were down for most part of the current fiscal and it fell 4 pet cent yoy in 20F92. There has been a flurry of activity in automobile sales in October with four wheeler sales rising by 20 per cent and two wheeler by 15 per cent yoy. Robust festive demand and a gradual first in fright volumes and utilization rates supported premiums, Kotak Institutional Equities said in a report.

Days after an Internal Wew Diethi Chief of Reserve Bank of Indias (RBI) recommended allowing large Indian corporates to enter the banking sector, former RBI Governor Raghuram Rajan and Deputy Governor Viral Acharya have hit back at the suggestion and questioned the timing for it. Terming the recommendation as a "bombshell", in a blogpost, they said that although several recommen-No respite from rising onion prices till Dec, potato prices decline

Due to the declining onion imports from abroad, the price of the staple vegetable is once again set to soar even while there is a large supply of onions coming from Rajasthan. The retail price of onions in the national capital is between Rs 50 to Rs 70 per kg while the wholesale price ranges from Rs 15 to Rs 47.5 per kg which had fallen slightly to Rs 42 per kg before the Diwali season.

According to traders, there are slim chances of getting a respite from the rising onion prices before December this year. However, there is some relief for the common man as

the prices of pota-toes sharply declined due to the

declined due to the new potato crop.

The increase in onion prices is being attributed to the decrease in imports even as the fresh supply of onions from Rajasthan is in full flow to various part

from Kajastnan is in full flow to various parts of the country, including north India.

Traders say that in the last few days due to the increasing supply of locally-produced onions, the pace of onion imports has slowed down.

Horticulture Produce

Exporters Association President, Ajit Shah, said the



import of onions has not stopped but it has considerably reduced. He said that onions have also been imported from Turkey this week. At present, although onions are coming from Rajasthan, its price will fall only when onions from Nashik in Maharashtra flood the markets, Shah added.

Reliance Retail's 'vocal for local' mission expands to 30.000 artisans

PTI III NEW DEI HI

Reliance Retail on Monday said it showcased more than 40,000 artisan-crafted products from over 50 GI clus-ters to its customers this festive season in a strong push to locally-made artisanal prod-

locally-made artisanal products.

"A direct result of its three-year-old flagship initiatives "Indie by AJIO" and "Swadesh" -started to provide avenues for sales and employment to local craftsmen, the programmes now engage with more than 30,000 craftsmen, representing

over 600 art forms across a wide spectrum of clothing, textiles, handicrafts and handmade natural goods; the company said in a statement. Indie by AJIO is an online market-place for local artisans and handcrafted products. It features this distinctive idiom beautifully in the wide lifestyle products ranging from apparel to home furnishing and accessories such as jewellery and footwear, it said. The craft repertoire includes [kat, Shibori, Banarasi, Baph, Ajrakh to Jamdani, Tangail, Chanderi and many more.

houses can easily get financing, with no questions asked, in case they have an in-house bank.

HC TO AIR INDIA -

Consider paying one month's salary to terminated contractual pilots

The Delhi High Court on Monday asked Air India to consider paying at least one month's slary to its pilots, engaged on contractual basis, whose services were suspended in April and later terminated in August, saying that employees cannot be left to hang high and dry.

Justice Navin Chawla asked the counsel for national carrier Air India to take instructions on paying one month's salary to the contractual pilots, who

who have sought quashing of the April 2 order suspending the first services and the subsequent order of August 7 by advocates Lalit Bhardwaj, Kise a golden handshake', can be done for them.

With the suggestions, the court listed the matter for bearing on December 16.The court was hearing two pleas moved on behalf of the terminated contractual pilots ratings.

Google to delay 30% in-app purchase policy amid backlash

IANS SEOUL/NEW DELHI

Facing backlash from devel- Γ opers, Google said on Monday that it will postpone

Monday that it will postpone enforcing a 30 per cent commission on in-app purchases of digital content from its Play Store from next January to next September.

Under the new policy set to be adopted in late September, congle plans to take a 30 per cent commission on all digital content purchases by users from app developers.

Like Apple, Google also collects a 30 per cent commission on in-app purchases.

collects a 30 per cent commission on in-app purchases.

Apple last week announced it will reduce the standard commission on its App Store from 30 per cent to 15 per cent for app developers with yearly proceeds of less than \$1 million Transport of the proceeds of less than \$1 million Transport of the proceeding the proce

SALE NOTICE gh auction on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IS

		Price	(10% of reserve price)	Auction	Time of auction	
225/ 2020, ICICI Bank Ltd, Vs VIKASH	Vehicle no- HR38V6041, Manu yr- 2015, Make and Model- HYUNDAI XCENT BASE CRDI	68000/-	6800/-	Godara Yard, Khewat No. 166/1, Near Atul Kataria Chock, Behind Gyan Devi, School, Sec-17, Sukhrali, Gurugram- 122022	Dec 10, 2020, from 11:00 AM to 02:00 PM	
CM (M)- 231/ 2020, ICICI Bank Ltd. Vs ANKIT BHADANA	Vehicle no- HR38V7561, Manu yr- 2015, Make and Model- HYUNDAI XCENT	85000/-	8500/-	Godara Yard, Khewat No. 166/1, Near Atul Kataria Chock, Behind Gyan Devi, School, Sec- 17, Sukhrali, Gurupram- 122022	Dec 10, 2020, from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM	
FAO 213/ 2015, ICICI Bank Ltd. Vs KULVINDER SINGH	Vehicle no- NR, Engine No- D13A2084942, Chassis No- MA3FLEB1S001691 79, Manu yr- 2012, Make and Model- Maruti Ertiga	200000/-	20000/-	Godara Yard, Khewat No. 1681, Near Atul Kataria Chock, Behind Gyan Devi, School, Sec-17, Sukhrali, Gurugram- 122022	Dec 10, 2020, from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM	
CM (M) 22/ 2020, ICICI Bank Ltd. Vs JITENDRA CHATURVEDI	Vehicle no- UP14FT7814, Manu yr- 2016, Make and Model-CHEVROLET SAIL UVA LT	68000/-	6800/-	Godara Yard, Khewat No. 166/1, Near Atul Kataria Chock, Behind Gyan Devi, School, Sec - 17, Sukhrali, Gurugram- 122022	Dec 10, 2020, from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM	
229/ 2020, ICICI Bank Ltd, Vs MUNEER KHAN	Vehicle no- UP16AH0220, Manu yr-2011, Make and Model-FORD ENDEAVOUR XLT	160000/-	16000/-	JCS Financial Services & Parking Security Plot No. 112. Old Raipur Road Pakri, Near Kishan Nagar, Kanpur Nagar, Pin 209304. Uttar Pradesh	Dec 10, 2020, from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM	
222/ 2020, ICICI Bank Ltd. Vs RAHUL YADAV	Vehicle no- UP14ET0642, Manu yr- 2014, Make and Model- TATA ACE HT	70000/-	7000/-	A.N. Motors 14 KM - Stone, Agra - Mathura Roud Runkata Agra- 282007	Dec 10, 2020, from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM	

erms of Sale Terms of Sale? The particulars of the said asset specified herein above have been stated to the best of th knowledge of the undensigned, who shall however not be responsible for any error, resistater the said particular. The interested participants are therefore requested, in their own interest of the head particular the said particular than the particular than the particular than the of the said particular or the particular than the particular than the particular than the office. All badders are required to come at late with religinar DIPPO of EMD amount along with or the particular than t

ed bidder shall have to deposit sale amount (Excluding EMD amount) within he way of pay order/demand draft/RTGS/NEFT. In case if you fall to make th the auction date by the way of pay order/demand draft/RTGS/NET. In case if you fall to make the remain sale amount within 5 days, your EMD amount will be forfoited. The intending bidders may visit at IGCI Bank Ltd, 1st Floor, SD Tower, Community Center, Plot no Rohini Sector-8, New Delhi-110085. for details and inspection of the said hypothecated vehicle.

SEARCH FOR MISSING MALE

General Public is hereby informed that one male (depicted in the photo) namely Sanjay S/o Nirottam R/o H.No.A-51-C, DDA Flats, Tagore Garden, Delhi Aged-45 Years has been reported missing since 12-10.2020 at about 09:00 AM from his residence vide DD No.45A Dated 12-11.2020 registered at Police Station Rajouri Garden, New Delhi. His physical description is as under: Complexion: Shallow, Height: 55°, Fi



physical descriptions as union. For Complexion: Shallow, Height: 5'5", Face: Round, Built: Normal, Clothing: Blue coloured shirt, Blue coloured jeans and White coloured shoes in feet.

Any person having any information/Clue about this missing male, may inform SHO, Rajouri Garden, New Delhi g maie, may inform SHO, Raposit Carlotte, in Sid. is cic@cbi.gov.in or website: http://cbi.nic.in at E-mail: cicegcon, gos., in Surfale No.: 011-24368638 or 24368641 SHO, Rajouri Garden, New Dehil FAX No.: 011-24368639 Tel.: 011-25448885, 25116102 Nob.: 8750871127

SEARCH FOR MISSING



General public is hereby informed that one male namely Pankaj, Slo Suresh, R/o Jai Kumar Ka Makaan, H.No. 37, Village Sannoth, Delhi, Age: 25 years, Height: 57". Complexion: Shallow, Face: Round, Built: Medium, wearing White colour Shift & Blue colour Pant has been Shirt & Blue colour Pant, has been

Ph. No.: 011-27787592, 27787593

missing from his house since missing from his house since 30.09.2020 at 10:00 AM. In this regard a DD No. 52-A dated 27.10.2020 has been registered at P.S. Narela ndustrial Area, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace ou

the male but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about him please inform undersigned. Website : http://cbi.nic.in E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in Fax: 011-24368639 Ph. No. : 011-24368638, 2436864 P.S. Narela Industrial Area

E-mail: cic@cbl.gov.in.or website: http://cbl.nic.in Tele No. 011-24386838 or 24388641 FAX No.: 011-24386839 DP/157/NDD/2020 Tel.: 011-23364100, 23

Complexion: Shallow, Height: 5'2", Face: Long, Built Thin, Clothing: Cream Coloured shirt and White coloured

Any person having any information/Clue about this missing male, may inform SHO, Mandir Marg, New Delhi at

SEARCH FOR MISSING MALE

General Public is hereby informed that one male (depicted in the photo) namely Sunil S/o Late Sh. Gahinar R/o

namely Sunii S/o Late Sh. Gahinar R/o Shop Classic Chicken, Gole Market, New Delhi Aged-about 19 Years has been reported missing since 07.11.20 at 09:30 PM from his residence vide DD No.70-A Dated 10.11.2020 registered at Police Station Mandir Marg, New Delhi. His physical description is as under:



Appeal for Identification General public is hereby informed that one male Name: Unknown. Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: 40 Years, Height: 5'5", Sex: Male, Complexion: Wheatish, Injury Marks: Body damaged winesteri, injury marks, body danaged in different shaps, Wearing; Green and White Colour Checkdar Shirt and Black Colpur Pant & Plastic Chappal in Feet, Place of Recovery; Found dead on 17.11.2020 at KM Pole No. 15/3, 14/31 UP Line Railway Track,

Near Under Pass, Mangolpuri Railway Station.
In this regard FIR/DD No. 1A, dated 17.11.2020 has been lodged at Police Station, Sarai Rohilla Railway Station, Delhi. Any clue come to notice please inform undersign

P.S. Sarai Rohilla Railway Station, Delhi Ph.: 011-28714802, 28711697 & DP/14/RLY/2020

Compared with people who ate meat, vegans wit lower calcium and protein intakes (on average) had 43 per cent higher risk of fractures anywhere in the body, researchers have warned. According to the findings, published in the journal BMC Medicine, getarians and people who ate fish but not meat had a higher risk of hip fractures, compared to people who ate mea



DOCYARD

DR KUSHAL BANERJEE

Consultant Homeopath

DR KALYAN BANERJEE'S CLINIC, NEW DEI HI



Take help from Homeopathy



ndia is considered as the Diabetes capital of the world

India is considered as the Diabetes capital of the world.

Approximately eight-point seven percent of Indians between the age of twenty to seventy years are Diabetic. The country suffers substantial loss of productivity and thus bears a huge economic burden because of Diabetes.

An exceedingly high number of Diabetics around the world are looking to complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) to act as an adjuvant or substitute for the management of their condition. Diabetes affects multiple organ systems resulting in a wide range of serious issues in patients. Many of these complications of Diabetes affects multiple organ systems resulting in a wide range of serious issues in patients. Many of these complications of Diabetes affects until the production of the production of

multiple organs
resulting in a wide
range of serious
issues in patients.
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complications do not have any specific treatment in conventional medicine medicine medicine diter.

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specific treatment

earlier.

Doctors usually spend a lot of time explaining the importance of lifestyle changes, including diet, mealtimes, exercise and sleep patterns, in addition to advising homeopathic medicines. Many of these patients can report lasting blood sugar control with these modifications. There are many cases where homeopathic medicines can be completely withdrawn.

Some of the other complications which occur in chronic Diabetics are conditions like peripheral neuropathy (degeneration of the nerves in the periphery of the body), Diabetic retinopathy (degeneration of the retina and related structures) and diabetic nephropathy (degeneration of the retina and related structures) and display to the conventional medicines. However, homeopathy can address these issues in many patients. From providing relief to address these issues in many patients. From providing relief to pain, burning and loss of sensation of limbs, to improving or preventing further loss of vision. There is anecdotal data demonstrating improvement or arrest of degeneration of kidney functioning with homeopathic management in cases of Diabetic foot, where the foot of patient begins to degenerate into a gangernous condition due to poor blood supply. Patients are often able to avoid an amputation!

As the country takes some early steps towards an integrated healthcare system, it is important to consider homeopathy as an essential option for patients in all stages of Diabetes.

WARMFOODS

synthesise fats. It also benefits our nervous and reproductive systems.

The naturally occurring oils are beneficial for the body as these healthful fats BROWN RICE: Brown rice are rich in proteins, thiamine, calcium, magnesium, fiber, and potassium. For those trying to lose weight or those suffering from diabetes,

it can prove healthful staple given its low g l y c e m i c rating which helps reduce

in sunspices.

It is rich in selenium which reduces the risk for developing common illudes cancer the risk to usual points common ill-nesses such as cancer, heart disease and arthritis. One cup of it provides 80 per cent of our daily manganese requirements. Manganese helps the body

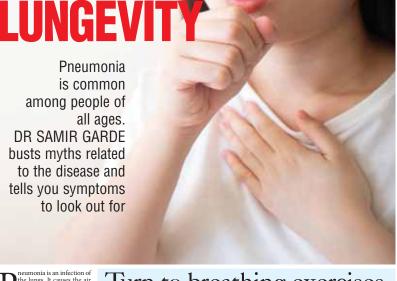
help normalise cholesterol levels. The fiber

cis.

The fiber content of brown rice keeps bowel function at it's peak since it makes digestion that much easier. It is the perfect addition to the daily diet for those seeking bowel regularity. In addition, it also makes the tummy feel full which translates to smaller meal portions.

Pneumonia is common among people of all ages. DR SAMIR GARDE busts myths related to the disease and tells you symptoms to look out for

TEST YOUR



Turn to breathing exercises

ike people say, prevention is better than cure. So is the case with pneumonia. Here are a few tips that can help.
Having good immunity is the single most important factor in prevention of pneumonia.
Healthy lifestyle — a good

neumonia is an infection of the lungs. It causes the air sacs (alveoli) of the lungs to get inflamed (irritated and swollen). They may fill up with fluid or pus. This causes a variety of symptoms, which range from mild to severe. Pneumonia is usually caused by bacteria or a virus. It also can be caused by fungi or irritants that you breathe into your lungs. How serious pneumonia is depends on many factors. These include what caused the pneumonia, your age, and your overall health. more than just antibiotics

People age 65 and older are at a higher risk, but anyone can catch pneumonia at any age and therefore should consider getting vaccinated

People who are considered healthy have a lower risk, but could still catch pneumonia

If the condition is less severe, treatment may not include hospitalisation

CAUSES

Bacterial: This is the commonest cause of pneumonia. There is a wide range of bacteria that can infection of the lungs - in children as well as adults

Viral: Nowadays due to COVID 19; everyone seems to have got alertda about viral pneumonia. Viral infections are rather common in children and there are dozens of viruses that cause infection of the lungs. Influenza related pneumonia are common in adults and various other viruses can cause lung infection in adults where immunity is compromised. COVID-19 related inflammation is not a pneumonia in true sense; its more of inflammatory condition of the lungs.— the discussion of which is beyond the scope of this article.

Fungal: Happens in immuno

scope of this article.

Fungal: Happens in immuno-

breakfast; two square meals per day, having fresh fruit everyday; regular exercise with deep breath-ing exercises; adequate sleep are of utmost importance to maintain good immunity. People with Diabetes; renal conditions; those on chemother-

The symptoms of pneumonia can range from mild to severe. This depends on your risk factors and the type of pneumonia you have. Common signs are similar to the ones caused by a cold or flu

compromised individuals. People who are suffering from Diabetes; chronic kidney disease; those having HIV/AIDS; or those who are on medicines that compromise the immunity; especially after organ transplant etc are immunocompromised neonle

transplant etc are immunocompro-mised people.

Tuberculous infections:
Infection caused by Mycobacterium
Tuberculosis (popularly known as
TB) is the biggest menace in front
of our country and needs to be tack-led on war footing. There are other

apy should take regular guidance of their treating physician; to keep their conditions under control.

Avoiding smoking.

Taking influenza and Pneumococal vaccines as per the advice of regular doctor/chest physician

bacteria from the Mycobacterium family that can cause lung infec-

family that can cause lung infections.

Aspiration pneumonia: When one ends up aspirating contents of the stomach into the lungs via; breathing pipe — one gets — chemical pneumonitis.

How is pneumonia diagnosed? When a person reaches a doctor/hospital with above mentioned symptoms and after clinical examination pneumonia is suspected; Xray of the chest is done to diagnose pneumonia. At times a CT scan of the chest is necessary to see the extent of the infection. Sending sputum for culture test helps in deciding the causative factor of pneumonia.

How is it treated?

deciding the Lausante procumonia.

How is it treated?

As discussed above; depending on the Causative agent (Bacterial/viral/TB etc); and patients condition (stable or critical) medicines are prescribed to be taken orally (at home) or Intravenously (in the hospital). Patients also need supportive care in the form of hydration; control of Diabetes; vitamin supplements is Consultant Respiratory Medicine, dasok Hospital and

DON'T MISS YOUR CHILD'S VACCINATION



Penumonia is one of the leading caussof sickness and mortality in children in developing countries especially under the age of 5 years. Pneumonia can be easily prevented by immunization, adequate nutrition, and taking care of some environmental factors.

As per WHO Pneumonia accounts for almost 15% to 18 % of all deaths (1.3 million deaths) globally of which 99% cases seen in 15 developing countries, in children under 5 years age. Approximately 3.7 lakh children die of Pneumonia annually in India. Pneumonia can be caused by viruses, bacteria, or fungi.

Pneumonia can spread in several ways like via air-borne droplets from a cough or sneeze from an infected person or the organisms which are normally present in one's nose and throat can become infective if conditions are unfavourable and can infect the lungs if they are inhaled. In addition, in young infants it can spread through blood also. Various factors that may influence the occurrence of pneumonia include, premature and low birth weight child, undernutrition, indoor overcrowding, poor hygiene, previous history of allergies, recent history of Measles and Chicken Pox, Pneumonia or hospitalisation and many more.

The presenting features of viral and

Measles and Chičken Pox, Pneumonía or hospitalisation and many more.

The presenting features of viral and bacterial pneumonia are similar. However, the symptoms of viral pneumonia may be more when compared with bacterial pneumonia. In children under five years of age they can present with cough and/or fast and difficult breathing, with or without fever and there may be retraction of lower chest wall, Wheezing is more common in viral infections. Very severely ill infants may be unable to take feed or drink.

infants may be unable to take feed or drink.

Three strategic interventions include-vaccination, breastfeeding/nutrition and access to care and antiblotic treatment along with Parent Education Programs, Pneumonia awareness Programs for Community and health workers. Awareness of practices like hand hygiene-washing hands frequently, avoiding indoor pollution (smoking, usage of firewood, kerosene, incense, deo-sprays etc) as well as outdoor pollution.

Besides the general precautions as already discussed keep your child's vaccination upto date which starts from six weeks of age.

arready uscussed seekey our chinds vaccination upto date which starts from six weeks of age.

All children should be given vaccines to prevent against bacterial infections like Pneumococcus and Hib. All children sixmonths of age or older should get a flu (Influenza) vaccine yearly at least up to eight years of age (MOH) because the maximum spread in the community is through full-fren in this age group the start of the

nedications.

The writer is Clinical Director for Paediatrics,

Madhukar Rainbow Children's Hospital

FACTS With many possible causes for pneumonia, treatment could include **DadiKaKehna**

■ An individual with pneumonia must be hospitalised

SYMPTOMS

The symptoms of pneumonia can range from mild to severe. This depends on your risk factors and the type of pneumonia you have. Common symptoms are similar to the symptoms caused by a cold or the flu. They include:

■Cough ■Fever ■Bringing up mucus when you

agh ■Difficulty breathing

■Chills
■Chest pain
You may also sweat, have a headache, and feel very tired. Some people also experience nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea.

MYTHS
■It can always be treated with antibiotics

■Elderly people are the only est required to receive vaccinations ■Healthy people can't get pneu-

Winters are here and with

it the usual problems of dry skin, dandruff and cracked heels. A few simple ingredients available in your kitchen can help tackle the issue, says ROSHANI DEVI

hile we all look forward to win-ters — sitting in front of the fire, drinking tea and talking about everything under the sun; there are some annoying problems that crop up — dry skin and dandruff.

There are

There are many products available in the market but a few home remedies

home remedies work just as well with long lasting effect.

If you have dry skin, one of the best remedies is to mix two parts glycerin, two parts groen, two parts rose water and one part lemon juice. Keep this in a bottle. Apply on the skin. Avoid areas where there is a break in the skin. Leave it overnight. Wash

with warm water the next morning. One can use this on the face— the results are amazing. azing. For cracked heels mix

beeswax and mustard oil by heating them together in equal parts. Pour it into a container. Let it cool. Apply over the cracked heels. Wear socks. Wash feet the

Wash feet the next morning. Repeat till you get smooth heels. Dandruff is another winter problem that many face. Mix orange peel powder and coconat oil to make a mask. Apply this on the scalp. Leave it overnight or at least for an hour. Wash off with shampoo. Do this thrice a week till dandruff disappears.

Ultrasound is key

India is severely impacted by the sudden outbreak of highly infectious COVID-19 pandemic which is over-whelming our healthcare system & the number of patients being diagnosed with it is staggering. Amidst these unprecedented times; Point-of-care Ultrasound (POCUS) technology has emerged as a key screening tool for physicians to access the actual clinical conditions in the medicallifyragile patients.

Nowadays, compact ultrasound machines are

ile patients.

Nowadays, compact
ultrasound machines are
increasingly being used to
diagnose, monitor and
manage patients in ICU,
emergency wards and other
inpatient services. For
patients diagnosed with
COVID-19 infection, it is
an excellent adjunct tool for
performing comprehensive
head-to-toe clinical study &
is an ideal device for bedside examination
patients in isolation wards.
COVID-19 primarrily
attacks the lung in the initial stages of the disease and
it can also have significant

the later stages of the disease.

So, lung ultrasound and focused echocardiography has the potential to aid the diagnosis and management of patients with COVID-19 require airway management, or venous access under ultrasound guidance (to administer essential fluids & medications), or some patients in shock or trauma needs a proper shock assessment where ultrasound plays a vital role in clinical evaluation process.

Portable diagnostic ultrasound machine is like ultrasound machine is like a Swiss-army knife which has multiple advantages as it is non-invasive, possess no ionising radiations, can be quickly & repeatedly performed at the bedside, cost-effective and is easily sanitised as compared to other imaging modalities in indoor settings.

or settings. Hospitals need to

employ proper set of clean-ing protocols for machine disinfection prior to use in COVID-19 isolation wards.

distinction prior to use in COVID-19 isolation wards. Because the utility of each application varies by setting, hospitals should consider how they can best use ultrasound within their specific environments.

As per the directive from Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MOHFW) and guidelines of National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), the portable ultrasound plays a significant role in clinical evaluation of COVID-19 patients and should be considered as an invaluable tool for isolation wards.

Major player in this

tool for isolation wards.
Major player in this
segment is Fujifilm
Sonosite company which
has partnered with different
medical societies across
India and assisting healthcare professionals in their
battle against this pandemic by providing them the
right technology, disinfection guidelines and ultrasound educational
resources.

INBRIEF

Therapeutic food makers in the country have asked for launching specific programmes at the community level to tackle the problem of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) in the country since Covid restrictions and reverse migration are feared to have led to drop in the nutrition levels in the vulnerable sections of society.

and reverse migration are feared to have led to drop in the nutrition levels in the vulnerable sections of society.

CMAM Association of India, comprising manufacturers of Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Foods (RUTF) globally used in community management of acute malnutrition (CMAM), has extended support to the Government to develop new products so as to eradicate SAM under the PoshanAbhiyan.

In a communication to the Ministry of Women & Child Development, CMAM Association of India has offered to support and implement any feeding protocols to be laid down by the Government in the upcoming nutrition guidelines using its R&D and product development prowess to ensure that the children receive adequate nutrition.

Feeding protocols that use a combination of home-based food and high-quality energy dense nutrition supplement, including all micronutrients, which are easy to transport to children need to be urgently explored, CMAM Association has stated.

According to Ministry of Health & Family Association has stated.

According to Ministry of Health & Family than the Association has pointed out the urgent need for collaboration between Government, therapeutic food manufacturers and civil society to meet the challenge of SAM in the country.



rend Slazer

Sanjana to star opposite Aditya

Actress SANJANA SANGHI, who starred opposite Sushant Singh Rajput in *Dil Bechara*, is set to join actor ADITYA ROY KAPUR in the forthcoming action film, OM The Rattle Within

"Getting to delve into the action genre so early on, is something I view as an absolute honour. I have immense grati-tude for my produc-ers and my director Kapil (Verma) for the potential they have seen in me being able to pull off such a part in our

film," Sanjana said.
"After exploring
many scripts and
possibilities, *OM* felt just right since it was the spectrum for in terms of throwing myself into an entirely



'The beauty is Raikumma (Rao) has never lost his humility and generosity that he always had

as an actor. He has remained that same person. What has . changed is that Raikummar has become really popular. I think the success has brought with it some limitations. But his success makes me happy. I feel like a happy parent.' -Hansal Mehta

Comedian-actor VIR DAS feels celebrities should not post videos on social media that show



your COVID tests. From the collection to the test, you are literally doing none of the work. The fact you tilted your head back and managed not to sneeze is not engaging content," he wrote. "Hear me out please. There's someone drenched in a full PPE kit one foot away from you who does this 30 times a day, door to door. You're not the one strungling. The You're not the one struggling. The test sucks for them more," Vir urged.

Swift wins 'Artist of the Year' at AMAs

Singer TAYLOR SWIFT won Artist of the Year award for the third year in a row at the American Music Awards but had to skip the cere-

mony.
In 2019, Swift expressed anger over her former record label, Big Machine Label Group, selling her master recordings to Scooter Braun, the manager of singers like

Justin Bieber and Ariana Grande. So she was busy re-recording the albums she made with the label.

"Thank you so much for this. This is a fan-voted award, which means so much to me. You guys nave been beyond won-derful all the years of my career, but especially this one, when we've been so far apart, we haven't been able to see each other in concert, but I still feel really connected to you through the music," she shared.

BAFTA comes to India

The British Academy of Film and Television Arts is taking its first step at global inclusiveness with a local talent hunt



ly, BAFTA Breakthrough aims to push their careers ahead by help-ing them to learn more about the industry, overcome barriers to

gression and network globally people who can influence

The programme is a new inter-

national iteration of the successful Breakthrough initiative, which has been running in the UK since 2013 and Chima since 2019. The effort was launched in the United States this year, supporting over 130 emerging talents to date. Industry supporters of the initiative in recent years include actors Oliva Colman, Naomi Harris, Tom Hiddleston and Tilds Swinton, actory Producer Brad Pitt, directors Tom Harder and Barry Enkins, gam desgrers and Romers and Marchael Romers and Shafer and Romers an

across the moving arts, being one of the only art charities to work across film, games and television and on a global scale," said Tim Hunter, Director of Learning and New Talent, BAFTA.

"India is one of the most prolific and accomplished industries and a fascinating centre for the screen arts with lost of creative diversity, which extends far beyond the world-famous Bollywood'Some of the best practitioners in the world work in Indian film, games and television — and practitioners from around the world have much to learn from them," Hunter added.

The initiative will showcase and support emerging stars of

and support emerging stars of

film, games, and television in India, supported by Netflix: "We share BAFTA's vision and responsibility in providing breakthrough opportunities to emerging talent. Were thrilled to extend our support to the programme in India and help amplify our country's new voices. This initiative will meaningfully bring together creative comvoices. This initiative will meaning-fully bring together creative com-munities across borders, support their stories, unearth raw talent and provide them with recognition on the world stage," said Monika Shergill on behalf of the streaming

junt. Under the initiative, BAFTA will work closely with local cultural bodies and industry in India to reach each sub-region and identify excellent individuals. The programme will be supported by a series of craft masterclasses, which will feature British and Indian talent sharing their expertise and insights with the audience across India and the UK.

Directed by RAJAT KAPOOR, a rendition of the Shakespearean play As You Like It comes to screens for Aadyam's

The British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) is taking its first step into India with a talent hunt initiative that lets the

taking its first step into India with a talent hunt initiative that lets the Academy identify and nurture up to five talents working in film, games or television in India. The exercise, known as BAFTA Breakthrough initiative, is part of the Academy's year-round effort to support new talent, operating alongside their Awards ceremonies. The programme has in the past supported artistes such as Tom Holland, Lettiti Wright, Florence Pugh, Jessie Buckley, Josh O'Connor and Callum Turner. Coming to India is part of BAFTA's global expansion effort of the initiative. BAFTA Breakthrough India aims at facilitating the development of relationships between British and Indian talents.

The chosen participants will be offered a year-long support programme from BAFTA and be showcased across India and the UK. By showcasing talent global-

debut digital theatre fest FROM

many clowns does it take to reate a Shakespearean classic ow many clowns does it take to recreate a Shakespearean classic roles while doing this? Well, seven downs across a runtime of 106 minutes, as seen in veteran director Rajat Kapoor's clowning glory, I Don't Like It As You Like It, a rendition Shakespeare's play As You Like It, will premiere on the screens with Aadyams' digital edition this December. A rasing bit this play was first

rendition shakespeares play As You Like II, will preniere on the screens with Aadyam's digital edition this December. A raging hit, this play was first staged during Aadyam's second season in 2016 and will be coming back for its digital edition as the theatre takes the stage to the screen. Maintaining the authenticity of its theatre going experience the digital showcase will be a striking affair—to be recorded with a multi camera set up, enveloped for virtual viewing for three limited edition screenings via Insider-in's digital streaming service for audience across the country.

With equal nervous and excitement about their Irist play, Shernaz Patel, theatre's returning artistic director says, "There is great excitement and challenge in reinvention. In taking a show that has been successful on stage and finding a novel way to reinterpret it for the camera. That's what we have set out to do with all three of our plays, the first of which is this hilarious and boisterous Shakespear eadaptation. We are lucky to have a good lineup of actors with impeccable comic tuning. They make clowning seem effortless. And a film and theatre director at the helm, who is a master of this genre. As with all our plays we dream big. We want our viewers to have a theatre experience with high production standards. That's why we are shooting the play professionally in an auditorium and on a set and not in isolation or on Zoom. This is the closest we can come to the magic of live theatre because the actors will be performing together on the stage, feeding off each other. So beat those pandemic blues and make the stage your world for a couple of hours. Laughter is

Indians.
"I remember that Dilbara was the first song to get locked for Dhoom and it was Ali's (Uday Chopra) song. At that time, the title was not fixed. Dhoom Machale was one of the songs which was banked for the film. I

Mactatae Was one of the songs which was banked for the film. I remember there was a meeting about the film's tile. We were all sitting and brainstorming and adic ame up with putting [Dhoom Machale Dhoom Machale Dhoom to the melody of what we had. I have forgotten what the scratch pircis were at that time. So, when Adi came up with that, everyone immediately locked onto it and said this is the title of the film and the title songli "says Pritam. Pritam reveals that he did not expect the title track to become such a rage among the audience. He says, "We never thought that Dhoom will become so big. I never thought, I was just hoping that it



ONE OF THE BIGGEST CHALLENGES IS THE PROCESS BEHIND RETAINING A PLAY'S IDENTITY AS A THEATRICAL **EXPERIENCE** TRADITIONALLY, HAVE NEVER REALLY AGREED TO THIS IDEA OF RECORDING PLAYS TO BE WATCHED ELSEWHERE BECAUSE I FEEL SOMETHING DIES IN TRANSITION



the only medicine right now. Let these lovable and joyous characters prove that

lie only fleediching flow. Yet itsel lovable and joyous characters prove that to you."

On adapting his play for screen, director Rajat Kapoor adds, "This is one of the biggest challenges — the process behind retaining a play's identity as a theatrical experience. Traditionally, I have never really agreed to this idea of recording plays to be watched elsewhere because I feel something dies in transition. For me, the play exists for the purpose that it was designed for — to be watched live. Ensuring what we present and how we do it, I believe, will elevate its identity from a mere recording to then hold a deeper meaning for the production and the audience alike. With this firmly in mind, we move forward to present this new version of our play."

"This digital edition has been months

in the making. We have been evolving and adapting our efforts to suit the needs of the new viewing format. We are all very excited to see the final product and the audience reaction to it, "mentions Brian Tellis, Co-Founder and Group CEO of Fountainhead MKTG that produces and promotes Aadyam in India.

This is the Rajat's fifth Shakespearean adaptation that is retold through clown style theatre as the plot follows a group of clowns who endeavour to put up As You Like It. In the play, the troupe director has no faith in the tale itself and believes it to be a comedy that is two laughs and a death away from tragedy. A lack of skill, rehearsal space and fondness for his troupe, creates a comedy of errors that takes the spectator on a hilarious ride, complete with gender role reversal led by the thought, Shakespeare made Rosalind Ganymede. What an underachiever. I will make all the men play women, and all the women play men:

This story explores the highs and lows faced by a circus troupe highlighting the fact that to find yourself, you must

This story explores the highs and lows faced by a circus trough highlighting the fact that to find yourself, you must become the other. It depicts that behind the smiles and entertainment, these are just ordinary people dealing with stress, angst and the madness that is life. It has some of the most talented actors—I has some of the most talented actors—Andar Malik, Cyrus Sahukar, Fazezi Jalali, Joy Fernandes, Rytasha Rathore, Shruti Vyas and Vinay Pathak.

(The play opens on Insider's streaming platform on December 7. Tickets are available on Paytm Insider.)

Sumeet recalls his defining moment



Actor Sumeet Vyas recalls the defining moment when he decid-ed to become an actor, two decades A Exeming inome where the execution and to become an actor, two decades ago. "I think it was 20 years ago. I was already working in the studio as an editor and earning money. Since I grew up watching theatre, surrounded by people who were constantly taing about plays, literature, art, history and culture. I took them as a part of my life, without thinking of taking it up professionally. Then one day, I watched a play in Prithvi Theatre, in which my father acted. After the play ended, when I was returning home, I just told myself I will live to perform — that this is the true calling. I have been acting seriously, since then," he said.

— that this is the true calling. I nave been acting seriously, since then," he said.

Sumeet will soon be seen in the web series Dark 7 White, produced by Ekta Kapoor.

"It is interesting that in the two shows (with Ekta), I play drastically different characters. Previously on The Lawyer Ram Jethmalani, a much older character. With heavy prosthetics and a different body language, I was almost unrecognisable. In this show, Dark 7 White, I play a young man from a royal family who starts off as an aimless brat and turns into a nanipulative individual with a great plan. My idea is always to play something different and challenge myself," Sumeet said. About playing his role, he added that it was "interesting to tap into a mindset that is so multi-layered." The series, which also features Nidhi Singh, Jatin Sarna, is on ZEE5 and ALTBalaji.

The Dhoom series of films became the adrenaline pumping, edge of the seat, anti-hero entertainers and true visual spectacles for the Indian audience. Well, the most lowed one, Hrithik Roshan-starrer Dhoom 2, is now celebrating its 14th anniversary. And Pritam, who composed the music for the Dhoom series, opens up about how he composed Dhoom Machale, a track that has entertained generations of Indians. "I remember that Dilbara *hoom 2* turns 14



cuts through and becomes popular because it was important for me at that time. It's always important for a song to become popular but at that time! I was just hoping and praying. I remember the day Dhoom was releasing, I was going to Shirdi and on the way I

heard in two places — one was a car back horn with the *Dhoom Machale* tune and the other when somebody in Shridi was singing it. Then I knew, gaana toh popular hogaya! It was a great gig.

Recounting his experience of choreographing two of the most

good-looking superstars, Hrithik and Aishwarya (Rai Bachchan), Shiamak says, "I had worked with Aishwarya in Taal and before she became Miss World, I'd worked with her already in a Sufi jazz piece, so she was already quite close to understanding my style

and delivering it really well. Hrithik was very new to what I do, but the best part about Hrithik was that he is just so natural with dancing and my kind of style on him worked so well. I think he was also quite excited with the fact that he could do such a different, unusual kind of work from what unusual kind of work from what he was normally doing, which is a very strong Bollywood dance. Suddenly, we were to put a little bit of jazz and contemporary. It was quite a thought process to see him and Aishwarya interpret the song. I was very happy that they both did a good job. I was very proud of them because when they both came in together, it was electrifying!

proud of them because when hey both came in together, it was electrifying!"
Vijay Krishna (Viktor) Acharya, the writer of the series, says, "The success of Dhoom told us that there was a possibility of a cooler style of an action film in India. However, Adi was very clear that we should never make a film only to satisfy the idea of a franties. We have tried to stick to that principle throughout. Dhoom 2 had everything pushed up a couple of notches, in every department. I think we managed a racy screen-play, one that keeps you wanting oknow more and personally. I real-play one that keeps you wanting all the characters and their minor quirks.

He adds, 'I remember when Dhoom 2 was announced, every-

one felt that this will have a natural continuation — since the first part had bikes and this one has cars. But the fact is that you don't make a film about inanimate objects. Even if there are bikes and here's action, we are always trying to encapsulate a feeling. You are always trying to convey an emotion, whatever that might be and Dhoom 2, with its love story, connected with everyone." Talking about Hrithik's character, Viktor reveals, "Aryan was in the tradition of what we think is the Dhoom anti-hero. And for me, the idea was someone who exists within society and yet on the fringes of it. Yes, he is a criminal, but he is somehody who is also looking for things which are only special. He is someone exceptionally good at his craft. Those things went into the making of the character and that helps the actor embody something. It helps the director visualise something, It helps the director visualise something, it helps the finally manages to steal, is somebody descheart and that ends his life of crime. So, in a very unsaad way, there was a kind of redemption to his character. I think but Hrithik and Aishwarya, in that sense, came into the film in a very exciting manner."

At 34, my days are numbered: Warner Virat bhai said that tough situation will make me stronger: Siraj

Australia's big-hitting opener David Warner on Monday said his 'days are numbered' in international cricket and continuing an approach of keeping his aggression in check, he would rather ignore than engage if Indian players attempt to sledge him during the upcoming series. Warner, in a virtual press conference on Monday, touched upon his evolution as a batsman in the past couple of years.

years. "I've just recently turned 34, so my days are numbered, when you're in the 30s. There's obviously a fixe feet obviously a cricket solviously a cricket smarts element to it as well," the explosive opener said ahead of the limited-overs series against India starting with the first ODI on November 27. Warner, who has had his share of aggressive on-field showdowns, said he would prefer to look the other way if Indians try to get chatty with him. but there's

"I'll always draw from that

mate. To try and get engaged, that's the way they like to play as well," he said. "We're learning over time,

trying not to engage in that. Probably try and reversing the effect by trying and ignoring it,

nd is focussed on maintaining a strong strike rate.
"For myself, it's about getting off to a good start and taking calculated risks in that middle-overs period if we're talking about 50-over games," he said.
"For me, it's about making sure that I am batting as much as I can and at a good strike-rate as well. I think last

much as I can and at a good strike-rate as well. I think last year was probably the most disciplined I've batted in Test match cricket as well.

"I really took pride in the last 12-24 months, to apply that discipline and you keep learning as you get older... You've got to be on top of your game to be able to adapt to that.

Talking about the Indian team, which will not feature in-form opener Rohit sharma at least in the ODIs and T20Is, Warner said it would a big hole to fill but Virat Kohli's men do have the wherewithal to manage.

"...Obviously he is a big piece of their team, that they are going to be missing, but they have got great in-form guys KI. Rahul, Shikhar Dhawan and Mayank (Agarwal), these guys

trying to take it on board and using it against them by using your bat, 'he added. "It's probably something I've learnt over time. And you don't know the effect it can have on your teammates as well. You've got to be a bit more humble in that respect." Warner said at 34, he has become a calculated risk-take and is focussed on maintaining a strong strike rate. "As I MELBOURNE the five uncapped players, has made a strong case for selection in the playing XI with back-to-to-back double centuries for vicitation in the Sheffield Shield. "At the moment I didn't hink loe did anything wrong last summer." Vicitation in the Sheffield Shield. "At the moment I didn't hink loe did anything wrong last summer." Vicitation in the Sheffield Shield. Right-handed Queensland bats-man insisted he'll embrace man Burns, however, has a saying by ricket.com.au. "At the moment I didn't hink loe did anything wrong last summer." Vicitation in the Sheffield Shield. Right-handed Queensland bats-man insisted he'll embrace man Burns, however, has a saying by ricket.com.au. "At the moment I didn't hink loe did anything wrong last summer." Vicitation in the Sheffield Shield. Right-handed Queensland bats-man insisted he'll embrace man Burns, however, has had a some development of the properties. The properties of the properties. The properties of the properties. The properties of the pro

mer" but the left-handed batsman insisted hell embrace uncapped prodigy Will Pucoski if selected for the much-anticipated first I fest against India to be played at the Adelaide Oval from December 17.

Burns — who is Warner's incumbent partner — and Pucowski have been named in the 17-member squad for the Border-Gavaskar Trophy.

Pucovski, who is among

played in the IPL, so you have got guys who are in good touch," he said.

Indian captain Virat Kohli will be flying back to India for the birth of his first child after the first Test, starting December 17 in Adelaide, and Warner lauded the decision. The batting main-stay also had words of praise for India's Test vice-captain Ajinky Rahane and said he brings a calm and measured approach. Asked how different the Test contest would be with Rahane expected to lead after Virat leaves, Warner said, "He's calm and very measured in his calm and the said after t and. Indian captain Virat Kohli

calm and very measured in his approach. He's got a very good cricket brain.

quoted as saying by cricket.com.au.

"At the moment I didn't think Joe did anything wrong last summer. We had some great partnerships and averaged over 60. And that's what you want from your opening partnership. And at the end of the day I have to be happy with it and embrace (whoever they pick)," he added.

Warner and Burns have Right-handed Queensland bats-man Burns, however, has had a highest of just 29 in his five innings this season.
"If they go the way of Will, he has batting fantastic and been in and out of the Test squad. He is in the right frame of mind at the moment. It prob-ably is an opportunity for him to come into the team. But as we know it's harder to get out of this team than get in," Warner was

pick)," he added.

Warner and Burns have combined six century opening stands and average more than 50 for the first wicket till now — a record bettered only by Warner's combination with Chris Rogers.

team than get in," Warner was

"...It's like chalk and cheese
with them two (Kolhi and
Rahane) and as a player to try
and engage him on the field, as
we're talkling about engaging,
and getting into that contest as
players, it's boviously lots to
think about how do that
especially with Ajinkya as captain.

"The great thing from
India's perspective is that you've
got three if not four very good
players who could captain the
team at any time. With him,
he'll bring a calm and measured
approach with his nature."

Warner was seen playing
aggressively at the back end of
the IPL and he stressed that he
won't be changing his game. "Yeah definitely: What do you want to see? 100 of 10 overs or something? In the one-day stuff, I'll still come out and play the way I normally do. There's probably going to be no change to that," he said.
"Here in Australia, it's a bit different, in 50-over cricket, you can still play the normal way you do and I think I showed that last year, the way I played against Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

Srī Lanka.

"I played pretty much the same way as I did during the backend of that IPL. I won't be changing my game and will go out and tackle it the way I always do," added Warner, who has 5,303 ODI runs.

A way from family while grieving the recent loss of his father, Indian pacer Mohammed Siraj says skipper Virat Kohli's abdice to be strong' has helped him stay afloat as he gears up for a gruelling series against Australia. Kohli is no stranger to overcoming personal tragedy while carrying on with professional duties. In 2007, Kohli, then a teenager, lost his father in the middle of a Ranji Trophy match but he came back next day to score 97 for Delhi, and wowing his mental for the stranger of the stranger

Delhi, showing his mental fortitude.

Siraj's father Mohammed Ghouse, 53, died due to a lung allment in Hyderabad last week and despite BCCI offering him the option to return home, the fast bowler decided to stay upt on pational duty.

home, the fast bowler decid-ed to stay put on national duty.
"Virat bhai said 'Miyaan tension maat le (don't be tense) and be strong. Your dad wanted you to play for India. So, do that and don't stress," the 26-year-old Siraj told beci. IV.

"The skipper told me, 'If you can be strong in this sit-

"The skipper told me, 'If you can be strong in this situation, it will only help you'. So those were positive words from the Indian captain and it felt nice."

Sirajs father drove auto rickshaw during his formative years as a cricketer and has been the single biggest influence on the Hyderabad man.

"It's a huge loss for me as

he was the biggest support system of my life. He wanted me to shine for my country and my mindset now is to ful-fil his dreams," he said.

and my mindset now is to ful-fill his dreams," he said.

Siraj thanked his team-mates, who have rallied around him.

"I am indebted to my teammates as they stood by me in these tough times and every thing was well taken care of," he said.

Siraj said even his moth-er advised him not to abandon the assignment, which starts with the limited-overs leg from November 27.

"Mom said that 'everyone has to go one day. Today, it's your dad, tomorrow it will be me. Just do what your dad wished for you. Play well for India"
"May be be is not physi-"May be be is not physi-

wished for you. . . ., India"
"May be, he is not physi-cally present but I can feel that he is always there with me," Siraj said.

Stoinis playing five times better | Mitchell Marsh hopeful of than a year ago: Ponting

PTI MEI BOURNE

Batting legend Ricky Ponting believes all-rounder Marcus Stoinis is playing "five times better" than what he was a year ago and could take up "multi-ple roles" for Australian crick-et, including the job of a finish-

Stoinis scored 352 runs and snapped 13 wickets to play a big role in Delhi Capitals, coached by Ponting, reaching the final of the recent IPL in the UAE. He is in Australia's ODI and T20I squads for the series against India starting on Friday. Ponting said it was Alex Carey who had told him about Stoinis' incredible turnaround during the IPL.

Carey who had took nim ao Stoinis' incredible turnarou during the IPL.
"From the moment he turned up at the IPL, having come straight from England ... he was pretty keen to show me improvements that hed made. And his first few net sessions, I could just tell then," Ponting told cricket. Com. Au.
"Having spent a fair bit of time with

of time with him over the past couple of years, what I saw from him at the IPL

at the IPL suggests to me that he's a five times better player than he was 12 months ago." The 31-year-old Stoinis was dropped from Australia's T20 from Australia's T20 squad after a disap-pointing 50-over World Cup last year. But, he made a successful comeback, riding on his incredible performance for the Melbourne Stars in the Big Bash League where he scored 705 runs in a single season and also smashed tournament's highest individual score of 147 not out.

Ponting said Stoinis has proven himself as a finisher but believes he should open the innings.

NTAS

believes he snoute typen minnings.

"I think the future for him either at Delhi or whoever he plays for in T20 cricket will be at the top of the order. I think he can do (the finishing role). I think he's proven that he can do multiple different roles now," said Ponting.

"And I think the more expansibility he gets in the

"And I think the more responsibility he gets in the white-ball team, the better he'll be as well. We'll see what happens over the next few weeks (against India), but if he gets a decent chance at it, I think he'll impress

everyone.

"With the way
he's thinking about
the game, with a
bit of experience
and the consisthe Aussie
guys, I
don't think
it really
matters
where he
plays."
Ponting
also said Stoinis
looks "alot more
positive and
aggressive against

aggressive against spin bowling now" compared to the past.

comeback in warm-up game

PTI MELBOURNE

Recuperating from an ankle injury, Australia all-rounder Mitchell Marsh says he is "hope-ful" of playing next months warm-up game against India X as he eagerly waits for a clear picture to emerge this Friday. The 29-year-old Marsh suffered an ankle injury in the opening match of the Indian Premier League in September and has been out of action since then.

He was included in the

since then.

He was included in the Australia 'A' squad which will play two three-day tour games against India 'A' on December 6-8 and December 11-13 respec-

tively.
"I'm hopeful, I'll probably
find out this week whether I'm

ruled in or out," Marsh was quoted as saying by *The West Australia*.

"I'll probably know on Friday, I've got a few things to tick off rehab-wise and then go from there."

Marsh said he won't be able to bowl and might play as a batsman.

man. "Istarted running last week and I've got a few kilos to shed before I start playing, It's been a pretty slow process but speaking to a few AFL players about it, it gets pretty good quickly at the end so hopefully that's the case in the next couple of weeks. "At this stage it will just be batting, I wouldn't imagine I would be bowling until midway through the Big Bash at this point in time."

Surva should've made cut in Indian team: Lara

West Indies great Brian
Lara feels that a
batsman of Suryakumar
Yadav's calibre should
have been in the
Indian white-ball
squad for the tour of
Australia.
The Mumbai
Indians batsman's
non-inclusion,
despite being sey-

non-inclusion, despite being sev-enth in the IPL run-getters' list with 480 runs at a strike-rate of 145 plus, has become a major talk-

looking at the (Indian) squad, he can't be a part of it. Lara said on Star Sports show Cricket Connected.

Lara said he is impressed not just by the runs but also the manner in which Yadav has scored them.

Ye a h. which Yadaw has scored them.

"Ye a h, definitely. He is a class players that score runs, I look at players that score runs, I look at their technique, capabilities under pressure, positions that they are batting and for me.

"Suryakumar Yadav has done such a wonderful job for

done such a wonderful Job for Mumbai."

The only explanation that has come for the 30-year-olds exclusion is the lack of space in the line-up. Lara said he fits the bill for the No 3 slot.

the bill for the No 3 slot.
"He comes to bat on the
back of Rohit Sharma, and
Quinton de Kock and every
time, they are under pressure,
the comes in at No 3," he said.
"Just remember, other
than the openers, the No 3
batsman in any cricket team
is normally your best player,
your most reliable player and
for me, he (Surya) has been
that for Mumbai Indians," he
stated.

CA confirm full BBL 10 schedule

IANS MELBOLIBNE

Western Australia, New South
Wales and Victoria have been
confirmed host matches in the
upcoming edition of the Big Bash
League (BBL) in January next year
subject to the public health situation
and associated impacts including
border restrictions? Cricket Australia
announced on Monday.

Earlier this month, the board had
announced the schedule for first 21
BBH matches in Decembers in which

announced the schedule for first 21 BBL matches in December in which it confirmed that bubbles in Hobart and Camberra will host the initial games starting December 10 before venues in Queensland (Dec 23) and Adelaide (Dec 28) join the party. Five matches will be played at Optus Stadium in Perth, with the first to be beld on I annuary 3. Four of these

Optus Stadium in Perth, with the first to be held on January 3. Four of these matches will be Perth Scorchers home games.

From January 13, the BBL will travel to Sydney and Melbourne for the run to the finals. Eight matches will be played in Sydney, with the Sydney Cricket Ground and Sydney Showground Stadium to host four each.

each.

Melbourne will host 11 matches in total. Five of these will be held at each.

Melbourne will host 11 matches in total. Five of these will be held at Marvel Stadium and is; at the Melbourne Cricket Ground. Additional matches have also been confirmed for the Adelaide Oval (three), the Gabba (two). Metricon Stadium (four) and Blundstone Arena (two) in early alnuary.

The final day of the regular season will be played on January 26 and feature a triple-header split between the SCG (one match) and MCG (two matches). The five-match finals series begins on January 29 with the final slated for February 6.

BBI. 10 will start with the season opener between Hobart Hurricanes and defending champions Sydney Sixers at the Blundstone Arena on December 10.

To combat Covid-19 threat. SA cricketers training in two groups

CPICKETE'S

JOHANNESBURG: Fast bowler

Kagiso Rabada revealed on

Monday that the South

African cricket team are

training in two groups to

minimise the risk of further

Covid. 19 infections ahead of

their series against England.

Two members of the

South African squad have

tested positive for Covid

since the squad assembled

last week and two other play
ers had to go into isolation

with one of their dose contact

with one of the infected play
"te, boas pastic, blazee."

"te, boas pastic, blazee."

ers.
"It's been quite bizarre,"

contacts and a group of close

that extra precaution." Rabada did not reveal

"It's been quite bizarre, Rabada told an online press conference from the team hotel in Cape Town. "We have to train in groups — a group of non-

contacts.
"It doesn't mean anyone is positive but we have to take

that extra precaution."
Rabada did not reveal how many players were in each group but planned intra-squad matches on Saturday and Monday were cancelled, presumably to reduce the risk of infections. He said more Covid tests would be conducted with the players 'soon'.
Despite the unusual training arrangements, Rabada said 'training is going smoothly' abead of the first 'Z10 against England at Newlands on Friday.
"The team is doing well at sticking to strict rules."

Rabada is undergoing his second "bio-bubble" experience in a short period of time after starring for the Delhi Capitals, and becoming the leading wicket-taker, in the recent IPAL living, in the twisted was tough but added a note of realism. "Its like luxury prisons that you are in but at the end of the day you have to remind yourself that you are fortunate," he said.

"People have lost their jobs and people are struggling," It yo remind myself that we must be grateful for the opportunity to earn some money and do what we love."

AFP

Haven't set any personal goals: Gill

Plamboyant youngster Shubman Gill is looking for-ward to the challenge of taking on mighty Austrialia but has not set any personal goals for the upcom-ing assignments where a good outing could help him cement his place in the Indian team. Gill has so far played only two ODIs for India and is part of the limited overs as well as the Test squad for the Down Under tour.

lest squar to the Dorman tour.

"I am really looking forward to Australia because this is my first trip. As a kid growing up, I always watched the matches between India and Australia. I am "Lawricha" Gill said in a

nyself really excited," Gill said in a video posted by his IPL franchise earn Kolkata Knight Riders on Twitter. The 21-year-old batsman headed to Australia after an



impressive outing in the Indian Premier League season with KKR where he accumulated 440 runs in 14 matches.
"The fact that a lot of my friends are travelling with the team, so it will be fun and excit-ting. But, obviously, when the practice session starts then its a whole different situation.
"I have not really set any ver-"Thave not really set any ver-

Liverpool were not derailed by an injury crisis as Jurgen Klopp's men produced a dom-inant display to beat Leicester 3-0 and move level on points with Premier League leaders

3-0 ans ...
with Premier League ...
Tottenham.
Klopp was missing seven
first-team regulars through
injury and top scorer
Mohamed Salah due to a positive coronavirus test, but
Liverpool still swept aside a
...
who had startitive coronavirus test, but Liverpool still swept aside a Leicester team who had start-ed the weekend on top of the

Jonny Evans's own goal was just reward for the Reds' bright start before Diogo Jota set a record-breaking start to life at Anfield.

life at Anfield
The Portuguese international became the first
Liverpool player to score in his first four home league games when he headed home Andy Robertson's inch-perfect cross.
Kasper Schmeichel in the Leicester goal kept the score down as he made a series of second-half saves, notably from Sadio Mane and Jota, while Evans had a lucky

Mark of champions

Under-strength Liverpool still too strong for Foxes



escape as the post prevented him from scoring a second own

him from scoring a second own goal.

Roberto Firmino thought he had been thought he had been goal in 24 games when the Brazilians shot came back off the post and his follow-up was cleared by Marc Albrighton with just 10 millimetres of the ball not over the line.

But Firmino rounded off a

But Firmino rounded off a brilliant team performance by rising highest to meet James Milner's corner.

Another muscle injury suffered by Naby Keita was the only negative for Klopp on a night when his side showed they will not give up their title easily despite losing centrebacks Virgil van Dijk and Joe Gomez for the rest of the season.

Zlatan scores twice in Milan's 3-1 win

Zlatan Ibrahimovic scored twice to bring his tally to 10 league goals this season before limping off with a muscular strain as AC Milan stayed top in Serie A on Sunday with a 3-1 win at ten-man Napoli. Milan move back two points ahead of Sassuolo—2-0 winners earlier at Hellas

points ahead of Sasuudo — 2-0 winners earlier at Hellas Verona — with Roma third after Henrikh Mkhitaryan scored twice in a dominant 3-0 win over Parma. Ibrahimowic continued his fine form, heading in a Theo Hernandez cross after 20 minutes, sending in the second with his kneen in minutes sending in the second with his kneen in minutes.

ond with his kneen ine minutes after the break. But the 39-year-old pulled up clutching his left hamstring and was substituted after 79

minutes.

The Swede has scored in all six games he has played this season, having missed two after contracting coronavirus.

avirus.

Coach Stefano Pioli Coach Stefano Pioli missed the trip south with Covid-19, but his side got their first league win in Naples since October 2010, the season they last won the Scudetto, with Ibrahimovic also on the score-

is ioranimovic also on the scored sheet that time.

Napoli played the final half af an hour a man down after Tiemoue Bakayoko was sent off for two yellow cards, iiust after Dries Mertens had pulled a goal back for the hosts.

Norwegian ensured the scoring five minutes into injury time with the 21-year-old getrating his first Serie A goal.

Medvedew, who beat five-time champion Novak Djokovic and world number two Rafael Nadal earlier in the two Rafael Nadal earlier in the tweek, is the first man to beat all three of the world's top-ranked players at the season finale. The giant Russian, 24, has now won 10 consecutive matches following his title ear-lier this month at the Paris Masters and his victory will taste sweet a year after a win-

Inspirational Ibra Medvedev tops Thiem for ATP Finals title

Daniil Medvedev came from behind to beat US Open champion Dominic Thiem in a gripping encounter and win the biggest title of his career at the ATP Finals in London on

Sunday.

The Russian fourth seed was second best for large periods at the empty O2 Arena but found a way back into the contest and prevailed 4-6, 7-6 (2), 6-4.

. Medvedev, who beat five-



But it is a painful defeat for Thiem, who also lost in the final of the elite eight-man event last year, to Stefanos Tsitsipas. "What a match," said Medvedev. "One of my best vic-tories, two hours and 42 min-

utes, three sets against an amazing player.
"Dominic, congratulations already for what you achieved in your career. Your name is already in the history of tennis books.
"It is amazing. You won a Grand Slam this year. You are playing unbelievable. I hope we are going to have many more matches to come on the big occasions like this."
"Of course, I am disappointed, but at the same time I am also proud of the perfor-

pointed, but at the same time I am also proud of the performance of all the week." Said Thiem. "Danii really deserved it. It was an amazing match." Medwedev is the first Russian to win the ATP Finals since 2009, when Nikolay Davydenko triumphed at the first edition of the season finale held in London. Next year, the tournament moves to Turin in Italy.