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Happy Diwali

LUCKNOW, SATURDAY NOVEMBER 14, 2020; PAGES 14 ₹3



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## Ayodhya to get back its glory: Yogi

PNS ■ AYODHYA/LUCKNOW

Promising to make Ayodhya the Vedic city of ancient times, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said that this city had suffered humiliations for several decades because of the negative thinking of some people but now it would stop and the temple town would get its long lost pride.

"Deepotsav has been celebrated for the last three years. Before that some people were afraid to even utter the name of Ayodhya. Now everything has changed. People want to come to this holy city," the chief minister said while addressing the state after the symbolic coronation of 'Shri Ram' at the Divya Deepotsav held in Ayodhya on Friday.

He said all the facilities of the devotees would be taken care of. "Till a few years ago, governments used to ban religious trips like Panchkoshi, 14-Kokhi and 84-Koshi parikramas while today facilities are being increased here. This is a matter related to our identity," he said.

Yogi Adityanath said that this moment of Shri Ram coming back from exile was

very auspicious. He said Diwali was a festival for every Indian and it symbolised our pride and spiritual peace.

"The Ram temple at Ram Janmabhoomi symbolises our culture. Millions of people have sacrificed their lives for the construction of Ram temple. The wait of five-century is over now. We should be proud that we are living in such a period when the dream of the grand temple of Shri Ram is coming true," he said.

The chief minister said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi had resolved to embody the concept of Ram Rajya by laying the foundation stone of the Ram temple in the coronavirus period. He said this determination would come true.

"Ram Rajya is a symbol of a society without discrimination. This is the basis of the policies of the Modi government at the Centre. Efforts like Ujjwala Yojana, Saubhagya Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana and construction of toilets are some of the works being done by the government which has helped people of all caste, creed and religion," he said.

Continued on Page 12

## Ayodhya Deepotsav breaks Guinness record again



**6,06,569 earthen lamps simultaneously light up the Saryu river banks in Ayodhya on Friday as part of the Deepotsav celebrations**

PNS ■ AYODHYA/LUCKNOW

Ayodhya broke the Guinness World Record as 6,06,569 earthen lamps were simultaneously lit for about 45 minutes on Saryu river banks as part of the Deepotsav celebrations, casting a halo over the ancient city.

The flickering lights of diyas cast a glow on the Saryu river much to the delight of the visitors and the local residents who flocked to the river banks

to celebrate the occasion.

Last year, Ayodhya had set a world record by lighting 4.09 lakh diyas during Deepotsav and this year the target was scaled up to lighting 5.51 lakh oil lamps.

Participating in the function, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath declared that 6,06,569 diyas were lit and it was possible only because of thousands of volunteers who toiled hard to ensure the success of this mission.

Government spokesman Shishir Kumar affirmed that the lamps set a world record and representatives from Guinness World Records handed over a certificate to the chief minister after monitoring the record with drone cameras.

District Magistrate of Ayodhya, Anuj Jha, said that over 8,000 volunteers, majority of them college students, worked tirelessly to ensure that the lamps burnt for the prescribed time so that the

Guinness record could be eclipsed.

The administration had purchased over seven lakh lamps, one lakh of which were made of cow dung, from local artisans after which the diyas were placed on the river banks.

Throwing precaution of social distancing to the wind, lighting of lamps was carried out in 28 ghats. The lamps were also lit at major temples, markets and other historic places of Ayodhya.

"We have been working for the last three days and have arranged the diyas (earthen lamps) very systematically. We were imparted training on how to light the diyas without disturbing the symmetry," Saket College student Anita Chauhan said.

Anita said that the big challenge for them was to ensure that the lamps glowed for at least 45 minutes as it was mandatory for breaking the Guinness record.

"We ensured that oil was put continuously in these lamps so that they did not extinguish," she said.

Earlier, the scene of 'Treta yuga' was recreated on Friday when 'Lord Ram', along with 'Sita' and 'Laxman', in their 'Pushpak Viman' touched the grounds after a '14-year of exile'. The people waited with a bated breath to welcome 'Lord Ram' with the same zeal, devotion and enthusiasm that

Continued on Page 12

## India retaliates, 8 Pak soldiers killed

### Terror launch pads in Pak destroyed; 5 Indian jawans martyred, 4 civilians killed in Pak shelling

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

Paying back Pakistan in the same coin, the Indian Army on Friday reportedly killed at least 7-8 Pakistan soldiers in strong retaliatory firing after four Indian soldiers, one BSF jawan and four civilians were killed and seven others received grievous injuries in heavy shelling by Pakistan across different sectors.

The report said that several Pakistan Army structures, including its ammunition and fuel dumps, were destroyed along the Line of Control (LoC) in Uri and Keran sectors of North Kashmir's Kupwara and Baramulla districts.

Radio intercepts tracked by the Indian Army across the LoC confirmed reports of heavy damages suffered by the Pakistan Army. Official sources revealed, two to three Special Service Group commandos of the Pakistan Army were also killed in India's counter attack.

On the Indian side, five Indian soldiers, including a BSF officer, attained martyrdom while four civilians were killed and seven others received injuries.



Radio intercepts tracked by the Indian Army across the LoC confirmed reports of heavy damages suffered by the Pakistan Army

Compared to previous year

high of 3,233 ceasefire violations, the Pakistan Army has so far committed 4,052 ceasefire violations this year. Out of these 128 violations were reported in November and 394 in October 2020

To prevent the Pakistan Army from aiding a heavily armed group of infiltrators sneak into the Indian territory, some of the launching pads in the area were destroyed.

Compared to previous year high of 3,233 ceasefire viola-

tions, the Pakistan Army has so far committed 4,052 ceasefire violations this year. Out of these 128 violations were reported in November and 394 in October 2020.

Col Rajesh Kalra, a Srinagar-based Defence

Spokesman in a written statement said, "Pakistan used mortars and other weapons and deliberately targeted civilian areas across multiple sectors of Uri and Keran in North Kashmir. The Indian Army retaliated strongly, causing

casualties and substantial damage to Pakistan Army's infrastructure across the LoC. Several ammunition dumps, FOL dumps and multiple launch pads have been damaged."

According to reports, Pakistan initiated unprovoked ceasefire violations along the LoC spread across multiple sectors to include Dawar, Keran, Uri and Naugam. "Four Indian Army soldiers were killed in action and three soldiers injured," Col Kalra said, adding the nation salutes their supreme sacrifice. A BSF sub-inspector, hailing from Uttarakhand, was killed in action in Haji Peer sector.

In a separate statement, BSF spokesman said, "SI Rakesh Doval, 39, deployed at the force's artillery battery at the LoC in Baramulla was killed in action after he sustained head injury in the firing around 1315 hours."

Constable Vasu Raja sustained splinter injuries on his arms and cheeks. He was deployed at the same forward defended location, official sources said, adding the constable is stable.

"The Sub Inspector has made supreme sacrifice in line of duty while facing heavy ceasefire violation from the enemy. The sub-officer was a resident of Rishikesh in Uttarakhand and joined the border force in 2004," a senior officer of the force said.

The BSF works under the operational command of the Army at the LoC.

Following heavy mortar shelling, several houses suffered extensive damages on the Indian side. Two civilians were killed in Kamalkote sector, also in Uri, while a woman was killed in Balkote area in Haji Peer sector, official sources said.

Hospital authorities identified the slain civilians as Farooqa Begum, wife of Bashir Ahmad, Nadir Hussain, son of Peer Hussain and Tahir Jalaludin, son of Jalaludin all from Balkote Uri. In Jammu region, ceasefire violation was also reported from Sawjiyan area of Poonch in which seven civilians including porters received injuries.

"Around 1.45 pm, the Pakistani Army initiated

unprovoked ceasefire violation by firing with small arms and shelling with mortars along LoC in sector in Sawjiyan in Poonch," Defence Spokesman Lt-Col Devender Anand said, adding Indian troops retaliated in a befitting manner.

Before the tension mounted in the region, Defence spokesman Col Rajesh Kalra had claimed that Indian Army foiled an infiltration bid, which was aided by the ceasefire violation, along the LoC in the Keran sector on Friday.

"Suspicious movement was observed by our troops at the forward posts along the LoC in Keran sector (in north Kashmir's Kupwara district) today. The suspected infiltration bid was foiled by alert troops," he said.

This was the second infiltration attempt within a week. The earlier unsuccessful bid in Machil sector during the intervening night of November 7-8 was foiled in which three terrorists were killed. Four Army soldiers, including a Captain, and a BSF jawan also lost their lives during the operation.

### CAPSULE

#### LIFT BAN ON CHHATH PUJA, DELHI GOVT TOLD

**New Delhi:** Delhi BJP president Adesh Gupta on Friday asked the Arvind Kejriwal Government to honour the religious sentiments of people and lift the ban imposed on performing Chhath Puja, a festival, at public places and river banks in the national Capital.

#### PAK STOPS E-PAYMENT FOR INDIAN CONTENT

**Karachi:** The Pakistan Government has asked Pakistani banks to immediately ban online payments from this country for the subscription of electronic media content from India, according to a media report on Friday.

## NDA MLAs to meet tomorrow to name Nitish as Bihar CM

PTI ■ PATNA

A joint meeting of the NDA legislature party will be held on Sunday where Nitish Kumar will be elected as its leader, it was decided on Friday.

The decision was taken at an "informal" meeting of leaders of the four NDA constituents in Bihar — the JD(U), BJP, HAM and Vikassheel Insaan Party (VIP) at the residence of the Chief Minister.

"The meeting will start at 12:30 pm on Sunday, November 15 where all further decisions will be taken," the Chief Minister who also heads the JD(U) told reporters later. As decks were cleared for

the formation of a new Government in Bihar with Nitish Kumar as the Chief Minister, the JD(U) chief handing over to Governor Phagu Chauhan the resignation of his ministry and the recommendation to dissolve the State Assembly, officials said. The Governor accepted the resignation and asked Nitish to continue as the caretaker Chief Minister till the new NDA Government is sworn in.

"These formalities have to be completed before the formation of a new government. The cabinet's recommendations will be forwarded to the governor whose approval will be followed by other steps leading to the formation of a

new government," Nitish said earlier.

Despite the BJP emerging as the largest party in the ruling alliance with 74 seats, 31 more than the JD(U), the top leadership of the saffron party, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has emphatically endorsed Nitish as the next Chief Minister.

He was declared the ruling coalition's CM candidate much before the election process had started. Though Nitish did not divulge more on what transpired during the meeting at his residence, sources said the issues discussed included the representation of each constituent in the cabinet and election of the Speaker.

## PM may celebrate Diwali with soldiers on border

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is likely to spend Diwali on Saturday with soldiers on the border. He may visit some forward bases in Rajasthan and Gujarat to boost the morale of the troops.

He will be continuing with his tradition of spending time with soldiers on Diwali ever since he took charge as the Prime Minister in 2014. This time round, Chief of Defence Staff General Bipin Rawat and Army Chief General MM Naravane may also accompany the Prime Minister, sources said here on Friday.

Navy chief Admiral Karambir Singh, meanwhile, celebrated Diwali with sailors in the strategically important Andaman and Nicobar Islands

on Friday.

Since the stand-offs began with China in May and situation worsened after the June 15 brawl in which 20 Indian Army personnel were killed, the Navy has ramped up its operational readiness.

Its warships have stepped up patrolling in the strategically important Straits of Malacca near Andaman and Nicobar Islands. This move was obviously aimed at sending a message to China that the Navy can choke the Malacca Straits if need be. More than 70 per cent of energy supplies of China pass through this sea lane and it knows that India is in a very strong position there.

Moreover, the second phase of the Malabar exercise comprising four Quad nations next week may take place in the

seas around Andaman and Nicobar. The first phase from November 3 to 6 was held off Visakhapatnam with the navies of India, US, Australia and Japan carrying out the drills.

The next phase may see India deploying its aircraft carrier INS Vikramaditya while the US may deploy its nuclear powered aircraft carrier Nimitz. China had objected to the inclusion of Australia in the Malabar exercise claiming it will militarise the coalition and have an impact on the Indo-Pacific region.

In this backdrop, the Navy chief reviewed the operational readiness of the force during the visit to Port Blair. It also houses the tri-service command of Army, Navy and IAF.

The Navy said Singh visited INS Baaz, the naval air sta-

tion located at Campbell Bay, Great Nicobar Island. The visit was aimed to express solidarity with personnel on the occasion of Diwali.

The tri-service command chief Lt General Manoj Pande briefed the Navy chief on the operational preparedness and infrastructure aspects of the Command, including readiness in the prevalent security scenario.

During his interaction with personnel at INS Baaz, the Navy chief acknowledged their contribution in keeping the strategically important base operational at all times. Personnel from Indian Army, Indian Air Force, Coast Guard, DSC and GREE, as well as Defence civilians were present during this occasion.

The geo-strategically locat-

ed Air Station, INS Baaz, overlooks critical International Sea Lanes passing through the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).

The Airbase supports operations of a multitude of military aircraft, which enable surveillance over the Southern Bay of Bengal, South Andaman Sea, Malacca Straits and the Southern Indian Ocean.

INS Baaz provides Aid to Civil Authorities, including Casualty Evacuation, Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief and Search and Rescue and also serves as a supporting base for operational turn-around facilities of ships deployed in the Nicobar Group of Islands.

As regards the Prime Minister's likely visit, it may be mentioned here after assuming

Continued on Page 12



# CM Yogi hands over promotion letters to 5,042 PAC personnel

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

After handing over promotion letters to 5,042 Provincial Armed Constabulary (PAC) constables at a function in Lucknow on Friday, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath exhorted them to be motivated and alert to face exigencies.

The promotion was part of a Diwali bonanza extended by the state government to PAC personnel and also to officers of Provincial Police Services (PPS) cadre.

An order in this regard was issued by the CM's Office on Thursday evening.

Addressing the PAC personnel, Yogi Adityanath said, "I extend my heartfelt congratulations to all PAC men for their promotion. I hope that together we can work for the betterment of the state and its people."



Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath.

The chief minister further said, "The PAC forms the backbone of UP Police and the announcement made by the government during Diwali will not only boost their morale but also motivate them to do their duties sincerely."

## Yogi stresses on caution during festivals

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath directed officials to be cautious and vigilant about COVID-19 infection in view of Deepawali and Chhath and people celebrating them collectively.

Chairing an Unlock meeting in Lucknow on Friday, the chief minister said that special efforts should be made to spread awareness about prevention from the infection by

using various means of publicity.

For improving COVID-19 recovery rate in Lucknow, Kanpur Nagar, Varanasi and Meerut, the chief minister asked officials to further strengthen treatment facilities, continue Covid testing effectively and carry on surveillance more effectively.

Yogi Adityanath directed the Health and Medical Education departments to be more vigilant in view of the festivals. He said that emergency services of medical colleges, district hospitals, public health centres and community health centres should be proactive and effective during this period.

The chief minister also said that the quality of sweaters to be distributed to primary school students should be ensured and they be distributed before winters.

He sounded a warning for officials who were to be found negligent in their work and supervision.

Yogi Adityanath also stressed on ensuring safety of

To keep the personnel motivated and on the alert, it is important to take care of their needs."

Besides the chief minister, Additional Chief Secretary (Home) Awanish Awasthi, Additional Chief Secretary (Information) Navneet Sehgal, DGP HC Awasthi and other senior officials of the Home and Police departments were present at the function.

Last week, the chief minister had restored the promotion of 896 PAC jawans, earlier demoted after an order of UP Police Establishment Board.

ADG (PAC) Binod Kumar Singh said that as per the order, 5,042 personnel were promoted from the rank of constable to head constable and 717 head constables were promoted to the rank of platoon commander.

## Yogi lights up artisans, pays for 'gift' products

**Lucknow (PNS):** A group of nine artisans from eastern UP were in for a pleasant surprise on Friday when they visited Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath to present him with some Diwali gifts. Yogi Adityanath not only praised their art but bought their products by paying Rs 20,000.

"I cannot describe what this Diwali brought for us. It revived our traditional local art and left us with a pleasant experience to be cherished for life," said Hari Om Prajapati of Badhau Tola in Gorakhpur.

Prajapati further said, "It was a gesture from us to thank the chief minister for his concern towards our art. But to our surprise, he not only praised us but also paid us Rs 20,000 for the products." Similarly, an overwhelmed Garahura of Azamgarh was at a loss of words while describing his visit to the chief minister's official residence in Lucknow.

These artisans had come to Lucknow to sell their products at Mati Kala Fair organised by the Mati Kala Board under the MSME department.

The fair, being a hit, sold over 50 lakh items, all prepared by local artisans. On the last day of the fair on Friday, the artisans called on the chief minister to thank him for the government's support in reviving traditional arts and ensuring their profits. Following the mantra of 'Local for Diwali' this time, the Yogi government is sending ODOP gift baskets to President Ram Nath Kovind, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union ministers and other eminent persons. The intent is to spread awareness about the unique products of UP. The gift basket will consist of 'Moonj' of Prayagraj, the famous terracotta idols of Lord Ganesha and Goddess Laxmi of Gorakhpur, Kalanamak rice of Siddharthnagar, silk stoll of Varanasi, chaikan kurta of Lucknow, jaggery of Muzaffarnagar, wooden craft of Saharanpur, perfume of Kannauj, the famous aonla products of Pratapgarh/jari darzoi of Chandauli and brass bowl of Moradabad.

Emphasising on speeding up ongoing works of several expressways in the state, the chief minister said that efforts should be made to promote industrial and commercial activities along these on priority.

Yogi Adityanath also directed officials to ensure that all preparations were done timely for inauguration of Har Ghar Nal Yojana to ensure drinking water to every house of Vindhya region.

# Black Diwali for youths, farmers this time: AKY

**Lucknow (PNS):** Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav charged that the myopic policies of the Yogi Adityanath government had ruined the careers of youth and they had never experienced such a Diwali in their lives.

"The indifferent attitude of the BJP government towards the people has rendered Diwali this year a black day. They had never faced such abysmal circumstances. The poor are not being heard anywhere. People are now eagerly waiting for the 2022 UP Assembly polls as they are confident their grievances would be redressed after a change in the regime," Akhilesh said.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given by the undersigned for and on behalf of LIC Housing Finance Ltd. Area Office, Shahnazaf road, Lucknow pursuant to Circular No. 422/Annexure-E of LIC HFL that the Original sale dated 05.11.2008 executed Sharawan Kumar Saini and through power of attorney holder Pawan Kumar and Shiv Kumar and Smt. Vimal in favour of Ishwarden S/o-Late Bhagga The said Sale deed in registered in the Office of Sub Registrar 1st Lucknow in Book No. 1, Volume 9519 on pages 129/162 Serial No. 12191 dated-05-11-2008 in respect to Plot No.5 Kharsa No.1508, area 105.947 sq.mtr. Situated at Vili-Bijnor, Pargana-Bijnor, Dist.-Lucknow has been lost by its present owner Durgesh Kumar Singh S/o Lajji Singh has applied for housing loan for which has proposed the said property to be mortgaged by depositing aforesaid Original Sale dated- 05-11-2008 with LIC HFL and as such any person claiming to be the said property covered by the said document may file claim before me within 15 days from the date of publication of notice failing which it will be presumed that the property in question is free from any encumbrance and any claim in respect thereof against the applicant as mortgagee shall be void and ineffective after the lapse of 15 days of publication of the notice.

**Mahendra Mohan Mishra, Advocate**  
Chamber : Shop No.4 & 5, Ground Floor, Krishna Tower, Near CMO Office, Kailashnagar, Lucknow  
Mob : 9415428914, 9559985554

The SP chief alleged that despite tall claims by the Yogi government, farmers were forced to make distress sale of paddy as they were unable to sell produce at procurement centres at minimum support

price as these centres were either not working or being run by the middlemen.

"For most paddy farmers, Diwali is going to be like any other difficult day as the government has not done anything

for those unable to sell paddy at procurement centres," he said. The former UP CM averred that the situation of paddy purchase in prime minister's Lok Sabha constituency Varanasi was also not good.

**NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, PRAYAGRAJ**

**E-Procurement Tender Notice No. 20/57**
**E-Procurement Tender Notice**
**Dated: 13.11.2020**

On behalf of the President of India, **The Principal Chief Materials Manger, North Central Railway, Prayagraj, (An ISO 9001:2015 certified unit)** invites the following E-Procurement Tenders :-

S.N.	Tender No.	Description	Qty.	Tender Opening Date
1.	50204288 A	GI Octagonal Boom Set	663 Set	02.12.2020
2.	60205008 A	Fired Steam Boiler	01 Nos.	08.12.2020
3.	40205013	Cadmium Copper Catenary Conduct or Wire 65 SQ. MM	60 MT.	07.12.2020
4.	20203507 B	Spring loaded switch for head light	11 Nos.	04.12.2020

**Note:-**1. The complete information of above E-Procurement Tenders are available on IREPS website i.e. <http://www.ireps.gov.in>. 2. Bids other than in the form of E-Bids shall not be accepted against above Tenders. For this purpose, vendors are required to get themselves registered with IREPS website along with class III digital signature certificates issued by CCA under IT Act-2000. 3. Rates entered into Financial Rate page and duly signed digitally shall only be considered. Rates and any other financial entity in the any other form/letter head if attached by vendor shall be straight away ignored and shall not be considered.

**f** North Central Railways [www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in) **@CPRONCR**

**NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, PRAYAGRAJ**

**No.: 230-Elec-OP-ET Notice-65-2020**
**E-Tender Notice**
**Office of the Div. Ry. Manager Prayagraj**

**Dated:** 06.11.2020

Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer (OP), North Central Railway, Prayagraj, for and on behalf of the President of India, invite the following E-Tender Two packet system (Packet I: Technical Bid and Packet: II Financial Bid) on prescribed form the details of the tenders are as under

SN	Tender No.	Name of work	Approximate Cost (In Rs.)	Earnest Money (In Rs.)	Date of opening of Tender
1.	65	Transportation of line boxes of Elect loco pilot of Goods train, cleaning of look out glass of locomotive, upkeeping of GMC lobby and office of the ADEE/OP/CNB & Sr. CCT/LC, walky talky management system at CNB and GMC lobby and crew booking at GMC for 02 years.	₹ 31937157.66	₹ 309700.00	07.12.2020

**Cost of Tender Document (In Rs.): ₹ 10000.00, Completion Period (In Months): 24. Note: (1)** The complete information along with tender document of above E-Tenders Two packet system (Packet I: Technical Bid and Packet: II Financial Bid) will be available on website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) up to 14:30 hrs. on 07.12.2020 the due date of tender opening. (2) This tender notice have also been uploaded on [www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in). (3) In case of any difficulty helpdesk available on the website of IREPS may be approached.

**f** North central railways [www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in) **@CPRO NCR** 1199/20 (A)

**केनरा बैंक**

**Canara Bank**

**सिंडिकेट Syndicate**

**Regional Office - Kanpur 11/09 Silver Line Building, Ground Floor, Civil Lines, VIP Road, Kanpur Uttar Pradesh Pin-208 001, Contact : 0512-2530412, Fax: 0512-2531790, E-mail: ro.kanpur@syndicatebank.co.in**

**SALE NOTICE OF MOVABLE PROPERTIES THROUGH E-AUCTION**

Notice is hereby given to the effect that movable properties described herein will be sold through e-auction.

Sl. No.	Name & Address of the Borrower(s)/ Total Liabilities, Branch	Details of Movable property	Reserve Price (Rs.) Earnest Money Deposit (Rs.)	Last date & Time of Receiving Offers Date & Time of E-Auction
1.	<b>Dilip Dubey</b> S/o Umesh Chandra Dubey116/239 Rawatpur Gaon, Rawatpur, Kanpur <b>Branch :</b> Kanpur Shuklaganj <b>Balance Amount:</b> Rs. 4,93,594.70 + Interest due and other Expenses w.e.f. 15.06.2019	<b>Make/Type-</b> TATA Xenon Yodha <b>Vehicle No.-</b> UP78 DN5196 <b>Engine No.-</b> 4SPCR10ESY615787 <b>Chasis No.-</b> MAT464602HSE05157 <b>Body</b> - Loder	<b>Rs. 2,70,000/-</b> <b>Rs. 27,000/-</b>	<b>01.12.2020 upto 5.00 pm</b> <b>02.12.2020</b> <b>Time 11.30 am to 12.30 pm</b> <b>(with unlimited extension of 5 min)</b>

**OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

The vehicle will be sold on "AS IS WHERE IS AND AS IS" basis including encumbrances, if any. There is no encumbrance to the knowledge of the bank.

a) Auction/ bidding shall be held at 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM on 01.12.2020 at [www.bankauctionwizard.com](http://www.bankauctionwizard.com)

b) The vehicle is in possession of Canara Bank Shuklaganj Branch can be inspected with Prior Appointment with Authorized Officer from 24.11.2020 to 01.12.2020 C)The vehicle will not be sold below the reserve price & the participating bidders may improve their offer further during auction process.

d) EMD amount of 10% of the Reserve Price is to be deposited by way of Demand draft in favour of Canara Bank SHUKLAGANJ BRANCH payable at Kanpur OR shall be deposited through RTGS/NEFT/FUND TRANSFER to credit of A/c NO 4760296000001 IFSC CODE: CNRB0004760 on or before 01.12.2020 by 05:00 pm.

e) after payment of the EMD amount, the intending bidders should submit a copy of the following documents/details on or before 01.12.2020 by 05:00 pm to Branch by hand or by email. a) Demand Draft/Pay order towards EMD amount. If paid through RTGS/NEFT, acknowledgment receipt thereof with UTR No. b)Photocopies of PAN Card, ID Proof and Address proof. However, successful bidder would have to produce these documents in original to the Bank at the time of making payment of balance amount of 25% of bid amount. c)Bidders Name. Contact No. Address, E Mail Id. d)Bidders account details for on line refund of EMD. e)EMD deposited by unsuccessful bidder shall be refunded to them within 2 days of finalization of sale. The EMD shall not carry any interest.

f) Auction would commence at Reserve Price, as mentioned above. Bidder shall improve their offers in multiples of Rs. 1000/-The bidder who submits the highest bid (not below the Reserve price) on closure of auction shall be declared as successful bidder. Sale shall be confirmed in favour of the successful bidder.

g) The successful bidder shall deposit 25 % of the sale price (inclusive of EMD already paid), immediately on the sale being knocked down in his/her favour and the balance within 5 days from the date of confirmation of sale. If the successful bidder fails to pay the sale price as stated above, the deposits made by him shall be forfeited without any notice and vehicle shall forthwith be put up for sale again.

h)All charges for conveyance, stamp duty and registration etc, as applicable shall be borne by successful bidder only.

i)Bank reserve the right to reject any or all the offers received without assigning any reason.

**Date: 14.11.2020 Place: Kanpur Authorised Officer, Canara Bank**

**ASSAM UNIVERSITY: SILCHAR**  
**(A Central University)**

**Employment Notification No 4/2020 Dated 3rd November, 2020**

Online applications are invited from the eligible Indian Citizens and Overseas Citizens of India (OCIs) for various Teaching positions at different department of this university at its HQ: Silchar & Diphu Campus as stated below:

**Silchar : HQ**

A. **Professor:** Agricultural Engineering(1,UR), Applied Science & Humanities(1,UR), Bengali(1,SC), Computer Science & Engineering (1,UR), Economics(1,UR), English(1,ST), Ecology & Environmental Science (1,UR), Education(3,1UR, 1SC, 1OBC), Hindi(1,SC), Life Science & Bioinformatics(1,SC), Law in law subjects(1,UR), Mathematics(1,SC), Mass Communication(1,ST), Netaji Subhash Centre(1,OBC-PWD-LV), Political Science(1,OBC), Sanskrit(1,EWS), Visual Arts(1,EWS), Women Study Centre(1,OBC).

B. **Associate Professor:** Arabic(1,EWS), Agricultural Engineering(1,PWD-OH), Applied Science & Humanities (1,UR), Bengali(1,ST), Business Administration(1,ST), Commerce(1,OBC), English(1,SC), Ecology & Environmental Science (1,OBC), Education(1,ST), Electronics & Communication Engineering(2,1UR, 1OBC), Foreign Language(1,SC), Hospitality & Tourism Management(2,UR), Life Science & Bioinformatics(1,OBC), Mathematics(1,ST), Mass Communication(1,UR), Microbiology(1OBC), Political Science(1,SC), Physics(1,ST), Sanskrit(1,UR), Sociology(1,UR)

C. **Assistant Professor:** Agricultural Engineering(2,OBC), Applied Science & Humanities (1,ST), Business Administration (2,1UR 1SC), Commerce(1,OBC), Computer Science & Engineering(1,EWS), Economics (1,OBC), Earth Science(1,SC), History(2,1OBC, 1EWS), Hindi(1,UR) Hospitality & Tourism Management(1,UR), Life Science & Bioinformatics(1,UR-PWD-OH), Law(2, 1UR1,ST),Law-Non Law Subjects (Economics, 1ST, Mass Communication, 1PWD-VH), Mass Communication(2,UR), Pharmaceutical Science (2,1OBC,1EWS), Social Work (1,OBC), Urdu(1.PWD-HH), Visual Arts(1,SC)

**Diphu Campus:**

A. **Professor:** Geography (1, UR), Life Science & Bioinformatics (1, UR), Political Science (1, OBC).

B. **Associate Professor:** Geography (1, UR).

Pay matrix and Academic level of pay is admissible along with DA and other allowances as per MHRD (MOE) Government of India rules. Minimum qualification, Experience, Specialization, Reservation, Service Conditions, Age of Superannuation etc. are as prescribed by the University/UGC/ respective regulatory body like AICTE/NCTE/PCI and Government of India. The stakeholder may see the general instructions and other details available at [www.aus.ac.in](http://www.aus.ac.in) and <http://assamu1.uacanapply.com>. All eligibility criteria will be reckoned on the closing date of submission of online application.

**Application Fee - Rs. 1000 (for General/OBC/EWS category). SC, ST and Women candidates are exempted from payment of application fees.**

**Note:**

- This advertisement is suppression of employment notification no 2/2019 dated 6.8.2019,3/2019 dated 7.8.2019 and 4/2019 dated 8.8.2019 against the posts for which selection and recruitment could not be made. The vacancies subsequently arisen due to superannuation etc are also included. The posts against which writ petition© No 7077/2019 is pending before the Honorable High Court of Gauhati are not included in this advertisement.
- The applicants are requested to verify post codes carefully before submitting online application.
- After successfully applying through online mode, the PDF downloaded application along with duly enclosed self-attested copies of all the required documents like proof of academic qualifications, experience, caste certificates & publications should reach to the **Assistant Registrar, Recruitment & Assessment Cell, Raja Rammohan Roy Administrative Building, Assam University, Silchar-788011, Cachar, Assam, India in a sealed envelope super-scribed with the "POST CODE" and "NAME OF POST" by 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2020 at 5.00 pm.**
- The closing date of submission of online application is 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2020 at 5.00 pm.

davp 21240 / 11 / 0016 / 2021 **Registrar**

### NOTICE

I, Manjeet Pal Singh, S/o Late Surinder Singh along with my wife Smt. Surinder Kaur, R/o C-2 Sindhu Nagar Lucknow do hereby proclaim that we have been staying in our separate house purchased from our hard money since 2005 and we have no relation with my mother Smt. Gurbachan Kaur W/o Late Surinder Singh, brother Navraj Singh his wife Mala, his suppose Sahag Gaggi and relatives R/o C-18 Sindhu Nagar Lucknow and we hereby declare that we have nothing to do with the actions and inactions of my mother and brother family and we shall in no way be liable or responsible for any acts or omissions committed by them.

### OBITUARY

**HAVILDAR RANJAN KUMAR PANDA**  
15 FEB 1975 - 15 OCT 2020

ALL RANKS OF ARMY MEDICAL CORPS SOLEMNLY PRAY TO THE ALMIGHTY TO BESTOW PEACE TO THE DEPARTED SOUL AND GRANT STRENGTH TO THE BEREAVED FAMILY TO BEAR THE GREAT LOSS OF HAVILDAR RANJAN KUMAR PANDA WHO DIED WHILE SERVING WITH COMD HOSP KOLKATA. FROM: MAJ GEN NAVEEN AGGARWAL AND ALL RANKS OF ARMY MEDICAL CORPS

### OBITUARY

**NAIB SUBEDAR KUSHAL PAL SINGH YADAV**  
01 JUL 1973 - 17 OCT 2020

ALL RANKS OF ARMY MEDICAL CORPS SOLEMNLY PRAY TO THE ALMIGHTY TO BESTOW PEACE TO THE DEPARTED SOUL AND GRANT STRENGTH TO THE BEREAVED FAMILY TO BEAR THE GREAT LOSS OF NAIB SUBEDAR KUSHAL PAL SINGH YADAV WHO DIED WHILE SERVING WITH HQ 16 CORPS.

FROM: MAJ GEN NAVEEN AGGARWAL AND ALL RANKS OF ARMY MEDICAL CORPS

### OBITUARY

**SUBEDAR V SEENIVASAGAN**  
08 JUL 1973 - 18 OCT 2020

ALL RANKS OF ARMY MEDICAL CORPS SOLEMNLY PRAY TO THE ALMIGHTY TO BESTOW PEACE TO THE DEPARTED SOUL AND GRANT STRENGTH TO THE BEREAVED FAMILY TO BEAR THE GREAT LOSS OF SUBEDAR V SEENIVASAGAN WHO DIED WHILE SERVING WITH 2075 FD HOSP.

FROM: MAJ GEN NAVEEN AGGARWAL AND ALL RANKS OF ARMY MEDICAL CORPS

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## Woman among three killed in road mishap

**Lucknow** (PNS): Three persons, including a woman, was killed in a road mishap near Amity College under PGI police station on Friday. The identity of two of the injured could not be identified. The deceased were identified as Ram Narayan,

his daughter Poonam and her husband Vinod. Police said five persons left for SGPGI from Barabanki for Ram Narayan's follow-up medical check up on Friday morning.

Eyewitnesses said the driver lost control of the vehicle after

a speeding truck stopped all of a sudden and the car rammed into the divider before overturning. In another incident, a 35-year-old man, identified as Shashank Srivastava of Chanakypuri in Ektanagar under Thakurganj police sta-

tion, was killed while his wife Tripti injured as the ceiling of an under-construction room caved in around 4:30 pm on Friday. The couple were rushed to KGMU Trauma Centre with the help of locals but Shashank succumbed to injuries there.



## Hooch claims 3 lives

**Lucknow** (PNS): Three villagers died after consuming spurious liquor in Banthra on Friday. Police had to used mild force to disperse irate villagers who had blocked Banthra-Mohan road in protest against the tragedy.

The deceased were identified as Raj Kumar alias Raju (30), Sunder Lal Rawat (38) and Mohammed Anis (28). Others who had to be hospitalised included Kanhaiya Lal, Abdul Hafiz, Kamal Rawat and Manoj Kori. The police detained a person, identified as Nankau, who was allegedly running the illegal distillery, and his business partner Manvendra Singh for interrogation. Raju's wife Reshma told the police that he bought liquor from Nankau on Thursday evening and consumed it late in the night. He complained of acute pain in the stomach around 2 am. He was being taken to the nearby community health centre but he succumbed on the way. Sunder Lal Rawat had also purchased liquor from Nankau on Wednesday night and he took ill on Thursday morning. He was taken to a private nursing in Unnao but was referred to another hospital. He succumbed on in wee hours of Friday. Similarly, Anis also consumed liquor from the same outlet. His condition deteriorated on Thursday evening and he died on Friday.

<div>  <b>लखनऊ विकास प्राधिकरण</b>                      (ISO 14001:2004, ISO 9001:2008 प्रमाणित संस्था)                      प्राधिकरण भवन, विपिन खण्ड, गोमती नगर, लखनऊ (उ.प्र.), पी.बी.एक्स. नं. : 2307845, 2307839, 2307833, वेबसाइट : www.lkalucknow.co.in                 </div>							
सार्वजनिक सूचना							
सर्वसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि प्राधिकरण की आवासीय/व्यावसायिक/रेन्ट/नजूल/इम्प्रूवमेन्ट ट्रस्ट योजनाओं के निम्नलिखित आवेदकों द्वारा उनके नाम के सामने अंकित सम्पत्ति का हस्तान्तरण/नामान्तरण किये जाने हेतु प्राधिकरण में प्रार्थना-पत्र प्रस्तुत किया गया है :-							
क्र.सं.	मूल आवंटी का नाम	भवन/भूखण्ड संख्या	योजना का नाम	मृत्यु दिनांक	मूल आवंटी के उत्तराधिकारी अथवा आवेदक का नाम	उत्तराधिकारी के पक्ष में अनापत्ति कर्ताओं के नाम	मूल आवंटी (मूलक) से सम्बन्ध
1							
1.	श्रीमती शान्ती देवी	मं०सं०-3/940 सेक्टर-3, जानकीपुरम विस्तार	जानकीपुरम विस्तार	10.07.2010	श्रीमती ज्योति	श्री राजकुमार (पिता)	पुत्री
2.	श्रीमती मिथलेश कुमारी एवं श्री भगवान स्वरूप श्रीवास्तव	मं०सं०-5/216 सेक्टर-5	जानकीपुरम विस्तार	05.04.2019	श्री भगवान स्वरूप श्रीवास्तव	—	पति
3.	श्री विकास सुमन	प्लेट बी-2/204,	सी.जी. सिटी, सुल्तानपुर रोड	22.03.2020	श्रीमती प्रगति गौतम, अथर्व सुमन, कु० अनाहिता सुमन	नोट-महोदय काशी की सीमा सुमन के नाम पर आवंटी विकसित सुमन की जगह सेने की दशा में सुमन कोने कोने अती गौतम, पुत्र स्वर्ण सुमन के पुत्रे अनाहिता सुमन सेविका के अती गौतम का नाम दर्ज किया जाना है।	पत्नी, पुत्र, पुत्री
4.	स्व० सुशील कुमार मौर्य	प्लेट सं०-PS-4/705/A-1 विकल खण्ड	गोमती नगर	07.09.2020	श्रीमती सावित्री मौर्य	1. सुश्री निमिषा मौर्य 2. श्री आदित्य मौर्य, 3. श्री आर्यन मौर्य	पत्नी
उपर्युक्त नामान्तरण के आवेदन के सम्बन्ध में यदि किसी भी व्यक्ति को कोई आपत्ति हो तो वह साक्ष्य सहित प्रकाशन तिथि से 30 दिनों के अन्दर अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता के कार्यालय में प्राप्त करा दे। निर्धारित तिथि तक कोई आपत्ति प्राप्त न होने पर प्राधिकरण अभिलेखों में कॉलम-6 पर लिखित व्यक्ति का नाम दर्ज कर लिया जायेगा तथा उसके बाद किसी आपत्ति पर विचार नहीं किया जायेगा।							
<b>सचिव</b>							



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# चौ० चरण सिंह विश्वविद्यालय, मेरठ


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कुलाध्यक्ष प्रो. एच. बी. तनेजा

चौधरी चरण सिंह विश्वविद्यालय, राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र का एक महत्वपूर्ण विश्वविद्यालय है। पिछले 50 वर्षों में विश्वविद्यालय परिवार के समस्त सदस्यों ने अपनी गहन निष्ठा, मेहनत और भविष्य दृष्टि संसार के अथक प्रयास किया है। पौराणिक काल से ही महत्वपूर्ण यह क्षेत्र देश की आजादी के आंदोलन में भी अपनी महती भूमिका के कारण विख्यात रहा है। विश्वविद्यालय आचारभूत सुविधाओं की दृष्टि से प्रदेश और देश में अपना विशिष्ट स्थान रखता है। विद्यार्थियों को वर्तमान वैश्विक युग की आवश्यकताओं के अनुसार गुणवत्ता युक्त उच्च शिक्षा देने में प्रयत्नशील है। उच्च शिक्षा का जन-जन तक पहुंचाने के दायित्व का निर्वहन विश्वविद्यालय अपने सीमित संसाधनों में पूरी ईमानदारी व लगन से कर रहा है। यह विश्वविद्यालय लगभग 222 एकड़ भू-क्षेत्र में विकसित है, जिसमें पृथक-पृथक विभागीय शैक्षणिक भवन, नवीनतम उत्कृष्ट उपकरणों से समृद्ध प्रयोगशालाएं, आधुनिक सुविधाओं से युक्त पुस्तकालय, भव्य प्रेक्षागृह, विशाल प्रशासनिक भवन, सामुदायिक केन्द्र, चिकित्सालय, कम्प्यूटर केन्द्र, वातानुकूलित बृहस्पति साभागार, मूल्यांकन केन्द्र, आठ छात्रावास, अभियांत्रिकी व विद्युत विभाग के पृथक-पृथक भवन, डाकखाना, बैंक, रेलवे आरक्षण केन्द्र, क्रीडा भवन, कुश्ती स्टेडियम, विशेष रूप से विकसित किये गये विविध खेल मैदान तथा कोर्ट, तपोवन एवं साहित्य कुटीर आदि बांछागत सुविधायें हैं।

### उपलब्धियाँ

1. अनेक वर्षों से लम्बित नैक मूल्यांकन सम्पन्न एवं सम्मानजनक ग्रेड।
2. विश्वविद्यालय के समस्त प्रवेश ऑनलाइन सुनिश्चित एवं प्रक्रियाओं का सरलीकरण।
3. परीक्षाओं का समयबद्ध संचालन एवं शुचितापूर्वक संचरण, एवं सुव्यवस्थित तथा सुगठित शैति से दीक्षांत समारोह का आयोजन।
4. शैक्षणिक विभागों में रिक्त आचार्य एवं सहायक आचार्य के पदों पर नियुक्त की प्रक्रिया पूर्ण हो चुकी है।
5. परिसर को रेंजिंग-मुक्त प्रदूषण-मुक्त तथा धूम्रपान-मुक्त बनाना, जैविक खाद निर्माण द्वारा कृड़ा निस्तारण योजना का क्रियान्वयन।
6. विश्वविद्यालय परिसर में सी.बी.सी.एस. के माध्यम से शिक्षण प्रारम्भ एवं शैक्षणिक विभागों के शोध व अध्ययन हेतु कतिपय विदेशी संस्थानों तथा भारत के अन्य अनुसंधान केन्द्रों के साथ अनुबन्ध।
7. प्रशासनिक, अकादमिक, वित्तीय तथा विद्यार्थी प्रक्रियाओं का क्रमबद्ध सरलीकरण।
8. शैक्षणिक विभागों में अध्ययन, अध्यापन एवं अनुसंधान पर विशेष ध्यान।
9. अकादमिक गुणवत्ता सुनिश्चयन हेतु प्रकोष्ठ का पुनर्गठन एवं नियमित क्रियाशीलता को प्रोत्साहन।
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11. पीएच.डी प्रवेश परीक्षा उत्तीर्ण छात्रों का प्री-पीएच.डी कोर्सवर्क में प्रवेश तथा अह छात्रों का शोध पंजीकरण।
12. विभिन्न प्रशासनिक तथा अकादमिक समितियों का पारदर्शी पुनर्गठन।
13. सम्बद्धता के सभी लम्बित प्रकरणों पर त्वरित निर्णय।
14. विश्वविद्यालय परिसर में चालीस वर्षों जल संग्रहण संयंत्र स्थापति किये गये एवं अनुसंधान के क्षेत्र में पं० दीनदयाल उपाध्याय शोधपीठ।
15. शैक्षणिक विभागों में पाठ्य समिति तथा शोध उपाधि समिति की बैठक का आयोजन।
16. विश्वविद्यालय परिसर में सौर ऊर्जा सन्चयन द्वारा 1260 किलोवाट विद्युत का उत्पादन।
17. स्वामी विवेकानन्द की 12 फीट की धातु की मूर्ति का लोकार्पण।
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19. सहारनपुर राज्य विश्वविद्यालय की स्थापना के लिए 100 करोड़ रुपये जारी किये।

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**Self Finance Sources :-** Institute of Business Studies (MBA, BBA, BBA (HA), B.Com, (Hon's), M.Com, MBA (Hospital Administration), MCA, Biotechnology, Home Science (Human Development Food Nutrition ), Food Science & Technology (Plant Protection, Entomology, & Plant Pathology), Seed Science & Technology, BJMC, MJMC, M.Phil (MJMC), Fine Art, Law (BA-LLB, LL.M), Environmental Science, Geography (PG Diploma in GIS), Library Science (B.Lib, M.Lib), Sociology (MSW), Master of Public Administration (MPA), Diploma in Psychological Counselling, Vedic Math, Applied Microbiology, Medical Microbiology, Bioinformatics, Polymer Science, & Chemical Technology, M.Sc (Bio-Chemistry), B.Sc. Chemistry (Hon's).

**धीरेन्द्र कुमार**

कुलसचिव

**सुशील कुमार गुप्ता**

वित्त अधिकारी

**प्रो. वाई. विमला**

प्रतिकुलपति

**प्रो० एन. के. तनेजा**

कुलपति







# Govt directs prompt disposal of labour cess cases of real estate

**Lucknow (PNS):** The Uttar Pradesh government has directed prompt disposal of cases of labour cess related to the real estate developers and said that notices issued on cess collection from various sectors of industry, including real estate, be disposed of on priority. Reviewing the working of the Labour depart-

ment on Friday, Chief Secretary RK Tewari discussed complaints related to labour cess. He was informed by the officials that under the Code on Social Security, 2020, Rs 10 lakh was provisioned for raising exemption limit of up to Rs 50 lakh in respect of private residential buildings under cess collection,

which could be changed by an appropriate government order. For the Act to be effective, the state government has the powers to hike the minimum number of workers to be employed at construction sites by 10. In order to facilitate cess assessment, a system of self-certification has been provided. The

rules under the Code are being framed and are likely to be promulgated soon. Under the rules, it is proposed that the cost estimate of building issued by chartered engineer and chartered evaluator will be acceptable. The government has also issued directions for making the process of labour cess collec-

tion simple and convenient. All the district collectors have been directed that for the government construction work in other departments, the Labour department officers be directed to expedite the matter of cess collection. Cess assessors and receptor officers are notified through which instructions have been given to ensure settlement of area disputes, building and other construction disputes on priority. Additional CS (Labour) Suresh Chandra and senior officials of other related departments were present in the meeting.

## SCHOOLSCAN

### GOLD MEDAL

Anvesha Paradhar, a class IV student of City Montessori School, Gomti Nagar Campus I, won the gold medal in national level inter-school online competition 'Brainbrain Wonderkid- 2020', bringing kudos tot the institution. The competition was organised under the aegis of educational institution



'Brainbrain'. Students of over 1,500 schools from across the country participated in this competition wherein Anvesha showcased her exemplary talent in mental maths, logical ability, general knowledge and speed typing, and walked away with the gold medal.



### PRE-QUALIFICATION NOTICE

**EMPOWERMENT OF VENDORS FOR COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL MAINTENANCE CONTRACT OF ON LINE UPS AT VARIOUS OFFICES UNDER LUCKNOW DIVISION**

LIC of India intends to invites application for enrolment of VENDORS for Comprehensive A.M.C of on line UPS installed at its various offices in Uttar Pradesh, under Division Office Lucknow of North Central Zone, in the prescribed Enrolment Form.

Description of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs. In Lac)	Min Bank Solvency (Rs. In Lac)	Avg. Annual Turnover over last 2 years (Rs. In Lac)
A	B	C	D
Comprehensive AMC of ON-Line UPS installed at various offices under DO Lucknow	2.50	1.25	2.50

Enrolment forms are available in the engineering department at the office of under signed from 17.11.2020 to 05.12.2020 during the office working Hrs. enrolment forms may also be down loaded from "Tender" section of our website [www.licindia.in](http://www.licindia.in).  
Duly filled in enrolment application forms along with enrolment fee in favour of LIC of India, Payable at Lucknow of Rs.1000.00 (non refundable) in the form of demand draft drawn on any Nationalized Bank, including supporting documents of fulfilling the eligibility criteria shall reach us at the office of Sr. Divisional Manager at the address given above on or before 11.12.2020 upto 15.00 Hrs. Enrolment forms received without enrolment fee are liable to be rejected. Any delay including postal shall not be entertained. Agencies who are already enlisted with us may also apply in fresh for enrolment.

## शिक्षा व्यवस्था में बढ़ते कदम

# वर्चुअल स्कूल

कक्षा-10 एवं 12 के विद्यार्थियों के लिए दूरदर्शन, उत्तर प्रदेश (DD UP) चैनल और कक्षा-9 एवं 11 के विद्यार्थियों के लिए चैनल e vidya-9 एवं e vidya-11 पर शैक्षणिक वीडियो के माध्यम से 17.11.2020 से 19.11.2020 तक ई-लर्निंग प्रसारण का तेरहवां चरण



### दूरदर्शन, उत्तर प्रदेश (DD UP) चैनल पर यू.पी. बोर्ड की कक्षा-10 एवं 12 हेतु शैक्षणिक प्रसारण की समय-सारिणी

दिनांक तथा समय	कक्षा-10				कक्षा-12			
	अपराह्न 1:00 से अपराह्न 1:30 बजे तक	अपराह्न 2:30 से अपराह्न 3:00 बजे तक	अपराह्न 4:00 से अपराह्न 4:30 बजे तक	सायं 5:30 से सायं 6:00 बजे तक	अपराह्न 1:30 से अपराह्न 2:00 बजे तक	अपराह्न 3:30 से अपराह्न 4:00 बजे तक	अपराह्न 4:30 से सायं 5:00 बजे तक	सायं 6:00 से सायं 6:30 बजे तक
17-11-2020 मंगलवार	मिशन शक्ति महिला सशक्तिकरण आत्मरक्षा प्रशिक्षण भाग-5	अंग्रेजी अध्याय-3 (Prose) The Ganga भाग-1	वाणिज्य अध्याय-1 (बहीखाता) अन्तिम खाते भाग-4	गणित अध्याय-3 दो चर वाले रैखिक समीकरण भाग-1	वाणिज्य अध्याय-6 व्यापारिक संगठन एवं पत्र व्यवहार-प्रबन्धक के कार्य भाग-1	वाणिज्य अध्याय-7 व्यापारिक संगठन एवं पत्र व्यवहार-व्यापारिक कार्यालय भाग-1	जीव विज्ञान अध्याय-12 जैव प्रौद्योगिकी एवं उसके उपयोग भाग-1	जीव विज्ञान अध्याय-12 जैव प्रौद्योगिकी एवं उसके उपयोग भाग-2
18-11-2020 बुधवार	मिशन शक्ति महिला सशक्तिकरण आत्मरक्षा प्रशिक्षण भाग-6	गणित अध्याय-4 द्विघात समीकरण भाग-1	गृह विज्ञान अध्याय-9 पर्यावरण और जनजीवन पर उत्कृष्ट प्रभाव भाग-2	विज्ञान अध्याय-2 अम्ल, क्षार तथा लवण भाग-1	वाणिज्य अध्याय-8 व्यापारिक संगठन एवं पत्र व्यवहार-कार्यालय में आने जाने वाले पत्र भाग-1	अर्थशास्त्र अध्याय-4 आय और रोजगार के निर्धारण भाग-1	जीव विज्ञान अध्याय-12 जैव प्रौद्योगिकी एवं उसके उपयोग भाग-3	नागरिक शास्त्र अध्याय-12 नियोजित विकास की राजनीति भाग-1
19-11-2020 गुरुवार	संस्कृत अध्याय-व्याकरण विसर्ग संधि भाग-2	विज्ञान अध्याय-2 अम्ल, क्षार तथा लवण भाग-2	वाणिज्य अध्याय-6 नस्तीकरण भाग-3	विज्ञान अध्याय-10 प्रकाश परावर्तन तथा अपावर्तन भाग-1	वाणिज्य अध्याय-11 अनुक्रमणिका भाग-1	रसायन विज्ञान अध्याय-13 एमोन भाग-1	रसायन विज्ञान अध्याय-13 एमोन भाग-2	रसायन विज्ञान अध्याय-13 एमोन भाग-3

नोट : DD-UP, अब आप इन चैनलों पर भी देख सकते हैं, डी डी फ्री डिश-45, डेन-137, नेटविजन-138, डिश टीवी-229, लखनऊ 9-237, बिग टीवी-250, एयरटेल-400, हाथवे-400, सिटी केबल-671, वीडियोकॉन डी 2 एच-889, टाटा स्काई-1195

### चैनल e vidya-9 पर कक्षा-9 एवं चैनल e vidya-11 पर कक्षा-11 यू.पी. बोर्ड हेतु शैक्षणिक प्रसारण की समय-सारिणी

दिनांक तथा समय	कक्षा-9		कक्षा-11	
	प्रातः 8:30 से प्रातः 9:00 बजे तक	प्रातः 9:00 से प्रातः 9:30 बजे तक	सायं 6:30 से सायं 7:00 बजे तक	सायं 7:00 से सायं 7:30 बजे तक
17-11-2020 मंगलवार	हिन्दी अध्याय-4 हिन्दी संस्कृत अनुवाद (व्याकरण) भाग-1/2	गृह विज्ञान अध्याय-6 इकाई-2 (स्वास्थ्य रक्षा) स्थानीय स्वास्थ्य संस्थाएं, प्रशासन एवं सेवाएं भाग-1/3	गृह विज्ञान अध्याय-1 (स्वास्थ्य रक्षा) इकाई-1 खण्ड-क शरीर क्रिया विज्ञान तथा स्वास्थ्य रक्षा भाग-1/2	इतिहास अध्याय-अनुभाग दो कालक्रम दो (लगभग 100 ई०पू० से 1300 ईसवी) विषय-3-तीन महाद्वीपों में फैला हुआ साम्राज्य (विश्व इतिहास के कुछ विषय) भाग-1/2
18-11-2020 बुधवार	हिन्दी अध्याय-3 (संस्कृत) पुरुषोत्तमः रामः भाग-1/1	गृह विज्ञान अध्याय-6 इकाई-2 (स्वास्थ्य रक्षा) स्थानीय स्वास्थ्य संस्थाएं, प्रशासन एवं सेवाएं भाग-2/3	संस्कृत अध्याय-3 खण्ड-च (व्याकरण) व्याकरण-समास - तत्पुरुष, कर्मधारय बहुव्रीहि भाग-1/1	भौतिक विज्ञान अध्याय-3 सरल रेखा में गति (भौतिक भाग-1) भाग-1/1
19-11-2020 गुरुवार	हिन्दी अध्याय-4 (व्याकरण) हिन्दी संस्कृत अनुवाद भाग-2/2	गृह विज्ञान अध्याय-6 इकाई-2 (स्वास्थ्य रक्षा) स्थानीय स्वास्थ्य संस्थाएं, प्रशासन एवं सेवाएं भाग-3/3	गृह विज्ञान अध्याय-1 (स्वास्थ्य रक्षा) इकाई-1 खण्ड-क शरीर क्रिया विज्ञान तथा स्वास्थ्य रक्षा भाग-2/2	इतिहास अध्याय-अनुभाग दो कालक्रम दो (लगभग 100 ई०पू० से 1300 ईसवी) विषय-3-तीन महाद्वीपों में फैला हुआ साम्राज्य (विश्व इतिहास के कुछ विषय) भाग-2/2

नोट: e vidya-9, जियो टीवी एप, डिश टीवी चैनल-950, वीडियोकॉन चैनल-447, एयरटेल चैनल-440, फ्री डिश-128 तथा टाटा स्काई चैनल-756 पर उपलब्ध है। e vidya-11, जियो टीवी एप, डिश टीवी-952 तथा NCERT OFFICIAL YouTube पर उपलब्ध है।

माध्यमिक शिक्षा विभाग, उत्तर प्रदेश की एक पहल

## NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, PRAYAGRAJ

E-Procurement Tender Notice No.-12/P-69/2020-21/TMC/HQ/NCR/Prayagraj Dated: 09.11.2020  
OPEN TENDER NOTICE

On behalf of the President of India, Principal Chief Engineer, North Central Railway, Subedarganj, Prayagraj-211015 invites the following E-Procurement Tenders. *(The complete information along with tender document of this E-Procurement Tender are available in website on <http://ireps.gov.in> upto 15.00 hrs. of the due date of tender opening).*

S. N.	Tender No.	Brief Description	Tender Value (₹)	Earnest Money (₹)
1.	TMC 0512021	Semi Finish P.B. Bush. Details of description, make and quantity as per tender document. [Acceptable Make: Plasser or Equivalent]	2,03,833/-	4,100/-
2.	TMC 0522021	Spacer Set for tamping unit, Spacer for Oil Seal, Spacer Ring. Details of description, make and quantity as per tender document. [Acceptable Make: Plasser or Equivalent]	3,91,734/-	7,900/-
3.	TMC 0532021	Mechanical cum Hydraulic Jack Screw lifting and Traversing capacity-50 Ton. Details of description, make and quantity as per tender document. [Acceptable Make: Hy-Tack, Well worth, Bemco, Vankos only]	11,74,041/-	23,500/-
4.	TMC 0542021	Various type of Hydraulic Cylinder. Details of description, make and quantity as per tender document. [Acceptable Make: Plasser or Equivalent]	5,48,553/-	11,000/-
5.	TMC 0552021	Squeezing Cylinder. Details of description, make and quantity as per tender document. [Acceptable Make: Plasser or Equivalent]	35,80,500/-	71,700/-

Quantity: For S.No. 1 to 5: As per Annexure, Date of opening: For S.No. 1 to 5: 09.12.2020 Note:-1. The complete information along with Tender document of above E-Procurement Tender is available on website <https://ireps.gov.in>. Up to 15.00 hrs. On the due date of tender opening. 2. Following condition has been included in Tender Document vide Railway Board Letter No. 2001/RS(g)/779/7 Pt I Dated: 29.06.2017 "Whenever tender is floated with purchase restriction from sources approved by nominated authorities and there exists a suspected cartel situation by approved sources or the rates available from approved/sources are adjudged unreasonably high, despite fair efforts as permissible, the purchaser reserves the right to place order on firms outside the approved vendors list, without any restrictions". 3. Bids other than in the form of E-Bids shall not be accepted against above Tenders. For this purpose, vendors are required to get themselves registered with IREPS website along with class III Digital signature certificates issued by CCA under IT Act-2000. 4. This tender notice has also been uploaded on [www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in). 5. Allocation for Security deposit and Earnest money is "Deposit Misc stores 00844523. 6. In case of any difficulty helpdesk available on the website of IREPS may be approached. 120320 (R)

North central railways [www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in) © CPRO NCR

**यूनियन बैंक**  
of India

**आंध्र**  
Andhra

शाखा : नगर निगम, झॉंसी  
क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय : 117/H-1/240, पाण्डुरंगर, कानपुर  
प्रधान कार्यालय : 239, विधान भवन मार्ग, नारीपन बाईट, मुंबई

**कच्चा सूचना (अचल सम्पत्ति हेतु)**

[Rule-8(1)]

जैसा कि अयोध्यावासी वित्तीय आस्थियों का प्रतिभूतिकरण एवं पुनर्निर्माण और प्रतिभूति हित प्रवर्तन अधिनियम 2002 के तहत यूनियन बैंक आफ इंडिया का प्राधिकृत अधिकारी होते हुये और उक्त अधिनियम की धारा-13 (12) संपटित प्रतिभूति हित (प्रवर्तन) नियम 2002 का नियम-3 में प्रदत्त शक्तियों का प्रयोग करते हुए मांग सूचना अन्तर्गत धारा 13 (2) निम्न खाता धारकों आदि को जारी किया गया था, जिसमें नोटिस जारि के 60 दिवस के भीतर देय राशि के अन्वयगी को उपेक्षा की गयी थी।  
कच्ची उपरोक्तानुसार अद्यगी में विफल रहे हैं फलस्वरूप कच्ची एवं सर्वसाधारण को एलटुद्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि अयोध्यावासी ने उक्त अधिनियम की उपधारा (4) धारा 13 संपटित नियम -8 के तहत प्रतिभूति हित (प्रवर्तन) अधिनियम 2002, में प्रदत्त शक्तियों का प्रयोग करते हुए निम्नलिखित बंधक संपत्ति/सम्पत्तियों पर निम्नलिखित दिनांक को कच्चा ले लिया गया है। कच्ची एवं सर्वसाधारण को एलटुद्वारा सावधान किया जाता है कि, बंधक संपत्ति/सम्पत्तियों से किसी प्रकार का सम्यक्वहार न करें। कोई भी सम्यक्वहार यूनियन बैंक ऑफ इंडिया, के कच्चे रुपये एवं उस पर अनुबंधित दर पर लागू ब्याज आदि के भार के अधीन होगा।  
कच्ची का ध्यान बंधक संपत्ति/सम्पत्तियों को मुक्त कराने हेतु उपलब्ध मियाद के संदर्भ में अधिनियम की उपधारा (8) धारा-13 की ओर भी आकर्षित किया जाता है।

क्र. सं.	बकायेदार/जमानतदार का नाम/पता व बंधक सम्पत्ति/सम्पत्ति मालिक एवं मांग सूचना तिथि/प्रलक्षित कच्चा तिथि/बकाया धनराशि
1.	बकायेदार : श्री राजू कुशवाहा पुत्र श्री गुन राज कुशवाहा, निवासी : 2656, मेन रोड, कुशवाहा मार्केट, हनसारा, जिला-झॉंसी। जमानतदार : श्री नवीन कुमार पुत्र श्री सतीश चन्द्र, निवासी : मकान सं. 24/2, गहिया गाँव, धाना प्रेम नगर, झॉंसी। मांग सूचना तिथि : 27.03.2019, प्रलक्षित कच्चा लेने की तिथि : 10.11.2020 बंधक सम्पत्ति का विवरण : आवासीय भवन संख्या 558 स्थित आराजी सं. 1537, मौजा गवहिया, तहसील एवं जिला-झॉंसी सम्पत्ति मालिक : श्री राजू कुशवाहा पुत्र श्री गुनराज कुशवाहा के नाम। क्षेत्रफल : 1138.80 वर्गफीट, चौहद्वी: उत्तर : विक्रेता की सम्पत्ति, दक्षिण : अन्य का मकान, पूर्व : रास्ता, पश्चिम : राठीर की जमीन। मांग सूचना तिथि में बकाया धनराशि : <b>₹. 6,68,895.75</b> + ब्याज + अन्य खर्चें
2.	बकायेदार : श्री राम गोपाल पुत्र श्री भगवान दास एवं श्रीमती फूलवती पत्नी श्री रामगोपाल, दोनों निवासी : 15/30, आउट साइड खंडराव गेट, जिला-झॉंसी। जमानतदार : श्री मोहन लाल कुशवाहा पुत्र श्री कटोले, निवासी : 84 सिमराहा, झॉंसी (उ.प्र.)। मांग सूचना तिथि : 26.02.2020, प्रलक्षित कच्चा लेने की तिथि : 11.11.2020 बंधक सम्पत्ति का विवरण : आवासीय भवन संख्या 254 स्थित आराजी सं. 254, मौजा सिमराहा, जिला-झॉंसी। सम्पत्ति मालिक : श्रीमती फूलवती पत्नी श्री रामगोपाल के नाम। क्षेत्रफल : 4000 वर्गफीट, चौहद्वी: उत्तर : निर्मला कौर का प्लाट, दक्षिण : विक्रेता का मकान, पूर्व : 12 फीट रास्ता, पश्चिम : फारेस्ट डिपार्टमेंट की भूमि। मांग सूचना तिथि में बकाया धनराशि : <b>₹. 5,47,641.00</b> + ब्याज + अन्य खर्चें
3.	बकायेदार : श्री लक्ष्मी नारायण कुशवाहा पुत्र स्व. गंगा प्रसाद, निवासी : 75, कुम्हार टोली, हसारी, जिला-झॉंसी। जमानतदार : श्री राजू कुशवाहा पुत्र श्री गुनराज कुशवाहा, निवासी : 2656, हसारी गिर्द कुशवाहा मार्केट, सारांग मार्केट के पीछे, झॉंसी (उ.प्र.)। मांग सूचना तिथि : 04.11.2019, प्रलक्षित कच्चा लेने की तिथि : 10.11.2020 बंधक सम्पत्ति का विवरण : आवासीय भवन संख्या 75 स्थित आराजी सं. 858, कुम्हार टोली हसारी गिर्द, जिला-झॉंसी। सम्पत्ति मालिक : श्री लक्ष्मी नारायण कुशवाहा पुत्र स्व. गंगा प्रसाद के नाम। क्षेत्रफल : 900 वर्गफीट, चौहद्वी: उत्तर : अन्य का प्लाट, दक्षिण : विक्रेता का प्लाट, पूर्व : दिनेशा का प्लाट, पश्चिम : रास्ता। मांग सूचना तिथि में बकाया धनराशि : <b>₹. 8,43,857.38</b> + ब्याज + अन्य खर्चें
4.	बकायेदार : श्री मनोज पाण्डेय पुत्र स्व. श्रीराम बहादुर पाण्डेय एवं श्रीमती हेमलता पत्नी श्री मनोज पाण्डेय, दोनों निवासी : मकान सं. 332, न्यू पाल कालोनी, सिमर्वा, चर्क फैक्ट्री, जिला-झॉंसी। जमानतदार : श्री कैलाश चन्द्र कुशवाहा, निवासी : 336, आउट साइड दतिया गेट, झॉंसी (उ.प्र.)। मांग सूचना तिथि : 31.07.2019, प्रलक्षित कच्चा लेने की तिथि : 10.11.2020 बंधक सम्पत्ति का विवरण : आवासीय भवन स्थित प्लाट संख्या 332 स्थित न्यू पाल कालोनी सिमर्वा, जिला-झॉंसी (उ.प्र.)। सम्पत्ति मालिक : श्रीमती हेमलता पुत्र पत्नी श्री मनोज पाण्डेय के नाम। क्षेत्रफल : 1027.11 वर्गफीट, चौहद्वी: उत्तर : महेश चन्द्र रायकराण का मकान, दक्षिण : श्री रमेश पाण्डेय का प्लाट, पूर्व : स्टील मिल्स, पश्चिम : 10 फीट चौड़ा रास्ता। मांग सूचना तिथि में बकाया धनराशि : <b>₹. 5,42,822.38</b> + ब्याज + अन्य खर्चें

प्राधिकृत अधिकारी, यूनियन बैंक ऑफ इंडिया



# Markets glitter on Diwali eve

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

Most of the markets in this holy city were seen glittered with attractive lighting arrangements on the eve of 'Festival of Light' but unlike most of the Diwali in the past, it was for the first time when no deafening sound of firecracker bursting was heard as on the directive of National Green Tribunal (NGT) and state government there was total ban on the sale / use of firecrackers. With the extension of festival of Dhanteras this time for two days, heavy rush of people continued being seen in almost all the main markets. The people came out from their houses to purchase different articles here on Friday. As per the tradition, the people purchase their puja and other articles of Diwali on this occasion. Due to rush, in almost all the main areas there were traffic jams like situation in the entire city. Even in the narrow lanes, markets saw rush as thousands of temporary shops selling utensils, puja items, sweets, lai and other items, flowers, decorative items and others were opened on roadsides causing a lot of traffic jam like situation. As per



Markets glittered with attractive lighting on eve of Diwali in Varanasi on Friday

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the tradition, on this auspicious occasion the people purchased various utensils, especially made of metals. There was also heavy rush of people at various shops selling grocery and crockery items.

Many auto, jewellery and other showrooms which suffered a huge losses due to

lockdown and restrictions due to worldwide coronavirus pandemic, got Dhanteras as a golden opportunity to overcome their crisis as they got two days time to see rush of customers at their showrooms. Many companies launched several schemes to attract the customers. Besides, on the repeat-

ed calls of Prime Minister Narendra Modi for 'vocal to local', its impacts were seen as several artisans and potters accepted the facts that the sale of their products has increased this time, though it is still far away to help the cottage units fight in the markets in this age of globalisation.

# Two nomination papers found invalid

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

With the rejection of two nomination papers filed from Varanasi Graduate constituency during scrutiny here on Friday, as many as 23 candidates remained in the fray. The papers of Independent candidates Jaichand and Narendra Nath Dubey 'Adig' were cancelled. The most surprising aspect of the election is that despite filling of two candidates along with senior Congress leaders both Sanjeev Kumar Singh and Nageshwar Singh are in the fray as independent candidates as there are just two candidates of national/ state level political parties

(Ashutosh Sinha of Samajwadi Party and sitting MLC Kedar Nath Singh of Bharatiya Janata Party) and one of recognised party (Lokesh Kumar of Bhartiya Jan Jan Party).

For Varanasi Teacher constituency, as many as 12 candidates are in the fray and out of them, there is just one candidate (Lal Bihar Yadav) is from a political party (SP) while sitting MLC Chet Narayan Singh and ex-MLC Pramod Kumar Mishra though close to the BJP and Congress respectively are fighting as independent candidates. The candidates can withdraw their names by November 17, while the election will be held on December

1 and counting of votes on December 3.

After scrutiny the candidates whose papers were found valid are Ashutosh Sinha (SP), Kedar Nath Singh (BJP), Lokesh Kumar (BJJP), Anil Kumar, Arvind Kumar, Arvind Kumar Singh, Karunakant Maurya, Ganesh Giri, Gopal Singh, Chandra Prakash, Nageshwar Singh, Pankaj Kumar, Fauzdar Singh, Brahmdev, Rajesh Yadav, Ramji, Rahul Kumar Singh, Vinay Kumar Tripathi, Shashi Kala Maurya, Sanjeev Kumar Singh, Santosh Kumar Tiwari, Santosh Pandey and Subedar (all independents).

The candidates who are in the fray for Varanasi Teacher

constituency are Lal Bihar Yadav (SP). Dr Krishna Mohan Yadav, Chet Narayan Singh, Jitendra Kumar Singh, Dharmendra Kumar, Pramod Kumar Mishra, Farid Ansari, Brijesh, Rajni Dwivedi, Ramesh Singh, Rajendra Pratap Singh and Sanjay Kumar Singh (all independents). For electing their representative from Graduate constituency, 2,07,039 would cast their votes from eight districts of the region including Varanasi, Chandauli, Jaunpur, Ghazipur, Bhadohi, Mirzapur, Sonbhadra and Ballia, while 32,649 of the same areas will elect their representative from Varanasi Teachers constituency.

# 71 COVID-19 patients found

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

As many as 71 new COVID-19 patients have been detected in the district on Friday, increasing the total number of cases to 17,757. There was relief as no casualty was reported and the death toll remained at 284. During the day, the follow-up negative reports included 78 and all of them have been recovered from home isolation, increasing the number to 13,927. As no patient has been discharged from any of the hospitals, the number of recovered patients remained at 2,837. The total number of patients who have been recovered so far is 16,764, leaving 709 active cases.

Meanwhile, Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport (Babatpur), Varanasi Junction (Cantt.) and other stations, Cantt. and other bus depots witnessed heavy rush of pas-



Rush of passengers going home at Varanasi Cantt. station on eve of Diwali on Friday

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sengers who were willing to go their home districts on the eve of festivals of Diwali, Bhaiyya Dhuja and Dalla Chhath. The stations witnessed heavy rush despite the fact that regular trains are still not being run due to coronavirus pandemic and only passengers with

reserved tickets were allowed to travel in all special trains. Though at the stations and airport, there was main rush of passengers willing to go to other states and far distance places, in bus depots most of the passengers were going to different districts of

Purvanchal (eastern UP).

Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Dr VB Singh has informed that in the first report of the day, 41 positive patients were found out of 2,419 reports received. Till then, the total test reports received were 3,65,257 and the results of 4,859 are awaited. Out of them, 3,47,530 were negative, while 17,727 positive. The total number of samples collected was 3,84,536. Earlier, a male aged 73 from Phulwaria and a female aged 65 from Mangari succumbed to COVID-19 at SSH BHU.

With the addition of five new red zones, the total number of hotspots has increased to 2,393 including 184 red zones.

Three green zones have been converted into red zones again. There are 2,209 green zones with 17 new ones.

# CRPF launches plantation drive

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

Cleanliness and plantation Campaign was carried out under joint aegis of 95th Battalion of Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and Srijan Samajik Nyas from Vetavar on the banks of Ganga river to Shoolatankeshwar Mahadev temple, Madhopur here on Friday. After this, the participants offered prayer at the famous temple. They also launched an awareness campaign towards cleanliness and plantation. The chief guest on the occasion was MLA from Rohania Surendra Narayan Singh, while the distinguished guest was CRPF Commandant Narendra Pal Singh. The programme was presided over by Anil Singh, chief of Srijan. The participants also pledged to protect the environment.

Speaking on the occasion, Narendra Pal Singh said that the protection of environment is not only the task of the government or some big companies but it is the duty of all of us to maintain ecology through cleanliness, plantation and keeping the surroundings hygienic. He said that a good



Rohania MLA SN Singh planting a sapling in Varanasi on Friday

Pioneer

environment is necessary for a good health of future generations. As many as 101 saplings of mango, rosewood, berries, tulsi and others were planted near Shoolatankeshwar Mahadev Temple. Before the programme, CRPF personnel, continuing their bid since imposition of lockdown in view to prevent worldwide coronavirus pandemic, sanitised the areas with the spray of sodium hypochlorite solution. They also did thermal scanning of the local people. Leading social worker Keshav Jalan, Om Prakash Gupta, Narayan

Singh, Sameer Pandey and many others were also present.

**LAKSHMI BAI JAYANTI CELEBRATED:** Under the auspices of Maharani Lakshmi Bai Sewa Nyas, the Janmotsav of Rani Lakshmi Bai was organised at the statue in Bhadaini, here on Friday.

In the attire of Rani Lakshmi Bai, a class Xth girl student Shambhvi Singh drew the attention of all gathered on the occasion. The members of trust recalled the contribution of this great Queen of Jhansi who laid down her life for the sake of the nation. Rani Lakshmi Bai

fought the British rulers till the last breath and did not let them succeed in making the country slave until she was alive, they added.

This daughter of Kashi had got 350 districts free from British Rulers from May 10 to September 18 in 1857, they said. The bravery that Rani Lakshmi Bai had shown while fighting the Britishers, is remembered even till now, they said further.

The various competitions were also organised to mark the 185th birth anniversary of Rani Lakshmi Bai such as essay writing, Diwali card competition and solo acting competition and the winners were also rewarded. Because of the COVID-19, the procession was not taken out to mark the occasion and all the programmes were held by following the guidelines of pandemic.

Dr Ranjana Srivastava conducted the programme and Durga Pandey offered a formal vote of thanks at last. Many graced the occasion including Meena Chaubey, Ram Pyare Chaubey, Dr Padyaja Mehta and Ravi.

# Development of Shringverpur will be further accelerated: Maurya

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ ALLAHABAD

Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya said that the development of Shringverpur will be further accelerated. He said that ever since the BJP government has been formed at the Center, sites associated with Lord Ram are being developed. The work for Shriram Van Gaman is going on fast. Starting from Ayodhya, Ram Van Gaman will proceed to Chitrakoot via Shringverpur. A bridge will also be built on the river Ganga near Shringverpur, which will make the movement of people from this side easier. State Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya reached Shringverpur Dham, one of the pilgrimage sites associated with Lord Ram. A three-day Deepotsav Festival is being organised these days at Shringverpur Dham in Prayagraj. On Friday, the second day of the programme, the Deputy Chief Minister, Keshav Prasad Maurya also reached Shringverpur Dham. He attended the Deepotsav and worshipped. Thereafter, he also performed the aarti and worshipped Maa Ganga.

During this, Deputy CM Keshav Prasad Maurya said that the Ganga Expressway is



Deputy CM KP Maurya performing aarti at the Shringverpur ghat

Pioneer

also being built connecting this religious place. This work is also going on at a fast pace. Deputy CM Keshav Maurya along with Phulpur MP Kesari Devi Patel and Phaphamau

MLA Vikramaditya Maurya also performed Ganga Aarti. They demanded that Shringverpur be made an assembly constituency and a tehsil. On their demands, the

Deputy CM assured to do so. During this some people were also honoured. Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Maurya left for Ayodhya after joining the programme.

# People throng Hanuman temples

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ ALLAHABAD

Chhoti Diwali is also celebrated as Janmotsav of Lord Hanuman, so people thronged all Hanuman temples here, particularly the Bade Hamunan temple on the Sangam bank and the Hanumat Niketan in Civil Lines. Dakshin Mukhi Hanuman temple in Rambagh also attracted devotees in thousands.

Hanuman Chalisa and Sundar Kand recitation marked Hanuman Jayanti at temples and also at residences of the devotees. Though most of the temple visitors observed Covid guidelines, still there were many who preferred not to sport masks. To maintain physical distance, circles were marked at temples, but the non-serious people created a rush, and the temple administration had to make appeals several times.

Hanuman Jayanti was celebrated in the city with great religious fervour and enthusiasm. The temples of Lord Hanuman were tastefully decorated with flower petals and festoons. At some places, prabh-



Bade Hanuman temple being decked up with flowers and festoon on eve of Diwali in Prayagraj.

at pheries and procession of

Lord Hanuman were taken out. Chanting 'Har Har

# Jaypee Cement makes inroads in markets

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ ALLAHABAD

Jaypee Cement in Uttar Pradesh has been able to increase its sales in a tremendous way due to its excellent quality, reliable delivery system and amazing customer service, said Senior Vice-President of JP Cement SKP Gupta.

In the last few months, Jaypee Cement has started making tremendous inroads in the markets of Uttar Pradesh by starting produc-

tion with several new cement plants. Cement plants at Prayagraj, Churk and Chunar in Uttar Pradesh are producing world class quality cement at international standards by grinding high level clinker.

SKP Gupta added that JP Cement has made the best quality and best customer service the core of its sales system, and in order to provide the best cement in the markets of Uttar Pradesh, Jaypee

Cement, Master Builder, Buland and Foundation Brand is committed for its continuous supply. Everyone attributed JP Cement's ever-increasing popularity to JP Cement's highest quality.

Apart from the good quality of the cement, the scientific method and correct method of using the cement should also be known only then a strong house can be built. For this reason, JP Cement is continuously conducting

awareness campaign to training masons, cement artisans, contractors and engineers on a wide scale with their training programmes, so as to avoid common mistakes and mistakes made during construction and every construction made by JP Cement, the building should not only be solid but also have longevity. These efforts of customer service have brought JP Cement to this point of success.

# 97 more test positive in Prayagraj

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ ALLAHABAD

Coronavirus once again starts intensifying its tentacles in the Prayagraj city. According to the data, the number of infections increased for the third consecutive day on Thursday. The Covid report of 97 people came positive in 24 hours. At the same time, 72 people beat corona. One corona infected died during treatment.

According to CMO Dr GS Bajpai, the number of corona infected in the district has increased to 24,889 with 97 new patients. At the same time 23,724 people have also beaten corona. Of these, 17,757 people completed home isolation.

About 5,947 people were discharged from various Covid hospitals. On Thursday, 72 people who were infection-free were discharged from hospitals and 44 people com-

pleted home isolation. According to the CMO, a total of 5,883 people were sampled for the Covid test. The Target Group testing was conducted in the electronics showrooms, shops and showrooms of vehicles. With the death of one infected, the number of people who lost their lives to corona infection has increased to 325.

With a view to stop the spread of corona infection, Covid testing centres will be open on Saturday and Sunday i.e. on Diwali and also on its second day. CMO informed that on November 14 and 15, all hospitals and all sampling centres will be open. Covid screening facilities will also be available in private hospitals and nursing homes. Instructions have been issued in this regard. From November 16, all teams and mobile vans will carry out sampling work as before.

# Shoppers throng markets on Diwali eve

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ ALLAHABAD

The rising number of COVID-19 cases in Prayagraj notwithstanding, excited shoppers thronged markets on the eve of Diwali (popularly known as chhoti Diwali) on Friday even as many were spotted without masks and flouting social distancing.

The crowds outside shops and temporary markets indicated how people were turning a blind eye to safety norms.

Electrical items, gadgets, garments, decorative items, earthen lamps, candles and lai and lawa (puffed rice) were among the most demanded goods in markets, many of which have mushroomed in narrow lanes of localities.

In several places, both shopkeepers and customers were found ignoring COVID-19 safety protocol. Of those who were seen wearing masks,

many did not cover their noses. Despite the presence of police personnel in markets, the violations went unchecked.

Meanwhile, shops in Civil Lines, Katra, Chowk, Teliarganj, Sulem Sarai, Mutthiganj, Kydganj, Khuldabad, Batasa Mandi and Loknath remained open till late and did brisk business.

'As it is our businesses were affected due to the pandemic and lockdown. So, we are trying to recover our losses by staying open for longer hours,' said Gopal Das, a shopkeeper in Chowk.

Traders are hopeful that festive sales for the next three days will help them shore up their businesses.

Roadside shops selling decorative items like artificial flowers, lamps and decorative lights also drew a lot of shoppers. The festive rush also led to heavy traffic on several routes in the city.



# GSVMMC selected for Covid test award

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

The GSVM Medical College has been selected for the International Global Award for carrying out the highest number of Covid tests in a span of six months.

It has been ranked No. 1 for carrying out three lakh Covid tests, the highest in the UP, and has been selected for the award for this feat.

The medical college's lab in Kanpur Nagar is a BSL-2 (biosafety level 2) certified facility

with the latest equipment that enable it to give the report the same day and also upload it on the portal.

GSVM Medical College Principal Prof RB Kamal said the laboratory was under the direct control of the microbiology department which came into existence on April 14.

He said that not only the latest equipment but the laboratory's manpower was also behind its success as the lab was working round the clock with the technicians and pathologists coming in three shifts without any leave .

## 66 more test positive

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

Kanpur Nagar reported 66 more coronavirus positive cases on Friday evening. Chief Medical Officer Dr Anil K Mishra said that 66 more people had tested positive for coronavirus infection between Thursday evening and Friday evening taking the tally of confirmed cases to 28,820 cases. He said that 18 cases were discharged from hospital. He said one COVID-19 death in the city was reported till Friday evening keeping the death toll to 751. The CMO said at present 853 active cases were undergoing treatment. Dr Mishra said 3726 samples were sent for testing in the city.

He said the testing was done not alone for Kanpur Nagar but also for samples coming from Kanpur Dehat, Fatehpur, Hamirpur, Chitrakoot and Jalaun.

Prof Kamal said the biosafety level 2 was suitable for work involving agents of moderate potential hazard to personnel and the environment or toxins that posed a moderate danger if accidentally inhaled, swallowed or exposed to the skin. He said the design requirements for BSL-2 laboratories included hand washing sinks, eye washing stations and doors that closed and locked automatically.

He said out of the total three lakh plus tests, 7,945 results were positive. He said when the laboratory started it had a capacity to test 100 samples but at present it possessed the facility to test 3,000 plus tests per day, which was a record in itself.

He added that in view of the festival, one had to be extra careful. He advised people to follow the Covid protocol and maintain social distancing and wear face masks when out of the house.

He also advised people to wash their hands and use sanitisers frequently after coming in contact with any object at public places.

# History-sheeter's murder worked out, assailant held

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

The police have worked out the murder of a history-sheeter, Mukesh Rawat alias Rohit of Nawabganj. He was killed by his friend Arun Mishra to avenge his being slapped by the history-sheeter.

With the help of mobile phone surveillance, the police arrested the assailant near Kalyanpur-Bithoor toad tri-section and recovered the iron rod used in the crime near Singhpur road crossing on the information given by Mishra.

It may be recalled that the body of history-sheeter Mukesh Rawat, a resident of Pahalwanpurwa, Kanpur Zoo, Nawabganj, was recovered near Shivdeenpurwa main road on Mandhana-Ganga Barrage highway under Bithoor police station on Wednesday morning.

Late in the night, Rawat's wife, Gunjan, had lodged an FIR against Annu alias Arun Mishra of Nawabganj Kheora and his friend, Amit, at the Bithoor police station. She alleged that both these friends had taken Mukesh Rawat with them.

Kalyanpur Circle Officer Ashok Kumar said during investigation, Arun Mishra was found to be present near the spot where the Rawat's body was found.

Mishra was arrested on Thursday and he confessed his crime.

Bithoor Station House Officer Kaushlendra Pratap Singh said that during interrogation, Mishra revealed that while consuming liquor five days ago, he had an argument with Rawat and he had



Murder accused Annu alias Arun Mishra arrested by Bithoor police. Pioneer

slapped him in front of all other friends and he had decided to avenge his insult.

Around 6 pm on Wednesday, Mishra and his friend Amit took Rawat to Singhpur model shop where the three consumed liquor. Thereafter, after purchasing some more country-made liquor, they took Rawat to a plotting site on the road to Shivdeenpurwa village and they again consumed liquor there.

On getting a chance, Mishra repeatedly hit Rawat on the head from behind with the iron rod, and escaped with his friend.

Mishra said he had no intention to kill Rawat and only wanted to teach him a lesson by breaking his hands and feet.

## NER GM inaugurates VSS control room

CORRESPONDENT ■ GORAKHPUR

General Manager of North Eastern Railway (NER) Vinay Kumar Tripathi on Thursday in the Operating department here inaugurated the newly-established Video Surveillance System (VSS) control room by unveiling the plaque. The GM after seeing the method of working of VSS gave several practical suggestions for system improvement in it. In order to make VSS more effective, he suggested to develop face recognition system and also the alarm/alert facility of defective cameras. The officials of RailTel while describing the suggestions of GM as very important assured to include them in VSS. Among those present on the occasion were Additional General Manager (AGM) AK Agarwal, Principal Chief Engineer PCE SK Pandey, senior Deputy General Manager (Dy GM), Amitabh Ojha, Principal Chief Operating Manager (PCOM), Anil Kumar Singh, Principal Chief Security Commissioner (PCSC)/RPF, Atul Kumar Srivastava, PCCM SC Prasad, PCME AK Pandey, CSC/RPF Dr SK Saini, CSO SN Shah, CCE PK Rai, CPO/ Administration



Nuruddin, secretary to GM DK Khare, CPRO Pankaj Kumar Singh, RailTel GM Deepu Shyam and senior officers of Railway and RailTel. It is noteworthy here that very effective in protecting railway passengers the provision for VSS at railway stations is being made by RailTel at 6,124 stations/points of all Indian Railways. In the first phase more than 300 VSS have been established on Indian Railways. On NER in the first phase VSS has been started at as many as 12 stations, including Basti, Gonda and Khalilabad of Lucknow division, Kathgodam and Rudrapur City of Izzatnagar division and Ballia, Mau, Belthara Road, Azamgarh, Deoria Sadar, Chhapra and Siwan stations of Varanasi division, CPRO PK Singh. This system will be expanded in all the stations of NER in a phased manner. On NER's important stations such as Gorakhpur and Lucknow Junction closed-circuit television (CCTV) cameras have already been installed. Moreover this system will be expanded in all the stations of North Eastern Railway in a phased manner. In VSS IP-based camera has been installed. Each camera has a very high recording capacity.

## 208 tortoises recovered; three held

CORRESPONDENT ■ MIRZAPUR

GRP arrested three smugglers and recovered 208 tortoises on Thursday. Reports said SO GRP US Kushwaha during patrolling along with team saw seven bags lying on the platform in a suspicious manner and tried to locate their owners. During the search they found the three smugglers hiding in a nearby bush who confessed that tortoises which were kept in the bags were being transported to West Bengal to be sold there at a heavy price. The police released the tortoises in the river and booked the accused Sonu and Sonu Patharkata, residents of Pakadi village under Kotwali Dehat police station in Sultanpur and Manisha, daughter of Sonu Kumar, under relevant sections of crime.

SEMINAR: MLA Majhawaan Shuchismita Maurya while addressing a seminar organised to mark Dhanvantari Jayanti said health was more important than wealth. She said that at the cost of health no goal could be achieved. Dr GP Awasthi said that irregular lifestyle was responsible for more

than 85 per cent diseases. Other speakers said that we should adopt our traditional lifestyle. Somnath, Dr KK Barnwal, Dr Kavita Mishra and Dr Deepshikha were honoured for their outstanding contribution to the society. The seminar organised under the aegis of Arogya Bharti was presided over by Dr Sandeep and conducted by Dr TN Dwivedi. Among those present were Dr CL Bind, Dr Aditi Jain, Sunil Kumar and Dr Vivek.

MARCH: To make people aware about traffic rules and women about their rights a march of NCC cadets was taken out recently. During the march awareness slogans were raised, placards pertaining to the drive attracted the people and a van displaying its purpose accompanied it. The march was flagged off by ASP (City) Sanjay Kumar and was led by CO City AK Rai.

KILLED: Vijay (19) and Anil (18) of Tendua village under Lalgaon police station died when a truck hit their bike near Pagar village. The police nabbed the truck driver and took their bodies for completing the legal formalities.

## CRS inspects Nandganj-Taraon section

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

Commissioner of Railway Safety (CRS), Lucknow (NE Circle) Mohammad Latif Khan made a safety test of newly-constructed second line and electrified section in Nandganj-Taraon (nine km) railway section on Thursday. The work was done under the ongoing doubling project on Varanasi City-Chhapra railway route of Varanasi Division of NER for upgradation of passenger facility and making the train operation easy in the area. CRS first reached Nandganj railway station in his special vehicle and carried out intensive inspection for traffic management on double line at the station. He also inspected electrification works including 25000 volt 50 Hz AC traction line, new foot overbridge, passenger facilities, platform length, station master room, station panel, fire alarm, relay room, point crossing, signals and others during his safety test visit. Later



successful speed trial by electric loco powered special vehicle and in just 10 minutes the distance from Taraon to Nandganj was covered. Earlier on October 12 the CRS had inspected the newly-constructed second line and electrification of the 12-km long Aunrihar-Taraon section. During his inspection Khan was accompanied by CAO (Construction) of NER RK Yadav, PCE AK Shukla, DRM (Varanasi) VK Panjari, Dy CSO (Signal) Balbir Yadav, Chief Signal and Telecom Engineer (Project and Planning) AK Verma, CS&TE (Construction) Neelam Mahesh, DCS&TE (Construction) AK Pandey and other senior officials from NER headquarters, Construction unit and Varanasi division.

## Additional coaches to be attached in trains

CORRESPONDENT ■ GORAKHPUR

Keeping the convenience of the waiting list passengers in mind due to the rush the railway administration will attach additional coaches in the following trains. Now the arrangement for feeding of additional coaches has been done instantly so that passengers can get immediate benefits. As soon as these additional coaches arrive on the system much before the departure time of the train the waiting list will be reduced or reservation will be confirmed. With this facility the railway administration has succeeded in checking the touts as well. Passengers travelling in these special trains have to comply with the Covid-19 prevention guidelines, CPRO PK Singh said. In the 09021 Bandra Terminus (T)-Lucknow special on November 14, 21 and 28 from Bandra (T) an additional sleeper class coach will be attached. In 09022 Lucknow-Bandra Terminus special train on November 15, 22 and 29 from Lucknow an additional sleeper class coach will be attached. In the 09065 Surat-Chhapra special on November 16 from Surat one AC third and three additional sleeper coaches will be attached. In the 09066 Chhapra-Surat special on November 18 from Surat one AC third and three additional sleeper coaches will be attached. In 09089 Ahmedabad-Gorakhpur special from November 13 to 30 from Ahmedabad two additional sleeper class coaches will be attached. In 09058 Manduadih-Udhna special train on November 15, 22 and 29 from Manduadih an additional sleeper coach will be attached. In 09019 Udhna-Chhapra special on November 15, 22 and 29 from Udhna an additional sleeper coach

will be attached. In 09020 Chhapra-Udhna special on November 17, 24 and December 1 from Chhapra an additional sleeper coach will be attached. In 05008 Lucknow Jn- Varanasi city special in Lucknow Jn from November 14 to 17 an additional sleeper coach will be attached. In 05007 Varanasi City-Lucknow special from November 15 to 18 from Varanasi City an additional sleeper coach will be attached. In the 02597 Gorakhpur-Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus special on November 17 and 24 from Gorakhpur two additional general second class coaches will be attached. In the 02598 Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus - Gorakhpur special Train on November 18 and 25 from Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus two additional general second class coaches will be attached. In 05018 Gorakhpur-Lokmanya Tilak Terminus special from November 13 to 17 from Gorakhpur 2020 an additional second class coach will be attached. In the 05017 Lokmanya Tilak Terminus-Gorakhpur special from November 15 to 19 from Lokmanya Tilak Terminus an additional coach will be attached. In the 05011 Chhapra-Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus special on November 17 from Chhapra two additional general second class coaches will be attached. In 05102 Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus-Chhapra special train on November 20 from Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus two general second class coaches will be attached.

NEW DELHI-BARAUNI SPL: The railway administration will run 04476/04475 New Delhi-Barauni-New Delhi puja special from New Delhi on November 16 and from Barauni on November 17 for one trip. All coaches in these trains will be of reserved category, CPRO said.

# Baroda UP Bank distributes loans

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

Baroda UP Bank Divisional Manager SB Saxena, while inaugurating a comprehensive loan distribution camp at Sadh here, said the government's objective of distributing loans was to provide opportunity to the people to contribute in nation building.

He said the bank had always been in the forefront to uplift the economic status of its customers by providing them easy loans on competitive interest rates. He said often the loans were focused more on the urban areas and the rural people were deprived of the opportunities but Baroda UP Bank was focused on this section of society. He said there was immense talent in non-metro areas and the only setback was that the talent died on account of lack of opportunity, especially on the financial front.

He said on several occasions such people were provided loans and they were not only able to start their ventures but also provide employment



Baroda UP Bank Loan Distribution Camp being held on Thursday. Pioneer

to others as well. He said as part of the comprehensive loan distribution plan, 151 beneficiaries had been extended loans from the bank.

He said the bank distributed Rs 1.51 crore to the beneficiaries that included loans to KCG, KCC dairy and traders.

He said as per the pact with the bank, these beneficiaries would have to repay the loans within 12 months and they had to pay timely and regularly. He said the bank had extended a facility of 5 per cent further discount on the interest if one paid the loans timely and regularly.

The mega camp had officials of various other branches like Kudhni, Bariagarh, Nauranga and Umri.

Prominent among those who took part in the loan camp included Sharad Shukla, JM Singh, DP Gupta, Tarun, Yogendra Singh and SK Singh

## Webinar discusses challenges before women labourers

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

The BEd department of Virendra Swarup Institute of Professional Studies, in collaboration with National Commission for Women, organised a national webinar on 'Challenges faced by the labour and labour market division caught in throes of social disparity.'

The webinar was inaugurated by Virendra Swarup Institute's Principal Poonam Madan, who said the effort of the institute was to create awareness among women, especially from the weaker sections of society. She said it was the duty of the academic institutions to create awareness on the subject so that the benefits could reach the grassroots level.

Speaking on the topic, Dr Preeti Mishra from Human Rights School of Legal Studies, BR Ambedkar University, Lucknow, said the current challenge before the migrant women labourers was the true implementation of schemes and an end to social disparity.

She said the economic status of women was inextricably related to the treatment that they were accorded to in the labour market which was unequal vis-à-vis men and the unequal access, control and ownership of productive resources like land, credit, technology, education, skills, inequitable work burdens, inequitable distribution of consumption resources within the household were major factors differentiating women from men. She said the increase in employment and access to economic and other productive assets were the building blocks of women's economic empowerment. She said women represented half of the population in India, however, when it came to participation in economic activities, gaining economic empowerment, there were only 22.5 per cent of the women in the labour force as against 55.6 per cent of men. She further said that in rural areas this figure declined to 26.5 per cent from 33.3 per cent in and in urban it declined to 14.6 per cent from 17.8 per cent. She said for men, the decline was seen only for urban areas and there too, the decline in women was greater than men.

## Pneumonia responsible for 15 pc deaths in children

KANPUR (PNS): World Pneumonia Day was observed on Thursday and the theme this year was 'Every Breath Counts'. Most people suffering from COVID-19 have mild or moderate symptoms like cough, fever, and shortness of breath. However some people who contract the novel coronavirus infection suffer from severe pneumonia in both lungs. COVID-19 pneumonia is a serious illness that can be deadly and in view of the second wave of COVID-19 about to emerge, there is a need to create awareness among the masses regarding pneumonia. Pneumonia is responsible for 15 percent of deaths in children under the age of five in India, and yet, just three percent of global infectious disease research spending was being allocated to the disease before the outbreak of the novel coronavirus pandemic.

This was stated by ex-director of ML Chest Hospital and member of Chest Physicians of India, Dr SK Chaudhary, while addressing a virtual seminar on 'Pneumonia to COVID-19' at VS Degree

College here on Thursday.

He said pneumonia could be a complication of COVID-19 and the symptoms of COVID-19 pneumonia could be similar to other types of viral pneumonia. He said pneumonia was a lung infection that caused inflammation in the tiny air sacs inside the lungs and they get filled with fluid and pus that made it hard to breathe. He said it caused severe shortness of breath, cough, fever, chest pain, chills or fatigue. He said one could have pneumonia as a complication of viral infections such as COVID-19 or the flu, or even a common cold and bacteria, fungi and other micro-organisms could also cause it. He said the illness tied to the novel coronavirus was originally called novel coronavirus-infected pneumonia (NCIP) and the World Health Organisation renamed it COVID-19.

Pneumonia is a severe lung infection. In some people, it can be fatal, especially among the elderly and those with respiratory disorders. COVID-19 can also spread to the lungs,

causing pneumonia. He said in the current times most cases developed severe pneumonia that did not respond well to treatment. Dr Chaudhary said if COVID-19 spread to the lungs, it could cause pneumonia and the virus could progress through the respiratory tract and into a person's lungs which caused inflammation and the air sacs, or alveoli, could get filled with fluid and pus and this progression then limited a person's ability to take in oxygen. He added that people with severe pneumonia may have lungs that are so inflamed that they cannot take in enough oxygen or expel enough carbon dioxide. He said continuous oxygen deprivation could damage many organs, causing kidney failure, heart failure, and other life threatening conditions. He said symptoms of pneumonia could vary from mild to severe but typical symptoms included cough, loss of appetite, nausea/vomiting, shortness of breath, fever, difficulty in breathing deeply. He added that people with conditions that weakened the lungs or

immune system may be more vulnerable to COVID-19 pneumonia. He said this could be triggered by factors like cancer, diabetes, high blood pressure, severe heart disease, kidney and liver diseases in people who were above the age of 65 years. Dr Chaudhary said people with more severe pneumonia may need to stay in hospital while in hospital, a person may receive intravenous (IV) fluids and monitoring. He said people with breathing difficulties may need a ventilator or oxygen therapy. He said it was highly contagious and thus one must avoid contact with people outside their own household, as much as possible. He advised people to remain at home and not go out if sick and wear a face covering when around other people. He said air pollution was a major risk factor for pneumonia but indoor air pollution was a major contributor of respiratory infection in many high-burden pneumonia countries, where the burning of biomass for cooking, heating and lighting were the common sources of pollution.



## Stimulus or not?

It is way too optimistic to believe that the latest infusion of funds into the economy will help India emerge from the pandemic



While it was always felt that India should have gone big with its first stimulus package, some more educated economists believed that the Government was wise to not play its hand too soon. Is it the correct time now for the Government to infuse funds into the economy? It is apparent that officials in the Finance Ministry believe just that with the latest round of prod measures announced by Nirmala Sitharaman. Yet questions remain about their efficacy because of their selective, sectoral appeal. Definitely fertiliser, cement and steel companies as well as those into infrastructure building will be very happy. Also some kind of job creation

is expected. Under this scheme, every establishment that is registered with the Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) will be incentivised to hire people who were not registered with EPFO earlier as well as those who lost their jobs between March 1, 2020, to September 30, 2020. The Central Government will give a subsidy for new employees for establishments with up to 1,000 employees. Yet, the average income tax payer, the white collar worker, who has been hit the hardest by the pandemic, might still feel hard done by with the few direct relief measures announced. But as the Bihar elections made it very clear that Prime Minister Narendra Modi knows his audience well, so he is ensuring that those in lower income groups get much of the benefits. The Opposition will almost certainly protest but it has not brought any positive ideas to the table either, thus cementing its political irrelevance. One will have to wait and see if this is the spark that the economy needs to recover from months of stasis. Certainly, increased activity in infrastructure and the performance-linked incentives for manufacturing might push up growth curves and bring back jobs across the board. While incentives to clear the housing inventory and step up infrastructure are good, there also needs to be an acceptance by many that the good times of the past will not come back anytime soon. Sales will stay depressed for a while, as will salaries and while there might be some festive cheer about a vaccine, it may be several months, maybe even a couple of years before a reasonable number of Indians receive a shot. The stimulus believes in creating a demand but the consumer will be cautious for some time. However, it is the informal sector that has been the hardest hit and where direct cash transfers are still a patchy proposition. Modi may have spun an electoral magic but without a booming economy, employment and newer opportunities, particularly among the subaltern castes, he cannot sustain his popularity either.

As announced, the stimulus package was said to be of ₹29,87,641 crore (15 per cent of GDP till date) with the Government's contribution being nine per cent of GDP and the Reserve Bank of India's the remaining six per cent. But even if we calculate the account of the extra spend this year, it adds up to only ₹1,18,200 crore which is not even half of what Sitharaman promised. Also this only accounts for 0.6 per cent of GDP. The first package on March 27, the highlight of which was the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana, was ₹1.08 lakh crore; the second announcement, which was made over a period of five days in May, added up another ₹1.08 lakh crore to the Centre's fiscal cost and the third package in October had a capital expenditure component of just ₹37,000 crore. Even after adding all the relief measures for the Coronavirus pandemic made by the Government, it would increase the Centre's actual fiscal outgo by under two per cent of GDP in 2020-21. Additionally, the expenditure in the form of production-linked incentives (PLIs) to 10 new sectors amounting to ₹1,45,980 crore will most likely kick in only in the next financial year. However, we all know that things could be a lot worse and in this festive season, we should remember that last Diwali nobody thought we would be here today. We can only hope that Diwali 2021 is the one where the economy and society are both looking up.

## Obama's honesty

Former US President calls Rahul Gandhi 'nervous, unformed', reinforcing an image that the Congress leader ought to change



It is not the best of times to be Rahul Gandhi, what with the Congress hitting new lows both electorally and politically and all of it being attributed to his lustreless persona, directionless ideas and unchanging ways. The Gandhi scion continues to lose the battle of perception despite the many image makeovers he might have undergone. But the latest opinion of former US President Barack Obama has definitely done him in. In his new memoir, *Promised Land*, the Democrat leader, who has worked extensively with the Congress-led United Progressive Alliance (UPA) while in office, made quite uncharitable and unflattering remarks about him.

Basing his observations on a short meeting he had with Rahul in 2017, he described him as having a "nervous unformed quality about him," like a student eager to impress the teacher but "lacking aptitude and passion to master the subject." Considering it comes from a world leader with proven liberal values and one who would be deeply invested in politicians sharing his vision, this comment definitely shows up Rahul as a reluctant leader forced into circumstances and explains much of his recalcitrance and abandonment of Congress affairs after the Lok Sabha debacle of 2019. This lends further grist to criticism about his ability to lead the party again, something that his mother Sonia Gandhi wants. His political opponents and their troll armies have long tried to undermine him, both as a leader of any standing and as a serious critic of the Government by giving him nicknames like "shehzada", "pappu" and so on. Even when he does make valid points, like questioning the Government about the ailing economy, or the plight of women or the poor handling of the pandemic, despite him raising the issue way before it turns into a major crisis for the country, his detractors are dismissive of his voice. Plus, Opposition unity has suffered badly because of his non-serious nature with senior leaders like Mamata Banerjee and Chandrababu Naidu refusing to deal with his immaturity. But this book has just unmade his efforts at being serious through the year of the pandemic at least. For Obama's words are sincere and precise and unlike the vacuous name-calling by trolls, are actually trenchant, projecting the reality of Rahul as it is. And it rings more true as the former US President had a few good words for the then Prime Minister Manmohan Singh in comparison. He found him, like former US Secretary of Defence Bob Gates, to be among those who have a "kind of impassive integrity." Clearly, this draws more attention to Singh being the "accidental and silent" Prime Minister, who had to kowtow to the Congress first family. The "told you so" comments are predictably flooding the Internet.

However, Rahul is not the only politician to have been at the receiving end of Obama's biting wit as he has described Russian President Vladimir Putin as "physically unremarkable." This demolishes the carefully constructed belief of the latter being the epitome of hypermasculinity in his country, particularly after his widely-publicised photo shoot in which the bare-chested leader can be seen riding a horse in Siberia, giving him instant mythical status in Russia. He has also compared Putin to "tough, street-smart ward bosses who used to run Chicago." He recalls the former President of France, Nicolas Sarkozy as "bold and opportunistic" with "his chest thrust out like a bantam cock's." And even though he has kind words for the US President-elect Joe Biden and calls him an honest, loyal and decent man, Obama does say that he sensed Biden "might get prickly if he thought he wasn't given his due — a quality that might flare up when dealing with a much younger boss." Obama is not bound by diplomatic niceties of his office anymore but as a statesman, he has made an honest assessment of leadership and left us to deduce what its components should be by exposing shortcomings. If anything, Obama's observation should be Rahul's wake-up call. For his own good.

## Requiem for the Congress

To articulate the party's political philosophy when market capitalism increasingly sets the global agenda, the Gandhi siblings need to be familiar with its history



HIRANMAY KARLEKAR

The outcome of the Bihar Legislative Assembly election seems to suggest that the Indian National Congress is on a course of terminal decline. The familiar qualifying refrain, "barring a miracle", does not seem to apply here given the magnitude of its non-performance. It won only 19 of the 70 seats, which is a shade over 27 per cent, of the 243 it contested. Its utterly poor show pulled down the Rashtriya Janata Dal-led alliance, the *Mahagatbandhan* (MGB), despite the RJD's brave show, emerging as the largest single party with 75 seats, with the BJP a whisker short at 74. The BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) won 125 seats against the MGB's 110.

The Congress won a little over 27 per cent of the seats it contested, while the RJD won a trifle above 53 per cent and the three Left parties, which bagged 17 seats — with the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) getting 11 — a little more than 58 per cent. This is a dismal outcome for a party that had led India's struggle for independence from British rule and given the country a stable Government for the first 20 years as a free nation. It enjoyed unchallenged power during this period when it assiduously nurtured India's infant democracy, enabling it to strike deep roots.

Congress leaders have contended that the 70 seats their party contested were in areas where they had traditionally fared very poorly. In the 2010 Assembly polls, the BJP-Janata Dal (United) alliance won 65 of these. They led in 67 of the 70, which were Assembly segments of various Lok Sabha constituencies, in the parliamentary elections of 2019 they fought together. The question of the matter is: Why did the Congress contest these? Why, recognising its pathetic lack of workers and organisational strength on the ground, did it not contest fewer seats and concentrate all its strength in these? Significantly, it had won 27 of the 41 seats it had contested in the 2015 Assembly elections. It is difficult to avoid the conclusion that it was ambition-driven optimism, without any basis in reality, that had prodded the party. Obviously, none in the latter's decision-making parlour had read *Macbeth* saying in Shakespeare's play of the same name, "I have no



spur/ To prick the sides of my intent, but only/ Vaulting ambition, Which o'erleaps itself/ And falls on thiother." And now, lying on the other, the party is alternating between licking its wounds and offering explanations.

The impact of this over-arching strategic blunder was aggravated by several factors. Apart from a few ineffective appearances, the Congress's top leaders like Rahul, Priyanka and Sonia Gandhi were generally missing from the scene. One, however, wonders whether it would have made any difference if they had been more visible and vocal. It is well-known that Sonia Gandhi is ill. While enjoying a certain acceptability among leaders of most Opposition parties, she lacks the command over Hindi required to strike a chord with the masses. This stands out as a major liability *vis-a-vis* Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who can sweep crowds off their feet with his strident oratory and has an uncanny ability to connect with people. It is no secret that it was his speeches in a string of public rallies in the last phase of the campaign that turned the tide in the NDA's favour.

Rightly or wrongly, Rahul Gandhi remains burdened with the "pappu" image, is an indifferent public speaker, and is seen as a part-time politician who vanishes after periodic appearances, generating much speculation about his whereabouts. The same goes for Priyanka Gandhi. Consider the Hathras

rape incident. The duo burst into the forefront of the movement, demanding justice for the victim and her family, and then dropped out of sight. The argument that they had no occasion to stage another dramatic public appearance does not hold. A successful politician must know how to create such occasions. This is particularly so because a politician's image is increasingly important in a world where issues are too complex, and their solutions too technical, for ordinary voters to decide between the plans on offer. They tend to vote for the person who, they feel, can deliver. The appearance of capability is an important determinant of a leader's acceptability.

Can Rahul and Priyanka change the way the public seems to perceive them? Images tend to stick to people but can be overcome given foresight, determination, effort and, of course, success. When Indira Gandhi first came to power, she was regarded as a protégé of the Syndicate and a pushover. If memory serves, Ram Manohar Lohia called her a "gungi Gudiya" or a dumb doll. Yet she worsted the Syndicate on the issue of who should India's President be — ensuring the victory of her candidate, VV Giri, over the Syndicate's nominee, N Sanjiva Reddy — swept the Lok Sabha elections of 1971, played a critical role in Bangladesh's liberation and established herself as a widely-accepted national leader. But for the Emergency, which remains a permanent blot on her

escutcheon, she might have been remembered as India's greatest Prime Minister.

Indira Gandhi established her position after becoming Prime Minister. Rahul and/or Priyanka Gandhi have to do so before assuming that office. It will be very difficult to do so through political action because the opportunities a Prime Minister can utilise by virtue of being in power — such as making populist moves like bank nationalisation, which Indira Gandhi resorted to — are not available to those in the Opposition. The latter can utilise the mistakes a Government makes. One, however, needs a certain political stature to lead effective movements against a Government and one cannot gain political stature unless one can lead effective movements. Stature is critically important. The movement against corruption that, surging through 1973-74, drove Indira Gandhi to the wall and prompted her to resort to the draconian step of declaring the Emergency, was led by Jayaprakash Narayan who, albeit no longer in politics then, was widely respected for his role in the freedom movement, in India's socialist politics, and land redistribution through land gifts (*Bhoodan*) movement.

Can Rahul and Priyanka Gandhi build up a credible stature for themselves? To start with, they need not disappear from the public eye every now and then, and begin making knowledgeable statements about not only current events but the

Congress's political philosophy and the political, economic, social, cultural and other policies arising therefrom. These have not been adequately articulated in the recent years though the party has moved far away from the resolution adopted at its Avadi session in 1955, calling for the "establishment of a socialistic pattern of society where the principal means of production are under social ownership or control" and there is "equitable distribution of the national wealth."

The economic trajectory the party adopted under PV Narasimha Rao's prime ministership, and continued to pursue under Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's watch, marked a radical departure from the course advocated at Avadi. The Congress, however, has yet to come out with a comprehensive articulation of its economic policy and its dialectic with concepts of social justice, consumer rights, democracy, the environment and human freedom. Nor has it gone beyond shibboleths and come out with a coherent formulation of its stand on human rights and secularism.

Without a philosophy, a political party lacks a compass for its policies and remains vulnerable to making compromises that, while serving ephemeraly, undermine its long-term credibility.

To articulate the party's political philosophy when market capitalism increasingly sets the global agenda, the Gandhi siblings need to be familiar with the history and the ideology of their party as well as the history of political and economic thought, and the contours of various ideologies like Marxism, *laissez faire* capitalism, Hindutva and the principles of integral humanism expounded by Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay.

As of now, one cannot visualise them doing so. Nor can one see a credible alternative leadership emerging within the Congress and of the latter becoming an effective political player at the national level. Recall the scant regard paid to the letter to Sonia Gandhi in August by 23 Congress leaders calling for root-and-branch reforms in the party, and their subsequent marginalisation. Without a change, one will be left with sharing William Wordsworth's lament in *On the Extinction of the Venetian Republic*, "Men are we, and must grieve when even the shade/ Of that which once was great is passed away."

(The writer is Consultant Editor, *The Pioneer*, and an author)

### SOUNDBITE

There are millions who have lost their jobs and livelihoods. Unless money is put in their hands, they will not be able to contribute to the revival of demand and the consequent revival of the economy.

**Congress leader**  
—P Chidambaram



Despite 450 years of exploitative Portuguese rule, Goa managed to keep its culture intact. India was already independent and for 14 years we had continued in exploitative Portuguese rule.

**Goa Chief Minister**  
—Pramod Sawant



We do see the economy continuing on a solid path of recovery, but the main risk we see to that is the further spread of disease here in the US.

**US Fed Reserve Chairman**  
—Jerome Powell



You cannot express in words what fun it is to be back on the golf course or a cricket ground, having fun and playing with friends.

**Former cricketer**  
—Kapil Dev



### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Long-term bonds

Sir — On November 12, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced a ₹2.65 lakh crore stimulus package to boost the COVID-hit economy. The *Aatmanirbhar* Bharat 3.0 stimulus package includes a subsidy scheme to give an impetus to job creation and an additional outlay for the urban housing scheme as well as measures aimed at 26 sectors worst hit by the lockdown. The Government should also revive public sector bakeries to set up big food processing and bakery units in each district of the country and produce packaged food to be served in trains and for mid-day meal programmes.

Huge funds required for setting up such big public sector units in large numbers can be acquired through long-term low interest bonds. The interest should be exempted from taxation. As per the recommendations by the Raja Chelliah Tax Reforms Committee, those with incomes exceeding more than ₹30 lakh should be required to compulsorily invest 20 per cent of their income per annum in these bonds. Apart from generating a huge number of employ-

ment opportunities, the move will profit the public exchequer.

**Madhu Agrawal**  
*Chandni Chowk*

#### Telangana HC steps in

Sir — Responding to a public interest litigation (PIL) filed by advocate P Indra Prakash, a division bench of the Telangana High Court, comprising Justice

#### Congress needs to pull up its socks

The lacklustre performance of the Congress in the Bihar Assembly election and the byelections in 11 States has exacerbated the crisis it faces. The grand old party had banked on several different factors in various States to fare well in the polls. However, the lack of strong leadership at different levels, organisational weaknesses, new political developments and reluctance of voters to place unconditional trust in the party contributed to its disappointing performance. In Bihar, the Congress failed to cash in on the anti-incumbency factor against the ruling National Democratic Alliance (NDA) and managed to win only 19 seats out of the 70 it contested.

Contrary to the expectations of the party that the electorate in Madhya Pradesh would give a fitting reply to the BJP for toppling the Congress Government unscrupulously, it cast its votes in favour of the ruling party. The Congress fared worse in Uttar Pradesh. Its inability to make a comeback in the UP elections despite the rising number of crimes against women and human



rights violations points to the party's pathetic state. Unless its leadership realises the frailties that have affected the party and takes corrective measures, it will adversely affect its future prospects. Sadly, the decline of the Congress will certainly be detrimental to Indian democracy.

**Venu GS**  
*Kollam*

Raghvendra Singh Chauhan and B Vijaysen Reddy, has ordered the Government to "immediately" impose curbs on the shops selling fireworks throughout the State. The judges observed that festivals do serve an important social function. However, it is the duty of the State Government to ensure that people's lives are not put at risk. This decision comes after States like Rajasthan, Delhi

and West Bengal banned the sale of firecrackers, keeping in view the high level of air pollution and the rising number of COVID-19 cases.

The problem of air pollution isn't new to India and every winter the conversation around it gains traction only to be forgotten once again. So, why is there no political will to address such a crucial matter? Why does a

court need to intervene when it should be the Government, both Central and States, that should work together to find a long-term solution. The idea of a green Diwali is welcome but this won't decrease the level of pollution that we are already witnessing. Strict measures need to be taken and followed through to clean up the toxic air we breathe.

**Melville D'Souza**  
*Mumbai*

#### Multi-party Opposition

Sir — India is witnessing a trend of political parties with different viewpoints coming together with the only aim of bringing down the ruling Government. For example, the Samajwadi Party's alliance with Bahujan Samaj Party and Rashtriya Lok Dal in Uttar Pradesh or the Grand Alliance of Rashtriya Janata Dal, Congress and the Left parties in Bihar. Such incoherent groups are not able to present before the electorate any credible alternative. Hence, the BJP continues to draw more votes.

**BP Srivastava**  
*Noida*

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



FIRST COLUMN

## Don't play politics over cracker ban

Many States have come up with their own norms. Even so, some States, looking at the issue through a selfish lens, are doing a flip-flop



RAJEEV AHUJA

After the National Green Tribunal (NGT) banned the sale and bursting of crackers in the Delhi-National Capital Region (NCR) till November 30, firecracker traders in Delhi were up in arms against the Government for having issued licences for the sale of fireworks in the first place. Did the Government not have the foresight to stop issuing licences? It is no secret that the air quality in Delhi-NCR goes for a toss during this time of the year, especially post-Dussehra and Diwali. It doesn't require much insight to see this coming and take preventive action, including non-issuance of licences for firecracker traders. But every year, all Governments deal with it as if it's a new issue. Why is this so? Bursting of crackers during weddings and festivals in India is a long-standing tradition. Hence it is a touchy issue. Any restraint is highly unpopular and has implications for the industry and employment as well. And so, all governments are reluctant to take a clear and tough stand on it. Now, with the country being in the middle of the Coronavirus pandemic, the issue of air pollution has acquired an added seriousness. Health authorities have already warned us that air pollution can aggravate the ongoing crisis. Couldn't the Delhi Government and the governments of the States surrounding the national Capital have anticipated this and shown some foresight?

Outside of Delhi-NCR, the ban by the NGT is applicable in towns and cities where the air quality is in the "poor" category. However, the tribunal allowed the sale and use of "green" crackers in areas where the air quality is "moderate" or "better." But even in such places, the tribunal has restricted the use of firecrackers to only two hours during festivals like Diwali, Chhath, Christmas and New Year's Eve. Many State Governments have come up with their own guidelines, restricting the use of firecrackers. Even so, some States, looking at the issue through a political lens, are doing a flip-flop. The ban has been imposed on both the demand and supply of crackers. On the demand side, it is a pity that some people still need to be stopped from bursting crackers at a time when the contagion has forced us all to reset our lifestyles.

While most people voluntarily exercise restraint, there remains a sizeable section of the population that would need to be restrained. Left to themselves, these people can create havoc for others. Given their mental make-up and their geographical scatter, the demand side enforcement of the ban by Government agencies is likely to be challenging. When looked at from the supply side, the ban has come too late in the day. The stocks that have already been produced will find their way into the market and get sold and used. It shouldn't come as a surprise if compliance remains tepid. The enforcement of the ban has to be made everybody's business. This is where some advance and longer-term planning would have helped.

Bursting of crackers that create so much air and noise pollution has to be treated as a social menace. A negative association between the bursting of crackers and the welfare of the people at large has to be drawn and reinforced time and again. There is a need to create a social norm around it to build pressure against those who resort to the firing of crackers. A collective action needs to be activated against this practice. Further, the law and order agencies need to engage civil society in the monitoring and reporting of violations of the prohibition. This just goes to show that a sophisticated approach is needed for dealing with the issue.

The bursting of firecrackers is only one of the sources of air pollution in major towns and cities and that, too, a transient one. Dealing with the other sources of air pollution such as vehicular emissions, dust from construction sites, burning of solid waste and so forth require a similar approach even before the Graded Response Action Plan kicks in. Some sources of air pollution such as the burning of crop residue don't have affordable technological fixes yet. The Government needs to work closely with research organisations and the industry to get cheap and sustainable technological solutions to the farmers. Where these solutions already exist, the Government needs to facilitate their early adoption by working closely with the industry and civil society.

Dealing with the challenge of air pollution requires changing peoples' choices and practices. This cannot happen without the Government's active engagement with the industry and civil society. Its role is not confined to merely being a referee or a regulator. It has a facilitator's role as well. Further, different layers of Government — Central, State, and local authorities — need to work in tandem. Delhi-NCR is probably the worst-affected by the coordination failure between the different State Governments and offices. This failure is seen across a slew of development challenges. The education system needs to do much more in conditioning children about the interdependence and interconnectedness of various sectors in controlling air pollution. People have to be taught early on about the limits to individual freedom and free will. They have to take socially responsible decisions when their actions adversely affect others. They have to respect the rights of others to clean air and health.

(The writer is a development economist and author)

FAMILY-RUN PARTIES ARE THE BIGGEST THREAT TO DEMOCRACY. THE ONLY MANTRA FOR OUR WIN WAS **SABKA SAATH, SABKA VIKAS AND SABKA VISHWAS** —PRIME MINISTER **NARENDRA MODI**



LEFT PARTIES DON'T HAVE A DYNASTIC RULE. BUT I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW HOW MANY BJP LEADERS' SONS AND DAUGHTERS ARE IN POLITICS IN BIHAR. —CPI LEADER **ATUL ANJAN**

# Manage land records better

The real constraint lies in discrepancies and the huge pendency of disputes about authenticity and completeness of ownership documents



SUBHASH CHANDRA PANDEY

Providing error-free, tamper-proof and effortlessly accessible land records has been a major and prolonged governance challenge in the country. Land is a State subject and the project for computerisation of land records has been dragging on for decades due to a systemic lack of capacity, will and resources. Under the Digital India Land Record Modernisation Programme, the Rural Development Ministry provides financial assistance to States for computerisation of records, survey, re-survey and computerisation of registration of plots. This involves preparation of cadastral maps, record of land rights, tracing changes in the rights and right-holders over time, deeds for registration of property transfers and other plot records.

By July 31 this year, the computerisation of land records was more than 90 per cent complete in 23 States and Union Territories (UTs). Digitisation of cadastral maps was more than 90 per cent done in 19 States and UTs, computerisation of registration was more than 90 per cent finished in 22 States and UTs while integration of the registration office with the revenue office was more than 90 per cent accomplished in 16 States and UTs. This is a historic effort towards rural transformation.

In a major initiative to use drones and satellites to digitally map the entire rural landscape, the Ministry launched a new Central scheme, Survey of Villages and Mapping with Improved Technology in Village Areas (SVAMITVA), on the National Panchayat Raj Day on April 24.

The Geological Survey of India has been asked to create a network of Continuously Operating Reference System (CORS) stations to utilise modern surveying technology. This will be based on global satellite positioning systems and drones for accuracy and real-time data acquisition. SVAMITVA will be gradually implemented to cover all villages (over 6.65 lakh) by March 2024 and one lakh villages have been targeted by March 2021. SVAMITVA is a national scale-up of Haryana's trail-blazing project of mapping villages to create a record of rights for "abadi" (inhabited) areas using a drone survey.

On October 11, an initial batch of one lakh beneficiaries from 763 villages from six States received an SMS link sent on their mobile phone to download their property cards, followed by the physical distribution of these cards by respective State Governments. Each card will have a unique identity number similar to the Aadhaar card. Acceptable proof of property ownership rights plays a big role in a country's development and these property cards would make accessing bank loans easier. This will further loosen the grip of the informal credit system.

SVAMITVA will help start-ups provide drone technology as they will get more business. Real Time Kinematic (RTK) and Post-Processing Kinematic (PPK) drone technologies are to be used for the mapping. The RTK technology uses the real-time satellite navigation technique to enhance the precision of position data derived from satellite-based positioning systems. The PPK technique is used to correct location data after drone data has been captured and uploaded. A number of agribased start-ups are coming up and the field is ripe for innovation and employment. Drone-based surveillance has already been successfully used for monitoring crowd movement and better traffic management. It is imperative that the SVAMIT-

“IT WOULD PERHAPS BE PREMATURE TO THINK ABOUT EVOLVING A MODEL LAND TENANCY LAW OR PROPOSING A COMMON TEMPLATE OF LAND MANAGEMENT SYSTEM BY THE CENTRE BUT CERTAINLY A SYSTEM OF SPECIAL INCENTIVES FOR ACCELERATING MODERNISATION OF THE RECORD SYSTEM SHOULD BE CONSIDERED”



VA scheme is not confined to rural areas and is accelerated to include urban areas, too, as fast as the States cooperate. After all, drones and satellites can only help create authentic records of locations. Who owns what rights on a particular piece of land cannot be decided by the technology service provider. So the rather broken mechanism for resolving title disputes needs to be fixed in parallel. That explains why covering all villages is targeted by March 2024.

It would be a big advancement in the governance system if the whole country is digitally mapped and each square metre is assigned a unique identification code. Spinoffs of a unique addressing system are limited only by the imagination. The enormous benefits of the unique addressing system for governance and business will include valuable inputs for distribution of population, homesteads, farmed areas, wetlands, forests and so on and better planning and implementation of projects.

Such a system will be useful in monitoring unauthorised constructions and encroachments as well. Petty corruption and local vested interests that patronise such activities can be checked through randomised selection of inspections by higher authorities.

The real constraint lies in discrepancies and the huge pendency of disputes about authenticity and completeness of land records. It is a big burden on the administrative system and courts. There is no ready central repository of statistics on cases pending with *Tehsildars*, Sub-Divisional Magistrates, District Magistrates, Divisional Commissioners, Revenue Ministers and Revenue Boards. Over 98 lakh civil cases were pending in

courts on November 12. Of these, 60 per cent were more than one year old, 34 per cent were over three years old and 20 per cent cases were over five years old. How many of them are land related is not known.

The fact that land record digitisation is over 90 per cent complete in 23 States and UTs is heartening but also indicates the enormous challenge that lies ahead. There are just too many departments and agencies involved in management of lands and superstructures thereon. There is an urban-rural divide handled by different Ministries and Departments even as more and more rural areas get commercialised and urbanised. Some areas develop a vested interest in remaining officially "rural" even though these are not just adjacent but deep inside big cities. *Lal Dora* lands in Delhi and "villages" in Delhi-NCR make an interesting study of what is rural and urban in terms of differential regulations and its costs to broader public interest.

Historically, Revenue Departments in States are primary custodians of land management, especially agricultural plots. Forest and urban land management is with the Forest Department, Urban Development Department, municipal bodies and area development authorities. In some States, separate Panchayati Raj departments maintain records of village lands and properties. Then there are special authorities for management of charitable endowments and Waqf properties. Some States have separated survey and settlement functions and given them to specialised agencies.

The Centre has a rather limited role in these transformative reforms as land

is a State subject. It provides some financial assistance and shares best practices across the country. Some additional measures are needed to speed up progress. For historical reasons, the land laws rooted in a colonial legacy differ widely across States. Post-Independence laws for implementing abolition of the *zamindari* system, "land to the tiller", rights of share-croppers, land ceiling, consolidation, reforming revenue system have been differently implemented. It would perhaps be premature to think about evolving a model land tenancy law or proposing a common template of land management system by the Centre but certainly a system of special incentives for accelerating modernisation of the record system should be considered.

Annual State rankings may also be considered. States are competing in annual ranking in terms of the Ease of Doing Business (EOBD) in the spirit of cooperative federalism. Ease of registering property, ease of verifying title and ease of recording and verifying charges on immovable property are contributory factors for promoting EOBD for corporations and Ease of Living for ordinary citizens.

The need to speed up modernisation of the land records system can hardly be overemphasised. Together with schemes like PM-KISAN and the new agri-reform laws, incentivising digital payments and online trade of farm produce will strengthen the process of gradual formalisation and digitalisation of economic activities and boost officially-recorded economic growth.

(The writer is former Special Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry)

# Miles to go before we achieve gender parity

In India, women's struggle to gain working space continues. They form only 19.9 per cent of the total labour force, much below the halfway mark



ARCHANA DATTA

Is gender stereotyping a thing of the past? No way! There are instances of sexism galore even in the "post-feminist" world. A widely circulated video on a popular social media platform showed how a "work from home" husband, hassled by his wife's never-ending demands for participating in domestic chores, longs to get back to the office. The images, no doubt, reinforce the notion that domesticity is the women's domain and the external world belongs to men.

In Justice Amy Coney Barrett's recent Senate Judiciary confirmation meetings, her large brood found frequent mention and her commitment to motherhood was part of the public narrative. However, in the case of former Justice Antonin Scalia, his fatherhood and large family never found any mention.

During the present pandemic, a handful of women political leaders earned applause for their effective containment strategies. In a crisis, their humility, inclusiveness, decisiveness and empathy touched the right chord with their beleaguered compatriots. It certainly unsettled the existing presumptions about leadership, which is often associated with "macho" qualities.

Roshnee Lamichhane, Professor, Kathmandu University School of Management, rues that "gender stereotyping is deeply ingrained in the very process of child rearing, which, often metamorphoses a girl into a submissive creature, and endows a boy with overbearing character traits." Saira Shah Halim, a social activist, author and film-maker, says that "the school curriculum and textbooks further sustain the rigid construction of gendered roles and condition the young minds with many clichés. For instance, D stands for a doctor, depicting a man, N for a nurse, with the image of a woman and that father goes to office and mother cooks at home and such gender expectations act as a deterrent in nurturing aspirations, choices or freedoms for many girls." She further

says that "even emotional responses are gender-specific, such as aggression, anger and violence are signs of manly behaviour, and consequently, women bear the burnt, despite a host of protective laws, as malefactors often find social support."

The role of socio-religious forces cannot be undermined in fostering an inequitable power play in gender relations. The sacred Hindu literature, *Manu Smriti*, whose tenets still hold sway, spoke of imposing "tight control over women's autonomy" and ordained women to be under the protective care of male guardians like a father, husband and son in different phases of their lives. Festivals like Karva Chauth, Raksha Bandhan, Shiv Ratri, *et al* are perhaps the outcome of such diktats. Some States in India are now mulling a law against inter-faith marriages or the so-called "love jihad", possibly another attempt to impose a patriarchal writ on sisters and daughters in the name of saving family honour.

The popular entertainment industry is no less responsible in keeping alive gendered myths through its scripts, casting and dialogues. In 2014, a UN-sponsored study in the 10 most-profitable global film indus-

tries, including India, found that films often prop up beliefs that masculine traits and behaviour are more valued than feminine ones. In Hindi movies, women were only in 11.9 per cent of the films as central characters (2015-2017), which was only about seven per cent in the 70s, according to a study by the IBM and two Delhi-based institutions.

Katherine Coffman, a Harvard Business School Professor, asserts that "gender stereotypes determine people's beliefs about themselves and others. If I take a woman who has the exact same ability in two different categories — verbal and math — just the fact that there's an average male advantage in math shapes her belief that her own ability in math is lower."

Researchers from Illinois, New York and Princeton Universities also found that girls as young as six years old tend to believe that brilliance is reserved for men, while a University of Warwick study says that "girls feel the need to play down their intelligence to not intimidate boys, pretending to be less intelligent than they actually are, not speaking out against harassment, and withdrawing from hobbies, sports and activities that might seem unfem-

inine." Undoubtedly, trying to live up to such unreal ideas of masculinity and femininity leads to a tragic loss of potential in young people, especially in women.

In the US, women comprise half of the labour force, but only 26 per cent of them are employed in computer and math jobs, and occupy fewer seats in the C-suite than men, particularly in male-dominated professions like finance and technology. They earn almost 60 per cent of advanced degrees, but bring home less pay, due to "occupational sorting", as men go for higher-paying jobs than women. While gender gap in pay is a universal reality, the recent case of the Princeton university paying lesser to its women professors proves that even renowned institutions are not immune to gender prejudices.

In India, women's struggle to gain working space continues, being only 19.9 per cent of the total labour force, much below the halfway mark says the World Bank. Women remain poorly represented in core sectors of the economy like oil and gas (seven per cent), automotive (10 per cent), pharmaceutical and healthcare (11 per cent) and information technology (28 per

cent). They earn, on average, 65.5 per cent less than their male colleagues for the same work, says a *India Skills Report 2020*.

In the STEM disciplines, women constitute nearly 43 per cent of the total enrolments but only three per cent enrol in PhD in science and six per cent in engineering and technology. A meagre 14 per cent of them work as scientists, engineers, technologists in research development institutions.

A 2018 IMF study indicated that women are prone to being displaced by technology as they perform more routine tasks, and about 11 per cent of them are likely to suffer from job losses for want of the required STEM skills by 2030. Kelly's Workforce insights reveals that about 81 per cent women in the STEM sector confronted a subtle gender bias in performance evaluations. A large proportion of them felt that they wouldn't be offered top positions and faced exclusion because of the presence of fewer women peers and leaders.

While commenting on prevalence of sexism in academia, Lamichhane says that issues like women's looks and their linkage with career prospects remain contested, but,

such a purported perception, often makes an impact on employees' quest to look attractive. This proclivity has gravely impacted the sanctity of meritocracy and commodified the looks of women, while it is not a debatable issue at all for male employees.

Nevertheless, a recent lab research finding on the pre-historic skeletal remains excavated from the Andes Mountains has upset the applause for gender stereotyping, which confirmed that women in large numbers used to be the big game hunters, and not gatherers alone, demolishing the millennia-old belief. Hasn't this put into question the origin of gender binaries?

Sadly, the WHO and John Hopkins University's joint study affirms the existence of all-pervasive "gender stereotypes around the world regardless of their country's level of development." Yet, many women, known and unknown, dared to defy the status quo and carved a new path for themselves. The milestone for bridging the gender gap may be a century away, a long journey, but not unachievable.

(The writer is a retired Indian Information Service Officer, and a media educator)



# I-T relief to help realty developers liquidate unsold inventory: Fin Min

**New Delhi:** The government's move to allow primary or first sale of housing units costing up to Rs 2 crore at a price 20 per cent below the stamp duty circle rate would enable real estate developers to liquidate their unsold inventory and also benefit homebuyers, the finance ministry said on Friday.

The Aatmanirbhar Bharat 3.0 package announced by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Thursday included income tax relief measures for real estate developers and homebuyers for primary purchase/sale of residential units of value of up to Rs 2 crore for the period from November 12, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

"In order to boost demand in the real-estate sector and to

enable the real-estate developers to liquidate their unsold inventory at a rate substantially lower than the circle rate and giving benefit to the home buyers, it has been decided to further increase the safe harbour from 10 per cent to 20 per cent under section 43CA of the Act for the period from November 12, 2020-June 30, 2021, in respect of only primary sale of residential units of value up to Rs 2 crore.

"Consequential relief by increasing the safe harbour from 10 per cent to 20 per cent shall also be allowed to buyers of these residential units under section 56(2)(x) of the Act for the said period," the ministry said in a statement. So far, the law restricted the differential between circle rate and agree-

ment value at 10 per cent.

The I-T relief announced on Thursday would mean that tax would not have to be paid if, for example, the circle rate of a property in Rs 100 and the purchase/sale value is up to Rs 80. Therefore, for these transactions, circle rate shall be deemed as sale/purchase consideration only if the variation between the agreement value and the circle rate is more than 20 per cent.

This relaxation, which is applicable till June 2021, would help builders clear their unsold stock, which is estimated at around 7 lakh units in major seven to eight cities.

Nangia Andersen LLP Partner Sandeep Jhunjhunwala said it is sure to provide a breather to the industry. **PTI**

# FHRAI says ECLGS extension is welcome, but hospitality sector needs specific stimulus package

**New Delhi:**Apex hospitality industry body Federation of Hotel & Restaurant Associations of India (FHRAI) on Friday welcomed the extension of the Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) but said the hospitality sector requires specific stimulus package to come out of distress.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Thursday announced the extension of ECLGS till March 31, 2021.

"The ECLGS is the only respite that the hospitality industry has received from the government so far. We cannot stress on this enough; hospitality is not like other industries," FHRAI VP Gurbaxish Singh Kohli said.

He added that it is highly capital- and labour-intensive sector, and without a specific stimulus, the sector will continue to bleed.

Travel, tourism and hospitality are the worst-affected sectors, not only in India but across the world, he added.

"We once again request the government to understand the industry's fragility at present and offer us the much-needed support," Kohli said.

The FHRAI also said the extension offers only a marginal benefit to the industry.

"The government has allowed businesses to avail loan restructuring to help them recover from the hit they took during the lockdown.

The hospitality industry is also eligible for it. **PTI**

# Sensex returns to winning mode as bank stocks recover; ends Samvat 2076 with 11 pc gains

**Mumbai:** Domestic equity benchmarks eked out modest gains on Friday after a day's pause as banking and finance stocks found firmer ground amid mixed global cues. The 30-share BSE Sensex ended 85.81 points or 0.20 per cent higher at 43,443. The broader NSE Nifty rose 29.15 points or 0.23 per cent to 12,719.95.

Both the benchmarks closed Hindu calendar year Samvat 2076 with smart gains. The Sensex rallied 4,384.94 points or 11.22 per cent, while the Nifty soared 1,136.05 points or 9.80 per cent. Markets will have a special one-hour Muhurat trading session on Diwali (Saturday) to mark the beginning of Samvat 2077. Bajaj Finserv was the top gainer in the Sensex pack on Friday, rising 3.32 per cent, followed by Tata Steel, ICICI Bank, Axis Bank, Bajaj Finance, SBI and UltraTech Cement.

On the other hand, L&T, HDFC twins, Bharti Airtel, Tech Mahindra, TCS and M&M were among the major laggards, slumping up to 2.04 per cent. **PTI**

# Rupee snaps 4-day losing run, ends marginally up at 74.62 vs USD

**PTI ■ MUMBAI**

The rupee halted its four-session losing streak on Friday, settling with a marginal 2 paise gain at 74.62 to the US dollar, as stronger Asian peers against the greenback lent support to the domestic unit.

Forex traders, however, said that importers and banks demand for the greenback continued to exert pressure on the Indian currency.

At the interbank forex market, the rupee opened at 74.63 a dollar and witnessed an intra-day high of 74.47 and a low of 74.71.

The local unit finally closed at 74.62 against the American currency, registering a rise of 2 paise over its previous close. On weekly basis, the rupee lost 54 paise or 0.72 per cent. **PTI**

# China halts imports of seafood products from Indian firm

**Beijing:** China has suspended the import of seafood products from an Indian company for a week starting from Friday, after traces of COVID-19 were reportedly found on the outer packaging of some samples of frozen cuttlefish exported by the firm.

China's General Administration of Customs suspended the import of seafood products from an Indian company for one week starting from Friday after COVID-19 was found on the outer packaging of some samples of frozen cuttlefish from the company, the state-run Global Times reported.

The report, however, has not provided any details of the company which exported the fish to China.It also said Liangshan county in East China's Shandong Province on Friday reported that packaging from one batch of imported frozen beef tested positive for COVID-19.

The beef was delivered from another Chinese city. Control and management of resources will be strengthened, Bi Kexin, head of the import and export food safety bureau of the General Administration of Customs, was quoted as saying. **PTI**

# NTPC develops Geo-polymer aggregate from fly ash

**New Delhi:** NTPC Ltd, India's largest power producer has successfully developed Geo-polymer coarse aggregate from fly ash. The development will help in replacing natural aggregates reducing the impact on environment.

NTPC's research project on production of Geo-polymer coarse aggregate from fly ash has met the statutory parameters of Indian Standards and

confirmed by National Council for Cement and Building Materials (NCCBM).

NTPC has successfully developed Geo-polymer coarse aggregates as a replacement to natural aggregates. The technical parameters as per Indian standards for its suitability to use in concrete works were tested by NCCBM, Hyderabad and the results are in acceptable range.The development is

NTPC's R&D achievement in expanding the horizon in ash utilisation.

India's demand for these aggregate touches close to 2000 million metric tons mark every year. The aggregate developed by NTPC from fly ash will help in meeting the demand to a great extent and also will reduce the impact on environment caused by Natural aggregates which require quarrying of natural

stone. In India, every year, approximately 258 MMT of ash is produced by the coal fired thermal power plants. Out of this around 78% of the ash is utilised and the balance remains unutilised which remain in ash dykes. NTPC is exploring alternate ways to utilise the remaining ash which includes the current research project to generate aggregates using more than 90% ash. The Geo-polymer aggregate

finds its extensive usage in construction industry turning the ash eco-friendly. These aggregates are extremely environment friendly and does not require any cement for application in concrete where the fly ash based Geopolymer mortar acts as the binding agent. The Geo-polymer aggregates will help in reducing carbon emission and has great potential for reduction of water consumption.

## Insurance policy for treatment of vector-borne diseases like dengue on avail

**New Delhi:**Health and general insurers will soon be permitted to offer specific insurance cover to the public for treatment of vector-borne diseases like dengue, malaria and chikungunya.

Regulator IRDAI on Friday came out with an exposure draft on Standard Vector Borne Disease Health Policy under which general and health insurers will be encouraged to offer such policies for one year.

NIFTY 50						
SCRIP	OPEN	High	LOW	LTP	CHANGE	
NIFTY 50	1265970	1273595	1260770	1271995	2915	
EICHERMOT	2318.00	2574.40	2317.50	2525.00	1742.5	
BAJAJFINSV	6940.00	7300.00	6935.90	7299.00	272.80	
COALINDIA	122.50	126.35	121.20	125.85	3.75	
TATASTEEL	470.85	488.40	465.00	487.50	14.35	
ICICIBANK	472.70	487.10	467.55	485.80	9.10	
DIVISLAB	393.00	345.00	336.820	342.00	61.95	
AXISBANK	595.00	612.35	584.00	610.30	10.60	
BAJFINANCE	4260.00	4410.00	4250.00	4372.90	74.60	
SBIN	225.00	230.65	220.10	230.60	3.80	
GRASIM	827.00	848.00	819.00	839.90	12.95	
JSWSTEEL	337.05	344.25	334.25	342.65	4.65	
HEROMOTOCO	3089.00	3134.90	3071.10	3128.00	42.20	
ULTRACEMCO	4825.00	4922.00	4815.35	4909.35	63.25	
RELIANCE	1982.00	2066.65	1981.75	2000.05	20.05	
DREDDY	4850.00	4884.85	4830.05	4869.95	43.10	
NTPC	90.00	92.35	89.20	91.55	0.75	
HINDALCO	206.00	211.05	204.30	210.30	1.70	
CIPLA	74.25	75.100	74.015	74.50	5.80	
BAJAJ-AUTO	3010.00	3048.00	2995.60	3040.85	23.40	
TITAN	1297.00	1304.00	1278.45	1287.05	8.95	
NESTLEIND	16725.00	16850.00	16650.00	16831.00	112.40	
ONGC	71.20	72.50	70.05	71.95	0.40	
INFY	1120.00	1133.00	1117.00	1123.45	5.70	
ANIPAINPT	2180.50	2206.55	2172.00	2181.80	10.00	
HCLTECH	822.90	831.45	818.15	827.85	3.15	
KOTAKBANK	1749.90	1774.80	1720.35	1758.45	3.70	
BRITANNIA	3517.00	3541.45	3505.00	3515.80	0.50	
SHREECEM	23529.50	23645.20	23305.30	23400.00	-41.60	
SUNPHARMA	511.95	515.80	504.55	508.00	-1.25	
INDUSINDBK	760.05	774.70	741.75	766.95	-2.25	
WIPRO	344.50	346.25	342.70	344.50	-1.05	
HDFCLIFE	625.00	630.35	617.95	628.50	-1.90	
GAIL	92.95	93.30	91.50	92.75	-0.30	
HINDUNILVR	2280.00	2218.40	2178.25	2185.00	-7.10	
MARUTI	6860.00	6880.00	6786.00	6812.80	-24.05	
TCS	2655.75	2664.90	2636.00	2661.20	-9.85	
POWERGRID	188.60	189.95	186.20	188.80	-0.70	
ITC	187.20	188.80	185.55	187.15	-0.85	
BPCIL	391.80	404.00	383.20	392.80	-1.85	
SBIIFE	837.95	838.95	824.10	833.50	-4.25	
TECHM	838.00	845.70	838.35	838.80	-4.45	
BHARTIARTL	477.00	478.00	470.00	472.25	-2.40	
M&M	633.95	638.95	628.05	628.20	-4.50	
IOC	84.00	85.15	83.70	84.65	-0.65	
ADANIPORTS	367.50	370.40	362.70	365.20	-2.85	
HDFCBANK	1368.80	1368.80	1347.00	1358.00	-13.70	
UPL	429.00	431.10	423.00	425.00	-4.60	
HDFC	2320.00	2323.30	2284.00	2306.70	-25.40	
IT	1065.05	1068.15	1038.10	1052.00	-21.20	
TATAMOTORS	150.00	150.00	145.35	146.20	-5.00	

NIFTY NEXT 50						
SCRIP	OPEN	High	LOW	LTP	CHANGE	
NIFTY NEXT 50	29029.75	29340.45	29002.70	29310.05	260.05	
ADANI GREEN	949.00	989.45	943.00	989.00	46.65	
NAUKRI	3650.60	3875.90	3640.55	3855.80	179.00	
PEL	1400.00	1478.75	1389.75	1467.25	63.70	
TORNTPHARM	2618.00	2747.80	2595.00	2728.00	109.20	
PETRONET	245.00	255.00	240.00	253.30	9.70	
BIOCON	423.90	435.40	423.35	435.20	12.50	
ICICIGI	1257.90	1304.00	1252.00	1293.25	33.90	
AUROPHARMA	838.95	860.65	833.85	858.00	19.00	
MUTHOOTFIN	1176.00	1192.35	1162.10	1191.95	22.70	
HAVELLS	811.40	833.90	810.10	827.15	15.65	
BANKBARODA	45.45	46.75	44.40	46.50	0.85	
BANDHANBNK	333.00	346.00	330.00	344.00	6.25	
ADANITRANS	327.10	333.80	323.10	331.25	5.80	
NMDC	90.90	93.25	90.00	92.60	1.55	
PFC	102.70	102.55	98.70	102.50	1.40	
PNB	29.15	29.55	28.35	29.45	0.35	
TATACONSUM	509.80	519.00	508.20	514.50	5.75	
INFRATEL	179.45	181.45	176.85	180.90	1.70	
ICICIPRULI	430.00	435.00	428.05	433.50	4.05	
GICRE	124.75	128.50	124.05	125.85	1.10	
BAJAJHLING	2680.00	2715.00	2631.30	2698.00	19.90	
LUPIN	900.00	907.15	890.65	901.75	6.25	
ALKEM	2666.30	2699.80	2657.45	2674.05	18.40	
DLF	182.90	185.80	180.55	183.90	1.25	
HINDPETRO	212.55	215.75	209.75	214.55	0.95	
ITI	2985.00	3063.85	2945.65	2994.00	10.70	
ABBOTINDIA	15390.00	15450.00	15315.00	15350.00	46.30	
CADILAHAC	427.95	432.75	424.10	426.25	0.20	
OFSS	3100.00	3100.00	3075.00	3090.00	1.25	
PGHI	10778.00	10821.00	10640.00	10680.00	-1.50	
CONCOR	398.50	403.00	396.00	399.30	-0.35	
ACC	1674.00	1684.50	1657.70	1672.00	-2.90	
UBL	1023.50	1031.20	1015.55	1021.45	-2.05	
DABUR	520.00	522.00	512.60	515.85	-2.05	
PIDILITIND	1570.00	1589.95	1562.25	1565.00	-6.50	
BERGEPAINT	651.50	655.60	645.60	647.70	-3.85	
HINDZINC	227.95	228.80	225.00	227.40	-1.40	
INDIGO	1608.00	1639.90	1605.00	1619.00	-12.05	
JGL	439.70	446.45	434.45	435.00	-3.30	
GODFREYCP	687.00	690.25	678.45	681.85	-5.30	
MCDOWELL-N	555.00	558.50	549.15	553.70	-4.40	
DMART	2390.00	2399.00	2361.50	2380.20	-20.10	
COLPAL	1510.00	1524.00	1493.50	1508.25	-13.15	
SBCARD	782.90	787.90	770.15	774.15	-7.00	
BOSCHLTD	11975.00	11975.00	11680.00	11768.00	-127.20	
MARICO	374.00	376.45	368.15	369.65	-4.65	
HDFCAMC	2415.00	2435.00	2400.05	2403.10	-32.75	
AUBIACEM	261.50	262.25	255.75	257.45	-5.40	
SIEMENS	1393.00	1398.90	1356.25	1371.00	-34.35	
MOTHERSUMI	131.50	132.45	129.10	129.35	-3.75	

BSE 500													
Script	Open	High	Low	LTP	IDFCFIRSTB	32.90	33.45	32.00	33.05	ADANIGAS	240.55	244.90	
Security Name	Open	High	Low	LTP	SPICEJET	54.55	55.15	53.60	54.45	COROMANDEL	723.20	755.00	
RELIANCE	1990.00	2036.65	1981.00	1996.10	PNB	29.10	29.55	28.30	29.50	INDHOTEL	111.50	112.00	
INFY	1119.85	1132.20	1117.00	1123.90	NMDC	91.00	93.15	90.00	92.60	RELAXO	695.50	730.00	
HDFC	2325.00	2325.00	2285.00	2306.40	ICICIGI	1255.40	1304.00	1255.30	1298.40	FSL	74.00	75.30	
BAJFINANCE	4260.00	4409.00	4253.85	4374.90	SHK	106.45	119.50	105.00	116.90	SOBHA	288.70	298.00	
TCS	2656.00	2663.95	2636.45	2657.30	ADANIEN	365.90	371.30	362.10	368.60	SUDARSCHEM	448.50	459.50	
HINDUNILVR	2200.05	2215.75	2178.55	2185.15	PGHL	5700.00	6039.00	5610.55	6012.30	MPHASIS	1331.05	1349.80	
AXISBANK	595.70	612.15	584.30	610.45	CHAMBLFERT	168.55	182.30	168.55	181.35	NATOPHARM	925.00	931.00	
ICICIBANK	473.50	486.80	467.70	485.40	PIDILITIND	1569.00	1589.70	1563.40	1564.85	BAIAJHINDG	2677.00	2715.00	2
HDFCBANK	1369.40	1369.40	1346.70	1359.00	MUTHOOTFIN	1179.90	1193.10	1163.00	1188.85	BOSCHLTD	11900.00	11900.00	11
MARUTI	6851.00	6874.00	6786.55	6808.95	BANKBARODA	45.65	46.70	44.45	46.55	SWANENERGY	133.60	134.40	
SBIN	225.50	230.65	220.15	229.55	BLISSGVS	164.50	165.00	162.00	163.10	INOXLEISUR	265.20	268.80	
EICHERMOT	2240.00	2565.00	2240.00	2516.45	UPL	431.00	431.00	423.05	425.35	TV18BRDCST	28.20	29.20	
INDUSINDBK	759.20	774.50	742.00	768.55	GAIL	92.80	93.20	91.45	92.70	NAVINFLUOR	2444.00	2548.00	
LT	1067.50	1067.50	1038.60	1051.40	SYNGENE	549.00	569.00	543.00	566.20	ABB	958.40	1005.65	
DREDDY	4860.00	4883.00	4827.95	4855.25	EXIDEIND	171.50	171.60	167.10	168.70	NIACL	105.40	116.35	
BHARTIARTL	471.90	488.00	465.40	486.50	PHILIPCARB	151.50	159.30	150.20	157.30	PSRMOJHNSN	78.70	87.00	
INDUSGFIN	172.80	184.00	172.00	182.10	VOLITAS	750.00	761.20	748.75	758.10	BESL	623.70	623.70	
BAJAJFINSV	7000.55	7299.00	6941.10	7257.80	IRCTC	1376.00	1402.35	1365.50	1388.55	CUB	177.00	188.40	
BHARTIARTL	478.00	478.00	469.85	475.85	PCF	102.80	103.55	98.75	102.95	CGCL	252.90	269.00	
APOLLOHOSP	2111.20	2313.00	2111.20	2269.15	SRF	5073.55	5150.00	5047.00	5140.45	BIRLACORPN	742.10	769.90	
M&M	633.05	638.20	627.95	629.65	INDIGO	1613.00	1639.00	1605.70	1616.05	GALAXYSURF	1855.00	1887.85	
HCLTECH	824.35	831.30	818.70	828.05	HDFCAMC	2140.20	2434.05	2400.05	2403.90	AARTIND	1082.25	1108.00	
IDEA	8.48	8.83	8.47	8.72	TRENT	718.00	758.00	718.00	751.65	GRAPHITE	186.50	186.50	
ANIPAINPT	2189.60	2205.40	2173.85	2179.55	FRETAL	68.05	68.50	67.55	68.00	TATACHEM	327.95	329.00	
ITC	187.00	188.75	185.70	187.05	PFIZER	5110.00	5159.10	5101.00	5116.90	VIPIND	295.00	303.70	
TITAN	1289.00	1304.60	1279.15	1288.50	JINDALSTEL	217.25	217.25	213.10	214.90	JSL	59.25	62.45	
SUNPHARMA	510.55	515.95	504.60	508.40	APOLLOTYRE	165.10	165.15	162.10	164.00	VGUARD	168.90	173.00	
TECHM	836.90	845.50	833.60	838.95	GLENMARK	488.00	488.35	481.05	486.40	PERSEUS	1159.55	1170.00	
BPCl	394.40	400.40	383.30	394.20	BEL	94.90	97.15	92.75	96.65	ASTERDM	154.00	163.00	
ULTRACEMCO	4833.00	4915.80	4815.75	4897.40	TATAMTRDVR	61.80	63.10	60.50	61.75	BERGEPAINT	650.00	655.55	
CIPLA	741.35	750.00	740.50	744.50	IPCALAB	2070.00	2117.00	2055.00	2078.90	HEIDELBERG	190.70	194.20	
TATAMOTORS	150.00	150.00	145.50	146.35	HAWKINSOOP	5069.95	5129.95	4950.20	5003.40	SHOPERSTOP	180.00	191.70	
KOTAKBANK	1752.45	1774.00	1720.55	1765.95	COCHINSHIP	336.30	342.70	334.10	335.30	CROMPTON	295.85	298.05	
NESTLEIND	16789.00	16886.95	16641.10	16825.95	SBILIFE	842.00	842.00	824.15	832.15	JAICORPLTD	82.50	89.30	
ADANIGREEN	94.00	98.15	94.00	98.81	IGL	439.00	446.70	434.70	432.60	RALLIS	246.45	249.00	
VBL	714.05	750.00	711.15	740.70	SHREECEM	23500.00	23673.45	23213.95	23432.10	FINEORG	2537.80	2590.00	
WIPRO	343.55	346.15	342.60	344.15	BHEL	28.10	28.10	27.80	28.00	INFIBEAM	85.90	85.90	
HDFCLIFE	630.25	630.25	618.00	625.60	AMBAJACEM	261.90	262.15	255.75	257.65	MOTALOFAES	550.35	581.60	
HEROMOTOCO	3085.55	3134.90	3073.90	3128.80	CHOLAFIN	314.50	316.20	308.60	309.45	OIL	90.05	93.00	
COALINDIA	122.50	126.30	121.25	125.90	NOCIL	143.45	148.75	140.70	147.95	KPITTECH	19.00	103.25	
JSWSTEEL	337.00	344.00	334.50	343.80	AFLE	2852.00	3005.15	2851.00	2952.30	DCAL	130.00	135.50	
PIIND	2289.00	2350.00	2283.00	2335.80	FORTIS	134.00	142.70	131.50	141.90	PCONSUSER	7.10	7.10	
HINDALCO	206.00	211.10	204.60	210.55	COFORGE	230.00	2357.20	2282.50	2304.55	MEGH	75.45	78.70	
DMART	2394.00	2398.85	2371.70	2381.60	POLYCARB	917.80	930.00	913.90	919.60	GODREJCP	687.00	689.85	
JUBLFOOD	2385.00	2502.80	2360.95	2483.15	SUZLON	3.50	3.50	3.46	3.50	BAYERCROP	5120.05	5169.60	
POWERGRID	188.00	189.95	186.25	188.85	AUBANK	840.00	847.95	801.45	844.70	TRIDENT	7.31	7.58	
GRASIM	827.80	847.85	820.05	841.45	AMARAJAUTO	835.00	846.00	812.85	817.10	KPRMILL	821.00	829.40	
BANDHANBNK	331.25	346.00	330.05	344.20	BAJAJ-AUTO	3017.00	3048.00	2998.85	3040.95	SOUTHBANK	6.61	6.67	
PVR	1265.00	1319.30	1260.00	1302.15	SAI	39.45	39.45	38.75	39.15	DISHVIT	10.53	10.66	
BLRLBANK	199.25	207.70	196.95	205.60	GRANULES	379.00	381.85	374.55	376.70	VENKYS	1599.00	1604.85	
VEDL	102.95	107.95	102.00	107.50	ADANIPORTS	368.70	370.00	362.90	365.35	JKTYRE	78.20	78.70	
MRF	6979.00	7250.00	6960.75	71960.05	NATIONALUM	34.05	35.00	33.50	34.75	FLUOROCHEM	497.15	532.00	
ASHOKLEY	88.85	91.30	89.25	90.75	JSLSHAR	140.00	119.10	108.40	117.80	BRIGADE	191.80	208.70	
IBREALEST	57.30	63.80	56.40	60.15	GMM	3392.00	3440.00	3351.00	3394.70	AVANTI	499.95	504.45	
IGPAGEIND	21900.00	22289.40	21765.95	21925.15	KAJARIACER	578.00	609.75	577.00	605.80	BDL	302.60	312.55	
ZEEL	199.00	199.00	190.80	192.60	ICICIPRIME	426.05	434.90	426.05	432.80	TORNTPOWER	307.10	308.70	
AUROPHARMA	841.10	860.20	833.40	858.15	ADVENZYMES	322.70	335.00	320.85	330.35	CAPPL	467.35	489.00	
DIVISLAB	3398.00	3451.05	3367.75	3432.20	NCC	37.20	39.15	37.20	38.80	IDFC	31.05	31.05	
HAVELLS	840.00	838.80	811.30	827.35	CONCOR	398.70	402.35	393.70	399.70	ATUL	6300.00	6422.00	6
JUSTDIAL	616.90	646.00	616.90	624.65	MCX	1660.00	1689.00	1652.70	1679.80	PTC	52.80	53.60	
GODREJPROP	993.50	1020.90	981.10	991.10	INDIAMART	4986.45	5020.15	4920.00	4987.80	BAJAJEEL	546.15	551.00	
PRINETON	241.50	259.40	241.50	254.20	ABCAPITAL	74.00	77.35	72.65	76.95	ASTRAL	1298.00	1298.00	1
SUNTV	743.05	444.40	415.80	425.00	STAR	652.10	682.40	652.10	678.10	BANKINDIA	40.55	40.90	
SRICARD	484.85	788.25	770.75	773.85	COLPAL	1518.90	1521.95	1493.45	1510.75	UJIVIAN	242.95	248.60	
TORNTPOWER	2620.00	2745.80	2605.00	2728.20	TATAELXSI	1490.00	1509.00	1480.00	1484.25	SUNTECK	266.05	270.80	
ESCAPARTS	1402.00	1418.05	1383.05	1390.65	FINOLEXIND	597.00	615.00	597.00	610.55	RAYMOND	281.00	282.70	
DLF	183.95	185.75	180.70	184.70	ADANITRANS	326.55	333.50	323.00	331.35	ADANPOWER	35.90	36.30	
NTPC	89.10	92.10	89.10	91.35	IDBI	37.30	37.30	36.60	37.00	INTELLECT	258.00	265.30	
ONGC	71.20	72.45	70.05	72.10	ABOTINDIA	15332.00	15450.00	15213.00	15371.90	EMAMILTD	383.55	387.70	
LUPIN	903.90	907.50	891.00	901.25	ANIPHTHARM	1526.00	1552.15	1486.95	1547.80	IEX	208.85	213.25	
NAUKRI	3625.00	3874.75	3625.00	3859.05	CUMMINSIND	476.00	482.00	470.60	478.75	ABFLR	154.00	159.25	
TATAPOWER	55.25	55.75	54.60	55.25	ALKYLAMINE	3359.95	3400.00	3354.15	3374.15	HISCL	46.25	47.10	
SKTRANSFIN	858.00	879.55	848.45	875.95	INFRATEL	179.80	181.45	178.75	180.75	IEHOTEL	81.25	82.55	
PEL	1410.00	1478.00	1390.70	1469.35	POWERINDIA	912.50	990.80	932.45	973.80	VINATIORGA	1110.00	1114.00	
CADILACH	426.00	432.70	424.10	425.50	CANBK	91.15	91.75	90.35	91.55	RAIN	101.25	103.55	
LAURUSLABS	289.00	295.00	278.50	283.95	HAL	755.00	767.50	742.05	759.15	SIS	36.00	375.00	
BAIKRINSID	1573.00	1596.95	1567.55	1589.35	DEEPAKFERT	148.00	147.95	144.00	145.15	GNFC	192.60	194.30	
BRITANNIA	3518.00	3540.00	3509.00	3514.40	DCBBANK	89.65	92.90	88.35	91.50	ASTRAZEN	4389.00	4389.00	
DIXON	10150.00	10790.00	10120.30	10599.10	BSOF	176.95	182.25	176.85	181.15	SONATSOFTW	338.60	351.80	
L&TH	68.30	70.65	68.25	70.10	TASTYBIT	10700.00	11800.00	10415.05	11706.05	PNBHOUSING	382.40	393.20	
LICHSGFIN	315.00	316.80	308.15	314.30	CASTROLIND	112.55	115.40	112.55	115.40	HFCL	17.15	17.15	
LTI	2970.05	3062.00	2950.00	3005.95	TVSMOTOR	448.00	485.00	476.25	477.80	ENGINEERSIN	70.95	71.30	
MANAPPURAM	160.00	164.20	158.15	163.60	BATAINDIA	133.35	1356.70	1332.30	1354.40	WELCORP	101.10	103.75	
TATACONSUM	511.00	519.00	508.50	513.25	GUJGAS	316.00	316.00	303.30	305.50	KEC	344.90	346.30	
FEDERALBNK	55.90	56.80	54.75	5									



# WHO to open traditional med centre in India

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The World Health Organisation (WHO) on Friday announced setting up of a Global Centre for Traditional Medicine in India, a move which Prime Minister Narendra Modi termed as impetus to the alternative drugs which during the Corona crisis have proved to be very effective in boosting immunity.

WHO Director General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus made the announcement in a video message at an event in which the Prime Minister dedicated two future-ready Ayurveda institutions in Jaipur and Jamnagar to the nation via video conferencing on the occasion of the 5th Ayurveda Day.

The Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda (ITRA), Jamnagar (Gujarat) and the National Institute of Ayurveda (NIA), Jaipur (Rajasthan) are both premier



institutions of Ayurveda in the country.

In his video message, Ghebreyesus said, "I am pleased to announce that we have agreed to open a WHO Global Centre of Traditional Medicine in India to strengthen the evidence, research, training and awareness of traditional and complementary medicine."

"This new centre will support WHO's efforts to implement the WHO traditional medicine strategy 2014-2023 which aims to support countries in developing policies and action plans to strengthen the role of traditional medicine as

part of their journey to universal health coverage and a healthier, fairer and safer world," he said.

Traditional systems of medicine such as Ayurveda can play an important role in integrated people-centric health services and healthcare, but they have not received enough attention, the WHO DG said.

Modi said Ayurveda is India's heritage whose expansion entails the welfare of humanity and all Indians will be happy to see that the country's traditional knowledge is enriching other countries.

"It is a matter of pride for all Indians that the WHO has chosen India for establishing its Global Centre for Traditional Medicine. Now work will be done in this direction from India," Modi said.

"I would like to thank the WHO and particularly its Director General Tedros for giving this responsibility to India. I am confident that just like India has emerged as the pharmacy of the world, in the same manner this centre for traditional medicine will become the centre for global wellness," he said.

Stressing on bringing ayurveda knowledge out of books, scriptures and home remedies and developing this ancient knowledge as per modern needs, Modi said new research is being done in the country by combining information received from modern science of the 21st century with India's ancient medical knowledge.

Noting that three years ago, the All India Ayurvedic

Institute was established here, he said Ayurveda is not just an alternative today but one of the key basis of the country's health policy.

Modi informed that work is on to develop the National Sowa-Rigpa Institute for research and other studies related to Sowa-Rigpa in Leh. The two institutions in Gujarat and Rajasthan which have been upgraded are also an extension of this development, he added.

He also called upon the Education Ministry and UGC to find new avenues in disciplines like Ayurveda Physics and Ayurveda Chemistry and urged startups and the private sector to study global trends and demands and ensure their participation in the sector.

Pointing out that during the coronavirus period the demand for Ayurvedic products increased rapidly all over the world, he said exports of Ayurvedic products increased by about 45 per cent in September this year compared to the previous year.

## GAVI alliance to use AMC fund for buying one billion Covid vaccine doses

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The GAVI alliance said on Friday that the funds for a so-called advance market commitment (AMC) will allow it to buy an initial one billion vaccine doses for 92 eligible countries including India which would not otherwise be able to afford them.

The European Commission, France, Spain, South Korea, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and others had in recent weeks pledged another USD 360 million to the AMC, the alliance said, bringing total funding over the USD2 billion target for this year.

However, another USD 5 billion is needed in 2021, to procure Covid-19 vaccine doses as they come through development and are approved by regulators, it said in a statement here on Friday.

"We've seen sovereign and private donors from across the

world dig deep and meet this target and help ensure that every country will get access to COVID vaccines, not just the wealthy few," GAVI chief Seth Berkley told reporters, adding that there was an "urgent need" to also finance treatments and diagnostics.

U.S. drugmaker Pfizer and its partner BioNTech, who this week said their experimental COVID-19 vaccine was 90% effective in initial trials, had expressed an interest in supplying doses to the COVAX facility, Berkley said.

"We continue to advance negotiations with a number of manufacturers in addition to those we've already announced who share our vision of fair and equitable distribution of vaccines," he added.

Berkley said USD 5.3 billion was also still needed for diagnostics and USD 6.1 billion for therapeutics by the end of 2021.

## Covid-19 hampers India's fight against pneumonia, diarrhoea

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Covid-19 induced disruption of steady health service deliveries like immunisation programmes is threatening some of the progress India has made in ensuring that children under five years of age are protected against pneumonia and diarrhoea through vaccine shot, according to the 2020 annual Pneumonia and Diarrhoea Progress Report released recently.

Pneumonia is one of India's biggest killers for children under five. Along with diarrhoea, it claims the lives of over 2.3 lakh children yearly.

Prepared by the International Vaccine Access Center (IVAC) and Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, the report shows that India has made steady progress in eradicating the diseases through the years.

For instance, said the report, in 2019, India's immunization coverage against pneumococcal pneumonia increased by 9 per

cent and the coverage of Rotavirus Vaccine (RVV) increased by 18 per cent. India's '100-days agenda' to scale up RVV will protect India's birth cohort from life-threatening cases of rotavirus diarrhoea.

However, in 2020, Covid-19 is threatening some of the progress made with the disruption of steady health service deliveries like immunization programs in India as well.

The report looked at how countries worldwide were faring based on 10 key interventions—including breastfeeding, vaccination, accessing appropriate health care providers, use of antibiotics, oral rehydration solution (ORS), and zinc supplementation.

While the report shows evidence of great progress in India, it's not all good news, especially on the diarrhoea front.

As per the progress report, "India failed to reach all four targets for treatment, but treatment for diarrhoea had the lowest coverage in India; only 51 per cent of children received oral rehy-

dration solution (ORS) and only 20 per cent of children received zinc. ORS and zinc, especially when co-packaged together, are highly effective treatments that are proven to reduce deaths from diarrhea in children."

One of the key findings was the need to strengthen our immunization delivery programs, especially in the midst of the pandemic. When health systems are strained, the most vulnerable populations are affected, and in this case, it is the lives of millions of children.

However, nearly every country included in the report lagged in access to treatments against pneumonia and diarrhoea. "While the world focuses on new innovations in vaccines to respond to the Covid-19 epidemic, we cannot afford to lose sight of the millions of children who die from preventable diseases like pneumonia and diarrhoea," IVAC senior advisor and professor in the department of international health, Mathuram Santosham, said.

### BJP announces names of State incharges

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

BJP Friday night announced names of State Prabharies with BJP General Secretary Bhopendra Yadav given dual chare of Bihar and Gujarat as BJP vice-president Baijant Panda appointment in-charge of Assam and Delhi.

Another General Secretary Arun Singh gets Karnataka and Rajasthan and party spokesman Sambitji Patra takes Manipur.

General Secretary Kailash Vijayvergia is given crucial state of West Bengal and UP is to Radhakrisnan Mohan Singh.

Similarly, sensitive J & K been put in-charge of party GS Tarun Chug who is also to look after Ladakh.

Similarly, P Murlidhar (MP), CT Ravi (Maharashtra), Dileep Saika (Jharkhand), CP Radhakrisnan (Kerala), Vinod Tawade (Haryana), V Murlidhar (Andhra Pradesh) and D Purandeshwari (Chattisgarh) have been appointed in-charge of the respective states by BJP president JP Nadda.

## CBI arrests two I-T inspectors for bribery

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The CBI on Friday arrested two inspectors of the Income Tax Department on Friday from Hyderabad in a bribery case.

"The Central Bureau of Investigation has arrested two Inspectors of Income Tax, Aayakar Bhavan, Basherbagh, Hyderabad on the allegations of accepting bribe of ₹80,000," the CBI said in a statement.

The arrests came after the agency registered a case against an Income Tax Inspector on the allegations that the accused demanded a bribe of ₹80,000 from the complainant for closing an Income tax matter pending against the complainant.

The then CBI laid a trap and caught the accused and also another Inspector of Income Tax while accepting the bribe of ₹ 30,000 and ₹ 50,000 respectively.

Searches at the premises of the accused persons led to recovery of incriminating documents and cash of about ₹5,50,000.

Both the arrested accused are being produced before the Special Judge for CBI Cases, Hyderabad, it said.

The arrested Income Tax Inspectors are Thota Purushotham Rao and Itta Upender Rao.

Meanwhile, the agency has registered a case against the then AGM, Regional Office, Syndicate Bank, Nizamabad; two former Chief Managers of Syndicate Bank, Chanda Nagar, Hyderabad and others including private persons and unknown persons.

It was alleged that a civil ₹ 5 crore as working capital and a similar amount as Bank Guarantee during the period 2016-17 to meet the expenses of his contract works.

## Farmers' outfits meet Ministers to end stalemate over farm laws

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

One month after walking out of talks with the Union Government, farmer organisations have returned to the negotiating table in a bid to end the impasse and their meeting with Union Ministers ended inconclusively on Friday with both sides sticking to their ground.

They held a meeting with Union Railway minister Piyush Goyal, agriculture minister Narendra Singh Tomar and Commerce and Industries minister Som Prakash and presented a long list of demands.

During the seven-hour-long crucial meeting, both sides heard each other's stand and tried to bring common ground for restoring rail services in Punjab, which is currently facing a blockade.

According to farmers' leaders, centre has not given any assurance for resumption of goods train services in the state. Farmers' leaders said they will

now hold a meeting in Chandigarh on November 18 to decide their next course of action. Farmers' leaders said that they will observe Black Diwali day on November 14, with continued silent protest at toll plazas and other locations in the state.

After the meeting, Union agriculture minister Narendra Singh Tomar said that in the meeting, it became clear that their demands and government's position are far from a point of reconciliation and can't be resolved immediately. "I'm thankful that they came & I have requested them for more such discussions," he said. "It was assured that the Government of India is always committed to protect the interest of farmers and is always open for discussions for the welfare of farmers. The talks were held in a cordial atmosphere and both sides agreed to continue to hold further discussions," agriculture ministry said in a statement.

### BOLLYWOOD-DRUG MAFIA NEXUS CASE

## Rampal grilled for 8 hours; 'I have nothing to do with drugs'

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

In fresh trouble that began brewing for Bollywood actor Arjun Rampal ahead of his questioning that lasted for eight-long hours, the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) on Friday arrested his Australian friend Paul Bartel in the much-discussed Bollywood-drug mafia nexus case.

Hours before Rampal appeared before the investigating agency for questioning, the NCB placed Bartel under arrest in the early hours of Friday. Bartel's arrest had followed an intense grilling that he was subjected to by the NCB on Thursday.

An architect by profession who resides in Bandra, Bartel is said to be Rampal's friend. The actor has known Bartel for a long time. He used to be a reg-

ular touch with Agisialos Demetriades, the brother of actor's live-in friend Gabriella Demetriades.

Agisialos was arrested by the NCB from Lonavala near Pune on October 19. Agisilaos is alleged to be a part of a larger drug syndicate operating in Bollywood, which is being investigated after the death of actor Sushant Singh Rajput.

Forty-seven-year-old Rampal, who arrived at the NCB headquarters in the afternoon, was grilled for eight hours in connection with the nature of his links with Agisialos and Bartel, the seizures made during the raid conducted at his Bandra residence for sev4en hours on Monday, the role of his live-partner Gabriella, a South African model in the nexus with the drug peddlers.

Talking to media persons

after the questioning, Rampal said: "I am fully co-operating with the investigations. I have nothing to do with drugs. The medicine found at my residence (during Monday's raid) was prescribed by a doctor. The prescription has been found and handed over to the NCB officials. The NCB officials are doing a good job and I support them in their investigations."

Rampal's grilling came after two rounds of questioning that the NCB subjected his live-partner Gabriella to, on Wednesday and Thursday.

Monday's raid on Rampal's residence, the subsequent questioning of Gabriella, Bartel's arrest and Arjun Rampal's grilling should be seen in the context of the arrest of Gabriella's brother Agisilaos Demetriades made by the NCB in connection with Bollywood-

drug mafia nexus case.

The NCB's investigations have revealed that Agisialos was in touch with Omega Godwin, a Nigerian national who had earlier been arrested for supply of cocaine in Mumbai. During his custodial interrogation, Godwin had named Agisialos. Earlier, ex-Dharma Productions employee Kshitij Prasad had earlier been arrested by the NCB in the connection with the Sushant Singh Rajput's death-related drug case and expanded Bollywood-drug nexus case.

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.

Incidentally, the raid on Rampal's residence came a day after the NCB officials carried

out searches at film producer Firoz A. Nadiadwala's residence along Gulmohar Cross Road at Juhu Vile Parle Development (JVPD) Scheme in north-west Mumbai. During the searches, the NCB sleuths seized a total of 717.1 gm of Ganja, 74.1 gm charas and 95.1 gm MD (Commercial Quantity) along with Rs 3,58,610. They also seized 10 gm of Ganja from another accused Wahid Abdul kadir Sheikh @ Sultan.

After the seizure of drugs and cash, the NCB officials arrested five persons, including Firoz A. Nadiadwala's wife Shabana Saeed.

The NCB has registered two drugs cases in the wake of the investigations launched by the CBI into the death of actor Sushant Singh Rajput in June this year upon the directive issued by the Supreme Court.

## Follow NGT's pollution protocol: Air quality panel to CPCB, States

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) on Friday directed the top anti-pollution regulator CPCB and States concerned to ensure that National Green Tribunal's directions in view of the prevailing air quality scenario are strictly adhered.

The recently constituted commission said state pollution control boards, committees and other field-level functionaries have also been asked to ensure that there is no lapse in implementation of the NGT's directions.

"In pursuance of the NGT order dated November 9 and considering the concerns of air quality scenario in the NCR and its adverse health impact, the Commission directed CPCB, concerned state governments and authorities for strict compliance of the directions of NGT, with zero tolerance on violation," it said.

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) had on Monday imposed a total ban on sale or use of all kinds of firecrackers in the National Capital Region



(NCR) from November 9 midnight to November 30 midnight, saying "celebration by crackers is for happiness and not to celebrate deaths and diseases".

A bench headed by NGT Chairperson Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel had clarified that the direction will apply to all cities and towns in the country where the average of ambient air quality during November 2019 was in 'poor' and above categories.

"There will be total ban against sale or use of all kinds of firecrackers in the NCR from midnight of November 9-10, 2020, to the midnight of

November 30-December 1, 2020, to be reviewed thereafter," the NGT had said.

"The cities/towns where air quality is 'moderate' or below, only green crackers be sold, and the timings for use and bursting of crackers be restricted to two hours during festivals like Diwali, Chhath, New Year/Christmas Eve etc, as may be specified by the state concerned."

"At other places, restrictions are optional for the authorities but if there are more stringent measures under orders of the authorities, the same will prevail," it had said.

## SC asks Telangana to follow NGT order on sale, use of firecrackers

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday modified a Telangana High Court order imposing complete and immediate ban on sale of firecrackers in the State during Diwali, saying the directions of National Green Tribunal (NGT) on bursting of firecrackers keeping in mind the pollution level be followed.

The NGT, on November 9, imposed a total ban on sale or use of all kinds of firecrackers in the National Capital Region (NCR) till November 30 midnight.

It had said the direction of complete ban will apply to all cities and towns in the country where the average of ambient air quality during November 2019 was in 'poor' and above categories.

It, however, had said that in cities or towns where air quality is 'moderate' or below, only green crackers be sold.

The timings for use and bursting of crackers be restricted to two hours during festivals like Diwali, Chhath, New Year/Christmas Eve, as may be specified by the state concerned," NGT had said.

The Telangana High Court on November 12 came out with an order asking the state government to ban the sale and use of firecrackers and it was challenged by the Telangana



**The plea said the high court order was violative of the right to livelihood of persons involved in the sale and manufacturing of firecrackers**

Fire Workers Dealers Association (TFWDA) in the top court.

The vacation bench of Justices A M Khanwilkar and Sanjiv Khanna issued notice on the plea of TFWDA and said that it cannot stay the High Court's order without hearing the other side.

The plea said the high court order was violative of the right to livelihood of persons involved in the sale and manufacturing of firecrackers.

Senior advocate Salman Khurshid appeared for the petitioner organisation on whose

plea the top court issued notice to the state government for November 16.

The bench, meanwhile, asked the Telangana government to comply with directions of the NGT issued on November 9.

"In the meantime, the impugned judgment and order of the High Court stands modified and is brought in line with the directions issued

by the National Green Tribunal vide comprehensive order dated November 9, which applies even to Telangana on all fours.

"For, no reason muchless special reason is noted in the impugned order for departing therefrom. All concerned in the State of Telangana must comply with the stated directions of the Tribunal in its letter and spirit " it ordered.

## Kodiyeri resigns as Kerala CPM secy

KOCHI: Two days ahead of his 66th birthday, Kodiyeri Balakrishnan, secretary of the Kerala CPI(M) stepped down from the post citing health reasons.

A crisp release issued by the State Secretariat of the CPI(M) on Friday claimed that Balakrishnan has been given leave by the party following his request that he may be relieved from the post of secretary as he needs to undergo medical treatment. Balakrishnan was elected party secretary in 2015.

But the decision to relive Balakrishnan and entrusting the responsibility to A Vijayaraghavan, described as a sidekick of Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, is being seen

as a sequel to the arrest and incarceration of the former's son Bineesh Kodiyeri by the Enforcement Directorate in connection with charges of money laundering and financing narcotics trade by Anoop Mohammed, a Bangalore-based drug dealer. Bineesh has been sent to judicial custody after ten days of interrogation by the ED and is put up at Parappana Agrahara Central Prison. His bail application would come up for hearing on November 18.

The timing of the CPI(M) to remove Balakrishnan (though leaders and the media release claim it as medical leave) at this juncture, when Kerala is in the midst of election to local self-government bodies

have surprised the party cadre. Balakrishnan, who was elected as party secretary in 2015 was known as a tough taskmaster though he was considerate to the genuine needs and requirements of the cadre and allies. It was his tactical move which resulted in the Church dominated Kerala Congress (Mani) group dumping the UDF and joining the LDF recently.

Though Balakrishnan was known for his political acumen, his wife Vinodini and two sons Binoy and Bineesh through their flashy lifestyles proved to be his undoing. Elder son was held up by the Dubai Police in UAE following financial embezzlement to the tune of crores of rupees.

PNS

## AIMIM is a vote cutter, says TMC

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

With Asaduddin Owaisi's All India-Majlis-e-Ittehad-ul-Muslimeen (AIMIM) deciding to take a plunge in the Bengal Assembly elections an alarmed Trinamool Congress has called it a "B-Team of the BJP" being put into service for cutting votes of other "secular" outfits. Hours after Owaisi said that his party was game for contesting the next year's Assembly polls in Bengal senior TMC MP Saugato Roy said Owaisi's was a

"vote-cutter" outfit and need not be given much importance.

"Owaisi's party is BJP's 'vote-cutter' party. Why are we giving so much importance to him? This was the third time that he contested elections in minority-dominated zones of Bihar and won 5 seats. What difference will 5 seats make? Also, his party appeals to the Urdu-speaking Muslims. He will not appeal to the Muslims of West Bengal who are mostly Bengali-speaking," Roy said even as another senior TMC leader conceded that

MIM could play the spoil sport in Bengal should it become a closely contested election a la Bihar. "TMC is the most popular and preferred party in the minority belts" — which impact at least 123 out of 294 seats in the State, a TMC leader from the minority community said adding "our prospects may be hampered if MIM squeezes out 3-4 percent Muslim votes which is not impossible considering the fact that they have won 5 seats in Bihar — a fact that they will use during the poll in Bengal."



# US election officials reject Trump's fraud claims

**Washington:** There is “no evidence” that the 2020 presidential election, the “most secure in American history,” was compromised, US election security officials have said, rejecting President Donald Trump’s fraud claims.

Republican President Donald Trump has repeatedly made unsubstantiated claims of electoral fraud and has not yet conceded. He has also launched a flurry of legal challenges to projected results in key states won by his Democratic rival Joe Biden.

“There is no evidence that any voting system deleted or lost votes, changed votes, or was in any way compromised,” two committees within the Department of Homeland Security that worked on protecting US voting systems affirmed on Thursday.

“When states have close elections, many will recount ballots. All of the states with close results in the 2020 presidential race have paper records of each vote, allowing the ability to go back and count each ballot if necessary,” members of committees, which include officials from the Election Infrastructure Government Coordinating Council Executive Committee (GCC) and the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) said in a joint statement.



“This is an added benefit for security and resilience. This process allows for the identification and correction of any mistakes or errors. There is no evidence that any voting system deleted or lost votes, changed votes, or was in any way compromised,” the statement said. “While we know there are many unfounded claims and opportunities for misinformation about the process of our elections, we can assure you we have the utmost confidence in the security and integrity of our elections, and you should too,” the statement added.

CISA, led by the top cybersecurity official, Christopher Krebs, runs a website that debunks misinformation about the election.

The security groups said all the states with close results in the race have paper records of each vote, which can be counted

ed if necessary.

The statement comes as Trump has refused to concede the presidential election to President-elect Biden, baselessly alleging widespread voter fraud, despite presenting no evidence to support such a claim.

Major US media networks called the race for Biden last week. The 77-year-old former vice president holds a near insurmountable lead in both the popular and electoral vote.

Still, Trump and his Republican allies are waging legal challenges in a handful of battleground states and demanding tedious and costly recounts to contest the November 3 election’s results.

The defiant Trump campaign is seeking to halt the vote count in Pennsylvania, Michigan and Arizona until they can have partisan poll watchers inspecting the voting process to ensure “illegal” ballots are not counted. **PTI**

## China finally congratulates Biden, Kamala

**Beijing:** China on Friday shed its initial hesitation and congratulated US President-elect Joe Biden and his deputy Kamala Harris for their victory in the 2020 US presidential election, saying Beijing respects the choice of the American people.

“We have been following reactions on the US elections

from both within the US and the international community,” Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin told a media briefing here when pointed out that more world leaders as well as United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres have congratulated 77-year-old Biden. **PTI**

## Denying Biden victory, Pompeo heads to Europe, West Asia

**Washington:** After refusing to acknowledge President Donald Trump’s loss in last week’s election, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo is leaving Friday on a trip to Europe and the Middle East, where leaders have all congratulated former vice president Joe Biden for his victory.

The seven-nation trip is aimed at shoring up the outgoing Trump administration’s priorities, notably its anti-China and -Iran policies, and will include visits to Israeli settlements in the West Bank that have been avoided by previous secretaries of state.

But the usual foreign policy issues are likely to be overshadowed by the extraordinary moment in global politics: Most of the world has accepted the results of America’s election, while the United States’ top diplomat have not.

Pompeo’s trip comes days after he raised eyebrows by dismissing a reporter’s question about the presidential transition by saying “there will be a smooth transition to a second Trump administration.” He appeared to be speaking in jest and went on to say, in a more serious tone, that the world should be assured that the State Department will be functional and successful with the president who takes office on January 20. **AP**

## Obama: Trump’s voter fraud claims one more step in delegitimising democracy

**PTI ■ WASHINGTON**

**O**utgoing US President Donald Trump’s unsubstantiated claims of election fraud is one more step in delegitimising not just the incoming Biden administration, but democracy generally, his predecessor Barack Obama has said.

“I’m more troubled by the fact that other Republican officials who clearly know better are going along with this, are humouring him in this fashion,” Obama told CBS News in an interview.

“It is one more step in delegitimising not just the incom-

ing Biden administration, but democracy generally. And that’s a dangerous path,” said the former popular president in his first interview after the November 3 presidential election.

Democrat Biden has won 290 electoral votes, 20 more than the required 270 in the election while his Republican rival received 217 votes from the 538-member Electoral College.

Obama was responding to Trump’s allegations of massive voters fraud and electoral malpractice in key battleground states. The mainstream American media and state offi-

cials have said that they have not found any evidence of it.

“They (allegations) appear to be motivated, in part, because the president doesn’t like to lose and never admits loss,” Obama said.

Obama’s latest book “A Promised Land” is scheduled to be released next week. In the book, the former president directly confronts Trump’s racist politics, bluntly suggesting how he believes his own historic election in 2008 opened a wave of bitter and divisive turmoil that fuelled Republicans’ obstructionism and ultimately changed the party, the CNN said in a report.

# Official Myanmar vote count affirms Suu Kyi’s party control

**Yangon:** Aung San Suu Kyi’s National League for Democracy won enough seats in Parliament to return to power for a second five-year term, official results released by the election commission showed on Friday.

The NLD won 346 seats in the combined lower and upper houses of the legislature, far above the 322 needed to secure a majority, the Union Election Commission announced on television and in social media, even many seats from Sunday’s election have yet to be declared.

The military-backed Union Solidarity and Development Party, the main opposition party, won 25 seats, and the Shan Nationalities League for Democracy, representing the ethnic Shan minority, won 15 seats. The Shan, whose homeland is in eastern Myanmar, are the country’s largest ethnic minority.

An unofficial count by Yway Mal, an independent vote counting service, gave the NLD 397 seats and the USDP 28, with 44 going to other parties.

Majority control of Parliament does not give the NLD full control of Government. The army-drafted constitution of 2008 grants the military 25 per cent of the total seats, enough to block constitutional changes. Several key ministerial positions are also reserved for military appointees.

The USDP has called the election unfair and refused to accept the election results, but the election commission rejected its claim and its demand for a fresh vote. **AP**

## Pak bans online payments for Indian electronic media content: Report

**PTI ■ KARACHI**

**P**akistan government has asked Pakistani banks to immediately ban online payments from this country for the subscription of electronic media content from India, according to a media report on Friday.

The decision was taken by the Cabinet on November 9, Dawn newspaper reported, adding that the banking authorities have also been asked to submit a compliance report to the State Bank of Pakistan, the central bank of the country, by November 13.

“We are in receipt of a letter from the cabinet division, Government of Pakistan, whereby they have instructed us to stop different modes of payments, including credit cards, for subscribing (to) Indian Content in Pakistan, including Zee5 video-on-demand service,” according to the circular.

“It is advised to ensure meticulous compliance of aforementioned instructions of the Government of Pakistan and submit compliance status to the State Bank of Pakistan by November 13, 2020,” the circular added.

## FROM PAGE 1

### AYODHYA DEEPOTSAV BREAKS GUINNESS RECORD AGAIN

the city might have witnessed when Ram returned after defeating Ravana.

Chants of Jai Shri Ram kept reverberating the atmosphere with Deepotsav starting at its scheduled time.

The reception of these symbolic forms of Gods was attended by Governor Anandiben Patel, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and other dignitaries.

The chief minister also offered prayers on behalf of devotees after which the scenic reunion of Lord Rama and his brother Bharat took place bringing alive the memories of Lord Rama’s coronation amidst Vedic chants.

Yogi Adityanath also paid obeisance to Lord Ram and sought blessings for people’s welfare.

After arriving in Ayodhya for Deepotsav, Yogi Adityanath first visited the Ram Janmabhoomi temple and offered prayers for the welfare of the people.

### AYODHYA TO GET BACK ITS GLORY: YOGI

The chief minister said that with concerted efforts under the guidance of the prime minister, “we will be revealing India’s cultural and religious wealth on the world stage.”

He said that efforts were made to connect Fiji, Thailand, Japan and Nepal to Ayodhya on the global stage. “Now an international airport is being built here,” he said.

“While Shri Ram had to suffer a lot when he went on exile, the UP government is now getting the work done to improve facilities on the Ram Van Gaman Path. People will commute between Ayodhya and Chitrakoot in just three-and-half hours,” he said.

The chief minister also highlighted the ongoing and future projects for multi-faceted development of Ayodhya as the air rent with slogans of Jai Shri Ram in an atmosphere full of enthusiasm.

Governor Anandiben Patel, while congratulating the people of the state for the Deepotsav, said Lord Ram was a symbol of Indian identity and appreciated the work being done in the public interest by the Yogi government.

Earlier, Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya said that he hailed from Shringeripur and described himself as Ram sevak. He termed the celebration of Deepotsav by the chief minister as a reflection of public aspirations.

In the welcome address, Religious Affairs Minister Neelkanth Tiwari, while speaking on the grandeur of the city of Ayodhya, described the beginning of the Deepotsav by the Yogi government as a wonderful effort and said that Ayodhya would be glorified all over the world under the leadership of Yogi Adityanath.

### PM MAY CELEBRATE DIWALI WITH SOLDIERS ON BORDER

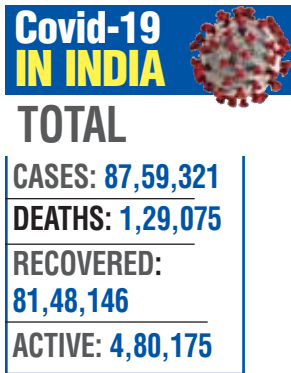
charge of the top post in 2014, he celebrated Diwali then at the Siachen Glacier.

Last year, Modi visited Jammu & Kashmir’s Rajouri district to celebrate Diwali with soldiers guarding the LoC. The year before, he was in Uttarakhand. In 2017, he spent the festival of lights with soldiers posted at Gurez sector of north Kashmir.

The proposed visit on Saturday will be the second time this year that Modi will interact with troops. In July, he made a surprise visit to a forward post in Ladakh at the height of a border confrontation with China following a clash on June 14 when 20 soldiers died for the country at Galwan Valley. He addressed the troops there.

# 100mn Covid-19 shots by Dec in India

**PNS ■ NEW DELHI**



A full approval early next year will allow distribution on a 50-50 basis with the South Asian nation and Covax, the World Health Organization-backed body that’s purchasing shots for poor nations. SII, which has tied up with five

developers, has so far made 40 million doses of AstraZeneca’s vaccine in the past two months and aims to start manufacturing Novavax’s contender soon. “We were a bit concerned it was a big risk,” said Poonawalla. But both

AstraZeneca-Oxford University and Novavax’s shots “are looking pretty good.”

AstraZeneca CEO Pascal Soriot has said he is preparing for the possibility of large-scale vaccinations as early as December and once the UK

## Delhi-NCR air very poor; favourable wind from Sun

**STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI**

**T**here is no respite for Delhiites from poor air quality as on Friday the national Capital recorded its air quality in the “very poor” category and it was likely to become “severe” on Diwali night, according to Government agencies.

Delhi recorded a 24-hour average air quality index (AQI) of 339.

It was 314 on Thursday. The neighbouring cities of Faridabad (319), Ghaziabad (382), Noida (337), Greater Noida (336) and Gurgaon (324), which fall in the National Capital Region (NCR), also recorded their AQI in the “very poor” category.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) said a fresh western disturbance was likely to increase the wind speed and improve the air quality in Delhi-NCR post-Diwali.

Light rain is likely to occur on Sunday under the influence

of a western disturbance. It remains to be seen if it is enough to wash away pollutants, Kuldeep Srivastava, the head of the IMD’s regional forecasting centre, said.

“However, Delhi-NCR’s air quality is likely to improve post-Diwali due to an increase in the wind speed. On Sunday, the maximum wind speed is expected to be around 12 to 15 kilometres per hour,” he said.

VK Soni, the head of the IMD’s environment research centre, said calm winds and firecrackers emissions may push the air quality to the “severe” zone on Diwali night.

Wind speed is expected to pick up thereafter and the wind direction will be east-southeasterly. There will be a significant improvement in air quality by November 16, he said.

The Ministry of Earth Sciences’ air quality monitor, SAFAR, said the PM 2.5 concentration in Delhi on Diwali is likely to be the “lowest” in the



last four years if no firecrackers are burnt.

It said pollution levels in Delhi during the Diwali period are likely to remain in the higher end of the “very poor” category in the absence of emissions due to fireworks.

Stubble burning-induced impact on AQI is expected to increase from “negligible to moderate” in the next two days, said SAFAR, adding the

biomass plume transport-level winds have become north-westerly and predicted to continue until Saturday which is not good.

Fire-related intrusion along with stagnant surface winds is acting adversely. Hence, AQI is predicted to remain in the higher end of the “very poor” category to the lower end of the “severe” on Diwali night, it said.

A spike in PM 2.5 in the wee hours of November 15 is likely in case of fire-related emissions, it said.

The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) had on Wednesday ordered closure of hot mix plants and stone crushers in Delhi-NCR till November 17 in view of a likely increase in pollution levels during the festive season.

It also asked the Governments of Punjab and Haryana to take immediate stringent actions to curb stubble burning and authorities in Delhi-NCR to strictly check biomass burning.

## 14 Burkina Faso soldiers killed by extremists in Sahel area

**Ouagadougou:** Fourteen soldiers were killed and others were injured in an extremist attack in Burkina Faso’s Sahel region, the government said.

A military convoy from the Tin-Akoff area, in Oudalan province was ambushed on Wednesday, government spokesman Remis Fulgence Dandjinou said. Three severely injured people were evacuated by plane to the capital, Ouagadougou and the military has been sent to the area to find

the attackers, he said.

The same day, at least 20 gunmen were seen on motorbikes in the nearby town of Gorom Gorom, burning a bar and frightening civilians, Ousmane Amirou Dicko, the Emir of Liptako told The Associated Press by phone. The jihadists were trying to show that “they are in charge of the place,” he said.

This was the second attack in Burkina Faso in less than a week. **AP**

## French forces kill al-Qaida-linked commander, 4 others in Mali

**Paris:** French ground forces and military helicopters killed a jihadist commander linked with al-Qaida in Mali along with four others, the French military announced Friday.

The operation Tuesday targeted Bah ag Moussa, military chief for the RVIM Islamic extremist group, who had been on a U.N. Sanctions list and was believed responsible for multiple attacks on Malian and international forces in the

country, French military spokesman Col. Frederic Barbry told reporters Friday.

Surveillance drones helped French forces in Mali identify Moussa’s truck in the Menaka region of eastern Mali, which was then targeted by the helicopters and 15 French commandos sent to the scene, Barbry said. All five people in the truck were killed after they ignored warning shots and fired on the French forces, he said. **AP**

## Peshawar HC CJ who sent Musharraf to the gallows dies of Covid

**PTI ■ PESHAWAR**

**P**eshawar High Court Chief Justice Waqar Seth, who handed down the death sentence to former Pakistan president Gen (Retd) Pervez Musharraf in the high treason case, passed away due to coronavirus-related complications at a private hospital in Islamabad, officials said on Friday.

He was 59 and is survived by his wife and a daughter. He belonged to Dikhan district of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.

Seth tested positive for COVID-19 on October 22 and was subsequently admitted to a hospital in Peshawar. He was later shifted to Kulsum International Hospital in Islamabad, where he succumbed to the deadly viral infection on Thursday, the officials said.

Seth, who took oath as Peshawar High Court top judge in June 2018, rose to prominence when while heading a special court in December 2019, he handed down the death sentence to self-exiled former military dictator Musharraf in the high treason case for imposing emergency in the country on November 3, 2007.

grants its own emergency license, SII will submit same data to Indian counterparts.

Drugmakers are just now getting data that will show how well their vaccine candidates work, but there are plenty of hurdles remaining as the global race to find an effective shot against the pathogen reaches its final stages. Astra and co-developer University of Oxford still need to see testing results. And even if their vaccine proves effective and gets a nod from regulators, there are questions over how the shot can be distributed.

Poonawalla reiterated that it will take until 2024 to vaccinate the entire world and two years to see a real reduction in infections, due to affordability and manufacturing hurdles. After talks with the Government, Poonawalla said he is confident in their plans to get initial vaccines to the vulnerable and frontline workers. The challenge will be in getting it to India’s 1.3 billion

population, especially in the vast countryside where past inoculation drives have struggled due to patchy health networks.

He said AstraZeneca has a significant edge over a rival candidate from Pfizer Inc. and BioNTech SE, which this week grabbed headlines after indicating it was more than 90 per cent effective in stopping Covid-19 infections. Expensive cold-chain infrastructure is needed to transport and store that vaccine at -70 degrees Celsius. Poonawalla said it was “just impossible” for most of the world to use at scale, compared to those his company will produce that can be stored at fridge temperatures.

“I don’t think even 90 per cent of the countries will be able to take it, because you just don’t have deep freezers everywhere,” he said of the Pfizer shot. “In a pandemic, always remember that simplicity is the key.”

## Will contain Covid in Capital within 10 days, says Kejriwal

**STAFF REPORTER ■ PATNA**

**D**elhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Friday said the Covid-19 situation in the national Capital should come under control in 7-10 days and that his Government is going to take several preventive measures in the coming days. Kejriwal said the pollution is the biggest reason behind the surge in the number of corona cases.

“The corona was under control in Delhi until last week. I want to appeal to the Supreme Court and the Centre, and Punjab, Haryana, UP Governments along with all agencies to act on resolving the problem of pollution. There is a very easy and cost-effective solution available and so now no

Government can say there is no alternative to the problem. The report says it just costs ₹30 per acre, which can be given out of a State’s own budget,” the Delhi CM said.

Kejriwal said pollution is the “biggest” reason behind the spike in coronavirus cases in the city. “Covid-19 cases have been increasing for the last few days. I am also concerned about it. We have been taking all appropriate measures to control it. We are considering taking more steps next week,” he said during a Press conference. Citing a report, Kejriwal also said the anti-stubble solution prepared by the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Pusa, decomposed 70 to 95 per cent of crop residue in 24 villages in Delhi.





**FATIMA SANA SHAIKH**

I am getting work, in spite of people not seen much of my work, which means people have a certain amount of confidence in me. The success of the film is never in our hands but our performance is. If people like it, you will get work. So I am trying hard to deliver my best.



**MANUSHI CHHILLAR**

It is a super special Diwali for me and my family this year. My family is my biggest anchor and Diwali for me has always been about being grateful for the unconditional love that they shower on me. So, this Diwali became all the more special because I finally got to meet my mother after eight months.



**AR RAHMAN**

It was a great honour working with such a stalwart. He (Yash Chopra) had this child-like enthusiasm about everything. You expect certain things from such an experienced person, but then he always picks the most innovative idea! He had that extra quality in him to pick new things and yet ground it in tradition.



**GURU RANDHAWA**

I enjoy the festival of lights. Diwali brings so much of positivity and light in our lives. I remember as a kid, my family and friends in Gurdaspur would light up with candles and lamps. We would wait to step out in the evening to play with our friends. It is one of my fondest memories.

**DILJIT DOSANJH**

We are feeling lucky that our film *Suraj Pe Mangal Bhari* is the first one to release in theatres after the lockdown. I think it has created history in that sense. If the audience will come to watch, then it will again create history. It's a family film, so I hope people would come to watch it.



**SHORT CIRCUITS**

**FESTIVE VIBE 30 MINUTES**

# LIGHTS WILL GUIDE YOU HOME

Diwali celebrations this year will be a low-key affair for most Bollywood celebrities owing to the ongoing pandemic. For some, the global health crisis has barred them from reuniting with their families in their hometowns. For others, Diwali will be more of a low-key homely affair as they plan to avoid attending big parties to ensure social distancing.

The pandemic turns Diwali celebrations into a low key, homely affair for B-Towners as they plan to avoid card parties

this year the need is more than ever because there are COVID patients for whom pollution can be dangerous. So, being empathetic about the people around us is how we should celebrate this Diwali," he said.

Ishita Dutta will be celebrating the festival of lights at home with family members. "Generally for Diwali there are a lot of parties in the city where friends and families get together but this year is going to be very different so we are keeping it very low key. We are doing a small pre-Diwali party at home where only family members will be present. We will make sweets at home and decorate the house. Even if we

are not going out, we will still dress up at home, light *diyas* and make *rangolis* to keep up with the festive spirit. But we will not burst crackers as I'm totally against it," she said.

For Manav Kaul, this Diwali brings the pain of not being able to meet his family in his hometown as he is unable to travel. The actor shared, "Due to the pandemic, this Diwali I can't visit and spend time with my mother, who stays in Indore with my brother. I like Diwali with less noise, so hopefully people won't use loud firecrackers. I will be at home and will cook for my friends. That will be my Diwali with lots of light and good music."



# A power play of colours

Designer Anushree Reddy's bridal collections have been the most sought after by the brides and their entourage for years. At Lakmé Fashion Week 2020 Digital First Season Fluid Edition, Anushree unveiled another offering *Nazira* (meaning glowing with happiness) for bridal trousseaux shoppers. Once again there was that uber reflection of romance and femininity in the ensembles as they glided through the show on models.

Anushree's creative design directions have always been deeply rooted in traditions. The colour spread showcased a delightful array of hues. There was the ever-neutral pristine ivory as well as the haute bridal favourites like peachy pink, cherry red, strong royal purple and regal navy. When it came to the embellishments, she allowed her designing skills to bring in large offerings of hand-crafted 3D crystal work, which was balanced perfectly with *Katdana* and delicate thread work.

Embroidery was the star of her collection with fine detailing like ornate scalloped edges for hemlines, dupattas and cholis. Dazzling *latkans* hung tantalisingly at the waist while strappy gowns replete with the most exotic blooms splashed all over were mesmerising. The almost lacy treatment with embroidery given to the choli sleeves presented a fragile look. The saris were treated with great opulence as the embellishments were lavishly used for the pallavs, borders and cholis.

Ridhi Mehra's collections have always moved with the fashion-forward trends season after season. For Lakmé Fashion Week, her collection called *Reflections* moved from modifying to modernising the fashion story. The leitmotif of the line was the ever-popular mirror work that was balanced with innovative designs and techniques. The inspiration was the royal heritage of Kutch that brought forth the characteristic bohemian craft in a riot of

colour power play but suited to the contemporary silhouettes.

Keeping mirror work as the focal point on the ensembles, Ridhi fused in mixed elements of *gota patti* and *zari* on the silks as well as the prints that highlighted the fabrics like chiffon and organza. Offering a variety of silhouettes to suit the ethnic and western dresser, she unveiled anarkalis and luxuriously embellished saris and then moved to stylish jumpsuits with interesting design directions.

When it comes to showcasing creativity at its best for occasion wear, designer Jayanti Reddy can dazzle her buyers with her collections. Her line of ensembles, *Rouge*, was an ode to the different

shades of red, which is considered the celebratory offering for all festive Indian seasons. The collection was all about vibrant seductive adventurous and bold clothes that will win the wearer showers of accolades wherever she goes. Jayanti's kaleidoscopic fashion directions started with the fabric base. Here it was the elegant silks, the sheer beauty of traditional *chanderi* and the sleeky glamour of satin that enchanted her imagination. The silhouettes that fitted perfectly into the festive and bridal mood, moved from lehenga, choli, and dupatta trios, then added regal fluid capes and completed the fashionable menu with draped skirts.

From tiny cape blouses to regal long-sleeved cholis matched with asymmetric robes, Jayanti's homage to red moved to long-sleeved gowns with



While designer Anushree Reddy's collection spoke volumes about romance and femininity, the duo of Sukriti & Aakriti delved deeper into Indian traditionality, reflecting the festive season. Masaba Gupta chose to collaborate with music to lift spirits in these unprecedented times at the Lakme Fashion Week 2020



scalloped bib necklines, puff-sleeved jackets and innovatively woven matted cholis. The anarkalis and dupattas were edged with ornate silver borders, while the angarkha style kurtas had embroidered bodice as the focal point. A flame-red satin sari was edged with glittering border, but the accompanying choli was a glitzy one-button addition. Embellishments were always the focal point of the garments as they appeared in discreet but glittering forms though at times they were lavishly sprinkled on the garments.



Celebrating fashion for the festivities, designing duo Sukriti and Aakriti unveiled their *Neo-Phulkari* collection. *Phulkari*, that often appears on bridal trousseaux, was given a revival touch by the designers, who incorporated it in fluid forms onto the Indian silhouettes. The base of the craft was the organic fabric as well as the naturally dyed *gota* work. In addition, Sukriti and Aakriti gave a creative contemporary thrust to *phulkari* so that it had a wider global appeal.

They started with a black and white offering comprising cropped pants with kurta. They kept the *phulkari* embroidery in all white for the black jacket. The designs included cropped jackets, white-on-white embroidered kurtas, kurtis, ghararas and flared empire line dress over calf-length pants. The ivory sherwani/lehenga duo, the peplum jacket, bralette and lehenga, choli, dupatta trio, as well as the seductive plunge 'V' neckline tunic over a white and gold maxi skirt brought formal wear into fashionable focus.

The black and white section was all

about flamboyant styles as swirling long skirts looked perfect either with a bralette or giant balloon sleeved cholis, while a flouncy dupatta added that extra zing to the look. The showstopping pair, actors Radhika Madan looked radiant in a colourful lehenga, deep, round neck choli and dupatta that perfectly balanced Aparshakti Khurana's embroidered *bundi* kurta and narrow pants look.

The electronics brand, boAt, teamed up with designer Masaba Gupta and unveiled a line of colorful headphone designs. Masaba will be back at fashion week next year to showcase her fashion collection that will be inspired by this collaboration.

She said, "We are super excited about collaborating with boAt. Lending House of Masaba's aesthetics to their headphones will invite a new consumer and excite the existing ones with cool, fresh and quirky products. Lakme Fashion Week and I have a long-standing association, it is where I made my debut. I think that it is a platform that has consistently brought some amazing talent to the forefront. I am sure it would have been a little challenging in these unprecedented times that we live in. This seems to be a perfect collaboration. Through these headphones and my summer collection, I will be able to transport people into a parallel universe which I can't wait to share with them. I am looking forward to this."



# India will be strong despite Virat's absence: Lyon



PTI ■ MELBOURNE

Veteran spinner Nathan Lyon believes Virat Kohli's absence in the last three Tests of upcoming series doesn't necessarily make

Australia favourites to lift the Border-Gavaskar Trophy as India boasts of a lot of "superstars" in its team. India captain Kohli will leave after the opening Test in Adelaide as he has been granted paternity leave by

the BCCI to be with his actor wife Anushka Sharma for the birth of their first child in early January. Test specialist Lyon said he is obviously disappointed to get limited opportunity to get a crack at Kohli,

## Langer respects Kohli's decision to take paternity leave

PTI ■ MELBOURNE

Australia head coach Justin Langer has hailed India captain Virat Kohli for taking paternity leave during the tour Down Under but conceded that his absence will definitely affect the visitors during the much-anticipated Test series for the Border-Gavaskar Trophy. Langer said he respects Kohli for putting family ahead of cricket. "Virat Kohli is probably the best player I've ever seen in my life for so many reasons, not only batting but his energy and passion for the game, the way he fields," Langer told reporters by video conference on Friday. "I cannot believe he displays the energy he does in everything he does

and I've got so much respect for him. I've also got respect for him in the sense that he's made this decision (to return for the birth)." "He's a human being like all of us... If I was giving advice to any of my players I would always say never, ever miss the birth of your children because it is one of the great things you'll ever do," the former Australia opener added. Langer said Kohli's absence will definitely impact India but they cannot afford to lower their guard. "Of course it will have an impact (his absence), but we also know that India beat us last time (in 2018-19). They're a very, very good team, we cannot get complacent for a second with or without Virat," Langer said.

who is considered one of the best batsmen in the world. "It's disappointing for the series. You want to play against the best players in the world. I believe he is the best player in the world along with Steve Smith and Marnus Labuschagne. It's disappointing but they have still got superstars. "Look at Pujara, Rahane, and they have also got a couple of young guys coming in. It's still going to be a massive challenge for us," Lyon was quoted as saying by Fox Sports. "Just because Virat's not here

doesn't mean we get to hold the trophy up. We've still got a lot of work to do, a lot of homework to do," he added. India's tour of Australia comprises three ODIs, as many T20 Internationals and four Tests. The series begins on November 27. The Tests start on December 17 in Adelaide. Kohli will miss the Boxing Day Test in Melbourne (December 26-30), New Year's Test in Sydney (January 7-11) and the final game at the Gabba (January 15-19).



## Langer still has faith in Burns

PTI ■ MELBOURNE

Australia head coach Justin Langer has hinted that he is likely to stick with Joe Burns at the opening position with David Warner for the first Test of the four-match series against India despite young Will Pucovski's incredible form. Burns averaged 32 for Australia last summer and had below-par start to the Marsh Sheffield Shield season with 57 runs at 11.40. The 22-year-old Pucovski, on the other hand, has produced successive double hundreds, scoring 202 against Western Australia after an unbeaten 255 against South Australia. "Will Pucovski is doing everything that's humanly possible to play that first Test, and that's something we have to weigh up...", Langer was quoted as saying by [cricket.com.au](http://cricket.com.au). "...Last time we played Test cricket, we loved the combination of Joe Burns and David

Warner. They've got a real synergy, they work well together, so at this point I'd say that'll remain the same." Burns and Warner has scored 1,365 runs at 50.56 as an opening pair, playing an important role in Australia's ascent to the top of the ICC Test rankings. "...We should (also) never underestimate the job the guys have done to get us to where we are, and that philosophy and attitude has been a really strong part of the success of Australian cricket for a long time," Langer said. "We went through a period where there was lots of ins and outs, and in my view, we should back the guys in there. That can change, but it's a pretty strong philosophy to stick to." India will start the four-Test series with the opening Day-Night game in Adelaide on January 17 and Langer believes the opening position will get much clearer after Australia's first three-day tour game.

# IPL is ready for expansion: Dravid

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Former India captain Rahul Dravid strongly believes that Indian Premier League (IPL) is "ready for expansion" in terms of number of teams without compromising on the quality as well as quantity of talent available in the country. There are talks that the 2021 IPL will be featuring nine teams instead of eight and will go up to 10 teams by 2023, which has always been the BCCI's long-term plan.

The views of Dravid, who is now the director of National Cricket Academy (NCA), were echoed by Rajasthan Royals co-owner Manoj Badale, who felt that a nine-team IPL in 2021 is "definitely possible". "I feel IPL is ready for expansion in terms of talent, if you look from talent perspective. There are a lot of talented players who are not getting an opportunity to play."

Dravid said that if there are more teams, all the talented players could be fitted in and there won't be a drop in quality. "So I believe we are ready as there are lot of new names and faces in terms of talent perspective," Dravid said during the virtual launch of Badale's book 'A New Innings', which he co-authored with former English cricketer Simon Hughes. Badale, as a stakeholder in the IPL, welcomed the idea of expansion and also spoke about various aspects that need to be factored in. "BCCI needs to take a decision and they will take a call on what would be the exact approach. "Making a nine-team league in 2021



is definitely possible but as a consequence, you will have to have more afternoon games and maintain quality of the competition," said Badale, a British citizen of Indian origin. Dravid, on his part, explained why Mumbai Indians have been such a prolific team having won an unprecedented five IPL titles in 13 editions. "They (MI) have a strong core with a high quality. Their core is built with world class T20 players and balanced it with young exciting talent. They have a very strong scouting structure in place," Dravid said. He said it is because of IPL that someone like Rahul Tewatia from Haryana has been able to showcase his

skills to a global audience. "Earlier, you only depended on your state association to select you for Ranji Trophy. Now, from a state like Haryana which produces so many quality spinners like Yuzvendra Chahal, Amit Mishra and Jayant Yadav, Tewatia would have had limited opportunities. "So it's no longer limited to state associations," said Dravid. He spoke about the heady feeling of playing international cricket without actually playing one, which the IPL provides. "As coaches, we can help the young players in their journeys but what helps them grow is experience. Look at a Devdutt Padikkal who is batting alongside Virat Kohli or can learn from AB de Villiers." Another aspect in which the IPL has helped young players is the availability of worthwhile data to improve their game. "Look at someone like T Natarajan. It was because of the the quality of data that he was able to go back and work on his yorker and that one skill has now got him into the Indian team," he said.

The last decade (2011-2020), according to Dravid, has been India's best in terms of white ball cricket and the IPL has contributed with its appropriate tagline 'talent meets opportunity'. "It has been India's best performing decade in white ball cricket. We won a World Cup (2011), Champions Trophy (2013) and reached semi-finals and finals of World T20. Young players have learnt a lot watching and listening to experts on TV," he said.

## PCB to review Misbah's performance after 2021 T20 WC

PTI ■ KARACHI

The Pakistan Cricket Board has decided to review Misbah-ul-Haq's performance only after the completion of next year's World T20 Cup, giving him a full one-year to prove his credentials as a head coach. "The board has taken a policy decision that it would now sit down and review whether to retain Misbah or bring in a new coach only after the World T20 Cup in India," a well-informed source aware of the developments told PTI. He said that after Misbah decided to relinquish his role as chief selector, the board now wanted to see how he copes with his responsibility as head coach. "The feeling was that Misbah was finding it difficult

to handle both jobs and now with him having to only worry about the head coach responsibility he might deliver the goods," the source said. He said similarly Babar Azam, who was also appointed Test captain this week, is likely to be given a long run by the board. "Look unless Pakistan starts losing badly in all formats before the World T20 in India, there will be no changes in the captaincy or head coach positions." The source said that the board feels Babar is mentally strong enough to handle the pressures of captaining Pakistan across all three formats. "Even the Patron in Chief, Prime Minister, Imran Khan is happy with Babar's appoint-

ment as Test captain in place of Azhar Ali," the source added. He said that Babar will most probably have a long run as captain in all three formats as he is only 26 and has a lot of

cricket ahead of him. "Again unless he loses form drastically for a long time, there is no other way Babar will lose the captaincy and he will be leading Pakistan in the World T20 in India."

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## England beat Ireland 3-0

AP ■ LONDON

Harry Maguire, Jadon Sancho and Dominic Calvert-Lewin scored as England dominated Ireland in a 3-0 victory. The friendly at an empty Wembley Stadium on Thursday allowed 17-year-old Borussia Dortmund midfielder Jude Bellingham to make his England debut as a second-half substitute. "We used the ball very well, created a lot of chances - could have been more comfortable if we'd taken some of those chances, but overall very pleased," England manager Gareth Southgate said.