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Govt delivers on PRIs in J&K

Cabinet OK's J&K Panchayati Raj Act for 3-tier grassroots democracy

PNS ■ NEW DELHI/AMMU

Paving the way for the 'establishment of all the three tiers of grassroots-level democracy in Jammu & Kashmir like in other parts of the country for the first time since Independence', the Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved the adoption of the Jammu & Kashmir Panchayati Raj Act, 1989.

"The three-tier system was not there in Kashmir before. They did not have the opportunity to elect their local representatives. This step redeems the promise made by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Kashmir, and the Home Minister in Parliament. This will help the people of J&K to elect their representatives at the village, block and district levels."

Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar said.

"Now, there will be early elections, and the power to manage local bodies will go to the people," he said, adding that the J&K administration is working on the adaptation of other laws following the abrogation of Article 370 and division of the State into two Union Territories by giving Ladakh a separate UT status.

There is a lot of homework to be done, but the principle has been established, Javadekar asserted even as several Union Ministers took to Twitter to hail the Cabinet decision.



Terminating the Union Cabinet's approval a watershed moment in the history of J&K, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said the Government of India has fully applied the 73rd Constitutional Amendment 1992 to the UT of J&K which was pending for the last 28 years.

With this, all three tiers of Panchayati Raj Institutions shall be formed for the first time in the history of Jammu & Kashmir, he said.

The Jammu & Kashmir administration had on Saturday amended the Jammu & Kashmir Panchayati Raj Act of the State into two District Development Councils (DDCs). Under the new arrangement, the DDCs are set to become a new unit of governance in the UT, thereby completing the implementation of the three tier system.

The landmark decision is



expected to ensure liberal funding of Central Government schemes aimed at improving

the living conditions of the masses and also strengthen the rural infrastructure in the remote and hilly areas.

Ahead of the abrogation of Article 370, the existing District Development Boards were abolished to pave way for the establishment of two tiers of Panchayati Raj Institutions. The decision was necessitated because the existing guidelines of the DDBs had no provision for any transfer of funds or responsibility to Block Development Councils (BDC) or to the Panchayats as these tiers of local Government had not been in existence in the State earlier.

₹3,737 cr bonus for 30.7 L non-gazetted Govt staff

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

With a view to encourage spending, generate demand in the economy and bring cheer to more than 30 lakh non-gazetted employees during the festival season, the Centre on Wednesday decided to give them ₹3,737 crore as bonus for 2020-21.

Following the Union Cabinet's nod to the proposal, Information & Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar said the bonus will be given in a single instalment, through

Direct Benefit Transfer.

The bonus ahead of Vijaydashami and Diwali will encourage the middle-class to go out and spend and thus add to the demand in the economy, he said.

Payment of bonus to non-gazetted employees for their performance in the preceding year is usually made before Durga Puja/Dussehra season. The Government is announcing the Productivity Linked Bonus (PLB) and ad hoc bonus for its non-gazetted employees to be disbursed immediately," a

Govt extends MIS for J&K apples

New Delhi: Furthering its commitment to help and empower the people of J&K, PM Narendra Modi-led Union Cabinet has approved the extension of Market Intervention Scheme for procurement of 12 lakh metric tonnes apples.

"This will enhance the income of apples growers by providing an effective marketing platform," tweeted Union Home Minister Amit Shah.

The PLB for the year 2019-2020, having financial implications of ₹2,791 crore, will benefit 16.97 lakh non-gazetted employees of commercial establishments like Railways, Posts, Defence, EPFO, ESIC, among others.

Non-PLB or ad hoc bonus, which is given to non-gazetted Central Government employees, will benefit 13.70 lakh staff. It will cost the exchequer ₹946 crore. A total of 30.67 lakh employees would be benefited from the bonus.

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

As the situation remains tense at the Line of Actual Control (LAC), Defence Minister Rajnath Singh is likely to visit Sikkim on the occasion of Dussehra to show solidarity with the troops deployed on the border facing China there. He may also inaugurate a number of road projects and strategic bridges to add muscle to the logistical back-up to the frontline deployments throughout the year.

The proposed visit on October 23-24 comes days after Rajnath dedicated 44 permanent bridges, mostly in border areas, to improve supply lines to the forward deployments besides local population. Four of the strategically bridges are in Sikkim.

The Defence Minister is also likely to do "shastra puja" at one of the units in Sikkim. The puja is a part of a ritual marking Dussehra celebrations. Rajnath had performed a similar ritual in France last year while receiving the first Rafale fighter aircraft, sources said here on Wednesday.

He may also review the current security situation in the eastern sector of the LAC following the ongoing five month stand-off with China. Both the sides have ramped up their troop strength besides deploying heavy weapons all along the 4,000-km long LAC stretching from Ladakh in the

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Promises galore in Bihar manifestos



RJD leader Tejashwi Prasad Yadav during an election campaign rally ahead of Bihar Assembly polls at Masaurhi in Patna district on Wednesday

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

From a decision on enabling 10 lakh jobs in their very first Cabinet meeting if elected to power to building a grand "Sita Maiya" (Goddess Sita) temple in Sitamarhi like Ayodhya's Ram Mandir, from promoting dairy on the pattern of Denmark to ₹1,500 monthly to unemployed youth, there are promises galore by the political parties in their manifestos or vision documents to lure the voters as the campaigning for the Bihar polls gain full momentum.

Bihar Assembly elections

will be held in three phases — on October 28, November 3 and November 7 — and counting of votes will be held on November 10.

Despite being a part of the grand alliance, led by the RJD, the Congress on Wednesday came out with its own manifesto and referred it as "badlav patr" (letter of change).

And, having decided to go it alone, Lok Janshakti Party chief Chirag Paswan unveiled the vision document of his party seeking to invoke the Bihar pride through his slogan, "Bihar first, Bihar first".

Stop vermin listing, rope in local bodies for help, States told

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre has asked State Governments to avoid declaring any wild animal as "vermin" (harmful to crops/farm animals), which leads to their subsequent culling. Instead, the Union Environment Ministry's wildlife panel National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) recently said that the States/UTs should involve Panchayati Raj Institutions and locals more actively in dealing with situations arising out of human-wildlife conflict.

Incidentally, NBWL's advisory comes after a petition filed in the Supreme Court by actor and Biju Janata Dal (BJD) Lok Sabha MP Anubhav Mohanty in July this year, seeking its intervention against the brutal killing of wild animals, declared as "vermin", in different States.

Some States were even using "bomb baits" and "poison baits" that invariably lead to indiscriminate hunting of non-target animals such as elephants, leopards, tigers and

jackals, Mohanty alleged in his petition.

In fact, in June itself, the Ministry had approved the Himachal Pradesh Government's proposal, fourth in a row since 2016, to declare rhesus macaque monkeys as "vermin", allowing them to be killed for preventing crop depredation, conflict with humans, and loss of property.

Rhesus macaques, classified as being of "least concern" in the IUCN Red List, were declared "vermin". Authorities are allowed to cull animals if they are declared vermin.

In the past also, the Centre has been giving nod to such proposals moved by various State Governments which have been deploying inhuman methods like snares, wire traps, explosives, bomb baits and poison baits to kill the animals in conflict or destroying crops.

Bihar, Himachal Pradesh and Kerala had even financial incentives for killing of

CAPSULE

MAHA GOVT WITHDRAWS CONSENT ON CBI PROBES

Mumbai: The Maharashtra Government has decided to withdraw the general consent clause for Central Bureau of Investigation to probe any case in the State. Henceforth, the CBI has to take permission from State Government if they want to probe any case in the State.

BJP'S KHADSE TO JOIN NCP: MAHA MINISTER

Mumbai: Disgruntled Maharashtra BJP leader Ek Nath Khadse will join the NCP on Friday, State Minister Jayant Patil said on Wednesday.

PAK POLICE PROTEST ABDUCTION OF CHIEF

Karachi: A serious controversy has broken out in Pakistan after an IGP was allegedly forced into ordering the arrest of Captain (retd) Siddiq Awan, the husband of Maryam Nawaz. **P8**

Punjab farmers to suspend Rail Roko in State, to take protest at national level

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

A day after the Punjab Assembly passed Bills to counter the Centre's three new farm laws, the protesting farmers on Wednesday decided to take their ongoing protest to the national level. At the same time, the farmers' bodies also announced to suspend the 'Rail Roko' agitation till November 4, while announcing to continue their protests outside the residences of BJP leaders, retail outlets and petrol pumps of the corporate houses.

Punjab's farmer bodies, after holding a detailed meeting at Chandigarh, announced to ease their three-week-long 'rail roko' agitation by allowing goods trains in the State. Farmer leader Satnam

Singh said that the decision was taken keeping in mind the shortage of coal and diammonium phosphate (DAP) fertilizer.

"We have decided to allow only goods trains from today till November 5," he said. The protesting farmers, however, said that they would continue to stage sit-ins outside fuel pumps of some corporates, toll plazas and residences of BJP leaders in the State.

"The next course of action will be announced in a meeting fixed for November 4," said Bharatiya Kisan Union (BKU) general secretary Jagmohan Singh. Punjab Government had all along been urging the protesting farmers to relax

their 'rail roko' agitation in the wake of severe shortage of coal for thermal plants in the state. Several industrial organizations had also complained of not receiving their inputs due to the agitation.

Farmers in the state had blocked rail tracks from October 1 on a call given by several farmer unions. Some tracks had been blocked since September 24.

On the four Bills passed by the Punjab Assembly on Tuesday against the Centre's farm laws, Bharatiya Kisan Union (Rajewal) president Balbir Singh Rajewal said that it was a "big achievement" of farmers' agitation, while adding that "it could have been better".

Continued on Page 2

SPECIAL SESSION: PUNJAB ASSEMBLY

SC scholarship issue rocks Punjab Assembly

SAD, AAP STAGE WALKOUTS OVER CLEAN CHIT TO DHARAMSOT IN SCHOLARSHIP SCAM

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

The third and the last day of Punjab Vidhan Sabha's special session on Wednesday witnessed strong protests by all the opposition parties — both inside and outside the House — on the issue of SC Post-Matric Scholarship scam, demanding immediate dismissal of the Cabinet Minister Sadhu Singh Dharamsot for his alleged involvement.

Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) and Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) on Wednesday staged separate walk-outs protesting against the clean chit given by the Punjab Government to Dharamsot in the Rs 64 crore SC post-matric scholarship scam. Before that, SAD and Lok Insaaf Party (LIP) had staged protests outside the Assembly premises.

Shiromani Akali Dal was the first to raise the issue following which a complete pandemonium prevailed with the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) and Lok Insaaf Party MLAs also joining in seeking Social Justice and Empowerment. Minister Dharamsot's dismissal.

The issue was raised by SAD MLA Pawan Kumar Singh, while speaking on a Bill related to the SCs, urged the Speaker Rana KP Singh to set aside at least two hours to discuss the scholarship scam, claiming that they would prove Dharamsot's involvement in the scam.

"We want to discuss the

issue threadbare. We can have a discussion on both the findings of the Additional Chief Secretary Kirpa Shankar Saroj who had in his report indicated the Minister and that of the Chief Secretary whose report gave a clean chit to the Minister," said Tinnu.

Tinnu also pointed out that the Speaker had not allowed the SAD to move an adjournment motion on the issue despite the fact that it dealt with the future of Dalit students.

As the Speaker refused to hold any discussion on the issue, SAD legislators stormed into the well of the House and started sloganeering, holding placards and banners. IT was followed by a walk out.

AAP MLA and the Leader of Opposition Harpal Singh Cheema also demanded Dharamsot's dismissal and resignation. He also demanded a "clean chit" LIP MLA Simarjeet Singh Bains also demanded a fresh investigation into the allegations.

As the opposition MLAs continued their protest, the Speaker made it clear that he would not let them speak unless they apologise for Harpal Cheema shouting at him.

AAP MLAs later staged a walkout from the House with Cheema telling the media outside the House that they were not allowed to speak on various issues. Cheema also said that when the assembly had passed the bills on Tuesday

to counter the Centre's farm laws, they wanted the State Government to also give a guarantee that agriculture produce in the State would be procured on the MSP if the Centre fails to do it.

The SAD also raised the issue of Dharamsot, who is also the minister of forests and wildlife, alleged involvement in the sale of forest land in the Punjab Government's "clean chit" given to Dharamsot. SAD MLA Bikram Singh Majithia, while speaking with the media, demanded a "court-monitored" inquiry into the scholarship funds scam saying that "it affects the future of our children belonging to poor and socially and economically exploited families".

Amid unruly scenes and slogan-shouting, during which the Akalis came to the well of the House to protest, the Speaker Rana KP Singh told AAP that they would not be allowed to speak unless they apologised for Cheema shouting at him.

Referring to the regretful trend of some opposition MLAs rebasing the party of the House to gain political mileage, the Chief Minister expressed concern over the impact of such behaviour on the traditions of the Assembly. It may be recalled that after allegations of Rs 64 crore misappropriation in SC scholarship had surfaced, the Chief Minister had directed the Chief Secretary Vini Mahajan to conduct a thorough enquiry. The Secretary's report, based on the findings of a 22-member panel of officers, led by Food Secretary KAP Sinha, had exonerated Minister Sadhu Singh Dharamsot.

said that the issue of SC scholarship has been examined by three Additional Chief Secretaries who have found no irregularity in the distribution of funds. The Opposition was unnecessarily targeting the ministers on the basis of media reports which had no substance, he added.

The issue was raised by Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) MLA and the Leader of Opposition Harpal Singh Cheema, SAD MLA Pawan Kumar Tinnu, and Lok Insaaf Party MLA Simarjeet Singh Bains demanding the dismissal of Minister Sadhu Singh Dharamsot, who had already been given a clean chit by a committee of three IAS officers, set up to probe the alleged scholarship scam.

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Capt Amarinder, intervening during the House proceedings on the third and the last day of the special session,

House passes 7 key Bills on last day

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Punjab Vidhan Sabha, on the concluding day of the three-day special session convened to pass the state's bills to counter the Centre's three anti-farmer laws, passed seven key bills after debate and amid protests by the opposition parties.

Marked by the protests and slogan-shouting by all the opposition parties — Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD), and the Lok Insaaf Party (LIP) — on the issue of multi-crore post-matric scholarship scam, the legislative business on Wednesday took about one and a half hour.

With this, the House has paved the way to set up the 'State Vigilance Commission', giving proprietary rights to agriculture-related categories, allowing tissue culture based technology for growing potatoes, among others. Soon after, the Speaker Rana KP Singh adjourned the House sine die.

PUNJAB STATE VIGILANCE COMMISSION BILL, 2020

Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh moved the Bill to set up the multi-member commission to bring more transparency and check corruption among public servants. Notably, Capt Amarinder, in his earlier stint as the Minister (2002-2007) had steered the constitution of a similar commission in 2006, which was later

scrapped by the SAD-BJP government in 2007. As per the Bill, the vigilance panel would come up as an independent body to exercise more effective supervision over the functioning of existing vigilance bureau and all departments of the State Government.

The Commission would review the progress of the probe conducted by the vigilance bureau and cases of prosecution sanction pending with various departments of the State Government. It would also tender advice to various investigations on vigilance matters. To be headed by the State Chief Vigilance Commissioner appointed from among officers who have been or are serving as Judge of a High Court or an officer in the rank and pay scale of Secretary to Government of India, the Commission has been empowered to cause any investigation to be made in respect of agrarian land, recorded in revenue record as Bhandedar, Butemar, Dohlidar, Insar Miadi,

Mukarraridar, Mundhimar, Panhi Qadeem, Saunjidar, Taraddadkar for a period of at least 20 years as on January 1, 2020, and includes their predecessors and successors-in-interest, before coming into force of this Act. This was part of agrarian reforms initiated by the Congress Government to empower tillers of such land who belong mostly to the economically and socially weaker sections of the society, he said. Kangar said that these tenants inherit their land rights by succession from generation to generation but as they were not recorded as owners, they could neither access financial institutions for crop loans nor get calamity relief.

PUNJAB (WELFARE AND SETTLEMENT OF SMALL AND MARGINAL FARMERS) ALLOTMENT OF STATE GOVERNMENT LAND BILL, 2020

Moving another Bill, Kangar said that it was aimed at allotment of land in occupation and cultivation of small and marginal farmers for more than 10 years to those farmers against a reasonable pre-determined price.

"This would ensure protection of the interests of both the farmers and the State Government. This step would also go a long way towards settling pending litigations on these issues," he added.

THE PUNJAB LAND REVENUE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2020

Kangar, moving the Bill aimed at amending various sections of the Punjab Land Revenue Act, 1887, which currently has 158 sections (except its schedule), said that this would simplify the legislation and ensure faster dispensation of justice. As per this Act, amendments have been made in appeal, review and revision and mode of service of summons and method of partition. These amendments have been carried out after the recommendations of the State Revenue Commission, headed by Justice (retired) SS Saran.

THE PUNJAB TISSUE CULTURE BASED SEED POTATO BILL, 2020

Minister Manpreet Singh Badal, presenting the Bill aimed at boosting potato farmers' income, said that it would allow the production of quality seed potato through tissue culture based technology, using aeroponic or net house facilities, along with the certification of seed potato and its successive generations. He said that this was a long pending demand of potato farmers for quality seed potato which would develop the State as export hub for seed potato in the country.

REGISTRATION (PUNJAB AMENDMENT) BILL, 2020

Tabling the Bill, Revenue Minister Kangar asserted that the Registration Act, 1908, did not fully empower the revenue officers to refuse for registering sale deeds.

CAPT LASHES OUT AT SAD

AAP's double standards' for criticising State Bill after backing them in House

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Punjab Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh on Wednesday criticised the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) and the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) over their brazen double standards with regard to the three Amendment Bills, which they had criticized publicly hours after supporting them in the Vidhan Sabha.

"I am amazed that they spoke in favour of the Bills in the Assembly, and even went with me to meet the Governor, but said different things outside," said the Chief Minister while talking to the mediapersons after the House was adjourned sine die.

He pointed out that the farmers had not said anything against the Bills, which were designed to safeguard their interests and those of the state's agriculture.

"It is more than clear that these parties are not interested in securing the future of the farmers or protecting the state's agriculture and economy," the Chief Minister said, slamming SAD and AAP for playing to the galleries by pretending to back the Bills in the Assembly

a day before.

"Their lack of sincerity towards the farmers' cause has been totally exposed by their statements together and by their support for the bills (that we and my government) were finding the people of Punjab, why did they not say so in the House? Why did they support and vote for our Bills?" asked Capt Amarinder, reacting to SAD leader Bikram Singh Majithia and AAP leadership's statements. They had both accused the Chief Minister of misleading the people, citing his remarks on the possibility of the Chief Minister's "President not signing the Bills.

"If I had to fool the people why would I honestly share with them my apprehensions? Why would I openly talk about the possible scenarios instead of being silent about a whole bunch of lies? The Akalis and AAP are used to doing?" asked Capt Amarinder.

Both the Opposition parties had shown their true colours by trying to undermine the State Government's pro-farmer initiatives, which they had ostensibly backed in the House, said the Chief Minister, referring to the media or social

media comments of Akali and AAP leaders.

He pointed out that these Opposition leaders had criticized Punjab Government's efforts to save the farmers' season after joining his government in passing a resolution rejecting the central farm laws along with Bills to negate the same, and even going to Governor with him to submit copies to him. "Clearly they have no shame left," he added.

Earlier, in the House, the Chief Minister waved the copies of newspapers quoting Majithia on the issue, and clipped "this copy" saying the Opposition was "on the other side". With this kind of behaviour, people will start doubting the integrity of politicians, he warned.

"KEJRIWAL SHOULD FOLLOW PUNJAB'S EXAMPLE"

In response to a question, Capt Amarinder said that other parties, especially AAP which had a government in Delhi, should also bring in legislations similar to those of Punjab to negate the dangerous effects of the central farm laws. Arvind Kejriwal should follow Punjab's example, he said.

To stop stubble burning, Haryana purchases 1.75 lakh tonnes of stubble, says Dhesi

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Stating that the State Government has set target of purchasing 8.58 lakh tonnes of the stubble in the entire season out of which about 1.75 lakh tonne of paddy stubble has been purchased by the Bio-Mass plants, Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar on Wednesday said that consistent steps taken by Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar to manage crop residue and stubble in the last six years have resulted in gradual decline in cases of stubble burning across the State every year.

Pointing out a review meeting with the officers concerned, Dhesi said that the State Government has already made provision to allocate an amount of Rs 152 crore to provide subsidies to 21 stubble management agencies at subsidized rates of up to 80 percent through the Custom Hiring Centres. Besides this, 50 per cent subsidy for such machines will also be provided to every individual farmer.

In the same, a provision of Rs 216.21 crore has been made this year. Barely any stubble burning incident is likely to be

reported this year in the state, he added.

In the meeting, it was informed that 24,705 stubble management machines including Straw cutters, Hay Rakes, Sire cutters, Cutter Binders were made available last year whereas the bills of about 13 thousand machines have been uploaded this year. In addition to this, the number of Custom Hiring Centres will increase from 1,031 to 3,831 after the opening of new Custom Hiring Centres.

It was also informed in the meeting that a new portal has been launched by the State Government, through which information on contractors and industries that will purchase the paddy stubble will be made available.

The farmers who want to sell their stubble can directly contact the State Government. The compensation of about Rs 1,000 per acre for stubble management is already being provided to the farmers. Apart from this, it is proposed to set up 25 Biomass Power Plants of 11.51 MW capacity, in which out of 1,800 jobs will be created through HAREDA to use the starch for biomass energy.

Haryana Chief Minister pays homage to police martyrs

Announces Govt job to each kin of 50 police martyrs

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

After paying homage to the police martyrs by laying a wreath at the War Memorial Bungalow, Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar on Wednesday announced that one family member each of 50 police personnel would be provided government jobs under the Ex-gratia scheme of the State government by November 1.

Besides, he also announced that the family members of martyr SPO Kaptan Singh would also be provided ex-gratia amount of Rs 30 lakh apart with the ex-gratia amount being given to the family of martyr Constable Ravinder Singh. Both SPO Kaptan Singh and Constable Ravinder Singh lost their lives in an attack by the anti-social elements during night patroling.

Khattar was speaking on the occasion of Police Commemoration Day programme at Police Line, Moginadan in Panchkula, Haryana Vidhan Speaker Gian Chand Gupta was also present on the occasion.

The Chief Minister said that at present only 50 cases of ex-gratia are pending in the



police department. "I have talked to Director General of Police (DGP) Manoj Yadava in this regard and decided to give a government job to one family member each of 50 police personnel under the ex-gratia scheme of the State Government by November 1," he said. The State Government has implemented a new ex-gratia scheme for the State Government employees. Under this scheme, if an employee dies before the age of 52, one of his or her family members will be provided a job in the Government.

While paying rich tributes to 264 martyrs of Central Armed Police Forces including two from Haryana Police who

have sacrificed their lives during the last one year, the Chief Minister said that this day is dedicated to our brave sons who have sacrificed their lives in maintaining the unity and integrity of the Country and the security of life and property of the citizens.

Khattar said, "After the untimely demise of our brave hearts, it is the responsibility of the government to take care of their families and ensure that they do not feel a void in their life due to their demise."

He said that the Haryana Government has started various schemes for the welfare of dependents of police personnel who have sacrificed their lives while discharging their duties.

No major side effects reported so far in Oxford Covid-19 vaccine trial at PGIMER

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

The Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research has vaccinated as many as 101 persons under the ongoing trials of the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine, known as Covishield in India and no major side effects have so far been found in the volunteers.

"The PGIMER started the vaccine trials on September 25. So far 143 persons have been screened and 101 have administered the first dose of the vaccine," said an official spokesperson of PGIMER.

The spokesperson said that no major side effects have been found in the volunteers.

Notably, provided by the ICMR as a site for conducting concurrent phase 2 and phase

3 clinical trials of the Oxford COVID-19 vaccine.

The PGIMER is listed as one of the 17 trial sites for conducting the human clinical trials of the Covishield vaccine.

According to the eligible criteria, the minimum age for volunteers is 18 years, and the volunteers should be healthy adults, with no co-morbidity and must not have contracted COVID-19. The selection is done after an applicant tests negative for the virus and their family members are also Covid-19 negative. No upper age limit has been fixed, as the vaccine is stated to create different antibodies in varied age groups, and the formation of antibodies is one of the factors that will be studied in the volunteers.

Kejriwal governs Punjab's counter laws as 'counterfeit'

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

As day after Punjab Vidhan Sabha unanimously passed three Bills to counter the Centre's 'controversial' farm laws, Delhi Chief Minister and Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) chief Arvind Kejriwal on Wednesday dubbed Punjab's laws as 'counterfeit', saying that the people of Punjab had been fooled.

"Raja sahib, you have amended the Centre's laws. As a state amend Central laws? You have done drama. Kejriwal asked Punjab Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh on Twitter while asking if the state's new farm laws will ensure its farmers a minimum support price (MSP).

Kejriwal, tweeting in Hindi, said: "Raja Sahib, you amended the Centre's laws. Can the state change the Central laws?"

No, you have enacted a draconian law to fool the people. After you passed the laws tomorrow, will the farmers of Punjab will get MSP? No. Farmers want MSP, not your fake and false laws."

He was responding to a tweet by Punjab Chief Minister's official handle which sought to call out the double standards of the parties that had backed the new laws in the assembly and then criticized them.

"Amazed at double standards of SAD & AAP, says @capt_amarinder Singh on their criticism of state bills after backing them in the House. CM asks @ArvindKejriwal to follow Punjab's examples to bring out similar bills to save farmers," CMO Punjab had earlier tweeted.

Haryana witnesses 1193 fresh Covid-19 cases, 14 fatalities

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Haryana on Wednesday witnessed a total of 1193 fresh coronavirus cases taking the caseload in the State to 1,53,367 while 14 more fatalities related the Covid-19 related death toll in the State to 1674. A health bulletin showed

Meanwhile, a total of 1070 Covid-19 patients were released from hospitals in the state after their recovery, taking the total count to 141,506.

Of the fatalities, three were reported from Hisar while two each from Panchkula, Gurugram, Yamunanagar and one each from Panipat, Jhajjar, Bhiwani, Fatehabad and Charkhi Dadri, according to the state health department's daily bulletin.

Among the districts which reported a big spike in cases on Wednesday included Gurugram (304), Faridabad

(187), Rohtak (29), Rewari (68), Sonapat (66), Jhajjar (50), Bhiwani (46), Mahendragarh (41), Panchkula (30), Sirsa (36) and Hisar (104).

Doubling rate in the State is 44 days while positive rate and fatality rate are 6.33 per cent and 1.09 per cent respectively.

Active cases in the State currently are 10,187 while the recovery rate was 92.27 per cent, according to the daily bulletin.

NO COVID FATALITY IN CHANDIGARH, 54 FRESH CASES

In a positive sign, no COVID-19 fatality has been reported in Chandigarh in the last 24 hours even as 54 fresh positive cases surfaced on Wednesday. The COVID-19 death toll stood at 209 while the total case tally was 13,795. There were 744 active cases in the city.

PADB decides to waive farmers' penal interest; 69000 farmers under debt to get relief worth ₹61.49 cr

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Keeping in view the COVID-19 pandemic and already precarious financial position of the farmers in the state of Punjab, the Punjab State Cooperative Agricultural Development Bank (PADB) has decided to waive penal interest to the farmers during the recovery campaign kharif 2020.

State Cooperation Minister Subhinder Singh Randhawa on Wednesday said that the entire outstanding penal interest will be waived in the loan accounts of those defaulters of PADBs who pay their entire defaulter amount or close their loan account by December 31, 2020.

The Minister said that all the 89 PADBs in Punjab have around 69,000 defaulter farm-

All the 89 PADBs in Punjab have around 69,000 defaulter farmers towards whom a default amount of about ₹ 1,950 crore and penal interest of ₹ 61.49 cr is recoverable. Minister

ers towards whom a default amount of about Rs 1950 crore and penal interest of Rs 61.49 crore is recoverable. "Out of these, over 70 per cent are small and marginal farmers owning five acres or less than five acres of land. This decision will provide them much needed relief in repaying their overdue amount," he added.

SHAURYA CHAKRA AWARDEE BALWINDER'S MURDER

Punjab Cong divided, party MP seeks probe



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Divisions within the Punjab Congress came to the fore again on Wednesday with party MP Pratap Singh Bajwa writing to President Ramnath Kovind requesting him to order a high-level probe into the circumstances that led to the removal of security cover of Shaurya Chakra awardee Balwinder Singh and his subsequent killing by terrorists on October 16.

"I wish to bring your kind attention to the heinous assassination of comrade Balwinder Singh Bikhwindhi on October 16, 2020. Being national hero and awarded medals of valour by the President of India, the safety and security of the family of

Comrade Balwinder Singh Bikhwindhi should have been a priority of the Government of India," he stated in his letter.

"It is imperative that responsible including policemen who prepared inputs that led to his security cover being withdrawn should be investigated through a high-level probe," Bajwa in his letter, dated October 20, 2020, said.

Bajwa pointed out there were 16 attempts to kill Singh's family in 1990-91 and their family was the only one in contact with four Shaurya Chakra awardees.

Party's Punjab incharge Harish Rawat said Bajwa has every right to write to the President but he should've written first to the Punjab cabinet through law and order is a state subject.

But Bajwa and Punjab Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh have been at loggerheads for quite some time now. Bajwa along with another Rajya Sabha MP SS Dhullu had even skipped

Rahul Gandhi's tractor rally in protest against the farm bills.

Bajwa has been constantly expressing his resentment against the CM blaming him for his autocratic style of functioning. He even alleged that the CM is shielding smugglers and drug trafficker after 121 people died after consuming spurious liquor in August this year.

Balwinder Singh Sandhu, who fought against terrorism in Punjab, was shot dead by two unknown assailants in Tarn Taran district. His wife said there are 42 registered FIRs of attacks on their family and countless other attacks have taken place which is not on record.

"Withdrawal of security was wrong. Government, chief electoral officers and district machinery concerned to invoke appropriate penal provisions against the candidates as well as organisers for violating Covid safety protocols. The advisory stated: 'The commission has taken a serious view of laxity on part of

Follow norms on Covid-19: EC to parties

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Taking a serious view of laxity by parties and candidates in observing crowd discipline, the Election Commission on Wednesday issued advisory to political parties, asking them to follow its instructions related to COVID-19 during polls. Huge crowds at rallies without adhering to the norms of social distancing and wearing of masks are being seen in the ongoing campaigning for the Bihar Assembly elections.

The poll body reiterated its October 9 instructions asking political parties and candidates to maintain crowd discipline and advised them to demonstrate utmost vigil and care during electioneering.

The EC also said it expected chief electoral officers and district machinery concerned to invoke appropriate penal provisions against the candidates as well as organisers for violating Covid safety protocols. The advisory stated: "The commission has taken a serious view of laxity on part of



the parties and candidates, on the ground, in terms of maintaining crowd discipline and hereby reiterates and further advises them to demonstrate utmost vigil and care during electioneering."

"Chief Electoral Officers and the District Machinery would be expected by the Commission to invoke appropriate and relevant penal provisions against the candidates and organisers concerned as well as the organisers responsible for such violations. Separate instructions for strict compliance of guidelines are being issued to Chief Electoral Officers and State Governments of poll going states," the poll panel's

The EC also said it expected the chief electoral officers and district machinery concerned to invoke appropriate penal provisions against the candidates as well as organisers for violating Covid safety protocols

advisory read.

The poll panel recalled its earlier advisory issued on October 9 in which it had stated: "As representatives of public, this onerous responsibility rests with the political parties to ensure that they not only cooperate with the district machineries in following the due norms of public health safety as prescribed, but also instill a sense of discipline for civic behaviour in their cadre while doing ground management during campaign times. It is requested that you may like to issue advisory to all your field representatives to demonstrate utmost vigil and care to abide by all the extant instructions in large interest of public health and avoid any penal action for breaching the provisions."

Army Chief calls for modernisation of armed forces



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In the backdrop of the Indian and Chinese armies locked in a stand-off at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Ladakh, Army Chief General Manoj Mukund Naravane on Wednesday reviewed the current security scenario and stressed the need for faster integration and modernisation of the armed forces.

Interacting with the officers of the prestigious College of Defence Management (CDM) and Bison Division at Secunderabad, he also focused on the geo-strategic implications on capacity development and force utilisation of the Indian Army in pursuit of national interests.

During his address to the student officers and faculty of the CDM, Naravane spoke on a number of issues concerning integration, theatisation and modernisation of the armed forces in general and the Indian Army in particular, the Army said here.

On the government's decision to appoint the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) and create the Department of Military Affairs (DMA), the Army chief said it was a "momentous one" and that the services needed to "demonstrate great wisdom and statesmanship in enabling the CDS, a long standing demand of the Armed Forces."

He said that the next logical step in the process of defence reforms was the "formation of Integrated Theatre Commands to synergise the capabilities and combat potential of the three services during war and peace." However, he advised that this process will be "deliberate, thoughtful and well considered" and its fruition will take a "number of years."

Naravane explained to the officers that there was a need for everyone to work in a spirit of togetherness and trust with the national security interests being paramount. He added a note of caution and said that there might be a requirement for "mid course corrections."

He was optimistic about the future of integration of the armed forces, which Naravane said was "an inevitability" as it would lead to "tri-services synergy" and optimisation of resources.

He commended the CDM for the excellent work related to grooming of tech-adept, management savvy and strategically nimble higher leadership. At the Bison Division, Army Chief said there was a need for Major General Alok Joshi, General Officer Commanding, Bison Division on security and operational preparedness of the formation.

The two Army chief visited the Simulator Development Division (SDD), Secunderabad and the TATA Boeing Aerospace Limited (TAL) at Hyderabad, a joint venture facility of Boeing and Tata Advanced Systems established in co-production of Apache Helicopters-64. The COAS appreciated the "Make in India" initiatives and reinvigorated efforts towards indigenisation and being "Amanbhar" on niche technologies.

Modi holds talks with S Korean Prez

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra P. Modi on Wednesday spoke to South Korean President Moon Jae-in. The two leaders reviewed important global developments, including the progress in combating the COVID-19 pandemic.

The two leaders also reviewed the ongoing diversification of international value chains, the need to preserve a transparent, development-oriented and rules-based global trading order, and the important role of the World Trade Organisation, a Prime Minister's Office (PMO) statement said.

Shah lauds role of police during pandemic

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Government is undertaking a comprehensive modernisation programme to prepare the police and paramilitary forces of the country to tackle newer challenges of terrorism, cyber crime and border security, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said while hailing the services of police personnel during the pandemic.

Shah said a joint column of police and Central Armed Police Forces jawans and officers at the National Police Memorial in Chanakyapuri on Wednesday on the occasion of the police commemoration day.

The day is observed to pay homage to 10 policemen (of the CRPF) killed in an ambush by Chinese troops in 1959 in Ladakh's Hot Spring area.

"The work of police is witnessing new dimensions in the areas of terrorism, fake currency, narcotics control, cyber crime, arms smuggling, human trafficking. It is a challenge to prepare the police forces for the new dimensions of terrorism, which emerged in the last 2-3 decades."

"We have prepared a comprehensive modernisation programme for the police and I am hopeful that in the coming days the Modi government will prepare them to meet these challenges," Shah said.

He said the Government is bringing in technology to make the country's borders "impregnable" and preparations in this regard are being done in detail. The technology and promptness of our troops will go hand-in-hand and we will be able to better secure our borders, he said.

Shah also said that the government was "going to do many things" so that the efficiency in availability of police

ADG rank official to head newly-created Guwahati-based ITBP eastern command

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), tasked to secure the frontier with China, has appointed a high-level officer to head the newly-created eastern command.

The Command comprises officers of the defence forces met top leaders of Nepal including Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli and Pushpa Kamal Dahal who is commonly known as Prachanda among others. The team travels in a special IAF flight No IFC 4620 and is expected to return by Thursday morning.

The moves comes ahead of the planned visit by Army Chief MM Naravane early next month to Kathmandu. The deliberations by the Indian team in Nepal are being directly supervised by National Security Advisor Ajit Doval.

The visit assumes significance as it marks a thaw in the strained relation between the two countries after Nepal included Indian territories under Lipulekh, Kalapani and Panchajyothura in its map earlier this year.

June to head its western command located in Chandigarh that has control over battalions deployed along the LAC in Ladakh, Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh.

The two ADG-rank headed commands were sanctioned by the Union Government in October last year for better operational functioning of the above 35-38 battalions of the

Top Indian officials in Kathmandu to discuss border, map issues

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

A high level team of officials including the Research and Analysis Wing Chief Samant Kumar Goel and a Joint Secretary of the Ministry of External Affairs among others visited Kathmandu on Wednesday. The team which comprises officials of the defence forces met top leaders of Nepal including Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli and Pushpa Kamal Dahal who is commonly known as Prachanda among others. The team travels in a special IAF flight No IFC 4620 and is

force deployed at the LAC, starting from Ladakh to Arunachal Pradesh along the eastern front.

The new commands are expected to streamline operations, intelligence, deployment and administrative movements of the personnel to the border regions and also boost synergy with the Army that secures the LAC.

Shah also remembered the 343 personnel who were killed due to COVID-19 and said these personnel continued on duty to help people, donate blood and plasma. A ceremonial guard is being led by a joint squad of the CAPFs

Govt eases import norms to tide over 'onion crisis'

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Ministry of Consumer Affairs on Wednesday relaxed import norms till December 15 to facilitate the early shipment of onion to boost the domestic supply and check the retail prices of the key kitchen staple, sold in cities like Chennai at ₹73 per kg.

Indian High Commissions have been instructed in the relevant countries to contact the traders to shop for greater onion imports to the country. The ministry has also decided to offload more onion from its buffer stock in the open market to contain price rise.

An estimated 37 lakh crop of 37 lakh tonnes is likely to start arriving in the Mandis that will give reprieve to the rising prices, it said. According to the ministry, a sharp spike in onion prices in the past 10 days by Rs 11.56/kg has taken the all-India retail price of the commodity to Rs 51.95/kg, which was 12.13 per cent higher than the last year's price of Rs



46.33/kg.

The retail price of onion has shown a marked increase from August-end 2020, though the price level was below that of last year till October 18, it said.

To facilitate import of onion, the ministry said, the government has on October 21 relaxed the conditions for fumigation and additional declara-

tion on Phytosanitary Certificate (PSC) under the Plant Quarantine Order (PQ), 2003 for import up to December 15, 2020."

Consignments of imported onions, which arrive at Indian ports without fumigation and endorsement to that effect on the PSC, would be fumigated in India by the importer through an accredited treatment

provider.

In order to moderate prices, the ministry said that onion from the buffer stock is being released in a calibrated manner from the second half of September 2020 to major mandis, retail suppliers such as Safal, Kendriya Bhandar, and NCCF as well as state governments. "More will be done in the coming days," it added.

Air pollution killed 1.16L infants in their very first month of life in India in '19: Study

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Air pollution is fast killing 1.16L infants, with a global study finding that last year in India, outdoor and household particulate matter pollution claimed more than 1,16,000 toddlers in their very first month of life.

Touted as the first-ever comprehensive analysis of air pollution's global impact on newborns, the annual State of Global Air 2020 report published by the Health Effects Institute (HEI), however found progress in reducing household air pollution exposures but levels stagnant for outdoor PM2.5.

The report, State of Global Air 2020, said more than half of these deaths were associated with outdoor PM2.5 and others were linked to use of solid fuels such as charcoal, wood, and animal dung for cooking.

Overall long-term exposure to outdoor and household air pollution contributed to



over 1.67 million annual deaths from stroke, heart attack, diabetes, lung cancer, chronic lung diseases, and neonatal diseases in India in 2019.

For the youngest infants, most deaths were related to complications from low birth weight and preterm birth.

Overall, air pollution is now the largest risk factor for death among all health risks, according to the report. The HEI is an independent, research institute funded jointly by the US Environmental Protection Agency, industry, foundations, and development

banks.

The report highlights the ongoing challenge of high outdoor air pollution in South Asian countries like India, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Nepal which feature high outdoor air pollution in the top 10 countries with the highest PM2.5 exposures in 2019; all of these countries experienced increases in outdoor PM2.5 levels between 2010 and 2019.

Use of solid fuels for cooking, however, presents a pattern of moderate success. Since 2010, more than 50 million fewer people have been exposed to household air pollution. The Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana Household LPG program and other schemes have helped to dramatically expand access to clean energy, especially for rural households.

Calcutta HC gives some relief to puja pandals

Kolkata: The Calcutta High Court on Wednesday made a slight adjustment in its earlier order banning visitors' entry in Bengal's Durga Puja pandals. Hearing a review petition the Division Bench of Justices Sanjib Banerjee and Arijit Banerjee increased the number of club members who would be allowed inside the pandals from 25 to 60 in larger Puja pandals and 10 to 15 in smaller Puja pandals. The court also directed the State administration to mark 5 metre area around small pandals and the 10 metre area around bigger pandals...

Court allows Customs Dept to arrest Swapna, Sarith for gold smuggling

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI The special court hearing the economic offences case gave its green signal to the Customs Department for arresting Swapna Suresh and Sarith, the prime accused in the gold smuggling scam being probed by the National Investigation Agency. The Customs Department had told the court that if only they questioned Swapna and Sarith together they would be able to elicit the role of Swapna, the former principal secretary to Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, in the operation. Sandeep Nair, one of the kingspins of the gold smuggling scam, has reportedly told the Enforcement Directorate that, the activities in the UAE, Cochin and Thiruvananthapuram was anything but diplomatic. Excerpts of the statement made by Nair to the ED and which has been leaked out to the media, point towards Sarith-Swapna Nair-Sivankar axis in carrying out the gold smuggling. It was Swapna Nair who told me about the possibilities of diplomatic route for smuggling of gold. For every one kilogram of gold smuggled through the diplomatic route, Swapna had demanded \$1,000 as commission. The deal was made for Rs 45,000 for every kilogram of gold brought in through the route, said Nair who is likely to end up as an approver in the case.

125 criminals killed in police encounters since March 2017: UP CM

PTI ■ LUCKNOW Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Wednesday said 125 criminals had been gunned down by the state police between March 20, 2017 and October 5 this year. Addressing the Police Commemoration Day programme held at the Reserve Police Lines here, Adityanath said, "In the period from March 20, 2017 to October 5, 2020, as many as 125 criminals have been killed in encounters, while 2,607 have been injured." "As many as 13 policemen have attained martyrdom while displaying exemplary courage," he added. The Chief Minister said during the same period 988 policemen got injured while 9,578 criminals carrying weapons were arrested. He said as many as 3,786 posts have been created for the formation of women battalions in Lucknow, Budaun and Gorakhpur. Adityanath also paid tributes to the policemen, who had laid down their lives in the line of duty. "Along with martyred policemen, martyrs from the central para-military forces, from para-military forces of other states and from the Army (belonging to UP), dependents of 122 martyrs have been given financial assistance of Rs 26.95 crore," he said. "The family members of the slain policemen of Bikaner encounter have been given Rs 1 crore instead of Rs 50 lakh." Eight policemen, including DSP Devendra Mishra, were ambushed in Bikaner village in Chhauyapour area of Kanpur when they were going to arrest gangster Vikas Dubey and had fallen to bullets fired from rooftops shortly after midnight on July 3.

Bimal Gurung quits NDA, rejoins Didi Govt

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA Three years after parting ways with Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, "Tugitive" Goran Jannukti Meera leader Bimal Gurung on Wednesday suddenly resurfaced in Kolkata to announce his break-up with the NDA and remarriage with the Trinamool Congress. Gurung's move comes as a major blow to the BJP's aspirations in North Bengal region on which it was counting heavily for the next year's Assembly elections. "This is the reason why we have decided to quit the NDA from today and join hands with the TMC... We will want to see Mamata Banerjee the Chief Minister for the third time... We will work with all our energy and might to ensure that TMC does well from all the seats in North Bengal." The founder of Gorakha Jannukti Meera Gurung said. Gurung had earlier resigned from the NDA for not joining the Chief Minister for not giving a separate Gorakhal state. He was engaged in a violent clash --- leading to a few deaths in the region. Subsequently booked under several charges including sedition he was declared an absconder with the State Police hot in his pursuit.

Advanced research in astrology demanded for accuracy of predictability

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI/CHENNAI For the first time in modern times, an internationally recognised cardiologist who is also a leading medical researcher has demanded that astrology, the age-old Indian system of knowledge, be accorded the status of modern science and initiate further research into it to refine the 'accuracy of the predictability'. Writing the editorial of the October 2020 issue of the Journal of the Science of Healing Outcomes, a modern scientific journal that publishes only peer-reviewed scientific papers, Dr P M Hegde, former vice-chancellor of Manipal University, who was honoured with Padma Bhushan by the Manmohan Singh led BJP Government in 2010, has put forward studies of more than five decades. "The idea that stars, or a constellation of them, have some influence on human birth and life can never be scientifically rejected. There are areas where astrology needs further research to unravel some of the mysteries that plague the uncertainties of astrological predictions," Prof Hegde, who has fellowships from four Royal Colleges of Physicians, writes. Dr Hegde says astrology is being criticised by outsiders and he wants to assume many things in astrology. Even in Mathematics, the king of sciences, the numbers are not assumptions. Rahu and Ketu might not be seen through the Hubble telescope but they are assumptions for calculations like North and South Poles which are not marked on the ground," he said. The editorial says that predicting the future in any system is impossible as of now with the limited knowledge of this universe which follows non-linear laws. "Weather forecast goes wrong on a daily basis in its short-term predictions. Therefore, future predictions in astrology also could go wrong. However, there are areas for further research to refine its accuracy of predictability. We have to have a scientific approach to see how we could fill the loopholes, if any, in that science. That is scientific progress. In addition to sell any idea to the world, we must use a language that is universally understood. For the time being, that language is the language of hard western sciences. Let us try to sell astrology to the world using the language of science," Prof Hegde opined. It may be remembered that eminent Ayurvedic physician Dr P R Krishnakumar who succumbed to Covid-19 recently, was a proponent of holistic treatment and his prognosis based on the birth stars of the patients.

Senior leader Eknath Khadse quits BJP, to join NCP soon

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI After months of intense speculation about his impending exit from a party where he had virtually been consigned to dog house for the past four years, its former Minister and senior leader Eknath Khadse resigned from primary membership of the BJP on Wednesday, two days ahead of his joining the Sharad Pawar-led ruling NCP. Announcing his resignation, Khadse - who played a key role along with the late Gopinath Munde in building the Maharashtra party unit after the formation of BJP in 1980 - said: "I have nothing against the BJP or its central leadership. If I am quitting the BJP, it is because of (former chief minister and senior party leader) Devendra Fadnis. He is a low level politician against me for the past four years. He defamed me by making all kinds of allegations, including charge of molestation, against him." Welcoming Khadse's resignation from the BJP's primary membership, senior minister and State NCP President Jayant Patil said: "Today, Khadse called me and told me that he had quit the BJP. Hence, we welcome him to the NCP. He will join our party at 2 pm on Friday." Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray, who heads the Shiv Sena-NCP-Congress alliance's Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government in the state, welcomed Khadse's impending entry to the MVA fold. "Khadse does not mind votes. He is a fighter. I welcome him into the MVA." Reacting to Khadse's resignation, Fadnis said: "It is unfortunate that Nathahabu (as Khadse is known in the state political circles) has chosen to resign from the BJP. While leaving the BJP, he has made me a villain. At this stage, I do not want to talk about his comments. I will talk about it at a proper time. I did not foist any false cases against him, which you will realise when you go into the details of the cases against him." Earlier, addressing a news conference in his home town of Mukhtanagar in Jalgaon district after resigning from the BJP, Khadse said: "I have no ground against the BJP. It was Fadnis who harassed me a lot when I was in the BJP. To that extent, in this regard, Fadnis, a molestation charge came to be foisted against me during our government. I am quitting the BJP because of the mental harassment I faced at the hands of Fadnis for four years." "I worked with senior leaders like late Pramed Mahajan, late Gopinath Munde and Pandurang Fundkar. I do not deny that the BJP gave several party posts and ministerial positions. I have not criticised any national BJP leader. There is not an MLA or MP with my name. Even my daughter-in-law and MP Rakshna Khadse will not quit the BJP. Hence, I am capable of taking my decision," Khadse said.

PALGHAR LYNCING CASE Police name 208 more accused, arrest 50 of them

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI In a significant development in the much-discussed Palghar lynching case, the Maharashtra Crime Investigation Department (CID) on Wednesday named 208 more as accused and arrested 50 of them in connection with the killing of two Sadas and their driver by an irate mob near Kasa town in Maharashtra's Palghar district. With Wednesday's development, the number of persons named in the Palghar lynching case has gone up to 366, including 11 juveniles. Of the 208 fresh named accused, the State CID arrested 50 persons on Wednesday. In all, the bail plea of 62 accused, including 50 of those arrested on Wednesday, will be produced before Special Sessions Judge P. P. Jadhav at Thane Sessions Court. Of the 366 accused in the case, 28 adults and 9 juveniles were released on a default bail as the CID charge sheet did not specify their exact involvement in the crime owing to lack of evidence. On July 16, this year, the state CID filed a comprehensive charge-sheet against the accused before a Dahanu court in connection with the April 16, 2020 Palghar lynching incident. In its charge sheet - running into 4953 pages - filed before the court of Judicial Magistrate First Class (JMFC) at Dahanu in Palghar district, the CID sleuths named 126 accused in connection with the incident that took place on the night of April 16. The investigation team, led by Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) Vijay Pawar, filed the two charge-sheets after examining 808 suspects and 118 witnesses to collect strong evidence against the accused. It may be recalled that on the night of April 16, three persons were lynched by a mob of about 500 members near Kasa town in Maharashtra's Palghar district on suspicion that they were thieves. The villagers first hurled stones at the van, prompting the driver to stop the vehicle. Later, they pulled three persons out of the van and beat them to death in Gadchinchik village on Dabhadri-Khanol road, with sticks and rods. The deceased - identified as Chhikne Maharaj Kalpavrukshgauri (70), Sushilgiri Maharaj (35) and driver Nilesh Telgade (30) were travelling to Surat. Of them one was a resident of the village and two are residents of Kandivli in north Mumbai. The place where the incident took place is approximately 120 km from Mumbai. In their charge-sheet, the investigators have said that the incident had taken place amid rumours that child-lifters were roaming in the area during the lockdown.

AMU prof bags Outstanding Scientist Award

Aligarh: Renowned cardiothoracic surgeon and former Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) Pro Vice-Chancellor, Prof Mohammad Haneef, has been bestowed with the 'Outstanding Scientist Award in the medicine category at VDGOD International Scientific Awards in Trichy. Prof Haneef has been awarded for teaching, research and professional experience in cardiothoracic surgery with high achievements. PNS

Sir Syed National Law Fest competitions results out

Aligarh: Hitesh Valeja (Barakatalah University, Bhopal) won the online Quiz competition in the Sir Syed National Law Fest organised by the Law Society, Malappuram Centre of the Aligarh Muslim University-AMU to mark the 203rd birth anniversary of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan. Ritika Rathur (Symbiosis Law School, Noida), Syed Abdur Rehman (Faculty of Law, Aligarh Muslim University) and Urmila Saluja (Law College, Dehradun) were declared winners of Case Commentary, Essay Competition and Debate competitions respectively. PNS

2 JNMC docs lose job day after CBI's Hathras visit

PRADEEP SAXENA ■ ALIGARH Mohammad Azimuddin Malik from their post of Medical Officer. Other doctors along with Resident Doctors Association expressed their anger and resentment at this action. Dr. Zaidi, Casualty Medical Officer-in-charge, Emergency & Trauma Center, JNMC said that these two doctors were appointed on leave vacancy in the JNMC. Medical Officer Dr. Naresh, Instructions were received on the phone from the Vice-Chancellor, following which the appointment of both doctors, Dr. Ubaid Imtiaz-ul-Haq and Dr.

Online foreign education mentorship series organised

Aligarh: Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) alumni based in France, Germany, Italy, Australia, Japan, United States of America and other countries mentored AMU students with eclectic potential for the best academic paths with thriving future in foreign countries in the four-day online foreign education mentorship series organised by the Training and Placement Office (TPO). Inaugurating the mentorship series, AMU Vice-Chancellor, Prof Tariq Mansoor said that despite challenges, Sir Syed Ahmad Khan never gave up his vision of an India with modern education. He urged students to follow Sir Syed's example and chase their goals relentlessly. PNS

One of 4 accused in Hathras case found to be minor

Hathras: One of the four accused in the Hathras incident has come out to be a minor after his tenth scorecard was revealed. CBI visited the school for inquiry after seizing the documents of the accused. In this regard, the CBI also questioned them and then suspended CO, SHO and police personnel. In Hathras case, on 25th September, all four accused were sent to jail. On 10 October, CBI started an investigation and interrogated the accused and the victim. CBI visited the accused's house on October 15, where they took custody of the documents in which CBI found his mark sheet, then his age was revealed. According to the mark sheet, the date of birth of the accused is 2nd December 2002. He had appeared in class X examination in Jawahar Smarak Inter College Meetai, in the year 2018, in which he had failed. He was 17 years 9 months and 12 days on the day of the incident. In this regard, CBI also visited the school and investigated. According to Principal Omvir Singh, the CBI had inquired about the age of the student. PNS

Court delivers justice in 22 days, ensures rapist never walks out alive

POSCO court in Uttar Pradesh here has sentenced a man life behind bars till his death after finding him guilty of raping a six-year-old girl. Special judge Veena Narayan held accused, Dalpat, guilty and also slapped a penal order over Rs 2 lakh on him. "Under Section 6 of the POSCO Act, the accused is sentenced to life till the last breath," the judgment read. Special public prosecutor Harendra Tiagi, while confirming the conviction, said the judgment was delivered in just 22 days after framing of charges.

8,369 more test +ve in Kerala

Thiruvananthapuram: In yet another day of high numbers of daily coronavirus cases, Kerala on Wednesday reported 8,369 more infections as its test positivity rate continued to hover above 13 per cent. "The day saw 6,839 recoveries while active cases climbed up to 93,425. As many as 2,67,082 patients have been cured so far. With 26 more Covid fatalities, the cost of state's death toll now is 1,322," Health Minister KK Shailaja said in a statement here. As many as 62,030 samples was tested in the past 24 hours. IANS

Organising Vendor Meet to Ensure Transparency in Supply Chain Northern Railway Organises Vendor Meet on Digital Platform Date 29.10.2020 Time 11.00 AM to 01.30 PM Focus of this Vendor Meet is to appraise the Vendors with the recent policy changes in the domain of Public Procurement and new opportunities available to the vendors. Representatives from all the stake holders from Railway side, like Purchaser, RDSO, RITES, CRIS and Paying Authority will be available during this Vendor meet to address the concern of the participants from Industry. All existing and prospective Vendors are cordially invited to attend the Vendor Meet and avail this opportunity. For further details, please visit the website www.reps.gov.in

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FASHION TECHNOLOGY E-TENDER NOTICE NIFT Campus, Karwar, Jodhpur - 342037, Rajasthan, India Ph. 0291-265920

PNle-T No:-04/EE/DWS/SD/AGT/2020-21 e-Tender in 2(two) bid system are invited for the following work: S.No. Bid No. Name of work Estimated cost Earnest money Time for completion Deadline for online bidding Time & date of Pre-Bid conference Website for online bidding Time & date of opening of online Technical bid Tender Fee

Public Notice My Clients Sri Krishna God Sri Sri Lal God & his wife Santosh God Rm-14 Extn-18, Nangli, Delhi-41 have debarred & disowned their Son Ram Kishor God & his wife Abha from their movable & immovable property of my clients, due to misbehaviour, disobedient & harmful towards my clients. My Clients have also severed all their relation with them, if any body deals with them in any manner they do so at their own risk. My Clients shall not be responsible for same in any manner. (Santosh Chander Jadhav), C-18, Brijwala, Wazirpur

All details can be seen in the office of the undersigned. NB: The detailed press notice & bid documents for the work can be seen on website www.tripuratenders.gov.in and for free of cost. The bid can only be submitted after uploading the mandatory scanned documents as specified in this tender document on the e-Procurement website www.tripuratenders.gov.in. For details please visit www.tripuratenders.gov.in and for any query please contact: eedwstoreag@gmail.com Sd/- Executive Engineer DWS Store Division, Nandannagar, Agartala, Tripura ICA/C-1899/2020-21

FIRST COLUMN

A sad epoch in human history

Having planned Operation Gulmarg, Pakistan unleashed its tribal militia on Jammu and Kashmir on October 22, 1947



RAGHVENDRA SINGH

Today is a black day in history and India is observing it as such, to protest against Pakistan's role in instigating violence and error in the Valley. Having planned Operation Gulmarg, Pakistan unleashed its tribal militia on Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) on October 22, 1947. Overrunning Muzaffarabad, Domel and Uri, the tribal *lashkars*, led by Pakistan Army personnel, reached Baramulla on October 26 and wreaked havoc. A November 10 despatch by Robert Trumbull of *The New York Times* relates vividly the death and destruction that was unleashed upon the town by the marauders. It had been stripped of its wealth and dignity before the tribesmen fled in the face of advancing Indian troops, who had rushed to the rescue of the hapless residents. Survivors of those events estimated that 3,000 of their fellow townsmen, including four Europeans and a retired British Army officer, Colonel Dykes, and his pregnant wife, were slain. When the raiders rushed into town on October 26, one party of Mahsud tribesmen scaled the walls of the Saint Joseph's Franciscan Convent compound and stormed the convent hospital and the church. Twenty-four hours later, when the Indian Army entered Baramulla, only 1,000 were left of the population of about 14,000.

Max Despot, an Associated Press photographer, described on November 2 that he saw more than 20 villages in flames while flying over a section of Kashmir Valley, extending within 20 miles of Srinagar. The villages had been set on fire by the invaders, who were scouring the Valley and moving in the direction of Srinagar.

Sydney Smith of *Daily Express* of London was in the Baramulla Hospital during those ten days and filed a first hand report of the attack on the convent. "The tribal *lashkars* had come shooting their way down from the hills on both sides of the town. They climbed over the hospital walls from all sides. The first group burst into a ward firing at the patients. A 20-year-old Indian nurse, Philomena, tried to protect a Muslim patient whose baby had just been born. She was shot dead first and the new mother was next. Mother Superior Aldetrude rushed into the ward, and as she knelt over Philomena, she was attacked and robbed. When the Assistant Mother, Teresalina, saw a tribesman point a rifle at Mother Aldetrude, she jumped in front of her and a bullet went through Teresalina's heart. At that moment, Colonel Dykes raced from his room to get the Mother Superior out of danger, shouting at the tribesman as he ran. But the Mother Superior was shot and Colonel Dykes collapsed beside her, with a bullet in his stomach. His wife ran from her husband's room to help the Colonel, but she was shot. While this went on, Geo Boretto, an Anglo-Indian, was killed in the garden in front of nine nuns. Then the nuns themselves were lined up before a firing squad. We did not find Mrs Dykes until the following day. She had been thrown down a well. Reports had come that the chief of another Evangelical Mission, Major Ronald Davis, a Welshman, and one of his two English women assistants, had been shot dead. The other assistant was said to have been taken to the hills," says Smith in his report.

Abdul Rahman of Baramulla, too, recorded his observations and said that the raiders looted the Hindus to begin with, burnt the houses of the Sikhs and killed them. "As a result of this arson and loot, the Sikhs and the Hindus fled Baramulla, leaving their houses burning, and most of their women were raped and kidnapped. The raiders did not touch the Muslims to begin with — perhaps they wanted to win their sympathy. After a few days when they found that they were about to be forced out of the Valley, they turned on everybody. They started wholesale loot, arson and rape. They killed whoever came in their way. The raiders also took all the valuable ornaments of silver and gold, shawls and so on when they left," he recalled.

According to the Wazir-i-Wazarat of Baramulla, Chaudhry Faizullah, the tribal *lashkars* entered in groups of 30-40 men. Over 5,000 of them were concentrated in Baramulla at one time. They were mostly tribesmen with a few Punjabi Muslims, all well-armed and led by Pirs, Pakistan Army and Frontier Constabulary officers. The local Muslim Conference men joined the raiders and acted as guides. From the day the raiders entered the town, they started killing non-Muslims and looting and burning houses, irrespective of religion and raping women. They broke into houses in groups of 10-12, robbed them and carried away valuables, clothes and food. About 280 lorries were used to ferry this loot. The Pakistani raiders left on the night of November 7 when the Indian Army re-captured it. *The Times of London* reported on November 11 that residents seemed delighted to welcome the Indian troops. The Press despatch also bore testimony to the fact that the convent and hospital were not destroyed by the Indian aerial attacks as alleged by Pakistan wireless statements.

(The writer is Secretary, Ministry of Culture)

THIS (KAPIL'S) SHOW IS FULL OF DOUBLE MEANING WORDS, IN WHICH THE MEN WEAR WOMEN'S CLOTHES, DO CHEAP THINGS AND PEOPLE LAUGH.

—ACTOR
MUKESH KHANNA



IT IS IMPORTANT TO MAKE PEOPLE SMILE. I HAVE CHOSEN HAPPINESS AND PREFER TO FOCUS ON MY WORK AND CONTINUE TO KEEP DOING THAT IN FUTURE.

—ACTOR AND COMEDIAN
KAPIL SHARMA

The lines are blurred

The judgment in the Rhea Chakraborty case has virtually laid down a new norm with regard to police jurisdictions, one which may be misused by complainants



AMIT JAISWAL

One issue which has captured the imagination of India and occupied most of the space in the country's electronic and print news media in recent times, especially some television channels, is the untimely death by suicide of actor Sushant Singh Rajput (SSR). The young man, who was originally from Bihar, was found dead in his home in Bandra, Mumbai on June 14, who had shot himself.

Going by the set procedures in such cases and given that this was a high-profile one involving a celebrity's death, the Mumbai Police went about its work diligently. It recorded the statements of 56 people, including the immediate family members, relatives, live-in partner, friends and staff of the deceased actor. At that point of the investigation, none of them alleged any foul play. Their statements, too, did not suggest a cognisable offence. Consequently, the Mumbai Police registered the matter as an accidental death and proceeded in terms of Section 174 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC). However, after about 40 days, on July 25, a First Information Report (FIR) was registered at the Rajiv Nagar police station in Patna, Bihar, at the instance of the actor's father, KK Singh, levelling allegations of breach of trust, misappropriation of property of his deceased son and abetment to suicide against his live-in partner Rhea Chakraborty and her family members.

A police team from Patna went to Mumbai to carry out the investigation. However, the Mumbai Police raised the issue of jurisdiction and there was a lot of acrimony over the issue. Finally, on the recommendation of the Bihar Government, the Central Government directed the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to carry out the probe in the matter. Meanwhile Rhea Chakraborty approached the Supreme Court under Section 406 of the CrPC for the transfer of the FIR from the jurisdiction of the Additional Chief Magistrate III, Patna Sadar, to the Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Bandra, Mumbai.

Now, the settled legal position is that the FIR has to be registered at the police station, which has jurisdiction over the area where the offence or any part of it is alleged to have been committed. *Prima facie* the Patna Police had no jurisdiction to register an FIR in the matter. Even if the complaint filed with the Bihar Police disclosed commission of some cognisable offence, the established procedure would be to register a "zero FIR" and transfer it to the police station empowered to do so. The Section which becomes relevant in this matter is Section 181(4) of the CrPC. It reads, "Any offence of criminal misappropriation or of criminal breach of trust may be inquired into or tried in a court which has local jurisdiction if the offence was committed there. Or, any part of the property, which is the subject of the offence, was received or retained, or was required to be returned or accounted for, by the accused person."

The Supreme Court, in its judgment, upheld the validity of registering the FIR in Patna, mainly on the ground that the allegations also related to criminal breach of trust and misappropriation of money, which were to be eventually accounted for in Patna (where the complainant resides) and that could *prima facie* indicate the

“THE APEX COURT HEAVILY RELIED UPON THE WORDS ‘ACCOUNTED FOR’ IN THE SECTION TO UPHOLD THE VALIDITY OF THE FIR. IT DID CITE A FEW JUDGMENTS TO SUBSTANTIATE ITS REASONING. IT CAN SAFELY BE SAID THAT IN NONE OF THE CITED JUDGMENTS, THE WORDS ‘ACCOUNTED FOR’ HAVE BEEN USED OR APPLIED BY THE COURTS. THEY DID NOT IMPLY THAT ONLY BECAUSE THE ACCUSED WOULD EVENTUALLY BE ACCOUNTABLE TO LEGAL HEIRS OF THE DECEASED, THE FIR COULD BE LODGED WHEREVER THE LEGAL HEIRS RESIDE.”



lawful jurisdiction of the Patna Police.

The apex court heavily relied upon the words "accounted for" in the Section to uphold the validity of the FIR. It did cite a few judgments to substantiate its reasoning. Though it is not possible to discuss every single judgment here, it can safely be said that in none of the cited judgments, the words "accounted for" have been used or applied by the courts. They did not imply that only because the accused would eventually be accountable to legal heirs of the deceased, the FIR could be lodged wherever the legal heirs of the deceased reside, even though no part of the offence has ever taken place within the jurisdiction of that police station.

For argument's sake, let us take a hypothetical case of a businessman, who commits suicide in Mumbai due to alleged financial wrongdoing on the part of his business associate or agent or even a creditor. Now, let us say one son of the deceased businessman resides in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh and another in Ahmedabad, Gujarat. By virtue of this judgment, the police forces of both these places would have the jurisdiction to register an FIR and investigate the matter only because the money was eventually to be accounted for to the satisfaction of the legal heirs in these two cities. Thus, they would have the option to choose the place/State which is doing to ensure their safety, both in demand and supply, plus a connect with employees regarding their health and financial well-being. This will prevent attrition and business continuity.

the investigation, collecting evidence and recording the statements of witnesses. Will any meaningful probe be possible in this manner? Will it not create a situation of political slugs and inter-State wrangling with regard to investigations by the police force of one State into a crime committed within the territorial jurisdiction of another State? Will every such case then be assigned to the CBI or some other Central agency?

Another aspect which needs to be noticed is that as per Supreme Court Rules notified on May 11, a single judge is competent to hear certain bail matters and transfer applications. The relevant apex court rule reads, "Provided that the following categories of matters may be heard and disposed of finally by a judge sitting singly nominated by the Chief Justice: Special leave petitions arising out of grant, dismissal or rejection of Bail Application or Anticipatory Bail Application in the matters filed against the order passed under Section 437, Section 438 or Section 439 of the CrPC 1973 (two of 1974) involving the offences punishable with sentence up to seven years imprisonment; applications for transfer of cases under Section 406 of the CrPC 1973 (two of 1974); application of an urgent nature for transfer of cases under Section 25 of the CrPC 1908 (five of 1908)."

Now Rhea Chakraborty filed a petition arising out of grant, dismissal or rejection of Bail Application or Anticipatory Bail Application in the matters filed against the order passed under Section 437, Section 438 or Section 439 of the CrPC 1973 (two of 1974) involving the offences punishable with sentence up to seven years imprisonment; applications for transfer of cases under Section 25 of the CrPC 1908 (five of 1908). This is bound to give birth to myriad and complicated issues in the near future.

CPC does not grant the apex court any such power. Once the petition for transfer itself had been declined, there was no occasion to further decide the jurisdiction of the Patna Police to register an FIR, as it was neither a consequential matter, nor was the decision of transfer petition dependent on the adjudication of validity of the FIR. On the perusal of the Rules reproduced above, there was no occasion for the single judge to adjudicate upon these issues. In effect, the judgment says that in cases where a person commits suicide or is murdered and there are allegations of breach of trust or misappropriation of property, then the FIR can be registered by the legal heirs of the deceased at any police station in India, wherever they reside. The investigation then will have to be carried out by the officer in-charge of that police station, though no part of the offence has ever taken place within its jurisdiction.

The judgment in the Rhea Chakraborty case has virtually laid down a new jurisprudence with regard to police jurisdictions. It has blurred lines and has serious implications on the criminal justice system so far as the initiation of criminal proceedings is concerned. This will only result in confusion and is susceptible to misuse by complainants. The court has given an open-ended and wide interpretation to the words "accounted for" in Section 181(4) of the CrPC. This is bound to give birth to myriad and complicated issues in the near future.

(The writer is an advocate in the Punjab and Haryana High Court)

New strategies for the new normal

This outbreak serves as a reminder for retailers to be more proactive in planning and resilient in their response to future disruptions



SWAPNIL SONI KOSHA JOSHI

The Indian retail industry is a highly competitive, \$800 billion market with a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 12 per cent. Out of that, the share of online retail is \$32.7 billion with a CAGR of 31 per cent. Smartphone penetration, brand consciousness, demographics and policy support are the factors transforming and pushing this industry towards omnichannel retailing.

Omnichannel retailing is a fully-integrated approach to commerce, providing shoppers a unified experience across all channels or touchpoints, including online and offline. It offers consistent merchandise and seamless interaction between online and offline channels, thus combining the benefits

of both. However, the pandemic and subsequent national and local lockdowns have greatly impacted both supply and demand. The supply side was hit by administrative restrictions and limited resources while demand, too, remained subdued due to job losses, salary cuts and restrictive spending. In such a situation, an agile response is needed for swift operations, customer satisfaction and surviving in the post-Corona era.

Evolving consumer behaviour: Though retail has undergone many significant disruptions in the past, perhaps none has shifted consumer behaviour as rapidly as this contagion has. The changes are happening due to factors like challenges in personal situations, preferences towards social distancing measures, and limited resources against the virus and rising digital awareness — a by-product of promotion of contactless transaction.

Even in the unlock stage, consumers are hesitating to visit stores and while exercising social distancing measures, many uninitiated customers are moving towards online retailing. For example, many senior citizens are opting for online grocery shopping as a

precautionary measure. Use of services like contactless digital payments, social commerce and virtual consultation are also seeing a rise.

Many of these behavioural changes will continue even after the pandemic is over, McKinsey and Company cited this as "consumer behaviour shift." For example, people will get used to the comfort of home delivery, ease of digital payments, varieties offered by online markets and so on. Retailers need to draw insights from these changes and rebuild the consumer confidence as the new normal continues.

Financial skills: Revenue is sharply dropping for many categories. Even though store profit has gone down, retailers need to pay rents, salaries and so on. Hence, at this point it is necessary for them to optimise cost and curtail the offerings to profitable items. In the long-term, as demand picks up, it would be prudent to invest in omnichannel fulfillment as means to financial resilience.

Accept the new normal: Social distancing, safety and hygiene procedures will be here for a while. The best way to go forward is to accept the new normal and the complexity it will

bring to decision-making.

Consumer connect: Now more than ever, it is must for retailers to connect and communicate. Consumers will definitely like to know what a business is doing to ensure their safety, both in demand and supply, plus a connect with employees regarding their health and financial well-being. This will prevent attrition and business continuity.

Extra activity: First and foremost, retailers need to adapt to safety regulations, sanitisation procedures and regulatory directives at the country, State and municipal level in various phases of the unlocking. They need more dynamic inventory and logistics planning to meet the fluctuations in demand and supply, plus a connect with employees regarding their health and financial well-being. This will prevent attrition and business continuity.

Infrastructure: The Indian online retail infrastructure is an intermediate stage. The pandemic just exposed the flaws and inefficiency which were already there. Retailers should review the location of warehouses, delivery centres and their distributors to com-

pute the risk of supply chain disruptions. The partnership with local grocery stores will help retailers to ensure timely contactless last mile delivery even during a crisis. Retailers also need to consider customer's safety and efficient operation with reduced staff while complying with social distancing norms.

Technology skills: Technology allows retailers to have relevant information and visibility throughout the supply chains, resulting in timely communication with all the stakeholders. Businesses will need secured, informative and intuitive shopping apps, which can balance for the lack of store visits. Also, Artificial Intelligence will continue to make a big impact in this sector to predict real-time consumer demand, optimise inventory and manage backlogs, thus ensuring operational agility.

Also, Smart Mirrors and Augmented Reality can help build a store-like environment in the virtual world, ensuring safety. This way, retailers and associated stakeholders need to ramp up technological skills and infrastructure as they enter a post-pandem-

ic era. As of today, India is among the top countries with the highest number of COVID-19 cases and there is no end to the contagion in sight. Even the countries, where the outbreak seemed to be under control initially, are experiencing a second wave. This has caused supply and demand disruption and jolted the market ecosystem.

Hence, it is certain that retailers, that are an integral part of the demand-driven economy, need to be financially prudent, fast in their response to the new dynamics and ready to collaborate through the value chain to thrive during this crisis and subsequent periods. As with many sectors, it is likely that retail will see a regime shift and consolidation. Smaller and financially-struggling businesses might face difficulty surviving this crisis. At the same time, retailers with a unique value proposition will come out stronger. This outbreak serves as a reminder for retailers to be more proactive in planning and resilient in their response to unprecedented disruptions in future.

(The writers are Senior Research Scholars at the Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru.)



WORK, EDUCATION REVOLUTION AHEAD

Because the pace of technological change, digitisation and globalisation just keeps accelerating, the world is being knit together more tightly than ever — sure, the globalisation of goods and people has been slowed by the pandemic and politics, but the globalisation of services has soared and the half-life of skills is steadily shrinking, meaning that whatever skill you possess today is being made obsolete faster and faster. (The NYT editorial)

Trump says he could be 'king' of all fundraisers

Slams Biden for being 'servant' of lobbyists

Erie (US): Joe Biden is a "servant" of lobbyists and "Washington voters" who got rich by bleeding America dry...

Biden raised a whopping \$383 million for his election effort in September, a record-breaking sum that eclipses the unprecedented fundraising from the previous month...

American Hindus deeply divided over Trump, Biden

Houston: The political divide between the Hindu supporters of US President Donald Trump and the Hindu Democrats...

A virtual debate held on Sunday between the American Hindu supporters of Trump and Biden brought the message home that there is a clear political divide among the community members in the US...

While one group alleged that Biden panders to Muslims, the other accused Trump of being a "racist". The webinar titled '2020 Presidential Election: A debate on the American Hindu issues' was co-sponsored by the Hindu American Foundation...

Barack Obama to hold first in-person event for Biden

Washington: Former President Barack Obama is returning to Philadelphia on Wednesday to hold his first in-person campaign event for Joe Biden...

In 2016, the coronavirus pandemic upending campaigning, Obama will be speaking to a much smaller crowd at a drive-in rally, where supporters will listen to him over the radio inside their cars...

Germany grants Hong Kong pro-democracy protester asylum Berlin: A 22-year-old university student from Hong Kong says she has been given refugee status by Germany after extradition...

Nigeria protesters break curfew amid gunfire, chaos in Lagos Lagos: Nigeria's anti-police protesters stayed on the streets in Lagos on Wednesday, breaking the government curfew following a night of chaotic violence...

Pakistan unlikely to exit FATF's grey list: Report Islamabad: Pakistan may not exit the grey list of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) as it has been unable to comply with six of the 27 points in the global terror financing and money laundering watchdog's action plan...

Uproar in Sindh province as police protest alleged abduction of its chief

Karachi: A serious controversy has broken out in Pakistan after an Inspector General of Police (IGP) was allegedly forced into ordering the arrest of Captain (retd) Saad Awan, the husband of Maryam Nawaz Sharif...

Rumours are spreading like wildfire in the country that IGP Mushtaq Mahar was allegedly abducted from his home by intelligence agency officials and was forced into ordering the arrest of Saad Awan...

The incident has sparked anger among the police as well as Sindh Police have announced protests while about a dozen officers, including the IGP, have rendered their leave requests for a month...

Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah reassured the government's support to the Sindh Police at every stage. He let Chairman of the jobs while his family ranked in millions of dollars from China and foreign nations, he said.



Pro-democracy activists march to the Government House, Prime Minister's office during a protest march in Bangkok, Thailand, on Wednesday

Thai PM urges protesters to give up confrontation

Bangkok: Thailand's Prime Minister on Wednesday pleaded with his countrymen to resolve political differences through Parliament, as student-led protests seeking to bring his government down continued for an eighth straight day...

Stampede kills 11 Afghans seeking visas to leave country

Kabul: At least 11 women were trampled to death when a stampede broke out Wednesday among thousands of Afghans waiting in a soccer stadium at Thailand's leader urges protesters to give up confrontation...

Germany grants Hong Kong pro-democracy protester asylum

Berlin: A 22-year-old university student from Hong Kong says she has been given refugee status by Germany after extradition...

Germany's Federal Office for Migration and Refugees would neither confirm nor deny granting the protester asylum, citing the country's strict privacy laws...

However the woman, who identified herself only as Elaine and declined to give other personal details to protect her family in Hong Kong, showed The Associated Press paperwork confirming her refugee status was granted Oct. 14...

Powerful explosion rips through building in Pakistan, 5 killed

Islamabad/Karachi: A powerful explosion ripped through a four-story building in Pakistan's Sindh province, killing at least five people and injuring 20 others, police said...

At least two floors of the building near Maskan Chowringhi in the Gulshan-e-Iqbal area in Karachi were severely damaged, leading authorities to fear that the toll may rise...

The death toll in the incident has increased to five, director of the main hospital in the Takhar province, confirmed receiving 34 bodies and said another eight security forces were wounded...

New Okhla Industrial Development Authority advertisement with contact details and website information.

SEARCH FOR MISSING advertisement for a missing girl named Muskan, D/o Ugarnath Mishra, with contact information for P.S. Narela Industrial Area, Delhi.

राजस्थान परिवहन निगम मुखायुक्त कम्पन्स advertisement for bus services with contact details.

ICICI Bank SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE advertisement detailing the reconstruction of financial assets and security interest Act, 2002.

PUBLIC NOTICE advertisement regarding the transfer of property between H.N. G-25/B, Sec-22, Noida, G.B. Nagar U.P. and Mr. S.K. Sahawneh.

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS advertisement for E-Tender Notice regarding construction work at Rajkya Bal Collectorate Compound, Rudrapur.

OFFICE OF THE PROJECT MANAGER advertisement for construction work at Rajkya Bal Collectorate Compound, Rudrapur.

Trend Slazer

Madhuri recalls working with Saroj

Actor **MADHURI DIXIT NENE** walked down memory lane and recalled working with the late co-actor **RISHI KAPOOR** and late choreographer **SAROJ KHAN** in the 1995 release, *Yaarana*.

The David Dhawan directorial was inspired by the Julia Roberts-starrer *Sleeping With The Enemy* and is still remembered for Madhuri's hit dance number, *Mera piya ghar aaya*. The number was choreographed by Saroj Khan. "Working alongside Rishi ji and learning the steps from Saroj ji are some of my fondest memories... Today as we mark #25YearsOfYaarana, remembering both of them. This is dedicated to them and the whole team," she wrote.



Surface transmission is known to be one of the biggest reasons for the increase in Coronavirus cases around the world. A start-up introduces a first-of-its-kind technology to contain the spread through touch. By **AYUSHI SHARMA**

It would not be wrong to say that technology has proved to be a game-changer, especially in the time of a pandemic. While COVID-19 vaccine continues to remain under development and containing the spread of the Coronavirus has become the most critical aspect in today's world, a start-up has announced the launch of 'Keep-U-Safe', a first-of-its-kind technology, which will aid in achieving significant reduction of viruses on surfaces of their products.

Surface transmission is known to be one of the biggest reasons for Coronavirus spread around the world. The organisation, SeguraMAX, aims to fight the very contagion. It believes that this could become a potential game-changer for India and the world, where the Coronavirus cases are rising at an alarming rate. The green plant-based technology has been tested in various international and accredited NABL labs with proven results to reduce more than 99 per cent viruses from various surfaces of fabrics, garments and plastics in less than one minute. It has also proven to remain effective after multiple washes.

The technology can become the first shield of hybrid protective wear to fight infectious diseases and prevent surface transmission of viruses from the infected to the uninfected, even while pharma companies continue their effort to develop and suitably deploy a vaccine in the coming months. The company has developed a diverse range of products treated with bio-organic additives that reduce the presence of viruses.

Now the question is — how is this technology better than UV tech? Gaurav Khullar, Director, Product Development, explains that first and foremost, the human body cannot be exposed to UV tech and it takes longer for UV lights to disinfect a surface. For instance, a wall or a wall-coating cannot be disinfected and takes longer time. However, this technology is perhaps the first in the world to use plant-based, natural and non-toxic technology, which does not have any adverse effects on the human body or the surfaces it has been applied to. "Our technology is manufactured as coatings, plastic masterbatches, plastic films, fabrics and apparel. After several rigorous testing, exposing our products to several bacteria and viruses, we have been able to successfully introduce a technology, which is instant and has the same efficacy on fabrics after 60 washes. The virus reduction rate remains 99 per cent within the very first minute and interpreting this to the number of days, we estimate it could last for as long as up to two years in room con-



THE WAR AGAINST CONTAGION

ditions as the tests are undergoing," shares he.

During the winter season, when people might face a challenge as far as sanitisation is concerned, how will this technology and product help? Khullar tells us that a lot of the viruses are cross transmitted. This technology helps in reducing the cross-virus transmission within one minute of exposure, making it an instant smart solution. "If the surfaces are self-sanitised with the use of this tech then the cross-transmission would be reduced by 99 per cent. For example, we are doing trials with an electrical switch manufacturer. These electrical switches are turned on and off very regularly. Since sanitiser has alcohol content in it, it cannot be sprayed on electrical switches. With this tech, the switches will keep on sanitising themselves. People might face a challenge as far as sanitisation during winter season is concerned, so we have also introduced virus reduction jackets which can act as a shield even if you're exposed to an environment with viruses," says he.

The products can be used by corporates, government employees, public dealing personnel like airport staff, policemen and most importantly health workers, who frequently come in direct contact with infected individuals and surfaces. The product range includes cling wraps for suitcases and food and other purposes, breathable 3pc PPE suit, breathable coats



for doctors, N-95 masks, bed linen, doctor seat covers, travel jackets, all-weather jackets, airline seat covers, face shields, table covers, gloves, uniforms, grocery shopping bags, wrapping papers and much more.

"The problem of anti-microbials has already been there for a very long time. So, our plant-based technology will not only limit the bacteria and viruses that are existing today but will also prohibit any other possible viral transmission or bacterial growth for which further studies are undergoing. This may very well become a way of life and our technology will be a product feature for every product to have an anti-microbial coating. With the plant-based additive, it becomes non-toxic and safe. Therefore, it can become a game changer by utilising natural plant-based resources to make the technology work in the sphere of life. The products are protective wear only and not medical devices,



they do not provide any guarantee against infections and are certainly not a 'cure,' shares Khullar.

The company is presently in talks with Material Engineers and Product Managers of various organisations globally, who have shown keen interest entering into licens-

ing arrangements to deploy this revolutionary technology. The introduction of Keep-U-Safe products will help in alleviating a lot of fear among frequent travellers and more so the public at large, who are potentially exposed to a lot of public spaces and high-risk touchpoints.

Comparisons to Ayushmann (Khurrana) are quite flattering. We live in an era when competition is

healthy and our peers only inspire us to be better. Ayushmann has made this entire generation of actors proud with his ability to do films that most other actors wouldn't touch before. I am glad people are appreciating the work I have done so far.'

—Shweta Tripathi

The much-hyped **AYUSHMANN KHURRANA-VAANI KAPOOR** starrer has a name. On Wednesday, it was confirmed that the film directed by Abhishek Kapoor is titled *Chandigarh Kare Aashiqui*.

Taking to Instagram, Ayushmann expressed joy at starting shooting for the film in his hometown, Chandigarh.

"Next stop: My hometown Chandigarh for the first time. Excited to be a part of Abhishek Kapoor's delightful progressive love story *Chandigarh Kare Aashiqui*," he wrote.

Robert, Mark defend Chris Pratt

Avengers stars **MARK RUFFALO** and **ROBERT DOWNEY JR** have defended co-star **CHRIS PRATT**, who was criticised by netizens for his alleged political beliefs.

Over the weekend Pratt was questioned over why he has not been more politically engaged about current events.

His critics called him "Hollywood's Worst Chris", with many commenting on his involvement in a conservative church and others assuming that he is a fan of US President Donald Trump.

Netizens also attacked Pratt over an Instagram post where he urged fans to vote for his film *Onward* to win a People's Choice Award.



FOOD FOR THE SOUL

The Durga Puja has always been the greatest crowd-puller, be it in the capital or in West Bengal. However, with a pandemic at hand, the physical distancing norms have taken over, dulling the extravagant pandal-hopping affairs. Since the hot *khichari* paired with the tangy chutney, and many other delicacies on the *bhog* platter will be missed this year, here are a few recipes with a twist you can try out while doing a virtual *darshan* of Maa Durga at home

LAUKI AND KELE KI MALAIDAR KHEER

WHAT YOU NEED

- Full fat milk: 800 gm
- Bottle gourd (grated): 400 gm
- Banana (grated): 2
- Khoya: 30 gm
- Almonds (sliced): 20 gm
- Chironji: 10 gm
- Cashew (crushed): 10 gm
- Brown sugar: 90 gm
- Cardamom powder: 1 tsp
- Ghee: 25 gm
- Saffron: 8/10 strands

METHOD

- Heat ghee in a pan. Fry cashews and almonds. Also, keep some aside for garnishing.
- When they turn slightly brown, add grated *lauki* and cook it for eight to 10 minutes on slow flame.
- Add milk when it starts boiling. Simmer the heat



and let it cook on slow heat for 25 minutes more.

- Keep stirring in between.
- Now add sugar, *khoya* and cook it for another two to three minutes.
- Put cardamom powder and saffron for enhancing the taste.
- Let the *kheer* cool at room temperature. Then add grated bananas and mix really well.
- Garnish with leftover almonds and cashews. Serve cold.

Courtesy: Michelin Plate Winner, chef Dayashankar Sharma.

APPLE JALEBI

WHAT YOU NEED

- Apple: 1
- Sugar: 300 gm
- Saffron: 0.5 gm
- Singhara flour: 50 gm
- Pista slice for garnishing
- Mint leaf for garnishing
- Milk ice cream
- Milk: 1 ltr
- Elaichi powder: 5 gm

METHOD

- Peel the green apple and cut in round.
- Now remove the core part of apple. Dust some sugar and leave it for five minutes.
- Meanwhile, make a little thick syrup of sugar-saffron and cardamom.
- After five minutes, coat the apple slice with singhara flour.
- Now fry the apple slice in ghee. Once it's golden in colour, take out and dip in saffron syrup for 10 seconds only.
- Repeat the process with all apple slices.
- Once done, plate it well with milk ice cream, pista crumb and pista flakes. Ready to serve.

Courtesy: Executive Pastry Chef Anand Panwar at Rosatele Hotels & Resorts.

A 'Cursed Capital'

Delhi has been a capital for five millennia but a few of them have a story as fascinating as Tughlaqabad

Only Athens, Cairo and Rome can claim to have been capitals for as long as Delhi, from the time of *Mahabharata* when the city was known as Indraprastha to today's New Delhi. It is for good reason that Delhi is known as the city with seven capitals and it is the story of the most fascinating one — Tughlaqabad — the massive citadel and fort built by Ghiyas-ud-din Tughlaq, the founder of the Tughlaq dynasty during the Delhi Sultanate period.

The Fort which was to serve as capital for Tughlaq but according to legend, it was cursed by Sufi Mystic Nizamuddin Auliya who said 'Dilli Dur Ast' (Delhi is still far) because Tughlaq had requisitioned every able-bodied man in the capital to work on his masterpiece. He never enjoyed his capital as he was killed on behalf of his son Mohammed bin-Tughlaq while returning from a campaign in Bengal. However, Mohammed did ensure that his father was at least buried in a mausoleum overlooking the fort. The son, worried about the saint's curse, was to attempt to move the capital from Delhi to Devagiri over 600 kilometers away and in the process of moving many thousands of people ended up dying. The antics of father and son are now part of political discourse in India where being 'Tughlaqian' means being stubborn or obstinate ruler with no consideration for his/her citizens.



This massive fort which exists on Delhi's southern bor-

ders is clearly visible on the landing path when you approach the airport from the east. But the Fort is also easily accessible by road, and the ramparts of the Fort lie beside Mehrauli-Badarpur Road where the limestone and granite work can clearly be seen. The Fort is managed by the Archeological Survey of India and entry is open to all for a token sum of just ₹20 for Indian citizens. Inside, one of the few remaining large Forts from the pre-Mughal Islamic era in India one can witness everything from the royal quarters to even the catacombs where prisoners were housed and even tortured. However, one has to be careful of the bats and the several hundred monkeys that now call the Fort home, again one of the Sufi

Saint's various curses. At night, if you drive down the Mehrauli-Badarpur road, which is a pleasure to do on the 2020 Hyundai Venue Sport, particularly with the U2 CRDi engine that our car is equipped with. With a 100PS of power, this car has a punchy engine with a load of power but one that couples the power with phenomenal mileage, in our regular city driving in start-stop conditions we got an impressive 16 kilometers per litre. It might be fashionable to look down on diesel engines these days but the Venue reminds one of the phenomenal power and economy of modern diesel engines and this one is coupled perfectly with a lovely six-speed manual gearbox that seems to never run out of power.

India could quarantine & train in Sydney to start Oz tour

PTI ■ SYDNEY

Sydney and Canberra are emerging as potential venues to host India's limited-over series against Australia during the upcoming tour starting next month.

The Indian team was initially supposed to land in Brisbane but apparently Queensland state health authorities would not allow the visitors to train during the mandatory 14-day quarantine period.

According to a report in ESPNcricinfo, Sydney could emerge as Indian contingent's port of entry and the city may allow them to train during their quarantine.

It is learnt that the SCG could be hosting the first three white ball games (three T20s and three ODIs) while Canberra's Manuka Oval hosting two games.

New South Wales state sports minister Stuart Ayres confirmed that they have received a request from Cricket Australia to allow the Indian as well as the Australian team to undergo its mandatory quarantine as well as training.

"Cricket Australia has approached the New South Wales Government about quarantining the Indian cricket team and returning Australian cricketers in Sydney," Ayres was quoted as saying.

That proposal is currently being assessed by NSW authorities including health and police. Fixtures for the Indian tour will be determined by Cricket Australia and the Australian team will be determined by Cricket Australia.

If CA and the NSW state Government are able to reach an agreement, a revised plan would then be submitted by Cricket Australia to the BCCI for approval.

CHANDIGARH ROSE PETALS Co-Operative Housing Building First Society, Ltd.
Sector 43-D, Chandigarh

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is notified for the General Public that Harjeet Singh, S/O Sh. Hazara Singh, RD/ House No. 98, Manikanya, Sector 43-D, Chandigarh, owner of Flat No. 2525, Chandigarh A (First Floor), Chandigarh Rose Petals Co-Operative Housing Building First Society, Ltd., Sector 43-D, Chandigarh, intended to transfer his share of said flat in favour of his son, Ranvir Singh, S/O Sh. Hazara Singh, RD/ Village, Manikanya, S/O Sh. Nagar, Manikanya, Sector 43-D, Chandigarh. Now they have applied to the Society for issuance of Form 109/NOG for registration & registration of said transfer deed.

If any individual has any objection against the transfer of right, file in writing in the above mentioned flat, same may be submitted to the Society, in writing, within 15 days of the publication of this notice, failing which the action taken by the Society shall be deemed to be final and the Society shall be deemed to be the transferee of the said flat.

PRESIDENT/SECRETARY

CHANDIGARH HOUSING BOARD
(A Chandigarh Administration Undertaking)
8, Jan Marg, Sector 9-D, Chandigarh, Ph. : 0172-4601828

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified for the General Public that the following person(s) has applied for Permission for the Sale/Purchase of Dwelling Unit in their names under Regulation of the Chandigarh Housing Board (Allotment, Management and Sale of Tenements) Regulations 1978-

S.R. NO.	NAME OF THE PURCHASER SH/MT/MS	NAME OF THE SELLER SH/MT/MS	D.U. NO.	CATEGORY	SECTOR
1.	Sh. Mohi Malhotra S/O Sh. Vijay Malhotra.	Smt. Sudeesh Kumari D/o. Sh. Jia Lal Datta.	2390	One Room Flat (EWS)	63 Chandigarh

In case anybody has any objection in respect of transfer of the allotment of the above said Dwelling Units, he/she may submit the objection, if any, in writing within 15 days of the publication of this notice before the undersigned alongwith documentary evidence, if any.

Secretary, Chandigarh Housing Board, Chandigarh

WEAR MASK, WASH YOUR HANDS, WATCH YOUR DISTANCE.

HDB FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED
Regd. Office: P.O. Box 384, 1st Floor, DVS Tower, R.K. Road, Near Charnock Chowk, Ludhiana-141003
Demand Notice Under Section 13(2) of the SARFAESI Act, 2002

You the below mentioned borrower, co-borrowers and guarantors have failed to make payment of the above mentioned demanded amount with further interest as mentioned in the demand notice. In view of this, the undersigned is constrained to take action under section 13(2) of the Act to enforce the above-mentioned securities. (Borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (b) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the securities.) Please note that as per section 13(3) of the said Act, you are restrained from transferring the above-mentioned securities by way of sale, lease or otherwise without our consent and any non-compliance of section 13(3) of the Act is punishable under section 29 of the said Act.

FOR ANY QUERY PLEASE CONTACT MR. SANJAY SAXENA PHONE: 9872199777, AVAIL: KISHORE 768442530
Place: MUMBAI, DATE: 20.10.2020 SD/- FOR HDB FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED, AUTHORISED OFFICER

HDB FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED
Regd. Office: "Rishik", 2nd Floor, Law Garden Road, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad-380009
Demand Notice Under Section 13(2) of the SARFAESI Act, 2002

You the below mentioned borrower, co-borrowers and guarantors have failed to make payment of the above mentioned demanded amount with further interest as mentioned in the demand notice. In view of this, the undersigned is constrained to take action under section 13(2) of the Act to enforce the above-mentioned securities. (Borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (b) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the securities.) Please note that as per section 13(3) of the said Act, you are restrained from transferring the above-mentioned securities by way of sale, lease or otherwise without our consent and any non-compliance of section 13(3) of the Act is punishable under section 29 of the said Act.

FOR ANY QUERY PLEASE CONTACT MR. SANJAY SAXENA PHONE: 9872199777, AVAIL: KISHORE 768442530
Place: MUMBAI, DATE: 20.10.2020 SD/- FOR HDB FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED, AUTHORISED OFFICER

CHANDIGARH HOUSING BOARD
(A Chandigarh Administration Undertaking)
8, Jan Marg, Sector 9-D, Chandigarh, Ph. : 0172-4601827

PUBLIC NOTICE

Before Secretary, CHB Exercising the Powers of the Estate Officer, UT Chandigarh.

Subject: Mutation / Transfer of ownership right of 20% share in respect of Dwelling Unit No 938 of MIG-I Category in Sector 41-A, Chandigarh on the basis of Transfer Deed in the name of Smt. Harjeet Kaur W/o. Sh. Harjeet Singh D/o Late Sh. Harjit Singh from the name of allottee/transferee Smt. Jasdeep Kaur W/o. Sh. Pustehwar Singh D/o Late Sh. Harjit Singh (having 20% share).

(FROM SISTER TO SISTER)

It is hereby notified for the information of the general public and all concerned that the Dwelling Unit No. 938 of MIG-I Category in Sector 41-A, Chandigarh, stands in the name of allottee/transferee Smt. Jasdeep Kaur W/o. Sh. Pustehwar Singh D/o Late Sh. Harjit Singh (having 20% share). It has been reported by Smt. Harjeet Kaur W/o. Sh. Harjeet Singh D/o Late Sh. Harjit Singh who has applied for Transfer of ownership right of 20% share in respect of said Dwelling Unit on the basis of Transfer Deed in her name which was Executed and registered in office of Sub-Registrar U.T., Chandigarh on 13-12-2019.

If any body has any objection upon the mutation of the said property in favour of applicant, he/she may submit the objection in writing to the undersigned within 15 days of the publication of this notice, failing which, the ownership of the said dwelling unit shall be transferred in favour of above said claimant(s).

Secretary, Chandigarh Housing Board, Chandigarh

WEAR MASK, WASH YOUR HANDS, WATCH YOUR DISTANCE.

CHANDIGARH HOUSING BOARD
(A Chandigarh Administration Undertaking)
8, Jan Marg, Sector 9-D, Chandigarh, Ph. : 0172-4601827

PUBLIC NOTICE

Before Secretary, CHB Exercising the Powers of the Estate Officer, UT Chandigarh.

Subject: Mutation/Transfer of ownership right in respect of Dwelling Unit No. 934 MIG Category, in Sector 40-A, Chandigarh on the basis of Sale Deed in the name(s) of (i) Dr. Shruti Batra W/o. Dr. Vikas Batra (ii) Dr. Vikas Batra S/o. Sh. Shiv Kumar Batra from the name of allottee/transferee Sh. Devinder Sandhu S/o. Sh. Baljit Singh Sandhu.

It is hereby notified for the information of the general public and all concerned that the Dwelling Unit No. 934 MIG Category, in Sector 40-A, Chandigarh stands in the name of allottee / transferee Sh. Devinder Sandhu S/o. Sh. Baljit Singh Sandhu. Now allottee/ transferee Sh. Devinder Sandhu S/o. Sh. Baljit Singh Sandhu has sold the above said dwelling unit to (i) Dr. Shruti Batra W/o. Dr. Vikas Batra (ii) Dr. Vikas Batra S/o. Shiv Kumar Batra vide Sale Deed Executed and registered in office of Sub-Registrar Chandigarh on 12-10-2020 (i) Dr. Shruti Batra W/o. Dr. Vikas Batra (ii) Dr. Vikas Batra S/o. Shiv Kumar Batra have requested this office for transfer the above said dwelling unit in their name(s) on the basis of sale deed.

If any body has any objection upon the mutation of the said property in favour of applicant, he/she may submit the objection in writing to the undersigned within 15 days of the publication of this notice, failing which, the ownership of the said dwelling unit shall be transferred in favour of above said claimant(s).

Secretary, Chandigarh Housing Board, Chandigarh

WEAR MASK, WASH YOUR HANDS, WATCH YOUR DISTANCE.

CHANDIGARH HOUSING BOARD
(A Chandigarh Administration Undertaking)
8, Jan Marg, Sector 9-D, Chandigarh, Ph. : 0172-4601825

PUBLIC NOTICE

Subject: Transfer/Mutation of Allotment/Registration D.U. No. 3454-1 of Category - III in Sector 45-D, Chandigarh in the names of (i) Sh. Navneet Chopra S/o. Late Baldev Sahai Chopra (ii) Sh. Navdeep Chopra S/o. Late Baldev Sahai Chopra (iii) Sh. Navpreet Chopra S/o. Late Baldev Sahai Chopra on the intestate demise of allottee/transferee Sh. B.S. Chopra S/o. Sh. Mangal Ram Chopra.

It is hereby notified for the information of the General Public and all concerned that Sh. Chandra Parkash S/o. Late Ram Kumar Sharma owners of Dwelling Unit No. 3454-1 of Category - III in Sector 45-D, Chandigarh applied on 21.09.2019 to this office for mutation of the above said dwelling unit in the names of (i) Sh. Navneet Chopra (ii) Sh. Navdeep Chopra (iii) Sh. Navpreet Chopra S/o. Late Baldev Sahai Chopra (iii) Sh. Navpreet Chopra S/o. Late Baldev Sahai Chopra in respect of transfer of ownership of Dwelling Unit No. 3454-1 of Category - III in Sector 45-D, Chandigarh in their names on the basis of intestate demise of Sh. B. S. Chopra S/o. Sh. Mangal Ram Chopra. They have further stated that no other legal heir has been left out and they are the only legal heirs of deceased owner of the above said Dwelling Unit.

In case anybody has any objection regarding the claimant's interest in the dwelling unit which is proposed to be transferred by the Chandigarh Housing Board in favour of (i) Sh. Navneet Chopra (ii) Sh. Navdeep Chopra (iii) Sh. Navpreet Chopra (iii) Sh. Navpreet Chopra (iii) Sh. Navpreet Chopra, he/she may submit the objection in writing to the undersigned within 30 days of the publication of this notice, failing which the registration and allotment of the said dwelling unit shall be transferred in favour of the above claimant(s).

Secretary, Chandigarh Housing Board, Chandigarh

WEAR MASK, WASH YOUR HANDS, WATCH YOUR DISTANCE.

CHANDIGARH HOUSING BOARD
(A Chandigarh Administration Undertaking)
8, Jan Marg, Sector 9-D, Chandigarh, Ph. : 0172-4601826

PUBLIC NOTICE

Subject: Transfer/Mutation of Allotment/Registration D.U.No.3661 of MIG-I Category in Sector 45-C, Chandigarh in the name of Smt. Anil Bhandari S/o. Late Sh. K.K. Bhandari on the basis of Un-Registered Will of allottee/transferee Sh. Kewal Kishore Bhandari S/o. Sh. H.R. Bhandari.

It is hereby notified for the information of the General Public and all concerned that Smt. Anil Bhandari S/o. Late Sh. K.K. Bhandari has applied after the death of his owner Sh. Kewal Kishore Bhandari on the basis of Un-Registered Will to the Chandigarh Housing Board for transfer of the Dwelling Unit No.3661 of MIG-I Category in Sector 45-C, Chandigarh in his name that Sh. Kewal Kishore Bhandari S/o. Sh. H.R. Bhandari has expired on 18.09.2020 at Chandigarh and left behind Un-Registered Will dated 21.12.2019 in his favour. He has further stated that the Will of deceased allottee is the last will executed by him in full and has never superseded nor cancelled till the death of the deceased and all the legal heirs of the deceased allottee/transferee Sh. Kewal Kishore Bhandari S/o. Sh. H.R. Bhandari i.e. (i) Smt. Anurupa Arora D/o Late Sh. Kewal Kishore Bhandari W/o. Sh. Sanjay Arora (Daughter) (ii) Smt. Mamta Arora D/o Late Sh. Kewal Kishore Bhandari W/o. Sh. Anand Mohan Arora (Daughter) has submitted the affidavit regarding No Objection Certificate in favour of their Smt. Anil Bhandari S/o. Late Sh. K.K. Bhandari.

If any body has any objection upon the mutation of the said property in favour of applicant, he/she may submit the objection in writing to the undersigned within 30 days of the publication of this notice, failing which, the registration and allotment of the said dwelling unit shall be transferred in favour of above said claimant(s).

Secretary, Chandigarh Housing Board, Chandigarh

WEAR MASK, WASH YOUR HANDS, WATCH YOUR DISTANCE.

"HP.PWD.TENDERS"

Saled item rats tender on form PWD-B are hereby invited on behalf of Governor of H.P. by the Executive Engineer, Rohru Division, HPPWD, Rohru for the following works from the approved and eligible contractors enlisted in HPPWD, so as to reach in the office of the Executive Engineer, Rohru Division, HPPWD, Rohru on or before 19-11-2020 upto 10.45 AM. and will be opened on the same day at 11.00 AM. in the presence of intending contractors or their authorised representatives. The tender documents can be had in the office of the Executive Engineer, Rohru Division, HPPWD, Rohru, against cash payment/refundable on any working day during the office hours upto 3.00 PM 18-11-2020 on. No application for issue of tender forms will be received on 18-11-2020 after 3.00 PM. If the Office happens to be closed on the above mentioned dates, the tenders will be sold/ opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.

The earnest money in the shape of National in the name of the XEN, must accompany each tender. Conditional tenders and application (for purchase of tender forms) received without earnest money will summarily be rejected. The Offer of the tenders shall be kept open for 120 days. The XEN Reserves the right to accept or to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons.

The copy of the latest renewal/enlistment, sale-tax clearance certificate must also accompany the application for the purchase of tender-documents. Saving Certificate /Time deposit account/Saving bank account in any of the post offices in HP. only pledged.

1	R/R Damage to Kanewa HB Bhamnallah road km RD/0 to 2000(SH-C/O B/Wall at RD 0600 to 6030)	Rs 223188/-	Rs 4500/-	02 month
2	R/R Damage to Andhra Gaganji Ganskar road km 0/0 to 8030(SH-C/O R/Wall at RD 0720 to 8720 in stone masonry)	Rs 261856/-	Rs 5300/-	02 month
3	C/O Link road Shabji Yeshwant Singh Marg Rest Farm to Kewal km 0/0 to 4230(SH-F/C 5/7 mt wide road at RD. 0945 to 1560)	Rs 4,91,882/-	Rs 10,000/-	02 month
4	C/O Pochar Mandori road km 0/0 to 1200(SH-P/L GSB with cast in situ concrete bridge km 0/0 to 120)	Rs 498319/-	Rs 10000/-	02 month
5	C/O Link road Jagothi nullah to Chahar road km 0/0 to 1400(SH-C/O R/Wall in wire crates at RD 0420 to 0460)	Rs 180000/-	Rs 3800/-	02 month
6	Link road to Village Shalok km 0/0 to 0800 (SH-C/O Cross drainage work 900mm dia hume pipe culvert atRD 0950)	Rs 200502/-	Rs 4000/-	02 month
7	Link road Dahi Kanen to Kanti Khorsu, RD/0 to 2400(SH-C/O R/Wall at RD 0900 to 1400 in hume pipe culvert at RD 1680 and 1780)	Rs 401048/-	Rs 8100/-	02 month
8	C/O Link road from Peja Shakhwan to Ghara Dogri road km 0/0 to 3000(SH-F/C 5/7 mt wide road at RD 1570 TO 1705)	Rs 496444/-	Rs 10000/-	02 month
9	R/R Damages to Sanchai Sheelar road km 0/0 to 400 (SH-C/O B/Wall at RD 0300 to 0345)	Rs 287149/-	Rs 5800/-	02 month
10	C/O Kofka Karla Khehwar road km RD 0/0 to 4000 (SH-Providing Kharsrae netting at RD 1360 to 2360)	Rs 260019/-	Rs 5400/-	02 month
11	R/R Damage to Kanewa HB Bhamnallah road km RD/0 to 2000 (SH-C/O B/Wall at RD 1210 to 1240 & RD 2000 to 2015)	Rs 333711/-	Rs 6700/-	02 month
12	R/R Damage to Farah Chhokri road km 0/0 to 9500 (SH-R/Wall in wire crates at RD 2945 to 2985)	Rs 169001/-	Rs 3000/-	02 month
13	C/O Forest Road House Bashta to Malkhan Bhatnagar road km 0/0 to (SH-F/C 5/7 mt wide road at RD 0225 to 0375)	Rs 499011/-	Rs 10000/-	02 month
14	C/O Hingwala Mini road km 0/0 to 2500 (SH-Widening of road at RD 1270 to 1625)	Rs 497897/-	Rs 10000/-	02 month
15	C/O Guger Kotha Jundher road km 0/0 to 3615 (SH-P/L Granular sub base by providing well graded material from RD 2500 to 3615)	Rs 496648/-	Rs 10000/-	02 month
16	C/O Link Road H. B. Village Jatwari km 0/0 to 0800 (SH-C/O B/Wall R/R Masonry in CM 1:6 at RD 0930 TO 0932)	Rs 225305/-	Rs 4500/-	02 month
17	R/R & MO Badiyara Kauri Damodar road km 0/0 to 4000 (SH-C/O R/Wall at RD 0345 to 2460)	Rs 150136/-	Rs 3000/-	02 month
18	C/O Link road Tikkar to Tundher Kewalshar Shabeh Nethu Ram km 0/0 to 3500 (SH-C/O B/Wall at various RDs 2735 to 2415,2010 to 2015 and 2170 to 2185)	Rs 405706/-	Rs 8200/-	02 month
19	C/O Tikkar Tundher Kewalshar Shabeh Nethu Ram km 0/0 to 3500 (SH-C/O B/Wall at various RDs 2735 to 2415,2010 to 2015 and 2170 to 2185)	Rs 432126/-	Rs 8700/-	02 month
20	C/O Kofka Karla Khehwar road km 0/0 to 400 (SH-Improvement of formation deficiency at RD 2030 to 3195)	Rs 408212/-	Rs 8200/-	02 month
21	R/R Damages to Dewidar Ranoli road km 0/0 to 810 (SH-C/O R/Wall in CM 1:6 at RD 5965 to 5975)	Rs 136538/-	Rs 2800/-	02 month
22	C/O Link road chowk to Thars km 0/0 to 030 (SH-C/O B/Wall in wire crates at RD 010 to 015)	Rs 260329/-	Rs 5200/-	02 month
23	C/O Farog to Ratra road km 0/0 to 1200 (SH-C/O 900 mm dia Hume pipe culvert at RD 0410)	1,18,971.00	2,400.00	02 month
24	C/O Kinnol Khad To Titar Thebi road km 0/0 to 1500 (SH-F/C 5/7 mt wide road at RD 0930 to 1008)	Rs 498936/-	Rs 10000/-	02 month
25	C/O Kinnol Khad To Titar Thebi road km 0/0 to 1500 (SH-F/C 5/7 mt wide road at RD 1025 to 1025)	Rs 496408/-	Rs 9900/-	02 month
26	C/O Link road R/R Hastidarhm road km 0/0 to 1500 (SH-C/O R/Wall in wire crate at RD 020 to 025, B/Wall in wire crate at RD 0350 to 0370 and Unlined Drain at RD 010 to 0850)	Rs 314707/-	Rs 3300/-	02 month
27	R/R & MO Badiyara Kauri Damodar road km 0/0 to 30 (SH-C/O B/Wall in P.C.C 1:3 at RD 1710 to 1735)	Rs 281179/-	Rs 4900/-	02 month
28	R/R & MO Dabholwan Jashkar road km 0/0 to 510 and Link road to village Jashkar km 0/0 to 0950 (SH- Clearance of Pukka drain. Removal of silts clearance of culverts with bushes shrubs between km 0/0 to 510 and 0/0 to 0950 on slope soil and valley side)	Rs 442172/-	Rs 5000/-	02 month
29	Improvement of Black Spot/Accidental Point on Badiyara Kaloti Dhumarad road km 0/0 to 40 (SH- Providing and fixing W metal beam main series & W/m main series at RD 3100)	Rs 368779/-	Rs 8200/-	02 month
30	C/O P.H.C Building at Katalah (SH- R/Wall Length 30mtrs)	Rs 234703/-	Rs 4600/-	02 month
31	C/O Link road to Sirjan Nala Kuchi Melhi Bhatnagar road km 0/0 to 90 (SH-C/O R/Wall at RD 1630 to 1640)	Rs 238530/-	Rs 4800/-	02 month
32	R/R & MO Saml to Parasa road km 0/0 to 70 (SH- Maintenance of Earthen Shoulder km 0/0 to 70 & Clearance of silt side drain km 0/0 to 70)	Rs 499217/-	Rs 10000/-	02 month
33	R/R & MO to RCD road km 2/0 to 21195 (SH- Patch work between km 13200 to 13200)	Rs 499575/-	Rs 10000/-	02 month
34	R/R & MO to RCD road km 2/0 to 21195 (SH- Patch work between km 13200 to 13200)	Rs 499326/-	Rs 10000/-	02 month
35	R/R & MO to RCD road km 2/0 to 21195 (SH- Patch work between km 13700 to 15500)	Rs 408740/-	Rs 9800/-	02 month
36	R/R & MO to RCD road km 2/0 to 21195 (SH- Patch work between km 15900 to 19500)	Rs 497548/-	Rs 9800/-	02 month
37	R/R & MO to RCD road km 2/0 to 21195 (SH- Patch work between km 15900 to 19500)	Rs 498144/-	Rs 9900/-	02 month
38	Widening and improvement of Mehendi Tikkar road km 0/0 to 2850(SH- Widening of narrow bed at RD 5780 to 57930)	Rs 483727/-	Rs 9500/-	02 month
39	C/O Dewana Kothi Rapad road km 0/0 to 30 (SH-C/O R/Wall at RD 2020 to 2020)	Rs 489755/-	Rs 9700/-	02 month
40	R/R & MO on Seema Ranoli road km 0/0 to 120 (SH-C/O B/Wall at RD 0300 to 0345)	Rs 149658/-	Rs 3000/-	02 month
41	C/O Padsanahol Katali Kaskhandi road km 0/0 to 70 (SH-C/O B/Wall at RD 6630 to 6650)	Rs 115362/-	Rs 3100/-	02 month
42	C/O Link road Pajrto to Madhar km 0/0 to 40 (SH-C/O R/Wall at RD 1285 to 1416 and 1416 to 1425)	Rs 376522/-	Rs 7400/-	02 month
43	R/R Damages to Chungi Baga road km 0/0 to 2500(SH-C/O B/Wall at RD 1700 to 1740 with hume pipe culvert 300 dia at RD 1740)	Rs 427759/-	Rs 8400/-	02 month
44	C/O Link road Shabji Yeshwant Singh Marg Rest Farm to Kewal km 0/0 to 4230 (SH-F/C 5/7 mt wide road at RD. 1150 to 1150)	Rs 4,99,938/-	Rs 10,000/-	02 month
45	R/R Damages to Pocher Mandori road km 0/0 to 1300(SH-C/O B/Wall at RD 2930 to 2992)	Rs 4,91,566/-	Rs 9600/-	02 month
46	C/O Tilwari (Shorma Ban Mandi) road km 0/0 to 30 (SH-F/C 5/7 mt wide road km 1105 to 1610)	Rs 495681/-	Rs 10000/-	02 month
47	C/O Link road from Dhrabhra to Chambi Desai km 0/0 to 10 (SH-F/C 5/7 mt wide road km 0/0 to 0015)	Rs 384844/-	Rs 7800/-	02 month
48	R/R Damages on Samoli Bhatnagar road (SH-C/O R/Wall at RD 115163 to 12400)	Rs 115163/-	Rs 2400/-	02 month

Terms and conditions:-

- The Earnest money for the above works should be submitted with the application for the purchase of the tender-documents.
- The Contractors should quote the rates of all the items in tenders both in figures and words.
- The contractors/ firms should be registered as vendor under GST Act 2017.
- The contractor / firm shall accompany his enlistment/renewal & EPP submit before the award of tender.
- The contractors should apply for two works only at a time for tender.
- The Executive Engineer reserves the right to accept/reject any tender/application or all tenders without assigning any reason.

-HIM SUCHANA AVAM JAN SAMAPARK-
RD 3824/20-11, Dt. 21-10-2020

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE

Sr. No.	Name of Department	Name of Work/Notice Tender	Opening Date	Amount / Bid (Approximate) in Rupees	Website of the Department	Nodal Officer/Contact Details/Email
1	PWD BAR PANCHALLA	TENDER FOR THE WORK OF CONSTRUCTION OF PARKING AREA IN THE CAMPUS OF GOVT. POST GRADUATE COLLEGE, SECTOR-3, BAR PANCHALLA, DISTRICT-ROHTAK	20.10.2020	946.94 LACS	https://tenders.hry.nic.in	0172-290477 pwd-estd@haryana.nic.in
2	PWD BAR PANCHALLA	FOR THE WORK OF CONSTRUCTION OF PARKING AREA IN THE CAMPUS OF GOVT. POST GRADUATE COLLEGE, SECTOR-3, BAR PANCHALLA, DISTRICT-ROHTAK	23.10.2020	228.85 LACS	https://tenders.hry.nic.in	0172-290477 pwd-estd@haryana.nic.in
3	REGISTRAR & WATER RESOURCES PANCHALLA	PHOTOCOPY & WATER RESOURCES PANCHALLA FOR ONE YEAR	21.10.2020	4.94 LACS	https://tenders.hry.nic.in	0172-290333 waterres@haryana.nic.in
4	COMMISSIONER, PARLIAMAND	SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, TESTING & COMMISSIONING OF GOSARDHAR PROJECT IN GRAM PANCHAYAT, HONHOLA, BLOCK BALLABHAGAR, DISTRICT ROHTAK	08.11.2020	58.97 LACS	https://tenders.hry.nic.in	0172-297952 estd@haryana.nic.in
5	COMPTROLLER, PRINTING & STATIONERY, CHANDIGARH	PURCHASE OF STATIONERY ITEM FOR ELECTION 2020-2023	CLOSING DATE: 09.11.2020	32 LACS	https://tenders.hry.nic.in	629476982 stationery@haryana@gmail.com

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : www.haryanaprocmnt.gov.in or www.etendehry.nic.in **RD NO. 83335**



I keep my mindset quite positive. Just look to score runs, and do not think pitch is doing this or that. I play with courage. I am not afraid to get out

Deshpande is a confident lad and does his homework pretty well. He has been hit by Chris Gayle, who is a world-class batsman and it's a great learning experience for him

To have Maxi in form is a great thing and it has eased his nerves as well. He has played a lot of cricket for a long time and he knew what he needed to do

This wasn't a season we expected for our fans wanted, but we gave it to them. Sometimes, despite giving our best, the results don't show

RR, SRH lock horns in must-win game

PTI ■ DUBAI
The inexperienced young guns of both Rajasthan Royals and Sunrisers Hyderabad would like to put their hands up in testing times when both teams square off in a must-win game on Thursday.
Whether it is Priyam Garg, Abdul Samad of Sunrisers or Kartik Tyagi, Riyan Parag of the Royals, the youngsters from both sides will be feeling the pressure of doing something out of the box in case their illustrious seniors fail in that pursuit.
The Sunrisers are currently tottering at the second last place in the eight-team table with just six points from nine games while Royals are a notch ahead with eight points after their comprehensive win over CSK in the previous game. SRH can't afford to slip up even one bit since another loss would rule them out of the Play-offs race. The Royals would hope to continue with the winning momentum and hope that their foreign recruits continue to perform like they did against CSK.
They got their campaign back on track after two heavy defeats and would also have the edge over SRH, which lost to KKR in the Super Over in their previous game.
Losing Super Over contests often puts teams back as KXIP found out after their opening loss to Delhi Capitals. One more loss would make it extremely difficult for the Royals to stay alive.
While Jofra Archer continues to be the backbone of Royals' bowling attack, the wrist-spinning duo of Shreyas Gopal and Rahul Tewatia were terrific in the middle overs against CSK and skipper Smith would be hoping for an encore from his bowlers on Thursday.

Siraj leads RCB's rout of KKR



Mohammed Siraj celebrates with RCB skipper Virat Kohli and other teammates after taking his third wicket. IPL 2020

PTI ■ ABU DHABI
Royal Challengers Bangalore cruised to a facile eight-wicket win over Kolkata Knight Riders on Wednesday at the Sheikh Zayed Stadium. Mohammed Siraj led the way with figures of 2/8 as RCB strangled KKR to 84/8 in their 20 overs. They chased down the target with a whopping 39 balls to spare.
The win takes RCB level on points with the top-placed Delhi Capitals at 14, from 10 matches. They remain second only on the basis of their inferior net run rate.
RCB openers Aaron Finch and David Warner started the farcical chase with an opening stand of 46 runs. They played through the powerplay before Finch fell to Lockie Ferguson. Padikkal then departed after a mix-up with new batsman Karun Nair. Singh landed both batsmen at the same end of the pitch.
Captain Virat Kohli then took his place with Gurkeerat

history of IPL to bowl two maiden overs while Chahal (2/15) stymied their revival hopes.
It is KKR's second-lowest total after their 67 all-out against Mumbai Indians in 2008.
Playing without Windies star players Sunil Narine and Andre Russell, KKR struggled to get going after electing to bat and it was all over for them after skipper Eoin Morgan was dismissed by Washington Sundar for 30.
It was a masterstroke from skipper Virat Kohli to include Siraj in place of spinner Shabbaz Ahmed keeping in mind a fresh strip.
Siraj began with a double wicket maiden over in which he dismissed opener Rana (0) off successive deliveries.
He followed it up with another wicket-maiden over, getting rid of Tom Banton (10) in the process. His figures read an astonishing 2-1-0-3 at that time.

We want to finish on top: AB

PTI ■ ABU DHABI
Experiencing one of their finest IPL seasons, Royals Bangalore's batting maestro AB de Villiers says his team wants to top the points table on its ongoing play-offs of the ongoing edition.
"There is definitely a mental edge that a team takes in finishing at the top, having been the most consistent team over 14 matches against the best teams in the IPL."
"So, we will definitely be focusing on that. We know that we will have to take it one hurdle at a time though," the South African said in a video message uploaded by his franchise on its Twitter handle.
The supremely gifted cricketer has played some fine knocks for RCB this seasons, a couple of them single-handedly helping the team to victory.
"... With it, we can also send a message to the other teams that we are here in finish at the top of the table and to not just qualify for the play-offs. I really think we have the ability to do that," the star batsman said.
De Villiers has been in ominous form and single-handedly won RCB the game against Rajasthan Royals with an unbeaten 55 from 22 balls in their 178-run chase last Saturday. He had also smashed a 33-ball 73 in the first leg game against Kolkata night Riders.



Hoshiarpur distribution circle of PSPCL playing vital role against theft of electricity campaign.

Hoshiarpur: Under the zero tolerance policy for theft of energy of A Versa Prasad CMD PSPCL & directors of DIPS Grewal Director Distribution & Jaiender Doria Chief Engineer DS North Jalandhar, Hoshiarpur circle is doing mass checking of connections for prevention of theft of energy & to regularize the unauthorized load of consumers. Parvinder Singh Khambra Dy Chief Engineer disclosed that hoshiarpur circle of Punjab State Power Corporation limited has checked the premises of 49635 consumers of different categories and imposed fine amounting Rs 18.43 lacs to 1855 number of consumers indulging in the unauthorized extension in load/unauthorized use of electricity and said that 70% of the assessed amount has already been recovered & pending is being recovered their 'elect' bills from the consumers. Khambra said that premises of 22417 consumers in August 2020, 22299 in Sept. 2020 & 4919 consumers from the 1/10/20 to 17/10/20 were checked by the different distribution teams of hoshiarpur circle. & charged Rs. 30,955 Lakhs, 25,272 Lakhs & 25,211 lakhs respectively. Similarly, to recover the defaulting bills from government and non government consumers, staff of sub division is recovering daily defaulting amount from consumers and the connections of defaulting consumers are being disconnected or consumers are being advised to pay bills in installments. Within these 25,000 defaulting amount Rs 5.87 Crore recovered which includes 1.28 Crore from govt. connections also.

Amritsar Circle of PSPCL conducts raids to check power theft

Amritsar: The Amritsar, Suburban Circle Amritsar of PSPCL is carrying out the improvement works and mass raids for detection of theft of electricity. Satinder Sharma deputy chief engineer distribution, suburban circle, Amritsar said 5 teams with 5 Adli, SEI & 8SDOs did smart checking of electricity connections. He said that meter reading data of the readings taken by meter readers of outsource companies were uploaded in the mobile phones of the officers of all the teams. Cross checking of the meter readings taken by meter reader of Pvt. Company as well as checking of meters was carried out in the areas falling under jurisdiction of Gopal Nagar and south sub divisions Amritsar. He said that particularly those connections were checked which were having low consumption as compared to the sanctioned load. During the checking, 4 cases of meter tampering were detected and those consumers were charged Rs. 2.04 lac as per actual reading cross checked at site. Outsource spot billing company has also been charged with a penalty of Rs. 4.08 lac on account of meter tampering. Company has also been asked to take action against 3 meter readers found guilty of doing meter tampering. 3 cases of theft of electricity/UE were also detected during this checking for which penalty of Rs. 3.68 Lac has been charged. In addition to this, 2 tampered meters have also been picked on the spot for further investigation in AME Lab.

'This season Shami has lot more clarity about his role'

PTI ■ DUBAI
The ever-reliable Mohammed Shami has been with a lot more "clarity of mind" in the ongoing IPL, which has helped him deliver near-perfect performances this season, feels Kings XI Punjab skipper KL Rahul.
Shami, a world-class Test bowler, has been in his best form, taking 16 wickets for KXIP in 10 matches so far and played a big role in the last three games that the team has won.
"Look we all know that what Shami can do on a given day. He has been doing that for many years now. I think this year there is a lot more clarity and he has put his hand up as a senior bowler," Rahul said after KXIP beat Delhi Capitals by five wickets to keep their campaign for Play-offs on track here on Tuesday.
The KXIP skipper believes



that when seniors perform, juniors take inspiration and that's what is happening thanks to Shami's efforts.

hands up. That makes the team lot better and youngsters can feed off that," he said.
"You start winning a lot of games and it's great to see Shami doing really well and touchwood the ball is coming out of his hand as perfectly as ever. Hopefully he can get more wickets for the team and keep bowling the way he is bowling," Rahul added.
Glenn Maxwell also raised hopes of being back to form with a 24-ball 32, something that augurs well for the team, feels the skipper.
"Well, it's important for the team and individual as well. It's important that the team backs its match-winners. We know what Maxwell can do. When he comes good, he gives a lot of solidity to the team. He balances it out and is a great team-haler."
Rahul hailed the hard work put in by his team after a string of losses.
"If all of that comes together every game, I will be sitting here with a big smile. It's important that guys who haven't been in their form find some form and good that lot of things are falling in place," he said.
"The work put behind the scenes by the boys and the coaches is slowly starting to show. Hopefully we can build from here and learn from our mistakes. Go forward with more confidence."
KXIP has now beaten all top three teams — Royal Challengers Bangalore, Mumbai Indians and Delhi Capitals — in their last three games.
"It feels really good. We are at that stage of the tournament where we need to beat every team that we face. It's important that we take one game at a time and if we keep trusting ourselves, it doesn't matter who we are playing against," said Rahul.

AFP ■ PARIS

Marcus Rashford once again blank Paris Saint-Germain after netting the decisive goal in a 2-1 Champions League win in the French capital on Tuesday, while Barcelona sent a message with a thumping 5-1 victory over Ferencvaros.
Rashford, who scored the winning spot-kick when United knocked PSG out in 2019, drilled home a low shot three minutes from the end which won a thrilling Group H contest at a near-empty Parc des Princes.
United had taken the lead in the 23rd minute when Bruno Fernandes slotted home from the spot at the second attempt, but Anthony Martial inexplicably headed Neymar's corner into his own net 10 minutes after the break.
The rest of the match was an end-to-end affair with both sides opting to go for the win rather than hold on for the draw, and Rashford took the points after twice being denied by Keylor Navas earlier in the match.
The win sets United up nicely for next week's home clash with RB Leipzig, who are

Late drama in Paris again

Rashford nets late winner as Man United beat PSG, Messi scores in Barca stroll

top of the group after beating Istanbul Basaksehir 2-0 in Germany.
KOEMAN'S WINNING START
Ronald Koeman got his first Champions League campaign as Barcelona coach off to a winning start with a confident win over Ferencvaros that gives them control of Group G, top but level on three points with Juventus.
Ferencvaros, the first Hungarian team to make the group stage in 11 years, started brightly and even had the ball in the net via Tokmac Nguen only for the powerful 12th-minute strike to be ruled out for offside.
Messi won and converted the penalty to give the Catalans a 27th-minute lead and the match was as good as done when Ansu Fati clipped home Frenkie de Jong's sumptuous pass just before the break.
Philippe Coutinho lashed

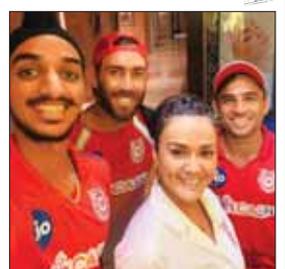


Marcus Rashford celebrates after scoring Man Utd's second goal. AP

home the third before Ihor Khartan pulled one back from the penalty spot after Gerard Pique was sent off for pulling back Nguen as he charged towards goal.
Pedri and Ousmane Dembele finished the scoring for the 10-man hosts as they prepare for the weekend's Clasico with Real Madrid.
It was a comfortable start for their 2-0 win in Dynamo Kiev in what was the Andrea Pirlo's first ever Champions League match in the dugout, with Alvaro Morata scoring twice to take the points for the Italians.
IMMOBILE DOWN'S EYE
It was a good night for Italy as Ciro Immobile got revenge on his old club Dortmund by scoring in Lazio's 3-1 win over the Bundesliga club in Rome, their first Champions League match in 13 years.
Immobile managed just three goals in 24 Bundesliga games for Dortmund in 2014/15, but last

season's European Golden Shoe winner outside Dortmund's star forward Erling Braut Haaland by netting the opening goal for the hosts after just six minutes.
Lazio went two ahead midway through the first half thanks to Marvin Hitch deflected Luis Alberto's whizzed corner into his own goal.
Haaland pulled one back with a thumping finish but Immobile laid on an easy finish for Akpa-Akpro to hand Lazio a big win.
Simone Inzaghi's men are level on three points with Club Brugge in Group F following their dramatic 2-1 win at Zenit Saint Petersburg earned thanks to Charles De Ketele's 93rd minute winner.
Chelsea are still waiting for a £220 million spending spree to pay off they began their campaign with an uninspiring 0-0 Group E draw with Sevilla at Stamford Bridge.
All four sides in the group are on a single point after Rennes drew 1-1 with Krasnodar.

DUGOUT



Kings XI Punjab co-owner Priety Zinta poses for photo with Arshdeep Singh, Glenn Maxwell and Ravi Bishnoi after win against Delhi Capitals on Tuesday. @prietyzinta



Cricketer-turned-commentator Aakash Chopra look to Twitter to share a picture of the IPL virtual fan-wall when a person from Solapur watching the match between DC-KXIP looked like Rishabh Pant. @cricketakash

BRavo OUT OF IPL WITH GROIN INJURY
CBK all-rounder Dwayne Bravo has been ruled out of the ongoing IPL with a groin injury, dealing a massive blow to the already struggling side which has very slim chances of advancing to the play-offs. "Dwayne Bravo is ruled out of the IPL due to a groin injury," CSK CEO Kashi Viswanathan told PTI. The 37-year-old Bravo played six games and scored only seven runs in two innings. However, he got six wickets in as many games with an economy of 8.57. "It's sad news, it's sad to be leaving my team CSK. To all our CSK fans, I want you all to keep encouraging the team, keep supporting, all the true die-hard CSK fans," Bravo said in a video message.

HOLDER SAYS THAT BLM NOT PART OF IPL
West Indies captain Jason Holder has expressed his disappointment over none of the IPL teams taking a knee in solidarity with the Black Lives Matter movement, which, he feels, has gone unnoticed in the world's most glamorous cricket league. Holder, who is member of SRH, made the statement while receiving the prestigious Peter Smith Award on behalf of the West Indies cricket team in a virtual ceremony. "To be honest, I haven't had one conversation up here around it (BLM). Sometimes it seems it has gone unnoticed, which is a sad thing," Holder said in his address posted on Cricket West Indies website.

POINTS TABLE						
	P	W	L	NFR	PTS	
1	DC	10	7	3	+0.774	14
2	RCB	10	7	3	+0.182	14
3	MI	9	6	3	+1.201	12
4	KKR	10	5	5	-0.828	10
5	KXIP	10	4	6	-0.177	8
6	RR	10	4	6	-0.591	8
7	SRH	9	3	6	+0.008	6
8	CSK	10	3	7	-0.463	6