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RNI No.2016/1957, REGD NO. SSP/LW/NP-34/2019-21
Established 1864
Published From
DELHI LUCKNOW BHOPAL BHUBANESWAR
RANCHI RAIPUR CHANDIGARH
DEHRADUN HYDERABAD VIJAYWADA
Late City Vol. 156 Issue 272
*Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable

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CHENNAI FACE KNIGHT RIDERS IN IPL CLASH
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# Nitish will remain our CM: BJP

## Party asserts decision carved in stone, irrespective of number of seats each wins

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Nitish Kumar will remain the Chief Minister of Bihar if the NDA return to power in the State irrespective of the number of seats the BJP and the Janata Dal(U) clinch in the polls. The BJP made this declaration on Tuesday as the two parties announced their seat sharing pact.

**The JD(U) will contest 122 seats and the BJP 121.** The differences of one seat means BJP's symbolic acceptance of Nitish Kumar as the "elder brother" in Bihar politics.

The BJP also rebuffed LJP chief Chirag Paswan who has decided to go solo in the polls and put up candidates against the JD(U) nominees. Without directly naming Chirag or his party, the BJP said no one outside the NDA alliance in Bihar was allowed to use Prime Minister's name in poll campaigning.

Incidentally, Chirag has been repeatedly saying his candidates will strengthen the hand of the Prime Minister after the polls.

Bihar Deputy Chief Minister and senior BJP leader Sushil Kumar Modi said that the NDA in this election will mean only four parties — the BJP, the JD(U), Jitan Ram Manjhi's HAM and the Vikassheel Insaan Party. "Only four NDA parties can use PM's photo during campaign. If needed, we will write to the Election Commission that PM Modi's photo must not be misused," he added.

JD(U) national president and Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar with BJP senior leader and Deputy Chief Minister Sushil Kumar Modi during a Press conference ahead of Bihar Assembly election in Patna on Tuesday PTI

Sources said before the two sides held a joint Press conference to announce their seat sharing deal, the JD(U) leadership told the BJP that it must distance itself from Chirag Paswan. Following this, BJP State president Sanjay Jaisawal issued a brief statement which said, "Only those who accept Nitish Kumar's leadership in Bihar will remain in the NDA. The leader of the NDA in Bihar is Nitish Kumar. The BJP accepts his leadership in Bihar and everyone in the NDA should accept his leadership."

Jaisawal later said "the LJP was an ally at the Centre and we pray for early recovery of its founder and Union Minister Ram Vilas Paswan. But there should be no confusion with regard to the fact that in Bihar the NDA's leader is Nitish Kumar. Our alliance with his party is *atoot* (unbreakable)."

Declaring the seat-sharing arrangement, Nitish Kumar said, "The JD(U) has got 122 seats out of which we have set aside seven for the Hindustani Awam Morcha (headed by former CM Jitan Ram Manjhi). The BJP has got the remaining 121 wherein new entrant Vikassheel Insaan Party of Mukesh Sahni will be accommodated."

Responding to a query about post-poll scenario Deputy Chief Minister Sushil Kumar Modi asserted, "We have said unequivocally that Nitish Kumar will be our Chief Minister. It does not matter which party gets how many seats in the elections".

Nitish did not mention Chirag by name but remarked sarcastically, "I believe in doing my job. If some people derive pleasure out of saying something inconsequential, they are most welcome to do so. It does not bother me".

However, he sought to repudiate Chirag's allegation that the JD(U) has not treated its alliance partners in the State well and asked "did Ram Vilas Paswan get elected to the Rajya Sabha without the JD(U)s support?"

In the outgoing Assembly, the RJD is the single largest party with 73 MLAs, followed by the JD(U) with 69, BJP (54), Congress (23), CPI-ML (3), LJP (2), HAM and AIMIM of Hyderabad MP Asaduddin Owaisi one each, and Independent (5).

Several senior leaders of both the BJP and JD(U), including BJP Bihar in-charge Bhupendra Yadav, BJP's Bihar poll in-charge Devendra Fadnavis and JD(U) State chief Vashisht Narayan Singh too were present at the joint press meet.

# India calls for rule-based world order, free India-Pacific region

### At Quad Summit, Jaishankar says New Delhi committed to peaceful resolution of disputes

PNS\AGENCIES ■ NEW DELHI\TOKYO

Amid its strained relations with China, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Tuesday said New Delhi is committed to peaceful resolution of disputes and rule-based world order even as he called for a free and open India-Pacific region.

Making these opening remarks at the meeting of Foreign Ministers of Quad countries including India, Japan, Australia and the US in Tokyo, he also said the four democratic countries favour a free and open India-Pacific region. The Quad meeting comes at a time when China is aggressively asserting itself in this region leading to tension. Jaishankar, however, refrained from naming China.

This is the second Minister-level meeting of the Quad countries in the last two years. The ongoing two-day conclave is the first against the backdrop of ongoing tension between India and China at the LAC in Ladakh and coronavirus pandemic. Jaishankar had held a two-hour long bilateral meeting with his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi on September 10 in Moscow to end the logjam at the border.

The Quad meeting discussed the issue of ensuring a free and open Indo-Pacific in the face of China's increasingly aggressive behaviour across the region. The other three Ministers include Marise Payne (Australia), Toshimitsu Motegi (Japan)and Mike Pompeo (US).

Jaishankar said the events of this year have demonstrated how "imperative it is for like-minded countries to coordinate responses to the various challenges that the pandemic has brought to the fore".

On the situation in the strategically important India-Pacific region, he said "as vibrant and pluralistic democracies with shared values, our nations have collectively affirmed the importance of maintaining a free, open and inclusive Indo-Pacific."

"It is a matter of satisfaction that the Indo-Pacific concept has gained increasingly wider acceptance," he said.

*Continued on Page 4*

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar along with other Quad Foreign Ministers, in Tokyo, on Tuesday PTI

# SOP for reopening cinema halls from Oct 15 issued

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Information and Broadcasting Ministry on Tuesday issued strict Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) to re-open cinema theaters from October 15.

The SOP includes filling up only for 50 per cent capacity, keeping one seat vacant between the viewers, and maintaining temperature conditions.

The SOP bars serving cooked food of any kind and says only packaged food and beverages will be allowed for sale at refreshment points. The viewers will not be allowed to carry any food inside the cinema hall.

Releasing the SOP, Minister Prakash Javadekar said local authorities must ensure the guidelines are adhered to along with strict physical distancing norms.

In multi-halls, to prevent the crowding, the SOP has suggested staggered timing also. Mask wearing will be compulsory for viewers and staffers and theater mangers must ensure medical facilities if anybody is feeling uneasy.

"The highlights of the guiding principles include the general principles which have been given by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, including thermal screening of all visitors/staff, adequate physical distancing, use of face covers/masks, frequent hand washing, provision of hand sanitisers, etc and respiratory etiquettes specifically with regard to the exhibition of films," the I&B Ministry said.

Preparations underway at a cinema hall ahead of its reopening in Chennai PTI

The Ministry said it has formulated the general SOPs taking into consideration international practices notified in the sector, including physical distancing, entry and exit with designated queue markers, sanitisation, safety of staff, contact minimisation.

The SOP said there should be one seat vacant between the viewers and the vacant seat should be marked. The SOP also asked the local PWD authorities to ensure the temperature and air-conditioning norms.

"Temperature setting of all air conditioning devices should be in the range of 24-30°C. Relative humidity should be in the range of 40-70 per cent. Recirculation of air is to be avoided to the extent possible. Intake of fresh air should be as much as possible. Cross ventilation should be adequate," said the guidelines.

# Govt defers privatisation move; power staff end stir

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The power employees have withdrawn their indefinite strike as the Uttar Pradesh government has decided to defer the privatisation of Purvanchal Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited (PVVNL) for three months, till January 15, 2021.

Energy Minister Shrikant Sharma agreed to roll back the privatisation plan after talks with the leaders of power employees. However, the agreement could not be signed as UPPCL Chairman Arvind Kumar Singh refused to sign it on Monday, leading to breakdown of talks.

The government announced the decision here on Tuesday after Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath summoned the top officials of the UPPCL in the morning and took stock of the situation as the power employees had boycotted the work on Monday leading to disruption in thermal power generation and long hours of supply breakdowns in several districts as the employees refused to attend the faults in power distribution network.

The energy minister said that the strike by the power employees was not in public interest and causing disruption in power supply was illegal and unacceptable.

He urged the power employees to have patience and join their duties from Wednesday as the government was working for an amicable solution to the issues raised by the employees.

The work boycott by the power employees on Monday had seriously impacted power supply in 30 districts of eastern UP. The PVVNL, a wholly owned subsidiary of the UPPCL, controls and manages the power distribution in eastern UP districts.

The call for indefinite strike was given by Power Employees Joint Action Committee and UP Power Officers Association representing the Scheduled Caste and OBC employees of the UPPCL.

The disruption in power supply had created a water crisis in as many as 30 districts, including Lucknow. Power supply to the official residences of the chief minister and several ministers was also disrupted on Monday. At many places in Lucknow, the power supply breakdown was not attended to by the employees for over 20 hours.

The Union government's decision to fast-track the privatisation of power distribution companies had forced the power employees to go on indefinite strike.

The Centre had on September 23, released the standard bidding document (SBD) for the first time and uploaded it on its website. The

*Continued on Page 4*

# Inform by Oct 8 about steps to protect Hathras witnesses: SC

### Court describes crime as horrible, asks UP Govt about legal aid to victim's family; Govt says it favours a court-monitored CBI probe

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday directed the Uttar Pradesh Government to inform it by October 8 about the steps taken to protect witnesses in the Hathras horror case in which a Dalit girl was brutally raped following which she succumbed to injuries.

Describing the crime as "horrible", the court also asked the State Government about legal aid to the victim's family.

Hearing a PIL, a bench comprising Chief Justice SA Bobde and Justices AS Bopanna and V Ramasubramanian asked all parties appearing before it to give suggestions on the scope of proceedings before the Allahabad HC and how the SC can make it more relevant.

Police stand guard outside the residence of the 19-year-old Dalit woman who died after being gangraped at Bulgadi village in Hathras on Tuesday PTI

The State Government said it favoured a court-monitored CBI probe because fake narratives were being spread.

"Narratives after narratives being spread in Hathras case, this needs to be stopped," said Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the UP Government.

The CBI probe in Hathras case will ensure no vested interests will be able to create fake, false narrative with oblique motives, Mehta told the court.

Mehta said the State Government is not opposing the plea for a fair probe by the CBI or a Special Investigation Team and said "a young innocent girl has lost her life, but nobody should sensationalise it. Investigation should be fair, appear fair".

Senior Advocate Indira Jaising, appearing for a few intervenors, asked the top court to provide protection to the victim's family. Jaising said the

*Continued on Page 4*

## CAPSULE

### CONGRESS MIN DIVERTING PROJECT, SAYS SENA MP

**Mumbai:** Shiv Sena MP Vinayak Raut on Tuesday claimed Amit Deshmukh, Congress Minister in Maharashtra, is trying to divert a central project meant for Konkan to his home district Latur, an assertion disputed by the latter. Raut said the Ayush Ministry has finalised setting up the National Institute of Medicinal Plants at Sindhudurg in Konkan, but Deshmukh wrote to the Centre seeking to locate the project at Latur.

### NSCN(IM) WANTS PM TO HOLD PARLEYS ABROAD

**Dimapur:** The NSCN (IM) has demanded direct Involvement of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the talks to resolve the festering insurgency and insisted that the negotiations be held in a "third country".

# 5-fold spike in stubble burning set to choke north India

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

As if the Covid-19 pandemic wasn't enough, residents in north India, including Delhi-NCR, could well be heading for winters far more polluted than in the last three years. Satellites have detected an almost five-fold increase in the number of crop residue burning instances in Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh in the first week of October in 2020 than during the corresponding period since 2017 to 2019.

According to the Agriculture Ministry, satellites detected 208 incidents of farm fires on just a single day, October 5. Of them, 163 were detected in Punjab, 30 in Haryana and 15 in UP.

Between October 1 and 5, 894 paddy crop residue burning events have already been detected as compared to 184 in 2019, 263 in 2018 and 652 in 2017. Punjab is leading in farm fires with 700 events, followed by 146 in Haryana and 48 in UP. The number of burning events was highest on October 5 in Punjab in the last 4 years.

According to the Ministry, in Punjab, burning/fire events were concentrated in Amritsar, Tarn Taran, Patiala, Gurdaspur, Ferozepur, Ludhiana, Sangrur and Fatehgarh Sahib districts. Last year, only 79 events of farm fires were detected between October 1 and 5 in Punjab. The number of farm fires was 117 in 2018. On October 5, total 163 farm fires were reported while 16 in 2019, 56 in 2018, 106 in 2017 and 95 in 2016. This is despite the fact that the Punjab Government had spent more funds than Haryana and UP in the past two years on trying to get farmers implement farm waste management practices. But farmers say they do not have any option but to burn.

In Haryana and Uttar Pradesh, the burning events were scattered. As many as 86 farm fires events were detected in Haryana this year during the same period while 87 farm fires events were reported in 2019; 208 in 2018 and 100 in 20117. Most farm fires events were detected from Ambala, Kurukshetra, Kaithal, Jind and Fatehabad districts.

In UP, most farm fires events were detected from Sitapur, Meerut, Aligarh, Bareilly, Ghazipur, Sambhal, Shamli and Saharanpur districts.

"A sharp increase in stubble burning was observed around Punjab, Haryana, and neighbouring border regions. Boundary layer wind direction is favorable for transport (of pollutants). It will start impacting Delhi in the coming days," the System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting and Research (SAFAR) said.

Officials said that wind directions have changed to north-westerly and this will cause pollution to Delhi-NCR. Stubble burning causes a smog-like situation in Delhi-NCR every year post autumn, creating a health hazard for its residents.

Interestingly, the Supreme Court on Tuesday agreed to examine a suggestion that full Minimum Support Price (MSP) should be released to farmers only after a verification that they didn't burn stubble. The court posted the matter for further hearing to October 16 after SG Tushar Mehta said the Centre would file a reply on the issue."

# Hathras-bound Kerala scribe, 3 others held for PFI links

PTI ■ LUCKNOW/ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Uttar Pradesh Police has arrested a journalist and three other people in Mathura while they were on their way to Hathras, home to a Dalit woman who died after being allegedly gangraped.

The police had on Monday said it has arrested four people having links with the Popular Front of India and its affiliate in Mathura. The PFI had been accused of funding protests against the CAA earlier this year and the UP Police had sought a ban on the outfit.

*Continued on Page 4*

the pioneer
LUCKNOW | WEDNESDAY | OCTOBER 7, 2020



# 'Visionless opposition has nothing to offer'

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Hitting out at the "visionless opposition", Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Tuesday said that they had nothing to offer to the people hence they indulged in propaganda.

"The opposition can go to any extent to vitiate the atmosphere in the country and the recent incidents are testimony to this fact," Yogi said while virtually addressing the Bharatiya Janata Party office-bearers of booth division and sector of Ghatampur Assembly constituency where bypoll will be held on November 3.

Exhorting the BJP workers to publicise the achievements of the Centre and the state government as well as expose the opposition, he claimed that both the governments had done some historical works and they needed to be communicated to the masses.

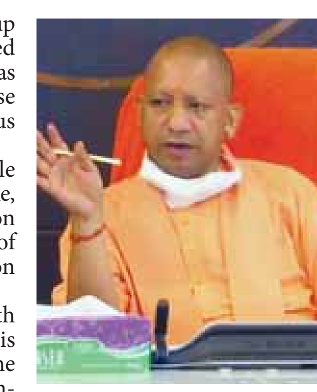
The chief minister asked the party workers to go for intensive mass contact after setting up booth committees. He insisted that the plank of development was always going to work in these changing times of coronavirus pandemic.

Yogi said that the people should be told that in the BJP rule, employment in the state was on the basis of transparent merit of the individual and not on region or caste basis.

"More than 3.5 lakh youth have secured jobs on this basis during the last three years," he said, adding that the same number of aspirants would get employment in the near future.

He further added that the government had proved that the criminals and mafias would not be allowed to raise their heads and they were running for shelter.

"Gone are the days of the previous jungle raj when industrialists wrapped up their businesses in the state. Instead, new investments are coming to the state. Improved law and order and



availability of infrastructure in terms of electricity and roads have added to the disadvantage of industrialists to come to Uttar Pradesh," he said.

The chief minister said that ever since Narendra Modi became the prime minister, some unprecedented development works had taken place in the country.

"In the times of global pandemic, his supervision and consistent support has proved to be extremely helpful," he said.

Yogi said the UP government ensured the return of over 40 lakh migrant workers from across the country during lockdown and made sure that their needs were taken care of by distributing food packets and providing required medical help to them.

"The UP government also made arrangements to bring back 1,000 students from different parts of the country and made them self-reliant by providing them employment through Ono District One Product initiative," he added.

Yogi also emphasised on the remarkable work done in Kanpur Nagar for making Ganga pollution-free, as the holy river was at the centre of people's belief.

BJP state president Swatantra Dev Singh, in an apparent attack on the opposition, said that they had not been able to digest the all-round development of the country because their agenda had never been development-oriented.

# Left leaders meet family members of Hathras victim

**Lucknow (PNS):** A joint delegation of Communist Party of India and CPI(M) on Tuesday met the family members of the 19-year-old Dalit girl who died in a Delhi hospital on September 29 after she was allegedly gang-raped in Hathras, and demanded an independent judicial inquiry into the matter.

The Left delegation, after their visit, said that the Dalit family members were scared of their safety ond were apprehensive of getting justice.

They demanded that the UP government work as per the Constitution and provide security and justice to the victim's family.

"Every citizen of the country has the constitutional right to get justice," they said, adding that the victim's family had demanded a judicial probe rather than the CBI investigation.

The Left parties demanded that as per the request of the family, the government should order for a probe by the sitting judge of the Supreme Court.

# Series of crimes rock UP

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

With the Uttar Pradesh Police busy in unearthing the alleged international conspiracy behind the recent Hathras trouble, more cases of rape, killing and other crimes poured in from different parts of the state during the last 24 hours.

In Aligarh, a six-year-old girl who was allegedly raped by her cousin in Jatoi area of the district, succumbed to her injuries in Safdarjung Hospital in New Delhi on Sunday, the day she was shifted there. However, her father did not bury the body to expose the police's negligence. The Aligarh police acted when the victim's father put the body and staged a demonstration on Tuesday, prompting the SSP of Aligarh to get the 11-year-old accused arrested and also place the station house officer of Iglas police station under suspension and order a departmental inquiry against him.

Surprisingly, the case was registered on September 21, four days after the rape, that too when the SSP intervened, but the cops initiated no action against the accused and also made no efforts to trace out the 15-year-old sister of the victim who was missing along with her aunt (also an accused in the case) since the registration of the case.

The aunt was absconding to avert her arrest but the cops had no answer why the sister also disappeared.

Both the victim and the missing girl were living with their aunt as their mother had expired in January this year.

ADM (Hathras) JP Singh told a news agency that since the day of rape incident, the maternal aunt and victim's sister were missing.

"Police are searching for the missing girl so that nothing bad happens to her," he said.

He also claimed that the administration had promised a compensation of Rs 5 lakh to the family.

In another sensational killing, a couple was hacked to death in Kushinagar. The killing took place some time late Monday night when the couple were sleeping in their house at Parsauni Bujurg hamlet of Tarya Sujan.

The bodies were found in pools of blood on Tuesday morning.

The police suspect the hands of Ramshankar, a listed criminal of the area, in he murder as the couple were witnesses against him in four criminal cases. In another incident, a girl received more than 80 per cent burns after efforts were made to burn her alive in Sitapur late Monday night.

SP of Sitapur, RP Singh, said that a girl hailing from Bhojipura area of Bareilly left her house to live with her lover, identified as Pratap of Shahjahanpur.

Her family members had married her with another youth but as she was in love with Pratap, she left her husband.

Singh claimed that the girl was pressurising Pratap to marry her so on Monday, her lover brought her to Sitapur assuring her of marriage but later with the help of his friend, Kaushal, poured kerosene over the girl and set her ablaze. However, some villagers of Piswa rushed to the girl's help and the accused escaped.

The victim was shifted to district hospital from where she was referred to Trauma Centre in Lucknow.

In Saharanpur also, Ramkumar Verma was burnt alive by unidentified miscreants. The body of Verma was found lying near Khudana Nahar in Nanauta area of the district on Tuesday morning. Police claimed to have formed a team to work out the case.

In Kaushambi, a 19-year-old woman was allegedly abducted from her village and raped by two youths, police said on Tuesday.

The woman was abducted on September 13 by the duo who are cousins. They took her to their relatives' place in the Paschim Sarira police station area and raped her, the victim's father alleged. She somehow managed to escape and returned home about a week back and told her family about the incident.

Her father said the local police refused to register an FIR. The family then approached Kaushambi's superintendent of police and after he intervened, an FIR was registered on Monday. In one more incident, a Dalit girl was allegedly raped by a man in Pratapgarh following which the accused was arrested, police said on Tuesday.

The incident took place on Sunday when the 17-year-old girl was sleeping in her house and the accused, identified as Chandrakesh Verma, entered her room through the terrace and raped her, police said. According to police, the girl was alone in the house at the time of the incident.

In another rape incident, a deaf and dumb girl was raped in Gorakhpur.

According to reports, the girl was alone in her house in Kewladabar hamlet on Monday evening when her neighbour, identified as Pintu, entered the house and taking advantage of the situation, raped her and escaped. The cops registered a case but the accused was not arrested.

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NOTICE

I have changed my name from Rubina Khalid Khan to Rubina Khan in all future purpose. Rubina Khan W/o Khalid Amin Khan, 105/221, Chamanganj, Kanpur.

NOTICE

I RAJ KUMARI, spouse of RAJENDRA KUMAR TIWARI, resident of 7/290 Vikas Nagar, Lucknow have changed my name from RAJ KUMARI to RAJKUMARI TIWARI as per Affidavit dated 05-10-2020.

सूचना

मैं वत्सल मेहरोत्रा पुत्र आलोक मेहरोत्रा निवासी एन–1 अलीगंज एस.एस. 14 अलीगंज, लखनऊ का हूँ सूचित करते हैं कि मेरे बैंक खाते में मेरा नाम मास्टर लव मेहरोत्रा अंकित है जब की वर्तमान में मेरा नाम वत्सल मेहरोत्रा पुत्र आलोक मेहरोत्रा है। (आधार कार्ड संख्या 21470672 5512) है उपरोक्त दोनों नाम मेरे ही हैं।

सूचना

मैं जूली रिजवी पत्नी बाकर जैगम रिजवी निवासिनी– 598–2, एल. आई.जी., एल.डी.ए. कालोनी टिकैत राय तालाब सहादतगंज लखनऊ यह घोषणा करती हूं कि मेरे शैक्षिक प्रमाणपत्र में मेरे पिता का नाम हसन मियां दर्ज है जबकि अन्य प्रपत्रों में कमर हुसैन दर्ज है। हसन मियां एवं कमर हुसैन दोनों एक ही व्यक्ति के नाम हैं। इसलिए दोनों नाम एक ही व्यक्ति के पढ़े व समझे जाये।

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आवश्यकता है
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गदनपुर हिच्छनपट्टी-आजमगढ़ में

स्ववित्तपोषित योजना अन्तर्गत विज्ञान संकाय के निम्नलिखित विषयों में रसायन विज्ञान 03 पद, भौतिक विज्ञान में 02 पद, गणित 02 पद, वनस्पति विज्ञान 02 पद, प्राणि विज्ञान में 02 पद पर प्रवक्ताओं की आवश्यकता है। वेतनमान यू0जी0सी0 उ0प्र0 सरकार एवं विश्वविद्यालय के परिनियमावली के अनुसार योग्य अभ्यर्थी विज्ञापन के 21 दिन के अन्दर महाविद्यालय के कार्यालय में रजिस्टर्ड डाक द्वारा आवेदन करें, साक्षात्कार की सूचना मोबाइल/रजिस्टर्ड डाक द्वारा दी जायेगी।
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# Villagers attack Banda BJP MLA

**Banda (PTI):** Local BJP MLA Raj Karan Kabir was allegedly attacked on Tuesday by some villagers here who had detained 17 trucks used for illegal sand mining, police said. The MLA said he was passing through the area and when he tried to get the traffic blockade lifted, he was attacked in which the window panes of his vehicle were damaged.

The incident took place in Devrar village in Naraini area where the villagers, led by Prempur village head Ram Dulare Rajput, had stopped the trucks involved in illegal sand mining, they said.

"When MLA Kabir was passing from there, he tried to get the blockade lifted after which the angry villagers attacked him. His vehicle was damaged but he did not sustain any injury," Circle Officer Siyaram said.

Senior officer immediately reached the spot and a probe is underway, he said, adding the trucks stopped by the villagers did not have valid documents for mining.

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NOTICE

I have change my name Babu Lal to Babu Lal Srivastava for future purpose Jathi Korwan Kaushambi

सूचना

मेरे पति, जिनका आर्मी नं0 6494360, Rank L/Nk Harendra Singh के सर्विस रिकार्ड में मेरा नाम की त्रुटिवश Sheema Devi तथा जन्मतिथि 18.05.1965 अंकित हो गया, जबकि मेरा सही नाम Seema Devi व जन्मतिथि 08.02.1986 है। इसे मेरे पति के सर्विस रिकार्ड में इसे अंकित किया जाये। सीमा देवी पत्नी हरेन्द्र सिंह, निवासी–ग्राम धनकाढ़ा, पो0–धौढाढ, धनकहीं, रोहतास, बिहार।

NOTICE

Be it known to all that I, Amartya Dayal S/o Mudit Mathur and Yamini Mathur (Mother), R/o - 1/4, Dalibagh, Officers Colony, Lucknow declare that I lost my class X pass cirtificate ICSE board New Delhi 2015 unique ID 6026357 Index No. 1154323/106. Any further uses of this would be unauthorized and illegal.

NOTICE

I, Indian Navy No. 119312-R Rank Ex - PO Vikash Saxena S/o Sri D.S. Saxena R/o H.No. 554/219/11A, Bhim Nagar, Gali No.-1, Alambagh, Lucknow declare that the date of birth of my wife Mrs.Pooja Saxena in my service record is wrongly mentioned as 10/10/1982 whereas her correct date of birth is 10/10/1983 for all purposes.

NOTICE

In my ICSE board 10th and 12th board cirtificate the name of my father is accidentally mentioned as INDER KISHORE and mother's name as PUSHPA KUSHWAHA while the correct name of my father is INDRA KISHORE KUSHWAHA and mother's name is PUSHPA DEVI. Himanshu Kushwaha S/o Indra Kishor Kushwaha, Tikauli, Distt - Unnao.

# CM Yogi directs officials to further improve Covid recovery rate

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has stressed upon paying more attention to the districts where 50 to 100 coronavirus positive cases are being reported daily and has directed officials to carry out relief and treatment work actively to control the COVID-19 infection.

The chief minister was presiding over a high-level Unlock review meeting at his official residence here on Tuesday . The chief minister also directed officials to pay special attention to Lucknow and Kanpur Nagar districts and improve the COVID-19 recovery rate.

He asked the chief secretary to intensively monitor the Covid situation in Lucknow and Kanpur Nagar districts and submit a report to his office. Directing officials to further strengthen the Integrated Command and Control Centre (ICCC), the chief minister said that it should be operated efficiently.

"The COVID-19 awareness programmes should be carried out actively and intensively. Carry on the cleanliness and sanitation work continuously. Anti-larva chemicals should be sprayed regularly," he said. The chief minister said that zero budget farming, which is now called the Indian Natural Farming, should be promoted.

"To ensure that the farmers do not face any problems at the paddy purchase centres, the payment of paddy procurement should be transferred to the bank accounts of the farmers within 72 hours," Yogi said.

The chief minister said that awareness should be spread against the demerits of burning husk and the pollution caused by it. He also said that the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyan should be packed up and carried out intensively. Directing officials to further increase the revenue of the state, the chief minister directed them to make more and more registrations under the goods and services tax (GST).

Altogether 3,663 fresh cases of COVID-19 were reported on Tuesday in Uttar Pradesh while 4,432 infected people recovered. Now the tally of confirmed positive cases in the state has reached 4,20,937 of which 3,70,753 have recovered and 44,031 are admitted in the hospitals or are in home isolation.

The recovery percentage in the state has also increased to 88.07 per cent. Additional Chief Secretary (Health) Amit Mohan Prasad said now all the government hospitals were functioning normally and were holding OPD regularly.

He said on Monday, 1,56,336 samples were tested and now the total Covid tests in the state had reached 1,10,44,860.

Prasad said there were 20,647 asymptomatic patients in home isolation while 3,513 COVID-19 patients were admitted in private hospitals and the rest were recovering in government-run Covid hospitals. Over 4.3 lakh surveillance teams have covered 1,32,391 areas of the state and visited 2.62 crore houses to check the health of over 12.99 crore people.

# Maya: Extend justice victim's family, instead of targeting opposition

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Bahujan Samaj Party chief Mayawati on Tuesday yet again attacked the Yogi Adityanath government in Uttar Pradesh over the "'mishandling'" of Hathras case, saying to prevent such occurrences, strict actions are a must.

She also advised that the government must concentrate on extending justice to the victim's family instead of leveling charges on opposition parties.

Mayawati, in two Hindi tweets, said, "The entire country is annoyed with the inhuman attitude of police towards the victim's family. The state government should rectify its mistake and provide justice to the aggrieved family or would be tough to prevent such occurrences in future."

She further said, "The government's allegation about conspiracy of caste and communal clashes against the backdrop of the Hathras incidents is correct or just a poll gimmick would unfold in the coming days. But focus now should be on the victim family getting justice at the moment."

On Monday too, the BSP president had tweeted that they were the first to meet the victim's family when the gangrape took place. She says that the lathi-charge, manhandling done by the Police is condemnable. The Yogi government should mend its autocratic ways. The roots of democracy are being threatened, she further added. The BSP leaders had met the victim's family on September 28 to know the actual details of the case. Hathras has turned into a political battlefield and politicians are on queue up to meet the victim's family.

### CONG CONTINUES FIGHT AGAINST NEW FARM LAWS

Mounting a fresh attack on Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led Central government, Uttar Pradesh Congress president Ajay Kumar Lallu on Tuesday said that three laws recently passed by Parliament had been imposed on the country's farmers to hand over the agriculture sector to capitalists but his party would not let it happen under any circumstances.

The Congress had launched a nation-wide movement against the farm laws under the leadership of Rahul Gandhi, Lallu said on Tuesday, adding that there was massive response to the Kisan Nyay Yatra in Uttar Pradesh and in other parts of the country.

The UPCC chief said the party organised a tractor rally from Budhana Mor in Muzaffarnagar to expose the three "black" farm laws of the Central government on Tuesday morning.

He said that these legislations aimed at promoting corporate farming and benefiting capitalists.

# Key pact signing for ₹29,560 crore Jewar airport today

**Noida (PTI):** The signing of a key agreement, which got delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, for the Rs 29,560 crore Jewar airport will take place on Wednesday, officials said.

The 'concession agreement' for the greenfield project will be signed between developer Zurich Airport International AG and the Yamuna International Airport Private Limited and the Noida International Airport Limited (NIAL), the officials said on Tuesday.

Restriction on flight services due to COVID-19 outbreak and subsequent lockdown has twice led to the extension of the date for signing of the concessionaire agreement between selected developer and the state government agencies for the project, according to officials.

NIAL's officer on special duty Shailendra Bhatia confirmed to PTI that the agreement for the international airport is scheduled to be signed at 1 pm on Wednesday.

On November 29 last year, Swiss firm Zurich Airport emerged as the highest bidder to develop the Jewar airport on the outskirts of Delhi in Gautam Buddh Nagar district of UP, outbidding competitors like Adani Enterprises, DIAL and Anchorage Infrastructure Investments Holding, officials said.

The entire project will be spread over 5,000 hectares and is estimated to cost Rs 29,560 crore, the officials said.

Once completed, the airport, which will be the third in the national capital region after Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport and Ghaziabad's Hindon Airport, is touted to have six to eight runways, the maximum in India, they said.

The first phase of the airport would be spread over 1,334 hectares and is expected to be completed by 2023 at a cost of Rs 4,588 crore, the officials said.

**Superintending Engineer, Rural Engineering Department Circle-Kanpur**
**PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJANA (PMGSY)**
**Corrigendum Notice**

Letter no.: 610/RED/Corrigendum/Bond Clerk/File No/CNB Circle/2020-21 Dated : 30-09-2020

In reference of this office e-Procurement Notice no. 524/RED/Bond Clerk/File No./CNB Circle/2020-21 Dated : 17-09-2020 inviting e-tender for PMGSY district : Farrukhabad renewal of roads construction of Groups no, UP2403R and UP2404R. Due to some unavoidable reason some important dates are amend as follows :

1. Date of release of Invitation for Bids through e-procurement **30-09-2020**
2. **Availability of Bid Documents and mode of submission:**
   a. The bid document shall be available online from **30/09/2020 to 21/10/2020** and should be submitted online in http://pmgsytendersup.gov.in
3. **Last Date/Time for receipt of bids through e-procurement : 21/10/2020 upto 12:00 Noon and the technical qualification part of the bid shall be opened the sameday from 1:00 PM** in the **Superintending Engineer, Superintending Engineer, RED Circle-Kanpur.**
   **Rest remains unchanged.**

For further details please log on to http://pmgsytendersup.gov.in

U.P.: 155688, Date : 06.10.2020
विज्ञापन वेबसाईट **www.up.gov.nic.in** पर उपलब्ध है।

Superintending Engineer
Rural Engineering Department
Circle - Kanpur

**कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता सीतापुर/खीरी वृत्त, लो0नि0वि0, सीतापुर**

पत्रांक :– 3278/352सी/ई–टेण्डर–सी०खी0/20–21 दिनांक :– 29/09/2020

**ई–टेण्डरिंग निविदा सूचना**

महामहिम राज्यपाल, उ0प्र0 की ओर से उ0प्र0 लोक निर्माण विभाग में भवन कार्यों हेतु "ए" श्रेणी में पंजीकृत, केन्द्रीय सरकार या राज्य सरकार या सरकारी/अर्द्ध सरकारी उपक्रमों में भवन कार्यों में पंजीकृत निविदादाताओं से ई–टेण्डरिंग के माध्यम से नीचे दर्शाये गये कार्य हेतु निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

| क्र० स० | जनपद/खण्ड का नाम | कार्य का नाम | लागत (लाख में) | धरोहर धनराशि (लाख में) | निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य समस्त कर सहित (रू० में) | कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि (वर्षा ऋतु सहित) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 1 | सीतापुर/नि0खं0–1 | जनपद सीतापुर में स्थित 27वीं वाहिनी पीएसी सीतापुर में 200 व्यक्तियों की क्षमता की बैरक का निर्माण कार्य। | 850.00 | 17.00 | 2715.0 | 02 वर्ष (वर्षा ऋतु सहित) |

बिड डाक्यूमेन्ट वेबसाइट **http://etender.up.nic.in** पर **दिनांक 08.10.2020 से 28.10.2020** तक उपलब्ध है जो कि **दिनांक 28.10.2020** को **समय दोपहर 12:00 बजे** तक अपलोड किये जा सकते है। इसकी तकनीकी बिड **दिनांक 29.10.2020 को दोपहर बाद 02:00 बजे** खोली जायेगी।
निविदा से सम्बन्धित अधिक जानकारी वेबसाइट http://etender.up.nic.in पर उपलब्ध है।

**हेल्प लाईन (टोल फ्री) नम्बर 1800–1215–707**

(आर0के0 हरदहा)
अधीक्षण अभियन्ता
सीतापुर/खीरी वृत्त/लो0नि0वि0, सीतापुर

उ0प्र0 155700 दिनांक 6.10.2020 विज्ञापन वेबसाइट www.upgov.nic.in पर उपलब्ध है।

**इलाहाबाद उच्च न्यायालय, लखनऊ पीठ, लखनऊ**

संख्या–5690/Admin./2020 **विज्ञप्ति** दिनांक–06/10/2020

इलाहाबाद उच्च न्यायालय की लखनऊ खण्डपीठ में अधिवक्ताओं के क्लर्क्स (पंजीकरण एवं चरित्र) नियमावली, 1997 के नियम 7 के अन्तर्गत होने वाली वर्ष 2020 की परीक्षा में सम्मलित होने हेतु प्रार्थना पत्र आमन्त्रित किये जाते हैं। एडवोकेट्स क्लर्क के रूप में अपना पंजीकरण कराने हेतु इच्छुक आवेदक अपना प्रार्थना–पत्र निर्धारित प्रपत्र पर भरकर प्राधिकृत अधिकारी को भेज सकते हैं।

प्रार्थना पत्र (निर्देश प्रपत्र सहित) पास अनुभाग (निकट गेट नम्बर–6) से रू0 20/– नकद का भुगतान करके प्राप्त किया जा सकता है। प्रार्थना पत्र दिनांक 12.10.2020 से 31.10.2020 तक किसी भी कार्य दिवस में पास अनुभाग से दोपहर 02.00 बजे से 04.30 बजे तक प्राप्त किया जा सकता है।

प्रार्थना पत्र को पूर्णतया भरकर पास अनुभाग में जमा करने की अन्तिम तिथि दिनांक 02.11.2020 (सायं 04.30 बजे तक) है। अन्तिम तिथि के उपरान्त प्राप्त किसी भी प्रार्थना पत्र पर विचार नहीं किया जाएगा। परीक्षा तिथि दिनांक 05.12.2020 को निर्धारित की गयी है जोकि अपरिहार्य परिस्थितियों में परिवर्तित की जा सकती है।

यह परीक्षा केवल पैनल बनाने हेतु आयोजित की जा रही है। मात्र पैनल में सम्मलित होने से कोई भी आवेदक, उच्च न्यायालय में, किसी प्रकार के सेवायोजन अथवा किसी अधिवक्ता से पारितोषिक प्राप्त करने का अधिकारी नहीं होगा, जब तक कोई अधिवक्ता उसे अपने क्लर्क के रूप में सम्बद्ध न कर ले।

वरिष्ठ निबन्धक
उच्च न्यायालय
लखनऊ खण्डपीठ

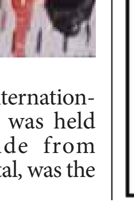
उ0प्र0 155706, दिनांक–06.10.2020
विज्ञापन वेबसाईट **www.up.gov.nic.in** पर उपलब्ध है।

## CITYBRIEFS

### SEAT ALLOTMENT

Lucknow University announced allotment of seats to candidates who participated in the online off-campus counselling for some courses. LU spokesperson Durgesh Srivastava said the seat allotment for BCA, BVA, BFA, BJMC, BSc (Agriculture) and Shastri programmes is now available on candidate logins. "All candidates who have been allotted a seat will have to deposit the confirmation fee through the LU portal. Details of fee amount deposited are given on the counselling guidelines. The seat confirmation fee can be deposited from October 8 to 12 through online mode," he said. He added that candidates who have not been allotted their first choice can opt for upgradation. The result of upgradation and second allotment will be declared on October 14.

### PHD VIVA-VOCE



The PhD viva-voce of Vaidehi Singh on 'Classical and Bayesian Inferential Procedures in Various Life Testing Models' was held at the department of Statistics, Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University. She has completed PhD under the guidance of Prof Surinder Kumar. During research work, she has published more than eight research papers in various journals of national and international repute. The viva-voce was held online. Prof MK Pande from Kumaun University, Nainital, was the external examiner.

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Printed and Published by Vijay Prakash Singh for and on behalf of CMYK Printech Ltd., 4th Floor, Sahara Shopping Centre, Faizabad Road, Lucknow-226016 and Printed at Tin Tin Printech Pvt Ltd., C-33 Amausi Industrial Area, Nadarganj, Lucknow. Editor: Chandan Mitra. Resident Editor: Vijay Prakash Singh. RNI No. 2016/57. Lucknow Telephones: EPABX: 4036600 Fax: 2345582. Allahabad Office: (0532) 2420818, 2421018, 3290460. Kanpur Office: (0512) 2304006, 2304416. Varanasi Office: (0542) 2414294, 2414295. Delhi Office: No. 6, Behind Gulab Bhawan, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi-110 002, Phone: 011-40110455. Communication Office: F-31, Sector 6, NOIDA, Gautam Budh Nagar-201301, U.P. Phone: 0120-4879800 & 4879900

# Focused containment in Alambagh, Gomtinagar

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

With Alambagh and Gomtinagar witnessing more cases, focused containment activities were carried out in these areas and Aliganj on Tuesday. A senior official at the CMO office said more than 50 cases had emerged from these areas on Monday, hence they were being monitored effectively.

Additional Chief Secretary, Finance, Sanjeev Kumar Mittal was admitted to SGPGI after he tested positive for coronavirus on Tuesday. Mittal was sitting beside Finance Minister Suresh Khanna on Monday while sharing details of revenue collection by the state government till September. Official sources said the charge of the finance department could be assigned to some other officer till Mittal returns to work.

Health officials also visited these areas to carry out an inspection of how the teams were moving, what was the quality of work, what were the preparations and what was the room for improvement in the containment activity.

He said there were 4-5 areas in the city with zero cases. "We will shift the staff from these areas to Gomtinagar and Alambagh for surveillance work. In Aliganj, we brought rapid response teams from silent areas and increased their number from 13 to 20," he said.

Regarding the eruption of dengue cases in Lucknow, he said they were having only one-fourth of the cases seen last year. "There are 20 cases of dengue currently in the city and there is one pocket where there are seven cases and we will be working in these areas," he said.

He added that dengue and Covid could lead to major complications in a patient. The official said that for handling dengue, they had teams from the Malaria department that carry out anti-larvae activity and water stagnation. These teams are working separately from the Covid teams.

Meanwhile, in the new Covid hospital of KGMU at the Rehabilitation Limb Centre, light music is played for Covid patients. A senior faculty member said it was done to relieve anxiety and depression which the patients could be facing. He said they would study the data to see if it was actually making a difference. Director of Balrampur Hospital Dr Rajeev Lochan said their testing capacity for coronavirus samples had gone up to 400 per day and that they were equipped to take more samples for testing with a large number of technicians that they had in their lab. "It all depends on how many samples are provided to us," he said. A team from the hospital met Health Minister JP Singh on Tuesday for setting up a Cath lab and the minister promised all help.

Meanwhile, spokesperson of Ram Manohar Lohia Institute of Medical Sciences Dr Shrikesh Singh said the number of Covid patients had declined but there were severe patients.

"Nearly, 15-20 per cent of the critical patients are from neighbouring districts such as Sitapur, Hardoi and Barabanki. They probably come here because of mental satisfaction of getting treatment from a premier institute," he said. He added that the hospital had given services to people even in the lockdown period.

## 428 test positive, 539 recover

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

As many as 428 persons tested positive for coronavirus in Lucknow on Tuesday while 539 patients recovered, taking the total number of recoveries to 49,410. There have been 754 deaths in Lucknow till now while there are 5,553 active cases in the district.

A senior official at the CMO office said the patients included 38 from Gomtinagar 34 from Indiranagar, 28 from Rae Bareli road, 24 from Ashiyana, 22 from Aliganj, 19 from Cantt, 18 each from Chinhat & Talkatora, 17 from Jankipuram, 16 from Alambagh, 15 from Chowk, 14 from Madiaon, 13 from Mahanagar, 12 from Hazratganj and 11 from Sarojininagar.

There were four deaths in the district and the victims included two from Lucknow and one each from Lakhimpur Kheri and Ayodhya. There were three deaths at KGMU, including that of a 41-year-old man from Bihar, a 55-year-old man from Rajajipuram and an 8-day-old infant from Ayodhya.

In the state, 3,663 persons tested positive, including 168 in Kanpur, 191 in Prayagraj, 158 in Gorakhpur and 185 in Ghaziabad, taking the tally to 4,20,937. There were 61 deaths in the state, taking the toll to 6153. Besides, 4,432 patients recovered, taking the total number of recoveries to 3,70,753 while there are 44,031 active cases in the state.

Senior police officers conducting a route march ahead of Chehellum in an old city area on Tuesday — Pioneer

# WHO recognises white paper on ivermectin

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

A white paper on ivermectin, which was prepared by Dr Surya Kant from KGMU's Respiratory Medicine department and other national experts, has been recognised by WHO which displayed it on its website. Dr Surya Kant said ivermectin can also be used for viral illnesses apart from its anti-parasitic use.

"Several laboratories have confirmed its efficacy against Covid-19. It results in a decrease of Covid-associated morbidity and mortality. Ivermectin prevents entry of coronavirus into cells and nucleus. It also prevents multiplication of the virus. It acts synergistically with doxycycline and hydroxychloroquine," he said.

He said that about 40 clinical trials are still going on upon usage of ivermectin in Covid -19 treatment and prevention. Dr Surya Kant and other experts published a white paper on ivermectin, key highlights of which have been displayed on the WHO website.

Dr Surya Kant said the UP government had issued an order on August 6 on the use of ivermectin for the prophylaxis treatment of Covid-19.

"UP became the first state in India to implement this," he said. Dr Surya Kant also said that ivermectin should be used in asymptomatic, mild and moderate cases of Covid-19 and for prophylaxis of health care workers involved in care of Covid-19 patients and their contacts. It is a highly safe drug. However, it should not be used in pregnant, lactating women and children below a certain age" he added.

Ivermectin has been used in India and world for filaria and other parasitic infestation for the last 40 years. This drug has proven its excellent potency in illnesses like river blindness and filaria. For this reason, its discoverers, Dr Satoshi Omura from Japan and Dr William C Campwell from America, were awarded the prestigious Nobel Prize in 2015.

## SOPs for pvt schools submitted with DM

**Lucknow (PNS):** President of Unaided Private Schools' Association Anil Agarwal met District Magistrate Abhishek Prakash and submitted the SOPs and consent forms for parents in connection with the opening of schools from October 15. He said they have suggested the opening of class X & class XII only from October 15 and class IX & class XI from Diwali onwards. Suggestions have been made for complete sanitisation with sodium hypochlorite by designated individuals wearing proper kits at the start and end.

"All classrooms and halls also have to be sanitised with proper protocols. No entry will be allowed without thermal scanning and sanitisers at the gates. No entry of students will be allowed without masks. Latex gloves are also recommended. Students will go directly to classes assigned and remain there for the entire duration. There will be no lunch break," he said.

He said toilets would be used sparingly and only one student at a time would be allowed to leave the class. "We recommend students carrying their own water bottles," he added. He said school would not be responsible for personal transport. "Vans and buses will be operational only where possible and schools will not be held liable. All protocols of transport will be followed where used. Only bicycles will be allowed in the campus where it is possible and scooties, motorcycles will not be allowed," he added.

# BSIP to estimate number of corona cases through sewage samples

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeosciecnes (BSIP) is studying the sewage samples of two STPs in the city to estimate the actual number of coronavirus cases in the city. Covid lab incharge and senior scientist Niraj Rai said it would give a fairly accurate number of cases in the city. He said it would give more accurate results as compared to testing.

"If you do 2,000 tests, you will get 700-800 positive results but it will give us the real numbers which can go up to few lakhs and not thousands," he said.

He said they had collected the samples from the Bharwara STP in Gomtinagar and Chowk STP which cover a major population of the city.

He said they had collected the samples during the peak, which was in the second and third week of September. "We have collected the data and we are analysing the samples," he said.

Rai said the virus goes into the sewage through the faecal matter. "One can check the strains in the samples through which a very accurate estimate can be made. We have collected the water samples from the STPs and quantified the strains which can give the number of cases," he said.

He added that one group of scientists from south had done a similar work and already submitted the paper. "In our study, we are covering 80 per cent of the population and we will be the second group of scientists to be conducting the study," he said. He added that the methodology includes extracting the viral RNA and then sequencing it.

# Family held hostage, robbers decamp with cash, valuables

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

A group of robbers held a family hostage at the knifepoint and decamped with Rs 1.25 lakh in cash, a motorcycle, mobile phone and ornaments in Vikalp Khand under Chinhat police station area on the intervening night of Monday and Tuesday.

Police registered a case under Section 459 of IPC (whilst committing lurking house-trespass or house-breaking, causes grievous hurt to any person or attempts to cause death or grievous hurt to any person) in this connection.

It was the second case registered under section 459 of IPC after one which was registered in Banthra on September 28 when housebreakers had killed a woman, identified as Deepika Trivedi of Gaitipur village in the area.

As per reports, the miscreants scaled the boundary wall to enter the house of Uday Pratap Singh of Vikalp Khand-3 in the area. Singh is the retired senior food inspector.

Around 3 am, the miscreants started collecting goods from Singh's house and due to commotion, Singh woke up and challenged the miscreants. He also raised an alarm to alert other family members and to seek help from neighbours. However, it failed to deter the miscreants and one of them attacked him with a knife.

Singh tried to take evasive action and he suffered injuries on his hand. The thieves then locked others in a bathroom and decamped with cash, motorcycle, mobile phone and other valuables. Singh's brother Santosh Singh lodged a case, stating details of the incident. As the news broke in the morning, the social media was flooded with the news of dacoity in the area.

However, the Lucknow police claimed that it was a case of theft and not dacoity or robbery. Police spokesman AK Dwivedi said it was a case of theft and a case was registered on the complaint of victim's brother. He said a sub-inspector had been assigned the probe. Sources said it was the second case in which the house owner/inmate was attacked by thieves or robbers at the house. Earlier, the police had registered a case under section 459 of IPC saying thieves had choked the woman to death during theft at her house in Banthra.

### YOUTH FOUND HANGING

A youth, identified as Ghanshyam (20) of sector-3 colony in Jankipuram, was found hanging at his house on Tuesday. Though police said the youth ended his life, no suicide note was recovered from the scene.

Ghanshyam was found hanging from the ceiling with a saree tied around his neck. After he did not wake up in the morning, his mother Dharmpati went to wake him up but found the doors bolted from inside. As Ghanshyam did not respond, Dharmpati sought help from neighbours who broke open the doors, only to find him hanging. The police said Ghanshyam's father Guru Dayal works with Nirman Nigam. The body was sent for autopsy and further investigation was started.

## Four arrested on murder charges

**Lucknow (PNS):** The Cantonment police arrested four miscreants involved in the murder of a vegetable vendor. Those arrested were identified as Mohammed Alam and his sons — Mohammed Azam, Mohammed Alam and Mohammed Altaf (all of Arjunganj) — in Cantonment police station area. The deceased was identified as Mithun Kumar Lodhi. The police said Mithun had a brawl with Mohammed Nafis on putting up a vegetable stall. As the brawl escalated, Nafis and his sons attacked Mithun, who was all alone. He suffered grievous injuries and was rushed to a hospital where he succumbed to injuries.

### SUSPENDED

DG (Prison) Anand Kumar ordered suspension of Lucknow jail pharmacist Shailendra Kumar Singh and warden Sushil Kumar Mishra on Tuesday for their alleged involvement in corrupt practices. According to PRO, DG (Prison), the action was taken after a sting operation carried out by a news channel, according to which the above-named officials allowed jail inmates treatment outside the jail premises in unauthorisedly.


**UCO BANK**
ZONAL OFFICE: B-1/122, Vineet Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow-226010

**E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE**
(Under SARFAESI Act, 2002)

Whereas the Authorised Officer of UCO Bank under the Securitisation & Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002 & in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with the relevant rules, of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notice, calling upon the borrower(s)/guarantor(s) to repay the amount mentioned in the notices with in 60 days from the date of receipt of the said respective notice.

The borrower(s)/guarantor(s) has failed to repay the amount mentioned in the respective notices, notice is hereby given to the following borrower(s)/guarantor(s) & the public in general that the Authorised Officer has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of power conferred on him under section 13(4) of the said Act, with relevant rules, on the dates mentioned against each of the following borrower(s)/guarantor(s) of property.

The borrower(s) in particular & the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with under noted property and any dealing with under noted property will be subject to the charge of UCO Bank for the amount mentioned here in below along with interest and other charges, etc, thereon.

Now Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s) & the public in general is hereby informed that Authorised officer has decided to sell the properties by Inviting Bids Online on 13.11.2020. Sale of the properties will be done with "As is where is" & "As is what is" & "Whatever there is basis" & "Without recourse Basis"

| SL. No. | Name, Address of Borrower(s), Account & Branch Name | Amount Outstanding | Description of Property and Owner of the Secured Assets | Reserve Price /Earnest Money (Rs.) | Date of Demand Notice Date of Publication/ Acknowledgement Possession Date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | **M/s J.K. Group, Prop:** Durgesh Kumar Chaurasiya S/o Ram Achal Chaurasiya, R/o: H. No. 620, Bawan Bujurg Balla, Maharajganj, Raebareli. **A/c No.** 28530510002605 **Branch:** Bawan Bujurg Balla | 5,23,253.00 + Interest + Other Expenses | Gata No. 321, situated at village - Bawan Bujurg Balla, Tehsil - Maharajganj, Distt - Raebareli. Owner: Durgesh Chaurashia & Jitesh Chaurashia S/o Shri Ram Achal, Boundary: North : Maharajganj to Bachhrawan Road, South – Khet of Ram Prasad Bari, East – Shop of Bal Karan, West- Shop of Prakash, Area: 600 Sq. ft. | 7,16,000.00<br>71,600.00 | 11.05.2017<br>15.11.2019 |
| 2. | **M/s Hari Om Bartan Bhandar, Prop.** Surendra Kumar S/o Vinod Kumar, R/o: Ward No - 08, Prakash Nagar, Maharajganj, Raebareli. **A/c No.** 28530510001868 **Branch:** Bawan Bujurg Balla | 4,24,619.25 + Interest + Other Expenses | Ward no - 08, Anand Nagar, Maharajganj, Distt - Raebareli. Owner: Aneeta W/o Shri Surendra Kumar, Boundary: North : Road to Daneshwar, South – Paver Block Road (Gali then House Ram Kumar Chaurasiya), East – Road Daneshwar, West- Plot of Smt Sweeli, Area: 194.77 Sq. ft. | 7,00,000.00<br>70,000.00 | 06.06.2019<br>28.08.2019 |
| 3. | **Mrs. Santosh** **Guarantor:** Shiva Kant Trivedi. **A/c No.** 22810510002582 **Branch:** Raebareli | 10,37,225.84 + Interest + Other Expenses | Property Situated at Residential Property, Plot Khation No 260, 105 - Sulatanpur, Janvali, Dalmau, Raebareli. Owner: Mrs. Santosh W/o Shri Shiva Kant, Boundary: North : Concrete Road, South – Sharad Ram Nagar, East – Khet of Rameshwar, West- Khet of Bhim Singh, Area: 2350 Sq. ft. | 5,70,000.00<br>57,000.00 | 14.09.2016<br>24.03.2017 |

Terms & Conditions: - (1) The auction sale will be "online e-auction" bidding through website www.bankeauctionwizard.com on 13.11.2020 between 12:30 P.M. to 1:30 P.M. with unlimited Extentions of 5 Minutes each. (2) Last date for submission of online bids is 08.11.2020. (3) Earnest Money Deposit EMD shall be deposited through RTGS/NEFT Fund Transfer to Credit of Account Number 14200210001233, Authorised Officer, UCO Bank, Lucknow, IFSC Code No.- UCBA0001420. (4) The intending purchaser can inspect the property on 05.11.2020 at 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. by contacting the concerned branch. (5) The successful bidder shall have to pay 25% of the purchase amount (including the earnest money) already paid, immediately on closure of the E-Auction Sale proceedings on the same day of the Sale in the same mode as stipulated in clause 3 above. The balance 75% of the purchase price shall have to be paid within 15 days of acceptance/confirmation of sale conveyed to them. The bid increment value will be Rs.20,000 and in multiples thereof. (6) The Authorised Officer reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the Bid(s)/Offer(s) or adjourn/postpone/cancel the Auction Sale without assigning any reason thereof. (7) The aforesaid property shall not be sold below the Reserve Price mentioned. (8) In default of payment of balance amount of 75% of the bid amount within the stipulated period, i.e. 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale, the deposit amount (25% of bid amount inclusive of EMD) shall be forfeited and the property shall be resold and the defaulting purchaser shall forfeit all claims to the property or to any part of the sum for which it may be subsequently sold. (9) Intending bidders are advised to conduct search in Revenue / SRO records to satisfy title, identity, extent, dimensions, survey number, door number, boundaries or encumbrances in regar to the property proposed to be sold.(10) This Publication is only an abridged form of notice, Bidders are advised to go through the website: www.bankeauctionwizard.com for detailed terms and conditions of auction sale before submitting their bids and taking part in e-auction sale proceeding or Please Contact (M/s Antares Systems Limited, Mr. Kushal Bose 07686913157, Mr. Tousik Ghosh: 09674758724, mail id; kushal.b@antaressytems.com/tousik.g@antaressytems.com and for any property related query may contact for property, Serial Nos 1&2, Ms. Rashmi, Manager, Bawan Bujurg Balla, Branch Mob - 9839643293, email id (babuba@ucobank.co.in), for SL No. 3, Mr. Rakesh, Senior Manager, Raibareli, Branch Mob - 9950873256, email id (raebar@ucobank.co.in), Authorised Officer, Uco Bank - 0522 - 4937677, 8100026161, zolucknow.rec@ucobank.co.in, During office hours of all working days (II) The Bank has designated its Branch Office at Raibareli, Bawan Bujurg Balla & Zonal office Lucknow as facilitation center to help intending bidders in putting the bid on line.******)

(FOR DETAILED TERM AND CONDITION PLEASE VISIT WEBSITE www.bankeauctionwizard.com)

This Notice is also to be treated as 30 days statutory sale notice to borrower and Guarantor (L/Rs) Under Rule 8(6) Security Interest (Enforcement), Rules 2002.

Date: 07.10.2020 Place: Lucknow Authorised Officer, UCO Bank, Lucknow Zonal Office


## 5-day workshop at BBAU

**Lucknow (PNS):** The AICTE Atal-sponsored five-day workshop at Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University (BBAU) is being organised by the department of Information Technology. At the inauguration ceremony on Tuesday, Vice-Chancellor Acharya Sanjay Singh said that in this period of epidemic, online training is the need of the hour for teachers and for students and that such programmes help in connecting people. Dean and director of workshop RA Khan said that to sustain world-class education, teachers and students must join such training programmes. Dhirendra Pandey informed the participants about BBAU's programme. There was a panel discussion in which Prabudh Chaturvedi from Delhi, Ramanuja Pandey from Bengaluru and Ravi Prakash Pandey from Ayodhya took part.

# Software engineer in police net for sexually exploiting Nepali woman

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

A software engineer was arrested along with a woman accomplice for raping and blackmailing a Nepali woman. The woman was forced to leave the city after which she shifted to Nagpur, where she lodged a case in this connection. The Chinhat police arrested the accused and his aide as the crime had taken place there in 2018.

The accused, identified as Praveen Kumar Yadav of Sultanpur, worked as a software engineer in Saudi Arab. His aide was identified as Sufi Vishwakarma of Semra locality in Chinhat. Both were arrested on Monday night.

As per reports, the Nepali woman was staying at Krishna Apartment along with Sufi and was working with a company. Sufi got acquainted with the Nepali woman and later duped her of Rs 1.5 lakh.

THE WOMAN WAS FORCED TO LEAVE THE CITY AFTER WHICH SHE SHIFTED TO NAGPUR, WHERE SHE LODGED A CASE IN THIS CONNECTION

Sufi had earlier introduced the Nepali woman to Praveen Kumar Yadav and both interacted through video calling frequently. She shared the issue with Praveen, who assured her help. He later visited Lucknow and started sexually exploiting her. In her complaint at a police station in Nagpur, the woman alleged that Praveen spiked her drinks at her flat and then raped her. Praveen filmed the incident and started blackmailing her. He made the video viral and forced her to leave the city. The woman shifted to Nagpur and shared her ordeal with a friend there. Later, she lodged a complaint against the accused. The FIR was transferred to Chinhat. A police team worked on the case and arrested the accused.

# SSR case: Rhea custody extended till October 20

**TN RAGHUNATHA** ■ MUMBAI

A Special court here on Tuesday extended the judicial custody of actress Rhea Chakraborty in the Sushant Singh Rajput-related drug case till October 20, even as Rhea's family's family lawyer Satish Maneshinde charged that the actor's family and their lawyers were "interfering and tampering" with the investigations.

The special court also extended the remand of Rhea's brother, Showik Chakraborty, and others till October 20.

In a related development, the Bombay High Court –which had on September 29 reserved its verdict on the bail pleas of Rhea, Showik and others in the same case – is expected to deliver its order on Wednesday.

Meanwhile, Rhea's family lawyer Satish Maneshinde charged that Sushant's family and their lawyers were "interfering and tampering" with the investigations, by raising doubts about the probe carried out by the CBI and the forensic report submitted to it by the All India Institute of Medical Science (AIIMS) which has ruled out murder in the Sushant death and said it was a clear case of "suicide".

Maneshinde's statement came on the day when the Special court extended Chakrabortys' judicial custody by another fortnight i.e., till October 20.

" The CBI is independently and impartially investigating both the cases and the agency is supposed to be insulated and free from any interference," Maneshinde said.

"It is disturbing to learn that the family of SSR and its lawyers are interfering and tampering with the investigations by bringing pressure on the AIIMS team of doctors by speaking to them during investigations and releasing purported audio recorded conversations and information to the media in order to bring pressure and tamper with potential witnesses," Maneshinde said.

"The SSR family lawyer (Vikas Singh) is supposed to have said that he is going to meet the CBI Director to get the family's pre-determined path of investigations in SSR death. It is very disturbing to read such information in the media as attempts are being made to get a pre-determined result in the case," Maneshinde said. "Any further attempts to interfere and tamper with the investigations would be brought to the notice of the appropriate courts, Maneshinde added.

It may be recalled that Rhea was arrested on September 8, after 19-long hours of grilling carried out during a span of three days. Her brother Showik had been arrested five days earlier.

## Combative Rahul says won't back down on farm laws

### Dares PM to come to Punjab to convince farmers

**Patiala/Kurukshetra:** Capping three days of protests against the new farm laws, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday said his party will not allow the Centre to imperil India's food security as he attacked Prime Minister Narendra Modi on a host of issues, including the Hathras case.

Claiming that several institutions, including the media, that protect the voice of the people have been "captured" by the BJP-led Centre, he said, "Give me free press and institutions which are free, this government will not last for long." A combative Gandhi also targeted the prime minister on the Ladakh standoff, demonetisation and GST, besides the farm laws, and asked why he was "scared" of answering queries from mediapersons.

The prime minister does not understand these farm laws, the Congress leader alleged on the final day of his tractor rally in Punjab and dared Prime Minister Modi to come to the state and stand with farmers if these new legislations were in the interest of the farming community. ***PTI***

## Maha Cong Min trying to divert Central project, says Sena MP

**PTI** ■ MUMBAI

Shiv Sena MP Vinayak Raut on Tuesday claimed Congress Minister in Maharashtra Amit Deshmukh is trying to divert a Central project meant for Konkan to his home district Latur, an assertion disputed by the latter.

Raut, whose party is a Congress ally, said the Ayush Ministry has finalised setting up the National Institute of Medicinal Plants at Sindhudurg in Konkan, but Deshmukh "on his own" wrote to the Centre seeking to locate the project at Latur in the Marathwada region.

The Sena leader is the Lok Sabha MP from Ratnagiri-Sindhudurg, which is part of the coastal Konkan region.

Reacting to Raut's claim, Amit Deshmukh, the state's Medical Education Minister, said there was no discussion at the level of his department at any point of time about locating the institute in Sindhudurg.

He, however, stressed that there are no differences between the

Shiv Sena and the Congress on the issue.

The Congress leader, son of former chief minister Vilasrao Deshmukh, is an MLA from Latur and is also the guardian minister of the central Maharashtra district.

## Coal scam: Court convicts ex-Min Dilip Ray, others

**New Delhi:** A special court convicted former Union Minister Dilip Ray on Tuesday here in a coal scam case pertaining to irregularities in the allocation of a Jharkhand coal block in 1999.Special Judge Bharat Parashar convicted Ray, former minister of state (coal) in the Atal Bihari Vajpayee government, for criminal conspiracy and other offences.

The court also convicted two senior officials of the Ministry of Coal at that time, Pradip Kumar Banerjee and Nitya Nand Gautam, Castron Technologies Ltd (CTL), its director Mahendra Kumar Agarwalla and Castron Mining Ltd (CML).

The court will hear arguments on the quantum of sentence on October 14. The case pertains to allocation of Brahmadiha coal block in Giridih in Jharkhand to CTL in 1999. ***PNS***

# 4 sentenced to life in 2019 Alwar rape case

**Jaipur:** A special court in Rajasthan's Alwar district on Tuesday convicted four men and awarded them rigorous life imprisonment until natural death for the gangrape of a woman in 2019.The court also awarded five years imprisonment to the fifth culprit under the IT Act for circulating a video clip of the incident.

Referring to the Ramayana and Mahabharata, the court observed that the act of the accused was more serious than 'Sita Haran' by Ravana and 'Cheer Haran' of Draupadi in Krishna Kal.

The crime committed by the culprits was "cowardly", "disgusting" and had "shamed humanity", the court observed, adding that rape is not a problem of any caste, creed or religion but of entire humanity. Talking to a news channel later in the day, the survivor of the gangrape said, "The law has its course but it would have been better if the accused were given death penalty." Her father-in-law, however, said, "We are satisfied with the court's decision.

The court has given life imprisonment until natural deaths. It is the right judgement." The rigorous life imprisonment was awarded to Hansraj Gurjar, Ashok Gujar, Chhotelal Gurjar and Indraj Gurjar for gangrape by the special court that deals with cases under the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act.

All of them were charged under relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), the SC/ST Act and IT Act, said public prosecutor Kuldeep Jain.

He said Hansraj was also convicted under an additional section of the IPC for repeated rape.

"The court sentenced them to rigorous imprisonment till the time of natural death," Jain said.

The incident took place on April 26 last year when the four men raped the woman in front of her husband at an isolated place on the Thanagazi-Alwar bypass in Rajasthan. The four had gangraped the woman, extorted money and filmed the video of the incident.

The FIR in the case was registered on May 2. The case had triggered widespread protest and was condemned across the country.

"Fifth culprit Mukesh Gurjar, who had circulated the video clip, was convicted under sections of IT and was awarded a maximum of five years imprisonment," Jain said.

He said there is one more accused who is minor, and his trial is going on in a juvenile court. Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot welcomed the judgement saying it sets an example of how swift inquiry can lead to justice being delivered in a short span of time.

"All investigating officers, police and administrative officials in this case deserve appreciation. State government is committed to ensure no crime goes unpunished and all cases get a fair, thorough and speedy trial," Gehlot tweeted.

Former chief minister Vasundhara Raje also welcomed the court's decision in the case.

"I welcome the court's decision in the Thanagazi rape case. Our BJP government provisioned the harshest punishment for the perpetrators. The stringent punishment given in this case has given a message to the culprits and has strengthened the public's trust in the judiciary," she said.

Expressing satisfaction over the verdict, Rajasthan Director General of Police Bhupendra Singh Yadav said, "We hope that the judgment has given justice to the victim and her family."

Jaipur's Inspector General of Police S. Sengathir told reporters in Alwar, "In any serious case like this, after presenting chargesheet we will effectively try to get a higher conviction percentage."

He said this case can be considered an "ideal case" as maximum punishment was given and a strong message has gone to society. State Congress President Govind Singh Dotasra said after the incident took place last year, former national president of the party Rahul

Gandhi and Chief Minister Gehlot had gone to Alwar and the government took immediate action.

"The accused were arrested and chargesheet presented on time and today accused have been punished by the court," he said.

Dotasra said the BJP at that time had created a lot of ruckus. "Incident can happen but the responsibility and duty of the government is to take immediate cognizance of the incident and arrest the culprits and get them punished by the court," he said. ***PTI***

## India's wildlife, biodiversity equally imperative as its developmental needs: Modi

**New Delhi:** India's developmental needs are paramount but wildlife and biodiversity are equally imperative, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Tuesday.

In his message to the nation to mark the celebration of the ongoing Wildlife Week, the prime minister said India's commitment to wildlife protection and conservation is strong. "Wildlife conservation is ingrained in our ethos and has always been an integral part of our tradition and culture. Our holy Constitution also enshrines this philosophy by including conservation of forest and wildlife as one of the fundamental duties of every Indian.

"India harbours 17 per cent of world population within 2.4 per cent land area of the world. Developmental needs of the country are paramount. However, we believe wildlife and biodiversity conservation are equally imperative," Modi said in a written message.

He said that with a robust and wide network of protected areas, the country's commitment to words wildlife protection is as strong as ever.

"Eco-sensitive zones provide a peripheral support and act as a buffer around national parks and sanctuaries. Taking great strides in this direction, several such zones have been notified to enhance the space availability for thriving wildlife," Modi said. He said India remains a natural home to a variety of migratory species and for this reason, Gandhinagar declaration, which was adopted during the 13th Conference of Parties to Convention on Migratory Species in February this year, prioritised the integration of the concept of ecological connectivity into the 'Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework'.

"We are emphasising on the conservation of migratory birds and marine species," he said.

Prime Minister Modi also took pride in India being home to wild Asiatic lions and tigers, saying the result of the concerted efforts of the nation in conserving wildlife are showing.

"Our country hosts the last wild population of Asiatic lions. It also possesses the distinction of having the highest number of tigers in the world. The result of the concerted efforts of the nation towards conserving our wildlife are showing. The resolve of doubling tiger numbers has been fulfilled. We have achieved this target well in advance. ***PTI***

## JMM accuses Tejashwi of political betrayal

**VIJAY DEO JHA** ■ RANCHI

The JMM on Tuesday announced to go solo in the Bihar assembly after a failed talk between chief minister and JMM working president Hemant Soren and RJD leader Tejashwai Prasad Yadav over seat sharing in Bihar.

Highly placed sources said that while Soren wanted the JMM should be given a dozen seats under the UPA seat sharing formula Yadav was not ready to give more than two seats.

An exasperated JMM launched an attack on the RJD leadership saying that the new leadership of the RJD has forgotten political decency and sacrifices made by the JMM.

"In Bihar we wanted to contest along with the UPA alliance to defeat the communal party like the BJP and the JD (U), which is a party of negative mindset. We wanted to be the part of change that people of Bihar want. We have the organizational base in Bihar, a fact that RJD is aware of. We also remained a political force in Bihar. In the 2015 Assembly election in Bihar the JMM had extended support to the RJD led alliance because we wanted defeat of the BJP.

## Hathras impact: Congress postpones announcement of candidates list for Bihar polls

**DEEPAK KUMAR JHA** ■ NEW DELHI/PATNA

The impact of the Hathras rape case is being felt even in Bihar Assembly elections with Congress postponing announcement of its list of candidates for the upcoming polls in the state with few party leaders asserting tickets should not be given to tainted leaders.

AICC sources said the Congress Election Committee was to finalize and release its list of candidates by Monday evening but it was unable to do it and the matter has been placed before the party high command to take a view.

"The party wants to keep away from the controversy of proposing the names of tainted candidates, particularly those related to cases on women issues. Our top leadership have been fighting on this front and most recently over the Hathras," said the party sources. With Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra leading the campaign against Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, senior party leaders are of the view that giving tickets to the rape and crime against women related cases will boomerang and erode the moral of the grand old party which taken on the Hathras incident by attacking the government tooth and nail.

Further explaining the reasons for the delay is the name of shortlisted candidates like Brajesh Pande (for Govindganj constituency) tainted with rape and other crimes against women, attracting protests from several leaders most notable being senior Congress leader and former Union minister Girija Vyas.

**SUSHANT SINGH RAJPUT DEATH PROBE**

## Mumbai Police launch probe into 80K fake social media accounts

**TN RAGHUNATHA** ■ MUMBAI

In a new dimension to the Sushant Singh Rajput death case which has reached a dead end after the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) ruled out murder and said it was a case of "suicide", the cyber crime sleuths of the Mumbai have launched thorough investigations into 80,000 alleged fake accounts created by "vested interests" on various social media platforms to "discredit" the Mumbai police force, its Commissioner Param Bir Singh and "derail " the investigations into the actor's death.

After having been at the receiving end of vicious criticism over what was described as the "shoddy" manner in which the city police officials investigated the Sushant Singh Rajput death case, Mumbai Police Commissioner Param Bir Singh has ordered an investigations into thousands of alleged fake accounts on various social media platforms including Twitter, Facebook and Instagram across countries and continents.

Confirming the development, Mumbai's Deputy Commissioner of Police (Cyber Crime) Rashmi Karandikar said on Tuesday: "Several social media account holders are trolling the Mumbai Police commissioner on different platforms like Twitter, Instagram and Facebook and are using abusive language against him and the force" Karandikar said that while one FIR had been registered against the fake account holders under section 67 of Information Technology Act, another FIR had been launched against a person who had allegedly used morphed image Mumbai Police Commissioner's office twitter account.

"An FIR has been registered against those account holders under 67 of IT Act. Most of these accounts are fake and we will be taking actionagainst all those fake account holders. Another FIR has been registered against the culprit who used a morphed image of the official Twitter account of Mumbai Police commissioner recently. We have started the probe in both the matters," Karandikar said.

It may be recalled that the Mumbai police had come in for severe flak on various social media platforms and also a section of the electronic media following the death of Bollywood actor Sushant Singh Rajput, who was found hanging to a ceiling fan in his closed room of his duplex flat at Mont Blanc building at Bandra's Carter Road in north-west Mumbai on June 14.

**Rajasthan Medical Services Corporation Limited, Jaipur**
Gandhi Block, Swasthya Bhawan, Tilak Marg, C-Scheme, Jaipur-302005
Ph: 0141-2223887, Fax: 0141-2228065, CIN: U24232RJ2011SGC035067,
Email: edepmrmsc-rj@nic.in, Website: www.rmsc.nic.in

No. F-8()RMSC/EPM/M-4/20-21/4951 Dated : 29-09-2020

**NOTICE INVITING BID (NIB-513)**

01 (One) Bid as detailed below are invited for procurement of Equipments & Instruments for rate contract period of 24 months:

| S.No. | NIB No. | Last Date & Time of Receipt of Bid Form | UBN No. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 513 | 06:00 p.m. of 20.10.2020 | MSC2021GLRC00068 |

Details may be seen in the Bidding Document at the office of the M.D. RMSCL or State Public Procurement Portal website **"sppp.raj.nic.in"** or **"www.dipronline.org"** or **"https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in"** or website **"www.rmsc.nic.in"** The each bidding document may be downloaded from either of the above websites and uploaded duly filled in with payment of Rs. 2000.00+360.00 (GST@18%) Total Amount 2360.00 and Rs. 1000.00+180.00 (GST@18%) Total Amount 1180.00 for MSMEs of Rajasthan through challan/banker's cheque/demand draft in favour of M.D., RMSCL, payable at Jaipur

**Executive Director (EPM)**
**Rajasthan Medical Services Corporation Ltd., Jaipur**
Samwad/C/5211/2020-21

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
**CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF PSYCHIATRY**
KANKE, RANCHI-834006 (JHARKHAND)

**WALK IN INTERVIEW**

It is proposed to fill up the following Group 'A' posts at Central Institute of Psychiatry, Kanke, Ranchi on contract basis for a period of on year or till the post is filled up on regular basis whichever is earlier. Accordingly applications are invited from the eligible and desirous candidates fulfilling the qualifications for the posts mentioned below. Applications on plain paper either typed or handwritten along with two passport size photograph, photocopy of the certificates of educational qualification, experience etc., may be submitted to the undersigned on or before 27.10.2020. After submission of application candidates have to turn up alongwith their original certificates on the date of interview. No Interview letter will be issued separately. In deserving cases maximum age limit may be relaxed upto 62 years.

**The interview shall be held at Central Institute of Psychiatry, Kanke, Ranchi-834006, Jharkhand, on 28.10.2020 at 09.30 a.m.**

| Sl. No. | Name of Post | Consolidated pay per month in 1st year | No. of post |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Asst. Prof. of Psychiatry | Rs 95,000/- | 11 (UR-7, EWS-1, OBC-2, SC-1) |
| 2. | Asst. Prof. of Neurology | Rs 95,000/- | 3 (UR-3) |
| 3. | Asst. Prof. of Neurosurgery | Rs 95,000/- | 2 (UR-2) |
| 4. | Asst. Prof. of Anesthesiology | Rs 95,000/- | 1 (UR-1) |
| 5. | Asst. Prof. of Radio-diagnosis | Rs 95,000/- | 2 (UR-2) |
| | Total | | 19 |

Details of qualifications and age limit of the above posts are available on our website **www.cipranchi.nic.in**

**Sd/- Director**
**CIP, Ranchi**

**उत्तर प्रदेश पावर ट्रांसमिशन कारपोरेशन लिमिटेड विद्युत 400 के0वी0 उपकेन्द्र खण्ड कसारा मऊ।**

निम्नलिखित ई–निविदायें अधिकृत एवं अनुभवी संस्थाओं/फर्मो से जो जी0एस0टी0 में पंजीकृत तथा सरकारी/अर्धसरकारी प्रतिष्ठान में क्रय/कार्य को संतोषजनक रुप से पूर्ण करने का अनुभव रखती हो, ई–टेण्डर के माध्यम से आमन्त्रित की जाती है। ई–निविदा हेतु धरोहर धनराशि/निविदा शुल्क अधिशासी अभियन्ता विद्युत 400के0वी0 उपकेन्द्र खण्ड कसारा, मऊ, के पंजाब नेशनल बैंक, संस्कृत पाठशाला के पास शाखा मऊ के खाता सं0 0316002100027406, IFSC Code-PUNB0031600 में आरटीजीएस/एनईएफटी के माध्यम से जमा कराई जाये तथा बैंक में जमा किए जाने का साक्ष्य यथा योज्य यूटीआर संख्या, खाते का नाम, निर्गत कर्ता बैंक अधिकारी द्वारा हस्ताक्षरित एवं निविदा दाता द्वारा प्रतिहस्ताक्षरित पे–इन स्लिप की स्कैन्ड कापी, ई0एम0डी0 के लिए बैंक गारण्टी की स्कैन्ड कॉपी, जारी कर्ता बैंक के कन्फरमेशन मेल की प्रति ई–टेन्डर प्रपत्रों के साथ ऑन लाइन अपलोड की जायेगी। निविदाओं को ई–टेण्डर की देवसाइट www.etender.up.nic.in पर अपलोड किया जायेगा। नियत तिथि एवं समय पर ई–टेण्डर की वेबसाइट www-etender.up.nic.in पर अपलोड ई–निविदा की वेबसाइट पर खोला जायेगा। ई निविदा भाग–2 (प्राइस पार्ट) को ई–टेण्डर की वेबसाइट पर खोलने हेतु तदानुसार वेबसाइट पर ही सूचित किया जायेगा। विस्तृत विवरण प्रतिष्ठित समाचार पत्रों में प्रकाशन के साथ–साथ ई–टेण्डर की वेबसाइट www.etender.up.nic.in एवं विभाग की वेबसाइट www.upptcl.org पर उपलब्ध रहेगा। ई–निविदा संख्या, कार्य का विवरण, खोलने का दिनांक, ई–टेण्डर की वेबसाइट पर अपलोड करने एवं खोलने का समय धरो. हर राशि एवं निविदा का मूल्य क्रमानुसार निम्नवत है। **1. ई–निविदा सं.0–7 वि0400के0वी0(मऊ)/2020–21–** विद्युत 400 के0वी0 उपकेन्द्र खण्ड कसारा, मऊ के अन्तर्गत 400 के0वी0 उपकेन्द्र खण्ड कसारा –मऊ पर स्थित 2 अदद टयूबवेल तथा एक अदद पम्प हाउस के परिचालन एक छोटा अनुरक्षण का कार्य (12 माह) कराया जाना है। दिनाक 28.10.2020, 12.00 बजे प्राप्त 15.00 बजे (तकनीकी भाग–पार्ट–1 खोलने हेतु रु 2000.00, रु0 236.00 (जी0एस0टी0 सहित) नोट–उपरोक्त तिथि को अधोहस्ताक्षरी के कार्यालय से अनुपस्थिति अथवा सर्वर समस्या की दशा में निविदायें दूसरे कार्य दिवस को खोली जायेगी। **अधिशासी अभियन्ता, विद्युत 400 के0वी0 उपकेन्द्र खण्ड कसरा, मऊ**

पत्रांक–758 दिनांक– 1.10.2020 ''राष्ट्र हित में बिजली बचायें''

## FROM PAGE 1

### INFORM BY OCT 8 ABOUT STEPS TO PROTECT HATHRAS WITNESSES: SC

family has expressed that they are not satisfied with the CBI taking up the case and said an SIT, monitored by the apex court, should probe the case.

At this point, the bench asked Jaising what her locus standi was in the case.

"You don"t have any locus in this matter. But we are hearing you because the case is such and of huge importance. We are hearing you because this a shocking incident, but we are still pondering over your locus in this case," said the bench.

Advocate Kirti Singh, appearing for a few women lawyers, said the probe should be under the supervision of the court.

The apex court said this is a horrible incident but it does not want repetitive arguments in court.

"It is horrible incident but the question is how many similar arguments should we hear? Please understand that there is no need to duplicate concerns in the court of law," the bench said.

"Court of law need not hear the same argument by every party. This is not a comment on the incident but please understand our point of view," it added.

The Uttar Pradesh Government earlier in the day sought a CBI probe into the alleged gang-rape and murder of the Dalit woman saying it will ensure that no vested interest is able to create a fake and false narrative with "oblique motives".

In an affidavit filed in response to a PIL, which has been listed for hearing before a bench headed by Chief Justice S A Bobde, the UP Government said it is important that the investigation is carried out by an independent Central agency.

It said the State has already requested the Centre that the CBI takes over the investigation as it would obviate hindrance being created by certain vested interests in the fair and impartial investigation. Quoting FSL reports, it has however denied the charge that rape was committed.

### HATHRAS-BOUND KERALA SCRIBE, 3 OTHERS HELD FOR PFI LINKS

The police had identified the arrested persons as Siddique from Malappuram, Atiq-ur Rehman from Muzaffarnagar, Masood Ahmed from Bahraich and Alam from Rampur.

Hours after the arrest, a prominent journalist body of Kerala identified Malappuram native Siddique by his full name as Siddique Kappan, saying he is "a senior Delhi-based journalist".

### INDIA CALLS FOR RULE-BASED WORLD ORDER, FREE INDIA-PACIFIC REGION

"We remain committed to upholding the rules-based international order, underpinned by the rule of law, transparency, freedom of navigation in the international seas, respect for territorial integrity and sovereignty and peaceful resolution of disputes," he added.

Spelling out India's stand, he said it was for advancing the security and economic interests of all countries having legitimate and vital interests in the region.

Incidentally, Australia is keen to join the yearly Malabar series of maritime exercise between India, US and Japan in November-end. However, a decision is yet to be taken. Moreover, China is resisting such a proposal of all the four countries of Quad holding a military exercise.

Among other key points, Jaishankar also underlined the need for "seeking collective solutions to global challenges, including global recovery from the pandemic and reform of multilateral institutions".

Highlighting the growing importance of this coalition, he also said the fact that the four Foreign Ministers were meeting in person, despite the global pandemic, is "testimony to the importance that these consultations have gained, particularly in recent times". He added, "Our world is significantly different today than what it was when we last met in New York in September 2019."

As regards other issues, the four Foreign Ministers were likely to discuss plans for manufacturing and distribution of a Covid-19 vaccine, connectivity, development of 5G technology, maritime cooperation, counter-terrorism, cyber security, and development of critical infrastructure and supply chains. The Quad Foreign Ministers also called on Japan's new Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga.

### GOVT DEFERS PRIVATISATION MOVE; POWER STAFF END STIR

SBD is the guiding document for states looking to offer discoms to private companies.

This is for the first time that the Central government has drafted guiding SBD for privatisation of discoms. It is in line with the Centre's efforts to improve the operations and finances of the discoms in various states.

In 2019, the Union power ministry had suggested several private franchise models to the states for the power distribution sector. In May, under the Atmanirbhar Package, the Central government had announced that the power distribution in all Union Territories would be privatised.

Currently, power distribution has been privatised in a few cities — Delhi, Mumbai, Agra and Ahmedabad.

The process of privatisation of PVVNL was initiated in June soon after the package was announced in May. The accumulated losses of the PVVNL are Rs 1,500 crore as of March 2020 and the aggregate and technical and commercial loss of 37.9 per cent.

As of March 2020, the total net loss of all five discoms in the state stood at Rs 819 crore, according to the Ujjwal Discom Assurance Yojana (UDAY) portal. The state's average aggregate technical and commercial loss is 30 per cent — higher than the national average of 19.19 per cent.

The PVVNL controls and manages electricity supply in eastern UP districts — Ghazipur, Chandauli, Jaunpur, Varanasi, Sant Ravidas Nagar, Mirzapur, Sonbhadra, Mau, Azamgarh, Gorakhpur, Ballia, Deoria, Kushinagar, Maharajganj, Sant Kabir Nagar, Basti, Siddharthnagar, Prayagraj, Pratapgarh, Fatehpur and Kaushambi.

In 2018, UP had announced it would offer five cities, including state capital Lucknow and Varanasi, to a private distribution franchisee. The move however failed to take off following the stiff resistance by the power employees and the 2019 Lok Sabha elections.

# Admn tightens grips as power crisis worsens in many areas

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

As the power employees including the engineers continued their indefinite strike for the second day on Tuesday in protest against privatisaton of Purvanchal Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited (PVVNL), which supplies electricity to the 21 districts of six divisions of Purvanchal (eastern UP), many areas not only in the city but also in many other parts of the region have started facing serious power crisis. Due to prevailing power crisis, many areas saw protests from the local residents and in connection with the same many persons including two corporators Bablu Shah (Om Kaleshwar Ward) and Mithilesh Sahani (Prahlad Ghat) were arrested under the Adampura police station while they were raising voices against the power crisis. Later they were released. As many areas including Sarnath and Sigra faced long power disruption which also created a water crisis, the local residents also raised voices at nearby power sub-stations.

Meanwhile, the district administration has tightened its grips to meet the crisis created by the strike of power employees. Divisional Commissioner (DC) Deepak Agrawal, Inspector General (IG-Range) Vijay Singh Meena, District Magistrate (DM) Kaushal Raj Sharma and Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Amit Pathak visited some of the power divisions and sub-stations and studied the stock of situation. They also held a meeting with the Managing Director (MD) Dr Saroj Kumar to assess the situation. The DM said that that the number of alternative teams has been increased and Nagar Nigam has been instructed to make arrangements of generators in view to ensure supply of water smoothly in all the areas. He said that the attempts are being made to restart water pumps where the supply was disrupted by using generators. According to him, due to some routine faults, power supply from Ledupur sub-station was disrupted and attempts are being made to repair the same.

Power employees protesting at PVVNL headquarters in Varanasi on Tuesday

Sharma further said that in all the hospitals, the power supply is normal and water supply is being assured there. Besides, Nagar Nigam has also made arrangements of water-tanks for the areas facing water crisis. He said that an FIR would be lodged against those involved in creating crisis under the Essential Service Maintenance Act (ESMA), Disaster Management Act and National Security Act (NSA). According to him, for ensuring round-the-clock power supply, shift-wise deployment of employees is being ensured.

Meanwhile, under the banner of Power Employees' Joint Action Committee, the employees held a meeting at PVVNL headquarters at Bhikharpur which was attended by hundreds of employees and engineers. While addressing the power staff, the speakers apprised the power staff of the continuous deadlock as a long marathon between agitating employees with the Power Minister failed to reach a consensus a day ago. Similar meetings were also held at many other districts of Varanasi, Allahabad, Gorakhpur, Azamgarh, Vindhyachal (Mirzapur) and Basti zones of PVVNL.

The agitating employees said that their work boycott did not include power production units, 765/400 KV power sub-stations and control systems and supply to hospitals and water pumps continued as usual. They said that the privatisation would not affect the power employees but its impacts would be on the common customers. They expressed their concern over the rigid attitude of the state government as it failed to take any initiatives despite 34 days of agitation to draw its attention.

Among those present were RK Wahi, Kedar Tiwari, Chandra Shekhar Chaurasia, Dr RB Singh, Sanjay Bharti, Ved Prakash Rai, Deepak Agarwal, Shashi Kiran Maurya and Raman Srivastava.

# 189 more test positive in Prayagraj

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ ALLAHABAD

The number of patients with corona infections has decreased somewhat in terms of data after two months. Reports of 189 patients, including two professors of Allahabad University and MNNIT, came positive after the Covid test on Monday. At the same time 13,090 patients living in home isolation have been cured. In 24 hours, three corona-infected people died during treatment.

CMO Dr GS Bajpai gave this information. He said that 239 people were free of corona infection on Monday. Home isolation of 220 of these was completed. 19 patients were discharged from various Covid hospitals and Covid care centres.

According to the CMO, 242 patients are admitted in various Covid hospitals, care centres. Among them, 37 patients are admitted in Kalindipuram Covid Care Centre, 24 in Railway Hospital, 43 in Tej Bahadur Sapru Hospital, 21 in United Medicity and 30 in Sainath Vatsalya AMA Hospital. The maximum 87 infected are hospitalised in SRN Hospital.

According to Nodal Officer for Corona Dr Rishi Sahai, the newly infected included one of the Allahabad University professors and one professor of MNNIT. An MBBS student of the medical college along with a Deputy Manager of State Bank of India are among the infected for coronavirus. At the same time, five advocates have also been confirmed after the Covid test came positive. He said that so far 20,265 people have been infected in the district. In the past 24 hours, three infected people died. The cause of his death is said to be afflicted by another serious illness.

# Durga Puja: HC directive to approach DM for permission

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ ALLAHABAD

The Allahabad High Court has directed petitioners, seeking permission to organise Durga Puja in Prayagraj during COVID-19 pandemic, to approach the District Magistrate for the same.

The bench comprising Chief Justice Govind Mathur and Justice Siddhartha Varma disposed of the petition filed by Pronob Kumar Roy and another while observing that the District Magistrate will decide the matter in accordance with law while taking into consideration guidelines issued by the government of Uttar Pradesh.

Petitioners had sought permission to organise Durga Puja under the guidelines laid by the Central/ State/ District Administration on the eve of COVID-19.

Petitioners asked to direct the district and police administration to call a meeting of the office-bearers of the Bengali Welfare Association and the Durga Puja Committee, at least 21 days prior to taking any decision in this regard, for appraisal of their difficulties.

The writ was however disposed of with a direction to approach the District Magistrate.

**HC ALLOWS PETITION SEEKING PERMISSION OF MAJLIS :** The Allahabad High Court allowed a petition seeking permission of Majlis (religious gathering) at Imambada Masjid Meer Imam Ali Mehdi Begum of Varanasi while directing the local police not to create any hindrance in the holding of the Majlis.

The bench comprising Justice SK Gupta and justice Pankaj Bhatia disposed of the petition filed by Waqf Imambada Masjid Meer Imam Ali Mehdi Begum alleging that on a regular basis a Majlis (religious congregation) is performed for 10 days and this year the Majlis was to be performed from September 30 to October 9.

Petitioner had alleged that the Shia Waqf Board vide a letter dated August 21, 2020 had requested the district administration that suitable police arrangements be made so as to enable the Majlis to be held without any hindrance. The permission for Majlis was also granted, however, local police are not allowing religious gathering.

Senior Advocate SFA Naqvi appearing for petitioner argued, 'Unlock-4 Guidelines itself provide for congregation up to 100 persons in respect of the religious gathering and restraining the petitioner, without any valid reasons, from holding the congregation is violative of Article 19 (1) and Article 25 of the Constitution of India which guarantees freedom to assemble peacefully as well as freedom to practice religion.'

The court while allowing the petition directed local police not to create any hindrance in holding of the Majlis by the petitioner subject to the petitioner ensuring the compliance of the 'Unlock-4 Guidelines' and also ensuring the maintenance of social distancing norms and the other restrictions like wearing of masks and Sanitisation, etc during the religious gathering.

# 118 COVID-19 patients found

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

As many as 118 new COVID-19 patients have been detected on Tuesday, increasing the total number of cases to 14,315. Besides, the district also saw one more death, increasing the toll to 232. During the day, the follow-up negative reports included 196 patients. Out of them, 195 patients were recovered from home isolation, increasing the number to 9,867 and just one patient has been discharged from the hospital. With this, the number of cured patients from the hospitals has increased to 2,736. The total number of cured patients is now 12,603, leaving 1,480 active patients. The recovery rate has improved to 88.04 per cent and the mortality rate has remained at 1.62 per cent.

Meanwhile, Urban Primary Health Centre (UPHC), Manduadih was visited by Dr Prem Prakash Upadhyay and Satya Prakash, District Programme Manager, Chandauli under the rejuvenation programme (Kayakalp Karyakaram) conducted under the National Health Mission (NHM). This was the third and final phase evaluation of the health centre under the rejuvenation programme in which only Manduadiha UPHC has been selected from all the 31 UPHCs of Varanasi division. There are 24 UPHCs in Varanasi, three in Jaunpur and two each in Chandauli and Ghazipur. During the visit, the team inspected delivery and vaccination rooms apart from seeing the progress of the family planning programme. The team members also saw labs, bio-medical waste disposal, medicine store, sanitation and other medical facilities in which all the facilities were found to be well organised. Dr Mamta Pandey, Medical Officer Incharge and all the staff were found in dress. It was also suggested by the team that the painting on the wall of the yoga room should be finished as soon as possible. ACMO Dr AK Maurya, present during the visit, encouraged the medical staff of the health centre for their better work.

Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Dr VB Singh has also has informed that in the first report of the day by 11 am, 107 positive patients were detected out of 1,514 received reports. Till then, the total test reports received were 2,27,238 and the results of 3,887 are awaited. Out of them, 2,12,934 were negative while 14,304 positive. The total number of samples collected was 2,45,543.

Earlier, two males aged 35 and 46 from Assi (Bhelupur) and Maal Road (Cantonment) succumbed to COVID-19 at Sir Sundarlal Hospital (SSH), Banaras Hindu University (BHU) and Heritage Hospital respectively.

With the addition of six new red zones, the total number of hotspots has increased to 2,107 including 314 red zones. There are 1,793 green zones with 16 new ones.

# NCR completes many vital works in Sept

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ ALLAHABAD

North Central Railway has completed many important works in September-2020 with thrust on safety and efficient train operations.

Enhancing safety and efficiency in train operations is a conscious and continuous exercise on NCR. With highest network of 130 kmph trunk routes and high volume of passing through traffic, both safety and detention free train operations are of paramount importance over three divisions of NCR.

To increase safety of road users three maned level crossings have been closed in September 2020 and so far, 18 level crossings have been closed in current financial year. One RUB at level crossing no. 123 has been commissioned in Prayagraj- Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya section and total 4 RUBs have been commissioned in current financial year. Level crossing gate no. 445 in Sank-Morena section of Jhansi division has been interlocked with signal; so far 5 gates have been interlocked in FY 2020-21 to ensure that signal to train get lowered only after closure of gate. In September 2020, a major work of launching bow string girder of 42 metre span weighing more than 300 tonnes has been completed successfully at ROB no 426 in Birlanagar Rayaru section of Jhansi division.

Track safety is always accorded highest priority on NCR and 53 track kms track renewal done in September-20 with total 193 track kms TRR (primary) completed in 2020-21 till September. To enhance safety and speed of trains over point and crossing zone, 6 nos. thick web switches have been provided in September 2020 and so far, 15 thick web switches have been commissioned in FY 2020-21. Despite COVID-19 situation, execution of all other safety related track maintenance works has been above Railway Board's target for September-20. First running loop at stations between Lalitpur and Khajuraho has been increased from 15 kmph to 30 kmph for faster receipt and dispatch of trains. For enhanced safety of passengers new FOB at Kanwar station was commissioned in September and so far 4 new FOBs are constructed in current financial year.

With commissioning Block Proving Axle Counters (BPAC) in 3 block sections during September 2020 complete section between Prayagraj to Fatehpur is now equipped with BPAC for automatic confirmation of complete and safe arrival of train at a particular station. In a major work towards freight train handling capacity agumentation, panel interlocking (PI) work at Harduaganj was commissioned on 14.09.20 with provision of Ultratech Cement siding along with additional line no 9 and 10 in Harduaganj yard. With completion of this important work now 163 route combinations are available in this major yard as compared to earlier 117 routes for efficient handling of freight traffic for NTPC, Ultratech and other industries.

In the field of rolling stock safety related maintenance works like intermediate overhauling (IOH) of 50 coaches, shop schedule( SS-I) of 29 LHB coaches, periodic overhauling (POH) of 31 coaches, routine overhauling (ROH) of 286 wagons and periodic overhauling(POH) of 667 wagons was done during September 2020.

Skill and knowledge updation of running and other category staff is very important for safe train operations. During COVID-19 times, online training facilities have been made available in all the three divisions and so far, more than 1,350 running staff from electrical and diesel operation wings have been imparted refresher training through online means.

# Identify patients with ILI, SARI symptoms: CMO

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Dr VB Singh has instructed all the doctors to inform the Covid Command Control Room (1077) about the people with influenza like illness (ILI) and severe acute respiratory infections (SARI) symptoms apart from co-morbid patients and ensure their antigen tests and RTPCR immediately so that in case anyone of them is found corona positive, his/ her treatment can be started soon in view to avoid the health condition turning critical. He also asked the doctors to take the corona tests seriously; otherwise, it would be their responsibility in case of negligence in treatment.

According to him, various activities are being organised in the district under the ongoing month-long special communicable disease control campaign on the instructions of District Magistrate (DM) Kaushal Raj Sharma. On Monday, Asha workers visited 33,642 and 27,971 houses in the rural and urban areas respectively and mobilised the people about the favourable conditions of mosquito breeding. As many as 64 meetings were organised in which 482 women took part and chlorination demos (process to sterilise water) was carried out at 949 locations, in which 5,759 persons participated. During the visit, 277 patients with fever, cough and other symptoms were found and during the past 48 hours, the number of Covid testing on 218 ILI cases identified by door-to-door teams was done.

Besides, the number of houses visited by rural Asha workers in rural and urban areas was 1.79 lakh and information given on the favourable conditions of mosquito breeding in 1.57 lakh houses. The number of Rural Health Sanitation and Nutrition Day (VHSND) programmes were 293 and 1,193 meetings were organised in which 7,795 took part. In all, chlorination demos (process to sterilise water) was carried out at 4,863 locations, in which 27,508 persons participated. As many as 2,003 patients with fever, cough and other symptoms were found so far. District Malaria Officer Sharad Chand Pandey said that in addition to this, the Panchayati Raj department has sprayed anti-larvae in 242 villages of Harahua, Badagaon, Pindra, Kashi Vidyapeeth, Arajline, Sewapuri, Chiragaon and Cholapur villages. Anti larva and sodium hypo-chloride sprayed by the teams of the Health department in which 2,638 sources were deregulated. In the urban areas, anti-larva was sprayed by 15 teams.

# SHUATS research scholar successful in growing 'goldenrod'

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ ALLAHABAD

A research scholar of SHUATS, Naini has been successful in growing 'goldenrod', a flower which is mostly used for decorative purposes, in the climatic conditions of Prayagraj.

Sai Bharath has been successful in growing this high-yield and commercially viable flower round the year, including in extreme weather in winter when the mercury plunges to near three degrees Celcius. This promises a bright future for the farmers of the region engaged in floriculture.

'The origin of goldenrod's common name refers to both the flower's colour and the plant's spindly presentation. The genus name comes from two Latin words: solidus (meaning 'whole') and ago (meaning 'make). It's botanical name is Solidago canadensis L.

Bharath has developed this plant under the guidance of SS Saravanan, associate professor of Horticulture department at SHUATS, and with the help of Vijay Bahadur, head of the department.

A Pune-based farm provided me with the mother plant with a word of caution that this will not survive in the climate in Prayagraj. The crop can be cultivated throughout the year. Bright sunny warm weather is best suited for its healthy growth and can be grown in sandy loam to red loam soils with proper drainage, the factors which were challenging for me to find out in Prayagraj, said Bharath.

This drought-tolerant flower can be grown under varied climatic conditions and is less prone to attack of pests and diseases. Although it lacks fragrance, it is very popular because of its attractive colour and thus used for making bouquets as a filler material with combination of limonium and Hollyhock flower, he explained.

Using goldenrod fillers in combination with limonium is becoming increasingly popular in India because professional florists use fillers not only to flatter the flowers, but also to keep the costs down. The horticulturists can not only grow this flower but can get the harvest all year along, he added.

He added that apart from its decorative value, this plant has various medicinal properties like anti-inflammatory, antioxidant, analgesic and spasmolytic, antibacterial, antifungal, anticancer and immunomodulatory activity.

'Santosh from Manjari farm in Pune told me that this plant is not tolerant to cold temperature and would not survive in winter as witnessed in Prayagraj, when the temperature is as low as five degree Celsius. But, I planted the plants in December and the plants stood up with a hope of growing. We have grown the flowers and their quality is extremely good and the farmers will get good income,' said Bharath.

Being a high-value and low-volume crop, this is one of the most demanded cut flowers in India, and on special days the price goes up to Rs 20-25 per spike, which is enough to give an idea of the profit and sizable market that awaits the farmers. It is more profitable for small and marginal farmers because they can get more income at lower costs in the available land, said his guide Saravanan.

**VANDE BHARAT EXPRESS MAKES MANY RECORDS:** Vande Bharat Express, the first semi high speed train built in the country, has made many records since September 12. The Vande Bharat Express from New Delhi to Varanasi did not get delayed for a single day during the last 16 runs. During this, every day except September 30, this train reached Prayagraj Junction before time. The special thing is that out of the 16 trips, 10 trips were done when Vande Bharat came from New Delhi to Prayagraj Junction in less than six hours.

The Vande Bharat Express ceased operations in March 2020 due to COVID-19. Due to the long waiting list of special trains going to Delhi, the operation of Vande Bharat Express started as a special train on September 12 last month. Vande Bharat, which runs five days a week, has made a total of 16 trips from September 12 to October 3. The special thing is that during this period the train did not get delayed for a single day. Ten of the 16 trips were made when Vande Bharat completed the journey from Delhi to Prayagraj in less than six hours. The arrival and departure time of this train at the junction is 12.08-12.10 hrs, while Vande Bharat reaches Varanasi at 2 o'clock in the day.

13 out of the last 16 trips of the Vande Bharat Express with an average speed of 104 in the country were such that when it reached Varanasi ahead of time. For several days, this train reached Varanasi at 2 o'clock in the day, whereas it was not so before the lock down. Even when going from Varanasi to Delhi, a good improvement was observed in the timing of the train. From September 12 to October 2, the Up rake of Vande Bharat did not reach New Delhi late on a single day. The train reached New Delhi ahead of time five days.

The General Manager NCR Rajeev Chaudhry is continuously monitoring the compliance of each train from one station to another. Due to this, the time compliance of other express trains with Vande Bharat has become better, said the CPRO of NCR Ajit Singh.

# Durga Puja Committees in dilemma about erecting pandals

RAMATMA SRIVASTAVA ■ VARANASI

Due to the state of indecisiveness and uncertainty of the district administration, the Durga Puja Committees of Varanasi are in dilemma about erecting Durga Puja pandals. So, they decided only to worship during the auspicious occasion of Shardiya Navratri by installing the idols of Goddess Durga.

With the grand and splendid puja pandals in almost all the areas and Durga Puja's boom all around, the holy city turns into Mini Kolkata particularly for the three days during the auspicious occasion of Shardiya Navratri. Not only from various parts of district but also from adjoining districts come to the city to have a glance of grandeur of puja pandals. The Durga Puja Committees start preparation for the erection of durga pandals even four months in advance. But this time, these committees are in a great dilemma as the district administration has so far not issued any guidelines regarding this while only 15 days are left to begin the auspicious occasion. The Shardiya Navratri will begin from October 22 to come. In fact, the state government has issued guidelines regarding this allowing the committees to erect puja pandals and worship the Goddess Durga with some conditions in view of the COVID-19.

While having a talk with *'The Pioneer'* in Lucknow, the Additional Chief Secretary Avnish Awasthi had clearly said, 'Puja is allowed in the park during the auspicious occasion but the procession during immersion is not allowed'. Contrary to this, the Additional District Magistrate (ADM-City) Gulab Chand, while talking to *'The Pioneer'*, here on Monday said, 'The district administration has so far not received any guidelines from the government in this direction but it is clear that no durga puja pandal will be allowed to be erected on road or other public places because of corona-virus'. 'The worship could be performed at home by installing the idols of Goddess Durga', he added.

This contradiction has created confusion among Durga Puja committees and some of them are still waiting for any guideline regarding this by the district administration. He came to know through media about the decision taken by the district administration not to allow anyone to erect puja pandals on road but was not informed by any authority in the administration regarding this, the president of Varanasi Durgotsav Sammilini, the oldest Durga Puja pandal of city, Devashish Das said adding, 'Now, the committee has decided to perform only worship of Goddess by following the guidelines of COVID-19 and no puja pandal will be erected'.

In view of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have already decided not to erect grand Durga Puja pandal in Hathua Market, which draws the crowd in thousands with its uniqueness and grandeur but now, decided just to perform puja there if allowed otherwise the same would be performed at home to continue the tradition, the president of Premier Boys Club, Ajay Rai said adding, the district administration seems to be in the state of indecisive and uncertainty regarding this even till date. The similar views were also expressed by the president of New Delight Club Durga Puja Samiti, Orderly Bazar Manoj Kumar.

# 11 RRTs to monitor Covid patients in home isolation

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

Kanpur Nagar District Magistrate Alok Tiwari said that 11 more rapid response teams (RRTs) had been deployed to monitor the COVID-19 patients in home isolation apart from the 40 plus RRTs already on the job for contact tracing and taking samples.

Addressing a meeting of all the nodal officers on Tuesday, the district magistrate said the special teams would visit those patients who had completed four and seven days of home isolation and check their temperatures, take swab samples for testing and give feedback to the Covid control room. He asked the officials manning the control room to dispose of the complaints they receive the same day itself.

Tiwari said the RRTs would carry out antigen test of all people suffering from cough, cold and fever and go for RT-PCR test of people testing negative in the antigen test..

The district magistrate stressed on tracing the contacts of the person testing positive for coronavirus infection and at least 10 persons who had come in contact with the latter.

Tiwari said the present focus of the district administration was on bringing down the COVID-19 death rate and containing the spread of the coronavirus infection. He this still posed a big challenge to the administrative and medical officials of Kanpur Nagar.

Later, the district magistrate carried out a surprise inspection of the SPM Hospital once again and took first hand information. He said all the patients admitted to the hospital must get quality care.

He then saw the ICU where eight patients were admitted and found that the treatment was satisfactory.

Tiwari directed the hospital authorities to ensure that they had sufficient backup of medical oxygen to smoothly cater to the needs of the patients for at least 48 hours. He said if the hospital faced any problem in this regard, it should be brought to the notice of the district administration without delay.

The district magistrate warned the medical oxygen suppliers against charging more than the government approved rates. He said medical oxygen supply and pricing was being strictly monitored.

He said that in the current situation when the power supply in the city was erratic, there should be a proper and robust arrangement of 48 hours' power backup for the entire hospital. He said all the private hospitals had agreed to comply with the protocol issued by the Sanjay Gandhi Post-Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences in Lucknow. He said the hospitals should also make proper arrangement for the virtual ICU monitoring as well.

# Patients with pulmonary problems to be kept in separate hospital area

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

Ganesh Shankar Vidyarthi Memorial Medical College (GSVMMC) Principal Prof RB Kamal has directed the LLR Hospital officials to ensure that all the people reporting to the hospital with pulmonary problems like asthma, pneumonia and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) are kept in a separate area.

He said for the COVID-19 patients, special and separate arrangements had been made at the neuro-science centre, ICU of the maternity wing and isolation ward.

Prof Kamal said at present the patients of COVID-19 and other respiratory problems were being accommodated jointly.

The principal said to ensure that the non-COVID-19 patients did not face any problem in treatment, the hospital had bifurcated the wards. He said Covid test was mandatory for all patients coming to the hospital and once they were found negative only then they would be shifted to the new allotted wards.

He said this was being done in view of the special directive from the Uttar Pradesh government after the decline in coronavirus positive cases and the spread of the virus as well.

Prof Kamal said currently there were less COVID-19 patients and thus the government had directed that the indoor treatment of other patients should be started in a phased manner.

He said all non-COVID-19 patients would undergo check-up and treatment separately. Meanwhile, Additional Chief Secretary (Medical Education) Rajneesh Dube issued directives to carry out a fresh probe into the death of two patients at LLR Hospital earlier.

The death audit committee had raised doubts over the two cases and thus their retest was ordered.

Dube said the re-examination would be carried out by a special team from King George's Medical University, Lucknow.

# Shekhar directive to complete ROB within time frame

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

Kanpur Divisional Commissioner, Raj Shekhar inspecting the Jhakarkatti bridge on Tuesday Pioneer

Kanpur Divisional Commissioner Raj Shekhar while carrying out physical verification of the railway overbridge (ROB) and flyover project at Jhakarkatti on Tuesday said the stipulated time for the ROB to become functional was December, 2020 and thus it should be finished within the time frame.

He directed the engineers to incorporate rain water harvesting system in the project to prevent the ROB roads from getting damaged on account of water-logging during rainy season.

He also directed the Kanpur municipal commissioner to ensure that streetlights were installed on the ROB by December, 2020.

The divisional commissioner was accompanied by the project manager, executive engineer and other technical teams who apprised him of the finer details.

It may be mentioned here that the construction of additional two lanes of the ROB had been sanctioned in 2016. The existing two lanes of the highway and ROB was to be converted to four lanes and ROB.

The estimated cost of the project is around Rs 108 crore.

The project manager informed the divisional commissioner that the work would be completed by December 18. He said nearly 80 per cent of the work had been accomplished and the remaining 20 per cent would completed by December, 2020.

The divisional commissioner also inquired about the quality control and regular monitoring as well and was informed that it was being done by an independent engineer with the assistance of IIT-Kanpur

The project manager said once the ROB was completed, it would solve the problem of traffic snarls at Jhakarkatti.

# Biometric file movement system launched in KDA

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

Kanpur Development Authority Vice Chairman Rakesh Kumar Singh inaugurated the biometric file movement system on Monday to facilitate quick movement of applications and other correspondence in the office.

With the help of this system, Singh directed the applications received in his office to the office of KDA additional secretary.

Speaking on the occasion, he said with the launch of the new software, it was very easy to ascertain the location of and application/correspondence with the officer/department and the dates of their receipt and despatch.

He said the system also ensured transparency in the upkeep and movement of letters.

It may be recalled that on receipt of several complaints about pending and unattended applications, the vice chairman had issued directive to develop biometric file movement system software.

On September 29, a training programme was also organised by the representative of Uptron Company at the Atal Behari Vajpayee auditorium on KDA premises wherein the employees looking after the work of receipt and despatch of letters took part. After their training, the operation of this system was formally inaugurated by the vice chairman on Monday. Meanwhile, during the Janata Darshan programme organised on Monday, 46 applications were received. The vice chairman directed the officers concerned for their quick and timely disposal.

# 176 more test +ve

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

Kanpur Nagar reported 176 more coronavirus positive cases on Tuesday evening.

Chief Medical Officer Dr Anil K Mishra said that 176 more people had tested positive for coronavirus infection between Monday evening and Tuesday evening taking he tally of confirmed cases to 26,142 cases.

He said one COVID-19 death in the city pushed the toll to 691 on Tuesday evening.

The CMO said with 170 COVID-19 patients recovering in hospitals and home isolation in the last 24 hours, 22,618 coronavirus infected people had been cured in the city and at present 3003 active cases were undergoing treatment.

Dr Mishra said 5,012 samples were sent for testing in the city.

# Community vision centre inaugurated

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

Additional Director Health, Kanpur Division, Dr SN Bajpai, while inaugurating community vision centre Amrita Drishti Urban Eye Health Vision Centre at Om Purwa on Tuesday said the overall goal of this project was to contribute to the reduction of avoidable blindness in the urban slums of Kanpur Nagar.

He said the project would work within the World Health Organisation's health systems framework, including human resource development, infrastructure with technological development, health financing, medicines, consumables, health information systems and service delivery.

Dr Bajpai said the centre would address the issues of cataract, refractive error and diabetic retinopathy and the project was supported by Standard Chartered Bank and Sightsavers.

Sightsavers India CEO RN Mohanty said, "Our partnership with Standard Chartered Bank for one more project is an extremely proud moment for us. Their constant support has helped us in tremendous ways to reduce avoidable blindness in the country. This is yet another fortunate moment for us to increase the accessibility of primary eye care services to those who need them the most."

Standard Chartered Bank head (Sustainability India) Karuna Bhatia, said, "Serving communities and creating a safe environment at the grassroots for people to access essential health services, including for eye care, is vital. Standard Chartered Bank and Sightsavers have a successful history of working together in India. Under this project, Standard Chartered Bank will ensure support to Sightsavers for the establishment of primary eye care services by using the existing health structures of government and other public health systems."

# Auto-lifters' gang busted, 5 held

**KANPUR (PNS):** The Panki police busted a gang of auto-lifters with the arrest of five persons along with 10 stolen motorcycles, including two dismantled ones, on Tuesday.

During vehicle checking at Bhatia Tiraha early in the morning, the police spotted five youths riding different motorcycles. They were stopped and on checking when the chassis numbers of the bikes did not match with the registration numbers on registration certificates, the police took the youths into custody. On being grilled, they confessed their involvement in auto-lifting. They were identified as Shivam Pal (20), Sudhir Kumar (21) of Phaphund (Auraiya); Arvind Rathaur (19), Rohit Rathaur of Jhinjhak, Mangalpur and Raes (35) of Khanpur (Auraiya).

On the clues given by them, the police recovered eight stolen bikes from a park in Panki Industrial Area and spare parts of dismantled bikes.

# NCL achieves over 20 pc growth in coal production

CORRESPONDENT ■ SONBHADRA

The Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL) produced 53.54 million tonnes of coal in the first half of the financial year 2020-21 which is about five per cent more than the production done during the corresponding period in the previous financial year. Even in adverse conditions generated due to Covid-19 the NCL has met the production target from April to September. NCL had produced 51 million tonnes of coal in the same period during the last financial year. Performing brilliantly in the month of September, NCL as compared to the previous year has achieved more than 20 per cent growth in coal production. NCL has produced around 9.2 million tonnes (MT) of coal in September this year. In overburden removal the company has also achieved an increase of around 25 per cent in the first half and removed 185 million cubic metres of it which will be helpful in coal production as and when required. NCL has also despatched 9.2 million tonnes of coal in September registering an increase of more than 16 per cent. In the first half from April to September, NCL has despatched about 50 million tonnes of coal of which more than 40 million tonnes has been delivered to power houses. In the financial year 2020-21 NCL has been given the target of 113.25 million tonnes of coal production and despatch.

# 2 held with six monoblock pumps

CORRESPONDENT ■ MIRZAPUR

Madihan police arrested two persons along with six stolen monoblock pumps on Monday. As per the reports received here, Pramod Kumar Singh, a resident of Pateri village, had lodged a first information report (FIR) at Madihan police station that his submersible pump which was installed for irrigation purposes had been stolen from Belan Bakahar canal. In his complaint he had also mentioned about the theft of five other pumps from the area recently. Acting instantly on the complaint the police started gathering information about the culprits through its network. On Monday Dhaurahan police outpost incharge Udai Narain Maurya was on patrolling duty when he tipped off by an informer about the presence of a suspect near the culvert of canal located in Imiliya Chaurasi village. Thereafter police raided the place and interrogated the suspect who was later identified as Pradeep Bind, son of Mansharam, a resident of Imiliya Chaurasi village. With the help of the suspect the police apprehended another accused, Vishal Kol, a resident of the same village, and recovered six monoblock pumps. After completing the necessary legal formalities the police seized the pumps and sent the accused to jail. Meanwhile an earlier report said Jamalpur police arrested one person, seized two vehicles and rescued four cows. As per the reports, SO Jamalpur Vijay Kumar Saroj spotted two vehicles near Pidkhid village whose drivers tried to flee on seeing the men in khaki there. The police chased the vehicles and caught them. While three persons managed to flee from there one was nabbed by the police. During the search two cows were recovered from the pick-up no (UP-65/FT-6877) and two from Bolero no (UP-65/F-3761). The arrested person was identified as Nazeer Shah, a resident of Kewa village under Chainpur police station in Bhabua district of Bihar. After lodging an FIR the police seized the vehicles and sent the accused to jail.

Madihan police team along with the accused and the recovered monoblock pumps Pioneer

**DRIVE LAUNCHED:** The district police launched anti-romeo drive on Monday which was led by SHO Mahila Thana Seema Singh. During the drive the police team visited the main markets of the city, especially Wasliganj, Pakkaghat, Basnayi Bajar, Trimohani and Sankathaghat frequented by women and girls. The police intercepted the suspects and warned those to mend their ways who were found roaming without any purpose. Interacting with people inspector Seema Singh appealed to them take necessary precautions in view of Covid-19 and help to keep the society safe. She underlined the use of phone numbers like 112 and Women helpline No 1090. The inspector urged the shopkeepers too to inform the police without any hesitation if any suspect in the market. Even one suspect could prove a threat for the entire market so such people should not be ignored at all she said.

**MAN DIES:** A 45-year-old mentally retarded man was found in a serious condition near a petrol pump located at Dadaraa under Madihan police station on Monday night. The police brought him to the Rajgarh PHC where he died during treatment on Tuesday morning. His identity was yet to be ascertained, last reports received here said.

# Workshop for operators at NTPC Rihand

CORRESPONDENT ■ SONBAHDRA

At NTPC's Rihand station a month-long workshop for operators was inaugurated at project premises-situated Seva Bhawan on Monday. After inaugurating it while addressing the operators present in its first batch Executive Director (Rihand) Balaji Iyengar, who was the chief guest, said that special attention should be paid to safety of plants as well as themselves and their colleagues during the work. While throwing light on 'sharpen the skill' etc, he hoped that operators would be able to avail special benefits from the workshop. Earlier Additional General Manager (HR KS Murthy welcomed the chief guest, the co-guest and those present in the workshop. He said that in this training workshop along with class on various topics on-job training would also be provided. Chief General Manager (O&M) AC Sahu said "knowledge is power". He said that operators would be able to avail special benefits from this workshop being organised by the NTPC. Giving details about the workshop GM (Operations) AK Chattopadhyay said it would be conducted in next six phases in which the operators of the project and partner UPL would be able to receive separate training. The programme was conducted by Senior Manager (EDC) Ravindra Singh. AGM (O&M) Hare Ram Singh proposed the vote of thanks at the end of the programme. Manager (HR) Santosh Vishwakarma made a special contribution in making the programme a success.

# Thieves decamp with valuables

CORRESPONDENT ■ GORAKHPUR

A gang of unidentified thieves sneaked into a school by breaking the lock of its main gate in Mohanapur under the Shahpur police station and escaped with ₹12,000 in cash, two computers, a table fan, a tullu pump, a CCTV camera, DVR etc from there recently. In the morning when some local people saw the lock of the school gate broken they informed its manager about it. The manager then reached the school and informed the police which reached the spot and investigated the matter. According to information the school is closed in view of coronavirus infection and Shivbalak was guarding it. On getting information about someone's death in the neighbourhood he had gone home at night. On finding the moment opportune the thieves struck at it and decamped with the booty.

**NABBED:** The police team of Ramgarh Tal police station arrested two accused along with smack here recently. On being tipped off by an informer the team arrested them from Hanuman Mandir Rampur tri-junction and recovered three grams of smack each from them along with a motorcycle (UP-52/AX-1627). The arrested accused were identified as Deepak Chaturvedi, son of Om Prakash Chaturvedi, a resident of Bhatwalia police station under Kotwali police station in Deoria and Soni Madeshia, son of Ramanand, a resident of New Colony Mohalla under Kotwali police station in Deoria. The police team which made the arrest comprised sub-inspector (S-I) Ashish Kumar Yadav, and constables Laxman Singh and Devanand.

# Kalyani book bank inaugurated

CORRESPONDENT ■ SONBHADRA

The members of Kalyani Mahila Samiti under Block B area of Northern Coalfiels Limited (NCL) under the guidance of its chairperson Shashi Duhan inaugurated the Kalyani book bank (library). This library has been started by the members of the committee with the donated books and by purchasing other essential ones.

Books are being arranged here for people of all groups and ages such as those related to school children's course, competitive examinations, novels, child entertainment, English learning books etc. People from nearby areas can also donate books voluntarily in this library. With it necessary books will be available to children nearby rural areas in the time of Covid- 19 pandemic.

**DEDICATED:** NCL, a miniratna company of the Government of India, is celebrating the month of October as 'Cleanliness Month' to realise the dream of Swachh Bharat of Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi. Under it an extensive cleanliness campaign is being conducted in the surrounding area. The Amlori area of NCL dedicated a Sulabh toilet which was constructed under Corporate Social Responsiblity (CSR) at Baidhan Mandi campus on Gandhi Jayanti. MLA from Singrauli Ram Lallu Vaishya who was the chief guest on the occasion appreciated the contribution of NCL in the success of the cleanliness campaign. During the programme Amlori Project Officer Inderjit Singh, who was present as the representative of General Manager (Amalori), also apprised about the under construction Sulabh toilets at six other places in Singrauli district which would be dedicated soon. These toilets were also being built under CSR, he said. Mukhya Karyapalan Adhikari Singrauli zila panchayat Saket Malviya, who was special guest on the occasion, appreciated the work being done under CSR by Amlori management.

# Bring down Covid fatality rate to below 1%, States told

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

About 48 per cent of the total Covid-19 deaths in the country is concentrated in eight States of 25 districts, of which 15 districts are in Maharashtra alone, the Government said on Tuesday. The target is to bring the fatality rate below 1 per cent, it maintained.

Giving figures on Covid deaths in the country at a press briefing here, Union Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan said, "Out of 25 districts in eight States, 15 districts are in one state alone, that is Maharashtra. Two districts each are in Karnataka, West Bengal and Gujarat and one each in Tamil Nadu, Punjab, UP and Andhra Pradesh."

The Ministry is in talks with these states to control the deaths due to the pathogen, Bhushan told the reporters. He was of the view that the deaths in these identified districts were not due to poor health infrastructure but because of delay in treatment.

The States have been asked to enhance tests and thus detection so that those needing the treatment are given adequate medical facilities. "Delay in treatment can progress the disease and hence deaths," Bhushan said even as he added that the States were having enough supply of oxygen and other infrastructure to manage the disease. More than 8 crore COVID tests have been conducted so far, of which 80 lakh tests were done in the last week

While talking about the spread of Covid-19 in the country, he said that ten States account for 77 per cent of total active cases of which three States viz. Maharashtra, Karnataka and Kerala account for 50 per cent of country's total active cases.

Analysing the trend of COVID cases reported in different states, he remarked that it is too early to take a call on Maharashtra and that there is a need to observe the state for a longer period of time. "As we approach festival and winter season which is conducive for spread of diseases such as influenza, we need to be extra cautious. We have told all states to ensure effective implementation of public health strategies in the fight against COVID-19", he added.

He also said that a digital platform is being built to track COVID-19 vaccine administration and movement, from procurement to storage to distribution to individual beneficiaries and that online training modules are being developed for vaccinators.

Bhushan further said that the average daily Covid-19 positivity rate has declined from 9.21 per cent recorded between September 16-22 to 6.82 per cent registered from September 30 to October 6.

The total Covid cases in India have crossed 66.85 lakh with total deaths at 1,03,569, including 884 in 24 hours.

## Govt issues advisories on preventive measures ahead of festival season

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Ahead of the festivals like Navratri, Durga Puja, Diwali, Chhath Puja,the Union Health Ministry on Tuesday issued advisories on preventive measures such as staggered timings, thermal screening, physical distancing, sanitisation and monitoring through CCTVs at the events to contain the spread of Covid-19 which are on increase across the country.

While festive events in the containment zones will not be allowed, the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) enlists necessary preventive steps that need to be followed for religious worship, fairs, rallies, exhibitions, cultural functions during the festivities that are expected to witness gatherings of a large number of people.

The document says that organisers/staff/visitors from the containment zones shall not be permitted in areas where festive events are organised. People residing in the containment zones may be encouraged to observe all festivals inside their homes and not move out.

Persons above 65 years, those with co-morbidities, pregnant women and children below 10 years have been advised to stay at home and avoid large gathering for festivals to be held in October, November and December.

As per the SoPs prepared by the Union Health Ministry, the committees will have to ensure the adequate area for events with a detailed site map and proper markings to maintain social distancing. Touching of idols and holy books has been prohibited to prevent the spread of infection.

People wishing to attend the events, including the staff should be allowed entry only if they are using a face mask. The SOPs clearly state that the visitors will have to maintain physical distancing of a minimum of six feet.

In case of rallies and immersion processions the number of people should not exceed the prescribed limit and proper physical distancing and wearing of masks must be ensured. In any case, the number of such rallies and the distance covered by them may be kept within manageable limits, as per the advisory.

"Adequate manpower shall be deployed/ arranged by the organisers to ensure observance to physical distancing norms and other preventive measures at all times, appropriate arrangements for personal protection gears like face covers/masks, and other logistic like hand sanitizers, soap, sodium hypochlorite solution for sanitising frequently touched surfaces etc. shall be made available by event organizers/business owners for their staff as per requirements," it said.

## Health, Ayush Ministries launch National Clinical Management Protocol for Covid

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

To bring in uniformity and consistency in the Ayush-based Covid-19 treatment across the country, the Union Health and Ayush Ministries on Tuesday jointly launched a protocol for the clinical management of Covid-19 based on Indian traditional medicine system for prevention of coronavirus infection and treatment of mild and asymptomatic cases.

According to the 'National Clinical Management Protocol, based on Ayurveda and Yoga for Management of COVID-19', which was released by Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan on Tuesday in the virtual presence of Shripad Naik, Minister of State for AYUSH, one should follow dietary measures, yoga and consume Ayurvedic herbs and formulations such as Ashwagandha and AYUSH-64 among few other herbal formulations.

"This protocol dealing with preventive and prophylactic measures is a significant step not only in management of COVID-19 but also in making traditional knowledge relevant to solving problems of the modern time," Vardhan said.

"Unfortunately, Ayurveda did not receive much attention after independence until Prime Minister Narendra Modi took up this cause with the importance it deserves," he said while stressing that Ayurveda "had a significant impact in the foundations of modern medicine".

The protocol document points out that the current understanding indicates a good immune system is vital for prevention of coronavirus infection and to safeguard from disease progression.

It suggests use of medicines such as Ashwagandha, Guduchi Ghana Vati or Chyawanaprasha as prophylactic care for high risk population and primary contacts of patients while recommending consumption of Guduchi Ghana Vati, Guduchi and Pippali or AYUSH 64 for asymptomatic COVID-19 positive patients for prevention of disease progression to symptomatic and severe forms and to improve recovery rate.

Guduchi and Pippali, and AYUSH 64 tablets can be given to mild coronavirus infected patients, it said.

Union Secretary Rajesh Kotecha said, "We call this first version of the protocol, which will be modified as more evidence is generated through further studies in future."

The document also listed Ashwagandha, Chyawanprasha or Rasayana Churna for post-COVID-19 management to prevent lung complications like fibrosis, fatigue and mental health.

Further, to improve respiratory and cardiac efficiency, to reduce stress and anxiety and enhance immunity, the ministry has listed Yoga Protocol for Primary Prevention of COVID- 19.

## Railway bribery case: ED files chargesheet against 10 persons, 1 firm under PMLA

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has filed a prosecution complaint (chargesheet in police parlance) under Prevention of Money Laundering Act against 10 individuals and one entity in the infamous railway bribery case.

The PMLA case was an outcome of a CBI case in which then railways minister Pawan Kumar Bansal's nephew Vijay Singla was caught red handed while accepting a bribe of ₹89,68,000 for favourable appointment and posting of Mahesh Kumar, a 1975 batch officer of Indian Railway Service of Signal Engineers (IRSSE) as Member (Electrical), Railway Board.

Those named in the prosecution complaint are Mahesh Kumar (former officer of Indian Railway Service of Signal Engineers), N Manjunath, Sandeep Goyal, Vijay Singla, Ajay Garg, Rahul Yadav, Sameer Sandhir, Sushil Daga, CV Venugopal and MV Murali Krishna besides private firm Venkateshwara Rail Nirman Pvt. Ltd.. The prosecution complaint was filed before the Special Court (PMLA) at Chandigarh in the Railway Bribery case.

"The Prosecution Complaint has been filed with a prayer to punish the accused in accordance with the law and to confiscate the asset attached under PMLA," the ED said in a statement.

The ED had initiated investigation under the provisions of PMLA on the basis of CBI's FIR and chargesheet filed before Special judge (SPE/ CBI cases) Patiala House Court, New Delhi against Mahesh Kumar (Member (Staff), Railway Board),Vijay Singla, Sandeep Goyal and seven other accused persons under Section 120-B (criminal conspiracy) of the Indian Penal Code and relevant provisions of the Prevention of Corruption Act.

"During the course of investigations under PMLA, it was revealed that N Manjunath, on behalf of Mahesh Kumar, had persuaded various Railway vendors/S&T manufactures/ contractors for making arrangement of bribe amount for promotion of Mahesh Kumar as Member (Electrical) by alluring them that all the contributors will be taken care of/benefited from the desired posting of Mahesh Kumar," the ED said.

Investigation further revealed that the first instalment of bribe amount of ₹89,68,000 was contributed by N Manjunath, MV Murli Krishna, Sushil Daga and Venketeshwara Rail Nirman Pvt. Ltd. Of this, Rs 50 Lakh were contributed by Manjunath himself, ₹25 Lakh by MV Murali Krishan, ₹5 lakh by Sushil Daga and Rs 10 Lakh from the account of Venkteshwara Rail Nirman Pvt. Ltd. by Rahul Yadav and Sushil Daga.

## '70@70' programme to focus on accessible and affordable smart education, smart health

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The '70@70' programme, launched on Gandhi Jayanti as part of celebrations of 70th birthday of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, would in the first phase focus on providing accessible and affordable smart education, smart health, smart agriculture and clean energy in the 70 villages that would be adopted.

Launching the programme, Agriculture and Rural Minister Narendra Singh Tomar had extended the Centre's full support to the project as, he said, it would help people in the villages take advantage of technology and processes.

Tomar said the program would also inspire neighboring villages to move towards becoming self-reliant.

The initiative of adoption of villages has been undertaken by various organisations like eKisaan foundation, GIBV, and organisations including Jaipur Foot USA, Computer Society of India, Edufront, Friends of MP, India Global, True Tesla Technologies and ATREE.

The core team for this '70@70' programme includes Pramit Maakoday, Kanchan Bannerjee, Jyoti Bhowraskar, Sanjeev Tripathi, Srikanta Bhaskara and Manoj Sisodia.

Maakoday said the objective of this program is to educate, engage, and empower our farmers, along with implementing programs in PPP mode. While eKisaan foundation is a registered organization based in India, the Global Indians for Bharat Vikas (GIBV) is a not-for-profit organization based in Boston, United States and its mission includes establishing a network of volunteers from around the world in organic development of villages and rural ecosystem in India.

## BJP gets 80.12% of overall political donation, tops list

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Eleven political parties together collected ₹2,777.97 crore comprising donations above ₹20,000 between 2014-15 and 2018-19 with the ruling BJP accounting for 80.12% of the total donations by collecting ₹2225.66 crore, followed by its rival Congress at 13.64% with ₹379.02 crore.

According to the Association for Democratic Rights (ADR), only three of the 11 mainstream parties analysed had submitted their reports of donations to the Election Commission (EC) within the stipulated time frame.

The income for all political parties for the 11-year period was estimated at ₹11,367.34 crore, including national and regional outfits at ₹9,278.30 crore and ₹2,089.04 crore, respectively. The ADR report showed that ₹1,405.19 crore was declared by six national parties through known sources of donation worth above ₹20,000.

There were donations worth ₹325.23 crore that were deposited without any Permanent Account Number (PAN), which is issued by the Income Tax (I-T) Department.

The BJP accounted for the lion's share of unaccounted source of donations at ₹237.22 crore, or 72.94%, followed by the Congress (₹81.87 crore) and the Communist Party of India (CPI) (₹5.04-crore). Besides, ₹15.75 crore was donated to the parties via incorrect PAN numbers.

## 95 Covid warriors' kin got insurance claim: Govt

**In the wake of Covid-19 pandemic, the Centre has made a provision for insurance cover under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package**

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Union Health Ministry on Tuesday said that insurance claim of ₹50 lakh each was paid to the kin of 95 frontline healthcare workers who succumbed to the coronavirus disease, while 176 claims were still under process.

"In 95 cases of death of healthcare workers across the country, insurance money of Rs 50 lakh each has been paid. There are 176 claims which are being processed by the nodal insurance company. Out of these, 79 claims are yet to be received from various states," said Union Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan at a press briefing here.

In the wake of Covid-19 pandemic, the Centre has made a provision for insurance cover under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package for healthcare providers and community health workers, who may have to be in direct contact and take care of Covid-19 patients and thus at risk.

## Dr Reddy's Lab asked to submit revised protocol for both phase 2 and phase 3 human trials of Sputnik V

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) has asked Dr Reddy's Laboratories to submit a revised protocol for conducting both phase 2 and phase 3 human clinical trials for the Russian vaccine against Covid-19, Sputnik V, in India, the Government said on Tuesday.

The Hyderabad-based pharmaceutical company had applied to the Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) late last week, seeking permission to conduct phase-3 human clinical trials of the Russian vaccine.

The Subject Expert Committee (SEC) on Covid at the CDSCO, which held its meeting on Monday, deliberated on the application and asked the firm to submit a revised protocol stating it will have to conduct combined phase 2 and 3 clinical trials,

The firm has been asked to provide some other information as well.

In reply to a media query here at a press briefing, Union Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan said that the Russian vaccine has an agreement with an Indian commercial entity (Dr Reddy's Lab) which has approached the Indian regulator (DCGI) for clinical trials and that the regulator has given some suggestions which need to be incorporated by the entity.

## NCERT inks deal with ISLRTC to standardise Indian Sign Language

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In a move aimed to benefit the deaf and those with hearing disabilities, the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) inked a pact with the Indian Sign Language Research And Training Centre (ISLRTC) on Tuesday to come up with resources to standardise the Indian Sign Language to prepare inclusive academic material for persons with disabilities.

The agreement was signed on the occasion of the 60th foundation day of NCERT.

Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' said : "This new initiative by the NCERT and ISLRTC for the specially abled children, especially for those who cannot hear or speak, will help to guide them along with the rest of the students in terms of education."

Officials said that the priority will be to convert textbooks into the Indian Sign Language for Classes 1 to 5 and later for Classes 6 to 12. ISLRTC will provide the educators, interpreters and resources for this task.

As per the census 2011, there are 50, 71,007 deaf people and 19, 98,535 with speech disability in India.

## Will join Indian Army, says daughter of martyr Singh

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

Even before the mortal remains of Subedar Sukhdev Singh,martyred in a ceasefire violation by Pakistan on the line of control in Nowshera sector of Rajouri late Monday night, arrived in his native village Peoni falling under Majalta tehsil of Udhampur district on Tuesday, his daughter Tanvi Rajput took a pledge to serve the Indian Army by becoming an ace shooter, as desired by her father.

"My father was a brave soldier and an 'ace shooter'. When he was off duty and staying at home he used to train me and motivate me to become a shooter. After completing my studies I would like to serve the Indian army and become an ace shooter like my father" Tanvi Rajput told reporters while paying glowing tributes to him at her village home in Peoni on Tuesday.

Holding the hands of her younger brother in her lap, Tanvi kept repeating the last words uttered by her father. "Beta when you will complete your class 10th i will start your training, i want to become shooter like my father"

Subedar Sukhdev Singh, labeled as 'sher' (Lion) in his native village, had also participated in the Kargil war.

Remembering Singh's valour one of his ageing uncles said, "Sukhdev was very courageous. He never showed his back to his enemies. He led from the front, was not afraid of meeting death on the front line.

"I have lost my son but I am proud he sacrificed his life defending the borders of the mother nation".

As his mortal remains, wrapped in a tricolor wheeled inside his native village in a military truck, patriotic slogans were raised by hundreds of youngsters holding tricolor in their hands. After close family members performed rituals at home several hundred people escorted brave 'son of the soil' on his last journey to the cremation ground where his last rites were performed with full military honors.

Saluting the courage and valour of the valiant soldiers, the Lt Governor Manoj Sinha said that our brave Army personnel are serving the nation with utmost dedication and determination.

"The nation will remain indebted to brave hearts like Subedar Sukhdev Singh who made supreme sacrifice to safeguard the country's territorial integrity to ensure a safe and secure environment for our citizens", said the Lt Governor.

Since October 1, four soldiers of the Indian army and two CRPF personnel have attained martyrdom in different incidents in Jammu and Kashmir.

Two soldiers identified as Havaldar Kuldeep Singh and Rifleman Shubham Sharma attained martyrdom along the line of control in Nowgam in Kupwara on October 1 while Lance Naik Karnail Singh sacrificed his life in Poonch on September 30. Two CRPF personnel identified as Constable Shailendra Pratap Singh and Dhirendra Tripathi were martyred in a terror attack along the NH 44 in South Kashmir district of Pulwama near Pampore on October 5.

## Rajasthan Govt transfers 11 IAS, 5 IPS officers

PTI ■ JAIPUR

The Rajasthan Government has transferred or redesignated 11 Indian Administrative Service officers and five Indian Police Service officers.

Aparna Arora has been appointed Principal Secretary of School Education and Library Department, whereas Roli Singh is the new Principal

Resident Commissioner, New Delhi, an order issued by the Department of Personnel said.

Hemant Kumar Gera, who was earlier the Secretary of Food and Civil Supplies Department, has been appointed to the Department of Personnel.

P Ramesh has replaced Vikas Sitaram Bhale as the Udaipur Divisional Commissioner. Bhale will now be the Commissioner of Tourism Department and RTDC Chairman.

## 'Attacked by TMC goons in Diamond Harbour area'

### 2 held for BJP's leader murder

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

Bengal BJP spokesperson and former MLA Samik Bhattacharya was on Tuesday physically assaulted and his car literally smashed by alleged Trinamool Congress supporters while he was going to join a party meeting at Diamond Harbour some 50 km south of Kolkata.

The attack came close on the heels of the murder of BJP Councillor Manish Shukla demise at Titagarh in North 24 Parganas. Two persons were arrested in the case.

"I was going to Diamond Harbour to attend a party meeting. Suddenly my vehicle was stopped by a crowd of 100-150 people shouting anti-BJP slogans. They smashed the windshields of my car, pulled me out, threw me on the ground, kicked me, rained blows on me," Bhattacharya whose clothes were tattered in the scuffle said.

State BJP president Dilip Ghosh too was black-flagged even as South 24 Parganas district TMC leader Shaukat Molla said the saffron leaders would face more attacks if they continued with dirty politics.

Molla a party strongman said "if the BJP leaders do not stop the dirty politics they are playing then the people will now resort to more such attacks and they will break their legs… That party is playing the politics of hatred throughout India … like what they did in Hathras and other places. They are setting one castes and communities against each other. People will see through this dirty game."

Incidentally the attack came a day after Dilip Ghosh made a controversial statement saying Bengal was fast turning into a "mafia raj like Bihar and UP" providing the desired ammo to the Trinamool Congress which quickly got back wondering whether Ghosh genuinely meant that the BJP ruled states were in the grip of mafia raj.

Taking a dig at Ghosh TMC leader Rahul Chakrabarty said "his own comments are a proof of what it is like in UP and Bihar… he has himself conceded that these two states are in the grip of mafia raj."

Meanwhile, the CID arrested two accused Md Khurram and Sk Gulab in connection of Shukla's murder on grounds that the former nourished a grudge against the deceased as his hands were suspected in the murder of Khurram's father a few years ago. Barrackpore BJP MP Arjun Singh claimed that Khurram was close to Trinamool Congress leader and former MLA Madan Mitra.

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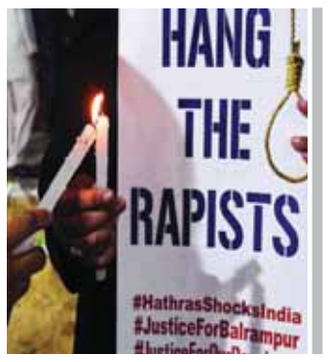
PAPER WITH PASSION



# Outrageous plea

The UP Govt's affidavit in SC on the Hathras rape case, justifying its acts, shows why justice is a far cry for Dalits




The Supreme Court may express outrage at the gang-rape of a Dalit woman in Hathras as "shocking and extraordinary" and may have held the Uttar Pradesh Government to account over the legal protection of witnesses and the distraught family but does that change anything on the ground? On the contrary, the abhorrent arguments forwarded by the State Government in defence of what it did (though it was more like what it did not do) after the rape are the reasons why the justice system keeps failing us. By insuring the upper caste perpetrators, the UP police also ensured why two more gang-rapes of Dalit women that made the news, one in UP itself, in Balrampur, and the other in Ajmer, Rajasthan, were not followed up. Hathras may have become politically volatile but does that mean the other two women have been less violated? No. It's just that the offence is so repetitive that it is not considered big enough. And given the fact that the UP Government presented its deficiencies as strengths, justified its obstructionist moves as necessary for maintaining law and order and pleaded that it was the victim instead of the tormentor, because there was a larger conspiracy to malign its image, even the unthinkable can be sold as credible. So justice seems like a far cry. What is disturbing is that the State Government keeps looking for all kinds of "otherisation" to justify its actions, labelling every problem as a conspiracy and a threat to national security and the greater good of the community. So it told the Supreme Court that its police had "immediately registered the crime" and that it had cremated the girl's body in the presence of her parents to avoid a caste and communal flare-up that it had anticipated would be inevitable. Besides, some sections were force-feeding narratives to the victim's family and sensing a larger conspiracy to defame the Yogi Adityanath Government, the blockade at Hathras was necessary to counter false propaganda. It forgot to mention that it stood guarantor and made exceptions for an upper caste congregation that was called to save the rapists. And if the official version that the girl was killed by strangulation and brutal assault is to be believed, then there was no rape at all in Hathras. Yet these claims not only seem abominable and distasteful, they are blatantly false. On-ground reports by media and independent investigations have revealed that the police filed the said FIR days after the incident. The forensic test that ought to have been conducted within three days was delayed to such an extent, by 11 days to be precise, that there was no evidence of sperm left in the victim's body. Of course, the police knows that there are other ways of establishing rape, like matching DNA samples from the victim and the accused. But that was not to be as her body was burnt. As for parental consent, the family has been consistent in its statements that members were isolated in their house, stopped from accessing any kind of outside help. Not only that, once the State Government felt that things were slipping out of its control, it imposed Section 144, barricading the entire village and alienating the victim's family, restricting media presence and heckling Opposition leaders who were trying to meet the family. The UP police filed 21 FIRs across the State, alleging sedition and conspiracy by "unknown" people. One of the FIRs also alleges that the family of the young woman was offered ₹50 lakh to lie about the State Government. This is one of the six that were filed based on a complaint, predictably, by a sub-inspector. Did the State Government realise that there are other ways of hatching conspiracies than milking the rape of a daughter? Worse, the State Government's affidavit also accused the media of criminal intent to incite riots. In contrast, nowhere did it show a semblance of empathy for the girl who lost her life, accusing the family of changing versions of their statements as proof of a frame-up.

This is exactly a throwback to the gang-rape of Bhanwari Devi in 1992. Her rapists were acquitted in 1995 on the grounds that upper caste men would not even touch a lower caste woman as it would defile their "purity." Nothing has changed since then. If we go by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) figures for 2019, then about 10 Dalit women are raped every day in the country with UP recording among the highest numbers. And given the tone and tenor of the State Government's affidavit in the highest court of the land, and, therefore, seen as a measure of the official response mechanism, that number is likely to be higher. Most Dalit women do not report the crimes for fear of backlash by the dominant castes, coercion by the tools of the State that they happen to control and out of a fatalistic acceptance of their birth as a burden to be borne and lived with. Even among the rare cases that are prosecuted, the outcome is rarely empowering or so dragged out that the traumatised victim just gives up. Little wonder then that over the past five years, crimes against Dalits have almost doubled. Hardly are the procedural clauses mentioned in the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, followed strictly. This law mandates that violations be investigated by an officer who is or above the rank of DSP and that a chargesheet be filed within 60 days. The conviction rate for rape is anyway low in the country, at about 28 per cent. So imagine the chances of a Dalit victim. At this rate, even our moral conscience will look like a threat some day.

# Milking his illness

Donald Trump is using his COVID-19 diagnosis in a politically unique way

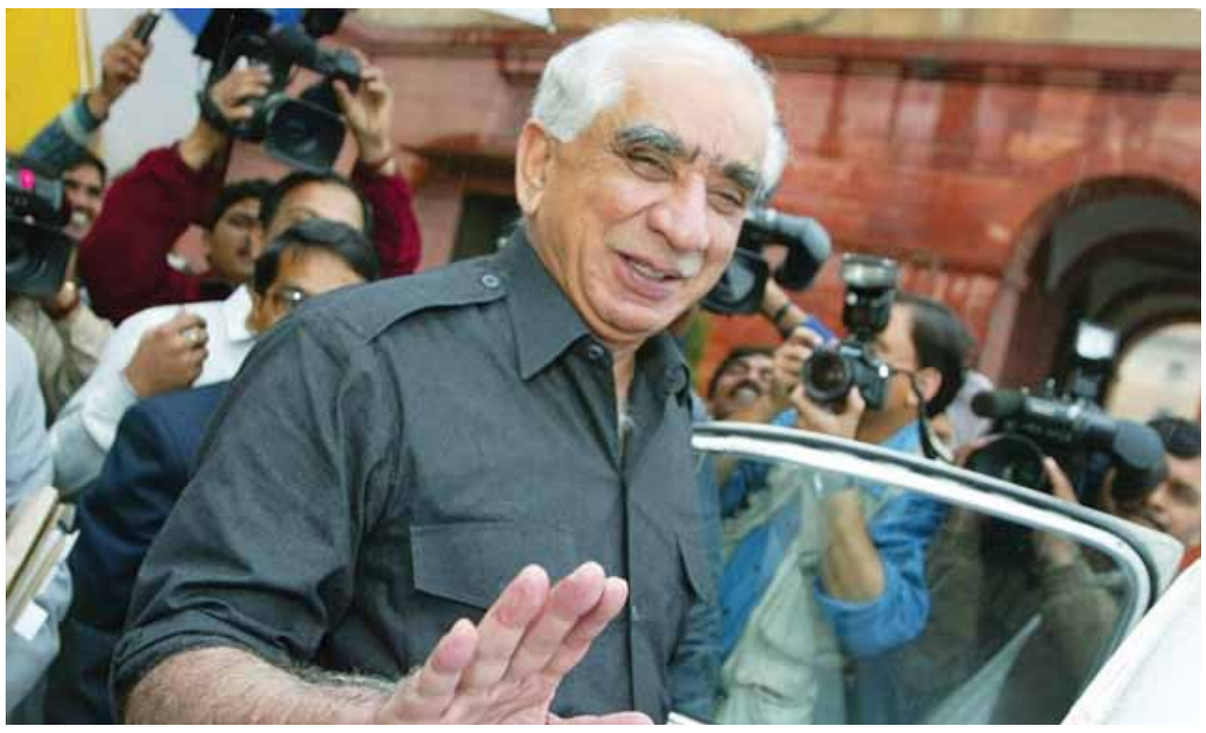
US President Donald Trump has joined the list of world leaders who have been diagnosed with COVID-19, but like the United Kingdom's Boris Johnson and Brazil's Jair Bolsanaro, he is also a leader who was once sceptical of the virus. Bolsanaro was quarantined for a couple of weeks and Johnson was hospitalised and even administered oxygen. So far, Trump appears, at least from what we hear, to have escaped the worst. Yet, unlike the other two, Trump is in the midst of election season. Indeed, voting day for the US Presidential election is under one month away. But instead of convalescing, he has used the last few days to actively campaign, and while we are unaware of the advice doctors have given him, one is pretty sure that keeping his mask on in public is one of them. And his bravado may do more harm than good.

But Trump has always been a bit fast and loose with facts and best practices surrounding the pandemic. He is right in calling out China's double standards and hypocrisy around the virus but by not taking the impact of the pandemic seriously enough, many lives have been lost in the US. However, in his defence, Trump's position right now is a delicate one. He is not a young man and the US Presidential election is a tiring one, particularly given the bizarre way the US conducts it. This involves large amounts of travel across a geographically large country and his precarious health will affect his campaigning. We are still not aware if Trump's diagnosis will impact the US Presidential election but it also highlights how uniquely susceptible politicians and the political process are to the pandemic. While education and some other sectors have switched to working from home, politics by its very nature involves social gatherings. In India, we do not know how adverse or otherwise the Bihar polls will be in the spreading of the virus but we could hope that it is now weaker than it was and best practices have been put in place. Trump should also be very careful, not just for his own health but those of his most ardent supporters as well.

# Remembering a true friend

With the passing away of Jaswant Singh, India and the BJP have lost a great scholar, statesman and soldier

ASHOK K **MEHTA**



The only photograph I have of Jaswant Singh and me together was the one he gave me a year before he was admitted to the hospital in August 2014, never to regain consciousness. It was taken on December 10, 1957, when we were on stage enacting a play, *Choice of Arms,* at the Indian Military Academy, Dehradun, during the silver jubilee of the academy and our passing out parade celebrations. Portraying the hallmark cavalry officer, Jaswant reflected its mirror image: suave, stylish and snobbish. I played the rough and ready infanteer, his poorer cousin, crew cut *et al.* As Jaswant Major *Saab* bade farewell to arms in 1966, complaining about excessive employment of "Yes Sir," his sputnik political rise saw him become Defence, Finance and Foreign Minister. In those heady days, he would tell Jeeves, Pep Singh: "General *Sahab ko manpasand* whisky *pilao*". During these convivial encounters, he would recount in fits of laughter, incidents in the academy — of lost patrols, enemy ambush and one dereliction that nearly delayed graduation. His passion for Western classical music, literature and history never deserted him. Bach, Beethoven and Mozart played softly even at 35,000 feet on Air India or in his offices in South Block and 16 Teen Murti Lane.

A conspiracy hatched by Army Chief, General SF Rodrigues, marked my parting from the Army. I sought Jaswant's help which came unflinchingly. As a member of the Lok Sabha and a rising star in BJP, one evening over sundowners, he invited two of the country's best legal minds — Ram Jethmalani and Arun Jaitley — both from his party but with their mutual dislike never camouflaged. Only Jaswant could have brought them together and along with Jaitley's junior, Arvind Nigam, they managed, 20 years later, to defeat the Government for the first time in India's independent history over its imposition of Army Act Section 18 and the Pleasure Doctrine. All three legal eagles became good friends.

Jaswant also introduced me to his tailor in Khan Market, Mukhtar Ahmad, who patterned his black *mazri* bush shirts in the Army's Walking Out style. The trademark epaulette bush shirt — Jaswant's copyright — is now worn by all and sundry.

Jaswant's mastery of the English language and his gorgeous handwriting were legendary. He wrote a dozen seminal books, three focussed on defence and national security: *A Call to Honour, Defending India* and his last before he was hospitalised, *India at Risk*. In 2013, he invited me to Mumbai on a whistle-stop tour to promote his book and quiz him on the risks facing India. I recall vividly an earlier evening at his home that was rudely interrupted by Defence Minister Sharad Pawar's call announcing that he was on his way. I was urged to knock back my drink and leave. Then Army Chief Rodrigues, in an interview to this newspaper, had indiscreetly called neighbouring countries as bandicoots and counselled for good governance. This created a furore in Parliament which forced Pawar into administering a warning to Rodrigues. It was the draft of this admonition that Pawar wanted Jaswant to edit and embellish that led to my retreat. With his Sheaffer pen, Jaswant corrected the parliamentary reprimand which Pawar read out the next day in Parliament, pacifying the Opposition ranks of which he was one.

Perhaps Jaswant's most anxious moments were during the Kandahar hijack of IC 814. He told me that relatives of passengers made good copy for television and that IB was reporting that the incident could trigger communal disturbances. During the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) meeting, he volunteered, since no one else did, to accompany the three Jaish terrorists to Kandahar for release of Indian hostages. The stigma of this enduring ignominy he parried bravely.

> PERHAPS JASWANT'S MOST ANXIOUS MOMENTS WERE DURING THE KANDAHAR HIJACK OF IC 814. DURING THE CCS MEETING, HE VOLUNTEERED, SINCE NO ONE ELSE DID, TO ACCOMPANY THE THREE JAISH TERRORISTS TO KANDAHAR FOR RELEASE OF INDIAN HOSTAGES. THE STIGMA OF THIS ENDURING IGNOMINY HE PARRIED BRAVELY

During the Kargil skirmish, on the day Tololing heights were captured (June 11, 1999), I accompanied Jaswant to Beijing as part of the press delegation in my post-Army *avatar*. India had carried out nuclear tests the previous year and attributed them to the threat from China. His mission to China was to restore bilateral relations gone in deep freeze since the tests. The frosty meeting with Foreign Minister Tang Jiaxuan began with Tang insisting that China was never a threat to India, adding that we "have a saying in Chinese that those who tie the knot must untie it first" to which Jaswant recalled a Rajasthani aphorism from his village Jasol: "you need two hands to untie a knot." The strategic difference was not allowed to become a dispute.

Jaswant was full of witty repartees. After the nuclear tests, which stunned and annoyed the Americans, he met Secretary of State Madeleine Albright who remarked with dripping sarcasm that "India had dug itself into a hole". "Madam Secretary of State, India is a civilisational state, it does not dig holes," he replied with exceptional grace. The two developed healthy respect and affection for each other. Through the 'Next Steps in Strategic Partnership' Jaswant discussed with Deputy Secretary of State, Strobe Talbott, and over 16 meetings in different parts of the globe, they sketched the path towards the landmark India-US nuclear deal.

In the last of his nine stints as a parliamentarian, Jaswant represented the Gorkhas from Darjeeling. Since I was from the fifth Gorkha regiment, had widely trekked in Nepal, was fluent in Gorkhali and familiar with the problems of India-domiciled Gorkhas and their demand for Gorkhaland, I became his occasional advisor in his constituency. I once accompanied him to Darjeeling, meeting Gorkha Janmukti Morcha leaders Bimal Gurung, Roshan Giri and Ramesh Ale, who was from my regiment. Jaswant would park himself in a quaint 19th century English hotel — below Kalimati temple — which was then under American ownership but would annually fly in English actors to stage plays like that year Oscar Wilde's *Importance of Being Earnest*.

As convenor of India-Pakistan Track Two dialogue, which ran for nearly 15 years till the ruling dispensation forced it to stop, I tried to invite Jaswant to participate when he was not in Government. I suggested "you could meet your Kargil counterpart Sartaj Aziz, with whom you refused to shake hands" but he steadfastly refused.

Jaswant was a prolific rider and played horse polo and cycle polo for the academy. He continued riding for several years and owned ponies till a back problem forced him to stop. While I have lost a true friend from whom I learnt a lot, India and the BJP have lost a great scholar, statesman and soldier.

*(The writer, a retired Major General, was Commander IPKF South, Sri Lanka and founder member of the Defence Planning Staff, currently the Integrated Defence Staff.)*

## SOUNDBITE

We are giving special attention on taking immediate action once repression on children in any form takes place. We want our children to be safe and be good human beings.

**Bangladesh PM**
—Sheikh Hasina

If the farm laws are an achievement, then why are the farmers not celebrating, why are they not bursting firecrackers with joy?

**Congress leader**
—Rahul Gandhi

Our team has done well against top sides in the recent past and, therefore, we are confident that we can win a medal for India at the Olympics.

**Hockey player**
—Akashdeep Singh

The fire was lit to destroy evidence. (Pinarayi) Vijayan is responsible and cannot wash his hands from the issue.

**Kerala BJP chief**
—K Surendran

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Deliver justice

Sir — After the body of the 19-year-old Dalit woman was cremated in Hathras, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath tweeted, "The UP Government is committed to the safety and development of mothers and sisters." However, the reality was different. Following the cremation, a curfew was imposed in Hathras. Political leaders, who wanted to meet the bereaved family, were roughed up. Journalists found themselves pushed back. It was evident the Government knew fully well about the barbarity of the crime and, therefore, wanted to minimise the political fallout. This takes us back to the January 2018 incident in Kathua, Jammu, where an eight-year-old girl of the nomadic Bakarwal tribe was abducted, drugged, kept in a local temple, raped repeatedly and strangulated to death. Time and again, justice has been denied to the weak and vulnerable sections of the society. And if this continues, it will only give impunity to those who believe that lives and dignity of some are less valuable than theirs.

**Haridasan Rajan**
*Kozhikode*

### Govt should reconsider opening schools

The Ministry of Education has issued guidelines for States and Union Territories on reopening of schools from October 15. However, at a time when the COVID cases are constantly increasing across the country, doubts do arise about whether the decision of opening schools is a wise move, especially with the children being more vulnerable to the virus. This could result in a rapid spread of the disease and spell doom for the already sick and weakened public healthcare system. Even though the health departments are doing their very best with whatever limited resources they have for a highly populated nation like ours, if the spread of the virus becomes uncontrollable, then it will only result in more deaths and disaster.

Students, who need to do practical assignments, can do it in small batches by being physically present in their respective institutions once there is a dip in COVID cases but not earlier than that. It is easier to chalk out plans and give diktats officially but it needs meticulous planning to put them into practice. The opinions of the

parents, students and teachers need to be considered with utmost priority before issuing any orders. Though the ultimate decision has been left to the State Governments, both Centre and State should reconsider the opening of schools and continue with the present method of online education.

**M Pradyu**
*Kannur*

### Political weather

Sir — An interesting political scenario has cropped up in Bihar with Lok Janshakti Party (LJP) under the leadership of Chirag Paswan breaking away from NDA to contest the Assembly polls on its own, while remaining glued to the party at the Centre. This means Chief Minister Nitish Kumar might witness a drastic cut in the number of Janata Dal (United) seats to accommodate LJP. Nitish will try to contest at least 120 seats so that he can be close to the majority mark on his own in case NDA wins the polls. At the same time, if the LJP gets more seats, the BJP will have more space to counter Nitish if the latter decides to switch sides.

**Subhash Chandra Agarwal**
*Chandni Chowk*

### Lies exposed

Sir — The report submitted by the All Indian Institute of Medical Science, confirming actor Sushant Singh Rajput's death as a suicide, has exposed the Bollywood actress Kangana Ranaut and certain media houses, who were fabricating stories for their personal benefit. What started as an investigation of the late actor's alleged murder turned into an issue of nepotism and drugs in the film industry with certain names being targetted. Ranaut should come forward and apologise for politicising Rajput' death. It is time that we accept the fact that Rajput was indeed depressed and committed suicide. The resources spent on politicising his death should be used to get justice in the rape-murder case of the 19-year-old Dalit woman in Hathras. And if Ranaut is really the person to break glass ceilings, then it is cases like this that she needs to focus on.

**Bhagwan Thadani**
*Mumbai*

### GST Council meet

Sir — The decision to make returns for small taxpayers on a quarterly basis rather than monthly basis during the 42nd Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council comes as a major relief. The number of returns comes down from 24 monthly returns to eight, from January 1, 2021.

**Kavya Shah**
*Ujjain*

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FIRST COLUMN

# A collective failure

The solution to the increasing number of rapes and atrocities on women in the country lies in us, not elsewhere

KALYANI **SHANKAR**

Once again the whole country is aghast at the alleged gang-rape and brutalisation of a 19-year-old Dalit girl from Uttar Pradesh (UP) who succumbed to her injuries in a Delhi hospital recently after fighting for her life for 15 days. Even though bowing to pressure, the four accused men belonging to the upper caste were arrested and are now in police custody, it was the callous attitude of the local police and the UP administration, which led to her sad end. Had the girl been from an upper caste family, the whole episode would have ended different. But as things stand, after the alleged rape in Hathras, the Government of UP hastily cremated the victim in the middle of the night, ostensibly to "avoid large scale violence" and briefly barred the media and Opposition politicians from visiting the victim's village and family, prompting suspicions of a cover-up. Sadly, even over seven decades after India's Independence, Dalits still remain on the fringes of society and face discrimination despite many laws protecting them.

Though top Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra marched to the residence of the murdered girl in Hathras, the police did not allow them to enter the area. There was a showdown after which they met the girl's family. Bhim Army chief Chandrashekhar Azad has also accused the State Government of inaction. However, the two former chief ministers of UP, Akhilesh Yadav (Samajwadi Party) and the BSP chief Mayawati (who is herself a Dalit) have confined themselves to tweets condemning the Government. Bowing to the public and political pressure, UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath announced a CBI probe into the crime.

The Hathras case is not just one more rape case. It shows that whatever laws are passed by Parliament, women, particularly poor Dalit women, have to struggle for justice, right from registering a First Information Report (FIR). According to the 2019 annual report of the National Crime Records Bureau, 32,033 rape cases were registered across the country, or an average of 88 cases daily or one rape every 16 minutes. The December 2012 Nirbhaya gang-rape case shook the conscience of the nation and there were large scale protests. Even then it took eight years for the justice system to execute the accused. The Government allocated a huge amount for the aid of rape survivors after the Nirbhaya case but it has not been distributed satisfactorily. Though new laws were passed since 2012 increasing penalties for sexual assault, rape, and sexual abuse, they have not deterred rapists. As the Hathras case shows, the perpetrators are still not scared of the rule of law. And only a vigilant media brings out such shocking incidents and helps the victims get justice, when all attempts are made to bury their voices.

What is the remedy and do we need more stringent laws? What is needed are not more laws but the strict implementation of the existing ones by the police, the Government and law enforcement agencies. The mindset of the police and the judicial system should change and they should be more sensitive and sympathetic to rape survivors. Complaints should be filed without delay and harassment of the victim. The backlog of cases is stupendous and justice takes too long to be delivered. Justice delayed is justice denied. It is important that the judicial system respond to public needs.

Second, it is a sad commentary that despite the Supreme Court's observations that judicial reforms were needed urgently, the Government is dragging its feet on them. Archaic laws need to be amended. It is bizarre that when a child of two or three is raped and is unable to give evidence, the culprits go scot-free because the mother's evidence is considered secondary. How can a two-year-old child give evidence of rape? The onus of proof should not lie with the victim. Third, building up of weak cases by the investigating agencies, including the CBI has enabled influential criminals to go free or get away with minimum punishment. The fourth is the need for educational reforms. There is no doubt that the system needs some shaking up. Children should be taught moral values and respect for women right from their childhood. In a country where the Shakti cult is still relevant, girls should be taught self-defence in schools.

The fifth is the social outlook. Society has to change its present attitude. Many women still do not go to the police to report these incidents for lack of faith in the system. Till rapists are not brought to book swiftly in the country, they will continue to rape with impunity.

A watchful society, supportive of the victims is very necessary to check these heinous crimes. It is apt to remember the quotation in William Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*. Cassius confides in his friend Brutus that in the best interests of the public Julius Caesar must be stopped from becoming the emperor of the Roman Empire. Cassius tells him, "The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars, but ourselves, that we are underlings." The solution to the increasing number of rapes and atrocities on women lies in us, not elsewhere.

(*The writer is a senior journalist*)

POINT**COUNTER**POINT

CUSHIONED SOFA ON TRACTORS IS NOT A PROTEST. IT IS PROTEST TOURISM TO MISGUIDE FARMERS, WHO ARE EDUCATED ENOUGH TO SEE THROUGH THIS FACADE
—UNION MINISTER
HARDEEP SINGH PURI

THE '*KHETI BACHAO YATRA*' IS AGAINST DARK LAWS THAT WILL DESTROY THE EXISTING STRUCTURE OF AGRICULTURE AND HIT PUNJAB AND HARYANA MOST.
—CONGRESS LEADER
RAHUL GANDHI

# History repeating itself

## Popular opinion for the Krishna Janmabhoomi dispute in Mathura is being slowly galvanised although the court dismissed the civil suit

ANURAG **TIWARY**

As popular opinion for the Krishna Janmabhoomi dispute in Mathura is being slowly galvanised after the court dismissed a civil suit on September 30, it looks like history is repeating itself. It wasn't a usual day at the office for Civil Judge, senior division, Chhaya Sharma of the Mathura Civil Court, although, what happened wasn't unexpected. The court had just received a civil suit by a Hindu deity — Lord Krishna Virajman. Since the Lord is a "minor", he was represented in the suit through his "next friend." The suit had been filed against encroaching and illegally building a *Shahi Idgah* mosque on the minor's property. The allegation was against the Uttar Pradesh Waqf Board and the mosque trust for illegally allowing the entry of "some Muslims" for the said purpose.

It had been claimed in the suit that "every inch of land in Katra Keshav Dev (the disputed site) is sacred for the devotees of Lord Krishna" as he was born on that site. It had been demanded on behalf of the deity that, "*Darshan*, *pooja*, rituals according to Vedic Sanatana Dharma, faith, belief, usages, traditions and customs", which are protected under Article 25 of the Constitution, be allowed to be performed at the actual birthplace which lies beneath the *Shahi Idgah* mosque. The suit was dismissed by the court on September 30 at the admission stage itself. The court cited that the Places of Worship Act, 1991, which provides for the maintenance of the religious character of any place of worship as it existed on August 15, 1947, barred it from accepting the suit at this stage.

Don't be surprised if you are getting a feeling of *déjà vu*, because the country has been through this before. The filing of a civil suit before the Mathura court was only symbolic. What it effectively did, irrespective of the dismissal order, is that, it has set the tone for an all new battle that Right-wing Hindus are ready to fight in their attempt to regain their cultural heritage and lost religious integrity.

The Krishna *Janmabhoomi* in Mathura has for decades been one among the three sites (others being the Ayodhya Ram *Janmabhoomi* and the Kashi Vishwanath Temple in Varanasi) that Hindu Right-wing political organisations have been fighting for. The battle is to reclaim the religious and cultural heritage of India which was lost when Aurangzeb had issued orders for the demolition of a large number of temples (close to 40,000) in 1669-1670 and had built mosques over them. This, of course, is a matter of fact and history. But, how will this lost heritage be regained today? The answer is: "By the demolition of these mosques built by barbaric Muslim rulers over temples."

One can't help but be reminded of the Ayodhya Ram *Janmabhoomi*-Babri *masjid* dispute. It was one of the longest and the most fiercely fought legal as well as political battles in our country which changed the way politics was done and elections were fought. Although appeasement politics was used as a tool during elections even before the 1990s, such glorification of a particular belief system juxtaposed to the vilification of another was unprecedented. Populism and divisive politics were played like never before. Politics of identity based on new definitions of Hinduism had emerged — one that was based on the faith of exclusion and anti-communitarian. The battle even defined what is meant by community, society, and citizens and who deserved to stay in it. It set new standards for everything. No one knew what was the "common good" anymore. This led to social atomisation, cultural fragmentation and moral and religious decadence.

> ISN'T OUR HERITAGE MORE ABOUT INCLUSIVITY, ACCEPTANCE, TOLERANCE, TRUST AND HARMONY? WHY CAN'T A MOSQUE IN MATHURA'S KATRA KESHAV DEV STAND TOGETHER WITH LORD KRISHNA'S TEMPLE? WHY CAN'T THE COMPROMISE ARRIVED AT BETWEEN THE TWO COMMUNITIES, BASED ON MUTUAL RESPECT FOR EACH OTHER'S FAITH, WAY BACK IN 1968, BE ALLOWED TO SURVIVE? ISN'T THAT THE IDEA OF INDIA WE ARE DUTY-BOUND TO PROTECT?

For 25 long years, Lord Ram was politicised. He was made an emotional issue to garner votes. Rabble-rousers and demagogues were allowed to rise to positions of political power using his name. A new politico-cultural space was created in this country which said, "Let me glorify my own religion."

This led to bloodshed that cost thousands of lives. The most viral slogan on the streets, for the longest time ever was, "*Tareekh nahi batayenge par mandir wahi banayenge* (we will not give you a date, but we will make the temple there only)."

Suddenly, everybody was a staunch supporter of this new version of Hindutva. Everybody wanted a temple to be built in Ayodhya on the disputed Babri mosque site — legally or illegally, peacefully or violently. All this was happening simultaneously with an equally fierce legal battle being fought before the courts.

When the apex court gave a final decision in the case, allowing for a temple to be built on the disputed site, it was clear that this was an apt example of decisions based on faith. The majority of the parties to the suit were happy. However, senior advocate Rajeev Dhawan had warned the court during the hearings by stating that the court must consider how future generations would view this verdict.

The demand for declaring the disputed site in Mathura as Krishna *Janmabhoomi* is gaining momentum. A 'Krishna Janmabhoomi Nirman Nyas' has already been set up by a group of religious men. Mass support for the suit is on the rise on social media where political groups are even demanding for the scrapping of the 1991 Act.

"Hindu unity" like never before is being called for. Statements by top political leaders and members of Right-wing organisations have already started pouring in. And last but not the least, prime-time drama on TV news channels have got new fuel for their daily duels. Popular opinion is being slowly galvanised, and this all looks like history repeating itself. This was the inevitable consequence of the Ayodhya issue and the verdict.

One has to understand that political parties, whose rise to power has transpired due to a combination of certain formulae and tools of political oppression, will always be reluctant to let those formulae go away so soon. It was the Ayodhya dispute, the reassertion of the "persecution complex" on the part of Muslims, and the subsequent wave of "Hindu nationalism" that transformed the BJP from a cadre-based party to one with mass support. The BJP has leap-frogged into power and consecrated its image of a "Hindu nationalist." A denouement of the same is, therefore, impossible especially when it is faced with a crippling economy and the worst rates of unemployment this country has seen in decades.

Religion, historically, has proven to be the best political weapon, to internalise oppression among the masses. A sedative that helps cool down dissenting voices, where people can agree to not disagree.

Mathura will be the new metaphor for Hindutva politics. The Krishna *Janmabhoomi* movement will serve as a consistent emotional issue required to connect to the masses. This time, Lord Krishna will be used. Fringe groups will again devise a putsch to assert majoritarianism. New definitions of State and citizens will be written down in the name of "religious freedom." Safe spaces for minorities will again be crushed. The judiciary will again be faced with an all-new battle where it will again choose necessity over rationality. But, what after Mathura? How many more Ayodhyas and Mathuras will we be spectators to? Isn't our heritage more about inclusivity, acceptance, tolerance, trust and harmony? Why can't a mosque in Mathura's Katra Keshav Dev stand together with Lord Krishna's temple? Why can't the compromise arrived at between the two communities, based on mutual respect for each other's faith, way back in 1968, be allowed to survive? Isn't that the idea of India we are duty-bound to protect?

I am reminded of two *kalyug* predictions that Ved Vyasa made. First, he said that cities will be dominated by thieves, the *Vedas* will be contaminated by speculative interpretations, political leaders will virtually consume the citizens and the so-called priests and intellectuals will be devotees of their greed. (*Srimad Bhagavatam* Verse 12.3.32) Second, he said, "Uncultured men will show their austerity to the Lord by wearing a mendicant's dress and those who know nothing about religion will mount a high seat and presume to speak on religious principles (*Srimad Bhagavatam* Verse 12.3.38)." The dismissal of the suit by the Mathura court doesn't matter because the politics around Krishna Janmabhoomi has just started. India is fully set to vindicate Ved Vyasa. *Jai shri* Krishna!

(*Anurag is from the National Law University, Visakhapatnam*)

# Women at the receiving end during the pandemic

## The world is far away from building more equal and resilient societies and creating equitable policies and interventions

ARCHANA **DATTA**

The Indian economy's downhill journey was all over the media, but the news about 88.17 per cent women workers surviving with a reduced number of meals in the 26 districts of Madhya Pradesh (MP) and the 52.46 per cent dip in women's participation, the lowest in eight years in the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, received very little media attention.

When the pandemic struck the world, Maria Holtsberg, United Nation (UN) Women, Humanitarian and Disaster Risk Advisor, Asia and Pacific, rued that a "crisis always exacerbates gender inequality." In 2016, a high-level UN panel called for incorporating gender dimensions in any public health emergency response. Unfortunately, Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act's appraisal of 73 policy statements, guidance documents and response strategies, laid bare a shocking revelation that nearly half or 46 per cent ignored the gendered effects of the pandemic and hunger crises and only seven per cent proposed any concrete action.

"The pandemic-containment public policies and health strategies so far haven't looked through the gender lens… and now the pre-existing gender inequalities, in every sphere, from health to the economy…are likely to be further amplified," lamented Poonam Muttreja, Executive Director, Population Foundation of India (PFI).

In the light of the past adverse health consequences of epidemics, the World Health Organisation's (WHO's) early advisory urged prioritising sexual and reproductive health services as "essential services." Nevertheless, a survey in 103 countries found large-scale disruptions in 67 per cent. A Guttmacher Institute's projection, on the basis of data from 1.6 billion women of reproductive age from 132 low and middle income countries, envisaged that a "10 per cent decline in use of reversible contraceptive methods, would hit 49 million more women, cause 15 million additional unintended pregnancies and 3.3 million unsafe abortions over the course of a year." Going by official figures, the health deficit (April-June) in India amounts to a drop in immunisation by 27 per cent, institutional deliveries by 28 per cent and major surgeries by 60 per cent in comparison to last year.

Despite abortions being enlisted as "emergency services," very few in reality could reach the clinics due to inadequate transport and lack of information. Ipas Development Foundation (IDF), India, collating data from eight States, evaluated that "from March 25 to June 24, about 1.85 million Indian women could not terminate unwanted pregnancies. About 80 per cent for absence of medical abortion drugs at pharmacy stores, another 20 per cent, due to reduced access to health facilities."

However, women play a lead role in care-giving within families or as healthcare workers. "Women's social conditioning makes them take charge of a sick family member. And as professional care-givers, nursing continues to be seen as a women's domain. But the risks of being with patients for longer hours than the doctors are often undermined. We tend to fall into gendered hierarchies in recognising the services of a nurse contracting the disease and succumbing, as against the doctors falling prey to the disease," says Padmini Ghosh, country co-ordinator, Women's Regional Network.

The recent agitation of the ASHA workers against underpayment and increased workload, without the minimum protective gear, further exposed the inadequacies of the public health system. PFI's Muttreja was categorical that "we must invest in our 3.3 million strong female frontline workforce for combating COVID-19 by valuing and resourcing their needs."

A PFI study in Uttar Pradesh (UP), Bihar and Rajasthan, disclosed that an increasing care-giving role within the household has led to high degrees of psychological distress among girls/women. Ghosh says that women's mental health problems are often ignored as "figments of imagination" and receive no medical interventions. In this regard, the launch of a toll-free helpline "Kiran" to address the rising number of pandemic-induced mental health problems is a welcome step.

Furthermore, the economic slump has also created ripple effects on food security in India, which experts apprehend, would reinforce inequalities in food distribution within the household, making structural inequities more visible in food systems.

Dr Shweta Khandelwal, Head, Nutrition Research, Public Health Foundation of India, asserted that "women tend to remain vulnerable to multiple forms of malnutrition due to various socio-economic, demographic and cultural factors. Undernutrition enhances their susceptibility to infection, including respiratory infections and immuno-deficiency, making them more vulnerable to COVID-19."

Plus, with less than a quarter being present in the labour force in the pre-pandemic era, Indian women are now likely to be further pushed out of gainful employment. The Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy's Consumer Pyramids Household Survey data confirmed that, at least, four out of ten women in India lost their jobs. In rural India, the huge influx of migrants workers to hometowns and villages generated a downswing of about 2.24 per cent in the rate of women's work participation. William Joe, Professor, Population Research Centre, Indian Institute of Economic Growth, alerted that, "Women being hardly present in the core sector labour force are less likely to benefit from macro-support programmes. There is a need for direct wage support programmes like MNREGA, rural and urban. These should be redesigned to fit into gender needs and work preferences as unskilled labour work may not find many takers in urban areas."

Many experts also fear that "about 23.5 percentage points less women than men employed in the pre-Corona phase are likely to be re-employed later."

Besides, the lockdowns have turned homes into a place for physical, sexual and psychological abuse for many women. During the first four phases of the lockdown, Indian women filed more domestic violence complaints than in the last ten years during the same period.

Now, while assessing women's COVID-19 disease burden and health outcomes from the biological perspective, many researchers affirmed that "women tend to mount a stronger immune response," while some contended that "sex patterns are not universal among all viruses." How sex and gender are influencing clinical care cannot be fully explained for lack of comprehensive sex-disaggregated data, as the WHO in its 2007 guidelines emphasised. Nevertheless, in the past too, WHO guidelines have been overlooked which seriously affected women's health needs.

"The pandemic's imagery in public consciousness and reportage has been dominated by a male doctor, a policeman, a male migrant labourer. While a nurse, the policewoman who has to go back home to an infant, a jobless migrant domestic help or a trafficked sex-worker with no income, rarely feature in public imagination," laments Ghosh. Sadly, this rings true.

The UN Secretary-General's call for focussing on women's interests in the pandemic remains largely unheeded. The world is far away from building more equal and resilient societies and creating equitable policies and interventions.

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

the pioneer
LUCKNOW | WEDNESDAY | OCTOBER 7, 2020



# Sensex extends gains for 4th day, rallies 600 pts

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Equity benchmarks defied gravity for the fourth successive session on Tuesday as investors piled into finance and banking counters amid firm global cues following US President Donald Trump's discharge from hospital.

Encouraging macroeconomic data and anticipation of healthy Q2 results further buoyed sentiment, traders said. The BSE Sensex zoomed 600.87 points or 1.54 per cent to close at 39,574.57.

Similarly, the broader NSE Nifty climbed 159.05 points or 1.38 per cent to end at 11,662.40.

HDFC was the top performer in the Sensex pack, surging 8.35 per cent, after the mortgage lender said its individual loan disbursements in the second quarter of 2020-21 reached 95 per cent of the year-ago level and September saw the strongest recovery since the COVID-19 outbreak. Other prominent gainers were IndusInd Bank, Mahindra and Mahindra, Asian Paints, Bajaj Finance, HDFC Bank and Ultratech Cement.

HDFC and HDFC Bank accounted for over half of the Sensex's gains. On the other hand, Tata Steel, Nestle India, Larsen & Toubro, Sun Pharma, NTPC and Reliance Industries slipped up to 1.26 per cent.

Asian shares followed Wall Street higher after US President Donald Trump was discharged from hospital following COVID-19 treatment. Investor sentiment was also boosted by hopes of a fresh US stimulus package.

European markets were mixed in opening trade.

On the macroeconomic front, India's service sector output broadly stabilised in September but remained in the contraction zone as incoming new business fell moderately due to the damaging impact of the pandemic on demand, leading to more job losses.The seasonally adjusted India Services Business Activity Index rose for the fifth straight month in September to 49.8 from 41.8 in August.

Meanwhile, the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the RBI will begin its three-day deliberations on Wednesday after the government appointed three external members to the rate-setting panel.

"Market is booming to a new level in anticipation of better Q2FY21 results, clear improvement in domestic economic data and uptick in the global market.

# India to overtake China as world's largest LPG residential market by 2030

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India is expected to overtake China as the world's largest cooking gas LPG residential sector market by 2030, Wood Mackenzie said on Tuesday.

"Liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) demand in the residential sector will continue to see sustainable growth at a cumulative annual growth rate (CAGR) of 3.3 per cent, reaching 34 million tonnes (MT) in 2030 as households' dependence on solid biomass diminishes in the long run supported by rising average household incomes and urban population," it said in a report.

Driven by environmental and health concerns, the government has also been implementing schemes to help lower-income families cope with the cost of switching from dirtier biomass to LPG.

The Direct Benefit Transfer of LPG (DBTL) gives out subsidies to the vulnerable population, while the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) provides families living below the poverty line access to free LPG stoves.

Wood Mackenzie research analyst Qiaoling Chen said: "Although nationwide LPG coverage has reached 98 per cent, up 42 per cent from 2014, usage is still low.

Average annual cylinder refills have not kept up with the pace of new connections, with average consumption remaining below the benchmark of 12 cylinders."

Even with subsidy and the initial cost of set-up covered by the government, LPG is more expensive than biomass. Still, the Indian government is committed to roll out plans to further address affordability and infrastructure challenges in the LPG sector.

# RBI's newly-constituted MPC to meet for 3-days beginning Wednesday; Decision on Oct 9

**New Delhi:** The newly-constituted Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the Reserve Bank will begin its three-day deliberations on Wednesday amid expectations that the central bank this time around may refrain from changing the benchmark lending rates. On September 28, the RBI had postponed the meeting of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC), which must have a quorum of four, as the appointment of independent members was delayed. The meeting was scheduled to take place from September 29.

Within a day of the government appointing three independent members of the MPC, the Reserve Bank announced that the rate-setting panel will meet from October 7 to 9 for the bi-monthly review of the monetary policy.

"... The next meeting of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) is scheduled during October 7 to October 9, 2020," the Reserve Bank said in a statement. The decision of the rate-setting panel will be announced on October 9.The government has appointed three eminent economists Ashima Goyal, Jayanth R Varma and Shashanka Bhide as members of the MPC. The new members replace Chetan Ghate, Pami Dua, and Ravindra Dholakia. They were appointed on the panel for four years on September 29, 2016. As per the RBI Act, the external members can hold office for a period of four years and are not eligible for re-appointment. Bhide is senior advisor at the National Council for Applied Economic Research, while Goyal is a professor at the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research. Varma is professor at the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad.

# NDDB, Ladakh signs MoU for survey

**New Delhi:** With a view to promote dairying and rural livelihoods in the Union Territory of Ladakh, the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) and UT Administration of Ladakh has signed an MoU for conducting a benchmark survey in the newly formed UT.

NDDB's dairy potential survey will help prepare a road map to boost dairying in the UT and will help in enhancing income of the rural population in the mountainous border areas. NDDB Chairman Dilip Rath said that NDDB is happy to support the efforts of the UT Administration who have taken initiative for dairy development in the interest of milk producers in particular and the cooperative movement in general in Ladakh region. He further said that the Dairy Board has also offered managerial and technical support to promote producer-owned institutions that remain true to cooperative values. ***PNS***

# Indian IT services growth set for comeback in 2021, pandemic to fuel digital spends: Fitch Ratings

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Indian IT services sector is expected to return to high single-digit revenue growth in 2021-2022 galvanised by higher demand for digital transformation after a flattish 2020, according to Fitch Ratings.

In a new report titled `Spotlight: Indian IT Services Sector', Fitch said the impact of the coronavirus pandemic is seen to be only moderate and short term, as customers focus on transforming their businesses digitally, moving services and work platforms online, and minimise spending on legacy services.

Pandemic will accelerate digital IT spends, it said. Most companies have reported robust deal wins that should support growth in 2021-2022, despite the revenue decline in the second quarter of 2020, said the "The Indian IT services sector is likely to resume high single-digit revenue growth in 2021-2022 on higher demand for digital transformation," it said.

# New TDS/TCS rules not for power trading, insurance agents

IANS ■ NEW DELHI

The Government has exempted power trading transactions from the purview of tax deducted at source (TDS) and tax collected at source (TCS) to prevent practical difficulties in implementing the levy from affecting functioning of the exchanges.

The Finance Act, 2020 inserted new section 194-0 in the Income Tax Act 1961 which mandated that from October 1, an e-commerce operator shall deduct income tax at the rate of one per cent of the gross amount of sale of goods or provision of service or both, facilitated through its platform.

## NIFTY 50

| SCRIP | OPEN | HIgh | LOW | LTP | CHANGE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| NIFTY 50 | 11,603.45 | 11,680.30 | 11,564.30 | 11,662.40 | 159.05 |
| TATAMOTORS | 138 | 145.8 | 136 | 144.45 | 10.55 |
| HDFC | 1,803.15 | 1,943.70 | 1,803.15 | 1,920.00 | 134.9 |
| M&M | 611.6 | 633 | 609 | 628.5 | 21.5 |
| ADANIPORTS | 356 | 364.5 | 354.85 | 362.45 | 12.1 |
| INDUSINDBK | 615.95 | 628.35 | 606.2 | 621.85 | 20.3 |
| ASIANPAINT | 2,050.00 | 2,097.90 | 2,045.10 | 2,090.30 | 62.3 |
| HDFCBANK | 1,135.05 | 1,148.00 | 1,126.20 | 1,143.15 | 28.8 |
| BAJFINANCE | 3,439.90 | 3,480.00 | 3,391.20 | 3,470.00 | 87.1 |
| ULTRACEMCO | 4,055.20 | 4,148.00 | 4,055.20 | 4,127.05 | 79.9 |
| HDFCLIFE | 577.5 | 586.2 | 575.75 | 585.95 | 11.2 |
| BAJAJFINSV | 5,957.00 | 6,018.00 | 5,890.00 | 5,993.00 | 111.85 |
| ICICIBANK | 377.1 | 381.8 | 375.1 | 380.15 | 7.05 |
| KOTAKBANK | 1,325.00 | 1,342.00 | 1,311.05 | 1,336.00 | 21.4 |
| SBIN | 191.1 | 192.1 | 188.3 | 191.7 | 2.95 |
| AXISBANK | 449.5 | 452.7 | 442.7 | 449.65 | 5.5 |
| DIVISLAB | 3,160.00 | 3,184.80 | 3,141.45 | 3,160.90 | 34.7 |
| MARUTI | 6,858.00 | 6,939.80 | 6,830.00 | 6,891.00 | 72.15 |
| GAIL | 88 | 88.2 | 86.7 | 87.9 | 0.9 |
| SHREECEM | 20,155.00 | 20,446.45 | 20,001.00 | 20,325.00 | 193.2 |
| GRASIM | 750.25 | 759.95 | 740.5 | 756 | 5.85 |
| BAJAJ-AUTO | 2,985.00 | 2,993.00 | 2,951.00 | 2,975.00 | 22.7 |
| INFY | 1,055.00 | 1,060.00 | 1,031.35 | 1,056.45 | 7.75 |
| BHARTIARTL | 427 | 430 | 423.1 | 427.6 | 3.15 |
| SBILIFE | 826 | 836 | 822.25 | 830.55 | 5.6 |
| HINDUNILVR | 2,119.00 | 2,140.00 | 2,108.05 | 2,125.00 | 13.95 |
| TECHM | 854.95 | 854.95 | 832.5 | 846 | 4.75 |
| ITC | 169.5 | 171.6 | 168.1 | 170.2 | 0.95 |
| TITAN | 1,204.00 | 1,215.95 | 1,192.00 | 1,200.00 | 5.65 |
| HCLTECH | 830 | 834.5 | 822.7 | 828 | 3.8 |
| TCS | 2,736.00 | 2,736.00 | 2,650.10 | 2,718.00 | 12.2 |
| UPL | 511.45 | 519 | 508.25 | 509.3 | 2.2 |
| POWERGRID | 163.1 | 164.4 | 161.85 | 163.45 | 0.6 |
| JSWSTEEL | 292.75 | 295 | 286.7 | 291.05 | 0.95 |
| HEROMOTOCO | 3,142.60 | 3,177.90 | 3,117.00 | 3,135.00 | 5.8 |
| ONGC | 70 | 70.2 | 69 | 69.3 | 0.1 |
| CIPLA | 782 | 788 | 777 | 779.1 | 0.45 |
| RELIANCE | 2,225.25 | 2,233.90 | 2,201.65 | 2,213.00 | 0.8 |
| NTPC | 84.45 | 84.65 | 83.65 | 84.2 | -0.25 |
| LT | 901.05 | 904.55 | 888.25 | 894 | -2.95 |
| IOC | 76.15 | 76.25 | 74.7 | 75.25 | -0.3 |
| SUNPHARMA | 526 | 527.6 | 519 | 521 | -2.1 |
| DRREDDY | 5,159.50 | 5,226.75 | 5,112.20 | 5,136.00 | -23.5 |
| BPCL | 356.7 | 360.4 | 350.2 | 351.4 | -2.75 |
| NESTLEIND | 16,033.00 | 16,128.00 | 15,834.05 | 15,899.60 | -133.55 |
| EICHERMOT | 2,223.80 | 2,235.00 | 2,176.10 | 2,190.00 | -20.15 |
| COALINDIA | 119.35 | 119.35 | 116.3 | 117 | -1.4 |
| TATASTEEL | 386.8 | 387.25 | 373.1 | 377.8 | -4.5 |
| WIPRO | 335 | 335.3 | 323 | 329.55 | -4.4 |
| HINDALCO | 180.6 | 182.4 | 175.6 | 176.65 | -2.4 |
| BRITANNIA | 3,870.00 | 3,879.95 | 3,752.00 | 3,774.00 | -56.45 |

## NIFTY NEXT 50

| SCRIP | OPEN | HIgh | LOW | LTP | CHANGE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| NIFTY NEXT 50 | 27,483.70 | 27,543.15 | 27,367.20 | 27,423.30 | 102 |
| LTI | 2,600.00 | 2,718.00 | 2,595.20 | 2,708.75 | 127.65 |
| BANDHANBNK | 295 | 307.25 | 294.55 | 306.5 | 14.15 |
| HINDZINC | 215.2 | 222.8 | 214.05 | 222 | 8.25 |
| AMBUJACEM | 222.95 | 227.75 | 220.1 | 227.7 | 6.35 |
| HAVELLS | 673.1 | 698.95 | 673.1 | 688.6 | 19 |
| MUTHOOTFIN | 1,171.00 | 1,201.20 | 1,166.30 | 1,194.20 | 32.75 |
| ICICIPRULI | 422.2 | 432 | 422.2 | 431 | 10.9 |
| INDIGO | 1,308.00 | 1,344.90 | 1,300.00 | 1,330.00 | 32.6 |
| PEL | 1,330.00 | 1,359.00 | 1,320.00 | 1,350.25 | 29.75 |
| BERGEPAINT | 587 | 609.75 | 587 | 604 | 13.1 |
| CONCOR | 354 | 361.9 | 351.3 | 360.35 | 7.8 |
| ACC | 1,423.20 | 1,448.50 | 1,416.25 | 1,448.00 | 28.25 |
| DLF | 160.9 | 165.5 | 159.7 | 162.4 | 3.15 |
| INFRATEL | 180.55 | 183.3 | 178.65 | 181.7 | 3.15 |
| UBL | 961.6 | 978.3 | 950.55 | 975 | 16.5 |
| PIDILITIND | 1,445.00 | 1,480.00 | 1,445.00 | 1,469.90 | 23.15 |
| DABUR | 524.25 | 535 | 522 | 528.1 | 8.1 |
| BAJAJHLDNG | 2,439.00 | 2,474.00 | 2,439.00 | 2,463.65 | 35.9 |
| BANKBARODA | 41.8 | 42.25 | 40.8 | 42 | 0.45 |
| HDFCAMC | 2,308.95 | 2,325.90 | 2,289.00 | 2,318.00 | 17.45 |
| ADANITRANS | 260 | 263.8 | 258.2 | 259.3 | 1.9 |
| ALKEM | 2,777.00 | 2,795.00 | 2,743.00 | 2,775.00 | 19.95 |
| MCDOWELL-N | 525.9 | 530.65 | 522.1 | 527 | 2.75 |
| OFSS | 3,032.00 | 3,059.00 | 3,006.00 | 3,038.65 | 14.55 |
| TATACONSUM | 507 | 513.5 | 502.85 | 505.95 | 2.4 |
| CADILAHC | 417.55 | 423.45 | 412.4 | 415.8 | 1.75 |
| PFC | 87.85 | 88.35 | 86.8 | 87.45 | 0.15 |
| IGL | 392 | 393.35 | 387.55 | 390 | 0.45 |
| MOTHERSUMI | 117.8 | 119.95 | 116.35 | 116.7 | 0.05 |
| ABBOTINDIA | 16,173.45 | 16,173.45 | 15,900.00 | 15,972.05 | -19.55 |
| PNB | 28.45 | 28.6 | 28.1 | 28.25 | -0.05 |
| BIOCON | 461.1 | 469.25 | 455.5 | 456.95 | -1.4 |
| TORNTPHARM | 2,830.35 | 2,846.30 | 2,806.55 | 2,811.90 | -10.65 |
| SIEMENS | 1,287.00 | 1,296.00 | 1,267.80 | 1,272.75 | -5.65 |
| SBICARD | 849.45 | 850 | 838.45 | 842 | -3.85 |
| PGHH | 9,946.10 | 9,946.20 | 9,825.00 | 9,840.00 | -54.25 |
| NAUKRI | 3,526.65 | 3,599.00 | 3,450.00 | 3,466.00 | -21.85 |
| AUROPHARMA | 846.9 | 849.9 | 833.8 | 836.4 | -6.85 |
| NMDC | 83.95 | 84.15 | 82.6 | 82.8 | -0.7 |
| PETRONET | 226.95 | 227.8 | 221 | 224.15 | -1.95 |
| GICRE | 127.4 | 129.15 | 125 | 125.6 | -1.2 |
| BOSCHLTD | 13,537.00 | 13,632.00 | 13,212.75 | 13,261.25 | -138.9 |
| LUPIN | 1,045.60 | 1,053.85 | 1,021.70 | 1,026.90 | -11.3 |
| HINDPETRO | 176.25 | 177 | 173.5 | 173.6 | -2 |
| DMART | 2,135.75 | 2,135.75 | 2,066.00 | 2,085.00 | -25.45 |
| ICICIGI | 1,260.00 | 1,268.90 | 1,230.10 | 1,236.00 | -18.4 |
| COLPAL | 1,455.30 | 1,468.80 | 1,424.50 | 1,428.40 | -23.6 |
| GODREJCP | 759.85 | 762 | 735.1 | 740 | -12.55 |
| MARICO | 377.8 | 379.3 | 366.8 | 368.9 | -8 |
| ADANIGREEN | 749.5 | 752 | 725 | 732.9 | -16.55 |

## BSE 500

| Script | Open | High | Low | LTP |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| EICHERMOT | 2226.9 | 2235.2 | 2177.2 | 2195.85 |
| TATAMOTORS | 137.8 | 145.7 | 135.9 | 144.85 |
| HDFC | 1804.4 | 1943 | 1804.4 | 1934.45 |
| TCS | 2736 | 2736 | 2649.35 | 2716.15 |
| INDUSINDBK | 614.2 | 627.8 | 606.05 | 622.45 |
| BAJFINANCE | 3440 | 3480 | 3392.05 | 3474.4 |
| RELIANCE | 2228 | 2234 | 2201.45 | 2210.15 |
| INFY | 1054.1 | 1059.85 | 1031.8 | 1055.75 |
| DALBHARAT | 759.85 | 779.3 | 740 | 772.05 |
| VEDL | 137.5 | 138.65 | 136.25 | 137.95 |
| IDEA | 9.06 | 9.15 | 8.76 | 8.8 |
| AXISBANK | 455 | 455 | 442.8 | 449.4 |
| ICICIBANK | 376.5 | 381.6 | 375.05 | 380.45 |
| JSWSTEEL | 293.3 | 295 | 286.8 | 291.15 |
| WIPRO | 333.15 | 335.95 | 323 | 330 |
| MARUTI | 6852 | 6938 | 6834.2 | 6890.4 |
| HDFCBANK | 1131.7 | 1148 | 1126.3 | 1144.2 |
| KOTAKBANK | 1321.6 | 1341.75 | 1311.55 | 1338.45 |
| SBIN | 190.55 | 192.1 | 188.3 | 191.6 |
| ITC | 169.5 | 171.55 | 168.2 | 169.95 |
| HINDUNILVR | 2118 | 2140 | 2108.5 | 2114.75 |
| M&M | 610.1 | 633 | 608.9 | 627.2 |
| DLF | 160.2 | 165.5 | 159.8 | 162.8 |
| ZEEL | 210 | 219.5 | 208.5 | 216.95 |
| IBULHSGFIN | 153.8 | 157.3 | 151.8 | 153.85 |
| DRREDDY | 5170 | 5226.75 | 5115.45 | 5134.7 |
| DABUR | 524.8 | 535 | 522 | 526.5 |
| TATASTEEL | 385.2 | 387 | 373.2 | 377.35 |
| PAGEIND | 20990 | 20990 | 20443.45 | 20644.1 |
| LAURUSLABS | 301.9 | 317.8 | 298.4 | 311.05 |
| RBLBANK | 177.25 | 182 | 177.25 | 180.8 |
| BHARTIARTL | 428 | 429.5 | 423.25 | 426.75 |
| ASIANPAINT | 2045 | 2096 | 2043.65 | 2090.6 |
| SUNPHARMA | 525 | 528 | 519.05 | 520.8 |
| TATAELXSI | 1364 | 1402 | 1346.45 | 1392.05 |
| BANKBARODA | 42 | 42.25 | 40.85 | 42.05 |
| CROMPTON | 283.85 | 287.25 | 280 | 280.65 |
| ASHOKLEY | 76.1 | 78.2 | 75.1 | 76.2 |
| IOC | 76.1 | 76.2 | 74.7 | 75.35 |
| HCLTECH | 832 | 834.7 | 823.45 | 828.7 |
| CIPLA | 783.45 | 787.7 | 777.05 | 780.2 |
| ADANIENT | 328.5 | 331 | 320.55 | 327.1 |
| TECHM | 855 | 855 | 832.05 | 847 |
| INDIGO | 1309 | 1344.75 | 1305.45 | 1330.8 |
| JINDALSTEL | 198.6 | 202.4 | 191.55 | 193.9 |
| CADILAHC | 417.85 | 423.5 | 412.6 | 415.3 |
| ESCORTS | 1253 | 1265 | 1231 | 1250.65 |
| PVR | 1282 | 1298.15 | 1246.5 | 1275.1 |
| BANDHANBNK | 295 | 307 | 294.75 | 306.05 |
| BAJAJFINSV | 5960 | 6012.9 | 5893.25 | 5990.75 |
| LICHSGFIN | 274.9 | 292.8 | 274.9 | 289.2 |
| THYROCARE | 780 | 909.6 | 780 | 884.2 |
| ADANIPORTS | 357 | 364.35 | 355 | 362.8 |
| HEROMOTOCO | 3150 | 3177.7 | 3117.35 | 3138.7 |
| MUTHOOTFIN | 1165 | 1200.2 | 1165 | 1195.5 |
| DIVISLAB | 3164 | 3184 | 3140.95 | 3161.6 |
| MFSL | 611.5 | 645 | 611.5 | 621 |
| FEDERALBNK | 51 | 51.95 | 50.65 | 51.7 |
| AUROPHARMA | 847 | 849.6 | 833.55 | 836.1 |
| DMART | 2130 | 2133.65 | 2067.3 | 2080.45 |
| IDFCFIRSTB | 30.5 | 31.4 | 30.4 | 31.15 |
| BIOCON | 461 | 469 | 454.95 | 457.65 |
| BOSCHLTD | 13582.6 | 13623.75 | 13215 | 13299 |
| PFIZER | 4922 | 4936.65 | 4883.1 | 4913.8 |
| VENKYS | 1484.1 | 1588 | 1466.6 | 1542.8 |
| TITAN | 1207.9 | 1215.5 | 1192.3 | 1199.95 |
| LUPIN | 1049 | 1053.75 | 1021 | 1025.4 |
| MCX | 1756.65 | 1773.45 | 1734 | 1742.3 |
| HIMATSEIDE | 134.1 | 142.35 | 134.1 | 142.35 |
| SBICARD | 848.1 | 850 | 839 | 841.85 |
| ADVENZYMES | 344.8 | 368.7 | 335.45 | 360 |
| LT | 901 | 904.65 | 888.7 | 892.7 |
| SRTRANSFIN | 661.7 | 664.85 | 646.4 | 655.1 |
| TATAPOWER | 54.4 | 54.7 | 53.85 | 54.55 |
| COALINDIA | 119.25 | 119.35 | 116.35 | 116.75 |
| INFRATEL | 181 | 183.15 | 179.55 | 181.7 |
| APOLLOHOSP | 2135 | 2153.3 | 2103.95 | 2126.85 |
| GRANULES | 381.8 | 388.75 | 376.25 | 382.3 |
| MINDTREE | 1363 | 1378 | 1341.6 | 1372.8 |
| PEL | 1330 | 1359 | 1321 | 1349.45 |
| BEL | 96.2 | 97 | 94.8 | 95.8 |
| BATAINDIA | 1352 | 1354.5 | 1328 | 1349.25 |
| BRITANNIA | 3870 | 3880 | 3753.1 | 3768 |
| TRIDENT | 8.5 | 8.5 | 7.76 | 7.82 |
| GODREJCP | 755 | 761.5 | 734.9 | 740.65 |
| BAJAJ-AUTO | 2980 | 2992.45 | 2953 | 2973.05 |
| HDFCLIFE | 578.85 | 585.8 | 575.3 | 582.85 |
| HINDALCO | 180.3 | 182.05 | 175.55 | 176.8 |
| BPCL | 356.8 | 360.35 | 350.3 | 351.85 |
| AUBANK | 674.9 | 743.4 | 674.9 | 733.75 |
| SBILIFE | 822.1 | 835.45 | 822.1 | 830.15 |
| MARICO | 378.8 | 379 | 367.15 | 368.5 |
| CHOLAFIN | 254.8 | 264.8 | 249.55 | 260.6 |
| STAR | 732.8 | 740 | 722.85 | 726.45 |
| ONGC | 69.7 | 70.15 | 69.05 | 69.35 |
| JUBLFOOD | 2360 | 2417.3 | 2315.5 | 2328.2 |
| BLISSGVS | 179.95 | 181.25 | 171.85 | 175.05 |
| WELCORP | 118.2 | 123.25 | 117.2 | 119.3 |
| HAVELLS | 669.2 | 698.9 | 669.2 | 687.7 |
| PNB | 28.3 | 28.6 | 28.1 | 28.35 |
| MGL | 852 | 861.6 | 845.5 | 857.45 |
| GLENMARK | 504 | 504.65 | 488.5 | 490.25 |
| L&TFH | 64 | 64.85 | 63.35 | 64.35 |
| PIDILITIND | 1445 | 1480.1 | 1445 | 1470.4 |
| MOTHERSUMI | 117.5 | 119.95 | 116.3 | 116.9 |
| AVANTI | 502.3 | 525 | 502.3 | 518.15 |
| ULTRACEMCO | 4069.25 | 4148.35 | 4059.05 | 4136.75 |
| TATAMTRDVR | 64.6 | 66.2 | 63.3 | 65.1 |

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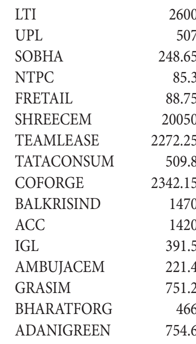
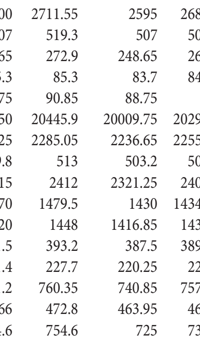
|---|---|---|---|---|
| NESTLEIND | 16100 | 16130 | 15840 | 15874.95 |
| HINDPETRO | 175.65 | 177 | 173.5 | 173.75 |
| BERGEPAINT | 591 | 609.05 | 589.8 | 605.15 |
| M&MFIN | 129.95 | 131.85 | 127.5 | 131.3 |
| LTI | 2600 | 2711.55 | 2595 | 2687.8 |
| UPL | 507 | 519.3 | 507 | 509.4 |
| SOBHA | 248.65 | 272.9 | 248.65 | 262.1 |
| NTPC | 85.3 | 85.3 | 83.7 | 84.15 |
| FRETAIL | 88.75 | 90.85 | 88.75 | 90 |
| SHREECEM | 20050 | 20445.9 | 20009.75 | 20291.6 |
| TEAMLEASE | 2272.25 | 2285.05 | 2236.65 | 2255.25 |
| TATACONSUM | 509.8 | 513 | 503.2 | 505.6 |
| COFORGE | 2342.15 | 2412 | 2321.25 | 2405.3 |
| BALKRISIND | 1470 | 1479.5 | 1430 | 1434.85 |
| ACC | 1420 | 1448 | 1416.85 | 1438.4 |
| IGL | 391.5 | 393.2 | 387.5 | 389.65 |
| AMBUJACEM | 221.4 | 227.7 | 220.25 | 225.4 |
| GRASIM | 751.2 | 760.35 | 740.85 | 757.75 |
| BHARATFORG | 466 | 472.8 | 463.95 | 465.9 |
| ADANIGREEN | 754.6 | 754.6 | 725 | 736.4 |
| SIEMENS | 1291 | 1296.45 | 1268.1 | 1275.15 |

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|---|---|---|---|---|
| ICICIPRULI | 420.45 | 431.7 | 420.45 | 430.6 |
| CANBK | 91 | 91.75 | 89.8 | 91.35 |
| SAIL | 35.3 | 35.7 | 34.1 | 34.35 |
| GODREJPROP | 878 | 912.8 | 876.65 | 902.35 |
| APOLLOTYRE | 135 | 136.65 | 133.4 | 135.3 |
| NOCIL | 147.7 | 151.75 | 146 | 150.05 |
| MANAPPURAM | 168.5 | 169.35 | 167 | 168.3 |
| TVSMOTOR | 478 | 482.7 | 469.55 | 470.7 |
| RADICO | 405 | 433.5 | 404.55 | 426.7 |
| GMM | 3822 | 3890 | 3752 | 3765.55 |
| LALPATHLAB | 1945.7 | 2000 | 1926.45 | 1994.35 |
| TATACHEM | 311.1 | 311.1 | 303.25 | 304.25 |
| NAUKRI | 3551 | 3586.8 | 3450 | 3463.7 |
| TV18BRDCST | 31.7 | 32.65 | 31 | 32.3 |
| DEEPAKNI | 814.95 | 817.7 | 802.05 | 804.6 |
| WOCKPHARMA | 321.5 | 330.4 | 316.15 | 323.95 |
| GRAPHITE | 193.1 | 204.95 | 191.45 | 197.4 |
| FSL | 71.6 | 72.25 | 69.15 | 70.45 |
| IRCTC | 1369.95 | 1372 | 1360 | 1363.35 |
| HDFCAMC | 2315.9 | 2384 | 2291 | 2317.55 |
| GMDCLTD | 46 | 49.65 | 46 | 47.7 |
| GODREJAGRO | 508.95 | 541.5 | 506.75 | 528 |
| INDHOTEL | 102.5 | 102.7 | 99.65 | 100.85 |
| RECLTD | 99.9 | 101.15 | 98.2 | 100.2 |
| VOLTAS | 672 | 680 | 667.5 | 672.1 |
| ADANIGAS | 201.15 | 203.4 | 198.1 | 200.65 |
| BHEL | 29.85 | 29.85 | 29.2 | 29.35 |
| JUSTDIAL | 387.95 | 387.95 | 371.6 | 375.1 |
| SUNTV | 464.85 | 468.35 | 460 | 466.75 |
| SRF | 4162.25 | 4180 | 4115.05 | 4123.1 |
| UBL | 960 | 978 | 950.5 | 975.05 |
| CENTURYTEX | 335 | 347 | 335 | 339.05 |
| SPANDANA | 540 | 622 | 540 | 586 |
| JUBILANT | 753.75 | 759.4 | 729.75 | 738.8 |
| EXIDEIND | 167.9 | 167.9 | 163.55 | 164.15 |
| MPHASIS | 1340.1 | 1365.85 | 1326.05 | 1351.55 |
| SUMICHEM | 285.5 | 294.6 | 283.7 | 292.7 |
| IDFC | 30.65 | 31.05 | 29.45 | 30.2 |
| CARERATING | 354.55 | 388.35 | 353 | 365.8 |
| SYNGENE | 580.8 | 580.8 | 562.6 | 564.5 |
| COLPAL | 1459.9 | 1467 | 1424.4 | 1428.05 |
| POWERGRID | 166.5 | 166.5 | 161.9 | 163.15 |
| DISHTV | 13.92 | 14.4 | 13.92 | 14.16 |
| APLLTD | 976.9 | 1001.9 | 965 | 997.55 |
| MRF | 60938.35 | 61121.85 | 60068.15 | 60263.85 |
| DIXON | 8875 | 8919.3 | 8700 | 8723.75 |
| TORNTPHARM | 2827 | 2844.4 | 2805.35 | 2813.85 |
| GAIL | 88 | 88.15 | 86.75 | 87.75 |
| NMDC | 84.35 | 84.35 | 82.65 | 83 |
| METROPOLIS | 1921 | 1979 | 1914 | 1949.95 |
| LAXMIMACH | 3587.95 | 3912.1 | 3570 | 3864.35 |
| SUZLON | 3.17 | 3.21 | 2.95 | 3.01 |
| ASTRAZEN | 4338.1 | 4375 | 4206.05 | 4308.4 |
| AMARAJABAT | 754.3 | 754.3 | 739 | 741.4 |
| BSOFT | 205 | 206.8 | 198.95 | 204.55 |
| SWANENERGY | 126.3 | 129.3 | 123.1 | 129 |
| HEG | 735.9 | 761 | 735.85 | 739.75 |
| UNIONBANK | 25 | 25 | 24.35 | 24.45 |
| INDIAMART | 4982.25 | 5165.8 | 4980.25 | 5019.85 |
| BOMDYEING | 65.95 | 67.25 | 64.35 | 66.7 |
| KAJARIACER | 538 | 553 | 535.05 | 537.3 |
| WELSPUNIND | 74.3 | 76 | 71.2 | 72.85 |
| RAYMOND | 293.45 | 295.8 | 290.5 | 291.8 |
| PNBHOUSING | 341.3 | 352.3 | 337.1 | 349.2 |
| CGCL | 239 | 241.85 | 234.2 | 235.9 |
| SOMANYCERA | 198.55 | 209.3 | 196.2 | 208.25 |
| SUPRAJIT | 205.2 | 212.65 | 199 | 204.4 |
| HINDZINC | 216.9 | 222.7 | 214.2 | 221.5 |
| ENGINERSIN | 65.3 | 65.3 | 63.25 | 63.8 |
| HFCL | 17.6 | 18.1 | 17.05 | 17.35 |
| PIIND | 2040 | 2078 | 2036.8 | 2044.55 |

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|---|---|---|---|---|
| DCAL | 172.95 | 178.1 | 168 | 176.45 |
| CASTROLIND | 110.7 | 112.2 | 110.55 | 111.75 |
| KEI | 346.55 | 351.9 | 344.05 | 347.95 |
| IPCALAB | 2166.85 | 2169.65 | 2115.85 | 2138.3 |
| ISEC | 470 | 484.4 | 462.15 | 468.5 |
| ABBOTINDIA | 16090 | 16145.95 | 15902.5 | 15967.9 |
| SONATSOFTW | 315 | 326 | 315 | 316.7 |
| KPITTECH | 123.1 | 123.15 | 119.9 | 120.35 |
| SUDARSCHEM | 476 | 478.3 | 465 | 467.3 |
| CONCOR | 352.6 | 361.9 | 351.6 | 360.5 |
| CYIENT | 382.8 | 396.25 | 382 | 392.65 |
| CHAMBLFERT | 163 | 166.75 | 161.65 | 165.5 |
| KEC | 349.9 | 349.9 | 340.2 | 342.15 |
| NATIONALUM | 32.8 | 32.8 | 31.7 | 31.8 |
| ALOKTEXT | 22.55 | 22.55 | 22.55 | 22.55 |
| REPCOHOME | 181 | 181.05 | 176.35 | 181.05 |
| CENTURYPLY | 175.05 | 185.6 | 172.95 | 178.95 |
| NAM-INDIA | 271.95 | 276 | 271 | 274.95 |
| ABFRL | 134.8 | 136.25 | 131.3 | 132.25 |
| COROMANDEL | 789 | 789 | 745.55 | 749.6 |
| LINDEINDIA | 816.55 | 834.75 | 803.3 | 820.65 |
| CEATLTD | 1040 | 1040 | 1013.25 | 1022.15 |
| EQUITAS | 54.3 | 54.8 | 53.45 | 53.75 |
| GSFC | 66.5 | 66.8 | 65.25 | 66.25 |
| BLUEDART | 3270 | 3287.05 | 3220 | 3258.7 |
| SPICEJET | 52.35 | 52.35 | 50.85 | 51.2 |
| MINDAIND | 350 | 352.05 | 340.8 | 349.3 |
| IBREALEST | 52.8 | 53.6 | 50.8 | 51.9 |
| BEML | 612.8 | 615 | 601.8 | 606.15 |
| ALKEM | 2770 | 2793.9 | 2745.1 | 2772 |
| NAVINFLUOR | 2106.8 | 2116.35 | 2060 | 2069.35 |
| LTTS | 1612.05 | 1628 | 1600.2 | 1614.2 |
| CANFINHOME | 422.95 | 429 | 419.25 | 422.9 |
| RAJESHEXPO | 489.4 | 510 | 467.5 | 471.1 |
| PETRONET | 227.8 | 227.8 | 221.1 | 223.95 |
| HAL | 829.65 | 829.65 | 815.5 | 820.9 |
| MEGH | 81.15 | 82.2 | 80.2 | 80.6 |
| ATUL | 6105 | 6105.9 | 6017.3 | 6091.45 |
| GODFRYPHLP | 924.95 | 925.7 | 907.3 | 912.25 |
| ICICIGI | 1278 | 1278 | 1230 | 1235.35 |
| FCONSUMER | 8.35 | 8.55 | 8.34 | 8.41 |
| NATCOPHARM | 963 | 964 | 941.55 | 947.8 |
| ARVINDFASN | 136 | 137.9 | 134 | 134.8 |
| BBTC | 1326 | 1368.65 | 1322.6 | 1336.9 |
| WHIRLPOOL | 2215.9 | 2215.9 | 2166 | 2171.7 |
| DEEPAKFERT | 150.5 | 153.4 | 147.8 | 149.55 |
| STRTECH | 154.75 | 157 | 153 | 153.4 |
| AFFLE | 2775 | 2800.9 | 2650 | 2735.65 |
| SHOPERSTOP | 189.5 | 192.7 | 182.8 | 183.65 |
| IFBIND | 612 | 651.7 | 612 | 647.1 |
| INDIACEM | 118.95 | 118.95 | 115.4 | 116.5 |
| GMRINFRA | 23.55 | 23.7 | 23.25 | 23.4 |
| UJJIVAN | 218.2 | 224 | 218.2 | 221.95 |
| TORNTPOWER | 312.9 | 313 | 308.15 | 310.05 |
| VIPIND | 294.8 | 297.55 | 291.2 | 293.15 |
| DCBBANK | 82.5 | 82.95 | 81.15 | 81.55 |
| EDELWEISS | 59.2 | 61.6 | 59 | 61.6 |
| AARTIIND | 1016.85 | 1017.35 | 1001 | 1013.6 |
| JKPAPER* | 91 | 93.3 | 90.3 | 92.5 |
| RCF | 44.05 | 46 | 43.95 | 45.45 |
| NCC | 34.7 | 34.85 | 33.95 | 34.1 |
| CAPPL | 565 | 566.85 | 553.6 | 555.65 |
| WABCOINDIA | 5734.25 | 5746.5 | 5657.2 | 5699.5 |
| PERSISTENT | 1340 | 1340 | 1291.25 | 1297.65 |
| GNFC | 214.9 | 214.9 | 208.6 | 210.05 |
| HEIDELBERG | 189 | 191 | 188.15 | 190.05 |
| NBCC | 24 | 24.1 | 23.7 | 23.8 |
| HAWKINCOOK | 5215.95 | 5215.95 | 5105.05 | 5138.3 |
| GUJALKALI | 333.75 | 341.95 | 328.45 | 333.8 |
| BASF | 1524.9 | 1555.35 | 1510.6 | 1519.5 |
| SOUTHBANK | 6.74 | 6.75 | 6.65 | 6.7 |
| SWSOLAR | 222.1 | 234.85 | 217.3 | 222.7 |
| INOXLEISUR | 285 | 289.55 | 281.6 | 282.7 |
| PFC | 88 | 88.25 | 86.9 | 87.35 |
| IEX | 218 | 218 | 211.6 | 213.65 |
| AMBER | 2080.1 | 2091.45 | 2042.05 | 2049.9 |
| EMAMILTD | 350 | 356.4 | 346.05 | 348.7 |
| SHILPAMED | 554.9 | 555.95 | 547.1 | 548.2 |
| BIRLACORPN | 644.4 | 648.6 | 626.55 | 634.85 |
| SPARC | 178.45 | 179.4 | 175.5 | 176.25 |
| TATAINVEST | 839 | 904 | 839 | 889.15 |
| DELTACORP* | 114.2 | 115.65 | 113.3 | 114.15 |
| BAYERCROP | 5840.55 | 5913.7 | 5726 | 5773.35 |
| JBCHEPHARM | 975.15 | 984.4 | 956.3 | 968.55 |
| FINEORG | 2580 | 2608.7 | 2548.3 | 2580.9 |
| PHILIPCARB | 131.25 | 133.6 | 130.65 | 131.6 |
| CUMMINSIND | 462.95 | 464.25 | 448.6 | 451.7 |
| SUNTECK | 264 | 265 | 260.5 | 261.7 |
| ADANITRANS | 260 | 263.75 | 258.15 | 259.65 |
| EIDPARRY | 288 | 291 | 282.25 | 282.85 |
| KSB | 468.55 | 478.25 | 466.2 | 468.35 |
| HSCL | 53.95 | 54.35 | 52.75 | 53.1 |
| KALPATPOWR* | 242.9 | 243.4 | 239 | 241 |
| MHRIL | 175.4 | 175.4 | 165 | 166.2 |
| JAMNAAUTO | 44.65 | 45.95 | 44.6 | 44.95 |
| EIHOTEL | 82 | 82.15 | 79.55 | 79.85 |
| IRB | 112.25 | 114 | 111.6 | 113 |
| JAICORPLTD | 86.1 | 87.65 | 85.05 | 85.5 |
| VINATIORGA | 1320 | 1326.45 | 1289.1 | 1297.6 |
| HEXAWARE | 466.2 | 466.95 | 465.05 | 466.2 |
| ADANIPOWER | 37.4 | 37.4 | 36.8 | 36.8 |
| BANKINDIA | 41.25 | 41.25 | 40.15 | 40.4 |
| ESSELPRO | 250 | 253.3 | 243.6 | 251.1 |
| TIMETECHNO | 39.6 | 41.85 | 38.65 | 41.4 |
| PGHH | 9887 | 9898 | 9840 | 9885.85 |
| BAJAJELEC | 496.1 | 499.65 | 492 | 497.35 |
| BDL | 334.7 | 334.7 | 326.85 | 328.15 |
| OIL | 86.6 | 87.35 | 86.1 | 86.25 |
| BALRAMCHIN | 154.6 | 155.15 | 149.8 | 150.35 |

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|---|---|---|---|---|
| OBEROIRLTY | 402 | 413.3 | 397.6 | 404.1 |
| RAIN | 103 | 104.4 | 100.8 | 102.6 |
| BAJAJHLDNG | 2458.05 | 2470.1 | 2439.8 | 2463.25 |
| NLCINDIA | 52.95 | 54.1 | 51.8 | 52 |
| IRCON | 80 | 80.5 | 77.5 | 79.95 |
| LEMONTREE | 29 | 29.05 | 27.8 | 28 |
| GSPL | 204.5 | 205 | 198.25 | 198.75 |
| WABAG | 197.3 | 197.35 | 189.5 | 192.45 |
| GICRE | 128 | 129 | 125 | 125.6 |
| RALLIS | 291.9 | 291.9 | 279 | 279.65 |
| AJANTPHARM | 1615 | 1618.8 | 1580.8 | 1593.15 |
| MIDHANI | 195.05 | 198.4 | 195.05 | 196.75 |
| RVNL | 19.35 | 19.5 | 19.25 | 19.35 |
| NH | 362.9 | 362.9 | 343.1 | 344.4 |
| REDINGTON | 118 | 119.5 | 116.4 | 118.4 |
| JSWENERGY | 55.7 | 56.3 | 55.35 | 56.05 |
| ALKYLAMINE | 3250 | 3260 | 3204.5 | 3210.85 |
| JINDALSAW | 63.95 | 64.7 | 63.4 | 63.7 |
| PARAGMILK | 102.05 | 104.9 | 102.05 | 103.85 |
| INDIANB | 58.6 | 59.05 | 57.45 | 58.25 |
| SUNDRMFAST | 421 | 430.75 | 419.9 | 426.15 |
| ECLERX | 732.7 | 733 | 710.25 | 717.45 |
| RELAXO | 673.75 | 685.9 | 673.75 | 676.4 |
| TRENT | 673.9 | 682.95 | 671.5 | 677.4 |
| GREAVESCOT | 75 | 76.55 | 74.8 | 75.65 |
| GARFIBRES | 2140 | 2146.5 | 2096.15 | 2121.25 |
| PRESTIGE | 257.4 | 260.2 | 251.55 | 256.85 |
| BLUESTARCO | 628.35 | 631 | 614 | 621.35 |
| GLAXO | 1567.05 | 1595 | 1567.05 | 1578.3 |
| FDC | 346.05 | 357.1 | 346.05 | 355.7 |
| KNRCON | 253.05 | 265 | 253.05 | 256.7 |
| VBL | 703 | 703 | 685 | 690.45 |
| KRBL | 282 | 285.6 | 280.05 | 282.35 |
| HUDCO | 32.95 | 33.55 | 32.55 | 33.2 |
| ITI | 130 | 130 | 127.55 | 128.05 |
| ABCAPITAL | 64.75 | 64.9 | 63.8 | 64 |
| QUESS | 402 | 419.25 | 402 | 414.4 |
| ZYDUSWELL | 1829.5 | 1860.5 | 1822.35 | 1828.1 |
| KANSAINER | 492 | 492 | 483 | 485.2 |
| ASHOKA | 65.65 | 66.4 | 65.4 | 65.7 |
| OFSS | 3032.7 | 3045 | 3011.55 | 3031.8 |
| 3MINDIA | 18450 | 18830 | 18384 | 18793.9 |
| SUVENPHAR | 390 | 391.45 | 382 | 384.45 |
| CENTRALBK | 14 | 14 | 13.4 | 13.49 |
| PGHL | 5325.9 | 5388.35 | 5321.95 | 5341.15 |
| VAIBHAVGBL | 1924.05 | 1924.05 | 1860 | 1880.05 |
| LUXIND | 1465.35 | 1477.45 | 1437.15 | 1467.7 |
| SYMPHONY | 890.35 | 899 | 863.3 | 871.55 |
| TATACOMM | 836 | 865 | 836 | 852.65 |
| VAKRANGEE | 29.95 | 30.2 | 29.2 | 29.55 |
| FINCABLES | 291 | 292.3 | 284.4 | 285.4 |
| JKLAKSHMI | 269.95 | 269.95 | 262 | 263.05 |
| GUJGAS | 313 | 315 | 310.45 | 310.7 |
| CHENNPETRO | 68.2 | 70.65 | 68.2 | 68.95 |
| CUB | 144.45 | 145.1 | 142.3 | 144.45 |
| POLYCAB | 826.8 | 835.1 | 821.1 | 827.55 |
| FORTIS | 137 | 137.1 | 134.25 | 135.05 |
| ASTRAL | 1195.7 | 1199.7 | 1185.8 | 1189.6 |
| PTC | 48.2 | 48.2 | 46.85 | 46.95 |
| SANOFI | 8701.25 | 8778.1 | 8687.65 | 8734.65 |
| BRIGADE | 171.3 | 181.3 | 171.15 | 179.4 |
| ORIENTELEC | 181.5 | 188.9 | 177 | 179.55 |
| IIFL | 80.3 | 80.75 | 79.15 | 79.55 |
| ENDURANCE | 1140.1 | 1158.6 | 1128.85 | 1134.3 |
| NHPC | 20.55 | 20.55 | 20.2 | 20.25 |
| GRSE | 217.85 | 224.1 | 217.2 | 220.2 |
| ZENSARTECH | 200 | 200 | 193 | 193.55 |
| FORCEMOT | 1083 | 1084.75 | 1065 | 1069.3 |
| UCOBANK | 12.2 | 12.25 | 11.94 | 12.07 |
| COCHINSHIP | 343.9 | 344.5 | 334.1 | 335.65 |
| PRSMJOHNSN | 59.7 | 60.95 | 59.1 | 59.8 |
| JMFINANCIL | 78 | 80.5 | 77.35 | 79.95 |
| BAJAJCON | 186 | 186 | 180.8 | 181.75 |
| DCMSHRIRAM | 363.25 | 371.6 | 360.6 | 370.2 |
| APLAPOLLO | 2898.1 | 2898.3 | 2817.45 | 2847.8 |
| HATHWAY | 32.4 | 32.4 | 30 | 32.1 |
| AEGISLOG | 227.4 | 231.15 | 220 | 223 |
| BALMLAWRIE | 104.4 | 104.4 | 102.1 | 102.35 |
| GODREJIND | 414.95 | 414.95 | 399.7 | 402.45 |
| HINDCOPPER | 33.35 | 34 | 33.3 | 33.55 |
| PHOENIXLTD | 600.05 | 607.95 | 595 | 603.7 |
| DBL | 341.95 | 356.85 | 341.3 | 351.2 |
| GILLETTE | 5390.75 | 5432.35 | 5384 | 5401.55 |
| IDBI | 34.6 | 35.05 | 34.5 | 34.65 |
| MINDACORP | 73.65 | 73.95 | 71.4 | 71.75 |
| UFLEX | 323 | 331 | 323 | 328.85 |
| PCJEWELLER | 13.6 | 14.2 | 13.6 | 13.98 |
| KTKBANK | 41.3 | 41.7 | 41.05 | 41.2 |
| RATNAMANI | 1284.7 | 1286.65 | 1244.95 | 1249.85 |
| JKTYRE | 58.95 | 59.5 | 58.5 | 58.7 |
| CESC | 623 | 627.35 | 617 | 620.9 |
| FINOLEXIND | 520 | 530.85 | 509.6 | 513.8 |
| INDOCO | 268 | 268.2 | 258.95 | 260.05 |
| RITES | 258 | 258 | 250.2 | 251.55 |
| AIAENG | 1819.45 | 1820.5 | 1769.9 | 1799.4 |
| DBCORP | 82 | 82 | 78.35 | 78.9 |
| CCL | 265 | 266.2 | 258.6 | 260.35 |
| RAMCOCEM | 763.5 | 763.5 | 746.75 | 753.1 |
| KPRMILL | 669.4 | 674.7 | 660 | 663 |
| CARBORUNIV | 261.8 | 269 | 260.25 | 266.2 |
| SUPREMEIND | 1361 | 1395.1 | 1345.9 | 1359.55 |
| TIINDIA | 616 | 641.95 | 616 | 621.5 |
| JYOTHYLAB | 149.8 | 149.8 | 142.85 | 144.75 |
| ORIENTCEM | 60.45 | 60.9 | 60.1 | 60.55 |
| SJVN | 22 | 22 | 21.75 | 21.75 |
| DHANUKA | 770 | 770.7 | 757.75 | 761.45 |
| NESCO | 540.7 | 545.6 | 533.6 | 535.2 |
| VARROC | 309 | 314.95 | 308.85 | 311.1 |
| GESHIP | 237.1 | 241.65 | 235.8 | 237.2 |

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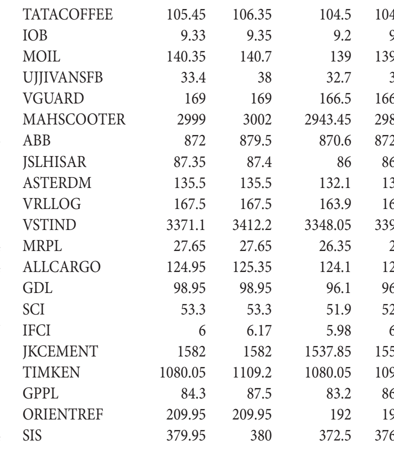
|---|---|---|---|---|
| CREDITACC | 733 | 754.25 | 733 | 748.5 |
| HONAUT | 32435 | 32435 | 32084.15 | 32233.15 |
| TATACOFFEE | 105.45 | 106.35 | 104.5 | 104.95 |
| IOB | 9.33 | 9.35 | 9.2 | 9.29 |
| MOIL | 140.35 | 140.7 | 139 | 139.65 |
| UJJIVANSFB | 33.4 | 38 | 32.7 | 32.9 |
| VGUARD | 169 | 169 | 166.5 | 166.85 |
| MAHSCOOTER | 2999 | 3002 | 2943.45 | 2984.4 |
| ABB | 872 | 879.5 | 870.6 | 872.05 |
| JSLHISAR | 87.35 | 87.4 | 86 | 86.25 |
| ASTERDM | 135.5 | 135.5 | 132.1 | 132.8 |
| VRLLOG | 167.5 | 167.5 | 163.9 | 164.2 |
| VSTIND | 3371.1 | 3412.2 | 3348.05 | 3395.4 |
| MRPL | 27.65 | 27.65 | 26.35 | 26.9 |
| ALLCARGO | 124.95 | 125.35 | 124.1 | 124.7 |
| GDL | 98.95 | 98.95 | 96.1 | 96.55 |
| SCI | 53.3 | 53.3 | 51.9 | 52.15 |
| IFCI | 6 | 6.17 | 5.98 | 6.01 |
| JKCEMENT | 1582 | 1582 | 1537.85 | 1559.1 |
| TIMKEN | 1080.05 | 1109.2 | 1080.05 | 1094.3 |
| GPPL | 84.3 | 87.5 | 83.2 | 86.85 |
| ORIENTREF | 209.95 | 209.95 | 192 | 193.7 |
| SIS | 379.95 | 380 | 372.5 | 376.05 |
| THERMAX | 715 | 725.25 | 715 | 719.6 |
| CHOLAHLDNG | 407 | 422 | 406.9 | 418 |
| TNPL | 107.2 | 107.2 | 105.35 | 105.85 |
| TCNSBRANDS | 408.8 | 408.8 | 388.45 | 398.7 |
| ERIS | 543.85 | 546.4 | 537 | 538.9 |
| SHRIRAMCIT | 920 | 934 | 903.85 | 911.1 |
| CRISIL | 1772.5 | 1773 | 1720 | 1736.4 |

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|---|---|---|---|---|
| SOLARINDS | 1095.45 | 1096.6 | 1069.7 | 1081.55 |
| TCIEXP | 793.2 | 807.95 | 785.85 | 803.95 |
| MAHLOG | 352.2 | 364 | 350 | 362.5 |
| NBVENTURES | 57.6 | 58.45 | 56.8 | 57 |
| J&KBANK | 15.1 | 15.3 | 15 | 15.11 |
| PNCINFRA | 163 | 166 | 162 | 164.95 |
| OMAXE | 69.9 | 69.9 | 66.8 | 67.25 |
| IIFLWAM | 971.5 | 994.9 | 954.1 | 976.25 |
| VTL | 832.7 | 838.8 | 815.3 | 824.3 |
| AAVAS | 1440.45 | 1444.8 | 1413.3 | 1425.45 |
| FLUOROCHEM | 506.45 | 507.5 | 486 | 495.05 |
| WESTLIFE | 380.05 | 404 | 380.05 | 393.35 |
| SKFINDIA | 1470 | 1485 | 1470 | 1483.55 |
| SHK | 83.9 | 84 | 83.4 | 83.8 |
| TASTYBIT | 10558 | 10726.3 | 10558 | 10597.15 |
| GALAXYSURF | 1881.8 | 1894.7 | 1858.95 | 1864.85 |
| GHCL | 160 | 162.95 | 160 | 161 |
| JAGRAN | 38.65 | 38.65 | 37.1 | 37.2 |
| SFL | 1325.5 | 1343.15 | 1320.95 | 1333.5 |
| SCHNEIDER | 79.45 | 80.4 | 78.65 | 78.9 |
| JTEKTINDIA | 79.4 | 79.45 | 78.15 | 78.45 |
| HERITGFOOD | 322.4 | 323.75 | 319.7 | 321.65 |
| NIACL | 106.35 | 107.55 | 105.75 | 106.05 |
| AKZOINDIA | 2140 | 2163 | 2120.2 | 2120.45 |
| GRINDWELL | 562.9 | 564 | 545.2 | 552.5 |
| MMTC | 16.5 | 17.15 | 16.5 | 16.7 |
| NILKAMAL | 1311.4 | 1322.95 | 1308.05 | 1311.3 |
| TTKPRESTIG | 6253.5 | 6260.3 | 6086.7 | 6125.1 |
| JCHAC | 2226.95 | 2299.9 | 2219.25 | 2282.35 |
| CSBBANK | 229.5 | 229.5 | 225.35 | 226.7 |
| MAHABANK | 11.6 | 11.6 | 11.31 | 11.33 |
| GEPIL | 420.5 | 426.6 | 419 | 420.6 |
| MAHSEAMLES | 225 | 230 | 224.05 | 224.5 |
| NAVNETEDUL | 78 | 78.55 | 76.4 | 76.6 |
| TATAMETALI | 525 | 527.8 | 521.7 | 523.75 |
| JSL | 44.9 | 44.9 | 44 | 44.1 |
| LAOPALA | 216 | 224.2 | 216 | 220.4 |
| ITDC | 238.5 | 238.75 | 235.15 | 236.1 |
| INDOSTAR | 285.5 | 289.75 | 285.5 | 288 |
| POWERINDIA | 974.6 | 995 | 967 | 976.75 |
| SCHAEFFLER | 3650 | 3650 | 3585.65 | 3639.55 |
| TVTODAY | 203.6 | 203.6 | 199 | 199.95 |
| TVSSRICHAK | 1410 | 1417.75 | 1400 | 1411.05 |
| ESABINDIA | 1363.65 | 1368.85 | 1351 | 1354.25 |
| CHALET | 147.2 | 147.2 | 142.6 | 142.65 |
| MOTILALOFS | 632.05 | 634.2 | 624.95 | 626.2 |
| MASFIN | 828 | 846 | 827.55 | 833.8 |
| VMART | 1994.35 | 1994.35 | 1966.5 | 1976.25 |
| STARCEMENT | 84.7 | 85 | 83.75 | 84.05 |
| GULFOILLUB | 643.35 | 643.65 | 629.95 | 641.6 |
| MAHLIFE | 237 | 239.55 | 235.15 | 235.95 |
| INFIBEAM | 82.55 | 82.55 | 82.55 | 82.55 |
| CERA | 2405.4 | 2412.75 | 2375.2 | 2385.55 |

WITH NO MASK ON

# Trump, still infectious, back at White House

**Washington:** President Donald Trump staged a dramatic return to the White House after leaving the military hospital where he was receiving an unprecedented level of care for COVID-19. He immediately ignited a new controversy by declaring that despite his illness the nation should not fear the virus that has killed more than 210,000 Americans — and then he entered the White House without a protective mask.

Trump's message alarmed infectious disease experts and suggested the president's own illness had not caused him to rethink his often-cavalier attitude toward the disease, which has also infected the first lady and several White House aides, including new cases revealed Monday.

Landing Monday night at the White House on Marine One, Trump gingerly climbed the South Portico steps, removed his mask and declared, "I feel good." He gave a double thumbs-up to the departing helicopter from the portico terrace, where aides had arranged American flags for the sunset occasion. He entered the White House, where aides were visible milling about the Blue Room, without wearing a face covering.

The president left Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, where his doctor, Navy Cmdr. Sean Conley, said earlier Monday that the president remains contagious and would not be fully "out of the woods" for another week but that Trump had met or exceeded standards for discharge from the hospital. Trump is expected to continue his recovery at the White House, where the reach of the outbreak that has infected the highest levels of the U.S. government is still being uncovered.

Still, just a month before the election and anxious to project strength, Trump tweeted before leaving the hospital, "Will be back on the Campaign Trail soon!!!" And in case anyone missed his don't-worry message earlier, he rushed out a new video from the White House.

"Don't be afraid of it," Trump said of the virus. "You're going to beat it. We have the best medical equipment, we have the best medicines." His remarks were strong, but he was taking deeper breaths than usual as he delivered them.

On Tuesday, Trump went a step further, repeating his previous comparisons between COVID-19 and the seasonal flu.

"Many people every year, sometimes over 100,000, and despite the Vaccine, die from the Flu," he tweeted. "Are we going to close down our Country? No, we have learned to live with it, just like we are learning to live with Covid, in most populations far less lethal!!!" *AP*

## Vaunted White House virus testing couldn't protect Trump

**Washington:** His press secretary once described President Donald Trump as the "most tested man in America" when it came to COVID-19.

And variations on that message were the White House ready response any time critics questioned the president's lax approach to following guidelines for avoiding the novel coronavirus.

But that vaunted testing operation proved woefully insufficient in protecting the president and those who work for him at the White House, as evidenced by a string of positive tests over the past week for Trump, his wife and others in their orbit.

Trump demonstrated in dramatic fashion that relying on testing alone isn't enough to create a safe bubble. Mask wearing and social distancing are other key ingredients for preventing the spread of COVID-19, and both have often been in short supply at the White House.

From the earliest days of the virus, Trump has provided conflicting advice on wearing a mask, noting that federal health experts were recommending them, but adding that "I don't think I'm going to be doing it." At another point, he said that "maybe they're great, and maybe they're just good. Maybe they're not so good." *AP*

## EU says that no-deal Brexit becoming ever more likely

**Brussels:** A top European Union official dealing with the United Kingdom said Tuesday that a cliff-edge rupture between the two without even a basic trade deal by the end of the year is becoming more likely by the day.

European Vice President Maros Sefcovic told the European Parliament that "time is short" to reach a deal before a Brexit divorce transition period ends by year's end, effectively giving negotiators less than four weeks to broker a deal which must subsequently go through a lengthy approval process.

And he pointed his finger at British Prime Minister Boris Johnson for making things even more difficult when he decided last month to introduce a bill that breaches the legally binding Withdrawal Agreement it struck with the bloc to make sure it could leave on January 31.

Sefcovic said it made Britain less trustworthy and called the plans "a heavy blow to the British signature and reliability. Respecting agreements is first a matter of law, but also of trust and in good faith." He said the plans left the EU with no choice but to launch legal action against Britain.

If passed into law, the Internal Market Bill would undermine the EU's previously agreed oversight of trade to and from Northern Ireland, which is part of the U.K and shares a border with EU member Ireland.

The bloc is furious that Britain plans to breach portions of the withdrawal treaty that were put in place to maintain an open Irish border, which has underpinned peace since Northern Ireland's 1998 Good Friday accord.

Sefcovic said the EU would never change anything to the Brexit divorce deal.

"The full and timely implementation of the withdrawal agreement is simply not debatable," he told the European Parliament.

Under such adversarial conditions, negotiators from both sides continue to look for common ground to broker a rudimentary trade deal to avoid a barrage of uncertainty, tariffs and red tape that would hurt economies on both sides when the transition window ends on January 1. *AP*

## Mike Pence, Kamala Harris all set for vice-presidential debate on Wednesday

**Washington:** Vice President Mike Pence and his Democratic challenger Senator Kamala Harris are all set for a debate in the Sal Lake City of Utah on Wednesday.

This will be for the first time in the American history that an Indian origin person will be taking up the podium for a vice presidential debate.

Political analysts believe that an aggressive Harris, 55, will easily prevail over Pence, 61, during the only vice-presidential debate and help her running mate Joe Biden, 77, to widen his lead over Trump, 74.

Biden, in the last few days, has widened his lead over Trump by double digit. However, the Trump Campaign believes that Pence could come out with a stellar performance during the debate. The debate gains added significance, given the COVID-19 infecting Trump, triggering speculations that Pence may be taking over the reigns of the country temporarily.

Also, many believe that Harris will be the real force in a Biden administration.

Both Pence and Harris has said that they are well prepared for the debate, which would be moderated by journalist Susan Page, Washington Bureau Chief, USA Today.

According to media reports, plexiglass will be installed between Pence and Harris on the debate stage.

"The debates are a crucial part of making our democracy work and I am honored to participate," Page said in a statement. The debate will be divided into nine segments of approximately 10 minutes each, said the Commission on Presidential Debate. The moderator will ask an opening question after which each candidate will have two minutes to respond. *PTI*

## 3 scientists share Nobel physics prize for cosmology finds

**Stockholm:** Three scientists won this year's Nobel Prize in physics Tuesday for advancing our understanding of black holes.

The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences said that Briton Roger Penrose will receive half of this year's prize "for the discovery that black hole formation is a robust prediction of the general theory of relativity".

Goran K Hansson, the academy's secretary-general, said German Reinhard Genzel and American Andrea Ghez will receive the second half of the prize "for the discovery of a supermassive compact object at the center of our galaxy."

The prizes celebrate "one of the most exotic objects in the universe," black holes, which have become a staple of science fiction and science fact and where time even seems to stand still, Nobel committee scientists said.

Penrose proved with mathematics that the formation of black holes was possible, based heavily on Albert Einstein's general theory of relativity.

Genzel and Ghez looked at the dust-covered centre of our Milky Way galaxy where something strange was going on, several stars moving around something they couldn't see.

It was a black hole. Not just an ordinary black hole, but a supermassive black hole, 4 million times the mass of our sun.

Now scientists know that all galaxies have supermassive black holes.

It is common for several scientists who worked in related fields to share the prize. Last year's prize went to Canadian-born cosmologist James Peebles for theoretical work about the early moments after the Big Bang, and Swiss astronomers Michel Mayor and Didier Queloz for discovering a planet outside our solar system.

The prestigious award comes with a gold medal and prize money of 10 million Swedish kronor (more than $1.1 million), courtesy of a bequest left 124 years ago by the prize's creator, Swedish inventor Alfred Nobel. The amount was increased recently to adjust for inflation. *AP*

## Maldives ex-VP jailed again for money laundering

AP ■ MALE

The former vice president of the Maldives has been sentenced to 20 years in prison after he pleaded guilty to money laundering and embezzlement under orders from the former president.

The Criminal Court on Monday night also fined Ahmed Adeeb $129,800. The prison sentence, which will be shortened by one year because he served time after a previous conviction on the same charges, also covered charges of corruption and possession of an unlicensed firearm.

Adeeb was a protege to former President Yameen Abdul Gayoom during the early years of his presidency between 2013 and 2018. He had been sentenced to 33 years in prison in 2016 for several counts including masterminding a blast in a presidential speedboat in which Yameen's wife was wounded. He was freed from all charges after Yameen lost reelection in 2018.

## Around the Globe

**Berlin:** Human rights groups said on Tuesday they have filed a criminal complaint in Germany asking prosecutors to investigate two chemical weapons attacks in Syria that stand out as among the worst atrocities in the country's long-running conflict.

**Phnom Penh (Cambodia):** Cambodia's government denied that its demolition of a US-funded facility at one of its naval bases is a signal that China will be granted basing privileges there, saying the work only involves planned infrastructure improvements.

## FLOODS IN FRANCE, ITALY SWEPT BODIES OUT OF CEMETERIES

**Breil-Sur-Roya (France):** The grim job of searching for flood victims in Alpine villages and on the nearby French and Italian coasts has grown even more gruesome: Along with storm casualties, authorities say corpses from cemeteries have also been found around the Mediterranean shore, apparently swept down the mountain by violent rains.

A total of 12 deaths have been reported since the storm pounded France's Alpes-Maritimes region and Italy's northwestern regions of Liguria and Piedmont starting Friday – four on the French side, eight on the Italian side.

More than 600 rescuers and others were searching Tuesday for some 20 people still missing, according to a spokeswoman for the Alpes-Maritimes regional administration.

Corpses unearthed from cemeteries have washed up on the Italian side, she told The Associated Press. She could not say how many or where they came from, and it was unclear whether the bodies were among the eight reported dead in Italy from the storm. Italian local authorities could not immediately be reached for comment.

The cemetery corpses were in such an advanced state of decomposition that they were clearly distinguishable from recent storm victims, the French spokeswoman said. *AP*

## Michelle slams Trump; calls him 'racist'

**Washington (PTI):** Former first lady Michelle Obama on Tuesday launched a scathing attack at President Donald Trump, accusing him of being a "racist" and not being "up to the job" and urged fellow Americans to make informed and engaged choice in the presidential election to regain stability in the country.

Pitching for Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden, she made an impassioned plea through a 24-minute video, saying that the country is in chaos and the voters should know what is at stake.

Titled 'Closing Argument', the video was released on social media platforms and also by the Biden campaign.

Believe it or not, the election is right around the corner. Votes are already being cast. And if you're still deciding who to vote for, or whether to vote at all, I wanted to take a moment to remind you what's at stake and to urge you to make a plan to vote today. Because let's be honest right now, our country is in chaos because of a president who isn't up to the job, she said in the video.

While the presidential elections are scheduled for November 3, early-voting and mail-in-voting has already started in states across the country.

Alleging that the president, already hit by the coronavirus, continues to gaslight the American people by acting like this pandemic is not a real threat, Michelle said, so what the president is doing is once again, patently false. It's morally wrong, and yes, it is racist. But that doesn't mean it won't work because this is a difficult time, a confusing time. And when people hear these lies and crazy conspiracies repeated over and over and over again, they don't know what to think with everything going on in their lives.

She said that to regain any kind of stability, "we've got to ensure that every eligible voter is informed and engaged in the selection. Because the stakes are on display every day, not just in the headlines, but in our families."

"If you are a parent like me, you're feeling the consequences of this president's failure to take this pandemic seriously from his constant downplaying of the importance of mask and social distancing to his relentless pressure on schools to open with offering a clean plan or meaningful support to keep students and teachers safe, she said.

Trump returned to the White House on Monday night after spending four days at a military hospital where he was treated for coronavirus.

Urging people to vote for Biden, the former first lady said that Americans have the chance to elect a president who can meet this moment, a leader who has the character and the experience to put an end to this chaos, start solving these problems and help lighten the load for families all across the country.

The one thing this president is really, really good at is using fear and confusion and spreading lies to win, she alleged.

Former president Barack Obama and Michelle have not campaigned much in person this election season. But they have been issuing videos in support of Biden and his running mate Senator Kamala Harris. Obama has also attended a number of fundraisers for Biden and Harris.

# Scandal grows over corporal punishment in Thai schools

**Bangkok (AP):** A scandal over corporal punishment of schoolchildren in Thailand expanded Tuesday as six teachers and caregivers at a school accused of such abuse turned themselves in to face criminal charges.

There are now 13 employees of the Sarasas Witaed Ratchaphruek School who are facing charges after the parents of 30 students complained that their children, mostly around kindergarten age, had been physically abused, said police Lt. Gen. Ampol Buarubporn, the regional police commissioner overseeing the case.

Ronnarong Kawpech, a lawyer representing 30 families, said his clients filed charges of physical abuse, illegal detention and child abuse against the staff members of the school in Nonthaburi province, just outside Bangkok. They also filed separate complaints against both the school and the involved staff members seeking 5 million baht ( 160,200) in compensation for each abused child.

Corporal punishment is not unusual in Thai schools. The Education Ministry recently issued orders barring teachers from using physical punishment against their students, but many reports, often including videos posted on social media, suggest the practice is still widespread.

The issue has been highlighted during a wave of political and social protests in Thailand. Secondary school students demanding educational reforms, who have organized themselves under the tongue-in-cheek name of Bad Students, have staged several protests against schools and the Education Ministry. One of their demands is for the ministry to punish schools and teachers for using physical punishment of students.

The scandal over the Sarasas Witaed Ratchaphruek School broke out when a parent went to consult with a school staff member about a son who had developed some strange behavior and refused to go to school. The staff member displayed video from a closed-circuit TV camera installed in the classroom that showed a female caregiver physically abusing the child while other staff turned a blind eye.

When other parents subsequently viewed videos, they observed similar abuses, especially in kindergarten classes.

According to lawyer Ronnarong, one caregiver was seen employing physical violence more then 20 times in videos covering just eight days.

Many of the video clips have been posted on social media, drawing attention from mainstream media. One of the most shocking ones shows a student being thrown to the floor and then having a female caregiver cover his head with a black garbage bag as he tries to run away.

Another clip shows a caregiver repeatedly push a pupil against a wall while he is trying to leave the classroom.

Piboon Yongkamol, the founder and president of the privately run chain of 49 Sarasas schools, told Thai media he had apologized to the parents, but showed little remorse for the situation. He charged that parents were making a fuss just to get money out of him, and if he were forced to close his schools, he would lose nothing financially because of the profit he could make by selling the land they are on.

# I was too fat like UK economy, says Boris

**London (PTI):** British Prime Minister Boris Johnson on Tuesday likened his own health with that of the country's economy, which was superficially healthy but had some chronic underlying conditions which were exposed by COVID-19.

Johnson, who was hospitalised after testing positive for coronavirus earlier in the year, has often spoken about his struggle to lose weight in order to ward off an added risk from the deadly virus.

Addressing delegates of the ruling Conservative Party for its annual conference, being held virtually in keeping with the coronavirus guidelines for large meetings, the Tory party chief set out his vision for a post-COVID British economy in a rousing speech, even as he hit back at critics who have questioned if his bout of COVID had somehow robbed him of his 'mojo'.

I have to admit the reason I had such a nasty experience with the disease is that although I was superficially in the peak of health when I caught it, I had a very common underlying condition. My friends I was too fat, he said, claiming that he has since lost nearly 12 kg.

When you look at the general economic condition of this country when we went into lockdown there was a similarity because we were on the face of it in pretty good shape And yet if you looked more carefully you could see and indeed many of us said so at the time that the UK economy had some chronic underlying problems: long-term failure to tackle the deficit in skills, inadequate transport infrastructure, not enough homes people could afford to buy that isn't good enough, said Johnson.

The 56-year-old UK PM went on to lay out his party's plans that would mean not to restore normality but to "reform and renew" the country.

Evoking the UK's recovery from the Second World War, he said he wanted to build a "new Jerusalem", with opportunity for all, improved housing and healthcare.

Among the policies he detailed for the future include making the UK a "world leader" in green energy by announcing 160 million pounds of investment in ports and factories to increase electricity generation from offshore wind; boost house building through changes to England's planning system; and greater provision of one-to-one teaching for pupils who had fallen behind during the pandemic.

Amid repeated references to UK Chancellor Rishi Sunak, his neighbour at No 11 Downing Street, and the various economic measures put in place by the Conservative Party government to fight against the economic impact of the pandemic, the UK PM admitted that increased bailouts and subsidies to prop up the economy go against his party's traditional free market instincts but there was "simply no reasonable alternative".

Overall, he sought to strike a note of optimism with the annual party policy speech as he promised that the government was working night and day to repel this virus .

I know the people of this country are going to defeat this virus I believe it is a measure of the greatness of this country that we are simply not going to let it hold us back or slow us down, and we are certainly not going to let it get us down, he said.

The UK has so far reported 518,222 cases of coronavirus with 42,549 deaths so far due to the contagious disease, according to Johns Hopkins University.

## Pak to challenge India's move for exclusive GI tag to Basmati rice in EU

**Islamabad (PTI):** Pakistan has decided to file its opposition in the European Union in response to India's application for an exclusive Geographical Indications (GI) tag to Basmati rice in the 27-member bloc, a media report said on Tuesday.

This was decided during a meeting chaired by Adviser to the Prime Minister on Commerce Razak Dawood on Monday.

The meeting was attended by Secretary Commerce, Chairman, Intellectual Pro perty Organisation (IPO-Pakistan), representatives of Rice Exporters Asso ciation of Pakistan (REAP), and the legal fraternity, the Dawn newspaper reported.

During the meeting, REAP representatives were of the view that Pakistan was a major grower and producer of Basmati rice and India's application for exclusivity is unjustified, it said.

India has said that it is an Indian-origin product in its application, published in the EU's official journal on September 11.

Dawood said that Pakistan will vehemently oppose India's application in the European Union and restrain New Delhi from obtaining an exclusive GI tag of Basmati rice.

He supported the concerns of REAP and relevant stakeholders and ensured that their claim for Basmati rice as GI will be protected, the report said.

Pakistan enacted the Geographical Indications (Registration and Protection) Act in March this year, which gives it the right to oppose Indian application for registration of Basmati rice's exclusive rights.

## Poland's ruling party leader joins revamped government

**Warsaw (AP):** Poland's president has formally sworn in a reshuffled government in which the leader of the main ruling party, Jaroslaw Kaczynski, becomes deputy prime minister, after years of forging the nation's politics from outside the Cabinet.

Kaczynski, 71, will now be in charge of the justice, defense and interior sectors, supervising the work of these key ministers.

Until now, he was formally only a regular lawmaker for his Law and Justice party although he was considered to wield considerable influence.

Observers say his main task will be to ease tensions between moderate Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki, and hard-line Justice Minister Zbigniew Ziobro, which recently brought the right-wing coalition, in power since 2015, to the brink of collapse.

Ziobro, whose reform of the justice system has drawn European Union condemnation, is the head of a small coalition partner, United Poland. The open-air swearing-in ceremony Tuesday was led by President Andrzej Duda in the gardens of the Presidential Palace. It had been planned for Monday at the palace but was postponed after the new education minister, Przemyslaw Czarnek, tested poistive for COVID-19.

Czarnek was not present Tuesday and will be sworn in later.

The reshuffle trimmed the number of ministries to 14, from 20, in what leaders described as an effort to make it more efficient and to speed up the decision-making process.

The coalition, which also includes another small party, Agreement, has three years left of its term.

As people strive to find a more rewarding haven for their investments, cryptocurrencies such as bitcoin have now become the talk of the town. PROF KUBER SHARMA tells you how students can make it a lucrative option

# LAUNCH A CRYPTOCURRENCY CAREER

The COVID-19 pandemic has led to an unprecedented economic crisis. Every industry around the world has been affected by this pandemic, with the IMF calling it the worst recession since the Great Depression. Companies are missing their earnings estimates, people are losing their jobs, experiencing salary cuts and many traditional investments have taken a hit across the board. As people strive to find a more rewarding haven for their investments, cryptocurrencies such as bitcoin have now become the talk of the town. What are the reasons that are propelling this phenomenon? Let's analyse.

First and foremost the equity market is losing its attractiveness post the coronavirus crisis because of decreased demand for many companies' products, resulting in long-term declines in corporate profits. Investors are looking for more rewarding options to invest other than stocks. Since Cryptocurrencies such as Bitcoin possess many properties that are similar to that of precious metals such as Gold, they are indeed emerging as an important and highly rewarding asset class.

Secondly, cryptocurrencies such as Bitcoin are proving to be an attractive option because there is very little correlation between them and traditional investments. So even if traditional investments are growing or declining, the appreciation in cryptocurrencies is fairly immune to them. As a result, for Investors, there is more room to incorporate assets in their portfolio that have little correlation with the uncertainty in the economy.

Thirdly, even before the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent economic fallout, financial experts around the world were already recommending some exposure to cryptocurrencies within investment portfolios. Post COVID-19 pandemic, the crypto market remains on the growth path, and cryptocurrency trading participation by institutional investors has become much more significant. One such reason behind this is because cryptocurrencies are protected against inflation. So, events like the crash of the stock market, the spread of COVID-19 and others has little impact on the value of these digital currencies.

The fourth and most important reason is that cryptocurrency is one of the biggest applications of very popular and very trust-worthy Blockchain technology that eliminates the needs of middlemen, allowing transactions to perform directly and swiftly between two entities. This phenomenon of performing transactions swiftly while saving on brokerages and middlemen feeshas particularly piqued the interest of several large scale investors, particularly the large global banks.

Blockchain has leaped onto the world stage and presented itself as the next-generation solution for many of the tech & finance sectors' most pressing problems. It has now received influential endorsements from government leaders, industry titans and ambitious entrepreneurs in an unprecedented acknowledgment of the technology's prowess. The future of cryptocurrency seems very bright not just for investing but as a career path also.

What the blockchain industry needs are people who are aware of this ecosystem and are interested in continually enhancing their skills, and staying up to date with the industry's advancement. There are steps blockchain enthusiasts can take to start developing their careers in the space.

**Popular career options in cryptocurrency**

Want to apply your passion and knowledge of cryptocurrency to a profession? Here are three burgeoning career options you can pursue:

**Blockchain Engineer:** Blockchain engineer is an attractive career option that helps building applications using blockchain technology. While typical blockchain engineers used to track digital currency transactions, many companies are now creating customised technologies as per their own requirements.

**Financial Analyst:** As the world is moving more-and-more towards digitalisation, the need for financial analysts who are fluent in crypto as an asset class has increased more than ever. As a financial analyst, your role is to help clients make smarter investments in digital currency.

**Cryptographer:** The work profile of a cryptographer is to develop algorithms and security systems to encrypt sensitive information, such as protecting data in finances. If data protection interests you, you can probably lookout for this as a profession. Additionally, cryptographers are engaged in designing and developing several customised applications that help in maintaining national security.

Alternatively, there are many career options that exist in the Sales & Marketing functions and other functions such as Business Analysis, Technology Analysis, Advertisement & PR, Investor Relations, Legal, Regulations, Corporation Communications and others.

*The writer is Professor of Practice & Investments Dynamics , JK Business School*

## QUOTE OF THE DAY

**What a school thinks about its library is a measure of what it feels about education.**
**— Harold Howe**

## New high for JP International

The JP International school located at sector Omega 1, yet again featured in the Leadership Ranking and has retained its second spot in the Leadership category of the Times school annual ranking 2020 which is the most sought after Annual ranking of the region. The key factors of evaluation based on infrastructure and facilities, student - teacher ratio, network, exchange programs, awards, alumni, extracurricular activities and others.

"We are very proud of this achievements and wish to convey to all parents that the faculty and staff of our school has been putting their best and we hope to reach at the top also soon," says Roshan Agarwal, Chairman of the JP international school.

Amit Saxena, Vice President cites a series of metamorphic changes that JP International School has taken in last few years and said "JP International School believes in futuristic education and have introduced many new subjects like Artificial Intelligence, Entrepreneurships, Computational thinking and integrated 21st century skills in its pedagogy to make the school education more relevant and help our students to be future ready".

Principal, Sadhana Mallik said: "We are extremely grateful to all our parents and faculty members who have placed their trust on us and we shall continue to work hard to retain it."

## New programme launched

**PNS** ■ NEW DELHI

The IP University has started a new academic programme — PG Diploma in Healthcare Management — from this academic session.

This one-year weekend programme will be run under the University School of Management Studies (USMS) with collaboration and support of Association of Health Providers ( AHPI).

The total seats for this programme is 45. Any healthcare professional with Graduate or Post Graduate degree from a recognised university with minimum of 50 per cent marks and having minimum experience of one year in healthcare sector can apply for the programme. Admission will be given on merit list prepared on the basis of marks obtained in Graduation/Post - Graduation (70 per cent weightage) plus marks obtained in Interview( 30 per cent weightage). There is no age limit for this programme. Classes will be held on weekends days (Saturdays and Sundays) in the campus. The fee for this programme is ₹81,000. The last date of submission of online form for this programme is October 15, 2020.

Admission brochure, online apply option and other details of the programme are available on the university website *www.ipu.ac.in.*

According to Dean — USMS Prof A K Saini this programme has been especially designed for practicing healthcare professionals/hospital administrators to upgrade their knowledge and skill in healthcare management to serve the society in more efficient and effective manner.

# What's in a year

## The impression of dropping a year has always been accredited with wasting the year. But now the scenario has completely reversed, says ANKIT KAPOOR

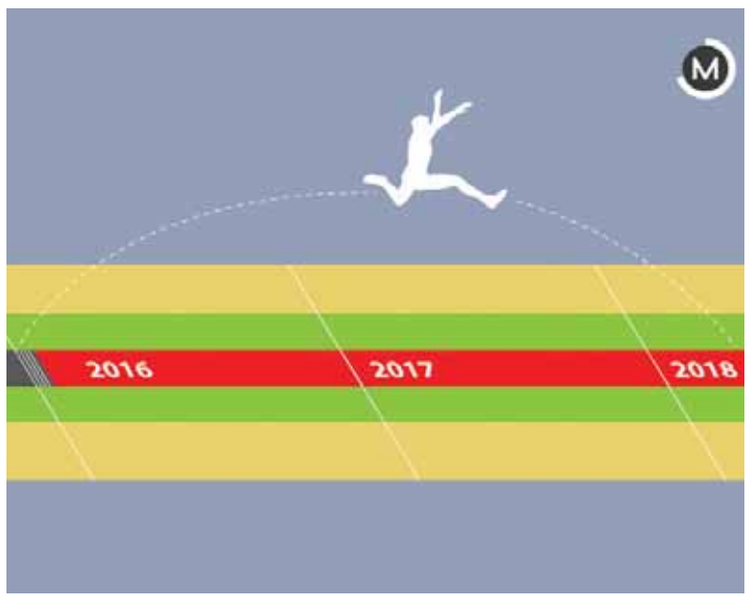
As far as their career is concerned, Class XII remains a threshold for students with a lot of unanswered questions pondering inside their head, leaving them confused. The most common notion that students have while deciding to choose the right career revolves around how to choose the right career, which course to opt for and what they are good at, among many others.

Such thoughts oscillating between questions about the future can be daunting, confusing, and lead to an unclear frame of mind. In such a dilemma the one thing that becomes an integral part and adds on to the confusion is "Should I take a drop if things don't turn out the way I have planned them?"

While this question remains a tough nut to crack, requiring countless self-introspection to reach a point where you can swiftly answer this, especially when everything seems to be at stake. The impression of dropping a year has always been accredited with wasting the year and the student has been left behind their batchmates in terms of the academic session. But now the scenario has completely reversed and if one is determined to go to their dream college, with parental support, if a student does not score well as per the desired results in the entrance exam, they have been opting to drop a year.

Dropping a year — waste or invest?

There is no absolute answer to this question if one should drop a year or not, with a very thin line difference between waste and investment. It is all about the mindset of the individual, and according to experts one will definitely be investing. Aspirants aiming for their dream career, with disciplined approach, dedication in their preparation are contributing to a positive investment towards their future.




But it is not that black and white to make up your mind so quickly on this question. One reaches to this question after contemplating about various points:

**Missed the college by whisker:** A wise student should evaluate the difference between the targeted and actual score. If the difference between the two is small and seems realistic that with a little more effort and reworking the preparation strategy, they can easily reach the required score. However, if the difference is a major one then the chances with some extra efforts are negligible. The fact is to look for an alternative career path. And in other cases where a student gets into a good college but it is not his dream college, in such case he should join the college and continue alongside rather than dropping a year.

**Poor scores in both Boards and entrance:** This is a tough situation but as they say, every situation has a solution. A child should be very sure of the career path he/she intends to take thereon. While many attributes it as a dead-end situation, but it is not the end of the road and there exists multiple options:

- New age careers/skill-based careers
- Admissions in Tier-II colleges
- Universities

If none of the above-mentioned points works, and if one considers dropping a year to get into a good college then joining some certificate courses that will enhance your performance.

**Need time to prepare and to plan again:** The preparation for entrance exams requires hard work and perseverance irrespective of the entrance exam. In this scenario, one should evaluate what were the reasons for the previous performance. Self-questioning about the failure to prepare well, also opens up clarity, and seeking guidance from a career counsellor before taking the plunge also helps in revamping the preparation strategy.

In all these scenarios, one has to think articulately before reaching a decision of taking a college this year or dropping a year. It is not an end of the road if you are dropping a year, it's only that you are taking one year extra to shape your career the way you want it to be. Also, don't listen to anyone who tells you that it is a crime to drop a year. In the end, what matters is that you consider all your options well and do well. A happy mind is always capable to do wonders.

*The writer is Managing Director, Pratham Test Prep*

# A new generation of start-ups

## We are now witnessing a paradigm shift with entrepreneurship fast becoming the first-choice career for our best and brightest, and start-up successes inspiring a new generation of Indians, says ATUL RAJA

It is an interesting reflection. When I was growing up, and perhaps till a decade back, many of the career aspirations were decided by one set of parents proudly proclaiming, "My son will become an engineer or a doctor". The other set would tell you, "We are not Tata or Birla. Study hard to get into a job from where you can retire". Indians were traditionally risk-averse when it came to career choices.

However, the situation today has turned on its head, and we sure have come a long way. The fact that India needs job creators and not job seekers isn't lost on anyone, including the youth. We are now witnessing a paradigm shift with entrepreneurship fast becoming the first-choice career for our best and brightest, and startup successes inspiring a new generation of Indians. This has mainly been due to a significant shift in the way Entrepreneurship Education is now being imparted at campuses. The new trends in Entrepreneurship Education are experiential and focused on 'learning by doing'.

**Mainstreaming entrepreneurship course with credits:** Educational Institutions which are serious about creating a culture of entrepreneurship at their campus are mainstreaming the course with credits and bringing in an evangelist faculty for the same. This has gone a long way in generating more interest in entrepreneurship amongst students.

**Project-based learning:** The course is now less theoretical and focused on out-of-the-class and out-of-the-book approach — validating the start-up idea, how to create business models, understand the nuances of Minimum Viable Product (MVP), do's and don'ts before starting up etc. are real-time scenarios ensuring that startups of tomorrow begin on the right footing.

**Exposure to industry experts, mentors and entrepreneurs:** It is widely acknowledged that the best teachers of entrepreneurship are entrepreneurs themselves who have dirtied their hands,

faced myriad challenges and done it all. While industry experts give an outlook of the various facets of the business, the entrepreneurs give a first-hand feel of what's to come in the entrepreneurial journey.

**Practice ventures:** Practice ventures by students lay a clear roadmap for venture creation and build entrepreneurial muscle. A number of startups have arisen from campus ventures as they provide real-word learning into business planning, customers, markets, revenue, competition and funding.

**Design thinking:** Innovation and Entrepreneurship are two sides of the same coin. Fostering innovative thinking through creative and collaborative workflows helps to facilitate prototyping and discovery of new solutions.

The new entrepreneurship education trends at the campus are fostering innovation and experimentation through hands-on experiential learning and providing an opportunity to budding startups for building and executing the business idea, learning to challenge the status quo, and developing a risk-taking mindset. More importantly, this will go a long way in grooming a new generation of educated and robust startups who are more aware of the pitfalls that lead to failure and hence, will maximise their success rate.

We are looking at a future where our entrepreneurs will be heroes much like the Bollywood stars and cricketers.

*The writer is is Executive Vice President, Marketing at Wadhwani Foundation*

## Gxpress creates job opportunities

**PNS** ■ NEW DELHI

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected every industry. It has brought the world to a standstill and has impacted our lives deeply. One of the largest affected sectors is Logistics Industry. According to the Industry body Indian Chambers of Commerce (ICC) due to coronavirus lockdown, the logistics sector lost at about ₹50,000 crore.

Recently, a report by Global Consultants states that around 122 million people lost their jobs due to the Covid-19 pandemic in India, and 40% of those are from blue-collar jobs. To solve this problem and to help revive the economy, Gxpress, one of the fastest growing logistics companies in India took this as an opportunity to create job opportunities. Gxpress conducted a mega Walk-in drive.

In this drive jobs were offered to skilled workers who were either jobless or left without a job because of the economic slowdown. The main jobs were given in courier delivery, warehouse associate, machine operator, warehouse executive, data analyst, technology officer and packers. Gxpress also did not go for lay-offs or salary-cuts during the COVID-19 period, unlike they are conducting job walk-in drive to hire more man power on a large scale.

# Fellowship in aesthetic & anti-aging medicine

**PNS** ■ NEW DELHI

The ILAMED announces the launch of its one-year Fellowship in Aesthetic & Anti-Aging Medicine (FAAM) Programme. This Flagship Program is in Collaboration with University Medicine Greifswald, Germany. The eligibility criteria is the participants should have a recognised Medical Degree from any university/traineeship or specialised degree in Dermatology.

This one-year Fellowship programme is also approved and endorsed by The Indian Society of Aesthetic Medicine and The Plastic Surgery Center of Western New York.

This programme will be delivered in a blended format of self-learning, live sessions, case studies & hands-on training which will be off One Month duration. One to one teaching format of this programme is what makes it unique from others in the world as this consists of concise and clinically relevant practical lectures on various topics. Live demonstrations with detailed explanations by the expert faculties of ILAMED from around the world. At the end of the programme all the successful participants will be awarded - The Fellowship in Aesthetic & Anti -Aging Medicine which is an International Certificate and this will help them to excel in their careers.

This fellowship programme will give a chance to all the budding doctors & physicians to master themselves by hands-on training on live patients under International Faculty supervision and learn latest and advanced techniques. Also, all the participants will get Alumni Status of Indian Society of Aesthetic Medicine (ISAM) . A life membership certificate free of cost.

During this programme, students will implement and test the acquired knowledge under clinical and practical conditions, as well, record experiences and individually prepare suitable treatment procedures. On the other hand, a scientific focus will give the students an extensive interdisciplinary overview of available methods and possibilities and acquire the ability to scientifically handle methods and their principles in Aesthetic & Anti-Ageing Medicine.

After finishing this fellowship programme, students will have interdisciplinary in-depth knowledge and skills across the area of Aesthetic & Anti-Ageing Medicine.

## Virtual hackathon

**PNS** ■ NEW DELHI

A first-ever virtual 24 hour Hackathon competition has been announced by leading e-learning platform-Fliplearn to help showcase technology prowess of students & engineers and creativity with an aim to develop innovative solutions in the education domain.

The virtual event will take place on October 17 to October 18, 2020 from 10 am onwards. On October 17th, 2020, all admitted teams will have 24 hours to build creative solutions to the problems through coding, programming, design, data etc. The goal of the event is to build the future of education using technology.

The competition is open for the students of Class IX to Class XII, engineering students and engineering professionals.

# Towards robust learning

The new policy is a step towards building the country's resilient education system to help students face the rapidly evolving challenges arising in the emerging global ecosystem and economic integration, says PROF PADMAKALI BANERJEE

The National Education Policy 2020 is a critical and timely intervention that is destined to make Indian education landscape globally competitive. The policy is comprehensive and encompasses significant reform in every area of our education system. The focus towards making the higher education ecosystem inclusive, affordable, equitable coupled with adequate emphasis on technical and vocational skill development are welcome steps towards employment generation, economic productivity and economic growth.

Making higher educational institutions multidisciplinary with adequate flexibility in course selection, multiple entry and exit criteria in conjunction with a drive towards research and innovation are significant proactive overhauls. This makes new education system more realistic.

To accelerate the innovative approach, the move towards making engineering institutions, such as IITs, to include holistic and multidisciplinary education curriculum with the inclusion of arts and humanities is in sync with the need of the hour towards holistic education.

One of the hallmarks of NEP 2020 is the rightful emphasis on vocational and skill development intending to make far reaching implications in enhancing academia-industry collaboration and facilitating outreach-practice-research endeavors with an intent of establishing Centres of Excellence in higher education institutions.

Such an intent embedded in the NEP 2020 is aimed at making fresh graduates ready for future in tandem with the objective to promote self-employment opportunities, making it a catalytic force towards promoting business and economic development in global paradigm.

All these aspects are destined to make a synergy between higher education and industry in a manner that provides complementarity between our education system and industrial management and productivity enhancement. The emphasis on important vocational skills is to boost small and medium sectors.

The critical significance provided to Open Distance Learning (ODL) and online programmes, provided they are specifically accredited to do so, aims to improving access and increased opportunities for lifelong learning (SDG4) and development of management attributes.

As a corollary, the NEP 2020 envisages that all academic programs, courses, curricula, pedagogy, across subjects, including those in class, online and ODL modes, achieve global standards.

**The critical significance provided to Open Distance Learning (ODL) and online programmes, provided they are specifically accredited to do so, aims to improving access and increased opportunities for lifelong learning**

One significant dimension of NEP 2020 is its emphasis on internationalisation for increased exchange of expertise and harnessing manpower resources optimally. Research and development collaboration and student and faculty exchanges between the Indian higher educational institutions and global institutions are integral components the policy. In an era of global economic and business interdependence, such provision is going to metamorphosize the entire landscape of business and management competency among students graduating from universities and institutions of higher education in India.

One critical aspect of NEP 2020 is the realisation that vocational and professional education among students, in the form of integrating vocational education programs into mainstream education system, is of utmost significance.

Additionally, the policy initiatives further allow for incubation centres to be set up in universities and higher education institutes in partnership with industries. Simultaneously, deliberations on agricultural education, legal education and healthcare education are important to serve the society effectively.

Research and development, innovation, incubation centres and entrepreneurship skill development are predominant elements of NEP 2020.

Towards this, technical education encompassing engineering, technology, management, architecture, town planning, pharmacy, hotel management and catering technology are going to be critical in employment enhancement and higher trajectory of productivity.

At the same time the policy further envisions that India must take the lead in preparing professionals in cutting-edge areas that are fast gaining prominence, like Artificial Intelligence (AI), 3-D machining, big data analysis and machine learning among others. In technical education, genomic studies, biotechnology, nanotechnology, neuroscience and other scientific pursuits would pave the way to facilitate linkage of universities with industry.

Innovation in curriculum, internationalisation and industry integration are the three Is that can bring transformational effects in education. The NEP 2020 has been able to successfully amalgamate educational framework with innovation and research; global standards and industry needs and requirement.

*The writer is Pro Vice-chancellor and Dean Academics, Amity University, Haryana*

# 'Remote teaching is an efficient option'

There are a number of features of experimental mode of learning with innovative concepts making it the future of new education, says SACHIN GUPTA

Sachin Gupta
Chancellor, Sanskriti University

The global pandemic Coronavirus has led multifarious changes in the working of every sector. The pandemic led to closure of education intuitions to prevent the spread of virus therefore a new gateway for imparting education emerged. Virtual classrooms, a new and innovative concept in India. Global experimentation with remote teaching is the most efficient option available to bridge the education gap. Almost every education institution today has opted for the online mode. Adapting to this new mode was quite difficult initially but it is turning out to be an effective mode for students and teachers both and the best alternative option under the circumstances.

Here are the top five features of experimental mode of learning making it the future of new education.

**Flexibility:** Online education is enabling teachers and the students to set their personal learning pace, adding more flexibility to set class schedules, and adding innovative methods to check student's learning. Now the student can take his lecture from anywhere. It is also helping students to improvise time management skills and consequently become more disciplined which apparently helps in maintaining good work-study balance. Unlike traditional means of learning the student can give his assessments online as also available course material online. There is direct contact between teacher and students which enables both parties to understand and respond in the required way.

**Affordability:** It is a more affordable option as compared to offline mode of education as it eliminates a wide range of payment options as the student can pay for the webinars that are relevant to him. Besides, for the academic classes it eliminates commuting costs, course material costs and many more miscellaneous fees. Therefore, there is less monetary investment and the education is more advanced.

**Easily accessible:** It enables studying or teaching from anywhere in the world. That is there is no need of commuting from one place to another or follow any rigid schedule which not only helps to save time, but also helps in saving money. Virtual classrooms are available anywhere where an Internet connection is available.

**Career relevant:** Learning with the new method of education is more flexible and multi-tasking as students can meet career relevant skills while sitting at home apart from learning from online classes there is more time for students to attain online training, pursue skill based online courses, etc. These sources boost up a student's résumé making him future ready. E-learning is not only beneficial for students but also for the teachers as it is making teachers more updated to e-teaching techniques.

**Enhance new age technology:** Unlike traditional education, learning online is more advanced, as now students and teachers both are becoming more innovative, self-introduaders which are helping to discover the undiscovered and setting of new trends. Both are navigating the course lectures, downloading course materials, interacting online, communicating well digitally and making new networks. E-learning allows a wide scope of practical and innovative learning. Online education ensures learning more than what is just written in books. The student can avail study material in the form of video, document, and voice notes. Virtual education has widened the scope of learning.

## MINDIT

Gone are the days when it was believed that coding is only for absolute computer nerds. Now, anyone can participate in the process of writing code for their own creations such as websites, mobile applications and software. Coding and programming are vital skills and demand is expected to rise in the future, especially when it comes to managing cybersecurity, cloud services and SaaS platforms.

It has become a part of the curriculum for school going students. Therefore, students who can be engaged in coding now can have better potential prospects once they do leave school. The beauty of programming is that you can build whatever you can think of.

Here are the five unique platforms to learn how to code.

**School of Accelerated Learning**

It is the first hybrid product school for learners who are looking to build tech-focused careers founded by Raj Desai. School of Accelerated Learning (SOAL) claims to be India's first-ever hybrid coding boot camp for emerging technologies and future work skills. Their product-driven boot camp is now available at Mumbai, Hyderabad and Delhi. It provides in-depth knowledge of courses in Product Engineering and Product Design. SOAL helps to build real-life, robust web applications from scratch. SOAL gives you access to global experts with both online learning modules and the excitement of learning with peers in its offline campuses. Aside from learning, you'll have the ability to connect with mentors who are currently at the top of their field.

**SP Robotics**

Founded by Sneha Priya, this is an ed-tech platform to learn, build and showcase robotics, coding, image processing, virtual reality and other next-generation skills or education. The best part is that concepts are taught using animation videos and real-world examples. It only enhances coding skills but also problem-solving skills and creativity. Currently, the Android and AI courses are being offered for a free trial, but one can proceed to purchase the entire course after knowing their interest. Those who complete their course will get a certificate.

**Udacity**

This is an online learning platform offering groundbreaking credential programs in fields such as AI, machine learning, self-driving cars, and robotics as well as app and web development. It empowers students to succeed while in school, but also in their daily life after school is completed. It aims to teach the skills that are needed by leaders today, delivers the credentials that are endorsed by employers and give valuable education at just a fraction of the cost that is asked in traditional schools. Students can learn JavaScript for free while the more intense courses and nanodegree programs do come at a price.

**Coursera**

It offers massive open online courses, specializations, degrees, professional and master track courses. It offers over 1,000 courses that come from 119 institutions. It provides coding-based courses, tutorials and resources taught by professors at leading universities. There some introductory programming courses that are free while there are some more advanced courses available for a fee. Courses are available in English, Spanish and French and can be subtitled in English, Spanish or Chinese. Those who complete their course will receive an electronic course certificate.

Coding Ninjas

Founded in 2016, it is one of the largest online tech education company in India, focusing on courses like C++, Java, Python, Android, Machine learning and Data science, to name a few. With TA sessions, Live webinars, discussion forums and certifications, this is a great place to build a solid programming foundation

Twin Win, has launched a **scholarship programme for students from Government Schools and poor households**. Students with best results are being interviewed and financial assistance is being given to the best ones. The scholarship will be awarded to students of Government schools and children of poor background.

Written tests, talent hunts are being conducted online. Twin Win has a reach of around one lakh individuals annually. It aims this scholarship to reach students of around 10 states by November end.

It has also started social media campaigns to give free Career advice to students who cannot afford costly career counsellors. It also has an e-magazine — Yuvaan — to improve the habit of reading among masses. Also the organisation wishes to help young entrepreneurs with financial assistance.

The **University of Oxford is offering Skoll Scholarships for MBA students**. The scholarship provides full funding plus a living stipend to complete a Masters of Business Administration (MBA) at the University of Oxford's Saïd Business School.

**Award:** It covers partial living expenses of at least an additional £14,777.

**Eligibility:** Students of any nationality can apply. Have started a new social venture or an initiative within an existing organisation, or pursued positive change as an impact career professional (i.e. someone who has used entrepreneurial approaches to address the same social/environmental issue with a clear core thread that unites his work) for preferably 3 years or longer by the time you apply for the MBA.

Have demonstrated evidence of personal qualities strongly resonating with entrepreneurial leadership.

Have demonstrated how a business education will help further your career goals; Have demonstrated need for financial support.

**English language requirements:** Candidates whose first language is not English or who have not studied at an English-speaking university are required to take either the TOEFL or IELTS tests.

**How to apply:** To apply for the Skoll Scholarship you first need to apply and be accepted onto the Saïd Business School's MBA programme

**Application deadline:** The last date is January 8, 2021.

**SUBJECT MATTER EXPERT (ECONOMICS) AT INNOVALANCE LEARNING SYSTEMS**
Location: Work From Home
Stipend: ₹8,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/5523756
Deadline: October 14, 2020

**CLIENT SERVICING AT WHATAPORTRAIT.COM**
Location: Work From Home
Stipend: ₹8,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/5523757
Deadline: October 14, 2020

**E-COMMERCE MANAGEMENT AT THE RUG REPUBLIC**
Location: Delhi
Stipend: ₹10,000-₹12,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/5523758
Application deadline: October 14, 2020

**LINUX (KERNEL) PROGRAMMING AT WIJUNGLE — BY HTTPCART**
Location: Delhi, Jaipur
Stipend: ₹15,000-₹20,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/5523759
Application deadline: October 14, 2020

**CONTENT EDITING AT EDUNIFY- UNIFORM APPLICATION**
Location: Lucknow
Stipend: ₹4,000-₹8,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/5523760
Application deadline: October 13, 2020

**PROJECT COORDINATOR AT IAPPTUNES**
Location: Chandigarh, Kahar, Mohali
Stipend: ₹7,000-₹12,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/5523761
Application deadline: October 14, 2020

**ELECTRONICS ENGINEERING AT KIDI ROBOTICS**
Location: Ranchi, Dhanbad, Jamshedpur
Stipend: ₹7,000-₹12,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/5523762
Application deadline: October 11, 2020

## STUDY ABROAD

# 'COVID-19 has changed how education is imparted'

International students need to study online and complete course from campus when safe to return, says EMMA LANCASTER

The onset of the Coronavirus pandemic is transforming the traditional way of imparting education. However, now new tools are being added to the labs and lecture theatres.

Earlier, virtual learning was only considered a supplement to classroom learning. While many will still prefer physically attending classes, the pandemic is bringing a shift in how online learning is perceived. We are confident blended learning will become a larger part of the education system, with a combination of face-to-face teaching and online teaching.

An understanding across academia that talented international students need to start their study programmes virtually and then eventually complete the course from the campus when safe to return to. This means students won't have to skip a semester or waste a full year.

While Indian students have been historically cautious about distance learning (especially for higher studies), the realities of COVID and the fact that high quality programmes have been developed with leading universities are changing attitudes. In addition to programmes with top 100 universities in the US and U.K., Australian programmes like the Charles Sturt University Study Centre in Australia have introduced additional measures to allow students to try face-to-face virtual and blended learning risk-free.

In the UK, the University of Huddersfield moved its courses online earlier this year in the wake of the global pandemic and locked international borders. With the campus reopening for Autumn 2020, students who had begun studying online can now progress to their degree.

The key test though is the experience of students and their teachers. Academics say they have confidence that students are satisfied with their learning. Students and their teachers have risen to the challenge. They are both to be commended for the work they have undertaken and the online skills they have acquired which will remain part of their experience.

*The writer is CEO, Study Abroad*

## IN BRIEF

### 3,100-PLUS TEACHERS CERTIFIED AS MIE BY TAG

The largest congregation of teachers took a test to become Microsoft Innovative Educator (MIE) certificated. Around 3,173 school teachers from different parts of the country got recognised as MIE digital classroom teachers after qualifying and passing the test conducted by Tech Avant-Garde (TAG), technology powered Ed-Tech company and a Global Training Partner of Microsoft in Education.

As part of the Knowledge L'avenir Conclave (KLC) webinar series, which started on Teacher's Day 2020, and will continue till November 2020, 300 teachers trained nearly 5,000 teachers from across the country. The first assessment was held on Sunday, September 28, 2020.

As it is important for teachers to get a degree/ diploma in teaching to become a qualified teacher, similarly to be recognised as a digital teacher MIE certificate is necessary.

Ali Sait CEO of Tech Avant-Garde said: "Teacher is an important stakeholder of education. By empowering them we can empower society. If teachers are not digitally skilled, our formal education will collapse and have a serious impact on human capital. Today, knowledge is the greatest asset, the benefits of information-rich, technology-enhanced connected learning environment must be extended to students, teachers, parents, schools and entire communities to learn without limits. Training and certification 5,000 teachers is just the tip of the iceberg, Tech Avant-Garde is finding ways to digitally skill 26 million teachers in India and many more across the world."

### NEW ZEALAND-INDIA EDUCATION WEEK

The Education New Zealand kick-started New Zealand-India Education Week. The aim's to discuss top trends that will drive the future of the education sector globally in the post COVID-19 era.

David Pine, New Zealand High Commissioner to India, Bangladesh, and Ambassador Designate to Nepal said: "The COVID-19 pandemic has created the largest disruption of education systems in history, with the UN identifying nearly 1.6 billion learners in more than 190 countries affected. But, the crisis has also stimulated innovation within the education sector."

### UV-RAY DEVICE TO DISINFECT AIR FROM AC

Researchers from Lovely Professional University have developed a device that can be installed in air conditioners to disinfect the air they dispense from viruses and harmful gases. The devices comprises of a set of UV tubes which emit rays at a particular wavelength to destroy the viruses present in the air flow of the AC. The device also removes hazardous gases like Sox and Nox from the air.

The device circulates pure air inside the room as soon as the AC is turned on. The sensing unit ignites the tube, whilst the indicator installed inside the unit, displays when the tubes need to be replaced. The research team has developed prototypes and necessary testing has been completed. It took the team about one month to prepare the module. The cost of each module is between ₹1,500-₹2,000.

TODAY

Knight Riders VS Chennai Super Kings

Live from 7:30pm
STAR SPORTS 1

IPL 2020

KL Rahul | 302 runs

Kagiso Rabada | 12 wickets

Axar always goes under the radar. He bowls those good overs and builds up the pressure for someone else to capitalise on the wickets

We dropped a catch in the field, little bit of slackness in the field as well, couple of fumbles which cost us ultimately 20-30 runs. But then again we didn't bat well at all

We need to grab when the opportunity comes our way. It is not like we are dropping half chances, we are dropping sitters and those things hurt you

Our strategy was to be fearless and play with full freedom. We have got good youngsters in our side, so we just need to go out and execute our talent and skills

# Gayle, Mujeeb will play soon: Jaffer

PTI ■ DUBAI

Kings XI Punjab batting coach Wasim Jaffer said overseas stars Chris Gayle and Mujeeb Zadran could feature in the playing eleven soon in the ongoing season of IPL.

KXIP have struggled so far, losing four of their five games, with death bowling proving to be their biggest concern.

Jaffer said the campaign has been disappointing so far but "it only takes a game or two" to turn things around. For that to happen, the more match winners in the team the better, said Jaffer adding Gayle in that list.

Both Gayle and spinner Mujeeb are yet to play in the IPL.

"It should happen soon. As I said, it needs to happen sooner than later. We don't want to bring them when every game is a must win game. Hopefully, we will have those guys featuring soon," Jaffer told *PTI*.

Jaffer said the 41-year-old West Indian great is in top shape and hungry to do the job for the team.

"Chris looks very much ready and is keen to get on to the park, he has been training really well and has looked really good in the nets.

"He is such an impact player, we all know what he can do. I hope he turns up and turns it on straightaway and changes the tide for all of us. He looks hungry and that is a very good sign for the franchise.

"I am hoping he plays quickly. We need match-winners, as many as as possible. Not just for the next game, also for the rest of the tournament as he can easily win you four-five games on his own," said the former India opener. Jaffer said his team is in a situation where it needs to win seven out of the remaining nine leagues games to finish in the top-four, a tough task but possible.

For that, it will have to rework its composition and decide who will make way for Gayle and Mujeeb. Nicholas Pooran and Glenn Maxwell, who is yet to fire, are certain to retain their place in the eleven. Sheldon Cottrell and Chris Jordan are the other overseas players who featured in the last game which KXIP lost to CSK by 10 wickets.

Besides death bowling, Jaffer feels even the finishing with the bat also needs improvement.

# SKY IS THE LIMIT

## Surya's best IPL score takes Mumbai to another win

PTI ■ ABU DHABI

Suryakumar Yadav smashed his highest score in the tournament as Mumbai Indians put up a clinical performance against a pedestrian Rajasthan Royals outfit for their third successive win in the Indian Premier League here on Tuesday.

Yadav hammered an unbeaten 79 off 47 balls to fire Mumbai Indians to an imposing 193 for four after Rohit Sharma opted to bat at the Sheikh Zayed Stadium.

In response, Royals were down and out at 12 for three before Jos Buttler gave them a glimmer of hope with a 44-ball 70.

However, he did not get support from the other batsmen and Royals ended up well short at 136 in 18.1 overs for a 57-run loss, their third in a row. The three changes that they made also did not work for them.

Mumbai's pace trio was exceptional once again with Jasprit Bumrah being the pick of them, returning with figures of four for 20, the best of the tournament so far. Trent Boult struck twice in the powerplay while James Pattinson removed Buttler in the 14th over.

With another resounding win, Mumbai look the team to beat alongside Delhi Capitals. It is still early days in the tournament but it seems they have already figured out their best eleven on the park.

Earlier, Mumbai suffered a mini middle-order collapse after a good start before late-hitting from Yadav and Hardik Pandya (30 not out off 19) enabled the defending champions to amass 51 runs in the last three overs.

It was remarkable how quickly Yadav overcame a blow on the helmet from Jofra Archer en route to his career-best score in the IPL.

He and Hardik shared 76 runs for the unbroken fifth wicket stand.

Opting to bat, openers Rohit Sharma (35 off 23) and Quinton De Kock (23 off 15 balls) forged a quickfire 49-run stand.

Mumbai amassed 15 runs in the third over off Ankit Rajpoot, the highlight of it being Rohit launching one into the orbit over the bowler's head.

Debutant pacer Karthik Tyagi (1/36) removed De Kock in his very first over to provide the much needed breakthrough.

Yadav at the other end smashed Tyagi for three boundaries in ninth over. His innings comprised 11 fours and two sixes.

However, leggie Shreyas Gopal (2/28) struck twice in as many balls removing Rohit and Ishan Kishan (0) to leave Mumbai at 88 for three in the 10th over.

While Rohit gave a sitter to Rahul Tewatia at long-on, Sanju Samson took a running catch at extra-cover to send Kishan back.

Yadav kept playing his shots and scored successive boundaries off Gopal in the 12th over. It became 117 for four after Krunal Pandya fell cheaply.

Yadav, however, kept launching into the RR attack with great gusto and was particularly brutal on Tom Curran (0/33) in the 18th over that went for 19 runs.

He was ably supported by Hardik, who produced a timely cameo.

# Pant perfect replacement for Dhoni: Bangar

IANS ■ DUBAI

Former India batting coach Sanjay Bangar believes Rishabh Pant is a perfect replacement for MS Dhoni in the national side as the left-handed wicketkeeper-batsman provides Team India with a much-needed balance in the middle order, which is full of right-handers.

Pant has been in good form in the ongoing Indian Premier League, scoring 171 runs in the five matches he has played for the Delhi Capitals.

"In terms of wicket-keeping, I think it would be Rishabh Pant. I think the way he started this year's IPL and I think it is very important to have a left-hander as an option because for Team India when it comes to the middle-order as it helps to balance out the right-handers," said Bangar while speaking on *Star Sports* show *Cricket Connected*.

Meanwhile, former India pacer Ashish Nehra also supported Bangar's point of view on Pant and said: "I am in total agreement with Sanjay Bangar. I think they should go ahead with Rishabh Pant. Pant should be backed. Every player needs to be backed when it comes to international cricket."

# Captain DK faces stiffest test

PTI ■ ABU DHABI

Under-fire Kolkata Knight Riders captain Dinesh Karthik will have to figure out urgent fixes for his star-studded team's faltering performances when it takes on a resurgent Chennai Super Kings in the IPL here on Wednesday.

KKR acquired England's World Cup-winning skipper Eoin Morgan but the management reposed confidence in Karthik and asked him to lead the side. However, a few of his baffling decisions apart from his own poor run with the bat — 37 runs from four matches — has put the Indian wicketkeeper-batsman in the line of fire.

Promoting himself ahead of the star duo of Morgan and Andre Russell and preferring Sunil Narine in the opening slot over Big Bash sensation Tom Banton — who has been compared with Kevin Pietersen — has put 35-year-old Karthik in the dock.

Narine has looked woefully out of sorts, managing only 27 runs from four matches at 87.09 strike rate and it's high time that the team brings in the big-hitting English youngster.

KKR have plenty of resources in bowling but Karthik, it seems, has not been able to manage them well and their match against Delhi Capitals could be a case in point.

Pat Cummins' not-so-impressive performance has added to the team's woes.

| | |
|---|---|
| MATCHES | 20 |
| KOLKATA KNIGHT RIDERS | 07 |
| CHENNAI SUPER KINGS | 13 |

Stats: Faisel Features

The pitch in Sharjah is a batsmen's paradise and both teams cantered past the 200-mark but it's the bowlers who made the difference in a close chase.

The pair of Morgan and Rahul Tripathi looked to seal it but Delhi's bowlers strangulated KKR's batting at the death.

Karthik will need to back his bowlers, especially Indian lead spinner Kuldeep Yadav who seems to have been under-utilised and bowled just nine overs after being dropped from the Delhi game.

Chennai, on the other hand, rediscovered some of the form that made them three-time champions. After three losses on the trot, the Mahendra Singh Dhoni-led side would look to make its ascent to top-four from being at the bottom.

Not known to tweak his side much, Dhoni persisted with Shane Watson and the Aussie veteran finally came to form with an unbeaten 83.

Chasing 179 against Kings XI Punjab, Watson and Faf du Plessis made light work of their bowlers in a record 181-run unbeaten stand to seal the chase.

The coming to form of a mis-firing top order is what CSK needed to come out of a miserable start and having done that, they would certainly look favourites against a struggling KKR.

# Delhi is executing plans perfectly: Shaw

PTI ■ DUBAI

In-form opener Prithvi Shaw feels Delhi Capitals are doing everything "perfect" in all departments of the game after they climbed to the top of the points table with four wins out of five games in the ongoing IPL.

Shaw provided DC yet another blazing start against RCB on Monday, smashing a quickfire 42 off 23 balls. The Delhi outfit went on to win the match comfortably by 59 runs.

"It is a very good start to this tournament and we have to carry this momentum. Whatever we do in practice sessions, we just have to execute ourselves in the match and rightly, we are doing perfectly," the 20-year-old said.

"Everything is going perfect, you know, the batting, bowling — skills-wise we are going in the right direction, so really happy for the team."

Shaw on Monday missed out what could have been his third fifty of the season. He is the second highest scorer for DC so far with 179 runs, behind his captain Shreyas Iyer (181).

"I would have carried on after the powerplay, but unfortunately I lofted it. However, it's just a game and I think this has become history now, so I'll leave this over here itself and concentrate on the next game," said Shaw.

# DUGOUT

## MOTION PICTURE

Jofra Archer parents Patrick & Joelle Archer attend IPL match at Sheikh Zayed stadium on Tuesday @rajasthanroyals/Twitter

Mumbai Indians celebrate 7th anniversary of its 2nd Champions League win on Tuesday @mipaltan/Twitter

Delhi Capitals off-spinner R Ashwin says sparing Aaron Finch in the clash against RCB was his first and last warning to batsmen backing up too far at the non-striker's end and he should not be blamed if he runs them out in future games

### PRITHVI RAJ YARRA REPLACES BHUVI

Unheralded left-arm pacer Prithvi Raj Yarra was on Tuesday named as replacement for Sunrisers Hyderabad's senior pacer Bhuvneshwar Kumar, who has been ruled out of the ongoing IPL due to a thigh muscle injury. SRH confirmed on Tuesday that the India pacer will not take further part in the tournament and he will be replaced by the 22-year-old Prithvi Raj. The Andhra Pradesh bowler, played for Kolkata Knight Riders last year has taken 39 wickets in 11 first-class matches, is expected to join the Sunrisers squad soon in the UAE.

### RR TO LAUNCH ACADEMY IN UAE

In a bid to discover budding talents, Rajasthan Royals is set to launch its first academy in the UAE — second globally — on October 12. This is also the first academy of the franchise in the Middle East. RR is the first IPL franchise to start operation of an academy in the UAE. The academy is being operated in partnership with UAE-based sports consulting firm RedBear Sports. Girls and boys aged between 6 to 19 will be able to access world-class coaching, with participants having the option of choosing between one-to-one sessions, team sessions, or group sessions. All the sessions will take place under the guidance of Academy Director and former Zimbabwe captain Graeme Cremer. The academy will be based in The Sevens Stadium facility, popular for hosting the Emirates Airline Rugby 7s.

## POINTS TABLE

| | | P | W | L | NRR | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | DC | 5 | 4 | 1 | +1.060 | 8 |
| 2 | MI | 5 | 3 | 2 | +1.214 | 6 |
| 3 | RCB | 5 | 3 | 2 | -1.355 | 6 |
| 4 | KKR | 4 | 2 | 2 | -0.121 | 4 |
| 5 | RR | 4 | 2 | 2 | -0.317 | 4 |
| 6 | CSK | 5 | 2 | 3 | -0.342 | 4 |
| 7 | SRH | 5 | 2 | 3 | -0.417 | 4 |
| 8 | KXIP | 5 | 1 | 4 | +0.178 | 2 |

# Saina, Kashyap pull out of Denmark Open

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Star Indian badminton couple Saina Nehwal and Parupalli Kashyap on Tuesday pulled out of the Denmark Open Super 750 tournament, which will restart the international calendar at Odense from October 13.

"I withdrew from Denmark Open. I decided that I will start the season from January only with the Asian tour," Saina, the London Olympics Bronze-medallist, told *PTI*.

The husband-wife duo had earlier sent their entries for the $750,000 tournament and also submitted their consent letter to the Badminton Association of India (BAI) last month for the same.

The Badminton World Federation (BWF) postponed the Thomas and Uber Cup Finals (Oct 3-11), three events in Asia (in November) to 2021 and also cancelled the Denmark Masters (Oct 20-25).

The Denmark Open is thus the only World Tour event scheduled to be held in the remainder of the season.

Asked if she has any fitness concerns, Saina, a two-time Commonwealth Games Gold medallist, said: "There is no injury issue but if three tournaments were there it would have made sense... I thought directly from January, I can go for the Asian tour."

The withdrawal of former world No 1 Saina, one of the Olympic hopefuls for next year's Tokyo Games, means there will be no Indian participation in the women's singles event at Odense as world champion P V Sindhu has already pulled out.

Kashyap, currently ranked world No 24, also decided to skip the event for similar reasons.

"I too feel it is not worth the risk to go all the way for one tournament. It is better to start the season afresh participating in the Asia leg from January," the London Games quarterfinalist said.

Former world No 1 Kidambi Srikanth, young Lakshya Sen, Ajay Jayaram and Subhankar Dey are the only Indians who will compete in the Denmark Open.

# Arsenal sign Partey, Man Utd bring in Cavani, Telles

AFP ■ LONDON

Manchester United swooped for Edinson Cavani among four signings on Monday, but Arsenal completed the biggest deal of transfer deadline day with the arrival of midfielder Thomas Partey from Atletico Madrid.

United were under the spotlight to respond to a humiliating 6-1 home defeat to Tottenham in the Premier League on Sunday. Dutch international midfielder Donny van de Beek had been the only addition to Ole Gunnar Solskjaer's squad prior to Monday's arrival of Cavani, Alex Telles, Amad Diallo and Facundo Pellistri.

Cavani, 33, has been a free agent since leaving Paris Saint-Germain in June and signed a one-year deal with the option for a second season.

The Uruguayan scored 200 goals in seven seasons in the French capital to become the club's all-time top goalscorer.

The arrival of left-back Telles from Porto for £13.5 million ($19 million) is arguably even more important to aid a United defence that has conceded 11 goals in three Premier League games to start the season.

After a forlorn chase of Borussia Dortmund's Jadon Sancho, United also secured two promising 18-year-old wingers in Uruguayan Pellistri from Penarol and Atalanta's Diallo, who will join in January in a deal that could reportedly reach up to 41 million euros.

### LONG-TERM TARGET

Partey has been a long-term target for the Gunners, who have matched his 50 million euro (£45 million, $59 million) buyout clause to bolster their threadbare midfield options.

The Ghanaian has made 188 appearances for the Spanish giants and was part of the Atletico sides that reached the 2016 Champions League final and beat Arsenal on the way to winning the Europa League in 2018.

"We have been watching Thomas for a while, so we're now delighted to add such a high-quality player to our squad," said Arsenal boss Mikel Arteta. "He is a dynamic midfielder with great energy."

Uruguayan international Lucas Torreira has gone the other way from Arsenal to Atletico on a season-long loan deal, while another frozen out midfielder at the Emirates, Matteo Guendouzi, joined Hertha Berlin on loan.

Premier League table-toppers Everton signed centre-back Ben Godfrey for a reported initial fee of £25 million and Swedish international goalkeeper Robin Olsen on loan from Roma.

Meanwhile, Fulham secured the loan signing of Chelsea midfielder Ruben Loftus-Cheek on loan while Southampton welcomed back Theo Walcott who joined from Everton.

Elsewhere, Juventus secured one of the hottest properties in Italian football as Federico Chiesa joined from Fiorentina on a two-year loan deal worth 10 million euros with an obligation to buy if certain conditions are met for a further 40 million.

English defender Chris Smalling returned to Roma on a permanent deal from Manchester United for 15 million euros after impressing during a loan spell last season.

French midfielder Tiemoue Bakayoko has also returned to Serie A, joining Napoli on loan from Chelsea.

Bayern Munich added a trio of new players as Douglas Costa returned to the Allianz Arena for a second spell on loan from Juventus.

The European champions also signed former PSG striker Eric Maxim Choupo-Moting on a one-year deal and Bouna Sarr from Marseille.

# Podoroska stuns Svitolina

French Open
Live from 2:30pm IST
STAR SPORTS 2 NETWORK

AFP ■ PARIS

Argentina's Nadia Podoroska became the first qualifier in the Open era on Tuesday to reach the women's semi-finals at Roland Garros after stunning third seed Elina Svitolina 6-2, 6-4.

World number 131 Podoroska had never won a Grand Slam main draw match before the tournament and is the only the third female qualifier to make the last four of a major.

Podoroska, 23, will play Polish teenager Iga Swiatek or Italy's Martina Trevisan as she attempts to become the first women's qualifier in history to advance to the final of any of the four Majors.

Alexandra Stevenson reached the semi-finals at Wimbledon in 1999 while Christine Dorey achieved a similar run at the 1978 Australian Open.

"It's a little bit difficult for me to speak now after the match," said Podoroska, whose only other Grand Slam appearance came at the 2016 US Open.

"We did a very good job with my coaches during the (coronavirus) quarantine. I've been training a lot with all of my team I think that's why I'm here today."

It was the first time Podoroska had even faced a player inside the top 20, having started the year ranked a lowly 255.

She is guaranteed 425,250 euros ($501,740) following her breakout performance in Paris, easily doubling her total career earnings of $301,547.