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LUCKNOW, SATURDAY OCTOBER 10, 2020; PAGES 14 ₹3

the pioneer

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REAL-LIFE HEROES INSPIRE KIDS: TWINKLE
12 VIVACITY

India gets desi anti-radar missile

RUDRAM adds strength to op readiness with DRDO successive missile tests

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Sustaining the momentum of developing missiles against the backdrop of tension at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Ladakh, India on Friday successfully tested a new-generation anti-radar missile (RUDRAM) by firing it from the front-line fighter jet SU-30. Mounted on fighter jets, these missiles can subvert enemy radar and other communication systems. So far, the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has test fired five different systems of missiles for operational readiness in the past few weeks.

These tests come at a time when China has deployed its long range missiles in the Tibet region forcing India to take counter measures. The missile shield close to the LAC now includes Brahmos supersonic missiles besides Nirbhay and Akash surface to air missiles.

As regards the latest test conducted off Balasore, Odisha, India achieved a major milestone by successfully firing an indigenously designed and manufactured new generation Anti Radiation Missile (RUDRAM).

The missile was successfully flight tested onto a radiation target located on Wheeler Island off the coast of Odisha. The missile was launched from SU-30 MK1 fighter aircraft. The RUDRAM hit the radiation target with pin-point accuracy, the DRDO said.

RUDRAM missile launched from a SU-30 MK1 fighter aircraft Twitter

The missile is integrated on SU-30 MK1 fighter aircraft as the launch platform, having capability of varying ranges based on launch conditions. It has Inertial Navigation System (INS)-Global Positioning System (GPS) navigation with Passive Homing Head (PHH) for the final attack. The missile is a potent weapon for the IAF for suppression of enemy air defence effectively from large stand-off ranges, it stated.

The PHH can detect, classify and engage targets over a wide band of frequencies as programmed. With this, the country has established indigenous capability to develop long range air launched anti-radiation missiles for neutralising enemy radars, communication sites and other Radio Frequency (RF) emitting targets, officials said.

The missile has a launch speech of up to 2 Mach, twice the speed of sound. The fighter jets can now fire these missiles from long distance crippling the enemy radar system and conduct its mission deep inside enemy zone. The highly potent weapon system can be launched from a height ranging from 700 metres to 16 km and can hit targets within a range of 250 to 300 km.

Though relative calm prevails at the LAC now, the Indian security establishment is not taking any chances and the recent tests are an indication of its intent to maintain operational readiness.

The past few weeks saw the DRDO successfully test firing the 700 km range Shaurya missile. Capable of carrying 200 to 1,000 kg nuclear payload, it is the land version of submarine launched K-15 missile.

Officials rate Shaurya as one of the top 10 missiles in the world in its class with its high performance navigation and guidance systems, efficient propulsion systems, sophisticated control technologies and canisterised launch.

The missile can be launched from silos and canisters mounted on a truck and fixed on the ground, they said adding that it can be easily moved around. A truck itself can become a launching platform. Moreover, these missiles are difficult to be tracked by enemy satellites.

Keeping up the tempo of tests, scientists some weeks back successfully tested Hypersonic Technology Demonstrator (HSTDV). The capability has now placed India the elite category of nations having this capability. The US, Russia and China are other countries having these capabilities. The HSTDV gives India the flexibility of developing missile travelling at speed three to four times more than sound.

The indigenously designed and manufactured Brahmos supersonic cruise missile got a major boost after the successful test of its extended range system. Now, these missiles with most of its components manufactured within the country can hit a target at more than 400 km. The other important test included the supersonic missile assisted release of torpedo that targets submarines.

Yogi: BJP govt wiped out mafia

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Claiming that the Bharatiya Janata Party government had been able to wipe out 'mafia raj' in Uttar Pradesh, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said it was the difference between BJP and other parties as the previous regimes always patronised criminal elements.

"It is no secret that during the last 15 years, the governments of opposition parties only nurtured these criminals in UP. The mafia elements grabbed the lands of the poor and set up their empires with the help of the ruling politicians. On the other hand, the BJP regime has eliminated mafia from the state," Yogi said while addressing party office-bearers of booth, division and sector of Malhani (Jaunpur) Assembly constituency, where the bypoll is scheduled on November 3.

The chief minister said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's mantra of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas' should be the motto of the party. "There is no alternative to development and nefarious designs of the opposition can be countered only through development," he said.

Yogi said that elements

Continued on Page 11

Govt issues norms for festivals ahead

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The Uttar Pradesh government issued Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) on preventive measures to contain spread of coronavirus for coming festivals, worships, fairs, rallies, exhibitions, cultural functions and processions.

In the guidelines issued on Friday, Chief Secretary RK Tiwari said that people were expected to follow the guidelines in letter and spirit so that festivals like Durga Puja, Navratri, Chhath, Diwali, Barawafat, Kartik Purnima and Christmas could be celebrated in the perfect fervour.

"In case of rallies and immersion processions, the number of people should not exceed the prescribed limit and physical distancing and wearing of masks must be ensured," the guidelines say.

Organisers of exhibitions, fairs, puja pandals, Ramlila pandals or concerts and plays that last for many days should ensure a cap on physical numbers, staggered timings and restricted entry may be considered.

"Volunteers should be appropriately stationed to ensure thermal screening, physical distancing and wearing of masks," the guidelines say, adding that respiratory etiquette should be strictly followed.

The guidelines also mention that close circuit TV cameras etc. may be used to monitor compliance of physical distancing, wearing of masks at each venue. It further says that arrangements for face covers, hand sanitisers, soap, sodium hypochlorite solution for sanitising shall be made by organisers/business owners to their staff.

As per the guidelines, festive events should be permitted only outside containment zones. Besides, an advisory on do's and dont's should be circulated/displayed at each venue. There should be separate entry and exits for visitors.

Seating arrangements in pandals, food courts, shows etc. must ensure adequate physical distancing and visitors and staff should be advised to dispose of used face covers/masks in covered bins available on the premises.

Meanwhile, persons above 65 years of age, people with comorbidities, pregnant women and children below 10 years have been advised to stay home and avoid visiting gatherings.

Bhima Koregaon chargesheet names DU prof among eight

Tentacles of conspiracy spread through India and beyond, says NIA

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Friday named eight persons, including prominent activists Anand Teltumbde, Gautam Navlakha, Delhi University Associate Professor Hany Babu, Sagar Gorkhe, Ramesh Gaichor, Jyoti Jagtap, Stan Swamy and Maoist leader Milind Teltumbde, in a 10,000-page supplementary chargesheet under penal code and anti-terror laws into the 2018 violence in Maharashtra's Bhima Koregaon.

The federal agency had arrested 83-year-old Stan Swamy, a member of CPI (Maoist), on Thursday, from Ranchi. He was sent to jail till October 23 by a special court in Mumbai.

"During investigation, it was revealed that senior leaders of CPI(Maoist), a proscribed terrorist organisation, were in contact with the organisers of Elgar Parishad as well as the accused arrested in the case so as to spread the ideology of Maoism/Naxalism and encourage unlawful activities," the NIA said in a statement.

Social activists hold placards during a protest after NIA arrested 82-year-old Father Stan Swamy on Thursday evening, for his alleged involvement in Bhima Koregaon violence, in Ranchi, on Friday PTI

"Through meticulous, scientific and detailed analysis of more than 10,000 pages of communications made by various accused, reliable oral, documentary and material evidence was brought on record. NIA's investigation revealed that the tentacles of conspiracy were not only spread throughout the country but also extended beyond India," the NIA said.

The incriminating documents recovered from the accused include their discreet communications with other Maoist cadres regarding conspiracy related to the violent incident of Bhima Koregaon. It also included various documents regarding mobilisation against the Constitutionally-established Government by the Maoist cadres, information about movement of the security forces with an intention to cause heavy damage to the state. Discreet codes were used for secret communication amongst themselves to avoid detection by security forces, it said.

Continued on Page 11

Covid-19 IN INDIA

TOTAL

CASES: 69,76,232
DEATHS: 1,07,444
RECOVERED: 59,66,955
ACTIVE: 8,88,949

STATES	TOTAL CASES	DEATHS	RECOVERED
Maharashtra	15,06,018	39,732	12,29,339
Andhra Pradesh	7,44,864	6,159	6,91,040
Karnataka	6,90,269	9,789	5,61,610
Tamil Nadu	6,46,128	10,120	5,91,811
Uttar Pradesh	4,30,666	6,293	3,83,086
Delhi	3,03,693	**5,692**	2,76,046
West Bengal	2,87,603	5,501	2,52,806
Kerala	2,68,101	956	1,75,304
Odisha	2,46,839	1,044	2,20,388
Telangana	2,08,535	1,208	1,80,953
Bihar	1,93,826	934	1,81,781
Assam	1,92,416	802	1,61,901
Rajasthan	1,54,785	1,621	1,31,766
Gujarat	1,49,193	3,550	1,29,541
Madhya Pradesh	1,43,629	2,574	1,24,887
Haryana	1,39,932	1,562	1,27,540

WFP wins Nobel Peace as hunger surges

AP ■ NIAMEY

The World Food Programme won the Nobel Peace Prize on Friday for its efforts to combat hunger in regions facing conflict and hardship and at a time when the coronavirus pandemic has driven millions more people to the brink of starvation.

The Rome-based United Nations agency has long specialised in getting assistance to some of the world's most dangerous and precarious places, from air-dropping food in South Sudan and Syria to creating an emergency delivery service that kept aid flowing even as antivirus restrictions grounded commercial flights.

It provided assistance to almost 100 million people in 88 countries last year. "With this year's award, the (committee) wishes to turn the eyes of the world to the millions of people who suffer from or face the threat of hunger," said Berit Reiss-Andersen, the chair of the Norwegian Nobel Committee, announcing the award in Oslo.

"The World Food Programme plays a key role in multilateral cooperation on making food security an instrument of peace." In honoring the UN food programme, the Nobel peace committee was highlighting the need for global solidarity and multilateralism at a time of increasing polarisation and go-it-alone nationalism. The head of the organisation said his entire team deserved the award.

"I know I'm not deserving of an award like this, but all the men and women around the world in the World Food Programme and our partners who put their lives on the line every day," David Beasley told *The Associated Press* by phone from Niger, where he was visiting Friday.

Continued on Page 11

RBI holds interest rates, sees GDP contracting 9.5%

Accommodative stance, liquidity steps have analysts divided on scope of rate cut

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) left key interest rates unchanged on Friday but signalled more easing ahead to support an economy that it sees contracting 9.5 per cent in the current fiscal.

The six-member Monetary Policy Committee, with three newly inducted external members, voted unanimously to retain the benchmark repurchase or repo rate at 4 per cent while keeping its policy stance accommodative, implying it could ease again.

The accommodative stance and many liquidity boosting measures by the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) on Friday left economists divided over the scope of a rate cut this fiscal, with some expecting it in February while others ruling it out citing higher inflation.

The RBI had slashed the repo rate by 115 basis points since late March to support growth.

RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das said the economic growth, which slumped to a negative 23.9 per cent in the April-June quarter, will turn positive only in the final January-March quarter. "By all indications, the deep contractions of Q1 2020-21 (April-June) are behind us; silver linings are visible in the flattening of the active case load curve across the country," he said.

Barring the risk of a second wave of infections, the economy appeared poised to begin a recovery, he said, noting food grain production was set for record highs and factories and cities were coming back to life.

With macro indicators pointing to a recovery, "GDP growth may break out of contraction and turn positive by Q4 (January-March)," he said. "For the year 2020-21 as a whole, therefore, real GDP is expected to decline by 9.5 per cent, with risks tilted to the downside," he said, adding that if the current momentum of upturn gains ground, a faster and stronger rebound is eminently feasible.

Continued on Page 11

CAPSULE

NOW, GET TRAIN TICKET 5 MINS BEFORE DEPARTURE

New Delhi: Railway seats, from October 10 onwards, will be available even five minutes before the train leaves the station, as the Indian Railways has decided to restore the pre-covid system of preparing the second reservation chart half an hour before the departure time.

JAISHANKAR ASSURES AF FULL SUPPORT FOR PEACE

New Delhi: External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar assured Afghan peace negotiator Abdullah Abdullah that India remained committed to peace, prosperity and stability in Afghanistan.

HDIL PROMOTERS BOOKED FOR ₹200-CR LOAN FRAUD

New Delhi: The CBI has booked HDIL promoters Rakesh Wadhawan and Sarang Wadhawan, along with other directors and auditors in the firm, in alleged ₹200-crore loan fraud in Yes Bank involving Mack Star.

Paswan's mortal remains flown to Patna for State funeral today

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

After a stream of political heavyweights paid their homage to the late Dalit leader and former Union Minister Ram Vilas Paswan here, his body was flown to Patna for the last rites to be held on Saturday at 12.30 pm.

Paswan would be accorded a State funeral, and Law and IT Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad would represent the Central Government at the ceremony in Patna. A decision in this regard was taken at a specially convened meeting of the Union Cabinet this morning. The Cabinet condoled the demise of the Minister for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and observed a two-minute silence in his memory.

Union Minister Piyush Goyal has been assigned the additional charge of Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution which was held by Paswan.

People gather around a hearse carrying the mortal remains of Union Minister and LJP leader Ram Vilas Paswan, at party office, in Patna, on Friday PTI

In Patna, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, his deputy Sushil Modi, Union Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad, RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav and other leaders paid tribute to Paswan, after his mortal remains reached at Patna airport.

Continued on Page 11

Priest burnt alive in Rajasthan

Victim tried to prevent encroachment of temple land, main accused arrested

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

A ghastly incident of a temple priest having been burnt alive by a group of people over a land dispute in Rajasthan's Karauli district, around 180 km from Jaipur, came to the fore on Friday.

The accused allegedly threw petrol on the priest named Babulal Vaishnav and set him on fire on Wednesday as he had been trying to prevent them from encroaching temple land.

According to the Karauli SP, Mridul Kachhawa, the main accused, identified as Kailash Meena, has been arrested, while search is on for other accused — Shankar, Namo, Ram Lakhan and Kishan.

The injured 55-year-old priest was taken to the district hospital from where doctors sent him to SMS Hospital in a critical condition. He succumbed to his injuries late on Thursday. The main accused has been arrested while search is on for four others. The video of the incident has gone viral on social media.

The incident took place at Bukna village in Karauli district where Vaishnav was the priest of Radha Gopal temple.

The priest had about 15 bighas of land which belonged to the Radha Krishna temple trust. The said land was given to the head priest to till as a source of income. The said land was registered in the revenue record as "Mandir Mafi land", which is a land given to a priest who is the caretaker of the village temple to use it as a source of income.

But this land became the source of a dispute. The priest had the land levelled as he wanted to build a plot for himself close to the land. This was objected by the accused group. The matter was taken to the village panchayat which ruled in favour of the priest last week. The priest then placed bales of his newly harvested millet on the land as a sign of ownership. However, despite the ruling, the accused also started construction on the plot.

Continued on Page 11

Instead of going on political tours, pay attention to Raj: BJP to Rahul

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The BJP on Friday attacked former Congress president Rahul Gandhi saying he should take cognisance of the Rajasthan priest's murder instead of going on political tours even as it claimed the law and order has collapsed in the Congress-ruled State.

The Congress leader should either ask the Rajasthan Government to resign or make efforts for its betterment, Union Minister and party spokesperson Prakash Javadekar said while another party spokesperson Rajyavardhan Rathore cited how the State tops the list of crime against women.

The scathing BJP attack on the Congress comes close on the heels of Rahul and Priyanka Vadra charging the Yogi Adityanath Government with failing to prevent atrocities against women in UP.

Continued on Page 11

UP reports drop in Covid cases in last 22 days

Strengthen treatment facilities: CM

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath expressed satisfaction on the dip of 27,000 active COVID-19 cases in the last 22 days, saying that it was due to effective measures taken to break the coronavirus infection chain.

A total of 3,249 new coronavirus positive cases were reported in the state on Friday while 4,424 COVID-19 patients recovered.

The recovery percentage has now increased to 88.95 per cent.

On August 4, there were 41,222 COVID-19 patients in the state and it took around 68 days to peak of over 68,000 cases on September 17. However, it took 22 days to return to the 41,287-mark and the level of August 4.

Directing officials to maintain special vigilance in Lucknow, Kanpur Nagar, Prayagraj, Meerut, Ghaziabad, Gautam Buddha Nagar and Varanasi, the chief minister said that treatment facilities should be strengthened further.

Yogi said this while chairing an Unlock review meeting at his official residence in Lucknow on Friday.

The chief minister said that the availability of medicines, equipment and oxygen should be ensured at all Covid hospitals and senior doctors should regularly visit the hospitals. He added that paramedics should also carefully monitor the patients.

"The chief secretary, and additional chief secretaries of Health and Medical Education departments should establish communication with the district magistrates and chief medical officers and further strengthen the treatment facilities," he said.

Yogi also directed the officials to seek inputs from the district magistrates and the chief medical officers of districts where the Covid recovery rate was low and ensure effective steps to increase recovery rate.

He aid that Online OPD service eSanjeevani be publicised on a large scale so that more people could benefit from medical consultation.

Yogi said that a special cleanliness and sanitisation campaign be carried out across the state from October 10 to 16 and hospitals, schools offices and public places be covered by in.

The chief minister said that Rs.1 lakh crore had been proposed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi for development of the agricultural infrastructure and there was immense scope in the state.

Instructing officials to ensure completion of godown construction on a priority, Yogi said that it would benefit the farmers and agriculture sector.

Additional Chief Secretary (Health) Amit Mohan Prasad said that the positivity rate was around 2 per cent and the state never crossed 5 per cent on average even in districts like Lucknow, Kanpur Nagar while in some other districts it was around 10-12 per cent.

Prasad said that 1.73 lakh samples were tested on Thursday and there were 19,430 asymptomatic patients in home isolation, 3,112 in private hospitals and the rest were recovering in government-run Covid hospitals.

Over 4.9 lakh surveillance teams covered 1.35 lakh areas of the state and visited 2.65 crore houses to check the health of over 13.14 crore people.

EC issues notification for UP Assembly bypolls

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The Election Commission of India issued the notification for the November 3 bypolls to seven Assembly constituencies of Uttar Pradesh.

Termed as a semi-final before the 2022 UP Assembly elections, the bypolls are expected to be a four-cornered contest with the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party, Samajwadi Party, Bahujan Samaj Party and Congress fielding their candidates on all the seats.

Nominations for the bypolls started from Friday and will end on October 16, while the scrutiny of papers will be done on October 17 and candidates can withdraw nominations till October 19. Polling will be held on November 3 and counting of votes will be taken up on November 10 along with the counting of votes of Bihar Assembly elections. Of the seven UP Assembly constituencies going to bypolls, six were won by the BJP in March, 2017 Assembly polls and one by the SP.

While eight Assembly seats are vacant, the Election Commission did not announce bypoll for the Suar Tanda seat in Rampur as the Allahabad High Court is yet to give its judgement on a petition moved by disqualified SP legislator Abdullah Azam.

The High Court had earlier quashed Abdullah's election from Suar Tanda constituency on the ground that he had submitted a forged birth certificate while filing his nomination and had later disqualified him from the membership of the Assembly.

Though the results of these seven seats would have no bearing on the strength of the BJP in the Assembly, it would be an indicator for the upcoming 2022 Assembly polls.

The Election Commission has issued new guidelines allowing only two people, including the candidate, during filing of nominations and only two vehicles inside the campus of the returning officer's office due to coronavirus pandemic.

The candidates will have to submit their nominations online along with security deposit and only a copy of these would be submitted during physical presentation.

The Election Commission this time has allowed postal ballots to voters above 80 years of age. All voters would be given sanitised hand gloves to press the electronic voting machines. The UP government has sought 35 companies of Central forces for the peaceful conduct of the bypolls.

The Assembly constituencies where bypolls will be held are Tundla in Firozabad district that fell vacant after the resignation of BJP's SP Baghel who was elected to the Lok Sabha.

The Bangarmau seat in Unnao fell vacant due to the conviction of BJP MLA Kuldeep Singh Sengar in a rape case and his subsequent disqualification from the Assembly. The Malhani seat in Jaunpur fell vacant due to the death of SP MLA Parasnath Yadav, the Deoria Sadar seat fell vacant due to the death of BJP MLA Janmejaya Singh while the Bulandshahr seat fell vacant due to BJP MLA Virendra Sirohi's death.

Also, the Ghatampur seat of Kanpur Dehat fell vacant due to death of cabinet minister and BJP MLA Kamal Rani Varun due to COVID-19.

The by-election to Naugawan Sadat seat in Amroha has been necessitated by the death of cabinet minister and BJP MLA Chetan Chauhan, who also died of COVID-19.

Congress announces candidates for 5 seats

Lucknow (PNS): Congress, which has already announced one candidate for the UP Assembly bypolls, on Friday announced candidates for five more constituency.

Now the party has to name a candidate for the Malhani constituency in Jaunpur district.

According to UP Congress spokesman Brijendra Singh, UPCC president Ajay Kumar Lallu after taking consent of the national president Sonia Gandhi gave party tickets for five more seats on Friday.

Dr Kamlesh Singh will be Congress candidate from Naugawan Sadat constituency in Amroha district, Sushil Choudhury from Bulandshahr, Sneh Lata from Tundla constituency in Firozabad district, Kripa Shanker from Ghatampur constituency in Kanpur Dehat and Mukund Bhaskar Mani Tripathi from Deoria constituency.

The party has already given ticket to Aarti Bajpai for contesting from Bangarmau constituency in Unnao district.

On the other hand Rashtriya Lok Dal has named Praveen Kumar Singh as party candidate from Bulandshahr.

RLD will contest the Bulandshahr seat in alliance with Samajwadi Party and will support SP candidates in the remaining six seats.

The SP has announced candidates for four seats.

BJP leader shot in Azamgarh

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

A Bharatiya Janata Party leader was murdered in Azamgarh, a youth was killed in Kannauj for objecting to eve-teasing, a woman was beheaded in Banda while two women were raped in Jaunpur and Hardoi districts in the last 24 hours.

In Azamgarh, BJP leader and kshetra panchayat member Arjun Yadav (46) was returning home after closing his shop in Haripur village of Powai area when unknown assailants shot at him on Thursday night. He was rushed to a nearby hospital by the villagers but the doctor there pronounced him dead.

The police were seeking information on any possible enmity or suspects from the victim's family.

A police force was deployed as tension prevailed in the village due to the killing.

In Kannauj, a youth was shot dead for allegedly opposing eve-teasers making advances at his niece in the Sadar area.

Chandra Kishore (22) of Tehsipur village of Sadar Kotwali area left home to attend the call of nature on Thursday evening. When he did not return home till late night, his parents vainly looked for him. Later his body was spotted by some locals on the banks of Kali river on Friday morning.

On being informed, Superintendent of Police of Kannauj, Amrendra Prasad Singh, rushed to the spot for inspection. A country-made pistol was recovered from he spot.

The victim's brother, Manjeet, told the police that Prem Singh, Neelesh Singh, Bablu, Anil, Ramkumar and Shivam used to make advances at their niece to which Kishore objected.

He said that the eve-teasers avenged their humiliation by killing his brother.

In another horrifying incident in Banda, a man decapitated his wife in suspicion of infidelity and walked with her severed head to the police station and surrendered.

Chinnar Yadav had a quarrel with his wife Vimla (35) around 7:30 am in their Netanagar locality house. In a fit of rage, Yadav chopped off his wife's head with a sharp-edged weapon and carried it to Baberu police station to surrender.

A neighbour Ravi, who tried to save the victim was also critically injured.

A video of the accused walking on the road holding his wife's severed head soon went viral on social media.

In Jaunpur, two minor sisters were raped by two youths in a village in Machhlishahr police station area. The two cousins were sleeping on the veranda of their house on Thursday night, when two youths of the village took them to a farm and raped them.

On finding the girls missing, as their kin searched for them, they somehow returned home late in the night and shared their ordeal with the kin. A case was registered on Friday morning and the two accused were arrested.

In Hardoi, a father of three raped his four-year-old daughter while his wife was away to a market on Thursday.

On returning home, the wife noticed blood stains in the kid's clothes and learnt of the incident but she was threatened into silence by the husband. But when a relative visited her, she narrated the incident after which the police were informed and the victim was taken to hospital.

A case was subsequently registered and the rapist father was arrested.

Chandrashekhar dares govt to prove his party's link with PFI

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

With the Special Investigation Team (SIT) continuing to record statements of witnesses in the Hathras incident, Bhim Army chief Chandrashekhar Ravan challenged the Yogi Adityanath government to prove his party's link with the Popular Front of India (PFI).

The Bhim Army chief said he would leave politics if the allegations turned true and also asked Yogi Adityanath to step down if he failed to prove Bhim Army's links with the PFI.

"I challenge Yogi Adityanath to get any inquiry done against me. Leave aside Rs 100 crore, even if it is proved that I received Rs 1 lakh, I will quit politics otherwise you (Yogi) should resign from your post," Chandrashekhar tweeted on Friday. Chandrashekhar was reacting to allegations that a heavy amount was transferred to his party's account to incite caste conflict in the wake of Hathras incident and that Bhim Party had relations with the PFI.

Sources said that the Enforcement Directorate (ED) had rubbished allegations of links between Bhim Army and the PFI, which has been accused of inciting tension during the protests against the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) . Though no official clarification has been issued by the ED, sources said that the agency denied finding any connection between the PFI and the Bhim Army so far. It also did not deny or confirm about Rs 100 crore being transferred in any account.

It may be mentioned that former DGP Brij Lal and other senior officials had claimed that the Bhim Army and other outfits were trying to mislead the family of the Hathras' alleged gang-rape victim. Brij Lal had claimed that the woman and her family had first accused one man of sexual harassment and eight days later, levelled charges of rape against three more men. The former DGP, who is also the former chief of UP Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Commission, alleged that the PFI and its affiliate Campus Front of India became active during the Hathras protests and pumped in Rs 100 crore for instigating riots over the case.

"A new turn in the incident came when Bhim Army chief Chandrashekhar went to see the woman in hospital along with his supporters. Already under stress, the family has become confused with people giving different suggestions and now they are backing out from the CBI inquiry and narco/polygraph test,:." Lal had claimed. On the victim's hurried cremation at the middle of the night, the former UP DGP alleged that police worked with promptness as they got inputs that the Bhim Army, Congress and the Aam Aadmi Party were conspiring to instigate caste riots in Hathras.

"Police got intelligence input that the body would not be allowed to be cremated in the morning and there would be massive disturbances, arson and so with the consent of the family and in their presence, the last rites were performed," he claimed.

CITYBRIEFS

AWARDED

Vidisha Sharma, a class III student of City Montessori School, Aliganj Campus II, has been awarded the 'Certified Game Developer' title by an educational institution of Computer Science called WhiteHat Jr. Vidisha achieved this title for her knowledge and creative skills in Computer Science by participating in WhiteHat Jr coding session. WhiteHat is an online coding platform for children aged 6-14 years to showcase their natural talents. Vidisha showed glimpses of a promising future by winning the title at this global platform.

SEMINAR

The 28th international seminar of Hindi-Urdu Sahitya Akademi kicked off on Friday with the lifetime achievement award being conferred upon 89-year-old Urdu scholar Gopi Chand Narang. The programme was organised online with limited people invited. Speaking on Raghupati Sahai Firaq Gorakhpuri, Narang said Firaq was a multi-talented personality. Narang read several couplets of Firaq. He said Firaq scripted a new chapter in literature and based his poetry between what was present and what was not. Dr Anis Ashfaq from Lucknow University said Narang was an intellectual of the present era.

NORTHERN RAILWAY
First Corrigendum
TENDER NOTICE
Date of opening of the work for the work listed in Item No. 1(b) 04/W/BWS/CB/LKO/2020-21 & 1(c) 05/W/BWS/CB/LKO/2020-21 at SN.1 of tender notice no. 03/W/BWS/CB/2020-21 dated 15.09.2020, may be read as 10.11.2020.
Other terms and condition will same as earlier
2172/20
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

CENTRAL ORGANISATION FOR RAILWAY ELECTRIFICATION
1, Nawab Yusuf Road, Civil Lines Prayagraj-211001
E-Tender Notice No. CORE/S/2105/5597 A Dated : 08.10.2020
E-TENDER NOTICE
On behalf of the President of India, Principal Chief Materials Manager Central Organization Railway Electrification, Nawab Yusuf Road, Civil Lines, Prayagraj-211001 invites following E-TENDER.

E-tender No.	Brief Description	Quantity	Tender Due Date	Earnest Money (₹)
CORE/S/ 2105/5597 A	21.6/30.24MVA, 132/27KV, 50 HZ single Phase ONAN/ONAF	65 Nos.	30.10.2020	50,00000/-

type Traction Power Transformer alongwith all accessories required for its commissioning as per packing list and as per RDSO's Specification No. ETI/PSI/118 (10/1993) with A/C slip No 1 to 11 (Oct 2016).
Note: 1) The complete information of above E-Tender and Tender document are available on IREPS website i.e. http://www.ireps.gov.in. Only E-Bids shall be accepted against above Tender. The e-bids may be submitted before 11:00 hrs on tender opening date. 2) Procurement policy :- Bulk purchase will be made only from those firms, who are approved by RDSO for the tendered item. 3) In case of any technical difficulty, helpdesk of CRIS/New Delhi may be approached. The Telephone numbers are :- 011-24105180, 24102855, 24100746, 24671469.
No.PR./540/20 PCMM/CORE/PRAYAGRAJ
Satya Adv. FOR & ON BEHALF OF PRESIDENT OF INDIA
"SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE"

SBI STATE BANK OF INDIA
Zonal Office: SMECC, Habibullah Estate Rd, Hazratganj, Lucknow-226001
DEMAND NOTICE
NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT - 2002
Hereby this is to inform that under named borrower has not repaid principal and interest thereon of the loan. Therefore the loan become NPA. A notice under section 13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 was issued at last know address, which was returned undelivered. Therefore again we inform to under named borrowers by this public notice that to pay the loan amount due including interest and other expenses as mentioned in this notice within 60 days from the date of publication of this notice otherwise bank will be bound to take action under 13(4) of the SARFAESI Act 2002.

S. No.	Name & Address of the Borrower & Guarantor, Owner of the property/Branch/A/c No.	Description of The Movable Property mortgaged	Date of Notice u/s 13(2) & O/s Amount as mentioned in the Notice u/s 13(2)
1	Borrower: M/s Fashion Choice Boutique Prop. Usha Yadav D/o Sudhan Singh W/o Shri N.P. Singh, Unit & Residence: H. No. 9/165 Lohiya Nagar, Faizabad Road, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh. A/C No. : (32430075945) Branch : Vidhan Sabha Marg	Hypothecation of Stock, Plant & machinary	10.09.2020 ₹ 3,54,645/- as on 10.09.2020 with future interest and lease expenses
2	Borrower: M/s A.K. Enterprises Prop. Sh. Arun Kumar Srivastava S/o Chitra Gupt Lal, L-3/79, Vinay Khand-3 Gomti Nagar, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh. A/C No. : (64213173498) Branch : Vipul Khand	Hypothecation of Stock	14.09.2020 ₹ 6,68,966/- as on 14.09.2020 with future interest and lease expenses
3	Borrower: Sh. Surendra Kumar Mishra S/o Shri Chandra Deo Mishra, Residence: H. No. 495/13, Maya Nagar, Daliganj, Nikat Shankar Nagar, Chauraha, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh. A/C No. : (33724867965) Branch : Pandeyganj	Hypothecation of Vehicle Registration No. : UP-32-EY-8064 Chasis No.: MA1PL2GRKD5F77142 Engine No.: GRD4F81930	14.09.2020 ₹ 1,82,949/- as on 14.09.2020 with future interest and lease expenses
4	Borrower: M/s Deep Enterprises Prop. Ravinder Kaur W/o Paramjeet Singh, Unit: Hans Khera Manka Nagar, RDSO Lucknow-226011. R/o 1/129, Ruchi Khand-1, Sharda Nagar, Bijnor, Lucknow. Uttar Pradesh. A/C No. : (38701980934) & (38725496683) Branch : Transport Nagar	Hypothecation of Stock	29.08.2020 ₹ 9,10,761/- as on 29.08.2020 with future interest and lease expenses
5	Borrower: M/s Maa Vaishnavi Saree Collection Prop. Abhishek Sharma S/o Jagannath Sharma. Add.1: Unit: 4/54, Rajni Khand, Sharda Nagar, Lucknow. Add.2: R/o 133/227, Aminabad Road, Hanuman Ji Ka Mandir, Ganeshganj, Lucknow. Uttar Pradesh. A/C No. : (37614084970) Branch : Ashiyana	Hypothecation of Stock, Plant & machinary	28.08.2020 ₹ 4,00,256/- as on 28.08.2020 with future interest and lease expenses

Date: 10.10.2020 Place: Lucknow Authorised Officer, State Bank of India

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, PRAYAGRAJ
Open E-Tender Notice
Concrete Sleeper Plant, Prayagraj
Tender Notice No. 74-W/CSP/TN/20-21/04 Dated: 06.10.2020
Executive Engineer/Concrete Sleeper Plant, North Central Railway/ Prayagraj, for and on behalf of the President of India, invites E-TENDERs on prescribed form for the following works up to 15.00 hrs. on 29.10.2020. The details of the Tenders are as under:-

SN	Tender No.	Name of work	Approx Cost of work (₹)	Earnest Money (₹)	Cost of Tender Form (₹)
1	74-W/ CSP/ TN/20-21-10	Manufacturing and supply of spares of 10 T, 5 T & 2.5 T crane, distributor, pulling hoist, mixer, screw conveyor and EOT crane at CSP/SFG/PRYG.	31.69 lacs	63400/-	3000/-

Completion Period: 12 Months. Date of Opening of tender: 29.10.2020. Note:- (1) The complete information along with tender document of above E-Tender will be available/uploaded from 17.00 Hrs. on 07.10.2020 and shall be available on Website www.ireps.gov.in upto 15.00 hrs. on the due date of tender opening i.e. 29.10.2020. (2) Bids other than in the form of E-Bids shall not be accepted against above tenders. For this purpose, vendors are required to get themselves registered with IREPS website along with Digital Signature Certificate issued by CCA under IT Act-2000. (3) Rates entered into Financial Rate page and duly signed digitally shall be considered. Rates and any other financial entity in any other form/letter head if attached by vendors shall be straightway ignored and shall not be considered. (4) Document being attached should be signed by the tenderer on its body. The tenderer/s are required to submit/upload certificate mandatory in form of Annexure-'V', as modified in clause 6.1 of IRSGCC-2020, failing which tender will get summarily rejected. Format of Annexure-'V' is uploaded on website as documents. (5) This tender notice has been uploaded on www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in. For detailed information, please refer the tender document uploaded on website www.ireps.gov.in. (6) Payment of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) & Tender Document Cost (TDC) in respect of e-tendering shall be accepted through net banking or e-payment gateway only. (7) In case of any difficulty helpdesk on the website of IREPS may be approached. (8) Tender can be submitted online upto 15.00 hrs. on 29.10.2020 and will be opened after 15.00 hours on 29.10.2020. (9) Suppliers of Goods and/or services would be subject to GST Act, and Rules as applicable from time to time. (10) The Railway reserves the right to amend/postpone/cancel any tender/s without assigning any reason thereof.
1047/20 FA
North central railways North Central Railway@CPRONCR

the pioneer CLASSIFIEDS

NOTICE
This is certify that in my Daughter's high school documents my name is wrongly mentioned as GURE SANKARA RAO While my correct mame is SANKARA RAO GURE. SANKARA RAO GURE and GURE SANKARA RAO both are same person R/O Village and Post- Korukonda, Tahsil and District - Vizianagaram, Andhra Pradesh -535214

NOTICE
This is certify that my son's High School Documents, my name is wrongly mentioned as M.S. DHANIK. While My correct name is MAHESH SINGH DHANIK. M.S. DHANIK and MAHESH SINGH DHANIK both name are one person. R/o Mahesh Singh Dhanik, Village Sangarh, Post & PS & Tehsil Berinag District Pithoragarh Uttrakhand-262531.

NOTICE
I, Asha Singh Yadav, spouse of Diwesh Singh Yadav resident of Village/Town : Baurwan, Post Office : Baurwan, Police Stn : Saidpur Tehsil : Saidpur District : Gazipur, State : Uttar Pradesh, Pin : 233304 have changed my name from Asha Devi to Asha Singh Yadav vide affidavit dated 18-9-2020 (DD/MM/YY format) before Saidpur (Name and place of the court).

Maya blames BJP, Cong for plight of Dalits

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Blaming the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party and the Congress for the present plight of Dalits, Bahujan Samaj Party supremo Mayawati urged party cadres to take on the casteist forces. She also paid tribute to BSP founder Kanshi Ram on his death anniversary on Friday.

Mayawati said that Kanshi Ram fought for the uplift of the marginalised sections of society throughout his political career and followed the path shown by Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar.

"Kanshi Ramji was dedicated to the movement of self-respect and dignity propounded by Dr Ambedkar and he knew that casteist forces would continue to challenge the BSP movement by material, price, punishment, discrimination, which had to be met with prudence," the BSP chief said. She pledged to fulfil Kanshi Ram's dreams and take forward his legacy of Dalit emancipation.

Mayawati urged her party cadres to not be swayed by false promises and claims of other parties aiming to woo Dalits away from the BSP. She stressed that BSP was the only party which always followed the ideals of Dr Ambedkar.

"Other parties use atrocities on sisters and daughters of marginalised groups and enact political drama for achieving narrow political gains. Hathras and many such incidents are proof of this mindset," Mayawati said.

"Other parties use atrocities on sisters and daughters of marginalised groups and enact political drama for achieving narrow political gains. Hathras and many such incidents are proof of this mindset"

The BSP chief further said that there has been no uplift of the marginalised sections under both the BJP and Congress rules.

"We have to meet the challenges posed by casteist forces and deal with them with prudence," she said.

Mayawati also said that people of oppressed sections should cast their votes keeping repression by others in mind and ensure the victory of BSP and its allies in the upcoming Bihar Assembly poll and the bypolls in UP and Madhya Pradesh.

At the fag end of her speech, Mayawati also expressed grief at the death of Union Minister Ram Vilas Paswan, who passed away on Thursday.

Although every possible care and caution has been taken to avoid errors or omissions, this publication is being sold on the condition and understanding that information given in this publication is merely for reference and must not be taken as having authority of or binding in any way on the writers, editors, publishers, and printers and sellers who do not owe any responsibility for any damage or loss to any person, a purchaser of this publication or not for the result of any action taken on the basis of this work. All disputes are subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of competent court and forums in Lucknow only. Readers are advised and requested to verify and seek appropriate advice to satisfy themselves about the veracity of any kind of advertisement before responding to any contents published in this newspaper. The printer, publisher, editor and any employee of the Pioneer Group's will not be held responsible for any kind of claim made by the advertisers of the products & services and shall not be made responsible for any kind of loss, consequences and further product-related damages on such advertisements.

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409 more test positive, 525 recover

75 pc of patients in home isolation

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Recoveries continued to outnumber the patients as 409 persons tested positive and 525 recovered on Friday. There have been 764 deaths till now while there are 5,368 active cases in the city.

The patients included 38 from Indiranagar, 32 from Gomtinagar, 24 from Rae Bareli road, 23 from Cantt, 18 from Aliganj, 15 from Mahanagar, 15 each from Chinhat, Talkatora & Sarojininagar, 14 from Madiaon, 11 from Krishnanagar, 12 each from Alambagh, Thakurganj & Gudamba and 10 each from Ashiyana, Chowk and Vikasnagar.

Five deaths took place in the district and only one of the deceased belonged to Lucknow.

Across the state, 3,249 persons tested positive, including 114 in Kanpur, 158 in Prayagraj, 128 in Gorakhpur, 186 in Ghaziabad, 126 in Varanasi and 178 in Gautambuddh Nagar, taking the tally to 4,30,666. Besides, there were 48 deaths across the state, taking the toll to 6,293. As many as 4,424 persons recovered, taking the number of recoveries to 3,83,086 while there are 41,287 active cases in the state.

Meanwhile, 75 per cent of the total coronavirus cases in Lucknow are those of home isolation. A senior official at the CMO office said the home isolation cases have decreased in the past months because of proper monitoring and shifting of patients having symptoms to hospitals.

The official said they were trying to hospitalise as many patients in home isolation as possible. He pointed out that people were reluctant to send patients to hospitals. "We get calls with people insisting that patients should be allowed to stay in home isolation even after ambulances reach their homes. They have to understand the importance of hospitalisation because patients in home isolation may develop complications. It happens even with patients above 60 years of age," he said.

He added that through active surveillance by rapid response teams, patients needing hospitalisation are identified. "Our Integrated Control Command Centre calls every patient and makes a list of patients with symptoms and ambulances are sent to pick up the patients to shift them to hospitals," he said.

He added that most of the patients in home isolation were below 60 years of age. "However, some of the patients are above 60 years and they insist they are healthy and do not need hospitalisation, and we call them everyday," the official said. He added that the district administration officials were monitoring this activity and a daily review carried out by the district magistrate and divisional commissioner.

"A letter has been issued to all the pathologies and hospitals asking them to report suspected cases of dengue to the CMO office for follow-up," he said. He said that they were also increasing the staff going for anti-larvae drive.

Covid-19 nodal officer and incharge of Infectious Disease Hospital, KGMU, Dr D Himanshu said that in the current approach to the treatment of patients, there have been some changes.

Truck driver found dead, kin alleges murder

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

A truck driver, identified as Amit Kumar (26) of Acharya Dwivedi Nagar on Jail road, died under mysterious circumstances. The body was spotted in the irrigation canal in Ashiyana around 8 am on Friday. He was identified with the help of his PAN card, driving license and Aadhaar card recovered from his purse. Prima facie, the body bore no external injuries.

His brother-in-law alleged that he was killed after a criminal conspiracy was hatched against him. The deceased was working with a local diary. He used to transport milk to Rae Bareli in the morning along with the supervisor and would return in the evening. He was missing since Wednesday night. Even those accompanying him were unaware of his whereabouts. The truck which he was driving was found few yards from where the body was recovered. Inspector, Ashiyana, KP Tiwari said a case of murder was registered on the basis of a complaint lodged by deceased's brother-in-law. He was living with his wife Anita, elderly mother and younger brother. The inspector claimed that the investigation was underway.

Meanwhile, two persons were killed in separate road accidents in the last 24 hours. Satyendra Singh (40) of Anaur village under Chinat police station was fatally knocked down by a speeding vehicle near the flyover on Faizabad road near Goyal Engineering College on Friday morning. His wife belongs to Gorkhpur where he had gone for some work alone. He returned in the morning and was waiting for a taxi. He was hit by a vehicle all of sudden and he sustained multiple injuries to which he succumbed at the community health centre. The errant driver sped off the scene. The police said they were taking the help of CCTV cameras to trace the errant driver.

In another mishap, a man was killed in Banthra while another sustained injuries. The deceased was identified as Virendra Kumar (40) while the one injured as Ram Bharose. Police said the duo were going to Tirva village in Banthra by a motorcycle which was knocked by a speeding truck (UP33 BT0392) on Narayanpur Marg. Passersby rushed the injured to the nearby community health centre. Virendra succumbed to injuries there while Ram Bharose was referred to the Trauma Centre.

Meanwhile, police arrested four persons on the charges of theft in jewellery shops. They were identified as Bablu, Nizam Ahmed, Moinuddin and Surendra. Jewellery worth Rs 7 lakh and Rs 30,000 in cash besides three LEDs were recovered by the police. They were spotted near Purani Sabzi Mandi in Chinhat on late Thursday night. The police said Bablu was a vegetable vendor. He, along with Nizam, used to execute criminal plots with the help of their accomplices.

गोरखपुर औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण
सेक्टर–7, गीडा, गोरखपुर
दूरभाषः 0551–2580010, 2580090, फैक्सः 0551–2580020

निविदा सूचना

गोरखपुर औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण द्वारा गीडा/uplc में सिविल निर्माण कार्य हेतु 'ए' (हॉट मिक्स प्लान्ट) श्रेणी में पंजीकृत कॉलम नं. 7 के अनुसार अर्ह एवं अनुमोदित ठेकेदारों से आनलाईन ई–निविदा प्रतिशत दर में अधोलिखित कार्य हेतु टू–बिड्स सिस्टम द्वारा निविदा दिनांक 12-10-2020 को पूर्वान्ह 11:00 बजे से दिनांक 03-11-2020 को अपरान्ह 2:00 बजे तक आमंत्रित की जाती है। दिनांक 04-11-2020 को अपरान्ह 3:00 बजे प्रीक्वालिफिकेशन/टेक्निकल बिड गीडा कार्यालय में खोली जायेगी एवं प्रीक्वालिफिकेशन में उपयुक्त पाये गये निविदादाताओं के फाईनेन्सियल बिड खोलने की तिथि, कुल प्राप्त निविदाओं की संख्या के आधार पर नोटिस बोर्ड/ई–पोर्टल पर सूचित किया जायेगा। कार्यालय बन्द होने पर या अवकाश होने की दशा में यह बिड अगले कार्यालय दिवस में खोली जायेगी।

क्र. सं.	कार्य का नाम	आगणन धनराशि (जी.एस.टी. व लेबर सेस अतिरिक्त ₹ लाख में)	धरोहर धनराशि (₹ लाख में)	निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य	कार्य अवधि	पंजीकृत श्रेणी	निविदा की श्रेणी
1	गीडा सेक्टर–22 में बोकटा व्यवसायिक पार्ट–1 के आन्तरिक सड़क, नाली एवं पुलिया का निर्माण तथा मरम्मत व पुनः सतहलेपन कार्य।	351.44	19.60	(निविदा मूल्य +जी.एस.टी) ₹ 2,950/-	08 माह	'ए'	ऑन लाईन
2	गीडा सेक्टर–22 में बोकटा व्यवसायिक पार्ट–2 के आन्तरिक सड़क, नाली एवं पुलिया का निर्माण तथा मरम्मत व पुनः सतहलेपन कार्य।	289.82	16.50	(निविदा मूल्य +जी.एस.टी) ₹ 2,950/-	08 माह	'ए'	ऑन लाईन

नोटः– कृपया निविदा प्रपत्र इत्यादि के संबंध में विस्तृत जानकारी वेबसाइट www.gidagkp.org/ www.E-tender.gov.in पर प्राप्त की जा सकती है। उक्त के अतिरिक्त दिनांक 02-11-2020 तक कोई भी शुद्धि पत्र नोटिस बोर्ड व गीडा गोरखपुर की वेबसाईट www.gidagkp.org/www.E-tender.gov.in से प्राप्त की जा सकती है।

मुख्य कार्यपालक अधिकारी, गीडा, गोरखपुर

Varsity leads in uploading e-content

Lucknow (PNS): Lucknow University has uploaded e-content on the state government portal and it has acquired first position and continues to lead all the universities of the state. In order to maintain the lead, LU held a 'Marathon Manthan', which was presided over by Vice-Chancellor AK Rai, who reviewed the current status of e-content loaded from each department and institute.

"It was resolved that each teacher will contribute e-content every week. It was felt that while numbers are important, quality of content is as important. It was further resolved that LU will ensure high quality of e-content," a faculty member said. The VC expressed satisfaction at LU's performance in online education in these difficult times, including the effort towards facilitating students through availability of high quality e-content.

Meanwhile, the entrance test for admission to PG programmes of LU will begin from October 10 and continue till October 17. The LU spokesperson said applicants were advised to take proper precautions for themselves and report at least an hour before the test time.

Meanwhile, the seat confirmation for candidates who have been allotted seats is underway and will end on October 12. "The allotment of any candidate who does not deposit the seat confirmation fee will automatically be cancelled. All candidates who have not been allotted their first choice can opt for upgradation. The facility of upgradation will be available to only those candidates who deposit the seat confirmation fee. They have to give the option whether they want to retain the allotted subject," he said.

पंजाब नैशनल बैंक ..... भरोसे का प्रतीक! **punjab national bank** ... the name you can BANK upon

रिकवरी अनुभाग Recovery Section, मण्डल कार्यालय, रायबरेली Circle Office: Raebareli- 229001

POSSESSION NOTICE

Whereas
The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Punjab National Bank, Circle Office, Raebareli, Uttar Pradesh, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (Second) [Act], 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (2) read with rule of 3 the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice/s on the dates mentioned against each account calling upon the respective borrower/s/guarantors/mortgagors to repay the amount as mentioned against each account within 60 days from the date of notice(s)/ date of receipt of the said notice(s). The borrower/s/guarantors/mortgagors having failed to repay the amount, notice is here by given to the borrower/s/guarantors/mortgagors and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic possession of the properties described here in below in exercise of powers conferred on him/ her under Section 13(4) of the said [Act] read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on the dates mentioned against each account. The borrower/s/guarantors/mortgagors in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property/ies and any dealing with the property/ies will be subject to the charge of Punjab National Bank for the amounts and interest there on.

S. N.	Account Name & Name of Branch	Description of the property mortgaged	Date of Demand Notice	Date of Possession Notice affixed	Amount outstanding as on date of Demand Notice
1.	**Borrower: Mr. Raj Kumar Singh**, Mohalla, Shankar Nagar Banda City Banda Ward, Uttar Pradesh. **B.O.- Banda**	IP measuring 174.72 Sq. Mtr. As per Registered sale deed dt 24.06.1969 in Bahi No. 1, Zild No. 494, Page No. 376-378 Sl. No. 938 & Araji No. 1726/1 Situated at Larakpurwa now at present Mohalla Shankar Nagar, Banda City, Distt. Banda, Uttar Pradesh. Mortgagor-Mr. Raj Kumar Singh S/o Mr. Shivnath Singh. **Boundaries- (As per tittle deed)- East-** Parti Land of Maiyadeen after plot Mr. Ram Sajiwan, **West-** Land of Phool Chand (Fireman), **North-** Land of Mr. Mathura Kachhi, **South-** Railway Line. **(As Per Present Boundaries):- East-** House of Mr. Binda Prasad, **West-** House of Mr. Rahman Khan, **North-** House of Mr. Ram Asrey, **South-** Road 2.13 Mtr.	16.08.2019	07.10.2020	₹ 2,58,845/- + interest & other Charges w.e.f. 01.04.2018.
2.	**Borrower: K.W.** Enterprises, **Prop. Mr. Sandeep Kumar Agnihotri**, Kiran College Chauraha Banda and Mortgogor/ Guarantor- **Mr. Vinod Kumar Agnihotri**, H. No. 458, Ward No. 12 Ardeli Bazar, Banda, Uttar Pradesh. **B.O.- Banda**	H. No. 458 ward no. 12 Ardeli Bazar, Banda, Uttar Pradesh.	04.02.2016	07.10.2020	₹ 15,75,383.56+ interest & other Charges w.e.f. 01.01.2016.

Date: 10.10.2020 **Place: Raebareli**
Umesh Kumar
Authorized Officer: Punjab National Bank

बैंक ऑफ़ बड़ौदा Bank of Baroda
Vijaya Dena

Regional Office : 118/330, Gumti No. 5, Kaushalpuri Kanpur - 12
Branch : Kidwai Nagar, Kanpur

Possession Notice

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of Bank of Baroda under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice calling upon the borrower & guarantor to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being with in 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower/guarantor having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers/guarantors and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13 (4) of the said Act read with rule 8 & 9 of the said rules.

The borrower/guarantor in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the first charge of Bank of Baroda for amount & interest thereon.

The borrower's attention is invited to provision of sub-section (8) of 13 of the act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

Name and Address of Borrower/Guarantor & Description of Mortgage Property and O/S Amount as per Demand Notice/Demand & Possession Notice Date

Borrower : M/s New Indian Oxy Plant , Workshop : Village Daulatpur, Tehsil Akbarpur, Distt. Kanpur Dehat. Registered Office : 128/253, Y-1 Block, Kidwai Nagar, Kanpur. **Partners :** Smt. Malini Srivastava W/o Shri Rakesh Srivastava, R/o : 128/253, Y-1 Block, Kidwai Nagar, Kanpur & Smt. Pallavi Saxena W/o Shri Himanshu Saxena, R/o : 128/20, Y-1 Block, Kidwai Nagar, Kanpur and Shri Shiv Bahadur Singh S/o Shri Kundan Singh R/o : Haridyapur, Saewankhera, Tehsil Akbarpur, Kanpur Dehat. Demand Notice Date : 31-07-2020 • Date of Constructive Possession : 08.10.2020
Mortgage Immovable Property : Khata No. 13, Part of Arazi No. 112 Situated at Village Daulatpur, Tehsil Akbarpur, Distt. Kanpur Dehat in the name of Smt. Malini Srivastava. **Area :** 0.1020 Hecatre. **Bounded-North :** Part of Arazi Nol. 112, **South :** Arazi Land of Gram Samaj Nala Badhu & Other Arazi Lands, **East :** From Gogumau to Gangrauli Road, **West :** Arazi Land of Gram Samaj Nala Badhu. **Mortgage Movable Property :** Plant & Machinery (Oxygen Plant) Over and above Mentioned part of Land.
O/s Amount as per Demand Notice : Rs. 71,36,772.60 + Intt. + Others Charges
Please Note that without prejudice to Bank right and contention, over previous possession notice of SARFAESI Act. 2002 issued dated 30-09-2020 in the captioned matter is hereby withdrawn and be treated as cancelled.

Date : 10-10-2020 **Place : Kanpur Dehat** **Authorised Officer**

BBAU to develop five villages

Lucknow (PNS): Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University (BBAU) will be developing five villages in Lucknow under Unnat Bharat Abhiyaan. Vice-Chancellor Acharya Sanjay Singh held a special meeting with the team of Unnat Bharat Abhiyan of BBAU. The vice-chancellor asked the team to prepare a roadmap for one year for development works in the five adopted villages. He said that NCC, NSS as well as all other departments of BBAU should be linked to this campaign and it should also be decided how these departments can contribute to the progress of villages.

Nodal officer of Unnat Bharat Abhiyan Naveen Kumar Arora said that supply of contaminated water is a serious issue in these villages and needs attention. He also stressed on promotion of organic farming in these villages. Convener of Unnat Bharat Abhiyan Shilpi Verma said that women in the village have problems of malnutrition and anaemia, which need to be addressed. She suggested that a campaign should be launched in collaboration with health and other departments, inform women about nutritious food and make them aware of the diet which can be easily available. There will be another meeting in this regard in which plans will be finalised.

Bank of India
Relationship Beyond Banking

Zonal Office: 78-A Rajbhavan, Complex, Canal Road, Kanpur - 208004, Ph: 0512-2985004

POSSESSION NOTICE
See Rule 8 (1)

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer Bank of India under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002, and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued demand notices to below mentioned Borrower/Guarantors to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice plus interest at other charges with in 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower/guarantor having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower/Guarantor and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Possession of the below mentioned properties in exercise of power conferred on him under Sub-Section (4) of Section 13 of Act read with rule 8 of the security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002. The borrower/ guarantor in particular and public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealing with the property will be subject to the charge of Bank of India. The borrowers/guarantors attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Name of the Borrower/Guarantor	Amount as per Demand Notice/Demand Notice Date/ Possession Date	Description of Properties Mortgaged/Owner of the Properties
Branch: Ratan Lal Nagar, Add: 122 Main Road, Ratan Lal Nagar, Kanpur, Ph. No.: 0512-2203052/82		
Borrower- Mrs. Uma Rani Bhadauria W/o Mr. Ajay Pratap Singh **Co-Borrower - 1- Mr. Dhananjay Singh** S/o Ajay Pratap Singh, **2- Mr. Avinder Singh** S/o Mr. Ajay Pratap Singh	**Rs. 4244405.20 + Intt. @8.80% W.E.F. 01.05.2019 + other Charges** 01.05.2019 07.10.2020	All that part & parcel of Land and Building situated at H.No. 84/249 K, Afim Kothi G.T. Road Kanpur, Admeasuring 152.00 Sq. Yard or 127.09 Sq. Mtr owned by Mrs. Uma Rani W/o Ajay Pratap Singh. **Boundaries- East:** Quarter No. 5, **West:** Quarter No. 3, **North:** G.T. Road, **South:** 4 Ft wide private lane there after open land 84/249
Borrower- Mr. Anmol Sharma S/o Mr. Indra Kumar Sharma **Guarantor - Mrs. Suman Sharma** W/o Mr. Indra Kumar Sharma	**Rs. 888989.33 + Intt. @9.40% W.E.F. 01.03.2020 + other Charges** 04.03.2020 07.10.2020	All that part & parcel of Land and Building situated at E-2/500 Ratanpur Vistar Part Second, Mohalla Ratanpur Vistar Part Second, Kanpur Nagar, Admeasuring area 27.00 Sqmt. owned by Mr. Anmol Sharma S/o Indra Kumar Sharma, **Boundaries- East:** Plot No. E-2/501, **West:** Plot No. E-2/499, **North:** 6.00 Meter wide Road, **South:** Plot No. B-71
Branch: Hasanganj, Unnao, Ph. No.: 05143-230319		
Borrower- M/s Asha Rice Mill Proprietor - Mr. Nitin Yadav S/o Mr. Surya Prakash Yadav	**Rs. 4229431.04 + Intt. @10.05% W.E.F. 31.01.2020 + other Charges** 03.02.2020 06.10.2020	All that part & parcel of property consisting property situated on Arazi No. 341 Kha, Mauja- Malhauli Sardar Nagar, Pargana - Mohan, Post- Haiderabad, Tehsil - Hasanganj, District- Unnao, Admeasuring area 380.00 Sqmt. owned by Mr. Nitin Yadav S/o Mr. Surya Prakash Yadav, **Boundaries- East:** Open Land, **West:** Open Land, **North:** Malhauli Sardar Nagar Road, **South:** Open Land

Date: 09-10-2020 **Place: Kanpur/Unnao** **Authorised Officer: Bank of India**

RDSO INVITES INDIAN INDUSTRIES TO REGISTER AS RDSO APPROVED SUPPLIER

INDIAN RAILWAYS PURCHASE SAFETY & CRITICAL ITEMS FROM INDUSTRIES APPROVED BY RDSO, LUCKNOW

ONLINE VENDOR INTERACTION

Online Vender Interaction being organized Nationwide every week focusing on various industrial hubs in various regions of country. Following upcoming virtual Vendor meets are planned

14th October : Lucknow area
16th October : Agra / Aligarh area
21st October : Kanpur area
28th October : Gorakhpur area
3rd November : Bhopal area
6th November : Haridwar / Dehradun area
11th November : Jhansi area
13th November : Varanasi area

Tentative time : 15:00-17:00 Hrs.

Interested vendors to please register through link provided on the RDSO website rdso.indianrailways.gov.in

The weblink to join virtual meeting alongwith change in date and time if any, shall be provided through E-mail.

Schedule of further virtual vendor meets shall also be available on RDSO Website.

Click "Vendor Interface" on RDSO website or Vendor Helpline No:
Civil Items: 0522-2451188, Electrical Items: 7376646861,
Mechanical Items: 0522-2465743, Signal Items: 7376646862,
Sri Sandeep Tigga (ARO/QAM): 9794863189

अअमासं RDSO रेल अग्रदूत Transforming Railways
INDIAN RAILWAYS
RESEARCH DESIGNS & STANDARDS ORGANISATION
Manaknagar, Lucknow-226011 Website: https://rdso.indianrailways.gov.in

118 more test positive in Varanasi

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

As many as 118 new COVID-19 patients have been detected in the district here on Friday, increasing the total number of cases to 14,683. Besides, the district also saw three more deaths, increasing the toll to 239. During the day, the follow-up negative reports included 178 patients. Out of them, 170 patients were recovered from home isolation, increasing the number to 10,460 and just eight patients have been discharged from the hospitals. With this, the number of cured patients from the hospitals has increased to 2,755. The total number of cured patients is now 13,215, leaving 1,229 active patients. The recovery rate has improved to 90 per cent but the mortality rate has remained at 1.62 per cent.

Earlier, in the first report of the day by 11 am, 75 positive patients were detected out of 3,912 received reports. Till then, the total test reports received were 2,42,713 and the results of 842 are awaited. Out of them, 2,28,073 were negative while 14,640 positive. The total number of samples collected was 2,57,973. Earlier, a female aged 70 from Beerbhanpur succumbed to COVID-19 at Sir Sundarlal Hospital (SSH), Banaras Hindu University (BHU) while a male aged 64 from Domari (Parao) died at Apex Hospital. With the addition of 16 new red zones, the total number of hotspots has increased to 2,142 including 309 red zones. One green zone has been converted into red zone again. There are 1,833 green zones with a new one.

Earlier, under ongoing mass/ group antigen tests, five persons out of 510 tests were detected positive at Shree Shiv Prasad Gupta (SSPG) Hospital, Kabirchaura while all the 385 tests at adjacent Government Women's Hospital and 110 at Shivpur CHC were found negative. Besides, 14 out of 188 were tested positive at LBS Hospital, Ramnagar while four out of 465 at SSH BHU and one out of 98 at Swami Vivekanand Government Hospital, Bhelupur.

Action to be taken against those misusing Unlock reliefs: DM

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

District Magistrate (DM) Kaushal Raj Sharma has made it clear that action would be taken against those misusing unlock reliefs. According to him, through various guidelines one after the other reliefs including all kinds of economic activities have been given during Unlock period of COVID-19 but there are about 200-300 persons in the city who are misusing such exemption and disrupting the peace of the entire city through traffic jams, dharnas and demonstrations, processions etc. since last one month. Nearly every day, such people come to BHU Lanka Gate, in front of the Collectorate, Ravindrapuri and many other places and disrupt traffic movement which is totally unlawful because as per the order of the High Court, Shastri Ghat (river Varuna) has been identified for all such democratic protests.

He further said that some persons violating the court orders not only take out processions and demonstrations but also try to stop the convoys of some public representatives during their visit to the city and threaten the security arrangements. Sharma said that on the one hand it is a violation of the unlocked guidelines of COVID-19 while on the other hand it is also an attempt to put the city towards chaos and in this direction, during the last 2-3 months many people were detained in connection with disturbing the peace and they were released on bonds.

DM has instructed the ADM (City), ADM (Administration), City Magistrate, SDMs and all other magistrates to make coordination with the circle officers (COs) and police station incharges of their respective areas in view to make a list of such people who are involved in peace-breaking acts. According to him, if any of these persons who have been released on bail and is involved in such acts again, their bonds would be seized and their amount would be recovered by attaching the property. Besides, the DM has also asked the officers to make a list of those who are in the jail for breach of peace within 10 days to see whether they were their first attempt or they were also involved in such acts in the past. He said that those who are involved in such acts again, their bails would be cancelled and action would be taken against them for a longer period by booking them under the Goonda Act, depriving their entry into the district apart from cancellation of their arms licences.

He has also instructed the magistrates to complete the proceedings within a week after reviewing all the incidents of the last 2-3 months at the police station level and submit their reports till October 15.

Maidagin-Godowlia road to be beautified: DC

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

In view of highlighting heritage of the city and tourism development apart from ease of movement and ease of doing business, Maidagin-Godowlia road would be beautified under the Smart City Project. In this direction, on the issue of road designs and materials there were unanimously agreement between the officers and traders at a meeting held here on Friday under the chairmanship of Divisional Commissioner (DC) Deepak Agrawal.

DC Deepak Agrawal holding a meeting with traders in Varanasi on Friday Pioneer

`It was decided that in the middle of this road, a seven feet width CC road will be made for the movement of vehicles. At this level, there will be 2.5 feet width a pathway of Koval stone on both sides and then there would be open drains on the side of shops. The Koval stone pathway will be so strong that if the vehicle arrives there from the CC road for unloading and loading, it will not break as it will be in the road level. All the work materials will be of very good quality. The traders expressed their thanks on this decision.

DC said that Maidagin-Godowlia road will be the ease of movement for tourists, devotees and traders. The uniformity colours of the stone and CC Road will make it attractive. He further said that Godowlia-Dashaswamedh road, Dashaswamedh Plaza and Ghat, Shri Kashi Vishwanath Corridor and lighting work on the Ganga ghats would attract tourists apart from highlighting the beautiful heritage of the city. He further said that as per the wishes of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, some roads in Kashi will be developed as a model.

Under the Smart City project, eight crossings and an equal number of big roads are being developed with the support of national and international experts to promote tourism so that whenever a person enters from Maidagin towards Shri Kashi Vishwanath temple or from Godowlia towards Dashaswamedh, Shri Kashi Vishwanath Corridor, the whole area would give him beautiful heritage look along with convenient arrangements. On the DC's suggestion, the traders agreed to have uniform signage boards and lighting arrangements at their respective establishments on both sides of the road. MLC Ashok Dhawan, Municipal Commissioner Gaurang Rathi and many traders were present in the meeting.

Schools, coaching institutes may open after October 15

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

District Magistrate Kaushal Raj Sharma said that the schools and coaching institutes outside the containment zones would be opened in a phased manner after October 15 for academic work and the permission will be given after consulting the management of the schools/ institutes and assessing the situation, keeping in mind the COVID-19 guidelines of the government. The District Inspector of Schools (DIOS) has been authorised for the same permission.

He further said that the permission for online / distance education will continue and will be encouraged apart from giving priority to this system. Where schools are running online classes and some students are physically inclined to join online classes instead of attending classes, they may be allowed. Students can attend the respective schools and educational institutions only with the written consent of their parents and guardians. The schools that will be allowed to open will compulsorily comply with the provisions of the SOP issued by the Department of Education. Similarly, the ADM (City) has been authorised to give permission for opening of swimming pools for player training, cinemas/ theatres/ multiplexes outside the containment zones with maximum 50 per cent seating capacity and amusement parks and other places. Besides, ACMs and SDMs have been authorised to give permission for gathering of more than 100 persons in social, educational, sports, entertainment, cultural, religious and political programmes only after discussing the same matters with the ADM (City) and ADM (Administration).Earlier, while addressing the gram pradhans of Sewapuri block, selected for overall development by NITI Aayog, the DM said that the infrastructure works in all the 87 villages of the block have been completed. He said that the gram pradhans have to play an important role in development by changing the behaviour of the people through awareness. After laying the basis of the vision of Adarsh (ideal) village, he said that it is important to know how to raise the standard of living of the people through their resources.

CONG DEMANDS RELEASE OF ARRESTED LEADERS: Accusing the district administration of working at the behest of the ruling party, the Congressmen on Friday staged a strong protest demanding the immediate release of party leaders arrested about a week ago.

It is pointed out that when Union Minister Smriti Irani had visited the city on October 3 last, the workers of Congress Party had gheraoed her convoy in protest against Hathras incident. They had offered bangles and also shown black flags to her to raise their protest against the Hathras police in which manner it had cremated the body of the victim girl without the consent of her family members. The police had arrested nine party leaders under 7 Criminal Law Act and sent them to temporary jail made in Lalpur here. The party workers gathered at the statue of Rani Lakshmibai in Cantonment area on Friday afternoon to go to the camp office of the district magistrate to demand for the immediate release of arrested party leaders. But the heavy police force which was already present on teh occasion stopped them and did not allow them to move ahead. It led to a heated exchange between cops and Congressmen and the latter staged a sit in on road demanding, either they are allowed to meet the DM or the DM come here to pay heed to their demand.The arrested leaders had got bail from the court and they had submitted a bond of challan of 151 to get bail, they said adding, the guarantors had also been verified three days ago. But, despite this, the ACM-IV Shivangi Shukla is deliberately making delay in making the bail paper available to jail authority and in the result, the party leaders are still in jail, the Congressmen blamed adding, the ACM-IV is saying that she is waiting for the consent of the DM for sending the paper to jail. In fact, the district administration is behaving like the stamp rubber and working at the behest of ruling party and this is reason why it is creating hurdles so that the party leaders could not come out from the jail, they blamed demanding that the district administration should clear the way for the release of party leaders at the earliest. They ended their protest after the DM invited their delegation to pay attention to the demand. The district president of Congress Party Rajeshwar Patel and city chief Raghvendra Chaubey led the protest.

154 COVID-19 patients found

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ ALLAHABAD

A bank employee sanitising currency notes in a bank in Prayagraj Pioneer

The number of corona infections also remained low on Thursday night. While the Covid test report of 154 infected persons tested positive for COVID-19 in the 24 hours, 183 patients have become infection free. However, three including one woman died due to infection. The infected also included the District Agriculture Officer, Senior Officer of AG Office and Chief Manager of IFFCO.

According to CMO Dr GS Bajpai, among the infected, senior assistants of Excise department, JE of IFFCO, deputy managers of SBI, teachers of Chaka Primary School, constables of CRPF, AO and accountants of AG Office, a section engineer of railways, Others including a guard, a teacher of GGIC, a scholar of MNNIT, an inter college lecturer.

In 24 hours, 29 patients out of 183 people with corona infection were discharged from various Covid hospitals and Covid care centres. Home isolation of 154 infected is complete. The number of infected in the district has so far reached 20,763. At the same time, 283 corona infected have died with three deaths occurred on Thursday.

About 13,660 people have completed home isolation after becoming infection free. There were 1,923 active cases till 9 pm on Thursday. Out of 217 infected people admitted to various Covid hospitals, SRN Hospital has the highest number of 80 patients in the Covid ward, while the maximum 10 patients were discharged from here.

According to the CMO, on Thursday, 4,732 samples were collected for the Covid test. Among them, 3117 were tested through antigens, 1,498 RTPCR, 117 Trunat were tested.

Meanwhile, angry over not getting honorarium for two months, SRN sanitary workers boycotted work on Thursday. Due to the sanitary workers being annoyed and the deterioration of work, the dirt in the Covid ward spread. Employees said the financial situation has deteriorated due to non-payment of honorarium. It is difficult to support the family. Of those protesting on the occasion Shekhar, Raja, Monu, Hari, Monu Singh, Satendra etc said that the hospital administration has been turning a blind eye to their grievances for two days. All their efforts are turning futile. The Superintendent-in-chief (SIC) said that the company has to pay their honorarioum. His manager has been asked to pay immediately. He denied talking about dirt in the Covid ward. He said that there is an alternative arrangement in the Covid ward.

Building of Rajesh Yadav demolished

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ ALLAHABAD

After demolishing a good number of properties of Atique Ahmed and his associates, and one market of Dilip Mishra, the Prayagraj Development Authority bulldozers reached Katka area of the trans-Ganga Jhusi segment on Friday and pulled down a building of Chhota Rajan's sharp shooter Rajesh Yadav.

Rajesh Yadav has many criminal records in Mumbai besides in Prayagraj under different sections of murder, loot, kidnapping for ransom and so on.

An under world shooter Rajesh's name had figured in Kurchery Post Office loot and kidnapping of Dr Kartikeya Sharma, famous neuro surgeon of the city. He is a contract killer and. mostly operates in Mumbai.

Rajesh had raised an unauthorised construction in Katka Jhusi, which was pulled down on Friday under the statewide drive against mafia dons and criminals, launched by the Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath.

ACTION AGAINST SDO, JE : Electricity department has taken a big action against SDO and JE of the power sub-station at Mazar Tiraha in the case of sabotage and equipment disappearance at a power sub-station during the strike of electricity workers four days ago.

On the written complaint given by ACM I, the police have registered a report against SDO and JE of the power sub-station at Mazar Tiraha under other sections including theft. Police said investigations are being conducted in this connection.

Four days earlier, supply was disrupted across the city during a strike by electricians. Electricity was also lost in dozens of mohallas connected to the feeders of the sub-station at Mazar Tirahe. There were allegations that the striking employees deliberately disrupted supplies. However, they claimed that the supply was interrupted due to fault. However, a major action has been taken by the district administration in this matter.

A case has been filed on behalf of ACM I Yuvraj Singh against the SDO Shiv Singh and JE Ghanshyam Patel, of Mazar Tiraha sub-station in this case at Shivkuti police station. It was alleged through the written complaint given by him that the accused vandalised the sub-station. Also, the keys and handles were lost, causing the power supply to come to a standstill.

Police said that an FIR has been registered on the basis of a complaint for theft and damage to public property including other sections. Investigation is underway, police added.

HC directive to Baghpat Dist Judge

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ ALLAHABAD

The Allahabad High Court has directed the District Judge, Baghpat to transfer a criminal trial relating to murder of dreaded mafia Munna Bajrangi pending before him to Special Judge, CBI court at Ghaziabad with complete record.

Allowing a transfer application filed by Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), Justice Suneet Kumar observed, 'As per direction of High Court, the CBI has taken over the investigation of Munna Bajrangi murder case. Accordingly, present application has been filed seeking transfer of the case to the competent court having jurisdiction. Hence, it is allowed'.

In its application, the CBI had sought transfer the session trial no. 525 of 2018, State of U.P. vs. Sunil Rathi (case crime no. 377 of 2018) under Section 302 (murder) IPC, police station Khekra, District Baghpat, UP, pending in the court of District Judge, Baghpat, to Special Judge, Central Bureau Investigation Court at Ghaziabad along with all case record.

Earlier, a division bench of Allahabad High Court, while allowing a petition filed by Seema Singh, wife of Munna Bajrangi had on February 25, 2020 had directed CBI probe in the murder of dreaded mafia don Munna Bajrangi inside Baghpat district jail in July, 2018. Bajrangi was brought from Jhansi jail to Baghpat jail, where he was shot dead by a prisoner – Sunil Rathi.

Munna Bajrangi, a criminal from eastern Uttar Pradesh, was murdered in Baghpat district jail on July 9, 2018. He was shot 10 times in the head within the jail premises itself allegedly by another prisoner gangster Sunil Rathi.

DIRECTIVE TO WEAR MASKS: To ensure '100 per cent face masking' in the state, the Allahabad High Court has asked heads of the government departments in the state to send reminders, on daily basis, to their employees that they and their family members have to compulsorily wear masks.

The court also directed state police to wear masks religiously and also see that everyone in their vicinity wears the masks. The bench comprising Justice Siddhartha Varma and Justice Ajit Kumar passed the order in a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) on the spread of COVID-19 in the state.

The bench has also directed that all shops, even other than eateries, in the state shall ensure that the customers/ individuals who enter their premises shall wear their masks at all times.

The court then directed advocate commissioners to continue to take photographs of those violating social distancing and other COVID-19 guidelines and asked the district administration to take action on those photographs.

During the course of hearing, Additional Advocate General representing state government informed that the masks which are being sold in the market and also being worn by people in general are as per the ICMR guidelines.

While dealing with encroachment on public land in Prayagraj, the bench directed development authority, Prayagraj to immediately remove all unauthorised encroachments from public road and road side land and other public places in the city, with immediate effect.

The court while fixing October 14 as the next date of hearing in the case directed state government to file list of eateries from all over the state who had submitted undertaking stating that restaurants allowing dine-in will maintain social distancing and road side eateries will not allow customers to hang around and eat openly on the street.

EFFORTS BEING MADE TO MAKE POLICE SMART: Now, after the cops with mobile surveillance and body worn cameras fitted in their vehicle reaching a criminal scene, the entire location will be seen in the control room nearby. With this, additional police force etc will be made available immediately. Every activity of police and public will also be recorded. All this arrangement will be done in Prayagraj. Efforts for this purpose are being made. Efforts are being made to make the police smart in Prayagraj city. Advance mobile surveillance will be installed in police vehicles. Along with this, body worn cameras will also be provided to 300 cops and officers. With these arrangements, all the activities of the police and the public at a criminal event will be recorded in the Integrated Command and Control Centre (ICCC) i.e. Control Room. Officers will be able to use it to rule the incident. At the same time, public address systems are being installed at 206 places for the purpose of simultaneous announcement in the entire city. The Ashoka Biltcom Agency has been selected to install public address systems, install advance mobile surveillance in 43 police vehicles and provide 300 body worn cameras at key crossings, intersections, bus stands and other important places in the city.

Dengue deaths a cause of concern for administration

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

The death of a scientist of Defence Materials Stores Research Development Establishment (DMSRDE) due to dengue and over half-a-dozen other deaths have become a cause of concern for district and medical officials.

A few surrounding villages have reported sudden spread of dengue. Ironically, the villagers claim that those who approached the LLR Hospital were not properly attended to and allowed to return from the OPD.

With dengue cases rising even as COVID-19 is still a cause of concern, the district administration finds itself between the devil and the deep sea.

District Magistrate Alok Tiwari on Thursday directed that special wards be set up in Kanshiram Hospital for dengue patients.

He expressed concern over the slow pace of anti-larvae spraying in the dengue infested areas and directed the malaria department officials to ensure that fogging was carried out on a war footing.

He also directed the Kanpur Nagar Nigam officials to ensure that fogging drive was carried out in the urban areas as well.

He also said that more staff would be diverted for containing the spread of dengue.

Chief Medical Officer Dr AK Mishra said the government had launched a 'Fit Worker Health Campaign' which would continue till October 23 and would cover government hospitals and community health centres as well.

He said this campaign would carry out tests of ASHA workers, Anganwadi workers, ANM, safai karmacharis of Kanpur Nagar Nigam and all lab technicians.

He said all workers who were found fit with perfect health would be given a certificate of merit during a special felicitation function.

He said a special screening would also be carried out that would cover doctors, paramedics, pharmacists and lab technicians in the urban areas.

The CMO said those in home isolation should ensure they monitored the oxygen level by oximeter. He said in case the oxygen level fell below 95 they should rush for medical help.

He said every patient in home isolation had to keep the control room informed of the oxygen level and also the fever. He said the earlier it was reported the better.

He said the team which had been assigned the task to visit the patients in home isolation must ensure they visit them at least once a day.

The District Magistrate, City, Alok Tiwari chairs a meeting for Ghatampur by-poll on Friday. Pioneer

Ghatampur bypoll: DM asks officials to ensure peaceful polling

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

District Magistrate and District Election Officer Alok Tiwari while addressing a meeting regarding the bypoll to Ghatampur Assembly seat asked the district administration and police officials to ensure that there was peaceful polling in the constituency.

He asked the officials to take this task seriously and ensure that it was carried out peacefully and successfully.

Tiwari said all preparations for the bypoll had to be made well in advance and any laxity in this regard would not be tolerated.

He said all the incharge and joint incharges who had been assigned specific tasks should fulfil their duties transparently and with full devotion as per the directives issued by the Election Commission of India.

Tiwari said the first and the foremost task was to ensure that groundwork which they had to do for the conduct of peaceful polling in Ghatampur constituency, which fell vacant after the death of Bharatiya Janata Party MLA and state cabinet minister Kamal Rani Varun.

He said it was mandatory that all the works they were going to carry out was planned well in advance and they reported regularly about its progress.

Tiwari further said that support and guidance would be provided to the officials as and when needed to conduct the whole process transparently.

Additional District Magistrate Basant Agarwal, Atul Kumar Deputy City Magistrates and other officials of district administration and police were present in the meeting.

Cops son masterminded Sajeti loot

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

The son of a police constable was the mastermind behind a loot in Sajeti police station area on Wednesday night.

He along with accomplices had looted the salesman of a liquor shop to meet the cost of repair of his car.

During a press conference held in Ghatampur Kotwali on Friday, the accused said that the loot plan was planned by Adarsh Yadav of Khadepur, Naubasta. His father Govind Yadav is a constable posted in Jahanabad police station of Fatehpur district.

As Adarsh's car had met with an accident, Adarsh hatched a plan to loot the salesman of a liquor shop with his accomplices Aman Dubey and Chetan of Shitalpur village of Ghatampur police station area.

On Wednesday night, when the salesman, Sudhir Dixit, was returning home after closing his liquor shop at Durgagan in Sajeti, they looted Rs.31,800 from him and escaped.

Circle Officer Ravi Kumar Singh said as the involvement of over five persons had come to light, the incident was converted into a dacoity case.

The four accused — Shatrughan Singh, Gaurav Agnihotri, Saurabh Jaiswal and Aman Dubey — arrested by the police were sent to jail.

Accused Adarsh Yadav of Khadepur and Chetan of Shitalpur village were absconding and would be arrested soon, Singh claimed.

He said the accused had also confessed their involvement in many other crime incidents in the past.

.Ghatampur CO Ravi Kumar Singh addressing mediaperons on Friday. Pioneer

TRAFFIC MOVEMENT DISRUPTED AS PETROL TANKER OVERTURNS

A petrol tanker, in a bid to avert collision with a truck, overturned on Bhaunti-Ruma flyover on Friday morning.

The tanker's driver Manoj Mishra and cleaner Vipin Pandey of Naubasta were seriously injured in the mishap and admitted to LLR Hospital for treatment.

As petrol from the tanker started flowing through the drains, there was a rush to collect it in plastic jars, bottles and buckets.

The mishap caused a one-km-long jam on both the sides of the highway, disrupting the movement of traffic for several hours. According to reports, a tanker of Bharat Petroleum, after collecting 12,000 litres of petrol from Bhaunti depot, was going to Auto Fill Pump of Bara Devi. In a bid to avert collision with a truck coming from opposite direction, the tanker driver swerved the vehicle and lost control over the wheel and the tanker hit the road divider and overturned.

A tractor-trolley load of mud was sprayed around the tanker. Thereafter, with the help of cranes, efforts were made to set the tanker right. Petrol worth Rs.9 lakh was in the tanker.

125 more test +ve

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

Kanpur Nagar reported 125 more coronavirus positive cases on Friday evening.

Chief Medical Officer Dr Anil K Mishra said that 125 more people had tested positive for coronavirus infection between Thursday evening and Friday evening taking the tally of confirmed cases to 26,522 cases. He said three COVID-19 deaths in the city pushed the toll to 701 on Friday evening.

The CMO said with 27 COVID-19 patients were discharged from hospitals the cured figure in the city was 6798 and at present 2946 active cases were undergoing treatment. Dr Mishra said 5,416 samples were sent for testing in the city.

Bank wage issue reaches HC

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

The issue of wage revision of bank employees has reached the Allahabad High Court.

The High Court has directed the government counsel to file reply by October 15.

Till date the decision was always taken by IBA and the government had always accepted the recommendations.

The bank employees have protested against the move and claimed that since 2010, They contend that has been a hike of 2.5-3 per cent in their salaries, which is too less as compared to state and Central employees. Thus, to challenge the recommendations of the IBA, We Bankers has raised a demand for setting up a commission so that issues pertaining to their interest are taken up by it.

The issue will come up for hearing on October 15. We Banker will then decide the future course of action.

CMO launches campaign

KANPUR (PNS): Chief Medical Officer Dr AK Mishra, launching the Non-Communicable Diseases Campaign on Friday, said this campaign would run in the entire urban areas especially covering the government hospitals and also private nursing homes.

He said this drive would carry out the screening of doctors, paramedical and other hospital staff as well.

Dr Mishra said non-communicable diseases killed over 41 million people each year across the globe. He said the front-line warriors had to be kept safe and healthy and thus the government had launched this drive.

He said cardiovascular diseases accounted for most deaths followed by cancers, respiratory diseases and diabetes. He said these four diseases accounted for over 80 per cent of deaths.

The CMO said detection, screening and treatment as well as palliative care were the key components of the response to non-communicable diseases (NCDs).

He said NCDs affected people in low-and-middle-income countries. He said people of all age groups were affected by NCDs but it mostly affected the old age groups.

Dr Mishra said these diseases were driven by forces that included rapid, unplanned urbanisation, globalisation of unhealthy lifestyles and population ageing.

He said unhealthy diets and lack of physical activity may show up in people as raised blood pressure, increased blood glucose, elevated blood lipids and obesity which were called metabolic risk factors that could lead to cardiovascular disease.

He said a country like India could not afford the burden of NCDs, which hindered the progress of the nation. He said it was also true that poverty was closely linked with NCDs.

He said thus the important way to control the NCDs was to focus on reducing the risk factors associated with these diseases. He said investing in better management of NCDs was critical and management of NCDs included detecting, screening and treating these diseases, and providing access to palliative care for people in need.

Illicit liquor seized; one held

CORRESPONDENT ■ SONBHADRA

Police recovered a huge consignment of illicit liquor loaded on a truck near a dhaba on Robertsganj-Chopan Road under Chopan police station on Friday and arrested its driver. The liquor worth ₹21 lakh was being transported from Sonepat in Haryana to Bihar. The SP awarded cash prize of ₹25,000 to the police team which made the arrest. During a press conference at Chopan police station on Friday, SP Ashish Srivastava said that information about smuggling of liquor to Bihar due to prohibition there was being received for the past several months. On this information, he had directed the Crime Branch to arrest the criminals. A joint team of SWAT, SOG, surveillance and Chopan Police was constituted under the direction of ASP headquarters OP Singh and CO (City) Raj Kumar Tripathi. The SP said that on Friday the police team received information that a huge consignment of illicit liquor was to taken to be taken Bihar by the smugglers on truck number PB-13/BD-3665. Taking quick action the police team seized 260 boxes of liquor loaded on a truck near a dhaba on Robertsganj-Chopan Road and arrested the driver. During interrogation he said that the illicit liquor was to be taken to Bihar from Sonepat in Haryana and he got good money for taking the vehicle there. The arrested accused was identified as Manjit Singh, son of Shankar Singh, a resident of Ratoli under Ayana police station in Auraiya. Police registered a case under relevant sections of law at the Chopan police station and challaned the accused. The team which made the arrest comprised inspector incharge Chopan police station Naveen Tiwari, S-I Pradeep Singh incharge SWAT team, surveillance incharge Sarojma Singh, SSI Avadhesh Yadav, S-I Amit Tripathi SOG incharge and constables Jagdish Maurya, Jitendra Pandey, Virendra Kushwaha, Arvind Singh, Harkesh, Jitendra Yadav, Dilip Kashyap, Amit Kumar Singh, Prakash Singh, Saurabh Rai and Anoop Kumar Singh.

'Dispose of cases related to tax on priority'

CORRESPONDENT ■ MIRZAPUR

District Magistrate Sushil Kumar Patel at a meeting held in the collectorate directed the officials concerned to recover maximum government dues. The meeting was held to review law and order, recovery of taxes and non-taxable dues along with miscellaneous dues. Reviewing the points of the agenda of the meeting, including entertainment tax, stamp, bank dues, mining royalty etc he said that though the recovery got affected due to Covid and more or less the condition remained the same but after all it was the skill of the revenue personnel who went to those who deposited the tax considering it as in their larger interest. For realising the revenue the DM asked the officials concerned to dispose of cases related to tax on priority. He directed the officials concerned to achieve the target of recovery without fail and ensure that no one was harassed in the process. The officials of forest, PWD, mining, trade tax and other departments were present on the occasion.

LAND FREED: Under the drive against land mafia, the administration freed the land of Ramlila Committee which was encroached upon by an anti-social element. Reports said the land reserved for Ramlila Committee located at Padari market had been encroached upon and a construction had been done there. Taking action on the application of new chief of Ramlila Committee Ajay Ojha SHO Padari Venkatesh Tiwari wrote a letter to the authorities concerned and sought a joint team comprising police as well as revenue officials stating that the matter was related with law and order. As a result the SDM Sadar constituted the team for demolishing the construction and freeing the public land. In the presence of heavy force and anti- encroachment squad the illegal construction was razed and the freed land was handed over to the committee. The Ramlila Committee and locals have appreciated the administrative action.

Pledge administered to rly personnel

CORRESPONDENT ■ GORAKHPUR

Additional General Manager (AGM), North Eastern Railway (NER), Amit Kumar Agarwal, under the Jan Andolan Abhiyan run by the Government of India, as per the instructions of the Railway Board administered the pledge for protection from Covid-19 infection and its prevention to the officers and employees in General Manager's office premises on Thursday. They took the pledge to remain always vigilant about Covid-19 and keep in mind at all times the risk to their lives and to those of their colleagues, take all necessary precautions to stop the spread of the deadly virus, follow and encourage others to wear masks/face covers especially in public places, follow physical distancing, wash hands frequently and thoroughly with soap and water and together win the fight against Covid-19. The AGM before administering the pledge said at present the rate of corona infection is continuously falling and the recovery rate is increasing in view of which the Central Government has allowed almost all the activities by following the guidelines for protection from it. He said that if people did not take necessary precautions then corona can spread again. He stressed on protection from coronavirus by maintaining a distance of two yards from others, wearing masks properly, washing hands repeatedly and following other norms. For prevention and protection from coronavirus infection at stations in order to make passengers aware jingle audio message were being run on passenger announcement system. Such programmes for protection from and prevention of Covid-19 were conducted at all the offices of the headquarters of the NER and in the offices and stations of the three divisions and railway personnel were administered pledge. Public awareness campaign was conducted in stations, workshops and offices.

NTPC Rihand sends fly ash to Assam

CORRESPONDENT ■ SONBHADRA

NTPC Limited's leading unit, Rihand Super Thermal Power Plant (RSTPP), is a dedicated project for 100 per cent ash utility and environmental protection. The NTPC Rihand Project is always striving to find and establish new areas and disciplines to progressively increase ash utility. NTPC Rihand by sending conditioned fly ash to Dalmia Cement, Nagaon (Assam) via Indian Railway's tarpaulin-covered BOXN wagons has established it as a new source of ash utility. CGM Anant Charan Sahu flagged off the first goods train to Dalmia Cement, Nagaon (Assam) recently. NTPC Rihand project is the first thermal power plant in the state which created history by sending conditioned fly ash to a cement plant on August 10 this year through Indian Railway's tarpaulin-covered BOXN wagons. With the introduction of transportation of ash through Indian Railways it has been possible to send ash extracted from thermal power plants to remotely-located cement plants with ease and low cost which will help NTPC Rihand in achieving 100 per cent ash utilisation. It may be pointed out here that NTPC Rihand has sent four goods trains filled with ash to ACC Cement and Dalmia Cement, Bharat, so far through Indian Railways. Prominent among those present during the programme were General Manager (ADM) KN Reddy, GM (Maintenance), S Srikrishna, GM (Fuel Management), M Ramesh, GM (MTP), KC Tripathi, Vijay Kumar Atri, Dilip Kaiborta, KC Singharay, Sanjeev Kasumra, Anil Kumar Singh, Amit Dhiman, Umesh Pathak, AK Mishra, Ramesh Maligi, Raghavendra Narayan, Ashish Kumar and Hemant Masih.

Chhapra-Durg spl to run from Oct 13

CORRESPONDENT ■ GORAKHPUR

The railway administration keeping the convenience of the passengers in mind will run the 05159/05160 Chhapra-Durg-Chhapra Express special train from October 13 till further notice. All coaches of this train will be of reserved category. This train will be run daily, CPRO Pankaj Kumar Singh said. The 05159 Chhapra-Durg Express special train from October 13 will leave from Chhapra at 07:10 hrs, from Suraimanpur at 07:38 hrs, from Reoti at 07:49 hrs, from Sahatwar at 07.57 hrs, from Ballia 08:25 hrs, from Chit Baragaon at 08:48 hrs, from Karimuddinpur at 09:09 hrs, from Yusufpur at 09:25 hours, from Ghazipur City at 09:55 hours, from Aunrihar Jn at 10.57 hours, from Sarnath at 11.33 hours, from Varanasi City at 11:51 hours, from Varanasi at 12.30 hours, from Bhadohi at 13.08 hours, from Janghai at 13:42 hours, from Phulpur at 14.06 hours, from Prayag at 15.00 hours, from Prayagraj at 15:35 hours, from Naini at 16.02 hours, from Shankargarh at 16:32 hrs, from Dabhaura at 17:05 hours, from Manikpur at 17:35 hrs, from Satna at 19.00 hrs, from Maihar at 19:30 hrs, from Amdara at 19:58 hrs, from Katni at 20:50 hrs, from Birsinghpur at 22:45 hrs, from Shahdol at 23:40 hrs, from Burhar at 23:56 hours, on the second day from Amlai at 00:07 hours, from Anuppur at 00.30 hours, from Pendra Road at 01.10 hours, from Uslapur at 03:19 hours, from Bilaspur Junction at 04:10 hrs, from Bhatapara at 04:58 hrs, from Tilda Neora at 05.20 hrs, from Raipur at 06:10 hrs and from Bhilai Power House at 06:48 hrs and reach Durg at 07:30 hrs. During the return journey the 05160 Durg-Chhapra Express special train will from October 14 depart from Durg at 20:25 hrs, from Bhilai Power House on at 20.36 hrs, from Raipur at 21.15 hrs, from Tilda Neora at 21.50 hrs, from Bhatapara at 22:13 hrs, from Bilaspur at 23:30 hrs, from Uslapur at 23:48 hours, on the second day from Pendra Road at 01.26 hrs, from Anuppur at 02.15 hrs, from Amlai at 02.28 hrs, from Burhad at 02:39 hrs, from Shahdol at 03.15 hrs, from Birsinghpur at 03.52 hrs, from Katni at 06.05 hrs, from Amdara at 06.50 hrs, from Maihar at 07.10 hrs, from Satna at 07.55 hours, from Manikpur at 09.50 hours, from Dabhora at 10.11 hours, from Shankargarh at 10.46 hours, from Naini at 11:41 hours, from Prayagraj at 12.45 hours, from Prayag at 12.58 hours, from Phulpur at 13.35 hours, from Janghai at 14.10 hours, from Bhadohi at 14.40, from Varanasi at 6.30 hrs, from Varanasi City at 16.42 hrs, from Sarnath at 16.56 hrs, from Aunrihar at 17.12 hours, from Ghazipur City at 18:10 hrs, from Yusufpur at 18.27 hours, from Karimuddinpur at 18.43 hrs, from Chit Baragaon at 19.00 hrs, from Ballia at 19.25 hrs, from Sahatwar at 19.46 hrs, from Reoti at 20.08 hrs, from Suraimanpur at 20.24 hrs and reach Chhapra at 21.50 hrs. A total of 20 coaches, including two coaches of generator-cum-luggage van, three of general second class, 11 of sleeper class, two of AC third, will be attached in the train.

Experts against reopening of schools amid pandemic

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ CHENNAI/KOCHI:

With 5.24 lakh out of the 6.29 lakh Covid-19 patients in Tamil Nadu turning out to be in the age group of 13-60, medical doctors in the State have sounded caution while relaxing lockdown rules to re-open schools and colleges.

Neighbouring Kerala show unprecedented increase in the number of Covid-19 cases while the number of cases in Tamil Nadu has shown a small decline. "But the percentage of persons in the 13-60 age group in Tamil Nadu is disturbing. We have to be vigilant about this category which is vulnerable," said Dr C V Krishnaswamy, octogenarian physician who is the editor of Journal of the Science of Healing Outcomes, an internationally known peer reviewed journal.

Dr Krishnaswamy said he was disturbed about news reports coming from the Government Secretariat about reopening of schools and colleges in the State. "The policy makers and ministers should note the age group of the population most vulnerable to the pandemic. It is difficult to control students in schools and colleges. The government is best advised to conduct on-line classes in schools and colleges till the Covid-19 pandemic is completely subsided," Dr Krishnaswamy told *The Pioneer*.

He said the safety of students should be given preference over all others. "They are our future and it is our responsibility to ensure their well-being," said Dr Krishnaswamy. "Is there any system in place to ensure social distancing, washing of hands four times very hour and make sure that students do not come close?" asked the doctor.

But there are teachers like Dr M G Gireeshan, vice-principal and assistant professor at the department of electronics, Jai Bharat College, Perumbavoor, cynical about on-line classes . "How is it possible to teach science and technology students? They need laboratory and workshops for their practical classes," said Dr Gireeshan.

Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan gave hints that schools and colleges may not function at least for the next few months. "It is good to make some sacrifice like keeping the institutions locked till we cross the threshold of threat by this pandemic," said Dr Rajiv Pillai, Perumbavoor based Ayurvedic physician.

U.P. POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LTD.
OFF LINE TENDER NOTICE
Following Off line Tenders are invited from the experienced/ reputed contractors/ agencies for the execution of following works:- For more details Please contact/go through to the notice board of the Office Executive Engineer, Electricity Trans. Division Sidhari, Azamgarh. **1. Tender No. 02/ETD(A)/2020-21:-** Providing one no. light Diesel vehicle (Jeep) along with driver for a period of 10 months for the use of SDO I/III under Electricity Trans. Division Azamgarh. Earnest Money: Rs. 2000.00 (Rs. Two Thousand) only. Tender Cost: Rs. 236.00 (Rs. Two Hundred Thirty Six) only. Earnest money will be in the shape of RTGS/NEFT duly pledged in favour of Executive Engineer, Electy. Transmission Division, UPPTCL, Sidhari Azamgarh. Documents of Tender No. 02 will be purchased upto 15:00 hrs of 13.11.2020 and completed tender will be accepted upto 17.00 Hrs same day in the office of undersigned and will be opened on 14.11.2020 at 12:00 hrs. respectively. Please visit our web site www.upptcl.org /Office of the Executive Engineer Electricity Transmission Division Azamgarh for details /download and for any other corrections/ammendments /modification extension till the date of submission of tender. In case the tender opening date is holiday or undersigned remain out of headquarters the date of submission and opening of tender will stand extended to next working day. Undersigned has the right to reject/divide any tender without assigning any reason thereof. Conditional tenders shall not be accepted. **EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (TRANS.) DIVISION AZAMGARH** No. 4089 Date 08.10.2020 SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF NATION

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता विद्युत पारेषण मण्डल, गोण्डा।
ई–टेन्डरिंग निविदा सूचना
अनुभवी फर्मों/ठेकेदारों से निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु सीलबन्द निविदायें दो भागों में दिनांक 02.11.2020 को 14.00 बजे तक आमन्त्रित की जाती है। **(1) ई–निविदा संख्या 44/ई0टी0सी0(गोण्डा)/2020–21:** विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड, गोण्डा के अन्तर्गत 132 के0वी0 उपकेन्द्र इटियाथोक (गोण्डा) के परिचालन सम्बन्धी कार्य। धरोहर राशि रू0 28000.00 निविदा भाग–1 खुलने की तिथि 02.11.2020 को 15:00 बजे, निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रू0 3304.00 (कर सहित)। निविदा प्रपत्र शुल्क (नान रिफन्डेबिल) एवं ई0ए0डी0 अधिशासी अभियन्ता, विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड, गोण्डा के बैंक खाते में (बैंक का नाम – पंजाब नैशनल बैंक, खाता सं0 – 0181002100120697, आईएफएससी कोड – PUNB0018100) आर0टी0जीएस / एनईएफटी के माध्यम से निविदा की अंतिम अपलोड तिथि से एक दिन पूर्व तक जमा की जायेगी एवं जमा की गयी धनराशि अधिशासी अभियन्ता, विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड, गोण्डा के बैंक खाते में निविदा की अंतिम अपलोड तिथि से एक दिन पूर्व तक केडिट होना अनिवार्य होगा तथा बैंक में जमा किये जाने का साक्ष्य यथा योज्य यू0टी0आर0 सं0, खाते का नाम निर्गतकर्ता बैंक अधिकारी द्वारा हस्ताक्षरित एव निविदादाता द्वारा प्रतिहस्ताक्षरित पे इनस्लिप की स्कैन्डप्रति, ईएमडी के लिए बैंक गारण्टी की स्कैण्ड कापी, जारीकर्ता बैंक के कन्फरमेशनमेल की प्रति भी निविदाप्रपत्रों के साथ इलेक्ट्रानिकली साफ व पठनीय अपलोड की जायेगी, अन्यथा कि स्थिति में निविदादाता द्वारा प्रस्तुत निविदा को स्वतः निरस्त समझा जायेगा। साथ ही निविदा के भाग–1 में तकनीकी बिड (पैन कार्ड, इन्कम टैक्स रिटर्न, जी0एस0टी0 पंजीकरण की स्वयं प्रमाणित छायाप्रति एंव तकनीकी अनुभव इत्यादि), संलग्न करना अनिवार्य है। धरोहर राशि/निविदा शुल्क जमा न होने अथवा किसी प्रकार की त्रुटि होनें पर निविदा का भाग–2 जिसमें दरें दी जानी है, नहीं खोली जायेगी। भाग–2 में दरें एवं वाणिज्यक नियम व शर्ते होनी चाहिये। तथा हार्ड कापी कार्यालय में जमा करने की आवश्यकता नहीं होगी। किसी भी स्थिति में निविदा के त्मजमदकमत होने पर निविदा की निविदा शुल्क(नान रिफन्डेबिल) एवं धरोहर धनराशि पुनः जमा की जानी अनिवार्य होगी, अन्यथा कि स्थिति में निविदादाता द्वारा प्रस्तुत निविदा को स्वतः निरस्त समझा जायेगा। निविदा का भाग प्रथम एंव द्वितीय :– (प्राइजबिड दरें एंवशर्ते) दिनांक 02.11.2020 को 14.00 बजे तक www.etender.up.nic.in पर अपलोड की जा सकती हैं। निविदा का प्रथम भाग दिनांक 02.11.2020 को 15.00 बजे एवं भाग–2 (प्राइज पार्ट) निविदा शुल्क एवं धरो. हर धनराशि प्राप्ति की पुष्टि होने के पश्चात सार्वजनिक रूप से खोली जायेगी। निविदा खुलने की तिथि पर अवकाश होने की स्थिति में निविदा अगले कार्य दिवस पर निर्धारित समय पर खोली जायेगी। निविदाओं को बिना कोई कारण बताये निविदा/निविदाओं को अस्वीकार / विभाजित करने का अधिकार अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता के पास सुरक्षित रहेगा। धरोहर / निविदा राशि रहित व सशर्त निविदायें स्वीकार नही की जायेगी। कृपया विस्तृत जानकारी, डाउनलोड, अन्य संशोधनों एंव निविदा प्रस्तुत करने के दिनांक तक विस्तार आदि के सम्बन्ध में कृपया www.etender.up.nic.in की वेबसाईट पर लॉगआन करें। **अधीक्षण अभियन्ता**, विद्युत पारेषण मण्डल 220 के0वी0 उपकेन्द्र परिसर जेल रोड, गोण्डा। संख्याः 1806/वि0पा0म0/गोण्डा/ई–टेण्डर नं0–44/2020–21, दिनांक 09.10.2020 **"राष्ट्र हित में बिजली बचायें"**

Office of the Project Manager (IVth), Construction Unit (E/M), U. P. Jal Nigam, 3rd Floor, Field Hostel, 2nd Lal Bahadur Shastri Marg, Lucknow
Letter No. 1945/M-18/75
Dated : 29.09.2020
CORRIGENDUM NOTICE
In reference to Tender Notice No. 1729/M-18/67 dated 14.09.2020 invited by the undersigned on behalf of U.P. Jal Nigam, the dates of sale for Replacement/Repairing of damaged Solar based Pumping Plant & its accessories complete in all respect for various Water Supply Schemes in District Unnao under Jal Jeevan Mission Programme at documents sale/submission are hereby amended as following :-
1. Last Date of Sale of Tender Document - 12.10.2020 upto 05:00 P.M.
2. Last Date of Submission of Tender - 13.10.2020 upto 03:00 P.M.
3. Date of Opening of Tender - 14.10.2020 upto 03:30 P.M.
Other details, terms & conditions will remain same as per original tender notice. The details may be obtained from website of www.jn.upsdc.gov.in or concerning office.

कार्यालय अधिशासी अभियन्ता, उ0प्र0 पावर ट्रान्समिशन कारपोरेशन लि0 पारेषण भवन, कक्ष सँख्या 212, एस0एल0डी0सी0 परिसर, निकट मंत्री आवास विभूति खण्ड–2, गोमती नगर, लखनऊ।
ई–टेन्डरिंग निविदा सूचना अनुभवी फर्मों/ठेकेदारों/अधिकृत विक्रेताओं/निर्माताओं से निम्नलिखित कार्य के सम्पादन हेतु सीलबन्द ई–निविदायें दो भागों में ई–टेण्डरिंग वेबसाइट www.etender.up.nic.in पर आमन्त्रित की जाती है। **अल्पकालीन ई–निविदा संख्या–11–विपाखद्वि(ल)/2020–21** वि0पा0खण्ड–।। लखनऊ के अधीन 220 केवी सी0जी0 सिटी–पीजीसीआईएल(रायबरेली)/सरोजनी नगर–गोमती नगर सर्किट डी0सी0 लाइन के टावर लोकेशन संख्या 48 से 72 तक सर्वे एवं प्रोफाईल का कार्य – धरोहर राशि रु0 1500.00, ई–निविदा, भाग – 1 खुलने की तिथि 22.10.2020, समय 13.00 बजे, ई–निविदा भाग–2 (प्राइज पार्ट) खुलने की तिथि हेतु तदोनुसार बेवसाइट पर सूचित किया जायेगा। ई–निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु0 236.00 (18 प्रतिशत जी0एस0टी0 सहित)। ई–निविदा का भाग प्रथम व द्वितीय–प्राइज बिड (दरें एंव शर्ते) www.etender.up.nic.in पर भरी जायेगी। भाग–1 में धरोहर धनराशि व निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य जोकि अधिशासी अभियन्ता, विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड–द्वितीय, लखनऊ के खाता संख्या – 0758002100009361, IFSC code - PUNB0691100 पंजाब नेशनल बैंक, शाखा विजयन्त खण्ड, लखनऊ में RTGS/NEFT के माध्यम से स्थानान्तरण कर यू0टी0आर0 सँख्या तथा पे–स्लिप की प्रति www.etender.up.nic.in web site पर निविदा प्रपत्रों के साथ स्व प्रमाणित पैन एवम जी0एस0टी0 में पंजीकरण प्रमाण–पत्र, कार्य अनुभव प्रमाण–पत्र व अर्हकारी शर्ते एवम अन्य सम्बन्धी प्रपत्र तथा निविदा के द्वितीय भाग में मूल्य/दरें www.etender.up.nic.in पर दिनॉक 21.10.2020, सायं 04.00 बजे तक ही Up-Load की जानी है। ई–निविदा के प्रथम भाग के प्रपत्र निर्धारित तिथि पर 12.00 बजे अथवा उसके उपरान्त ही Down-Load किये जायेगें। निविदाओं के प्रथम भाग के मूल्यांकन के उपरान्त उपयुक्त पायी गयी निविदाओं के ही द्वितीय भाग Down-Load / खोला जायेगा। निविदा सम्बन्धी समस्त जानकारी, नियम व अर्हकारी शर्ते निविदा प्रपत्र में अंकित है जो www.etender.up.nic.in द्वारा Down - Load या अवलोकित की जा सकती है। ई–निविदा खुलने की तिथि पर अवकाश होने की स्थिति में ई–निविदा अगले कार्य दिवस पर निर्धारित समय तक स्वीकार की जायेगी एंव निर्धारित समय पर खोली जायेगी ई–निविदाओं को बिना कोई कारण बताये ई–निविदा/ई–निविदाओं को अस्वीकार / विभाजित करने का अधिकार अधोहस्ताक्षर–कर्ता के पास सुरक्षित रहेगा। **अधिशासी अभियन्ता विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड – द्वितीय** पत्रांक–1850, दिनांक–09.10.2020, **"राष्ट्रहित में बिजली बचायें"**

India, US likely to hold 2+2 talks in Oct

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

India and the US are likely to hold the third 2+2 Minister level talks here in late October. US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Defence Secretary Mark Esper will discuss the entire range of strategic issues including the current stand-off at the Line of Actual Control(LAC) in Eastern Ladakh with their Indian counterparts S Jaishankar and Rajnath Singh.

The in-person meeting, likely to take place on October 26-27, comes at a time when the entire world is battling the coronavirus pandemic and India engaged in an eyeball to eyeball confrontation with China for the past five months at the LAC.

The first two rounds were held in New Delhi and Washington in 2018 and 2019 respectively. This ministerial level engagement was approved during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's dialogue with President Donald Trump in 2018.

The two sides will discuss the bilateral defence and strategic ties besides the current situation on the LAC, terrorism and evolving scenario in Afghanistan after the peace deal with the Taliban during the forthcoming parleys, sources said here on Friday.

Pompeo and Esper are expected to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi and National Security Adviser(NSA) Ajit Doval on the sidelines of the ministerial dialogue. Both sides are also likely to sign the Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement (BECA) for geospatial cooperation after they agreed to expedite the work of the deal earlier this year.

The signing of BECA could be a significant landmark in US-India strategic cooperation as it allows India to use global geospatial maps of the US for accuracy of stand-off weapons like cruise and ballistic missiles.

The foundational agreements like General Security of Military Information Agreement, Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement, and Communications Compatibility and Security Agreement have already been activated, with both using each other's designated military facilities for refuelling and replenishment.

Incidentally, Jaishankar and Pompeo held bilateral talks on the sideline of Quad meeting in Tokyo earlier this week on Tuesday. During the conclave attended by India, US, Australia and Japan foreign ministers, Pompeo openly criticized China for coronavirus pandemic.

He said the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) had made the crisis "infinitely worse" as a result of its "cover-up" and accused the "authoritarian" regime of locking up those who raised the alarm.

With the armies of India and China locked in a stand-off at the LAC, Jaishankar had said in his address at the Quad, New Delhi is committed to peaceful resolution of disputes, rules based world order and respect for territorial integrity.

Making these opening remarks at the meeting, 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.

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. Addressing the conclave, 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."

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

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."

During their bilateral meeting the Quad, India and US reaffirmed their commitment to work together for peace and stability in the India-Pacific region.

On his parleys with Pompeo, Jaishankar said "Pleased to see the progress of our partnership in so many fields. Will work together for stability and prosperity in the Indo- Pacific." It was learnt that Jaishankar and Pompeo also deliberated on overall ties including evolving security scenario around India.

The US Secretary of State said he had productive meeting with Jaishankar adding together "we are advancing US-India relations, combating COVID-19 and ensuring a secure and prosperous Indo-Pacific for all."

Senior BJP leaders booked for Nabanna rally violence in Bengal

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

Thursday's ado over a saffron march to Bengal State secretariat Nabanna culminated into an alleged "counter-offensive" by the Trinamool Congress Government which on Friday slapped a volley of criminal charges against senior BJP leaders holding them guilty of violating National Disaster Management Act, destroying public property and organizing unlawful assembly.

The BJP promptly hit back accusing Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee of muzzling opposition voice and converting Bengal into a police state.

FIRs were filed against senior BJP national secretary Kailash Vijaybargiya, national vice president Mukul Roy, MPs Locket Chatterjee, Arjun Singh and Rakesh Singh under the NDMA while other leaders like State BJP vice president JP Majumdar, IPS officer-turned saffron leader Bharati Ghosh and others were charged with causing unlawful assembly.

The police action was summarily challenged by the BJP leadership which not only brought out a silent march on Friday but also played to the Sikh gallery condemning "disturbing" pictures doing the rounds in the social media --- showing how a police constable was pulling at the turban of Balwinder Singh a protester and an accused who was arrested on Thursday with a gun.

"It only shows how insensitive a State Government and its police can become when they do not even think twice before hurting someone's religious sentiments… the Sikh gentleman --- a body guard of a party leader --- who was illegally arrested with a gun which had a license repeatedly requested not to touch his turban or hair which are sacred for the Sikh community by the policemen would not listen to it… would Mamata Banerjee's police do the same thing to some other people of a specific minority community (read Muslims)," said BJP leader Sayantan Basu.

The police sources subsequently said that Balwinder Singh who carrying the gun had a license issued in Jammu and was not valid in Bengal.

On Thursday about 25,000 agitators marched at the Nabanna from four directions to protest against "corruption, deterioration of law and order, syndicate raj, police-goon nexus and alleged irregularities in recruitment examinations.

Things turned violent even as the protesters who were blockaded atvarious points allegedly resorted to throwing brickbats and hurling bombs. The BJP however said the bombs and bricks were pelted from roof tops by the TMC goons. The police subsequently resorted to lathi-charge and fired tear gas shells to disperse the crowd.

Even as the police brought criminal charges against the BJP leaders Roy promptly reacted saying "the illegal slapping of the charges only proves how this Government is heavily dependent on the police … historically speaking a State which becomes a police state and a government which has to rely for its survival on the police has a limited life."

Time had come for the Mamata Banerjee Government to go from power he added saying "the party's legal cell would look into the legal implications of the charges that has been slapped on us illegally."

State party president Dilip Ghosh said "the FIRs that have been filed are illegal and would be quashed any way because a political party has every right to organize protest movements in a democracy," asking "what kind of democracy is there in Bengal where a rally by the Chief Minister is not stopped but a similar rally by the opposition is not only brutally tackled but also their leaders framed illegally."

Narrow escape for BJP vice-prez as truck rams his car twice

KOCHI: There was an attempt on the life of A P Abdullakutty, national vice -president of the BJP late Thursday evening at Malappuram. A heavy duty truck crashed twice against the car in which Abdullakutty was travelling.

Though he escaped unhurt, the incident has brought back memories of violent clashes involving the Sangh Parivar activists and Marxists in Northern Kerala which had claimed the lives of hundreds of workers over the last two decades.

According to Abdullakutty, he was travelling from Thiruvananthapuram to Kannur by road when the incident occurred. He had stopped in front of wayside eatery to have his dinner when a group of people approached him and had verbal altercations over his joining the BJP. K Surendran, BJP's Kerala president demanded a thorough probe into the incident.

Though the BJP leader came out of the hotel without speaking to the group and drove away, a Taurus truck was seen following him and crashed against his car twice causing many dents on the rear. When he stopped the car and got down, the truck sped away.

The incident happens within days of Abdullakutty releasing the book Deseeya Muslim (Nationalist Muslim), a collection of essays listing the story of his life and how he ended up with the Sangh Parivar. Abdullakutty has recounted an incident that took place in the CPI(M) head quarters in Kerala in 2009 when Pinarayi Vijayan was the party general secretary.

P Satheedevi, MP, told Vijayan that the CPI(M) members were shocked when the BJP members of parliament had come to the House with flex boards featuring the pictures of the dead bodies of RSS and BJP workers in Kerala who were murdered in gruesome manner by the Marxists. "We were left speechless by these pictures. Something should be done to stop this," Satheedevi requested Vijayan.

The party secretary thought for a while and replied; "We will ask our boys to follow the Bengal style. There, they just kidnap the enemies, put them in jute bags filled with salt and bury them in deep pits. There wont be any traces," Vijayan had replied. ***PNS***

पुलिस तकनीकी सेवाएं मुख्यालय उत्तर प्रदेश, लखनऊ
8वॉ तल, टावर 4–, पुलिस मुख्यालय, अमर शहीद पथ, गोमतीनगर विस्तार, लखनऊ–226002
Lett. No.:TS-72/2020 **E-Tender Notice** Dated- 06, October ,2020
Online E-bids of the following instrument for Forensic Science Laboratory, U.P are invited from eligible and registered Firms/Manufacturers/Authorized dealers by Deputy Inspector General of Police, EOW, UP Police Lucknow:

S. No.	Tender No.	Name of the Instrument	Qty.	EMD (in Rs.)	Tender Cost with 18 % GST (in Rs.)	Period of Work
1	TS-72/2020	Melting Point Apparatus	04	20,500.00	3,600.00	According to Conditions

Bid documents are available on the website http://etender.up.nic.in, http://eprocure.gov.in and http://uppolice.gov.in in from 19-10-2020 to 20-11-2020. E-Bids can be uploaded up to 20-11-2020 at 12.00 noon. Technical bids will be opened on 20-11-2020 at 14.00 Hrs.
All informations regarding E-Tender are available on website http://etender.up.nic.in, http://eprocure.gov.in and http://uppolice.gov.in.
UP 155822 Date 9.10.2020
विज्ञापन वेबसाइट www.upgov.nic.in पर उपलब्ध है।
(Heera Lal)
Deputy Inspector General of Police,
EOW, UP, Lucknow
(Chairman-Purchase Committee)

K'taka CM appeals to parents not to heed to speculation about reopening of schools

Bengaluru: Karnataka Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa on Friday appealed to the people not to pay heed to the speculation about reopening of schools amid the coronavirus scare.

In a statement, Yediyurappa said there has been debate in favour of and against the reopening of schools and he has also seen the debate on the topic in the media about it. Besides, political leaders too have expressed their views, he added.

Before opening the schools, meetings will be held regarding the pros and cons with the political leaders, experts and senior officials to arrive at a decision, the Chief Minister said.

"Till then, I appeal to the parents not to heed to the speculations regarding the opening of schools and I appeal to the media to spread awareness about it," Yediyurappa said in the statement. Earlier, Karnataka Primary and Secondary Education Minister S Suresh Kumar too had reiterated that there was no hurry to start the schools.

"Neither our government nor the Department of Education is rushing to open schools under any circumstances. The health and safety of our children is very important to us," Kumar said in a Facebook post.

His comment came against the backdrop of two former chief ministers Siddaramaiah and H D Kumaraswamy asking the government not go open the schools in view of coronavirus cases.

Speaking to reporters here, Kumaraswamy said the government should not be adamant on the issue or budge to pressure from some people who want to make money, and play with the lives of the children and parents.

Ex-student shot dead on AMU's sport ground

Aligarh: An alumnus was shot dead on Thursday evening in a playground at Aligarh Muslim University in the Civil Line Police Station area. Shortly after this news, the police and the proctorial team of AMU reached on the spot and on the basis of suspicion took the two friends present on the spot into custody. Till night, the police did not receive any complaint and was engaged in interrogating the friends.

Shanu Abbas, the 22-year-old son of Chand Babu, a resident of Zakir Nagar street number 2 of Kwarsi, was the student of 11th standard of AMU, but he had left the school in the middle ***PNS***

कार्यालय अधिशासी अभियन्ता,ग्रामीण अभियंत्रण विभाग, प्रखण्ड–हरदोई।
निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना
(ई–प्रोक्यूरमेंट प्रेस सूचना)
पत्रांक 1149 /ग्रा0अ0वि0/ई–निविदा/2020–21 / दिनांक 05.10.2020
1– महामहिम राज्यपाल, महोदय उत्तर प्रदेश की ओर से अधिशासी अभियंता,ग्रामीण अभियंत्रण विभाग,प्रखण्ड–हरदोई द्वारा उत्तर प्रदेश, ग्रामीण अभियंत्रण विभाग में पात्र पंजीकृत श्रेणी–"ए","बी","सी" एवं"डी" सीमा के अनुरूप श्रेणी के निविदादाताओं से ई–टेण्डरिंग के माध्यम से नीचे दर्शाये गये कार्यो हेतु प्रतिशत दरों पर निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदादाता किसी कार्य अथवा सभी कार्यो के लिए निविदा डाल सकता है।
2– कार्यो से संबंधित विवरण निम्नवत् है:–

क्र0 स0	जनपद	कार्य का नाम	अनुमानित लागत (रु0 लाख में)	धरोहर धनराशि (रु0 लाख में)	निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य (रू0 में)	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि (वर्षा ऋतु सहित)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
विधायक निधि योजना						
1	हरदोई	ग्राम मितमितपुर में होलिका दहन स्थान से रामकुमार के मकान तक इण्टरलाकिंग व नाली निर्माण कार्य।	23.62	1.20	300+500+144 (944.00)	03 माह

3– वेवसाईट पर बिड डाक्यूमेन्ट उपलब्धता की तिथि– दिनांक 15.10.2020 से 19.10.2020
4– ई–निविदा के माध्यम से निविदा प्राप्ति के लिए अन्तिम तिथि/समय– दिनांक 20.10.2020 को दोपहर 12.00 बजे तक।
5– ई–निविदा के माध्यम से निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय– दिनांक 20.10.2020 को दोपहर 12.30 बजे तक।
6– निविदा आमंत्रणकर्ता को आई0टी0बी0 के क्लाज–9 के अनुसार परिशिष्ट/शुद्धि पत्र जारी करने का अधिकार है, जो किसी भी समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित नहीं किया जायेगा। सभी संभावित निविदादाताओं को सलाह दी जाती है कि नियमित रूप से ई–निविदा पोर्टल पर निगरानी रखें। अधिक जानकारी के लिए कृपया वेवसाईट https://etender.up.nic.in पर लाग आन करें, और विड डाक्यूमेन्ट को डाउनलोड करें।
उ0प्र0 155801 दिनांक 8.10.2020 विज्ञापन वेबसाइट www.upgov.nic.in पर उपलब्ध है।
(इं0 एस0के0 गुप्ता) अधिशासी अभियन्ता
ग्रामीण अभियन्त्रण विभाग, प्रखण्ड–हरदोई।

Maha ATS arrests HAL employee for leaking sensitive information to ISI

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

In a significant development, the Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) of the Maharashtra Police arrested an employee of Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) at Ozar near Nashik for allegedly passing on "secret" information about Indian Air Force's (IAF) fighter aircrafts to the Pakistani spy agency Inter Services Intelligence (ISI).

Identifying the arrested HAL official as one Deepak Shirsat (41), the ATS officials said here on Friday that Shirsat worked at the HAL's Ozar facility that houses the Aircraft Manufacturing Division of the state-owned aerospace and defence company.

Shirsat was on Friday produced before a competent court which has remanded in police custody for 10 days.

Acting on a reliable piece of intelligence, the the Nashik Police, ATS, and Military Intelligence had put the suspected HAL employee close watch for the past several days. He was finally taken into custody by the ATS three days ago. Shirsat has been booked for an offence under sections 3, 4 and 5 of the Official Secrets Act, 1923. "Three mobile handsets with five SIM cards and two memory cards have been seized from the accused and the same are being sent to the Forensic Science Laboratory for examination," a senior ATS official said.

As per his social media profile, Shirsat is a married man hailing from Jalgaon in north Maharashtra. An alumnus of Government Polytechnic Pune, and Gangapur Madhyamik Vidyalaya, he was working with HAL as a QC Inspector.

Informed ATS sources said that the sustained interrogation of the arrested accused had revealed that he was "in constant touch" of the ISI and "was supplying the secret information about Indian fighter aircrafts and their sensitive details, along with the information related to Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. (HAL), the aircraft manufacturing Unit at Ozar, Nashik, the airbase and the prohibited areas inside the manufacturing Unit to the ISI".

कार्यालय मुख्य चिकित्सा अधिकारी, सोनभद्र
पत्रांक–मु0चि0अ0/मा0स्वा0/रिव्यू बोर्ड/2020–21/551 **प्रेस विज्ञप्ति** दिनांक–08.10.2020
अधिसूचना
मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी, राज्य मानसिक स्वास्थ्य प्राधिकरण, उ0प्र0 लखनऊ के पत्र संख्या–रा0मा0स्वा0प्राधि0/2019–20/664 लखनऊ दिनांक 03.03.2020 अध्यक्ष, राज्य मानसिक स्वास्थ्य प्राधिकरण उ0प्र0 व प्रमुख सचिव, चिकित्सा स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण, उ0प्र0 शासन के पत्र संख्या–रा0मा0स्वा0प्राधि0/2019.20/658 लखनऊ दिनांक 26.02.2020 तथा प्रेसिडेन्ट मेण्टल हेल्थ अथॉरिटी, यू.पी. के पत्र संख्या–626ई–ई 2020 दिनांक 07.02.2020 के क्रम में माननीय जिला न्यायाधीश महोदय के अध्यक्षता में जिला मानसिक स्वास्थ्य पुर्नविलोकन बोर्ड, सोनभद्र (मेण्टल हेल्थ रिव्यु बोड) का गठन निम्नानुसार किया गया है :–

क्र.सं.	समिति के सदस्यों का विवरण	समिति में पदनाम
1	माननीय जिला न्यायाधीश महोदय, सोनभद्र।	अध्यक्ष
2	जिला प्रोबेशन अधिकारी, सोनभद्र (जिलाधिकारी, सोनभद्र द्वारा नामित प्रतिनिधि)	सदस्य
3	मुख्य चिकित्साधिकारी, सोनभद्र।	संयोजक सदस्य
4	डा0 एस0 एस0 पाण्डेय, फिजिशियन/चिकित्साधिकारी, जिला संयुक्त चिकित्सालय, सोनभद्र।	सदस्य
5	डा0 राजकुमार, मनोचिकित्सक, शिवांक न्यूरो क्लीनिक, नई बाजार, सोनभद्र।	सदस्य
6	श्री पवन सिंह, (एन0जी0ओ0 द्वारा), बाल गृह शिशु, राबर्ट्सगंज, सोनभद्र।	सदस्य
7	पदेन, प्रबधंक/अधीक्षक, वृद्ध जन आश्रम, सलखन, राबर्टसगंज, सोनभद्र।	सदस्य
8	पदेन, निदेशक/प्रबधंक, बाल गृह, बालक/बालिका, राबर्ट्सगंज, सोनभद्र।	सदस्य

- मानसिक रूग्णता से ग्रस्त कोई व्यक्ति या उसका नाम निर्देशित प्रतिनिधि या पंजीकृत गैर–सरकारी संगठन का प्रतिनिधि, ऐसे व्यक्ति की सम्मति से जो किसी मानसिक स्वास्थ्य संगठन के विनिश्चय द्वारा व्यथित है या मानसिक रूप से ग्रसित है तथा जिसके अधिकारों का उलंघन हुआ है, प्रतितोष या समुचित अनुतोष मांगने के लिए बोर्ड को आवेदन कर सकेगा।
- ऐसा कोई आवेदन करने के लिए कोई फीस या प्रभार उद्ग्रहीत नहीं किया जायेगा।
- प्रत्येक आवेदन में आवेदक का नाम, उसका सम्पर्क ब्यौरा, उसके अधिकारों के उल्लंघन के ब्यौरे, मानसिक स्वास्थ्य स्थापना या कोई अन्य स्थान जहाँ ऐसा उल्लंघन हुआ था और बोर्ड से ईप्सित प्रतितोष, अंतर्विष्ट होंगे।
- अपवादित परिस्थितियों में बोर्ड मानसिक स्वास्थ्य स्थापना में भर्ती किसी व्यक्ति से मौखिक रूप में या टेलीफोन द्वारा भी आवेदन स्वीकार कर सकेगा।

मुख्य चिकित्साधिकारी
सोनभद्र

Amusement parks to reopen with SOPs

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

While swimming pools are to remain shut, water-themed amusement parks and water rides have been allowed to reopen provided they have all health-related safety measures in place such as mandatory disinfections before commencing the ride, adequate and regular water filtration and chlorination.

As per the standard operating procedures (SOPs) issued by the Union Health Ministry, amusement parks and similar places in containment zones have been prohibited to operate. Only those outside containment zones will be allowed to reopen.

As per the SoPs, the frequently-touched surfaces of equipment must be disinfected before commencing the ride, along with ensuring physical distancing in rides while prior to resumption of activities, all work areas, public utility areas and open spaces, including rides, museums, gardens, food courts, gift shops, theatres, etc. will have to be sanitised with 1% sodium hypochlorite solution. Thereafter, this needs to be done on a regular basis, as per the guidelines.

The ministry guidelines advise the use of CCTV in large numbers to monitor crowding at any rides or food court etc. as entry of visitors inside the park will have to be limited to ensure proper physical distancing.

Only asymptomatic persons (managerial staff, employees, visitors) will be allowed in the premises; and management staff, employees and visitors living in containment zones shall not be allowed entry in amusement park and other similar places.

Employees who are at higher risk, such as, older employees, pregnant employees and employees who have underlying medical conditions must take extra precautions. They should preferably not be exposed to any front-line work requiring direct contact with the public, according to the guidelines.

Persons above 65 years of age, those with comorbidities, pregnant women and children below the age of 10 years are advised to stay at home.

Two months ago, the Indian Association of Amusement Parks and Industries (IAAPI) had urged the Government to allow reopening of the amusement parks citing huge revenue losses due to closures of the parks.

"The amusement and water parks are running into huge losses since their closure on March 15 due to the lockdown," IAAPI president Ajay Sarin had said. There are nearly 150 such parks in the country, including the famous Ramoji Film City, which give direct employment to around 80,000 people and indirectly provide livelihood to nearly three lakh, he had said.

Younger patients prone to adverse clinical outcomes: Study

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

While old people are widely believed to be at a greater risk due to Covid-19 pandemic, new study published in the journal JAMMA Internal Medicine shows younger patients too are vulnerable to the adverse clinical outcomes.

Following analysis of records from 419 hospitals which included studying the clinical trajectories of 3,222 hospitalised Covid-19 patients aged 18-34, researchers found that over one-fifth of the patients (21 per cent) required intensive care, 10 per cent required mechanical ventilation and 2.7 per cent died.

"There was a significant rate of adverse outcomes," said study author Jonathan Cunningham from Brigham and Women's Hospital in the US.

"Even though a 2.7 per cent death rate is lower than for older patients, it's high for young people who typically do well even when for other conditions," Cunningham added.

Individuals with cardiovascular risk factors were also over-represented among the young people hospitalised — 36.8 per cent and 24.5 per cent of patients had obesity and morbid obesity, respectively; 18.2 per cent of patients had diabetes and 16.1 per cent had hypertension.

The researchers found that patients who presented these comorbidities were also more likely to experience adverse outcomes.

Patients with morbid obesity, for example, comprised 41 per cent of the hospitalised young adults who died or required mechanical ventilation, said the study.

NHAI achieved road building rate of 21.60 km per day despite corona pandemic: Centre

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre on Friday said despite the challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic, 3,951 km of highways were constructed in the first six months of the current fiscal year. The Nitin Gakdari-led Ministry of Road Transport and Highways said it achieved a road building rate of 21.60 km per day despite the prevailing situation.

"The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has successfully completed construction of road length of 3,951 km during the first six months of this fiscal year (April-September). It has achieved a construction pace of 21.60 km per day despite COVID-19 difficulties," the ministry said in a statement. It has set an ambitious target of constructing 11,000 km road

during this fiscal year.

The Central road-making agency, National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), also said it awarded projects for building 1,330 km of highways in April-September, up 60 per cent from the year-ago period despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. The projects awarded by NHAI were valued at ₹47,289 crore.

"NHAI has awarded projects for a total cumulative length of 1,330 km in the current financial year. The projects awarded so far in first half of the current financial year are 1.6 times higher of 828 km awarded in FY19-20 and 3.5 times higher of 373 km awarded in FY 18-19 during the same period," NHAI said in a statement.

It said the feat was achieved despite challenges posed by the pandemic and for the awarded projects, it has already completed at least 80-90 percent of the land acquisition, utilities shifting besides obtaining required forest and environment clearances.

During first half of the ongoing fiscal year, NHAI awarded a total of 40 projects covering 1,330 km length, it said adding that the capital cost of these 40 projects is ₹47,289 crore, which includes cost of civil work, land acquisition, and other pre- construction activities. NHAI has set a target of awarding 4,500 km of projects during 2020-21 and is likely to exceed the target, it said.

DST, IBM collaborate to scale up initiatives for nurturing girl students interest in STEM areas

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

To nurture interest of girl students in Science Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), the Department of Science Technology and IBM India have announced collaborations to scale up 'Vigyan Jyoti' and 'Engage with Science' initiatives, a statement said on Friday.

The Vigyan Jyoti programme was launched by the DST in 2019 to inspire girl students to pursue higher education and career in STEM fields. It provides a scholarship, visit to nearby scientific institutions, science camps, lecturers from women scientists and career counselling.

It is implemented by Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya in 58 districts, with the participation of about 2,900 students.

"The partnership with IBM India will strengthen the current activities and will be expanded to include more schools in the future. Women tech experts working at IBM India will interact inspire girl students to plan for a career in STEM under the programme. This will strengthen the DST's initiative to increase the number of women in technology fields," the statement said.

The IBM will work with Vigyan Prasar, a body under the DST, to help popularise science through several strategic initiatives, including 'Engage With Science'.

This is an interactive platform that will be built on top of the India Science Over-The-Top platform to encourage and inspire high school students to pursue science & technology for a career.

As part of the collaboration, IBM will run the day-to-day activities of the programme, including student workshops, seminars, and leverage its expertise to mentor the students.

The platform will make students interact, participate and get involved with the sampling and active consumption of S&T content, including Cloud, Big Data, etc. Through the usage of gamification tools and Artificial Intelligence /Machine Learning components.

BJP raps Rahul for mocking Modi's 'oxygen from wind turbine' claim

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

With former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi on Friday taking a jibe at Prime Minister Narendra Modi over his suggestion that wind turbines can be used to generate clean drinking water, oxygen and energy, the BJP reacted sharply asking him to read scientific papers.

"The real danger to India isn't that our PM doesn't understand. It's the fact that nobody around him has the guts to tell him," he said on Twitter, as he posted a video of the Prime Minister's interaction with a CEO of a wind energy company.

The Prime Minister is heard suggesting the CEO make use of wind turbines to produce not just energy but also oxygen and clean drinking water from thin air.

Hitting back at Rahul, Union Minister Piyush Goyal said, "Nobody around Rahul Gandhi has the guts to tell him that he doesn't understand. He mocks PM Narendra Modi's ideas when the CEO of the world's leading company endorses them."

He also tagged a news report with his tweet that says wind turbines create water from thin air. BJP spokesperson Sambit Patra also attacked him in a tweet, saying, "Rahul ji tomorrow morning please get up at night and read the two scientific papers that I have attached herewith. Though I'm sure you won't understand the complexity of the subject..."

He also attached news reports that said wind turbines create water from thin air and another saying wind turbine makes 1,000 litres of clean water a day in the desert. BJP's head of social media department Amit Malviya also attacked the Congress leader.

"There is no cure for ignorance and entitlement. Entitled brat Rahul thinks everyone around the world is as clueless as he is... He mocks PM's ideas when CEO of world's leading wind energy company terms them inspirational! Watch the last bit of the video he himself has posted...," he tweeted.

Govt OK's export of Bangalore rose, Krishnapuram onions

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Almost a month after putting a blanket ban on onion exports, the Centre on Friday made amendment in its export policy for Bangalore Rose and Krishnapuram onions in order to allow export of up to 10,000 tonnes up to March 31, 2021. This is despite onion prices still reeling at ₹60-70 per kg in the retail markets across India. The Government has, however, not allowed exports of Nashik variety of onions.

The Government had banned the export of all varieties of onions to increase availability and to check the price of the commodity in the domestic market on September 14.

According to the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT)'s notification, the onion exports will be allowed only through Chennai port till 31 March, 2021 and the exporters have to get a certificate from their respective horticulture departments of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh certifying the item and quantity.

Karnataka farmers had urged the Centre to allow shipment of 10,000 tonnes of Bangalore Rose variety of onions as there is no demand in the domestic market. This variety has demand in Southeast Asian countries such as Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Taiwan. And, generally, Krishnapuram onions are not used for consumption in India due to their size and pungency. The onions are imported by Thailand, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Sri Lanka and Singapore.

India exported fresh onions worth $328 million and dried onions worth $112.3 million in FY20. Exports of onions shot up 158% to Bangladesh in the April-July period.

SC refuses to cancel CLAT 2020 or stay counselling process

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court Friday refused to either cancel the Common Law Admission Test (CLAT)-2020 or stay the counselling process and asked five candidates, who were seeking quashing of the exam alleging technical glitches, to give their grievances within two days to the redressal committee.

CLAT is a centralised national level entrance test for admissions to 23 National Law Universities (NLUs) in India and the test was held on September 28.

A bench comprising Justices Ashok Bhushan and M R Shah was informed by senior lawyer P S Narasimha, appearing for consortium of NLUs, that there is a grievance redressal committee headed by a former Chief Justice of India which can consider the issues of the petitioners.

"We are of the view that the petitioners shall submit the grievances within two days from today and the grievance redressal committee will take a decision on the complaints," the bench said in its order.

"We cannot stop the counselling," the bench told senior advocate Gopal Sankaranarayanan, appearing for the petitioners.

I&B Ministry directs pvt channels to adhere to programme code

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

A day after the TRP scam and sparring between the TV channels, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting on Friday directed all private channels to strictly adhere to the Programme Code asking that no programme should criticise, malign or slander any individual and certain groups. In its advisory, Ministry citied Delhi High Court Judgment's Order on actress Rakul Preet Singh desisting TV channels to air reports maligning her in connection with the drugs probe related to Sushant Sign Rajput death case.

"Attention is drawn to the provisions of the Programme Code as per which no programme should contain anything obscene, defamatory, deliberate, false and suggestive innuendos and half-truths. As per the Code, no programme should criticise, malign or slander any individual in person or certain groups, segments of social, public and moral life of the country," said the advisory also directing the TV channels to adhere to the provisions of Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act 1995 and Advertsign Codes.

The advisory quoted the Delhi High Court's September 17 Order in the actress' petition against media organisations on reports against her in connection with the drugs case. She approached HC requesting media to stop reporting about her and linking her name to the Rhea Chakraborty drug case. "Itis hoped that the media houses and televisions channels would show restraint in the reporting and abide by the provisions of the Programme Code as also the various guidelines, both statutory and self regulatory, while making any report in relation to the petitioner," said the High Court.

J&K High Court terms Roshni Act unconstitutional; CBI to probe scam

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

More than six years after the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) had 'unearthed' 25,000 crore Roshni land scam, the Division Bench of the Jammu & Kashmir High Court comprising Chief Justice Gita Mittal and Justice Rajesh Bindal Friday handed over the probe in the land scam to the Central Bureau of Investigation.

The Division Bench also declared the 'Roshni Act' "unconstitutional". Directions were also passed to the CBI to file a status report of the ongoing investigation every 8 weeks before the Court.

Soon after submitting its report to the state legislature in March 2014, the Principal Accountant General (Audit) had described the transfer of 3,48,160 kanals of land in the state at a cost of Rs 76.24 Cr (24 percent) against a demand of Rs 317.54 Cr under Roshni Act, as one of the biggest scams of J&K. Originally, the Act was aimed at resource mobilization of Rs 25,448 Cr for investment in power sector.

Speaking to The Pioneer, Senior Advocate Sheikh Shakeel Ahmad, who had initially filed a PIL in the case in 2011, said, "A division bench of Chief Justice Gita Mittal and Justice Rajesh Bindal Friday allowed a petition that sought transfer of the Rs 25,000 land allotment scam under the Roshni Act from the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) to the CBI".

Referring to the ongoing investigations in the case and why the need was felt to hand over the probe to the premier investigating agency, Sheikh Shakeel said, "till now the Anti Corruption Bureau Jammu (Vigilance) was investigating the matter and had registered 17 FIRs so far. He said, due to non- cooperation of the government agencies involved in the case, ACB could issue challan in only two cases. He said in the light of these developments the court deemed it appropriate to divest it of the investigation simultaneously handing it over to CBI.

Advocate Sheikh Shakeel also claimed, "due to direct involvement of land sharks along with top bureaucrats, politicians and police officers in the biggest ever land scam in the history of Jammu and Kashmir the Anti Corruption Bureau was not able to complete the probe in the matter".

Challenging the Constitutional Validity of Roshni Act in its PIL filed in 2014, another senior Advocate Ankur Sharma had also sought CBI probe in the matter. During previous hearing in the case in September 2020,Adv Ankur Sharma had submitted before the Division bench, "Given the structural problems and political interference crippling the ACB, both of which are reflected in its conduct of the last 6 years of investigation, the time is ripe to bring in an independent and professional agency like CBI for investigation".

"The conduct of ACB is "suspect" and we can't have suspects investigating the suspects", he further submitted, adding "since beneficiaries include Ministers, politicians, IAS/KAS officers, the ability of the ACB is crippled from within".

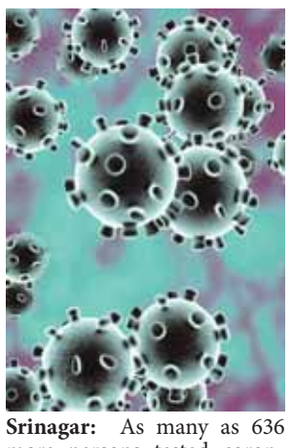
Webinar held to celebrate Gandhi, Shastri birth anniv

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Celebrating the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and Lal Bahadur Shastri, the Chief Mentor and curator of Plus Approach Foundation (PAF), Dr Ashutosh Karnatak, enthused the youth and professionals an all-around development and transformation of society and organisations towards positivity.

In a webinar on the occasion, the speakers emphasised the importance of Gandhiji's thoughts in keeping oneself positive in the difficult circumstances that are being faced currently worldwide.

636 more test coronavirus positive in J&K



Srinagar: As many as 636 more persons tested coronavirus positive in Jammu and Kashmir on Friday, taking the active cases to 11,144.

The Information and Public Relations Department said 263 new cases were reported in Jammu division and 373 in Kashmir division. The total corona cases in the Union Territory are 82,429.

Of the total, 69,979 patients have recovered whereas 1,306 succumbed to the dreaded virus, including 15 who died on Friday. Of the active cases, 4,989 are from Jammu division and 6,155 from Kashmir division. *IANS*

Four zoo warriors bag Prani-Mitra award

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

For the last 30 years, Gurunath Narvekar hasn't taken a break. After all, he has his "children" — the animals and birds of the Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Udyan in Mumbai — to take care of. Right from tending and feeding them to dressing their wounds in case of any injury were his daily routine.

"They are like my children. During the lockdown period, I did not go home but stayed in the Zoo itself to ensure that these innocent animals do not have to starve in case there is no one around," Narvekar told The Pioneer on phone. Set to retire in a couple of months, Narvekar said he will badly miss his "children".

To recognise his uninterrupted service, Union Environment Minister Prakash Javedekar on October 5 conferred him with the Prani-Mitra Award 2020 during a virtual event.

Narvekar is among the four zoo warriors, the three others being Atul Gupta from Van Vihar National Park in Bhopal, Sudha Raman, (IFS) Director of a Chennai Zoo and Rajesh Mahapatra, biologist in a zoo in Odisha, who have been conferred with the prestigious award for their dedication towards ensuring the well-being of the captive animals under their care.

The award has been instituted by the Central Zoo Authority (CZA) this year to encourage zoo officers and staff engaged in captive animal management.

Another awardee, Sudha Ramen (IFS), Director of Arignar Anna Zoological Park, Chennai, Tamil Nadu said that even though October 4 is recognised as the World Animal Day and International Zoo Keepers Day, in her opinion, animals should be valued and respected on all days.

"Animal keepers do that round the year with no breaks. Having worked with them, I know their love and care," she said adding that zoos have rendered major contribution as ex-situ conservation centres.

Veterinarian Dr. Atul Gupta (48) felt that for better wildlife health, besides focus on capacity building of the staff, there is a need to have a veterinarian cadre in the forest department. "Presently, veterinarians from Animal Husbandry are deputed in the Zoo. But one must understand that domestic and wild animals have different energy levels and hence, need to be handled by the one who has such expertise," he said.

Mohapatra, who received the award in the Biologist/Educationist category, is associated with the releasing of seven gharials in Mahanadi for the revival of the species in their natural habitat as well as introducing puzzle feeding to the animals in the zoo to encourage mental stimulation in them and reduce boredom.

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PAPER WITH PASSION

After Paswan

With the Dalit leader's death, son Chirag could either be the beneficiary of a sympathy wave or stand forlorn. Will LJP survive?

As one of the tallest Dalit leaders of a post-Mandal India, Ram Vilas Paswan may not have been able to build a national party like the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) or have the mobilising force of its leader Mayawati, but he had Bihar. And the unflagging loyalty of his voters, who never deserted him and returned him as their representative with record-breaking margins, trusting he would deliver. It was this solidity of command and his unchanging vote pie that helped him become the kingmaker of heartland politics, one that no party could ignore and one that he was acutely aware of to become India's most successful bellwether politician and influencer of coalition politics. In return, he got key ministries in successive Governments of VP Singh, HD Deve Gowda, IK Gujral, AB Vajpayee, Manmohan Singh and Narendra Modi. Portfolios that he used to ensure the development of his constituents and pilot their rights. Let us not forget that as Minister he brought in a strict law to penalise atrocities against Scheduled Castes and Tribes. He realised that national politics would keep him relevant even if his voteshare was no more than seven per cent of the Bihar electorate but enough to be a swing factor for any party needing it. Not that he wasn't aware of the limitations of being a Dalit-only leader and, therefore, included Muslims to strengthen the electoral worth of his Lok Janshakti Party (LJP). The remaining deficit was made up by his national presence that helped him make or break governments in Bihar. He was responsible for dismantling Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) chieftain Lalu Prasad Yadav's hold on the State in 2005 and laid the ground for Nitish Kumar to become the Chief Minister. Committed to BR Ambedkar's philosophy and the Lohia brand of socialism, he didn't hesitate to stand up for what's right and was instrumental in bringing down the Vajpayee Government over the Gujarat riots and attacks on Muslims. And at one time, he even insisted on a Muslim Chief Minister for Bihar. Yet such was his winsome personality and convincing ability that the cross-jumps he made, disregarding ideology to stay on the right side of power, seemed effortless than contrived, expedient rather than convenient. That explains why everybody may have ridiculed Nitish Kumar for jumping ship but spared Paswan. And using that advantage, he sided with the Modi regime to launch his son Chirag as a bigger player in Bihar politics. Knowing that all senior leaders were in their sunset years and grooming their younger lot, he wanted him to be chief ministerial candidate some day, something that eluded him. So he intended to chaperone him through the forthcoming Assembly elections.

Chirag has, of course, played into the BJP's ambition of getting Bihar on its terms and, as its proxy, made no bones of his intention to undercut the prospects of Nitish Kumar's Janata Dal (United) by fielding LJP candidates against it and playing friendly matches with the BJP while supporting the saffron party at the Centre. In fact, he has been aggressive about becoming the BJP's B-team all too early, ceaselessly attacking Nitish, without testing strengths on the ground. One that forced the BJP to publicly restrain him by reasserting faith in Nitish as CM face, lest it be seen as a usurper of the federal space. Dalits account for 16 per cent of Bihar's population and half of these are Paswans, a chunk that has been loyal to the LJP over the years. But Nitish, by introducing sub-quotas for Mahadalits, has chipped away at some of that base. Besides, he has roped in another Dalit leader Jiten Manjhi into his fold. But the ambitious Chirag feels that with the CM's political stock at an all-time low, this is the best time for the LJP to shore up its base and anoint himself as a key power player. Besides, he wants to emerge as an alternative to Lalu's son Tejashwi Yadav, who is also looking at the Assembly elections for legitimacy. Many believe that Chirag has a better appeal and acceptability among the youth in general than the arrogant Tejashwi but the latter is a bigger crowd puller. Both still rely on the aura and political legacy of their fathers to convince the voters and wouldn't want to miss an opportunity to prove as much. Chirag, who has a largely urban persona, is handicapped by the lack of his father's ability to feel the pulse of the underprivileged, speak their tongue and settle into their ways while campaigning. Paswan Junior, who once chased Bollywood dreams, seems that much more distant. Besides, unlike Tejashwi, who has his brothers and sisters propping up the RJD, Chirag has no family support to fall back on. And the LJP, with its heavy-duty reliance on its founding family, has hardly groomed outsiders who could emerge as his advisors. Uncle Pashupati Paras, who is the sitting Hajipur MP, is not interested in working with Chirag. And nobody knows how much he can depend on his cousins to do his bidding. So the young leader has not only lost his father's counsel, he has lost the family mantle too. So far he has been able to fire up the LJP enough to risk it alone in the Bihar Assembly, naming candidates for 42 seats and netting in five BJP rebels too. But with Paswan passing away at a crucial transitional juncture, Chirag could plateau out and would be wise to not spread himself out too thin. Alternatively, Paswan's death may translate into a sympathy wave among all Dalit voters, who may vote for legacy than its bearer. Either way, his political survival is at stake. The BJP will be watching him too.

Early days yet

The Reserve Bank of India expects the economy to contract by 9.5 per cent this year. Is it being too optimistic?

The Monetary Policy Committee of the Reserve Bank of India has decided to keep interest rates steady for the time being but with a more accommodative stance, which one could read as allowing banks to be more liberal with disbursals. The meeting ended and the stock exchanges celebrated by climbing, not massively but still enough to display their approval of the decision. The RBI, however, expected the economy to contract by 9.5 per cent in the 2020-21 fiscal, thanks to the effects of the Coronavirus pandemic and the subsequent lockdown. However, one must ask whether the RBI is being a bit too optimistic, with several financial firms and ratings agencies predicting that India will have a double-digit economic contraction this year, thanks to the near-total loss of economic activity in the first quarter. But could there be a reason behind the RBI's optimism? Some of RBI's measures include rationalisation of risk weights to all new housing loans until March 2022, which is expected to ease credit availability for the real estate sector. Across several industries, demand has been picking up even before the start of the festive season. Car companies saw wholesale orders pick up dramatically in September. Sales of computers, mobile phones and other electronic peripherals have also increased dramatically. While some industries have changed forever thanks to the pandemic, things are even improving in sectors like hospitality. Deep Kalra, Chief Executive of online travel agency MakeMyTrip, mentioned in *The Pioneer Conversations* that hotels and resorts are getting booked out for weekends and people are indulging in "revenge travel." Sure, things are not back to normal and they may never go back to normal or even recapture the sense of business as usual for at least another two years. However, things are improving and may be the third and fourth quarters of this fiscal year will be stronger than that of the past year and that is why the overall decline for the entire year could be less than expected.

At the end of the day, economic growth is a confidence game and if that is returning in the economy, it is contingent upon the Government and the RBI to ensure that it is sustained. India has not jumped in with a massive demand-side intervention as yet but slight rate cuts in GST or even direct taxes could see India's top consuming class really start spending more, which might help India emerge even stronger from the pandemic. But we still feel it is too early to have such an optimistic outlook.

Pakistanis in Azerbaijan

It seems that the internal problems of other nations make up the necessary 'bind' that keeps our fractured and restive neighbour going

BHOPINDER **SINGH**

Pakistan was born to a regressive, exclusivist and instinctively interfering idea that has pandered to religiosity as a central tenet. This has over time pushed its fate towards the slippery slope of revisionism and medievalism. While the success of the secular "idea of India" and the independence of Bangladesh ought to have conclusively trashed the flawed "two-nation theory," Pakistan has oddly accelerated its puritanical impulses towards unprecedented levels. From civilian Governments to military men, all have conceded ground to the mullahs, extremist ideologies and even terror organisations. A so-called liberal like Zulfikar Bhutto was responsible for declaring Ahmadis as "non-Muslims," a career soldier like General Zia-ul-Haq ushered in Shariaisation, Benazir Bhutto's Interior Minister Nasrullah Babar was responsible for creating the Taliban and so on. Each and every leader tried to run with the hare and hunt with the hound, thinking that they could manage and misuse religious passion for their own advantage but like the proverbial genie that once unleashed cannot revert, Pakistan is now combusting from within. Yet, it refuses to acknowledge and renege from the dangerous games of its past and the result is the Frankensteinian monster of religious extremism.

Pakistan's exposed infamy as the "terror nursery" explains the ongoing tryst with the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), where it stands to be black/grey listed for its sovereign stand on money laundering and terror financing. As per FATF findings till now, Pakistan has "strategic deficiencies" that barely mask its indefensible reputation for misadventures in Afghanistan, India, Iran, Middle Eastern swathes to now even in the latest flashpoint, Azerbaijan. Former Commander of US forces in Afghanistan, Lieutenant-General John Nicholson, had complained about Pakistan's incorrigibility by stating, "We have been very direct and very clear with the Pakistanis... we have not seen those changes implemented yet." He had unambiguously added that the Pakistani establishment was harbouring "agents of chaos." Typically, Pakistan denied the accusations and attributed all wrongdoings to what it has patently and conveniently called "non-State actors". The conceptual formulation of "non-State actors" offers it an implausible opportunity of official deniability as Pakistan's duplicity on terror has got firmly established; hence the FATF proceedings. The slamming observation and warning to Pakistan by the then Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton, that the "snakes in your backyard won't bite only neighbours", has gone expectedly unheeded as the foundational spirit underlying the nation justifies its routine dalliances in the inappropriate name of religion. It is almost as if the internal problems of other nations are the necessary "bind" that keeps the fractured and restive Pakistan going. And Azerbaijan is its latest expression and foray.

As the bloody war between Azerbaijan and Armenia escalates in the breakaway region of Nagorno-Karabakh, it collaterally galvanises foreign powers to intervene militarily in order to pursue their own selfish agenda. Unfortunately, this war in the erstwhile region of Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) has an unmistakable angularity of religion, where a Christian Armenia is pitted against a predominantly Muslim Azerbaijan. This opens the window to a neighbouring Turkey to establish its quest as the new "leader" of the *Ummah* (displacing the Arab Sheikhdoms) and to perpetuate its historical animus with Armenians. Turkey under Recep Tayyip Erdogan fancies itself as the sole power that hasn't "succumbed" to Israel (towards the rapprochement and normalcy of ties of Tel Aviv with Abu Dhabi, Bahrain and by default, even Riyadh). This intra-*Ummah* struggle has seen Turkey tactically championing Kashmir even as Pakistan's historical allies like Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates have started showing disinterest in such pitches. The fight for leadership is so intense that Saudi Arabia has called for an embargo on Turkish products and stopped further aid to cash-strapped Pakistan. Beyond China, today it is only Turkey that is supporting Pakistan at multi-lateral forums. So it is critical for Pakistan to reciprocate and curry favour with Ankara to consolidate its new-found and only ally (beyond Beijing). In siding with Azerbaijan, Pakistan kills three birds with one stone as it remains consistently involved in others' matters, reciprocates by backing Turkey and can claim religious context for its action.

> AS USUAL, PAKISTAN IS PLAYING A DANGEROUSLY HIGH STAKES GAME OF REALPOLITIK WHERE A LOT MORE IS LOADED AGAINST IT THIS TIME. ITS FOUNDATIONAL FLAW IS TOO DEEP-ROOTED

Officially, Pakistan denies any involvement in Azerbaijan, as it always does. However, the Pakistani Foreign Office leaves no doubt about its position in the conflict when it says, "intensive shelling by Armenian forces on Azerbaijan's civilian population is reprehensible and most unfortunate" but denies sending Pakistani troops to fight alongside the Turkish and Azeri soldiers. Tellingly, Azerbaijan's President, Ilham Aliyev, thanked both Turkey and Pakistan for their support in the fight against Armenian forces.

There is a tell-tale Pakistani pattern to external interferences that over time justifies and legitimises its own misadventures to itself. A key component of that strategy is what it ostensibly calls "non-State actors." As early as 1947-48, it sent tribal *lashkar* (militia) from Waziristan to capture Kashmir even as it denied any official patronage. Its military doctrine to "bleed India with a thousand cuts" is from the same fount. Later in the Kargil war also, it was the infiltration of Pakistani military regulars in the guise of local Kashmiris that had been publicly opposed. The unconvincing cover of Pakistani involvement in foreign war theatres like Afghanistan and Kargil was later blown by self-goals by none less than former Generals like Hamid Gul, Ashraf Rashid and even former President, Pervez Musharraf.

Pakistan is a past master in arranging "mercenaries" or "non-State actors" that partake in operations at the behest of its establishment, and the comment of the Armenian Deputy Foreign Minister, Avet Adonts, that "we can't exclude the possibility" of Pakistani wherewithal, is so familiar and repetitive. But as usual, Pakistan is playing a dangerously high stakes game of realpolitik where a lot more is loaded against it this time. Despite earning international notoriety as an unreliable partner in the global "war on terror," the foundational flaw of the nation is too deep-rooted, existential and regime-sustaining to warrant any course correction. Though in the Azerbaijan-Armenia theatre, it may perhaps bite more than what many of its traditional supporters themselves will tolerate any further, let alone the rest of the world.

(The writer, a military veteran, is a former Lt Governor of Andaman & Nicobar Islands)

SOUNDBITE

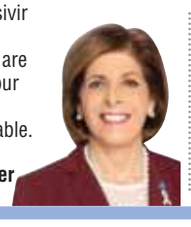
You (Chandrababu Naidu) castigated that there was a ₹59,000 crore scam in acquiring Rafale fighter jets but with the same mouth you say that the country's power has been strengthened by the same aircraft.

YSRCP leader
—V Vijayasai Reddy

There is no difference in mortality rates. At that time (pre-pandemic)causes of death were attributed to diseases, accidents, kidney failure, etc.

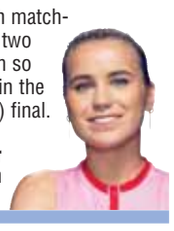
Goa CM
—Pramod Sawant

We secured access to Remdesivir for the treatment of up to 5,00,000 patients in need. We are leaving no stone unturned in our efforts to ensure that safe and efficient therapeutics are available.



European Health Commissioner
—Stella Kyriakides

I've had tough matches these past two weeks and I'm so excited to be in the (French Open) final.



Tennis player
—Sofia Kenin

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Hathras injustice

Sir — The way the Uttar Pradesh Government and a section of the media is treating the Hathras case is reprehensible. It is sad but true that an all-out attempt is being made to blame the victim and her family for the cruel fate that befell them. Canards are being peddled to make it appear that the family brought the tragedy upon itself. The attempt to malign the family is nothing but a deeper descent into inhumanity. The reference to the absence of semen and old healed wounds in the private parts, made in a vain bid to establish that there was no rape and protect the accused, hurts our sensibilities. And it is clear that the victim and her family are slandered to pervert the course of justice. The ill-concealed alignment of the administration with the upper caste section of the society explains the flat denial of the caste angle in this case. The woes of those at the receiving end, in the present instance the Dalit family in Hathras, are exacerbated by the lack of institutional integrity and professional ethics on the part of those tasked with ensuring justice.

G David Milton
Maruthancode

Freedom of expression within limits

A significant aspect of democracy is that the citizens have the right to freely express their views and to mobilise and protest. On the other hand, they are not entitled to infringe upon the rights of fellow citizens. So while the Supreme Court appreciated the right to peaceful protest, it made it unambiguously clear that protests in public places for an indefinite period of time are unacceptable. The three-judge Bench held that democracy and dissent go hand in hand, but the demonstrations expressing dissent have to be in designated places alone. The order came in response to a petition on the Shaheen Bagh protests against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act.

The apex court's verdict will safeguard the rights of commuters. However, it does not do the same in the case of protesters. Restrictions to protest, especially in the cases of groups that have no other way to express themselves publicly, will jeopardise the right to freedom of expression. True, protests may cause a little inconvenience to people. However, the right to freedom of peaceful assembly, freedom of expression and freedom of association is indispensable in a democracy. It is unjustified to specify where public assemblies must occur. Given that political and social participation through public demonstration is critical to the consolidation of democracy, the judiciary and the Governments are expected to accord due weight to its importance.

Venu GS
Kollam

Drama must end now

Sir — The Bombay High Court recently granted bail to Rhea Chakraborty, who was pronounced "guilty" by certain television channels for driving actor Sushant Singh Rajput to suicide, siphoning off his money and dealing in narcotic drugs. The court observed that Chakraborty was not guilty of any offence of embezzlement of opium, external dealing in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, financing illicit traffic and harbouring offenders and/or any other offence involving commercial quantity.

However, numerous questions arise from the drama that surrounded the false murder case. The most unfortunate aspect being the wastage of precious time and resources by the investigating agencies to delve into a case which had been constructed on speculation, allegations and wild imagination. It is necessary that the Governments, both the Centre and the State, show maturity and rise above partisan political considerations in dealing with such complaints.

Haridasan Rajan
Kozhikode

Market expansion

Sir — Products made by women self-help groups (SHGs) in Karnataka could be provided with a wider market as commerce giant Amazon has expressed interest in enabling them to sell their products to customers across India. There are about 1.5 lakh SHGs in the State, all engaged in the production of various products. It would give an impetus to the market if these products are enabled to sell through the e-commerce platform.

Amit Singh Kushwaha
Satna

Caste politics

Sir — Rather than helping the Hathras gang-rape victim get justice, some BJP politicians are busy assassinating her character. This paints a grim picture of Indian politics, where elected representatives are trying to keep the culture of caste dominance alive as their sole concern is to save their vote banks.

MN Musaeed
Mumbai

Send your feedback to:
letterstopioneer@gmail.com

FIRST COLUMN

Together we can fight distress

The strategy being implemented for enabling good mental health envisages sustainable psychological support to students, parents and teachers

RAMESH **POKHRIYAL**

The pandemic is a bolt from the blue and has been a challenging time for the world community. While there is fear of contracting the virus, mental distress has been aggravated by social distancing, the lockdown and economic uncertainty. However, the stress has taken a bigger toll on the already vulnerable children and adolescents. Because childhood and adolescence are accompanied by numerous physical, emotional and social changes that are aggravated by poverty, abuse or violence. According to the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), 10-13 per cent of children and adolescents in India are dealing with mental health issues. As per the World Health Organisation (WHO), the numbers would have increased in India and globally due to the pandemic as there has been increased irritability, restlessness and nervousness among students while adapting to the "new normal" of remote learning.

The criticality of mental wellness needs to be understood because it affects the overall functioning of a person. Therefore, the consequence of not addressing mental health conditions at the right time may extend to adulthood, affecting both physical and psychological health. Though depression and poor mental health are a cause for worry, there is no need for despair as they are treatable if help is given at the right time. Hence, parents and family members must watch out for early signs of distress and discuss, support and if necessary, visit a counsellor.

Keeping the mental health of students in mind, the Ministry of Education has expanded its efforts in this direction through the years and various interventions have been made for its upkeep. To lay the foundation of mental well-being, the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) affiliation bye-laws and University Grants Commission (UGC) guidelines mandate a counsellor in every school and Higher Education Institution (HEI).

Given the closure of schools and colleges due to the lockdown, students at all levels have being going through an extended period of remote learning. But their mental well-being needs remain the same. Hence, the mode of transmitting mental health wellness also needed to change so that the students could continue to have access to counselling even in the current atmosphere of uncertainty. Keeping this in mind, the Ministry of Education issued guidelines for online learning, which include stress management. There have also been live interaction sessions on guidance for the mental well-being of students on the *Swayam Prabha* channel. The National Institute of Open Schooling has likewise conducted counselling on mental health issues and held yoga, meditation, dance, art, painting and music classes in virtual summer camps. Simultaneously, under the teacher's training programme, NISHTHA, educators are being trained to handle mental well-being issues through an online module.

Even the HEIs are addressing the key issue of mental health well-being adequately and the All India Council for Technical Education had conducted a large number of faculty training programmes where 10,000 educators were trained to become effective counsellors. The UGC has made appeals and issued advisories and notices regarding mental health, psychosocial concerns and the well-being of everyone on the campus. Plus, helplines for mental health have been set up along with the formation of COVID-19 help groups of students to identify fellow students in need of help so that they can be provided immediate assistance.

The Ministry of Education's efforts did not end here and in keeping with the World Mental Health theme for 2020, it has rightly established that mental health is a human right and should be available to all. Hence, greater investment is needed for more extensive access to facilities, and under the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had announced the launch of *Manodarpan* for the psychological well-being of students, family members and teachers during the pandemic. A working group with experts from the fields of education, mental health and psychosocial issues was formed. Along with providing adequate psychological support, the group is responsible for monitoring and catering to the mental health issues and concerns of students. Support will be enabled through counselling services, online resources and a helpline. A toll-free number (8448440632) has been set up which will function both during and post pandemic times.

The strategy being implemented for enabling good mental health envisages the provision of sustainable psychological support to students, parents and teachers. The Ministry plans to integrate proactive mental health and well-being services into mainstream learning processes. I foresee an India where everyone has equal access to prosperous mental health and hence a prosperous nation.

(*The writer is Union Education Minister*)

POINT**COUNTER**POINT

I WANT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE TO KNOW THAT FROM THE VERY FIRST DAY, PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP HAS PUT THE HEALTH OF AMERICA FIRST.
—US VICE-PRESIDENT
MIKE PENCE

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE HAVE WITNESSED WHAT IS THE GREATEST FAILURE OF ANY PRESIDENTIAL ADMINISTRATION IN THE HISTORY OF OUR COUNTRY.
—SENATOR
KAMALA HARRIS

The dues conundrum

For MSMEs, getting relief from the Government without registering is not possible because the latter is accountable to keep a record of who has been helped and by how much

SUBHASH CHANDRA **PANDEY**

Small business enterprises are given purchase preference quota in procurement by Government and Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs), a pooled quota in bank credit and interest subvention under some Government schemes. The Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) were categorised, separately from the manufacturing and services sector, based on investment in plant, machinery and equipment under the MSME Development Act 2006 (MSMED Act). Many MSMEs do not increase their investment for fear of losing their tag and associated benefits. To address this concern, the definition of MSMEs was changed from July 1 this year.

By bringing an additional criterion of turnover, a business entity is now classified as a micro enterprise if its investment is upto ₹1 crore and turnover is upto ₹5 crore. The corresponding figures are ₹10 crore and ₹50 crore for small and ₹50 crore and ₹250 crore for medium enterprises. Earlier, the classification was only based on investment, with separate investment limits for manufacturing and service sectors. The exports turnover will be excluded from reckoning for the qualifying turnover to encourage MSMEs to export more without losing their status tag and associated benefits.

The 73rd round of the National Sample Survey 2015-16 (NSS) estimated that there were 6.34 crore MSMEs (6.30 crore micro, 3.31 lakh small and 5,000 medium enterprises) employing 11.10 crore people. By January, only 86.11 lakh MSMEs had availed the facility of online, self certification-based, paperless registration on the MSME Ministry's Udyog, Aadhaar, Memorandum portal. About 60 per cent are in the service sector and 40 per cent in manufacturing. After the revised classification from July 1, many erstwhile large business enterprises have also now become medium and medium have become small enterprises and so on. So 99 per cent business enterprises are MSMEs and 99 per cent MSMEs are micro enterprises. What is the significance and implication of this change? MSMEs complain of payment delays resulting in liquidity problems. Section 15-24 of the MSMED Act stipulates a 45-day time limit on payment to Small and Micro Enterprises (SMEs). On delayed payment of dues, the debtor is liable to pay interest at three times the bank rate notified by the RBI, compounded monthly. Under the Atmanirbhar package, in May the Government ordered all departments and PSUs to clear all pending MSME dues within 45 days of acceptance of supplies. In July, departments were asked to pay penal interest of one per cent per month on delayed payments. The dispensation applied to all MSMEs, including medium enterprises that were not entitled to legal remedy under the MSMED Act.

On May 14, the MSME Ministry's Samadhaan website, an online delayed payment monitoring system for settlement of disputes by affected SMEs, listed pending claims of ₹40,720 crore. Of this, 11.6 per cent were claims from the Central Government. By September 30, the outstanding amount on the Samadhaan portal had substantially come down to ₹12,598 crore (37,520 cases) despite an increase in the number of SMEs from July 1 --- State Governments (₹2,349 crore/3,546 applications), Central PSUs (₹2,172 crore/2,211 applications), State PSUs (₹1,573 crore/1,355 applications) and proprietorship firms (₹852 crore/6,483 applications).

The amount shown on the Samadhaan portal does not seem to reflect the true picture of the MSME working capital distress. The amount is insignificant in comparison to the total contribution of MSMEs in the economy (GDP of about ₹44.5 lakh crore as contributed by MSMEs in 2016-17).

> THE GOVERNMENT WOULD BE EMBOLDENED TO DEREGULATE IF SELF-REGULATION BY BUSINESSES IMPROVES. THE PACE OF DEREGULATION IS SLOW ONLY BECAUSE MISDEEDS OF SOME KEEP THE LOGIC OF REGULATION ALIVE. AN ATTEMPT SHOULD BE MADE FROM BOTH SIDES TO ADDRESS THE MUTUAL CONCERNS ON WHY THERE IS LOW REGISTRATION. MAYBE THERE IS A CASE FOR THE GOVERNMENT ALLOWING A LIMITED PERIOD OF REGULATORY FORBEARANCE, AMNESTY TO ERSTWHILE UNREGISTERED MSMEs. WITHOUT REGISTERING, RELIEF WOULD BE SLOW AND DIFFICULT TO GET

The MSME Minister had informed in May that outstanding payments to MSMEs totalled about ₹5 lakh crore. Mere exclusion of medium enterprises from access to the Samadhaan portal can't explain the big gap in figures. Probably many SMEs are reluctant to escalate their payment delays for fear of reprisals like denial of future orders or fault-finding in supplies. Or because they are merely outsourcing arms set up by large business units, unable to bite the hand that feeds it. Hence, there is no reliable data on actual distress caused by stalled payments.

Bill discounting offers a solution to the problem of stalled cash flows to MSMEs. There are Trade Receivables Discounting System (TReDS) platforms for MSMEs to auction their trade receivables through online bidding. Multiple financiers buy their undisputed invoices at a discount. While the financier can wait for payment clearance, the MSME gets the discounted value of invoices upfront. In 2018, the MSME Ministry had mandated all CPSUs and all corporates with a turnover exceeding ₹500 crore to be on-board TReDS platforms. However, many corporates are not yet registered on these.

By delaying even the acknowledgement of their liability to pay, they are avoiding giving a handle to MSMEs to drag defaulting buyers before insolvency courts. The recent changes in the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) have limited the scope of small operational vendors to trigger insolvency proceedings and a pause/stop button is in place on fresh defaults since March 25 for six months, extendable to one year. The Atmanirbhar package of May included the Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS), a ₹3 lakh crore window of collateral-free loans to MSMEs. Banks could extend an extra 20 per cent outstanding loan to creditworthy MSMEs having non-NPA accounts with Government guarantee. The four-year tenure loans carry a 12-month moratorium on principal repayment and a cap on interest rates, 9.25 per cent for banks and 14 per cent for Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs). The scope of the ECLGS was later enlarged to include even non-MSME business entities, retailers and individual borrowers, proprietorships, partnerships, registered firms, trusts, limited liability partnerships and interested borrowers under the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana, who are now eligible for ECLGS. By September 29, banks had sanctioned loans of about ₹1.86 lakh crore to 50 lakh business entities and disbursed ₹1,32,246 crore to over 27 lakh entities under the ECLGS.

MSME registration is voluntary. Only about 86 lakh MSMEs are registered while there were 633 lakh MSMEs as per a 2015-16 survey estimate. Just like unorganised labour, a majority of the MSMEs are not registered with the Government. Not being on the radar of the Government helps the "informal economy" to dodge Government regulations, some of which are indeed outdated and burdensome. They want Government help but are wary of getting registered with it. Many MSMEs don't register out of ignorance of benefits or the assessment that the risks of getting entangled with the Government are more than the benefits of registration. Though it enables better support, registration leads to anxiety about formalisation and possible Government overreach. For MSMEs, getting relief from the Government without registering is not possible because the latter is accountable to keep a record of who has been helped and by how much. The MSME sector needs increased formalisation and digitalisation to get more commercial credit through digital lending. Under such a system, the sales and payments are recorded through digital payments and invoicing systems, which give the bankers reliable data on sales/turnover and help in the generation of a better credit history. Loans can be substituted with customised credit cards for better transaction level controls with links to the Goods and Services Tax (GST) system and logistics service providers for control on mortgaged inventories. Digital technology can take care of a lot of ills of the past. Even banks have to look out for high quality borrowers, so digital lending is a win-win for both bankers and borrowers. The Government has offered a rather hassle-free registration facility. May be there is a case for giving automatic MSME registration to ECLGS beneficiaries and GST-registered vendors. Of course, Aadhaar-based verification would be a must because there are reports of splitting of businesses to bring them within the lower tax threshold.

The Government expects businesses to become responsible, take care of public safety, employees, the environment and pay taxes. The Government would be emboldened to deregulate if self-regulation by businesses improves. The pace of deregulation is slow only because misdeeds of some keep the logic of regulation alive. An attempt should be made from both sides to address the mutual concerns on why there is low registration. Maybe there is a case for the Government allowing a limited period of regulatory forbearance and amnesty to erstwhile unregistered MSMEs. Without registering, relief would be slow and difficult to come by.

(*The writer is a retired IAAS officer and former Special Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.*)

Leave no one alone to fight demons of the past

On Mental Health day, let's pledge to make care services available to all, especially groups like sex workers, substance-users and survivors of trafficking

ROOP **SEN**

Ahead of October 10, that is celebrated as World Mental Health Day, there is a spurt in discussions on mental well-being across the world. However, the focus is mostly on celebrities, rich people or privileged students dealing with depression or anxiety. No one talks about the mental health of the poor. Underlying this selective outrage is a rationalisation that poverty, failure, violence and hardships in life may cause depression, anxiety disorders or other psychological problems.

Sadly, in a Corona-affected India, no one has seen how sex workers and survivors of human trafficking have suffered trauma through the lockdowns and even after. Quite falsely, some aid organisations and NGOs have inferred that this trauma is due to lack of shelter homes for survivors.

The nationwide lockdown from March triggered one set of challenges — of people without ration and Aadhaar cards or bank accounts not getting rations or cash transfers. Survivors of trafficking are high among this group since they often lose their identities in the process of being sold or even after being rescued. For example, survivors of trafficking in Bengal, who were rescued from Delhi, Maharashtra or Goa, reported that no one had provided them with any identity papers when they had been rescued, put into shelter homes for years and repatriated back home.

Vimukthi, a sex workers' group in Andhra Pradesh, has been pleading for the attention of the State Government for rations and welfare services. It took the AP State AIDS Control Society (APSACS) months to verify identities, until the Supreme Court ordered the State to ensure accessibility to food for sex workers.

Saans, a group of survivors of labour trafficking in the brick kiln sector from Chhattisgarh, reported the distress suffered when captive labourers in the kilns were left to fend for themselves post the lockdown and they received little or no support while returning home. Meanwhile, the lockdown also led to identification and rescue of children and adolescents from Bihar, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Bengal through ingenuous sting operations and intel-mining by non profits such as Mission Rescue Operation and Mission Mukti Foundation, start-ups that specialise in investigations on trafficking.

In the midst of lockdowns, quarantines, stranded migrants, inactive child welfare committees and anti-human trafficking units, the police and NGOs managed to return survivors to their families.

As usual there were no services to address the panic, fear, trauma and distress of survivors. This is because activists and NGOs working on mental health mostly prioritise working with populations in residential institutions and their suffering in poor institutional care, their stigma and exclusion by families and the State. Many of them have also taken up working with the homeless mentally ill, who live on the streets in absolute distress.

However, communities such as sex workers, trafficked people, drug users and trans-people, who are particularly vulnerable to psychological distress, have been peripheral in dialogue spaces or policy engagement processes. The terms "psychosocial counselling" and "psychosocial counsellors" are commonly used by NGOs and by governments in policies when it comes to recovery of survivors of human trafficking. This happened in the late 90s, when activists believed that not all survivors of trafficking are clinically depressed, or ill and may not require clinical services.

Recovery was understood to be a set of services that would help a trafficked person, often an adolescent or young adult, find safe spaces in shelter homes, be offered group counselling or individual counselling where each could be helped to assimilate what he/she had been through and emerge resilient and work for rehabilitation. If the person showed any clinical symptoms, such as violence, self-harm, suicide attempts, then the person could be taken to a psychiatrist for medication. So mental health assessment was largely done only through observation by people not trained to do so (activists, CWC chairpersons, judges, or magistrates). The understanding of trauma was largely associated with violence and withdrawal. In the last three decades, this understanding has not been challenged despite clinical research showing that survivors of human trafficking suffer dysthymia (a condition of chronic depression and anxiety disorders) even after having gone through rehabilitation services in shelter homes. Even today, they are not tested for PTSD to check trauma symptoms and decide the need for therapeutic and recovery services.

The approach of NGOs hiring social work graduates, or people who have done diploma courses on basic counselling, expecting them to be able to respond to PTSD suffered by people who have experienced sexual violence, physical torture, confinement and multiple betrayals in their childhood and adolescence, is a severe overexpectation. While many of these NGOs may even be aware of this and speak about their limitations of salary, or recruitment of people with training, the alternative of helping survivors access therapy from senior and established therapists has not emerged. That's because these shelters are run on a closed door policy, where survivors are incarcerated and NGOs held responsible to keep them in custody. So any external mobility requires permission and is severely disapproved by the judiciary or CWCs, bodies which have very little orientation on the implications of incarceration on mental health of survivors of trafficking.

As the Ministry of Women and Child Development has been determined to bring about legal reforms for protection of human trafficking victims, it would be worthwhile to consider how to correct the ills of some of the bad rehabilitation and recovery practices that have proved to be ineffective and expensive. The recommendations that have emerged from the experience of survivors of trafficking are: Ensure PTSD testing and mental health assessments for all survivors. Recovery services must be based on diagnosis. Quell the myth that psychological distress can be diagnosed by lay people.

Restrict the periods of stay for survivors in shelter homes to not more than three-six months. The law and policies should shift the focus to community-based rehabilitation approaches. The law should define rehabilitation and recovery. Disband the current myth that incarcerating survivors in shelters or returning them home without any services for their rehabilitation means reintegration. Provide community-based social workers to support survivors' access to health services at local hospitals and clinics.

Rescue, institutionalisation and repatriation may not be feasible for all survivors of human trafficking. For example, a person trafficked for domestic labour ten years ago, who since then has escaped the traffickers, may still be suffering from the traumatic impact of trafficking, but may not need to be institutionalised or returned back to his/her native village. Mental health services, both clinical and community-based approaches, need to be made available to all vulnerable groups such as sex workers, substance-users and survivors of trafficking.

(*The writer is a researcher, facilitator and an activist*)

Bankers, experts hail RBI's growth-oriented policy

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Bankers and financial experts on Friday hailed RBI's policy, saying the decision to keep the key repo rate unchanged is an accommodative approach to manage inflation while keeping growth as target, amid the current economic conditions.

The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) evaluated domestic and global macroeconomic and financial conditions and voted unanimously to leave the repo rate unchanged at 4 per cent, RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das said in his policy statement for the bi-monthly monetary policy review.

It also decided to continue with the accommodative stance of monetary policy as long as necessary – at least during the current financial year and into the next year – to revive growth on a durable basis and mitigate the impact of COVID-19, while ensuring that inflation remains within the target going forward.

"Today's policy statement by RBI is a perfect exposition of doing 'whatever it takes' to revive growth," SBI chairman Dinesh Kumar Khara said in a statement.

Given the expectation of inflation to stay elevated and a GDP contraction of 9.5 per cent in 2020-21, RBI has done the right thing by announcing "discretion-based" policy responses rather than being "rule based", he added.

Bank of India's chief executive A K Das said the retail and small business segments will also have better prospects by measures, such as, rationalisation of risk weight for housing loans, enhancement of regulatory retail cap and co-lending with NBFCs/HFCs.

Punjab National Bank's MD and CEO S S Mallikarjuna Rao welcomed the Rs 1 lakh crore targeted long term repo operations and said it will support the economic growth.

Friday's monetary policy was as aggressively accommodative as possible without cutting the policy rate, said Abheek Barua, Chief Economist, HDFC Bank.

"Given the stance, there is a significant probability of a rate cut in February, if not in December itself as inflation, as we expect, moderates. Has the RBI gone overboard in its effort to support growth? We think not.

"These are unprecedent times and the Indian economy's revival efforts are hobbled by the lack of adequate fiscal support. If monetary policy does have to do the heavy lifting, it cannot do it within the confines of a conventional take-no-risks framework," Barua said.

Siddhartha Sanyal, Chief Economist and Head – Research, Bandhan Bank said :"Steps such as larger quantum of OMOs and OMOs in state government securities should offer cheer for the bond market, while on-tap TLTRO and rationalization of risk weightages of housing loans are meaningful steps in the right direction. We continue to expect discussion on rate cuts to be back on the table later during the year as inflation prints start softening."

The Reserve Bank in its policy statement said it is ready to conduct market operations to assuage pressures arising out of it and dispel any illiquidity in financial markets.

"The monetary policy announcement is overall positive and growth oriented. The RBI Governor has rightly mentioned that focus must be on reviving the economy. Accordingly, the accommodative stance was as expected. The RBI's assurance on maintaining comfortable liquidity conditions will assure the markets, at the same time enable the government to go ahead with its borrowing programme smoothly," said Padmaja Chunduru, MD & CEO, Indian Bank. The policy measures recognize the growth risk the economy faces and the imperativeness of providing liquidity for growth, said R K Gurumurthy, Head – Treasury, Lakshmi Vilas Bank.

"The decision to hold rates steady would also help to protect net interest margin (NIM) of banks as a majority of the loan book is linked to the repo or other floating benchmarks," Gurumurthy said.

RBI to conduct on-tap TLTRO worth ₹1 lakh cr

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Friday said it will conduct on-tap targeted long-term repo operations (TLTRO) worth Rs 1 lakh crore to ensure comfortable liquidity condition in the banking system.

As a special case, the central bank also announced open market operations (OMOs) in state development loans (SDL) in the current financial year. "It has been decided to conduct on-tap TLTRO with tenors of up to three years for a total amount of up to Rs 1 lakh crore at a floating rate linked to the policy repo rate," RBI governor Shaktikanta Das said while announcing the monetary policy earlier in the day.

Sensex rallies 327 pts

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Stock market benchmark Sensex rallied 327 points on Friday as financial stocks advanced following the RBI's accommodative policy stance and steps to boost liquidity to the banking sector.

Extending its gains for the seventh straight session -- the longest winning streak in almost a year -- the 30-share BSE Sensex rose by 326.82 points or 0.81 per cent higher at 40,509.49.

The broader NSE Nifty rose by 79.60 points or 0.67 per cent to 11,914.20 with banking, IT and infrastructure stocks rising up to 4 per cent.

RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das' comments on expectation of GDP turning positive in the January-March quarter of the current financial year fuelled the market rally, traders said.

"Indian indices took a leap today following the positive announcements of TLTRO & OMO, which will help in maintaining a good level of funds available at cheap rates from RBI to the industry," Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services said. The RBI in its monetary policy on Friday announced that it will conduct on-tap targeted long-term repo operations (TLTRO) worth Rs 1 lakh crore to ensure comfortable liquidity condition in the banking system. As a special case, the central bank also announced open market operations (OMOs) in state development loans (SDL) in the current financial year. Rate-sensitive banking and financial stocks ended on a positive note, with the BSE bankex and finance rising up to 2.64 per cent. Positive announcements with regards to rationalisation of risk weights for all new housing loans until March 31, 2022, was a shot for retail banks and housing finance companies, Paras Bothra, President of Equity Research, Ashika Stock Broking stated.

Relief to exporters: RBI discontinues automatic caution-listing system

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The Reserve Bank of India on Friday announced discontinuing the system-based automatic caution-listing of exporters, a move aimed at providing flexibility to exporters in terms of realisation of export proceeds. Exports have been adversely impacted by the pandemic-related contraction in external demand, RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das said during a virtual press conference after the meeting of the Monetary Policy Committee. "In this environment, it is crucial to provide flexibility to exporters in the realisation of export proceeds and to empower them to negotiate better terms with overseas buyers," he said. As part of automation of Export Data Processing and Monitoring System (EDPMS), the 'Caution/ De-caution Listing' of exporters was automated in 2016. Accordingly, the exporters were to be caution-listed automatically, if any shipping bill against them remained outstanding for more than two years in EDPMS and no extension was granted for realisation of export proceeds against the outstanding shipping bill.

Real estate developers welcome RBI's decision to lower risk weightage on home loans

New Delhi: Real estate developers on Friday welcomed RBI's decision to lower risk weightage on housing loans, saying it would boost credit flow to the sector, but demanded more steps to revive the industry.

The RBI decided to rationalise risk weights by linking them only with LTV (Loan to Value) ratios for all new housing loans sanctioned up to March 31, 2022. With lowering of risk weightage, the requirement of capital provision for banks will come down. CREDAI National President Satish Magar said linking of housing loans to LTV would boost housing demand.

The move to extend co-lending scheme to non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) and housing finance companies (HFCs) may infuse additional liquidity, he said, but added that realty sector might not get benefit due to strict due diligence norms and eligibility criteria.

"Now that RBI has recognized realty sector as the largest employer, it should also announce steps that are imperative and crucial for the sector's survival and then introduce measures that will aid the sector's revival," Magar said. **PTI**

Sebi strengthens debenture trustees role to protect investors

New Delhi (PTI): With an aim to protect the interest of investors, capital markets regulator Sebi has strengthened the role of debenture trustees asking them to independently evaluate and monitor the asset cover. The decision comes as several defaults were seen in the debt markets. To give this effect, Sebi has amended debenture trustee norms and ILDS (Issue and Listing of Debt Securities Regulations), the regulator said in two separate notifications on Thursday.

NIFTY 50

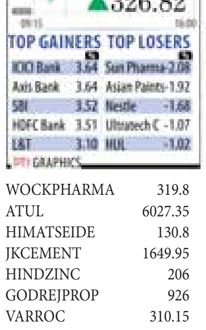
SCRIP	OPEN	HIgh	LOW	LTP	CHANGE
NIFTY 50	11,852.05	11,938.60	11,805.20	11,914.20	79.6
WIPRO	362	376.1	357.25	375.25	15.8
ICICIBANK	390.7	403.5	386.9	403.25	15.75
AXISBANK	453.3	469.8	450.15	468.8	16.9
SBIN	192	198.8	190.55	198.55	7.05
HDFCBANK	1,201.00	1,237.00	1,191.65	1,235.20	43.4
LT	887.4	914.95	885.6	910.05	29
GAIL	84.5	86.35	83.3	86.1	1.95
SHREECEM	20,800.00	21,250.00	20,686.50	21,192.00	456.45
ONGC	69	70.6	68.25	69.9	1.45
HEROMOTOCO	3,300.00	3,340.00	3,267.05	3,340.00	60.85
COALINDIA	113.35	115.9	112.3	115.2	1.9
INFY	1,095.10	1,113.30	1,088.45	1,111.20	17.5
BPCL	340.5	350.2	339.6	345.45	5.4
IOC	74.6	77.5	74.6	76.5	1
INDUSINDBK	618.05	633	615	624.1	6.4
HCLTECH	852.9	862.5	849.3	857	7.45
HDFC	1,945.00	2,029.85	1,938.00	1,966.00	16.75
BAJAJFINSV	5,885.00	6,014.00	5,870.00	5,920.00	48.05
NTPC	82.85	83.15	81.65	83.05	0.45
ITC	167.5	168.9	166.35	168	0.85
EICHERMOT	2,211.20	2,234.70	2,196.65	2,219.90	11.1
KOTAKBANK	1,323.00	1,338.25	1,305.60	1,321.90	1.8
BHARTIARTL	428	435	423.3	425	0.55
TITAN	1,254.15	1,269.00	1,247.50	1,254.95	0.8
RELIANCE	2,235.00	2,253.00	2,217.10	2,239.00	-0.25
BAJFINANCE	3,324.90	3,418.45	3,305.00	3,325.15	-1.3
POWERGRID	158.7	159.35	156.7	158.15	-0.15
M&M	634.15	647.45	628.3	633	-1.15
MARUTI	7,060.00	7,159.00	7,001.00	7,059.50	-20.35
BAJAJ-AUTO	3,080.00	3,097.65	3,027.60	3,059.65	-14.9
JSWSTEEL	293.15	298.35	291.05	291.5	-1.45
TECHM	860.5	862.45	845.25	856	-4.3
TCS	2,810.00	2,829.85	2,780.00	2,811.00	-14.7
TATASTEEL	376.05	386.95	367.05	371.35	-2.3
DRREDDY	5,151.00	5,258.00	5,136.00	5,158.00	-36.4
ADANIPORTS	361	362.45	355.15	357	-2.75
HINDUNILVR	2,150.00	2,166.95	2,121.10	2,143.10	-17.7
CIPLA	813	825	800.35	804.65	-6.8
ULTRACEMCO	4,340.00	4,374.95	4,275.50	4,300.00	-46
DIVISLAB	3,255.00	3,269.90	3,180.10	3,191.70	-39.75
BRITANNIA	3,807.00	3,818.65	3,735.00	3,745.25	-49.45
HDFCLIFE	587	589	568.6	575	-8.15
TATAMOTORS	141.15	142.65	138	138.6	-2.35
NESTLEIND	16,250.00	16,350.00	15,985.00	16,033.00	-271.6
ASIANPAINT	2,094.00	2,108.90	2,045.15	2,050.75	-37.9
SBILIFE	826.15	827.3	803.5	804	-17.05
SUNPHARMA	525	529.3	511.05	513	-11.1
UPL	510.4	513.2	495.9	497.45	-11.95
HINDALCO	177	181.45	169.25	169.85	-4.4
GRASIM	769.55	772.9	742.25	749.6	-20.75

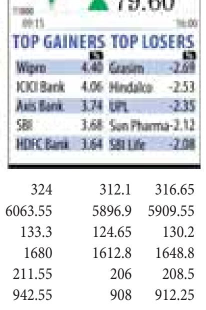
NIFTY NEXT 50

SCRIP	OPEN	HIgh	LOW	LTP	CHANGE
NIFTY NEXT 50	27,556.30	27,610.00	27,373.15	27,410.30	-78.7
PNB	28	29	27.65	28.95	1.15
BANKBARODA	42.5	44.45	41.95	44.35	1.75
UBL	965.3	1,004.15	965.3	991	30.25
HAVELLS	688.3	712.85	687.2	708.55	21.5
ADANITRANS	283.8	291.9	280.2	290.4	8.8
HINDPETRO	171.2	177.25	170.65	175.9	4.95
INDIGO	1,339.80	1,394.45	1,323.80	1,364.95	34.1
LTI	2,849.00	2,950.00	2,814.25	2,926.00	64.6
BANDHANBNK	320.95	330	318.6	325.45	6.65
HINDZINC	208	211.75	207.25	208.15	3.15
HDFCAMC	2,346.70	2,374.20	2,330.20	2,370.00	22.5
DMART	2,068.00	2,090.90	2,035.05	2,085.00	19.65
COLPAL	1,453.00	1,477.45	1,443.15	1,464.65	13.1
CONCOR	363	383	360.85	369	3
PGHH	9,976.00	9,990.00	9,862.30	9,989.90	47.2
OFSS	3,061.40	3,091.00	3,049.70	3,072.00	12.45
MCDOWELL-N	522.45	526.95	517.45	522.1	1.45
AMBUJACEM	236.55	240.55	235	238.75	0.6
PEL	1,325.95	1,336.85	1,292.40	1,320.10	2.3
SBICARD	850	852.8	841	848.6	1.3
MOTHERSUMI	121	123.15	119.8	120.3	0.15
ABBOTINDIA	16,138.00	16,300.00	16,000.00	16,075.00	16.2
PFC	86.8	88.75	86.55	86.9	0.05
NAUKRI	3,490.00	3,505.00	3,446.70	3,460.00	-0.65
BAJAJHLDNG	2,402.05	2,430.00	2,369.00	2,400.00	-0.55
CADILAHC	436	447.9	435	435.5	-0.6
GICRE	122.15	123.45	120.9	121.8	-0.35
MARICO	372	378.05	368.45	370.5	-1.15
ALKEM	2,741.00	2,753.00	2,705.55	2,720.25	-11.3
AUROPHARMA	840.95	851.4	828.6	834.25	-3.5
ICICIGI	1,248.70	1,260.75	1,240.20	1,245.00	-6.7
MUTHOOTFIN	1,154.75	1,158.70	1,130.05	1,142.40	-6.6
DABUR	524.6	524.6	516	518.6	-3.45
PETRONET	220.5	222.5	217.25	218.65	-1.55
SIEMENS	1,292.10	1,298.30	1,273.50	1,283.65	-10.4
ICICIPRULI	435.8	435.8	425.4	430	-3.65
PIDILITIND	1,488.00	1,491.60	1,465.35	1,473.00	-13.55
GODREJCP	727	731.9	715.6	719.6	-7.15
ACC	1,511.60	1,531.50	1,502.00	1,503.10	-14.8
NMDC	83.05	83.9	81.35	81.65	-0.85
BOSCHLTD	12,920.00	13,014.35	12,650.45	12,700.05	-141.65
LUPIN	1,048.65	1,055.85	1,025.00	1,028.00	-15.25
DLF	159.5	162.65	155.8	157.3	-2.5
ADANIGREEN	695.8	713	680.1	682.35	-13.8
BERGEPAINT	615	615.5	599.55	602.4	-13
TORNTPHARM	2,893.00	2,934.00	2,790.00	2,799.95	-66.5
IGL	390.75	392	380.8	381.55	-9.2
INFRATEL	191	192.9	184.8	185.75	-5.25
TATACONSUM	490.2	493.05	470.05	472.9	-15.35
BIOCON	473.5	478	449.5	451.5	-17.65

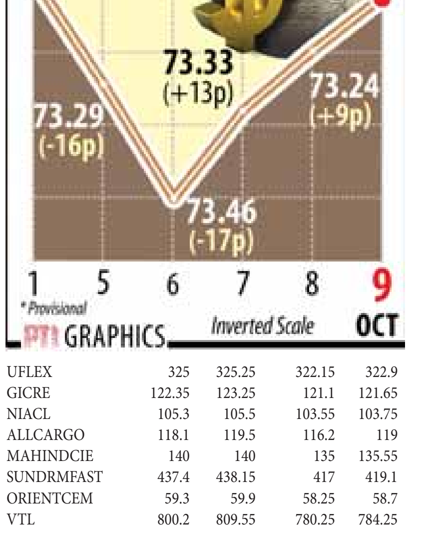
BSE 500

Script	Open	High	Low	LTP
HDFCBANK	1200	1236.95	1191.9	1233.7
ICICIBANK	388.6	403.5	386.8	401.65
VEDL	117.2	128.5	111.5	122.1
WIPRO	363	375.85	355	374.1
BAJFINANCE	3333.7	3417.7	3305.1	3317.7
RELIANCE	2237	2252.65	2217.2	2233.7
INFY	1099	1113.65	1088.5	1107.55
TCS	2823	2828.75	2781	2814.95
SBIN	191.5	198.7	190.6	198.25
DRREDDY	5146	5255.85	5135.2	5152
HDFC	1938	2028.85	1938	1957.25
INDUSINDBK	618	633	615.1	622.9
MARUTI	7050	7155.65	6997	7061.65
AXISBANK	453.9	469.55	450.2	468.2
KOTAKBANK	1320.1	1338.3	1306.15	1320.05
BHARTIARTL	427	434.95	423.45	425.15
LICHSGFIN	292.8	315.8	290.5	306.45
GLAXO	1571.45	1577.35	1545.6	1558.95
FORTIS	136.65	136.8	132.9	133.8
BPCL	341	350.2	339.7	344.95
GRASIM	771	772	742.45	744.8
CIPLA	814	825	800.25	803.3
LT	887.8	914.7	887	908.35
TATASTEEL	375.2	386.9	367.3	369.75
JINDALSTEL	195	202	192.25	193.8
HINDALCO	175	181.35	169.2	169.75
ITC	167.5	168.95	166.4	167.85
TATAMOTORS	141.4	142.65	138	138.45
ONGC	69	70.6	68.25	70.35
HCLTECH	850.5	862	849.55	856
LAURUSLABS	341.7	341.7	325	326.6
IDEA	9.06	9.18	8.87	8.9
BANDHANBNK	320	329.95	318.75	325.65
IBULHSGFIN	150.9	157.25	149.1	154.9
HINDUNILVR	2145	2165.55	2120.65	2138.85
RBLBANK	175.75	181.95	172.3	180.05
BIOCON	474.4	477.9	449.4	451.3
BAJAJFINSV	5860	6012	5860	5915.4
TORNTPHARM	2887	2939.3	2790.45	2799.15
EICHERMOT	2219.75	2234	2196.35	2218.95
SBICARD	850	852.65	841.4	850.6
COALINDIA	113.15	115.9	112	114.9
BANKBARODA	42.25	44.45	41.9	44.3
CADILAHC	437	447.95	435.15	437.1
TATACONSUM	490	492.9	470	471.5
AUROPHARMA	841.2	851.25	829.05	834.2
THYROCARE	1005	1115.7	980	1069.25
DLF	161	162.5	155.9	156.9
MINDTREE	1462.15	1518	1415.05	1504.2
INDIGO	1334.35	1393.3	1326	1367.35
TITAN	1251.2	1269.05	1247.7	1254.9
BAYERCROP	5742.35	5797	5700.2	5713.6
FEDERALBNK	52.05	53.15	51.75	52.95
JSWSTEEL	289.1	298.35	289.1	292.05
MOTHERSUMI	121.1	123.15	119.85	121.05
ASHOKLEY	76.5	77.1	75.4	75.85
SUNPHARMA	527	529.4	511.3	513.15
APOLLOHOSP	2249.9	2313	2243	2277.25
ZEEL	209.9	209.9	198.05	200.7
JUSTDIAL	439	446	408.25	415.35
FRETAIL	80	83	77.55	78.25
DIVISLAB	3254	3264.45	3178.85	3188.4
ASIANPAINT	2090	2107.15	2046.45	2050.4
M&M	635	647.45	628.55	633.35
M&MFIN	130.7	136.5	130.15	133.35
HEROMOTOCO	3300	3336.7	3270	3330.35
HDFCLIFE	587	588.4	568.75	573.05
HINDPETRO	172.1	177.2	170.7	176.1
PNB	27.85	29	27.6	28.9
TECHM	857	862.35	845.5	854.6
PEL	1339	1339	1292.4	1319.75
IOC	75	77.45	74.6	76.5
IDFCFIRSTB	31.55	32.15	31	31.9
GRANULES	372.8	383.75	370	377.75
GLENMARK	500	505.8	489.5	492
MUTHOOTFIN	1160	1160	1130	1141.8
AUBANK	714	781.4	714	740.25
GAIL	84.95	86.4	83.35	85.35
SAIL	34.5	35.15	33.85	33.95
MGL	843.8	843.8	821.45	823.45
ESCORTS	1255	1258	1218	1221.35
POWERGRID	158.4	159.3	156.75	157.9
SRTRANSFIN	635.95	649.9	630.5	641.15
L&TFH	62.2	64	62.2	62.9
ADANIENT	316.75	322.15	310.25	312.65
LUPIN	1050	1055	1026	1028.55
UBL	971	1003	965.75	989.1
ASTRAL	1140	1140	1101.05	1124.2
MPHASIS	1406.55	1409.2	1377.6	1382.35
SIEMENS	1292.9	1297	1274.35	1284
INFRATEL	191.9	192.8	184.95	186.3
HAVELLS	687	712	686.5	710.05
INDIAMART	4978	5041.4	4780.9	5000.5
AMBER	1953	1981.25	1863	1872.65
NESTLEIND	16380	16380	15998.05	16045
MANAPPURAM	162.1	168.15	162.1	166.15
LALPATHLAB	2130	2180	2046.6	2054.7
BAJAJ-AUTO	3077	3095	3026.8	3058.3
ULTRACEMCO	4338	4372	4277	4298
BHEL	29.4	29.4	28.9	29.1
PVR	1273	1276.95	1256	1268.25
CANBK	90.9	93.75	88.8	92.45
ACC	1519	1531.5	1502.25	1505.65
TRIDENT	7.72	8.13	7.64	7.99
REPCOHOME	198.8	218.5	193.35	212.8
BATAINDIA	1369	1372	1350	1352.9
JUBLFOOD	2331.25	2343.65	2292.8	2299.45
BRITANNIA	3829.9	3829.9	3735	3744.8
PARAGMILK	100.5	120.7	99.25	115.35
GMM	3583	3675	3565.1	3629.45
LTI	2860	2950	2829.7	2929.3
MARICO	372.8	378	368.6	369.5
BLISSGVS	175.5	175.5	173.75	175.3
CANFINHOME	439.85	478.4	438.7	463.9
CHOLAFIN	251.2	258.2	250.85	253.35
MRF	60600.05	60600.05	58513.1	58769.6
PNBHOUSING	352.3	378.85	351.1	375.35
UPL	509.1	512.55	496.2	497.3
SUNTV	472.6	472.8	457	460.35
IRCTC	1355	1364.9	1348.55	1351
DMART	2079.95	2099	2035	2057.65
DABUR	522.5	524	516.3	518.9
CONCOR	369	382.8	360.65	369.25
ADVENZYMES	345	368.6	333.8	359.3
NTPC	83.4	83.4	81.65	82.9
DEEPAKNI	767.9	776.2	760.75	762.7
DIXON	8600	8676.7	8410	8492.15
SRF	4201.55	4295	4201.55	4267.7
ADANIGREEN	699	712.75	681	683.85
BALKRISIND	1431.05	1451.5	1402.5	1406.1
BHARATFORG	470	477.95	464.2	465.6
IGL	393	393	381	381.6
HAL	798.1	805	781	785.15
APOLLOTYRE	136.75	138.55	135.7	137.8
SBILIFE	832	832	803.65	806.15
VOLTAS	693.1	697.75	679.75	689.6
PFC	86.9	88.7	86.6	86.8
BEL	93.55	94	91.85	92.7
PETRONET	220.2	222.45	217.3	218.25
COFORGE	2474.7	2500	2419.55	2464.95
TVSMOTOR	475.5	478.9	467.8	471.4
CUMMINSIND	446.7	452.05	430.25	431.8
TATAELXSI	1400	1408.1	1373.1	1395.65
COLPAL	1450	1476	1444.3	1461.7
SHK	87.4	95.7	87.25	92.85
BEML	607.7	644	599	622
PAGEIND	20951.85	21110.1	20800.15	20936.55
BSOFT	200	200.95	193	198.25
RECLTD	99.05	100.55	97.65	98.05
AMBUJACEM	238.5	240.4	235.1	239.35
PFIZER	5083.9	5083.9	4963.2	5021
ICICIPRULI	435.95	435.95	425.75	429.25
HDFCAMC	2346	2373.65	2329.05	2368.35
NATIONALUM	31.05	32	31.05	31.35
CUB	147.4	152.65	147.4	150.95
ADANIPORTS	361.65	362.35	355.35	357.3
GODREJCP	726.5	731.35	717.3	719.8
SHREECEM	20745	21257.2	20745	21191.2
METROPOLIS	1937.5	2029.95	1917.05	1966.7
AFFLE	2645	2773.85	2630	2773.85
TATAPOWER	55.25	55.45	54.25	54.45
BOSCHLTD	13250	13250	12665.55	12721.15
STAR	723.5	723.5	699	709.5
FINEORG	2538.5	2655.4	2533.5	2617.7
ADANIGAS	190.3	191.95	188	188.6
TATACHEM	301.8	304.65	300.35	301.4
CGCL	238	248	238	240.5
BIRLACORPN	622	655	621.95	629





Script	Open	High	Low	LTP
WOCKPHARMA	319.8	324	312.1	316.65
ATUL	6027.35	6063.55	5896.9	5909.55
HIMATSEIDE	130.8	133.3	124.65	130.2
JKCEMENT	1649.95	1680	1612.8	1648.8
HINDZINC	206	211.55	206	208.5
GODREJPROP	926	942.55	908	912.25
VARROC	310.15	335.1	306.65	313.95
PERSISTENT	1329.9	1329.9	1287.75	1303.35
SOLARINDS	1125	1160	1080.1	1089.8
KPITTECH	120	122.25	115.1	116
SYNGENE	555	566.6	543	559.9
CYIENT	385	391.6	381.35	382.9
LTTS	1647.9	1673.5	1613.5	1627.4
ALKEM	2736.6	2750.85	2705	2721.2
ASTRAZEN	4250	4293.85	4229	4260.7
UJJIVAN	218	222.95	217.3	218.55
NCC	34	34.2	33.45	33.8
INFIBEAM	86	88.55	82.65	87.85
ADANITRANS	282	291.9	280.3	289.75
NOCIL	149.5	151.3	146.75	147.85
VINATIORGA	1229	1242.1	1199.95	1215.3
BAJAJELEC	511.1	533	507	520.75
RAMCOCEM	750.1	774.9	750.1	770.3
SWANENERGY	129.65	134.45	128.5	132.4
DCAL	167.4	173.4	166.45	170.1
NAUKRI	3475	3500.45	3447	3457.1
BANKINDIA	40.2	42	40.2	41.55
APLAPOLLO	2897.6	2900	2828.5	2840.6
COROMANDEL	740	741.45	718	723.9
MFSL	606.5	607.45	599.85	601.65
CAPPL	578.05	587	565.1	568.7
EXIDEIND	167.7	167.7	162.8	164.5
NBCC	23.35	23.7	23	23.35
JUBILANT	720.25	730	712.3	715.25
INDHOTEL	97.15	98.7	96	96.2
NMDC	83.15	83.7	81.35	81.5
GSFC	67.15	69	66.6	67.3
IRCON	77.7	78	74.3	74.8
BERGEPAINT	611	615	599.5	602.85
TATAMTRDVR	63	63.4	61.15	61.55
MCX	1710	1734	1710	1715.95
DELTACORP	109.05	110.05	107.35	109.4
WELSPUNIND	69.05	71.25	68.1	69.8
SUMICHEM	283.85	287.5	282.45	283.2
SOUTHBANK	6.88	6.93	6.75	6.87
RELAXO	650	659.45	646.45	648.85
IEX	201	201	192.4	194.15
PIIND	2035	2065.7	2011.7	2021.5
PIDILITIND	1495	1495	1465.9	1472.55
VBL	680	680	655	659.45
TRENT	686.25	686.25	666.6	678.7
AVANTI	506.1	510.35	503	505.7
3MINDIA	18944.95	19530	18900	19472.1
UNIONBANK	24.7	25	24.25	24.9
LAXMIMACH	3752.85	3822	3750	3800.05
DCBBANK	78.95	79.9	78.55	78.95
JSWENERGY	57	57.05	56	56.5
ICICIGI	1269	1269	1240.25	1247.3
TORNTPOWER	303	308.15	302.6	303.3
ABCAPITAL	63.75	64.7	62.35	63.85
KEI	345	345	334	334.8
POLYCAB	823.95	823.95	809.25	811.5
PGHL	5346	5410	5328.55	5352.55
IDFC	30.45	30.45	29.75	29.85
ITI	126.25	126.8	124.1	124.8
HFCL	16.65	17	16.35	16.7
AMARAJABAT	748	748	730	741.2
CASTROLIND	112.45	112.45	110.1	110.8
PTC	47.15	49.25	47.15	49.1
RVNL	18.95	19	18.55	18.7
GARFIBRES	2216	2249.95	2113	2135.95
ABFRL	129.4	130.6	128	129.1
AARTIIND	1012.2	1015.85	998	999.6
APLLTD	954	975.4	944	955.55
SUZLON	2.91	2.96	2.87	2.94
FCONSUMER	7.66	7.89	7.66	7.7
CENTRALBK	12.7	12.9	12.35	12.45
BDL	311.25	314.65	302.25	304.55
NATCOPHARM	943.85	945.55	933.05	940.15
IPCALAB	2140	2144.5	2098	2107.45
OBEROIRLTY	393.05	393.3	376	379
PGHH	9906.75	9992.75	9875	9976.7
GRAPHITE	197.15	197.5	194.85	195.3
BLUEDART	3125	3247.5	3091	3135.5
DISHTV	13.38	13.61	13.26	13.47
NAVINFLUOR	2044	2044.3	1957.3	1978.25
ZYDUSWELL	1788	1850	1763.5	1801.7
RCF	47.9	47.9	46.1	46.8
INOXLEISUR	284.85	286.2	280.95	284.2
GMRINFRA	23.95	23.95	23.4	23.45
SCI	52	53.55	51.8	52.65
INDIACEM	118.2	120.75	118.1	119
SPANDANA	607.35	618.5	589.7	596.7
INDIANB	58.6	61.4	58	60.15
INTELLECT	235.65	242	233.1	239.95
STRTECH	152.65	153	148.2	148.95
KPRMILL	658.45	695.5	656.65	666.05
TV18BRDCST	30.35	30.5	29.6	30.1
SUDARSCHEM	455	471.5	454.05	456.1
SPICEJET	51.4	51.4	49.8	50
VGUARD	169	169	163.8	165.25
SOBHA	266.85	266.85	258	261
CEATLTD	1003.95	1006.65	991	1000.15
SUNTECK	255	257.1	252.75	255.45
BBTC	1295.9	1299.9	1275.7	1280.55
AJANTPHARM	1608	1608	1567.65	1576.3
NAM-INDIA	270.05	272.6	264	269.25
ENGINERSIN	62.85	63.6	62.7	63.25
WABAG	191.9	192	186	187.35
RAJESHEXPO	460	460.5	449.15	451.5
JMFINANCIL	82	82.8	80.6	82.1
GNFC	211	211	206.15	206.55
BAJAJHLDNG	2404	2415.85	2371	2398.4
DHANUKA	732.45	750	729	732.8
KALPATPOWR*	235.25	236.6	232.5	234.25
CENTURYTEX	333	336.2	329.75	330.5
IDBI	34.9	35.25	34.2	34.7
ABB	865	880.8	863.45	874.25
JAICORPLTD	86.35	87.3	85	85.55
BALMLAWRIE	101.85	103	99.85	102.4
PHILIPCARB	127.3	127.65	124.6	126.8
RAYMOND	289	289	284.25	285.65
PRESTIGE	262	264.9	257	258.3
GILLETTE	5297	5361.95	5275	5302.45
HEG	730	734.4	725	725.95
VMART	1993.2	2031.5	1961.4	1995.85
SPARC	176.85	176.85	171.5	172.95
FSL	71.05	71.3	69.6	70.3
GODREJAGRO	531.15	543.7	522.5	532.4
CESC	605	613.8	601.7	609.65
IRB	111.55	113.45	110.8	112.4
JAMNAAUTO	44.15	44.4	43.45	43.6
EIHOTEL	76.5	79.55	76.5	78.05
RADICO	410	418	410	412.65
MEGH	78.8	78.8	76.25	76.65
JBCHEPHARM	988	999	970.6	979.95
BALRAMCHIN	161.6	163.8	157.1	157.85
ERIS	517.05	527.9	512.25	517.65
DEEPAKFERT	152	152	148.5	149.6
KEC	350	350.05	337.2	340.9
EIDPARRY	280.8	281.35	277.75	278.45
ADANIPOWER	36.3	36.75	36.05	36.6
FDC	351.7	358.6	349.2	350.7
ASHOKA	63.8	64.25	63.2	63.35
GUJGAS	306.75	310.1	302	303.55
HONAUT	31407.55	31407.55	30891.55	31004.55
ESSELPRO	254	256.85	248.9	251.35
VIPIND	289	294.5	289	291.45
NHPC	20.05	20.5	20.05	20.45
ISEC	476	476	464.7	465.5
RITES	246.9	247	243	244
IBREALEST	50.3	51.4	49.5	50.15
LINDEINDIA	789.5	800.55	781.2	787.55
SANOFI	8471	8669.55	8471	8620.15
JINDALSAW	62.95	63	61.5	61.85
JAGRAN	36.6	36.85	29.55	36.35
EQUITAS	53.95	54	52.65	53.2
CHENNPETRO	67.3	68.8	66.75	67.6
ALKYLAMINE	3225.6	3276.9	3205	3217.6
CHAMBLFERT	165.05	168.2	165.05	167.3
SWSOLAR	220.2	221.75	214.1	219
EMAMILTD	354.7	355	341.2	343.6
KTKBANK	41	42.2	40.9	41.8
BOMDYEING	64.25	64.7	63.45	63.7
OFSS	3073	3090	3050.1	3070.7
HAWKINCOOK	5148.95	5148.95	5050	5090.05
HSCL	51.35	52.65	50.8	51.05
HUDCO	32.6	33.8	32.35	32.75
GALAXYSURF	1839	1888.8	1810.95	1824.05
UCOBANK	11.92	12.31	11.8	12.14
OIL	90.9	90.9	88.8	89.45
SONATSOFTW	323.3	329.1	321.8	327.5
RALLIS	271.2	275.25	267.25	269.9
GSPL	195.75	195.75	190.15	192.85
NESCO	510	529.75	510	525.95
GUJALKALI	331.9	332	322.55	325.8
DBCORP	78.85	78.85	77	77.3
BAJAJCON	180	181.15	176.6	177.6
WELCORP	115	117.6	113.6	114
IFBIND	640.4	662.05	638.15	645.7
PRSMJOHNSN	66.35	67.1	63.8	65.05
MIDHANI	195	195.3	192	192.45
TIMETECHNO	43.45	43.45	40.85	41.75
VENKYS	1482	1492.5	1455.7	1463.15
POWERINDIA	937	944.9	935	938.1
ABBOTINDIA	16086	16148.45	16018.5	16054.45
WESTLIFE	397.5	403.05	390	392.05
TATACOMM	856	875	854.05	857.8
KAJARIACER	526	529.95	522.75	527.15
AAVAS	1436.45	1475.5	1436.45	1459.55
RAIN	99	99.05	96.5	96.8
TATACOFFEE	103	104.3	102.25	103.9
CREDITACC	724.55	737.1	723.95	728.85
INDOCO	261.7	265.2	251.1	254.1
LEMONTREE	27.8	27.95	27.15	27.65
KANSAINER	475.05	485	475.05	483.65
JKPAPER*	93	93	90.6	91.25
MAHABANK	11.21	11.45	11.18	11.29
HEIDELBERG	188.55	190.05	186.35	186.9
AEGISLOG	222.15	225.15	217.5	218.45
TIINDIA	612	612	585	588.25
JKTYRE	58	59.2	58	58.15
GODFRYPHLP	915	915	898.2	899.95
HEXAWARE	469.85	469.85	466.75	467.1
ECLERX	724.4	730	712	716.05
GMDCLTD	45.4	45.8	44.8	44.9
JCHAC	2302.05	2333.15	2264.3	2289.6
LUXIND	1454.5	1476.8	1439.95	1449.45
CARBORUNIV	260	260	248.45	249.7
CERA	2527.15	2532.1	2471.15	2503.25
GREAVESCOT	73.75	73.8	72.6	72.9
FINOLEXIND	493	513.85	493	504.1
CARERATING	353.15	367	353.15	360.75
EDELWEISS	62.05	64.85	61.95	62.45
FORCEMOT	1065.95	1067	1050	1052.05
SHOPERSTOP	178.95	179.5	174	176.25
IOB	9.21	9.4	9.21	9.27
DBL	348.2	348.35	339.05	341.3
THERMAX	739.85	744.85	729.95	735.95
WABCOINDIA	5678	5678	5526.35	5578.2
GHCL	154	156.35	153	153.8
WHIRLPOOL	2116.95	2140	2102.5	2114.8
SJVN	21.8	21.8	21.65	21.75
FINCABLES	275	285.6	275	282.8
ZENSARTECH	193.55	193.55	190	190.45
KRBL	277	277.75	272.6	274.7
CCL	255	258.55	254.8	256.6
QUESS	414	421	405.35	409.25
TAKE	47.25	47.25	45.75	45.9
COCHINSHIP	340	340	334	334.5
SCHNEIDER	77.55	79.25	77.15	77.5
SUPREMEIND	1326.1	1372.8	1323.7	1364.25
BASF	1500	1520.25	1489	1490.3
ASTERDM	136	140	136	137.75
CSBBANK	228.15	233.6	225.95	227.55
NH	363	364	343.15	346.95
SOMANYCERA	200.05	206.15	200.05	203.8
JKLAKSHMI	262	269.85	262	266.05
PHOENIXLTD	575	583	561.6	564.75
CENTURYPLY	168.35	173.9	168.35	170.75
SUPRAJIT	200	200.45	189.35	193.25
J&KBANK	15.05	15.2	14.95	15.09
ENDURANCE	1077.2	1099.9	1062.95	1078.1
BLUESTARCO	635	647.8	628	632.4
MRPL	26.5	26.95	26.3	26.4
MOIL	135.1	136.65	135.1	135.45
JYOTHYLAB	145.95	146.5	144.05	144.85
CROMPTON	274.55	275.3	272.15	274.1
DALBHARAT	769.35	782.65	756	777.3
VSTIND	3351	3376	3327.3	3332.6



Script	Open	High	Low	LTP
UFLEX	325	325.25	322.15	322.9
GICRE	122.35	123.25	121.1	121.65
NIACL	105.3	105.5	103.55	103.75
ALLCARGO	118.1	119.5	116.2	119
MAHINDCIE	140	140	135	135.55
SUNDRMFAST	437.4	438.15	417	419.1
ORIENTCEM	59.3	59.9	58.25	58.7
VTL	800.2	809.55	780.25	784.25
HATHWAY	31.4	32.6	31.15	31.75
GESHIP	233	233.5	226.6	227.85
GODREJIND	397.25	397.8	391.3	395.35
REDINGTON	121	121	119	119.2
INDOSTAR	287.7	296.7	287.7	291.95
CHOLAHLDNG	403.3	413.95	390	410.8
LAOPALA	224.05	225.1	220	220.8
KNRCON	253	257.95	253	256.15
TASTYBIT	10607.05	10690.95	10400	10542
HINDCOPPER	33.1	33.45	32.85	32.95
SHANKARA	355	355	338.65	341.85
GRSE	217.2	219.75	216.3	217.1
TATAINVEST	882.5	882.5	862.05	874.85
TTKPRESTIG	5979.15	6129.2	5955	5975.15
VRLLOG	165	165.2	159.2	161.7
JTEKTINDIA	77.95	82	77.75	79.15
SKFINDIA	1490	1490	1472.4	1480.7
IIFL	78	78.4	77	77.8
MINDAIND	346.95	346.95	336.2	337.5
PNCINFRA	163.65	164.75	160	161
TNPL	109.55	109.55	107.5	107.95
SIS	367.55	367.55	358	360.45
SYMPHONY	866	870.75	858	860.7
IIFLWAM	939.6	962.8	926.05	930.55
OMAXE	67	67	66	66
GEPIL	417	418.15	408	410.15
IFCI	5.8	5.91	5.76	5.85
AKZOINDIA	2027.05	2119.2	2027.05	2084.85
UJJIVANSFB	32.6	33.05	32	32.15
MAHLIFE	242	245	239	244.35
MINDACORP	71.3	71.3	70.1	70.35
RATNAMANI	1236.05	1265	1236.05	1254.75
NILKAMAL	1312.35	1316.1	1308	1309.3
MOTILALOFS	615.3	622	608.5	615.35
PCJEWELLER	14	14	13.81	13.93
NLCINDIA	52.4	52.4	50.8	51
CRISIL	1713.15	1771.35	1713.15	1757.8
HERITGFOOD	321.3	321.3	313.5	314.25
AIAENG	1769.9	1775.65	1746	1764.05
MAHSEAMLES	217.95	219.4	215.35	217.6
JSL	43.75	44.15	42.9	43.25
TATAMETALI	513	518	501.65	503.55
ARVINDFASN	132.05	132.05	129.4	130
TCIEXP	778.3	795.4	777.3	783.05
STARCEMENT	85.55	86	83.7	83.9
GET&D	88.5	89.75	87.45	88.9
ORIENTELEC	189.35	189.35	183	184.05
JSLHISAR	89	89	86	86.6
SFL	1325.65	1334.85	1320	1321.95
NBVENTURES	54.85	55.9	54.5	55.25
TEAMLEASE	2380	2380	2305.7	2311.2
MMTC	16.45	16.7	16.15	16.2
ORIENTREF	196	199.4	193.25	195.8
DCMSHRIRAM	363.7	364.9	361.7	362.3
TIMKEN	1038.75	1046.75	1034	1040.35
ESABINDIA	1342	1365	1340.9	1356.8
SCHAEFFLER	3640.2	3725.15	3606.95	3611.25
ITDC	233.5	233.8	230.35	230.75
KSB	483.2	486.3	474	475.3
GRINDWELL	545.25	552.25	542.35	545.45
GPPL	84.2	85.2	83.8	84.65
BRIGADE	173.35	173.65	168.2	170.4
MASFIN	830.6	835.05	820.75	823.15
TVSSRICHAK	1435.05	1441	1415	1439.9
TVTODAY	196.95	199.45	196.25	197.8
MAHLOG	348	348	333	334.65
NAVNETEDUL	75.6	77.3	75.6	77.1
MAHSCOOTER	2923	2969.15	2900.05	2902.05
VAIBHAVGBL	1895	1895	1860	1860.85
GULFOILLUB	646.85	647.2	636.9	639.35
FLUOROCHEM	482	483.7	479.4	480.55
MHRIL	167.05	168.1	166.25	167.4
GDL	97.15	97.15	94.55	95.55
TCNSBRANDS	389.6	389.6	380.5	382.6
SHRIRAMCIT	909.55	923.15	896.85	920.35

Trump safe to return to public life, says doctor

Completes course of therapy for Covid-19

Washington: Days after returning to the White House after being treated for Covid-19, US President Donald Trump has expressed his willingness to hold rallies for the presidential elections, with his doctor saying he is "safe" to return to public life on Saturday.

Trump, 74, and First Lady Melania tested positive for Covid-19 last week. The president was taken to a military hospital for treatment, which the White House said was taken as a "matter of abundance caution".

After spending four days, he came back to the White House on Monday. His doctors say he has had no fever since last Friday.

In a memorandum issued on Thursday night, White House physician Dr Sean Conley said, "Today, the president completed his course of therapy for Covid-19 as prescribed by his team of physicians."

Since returning home, his physical exam has remained stable and devoid of any indications to suggest progression of illness. Overall he's responded extremely well to treatment, without evidence on examination of adverse therapeutic effects, he wrote in the memo.

"Saturday will be day 10 since Thursday's diagnosis, and based on the trajectory of advanced diagnostics the team has been conducting, I fully anticipate the president's safe return to public engagements at that time," Dr Conley said.

In an interview to Fox News, Trump said that he was feeling good and was looking forward to rallies.

"I'm feeling good. Really good. I mean, perfect. And we're ready to go. I'm ready to go except the quarantine situation that you have for a little while after you get tested or whatever the procedure is. But I'm ready to do -- and I'm looking forward to doing the rallies," he said.

"I would love to do a rally tonight. I wanted to do one last night. But I think I'm better to a point that I feel better than I did, I jokingly said 20 years ago... I had a case. I got it knocked out. I think it was Regeneron that was responsible for it. Because of that, it was sort of like almost a gift from heaven because of what I went through, and I felt pretty lousy," Trump said. ***PTI***

China claims corona broke out in world's various parts last year; it only reported 1st

Beijing: China on Friday claimed that the coronavirus broke out in the various parts of the world last year but it was the only one to have reported and acted first, refuting the widely-held view that the deadly contagion originated in Wuhan before turning out to be a pandemic.

China, besides denying the US allegations that Covid-19 has emerged from a bio-lab in Wuhan, also rejected that it emanated from a wet market in the central Chinese city from bats or pangolins before infecting humans.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying told a media briefing that "the coronavirus is a new kind of virus as more and more facts emerge as reports reveal, we all know that the epidemic broke out in various places in the world at the end of last year, while China was the first to report the outbreak, identified thepathogen and shared the genome sequence with the world."

Hua's comments came in response to US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo's allegations of a cover-up by the ruling Communist Party of China (CPC).

The coronavirus crisis was infinitely made worse by the Chinese Communist Party's cover-up, Pompeo had said in Tokyo at the QUAD ministerial meeting of the US, India, Australia and Japan on Tuesday.

The Chinese Foreign Ministry statement was made as the World Health Organisation (WHO) was gearing up to probe the origin of the deadly coronavirus.

According to Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center, the contagion has infected over 36 million people and killed more than 1 million across the world. The US is the worst affected country with over 7.6 million cases and more than 2,12,000 deaths. China has reported 90,736 cases and 4,739 deaths due to Covid-19.

The WHO has given to Beijing a list of global experts to be sent to China to probe the origin of the coronavirus, Hong Kong-based South China Morning Post reported on Thursday. The WHO is awaiting its approval.

In May, the annual meeting of the World Health Assembly (WHA), the Geneva-based WHO's decision-making body currently headed by India, passed a unanimous resolution to probe the origin of the virus. China also backed the resolution.

In August, a two-member team from the WHO, which visited China, completed the groundwork for the probe into the animal source and reservoirs of the Covid-19 which first emerged in Wuhan in December last year.

On Monday, WHO health emergencies programme executive director Mike Ryan told a special meeting of the organisation's executive board that "a list of candidates has been submitted to the Chinese authorities for their consideration and for the next steps in order to deploy that team".

Hua, while refuting Pompeo's charge of a cover-up, said that a high-level group of Chinese scientists first identified the person-to-person transmission due to coronavirus on January 19. ***PTI***

Commission won't rethink shift to virtual debate

AP ■ WASHINGTON

The chair of the Commission on Presidential Debates says it is not reconsidering shifting the second debate from virtual back to in-person, despite a request from President Donald Trump's team.

Frank Fahrenkopf told The Associated Press late Thursday that the nonpartisan group's decision was not going to be reversed. That means the second debate is probably not going to happen at all.

The commission decided to make the Oct. 15 debate virtual after Trump tested positive for the coronavirus. Fahrenkopf says the group wanted to "protect the health and safety of all involved" and that the decision was guided by the advice of the Cleveland Clinic, its heath partner for the 2020 debates.

Trump's doctor, Navy Cdr. Sean Conley, said in a letter Thursday evening that Trump would be cleared to resume public activities Saturday, 10 days after his diagnosis.

Earlier Thursday, Trump balked at the virtual event and said he wouldn't participate. Biden's campaign then said Biden would participate in a town hall hosted by ABC News on Oct. 15 instead.

Trump, Barr at odds over slow pace of Durham investigation

Washington: President Donald Trump is increasingly at odds with Attorney General William Barr over the status of the Justice Department's investigation into the origin of the Russia probe, with the president increasingly critical about a lack of arrests and Barr frustrated by Trump's public pronouncements about the case, according to people familiar with the matter.

Trump and his allies had high hopes for the investigation led by Connecticut U.S. Attorney John Durham, betting it would expose what they see as wrongdoing when the FBI opened a case into whether the Trump campaign was coordinating with Russia to sway the 2016 election.

Trump has also pushed to tie prominent Obama administration officials to that effort as part of his campaign against Joe Biden, who was serving as vice president at the time.

But a year and a half into the investigation, and with less than one month until Election Day, there has been only one criminal case: a former FBI lawyer who pleaded guilty to altering a government email about a former Trump campaign adviser who was a target of secret FBI surveillance.

With time running out for pre-election action on the case, Trump is increasingly airing his dissatisfaction in tweets and television appearances. Barr, meanwhile, has privately expressed frustration over the public comments, according to a person familiar with his thinking.

It's not dissimilar to a situation earlier this year, when Trump complained publicly that he believed ally Roger Stone was getting a raw deal in his prosecution, even as Barr had already moved to amend a sentencing position of the prosecutors in the case.

Despite Trump's unhappiness, there's no indication Barr's job is at risk in the final weeks of the campaign.

Still, the tensions between Trump and the attorney general over the fate of the probe underscore the extent to which the president is aggressively trying to use all of the levers of his power to gain ground in an election that has been moving away from him. ***AP***

Russia tries to sponsor ceasefire parleys in Nagorno-Karabakh

Moscow: Russia moved to stop the worst escalation of fighting in the separatist region of Nagorno-Karabakh in more than a quarter-century by offering to host cease-fire talks on Friday. Late Thursday, Russian President Vladimir Putin issued a statement calling for a break in the fighting between the Armenian and Azerbaijani forces that have raged for nearly two weeks over the region.

The Kremlin said Putin"s initiative followed a series of calls with Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinian and Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev.

The latest outburst of fighting between Azerbaijani and Armenian forces began September 27 and marked the biggest escalation of the decades-old conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh.

The region lies in Azerbaijan but has been under control of ethnic Armenian forces backed by Armenia since the end of a separatist war in 1994.

The Kremlin said Putin proposed calling a cease-fire to exchange prisoners and collect the bodies of dead soldiers, adding that the top Azerbaijani and Armenian diplomats were invited to Moscow for consultations.

The Russian Foreign Ministry said they confirmed their attendance Friday, but there was no immediate comment from Armenia or Azerbaijan to the Russian initiative. Azerbaijani officials and Nagorno-Karabakh separatist authorities said heavy shelling continued overnight.

Fighting with heavy artillery, warplanes and drones has engulfed Nagorno-Karabakh despite numerous international calls for a cease-fire. Both sides have accused each other of targeting residential areas and civilian infrastructure.

On Thursday, a historic cathedral in the town of Shusha in Nagorno-Karabakh came under shelling, a shell piercing its dome and damaging the interior. No one was hurt in the attack, but hours later more shelling wounded two Russian journalists inspecting the damage.

The Azerbaijani military denied targeting the cathedral. ***AP***

Over 1,800 students, staff at north England Varsities test corona +ve

PTI ■ LONDON

More than 1,800 students and staff from universities across the north-east of England, currently under tougher localised lockdowns, tested positive for coronavirus over the past week.

Newcastle University said 1,003 students and 12 members of staff were confirmed to have been infected with coronavirus in the past week, compared with 94 last Friday. At Northumbria University, there were also 619 new cases and Durham University confirmed 219 cases in students in the last week.

Most universities are planning to switch to online teaching for at least three weeks, except in cases where in-person lessons are essential.

Newcastle University said "the overwhelming majority of cases" were from "social and residential settings" and said appropriate measures were being taken to protect everyone on campus.

"We expected to see cases rise in light of the increase in cases both locally and nationally and all HE (higher education) institutions have to manage this on an ongoing basis," a spokesperson said.

"We feel confident that we have appropriate measures in place to protect us all while we are on campus and to reduce the potential for transmission in our community," the spokesperson said. Durham University has asked students living in two colleges to remain on campus for the next week following the sharp rise in cases and Northumbria University said it was "continuing to make extensive efforts" to provide support for its self-isolating students with online concierge services or food parcels delivered by staff and the students' union.

Latest militia attack in Ethiopia kills 14 civilians

AP ■ ADDIS ABABA (ETHIOPIA)

A security official in Ethiopia's Western Benishangul-Gumuz region says an attack this week killed 14 civilians and security forces killed 14 militia members.

This is the latest deadly militia attack in the region. Two earlier attacks in recent weeks reportedly killed several dozen people.The head of security for the region, Gashu Dugaz, confirmed the new attack in Dangur district and said eight people were receiving medical care for injuries. He said one victim was a foreigner but did not give more details.

In a statement on Thursday, Gashu said two attackers were captured alive and five Kalashnikovs were seized.

Ethiopian troops and members of the federal and regional police are currently deployed in the region near Ethiopia's massive Grand

Ethiopian Renaissance Dam. Some parts of the region are under a military command post following the attacks.

A resident of Dangur Woreda, Abinet Tezaw, told The Associated Press that ethnic minorities in the region, Amhara and Agaws, were the target and people fear the attacks may continue. "We don't know when they will strike next," he said.

Spain's king and PM visit Barcelona amid protest

AP ■ BARCELONA

Several thousand Catalan separatists are protesting the visit of Spanish King Felipe VI and Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez to Barcelona amid continued tensions between the restive region and national authorities.

Police set up roadblocks and heavily patrolled the streets around the train station where the monarch and prime minister attended the Barcelona New Economy Week innovation awards on Friday.

The visit by Spain's heads of state and government comes less than two weeks after Catalonia's regional chief, Quim Torra, was removed from office by Spain's Supreme Court. The court ruled him unfit to hold office for having violated election laws when he refused to remove a banner from public buildings supporting imprisoned Catalan separatists during an official election campaign.

China joins COVAX alliance for global distribution of its Covid-19 vaccines

Beijing: China has officially joined the World Health Organization's (WHO) COVAX alliance to equitably distribute Covid-19 vaccines around the globe, ending speculation that it wants to supply them on its own to developing countries for its diplomatic agenda.

According to the WHO, countries should join the COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access Facility (COVAX Facility) by September 18 but not later than October 9 with upfront payments.

"On October 8, China and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, signed an agreement, officially joining COVAX," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying said in a statement on Friday.

"This is an important step China has taken to uphold the concept of a shared community of health for all and to honour its commitment to turn Covid-19 vaccines into a global public good," she said, apparently refuting reports that China plans to distribute the vaccines to developing countries on its own ahead of developed countries. WHO announced in August that "172 economies are now engaged in discussions to potentially participate in COVAX, a global initiative aimed at working with vaccine manufacturers to provide countries worldwide equitable access to safe and effective vaccines, once they are licensed and approved". ***PTI***

Korean group must remove Berlin tribute to comfort women

Berlin: A Berlin district has ordered a local Korean group to remove a statue commemorating women used as sex slaves by Japan during World War II, saying Friday it goes beyond what had been approved.

The issue of sex slaves, euphemistically called "comfort women," has been a major source of friction between South Korea and Japan, and the district's decision came after Japan expressed irritation about the statue depicting a woman sitting next to an empty chair. Stephan von Dassel, mayor of the central Mitte district, said permission had been given for the Korean organization to display a "peace statue" for one year, as a broad "statement against sexualized violence against women in armed conflicts." Instead, he said, the statue unveiled in late September "exclusively addresses the behavior of the Japanese army in World War II." "This has led to irritation in Japan on a national and local level and also in Berlin," he said in a statement. ***AP***

FROM PAGE 1

YOGI: BJP GOVT WIPED OUT MAFIA

that had no faith in development were bent upon vitiating the atmosphere through politics of caste, religion and region. He exhorted BJP workers to spread the message of development among the masses and insulate them from negativity.

The chief minister further said that welfare carried out by the state government during the coronavirus pandemic had been exemplary. "During COVID-19 time, the UP government gave pension to 87 lakh elderly, widows and handicapped people, power connections were provided to four crore households and basic health care was extended to 24 crore people," he said.

BJP state chief Swatantra Dev Singh said that mass contact and communication were of paramount importance during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"It is very important to motivate people to vote in large numbers as high percentage of polling will always help," he said.

WFP WINS NOBEL PEACE AS HUNGER SURGES

The organisation has long been headed by an American, and US President Donald Trump nominated the former Republican governor of South Carolina for the post in 2017.

WFP staffers in Niger greeted Beasley with cheers and applause as he emerged to address a crowd after the announcement. "Two things," he told them.
"I can't believe I'm in Niger when we got the award, and No. 2, I didn't win it, you won it."

The Nobel Committee said that the problem of hunger has again become more acute in recent years, not least because the pandemic has added to the hardship already faced by millions of people around the world. "In 2019, 135 million people suffered from acute hunger, the highest number in many years," it said. "Most of the increase was caused by war and armed conflict.

The coronavirus pandemic has contributed to a strong upsurge in the number of victims of hunger in the world." In total, WFP estimates that 690 million people suffer some form of hunger in the world today.

It was the ninth award for the UN or one of its agencies. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said he was delighted the award went to "the world's first responder on the frontlines of food insecurity. "In a world of plenty, it is unconscionable that hundreds of millions go to bed each night hungry," he said. "Millions more are now on the precipice of famine due to the COVID-19 pandemic."

RBI HOLDS INTEREST RATES, SEES GDP CONTRACTING 9.5%

"Against all odds, we shall strive and revive," he said.

Das also unveiled a number of unconventional measures to boost liquidity and support economic activity while ensuring the government's record borrowing programme goes through smoothly.

In a video live stream, he said RBI will "continue with the accommodative stance of monetary policy as long as necessary - at least during the current financial year and into the next year - to revive growth on a durable basis and mitigate the impact of COVID-19, while ensuring that inflation remains within the target going forward".

RBI saw inflation easing close to the targeted band of 4 per cent, plus or minus 2 per cent, in the fourth-quarter ending March.

For exporters hit by the pandemic, the RBI discontinued the system-based automatic caution-listing to allow them to realise export proceeds. In order to facilitate swift and seamless payments in real-time for domestic businesses and institutions, RBI decided to make available the RTGS (Real Time Gross Settlement) system round-the-clock on all days from December.

In December last year, RBI had made available the National Electronic Fund Transfer (NEFT) system on a 24x7x365 basis.

BHIMA KOREGAON CHARGESHEET NAMES DU PROF AMONG EIGHT

Investigation also revealed a systematic network of Maoists operating for supply of arms and ammunition having close nexus with other banned proscribed organisations within and outside India. "The Strategy and tactics adopted by Maoists to carry out so-called urban revolution with their frontal outfits has also been revealed during investigation. Beside this, funding activities of Maoist cadres and their sympathisers to carry out Maoist work in rural as well urban areas came to the fore," it said.

The NIA probe further revealed that the eight chargesheeted persons "conspired" with other accused persons to further the ideology of terrorist organisation CPI (Maoist) and abetted violence, brought hatred and incited disaffection towards the Government established by law and promoted enmity between different groups on grounds of religion, caste and community. The absconding accused Milind Teltumbde also organised training camps for imparting weapons training to other accused persons, it said.

The latest chargesheet was filed under various Sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), 1860 and Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967. The Pune Police had earlier filed two chargesheets in this case on November 15, 2018 and February 21, 2019 against fifteen accused persons. The NIA took up the investigation of the case on January 24, 2020.

PRIEST BURNT ALIVE IN RAJASTHAN

Vaishnav complained to the police that Kailash Meena and his family were trying to grab the 15 bigha land belonging to the Radha Gopal temple in Bukna village. "On Wednesday morning, he had an argument with Meena and his associates - Shankar, Namo, Ram Lakhan and Kishan - over some construction that the latter was carrying out near a hill. When he protested, the accused along with his accomplices set fire to his bales of bajra (millet), poured kerosene on him and set him on fire," Vaishnav told the police before succumbing to his injuries.

The SP said a case of attempt to murder was registered at Sapotra police station and it had been converted into a murder case after the death of the priest.

Following the priest's death, protests broke out across the State and people of the Brahmin community protested at SMS Hospital where the victim took his last breath.

Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot termed the incident extremely unfortunate and condemnable and said the guilty would not be spared. "The Rajasthan Government is with the grieving family. The main accused in the incident has been arrested and action is being taken. The guilty will not be spared," he tweeted in Hindi. Such acts have no place in a civilised society, he added.

Condemning the incident, former Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje said in a statement that the way the crime graph is rising in the State, it is clear that no woman, child, elderly person or Dalit is safe in the State. "The Congress Government of the State should now wake up from slumber and should get the family justice by getting strict punishment for the culprits," she said.

INSTEAD OF GOING ON POLITICAL TOURS PAY ATTENTION TO RAJ...

Both had visited Hathras and met the victim's family which the BJP alleged was purely an attempt to politically capitalise on the incident.

Speaking to newspersons, Javadekar expressed outrage at the murder of the temple priest Babulal Vaishnav at Bukna village, Karauli district in Rajasthan. Highlighting that rapes were being reported in the State on a daily basis, he alleged that law and order had collapsed in the State.

Taking a dig at Rahul's recent visit to Hathras, Punjab and Haryana, he asked Rahul to visit every district of Rajasthan. Maintaining that he only indulges in politics, Javadekar dared Rahul to ask for the resignation of the Ashok Gehlot-led Government.

"The entire State is shaken by the murder of a temple priest by the land mafia. A few days ago, a police station in Behror was attacked with an AK-47 to free a criminal, who is absconding till today. Rapes are taking place in Rajasthan every day whether it is Bundi, Banswara, Barmer, Sikar, or Jaipur.

"The State Government is not able to do anything about such incidents. Law and order situation has collapsed in Rajasthan. Instead of touring India, Rahul should go to every district of Rajasthan. He should either ask the Government to step down or give suggestions for improvement. He only indulges in politics," said Javadekar.

For his part, Rathore has also sought the Congress leader to pay attention to Rajasthan which is ruled by his party.

"As per the data of the National Crime Records Bureau, Rajasthan stands at the first position as far as crimes against women are concerned. I urge Rahul, who indulges in political tourism to BJP-ruled States, to pay attention to Rajasthan," said Rathore who has recently been appointed national spokesperson in the party reshuffle.

"Nobody is safe in Rajasthan today: Neither women nor children, not even priests. A Government which stays at a five-star hotel for months can protect only itself; it can't protect the public. Rajasthan is getting a bad name," he said.

PASWAN'S MORTAL REMAINS FLOWN TO PATNA FOR STATE FUNERAL TODAY

However, Paswan's daughter from his first wife and her husband staged a protest at the Patna Airport after they were not allowed entry inside to receive the body of the departed leader. Paswan's daughter Asha Devi and her husband Anil Sadhu, who is associated with the RJD, protested in front of the car of Deputy Chief Minister Sushil Kumar Modi when he had come to receive Paswan's body.

Earlier, President Ram Nath Kovind, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh , BJP president JP Nadda and Congress leader Rahul Gandhi were among those who paid their tribute to the departed leader. Modi, who termed the LJP founder's death as a "personal loss", was seen consoling Paswan's son Chirag and his wife and family members.

SHORT CIRCUITS

PANKAJ TRIPATHI

It is overwhelming to see the response that *Mirzapur 2* trailer has been receiving. Within two hours, memes started floating and I really enjoyed how it made the audience so happy. The trailer has been trending on YouTube at number one and we are at 17.5 million views and growing. Even I can't wait for the release!

RANVIR SHOREY

After a certain point I consciously stayed away from serious roles and projects, not because it didn't work for me but because I realised that people enjoy comedy and lighthearted content over serious and dark shows or films. I decided to go back to my roots, as comedy is my home and I live there.

TWINKLE KHANNA

When I Grow Up I Want To Be is a book for children about real-life heroes. I thought about the kind of books we read to our children and the subliminal messages we embed in their heads. Real-life heroes inspire kids and make them feel that they can achieve greatness as well.

TAHIR RAJ BHASIN

It is a huge relief that thousands of multiplex employees and businesses that depend on theatres will finally get some respite. It is a sector that has endured a very long lockdown. I'm waiting to hear about *'83* releasing in theatres. It's a film that will transform theatres into cricket stadiums as it is meant for a big screen experience.

KARL URBAN

The Boys makes a very poignant social commentary — from corporate greed to manipulation of the media to the corrupt nature of few celebrities. It explores contemporary issues like Black Lives Matter & racism, is a timely reminder of the dangers of the Right Wing ideology.

IMMERSIVE 45 MINUTES

SKY IS NOT THE LIMIT

National Geographic's show Mega Icons 2 explores the journey of astronaut KALPANA CHAWLA. Her father Banarasi Lal Chawla tells SAKSHI SHARMA how she was always curious about landing up in space since childhood, her life choices and what made her extraordinary

Kaagaz ke jahaaz bana bana ke aise phekti hawa mei, jaise wo khud udaa rahi hai unn jahaazon ko," says Banarasi Lal Chawla, father of Kalpana Chawla, the first Indian-origin woman to fly to space, as he vividly recalls how her daughter used to play with toy planes since childhood.

On the other end of the phone, I could sense his pride and excitement of Kalpana being featured in National Geographic's show — *Mega Icons season 2*. The show dives deep into the journey of some of the India's icons like Ratan Tata, Deepika Padukone among others to decipher various milestone moments and life choices that defined their success.

Kalpana's episode from the series has intimate interviews of her parents that decodes whether it was their conditioning, experiences and hard work or perspective that defined her path. Says he, "I am glad that they have explored my daughter's journey as it can inspire millions of youth out there trying to make a difference. People should know her teachings."

How did she decide to become an astronaut? "Since childhood, stars and space fascinated Kalpana. She was always curious about landing up in space one day. She always asked us about the postions of stars and 'why they are up there' but we had no answer to it. Staring consistenly towards the sky, she sometimes got emotional too," recollects the father.

A few kilometres away their our home in Karnal there was a flying club, and the trainees would fly over nearby towns. Kalpana was about four year old when she saw a plane flying above her terrace. She stared at it for a few minutes and then turned towards her father and asked, 'how do they fly?' She then asked if he could arrange a plane for her to see. Banarasi promised to take her to the club and show the plane and a few days later he was able to do so. He recalls, "As soon as she saw the plane, she ran towards it and started asking questions about its operations and how to fly from the pilot. He then took us for a ride and I can never forget Kalpana's excitement and expressions when she first sat in it. It seemed as if her feet were not made for the ground." It was this queer nature that kept her hooked to the world of galaxies.

She was a god's child. Banarasi feels that not everyone has this extraordinary nature of being a decision maker at a young age. He fondly remembers how she chose her name herself. Says he, "Her aunt took her to get enrolled in a school at Karnal. When the teacher completed all the formalities and asked her name, the aunt said Mantu, which was Kalpana's pet name. We hadn't named her officially till then. So three names were shortlised — Jyotsna, Kalpana and Sunaina — to name her. Even before we could decide a name, she promptly answered — Kalpana." The words means imagination. Now the world knows why no other name would have suited her.

As Kalpana's father went on to share every minute detail of her journey, we realised that the process was not only challenging for her but it was equally difficult for her parents to justify her choices. During her graduation days at the Punjab Engineering College, she was the only woman to pursue Aeronautical Engineering. "I didn't know what this course was. I took her for the admission only because she wanted to do that course. There, two of the teachers convinced her not to take that course as it had no scope in India. But Kalpana was determined and adamant on her decision."

Not one but there were various qualities that made her different from the rest of the world. Banarasi remnisces how Kalpana offered mini scholarships every year after she had settled into America. Says he, "Annually, she contacted her school in Karnal (the Tagore Baal Niketan) and invited two science toppers to the US. For 15 days they would stay with her. She would feed them and take them to NASA, showing around and teaching about it. She believed in the power of education and always helped people explore their potential."

Kalpana did her masters in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Texas-Arlington and later, doctrate from the University of Colorado. She then started work at the NASA Ames Research Centre in California and in 1995, was invited to the NASA Johnson Space Centre as an astronaut candidate. She then embarked on her first space flight mission aboard the STS-87 Columbia in 1997.

The journey of her life was divided equally between India and America. She always believed that the world is one and we are only divided by boundaries. There's no one greater or smaller. A journalist from Amercia once asked her, "How do you feel here, coming from a small town of Karnal? And how does this transition feel, of being around big names?" Banarasi clears his throat on the other end as he reads out Kalpana's response, "I was not born for a corner of the universe. The whole universe is my native land and the people living on it are my family." You aren't great only from your work, but thoughts too. Certainly!

Kalpana had a special place in her heart for all her colleges and schools, as is evident from the mini scholarships that she offered. She always wanted to see her colleagues and students from the college grow and make their own path. While returning from space, only 28 minutes before the crash, she had sent a message for the students of Punjab Engineering College. It reads: *"Sapno se safalta ki taraf jaane ki raah maujood hai, aap mei use khojne ki shakti, drishti aur uspe chalne ka saahas hona chahiye."* The father adds proudly that this message is there in the university's corridor even today.

We are all aware of the fact that living in space is not easy. During Kalpana's tenure there the astronauts had to work for 16 hours and rest for the rest eight hours. There used to be a wakeup call for every astronaut and a song was played for each one of them. When Kalpana was asked about her wake-up song choice, she mentioned the song *Yaar Ko Humne Ja Baja Dekha* of Pakistani Sufi singer Abida Parveen. The song means that I saw my beloved everywhere. "But people there couldn't understand the song and contacted us for the casette. Then they used to wake her up with this song," Banarasi jokes. He then converses for a minute or two about the song and asks, "If you have time can I play the song now?"

Recalling one incident after another, Banarasi didn't give me the chance to even complete my questions. Such was his excitement, he just couldn't hold it for too long. Even before I asked him an anecdote, he was already ready with one. Says he, "We were about to visit Kalpana in America. So her elder sister wrote a letter to her asking if she wants anything from India." With a sigh, he reads out Kalpana's touching reply, "My sister, my lovely sister, I am glad that you thought for a gift for me. Don't go to the market to buy any cloth or jewelry for me, instead donate that amount to environment protection and send the photo of the cheque to me. I will put that in my album and show people this precious gift." Her perspective towards life was very different.

The 43rd US President George Bush said at a 2003 memorial service, "None of our astronauts traveled a longer path to space than Kalpana Chawla. She left India as a student but she would see the nation of her birth, all of it, from hundreds of miles above."

(Kalpana Chawla's episode of the show will premiere on National Geographic on October 11 at 7 pm. It will also be available on Disney + Hotstar VIP.)

STUDIO CHAT 30 MINUTES

CHEER WITH PRIDE

Designers SHANTANU & NIKHIL launch the new limited-edition pack for whisky which reflects the duo's signature style of merging elements

Designer duo Shantanu & Nikhil are all set for the festive season with their Seagram's Blenders Pride collection edition. It aims to echo their impeccable craft, bringing forth their signature styles and making a bold and unique style statement that spells out *My Craft, My Pride*.

The collectible features a classic design that is a true representation of the times we live in. A reflection of class and sophistication, the limited-edition pack reflects the designer duo's signature style of merging elements from Indian culture with Western silhouettes. Modern, chic and elegant, the drapes used in the design make the designer duo's craft come alive and create a style statement that is timeless. The rich, golden liquid is perfectly wrapped in a drape of black and streaks of gold that intertwine to form a silhouette that is elegant and bold at the same time. A seamless blend of fine craftsmanship, it is a rendition of Shantanu and Nikhil's craft, which they call, their pride.

Bringing together this precision and the bold, rich character of the whisky on the same canvas, it is an exquisite blend of great craftsmanship.

Kartik Mohindra, Chief Marketing Officer, Pernod Ricard India, said, "The Blenders' Pride limited-edition pack is a celebration of exquisite craftmanship, both through the legendary fine whisky and our collaboration with designer duo Shantanu & Nikhil. We take immense pride in our product quality and heritage and continue to celebrate the pride in craft through this collaboration. The pack is a sophisticated statement that combines exquisite taste and design, which is what we stand for."

Shantanu & Nikhil said, "We have had a long-standing association with this event and today, it gives us immense pleasure to announce our collaboration which celebrates this association through a collectable limited-edition pack. The design is inspired by our aesthetic and is a unique reflection of heritage and workmanship that celebrates craft in all its glory. The partnership is an extremely rewarding project, giving us complete creative freedom and allowing us to produce a design that we are proud to see all over India."

The pack is available for discerning whisky connoisseurs in 28 markets.

CELEB TALK 15 MINUTES

Vaani gears up for her next

Actor Vaani Kapoor is heading to Chandigarh to start shooting her next in which she has been paired opposite actor Ayushmann Khurrana. She will be directed by Abhishek Kapoor, who has delivered films like *Kai Po Che, Rock On* and *Kedarnath*.

It has been learnt that the film is set to start its shooting schedule in Chandigarh sometime soon. This is the first time that she is paired opposite Ayushmann. Their Jodi hit the screens in 2021.

While speaking about the film, Vaani said, "It's a lovely heart-rendering film. I have always wanted to work with Abhishek, being inspired by his films. This is an opportunity to be a part of his vision. Ayushmann is one of the talented actors of our generation and I'm thrilled about our first film together."

The actor has just wrapped *Bellbottom* in which she has been paired opposite actor Akshay Kumar.

JUKEBOX 45 MINUTES

ON ONE'S OWN RHYTHM

On World Mental Health Day, choreographer ASHLEY LOBO talks about how dance can prove to be a healer and could be cathartic in its own ways. By TEAM VIVA

As the world grapples with the psychological ramifications of a global pandemic, the significance of World Mental Health Day being observed on October 10 acquires an even deeper subtext. The World Health Organisation (WHO) warned in May itself that we were looking potentially at an epidemic of mental health conditions in the coming months, caused by acute anxiety and a heightened sense of physical and emotional isolation.

Indian-Australian choreographer Ashley Lobo who himself has been adapting to a different creative reality post-COVID-19, believes there is however a way to cope. He says, "Moving the body can almost instantly uplift our mood and energise the body. Movement and dance can play a crucial role in pulling us out of mental and physical ennui and make an enormous difference to our mental health."

To support his point, he cites the American Dance Therapy Association, which suggests the psychotherapeutic use of movement to improve emotional, cognitive, physical, and social integration. Lobo's technique, Prana Paint has also been helping his students to connect with their inner self through breath and Yoga-inspired movements, and to find calm and serenity regardless of outward chaos.

Lobo adds, "In the post-COVID world, we can all make creative choices like dance and music to bust stress and boost positivity. It really does not matter if you are a trained dancer or not, everyone has rhythm in them, which can become a doorway to a better state of mind."

He talks about how dance can prove to be a healer. He says, "Mental health challenges are universal and do not discriminate. Dance however can prove therapeutic for almost anyone. Dance is like Yoga in the respect where mindful movement can become a meditative and healing practice. Whether you decide to take online dance classes or put on music and dance like nobody is watching, you are celebrating your body, your existence, and your life. And soon you will notice how a dance session leaves you feeling more energised and confident than before. You will connect with that part of yourself which now remains unaffected by anxiety and is the source of all your untapped energy and pure potential."

Dance, he insists, can even prove cathartic for people who find it hard to put their emotions in words and need an emotional outlet. And if you are taking an online class, connecting with others, even though virtually, can reduce the sense of isolation and you get the joy of learning a new skill as a bonus.

He adds, "Once you master a routine, the surge of confidence you feel will flow into other areas of your life. Most importantly, you will learn how to live in the moment rather than worrying about what the future holds. In that sense and many others, dance is truly liberating. I really believe we can all dance our way out of our personal issues into a healthier, sunnier mental space."

FLASHBACK 30 MINUTES

Truths of the universe

The docu-series, The Right Stuff, showcases the real life events that led to NASA's venture into space and its mission, Mercury 7

A gravity defying story, *The Right Stuff,* a documentary-series, shuttles into the realities of one of the first-ever missions of NASA. At its early stages of being six months old in 1959, NASA chose a team for an incredible project that would change the scope of space and man's travel into the depths of the worlds beyond our own. The series showcases the real life story, displaying America's journey into space and how they began a programme that created celebrities in a life-changing competition between ambitious astronauts and their families for money, stardom and immortality.

Here are a few events the story is based on:

❒Based on the bestselling book by Tom Wolfe, *The Right Stuff*

The book extensively captured the true stories of the pilots engaged in the Project Mercury Mission. Wolfe interviewed test pilots, the astronauts, and their wives to unearth the stories and the missions' challenges.

❒TV adaptation of the 1983 eponymous film

The eight-episode season, an adaptation of the 1983 released film, *The Right Stuff* by Philip Kauffman, is an inspirational look at the early days of the US Space Programme and the iconic story of America's first astronauts, the Mercury 7.

❒NASA's Project Mercury

The mission Project Mercury was a NASA programme that launched the first Americans into space. Seven astronauts were chosen for the mission and they were called the 'Mercury 7', who were — Alan Shepard, Scott Carpenter, Gordon Cooper, John Glenn, Gus Grissom, Wally Schirra, and Deke Slayton.

❒Alan Shepard's story

Played by Jake McDorman in the series, Alan was the first American to enter space in 1961. He named his spacecraft Freedom 7. The 15-minute flight went into space and came back down. Ten years later, Shepard also journeyed to the moon as the commander of Apollo 14.

❒The Mercury 7 flew separate spacecrafts

Gus Grissom was the second astronaut after Shepard to fly in Project Mercury followed by John Glenn who was the first American to orbit Earth in his spacecraft Friendship 7. Scott Carpenter later flew on Aurora 7 with Wally Schirra taking up the mission next, on his Sigma 7. Gordon Cooper flew on the last Mercury mission where he spent 34 hours circling Earth in his capsule, Faith 7. Deke Slayton was part of the Project Mercury astronauts but had to fly on a separate mission in 1975 owing to his poor health.

❒Making the Project Mercury mission safer

A rhesus monkey, Sam, and two chimpanzees, Ham and Enos, flew in Mercury capsules to make the Mercury 7 mission safer. NASA had developed flights prior to the mission to ensure the basic safety measures were covered so that they could launch a human into space with the mission. This was the first lesson in learning how to enable orbiting the universe and flying a spacecraft.

(NatGeo's docu-series streams on Disney+ Hotstar Premium.)

CELEB TALK 30 MINUTES

Bachchan roped in alongside Prabhas

A seasoned production house, a visionary director, a cast including the biggest stars of the Indian film industry and a remarkable story are the ingredients for an epic cinematic experience for film lovers.

Production house Vyjayanthi Movies have recently roped in actor Amitabh Bachchan to essay a pivotal role in its forthcoming film.

Aswini Dutt, producer and founder, said, "The late legendary NTR was an admirer of Amitabh Bachchan and had even acted in the Telugu remakes of a few of his Bollywood films. We have watched the landmark film *Sholay* several times when it ran for over a year at NTR's Ramakrishna Theatre. After all these years, it is truly a glorious and an immensely satisfying moment for me to welcome Indian cinema's greatest icon, Bachchan to be a part of this film."

Director Nag Ashwin said, "I feel lucky and blessed that Bachchan Sir has selected our film among the many choices he has. It is a full-length role, which we believe will do justice to the legend that he is."

Co-producers Swapna Dutt and Priyanka Dutt have expressed their boundless excitement on this momentous occasion. The film stars Prabhas and Deepika Padukone in leading roles and is slated for a worldwide release in 2022.

A classroom of sorts

Actors RITESH and GENELIA DESHMUKH talk about how the Big Learning Festival aims to celebrate knowledge and help engage more people with learning new things digitally, irrespective of age

How often has learning come as a reason for celebration to you? Or something that comes from some sporty celebrities themselves?

Well, Discovery Plus' the 'Big Learning Festival' is dedicated to celebrating the platform's key target audience of lifelong learners. Celebrity couples like Lara Dutta & Mahesh Bhupathi, Saina Nehwal & Parupalli Kashyap, and Riteish Deshmukh & Genelia D'Souza Deshmukh will engage with fans on social media with interesting quizzes, chats, watch-lists and never-before-seen nuggets of trivia.

Speaking about the festival, Lara and Mahesh said, "Learning is a never-ending process and we're delighted to work on something so universal. This festival is a great way for people to win some amazing rewards and prizes while inculcating a habit of learning about the world and new things."

The couple added, "Not only do these interesting shows and documentary specials provide an opportunity to understand and connect with the world, they are also a great way to gather together with your kids, family and friends to watch and engage with the important issues of our times."

Saina and Parupalli said, "There's no age for learning. You can learn something new every day and that is what we want to convey. We look at it as a platform, which is a one-stop destination for both entertainment as well as education. We personally believe that learning is a process that takes place every second and it is what makes a person prepared for the big moments in life."

Riteish and Genelia, while speaking about the importance of learning, said, "As parents, it is our duty to engage our kids with the content that will help them gain valuable knowledge at this age. We are very particular on what kind of shows our kids should watch in this digital era where everything is so easily available on the internet. To teach something to our kids, we ourselves need to learn first, and then only we will be able to pass that knowledge to our children. I am happy that here, we can explore a variety of content from science to nature to space to history. It is the perfect platform to engage right now."

Issac John, Digital Head – APAC, Discovery, said, "Learning is a universal emotion that enriches and elevates all of us irrespective of our stage of life. The Big Learning Festival is a means for us to celebrate that lifelong learner in each of us."

(The festival can be streamed on the Discovery Plus app.)

TODAY

VS | VS

Live from 3:30pm | Live from 7:30pm

STAR SPORTS 1

IPL 2020

KL Rahul | 313 runs

Kagiso Rabada | 12 wickets

I think strike rate is very, very overrated. For me, it is only about how I can win games for my team and on a certain day if 120 can win a game for my team then I will do that

On these wickets, you have to adjust yourself with the line and length which is the key. At the same time, you have to bowl according to the weakness of the batsmen

I don't know why people think there's so much hatred between the two countries! It's going well at the moment. We (Bairstow) really enjoy batting together out there

Different batters are suited to different bowlers and DK and coach are very good at reading what's the right way to move forward in that regard. We have lot of options which are flexible

Time running out for Kings

PTI ■ ABU DHABI

Kings XI Punjab will have to play out of their skins to get their stuttering campaign back on track when they face fancied Kolkata Knight Riders here on Saturday.

Following five losses and a solitary win, Kings XI Punjab are currently placed at the bottom of the table with two points, whereas the Knight Riders are fourth with six points from three wins.

Notwithstanding a couple of reverses, KKR are gradually emerging as a strong contender for a third IPL title, with many of their players striking form as the tournament approaches the half-way stage.

Shubman Gill has already created an impression as an opener and now KKR have found another option at the top in Rahul Tripathi, who will enter the game with some confidence after his swashbuckling innings of 81 against CSK two days ago.

After a string of poor scores that led to him being replaced by Tripathi at the top, Sunil Narine seems to be rediscovering his old touch with both bat and ball, and evidence of that was his outing against CSK.

The experienced Eoin Morgan is a huge presence in the middle-order which also has Nitish Rana, always on the lookout to impress the team management with his performances with the bat.

And then there is Andre Russell, who has not set the tournament ablaze in the manner in which he is expected to.

The biggest cause of concern for KKR is the form of their captain Dinesh Karthik, who is yet to contribute anything substantial with the bat.

In pace bowling, they have the young duo of Kamlesh Nagarkoti and Shivam Mavi, besides the seasoned world number one Pat Cummins.

While in spin, Narine has Varun Chakravarthy for company, and the player from Tamil Nadu will be high on confidence after bowling out MS Dhoni in their last match.

Kings XI Punjab will again rely on their trusted opening pair of captain KL Rahul and Mayank Agarwal.

If Chris Gayle recovers from his food poisoning, he will make his first appearance in the ongoing IPL and that will be a huge boost for KXIP. The mis-firing Glenn Maxwell is likely to make way for Gayle.

Nicholas Pooran's exploits with the bat is a positive for KXIP and he will again look to play his shots freely.

Death bowling is a major concern for KXIP and they would need to get it right against a strong KKR batting line-up.

SATURDA NIGHT FEVER

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KINGS XI PUNJAB	08
KOLKATA KNIGHT RIDERS	17

Stats: Faisel Features

DC BACK AT THE HELM

PTI ■ SHARJAH

Australian all-rounder Marcus Stoinis shone with both bat and ball as Delhi Capitals regained the top spot in the IPL standings with a comprehensive 46-run win over Rajasthan Royals here on Friday.

Delhi posted 184 for eight, the lowest first innings total at the ground this season, riding on Shimron Hetmyer's 24-ball 45 and 39 off 30 balls from Stoinis.

Kagiso Rabada (3/35) then picked three wickets, while Stoinis (2/17), Ravichandran Ashwin (2/22) snared two wickets each as Delhi dismissed Rajasthan for 138 in 19.4 overs to secure their fifth win in six matches.

Rajasthan were never convincing in the chase and ended up with their fourth loss in as many games.

Jos Buttler (13) fell to a superb catch by Shikhar Dhawan and Steve Smith (24) and Sanju Samson (5) holed out to Hetmyer at deep square midwicket and long-on respectively to leave RR at 72 for three.

Ashwin then returned to remove Mahipal Lomror (1), while Stoinis cleaned up young Yashasvi Jaiswal, who struggled to 34 off 36 after opening the innings.

Rahul Tewatia (38 off 29) hit a few lusty blows but wickets continued to tumble on a pitch that was not as good for batting as the earlier games here.

Earlier, Jofra Archer (3/24) took three wickets and Tewatia (1/20) and young pacer Kartik Tyagi (1/35) captured one each as RR restricted to a below-par total.

Playing his first IPL match this season, Andrew Tye also took one wicket but he conceded 50 in his four overs.

RR also inflicted two run outs, removing Shreyas Iyer (22 off 18) and Rishabh Pant (5).

Hetmyer smashed five sixes and a four to emerge as the top-scorer for Delhi.

Archer was the pick of the bowlers as he dismissed opener Shikhar Dhawan (5) in the second over.

Skipper Iyer smashed two fours off pacer Varun Aaron (0/25 in 2 overs) and then Prithvi Shaw (19 off 10) deposited him into the stands after Tyagi dropped the opener in the previous ball.

However, Shaw couldn't stay longer as Archer induced a top-edge from the batsman and then completed the catch.

Jaiswal then run out Iyer with a brilliant direct throw with Delhi slumping to 51 for three at the end of powerplay.

Stoinis clobbered spinner Shreyas Gopal for successive sixes in the 7th over but Tyagi and Tewatia stymied the run flow before Hetmyer smashed Tye for a six to bring up the 100 in the 13th over. After Stoinis was dismissed by Tewatia in his last over, Hetmyer took over the mantle and hit Tye for a four and six before launching Tyagi for successive sixes.

But the young India pacer had the last laugh as the West Indies batsman was holed out at the long-on boundary.

In the 18th over, Axar Patel (17 off 8) blasted two fours and a six off Tye to rack up 22 runs.

Pant has vastly improved his off-side game: Lara

PTI ■ MUMBAI

West Indies batting great Brian Lara is impressed with Rishabh Pant's much-improved off-side play, which he believes will add dimension to his game making him an a much well-rounded batsman in days to come.

The 23-year old Pant has had fair degree of success for Delhi Capitals in the ongoing IPL, having scored 176 runs in six games with a strike-rate of nearly 140.

"He (Pant) is a major asset for the Delhi Capitals, but today he has also vastly improved his game. I am talking about his batting and the improvements he made in that department," Lara said on *Star Sports* show *Cricket Live*.

Lara said that Pant has realised that he was becoming a one-trick pony with shots only on the on-side, something that has changed

"On what (when he first came to scene) immediately was noticeable was his propensity to try and get everything to the leg-side. Also, look at his run (earlier) scoring chart(s) and that's quite a proof of that fascination he had with the on-side.

"I think he has come to realise that this is not working and he went away and worked on improving his off-side play," said Lara, one of the greatest to have ever graced the cricket field.

Lara said Pant now has the ability to score runs all round the park.

"Now look at the changes he made. Now, he has the ability to score runs on all parts of the ground. His scoring charts are looking impressive, and yes, more worry for the bowlers," said the elegant former West Indies left-hander.

"He is now very well-balanced and he is looking to score in key areas that he is not accustomed to scoring — over extra cover, over point, in front of point and his balance and his weight is staying there, he is not falling over to the off-side to create shots on the leg side.

"That is a vast improvement that he has made, which obviously going to help his all-round batting. I believe, this young lad has a long-long way to go," concluded Lara.

Chennai aim for Super comeback

PTI ■ DUBAI

Chennai Super Kings will take on Royal Challengers Bangalore in an intriguing mid-table IPL clash here on Saturday with both teams battling inconsistency.

SATURDA NIGHT FEVER

CSK all-rounder Kedar Jadhav's selection will be under the scanner after his failure in the defeat to Kolkata Knight Riders.

The Super Kings sank to a 10-run loss on Wednesday, choking inexplicably with Jadhav's approach to batting attracting criticism from all quarters.

It remains to be seen if the Super Kings opt to jettison the 35-year-old given the team's propensity to give players a long rope.

Despite Shane Watson finding his range in a 10-wicket win over Kings XI Punjab and Faf du Plessis's consistency at the top, the middle-order continues to remain a concern for CSK with skipper Mahendra Singh Dhoni himself not being at his best.

Chennai Super Kings captain MS Dhoni chats with coach Stephen Fleming @ChennaiIPL

If they do decide to bench Jadhav after his prolonged struggle, they have the option of recalling Ruturaj Gaikwad or picking N Jagadeesan, who has been warming the bench since the 2018 season.

While worries remain on the batting front, the CSK bowling has got better and they did well to restrict KKR in the previous game with influential all-rounder DJ Bravo returning to his wicket-taking ways.

Karn Sharma, who came in for Piyush Chawla did well to pick up a couple of wickets while not going for too many runs and the skipper will expect him to do the same against a formidable RCB batting unit.

Yet, Dhoni would prefer the pacers — Deepak Chahar, Sam Curran and Shardul Thakur — to provide early breakthroughs and stem the run flow.

However, the CSK bowling will be up against a strong RCB batting line-up led by captain Virat Kohli, who returned to form with a fine knock against Rajasthan Royals.

Though the Kohli-led team faltered in the subsequent match against Delhi Capitals, they will look for an improved performance against CSK.

Kohli aside, young Devdutt Padikkal has looked in good touch, while AB de Villiers has been a key player for RCB over the years. If the big-hitting Aaron Finch can provide a rapid start at the top, it would serve RCB better.

It is the bowling which would worry Kohli. Leg-spinner Yuzvendra Chahal has, as always, been the leading bowler while Washington Sundar has been frugal upfront.

However, the pacers have not lived up to their reputation, with the likes of Umesh Yadav, Mohammed Siraj and Navdeep Saini leaking runs.

How CSK's batting does against an up-and-down RCB bowling attack and how its batters fare against the Super Kings bowlers could decide the fate of the game.

MATCHES	24
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ROYAL CHALLENGERS	08

Stats: Faisel Features

DUGOUT

MOTION PICTURE

Sunrisers Hyderabad spinner Rashid Khan chats with Kings XI Punjab's Arshdeep Singh, Ravi Bishnoi and Mujeeb Ur Rahman at the end of IPL match on Thursday @SunRisers

India's Test stalwart Cheteshwar Pujara, who on Friday completed a decade in international cricket, has thanked his fans for their love and support during all these years @cheteshwar1

CSK BATSMEN THINK IT'S A GOVT JOB

Former India opener Virender Sehwag has taken a dig at Chennai Super Kings' faltering IPL campaign, saying that some of their batsmen think of the franchise as a "government job" in which remuneration is assured irrespective of performance. Chasing 168 vs KKR, veteran opener Shane Watson struck his second successive fifty to give CSK a perfect start on Wednesday, but the team choked at the back end of the innings and was restricted to 157 for five to suffer its fourth defeat in five matches. "It should have been chased down. But the dot balls played by Kedar Jadhav and Ravindra Jadeja didn't help," Sehwag told *Cricbuzz*. "And, in my view, some of the Chennai Super Kings batsmen think of CSK as a government job, whether you perform or not, they know they'll get their salary anyway," he added.

BENGALI COMMENTARY FROM OCT 10

Former India cricketers Manoj Tiwary, Laxmi Ratan Shukla and Saradindu Mukherjee have been named in the Bengali commentary panel for the ongoing IPL and will go on air from October 10. The commentary will be available on *Disney + Hotstar* for all IPL games from October 10. "As someone who has been a part of previous seasons of the league, I am really excited to be back as a commentator," said Shukla in a release. Tiwary added: "Who better to commentate the game than someone who has been there and done that! I am thrilled to be part of this years' league as an official commentator. With matches now being available with Bengali commentary, I am sure that people will enjoy watching it more than before."

POINTS TABLE

		P	W	L	NRR	PTS
1	MI	6	4	2	+1.488	8
2	DC	5	4	1	+1.060	8
3	SRH	6	3	3	+0.232	6
4	KKR	5	3	2	+0.002	6
5	RCB	5	3	2	-1.355	6
6	CSK	6	2	4	-0.371	4
7	RR	5	2	3	-0.826	4
8	KXIP	6	1	5	-0.431	2

Women's T20 Challenge: Players asked to assemble on Oct 13

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Thirty-odd Indian players due to take part in the Women's T20 Challenge in the UAE next month have been asked to assemble in Mumbai by October 13 but quarantine requirements have put a question mark over their preparedness for the three-team competition.

The BCCI has not announced the teams yet but Indian players, both international and uncapped domestic, have been informed about their selection.

After arriving in Mumbai from various parts of the country on October 18, the players will quarantine for more than a week and they will be tested multiple times in that period. The players are likely to depart for UAE on October 22, after which they will go undergo a six-day quarantine like all players competing in the men's IPL.

They will enter the event's bio-bubble after three negative RT-PCR tests. The tournament will run from November 4 to 9.

"The players have been informed and a Whatsapp group has been created. A few U-19 players have also been picked. It will give them a lot of exposure," a BCCI official said on Friday.

Veterans Mithali Raj and Jhulan Goswami, who have retired from T20Is, will feature again in the tournament.

In all likelihood, all four matches will be played in Sharjah, the venue for 12 IPL games which also happens to be the smallest ground among the three IPL venues.

After undergoing quarantine Mumbai and UAE, the players will have less than a week to acclimatise to the conditions, having not played the game for more than six months. The IPL teams arrived in UAE a month in advance.

"It will be a challenge for sure. We have been training individually but the intensity of a team environment cannot be matched. We will quarantine in Mumbai for more than a week and then another week in Dubai.

"There will be three to four days before the event starts. Obviously, it is not going to be easy to perform," said a player.

The BCCI is zeroing in on the foreign players for the competition but they will be mostly from the neighbouring Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and a few from England and West Indies, who haven't landed WBBL contracts.

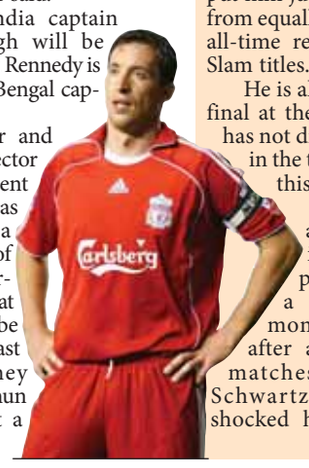
East Bengal appoint Fowler as head coach

Kolkata: Former England international and Liverpool legend Robbie Fowler has been appointed the head coach of East Bengal for the next two years, team's principal owner Hari Mohan Bangur said on Friday.

"We have signed the contract last night (Thursday) and Robbie Fowler is expected to join the side directly in Goa within a week," Bangur, who has acquired a majority stake in East Bengal, confirmed the development. "As of now, we have offered him a two-year contract which could be extended in due course," Bangur said.

Former India captain Rennedy Singh will be Fowler's deputy. Rennedy is a former East Bengal captain also.

The owner and managing director of Shree Cement Limited, who has acquired a majority stake of 76 per cent, further revealed that the team will be known as SC East Bengal as they along with Mohun Bagan make it a 11-team ISL.



Same old story: Rafa in French final

Women's final
Live from 6:30pm IST
STAR SPORTS 2 NETWORK

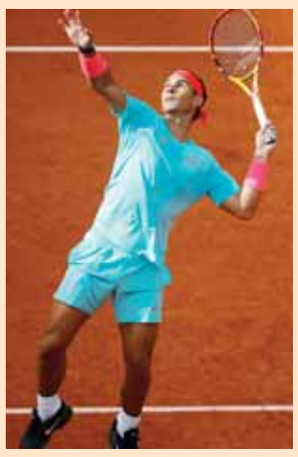
AFP ■ PARIS

Twelve-time champion Rafael Nadal reached his 13th French Open final on Friday with a 6-3, 6-3, 7-6 (7/0) win over Argentina's Diego Schwartzman, setting up a potential blockbuster title clash against Novak Djokovic.

For 34-year-old Nadal, it was a 99th win at Roland Garros since his 2005 debut and put him just one victory away from equalling Roger Federer's all-time record of 20 Grand Slam titles.

He is also into his 28th final at the Majors and has not dropped a set in the tournament this year.

"It's always incredible to play here and this is a very special moment," said Nadal after a 10th win in 11 matches against Schwartzman who had shocked him in Rome last month.



"I played a couple of bad points in the third set but Diego is a very tough player. He probably makes more breaks on the tour than others.

"It was difficult until the end but it was a positive match for me."

Nadal fought off two break points in a marathon 14-minute opening game. The world number two then broke for 2-0 but Schwartzman retrieved it immediately.

It was a brief respite for the 5ft 7in (1.68m) player affectionately known as *El Peque* ("shorty"), as the 28-year-old was broken again in the fourth game.

The Argentine saved a couple of set points but dumped the third one in the net and the opener was Nadal's after 65 minutes on court. Nadal was comfortably the stronger, breaking in the third and ninth games for a two sets lead.

With the match and his spirit seemingly drifting away, Schwartzman dropped serve again to go 3-1 down in the third.

But he rallied as Nadal slipped into passivity and by the 11th game he was on back on serve although he remonstrated with himself for squandering three break points that would have left him serving for the set.

That was his last chance as Nadal stormed through the tiebreaker.

The Argentine was left to regret his 48 unforced errors and converting just three of his 12 break points.

Argentina, Uruguay start with win

AP ■ SAO PAULO

In their first matches in almost a year, Argentina and Uruguay won their South American World Cup qualifying openers without doing much to impress their fans watching from home.

Lionel Messi and Luis Suárez each scored from the spot, but did little else to energize the empty stadiums of a region still hard hit by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Messi netted the only goal of Argentina's victory over Ecuador at the La Bombonera stadium, while Suárez opened the scoring in Uruguay's 2-1 last-minute win over Chile in Montevideo. Paraguay was held to a 2-2 draw by Peru on Thursday.

The rest of the opening games in South American qualifiers for Qatar 2022 will be completed on Friday, when Brazil, possibly without Neymar, hosts Bolivia and James Rodriguez' Colombia plays against Venezuela. All 10 teams will be on again on Tuesday.

South America will have four direct berths in the next World Cup. Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay and Colombia, in that order, start as favorites for those spots. The fifth-best team can earn qualification through an intercontinental playoff, with Peru and Chile as strong contenders. The qualifying phase ends in March 2022.