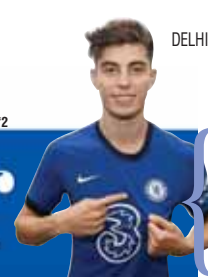


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Ready for any eventuality: India

In LS, Rajnath raps China for violating established rules

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

India is committed to peace but "it is also ready for any eventuality," was Defence Minister Rajnath Singh's stern message to China from the floor of Parliament on Tuesday with regard to a massive build-up on the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the eastern Ladakh.

Repeatedly blaming China for attempted transgression of LAC and aggressive behaviour, Singh said in the Lok Sabha that the country's forces are fully-prepared, stocked with arms, ammunition, food, and winter clothing.

Speaking about the prolonged stand-off with China on the Ladakh border, the Defence Minister accused China of violating established rules and conventions laid down by 1993 and 1996 agreements between the two countries and "transgressing" the border.

While stating that the Indian Army is "battle-ready", Rajnath said the border issue could be resolved by talks and dialogue. He said that the onus is on Beijing which has "provoked us" by "violent conduct" when talks were still on between the two sides.

The Defence Minister said in the middle of May China attempted to transgress in many places in the western sector, including Kongka La, Gogra, Galwan and North

Bank of Pangong Lake. This invited counter-measures from Indian side.

In his brief statement in the House, Rajnath said China has mobilised a large number of troops on the LAC and India too has made "suitable counter-moves". He said he could not go into more details but assured that armed forces are fully prepared to protect the country's territorial integrity and sovereignty.

Rajnath said the country is facing the challenging situation in Ladakh and the entire House should make a unanimous resolution to strongly back the bravehearts at the borders protecting the country in a difficult situation. *"Jawaan ka hosla buland hain"*, he said amid thumping of desks by the members.

Congress MPs who wanted to ask questions on the issue later walked out on the House when Speaker On Bhanu Singh reminded them of rule 370 saying "no question can be asked after Minister's statement".

The Defence Minister constantly alluded to the "disturbance" created by China by its actions on the ground while talks between the two sides on the military and diplomatic level were underway during the last few months.

He said China had increased its mobilisation on the LAC since April and May, this year, and tried to "transgress" LAC.



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh in the Lok Sabha during the ongoing Monsoon Session of Parliament on Tuesday PTI



C-17 Globemaster of the Indian Air Force flies over Ladakh region amid the prolonged India-China face off, in Leh district, on Tuesday PTI

Cong questions absence of PM from LS, demands LAC reality

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Congress on Tuesday questioned the absence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the Lok Sabha when Defence Minister Rajnath Singh made a statement on the India-China border standoff.

The Congress also wanted to know if the Chinese have encroached on Depsang Plains, Gogra, Pangong-Tso Lake till Finger 8, Y-junction in Bhutan, Lipulekh Pass in Uttarakhand and in Arunachal Pradesh.

Former Congress president Rahul Gandhi, who is abroad currently accompanying his mother and interim

party chief Sonia Gandhi for a health check-up, attacked the Prime Minister for "misleading" the country over Chinese transgressions.

"The country has always stood by its armed forces and

will continue to do so in future. But Modi, when will you stand against China? When will we take back the land of our country from China? Don't be scared of taking China's name," Rahul tweeted.



Congress MPs stage a walkout as they protest near Mahatma Gandhi statue at Parliament House on Tuesday PTI

Modi inaugurates ₹540 crore projects for poll-bound Bihar

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In the run up to the Bihar Assembly elections, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday inaugurated another set of infrastructure projects worth ₹540 crore through video conference in the presence of Chief Minister Nitish Kumar.

The projects include sewerage treatment plants at Beur and Karam-Leechak in Patna city, as well as water-related projects in Siwan and Chhapra under the "AMRUT" Yojana.

Apart from this, the PM laid foundation stones for water supply projects in Munger and Jamalpur and River Front Development Scheme under Namami Gange in Muzaffarpur.

The Prime Minister said even during the times of corona, the work on various development projects progressed uninterrupted in Bihar.

Kumar and Deputy Chief Minister Sushil Modi assured that projects will be completed on time.

The Prime Minister on Sunday inaugurated a slew of



Prime Minister Narendra Modi launches multiple development projects in Bihar through video conferencing from in New Delhi. Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar is also seen PTI

petro chemical projects worth ₹940 crore in the poll bound State.

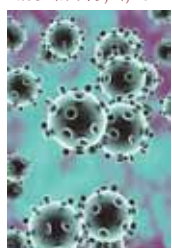
The PM lauded the contribution of the engineers to the development of the country on the occasion of Engineer's Day, which is celebrated in the memory of India's pioneering modern civil engineer, M Visvesvaraya. Modi said Bihar also significantly contributed

towards development of the country by producing millions of engineers. Modi said Bihar

is the land of historical cities and has a rich heritage of thousands of years.

Cabinet approves AIIMS in Darbhanga

New Delhi: The Union Cabinet has approved establishment of a new All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) at Bihar's Darbhanga, an official statement said on Tuesday. The institute will come up under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY) at a total cost of ₹1,264 crore, it said.



two each from Nawanshahr, Pathankot and Ropar; and one death each from Barnala, Bathinda, Faridkot, Sangrur and Tarn Taran.

India's Covid-19 cases cross 5 million marks

82,375 found +ve; 1,237 die on Tue; pandemic shows no sign of let-up

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

India's Covid-19 caseload crossed 5 million marks on Tuesday as the pandemic showed no sign of plateauing out any sooner.

Maharashtra breached a landmark of 30,000 deaths on Tuesday, as an all-time high 515 people succumbed to Covid-19, while 20,482 more people tested positive for the pandemic in various parts of the State. The number of new cases is nearly 4,000 lower than the State's highest single-day tally.

India on Tuesday recorded 82,375 new cases and 1,237 deaths. There has been a general trend that due to the lag effect of reduced testing at the weekend, the first two days of the weeks show relatively fewer cases. This may explain slightly subdued numbers on Monday (81,000 cases and Tuesday. Last week, India recorded more than 97,000

new cases twice in a single day.

Each of the four worst-affected States — Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka — recorded fewer cases than their highest single-day spike. But Uttar Pradesh (6,841 cases), Delhi (4,261 cases) and West Bengal (3,237 cases) showed no sign of any weakening in the spread of the pandemic.

Covid-19 IN INDIA

TOTAL

CASES: 50,12,509

DEATHS: 82,057

RECOVERED: 39,35,987

ACTIVE: 9,93,750

ARUNACHAL CM PEMA KHANDU COVID +VE

Itanagar: Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu said that he tested positive for Covid-19 on Tuesday and is presently in home isolation in New Delhi. "I have undergone Covid test RT-PCR and have tested positive for Covid-19. I am asymptomatic and feeling healthy," Khandu tweeted.



An elderly man reacts as his swab sample is taken to test for Covid-19 at a Government hospital in Jammu on Tuesday AP

STATES	TOTAL CASES	DEATHS	RECOVERED
Maharashtra	10,97,806	30,409	7,75,273
Andhra Pradesh	5,83,925	5,041	4,86,531
Tamil Nadu	5,14,208	8,502	4,58,900
Karnataka	4,75,265	7,481	3,69,229
Uttar Pradesh	3,24,036	4,604	2,52,097
Delhi	2,25,796	4,806	1,91,203
West Bengal	2,09,146	4,062	1,81,142
Bihar	1,61,101	836	1,46,533
Telangana	1,60,571	984	1,29,187
Odisha	1,58,650	698	1,25,738
Assam	1,46,575	492	1,15,052
Gujarat	1,16,345	3,245	96,809
Kerala	1,14,034	467	82,341
Rajasthan	1,05,898	1,264	87,873
Haryana	98,622	1,026	77,166
Madhya Pradesh	93,053	1,820	69,613

SC's interim stay on Bindas Bol for vilifying Muslims

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday restrained Sudarshan TV from telecasting two episodes of "Bindas Bol" programme, which are scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday saying it prime face appears to "vilify" the Muslim community.

"At this stage, prima facie it does appear that the programme does vilify the Muslim community," the SC said while staying the telecast of two episodes of the programme on alleged infiltration of Muslims into the bureaucracy.

A three-judge bench headed by Justice DY Chandrachud which heard the plea against the serial said the plea against the matter on September 17.

90 more succumb to Covid-19 in Punjab

Death count reaches 2,514 with fatality rate 2.97%; 2,481 fresh cases reported

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Another 90 COVID-19 positive patients succumbed to the deadly contagion in Punjab on Tuesday, pushing the death count to 2,514. The State's fatality rate now stands at 2.97 per cent.

Of the total 22, Punjab's 18 districts reported fatalities with maximum 19 deaths recorded in Ludhiana, taking the COVID-19 death toll to 607 in the district.

Witnessing more than 2,000 fresh cases in a single day for the seventh successive day, the State has recorded 2,481 people tested positive for the virus, pushing the infection tally to 84,482.

Nine districts — Ludhiana with highest 409, followed by 261 in Jalandhar, 214 in Amritsar, 204 in Patiala, 197 in

Gurdaspur, 154 in Hoshiarpur, 189 in Pathankot, 188 in Mohali and 120 in Bathinda — recorded cases in three figures and accounted for 78 per cent of total cases reported in the last 24 hours.

Besides, 84 people were found to be infected with COVID-19 in Ferozepur, 81 in Muktsar, 67 in Sangrur, 62 in Faridkot, 48 in Nawanshahr, 43 each in Fazilka and Fatehgarh Sahib, 37 in Tarn Taran, 33 in Moga, 28 in Mansa, 11 in Barnala, seven in Ropar, and one in Ferozepur.

As per the Tuesday's health bulletin, 53 duplicate deaths entries, added in the tally of September 14, and nine cases belonging to other states, have been removed.

Besides 19 of the total 90 deaths reported from Ludhiana in the past 24 hours, 12 casu-

ties were reported from Jalandhar, 10 from Amritsar; eight deaths each were reported from Gurdaspur and Kapurthala; six in Hoshiarpur; five from Ferozepur; four each from Fatehgarh Sahib and Patiala; three from Muktsar;

India walks out of SCO meet as Pak map shows J&K, Ladakh, Guj its part

Russia calls Pak action 'provocative'

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

India on Tuesday walked out of a meeting of the National Security Advisors (NSA) of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) after Pakistan presented a "fictitious" map of the country showing Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh and Gujarat as its part. The Ministry of External Affairs said that Pakistan was in "blatant disregard to host Russia's advisory".

Making its position clear, the Ministry said, "At the meeting of NSAs of member states of the SCO, hosted by the

Chair of the SCO (Russia), the Pakistani NSA deliberately projected a fictitious map that Pakistan has recently been propagating."

The Ministry in a statement said, "This was in blatant disregard to the advisory by the host against it and in violation of the norms of the meeting."

After consultation with the host, the Indian side left the meeting in protest at that juncture. Pakistan then went on to present a misleading view of this meeting."

India was represented by NSA Ajit Doval. Sources said Russia termed Pakistan's act as "provocative" and clarified that it did not support such an action.

CAPSULE

DRUGS CASE: 2 KANNADA ACTORS SUMMONED

Bengaluru: Kannada actors Aindrita Ray and Diganth have been summoned by the police in connection with an alleged drugs case that has sparked a massive controversy in Karnataka. A five-acre property near Bengaluru's Hebbal Lake in the name of Nandini Alva, wife of late politician Jeevaraj Alva, was also raided by the Bengaluru Police.

SC BREATHES FOR PUNJAB EX-DGP IN MURDER CASE

New Delhi: The Supreme Court Tuesday granted interim protection from arrest to former Punjab SGP Sumedh Singh Saini in the 1991 case of alleged murder of a junior engineer Balwant Singh Multani. The SC sought response from Punjab Government on Saini's plea challenging the Punjab and Haryana High Court order refusing to grant him anticipatory bail in the case.

FARM ORDINANCES ISSUE

Capt seeks apology from Union Min Danve for misleading statement

Property of any authority besides the Company's regarding the property put for sale, charges and shall not be responsible for anything whatsoever shall take necessary action for eviction of tenant / Fifteen days' notice to the Borrower / Mortgagee in full and pay the dues as mentioned above conditions mentioned above. In case there is any irregular newspaper and it shall be considered as to be stopped. For further details and queries,

BSF foils Pak bid to infiltrate terrorists

PNS ■ JAMMU

Alert jawans of the Border Security Force (BSF) late Monday night foiled a major infiltration bid along the international border with Pakistan after exchanging heavy volume firing with the group of five infiltrators in the Samba sector of Jammu frontier.

The BSF jawans had even illuminated the area using Para bombs to track down the foot prints of these heavily armed terrorists as they retreated back inside the Pak territory.

The BSF authorities are going to lodge a strong protest with the Pakistan Rangers and extend a helping hand to

these armed terrorists to sneak inside the Indian territory.

A BSF spokesman said, "on the intervening night of 14-15 Sep 2020, alert troops of BSF foiled an infiltration bid from the Pakistan side in the Samba Sector".

The spokesman said, initially the suspicious movement of a group of 05 terrorists was noticed on the Pakistan side of the International boundary of Samba sector which was tracked by the alert BSF troops".

He said, "at about 12.30 am the group of heavily armed 05 terrorists were seen by alert BSF troops coming close to the International boundary. He said the terrorists reached there tak-

ing advantage of an undulating terrain and thick wild growth".

BSF spokesman said, "after alerting all the BSF duty points when BSF troops challenged them to stop they fired on BSF party with heavy volume of fire. BSF troops retaliated in self defence with coordinated effective fire and foiled a possible infiltration bid attempt of armed terrorists from Pakistan side helped by Pakistan Rangers".

"Area was illuminated with the help of Para bomb and BSF troops saw fleeing terrorists toward Pakistan side. The area was searched but nothing recovered as terrorists fled. The BSF spokesman added.

Bihar: 18 killed in lightning strikes

IANs ■ PATNA

At least 18 persons were killed in lightning strikes in 10 districts of Bihar on Tuesday, even as the Meteorological Department cautioned people not to move about in open places due to fear of lightning and heavy rain in the next 24 hours.

Lightning detection centres have been established in Madhubani, Khatwa, and Gaya. Teams from the state disaster management authority have been asked to remain on standby.

Four deaths due to lightning were reported from Raghupur block in Vaishali district, two each from Bhojpur and Gopalganj, and Saran districts, and one each from Patna, Begusarai, Araria, Supaul, and Kaimur and another district after heavy rain on Tuesday afternoon.

The officials said that over 330 persons had lost their lives due to lightning strikes this year, including 100 on June 24.

Land grab case: CBI searches Lal Singh's premises in Jammu, Kathua

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) early Tuesday morning swooped down on the premises of the former BJP Minister and Chairman of the Dogra Swabhimani Sangathan Lal Singh across multiple locations in Kathua and Jammu districts in connection with a land grab case.

The firebrand leader had parted ways with the BJP after he was shown the exit door from the council of ministers during Rasana rape and murder case involving an eight year old nomadic girl. Singh had later fled from Dogra Swabhimani Sangathan and had unsuccessfully contested 2019 Lok Sabha polls from both the Lok Sabha seats of Jammu province.

According to official sources, "CBI sleuths raided the residential premises of Lal Singh in Kathua and Jammu along with few other locations around 7.00 am early Tuesday. Two separate CBI teams carried

out these raids in connection with a land grab case".

CBI had formally registered a case against RB Educational Trust, and others including the then DC Kathua (J&K), the then Tehsildar, then Naib Tehsildar, the then Girdawar, the then Patwari and other unknown persons on the allegations of having facilitated the trust to possess land much beyond the ceiling limit, and submitting false affidavits in support of the trust, causing losses to the State exchequer. The raids were going on during the day across nine different locations (three in Jammu and six in Kathua) including the office of RB Education Trust.

Earlier, on June 25, CBI had registered a preliminary enquiry (PE) against RB Educational Trust to probe into the allegations of illegal gratification and extraneous consideration by the revenue and forest officials of Kathua district in allowing the sale and purchase of forest land.

J&K: Over 4 lakh receive domicile certificates

Jammu: Notwithstanding resistance shown by the separatists and mainstream politicians against acquiring Domicile certificates more than 4 lakh residents across Kashmir valley have been issued these certificates by the Union Territory administration while 1 lakh applications were under process till September 14.

According to a press statement issued by the Department of Information and Public relations, "over 16.79 lakh persons across twenty districts of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir have been issued Domicile certificates till September 14, 2020". As per the figures, total 2113879 lakh applied for the issuance of the certificate of which 1679520 were issued the domicile certificate till September 14.

The certificates issued include over 4.16 lakh in Kashmir division and 12.44 lakh in Jammu division. The figures also revealed that 19571 West Pakistani Refugees, 2424 Balmiki community members and 765 Gorkha Community members were also issued domicile certificates under clause 2.

Of the total Domicile certificates issued in the UT, over 14.32 lakh were issued to the PRC holders (clause 1a) and Clause 1(b), 1.38 lakh (to state subject applicants and non-state subject applicants and their children), including 101 lakh to state subjects and 45794 to non-state subject, 34045 to the students under (clause 3) including 24455 state subjects and 9590 non-state subjects; and 18612 to Kashmir Migrants/ (Clause 4).

PNS

BJP activists rally throws normal life out of gear in Kerala

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

Normal life was thrown out of rails by the BJYM (the youth brigade of the BJP) across Kerala as they took out processions and rallies in district headquarters demanding the immediate resignation or sacking of Higher Education Minister KT Jaleel and Industries Minister EP Jayaraman who are in the eyes of controversies for their association with gold smuggling scam and LIFE Mission corruption charges. Things are likely to turn for the worst on Wednesday when BJP's state president K Surendran will take out a procession to the Secretariat.

This is the second day in succession the State is coming to a standstill fol-

lowing widespread stand off between the demonstrators and police. On Monday the activists of the Mahila Morcha had shocked the police in the capital city by launching a procession. Hence the police came fully prepared on Tuesday morning to prevent untoward incidents of any kind.

But the BJYM which staged a rally in front of the Secretariat refused to disperse despite the urging by police officers. "We will disperse only after Jaleel and Jayaraman submit their resignations or the chief minister sacks these ministers," retorted VV Rajesh, general secretary of the BJYM who led the rally. The Police resorted to lathi charge, bursting of tear gas shells and water can-

Vijayan warns Opposition, alleges conspiracy to sabotage Govt's works

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan on Tuesday warned those creating a raucous all over the State under the garb of agitations have only one intention and that is to facilitate the spread of Covid-19 pandemic across Kerala.

Briefing the media, Vijayan came down heavily on the BJP and its frontal organisations which he alleged were trying to sabotage the good works his Government was doing to control the coronavirus.

"These are not agitations but an apology under the garb of agitations. These is no situation in Kerala which warrants an agitation. Their intention is to destroy the peace and tranquillity prevailing in the State by spreading rumours, lies and half truths. The Government will take strong action against those who try to spread the Covid-19 pandemic," said Vijayan while referring to the State-wide agitations unleashed by the BJP.

Raj CM conducts corona awareness dialogue

Jaipur: Taking every person seriously the corona epidemic, wearing a mask essentially, keeping social distancing and following the health protocol completely, the ever increasing corona infection can be completely controlled. The greatest need of the hour is that awareness of the core being spread the shape of social compliance. This emerged prominently during the Corona Awareness Dialogue on Tuesday at a Panchayat level through video conference with expert practitioners. In addition to regional TV channels, social media platforms - Facebook, YouTube, this awareness dialogue was broadcast live through more than 8 thousand e-Mitra Plus centers and webcasts. Live broadcast of this program got millions of people from the state and other parts of the country. Members of the state cabinet, MPs, MLAs, officials of the administration and police of the state, principals of the medical college, CMHO, PMO and doctors, Gram Panchayat level public representatives and personnel also became part of this discussion. In this open platform awareness dialogue, Dr. Naresh Trehan, MD, Medanta Hospital, Gurugram of the country, Dr. SK Sarin, Director of IILBS, New Delhi, Dr. Devi Shetty, President, Narayana Hrudayalaya, Bangalore, effectively addressed the Panchayat level Gave useful information to the people of Corona for rescue.

Centre approves HORC project, new AIIMS hosp in Darbhanga

New Delhi: The Union Cabinet on Tuesday approved the Haryana Orbital Rail Corridor (HORC) project and a new AIIMS hospital in Darbhanga in Bihar. The HORC from Palwal to Sonipat via Sohna-Manesar-Kharakhauda will be implemented in a joint venture between the Railways and Haryana Government. The 122 km project worth more than Rs.5617 crore will facilitate diversion of traffic not meant for Delhi and will help in developing multimodal logistics hubs in Haryana State sub-region of NCR.

This ambitious project is expected to be completed in twelve years. "This Rail Line will start from Palwal and end at existing Haryana Kalan station (On Delhi-Amambala section). (On Delhi-Amambala section). This project will have a corridor enroute to existing Patli Station (On Delhi-Rewari Line), Sultanpur station (On Garhi Harsaru-Farukhnagar Line) and Asaudha Station (On Delhi Rohtak Line)," said Government spokesman. He said, "The project will be bifurcated through this rail line."

PNS

Pandemic-hit Pune sex workers look for other livelihood

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

With no money to keep their "out of work" Covid-19 commercial sex workers (CSWs) from Pune's infamous Budhwar red-light area have made up their mind to quit their profession and are looking for alternative livelihood options, according NGO Asha Care Trust.

Over the period of lockdown, the demand for sex work has dried down forcing sex workers to borrow loans for survival.

The findings of a survey conducted by Asha Care Trust, a forum that works towards the welfare of sex workers, reveal that 85 per cent of the workers have taken loans and over 98 per cent of them have taken it from their brother owners, managers and moneylenders, subjecting themselves to further exploitation. Budhwar Peth is India's third-largest red-light area which needs about 700 brokers and around 3,000 commercial sex workers.

AMU organises int'l virtual art exhibition

PRADHEEP SAXENA ■ ALIGARH

The Mouindind Ahmad Art Gallery and the Department of Fine Arts, Aligarh Muslim University jointly organised an International Virtual Art Exhibition, "A Walk in Time", in a 3D Art Gallery, Berlin, Germany with 70 invited artists from 16 countries including US, Germany, Turkey and Saudi Arabia and 115 artworks put on display in the show.

ATTACK ON NAVY MAN IN MUMBAI

7 activists re-arrested, released on bail

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Seven persons involved in Friday's assault on a retired navy officer in a north-Mumbai were re-arrested by the Samata Nagar police here on an added charge of trespass, but were released on bail against a personal bond of ₹15,000 each.

The seven Shiv Sainiks-Shiv Sena Shakhia Pramukh Kamlesh Kadam and five of their associates Sanjay Manjre, Rakesh Belnekar, Pratap Sund Vera, Sunil Desai and Rakesh Mulik who had been arrested and later released on bail on Saturday in connection with the incident were re-arrested on Monday night, after the Samata Nagar

police invoked section 452 (House trespass after preparation for hurt, assault or wrongful confinement of IPC).

The arrested Shiv Sainiks of 452 of IPC and subsequent arrests of the six Sainiks had come after wide-spread criticism of the Kandivli police for allegedly dealing with the ruling Sena activists with kid gloves. The six Sainiks were produced before a Borivali Magistrate's Court which remanded in judicial custody for 14 days. However, the lawyer for the accused subsequently moved a bail plea before the session court, which released them on a bail against a personal bond of ₹15,000 each.

Govt taking all necessary steps to prevent spread of virus: Vardhan

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Amid the gradual opening up of the economy and consequent rise in Covid-19 cases, the Government on Tuesday said it was taking the battle against the virulent virus is far from over but asserted that the lockdown from March 25 to May 31 successfully controlled the aggressive progression of the disease. At the same time, it admitted that there has been a steady rise in the number of cases in the post-lockdown phase.

Speaking in the Rajya Sabha, Vardhan said that the government is taking all necessary measures to prevent the spread of Covid-19 in India, said Vardhan.

spread of the disease. "It is important that sustained community support is ensured to control the spread of the virus and break its chain of transmission."

"We are in the stage of unlocking to revive the economy and it's important that sustained community support is ensured consistently to control the spread of COVID-19 infection and break its chain of transmission," he said.

I want to remind the members that the battle against Covid-19 is far from over. I wish to inform the house that the government is taking all necessary measures to prevent the spread of Covid-19 in India, said Vardhan.

Maha sees all time high of 551 fatalities

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Maharashtra breached a landmark of 30,000 deaths on Tuesday, as an all-time high 515 people succumbed to Covid-19, while 20,482 more people tested positive for the pandemic in various parts of the state.

Tuesday's fatality tally of

515 is more than 495 deaths recorded in the state on September 10. With the fresh deaths reported on Tuesday, the total deaths mounted from 29,944 to 30,409.

With 20,482 fresh infections, the total infected cases in the state jumped from 10,77,374 to 10,97,856.

Of the total 515 deaths

reported on Tuesday, Nagpur accounted for a maximum of 88 deaths, while there were 60 deaths in Thane, 50 in Pune, 49 each in Mumbai and Kolhapur, 38 in Sangli, 22 each in Ahmednagar and Jalgaon, 16 in Solapur, 14 in Raigad, 13 in Latur and 10 each in Palghar, Nashik and Aurangabad.

Similarly, in the lower

range, there were 7 fatalities each in Satara, Beed and Gondia, 6 each in Nandurbar, Osmanabad, Nanded and Bhandara, 5 in Yavatmal, 2 each in Sindhudurg, Ratnagiri and Jalna and one death each in Akola, Amravati and Chandrapur. In addition, 5 persons from other states or countries died in Maharashtra.

Maha HM orders probe into assault on Army veteran by BJP man

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

In an apparent counter to the effort by the Opposition Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) to poititise the alleged assault on a retired Navy man at Kandivli by some ruling Shiv Sainiks, Maharashtra Home Minister Anu Deshmukh of the NCP on Tuesday ordered investigations against BJP MP Umesh Patil for the alleged assault on an Army veteran Sonu Mahajan in 2016.

Taking to twitter on Tuesday, Deshmukh said: "In 2016 the BJP MLA and incumbent MP Shri Umesh Patil and others had attacked retired Soldier Shri Sonu Mahajan. The then state BJP Government did not give justice to Shri Mahajan. I have received several applications in this matter and have ordered investigation in this matter".

"The offence was committed in 2016 but due to the State BJP Government protection to Shri Patil no FIR was filed. In 2019 on Honble High Court directions a FIR was filed but no further legal action has been taken against Shri Patil and others," Deshmukh said in another tweet.

Maharashtra Congress general secretary and spokesperson Sachin Sawant, who had on Sunday alleged that the BJP MP had tried to kill Army veteran Mahajan during chief minister Devendra Fadnis' tenure, slammed the previous BJP government for its failure to act against the BJP MP concerned.

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

SHO

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified body of a male named Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown was found on 10.09.2020 at Shree Ram Steel 215, Saral Pipla Thala opposite Metro Pillar No. 98 near Anarash Nagar, Delhi. Admitted in BJRM Hospital, Delhi. Vide MLC No. 163558/20. During the treatment the doctors declared him dead. Dead Body has been preserved in BJRM hospital mortuary for 72 hrs for identification. In this regard DD No. 86-A, dated 10.09.2020 has been lodged at Police Station Mahendra Park, Delhi. Identification of unidentified body of male is as under: Name: Unknown, Age: 45-46 years, Height: 5'3", Face: Oval, Build: Medium, Complexion: Wheatish, Wearing: Blue light pant. If anyone have any information or clue about this male deceased may kindly be informed undersigned.

SEARCH FOR MISSING

SHO

General public is hereby informed that one lady (depicted in the photo), Name: Kajal, W/o: Jeevan, R/o: Jhuggi No. B-46/57, Balmiki Camp, Lawrence Road, Delhi. Aged: 19 years, has been missing (along with her daughter Sakshi, Age: 05 months) from Jhuggi No. B-46/57, Balmiki Camp, Lawrence Road, Delhi, since 31.08.2020. In this regard a case vide DD No. 19A, Dated 02.09.2020, has been lodged at P.S. Keshav Puram, Delhi. Her physical description is as under: Height: 5' Feet, Complexion: Shallow, Face: Round, Build: Normal, Clothing: Unknown Colour Sult Salwar. Any person is having any information about this missing lady and her daughter, may inform SHO, Keshav Puram, Delhi at E-mail: c/c@cbi.gov.in or website : http://cbi.nic.in Tele No. : 011-24368638 or 24368641

SEARCH FOR MISSING

SHO

General public is hereby informed that one boy named Gaurav, S/o Mukesh Kumar, R/o H.No. A-590, Dhoi Ghat, Delhi Cantt., New Delhi, Age: 10 years, Height: 4' 6", Complexion: Shallow, wearing Blue T-Shirt, Black Half Pant and Chappal, has been missing from the jurisdiction of P.S. Delhi Cantt., New Delhi since 31.08.2016. In this regard a FIR No. 283/2016 U/S 363 IPC, dated 01.09.2016 has been lodged at P.S. Delhi Cantt., New Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the boy but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about him please inform undersigned. Website : http://cbi.nic.in E-mail : c/c@cbi.nic.in Fax: 011-24368639 Tel: 011-24368638, 24368641 DP/259/SW/2020

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

SHO

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of male named Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: about 30-35 years, Height: 5' 6", Complexion: Shallow, Face: Round, Build: Thin, Hair: Black, Wearing: Brown colour pant and bare feet, who was found at the footpath opposite Red Fort Ring Road, Near Monkey Bridge, Delhi. In this regard a case DD No. 46A Dated 09.09.2020 has been registered at P.S. Kotwali, Delhi. Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone nos. DP/560/N/2020(UIDB) P.S. Kotwali, Delhi Tel.: 011-23977100, 23953442, 875087021

UJVN Limited

H.O.: "ULJWAL", Mahantani Bagh, G.M.S. Road, Dharwad-240006 Tel: 0253-2532532 CIB No. U4019U200150025866 Website: www.ujvn.com

Letter No: 551 E-Tender Notice Date: 14.09.2020 Office of the Executive Engineer (Maint.), Chilla Power House Hardwar, Pauri Garhwal (Uttarakhand), invites online bids from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below: Tender No. 03/EE/M/2020-21 Name of work: Procurement of S.S Rotating Shaft Sleeves for Chilla Power House Estimated cost: Rs. 6.06 lakh/- Date of availability of bid document on website: 16.09.2020 from 16:00 Last date for submission of bids on website: 12.10.2020 upto 14:00 For fuller & further details, kindly visit e-procurement portal http://uktenders.gov.in. Executive Engineer (Maint.) "Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

No dignity of labour

Govt coldly denies compensation to dead migrants saying it doesn't have data. Can it heartlessly ignore facts or credible media reports?



Benjamin Disraeli once said, "There are three kinds of lies: lies, damned lies and statistics." Perhaps this is what the Government has internalised in dealing with a national crisis. Since it doesn't believe in any kind of data collection that has not been commissioned by it, it denies that there has been any migrant death during the pandemic-induced lockdown. It doesn't matter that its white lies are caught out by countless heart-breaking stories in the media of labourers turfed out of their city jobs overnight, forced to trudge back to their villages and without money, succumbing to hunger and illness on the way or even to destitution at their homes,

without relief or dole of any kind. This denial of reality by the Government is not only brutal in its insensitivity but also a shabby disowning of its responsibility in keeping a nation together in the middle of an unprecedented crisis. Worst, its inhuman response came on the floor of the Parliament where, to a question on whether families of those who had lost their lives while trying to reach home during the lockdown had been compensated, the Union Labour Ministry put out a clinical statement that since there was no data on migrant deaths, the "question does not arise" of relief and aid. Even if one were to assume that the concerned Minister, his office and bureaucrats had for some curious reason blacked themselves out from news about India's worst reverse migration, how does the Ministry explain its own admission that more than one crore migrants made their way back to their home States from various corners of the country? Can it blithely assume, therefore, that no hazard befell them, considering most were daily wage earners and had nothing to fall back upon? Hungry, sick and walking for days, were they in an endurance test on a reality show where their deaths could be easily dismissed as collateral damage? Is the figure not an indication of the jobs lost in the country's largely unorganised labour market? For once, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi reacted rightly, tweeting, "If you haven't counted, have the deaths not taken place?" Also, how can the Government discount the deaths recorded by its own Railway Ministry of the many migrants who died on Shramik trains that were organised much later to ferry them back home? Or were run over by trains as they fell asleep on tracks, exhausted and beaten? More than 1,400 road accidents killed 750 people, including 198 migrant workers, between March 25 and May 31.

Even if the Government doesn't believe in statistics, the world does. Especially, those that come from credible organisations of long standing and which are relied upon by policy-makers themselves. The International Labour Organisation (ILO) and Asian Development Bank (ADB) have already listed that 41 lakh jobs were lost in the country during the pandemic. A World Bank report in April indicated that the livelihood of nearly 40 million internal migrants had been affected. Recently, the Centre for Monitoring India Economy (CMIE) said that five million salaried people had lost their jobs in July alone while that figure had peaked in April at 17.7 million unemployed. Further, 37.5 million students have been out of campus and are staring at a year without prospects. Without direct cash transfers, the credit-based stimulus packages, which address structural facets of the economy, have made little sense to the wage earners. A lot of them have sought refuge in the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), participating in schemes with a 100-day work assurance. Such is the plight that there has been a surge in enrolment with even degree holders (MA, BBA) and self-employed youth signing up for project work and digging as they have lost their jobs in the cities. About 14 crore people across the country have MGNREGA job cards. The Government will need a massive ₹2.8 lakh crore if each card holder can get a guaranteed 100 days of work this year. Still MGNREGA, in its present form, alone cannot take care of the returning migrants unless its scope is extended to include agricultural activities. The Centre did well by raising the allocation for this scheme but a chunk of this has gone in clearing arenas. Even this financial year began with pending wage and material liabilities of ₹16,045 crore. An allocation of ₹1 lakh crore for FY 2020-21 would mean that ₹84,000 crore is available for employment generation this year. Besides, even with the scheme receiving the highest allocation since it was first rolled out, it accounts for just 0.47 per cent of the GDP. This is much lower than the World Bank's recommendation of 1.7 per cent for optimal functioning. The second challenge is of uniform implementation as States with differing priorities and machineries are entrusted with it. With fund leakages and corruption at the level of local self-Government, the scheme has gone askew in many places. There has been a consistent demand for expanding the number of work days beyond the existing 100 days but the national average number of days employed per household in the last four years has been just 47. May be this is an opportune moment to align the scheme with economic imperatives. But more needs to be done. While individual States are already setting up job portals to list returnee workers with their skill sets and allocate them appropriate work zones, this ought to be pan-India so that labour-starved States can benefit too. Till we value the labourer, recovery will be a chimera, a smart India a paper town. Besides, *atmanirbharata* can truly take off when we value and respect fellow human beings and not deny their existence.

Equality in marriage

Going through courts will only harden extremist viewpoints on same-sex spouses. There needs to be a public debate



When the Supreme Court struck down the penal provisions of Section 377 that criminalised all but vaginal intercourse, it effectively removed the legal persecution of homosexual relationships. Now a group of petitioners has approached the Supreme Court asking that it mandates that same-sex marriage be legalised in India. Surprisingly, for some in the LGBTQ community, this petition is being led by Right-wing agent provocateur Abhijit Iyer-Mitra, who has identified himself as a homosexual for many years. Yet the Solicitor-General (SG) of India Tushar Mehta, arguing before the Division Bench, has toed the cultural line that our values

will not allow us to recognise same-sex marriage.

Make no mistake, a same-sex marriage has been a contentious and highly debated issue for many years in many parts of the world. In Australia, the debate ran for years until a much-publicised direct referendum approved it and allowed lawmakers to legislate to that effect. This newspaper feels that same-sex marriages should ideally be first debated in the public sphere and then in Parliament because any changes to laws governing marriage would have to be effected in the legislature, not in courts. That will take a certain amount of time and that will allow for the hardest views against such a move to soften as happened in the US. Going through the courts will only harden the viewpoints of religious and social extremists of every hue. The signature of a judge does not do away with centuries of discrimination and hate, which are very often wrapped up in what we call "values." This is why the view of the SG is disappointing, and ideally he should have argued that this is something for Parliament to discuss and the time is right for the discussion to start. Anyone who understands the legislative process knows that such a major change will take time but unless a process is started, no change can ever take place. Is the time right for India to start discussing how to legalise same-sex marriage? Yes, it is. And we should have no pretence that our values do not allow such things. The law should not discriminate against same-sex marriages and the shared rights of partners. And like in most other nations where same-sex marriage is now legal, the happiest people are always the divorce lawyers, because same-sex marriage means same-sex divorce as well.



BHOPINDER SINGH

None less than the Chinese leader Xi Jinping himself has conceded that the PLA is the world's largest standing military, the People's Liberation Army (PLA), with more than 2.1 million active-duty strength, is afflicted by the "Peace Disease." Since taking over the reins of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) as the General Secretary and chairmanship of the Central Military Commission (CMC) in 2012, Xi has unleashed transformational investments and restructuring in the PLA in terms of doctrinal, strategic, technological, cultural and on-boarding of weapon platforms. Yet, he remains acutely conscious of the combat inexperience that besets a military force that has not been tested since 1979, where it came a cropper against a decidedly inferior Vietnamese force. Importantly, the Vietnamese forces that had fought the Chinese in 1979 were still blood-soaked from fighting the American forces for nearly two decades, and had even won out the supposedly better organised, trained and equipped military then. The essential mass of the Chinese PLA in 1979 had last seen a full theatre-level combat only in the early 1950s (Korean War) and soldiers, therefore, were raw and untested when they had taken on the Vietnamese. They were soon made to pay a price for lazily assuming that a larger force, better equipment and aggressive posturing could compensate for combat inexperience. It is this forbidding pertaining to the obvious inexperience of today's PLA that Xi has been alluding to in the context of "Peace Disease," even as it continues its optics of aggressive posturing, intimidation and global expansionism.

There are other elements compounding the "Peace Disease" that are pertinent in questioning the core spirit of PLA's fighting abilities. First, the perennial concern of ensuring PLA's loyalty and subservience to the civilian CCP — this got magnified by the purges initiated against the PLA Generals in the initial Xi years and elevating his own "young guard." Not only was this "young guard" of post-1979 vintage but the essentiality of "unity of command" in a Chinese combat unit (at compa-

PLA's 'Peace Disease'

Battle experience cannot be bought and this could expose the Chinese chimera on the battlefield



“XI HAS UNLEASHED INVESTMENTS AND RESTRUCTURING IN THE PLA IN TERMS OF DOCTRINAL, STRATEGIC, TECHNOLOGICAL, CULTURAL AND ON-BOARDING OF WEAPON PLATFORMS. YET, HE IS CONSCIOUS OF THE COMBAT INEXPERIENCE THAT BESETS A MILITARY FORCE THAT HAS NOT BEEN TESTED SINCE 1979”

ny levels) is always diluted and compromised with the shared command responsibility of the political officers, who are responsible for ensuring the non-military task of loyalty to the party, i.e. CCP. A vital chink in the structural formation of the PLA is the relative under-developed of the non-commissioned officers (NCO cadre), which is invaluable for operational efficacy. The steel of the Indian Army that shone in the Kargil operations was attributable among other things to the "junior command" that led from the front, where the role of NCO cadre was significant. Unlike the militaries of India (or even Pakistan), which are bloodied in real time operational experience in internal urgencies or restive borders, the Chinese "Peace Disease" comes with accompanying laxities. Even the 1967 Nathu La and Cho La border clashes in the Indo-China history were symptomatic of a recalibrated Indian military that was by then battle-hardened and in a very different frame of mind from the Indian military of 1962.

Undoubtedly, China has embarked on mammoth military investments that ensure that its annual budgetary allocation (estimated at \$261-266 billion in 2019) towards its armed forces is almost four times that of India. There is debatable realism about the Chinese claims in cutting-edge military technologies (the Chengdu J-20 Stealth 5th gen-

eration fighter plane) or about the quality of training, restructuring, command systems and so on. Despite its claimed proficiency in indigenous weaponry, China has openly sought S-300 and S-400 anti-aircraft systems, SU-27 and SU-35 fighter jets from Russia, among other platforms and technologies to "reverse engineer." But where the Chinese score over countries like India is in the way they have internalised "security" as an integral component of their national vision, international manoeuvres and strategic calculus for all policy decisions, be it internal or external. Whereas, beyond selective invoking of the "Indian soldier" whenever tensions looms, the Indian governance has diminished the role, relevance or priority on defence matters and only displays knee-jerk or politically competitive "investments" in the said domain. Ironically the mismanagement of India's domestic affairs by its political classes has ensured that the armed forces have not suffered any "Peace Disease."

Battle experience is one of the most important features that determines the fate of forces, along with others like the lethality of weapons, processes, leadership, numerical strength or even environmental factors like social, cultural or political moorings. Japan's "banzai" culture and motivation levels could compensate for material disadvan-

tages. The numerically far-superior and experienced Iraqi military (after the decade long Iran-Iraq war) got decimated within 100 hours by the superiority of American weapons, training and professionalism in the first Gulf War. At the same time, the same battle-experienced and obviously more professional American military has been forced to "pull out" of Afghanistan when faced by the rag-tag Taliban militia who neither have the matching weaponry, training, nor the infrastructural wherewithal.

The Chinese awkwardness with the reciprocal state-down at Doklam, Galwan gallantry and recent operations of the Indian Army in occupying advantageous heights is reflective of the "Peace Disease" that has been sought to be compensated by sabre-rattling, deceit and troops/infrastructural build-up.

Lieutenant General He Lei of the PLA had famously remarked a couple of years ago that his biggest regret before retiring was that he never fought a war — his successors are even more distant from war experience, whereas, those on the other side may have other concerns and deficiencies, but "Peace Disease" is certainly not one of them. Battle experience cannot be bought and this could expose the Chinese chimera on the battlefield.

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

SOUNDBITE

AFG winning with the highest votes the competitive CSW election today represents a victory for the process started 19 years ago when we committed to the empowerment of our women.

Afghanistan Ambassador
—Adela Raz



I have worked on a few deliveries especially for the T20 format. It will be fun for all to see during the IPL. You have to plan every time.

Cricketer
—Kuldeep Yadav



Pakistan has fully facilitated the process that culminated in the US-Taliban Peace Agreement in Doha on February 29 and has reached this juncture.

Pakistan's Foreign Minister
—Shah Mahmood Qureshi



I am Black, son of a Black, grandson and great-grandson of a Black. I am proud and do not see myself as different from anyone. Racism exists.

Footballer
—Neymar

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Where is the logic?

Sir — The recent statement by the Government in Parliament about not maintaining records or the non-availability of data about the actual number of deaths of migrant labourers and the total number of job losses is immature and illogical. On one side, the Government had proudly announced a package of ₹20 lakh crore to meet the losses occurred due to the lockdown along with infinite advertisements about it. On the other hand, it has simply denied sharing the actual position of the migrant labourers. The working class, along with the farmers, are regarded as the backbone of the economy and if they remain unemployed, then the GDP of the nation will never recover. The Government must seriously consider the proposition as the GDP is at an all-time low and unemployment has broken all previous records. It cannot disown labourers.

Navneet Seth
Punjab

Fair play

Sir — It is noteworthy that Janata Dal (United) MP

Crime graph shoots up in Goa

Considering the sudden spate of high-profile offences, involving drugs, gambling and fake currency notes in Goa, one is led to believe that crime is a perennial affair and not the consequence of the vagaries of the economic scene prevalent at any time of the year. Although revelling in its fame as a highly sought after tourist destination, it would not be wrong to state here that Goa has also been much maligned by activities of criminal gangs and their nexus.

Goa has frequently been in the news for gambling, sex and drugs. Crimes like rape, murder and gang wars are the inevitable consequences. Sadly, the Government has not done anything exceptional to dispel notions of the State being a vice capital of the nation. While it is contended that Goa witnessed virtually zero crime between March and May, when the lockdown was in force, it would imply that the policing during this period was at its best, where the stern measures adopted deterred any criminal activity. Or was it the fear of the virus that kept those with a criminal bent of mind indoors?



It would, however, be unfair to criticise Goa Police for failing to take advantage of the lull period to subsequently improve the law and order situation in the State. Simply because alertness levels and vigilance are dependent on manpower and there is an acute shortage of personnel.

Pachu Menon
Goa

Abe's legacy

Sir — Japan's governing party has elected Yoshihide Suga as its new leader to succeed Shinzo Abe. Suga received 377 votes and won the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) elections, which were held after Abe resigned on health grounds. Suga received support from the party, whose members expect

him to continue Abe's policies. Suga is known for his iron fist and getting the job done. He is reformist and has worked to achieve policies by breaking territorial barriers. His efforts in achieving a boom in tourism and decreasing cellphone bills are praiseworthy. He is expected to continue the stepped up alliance with India, one that Abe had worked hard on with our Prime

Minister Narendra Modi. Sanjana Soni
Ujjain

A clarification

In an article dated August 5, 2020, titled *Turning liability to asset*, authored by Prof Gourav Vallabh, the following paragraphs were inadvertently attributed to him. They were in the nature of collaborative information. "Merely privatising the PSBs will get us nowhere. Along with this move, the need is for sector-specific reforms. In his book, *What the Economy Needs Now*, Rajan (former RBI governor) Raghuram Rajan has suggested that privatisation be just one element of the overall reform process. It should not become the foremost plank in banking sector reform and is fraught with adverse consequences. To put it simply, Rajan is of the view that 'simple' solutions like privatising PSBs may be no panacea. Consolidation and privatisation of PSBs can have little to do with setting Indian banking right as these actions may be necessary but will not be sufficient by a long chalk..."

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

FIRST COLUMN

US showing ominous signs

It would be a very big deal if the US started distributing a vaccine that has not been properly tested. Yet the signs are that this is just what is going to happen



GWYNNE DYER

None of the world's biggest pharmaceutical companies have just promised not to apply for regulatory approval for any new COVID-19 vaccine before it has gone through all three phases of clinical study. Why would they do such a thing? You'd be surprised if brain surgeons got together and promised not to operate while drunk, or if the bus drivers' union publicly pledged that its members will not drive recklessly. They don't do that because operating sober and driving carefully are just part of the job. So is ensuring that new vaccines are safe and effective. Yet nine major players in the international pharmaceuticals market — AstraZeneca (UK-Sweden), BioNTech (Germany), GlaxoSmithKline (UK), Johnson & Johnson (US), Merck (Germany), Moderna (US), Novavax (US), Pfizer (US) and Sanofi (France) — all felt obliged to reassure the public that they won't cheat. What's up? Obviously, it's the perception that other players in the same market may indeed be cutting corners. We're not taking here about Russia and China, both of which have begun inoculating some key workers with vaccines that are still listed by the World Health Organisation (WHO) as being in clinical trials. No surprise here: Everybody knows that those regimes break the rules whenever they feel like it.

Usually the Donald Trump Administration's actions are viewed with weary resignation by the rest of the world, but it would still be a very big deal if the US started distributing a vaccine that had not been properly tested. Yet the signs are that this is just what is going to happen. Last month at the Republican national convention, the US President told the delegates and the country: "We are developing life-saving therapies and will produce a vaccine before the end of the year, or maybe even sooner." On September 4, the US Government's Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) told American health officials that "limited COVID-19 vaccine doses may be available by early November 2020."

More specifically, the CDC urged State authorities to consider "waiving requirements" and grant permits to McKesson Corporation so they can start distributing a vaccine by November 1. You don't need a weatherman to know which way the wind blows. The presidential election is on November 3, two days later. That's long enough for the glad news to get around and floating voters to be swayed in favour of Trump, but too short for any defects in the rushed vaccine to come to light. Donald Trump is going to liberate Americans from the curse of COVID in a little less than two months. If the vaccine's miraculous properties subsequently fade, even if it turns out to kill large numbers of people, that won't matter. The votes will have been counted and Trump will be back in office for another four years. That, at least, is the scenario that is currently envisaged by the people around Trump.

It is a plausible one, especially if the race has tightened by then. Just 1,00,000 votes in three States, mostly from people who had previously voted Democratic, put Trump in the White House in 2016. A miracle vaccine could certainly swing that many votes again.

The nine pharmaceutical majors, who felt the need to issue a "historic pledge" to uphold scientific and ethical standards, were doubtless driven by this scenario. Even if there really has been an American breakthrough, they would still have to cope with the public's suspicion that Trump is cheating — and the mistrust that will also attach to any other early vaccines. It is possible that the vaccine or vaccines that Trump is about to unleash on the American public really do work and are safe. It would be a historic first in the development of vaccines — having a COVID vaccine ready for general use by next June or July would normally be seen as a remarkable achievement — but miracles do happen. The problem is that they don't happen often, and if the full testing regime is not followed, you don't know if this is one of those times.

It's only because the AstraZeneca/Oxford University vaccine was going through the full third phase of tests, involving tens of thousands of individuals and many months of testing, that they spotted a bad reaction requiring hospitalisation and paused the tests. Now they have resumed them again. The American miracle vaccine will only start third-stage tests at the same time that it is made generally available. Pausages like AstraZeneca/Oxford University's happen often in the development of a vaccine. And the pause was temporary because one person in the UK had a side effect but later it was deemed safe to continue with the testing. But even a very low-frequency bad reaction can be a mass killer when tens of millions of people are being vaccinated, and these are not desperately sick people willing to risk anything for a cure. They are people in good health, and you mustn't kill them.

(Gwynne Dyer's new book is *Growing Pains: The Future of Democracy and Work*.)

THE PROBLEM OF DRUG TRAFFICKING AND ADDICTION IS INCREASING. DRUGS COME TO INDIA VIA CHINA AND PAKISTAN. OUR FILM INDUSTRY TOO IS AFFECTED.

—BJP MP AND ACTOR
RAVI KISHAN

POINT COUNTERPOINT



YESTERDAY ONE OF OUR MEMBERS IN THE LOK SABHA, WHO IS FROM THE FILM INDUSTRY, SPOKE AGAINST IT. IT IS A SHAME. THE INDUSTRY NEEDS PROTECTION.

—SP MP AND ACTOR
JAYA BACHCHAN

Move the needle on cooling

After experiencing the catastrophic effects of climate change, it's high time for all nations to join hands in adopting low carbon pathways to restore the ozone layer



SHANMUGANATHAN K



ASHISH SARASWAT

The ozone layer, the Achilles' Heel of our Earth's atmosphere, is responsible for protecting our terrestrial and marine life. The layer, which is a highly reactive and made of trace gas, constitutes about three molecules for every 10 million molecules of air and absorbs bits of the sun's ultra-violet (UV) radiation that hits the Earth. However, decisive research in the early 1970s underlined signs of trouble in this vital blanket. In 1974, late Professor Sherwood Rowland and Professor Mario Molina at the University of California, Irvine, published an article in *Nature* elucidating the detrimental threats to the ozone layer from chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) gases.

It was found that CFC, which is commonly used in refrigerators for cooling applications and aerosols, was eating away at the ozone layer once it was released into the Earth's atmosphere. The situation got worse as the consumption of CFC exponentially increased in various business and industries due to its low cost and properties, namely non-inflammability and non-toxicity.

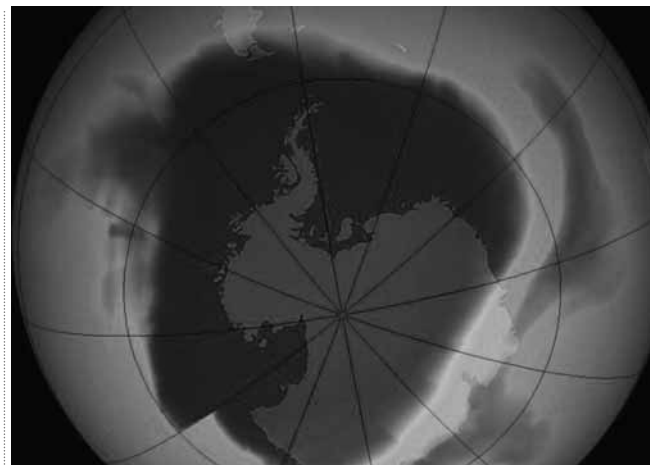
Beginning of the world's most successful environmental agreement: Eleven years after the findings of Professor Rowland and Professor Molina, a team of English scientists, too, learnt about the thinning of the ozone layer, which is popularly known as the "Ozone Hole." They realised that the CFCs had started to break down the ozone, leading to the entry of harmful UV rays into the Earth's surface. This had led to an increase in skin cancer cases among humans and was harming terrestrial and marine ecosystems, too. With the objective to preserve human health and protect the environment from the harmful effects of the depleted ozone layer, the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer came into existence on March 22, 1985.

The convention provided the framework for the Montreal Protocol (MP), the most successful environmental agreement till date to achieve universal ratification. On September 16, 1987, the United Nations (UN) and 45 other countries signed the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer. It aimed to preserve the protective shield through worldwide control, reduction and phasing out of production and consumption of ozone-depleting substances (ODS). Three decades ago, the speech of a 12-year-old girl, Severn Cullis-Suzuki from Vancouver, Canada at the 1992 Earth Summit, caught the attention of leaders of parties and the UN in strategising expeditious measures for phasing out of ODS. "I am afraid to go out in the sun now because of the hole in our ozone. I am afraid to breathe the air because I don't know what chemicals are in it. If you don't know how to fix it, please stop breaking it," said Cullis-Suzuki in her landmark speech.

In 1994, the UN General Assembly proclaimed September 16 as the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer, commemorating the date of the signing, in 1987, of the Montreal Protocol. Today, the Parties to the Montreal Protocol have phased out 98 per cent of their ODS, which were an estimated two million people from skin cancer annually.

Refrigerants, the key determinants: The establishment of a regime for refrigerants started taking shape during the 18th century when the world embraced the technological advancement

“ IN 1994, THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY PROCLAIMED SEPTEMBER 16 AS THE INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE OZONE LAYER, COMMEMORATING THE DATE OF THE SIGNING, IN 1987, OF THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL. TODAY, THE PARTIES TO THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL HAVE PHASED OUT 98 PER CENT OF THEIR ODS, WHICH SAVED TWO MILLION PEOPLE FROM SKIN CANCER ANNUALLY ”



known as the vapour compression refrigerating system which later became the most successful commercial technology.

The unprecedented need for cooling resulted in the application of early adopted natural refrigerants (carbon dioxide, ammonia, sulphur dioxide, water and air). The first generation of refrigerants was gradually succeeded by the fluorocarbons, commonly known as Chlorofluorocarbons (CFC) and Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFC) like R13, R123, R22 due to their varied properties like stability, non-flammability and so on. Initially, this regime of refrigerants was hardly looked at by researchers from the environmental perspective.

Later, their detrimental impacts on the ozone layer led to usage of Hydrofluorocarbons (HFC) and Perfluorocarbons (PFC), which are not ozone depleting, but had global warming potential that can be thousands of times more potent than carbon dioxide in contributing to climate change. During the early 2000s, the unprecedented adoption of HFC refrigerants in majority of applications led to the rise of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and the associated global warming effects.

Continuing the momentum: Realising the colossal impact of the carbon footprints caused by HFC refrigerants, world leaders and the UN had convened at the capital of Rwanda for the 28th meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol in October 2016. The convention led to the formation of the Kigali Amendment, intending to reduce the emissions of GHGs in a move that could prevent up to 0.5° Celsius of global warming by the end of this century, while continuing to protect the ozone layer. Aiming at a sustainable climate, as a course of action under the Kigali Amendment, the world economies are now making efforts in a phased manner to scale down the currently-used HCFC

and the high global warming potential (GWP) HFC by the late 2040s to countermeasure global warming.

Thus, swift adoption of low-GWP refrigerants can be well addressed by exploring environmental benefits as well as market readiness. However, while pushing the envelope, it is important to see the refrigerant transition from the perspective of market adaptability, maintaining the business-as-usual scenario. The overall environmental impact of the refrigerant can only be reduced by integrating refrigerants with low upfront costs, energy efficiency of overall refrigeration systems and safety aspects.

For instance, merely changing a refrigerant in an existing refrigeration system without modifying it may reverse the desired economic and environmental benefits. To avoid such scenarios, the cooling industry has been putting its efforts into designing systems to ensure commercial viability of next-generation low-GWP refrigerants. However, the use of such new systems is very limited and primarily depends on end users who are inclined to the existing systems with commonly used refrigerants due to their low costs and already proven results.

This year, the theme of the Ozone Day is "Ozone for life: 35 years of ozone layer protection", commemorating the success of the 1985 Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer. At the same time, the continuous release of GHG emissions into the atmosphere has resulted in the decade of 2010-2019 being the hottest-ever. After experiencing the catastrophic effects of climate change, it's high time for all nations to join hands in adopting low carbon pathways for our future generations. The deployment of sustainable energy options and the adoption of environment-friendly refrigerants in the cooling sector are expected to avoid up to 0.5° Celsius of global warming by 2100.

Cooling: India harbours 16 per cent of the world's population but currently only around seven to nine per cent of its people have access to air-conditioners. Cooling is cross-sectoral, spanning wide thematic areas like space cooling, industry, transport, food security and so on. According to the 2018 International Energy Agency (IEA) report, India's cooling industry is expected to grow exponentially by 2050. Recognising the accelerated growth of cooling needs in the future, India proactively introduced its strategic document, *India Cooling Action Plan (ICAP)* in March, 2019 to show its commitment to explore and adopt cutting-edge solutions for more sustainable cooling with less environmental impacts.

To tackle this unprecedented growth, it is imperative for the Indian cooling industry to strategise accelerated methodologies by promoting indigenous research and development activities to practise the best energy-efficient technology options and adopt the next generation environment-friendly refrigerants in a business-as-usual scenario.

This can be well-supported by actions like ensuring the synergies among inter-ministerial actions, creation of a strong institutional framework to identify, certify and financing innovative cooling technologies, fast-tracking the patenting procedures for new cooling technologies and effective implementation of existing cooling policies.

In the long-term on the demand side, the emphasis should be placed on factors like creating a user demand pool in favour of cooling aided by public-private partnership and facilitating credit-linked incentives to the manufacturers and users adopting newly-developed cooling technologies and so on.

(Shanmuganathan is Associate Fellow and Saraswat is Project Manager, Cooling, Centre for Global Environment Research, TERI)

The death of a credible media with a backbone

Those in charge of publicity policies hardly realise that by attacking critics they are instigating an equally vitriolic counter-narrative



SIDHARTH MISHRA

The criticism of the present turmoil in the Indian media, particularly television, comes with the rebuff of the critic being a Libtard. The next volley is about the media being sympathetic to the earlier regime too and why then no questions were asked for such sympathies. There is no denying the fact that many present-day vociferous flag-bearers, protesting the slant being brazenly projected in the media, were themselves guilty of enjoying undue access and patronage, blighting the line between honest journalism and patronised pen-pushing.

Having said this, the aforementioned premise cannot be justified as the only factor for acrimony and rancour, which has come to define the

state of Indian television. It has more to do with the market and the revenue models. This writer worked with *The Pioneer* at a time and in an era when it was seen as the only major Right of the Centre English daily. But to the credit of the editorial leadership of the newspaper, despite the slant, it never discouraged contrary opinion and gave prominent space to it.

More importantly, it held the ideological position, paying a commercial price as many Government agencies and departments worked overtime to demolish the revenue model of the newspaper. It indeed was a challenging task to be the paper of the Opposition and also being the paper of the Right of the Centre thought.

The same cannot be said about the present-day votaries of the Right of the Centre ideology. It's more a case of being on the right side of the Government. Being honest to an ideology demands a price, which these ideological posturers did not pay then, nor are they paying now, as on both the occasions they were on the right side of the Government.

Then there is another issue.

Does being supportive of a political thought make a media house mortgage its right to question a Government of the same ideology? During the prime ministership of Atal Bihari Vajpayee, there was this instance of a border skirmish with Bangladesh in which a Border Security Force officer was killed. His corpse was returned in a most undignified manner. The images made one shudder and at the same time angry even as the Government talked of peace.

The front-page editorial in *The Pioneer* said, "Bend, don't genuflect." Now this was a startling criticism coming from the newspaper known for its ideological proximity to the Government of the day. The media have indeed needed much courage on the part of the editor, and a real large heart on the part of the Government to take the criticism in the right spirit.

The current news trend followed by the media houses, of the Government never going wrong, should make the powers that be wary. This worry should be on two counts: First, the loss of credibility of

these media houses and anchors known to be sympathetic to the Government. Second, by giving no space to the Opposition, the mainstream media has pushed it into a situation where it has launched a vitriolic counter-narrative, expressing distrust in the media houses, calling them vehicles of Government propaganda.

Those in charge of the publicity policies of the Government, by unleashing a vendetta of jawabdaris, realise little that they are instigating an equally vitriolic counter-narrative. With social media and technological advancements completely democratising the media space, a Government's image cannot be lynched on mere whataboutery of prime-time anchors.

We live in times where troll armies are ever-ready to provide their services at mud-slinging. It's just the question of who is hiring them. While it has taken more than half-a-century to create memes of Jawaharlar Nehru, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is being subjected to this obnoxious criticism in his lifetime. Nehru and several Prime Ministers

after him were lucky that they were subjected to such criticism by erudite scholar-cartoonists like RK Laxman. They were at the same time fortunate that the space of social media did not exist, which could have dragged them into the muck.

Today counter-narratives on Government claims make it to various social media platforms within moments of being released in the public domain. Dependence on fake and misrepresented facts has come to create an atmosphere of distrust, where ready acceptance of a news, however true, is not easy.

This situation has given rise to such an atmosphere that reason is the biggest casualty. When fake information becomes a marketable commodity, there would not be very many clients for evidence-based, well-reasoned information. Let's take the case of the "infodemic", a term coined by the World Health Organisation (WHO) on the surge of information regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. The contagion in fact has hit the media hardest both in matters of finances and credibility. The failure of journalists, both television and

newspaper, to go beyond the Government's briefings on the pandemic and its opinionated criticism has left the consumers of news absolutely chafed. Nobody has a clear picture on where the virus is steering the world.

If there is distrust for a product, there obviously would not be a market for it. The market searches for such products which can be easily consumed. So here is a case of a market looking for news products. In fact, the present situation reminds one of Italian dramatist, novelist, poet and short story writer Luigi Pirandello's early 20th century play titled, *Six Characters in Search of an Author*. The initial reception to the play from the audience was it being incomprehensible. It was only after Pirandello added a foreword to the play a few years later that it came to be better appreciated. The connoisseurs of news are today eagerly waiting for the foreword to the current incoherent and unsustainable media scenario.

(The writer is professor-chairperson, Vivekananda School of Journalism and Mass Communication, VIPS, GGSIPU, Delhi)



FOREIGN EYE



DO NOT ISOLATE THE ELDERLY

A survey of British doctors has found that almost nine in 10 expect a second peak of the Coronavirus in the next six months. Data suggest the rate of viral transmission nationally is again lurching out of control. A national lockdown may be only weeks away. The Government must find a way to ensure that the elderly and vulnerable do not endure an autumn and winter of total isolation from their loved ones. (The Guardian editorial)

IRAN PLANNING TO AVENGE SOLEIMANI KILLING

Trump: Retaliation will be 1,000 times greater

Washington: President Donald Trump has warned Iran that any attack against the US would be retaliated with "1,000 times greater in magnitude" after media reports that Tehran is planning to avenge the killing of top general Qasem Soleimani in January.

The death of Gen Soleimani, head of Iran's elite Quds Force, in a US airstrike near Baghdad's airport marks a major escalation in the stand-off between Washington and Tehran, since US President Trump withdrew from the 2015 nuclear deal and imposed crippling sanctions.

Iran had vowed to seek revenge for Gen Soleimani's killing. "Any attack by Iran, in any form, against the United States will be met with an attack on Iran that will be 1,000 times greater in magnitude," Trump said in a tweet after news reports emerged that Iran is planning some kind of attack against the US.

"Iran may be planning an assassination or other attack, against the US in retaliation for the killing of terrorist leader Soleimani, which was carried out for his planning a future attack, murdering US Troops, and the death & suffering caused over so many years," Trump wrote.

In a news report based on unnamed intelligence sources, the Politico said "the Iranian government is weighing an assassination attempt against the American ambassador to South Africa, since US President Trump withdrew from the 2015 nuclear deal and imposed crippling sanctions."

Iran had vowed to seek revenge for Gen Soleimani's killing. "Any attack by Iran, in any form, against the United States will be met with an attack on Iran that will be 1,000 times greater in magnitude," Trump said in a tweet after news reports emerged that Iran is planning some kind of attack against the US.

"Any attack by Iran, in any form, against the United States will be met with an attack on Iran that will be 1,000 times greater in magnitude," Trump wrote on Twitter on Monday.

regime potentially has the ability to act on an assassination plot. Iran has in the past planned assassinations of American ambassadors -- which is partly why the intelligence community is taking this particular threat assessment seriously, the news channel said.

Iran has denied the allegations.

Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Saeed Khatibzadeh said in a statement that the assassination allegations were part of ongoing anti-Iranian propaganda by the Americans ahead of the elections scheduled for November 3.

Meanwhile, reacting on the reports South Africa's State Security Agency (SSA) said that it has "noted the rising public interest on the matter and would like to assure all South African citizens and interested parties that the matter is receiving the necessary attention."

Iran warns US against strategic mistake after Trump threat

AFP ■ TEHRAN

Iran warned the US on Tuesday against making a "strategic mistake" after President Donald Trump threatened Tehran over reports it planned to avenge the killing of top general Qasem Soleimani.

"We hope that they do not make a new strategic mistake and certainly in the case of any strategic mistake, they will witness Iran's decisive response," government spokesman Ali Rabiee told a televised news conference.

A US media report, quoting unnamed officials, said that an alleged Iranian plot to assassinate the US ambassador to South Africa was planned before the US presidential election in November.

"Any attack by Iran, in any form, against the United States will be met with an attack on Iran that will be 1,000 times greater in magnitude," Trump wrote on Twitter on Monday.

Rabiee expressed regret that "the president of a country who has claims to global management and order would make hasty, agenda-fuelled and dubious remarks on such a weak basis."

He warned that reacting to such reports would "achieve nothing but disruption to the region and to world calm" and advised Trump to "refrain from fresh adventurism... for the sake of winning a new term as president."

On Monday, the foreign ministry denied the report of an assassination plot as "baseless" and part of "repetitive and rotten methods to create an anti-Iranian atmosphere."

Relations between Washington and Tehran have been tense ever since the Islamic revolution of 1979. They have deteriorated sharply since Trump unilaterally pulled out of a landmark international nuclear deal with Iran in May 2018 and reimposed crippling sanctions.

Navalny posts hospital photo of himself, plans Russia return

Berlin: Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny posted a picture of himself from his hospital bed in Germany on Tuesday, looking gaunt but joking wryly about his condition and saying that he was enjoying the ability to finally breathe on his own after being poisoned with a nerve agent.

The Instagram post was the first image of the 44-year-old released since he was taken to Berlin's Charite hospital two days after falling ill on a domestic flight in Russia on Aug. 20.

"Hi, this is Navalny," he wrote in the Russian-language post. "I have been missing you. I still can't do almost anything on my own, but yesterday I managed to breathe on my own for the entire day." Navalny had been kept in an induced coma for more than two weeks as he was treated with an antidote before hospital officials said on Sept. 7 that his condition had improved to the point where he could be brought out of it.

On Monday, the hospital said he had been removed from mechanical ventilation and was able to leave his bed for "short periods of time." In the



Picture from Navalny's Instagram account

photo, Navalny is being given a hug by his wife Yulia and is flanked by his two children as he sits upright in his bed in a hospital gown. His statement even had the ring of his well-known sarcastic humor.

"Just on my own, no extra help, I didn't even use the simple valve in my throat," he said of being able to breathe without ventilation.

"I liked it very much. It's a remarkable process that is underestimated by many. Strongly recommended."

Despite his recovery, doctors have said they cannot rule out long-term health issues associated with the poisoning.

Navalny's spokeswoman, Kira Yarmysh, tweeted that once he had recovered, Navalny plans to return to Russia. "No other option has ever been considered," she wrote. Leonid Volkov, a top associate of Navalny, refused to give any details on his condition or his possible return when reached by The Associated Press on Tuesday. AP

No info on reported detentions in Taiwan, says Hong Kong

Hong Kong: Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam said Tuesday that Taiwan has not disclosed information about the reported detentions of five Hong Kongers who may have attempted to flee there by boat to escape possible prosecution at home under a tough new national security law.

The Hong Kong government reached out to Taiwan on Monday but has yet to receive a reply, Lam told reporters before a weekly meeting with advisers.

"We have no information, and haven't received any assistance requests from family," she said. AP

US issues sweeping new travel warning for China, Hong Kong

AFP ■ BEIJING

The US on Tuesday issued a sweeping new advisory warning against travel to mainland China and Hong Kong, citing the risk of "arbitrary detention" and "arbitrary enforcement of local laws."

The advisory is likely to heighten tensions between the sides that have spiked since Beijing's imposition on Hong Kong of a strict new national security law in June that has already been met with a series of US punitive actions.

The new advisory warned US citizens that China impos-

es "arbitrary detention and exit bans" to compel cooperation with investigations, pressure family members to return to China from abroad, influence civil disputes and "gain bargaining leverage over foreign governments."

"US citizens travelling or residing in China or Hong Kong, may be detained without access to US consular services or information about their alleged crime. US citizens may be subjected to prolonged interrogations and extended detention without due process of law," the advisory said.

China successfully launches 9 satellites into orbit from ship

Beijing: China successfully launched on Tuesday a solid-propellant carrier rocket from a ship in the Yellow Sea, sending nine satellites into orbit in the second such sea-based launch mission, the official media reported.

The Long March 11-HY2, the 10th member of the Long March 11 family blasted off at 9:22 am from the Debo 3, a self-propelled deck barge that was modified for the mission, China Daily reported.

The nine satellites belong to the Jilin-1 Gaofen 03-1 group. About 13 minutes later, after travelling 535 km, it has deployed nine Jilin-1 high-resolution Earth-observation satellites, three to take videos and six to take photographs in sun-synchronous orbits, the report said. PTI

Germany plans to take in 1,500 refugees from Greek islands

AFP ■ BERLIN

Germany plans to take in 1,500 migrants currently taking shelter on Greek islands, government sources told AFP, in addition to around 150 unaccompanied minors from the burnt-out Moria camp.

Under a plan agreed by Chancellor Angela Merkel and Interior Minister Horst Seehofer, Berlin will take in migrants who have already secured refugee status, giving priority to families with children, the sources said.

Merkel's right-left coalition government is in talks over the plan, with her junior partner Social Democrats expecting a deal by Wednesday. After a fire laid waste to Greece's biggest refugee camp Moria last week, pressure has grown on Merkel's government to offer refuge to the 1,500 left homeless by the disaster.

While Berlin has voiced readiness to open its doors to more than the 150 minors, German media reported however that Athens opposed Germany taking in more asylum seekers from Moria.

Boat capsizes near Libya, 24 migrants presumed dead: UN

Cairo: The UN migration agency said on Tuesday that a boat carrying migrants bound for Europe capsized in the Mediterranean Sea off Libya, leaving at least two dozen people drowned or missing and presumed dead, the latest shipwreck off the North African country.

Safa Msehi, a spokesperson for the International Organisation for Migration, told The Associated Press that Libya's coast guard intercepted three boats on Monday, and one of them had capsized. AP

Around the Globe

Baghdad: A roadside bombing targeted British diplomatic vehicles in Baghdad on Tuesday, the British Embassy and Iraqi officials said. There were no injuries but the attack is fueling concerns of armed groups outside of the state's control.

Washington: US President Donald Trump said Tuesday he would have "no problem" selling advanced F-35 warplanes to the United Arab Emirates, despite objections from close ally Israel. "I personally would have no problem with it," he said on Fox News. "I would have no problem in selling them the F-35."

RATHI BARS LIMITED									
Regd. Office: A-247, Mohan Co-operative Ind. Estate, New Delhi-110017 Ph: +91-11-43165400 E-mail: contact@rathiteels.com, Web: www.rathiteels.com CIN No: L74899DL1989PLC054781									
Statement of Standalone Unaudited Results for the Quarter ended 30th June, 2020									
Particulars	Quarter Ended				Year Ended				(Rs. In Lacs)
	30.06.20	31.03.20	30.06.19	31.03.20	30.06.20	31.03.20	30.06.19	31.03.20	
(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Audited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Audited)	
1 Total Revenue From operations	4,290.72	10,636.73	11,400.50	38,333.59					
2 Net Profit/Loss for the period (Before Tax)	13.69	76.24	59.22	267.37					
3 Net Profit/Loss for the period (After Tax)				272.09					
4 Total Comprehensive Income	13.69	76.24	59.22	272.09					
5 Equity Share Capital	1,633.04	1,633.04	1,633.04	1,633.04					
6 Reserves (Excluding Revaluation Reserves)				6,603.53					
7 Earnings Per Share (of Rs. 10 Each)									
Basic:	0.08	0.47	0.36	1.67					
Diluted:	0.08	0.47	0.36	1.67					
* Not Annualised									
1 The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly/Annual Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 44 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosures Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The Full format of the Quarterly/Annual Financial Results are available on the Stock Exchange websites i.e. 'www.bseindia.com' and 'www.nseindia.com' and also at the website of the Company at www.rathiteels.com.									
2 The Company does not have any Exceptional and Extraordinary item to report during the above periods.									
3 The Company has not discontinued any of its operations during the above periods.									
4 Tax expenses / Provision for Taxation has been made on annual basis only.									
5 The figures of previous year / Quarters have been re-arranged/grouped wherever felt necessary.									
By order of the Board for Rathi Bars Limited sd/- Anurag Rathi Whole Time Director DIN : 00663345									
Place: New Delhi Date: 15/09/2020									

COSCO (INDIA) LIMITED
CIN : L25199DL1980PLC010173
Regd. Office : 2/8, Roop Nagar, Delhi-110 007
Website : www.cosco.in Email : mail@cosco.in
Tel. : 91-11-23843000 Fax : 91-11-23846000

EXTRACT OF STANDALONE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS
FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30TH JUNE, 2020

(₹ in lacs)

Sl. No.	Particulars	Quarter Ended				Year Ended			
		30.06.2020	30.06.2019	31.03.2020	31.03.2020	30.06.2020	30.06.2019	31.03.2020	31.03.2020
		Unaudited	Unaudited	Audited	Audited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Audited	Audited
1	Total Income from operations	2,723.63	3,327.29	3,335.30	13,435.82				
2	Net Profit for the period before Tax	57.97	48.53	4.23	221.78				
3	Net Profit for the period after tax	37.02	75.09	19.58	180.72				
4	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	37.02	75.09	18.67	179.81				
5	Equity Share Capital	416.10	416.10	416.10	416.10				
6	Other Equity	-	-	-	3,504.85				
7	Earnings Per Share (of ₹ 10 each)								
(a)	Basic (₹)	0.89	1.80	0.47	4.34				
(b)	Diluted (₹)	0.89	1.80	0.47	4.34				

Notes :-

1 The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchange under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015.
The full format of the Quarterly / Annual Financial Results are available on the Stock Exchange Websites (www.bseindia.com/corporates) and on the Company's website www.cosco.in.

2 The above results have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors of the respective meeting held on September 15, 2020.

By Order of the Board
Devinder Kumar Jain
Managing Director and CEO
DIN : 00191539

Place: Delhi
Date : 15.09.2020

ROTOGRAPHICS (INDIA) LIMITED
CIN:- L74899DL1976PLC008036

Regd. Office: Unit No. 8, Ground Floor, Pocket M, Sarita Vihar, New Delhi 110076
Telephone:- 011-47366600 E-mail:- info@rotogridia.co.in Website:- www.rotogridia.co.in

**EXTRACT OF UN-AUDITED STANDALONE FINANCIAL RESULTS
FOR THE QUARTER ENDED JUNE 30 2020** (In Lakhs Except EPS)

Particulars	Quarter Ended	Quarter Ended	Year ended
	30.06.2020 (Un-audited)	30.06.2019 (Un-audited)	31.03.2020 (Audited)
Total Income from Operations(Net)	0	0	14.72
Net Profit/(Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(1.15)	(2.28)	1.90
Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before Tax, (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(1.15)	(2.28)	1.90
Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(1.15)	(2.28)	1.37
Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax) and other Comprehensive Income (after tax))	(1.15)	(2.28)	1.40
Equity Share Capital	360.13	360.13	360.13
Earnings Per Share			
Basic and diluted (not annualised)	(0.03)	0.00	0.04


Notes:-

1. The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly financial Results filed with Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of SEBI(LODR) Regulations 2015. The full format of Quarterly financial Results are available on the stock exchange website www.bseindia.com and Company's Website at www.rotogridia.co.in.

2. The above unaudited Financial Results were reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the board of Directors at their meeting held on 15.09.2020

For Rotographics (India) Limited
Naresh Kumar Bansal
Director

Place: New Delhi
Date: 15.09.2020


BVCL
 Barak Valley Cement Limited

BARAK VALLEY CEMENTS LIMITED

CIN: L01403AS1999PLC005741

Regd. Office: Debendra Nagar, Jhoom Basti, P.O. Badarpurhat, Distt. Karimganj, Assam-788803

Corp. Office: 281, Despathi Pitampura, New Delhi-110034

Tel No. : 03845-269258/881, Fax: +91-3843-269865

Website: www.barakcement.com, E-Mail Id: cs@barakcement.com

EXTRACT OF STANDALONE AND CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30th JUNE, 2020.

(Rs. in Lakhs)

PARTICULARS	STANDALONE				CONSOLIDATED			
	Quarter ended		Year ended		Quarter ended		Year ended	
	30.06.2020 (Unaudited)	31.03.2020 (Audited)	30.06.2019 (Unaudited)	31.03.2020 (Audited)	30.06.2020 (Unaudited)	31.03.2020 (Audited)	30.06.2019 (Unaudited)	31.03.2020 (Audited)
Total Income from operations (net)	2,231.22	1,446.64	3,852.38	15,633.13	2,357.11	4,389.50	4,055.32	16,340.14
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before tax, exceptional and extraordinary items)	(79.86)	106.98	151.32	437.79	(70.69)	(38.95)	103.34	140.30
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (after exceptional and extraordinary items)	(79.86)	106.98	151.32	437.79	(70.69)	93.15	455.52	627.62
Net Profit for the period after Tax (After exceptional and extraordinary items)	(79.86)	182.87	104.67	422.31	(70.69)	164.64	411.88	607.74
Total Comprehensive Income for the period	(79.86)	169.60	104.67	409.04	(70.69)	151.37	411.88	594.47
Paid Up Equity Share Capital (face value of Rs. 10/- per share)	2,216.00	2,216.00	2,216.00	2,216.00	2,216.00	2,216.00	2,216.00	2,216.00
Earnings Per Share (of Rs. 10/- each) (not annualised)								
Basic :	(0.36)	0.83	0.47	1.91	(0.32)	0.74	1.86	2.74
Diluted:	(0.36)	0.83	0.47	1.91	(0.32)	0.74	1.86	2.74

NOTES:

- The above Unaudited Financial Results were reviewed by the Audit Committee and have been approved by the Board of Directors at their meeting held on 14th September, 2020. Limited review of the results as required under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulation 2015, have been carried out by the Statutory Auditors of the Company.
- The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and other Disclosures Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly Financial Results are available on the Stock Exchange websites. (www.bseindia.com) and www.nseindia.com
- Figures of the previous period have been regrouped / rearranged, wherever necessary.

For and on behalf of Board
BARAK VALLEY CEMENTS LIMITED
 Sd/-
Kamakhya Chauraria
 Vice Chairman & Managing Director

Place : New Delhi
 Date : 14th September, 2020.

The overall level of exam was easy as compared to the previous years, says ANURAG TIWARI



IT'S A NEET ANALYSIS

The NEET 2020 was conducted on September 13, 2020 from 2 to 5 pm. Over 15 lakh students had registered for the exam. The exam was overall easy.

Here is a detailed analysis of the paper.

PHYSICS

- Difficulty level: Easy in comparison to previous years.
- About 30-40% questions directly based on the NCERT textbook.
- Easy calculations.
- Questions asked from the prescribed syllabus only.
- No controversial questions.

CHEMISTRY

- Difficulty level: Easy to moderate
- Physical Chemistry: 16 Questions
- Organic Chemistry: 13 Questions
- Inorganic Chemistry: 16 Questions
- All questions based on the NCERT textbook. Statements directly taken from the NCERT textbooks.
- Straightforward questions & easy to comprehend.
- One controversial question with more than one correct answer.

- Not lengthy. Students should have completed the Chemistry part within 45 minutes. Enough time for revision.
- Barely a few calculations.
- An average student should have been able to attempt approximately 40 questions with ease. While others could have attempted 44 questions.

BOTANY

- Difficulty level was high in comparison to previous years
- XI — 25 questions & XII — 18 questions
- Two controversial questions with more than one correct answer
- Two questions were beyond the NCERT textbooks.
- Majority of questions were conceptual in nature with a few fact-based questions as well
- Not at all lengthy.

ZOOLOGY

- Difficulty level: Moderate with a few questions
- Multi-conceptual questions requiring incisive thinking and precision.
- Some questions were tricky & lost in terminology.

- A couple of terms beyond the NCERT domain.
- Two questions required linguistic prowess.

- Overall, the questions were quite thought provoking requiring alertness of mind and critical approach.
- Comprehension, application & synthesis required to interpret the questions.

Detailed analysis

Physics: The Physics section was easy as compared to previous years' papers. About 30-40% of the questions were directly based on the NCERT textbook. Graphs, data as well as some statements were directly picked from the NCERT textbook.

Chemistry: The Chemistry section was of easy to moderate difficulty level. All the questions were from the prescribed NEET syllabus and completely based on the NCERT textbooks. In fact, statements were directly picked from the NCERT textbook. Questions were straightforward and easy to comprehend.

Botany: The Botany part was of high difficulty level in comparison to previous years. While 25 questions were tested from class XI syllabus, 18 questions were from class XII syllabus. There were two controversial questions with more than one correct answer. Although the majority of questions were within the prescribed syllabus and based on the NCERT textbook, two questions were beyond the NCERT. The questions were conceptual in nature and required great conceptual and application-based understanding. There were also a few fact-based questions. Plant Physiology dominated with 9 questions followed by Ecology and Genetics with 7 questions each. Overall, the Botany part was not lengthy and should have been completed in the stipulated time period.

Zoology: The Zoology section was of moderate difficulty level with a few exceptions. Some questions were tricky and lost in the terminology. A couple of terms were also beyond the NCERT domain.

The questions were multi-conceptual in nature and required incisive thinking and precision on the part of students. While two questions tested linguistic prowess, others required comprehension, application and synthesis to interpret the questions. Human Physiology dominated with 12 questions followed by Animal Husbandry & Biotechnology with 10 questions and Biomolecules with 6 questions.

Overall, the questions were quite thought-provoking and required alertness of mind and critical approach.

The second test of National Aptitude Test in Architecture (NATA) for admission to first year of five year BArch degree Programme for the academic year 2020-2021 has been successfully conducted by the Council of Architecture (COA), all over India on September 12, 2020.

Due to COVID-19 pandemic, the Aptitude Test was conducted in two modes i.e. Centre Based and Home Based and candidates were free to choose the mode convenient to them as a comprehensive online aptitude test with both components — Part-A (Cognitive skills for Drawing and Visual Composition Test) and Part-B (Test on Scientific Ability & General Aptitude) to be answered on the same day.

The HBT mode was introduced by the Council for the first time as an online proctored examination using Artificial Intelligence technology.

A total of 30999 aspiring candidates enrolled for second test out of which 22289 candidates appeared for the examination. 8202 candidates appeared from their homes and 14087 candidates appeared for online examination in 158 designated centres pan India and at one centre in Dubai in two shifts.

The Centre-based Test was conducted by duly observing all protocols/SOPs mandated for the safety of Candidates at the test centres. The result will be declared on or before September 17, 2020. The best score obtained by the candidate in the two tests shall be the final valid score for admission.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

The advancement and diffusion of knowledge is the only guardian of true liberty.
— James Madison

Second NATA 2020 held

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BTech programme

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Mahindra University's Ecole Centrale School of Engineering (MEC), Hyderabad, announced September 18, 2020 as the last date for applications for admissions to the four-year B.Tech. programme at its Hyderabad campus for the academic session 2020-2021. The students can apply on www.mechy.ac.in till September 18. Eligible students will be counselled online on the branches available to them and online offers will be rolled out.

MEC has a total of around 400 seats available in its B.Tech programme offered in seven academic disciplines — Computer Science & Engineering, Electrical & Electronics Engineering,

Mechanical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Artificial Intelligence, Electronics & Computer Engineering, and Computation & Mathematics. The admissions will be granted on the basis of either JEE Mains (Qualify in JEE Main examination and eligible to write the JEE Advanced 2020 exam) or valid SAT Subject Test Scores or SAT Scores or ACT scores or Class Class XII exams result (80% or equivalent grade cumulatively in Mathematics, Physics & Chemistry Subjects in Class XII from any Statutory Board).

MEC's UG programmes in engineering are interdisciplinary in nature. The four-year degree will empower students with the unique ability to adapt to global engineering challenges.

Get ready to play

The gaming sector today has evolved beyond its nascent stages to transform into a broad field. The industry offers a series of career options, says ARVIND BALAKRISHNA



Online gaming is one of the largest segments within the entertainment industry. In India, the online gaming market currently stands at \$930 million and is projected to reach \$3.7 billion by 2024. Several factors including the advancement of digital infrastructure, the proliferation of low-cost smartphones, and improved quality and engagement of gaming content are contributing to this market volume, reveals a report by Maple Career Advisors.

According to the report — Gaming — India Story, India is now home to more than 400 gaming startups with mobile gaming capturing 85% share of the total online gaming market. The profound growth of India's gaming industry makes it amongst the most promising sources of employment. There are ample career opportunities available for both

freshers and experienced candidates across a wide variety of job roles. It is also a good time for gamers who want to turn their passion into a career.

Opportunities galore

The gaming sector today has evolved beyond its nascent stages to transform into a broad field. The core industry offers a series of career options such as game developer, game designer, game artist, game programmer, network programmer, scriptwriter, audio engineer, game tester, and game manager. Additionally, there is a heightened demand for graphic designers, security engineers, product managers, operations personnel, supply chain managers, legal professionals, and marketing managers.

For gamers, large PC companies, as well as small gaming startups, now organise large-scale gaming tournaments wherein participants can win attractive cash rewards and gaming merchandise.

The emergence of real-money skill gaming, too, has presented an earning opportunity for gaming enthusiasts.

Pursuing a career in gaming

While the arrival of online gaming in India can be dated back to 2000s, it was only in this decade when gaming became a part of the mainstream entertainment culture. Hence, the job prospects in the gaming sector were fairly restricted until a few years ago. Today, however, pursuing a career in gaming can be highly rewarding and satisfactory. Moreover, many gaming companies allow employees to work on flexible hours and/or even work remotely.

When it comes to qualifications, most recruiters in the gaming industry focus primarily on technical skills and applied knowledge over professional degrees.

However, if one is to become a game developer, having an engineering degree is mandatory. For aspiring game designers, there are several diploma and certificate courses offered by premium institutes. The minimum eligibility required for applying for these courses is Class XII. Besides this, one should be well acquainted with digital tools such as Photoshop, Maya, Max, Substance Designer etc. In terms of remuneration, freshers start with a modest salary, but experienced professionals can earn up to ₹10-₹12 lakhs or even more.

Analysing the future potential

The Indian online gaming market is growing rapidly, both in terms of monetisation and user base. With increased investor interest, enhanced customer lifecycle, better gender parity and the rise of localised gaming content, it is touted as one of the most lucrative sectors. As suggested by industry estimates, 190 million Indians will actively participate in online gaming by 2021. Looking at its dynamic expansion, it is expected that the industry will become a hotbed for jobs.

The COVID-19 pandemic will also play a significant role in the growth of new users as more people turn to gaming apps and platforms to unwind themselves. Against this background, the gaming industry will generate more and more employment opportunities. Of course, there are still misconceptions around gaming, but the mindset of students and their parents are slowly changing and they are now considering starting their professional journey in the gaming world.

The writer is Founder, Pacific Gaming

Upskilling is key

One in four employees in India lost their jobs between March-May alone and there is still a downward trend in the job market. Today, the one and only way to sustain the crisis is upskilling, says DEEPSHIKHA KUMAR ANAND

The pandemic has brought significant stress and has added pressure on both sides of the money divide. While almost all businesses have been hit with huge drops in demand for products, many are compelled to lay-off their employees. But, smart employers like Nokia, Adobe, Salesforce, and HubSpot realised this early that lay-offs are not a solution to protect the business from current challenges. That's why instead of offering pink slips to employees, they preferred to empower them through upskilling and better learning opportunities. Indeed, the business goes up when people get upskilled.

One in four employees in India lost their jobs between March-May alone and there is still a downward trend in the job market. Today, the one and only way to sustain the crisis is upskilling, which is as essential to companies as it is for employees. For the former group, upskilling is mandatory to stay ahead of competition and for the latter group, it helps to get noticed in the workplace.

Upskilling is no longer an expensive and strenuous affair — thanks to the digitalisation of communication that has made learning and upskilling immensely affordable for both companies and individuals. Availability of e-learning content in various formats and in different languages is greatly benefiting them while serving well-informed and sophisticated customers.

It is always difficult for an organisation to lose its valuable and essential people because their presence is imperative to achieve long-term goals and objectives. But, to keep them engaged and motivated, the employer must ensure their personal and professional growth.

For millennial entrepreneurs, digitalisation is a holistic and inclusive strategy for optimum utilisation of an organisation's resources, including human resources. Therefore, the pandemic has led many futuristic organisations to receptively embrace digital learning solutions for the training and upskilling of their employees. Now, accessing industry leaders is no more a luxury for small businesses. Like corporations, they too can empower their employees with the experience and insights of eminent personalities and consultants.

With better digital infrastructure and high penetration of communication devices, businesses across the world are benefitting their employees with bespoke learning programmes and training modules. And, unlike exorbitant conventional programmes involving hefty consultation fees of industry



experts, venue expenses, and a large amount of logistics expenses, e-learning is quite frugal and doesn't require breaking the bank expenses.

Localisation or language preference is another useful feature of these business-oriented learning programmes. The availability of curated content in multiple languages is a great support to learners who are not well-versed in the English language. Besides, e-learning training programmes are useful in developing both hard and soft skills among employees. Now, using e-learning training modules, employees in any region or time zone can access the tailored training programmes of the industry experts. And, unlike exorbitant conventions and seminars involving hefty consultation fees of industry experts, venue expenses, and a large amount of logistics, e-learning is quite frugal and doesn't require breaking the bank.

The writer is the Founder & CEO of Speakin

SRM MCHRS signs MoU with NIS

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The SRM Medical College Hospital and Research Centre (SRM MCHRC), Kattankulathur and National Institute of Siddha (NIS), Tambaram have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) by which the two will now be able to achieve excellence in patient care, research and medical education.

Present for the MoU signing were SRM MCHRC's Pro Vice Chancellor (Medical and Health Sciences) Dr. Li Col A Ravikumar, Dean (Medical) Dr. A Sundaram, Medical Superintendent Dr. K Thangaraj, Associate Dean (Research) Medical and Health

Sciences Dr. M Balasubramanyam, Director of National Institute of Siddha — Tambaram Dr. R Meenakumari, Professor and Hospital Superintendent at NIS, Dr. Christian.

SRM MCHRC and NIS will henceforth jointly offer certified short and long-term courses, conduct jointly sponsored research, academic and clinical activities, publish books and journals, develop reference materials, training methods and services, offer advisory/consultancy services.

It may be recalled that SRM MCHRC and NIS had joined together to battle COVID-19 through Allopathy and Siddha.

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

CS Ashish Garg, President, The Institute of Company Secretaries of India, has been unanimously elected as the President of the Council of Corporate Secretaries International Association, for the year 2021.

Corporate Secretaries International Association was established as an association in the year 2010 in Geneva, Switzerland and then again reconstituted as a company limited by guarantee in Hongkong in the year 2017, to facilitate, develop

and promote the profession of Corporate Secretaries and Governance Professionals and to assist in creation of such organisations in countries where it doesn't exist.

Governed by a Council of members and representatives from each national member organisation, CSIA has more than fourteen member countries today and is catering to 100000 governance professionals across the globe.

With the strengthening of the Governance Structure in the country and with its growth as an inclusive nation in the Global



Corporate Governance map, India Inc. has already made headway in achieving its goal of becoming one of Global Corporate Leaders. Appointment

of CS Ashish Garg, as the President of CSIA, would bolster the ambit of this growth.

A fellow member of the ICISI, a Post Graduate in Economics (M.A.) and Commerce (M.Com.) and a Law Graduate (LL.B.) from Vikram University, Ujjain, CS Ashish Garg holds almost over 19 years of experience with specialisation in Corporate Laws, Organisational Restructuring and Corporate Legal Counselling to Companies. Under his empirical and dynamic leadership and his pragmatic approach, CSIA is sure to accomplish its mission statement.

Placement opportunities

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

With the Covid-19 pandemic cutting down job opportunities, India's leading training, and skill development institute ICA Edu Skills has switched over to the virtual placement drives to help students get employment.

The institute has created a milestone by placing their more than 200 students in Accounts & Finance stream in the key IT companies across the globe.

As the institute specialises in taxation, finance, accounts, and other job-oriented courses, students placed in the last four months (April-July 2020). But for all sectors combined, the placement record is over 5,000 in these four months.

The Data Interpretation and Logical Reasoning section does not have defined syllabus. Therefore, aspirants must spend time in getting exposure to variety of problems in line of CAT pattern, says

PRADEEP KUMAR PANDEY

TIPS TO ACE CAT

In the last three CATs, there was no sub-section in the name of DI and LR and majority of sets were amalgamation of DI and LR. So, practicing something off-beat and unconventional from quality material will provide a big boost to your preparation. The DI/LR section of last three CATs were medium to difficult level with quite a few easy and doable sets which one should have hand-picked and scored decent marks.

One has to be flexible in his strategy while attempting this section. Scanning the section intensely and prioritising the doable sets is the key to fetch a decent percentile score. Problem sets of DI/LR can be primarily divided into following types.

Type-I: Solo DI Sets: Questions are designed on a data set based on Tables, Bar graphs, Line charts, Pie charts, Routes and network diagram, Triangular diagram, Scattered Graphs, Bubble graphs, Cob-web graphs etc or the combination of two or more ways. Questions are more of calculation intensive nature once you are done with the

interpretation. Some elements of arithmetic like variations, ratios, percentages, averages, weighted mean, reverse weighted mean are also required in formulations and calculations. Students equipped with the requisite arithmetic skills and know the art of minimising the unnecessary calculations have an edge.

Type-II: Solo LR Sets: LR problem sets are based on Linear and circular arrangements, distributions, orders and sequencing, floor arrangements, binary logic and selections. Ability to comprehend questions followed by the correct and complete interpretation are the key attributes to succeed in concluding the sets.

Sometimes the questions are framed in such a way that you mark an obvious looking answer which is often wrong. Beware of the language trap, if required revisit the restrictions to narrow down the possibilities, and again reinterpret and fine tune the skeleton in progress made to reach the conclusions. Never select the sets just on the basis of familiarity. Decision-making of doable sets are

One should scan DI/LR section and identify the sets which seem to be the first choice. Student should attempt this section in two rounds of approximately 30 minutes each

based upon complexity or number of variables in problem sets.

Type-III: Topic Based DI/LR Sets:

Test takers are familiar with DI/LR sets based on the topics like Cubes, Venn-Diagrams, Round-Robin & Single elimination Tournaments, Maximisation and Minimisation based on Venn-diagrams etc only because of some sort of familiarity. Problem sets from these topics could be a kind of trap to woo the test takers. Although questions are from familiar area, there is need to read the complete set with mindfulness to gauge the exact difficulty level.

Type-IV: Mixture of DI and LR Sets:

A few sets were based on mix of DI and LR sets like Reasoning based DI, Maximisation-minimisation questions based on DI, Quant based reasoning based upon Linear and circular arrangements, distributions and selections. Test takers need to practice the quality materials in order to get accustomed with new types of DI/LR sets.

Type-V: New Puzzle types:

Test takers have witnessed several new puzzle types like Sudoku, matrix and grid, cryptography, coding-decoding, new type of quant-based reasoning in the recent past. Test makers used these problem sets as a kind of surprise elements to test on the spot thinking and ability to deal with various parameters and constraints. One needs to solve these sets with full concentration and absorb all the information given. Detailed reading and understanding of the set might take about 3-4 mins but once you find the set on the doable lines and are able to crack the set successfully, the investment would be a big differentiator.

One should scan DI/LR section and identify the sets which seem to be the first choice. Student should attempt this section in two rounds of approximately 30 minutes each. In the first round all the easily doable sets should be targeted. In the second, moderately difficult sets should be targeted. The time limit for each round could vary.

The writer is Academic Head, TIME, Delhi

‘Fashion needs to reinvent now’

The present pandemic is changing the world rapidly especially the fashion industry. Hence, it is important to add creative concepts of practical use to curriculum, says MITHUN BHARDWAJ

Online classrooms present particular challenges for students seeking hands-on skills but creative solutions are on the horizon. While some of these changes may or may not be permanent, certain tectonic shifts in industries like fashion are inevitable. If ever there was a time for fashion to reinvent itself, it is now.

Myths versus reality: Expectations of impractical, uncomfortable work attire are floating away. People will consume fashion in a different way now; this means more personalisation for brands, relaxed fundamental clothing and the need for students to get closer to understand the pulse of the modern age customer.

While fast fashion is flying out of the shelf, durable and sustainable clothing is making its presence felt like never before; style will sure take a 360-degree turn in post COVID-19 world.

So while the virus continues to flex its muscle, new curriculum should be added where they should be taught to create creative concepts of practical, cost-effective, affordable fashion to influence customer's journey.

Improvisation will be key: Trends in the fashion industry changes very fast with new designs or patterns come every day in the market. Designers need to keep pace with new styles and AI algorithms can analyse designs through images to copy popular styles. The 3D virtual prototyping is an ideal technology for fashion universities to work with considering distance learning.

But the students are not well equipped with handling these softwares because these softwares were not taught before. Making them learn these softwares will play an important part in the fashion education now more than ever.

More tech apps are coming in which are using augmented reality and virtual reality to give a new consumer experience while shopping and these technologies should be inculcated in the syllabus.

They should learn how to fill skill gaps in the fashion industry, many fashion degrees offered by universities focus too much on the design and mar-



Mithun Bhardwaj
Director, Zashed Fashiontech

keting aspects of fashion, failing to teach students the revenue aspect of it and how the brand will be scalable in terms of numbers.

They should also be taught how to build brand which will be scalable in terms of revenue.

Technology is crucial but will not replace craft: However, as important as digital technologies become, at the same time there will be a growing interest in traditional craftsmanship. As many consumers are going for local, crafted products instead of generic, mass-produced options.

The kinds of skills that fashion students should be acquiring now and into the future have more to do with how they are thinking and using design, rather than skills specific to a certain technique or process. While there are platforms that allow students to construct patterns, drape and fit virtually, these will not entirely replace the need for hands-on training with the craftsman as we know it today. If anything, we may see the more traditional craftsman techniques being used in tandem with newer digital technologies and more hybrid learning models where students study through a combination of on-site and online education.

Businesses across the world have been ravaged by the disruptive disturbances caused by the novel Coronavirus pandemic. As physical meetings and gatherings are largely prohibited due to the virulent dissemination, going virtual via digital pathways will prove to be the all-embracing norm for the year 2020. This will bode a tremendous and perhaps an irreversible impact on businesses worldwide, as the optimisation of technology is set to change the way companies think and act.

Businesses that have crossed over to the digital side are constantly jeopardized by a plethora of cybersecurity attacks from threats such as malicious software, viruses, malware, etc. developed by sinister hackers

and other cyber-criminals. These attackers can quickly invade a company's private space and steal or destroy data and assets worth millions of dollars. Therefore, building strong, robust and meticulous cybersecurity strategy and overarching cybersecurity architecture for the company is of the utmost essence under the present circumstances.

According to a report by Mordor Intelligence, the cybersecurity market stood at an impressive \$161.07 billion in 2019 and is projected to reach a whopping \$363.05 billion by 2025, growing at a CAGR of 14.5% between the period 2020-25. In the light of cybersecurity events and breaches occurring at an increasingly torrential pace, the market

MIND IT

for cybersecurity solutions is expected to rise further. According to a PWC- DSCI report, the cybersecurity segment in India too is slated to reach a value of over \$3 billion by the year 2022, while surging at a CAGR of 16%.

Even in India, the demand for cybersecurity personnel is expanding at an exponential rate as businesses brace to cope with the consistently rising number of cyberattacks. With businesses facing risk of losing valuable data assets from over 4,000 cyberattacks that occur daily, the Internet is

fast turning into an ominous haunt. Unless companies allocate resources towards building state of the art cybersecurity solution architecture to thwart these imminent cyber breaches on a daily basis, businesses stand to incur phenomenally and sometimes irreversible damage.

The problem witnessed by Indian tech companies is the deficiency of optimally skilled expertise to tackle the vast surfeit of cyber threats that constantly loom in the periphery salvaging an opportunity to breach the internal systems of under-protected

businesses. NASSCOM reported that India alone would need 1 million cybersecurity professionals. As per job portal Indeed, India exhibits the largest demand versus supply gap for skilled cybersecurity professionals with a 150% surge in professional postings with respect to cybersecurity job designations in the last couple of years. This is nothing short of a perilous ordeal for companies as such a want of cybersecurity skilled resources and appositely empowered cybersecurity system can be mercilessly exploited by hackers and cyber-frenzy very easily.

The need for trained personnel in cyber security software solutions is extreme alongside the necessity for comprehensive

cybersecurity fortifications and innovation architecture that armours assets like firewalls, anti-virus programmes, cloud data backups, restricted access to company data and scrupulously practicing a policy for in-depth monitoring and scrutiny of potential malware.

Companies also need to tap into the extensive possibilities offered by the remarkably novel tech tools like Artificial Intelligence, Big Data and Machine learning to strengthen counter-threat configurations as revolutionary software innovations help provide suitable means and data required to determine the optimum solutions to the problem.

The writer is Rakesh Kharwal, MD-India, Cyberbit



The UC Laura J Clad Memorial applications for International Scholarship in New Zealand, 2020 to undertake a thesis for the degree of master and PhD.

Benefits: The sponsorship will be awarded worth up to \$2,400.

Eligibility: The applicant must have to apply for a thesis for the degree of MSc or PhD in the field of Ecology and Environmental Science at the University of Canterbury by the academic year 2020-2021. You are required to upload a CV, statement of interest, copy of passport and statement of purpose. **Admission requirements:** If you are going to enroll for a degree at UC then you must have at least an upper second-class, undergraduate honors degree or equivalent international qualification degree. **Language requirements:** Applicants must achieve the minimum standard in a recognized English language.

How to apply: If you want to join this program, then you have to be a university student through applying for a PhD and masters degree course at the University of Canterbury. After taking full-time enrollment, candidates can apply for the award.

Application deadline: It is November 1, 2020.

The SGS Dean offers funding and invites applicants from international students for pursuing their masters or PhD studies at the University of Lethbridge.

Benefits: An amount of \$10,000 to successful participants.

Eligibility: An applicant must be a full-time participant and demonstrate aptitude, research skill, material and/or performance-related productions and activities. The participants need to upload unofficial transcripts, letter of intent, curriculum vitae and language ability proof. **Admission requirements:** The participants must have an undergraduate degree in applying to a graduate degree programme. **Language requirement:** Overseas applicants are suggested to take the TOEFL/IELTS test for demonstrating their English language ability.

How to apply: There is no additional application for the grant. All eligible participants will be considered for the grant, after the enrollment in a master or a PhD degree program at the university.

Application deadline: The university accepts applicants in three terms: Summer term: May-August; Fall term: September-December and Spring term: January-April/Check deadlines according to the course and term.

WEB DESIGN AT THE DREAMER DESIGNS

Location: Work From Home
Stipend: ₹7,000-₹12,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/5348890
Deadline: September 23, 2020

SOFTWARE TESTING AT 361 DEGREE MINDS

Location: Work From Home
Stipend: ₹10,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/5348891
Deadline: September 23, 2020

FRONT END DEVELOPMENT AT MEINIGAR TECHNOLOGIES

Location: Work From Home
Stipend: ₹6,000-₹10,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/5348892
Deadline: September 23, 2020

PRODUCT DESIGN AT BOOKMARK PROJECTS TRUST

Location: Work From Home
Stipend: ₹10,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/5348895
Deadline: September 24, 2020

TELECALLING AT BEHIND THE SCREENS

Location: Delhi, Noida, Ghaziabad
Stipend: ₹10,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/5348896
Application deadline: September 24, 2020

CONTENT WRITING AT ACROSS CODE

Location: Lucknow, Chandigarh
Stipend: ₹3,000-₹5,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/5348898
Application deadline: September 19, 2020

CUSTOMER SERVICE AT OZIVA

Location: Chandigarh
Stipend: ₹10,000-₹15,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/5348899
Application deadline: September 24, 2020

STUDY ABROAD

New points-based immigration system opens

The UK Government has announced student and child student route to make immigration system user-friendly

The UK Immigration Minister Kevin Foster MP has announced that a Student route and Child Student route will open on October 5, 2020 to the best and brightest Indian students as part of the Government's commitment to introduce a new points-based immigration system.

He made the announcement on a visit to The University of Cardiff where he met with Indian students along with the CEO of Study Group Emma Lancaster. The group provides international student pathway programmes leading to undergraduate and post-graduate degree level study at the university and at leading universities across the UK.

Following the welcome announcements which mean Indian students will be able to progress onto their studies without returning home to apply for a new visa, the Minister and his civil service team held a roundtable discussion with the Study Group on issues relating to international students.

The Minister reassured his

commitment "to make our immigration system much more user friendly and to work with businesses and communities to make sure the system works for everyone."

Speaking of the new student route which has positive implications for Indian students choosing U.K. universities, the Government said: "International students play a key part in the government's agenda to unleash the UK's potential now that we have left the EU. They make important contributions economically, academically, and financially."

"Launching the student route early sends a clear message to the world we want the best and brightest to come to the UK to study at our globally renowned education institutions."

"There will be no limit on the number of international students who can come to the UK. This will help to increase the total number of international students choosing to study in the UK higher education system each year to 600,000 by 2030, as set out in the International Education Strategy published in March 2019.

IN BRIEF

SURVEY: POSITIVE CHANGE WITH NEP 2020

The Indian education system is ready to embrace a change if we go by the latest Brains survey. The world's largest online learning platform for students, parents, and teachers, Brains, surveyed its Indian user base on the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. The findings, based on responses from 4,036 Brains users belonging to various academic levels — indicate the students look forward to the policy. The intent is to prepare students by promoting value-based education for real-world challenges.

The concept is already popular amongst the students as 66.8% are aware of the announcement. In fact, a majority of respondents believe the technology can play a role in learning at the school level. 65.6% of students think apps, satellite TV channels and online courses can help understand the subject better while only less than one-fifth could not say for sure.

In the survey, 60.3% of students preferred the idea of choosing subjects over hard streams like Arts, Science, etc. as it gives them more flexibility to pursue their favourite subjects. Only one-fifth of the Brains users (20.4%) would like to stick to the prevalent stream-based curriculum. However, a majority (58.7%)

of students prefer to be taught in a commonly accepted language as opposed to 24.8% who would like being taught in their mother tongue.

72.7% of students showed interest in learning contemporary subjects like Artificial Intelligence, Design Thinking, Organic Living, etc. at school level (middle and secondary stage). It is worth noting that the introduction to new-age subjects has been planned to make the students future-ready.

A whopping 87.7% of students expect it to bring a positive change and reduce the pressure for academic excellence. This shows learners are willing to adopt a culture that is progressive and beyond bookish knowledge.

Rajesh Bysani, CPO of Brains said: "The learner wants to break-free from the learning model that has been rigid, rote, and focuses on grades. Instead, a more impactful education system is needed today that focuses on the overall development of students, ultimately, preparing them for a lifetime. It wouldn't be wrong to say that today Brains has built a global community that reflects this basic approach in all walks of its life. Now, with NEP in place, it will be interesting to see how the new policy takes such learning methods forward."

TERM SYSTEM IN MBA PROGRAMME AT IIT ROORKEE

An endeavour to revamp the curriculum in tune with requirements over time and achieve excellence, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Roorkee, has introduced term-based education in the (Quarter) system in the two-year MBA programme wherein each year of the programme has been divided into four terms.

The objective is to drive excellence through the expansion of the knowledge base and encourage the promotion of research and innovation. This initiative will put the institution in the league of premier B-schools in India such as IITs and IIMs wherein this programme structure is running successfully.

"The term system will allow students to explore a wider knowledge terrain through the introduction of diversified courses. It will be supplemented by practical components that will equip students with problem-solving, critical-thinking and decision-making skills," Professor . Parida, Deputy Director, IIT Roorkee, said.

