

OPINION 6
SEVEN YEARS
OF MOTHERHOOD

WORLD 8
YOSHIHIDE SUGA WINS
PARTY VOTE FOR JAPAN PM

SPORT 12
DOMINIC THIEM WINS
US OPEN GRAND SLAM

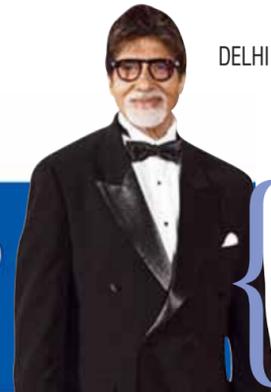
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BIG B'S VOICE
ON AMAZON
ALEXA INDIA
11 VIVACITY

Session starts on subdued note

Some action today as Rajnath to address Parliament on LAC face-off; Modi exhorts MPs to give unanimous and strong message to soldiers

PNS ■ NEW DELHI
With nearly 30 MPs testing positive, dozens of others staying out for fear of catching coronavirus, visitors barred, the number of media persons restricted, and strict social distancing norms in place, the Monsoon Session of Parliament began on a subdued note on Monday.



Members of Parliament at Parliament House on the opening day of Monsoon Session in New Delhi on Monday

just like the faith with which they (soldiers) are standing, determined to protect motherland, Parliament and all its members too will send out a

message in unanimous voice, spirit and resolve that the country stands in support of them", Modi said.

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30 MPs Covid positive: BJP has max 13, YSR 2, Sena, DMK, RLP 1 each

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In the mandatory test conducted by Parliament as many 30 MPs have been found positive for Covid-19.

The BJP has the maximum number of 13 infected MPs. The YSR Congress has two MPs, the Shiv Sena, DMK and the RLP one each. Total 56 persons were found positive which include staffers and mediapersons, said officials.

Hanuman Beniwal from the RLP who tested positive in Parliament's RT-PCR test was found negative in the next day test conducted at SMS Medical College in Jaipur. Uploading September 12 medical report from Parliament and September 13 report from the Medical College, he said "which one to rely."

One of the infected MPs, Meenakshi Lekhi tweeted: "After the routine test at Parliament test for Covid and

genome test it's confirmed that I have tested positive for the virus. I am currently in good health & spirits. I request everyone who has been recently in contact with me to get tested. Together we will fight and defeat corona."

BJP's Sukanta Majumdar was the first to tweet his positive status on Sunday evening. "Requesting all those who have come in close contact with me in the last few days to monitor their health and get tested in case of any symptoms," he tweeted.

Around 200 of the 785 MPs are above the age of 65 years and are among the population vulnerable to coronavirus.

Home Minister Amit Shah is currently admitted in AIIMS for "a thorough medical check-up." Vasanth Kumar, Congress MP from Kanyakumari succumbed to Covid-19 few weeks ago.

Relief for 48,000 jhuggis in Delhi as Centre intervenes

Final call after consultation with Rlys, Delhi Govt and UDM, Centre tells SC

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Thousands of slum dwellers residing along the 140-km railway tracks in Delhi can now breathe a sigh of relief after the Centre on Monday told the Supreme Court on Monday that the 48,000 slums along the tracks would not be removed till a final decision is taken by the Government.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Centre, told a bench headed by Chief Justice SA Bobde that a final decision would be taken in consultation with the Railways, the Delhi Government and the Urban Development Ministry.

The bench, also comprising Justices AS Bopanna and V Ramasubramanian, recorded Mehta's assurance and said no coercive action be taken against these slum dwellers for four weeks.

The top court on August 31 had directed the removal of around 48,000 slum dwellings along the railway tracks in Delhi within three months and said there shall not be any kind of political interference in execution of the plan.



The SC, which posted the matter for hearing after four weeks, was hearing the applications, including the one filed by senior Congress leader Ajay Maken who has sought rehabilitation of these slum dwellers prior to their removal.

The Railways also said it will not dismantle any encroachment without a proper decision taken jointly with the Urban Development Ministry and the Delhi Government, after a political storm brewed over a Supreme Court order for removal of around 48,000 slum dwellings on rail land in the city.

In the August 31 order, the apex court had ordered removal of the slums within three months. It is estimated that around 2.4 lakh people live in slums in Naraina Vihar, Azadpur, Vihar, Shakur Basti, Mayapuri, Srinivaspuri, Anand Parbat, Okhla and others.

The Northern Railway had submitted a report to the apex court saying mushrooming of

slums along railway tracks is acting as hindrance towards keeping them clean.

"We are yet to take a decision in consultation with the Railways, the State Government and the Urban Development Ministry. Till then, no one will be evicted," Mehta told the bench, which posted the matter for hearing after four weeks.

Senior advocate AM Singhvi, appearing for Maken, told the bench that status quo be maintained.

"We are not ordering any status quo. The Solicitor General has already said no action will be taken till a decision is taken and we have recorded it. We have adjourned the matter by four weeks," the bench said.

Singhvi said some demolition has taken place on September 11 and today also. That was not done under this order. It was done under different order, the solicitor general said.

CAPSULE

GAY MARRIAGE NOT PART OF OUR CULTURE: CENTRE
New Delhi: The Centre on Monday told the Delhi High Court that marriage between same sex couples was "not permissible" as it is not recognised by "our laws, legal system, society and our values".

KHALID SENT TO POLICE CUSTODY FOR 10 DAYS
New Delhi: A Delhi court on Monday sent former JNU student leader Umar Khalid, arrested under the stringent anti-terror law Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, to police custody for 10 days in a case related to the communal violence in North-East Delhi in February.

'INDIA TOPS VIRUS RECOVERIES IN WORLD'
New Delhi: India on Monday overtook Brazil to register the highest number of Covid-19 recoveries in the world at 37,80,107, according to Johns Hopkins University data.

GOVT BANS EXPORT OF ALL ONION VARIETIES
New Delhi: In a bid to tame prices, the Government on Monday banned the export of all varieties of onions with immediate effect, a move aimed at increasing availability and checking its price in market.

JD(U)'s Harivansh reelected Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

NDA nominee Harivansh Narayan Singh was re-elected Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha on Monday as the Opposition did not press for voting though a motion to name RJD's Manoj Jha as the Opposition candidate was moved.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu congratulated Harivansh.

While BJP member JP Nadda moved a motion in favour of the incumbent Deputy Chairman, Opposition leaders Ghulam Nabi Azad, Tiruchi Siva and Javed Ali Khan moved motions to elect RJD's Manoj Jha.

"I hope that the Deputy Chairperson will run the House well. I appeal to all to cooperate with the Chair," Modi said, adding that the JD(U) leader will manage the Rajya Sabha proceedings without partiality.

In his about 20-minute



speech on the first day of Monsoon Session, Modi highlighted the role of Bihar in the country's "democratic ethos", recalling former greats like Jayaprakash Narayan and Karpuri Thakur while congratulating Harivansh, who got elected as the Deputy Chairman of the Upper House for a second time.

Singh — who held the post since 2018 — happens to be from Bihar, a State headed for Assembly elections later this year. In 2018, Harivansh Singh had defeated Congress's BK Hariprasad in the election to the post.

Continued on Page 2

Pak hell-bent on fomenting trouble in J&K

More than 3,180 ceasefire violations took place at LoC so far this yr: Govt

RAHUL DATTA ■ NEW DELHI

With more than 3,180 ceasefire violations at the Line of Control (LoC) in the first eight months of this year, Pakistan has made it clear it will keep trying to foment trouble in Jammu & Kashmir.

The ceasefire violations may further increase with about 45 days to go before the snowfall starts blocking the mountain passes. The ISI-backed terrorists may go all out during this period to sneak inside the Indian territory.

The next few weeks could see the Pakistan Army providing covering fire to the terrorists to infiltrate into Kashmir. There are about 250 to 300 terrorists now operating in the hinterland.

Moreover, about 200 Pakistan-sponsored terrorists are now poised to infiltrate from more than 25 launch pads located close to the LoC. Informing the Rajya Sabha



File photo

here on Monday, Minister of State for Defence Shripad Naik said there were 3,186 incidents of ceasefire violations in the Jammu region this year (from January 1 to September 7, 2020). In addition, 242 incidents of cross-border firing took place along India-Pakistan International Border in Jammu region in this year (January 1 to August 31, 2020).

The ceasefire violation figure for the entire last year was 3,289, including firing at the LoC and International Border.

The Minister informed that eight jawans were killed and two injured in Jammu & Kashmir this year so far. In addition, there have been five casualties of the Border Security Force (BSF) personnel occurred along International Border and the LoC.

Elaborating upon the emerging threat, sources said terrorists were trying to come in after digging tunnels in the Jammu region. It is feared arms and ammunition in some instances were also smuggled

through these tunnels. The investigating agencies fear that the tunnel routes were used to bring in explosives used for the Pulwama attack killing 40 CRPF men. Pakistan was also using drones and unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) to drop weapons inside Indian territory in the Jammu region, they said.

Naik also assured the House through a written reply that appropriate retaliation to the ceasefire violations, as required, was carried out by the Army and the BSF. In addition, all the cases of ceasefire violations are taken up with Pakistan authorities through the established mechanisms of hotlines, flag meetings, Directorate General of Military Operations (DGMO) talks as well as diplomatic channels between the two countries.

Manish Sisodia tests Covid +ve

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia has tested positive for coronavirus. Sisodia fell unwell on Sunday night with mild fever and took the Covid-19 test on Monday.

Sisodia said he has isolated himself after testing positive for the virus.

"After having a mild fever, the corona test was conducted today, whose report has come positive. I have quarantined myself. Right now there is no fever or any other problem, I am completely fine. I will return to work soon with all your blessings," he tweeted in Hindi.

Earlier on Monday, Delhi Assembly Speaker Ram Niwas Goel had informed that Sisodia will not be attending the special one-day session of Delhi Legislative Assembly held on Monday.

Delhi Health Minister Satyendar Jain had also tested positive for the virus in June. The national Capital on Monday recorded 3,229 fresh Covid-19 cases, taking the virus tally to over 2.21 lakh, according to Delhi Government's health bulletin.



Man works out at a gym as authorities allowed the reopening of gyms and yoga centres during Unlock 4 in New Delhi on Monday

GYM, YOGA ENTHUSIASTS STRETCH AFTER 5 MONTHS

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Gym and yoga enthusiasts, who were unable to turn up at institutes since March 24, visited the centres as they resumed operations on Monday after being closed for

over five months due to coronavirus lockdown.

Sunil Kumar Taank, president of the Indian Gym's Welfare Federation, said 80 per cent of the facilities have opened. "Since the order was issued late night, many people

might be unaware. We expect more visits," he said.

Thermal screening, limited entry, regular sanitisation of equipment are some of the precautions that are being followed by gyms in Delhi.

Continued on Page 2

No data on migrants' deaths, job loss during lockdown

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Modi Government has no clue about the number of migrants who died during the nationwide lockdown announced on March 24 to curb the spread of Covid-19 outbreak in the country. The Government also has no data of job loss to migrant workers during the lockdown.

The Ministry of Labour and Employment further informed the Lok Sabha in written replies that it did not have any report of forced retention of migrant labourers who wanted to return to their home States.

Many migrant workers lost their lives during the 68-day nationwide lockdown. Several migrant workers, who either walked or travelled in other private vehicles, met with accidents throughout the lockdown period.

According to the Ministry,

1.04 crore migrant workers returned to home States during lockdown.

According to the database available on the website of public interest technologist Thejesh GN, over 900 people had died due to lockdown-related reasons such as starvation, suicide and road accidents while returning to their homes till July 4.

Responding to another question on whether the Government has done any assessment of the job loss among migrant workers due to the Covid-19 crisis and if so, the details thereof, the Ministry said, "No such data is maintained."

In reply to question regarding the number and details of migrant workers, labourers, daily wagers for whom the arrangement of job has been made, the Ministry said "no such data is maintained".

Another question was

Covid-19 IN INDIA

TOTAL
CASES: 49,26,914
DEATHS: 80,807
RECOVERED: 38,56,246
ACTIVE: 9,89,171

STATES	TOTAL CASES	DEATHS	RECOVERED
Maharashtra	10,77,374	29,894	7,55,850
Andhra Pradesh	5,75,079	4,972	4,76,903
Tamil Nadu	5,08,511	8,434	4,53,165
Karnataka	4,67,689	7,384	3,61,823
Uttar Pradesh	3,17,195	4,491	2,45,417
Delhi	2,21,533	4,770	1,88,072
West Bengal	2,05,919	4,003	1,78,223
Bihar	1,59,526	831	1,45,019
Telangana	1,58,513	974	1,27,007
Odisha	1,55,005	690	1,18,642
Assam	1,44,166	482	1,13,134
Gujarat	1,14,996	3,228	95,365
Kerala	1,10,819	455	79,809
Rajasthan	1,04,138	1,272	86,140
Haryana	96,129	1,000	74,712
Madhya Pradesh	90,730	1,791	67,711



asked about the details of reasons to withhold the migrant labourers due to corona and non-availability of prompt facility of their shelter and

food, the Ministry said forced retention during Covid-19 has not been reported.

The Ministry said the Centre did not maintain any

State-wise break-up of the distribution of free ration and other subsidies being provided to migrant workers.

Continued on Page 2

Sahara Mall in G'gram sealed for flouting environmental norms

PARVESH SHARMA ■ GURUGRAM

Sahara Mall, a commercial hub of the city located on the Mehrauli-Gurugram (MG) road, was sealed by the Haryana State Pollution Control Board (HSPCB) for flouting anti-pollution norms.

According to HSPCB the mall was served first show cause notice regarding the

same in 2018 and fined Rs 2.5 lakh but even after almost two years they have failed to rectify operations and have been polluting the environment by toxic sewage discharge.

A team from the HSPCB along with duty magistrate Kartar Singh and pollution environment engineers Neha Saharan and Ujjwal Kumar reached the mall at around 7.30 a.m. and sealed the entire com-

plex.

The mall authorities will not only be fined but will be paying environmental damage compensation and a case is also being filed.

"The mall authority was not treating the STP water properly which is a clear violation of the environmental norms. We had also served a notice to the mall authority in February but they haven't taken

any action so far," said Kuldeep Singh, Officer, Haryana State Pollution Control Board, Gurugram.

The board had sealed the STP then and it was yet to get approval for resumption of operations but the mall authorities were running it without informing the board.

"The mall management without treating the sewage water used to dump it outside

which is gross negligence on the part of the mall authorities. This action was initiated," Singh said.

Apart from this, the Sahara Mall Condominium Units Owners Association, have written a letter to the mall management and urge them to take necessary action to open the mall soon.

"The mall authorities are collecting a huge amount from

us under the grab of providing maintenance in the mall. Whereas, they have failed to protect the interest of Shop Owners and Occupants of Sahara Mall due to the mall management's negligence," said Ranjit Singh, member of Sahara Mall Condominium Units Owners Association.

"We all were already having great difficulties since our stores were closed from March

19 to June 30, 2020 due to Covid-19 pandemic. The mall has been sealed due to the mall management faults. Now this sealing will surely affect our business," he said.

Meanwhile, the Board is now planning to file a suit against the mall management in the environmental court.

"The mall management is not taking our notice seriously and continuously disobeying

HSPCB warning. We will soon file a suit against the authority and impose hefty penalty as per the norms," Singh said.

"We will allow the mall to operate only when they fulfill all the norms and obtain required permissions from the court," he added.

Despite several attempts the mall authorities could not be contacted for comments.

Infection-wise, Maharashtra with 10,77,374 cases surpasses Russia

T N RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Three days after it breached a million Covid-19 infections mark, Maharashtra with total 10,77,374 cases on Monday surpassed Russia 10,68,320 cases which is ranked on the Worldometer dashboard after USA, India and Brazil.

Maharashtra earning the dubious distinction of surging ahead of Russia in terms of infections came on a day when 17,066 people tested positive for Coronavirus in various parts of the state.

The possibility of Maharashtra shooting past Russia had looked imminent on Sunday, when the western state with 10,60,308 was just 2,503 short of Russia's 10,62,811 cases.

In Maharashtra where an

all-time high of 495 deaths were reported on September 10, a relatively low of 257 people succumbed to Covid-19 in various parts of the state on Monday.

With the fresh deaths, the total number of deaths rose from 29,531 to 29,894 in the state.

Of the deaths, Mumbai accounted for 31 deaths. As a consequence Mumbai's Covid-19 toll rose from 8,150 to 8181, while the infected cases increased from 169,741 to 1,72,010.

Pune district with 2,35,419 infected cases continued to be the worst-affected city-district in Maharashtra. The number of deaths in Pune increased from 4813 to 4838.

Thane district remained on the third spot -- after Pune and Mumbai -- with 1,58,908

total cases, while the pandemic toll rose from 4162 to 4838.

In a related development, as many as 15,789 patients were discharged from hospitals in the state after full recovery. As a result, the total number of patients discharged from various hospitals after full recovery since the second week of March this year went up to 7,55,850. The recovery rate stood at 70.16 per cent. The mortality rate in the state is 2.77 per cent. The state health authorities pegged the number of 'active cases' in the state at 2,91,256.

Out of 53,21, 116 samples sent to laboratories, 10,77,374 have tested positive (20.20 per cent) for COVID-19 until Monday. Currently, 17,12,160 people are in home quarantine while 37,198 people are in institutional quarantine.

Yogi orders action against black marketing of oxygen

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Amid the controversy over scarcity of oxygen in hospitals leading to hike in the prices of oxygen cylinders, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said that oxygen plants should supply oxygen at the prescribed rate and there should be no shortage of oxygen cylinders.

"The officials should take stringent action against black marketing of oxygen. There should be no shortage of oxygen in any hospital and medical colleges should get oxygen at the prescribed rates," the chief minister said while presiding over a high-level Unlock review meeting at Lok Bhawan here on Monday.

He said the drug controller should ensure proper supply of medicines and oxygen to the hospitals and send report to the CM Office on a daily basis.

The chief minister also directed the drug controller to

ensure that all necessary medicines were available in all the Covid hospitals and medical institutes.

"There should be proper backup of the medicine supply. Also, there should be no hoarding of medicines and if it happens, the guilty must be punished," he said.

The chief minister also said that all the medical colleges and hospitals of Lucknow, Kanpur Nagar, Prayagraj, Gorakhpur, Varanasi and Meerut should function at full capacity, maintaining quality of treatment.

The chief minister asked officials to conduct training programmes regularly to ensure availability of adequate numbers of doctors and paramedics in various hospitals. He also asked them to increase the number of beds in the Covid hospitals under the Health department.

"There should be not less



than 1,000 ICU beds in SGPGI, RML Institute of Medical Sciences and KGMU," he said.

Yogi directed officials to take up contact tracing for Covid protection in an intensified manner. He said more teams may be deployed for contact tracing if required.

"Mass awareness programmes should continue to make people aware about protection and safety from COVID-19. The local bodies should make arrangements of public address systems through

which the people could be informed about coronavirus protection measures," he said.

The chief minister asked officials to ensure effective implementation of Atmanirbhar Bharat Package. He said all the departments should prepare action plans for its effective implementation so that the benefits of the package reached the state.

Yogi asked the officials to expedite construction of community toilets and panchayat bhawans in gram panchayats. He also directed the digging of pits to prepare compost as part of solid waste management. "It will serve the dual purpose of getting quality fertiliser as well as disposal of waste," he said.

Those present in the meeting included Health Minister Jai Pratap Singh, Chief Secretary RK Tiwari, Infrastructure and Industrial Development Commissioner Alok Tandon, Agriculture

Product Commissioner Alok Sinha, Additional Chief Secretary (Finance) Sanjeev Mittal, Additional Chief Secretary (Home and Information) Awanish Kumar Awasthi, Director General of Police HC Awasthi, Additional Chief Secretary (Revenue) Renuka Kumar, Additional Chief Secretary (Health) Amit Mohan Prasad, Additional Chief Secretary (Medical Education) Rajneesh Dube, Additional Chief Secretary to Chief Minister SP Goyal, Additional Chief Secretary (MSME) Navneet Sehgal, Additional Chief Secretary (Rural Development and Panchayati Raj) Manoj Kumar Singh, Additional Chief Secretary (Agriculture) Devesh Chaturvedi, Principal Secretary to Chief Minister Sanjay Prasad, Secretary to Chief Minister Alok Kumar, Director of Information Shishir and other senior officers.

No data on migrants' deaths, job...

From Page 1

Over 1.04 crore migrant workers returned to their respective home states during the lockdown with Uttar Pradesh topping the list with 32.4 lakh workers, followed by Bihar (15 lakh) and Rajasthan (13 lakh), the Ministry informed Parliament.

More than 4,611 Shramik Special trains were run by the Railways since May 1 to ferry migrants to their home states and over 63.07 lakhs were shifted to various destinations in UP, Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh and other States. As per the World Bank report in April this year, the nationwide lockdown, which started on March 25, has impacted the livelihood of nearly 40 million internal migrants. Small traders, hawkers and daily wage labourers were the worst hit by the lockdown in April, comprising 91.2 million of the jobs lost from the total loss of 121.5 million in that month.

According to the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE), about 21 million salaried employees lost their jobs during April-August, with about 3.3 million jobs being lost in August and 4.8 million in July.

Gym, yoga enthusiasts stretch after 5 months

From Page 1

In an order issued late on Sunday night, the DDMA said gymnasiums and yoga institutes would be permitted to reopen, except in the containment zones, with immediate effect.

Taank -- who is the owner of Black's Gym, which has 16 branches across the National Capital Region -- said his gym would be opened after three-four days as they were sanitising the place and making preparations.

"We will have thermal check-up for customers as soon as they (customers) will enter the gym and a facility for sanitisation of shoes," he said. "After entering the gym, customers will have to place red tags on the machines they will use and then our housekeeping staff will place green tags on them after they are sanitised."

Taank said his gym had an area of 2,000 square feet and only eight people would be allowed at a time, adding that they were developing an application that would be mandatory for the customers.

"Through the app, they will be able to book their slots.

Each workout slot will be of 90 minutes' duration, out of which 75 minutes will be for the workout and the remaining 15 minutes will be utilized by our staff to sanitise the equipment before the next slot," he said.

Sarfraz Sartaj of Paradise Gym at Geeta Colony said they had started renovation in the facility and would be opening it by the end of this week.

"We have prepared a detailed process that will be followed. We will only allow 10 people at a time," the 36-year-old gym trainer said. "Every machine will be sanitised after every single use. There will be masks, gloves, and sanitisation of shoes is also mandatory."

"The time was very tough. Only we know how we managed to survive during the lockdown. Now, we have got hope," Sartaj said.

Prakash Kumar, owner of Iron Champ gym at Dilshad Colony, echoed Sartaj on the situation they faced during the lockdown. He said the gym would be opened this week and all arrangements had been made.

"Only five-seven people will be allowed for an hour. Customers have been asked to carry their own water bottle, towel, mask and gloves," Kumar said.

Parveen Yadav (41) of Champion Gym at Tri Nagar, said the machines had to be serviced again as there was rust all over and the wiring also needed to be fixed. "Running a gym in current situation will be difficult as the number of customers has reduced and you have to increase the fee to survive and bear all the expenses," Yadav added.

Punjab never been consulted on farm ordinances: Amarinder

Chandigarh: Categorically rejecting the Centre's claim that Punjab was taken on board before promulgation of the farm ordinances presented in Parliament on Monday, Chief Minister Amarinder Singh urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi not to go ahead with them.

He also announced that he will lead an 11-member delegation of his party on Wednesday to submit a memorandum to the Governor against the ordinances.

Besides the Chief Minister, the delegation will include state Congress chief Sunil Jakhar along with some ministers and MLAs of the party, an official spokesperson said.

The decision to meet the Governor came after the BJP-led Central government presented the three controversial ordinances in Parliament for legislation despite protests by farmers in various states, including Punjab.

The Chief Minister also wrote a letter to the Prime Minister requesting him not to disappoint the people and farmers of Punjab and favourably consider their request not to go ahead with the ordinances "which are not in the interest of the farmers". IANS

UP CM to rename Mughal museum as Shivaji museum

Lucknow: Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Monday announced to name the under-construction Mughal museum in Agra after Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj.

He made it clear that his government has always nurtured the nationalist ideology and anything which smacks of subservient mentality will be done away with.

"How can our heroes be Mughals," the Chief Minister said as he pointed out that the very name of Shivaji will invoke a feeling of nationalism and

self-esteem in people.

The move assumes significance in view of the tussle between the BJP and the Shiv Sena in Maharashtra and efforts to link it with Maratha pride.

The Chief Minister directed to complete the remaining work in the Agra Smart City Project and asserted that this project is among the priorities of his government and should be taken up with the same urgency.

Adityanath said he was happy over Agra getting second ranking at the national level and first among other Smart

Cities in Uttar Pradesh in a recent ranking survey.

He also asked to expedite the Metro and Airport projects of Agra and said that no project should suffer due to want of money and he would personally speak to the Centre if any requirement of money arises.

The CM said the AMRUT and JNNURM schemes should also be given impetus. Adityanath was apprised that out of a total 19 works under the Agra Smart City project, four have been completed while 15 are in progress. IANS

Land acquisition for Gkp link e-way expedited

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

According to UPEIDA CEO Awanish Kumar Awasthi, of the Rs 275 crore, Rs 50 crore, Rs 153 crore and Rs 52 crore would be paid to the land owners in Gorakhpur, Ambedkar Nagar and Azamgarh districts respectively. He said the funds had already been allocated to the respective district magistrates with the rider to settle land acquisition dues of farmers within a month so that the ongoing civil and other construction works on the expressway continued without delay and there were no pending grievances of the land owners.

The Gorakhpur Link Expressway is divided into two packages.

Earlier, Punjab National Bank (PNB) had provided a credit of Rs 750 crore for Gorakhpur Link Expressway, which would link the region with the 340 km Purvanchal Expressway.

So far, the state government

Session starts on subdued note

From Page 1

"In one voice, we pledge and one feeling, we will send out a message to the soldiers that we are with them," the Prime Minister said.

Reacting to Modi's 'expectations' from the Opposition, Congress leader Shashi Tharoor was quoted by a news agency as saying, "There is no doubt that all of us stand with the soldiers. However, the Government should tell Parliament what is the situation on the border."

Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha sitting will be held in two shifts for 18 days without any offs. Entry will only be allowed to those having a negative Covid-19 report and wearing masks will be compulsory.

In run-up to the session, while over 4,000 people including MPs and staff have been tested for Covid-19, most parliamentary operations have been digitalised, entire premises sanitised and doors made touch-free. The Rajya Sabha will convene in morning shift from 9 am till 1 pm, and the Lok Sabha in evening shift from 3 pm to 7 pm. The chambers of both Houses along with their respective galleries will be used for sitting of the members in each shift. In between the two shifts, the entire complex will be sanitised.

Frequent sanitisation of the entire Parliament complex will also be carried out, while arrangements have been made to sanitise various parliamentary papers as well as footwear and cars of MPs, officials said. Frisking of people will also make way for touch-less security scanning, while thermal scanning will also be totally touch-free.

It has also been decided that air of air conditioners will be

JD(U)'s... impartial manner

From Page 1

"The respect I hold for Hariwansh ji, each member of the House shares. He has earned this respect. His unbiased role in the Parliament strengthens our democracy," the Prime Minister added.

Naidu who earlier announced a new team of Vice Chairpersons, wished Hariwansh for being elected second time as Deputy Chairman of the House.

Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha Ghulam Nabi Azad welcomed Hariwansh's re-election and said "we hope that the Deputy Chairperson will see us as equals."

"This is the second time

Land acquisition for Gkp link e-way expedited

has arranged Rs 2,250 crore in total loans for the Gorakhpur Link Expressway, including Rs 750 crore fresh borrowings from the PNB.

While the PNB has provided a loan of Rs 750 crore for Gorakhpur Link Expressway, earlier Rs 2,300 crore was also extended in credit for Purvanchal Expressway, estimated to cost Rs 23,000 crore. The Purvanchal Expressway was divided into eight packages and awarded to different companies for ensuring time-bound completion. It runs across nine districts viz. Lucknow, Barabanki, Faizabad, Ambedkarnagar, Amethi, Sultanpur, Azamgarh, Mau and Ghazipur.

The Gorakhpur Link Expressway is the fifth greenfield expressway project in the state after the Yamuna Expressway, Agra-Lucknow Expressway, Purvanchal Expressway and Bundelkhand Expressway.

Session starts on subdued note

exchanged six times every day to avoid any possible infection. The DRDO has provided multi-utility Covid-19 kits to all MPs. Each kit contains 40 disposable masks, five N-95 masks, 20 bottles of sanitisers of 50 ml each, face shields, 40 pairs of gloves, a touch-free hook to open and close doors without touching them, herbal sanitation wipes and tea bags to enhance immunity.

JD(U)'s... impartial manner

impartial manner".

"The respect I hold for Hariwansh ji, each member of the House shares. He has earned this respect. His unbiased role in the Parliament strengthens our democracy," the Prime Minister added.

Naidu who earlier announced a new team of Vice Chairpersons, wished Hariwansh for being elected second time as Deputy Chairman of the House.

Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha Ghulam Nabi Azad welcomed Hariwansh's re-election and said "we hope that the Deputy Chairperson will see us as equals."

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OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL
S.N.MEDICAL COLLEGE, AGRA-282002
 Tender Notice No.: SPS/2020-21/10554-63 Dated: 08.09.2020

e-TENDER NOTICE
 e-Tenders are invited for Walk-in-Cooler (Cold Room) for Storage of HIV Testing Kit and DG Set (10 KVA) supply and installation for Microbiology Deptt, S.N. Medical College, Agra through authorized website <https://etender.up.nic.in> from high quality manufacturing firms (Indians/Foreign) or their Indian distributors, of reputed firms, e-Tender forms can be downloaded/upload between the dates 20.09.2020 6:00 PM to 06.10.2020, 02:00 PM. Technical bid will be downloaded by 02.00 P.M. on 07.10.2020 in the office of the Principal, S.N. Medical College, Agra. Tender fees of Rs. 1000 + 18% GST extra. Regarding e-Tender other terms, conditions amendment may be seen at e-procurement of govt. website <https://etender.up.nic.in>.
 U.P. 154988 Dt. 12.09.20
 Principal
 विज्ञान वेबसाइट www.up.gov.nic.in पर उपलब्ध है। S.N.Medical College, Agra

Bhopal Municipal Corporation
 HFA Cell, ISBT, Bhopal (MP) India, Pin-462023
 Email: bmcmp.hfa@gmail.com

NIT No: CEP/23/HFA(PMAY)2020 Dated: 14/09/2020

"Empanelment of RERA Registered Agents for sale of Affordable Housing Units Constructed at Kokta (Transport Nagar) under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana at fixed rates"

Bhopal Municipal Corporation invites online proposals for Empanelment of RERA Registered Agents for sale of Affordable Housing Units Constructed at Kokta (Transport Nagar) under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana at fixed rates. RFP documents can be downloaded and purchased from online tendering portal <https://mptenders.gov.in> (Tender ID- 2020_UAD_107306)

RFP Document Cost	Rs. 5,000/-
Online Sale of RFP Document	15/09/2020 to 29/09/2020 up to 17.30 Hrs
Pre-proposal Conference	15.00 Hrs on 21/09/2020 at above mentioned address
Earnest Money Deposit	Rs. 50,000/-

The complete On-line proposals shall be submitted at <https://mptenders.gov.in> and physical submissions as per the RFP document shall be submitted at above mentioned office on or before 30/09/2020 up to 17:30 hrs

In charge- Chief Engineer (PMAY), Bhopal Municipal Corporation

T.N.699/020/021

PUBLIC NOTICE

All concerned are hereby informed through this Public Notice that my client namely Sh. Ankit Sharma aged about 29 years, son of Sh. Sunil Sharma R/o J-6/121, Upper Ground Floor, Yes Bank Rajouri Garden, Tagore Garden, West Delhi, New Delhi-110027, has severed all relation from his father Sunil Sharma S/o Sh. Raj Kumar Sharma R/O 23/54, Street No.2, Jawahar Nagar, Bataka Road, Amritsar, Punjab-142001, from his relation. Anyone dealing with him may do so at his/her own risks, costs and consequences in respect of the act/criminal/civil.

Vijayendra Pratap (Advocate)
 ENL No.D-3465/2013
 Cham No. 339, Dwarka Court Complex, Sec-10, Dwarka, New Delhi-75
 Mob. No. 9999372685

PUBLIC NOTICE

General Public is hereby informed that Mr. Mukesh Sultania and Ravi Sultania S/o Sh. Shyam Sunder Sultania R/o 78, Taj Apt. Sec-15, Rohini, Delhi-89 has applied for transfer of ownership of Flat No. V2-0502 & Customer ID No-KFL-16107, Apartment TDI City, Kundli, Sonapat Haryana in his/her name claiming her/himself the legal heir of deceased Late Mrs. Asha Devi Sultania W/o Sh. Shyam Sunder Sultania R/o 78, Taj Apt. Sec-15, Rohini, Delhi-89 as per document, dated 28.2.2006 in records of company i.e. TDI Infrastructure Ltd. having its office Vandana building, 11, Tolstoy Marg, New Delhi-110001. Any person having any objection to the proposed transfer of the said flat in her/his name, after that company shall not be liable for any claim whatsoever after 15 days.

Sd/-
S.S. Malik
 (Advocate) Enrl. No.D-582/94
 C-1121, Sec.-11, Rohini, Delhi-110085

TACKLING CORONAVIRUS

No jhuggi will be razed until Govt provides houses: Kejriwal

SAPNA SINGH ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal assured 48,000 slum dwellers that no jhuggi will be demolished until Government provides 'Pakka' house within the radius of five km.

Citing the Social Provision Act, Delhi Urban Shelter



Improvement Board (DUSIB), and Parliament Act on rehabilitation, Kejriwal said as per the act no one can remove jhuggis without providing Pakka Makan. (House)

Lauding "Jahan Jhuggi Vahan Makan", CM Kejriwal said he is standing with slum dwellers and wouldn't let anyone demolish their jhuggis. "It is tough time as Coronavirus is

in air, in such scenario if demolish work will happen, the chances of virus spread in all over Delhi is higher."

"I am happy that Central government has submitted an Affidavit favouring to stop the demolish process, in past 70 years, different government ruled and gone but none had planned to construct homes for poor people," he added.

Pitching for the collective solution on the matter, Kejriwal said, "As per the orders, Delhi government, Railway Board and Urban Shelter Board will work together come out with a solution within four weeks," he said this is not the issue to politicise.

Kejriwal said people living in Jhuggis have crucial role in Delhi's economy. "Delhi will

stop these people wouldn't work for a single day."

This may be recalled that the Delhi government has told Northern Railway that demolishing jhuggis along railway tracks would be illegal and that houses built for slum relocation can be made ready to move in earliest by March next year.

The letter from Delhi government was written by DUSIB

officials after the CM held a meeting with senior officials from different departments to discuss the Supreme Court order, which said that 48,000 jhuggis along railway lines in Delhi have to be demolished.

Earlier, the Supreme court had ordered that jhuggis which are in the safety zone of the railways will have to be removed within three months.

Covid death rate in Capital lowest in world, says Kejriwal

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Monday said coronavirus death rate in the National Capital is 'perhaps' the lowest in the world and Governments' concern should be less corona deaths than number of cases.

Addressing Delhi Assembly during one day special session, Kejriwal said, "Highest number of COVID-19 tests are being carried out in Delhi at present. Eleven per



cent Delhi has been tested so far with nearly 21 lakh tests. The concern should be number of deaths not the number of COVID cases. Death rate in Delhi is perhaps the lowest in the whole world."

Addressing the floor, he said, "People from all over country are coming to Delhi for COVID treatment. A total of 5,264 people from other states have been treated so far in Delhi. It is a difficult time. "Human history never witnessed such a pandemic. We have to work for the well being of the human kind," he added.

Lauding the help and cooperation from central government, Kejriwal thanked for providing PPE kits, test kits and ventilators. "I want to thank the Centre for helping us whenever needed with PPE kits, testing kits, ventilators...our weakness is that we do not know how to practice politics. It is our biggest strength too," he said.

Recalling the opening of first plasma bank opened in Delhi - ILBS the Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences, Kejriwal said 1,965 patients have been given plasma so far in Delhi. "I am happy that 1,965 lives have been saved," he said.

Will summon top cop over SHO misbehaving with MLA: Speaker

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) MLA Mohinder Goyal on Monday submitted his resignation to Delhi Assembly Speaker over alleged misbehaviour by a police officer. The Speaker did not accept it and said the Police Commissioner will be summoned in the next session of the House.

The MLA from Rithala said the station house officer (SHO) misbehaved with him and he should be suspended. Goyal said if the officer is not suspended, he does not deserve to be a member of the House.

Speaker Ram Niwas Goel did not accept Goyal's resignation and assured strict action in the matter. He said the Delhi Police Commissioner will be summoned in the next Assembly session.

The BJP legislators, including Leader of Opposition Ramvir Singh Bidhuri, supported Goyal and his demand for action against the police officer.

AAP MLA Raghav Chadha said senior police officers should be summoned before a Committee of the Assembly. A visibly agitated Goyal wanted to leave the House but later relented after the Speaker and other members extended support to him. The one-day session is being held with various safety measures in place in view of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Congress says SC has stayed demolition of JJ clusters

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

A three-judge bench of the Supreme Court headed by the Chief Justice of India has directed the Railways and the Delhi Government not to demolish the JJ clusters till the next hearing by maintaining status quo, the Delhi Congress said.

The petition argued by senior lawyers Salman Khurshid and Abhishek Manu Sanghvi for the respondents living along the Railway tracks of Delhi seeking restraint of the Supreme Court order to demolish the JJ clusters on Railway land within three months, the party said in a statement.

It may be recalled that following the SC order to remove the JJ clusters along the Railway tracks, Delhi Congress president Anil Kumar had rushed to the JJ clusters at Sarai Rohilla and assured the jhuggi dwellers there that the Delhi Congress will spare no effort in stalling the demolition of their jhuggis.

Kumar said that it was shocking that the AAP Government in Delhi has not listed the issue of the JJ clusters in its agenda for the one-day session of the Assembly on Monday which clearly shows that the government was merely shedding crocodile tears for the residents of JJ Clusters.

Filmmakers Rahul Roy, Saba Dewan summoned in Delhi riots case probe

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police's Special Cell has summoned short film producer Rahul Roy and documentary filmmaker Saba Dewan for questioning in connection with the northeast Delhi riots.

According to sources, Dewan and Roy have been asked to join the investigation on Monday.

Roy's name appeared in the supplementary charge sheet filed by the police in connection with the Delhi's Northeast riots. "Though Dewan has not mentioned in the charge sheet, the two were part of a WhatsApp group called 'Delhi

Protests Support Group," said a police source.

It comes a day after police arrested former Jawaharlal Nehru University student leader Umar Khalid under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) for his alleged role in the riots.

He was arrested by the Special Cell after 11 hours of interrogation. Communal clashes had broken out in northeast Delhi on February 24 after violence between supporters of the Citizenship (Amendment) Act and those against the legislation spiralled out of control, leaving at least 53 people dead and around 200 injured.

DELHI RIOTS Police get 10-day custody of Umar in UAPA case

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Court on Monday sent former JNU scholar Umar Khalid to 10 days Delhi Police custody on Monday. Khalid who was also involved in students politics in Jawaharlal Nehru University, was arrested on Sunday under the stringent anti-terror law Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, registered in the wake of communal violence in northeast Delhi in February that had claimed 53 lives and left scores injured.

Delhi Police on Monday had sought 10-day custody of former JNU student leader Umar Khalid. Khalid was present before Additional Sessions Judge Amitabh Rawat through video conferencing. Khalid was arrested on Sunday night in the case.

While presenting Khalid before the court police said that Khalid needed to be confronted with a huge amount of data.

In the First Information Report (FIR), police have claimed that the communal violence was a "premeditated conspiracy" which was allegedly hatched by Khalid and two others.

They have also been booked for the offences of sedition, murder, attempt to murder, promoting enmity between different groups on grounds of religion and rioting. Khalid had allegedly given provocative speeches at two different places and appealed to the citizens to come out on streets and block the roads during the visit of US President Donald Trump to spread propaganda at international level about how minorities in India are being tortured, the FIR alleged.

In this conspiracy, firearms, petrol bombs, acid bottles and stones were collected at numerous homes, FIR claimed. Co-accused Danish was allegedly given the responsibility to gather people from two different places to take part in the riots, police alleged. Women and children were made to block the roads under the Jafrabad metro station on February 23 to create tension amidst the neighbourhood people, FIR said.

Communal clashes had broken out in northeast Delhi on February 24 after violence between citizenship law supporters and protesters spiralled out of control leaving at least 53 people dead and around 200 injured.

Love and hate rained on Umar Khalid

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

As former Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) Umar Khalid was arrested on Sunday in connection with the Delhi's Northeast riots, the social media was seen divided in their views, with some of the twitter users tweeting that why Delhi Police hasn't taken any action against Kapil Mishra, Anurag Thakur and Komal Sharma.

As news of Khalid's arrest broke, people began to tweet with the hashtag #StandWithUmarKhalid on social media.

Actor Prakash Raj tweeted, 'shameful ... if we didn't raise our voice against this witch hunt, we should be ashamed of ourselves ...' Prakash Raj also used the #StandWithUmarKhalid #FreeUmarKhalid #justasking hashtag.

While reacting to the arrest, Kapil Mishra, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader in a video message which was doing rounds on

social media, congratulated the Delhi Police on the arrest of Khalid.

He can be heard saying that the violence that took place in Delhi in February 2020 was similar to the 26/11 terror attack on Mumbai. "I have full faith that criminals like Umar Khalid and Tahir Hussain will be hanged, imprisoned for life, for killing people. The citizens of Delhi await justice," he said in the video.

"Shocked that an anti-terror law UAPA has been used to arrest a young, thinking, ide-

alist like @UmarKhalidJNU who has always opposed violence and communalism in any form. He is undoubtedly among the leaders that India deserves. @DelhiPolice can't detain India's future for long," Yogendra Yadav, social activist tweeted.

Using the hashtag "Stand With Umar Khalid", senior Congress leader Shashi Tharoor tweeted, "PM says he welcomes criticism, but forgets to mention the cost of criticism to be paid by those who who speak out."

BJP protests against AAP Govt's 'betrayal' to slum dwellers

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leaders on Monday held a demonstration against the Kejriwal Government's "betrayal" to the slum dwellers and not allotting vacant houses to them.

Leader of Opposition in Delhi Assembly Ramvir Singh Bidhuri said that the Aam Aadmi Party Government came to power six years back and destroyed thousands of slums but did not shift even a single slum dweller in a permanent house.

He said that most of the street vendors also live in slums and the Central Government directed the Delhi government to provide stalls to them but the Delhi government did not provide a single stall.

"The Kejriwal government also did not allow the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana to be implemented. The Chief Minister Kejriwal had promised that Ayushman Bharat Scheme would be implemented in Delhi so that people can get the health benefit of free treatment of up to 5 lakh. However, the government did not implement these public welfare schemes because their thinking is very petty," he said.



DELHI POLICE
SHANTI SEWA NYAYA



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- Applicant can download prescribed forms and affidavit from www.delhipolicelicensing.gov.in
- Prescribed form & affidavit are also available at the offices of jurisdictional DCsP

Forms can be submitted at District DCsP offices from **15.09.2020 to 22.09.2020** (both days inclusive)

Last date of depositing application forms is 22.09.2020 upto 06:00 PM at the respective offices of jurisdictional District DCsP.

Last date for issuance of license by Districts DCsP is **23.10.2020**

Validity of temporary fireworks license for pucca shops is 24 days and 15 days for temporary shed from the date of issuance of respective licenses

Appeals against rejection of applications by District DCsP can be filed before jurisdictional Joint Commissioners of Police/Ranges between 23.10.2020 & 24.10.2020 (both days inclusive)

Appeals will be decided by the jurisdictional Joint CsP/Ranges between **26.10.2020 & 27.10.2020** (both days inclusive)

E-mail to CP, Delhi at: cp.snshrivastava@delhipolice.gov.in
Write to: CP, Delhi at P.O. Box No. 171, GPO, New Delhi

FOR IMMEDIATE POLICE HELP CALL 112 TO SHARE INFORMATION CALL 1090



सत्यमेव जयते
Government of Rajasthan



#राजस्थान_सतर्क_है



"In the fight against Covid-19, our core belief is that 'Each Life Matters'. We will continue to work tirelessly until corona is completely eliminated from the state."
Ashok Gehlot, Chief Minister

Dialogue on Corona Awareness

Open Platform Discussion with Eminent Doctors

15th September, 2020, 11:30 AM (Today)

PARTICIPANTS

Chief Minister, Rajasthan

Health Minister MoS, Health

Distinguished Doctors of the Country

Dr. Naresh Trehan
(CMD, Medanta, Gurugram)

Dr. S. K. Sarin (Director, ILBS, New Delhi) **Dr. Devi Shetty** (Chairman, Narayana Hridayalaya, Bangalore)

Online Platforms for Live Telecast - Facebook, Youtube, E-Mitra Plus Centers, Video Walls & Regional TV Channels

f <https://www.facebook.com/AshokGehlot.Rajasthan>

▶ <https://www.youtube.com/user/GehlotAshok>

Department of Information and Public Relations, Rajasthan

Parliament must send message country stands by soldiers: PM

PNS ■ NEW DELHI
Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday hoped that Parliament will send out a unanimous and strong message to soldiers on the Line of Actual Control (LAC) facing Chinese aggression that the country was solidly standing behind its bravehearts.

Modi, who was talking to newsmen in the Parliament premises on the opening day of the Monsoon session, asserted that sending an unambiguous message was "legislature's crucial responsibility".

The Congress moved an adjournment motion on the border face-off and sought the government to detail the status on the LAC. The opposition also wants a discussion on the issue. The Congress attempted to raise the issue but could not proceed with it in the Lok Sabha. Leader of Congress in the Lok Sabha Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury and party leader K Suresh gave adjournment notices over the issue of Chinese incursion in Eastern Ladakh.

India and China have been engaged in a standoff since April-May over the transgressions by the Chinese Army in multiple areas on the LAC.

The Lok Sabha was adjourned for an hour, shortly after it met, on Monday following obituary references and offering tributes to former members.

The Prime Minister stated categorically that the parliamentarians will send out a message of their unequivocal support to brave 'jawans' facing hardships on the border.

"The entire Parliament stands with the brave soldiers of the country with one voice. I believe that Parliament and all its members will give out a very strong message", the Prime Minister said before the start of the session.

He also mentioned that the situations are set to become tougher due to the onset of winters that marks heavy snowfall on the border area.

"This Parliament, particu-

larly in this session, has one more crucial responsibility... just like the faith with which they (soldiers) are standing, determined to protect motherland, Parliament and all its members too will send out a message in unanimous voice, spirit and resolve that the country stands in support of them," Modi said.

"In one voice, one pledge and one feeling, we will send out a message to the soldiers that we are with them," the Prime Minister said.

Reacting to Modi's 'expectations' from the opposition, Congress leader Shashi Tharoor was quoted by a news agency as saying, "There is no doubt that all of us stand with the soldiers. However, the government should tell Parliament what is the situation on the border."

The Prime Minister had in the first all party meeting after the 'Galwan' clash on June 15 between Indian army and Chinese soldiers, trying to sneak in Indian territory in East of Ladakh, maintained that there was no incursion in the Indian side of the LAC. The Congress-led opposition wants government to clarify in the light of demands that China restore the status quo ante on the LAC.

Modi also expressed gratitude towards the parliamentarians for choosing duty over Covid-19.

"I congratulate and thank them (MPs) for choosing duty over Covid-19 threat. Because of this, the budget session was curtailed and this session we have change of timings for both houses. In fact, Saturdays and Sundays are also working days. There would be many important issues that will be discussed. The more we debate and make it vibrant and detailed, more fruitful it will be for the country and parliament," he said.

Modi reiterated his caution in the pandemic situation and asked everyone to be careful and be safe.

"Jab tak dawai nahi, tab tak dhilai Nahi. (No carelessness till there is a vaccine). Hope we will be able to relieve the world of this misery," the Prime Minister said.

Parliament's green signal to two medical education system Bills

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Parliament on Monday gave the green signal to two bills that propose a medical education system aiming to improve access to quality and affordable medical education by ensuring availability of adequate and high quality homeopathy and Indian system of medicine professionals across the country.

Cleared by the Rajya Sabha in 2019, the Lok Sabha paved the way for passage of the National Commission for Homeopathy Bill and the National Commission for Indian System of Medicine Bill.

The National Commission for Homeopathy, Bill, 2018, aims to replace the Central Council for Homeopathy, which is the current regulatory body for homeopathy. It

proposes a teacher's eligibility test to assess the standard of teachers before appointment and promotions.

The National Commission for Indian System of Medicine Bill will replace the Central Council for Indian Medicine that regulates alternative systems of medicine and has provision for constituting autonomous boards for providing Ayurveda education among others.

With the nod from the lower house, the two proposed legislations mean that they are set to become laws after getting formal approval from President Ram Nath Kovind.

Some opposition members protested against the bill, saying the Centre needed to undertake wider consultation.

Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan said the pro-

posed laws will help in better administration of homeopathy and Indian system of medicines.

The proposed legislations promote equitable and universal healthcare that encourages community health perspective and make services of such medical professionals accessible to all citizens, the government has said.

They promote national health goals, encourage medical professionals to adopt the latest medical research in their work and to contribute to research with an objective, periodic and transparent assessment of medical institutions.

The bills facilitate maintenance of a medical register of medicine and enforce high ethical standards in all aspects of medical services.

Bills on farmers' income, co-op banks under RBI introduced

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Amid stiff protest from the Opposition, which accused the Centre of "encroaching" on State subjects, the Government on Monday introduced bills on price assurance to farmers and regulation of co-operative banks by RBI in the Lok Sabha.

Defending the two bills on the farm sector, Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar said they will help the farmers get a remunerative price for their produce as well as private investments and technology. Responding to the charges of Opposition, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said the regulation bill is intended to protect the depositors in co-operative banks and nothing to intervene on the state's acts related to the banks.

Leader of Congress Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury and TMC leader Saugata Roy accused the Centre of intervening in Agriculture which is a State Subject. Many Opposition MPs pointed out the ongoing agitations of farmers in Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Chhattisgarh against the bill. Chowdhury said that these bills are not mentioning about the current system of

Minimum Support Price (MSP) and is aimed at business houses' entry in the agriculture sector. The Opposition has alleged that the Centre brought in the legislations without consulting the states under whose domain 'agriculture' and 'mandis' come.

"Such a law can only be brought by State Governments. Through this bill, the centre will nullify Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) law enacted by various state governments," Chowdhury said.

Agriculture Minister Tomar, while introducing the bills to replace the 'The Farmers' Produce Trade And Commerce (Promotion And Facilitation) Ordinance, 2020 and 'The Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Ordinance, 2020' said that almost 86 per cent of farmers have agricultural land of less than two hectares and they are often unable to benefit from minimum support price (MSPs). To specific questions raised by MPs, Minister assured the House that the MSP will stay.

The ordinances seek to provide barrier-free trade for farmers' produce outside notified farm mandis, and empow-

er farmers to enter into farming agreements with private players prior to the production for sale of agri-produce, said Tomar. He said the bill will help the farmers as they are unable to invest much in their farm and do not attract investments from others.

Congress MP Shashi Tharoor said, "It is beyond the legislative competence of this house to enact any law on agriculture, which is a domain of the state governments." Parliamentary Affairs Minister Prahlad Joshi objected to his remarks that the bills violated the basic tenets of federalism enshrined in India's Constitution.

Responding to volley of objections on the new banking regulation bill which bring co-operative banks under RBI supervision, Sitharaman detailed the bad financial position of many co-operative banks and she said the bill is focusing on protection of the depositors. The new Bill — The Banking Regulation (Amendment) Bill 2020 — to protect the depositors of Urban Cooperative Banks (UCBs) and Multi State Cooperative Banks (MSCBs) and not interfering into the State Laws, she said.

Speaker expunges TMC MP's remark about Finance Minister Sitharaman

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla on Monday expunged the controversial personal remark made by Trinamool Congress MP Saugata Roy about Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman even as the BJP MPs demanded an unconditional apology from him.

Roy drawing a comparison with India's economy and Sitharaman's hair led to a heated exchange between the Treasury Bench and Opposition MPs.

Replying to the TMC MPs' remarks, Sitharaman said, "If



only Saugata Roy could listen instead of making remarks on other factors."

BJP MPs and Parliamentary Affairs Minister

Prahlad Joshi demanded an unconditional apology from Roy. "Commenting on personal attire... Being a senior member, what is he talking," he asked. "He should apologise unconditionally. It is an insult to womenfolk."

However, Roy said he did not believe he had said anything unparliamentary.

The Speaker said that he will look into the records and expunge the remarks if needed, urging the MPs to continue with the debate on the introduction of Banking Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 2020

Ravi Kishan raises drug-Bollywood link

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Actor and BJP Member of Parliament from Gorakhpur, Ravi Kishan on Monday raised the issue of drugs in Lok Sabha and demanded a detailed probe into the alleged nexus between Bollywood and drug mafia. He said that Bollywood is addicted to drugs.

The MP also praised the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) for its probe into the Sushant Singh Rajput death case which is turning increasingly controversial and allegedly politicised.

"Huge amount of drugs is being supplied in the country from China and Pakistan. The drug game is being played through the Punjab and Nepal

route. The youth of the country are becoming victims to it," Ravi Kishan said. Termining the issue "very serious", the MP urged the Centre for strict action in the matter. Speaking about drug-related arrests in the Sushant Singh Rajput case, he said that the NCB is doing a great job. Strict action is needed to bust the drug network, he added.

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BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT UNITS (BDUs)

Non-traditional Cargoes

In order to increase the share of rail transportation in non-traditional cargoes, exclusive Business Development Units have been set up at the zonal headquarter and all five divisions i.e. (Delhi, Ambala, Lucknow, Moradabad and Firozpur).

Teevra Services

These services have been named as 'TEEVRA Services' (Time-tabled Efficient and Economically Viable Railway Services) and would be offering time-tabled freight transportation services between different origin-destination combinations. Freight customers would be able to book according to the wagon basis.

Transportation Solutions

These units have been mandated to interact with various industries and trading entities and offer suitable rail transportation solutions to find mutually beneficial ways and to facilitate a shift to railways.

Affordable Freight Services

This initiative of Northern Railway is aimed at providing affordable time-tabled freight services for MSMEs and other small industries and units.

Time-tabled Freight Trains

One major initiative being planned by Northern Railway in this regard is the running of time-tabled freight trains for less than full train load consignments.

Contact Details

Interested business entities may contact the following nodal coordinators of the Business Development Units (BDUs) for any enquiry, suggestions or assistance.

Name of Officer	Office	Contact Number
Chief Freight Transportation Manager, NR	Northern Railway, Headquarters Office, Baroda House, New Delhi	011-23387643, 9717630903
Senior Divisional Operations Manager, New Delhi	Delhi Division DRM Office, New Delhi	011-23743352, 9717631900
Senior Divisional Operations Manager, Lucknow	Lucknow Division DRM Office, Lucknow	0522-2234520, 9794833900
Senior Divisional Operations Manager, Moradabad	Moradabad Division DRM Office, Moradabad	0591-2412012, 9760534900
Senior Divisional Operations Manager, Ambala	Ambala Division, DRM Office, Ambala	0171-2610553, 9729539900
Senior Divisional Operations Manager, Firozpur	Firozpur Division, DRM Office, Firozpur	01632-244488, 9779232900

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SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

92% Covid patients diagnosed with mild complications

5.8% need oxygen therapy, 1.7% intensive care, says Union Health Min

PNS ■ DELHI

In India, 92 per cent of Covid-19 patients got only a mild form of the disease while about 5.8 per cent patients required oxygen therapy and 1.7 per cent needed intensive care, Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan told the Lok Sabha Monday on the opening day of the Monsoon Session.

While claiming that the 24 March decision to impose the harshest lockdown in the world prevented 14-29 lakh cases and 37,000-78,000 deaths, the Minister said that around 13 states in the country are reporting the maximum number of coronavirus cases on daily basis.

Even as on Monday, the total number of Covid-19 cases in India stood at 48,46,427 with 79,722 deaths, Dr Harsh Vardhan said that the country has now moved from 'managing travel-related cases' to containing clusters and large outbreaks due to local transmission to wide spread of infection to urban, peri-urban and rural areas.

"This would require concerted effort by the Government with people's participation to prevent large scale morbidity and mortality," he added.

"Many of the epidemiological parameters such as mode of transmission, sub-clinical infection, period of virus shedding, role of immunity etc. are still being researched. Once a person is exposed to the infection, the disease may develop anytime between 1 and 14 days. The main symptoms of Covid are fever, cough, and difficulty in breathing," the Minister told the House.

Dr Harsh Vardhan also said expenditure finance memorandum of Rs 65,560.98 crore under the Prime Minister Atmanirbhar Swasth Bharat Yojana for strengthening the

health sector is under consideration. This includes investment in research, healthcare and public health infrastructure, with particular focus on pandemic management.

The health minister told MPs that 13 clinical trials of repurposed drugs and harnessing of traditional knowledge using the modern medicine approach are building a portfolio of therapeutic options for Covid-19 patients.

"Phase 2 clinical trial of immunomodulator Sepsivac has been completed successfully. Phase 2 clinical trial of the first-ever phytopharmaceutical ACQH is under way. One prophylactic trial of Aswagandha and three trials of Guduchi + Pippali; Yashtimadhu; and polyherbal AYUSH drug (AYUSH-64) are planned on moderately ill Covid-19 patients," Dr Harsh Vardhan said.

"Globally, there are around 145 candidate vaccines in pre-clinical evaluation and currently 35 vaccines in clinical trial. In India, a major focus has been on facilitating the development of Covid-19 vaccine. More than 30 vaccine candidates have been supported which are in different stages of development, 3 candidates are in advanced stage of Phase I/II/III trials and more than 4 are in advanced pre-clinical development stage," he said.

The Covid-19 Bio-repositories have collected more than 40,000 samples for use by researchers developing diagnostics, therapeutics and vaccines. The health minister also spoke about the shift in focus from only Covid to other non-Covid diseases such as tuberculosis and malaria, which ended up being partially neglected during the lockdown. "Equally crucial is to maintain the success achieved in management of reproductive maternal and child health, vaccine preventable diseases, non-communicable diseases, tuberculosis, vector borne diseases such as Kala Azar and Malaria. Hence, there is an increased thrust for managing non-Covid essential services," the minister said.

BK Goyal in 5 days ED remand in PMLA case

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Monday arrested the kingpin of trade-based money laundering BK Goyal and secured a five-day remand from a designated court in Visakhapatnam in connection with the ongoing probe in the money laundering case.

Goyal is suspected to have been involved in outward remittances of Rs 1,500 crore to destinations like China, Hong Kong and Singapore.

"Accused Bhimender Kumar Goyal has been arrested by ED in connection with an ongoing PMLA investigation in which he is the kingpin of an International trade-based money laundering network used to send compensatory hawala payments abroad for importing under-valued goods into India," the ED said in a statement.

The ED had initiated investigation under Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) on the basis of FIR registered by Andhra Pradesh Police against Vaddi Mahesh and others on the complaint of the Income Tax Department under Indian Penal Code Sections relating to cheating, forgery, forgery for purpose of

cheating, using forged documents as genuine and criminal conspiracy.

Investigation under PMLA revealed that accused Mahesh along with others had incorporated several shell companies and firms and opened bank accounts with various banks in the names of those companies/firms and remitted huge amounts of Foreign Outward Remittances equivalent to R 1,500 crore to various companies in Singapore, China and Hong Kong in the guise of import of non-existent 'customised software', it said.

Mahesh admitted that he had remitted foreign remittances to companies in Singapore, Hong Kong and China at the instructions of Goyal.

Investigation also revealed that Goyal is a habitual smuggler who has several pending cases against him with Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) and customs department for evasion of customs duty for import of under-valued goods and outright smuggling of goods into India, it further said.

Goyal was the mastermind and on his instructions a complex network of shell companies and firms was created by Mahesh.

Saptagir Laboratories signs Remdesivir manufacturing deal with Jubilant Generics

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Hyderabad-based Saptagir Laboratories, part of the ₹900 crore Saptagir Group, on Monday announced a pact with Jubilant Generics - a Jubilant Life Sciences company, to manufacture intermediates and Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient (API) for intravenous administered drug Remdesivir.

The drug will be produced at its Hyderabad World Health Organization (WHO) GMP certified sterile drug product manufacturing plant, acquired at an investment of ₹75 crore.

Remdesivir is an experimental antiviral drug developed by Gilead Sciences, Inc. as

a course of treatment for covid-19. Gilead entered into a non-exclusive licensing agreement with Jubilant Life Sciences for distribution to 127 countries. Following this, Jubilant Life Sciences through its subsidiary Jubilant Generics has entered an exclusive agreement with Saptagir Laboratories to manufacture Remdesivir.

Currently, Remdesivir is the only drug that has received an Emergency Use Authorization from the US health regulator, and has been approved for emergency use in countries such as Singapore, India, Japan, Europe, and Australia, for the treatment of covid-19.

TMC, Congress play Bengali card on Rhea

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

After Bihari and Marathi cards the Bengali card has become the favourite for the politicians in Bengal with both the Congress and the Trinamool Congress questioning actor Rhea Chakrabarty's arrest in Sushant Singh Rajput death case "with no prima facie evidence of her having a hand in his demise."

A day after Congress Lok Sabha leader Adhir Chowdhury raised the issue of a Bengali Brahmin woman being victimized to appease a section of the electorate in Bihar TMC MP and senior advocate Kalyan Banerjee on Monday called BJP a "thoroughly anti-Bengali party which thrives on North Indian politics and sacrifices Bengali interest."

Chowdhury whose party on Monday took out a long procession condemning film Rhea Chakrabarty's arrest said, "it was done only to appease a section of the Bihari

voters ahead of the Assembly elections in that State. Today we can see how a Bengali Brahmin girl is being harassed in Mumbai... she has been sent to jail on false drug charges... whereas the real case is related to SSR's death in which the CBI and ED has prima facie found no evidence. This is purely anti-Bengali and we condemn it."

Kalyan Banerjee on Monday attacked the BJP calling it an "anti-Bengali party which is proved once again by the manner they have falsely implicated Rhea Chakrabarty a Bengali Brahmin girl. This will not go down well among the Bengali voters in this States. They will have to account for the torture they perpetrated on Rhea."

Bengal BJP president Dilip Ghosh however said that "Rhea Chakrabarty is not an issue in Bengal... here the TMC's goonda and syndicate raj is the main issue and Mamata Banerjee will be thrown out of power on that issue only."

Kerala Opp rap CPM Govt for sabotaging scam probe

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

The entire Opposition parties that include the Congress, the BJP and the Muslim League on Monday alleged that the ruling CPI(M) government is trying to sabotage the investigation into the gold smuggling and LIFE Mission cases.

Anil Akkara, Congress MLA from Thrissur alleged on Monday that Swapna Suresh and K T Ramees, the kingpins in the gold smuggling cases were admitted to Thrissur Medical College to facilitate communication with each other in the company of A C Moitheen, a Minister in the Pinarayi Vijayan led Government.

Moitheen made an unscheduled visit to the hospital when Swapna and Ramees were admitted to the hospital. "The visit of Moitheen to the hospital is enmeshed in mystery. His mission was to meet Swapna and Ramees and brief them about the statements made by them to the Customs department and what they should tell during future interrogations," said Anil. The Congress leader said that there was no need for the minister to visit the hospital at this juncture.

The law maker also alleged that Swapna Suresh made phone calls using the mobile phones of the hospital staff. "Though she had complained of chest pain, it has been found that she was all right and there was no need of any concern about her health. Though she was discharged after two days, she was re-admitted to the same hospital for check ups. I understand the medical board found nothing abnormal in her health," said Anil.

P K Feroz, leader of the Muslim League, too came down heavily on the Pinarayi Vijayan government alleging that efforts were underway to subvert the probe into the gold smuggling and Quran import scams. "Now I have got information that Jaleel was seeking the help of Islamic religious leaders to wriggle out of the case," said Feroze.

Meanwhile Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said it was scandalous and "nonsense" to drag the LIFE Mission project into allegations. "The Opposition parties are out to tarnish the image of this government because they know that they would not be able to win the next assembly election," said the Chief Minister.

Mahila Morcha stages stir, demands Jaleel's resignation

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

Activists of Mahila Morcha, a front organization of the BJP, brought normal life in the capital city of Thiruvananthapuram to a grinding halt for hours on Monday as they staged a well planned demonstration in front of the State Secretariat demanding the resignation of Kerala ministers E P Jayaraman and K T Jaleel who according to them are allegedly involved in gold smuggling and 'massive corruption'.

Despite lathi charge and using of water canons many times, the riot police could not disperse the Morchha activists who turned the police barricades in front of the Secretariat upside down.

"We have not seen this kind of demonstration at least in the recent past. These women activists have done their home work well," said Shyam Babu Koroth, who has been covering the agitations in front of the

Secretariat for years.

Activists of the ABVP, BJYM and the BJP too joined the demonstration but they kept a safe distance from the militant workers of the Mahila Morchha who were in no mood to listen to the cops who asked them to disperse before the lathi charging.

The BJP intensified its ongoing agitation by Monday morning as a section of the media reported about the involvement of minister Jayaraman's son and wife in gold smuggling and LIFE Mission corruption charges. K Surendran, state chief of the BJP in his media briefing on Monday morning said that Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan was the epicenter of the entire smuggling and corruption. "We demand the interrogation of Vijayan, his daughter Veena, son Kiran and son-in-law Mohammed Riyaz in connection with gold smuggling and other corruption charges," charged Surendran.

Mamata announces stipend for Hindu priests

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

In an apparent bid to arrest erosion in the Hindu vote base ahead of the next year's Assembly elections Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Monday announced stipend for the Hindu "Sanatani" priests triggering criticism from the opposition BJP, Left and Congress who condemned her policy of "bringing cow belt politics to Bengal."

The new scheme will entail a monthly allowance of Rs 1,000 and free housing for more than 8,000 poor Sanatan Brahmin priests of Bengal. "We had earlier provided

land to the Sanatan Brahmin sect to set up an academy at Kolaghat. Many priests in this sect are financially weak. We have decided to help them by providing them with an allowance of Rs 1,000 per month and also free housing under the state governments housing scheme," the Chief Minister said.

Congratulating the Hindi speaking population on Hindi Diwas she said Bengal was a place for the people of all religions, languages and sects, adding the Government would soon set up a Hindi Academy and a Dalit Sahitya Academy. "We respect all languages. We have decided to form a new

Hindi Academy. We have also decided to set up a Dalit Sahitya Academy. Dalits' languages have influence on the Bengali language" she said.

Reacting to her decision to woo the priests at the fag end of her rule senior BJP leader Rahul Sinha said "this is another mark of Mamata Banerjee's votebank politics... soon after coming to power she had started stipend for the Muezzims and Imams to mollycoddle the Muslim votes. And now at the fag end of her rule when she knows that the Hindus have felt let down during her rule and the entire Hindu vote has shifted to the BJP she is trying to win them back.

"Today she is trying to rectify her mistakes but it will yield no result. No amount of measures will pacify the dejected Hindu voters because they have known her true face. They will not be fooled by her anymore. She will have to go out of power in the coming elections."

Congress Lok Sabha leader and PCC president Adhir Chowdhury said "when she announced stipend for the Imams after coming to power the Congress had protested saying it was a way to divide the people. Now she is again assuming the same path this time by trying to appease the Brahmins so that the Hindu voters are divided vertically. But

people are conscious this time and they will read through her tricks."

CPI(M) Legislature Party leader Sujan Chakrabarty said "Mamata Banerjee has a dirty habit of playing one section of voters against the other. By dividing the voters she wants to win the elections... she talks of secularism and condemns communalism in public. But if this is not playing communal card then what is? She is competing with the BJP in communal politics instead of dealing with unemployment problem, price rise, rising law and order problems.... This only proves that the BJP and TMC are two sides of the same coin.

Names of Sara, Rakul, Simon figured in drug probe: NCB

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) on Monday confirmed that the names of Bollywood actresses Sara Ali Khan, Rakul Preet Singh and designer Simone Khambatta had figured in the Sushant Singh Raput death-related drug case, even as a Mumbai court remanded the seven arrested drug peddlers either in the NCB or in judicial custody for varying periods.

Talking to media persons here, NCB's deputy director (operations) KPS Malhotra said: "There has been an issue that whether the name of Sara, Simone and Rakul surfaced during the investigation...the answer to that is yes."

However, Malhotra hastened to add that the NCB had not prepared any list of Bollywood personalities as had been reported in a section of the media. "There have been questions whether the NCB has prepared a list of 25 Bollywood personalities. The answer to that is no," Malhotra said.

As many as 16 persons have so far been arrested in the Sushant Singh Raput death-related drug case registered by the NCB. Actress Rhea Chakrabarty and her brother Showik are two of the arrested accused in the case.

A descendent of the Tagore and Pataudi families, Sara (25) is the daughter of actor Saif Ali Khan and his first wife Amrita Singh and grand-daughter of late Indian cricket captain MAK Pataudi and actor and former Censor Board chairperson Sharmila Tagore.

Sushant and Sara had worked together in the 2018 film Kedarnath, a Hindi romantic drama.

Rakul Preet (29) has acted in several Hindi, Tamil, Telugu and Kannada films, while Simone (29) is a fashion designer and social media influencer.

Unconfirmed reports had earlier said that during the course of her prolonged questioning by the NCB ahead of her arrest on September 8, actress Rhea Chakrabarty had reportedly told the investigators that actress Sara Ali Khan and Rakul Preet, designer Simone Khambatta, Sushant's friend and former manager Rohini Iyer and filmmaker Mukesh Chhabra consumed narcotics substances.

Meanwhile, seven arrested drug peddlers and dealers - arrested by the NCB in the Sushant death-related drug case - were remanded in the NCB or judicial custody for varying periods by a Mumbai court on Monday.

While an arrested drug ped-

ler Anuj Keswani, arrested by the Narcotics Control Bureau, was sent to judicial custody by the court till September 23, three others - Karamjeet Singh Anand, Dwayne Fernandes, and Ankush Anreja - who were arrested during the weekend, were remanded in NCB custody till September 23.

In addition, three others - Sanket Patel, Sandeep Gupta and Aftab Fateh Ansari - who were also arrested during the weekend -- were sent to judicial custody till September 23.

Among the seven remanded in either NCB or judicial custody, Keswani was among the suspected drug peddlers who were arrested in the wake of the arrest of Rhea Chakrabarty's brother Showik early this month.

Alleged drug peddler Anuj Keswani was arrested by the NCB after Kaizan Ebrahim disclosed his name. Kaizan Ebrahim had reportedly told the investigators that Anuj Keswani was his supplier of narcotic drugs. Keswani and Kaizan were among the ten persons initially arrested in connection with the drug case registered by the NCB. The other arrested accused in the case are Rhea Chakrabarty, her brother Showik, Abbas Lakhani, Karan Arora, Zaid Vohra, Abdel Basit Parihar, Samudra Miranda and Dipesh Sawant.

UP: Case filed for insulting national flag on handpumps

PRADEEP SAXENA ■ ALIGARH

The case of inscriptions and cobblestones fitted with around 45 hand pumps in Dhubia, Khurrampur, and some other villages of Akbarabad police station area has caught fire. A case has been filed on BJP MLA from Chharra Ravendrapal Singh's complaint against two people in the police station of Akbarabad. According to the MLA, there is a smell of foreign conspiracy, in this case, are coming.

MLA Thakur Ravendra Pal

Singh reached Akbarabad police station along with some other people. He filed a complaint against Shamsheer son of Sijar Mohammed, resident of Vijaygarh Khurrampur, and Barik Ali resident of Dhorra. It is alleged that about 45 hand pumps (No.4 small machine) have been installed in various villages including village Dubhia, Khurrampur to mislead the people. An Arabic inscription has been attached to the hand pump along with the Indian flag and the flag of Kuwait.

Aligarh: 128 fresh corona cases, 2 deaths

PRADEEP SAXENA ■ ALIGARH

On Monday, 142 patients won the battle for life amid a growing number of corona-infected patients while a hardware businessman and a medical college worker of the city died due to corona. At the same time, 128 new infected patients were also found.

Now the number of active patients has reached 1658 and 31 patients have died so far. The same number of patients died with other serious illnesses as well. A total of 4836 patients have been recovered and 6525 people have been found infected in the district as far.

On 31st August, a 40-year-old hardware businessman, resident of Sasni Gate Saket Vihar Colony was admitted to Sir Gangaram, Delhi after his health suddenly worsen. Their report came out corona positive. Been on a ventilator for many days.

He died in the morning. In another case, a 55-year-old resident of GT Road Housing Development Colony was working in the AYUSH department of the Medical College. His health deteriorated and was admitted to the medical college for treatment several days ago. He also died at six in the morning.

AMU organises Int'l webinar

PRADEEP SAXENA ■ ALIGARH

The Alig's Academic Enrichment Programme (AAEP), in association with the Aligarh Medical Alumni Association of North America (AMAANA) held an international webinar on "JNMCities' Experiences from the COVID frontlines: US and India".

In his inaugural address, Professor Tariq Mansoor (Vice Chancellor, AMU) highlighted the role of Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College it is playing in containing COVID-19 pandemic at Aligarh and in nearby cities.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given on behalf of Mr. Arpit Jain who intend to purchase & mortgage the Flat bearing No.111-B on First Floor, in Block-C2, at Lawrence Road, Delhi with our client Axis Bank Ltd. against the financial assistance. Whereas, Mr. Mohinder Kumar S/o Ude Bhan has acquired the above said property by way of Conveyance Deed dt. 09.09.1997 and after death of Mohinder Kumar his legal heirs have relinquished their rights in the said property to Mrs. Sneha Arora vide Relinquishment Deed dt. 30.08.2013, without obtaining Surviving Member Certificate. Now, Mrs. Sneha Arora intends to sell the same to Mr. Arpit Jain. If any person(s) having objection regarding ownership of above-mentioned claimants or regarding mortgage of the said property is/are requested to intimate in writing to undersigned within 07 days from the date of issue of this notice at below address. In the event no information is received within 07 days from date hereof, our Client i.e. Axis Bank Ltd. will proceed with the mortgage process.

DEEPIYOT SINGH, ADVOCATE
A-13, LGF, South Extn-II, New Delhi-49
011-26262610, 11, 12

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that my client Smita Uban is in process to avail the credit facility from Axis Bank against Commercial Property Bearing No. GF-12C and 12-D, on Ground Floor, in the multistoried Office Cum Commercial Complex Known as The Peach Tree, Sushant Lok-I, Block-C, Gurgaon, Haryana, having acquired vide Sale Deed dated 15.10.2018 (Doc No. 8197 and 8198) All person/s having any claim against or in respect of the said Property, or any part thereof, by way of sale, exchange, mortgage (equitable/registered or otherwise), gift, trust, inheritance, family arrangement, maintenance, bequest, partnership, possession, lease, sublease, tenancy, license, lien, charge, pledge, easement or otherwise whatsoever, are hereby requested to notify the same in writing to us with supporting documentary evidence at the address mentioned below within 7 days from the date hereof, failing which the claim or claims, if any, of such person or persons will be considered to have been waived and/or abandoned.

Kamal Kant Gupta (Advocate)
Shop No. 5 & 6, CSC, Pkt-E,
Mayur Vihar-II, Delhi-110091
Office: 011-43052822
Mobile: 9810063351
E: kamalkantgupta74@gmail.com

Kharif rice procurement target set at 495 lakh tonnes

New Delhi: The Ministry of food and consumer affairs on Monday said that around 495.37 lakh metric tons (LMT) rice have been estimated for procurement during the forthcoming Kharif marketing season 2020-21 which is 19.07% more than the 416 LMT procurement estimate of 2019-20.

"During ensuing kharif marketing season 2020-21, procurement estimates for Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra have jumped by 100 percent and more, and for Madhya Pradesh, Telangana, Bihar and Jharkhand are higher by 50 percent and more in comparison to 2019-20. The lead-

ing States in terms of estimated procurement of rice are Punjab (113 LMT), Chhattisgarh (60 LMT) and Telangana (50 LMT) followed by Haryana (44 LMT), Andhra Pradesh (40 LMT), Uttar Pradesh (37 LMT) and Odisha (37 LMT)," the agriculture ministry said in a statement. In view of COVID-19, Secretary, Ministry of Consumer Affairs requested all States to take necessary steps to ensure social distancing during procurement operations. Other issues of States regarding food subsidy were also discussed during the meeting. PNS

Kangana links Aditya Thackeray to movie mafia, murderers of SSR, drug racket

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Maintaining that her earlier analogy of Mumbai being "Pak-Occupied Kashmir" (POK) was "bang on", outspoken actress Kangana Ranaut on Monday took Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray head-on once again, by linking the latter's Minister-son Aditya Thackeray to "movie mafia, murderers of SSR and its (sic) drug racket."

Hours after she departed from Mumbai for her home state of Himachal Pradesh, Kangana virtually indulged in slander, when she tweeted: "Basic problem of Maharashtra CM is why I exposed movie mafia, murderers of SSR and its (sic) drug racket."

Earlier in the day when she was about to fly out of Mumbai, Kangana came up with a nasty parting tweet:

"With a heavy heart leaving Mumbai, the way I was terrorised all these days constant attacks and abuses hurled at me attempts to break my house after my work place, alert security with lethal weapons around me, must say my analogy about POK was bang on."

Kangana -- who had arrived in Mumbai from her home town of Manali on Wednesday in the immediate wake of partial demolition of her Pali Hill bungalow by the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) - hit out at the ruling Shiv Sena and Congress.

"It seems this time I was saved. There was a time when I felt a mother's touch in Mumbai, but today the situation is such that I am lucky to be alive. The moment Shiv Sena became Sonia Sena, the Mumbai administration became a terror," she posted in Hindi, targeting the Sena as well as Congress president Sonia Gandhi, "Kangana tweeted in Hindi while she was en route to her hometown.

Later in the evening, her team tweeted: "Thank you Facebook free speech must be protected in a democracy, people need to be protected from Sonia Sena goons much like COVID -19 virus, thank you for being considerate, well done."

Kangana has come under fire from various quarters for controversial statements comparing Mumbai to "Pak-Occupied Kashmir" and saying "it seems Mumbai is addicted to blood" and dubbing Bollywood as an 'Islam-dominated' film industry. There have also been protests erupted in Mumbai and other cities against the actress.

Through a series of tweets put out during and after the BMC workers demolished her office at Bandra's Pali Hill area in north-west Mumbai on Wednesday last, Kangana had among other things come up with a "...tujhe kya lagta hai?" dare for Maharashtra chief minister Uddhav Thackeray, whom she had threatened to expose.

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that one girl namely **Kaima Khatun D/o Mohd. Juber**, R/o RZR-166, Near Gosia Masjid, Nihal Vihar, Delhi has been missing/kidnapped since 16.08.2020 from the area of P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi. In this regard, a case FIR No. 833/20 u/s 363 IPC dated 16.08.2020 has been registered at P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi. The description of the missing girl is as under.



KAIMA KHATUN

Age: 14 Years, **Complexion:** Fair, **Height:** 5', **Face:** Round, **ID:** A mole on right ear, **Wearing:** Light yellow colour suit, Mahroon colour salwar and black colour hawai chappal in feet. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out her but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone has any information about the missing/kidnapped girl then please inform P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi at following Tel No./ e-mail: ctc@cbi.gov.in and Website: http://cbi.nic.in

Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax No. 011-24368639

Sd/- S.H.O.
P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi

DP/385/OD/2020

Ph: 011-25946700, 25946710

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that one girl namely **Shobha Kumari D/o Ram Baran**, R/o Khasra No. 705, Naval Park, Alipur, New Delhi has been missing/kidnapped since 25.08.2020 from the area of P.S. Alipur, Delhi. In this regard, a case FIR No. 406/20 dated 27.08.2020 has been registered at P.S. Alipur, Delhi. The description of the missing girl is as under.



SHOBHA KUMARI

Age: 14 Years, **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Height:** 4'9" **Face:** Long, **Built:** Normal, **Wearing:** Suit and Salwar. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out her but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone has any information about the missing/ Kidnapped girl then please inform P.S. Alipur, Delhi at following Tel No./ e-mail: ctc@cbi.gov.in and Website: http://cbi.nic.in

Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax No. 011-24368639

Sd/- S.H.O.
P.S. Alipur, Delhi

DP/470/ON/2020

Phone: 011-2720 2290, 7065036325

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

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IMPORTS SECTION NOTICE

Sub: Procurement of proprietary items from M/s Abbott Diagnostics Technologies, Norway.

SKIMS intends to procure following equipments on proprietary basis from M/s Abbott Diagnostics Technologies, Norway, for various departments of SKIMS being their proprietary item as claimed by the company.

S. No.	Description
1.	Afinion 2 system
2.	Cholestech LDX system
3.	Cholestech LDX, Lipid profile
4.	Afinion 2 HbA1c
5.	Afinion 2, ACR
6.	Afinion CRP

In this connection, objection (if any) from companies manufacturing / marketing, such equipment capable of delivering the same result as intended from the above equipment, regarding the proprietary nature of the above item should be communicated within 15 days on the above mentioned email ID/ FAX, after which the claim of the company who has claimed for the proprietorship of the said equipment shall be accepted.

No: SIMS 324- Afinion-2020-2891-98-5288-90
Dated: 14.09.2020

Sd/- Asstt. Material Management Officer
Imports

Dissenter as enemy

What was the rush to list the names of Opp leaders, academics and civil society activists in a supplementary chargesheet on Delhi riots?



The problem with today's narratives is that they are premised on half-truths or myth-making to set off a wildfire so rabid that it gulps reason, which is seen as an enemy of the State rather than its victim. And this is being done with such regularity that thinking minds and civil society are becoming targets of a witch-hunt for daring to dissent or challenge the established order of things. The brutality of targeting is even more evident as names uncomfortable to the establishment are red-marked while provocateurs friendly to it are blatantly overlooked and spared. What else can explain the Delhi Police's purported fumbling over the revelations of the February riots, one that saw a motivated leaking of information that noted civil society activists figured in a supplementary chargesheet based on disclosures of the accused. While it may have claimed that disclosure was not the sole basis of further action, and needed to be backed up by corroborative evidence, cross-checking and information, why list their names in the first place then? That too of people, who are not capable of any criminal activity ever? Also, the simultaneous insistence that the disclosure by three students, who were accused of fomenting trouble, was "truthful" and not coerced made no bones about the intent to demonise dissent. And protect the hate-mongering of ruling party leaders like Anurag Thakur and Kapil Mishra, the latter's "goli maaro" equivalent to a war cry of prejudice. So it is that CPI(M) leader Sitaram Yechury was labelled as an instigator for representing an ideological polarity. Economist and professor Jayati Ghosh was mentioned as a more than oblique slight to the intelligentsia and Swaraj Abhiyan activist Yogendra Yadav was circled out for speaking out on rights of students to protest. The message is clear, there is a threatening shadow over anybody who chooses to exercise the Constitutional right to free speech, ask questions, protest in a democratic spirit or hold a divergent political view. Why this move is loaded and dangerous is because there is nothing that separates the protester from the rioter, the dissenter from the conspirator, the debater from the disruptor and equates them at the same level. It is also a comment on society that one has to be a qualified conformist than being an educated commentator. Anyway, the line between fact and fiction on the riots has blurred with too many ground truths held back from the public domain. Disproportionately though, the Government narrative of stereotyping the riots as another volatile expression of communal angst has been gaining ground.

The Delhi Police is capable of conducting a sound probe but appears to be under pressure to "manage" a certain narrative so that courts have very little to deliberate on. Certainly, nothing could be a bigger travesty of justice. And if the Delhi Police looks toothless, one would dread to imagine what happens in the State police forces of Uttar Pradesh and Haryana, where the ruling party sentiment will sit in judgment on the right to protest. Can the Delhi Police, being an elite and professional law-keeping force in the country, yet pass the litmus test of the riots case? Already as a purveyor of the official narrative, it has had a tough job defending its "no-show" or "silence" during the violence at JNU and the targeted mayhem in the riots. Its passivity has raised questions on its institutional integrity and loyalty to its role ordained by the Constitution. That, too, at a time when there are too many eyewitnesses, live accounts and video footage. For example, there is little doubt that an unruly mob beat up students in the JNU campus to leave too much of a grey area as to how events unfolded. Also, by the Government's own report and statistics, the minorities were the worst affected by the riots. Yet the police seems to have cracked down on those who fight for their justice. Then Lt Governor, Anil Bajjal, as the Centre's representative, overturned the Delhi Cabinet's decision that had disbanded the panel of lawyers suggested by the Delhi Police from arguing in the Supreme Court and the High Court in the interest of a fair probe. The AAP Government, which has time and again insisted that the Delhi Police is not under its purview and did not oppose it or the Home Ministry to which it reports despite public criticism during the riots, rightly exercised its prerogative to suggest a transparent inquiry. It argued that since the courts had already raised serious questions on the investigations done by the Delhi Police in the riots case and during students' protests, the lawyers shouldn't be pro-Government. So against the Delhi Police's proposal to appoint six senior lawyers, including Solicitor General Tushar Mehta and ASG Aman Lekhi, as special counsel in the High Court and Supreme Court in 85 cases related to the riots and the anti-Citizenship (Amendment) Act protests, the Delhi Government wanted to field its own legal team. Does this mean that the Centre is trying to dictate the course of the trial, investigation and public perception? Or is it trying to justify the crackdown on the protesters and label them as seditious? Therefore, it is all the more imperative for Delhi Police to settle for nothing but the whole truth and uphold the rule of law fearlessly. For that is its mandate anyway that cannot be challenged by anybody.

The Congress Working Committee (CWC) that met on August 24, 2020, to resolve matters revealed that the Gandhi family's principal concern was to retain its grip over the party. The myth that Sonia Gandhi had "fought like a tigress" against Rajiv Gandhi's becoming Prime Minister after the assassination of Indira Gandhi – stonically maintained by the spin doctors despite the fact that Rajiv Gandhi was already a Congress MP for three years before that fatal day – died with Sitaram Kesri's ignoble exit via a bathroom. Similarly, the pretence that "power is poison" has ended with the avowal that it is the elixir of political life. Anand Sharma, deputy leader (Rajya Sabha), has explained how the total drift and lack of introspection after the 2019 defeat, Rahul Gandhi's insistence that no one from the family should become president and Sonia Gandhi's tenure as interim president ending on August 10, forced them to demand strategies for revival. Although it has never been stated publicly, Rahul Gandhi's flight from Amethi, choice of Wayanad (Kerala) and total reliance on the Indian Union Muslim

Seven years of motherhood

Sonia Gandhi will have to accept that the era of supine partymen is over; the high command has been called to account. Only a split can save the Gandhi leadership



SANDHYA JAIN

Sonia Gandhi's consistency and determination are admirable. A firm believer in dynasty as a legitimising principle in politics, she first made her son the party vice-president in January 2013, thus indicating her intent, and in December 2017, despite a dismal performance in the 2014 general elections, anointed him as Congress president. This was accomplished with fulsome support from the rank and file, including veterans. For a while things seemed to be going well and the party, advised by the now defunct consultancy firm, Cambridge Analytica, won Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh in quick succession in 2018.

Matters went south only with Rahul Gandhi's impulsive resignation from the post of party president after the resounding Lok Sabha defeat of 2019; his refusal to withdraw it despite the customary appeals; and Sonia Gandhi's prolonged stay as interim president, with no resolution in sight. This forced 23 veterans, doubtless backed by many others, to demand a visible and effective leadership that is accessible to stalwarts and does not function by diktat delivered via a tiny caucus.

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League to return to Parliament would have convinced the stalwarts that he cannot lead Congress out of the electoral wilderness. He cannot win from Wayanad again, or from Rae Bareilly, if his mother withdraws from the arena.

At the CWC, as no one asked for a medical check-up, Sonia Gandhi realised there was no time to lose in reinstating Rahul Gandhi at the helm. Her first moves, on August 27, indicated her resolve: Jairam Ramesh was appointed chief whip (Rajya Sabha), Gaurav Gogoi deputy leader and Ravneet Singh Bittu whip (Lok Sabha), and Ahmad Patel and KC Venugopal included in a committee that will decide Congress's strategy in Parliament.

Then, one day before going abroad for a medical check-up, accompanied by the heir apparent, Sonia Gandhi announced a major reshuffle, tailored for Rahul Gandhi's ascension. The dissident veterans were upstaged, at least for the present. The Central Election Authority (CEA) has been reconstituted to conduct the election of the party president. Headed by Madhusudan Mistry, its members include Rajesh Mishra, Krishna Byre Gowda, S Jothimani and Arvinder Singh Lovely (a letter writer).

While letter signatories Ghulam Nabi Azad, Anand Sharma, Mukul Wasnik and Jitin Prasada have been retained in the CWC, the demand for elections to this body, as opposed to the practice of nominating members, has been brushed aside. The 22-member CWC includes former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, Rahul Gandhi, AK

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THE BENEFICIARIES OF THIS RESHUFFLE INCLUDE RAHUL GANDHI LOYALISTS AND ARE MEANT TO SMOOTHEN HIS ASCENSION AS HE LACKS ELECTORAL WORTH. BUT THE FACT THAT NOTHING HAS BEEN DONE TO ADDRESS THE IDEOLOGICAL LOPSIDEDNESS IN FAVOUR OF MINORITIES AND THE INABILITY TO ATTRACT LEADERS WHO CAN BRING VOTERS BACK IS WEIGHING ON THE MINDS OF MANY
 ”

Antony, Ahmed Patel, Ambika Soni, and former Finance Minister P Chidambaram, who has been elevated from permanent invitee, a surprising move. The invitees include Digvijay Singh, Salman Khurshid, Jairam Ramesh, Pramod Tiwari and Chinta Mohan, all of whom will gladly rally behind Rahul Gandhi.

Jitin Prasada has also been given charge of party affairs in West Bengal and Andaman and Nicobar Islands, possibly in an attempt to woo back the disaffected cronies of Rahul Gandhi. However, Ghulam Nabi Azad and Mallikarjun Kharge have been removed as general secretaries and Randeep Surjewala (Karnataka), Jitendra Singh (Assam) and Tariq Anwar (Kerala and Lakshadweep) inducted. Others retained as general secretaries include Harish Rawat (Punjab), Priyanka Gandhi Vadra (Uttar Pradesh), Oommen Chandy (Andhra Pradesh), Ajay Maken (Rajasthan), KC Venugopal (organisation). That few office bearers have any electoral heft is not a factor in this round.

The Congress has long delegated authority to make appointments to the top leader. Sonia Gandhi is unlikely to relinquish this power at a time when the family is fighting for survival within the party. She announced a five-member special team to help her in day-to-day matters till the next session of the All India Congress Committee (AICC), to be held within six months. It includes AK Antony, Ahmed Patel, Ambika Soni, KC Venugopal, Randeep Surjewala and Mukul Wasnik. Naturally, these moves have

former dismayed the dissidents. Former minister Kapil Sibal lamented, "Nomination seems to be the rule and election is not even an exception." The dissidents told the media that the changes made by the interim president "do not in any way" address the concerns listed in the August 7 letter and will not revive the party. In fact, many new persons joined their stock-taking meeting on September 12, 2020, which augurs ill for Sonia Gandhi's authoritarian control of the party.

Observers note that the beneficiaries of this reshuffle include Rahul Gandhi loyalists such as Randeep Singh Surjewala, Ajay Maken and Jitendra Singh, amongst others, and the sole purpose is to smoothen the way for the Wayanad MP to become Congress president after Sonia Gandhi returns. But the fact that nothing has been done to address the ideological lopsidedness in favour of minorities, and the inability to attract leaders who can bring voters back to the grand old party, is weighing on the minds of many.

Checkedmate by Sonia Gandhi's absence, the dissidents have decided to focus on the Monsoon Session of Parliament to corner the government on topical issues and wait. In a sharp departure from Congress culture, they have not surrendered or diluted their stance on any issue, and have even augmented their strength. Sonia Gandhi will have to accept the fact that the era of supine partymen is over; the high command has been called to account: only a split can save the Gandhi leadership.

(The author is a senior journalist. Views are personal)

Steering the course

Shinzo Abe changed the way the world perceives Japan. Can his successor do more of the same?



2020 was supposed to be a big year for Japan with its capital Tokyo hosting the Summer Olympics but we all know how that went. Instead, as the year comes to a close, Japan finds itself with a new Prime Minister after Shinzo Abe retires from politics for health reasons. Under Abe's steady hand for almost a decade, a new Japan has emerged, one much more confident on the global scene. Something that has proven to be very important as a bulwark to China's increasingly assertive stance in the region. Abe's leadership has played a major role in Japan trying to rid itself of the military guilt caused by actions it took in

the first half of the 20th century.

Yoshihide Suga, the son of a strawberry farmer and Abe's chief spokesperson for the last few years, is the man handpicked by the outgoing leader to succeed him. While there is little doubt that Suga will stay the course, Abe's great success, like Shinzo Koizumi, was keeping the various factions of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic party (LDP) at bay. This is a party whose intense factionalism had led to a revolving door; between Koizumi's tenure ending in 2006 and Abe's second term starting in 2012, Japan had six Prime Ministers (including Abe himself for a year). Keeping the factions at bay while pleasing the rank and file of the party, which preferred former defence minister Shigeru Ishiba for the top job, was quite the feat. The fact that Suga was appointed as Prime Minister without winning a popular mandate also rankles several politicians and analysts although elections are likely to be called very soon. Japan has proven itself to be a strong, resurgent power and the Olympics were meant to highlight a new, more self-confident nation. Its ties with the US are stronger than before and the nation has played a key role in the creation of the 'Quad' with the US, Australia and until very recently, a very reticent India. Abe's personal friendship with Narendra Modi has seen a huge amount of investment by Japanese firms in India, although tempered by India's stop-start economic growth. Suga is almost certain to keep the momentum of Japan's new-found military and economic confidence going and indeed no matter what happens in that country politically over the next few years, it has turned a corner under Abe and will not keep looking back at its past.

SOUNDBITE

We have worked very hard, it feels like everyone has bought into this. The credit needs to go to Virat, he sets the example and leads from the front.



Cricketer
—AB de Villiers

Tomorrow we will welcome millions of children back to school. It is our priority and collective responsibility to ensure that every child can go to school safely to learn.



Pakistan Prime Minister
—Imran Khan

These black laws (three farm ordinances) are a well-calculated evil design to mortgage agriculture and farming to crony capitalists.



Congress leader
—Randeep Surjewala

Technology has always given me an opportunity to adapt to new forms. Be it in movies, TV shows, podcasts and now, I am excited to create this new voice experience for fans.



Actor
—Amitabh Bachchan

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Good move by NDA

Sir — Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated three petroleum sector projects in Bihar virtually on September 13. This is a great move by the Government to re-employ indigenous labourers near their hometowns. The three plants, costing multiples of crores, will be set up in the districts of Durgapur, Champaran and Banka. The liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) bottling plant in Banka will help Bihar achieve its aim of an *Aatmanirbhar Bihar* in the cooking fuel sector. These plants have been commissioned by Indian Oil and HPCL under the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.

Bihar has always been a hub of migrant labourers and as the pandemic has left a number of them jobless, this announcement is definitely good news for them. This will boost the petroleum sector in the State and will also open up new doors for investment in its backward regions.

Seeing such developments in a backward and impoverished State will indeed give a ray of hope to distressed labourers. They will now reconsider moving away from their families and roots to

Restore democratic tradition of live questions

September 15 is the International Day of Democracy as in 2007 the United Nations General Assembly voted to observe it as such. The word democracy is derived from two Latin words which mean power and people. So, in effect, democracy means strength of the people. The Government of, for and by the people as a principal concept was created by US President Abraham Lincoln. However, these days democracy is in danger as Governments all over the world are riding roughshod over it in the guise of handling a major health emergency.

For instance, the Monsoon Session of the Indian Parliament session has begun and since it would be the first since the last Budget Session, there are bound to be a lot of questions that the Opposition wants to ask of the Government. There are bound to be heated arguments between the Opposition and Treasury Benches with regard to the lockdown, handling of the Coronavirus pandemic, the failing economy and the healthcare infrastructure, the poor GDP, growing joblessness, GST compensation to the States, the India-China standoff.

Given that there are so many issues plaguing the nation right now and the handling of these by the Government has been anything but competent, it is disheartening that the live questions in the Question Hour have been done away with by the Centre. It is critical to have a debate around these sensitive issues



for the larger interest of the people of the country. The representatives of the people in the Parliament have the right to question the Government, to hold it accountable for its work and its failures, and to guide it through constructive criticism. It is what democracy is all about.

The Government shying away from answering these questions, by hiding behind the need to keep the session short due to the pandemic, does not speak well for the future of democracy in the country. Hopefully, the Government will see the light of day and restore the democratic tradition of Question Hour to its full glory.

Ashmit Aaron
Noida

police to link Sitaram Yechury, Yogendra Yadav, Jayati Ghosh, Apoorvanand and Rahul Roy to the Delhi riots and name them as "co-conspirators." I hate to say it but I feel it is my obligation to put on record that repressive measures like this incline us to think that we are indeed going through an inglorious chapter in the nation's history. Implicit in the supplementary chargesheet is an attempt to deny space for democratic protest. Sad to say it has proved to those of us, who thought that COVID-19 may have instilled some sense of realism and moderation in the Government, wrong. Hope the pandemic makes us all realise our common humanity. To say that the Government can make blatantly unconditional laws based on discrimination but people cannot protest against them is anything but democracy. Any political system refusing to allow dissent becomes a tyranny. The Shaheen Bagh protest was a pivotal anti-CAA movement that attracted the world's attention and unsettled the ruling dispensation.

G David Milton
Maruthancode

other States in search of employment in the current scenario of this pandemic.

Unfortunately, this step has been taken in the backdrop of the

elections for political gains. High time a constructive policy is made for backward States countrywide.

Kavya Shah
Ujjain

Allow dissent

Sir — All right-minded people would unreservedly deplore and condemn the attempt by the

Send your feedback to:
 letterstopioneer@gmail.com

US ambassador to China to step down next month

Beijing: The US ambassador to China will step down early next month, ending a three-year tenure marked by a trade war and increasingly bitter relations between the world's two largest economies.

Terry Branstad, appointed by President Donald Trump in 2017, confirmed his decision in a phone call with Trump last week, the US Embassy said in a statement on Monday. It did not give a reason for his departure.

"I am proudest of our work in getting the phase one trade deal and delivering tangible results for our communities back home," he was quoted as saying at an embassy staff meeting on Monday.

Word of his departure leaked out earlier in the day when Secretary of State Mike Pompeo thanked Branstad on Twitter for his service.

"Ambassador Branstad has contributed to rebalancing US-China relations so that it is results-oriented, reciprocal, and fair," Pompeo wrote in a follow-up tweet.

China's foreign ministry

said before the embassy announcement that it was aware of Pompeo's tweet but had not received any notification that Branstad was leaving.

Branstad became embroiled in a recent controversy when China's official People's Daily newspaper rejected an opinion column that he had written.

Pompeo tweeted last week that China's ruling Communist Party refused to run Branstad's op-ed while the Chinese ambassador to the United States "is free to publish in any US media outlet."

Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Zhao Lijian responded that Branstad's article was "full of loopholes, seriously inconsistent with facts and wantonly attacks and smears China."

The US Embassy had contacted the People's Daily on August 26 about the piece, asking that it be printed in full without any edits before September 4, the People's Daily said in a statement posted online.

Branstad, 73, is a native of Iowa and was governor of the

major farming state for 22 years over two spans, from 1983 to 1999 and 2011 to 2017.

Early in his first term, he met Xi Jinping, now China's leader, when the then county-level Communist Party official visited Iowa on a 1985 trade trip.

Trump appointed him ambassador after a vacancy of several months, during which the embassy's No. 2 official, David Rank, resigned after criticizing the Trump administration's withdrawal from the Paris climate accord.

Soon after arriving in Beijing in June 2017, Branstad welcomed American beef back to the Chinese market after a 14-year ban, saying "I know it is a key priority of the president to reduce the trade deficit, and this is one of the ways we can do it."

But trade relations quickly soured, as the US imposed tariffs on Chinese products and China retaliated in kind. Other disputes followed over technology, human rights and the response to the coronavirus pandemic. **AP**

Foreign labs confirm Navalny poisoned with Novichok

Berlin: Specialist labs in France and Sweden have confirmed Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny was poisoned with the Soviet-era nerve agent Novichok, the German government said Monday.

A German military laboratory previously confirmed the substance in his samples. German government spokesman Steffen Seibert also said that the Hague-based Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons is taking steps to have samples from Navalny tested at its reference laboratories.

"Independently of the ongoing examinations by the OPCW, three laboratories have now confirmed independently of one another the proof of a nerve agent of the Novichok group as the cause of Mr. Navalny's poisoning," Seibert said in a statement.

He said Germany had asked France and Sweden for an "independent review" of the German findings. German officials said labs in both countries, as well as the OPCW, took



their own new samples.

Navalny, the most prominent opponent of Russian President Vladimir Putin, was flown to Germany two days after falling ill on Aug. 20 on a domestic flight in Russia and is being treated at Berlin's Charite hospital. Berlin has demanded that Russia investigate the case.

Seibert on Monday renewed Germany's demand that "Russia explain itself" on the matter. He added that "we are in close consultation with our European partners on further steps."

The Kremlin has bristled at calls from Chancellor Angela Merkel and other world leaders for Russia to answer questions in the case, denying any official involvement and accusing the West of trying to smear Moscow. **AP**

Yoshihide Suga wins party vote for Japan PM

Tokyo: Yoshihide Suga was elected as the new head of Japan's ruling party on Monday, virtually guaranteeing him parliamentary election as the country's next prime minister.

Suga received 377 votes in the ruling Liberal Democratic Party election to pick a successor to Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, who announced last month that he would resign due to health problems.

The other two contenders received a combined 157 votes — former Foreign minister Fumio Kishida got 89 and former Defence Minister Shigeru Ishiba had 68.

The expected victory in the party vote by Suga, currently the chief Cabinet secretary of Abe's government, all but guarantees his election in a parliamentary vote Wednesday because of the majority held by the Liberal Democrats' ruling coalition.

Suga gained the support of party heavyweights and their wing members early in the campaign on expectations that he would continue Abe's policies. That his victory appeared to be a done deal has raised crit-



Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, left, receives flowers from Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga after Suga was elected as new head of Japan's ruling party at the Liberal Democratic Party's (LDP) leadership election Monday. **AP**

icism from inside and outside the party that the process is undemocratic and murky.

The closed-door politics also apparently led lawmakers to support Suga in hopes of getting favourable party and Cabinet posts in the new administration.

Suga has said his top priorities are fighting the coronavirus and turning around an economy battered by the pandemic. He repeatedly has noted achievements under the Abe-led government when asked about various policies.

Despite his low-key image

as Abe's right-hand man, Suga is actually known for his iron-fist approach to getting jobs done as a policy coordinator and influencing bureaucrats by using the centralized power of the prime minister's office.

Suga says he is a reformist and that he has worked to achieve policies by breaking territorial barriers of bureaucracy. He has credited himself for those efforts in achieving a booming foreign tourism industry in Japan, lowering cellphone bills and bolstering agricultural exports. **AP**

Around the Globe

Kigali: A Rwandan court on Monday charged Paul Rusesabagina, whose story inspired the film "Hotel Rwanda," with terrorism, complicity in murder, and forming an armed rebel group. Rusesabagina, credited with saving more than 1,000 lives during the 1994 genocide, appeared in court for the first time since being paraded in Kigali in handcuffs on August 31. In all, he faces 12 charges.

Beirut: A suspected Israeli airstrike on Iran-backed fighters in eastern Syria on Monday killed 10 fighters, including eight Iraqis, a Syrian opposition war monitor reported. Israel is believed to have carried out scores of raids targeting Iran's military presence in Syria in recent years.

Berlin: The head of the UN atomic watchdog agency told board members on Monday he is hopeful Iran's decision to let inspectors in to two disputed sites could lead to greater trust with Tehran.

Lancaster: A police officer fatally shot a Black man during a domestic disturbance call, prompting street protests that led to vandalism in Pennsylvania.

China warns US over US-Taiwan economic talks

Taipei: China warned the United States on Monday of potential "serious damage" to their relations if it does not withdraw from an upcoming economic meeting with Taiwan that is expected to be attended by a senior American official.

Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin urged the US at a daily briefing to "stop all forms of official exchanges with Taiwan, so as to avoid serious damage to China-US relations and peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait."

Taiwanese media reported that US Under Secretary of State for Economic Growth, Energy, and the Environment Keith Krach is planning to visit the island later this week for an economic and commercial dialogue with Taiwan's

government.

The visit would follow one by US Health Secretary Alex Azar last month. Azar was the highest-level US Cabinet official to visit since a break in formal ties between the US and Taiwanese government in 1979, when the US accepted a "one-China policy" with Beijing as its government.

A visit by Krach is likely to inspire further anger from China. China considers self-ruled Taiwan part of its own territory, and strongly opposes any official contacts between other nations and the island.

Taiwan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs confirmed last week that it was in negotiations with the US on such talks, but did not comment on a specific date or who might attend from Washington. **AP**

Italy's initial virus hotspot back to school after 7 mths

Codogno (Italy): The morning bell on Monday marked the first entrance to the classroom for the children of Codogno since February 21, when panicked parents were sent to pick up their children after the northern Italian town gained notoriety as the first in the West to record local transmission of the coronavirus.

While all of Italy's 8 million school students endured Italy's strict 2½-month lockdown, few suffered the trauma of the children of Codogno, whose days were punctuated by the sirens of passing ambulances.

"Many lost grandparents," said Cecilia Cugini, the principal of Codogno's nursery, elementary and middle schools.

So while the reopening of Italian schools marks an important step in a return to pre-lockdown routine, the step bears more symbolic weight in the 11 towns in Lombardy and Veneto that were the first to be sealed off as coronavirus red zones. **AP**

Belarus leader visits Russia to secure support amid protests

Moscow: Belarus' authoritarian president visited Russia Monday in a bid to secure more loans and political support, as demonstrations against the extension of his 26-year rule entered their sixth week.

Alexander Lukashenko's talks with Russian President Vladimir Putin in the Black Sea resort of Sochi come a day after an estimated 150,000 people flooded the streets of the Belarusian capital, demanding Lukashenko's resignation.

The Interior Ministry said 774 people were arrested in Minsk and other cities of Belarus for holding unsanctioned rallies on Sunday.

Protesters in Belarus have dismissed Lukashenko's reelection for a sixth term in the August 9 vote as rigged.

The United States and the European Union have criticised the election as neither free nor fair and urged the

Belarusian leader to engage in talks with the opposition, a demand he rejected.

In a bid to win Moscow's support, the 66-year-old former state farm director has tried to cast the protests as an effort by the West to isolate Russia, which sees the neighbour as a key bulwark against NATO and a major conduit for energy exports to Europe.

Russia and Belarus have a union treaty envisaging close political, economic and military ties, but they have often engaged in acrimonious disputes.

Before the election, Lukashenko repeatedly accused the Kremlin of pressuring Belarus to abandon its independence. But with the United States and the European Union criticising the election and readying a package of sanctions, Lukashenko now has to rely squarely on Russia's support. **AP**

US lawyer says Assange faces decades in prison if convicted



Supporters of WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange take part in a protest outside the Central Criminal Court, the Old Bailey, in London on Monday. **AP**

London: An American lawyer told a extradition hearing in Britain for Julian Assange on Monday that the WikiLeaks founder faces decades in prison if he is convicted on spying charges in the United States.

US prosecutors have indicted the 49-year-old Australian on 17 espionage charges, and one of computer misuse, over WikiLeaks' publication of secret US Military documents a decade ago. The charges carry a maximum sentence of 175 years in prison.

Attorney Eric Lewis,

appearing as a defense witness, said the scope of the indictment pointed to "a very aggressive approach to sentencing on the part of the Government." "All signs point to a very long sentence, measured in many decades," said Lewis, a senior partner at Lewis Baach Kaufmann Middlemiss in Washington, DC.

"We are looking at a sentence somewhere between 20 years, if everything goes brilliantly, to 175 years, which the government could easily ask for," he said. **AP**

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of male **Name:** Unknown, **S/o:** Unknown, **R/o:** Unknown, **Age:** about 45 years, **Height:** 5' 6", **Complexion:** Shallow, **ID:** Head injury, **Wearing:** Navy Blue colour Shirt, Grey colour pant and white colour banyan, who was found at KM Pole No. 7/23 - 7/25 South Railway Line Near Jhilmil Industrial Area, Vivek Vihar, Delhi. In this regard a case DD No. 1-A Dated 13.09.2020 has been registered at P.S. Old Delhi Railway Station, Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone nos.

Sd/- SHO
P.S. Old Delhi Railway Station, Delhi
DP/4463/RLY/2020 **Tel.: 011-23961522**

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General Public is hereby informed that a girl namely **Shabna D/o Sabir R/o RZH-143, Nihal Vihar, Delhi, Age:** 15 years, **Height:** 4'5", **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Face:** Round, **Wearing:** Green Suit-Salwar and Green Hawai Chappal in feet is missing/kidnapped since 24.08.2020 from the area of P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi. In this regard a case vide **FIR No. 853/20 dated 24.08.2020 u/s 363 IPC** has been registered at P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing/kidnapped girl but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about this girl please inform undersigned.

E-mail : cbc@cbi.gov.nic.in **SHO**
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 **P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi,**
Fax : 011-24368639 **Ph.: 011-25946700,**
DP/382/OD/2020 **25946710**

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of male **Name:** Unknown, **S/o:** Unknown, **R/o:** Unknown, **Age:** about 35-40 years, **Height:** 5' 6", **Complexion:** Shallow, **Face:** Long, **Built:** Thin, **Wearing:** Grey colour inner wear, who was found at Gandhi Museum Gate, Darya Ganj, Delhi. In this regard a case DD No. 21-A Dated 12.09.2020 has been registered at P.S. Darya Ganj, Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone nos.

Sd/- SHO
P.S. Darya Ganj, Delhi
DP/350/CD/2020 **Tel.: 011-23274683**

SEARCH FOR MISSING GIRL

General public is hereby informed that one girl **Name:** Sapna, **D/o Dalip, R/o H. No. RZC-41, Near Fatte Wali Gali, Nihal Vihar, Delhi, Age:** 17 Years 4 Months, **Height:** 4'6", **Complexion:** Fair, **Face:** Round, **Wearing:** Green Kurta, Light Blue Jeans, Black Churni and Jutti in feet has been missing / kidnapped since 02.09.2020 from the area of P.S. Nihal Vihar.

In this regard a FIR No.880/20 U/s 363 dated 03.09.2020 has been registered at P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this girl but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this girl kindly inform to the following.

E-Mail: cbc@cbi.gov.in **SHO**
Website: http://cbi.nic.in **P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi**
Fax: 011-24368639 **Ph. 011-25946700, 25946710**
Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641 **DP/377/OD/2020**

SUPRANEET FINANCE AND CONSULTANTS LIMITED

Regd. Office: C-55/2, Wazirpur Industrial Area, Delhi-110 052
Ph: 011-42952500, Fax: 011-42952555
E-Mail: info@sfclindia.com, Website: www.sfclindia.com
CIN: L65921DL1989PLC035261

EXTRACT FROM STANDALONE UN-AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULT FOR THE QUARTER 30TH JUNE, 2020 (₹ in Lacs)

PARTICULARS	3 months ended	Preceding 3 months ended	Corresponding 3 months ended in the previous year	Previous year ended
	30.06.2020 (Unaudited)	31.03.2020 (Audited)	30.06.2019 (Unaudited)	31.03.2020 (Audited)
Total income from operations (net)	8.10	8.76	7.85	32.37
Net Profit/(Loss) from ordinary activities after tax	0.96	2.48	1.00	4.45
Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax (after Extraordinary items)	0.96	2.48	1.00	4.45
Equity Share Capital	287.67	287.67	287.67	287.67
Reserves (excluding revaluation reserve as shown in the balance sheet of previous year)	-	-	-	70.60
Earnings per share (before extraordinary items) (of ₹ 10/- each)				
Basic & Diluted :	0.03	0.09	0.03	0.15
Earnings per share (after extraordinary items) (of ₹ 10/- each)				
Basic & Diluted :	0.03	0.09	0.03	0.15

Note:
1. The above financial results have reviewed and recommended by the audit committee and then approved by the Board of Directors at its meeting held on 14.09.2020
2. The above financial results have been prepared in accordance with the Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Rules, 2015 (Ind AS), as prescribed under section 133 of the Companies Act 2013, regulation 33 of the SEBI (LODR) Regulation, 2015 and other recognized accounting practices and the policies to the extent applicable
3. The Company has not received any complaint from investors during the quarter ended on 30.06.2020
4. The Business activity of the Company falls within a single primary business segment and there are no reportable segments.
5. Figure of previous period are re-grouped/re-classified/re-arranged, wherever necessary to corresponded with current period.
6. The un-audited results of the Company for the quarter ended June 30, 2020 are available on the Company's website (www.sfclindia.com) and on the website of MSEI (www.msei.in).

For and on behalf of the Board
Sd/-
Vinod Gupta
(Whole Time Director)
DIN: 00381782

Place : Delhi
Date : 14.09.2020

Govt. of Bihar

Department of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

Office – Divisional Forest Officer, Research Training & Public Relation Division, Sanyukt Van Bhawan, Nehru Nagar, Patliputra, Patna - 800013

Notice Inviting Proposal for Selection of Social Media Agency

- Department of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of Bihar, intends to hire an agency for maintenance of official account/pages of DEFFCC on Twitter, Facebook, Youtube, Instagram and other social media platforms which may emerge in the future.
- Interested Agencies may submit their Sealed Completed Technical and financial Proposals separately along with the Earnest Money Deposit at the below mentioned address on any working day upto 30-09-2020 at following address:
Office of Divisional Forest Officer
Research Training & Public Relation Division
Sanyukt Van Bhawan, Nehru Nagar, Patliputra, Patna-800013, Bihar
e-mail id – dfortpd@yahoo.in/Telephone – 0612-2262322

1	Closing date and Time for Submission of Bid	30-09-2020 at 1.00 PM
2	Date and Time for opening of Technical Bid	30-09-2020 at 3.00 PM
3	Date and Time for opening of Financial Bid	30-09-2020 at 3.30 PM

- The detailed tender documents including terms and condition can be obtained from above address. It may also be downloaded from the website of www.forest.bih.nic.in
- A firm will be selected under Quality cum Cost Based Selection (QCBS) Method as per procedures described in the Request of Proposal (RFP).
- Department of Environment, Forest and Climate Change reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposal without incurring any obligation to inform the affected applicant/s of the grounds.

Divisional Forest Officer
Research Training & Public Relation
Division, Patna

PR. No. 006560 (Forest) 2020-21

नौबल कोरोना का संकष में विरलत जानकारी एवं सहयोग हेतु Toll Free No. **104** पर संघर्ष कर सकते हैं।
व्याज सम्मर्ग-संवेकी किमी तह की जानकारी अरवा तुहात हेतु दूरभाष संख्या 0612-2217636 पर सम्पर्क किता जा सकते हैं।

JINDAL LEASEFIN LIMITED

CIN: L74899DL1994PLC059252
Regd. Office: 110, Babar Road, New Delhi 110001

EXTRACT OF STATEMENT OF STANDALONE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30.06.2020 (₹. in Lacs)

Sr. No.	Particulars	Quarter Ended		as at	
		30.06.2020 (Unaudited)	31.03.2020 (Audited)	30.06.2019 (Unaudited)	31.03.2020 (Audited)
1	Total Income from Operations	-	-0.08	-	-0.08
2	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or extraordinary Items#)	11.25	21.64	89.34	114.43
3	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or extraordinary Items#)	11.25	21.64	89.34	114.43
4	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or extraordinary Items#)	-6.67	6.64	70.76	130.34
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising Profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax))	5.57	-34.14	-4.03	38.59
6	Equity Share capital	300.89	300.89	300.89	300.89
7	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve) as shown in the Audited Balance Sheet of the previous year	423.57	418.01	374.13	418.01
8	Earning per Share (face Value of Rs. 10/- each) (not annualised)				
1	Basic	-0.22	0.22	2.35	4.33
2	Diluted	-0.22	0.22	2.35	4.33

NOTES:
1. The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly/Annual financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges 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 website www.bseindia.com. The same is also available on the Company's website www.jltd.co.in
2. The above results duly reviewed by the Audit Committee, were approved by the Board of Directors in their meeting held on 14.09.2020.

For Jindal Leasefin Limited
Sd/-
(SURENDER KUMAR JINDAL)
Managing Director

Date: 14.09.2020
Place: New Delhi

GST compensation due to States at ₹1.51 L cr

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The GST collection during April-August declined on account of Covid-19 induced lockdown, and the compensation due to States stands at over ₹1.51 lakh crore, Minister of State for Finance Anurag Singh Thakur said on Monday.

The provisional GST compensation due to states/UTs for 2020-21 was highest for Maharashtra at ₹22,485 crore, followed by Karnataka (₹13,763 crore), Uttar Pradesh (₹11,742 crore), Gujarat (₹11,563 crore) and Tamil Nadu (₹11,269 crore).

The compensation due to West Bengal stands at ₹7,750 crore, Kerala (₹7,077 crore), Punjab (₹6,959 crore), Delhi (₹6,931 crore), Rajasthan (₹6,312 crore), Telangana (₹5,424 crore) and Chhattisgarh (₹2,827 crore).

The total provisional GST compensation due to 31 states and UTs for 2020-21 put together stands at ₹1,51,365 crore, as per data shared in a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha.

Thakur said the issue of pending compensation and future course of action to meet the shortfall was discussed in the 41st GST Council meeting on August 27 wherein states were given two options to meet their GST compensation shortfall for current fiscal year from market borrowing.

"It was also decided that states will give their preference views thereon. Thereafter on finalisation of scheme, states can choose either Option 1 or Option 2 and accordingly, their compensation, borrowing, repayment etc will be dealt as per their individual choice," he added. In the current fiscal

year, states are staring at a staggering ₹2.35 lakh crore Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenue shortfall.

Of this, as per the Centre's calculation, about ₹97,000 crore is on account of GST implementation and the rest Rs 1.38 lakh crore is due to the impact of Covid-19 on states' revenues. The Centre late last month gave two options to states to borrow either ₹97,000 crore from a special window facilitated by the RBI or ₹2.35 lakh crore from market and also proposed extending the compensation cess levied on luxury, demerit and sin goods beyond 2022 to repay the borrowing.

In reply to a separate question, Thakur said the total net GST target for the Centre has been pegged at ₹6,90,500 crore for 2020-21 in the Union Budget.

MAHARASHTRA LEADS FOLLOWED BY KARNATAKA

The actual net GST collection for the Centre till August 2020 is ₹1,81,050 crore, which shows 26.2 per cent of the Budget Estimates (BE).

"The BEs for FY 2020-21 of GST in the Union Budget, 2020-21 were projected on the basis of assumption of higher growth of GDP, however as per CSO, MoS&PI... The Nominal GDP for Q1 (April-June), 2020-21 shows a contraction of 22.6 per cent which is one of the major reasons for revenue shortfall in GST.

"Other reasons for low tax collection inter-alia include nationwide lockdown measures implemented since March 2020 consequent to global COVID-19 pandemic which led to limited economic activities, extension of GST return filing timelines without payment of interest, late fee or penalty etc," Thakur said.

Retail inflation softens marginally to 6.69% in Aug

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Retail inflation softened slightly to 6.69 per cent in August, even as food prices continued to rule high, official data showed on Monday.

The Government has revised downwards the retail inflation for July to 6.73 per cent from the earlier estimate of 6.93 per cent.

Food inflation during the month stood at 9.62 per cent. Food inflation in August fell marginally to 9.05 per cent, according to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) data.

The retail inflation, mainly taken into account by the RBI to arrive at its policy decisions, has been above the regulator's comfort level. The Govt has mandated the central bank to restrict the inflation at 4 per cent (+/- 2 per cent).

Markets cave in to late selloff; IT stocks sparkle

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Equity benchmarks failed to hold on to intra-day gains on Monday as cautious investors trimmed exposure to banking and finance counters despite firm global cues.

Positive commentary from HCL Tech lifted IT stocks, but it was not enough to offset the weakness in index majors HDFC twins, Reliance Industries and ICICI Bank.

The BSE Sensex opened strong and was on course to register its third straight session of gains, but suddenly came under heavy selling pressure in late-afternoon trade.

It finally finished 97.92 points or 0.25 per cent lower at 38,756.63.

On similar lines, the NSE Nifty slipped 24.40 points or 0.21 per cent to close at 11,440.05.

Bharti Airtel was the top loser in the Sensex pack, skidding 3.46 per cent, followed by Bajaj Finance, PowerGrid, SBI, HDFC Bank, Sun Pharma, Kotak Bank and ICICI Bank.

HCL Tech was the star performer, soaring 10.08 per cent, after the company said its revenue and operating margin for the September quarter are expected to be "meaningfully better" than the top end of its previous forecast.

TCS, Infosys, Tech Mahindra and Titan too ended with up to 5 per cent gains.

"Indian benchmark indices gave up its gains and closed with a negative bias. IT stocks outperformed following a strong showing by HCL tech, which benefited most... However, the broader markets outperformed, especially the small-cap index, after Sebi tweaked MF norms for multi-

cap funds. This Sebi measure would require more exposure to small-cap stocks in most multi-cap funds, leading to the current buying interest.

"Global cues were also mostly positive on renewed vaccine optimism. Inspite of all the optimism, a correction due to valuations or various uncertainties cannot be ruled out and volatility is expected to continue.

Trade cautiously and look at earnings stability, if investing for the long-term in small-caps," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services.

Govt seeks Parliament nod for ₹20K cr capital infusion in public sector banks

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Government on Monday sought Parliament's approval for infusing ₹20,000 crore in public sector banks in the current financial year to meet regulatory requirements.

This is part of the first batch of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 2020-21 moved by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in the Lok Sabha.

In all, the government has sought Parliament's nod for additional spending of ₹2.35 lakh crore, which includes a cash outflow of ₹1.66 lakh crore,

primarily to meet expenses for combating the COVID-19 pandemic.

"For meeting expenditure towards recapitalisation of Public Sector Banks through issue of Government Securities" the government has asked for Parliament's authorisation of ₹20,000 crore, as per a document.

In 2019-20, the government proposed to make ₹70,000 crore capital infusion into the Public Sector Banks (PSBs) to boost credit for a strong impetus to the economy.

However, the government refrained from committing any

capital in the Budget 2020-21 for the PSBs, hoping that the lenders will raise funds from the market depending on the requirements.

In the last financial year, Punjab National Bank got ₹16,091 crore, Union Bank of India received ₹11,768 crore while Canara Bank and Indian Bank got ₹6,571 crore and ₹2,534 crore, respectively.

Allahabad Bank received ₹2,153 crore, United Bank of India got 1,666 crore and Andhra Bank received ₹200 crore. These three lenders have been merged with various PSBs.

Bank credit grows by 5.49 pc, deposits by 10.92 pc: RBI data

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Mumbai: Bank credit grew 5.49 per cent to ₹102.11 lakh crore, while deposits increased 10.92 per cent to ₹141.76 lakh crore in the fortnight ended August 28, according to RBI data. In the fortnight ended August 30, 2019, banks' advances were at ₹96.80 lakh crore and deposits stood at ₹127.80 lakh crore.

In the previous fortnight ended August 14, 2020, bank credit and deposits had grown by 5.52 per cent and 11.04 per cent to ₹102.19 lakh crore and ₹140.80 lakh crore, respectively.

On a year-on-year (y-o-y) basis, non-food bank credit grew at 6.7 per cent in July as against a growth of 11.4 per cent in the same month last year, according to the data on sectoral deployment of bank credit for July 2020, released recently by RBI. Growth in loans to industry slowed to 0.8 per cent in July as compared to 6.1 per cent earlier, the data showed. Advances to agriculture and allied activities registered a growth of 5.4 per cent in the reporting month as against 6.8 per cent growth in the same period last year. PTI

Global shares mostly rise as investors look ahead to Fed

AP ■ TOKYO

Global shares mostly rose Monday, continuing a period of increased volatility, as traders awaited cues from the US central bank later in the week.

US shares appeared set for gains with Dow futures up 1.3 per cent and S&P 500 futures up 1.3 per cent before the market open.

France's CAC 40 gained 0.2 per cent to 5,041, while Germany's DAX dropped 0.1 per cent to 13,189. Britain's FTSE 100 edged down 0.2 per cent to 6,023.

Shares in SoftBank, which

announced Sunday that it was selling Britain's Arm Holdings to computer graphics chip company Nvidia for USD 40 billion, jumped 9 per cent.

SoftBank spent USD 32 billion to acquire Arm in 2016. Nvidia is best known for its graphics processing chips, while Arm is renowned as an innovator in the "Internet of Things." Japan's Nikkei 225 gained 0.7 per cent to finish at 23,559.30 after Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party picked a new leader, who will by definition become the prime minister because of the party's control over the more powerful lower house of Parliament.

The rupee managed to end 5 paise higher at 73.48 to the US dollar after a see-saw session on Monday as weaker American currency against key rivals and easing crude oil prices led to a positive sentiment.

After opening higher at 73.40 a dollar, the domestic currency swung between a high of 73.26 and a low of 73.70. It finally settled at 73.48, edging up by 5 paise against the greenback.

The dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading 0.30 per cent lower at 93.05.

Brent crude futures, the global oil benchmark, fell 0.83 per cent to USD 39.50 per barrel.

Govt introduces Banking Regulation (Amendment) Bill in Lok Sabha

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Govt on Monday introduced a bill in the Lok Sabha to amend the Banking Regulation Act to bring cooperative banks under the supervision of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in order to protect the interests of depositors.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman introduced the Banking Regulation (Amendment) Bill, which will replace an ordinance that was promulgated in June amid the coronavirus pandemic.

Opposition members, including Shashi Tharoor of the Congress and Saugata Roy of

the Trinamool Congress, opposed the bill, accusing the Centre of encroaching on the rights of states. Rejecting the charge, Sitharaman asserted that state cooperative laws are not being touched and that the proposed law seeks to bring these banks with same regulations that are applicable on other banks. It is applicable to those cooperative banks which deal with "bank, banker and banking," she said, adding that as many as 277 urban cooperative banks have reported losses. Tharoor said the bill is an encroachment on federalism, while Roy claimed it attacks "state rights".

Amazon to hire 100,000 to keep up with online shopping surge

PTI ■ NEW YORK

Amazon will hire another 100,000 people to keep up with a surge of online orders.

The company said Monday that the new hires will help pack, ship or sort orders, working in part-time and full-time roles. Amazon said the jobs are not related to its typical holiday hiring.

The Seattle company reported record profit and revenue between April and June as more people turned to it during the pandemic to buy groceries and supplies.

The company already had to hire 175,000 people earlier this year to keep up with the

rush of orders, and last week said it had 33,000 corporate and tech jobs it needed to fill.

This time around, Amazon said it needs the people at the 100 new warehouses, package sorting centers and other facilities it is opening this month.

Alicia Boler Davis, who oversees Amazon's warehouses, said the company is offering USD 1,000 sign-on bonuses in some cities where it may be harder for it to find workers, such as Detroit, New York, Philadelphia and Louisville, Kentucky. Starting pay at Amazon is \$15 an hour.

Things are about to get a lot busier at Amazon's warehouses.

Central Bank of India reduces MCLR by 5 bps

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Central Bank of India has reduced its marginal cost of funds-based lending rates (MCLR) by 5 basis points (bps) across all tenors, effective from Tuesday. The city-based lender has cut the one-year MCLR to 7.10 per cent from 7.15 per cent, a release said.

Overnight and one-month MCLR have been reduced to 6.55 per cent from 6.60 per cent earlier. The new three-month and six month MCLR will stand at 6.85 per cent and 7 per cent, respectively. Last week, Union Bank of India reduced MCLR by 5 bps across all tenors.



Indian Food Corporation General Manager Sanjiv Bhaskar addressed Rashtriya Poshan Maah 2020 event in Jaipur office

SEARCH FOR MISSING PERSON

General public is hereby informed that one person namely **Kale Shah Khan S/o Ahamad Khan R/o House No. 2/2, Sanjay Nagar, Mahendra Park, Delhi** Age: 48 yrs, Height: 5'8", complexion shallow, face long, medium build, black beard moustache. Wearing white colour pant-shirt & hawai chappal in feet has been missing since 28.08.2020 from the area of PS Alipur, Delhi.

In this regard a **DD No. 81-A dated: 28.08.2020** has been lodged at PS Alipur, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the person, but no clue has come to light so far.

Any person having any information or clue about this person may kindly inform to the following.

E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in S.H.O.,
 Ph: 011-23011334 P.S. Alipur, Delhi
 Ph: 011-23014046
 011-23015218 Ph: 011-27202265, 27202290

DP/468/ON/20

SEARCH FOR KIDNAPPED GIRL

General public is hereby informed that one girl **Namely: Pinki, D/o Dharampal, R/o H. No. Ws 72, Gali No. 3, Sudama Puri, Delhi.** Age: 17 years, Height: 5'2", Complexion: Shallow, Face: Round, Built: Medium, Wearing: Blue Colour Suit, Pink Colour Salwar, Black Chunnii and Pink Colour Slipper has been missing since 10.06.2017 from her house.

In this regard a FIR No.229/17 U/s 363 dated 10.06.2017 has been registered at P.S. Welcome, Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this girl but no clue has come to light so far.

Any person having any information or clue about this girl kindly inform to the following.

E-Mail: cic@cbi.gov.in SHO
 Website: <http://cbi.nic.in> P.S. Welcome, Delhi
 Ph: 011-24368639 Ph. 011-22137761, 8750870731
 Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641 DP/256/NE/2020.

UNIDENTIFIED DEAD BODY

General Public is hereby informed that an Unknown male person found dead Near Gym in Hindi Park, Daryaganj, Delhi-110002. In this regard a **DD No. 21A dated 08.09.2020** has been registered at P.S. Daryaganj, Delhi. The dead body has been preserved for identification for 72 hours at MAMC Mortuary, Delhi.

The description of the dead body is given as under **Name:** Unknown, **S/o:** Unknown, **R/o:** Unknown, **Age:** About 65-70 years, **Height:** 5'8", **Complexion:** Fair, **Face:** Oval, **Built:** Normal, **Beard & Mustaches:** White and Black, **Wearing:** Grey colour shirt and pant, **Identification Mark:** Mole on Face.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the dead person but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about this dead person please inform undersigned.

E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in SHO, P.S.
 Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 New Daryaganj, Delhi
 Fax: 011-24368639 Ph.: 011-23279331,
 DP/352/CD/2020 23274683

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified female **Namely: Unknown, S/o Unknown R/o Unknown, Age: about 20 years, Height: 5', Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Round, Built: Noraml, Wearing: Grey colour T-Shirt, White and blue colour lower and bare footed** has been found dead in Yamuna River, near Old Yamuna Bridge, Jamuna Bazar, Kashmiri Gate, Delhi on 09.09.2020. In this regard a case vide **DD No. 42A dated 09.09.2020** has been lodged at Police Station Kashmiri Gate, Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about this dead found female may kindly inform to the following:-

SHO :
 P.S. Kashmiri Gate, Delhi
 North Distt., Delhi
 Tel. No. 011-23968730, 23967889

DP/555/N/2020

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

See Section 82 Cr. P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Arman@Shanu S/o Md. Yameen, R/o Khasra No. 277/176, Gali No.5, Wazirabad, Delhi** has Committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence under **FIR No. 222/20 u/s 25 Arms Act** has been registered at **P.S. Anand Vihar, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Arman@Shanu** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Arman@Shanu** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Arman@Shanu** of **FIR No. 222/20 u/s 25 Arms Act** has been registered at **P.S. Anand Vihar, Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **20.11.2020**.

By order
 Sh. Prayank Nayak
 M. M., Room No. 38,
 Karkardooma Court, Delhi

DP/178/SHD/2020

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that a Lady namely **Meenu W/o Sh. Arjun Singh R/o Khasra No. 19/2, B-Block, Kaushik Enclave, Burari, Delhi** Age-30 years, Height-5', Face-Round, Complexion-Fair Built-Medium, Wearing: Yellow Suit and Grey Colour Salwar, Pink Dupatta, Black Slipper in her feet has been Missing from her home since Dated 13.03.2020. In this regard a case **DD No. 19A Dated 14.03.2020** has been registered at **P.S. Burari, Delhi**.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the lady but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about this lady please inform undersigned.

E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in SHO
 Ph.: 011-23014046, 23015229, P.S. Burari, Delhi.
 23015218 Extn. 210 Ph.: 011-27616844
 Fax: 011-23011334 DP/178/N/2020
 8750870130

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that a girl namely **Simran, D/o: Sonu Singh, R/o: RZ Q-B/20, Nihal Vihar, Delhi** has been reported missing/kidnapped since **26.08.2020** from the area of **P. S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi**. In this regard **FIR No. 864/20, U/s 363 IPC** dated 28.08.2020 has been registered at **P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi**. The description of missing/kidnapped girl is as under:

Name: Simran, Age: 16 Years, Height: 5'4", Complexion: Fair, Face: Long, Wearing: Military colour T-shirt, black jeans and blue cloths shoes in feet.

If anyone having any information about this missing/kidnapped girl please inform P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi.

Web: <http://cbi.nic.in>, Email: cic@cbi.gov.in
 Ph.: 011-24368638/24368641, Fax: 011-24368639 SHO
 Police Station, Nihal Vihar, Delhi
 Ph: 011-25946700, 25946710

DP/389/OD/2020

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that a boy (depicted in the photo), **Namely: Bijender S/o Jagdish Prasad R/o WZ-269, Basai Darapur, Delhi** has been missing since 04.09.2020 from the jurisdiction of **P. S. Moti Nagar, Delhi**. In this regard a **DD No. 66A dated 05.09.2020** has been registered at Police Station **Moti Nagar, New Delhi**. His physical description is as under:-

Age: 24 Years, Height: 5'6", Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Round, Built: Fat, Wearing: White colour shirt & blue colour jeans and cream colour sports shoes in feet.

Any person having any information/Clue about this missing boy, may inform SHO, Moti Nagar, New Delhi at E-mail id - cic@cbi.gov.in or Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>

Phone: SHO
 011-24368638, 24368641 P.S. Moti Nagar, New Delhi
 Fax No. 011-24368639 West Distt., Delhi
 DP/199/WD/2020 Ph. No. 011-25101150, 25935888



HEALTH

SteroidAffect

More than one quarter of asthma patients have been prescribed potentially dangerous amounts of steroid tablets, with researchers warning this puts them at greater risk of serious side effects. They looked at more than 120,000 cases where patients were given prescriptions for steroid tablets. The researchers found more than 25 per cent of those were more likely to have a chronic condition



DOCYARD

DR VIVEK LOGANI

Chief of Joint Replacement & Sports Injury Centre

PARAS HOSPITALS, GURUGRAM



Beware of a popping knee

One of the most common ways of hurting knees is through ACL (anterior cruciate ligament). This generally occurs during heavy sports, which involves sudden stops or changes in direction, jumping and landing such as soccer, basketball, football and downhill skiing. There is a pop sound in the knee when an ACL injury occurs following which your knee may swell, feel unstable and become too painful to bear the bodyweight. Depending on the severity of your ACL injury, treatment may include rest and rehabilitation exercises to help regain strength and stability or surgery to replace the torn ligament followed by rehabilitation. A proper training program may also help reduce the risk of an ACL injury.

Symptoms: The 'pop' sound doesn't come from everybody's knee when they met with an injury. Some other common symptoms are:

- Pain: If you have a minor injury, you may not feel pain. You may feel sore along your knee's joint line. Some people have trouble standing or putting pressure on the hurt leg.
- Swelling: This is most likely to happen during the first 24 hours. You can reduce swelling by putting ice on your knee and elevating your leg by propping it up on a pillow.
- Trouble walking: If you're able to put pressure on your hurt leg, you may notice that it's harder than normal to walk. Some people find that the knee joint feels looser than it should.
- Less range of motion: After you damage your ACL, it's very likely that you won't be able to bend and flex your knee like you normally would.

If your injury is minor, you may only need to put ice on your knee, elevate your leg, and stay off your feet for a while. You can reduce swelling by wrapping an ace bandage around your knee

Causes: Ligaments are strong bands of tissue that connect one bone to another. The ACL, one of two ligaments that cross in the middle of the knee, connects your thighbone (femur) to your shinbone (tibia) and helps stabilise your knee joint. ACL injuries often happen during sports and fitness activities that can put stress on the knee and that results in:

- Suddenly slowing down and changing direction (cutting)
- Pivoting with your foot firmly planted
- Landing awkwardly from a jump
- Stopping suddenly
- Receiving a direct blow to the knee or collision, such as a football tackle

When the ligament is damaged, there is usually a partial or complete tear of the tissue. A mild injury may stretch the ligament but leave it intact.

Treatment: Treatment depends on how badly you've been hurt. Here are some of the options your doctor may give you:

First aid: If your injury is minor, you may only need to put ice on your knee, elevate your leg, and stay off your feet for a while. You can reduce swelling by wrapping an ace bandage around your knee. Crutches can help to keep weight off your knee.

Medications: Anti-inflammatory drugs can help to reduce swelling and pain. Your doctor may suggest over-the-counter medications or prescribe something stronger. For intense pain, your doctor may inject your knee with steroid medication.

Knee brace: Some people with a damaged ACL can get by with wearing a brace on their knee when they run or play sports. It provides extra support.

Physical therapy: You may need this a few days a week to get your knee back in working order. During your sessions, you'll do exercises to strengthen the muscles around your knee and help you regain a full range of motion. You may be sent home with exercise to do on your own.

Surgery: Your doctor may tell you that you need this if your ACL is torn badly.

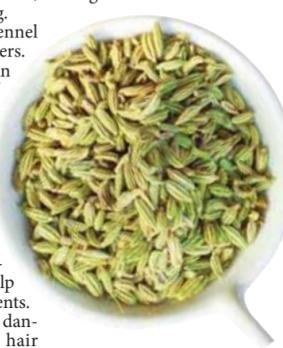
SUMMERCoolERS

FENNEL SEEDS: The fennel seeds are highly aromatic and flavourful herbs used in cookery. They are used to treat some common digestive ailments including heartburn, intestinal gas and bloating.

Some people eat fennel seeds as mouth fresheners. Chewing fennel seeds can also help in getting rid of bad breath as they increase the production of saliva thereby washing out the bacteria. They also help to relieve morning sickness.

The antioxidants and other antimicrobial properties in fennel seeds help treat a host of hair ailments. Some of these include dandruff, scalp itchiness, hair

breakage and hair fall. They also contain nitrates, compounds known to lower blood pressure levels. The fiber content in them also help in lowering the cholesterol levels.



Listen to your body



Practising yoga is not a mere set of exercises but a lifestyle, a way of life which encourages you to attain wellbeing. It helps in prevention of diseases and their cure, says DR ANJALI SHARMA

Prevent and prepare is better than to repent and repair. This saying is true especially when it comes to healthcare. Yoga is a complete health care package. Yogic practices are not a mere set of exercise rather it is a lifestyle, a way of life which encourages one to attain overall wellbeing, prevention of diseases and their cure. Since the COVID-19 pandemic has hit the world, the restrictions due to the rising number of cases has been an eye opener for all, making them realise the importance of having a healthy diet, importance of yoga and breathing practices and good immunity are the keys to health.

During the time of lockdown when people had to stay at home and follow social distancing, going out for anything even for walk or jog was restricted, a major part of population staying at home found solution in yoga and meditation in their confined places. Time and again we have witnessed global acceptance and appreciation of yoga practice. Even the Prime Minister Narendra Modi had also said that yoga is helping COVID patients as well. Even now when the situation remains out of control and it will take time to control the spread of the virus, the only key is healthy habits and practice of yoga, here is how:

Boost immunity: Certain yoga postures like *surya namaskaar*, *pranayam* like *anulom-vilom* and

especially yogic cleansing *kriyas* help boost immunity in a person. Immunity lowers the risk of diseases in a person. Yogic breathing exercises especially help in the current pandemic to improve lung capacity and the functioning of the white blood cells to fight infections.

Reduces stress: Since the day pandemic has hit the entire world, staying indoors, not socialising and facing an unexpected economic crisis has taken a toll on everyone's mental health too.

This situation gave rise to a lot of negative thoughts and it became even hard to keep up with patience. Mental health has also come up as one of the prime concern in health. Yoga and meditative poses have proven to help improve mental health. Following yogic principles, breathing practices, *pranayam*, *dhyana* and a regular practice combining with *asanas* improves the happiness quotient, relaxes the hyperactive nerve signals and improves mental well being, hence relieving stress.

Increased immunity leads to healthy body: The patterns in which *yogasanas* are to be practiced as per the ancient books ensure joint movements in the body, stretches the muscles, increases oxygen levels which is most required and regulates body functions. It is much needed for muscle building; regulating blood pressure, bone health and active body. Becoming a *yoga* prac-

CERTAIN YOGA POSTURES LIKE SURYA NAMASKAAR, PRANAYAM LIKE ANULOM-VILOM AND CLEANSING KRIYAS HELP BOOST IMMUNITY. YOGIC BREATHING EXERCISES ARE EXTREMELY BENEFICIAL DURING THE CURRENT TIME AS THEY HELP IN IMPROVING LUNG CAPACITY AND THE BODY'S ABILITY TO FIGHT INFECTIONS

itioner will help you attain overall wellbeing. Because healthy bones, regulated vital signs, good metabolism and increased immunity lead to a healthy lifestyle.

Considering all benefits of *yoga* there are certain things to be kept in mind before getting into it. It is strictly not advised to start any tough exercise pattern just like that without any proper guidance; it is a serious matter especially when one is already facing health issues. Hence opt for *yoga* by keeping in mind the following points:

- Never try any tough *yoga* pose without training if needed.
- Keep your nutrition value high once you start following *yoga* practice, for that matter ask a professional for guidance. Only *yogasana* without exercises without proper nutrition are not going to help.
- If already suffering from any of the chronic diseases then consult your concerned doctor and a *yoga* and naturopathy physician to guide for necessary set of *asanas* and *pranayam* and food pattern to follow. Make sure he/she is a qualified *yoga* and naturopathy physician (BNYS). Consider your diseases first; never hide them from your guide.
- Always consult a *yoga* and naturopathy physician and make your schedule of exercises — set of *asanas*, *pranayam* and diet as prescribed.

The writer is Naturopath and *Yoga* Expert, Shuddhi Naturopath, Delhi

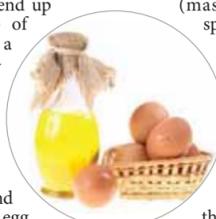
DadiKaKehna

Are you tired of a bird's nest where your hair should be? Don't worry you are not the only one under the sun who wants smooth and frizz-free hair. ROSHANI DEVI shares home remedies that can help



Frizzy hair can be a problem especially if one has curly hair. While there are some products in the market that can help but the chemicals in them harm the hair and some people end up and yogurt. Mash the avocado and the yogurt to get a smooth paste. Leave it for 45 minutes. Wash with shampoo.

Another perfect hair mask is mixing a banana (mashed), a teaspoon of honey and two teaspoons of olive oil. Apply this on hair and leave it for 30 minutes. Wash using shampoo and then condition. Do this once a week. Using apple cider vinegar is good too. After shampooing hair, pour apple cider vinegar on the hair and wait for 30 seconds before rinsing with cool water. Condition your hair.



TIPTOP

The lockdown due to COVID-19, has majorly contributed and led to a rise in unhealthy eating habits, further leading to weight gain. Blame it on restricted movements, no access to gyms, decreased physical activity or indulgence in junk food, obesity induced due to unhealthy lifestyle imposed by forced confinement has become a matter of concern for many.

The situation is grimmer for people who are already struggling with obesity for whom weight gain has escalated in the past few months aggravating health problems like sleep apnea, Diabetes, hypertension and breathing difficulties. Such people are extremely susceptible and at a high risk to the fatalities of COVID-19 as obesity results in heightened inflammation in patients and in severe COVID-19 cases, it worsens the condition of the patient.

Dr Arun Prasad, Senior Consultant, Surgical Gastroenterology & Bariatric

Surgery at Indraprastha Hospitals said, "Working from home, increased snacking between meals and a reduction in everyday physical activities — all in an effort to stop the spread of the virus — means we're moving less than ever. Recent reports have stated that the risk of death is more people in the overweight who happen to get infected with COVID-19. Younger people who are obese are also at a higher risk. Obesity is a growing problem worldwide and our complacent response to the current situation contributes to obesity in many ways. The number of people considered obese has nearly tripled in the past few decades."

A 29-year-old male, weighing 201 kgs underwent a robot assisted bariatric surgery at Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals on August 14. Post-surgery the patient will gradually lose about 10 kg a month in the coming time and should eventually lose over a 100 kg.

SLIMLINE

In the new normal, self-care and wellness has become our utmost priority. And right now, we have this unknown issue to tackle at hand — increased exposure to Blue light. Our Urban lifestyle has exposed us to an alarming amount of Blue light from electronic devices, be it our smart phones, laptops or LED screens.

Due to its high energy, Blue light can penetrate deeper layers of the skin compared to UVA/UVB leading to premature aging, dryness, dullness, wrinkles, acne and hyperpigmentation.

For the first time in India, the highly potent globally awarded ingredients — Blue Oéoactif® and Look Oéoactif® are introduced in digital detox skincare products. They are 100% vegetal, Ecocert-Cosmos certified active ingredients to fight the ill-effects of the Blue Light.

Blue Oéoactif® has proven scientific studies to be effective against skin concerns. It is made up of three potent active ingredients — Black Rice, Brown Rice Germ and Red Rice. While Look Oéoactif® is an active ingredient dedicated to the rejuvenation of eye contour.

INDULGE IN A FRUITILICIOUS AFFAIR

Despite the multiple health benefits that fruit offer, they have always been shrouded by some misconception or the other. RISHI SAKHUJA busts a few common myths



Fruits are one of the most delectable gifts for mankind. Loaded with nutrients, they are rich in necessary antioxidants and power-surplus properties. They serve as the much-needed energy booster for your body. Besides, they also save the day from those cliché meals of yours. Fruits are the perfect switch over to the much fibrous flavours on your plate.

Despite the multiple health benefits that fruits offer, they have always been shrouded by some misconception or the other. It could range from the right time of intake to completely avoiding them post certain hours. Available in red, orange, yellow, peach, and other bright irresistible colours, amazing flavours, and sundry textures, sourced directly from nature's bounty — how can anyone say no to them, at any time? Hands down, fruits can always substitute any meal, at any time of the day. Let's dive deeper and bust some of the most popular myths associated with them.

Myth 1: Fruits should be consumed on an empty stomach

Claim: It helps the body to extract the necessary nutrients in the right amount. This is an effective way of utilising the nutritional value of any fruit.

Reality: This is the most polluted rendition of the 'first-come-first-serve' concept. Our digestive system is better evolved to extract and digest the necessary nutrients from the fruits, no matter whether you had one before something or not.

Myth 2: Fruits should be treated as a standalone meal

Claim: You don't get all the nutrients if you have fruits pre, post or alongside a meal. It slows down your digestive process, causing gas, discomfort, and a range of other unrelated symptoms.

Reality: Although insignificantly, eating fruits with meals only reduces the frequency of hunger pangs. This is actually beneficial as it makes your body feel fuller, thereby reducing intake of the extra calories.

Myth 3: People suffering or prone to Diabetes shouldn't eat fruits at any time of the day

Claim: Fruits correlate to the spike in blood glucose level if they aren't consumed at the right time. So, Diabetics should better be mindful.

Reality: There is no specific time for the consumption of fruits for Diabetic people. They can be equally beneficial if consumed in moderation. In fact, Diabetics are often advised to follow a fruit-based diet in smaller intervals to keep the sugar in check. This also helps them feel fuller with the right amount of fibre-rich essential nutrients.

Myth 4: The most favourable time to eat fruits is after six-seven hrs of sleep

Claim: Eating fruits early in the morning is the best time to consume them. It energises you with the optimal blood sugar level and activates your digestive system.

Reality: There is no scientific backing behind the right time of consuming fruits. Eating them at any time of the day will do you the same good as it's supposed to do.

The writer is CEO, Fruitbox & Co

INBRIEF

Cipla Health Ltd, a leading consumer healthcare brand has forayed into the antifungal product category with the introduction of Clocip, to offer a hardworking skin infection solution for hardworking people enabling them to continue work without any discomfort. Available in two forms, the Clocip Clotrimazole Absorbent Dusting Powder and Clocip Clotrimazole Cream have specially formulated antibacterial and antifungal properties to treat skin infections and prevent it from recurring. Easy to apply, these products also stop the infection spread and provides relief from itching making it a full cycle skin infection control formulation.

Fungal infections occur when fungi, yeast or moulds attack different parts of the skin, due to excessive sweating, poor hygiene or moist weather conditions; resulting in rashes and itching. Considering India's hot and humid weather, Indians are prone to skin infections that can aggravate if not treated well in time. Clocip dusting powder is an antifungal agent that can be easily sprinkled on affected areas to provide quick relief against problems like ringworm, athlete's foot, jock itch further reducing the growth of fungal cells. Clocip cream is another convenient topical treatment for nappy rash, sweat rash, along with other skin related problems. The product packaging has been designed for the ease of usage and is recommended to use two-three times a day for quick recovery.

Cloclip dusting powder is available in 75g and 100g pack priced at ₹67.50 and ₹106 respectively, whereas the Cloclip cream is a 15g tube priced at ₹42.50.

Trend
Blazer

Big B's voice on Amazon Alexa

Amazon Alexa on Monday announced a partnership with actor **AMITABH BACHCHAN** to create a unique voice experience for its Indian fans.

The Amazon Alexa team will work closely with Bachchan to capture his voice and deliver a new voice experience to customers.

It will include popular offerings like jokes, weather, shayaris, motivational quotes, advice and more.

Big B's voice will be available on Alexa devices next year.

"Technology has always given me an opportunity to adapt to new forms. Be it films, TV shows, podcasts and now, I am excited to create this voice experience in partnership with Amazon and Alexa," said Bachchan.



'No industry is devoid of flaws. We are also human beings, we make mistakes, we oversee certain things but there is a beautiful side to our industry too. People talk of outsider-insider. I can say there are so many people who I can call if I have a problem. I don't like to consider myself an outsider. I feel that the industry is an inclusive space.'
—Aditi Rao Hydari



A new song titled *Josh-e-jahaan* was launched on Monday, marking three months of the death of actor **SUSHANT SINGH RAJPUT**.



The song is dedicated to fans of the late actor who have been fighting for justice for Sushant. "September 14, 2020 marks 90 days since Sushant Singh Rajput left all of us. The *josh* of all his fans and supporters have kept everything alive. On the 90th day, we dedicate the song *Josh-e-jahaan* to all fans requesting them to be united for the justice till we get it," **Nilotpal Mrinal**, the song's producer shared.

Gayle launches new music video

West Indies cricketer **CHRIS GAYLE** has collaborated with British Indian singer **Avina Shah** for a new track.

The two put together the music video of the song, *Groove*, during lockdown, shooting in different countries.

After shooting for the music video in Jamaica, Gayle heads to Dubai where he will be playing for the Indian Premier League (IPL).

"I love the track and the *Groove!* It's my first collaboration with a female artist, thanks to Avina. I'm really looking forward to this release," Gayle said.

He added it was a great experience shooting the music video, as they wanted to mix the Jamaican flavour with Indian and Western sounds.



Why do animals gather for one-off events? What does it feel like to be part of the herd? How do they cope with the changing seasons and climate? What is their ideal pastime activity?

These are a few of the many questions *Spy In The Wild II* answers. The series presents nature's greatest dramas and emotional encounters up-close by placing cameras inside revolutionary, lifelike spy creatures in the wild. Producers Philip Dalton and Matthew Gordon talk about how through the series, one can become a part of the gorilla family for a day, discover the drama of koala breeding season, and feel the heat of battle as Komodo dragons race for supremacy. Excerpts:

What went behind making the spy cams? What are its unique features and how long did it take?

Matthew Gordon: Each spy creature takes different time to enter and get captured. On an average, it took about three months. Some of them took most amount of research going back and forth with the scientists and the model makers. For instance, we made primary models for the spy gorilla as it was important to look at the intricate details and their facial expressions. We had animatronic engineers to make sure we get every detail correct.

It was important for the five model creatures that we created to look as realistic as possible. Therefore, we allowed the creatures to behave in a specific way as it might help reveal the behaviours of the real animals too. Also, the facial expressions of animals was more important than their movements. We had to take care of the small detailing depending on the animal we were filming. For instance, when working with the gorillas, we made sure not to stare at them because the silverback gorilla could take that as a threat. So we made sure that our gorilla model was a baby, which is less frightening. Sometimes, it's also important for the spy creature to smell like the real animal you are filming. For example, we filmed fruit bats in Australia, which are very nervous animals. They use their sense of smell to assess the world around them. Therefore, we had to leave our spy model in the forest for about five days so that it gets the smell.

How much have spy cameras benefited wildlife filmmaking?

Matthew: The benefits are enormous, more than what was anticipated at that time. Not too long ago, we worked on a series called *Penguins: Spy in the Huddle* (2014), in which, we worked closely with research scientists, who had proven for the first time that the use of remote cameras was, is better for the animals and less disturbing than humans. His research proved that remote cameras cause minimal disturbance for filming and studying wildlife, which was very interesting because that was the first time it was conclusively shown. This is something we have known all along because we have always found that through spider creatures, we get extraordinary behaviour of the animals. You pick up the nuances of behaviour that you might lose while filming through the long lens.



NATURE'S SPY

Producers **PHILIP DALTON** and **MATTHEW GORDON** talk about how their show, *Spy In The Wild II*, does not just capture animal movement through secret cameras but also their expression, behaviour and thought process. By **TEAM VIVA**

Philip Dalton: Spy cameras allow us to get right in the heart of the action, back data view and immerse the viewer into the wild world. I think that's much more captivating but with the new series we found that people might not necessarily be interested in wildlife nature, rather what's happening there. Spy cameras are a very powerful tool in wildlife filming.

Could you share anything spectacular that was captured on the spy cam?

Matthew: When we were going through all the footages, we found out that the mountain gorillas were singing while eating. It seemed as if they were celebrating their dinner time. I think that was quite a remarkable thing to capture. Thanks to the five cameras!

Philip: There are quite a few examples. We had a Spine Mobula Ray, an extraordinary filming device which allowed us to get into the big shoal of fish. It was able to swim into the heart of it when no diver could. We also had a spy Pelican that was getting some aerial shots. We captured remarkable behaviour called vortex feeding, where creatures that could fly collectively get into some sort of iconic circular motion, and that has never been recorded before in Mobula Rays. It was a remarkable capture.

The other example is of monarch butterflies, which we filmed in Mexico. We had a lovely spy creature based on a hummingbird, specially designed in a way that its moving parts were shielded so that it could fly gently and quietly, very high up into the

canopy. It captured the moments of a big cascade, which was when all the butterflies decided to leave together on mass. There were millions of them falling off the trees at the same time. It was an event of magnitude which is quite a rare thing to witness. You can capture small cascades but this scale is very unusual. The shots we got were remarkable as they were from within the middle of the cascades. That for me was a special capture.

Was there any moment of fear or did the animals pick on the spy cams?

Matthew: Whenever we are out on the field, we never know what might happen or how the creatures would react. But generally, the animals seem to be sort of respectful. In the past, when animals like elephants have cited inanimate objects like robot cameras or cameras, they did not like it. They crushed it, thinking that it was a novel item.

But this time, with spy cameras, I think this was a kind of respect to the animals. There was a camera filming the pygmy elephants in Borneo. The elephants came over, looked at it and then, I think, just gave it a fleeting thought. I was still able to carry-on filming and move home. How the elephants looked at the cameras, you'll be able to see in the first episode of the series. We did get a bit nervous but this time, they accepted their filming and so, it's going to be a wonderful show.

Which was the most difficult and the most exciting species to spy on?

Philip: We all have

our personal favourites in the team. For me, the most exciting and the most challenging were probably the remarkable pack animals in the Arctic walls up in Ellesmere Island. We had put an artificial pup as the spy creature which would sit by the wolf dens, filming the pups. Well, the logistics to get to that part of the world is very complicated and quite expensive.

But we could capture some lovely stuff on the pups around the den. It was difficult to follow them at times, especially when they moved along with their family. It was difficult to follow them as they run so fast, which makes it difficult to move over to the terrain because it's bumpy and full of rocks. There's no way we can keep up with them. Fortunately, we had a spy creature that could fly, it is a spy snowy owl. We were able to follow the pack and managed to film them hunting mascots. It was remarkable because we could see the wolf family outside the den for the first time. We could see their first-ever hunts and to film that in detail was just amazing for me, personally too, because it has only been achieved once in the wild before. And that was a long, long time ago.

Another personal favourite, which was equally challenging, was filming the king penguins and elephant seals in the sub-Southern Ocean and on an island called South Georgia. Again, that was a huge operation. It took us nearly 10 days just to get to the location as it was very remote. The weather was extreme with lots of blizzards, cold weather and big, ferocious seas, huge crashing waves. It was a challenge to operate in those conditions and also use our heavy equipment.

We placed a spy

king penguin and a spy elephant seal, which was the largest spy creature we have ever made. Well, the results were hilarious, so unique. I don't want to give too much away. Those are my most exciting favourite moments.

Matthew: For me, I'd say that I was the most nervous about the spy gorilla because we never know how that species is going to react. But yes, the spy creatures are made in a very sophisticated way, costing tens of thousands and are deployed at the right moment and place with the help of scientists. But still, there are chances that the gorillas don't accept the models and just move away from them or destroy them at once.

We have managed to capture some truly magical moments, where we suddenly saw a whole family troupe coming in and staring in with a silver Batman right in the center of the mall and his family around him. They all are just staring at the eye of the spy gorilla. This made me remember the early '80s, when Sir David Attenborough was around the mountain gorillas. He had said that there can be more meaning and mutual understanding with a gorilla than any other animal. Well, that for me was really an amazing experience. When you see a whole family of gorillas staring back at you, it's amazing. It became even better and a magical but real moment when we saw them happy and relaxed, which meant that the family could interact with us and carry on with their natural behaviours. We could capture them playing, beating their chests, running and jumping, eating. The scientists were amazed that they wanted to play with the spy gorilla. We have lovely shots of the back and forth sequence between a young gorilla and our spy, interacting and playing with each other.

Have you visited India? What should the audience here look forward to in the new season?

Matthew: For this series, we did not film in India. We have filmed in India, though, in the past with our first series when we had used the spy Langdon monkey. I remember that the spy monkey had fallen off the tree trunk. We were then not able to operate it anymore. Since it became motionless, the other monkeys had gathered around it and started to perhaps think that it was dead. They started to grieve over the loss of that monkey. That's when we saw for the first time, how when these creatures lose somebody of their own, they pay their respects and mourn. That's what they were doing with our spy monkey.

I think this series will have something for everybody irrespective of where it has been shot. The series is not just about the animals' movements but also about their expressions, body languages, daily routines and thought processes.

(The series airs at 9 pm on Sony BBC Earth from September 21.)



As the country tries to recover even in the face of rising COVID-19 cases and an economic downturn, the Population Foundation of India (PFI) has launched a campaign titled *Himmat Hai Toh Jeet Hai*, to celebrate courage and fortitude. Along with its eponymous anthem, it showcases stories of everyday courage and hope exhibited by people across society from frontline workers to COVID survivors, who rose to the occasion.

With lyrics that speak of victory over challenges faced due to the pandemic, the anthem features a cross-section of society impacted. It was launched to reinforce people's sense of unity to emerge stronger together out of this pandemic.

The campaign is guided by film and theatre director Feroz Abbas Khan. He is PFI's creative advisor and has directed the flagship trans-media education show *Main Kuch Bhi Kar Sakti Hoon*. STCH Integrated Marketing Solutions is the creative agency that has partnered with PFI to create and produce this anthem and campaign.

Executive Director, PFI, Poonam Muttreja adds, "We need masks, physical distancing and frequent hand washing to stay safe. Along with that, what we also need fortitude and stamina to be able to steer the course and handle it

We shall overcome

A campaign with an anthem, *Himmat Hai Toh Jeet Hai*, celebrates stories of courage and hope exhibited by people across societies



with dignity. Our anthem is the chorus of our lives as India steels up to face the challenges ahead. It is in tune with the resolve and solidarity which will unite all of us. Hear it, sing it and share it; as it is only when each of us, especially the most vulnerable are helped in this difficult time that we will emerge stronger and safer."

Khan says, "The pandemic is here to stay but we cannot live in a perpetual lockdown. Facing our fears and moving forward with precautions in place is critical for our communities."

STCH believes in the cause of the campaign. It says, "When times are tough it is imperative to lead from the front. This campaign gave us an opportunity to give hope and happiness to millions who are ready to get back control of their lives."

Ayushmann trains hard on b'day

Actor Ayushmann Khurrana, who turned 36 on Monday, celebrated his birthday by putting himself through a gruelling training session. This is because he can't take a single day off from working out so that he can achieve his desired physique for his next film, a progressive love story directed by Abhishek Kapoor.

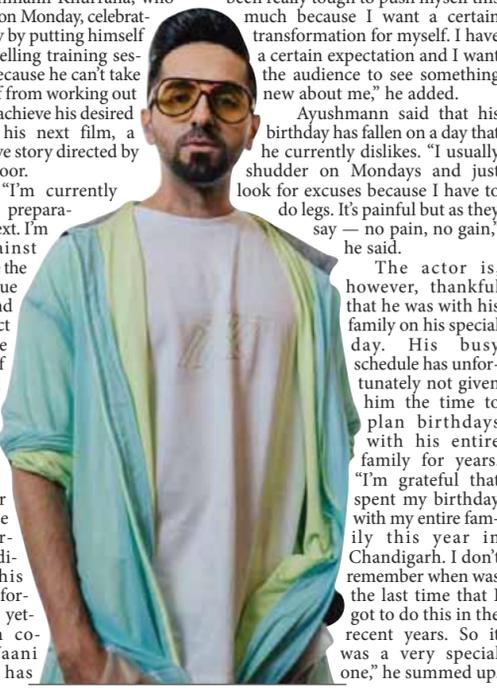
He said, "I'm currently neck deep in preparations for my next. I'm running against time to achieve the desired physique for this film and I know for a fact that I can't take a single day off from working out. So even on my birthday, I decided to train really hard."

The actor said that he wants to surprise the audience with his physical transformation in the yet-untitled film co-starring Vaani Kapoor. "It has

been really tough to push myself this much because I want a certain transformation for myself. I have a certain expectation and I want the audience to see something new about me," he added.

Ayushmann said that his birthday has fallen on a day that he currently dislikes. "I usually shudder on Mondays and just look for excuses because I have to do legs. It's painful but as they say — no pain, no gain," he said.

The actor is, however, thankful that he was with his family on his special day. His busy schedule has unfortunately not given him the time to plan birthdays with his entire family for years. "I'm grateful that spent my birthday with my entire family this year in Chandigarh. I don't remember when was the last time that I got to do this in the recent years. So it was a very special one," he summed up.



AP ■ NEW YORK

US Open unlike any other finished unlike any other — with an unprecedented fifth-set tiebreaker as Dominic Thiem became the first man in 71 years to win the final after dropping the opening two sets.

So close to defeat in a nearly empty Arthur Ashe Stadium — Thiem slowly but surely turned things around against a faltering Alexander Zverev and pulled out a 2-6, 4-6, 6-4, 6-3, 7-6 (6) victory at Flushing Meadows for his first Grand Slam title.

The match ended with both men fighting leg cramps and, clearly, nerves. “Somehow,” said Thiem, a 27-year-old from Austria, “the belief today was stronger than the body, and I’m super happy about that.”

When he arose, he was met by Zverev, who walked around the net to clasp hands, then embrace his friend and foe, two sights rarely seen in this era of social distancing.

Thiem then rested his head on the shoulder of the taller Zverev, who himself came within two points of what would have been his first major triumph.

“I wish we could have two winners today,” Thiem said. “I think we both deserved it.”

He is the first man to win the American Grand Slam tournament after trailing 2-0 in sets in the final since Pancho Gonzalez did it against Ted Schroeder in 1949 at an event then known as the US Championships and held in Forest Hills.

The event never had been settled by a fifth-set tiebreaker; no major tournament ever had until Novak Djokovic edged Roger Federer that way at Wimbledon in 2019.

“I was a few games away, a few points away,” said Zverev, who was trying to give Germany its first male Grand Slam champion since Boris Becker in the 1990s.

“I’m 23 years old. I don’t think it’s my last chance.”

As Thiem stepped forward to pose for pictures with his shiny new bit of hardware, Zverev remained a few feet behind, one hand clutching his less-impressive silver tray, the other hand on a hip.

The proceedings took 4 hours, 2 minutes. And to think: After just 1 1/2 hours,



Dominic Thiem, right, and Alexander Zverev, pose for photos after the men’s singles final of the US Open championships on Sunday

It was tough to stay there and to still believe. But I did, yeah. It’s a Slam final. The belief was always there.

DOMINIC THIEM

ON HOW HE TURNED THAT MATCH AROUND

It had to be like this - my career was always like the match today - many ups and downs and I love the way it turned out

DOMINIC THIEM

ON HIS MAIDEN GRAND SLAM WIN AFTER 5 SET

Yeah, I mean, I’m 23 years old. I don’t think it’s my last chance. I do believe that I will be a Grand Slam champion at some point.

Alexander ZVEREV

AFTER LOSING IN THE FINAL

It’s going to be easier for me now in biggest tournaments: Thiem

New York: US Open champion Dominic Thiem on Sunday said that chasing future Slams will be easier now that he has that elusive first tennis major under his belt following three near misses.

With that monkey off his back, Thiem says he expects to be able to play more freely at Slams as he bids to snatch titles away from the Big Three of Roger Federer, Rafael Nadal and Djokovic.

“It’s going to be or I expect that it’s going to be easier for me now in the biggest tournaments,” Thiem told reporters.

“Because, of course, I had it in the back of my head that I had a great career so far, way better career than I could ever dream of, but until today there was still a big part, a big goal missing.”

“With this goal achieved, I think and I hope that I’m going to be a little bit more relaxed and play a little bit more freely at the biggest events,” he added.

Thiem said lifting the US Open was a dream come true.

“I achieved a life goal, a dream of myself, which I had for many, many years. Of course, as a kid, as well, when I started to play tennis. But back then it’s so far away,” he told reporters.

“Then I got closer and closer to the top. At one point I realized that, ‘Wow, maybe one day I can really win one of the four biggest titles in tennis.’”

“I put a lot of work in. I dedicated basically my whole life until this point to win one of the four majors. Now I did it. That’s also for myself a great accomplishment.”



Dominic Thiem, left, and Alex Zverev embrace each other after US Open men’s singles final

Thiem for a dream

Dominator: After losing three times in Slam finals, Dominic finally lifts major with come back from two sets down against Zverev

Zverev was up by two sets and a break in the third at 2-1.

“The match turned when he broke me for the first time in the third set,” Zverev said.

“He started playing much better, and I started playing much worse.”

Zverev, of all people, should have known what might have seemed like an impossible hill to climb for Thiem was, indeed, achievable. After all, in Thursday’s semifinals, it was Zverev who trailed 2-0 in sets against Pablo

Carreño Busta before coming back to win.

Thiem began the day 0-3 in Grand Slam finals, but always faced a member of the Big Three of men’s tennis in those others. This time, he was the favorite and came out jittery, but eventually worked his way out of that, while Zverev went from cool and confident to passive and pushed around.

The fifth set was just as back-and-forth as the other four, the mistakes rising with the tension and the history in

the offing.

Thiem broke in the opening game when Zverev shanked a pair of forehands. Zverev broke right back — and pierced the silence with a rare cry of “Come on!” — when Thiem double-faulted.

Then it was Zverev’s turn to nose ahead, breaking for a 5-3 lead when Thiem sent a down-the-line backhand wide and leaned over, gasping for air.

But with a chance to serve out the biggest win of his nascent career, Zverev faltered, getting broken right back when

he pushed a volley into the net. That began a three-game run for Thiem, who broke to lead 6-5, earning his own chance to serve for it when Zverev netted a backhand, followed by a long forehand.

After having a trainer check on his right leg during the ensuing changeover, Thiem couldn’t seal the deal, either, and on they went to the tiebreaker. Zverev double-faulted twice and offered up one second serve at 68 mph, about half the speed he’s capable of.

While this was the No 7-ranked Zverev’s first Slam final, this was the first one the No 3-ranked Thiem was supposed to win, following losses to 12-time French Open champion Rafael Nadal at Roland Garros in 2018 and 2019, then to eight-time Australian Open champion Djokovic at Melbourne Park this February — back before the pandemic upended the world and put tennis on a five-month hiatus.

Instead of wild applause and loud shouts greeting great exchanges, the soundtrack on Sunday mainly came from outside the largest court in tennis, courtesy of roaring airplanes, rumbling trains, revving car engines, honking horns and wailing sirens.

SINGLES

HARIKRISHNA TO FACE LIKES OF CARLSEN

CHENNAI: Indian Grandmaster P Harikrishna will compete against the likes of world champion Magnus Carlsen and Hikaru Nakamura in an elite field in the St Louis Rapid and Blitz online chess tournament beginning on Tuesday. The India number No 2, who was part of the Gold medal-winning team in the Online Olympiad last month, with an Elo rating of 2714, is the second lowest rated player in the field.

PELLEGRINI WINS IN LA LIGA RETURN

MADRID: It was a thrilling return to the La Liga for Manuel Pellegrini and a disappointing one for Unai Emery. Back in the league after long absences, Pellegrini’s Real Betis won 1-0 at Alavés thanks to a stoppage-time goal from substitute Christian Tello, while Emery’s Villarreal couldn’t get more than a 1-1 draw at home against Huesca on Sunday.

BRISBANE HEAT SIGN TOM COOPER

BRISBANE: Brisbane Heat have signed Netherlands batsman Tom Cooper for next two editions of the BBL. Cooper has played 145 career T20 matches, with 18 T20Is and 23 ODIs for the Netherlands including two World Cup campaigns. He has captained the Melbourne Renegades, where he was a key member of their BBL 8 premiership team and leaves the club as their most capped player.

WIN AGAINST ANAND WAS SPECIAL: VIDIT

NEW DELHI: India’s chess Olympiad Gold-winning team captain Vidit Gujrathi says the experience of playing against and defeating iconic Viswanathan Anand was the most special moment of his career. The 25-year-old Gujrathi, who became a Grandmaster in 2013, beat the five-time world champion Anand in 2019. “It was a really good memory when I won against him in 2019,” he said during the show, *In the Spotlight*.

FANS ALLOWED FOR AUS-NZ EVES SERIES

MELBOURNE: In a first since Covid outbreak, the upcoming limited-overs series between Australia Women and New Zealand Women beginning September 26 will be played in the presence of fans inside the stadium, CA confirmed on Monday. “A limited number of fans will be admitted to Allan Border Field, with the maximum attendance determined by current Queensland health and Government guidelines which caps the attendance at 50 per cent of the venue’s capacity,” said a report in *cricket.com.au*.

NO CLARITY ON ENG, AUS PLAYERS: KKR CEO

KOLKATA: There is still no clarity on whether a smooth transfer of players from one bio-secure bubble in England to another in the UAE will be possible for upcoming IPL. Kings XI Punjab CEO Satish Menon said on Monday. “Nobody has any clarity on that yet. The BCCI is supposed to come back on whether the quarantine can be reduced as they are coming from a bubble to (another) bubble. We don’t have any clarity as yet,” Menon told IANS.

NZ WERE LUCKY TO REACH WC FINAL: BAZZ

KOLKATA: New Zealand were a “little bit lucky” to reach the 2019 WC final and it is time for them to draw a line in the sand and achieve something really special, said former skipper Brendon McCullum. “I know they got very close last year in the World Cup — but I did feel they were a little bit lucky there as well to actually get themselves in that situation,” McCullum, who is currently the head coach of KKR, said. “I think they’re close to doing something really really special, and under Kane Williamson’s captaincy and under the leadership of some of the other senior players, there’s no reason why they shouldn’t,” McCullum said. Agencies

Miller wants to finish games like Dhoni does

PTI ■ DUBAI

David Miller is in awe of M S Dhoni’s finishing skills and the South African says he wants to imbibe the former India skipper’s calmness in high-pressure run chases.

Miller will be playing for Rajasthan Royals in the upcoming IPL after eight years with Kings XI Punjab.

“I absolutely love the way Dhoni goes about his business. Certainly his calmness — you just think he’s always under control. The way he portrays

himself, that’s something he’s extremely good at and I do enjoy that about him. I try and give off the same energy,” Miller told *ESPNCricinfo*.

Miller is a Dhoni fan but he is not oblivious to the two-time World Cup winner’s weaknesses even though he prefers to steer clear of the specifics.

“...He’s got his strengths and weaknesses as a batsman and so do I. I tend to be in awe of some of his chases rather than I want to bat like him. I suppose I just want to finish games like he does.”

Adjusting to UAE conditions will be biggest challenge: Bould

Dubai: Set to lead four-time champions Mumbai Indians bowling attack in absence of Lasith Malinga, Kiwi left-arm pacer Trent Bould believes the biggest challenge for all the teams in the 13th IPL will be to adjust to the hot and humid UAE conditions.

“The biggest challenge so far has been trying to prepare to come to 45 degrees in the middle of the desert. I come from a very small country New Zealand which is about 7 or 8 degrees at the moment in the middle of winter,” Bould said in a video posted by MI.

Having played some amount of

cricket in the UAE, Bould believes Mumbai Indians have the firepower in its bowling unit to outwit any opposition in the upcoming IPL.

“I’ve played a little bit of cricket here and I’m aware that the conditions can change quite drastically depending on the time of the time of the year etc,” the 31-year-old said. “But I’m hoping for good wickets and if good wickets are on the table, then it’s about being clear with what we are trying to do as a bowling team. And if we put the ball where we want to, then I think we got the skills to outperform any opposition.”

PTI

Aus collapse helps Eng level series

AP ■ MANCHESTER

Australia batted itself into a winning position before dramatically collapsing as England won the second ODI by 24 runs to stay alive in the series.

England’s decision to bat first at Old Trafford had appeared to backfire with the world champions limited to 231-9 and Australia reaching 143-2 with 20 overs left on Sunday.

Australia was making the run chase look easy thanks to a 107-run stand for the third wicket between captain Aaron Finch (73) and Marcus Labuschagne (48). But the tourists then collapsed to 147-6, and 166-8, in Manchester before finishing 207 all out in 48.4 overs.

A trio of England pacers did the damage: Chris Woakes (3-32), Jofra Archer (3-34) and Sam Curran 3-35. In what has become an unwanted tour tradition for Australia, Archer again claimed opener David Warner (6).

England captain Eoin Morgan said bringing Woakes and Archer back into the attack dramatically swung the game in the home team’s favour.

“Jofra is obviously an ace and so is Woakes. It’s our strongest suit,” Morgan said. “You like to bowl them in



David Warner, right, walks off the field after being dismissed by Jofra Archer

the most important parts of the game and I felt at the time I brought them back that was the most important part because the

game was edging away from us. “Finch and Marnus made it look easier than it was. So I threw everything at it and the guys bowled unbelievably well. When they bowl like that they make the captain look good.”

Earlier, no England batsman reached 50, with Morgan (42) and Joe Root (39) leading the scoring. Both men were dismissed by legspinner Adam Zampa, who finished with 3-36 off 10 overs.

Australia was aiming to wrap up a series victory after beating England by 19 runs in the first ODI last Friday.

The series finale is at the same venue on Wednesday, when England will be hoping to avoid its first ODI series defeat at home since 2015.

Zampa wants to master death bowling skill

Melbourne: A spinner who relishes challenges, Australia’s Adam Zampa wants to forge a partnership with India’s Yuzvendra Chahal during the upcoming IPL, where he hopes to master the art of death bowling while playing for the Royal Challengers Bangalore.

Zampa and Chahal are both wrist spinners but the Australian is eager to pick the brain of his IPL teammate when it comes to death

bowling. Zampa is keen to learn the skill since he was part of skipper Aaron Finch’s unsuccessful death bowling plan in the T20 series against England recently.

“I really enjoy bowling at the death, I love those pressure overs especially when the game is on the line,” said Zampa, who played two seasons for the now-defunct Rising Pune Supergiants. “They needed 18 to win

off the last two overs (in the second T20) and I told Finch I should bowl it. It obviously didn’t go to plan but I’m not going to change my attitude after one game.”

“I’ve got a really good opportunity in the IPL bowling with Chahal at RCB and I might get the opportunity to bowl those overs just because of the way the team is structured,” he was quoted as saying by *cricket.Com.Au*. PTI

Neymar sees red in PSG defeat

The Brazilian insisted he had been the victim of racism as he was one of five players sent off in a mass brawl

AP ■ PARIS

Neymar was off with five players sent off in stoppage time as Marseille beat bitter rival Paris Saint-Germain for the first time in nine years.

PSG star Neymar got a straight red in Marseille’s 1-0 win following an altercation with center half Alvaro Gonzalez on Sunday.

Neymar was sent off following a video replay showing he aimed a jab to the back of Gonzalez’s head.

As he went off, Neymar told officials that he had been racially abused.



Neymar argues with Marseille’s Alvaro, left, during the Ligue 1 match

“It’s a serious wrongdoing if that’s the case but I don’t think so,” Marseille coach Andre Villas-Boas said.

“What we saw, what was visible, is that (Angel) Di Maria spat (on Gonzalez).”

With apparent reference to Gonzalez, Neymar later tweeted “The only regret I have is not

hitting the face of this idiot.”

In a later tweet, Neymar said “It’s easy for VAR to show my aggression. Now I’d like to them to show the image of the racist who called me a ‘MONKEY SON OF A BITCH’. I’d really like that!”

Winger Florian Thauvin scored in the 31st minute of a

tense game featuring more than a dozen yellow cards and which descended into chaos deep into stoppage time as punches and kicks were exchanged.

It was Marseille’s first victory over PSG since a 3-0 home win in November 2011.

PSG has now lost three straight games 1-0, including the Champions League final against Bayern Munich on Aug 23 and away to promoted Lens last Thursday.

Victorian Govt working on getting crowd back for Boxing Day Test & Aus Open

PTI ■ MELBOURNE

Victoria state Premier Daniel Andrews on Monday said his Government is negotiating with Cricket Australia and Tennis Australia to have crowd attendance for the city’s iconic sports events — Boxing Day Test involving India and the Australian Open.

There is speculation that MCG may miss out on hosting the Boxing Day Test, an annual highlight on the calendar, since Victoria is reeling under Covid-19 pandemic.

Victoria, which is in lockdown since July, has accounted for 75 percent of cases and 90 percent of Covid deaths in the country. Australia have reported more than 26000 cases and more than 800 deaths.

“We just have to work out what a safe crowd would be. It is too hard to say now what that number is,” Andrews said in a daily news briefing.

“It is too early for us to determine how big any crowd might be. We will get as many people we can get there, pro-



vided it is safe.”

More than eight lakh people thronged Melbourne Park for the Australian Open in January and more than two lakh attended the Boxing Day Test between Australia and New Zealand.

With Melbourne looking a dicey venue, Adelaide is seen as the front-runner for the Boxing Day Test against India. “We don’t want one event to necessarily set us back and cause us a problem. It is hard for us to predict where virus numbers will be, what risks do we have to deal with in just a few weeks time, let alone months,” said Andrews.