

OPINION 6
LAST POST FOR
AN OFFICER**WORLD 8**
PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE 2020:
TRUMP, BIDEN FACE OFF TODAY**SPORT 12**
THIEM EASES
PAST CILIC

NEW DELHI, TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 29, 2020; PAGES 12 ₹3



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FARHAN AKHTAR
TALKS ABOUT
VITRIOLIC NEWS
10 VIVACITY*Late City Vol. 30 Issue 271
*Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable

No offset clause in future defence deals

Defence Acquisition Procedure does away with provision in all future cases of Govt to Govt defence contracts

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

After the CAG disclosed that the French manufacturers of the Rafale jets have failed to meet their offset obligations, the Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP)-2020 unveiled here on Monday has done away with the offset clause itself in all future cases of Government to Government defence contracts the type of which India and France Governments entered into as a part of the Rafale deal.

The Congress had launched a scathing attack on the NDA Government last year alleging that an Indian industrial house was favoured in bagging offset contracts worth over ₹30,000 crore in the Rafale deal.

Offset clause was brought in to allow the Indian defence industry to acquire world-class technology and tie-ups with foreign vendors. The foreign companies supplying weapon to India are mandatorily obliged to plough back at least 30 per cent of the total contract value if the tag is over ₹300 crore. In the Rafale deal, the offset cap was raised to 50 per cent.

The CAG observed in its report last week that in most of the deals critical frontline technology from abroad did not come in.

In the Rafale deal, the Government watchdog observed that, "For instance in

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the offset contract relating to 36 Medium Multi Role Combat Aircraft (MMRCA), the vendors M/s Dassault Aviation and M/s MBDA initially proposed (September 2015) to discharge 30 per cent of their offset obligation by offering high technology to the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). The DRDO wanted to obtain value of Technical Assistance for the indigenous development of engine (Kaveri) for the Light Combat Aircraft. Till date, the vendor has not confirmed the transfer of this technology."

The CAG report said in many cases it was found that the foreign vendors made various offset commitments to qualify for the main supply contract but later were not

earnest about fulfilling these commitments.

Under the new policy, the offset guidelines have also been revised to give preference to defence majors offering to manufacture products in India instead of meeting the offset obligations through other means, officials said.

However, the offset clause is not applicable to the Government to Government deals and single-vendor contracts. The Rafale deal is one of the most prominent such contracts in the recent past. In such deals, the Government, from which the weapon platform is procured, stands guarantee for all issues, including delivery schedule and availability of critical spares besides maintenance.

Meanwhile, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh unveiled the DAP that features steps to turn India into a global manufacturing hub of military platforms, reduce timelines for procurement of defence equipment and allow purchase of essential items by the three services through capital budget under a simplified mechanism.

The latest DAP also incorporates new chapters on information and communication technologies, post-contract management, acquisition of systems developed by the state-run defence entities like the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs), they said.

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Brahmos, Nirbhay, Akash to ward off Chinese threat



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

After deploying more than 30,000 additional troops on the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Ladakh, the Indian defence forces have operationalised an array of missile systems, including the Brahmos, Nirbhay and Akash, to ward off any threat from beligerent China.

With no letup in tension on the LAC in Eastern Ladakh since the stand-offs began in early May, the security establishment is not taking any chances. Ready for a long haul, the Government has hastened the supply of prefabricated tents and other related equipment to enable the troops to withstand temperatures of minus 20 degrees Centigrade.

On the other hand, missiles, tanks and frontline fighter jets are also on full alert all along the 4,000 km LAC stretching from Ladakh in the west to Arunachal Pradesh in the east.

The missiles were deployed recently to nullify any advantage China may have by bringing forward its missile in the Tibet region and Xinjiang. The indigenously-designed and manufactured Brahmos supersonic cruise missile has a range of more than 400 km. It can take out any targets, including tanks and missiles, from far away.

Similarly, the indigenously-designed and manufactured Akash surface to air missile has a range of 80 km and can neutralise any threat from air.

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Anti-farm laws protest spreads

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The farmers' protests in the country seem to be growing every day across the country. On Monday, Punjab Chief Minister Captain Amarinder Singh sat on dharna at Khatkar Kalan, an ancestral village in Nawanshahr, the birthplace of Shaheed Bhagat Singh on his birthday anniversary to protest against the farm laws, while a tractor was set on fire at India Gate in Delhi on Monday morning by Punjab Congress Youth workers.

Farmers in Punjab launched "Gherao Corporate Businesses" in the State. The silo run by Adani Agri Logistics Group at Village Dagru in Moga was gheraoed by Barnala MLA Gurmeet Hayer.

Farmers' protests backed by the Congress and other Opposition parties also spread in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Odisha, Telangana, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh. Congress workers also held nationwide protests in State's Capitals.

Farmers groups observed a Statewide bandh in Karnataka while Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) and its allies held protests across Tamil Nadu.

In Delhi, Punjab Youth Congress activists set ablaze a tractor at India Gate on Monday morning. The Delhi Police said five people claiming to be members of the Punjab Youth Congress — Manjot

Tractor set on fire at India Gate, 5 Youth Cong men arrested; Punjab CM sits on dharna

Singh (36), Ramandeep Singh Sindhu (28), Rahul (23), Sahib (28) and Sumit (28), all residents of Punjab — have been arrested.

"Around 15-20 people carried a tractor on a truck to Rajpath, Man Singh Crossing. They unloaded the tractor from the truck and set it on fire," said a senior police official. "Fire department received information regarding the incident at 7.42 am and two fire tenders were rushed to the spot," said a senior Delhi Fire Service official.

The Congress in Haryana held a protest outside the party's HQ in Chandigarh.

The Punjab Government is also consulting lawyers to move the Supreme Court on the issue. The CM was accompanied by his wife and ex-Minister Preneet Kaur, new Congress in-charge of Punjab affairs Harish Rawat, PPCC chief Sunil Jakhar, Vidhan Sabha Speaker Rana KP, Cabinet Ministers, around 45 MLAs and six MPs. They all sat in the memorial complex right in front of the statue and sat on dharna for over an hour.

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No conclusion yet in Sushant death case as probe on: CBI

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The CBI has not drawn any conclusion in the death case of filmstar Sushant Singh Rajput and all angles of the incident are being probed, the agency said here on Monday.

"The Central Bureau of Investigation is conducting (a) professional investigation related to death of Shri Sushant Singh Rajput in which all aspects are being looked at and no aspect has been ruled out as of date," a CBI spokesperson said in statement.

Rajput, 34, who debuted with the much acclaimed '*Kai Po Che*' movie seven years ago, was found dead in his apartment in suburban Bandra in Mumbai on June 14 this year. His family members suspected this to be a case of abetment to suicide or plain murder.

Continued on Page 2

Delhi SI guns down father-in-law day after shooting at his girlfriend

Cop takes medical leave to commit murder in Rohtak, still on the run

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

A day after shooting girl friend — who is battling for her life in a hospital in the national Capital — the 35-year-old Delhi Police Sub-Inspector (SI) on Monday shot dead his father-in-law Ranveer Singh (60) in Bhainsi village near Lakhna Majra in Rohtak, Haryana.

Police said the accused, Sandeep Dahiya, a permanent resident of Sonipat in Haryana and at present residing at Government allotted accommodation at Shalimar Bagh Police Colony, is also embroiled in a matrimonial dispute with his wife and a case has been



registered against him at Rohtak Police Station.

Police said Dahiya was posted at Lahori Gate Police Station in North Delhi.

Dahiya had shot his girlfriend of 1 year around 7:30 am on Monday, near Delhi's Sai Mandir on GT Karnal road.

"Ranveer (Dahiya's father-in-law) was standing outside his house when Dahiya came and shot him from a very close range and fled from the spot," said the Rajinder Singh, the Station House Officer (SHO),

Lakhna Majra Police Station.

"Ranveer died on the spot. On the basis of the statement given by Ranveer's son Manjeet, a case under section 302 of Indian Penal Code (IPC) was registered and manhunt is on for the accused," the SHO said.

Police said on September 27 Dahiya was deputed for duty in general 'gasht' from 9 pm to 1 am, but he didn't turn up for duty and hence he was marked absent.

Dahiya joined the Delhi Police in 2006 as constable and after passing the exam, he became Sub Inspector in 2010. Meanwhile, the Delhi Police departmental enquiry also found him guilty.

"He was on medical rest for 2 days on pretext of stomach pain and joined duty on September 25. Since he has been the Division officer, a 9MM pistol with 10 rounds was allotted to him," said a police officer.

Sonia asks Cong CMs to pass Act to override farm legislations

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In a move to make the recently enacted farm sector legislation ineffective, Congress president Sonia Gandhi on Monday directed Chief Ministers of four Congress-ruled States to look into the possibility of passing laws to override these measures.

A statement issued by party general secretary KC Venugopal said CMs of Punjab, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh and Pudducherry have been told to pass laws under Article 254 (2) of the Constitution that allows State legislatures to pass laws that could negate the "anti-agriculture" Central laws encroaching upon the States' jurisdiction under the Constitution.

"This would enable the States to bypass the unacceptable anti-farmers provisions."

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Punjab Youth Congress members set on fire a tractor near India Gate during a protest against the new farm laws in New Delhi on Monday
Ranjan Dimri / Pioneer

Kerala Cong MP moves SC against farm laws

New Delhi: A Congress MP from Kerala moved the Supreme Court on Monday challenging the constitutional validity of various provisions of the contentious new farm Act.

TN Prathapan, who represents Thrissur Lok Sabha constituency in Kerala, has alleged that the Farmers' (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement of Price

Assurance and Farm Services Act, 2020 is violative of right to equality (Article 14), prohibition of discrimination (15) and right to life and liberty (21) of the Constitution.

Trump paid just \$750 income tax in 2017; It's fake news: Prez

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

Donald Trump paid just \$750 in federal income taxes in the year he was elected US president and also in his first year in the White House, according to a media report, which also said that he or his companies paid \$145,400 taxes in India in 2017.

Trump entered the 2016 presidential race as a Republican and was elected in a surprise victory over Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton.

"Donald J Trump paid \$750 in federal income taxes the year he won the presidency. In his first year in the White House, he paid another \$750," the New York Times reported on Sunday, citing tax return data extending over 20 years.

The report came just days before Trump's first presidential debate with Democratic rival Joe Biden on Tuesday and



weeks before the November 3 presidential election.

Trump paid no income taxes at all in 10 of the previous 15 years — largely because he reported losing much more money than he made, the report said.

The US President immediately dismissed the report as "totally fake news".

US Presidents are not required by law to release details of their personal finances, but every one since Richard Nixon has done so.

Continued on Page 2

Rlys may charge ₹10 to ₹35 fees on redeveloped stations: Sources

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Railway passengers may have to shell out additional ₹10-₹35 for their ticket fares as user charges for availing redeveloped stations with state of the art amenities and to help the national transporter in raising funds for redeveloping more stations, sources indicated.

This is part of a proposal being finalised by the Railways which will soon be sent for Cabinet nod, the sources said.

The user fee, the sources said, will vary according to the class — it would range between ₹10 and ₹35 with the higher price for AC first class passengers.

The Railways had earlier clarified that user fee would be levied only across stations which will be redeveloped and those that have high footfalls.

Of the 7,000 total railway stations in the country, around 700-1,000 fall in this category, it had said.

Continued on Page 2

Unlock 5.0 to put life, business back on track

MHA to issue guidelines; more domestic flights likely, cinema halls, malls to open

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) is expected to issue a set of new Unlockdown-5 guidelines on Tuesday for restoring normal life and business activities to deal with the restrictions imposed due to Covid-19 pandemic.

The MHA had already consulted all States regarding the new guidelines which are expected to allow opening up of the education sector, research field and domestic civil aviation sector. Many States have already taken decision on the opening up of undergraduate classes only from November 1.

The new guidelines are expected to allow relaxations in opening up of malls and cinema halls subject to the State Government's decisions.

In education sector already 50 per cent of the teachers and staffers are allowed to attend campuses for higher classes in schools. Lower level classes are expected to be open only

after December or January. On domestic civil aviation, the Union Home Ministry has consulted the Civil Aviation Ministry and other stakeholders and is expected to allow operation of more flights. However, in international sector, talks are going on with several countries.

The number of people allowed to assemble in public spaces may be increased in the new guidelines.

The States like Bihar where Assembly elections are going to take place from October 28 and simultaneous by-elections are

happening are expected to get the relaxation in the number of people.

At present maximum 100 people are allowed in processions or meeting up in public places. Increased frequency of Metro trains is also expected to be introduced.

Covid-19 IN INDIA

TOTAL

CASES: 61,39,245

DEATHS: 96,322

RECOVERED: 50,96,228

ACTIVE: 9,46,695



STATES	TOTAL CASES	DEATHS	RECOVERED
Maharashtra	13,51,153	35,751	10,49,947
Andhra Pradesh	6,81,161	5,745	6,12,300
Tamil Nadu	5,86,397	9,383	5,30,708
Karnataka	5,82,458	8,641	4,69,750
Uttar Pradesh	3,90,875	5,652	3,31,270
Delhi	2,73,098	5,272	2,40,703
West Bengal	2,50,580	4,837	2,19,844
Odisha	2,12,609	866	1,73,571
Telangana	1,87,211	1,107	1,56,431
Bihar	1,80,032	892	1,66,188
Kerala	1,79,923	698	1,21,264
Assam	1,69,985	655	1,39,977
Gujarat	1,34,623	3,431	1,14,576
Rajasthan	1,30,971	1,456	1,09,472
Haryana	1,25,412	1,331	1,08,411
Madhya Pradesh	1,24,166	2,242	1,00,012

CAPSULE

LOAN MORATORIUM: CALL ON INTEREST IN 2-3 DAYS

New Delhi: The Centre informed the Supreme Court on Monday that a decision is likely in 2-3 days over charging of interest by banks on instalments which were deferred during the moratorium period in view of the Covid-19 pandemic.

FORM GOVT WITH BJP, ATHAWALE TELLS SENIA

Mumbai: Union Minister Ramdas Athawale on Monday asked the Shiv Sena to reunite with the BJP to form Government in Maharashtra and also suggested a power-sharing formula between the two saffron parties. Speaking to reporters here, Athawale said Shiv Sena president Uddhav Thackeray should remain chief minister for one year and then the coveted post should go to BJP leader Devendra Fadnis for the remaining three years (of current assembly term).

GANGSTER KILLED AS UP POLICE CAR HITS 'NILGAI'

Lucknow: A gangster, who was being brought to Lucknow from Mumbai, died when the vehicle overturned after being hit by a 'nilgai' in Guna district in MP.

INTEREST ON DEFERRED INSTALMENTS

Will take decision soon: Centre to SC

New Delhi: The Centre informed the Supreme Court on Monday that a decision is likely in 2-3 days over charging of interest by banks on instalments which were deferred during the moratorium period in view of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The top court asked the Centre to bring the decision on record and circulate the affidavit to the parties in a batch of pleas challenging interest on deferred instalments.

The Centre informed the top court that the matter has received very serious consideration and the decision mak-



ing process is at a very advanced stage. A bench headed by Justice Ashok Bhushan said that it would hear the batch of pleas filed by various

industries, trade associations and individuals on October 5.

“We will fix the matter for Monday (October 5). Whatever is your policy, whatever you

have, you circulate it. We will take it up on Monday. We don’t want any further adjournment,” the bench also comprising Justices R Subhash Reddy and M R Shah observed.

The bench recorded the statement of Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Centre, that this issue is under active consideration of the government and a decision is likely to be taken within two-three days.

It said that Mehta shall endeavour to circulate the affidavit among the parties by Thursday so that the matter is heard on October 5. **PTI**



A member of District Magistrate (Central Delhi) team dressed as Yamraj, Hindu deity of death, stops a commuter for not wearing a mask as part of an awareness campaign to curb Covid-19 spread, in New Delhi on Monday Ranjan Dimri | Pioneer

CLAT 2020

SC allows suspected Covid positive aspirant to take exam in isolation room

New Delhi: Hours before the scheduled start of Common Law Admission Test (CLAT)-2020 the Supreme Court on Monday allowed a suspected COVID-19 positive aspirant to take the entrance test in a separate isolation room.

CLAT-2020 exam, an entrance test for the 22 National Law Universities (NLUs) for admission to LLB, LLB 5 year Integrated and LLM, courses is scheduled to start at 2 PM today.

A bench headed by Justice Ashok Bhushan said, “In the

facts of the present case, we are of the view that the student Deepansh Tripathi should be permitted to take his CLAT examination on September 28, 2020 in a separate isolation room to be provided by his Centre Superintendent”.

The bench also comprising Justices R Subhash Reddy and M R Shah said that the student shall ensure that a downloaded copy of this order should be presented before his Centre Superintendent as early as possible by any other non-symptomatic person. **PTI**

Anti-farm...

From Page 1
“Gherao Corporate Businesses” is the new plan of the protesting farmers in Punjab. From the silo plants for grain storage built by Adanis to Walmart and Metro stores, from Toll Plazas on highways operat-

ed by some big corporate houses to the three private power plants in the State - a list of all businesses run by big corporate houses has been drawn and distributed among the ranks and file of Bhartiya Kisan Union (Ekta Ugrahan).

In Talwandi Sabo, farmers staged a protest outside the

Brahmos, Nirbhay...

From Page 1
This system has also got additional muscle with the induction of the 800-km range Nirbhay cruise missiles.

Sources said the Indian missile systems have been deployed at most of the sensitive sites all along the LAC to provide a shield to the troops on ground and the aircraft. In fact, some batteries of the Brahmos were activated in the eastern LAC sector two years back. Over the past few months since the situation worsened at the LAC, the IAF has stationed most of its frontline fighter jets, including the SU-30s, Mirage, Mig-29 and Jaguars, in the forward bases close to the LAC. Moreover, the newly-inducted five Rafale jets are also undertaking regular sorties in

the Ladakh region.

All these defensive measures to ward off any challenge from China come in the backdrop of multiple talks at the diplomatic and military-level between the two sides failing to make any headway.

Though reiterating that dialogue is the only way out to defuse tension at the LAC, sources, however, cautioned that the Indian forces cannot afford to let their guard down. They also said the Indian troops are ready to brave out the harsh winters at heights of more than 15,000 feet in Ladakh with vast improvement in logistical chain. They assured that there was more than sufficient stock of essentials to face the winter months.

Besides these measures,

should boycott their products. Farmers in Amritsar and Ferozepur under the banner of Kisan Mazdoor Sangharsh Committee have continued “rail rook” agitation since September 24.

Congress in Haryana held a protest outside the party’s State headquarters in Chandigarh. Carrying placards, some of which read “Anndata ki suno pukar, bandh karo atyachar (listen to farmers, end their oppression)”, the workers demanded that the “black laws”, which are “anti-farmers” be withdrawn. The Congress leaders also submitted a memorandum to Governor. Farmers at a “mandi” also locked up the secretary and other staff of the Market Committee inside the office in Kurukshetra. They relented after a large police contingent reached the spot to control the situation.

Thousands of farmers across BJP-ruled Karnataka backed by a number of other social and political outfits staged protests across the State. Protests were held in several cities, including Bengaluru. Shops and other commercial establishments are sparsely open. The bandh evoked mixed response in the State. Farmers held mock death processions of farmers to protest the farm Bills. They tried to block roads and highways.

Around 300 people, including political leaders KRRS leaders Kodihalli Chandrashekar and Kurburu Shanthkumar, Congress leaders, including leader of opposition Siddaramaiah, KPCC President DK Shivakumar, national spokesperson Randeep Singh Surjewala and other leaders, who were protesting were detained.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public is hereby informed that my clients **MANOHAR SINGH, AJIT PAL SINGH & PRITAM SINGH**, all residents of IC/127, Namdhari Colony, Ramesh Nagar, New Delhi-110015, Partners of the firm **M/S. BUMBRAH ELECTRIC CO.** Situated at WZ-45-C, Ground Floor, Gali No.2, Rattan Park, New Delhi-110015, after the death of one of the partner **PARSHOTTAM SINGH**, who expired on **25.08.2019**, at Delhi. That my client/s will be responsible for any type of claim/litigation if incurred in future regarding the said firm.

J.C. TRIKHA (Advocate)
M-4, C.S., Tis Hazuri Courts, Delhi-110054

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7 Kapashera Estate
New Delhi-110009
Contact No.: 011-41225000

the Army has also deployed its frontline T-72 and T-90 tanks in most of the sensitive eastern Ladakh region including the Depsang valley to counter the Chinese armour build up.

The two sides are likely to hold next round of diplomatic level talks later this week followed with another round of the Corps Commander level parleys at the LAC, they said.

Rlys may charge ₹10 to ₹35 fees on redeveloped stations: Sources

From Page 1

This is the first time that such a fee, which is levied on air passengers, will be charged from rail users.

UDF is charged at various airports and the rate varies from city to city. “User charges are essentially a small token amount which when collected, will be ploughed back into the improvement of conveniences and facilities for all passengers at the railway station,” a railway ministry spokesperson said.

“The amount of this fee is expected to be very reasonable and minimalistic so that there is no burden on anyone especially common people. This little sum will only be levied at the stations where the footfall is high. It will only be collected by the facility management when the development of the station is complete,” he said.

The spokesperson added that the matter is under consideration and no final decision has been taken on the amount of user charge. “But one thing is certain, that these user charges, as levied, would be minimal and would not be hard on any section of passengers,” he added.

Railway Board CEO VK Yadav in a press conference on September 17 had said the railways will not levy the user charges across all 7,000 stations but “all major stations where the footfall of passengers is increasing over the next five years.”

Trump paid...

From Page 1

At a White House press briefing on Sunday, Trump dismissed the NYT report as a “totally fake news” and claimed that the media house has tried the same thing previously too. “It’s fake news. It’s totally fake news. Made up. Fake. We went through the same stories. You could have asked me the same questions four years ago. I had to litigate this and talk about it,” he said.

“I paid tax...You’ll see that as soon as my tax returns — it’s under audit. They’ve been under audit for a long time,” Trump said. The President said the IRS does not treat him well. “You have people in the IRS - they treat me very badly...The New York Times tried the same thing. They want to create a little bit of a story...They’re doing anything they can,” he said. Trump, who has fiercely guarded his tax filings, is the only president in modern times not to make them public. He has, in fact, fielded court challenges against those seeking access to his returns, including the US House, which is suing for access to Trump’s tax returns as part of congressional oversight.

According to the NYT investigative report, Trump has long fought to keep private left a story fundamentally different

No conclusion yet...

From Page 1

His father KK Singh accused Sushant’s girlfriend Rhea Chakraborty of siphoning off Rs 15 crore from his account.

The CBI had taken over the probe from Bihar Police into the alleged abetment to suicide case filed by the actor’s father in Patna against Rhea Chakraborty and her family members besides others.

The CBI’s reaction came apparently in response to Singh’s lawyer Vikas Singh last week expressing “helplessness” over the slow pace of the CBI probe into Rajput’s death.

On Friday, Vikas Singh alleged that the pace of the CBI probe into Sushant Singh Rajput’s death has suddenly slowed down and all attention is being diverted to drugs-related issues with the NCB conducting a “fashion parade” of Bollywood stars.

“Today, we are helpless as we don’t know which direction the case is going in. Normally, a press briefing is done by the CBI. But in this case, till today, CBI has not done a press briefing on what they have found out. This is a very serious issue,” Singh had alleged at a press conference.

The probe agency had earlier this month also issued a statement calling media reports relating to the probe attributed to it as speculative. “Certain media reports attributed to CBI investigation are speculative and not based on facts. It is reiterated that as a matter of policy, CBI does not share details of the ongoing investigation,” the agency had said on September 3.

“CBI spokesperson or any team member has not shared any details of the investigation with the media. The details being reported and attributed to CBI are not credible,” it added.

No offset...

From Page 1

In a significant move, the DAP featured measures to reduce delay in the procurement of essential items by the three services as it proposed a new enabling provision to acquire them through capital budget under a simplified procedure in a time-bound manner. The Defence Minister also said the DAP has also included provisions to encourage foreign direct investment (FDI) to establish manufacturing hubs both for import substitution and exports while protecting the interests of the Indian domestic industry.

He said the DAP has been aligned with the vision of the Government’s ‘Aatmanirbhar Bharat’ (self-reliant India) ini-

Sonia asks Cong...

From Page 1

“This would also alleviate the farmers from the grave injustice done by the Modi Government and BJP,” the statement said. Former party chief Rahul Gandhi alleged that the agriculture-related laws

tiative and to empower the Indian domestic industry through ‘Make in India’ projects with the ultimate aim of turning the country into a global manufacturing hub.

The policy also provides for single-stage accord of Acceptance of Necessity (AON) in all cases up to Rs 500 crore to cut delays in approval of acquisition proposals.

The DAP also mentioned measures to reform pre-induction testing of defence equipment. The new guidelines also allow the armed forces to go in for having a weapon system on lease rather than buying. At present, the Navy has used this clause by leasing a Russian nuclear-powered submarine for 10 years. This is the second time they have done so.

are a “death sentence” for farmers whose voice has been crushed both inside and outside Parliament. “The agriculture laws are a death sentence to our farmers. Their voice is crushed in Parliament and outside. Here is proof that democracy in India is dead,” he said on Twitter.

dent’s USD 750 contribution to the operations of the US government was dwarfed by the USD 15,598 he or his companies paid in Panama, the USD 145,400 in India and the USD 156,824 in the Philippines.”

The tax data examined provides a road map of revelations, from write-offs for the cost of a criminal defence lawyer and a mansion used as a family retreat to a full accounting of the millions of dollars the president received from the 2013 Miss Universe pageant in Moscow, the report said.

The records “reveal the hollowness, but also the wizardry, behind the self-made-billionaire image”, it said.

Responding to questions, Trump said he has paid a lot of money in taxes. “First of all, I’ve paid a lot, and I paid a lot of state income taxes, too. The New York State charges a lot and I paid a lot of money in state. It’ll all be revealed. It’s going to come out...After the audit,” he said.

Trump said he has 108 pages of tax filings “for all these different companies that do very well, obviously”.

“Those filings are very complete. They’re very big. They’re very powerful. They’re very accurate. Those are the filings that you’ll learn much more and when it’s done,” Trump said.

‘Maha CM knew about meeting between Raut and Fadnavis’

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Having found itself on the defensive over a “secret” two-hour-long meeting between its leader Sanjay Raut and senior BJP leader Devendra Fadnavis at Mumbai hotel on Saturday, the Shiv Sena on Monday said that Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray had known about the meeting between Raut and Fadnavis and that there was no need for people to draw all kinds of inferences into the meeting.

Sena’s senior leader and state party minister Anil Parab came out with a clarification to this effect, a day after Raut had himself said that he had met the BJP leader to discuss certain issues. Raut had said that there might be ideological differences between Shiv Sena and BJP but the leaders of the two parties were not enemies of each other.

A day after his meeting with Fadnavis, Raut had said: “Yes. I had met Fadnavis to discuss certain issues. He is a former CM and Leader of Opposition in Maharashtra and also the BJP in-charge for Bihar polls. There may be ideological differences between the two parties, but we are not enemies. There are no personal disputes to settle. Meetings do keep taking place between the ruling and Opposition sides. When we were in power with the BJP, I used to meet Pawar saheb”.

On his part, Fadnavis had said it was wrong to attribute political meaning to the meeting. He said that the BJP had no plans to align with the Shiv Sena to return to power in Maharashtra. “Don’t attribute political meaning to this meeting. We are not in a hurry to return to power in Maharashtra. The BJP has established itself as an aggressive Opposition party. We are taking up the issues of the people effectively,” Fadnavis said.

Earlier, Raut – who is the executive editor of the Shiv Srena’s official mouth-piece ‘Saamana’ -- had clarified that he had met Fadnavis for a newspaper interview,

WESTERN RAILWAY

DEVELOPMENT, SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, TESTING AND COMMISSIONING OF CENTRALIZED COACH MONITORING SYSTEM
Tender Notice No. & Date : EL 5-2-1-62-CHG-WA-11-R1 Dt. 28.09.2020;
Name of Work : Development, supply, installation, testing and commissioning of Centralized Coach Monitoring System for LHB type AC coaches; **Approx. Cost of work :** Rs. 2,87,62,500/-; **Cost of EMD Rs. :** 2,93,800/-; **Date & Time of Submission :** Not later than 15.00 Hrs. of 02.11.2020; **Date & Time of Opening :** 02.11.2020 at 15.30 Hrs. **Web Address :** www.ireps.gov.in
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PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Ashok Dhar s/o Madho Lal Dhar, R/o c-6, 2nd floor, Kashmir apartment, pitampura, New Delhi -110034 would like to inform general public that I have misplaced the original below listed documents of the above said property on 26.09.2020.
List of documents:-
1. General power of attorney.
2. Possession letter.
3. Relinquishment deed.
4. Will.
If any person/s find the same, is requested to return the same on the above mention address or contact me on the below contact number.
Mobile No. - 9717749991/9311129787

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, T.C.D. U.P. JAL NIGAM, SAMBHAL
Letter No. 887 /enr-8 /89
Dated : 25.09.2020
SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTICE

Online percentage rate short term e-tenders in two bid system for Installation of Indiamark-II Handpump in Urban Area Under Zila Yojna 2019-20 (General/SCP) in District Sambhal U.P. are hereby invited on behalf of Chairman U.P. Jal Nigam from the reputed contractors having requisite work experience. Tender documents shall be available at e-procurement website <http://e-tender.up.nic.in> latest by 28.09.2020 Interested contractor may view & download Tender Document (i.e. Technical & Financial capacity evaluation cum technical bid and financial bid) and upload there tender, duly filled, online latest by 05.10.2020 upto 17.00 Hrs. Technical & financial capacity evaluation cum technical bid shall be opened on 06.10.2020 at 15:30 Hrs. The non refundable cost of e-tender document fee Rs. 2000.00 + 12% G.S.T. or as per latest G.S.T. Rules & Regulation. Details of e-tender will be available on U.P. Jal Nigam website www.jn.upscd.gov.in

DELHI RIOT

26 retd IPS officers slam Ribeiro for questioning probe

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

About 26 retired Indian Police Service (IPS) officers have condemned the conduct of a few fellow ex-police officers led by Julio Francis Ribeiro IPS (Retd) of Maharashtra cadre. Ribeiro had written to the Delhi Police Commissioner, questioning the Northeast Delhi riots probe.

In its letter the former IPS including B L Vohra, former

DGP, Tristram, P C Dogra, former DGP, Punjab, M G Raman, former DGP, Kerala, Sudhir Kumar, former Member, CVC, R S Gupta, former Delhi Police Commissioner, R N Singh, former DGP, UP, Bhanu Pratap Singh, former DGP, UP and Umesh Kumar, former DGP, Andhara Pradesh stated that Ribeiro, who coined the famous phrase 'Bullet for Bullet' while working on depiction in the militancy ridden



Punjab, should not have supported such kind of anti-India expression and communal narrative.

"He and his associates who have come out to support people like Umar Khalid who is known to have given the slogan 'Bharat ki barbadi tak jung rahegi', very well know that there is a due process of law, and there is no one above the law," said the retired IPS officers in their letter.

"The Delhi Police has

every right and duty to investigate the role of any such person, and custodial investigation is a part of due process of law. The accused has his rights under the law to seek anticipatory bail or regular bail, as the case may be, and the right to a fair trial where he can prove himself innocent," they further stated.

"A section of former police officers cannot usurp for themselves the office of Presiding Officers of the Courts to

declare anyone innocent and try to put the police force in bad light. These officers have no right to suspect or question the integrity and professionalism of their successors in the Indian Police Service, and in turn demoralize them," the letter further read.

"Such posturing and adverse commentary by such officers may demotivate the police officers and dilute their firm resolve to act against the criminals, including those who

incite communal divide in India by instigating riots," stated the letter.

"We, the Former Police Officers disapprove any statements or gestures by any motivated group of former police officers, which is aimed at defaming the Police Force and its serving officers, who are performing their duty day and night at great personal risk for the safety of general public," the retired IPS further stated in their letter.

Farm protesters set tractor ablaze at India Gate, 5 held

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Punjab youth Congress activists set ablaze a tractor at India Gate on Monday morning. The Delhi Congress workers, meanwhile, to undertake a Kisan-Mazdoor Nyay March from Rajghat to Raj Niwas to protest against the anti-farmer Bills passed by the Modi Government at the Centre, and submit a memorandum to the Lieutenant Governor.

The Delhi Police said five people claiming to be members of the Punjab Youth Congress have been arrested. The arrested persons have been identified as Manjot Singh (36), Ramandeep Singh Sindhu (28), Rahul (23), Sahib (28) and Sumit (28), all residents of Punjab, police said.

According to a senior police official, the incident took place in high security area just a few metres away from the President's House and the Parliament.

"Around 15-20 people carried a tractor on a truck to Rajpath, Man Singh Crossing. They unloaded the tractor from the truck and set it on fire," he

said.

"Fire department received information regarding the incident at 7.42 am and two fire tenders were rushed to the spot. The blaze has been doused off and tractor was removed," said a senior Delhi Fire Service Official.

Meanwhile, sources in the Delhi Police claimed that they entered the Lutyens' Delhi along with a Punjab Police gipsy.

Dr Eish Singhal, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), New Delhi said that an Innova car and a truck used for transportation of tractor have also been taken into police custody.

"A case under 3 Epidemic Act, 51(B) Disaster Management Act, 4 Damage to Public Property Act and other IPC sections has been registered at Tilak Marg police station and the five persons have been arrested," the DCP said.

IYC media incharge Rao said activists of its Punjab unit demonstrated at the India Gate on the occasion of the birth anniversary of revolutionary freedom fighter Bhagat Singh.

"Our country thrives on the



—Ranjan Dimri | Pioneer

blood and sweat of our farmers. From fighting the British to feeding the entire nation, our farmers are the nation's backbone," the IYC tweeted.

"On #BhagatSingh's birth anniversary Youth Congress set ablaze a tractor in protest

against the govt's anti farmer bills," it added.

Reacting to the incident, Delhi BJP media relations head Neelkant Bakshi tweeted that he would file a case against the "dangerous conspiracy to foment violence by spreading

rumours".

The incident comes amid protests by farmers and the Opposition across the country over the three contentious farm legislations, which were passed by the Parliament last week and got presidential assent on

Sunday.

Farmers have expressed apprehension that the laws would pave a way for the dismantling of the minimum support price system, leaving them at the "mercy" of big companies.

Protect traders from sealing in Capital: CAIT

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) has urged Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs Hardeep Puri to bring an amnesty scheme to protect traders from sealing in the National Capital.

"An amnesty scheme should be introduced with a cut-off date and all business establishments that exists on the cut-off date be allowed to function. In lieu of this, a reasonable charge can also be levied on

such authorisation. It will bring a much desired relief to the traders of Delhi whereas the three Municipal Corporations will get a large amount," said Praveen Khandelwal, Secretary General of CAIT.

Khandelwal said that after suffering from sealing and demolitions, the traders of Delhi have now understood the importance of Master Plan and therefore this time the traders are more conscious about the Master plan 2041.

He further said that Delhi is the largest trade distribution

center in the country and with a view to provide effective systems for development of Delhi in a structured manner and keeping the trade as a key factor new business avenues will be made available to make Delhi a better city.

Khandelwal said that Puri and Delhi Lieutenant Governor Anil Baijal are fully aware of this fact and we hope that Master Plan 2041 will be crafted with such a mandate. "So far three master plans have been implemented in Delhi but the Authorities including MCDs

have utterly failed in discharging their responsibilities envisaged in each Master Plan which made the traders as the sufferer of sealing and demolitions," he said.

"The DDA has started consultations regarding to Delhi's next master plan 2041 with various people of various sections of the capital and in the same sequence on 1 October, a virtual meeting with the traders of Delhi will be held and that will be attended by prominent trade associations of Delhi under the umbrella of the CAIT," he said.

CITY BRIEFS

USER DEPOT MODULE ROLLED OUT DIGITALLY

User Depot Module (UDM) developed by CRIS (Centre for Railway Information Systems) was rolled out digitally across all user depots of Western Railway by P C Sharma, Member (T&RS) on Monday. The system will facilitate economy, efficiency and transparency besides improved asset management. It will ensure improved service level and satisfaction to customers, the ministry said, adding that this system will be implemented shortly across all Zones of Indian Railways. Railway's supply chain up to stores depots has already been digitized, however activities at user end are being done manually.

DRIVE TO VACCINATE STRAY DOGS

The veterinary services department of North Corporation along with World Animal Protection organised a coordinated drive to vaccinate stray dogs on 'World Rabies Day'. A senior corporation official said that at least 604 stray dogs got vaccinated against rabies on Monday. "People were also informed on the ways to prevent infection through banners and posters. The civic body will continue to vaccinate stray dogs under the 'vaccinate to eliminate rabies' initiative.

'POLICE USE BRUTAL FORCE TO ROUND UP FARMERS'

Delhi Congress alleged that the Delhi Police used brutal force to round up the party workers and farmers during the Kisan-Mazdoor Nyay march to protest against the anti-farmer bills passed by the Modi Government at the Centre without any discussions. Kumar said that it was murder of democracy and violation of human rights as the Delhi Police acted in a draconian manner to prevent the Congress workers and farmers from holding a peaceful march in support of the farmers. Party alleged that vice-president Jai Kishan and other leaders detained by the police.

BJP TO APPRAISE PEOPLE ABOUT AGRI REFORMS

Delhi BJP president Adesh Gupta said that the party leaders will visit every house in 365 villages of Delhi and appraised people about agricultural reforms taken by the centre. "The opposition party is misleading the farmers in their political selfishness. The BJP is going to organize Janjagran Abhiyan in every state to prevent misleading propaganda of the opposition and to make farmers aware of historical agricultural reforms," he said.

SALARY DUE: CIVIC BODY POSTPONES PROTEST

North Delhi Mayor Jai Prakash said that the employees of the civic body have postponed their protest after getting assurance regarding releasing salary for two months. Mayor said that in these two months, the efforts in three directions would be made for the payment of arrears of salary and pension of all employees. He said that the Delhi government has reduced the fund of North DMC by 57 percent so that the corporation cannot provide basic facilities to the citizens of Delhi.

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) president Adesh Gupta accused the Kejriwal Government of backing out from paying the examination fees of students studying in class 10th and 12th in Government schools of Delhi.

Gupta said the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) charges examination fees every year for board exams from its recognised schools. Fees are charged up to Rs 2500 per student. But the Kejriwal government had announced that the Delhi government will deposit the examination fees of 3.5 lakh students of class 10 and 12 for the 2019-20 sessions on 17 September 2019.

"Around 57 crore rupees were deposited last year by the Delhi government to CBSE but this year at the time people are facing financial crisis during the Corona pandemic, the Kejriwal government has refused to pay the examination fees due to which the burden will now be on the families of the students.

The BJP president further asked, "Where did the education model of Delhi now? "It clearly exposed the double-faced Kejriwal government as it was trying to be the messiah of the people before the elections and left people to suffer after elections," he said.

Gupta said that for the session 2020-21, about 3.5 lakh students will appear for the 10th and 12th examination.

"The Kejriwal government is wasting money on unnecessary works but not depositing the examination fees. There are many people who earn on a daily basis and at present circumstances; it is difficult for them to pay the fees.



Gautam, Bhardwaj condemn 'sexual assault' of Dalit girl at Hathras

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Cabinet Minister Rajendra Pal Gautam and AAP chief spokesperson and MLA Saurabh Bhardwaj strongly condemned the recent "sexual assault" of a 19-year-old dalit girl at Hathras District of Uttar Pradesh.

Bhardwaj said that a 19-year-old girl, who belonged to the dalit community, was allegedly gang-raped by four upper-caste men in Hathras district of Uttar Pradesh. "The criminals also cut her tongue and attempted to murder by strangulating her. Her spinal injury is such that her hands and legs are paralyzed. Now she is admitted in AIIMS and Delhi Cabinet Minister Rajendra Pal Gautam is in continuous touch with her

family," he said.

Explaining it further, he said "Today we have compiled a list of officials of 39 districts and we will show that all the important posts are with the people from Thakur community. From these districts, 46 topmost officials are from the Thakur community. In Uttar Pradesh, there are various other communities like Maurya community, Nishad, Bind, Kashyap, Jaat, Gujar, Valmiki, Kurmi, Yadav and other communities. But after Adityanath came to power he has only promoted the Thakur community".

Rajendra Pal Gautam said, "At first the Yogi government only registered a case under 307 of IPC but after the survivor came back to sense and due to the pressure from the Dalit community the government finally

filed a case of gang rape.

He also demanded that the family of the survivor should be given Rs 1 crore financial compensation. "We also demand that the Uttar Pradesh government should take this matter in a fast track court and punish the criminals," he said.

"We have looked into the crimes that are happening in Uttar Pradesh, we have found that people of Scheduled Castes and Tribes, OBCs and Brahmin community are constantly being tortured. The morale of the people of a particular community is increasing because whenever the people associated with that community commit any crime, then no action is taken against them by the Yogi government and the police administration," he said.

Airport's T2 to resume operations from October 1

SAPNA SINGH ■ NEW DELHI

After six months of closure in the wake of covid-19 outbreak, air operations at Terminal-2 will begin from October 1. Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL) on Monday announced that the terminal is all set to provide a safe and healthy environment to passengers flying out of Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA).

The resumption of operations at T-2 will be with 96 air traffic movements (48 departures and 48 arrivals) per day and increase progressively up to 180 by end of October, a DIAL official said.

The terminal will resume operations with IndiGo's 2000 series flights and entire operations of GoAir in the initial phase. About 27 counters – 11 for GoAir and 16 for

IndiGo - have been created to cater to the passengers of respective flights. The first flight scheduled from T2 after reopening of this terminal would be Srinagar bound Indigo flight, which will depart at 6:25 AM, the official added.

Explaining more on air operations, a DIAL official said, "To start with, IndiGo will cater to 20 destinations from T2.

These will cater to 20 destinations from T2, including Ahmedabad, Amritsar, Bhubaneswar, Bhopal, Bengaluru, Cochin, Guwahati, Indore, Jammu, Lucknow, Chennai, Patna, Srinagar, Trivandrum, and Visakhapatnam among others. In the next phase, from October 8, 2020, 12 more destinations, including Mumbai, Kolkata, Coimbatore, Dehradun, Goa, Hyderabad, Madurai, Jaipur,



and Nagpur, will start operating from T2."

"Delhi Airport is all set to reopen for domestic flight operations at T2 after six-months shutdown. We would like to assure passengers that at Delhi airport, they would be in a safe and healthy environment. We have implemented several measures at the airport to ensure passenger safety without compromising their comfort and experience," said Videh Kumar Jaipuria, CEO-DIAL.

For the entry into airport at T2 10 Scan and Fly and 3 CUSS kiosks will be available for passengers for web check-in before entering the terminal. To avoid close contact and crowding at the counters, passengers are encouraged to use the e-board-ing facility at Check-in point, the official added.

"About 10 e-boarding kiosks have been set up at the entry gates, 8 at the main security hold area (SHA) and 4 at the Express Check-in lane, which would be operational after a few weeks. The SHA has been expanded to make adequate seating arrangements and retail options", he said

Alongside, UV Tunnels have been deployed at every dispatch baggage belt in the departure area for sanitization of check-in bags

It may be noted that commercial operations of domestic and international flights were suspended from March 24, in a bid to contain the spread of coronavirus pandemic in the country.

The development has come after a successful resumption of Terminal 3 that began operations in a calibrated manner from May 25.

New look BJP

With an eye on State polls and laying ground for the next general elections, the party recasts itself with 60 per cent new faces



This took some time coming, the recasting of the BJP after JP Nadda became its new president, ostensibly halted by the Government's preoccupation with the pandemic. But nine months down the line, the party has made some key changes. Almost 60 per cent of the office bearers are new, which means that the Modi-Shah duo is now reshaping the party's legacy by putting in place a generation next. The second rung would be ready by the time the next general elections are due, when some of the existing stalwarts would superannuate. The new and younger faces serve two purposes. First, they would feel they have a stakeholder-ship in the larger scheme of things and work zealously, something that would help the party attract the younger demographic and energy in time for the next Lok Sabha verdict. Second, it would make the BJP look like a party which believes in intra-party democracy — although the new office-bearers would be so beholden to the current leadership that they are not expected to break a well-set mould — and expose the Opposition Congress as a fossil in comparison. Many crucial office-bearer posts have gone to members from Bengal and Odisha, an indication that BJP is serious about firmly stamping its footprint in eastern India. But the most significant move has been the dilution of known Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) faces in the party's command structure, with Ram Madhav being dropped as national general secretary along with others, BL Santhosh being the lone RSS presence now. But this doesn't mean that there is a sidelining of the RSS, only an appearance of it. Some of the dropped faces, including Madhav, who has been singularly responsible for the party's Kashmir and North-east strategies and gains, are expected to be rewarded with Central Ministries. And with the Prime Minister himself having risen from the cadre, the probable thinking is that the RSS is now very well ensconced in core governance and doesn't have the pressure to be visibly felt. At the same time, it helps Modi project the party as a broader, accommodative entity with representation of non-RSS cadres and should the new inclusions be successful, also help him fob off the pressure from Nagpur. There is no denying that the party cannot do without the RSS architecture that's needed to build a disciplined and committed pyramid ground up but at the same time, some free-wheeling ideologues have caused it enough embarrassment with their radical thinking. Modi, a highly individualist persona, certainly won't brook more challengers at the moment. The new national general secretaries have been selected to ensure an all-India representation, including as they do Dushyant Kumar Gautam, a Dalit leader, D Purandeswari from Andhra Pradesh, CT Ravi, an MLA from Karnataka, Tarun Chugh from Punjab and Dilip Saikia from Assam. Odisha now has four national office bearers, indicating how aggressive the BJP is about this coastal State. While Baijayant Panda continues as vice-president and Sambit Patra as spokesperson, two first-time MPs have been given a national role: Bisweswar Tudu from the tribal district of Mayurbhanj will be one of the national secretaries while Aparajita Sarangi from Bhubaneswar will be the new spokesperson. Former BJP president Amit Shah couldn't accomplish his "Mission 120" in Odisha last year and the national-level inclusions are expected to tap into the ambitions of the local unit to swing the verdict in the party's favour. The party continues to be deeply invested in the North-east, choosing M Chuba Ao from Nagaland as national vice-president and Mmholunmo Kikon, MLA from Nagaland, as a national spokesperson.

However, the appointment of turncoat leader Mukul Roy from Bengal as a national vice-president has shocked many. A former Trinamool Congress (TMC) leader and one-time confidant of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, Roy's elevation shows how desperate the BJP is about Bengal. This at a time when Roy himself was becoming deeply uncomfortable about the little wiggle room he had. It also shows how the local unit hasn't been able to turn the tide of opinion in the BJP's favour as expected and, therefore, the central leadership doesn't mind using imported talent to achieve its purpose. Even Anupam Hazra, who has been appointed national secretary, is a former TMC leader. Roy can clearly help the BJP in countering the booth-level strategies of the TMC and choose candidates wisely. Yet Bengal is messy as the local BJP unit and its leaders are resentful and becoming openly rebellious. The fact that the party dropped its long-time loyalist Rahul Sinha as national secretary to make way for Hazra shows how desperate it is to use TMC rebels to dethrone Mamata. Except, that this could boomerang on itself too. For Bengal operates in binaries. Just as the disgruntled Left cadres joined TMC, nobody can rule out rebel BJP leaders crossing over. The trouble for BJP is that it cannot sit easy on its Lok Sabha performance for it lost three bypoll seats in the State subsequently, including State president Dilip Ghosh's own constituency. Roy has a twin challenge of keeping the State unit together and defeating the TMC in 2021. This could be the BJP's biggest gamble in Bengal. The national overhaul is clearly going "vocal for local" from the BJP's side with a naked ambition to get power in the States it hasn't had a chance to make inroads into historically. But this federalist approach is need-based rather than organic. And therein lies the mismatch.

Implement the rules

If farmers continue to burn stubble in their fields, they will make enemies and lose friends



Agitating farmers in north India might find a lot of fault with the recently passed legislation that dismantled the old system of agricultural commerce even if the Central Government continues to believe in the necessity of these Bills as major reforms. Richer farmers are aghast at the Bills as they hurt their well-connected eco-system as well as harm State Government revenues. That's why politicians in Punjab are protesting so loudly whereas marginal farmers in other States are less unhappy with the Bills, considering their exploitation won't end at the end of the day, big corporations just replacing middlemen. But if the

farmers are hoping to sway opinion against the Bills, then they would have to act upon their brethren burning stubble in their fields and not use it as a pressure tactic to get the Centre's attention. There is no doubt that the Punjab Government has callously thrown its hands up in the air and said it cannot do anything as the overburdened farmers need subsidised equipment and shredders that can help them dispose stubble in an environmentally-friendly way. Possibly this is in order to put pressure upon the Narendra Modi Government. And it is true that the Centre has to use funds at its disposal to subsidise this equipment. However, rules and regulations are in place and the courts have spoken in the past. There needs to be a crackdown on farmers, who willingly and callously burn their fields and are murdering the citizens of their own country as a result. Far from winning sympathy in their fight against corporates, this might even drive popular opinion against farmers to the extent that policy-influencing citizens might want increased corporatisation of the agricultural industry. As it is, the habit of farmers in the north, growing water-intensive crops in a water-stressed region, is quite alarming. Even if the Government can take proactive measures to control the pollution from burning fields this year, we should not forget that this is not the only reason for the poor air quality. Rampant and unmanaged construction activity has also led to severe dust pollution and it would be prudent for civic authorities to better manage that as well. Transport activity is still a bit down due to the Coronavirus, although, without full public transport working, many people are crowding our streets with personal vehicles. 2020 has been a rough year already, let us not make it much worse.

Last post for an officer

A soldier, statesman, scholar and politician, Jaswant Singh found himself at odds with his party as a narrow form of nationalism took roots



BHOPINDER SINGH

Jaswant Singh fought his last fight, as he always did, with restraint, dignity and rectitude that typified his life. Recently, life had ebbed slowly for the proverbial and literal last of the knights (former cavalry officer from the distinguished Central India Horse Regiment) as he silently passed into his Valhalla. The 82-year-old soldier, statesman, scholar and politician always stood out in public imagination with his ramrod straight posture, sartorial sense, stifled baritone, measured words and Queen's English. Singh was the quintessential "officer and a gentleman" on duty. A pleasant oddity in the mucky world of politics. Part of Atal Bihari Vajpayee's eclectic group of "diversities", Singh brought the mellifluous imprint of his rural desert district, Rajput warriors' ethos and scholarly correctness that won over many hard-nosed diplomats from across the world for his professional profundity and efficacy.

Once touted as Vajpayee's trusted "Hanuman", Singh belonged to a political era when one could be an honourable gentleman, dignified and yet a politician. He is most recognised as Vajpayee's globe-trotting troubleshooter as External Affairs Minister, but he completed a rare "D-E-F" in ministerial portfolios, as he was also Defence and Finance Minister. Vajpayee personally stood up for his friend "Jassu" whenever the knives were out from within, against a man who was clearly uncomfortable with the puritanical section of his party. But the sagacious Vajpayee sought no echo-chamber. Instead, he cherished and valued the former soldier's ability to uplift a simple draft in English into the most sublime expression. They were men of letters who respected each other for their "differences" and not feared the same. Such political large-heartedness was not to last and a very different and distinct strain of political instinct was brewing within his own party. It was clear that the space for independent-minded liberals and intellectuals was diminishing. Like his co-soldier and party colleague, Major General BC Khanduri, the narrow form of nationalism was on the rise. It was an unknown space and anathema for even old soldiers, and soon Singh was banished.

He was an intellectual rebel, not



a rabble rouser, a fine difference and a handicap, one that he would soon discover. He had left the Army as he was sick of "Sirring" and "empty posturing." To expect such a man to pander to political insecurities and insensitivities that were rising was unimaginable. In such changing times, there couldn't be a political space for a Jaswant Singh, Arun Shourie, Yashwant Sinha and so on.

Today, when both national security and diplomacy are going through extreme turbulence and relying on hyperbole, jingoism and 'economies of truth' — the reassuring and unflinching visage of Singh in the backdrop of a nuclear test, the Agra Summit, Kargil or in the midst of confabulations with Madeleine Albright and Strobe Talbott, is a fleeting memory of the distant past.

A politician's journey is rife with incidents that are both laudatory and fetching. Singh's political life was no different — the perennial question of him accompanying terrorists to Kandahar to secure the release of 160 hostages is the foremost. What is rarely posited in such questioning is if that was an individual decision or one cleared by the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS), chaired by the Prime Minister, Home Minister and the "D-E-F" ministerial trinity? While no one really stood up and vocally clarified (though, no one denied either) that it was a collective call — Singh was left to

SINGH WAS AMONG THE FIRST TO BLOW THE BUGLE ABOUT HIS PARTY'S CHANGING TENOR, AGENDA AND DIRECTION, AND THEREAFTER SOUGHT A 'SERIOUS INQUIRY.' LITTLE DID HE KNOW OF THE CHANGING AND IRREVERSIBLE WINDS. SOON THE SOLDIER WAS IRONICALLY SLAMMED FOR 'INDISCIPLINE'

carry this can of blemish for posterity, singularly on his hall-mark epaulette-strapped shoulders. On the contrary, the post-incident questioning always left the one-time soldier bemused, saddened and even let down by his colleagues, but beyond a point, he did not stoop to name-calling; he was too much of a thoroughbred gentleman to do that. Singh was among the first to blow the bugle about his party's changing tenor, agenda and direction, and thereafter sought a "serious inquiry." Little did he know of the changing and irreversible winds, and soon the soldier was ironically slammed for "indiscipline." Later, his lettered expression by way of a seminal book, *Jinnah: India, Partition, Independence*, was to be a convenient excuse to get rid of unwanted erudition within the new and rising ranks. Gujarat was the first State to ban the book, an indication of things to follow. Singh's prophetic words then had been that it was tantamount to "banning thinking." A fruition of that political reality plays out today. It was a regrettable political end for the distinguished career of the nine-time parliamentarian, who in his earlier book, *A Call to Honour: In Service of Emergent India*, had invoked the memories of the sun-lit land of his childhood within the four walls of "honour, courage, loyalty and faith" — old fashioned adjectives that sadly don't resonate anymore. His wood-panelled office was

among the most impressive personal libraries and with Bach playing in the background, it was a statement of class, culture and pedigree that was equally at ease in his desert *dhani* with the hauntingly beautiful music of his native bards, Langas and Mangniyars.

Singh was a man of chivalric codes — a civilisational code, a soldier's code and even an understated feudal code that understood the fine difference between respect and servility — he was gracious and respectful and was always respected back, even by people across the "aisle." Politicians like him acknowledged their political opponents as equal patriots and human beings and he was befittingly conferred the "Outstanding Parliamentarian Award" in 2001. More comfortable with his books, writings, horses and an abiding spirit of enquiry — Singh abhorred illiberality, bigotry and the swaggering abuse of power. True to any proud soldier's moral compass, he valued respect more than anything, but as the cavalier once invoked, he was ultimately, "put out to pastures."

Today Vajpayee's "Hanuman," who seldom rested, will be laid to rest, as it were, in a better world — as they say of old soldier's, "they never die, they only fade away." The nation lost a patriot, a statesman, a soldier and above all, a decent man.

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

SOUND BITE

Both the COVID-19 vaccine task force and the immunity task force are doing important work to help us identify the most promising vaccine options and strategies.

Canadian PM
—Justin Trudeau



Punjab, which would be the worst affected by these treacherous laws, would take this fight forward with all its might.

Punjab Chief Minister
—Amarinder Singh



These days Sanju (Samson) is striking the ball cleanly all over the ground. We will have to adapt to bigger grounds but these shots would clear everywhere.

Cricketer
—Steve Smith



It is very crucial for us to support our folk artists — our industry, workers who are keeping our heritage intact.

Singer
—Shaan



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The world needs a 'people's vaccine'

Globally, more than one million people have died from COVID-19. The real figure could be higher than the official numbers, especially in view of the fact that a lot of COVID-related mortalities outside hospitals are linked to co-morbidities and are not counted as COVID deaths. The casualty toll is growing by the day with a vaccine nowhere in sight. The World Health Organisation's (WHO's) prognosis that there could be another million deaths, even with the vaccine, before the pandemic is eventually brought under control, deepens the gloom.

Data attest that older people and those with pre-existing conditions are more at risk than others. SARS-CoV-2 is virulent and its infective ability varies from person to person. At the same time, it is possible to contain its spread and reduce its fatality by a scientific response. It is a proven fact that poverty increases vulnerability to diseases and this holds good in the case of COVID too. Social and economic conditions co-relate with public health. Obviously, the fight against the ongoing pan-



dem becomes weaker when healthcare professionals are overstretched and hospitals are under-resourced. Given its implications, herd immunity is not an option. A viable vaccine is the need of the hour but only if it is available free of cost to everyone will we be able to vanquish the virus.

G David Milton
Maruthancode

Biomedical waste

Sir — Before the pandemic, India produced approximately 600 tonnes of biomedical waste per day. However, now the amount of biomedical waste has increased exponentially. For a country of more than 1.3 billion people, we have only 198 Biomedical Waste Treatment Centres (BMWTCs) and 225

medical centres with captive waste treatment facilities. We need to make sure that we are not further polluting the environment while fighting the virus.

The Government should increase its biomedical waste incineration capacity by employing mobile incinerators as Wuhan did. Additionally, proper segregation of waste should be carried out at all the centres so

that medical waste isn't dumped in public places.

Rahul Chouhan
Ujjain

Farmers' uproar

Sir — Farmers' protests have intensified after the President gave assent to the three Bills on Sunday. Their main objection is dismantling of the existing

Agricultural Produce Market Committee *mandis*, which will leave them at the mercy of big companies. They also fear that if the *mandi* system comes to an end, so will the minimum support price system. The Government should make necessary amendments and ensure that the farmers do not suffer.

BO Changa
West Bengal

Women's safety

Sir — A 22-year-old woman was allegedly raped by two Railway officers at the Bhopal station. This incident took place just days after a 19-year-old was raped by four upper caste men in Hathras district. The culprits had cut off her tongue and severely injured her spinal cord. Currently, she is on a ventilator fighting for her life at a hospital in Aligarh. The Government must ensure that the women of this country are safe. New laws need to be introduced and a strict and swift justice system should be put in place.


Khushbu Ved
Ujjain

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

FIRST COLUMN

File ITR even for zero income

The benefits of filing taxes are many apart from the fact that we should be responsible citizens of the country



LIONEL CHARLES

Given the havoc that the Coronavirus pandemic has played on the economy of the country and personal incomes of people, the Government has extended the Income Tax Return (ITR) filing deadline for the financial year (FY) 2019-20 to November 30. However, not many people are aware that they may be liable to file their ITR this time around even if their income was below the taxable limit in FY 2019-20. Though this may make people question the intention of the Government in the face of the hardships being faced by them due to salary cuts and lay-offs, but this has been done in a bid to catch tax evaders. In a bind because of the crumbling global and Indian economy even before the outbreak proved to be the last straw that broke the camel's back, the Government last year introduced certain criteria from FY20 that make individuals liable to file ITR. The whole idea behind enhancing the return filing criteria is to catch unscrupulous taxpayers where there is a mismatch between the declared income and the expenses incurred by the assessee.

Even though most people tend to believe that filing an ITR is relevant for assesseees with income above the tax slab, it has multi-layered importance, irrespective of whether the income is above or below the taxable limit or whether there's a tax liability or not. Significantly, if the income is below the taxable limit or is "zero" the return is called "nil" return. But it acts as proof of funds accumulated in bank accounts or investments because, even if a person is earning an income below the taxable limit, over the years they create a corpus. In case there is any scrutiny after a few years, it becomes a tiring and lengthy process to prove the source of earnings, without an ITR, which is a legally-accepted proof of income.

Plus, under the seventh proviso to Section 139(1) of the Income-tax Act, 1961, even if the income is below the exempted limit, an assessee will have to file an ITR if they paid an electricity bill of ₹1 lakh or above during the year; deposited ₹1 crore or more in one or more current accounts and incurred an expenditure of ₹2 lakh or more for travel to a foreign country. An individual travelling or planning to travel abroad requires a legal proof of earning. For salaried people, the employer certificate serves as proof. However, for individuals who are self-employed, the ITR can serve the purpose.

In cases where the assessee incurs capital losses during the financial year, the Income Tax Act allows him/her to carry it forward for eight consecutive years to set it off against any future gains. However, to keep track of the losses, it is mandatory to file the return before the due date even if the ITR is a loss return. Without this the losses of the year cannot be carried forward. So, even if there is no income to show, the Income-Tax Department lays it down that you declare the capital losses in your return before the due date.

In case a person has paid taxes over and above what stands payable, considering all the deductions and exemptions allowed, the assessee becomes entitled to a refund from the I-T Department. However, to get this refund, filing an ITR is mandatory. Salaried people usually believe that filing ITR isn't required because the tax on their income has already been deducted. However, it is possible that the tax deducted and deposited as per Form 16 may be in excess of what should be cut. The employer might not have taken into consideration the actual tax-saving investments, insurances or actual house rent. In that case, filing the ITR helps to claim a refund.

Although, the Motor Vehicles Act does not make it compulsory to give the ITR while arriving at a compensation in case of disability or accidental death, the ITR is needed in case of self-employed people to establish the income of the person and arrive at the compensation amount.


Also, when a person is applying for loans, be it for a house, car or a personal loan, one of the mandatory documents required to be submitted to the loaning entity include the ITR for the last two-three years as proof of income. This is because ITR helps the lender determine the person's income, payment obligations and loan repayment capacity. Plus when an individual intends to buy a high life cover, it is common for the insurance company to ask for proof of income. This is primarily done to assess the value of the cover amount that can be allowed to the person. The proof of income could be the salary slip, bank statement or the ITR of the past three-consecutive assessment years. So, for cases where the person doesn't receive a salary slip or has monthly income disbursed from different groups, ITR serves as the only solid proof of income.

Then there are people who have very small incomes from sources like dividends, bank interest, family pension or tax-free earnings like agricultural income or interest on tax-free bonds. For these people, even though the proceeds are below the taxable limit, filing an ITR serves as proof of income that can be of multi-dimensional use subsequently. The benefits of filing taxes are many apart from the fact that we should be responsible citizens of the country.


(The writer is CEO, IndiaFilings)

analysis07

POINTCOUNTERPOINT



PROVE IT (CORRUPTION) AND I'LL RETIRE FROM POLITICS. OTHERWISE, YOU RESIGN. SHOULD I ACCEPT WHATEVER YOU SAY OR READ HERE?
—KARNATAKA CHIEF MINISTER
BS YEDIYURAPPA



GRAFT ALLEGATIONS SHOULD BE PROBED BY A SITTING SUPREME COURT JUDGE OR A SIT. IF THE CHARGES ARE PROVEN WRONG, I WILL RESIGN FROM MY POST.
—KARNATAKA LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION
SIDDARAMAIAH

A mixed bag

The labour law reforms are being bandied about as the most crucial second generation amendments that will make it easier to do business but must not compromise workers



UTTAM GUPTA

The Narendra Modi Government recently passed three Bills on labour reforms enshrined in three labour codes, namely The Industrial Relations Code, 2020, The Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020 and The Code on Social Security, 2020. Along with The Code on Wages, 2019, passed by the Parliament last year, these four labour law reforms are being bandied about as the most crucial second generation amendments that will make it easier to do business, improve the competitiveness of the Indian industry, make it a manufacturing hub and pursue the "Make in India" agenda successfully. Even as the landscape of these legislations is vast, there are four areas which will have far-reaching implications for the way the Centre and the States will be regulating businesses and ensuring the welfare of workers. These include (I) consolidation (call it merger) of existing 29 Central Labour Acts into four codes; (II) increase in the threshold for retrenchment, closure or lay-off for a firm (without Government permission) from existing 100 to 300 workers; (III) giving greater flexibility to the States in enacting legislation and (IV) providing for universal social security for workers. At the outset, let us recognise that labour is on the Concurrent List of the Constitution; therefore, both the Union Government and the States have the power to legislate on the subject. Hitherto, there were 29 Central Labour Acts besides 200 State-enacted laws and amendments. This meant that a company was required to take a number of licences, registrations, permissions, renewals and file numerous returns periodically under different Acts. For instance, it had to file one annual return each under the Payment of Wages Act (1936), the Minimum Wages Act (1948) and the Payment of Bonus Act (1965).

Shockingly, even a MSME (micro, small and medium enterprise) is required to maintain at least 10 different formats of wage registers, four formats of accident registers and four of muster rolls under different Acts. The regulations at the State level are even more complex. Each State enjoys the right to formulate specific rules with respect to applicability thresholds, forms, formats, calculations, dates, frequency of submissions, filing types (paper-based vs. digital) and so on. This results in different due dates, multiplicity of forms and formats, duplication in record-keeping requirements, redundancies, complex procedures, ambiguous interpretations and so on. As a result, companies which operate in several States face a nightmare.

Consolidation of the extant 29 laws into four codes should help firms in getting rid off this nightmare. They can look forward to a significant reduction in the number of licences, registrations, renewals, returns and registrations earlier required under different Acts. As a result, the compliance burden will go down. For instance, under The Code on Wages, 2019, a firm needs to file a single annual return against three different annual returns earlier. Correspondingly, at the State level too, businesses will be unshackled.

As regards (II), under the extant law, employers of industrial establishments such as mines, factories, plantations and so on, with at least 100 workers, were required to take prior permission of the Central or the State Governments before retrenchment or closure of workers. Together with a myriad of regulations and compliances, which increase in proportion to the scale of operations, this was a major impediment in the way of firms growing in size and creating more jobs. It also takes away the flexibility of firms to adjust their labour deployment in sync with changing demand conditions. It affects their ability to stay afloat in a competitive environ-

“

WORRYINGLY, THE CODE DOES NOT STRESS ON SOCIAL SECURITY AS A RIGHT AND DOES NOT MAKE ANY REFERENCE TO ITS PROVISION AS STIPULATED BY THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COUNTRY. PLUS, IT DOES NOT LAY DOWN A CLEAR DATE FOR ENFORCEMENT. THIS WILL LEAVE WORKERS VULNERABLE WITHOUT SOCIAL PROTECTION. IT IS VITAL THAT SOCIAL SECURITY PROTECTION BE MADE UNIVERSAL FOR THE ENTIRE NATION'S WORKFORCE. HOWEVER, THE CODE MAKES WHIMSICAL CATEGORISATIONS THAT WILL DEPRIVE MILLIONS OF WORKING POOR OF THEIR RIGHTS

”

ment especially when the economy is in a downward phase. It also prompts them to hire contract workers, which is not a good sign especially for their social security. This has seriously impacted formalisation of the economy. Out of about 63 million enterprises, only one million or 1.5 per cent are in the formal sector.

This preponderance of the so-called unorganised informal economy (it accounts for roughly 50 per cent of the Gross Domestic Product and 80-90 per cent of the workforce) is the inevitable outcome of imposing such restrictions.

The increase in threshold under The Industrial Relations Code, 2020 should come as a big relief, as firms having up to 300 workers will get the much-needed flexibility to adjust to the changing business environment. But what is the sanctity of fixing the threshold at 300? Why should enterprises employing workers in excess of this be subjected to approval?

In the contemporary economic milieu, wherein the ability of firms to compete depends largely on the scale of operations (even start-ups in a matter of few years get into the position of giving jobs to thousands of workers), imposition of such arbitrary thresholds viz. 100 or 300 or even higher — a legacy of the socialist era — is totally out of place. This needs to be done away with.

The Code provides for "fixed-term employment" through contract workers on a pan-India basis. Currently, companies hire contract workers through contractors. With the introduction of fixed-term employment, they will be able to hire workers directly under a fixed-term contract, with the flexibility to adjust its tenure based on the seasonality of industry. These workers will be treated on a par with regular workers. It will be a win-win for both the companies and those aspiring for jobs.

The Code does not take away the workers' right to go on strike. However, it has been made mandatory to give 14 days' notice for giving time to sort out differences through harmonious discussion during this period. Doing away with multiplicity of unions and introduction of

the concept of a "negotiating union" is a welcome move. Coming to (III), under the present law, States have limited powers to exempt factories from labour laws. For instance, The Factories Act, 1948 allowed exemption from its provisions in cases of public emergency only for a period of three months. For making changes or giving exemptions from the law for longer duration, they had to approach the Central Government. Now, the Union Government has given a lot of flexibility to States while implementing these Codes. For instance, The Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020 empowers the States to exempt new factories from any of the provisions of the new law for more economic activities and employment opportunities. No timeline for giving exemption to factories is prescribed as against three months at present. It also exempts existing establishments from any of the provisions of the new Code in case of an emergency provided that certain conditions are fulfilled.

Under the Industrial Relations Code, 2020, States can allow easier retrenchment, or closure norms for more firms through a notification, without the need to seek the Centre's approval. For instance, unlike in the past when they could increase the threshold only after seeking the approval of the President and then getting it passed by the legislature (16 States had hiked the threshold to 300 workers following this lengthy procedure only), now a State can do it by issuing an executive order.

The State can also exempt new establishments from "any or all provisions" of the law dealing with industrial disputes, retrenchment and trade unions "unconditionally" for a specific period of time as it thinks fit. This can be done in "public interest".

Though, prompted by the dire need to press the accelerator for industrialisation at a fast pace, these provisions may have given too much discretionary power to State bureaucrats. They need to use these judiciously and while granting exemptions, they should ensure that workers' interests are not compromised.

As regards (IV), The Code on Social Security, 2020 provides for universal social security for workers by expanding the ambit of Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) and Employees' State Corporation of India (ESCI) and setting up of a social security fund to cover around 400 million unorganised sector workers. However, some clauses are a bit restrictive. For instance, only sites with 10 or more building and other construction workers are covered. Likewise, for Provident Fund, only establishments with 20 or more workers are covered. This will result in exclusion of millions of MSMEs.

Worryingly, the Code does not stress on social security as a right and does not make any reference to its provision as stipulated by the Constitution of the country. Plus, it does not lay down a clear date for enforcement. This will leave workers vulnerable without social protection. It is vital that social security protection be made universal for the entire nation's workforce. However, the Code makes whimsical categorisations that will deprive millions of working poor of their rights.

While the Code defines multiple categories, most are obscure and have not been revised to determine whether a worker belongs to the organised or unorganised sector. For instance, platform and gig workers are not defined as part of the unorganised workforce, even though lakhs of people are employed as such. Similarly, the word "establishment" in the Code should have been altered to make sure that all workers come under the ambit of social security protection.

To sum up, the enactment of the four Codes is a big leap forward in labour reforms but there still needs to be some more thought put into the protection of workers. As for the outcome, a lot will depend on how the States respond as they are the ones who have to implement, frame and notify the rules and do the follow up. If, they don't and keep the regulations complex, the intended benefits won't percolate down to the last worker. Both the Centre and States have to work towards this.

(The writer is a policy analyst)

Ginsburg's long fight for gender parity will be remembered

Justice Ginsburg's death has caused a political storm in the US. President Trump plans to fill her seat with a loyal, woman conservative. That will be a tragedy



ADITYA MANUBARWALA



HANNAH GHULAM

The tenure of former US President Bill Clinton can best be described as tumultuous. The jury is out regarding many of his decisions except one: The nomination of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg as an Associate Justice of the US Supreme Court in 1993. Both, supporters as well as detractors, of Justice Ginsburg do converge on the fact that her tenure was one of the most eventful ones in the Supreme Court in the past 50 years. Justice Ginsburg passed away on September 18, after close to three glorious decades in the US top court. Later dubbed the

"Notorious RBG", she was a pioneer of the women's liberation movement in the US and a significant portion of her life's work was towards ushering in gender just laws. Ginsburg was inspired by the civil rights movement and saw this feminist activism as its extension and logical successor.

Growing up in the inherently unequal America of the 1940s-1960s with its institutionalised and mainstream sexism, Ginsburg was quickly confronted with the discriminatory system. Despite having served on the *Harvard Law Review* (considered a symbol of intellectual brilliance) and graduating top of her class at Columbia, no law firm in New York City wished to hire a woman at the time. Similarly, she lost a chance of serving as a Law Clerk to Justice Felix Frankfurter of the US Supreme Court, who unabashedly told her that he wasn't ready to hire a woman.

Confronted by this harsh reality, Ginsburg turned to activism. From 1972, she began a close relationship with the American Civil Liberties

Union, and co-founded its Women's Rights Project. Within two years she had taken part in more than 300 gender-related cases. One of her most iconic wins at the Supreme Court was *Frontiero v Richardson* (1973), which decided that compensation and other service benefits cannot be given differently on the basis of gender alone. The case particularly challenged the service rules of the US Air Force prohibiting husbands of women officers from being listed as dependents for the purposes of housing and other benefits. This was based on the assumption that men are the family bread-winners and women the caretakers. Of the total six cases argued in the apex court by Justice

Ginsburg, she won an astonishing five, setting the foundation for a revolution in gender justice-oriented jurisprudence, which has subsequently been emulated across the world.

In her attempts to persuade an all-male Supreme Court, Ginsburg focussed on male applicants. This strategic litigation allowed her to confront the justices with the harmful effects of gender discrimination on men such as themselves. Winning their empathy in this manner, she managed to shake the foundations of the sexist system to the advantage of both men and women.

Ginsburg also landed several teaching positions and became the first woman tenure lecturer at Columbia University. Subsequently, she functioned as a surprisingly moderate federal judge. Her appointment as a Supreme Court Justice was, therefore, met with a great deal of suspicion from feminist activists, who feared that she would not be the most passionate advocate for women's rights.

Justice Ginsburg proved them

wrong. Her years at the apex court were characterised by her staunch belief in gender equality and her support for LGBTQIA+ and minority rights. She was the author of the majority opinion in *US vs Virginia*, wherein the court struck down as discriminatory the practice of male-only admissions in the Virginia Military Academy. This judgment revolutionised the US Constitution's "equal protection of laws" clause (14th Amendment) by adding equality on the basis of gender to the traditional interpretation of equality on the basis of race. Referring to the apex court's decision in *Brown vs Education Board of Topeka*, Ginsburg stated that if racially segregated schools were declared unconstitutional, then so should separate military academies for women for they would not impart the same level of military training as the male ones. Justice Ginsburg's verdict in the *Virginia Military case* in particular served to be a great inspiration behind the Indian Army permitting the commissioning of women officers.

Faced with a conservative-leaning Supreme Court, Justice Ginsburg often had to turn to dissenting opinions as well. She famously disagreed with the majority's view in *Bush vs Gore* that the manual vote recount for the presidential election ordered by the Florida Supreme Court was unconstitutional. In *Shelby County vs Holder*, the majority held the federal pre-clearance for changes in the voting laws of States with a history of racial discrimination to be unconstitutional. Justice Ginsburg vehemently protested, stating that this pre-clearance effectively protected against racial voting discrimination and that the judgment resembled "throwing away your umbrella in a rainstorm because you are not getting wet." Some of her other influential dissents dealt with issues such as gender workplace discrimination and reproductive health.

Justice Ginsburg's death has caused a political storm in the US. President Trump plans to fill Ginsburg's seat as soon as possible by replacing her with a woman, loyal and conservative candidate. This would present the conservatives with a "super majority" in the apex court. Democrats met this news with a wave of protests and called to postpone any nomination until after the presidential election in November. Such a super majority would put the right to abortion, among others, on a shaky pedestal. A part of Ginsburg's legacy in the fight for gender equality could, therefore, be at serious risk of being erased. This is a troublesome testimony that the fight against discrimination in the US has not been won yet, but is on the contrary facing a threat of regression. Regardless, it goes without doubt that Justice Ginsburg's was one of the most influential figures in the fight for women's rights and liberal thought in the US. Her highly respected, brilliant mind will be missed in these times of growing insecurity.

(Manubharwala is the incumbent Global Peace Ambassador to India. Ghulam obtained a LL.M with a specialisation in human rights from Ghent University, Belgium. Both are LL.M candidates at the University of Cambridge)

Trump’s tax revelation could tarnish his image

Washington: The bombshell revelations that President Donald Trump paid just \$750 in federal income taxes the year he ran for office and paid no income taxes at all in many others threaten to undercut a pillar of his appeal among blue-collar voters and provide a new opening for his Democratic rival, Joe Biden, on the eve of the first presidential debate.

Trump has worked for decades to build an image of himself as a hugely successful businessman — even choosing “mogul” as his Secret Service code name.

But The New York Times on Sunday revealed that he paid just \$750 in federal income taxes in 2016, the year he won the presidency, and in 2017, his first year in office.

He paid no income taxes whatsoever in 10 of the previous 15 years, largely because he reported losing more money than he made, according to the Times, which obtained years’ worth of tax return data that the president had long fought to keep private.

Around the Globe

Islamabad: Pakistan’s Supreme Court on Monday barred the Sindh government from releasing British-born al-Qaeda leader Ahmed Omar Saeed Sheikh and his three aides - the main accused in the abduction and murder of US journalist Daniel Pearl in 2002.

Seoul: South Korean President Moon Jae-in apologised for the first time on Monday for the death of a man who was shot by North Korean troops last week, saying his government failed in its responsibility to safeguard a citizen.

Berlin: Germany has launched a new search for a site to store its most radioactive nuclear waste, eliminating a disputed site at a former salt mine that was earmarked decades ago and has long been a focus of protests.

Warsaw: Polish leaders on Monday rejected suggestions that LGBT people are deprived of any of their rights in the country, after an open letter from 50 ambassadors and international representatives cited a need to work for “non-discrimination, tolerance and mutual acceptance.”

E TENDER NOTICE

YEAR 2020/21

Gandhinagar Smart City Development Ltd.
GANDHINAGAR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
Multi Storied Building, B-Block, First Floor, Sector-11, Gandhinagar
Gandhinagar Smart City Development Ltd. is inviting tenders for the work given below Bids are invited for the e-tendering rates from the reputable agencies

Tender No.	Name of Work	Tender Fee	E.M.D.
GSCDL-ICT-16-2020	"Appointment of a Consultant/ Firm for providing Project Management Consultancy Services for Operations and Maintenance of ICT project of Gandhinagar Smart City"	15,000/-	1,50,000/-

The tender form can be filled online by downloading from website www.nprocure.com from **Dt. 29/09/2020 to Dt. 13/10/2020** upto **17.00 hours**. Pre Bid Meeting will be Scheduled on date **Dt. 09/10/2020**
Any documents for the necessary support of tender bid must be scanned in the electronic format and submitted online on www.nprocure.com. The technical bids and the amount of tender fees and the Demand Draft of EMD shall be submitted in hard copy in name of **CEO, Gandhinagar Smart City Development Ltd.** upto **Dt. 17/10/2020** by registered post or speed post till **17.00 hours**. Only those offers will be opened.
Online Technical Bid Opening **Dt.19/10/2020 at 15.00 hrs.**

Sd/-

Place:- Gandhinagar
Dt. 29/09/2020

Municipal Commissioner, Gandhinagar and
Chairman Gandhinagar Smart City
No/INF/VPN/2020/G/980

Development Ltd.

NORTHERN RAILWAY

Auction NOTICE

Auction of Lot No. 1, N.R. ZRT/CH, 647 numbers Dangerous trees and Lot No.2, Railway Colony, 463 numbers dangerous trees under Assistant Divisional Engineer/ Northern Railway Chandausi will be auctioned in the office of Assistant Divisional Engineer/Northern Railway Chandausi. All the interested bidders are invited to participate in this auction.

Auction place:- Office of the Assistant Divisional Engineer/Northern Railway/ Chandausi on date **15.10.2020 at 11:00 AM.**

- All the bidders will deposit cash Rs.100/- in the office of Assistant Divisional Engineer/Northern Railway/Bareilly which will not be refunded and shall also deposit Rs.8000/- in favor of Sr. Divisional Finance Manager Northern Railway Moradabad as a Demand Draft of SBI or other Nationalized Bank.
- All the bidders who will take part in the auction will also have proper knowledge of Auction rules and others allowances.
- Successful bidders will deposit the Demand Draft of SBI or other Nationalized Bank in favour of Sr. DFM/MB or station earning in cash on same day with following rate.
 - 10% amount of selling price or minimum amount Rs. 25,000/- whichever is maximum on purchase of more than Rs. 1,00,000/-
 - Balance amount will be deposited within 10 days including the date of auction.
 - GST will be deposited as per the standard rate.
 - The work should be completed within 60 days including the date of auction.
- Railway has right to close the work any time. In this situation the balance amount will be returned without interest.
- Complete Details of tree with locations will be available in the Divisional Office Moradabad.
- Bidders are requested to quote their rates according to the tree locations.
- Trees will be delivered and handed over in the presence of SSE/works, ISA and RPF.
- If the balance amount is not deposited within 10 days including the date of auction, then initial deposited amount will be forfeited.
- Bidders will not make any Kutcha/Pukka construction in the land of Railway.
- Bid will not be quoted below the base price.
- Demand draft will be deposited in the office of Assistant Divisional Engineer /Northern Railway/Chandausi from 09.00 am to 10.30 AM. After that no demand draft will be accepted.

Note: Each lot will be auctioned separately.
No. LMCT/REE/B/E/2020 Dated : 28.09.2020
Serving Customers With A Smile
2085/2020

The development comes at a particularly precarious moment for Trump, whose Republican campaign is struggling to overcome criticism of the president's handling of the pandemic. It hands Biden an easy attack line heading into Tuesday's debate. And with early voting already happening in some states and Election Day just over a month away, Trump may be running out of time to turn his campaign around.

“Donald Trump needs this election to be about Joe Biden as a choice,” said longtime GOP consultant Alex Conant. “This keeps the focus squarely on Trump’s character and the chaos going into the most important night of the campaign, the debate.” Of course, Trump has repeatedly faced — and survived — devastating turns that would have sunk any other politician.

That includes, most notably, the stunning “Access Hollywood” tape released in October 2016, in which Trump was recorded bragging about kissing and groping women

without their permission. The video's release came just two days before Trump was set to face then-candidate Hillary Clinton in their second debate and was considered a death knell to his campaign at the time.

White House press secretary Kayleigh McEnany told “Fox & Friends” on Monday that Democrats are replaying “the same playbook they tried in 2016 — the same playbook that the American people rejected and will do so again.”

At this point in the race, with voting already underway in many states and so few voters still undecided, it is unclear whether any new discoveries about Trump would make any difference. Trump's support over the years has remained remarkably consistent, polls over the course of his presidency have found.

Yet the tax allegations go to the very heart of Trump's appeal, especially among the blue-collar voters in states like Pennsylvania, Wisconsin and Michigan who propelled him to the presidency in 2016. **AP**

US judge suspends Trump’s ban on TikTok downloads

Washington: A US federal judge late on Sunday halted a politically charged ban ordered by the Trump administration on downloads of the popular video app TikTok, hours before it was to go into effect.

District Judge Carl Nichols issued a temporary injunction at the request of TikTok, which the White House has called a national security threat alleging that its Chinese parent firm is tied to the Beijing government.

The opinion was sealed, so no reason for the decision was released in a one-page order by the court in Washington.

The Trump administration order sought to ban new downloads of the app from midnight (0400 GMT Monday) but would allow use of TikTok until November 12, when all usage would be blocked. The judge denied TikTok's request to suspend the November 12 ban. **AFP**

Armenia, Azerbaijan keep up deadly fight for disputed region

Yerevan: Armenia and Azerbaijani forces kept fighting Monday over the disputed separatist region of Nagorno-Karabakh after hostilities broke out the day before, with both sides blaming each other for resuming the deadly attacks.

The Azerbaijani Defence

Ministry claimed that Armenian forces started shelling the town of Tartar on Monday morning, while Armenian officials said the fighting continued throughout the night and Baku resumed “offensive actions” in the morning.

Azerbaijan's Defence Ministry told the Interfax news agency Monday that over 550

Beijing using militarised outposts in South China Sea as platforms of coercion: US

Washington: China is using its militarised outposts in the South China Sea as platforms of coercion to assert control over waters it has no lawful claim over, the United States has said, demanding President Xi Jinping to honour his commitment that these maritime constructions “would not target or impact any country”.

Beijing claims almost all of the 1.3 million square-mile South China Sea as its sovereign territory. China has been building military bases on artificial islands in the region which, in parts, is claimed by Brunei, Malaysia, the Philippines, Taiwan and Vietnam.

Beijing has impeded commercial activity like fishing and mineral exploration by neighbouring nations in recent years, saying the ownership of the resource-rich maritime territory belongs to China for hundreds of years.

US State Department spokesperson Morgan Ortugas on Sunday said five years ago on September 25, 2015 the Chinese President, standing in

the White House Rose Garden, promised ‘China does not intend to pursue militarisation’ of the Spratly Islands, and China’s outposts ‘would not target or impact any country’.

Instead the Chinese government backed by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) has pursued reckless and provocative militarisation of these disputed outposts, deploying anti-ship cruise missiles, expanding military radar with signal intelligence capabilities, constructing dozens of fighter jet hangars and runways capable of accommodating combat aircraft, Ortugas said.

“The CCP uses these militarised outposts as platforms of coercion to assert control over waters to which Beijing has no lawful maritime claim,” Ortugas said.

They serve as staging grounds for the hundreds of maritime militia vessels and China Coast Guard ships that regularly harass civilian carriers and impede legitimate law enforcement activities, offshore fishing, and hydrocarbon development by neighbouring

Top Afghan negotiator in Taliban talks arrives in Pak

Islamabad: Afghanistan’s top official in negotiations with the Taliban arrived in Pakistan’s capital Monday on a three-day trip during which he will meet with the country’s prime minister and other government officials.

Abdullah Abdullah, who leads the Afghan High Council for National Reconciliation, was received by top government officials on arriving in Islamabad.

Apart from meeting with Prime Minister Imran Khan, the Afghan reconciliation

leader also will meet with President Arif Alvi, Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi and other officials.

The council represents the Afghan government in historic peace negotiations with the Taliban which began in Qatar on September 12.

Those talks represent the most-serious effort yet at ending decades of war in Afghanistan that followed the 2001 US-led invasion that toppled its Taliban government, which then hosting al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden who

China fires back at US over SCS, green damage

Beijing: US-China friction flared again Monday, with Beijing firing back at accusations by Washington that it is a leading cause of global environmental damage and has reneged on its promise not to militarise the South China Sea.

A document issued last week by the State Department cited China’s record on issues from greenhouse gas emissions to air and water and soil pollution, illegal logging and wildlife trafficking.

“While the Chinese people have suffered the worst environmental impacts of its actions, Beijing also threatens the global economy and global health by unsustainably exploiting natural resources and exporting its willful disregard for the environment,” the document said.

Department spokesperson Morgan Ortugas followed that with a statement Sunday saying China has “pursued a reckless and provocative militarization” of disputed outposts in the South China Sea’s Spratly Islands, adding that China’s ruling Communist Party “does not honor its words or commitments.” **AP**

Pompeo pledges US support to ease Greece-Turkey dispute

AP ■ THESSALONIKI (GREECE)

US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said Monday the United States will use its diplomatic and military influence in the region to try to ease a volatile dispute between NATO allies Greece and Turkey over energy rights in the eastern Mediterranean.

Pompeo began a five-day regional tour Monday in the northern Greek city of Thessaloniki, days after Greece and Turkey committed to restarting a diplomatic dialogue on the dispute that triggered a dangerous military build-up — and fears of military conflict — in the disputed maritime area over the summer.

Spain’s top court rules to remove Catalan chief from office

Madrid: Spain’s Supreme Court on Monday effectively barred Catalonia’s regional president from his office for refusing to remove a banner that called for the release of imprisoned separatist leaders and was displayed on a public building ahead of the 2019 general election.

The ruling that Quim Torra disobeyed Spain’s electoral law triggers a new period of political uncertainty in the northeastern region where a demand by some for independence has triggered the country’s biggest constitutional crisis in decades.

According to the existing regulations, Torra’s deputy should take over as president-in-charge until the regional parliament elects a new leader or a new election is held. Pro-secession activists reacted by calling for protests later Monday in the regional capital, Barcelona.

In their ruling, the panel of judges unanimously agreed to uphold last year’s decision by a lower court to ban Torra from holding any public office for 18 months and fine him 30,000 euros (USD 35,000).

Torra, a staunch separatist who became the head of Catalonia’s government following the 2017 push for the region’s independence from Spain, had previously criticised the case as an act of repression against the democratic mandate of voters in the region.

His predecessor, Carles Puigdemont, who fled to Belgium after the Spanish government deposed him for pushing ahead with an independence declaration, criticised the court’s decision. **AP**

FIRST 2020 PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE

Trump, Biden face off today



Washington: Republican incumbent President Donald Trump and his Democratic challenger Joe Biden are all set to share the stage for the first time on Tuesday night when they will be going head-to-head in the first of the three presidential debates.

Dubbed as the “Super Bowl of American Democracy”, Trump, 74, and Biden, 77, would respond to questions on their track record, the Supreme Court, economy, race and violence in cities and integrity of the elections at the Case Western Reserve University and Cleveland Clinic in Cleveland, Ohio — a key battleground state.

Popular Fox news anchor Chris Wallace would moderate the first debate, which would start at 9 pm EST (6:30 am IST). Steve Scully from C-SPAN Networks and Kristen Welker from NBC News would moderate the other two presidential debates on October 15 in Miami (Florida) and October 22 in Nashville (Tennessee), respectively.

Vice President Mike Pence, 61, and Democratic vice-presidential candidate Kamala Harris, 55, will participate in the only vice-presidential debate, to be hosted by USA Today journalist Susan Page, in Salt Lake City in Utah on October 7.

All the four debates are being organised by the Commission on Presidential Debates (CPD). The debates would be of 90 minutes duration.

In August, the CPD had turned down a request of the Trump campaign for a presidential debate in early September.

Trump told reporters on Sunday that former New Jersey governor Chris Christie and former New York mayor Rudy Giuliani were helping him prepare for the debates. The two were seated in the press briefing room along with the White House Press Secretary Kayleigh McEnany during the news conference by the president. **PTI**

New US citizen refugees excited for first Prez vote

Phoenix: They came fleeing war and persecution in countries like Myanmar, Eritrea and Iraq, handpicked by the United States for resettlement under longstanding humanitarian traditions.

Now, tens of thousands of refugees welcomed into the US during the Obama administration are American citizens, voting the first time in what could be the most consequential presidential contest of their lifetimes.

With some states already sending out early ballots, the first-time voters from Arizona to Florida are excited but mindful of their responsibility in helping to choose the country’s next leader. **AP**

Appeal for Identification

General Public is hereby informed that a male dead body **Name:** Unknown, **S/o** Unknown, **R/o:** Unknown, **Age:** About 65 years, **Height:** 5'5", **Complexion:** Shallow, **Sex:** Male, **Wearing:** Green pant, White and Black Colour Lindar Shirt and Plastic chappal in feet was found foot path Ajmeri Gate side New Delhi Rly. Station on 25.09.2020 at 4:24 PM. **ID Mark :** A mole on left forehead. In this regard, a **DD No. 18A, dated 25.09.2020**

has been lodged at PS New Delhi Railway Station, Delhi. Dead Body preserved LHMC Hospital Mortuary For identification for 72 hrs.
Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this 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. **SHO P.S., New Delhi Rly. Station, Delhi Ph. : 011-23744073, 8750871305**
DP/4476/RLY/2020

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

The general public is hereby informed that an unidentified person about 30 years of age whose name, residence, and family is unknown had been found dead near Ring Road, Kela Ghat, Jamuna Bazar, Kashmere Gate, Delhi. In this regard, a vide has been registered with **DD No: 57-A dated 23.09.2020 at PS Kashmere Gate, Delhi**. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to identify the deceased person, but no clue has come to light so far.
The description of the UIDB is as under:
Sex: Male, **Age:** about 30 years, **Height:** 5'6", **Complexion:** Shallow, **Face:** Round, **Built:** Thin, **Wearing:** Striped underwear and barefooted.
If anyone has any information about his relatives, kindly inform the SHO/Kashmere Gate, Delhi.

E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in
Ph. : 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax : 011-24368639
SHO P.S. Kashmere Gate, Delhi. Ph. No. 011-23967889, 23968730
DP/594/N/2020

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that a girl (depicted in the photo), **Named:** Pinki **D/o** Dukh Horan **Arya R/o** Jhuggi No. S-99/492, Moti Lal Nehru Camp, Shamsan Ghat, Munirka, New Delhi has been missing since 16.09.2020 from her house. In this regard a case vide FIR No. 400/2020 u/s 363 IPC dated 17.09.2020 has been registered at Police Station Kishan Garh, New Delhi.

PINKI
Her physical description is as under:-
Age : 16 Years 6 Months, **Height:** 4'6", **Complexion :** Shallow, **Face:** Round, **Built:** Thin, **Hair:** Black & short, **Wearing :** Pink colour top & white colour jeans and black colour shoes in feet.
Any person having any information/Clue about this missing girl, may inform SHO, Kishan Garh, New Delhi at E-mail Id – **cic@cbi.gov.in** or Website: **<http://cbi.nic.in>**

SHO 011-24368638, 24368641
P.S. Kishan Garh, New Delhi South-West Distt., Delhi
Fax No. 011-24368639
DP/309/SW/2020
Ph. No. 011-26510075, 26510085

Paddy worth ₹10.53 cr procured in last 48 hrs

MSP buying begins in all States: Government

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Amid widespread farmers' Aprotest against the new farm laws, the Centre on Monday came out with the latest data of paddy procurement in the last 48 hours to allay any apprehensions over the minimum support price (MSP) buying.

With the latest procurement data, the Government aims to send a clear message - it has no intention of scrapping the MSP and that it has put in a mechanism for procurement of not only summer-sown paddy but also pulses and oilseeds this year.

Farmers in Punjab and Haryana and several other states are protesting against new farm laws which they feel

will lead to procurement in the hands of corporates and the end of the MSP regime.

"About 5,637 tonnes of paddy at MSP of ₹1,868 per quintal has been procured from farmers of Haryana and Punjab till September 27. The procurement of paddy for the remaining states commenced from today," the Union Agriculture Ministry said.

Paddy worth ₹10.53 crore MSP value has been procured from 390 farmers of Haryana and Punjab in the last 48 hours, it said in a statement. Paddy procurement in the ongoing 2020-21 Kharif Marketing Season has just started from Sept 26. The Govt has kept a rice procurement target of 495.37 lakh tonnes in the 2020-21 kharif marketing season.

Besides paddy, the Govt through its nodal agencies has procured 34.20 tonnes of moong worth ₹25 lakh MSP value from 40 farmers in Tamil Nadu till September 24.

Similarly, 5,089 tonnes of copra (the perennial crop) having MSP value of ₹52.40 crore has been procured, benefitting 3,961 farmers in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu against the sanctioned quantity of 95.75 lakh tonnes for Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala, it said. Based on the proposal from the states, the ministry said it has given nod for procurement of a total 13.77 lakh tonnes of kharif pulses and oilseeds from states of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Telangana and Haryana.

Markets soar for second day; financial, auto stocks lead rally

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Benchmark equity indices Sensex and Nifty surged as much as 1.6 per cent on Monday, lifted by intense buying in financial stocks on hopes of capital support to public sector banks and stimulus measures for the economy.

The BSE Sensex settled 592.97 points or 1.59 per cent higher at 37,981.63, while the NSE Nifty surged 177.30 points or 1.60 per cent to 11,227.55 - the second straight session of rise for the indices.

In the Sensex pack, IndusInd Bank was the top gainer, rising around 8 per cent, followed by Bajaj Finance, Axis Bank, PowerGrid, ONGC, Sun Pharma, ICICI Bank and M&M. On the other hand, Hindustan Unilever, Infosys and Nestle ended in the red.

All sectoral indices ended with gains, with BSE power, bankex, auto, realty, utilities, finance and metal rallying up

to 3.40 per cent. Broader mid-cap and smallcap indices surged outperformed the benchmark, rising up to 2.68 per cent.

"Key Indices ended high as bulls led the charge backed by financials and well supported by auto and pharma. Expectations of a stimulus coupled with capital support to state-run banks fuelled the rally in late afternoon trade," S Ranganathan, Head of Research at LKP Securities, said.

Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services, said global cues were also positive following positive industrial profits data from China, setting aside concerns about the increasing virus infections and related impact.

Indian markets were also banking on further stimulus and other measures by the government to boost the economy, he said.

According to traders, domestic equities also tracked strong buying sentiment in global equities ahead of the first US presidential debate.

Global investors are eyeing the first US presidential debate, set for Tuesday, between US President Donald Trump and Democratic candidate Joe Biden.

It could influence the course of US policies and is likely to affect share prices across the world, analysts said.

Bourses in Hong Kong, Tokyo and Seoul ended on a positive note, while Shanghai was in the red.

Stock exchanges in Europe were trading with strong gains in early deals. Meanwhile, international oil benchmark Brent crude was trading 0.68 per cent lower at USD 42.12 per barrel.

In the forex market, the rupee settled 18 paise lower at 73.79 against the US dollar.

COAI seeks urgent allocation of E and V band spectrum via auction to access providers

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Industry body COAI has cautioned that any decision on de-licensing or administrative allocation of high commercial value E and V bands spectrum will violate prevailing policy framework, create non level-playing-field for licenced telcos and cause huge revenue loss to the government.

In a letter to Communications Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad, the Cellular Operators' Association of India (COAI) on Monday called for allocation of spectrum in these specified bands "through transparent auction to access service providers immediately".

The COAI emphasised that these bands "are extremely valuable resources for India for 5G as well as backhaul for mobile broadband". Radiowaves used for trans-

mitting signals to mobile phones are referred to as the access spectrum while backhaul spectrum augments signals between mobile towers at the back-end.

"...Any decision of de-licensing or administrative allocation of high commercial value spectrum in E and V bands: is technically not feasible, will be contrary to the prevailing policy framework of spectrum allocation, contrary to the principle promulgated by the Hon'ble Supreme Court, contempt of Hon'ble Supreme Court..." the COAI said.

Such a move would also lead to non-level playing field for licenced telecom operators, will not guarantee the efficient use of these bands, and "cause huge revenue loss to the exchequer", COAI Director General S P Kochhar said, in the letter seen by PTI.

₹3L cr PLI scheme for 10 sectors to boost domestic manufacturing

IANs ■ NEW DELHI

In a major push to domestic manufacturing in the country, the government proposes to pump in over ₹3 lakh crore through an umbrella production linked incentive (PLI) scheme that will run simultaneously in 10 identified sectors for a period of five years.

Sources privy to the development said that the Niti Aayog has been entrusted with the task to finalise a cabinet note proposing extension of the PLI scheme with separate budgetary allocation for each identified sector for the next five years starting FY22.

The allocation will have to be worked out within the confines of the suggestions given by the expenditure department based on expected savings from the withdrawal of the existing Merchandise Exports India Scheme (MEIS) introduced in April 2015 to promote manufacturing and exports of specified goods from India.

"A plan for a mega ₹3 lakh crore PLI scheme has been finalised by an empowered group of secretaries chaired by the cabinet secretary early this month. The allocation under the expanded PLI has been worked out on the basis of savings made by withdrawal of the MEIS scheme and liabilities on account of the new export incentive scheme, Remission of Duties or Taxes on Export Products (RoDTEP). This will ensure that there is no imbalance on account of introduc-

tion of PLI," said the source quoted above.

Under the proposed PLI scheme, the government will incentivise domestic production in 10 areas to begin with. These include battery storage, solar PV modules, electronics (laptop, server, IoT devices, specified computer hardware), automobile and auto components, telecom and networking products, textiles, food processing, speciality steel and white goods (air conditioners and LED).

Apart from these, large scale electronic manufacturing (mobile phones), pharmaceutical drugs and medical devices, which already have an approved PLI scheme, would be provided full budgetary allocation for next five years.

In the discussions by the EGoS, the highest allocation of close to ₹60,000 crore (over the next five years) has been proposed for automobile and auto component sectors. This is with the belief that this sector could help India become a global hub of manufacturing and source house for global industries.

The next highest allocation has been proposed for large scale electronic manufacturing at ₹40,000 crore, where the mobile phone manufacturing sector is already getting a PLI.

The PLI for pharma sector has also been proposed for a higher allocation of ₹30,000 crore to give a boost to production of API that is largely imported at present.

Housing sales up 34% in July-Sept, says JLL report



IANs ■ NEW DELHI

India's residential market got back to action as the lockdown restrictions eased in the third quarter of 2020. Housing sales, during the July-September quarter, jumped up 34 per cent compared to the April-June quarter, which was largely impacted by the nationwide lockdown, showed a report by JLL Research.

A total of 14,415 units were sold during the quarter ended September, as against 10,753 units sold during the previous quarter.

The report showed that Mumbai accounted for 29 per cent of the total sales during the period under review, while 22 per cent of sales was contributed by Delhi-NCR.

Growth in sales activity was also driven by stronger demand in Chennai, Hyderabad and Pune.

Ramesh Nair, CEO and Country Head, India, JLL, said:

"We are feeling cautiously optimistic about the residential market, driven by sales volumes in Mumbai and Delhi. A combination of favourable factors such as low mortgage rates, attractive prices combined with developers' lucrative payment plans together reinforce the longer-term potential of the sector. For end users, the next 12 months are ideal to buy a house."

"In the subsequent quarters, the translation of demand into sales will primarily hinge on enhanced consumer confidence, which, in turn, depends upon the continued implementation of progressive government policies amidst the gradual revival of the Indian economy at large," he added.

Residential market activity is also being supported by renewed interest from NRIs in Q3 2020, resulting in more pent up demand in the market and increased enquiries received by developers, the report said.

Govt-owned NABARD gives clean chit to Reliance Commercial Finance

IANs ■ NEW DELHI

Government owned National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), the second largest lender to Reliance Commercial Finance Limited (RCF) with over ₹1,100 crore of secured loan exposure has given clean chit to RCF and has removed its red flag.

NABARD is a part of the consortium of lenders and is signatory to an Inter Creditor Agreement (ICA) executed between the lenders of RCF under June 7, 2019 circular of RBI on resolution of stressed assets.

NABARD had classified the account of RCF as Red Flag

on February 25, 2020. Thereafter lenders conducted a detailed forensic audit by Grant Thornton (GT).

At a meeting of the Consortium of Lenders led by Bank of Baroda, held on Friday September 25, 2020, NABARD informed the consortium of lenders that having examined the GT forensic report, it found no element of fraud and has therefore removed the red flag.

Earlier, Delhi High Court on August 14 had stayed a move by Bank of Baroda, the leader of Consortium of Bank, to classify the accounts as fraud, restraining banks from taking any other coercive action till the next hearing. Similar action of Punjab National Bank was also stayed

by Delhi High Court on 11th August, 2020.

As per information reported on Central Repository of Information on Large Credits (CRILC), Indian Bank and Federal Bank have classified their exposure to Reliance Home Finance Ltd (RHFL) as a fraud account.

Indian Bank having an exposure of only Rs. 120 crore, made such classification on 29th August, 2020. The exposure of Federal Bank to RHFL is 100 crore -- out of the total RHFL debt of over Rs 10,000 crore. Action of Indian Bank and Federal Bank is despite the Delhi High Court staying such action by the lead bank Bank of Baroda on 14th August, 2020.

'Corporate vultures eyeing small banks, merge LVB with Govt bank'

Chennai: The RBI should take a prompt and correct action of merging the 93-year-old Lakshmi Vilas Bank (LVB) with a nationalised bank, a top leader of one of the largest bank unions said.

"There are a number of corporate vultures that are circling the small-old generation private banks for a take over. These regional banks have their own tradition and culture and taking them beyond certain borders and expanding their size will result in failure," All India Bank Employees' Association (AIBEA) General Secretary C.H. Venkatachalam told IANS.

IANs

SEARCH FOR MISSING GIRL



General public is here by informed that one Girl **Namely:** Laxmi, D/o Kishan Bahadur, R/o H. No. 349, Ground Floor, Munirka Village, New Delhi. **Age:** 14 Years, **Height:** 5'2", **Complexion:** Shallow, **Face:** Round, **Built:** Thin, **Wearing:** White colour Kurta, Cream Colour Legging and Green Colour Slipper in feet. has been missing/ kidnapped since 10.08.2020 at 01:00 PM from her house in the area of Kishangarh.

In this regard a FIR No. 361/2020 U/s 363 IPC dated 12.08.2020 has been registered at P.S. Kishangarh, 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. Kishangarh, New Delhi**
Fax: 011-24368639 **Ph. 011-26510075, 7065036264**
Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641 **DP/229/SW/2020**

SEARCH FOR MISSING



General public is hereby informed that a male namely **Virender Kumar (along with two children namely Name 1. Divisha Tanwar, Age: 07 years, and 2. Himani Tanwar Age 04 Years) S/o: Dharmapal, R/o: H. No. 61, near Shiv Mandir, Bakner, Delhi** has been reported missing since 04.09.2020 at about 8:30 AM from her house. In this regard DD No. 42A, dated 17.09.2020 has been registered at P.S. Narela, Delhi. The description of missing male and her two children is as under:

- Name:** Virender Kumar, **Age:** 35 Years, **Height:** About 5'6", **Complexion:** Fair, **Face:** Round, **Built:** Medium, **Wearing:** Green or Black colour T-Shirt, Blue colour pant and Black shoes in feet.
- Name:** Divisha Tanwar, **Age:** 07 Years, **Wearing:** Jeans Pant-Top and Golden sandal in feet.
- Name:** Himani Tanwar, **Age:** 04 Years, **Wearing:** Jeans Pant-Top and Pink Colour sandal in feet.

If anyone have any information about this missing male and her two children please inform P.S. Narela, Delhi.

Web: <http://cbi.nic.in>, Email: cic@cbi.gov.in
Ph.: 011-24368638/24368641, Fax: 011-24368639 **SHO**
Police Station, Narela, Delhi
DP/488/ON/2020 **Ph: 011-27280435, 7065036323**

SEARCH FOR MISSING FEMALE



General public is here by informed that one female **Namely:** Mamta, D/o Unkown, R/o Babu Ghar, Bhagwan Das Road, New Delhi, **Age:** 26 Years, **Height:** 4'6", **Complexion:** Shallow, **Face:** Round, **Built:** Thin, she is mute, **Wearing:** Pink Colour Kurta & Salwar and Slipper in feet, has been missing since 26.08.2020 at 3:30 am from her house, New Delhi.

In this regard a DD No. 70A dated 26.08.2020 has been registered at P.S. Tilak Nagar Marg, New Delhi.

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

E-Mail: cic@cbi.gov.in **SHO**
Website: <http://cbi.nic.in> **P.S. Tilak Nagar Marg, New Delhi**
Fax: 011-24368639 **Ph. 011-23382100, 8750870526**
Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641 **DP/112/NDD/2020**

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that an unidentified body of a male namely **Ravi, S/o: Suresh Kumar, R/o: G-5, Gali No. 5, Wajirabad village, Delhi and gali no. 9 CM 770 Wajirabad village, Delhi** was found on 15.09.2020 at In front of Batra Cinema, Delhi. Admitted in Bara Hindu Rao Hospital, Delhi. Vide MLC No. 2339/2020. During the treatment the doctors declared him dead on 19.09.2020. Dead Body has been preserved in Bara Hindu Rao Hospital mortuary for identification. In this regard **DD No. 42A, dated 19.09.2020 U/s 174 Cr.P.C.** has been lodged at Police Station, Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi. Identification of unidentified dead body of male is as under:

Name: Unknown, **Age:** 42 Years, **Height:** 5'7", **Face:** Long, **Built:** Thin, **Complexion:** Shallow, **Hair:** Black, **ID Mark:** Mark of Burn on right arm, **Wearing:** Black Printed T-shirt, gray lower and mala Orange colour..

If anyone have any information or clue about this male deceased may kindly be inform undersigned.

SHO
Police Station, Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi
DP/414/NW/2020 **Ph.: 011-27654668, 27654675, 8750870231**

SEARCH FOR MISSING FEMALE

General Public is hereby informed that one female (depicted in the photo) namely Mamta W/o Ganesh R/o C-4/8, Model Town-III, Delhi **Aged-**about 24 Years has been reported missing since 15.09.20 at about 5 PM from her residence vide **DD No.52A Dated 19.09.20** registered at Police Station Model Town, Delhi. Her physical description is as under:-

Complexion: Fair, **Height:** 5', **Face:** Long, **Built:** Medium, **ID:** Mentally weak, **Clothing:** Blue coloured kurta, red & black coloured salwar and Blue coloured slipper in feet.

Any person having any information/Clue about this missing female, may inform SHO, Model Town, Delhi at E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in or website : <http://cbi.nic.in>

Tele No. : 011-24368638 or 24368641 **Sd/-**
FAX No. : 011-24368639 **SHO, Model Town, Delhi**
DP/410/NW/2020 **Tel.: 011-27459202, 27120032, 27456072**



Mamta

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that a girl namely **Monika, D/o Anil, R/o H.No. 272, Village Naharpur, Delhi** has been missing/kidnapped since 17.09.2020 at 7 p.m. Himalaya Public School, Sector-7, Rohini, Delhi. In this regard **FIR No. 436/2020 dated 17.09.2020 u/s 363 IPC has been registered at P.S. North Rohini, Delhi.** Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the missing/kidnapped girl but no clue has come to light so far. The description of the missing/kidnapped girl is as under:

Name: Monika, **Gender:** Female, **Age:** 13 years, **Height:** 5'1", **Complexion:** Fair, **Face:** Round, **Built:** Medium, **Identification Mark:** Cut mark below left eye, **Wearing:** White colour top and black colour jeans.

If anyone has any information regarding this missing girl, kindly inform SHO/ North Rohini, Delhi.

E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in **SHO**
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 **P.S. North Rohini, Delhi**
Fax : 011-24368639 **Ph. No. 011-27048210-27048211**
DP/412/RD/2020



Manisha

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that one girl namely **Manishya D/o Vijay R/o Gali No. 4/2, 25 Foota Road Part-II Mukundpur, Delhi** has been missing/ kidnapped since 09.09.2020 from the area of P.S. Bhalswa Dairy, Delhi. In this regard, a case **DD No. 11A dated 09.09.2020 has been registered at P.S. Bhalswa Dairy, Delhi.** The description of the missing girl is as under.

Age: 15 Years, **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Height:** 5', **Face:** Round, **Built:** Medium, **Wearing:** Dark blue colour Shirt, blue colour Pazzami and grey colour shoes 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 person then please inform P.S. Bhalswa Dairy, Delhi at following Tel No./e-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in and Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>

Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641 **SHO**
Fax No. 011-24368639 **Sd/- S.H.O.**
P.S. Bhalswa Dairy, Delhi
DP/484/ON/2020 **Phone: 011-27811933, 27811934**



MANISHYA

SEARCH FOR MISSING MALE

General Public is hereby informed that one male (depicted in the photo) namely Parveen Sonkar S/o Gyanchar R/o G-1519, Jahangirpuri, Delhi **Aged-**35 Years has been reported missing since 20.09.2020 at about 10 PM vide **DD No.118A Dated 21.09.2020** registered at Police Station Adarsh Nagar, Delhi. His physical description is as under:-

Complexion: Shallow, **Height:** 5'3", **Face:** Long, **Built:** Thin, **ID:** Put in front of the haircut, PS written on left hand, Silver bracelet left hand wrist, **Clothing:** White & blue coloured check shirt, Black coloured jeans and Sports shoes.

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

SHO
FAX No. : 011-24368638 or 24368641 **SHO, Adarsh Nagar, Delhi**
Tel.: 011-27674452, 27672452
DP/406/NW/2020 **Mob.: 8750870229**



Parveen Sonkar

DOCYARD

DR (PROF) ALKA KRIPLANI

Director & Head —
Centre for Minimally
Invasive Gynecology
Obstetrics & ART
PARAS HOSPITALS, GURUGRAM



Don't ignore
your mind's talks

Polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS) is one of the most common hormonal disorders that affect at least one in every 10 women in India. Despite it being so severe, there is still less awareness around the syndrome and its potentially devastating symptoms. Women suffering from PCOS go through a range of bodily issues like excessive body hair, weight gain, acne and sometimes infertility if it's not managed well. However, it doesn't end here. A research has shown that women suffering from this condition are more likely to suffer from mental health problems like depress, anxiety and bipolar disorder.

PCOS is a severe genetic, reproductive and metabolic disorder and is one of the leading causes of female infertility in India. It affects the way the functioning of the ovaries, which results in irregular periods, excess androgens (male hormones) in the body and polycystic ovaries. Studies suggest that up to 60 percent of women with PCOS also suffer from some form of mental illness. It can be attributed to the physical symptoms and nature of PCOS, which is so serious that the mental illness is often overlooked. Though there is no scientific research to prove what leads to deteriorating mental condition, it is generally considered to be caused by coping with the PCOS. But with so many women affected, it is important to try and identify whether or not there is a more specific cause for anxiety and depression in women with PCOS and how it can be prevented.

Link between PCOS and bipolar
When researchers at the University of Cardiff assessed the mental health history of more than 17,000 women diagnosed with the condition, the results showed those with PCOS were more likely to be diagnosed with depression, anxiety and bipolar disorder. It's still not clear what actually causes the condition whether it runs in families or related to abnormal hormone levels like high levels of insulin. Other issues associated with PCOS, such as excess hair growth and acne, can also lead to low self-esteem.

Studies suggest that up to 60 per cent of women with PCOS also suffer from some form of mental illness. It can be attributed to the physical symptoms and nature of PCOS, which is so serious that the mental illness is often overlooked

ing to get pregnant, also experience several mental turbulences because of with depression and anxiety caused by infertility. PCOS can host a series of mental conditions including:
■ Anxiety
■ Bipolar disorder
■ Major depressive disorders
■ Bulimia
■ Other eating disorders
■ Somatizations (physical manifestations of negative mental states)
■ Interpersonal sensitivity
It can be treated in two ways: treating the PCOS from its roots and treating the mental conditions arising from it. Many medicines are used to balance the blood sugar and insulin levels, normalize body weight and getting hormones balanced. One also needs to bring some lifestyle modifications including regular exercise, diet management by avoiding junk food and low-sugar diet and opting for healthy nutritious diet.

Treating the mental health issues needs a multifaceted approach. Cognitive behavioural therapy can be helpful in treating PCOS and anxiety attacks, and talk therapy can help people who are experiencing PCOS-related depression or general self-esteem issues. Even penning down your feelings will help to understand your patterns and triggers for mental illness. This will enable to practice self-care and stress reduction.

SUMMERCoolERS

QUINOA: Quinoa contains almost twice as much fiber as most other grains which helps to relieve constipation and prevent heart disease by reducing high blood pressure and Diabetes. It makes a fine substitute for white rice or pasta when you're trying to add more fiber and B vitamins to your diet. Moreover, it's flavoured, easy to digest, gluten-free, and high in protein. Quinoa contains Iron that helps keep our red blood cells healthy and is the basis of hemoglobin formation. It also increases brain function because the

brain takes in about 20 per cent of our blood oxygen. Quinoa is rich in magnesium that helps to relax blood vessels and thereby to alleviate migraines. Magnesium also may reduce Type 2 Diabetes by promoting healthy blood sugar control. It is also rich in B vitamins, nutrients that help treat age spots and other conditions related to skin pigmentation by reducing the deposits of dark melanin in the skin. Quinoa is rich in lysine, which is important for tissue repair and growth.



Fight
the
killer

Every year, over one lakh people are diagnosed with blood cancer in India. DR SUNIL BHAT tells you the symptoms to look out for and how blood stem cell transplant can give patients a second chance at life

Blood cancer occurs when there is an abnormal blood cell growth which interrupts the normal blood cell functioning. When it comes to treating blood cancer, treatment depends on the type, age of the patient and stage of the cancer. However, the most common treatment includes chemotherapy, radiation and blood stem cell transplant.

Common symptoms:
■ Weakness or feeling fatigue due to decrease in red blood cells
■ Frequently falling ill and infections due to low immunity. Infections often develop in mouth, throat, skin, and lungs
■ Abnormal weight loss is also the primary symptom
■ Bleeding gums and blood from the nose

Blood stem cell transplant to lead a longer life

Every year, over one lakh people are diagnosed with blood cancer in India. Most often blood cancer can be treated by administering chemotherapy. However, for patients who cannot be treated with a chemo, their only hope of survival is through a blood stem cell transplant. A blood stem cell transplant infuses healthy blood stem

cells from a matching donor to the patient. Lymphoma, Leukemia, Myeloma and Hodgkin disease & other blood disorders such as Aplastic Anemia & Thalassemia can be treated with a blood stem cell transplant. A successful blood stem cell transplant in 70 per cent to 90 per cent of these patients may give them a second chance at life, depending on the disease condition and the donor type.

On registering as a potential blood stem cell donor

While lack of information is the biggest challenge faced by all potential blood stem cell donors today, multiple myths associated with blood stem cell donation pose a greater threat. These include a commonly believed notion that a few health risks are associated with the procedure; you are putting your life at risk by donating your blood stem cells etc.

A successful stem-cell transplant requires a perfect HLA type. There is a possibility of finding the perfect match from a donor of the same ethnicity. Sadly, patients of Indian ethnicity have a hard time in finding a match due to lack of potential donors.

Blood stem cell registries like

WHILE LACK OF INFORMATION IS THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE FACED BY ALL POTENTIAL BLOOD STEM CELL DONORS TODAY, MULTIPLE MYTHS ASSOCIATED WITH BLOOD STEM CELL DONATION POSE A GREATER THREAT. THESE INCLUDE THAT A FEW HEALTH RISKS ARE ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROCEDURE

DKMS-BMST help in unrelated donor transplant process that counsel donors, enroll donors, get their HLA typing done, facilitate search of the donors and later facilitate the blood stem cell collection and transplant. To reduce the gap and to ensure each blood cancer patient looking for a matching donor finds one, it is important to each of us to register as a potential blood stem cell donor.

Blood stem cell transplant during the pandemic

COVID-19 has definitely impacted healthcare delivery especially in blood cancer treatment. The virus poses a risk for blood cancer patients as they are immune deficient and are more prone to infection than any of us. We also see an impact on potential donor registration drives due to social distancing guidelines. This gap can be minimised by encouraging people to register online as potential donors and give patients suffering from Blood Cancer or other blood disorders like Thalassemia a second chance at life.

The writer is Director and Clinical Lead, Pediatric Hematology, Oncology and Blood & Marrow Transplantation, Mazumdar Shaw Cancer Centre, Narayana Health City

GO BITE
BY BITE

Most of the youngsters today suffer from heart diseases. The main reason being not eating a balanced diet. On World Heart Day, PRATISHTHA RAWAT lists out foods that can help keep your heart healthy



Eat what you may like, does not stand true in the current world shorn off physical activities. To ensure that the heart keeps running, you need to follow specific rules. It does not necessarily mean that you have to stop eating things randomly, but you should seek the advice of a health expert.

Without raising an alarm, the fact is that most of the youngsters face health issues such as Diabetes, thyroid, or hypertension. Most of these ailments or health problems are related to the quality of food that they consume. It is essential to include nutrient-vitamin rich food in diet to increase the life-line of a healthy heart. Usually, we ignore the signals that our heart gives us as we rely on old perception that heart diseases are only limited to a certain age. On the contrary, the fact is that one in four deaths in India is because of cardiovascular diseases and stroke is responsible for more than 80 per cent of this burden. On World Heart Day, here are a few food items that can be helpful to keep your heart healthy.

Berries: Berries are also full of antioxidant polyphenols, which help to reduce heart risks. They are a great source of fiber, foliate, iron, calcium, Vitamin A, and Vitamin C, and they are low in fat. You can add berries like strawberries, blueberries, raspberries with your everyday cereal or yoghurt.

Nuts: A handful of nuts like almonds and walnuts will not only be healthy for your heart but will satisfy your hunger as well. Walnuts and almonds have plant omega-3 fatty acids, vitamin E, magnesium, folate, fiber, heart-favorable monosaturated and polyunsaturated fats, and phytochemicals. Almonds help to lower blood pressure as well.

Seeds: Flaxseeds contain omega-3 fatty acids, fiber and phytochemicals to boost heart health. Chia seeds also provide omega 3, fiber and protein and can be eaten whole. You can sprinkle it on your breakfast cereal, on top of low-fat yoghurt, mix into muffins, or combine into your smoothies.

Green veggies: Vegetables like spinach, broccoli, and asparagus contain Vitamin C and E, potassium, folate, calcium, and fiber. Spinach makes an excellent base for salads and can be used on sandwiches in place of lettuce. Broccoli tastes great added to soups, mixed in with veggie dips, added to salads, or mixed with a brown rice dish. Asparagus makes an excellent heart-healthy side dish. Grill or steam lightly and sprinkle with some balsamic vinaigrette.

Simultaneously, one should also work on other lifestyle changes to prevent a heart attack. Some of the things that can help, include controlling your blood pressure and getting it checked regularly, keeping cholesterol and triglyceride levels under control, maintaining a healthy weight, eating a balanced diet and exercising regularly. The writer is a Health Coach

DadiKaKehna

While not everything can be treated with home remedies, there are a few tried and tested remedies that have worked wonders. ROSHANI DEVI shares some tips that can come in handy



Scraps and bruises are common if one has boys. There are a few remedies that can help treat them. For bruises my mother always made us eat onion or any red vegetable because it is believed to go straight to the red cells and help reproduce more. There is only one side effect — one smells of onion all the time.

Another thing that my mother always kept in handy were potato peels. She would put these on the bruises to hurry the healing. For mosquito bites,

hold half a lime over the flame of the gas till charred. Let it cool a bit. Rub the charred bit over the bite.



One natural treatment for acidity is chewing a few tuls leaves after a meal. It helps the body absorb food but also prevents reflux and the formation of ulcers. There are a lot of people who suffer from acidity. Sucking a piece of clove after a meal helps in reducing the problem. Boil six dates in 1/2 litre of milk for 25 minutes over low heat. Drink three cups a day for dry cough remedy.

TIPTOP

A groundbreaking interim report on a clinical trial being conducted in three Indian hospitals is showing that a combination treatment of an Ayurvedic Remedy called 'Immunofree' by Corival Life Sciences, and a Nutraceutical called 'Regimmune' by Biogetica has shown groundbreaking results against the present Govt SOP of conventional meds for coronavirus treatment.

The interim report shows that patients on the natural treatment are resolving most symptoms earlier than those on conventional medicines. Furthermore, numerous tests such as C reactive protein, Procalcitonin, D Dimer and RT-PCR for novel coronavirus are also showing 20 to 60% better improvement for the natural treatment, when compared to conventional treatment.

Numerous subjective endpoints such as body pain and fatigue are also leaning

towards the natural treatment. Both Clinician's Global Assessment of Symptoms and Subject's Global Assessment of Symptoms clearly showed improvements on both arms showing more significant data in the Test group. 86.66% of patients on the natural protocol have tested corona negative on day 5 vs 60% of patients on the conventional treatments. Moreover, on the 10th day test, all patients were negative, which could help in keeping the hospitals less occupied.

This CTRI approved trial is being conducted on Moderate COVID-19 positive patients. What sets this trial apart is the fact that it is the only time where half the patients in the trial have been given only natural treatment, which is being compared against the conventional treatment in use in India for COVID-19 patients.

SLIMLINE

On September 24, 2020 the Asia Pacific Medical Technology Association (APACMed) brought to fruition the first-ever hybrid virtual forum — Redefining Healthcare Agility, which welcomed more than 130 world class leaders from over 30 countries to share insights on how they are transforming the healthcare industry. The forum involved a plethora of interactive engagements, including live discussions, interviews and demonstrations.

The APACMed Annual MedTech Forum brings more than 1,000 delegates together

every year, making it one of the largest yearly forums in Asia Pacific. Owing to the pandemic, the 6th edition of the conference included on-site attendance of up to 50 people, along with virtual attendance of over 1000 delegates, thus becoming the first ever hybrid conference with a global reach to be hosted in the medical technology arena. The conference witnessed the participation of global and regional leaders, serving as the perfect setting for discussing collaboration and innovation opportunities in Asia.

INBRIEF

In the recent campaign to counter Covid-19, Narayan Garib Parivar Yojana has targeted to distribute monthly ration kits at home to 50000 families. Recently, Narayan Seva Sansthan (NSS) also distributed food, sanitisers and masks to 1000 families in Assam flood-affected area.

In the midst of the campaign, NGO has distributed food to over 12000 families from Udaipur, Delhi, Bhillwara, Alwar, Pali, Noida, Bikaner and Sirsa in various cities.

The NGO is also conducting health screening and clothing distribution camps. Amidst the lockdown NSS regularly undertook food distribution operations in Haryana, Uttarakhand and Maharashtra, where over 13,800 families got ration kits, 1,37,000 food packs, 68000 masks, 800 PP kits.

Prashant Agarwal, President of Narayan Seva Sansthan said: "Monthly food distribution campaign to poor-labor families, needy and differently abled with free equipment distribution camp, has attempted to share happiness in different ways.

Under the Narayan Garib Parivar Yojana, free food distribution camps are being organised in many states for the needy, so that no one who is needy starves."

The 34-year-old seva yatra has 418750 successful free operations of disabilities. A total of 2,63,000 tricycles, 2,70,000 wheelchairs, 2,90,000 crutches and 3,51,000 calipers are successfully distributed among the needy. Adding to this, NSS also supports education of children through free education of 200 orphans at its Campus in Udaipur.

Trend Blazer

Farhan talks about vitriolic news reporting

Actor-singer-filmmaker **FARHAN AKHTAR** on Monday spoke out against what he feels is vitriolic news reporting.

“Combined with Lata-ji’s birthday and Shaheed Bhagat Singh’s birth anniversary, here’s some more good news today.

Sincerely hope that the top brands in question follow through on their valid concern about vitriolic news reporting,” tweeted Farhan.

His tweet comes in reaction to a news piece that reads: “India’s top brands want news channels to stop being toxic, warn they could pull the plug on advertising.”



‘All this drug discussion would mean something if they pursued the actual hard drug cartels and suppliers also. It is also rather strange that a list of women stars are in the limelight even here. Like the men in film land only stick to milk and biscuits? Having said this I don’t have copious tears flowing for any film star.’

—Sona Mohapatra

Bollywood action star **TIGER SHROFF** stunned fans with his new Instagram video, where he is seen pulling off a flying kick after his recent injury.



“Feels good to fly again after injury. Hope you guys have an unbelievable week and make the unbelievable believable! #YouAreUnbelievable,” he captioned.

Recently Tiger, who is also a fitness enthusiast, flaunted his well-chiselled body on social media.

Paloma opens up on postpartum depression

Singer **PALOMA FAITH**, who is expecting her second child, has opened up about anxiety issues and postpartum depression that she faced had after her first childbirth three years ago.

“I did have a traumatic first birth and post-partum depression. So I am trying to make sure I surround myself with people who know that. I don’t think I realised I was that ill until it went away. It’s quite difficult because you wonder whether you’ll be happy again,” she said.



Restaurateur **PRIYANK SUKHIJA** redesigns the interiors of his restaurant for post-COVID continuity and a safe and sure experience.

By TEAM VIVA

The COVID-19 outbreak has had severe economic consequences across the globe, which has led to dramatic changes in how businesses act and consumers behave. The scenario has hit the F&B industry so badly that now they are forced to change their interiors and menu to cater the current needs and safety concerns of people. Going with the current situation, Priyank Sukhija, MD & CEO of First Fiddle F&B Pvt Ltd, introduces a new concept, which encourages people to

When you are bubble-wrapped



dine out with safety at its priority as he unveils the new look his restaurant — Dragonfly.

Says Priyank, “Our industry has been unlucky since the beginning of the pandemic. Gradually, when unlock happened people returned to restaurants despite the restriction of liquor sales. When the

restrictions were finally removed, the second wave of cases came in and scared customers again. It was due to this reason that we thought of creating something which presents a safe alternative solution to our patrons. We actually did a research for approximately

two months to think what could

fit in with social distancing norms yet look spectacular. Hence, pods were the answer.”

So that’s how they were introduced, for each party group who wants to dine out without being concerned about their safety. “We created pods which are open from the top, have a capacity to host up to 12

guests, enclosed with acrylic walls, allowing them the view of the restaurant as well. The concept is created to make sure that each of the diners feel safe,” says he.

The partitions, the walkways between them and just the area needed to allow the swing of the doors of each pod eats up the floor space of the restaurant but Priyank feels that it’s totally worth it if it helps gain the trust of the customers and keep them secure. The process includes thorough sanitising of each pod after every seating. While the servers will be in full protective gear, the more cautious parties can ask them to leave their food and drinks on the small serving tables placed

right outside the door so that no one enters their protective bubble.

Priyank, along with First Fiddle’s corporate head chef Sagar Bajaj, has curated a menu that comprises almost 80 per cent of exotic signature delicacies. The menu offers a blend of Asian fusion and European fusion dishes, modified to suit the tastes of Indians without losing the flavours of the authentic cuisines. Not only this, the restaurant has also introduced a few immunity booster dishes and cocktails in the menu.

Priyank believes that adapting innovative interiors will surely increase footfalls as people are very conscious now and are eagerly looking for such creative as well as safe experiences. “Pods will ensure your safety within confined limits, yet people will be able to enjoy the feel and services of the restaurant,” says he.

Expect the unexpected

In a new series, *Animal Impossible*, presenters **TIM WARWOOD** and **ADAM GENDLE** risk life and limb to discover the truth about animals.

By TEAM VIVA

Do cats always land on their feet? Could a squid sink a ship? Is spider silk really stronger than steel? Endlessly curious presenters Tim Warwood and Adam Gendle risk life and limb to discover the truth about animals in a new series — *Animal Impossible*. In a fresh take on natural history filmmaking, the intrepid pair conducts audacious stunts, including a nerve-wracking swim with a great white shark, to find answers. However, they find more than they expected, discovering a whole host of strange and remarkable truths about the animal kingdom. Locations include Namibia, South Africa, Morocco, Germany, UK, USA, Canada, Costa Rica, Guyana and China. Excerpts:

□ **Why did you want to be involved with *Animal Impossible*?**

Tim Warwood: I have to be careful about how I answer this as my wife might read it. But basically, it was a great opportunity to meet some incredible animals up close and personal, while travelling the globe. It’s a no brainer to be honest. And to do it with my best mate was too good to be true. I also like to be the person that regals facts and stories so the whole series provides me with loads of ammo.

Adam Gendle: Same as Tim really! I’ve never had the opportunity to see wildlife like that and travel to so many incredible places. It seemed like



the job of a lifetime. Being able to share it with my best mate makes it all the more special even if I did have to look at him in a skin-tight zorbi suit in the bull’s episode.

□ **What’s going to surprise people most about it?**

Tim: So each episode has that one single fact which we set out to discover the truth behind. But we learn plenty of other facts along the way. I think I find some of those just as amazing. In the ‘can you fool a sniffer dog’ for example, I can’t believe that dogs can be taught to sniff out of USB sticks!

Adam: I think it might surprise people that they’re watching a wildlife show without wildlife experts presenting it. That’s one of things that makes it more exciting and fresh. We’re not experts at all but we get to experience these incredible animals and react to them in the same way anyone watching at home would. They’ll definitely

be surprised by some of the facts we find out along the way too.

□ **How was it like working with your best mate on this series?**

Tim: Terrible. I did this show to get away from my wife but ended up being forced to spend the whole time with him (laughs). It’s all good. It’s great to have Gendle there. Sometimes when the experts are telling us that everything will be ok, even though I know they are the experts with all the experience, all you need to hear is — ‘it will be alright mate’ — from your best friend.

Adam: It was brilliant. We’ve known each other all our lives and had some incredible times but I think this year has been on another level. It’s great to have your best friend there just so you can say ‘can you

believe we’re doing this’. In the moments where we’ve both been petrified, the other one always makes a joke to relax the other, which works most of the time.

□ **Who was the most accurate at predicting which facts were true or false?**

Tim: Me. I am generally the cleverest of the two of us. I am the worst timekeeper though. And I always lose stuff.

Adam: Me! Maybe it was pretty even but yes, Tim does lose everything. He lost about seven metal water bottles over the whole series. I kept one the whole time so I’m better than him (laughs).

□ **What all did you discover?**

Tim: I think the sniffer dog one. You can’t fool a sniffer dog. Also, the cat one. Cats always land on their feet. In fact, quite a few of them. And obviously sharks are mindless man-eaters. That’s a big one as many people in the world are scared of sharks. So hopefully on the quest to prove that one wrong, we can help a few people with their fear of the deep.

Adam: Definitely Sharks are mindless man-eaters and Piranhas can strip you to the bone. Mainly because I was the one putting my body on the line with the challenges for those ones. I got a bit obsessed with sharks in general and followed every shark channel on Instagram.

□ **Which animal fact outcome surprised you the most?**

Tim: The spider silk vs steel fact on paper is the one which you think to yourself. ‘No way is that real... The learning we did on that journey is bonkers. I like the fact that spiders produce seven different types of silk on average by seven silk glands. A single spider does not possess all seven glands but has at least three if it is male (dragline, attachment and swathing silk) or four if it is female. The additional one is for egg sac silk. They use different silk for building different parts of the web. Guess what? They never actually run out of silk. Also, keep your eye out for what the cichlid fish does in Germany. It looks like a goldfish but it can blow your mind.

Adam: Yes, I have to agree with Tim on that one. The spider silk thing was nuts and everything I learnt about spiders over the course of that episode was pretty incredible, especially because I was terrified of them to begin with. If we talk about cichlid fish, I was blown away by how smart they are. Although most cichlids are found at relatively shallow depths, several exceptions do exist. The deepest known occurrence is Trematocara at more than 300 m (980 ft) below the surface in Lake Tanganyika, African Great Lake.

□ **You did a lot of stunts on the show. Which one was the scariest?**

Tim: Personally, going in the corral with a bull was pretty sketchy. I wasn’t keen on that at all. But overall, probably watching Gendle climb into the water with a Great White Shark was the scariest. It was beyond ridiculous. I held my breath for 20 minutes.

Adam: Scary for you! How do you think I felt? Yes, the great white shark was something I’ll never forget. When I watched the show, the whole thing came back to me, the nerves of waiting and the excitement of being in the water, and of course the relief of not being bitten in half.

(The series premieres on October 5 at 9 pm on Sony BBC Earth.)



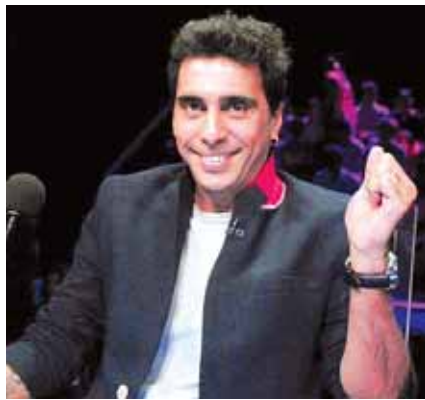
Dance your heart out

On World Heart Day, choreographer **ASHLEY LOBO** shares how dancing leads to a happy mind and a healthy body

ed to be around 54.5 million. As individuals, we may not always be able to control ambient air pollution or other environmental risk factors, but we can mitigate lifestyle risk factors. We could eat healthier, cultivate better habits and yes, dance!

Says Ashley, “Dance, I always say, is

not just about technique but also the heart and spirit. When you move to music, you shift the energy within and around you but there is research that shows us that dance is good for the heart as well. When you are dancing, you are working out, engaging multiple muscle groups, sweating it out just as you would if you were



on a running track or in a gym. It really doesn’t matter how you dance, as long as you do!”

The choreographer has students from various age groups, and he recommends dancing as a means to not just find joy in every day ennui but to keep the heart pumping to the beat of good health and peppy music. He concludes, “Don’t forget that heart is an organ too that needs to be exercised. We all have access to music and if we start moving a little every day, we will be happier and also dance our way to better heart health.”

I have been hitting it well for the past one year. So I was just sticking to my routine and feeling confident. I am happy to win a few games

That was something else, wasn't it? What we have seen from Tewatia in the nets is what we saw in that Cottrell over

Five (sixes) in the over, that is amazing. I tried to hit the leg-spinner, but unfortunately I couldn't. So I had to hit other bowlers

The kind of cricket we are playing, the brand of cricket and the plans we are executing, we are quite happy with that

SUPER FINISH

Ishan's 99 goes in vain as RCB beat MI in last ball of super over

PTI ■ DUBAI

Mumbai Indians' 'man for all seasons' Kieron Pollard's scintillating strokeplay found its match in maverick Ishan Kishan as they nearly pulled off a Houdini Act before Navdeep Saini's spectacular Super Over saw Royal Challengers Bangalore win an IPL humdinger on Monday.

The small built Kishan put up a powerhouse performance scoring 99 off 58 balls with nine sixes while Pollard's 60 off 24 saw them match RCB's total of 201.



Virat Kohli celebrates the win during Indian Premier League match between The Royal Challengers Bangalore and The Mumbai Indians held at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium

BCCI

DC EYE HAT-TRICK

PTI ■ ABU DHABI

Off to the best possible start with two wins on the trot, a confident Delhi Capitals will hope to keep the juggernaut rolling when they take on the winless Sunrisers Hyderabad in an IPL match here on Tuesday.

Both sides have endured contrasting campaigns so far.

Delhi head in to the game after two morale-boosting victories. The Shreyas Iyer-led side edged past Kings XI Punjab in a thrilling Super Over before thrashing Chennai Super Kings comprehensively to jump to the top of the points table.

On the other hand, Sunrisers are the only side yet to register a win in the tournament, having lost both their games and David Warner and his men will be desperate to turn things around.

In their opening encounter, despite opener Jonny Bairstow (61) and Manish Pandey (34) putting Sunrisers in a winning position in a chase of 164, the team failed to cross the line.

Against Kolkata Knight Riders, the middle-order failed to fire and the team settled for a below-par total which the bowling unit couldn't defend.

Wriddhiman Saha was particularly slow and would be expected to play an innings more suitable to the format.

For Delhi, the South African pace duo of Kagiso Rabada and Anrich Nortje has looked sharp with the new ball while spinners Axar Patel and Amit Mishra have performed splendidly in the absence of



Rashid Khan bowls during net session

SRH Twitter

Ravichandran Ashwin.

Ashwin suffered an injury in the team's first outing and is likely to miss the match against Sunrisers.

"It is not a major injury, he bowled in the nets yesterday, he will comeback very soon. He is being monitored by physio, today again he will bowl at the nets. Maximum, he

might miss one more match," Amit Mishra said in a pre-match presser.

In batting, the onus will be on seniors such as Shikhar Dhawan to lay the foundation, and he will have the talented Prithvi Shaw at the top of the order for company.

Rishabh Pant and Iyer have also looked in good nick, after rescuing the team from a spot of bother in the first game, the two pitched in with valuable runs against CSK.

Australian all-rounder Marcus Stoinis has proved he is handy with the willow while Shimron Hetmyer can also compliment the strong batting line up.

For Sunrisers to do well, they would need to look beyond Warner and Bairstow. The side must click as a batting unit to post its first win of the season on Tuesday.

The 2016 champions replaced the injured Mitchell Marsh with Afghanistan off-spinner Mohammad Nabi, who played a quick cameo with the bat and also bowled an economical spell later.

However, with the batting unit letting them down in both outings, Sunrisers might consider bringing in Kane Williamson, who has recovered from his injury, to provide stability to the line-up. He would be coming in place of Nabi.

Sunrisers spinners led by Rashid Khan continue to impress but the side is lacking an out and out pace bowler who can hit the deck and push the batsman back off a good length.

Australian fast bowler Billy Stanlake is an option but with only four overseas slots available, his inclusion looks unlikely.

However Saini bowled fast and straight in the Super conceding only seven with Hardik Pandya getting out. Virat Kohli after three bad matches did the needful as Jasprit Bumrah couldn't defend a seven-run target with India captain winning it with a last ball boundary.

However nothing can be taken away from Kishan and Pollard's superlative batting as they got 89 off the 90 runs required in the last five overs with some breathtaking sixes primarily off leg spinners Adam Zampa and Yuzvendra Chahal. The standout bowler for RCB was young Washington Sundar with figures of 1 for 12 in 4 overs.

RCB now has two wins from three games winning this edition's second Super Over after Delhi Capitals beat Kings XI Punjab in the first one.

Earlier, AB de Villiers turned the clock back with his magnificent hitting after Aaron Finch and Devdutt Padikkal's stroke-filled half-centuries took RCB to an imposing 201 for 3 after being put into bat.

It was De Villiers, who used all his might during the death overs to smash his way to an unbeaten 55 off 24 balls, taking the score past 200-run mark. His innings had four sixes and as many boundaries as the swift yet brutal assault of Jasprit Bumrah (0/42 in 4 overs) will be remembered

for a long time.

Even James Pattinson (0/51 in 4 overs) received a lot of stick as four speed merchants accounted for 8 off the 10 sixes in the RCB innings. The remaining couple were hit off MI's most successful bowler Trent Boult (2/34).

The last five overs produced 78 runs with Shivam Dube scoring 27 not out off 10 balls.

While Australia's white ball skipper Aaron Finch scored 52 off 35 balls to get his team off to a flying start, the extremely elegant Padikkal upped the ante in the later half with some delightful big hits, scoring 54 off 40 balls. The duo added 81 runs for the opening stand.

Padikkal's innings was studded with five boundaries and two sixes and a good stand of 62 runs for the third wicket with De Villiers, who then provided the final flourish as he has been doing for years now.

The tall upright Padikkal's second IPL half-ton will be remembered specially for two sixes off fast bowler James Pattinson. The first was when the left-hander rocked on the backfoot and punched it over mid-off and the next was a stand and deliver straight into the sight screen.

This was after Finch took on the MI attack in the Powerplay overs

Dube not right choice at death: Pathan

IANIS ■ DUBAI

Former India fast bowler Irfan Pathan believes Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) should avoid bowling Shivam Dube at the death in the upcoming matches of the Indian Premier League (IPL).

RCB have so far played two matches in the tournament. In the first match, they registered a 10-run win against Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) while in the next game, the Virat Kohli-led side suffered a crushing 97-run defeat against Kings XI Punjab.

"Look, I think they will get better as soon as Chris Morris comes in. I see Morris coming in, (Dale) Steyn going out and they are settled. What I don't want from RCB is

Shivam Dube bowling the death overs," said Pathan while speaking on Star Sports show Cricket Connected ahead of RCB's clash against Mumbai Indians to be played at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium on Monday evening.

"They have a better team, they have better batsmen comparatively. They are not just dependent on AB de Villiers or Virat Kohli. This year they have Aaron Finch as well, (Devdutt) Paddikal started very well," he added.

According to the former India all-rounder, Navdeep Saini should bowl a minimum of two overs at the death as "he's the guy who can nail those yorkers as well as he can just bluff the batsmen and bowl bouncers at the death as well".



IANIS ■ SHARJAH

While all the limelight was taken away by Rahul Tewatia during Rajasthan Royals' historic win over Kings XI Punjab, it was the incredible innings from Sanju Samson which laid the platform for the Steve Smith-led side during their chase at the Sharjah Cricket Stadium.

Samson scored 85 runs as Royals chased down the target of 224 — highest ever in history of the Indian Premier League — with four wickets in hand and three balls to spare. His 42-ball knock was studded with four 4s and seven 6s.

Taking note of Samson's innings on Sunday, Congress MP Shashi Tharoor said on Twitter: "What an absolutely incredible win for Rajasthan Royals! I've known Sanju Samson for a decade and told him when he was 14 that he

Don't compare Sanju with MS

would one day be the next MS Dhoni. Well, that day is here. After his two amazing innings in this IPL, you know a world-class player has arrived."

However, Gautam Gambhir and S Sreesanth don't want the 25-year-old to be compared with the former India captain.

"Sanju Samson doesn't need to be next anyone. He will be 'the' Sanju Samson of Indian cricket," tweeted Gambhir replying to Tharoor.

"He is not next Dhoni, he is Sanju Samson the one and only. He should have been playing from 2015 regularly in all formats. Please don't compare him, if he had given right opportunities then, he would have been playing like this for India and would have won World Cups," said Sreesanth while replying to



Sanju Samson plays a shot during Indian Premier League

BCCI

the Congress MP. "I am sure he will still keep playing well and it's not just these two innings...He is gonna break a lot of records

too and win many more world cups for our country. So please don't compare him to anyone...he is an amazing

Malayali from our Gods own country. His best is yet to come," he added.

The right-handed batsman had scored 74 runs off just 32 deliveries in Royals' first match of IPL 2020 which his side won against Chennai Super Kings by 16 runs.

Rajasthan Royals brand ambassador Shane Warne had praised Samson and said it was shocking to see that a talent like Samson is not a part of Team India across all formats.

"I have said for a long time and I think Sanju Samson is probably one of the most exciting players I have seen for a long time. I am surprised that he is not playing all forms of cricket for India," Warne had said in an Instagram live session done by the Royals before Sunday's game.

Want to host Eng series in India: Ganguly

PTI ■ KOLKATA

BCCI President Sourav Ganguly on Monday said the Board will do all it can to ensure that India's home series against England remains in the country and domestic tournaments kick off at some point despite the "fluid" COVID-19 situation.

"...Priority is to make this (series against England) happen in India. We will try to make this happen on Indian grounds. The advantage in UAE is they have three stadiums (Abu Dhabi, Sharjah and Dubai)," he said in a media interaction here addressing speculation that UAE could be the host for India given the COVID case count here.

BCCI has recently signed a Memorandum of

Understanding with the Emirates Cricket Board for greater cooperation in conducting matches there.

"We also have the same facility in Mumbai — CCI, Wankhede and DY Patil. We also have Eden Gardens. We have to create a bubble. We want to hold our cricket in India, that's where the game is, that's where the heart is. But we are monitoring the COVID situation," Ganguly said after being named brand ambassador of the Bengal Peerless group here.

"Everything is fluid. It's been hard for the last six months to keep everything in order. You want your cricket to happen. You want lives to get back to normal, there are players involved. But you also want to have a close look at the COVID

situation," Ganguly added.

On to domestic cricket and under normal circumstances, the BCCI would have already started its mega season with Ranji Trophy and Duleep Trophy, the U-23 CK Nayudu Trophy, Vijay Hazare and Deodhar Trophy, and the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy.

In 2019-20 it hosted 2036 domestic games across various age groups in the men's and women's category but creating a bio-bubble for so many teams across the country will be next to impossible given the virus threat.

"We are monitoring it. We want to have our domestic season. We have all the combinations, situations ready in our mind. We will try and make it happen as much as we can," he reiterated.

AP ■ MADRID

Luis Suárez quickly made an impact at Atlético Madrid. Former teammate Lionel Messi was his usual impressive self for Barcelona.

Suárez, who had his debut Sunday with Atlético after being told he was not wanted by Barcelona, scored twice and had an assist in the nearly 20 minutes he played in Atlético's 6-1 rout of Granada in the Spanish league.

Messi, who was forced to stay at Barcelona after telling the club he wanted

Wonderboy Fati

to leave, scored once and helped his team beat Villarreal 4-0 in its league opener under new coach Ronald Koeman. It was Messi's first official game with Barcelona since the club denied his request to leave in the offseason. He was outspoken against the club but had promised to give his best in what could be his final season at Barcelona.

Messi celebrated as usual after scoring from the penalty spot in the 35th minute at the Camp

Nou Stadium. He later also played a role in the own-goal by Pau Torres before halftime, as the Villarreal defender tried to intercept a cross by the Argentina great.

Messi missed a few other chances to score in the comfortable opening win for Koeman. The 17-year-old Ansu Fati, one of the players helping to make up for Suárez's absence in attack, put Barcelona on its way to victory with goals in the 15th and 19th minutes.

AP ■ ROME

Even on a night when Juventus was outplayed for long stretches, the nine-time defending Serie A champion managed to salvage a point in a 2-2 draw at Roma.

Cristiano Ronaldo scored twice, including a second-half equalizer with a towering header after Juventus had been reduced to 10 men, while Jordan Veretout had a brace for Roma.

"We got back into it, even after the red card," Ronaldo said.

"By the end of the sea-

Ronaldo saves Juve

son this could prove to be an important point."

Veretout put Roma ahead in the 31st with a penalty following a handball from Adrien Rabiot, who was trying to block a shot from Veretout.

Ronaldo then equalized from the spot after Lorenzo Pellegrini used his arm to block the five-time Ballon d'Or winner.

Veretout scored his second in first-half added time as Roma tore past Juventus' veteran but aging center backs Leonardo Bonucci



and Giorgio Chiellini. Henrikh Mkhitaryan escaped down the left flank and crossed for Veretout, who used one touch to get

away from a defender before shooting past goalkeeper Wojciech Szczesny.

Juventus was reduced to 10 men in the 62nd when Rabiot picked up his second yellow card for sticking his boot into the left thigh of Mkhitaryan.

Moments earlier, Roma forward Edin Džeko struck a shot off the post after his marker had already fallen to the ground.

Juve then had a chance to equalize when Ronaldo volleyed directly at goalkeeper Antonio Mirante.

Thiem eases past Cilic

AP ■ PARIS

U.S. Open champion Dominic Thiem advanced to the second round of the French Open by beating former U.S. Open champion Marin Cilic 6-4, 6-3, 6-3.

The third-seeded Austrian won his first major tournament at Flushing Meadows two weeks ago and is among the favorites again at Roland Garros after losing the past two finals to Rafael Nadal.

Thiem broke the imposing Croatian's serve six times in cool conditions on Court Philippe



Chatrier.

Cilic led 2-0 in the third set but Thiem reeled off the next five games before Cilic held again.

Thiem will next face American qualifier Jack Sock. He beat Reilly Opelka 6-4, 6-4, 6-3.