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LUCKNOW, TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 29, 2020; PAGES 14 ₹3



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12 VIVACITY

# 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

- Offset clause was brought in to allow the Indian defence industry to acquire world-class technology and tie-ups with foreign vendors
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- 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

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 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 belligerent China.

With no lull 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 super-sonic 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 Preet Kaur, new Congress in-charge of Punjab affairs Harish Rawat, PCC 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 a 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 11*

## Delhi SI guns down father-in-law day after shooting 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 Lakhan 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),

Lakhan 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 "gash" 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.

## Trump paid just \$750 income taxes 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".

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

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## 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.

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## 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: 61,37,941

DEATHS: 96,275

RECOVERED: 50,87,812

ACTIVE: 9,53,854



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	1,22,209	2,207	97,571



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.

## 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 SENÀ

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.



## Yogi: UP should not be a refuge for criminals, initiate stern action

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

After cracking the whip against those involved in sexual offences, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath issued directive to launch a crackdown on mafias by identifying those who had made huge wealth through muscle or gun power.

Yogi said that effective action be taken against the goons who had taken over property by muscle power and the administration should ensure that the entire property was confiscated under the special provisions of the UP Gangsters Act. "Operations should be conducted against mafia elements in every zone, range and district," he added.

The chief minister said that district level should be reviewed at the range level and the range level at the zone level.

Giving these details here on Monday, Additional Chief Secretary (Home) Awanish Kumar Awasthi said that the chief minister issued these directives while reviewing the law and order through video conferencing from his residence on Sunday.

Besides Awasthi, DGP HC Awasthi, all the divisional commissioners, ADGs, IGs, DIGs, district magistrates, district police chiefs were also connected in the meeting through video conferencing.

Awasthi said the chief minister praised Operation Shakti for controlling crimes against women and Operation Mafia against mafia elements and said that these activities should be carried out continuously and effectively in the entire state.

Yogi said that prompt action be taken against people who were a threat to the safety of women and officers of every level should be sensitive in this regard. He said that the Ant—Romeo Squad should be kept operational continuously and effectively.

The chief minister said through crime mapping, the officials should identify vulnerable spots like markets, schools, parks etc. and conduct surprise checks through Shakti teams to nail down the eve-teasers and later counsel them so that they did not repeat the crime in future.

He also directed officials to expedite the prosecution of those arrested under POCSO Act.

Awasthi said the chief minister also said that as a series of festivals were to begin with Navratri from October 17, the administration should take complete care regarding safety as well as prevention from infection of coronavirus.

Awasthi said that the chief minister made it clear that UP could not be a refuge for criminals so stern action should be taken against whoever tried to take law in his/her hand or made attempt to disturb peace.

Yogi Adityanath also stressed on effective foot patrolling to maintain law and order and asked officials to instil confidence in the public and fear among criminals. "The patrolling of PRV 112 should be as continuous and effective," he added.

Awasthi said that directions were given to hold Samadhan Divas and Thana Divas and redress the grievances of the people.

## Covid control: CM for special strategy for Lucknow, Kanpur and Meerut

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said that a robust testing and surveillance system would help in controlling the spread of coronavirus in a better way and directed the chief secretary to take regular feedback on the micro-containment zones, testing and surveillance and take action accordingly.

He reiterated that protection was the only remedy until a vaccine came. "Prepare a special strategy for Covid control in Lucknow, Kanpur Nagar and Meerut," he said.

Presiding over a high-level unlock meeting at his official residence here, the chief minister said that the state had been able to control the spread of coronavirus to a great extent.

He said it was a good sign that the number of active cases had come down during the last one week. "It clearly shows that the strategy to contain the coronavirus has been effective," he said, while laying emphasis on focused testing and increasing the number of Covid beds.

The chief minister asked officials to take all precautions during the coming festival season. He said mass awareness about COVID-19 should be spread through public address system, the surveillance committees should remain active and Covid help desks should be functional in all hospitals, industrial units and government and non-government offices.

"The Integrated Command and Control Centres (ICCC) should also be in active mode in all the districts," he added.

The chief minister was apprised by the additional chief secretary (medical education)

## Covid cases on decline in UP

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The decline in active COVID-19 cases continued in Uttar Pradesh as 3,838 fresh positive cases were reported on Monday and the number of recovered patients was more than the persons infected.

Of the total 3,90,875 COVID-19 cases identified so far in the state, 3,31,270 have recovered. With this, the recovery percentage in the state has gone up to 84.75 per

cent. However, in the last 24 hours, 58 COVID-19 fatalities were reported, taking the death toll to 5,652.

Additional Chief Secretary (Health) Amit Mohan Prasad said there were 53,953 active cases in the state while the number of recovered patients reached 3,31,270, including 5,382 discharged on Monday.

The additional chief secretary said on Sunday, 1,51,822 sample were tested and with it the total Covid tests in the state had reached the 97,76,894-mark.

the cattle.

**VIRUS SPREADING IN JAILS**

The initiative taken in the last one week to extend immediate medical help to the inmates lodged in jails across the state has revealed that 1,200 prisoners have contracted coronavirus though majority of them are asymptomatic.

According to Director General, Prison Administration and Reform Services, Anand Kumar, till date about 1,40,000 tests, including those of 5,000 staff members, have been conducted in the state's temporary and permanent jails, and over 7,000 have tested positive so far.

Two inmates have died of COVID-19.

Anand Kumar said that in the past one week, at least 128 prisoners tested positive for coronavirus infection in Fatehgarh Central Jail.

On Saturday, 76 prisoners were found positive. All of them have been kept in isolation in a separate jail barracks for treatment.

Prasad said there were 26,770 asymptomatic COVID-19 patients in home isolation, 3,609 in private hospitals and 127 in semi-paid hotels while the rest were in government-run Covid hospitals.

As many as 2,08,993 infected people have preferred home isolation and 1,82,223 of them have recovered.

Over 3.87 lakh surveillance teams have visited 1,23,661 areas of the state and visited 2.53 crore houses to check the health of over 12.57 crore people.

Senior Superintendent of Fatehgarh Central Jail SHM Rizvi, said that the first case was reported on September 20 and since then 128 prisoners had been found infected with the disease. However, none of the patients' health conditions are serious.

Three medical officers have been deployed by the Health department inside the prison for monitoring, he added.

The prison in Fatehgarh, at present, has around 2,000 inmates against its capacity of 1,600. "We are providing 'katha', hot water and homeopathic medicines to all prisoners as a precaution and masks have been distributed to every prisoner," he said.

Meanwhile, Anand Kumar said that despite the precautionary measures, several prisoners had got infected. "The main reasons are the movement of sick patients outside the jail for treatment and infection brought in by coronavirus positive asymptomatic staff," he explained.

## UP bags 8 GKRA awards

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The Uttar Pradesh government has another feather in its cap as it has received eight awards in the Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyan (GKRA) launched by the Union Ministry of Jal Shakti.

According to official sources here, Uttar Pradesh has got overall first position in the country while among the districts, Prayagraj, Hardoi and Fatehpur have bagged the first, second and third ranks, respectively. In the non-GKRA category, Bareilly and Aligarh have secured first and second positions respectively. Aligarh has also received the special recognition award.

Besides, Uttar Pradesh has also got overall second rank in the implementation of Gandagi Mukht Bharat scheme.

The awards will be distributed at an online ceremony on October 2, 2020.

The Government of India launched the Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyan to tackle the impact of COVID-19 on labourers/workers in India. It is a rural public works scheme which was launched on June 2, with an initial funding of Rs 50,000 crore.

## Congressmen protesting against farm laws held

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

UP Congress president Ajay Kumar Lalul along with Youth Congress chief Kanishk Pandey, MLC Deepak Singh, and hundreds of other party workers and leaders were held when they were trying to march towards the Raj Bhawan to gherao it to protest against the new farm laws in the state capital on Monday.

President Ram Nath Kovind on Sunday gave assent to three contentious farm bills passed in Parliament last week that have triggered farmers' protest.



Reports said that several of party leaders, former MLAs and MPs were also detained on the way to Lucknow to join the protest so they staged demonstrations on highways leading to huge jams on all the highways leading to the state capital.

The leaders also blocked the Kanpur-Lucknow toll plaza, leading to traffic chaos for several hours. MLA Aradhana Mishra 'Mona' and some other leaders, including district president Ved Prakash Tripathi, were put in house arrest.

Earlier, the Lucknow

Commissionerate officials had sealed the borders to prevent the Congressmen from protesting against the farm laws. A heavy police force was stationed outside the Raj Bhawan since Monday morning. Additional police forces including four companies of PAC were also deployed.

Led by the UPCC president, the Congress workers from all over the state converged on the Parivartan Chowk and staged protest against the "anti-farm" laws, party's administrative head, Siddharth Priya Srivastava claimed.

## Shrikant orders action against wrong billing

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Uttar Pradesh Energy Minister Shrikant Sharma has ordered action against the private agencies sending wrong bills to the power consumers. He has also directed the UP Power Corporation Limited officials to lodge FIRs against private agencies entrusted with the task of billing for the lapses. The energy minister, during a review meeting on Monday, directed UPCL officials to issue showcase notice to 12 chief engineers of different districts for poor performance. Notice will also be issued to the director (commercial) of Madhyanchal and Paschimanchal power distribution companies.

Show cause notices for lapses in their functioning were served to the chief engineers of Ayodhya, Bareilly, Gonda, LESA

(System), LESA (Trans-Gomti), Lucknow zone, Meerut, Moradabad, Bulandshahr, Ghaziabad, Noida and Saharanpur.

The minister has sought reply from these officers within a week.

Official sources said that during the review of Madhyanchal and Paschimanchal power corporations on Monday, the minister was annoyed with the rampant distribution of wrong electricity bills to the consumers by the billing agencies.

"FIRs should be lodged against the billing agencies. The government will not allow any harassment of the consumers," Sharma said.

In another directive, the minister asked the UPCL to ensure load balancing in all transformers in the state before the festival of Diwali.

## Govt to issue guidelines on Durga puja celebration

**Lucknow (PNS):** The Uttar Pradesh government is all set to issue guidelines making Durga puja celebrations a low key affair and asking people to celebrate the festival at their homes. A senior official said that during the meeting to review the Covid situation on Monday, the issue of Durga puja celebration was discussed.

"Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath clarified that no public function would be allowed during the Durga puja. People should organise puja in the closed confines of their homes" the official said.

The official said that the chief minister clarified that Durga puja and Ramlalea were integral part of Hindu tradition and the government could not curtail that. "But in view of COVID-19 pandemic, the government is committed to curtail celebrations," he said and added that the government had therefore decided that pandals would not be allowed as this could lead to gathering of people.

Meanwhile, the Allahabad High Court on Monday rejected a PIL of the Bengali Welfare Association seeking permission to hold Durga Puja at public places. The bench headed by Chief Justice Govind Mathur rejected the plea, throwing the ball in the court of the state government. The court commented that when Eid celebration and Moharram were not allowed how could the court intervene on the Durga puja celebrations. The bench said the state government would decide on how to celebrate the festival as per the guidelines issued by the Central government.

## Gangster dies as UP Police vehicle overturns in MP

**Guna/Lucknow (PTI):** A gangster, who was being brought by the Uttar Pradesh Police from Mumbai to Lucknow, died when the vehicle carrying him overturned after hitting a 'nigai' in Madhya Pradesh's Guna, police said on Monday.

Four others, including two police personnel and the vehicle's driver, were also injured in the incident and admitted to a hospital, they said.

A Lucknow Police team had gone to Mumbai Friday and it nabbed Feroz Khan (65) from Nallasopara area of Maharashtra's Palghar district near Mumbai, an officer said.

They were returning with Khan when the accident occurred on Sunday morning on the Gwalior-Betul National Highway near Pakhriapura toll in

Chanchoda area, around 150 km north of Bhopal, Guna Superintendent of Police Rajesh Kumar said.

Khan suffered serious injuries and was rushed to a hospital, where the doctors declared him dead, Lucknow Police Commissioner Sujit Pandey said.

The four injured were also admitted to a hospital and have been discharged now, the commissioner said.

A resident of Bahraich district in Uttar Pradesh, Khan had several cases, including under the Gangsters Act, registered against him, Pandey said.

Chanchoda town Police Inspector Rakesh Gupta said the four injured were ASI Jagdish Pandey, constable Sanjeev Singh, Driver Sulabh Mishra, and Khan's relative Afzal (42), who was taken to

Maharashtra to identify the gangster.

Khan's body was sent to Bhopal and a postmortem was conducted at the Hamidia Hospital there, he said.

Khan's family members have arrived at Bhopal and his last rites will be conducted there Monday itself, Gupta said.

On July 10, gangster Vikas Dubey was killed in an encounter after a Uttar Pradesh Police vehicle carrying him from Ujjain to Kanpur had met with an accident and he had tried to escape, the state police had said then.

Four policemen, including an inspector posted in Nawabganj, were injured in that accident.

Dubey was accused of plotting a fatal attack on eight policemen who had gone to arrest him on July 3.

NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY E-Tender Notice						
Email:- cos@ner.railnet.gov.in Website www.ner.indianrailways.gov.in Fax No. 0551-2200721						
TENDER NOTICE No. 24 Date 28.09.2020						
Invitation of Tenders through e-Procurement system						
Principal Chief Material Manager, North Eastern Railway, Gorakhpur, and on behalf of The President of India, invites tenders through e-procurement system for the supply of the following items. Complete description of the item and other condition are available on website www.treps.gov.in.						
Item No.	Tender Number	Due On	Brief Description of Stores	Reserved to be procured from	Qty. Required	Earnest Money (Rs.)
1	26200240	21.10.2020	Vinyl coated upholstery Fabric etc.	ICF	48060 Mtr.	124880/-
2	22200215	22.10.2020	Axle Box Housing etc.	ICF	2728 Nos.	573800/-
3	302010690	22.10.2020	110 VDC Mobile phone charge etc	ICF	18120 Nos.	99160/-
4	22200745	23.11.2020	Hanger for Bogie etc.	ICF	17813 Nos.	446890/-
5	29201028	26.10.2020	Wiring set complete etc.	--	8335 Set.	96480/-
6	29201022	26.10.2020	Set of Key Box Assembly etc.	--	7153 Set.	76630/-
7	29201023	26.10.2020	Set of Fasteners etc.	--	7835 Set.	56990/-
8	22201090	27.10.2020	Outer Primary Spring etc.	RDSO	798 Nos.	129760/-
9	22191103	27.10.2020	Primary Spring (Outer) etc.	RDSO	270 Nos.	53420/-
10	22201653	27.10.2020	Feeder Junction Box etc.	ICF, RCF	50 Nos.	156940/-
11	22201083	28.10.2020	Primary Spring Inner etc.	RDSO	949 Nos.	73500/-
12	22200682	28.10.2020	Knuckle for Transition etc.	RDSO	589 Nos.	76790/-
CPRO/S-28 Principal Chief Materials Manager, Gorakhpur						
About any passenger amenity complaint SMS on Mob. No.: 09794845955						
Never travel on roof and foot boards						

SPECIAL TRAINS FROM LUCKNOW JN. TO JHANSI AND AGRA FORT						
For the convenience of rail passengers, Railways have decided to run Special Trains from Lucknow Jn. to Jhansi and Lucknow Jn. to Agra Fort w.e.f. 01.10.2020 as per details given below:-						
01803/01804 Jhansi-Lucknow Jn.-Jhansi Special Train (Daily)						
TRAIN NO. 01803	ARR.	DEP.	STATIONS	TRAIN NO. 01804	ARR.	DEP.
—	06:15	—	Jhansi	22:35	—	—
06:55	06:56	—	Moth	21:04	21:06	—
07:20	07:21	—	Ait	20:35	20:36	—
07:40	07:42	—	Orai	20:10	20:12	—
08:12	08:13	—	Kalpi	19:40	19:42	—
08:26	08:28	—	Pokhrayan	19:24	19:26	—
10:03	10:05	—	Govindpur	18:43	18:45	—
10:25	10:35	—	Kanpur Central	18:15	18:25	—
10:59	11:01	—	Unnao	17:38	17:40	—
12:00	—	—	Lucknow Jn.	—	16:40	—
Days of Run : 01803 Ex. Jhansi Daily from 01.10.2020 to till further advice and 01804 Ex. Lucknow Jn. Daily from 01.10.2020 to till further advice.						
Accommodation : AC Chair Car, 3 Tier AC, Sleeper and 2nd seating.						
02180/02179 Agra Fort-Lucknow Jn.-Agra Fort Special Train (Daily)						
TRAIN NO. 02180	ARR.	DEP.	STATIONS	TRAIN NO. 02179	ARR.	DEP.
—	05:45	—	Agra Fort	21:55	—	—
05:58	06:00	—	Yamuna Bridge	21:18	21:20	—
06:33	06:35	—	Tundla	20:48	20:50	—
06:50	06:51	—	Firozabad	20:29	20:30	—
07:07	07:08	—	Shikohabad	20:09	20:10	—
07:43	07:44	—	Etawah	19:31	19:32	—
08:00	08:01	—	Bharthana	19:14	19:15	—
08:27	08:28	—	Phaphund	18:48	18:49	—
08:44	08:45	—	Jhinjhak	18:32	18:33	—
09:00	09:01	—	Rura	18:12	18:13	—
09:34	09:35	—	Panki Dham	17:45	17:46	—
10:10	10:15	—	Kanpur Central	17:25	17:30	—
10:36	10:38	—	Unnao	16:48	16:50	—
11:40	—	—	Lucknow Jn.	—	15:55	—
Days of Run : 02180 Ex. Agra Fort Daily from 01.10.2020 to till further advice and 02179 Ex. Lucknow Jn. Daily from 01.10.2020 to till further advice						
Accommodation : AC Chair Car, Sleeper and 2nd Seating.						
These trains will run with full reserved accommodation						
The passengers shall adhere to the COVID-19 related safety norms and guidelines issued by Govt. of India from time to time						
For any kind of information passengers are requested to contact Railway Enquiry No. 139 or visit Railways website www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in						
<div> <div>Follow us on :-</div> <div> </div> </div> <div> <div> <b>NORTHERN RAILWAY</b>  Your Convenience - Our Concern  Visit us at : www.ner.indianrailways.gov.in </div> </div> <div> Integrated Helpline No. 139 and Security Helpline No. 182  SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE </div>						

I, JYOTI AGARWAL declare that my husband is LT. KAMAL KISHORE his name has to be amended in school records as LT. KAMAL KISHORE in document of my daughter YASHASVI AGARWAL12-D and son NISHCHAL AGARWAL class 7-C of school Seth Anandram Jaipuria, Cantt, Kanpur.

**NOTICE**

It is to inform all that I have changed my name from Priti Singh to Priti Vikas Sakkena. I shall now be known as Priti Vikas Sakkena for all future purposes. Priti Vikas Sakkena B-1104, Jalvayu Tower, Gali No. : 299, Near 18 Talia, Newtown, Kolkata (W.B.)- 700156



# Wife of temple priest killed; cash, ornaments looted

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

A gang of robbers killed the wife of a priest and looted cash, ornaments from his house besides donation box and other items from a temple close to the house in Banthra in the intervening night of Sunday and Monday. The village has been adopted by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and comes in the category of model villages.

The deceased was identified as Deepika Trivedi (52) of Bainti village in the area. Her husband Deep Narayan Trivedi is the temple priest and also visits different houses in the locality for puja. Deep Narayan lives with his second wife Kusum and children Shubham (17) and Shivank (13). They take rest on a platform constructed at a temple close to the house. Deepika is survived by two sons, Saurabh (23) and Shiva (27). Around 5 am, Kusum woke up to resume her daily chores and found a big

hole in one of the walls of the two-room house. She cried in fear, hearing which Deep Narayan and other family members reached the scene. He peeped through the hole and found Deepika lying on the ground. In the meantime, Deepika's son Saurabh reached the scene and went inside the house, only to find his mother dead. They also found both the rooms burgled and cash and ornaments stolen.

Villagers flocked to the scene and it surfaced that the burglars had broken the locks at Nageshwar Mahadev Temple and Yagyashala and decamped with cash, donation box and ornaments adorned by deities. The same surfaced when two villagers, Abhishek and Suresh, reached the temple to offer puja and the canopy of Lord Shiva idol and donation box were found missing.

Preliminary investigation revealed that Deepika used to clean the temple around 4 am

everyday and offer puja. During investigation, the police recovered the empty donation box whose lid was missing.

The police pressed a dog squad and the sniffer stopped at a culvert near a handpump. The police searched the place and found wrappers of paan masala and empty liquor bottles. The villagers said Deep Narayan's second wife belonged to the family of one of his close kin and it was a bone of contention between her and Deep Narayan. Enraged at the incident, the villagers flayed the police for failing to prevent crime incidents in the state capital.

However, police spokesman AK Dwivedi denied reports of murder during dacoity and said a case registered under section 460 of IPC. He said teams had been formed to work out the case. It is the first case in which the police invoked section 460 of IPC in the state capital in the last decade.

# Cancer hospital to focus on cost-effective treatment

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The Superspecialty Cancer Institute and Hospital at Chak Ganjaria will focus on cost-effective treatment for patients. It is a public sector hospital under the department of Medical Education.

Director Dr Shaleen Kumar said the stress would be on cost-effective strategies for patients and for that unnecessary investigations have to be avoided and inter-

ventions chosen wisely. He said doctors would be encouraged to be mindful of these strategies.

He said it is a sub-speciality institute and patients will be seen by at least a surgeon, medical oncologist and a radiation oncologist. "The treatment will not be based on who sees the patient first but on a consensus view, keeping in mind the patients' wishes and circumstances. It is always possible to treat a dis-

ease with a variety of permutations and combinations, some of which may be more relevant to an individual but not to another for which a different strategy may be adopted," he said. He added that if patients do not want surgery, an alternative would be offered.

He said they have started in-house services. Six surgeries have been done and the officials are treading carefully. The OPDs will be run in

the morning five days a week and 20 per cent of the capacity will be dedicated to kids and 20 per cent to adults.

The director said the hospital was conceived in 2013 and the construction started in 2015. "It is an 80-acre campus and the total bed capacity will be 1,250. In the first phase, there will be 750 beds and the main building which will house these beds is still under construction," he said. He added that they are

currently starting the OPD with 24 beds in different areas.

"We have 26 faculty members and we are looking at surgical oncology, medical oncology and radiation oncology as the prime drivers, and there will be anaesthetists, pathologists, microbiologists, paediatrics, orthopaedics, dental surgeons along with other specialities," he said. He added that they have space for six linear accelerators.

# Fatty liver main cause of various health complications: Doc

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

As fatty liver is the main cause of various health complications, including diabetes, heart disease and hypertension, enzyme level in the blood serum must be less than 30 IU/L in male and less than 20 IU/L in female and liver fat less than 5% to keep the liver healthy.

This was stated by director of Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences, New Delhi, Dr Shiv Kumar Sarin, who delivered an online oration at Central Drug Research Institute's 79th CSIR Foundation Day celebrations on Monday.

Dr Sarin delivered an informative talk on 'Heart of the liver' to spread awareness regarding the importance of liver health for happy, healthy and long life. He said Alanine Aminotransferase (ALT) is an enzyme made in liver.

"It is released into the blood when tissues are damaged. This enzyme is also called serum glutamic-pyruvic transaminase (SGPT). This enzyme is the indicator of liver health so by observing the level of this parameter, people can keep themselves

updated with their liver health," he said.

CDRI director TK Kundu said that CSIR, which was established in 1942, has contributed significantly to the growth of science, industry and nation building.

On the occasion of CSIR Foundation Day, Dr Mridula Kamboj Award for Drugs, Diagnostics, Vaccines and Related Basic Research was announced and it would be given to Dr T Narendar and his team for their outstanding contribution for developing a phytopharmaceutical for management of benign prostate hyperplasia (BPH), which is also called prostate gland enlargement, a common condition as men get older. An enlarged prostate gland can cause uncomfortable urinary symptoms, such as blocking the flow of urine out of the bladder. It can also cause bladder, urinary tract or kidney problems. He will be felicitated on CDRI Annual Day in February next year.

The institute is celebrating 70th year of its establishment this year. On the occasion, the CDRI director released 70th year's celebration logo.

# SGPGI adopts 5 kids suffering from TB

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

On the initiative of Governor Anandiben Patel to adopt underprivileged children suffering from tuberculosis, SGPGI organised a programme on Monday with the objective of taking care of their nutrition as well as supervise their treatment. The programme was organised jointly by Dr Richa Mishra of department of Microbiology, Dr Alok Nath of department of Pulmonary Medicine and Dr Prerna Kapoor, physician and nodal officer of National Tuberculosis Eradication Programme Unit.

The chief guest was Dr Suryakant Tripathi of KGMU and UP. He highlighted the benefits of Nikshay Poshan Yojana launched by Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

"Financial incentive for Rs 500 per month is given to each notified TB patient during the course of treatment. The scheme is registered under direct benefit transfer," he said.

SGPGI director Dr RK Dhiman appreciated those who came forward to be guardians to ensure proper treatment and nutrition monitoring so that the children could be completely

cured and lead healthy lives. He also stressed on the need to continuously work to eradicate TB from India by 2025. The children who were adopted included Khushi Singh, Sneha Singh, Zobia Siddiqui, Palak Vishwakarma, Sakshi Mourya and Mohammed Sabir.

The doctors who come forward to become guardians of these children were Amita Agarwal, Aruna Parashar, Afzal Azim, Bhavna Chauhan Arya, Richa Mishra and Sanjay Jain. The programme ended with the distribution of hampers containing milk, juice and fruits among the children.

# Woman deprived of mangalsutra

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Bike-borne unidentified miscreants deprived a woman of her mangalsutra in Mahanagar on Sunday night. As per reports, the woman, identified as Neetu Singh of Takrohi in Indiranagar, along with her husband Ajay, had gone to see a relative at Vivekanand Polyclinic Institute of Medical Sciences on Sunday evening.

When they reached Chhannilal crossing while returning home, the miscreants overtook their bike and the pillion-rider snatched the mangalsutra from Neetu. The police said they were scanning the CCTV footage and the miscreants would be nabbed soon.

Meanwhile, a Jankipuram resident lodged a case against a construction company on Monday. In his complaint,

Vinod Kumar Maurya of Gaderian Ka Purwa said he had signed a contract with Anshuman Srivastava, who owns RK Construction Company whose office is situated in Omaxe City in PGI police station area.

"I came to know about the construction company through an advertisement. As per the agreement, I paid Rs 5 lakh in advance and later Rs 2.5 lakh through cheque. The contractor deployed by the construction company overlooked the terms and conditions mentioned in the agreement and when I complained about the same, they stopped the construction work. When I sought to know the reason, the company owner demanded Rs 2 lakh to get the work started," Maurya alleged.

In another incident, cash and ornaments were stolen from the house of a private company

employee in Kakuali village of Madiyon. House owner Anwar said the thieves made off with Rs 20,000 and ornaments worth over Rs 1 lakh.

Meanwhile, a 45-year-old auto driver was found hanging at his house in Hasanganj police station area on Sunday night. Police said he committed suicide. As per reports, Maqsood of Qutubpur in Daliganj locality was found hanging from the ceiling with a dupatta tied around his neck on Sunday night. Police came to know about the incident after Maqsood's brother Akram called them. Though police said Maqsood committed suicide, they failed to explain the reason. He said the body had been sent for autopsy and further investigation was underway. A police spokesman claimed that Maqsood was alcoholic and also took drugs.

सबका साथ-सबका विकास-सबका विश्वास



**प्रदेश में मूल्य समर्थन योजना के अन्तर्गत सरकारी धान की खरीद**

**धान खरीद**

**वर्ष 2020-21**

समर्थन मूल्य प्राप्त करना सभी किसानों का अधिकार है

पंजीयन करायेँ समर्थन मूल्य का लाभ उठायेँ

कृषक बन्धु खाद्य विभाग के पोर्टल [fcs.up.gov.in](http://fcs.up.gov.in) पर पंजीयन करायेँ।

कम्प्यूटरीकृत प्रणाली के तहत पारदर्शी धान खरीद की व्यवस्था।

धान के मूल्य का भुगतान सीधे किसानों के बैंक खाते में यथासंभव 72 घंटे के अंदर किया जायेगा।

योजना का लाभ उठाने हेतु किसान अपने बैंक खाते सी.बी.एस. युक्त बैंक में खुलवायेँ तथा बैंक नम्बर व IFSC कोड भरने में विशेष सावधानी बरते।

**पंजीयन प्रारम्भ**

- कृषक बन्धुओं से सीधे की जायेगी धान खरीद।
- धान खरीद के लिए ऑनलाइन होगा किसानों का पंजीयन।
- इस वर्ष ओ.टी.पी. (O.T.P.) आधारित पंजीकरण की व्यवस्था की गयी है, जिसके लिए किसान बन्धु पंजीकरण के समय अपना वर्तमान मोबाइल नं० ही अंकित कराये, जिससे SMS द्वारा प्रेषित ओ.टी.पी. (O.T.P.) को भरकर पंजीकरण प्रक्रिया को पूर्ण किया जा सके।
- धान विक्रय के समय पंजीयन प्रपत्र के साथ कम्प्यूटराईज्ड खतौनी, फोटोयुक्त पहचान पत्र, बैंक के पासबुक के प्रथम पृष्ठ की स्वप्रमाणित छायाप्रति एवं आधार कार्ड अवश्य लायेँ।

धान का समर्थन मूल्य धान कॉमन रु. 1868/- प्रति कुन्तल एवं ग्रेड 'ए' रु. 1888/- प्रति कुन्तल है।

- जो कृषक रबी विपणन वर्ष 2020-21 में गेहूँ खरीद हेतु पंजीकरण करा चुके हैं, उन्हें धान विक्रय हेतु पुनः पंजीकरण कराने की आवश्यकता नहीं है, परन्तु पंजीकृत प्रपत्र में यथावश्यक संशोधन कर या बिना संशोधन के पुनः लॉक करना होगा।
- किसान भाईयों से अपील है कि अपना धान अच्छी तरह सुखाकर, साफ करके खरीद केन्द्र पर लायेँ।
- बटाईदार एवं अनुबंध पर खेती करने वाले किसान भाइयों से भी धान खरीद की जायेगी, जिसके लिए उन्हें सहमति पत्र/अनुबंध पत्र प्रस्तुत करना होगा।
- मंगलवार और शुक्रवार लघु एवं सीमान्त कृषकों से धान क्रय हेतु आरक्षित।
- धान खरीद केन्द्र प्रतिदिन प्रातः 9:00 बजे से सायं 5:00 बजे तक खुले रहेंगे (रविवार एवं राजपत्रित अवकाश को छोड़कर)।

पश्चिमी उ.प्र. एवं बुन्देलखण्ड में दिनांक 01.10.2020 से 31.01.2021 तक लखनऊ सम्भाग (जनपद हरदोई, सीतापुर, लखीमपुर), बरेली, मुन्नाबाद, मेरठ, सहारनपुर, आगरा, अलीगढ़ एवं झाँसी मण्डल

धान क्रय की अवधि

पूर्वी उ.प्र. में दिनांक 01.11.2020 से 28.02.2021 तक लखनऊ सम्भाग (जनपद लखनऊ, रायबरेली, उन्नाव), शिवगढ़, कानपुर, अयोध्या, देवीपाटन, बस्ती, गोरखपुर, आजमगढ़, वाराणसी, मिर्जापुर एवं प्रयागराज मण्डल

किसी भी सहायता के लिए टोल फ्री नम्बर 1800-1800-150 या सम्बन्धित जनपद के जिला खाद्य विपणन अधिकारी, तहसील के क्षेत्रीय विपणन अधिकारी या ब्लॉक के विपणन निरीक्षक से सम्पर्क कर सकते हैं।

कोरोना से बचाव हेतु सोशल डिस्टेंसिंग के नियमों का पालन करें।

खाद एवं रसद विभाग उत्तर प्रदेश





**विश्व हृदय दिवस**

29 सितम्बर, 2020

**वर्ल्ड हार्ट फेडरेशन के अनुसार हृदय रोग से होने वाली असामयिक मृत्यु पर प्रभावी नियंत्रण के लिए आवश्यक उपाय-**



- हानिकारक खाद्य सामग्री का सेवन न करें।**
- धूम्रपान या तम्बाकू का सेवन न करें।**
- मदिरा का सेवन न करें।**
- प्रतिदिन व्यायाम करें।**

**हृदय आघात के लक्षण**

- सीने में दर्द या दबाव महसूस होना।
- बौह, जबड़े, गर्दन या कंधे में दर्द महसूस होना।
- साँस का फूलना, अत्यधिक पसीना आना।

**रोकथाम के उपाय**

- शरीर के वजन को सामान्य बनाए रखें।
- नियमित रूप से व्यायाम करें एवं टहलें।
- शराब और तंबाकू के सेवन से बचें।
- तनाव से बचें।
- वजन और ब्लड प्रेशर का नियमित ध्यान रखें।
- रक्त में कोलेस्ट्रॉल और वसा के सामान्य स्तर को बनाये रखें।

**व्यायाम कैसे मदद करता है ?**

- रक्त में कोलेस्ट्रॉल कम करता है।
- इंसुलिन की आवश्यकता को कम करता है।
- वजन एवं मधुमेह को नियंत्रित रखता है।
- दिल की बीमारियों के खतरे को कम करता है।

**कोरोना संबंधी जानकारी हेतु संपर्क करें**

विकास, स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण विभाग, उ०प्र०

1800-180-5145

अन्य जानकारी के लिए संपर्क करें

0522-2230006/2230009/2616482

नोवेल कोरोना







# 147 more test positive in Varanasi

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

The district has crossed 13K-mark here on Monday as 147 new Covid-19 patients have been detected, increasing the total number of cases to 13,002. Besides, the district also saw four more deaths, increasing the toll to 213. During the day, the follow-up negative reports included 62 patients and 55 of them were recovered from home isolation, increasing the number to 8,543 and seven have been discharged from the hospitals and the number of cured patients from the hospitals has reached 2,664. The total number of cured patients is now 11,207, leaving 1,582 active patients. The recovery rate has declined slightly to 86.19 per cent and the mortality rate increased to 1.63 per cent.

Meanwhile, a 10-day public awareness campaign for nutrition and novel coronavirus was launched in the district under the auspices of the Regional Public Information Bureau, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India. It was flagged off by



CMO Dr VB Singh flagging off COVID-19 awareness vehicle in Varanasi on Monday

Pioneer

Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Dr VB Singh from his office premises. In his message, he gave the call of staying social distance, wearing masks, repeatedly washing hands with soaps and not spitting in public places. The awareness campaign includes a mobile picture exhibition appealing to the people to maintain COVID-19 guidelines. He said that if anyone suffers from fever, cough and breathing problems, he/she should contact the doctor immediately. To increase immunity, a balanced and nutritious diet is also being

advised. Banners have also been placed at major places and the campaign will continue till October 7.

CMO has informed that in the first report of the day by 11 am, 95 positive patients were detected out of 3,259 received reports. Till then, the total test reports received were 1,96,793 and the results of 5,007 are awaited. Out of them, 1,83,843 were negative while 12,950 positive. The total number of samples collected was 2,12,035. Earlier, a male aged 72 and a female (66) from Birdapur (Mehmooorganj) and Umraha

(Domanpur) respectively succumbed to COVID-19 at SSH BHU while a male (67) from Niyar (Cholapur) died at Apex Hospital. Besides, with the addition of 18 new red zones, the total number of hotspots has increased to 2,013 including 352 red zones. Three green zones have been converted into red zones again. There are 1,661 green zones with 18 new ones.

Earlier, this belt of Purvanchal (eastern UP) comprising 10 districts of three divisions saw 425 new cases a day ago and with this, the total number of patients has increased to 43,738. Out of these, maximum number of cases (24,776) was in Varanasi division followed by Azamgarh (12,173) and Vindhyachal (6,789). The best mortality rate was of Vindhyachal (1.08%) while the same was 1.33% in Azamgarh and 1.42% in Varanasi while the best recovery rate (88.17%) was in Varanasi followed by Azamgarh (87.92%) and Vindhyachal (87.49%). The overall recovery rate in the region was 87.31% while mortality rate 1.34%.

# 243 COVID-19 patients found

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ ALLAHABAD

Two patients, including a corona-infected cancer victim, died during the last 24 hours on Sunday. At the same time, the Covid report of 243 new people has come positive. With this, the number of infected in the district has increased to 18,660. At the same time, 305 people have beaten the corona. Of these, 50 corona infected were discharged from various Covid hospitals. Home isolation of 255 people was completed. The infected included five health workers and bank employees, including two doctors. Two advocates have also tested positive.

According to CMO Dr GS Bajpai, more than 3500 people got a Covid check done at various centres on Sunday. More than 1,700 people tested RTPCR and over 1,600 people were tested through antigen.

142 patients admitted to the Covid wards of L3 SRN Hospital. At the same time, 26 patients are admitted in Covid Care Centre, nine in Unani Medical College, 35 in Railway Hospital, 77 in Beli, 30 in United Medicity, 30 in Sainath AMA Hospital. On Sunday,

two corona infected died at the SRN Hospital while undergoing treatment. Among them, 68-year-old patient resident of Mumfordganj was suffering from kidney disease and 63-year-old cancer afflicted patient from Ashok Nagar. According to Dr Sujit Verma, corona deputy incharge of SRN, these patients suffered more infections of other diseases than corona in the hospital.

The number of people infected with corona is now decreasing. By late Sunday, 243 new patients were found infected, while 305 patients recovered and went home. In this, 255 people were discharged while living in home isolation. However, three patients lost their lives due to infection. The total death toll so far has been 260.

Chief Medical Officer Dr GS Bajpai said that the total number of infected patients in the district has reached 18,660. The recovery rate from the corona is increasing rapidly.

So far 10,916 people have recovered from home isolation. At the same time, only 4,311 people who have been admitted to the hospital have been cured. As of Sunday, as many

as 3,173 cases were active.

There are 25 patients in L-1 Covid Care Centre Kalindipuram, nine in L-1 Unani Medical College Himmatganj, 35 in L-2 Covid Care Centre Railway Hospital, 77 in L-2 Tej Bahadur Sapru Hospital. 38 patients are admitted in L-2 Hospital United Medicity and Medical College Rawatpur and 30 patients are admitted in L-2 Hospital Shri Sai Nath Vatsalya Mohiuddinpur Baratha. At the same time, 142 patients were admitted to Swaroop Rani Nehru L-3 hospital.

**HC DIRECTIVE TO CENTRE:** The Allahabad High Court on Monday directed the Central Government to apprise it with progress in COVID-19 vaccine trials and it's proposed completion date.

On complaints of standard masks and sanitisers being sold in the state, the court sought all standards and guidelines with regard to masks and sanitisers which have been set by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).

The bench comprising Justice Siddhartha Varma and Justice Ajit Kumar passed the order in a Public Interest

Litigation (PIL) on spread of COVID-19 in the state.

At one point of time, the court said that quite often one can see police personnel without face masks on streets. In such a scenario how can they effectively implement court order of '100% population masking'.

During the course of hearing, counsels assisting the bench made various suggestions like police in every district should take rounds in their area to ensure that the public is properly following unlock guidelines issued by the government from time to time and people must be stopped from eating on roadside eateries, restaurants, etc and only be allowed to take away packed food from eateries.

Earlier, on September 23, High Court has directed police authorities to ensure '100% population masking' ie that all wear masks, covering mouth and nose, while going out of their house in the state and to take strict action against violators.

The court had directed to set up task forces in each police station of Uttar Pradesh to implement it's order.

# LIC, power staff oppose privatisation

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) employees staged a demonstration at divisional office, Bhelupur here on Monday in protest against government move of privatisation. Divisional chief of Varanasi Division Insurance Employees' Association (VDIEA) Narayan Chatterjee said that the government is planning to bring an initial public offering (IPO) and list the LIC in the stock markets by selling its shares.

Raising slogans like 'no IPO in LIC' and 'save the LIC in national interest', they staged a demonstration during their lunch break saying that the LIC is a wholly government company that came into existence through an insurance bill passed from the Parliament in 1956. They alleged that it is a conspiracy of the government to please the corporate world and its move is being strongly opposed by LIC Mazdoor Sangh and All India Insurance Employees' Association. The protest was also participated by some agents and policy holders appealing to all to intensify their fight against the poli-



LIC employees staging protest against privatisation in Varanasi

Pioneer

cy of privatisation of the Central Government.

They further said that through NITI Aayog, several lakh crores of LIC money had already been spent by the government in power, railways, road transport and other sectors. They said that recently ₹1.5 lakh crore of LIC money was spent on railways apart from helping UTI, IDBI and Corporation Bank overcome their financial crisis. Among those who were also present were VDIEA general secretary Vinod Srivastava, Shailendra Mehrotra, Rakesh

Gujrati, DC Singh, Sumant, Ashok Kumar, Manish Kumar, Arti Srivastava, Jitendra Kumar and Bhanu Srivastava.

Meanwhile, continuing their protest against privatisation in response to the call of Power Employees' Joint Action Commission, the local employees took out a torchlight procession from Purvanchal Discom office (Bhikharipur) to BHU Gate (Lucknow). They have threatened the government that if the attention is not paid towards their demands during peaceful agitation and harassment of staff is not stopped,

they would court arrest apart from going to indefinite strike. Earlier, they launched an agitation to hand over the copies of their memorandum to different public representatives on the occasion of birth anniversary of Pt Deendayal Upadhyaya and submitted memorandum to UP Cabinet Minister Anil Rajbhar, MLCs Ashok Dhawan and Kedar Nath Singh and Mayor Mridula Jaiswal.

In their memorandum, they said that the private companies do business only for profits but Purvanchal Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited (PVVNL) is providing power supply to all including farmers and poor and the experiments of privatisation were proved a failure in Kanpur and Agra in the past. They said that they would continue agitation to draw the attention of representatives till October 2. Among those who were present in handing over memorandum to representatives were Chandra Shekhar Chaurasia, RK Wahi, AK Srivastava, Neeraj Bind, Rajendra Singh, Sunil Kumar, Vijay Singh, Virendra Singh, Jagdish Patel, Jit Lal and Santosh Verma.

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ ALLAHABAD

GM North Central Railway Rajiv Chaudhry chaired a web-based meeting on quality control, monitoring mechanism and contract management in Railway works on Monday. Being infrastructure intensive, Railways execute large number of works and proper quality control is extremely essential for safety, durability and longevity of created facilities. For this purpose, well laid down methods and guidelines are available in various codes, manuals and instructions issued from time to time on Railways.

During this discussion with open line and construction organisation officials Chaudhry said that introduction of checklist containing important items for verification during work execution will help executives and inspecting agencies on proper quality control and monitoring of work. For this purpose, Chief engineer level officers have

been nominated on NCR and NR who will prepare checklist for each category work including revision of existing checklists incorporating latest changes, guidelines etc. Prepared/ revised checklist will have objective parameters on quality and measurement to assist executing functionaries without chance of omitting any important item.

Preparation of checklist is being dealt in a mission mode over NCR and NR and GM has instructed for finalising these checklists within a week time which will be revised regularly to incorporate future changes. In the meeting it was also decided that method statement or detailed process particulars shall invariably be included in tender document of works costing more than ₹. 5 crore. This will bring efficiency in execution and objectivity in monitoring of Railway works.

The GM also emphasised upon proper monitoring of contract and said that each executive must have proper

system for monitoring each contract being executed with help of available IT tools and systems. Under the already implemented system of Indian railway project management system (IRPSM), planning, processing and sanction of infrastructure and other works have been brought at online portal. Similarly, Indian Railways electronic procurement system (IREPS) facilitates calling, deliberating and award of tenders of works sanctioned through IRPSM and issue of letter of acceptance (LOA) to successful bidder electronically for works as well as material procurement on Railways. Recently Indian Railways works contract management system (IRWCMS) has also been implemented over North Central Railway which facilitates making of agreement with successful bidder and its approval, measurement of executed works in paperless, efficient and transparent manner using this web application developed by CRIS. Based on actual and satisfactory execu-

tion of work; payment to contractors is made using integrated payroll and accounting system (IPAS) a secured online application developed by CRIS. All these IT applications have already been implemented over North Central railway to bring speed, efficiency and transparency in execution of works as well as procurement of materials required for operation and maintenance of Railways. Efforts are being made to integrate IRPSM, IREPS, IRWCMS and IPAS for making the complete process from inception of an Infrastructure work till its completion and closure paperless, efficient and transparent in a seamless fashion.

This web-based meeting was attended by PHODs of concerned departments, DRMs from divisions and other senior officials from open line and construction organisations. Meeting was coordinated by SDGM NCR NK Sinha and SDGM NR Chandrakhya Mukharjee for NCR and NR specific issues respectively.

# Red Eagle celebrates Raising Day

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ ALLAHABAD

India's oldest and most decorated Army Division 'Red Eagle' celebrated its 82nd Raising Day on Monday.

The 4th Rapid Infantry Division of Indian Army, also known as the Red Eagle Division was formed in Egypt 1939 during the Second World War.

The Division has the singular honour of participating in World War-II, India-China War of 1962, India-Pakistan Wars of 1965 and 1971, Operation Pawan in Sri Lanka and Operation Vijay (Kargil) in 1999.

The ceremony commenced with wreath laying at War memorial by Maj Gen Ravindra Singh, SM and all officers, to pay homage to all martyrs who laid down their



lives protecting the nation. The ceremony was held following COVID-19 protocols.

# Sardar Sena stages demonstration

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

Annoyed with the privatisation of public sector undertakings and anti-farmer policies of the government, the Sardar Sena (SS) on Monday staged a demonstration at Sadar Tehsil, here and submitted a memorandum in favour of their demands.

The government at Centre is handing over the public sector undertakings even which are in profit, in the private hands to benefit a handful of capitalists, said the SS chief Dr RS Patel demanding, the government should immediately stop the privatisation of these undertakings in the larger interest of nation and people as well. The government is hatching a conspiracy to make the nation slave into the hands of a few capitalists, he blamed.

The number of unemployed youths is gradually increasing in the country but the government is taking no initiative to generate employment, he said adding, the unemployed youths have no option except to commit suicide in such situation. The Parliament had passed three farm bills which are not in the interest of farmers, he said blaming these bills only benefit a few capitalists.

The government should stop its pro-capitalist policies and roll-back the anti-farmer bills, the agitated demonstrators demanded adding, the government should also stop its privatisation policy. If the government fails in stopping the privatisation of public sector undertakings and roll-back the farms bills, the SS will launch nationwide agitation in

the days to come, they threatened.

They also submitted a memorandum to the district administration to be forwarded to the President of India. Sudhir Patel, Suresh Verma, Ranju Bala Patel, Balkishun Patel, Ashok Patel and Subrat Kumar mainly joined the demonstration.

Meanwhile, the activists of Jan Adhikar Party, Uttar Pradesh staged a dharna at Shastri Ghat to raise their protest against the anti-public policies of the government. The price of petrol and diesel is gradually rising which caused the skyrocketing price of fruits and vegetables, they said adding, despite this, the government has paid dear ear towards this.

The government is conspiring to deprive dalits and

poor from their constitutional right of reservation, they said adding, the government has ended the reservation system for the admission in medical institutions and the scholarship system for the students of other backward classes has also been ended. Instead, the government has introduced a creamy layer system which is to deprive the students of reserved class from their constitutional rights.

The government should reconsider its reservation policy and take initiative to check the inflation effectively, they demanded and submitted a memorandum of their demands to the district administration to be forwarded to the President of India. Vijay Narayan, Indu Kushwaha, Babloo Maurya and Ramesh Maurya mainly joined the dharna.

# Check-up camps for heart diseases today

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

District Magistrate (DM) Kaushal Raj Sharma, who is also the Chairman of District Health Committee, has instructed the Health department to conduct free check-up camps for heart patients at the government hospitals, District Mental Hospital, primary and community health centres (PHCs/CHCs) in the district on the occasion of 'World Heart Day' on Tuesday. Besides, public awareness programmes should be organised to inform the people about the control of untimely death due to heart diseases.

According to Sharma, as the programmes will be monitored at the state level, special emphasis should be given to it. The theme of 2020 is 'Use

Heart to Beat CVD' (cardiovascular diseases)' which is given by the World Heart Federation (WHF).

He said that cases of high blood pressure had increased during COVID-19 pandemic and in such a situation, the importance of this day increases even more.

Blood pressure of the patient should be checked regularly in order to achieve the target by 2025 to reduce the mortality due to it by 25 per cent as per the programme of Indian Hypertension Control Initiatives (IHCI).

Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Dr VB Singh said that high blood pressure is a major cause of death due to non-communicable diseases and it is a silent killer as a person suffering from this may be attacked

by other diseases as well. 'With the aim of creating awareness about the heart across the world and highlighting various measures to avoid heart problems, September 29 is celebrated every year worldwide as World Heart Day since 2000. At the time of its launch, it was decided that the day would be celebrated on the last Sunday of September every year but in 2014 a date was set for it, which was 29 September,' he added.

Nodal Officer of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) Control Programme and ACOMO Dr PP Gupta said that through the programme people have to tell how to change the routine to keep the heart healthy. 'Habits include sleeping early at night, waking up early in the morning, walking at least 100 meters after

dinner, avoiding fast food and junk food, minimal use of fried roast, high intake of non-vegetarian food and distance from smoking and drinking,' he said, adding that according to the WHF, premature death from heart disease can be checked by controlling the main factors such as consumption of harmful food items, tobacco use, alcohol consumption, non-exercise etc. He said that the symptoms of heart disease, except in certain circumstances, are chest pain, burning sensation, rapid breathing, pain in the left arm (may occur in both arms among the woman), blood pressure, darkness in front of the eyes, etc. and in case of such symptoms, one should contact the local district hospital, CHC / PHC or cardiologist immediately.

**ALLAHABAD (PNS):** The Allahabad High Court has quashed an order of the Chief Judicial Magistrate, dismissing the complaint registered against a Sub-Inspector who did not appear before the court in spite of summons as the complainant felt ill and did not appear on a hearing date. The court has also sought explanation from Superintendent of Police (SP), Moradabad as to what action he had taken to ensure presence of the Sub Inspector in court who was avoiding court summons since 2012. The SP Moradabad will file his reply by October 25. 'It is very strange that instead of procuring the presence of the accused, the learned Magistrate dismissed the complaint,' the Bench of Justice KJ Thaker observed in the petition filed by Rajbahadur Singh, an advocate by profes-

sion. The Bench said that the non-presence of an accused should be sought to be procured by way of invoking relevant provisions under the law. However, in the present case, instead of following the procedure, the Magistrate dismissed the complaint. Holding the impugned order to be perverse, the Bench observed, 'The learned Magistrate has the duty cast to see that there is no misuse of the court proceedings. In this case, there is a clear misuse of process of law by the accused who even after coming to know that summons were issued against them and their revision were dismissed, did not appear before the court below. It is to recall that a practising advocate had filed a complaint before the Chief Judicial Magistrate, Moradabad in the year 2012, about commission of theft and intention-

al insult with intent to provoke breach of the peace against a police officer.

After recording of the complainant's statement and that of the witnesses, the court issued summons to the accused, one Jaibhagwan Singh, Sub-Inspector. Accused SI- challenged the summoning order in court but his petition was dismissed in 2018. In spite of this, accused S-I did not appear in court. Subsequently, the judge even sent notices to the higher authorities to procure the presence of the accused but, in vain.

Thereafter, the complainant fell sick and the judge dismissed the complaint by order dated August 13, 2018. This order was challenged by the complainant in High Court.

**WOMAN KILLED:** In a shocking incident, a 35-year-

old woman was beaten to death with some sharp edged weapon by some unidentified goons late on Sunday night under the Nawabganj police station of the district.

Nawabganj police station incharge and other police officers reached the spot on receipt of information. The police questioned the woman's family members in this connection and thereafter, the police is investigating the matter. Shiva Shankar Maurya, a resident of Pabnah village under the Nawabganj police station, drives Ola. His wife Asha Maurya was the group owner. Shiva Shankar and wife retired to bed after dinner on Sunday night.

In the morning, when the family members woke up they were shell-shocked to find Asha lying unconscious on the bed in a pool of blood.





The Principal Secretary, Medical Health, Alok Kumar, along with DC, Raj Shekhar and DM Alok Tiwari carried out a surprise visit of SPM Hospital on Monday

Pioneer

# Covid: Kumar asks officials to chalk out a coherent strategy

## Cautions against complacency at this stage

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

Principal Secretary (Medical Health) Alok Kumar has asked the medical and district officials to chalk out a coherent strategy to contain the COVID-19 death rate as well as the spread of the novel coronavirus in the city.

Kumar, who made a surprise inspection of SPM Hospital in Kalyanpur, said that Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's emphasis was on reducing the COVID-19 death rate and he spread of coronavirus and this could be made possible only by working in a planned manner.

The principal secretary said with great efforts the COVID-19 death rate had been brought down and the active coronavirus cases were also on decline but if at this moment the administration lowered its guard, the virus could bounce back with serious consequences.

Kumar directed the chief medical officer to focus more on contact tracing and strict monitoring of COVID-19 patients in home isolation. He said if a patient in home isolation was found to be critical, he or she should be immediately referred to the Level-3 Covid facility at LLR Hospital.

The principal secretary said with constant efforts, the city now had 150 ICU beds on which more critical patients could be accommodate from private hospital that had only Level-2 Covid care facility.

He said a report of the Covid situation in Kanpur Nagar had been sent to the chief minister, who had acknowledged the improved functioning of the LLR Hospital doctors and the combined efforts to bring down the COVID-19 death rate.

Kumar said the chief minister had already assured that there shall be no crisis of medicine.

He asked the medical officials to put up their requisition of required medicines and equipment and other infrastructure.

The principal secretary also directed the authorities to continue maintaining a vigil and monitor the working of hospitals. He said the people also had to cooperate by maintaining social distancing and wearing masks.

Kumar said the decline in COVID-19 deaths and coronavirus positive cases was evident but this was time to be more careful as well to ward off a second wave of infections.

## 143 more test positive

KANPUR (PNS): Kanpur Nagar reported 143 more coronavirus positive cases on Monday.

Chief Medical Officer Dr Anil K Mishra said with 143 more people testing positive for coronavirus infection between Sunday evening and Monday evening, the tally of confirmed cases in the city shot up to 24,766. He said 50 COVID-19 patients were discharged from hospitals after being cured and with this, 6,391 coronavirus infected persons had recovered in the city.

The CMO said three COVID-19 deaths were reported in the last 24 hours, pushing the death toll to 647 on Monday evening. He said at present 3662 active cases were undergoing treatment in the city.

## Missing hotel employee found murdered

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

A missing hotel employee was found murdered in Juh police station area. His naked body was recovered from the Swadeshi Mill campus on Sunday night.

The deceased, Pradeep (20) of Laxmipura, Raipurwa, was employed in the hotel at Deputy Ka Parao. Pradeep's brother Sujit, an e-rickshaw driver, had married Rupa, wife of Sonu of Juh Baradevi, about two months ago.

According to reports, on Saturday, Sujit along with Rupa and Pradeep had gone to the house of his in-laws at Juh Bampurahia. There, Rupa had a tiff with Sonu, who left the house on receiving a call from the e-rickshaw owner. On returning, he found Pradeep missing. When he asked Rupa where Pradeep was, she told him that he had gone with Sonu.

When Pradeep did not return till late night, Sujit filed a complaint about the disappearance of his brother at Juh police station.

On Sunday night, Sujit was called at the police station and taken to Swadeshi Mill campus where the naked body of Pradeep was found in the bushes. After crushing Pradeep's face and head with a brick, the assailant had removed his clothes to conceal his identity.

Sujit alleged the hand of his wife's first husband in the murder. The police raided the house of Sonu and found it locked.

Superintendent of Police (South) Deepak Bhuker said raids were on to nab the assailant, who was absconding.

## Time to bring hearing, speech impaired into mainstream

KANPUR (PNS): One per cent of the total population of India has been declared hearing and speech impaired and among them there are 20 lakh children and out of the total only 12 lakh kids attend basic schooling and the rest eight lakh are either drop-outs or cannot access education. The focus on bringing the disabled population into the mainstream is an important developmental indicator of any country. This year the government has decided to focus on this section of disability. This was stated by School for Deaf and Dumb Principal Dr Vatsalya Khandekar. He said from battling social stigma to a general lack of awareness and sensitivity among people, every day was a challenge for a person with a disability especially in India. He said in order to build greater dialogue around inclusion and accessibility, and celebrate the change-makers an all-round effort had to be made and this would not be possible without the support of the totally healthy people. He said even though the UP government was making claims about providing quality education to disabled students, yet much had to be done for those who were deaf and dumb. He said there was a need to upgrade the schools especially with modern gadgets yet nothing had been done in this direction.

# Man shot dead by hoodlums

CORRESPONDENT ■ MIRZAPUR

One person was shot dead near Kabir Math in Chunar town under Chunar police station on Sunday. As per the reports received here, Jeevnandan Rath, and Kishor Chand Das, both employees of a company in Chunar were in Chunar market when some unidentified assailants opened the fire at them around 7.30 pm. As a result Jeevnandan Rath died on the spot while Kishor Chand Das was admitted to the trauma centre in Varanasi. On getting infor-

mation ADG zone and IG range visited the place and issued necessary directions to the cops. According to officiating SP, Sanjay Kumar, three teams had been formed to work out the case, including those of SOG and SWAT.

**FOOT MARCH:** The Congress workers took out a foot march in protest against the farm bills to which President Ram Nath Kovind gave his assent on Sunday. Speaking on the occasion former MLA Bhagwati Prasad Chaudhary said that it was another attempt by Modi gov-

ernment to strengthen the capitalists at the cost of the peasants. Convener of the march and district secretary of the party Manish Dubey accused the government of betraying the farmers. The march which was jointly led by Bhagawati Prasad Chaudhary and Kamlesh Dubey started from Cheksari and culminated at Purjagir Chauraha. Among those who participated in the march were Bhartendu Yadav, Jitendra Chaubey, Harishankar Saroj, Ratnesh Dubey, Ishtiyak, Mahesh Pandey, Arpit, Nitish, Nihal, Aman and Rajkumar.

# Illicit liquor factory unearthed

CORRESPONDENT ■ MIRZAPUR

Under the joint operation of the state excise department and police an illicit liquor factory was unearthed near Rateh market under Halia police station on Saturday night. As per reports received here, district excise officer Neeraj Dwivedi had received inputs about illicit liquor trade. When the place was identified, the excise team informed the local police and raided it. But the accused managed to flee from the spot. When the joint team raided the place it found 500 litres of spirit, 350 litres of adulterated liquor, equipment for preparing the liquor along with packaging instruments. The team recovered wrappers of branded liquor, empty bottles and chemicals. It recovered a Safari No (UP-70/B-9999) which was being used to transportation purposes. Though no arrest had been made so far the accused were identified as Rajendra Chaurasia, a resident

of Rateh village and Sanjay alias Sanju Jaiswal, a resident of Ranibagh under Katra Kotwali police station. After registering a case under relevant sections of Excise Act and IPC the police seized the materials and the vehicle. Meanwhile a dispute among children led to the death of one person in Turkahaa village under Laiganj police station here. Reports said that in Turkahaa village on the issue of drawing water from the well the children had a scuffle which led to a brawl among the women. Then the men from both the families intervened in the matter. Raja Ram (68) who was seriously injured in the incident was admitted to the trauma centre, BHU, where he died. On getting information about his death the police registered a case under relevant sections of the IPC in this connection and arrested three persons. Another report said that a man died after he consumed some poisonous substance

under Madihan police station. As per the reports, Ramdularey (50), a resident of Darban village, had consumed some poisonous substance. When his condition got deteriorated the kin brought him to Rajgarh PHC. In view of his critical condition the doctor referred his case to the district hospital where he died during the treatment. On getting the information the Madihan police reached the hospital, took the body of the deceased into custody and completed the legal formalities. On the other hand, Vindhychal police registered a case against two persons for assaulting a couple. As per the reports, Deena Nath Mishra, a resident of Vindhychal town, had lodged a complaint alleging that two residents of Bangali Chauraha, Vindhychal, had attacked him and his wife. He further alleged that they had snatched the chain of his wife too. Acting on the application the police registered a case and started investigating the matter.

## DM launches website on World Tourism Day

CORRESPONDENT ■ JALAU

District Magistrate Mannan Akhtar launched a website <http://jalaun-tourism.com/> on World Tourism Day on Sunday to promote tourism in Jalaun. He said that it would improve chances

of employment in the district. He said that he found the possibility of tourism in places like Chaurasi Gumbad, Kalpi Kila, Rampura Kila, Jagammanpur Kila, Panchanda, Salaghat and many others and added that these places needed to be publicised at district, state and national levels. While sharing details about the website, he

said that complete information about the abovementioned places, their location as well as transportation facilities were available on it. He said few more tourist spots of the district would be added in the website soon. Meanwhile the DM appealed to people to watch the newly-launched video of Jalaun tourism.

# Three thieves apprehended

CORRESPONDENT ■ GORAKHPUR

Three thieves were arrested by the police while they were planning to commit a theft. The police registered a case against them and presented them in court from where they were sent to jail. Gulriha SHO Ravi Kumar Rai said that S-I Ajay Kumar Verma along with other policemen was patrolling

on Sunday. On being tipped a tip off by an informer three youths who were standing near the house of Vinay Dwivedi, a resident of Laxmipur Tola of Harsevakpur No 2 were caught. They were identified as Ajay Nishad alias Nate and Shashank Dubey, residents of Harsevakpur number 2, Naria Tola, and Irfan, a resident of Telian Tola in Jungle Harpur

village. Meanwhile the police team of the Campierganj police station on Sunday arrested Kanchan Kumar, a resident of Loharpurwa Tola Reharwa, whose name figured in list of top 20 criminals, with an illicit pistol and a live cartridge. The team which made the arrest comprised S-I Akhilesh Kumar and constables Pradeep Kumar Mishra and Paras Kumar.

# 20 sanitation workers honoured

CORRESPONDENT ■ GORAKHPUR

The Swachhta Pakhwada (cleanliness fortnight) is being observed from September 16 to 30 on the entire Indian Railways. Under it Additional General Manager (AGM) of North Eastern Railway (NER) Amit Kumar Agarwal on Sunday at Gorakhpur Junction administered the pledge of cleanliness to officers and employees and presented certificates to 20 sanitation workers for their dedication and devotion towards their work, Chief Public Relations Officer (CPRO) Pankaj Kumar Singh said. On the occasion sanitiser kits were distributed among other sanitation workers and passengers. On the occasion Chief Workshop Engineer BS Dohre and Chief Rolling Stock Engineer Yogesh Mohan appreciated the dedication and devotion of sanitaton workers. The programme was conducted by senior coaching depot officer Devarshi Srivastava while the vote of thanks was proposed by deputy chief mechanical engineer (ENHM) AP Pandey. Earlier AGM Amit Kumar Agarwal and senior railway officials offered 'shramdaan' in the clean-



liness drive at the station. After it AGM Agrawal along with senior railway officials inspected the cleanliness in Gorakhpur station premises and the facilities being provided to the passengers. During the inspection AGM Amit Kumar Agarwal instructed the railway officials

concerned to maintain high level of cleanliness in the station premises so that passengers coming to the station did not face any kind of inconvenience. Instructions for regular monitoring of passenger facilities at the station were also given. Prominent among those present on the occasion were chief workshop engineer BS Dohre, chief rolling stock engineer, Yogesh Mohan, chief passenger transportation manager Alok Singh, deputy chief mechanical engineer (ENHM) AP Pandey, deputy general manager/general, Omkar Nath Singh, senior coaching depot officer Devarshi Srivastava, station director, Ashutosh Gupta, station manager, Mukesh Kumar Singh, assistant mechanical engineer VS Verma, assistant commissioner of safety, Railway Protection Force (RPF) Ravi Shankar Singh and railway staff.

# Intensive cleanliness drive launched

PNS ■ VARANASI

To mark the Swachh Bharat Swachh Bharat Abhiyan as directed by Indian Railways the 'Swachhta Pakhwada' (cleanliness fortnight) is being run from September 16 to 30. In this sequence on Varanasi division under this fortnight the 'Clean toilet day' was observed on Sunday too during which the officers nominated by Divisional Railway Manager (DRM) Vijay Kumar Panjari in Varanasi division's Padrauna, Thave, Manduadih, Varanasi City, Ghazipur City, Ballia, Azamgarh, Belthara Road, Siwan, Chhapra, Bhatni and Salempur stations ensured intensive cleaning of station premises-situated public toilets, pay and use ones besides in toilets/urinals located in areas



surrounding the station premises, cleaning of drainage system and getting the necessary repair work completed. During this period in Varanasi City, Manduadih, Sarnath, Ghazipur City, Belthara Road, Ballia, Bhatni, Padrauna,

Azamgarh, Siwan and Chhapra stations' waiting and retiring rooms, including at offices, training centres and railway residential colonies uninterrupted water supply was ensured, nullahs for ensuring drainage of water and drains were cleaned and necessary improvements were also made as per requirement. During this period pamphlets on the benefits of cleanliness during Corona period and on the damage caused by dirt were distributed among the public in stations and railway premises. In order to protect general public from Covid-19 they were being made aware through audio/video messages at stations with a view to self-motivate them towards cleanliness, Public Relations Officer (PRO) Ashok Kumar said.

# Congress tributes to Bhagat Singh

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

The Kanpur Congress Committee paid rich tributes to legendary freedom fighter Shaheed Bhagat Singh on his 113th birth anniversary.

The Congressmen marched with party flags to the statue of Bhagat Singh on Meston Road and bathed it first with Gangajal and then with milk and paid floral tributes.

They said the time had come to emulate the great revolutionary and appealed to the youth to tread the path shown by him. The Congressmen then took an oath to follow the path shown by the great freedom fighter.

Addressing the gathering, Kanpur Congress Committee's senior vice-president Shanker Dutt Mishra said the party would leave no stone unturned to bring reforms in the present system by emulating Shaheed Bhagat Singh as this would be a real tribute to the great freedom fighter.

He narrated Bhagat Singh's contribution to the freedom struggle against the British. He said today the Indians could not forget his slogan 'Inquilab Zindabad'.

Mishra said Bhagat Singh's thoughts awakened the need to revolt against the British Raj amongst the youth of India and he became popular amongst the youth.

Bhagat Singh was hanged to death along with his confidants Sukhdev Thapar and Shivaram Rajguru.

Mishra said today the youth had to muster courage



Congressmen paying tributes to Shaheed Bhagat Singh at Meston Road on Monday.

Pioneer



Lawyers organised birth anniversary celebrations of Martyr Bhagat Singh on Monday.

Pioneer

and prepare themselves for sacrifice.

Prominent among those present included Afzal, Pramod Gupta, Abdul Arif, Virendra Nigam, Mehtab, Kamlesh Jha and Bharat Azad.

### LAWYERS PAY HOMAGE TO BHAGAT SINGH

The Adhivakta Kalyan Sangharsh Samiti (AKSS) paid homage to Martyr Bhagat Singh on his birth anniversary at the Bar Association hall

here on Monday.

Kanpur Bar Association general secretary Kapil Deep Sachan and Upbhokta Bar Association president Gurmeet Singh garlanded the portrait of Shaheed Bhagat Singh.

Speaking on the occasion, Gurmeet Singh said Bhagat Singh had sacrificed his life for the country at the age of 23 years.

Kanpur Bar Association's former general secretary Avinash Bajpai said the ideals

of Martyr Bhagat Singh were still relevant and should be followed to achieve progress in life.

Convenor Ravindra Sharma, while highlighting the ideals of Bhagat Singh, demanded that the martyr be conferred Padma Bhushan posthumously.

Prominent lawyers present on the occasion included Upendra Pal Singh Bhadauria (KBA vice-president), Ashwani Anand (KBA treasurer), Rakesh Tewari (Lawyers Association ex-general secretary), BL Gupta (Income tax Bar Association president), S Mitu Sagri, Anoop Shukla, SK Sachan, S Vineet Pal Singh, S Harpreet Singh, Vinay Mishra, Manoj Dwivedi, Taufiq-ur-Rehman, Shivam Arora, Shikhar Chandra, Ankur Goel, Anil Chaudhry and KK Yadav.

# NSI PGD courses' exams from today

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

National Sugar Institute Director Prof Narendra Mohan said that the final examinations of post-graduate diploma courses which could not be conducted earlier due to COVID-19 shall now be conducted from September 29.

He said online classes for the second and third year students of various courses was going on through virtual platform and their mid-term and final examinations would be held between October and November, 2020.

Prof Mohan said that special classes shall be arranged for the students of various

courses at the institute prior to the examinations to clarify their doubts and also to hold practicals in various disciplines.

The NSI director said safety of the students and the staff was a priority area and hence the institute had made all necessary arrangements in line with the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

He said the students would be admitted to the hostels after thermal screening and proper sanitisation.

Prof Mohan said the institute had made extensive arrangements to avoid crowding in dining area and wash-

rooms. He added that similar precautions would also be taken during the examinations and the invigilators would be given gloves, masks, face shield and sanitisers as a precautionary measure. He said personal protective equipment (PPE) would also be given to the invigilators but on demand.

NSI hostel warden Sanjay Chauhan said to take care of any emergency, an isolation centre having basic facilities of pulse oximeter, medical oxygen cylinder, nebuliser, steaming inhalation and infusion had been set up.

He said the coronavirus suspects would be housed in

the isolation centre for medical care and their examinations would be conducted separately.

He added that an authorised medical attendant had been arranged to take medical care and as per the medical attendant's advice, the institute would take further action.

Chauhan said the examination for PG Diploma in Industrial Instrumentation & Process Automation, PG Diploma in Sugarcane Productivity & Maturity Management and PG Diploma in Quality Control & Environment Science for the academic session 2019-20 would be held.



# Sonia to Cong-ruled States: Pass Act to override farm laws



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Congress president Sonia Gandhi on Monday directed Punjab, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh and Pudducherry Chief Ministers to explore the possibility of passing laws to override the three agricultural Bills passed recently by the Parliament.

A statement issued by party general secretary (organisation) K.C. Venugopal said that these States have been told to pass laws under Article 254 (2) of the Constitution that allows State legislatures to do so to 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 in the three draconian

## Ex-babus back Modi-Govt's reform legislation

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

A group of 32 former public servants on Monday backed the farm reform laws enacted by the Modi Government and claimed that "disinformation" is being spread over the issue to negatively impact the morale of farmers. The group includes former finance secretary S Narayan, former banking secretary D K Mittal, former defence secretary G Mohan Kumar, former petroleum secretary Saurabh Chandra, and former civil aviation secretary K N Srivastava.

The farm Bills, passed by

Agricultural laws including the abolition of MSP and disruption of APMCs in Congress ruled States. 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 agri-

Parliament, mark the watershed in the liberation of India's farming community from the shackles of exploitative practices that slow-pedaled their progress, the former civil servants said.

Targeting the critics of the measures, the group in a statement said, "We have reasons to apprehend the disinformation which certain sections within our society are trying to spread in the country. We have recent instances of untruths and distortions being paraded before the public with hugely negative impact on the morale of the minorities, students, and now the farmers."

culture-related laws 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.

The general public has every reason to suspect attempts by well-known "vested interests" to destabilise the country and create disaffection among the minorities, students and farmers, it alleged.

In an apparent reference to the Congress, the group said the emancipation of the farmers from the middlemen and empowering them with the freedom to choose where and how to sell their produce was enshrined in the manifestos of certain political forces which oppose it now.

The statement said the government has introduced a definitive game-changer in a

farmer's life through the "far-sighted" legislations. Major impediments which retarded the seamless growth of the farming fraternity of India are given the go-by through the passage of these monumental Acts.

Citing the proposed benefits of these laws, including freedom to farmers to sell their produce anywhere they want and allowing them to enter into contracts with traders, the group said it is objectionable to "incite" farmers and create disaffection by wrongly suggesting that their interests are being bartered in favour of multinational concern.

## After Punjab, Haryana, Centre asks other States to start procurement process of Kharif crops

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

After allowing procurement of kharif crops in Punjab and Haryana in advance to placate farmers' anger over farm Bills, the Centre has now allowed all remaining procuring States to commence with their procurement operations for paddy for the year 2020-21 (Kharif crop) with effect from September 28 itself.

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. Meanwhile, the ministry of consumer affairs has allowed procurement of 13.77 LMT of Pulse and oilseeds from Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Telangana and Haryana.

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.

Farmers Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Bill, 2020, which was passed in Parliament.

The declaration of mandi yards ensures that any procurement outside their ambit is considered illegal, farmers do not get a price less than the MSP, and the State gets its mandi fee.

Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel too had recently said his govern-

ment would take legal steps to ensure that private players did not get entry into the agriculture sector. At least 40 per cent of paddy production in Chhattisgarh is procured by the Food Corporation of India for the Central pool.

And unlike Punjab and Haryana, where farmers have large land holdings, 86% of Chhattisgarh's land holdings are of less than 5 acres.

The Congress is also con-

sidering the option of moving the Supreme Court against the bills. "Certainly all options are open. I believe it strikes at the heart of federalism, which has been held repeatedly to be part of the basic structure from Keshavanada Bharati to Bommai judgements. Therefore, you have not heard the end of the story yet," senior party leader and Rajya Sabha MP Abhishek Singhvi said.

# Teicoplanin more effective in Covid-19 treatment: IIT Research

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Clinically-approved drug "Teicoplanin" is a potential therapeutic option against Covid-19 and can be 10 times more effective than several drugs being currently used, a research by Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi has found. Teicoplanin is an FDA-approved glycopeptide antibiotic, which is regularly used for treating Gram-positive bacterial infections with low toxicity profile in humans.

The research by the institute's Kusuma School of

Biological Science screened an assemblage of 23 approved drugs, which have shown leads towards being therapeutic options for coronavirus.

"While the effect of Teicoplanin was compared with other important drugs in use, Teicoplanin was found to be 10-20 fold more effective than the chief drugs being used against SARS-CoV-2, such as Lopinavir and Hydroxychloroquine in our laboratory conditions," said Ashok Patel, Professor at IIT Delhi.

Patel, who led the

research was also assisted by Dr Pradeep Sharma from AIIMS. The research has been published in the International Journal of 'Biological Macromolecules'.

"Recently, there has been a clinical study carried out with Teicoplanin at Sapienza University in Rome. However, a more detailed clinical investigation is required on a large cohort, in different stages mild, moderate and critically ill patients to conclude the definite role of Teicoplanin against Covid-19," Patel said.

Globally, over 3.2 crore people have been infected with Covid-19, and the total number of deaths from the deadly virus now stands at over 9.80 lakh.

Globally, over 3.2 crore people have been infected with Covid-19, and the total number of deaths from the deadly virus now stands at over 9.80 lakh.

In India too cases are on increase with coronavirus tally crossing 60 lakh mark on Monday while the death toll from the pathogen climbed to 95,542 with 1,039 more death.

## Cat que virus from China has potential to cause disease in India: ICMR

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

At a time when India is struggling hard to combat Covid-19 which has spread to almost all the States in the country, scientists have alarmingly found the presence of antibodies for another virus — cat que virus (CQV) — in human serum samples tested from across India. Incidentally, as in Covid-19, which has killed over 95,000 people so far, the CQV is also said to be largely reported

from China.

The arthropod-borne virus (arboviruses) is usually carried by culex mosquitoes and pigs, and could cause fatal illness in humans. In fact, Swines are the primary mammalian host of the CQV.

While antibodies of the virus have been found, the scientists at National Institute of Virology (NIV) - ICMR did not stumble upon the virus in any of the 883 human serum samples they tested. The scientists said that

the arthropod-borne virus (arboviruses) is usually carried by culex mosquitoes and pigs, and could cause fatal illness in humans.

The presence of an antibody against a virus in a person indicates that the person had at some point of time been infected by the virus.

But the study, which was published in the latest issue of Indian Journal of Medical Research (IJMR), did not find the presence of the actual virus in any of the samples

tested.

Cat que virus, the presence of which is usually reported from China and Vietnam, causes febrile illnesses, meningitis and paediatric encephalitis in humans.

"Anti-CQV IgG antibody positivity in human serum samples tested and the replication capability of CQV in mosquitoes indicated a possible disease causing potential of CQV in Indian scenario," the scientists said.

## Bangladeshis with plot to kill TMC leader held

PNS ■ KOLKATA

In a breakthrough of sorts six people out of whom four are Bangladeshis, were arrested from the Birbhum district of Bengal Bengal's for hatching plans to assassinate a Trinamool Congress politician, police said.

"The police arrested the accused persons on Sunday night from Taltore village which is not far from the Viswa Bharati Shantiniketan a central university created by Poet Laureate Rabindranath Tagore.

The police said the Bangladeshis were "supari killers" --- who were working as masons in the nearby areas --- and had been given contract to kill a senior TMC leader from the district.

"The six were arrested on the basis of some specific information we received. Details cannot be divulged for the sake of the investigation," district superintendent of police Shyam Singh said.

## NIA court sentences ISIS ultra to life imprisonment in Kerala

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

Subahani Haja Moideen, 36, an IS activist from Thodupuzha in Idukki district was sentenced by a NIA court in Kochi to life imprisonment for waging a war in association with terrorist forces against Iraq, India's friendly nation. The court observed that the NIA which probed the case against Moideen has succeeded in establishing that he had aligned with IS and waged war against Iraq.

This is the first case of its

kind filed in Kerala by the NIA against a person for aligning with a terrorist organization and waging war against India's friendly country.

Judge P Krishnakumar found Moideen guilty under IPC Section 125 (waging war against a friendly nation of India), 120 B, and UAPA Sections 20, 38 and 49. Moideen has to pay a fine of Rs 2,17,000 under these Sections.

The judge said that the sentence was based on the interest of the civil society. The NIA

found that Moideen had left India for Turkey in 2015 and reached Iraq via Istanbul. His locations were identified by tracking the spots from where he logged into his Facebook accounts. In a Facebook chat he had with one of his associates, Moideen had made it known that he wanted to join the IS to kill the enemies of Islam. Moideen was taken into custody by the NIA along with the group of youth who had assembled at Kanakamala in Kannur district to plan a war against India.

## Guv: Mamata Govt running police State

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

There was more trading of fire between the Raj Bhavan and Nabanna (State secretariat) with Bengal Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar once again attacking the Mamata Banerjee Government for running a police state drawing strong reactions from the Trinamool Congress quarters which hit back saying "he is the worst Governor we have seen in our State."

Bengal was a specific case of "collapsing rule of law" the Governor on Monday said alleging "ruthless killing of the opposition workers," Dhankhar who had earlier fought several letter wars with the Chief Minister said adding the State

Government was currently "leaning on the crutches of police" which should otherwise have been used for safeguarding human rights.

As the "administration and law and order has totally collapsed" the Government "on the crutches In Bengal the "administration and law and order has totally collapsed," and there was an express need for the Government to run without police crutches the Governor said hours after the reports of the Raj Bhavan's request for additional budgetary allocation being turned down by the State Government became public. "Today the administration is in servitude and virtually crawling," the Governor said asking the officials to come out of the clutches of the political bosses.

## 2021 TN Assembly polls: CM, Dy CM spar over who should be CM candidate

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ CHENNAI

Trouble is brewing up in AIADMK over the choice of the Chief Ministerial candidate to lead the party in the 2021 Assembly Election which may take place in the months of March-April as the tenure of the current House is coming to an end by May 2021.

The executive committee (the highest policy decision making body of the party) which met at Chennai on Monday turned out to be a stormy affair as the incumbent Chief Minister Edappadi K Panneerselvam and his deputy O Panneerselvam had a wordy duel over who should be the Chief Ministerial candidate.

K P Munusamy, MP, a close associate of Panneerselvam, announced at the end of the proceedings that the party would meet again on October 7 when the

name of the chief ministerial candidate would be declared.

Party insiders told *The Pioneer* that Chief Minister Palaniswami said the he had handled the Covid-19 pandemic in an exemplary manner and even the Prime Minister of the country had complimented his for the 'good work'. He also pointed out that the State has seen a number of entrepreneurs making a beeline to set up industries and Tamil Nadu registered overall development during the last four years.

But Panneerselvam claimed he agreed to bury all the differences and accepted the post of deputy chief minister only for this term (2016-2021). "I was the natural choice of Amma (Jayalalitha) for the post of chief minister on both the occasions when she had to step down. Palaniswamy is the

choice of Chinnamma (V K Sasikala, late Jayalalitha's close aide who is undergoing imprisonment in the disproportionate asset case) and was appointed by unseating me for no mistakes of mine," said Panneerselvam.

It is known that lady luck smiled on Palaniswami in the form of Supreme Court verdict in the Disproportionate Asset case in 2017 February. The apex court upheld the verdict delivered by the Bangalore Special Court which had sentenced Sasikala and others to four years rigorous imprisonment. Sasikala was to be sworn in as Chief Minister on February 16 but her dreams were shattered by the Supreme Court verdict on February 14. Palaniswamy was a stopgap arrangement as chief minister as Sasikala wanted to induct TTV Dhinakaran, her nephew, as chief minister in her absence.

## Kerala reports 4,538 new Covid cases

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

Though only 4,538 new Covid-19 cases were reported in Kerala on Monday, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said the details remained inconclusive as the entire data for the day could not be collected.

"The details collected in the second half of the day would be furnished on Tuesday and hence the numbers would be higher than normal," said Vijayan while briefing the media on Monday. Vijayan ruled out the possibility of any lock down in the backdrop of the surging number of Covid-19 cases. He said 20 patients succumbed to the pandemic on Monday.

"We are experiencing the doubling of Covid-19 patients on every 20 days.

## Amit Shah holds review meeting with Home Ministry officials

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday held a meeting with top officials of his Ministry and discussed several "important" and "key" matters, officials said.

This was for the first time Shah visited his North Block office to chair a meeting after returning from the AIIMS here, where he underwent a health check-up recently. The home minister had a review meeting of the MHA with senior officials of the ministry where "several important matters and key issues" were discussed, a home ministry official said. However, it is not immediately known as to what key issues were discussed at the meeting.

Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla and other senior officers attended the meeting.

## Jawan injured in Pak's ceasefire violation

PNS ■ JAMMU

An Indian soldier received injuries during 'unprovoked' ceasefire violation along the line of control in Macchal sector of North Kashmir's Kupwara district on Monday. Ceasefire violation was also reported from Nowshera in Rajouri district of Jammu region where Pak army targeted several forward villages using mortar shells.

According to Defence spokespersons based in

Srinagar and Jammu, Indian army gave a befitting reply and retaliated effectively.

In Srinagar, Col Rajesh Kalia, Defence spokesman said, "Pakistan initiated an 'unprovoked' ceasefire violation along the line of control in Macchal sector of Kupwara by firing mortars and other weapons on Monday". He said, one soldier received injuries and was evacuated to a nearby hospital where his condition was stated to be stable. He said, Indian army gave a befitting response.

In Jammu, Lt Col Devender Anand said, "Pakistan army initiated ceasefire violation around 3.50 p.m. along the line of control in Nowshera sector of Rajouri". He said Pak army used small arms and mortars to target the forward locations. Indian army too retaliated effectively, he added.

Meanwhile, Indian army jawans remain in a state of high alert to prevent any major infiltration bid or surprise attack by the Border Action Team of Pakistan army in the region.

## Security forces neutralises LeT key operator

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

A dreaded Lashkar-e-Tayyeba (LeT) commander, directly responsible for three major terror attacks in which at least 21 security personnel were killed in action, was one among the two terrorists neutralised by the joint team of security forces in village Samboora of Awantipora area in South Kashmir's Pulwama district late Sunday night.

After the gunfight ended

late Sunday night, the security forces maintained the tight cordon and retrieved the dead bodies from the encounter site Monday morning. During the operation, the dreaded terrorists had attempted to escape and had even shifted their location repeatedly but were tracked down by the joint team of security forces and neutralised.

Addressing a press conference in Awantipora District police lines, Director General of Police, Dilbagh Singh,

flanked by senior army and CRPF officers said, the gunfight that took place at Samboora, Pampore was a successful operation and security forces achieved "big success" by killing one of the longest surviving terrorist commander of Lashkar-e-Toiba outfit and his close aide. Singh said the LeT terrorists who had been identified as Aijaz Ahmad Reshi and Sajad Ahmad Sofi. They were both residents of Awantipora,"he added.



## 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 stakehold-

ership 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.



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 "Sir'ing" 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**  
—Shaun



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Democracy in danger

Sir — Amid farmers' protests, particularly in Punjab and Haryana, President Ram Nath Kovind approved the three controversial farm Bills. Leaders of 18 parties had also approached the President last week, urging him not to give his assent to the Bills, calling the way in which they were passed "tyrannical" and "unknown to our Constitution". The Government's dictatorial approach in passing the farm Bills, when it didn't have the majority in the Upper House, and now the President's decision to not heed the Opposition on the matter and act against the nation's conscience, only suggests that neither Harivansh Narayan Singh, Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, nor the President are working as independent entities but rather as puppets of the Central Government. Shiromani Akali Dal chief Sukhbir Singh Badal rightly called it a "dark day for democracy". The Opposition parties need to come together once again to challenge this cavalier attitude and arrogance and work out a nationwide campaign to make themselves count.

**Bhagwan Thadani**  
Mumbai

### 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](mailto: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)

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

POINTCOUNTERPOINT



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-

“WORRIINGLY, 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 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.

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 MANUBHARGAVA

"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 can-

didate. 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 won't be missed in these times of growing insecurity.

(Manubhargava 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)



# Paddy worth ₹10.53 cr procured in last 48 hrs

## MSP buying begins in all States: Government

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Amid widespread farmers' protest 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 Sensx 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 licensed 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

IAN S ■ 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 produc-

tion 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) intro-

duced 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 introduction 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).

NIFTY 50						
SCRIP	OPEN	High	LOW	LTP	CHANGE	
NIFTY 50	11,140.85	11,239.35	11,099.85	11,227.55	177.3	
INDUSINDBK	522.9	563.3	516.15	556	41.15	
BAFINANCE	3,178.00	3,350.00	3,162.75	3,340.00	201.05	
AXISBANK	420	440.6	418.05	438.05	23	
ONGC	69.45	73.7	69.25	72.1	3.21	
TATAMOTORS	128.9	134.3	127.5	131.3	5.85	
POWERGRID	161	169.05	161	168	7.25	
ADANIPORTS	327.8	343.2	327.8	340.8	14.65	
SUNPHARMA	495	512	488.5	509.9	20.25	
ICICIBANK	351.5	363.95	349.1	363.05	14.4	
GRASIM	715	735.65	715	735	26.85	
M&M	595	618	593.1	614.2	21.9	
HINDALCO	163.95	168.7	162.1	167.85	5.8	
NTPC	85.6	88.25	85.1	87.75	2.95	
GAIL	86.55	89.1	85.55	88.15	2.95	
SHRECEM	19,200.00	19,655.00	19,080.00	19,640.00	631.55	
MARUTI	6,579.00	6,720.00	6,542.30	6,711.90	214.2	
BAJAJFINSV	5,861.65	6,040.00	5,820.00	5,991.30	188	
EICHERMOT	2,135.00	2,209.00	2,128.00	2,182.00	64.5	
JSWSTEEL	270.95	278.8	269.15	276.2	7.85	
SBIN	184	188.15	183.35	187.45	5.25	
HEROMOTOCO	3,047.00	3,095.75	2,992.50	3,087.00	85	
RELIANCE	359.95	364.95	355.65	361.25	9.15	
COALINDIA	117.9	121.3	117.9	120	2.9	
TITAN	1,119.00	1,143.95	1,108.35	1,136.00	26.65	
IOC	75	76.6	74.3	75.85	1.75	
SBILIFE	803	816.25	800	815.9	18.85	
BPCL	377	390.55	375.7	384.45	8.7	
KOTAKBANK	1,258.00	1,283.95	1,253.65	1,282.00	28.95	
ULTRACEMCO	3,890.00	3,950.00	3,870.15	3,938.00	79.5	
HDFC	1,672.90	1,692.60	1,658.00	1,685.30	33	
IT	898	917.5	893	905	15.75	
ITC	171	174.8	170.5	173.65	2.9	
ASIANPAINT	1,938.00	1,958.00	1,930.00	1,953.00	27.4	
HDFCBANK	1,048.95	1,059.00	1,042.65	1,058.00	14	
BRITANNIA	3,710.90	3,780.00	3,689.00	3,731.05	44.65	
DIVISLAB	3,100.00	3,130.00	3,021.65	3,089.00	28.25	
HDFCLIFE	579.2	583.3	577.05	582.65	5.15	
HCLTECH	838.4	844.75	820.8	834	63	
RELIANCE	2,227.00	2,238.00	2,207.05	2,218.00	163	
TECHM	779.35	784.4	772	778	5.65	
UPL	506.4	517.5	506	508.2	3.55	
BHARTIARTL	446	447.65	434.05	442.4	2.75	
CIPLA	772.1	778	755.6	773	2.9	
TCS	2,440.00	2,444.00	2,366.00	2,429.00	67	
DREDDY	5,199.95	5,200.00	5,090.80	5,125.00	12.8	
BAJAJ-AUTO	2,976.90	3,022.30	2,952.85	2,964.00	6.6	
INFY	1,014.80	1,016.15	998.5	1,010.90	-0.55	
NESTLEIND	15,620.00	15,670.55	15,620.15	15,719.00	-17.8	
HINDUNILVR	2,083.00	2,092.35	2,060.00	2,068.00	-11.05	
WIPRO	315	317	309.6	311.55	-2.35	

NIFTY NEXT 50						
SCRIP	OPEN	High	LOW	LTP	CHANGE	
NIFTY NEXT 50	26,680.05	27,026.25	26,632.45	26,990.90	593.2	
HDFCAMC	2,127.75	2,280.00	2,127.75	2,273.00	162.25	
BANDHANBNK	269.15	281.9	267.2	281.5	16.5	
BIOCON	430	452.2	428.1	450	22	
ANANDGREEN	680.1	680.1	680.1	680.1	32.35	
NAUKRI	3,495.00	3,614.80	3,450.20	3,614.60	164.45	
BANKBARODA	42.1	43.45	41.65	43.35	1.8	
DLF	153	158.4	152.65	157.7	6.35	
AUROPHARMA	779.8	803.9	768	803	30.9	
HAVELLS	661	693	659.5	685	25.95	
BSCHLTD	13,099.00	13,682.00	12,931.35	13,421.10	491.05	
PNB	29.5	30.25	29.2	30.15	1.1	
SBICARD	818.75	848.5	813.3	840.65	28.6	
PEC	86.6	89.4	85.5	88.15	2.8	
MCOWELL-N	507.5	521.5	515.45	528.05	16.5	
NMDC	81.05	83.5	79.9	81.85	2.55	
SIEMENS	1,217.30	1,265.95	1,211.85	1,246.10	38.4	
ACC	1,348.00	1,380.75	1,321.00	1,375.50	42.15	
AMBUJACEM	206.6	212.55	205.55	211.9	6.4	
HINDPETRO	180.3	185	179.6	183.75	5.15	
PEL	1,260.00	1,296.00	1,244.35	1,280.00	33.65	
MOTHERSUMI	111.5	113.35	111.2	112.7	2.85	
INDIGO	1,255.55	1,284.00	1,241.00	1,270.90	29.2	
BAJAJHLNG	2,467.00	2,520.00	2,465.05	2,495.45	54.45	
MARICO	354.5	362.9	353.75	361.05	7.55	
DABUR	494.95	504.65	492.05	503.05	10.45	
OFSS	2,989.00	3,054.70	2,989.00	3,045.00	57.05	
COLPAL	1,420.00	1,447.95	1,412.00	1,442.20	26.5	
UBL	961.65	975	950	968.35	16.2	
INFRATEL	183.5	187.5	181.4	185.8	3	
GODREJCP	709	723.4	702.25	713.5	11.4	
PIDILITIND	1,420.00	1,442.00	1,420.00	1,435.00	22	
CONCOR	376.3	389.5	376.3	381	5.75	
ICICIPRULI	417.3	424.45	414.5	421	6.15	
ADANITRANS	249.7	254.85	249.05	251.15	3.6	
PETRONET	222.4	225.95	220.4	222.15	2.9	
TATACONSUM	514	522	503.55	516.3	6.5	
CADILAH	389.1	392.55	381.35	390.05	4.55	
BERGEPAINT	585.9	596.5	581.8	588.5	6.25	
GICRE	125	127.3	125	125.05	1.1	
LOT	2,489.00	2,558.90	2,488.95	2,494.60	20.9	
ABTINDIA	16,315.15	16,499.95	16,168.00	16,350.00	112.25	
LUPIN	1,008.60	1,014.90	981	1,004.75	5.85	
HINDZINC	210	213.25	208.75	210.25	1.1	
MUTHOOTFIN	1,096.00	1,108.45	1,075.00	1,089.05	1.5	
IGL	406.45	409.5	398.2	402.75	-0.5	
DMAT	2,110.90	2,142.00	2,098.00	2,100.00	-2.7	
PGHH	9,940.00	9,976.05	9,864.50	9,877.00	-19.3	
ICIGRI	1,284.50	1,290.00	1,263.00	1,267.00	-3.05	
TRIPPHARM	2,730.00	2,746.15	2,647.25	2,698.50	-20.75	
ALKEM	2,881.00	2,898.00	2,749.20	2,750.00	-52.35	

BSE 500						
Script	Open	High	Low	LTP	NATIONALUM	
MFSL	606.05	624.35	596.6	624.2	32.35	32.8
HDFC	1674	1692.05	1660	1683.8	661	692.95
HDFCBANK	1050	1059	1040	1055	34.05	35.75
RELIANCE	2229	2238.7	2207.25	2215.75	1247	1295.75
IDEA	10.7	10.75	10.12	10.34	1355.05	1372
BRITANNIA	3707	3776.55	3689.35	3734.1	930.9	954
MCX	1650	1818	1626	1801	8925	9098.4
PVR	1149.9	1249	1145.25	1233.35	507	517.5
TATAMOTORS	129.25	134.3	127.4	132.85	506.45	509.35
BAJFINANCE	3195	3449	3165.25	3335.75	326.35	343.1
INDUSINDBK	523.95	563.1	516.1	554.95	1220	1264.95
ICULSHGFN	146.5	157	146.5	155.2	126.1	283.5
ITC	2435	2442.8	2365.85	2425.35	67.48	69.7
DREDDY	5200	5200	5090.7	5127.15	272.1	283.5
BHARTIARTL	446	447.6	434	443.4	80.9	82.45
ASHOKLEY	77.3	79.35	76	76.6	583	596.35
LAURUSLABS	1348.95	1459.8	1348.95	1459.8	93.95	98.25
SBIN	184.25	188	183.6	187.3	1405.45	1447.25
ZEEL	198.5	209.7	197.25	208.6	180	184.95



# 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.

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**

# 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 Ortigas 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, Ortigas said.

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

# 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 Ortigas spoke that with a statement Sunday saying China has “pursued a reckless and provocative militarization” of disputed outposts in the South China Seas Spratly Islands, adding that China’s ruling Communist Party “does not honor its words or commitments.” **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 dura-

tion. 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**

# 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.”

# 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**

# 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

planned the September 11 attacks.

The Afghan-Taliban talks come after a deal signed in February between the US and the Taliban. That aims to allow the US to withdraw from Afghanistan and end the longest military engagement in American history.

Many Taliban leaders have lived in Pakistan since the 1980s. In those years they were part of the Afghan mujahedeen, allies of the US in ending the 10-year occupation of the country by the Soviet Union. **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.

# FROM PAGE 1

# ANTI-FARM LAWS PROTEST SPREADS

“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 operated 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 Reliance Petrol Pump. Apart from this, even messages in which farmers are appealing people to boycott using reliance fuel and JIO sim in protest against these anti-farmer Bills are making rounds on social media. They are claiming that these Reliance, Jio, Adani and Ambani are anti farmers, so people 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 “Annadata 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.

The DMK and its allies including Congress demonstrated in Chennai, Coimbatore, Madurai, Tiruchirappalli and Tirunelveli among other places across Tamil Nadu. The DMK president led the protest held in a village in Kancheepuram. In Ahmedabad, around 100 Gujarat Congress workers, including State party president Amit Chavda, were detained after they staged a protest against farm Bills.

# BRAHMOS, NIRBHAY, AKASH TO WARD OFF CHINESE THREAT

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, 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.

# SONIA ASKS CONG CMS TO PASS ACT TO OVERRIDE FARM LEGISLATIONS

“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 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.

# NO CONCLUSION YET IN SUSHANT DEATH CASE AS PROBE ON: CBI

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.

# RLYS MAY CHARGE Rs 10 TO Rs 35 FEES ON REDEVELOPED STATIONS: SOURCES

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 JUST \$750 INCOME TAXES IN 2017; IT’S FAKE NEWS: PREZ

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 tell a story fundamentally different from the one he has sold to the American public.

“His reports to the IRS (Internal Revenue Service) portray a businessman who takes in hundreds of millions of dollars a year yet racks up chronic losses that he aggressively employs to avoid paying taxes.

Now, with his financial challenges mounting, the records show that he depends more and more on making money from businesses that put him in potential and often direct conflict of interest with his job as president,” it said.

The report claimed to have obtained tax-return data extending over two decades for Trump and the hundreds of companies that make up his business organisation, including detailed information from his first two years in office. It does not include his personal returns for 2018 or 2019.

The report revealed that in his first two years in the White House, Trump’s revenue from abroad totalled USD 73 million, much of which was from his golf properties in Scotland and Ireland. Some of the revenue came from licensing deals in countries like Philippines (USD 3 million), India (USD 2.3 mil-

lion) and Turkey (USD 1 million).

“He reported paying taxes, in turn, on a number of his overseas ventures,” it said, adding, “In 2017, the president’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.

# NO OFFSET CLAUSE IN FUTURE DEFENCE DEALS

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) initiative 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.



### 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 depression, 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.

All these can also lead to severe mood swings, which can cause a general feeling of instability. It's not that they aren't feeling guilty of their mood swings and not being able to deal with life. All these mixed feelings actually worsen their mental state and can fuelled the symptoms of depression and anxiety. For not being able to open up about all these issues also causes severe mental illness.

Even women, who are trying 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)

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 nutrients 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

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 monounsaturated and polyunsaturated fats, and phytosterols. Almonds help to lower blood pressure as well.

**Seeds:** Flaxseeds contain omega-3 fatty acids, fiber and phytoestrogens 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.

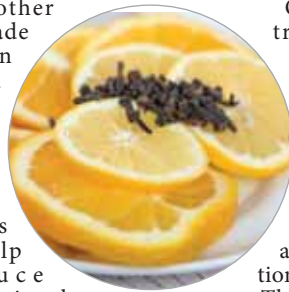
Another thing that my mother always kept in handy were potato peels. She would put these on the bruises to hurry the healing. For mosquito bites,

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 tulsi 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 'Reginmune' 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, Bhilwara, 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.



## TrendSlazer

### 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-racking 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 zorb 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 coral 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



Devdutt Padikkal batting during Indian Premier League match between The Royal Challengers Bangalore and The Mumbai Indians held at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium

BCCI

## RCB WIN 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.

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 two 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 and attacked both Bolt and Pattinson with great gusto. When leg spinner Rahul Chahar was introduced into the attack, Finch hit him for three boundaries as the 50 came off 31 balls. At that point Padikkal was only on 16.

Once Finch was holed out off a Boult slower, in came Kohli and looked as rusty as the last match during his nine ball stay. MI skipper Sharma changed Chahar's end, it yielded result as a delivery stopped on Kohli and his lazy inside out lofted shot was gleefully accepted at extra cover by Rohit.

Once De Villiers came in, Padikkal, changed gears as both started attacking the bowlers as a square cut off Kieron Pollard brought up his half century.









## DUGOUT

MOTION PICTURE



**DIDN'T GET WHAT I DESERVE: AMIT**

His India career never really took wings like it did in the IPL but veteran Delhi Capitals leg-spinner Amit Mishra says he has stopped thinking about why he didn't get what he "should have", content with the name he made for himself. Mishra is second behind Lasith Malinga in the list of highest wicket-takers in the IPL with 157 scalps in 148 matches. "I don't know if I am underrated. I used to think too much earlier, so mind used to get diverted, now I just focus on my job," he said in an online press conference ahead of the clash against Sunrisers Hyderabad here on Tuesday. "Warne summed it up in a tweet that Tewatia would remember for a long time."

POINTS TABLE							
		P	W	L	NRR	PTS	
1		DC	2	2	0	+1.100	4
2		KXIP	2	1	1	+2.425	2
3		MI	2	1	1	+0.993	2
4		RR	1	1	0	+0.800	2
5		KKR	2	1	1	-0.767	2
6		CSK	3	1	2	-0.840	2
7		RCB	2	1	1	-2.175	2
8		SRH	2	0	2	-0.730	0

## 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



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.

## 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) Padikkal 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

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.



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.

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.

## Wonderboy Fati

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