OPINION 6

NEW AGRICULTURAL

PARADIGM

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PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE: LAST CHANCE

FOR TRUMP TO DEFINE BIDEN

ICMR's 2nd

10 times since

serosurvey says cases rose **AVENUES 10**

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LIVERPOOL BEAT ARSENAL 3-1 IN PREMIER LEAGUE

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RAIPUR, WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 30, 2020; PAGES 12 ₹3

8-9 crore Indians Covid +ve: Survey 10 times since 1st results on September 11

Nearly 8-9 crore Indian, or one in 15 individuals aged over 10 years, may have been exposed to coronavirus by the end of August, according to the findings of the second sero-survey conducted by the Indian Council of Medical Research.

Council of Medical Research.

In percentage terms, the total people exposed to coronavirus will be estimated at around 7 per cent, which is 10 times higher than the numbers thrown by the findings of the

thrown by the findings of the first serosurvey released on September 11. It shows that between the two surveys, the infection has spread wildly. "One in 15 individuals aged over 10 years were estimated to be exposed to Covid-19 by August 2020," ICMR chief Balram Bhargava said. "Earlier we had thought that it does not affect those below 18, but have now found there's no difference. The prevalence is not difference. The prevalence is not different by age group or gender."

gender."
The survey was conducted between August 17 and September 22. As per its findings, the prevalence of Covid-19 among individuals over 10 years was 6.6 per cent, and in adults (over 18 years of age) was 7.1 per cent.

adults (over 18 years of age)
was 7.1 per cent.
Since India's population is
around 140 crore, the total
number of people exposed to
coronavirus could be around
8-9 crore when we take out the

8-9 crore when we take out the below 10 age group. Incidentally, the findings of the first national serosurvey which became public on September 11 indicated that 0.73 per cent of adults in India were exposed to SARS-COV-2, amounting to a total of 6.4 mil-lion Covid-19 infections by early May. early May.

Dr Bhargava also said that

the second serosurvey report showed that urban slum and

DEATHS: 97,374 RECOVERED: 51,68,342

in good health

New Delhi: Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu on Tuesday tested positive for Covid-19 but is in good health, the Vice President Secretariat said. Naidu, 71, who is asymptomatic, has been advised home quarantine. In the evening, Naidu had addressed a virtual event on post-Covid healthcare where he urged the private sector to pitch in to improve healthcare system in rural

TOTAL

CASES: 62,11,458

VP Naidu tests Covid positive,

urban non-slum areas had higher SARS CoV 2 infection prevalence than that of rural areas. "Risk in urban slums twice than that in non-slum areas and 4 times the risk in the rural setting," the report stat-ed.

Delhi Odisha Telangana ACTIVE: 9.44.859

sector to pitch in to improve healthcare system in rural India. "The Vice President of India who underwent a rou-tine Covid-19 test today morning has been tested positive. He is, however, asymptomatic and in good health," the Secretariat

Amnesty cries witch-hunt as it shuts op in India, MHA

The Amnesty International Ton Tuesday said it was halting all its activities in India due to the freezing of its accounts and "incessant witchhunt" over "unfounded" and "motivated" allegations, claims which were strongly denied by the Ministry of Home (MHA). In a statement, Amnesty

In a statement, Amnesty India said the organisation has been compelled to let go of staff in India and pause all its ongoing campaign and

research work. "The complete freezing of Amnesty International India's bank accounts by the Government of India which it came to know on 10 September 2020, brings all the work being done by the organization to a grinding halt," it said.

Reacting to the develop-ment, the MHA said the allegations of Amnesty International is unfortunate and exaggerated and said that the NGO violated the laws in accepting foreign donations.

Andhra Prade 5.780 6.22.136 5,82,458 9,453 5,36,209 Karnataka 3,94,856 2,73,098 5,272 2,40,703 2,53,768 2,15,676 2,22,805 881 1,89,283 1,116 1,58,690 1.73.629 667 1.42.297 Raiasthan 1.33.119 1.471 1 26 974 1.356 1 10 814 Haryana



collects a nasal swab sample to test for Covid-19 in Hyderabad on

AP

Brushing aside the Chinese claim of the perception,

India retorts as China provokes

As Beijing refuses to recognise Ladakh UT, New Delhi says it never accepted unilaterally defined 1959 perception of LAC

PNS MEW DELHI

Indo-China stand-off has escalated as the Indian Government has rebuffed China's provocative assertion that Beijing didn't recognise Ladakh Union Territory and was opposed to India building military infrastructure in the border areas.

The MEA on Wednesday asserted that the country never accepted the so-called unilaterally-defined 1959 LAC and its position has been consistent and well known to the Chinese. India also asked China to refrain from advancing an "untenable unilateral" interpretation of the de-facto border.

India's reaction was in

India's reaction was in response to China's advice to India position to abide by its 1959 perception of the LAC.

The Chinese Foreign Winistry missted it abides by that LAC as proposed by then Premier Zhou Enlait to Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru in a Litter on Nucember 7, 1959

Minister Jawaharial Nehru in a letter on November 7, 1959. Making this claim, China in a statement to a newspaper also blamed the Indian Army for the ongoing tension for the last five months in eastern Ladakh. It also termed the bloody brawl on June 15 in the Galwan valley leading to the death of 20 Indian Army personnel as an "unfortunate event."



External Affairs Ministry

External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Anurag Srivastava said here, "India has never accepted the so-called unilaterally defined 1959 Line of Actual Control (LAC). This position has been consistent and well known, including to the Chinese side."

Srivastava referred to various bilateral agreements including the 1993 agreement on maintenance of peace and tranquility along the LAC, 1996 pact on confidence building measures (CBMs) and the 2005 agreement on political parameters and guiding principles for settlement of the boundary issue, to emphasise

mitment to reach a common mitment to reach a common understanding of the align-ment of the LAC. "Therefore, the insistence now of the Chinese side that there is only one LAC is con-

ments made by Chir agreements," he sai the Indian side h agreements," he said, adding the Indian side has always respected and abided by the LAC.

27 soldiers killed due to poor bullets in 5 yrs, says Army

T killed and 146 wounded due to poor bullets and shells between 2014 and 2019.
Gearing up for a long haul at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Ladakh, the Army has expressed concern over the alleged poor quality of amuninition leading to casualties amone soldiers.

alleged poor quality of ammu-nition leading to casualties among soldiers.

The Army has noted that more than ₹960 crores was wasted on faulty ammunition and this money could have catered for buying more than 100 howitzers. These guns are every effective in mountain warfare and much needed on the borders facing China.
Pointing these critical def-ciencies, the Army also said at least 27 soldiers were killed and 146 wounded due to poor bul-lets and shells in the period 2014-2019 and urged the Government to take immedi-ate steps. They included fixing accountability and production of top-class ammunition in Most of the ammunition in question was produced by the

Most of the ammunition in question was produced by the Ordnance Factory Board while it while it disposed off ₹960 crore worth of ammunition in the same period before their shelf life was complete, officials said here on Tuesday.



The faulty ammunition included 23-mm air defence shells, artillery shells, 125-mm

"Lack of accountability and poor quality of production has resulted in frequent accidents over the years with injuries and death of solders," they said. On an average one accident has taken place per week, internal data of the Army from 2014 to 2019 shows. There were 403 incidents between 2014 to 2019 due to which the Army suffered 27 deaths and 146 injuries.

A significant quantity of products was disposed off without completing shelf life due to poor

says it flouted FCRA norms

Hathras' Nirbhaya succumbs to brutality Protest at Delhi's Safdarjung Hospital, Cong questions PM's silence

PNS/ STAFF REPORTER I

A 19-year-old girl, who was a gangraped in a village in Uttar Pradeshis Hathras district two weeks ago, died of her girevous injuries at a Delhi hospital on Tuesday morning.

As news of her death spread, protests broke out at Delhi's Safdarjung Hospital as well as in Vijay Chowk and in Hathras. Leading the protests outside Delhi's Safdarjung Hospital appealed to all members of the Dalit community to take to the streets and demand the death penalty for the four men alleged to be involved in the crime who were arrested and will now face charges under Section 302 (murder) of the Indian Penal Code.

"The Government should not test our patience. We will not rest until the culprits are hanged," said Azad, adding

that the victim was killed in the hospital to silence her forever and shield the culprits.

The Uttar Pradesh Government announced a compensation of ₹10 lakh for the victim's family.

Hitting out at the Yogi Adityanath Government in Uttar Pradesh, the Congress questioned the "silence" of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and women BPI leaders on the issue and alleged that the state has become the "crime capital" of the country.

The party also staged protests demanding justice for hevictim at Vijay Chowk. The party said its leaders PI. Punia, Udit Raj, Amrita Dhawan and other party leaders were detained at Mandir Marg Police station for the protest.

On September 14, the

detained at Mandir Marg Police station for the protest. On September 14, the young woman had gone to the fields with her mother and went missing soon after. She was found later with severe injuries and her tongue cut as



Protesters being detained at Vijay Chowk in New Delhi on Tuesday Ranjan Dimri I Pioneer

she bit it when the accused attempted to strangle her, the SP said while giving details of the incident. She was brought to Delhi's Safdarjung Hospital on Sunday night. Delhi Chief Minister

shame for the entire society, the country as well as for all shame for the entire society, the country as well as for all Governments. "It's highly sad that so many daughters are being sexually assaulted and we have not been able to protect them. The guilty must be hanged at the earliest," Kejriwal tweeted.

Prior registration must | Sushant didn't die of poisoning, says AIIMS report

Cooper Hospital autopsy report for leaving out details

The five-member board of doctors of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) led by Dr Sudhir Gupta entrusted to re-evaluate film star Sushant Singh Raiput's post-mortem and viscera reports has submitted its find-

murder theory. The AIIMS report has ruled out poison allegation, leaving it for the CBI to arrive at its own conclusion on the basis evidences, if any. The AIIMS team submitted the report at CBI HQ. The CBI is probing the death case of Sushant and the agency is seeking to ascertain whether it was a murder or suicide.

"The AIIMS has submitted the report. The CBI is studying the report. The The SI is studying the report. The CBI is studying the report. The the report is definitely a help in investigation but not mandatory in all sense. Certain doubts raised by the medical board towards sense. Certain doubts raised by the medical board towards will report in the previous investigation agency which we will try to answer and find out the facts. The job of the agency is to find facts which can stand court of law with evidence. But AIIMS medical report can't be ruled out completely," a top source said.

CAPSULE

SI HELD FOR SHOOTING FATHER-IN-LAW, LOVER New Delhi: The Delhi Police on Tuesday arrested its sub-inspector Sandeep Dahiya who

Inspector Sandeep Dahiya who allegedly shot at and injured his female friend here and later killed his father-in-law in Rohtak, officials said. "Dahiya was arrested from Sector-3, Rohini around 11 am by the light terror at people to first the process of people to first the people the people to first the people to first the people to first the people the peop

joint teams of special staff, cyber cell and Lahori Gate police station," a senior police officer said.



New Delhi: The national Capital's air quality was recorded in the 'moderate' category on Iuesday, while a government forecasting agency said it is likely to turn 'poor' by Friday, Delhi recorded a 24-hour average air quality index (Aul) of 177, which falls in the 'moderate' category, It was 159 on Monday.

Bypoll in Marwahi Assembly constituency on November 3

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

Marwahi Assembly constituency in Chhattisgarh, reserved for Scheduled Tribe, will see a by-election on November 3 and the votes will be counted on November 10, it was announced on Tuesday. The seat fell vacant following the death of former Chief Minister Ajit Jogi.

The polling will be held with all protocols for Covid-19, Chhattisgarh Chief Electoral Officer Reena Baba Saheb Kangale said.

Addressing the media vir-

Officer Reena Baba Saneb Kangale said.
Addressing the media virtually, Kangale said with the announcement of the election, the model code of conduct has been enforced in the constituency limits.
The date of issue of Gazette notification for the election is October 9 and the last date for filing nominations is October 16. The nominations will be checked on October 17 and candidates can withdraw their



nomination till October 19.

The candidates can also file nomination papers, affidavits and payment online.

The election expense limit for each candidate is ₹28 lakh. Kangale said a Nodal Health Officer will be designated for the state, district and Assembly constituency to oversee Covid-19 related arrangements and preventive measures during the electoral process.

which 237 are main polling stations and 49 assisting polling stations. A total of 126 polling centres fall under the "sensitive" category. All polling centres fall under the rural category.

The The constituency has 190,907 voters. Women number 97,209 and men 93,694. Four electors are from the third gender.

the con-stituency has 286 polling

Four electors are from the third gender.

There has been an increase in 6,886 electors over the 2018 election. The number of voters above 80 years is 1,461, of which 483 are men and 978 women. The electors in the 18-19 years total 4,211.

for outside farmers to sell in Haryana mandis

Prior registration on a Haryana Government portal is a must for farmers from outside the State bringing their produce for procurement in government-run "mandis", a senior State Government official said on Tuesday.

In the wake of reports that some farmers from neigh-

In the wake of reports that some farmers from neigh-bouring Uttar Pradesh were not allowed to sell their paddy crop at government-run "mandis" in Karnal district a

"mandis" in Karnal district a few days ago, the official said there is no bar, but they will have to register themselves on a portal and then wait for a message before they are called. Notably, the farmers have to register on "Meri Fasal Mera Byora" portal uploading their details and then every registered farmer receives an SMS when they have to bring their produce. The official, however, said that registra-



tion is mandatory for farmers looking to sell non-basmati varieties of rice.

"This time, we have decided that from October 5 onwards the outside farmers can also register and then we will also give them a schedule and call them," Additional Chief Secretary, Food and Civil Supplies, PK Das told PTI over the phone.

Asked to comment on the Karnal incident, Das said "those who are coming with basmati, we are not stopping them because the Government does not have to purchase that".

But flags lapses in

PNS NEW DELHI

film star Sushant Singh Rajputs post-mortem and viscera reports has submitted its finding to the CBI and ruled out death by poisoning but raised certain doubts on the autopsy report conducted by the Cooper Hospital, Mumbai. The report is big blow to those who were claiming that Sushant was first poisoned and then hanged. The CBI investigation has so far not found any evidence to substantiate the

Capt holds meeting with farmers' union, declares to fight battle on all fronts

Extending Punjab Government's full support to the agitating farmers in these 'dark and difficult times',

to the agitating farmers in these dark and difficult times, the Chief Minister Capt Maminder Singh on Tuesday assured of all possible legal and other steps to fight the "draconian" new farm laws, including a special session of the Vidhan Sabha to discuss and decide the way forward.

Capt Amarinder, chairing a meeting with the representatives of 31 farmer unions to take their views on the matter, said that he would be discussing the issue with his legal team to finalize the next steps, including challenging the farm laws in the Supreme Court.

Besides farmer representatives, All India Congress Committee (AICC) general save in the Supreme Court.

Besides farmer representatives, All India Congress Committee (AICC) general secretary in-charge of Punjab Harish Rawat attended the meeting, along with Cabinet Ministers Sukhjinder Singh Kangar and Bharat Bhushan Ashu, M.I.A Rana Gurjit Singh, Punjab Congress president Sumil Jakhar and the state Advocate-General Atul Nanda.

"We will take all possible steps to counter the Union Government's assault on the



State's federal and Constitutional rights, and fight for the interests of the farmers," Capt Amarinder assured the

Capt Amarinder assured the farmer representatives.

If the legal experts advise amendment to the state laws to fight the central laws, a special session of the Vidhan Sabha will be immediately called to do so, he said.

so, he said.

Making it clear that the
Government had no qualms
about convening an Assembly
session if that was the best
course in the circumstances,
the Chief Minister, however,
trashed SAD president Sukhbir
Badal's demand for a special

Vidhan Sabha session as "cheap gimmickry" after their active support to the central laws for months.

months.

He questioned, where were the Akalis in the previous session and why Sukhbri did not support the other parties at the all-party meeting.

Asserting that the Centre had no right to enact these laws as it amounted to violation of the Constitution and attack on the federal structure, the Chief Minister said that Punjab Government shared the farmers' concerns and will do whatever it takes to scuttle the Union Government's attempt

to ruin the farming communi ty with these draconian legis

"The battle will be fought on all fronts," said the Chief Minister adding that besides the Congress signature campaign, announced a day before, all Panchayats in the state would be requested to pass resolutions against the Agriculture Acts, and the same would be sent to the Union Government. Declaring that Punjab Government and the State Congress were with the farmers in this difficult time, Capt Amarinder said that he would take the suggestions of the "The battle will be fought

Kisan Unions to legal experts to finalize the next course of

action.
"If the new laws are implemented, it will spell the end of agriculture," said the Chief Minister, warning that "in the times ahead, the Government of India will follow up these legislation with elimination of MSP (minimum support price) and FCI (Food Corporation of India), bringing an end to the time-tested farming procurement and marketing system as we know it."

Promising to fight the Farm Laws shoulder-to-shoulder with the farmers, Jakhar the Harm Laws shoulder to-shoulder with the farmers, Jakhar said that he was ready to quit PPCC presidentship to join their protests without making it a political act.
"However, I am confident that the Chief Minister would find way to counter the Central assault on the farming community and protect your interests just as he had done on the water issue.

They (Centre) have killed action.
"If the new laws are imple

er issue. They (Centre) have killed They (Centre) have killed the farmers with a pen, we will have to find a way to kill them with a pen," he said, quipping "Kalam naal marya hai, assi kalam naal bachavange" (We will save the farmers with the

- Govt may challenge farm laws in SC
 A special Account: A special Assembly session to be convened immediately if legal experts advise amendment to the state laws to fight the central laws
- Congress signature campaign
- All Panchayats in the state would be requested to pass resolutions against farm laws, to be sent to the Central Govt
- Govt to take suggestions of farmers' organizations, legal experts to finalize next course of action
- "Puniab Government will do whatever it takes to scuttle the Union Government's attempt to ruin farming community with these draconian legislations...The battle will be fought on all fronts", says CM
- Jakhar offers to quit PPCC presidentship to join farmers' protests

- · Farmer leaders urged CM to challenge
- central laws legally

 They ask CM to take whatever other steps needed to protect the farmers including blocking construction of Adani's silos in Punjab
- BKU Rajewal suggests passing state laws through a special session of Vidhan Sabha to protect the farmers and Punjab
- BKU Sidhupur urges CM to convene a special session to pass a law to counter central legislations
- Krantikari Kisan Union requests CM to consult constitutional experts so that the State could formulate new laws in line with Congress president Sonia Gandhi's directives

mer leaders urged the Chief Minister to challenge the central laws 1 ers urged the Center Minister to challenge the central laws legal-ly, and take whatever other steps needed to protect the farmers, including blocking construction of Adani's silos in

the State.

Bhartiya Kisan Union
(BKU) Rajewal's Balbir Singh
Rajewal said that the new laws
will ruin the farmers, the
arhtiyas (commission agents),
the farm labour, the Mandi
employees and rendered lakhs
of people jobless, leading to a
devastating impact on the

state's economy.
"These laws will lead to the establishment of two kinds of mandis— one with tax and other without tax for private players, which will eventually destroy the Government Mandis and lead to corporate monopolisation and farmer exploitation," he said while stressing on passing the state laws through a special session of the Vidhan Sabha to protect the farmers and Punjab.

BKU Sidhupur's Jagjit Singh Dallewal also urged the Chief Minister to convene a special session to pass a law to

Punjab's president Dr Darshan Pal requested him to consult Pal requested him to consult constitutional experts so that the State could formulate new laws, in line with Congress president Sonia Gandhis directives. BKU Ekta's Buta Singh and Jhanda Singh said that was a fight to the finish to protect the farmers and the State from annihilation by the Central Government, whose sole aim was to help private corporates. If Agriculture is destroyed, so will the nation, they warned.

Punjab seeks suggestions from lawyers, kisan unions' legal representatives on farm laws

Punjab Chief Minister Capt Punjan Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh on Tuesday sought inputs or sug-gestions from legal experts, including legal representatives of the Kisan Unions, on the next course of action for pro-tecting the interests of the farmers against the Centre's farm laws.

farm laws.

The Chief Minister has directed the state Advocate-General Atul Nanda to collate and consider all such sugges-

and consider all such sugges-tions, which may be received on a specially created email id —agri.law@punjab.gov.in. The directives were issued by the Chief Minister during a high-level meeting on Tuesday with the top government offi-cials to mull all aspects of the issues arising out of the three Central acts on Agriculture, which were recently passed by the Parliament and notified after the Presidential assent.

after the Presidential assent.
During the course of the
meeting, all suggestions given
by leaders of various Kisan
Unions earlier in the day, were
deliberated; and the meeting
also mulled the legal options
available before the State, said
a spokesperson of the Chief
Minister's Office.

PUNJAB CONG INVITES RAHUL TO JOIN PROTEST

RAHUL TO JOIN PROTEST
Punjab Congress wants
former Congress President
Rahul Gandhi to join the
party's planned nationwide
farmers' protests, beginning
from October 2 on the birth
anniversary of Mahatma
Gandhi, against the Centre's
farm laws in Punjab.

"We are going to invite
Rahul Gandhi to participate in
farmer protest in Punjab. The
date is not fixed yet and might
be October 2, 3, or 4. It depends
on which date he is going to
juritipate. We are going to
invite him, we hope he might
of the protection in we shall be a protected
justified to the control of the control
justified in the control

25 more Covid-19 deaths. Haryana toll reaches 1,356; 1,562 fresh cases reported

On a positive note, the authorities discharged 2403 patients of the disease from different hospitals of the State after their recovery on the day. terent nospitals of the State after their recovery on the day. A total of 110,814 patients have so far recovered from the disease and the recovery percentage in the state is 87.27. The infection

rate (IR) in the state has increased to 6.73 percent with a doubling rate of 29 days. Of the 25 fatalities on Tuesday, three each were reported from Rohtak; Hisar, Yamunanagar while two each from Sirsa, Kurukshetra, Bhiwani,Panipat and one each from Faridabad, Gurugram, Rewari, Ambala, Palwal, Panchkula, Nuh and Fatehabad districts. Among the districts Panchkula, Nuh and Fatehabad districts. Among the districts which reported a big spike in cases are Gurugram (224), Faridabad (168), Kurukshetra (143), Sonepat (112) and Rohtak (114). Currently, there are 14,804 active Covid-19 cases in Haryana, while 1, 10 814 people have been dis-charged after recovery.



MP and BJP Kishan morcha president Raj Kumar Chahar along with leaders and workers of Chandigarh BJP took out a tractor rally in support of farm laws in Sector 34 Chandigarh on Tuesday

T. Sharmal The Prionee

Punjab has 1,100 fresh cases, 75 Covid-19 deaths

Punjab on Tuesday added 1,100 fresh cases to the infection tally pushing the state's Covid-19 count to 1,12,460. Besides, as many as 75 more Covid-positive patients suc-cumbed to the contagion in the past 24 hours, pushing the state's death toll to 3,359. The state's mortality rate stond at 2.99 percent.

24 nours, pusning the states dearful to a 35.9 The state's mortality rate stood at 2.99 percent.

Maximum 12 casualties were reported in Ludhiana, followed by seven each in Amritsar and Gurdaspur; five each in Pathankot, SBS Nagar (Mohali); four each in Jalandhar, Hoshiarpur, and Ferozepur; three each in Kapurthala, Barnala, and Muktsar; two each in Tarn Taran, Bathinda, Faridkot, Patiala, and Ropar; and one death each in Fathgarh Sahib, Moga, and Sangur districts.

Among the fresh cases, highest

Sangrur districts.

Among the fresh cases, highest
180 were reported from Ludhiana
district, followed by 145 from
Jalandhar, 109 from Mohali, 95 from
Amritsar, 71 from Patiala, 62 from

47 from Tarn Taran, 43 from Muktsar, 28 from Ropar, 25 from Fazilka, 20 each from Faridkot and Sangruz, 18 from Eatebagath Sahib, 16 from Moga, 13 from Marsa, 12 from Barnala, 11 from SBS Nagar, nine from Pathankot and eight new cases from Ferozepur district.

recoveries than the fresh cases in a single day on Tuesday, the state's recovery rate has reached 82.05 percent with a total of 92,277 patients having cured of the virus in the state till date.

having cured of the virus in the state till date.

As many as 1932 patients — including 338 from Amritsar, 266 from Jalandhar, 264 from Gurdaspur, 167 from Patiala, 115 from Ludhiana, among others — have been discharged after recovering from the deadly virus.

The state's Health and Family Welfare Minister Balbir Singh Sidhu on Tiesday said that Punjab is doing well to control the spreading coronavirus as the recovery rate has been a steady decline of cases from September 19 when cases were 2,696 to 1,411 on September 21, 1,711 on

September 24, and 1269 on September 28, and 1100 on September 28 and 1100 on September 29. The Minister, while encouraging the people to come forward for corona test and get treatment in home isolation for COVID-19, said that the Punjab Government has made home isolation very simple by allowing elderly and persons with co-morbidities to opf for home isolation as per medical protocol. Around 47,502 patients have been recovered till date and 10,006 are in home isolation in Punjab, he said.

As per the daily health bulletine.

ana 10,000 are in home isolation in Punjab, he said.

As per the daily health bulletin, he State has 16,824 active cases—accounting for 14,96 percent of the state's total infections. Among them, 396 patients were on oxygen support and 65 on ventilators.

Among the total 3,359 fatalities in the state so far, highest 735 deaths have been registered in Ludhiana district, 385 in Jalandhar, 359 in Amritsar, 320 in Patiala, 186 in SAS Nagar, 150 in Hoshiarpur, 144 in Sangrur, 141 in Gurdaspur, 138 in Kapurthala, 109 in Bathinda, 97 in Ferozepur and 81 in Fatehgarh Sahib.

1 IAS, 1 IPS transferred to Chandigarh

The Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) on Tuesday ordered the transfer of three IAS officers and one IPS officer of the AGMUT

officers and one IPS officer of the AGMUT cadre.

The MHA has ordered the transfer of Nitika Pawar (IAS -2012 batch) from Andaman and Nicobar Islands to Chandigarh and Ketan Bansal, an IPS officer of 2016 batch, from Mizoram to Chandigarh with immediate effect. A day before, the name of Punjab-cadre IPS officer Kuldeep Singh Chahal (2009 batch) was approved for the post of Senior Superintendent of Police, Chandigarh.

Meanwhile, Sanjay Kumar Jha (2008 batch), UT Secretary, Departments of Animal Husbandry and Fishertes Public Relations, has been transferred to Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Sachin Rana (2014 batch), Spotial Secretary, Departments of Technical Education and House Allotment Committee, also holding the charge of Additional Deputy Commissioner, Additional Registrar Cooperative Societies, Secretary, Red Cross Society, UT, has been transferred to Arunachal Pradesh.

Puniab farmers to intensify 'rail roko' agitation

Parmers agitating over the three agricultural laws enacted by Parliament recently continued their "rail roko" stir on Tuesday for the sixth day ly continued their rail roko sitro in Tuesday for the sixth day and decided to extend it for an indefinite period. The farmers under the banner of Kisan Mazdoor Sangharsh Committee have been squating on rail tracks at various places in the state since September 24. They said they have decided to intensify their protest against the Centre and will continue to block rail tracks at Tanda, Mukerian, Jalandhar, Amritsar and Ferozepur. The protesters are demanding the rollback of the three 'anti-farmer' legislation. The train service, meanwhile, continued to remain suspended in Punjab amid the farmers' stir.

Five more residents die due to Covid as 138 fresh cases surfaced in Chandigarh

Pive more residents suc-cumbed to Covid-19 on Tuesday as Chandigarh report-ed 138 fresh positive cases. With this, the death toll reached 158 while the total case tally stood at 11816 in the city. The daily count of cases remained below 200 for the third consecutive day. However, the COVID-19 related fatalities continued to rise in

continued to rise in Chandigarh. The COVID-19 fatality rate stood at 1.33 per-cent in Chandigarh. 102 resi-dents have died in the month dents have died in the month of September due to COVID-19 while 56 fatalities were reported from the month of April to August. According to Chandigarh Health Department's bulletin, out of 11816 total cases, there

were 2060 active cases till the evening. 9598 patients have so far recovered from COVID-19 in the city.A total of 273 patients have been discharged including persons from home isolation who have completed isolation who have completed 10 days and are asymptomatic, the bulletin added. In the last 24 hours, a maximum of 12 positive cases were reported in Manimajra and eight cases were reported in Sector 48. As per the health bulletin, the fresh cases were reported in Sectors 7, 8, 10, 12, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33, 34, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 14, 24, 34, 44, 54, 45, 46, 38, 39, 40, 14, 24, 34, 44, 54, 45, 46, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33, 34, 34, 45, 46, 47, 48, 50, 52, 56, 61, Sector 38 west, Dadumajra, Daria, Dhanas, Kajheri, Khuda Lohara, Manimajra, Mauli Jagran, PGIMER campus, Ram Darbar and Raipur Khurd.

Coronavirus enters community spread stage in urban parts of Haryana: Nodal officer for Covid-19

Dr Dhruva Chaudhary, who is the nodal officer for Covid-19, Haryana, on Tuesday, said that spike in Covid-19 cases and the spurt in fatality clearly indicate that the NCR region and urban parts of Haryana have entered the stage of community spread. However the situation is

parts or raryana nave entered the stage of community spread. However, the situation is very much under control in rural areas of the State as the number of Covid-19 cases being reported here are comparatively lower than urban areas of the State. "People, by and large, were abiding by the norms but now some faxity in maintaining social distancing, sans masks was visible, which is worrisome," he added. Talking to "The Pioneer" over the phone, Chaudhary said that with the start of public movement, opening up of the economy, operation of commercial activities, indus-

trial activities and arrival of migrant people in the State during ongoing unlock-4, the number of Covid-19 cases have

during ongoing unlock-4, the number of Covid-19 cases have increased significantly. Since September 1, around 1600-2200 Covid-19 cases have been reported from different parts of the State everyday and most of the State everyday and most of them are from urban areas. Highest number of Covid-19 cases was being reported in Faridabad, Gurugram, Sonepat, Rohtak, Panchkula, Ambala, Karnal, Kurukshetra and Yamunanagar. In urban areas, the coronavirus cases are increasing day by day and neither their index cases nor travel-listory is being found which establishes its community said that the chief medical officers have ramped up testing, thus the numbers are rising. The rising number of new cases is not much of a worrying sign, but the state's priority is to keep the fatality rate as

low as possible.
"The community transmission is usually "defined as a stage when it is impossible to trace the chain of transmission, impossible to tell who gave the infection to whom but as on today, we are unable to find the reasons that where a person might have got it from in urban areas. We are implementing all the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) guidelines regarding Covid-guidelines regarding Covidguidelines regarding Covid-19 strictly," he added.

Pointing out towards available Covid-19 data of Department of Health and Family Welfare, Haryana, the nodal officer said that State has witnessed 49-54 per cent of total 125, 412 Covid-19 cases in last 30 days. In addition to this, 48.76 of total 1331 Covid-19 fatalities reported during the same period. According to data, 63,282 Covid-19 cases were reported on August 30 and after 30 days, the number



of cases increased to 125,412 on September 28. 682 Covid-19 deaths were reported on August 30 and its number increased to 1331 on September 28. The number of active cases has climbed to around 16,000.

Responding to a question

around 16, 000.

Responding to a question that the State Government is yet to declare community

spread of the disease, he said, "The Covid-19 positive rate in the State is around 6.72 per cent. There are many localised pockets in urban areas where pockets in urban areas where transmission is high as Covid-19 positive rate is 10 per cent or above which indicate the community spread of Coronavirus disease." The nodal officer said that the anti-

bodies against the Covid-19 infection were found in eight per cent of people in the sero-prevalence survey done in Haryana in the month of August and those living in urban areas and NCR districts were found more affected.

"The urban population was affected more than the rural population. The sero-positivity observed that in urban areas the rate is 9.59 per cent while 6.9 per cent in rural areas, Another sero-survey is under way in selected areas and the results are expected to be declared in the next few days. A sero-survey involves testing the blood serum of a group of individuals for the presence of antibodies against the infection to know who has been infected in the past and has now recovered. Team members are collecting samples from the selected area to find out the extent of the Covid-19 infection among the people. It

would be more clear in the sec-ond sero-survey report," he added.

added.

Asked whether the lock-down imposed in the month of March benefited the State, the nodal officer said that the State got time to improve its medical infrastructure. Now, the motivation level is highest among doctors and other health worker. Health professionals and vation level is linguest among doctors and other health workers. Health professionals and police and sanitation workers are joined working with effective coordination to contain Covid-19. "We have asked the health officials to lay emphasis on 3TIs—tracing, testing and treatment for early detection, treatment of Covid-19 patients. State Government has issued guidelines on physical distancing and the use of sanitisers, face masks to curb community spread of the disease and everyone should follow it strictly." he added.

The State has a healthy recovery rate of about 85.63 per

cent currently. Majority of the cases and fatalities are from urban parts of the State including areas that fall in the NCR and Yamunanagar, Panchkula, Rohtak, Panipat, Panchkula, Ambala and others.

The positive cases have crossed 125, 412 and 1331 deaths and this is certainly a cause of worry.

There has been needed to lay thrust on education and spreading awareness among masses. It is only by wearing masks and observing social distancing, besides disinfecting our clothes and properly washing hands that we can protect ourselves, It is only with peoples cooperation that the rising Covid graph could be brought down, he said, adding that though cases are increasing, it is due to good Cowid-19 management that Haryama is far better off than most other states regarding recovery rate and growth rate.

the pioneer

C'garh wins 2nd place in **Swachh Bharat Abhiyan-II**

In the second phase of the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Chhattisgarh has won the sec-ond place in declaring ODF (open defecation free) vil-

open defecation free) villages.

The second phase was conducted across India between August 8 and 15 and 62 villages were declared ODP plus, a press release said.

Under the 'maximum villages ODP plus declaration' category, Chhattisgarh was at the second place across India, the press release said.

The Union Jal Shakti Ministry, on the occasion of Swachh Bharat Divas scheduled on the 151st anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, will



confer the prize to the state. Chhattisgarh Panchayati Raj and Rural Development Minister T.S. Singh Deo said:

"This year Chhattisgarh has performed well in 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyan' and in coming days this campaign

plus. Chhattisgarh was among leading states in the implementation of Swachh Bharat Phase-I. For outstanding performance in the cleanliness sector, the World Bank had provided T.174 crore to Chhattisgarh as performance grant. This year too the state has received a performance grant of R68 croce, he said.

The parameters under which these villages were judged in Phase II include availability of public toilets to stop open defecation; toilet availability of public toilets to stop open defecation; toilet availability in 80 percent houses and schools; liquid and solid garbage disposal system at Anganwadi and Panchayab Tudings, no water logging in public space and wide publicity of cleanliness.

Congress workers march to Raj Bhavan against farm bills



STAFF REPORTER

Scores of Congress workers

Sled by PCC President
Mohan Markam marched on
Tuesday to Raj Bhavan here
to submit a memorandum
against the three bills related
to farmers passed by
Parliament to President
Ramnath Kovind.

The march started from

Rajiv Bhavan and culminated at the Raj Bhavan. Markam told reporters that the farm bills will make the farmers vulnerable to exploitation and will lead to the scrapping of the Minimum Support Price (MSP) system.

Minimum Support Price (MSP) system. He said the Central government had made these bills to implement the Shanta Kumar committee which

recommends dismantling the Food Corporation of India (FCI)

(FCI).

On contract farming,
Markam said the biggest
drawback of the contract
farming ordinance is
not to compulsorily provide
MSP of farm produce to

The Congress leaders submitted a memorandum addressed to the President.

Covid to cast a shadow on Marwahi by-election

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

Amid Covid-19, voters in the Marwahi Assembly by-elec-tion in Chhattisgarh will have to be masked and wash their hands with soap and water before enter-ing the polling centres as part of steps against the pandemic, the Election Commission

steps against use panetins, use felection Commission announced on Tuesday. The voters hands will also be sanitized, Chhattisgarh Chief Electoral Officer Reena Baba Saheb Kangale told the media. Thermal Scanner will be used to check the temperature of electors. Social distancing will have to be maintained while in the queue. Wearing a mask is mandatory.

Additionally, each voter will get gloves. The corona positive

get gloves. The corona positive and suspected electors, persons with disability and those above 80 years of age can use postal ballot. She said restrictions have

been imposed on the number of persons to accompany candidates for submission of nomination. There can only be two vehicles.

In the door-to-door campaign, only five persons, except security personnel, will be allowed. For road shows the maximum number of vehicles can be five Earlier it was 10.

All public meetings will be bled only at sits identified by the District Electoral Officer and under guidelines issued by the Health Department, she said.

Electoral Photo Identity Cards will be the main document for identification of voters.

for identification of voters However, 11 alternate documents including Aadhaar card, MNRE-GA job card, PAN card, Bank and Post Office Passbook with photo graph, driving license, Passport and service identity card with photograph issued to employees are allowed, the officer said.

Candidates, parties must publish candidates' criminal history

RAIPUR

As per a new directive of the Election Commission, candidates and political parties will have to publish advertisements about candidates' criminal records, Chhattisgarh Chief Electoral Officer Reena Baba Saheb Kangale said on Tuesday.

Addressing the media virtually, she said the first 'publicity' of the criminal records has to be published within the first four days of the last date of withdrawal of candidature and the second withdrawal.

The third and final



publicity should be from the ninth day till the last date of election campaign, that is two days prior to polling day. She said that political

parties which nominate candidates will also publi-cize the criminal

antecedents, if any

The Election Commission in October 2018 had issued the direc-tions making it compulsory for candidates contesting elections and the parties fielding them to advertise their criminal antecedents

in TVs and newspapers at least thrice during the elec-

tion campaign.
The publication should The publication should be on social media plat-forms of political parties including websites and in local vernacular and national newspapers.

Cong, BJP claim they will win in Marwahi

STAFF REPORTER RAIPUR

Both the ruling Congress

Both the ruling Congress Dparty and the opposition BJP on Tuesday claimed they will win the Marwahi by-election due on November 3. Chantisgarh BJP president Vishnudeo Sai said in a statement that BJP workers and leaders are working on the ground at booth level to ensure victory for the party. People have given positive responses.

ponses. Sai said that in the last two sai said that in the last two
sasembly by-elections, the
Congress used every truck to
ensure victory. But in the last
two years, people have witnessed the "misrule" of the
Congress, which in each
Marwahi election has finished

third.

He said that fearing a defeat, maximum number of Ministers are in Marwahi

conducting the election campaign. The late Ajit Jogi was a mass leader. But without him, the scenario will be different, Sai said.

Meanwhile, Chhattisgarh Pradesh Congress Committee President Mohan Markam

President Mohan Markam said that like in Chitrakote and Dantewada Assembly constituencies, Congress will win in Marwahi too. People know the work done by Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel through different innovative schemes. It is Congress which gave the district status to Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi, a long pending demand. pending demand. The Congress has already

won two by-elections, civic bodies and three-tier panchayat polls. So, it will win in Marwahi too, with a thumping mandate.



Raipur Collector Dr S. Bharati Dasan along with police personnel conducted an awareness drive on Tuesday in different markets of the capital. He told people to wear masks, maintain distance and avoid crowded places. He told vendors to take a pitoe at consumers arriving without masks.

Lockdown ends in Balodabazar today, in Balod tomorrow

STAFF REPORTER

lockdown he lockdown in Balodabazar district will on Wednesday while Balod will open on October 1, an official press release said on Tuesday. The lockdown in

Balodabazar district was imposed on September 21 and

it was to end on September 28. Likewise, Balod had gone on lockdown on September 22 and this will end on September 30 night. So, the district will be back in busi-

ness from October 1. A press release issued by the administration said that

after reviewing the results it was noted that lockdown is not a permanent solution to Covid infection. Physical dis-Covid infection. Physical dis-tancing, wearing mask, wash-ing hands and sanitizing are much effective against coron-avirus, it said.

Even after the lockdown, several restrictions will

Several Testifictions with remain. Shops and commercial places will not function after 8 pm; petrol pumps and medical shops will function as they were; restaurants will offer only take away and home delivery and only till 10:00 pm; social distancing and mask will be followed in offices and hand washing will be mandatory, the press

release said.

If any office is found violating these norms, then its head will be held responsible and he or she will have to pay

and ne or she will have to pay penalty.

Failure to cover face in public place will attract a penalty of ₹100, violating home quarantine will attract a penalty of ₹1,000 and people

spitting in the open will also pay a fine of ₹100, the press release said. A fine of ₹200 will be

charged from business owners if physical distancing is violat-ed in business places. Failure to pay fine or repetition of violation would

Two men held with I 270 kg cannabis

contraband was being brought to Raipur from Odisha via the Gariaband

STAFF REPORTER

GARIABAND

Chhattisgarh Police on Tuesday seized 270 kg of cannabis valued at 735 lakh and arrested two persons in Gariaband who were transporting it from Odisha to Raipur. G a r i a b a n d A d d i t i o n a l Superintendent of Police Sukhnandan Rathore told The Pioneer

The Pioneer over telephone that

over telephone that the arrested men were driver Krishna Yadav (25) and his assistant Balram Mahinlange (26), both residents of Gudhiyari area in Raipur. The action was taken

Two more arrested for partying amid lockdown

STAFF REPORTER

RAIPUR

Chhattisgarh Police on Tuesday arrested two more persons for hosting a birthday party in a Raipur hotel despite a week-long lockdown due to the Covid-19 epidemic.

The two were identified as Amit Dhawal (36) and Raiyeer Kaur (27), both residents of the state capital, Raipur Senior Superintendent of Police Ajay Kumar Yadav dold The Pioneer.

They were arrested Odisha via the Gariaband National Highway NH-130C, he said. The police intercept-ed a pick-up van (CG-04, NC-9816) during check-ing at the Shyamacharan Chowk in Rajim town in Chowk in Rajim town in Gariaband district, Rathore said. The police seized 135 packets of cannabis, each weighing 2 kg, from the vehicle. They were packed in bags and concealed inside eight cartoons. A mobile phone and the pick-up van were also seized, the officer said.

Pioneer.

They were arrested under the Epidemic Act and the Indian Penal Code (IPC). Both Amit and Rajveer are among nine persons who were booked

Now, police have nersons while seven are at large

and were at large. They had booked the hotel for the party. As on Tuesday, police have arrested seven persons while seven are at large. Police on Sunday night got a tip about the birthday party after gunfire was heard at Queens Club of India.

One of the accused, Harish Bui best were also

One of the accused, Harish Bhai Patel, was also charged with attempt to murder for opening gun-fire at a parking lot. Police presented him in a court which sent him to jail.

Hardcore Naxalite surrenders in Dantewada home in Tetam village to meet his family members during which they informed him about the 'Lon Varratu' campaign of the local police and persuaded him to quit the banned outfit, he said.

STAFF REPORTER

A 22-year-old Naxalite carrying a reward of ₹8 lakh on his head has surrendered in Chhattisgarh's Dantewada district, police said on Tuesday.

Kosa Markam turned himself in before Dantewada Superintendent of Police Abhishek Pallava on Monday, citing disappointment with the Maoist ideology, the police said.

Markam joined the outlawed outfit in 2014 as a member of its Bal Sangham, its children's wing, in Dantewada. He was later shifted to the north Bastar division of Maoists, Pallava said.

He was currently active as a member of Military Company no.5 of the Maoists, the officer said.

Markam recently arrived at his Kosa Markam turned himself

Markam recently arrived at his

the banned outfit, he said.

Markam was allegedly involved in several deadly attacks on security forces, including the 2018 Irpanar encounter in Narayanpur district where four police personnel were killed, Pallava added.

killed, Pallava added.

He was also involved in the
Maoist ambush in Partapur area of
Kanker district last year in which
four BSF personnel lost their lives,
the official said, adding that he carried a reward of ₹8 lakh on his

head.

Markam was given an immediate assistance of ₹10,000 and will be provided facilities as per the government's surrender and rehabilitaernment's surrender tion policy, he said.

निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना क्रमांक-4020/NIT-20/2020-2021/ व ले लि दिनांक : 28/09/2020 प्रकीकृत पंत्रीयन प्रणाली अंतर्गत सक्षम श्रेणी में पंत्रीकृत ठेकेदारों से निर्माणिवत मैनुमल निविद्य आमंत्रित की जाती है :- 1 2 20 Supply and fixing of Gas Pipe line at 1st floor T0212 District Hospital Kalibadi Raipur अवन अगनंत्रण 20 Supply and fixing of Gas Pipe line at 2nd floor T0213 District Hospital Kalibadi Raipur अवन अगनंत्रण 20 Supply and Giving of Cas Pipe line at 2nd floor 20 Supply and Giving of Cas Pipe line at 2nd floor 18.80 20 Supply and fixing of Gas Pipe line at 3rd floor T0214 District Hospital Kalibadi Raipur प्रथम आनंत्रण 20 Supply and fixing of Gas Pipe line at District Hospital Pandri Raipur प्रथम आनंत्रण 10215 Hospital Pandri Raipur प्रथम आर्थमण 20 Providing Electrification work at District Hospit. 10216 Pandri Raipur प्रथम आर्थमण 20 कॉसिंड-19 आरोलेसन केंद्र आयुव विश्वविद्यालय पर्न सेटल प्रयोग वंदमान उपया ज्या पायुर में या सार पुरिचयर एवं नेया सार पूर्व प्रथम अर्थान प्रथम में प्रमुख्य में या सार पुरिचयर एवं नेया सार पूर्व प्रथम अर्थान प्रथम में

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अधाक्षण आभवता, लो.नि.वि. वि⁄यां संभाग रायपुर छ ग

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'IAF ready to face any | AIKSCC plans pan-India protest from Oct 2 misadventure at LAC'

With no let up in the five-month-long tension at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Ladakh, IAF chief RKS Bhadauria on Tuesday said the present security sce-nario along the border is at an "uneasy no war no peace" sta-tus. He said the IAF has responded to the situation with responded to the situation with apidity and is fully resolved to counter any "misadventure" in

rapidity and is fully resolved to counter any "misadventure" in the region.

Making this point here during a conference, he said "The present security scenario along our northern frontiers is at an uneasy no war no peace status. Our defence forces are prepared for any eventuality as you are aware."

The IAF is looking at inducting around 450 aircraft and helicopters in the next two decades, besides upgrading at least 200.300 planes during this period, the Air Chief a said.

He also said the recent induction of the Rafale fighter transport aircraft as well as Chinook and Apache helicopters have provided the IAF with substantial tactical and strategic capability enhancement.

"Air power will be a crucial

"Air power will be a crucial abler in our victory in anv enabler in our victory in any future conflict. It is therefore imperative that the IAF obtains and maintains technological

PNS NEW DELHI

Wary of India seeing an explosion of coronavirus cases during the festival season, which starts next month, if people do not follow Covid-appropriate behaviour, the Union Health Ministry on Tuesdy asked the States to strictly implement inventive containment strategies to keep the virus under check.

So far, India has recorded 61,45,291 confirmed Covid-19 cases, including 96,318 deaths. Maharashtra, Andhra 19 cases, including 96,318 deaths. Maharashtra, Andhra of cases. However, infections are rising rapidly in states like Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal, as per the government data.

"In the light of the promising restrictions strate in the light of the procoming festivities, winter

ernment data.
"In the light of the upcoming festivities, winter season and mass gathering, inventive containment strategies need to be implemented by the states," said Balram Bhargava, DG, ICMR at a press briefing here.

NITI Aavog member V K

press briefing here.

NITI Aayog member V K
Paul urged people to keep fol-lowing Covid-appropriate behaviour, saying there is no



edge over our adversaries," he said at the conference on ener-gising the Indian aerospace

said at the colmercine or consisting the Indian aerospace industry.

Five French-made multirole Rafale fighter jets were inducted into the IAF on September 10. The fleet has been carrying out sorties in eastern Ladakh in the last couple of weeks.

The Chief's observations came in the backdrop of the

The Chief's observations came in the backdrop of the IAF deploying all its frontline jets including the Su-30, Mirages, MIG-29 and Jaguars at the forward airbases all along the 4,000 km long LAC stretching from Ladakh in the west to Arunachal Pradesh in

west to Arunachai Pracesn in the east.

The IAF is also carrying out night time combat air patrols over the eastern Ladakh region in an apparent message to China that it was ready to deal with any even-tualities in the mountainous region.

tualities in the mountainous region.

The IAF Chief said the raising of two squadrons of light combat aircraft Tejas and integration of some indigenous weapons on the Su-30 MKI combat jets in a very reduced time frame have been the "most promising" development, reflecting the coun-

States told to strictly implement 'inventive

try's capabilities to develop

try's capabilities to develop indigenous military hardware. He also strongly backed indigenous development of a fifth generation aircraft. "We strongly support indigenous development of a fifth-generation aircraft whe need to have a single point agenda to have a fifth-generation aircraft with sixth generation aircraft with sixth generation technology," said Bhadauria, while congratulating all the stakeholders in development of the light combat aircraft Tejas.

He also complimented the Defence Research and De v e 1 o p m e n t Organisation(DRDO) for its airborne early warning and control system Netra, calling it a pathbreaking achievement. Bhadauria also asked the DRDOs and defence public sector undertakings to include the private sector in key projects and treat them as their own.

"Overall, we are looking at 450 aircraft orders. It will include the helicopter fleet," Bhadauria said.

"There cannot be a better time to energise the aerospace

Bhadauria said.

"There cannot be a better time to energise the aerospace sector and there cannot be a better opportunity...IAF is ready to be an engine of growth for the aerospace industry, you have to be ready to provide the requirement and get on board with confidence and determination," he said.

Farm reform laws like



The All India Kisan Sangharsh Coordination Committee (AIKSCC) on Tuesday announced its plans to hold a massive all India farmers' protests from October 2, the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

Their decision came a day after Congress workers set a tractor on fire while protesting near India Gate. Meanwhile, the Kisan Mazdoor Sangharsh Committee against the newly enacted farm laws entered the sixth day on Tuesday.

Members of the committee sat on railway tracks in Devidaspura in Amritsar, wearing black tothes, in protest against the laws. All 31 farmers will use to the committee the committee of the committe

daggers through hearts of farmers, says Rahul PNS NEW DELHI

Tormer Congress president
Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday
interacted virtually with farmers from several States.
Accusing the Central
Government of breaking the
back' of the informal sector
through its policy decisions,
Rahul said while demonetisation and ineffective rollout of
GST had affected the poor, the
recent farm laws are like a dagger through the heart of the
farmers.

"We were told (demonetization) was aimed at fighting black money but that was
a lie. The main aim was to
inancially hurt farmers and
workers. Rollout of GST had
the same aim. Similarly during the coronavirus pandemic too, money was needed but
they did not give any." Rahul
said during the 10-minuteto take their views on the mat-Members of the committee sat on railway tracks in

Amritsar, wearing black clothes, in protest against the

Devidaspura in

to adopt resolutions on October 2.

The committee has chalked out a month-long protest plans. The Committee also decided to stage a dharna at Haryana Deputy Chief Minister Dushyant Chautla's residence on October 6. Punjab farmer rights' associations are using social media to build momentum for the movement against the central laws.

In a related development, Chief Minister Captain Amarinder Singh on Tuesday met farmers of all possible legal and other steps to fight the 'draconian' new farm laws, including a special session of the

to adopt resolutions on October

ing a special session of the Vidhan Sabha to discuss and decide the way forward. Chairing a meeting with repre-sentatives of 31 farmers' unions

long interaction which was telecast on his social media handles on Monday.

"The aim of this Government is to break the back of farmers and workers. There is no difference between demonetization and the farm laws. Or between the rollout of GST and the farm laws. The only difference is that the three farm laws are like a dagger through your hearts... I am very clear that we need to oppose this not just for the farmers alone but for the country," he added.

During the interaction,

added.
During the interaction, farmers from states like Punjab, Bihar, Haryana and Maharashtra shared their views on the issue and raised concerns over minimum support price (MSP), scope of earning from their produce among other topics.

to take their views on the mat-ter, the Chief Minister said he would be discussing the issue with his legal team later today to finalise the next steps, includ-ing challenging the farm laws in the Supreme Court. On Monday, large-scale protests were held in several states of India including Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Telangana, Gujarat, Goa, Odisha and Tamil Naduw there the Tamila Muntertar azarlagam (DMK) and its allies, including the Congress, hit the street. The Congress has also planned to baserve October 2 an Kisan-Majdoor Bachao Divasa and hold dharma seroes India.

SC acquits man in 20-vear-old rape case



The Supreme Court has acquitted a man in a 20-year-old rape case observing that he and the alleged victim were in love, their relationship was consensual and the case was "an afterthought" - fled when the man was about to marry another woman.

The bench of Justices RF Nariman, Navin Sinha and Indira Banerjee set aside the conviction by a trial court and the Jharkhand High Court quoting medical experts, who

the Jharkhand High Court quoting medical experts, who established that the woman was 25 years old when she filed the case in 1999, and not 20 as she claimed, making her a major at the time of the alleged

major at the time of the alleged assault in 1995.

The court added that letters exchanged between the two and their photographs together showed they were in lowe and that a case of rape and cheating on pretext of marriage was filed a week ahead of the man's wedding to another woman.

was filed a week ahead of the man's wedding to another woman.

It added that no woman, after being sexually assaulted at knife-point, would write love letters to the accused and share a live-in relationship with him for four years.

The woman had claimed she stayed quite after the assault because the accused has promised to marry her.

"The marriage between them could not materialise due to societal reasons as the man belongs to a Scheduled Tribe, while the woman is a Christian... The woman had deposed that their marriage could not be solemnized because they belonged to different religions. She was therefore conscious of this obstate all along... "the court said.

The court added it was not possible to hold, on the basis of evidence, that the man never intended to marry her and quoted the womans letters in which she had acknowledged that the man's family always treated her well, and that their

rations to sex workers without insisting on identity proof

SC directs States to provide dry

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday directed all States to provide dry rations to sex worksers, who are identified by National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO) and legal services authorities, without insisting on any proof of identity.

insisting on any proof of same tity.

The apex court asked all the states to file compliance report within four weeks giving details of number of sex workers who got dry ration within this peri-

od.

A bench comprising Justices I. Nageswara Rao and Ajay Rastogi said that it would later deal with the aspect of whether financial assistance could be provided to them during the period of COVID-19 pandemic.

mag the fetted of the post-pandemic. The top court, which post-ed the matter for hearing after four weeks, said that states would provide dry rations to sex workers and would identify, them with the assistance of NACO, district as well as state legal service authority. The bench was hearing a plea which has raised the issue problems faced by sex workers on account of the COVID-19 pandemic.

bin action to the COVID-19 pandemic. It asked the states to file a detailed report on how they would provide ration cards and other facilities to sex workers. "We are aware of the facts that states are coming forward to provide assistance but the problem is that these sex work-ers don't have any proof of identity. Therfore, all should be given rations. States should tell

us how this should be implemented," the bench said.

The counsel appearing for the Centre said it has no objection if states would provide dry ration to sex workers.

tion if states would proof of the control of the control to see you'ders.

Advocate Pijush Kumar Advocate Pijush Kumar Roy, assisting the apex court san amicus curiae in the matter, aid bank accounts of sex work-ers should also be opened without insisting upon proof of identity in order to provide them financial assistance.

The apex court had last week taken note of problems faced by sex workers on account of CCVID-19 pandemic and directed the Centre and states to grow the control of the control of identity.

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Telangana found that 96 per cent of of them had lost their

cent of of them had lost their source of earning in the pan-demic.

Senior advocate Jayant Bhushan, who has also been appointed as an amicus curiae to assist the court in the matter,

to assist the court in the matter, and a said plight of sex workers could be solved if they were provided ration cards without insisting on identity proof.

The apex court was hearing an application filed by NGO, Durbar Mahila Samanwaya Committee which had moved the SC to highlight the destitution faced by sex workers on the account of COVID-19.

that the man's family always treated her well, and that their families even got them engaged.

PUBLIC NOTICE

that Mr. Dinesh Goswami died on 02.06.1991. bebashish Goswami is his legal heir, residing th House No. 4, Geren Path, Near S.B. Deurah College, Bors Service, Utubari, Guwahati 181007, is the exclusive owner of the copyright in the above mentioned work. That any objection/proposals on the subject I any be submitted within 15 days of obdication of this notice on the address

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reason to get lax if stability in coronavirus cases is observed. "We need to have Puja, Chhath, Diwali and Eid with masks, it is very important to keep that in mind. We have seen a second peak in Delhi, Kerala and Punjab so we should not get lax and keep following Covid-appropriate behaviour," he said. People are more prone to respiratory infections like pneumonia and influenza in the coming winter months and festive seasons and "we have to put in all efforts, stay vigilant and diligently follow Covid-appropriate behav-SII's calculation of ₹80,000 crore for vaccinating every Indian wrong: Govt

Days after Serum Institute of India's chief executive officer Adar Poonawalla tweeted questioning if India has ₹80,000 crore over the next one year for distribution of the Covid-19 vaccine to of the Covid-19 vaccine to every person in the country, the Government on Tuesday dismissed the observation saying that it does not agree with the calculation cited by the drug maker.

The Union health ministry said that it does not agree with such calculations on social media and also maintained that the national expert vaccine administration panel met 5 times on

modalities.
"In these meetings, we have mulled over Covid-19 vaccination distribution and the amount required for it in terms of prioritisation of population and the staggered immunisation for this prioritisation. For this, we have calculated the amount required in the meetings and currently, that amount is available with the government," Rajesh Bhushan, Secretary, Union Health Ministry said at a press briefing here.

Meanwhile, the SII, which is the world's largest vaccine manufacturing company, said that it would get a further USD 150 million in funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates

Foundation and the GAVI vaccines alliance to make an additional 100 million Covid-

Covid-19 cases and 70 deaths per million population which is among the lowest in the world. He also said that India's recovery rate continues to rise and now stands at 83 per-cent.

vaccines alliance to make an additional 100 million Covid19 vaccine doses for India and other low- and middleincome countries next year.

The expanded deal will accelerate manufacturing and delivery of safe and effective coronavirus vaccines, which has been priced at a maximum of \$3 per dose or \$250 per dose.

The collaboration builds upon an initial agreement signed in August by the company with the GAVI alliance and the Gates Foundation, with the total number of vaccine doses to be covered by the partnership now up to 200 million.

EC fixes schedule for containment strategies' to keep Covid at bay bypoII to one LS, 56 Assembly seats

The Election Commission
T(EC) on Tuesday
announced dates for bypolls to
one Lok Sabha seat and 56
Assembly constituencies spead
across 12 States. Bypolls to 54
Assembly constituencies will
take place on November 3
while bypolls to the Lok Sabha
seat and two Assembly constituencies will be conducted
on November 7. The votes will
be counted on November 10
alongside the counting of votes
for the general assembly elections in Bihar.

Before announcing the
schedule, the poll panel had
issued a separate statement on
Tuesday to announce that it has
decided not to hold assembly
bypolls in seven seats across
Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Assam
and West Bengal "at this stage"
after specific request from the
states in conduct of polls.

By-polls will be held for
Chhattisgarh, Gujarat,
Haryana, Harkhand,
Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh
Assembly constituencies for which polling
will be held on November 3.
Next is Gujarat (eight), Uttaradesh faste he highest number of seats—27ramong the 54 Assembly constituencies for which polling
will be held on November 3.
Next is Gujarat (eight), Uttafradesh (seven); Jharkhand,
Karnataka, Nagaland, Odisha,
Talangana, Chhattisgarh and
Haryana. The term of the legislative assemblies of the four
tates would end on different
tates between May and June

iour", Paul said.

The Navratri festival that involves temple visits and fasts for nine days will begin from October 17. It will culminate with Vijaya Dashmi or Dussehra on October 25 while Diwali will be celebrated on November 20. Chhath follows thereafter.

Health Secretary Rajesh Buhsahan said India has 4,453 Covid-19 cases and 70 deaths per million population which

next year.

The bypolls in Madhya
Pradesh were necessitated after

Pradesh were necessitated after 25 Congress MLAs followed their leader lyotiraditys Scindia in joining the Bharattya Janata Party (BJP) in March. This led to the collapse of the state's Congress government and pawed way for the BJP to return to power. The bypolls were necessitated on three of the seats - Joura, Agar and Bioradue to death of the MLAs - two from the Congress and one from BJP, and on the remain-



ing seats due to resignation of the then Congress MLAs. The Valumiki Nagar Lok Sabha seat fell vacant in February after the death of incumbent Lok Sabha MP Baidyanath Prasad Mahato of the JD(U). The bypolls were necessitated following resignations tendered by Congress MLAs, five in March and three in June. The reason is that the number of vacant seats in some states has changed due to variate states has changed due to variate sates from the same control of the s states has changed due to var-ious reasons, including court

cases.

According to EC, the date of issue of notification for bypolls to 54 Assembly seats in polls to 54 Assembly seats in various states, except Manipur, is October 10, while the last date of filing nominations is October 16, and date for with-drawal is October 19. In the two Assembly seats of Manipur, and one Lok Sabha seat in Bihar, the date for filing nom-inations October 20, and for withdrawal of nominations is October 23.

CEC in Patna to assess Bihar poll preparation

hief Election Commissioner Sunil Arora and Commissioners Sushil Chandra and Rajiv Kumar visited Patna on Tuesday to assess preparations in poll-bound Bihar. On Wednesday, they would meet various stakeholders, including civil and police officials, and representatives of political parties. The Commission would also visit a few places in Bihar before returning to Delhi on October 1 evening, sources said.

Govt to hold review meeting on air pollution measures, stubble burning on Oct 1

To review the progress of air pollution control initiatives and the problem of stubble burning, environment secretaries of Delhi, Punjah, Haryana, Utar Pradesh and Rajasthan along with officials from the Union Environment Ministry and representatives of the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) will hold a

meeting on October I, Union Minister Prakash Javadekar said on Tuesday. "All the agencies were asked to make short, medium, and long-term plans in 2016 to fight pollution. The meeting will focus on reviewing the progress of these plans," Javadekar told reporters here at a press briefing. The Government feels that as the economic activities have

opened up, air pollution is likely to rise to pre-lockdown levels.

Farm fires, which wern noticed in Punjab last week, coupled with resumption of conomic activities in the wake of Covid-19 lockdown has already started deteriorating air quality in Delhi.

According to the System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting And Research

(SAFAR), which is run by the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, the deteroology, the developed on the problem of air pullution is not restricted to Delhi and NER. It is a common already started deteriorating in under the same airshed, which in the problem of air pullution is not restricted to Delhi and NER. It is a common already started deterioration in the problem of air pullution is not restricted to Delhi so the work of country and the problem of air pullution is not restricted to Delhi so the work of country and the problem of air pullution is not restricted to Delhi so the view of the work of country and the problem of air pullution is not restricted to Delhi so the view of the work of country and the problem of air pullution is not restricted to Delhi and NER. It is a common already started deteriorating and the problem of air pullution is not restricted to Delhi and NER. It is a common already started deteriorating and the problem of air pullution is not restricted to Delhi and NER. It is a common already started deterioration is not restricted to Delhi and NER. It is a common already started deterioration is not restricted to Delhi and NER. It is a common already started deterioration is not restricted to Delhi and NER. It is a common already started deterioration is not restricted to Delhi and NER. It is a common already started deterioration is not restricted to Delhi and NER. It is a common already started deterioration is not restricted to Delhi and NER. It is a common already started deterioration is not restricted to Delhi and NER. It is a common already started deterioration is not restricted to Delhi and NER. It is a common already started developed in the prob

teams of CPCB officials will be deployed from 15 October to monitor sources of pollution in Delhi, and recommend quick fixes.

The meeting, to be held virtually, will also be attended by chiefs of the Municipal Corporations of Delhi and the New Delhi Municipal Council. Javadekar also listed some of the initiatives taken by the Narendra Modi government

since 2016 to fight pollution. These include introduction of BS VI vehicles and fuel, incentives to boost e-vehicles usage, and completion of peripheral highways that prevent unnecessary traffic from entering the capital.

He, however, said despite all efforts Delhi is likely to see increased pollution levels for two-three months in winter due to meteorological condi-

tions.

According to a report by the CPCB and the Ministry, cold, dry air, and ground based inversion with low wind conditions are responsible for increasing concentration of pollutants during winter in Delhi.

Iavadekar also encouraged

elhi.
Javadekar also encouraged tizens to inculcate eco-friend-habits such as cycling to educe pollution.



BJP promised moon but delivered nothing: Didi

Renewing her attack on the BJP Government Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Tuesday said it sel-dom delivered on its promises and resorted to communal propaganda for the sake of publicity during the elections

plunitary elections.

The Chief Minister who was currently touring North Bengal said those in the central Government "had promised many things but delivered nothing for the tea plantation workers but when it comes to voting they complete the communal issues. wnen it comes to voting they would raise communal issues to derive publicity

Claiming that her Government had done more than it promised Banerjee said

"we have continuously per-formed. Despite having per-formed so well for the past one decade there is no publicity because we do not engage in communal riots... rather we are defamed and become vic-tims of disinformation cam-gainer despite having worked tims of disinformation cam-paigns despite having worked hard for the people of this region whereas when the elec-tions will come they will incite communal riots to get cheap publicity and votes."

Earlier Banerjee had attacked the Centre for bull-dozing the opposition voice in

dozing the opposition voice in Parliament to pass a number of "draconian anti-people laws" like the farm bill and said the people would take account of that during the elections. Bengal will go to Assembly polls in May next year.

The Chief Minister on Tuesday promised the plantation workers their own houses in a few years' time. "The Government will construct houses for the plantation workers in three years," she said adding 'those who had come and promised to you so many things have done nothing for you which can be proved by the condition of the plantation workers and industry here." Reacting to Banerjee's statements Bengal BJP president Dilip Ghosh said. 'our Chief Minister is a person who loves to beat her own trumpet... If she has worked well hen it will be for the people to see and for them to recognize the services. 'Dut here it is different. The Chief Minister is patting her own back."

IMA demands health | 7,354 new cases in | WB reports 3.188 emergency in Kerala

Taken aback by the surge in the number of Covid-19 patients, the Indian Medical Association, the highest policy making body of modern med-icine practitioners have asked the Government of Kerala to declare a state of "Health Emergency"

declare a state of "Health Emergency".

Dr Abraham Varghese, president, IMA (Kerala) said in a statement to the Government that the situation in Kerala is precarious and requires strin-gent action and an awareness campaign. The number of cases diagnosed with Covid-19 on a daily basis is disturbing. But what is of more concern is the wnat is of more concern is the number of patients contracting the pandemic through social contacts," said Dr Varghese.

The soft-spoken doctor has been cautioning the author-

ities about community transmission which was set long back in the State. He said the Government should go for strict social controls and regulations to check the number of people crowdling at public places and shopping centres. "Offices and business establishments could work with skeleton staff and there should be restrictions on the number of people who could gather in public or private places," said Dr Varghese.

Though the official figures state that almost 58,000 people are under treatment in the State for Covid-19, Government doctors themselves say that the figure has crossed 2 lakh mark. "The IMA's studies prove that the situation in Kerala is getting worse by the day as shown by the spurt in numbers.

Kerala, 5,546 in TN | fresh cases, 62

KOCHI/CHENNAI: As the Indian Medical Associations Kerala branch demanded a state of Health Emergency in the State, the number of new Covid-19 patients shot up to 7,354 which include 7,056 patients who contracted the pandemic through social contacts.

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, who briefed the media after an all party meeting said that there were fixed the party of the contraction of t

61,791 persons under treatment in the Nate for Covid19 on Tuesday.

Neighboring Tamil Nadu is gradually bringing
down the number of cases on a daily basis without any
fanfare. On Tuesday, Tamil Nadu diagnosed 5,546 new
persons afflicted with Covid-19. A medical bulletin
released by the Tamil Nadu Government said the number of patients in the State as on Tuesday were 46,281
which was well below that in Kerala. Tamil Nadu saw
70 persons succumbing to the dreaded disease during the
last 24 hours.

Kerala, which had claimed that it tamed Covid-19
as early as May 8 is facing a precarious position.
Malappurm district alone diagnosed 1,040 new patients
while the capital city of Thiruvananthapuram diagnosed
935 patients. The Chief Minister blamed the Opposition,
particularly the BJP for the State's failure in countering
the pandemic. Tamil Nadu tested almost 85,000 persons

PNS

more deaths



Kolkata: West Bengal on Tuesday reported 3,188 new cases of COVID-19, taking its tally to 2,53,768, as per a bulletin issued by the Health Department

Department.
The COVID-19 toll rose to 4,899 after 62 more people died. S in c e Monday, 2,961 people have recovered, improving the discharge rate to 87.80 per cent.

There are 26,064 active cases in the there are 26,064 active cases in the state at present. In the last 24 hours, 43,769 samples have been tested for COVID-19 in the state, the bulletin said.

AP's daily corona count at 6.190

Andhra Pradesh's COVID-19
tally Increased to 6,87,351 as
6,190 more cases were added
on Monday, while 35 deaths
took the fatallities to 5,780.
Also, the overall infection
positivity rate dropped below
the 12 per cent mark for the
first time in over two months,
standing at 11.99 per cent on
Tuesday after a gross 57,34 lakh
samples were tested so
far.

Heart patients at high risk during pandemic

Aligarh: The speed at which the corona infection is spread-ing has destroyed health ser-vices and created a crisis for the

Along with other patients, this virus has a fatal impact on heart patients as well. Many people have died from this disease.

According to M.U Rabbani, chairman of the Department of Heart Disease at JN Medical College and a

renowned Cardiologist , the global mortality rate according to coronavirus data is 3.05%, this rate is 2.6% in America and 1.4% in India. 1.4% in India. In poor and medium-income countries, the number of corona infected patients without symptoms is 5 to 10 times more due to less testing of coronavirus. 25% of heart attack patients died because of

₹15,000 cr loan sanctioned for projects: Urban Affairs Ministry

New Delhi: The National Capital Regional Planning Board (NCRPB) has sanctioned over \$15,000 crore loan in over \$31,000 crore work for projects related to transport, regional rapid transport system, water supply, drainage, power, solid waste management, tourism and road infrastructure. Informing this, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) secretary Durga Shankar Mishra on Tuesday said that 265 projects of more than Rs 18,500 crore are complete and the rest is under construction.

Speaking at the launch of the Project Management Information System (P-MIS), Mishra said that MIS will help to monitor projects.

The NCR is presently spread over a \$5,083 sq.km are with around 60 million population. According to the NCRPB, Haryana sub-region comprises of districts of Gurugram, Faridabad, Rohtak, Sonepat, Rewari, Ihajiar, Alewari, Paliyah, Panipat, Mahendregarh, Jind, Karrial, Bhiwani and Charkhi Dadri. Rajasthan subregion comprises districts of Gurantee validity date and Charkhi Dadri. Rajasthan subregion comprises districts of districts of Gautam Buddha Mearr fisherits of districts of Gautam Buddha Mearr fisherits of districts of Gautam Buddha Mearr fisherits of Gautam Buddha Mearr fisher fisherits of Gautam Buddha Mearr fisher fisherits of Gautam Buddha Mearr fi

Karnataka CM's Political Secv MP Renukacharya, tests corona +ve

Bengaluru: Karnataka Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa's polit-ical Secretary and MLA M P Renukacharya on Tuesday said he has tested positive for COVID-19.

The MLA from Honnalli

The MLA from Honnalli constituency said he underwent a test as some changes were observed in his health conditions this morning, and the report showed him to be positive. Appealing all those who had come in contact with him in the last four-five days to get tested, he said, he was doing fine. Chief Minister Yediyurappa tweeted wishing for Renukacharya's speedy recovery. Several Ministers and legislators in Karnataka including Deputy Chief Minister Govind Karjol, Law Minister J C Madhuswamy, senior Congress MLAS H K

Law Minister J C Madhuswamy, senior Congress MLAs H K Patil and Diensh Gundu Rao are among those who have tested positive for COVID in the last few days.

few days.
The state recently lost the
Belagavi BJP MP and Minister
of State for Railways Suresh
Angadi, BJP Rajya Sabha member Ashok Gasti and
Basavakalyan Congress MLA B
Narayan Rao due to coronavirus.
PTI

Covid may hit mental health

Aligarh: The Covid-19 pandemic has created a global crisis with far-reaching social and economical repercussions and enough the strength of th

founder. Was addressing at the inaugural function of the two-day international webiar on 'Role of Faith in Facing Personal and Collective Crises: What Religion Can Offer to the Post-Covid World' organised by the Dara Shikoh Centre for Interfaith Understanding and

Dialogue, Aligarh Muslim University (AMU).

He explained that faith gives courage to people and prevents depression.

"During crisis, people tend to become either aggressive or depressed and these two extremes can be prevented with spirtual knowledge," said Sri Sri Ravi Shankar adding that spirituality leads to serene, calm and meditative state.

He added that Corona virus is a catastrophe, but not an apocalypse and faith can help us to search the silver linings despite the dark clouds of gloom.

PNS

Aligarh DM postpones home isolation until further notice

Due to the rising rate of corona infection in the district, the district administration has postponed the home isolation until further orders. In a review meeting held at Collectorate, the control room in-charge Smritt Gautam said that during home isolation, asymptomatic natients are not asymptomatic patients are not following guidelines and are moving outside, living with family members which is increasing the infection. Nodal Officer Principal Secretary Nitin Ramesh Gokarn has also been notified. On this, the DM Chandra Bhushan Singh

DM Chandra Bhushan Singh postponed the home isolation with immediate effect. All Magistrates / SDMs have been directed to strictly follow it. The people kept in home isolation will complete their time by tuesday. But if a patient does not follow the rules during home isolation, then that patient should be shifted to COVID Hospital. There will be no negligence in this.

SUSHANT DEATH-RELATED DRUG CASE Bombay HC reserves order on bail pleas of Rhea, Showik, others

TN RAGHUNATHA III MUMBAI

The Bombay High Court on The Bombay High Court on Tuesday reserved its order on the bail applications of accused actress Rhea Chakraborty, her brother Showik and others in the Sushant Singh Rajput death-related drug case, after observing that its verdict would have "wide reach and repercussions" and that it would pass separate orders in all matters.

After hearing all the sides, Justice S. W. Kotwal of the Bombay High Court noted: "Arguments on the matter are closed. The matter is now reserved for orders. Due to voluminous proceedings, the order may take some time."

"This judgment has wide reach and repercussions. I will try to write separate orders in all matters, but I might end up attributing Sayyed's arguments of Sayyed (advocate for co-accused Abel Basit Parihar to (Satish) Maneshinde. Please

excuse me for that," the Judge

excuse me for that," the Judge noted

At the hearing, Additional
Solicitor General (ASG) Anil
Singh argued for the state, while Satish Maneshinde represented Charkarborty siblings, advocate Tareq Sayed appeared for co-accused Abdel Basit Parihar. Advocate Subodh Desai for Samuel Miranda (late Sushant's house manager) and advocate Rajendra Rathod for Dipesh Sawant (late Sushant's house help).

Rhea, Showik and other accused in the Sushant death-related drug case had moved the high cour after the Special Court had rejected their bail applications on September 11.

Apart from Rhea and Showik, the Gurother Court of the Special Court water. Sushant's house help by the special court were: Sushant's house manager Samuel Miranda, house help Dipesh Sawant and two alleged drug peddilers. Abdel Bashit

Dipesh Sawant and two alleged drug peddlers Abdel Bashit Parihar and Zaid Vilatra.

Schools in AP to reopen on Nov 2

Schools in Andhra Pradesh Swould be re-opened for the 2020-21 academic year on November 2, Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy announced here on Tuesday.

November 2, Chief Minister 1S lagan Mohan Reddy announced here on Tuesday. "We wanted to open the schools on October 5, but in view of the prevailing situation, we have now decided to re-open them on November 2; the Chief Minister told district Collectors during a video conference. Schools remained shut due to the prevail-ing COVID-19 pandemic in the current academic year. The state government initial-ly announced September 5 as the re-opening day and later deferred it to October 5. Though the Centre is yet to issue fresh guidelines on opening the schools fully, the Chief Minister set November 2 as the date.

The Chief Minister said the 'Jagannanna Vidya Kanuka' (Jagans Education Gift) would, however, be

initially announced September 5 as the re-opening day and later deferred it to October 5

distributed on October 5 to all stu

dents.

A school kit, including uniforms, would be distributed to the students under the freebie scheme.

"If we distribute the kits on October 5, students can get them stitched and be ready when the schools re-open on November 2," he said. The Chief Minister, who reviewed the progress of the 'Mana reviewed the 'Mana said. The Chief Minister, who reviewed the progress of the Mana Badi, Naadu-Nedu scheme, under which school infrastructure is being renovated, directed the District Collectors to step up the works.

Of the 15,715 schools chosen

Of the 15,715 schools chosen for renovation in the first phase, works were yet to begin in 153 schools, he said. Start the works immediately.The district Joint Collectors should monitor the works daily and ensure that they are completed in time," Jagan added.

No decision yet on reopening schools: Karnataka Minister

Bengaluru: Karnataka Primary and Secondary Education Minister S. Suresh Kumar on Tuesday said that the State Government had not taken any decision yet on reopen-

Government had not taken any decision yet on reopening of schools.

The Karnataka government had decided about a fortnight ago that Classes 9, 10, 11 and 12 would be partially allowed to be held.

In other words, teachers of these classes would be present in schools wherein students who have doubts in any topic could seek clarifications in their respective subjects though regular classes won't be held.

This had led to speculations that Karnataka would reopen schools soon. A section of parents had vehemently opposed the reopening of schools amid the pandemic.

Owing to parental pressure, the government on September 20 prohibited Class 9 to 12 students from visiting schools and only undergraduates to meet teachers amid the pand well.

September 20 prohibited Class 9 to 12 students from visiting schools and only undergraduates to meet teachers amid the pandemic.

He maintained that the Karnataka government planned to elicit views from various quarters like politicans, academics and health experts before taking any final decision on this matter.

Soon after returning from Bidan district tour in a day or two, the Minister asserted, he would convene a meeting of different stakeholders along with the department.

ing of different stakeholders along with the departments concerned to decide on reopening of schools. IANS

PUBLIC NOTICE

NEWSPAPER SEALED TENDER (WATER AFFECTED STOCK OF WIRES & CABLES, LIGHTING AND SWITCHGEARS)

Tender document with terms and confidence can be obtained, in person, DD of Rs 2,000- in favour of Mis. J.C. Gupta & Co. Insurance Su Assessors "payable at PAR." The Sealed tenders are to be opened on 12, membroned address at 5F.M. For Tender forms, Contact Mr. Lovesh at Mob. 9582388072.

GOVERNMENT OF UNION TERRITORY JAMMU AND KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER MECHANICAL HOSPITAL AND CENTRAL HEATING DIVISION SRINAGAR Telefax: 0194-2495089, Email Id: xenmbchdk@yaheo.in

Gist of e-tender
NIT No: MHCHDTS [2020-21/126ie-tendering Dated 25,09,2020
E-tenders are invited from Original Equipment
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for the below mentioned work: Name of Work:- Supply, Installation, Testing Name of Work:- Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning of Air Compressors of Capacity 275 CFM, Screw type along with maintenance for Three years at Govt. Chest Disease Hospital, Srinagar. Est. Cost (Rs. in Lacs): - 24.00 Cost of T/Doc. (In rupees): - 1000 Earnest Money (Lacs of Rs): - 0.48 Time of compatible (in Payles): - 30

Time of completion (in Days):- 30 Position of AAA/funds:-Available

Position of AAA/funds:-Available
Name of Work: Supply, Installation, Testing,
Commissioning of two stage Vacuum Pumps along with
allied works at Govt. Chest Disease Hospital, Srinagar.
Est. Cost (Rs. in Lacs): -10.00
Cost of T/Doc. (In rupees):-1000
Earnest Money (Lacs of Rs):-0.20
Time of completion (in Days):-30
Position of AAA/funds:-Available
1. Downloading of Bids:-The NIT Consisting of qualifying

1. Downloading of Bids:- The NIT Consisting of qualifying nformation, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other (B.O.Q.), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in from 25.09.2020 (18.00 hrs) and can be downloaded from 25.09.2020 (18.00 hrs).

2. Uploading: The bidders shall deposit their bids in electronic format on the above web site 26.09.2020(10.00 hrs.).

hrs) to 07.10-2020 (15:00hrs) in two (02) covers.

Ins) to 97.19-2020 [15:00hrs] in two (02) covers.

3. Opening of Bids : "The bids received upto due date and time shall be opened on 08.10.2020 at 14.00 hrs or any date convenient to the department. In the office of Executive Engineer, MHCHD, Srinagar

No. DIPK-6425/20
Dated: 28.09.2020

MCHD, Srinagar

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of male Age: approx 18-20 years, Complexion: Fair, Height: 56", Built: Thin, Face: Long, was wearing Black Lower Checkdar, Black & White Shirt, Steel Kada in

Black & White Shirt, Steel Kada in right hand, Black Dora in Left hand and Bare feet, was committed Suicide in Saleemgarh Park, Kashmere Gate, Delhi. In this regard a DD No. 30-A, dated 26.09.2020, has been lodged at P.S.

Kashmere Gate, Delhi.

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

SHO

P.S. Kashmere Gate, Delhi Ph.: 011-23968730, 8750870123

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Notice is hereby given to all users of Railway lines and premises situated on the completed section of the under noted section of the Northern Railway that the 25000 Volt 50 Hz. AC overhead traction wires will be energized on or after the date specified against the section. On and from the same date the overhead traction like shall be treated as like at all the times and on the same date. traction line shall be treated as live at all the times and no un authorized person shall approach or work in the proximity of the

Section	Date	
dani Logistics Limited PFT siding at Patli station Northern Railway	05.10.2020	

INTRODUCTION OF AC 25 KV TRACTION

INTRODUCTION OF AC 25 KY TRACTION.

"WARNING TO ROAD USERS."

It is notified for information of the Public that in connection with introduction of 25 KY AC electric traction on Adam Logistics. Limited PFT siding at Patil station of Northern Railway, Height gauges have been erected at all the level crossings with clear height between 4.76m and 4.78m above road level with a view to prevent loads of excessive height from coming into contact or dangerous proximity to live traction wire (contact wire), which shall be at a height of minimum 5.5m above the rail level at level crossings.

crossings.

Public are hereby notified to observe the height specified abt for purpose of loading vehicles and to see that the loads carr in road vehicles do not infringe the height gauges under a

The danger of a load of excessive height are as follow

 Danger to the height gauge and consequent obstruction to the road as well as the Railway line. ii) Danger to the materials or equipment carried or the vehicle itself.

itiseir.

iii) Danger of fire and risk of life due to contact with or dangerous proximity to the conductors.

Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/TRD, Northern Railway, New Delhi No. 230-Elect/TRD141/14(El) pate: 29.09.2020

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Another silent Nirbhaya

Dalit girl from Hathras dies after being brutally gang-raped. Where are the deterrent laws and action? Will we have to wait years again?



he "Beti Bachao. Beti Padhao" campaign is being slandered with each passing day as it becomes a "Beti Hatao, Beti Darao" mission in reality, with heinous crimes against the girl child and women going up every day across the country. So it is that just two days after Daughter's Day, a 19-year-old Dalit girl was brutally gang-raped in Uttar Pradesh's Hathras district. In a chilling throwback to the Nirbhaya case and the inci-dent in Hyderabad not so long ago, the girl was left with her tongue cut out, ostensibly to prevent her from tes-tifying. Her legs were bruised so severely and her spine was so lethally battered that she was completely paral-

ysed while her arms could just about register a movement. Still she fought for her dear life over 15 days in hospital but gave up despite being brought to Delhi's AIIMS. Yet there was no outcry for the last fortnight till she became just another cold statistic. Nobody mourned a young life snuffed out in its prime due to caste-based hatred, sexual depravity and a deteriorating law and order situation, particularly in the Hindi heartland. Exacerbating the situation, as usual, were the poorly conducted investigations and a slow justice system. The conviction rate for rape is only 27.2 per cent despite the fact that it accounts for 11.5 per cent of the total crime statistics. On an average, 91 rapes were reported every single day across India in 2018, according to National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data. The Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) says that trial in rape cases should be completed in 60 days but that never happens because of the tardiness of police investigations. Then there are judicial flaws that need to be plugged when it comes to rape, the primary being bail to the accused, which should be denied till the probe is completed. Some independent dent studies indicate that the average time of finishing trial even in fast track courts is eight months. And even if one were to get death penalty, acquittals, appeals and mercy petitions mean that only about five per cent death penalties are actually upheld by the Supreme Court. A traumatised rape survivor hardly has the courage to go through such travesty and gives up midway. The 2012 Nirbhaya rape, which shook the conscience of not just the nation but the world, too, compelled our parliamentarians to strengthen the punitive justice delivery system based on the recommendations of a committee that included eminent jurists. It led to some crucial amendments to the law, which included changing the very definition of "rape", the establishment of fast-track courts to ensure victims get justice without undue delay, harsher punishments for the accused with the provision of death sentence being added to it and the abolition of the two-finger test among others. Two other such incidents, in Kathua and Unnao, where two children were raped, had widened the scope of punishment for raping a child under 12 to death penalty. Undoubtedly, there has been an increase in reportage of crimes against women after Nirbhaya though much of them are still under-reported. Besides, as the Hyderabad incident has shown, question marks remain on the use of the death penalty as criminals are now murdering their vic tims to destroy evidence. For the criminal, there is no deterrent. But yes, he can be stalled units to destroy evidence. For the criminal, there is no deterrent, but yes, he can be stalled if deterrence is built into the system by fast-tracking procedures and ensuring swift justice. Conviction rates need to go up proportionately, At present, fast-track courts are no different from the usual courts in terms of case pile-ups and vacancies. A quick, fair and unbiased judicial set-up with requisite number of judges is a sine qua non. A continuous-

ly responsive system is a bigger deterrent than one or two landmark rulings.

The unchecked crimes against women and the girl child are also skewering gender equity in the rural hinterland. According to a study supported by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), that was conducted in Ultar Pradesh and Haryana, the increasing crimes against women have deepened preferences for a son. So much so that we have lost around 4,60,000 girls to sex selection at birth each year between 2013 and 2017, according to the UNFPA. When errants go scot-free and the woman's family is left to wallow in pain and shame, a malaise becomes a societal archetype. And the girl child will continue to be vulnerable, either used as a tool in a caste war as the rapists in Hathras belonged to the upper caste, a sacrifice in a revenge drama or a family feud or a life cheap enough to be pawned by male-dominated codes. Predictably, there is a political slugfest over this latest incident, with the Congress, Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) and the Samajwadi over this latest includint, with the Colligless, balliplan Sarriag Fat y (SSF) and the Sarriagham. Party (SP) stamming the BJP Government in UP for the sorry plight of law and order in the State. Their protests will once again be tainted by the ruling party as "crocodile tears" and a "political conspiracy" to "defame the Government." The Opposition will predictably make the rape a subset of excesses on Dalits. But neither the Opposition nor the ruling party was those for the city when between writing in booking for a forthight. And group party was there for the girl when she was writhing in hospital for a fortnight. And much shame of India's most populous State, nobody wants to roll back UP's unique distinction of reporting the highest crime spiral against women. As for justice, will we have to wait another seven years?

Amnesty shuts shop

The human rights watchdog may have looked at India through a Western prism but can we dispute its findings on Delhi riots?



The trouble with human rights watchdogs is that they have, by virtue of countering the establishment narrative, assigned themselves a certain kind of legitimacy and credibility without realising that some of their own investigations are compromised by subjective assessment rather than objective investigation. This has also been a problem with Amnesty International, which has many times been accused of looking at India through a Western prism. But as a robust democracy, we have it within ourselves to accept vilification and acknowledge cogent counterpoints. We shouldn't need lobbyists to get the other side of the story; our media should be free

to do that. Besides, by and large, the organisation has an international acceptability even if we take some of its reports with a pinch of salt. But by targetting Amnesty, which says it is now forced to shut shop in India because the Government has completely frozen its bank accounts here, we appear to be in the bracket of oppressor and authoritative regimes like China. And considering its activists have been particularly penalised for tracking dissent pan-India over the last two years, it gives them a moral upper hand and claim a witch-hunt. The reasons that the organisation lists behind the Government crackdown on it are the same as those cited by tormented civil society activists — namely "unequivocal calls for transparency in the Government, more recently for accountability of the Delhi police and the Government of India regarding the grave human rights violations in Delhi riots and Jammu & Kashmir." Frankly, even without the Amnesty's reports, there is far too much on-ground evidence of the charges it has made. And the way the disclosure statements and names in the chargesheet of the Delhi Police on the city riots have been circled out, targetting the liberal intelligentsia, protesters and activists while leaving out the inflammatory fringe Rightists, there is a move to freeze the right of democratic dissent. So the timing of its India exit suits Amnesty more than us at this point of time.

It would have made more sense had the Government zeroed in on Amnesty in 2016. when it was booked in a sedition case for allowing "anti-India" slogans on Kashmir at an event in Bengaluru. But to pursue it for violating foreign funding rules in 2019 obviously raises questions on intent. Amnesty though claims that its India operations have been funded domestically. The immediate context seems to be the report it released last month on the complicity of Delhi police in the riots. Yes we must defend our pluralism and challenge the official narrative. But by hounding out Amnesty, we have a public relations battle ahead. Nothing will happen to it. Nothing would have if it had been allowed to continue.

opanion

New agricultural paradigm

The end of socialist-era impediments should ideally stimulate increased private sector investment across the value chain and help create jobs



he over-hyped green revolution of the late revolution of the late 1960s introduced varieties of dwarf rice and with a cocktail of chemical fertilisers and pesticides that sucked up groundwater and gradually made it unfit for drinking. The chemicals leached into the soil and water. State-sponsored propaganda about miraculous yields' extended the phenomenon across the country, ruining soil fertility and the nutritious value of food crops, the impact on public health was noticed by the medical community but all voices were silenced. Today, Gurdaspur-to-Delhi trains are called 'Cancer Express', yet there has been no medical study of the harm caused by chemical agriculture to the health of humans, animals, soil and water resources. Now, four momentous laws could pave the way for a revolution in which farmers drive the change, with technology playing a supportive role. If the Government repudiates the genetically-modified food crops lobby, India could return to farming methods that don trequire costly inputs and force famers into a vicious cycle of debt (and even suicide).

On September 16, 2020, one day before the three agriculture-related Bills were moved in Parliament, the Banking Regulation (Amendment) Act, 2020 was asseed, bringing all cooperative banks under the purview of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). It means stricter supervision of 1,482 tuthan and 58 multi-state cooperative banks, with deposits of ₹4.84 1960s introduced varieties of dwarf rice and

means stricter supervision of 1,482 urban and 58 multi-state cooper-ative banks, with deposits of ₹4.84

The legislation undermines the strongmen who control the Agricultural Produce Marketing Committees (APMCs), mandis, loans and so on in many States. It is noteworthy that large farmers are resisting the new laws, earlier they opposed the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (MGNRE-GA) as they had to match wages or lose farm labour. The ongoing COVID pandemic has also improved the bargaining power of farm labourers and added to the bitterness of large farmers. Often, agents arranged detrinding for farmers from private moneylenders, who charged usual constitutions interest and enjoyed political The legislation undermines the

rious interest and enjoyed political heft; such debt has been linked to



farmer suicides in some States. Simultaneously, the Union Cabinet approved the ₹15,000 crore fund for animal hus-bandry as part of the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan stimulus package and a scheme for interest subvention of two per cent to "shishu" loan category borrowers for one year under the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana. These developments form the sub-text of the farm Bille.

form the sub-text of the farm Bills.

The Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Act 2020 allows sale and marketing of produce outside notified APMC mandis. State Governments can not collect market fee, cess or levy for trade outside the APMC markets; inter-state trade barriers are nixed and provisions have been made for electronics trading of agricultural produce.

ers are nixed and provisions have been made for electronic trading of agricultural produce. No licence is needed; anyone with a PAN card can buy direct in the provides a dispute resolution mechanism in case farmers are not paid immediately or within three days.

The APMCs failed as they allowed vested interests to seize the system. States levied cess to carn extra revenue that was not part of the budget and was used for 'discretionary' development spending, mostly under the cess increased, political appointees took charge of the APMCs. Even the Food Corporation of India (PCI) paid cess. Small farmers were bur-

THE NEW LAWS **COULD PAVE THE** WAY FOR A REVOLUTION IN WHICH FARMERS DRIVE THE

CHANGE, WITH **TECHNOLOGY** PLAYING A SUPPORTIVE ROLE. IF THE GOVT REPUDIATES THE **GENETICALLY-**MODIFIED FOOD CROPS LOBBY, INDIA COULD **RETURN TO**

FARMING METHODS THAT DO **NOT REQUIRE COSTLY INPUTS**



dened with the cost of transport to take their produce to the mandis and deal with middlemen. For instance, waiting outside sugar mills, with heat evaporating the sugar content in the cane, desperate farmers have succumbed to agents (of nearby mandis) who arrive miraculously and dictate the price. Under the new Act, politicains and urban elite farmers will find it difficult to get large "agricultural" incomes wardier income tax, as payments have to be made against PAN cards. The Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm

The Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Act, 2020 regulates contractual farming rules and State APMC Acts Farmers can make contracts with a corporate entity or wholesaler at a mutually agreed price. The system already exists in 20 States; PepsiCo buys potatoes from 24,000 farmers across nine States Further, 18 States already permit private mandis while Kerala and Bihar don't have APMC mandis at all. More pertinently, the Act prohibits acquiring ownership rights of farmers land. As funded 56,685 crore for the formation of 10,000 Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) and the ₹1 lakh crore Agriculture firstructure Fund (AEP). The FPO will give farmers higher Infrastructure Fund (AEP). The FPO will give farmers higher bargaining power while AIF and market reforms serve as additional enablers. They can invest

farm equipment, infrastruc-re and build forward market ture and build forward market linkages by making agreements with agribusinesses, thus improving access to technology and investment. Maharashtras Sahyadri Farmers Producer Co. Ltd., with 8,000 marginal farmers, exports 16,000 tonnes of grapes every season.

The end of socialist-era impediments should stimulate increased private sector investment across the value chain, creatine jobs in loeistics service attentions to the control of the c

ment across the value chain, creating jobs in logistics service providers, warehouse operators and processing unit staff. The rise of food-processing indistries could create non-farm jobs in rural areas.

India processes less than 10 per cent of output (cereals, findia processes less than 10 per cent of output (cereals, fruits, vegetables, fish, etc) and loses around ₹90,000 crors around ₹90,000 crors such as edible oils and help reduce India's edible oil sand help reduce India's edible oil sand tower \$10 billion.

Finally, The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Act, 2020 removes excessive control on production, storage, movement and distribution of food commodities (Amendment) Act, 2020 removes excessive control on production, storage, movement and distribution of food commodities (amendment) Act, 2020 removes excessive and paves the way for cold chain infrastructure to come up. Previously, control regarding the storage of essential commodities (noins, potatoes, edible oils, juite, rice paddy, sugar) previously, control regarding the storage of essential commodities (onions, potatoes, edible oils, juite, rice paddy, sugar) gave draconions, potatoes, edible oils, juite, rice paddy, sugar) gave draconions powers to authorities to raid floarders, confiscate stocks, cancel licensing and even imprison offenders. This naturally discouraged investment in storage as enterpreneurs feared being prosecuted as "hoarders," Lack of storage also contributed to volatility in prices as their stability depends on adequate warehousing infrastructure.

Henceforth, the ECA 2020 will be invoked only under extraordinary circumstances such as war, famine, natural calamity of grave murculand extraordinary circumstances such as war, famine, natural calamity of grave in retail price of horticulations in retail price of horticulations in retail price of non-perishables over the preceding five years).

Dismissing the propaganda that the new Hoavs would end the minimum support price (MSP), the Centre has quiely ordered procurement, effectiv

SOUNDBITE

I think home quarantine can play a role in the future and it's something that is being considered by the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee, particularly as we move beyond the phase we're in now.

painful events — passing away of people, the tragedy of migrants walking home — everything is in the back of my mind.



Yogi Adityanath Government kept sitting for eight days. Why was no action taken against the culprits all these days? It was only when the case was highlighted that the administration woke up.

Congress General Secretary



I would say it is a very crucial time for the team and each player should have her own yardstick and must work on raising the bar.



LETTERS T O THE EDITOR

Road to revival?

Road to revival?

Sir — The 2015 Assembly elections in Bihar saw the Congress regain a reasonable space in the State legislature. After a gap of 15 years, the party's tally rose to double digits, as 27 out of 41 candidates in the fray won their seats. But will the grand old party be able to revive itself this time again? The Congress began to lose its support base as it failed to address backward caste aspirations between 1988 and 1990, when four of its Chief Ministers were nominated to the top post only to be pulled down swiftly giving in to the intra-party casted violes. The support base also suffered massive erosion following the desertion by Muslims after the Bhagalpur riots in 1989 and Babri Masjid demolition in 1992. However, the electoral prospects for the party seem rather good this time, particular Jy for its role in mitigating suffering of the migrants and students during the lockdown and its active support to farmers yrotests against the enactment of the three new farm Laws. Also, Dalits and Muslims are now mobilising in favour of Congress.

Nihal Raj Noida

A reminder of the 2012 Delhi gang-rape case

woman passenger was allegedly gang-raped inside a moving bus for the entire night on September 25. The police found her lying unconscious on Delhi Road in Meerut the next morning and scious on Delhi Road in Meerut the next morning and rushed her to the hospital. This comes as a chilling reminder of the harrowing 2012 Delhi gang-rape case when the 23-year-old female medical student, who made to be known as Nirbhaya, was severely assaulted and agnar-pared by five men and a juvenile inside a moving bus in South Delhi. This is the third incident in the last one month in Uttar Pradesh when a woman passenger, on her way to belhi, was gang-raped on a moving bus and that to by the staff. This highlights how law and order in the State has deteriorated drastically. The victim, according to reports, told the police that she had boarded a bus from Bhaisaila bus stand on friday night. En roday has from the said bus stom of hiday night and bus from Bhaisaila bus stand on friday night. En roday bus from Bhaisaila bus stand on friday night. En riday night. En riday night.

bus from Bhaisali bus stand on Friday night. En route, she was given a cold drink which had been spiked after which she lost consciousness and was raped by the driver and the conductor throughout the night.



It took seven years and three months for justice to be served in one of India's most talked-about criminal case — the Nirbhaya gang-rape. However, the numer-ous cases that have followed since, haven't been able to draw the nation's attention. It is crucial that all cases are given equal attention and justice is served:

COVID outbreak and the returnee migrants, the BJP has taken on the defensive mode on questions of border security, economic stagnation and farmier's backlash. This should be enough for the Opposition to challenge the State Government. However, the Rashtirya Janata Dal (RJD) and the Congress together have not been able to push the Government on any substantial matter. Being held under exceptional circumstances, the battle for the ballot promise to be a challenging and exciting affair. Yash Pal Ralhan belower the control of th Yash Pal Ralhan Jalandhar

Legal fiction

Legal IICHON

Sir — The investigation into
Sushant Singh Rajput's death
seems to have been sidertacked
as officials haven't been able to
find any concrete evidence. It has
become a whirlpool of misreported facts and concoted lies
and sheer entertainment in the
name of news, reducing a tragedy
into a sensational drama.

Devendra Khurana

Bhopal

Stormy affair

Suriny attair
Sir — The tussle in the All India
Anna Dravida Munnetra
Kazhagam (AlADMK), relating
to the naming of the chief ministerial candidate for the 2021
Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly
election, continues with no subtion in sight. Both Chief Minister
Edappadit K Palaniswami and
Deputy Chief Minister O

Panneerselvam, who are chief ministerial hopefuls, have dug in their heels and are slugging it out. Even the five-hour-long meeting of the AIADMK executive council on Monday failed to arrive at a consensus on who will be taken on October 7. Hopefully, by then, Palaniswami and Panneerselvam will be taken on October 7. Hopefully, by then, Palaniswami and Panneerselvam will be able to sort out their differences and come to a decision. CK Subramaniam Tirumangalam Tirumangalam Tirumangalam Tirumangalam Tirumangalam Battle for the ballot is considered to the proposed properties of the p

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analysis

FIRSTCOLUMN

BJP all set to make it alone

It is well within its rights to expand its base and in times to come, go solo as the top brass believes in making the party electorally strong



KALYANI SHANKAR

The saffron party must slowly learn to live without its major allies now that its oldest partner, the Shiromari Akail Dal (SAD), quit the BJP-led NDA alliance on Saturday. The BJP and the SAD had been partners even during the Jan Sangh days. However, with a brute majority in the Lok Sabha, the BJP's attitude now is "golf you want to leave." That is with ythere are no efforts to mollify miffed allies as it was done during the Atal Bihart Vajpayee era. There was a time in the eighties when it was difficult for the BJP to get allies but today Prime Minister Marendra Modi is in a strong position and hence the alliance partners are not needed by the party anymore.

BSPT to get alies but tooay Prime Minister Narendra Modi is in a strong position and hence the alliance partners are not needed by the party anymore.

The SLP had five major allies till two years ago. They were the Telugu Desam Party (TDP), the Shiv Sena, the SAD, the Janata Dal-United (JD-U) and the Peoplos Democractic Party (PDP). With the Bihar elections round the corner, the party is left with only the JD(U) as its major alliance partner now. The others are smaller parties. Out of all these NDA allies, the TDP was the first to leave in March 2018 over the issue of grant of special status to Andhra Pradesh. Soon after the TDP's departure, another one of the oldest allies, the Shiv Sena parted company in October 2019 on the issue of often ministership in Maharashtra after the Assembly polls. The Sena formed the Government in the State under the Sena chief Undhar Thackeray with the Congress and the Nationalst Congress Party (NCP) as partners. Now, the SAD too has left on the issue of the controversial farm Bills that were pushed through and did and allegations of riding roughshod on the objections of the Opposition parties and allies alike.

The only partner the BLP listed fumped was the PDP in Jammu and Kashmir (J&K), In any case, the BLP-PDP alliance was an uneasy marriage of convenience and the late PDP chief Multi Mohammad Sayeed termed it as "an alliance of the North Pole and the South Pole."

Mohammad Sayeed termed it as 'an alliance of the North Pole and the South Pole."

The NDA partners had been unhappy with the BJP for long, claiming that they were not consulted or even informed about major issues. "Where is the NDA," asks SAD chief Sukhbir Badal. The relationship under Modi has changed compared to Vajpayee's time when one of the partners was the convenor of the NDA while Vajpayee or later Advani were the chairmen of the alliance. There were NDA meetings on important issues. Though Mod has included the representatives of the allies, despite the BJP having a majority in both 2014 and 2019, there is no formal NDA structure now. However, the BJP needed them in the Rajya Sabha for pushing the Billis where it was in a minority.

The BJP under the leadership of Modi has learnt the art of dividing the Opposition and pushing through even some controversial Bills like the recent farm ones and the earlier Citizenship Amendment Bill. Also, the Punjab elections are in 2022 and the next Lok Sabha polls are even further off, in 2024. Who knows what will happen by then? However, according to insiders, the BJP wants to improve its performance by going solo in the coming polls. The main grouse of the allies is that the BJP, which was the junior partner in Maharashtra and Punjab, has expanded its base in the last six years. Not only has it overtaken the allies, it has become the richest part, too. Notwithstanding the concerns of its partners, the BJP is aggressively pursuing its objective of organin to nower in Stets where it is not in Georgement. The of its partners, the BJP is aggressively pursuing its objective of coming to power in States where it is not in Government. The only aim of the party is to consolidate Hindu voters even further by eating into the votes of its alliance partners. It has a major pres-

only aim of the party is to consolidate Hindu voters even further by eating into the votes of this allince partners. It has a major presence in most big States and is now eyeing the South and the North-East for expansion. The saffron party has replaced the Left in Tripura and edged the Congress out in West Bengal and Odisha as the main challenger to the ruling party.

In the 552-member Lok Sabha, the NDA has 335 seats, of which the BJP alone has 303 representatives. It does not need partners in 334 seats and is dependent on allies in 212 seats. When the BJP came to power in 2014, it had only 23 Rajva Sabha seats but today, it has 87. So far, the party has managed to push even controversial Bills like the bifurcation of J&K and the Citzenship Amendment Bill by dividing the Opposition. The three farm reform Bills, too, were passed similarly.

The Modi regime wants to have ties in which the BJP stands to gain. This has mostly worked in the last six years. The BJP has overtaken the Sena in Maharashtra and in other States too it has improved the selectoral chances. It is indeed well within its rights to expand its base and in times to come, go solo as the top brass believes in making the party electorally strong. Is it not said that in politics there are no permanent friends or permanent enemies? The BJP too, is banking on the old allies coming back to its fold and new allies joining it. If one looks at the coalition politics, which is practised by both the main parties — the Congress and the BJP — the Congress-led UPA too is not in a good shape.

(The writer is a senior journalist)

(The writer is a senior journalist)

POINTCOUNTERPOINT

THESE (OPPOSITION) PARTIES ARE INSULTING THE FARMERS. THESE REFORMS WILL STRENGTHEN LABOURERS, YOUTH, WOMEN, FARMERS OF THE NATION. -PRIME MINISTER





EVEN YOUR ALLY OF 24 YEARS. THE SHIROMANI AKALI DAL (SAD) HAS DUMPED YOU (ON THE FARMERS ISSUE). MODI JI, IS THE SAD INSULTING FARMERS?

-CONGRESS LEADER

Education as revolution

The poor have found innovative ways of helping themselves and visionary leaders from among these communities are nurturing a growing industry of good quality private schools



MOIN QAZI

The state of India's school education continues to be abysmal despite so many high-sounding policy prescriptions being tossed around. There are, however, islands of excellence and even in this bleak landscape there are shoots of green. While Government schools are the maintary of shool education for the poor some exceptional private schools are affordable even to the extremely marginalised. The accepted wisdom is that private schools serve the privileged, requires public schools. This logic is grounded on the assumption that the poor need Government assistance if they are to get a good education. Which helps explain why many school choice enthusiasts believe that the only way the poor can get the education they deserve is through Government schools.

But if we reflect on some of the underprivileged communities, we find these assumptions lacking. The poor have found remarkably innovative ways of helping themselves educationally and visionary leaders from among these communities are nutruing a large and growing industry of good quality private from among these communities are nutruing a large and growing industry of good quality private schools. Tikiapara, a sprawling slum in Howrah, is a witness and a willing participant in a quiet revolution led by Mamoon Akhtar that has the potential to turn around the lives of its residents, especially of its children. Mamoon was forced to drop out of middle school because his parents couldn't afford to educate him further. Three decades later, he is the driving force two schools in Tikiapara with 3,000 students, most of them children of unlettered parents. Mamoon's extraordinary journey from a victim to champion of the underprivileged started the day he decided that just because his family couldn't pay for his schooling, he wouldn't forego education.

His father was keen that his son get a good education. Su not the underprivileged started the day he decided that just because his family couldn't pay for the schools.

His father was keen that his son get a good edu-

His father was keen that his son get a good education. So he put him in one of the area's leading schools, 87 thomas, Merie his father died, the teenage rhad to give up his studies and took up a librarian's job at a private stool in Tikapara, supplement ing his income by giving private tutions. Life would have gone on as usual but Mamoon couldn't get over the tragedy he suffered on being forced to lose out on education. The young idealist believed in giving direction to the fire within, not in extinguishing it. In 1991, he started an informal 'school', teaching five to six children in his own house in the Tikapara slum. Thus began his lifetime romance with education. As the residents of the area became aware of this 'School', more and more children started coming and soon there was no place to seat them. The enterprising Mamoon constructed a room on his own ing and soon there was no place to seat them. The enterprising Mamoon constructed a room on his own soon than the starten of the school was born with 25 young and eager children flocking to it daily. The good Samaritan stretched his every rupee and can-vassed from door to door to raise 22,8000 per annum (in addition to his own contribution of ₹10,000). The goad samaritan stretched his every rupee and can-vassed from door to door to raise 22,8000 per annum (in addition to his own contribution of ₹10,000). The goad samaritan stretched his every rupee and can-vassed from door to door to raise 22,8000 per annum (in addition to his own contribution of ₹10,000). The goad samaritan stretched his every rupee and can-vassed from door to door to raise 22,8000 per annum (in addition to his own contribution of ₹10,000). The goad samaritan stretched his every rupee and can-vassed from door to door to raise 22,8000 per annum (in addition to his own contribution of ₹10,000). The goad samaritan stretched his every rupee and can-vassed from door to door to raise 22,8000 per annum (in addition to his own contribution of ₹10,000). The door the school has been as a subject of t

become a reality.

Social responsibility: As an educationist,
Mamoon is also sharply aware of his role of a social
reformer. Most children come from families afflicted with social maladies, with a large number of then
being children of drup geddlers. Mamoon believes
that schools should have the right to exclude pupils



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only as a last resort and that too, to pro-tect the other children in the class as well as teachers. The excluded children, he avers, can be affected by anxiety, depres-sion and loss of self-worth. There is a decline in their mental health and children

sion and loss of self-worth. There is a decline in their mental health and children become very reclusive. The stress of the exclusion takes its toll on parents, too.

Mamoon knows the pain of deprivation only too well. At a time when there is a widespread practice of pupils being shunted off a school's rolls in order to manipulate its exam results or rankings in league tables — he is doing his every bit to ensure that children remain at school during the day. There are hundreds of pupils who joined his school after being booted out of another one Taking in as many vulnerable pupils as possible is the core of this teacher's mission. His school is single-handedly ensuring pupils remain on the rolls. There are a number of youngsters who wouldn't be getting an education were it not for the Samarian Help Mission School. In a world where schools are clearly pushing vulnerable pupils out through the back door with little thought to their next steps and best interests, he is embracing them with a cheerful heart.

With a little help from friends:
When he canwassed for help from the community around him, Mamoon reaped a bonus — a strong connect with the community. In 2007, the Samaritan Help munity. In 2007, the Samaritan Helpomunity. In 2007, the Samaritan Helpomunity.

When he canvassed tor help from the community around him. Mamoon reaped a bonus — a strong connect with the community. In 2007, the Samaritan Help Mission School became accredited and recognised by the West Bengal Government. Today, it is a co-educational English-medium school, affiliated to the State Board of Secondary Education, with an enrolment of 1,300. The big thing is that with the school being an English medium one, it makes a major difference to the future prospects of the kids once they go out into the world. However, the odds are stacked against the children of this locality given the inter-generational nature of poverty and the poor developmental outcomes that families face. This impacts the children in many ways. They battle poor academic achievement, inferiority complex, maladjustment, lack of initiative and

an underdeveloped personality.
Disheartened and discouraged by financial stress and their own inadequacy, parents are ill-equipped to adequately support their children. Sadly, parents in Tikiapara have little motivation to invest in their children. dren's education. Fortunately, Mamoon's

dreis education. Fortunately, Mamoonis control defension and commitment are unlagging and his enthusiasm is contagious, sending hope in the community.

Some of the students are orphans; some have run away from home; all are underprivileged. The Samartian Help Mission School charges them a measly C3 a year, and that too because the teacher believes that people will not value anythic that is free. Funds to run the school come from Mamoonis swings and private donors whose motivation is inspired by the good Samartiansi devotion. This led to an addition to the original school on Mamoonis plot, the IR Bellilious Institution on Bellilious Road, covering two acres of land bequeathed by a Jewish couple, Rebecca and Isaac Raphael Bellilious. The school today has a football field, basketball court, a water body, a two-storeyed school build-a water body, as two-storeyed school buildand Isaac Kaphael Billious. I he school build only has a football field, hasketball court, a water body, a two-storeyed school building and a bigger one coming up close by. As a child Mamoon swam there, to later see the water body turn into a municipal garbage dump and the Government school that used to run there become virtually defunct, the whole space go derelict arransform into a den of drug pushers. The land on which the second Samartan Help Mission School stands had thus been a garbage dump for years until Howarh City Police and the Howarh Municipal Corporation got together to create a conductive atmospher for Me Howard Municipal Corporation got together to create a conductive atmospher for Me Howard Municipal (Mamoon and his staff) build a wall, remember encroachments and start a school before the research and start as the conductive atmosphere encroachments and start as foother.

there.

Creating safe spaces for children at risk: Many children studying in the two schools attest to the fact that they have a fun-filled, interactive and encouraging atmosphere and that the teachers are extremely supportive. Children are engaged in creative activities like sports,

quiz competitions, picnics and recre-ational programmes in the local parks. Regular cleaning campaigns in Tikiapara are organised in which students, teachers and other volunteers take an active part. Mamoon has also introduced a paramedic course for senior students. His policy of inclusion adventish on a month of the students. and other volunteers take an active part. Mamoon has also introduced a parametic course for senior students. His policy of inclusive education has ensured that the constitutional right to primary education is a reality in this slum. There are schools which identify parents who are not well-ducated and living in the slum. They are approached informally and told that it "will be difficult for your child to stay" in the hope that the parents agree to move out or home-school their child. But Mamoons schools are a safe learning haven where no noe is shunned — either because of creed, low academic scores or poverty.

Innovative approaches: Mamoon says that the process of teaching and learning is an intimate act that neither computers nor markets can hope to replicate. It is a small wonder then that the rechnology-centric corporate business model has not worked in reforming the substitute for the personal element. There is no substitute for a good teacher and nothing more valuable han quality classroom instruction. But we also need more involved parents to make leaning more effective.

The core objective of a school is to provide high-quality instruction: Desterning both excellent teaching and a learning emytole high quality instruction: Desterning both excellent teaching and a learning envirole high-quality instruction: Desterning both excellent teaching and a learning envirole high-quality instruction: Desterning both excellent teaching and a learning envirole high-quality instruction: But we also need more involved parents to make leaning more effective.

The core objective of a school is to provide high-quality instruction: Desterning both excellent teaching and a learning environment in which students can thrive. These schools don't develop randomly on their own, are sessified ingredient behind each of these success stories is transformational leadership.

A lot of good programmees got their teart when one develop randomly on their own, are sential ingredient behind each of these success stories is transformation

How many child deaths will it take to stop hunger?

The wasted, stunted, anaemic and mentally underdeveloped youth of our country, who barely survived, cannot build a strong nation



In the fourth month of the lock-down, the UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund) had warned India that if the nation does not seriously address the issue of hunger and malnutrition aggravated due to the shutdown and make proper arrangements for providing adequate nutritional food to underprivileged children, 300,000 more kids under the age of five would die within the next six months and make the toll a total of around 12-13 lakh this year.

Even before the Coronavirus pan-

demic struck, the situation was quite alarming. In 2018, a whopping, 88 lakh children under the age of six died in India, says the UNICER Nearly half of all our children are underweight, about 45 per cent are stunted (too short for their age), 20 per cent are wasted (too thin for their height), 75 per cent are anaemic and 57 per cent are anaemic and 57 per cent are anaemic and 18 per cent are deficient in Vitamin A. Half of the world's malnourished children live in India. The rate of malnutrition among India's children is almost five times more than China and double than that in Sub-Saharan Africa, says a World Bank report. A study commissioned by the UNICEF in 2019 had found that used 180 per cent of adolescents in India suffered from hidden malnutrition. This includes dediciency of noer more micronutrients such as iron, folate, zinc, vitamin A, vitamin B12, and vitamin D.

According to the Interrated Child

According to the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Mission document of the Ministry of Women and Child Development, out of the total

child births of 2.5 crore annually in India, child survival is only 1.75 crore. India, child survival is only 1.75 crore. Infant mortality is 0.8 crore annually or 80,00,000 children die every year in our country before ist months of age. This means that on an average as many as 21,917 children die every day in India. Maternal and child malnutrition is one of the reasons for 68 per cent under-five deaths in India.

India. Maternal and child malnutrition is one of the reasons for 68 per cent under-five deaths in India.

What has been the COVID-19 lockdown impact? With job and income loss on a large scale, closing of schools and consequently the Mid-Day Meal Scheme (MDMS) and Anganwadis that gave hot, cooked meals, a poor Public Distribution System (PDS) and poor implementation of the announced schemes of free rations during the last five months, there is a situation of absolute poverty and hunger in our country that will have a serious impact on the already pathetic mutritional status of our people, especially the children and women. The UNICEF has estimated that 120 million children living in South

Asian countries, including India, could slip into poverty within the next six months due to the COVID-19 crisis, taking the total number of such kids in the region to 360 million. The UNICEF also warns: "In the worst-case scenario, where health interventions are reduced by around 45 per cent, there could be as much as a 44.7 per cent increase in under-five child deaths and 38.6 per cent increase in maternal deaths per month."

In the last two decades, there have been many dialogues, debates, and legal steps like the Supreme Court Judgment on Right to food Act and so on to address the issue of malnutrition. But the schemes or missions rolled out by respective governments proved to be inadequate. The ICDS, the flagship scheme to address this crisis, has been deprived of funds despite the apex court's judgment for universalisation of the scheme. The fund allocation pattern has been changed to 60:40 in the last few years, putting a major financial burden on the States. With the

ongoing issues of lack of funds in States, things are going to worsen. In addition, there were drastic budget cuts. As an impact, according to the Global Hunger Index 2019, wasting among children in India rose from 16.5 per cent in 2008-2012 to 20.8 per cent in 2014-2018.

The much-acclaimed "Posham Mission" is just policing of the Anganwadi workers, who are already overburdened with non-ICDS work. Similar is the case of the other schemes like the MDDMS and the National Health Mission. At present, despite the warning bells, the anmounced packages do not address the problem of malnutrition. Moreover, there is an absence of a national composite guideline to address malnutrition at the community level.

To ston further loss of precious

ty level.

To stop further loss of precious lives, there is an urgent need for the Government to show political will to recognise the right to food/nutrition of every citizen of India, make quality infrastructure and basic nutrition ser-

vices schemes like ICDS, MDMS effi-cient with increased financial alloca-tion, so that the most marginalised and ulmerable are benefitted as well. The pandemic has shown that the lakhs of community-based women caregivers like the Anganwadi workers and helpers, Accredited Social Health Activists and MDMS workers, are the regiral like between the community Activists and MDMS workers, are the rerucial link between the community and policymakers. Their work must be regularised with minimum wages as social security, as recommended by the 45th Indian Labour Conference. Otherwise whom do we expect to be "skilling" for the 'Make in India' picts? The wasted, stunted, anaemic and mentally underdeveloped youth our country, who barely survived, cannot build a strong nation. How many more deaths do we need before we realise so many of our children are dying?

we realise so many or our childring;
(The writer is general secretary, All
India Federation of Anganwadi Workers
and Helpers and national secretary of
the CITU)





TEST, TRACE AND TEACH

Final figures on the take-up of UK's university places are not yet known. But predictions that the recruitment of international students would collapse due to COVID have not come true. This worst-case scenario having been avoided. UK's universities avoided, UK's universities must ensure that students get the education they deserve, while obeying pandemic rules put in place. (*The Guardian* editorial)



Last chance for Trump to define Biden

out, particularly given that polls broke late for him in his 2016 contest against Hillary Clinton.

the debate should not be underestimated.

Some of the president's supporters say they remain

Washington: As a presidential candidate in 2016, Donald Trump seized control of the White House race and never let

go.

He masterfully defined and denigrated his opponents with cutting nicknames and a sayanything debate style, and repeatedly drew his rivals into the controversies he created.

That's proven far more difficult for Trump in the 2020 race.

race.

Though he may still be the most visible and visceral force in the White House contest, he has repeatedly struggled to control the contours of the campaign against Democrat Joe Biden.

campaign against Democrat Joe Biden. The president's attacks on Biden have been scattershot and inconsistent, frustrating some Republicans who believe has squandered repeated opportunities to define his rival. His efforts to move pat the coronavirus pandemic and onto issues he views as more favourable for his relection prospects, including law enforcement and the economy, have failed to convince many voters that the public health crisis is any less of a concern or that his leadership during the pandemic has been effective. Even Trump's rollout of Judge Amy Concy Barrett as his Supreme Court nominee on Saturday, a pick aimed at energizing conservative voters, was overshadowed the very next

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conspiracy theories undogged past relations.
Abdullah Abdullah is in
Pakistan on a bridge-building
mission meant to mend deepmission to the deepmission from the first between the

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visit in 12 years. Abdullah told the Institute of Strategic Studies in the fed-

Abdullah told the Institute of Strategic Studies in the federal capital of Islamabad that the two neighbors are on the threshold of a new relationship characterised by "mutual respect, sincere cooperation and shared prosperity."

"I am a firm believer that after many troubling years, we now need to go beyond the usual stale rhetoric and shadowy conspiracy theories shad

owy conspiracy theories that have held us back," Abdullah said. "We cannot afford to pursue business as usual. We

new era in ties with Pakistan



day by bombshell revelations in The New York Times about his personal finances. Tuesday's first presidential debate between Trump and Biden offers the president one

confident Trump has both the time and the political skill to overtake Biden in this final stretch.

"President Trump has plenty of ready-made anmunition he has been using effectively on the campaign trail," said Ed Brookover, a Republican strategist who advised Trump's 2016 campaign before being ousted dur-

ing the general election.
"They will resonate as people learn more about Vice President Biden."
But privately many Republicans are perplexed that Trump, who skillfully identified and preyed on his rivals' weaknesses in 2016, seems to still be creasing for the most effective. grasping for the most effective ways to define Biden at this late stage of the campaign. AF

Sikhs in US safe under Trump: Community leader

2016 contest against Hillary Clinton.

And in the lead-up to Useday night's debate, Trump has previewed a broad attack on Biden's record, his character and his mental acuity.

But his messaging has inherent inconsistencies.

Sometimes Trump paints Biden as a far-left candidate; at other times he argues that while Biden is more moderate, he would be controlled by his party's most liberal factions.

Trump has aggressively argued that his 77-year-old rival has lost a step and isn't up for the job; yet in talking points Trump's campaign sent Republicans on Monday, they warned that Biden's abilities in the debate should not be

today with their turbans and beard intact. This is because of the steps that he has taken with regard to religious freedom and liber-ty. Prominent Sikh American attorney Harmeet Dhillon is co-chair of Lawyers for Trump, he said. "Sikhs in the United States

Irump: Community leader

Washington: Asserting that
Sikhs in the US have never been as safe as
under President Donald
Trump deministration, a
prominent Sikh-American
leader has claimed that the
Biden campaign is trying to
demoralise and demotivate
the community.
lasdip Singh, co-chair of
the Sikhs for Trump, said on
Of President Donald Trump that
so many Sikh youths were
serving in the US military
today with their turbans and
beard intact.
This is because of the steps
that he has taken with regard
to religious freedom and liberty. Prominent Sikh American
side of the Sikh community in the US.
In the November 3 president
to none can bully us. By
demotivate us," Singh said.
His remarks came a day
after the Biden campaign
abunched Fish campaign
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Pompeo voices support for talks between Greece, Turkey

Athens (Greece): US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo expressed support Tuesday for talks between Greece and Turkey, NATO allies whose relations have deteriorated sharply to the point where both had warships facing off in the Mediterranean. Speaking from the Souda Bay military base on the island of Crete, on the second day of a five-day regional tour, Pompeo said relations between the United States and Greece are "at an all time high and getting stronger."

"Today I'm in Crete to showcase one of America's strongest military relationships throughout all of Europe." Pompeo said look."

ships throughout all of Europe, Pompeo said.
"We, the Americans, look to Greece as a true pillar for stability and prosperity in the eastern Mediterranean, and we're incredibly proud to support its leadership," Greech as been looking to the U.S. And the European Union for support in its dispute with

neighbouring Turkey, which it accuses of encroaching on its sovereign rights in the eastern Mediterranean.
Last month Turkey sent a research vessel, accompanied by warships, to prospect for energy resources in an area Greece claims is on its own or continental shelf and where it claims exclusive economic rights Athens sent warships of its own to the area, and put its armed forces on alert. The discussion of these issues as soon as possible, Pompeo said soon as possible, Pompeo said soon soon to the progress being made at conson or Turkey for its actions alter this week.

But tension has eased

But tension has eased somewhat recently, with Athens and Ankara announc-

Athens and Ankara announcing they will restart an ongoing process of exploratory talks.

Technical discussions on a military level have also been taking place at NATO for the avoidance of a military accident, such as the collision in August of warships from the two sides, which reportedly

Secretary-General (Jens) Stoltenberg just two days ago on the progress being made at NATO. And we hope that these talks can continue in a serious way. Amid the tension with Turkey, Greece has announced major arms purchases, including fighter jets from France, as well as warfrom France, as well as war-ships, helicopters and weapons systems.

"In the Mediterranean. there should be no waves caused by threats and rivalry. It is a sea of strategic importance, also for the United States," Mitsotakis said. AP

Around the UAE defends decision Globe

Tokyo: Newly elected Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga told Russian President Vladimir engotiations to achieve peace,"
Al Nahyan said.

Palestinians have blasted
the deals signed by the UAE
and Bahrain with Israel, which
were brokered by the United
States, as acts of betrayal.
President Mahmoud Abbas
used his U.N. Speech on
Friday to stress that his government has not given a mandate to anyone to speak or
negotiate on behalf of the
Palestinian people.

Abbas said that the only
path for lasting peace is an end
to the Israeli occupation and
creation of a Palestinian state.
The Emirati foreign minister also warned against what
he said were "the expansionstambitions of some countries in the region." Though he
stopped short of naming any
countries, the UAE has long Putin on Tuesday that he wants to settle their territorial dispute and sign a peace treaty formally ending their World War II

Beijing: China has roped in more than a dozen countries to conduct Beijing: China has roped in more than a dozen countries to conduct the final phase trials of its experimental COVID-19 vaccines, as it looks to stay ahead in the international race to immunise global population as part of its charm offensive to gain goodwill.

government has approved a proposal to ban cattle slaughter in the island nation.

the island nation.

Riyadh (Saudi Arabia): Saudi
Arabia said Monday its security
forces uncovered a "terrorist cell"
with alleged ties to Iran's
Revolutionary Guard and have
detained 10 people in connection.

Jerusalem: Hundreds of Israeli motorists protested in Jerusalem on Tuesday against a proposed measure to curtail public demonstrations during the current nationwide lockdown due to the coronavirus pandemic.

I ondon: Wikil eaks founder Julia Assange would have to be "almost Assauge Would nate to be a missing with a dying" to get out of arguably the most notorious prison in the United States if convicted of espionage charges and sent there, the court at London's Old Bailey

to normalise Israel ties United Nations: The United Arab Emirates has defended its incumbent Republican President Trump and Vice President Mike Pence. PTI

Afghan peace negotiator urges Tensions mount as Armenia, Azerbaijan continue fighting

Islamabad: The chief of Afghanistans peace negotiating team said Tuesday on a visit to Pakistan that the time has come for the two neighbouring countries to shun the suspicion, 'stale rhetoric' and tired conspiracy theories that have donored near relations. Yerevan (Armenia): Armenian Yerevan (Armenian): Armenian and Azerbaijani forces accused each other of attacks on their territory Tuesday, as fighting over the separatist region of Nagorno-Karabakh continued for a third straight day follow-

for a third straight day follow-ing the reigniting of a decades-old conflict.

Azerbaijan's Defense
Ministry said Armenian forces
shelled the Dashkesan region in
Azerbaijan, while Armenian
officials said Azeri forces
opened fire on a military unit
in the Armenian town, setting
a bus on fire and killing one
civilian.

Armenia's Foreign

Pakistanis powerful army chief and prime minister. His visit also comes at a crucial time in Afghanistanis troubled history as a government-appointed negotiation team is in the Gulf state of Qatar brokering an end to war with its Taliban foes.

Even before coming to power in 2018, Pakistanis Prime Minister Imran Khan ban advocated for a political end to Afghanistanis war and has been a strong critic of Washingtonis so-called war on terror saying it has left tens of thousands of Pakistanis and Afghans dead.

But many in Afghanistan have been critical of the support the Taliban received in Pakistan following the collapse of their rule in 2001 with the U.S.-1ed invasion of Afghanistan. civilian.

Armenia's Foreign Ministry 'completely' denied reports of shelling the Dashkesan region and said in a statement that with those reports Azerbaijan was laying the groundwork for 'expanding the geography of hostilities, including the aggression against the Republic of Armenia."

The previous two days of



an Armenian soldier fires an artillery piece during fighting with Azerbaijan's forces in the breakaway region of Nagorno-Karabakh on Tuesday

fighting killed dozens and left scores wounded. The Nagorno-Karabakh Defense Ministry reported 84 servicemen killed so far. Azerbaijan's president, Hlam Allyev, said Tuesday that 10 civilians were killed on its side, but he didn't offer any details on the country's military end of a separatist war. AP

Protesters clash with police, hurling rocks, 24 arrested

Portland (US): Protesters and Portland police clashed again in Oregon's largest city late Monday, with demonstrators Monday, with demonstrators hurling rocks, punching a police sergeant in the face and spraying a chemical irritant at officers, police said in a statement. Twenty four people were arrested.

were arrested.

The demonstration with about 150 protesters took place outside a police union building that has turned into a frequent protest site, police said in the statement issued Friday.

said in the statement issueu Friday.

The protesters with makeshift shields gathered earlier for their demonstration in a park and officers moved in to take away the shields,

Bid for Providing the Services of Cleaning & Hu rooms-Tollets, Internal and External Public area sieve of Man Power on Job Basis and Cleaning at It Balastian

stopped short of naming any countries, the UAE has long accused Iran, Turkey and Qatar of meddling beyond their borders in the affairs of other states.

AP

police said.

A scuffle happened when officers tried to seize a sign that said "vote," multiple videos from the scene showed, and police also used pepper spray, The Oregonian/Oregonian Live reported.

Police in their statement called the protesters' walk from the park to the union building a "planned unpermitted march." Most of those detained amid clashes were arrested on suspicion of interfering with a police officer and disorderly conduct.

Portland has been

disorderly conduct.

Portland has been gripped by nightly protests for more than three months since the police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis.

AP

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

blic at large is hereby informed that my cli Pawan Jain Sio Sh. Ram Kumar Jain decla I ha manined the maniformed removed the that he incelled the medical opporty through micropalization of the described by Mr. Ran Kuma micropalization of the described by Mr. Ran Kuma Kumar dan Sis Sh. Ram Kumar dan, Sh. Rajes Kumar Sis Sh. Ram Kumar dan, Sh. Rajes Kumar Sis Sh. Ram Kumar dan, Han Kayaba Jan Wib Mr. Seral Jain, Mrs. Sabab, Juan Wib Lada Wib Mr. Seral Jain, Mrs. Sabab, Juan Wib Lada Mrs. Mudda Jain Dio Late Sh. Raje Jain res Mrs. Mudda Jain Dio Late Sh. Raje Jain res Mrs. Mudda Jain Dio Late Sh. Raje Jain res Mrs. Mudda Jain Dio Late Sh. Raje Jain res Mrs. Mudda Jain Dio Late Sh. Raje Jain res Mrs. Mudda Jain Dio Late Sh. Raje Jain res Mrs. Mudda Jain Dio Late Sh. Raje Jain res Mrs. Mudda Jain Dio Late Sh. Raje Jain Late Mrs. Mrs. Mrs. Mrs. Mrs. Late Sh. Raje Jain Property, 3 on Dio Late Sh. Raje Jain Late Dio Late Charles Jain Late Complex. Academy. Delini-110033 Mrs. Si. American Kr. Dodgy (Alexanda Commercial Complex. Azadov., Delini-11003 Si. A. Sh. Filoro, Usha Kristen Balding Commercial Complex. Azadov., Delini-11003

WESTERN RAILWAY VARIOUS WORKS WORK AND LOCATION

Bid for Providing the Services of Cleaning & Housekeeping of Guest Floories, Bathrooms-Tolete, Internal and External Public ame site. (Housekeeping Services) Entitlement Floories, Internal and External Public ame site. (Housekeeping Services) Entitlement Floories Houses situated at 13, Veer Teanorieset Mary, Chanalopputr, New Debt are writerform interested Biddens up to 14,10,200 at 03.00 P.M. Other Particulars of the bid may be violed on the procument portal integration of the processing of the Particulars of the bid may be violed on the procument portal integration of the processing of the State. Natl. 64,002(1):A010 Teanories Mary Company (1):A010 Teanories M

Approx. cost of work in 5 Mumbai Division (Churchgate): Manning, Operation and Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract of AC Plants at GLO Building and Churchgate for a period of two years. ai Central-Manning, operation and Comprehensive Annual nance Contract of AC plants at TMS, Rail Nikunj hall, PRS & Class Waiting Hall at Mumbai Central (MMCT) for a period of Mumbal Suburban Section: Electrical works in connection with i) Bandra Terminus - Minimum infrastructure development, and Linete management facilities, ii) Bandra - Relocation of ME booking color with provision of new G+1 bldg., iii) STC-VR Sec. - New tool rooms at 5 locations. 50.90.906/-101,800

Sr. No. : 1 & 2 : Date & Time of Submission : Till 02.11.2020 15.00 hrs. Date & Time of Opening : On 02.11.2020 15.00 hrs. Sr. No. : 3 : Date & Time of Submission : Till 04.11.2020 15.00 hrs. Date & Time of Opening : O 04.11.2020 15.00 hrs. Date & Time of Opening : O 04.11.2020 15.00 hrs. Date & Time of Opening : O 04.11.2020 15.00 hrs. Date & Time of Opening : O 04.11.2020 15.00 hrs. Date & Time of Opening : O

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SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE PICICI Bank Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd, 3rd Floor, Plot No-23, Shall New Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh, Delhi- 110005

Sr. No.		Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Surendra Singh Rawat & Anoopa Rawat/ LBDEL00001515215	Office No- 201, 2nd Floor, Nipun Plaza, Plot No- 2, Sector- 1, Vaishali, Ghazlabad/ September 26, 2020	November 30, 2019 Rs.4,67,519/-	Delhi/ NCR
2.	Anii Arora & Geeta / LBDEL00001676825	Flat No. 5, Ground Floor, PKT- Gh- 1, DDA, Mig Flat, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi-110063/ September 24, 2020	January 31, 2020 Rs.9,89,434/-	Delhi/ NCR
3.	Mandeep Kumar & Neetu Kumar/ LBDEL00002304100	Property No 400 1st Floor, Without Roof Rights, Block A4, Paschim Vihar, Delhi/ September 24, 2020	February 22, 2020 Rs.6,54,050/-	Delhi/ NCR
4.	Anshu Reshi/ Ankita/ LBDEL00004837284	Plot No: L-42, First Floor, Without Roof Rights, Lblock, Sector 12, Pratap Vihar, Pargana Loni Tehsil & Dist. Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh / September 24, 2020	December 31, 2019 Rs,40,13,940/-	Delhi/ NCR
5.	Dheeraj Kumar Singh & Eva Singh/ LBGUR00002058864	Plot No- 08, Street 4, Second Floor, Premium Floors, Sector- 82, Block F- 4, Vatika, Gurgaon, Haryana/ September 26, 2020	November 30, 2019 Rs.28,59,221/-	Delhi/ NCR
6.	Sonu Kumar & Shiv Kumar/ LBNOD00002252451	G/ Uh- 801, 8th Floor, Tower- G, Urban Homes, Shahpur, Barnhetta, Nh- 24, Ghaziabad/ September 26, 2020	October 31, 2019 Rs.14,75,317/-	Delhi/ NCR
7.	Sushil Sharma/ Ramnesh Sharma/ LBDEL00004081659 LBDEL00004081660 LBDEL00004081662	Dda Janta Flat H No 157, Ground Floor, Basant Gaon, Delhi/ Sep 24, 2020	February 22, 2020 Rs.28,49,561/-	Delhi/ NCR
8.	T Dhir/ Herna/ LBDEL00003111981	Free Hold Flat No- L -1/222- B, 1st Floor, Without Terrace Rights, DDA Flats, Category- LIG, Kalkaji, New Delhi/ Sep 24, 2020	November 30, 2019 Rs.40,93,051/-	Delhi/ NCR
9.	Satish Chand/ Ved Kumari/ LBDEL00004581237 LBGUR00001742293 LBDEL00001758042	22, Ground Floor, Block- B3, Sec- 16, Rohini, Delhi/ Sep 25, 2020	February 22, 2020 Rs.19,04,011/-	Delhi/ NCR
10.	Manju Grover & Harish Grover/ LBDEL00004918248	Property No 14, 3rd Floor Without Roof Rights, Block- B, Pocket- 3, Sector- 17, Rohini, Delhi/ Sep 25, 2020	February 22, 2020 Rs.22,20,865/-	Delhi/ NCR
11.	Arti Pathak & Ram Prakash Pathak/ LBDEL00002364330	Flat No 31, Second Floor, Dda Lig Flat, Pocket 2, Sector 34, Block C9, Rohini, Delhi/ Sep 25, 2020	October 31, 2019 Rs.12,04,136/-	Delthi/ NCR
12	Neeraj Chauhan & Arun Chauhan/ LBNOD00001430948	Plot No- A- 489, Block A, Sector- 47, Noida/ Sep 26, 2020	January 31, 2020 Rs.19,07,066/-	Delhi/ NCR

the above-mentioned borrowers(s) guarantize(s) are nereby given a 30 day notice to repay the amount, eise the ortigaged properties will be sold on the expiry of 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice, as per the publishes under the Public 8 and 9 of Septimize the public public 2002.

Date : 30-09-2020

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

The general public is hereby informed that an unidentified person about 25-30 years of age whose name, residence, and family is age whose name, residence, and family is unknown had been found dead at Geddha Bazar Metro Vihar, Phase-1, Holambi kalan near Sector 5, Delhi. In this regard, a vide has been registered with DD No: 56-A dated 26.09, 2020 at PS Narela Industrial Area, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to identify the deceased person, but no clue has come to light so far.

The description of the UIDB is as under:

Sex: Male, Age: about 25-30 years, Height: 5'5',
Complexion: Shallow, Face: Round, Hair: Black,
Wearing: Blue & cream colour I-shirt and blue colour track

pant. If anyone has any information about his relatives, kindly inform the SHO/Narela Industrial Area, Delhi. E-mail: cic@pb.jow.in Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 SHO

E-TENDER NOTICE Mazda/Mahindra Max, 1 ata Sumo or similar type equipped with Oxygen Cylinder, first aid box, protective gears(PPE) and including fuel, driver with attendant and maintenance and annitization of the ambulance for use of all kinds of COVID 19 activities in KGH/CLW/ Chittarnaina, round the clock Tender No. Med-G-COVID Amb-2020-A. (c) Cost of Tender Form (Document): ₹ 2,000.00 (Rupees Two thousand) only. (d) Approx. Value of the work (Tender Value) : ₹ 5,71,638, (Rs. Five Lakh seventy one thou

Item No.: Description of item: Amount: (1); Fixed charge for supply of COVID ambulance or hire basis including maintenance wages of driver & attendant wages of driver a attenuari, oxygen on monthly basis for six months; Month; 06; 7 31,773.00; 1.90,638.00. (2); Cost per Km running including fuel, lubricants and other consumables for 5000 Kms per month for one nos. of Ambulance for 6months =5000x06=30,000 Km; Km; 0000x213-03-81.000.00 Tests 30000: ₹12.70: 3.81.000.00. Total 5,71,638.00. (e) Earnest mone be deposited: 11,400/- (Rup Eleven thousand four hundred of (f) Completion period of the work:

06 months. (g) Validity Period=90
(ninety) days. (h) Tender
Submission Closing Date:
28.10.2020 at 13.00 hrs. (i) Complete details of tender can be seen in the Railways website www.ireps.gov.in

Principal Chief Medical Officer C-122 KGH/CLW/Chittaranjar six hundred thirty eight) only: Like er on: www.facebook.com/charallways



Market takes a breather | Concerns over pace of economic after 2-day stellar rally

A fler two consecutive sessions of thumping gains, benchmarks Sensex and Nifty took a pause on Tuesday amid lack of directional cues from domestic and global markets.

After starting the session on a positive note, the BSE Sensex was caught in an intense volatility as the trade progressed, paring all intra-day gains to end 8.4 ip points or 0.0 2 per cent lower at 37,973.22. Similarly, the NSE Nifty signed 5.15 points or 0.05 per cent to 11,222.40.

Analysts said that domes-

Analysts said that domes-Analysts said that domes-tic equities traded on a chop-py note amid lack of directional cues from the domestic as well as global markets.

On the Sensex chart, ONGC was the top loser, shed-ding around 3 per cent, fol-

Rupee widens losses by 7 paise against US dollar

The Indian rupee lost further ground on Tuesday, settling 7 paise down at 73.86 to the US dollar, tracking weaker Asian peers against the greenback.

Besides, month-end dollar demand from importers too exerted pressure on the Indian currency.

At the interbank forex market, the domestic unit opened at 73.78 per US dollar and traded between a high of 73.75 and a low of 73.91 during the session. It 73.91 during the session. It finally closed at 73.86, registering a fall of 7 paise over its

"The slide in the Indian rupee continued for the sec-ond straight day, with INR hitting levels last seen in

August.

The primary reasons for the depreciation in the rupee could be month-end dollar buying. The dollar index could be month-end dollar buying. The dollar index was trading steadily against the basket of currencies," said Nish Bhatt, founder and CEO, Millwood International. Bhatt further noted that the Reserve Bank postponing its monetary policy later this week also had a bearing on the runee.

week also had a bearing on the rupee. The dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, fell 0.09 per cent to 94.19.

lowed by IndusInd Bank, PowerGrid, Axis Bank, HCL Tech, NTPC and ITC. On the other hand, UltraTech Cement, TCS, Tata Steel, Titan and HDFC were

Steel, Titan and HDFC were among the gainers.
Of the Sensex constituents, 20 logged losses and 10 registered gains.
Sectorally, BSE telecom, utilities, FMCG, bankex, realty and power indices fell up to 2.13 per cent.
On the other hand, consumer durables, metal, energy, basic materials, IT and auto indices rose up to 1.97 per cent.
Broader midcap and small-cap indices fell up to 0.16 per cent.*After a gap up opening,

cap indices fell up to 0.16 per cent"After a gap up opening, the benchmark indices grew volatile, before ending the day flat. Global markets were also undecided and slightly negative for the day as the outcome of the first US presidential debate was awaited," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services. With increasing coron-

recovery have deepened: Report

The steady rise in caseloads and the spillover effects of the strict lockdown measures will continue to undermine economic growth in the coun-try, says a report. According to Dun and

Bradstreet's Economy Forecast, concerns over the pace of economic recovery have deepened.

ened.
"The recovery now is expected to be gradual as rising infections pose constraints. Even if the growth takes the form of a V-shape, the level of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) will matter. Credit growth has not picked up as envisaged," said Arun Singh, Global Chief Economist, Dun

Global Chief Economist, Dun & Bradstret.

Moreover, with the credit guarantee scheme in place for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), credit off-take was expected to strengthen more than the current level so far, Singh added.

According to various estimates, India's coronavirus-battered economy will witness

During August, D&B expects IIP to have fallen

per cent

by (-) 4 per

cent to (-) 3

significant contraction during the current financial year. India's economy suffered its worst slump on record in April-June, with the GDP con-tracting 23-9 per cent as the coronavirus-related lockdowns coronavirus-related lockdowns weighed on the already-declin-ing consumer demand and investment.

"The steady rise in case-loads and the spillover effects of the strict lockdown measures

of the strict lockdown measures will continue to undermine the growth impulses during the subsequent quarters of the year. Constrained government finances, contraction in invest-ment activity and probable

defaults, both at the firm and consumer level will continue to be a drag on growth," Singh

said.

According to the Union
Health Ministry's data updated on Tuesday, the total coronavirus cases in the country
mounted to 61,45,291 with

mounted to 61,45,291 with 70,589 new infections, while the death toll reached 96,318. According to the Dun and Bradstreet (D&B) report, following the easing of lock-down restrictions, the pace of contraction in the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) is expected to reduce further. "The pent-up demand and re-start of small businesses

re-start of small businesses and street vendors along with medium and large firms are likely to drive demand for industrial goods. The index is expected to rebound to the positive territory from the month of October," the report said.

said.

During August, D&B
expects IIP to have fallen by () 4 per cent to (-) 3 per cent.

According to official data,
India's industrial production
shrank 10.4 per cent in July.

Over 16,400 tonnes paddy procured at MSP from Punjab, Haryana in last 72 hrs: Govt

The Centre on Tuesday said 16,420 tonnes of paddy worth ₹31 crore has been procured at minimum support price (MSP) in the last 72 hours from farmers in Punjab and Haryana, while procurement has just commenced in other States. With the latest procurement data, the Government aims to send a message to farmers protesting against new farm laws that it has no intention of scrapping procurement

tarmers protesting against new
farm laws that it has no intention of scrapping procurement
at MSP. Farmers in Punjab
and Haryana and several other
states are protesting against
the new farm laws, which they
feel will lead to procurement in
the hands of corporates and the
end of MSP regime.

The Union Agriculture
Ministry, in a statement, said
arrival of kharif crops has just
begun and the government
continues to procure 2020-218
kharif crops like paddy at MSP
from farmers as per the existing schemes.
Paddy procurement commenced from September 26 in

Punjab and Haryana, while it started on September 28 in

other states. In Punjab and Haryana

In Punjab and Haryana alone, about 16,420 tonnes paddy at MSP of \$\frac{7}{1,888} per quintal, totalling \$\frac{3}{1}\$ crore, has been procured up to September 28, it said. Of this, about 3,164 tonnes paddy has been purchased in Haryana, while 13,256 tonnes in Punjab from 1,443 farmers, it added.

it added.

For the current year, the government has fixed the MSP

For the current year, the government has fixed the MSP of paddy (common grade) at 71,868 per quintal, while that of A grade variety has been fixed at Rs 1,888 per quintal.

The Government has also given nod for procurement of 14.09 lakh tonnes of kharif pulses and oilseeds for Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Italeangana and Haryana under the Price Support Scheme (PSS). The approval to other states will be given on receipt of proposal under the PSS which gets operationalised if the mandi prices fall below the MSP in the notified harvesting period, the statement said.

OlL's 2019-20 profit

Cement industry has started recovering: India Cement MD

The Indian cement industry has started recovering from the impact of Covid-19 helped by pent-up demand and improved rural markets, India Cements Vice-Chairman & Managing Director N Srinivasan said.

The company expects an

Managing Director N Srinivasan said.

The company expects an uptick in demand on the back of Government's push towards infrastructure projects such as construction of highways, rural infrastructure and irrigation projects, Srinivasan said while addressing the 74th Annual General Meeting of India Cements Ltd (ICL).

"The industry has started recovering slowly from May 2020 given the pent-up demand and the improved cural demand," Srinivasan said while addressing the shareholders virtually.

During the first quarter of FY2021, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana governments restrated their preferencements restrated their preferencements.

FY2021, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana governments restarted their infrastructure projects and housing for poor schemes. "With further relaxation of lockdown measures, there are expectations of increased public spending on rural infrastructure, irrigation, road building and other projects. This along with pick up in individual home building and construction is expected to and construction is expected to improve the cement demand," he added.

location-specific lockdowns, Indian indices were also uncer-tain, he said, adding that mar-kets are awaiting a trigger in the form of confirmation of a stim-

ulus package by the govern-ment to boost economic activ-

ment to boöst economic activity.

Market participants across the globe are looking for cues from the first presidential debate between US President Donald Trump and Democratic candidate Joe Biden, set for later in the day.

Asian markets ended mixed after a mildly higher opening on Tuesday ahead of the first US presidential debate later in the global day, with investors also remaining cautious over the global economy's prospects as coronavirus deaths surpassed the one-million mark worldwide, market experts said.

Bourses in Shanghai, Tokyo and Seoul ended with gains, while Hong Kong was in

while Hong Kong was in

According to DIPP data, the cement industry had a steep de-growth of 86 per cent in production in April 2020 and marginally improved to register a de-growth of 39 per cent unto June 2020, said Srinivasan. Based on the information available, the cement industry in the south had also registered a negative growth of around 45 per cent during the first quarter," he said.

While talking about ICLS performance in the COVID impacted April-June quarter, Srinivasan said it reported good working results on the back of improved selling price and sustained efforts on cost reduction despite the steep drop in volume caused by the lockdowns.

"The company achieved ar EBIDTA of Rs 159 crore during the first quarter as compared to Rs 245 crore in the previous year during these challenging times with much lower volume (was compared to the previous year," he said. Total revenue of Chennai-based ICL, including other income, was down to Rs 5,085 crore in come, was down to Rs 5,085 crore in word of the previous year, he said. Total revenue of Chennai-based ICL, including other income, was down to Rs 5,085 crore in the previous year, he said. Total coverned to the year year year year. tonnes from 337.32 million tonnes in 2018-19.

Automobile sales may fall 20-25 pc this fiscal: Ind-Ra

Rating agency Ind-Ra expects automobile sales to decline by 20-25 per cent this fiscal against its earlier forecast of 22-25 per cent of 22-25 per cent of 22-25 per cent of 22-25 per cent of a count of increasing preference for personal mobility and an expected demand rebound from rural and semi-urban markets.

At the same time, the rating agency has maintained a negative outlook for the autosector for the second half of the fiscal, owing to continued weak consumer sentiments and macroeconomic headwinds amid the disruptions caused by the pandemic, Ind-Ra said in a release.

The latest forecast is executed to the control of the country of the control of the country of the c

release. The latest forecast is marginally better than the earlier forecast of 22-25 per cent Yo-Y decline in sales volume in FY2021, released in June this year, Ind-R as said. Favourable regulatory changes such as GST cuts or incentive-based scrappage policy could help demand revival in the medium-term, the ratings agency said.

in the medium-term, the ratings agency said.

It, however, warned that any significant spread of the virus to rural India could affect the recovery trend due to further disruptions in those parts

of the economy.

Both passenger vehicles

(PVs) and two-wheelers (TWs) sales could fall 18-21 per cent y-o-y in this fiscal while the decline in the commercial vehicles (CVs) sales would be 30-35 per cent y-o-y in FY2021, on account of lower economic

account of lower economic activities, it said. Ind-Ra further expects auto volumes could post dou-ble-digit growth (in mid-teens) in FY22 primarily due to a lower base over FY20-

to a lower base over FY20-FY21.

According to the ratings age, lower affordability due to job losses/ loss of income would shift consumers preference towards lower-end vehicles, especially PVs.

In 2Ws, motorcycles will continue to outperform scooters as the former derives substantial demand from rural markets, it said adding CVs and more specifically medium and heavy CVs would continu to see a muted demand due to lower industrial production and excess capacity in the system, and any demand revival, therefore, is unlikely before the fourth quarter of 2021-22. Light commercial vehicles are likely to benefit from increased e-commerce, and last mile transportation particularly for essential commodities, it said in the release.

Jio seeks early spectrum auction, says policy pause to hurt national exchequer

PTI ■ NEW DEI HI

Telecom major Reliance Jio has questioned the Department of Felcom's rationale to pause the policy of annual spectrum auction and demanded that the sale of airwaves should be held at the earliest to meet the demand for data services in the country. Mukesh Ambani-led Jio in a letter dated September 28 to TelecomSecretary Anshu Prakash said that the nation-building policies should not be

to TelecomSecretary Anshu
Prakash said that the nationbuilding policies should not be
kept hostage to the vested
interest of few operators and
kept hostage to the rested
interest of few operators and
delay in auction is burting the
national exchequer as well as
making investors jittery as perceived against the principle of
ease of doing business.

The telecom major said
that any delay in auction of
unutilised spectrum will lead to
serious issues around quality of
mobile services in terms of call
drops etc and also result in
"revenue loss to the government."

"We are unable to find
any reasonable rationale behind
this sudden pause in a successful and fruitful policy of
auctioning all available spectrum every year, since the
Hon'ble Supreme Court decision in 2012; "Reliance Jio said
in the letter.

The spectrum auctions
were held every year after the
apex court order in the 2G case

2,584 cr, revenue ₹ 13.649 cr: CMD in 2012 and the last was held in 2016. "In order for sustainable and orderly growth of the sector, to meet the national objectives and for provision of quality broadband for all, allocating sufficient spectrum is imperative. Therefore, we reiterate that all available spectrum should be immediately auctioned," the letter said. The Digital Communications Commission, the apex decision making body of the Department of Telecom, in May approved the spectrum auction plan subject to Union cabinet approval.

State-owned Oil India Ltd (OIL) has posted a profit after tax of ₹2,584 core with revenue of ₹13,649 crore in fiscal 2019-20, its Chairman and Managing Director Sushil Chandra Mishra said on Tuesday. Addressing the 61st Annual General Meeting 2019-20, OIL's annual domestic production of crude oil stood at 3.133 million metric tonnes and domestic natural tonnes and domestic natural gas production was 2,801 million metric standard cubic metres.

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED



General Public is hereby informed that one person Namely: Rajinder, So: Sh. Mangal Singh, R/o: H. No. 2870, Kucha Chalan, Darya Ganj, Delhi has been missing Cream, Darya Carp, Journ as Deen missing / Addrapped since 23.09.2020 from his house from the area of P.S. Darya Ganj, Delhi. In this regard a case vide DD No. 7A dated 23.09.2020 has been registered at P.S. Darya Ganj, Delhi. The description of the missing person is as under

Age: 40 years, Height: 52°, Complexion: Shallow, Face: Long, Hair: Black, Built: Thin, Wearing: Black colour shirt & capri and sleeper in feet. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the person but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this person kindly inform to the follo

Website: http://cbi.nic.in E-mail Id - cic@cbi.gov.in Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 Fax No. 011-24368639 DP/393/CD/2020

P.S. Darya Ganj, Delhi Tel.No. 011-23279331, 8750870421

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED



General Public is hereby informed that one ady Namely; Augysha Chauhan, Wics Shi Takat Singh, R/o: H.No. G-103, Bhagya vihar, Madanpur Dabas, Delhi, Age: About Z? Years, Height: 5', Complexion: Fair, Face: Round, Hair: Long & Black, ID Mark: A mole on nose, Wearing: Green Colour Suit and Golden Colour Salwar and Colour Suit and Golden Colour Salwar and Colour Suit and Golden Colour Salwari and Fancy Hawal Chappal In Feet has beer missing/kidnapped from the area of P.S Kanjhawala, Delhi, In this regard DD No AAYSHA CHAUHAN at P.S. Kanjhawala, Delhi, In Seben lodged

ar.S. Kanjinawara, berini.
re efforts have been made by local police to trace out the ng/kidnapped lady but no clue has come to light so far. If he have any information about this missing/kidnapped lady

Phone: 011-23014046 (Direct) 23015229, 23015218 Ext. 210.

P.S. Kanjhawala, Delhi Ph.: 011-25952485, 7065036125

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED



General Public is hereby informed that one girl namely Tunni kumari Dio Raja Ram Rio Kh No. 62/10, B-267 Krishana Colony, Delhi has been missing/ kidnapped since 11.09.2020 from the area of P.S. Shahbad Dairy, Delhi. In this regard a case vides DD No. 468 dated 18.09.2020 has been registered at PS. Shahbad Dairy, Delhi. Shahbad Dairy, Delhi.

The description of missing/kidnapped girl is as under: Name: Tunni kumari, Father's Name: Raja Ram, Age: 17 years, Height: 5', Face: Round, Complexion: Sallow, Built: Medulim, Wearing: Yellow Colour top, and blue

If anyone having any clue/information, kindly inform the undersigned. SHO

Website: http://cbi.nic.in e-mail: do@cbi.gov.in Fax: 011-24368639 Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641

P.S., Shahbad Dairy, Delhi Ph.: 011-27821407 27822207 General Public is hereby informed that a girl namely Gudiya@Preeti D/o Shri Kashi Prasad R/o H.No. Bhatpara Pana,



gift namely Gudlysagerrest to under the Comment of ere efforts have been made by local police to trace out th missing/kidnapped girl but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about this girl please inform

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.nic.in Ph.: 011-24368638,24368641 Fax: 011-24368639 DP/423/RD/2020

P.S. Kanjhawala, Delhi. Ph.: 011-25951486, 8750870324

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED



General public is hereby informed that a girl namely Roshani D/o: Deen Dayal, R/o:L-101, Sec-1, DSIIDC, Bawana, Delhi has been reported missing/kidnapped since 22 09 2020 at 08:00 AM from her house In this regard FIR No. 575/2020, dated 23.09.2020, U/s 363 IPC has been registered at P.S. Bawana, Delhi. The description of

missing/kidnapped girl is as under Name: Roshani, Age: 15 Years, Height: 4'5" Complexion: Fair, Face: Round, Built: Strong, Wearing Green colour suit-salwar and ladies chappal in feet.

If anyone have any information about this missing/kidnapped

girl please inform P.S. Bawana, Delhi

Web: http://cbi.nic.in, Email: cic@cbi.gov.in Ph.: 011-24368638/24368641, Fax: 011-24368639

Police Station, Bawana, Delhi Ph: 011-27752534, 7065036321

SEARCH FOR MISSING



General Public is hereby informed that one lady Namely: Manju, Wo: Vicky, Rio: H.No. 812, Gali No. 2, Balmiki Mohalla, Village Bankner, Narela, Delhi, Age: 28 Years, Height: 4'5', Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Long, Hair: Long Black, Wearing: Yellow Colour Suit and Salwar & Yellow Colour Chappal in Feet has been missing since 18.09.2020 from the area of P.S. Narela, Delhi. In this regard DN No. 56A, Dated 20.09.2020 has been lodged at PS. Narela, Delhi. In this regard DN No. 56A, Dated 20.09.2020 has been lodged at PS. Narela, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing lady but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing lady please inform the undersigned.

Web-site: http://cbl.nic.in

Web-site : http://cbi.nic.in E-Mail ID: cic@cbi.gov.in P.S. Narela, Delhi Ph.: 011-27280435, 27282350 & 7065036323 Fax: 011-23011334

SEARCH FOR MISSING MALE

General Public is hereby informed that one male (depicted in the photo) namely Mohd. Arif \$io Mohd. Idrish \$



underComplexion: Fair, Height: 5'7", Built: Medium, Face:
Round, Wearing: Red & black coloured Check shirt, Gray
coloured jeans and blue slipper in feet.
Any person having any information/Clue about this
missing male, may inform SHO, Budh Vihar, Delhi at E-mail:

cic@cbi.gov.in or website : http://cbi.nic.in

Tele No.: 011-23014046(Direct), 011-3015229 & 23015218 extn. 210 FAX No.: 011-230111334

SHO, Budh Vihar, Delhi Tel.: 011-27052772-73 Mob.: 8750870326

SEARCH FOR MISSING



missing boy is as under

General public is hereby informed that a boy namely Vishal Mehto S/o: Vibhishan, R/o: A-630, Shyam colony, Budh Vihar, Ph. II, Delhi has been reported missing since 29.05.2020 at 05:00 PM from his house. In this regard DD No. 43-A, dated 03.06.2020 has been registered at P.S. Budh Vihar, Delhi. The description of

Name: Vishal Mehto, Age: 19 Years, Height: 5'2", Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Round, Built: Normal, Wearing: Black Shirt, Black Pant and Hawai

If anyone have any information about this missing boy please inform P.S. Budh Vihar, Delhi. Web: http://cbi.nic.in, Email: cic@cbi.gov.in Ph.: 011-24368638/24368641, Fax: 011-24368639

Police Station, Budh Vihar, Delhi DP/427/RD/2020 Ph: 011-27052771, 8750870387

SEARCH FOR MISSING GIRL

General Public is hereby informed that one girl (depicted in the photo) namely Vaishali **D/o** Ramu Sharma **R/o** H.No. 28, Gali No. 2, Near Dayal Market, Alipur, Delhi **Aged**- 17 Years has been reported missing since 17.09.2020 at 6:00 AM from the area of P.S. Alipur, Delhi vide FIR No. 432/20 u/s 363 IPC Dated 17.09.2020 has been lodged at



Dated 17.09.2020 has been lodged at Police Station Alipur, Delhi. Her Police Station Alipur, Delhi. Her Police Station Alipur, Delhi. Her Police Station Shallow, Height: About 5'5', Built: Thin, Face: Round, Wearing: Pink coloured suit & black pajami and slipper in feet. Any person having any information/Clue about this missing girl, may inform SHO, Alipur, Delhi at E-mail cic@cbi.gov.in or website: http://bbi.nic.in

tp://cbi.nic.in Sd/-1 SHO, Alipur, Delhi Tel.: 011-27202290, 27202265 Mob.: 7065036325 Tele No.: 011-24368638 or 24368641 FAX No.: 011-24368639 T DP/495/ON/2020

Business law as a specialisation is gaining popularity and with a degree in business law, young lawyers can also explore career options in different facets of business like legal fee auditors and transactional analysts, says DR SUKHVINDER SINGH DARI



Manage your business

ach day, new businesses are created with the aim of becoming profitable and successful. Businesses have always been intertwined with the legal regulations, and with the ever-evolving ecosystem, it becomes necessary for lawyers and solicitors to comprehend the importance of business law. Business law specifically deals with the evolution and establishment of new business ventures and any problems that may arise as the business associates with the government, other companies, and the arise as the business associates with the government, other companies, and the public. It is, therefore, important to have a business-law attorney representing your business as well as to avoid any incidences of future litigation.

1. Individuals need to be governed by legal restrictions in a country in order to operate with some measures. Similarly, businesses need to operate under some legal guidelines. In the

absence of these laws, it will become extremely challenging to manage the various activities that are initiated in the name of the business. The laws also help to lay down the certainty and stability to the stakeholders of the business, besides providing a means to resolve disputes and protect the public against any wrongoloings for ensuring better profits or assured sustenance in a highly competitive market.

It is important to enter some form of a contract while doing business. Left sike an example of a wholesaler. A wholesaler wouldn't ship shoes to the retailer unless there is a legal document or a force that can bind he retailer to pay for the goods. When a business enters into a contract with other businesses, it is important to know who is bound to the contract and the outcomes in case the individuals who agreed upon the contract fail to perform as legally outlined in the

Businesses need a universal set of standards: A basic understanding of business law helps the business own-ers and other professionals to make better decisions. There are several legal better decisions. There are several legal rules and regulations that apply to businesses, and they need these legal guidelines to resolve disputes and grievances, provide certainty, define unacceptable behavior, and protect the

■ Handling contracts and legal agreements: For a smooth business operation, it is important to keep all the legal documents clear of discrepancies. Studying business law can equip young legal professionals to suggest their legal team to make the appropriate changes to eliminate any terms that might seem conflicting with their business interests.

■ The rationale for judgment calls: Legal professionals need to tackle a ■ Handling contracts and legal

wide range of legal issues as a part of day to day business operation. Possessing appropriate knowledge of business law enables the professionals to not only fully understand these legal issues, but also their consequences and implications for the business. This, in the professionals are considered to the professionals.

Issues, but also ther consequences and implications for the business. This, in turn, proves critical in helping the professionals to make the most beneficial decisions for the business.

Outlines the legal responsibilities for the business and the consumer in the day-to-day operations of a business, engaging with other parties like customers or vendors is crucial to any business. Companies need to know that a set of legal responsibilities obligates them. Once it becomes complex, a clearly defined set of terms and conditions should be outlined by legal professionals to ensure the businesses' ethics and disputes are resolved in the best possible way.

Help understand and manage

transactions: Exchange of money taking place between businesses, customers, or banks helps businesses to make their transactions smooth. But the obligations associated with it are also necessary to be understood. Business law makes sure that the organisation is legally covered from all angles before any financial transaction takes place.

The legal team also prepares the documents to ensure that the business is protected on papers.

Business law as a specialisation is gaining popularity, and with a degree in business law, young lawyers can also explore career options in different facets of business like legal fee auditors, transactional analysts. All this translates into a plethora of options for law graduates to engage in a mix of business and law.

The writer is Director, Symbiosis Law Echool, Nagpur

CQUOTE OF THE DA

The more that learn to read the less learn how to make a living. That's one thing about a little education. It spoils you for actual work. The more you know the more you think somebody owes you a living.

- Will Rogers

FIITJEE's Big Bang Edge Test

PNS NEW DELHI

PIITJEE's Big Bang Edge Test will be held across the country in Proctored Online Mode on October 18, 2020 for students presently in Class V, VI, VIII, XI, X, & XI (going to Class VI, VII, VIII, X, X, X X & XIII, S) 203. XII in 2021).

It is a unique platform for students aspiring all-round excellence as it will help stu-dents realise and maximise their current potential for National and International Level Competitive as well as Scholastic exams.this test is also a scholarship test. With the Big Bang Edge

Test, students will have a gold-en Opportunity to accelerate their preparation for JEE Advanced, IEE Main, BITSA, Olympiads, KVPY, X & XII Boards, NTSE & Jr. Olympiads, without any break, impedi-ments and hurdles even amidst COVID pandemic

COVID pandemic.
The test will showcase the The test will showcase the student's readiness reflected by a single All India Rank Potential Index for the goals they aspire for, such as JEE (Main & Advanced), KVPY, Boards, BITSAT, NTSE, Senior and Junior Science Olympiads KVPY, BITSAT and X / XII Boards. For more details log on to www.bigbangedge.com.

Survery on skill development

PNS NEW DELHI

PNS MEW DELHI

In the current day scenario, deducation is making major strides away from the erstwhile 'rote learning' which was its primary focus. Now, many companies look for individuals who do not just have a bag full of academic qualifications, but rather skills and experience that they bring with them making them work-ready.

A survey conducted by Vasitum, a recruitment start-up, and Talerang, employability and training organisation, has released some insights by employees about what they consider to be vital career skills for success in the workplace.

The survey has revealed some interesting observations. Results show that there is a consensus among all about the importance of skill development for jobs. Skill development is no longer a matter of choice. It is inevitable to adapt, survive and succeed.

About 45.5% of the partic About 45.5% of the participants are graduates and 31.8% are employed full-time with various companies, but not necessarily having years of experience. About 14.9% are trained professionals who say that they acquired the necessary skill-set on the job. This goes to show the skill-gap that the existing education regime needs to address on an urgent basis.

Make way for entrepreneurs

Encouraging students for entrepreneurship in the under-graduation level allows them to develop and enhance skills such as creative thinking, problem-solving ability and time management, among others, says PROF DR C KARTHIKEYAN



Business models across the world have changed and the expectations of the customers' expectations, be it service or products, the ever increasing expectations to run business is getting expectations to run business its getting tougher. With the change in the models, the opportunities to start ups and run business with support of other resources with combination of technology is ubiquitous. The opportunities to raise capital funding and advisory services are almost aplenty. Hence the shift in the paradigm of business environment has undergone a

Hence the shift in the paradigm of business environment has undergone a massive transformation in recent years. This transformation has changed the perspective of our nation regarding various things including the approach we have towards developing students for the challenges thrown at the Indian Economy and Prosperity, Earlier, we concentrated on building job-ready students so that they can strengthen the economy.

wever, this notion has changed in However, this notion has changed in recent years. Nowadays, we as a nation are more focused on developing students who can create job opportunities; students who can not only strengthen the economy but can also take our country towards development. Therefore, entrepreneurship should be encouraged among students right from undergraduate degree education.

But, why should entrepreneurship encourages and the students right from the students with the students with the contract among students right.

But, why should entrepreneurship encourage among students right from undergraduate courses?

The best platform to inculate the qualities of entrepreneur is the undergraduate degree education, and enhancing interest and exposure to the opportunities of being an entrepreneural helping them to develope basic entrepreneural skills can give a strong foundation for students. It prepares the student for the journey ahead of them. Encouraging students for entrepreneurship in the under-graduation level

allows them to develop and enhance skills such as creative thinking, problem-solving ability, problem identification ability, time management, among others. All these skills enable students to climb the ladder of success quickly. Moreover, these skills also prove beneficial in personal development. Therefore, in recent years colleges are encouraging entrepreneurship through courses such as BBA.

How is BBA suitable to foster

courses such as BBA.

How is BBA suitable to foster entrepreneurial spirit as well as appropriate skills?

BBA is a professional degree programme has the potential to expose various business concepts that are basic requirements to start a business on own, swall set he best child for seconding the second to th as well as the basic skills of accounting and finance, which are indispensible to be an entrepreneur. It is also opening up chances to meet real life enterepreneur.

lessons on the same. All the subjects of BBA together will assist students in acquiring business knowledge and man-agement skills at an early stage. Furthermore, it also allows students to master in fields like finance, marketing, information systems, and international

master in fields like finance, marketing, information systems, and international business.

The course is distributed in six semesters that spread across three years. Its curriculum is designed in a way that enables students to develop skills that are needed in the management career. The factors listed below establishes ways BRA is helping students to achieve their entrepreneurial goals.

The six semesters of the entire BBA curriculum has the potential to offer versatile nature. It provides students with an in-depth understanding of management concepts and its implementation in the business environment. BBA program not only provides the students with heroertical knowledge but also build them for practical applications of this knowledge through internships. The end of semester mini projects and specialisation project with viva presents ample opportunities to use creativity in completion of projects as well as presentation skills, alongside earning experience through internships.

The internship opportunity during college duration gives students an exposure to the work environment. Furthermore, allowing them to learn more about business practices. Along with it, they get a clear understanding of the domain they would like to pursue a career.

While at the pursuance of the

while in they would like to pursue a career.

While at the pursuance of the course, many of the management colleges expose the students to special lectures in the form of entrepreneurship events, where in many real life entrepreneurs including the alumnus of the colleges who turn out to be a successful entrepreneur to share their experience in a common platform to encourage entrepreneurship among students. In conclusion, we can say that fine wants to open their own business or enhance their management skills to pursue a career in management, then BBA is the right choice for under-graduation.

The wifer is Principal, Liohn Institute of Management and Science in Management and Science in Management for Science and successful and the collar jobs. Universities focused on skilling such as Shri Vishwakarma Skill University of Government of Haryana, are doing a commendable job by skilling learners

Earn while you learn

The pandemic has brought into focus the importance of upskilling, reskilling and expanding skillset to prevent job loss in the new normal, says VIKAS SHARMA

Experts have been debating for the last few years that the introduction of machines, automation and digitisation will cause job loss. The COVID-19 pandemic has proven it right, as the majority of work and other activities, approximately 69 per cent, have moved online.

Work online, buy online, learn online is the

Work online, buy online, learn online is the new normal.

The pandemic has changed the mindset and parameters of hiring managers. During this pandemic the online professional platform 'Linkedin' created a buzz by adding a tool to provide help to professionals who wanted a job change. In a short span of time more than 30 million members have used this tool to help them become more discoverable by hiring managers. It is now common knowledge that organisations that have skilled employees with experise in specific skill sets can manage operations with less staff but greater efficiency. That is the key learning for professionals, Upskill, reskill, and expand your skillset to prevent job loss in the new normal that has been brought into focus by the pandemic.

pandemic.
There is a huge demand for professionals in sectors such as ICT, FMCG, healthcare, logistics



through a unique model of two-way learning, in various sectors. In this model, theoretical training is provided in the university by its expert faculty and the practical training is provided through on-the-job training by partner organisations. Students get the chance to experience practical training, through on-the-job to not only develop the skill sets in real life situations but also earn while they learn.

We hope this pandemic is seen as a wake-up call and more and more professionals and students embrace learning and skilling as a part of everyday life to make New India. — Skilled India.

The writer is a public policy expert presently serving as Director & Chief Executive, Centre for Stralegy & Leadership, New Delhi (me@wikasshamn.name)

NSS day celebrations at IP varsity

The NSS Cell of Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, Delhi, in collaboration with the NSS unit of Viveknanada Institute of Professional Studies, affiliated to GGSIPU, celebrated the NSS Day on September 29, 2020. The event was held online on Zoom and streamed live over YouTube and Facebook. The theme was — Holistic Health and Wellbeing, Throughout the week, several online competitions were conducted including poster making, cooking, slogan writing, logo making, essay writing & recitation, NSS quiz and plantation campaign. The sub-themes were — mental health, nutrition, physical health, environment, anti-

tobacco, harmful effects of drugs

tobacco, harmful effects of drugs and unhealthy lifestyle.

The welcome address was given by Dr BVR Reddy (programme coordinator of NSS Cell of the university). With motivating the NSS volunteers, he highlighted the previous activities of NSS Cell and aid: "We have 10 units and have a list of promoted activities at respective units and also promote to adopt villages/slums so that, children get sensitised towards the societal problems and in a big way, university contributes in alleviating programmes and finding technical solutions by sending our children to what we call as special campaigns. These are our primary objectives."

VMC launches Intellect Quest PNS NEW DELHI

Vidyamandir Classes, one of the leading institutes of the test preparation industry, is delighted to announce the laund of vidyamandir Intellect Quest (VIQ). Its biggest admission & scholarship test of the year for one lakh plus prospective IITJEE and NEEI aspirants. WMC. alms to pave the way VMC. alms to pave the way

VMC aims to pave the way for students scoring high marks in IITJEE and NEET through this launch. This exam will be con-ducted on October 24 and November 1, 2020 through the proctored online medium for

admissions in classroom and online programmes starting April

online programmes starting April 2021.

Students have the option of selecting any of the two dates as convenient considering festive period during the time of exam. In lieu of the pandemic, students will get to study at last year fee as Vidyamandir management has decided not to have the customary increase in fees implemented. Upon qualifying, students can register for the course at just \$9,999 and pay the balance by April 2021.

This is a huge opportunity for students as they can get mini-

mum savings of ₹50,000 on select mum savings of ₹50,000 on select classroom programmes upon qualifying and upto 100 per cent scholarship on fees basis their merit and their score in this qualifying test. It is also a chance for the aspirants to be part of unique pedagogy of VMC, which outshines in JEE Main 2020 (Sep) with six toppers from four states Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan, Bihar and JeKC.

and J&K.

This exam is specially designed for IIT/JEE and NEET aspirants who want to be a part of the top engineering and medical colleges and want to pursue courses in these streams. This

exam is also a way for students to understand their current poten-tial and basis their marks obtained in VIQ, students can comprehend their academic intelobtained in VIQ. students can comprehend their academic intel-lect. With VIQ Vidyamandir has also launched Prodigy Programme which caters to pre-Foundation stage students will be entering Class VII to VIII in April. These students will get to build their acumen for reaching their fullest potential. The registration fee for the exam has been revised to 799/- during the lock-down. The students can visit the website www.vidyamandir.com for more information on VIQ.

New book released

PNS NEW DELHI

The Defence Minister of India, Rajnath Singh on September 29,2020 launched A bouquet of flowers, a book written by author Dr. Krishna Saksena, at his residence. This is the ninth book authored by the senior English Professor who is the first lady to get a PhD from Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh in 1955.

Through this

book, Dr Saksena, presents a series of anecdotes that allow the reader to extract the moral of the sto-ries, rather than a didactic imposition of her views.

of her views.

Speaking about the book, Dr Saksena says: "The book has been designed to allow the readers to travel their journey, arrive at their personal realisation and be inspired. I hope the readers enjoy and relate with it."





the IEE Advanced 2020 The JEE Advanced 2020 organised by IIT-Delhi for admission to the 23 IITs was held on September 27, 2020. There were two papers — Paper-I amd Paper-II and both were compulsory. Analysis of JEE Advanced (Paper-II). ry. Anary Paper-I): Total Marks: 198

The Paper had (54) questions

in total.

It had three parts — Physics,
Chemistry & Mathematics.

Maximum marks for each part

Over all analysis of Paper I: Students found the overall level of paper moderate to difficult level but not easy. However, it was eas-ier compared to 2019 as per stu-

ier compared to 2019 as per students.

Some students have reported Chemistry was easy to moderate, Physics was moderate but Maths relatively difficult.

In Physics almost questions from chapter of Classes XI and XII were asked. Some students reported Physics was lengthy. Chapters like Rotation, Work Power Energy, magnetism & Thermodynamics had more questions.

In Mathematics, there were

I more questions.

In Mathematics, there were five-six questions from Calculus. There were questions from Let's analyse

The JEE Advanced 2020 was held on September 27, 2020. FITTJEE expert RAMESH BATLISH breaks down the two papers based on the feedback given by the aspirants

Continuity & Differentiability, Application of Derivative, Definite Comminity & Directentalomy, Application of Derivative, Definite Integrals. One question each from Probability, Complex Numbers, Determinants and two questions from 3 D Geometry.

In Chemistry, fixe questions on Organic Chemistry compared to Inorganic & Physical Chemistry. No mistakes reported till now as complete paper is yet to be analysed.

Over all analysis of Paper-II. Students found the overall level of the paper to be moderately tough. It was lengthy and tougher compared to Paper-I. Chemistry was easy to moderate, Mathematics was moderate. & Physics was moderate to tough.

Students found the overall level of the Paper-II moderately tough

It was lengthy and tougher compared to Paper-I. Chemistry was easy to moderate, Maths was moderate & Physics was

moderate to tough

In Physics questions were more concept based and covered all chapters. Questions were asked from Chapters of Fluids , Ray Optics, Electromagnetic Induction, Current Electricity, Rotational Motion, Heat & Thermodynamics.

question on Probability was had lengthy calculations.

In Chemistry, questions from all chapters were covered and were Easy to Moderate level. Organic Chemistry had good no. of questions. In Physical Chemistry there were questions from Chapter of Solutions, Atomic Structure, Ionic Equilibrium & Chemical Kinetics.

No mistakes reported till now as complete paper is yet to be analysed. As the test was computer-based students had the option to clear response to change any option, they could mark it for review, save and next to proceed further.

review, save a... further. The writer is head FIITJEE, Noida

'GRE tests students on relevant metrics'

In order to secure a seat in a B-school globally, one must clear show academic capabilities. The GRE test is one of the best option available for aspirants, says ALBERTO ACEREDA

ALBERTIO ACEMEDA

Perry year, thousands of B-school
aspirants apply for schools around
the world as a first step to securing a place in prestigious institutes.
Cracking one of these schools is not an
easy task though. B-schools reflect this
recognition and hence typically lean
towards candidates who demonstrate allrounded personality, leadership qualities and intellectual vigour-attributes
that are seen to be important for success
in the real world of business and
finance.

A key element of the admission
process to these schools is a standard
ised assessment test. Given the abilities
that are on test, the GRE is the one which
best tests; the students on the relevant

ised assessment test. Given the abilities that are on test, the GRE is the one which best tests the students on the relevant metrics. The GRE measures the students werbal reasoning, problem solving, critical reading and analytical writing ability: in short, it's a test for some major competencies that are required for success in B-5chools as enumerated above and is structured as such.

The first section is the analytical writing section which is essentially a task in writing two essays each spanning 30 minutes. The first essay is typically writer by the student on a topic as chosen by her stating her position on an issue. The second essay is then written to dissect the logic provided in the first essay and to figure out where the logic falters and can therefore be improved. The scoring is done on a scale of 0-6. Each essay is rated by a human reader and the wertage of the numan reader and the wertage of the human reader and the writing in particular are important skills which are not only relevant to B-Schools but are extremely critical for success in the world outside.

This is followed by the verbal reader and.

only relevant to B-SCHOMS OUT are extremely critical for success in the world outside.

This is followed by the verbal rea-soning section. This section places a great deal of emphasis on vocabulary, logic and reading comprehension. This is important as proper vocabulary helps the student better communicate with peers and others in an academic envi-ronment. To crack this section, one would require a fair degree of expertise



Alberto Acereda Executive Director, Higher Education Global Education Division, Educational Testing Service

Global Eduzation Division.
Glouational Testing Service
in reading and reasoning skills. A fair
amount of habitual reading should get
a student past this section confortably.
This section is scored on a scale of 130170 with one-point increments of the substitution of the solid state of the solid state of the solid should be a solid solid should be a should be a solid should be a should

H omeschooling is where children learn outside of a traditional school setting, the most common setting being their home. This was an option consciously chosen by a small segment of parents for reasons that could range from health to dissatisfaction with the traditional school system, flexibility to explore different methods of learning or to provide personalised attention that meet a family's value system or a child's learning need. With COVID, however, homeschooling is no longer offbeat. It's become mainstream. This sudden shift has left parents across demographics grapping with a flurry of questions on how to turn their home into the primary learning environment.

This is where technology, when used correctly as the tool it is meant to be, can calm these anxieties. However, for it to work in a demographically diverse country like India, it must allow for:

India, it must allow for:

Democratising learning: Technology
erases geographical barriers and gives
parents the opportunity to discover and
choose from limitless learning opportunitie
no matter where they are. Keeping in mind
hier ichild's learning needs, interests, their
day-to-day schedule or the values they
response with aneets can try out different uay-tu-uay schedule of the Values they resonate with, parents can try out different homeschooling programs or learn with different teachers without being confined to a rigid curriculum. It has the potential to create a level playing field and put the power

MINDIT

Mixed concepts questions took more time.

In Mathematics, there were more questions from Calculus & Algebra . Questions were asked from Functions, Limits, Continuity

from Functions, Limits, Continuity & Differentiability, Application of Derivatives, Differential Equation. In Co-ordinate Geometry, there was a question from Hyperbola. In Algebra, there were questions from Permutation & Combination, Complex Numbers, Matrices. A

of choice back in the hands of parents. In our own work in the preschool segment, we've seen parents from Jasaimer to Majuli Pathanamthita to Srinagar actively using technology to provide meaningful learning experiences for their little ones at home. <u>Transparency:</u> The credibility and authenticity of Homeschooling resources or a teacher can be vetted and reviewed before a teacher can be vetted and reviewed before

a teacher can be vetted and reviewed before signing up. Parents we interact with tell us that they avoid downloading a learning app that has less than a 4.2 rating on Play Store. They choose to download our app only after

reading our reviews and subscribe to it after going through the trial period where they get to experience what is being offered transparently. Service providers have to constantly be on top of their game, or risk losing customers to other qualitatively appealing outpoins.

Affordability: With financial pressures associated with the COVID pandemic, many parents have had to realign life choices. However, the possibility of not providing the best education for their child is a compromise they would not like to make.

Technology can make access to quality learning resources and teachers affordable, flexible and customised to suit one's need.

Collaborative participation: Instead of packaging learning like instructions on a Peady to Cook' meal packet, technology should provide the right ingredients and the freshest ideas for parents and children to thinker, create, connect, collaborate, share feedback and add their own touch.

feedback and add their own touch.

Localised product experiences: It is crucial that technology allows localised solutions to address learning needs at home — from using local languages in the product and content experience, to making the infrastructure light and easy to access in low bandwidth areas and devices with

limited storage. Technology should not be intimidating, but rather inclusive, and built on a strong premise of empathy so that a fundamental right like access to good quality education is not limited to only those who are experienced users of technology. The pandemic has certainly gatercashed into our lives but I also see this as a tremendous opportunity for different stakeholders in the education system be it parents, tackners or technology platforms to introspect and come together to usher in new ways to ensure continuity in education new ways to ensure continuity in education new ways to ensure continuity in education goals while always putting the needs of children first.

The writer is Sneha Sundaram,



A pplications are invited from highly motivated applicants for the Presidential Scholarship at

Presidential Scholarship at Boston University. The pro-gramme is open for interna-tional students. Eligibility: Applicants must be an incoming first-year student at BU. Applicants must have SAT scores above 1500

have SAT scores above 1500 and ACT scores above 33. Award: \$25,000 Supporting documents: Submit all the required supporting documents such as secondary school records, lenglish proficiency testing results, documentation of data page of the passport Admission requirements: The candidates are advised to check the entry requirements.

check the entry requirements asked by the university to study

asked by the university to study an UG degree programme.

Language requirement: If the candidates first language is not English, then they have to demonstrate the English language ability by taking the TOEFL or IELTS test.

How to apply: Affer taking confirmation, no additional application form is required for this study-fund. The candidates will be automatically considered by the university based on their eligibility.

Application deadline: The last date to apply for this schol-

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT AT SIRPI Location: Work From Home Stipend: ₹20,000 per month Link: internshala.com/i/5523552 Deadline: October 8, 2020

HUMAN RESOURCES (HR) AT SAFEJOE Location: Delhi Stipend: ₹5,000-₹10,000 per month

Link: internshala.com/i/5523555 Application deadline: October 8, 2020 EVENT COORDINATION AT MILESTONE PAGEANTS

PAGEANTS
Location: Lucknow
Stipend: ₹7,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/5523556 Any required supplementary materials must be received and processed by January 15 to be fully considered. Supplementary materials include: Application deadline: October 5, 2020

FRONT OFFICE OPERATIONS include:
Official Transcripts from
any institutions you have previously attended
FAFSA (completed by
December 15, 2020 used for
consideration for need-based AT BOLLYGRAD STUDIOZ Location: Chandigarh, Shimla, Mohali, Gurgaon, Delhi Stipend: ₹15,000-₹20,000 per month Link: internshala.com/i/5523557 Application deadline: October 7, 2020

awards)
Any required letters of recommendation (must be received in ScholarWeb by January 15)
Official ACT or SAT scores if you are a new freshman BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT (SALES) AT WEBPULSE SOLUTION Location: Ranchi Stipend: ₹5,000 per month Link: internshala.com/l/5523559 Application deadline: October 5, 2020 you are a new freshman IUST be received by January

15.
Review the scholarship Timeline. Tennessee Tech's application must be completed each year.
Application deadline: The last date to apply is December 15, 2020. **CAD DESIGNING & ANALYSIS AT INVENT** CAD DESIGNING & ANALYSIS AT INVI GRID INDIA Location: Bhubaneswar Stipend: ₹5,000 per month Link: internshala.com//5523558 Application deadline: October 6, 2020

MANTED INTERNS!

a university is which ranking you turn to, you can determine different information about an institution

Students must also consider the total cost of studying in the country (both tuition fee and living costs). Other factors

Organise your Finances
Financial planning is crucial

ANGULAR 9 DEVELOPMENT AT FLEXIELE CONSULTING SERVICES Location: Work From Home Stipend: ₹15,000-₹25,000 per month Link: internshala.com/i/5523550 Deadline: October 8, 2020 STUDY ABROAD — 'Study abroad can be an enriching experience'

Choosing right university to study abroad can be a daunting task hence students should tread carefully, says SADIQ BASHA

hoosing a university is one of the biggest decisions that your will make in terms of your education, and it can be overwhelming if you do not know where to start. Start researching universities and make sure you choose the right course.

There are many important factors that the students need to consider before

shortlisting. University rankings are a good source for an overview of how

performing. Depending on

living costs). Other factors include working opportunities while studying, job prospects after completing education. Students can join webinars, organized by online study abroad platforms that will help them

in the study abroad process. As a student you will be spending money on the university's tuition fee, accommodation, food, and other activities.

These costs vary from country to country. So it is essential to plan your expenses before hand. One can also opt for an education loan. Banks in India education loan. Banks in India provide education loan schemes with flexible repayment options. Education loan repayment starts six months after the student has

completed their course. Scholarships that you can

look for Students can apply for scholarship options provided by the Government as well as the university to support their education. Applying for scholarships can be confusing. Students can seek guidance from advisors on digital study abroad platforms such as Edvoy, who can help them through the process as they have direct partnerships with universities abroad.

with universities abroad.
Choosing to study overseas
is one of the most rewarding
decisions you will ever make in
your life. Contemplate, plan and
make the right choice.
The writer is CEO-lounder, Edvoy

IN BRIEF -

EDUCATION FEE PAYMENT MADE EASY

he education financing has been a key challenge for parents in India. While it is still relatively easy to avail financing options for higher education there are not enough options available for school education. With rising aspirational levels of parents and wanting the best educational institutions for their child, paying helty amounts of fees continues to be a challenge.

to be a challenge.

An average Indian household spends nearly 24 per cent of its total annual income on children's education, placing financing of education fees top-of-mind for parents. To add to this, due to the current COVID-19 induced financial current COVID-19 induced infancial crisis, parents are facing a huge liquidity crunch. This makes it even more challenging to finance the school education for their children. Keeping these challenges in mind,

GrayQuest is an innovative fintech start-up which has taken the initiative of making the process of school fee payment more convenient and rewarding it provides parents the option to pay their notified annual education fees in up to 12 monthly instalments – without incurring any extra cost – instead of paying it to their educational institution in two-three bulk instalments.

At present, the company is enabling over 3,00,000 students across the over jou, out of students across the country to access education in an affordable manner while also becoming a strong source of liquidity and fee collection support for its partner institutions. Parents can also safeguard the lifetime education expenses against any fatality or unfortunate event to earning members of the household by a complimentary insurance cover.

NIU JOINS HANDS WITH UZBEKISTAN GOVERNMENT

he Noida International University (NIU) has joined hands with the Government of Uzbekistan The President of the Republic of Uzbekistar along with a number of other high ranking officials from the Government and BSMI signed an MoU virtually. With the signing of this MoU, joint faculty

study for two degree courses at a time. Student exchange programmes, medical tourism and joint research programmes wil be introduced at NIU and BSMI, Uzbekistan.

APP TO DETECT UNORIGINAL WORK IN SCHOOLS

urnitin has launched a urntiin has launched a comprehensive academic integrity solution called Turntiin Originality. Turntiin Originality combines the text similarity checking functionality that Turntiin is riginally combines the text similarity checking functionality that Turntiin is known for with new features that help instructors address trends such as contract cheating and teach students the value of original thinking skills. It uses comprehensive technology to help deter unoriginal work and support

students in learning how to properly attribute ideas and concepts to others. attribute ideas and concepts to others. When reviewing submissions, it examines whether the work is similar to other known text, or if it has indications that it was not authored by the student. The need for this combined solution is clear: as schools and universities move to online instruction, they must be even more thoughtful and holistic about their approach to academic integrity.





Saini has been amazing not just this year but the last couple of years also. He has been very good and he is going from strength to



were circumspect with the pace trio of Ishant Sharma, Kagiso Rabada (2/21) and Anrich Nortje maintaining their line and

Outstanding Super Over from Saini, bowling against Hardik and Kieron Pollard. I think the longer boundary helped him gain some confidence with his yorker



We have a very well-balanced team, good bowling strength, we are confident with our batting lineup, we bat deep with even someone like

Had faith in seniors to bat well in Super Over: Mahela



faith in their experienced players to do the job.

It was wicket-keeper batsman Ishan Kishan, who with his blistering knock of 99 runs brought Mumbai Indians back in a stiff 202-run chase along with Kieron Pollard (60).

However, the match had to be decided via Super Over, where the defending champions opted to send Hardik Pandya with Pollard.

The strategy backfired as all they could manage was only sever runs off Navdeep Saini and lost the match to Royal Challengers Banaglore.

Jayawardene said, Kishan felt tired after giving his all during the contest.

ontest. "If anyone could see, he (Kishan) "If anyone could see, he (Kishan) was very tired at that moment and we were thinking that we probably need a quote of fresh guys who can go and a tit he ball," the Sri Lankan said at the post-match press conference.
"It is quite easy to say in hindsight this and that, but Polly (Pollard) and Hardik had done the job in the past in those Super Overs, two experienced guys who are capable of doing that.
"So you take a chance on these

calls and it could have gone either way. If we had 10-12 runs anything could have happened," explained the coach. Jayawardane had to admit that seven runs were too small to defend even for a bowler of the calibre of Jasprit Bumrah.
"In the Super Over, we had three dots, so that's a killer for you because we lost a wicket and then we had a couple of more dots.
"We needed to make sure that we played some smart shots, get that early boundary away, which we couldn't, we had one, but a couple of boundaries would have been really handy especially when Booms (Burnah) comes to bow!, added the Sri Lankan batting great.



DUGDUT



After Virat Kohli managed to score just combined 18 runs in his first three innings, KXIP owner Preity Zinta defended him. "As for Virat's critics - the last one ball 4 won RCB the game...Form is temporary, class is permanent. So, chill out," she tweeted

is Permanent so chill out, ##C8vMI



Team India head coach Ravi Shastri took to Twitter to RCB's off-spinner Washington Sundar for his perform against MI. Washington registered figures of 4-0-12-1 including 13 dot balls and did not concede any boundary.

+1.100 RCB 3 KXIP +1 498 MI +0.654 2 1 6 🀞 KKR -0.767 SRH -0.730

DC restrict SRH to 162-4



d captain David Warner walks back to the pavilion after getting out

six in his 48-ball 53 and shared two cru-cial partnerships — 77 off 57 balls with David Warner (45 off 33) for the opening stand and 52 off 38 balls with Kane Williamson (41 off 26) for the third wickpener Jonny Bairstow scored his second fifty of the tournament as Sunrisers Hyderabad posted a competitive 162 for four against Delhi Capitals in the Indian Premier League here on Tuesday.

Bairstow grand to the Capital Sunrise Bairstow grand to the Sunrise Sunr

him caught behind with SkH reacning o-for one in 10 overs. Mishra returned to dismiss Manish Pandey (3) before Sunrisers crossed the 100-mark in 14th over 1 Baying his first match of the season after recovering from an injury, Williamson smashed two fours in the 16th over to take SRH to 128 for 10 for 44 balls before holding out to Nortje in the 18th over. Williamson too was dismissed in the last over. et. Making his IPL debut, Jammu and Kashmir's Abdul Samad (12 off 7) blast-ed a four and six in his useful cameo.

Bairstow smashed two fours and one ed a four and six in his useful cameo. Iast over.

Dubai: Australian all-rounder Mitchell Marsh is unaware of the extent of his injury, which reports of the exams performed on his right ankle went missing in the UAE.

This was confirmed by the cricketer himself on Tuesday.

"We don't really know what happened with the scans open against RCB, is currently undergoing a 14-day quarant what happened with the scans over in the UAE. Cricket australia haven't been able to get their hands on them so its get their hands on them so its bit of a weird situation," Marsh told reporters during

Marsh, whose IPL cam
Marsh, wino twisted his and the most of the ground. "Hoped for a ball like that a thousand time in in per of a ball like that a thousand time in my career. "It's one of those frustrating injuries. I've been through a few low for a ball like that a thousand time in in per of a ball like that a thousand time in my career. "It's one of those frustrating injuries. I've beried to dive for a ball like that a thousand time in my career. "It's one of those frustrating injuries. I've bene of bit unlucky. I've tried to dive for a ball like that a thousand time in my career. "It's one of those frustrating injuries. I've bene of bit unlucky. I've tried to dive for a ball like that a thousand time in my career. "It's no of those frustrating injuries. I've bene dive for a ball like that a thousand time in my career. "It's no of those frustrating injuries. I've bene dive for a ball like that a thousand time in my career. The soll when the part of a ball like that a thousand time in my career. The soll was also derailed by an injury, could on his right and we have a ball the for a ball like that a thousand time in my career. The soll was also derailed by an injury, could on his right and we have a ball the for a ball like that a thousand time in my career. The soll was also derailed by an injury, could on his pride for a ball like that a thousand time in a per low for a ball like that a thousa

KKR's batting firepower faces Royals test

Kolkata Knight Riders will have to bat out of their skin to stop a marauding Rajasthan Royals when the two teams clash in an IPL match at the Dubai International Stadium on Wednesday.

Having started off as underdogs, the Royals have taken the IPL by storm, chasing down the highest tournament total 224 against Kings XI Punjab in their last match.

In two wins from two matches, the Royals have got past the 200-mark with ease. In their success, they have found two stars in Sanju Samson and Rahul Tewatia, who have outshone marquee players.

Rahul Tewatia, who have out-shone marquee players. In his second coming at the Royals, little known Haryana all-rounder Tewatia has got instant stardom for his 31-ball 53 against KXIP, which helped the side chase down a record

224 with three balls to

224 with three balls to spare against KXIP.

But the season so far belongs to Samson —

- the wicketkeeper from Kerala.

Boasting of the season's highest strike-rate of 214.86, Samson has two successive half-centuries that has once again put him in contention for a longer rope in the Indian team as a keeper-batsman.

Skipper Steve Smith has been ever reliable, striking two half-centuries, while opener Jos Buttler will be waiting to explode.

Jos Buttler will be waiting to explode.

To match or even surpass the Royals, KKR have the biggest stars in Andre Russell to go along with reigning World Cup winning English skipper Eoin Morgan, one of the best in limited-overs cricket.

But both Morgan and



tunities so far, having dropped down to No 5 and 6 respective-ly.

a astonishing strike rate of 204.81. Having started off with a familiar defeat to Mumbai Indians in their opener, Kolkata Knight Riders put up a determined show to bounce back against a sloppy Sunrisers Hyderabad. Talented opener Shubman Gill's unbeaten half-century, aided by Morgan's late firepower overtook SHR's below-par 145 with two overs to spare. Come Wednesday, it may well be a run feast with no target safe 'against the Royals. Dubai has been host tooth the Super-Over matches this season. The venue will be an unchartered territory for both the teams who will be playing here for the first time this season.

For the record, the teams batting first have won all the five matches here so far.

No one can, no one should try to play like MSD: Samson

"No one can" and "no one should try" to play like Mahendra Singh Dhoni, wicketkeeper-batsman Sanju Samson said on Tuesday, rejecting comparisons with the cricket great after taking the IPI. by storm with his incredible hitting prowess. Samson deared the boundaries at will to power his franchise Rajasthan Royals to two massive wins over Chennal Sumser Views 1500.

Rajasthan Royals to two massive wins over Chennai Super Kings and Kings XI Punjab, the second one

second one ending in record IPL chase.

ending in record IPL chase.

After his exploits, Congress MP from Thirnwananthapuram,

exploits, Congress MP from Thiruvananthapuram. MP from Thiruvananthapuram. Shashi Tharoor, called him the next MS Dhoni. But Samson did not think so, quite like former India player and BJP MP Gautam Cambhir.

"I am sure that no one can and no one should try to play like him. It's not at all easy to play like him. It's not at all easy to play like MS Dhoni, so leave that aside. I never think of playing like MS Dhoni, It is a legend of Indian cricket, legend of the game, Samson said.

"I only focus on my game."

best and how I can win matches," the Keralite added, again like Gambhir, on the eve of his team's match against Kolkata Knight Riders. With his belligerent knocks of 74 and 85, Samson has again staked his claim for selection in the Indian team.

Asked if he thinks he has done

Samsou has again staked his claim for selection in the Indian team. Asked if he thinks he has done enough to attract the attention of the national selectors, Samson not. The only think I know is I am in good form, my only dream is to win matches for my team, any team I play My focus is on the IPL right now.

Having performed admirably well over the last few IPL but probably not as much in the domestic circuit, Samson said he has started to understand his game better.

"I have understood my game, ifs more of power hitting, So I have been training on my strengths on my power hitting."

He said playing most of his cricket in Kerala and Jaipur has helped him in adapting to the hot and humd conditions of the UAE better.

"I am in a very good space mentally, I have worked closely with our video analyst for four to five months and that really helped me improve."

Pliskova survives early scare

French Open (Day 4) Live from 2:15pm IST STAR SPORTS 2 NETWORK

AFP PARIS

Second seed Karolina
PPliskova ended Mayar
Sherif's fairytale Grand Slam
breakthrough to set up a
Roland Garros second round
clash against former champion
jelena Ostapenko on Tuesday.
Pliskova, a semi-finalist in
2017, squandered eight set
points in the opening set as
world number 172 Sherif, the
first Egyptian woman to play in
the main draw at a Slam, took
a shock lead.

inst agyption woman to pay in the main draw at a Slam, took a shock lead.

However, the Czech's greater experience eventually told as she recovered to progress 6-7 (9/11), 6-2, 6-4.

'I think she was playing very smart today. Of course she had a lot of confidence just winning three matches from qualities,' said Pliskova of her 24-year-old opponent. 'She had nothing to lose.'

Latvia's Ostapenko, the world 43, won her first match at the French Open since sweeping to her shock 2017 title when she fired 46 winners



Mayar Sherif and Karolina Pliskova walk to their benches after the 1st round AF

Mayar Sheff and Kaolika Piiskow awlk to their benches after the 1st round AP
past Madison Brengle of the
United States to win 6-2, 6-1.
"After I won here it was a
Stegennund when the German
bught ime. I had to get used to
the pressure but now it's all
gone," said the 23-year-old
Ostapenko.
Meanwhile, a row was
brewing after French player

Middenovic 5-1 ahead
and holding a set point in the

opener, was missed by chair umpire Eva Asderaki. World number 44 Mladenovic pleaded in vain and her German opponent took full advantage, racing into the next round 7-5, 6-3. It was a second successive miserable Grand Slam for the 2.7 - y e a r - 0 l d Frenchwoman who was withdrawn from the doubles at the US Open earlier this month in a row over coronavirus. Denmarks Clara Tauson, just 17 and a qualifier, unleashed 48 winners to knock out American 21st seed and US Open semi-finalist Jennifer Brady 6-4, 3-6, 9-7.

Tauson also saved two directions on her way to a first career main draw win. Australian Open champion Sofia Kenin recovered from a break down in the final set to defeat 125th-ranked Liudmila Samsonova 6-4, 3-6, 6-3.

Fourth seed Kenin, who dumped out Serena Williams in Paris a year ago, fought back from 2-0 down in the decider Tuesday to advance to a second-round tie against

Nomanias Ana Bogdan.

Novak Djokovic's bid to become the first man in half a century to win all four Grand Slam titles twice got off to a straightforward start on Tuesday at Roland Garros as a double bounce' row prompted calls for video replays to be introduced in tennis.

Djokovic, returning to Grand Slam action for the first time since his US Open disqualification, cased past Swedens Mikael Yiner, ranked 80, in straight sets 60, 6-2, 6-5, 3 2nd win in 33

Ymer, ranked 80, in straight sets 6-0, 6-2, 6-3.
It was his 32nd win in 33 matches in 2020 and kept him on course for a second French Open title following his 2016 triumph, and 18th career

triumph, and 18th cares, major.

"It's always a pleasure to return to Paris on Philippe Chatrier, this important court. The atmosphere is a little different this year with few fans but I remain motivated to win the title," said Djokovic, only one of two men to have defeated 12-time champion, Rafael Nadal, in 15 years in Paris.

AP ■ LONDON

Three wins from three games, two big rivals dispatched, and an expensive new signing already on the scoresheet.

and an expensive new signing already on the scoresheet.
Liverpool is making an ominous start to its title defense in the Premier League.
The champion's high-risk, high-reward strategy paid off in its come-from-behind 3-1 win over Arsenal on Monday in an open game featuring a late clinching goal by Diogo Jota in his first league start for Liverpool.
"This was absolutely exceptional," Liverpool manager fürgen Klopp said, "100% dominant against a team in form? reerpool is one of three teams to have opened with three straight wins, including over Chelsea and now Arsenal. With two of its other main rivals—Manchester City and Manchester United — having already lost a game each, the start to the season could hard-yhave gone better for Liverpool.
Arsenal dropped points for he first time but was threatening to beat Liverpool for a third straight month — after wins in the league in July and the

Community Shield in August—when Lacazette took advantage of a rare mistake by Andrew Robertson to give the visitors a 25th-minute lead.
Sadio Mane equalized inside three minutes before Robertson made amends by scoring himself after controlling a cross from Liverpools other flying full back, Tierat Alexander-Armold.
That wild nine-minute peri-

od, featuring three goals, char-acterized a high-risk game plan from Liverpool that causes chaos for its opponents because of the way they are squeezed high up. of the way they are squeezed high up.

Jota sealed victory in the 88th by driving in a shot that glanced the post as it went in, after David Luiz's headed clear-

Notice Inviting e-Tender No SSAMDMSFtates & Glass/20/2020/2649
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Sd-Messon Director SSA, Assar Type com State Nodal Officer-MCM Kathilipara, Gowahati-19