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PAK 'EPICENTRE OF
TERRORISM': INDIA

SPORT 12
BALE CLOSE TO
SPURS RETURN

RANCHI, THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 17, 2020; PAGES 12 ₹3

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China stalling bid to defuse tension at LAC

Beijing yet to confirm date of upgraded military-level talks planned for this week

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

After agreeing to hold upgraded military-level talks this week, China is yet to confirm the date, stalling attempt to defuse the volatile situation prevailing at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Ladakh. The situation is so grim that the border saw at least four incidents of firing by the Indian and Chinese armies in the last 15 days.

Tension cooled down after extensive talks between External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi on September 10. It was agreed there to continue the military and diplomatic-level talks.

Sources said China was yet to inform India about the next date though they had agreed in principle to have the next round sometime this week.

With the Opposition seeking to know from the Government if China occupied any part of our land during repeated attempted transgression since May, the Defence Minister will make a statement on India-China issue in the Rajya Sabha on Thursday.

This announcement came after a meeting chaired by the Defence Minister resolved that the Government will allow dis-

cussions on issues like the China crisis, GST, Covid and National Education Policy.

During the meeting, Rajnath agreed to take one or two questions on the LAC situation after his speech in the Rajya Sabha.

India is concerned over the PLA troops build-up because the Chinese have so far not given any indication of starting the process of genuine disengagement. So far Lt General Harinder Singh and his Chinese counterpart Liu Lin have held five rounds of talks since June but could not achieve any breakthrough. In the last round of talks on August 2, both sides agreed to withdraw their troops from the friction points and pull back additional troops from the depth areas as a confidence-building measure. However, China later refused to do so and the stalemate continues.

Holding a bilateral meeting at the political level in Moscow for the first time since the stand-off on the LAC in Eastern Ladakh started in May, the two Foreign Ministers agreed on a five-point plan to disengage and de-escalate at the border. Since then relative peace prevailed with both the armies staying put at their positions on all the friction points.



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PLA troop build-up because the Chinese have so far not given any indication of starting the process of genuine disengagement

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As regards incidents of firing, sources said here on Wednesday the border witnessed four such episodes. This revelation came even as both the sides so far maintained that one incident had taken place on September 7. While China had blamed India of opening fire, India flatly denied the accusation and held responsible Chinese troops for breaching the 45-year-old peace.

Giving the chronology of events, sources in the security establishment said the first two incidents took place on August 29 and 30 when the Indian troops thwarted a Chinese provocative action to advance into south bank of the Pangong Tso (lake).

The third incident also

took place there on September 7 when the belligerent Chinese troops fired warning shots in the air but the Indian Army maintained calm. This

provocative act by the Chinese was part of a failed attempt to dislodge the Indian Army troops now positioned on the strategically important hill tops

Withdrawal of Army's purported statement on readiness to take on China creates confusion

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

A purported statement from the Indian Army about its operational preparedness to take on China in a war has created a lot of confusion after the "statement" was cancelled on Wednesday evening.

The source of the confusion was an email sent by the

PRO of Udhampur (Defence) to Jammu-based reporters of all major TV channels and print media.

The statement attributed to a spokesman of the Northern Command said, "The Indian Army is fully prepared and more than capable of fighting a full-fledged war even in winters in Eastern

Ladakh."

The spokesman said the Indian soldiers have experience of winter warfare and are psychologically tuned to operate at short notice.

He said, "The Indian Army has experience in Siachen where conditions are much more demanding than the frontiers with China."

most points in the zone. This rattled them and the Chinese tried to dislodge the Indian troops on September 7 and 10 leading to firing, sources said.

Since then, the Indian Army is now deployed on key hills, including Black Top

besides Rezang La and Rechin La. Mountain passes are known as La in the Tibetan language. The latest attempt by the PLA to remove the Indian soldiers was in the area between these two mountain passes at Mukhpari, sources said.

No infiltration reported along India-China border in last 6 months, RS told

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Against the backdrop of the massive troop buildup along the Line of Actual Control in Eastern Ladakh and several skirmishes between China's PLA and the Indian Army since May, the Centre on Wednesday informed the Rajya Sabha that "no infiltration has been reported along the India-China border during the last six months."

Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai said in a written reply that since February there had been 47 cases of attempted infiltration along the India-Pakistan border and added that "no infiltration has been reported along India-China border during the last six months."

BJP MP Anil Agarwal asked the Upper House in a written question whether it was a fact that cases of infiltration from Pakistan and China had increased in the last six months.

On Tuesday, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh informed the Lok Sabha that China had mobilised a large number of troops and armament along the LAC as well as in the "depth areas." He said the LAC was not commonly delineated.

Singh said that in early May, the Chinese side took action to hinder the normal, traditional patrolling pattern of Indian troops in the Galwan valley area, causing a face-off.

However, MHA officials said the answer by Nityanand Rai is not in conflict with what Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has said. "Infiltration as terminology is associated with terrorists or action where a hostile element sneaks into our territory and moves to the hinterland," a senior official said.

MHA officials added that Defence Minister Rajnath Singh had also spoken about attempted transgressions by Chinese troops in his address to the Lok Sabha on Tuesday.

Babri demolition verdict on Sept 30

Advani, Joshi, Kalyan and Uma asked to be present in court

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The special CBI court hearing the Babri mosque demolition case of December 6, 1992, in which senior BJP leaders LK Advani, Murli Manohar Joshi, Kalyan Singh and Uma Bharti are among the 32 accused, will pronounce its judgment on September 30.

Special judge SK Yadav has completed all the arguments and reserved his judgment on September 2 last.

The special court has directed all the 32 accused, including former Deputy Prime Minister Advani, former Union Minister Joshi and former Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Kalyan Singh, to be present in the court on the day of the judgment.

The hearing of the trial was completed on August 30 but the written submission was



made on September 2, after which the verdict was reserved.

The special judge SK Yadav, who has retired but was on extension by the orders of the Supreme Court, has been asked by the SC to complete the formalities by September 30.

Advani, who recorded his statement on July 24, 2020 through video conferencing, had denied all charges of the CBI made against him on the conspiracy to demolish the Babri mosque structure.

CM launches, lays foundation of 40 schemes worth ₹133 cr online SOREN INAUGURATES COVID-19 TESTING LAB AT DMCH

PNS ■ RANCHI

Chief Minister Hemant Soren during his three-day tour to Dumka inaugurated and laid the foundation of development schemes worth ₹133,58,49,150. Assets were also distributed in the Sarkar Aapke Dwar programme organised in various panchayats. The CM said that the process of accelerating the development plans will continue rapidly.

The CM said the coronavirus pandemic and the lockdown disrupted the systems of many countries including India. It had a major impact on the economy. Many factories, companies and establishments were closed.

Millions of people became unemployed. Jharkhand is also not untouched by this, but with the process of Unlock, the government has started the initiative to deal with this challenge. The work towards the creation of new Jharkhand has started afresh. The people of the State will see its positive result soon.

He added Jharkhand is a backward State. There are a large number of people here who are daily wage earners. However, due to the Corona outbreak, their earnings were disrupted. In such a situation, the State government has started three new schemes under MGNREGA to provide employment to them. More and more mandays are being created. Schemes to give employment to workers are also being started in cities. Apart from this, there is not a single death reported amid Corona due to hunger in the State. For this, the Government provided food to the people through community kitchens and Dal-Bhat centers at the panchayat level. The government also arranged food for passers-by on the highways.

Soren said as the corona crisis started, the workers of Jharkhand in various states were fired. In such a situation, with the efforts of the State government the migrant labourers were brought back by special trains and airplanes. They were also being provided employ-

ment. He said that Jharkhand was the first state in the country to set an example in front of the country by bringing back the migrant labourers working in the far-flung areas.

The CM said there are thousands of vacancies in Government departments. It has been reviewed with the authorities. Soon, the process of filling these posts will start. In this regard, the works of Jharkhand Public Service Commission and Jharkhand Staff Selection Commission are also being reviewed, so that the appointment process can be conducted in a clear and transparent manner.

The CM said in this hour of Coronavirus pandemic, the newly constructed Dumka Medical College Hospital is proving to be a milestone for the people of Santhal Pargana division. The poor are being tested and treated in a better way. The work of developing the infrastructure in this medical college hospital is going on at a fast rate. Facilities are also being multiplied. The govern-



Deputy Commissioner of Dumka, Rajeshwari B hands over a cheque from the CSR fund of the district administration to Chief Minister Hemant Soren for the Chief Minister's Relief Fund in Dumka on Wednesday

Pioneer photo

ment is working constantly to bring it into full existence as soon as possible to run the hospital smoothly. On this occasion, the Chief Minister watched the process of collection of samples and testing in the testing lab through a presentation.

The Dumka Medical

College Hospital is still under construction, but in the midst of all these, more than 13 thousand Corona samples have been tested in the Covid-19 Testing Lab established here. Apart from this, MBBS studies have also started in this medical college from the 2019 session. The process of enrollment

of students for the new batch is likely to start from November.

At Dumka Medical College Hospital, the CM also inaugurated three operation theatres and one ultrasound machine at OT Complex. He also took a stock of the change room here. The Chief Minister also gave several directions to the officers to improve the system and management here.

The CM also visited and observed the Textile Sewing Training Center at Haripur Panchayat Bhawan in Dumka. He said that the government will fully support the centres being run for skill development. The Government is determined to enhance the skills of more and more females. The government is doing the work of skill development of girls and also making women of Sakhi Mandal self-reliant by connecting them through various means.

On the occasion, MLA Stephen Marandi, Basant Soren, DC Rajeshwari B, SP Amber Lakra, DIG and women of various Sakhi Mandals were present.

Over 50K patients overcome Covid-19 in State

Recovery rate jumps above national average

PNS ■ RANCHI

The count of Covid-19 recoveries in Jharkhand crossed the 50,000 mark on Wednesday as at least 1,607 Covid patients, including nearly 700 in Ranchi alone, overcame the viral infection in 24 hours, data released by the health department on Wednesday night stated.

Wednesday's test results also took Jharkhand's Covid recovery rate above the national average of 77.70 per cent as the number of recovered patients jumped to 51,357 against the tally of 66,074, a bulletin released by the National Health Mission (NHM) highlighted. The recovery rate in the state, as per Government figures, had dropped to as low as 45 per cent by the end of July, and

stood at 77.72 per cent on Wednesday.

Despite high recovery figures, the count of fresh Covid cases outnumbered the recoveries on Wednesday, causing a minor rise in the number of active cases in Jharkhand. As per the NHM bulletin, as many as 1,618 cases of infection surfaced in Jharkhand on Wednesday, taking the number of active cases to 14,138.

However, the number of active cases of infection reduced in Ranchi, the worst-affected district in the state, on Wednesday. As many as 342 fresh cases surfaced in Ranchi against 694 recoveries. Meanwhile, East Singhbhum reported a major spike in the count of active cases as only 80 patients recovered from the infection there against 401 cases on Wednesday. As per government data, at least 3,171 people were battling the infection in Ranchi, while 3,021 patients were yet to recover in East Singhbhum.

The Covid toll in Jharkhand



A health worker collects swab samples of BNR Chanakya hotel staff members for Covid-19 test at Ranchi Railway station on Wednesday

Ratan Lal | Pioneer

rose to 579 on Wednesday after 1,55 lakh people and tested 1.53 lakh of them. Out of the 66,074 people infected by the virus in Jharkhand so far, 51,357 have recovered, highlights government data.

A majority of the Covid victims in Jharkhand, as per health officials, were already suffering from comorbid conditions, and most of them were above the age of 50 years. As per Government data, at least 420 of the 579 Covid victims in the State were older than 50 years.

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Tata wins bid for new Parliament building construction contract

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

Tata Projects Ltd has emerged as lowest bidder for the project to construct and maintain the new Parliament building for five years.

After the Central Public Works Department (CPWD) opened financial bids, on Wednesday, Tata Projects Ltd quoted a bid worth ₹861.90 crore, while Larsen and Toubro Ltd quoted ₹865 crore. The bid document estimated the cost of the project at roughly ₹889 crore. Work on the building is likely to begin after the ongoing Monsoon Session of Parliament comes to an end.

According to the CPWD, three bidders had qualified in the technical round but only two firms ended up submitting their financial bids. Shapoorji



Pallonji & Company Private Limited was the third firms which qualified for financial bids for this project.

"The contract is likely to be awarded to the lowest bidder. In infrastructure projects the firm is finalised only after getting the letter of award for the project," the officials added.

The proposed work is of very prestigious nature and is required to be completed within the prescribed 21 months with the highest standards of quality and workmanship, the bid document said.

Centre delayed Covid lockdown for 'Namaste Trump', alleges Opp

New Delhi: The Opposition on Wednesday alleged that the imposition of the nationwide lockdown in the wake of Covid pandemic situation was delayed because of the "Namaste Trump" event and to bring down the elected Government in Madhya Pradesh.

Participating in the first ever discussion in the Rajya Sabha on the Covid-19 situation, DMK MP Tiruchi Siva said that the Government deliberately delayed the lockdown and the reason was Donald Trump.

"Was the lockdown announcement delayed because of US President Donald Trump's February visit? The delay was because of Donald Trump. You had a gala event planned," Siva said. US President Donald Trump made a two-day State visit to India beginning February 23. The events planned for his trip included a massive "Namaste Trump" rally in Ahmedabad.

PNS

Offices of **THE PIONEER**, Ranchi Edition, will remain closed on September 17 (Thursday) on the occasion of **Vishwakarma Puja**. Next edition of the newspaper will be available to the readers on September 19



CAPSULE

PM TO OPEN HISTORIC KOSHI RAIL BRIDGE
New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will dedicate to the nation the "historic" Kosi rail mega bridge through video-conference on Friday and also inaugurate 12 rail projects related to passenger facilities in Bihar, his office said.

DU COLLEGES DIVERTED SALARY FUND: SISODIA
New Delhi: Delhi University teachers held a strike to protest against the alleged non-payment of salaries to employees of 12 varsity colleges fully funded by the city Government for the last five months.

Police to intensify operation against ultras in West Singhbhum

Maoists resort to poster-campaign against administration

PNS ■ JAMSHEDPUR

The new SP of West Singhbhum district Ajay Linda has said that the drive against Maoists will be intensified. Linda, who took over the charge on Tuesday that campaign against ultras, would be conducted more strictly in West Singhbhum district.

The ultras belonging to the banned outfit CPI (Maoist) have suddenly increased activities in West Singhbhum district. Sources informed that apart from wall painting and waging poster campaigns to trigger blasts, the ultras have made their presence felt to the security forces involved in nailing the outfit.

The SP has asked his officers and other forces for conducting regular Long range patrolling (LRP) in those areas so that the rebels may not set their foot once again.

Linda also said that involving the community and educating them may effectively address the crime. In this initiative, community support is sought to help police in crime prevention, giving information about any anti-social or criminal activity in the area and helping police in arrest of proclaimed offenders.

Meanwhile, ultras of CPI-



The SP has asked his officers and other forces for conducting regular Long range patrolling (LRP) in those areas so that the rebels may not set their foot once again

Maoist resorted to a poster-campaign against administration at Chaibasa marketplace and township under West Singhbhum district.

The naxals fixed three banners besides posters denouncing the government's measure to wipe naxalism from the tribal-dominated West Singhbhum district.

With messages in Ho language, the banners and posters were found hanging at the Chaibasa bus-stand, Birs Munda Stadium and at Mangla Haat market, all under Sadar thana area in Chaibasa, which is also the district headquarters.

In the posters, the rebels have targeted the Saranda Action Plan from Saranda. The naxals have also called upon the young people to join the outfit in large numbers so they work for the upliftment of the local tribals and fight against the administration.

As the news spread about the poster-campaign, a team of police officials from the Sadar thana seized the banners and posters and started a probe into these desperate acts by the naxals.

West Singhbhum SP confirmed that a few banners and posters pledging allegiance to the CPI-Maoist outfit were found in the Chaibasa township.

"We have started an investigation to know whether the poster-campaigning was carried out by the outlawed naxal outfit or by any criminal elements. We are talking to people near whose shops or business establishments the posters-banners were found," said Linda.

OFF THE SHELVES

BY MAITREYEE HAZRA

Just recently I cleared and cleaned my daughter's cupboard and found myself sitting within huge piles of books and magazines – many Tintins, Enid Blyton and Nancy Drews, Chicken Soup Series, Mills and Boons, Jeffery Archer, Paul Coelho, Khaled Hosseni, Emile Brite, Salman Rushdie (which none of us ever finished) and Neil Gaiman and many more. These are not merely books. This is the whole story of the journey of my little girl to womanhood.

Sitting with these books I remembered the huge stock of books from my childhood. A part of which is still preserved

in our ancestral house.

If I close my eyes, I can smell those books.Can you smell a book? I can tell you – yes I actually can. Old and new books smell differently. Any avid book lover can confirm my claim. Some of the classics your parents received on their wedding anniversary smell different from the Jhoompa Lahiri or Arudhanti Roy you purchased just ten years back.

Holding the family's prized possession - thick, yellow jacketed, heavy Ramayan by Krittiwas Ojha feels completely different from flipping through the Ram, Sita and Ravana series by Amish Tripathy.

Once you develop an affin-



ity towards books, they become a part of you, your family. It's very hard to discard books I feel. Even for those who have successfully adapted to reading on

backlit screens. Books are not just paper and words, they are made of sentiments, and feelings and smells.

In contrast to the nostalgia of old books, and the two prominent libraries of our small town that made me a reader, I recall as fondly the excitement of smelling the fresh books at annual Book Fairs.

A book fair felt like paradise, where under the winter sun, makeshift tents held stories from across the country and our neighbouring countries. Stories of adventure, mystery, romance,

horror, science and tragedy. Or politics, great leader, geography and encyclopedias. Or anything else that caught your fancy. In any language you wanted. Tents with books of all shapes and sizes waiting to be picked up with care. You could take a few rounds, browse through many and bring back a few. And get a snack at the food stalls on the way out. Especially if you happened to be at the Calcutta Book Fair, the food stalls would be as crowded as the book stalls. A book fair was the most magic one could experience in a pre-internet world. A book fair is why I knew before Google happened about the Masai tribe and Anton Chekov.

I have not been able to discard any of our books, though I see slowly for convenience

sake, I am using my Kindle more and more. I feel a little bit sad to not see the younger generation hold book very often. I only see the backs of their devices and never know what they are reading. There exists a larger conversation about the environment and paper of course, I hope we find sustainable ways of retaining the joy the books. I have decided, I will gift the younger ones around me books when occasions arise. Meanwhile, I may use the Kindle, but the book shelf in my house remains in sparkling condition with books I am happy to lend.

The writer is a retired bank officer and the views expressed in the article are her own.

Rotary International launches Project Vasundhara

PNS ■ JAMSHEDPUR

Rotary International District 3250 has embarked on Project Vasundhara to spread green cover in its operational areas. The drive was launched by Governor Rajan Gandotra and Anju Gandotra in presence of Pratim Banerjee, Suchanda Banerjee, Dr. Amit Mukherjee, Alpna Shukla, Anjani Nidhi, Alokandanda Bakshi and CEO of Grow-Trees.com, Bikrant Tiwari.

To plant 1.2 million trees in District 3250 of Rotary International comprising the states of Jharkhand and Bihar, India started a drive

from July 1, 2020 that will end on June 31, 2022.

Plantation will be undertaken as per size of land, in minimum batches of 50000 trees.

According to the officials of the club land has already been allotted for 400000 trees in East Singhbhum - for C h a n d p u r Panchayat 150000 Trees, including 50000 at Dholadih where we have started, and Tetla Panchayat will accommodate nearly 250000 plantations.

The first 400000 saplings are ready at the nursery of Grow-Trees.com and the plantation of the first 50000 has started.

Idol makers face livelihood problems due to Covid-19

PANKAJ KUMAR ■ DHANBAD

The idol makers of Dhanbad face livelihood problems due to poor demand of idols for the upcoming festival season. The restrictions imposed by the Government not only have impacted them but the allied business too.

Dulal Paul, a well-known name in making quality idols besides shaping them as per clients demand said, "Till now he has just 25 confirmed bookings of idols of Goddess Durga though puja is just a month away from now".

Recalling last year's sale he said, "In 2019 had sold out 120 idols of the Mother Goddess and other deities. Those used to huge idols ranging from 12 to fifteen feet in height".

Unfortunately, this year besides low booking the height too has been reduced.

Paul, having his factory - cum - outlet behind the SSLNT women's College said, "all those who have booked have asked to maintain height in-between 4 to 5feet. Earlier there used to be demand from Bihar and West Bengal

too but this year no one from either state has come for booking till date.

Recalling the poor sale of Idols of Lord Vishwakarma who is worshiped on September 17 Dulal said, "the demand is poor and till now just35 idols have been sold".

Paul said, since the outbreak of pandemic the work force of the 20 that are regular workers are being paid and fed despite no work since the last six months. All are from outside Dhanbad but were asked to stay back keeping in view of the pandemic.

जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकार, चतरा व्यवहार न्यायालय, चतरा

विशेष मध्यस्थता अभियान दिनांक 21.09.2020 से 25.09.2020 तक आम सूचना

सर्वसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि माननीय झारखंड उच्च न्यायालय, रांची के निर्देश पर तथा झारखण्ड राज्य विधिक सेवा प्राधिकार, रांची के संरक्षण में जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकार, चतरा द्वारा दिनांक 21.09.2020 से 25.09.2020 तक समय 10:30 बजे पूर्वहन से मध्यस्थता अभियान WhatsApp Video Call/ Video-Conferencing के माध्यम से आयोजन किया जाना तय है, जिसमें कुटुम्ब न्यायालय से संबंधित मामलों एवं उससे संबंधित अन्य मामले जैसे—दहेज उत्पीड़न, 498ए भा0द0वि0, घरेलू हिंसा, भ्रमण—पोषण इत्यादि के मामले जो व्यवहार न्यायालय, चतरा के न्यायालय में लंबित हैं, का निस्तारण आपसी सुलह—समझौते के आधार पर किया जायेगा।

प्रस्तुत किये जाने वाले मामले

तलाक संबंधी मामले	दहेज प्रतिषेध अधिनियम के मामले
वैवाहिक पुनर्संस्थापना के मामले	भा0द0वि0 की धारा-498ए के मामले
दत्तक ग्रहण के मामले	घरेलू हिंसा के मामले
भ्रमण पोषण के मामले	
बच्चों के संरक्षकता एवं अभिरक्षा के मामले	

इस संबंध में सूचित किया जाता है कि उक्त विशेष मध्यस्थता अभियान के तहत लाभुक अपने मामलों को संबंधित न्यायालयों से मध्यस्थता केन्द्र में भेजवाकर विशेष अभियान के तहत उनका निस्तारण कराकर लाभ प्राप्त कर सकते हैं।

— :: निवेदक :: —

श्री कुमार कान्ति प्रसाद सचिव, जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकार, चतरा।	श्रीमती रीता मिश्रा, प्रधान जिला एवं सत्र न्यायाधीश, —सह-अध्यक्ष, जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकार, चतरा।
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PR 232922 (Law) 20-21 (D)

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय राष्ट्रीय उच्च पथ प्रमंडल, धनबाद (संयुक्त कार्यालय भवन परिसर)

अत्यन्त अल्पकालीन निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या 06 / 2020–21

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1- विज्ञापन दाता का नाम एवं पता | : | कार्यपालक अभियंता, राष्ट्रीय उच्च पथ प्रमंडल, धनबाद |
| 2- परिमाण विपत्र बिक्री की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय | : | दिनांक 24.09.2020 के 3.00 बजे अपराह्न तक |
| 3- निविदा प्राप्ति की तिथि एवं समय | : | दिनांक 25.09.2020 को 3.00 बजे अपराह्न तक |
| 4- निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय | : | दिनांक 25.09.2020 को 3.30 बजे अपराह्न । |
| 5-परिमाण विपत्र बिक्री का स्थान | : | |

- (I) मुख्य अभियंता, राष्ट्रीय उच्च पथ उपभाग, झारखण्ड, रांची।
(ii) अधीक्षण अभियंता, राष्ट्रीय उच्च पथ अंचल, धनबाद।
(iii) कार्यपालक अभियंता, राष्ट्रीय उच्च पथ प्रमंडल, धनबाद ।

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| 6- निविदा प्राप्ति का स्थान | : | कक्षा 5 में वर्णित स्थानों पर । |
| 7- निविदा खोलने का स्थान | : | कक्षा 5 में वर्णित स्थानों पर । |
| 8- कार्य की विवरणी :- | : | |

क्र० सं०	कार्य का नाम	प्राक्कलित राशि (लाख में)	अग्रघन का राशि (रु० में)	परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य (रु० में)	कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि
(i)	Ordinary Repair work in Km. 242.450 to 244.227 & Km. 244.392 to 244.482 of NH-114A for the Year 2020-21.	14.50	29,000.00	2500.00	दो माह
(ii)	Ordinary Repair work in Km. 10 to Km. 54 of NH- 218 for the Year 2020-21.	23.00	46,000.00	5000.00	तीन माह

9. प्राक्कलित राशि घट-बढ़ सकती है। तदनुसार परिमाण विपत्र में अंकित राशि के अनुसार अग्रघन की राशि एवं परिमाण विपत्र का देय मूल्य मान्य होगा।
10. परिमाण विपत्र के मूल्य का भुगतान **NTRP Portal** – पर **online** होना है। **Online** भुगतान के पश्चात् उसकी चालान की प्रति निविदा क्रय के समय लगाना अनिवार्य है।
11. झारखण्ड पथ निर्माण विभाग, रांची का संकल्प संख्या 2146(एस.) दिनांक 09.09.2020 के आलोक में झारखण्ड लोक निर्माण विभाग संहिता की कड़िका-163(ए) द्वारा कृत प्रावधान की अवक्रमित करते हुए 10 प्रतिशत की न्यूनतम अधिसीमा को समाप्त किया जाता है। सम्प्रति 10 प्रतिशत से नीचे की दर की निविदायें अनुमान्य होंगी। साथ ही JPWD Code के clause 163(a) को delete किया जाता है। सम्प्रति 10(दस) प्रतिशत से न्यून निविदाओं के लिए Additional Performance Security के क्रम में परिमाण विपत्र की राशि से – (i) 10 से 20 प्रतिशत below तक की राशि का 20 प्रतिशत तथा (ii) 20 प्रतिशत से अधिक below की राशि का 30 प्रतिशत अतिरिक्त जमानत का प्रावधान लागू होगा। यह झारखण्ड लोक निर्माण विभाग संहिता के नियम 172(ए) के रूप में समाहित होगा। पूर्व के संहिता /नियम/परिपत्र द्वारा कृत सभी प्रावधान अवक्रमित समझे जायेंगे।
12. वैद्य एवं समान दर की निविदाओं के मामले में निविदा निष्पादन के प्राधिकार द्वारा पारदर्शी तरीके से लॉटरी (Lottery) की पद्धति अपनायी जायेगी। यह प्रावधान झारखण्ड लोक निर्माण विभाग संहिता के कड़िका-163(ए) के रूप में समाहित होगा तथा उक्त हद तक पूर्व के संहिता / नियम/ परिपत्र द्वारा कृत सभी प्रावधान अवक्रमित समझे जायेंगे।
13. वर्णित कार्य Hot Mix Plant से सम्पादित करना होगा। परिमाण विपत्र क्रय के समय /निविदा के समय Hot Mix Plant का स्वामित्व अथवा Hot Mix Plant के स्वामित्व धारक से सहमति प्रमाण पत्र देना आवश्यक होगा। निविदा की शर्तें www.jharkhand.gov.in तथा कार्यालय की सूचना पट्ट पर देखा जा सकता है।

कार्यपालक अभियंता
राष्ट्रीय उच्च पथ प्रमंडल, धनबाद
PR 232920 National Highway Authority of Jharkhand (20-21)_D

झारखण्ड सरकार (उच्च, तकनीकी शिक्षा एवं कौशल विकास विभाग) प्राचार्य का कार्यालय राजकीय पोलिटेक्निक, खुट्टरी, बोकारो

अंशकालीन व्याख्याताओं के कार्यानुमति हेतु सूचना

उच्च, तकनीकी शिक्षा एवं कौशल विकास विभाग झारखण्ड सरकार के संकल्प (ज्ञापांक संख्या—2890)ए दिनांक-11.12.2015 के आलोक में निम्नलिखित विषयों/ शाखाओं में शैक्षणिक सत्र 2020–21 के लिए अंशकालीन व्याख्याताओं के रूप में कार्यानुमति हेतु इच्छुक उम्मीदवारों से विहित प्रपत्र में **On line Mail id-govtpolytechnic20@gmail.com** पर आवेदन पत्र आमंत्रित किये जाते हैं आवेदन पत्र जमा करने की अन्तिम तिथि 01.10.2020 है यह अंशकालीन व्याख्याता के कार्यानुमति की व्यवस्था पूर्णतः अस्थायी है एवं किसी भी समय बिना बताए कार्यानुमति निरस्त किया जा सकता है इसमें यथा संभव झारखण्ड सरकार के प्रधान के अर्न्तगत आरक्षण नियम लागू रहेगा इच्छुक उम्मीदवार अपने आवेदन के साथ सभी शैक्षणिक मूल प्रमाण-पत्रों/अंक पत्रों एवं उसकी छाया प्रति तथा आरक्षण का दावा करने वाले उम्मीदवार उपायुक्त से नियोजन संबंधी मूल जाति प्रमाण पत्र के Scanned Copy के साथ आवेदन करना आवश्यक है On line अन्तर्वीक्षा के समय एवं दिन की जानकारी आपके द्वारा उपलब्ध कराये गये E-mail Id के माध्यम से दी जायगी नियमित नियोजित उम्मीदवारों को प्राथमिकता दी जायगी वैसे उम्मीदवार जो किसी सरकारी संस्था /उपक्रम में कार्यरत हैं, उन्हें अपने नियंत्रित पदाधिकारी से अनापत्ति प्रमाण-पत्र प्रस्तुत करना होगा जिसमें सुनिश्चित हो सके कि व्याख्यान देने के कार्य से संबंधित कर्मचारी /अधिकारी का स्वयं के संबंधित संस्था का कार्य बाधित नहीं होता हो आवेदन का प्रारूप राजकीय पोलिटेक्निक, खुट्टरी, बोकारो के वेबसाईट www.gpkhutri.in पूर्व में Uploaded Data से डाउन लोड किया जा सकता है कार्यानुमति के आवेदन हेतु विषयवार न्यूनतम योग्यता निम्नवत होगी

क्र० सं०	विषय / शाखा का नाम	न्यूनतम योग्यता
1	यांत्रिकी अभियंत्रण	AICTE Approved यांत्रिकी अभियंत्रण में प्रथम श्रेणी स्नातक/ या यांत्रिकी अभियंत्रण में स्नातकोत्तर डिग्री।
2	कम्प्यूटर इंजीनियरिंग	AICTE Approved कम्प्यूटर इंजीनियरिंग में प्रथम श्रेणी स्नातक/ स्नातकोत्तर डिग्री (M.Tech) (MCA या Computer Engg. या MSc IT के उपरान्त)।
3	आटोमोबाईल इंजीनियरिंग	AICTE Approved आटोमोबाईल इंजीनियरिंग या यांत्रिकी अभियंत्रण में आटोमोबाईल इंजीनियरिंग की विशेषज्ञता प्रथम श्रेणी स्नातक/ या आटोमोबाईल इंजीनियरिंग में स्नातकोत्तर डिग्री।
3	रसायन विज्ञान	UGC Approved विश्व विद्यालय से रसायन विज्ञान में प्रथम श्रेणी स्नातकोत्तर डिग्री।
4	भातिकी	UGC Approved विश्व विद्यालय से भातिकी विज्ञान में प्रथम श्रेणी स्नातकोत्तर डिग्री।
5	गणित	UGC Approved विश्व विद्यालय से गणित में प्रथम श्रेणी स्नातकोत्तर डिग्री।
6	अंग्रेजी	UGC Approved विश्व विद्यालय से अंग्रेजी में प्रथम श्रेणी स्नातकोत्तर डिग्री।

प्राचार्य
राजकीय पोलिटेक्निक, खुट्टरी (बोकारो)
PR 232950 (Higher Education Directorate)20-21#D

Municipal council to take legal against tax evaders

SHAILESH SHARMA ■ HAZARIBAG

The municipal council of Hazaribag has decided to take strict legal action against those who have not paid different types of tax. The council has issued the order to issue notices to the defaulters .

Town commissioner of Hazaribag Municipal Council Madhavi Mishra said that after joining as town commissioner she found that revenue is the main problem of the council. "I have discussed with the officers and staff regarding different sources of income of the council. There are thousands of people in the municipal areas who have not paid holding tax, trade license tax, water tax and others tax to the council. Due to this problem the council is facing an economic crisis," she said.

She further said that after issuing notice the council will give them a time period for depositing the pending amount of tax to the council. "We are also going to re-estimate the houses according to their constructed areas. We have started the massive drive for water tax users," she said.

The same type of operation will be started by such firms who have not taken the license for trading the commodities. Those who have taken the license but not the tax to the council, notice will be issued to them, said Mishra.

Police arrest Cyber Criminal for duping BDO of ₹10L

PNS ■ BOKARO

Bokaro police arrested a cyber criminal from Sahebganj for duping BDO, Chas, of ₹10 lakhs and presented him before the court on Wednesday.

The arrested criminal was

identified as Manish Kumar Sah, a resident of the Hajipur Bhatta village under the Mufassil police station.

On a tip-off, Manish was arrested from his village last night. We have also seized an SUV (JH 17 A 6734) from his procession, police said.

सेन्ट्रल माइन प्लानिंग एण्ड डिजाइन इन्स्टीट्यूट लिमिटेड
CENTRAL MINE PLANNING & DESIGN INSTITUTE LIMITED
(A Subsidiary of Coal India Ltd.)
Gondwana Place, Kanke Road, Ranchi - 834031, Jharkhand, India

NOTICE
"All the tenders issued by CIL and its Subsidiaries for procurement of Goods, Works and Services are available on websites of Coal India Ltd. www.coalindia.in/ respective Subsidiary Company (CMPDI, www.cmpdi.co.in/), CIL e-procurement portal <https://coalindiatenders.nic.in> and Central Public Procurement Portal <https://eprocure.gov.in>. In addition, procurement is also done through GeM portal <https://gem.gov.in>"

Govt likely to bring land mutation, fin Bills in Monsoon Session

PNS ■ RANCHI

The ruling coalition is likely to table five important Bills in the three day long monsoon session of Jharkhand Assembly that is going to commence on Friday. Most of the Bills which are likely to be tabled in the House have been cleared by State Cabinet.

Sources said that some the Bills, which are going to be tabled in the Assembly include, land mutation Bill 2020, penal code, Jharkhand mineral bearing cess, Jharkhand motor vehicles and finance and budget management.

Among these five Bills the much talked is Jharkhand Land Mutation Bill 2020. The Government by bringing this Bill aims to include the concept of online land mutation at the same time fix responsibilities of revenue officials in land mutation. Prior to this Bill,



Jharkhand Assembly building in Ranchi

Pioneer photo

land mutation in State was being done as per 1973 act.

However, opposition and ruling party have snubbed

State Government for bringing new mutation Bill. Voices of

protest have surfaced against both from ruling party Congress and opposition BJP demanding rollback of Bill.

The BJP and Congress MLA Bandhu Tirkey has said that the Bill aimsto provide protection to land and revenue officers from any kind of action/cases even if they commit any mistake.

The Government is also going to table penal code procedure (amendment) under which there will be provisions of regular hearing of cases even if the accused is absconding. Presently, as per penal code procedure if any accused is absconding than the court trial is stalled.

The Government by this act aims to create a fear in mind of criminals thus improving the law and order in State.

Jharkhand mineral bearing cess Bill too will be tabled in the house. With this Bill government can impose cess

of Rs 100 per tonne of mineral extracted from state mines. The cess will be used in State fight against corona pandemic.

Motor Vehicles Bill (amendment) is also likely to be tabled in the house. With this the State Government is going to bring introduce new motor vehicles rules and regulations. The Government aims to strengthen its state exchequer.

Apart from these several other Bills will be tabled in the State Monsoon Session.

Meanwhile, preparations are on full swing for monsoon session.

The session is being held amidst corona pandemic. Covid 19 negative report is mandatory for entering the Assembly.

Wearing of masks, keeping sanitisers, gloves and other safety measures have been made mandatory while entering Assembly.

Now asymptomatic Covid patients can register online for home isolation

Govt launches website

PNS ■ RANCHI

Asymptomatic Covid-19 apatients in Jharkhand will now have to register online and upload necessary information on a government-run website in order to get permission for home isolation, the health department stated in a notification on Wednesday, announcing the launch of Swaraksha.nic.in, a dedicated website designed by the state government for the purpose.

The Swaraksha website, designed by the state National Informatics Centre (NIC), will allow asymptomatic Covid patients to download home isolation certificates to prove that they are eligible to stay at home despite being infected by the deadly virus.

However, in order to get the certificate, a patient will have to register on the website through his or her Specimen Referral Form (SRF) ID, a unique number which is given to every person who undergoes a Covid test. After registration, the patient will have to provide infrastructural details such as the number of rooms in the patient's house, the number of toilets and whether the house had the facility of an oximeter.

Besides, the patient will also have to provide details of family members older than 60



A health worker collects swab sample of a woman for COVID-19 test, during Unlock 4.0, at Bahubazar in Ranchi on Wednesday

Ratan Lal | Pioneer

years and younger than 10 years. Also, details of all family members and the comorbid conditions they were living with have to be specified while filling up the form on the website, the notification said.

Along with the SRF ID, the patient seeking home isolation will also have to provide details of the collection date of his swab and the date on which his test result was out. In case the patient is suffering from any other disease, he or she will have to mention it on the website irrespective of the nature of the disease.

Once the patient shares all the aforementioned details on the website, the district administration will decide if the patient can be allowed to stay in home isolation. The patient

will be able to download the home isolation certificate from the website once the district administration scrutinizes all the details provided and grants him or her the permission to stay at home.

So far, there was no such website in Jharkhand which could provide permission for home isolation to asymptomatic patients without the hassle of having to get a certificate in writing from the authorities concerned, officials said.

As per Government data, as many as 64,456 people across Jharkhand have been infected by Covid-19 virus so far. There were 14,135 active cases of infection in the state, and a majority of the patients were asymptomatic, health officials said.

CIL to give monthly allowance or jobs under new scheme

PNS ■ RANCHI

Coal India and its subsidiaries have now prepared an option to provide regular monthly allowance in exchange for a job or job against land possession.

Under the new scheme, where there was a provision of giving a job in lieu of two acres to a person in the family, there will also be an option for monthly allowance which will be given to them when they take possession of the land will be available for the affected landowners.

Coal India Annuity Scheme 2020' (CIL Annuity

Scheme, 2020) was approved by the Coal India Board under Land Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R and R Policy) on September, 2, 2020 under which the affected landowners will be provided with a minimum of two thousand and a maximum of thirty thousand rupees per month.

It may be noted that there is a provision of one employment per two acres by CCL in lieu of the land possession, this policy will also continue as an option. Under the new scheme, the affected landowners, whose land has been acquired by CCL, will be given Rs 150 per decimal to a minimum of two

thousand and a maximum of Rs thirty thousand per month for 30 years in addition to land compensation or till the project is operational (whichever is more). It is also necessary to mention that the benefits under R and R Policy will continue as before.

Expressing his view on the issue CIL Chairman, Pramod Agarwal said that the land is a major resource for any mining project. "One of the major challenges of the coal industry is land acquisition and its possession. As a natural corollary rehabilitation and resettlement villages pose its own challenges," he added.

PNS ■ RANCHI

The ongoing protest by assistant policemen at Morhabadi is likely to raise political temperature of the State. Days before BJP legislative party leader and senior party leader Babul Marandi extended support' to agitating cops, today was the turn of former chief minister Raghubar Das to express solidarity with agitating assistant policemen. Das, three years back, had appointed these policemen.

Das, in the afternoon reached the agitating cops and rendered his support to cops demands. Talking to media persons he said, "It was during my tenure that these policemen were appointed. These assistant policemen were appointed for period of three years on contractual basis while later they were to be regularised."

The main idea behind appointing these assistant policemen was to create employment opportunities in Left Wing Extremist (LWE) affected area so that youths join mainstream.

Attacking chief minister Hemant Soren, Das said the present government has failed in regularising these cops rather their job is also at stake.



Former Chief Minister Raghubar Das interacts with Assistant Police personnel at Morhabadi Ground during a protest on the demanding regularisation of their job in Ranchi on Wednesday

Ratan Lal | Pioneer

Earlier, on Sunday Marandi and Ranchi Mayor Asha Lakra had met agitating cops and expressed their support to cops demand.

However, the ruling party JMM has blamed Raghubar Das government for entire mess. JMM general secretary, Supriyo Bhattacharya said, "The previous government went on appointing these assistant policemen on contract basis ignoring the rules and regulations."

Sources said that earlier, Das in July wrote a letter to chief minister Hemant Soren reminding the government about expiry of tenure of contract policemen and urged him to make appropriate changes in recruitment provisions.

Das in his letter had men-

tioned that around 2500 assistant policemen were appointed in 12 districts for period of three years with their contract likely to expire on August this year.

Das also attacked state government on Cabinet nod to Jharkhand Land Mutation Bill 2020. He said, "In earlier government, police were made by legislative while its implementation was done by executive. But in this government it is contrary, police are framed by bureaucrats."

Das said that the land mutation bill will rob tribals and moolvasis from their original land.

Earlier, Marandi and Congress legislator from Mandar Bandhu Tirkey had opposed land mutation bill.

Gandhi ji did exemplary work for Human Rights: Oraon

PNS ■ RANCHI

Jharkhand Pradesh Congress Committee (JPCC) Chief cum Food Supply Minister Rameshwar Oraon on Wednesday issued tenth video of 'Heritage of Congress' on various platforms of social media and said that the fight started against racism in South Africa by Mahatma Gandhi became an example of human rights around the world and it was from here that Satyagraha was born.

"The ideals of truth, satyagraha and non-violence made Gandhiji an icon and his successful arrival on Indian land was the whole process of struggles and that process involves the struggle for Indian interests

in Africa because Gandhi is not built in a day. To become Gandhi one needs sacrifice, tenacity, practice, struggle and sacrifice. Gandhi jee, a victim of race discrimination in the first class train, decided that he would fight for all his rights. This battle, which started with personal humiliation, became the voice of Indian rights in Africa in 1894. The Indian Congress was founded, an act in 1906 that questioned the identity of Gandhiji and all Asians, Gandhi stood up against it and thus Gandhiji's first Satyagraha was born on 11 September 1906 in Africa," said Oraon.

Speaking on the issue, Congress Legislature Party Leader Alamgir Alam said

that after Gandhiji returned from England in 1914, the South African Government revoked the racist citizenship law and released all Indians from prison as a direct effect of Gandhi's struggle. Gandhi's fight for Indian rights began when he was a victim of apartheid in South Africa, he added.

In their joint statement Minister in Jharkhand Government, Badal Patralekh and Banna Gupta said that the Congress party can never forget the work done by its elders for the Country.

The sacrifice made by our great ancestors the people of the Country is watching through this heritage video, they added.

Tribal couple elated after first flight, thankful to Adani Foundation for tickets

DIVYA MODI ■ RANCHI

Tribal couple Dhananjay Kumar Hansda (27) and his wife Sony Hembrom (22) were elated upon landing at the Birsra Munda Airport after their maiden flight from Gwalior to Ranchi on Wednesday afternoon. The couple who had made headlines earlier this month by travelling from Godda to Gwalior on a rickety scooter was offered flight tickets to return home by the Adani Foundation under their CSR fund.

Kumar along with his seven-month pregnant wife had started their journey on a two-wheeler on August 28 and reached Gwalior of the afternoon of August 30 covering a distance of approximately 1200 kms so that the latter could appear for her Diploma in



Dhananjay Kumar Hansda with wife Sony Hembrom leave for their native palace Godda as they arrive from Gwalior by flight with support of Adani Foundation, at Birsra Munda airport in Ranchi on Wednesday

Vinay Murmu | Pioneer

Elementary Education (D.Ed) exams from September 1 to September 11 and fulfill her dreams of becoming a teacher. Halting a night each at Muzzaffarpur and Lucknow,

the two reached their destination about 36 hours before the scheduled exam.

"Before boarding the air travel both my wife and I were very scared on how the jour-

ney will turn out to be. All through the flight we had mixed feelings but were also very happy to be taking our unborn child on an airplane. This is the first time we have travelled by air and it has been a dream come true for both of us," said Kumar.

Echoing similar thoughts, Hembrom too said that she was very apprehensive before flight took off. "All through the procedure of check in and security, we were scared but also excited. Once the flight was airborne we kept looking out of the window and noticed how small the world seems from up there. It was amazing to be amongst the clouds. We are extremely thankful to Adani Foundation for arranging our return journey."

Since there are no direct flights from Gwalior to Ranchi,

the two flew to the State capital via Hyderabad. For the rest of the journey, Adani Foundation had also made arrangements of a comfortable car ride from the airport to Godda along with some refreshments.

The Foundation has also made arrangements to send the scooter back to their hometown.

"Dr Priti Adani thanked the local and social media for raising such an issue. When she realized that the lady is pregnant and is also willing to study further, she came up and supported the cause. We were also instructed to ensure a comfortable return journey for them and an Innova car was hired for the same. We wish them success for the exams and a bright future ahead," said Subodh Kumar

Singh, Unit CSR Head, Adani Foundation, Godda.

Owing to the lockdown, Kumar who used to work as cook with a private firm in Gujarat lost his job.

Before deciding to undertake the scooter-ride, the duo had also mortgaged whatever jewellery they had and managed to raise ₹10,000 which was not enough for train or bus tickets.

"Since I have only studied till class IX, I did not want my wife to lose this opportunity and decided to undertake this journey. All through the ride to Gwalior, I was worried about her health and she even developed a slight fever enroute but all is well now. We shall always be thankful to Adani Foundation for giving us the flight tickets," added Kumar.

IN BRIEF

PM TO DEDICATE KOSI RAIL BRIDGE TO NATION

Prime Minister Narendra Modi shall dedicate to the nation the historic Kosi Rail Mahasetu (mega bridge) to the Nation through video-conference on 18th of September 2020. Apart from this the Prime Minister shall also inaugurate 12 rail projects related to passenger facilities for the benefit of the Bihar State. These include a new railway bridge on the Kiul River, two new railway lines, 5 Electrification projects, one Electric Locomotive Shed and 3rd Line Project between Barh-Bakhtiyarpur. The dedication of the Kosi Rail Mahasetu is a watershed moment in the history of Bihar and the entire region connecting to the North East. The Kosi Mega Bridge line project was sanctioned by the Government of India during 2003-04. The Kosi Rail Mahasetu is 1.9 KM long and its construction cost is ₹ 516 Crore. This bridge is of strategic importance along the India-Nepal border. The project was completed during the COVID-Pandemic where the migrant labour also participated in its completion.

CLEANLINESS FORTNIGHT BY RRD

Swachhta Pakhwara will be celebrated across the country from 16 to 30 September 2020. On the first day, on the premises of the Ranchi Railway Division, DRM Neeraj Ambashtha administered the cleanliness pledge to all the officials, employees and cleaning personnel present.



On this occasion, ADRM Infra Ajit Yadav, ADRM Operations MM Pandit, Sr DCM Avnish, Sr DE Amit Kanchan, Sr DPO Manik Shankar and other officers and employees were present. After this a webinar was organized which was chaired by DRM, Ranchi Neeraj Ambastha. It was attended by ADRM Infra Ajit Yadav and other senior officials along with union leaders and supervisors associated with cleanliness at the field level.

CMPDI TO HOLD HEALTH CAMP ON SEPT, 17

On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Prime Minister, Narendra Modi a medical health camp will be organised by CMPDI on September, 17 in adjoining areas of its campus. CMPDI Health Superintendent, Om Prakash will check up the people of the area and he will give required medicines. A blood donation camp will also be organised on the occasion.

MLA'S FACEBOOK ACCOUNT HACKED

Jharia MLA Poornima Neeraj Singh, in a letter to the senior superintendent of police, Dhanbad, has alleged that her Facebook account was hacked by hackers on September 13 and has demanded action against hacker's. In her letter she claims that the account had some private data and that may be used for otherwise thus immediate action was required. The account has over 30,000 followers, the MLA claims who happens to be the widow of former deputy mayor Neeraj Singh. The matter has been referred to the cybercrime unit of the Dhanbad police .

AAP ACTIVISTS CHECK OXYGEN LEVEL

Activists of the Aam Admi Party are out checking oxygen levels of the common people in the rural areas of Palamu. Abhay Singh Chero of AAP said around three hundred people have so far got their oxygen level checked. He said this service is all free. It will be done in the assembly segments of the district which are five in numbers. Chero said those having oxygen levels below eighty are advised to consult a doctor and take care of diet. He said more and more people are coming forward to avail of this service. Chero said his team asks people to wear masks and observe all health protocols. He said the fellow who is to be checked for oxygen level gets sanitized first. The AAP is doing this O level check on a large scale in Delhi.

MATHS TEACHER BAGS AWARD

A teacher of Mathematics at DAV Gumla, Abhijit Jha, has been felicitated with the "Youth Icon Award 2020" by Suryodaya Literary Foundation, Odisha. The "Suryodaya Literary Youth Icon Awards-2020" is aimed to raise the profile of young talented writers of the world and highlight the contribution they are making towards developing a fairer, sustainable atmosphere, peaceful, and prosperous future for the nation. Receiving this award, Mr.Jha says that the organisation has selected 100 writers from 35 countries for the Youth Icon Award. He expressed his gratitude to Manoj Kumar Panda, the founder and CEO of SLF , Rohini Kumar Behera, Principal Advisor and Deepak Kumar Swain, the Editor and Secretary General of SLF. School In-charge of DAV Gumla, PK Mohanty congratulated Jha.

COVID 19 PATIENT DELIVERS HEALTHY BABY

A woman who was denied delivery facility in the Garhwa district because of her being a Corona positive delivered a girl child in the Medinirai medical college hospital Daltonganj last night. Civil surgeon Palamau John F Kennedy said the infant was Covid negative. A team of medical personnel ensured the delivery. The child was no low birth weight. She weighed 3.3 kg at the time of birth. Kennedy said the infant had meconium distress. Her shiit had reached her lungs. The child was incubated and made stable and then referred to Ranchi as there is no ventilator for such infants. Kennedy said the infant was given all possible medicare available in the Medinirai medical college hospital in Daltonganj.

FILM PRO WRITES TO CM TO RESUME SHOOTING

Film PRO of Jharkhand Sanjay Pujari has addressed a letter to Chief Minister Hemant Soren demanding permission to start shooting of films in the State. In his letter Pijari stated that due to the outbreak of Covid-19 shooting of films has been stopped for the last six months and around 50,000 thousand artists are facing a financial crisis. With shooting being stopped the State government's revenue is also coming down and with it resuming actors as well as many people associated with it will be benefitted. Pujari also stated that actors have contributed a lot to create awareness against coronavirus and all State and Central guidelines will be followed during the shooting.



MALABAR GOLD & DIAMONDS' STORE LAUNCH

Malabar Gold & Diamonds, one of the largest gold and diamond retail chains in the country, will inaugurate its first store in Patna in Bihar through a unique virtual store launch event on September 19, 2020. Brand ambassador Bollywood actor Anil Kapoor and Malabar Group Chairman M P Ahamed will grace the first-of-its-kind virtual store inauguration event which will be streamed on its official Facebook page. Located at Boring Canal Road, the lavish showroom is a part of its global expansion plan of the jeweller and its vision to strengthen retail presence in eastern India. The jeweller said that it will hold virtual store launches to inaugurate showrooms across India, going forward, to comply with the safety and security guidelines in the post-Covid scenario.

VIDYAMANDIR CLASSES SHINES IN IIT/JEE EXAMS

Vidyamandir Classes (VMC), one of the premier institutes in IIT/JEE preparation, and a name synonymous with success in IIT/JEE, proved its supremacy with success in its 2020 batch. VMC Students outshone their peers in JEE mains 2020 for which Results were declared on 11th September, 2020. 3 VMC Students featured in Top 10, 4 out of 24 Students who scored 100 percentile were from Vidyamandir. 6 Vidyamandir Students were state toppers from Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan, Bihar and J&K.

With these results Vidyamandir Classes continued its 3 decade tradition of producing stellar results year after year. Overall 52 students scored 99.9 percentile or above and as many as 346 students scored 99 Percentile & above.

Divyanshu Agarwal, Two Year Classroom Course student captured the 3rd rank in IIT-JEE, while Laksh Gupta and Tushar Sethi grabbed 9th and 10th in All India Ranking. Shubh Kumar, the state topper from Bihar secured 57th rank in IIT/JEE with 99.99 percentile.

JAYA BACHCHAN REMARKS IN SUPPORT OF BOLLYWOOD

Mumbai Police ramps up security outside ‘Jalsa’

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

After actress-turned Samajwadi MP Jaya Bachchan spoke vociferously in Rajya Sabha against the attempts being made by certain people to “vilify” Bollywood, the Mumbai Police on Wednesday beefed up security outside the outside Bachchans’ bungalow ‘Jalsa’ at Juhu in north-west Mumbai.

Taking serious cognisance of intense trolling that Jaya has come under after remarks in Rajya Sabha made in response to BJP MP and Bhojpuri actor Ravi Kishan and actress Kangana Ranaut, the Mumbai police deployed police personnel outside Bachchans residence “Jalsa” to ensure against untoward incidents.

Simultaneously, the Mumbai Police Cyber Cell is looking into trolling and virulent social media posts that have targeted the Bachchans during the last two days. Talking to media persons here, Mumbai Guardian Minister Aslam Shaikh said: “I have told the Mumbai police to increase security for the Bachchan family which is being trolled and targeted viciously in the social media after her remarks in support of Bollywood in Parliament”

It may be recalled that actor Ravi Kishan said that there was a drug problem in Bollywood, Jaya Bachchan had hit back saying that some attempts were being made to “vilify” Bollywood.

“Just because of a few people, you cannot vilify the whole

industry... I was really embarrassed and ashamed that yesterday one of our members in the Lok Sabha, who is from the industry, spoke against the film industry. Jis thaali mein khaate hain usi mein chhed karte hain (they are biting the hand that feeds them),” Jaya had said in Rajya Sabha, without naming Kishan.

“At a time when the financial situation is in a depressing state and employment rate at the worst levels, in order to divert the attention of people, we are being flogged on social media and there is no support from the government.... the entertainment industry in the country provides direct employment to 5 lakh people daily and indirect employment to 5 million people,” Jaya had said.

After 6-month, Mamata to resume administrative meetings soon

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

After almost a six-month Agap Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has decided to visit the districts to hold administrative meetings. Her district tour will begin with visits to North Bengal towns where the Chief Minister will take stock of situations, officials at State Secretariat Nabanna said.

The resumption of Banerjee’s administrative meetings amid corona crisis comes in the backdrop intensified movements on the part of principal Opposition party BJP.

The Chief Minister will reach Siliguri on September 21 where she will stay for a night before holding meetings with district officials of Alipurduar and Jalpaiguri districts at

“Uttarkanya” building which is the second secretariat of the State.

After meeting officials there she would the district authorities of Darjeeling, Coochbehar and Kalimpong before returning to Kolkata on September 24, sources said.

Soon after coming to power Banerjee had started regular administrative trips to district headquarters taking along with him respective ministers, and secretaries. During administrative meetings she would confront local authorities and evaluate their progress report on various pending projects. Besides she would also meet local people to take feedbacks from them.

The formula had yielded results with the effect that projects were speedily completed.

State BJP to stage Nabanna march on Oct 6

Now we have promised to make them ‘saaf’ (clear them out) and we will do that with the help of the people. No amount of administrative meeting will help.”

Bengal Minister Partho Chatterjee however said “The victory of 2019 has gone to BJP’s head and in the past one year they have shown their metal to the people. Now they have once again made up their mind because they know that their future lies with Mamata Banerjee and not the communal party like BJP.”

Meanwhile, the State BJP had decided to stage a Nabanna march on October 6, party sources said adding the march will be organized to raise a number of issues including corruption, syndicate raj, falling law and order situation etc.

BJP: Vijayan direct beneficiary of gold scam, LIFE

Mission corruption

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

For the first time in the history of Kerala, leader of a political party stood in front of the main gate of the Kerala Secretariat on Wednesday and shouted that Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan was the direct beneficiary of the gold smuggling scam, LIFE Mission corruption and even the drug trafficking cases in the State.

“Pinarayi Vijayan is the direct beneficiary of gold smuggling scam, LIFE Mission corruption and drug trafficking. That’s the reason behind his over enthusiasm in saving and protecting K T Jaleel, the minister for higher education who has been questioned by the Enforcement Directorate,” declared K Surendran, president of the Kerala BJP on Wednesday.

Surendran, who was addressing hundreds of party workers including activists of Mahila Morchcha, said that Vijayan was afraid of his own shadow. “It is because of his sense of guilt. We want the investigating agencies to question Vijayan’s daughter and son-in-law in these cses,” said the BJP leader.

The BJP president was referring to Vijayan’s press briefing on Tuesday evening when he shouted at the former describing him as a person who lost his mental balance. “ A sense of fear is haunting Vijayan and it is because of his involvement in the criminal deeds,” charged Surendran.

Earlier VV Rajesh, senior BJP leader, alleged that the CPI(M) was conspiring with the Police in sabotaging the rallies and demonstrations organized by the saffron brigade all over Kerala.

Kerala Cong braces up to celebrate Chandy’s golden jubilee

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

Though the Congress presence is not felt in the State-wide agitation against the CPI(M)-led Kerala Government over the gold smuggling scam and LIFE Mission corruption charges, the Grand Old Party is busy with warming up for a two-day mega event to be held at Kottayam and Thiruvananthapuram on Thursday and Saturday respectively. The fact that Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi are addressing the virtual rallies live from New Delhi shows the importance of being Oommen Chandi, the face of the party in Kerala.

Congressmen and cadre in the State are getting ready to

celebrate the Golden Jubilee of former Chief Minister Oommen Chandi’s membership of the Kerala Legislative Assembly. Chandi (75) is the only law maker in the Kerala who has been elected to the assembly in all elections he had contested since 1970. Though he was playing a subdued role in politics after the 2016 election in which the Congress-led UDF was defeated by a huge margin by the CPI(M)-led Left Front, the Congress staged an impressive return in the 2019 Lok Sabha election from Kerala.

The Congress High Command in a major reorganization of the party, inducted Oommen Chandi as a member of the Congress Working Committee making it clear

that who would be the chief ministerial candidate of the party in the 2021 election. It has its own explanations. “Chandi is always the man of the hour to whom the High Command turns to in emergency times. He has the capability to disarm even hardcore critics of the party with that disarming smile. Moreover he has only obsession and that is Kerala politics,” said Sam Rajappa, a long time observer of Kerala’s politics.

Though belonging to the Christian community, Chandi is acceptable to all including Hindus in the State and that makes him the frontrunner for the chief minister’s post. “All allegations levelled against him by the CPI(M) prior to the 2016 have fallen flat. The

Hindus have understood that had the Government of Kerala followed the affidavit filed by his Government in the Sabarimala Case, the unpleasant events that took place in the holy shrine would not have been there. The CPI(M) government took back that affidavit and filed another one which earned it the wrath of the people,” said P Rajan, former editor of Mathrubhumi and venerated commentator.

In a politically surcharged State like Kerala, it is impossible to any person to win successfully and successively from a single constituency all elections. But Oommen Chandi, popularly known as Kunjoonju is different and he is here to stay for some more years, say friends and foes alike.

UP Defence Corridor: Search on for land in Khyamai, Barakalan and Jalalpur

PRADEEP SAXENA ■ ALIGARH

Along with progressing the work of setting up the Defence Industrial Corridor in Andla, the UPEIDA team is also actively looking for land in Khyamai, Barakalan and Jalalpur in Gabhana. Today, two UPEIDA land officers OP Pathak and Sanjay Chawla also visited Khyamai, Barakalan and Jalalpur.

60 hectares of government land is being found in Khyamai, 20 hectares in Jalalpur and 50 hectares in Barakalan. ADM DV Pal told that land is being searched for setting up an explosive making factory. Therefore, the land is being searched in a safe and

secluded place.

He further stated that these three locations are good for expansion for the Defense Corridor. The land is also cheaper because it belongs to the government, so these lands are a better option for expansion. Recently, in the video conference of CM, Home Secretary Avnish Awasthi had instructed the investors to transfer the land of Andla at the earliest under their firm’s name. After this, the local administration has started the process of transferring the land. The forest department has been asked to clear the land in Andla by cutting down trees.

The current circle rate of land in Khyamai is around Rs

32 lakh per hectare while the land is being sold for Rs 26 to 27 lakh per hectare. If the land is taken for the defense corridor, the farmers will get double the circle rate, that is, around Rs 64 lakh per hectare. Therefore, farmers are also excited to sell their land.

Along with UPEIDA officials, Navneet Varshney, Mukesh Jain and Mohit Kumar of the Federation of Innovative Manufacturers also inspected the land and talked to the farmers. The total land of Khyamai can come up to 60 hectares in this project. Therefore, all the connectivity routes from Andla to Khyamai are being looked at, so that the connectivity can be improved.

Prof Habib: Raja Mahendra Pratap not mentioned giving land to AMU

PNS ■ ALIGARH

In the preparations to give back the land leased by Aligarh Muslim University to the descendants of King Mahendra Pratap, the famous historian Professor Irfan Habib has said that despite being close to him, Raja Mahendra Pratap never told him that he had given any land to Aligarh Muslim University. This matter is between the taker and the giver.

A 90-year-old Professor Irfan Habib has said that in 1962, he helped Raja Mahendra Pratap in contesting Parliament election. He and his father Prof Habib had good relations with Raja Saheb, but he never mentioned anything like giving land to the university. He said that as far as taking and giving land is concerned, there must be some documents of a lease. Those who have given should be having some papers.

Aligarh admin braces up for panchayat poll preparation

PNS ■ ALIGARH

As soon as the information about the voter list revision campaign was released from the State Election Commission for the Panchayat elections, stir started in the villages and towns. The administration also has tightened up. From 1st, BLO will start door to door visit.

DM Chandra Bhushan Singh told that orders have been issued regarding the Panchayat elections from. In this, door to door survey will start from 1st October, while inspection of online application will be done from 6th to 12th November.

Claims and objections will be sought on the list from 6th to 12th December and will be cleared of in 4 days. Last list will be made available on 29th December.

‘Govt should study time capsule before burial in AMU’

PRADEEP SAXENA ■ ALIGARH

On the completion of 100 years of establishment, Aligarh Muslim University is preparing to bury the time capsule. Hathras MP and AMU court member Rajveer Diler in his written letter to the Union Education Minister Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank, has demanded from a government to study a time capsule before its burial so that the next generation can know correct history.

On the completion of 100 years of AMU, it has been decided by the university administration to bury the time capsule in the ground. MP Rajveer Diler says that the time capsule will be preserved in the ground for thousands of years. To avoid any wrong facts in this time capsule, the government must have complete information about the capsule and permission from the Central Government and what is being buried in it.

Higher Covid-19 cases in East & West Godavari dists, 8,835 cases in AP

Amaravati: The two Godavari districts, East and West, continued to witness a virulent spread of coronavirus while most other districts in Andhra Pradesh seemed to be gradually lowering their numbers as the state reported 8,835 fresh cases on Wednesday.

The latest COVID-19 bulletin said 10,845 patients had fully recovered in 24 hours ending 9 AM on Wednesday, while 64 more succumbed.

The states COVID-19 table now showed a total of 5,92,760 positive cases, 4,97,376 recoveries and 5,105 deaths. The active cases came down further to 90,279, according to the bulletin. After 48.06 lakh sample tests, the infection positivity rate stood at 12.33 per cent, as against the national average of 8.44 per cent.

The tests per million

increased to a record 90,016.

East Godavari district, which revealed one of the lowest antibody levels of 14.4 per cent in the Sero prevalence study, continued to add its regulation 1,400 daily cases.

It has now touched a total of 81,064 cases, with 12,036 of them being active.

The neighbouring West Godavari, which too had a lowest Sero prevalence of 12.3 per cent, added 1,051 in the last 24 hours, pushing its overall tally to 53,571.

The district currently has 8,710 active cases.

Chittoor reported nine more COVID-19 deaths in 24 hours, followed by SPS Nellore seven, Guntur and Prakasam six each.

Kadapa, Krishna, Srikakulam and West Godavari saw five new fatalities each, according to the bulletin. **PTI**

Maha: Cong stages stir against Centre’s ban on onion export

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Wearing onion garlands around their necks, the Congress staged protests in Nashik district – which has the country’s largest onion market at Lasalgaon and other parts of Maharashtra, against the Narendra Modi Government’s decision to ban exports of onions.

In Nashik district which is the epi-centre of protests against the “anti-farmer” policies of the Modi government, the Congress workers – accompanied by onion growing farmers –raised vociferous slogans against the BJP-led government at the Centre.

On Tuesday, the onion growers and traders had staged a dharna at the market yard of the APMC market at Lasalgaon in Nashik district.

“At a time when the farmers in the state have started to recover from the Covid-19 induced losses, the Modi government has once again dashed their hopes. At a time when the onion crop was fetching good prices in the market, the Modi government suddenly decided to ban exports, causing huge losses to farmers,” Maharashtra Congress president and State

“At a time when the farmers in the state have started to recover from the Covid-19 induced losses, the Modi government has once again dashed their hopes. At a time when the onion crop was fetching good prices in the market, the Modi government suddenly decided to ban exports, causing huge losses to farmers,” Maharashtra Congress president and State Revenue Minister Balasaheb Thorat said

Revenue Minister Balasaheb Thorat said.

“There is anger among the farmers against the Modi government’s decision to ban onion exports and the state government stands firmly with the farmers. The Congress’ agitation will continue till the time the union government withdraws the ban on onion exports,” Thorat said.

Slamming the Modi government’s decision to ban onion exports, Thorat said: “Recently, the Centre’s decision to import milk powder deprived the opportunity to thousands of dairy farmers to sell tonnes of milk powder lying with them, resulting in a

drop in milk prices. Just as when onions were fetching a good price in the market, a decision to ban exports was taken which has led to the price of onion crashing by Rs 700-800 per quintal.”

Meanwhile, the Maharashtra Cabinet on Wednesday expressed serious displeasure over the Centre’s decision to ban onion exports.

At the weekly State Cabinet meeting, Deputy chief minister Ajit Pawar, Food and Civil Supplies Minister Chhagan Bhujbal and Revenue Minister Balasaheb Thorat criticised the Centre for its “anti-farmer” decision of banning the export of onions.

Briefing the ministers present, Principal Secretary Anup Kumar said that during 2018-19 farmers from Maharashtra had exported 21.83 metric tonnes of Onion, while they had exported 18.50 metric tonnes of onion during 2019-20.

Senior Minister Eknath Shinde told the Cabinet that currently, 4 lakh metric tonnes were lying at the Jawahar Nehru Port, while more than 500 trucks carrying onions were waiting in a queue near the Nepal border. **PTI**

Kerala logs single-day highest spike with 3,830 new cases

Thiruvananthapuram: A single-day highest ever spike of 3,830 COVID-19 cases in Kerala took the state’s infection count to 1,17,863 on Wednesday, the government said. The state also recorded 14 deaths, taking the toll due to the disease to 480, Health Minister K K Shailaja said.

“Out of those infected today, 49 came from abroad, 153 from other states while 3,562 contracted the virus through contacts. At least 66 health workers are also infected,” she said in a release here.

Among the districts, Thiruvananthapuram logged the highest number 675 cases, followed by Kozhikode (468), Alappuzha (323) Ernakulam (319) and Kollam with 300 cases.

The deceased included three in their 40s and as many in their 80s. A 45-year old woman from Kozhikode was the youngest among those who succumbed to the virus on Wednesday while a 84-year old man from Palakkad was the eldest. Palakkad accounted for a maximum of six deaths among the fresh fatalities, the Minister said. **PTI**

Recoveries eclipse fresh cases in TN

PTI ■ CHENNAI

Recoveries outnumbered fresh COVID-19 cases in Tamil Nadu for the 11th straight day on Wednesday with the cumulative number of those cured rising to 4.64 lakh, while the infection count mounted to 5.19 lakh.

The state added 5,652 fresh cases taking the tally to 5,19,860 while the death toll mounted to 8,559 with 57 more fatalities, a government bulletin said.

The day saw 5,768 patients getting discharged from various hospitals as the trend of recovering eclipsing new cases continued since September 6.

Totally 4,64,668 people have got cured and the active cases stood at 46,633. Of the fresh infections, Chennai district logged 983, Coimbatore 549, Chengelpet 319, Tiruvallur 282, Salem 280, Cuddalore 263 and Kancheepuram 189 and the remainder was scattered across the state, the bulletin said.

The state capital accounted for 1,51,560 positive cases out of the total 5,19,860. Those dead included a 94-year old man and a 30-year old woman.



Migrants from various States arrive at Thane Railway Station to reach their workplaces, amid the coronavirus pandemic, in Thane on Wednesday

PTI

from Patna district, two each from Aurangabad and Bhojpur, and one each from Buxar, East Champaran, Samastipur and Vaishali.

There are 13,526 actives cases in the state. As many as 1,07,970 samples were tested for COVID-19 in the past 24 hours while 52.02 lakh samples have been examined for coronavirus infection across Bihar so far, it said. **PTI**

Bihar reports more recoveries than new coronavirus cases

Patna: Single-day recoveries outnumbered new COVID-19 cases in Bihar on Wednesday as the state since August 17, except on September 3 and 4.

Out of the total 1,62,631 COVID-19 cases, the number of people who have recovered from the contagion increased to 1,48,257.

Twelve fatalities have been reported in the past 24 hours taking the death toll to 848, the bulletin said.

The number of recoveries has shown a steady increase in the state since August 17, except on September 3 and 4.

Out of the total 1,62,631 COVID-19 cases, the number of people who have recovered from the contagion increased to 1,48,257.

Twelve fatalities have been reported in the past 24 hours taking the death toll to 848, the bulletin said.

Four deaths were reported

Pak renews map war

Despite Russia’s protests, it circulates fictitious map showing parts of India at SCO. Is China behind this adventurism?

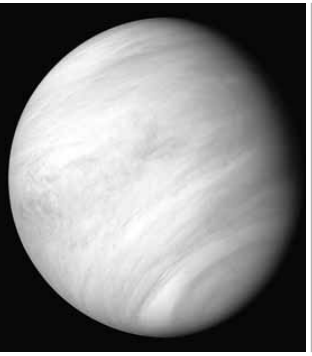


Pakistan is playing a dangerous geo-political game, needling India from the other end as China’s serf State, without realising that all of it could boomerang on itself. Having failed to internationalise the Kashmir issue despite the abrogation of Article 370, it has now taken its territorial aggression to redrawing its maps and appropriating what it fancifully feels is owed to it. So in August it released a new map, incorporating Kashmir, parts of Ladakh and Junagadh in Gujarat. India had rightly called this vacuous and unilateral declaration, which is not backed by any credible reasoning, support groups, historical reasoning or legal validity, as a “political absurdity.” So Pakistan, in a bid to legitimise its claims, circulated this map at a virtual meeting of the national security advisors of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) member countries, despite host Russia’s resistance. India rightly walked out of the meeting, saying Pakistan’s move violated SCO norms, which mandated that no bilateral issue would be discussed and that the sovereignty and territorial integrity of member-states would be respected. The Russia-India-China axis dominates the SCO, which, as a counterweight to the US-dominated NATO, has emerged as one of the largest trans-regional international organisations accounting for almost 44 per cent of the world population, stretching from the Arctic Ocean to the Indian Ocean and from the Pacific Ocean to the Baltic Sea. China is seeking to use it in its global domination against the US and while it has sufficiently debt-trapped Central Asian republics and other regional players to do its bidding, it is trying to neutralise Russia by becoming its biggest investor and is now needling India. Considering that India is intransigent on yielding to China’s terms on the Ladakh standoff, regardless of the meetings of the Foreign and Defence Ministers of both nations on the sidelines of the SCO, it just wanted to embarrass India, making it look like an “occupier” at a public forum. And for this it used its proxy, Pakistan. China has also been trying to convince Russia to scale down its defence deals with India following the border stand-off and the map fiasco, which undoubtedly has left Moscow red-faced, was about strong-arming it as well. True, Russia is pragmatic enough about keeping both China and India on its side to establish its relevance in a multi-polar world and even front India to counter Chinese heft. But China certainly doesn’t want India, which has won brownie points at international fora for being decorous and respecting the rule of law, to prevail at SCO. In fact, it was what Pakistan Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi said recently that shows this cartographic offensive to be a part of a larger pattern and not just Pakistan’s independent move. “The new map shows Kashmir shares a clear border with China,” a clear indication that like Nepal, this attempt to redraw boundaries was made at China’s behest and underlines our eastern neighbour’s desire for strategic contiguity in the region than Pakistan’s any real concern for Kashmir. While India is firm on Chinese withdrawal from eastern Ladakh that seems to have driven a wedge in their greater plan to control the Karakoram by squeezing us with salami-slicing, Pakistan’s map claims are clearly intended to warn us of a two-front offensive. Pakistan is heating up the Line of Control (LoC), having moved almost 20,000 soldiers recently to match Chinese deployment on the Line of Actual Control (LAC). Its ceasefire violations and infiltration bids have gone up by about 60 per cent this year, something which didn’t happen even after the Balakot airstrikes. If recent reports are to be believed, then the Chinese are no longer shadow-boxing. Just like in Nepal, their officials have had a series of meetings with their Pakistani counterparts in Gilgit-Baltistan and have been aiding them clandestinely to revive old terror networks against India. Debt-trapped by the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), with its economy in the doldrums and heavily dependent on borrowings and bailouts, Pakistan is but a pawn in China’s gameplan.

Yet Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan forgets that such unilateralism will beget unilateralism from the Indian side as well. And hurt its interests. The new map is nothing but an adventurist version of its 1947-48 map and in one blow scythes through all bilateral agreements that came after it, primarily the 1972 Shimla Agreement. If Khan wants to negate the understanding that bilateral disputes will be resolved bilaterally, is he also prepared for the negation of all other bilateral treaties we have regarding water-sharing? And if he has taken the liberty of depicting territories under Indian control as Pakistani territory, then how would he counter other valid land claims from our side? In that sense, Pakistan’s latest offensive is nothing short of playing with fire. Realising that the US is now more an ally of India and is humouring it, Pakistan is desperately coopting the Kashmir issue under the banner of pan-Islamism. So it is involving Turkey, which wants to be a leader of the neo-Islamic world, in its criticism of India and seeking Chinese endorsement. Only Pakistan doesn’t realise that its Kashmir strategy is still not quite exportable. And that China, while using it for posturing, will continue to engage with India for geo-strategic reasons.

Life on Venus

There’s proof of life in the unlikelyest of planets, also known for being one of the least explored



For years, the search for extraterrestrial life inside our solar system has always concentrated on the “red” planet Mars. That is because Mars is similar in size to Earth. There is now clear evidence that there was once water on its surface and most importantly, like Earth, it is also in the so-called “habitable” zone, close enough to its star for enough radiation but not so much that life wouldn’t take off. Mars is, therefore, considered to either have life or to have once harboured life and capable of supporting a human expedition. As a result, we are constantly sending probes to Mars and even to its tiny moons.

Probes that circle the planet as well as robotic vehicles that have roamed its surface. We actually have a greater grasp of the surface of Mars than we do of the bottom of our oceans. Even now, the aim for mankind, both in real and reel life, is to make Mars the first step on our eventual voyage to the stars.

Venus, the second rock from the Sun, is, however, given as an example of where global warming will take us. A planet benign on the outside but one where every probe sent since the start of space exploration has been dissolved in acid in the atmosphere or fried by the extreme heat that the greenhouse effect has caused. Even though the Soviet Venera programme did land several probes on Venus and many survived a few hours, there was a succession of lens cap failures. As a result, Venus is one of the least explored planets of the solar system, lacking the romanticism of Mars and the grandeur of Jupiter and Saturn, which have both seen billion-dollar spacecraft visit them in the past decade. Yet, the discovery of phosphine in the Venusian atmosphere is an intriguing prospect because the only way for this gas, with three hydrogen molecules attached to one phosphorus molecule, to occur naturally is as a byproduct of biological processes. While the gas can be made industrially by man, that isn’t clearly a possibility on Venus. So, have we been barking up the wrong tree for decades? After all, as the old adage goes, “Men are from Mars and Women are from Venus” and as we all know, women have all the answers. Maybe some strange process creates phosphine on Venus that we are unaware of and we should send a probe or two to the planet we never thought could harbour life. But as we know from Earth herself, life can survive in some really extreme conditions. This time though, let us make sure that the lens caps work.

Teachers too must learn

The NEP expects every teacher to develop a comprehensive perspective on life and living and follow an application-based module



JS RAJPUT

For over six decades, one has never witnessed such a strong projection of the national resolve to implement a policy. This rare privilege goes to the National Education Policy (NEP), 2020. The President of India addresses the nation, the Prime Minister addresses twice within a week, the Union Education Minister and his team seem busy 24X7, conducting and guiding national-level webinars on specific topics that would require new initiatives and action at the implementation stage. It’s evident that the nation has realised that for equitable growth, progress and development, it has to be “education, education, and education.” India is now determined to create a pool of teachers who would not only be degree-holders but possess “personalities.” These would be people imbued with a comprehensive multi-disciplinary and multi-dimensional perspective.

In fact, the new approach to teacher preparation would expect every instructor to develop a comprehensive perspective on life and living. They would internalise the higher goals of education. The focus, henceforth, would be on them believing in *Sarva Bhut Hite Ratah*. And as was the ancient tradition, they would be life-long learners, *yavadjeevait adhiyate viprah*. It is, in a sense, a revolutionary recommendation that by 2030 all teachers would be prepared in multi-faculty colleges and universities through four-year integrated programmes. As one goes through the various sections of the NEP, this expectation becomes evident to everyone.

The objective of achieving *scharyatwa* would require a strong support system that must emerge from the establishment and society. There are clear indications to ensure that: “In order to improve and reach the levels of integrity and credibility required to restore the prestige of the teaching profession, the regulatory system shall be empowered to take stringent action against sub-standard and dysfunctional Teacher Education Institutions (TEIs) that do not meet the basic educational criterion, after giving one year for the remedy of breaches. By 2030, only educationally sound, multi-disciplinary and integrated teacher education programmes shall be in force.” This objective of restoring the credibility



of TEIs is achievable. The National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) had, during 1998-99, successfully exercised this authority, and certain well-known but sub-standard teacher preparation programmes were closed down. Once teacher educators accept this responsibility, they could transform the entire system. Let them never forget that the recommendations on teacher education arise from the expectations and aspirations of the young. But somewhere besides these is also the hidden pain and anguish which was recorded – with a heavy heart – by late Justice JS Verma: “A majority of stand-alone TEIs – over 10,000 in number – are not even attempting serious teacher education but are essentially selling degrees for a price.” One could mention it only with immense pain, as the first chairperson of the NCTE said, that all these 10,000 institutions selling degrees were certified by senior teachers, teacher educators, professors and other academics. The policy has done its part, no more stand-alone colleges. Now it is the responsibility of teachers, teacher educators and professionals in the field to ensure that in future regulatory mechanisms are not trivialised.

This policy suggests alternative regulatory structures, which would transform the manner in which future multi-disciplinary

teacher preparations institutions and universities would emerge. The responsibility of teachers at every stage would grow multi-fold as autonomy would be the in-thing.

When one goes through the various general recommendations in the policy, one finds serious concern for drastic change in teacher education in content and pedagogy, and the need to achieve an attitudinal transformation among aspiring teachers. It is now learning, learning and more learning. Examinations shall no more be days of nationwide anxiety and widespread tension. The focus of assessment in schools shifts to application of knowledge gained and internalised.

The present pattern of examinations was transplanted in this country by alien rulers. It had been discarded in Britain much earlier but we still adhere to it in India. Teachers, and teacher educators, have a tremendous task ahead in implementing curriculum load reduction, to ensure that textbooks and textual materials are neither deficient on new knowledge nor too overloaded with obsolescence content.

Teaching and learning shall become more interactive, and much would transpire outside the closed classroom. Skill development and bringing in vocational education elements early in

schools would require TEIs absorbing them in their own curricula. Those who know the story of Richard Feynman would find it much easier to visualise its great transformative and inspiring impact on the system as a whole. It would be possible only when the promises to ensure the assured recruitment process are put to practice, and the assurances on the professionally acceptable teacher-student ratio is implemented without any aberrations. One must not ignore considerable dilution in the quality of education and decline in the acceptability and credibility of schools funded by the public. The policy realises this.

The ancient Indian tradition of knowledge quest spreads over four stages: *adhyayan*, *manan*, *chintan* and *upayog*. And its relevance is eternal. It is the essence of the process of transfer of knowledge to generations ahead. Every teacher, henceforth, would be expected to comprehend the essence of Indian philosophy of education that finds reflection throughout this policy.

Let me recall three sentences of Sri Aurobindo; first being that the process must begin with “from near, to far”, and hence the mother tongue medium and other aspects. His second principle was that “nothing can be taught.” Every active, alert and vibrant teacher shall

have to grasp its essence. It is “learning the treasure within.” It is the perfection within that the child is discovering, and teachers are assisting, supporting, guiding, and much more.

When Sri Aurobindo states that the “mind must be consulted in its growth,” he is emphasising how pertinent it is to “know the child.” It is the comprehension of these basic principles that has led to the restricting of the school education system to 5+3+3+4. The most significant is the addition of initial three years, after the age of 3. India would need very specialised teachers for this age group.

A couple of years ago, India had anticipated the importance of open and distance learning. That experience comes very handy as the global attention diverts to online learning. Creation of digital platforms and e-content had already begun in full swing and has come handy during the corona crisis, as children are confined to their homes. The pedagogy is undergoing unprecedented change, teachers associated with schools will have to gear up to learn new skills. While tools and techniques shall change – sometimes beyond recognition – the pedagogical principles would remain the same.

(The writer works in education and social cohesion)

SOUNDBITE

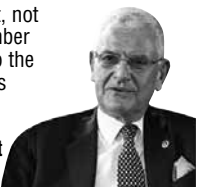
I call on the Palestinian leadership to recognise reality and show responsibility as did the UAE leaders, by returning to negotiating table.

Israeli Minister
—Gabi Ashkenazi



Security Council reform is very important, not only for the member states but also to the United Nations as a whole.

Turkish diplomat
—Volkan Bozkir



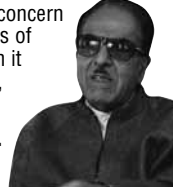
We will be taking action to counter the unjust tariffs put on Canadian aluminum by the United States. We will always be there to defend Canadian workers, defend our aluminum sector.

Canadian PM
—Justin Trudeau



If J&K UT government is of the view that it has no concern and duty for the feelings of Kashmir’s masses, then it must take that position, categorically.

Former Union Minister
—Saifuddin Soz



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Medical education

Sir — The Tamil Nadu Assembly has unanimously passed a Bill to provide 7.5 per cent horizontal reservation in medical admissions for State Government students who clear the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET). The provisions of the new law are applicable to all government and private medical, dental, Indian medicine and homeopathy streams. The reservation will benefit 300 underprivileged scholars annually and will be implemented from this year onwards.

Amit Singh Kushwaha
Madihya Pradesh

No arrest warrant

Sir — The Uttar Pradesh Government has issued a notification for setting up a Special Security Force (SSF). It will be given responsibility of important Government buildings, industrial establishments, major sites, airports, metros and other important places. Empowered to make “arrests” and conduct “searches” without any prior

MPLADS should be permanently scrapped

In the wake of the Coronavirus outbreak, the Government has decided to reallocate the funds from the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS). Amounting to ₹5 crore a year per Member of Parliament (MP), the money will now be allocated by the Centre for relief packages. Rather than just suspending the scheme, it should be permanently scrapped.

The Public Accounts Committee (PAC) of the Parliament and Planning Commission termed MPLADS useless and as encouraging corruption. A sting operation caught few parliamentarians accepting bribes to approve schemes to be funded through MPLADS. The then Lok Sabha Speaker Somnath Chatterjee had argued for scrapping the scheme. Many members of Parliament and the Legislative Assembly have been over-generous by funding their favourite organisations through this scheme even though such funding may have had nothing to do with public welfare. It may be recalled that trusts floated by the then Chief Election Commissioner



Navin Chawla were generously funded by parliamentarians cutting across party-lines from MPLADS. Already, the Bihar government has abolished such a programme. All such suggested reforms should be implemented both at the Centre and in States.

Madhu Agrawal
Chandni Chowk

Inflation a concern

Sir — Inflation is primarily driven by food prices, which account for 39 per cent of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) basket, and a sharp spiral in prices of transport and communication services, which amount

to 8.6 per cent. The sub category of petrol and diesel for vehicles and telephone charges for mobiles account for around 50 per cent of transport and communication charges, which have been growing in double digits in July and August. Prices of basic food items such as pulses, vegetables, edible oil, meat, fish and

eggs have doubled. Even fruits are extremely costly. While the CPI in August is lower than that of July by 0.04 per cent, it is still higher than the upper limit of the RBI’s comfort level of six per cent for the fifth consecutive month. The data is not at all encouraging.

CK Ramanathan
Ghaziabad

A proud moment

Sir — India got elected as Member of the UN Commission on the Status of Women, the principal global body focussed on gender equality and women empowerment, beating China in a hotly-contested election. India garnered 38 votes of the 54 ballots cast.

India and Afghanistan will join Argentina, Austria, Dominican Republic, Israel, Latvia, Nigeria, Turkey and Zambia, which were elected by acclamation, to the Commission on the Status of Women for a four-year term between 2021 and 2025. This is a proud moment for us indeed.

Vihaan Gupta
Ujjain

Send your feedback to:
letterstopioneer@gmail.com

FIRST COLUMN

Mitigate data intrusion worries

Instead of thinking of security as a prevention tool, firms must incorporate it into product design from the start so that the architect systems are impenetrable



RIPU **BAJWA**

In the new digital era, where data is growing at an unprecedented rate by the second and where organisations are quickly becoming data-first, one thing has become crystal clear. That the “this is good enough” approach by businesses, across the globe and in India, is no more acceptable when it comes to safeguarding the most precious capital, i.e. data, from an external intrusion. Ever since businesses have become increasingly dependent on their data to fuel innovation, drive new revenue streams and so on, Information Technology decision-makers have not just been evaluating their current data protection preparedness but have also been ramping up their investments in this regard.

However, over the past few months, since organisations have been fixated on quickly transitioning towards remote working due to the Coronavirus pandemic, they might have missed out on something vital that they should have been focussing on and that is the threats that come along with this work culture. As a result, the world and India with it, has been witnessing a steady uptick in the instances of cyber attacks.

For example, as per a recent report, India witnessed a 37 per cent increase in cyber attacks in the first quarter of this year as compared to the last quarter of 2019. The data also show that India now ranks 27th globally in the number of web-threats detected in the first quarter of this year as compared to when it ranked on the 32nd position globally in the fourth quarter of 2019. India also ranks 11th worldwide in the number of attacks caused by servers that were hosted in the country, which accounts for 22,99,682 incidents in the first quarter of this year as compared to 8,54,782 incidents detected in the fourth quarter of 2019, says the Kaspersky Security Network report.

Another report claims that data of over 21,000 Indian students, including their Aadhaar cards, photos and so on, have been put on sale on the Dark Web. Another instance of data being leaked on the Dark Web came to light in June, with a massive data packet — nearly 100 gigabytes in size — being put up for sale. The data comprises scanned identity documents of over one lakh Indians, including passports, PAN cards, Aadhaar cards, voter IDs and driver’s licences. Thus, given the rising data security concerns and incidents, chief technology officers (CTOs) need to look for a holistic approach towards data protection and management. Now, they need to be cognisant about how to respond, recover and learn in case a cyber intrusion occurs. Here are a few tips for CTOs that will help them redefine their data protection strategy.

Drift away from security to resilience: With the evolving nature of cyber attacks, it’s time for businesses to stop reacting and start anticipating. Loss of critical data has the power to not just cripple a company in no time but also damage its reputation for the long-term. Hence, instead of relying on traditional methods of data security i.e. identify, protect, detect, respond and then recover, organisations must imbibe state-of-the-art resilience strategies i.e. learn, respond, monitor and anticipate.

Adopt a security strategy ingrained in product mindset: Businesses must not only think about making security intrinsic to technology infrastructure but also aim at enabling security professionals become intrinsic to future product development. They need to transform into a data-first and product-first mindset organisation in order to be able to remain competitive in the future. Thus, instead of thinking of security as a prevention tool, the need of the hour is to incorporate it into the product design from the beginning so that it will make the architect systems and processes impenetrable.

The key to a winning strike is the right digital partner: In the past, businesses have been using a hit and trial method with regard to choosing their digital partner and this approach has brought in more vulnerability to their sensitive data assets. As per a report by Vanson Bourne, organisations in the Asia Pacific and Japan, which were relying on more than one data protection solution provider, were almost four times more vulnerable to a cyber incident that prevents access to their data. Hence, in order to combat the external threats, businesses must choose a single technology partner that delivers multi-platform security.

While it is critical to invest in the right technologies, it has also become utmost important for businesses to ramp up their education and awareness levels to stay abreast with new security threats. Therefore, to end the constant tussle between finding the right data protection architecture and keeping up with the modern security approaches, CTOs must focus on strategies that redefine their data protection ecosystems from time to time.

(The writer is Director and General Manager, Data Protection Solutions, Dell Technologies)

WE WANT TO WORK WITH YOU TO REALLY RECOGNISE THE CHANGE IN CLIMATE AND WHAT IT MEANS FOR OUR FORESTS. WE CAN'T BURY OUR HEAD IN THE SAND. —CALIFORNIA SECRETARY FOR NATURAL RESOURCES WADE CROWFOOT

POINTCOUNTERPOINT



IT WILL ALL START GETTING COOLER SOON, YOU JUST WATCH. I DON'T THINK SCIENCE KNOWS, ACTUALLY —US PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP

The pleasures of victimhood

If impersonating was Jessica Krug’s way of legitimising herself as an academic, mobilising the disenfranchised and then representing them as perpetual victims is another



JYOTIRMAYA **TRIPATHY**

The recent confession of Professor Jessica Krug about her true identity may have outraged many. However, it offers an opportunity to re-evaluate what academics given to consciousness-raising often do. Krug, a historian teaching African history at George Washington University, admitted in a blog that she is a Jew born of White parents and has nothing to do with African-American Blackness, something which she had been claiming for a long time. She regretted that her action was “the very epitome of violence, of thievery and appropriation, of the myriad ways in which non-Black people continue to use and abuse Black identities and cultures.” In the same breath, Krug declared that she is no culture vulture but a culture leech. Her actions though have proved otherwise. Prior to her outing of herself in the blog, Krug had used a more African-sounding name (Jessica La Bombalera) in her activist avatar, and during a demonstration had questioned the gentrification of New York by calling out the “White New Yorkers” for having failed to spare a thought for Black and Brown New Yorkers. We don’t know what prompted her to come out as White though it is said that there were increasing murmurs about her identity that forced her to do so.

The knowledge market: On the face of it, a situation such as this is not representative of the academic environment in the US or India. This is where the present intervention marks its departure. Krug’s admission, no doubt, betrays her inability to fake it any longer, but more importantly, it reveals the malaise of contemporary academic knowledge production. The difference between usurping the voice of the weak (what academics do) and pretending to be the weak (what Krug did) is perhaps one of degree and not of kind. When Krug claimed to be a culture leech rather than a vulture, she was highlighting that subtle difference. We can be reasonably sure that Krug is not the first one and won’t be the last, at least until the academic market stops converting experience of marginality to elitist knowledge and suspends placing a premium on the dish of victimhood.

Those who see Krug’s problem as an individual transgression are either oblivious of what goes in the name of knowledge or are beneficiaries of such methods. Academic scholarship has often been obsessed with not just representing cultural difference but also in producing, controlling and owning it. Few questions are raised about the moral foundation of such knowledge. It is taken for granted that if cultural difference does not exist, it is to be invented and if academic knowledge has to sustain itself, “savage slots” are to be continuously filled. Krug took it one step further. Instead of being content with immersion or academic self-othering, or sponging on cultural difference of the Blacks like a leech, she chose to become indistinguishable from what she was writing about.

A few years ago, Harvard University had gone to the market advertising its culture of diversity by projecting Elizabeth Warren, a law professor who claimed to be a Cherokee Indian (and went on to have a thriving political career). The difference between birth identity and assumed identity may appear as academically adventurous and a cool way of moving beyond fixed identities, but in reality, and for the people whose identity is thus stolen, it is an act of violence. In a post-modern academic world, race is increasingly seen as a political invention rather

“KRUG CONVERTED THE BLACK EXPERIENCE TO SOME BARE CODES DEFINING BLACK AUTHENTICITY: ANGRY, VIOLENT, ABUSIVE. THAT IS WHAT SHE WAS DOING WHILE APPEARING AS JESSICA LA BOMBALERA. THE RESONANCE OF THIS MENTALITY IN INDIA IS NOT DIFFICULT TO FIND. DALITS AND MUSLIMS ARE OFTEN PROJECTED IN THE MEDIA AS ANGRY AND VIOLENT BECAUSE THAT IS THE ONLY WAY TO BE WEAK AND A MINORITY. BEING HELPLESS AND BEING VIOLENT ARE THE EXPRESSIONS OF THE SAME AUTHENTIC CORE”



than a frozen identity, thus creating a pathway for becoming someone else, or belonging without believing. That way, what Krug did was chic because she was making herself a trans-individual. But we all understand that Blackness as knowledge and Blackness as experience (not just individual but collective and communal) are different things. One is of romanticisation, appropriation, exoticisation, even silencing, and the other of everyday-ness and its struggle.

Though living the marginal life involves costs in real life — humiliation, powerlessness, sub-human life and so on — the academic world knows the benefits of being Black or minority, at least in the latter’s potential for being objects of knowledge. In the market of scholarship, victimhood sells and is safely monetised: Black or Coloured in America and Muslim or Dalit in India. Cultural difference and victimhood are a minefield of fame and money.

That said, the demonstrations over the death of George Floyd or over atrocities against Dalits reveal a mindset of remembering the victim only when they can be used as a medium of accumulating symbolic capital. It is not just about dehumanising and instrumentalising them for advancing one’s career but also the belief that being a victim pays. The willingness to barter away one’s identity, as Krug did, springs from the conviction that academic benefit from such impersonation outweighs the losses.

Imaginary victims: What Krug did not acknowledge in her confession is that her violence was not only directed as genuine Black experience but also at White experience. While faking to be Black, she was creating a template in which Whiteness is antagonistic to Blackness and so was perpetuating a race binary. She was reducing her own race by making it appear inflexible, intolerant, exclusivist and the negation of Black experience. Her impersonation implied that sincere appreciation

of Black history is not possible while being White. She also pandered to those radical elements who believe that genuine understanding of the other is possible only by denying one’s own authenticity. Her pretension perpetuated the academic world of make-believe that being majority is a matter of shame and its disavowal or degradation is necessary to speak for the weak.

Krug converted the Black experience to some bare codes defining Black authenticity: Angry, violent, abusive. That is what she was doing while appearing as Jessica La Bombalera. The resonance of this mentality in India is not difficult to find. Dalits and Muslims are often projected in the media as angry and violent because that is the only way to be weak and a minority. Being helpless and being violent are the expressions of the same authentic core. Academics like Krug not only stereotype or steal identity, they also create norms which guide victimhood. As long as the Black man is anti-police or a Muslim is anti-State or a Dalit is anti-Brahmin, they are authentic; a republican African-American is beyond this template as is a nationalist Indian Muslim.

An academic from Hunter College named Yariamar Bonilla said something very revealing about Krug, that the latter not only fooled others about being a woman of colour, but also into thinking that they are actually inferior, intellectually and politically. Krug was denying them their being, their worth outside her own writings and activism. What it reveals is that being a victim of violence has more moral, academic and perhaps political worth than being normal and majority.

So behind minority identity, its production and circulation, there is a political economy of cultural difference and of diversity that can be a passport to capital — economic or symbolic. Becoming the other involves a life-time of dedication to live another life. Krug must have internalised the new identity. In the acknowl-

edgment section of her book *Fugitive Modernities*, she thanked her “ancestors, unknown, unnamed, who bled life into a future they had no reason to believe could or should exist. ... Those whose names I cannot say for their own safety, whether in my barrio, in Angola, or in Brazil.” It may be mentioned here that Krug had received financial assistance for writing this book from Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture.

It is not important to know whether being White or feigning Blackness is better for being a scholar of African history. What is important is the knowledge itself — of victims and minority. As long as we are getting ethnic food in Delhi *haat* (market), it does not matter if the cook is White or Brown. There may be many service providers but the good/service is the same.

Impersonation as passport: If impersonating was Krug’s way of legitimising herself as an academic, making common cause with a supposedly discriminating law or mobilising the disenfranchised and then representing them as perpetual victims is another. The latter is much more rampant and a fairly common practice governing funding agencies that guide research on minority cultures. Though such politically engaged research may appear as a fight for an inclusive polity, it also betrays the desire to be the source of all cultural politics.

That partly explains Brahmin academics monopolising Dalit experiences. At a poetry reading session, a very fair-skinned Brahmin poet advocated “our own” Dravidian cause and how her Dravidian skin will always be a marker of her identity. She spoke with a flair even as her complexion struggled to adjust itself to the victim narrative. Playing around this politics of “we” and trying too hard to be someone else in order to be legitimised is an effort complementary to Krug’s.

(The writer is Professor, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Madras and a cultural critic.)

Why the double standards on demolition of holy places?

Will the global Muslim community raise its voice for the restoration of the holiest of Islam’s revered sites that were destroyed by the Wahhabis?



HASAN **KHURSHID**

The five centuries-old Babri Masjid in Ayodhya was demolished on December 6, 1992 by a Hindu mob, mostly comprising diehard *Kar Sevaks* (volunteers) of the Vishva Hindu Parishad led by Sangh Parivar leaders. Intellectuals across the globe, irrespective of caste, creed and religion condemned the demolition, as did the Supreme Court (SC). No sane person will justify the demolition of the Babri Masjid but the bigger heinous crimes of massacres, multiple demolitions and destruction of the holiest of religious and heritage sites, shrines, relics have taken place in Saudi Arabia. This was done at the behest of its Wahhabbi/Salafi rulers of Zionist ancestry who, wearing the cloak of Islam, in the middle of the

18th century introduced a new and distorted version of the faith based on terrorism. The demolished and desecrated holiest of Islamic religious places included the birth place of Prophet Mohammad.

Wahhabism, the new, distorted version of Islam, aimed to capture worldwide political power using terrorism. The dreaded terrorist, Abu Bakr Baghdadi, is one such example of this diabolical plan. This negative ideology was created by one Sheikh Najdi ibn Abd-al-Wahhab, in association with a Bedouin tribal leader Muhammad-ibn-Saud. Wahhabbi ideology should not be mistaken as Islam’s tenets, although its practitioners shrewdly camouflage their real identity under the cover of Sunni Islam and associate the names of their terror groups with typical Islamic names, such as the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS), and so on.

Wahhabbi ideology manifestly declares, “Follow my ideology, else get ready to be killed.” According to renowned British historian and writer Charles Allen, all dreaded terrorist organisations like the ISIS, the

Taliban, the Al-Qaeda, the Lashkar-e-Taiba, the Boko Haram, and so on, follow Wahhabbi ideology. And, Abu Bakr Baghdadi’s ISIS, following the Wahhabbi ideology alone, murdered more than 20 lakh people. A majority of them were Muslim youth in Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan and other parts of the world.

On December 6, 2019, the day marking the 27th anniversary of the demolition of Babri Masjid, several review petitions were filed in the SC by individuals who were party to the case. The pleas were supported by the All India Muslim Personal Law Board. Earlier, the Jamiat Ulema-e-Hind had also filed a review petition against the order saying justice can be done only by ordering the Centre and the UP Government to build the mosque at the disputed site.

Surprisingly, the entire Muslim community across the globe, including the intellectuals, remained silent spectators when Saudi ruler Abd-al-Aziz, the son of Muhammad ibn Saud, who was also the son-in-law of Sheikh Muhammad Najdi ibn Abd-al-Wahab, the founder of Wahhabism, in 1802 attacked

Karbala in Iraq. He allowed the desecration of the shrine of Hazrat Imam Husain (grandson of Prophet Mohammad).

Giving the details of the attack, Charles Allen in his book, *God’s Terrorists: The Wahhabbi Cult and the Hidden Roots of Modern Jihad*, has quoted Lieutenant Francis Warden who wrote, “They pillaged the whole of it and plundered the tomb of Hazrat Imam Husain, slaying in the course of the day, with circumstances of peculiar cruelty, about 5,000 of the inhabitants. A huge amount of booty was seized.”

In 1803, Abd-al Aziz ibn Saud obtained a visit permit from the Shareef of Mecca on the pretext of performing Haj, whereupon his Wahhabbi fighters laid waste Islam’s holiest shrine the *Kaaba*, wherein Muslims across the globe perform the ritual of Haj. Abd-al Aziz ibn Saud followed in the footprints of Yazid who had earlier desecrated *Kaaba* in 682 AD.

According to TE Ravenshaw, author of *A Memorandum on the Sect of Wahhabees*, “They robbed the splendid tombs of the Mahomedan

saints, who were interred there and their fanatical zeal did not even spare the Prophet’s Mosque (in Medina), which they robbed of the immense treasures and costly furniture to which each Mahomedan Prince of Europe, Asia and Africa had contributed his share.”

In 1804, a Wahhabbi gang crossed the great desert in the Hijaz and destroyed tombs of Prophet Mohammad’s family members at Jannat-ul-Baqi, the ancient cemetery of Medina, and even despoiled the grave of the prophet. After this, the Wahhabbi gang reached Mecca and demolished another heritage site, the cemetery of Jannat-ul-Mualla, where the ancestors and other close relatives of Prophet Mohammad are interred. Again on April 21, 1925, Wahhabis demolished the shrine of Prophet Mohammad’s daughter Hazrat Fatima Zehra as well as those of his grandsons, namely Imam Hasan, Imam Zain ul Abideen and Imam Mohammad Baqir. The shrines are still lying demolished and the Saudi Government does not repair them or allow pilgrims to offer prayers at the revered sites.

Again in 2014, a leading Saudi academic had proposed to destroy the tomb of the Prophet Mohammad in Medina with the mala fide intention of removing the remains of the Prophet from there and burying them anonymously in the Jannat-ul-Baqi cemetery. However, the nefarious plan to destroy the tomb under the custody of Saudi monarch Abdullah was exposed by another academic, hence it could not be executed. Had it been executed, the motionless Muslims would have remained calm as the perpetrators were Wahhabis in Muslim attire and not people from any other religion.

In India, those who demolished the Babri Masjid are still facing trial in the Special CBI Court at Lucknow, under various sections of the Indian Penal Code. In all, there are 32 accused and the apex court has directed the Special CBI Court to conclude the hearing by September 30 this year. Till now the CBI has presented 351 witnesses before the court.

What legal action has the Saudi Government or the groups of

Muslim countries taken against the perpetrators of mass destruction and demolition of heritage and revered sites and massacres committed by Wahhabis feasting on Saudi petro dollars and spreading terrorism in the name of Islam? There is a deafening silence on that account.

The cacophony created by the Muslim leadership and millions of their followers on the matter of Babri Masjid may be based on the presumption that its perpetrators were Hindu bigots and the thugs behind the demolition of the holiest of Islamic sites, like the Jannat-ul-Baqi in Medina and the Jannat-ul-Mualla in Mecca, were Muslims. It matters little to them that the perpetrators of the crimes against Islam are Muslims just in name.

Will the global Muslim community raise its voice and take a conscious decision for the restoration of the holiest of Islam’s revered sites of religious and heritage importance that were systematically destroyed by the Wahhabis? If they don’t it will smack of hypocrisy and bigotry.

(The writer is a legal journalist and author)

Persecutes Hindus, Sikhs, Christians, says India at Geneva; slams OIC, Turkey, Pakistan over Kashmir

PTI ■ GENEVA

"In its zeal to reassert its theocratic ideology, it (Pakistan) has ensured that ethnic and religious minorities have no future through systematic persecution, blasphemy laws, forced conversions, to allow Pakistan to do so," it said. India also advised Turkey to refrain from commenting on its internal affairs and develop a better understanding of the democratic practices.

India also advised Turkey to refrain from commenting on its internal affairs and develop a better understanding of the democratic practices.

AFP ■ WASHINGTON

German think tank closes Hong Kong office over new law

Pak court indicts 4 close aides of Hafiz Saeed in terror financing cases

Lahore: An anti-terrorism court in Pakistan on Wednesday indicted four top leaders of the banned Jamaat-ud-Dawah (JuD), including the brother-in-law of Mumbai attack mastermind Hafiz Saeed, in four more cases of terror financing. "Terror financing charges were framed on Hafiz Abdul Rehman Makki (brother-in-law of Saeed), Yahya Mujahid (JuD spokesperson), Zafar Iqbal and Muhammad Ashraf in four more cases," a court official told PTI after the hearing. The suspects were brought to the ATC-II amid high security from the Kot Lakhpat Jail. The official said judge Ijaz Ahmad Buttar directed the prosecution to present witnesses on next hearing on Thursday.

"I would take one too," he said.
Biden responded by telling a Florida radio station "I'm looking for-

unscripted questioning from reporters. Trump — who takes questions from reporters almost daily but is known for his own frequently garbled and baffling statements — said, “Joe is lost. We can’t have a president that is mentally lost.”

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

According to the survey, 66 per cent Indian-Americans

currently favour Biden and 28

Notably in the 2016 presidential election, 77 per cent voted for former US Secretary Hillary Clinton, and 16 per cent for Trump. In 2012, as many as 84 per cent Indian-Americans voted for Barack Obama. Dr Karthik Ramakrishnan, professor of public policy and political science at University of California, Riverside and founder of AAPI Data who is author of the survey, said that the Indian-Americans' support to Trump, in case of a swing of the undecided Indian-Americans, would probably reach the 30 per cent mark.

“Democrats absolutely should be concerned about making sure that they conduct sufficient outreach to the Indian-Americans,” Indian-American Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi said. “The Democrats should conduct sufficient outreach to the different groups that comprise Indian-Americans, because every vote is going to count, especially in those battleground states as the survey result indicated,” he said.

Beijing: China has successfully sent nine satellites into orbit in its first commercial launch of a rocket from a platform at sea, state media reported on Wednesday.

The Long March 11, designed to be deployed quickly and from mobile launch sites such as a ship, is mainly used to carry small satellites. The rocket made its first sea launch in June last year.

"Sea launch platforms will

Sea launches would reduce that risk.

China has made its space programme a top priority in recent years as it races to catch up with the United States and become a major space power by 2030.

Agencies

increase the number of China's launch areas, improve launch efficiency, and make launches safer and more flexible," the official People's Daily cited Li Zongli, director of the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center, as saying. China has three inland space launch centres, where used rocket stages return to earth and sometimes pose a danger to inhabited areas. Sea launches would reduce that risk.

UK TO RATION COVID TESTING AMID FAIL LIBES

TESTING AMID PANIC The British Government plans to ration coronavirus testing, giving priority to health workers and care home staff after widespread reports that people around the country were unable to schedule tests. Prime Minister Boris Johnson on Wednesday will face questions about his handling of the Covid-19 pandemic in the House of Commons and before a key committee amid the outcry over the shortage of testing.

The Long March 11, designed to be deployed quickly and from mobile launch sites such as a ship, is mainly used to carry small satellites. The rocket made its first sea launch in June last year.

"Sea launch platforms will

BARBADOS TO REMOVE UK QUEEN AS STATE HEAD

London: Barbados wants to remove Britain's Queen Elizabeth as its head of state and become a republic, the Caribbean nation's government has said. A former British colony that gained independence in 1966, Barbados has maintained a formal link with the British monarchy as have some other countries that were once part of the British empire.

N KOREA MAY CONDUCT MISSILE TEST: SEOUL

Seoul: North Korea may soon conduct its first underwater-launched ballistic missile test in about a year, a top South Korean military official said amid long-stalled nuclear talks between the North and the US.

'EU SANCTIONS TO HALT TURKEY'S GAS SEARCH'

Nicosia: The European Union shouldn't discard imposing tougher sanctions to get Turkey to give up an "unlawful" hydrocarbons search in the eastern Mediterranean that has ratcheted up tensions, the president of Cyprus said.

SMOKE FROM US FIRES REACHES EUROPE

Paris: Smoke from the fires devastating swathes of the US West Coast has reached as far as Europe, the European Union's climate monitoring service said Wednesday in its assessment of the "unprecedented" blazes.

TRUMP: VACCINE COULD BE READY IN A MONTH

Philadelphia: President Donald Trump said a coronavirus vaccine may be available within a month — an acceleration of even his own surprisingly optimistic predictions — but added that the pandemic could go away by itself. “We’re very close to having a vaccine,” he told a town hall question-and-answer session with voters in Pennsylvania aired on ABC News.

YOSHIHIDE SUGA NAMED JAPAN'S PRIME MINISTER, SUCCEEDING ABE:
Japan's Parliament elected Yoshihide Suga as Prime Minister on Wednesday, replacing long-serving leader Shinzo Abe with his right-hand man. Suga, who was chief Cabinet secretary in Abe's Government, is to launch his own Cabinet later Wednesday. **(In pic)** Yoshihide Suga, second from right, being appointed Japan's new Prime Minister by Emperor Naruhito, left, during attestation ceremony at the Imperial Palace in Tokyo, on Wednesday

Just monkeying around: Primate takes phone, then selfies!

Kuala Lumpur: A Malaysian student whose cellphone was stolen while he was sleeping has tracked down the culprit: a monkey who took photo and video selfies with the device before abandoning it.

Zackrydz Rodzi, 20, said his phone was missing from his bedroom when he woke up Saturday. He found the phone's casing under his bed but there was no sign of robbery in his house in southern Johor state.

When his father saw a monkey the next day, he launched a search in the jungle behind his house. Using his brother's phone to call the device, he found it covered in mud under a palm tree. But a bigger surprise came when he checked his phone and found a series of monkey selfies and videos recorded in the phone.

“My uncle was joking that maybe the monkey took some selfies with the phone... So when I checked my phone picture gallery, I was shocked. The suspect’s face was plastered on the screen. It was hilarious,” Zackrydz said. **AP**

Israel strikes Gaza after rocket fire during US ceremony

Jerusalem: The Israeli military struck Hamas militant sites in the Gaza Strip early on Wednesday in response to rocket fire toward Israel the previous night that coincided with the signing of normalisation agreements between Israel and two Arab countries at the White House.

The barrage against Israel began on Tuesday night just as the ceremony in Washington was getting underway to formalize the new agreements with the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain. Two Israelis were lightly wounded.

The rocket fire continued overnight, with sirens sounding across southern Israel. The military said five projectiles landed in open areas with the rest intercepted by Israel's rocket defense system.

In response, the military said it struck about 10 sites belonging to Gaza's militant Hamas rulers, including a weapons and explosives manufacturing factory, underground infrastructure and a military training compound. **AP**

S. No.		Date of Loan	Account No.	Name of The Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor	Address	Secured Asset	Date of Demand Notice	Loan Amount	Amount Outstanding
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1.		23/06/2008	XH00DEH30000347428	1. Dayanand Besoya 2. Jaspal Besoya	85, Pakash Mohalla East of Kaishah Delhi 110 065.	Property Bearing Municipal No.226-B/5a, Measuring 194 Sq Yds., (Said Portion) Of The Property Measuring 300 Sq.Yds., Out Of Khasra No. 182/150 Min., Situated At Prakash Mohalla, East Of Kaishah, Village Garhi (Jharia Maria), Delhi.	31.07.2020	Rs. 50.00,000/-	Rs.56.52,848.57 as on 28.02.2020 with further interest thereon
2.		03/05/2018 & 23/05/2016	XH0EDEF00002408723 & XH0EDEF00002432125	1. Faruk Malik 2. Parveen Begam 3. M/s V R Enterprises 4. Shahid V	H.No-B-58-59, Shalimar Garden, Sahibabad, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh-201005. F-71, BLK-F, Seelampur Shahdara New Delhi-110 053.	Portion of Plot No. B-58 & 59 area measuring 100 sq. Yds., i.e. 83.61 sq. mtr., "Said Portion" out of entire land 200 sq.yds, situated in the residential colony Known as Shalimar Garden main, Village Pasonda, Pargana Loni Teh. & Dist. Ghaziabad Uttar Pradesh.	20.03.2020	Rs. 50.00,000/-	Rs.48.32,624.14 as on 28.02.2020 with further interest thereon
3.		31/12/2014 & 27/10/2016	XH0EHE00001337410 & XH0EHE00001161686	1. Jaideep Singh 2. Kuldeep Kumar 3. Sheetal Devi 4. M/s Gautam Hardware And Paints	RZ-701, Palam Village, Gali No-8, Raj Nagar-1, Palam Colony, Delhi - 110 045.	Property 1: Plot No. RZ-691/A1, area measuring 50 sq.yds, out of Khasra No.64/12/1 & 13/4 & 18/2, Situated in Village Palam, Known as Raj Nagar Part-1 Palam Colony New Delhi. Property 2: Plot No. RZ-698, area measuring 31.5 sq.mtrs (37.1/2 sq.yds.) out of Khasra No.64/12/1, Situated in Village Palam, Known as Raj Nagar Part-I Palam Colony New Delhi.	20.03.2020	Rs. 62.00,554/-	Rs.22.24,917.14 as on 28.02.2020 with further interest thereon
4.		31/01/2014 & 16/03/2015	XH0EHE00001155854 & XH0EHE000011383160	1. Manoj Mendirata 2. Bhoja Ram 3. Deepika Mendirata	H.No.2 N 3, Block Ward No.8, NIT-N, Faridabad, Haryana 121 001.	Back side portion of property bearing No.2-N/3 area measuring 240 sq.yds. NIT Faridabad. Haryana.	20.03.2020	Rs. 78.72,880/-	Rs.56.32,710.18 as on 28.02.2020 with further interest thereon
5.		29/04/2014 & 28/04/2016	XH0EHE00001191981 & XH0EHE0000236622	1. Ramesh Chand 2. Sunita M 3. M/s Vansh Enterprises	2053, Sec-3, Ballab Garh, Market Faridabad, Haryana 121 003.	Property No.2053, HIG on Ground Floor, area Admeasuring 140.69 sq sqds, in Sector-3 Housing Board Colony, Faridabad, Haryana,	20.03.2020	Rs. 75.00,000/-	Rs.30.58,569.66 as on 28.02.2020 with further interest thereon
6.		31/05/2013	XH0EHE00000965892	1. Ravi Kumar Bansal 2. Sneh Lata Bansal	AM-141, S/F, Shalimar Bagh, Delhi 110 088.	Property No. 167, Entire First Floor, Block AB, Admeasuring 68.75 Sq.Mtr., Shalimar Bagh, Delhi.	31.07.2020	Rs. 70.00,000/-	Rs.98.69,516.05 as on 28.02.2020 with further interest thereon
7.		30/03/2019 & 30/01/2019	XH0EDEF0000235892, XH0EDEF00002713132 & XH0EDEF00002786435	1. Vimla Sharma 2. Nikunj Kumar Sharma 3. M/s Sharma Generat Store 4. M/s Yashk Cosmetics	H.No-5/79, Gajju Katra Bada Bazar, S.o. Shahdara New Delhi 110 032. Shop No-452 A, Anaj Mandi Shahdara New Delhi 110 032. Shop No. 453, Bara Bazar, Shahdara New Delhi 110 032.	Property Bearing No.V/78 & V/79 area measuring 33.61 sq.yds, out of Khasra No.642 situated in the area of village Chandrawali alias Shahdara in the abadi of Gajju Katra Illaga Shahdara Delhi, Bounded as East- Property of others, West- Property No.79, North- Property of others, South- Gali and Property of others.	20.03.2020	Rs. 74.00,000/-	Rs.76.34,316.94 as on 28.02.2020 with further interest thereon

The Under signed is the Authorised Officer of Cholamandalam Investment And Finance Company Limited hereinafter called the secured creditor, under Rule 2[a] of the Security Interest [Enforcement] Rules framed under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

In pursuant to loan agreement on the dates mentioned in column [A] the above named borrowers in column [C] residing at the address in column [D] were sanctioned loans indicated in column [G] in loan account number indicated in column [B]. Towards the due repayment of loan, equitable mortgage by deposit of title deeds of the assets in column [E] was created by the borrowers.

On persistent default in repayment of the loan amount the loan accounts of the borrowers have been classified by the secured creditor as Non Performing Asset in accordance with the directions and guidelines issued by the Reserve Bank of India. Consequently notice under Sec. 13(2) of the Act was also issued to each of the borrowers on the dates mentioned in column [F], which have been returned undelivered.

I state that under section 13 [8] of the Securitisation Act, you can redeem the secured asset by payment of the entire outstanding including all costs, charges & expenses before notification of sale.

In view of the above, the above named borrowers are called upon to discharge in full their liabilities towards the Secured Creditor by making the payment of the entire outstanding indicated in Column [H] above including up to date interest, costs, and charges within 60 days from the date of notice, failing which, the secured creditor shall be entitled to take possession of the Secured Asset and shall also take such other actions as is available to the Secured Creditor in law. In the absence of full discharge of dues even after the transfer of secured assets the secured creditor reserves its right to proceed against the borrowers before a Sole Arbitrator, in terms of the Loan Agreement

In addition the above named borrowers shall not alienate by way of transfer, sale, lease or otherwise or create third party interest or dealing with the Secured Asset in column [E] mentioned against the name of the each borrowers in any manner except with specific prior written permission of the Secured creditor.

Date : 17.09.2020
Place : Delhi

Sd/- Authorized Officer
Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company Limiter

Economic recovery still not well entrenched: RBI Guv

New Delhi: RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das on Wednesday said economic recovery is still not well entrenched and that the central bank is "battle ready" to take appropriate measures to support growth.

Addressing a virtual conference organised by industry body Ficci, Das said that Gross Domestic Product (GDP) data released by the government was a "reflection of the ravages of the COVID-19".

The economy contracted 23.9 per cent during the April-June quarter on account of the strict lockdown imposed by the government towards end of March to check the spread of coronavirus infections.

"Nevertheless, high frequency indicators of agricultural activity, the purchasing managers' index that is PMI for manufacturing and certain private estimates on unemployment point to some stabilisation of economic activity in the second quarter of the current year, while of course contractions in several other sectors are also simultaneously easing," he said.

However, Das said that the economic recovery was not yet fully entrenched and also that the recovery is likely to be gradual.

"The recovery is, however, not yet fully entrenched and moreover, in some sectors, the uptick, which was noticed in June and July they appear to have

levelled off. By all indications the recovery is likely to be gradual as efforts towards the reopening of the economy are confronted with rising infections," he said.

At the same time, Das assured the industry that the RBI stands "battle ready" and whatever measures are required will be taken to support liquidity, growth and control price rise.

According to him, the immediate policy response to COVID-19 in the country has been to prioritise the stabilisation of the economy and support quick recovery policies for durable and sustainable high growth in the medium term post the coronavirus. **PTI**

Banking regulation Bill taking Urban Co-Operative banks under RBI passed in Lok Sabha

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Lok Sabha on Wednesday passed the Banking Regulation (Amendment) Bill bringing the Urban Co-Operative Banks under the supervision of the Reserve Bank of India to protect the interest of depositors. The Bill was supported by many opposition parties including Shiv Sena while the Congress and the Trinamool Congress objected that the Bill intended to usurp the State's power in the co-operative sector.

Replying to opposition, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said that the bill is only intended to protect the depositors and only apply to

the banking operation of the Co-operative Banks and not applicable to primary agricultural credit societies.

"This is not the first time RBI intervening into the banking operations co-operative banks. From 1965, RBI issued many circulars on this regard. Many urban co-operative banks are facing serious problems like NPA and many wound up losing money of the depositors. Those functioning as Banks must work as Commercial Banks and RBI rules must apply on them," she said.

She also clarified that co-operative banks engaged in land mortgage will come under the RBI supervision since it is a banking activity.

Govt working on setting up single window system for clearances: Goyal

New Delhi: The Government is working on setting up a single window system for clearances and approvals of industry, Parliament was informed on Wednesday.

In a written reply to the Lok Sabha, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said despite the presence of several IT platforms for investing in India such as in departments of the central government, and state single window clearances, investors have to visit multiple platforms to gather information and obtain clearances from different stakeholders.

To address this, he said, the creation of a centralised investment clearance cell which would provide end-to-end facilitation

support, including pre-investment advisory, information related to land banks and facilitating clearances at central and state level, was proposed.

"The government is working on setting up a Single Window System for clearances and approvals of industry in the country," he said.

He also said the cell is being planned as a one-stop digital platform to obtain all requisite central and state clearances/approvals to start business operations in India.

The investment clearance cell will be a national portal that integrates the existing clearance systems of various ministries/departments of the government and of states. **PTI**

5G services relying on equipment, eco, telcos' economic consideration: Govt

New Delhi:The Government on Wednesday informed Parliament that introduction of 5G services in the country will depend on equipment, device ecosystem and economic considerations by telecom operators.

The Government also said that State-owned BSNL and MTNL have not planned introducing 5G services yet on their networks.

Minister of State for Telecommunications Sanjay Dhotre, in a written reply to a question on the 5G rollout, said, "5G services depends on 5G equipment and device ecosystem, and economic considerations by the telecom service providers." **PTI**

94 phishing incidents reported during Jan-Aug 2020: Dhotre

New Delhi:A total of 194 phishing incidents and two financial fraud incidents affecting ATMs, cards, point-of-sale (PoS) systems and Unified Payment Interface (UPI) were reported between January-August this year, Parliament was informed on Wednesday.

As per the information reported to and tracked by Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In), a total of 454, 472 and 194 phishing incidents were observed during the year 2018, 2019 and 2020 (till August) respectively, Minister of State for Electronics and IT Sanjay Dhotre said in a written reply to the Lok Sabha.

"Further, a total of 6, 4 and 2 financial fraud incidents affect-

ing ATMs, Cards, Point-of-Sale (PoS) systems and Unified Payment Interface (UPI) have been reported during the year 2018, 2019 and 2020 (till August) respectively," he added.

Dhotre said cyber space is a complex environment of people, software, hardware and services on the Internet.

"With a borderless cyberspace coupled with the possibility of instant communication and anonymity, the potential for misuse of cyberspace including identity theft, creation of fake e-mails and websites is a global issue," he added.

He noted that the Government has taken several steps to prevent such cyber security incidents. **PTI**

SBI, Titan launch contactless payment watches

Mumbai: State Bank of India (SBI) and Titan Company have partnered to introduce a range of Titan Pay watches powered by YONO, the lender's mobile banking app.

These watches will have contactless payment functions. With this launch, account holders of the bank can tap their Titan Pay watch on contactless payment point-of-sale (POS) machines without the need of swiping or inserting their debit card, the bank said in a statement.

"We believe this innovative offering will redefine the shopping experience for our customers with tap and pay technology.

India's GDP to contract by 8.6 pc in FY21, fiscal stimulus needed soon: UBS Securities

Mumbai:Swiss brokerage UBS Securities said it forecasts a GDP contraction of 8.6 per cent in FY21 as against its earlier prediction of 5.8 per cent, citing factors including the "modest" government response to the crisis for its estimate.

It said the country's potential rate of growth has also come down to 5.75-6.25 per cent as per its estimate as against 7.1 per cent, driven by factors including the weak government response to arrest the growth slide.

Some improvement is being observed in the high frequency data, but much of it is pent-up demand and economic recovery will be "gradual" after the September quarter, its chief economist Tanvee Gupta Jain told reporters.

It can be noted that the country's gross domestic product (GDP) shrunk by nearly a fourth in the June quarter as the COVID-19 pandemic fuelled lockdowns chilled all economic activity. The infections continued to increase, making India the second most affected country.

Jain said the modest recovery which we are seeing right now cannot be sustained because of the rising infections and also income uncertainty, which is holding back people from consumption in the economy that relies 60 per cent on consumption."We are a little bearish as against the consensus and feel that the GDP will contract by 8.6 per cent in FY21 before growing by 10 per cent in FY22," she said.

Markets build on gains ahead of Fed decision; Nifty reclaims 11,600

Mumbai:Equity benchmarks darted up for the second straight session on Wednesday as banking, auto and IT stocks saw robust buying amid mixed global cues. A strengthening rupee and supportive comments by the RBI Governor also bolstered investor sentiment, traders said.

The 30-share BSE Sensex jumped 258.50 points or 0.66 per cent to close at 39,302.85. The broader NSE Nifty rose 82.75 points or 0.72 per cent to finish at 11,604.55.

M&M was the top gainer in the Sensex pack, climbing 4.24 per cent, followed by Bajaj Auto, Sun Pharma, HDFC Bank, Infosys, L&T and UltraTech Cement.

On the other hand,

IndusInd Bank, NTPC, SBI, ONGC, Bharti Airtel and Axis Bank were among the laggards, skidding up to 1.80 per cent.

According to traders, stock-specific action and sustained foreign fund inflows drove domestic equities higher, despite mixed cues from global markets ahead of the US Federal Reserve's policy outcome. Foreign institutional investors bought equities worth Rs 1,170.89 crore on a net basis on Tuesday, exchange data showed.

RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das on Wednesday said economic recovery is still not well entrenched and that the central bank is "battle ready" to take appropriate measures for liquidity and growth. **PTI**

Rupee gains 12 paise to 73.52 on weak dollar, firm equities

Mumbai:The rupee strengthened by 12 paise to settle at 73.52 against the US dollar on Wednesday supported by positive domestic equities and weak American currency. At the interbank forex market, the local unit witnessed high volatility against the US dollar ahead of the US Federal Reserve's policy statement that will be released later in the day. During the session, the domestic unit touched an intra-day high of 73.48 and a low of 73.78 against the greenback. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, fell 0.12 per cent to 92.94. **PTI**

₹1.06 lakh cr tax refunds issued to 30.92L taxpayers till Sept 15: CBDT

New Delhi: The income tax department on Wednesday said it has issued refunds of over Rs 1.06 lakh crore to more than 30 lakh taxpayers between April 1 to September 15. This includes personal income tax (PIT) refunds amounting to Rs 31,741 crore issued to 29.17 lakh taxpayers and corporate tax refunds worth Rs 74,729 crore to over 1.74 lakh taxpayers.

"CBDT issues refunds of over Rs 1,06,470 crore to more than 30.92 lakh taxpayers between 1st April, 2020 to 15th September, 2020.

"Income tax refunds of Rs 31,741 crore have been issued in 29,17,169 cases & corporate tax refunds of Rs 74,729 crore have been issued in 1,74,633 cases," the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) tweeted.The government has emphasised on providing tax-related services to taxpayers without any hassles and has been clearing up pending tax refunds. **PTI**

Economic activities revived with phased unlocking since June 1, says Govt

New Delhi: The Government on Wednesday said with the phased unlocking of the Indian economy, high frequency economic indicators like PMI manufacturing, index of eight core industries, kharif sowing and power consumption have recovered since June 1.

Union Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai said in the Rajya Sabha that the strict lockdown, first announced on March 24, was effective in containing the impact of the coronavirus pandemic.

"With the phased unlocking of the Indian economy since June 1, 2020, high frequency economic indicators like PMI Manufacturing, index of eight core industries, E-way bills, Kharif sowing, power consumption, railway freight, cargo traffic and

passenger vehicle sales have recovered and indicate growing convergence with previous year's activity levels," he said in a written reply to a question.

Rai said the lockdown helped the country in bringing down the growth rate of the infection and reduced transmission of the contagious disease. This had a direct impact on reduction in case load, morbidity and mortality. In addition, the slowing down of the pandemic helped the country in augmenting its health infrastructure, he said. **PTI**

Govt to bring out strategy paper on boosting industrial growth: Goyal

New Delhi: The Government is in the process of bringing out a strategy paper on boosting industrial growth which will be a road map for all businesses in the country, Parliament was informed on Wednesday.

In a written reply to the Lok Sabha, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said the government is in the process of rationalising the existing central labour laws into four labour codes -- on wages; industrial relations; occupational safety, health and working conditions; and social security by simplifying, amalgamating and rationalising the relevant provisions of the existing central labour laws.

The Code on Wages has been

approved and notified, he added.

"The government is in the process of bringing out a strategy paper on boosting industrial growth which will be a road map for all businesses in the country," he said.

In a separate reply, he said an EFC (Expenditure Finance Committee) note on startup India seed fund scheme, with a total proposed corpus of Rs 945 crore, has been formulated by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade

(DPIIT).

"The EFC note was circulated for inter-ministerial consultations to the concerned departments/ ministries," he said, adding that the note has been finalised.

He also said that since the launch of Startup India initiative on January 16, 2016, a total of 36,106 startups have been recognised by DPIIT in 586 districts, as on September 6.

"A total number of 4,22,986 employment has been reported by 34,267 DPIIT recognised startups as on September 6," he added.

In a separate reply, the minister said India's exports of PPE Kits, masks, sanitisers during April-August 2020 stood at USD 632.23 million. **PTI**

Air India earned over ₹2,550 crore revenue from Vande Bharat flights till Aug 31: Puri

New Delhi:Air India earned a revenue of Rs 2556.60 crore from flights that have been operated under the Vande Bharat mission till August 31, Civil Aviation Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said.

Scheduled international passenger flights have been suspended in India since March 23 due to the coronavirus pandemic. However, the Central government started the mission from May 6 to help people stranded in different countries reach their destinations through special international flights.

"As on 31.08.2020, the total number of inbound and outbound special repatriation

flights undertaken by the Air India group was 4,505," Puri said in a written reply to a question in Rajya Sabha.

Out of a total of about 11 lakh Indian nationals repatriated till August 31, about four lakh passengers were carried by the Air India group into India, the minister mentioned.

In addition, the Air India group also carried about 1.9 lakh outbound passengers (including foreigners) to foreign destinations from India, the minister noted.

"The revenue generated by Air India group from Vande Bharat flights up to 31.08.2020 is Rs 2556.60 crore," Puri stated. **PTI**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Sh. Sukhbir Singh Verma S/o Late. Sh. Tej Singh Verma R/o House No. G-63, Sector-56, Noida, District-Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh. Died On 14/02/2020. As per his last will and testament dated 05/11/2014 duly registered with the office of Sub Registrar-1 Noida on 05/11/2014 Vide Book No. II, Volume No 477 On Pages 181 to 192 At Document Serial No 2201 property residential plot/house No. G-63, Sector-56, Noida, District-Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh is being transferred to Mr. Lalit Verma S/o Sh. Sukhbir Singh Verma R/o House No. G-63, Sector-56, Noida, District-Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh. Anyone having any objection may inform to Residential Plots Division, New Okhla Industrial Development Authority, Sector-06, Noida within 30 Days of publication of this notice with relevant valid legal documents in support of his/her their objection. False Declaration/ Document or perjury is a criminal offence and may attract legal action against the defaulter/guilty.

Lalit Verma

WESTERN RAILWAY

LAYING & LINKING OF LOOP LINES & VARIOUS OTHER WORKS

Dy. Chief Engineer (Construction) II, Western Railway, Pratapnagar, Vadodra - 390 004, invites tenders for the execution of the works given as follows: **Tender No. Dy.CE/CI/III/ BRG/MYG-DB-SMLA/22 (R2). Name of Work :** Laying and linking of BG/NG for main & loop lines including points & crossing at various yards, Transportation of P-way materials, spreading of ballast, ramping of track, dismantling of existing BG/NG track & Points & Crossing, flash butt / SKV welding and other incidental miscellaneous works between Miyagam (including Yard) and Dabhoi (Including Yard) in connection with "Gauge Conversion of existing NG track to BG track between Miyagam - Dabhoi - Samlaya Section. **Approximate Cost of Work :** ₹ 883.65 Lakhs. **Availability of Online Tender for Bidding :** From 05/09/2020 at 10.00 hrs. to 19/10/2020 up to 15.00 hrs. **Date & Time of Opening :** 19/10/2020 at 15.30 hrs. Regarding detailed notice containing cost of tender document (non-refundable), EMD eligibility criteria, Similar Nature of Work, detailed tender conditions, please visit www.irfps.gov.in Manual offers will not be considered.

Follow us on  [twitter.com/WesternRly](#) 

Total tax collection falls 22.5% till Sept 15: Source

Mumbai: Total tax collection of the Centre, including advance tax collection for the second quarter, fell 22.5 per cent to Rs 2,53,532.3 crore till September 15 of the current fiscal as compared to the year-ago period, according to an income tax department source. The source shared some details about the provisional data. During the same period ended September 15, 2019, total tax collection stood at Rs 3,27,320.2 crore, the income tax department source from Mumbai zone told PTI over phone on Wednesday.

However, the source refused to share the advance tax numbers separately for the current quarter. The numbers are provisional as banks will be able to update the final data by the end of the day, the source said. During the first quarter ended June, gross tax collections fell 31 per cent driven down by a massive 76 per cent plunge in advance tax mop-up, as the country was in a full lockdown due to the pandemic.

Of the total collection till September 15, when taxpayers, both individuals and companies, are supposed to pay advance tax for the quarter, personal income tax at the national level stood at ₹1,47,004.6 crore and corporate tax at ₹99,126.2 crore, totalling the two major components of the tax revenue at ₹2,46,130.8 crore, the source said. **PTI**

Indo-China trade deficit dips to USD 5.48 bn in April-June

New Delhi:The trade deficit between India and China in April-June this fiscal year fell to USD 5.48 billion as compared to USD 13.1 billion in the same period last year, Parliament was informed on Wednesday.

In a written reply, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said the bilateral trade between the countries too dipped to USD 16.55 billion during the first three months of 2020-21 as against USD 21.42 billion in the same period last year.

"Government has consistently taken steps to balance our trade with China by increasing our exports to China and reducing our dependence on imports from China," he said. **PTI**

In a separate reply, the minister said at present, about 550 tariff lines (or products) are under the restricted/prohibited category for imports under the Foreign Trade Policy. Imports of these products are restricted from all countries, including China.

Replying to a separate question, he said merchandise exports from special economic zones (SEZs) dipped to Rs 81,481 crore during April-August, 2020 as against Rs 1,30,129 crore in the same period of 2019-20.

"However, services exports have shown a growth of 9 per cent during April to August 2020 in comparison to corresponding period of previous year," he added. **PTI**

**BAJAJ HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED**

Registered Office: Mumbai-Pune Road, Akurdi, Pune, Maharashtra-411035. Branch Office: 14th Floor, Aggarwal Metro heights, Netaji Subhash Palace, New Delhi, 110034

PUBLIC NOTICE

Please take notice that the original 1. BUILDER BUYER AGREEMENT DATED 15TH APRIL, 2013 EXECUTED BETWEEN BPTP LTD. & PINKY YADAV, 2. ALLOTMENT LETTER DATED 14 DECEMBER 2012 IN THE NAME OF PINKY YADAV FOR THE PROPERTY BEARING NUMBER 74-1204, PARK GENERATIONS, SECTOR-37 D, GURUGRAMHARYANA. 3. PAYMENT RECEIPTS FOR THE PAYMENTS MADE BY PINKY YADAV TO THE BPTP LTD. 4. TRI-PARTE AGREEMENT & PERMISSION TO MORTGAGE TRI-PARTE AGREEMENT EXECUTED BETWEEN BPTP LTD., PINKY YADAV & BAJAJ HOUSING FINANCE LTD. & LETTER OF PERMISSION TO MORTGAGE THE PROPERTY, 5. NOC, NOC ISSUED TO PINKY YADAV TOWARDS THE LOAN CLOSURE & BALANCE TRANSFER BY ICICI BANK LTD, since been submitted as collateral security against loan to Bajaj Housing Finance Limited (BHFL) has been misplaced/lost from the custody of BHFL and duly reported vide LR No:536952/2020 dt. 02/09/2020 at CRIME BRANCH Police Station.

Any person having found the same or any bank, company, institution having the same deposited with them or anybody having any claim/object against the said property, please contact the undersigned with documents in proof thereof within 15 days from date of publication of this notice.

UDIT MEHRA, S/D/W/O SUNIL MEHRA, BAJAJ HOUSING FINANCE LTD, 14TH FLR, AGGARWAL METRO HEIGHTS, NETAJI SUBHASH PLACE DELHI 110034

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that one female namely **Pooja Shukla W/o Sh. Sujet Shukla** R/o Plot No.38, 1st Floor, Gali No. 12, C-Block Kamal Vihar, Kamalpur, Delhi, has been missing/ kidnapped from the area of P.S. Burari, Delhi since 25.08.2020. In this regard, a case **DD No. 155A dated 25.08.2020 has been registered at P.S. Burari, Delhi.** The description of the missing female is as under.



POOJA SHUKLA

Age: 28 Years, **Complexion:** Fair, **Height:** 4' 10", **Face:** Round, **Build:** Strong, **Wearing:** Red and Black colour printed Saree and sleeper in feet. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out her but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone has any information about the missing/kidnapped female then please inform P.S. Burari, Delhi at following Tel No./ e-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in and Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>

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

Sd/- S.H.O. P.S. Burari, Delhi Ph: 011-2761 6845

DP/516/N/2020

ADB to fund 58-km-long airport metroline in Bangalore

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has agreed to partially fund the 58-km-long airport metro line in Bangalore from Central Silk Board Junction to Kempegowda International Airport. The Karnataka government has asked the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs for early approval of the proposal along with Detailed Project Report (DPR) forwarded by state government in November, 2019 for implementation of Phase 2A and 2B of Bangalore Metro Rail Project, for a length of about 58 kms (from Central Silk Board Junction to Kempegowda International Airport) on equal equity sharing model as per Metro Rail Policy, 2017.

KVIC to begin online booking of Lakshmi-Ganesh idols, earthen lamps

Varanasi:The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) will soon start online booking for delivering idols of Goddess Lakshmi and Lord Ganesh as well as earthen lamps for Diwali celebrations. This is a step towards promoting local products and replacing Chinese items.

Potters, mainly from Varanasi region, will play a key role in KVIC's venture, which entered the e-commerce industry in July, with handmade paper packaging materials to prevent plastic pollution. **IANS**

MY MONEY SECURITIES LIMITED						
REGD. OFF : 10-A, UNDERHILL LANE, CIVIL LINES, DELHI-110054						
CIN : L67120DL1992PLC047890;						
Website : www.mymoneyviews.com ; E-mail id : mymoneyviews@outlook.com ;						
Tel. No.: 011-23937870; Tel. No.: 011-23937870;						
Extract of the Standalone Unaudited Financial Results for the Quarter ended 30th June, 2020 (Rs. In Lacs)						
S. NO.	Particulars	Quarter Ended 30.06.2020	Quarter Ended 31.03.2020	Quarter Ended 30.06.2019	Quarter Ended 31.03.2020	Year Ended 31.03.2020
		Unaudited	Audited	Unaudited	Audited	
1	Total Income from operations (net)	19.65	(42.93)	(13.80)	(27.51)	
2	Net Profit/(Loss) from Ordinary Activities after tax	0.38	(84.94)	(36.77)	(147.18)	
3	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax (after Extraordinary items)	0.38	(84.94)	(36.77)	(147.18)	
4	Total comprehensive Income for the period (comprising profit/(loss) for the period after tax and other comprehensive income after tax	0.38	(84.94)	(36.77)	(147.18)	
5	Equity Share Capital	1000.03	1000.03	1000.03	1000.03	
6	Earning per share (after extraordinary items) (of Rs. 10/- each)	0.004	(0.849)	(0.368)	(1.471)	
	Basic Diluted	0.004	(0.849)	(0.368)	(1.471)	
7	Earning per share (after extraordinary items) (of Rs. 10/- each)	0.004	(0.849)	(0.368)	(1.471)	
	Basic Diluted	0.004	(0.849)	(0.368)	(1.471)	
Note : The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly/Annual Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly/Annual Financial Results are available on the Stock Exchange websites. (www.bseindia.com) and company website www.mymoneyviews.com For and on behalf of the Board of Directors						
Place : Delhi Dated : 15/09/2020						Sd/- Sanjay Seth Whole Time Director DIN : 00350518



झारखण्ड सरकार

खाद्य, सार्वजनिक वितरण एवं उपभोक्ता मामले विभाग

हेमंत सोरेन
माननीय मुख्यमंत्री, झारखण्डझारखण्ड राज्य खाद्य सुरक्षा योजनान्तर्गत लाभ प्राप्त करने हेतु
आवेदन आमंत्रण सूचना

- झारखण्ड सरकार के द्वारा राष्ट्रीय खाद्य सुरक्षा अधिनियम, 2013 से आनाच्छादित राज्य के 15 लाख सुपात्र लाभुकों को झारखंड राज्य खाद्य सुरक्षा योजना (JSFSS, Jharkhand State Food Security Scheme) के तहत अनुदानित दर यथा एक रुपये प्रति किलोग्राम प्रति माह की दर से 05 किलोग्राम खाद्यान्न (चावल) प्रति लाभुक उपलब्ध कराये जाने का निर्णय लिया गया है।
- यह योजना राज्य में 15 नवम्बर, 2020 से लागू की जानी है।
- संबंधित योजनान्तर्गत लाभुकों के चयन हेतु आवेदन पत्र आमंत्रित किये जाते हैं। आवेदन पत्र ERCMS के माध्यम से ऑन लाईन प्राप्त किए जाएंगे।
- ऑन लाईन आवेदन समर्पित किये जाने में समस्या होने की स्थिति में ऑफ लाईन आवेदन पत्र भी स्वीकार किए जाएंगे। यह आवेदन पत्र संबंधित जिला आपूर्ति कार्यालय/ अनुमंडल कार्यालय/प्रखंड आपूर्ति कार्यालय अथवा विभागीय पोर्टल www.aahar.jharkhand.gov.in एवं www.jharkhand.gov.in → Department of Food, Public Distribution and Consumer Affairs Advertisement से भी प्राप्त किया जा सकता है। आवेदन पत्र संबंधित कार्यालयों के अतिरिक्त पंचायत स्तर पर भी जमा किया जा सकता है।
- आवेदन पत्र जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि दिनांक 30.09.2020 तक निर्धारित है।
- वैसे लाभुक, जिन्होंने पूर्व में राष्ट्रीय खाद्य सुरक्षा अधिनियम, 2013 के अन्तर्गत आच्छादित होने हेतु आवेदन समर्पित किया है तथा जिनका आवेदन लंबित है, उन्हें अलग से आवेदन समर्पित करने की आवश्यकता नहीं है।
- इस योजना के अन्तर्गत लाभुकों के चयन हेतु निर्धारित मानक इस प्रकार है –

समावेशन मानक (Inclusion Criteria)

- सभी व्यक्ति, जो भारत सरकार/राज्य सरकार/केन्द्र शासित प्रदेश या इनके परिषद्/उद्यम/प्रक्रम/उपक्रम/अन्य स्वायत्त निकाय जैसे विश्वविद्यालय इत्यादि/नगर निगम/नगर पर्वद/नगरपालिका/न्यास, इत्यादि में नियोजित/सेवानिवृत्त न हों।
- सभी विधवा, परित्यक्ता एवं Transgender, जो भारत सरकार/राज्य सरकार/केन्द्र शासित प्रदेश या इनके परिषद्/उद्यम/प्रक्रम/उपक्रम/अन्य स्वायत्त निकाय जैसे विश्वविद्यालय इत्यादि/नगर निगम/नगर पर्वद/नगरपालिका/न्यास, इत्यादि में नियोजित/सेवानिवृत्त न हों।
- 40 प्रतिशत या इससे अधिक की विकलांगता वाले वैसे सभी निःशक्त, जो भारत सरकार/राज्य सरकार/केन्द्र शासित प्रदेश या इनके परिषद्/उद्यम/प्रक्रम/उपक्रम/अन्य स्वायत्त निकाय जैसे विश्वविद्यालय इत्यादि/नगर निगम/नगर पर्वद/नगरपालिका/न्यास, इत्यादि में नियोजित/सेवानिवृत्त न हों।
- सभी आदिम जनजाति (PVTG- Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group) के सदस्य जो भारत सरकार/राज्य सरकार/केन्द्र शासित प्रदेश या इनके परिषद्/उद्यम/प्रक्रम/उपक्रम/अन्य स्वायत्त निकाय जैसे विश्वविद्यालय इत्यादि/नगर निगम/नगर पर्वद/नगरपालिका/न्यास, इत्यादि में नियोजित न हों।
- सिविल सर्जन से अन्यून पदाधिकारी से निर्गत प्रमाण पत्र के अनुसार कैसर/एड्स/कुष्ठ/अन्य असाध्य रोगों से ग्रसित व्यक्ति, जो भारत सरकार/राज्य सरकार/केन्द्र शासित प्रदेश या इनके परिषद्/उद्यम/प्रक्रम/उपक्रम/अन्य स्वायत्त निकाय जैसे विश्वविद्यालय इत्यादि/नगर निगम/नगर पर्वद/नगरपालिका/न्यास, इत्यादि में नियोजित/सेवानिवृत्त न हों।
- अकेले रहने वाले वृद्ध/बुजुर्ग व्यक्ति/एकल परिवार, जो भारत सरकार/राज्य सरकार/केन्द्र शासित प्रदेश या इनके परिषद्/उद्यम/प्रक्रम/उपक्रम/अन्य स्वायत्त निकाय जैसे विश्वविद्यालय इत्यादि/नगर निगम/नगर पर्वद/नगरपालिका/न्यास, इत्यादि में नियोजित न हों।
- सभी भिखारी एवं गृहविहीन व्यक्ति।
- कूड़ा चुनने वाला (Rag Picker)/झाड़ूकश (Sweeper)।
- निर्माण कार्य में संलग्न श्रमिक (Construction Worker)/राजमिस्त्री (Mason)/अकुशल श्रमिक (Unskilled Labour)/घरेलू श्रमिक (Domestic Worker)/कुली एवं सिर पर बोझ उठाने वाले अन्य श्रमिक (Coolie and other head load worker)/रिक्शाचालक (Rickshaw Puller)/ठेला चालक (Thela/Hand Cart Puller)।
- फुटपाथी दुकानदार (Street Vendor)/फेरीवाला (Hawker)/छोटे स्थापना के अनुसेवक (Peon in Small Establishment)/सुरक्षा प्रहरी (Security Guard)/पेन्टर (Painter)/वैल्डर (Welder)/बिजली मिस्त्री (Electrician)/मैकेनिक (Mechanic)/दर्जी (Tailor)/नलसाज (Plumber)/माली (Mali)/धोबी (Washerman)/मोची (Cobbler)।

नोट: समावेशन मानक के तहत आवेदन करने वाले आवेदक को प्रपत्र-A (Form A) में आवेदन देना होगा।

अपवर्जन मानक (Exclusion Criteria)

- वैसे परिवार, जिनका कोई भी सदस्य, भारत सरकार/राज्य सरकार/केन्द्र शासित प्रदेश या इनके परिषद्/उद्यम/प्रक्रम/उपक्रम/अन्य स्वायत्त निकाय जैसे विश्वविद्यालय इत्यादि/नगर निगम/नगर पर्वद/नगरपालिका/न्यास, इत्यादि में नियोजित हो, अथवा;

- वैसे परिवार, जिनका कोई भी सदस्य आयकर/सेवा कर/व्यवसायिक कर/GST देता हो, अथवा;
- वैसे परिवार, जिनके पास पाँच एकड़ से अधिक सिंचित भूमि अथवा दस एकड़ से अधिक असिंचित भूमि हो, अथवा;
- वैसे परिवार, जिनके पास चार पहिया मोटर वाहन (Four Wheeler Vehicle) अथवा इससे अधिक पहिया के वाहन हों, अथवा;
- वैसे परिवार, जिनका कोई भी सदस्य सरकार द्वारा पंजीकृत उद्यम का स्वामी या संचालक हो, अथवा;
- प्रधानमंत्री आवास योजना से आनाच्छादित वैसे परिवार, जिनके पास कमरों में पक्की दीवारों तथा छत के साथ तीन या इससे अधिक कमरों का पक्का मकान हो, अथवा;
- वैसे परिवार, जिनके पास 5 लाख या इससे अधिक लागत का मशीन चालित चार पहिये वाले कृषि उपकरण (ट्रैक्टर, थ्रेसर इत्यादि) हो।

नोट : अपवर्जन मानक के तहत आवेदन करने वाले आवेदक को प्रपत्र B (Form B) में आवेदन देना होगा।

- इस योजनान्तर्गत 18 वर्ष या इससे अधिक उम्र की विवाहित/विधवा/परित्यक्ता महिला सदस्य परिवार की मुखिया मानी जाएंगी तथा इसी के अनुरूप आवेदन पत्र स्वीकार किये जायेंगे। परिवार में 18 वर्ष या इससे अधिक उम्र की विवाहित/विधवा/परित्यक्ता महिला सदस्य न होने की स्थिति में सबसे अधिक आयु के पुरुष सदस्य संबंधित परिवार के मुखिया होंगे, किन्तु परिवार में 18 वर्ष या इससे अधिक उम्र की विवाहित/विधवा/परित्यक्ता महिला आ जाने की स्थिति में महिला सदस्य ही संबंधित परिवार की मुखिया होंगी।
- संबंधित योजनान्तर्गत निर्धारित प्रपत्र में आवेदन के साथ-साथ आधार संख्या, मोबाईल नम्बर, बैंक खाता संख्या, इत्यादि सूचनाएँ अंकित करना अनिवार्य है।
- प्राप्त आवेदनों की जांचोपरान्त प्रत्येक पंचायत हेतु निर्धारित लक्ष्य के दोगुनी संख्या में आवेदकों की प्रारूप प्राथमिकता सूची (Draft Priority List) तैयार करते हुए इसका प्रकाशन जिले की वेबसाइट तथा प्रखण्ड/पंचायत/शहरी वार्ड स्तरीय कार्यालय में किया जायेगा।
- प्रकाशित की गयी प्रारूप प्राथमिक सूची पर आपत्तियाँ प्राप्त करते हुए आपत्तियों का निराकरण संबंधित पंचायत के मुखिया/शहरी क्षेत्र के वार्ड सदस्य की अध्यक्षता में आयोजित पंचायत स्तरीय/शहरी वार्ड स्तरीय सभा के माध्यम से किया जायेगा।
- निर्धारित लक्ष्य के डेढ़ गुणा संख्या में आवेदकों की अंतिम प्राथमिकता सूची (Final Priority list) तैयार करने के क्रम में निम्नवर्णित अधिमानता को दृष्टिगत रखते हुए क्रमानुसार प्राथमिकता दी जायेगी :-

- आदिम जनजाति परिवार
- विधवा/परित्यक्ता/Transgender
- 40 प्रतिशत या इससे अधिक विकलांगता वाले व्यक्ति
- कैसर/एड्स/कुष्ठ/अन्य असाध्य रोग से ग्रसित
- अकेले रहने वाले वृद्ध/बुजुर्ग व्यक्ति/एकल परिवार
- अनुसूचित जनजाति
- अनुसूचित जाति
- अन्यान्य

नोट:-किसी एक श्रेणी के अन्तर्गत सुपात्र आवेदकों को उनकी जन्म तिथि के आधार पर, अधिक उम्र वाले आवेदक को पारस्परिक प्राथमिकता देते हुए तय की जाएगी।

- पंचायत स्तरीय/शहरी वार्ड स्तरीय सभा का यह दायित्व होगा कि अंतिम प्राथमिकता सूची में उक्त पंचायत/वार्ड के सबसे जरूरतमंद व्यक्ति का नाम किसी भी हालत में छूटने न पाए, जिस क्रम में विशेष परिस्थिति में उपर्युक्त वर्णित अधिमानता सूची को उस हद तक अवक्रमित किया जा सकेगा।
- संबंधित योजनान्तर्गत आवेदन प्राप्त करने से लेकर अंतिम प्राथमिकता सूची के प्रकाशन हेतु कार्य योजना के लिए निर्धारित समयावधि निम्नवत् है –

क्रमांक	कार्य योजना	प्रारम्भ तिथि	समाप्ति तिथि
1	आवेदन आमंत्रण सूचना का प्रकाशन	17.09.2020	—
2	आवेदन प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि	17.09.2020	30.09.2020
3	प्राप्त आवेदनों की सुपात्रता की जाँच अवधि	01.10.2020	10.10.2020
4	प्राथमिकता सूची का प्रारूप प्रकाशन अवधि	11.10.2020	15.10.2020
5	आपत्ति आमंत्रण की अवधि	15.10.2020	21.10.2020
6	आपत्ति निष्पादन अवधि	21.10.2020	31.10.2020
7	प्राथमिकता सूची अंतिम प्रकाशन अवधि	01.11.2020	10.11.2020

- संबंधित योजनान्तर्गत लाभुकों को हरा रंग का पृथक राशनकार्ड निर्गत किया जायेगा।

Trend
Blazer

‘Love the lockdown life’


Actor **SONAKSHI SINHA** says she is not fretting about getting back to work or how the industry will change in the COVID era.

The actor shared that she is loving the lockdown life for now.

“I am just going to admit that I am loving lockdown life. In the last 10 years, I haven’t gotten a break for so long where I have been able to spend time with myself, understand what I want from life, do the things I like to do and just be one with yourself, sort your head out, contemplate and understand what’s important and what’s not,” Sonakshi said.

“I am not worried about when work will start and how it will be,” added she.






‘In our younger years, the idea of a villain was rather limited. It was obviously by virtue of how the stories played out, but villains were a little over the top in their tonality. With Mirzapur and Gurgaon or even Sacred Games, I have been able to explore the dark side of the human psyche in greater depth. I choose the negative characters wisely.’

—Pankaj Tripathi

Actor **KANGANA RANAUT** says only people with strong spiritual core can recognise the delusion that is showbiz.

“Show business is absolutely intoxicating. It makes one believe in an alternate reality, a little bubble of their own, it takes a very strong spiritual core to recognise this delusion,” Kangana tweeted.

Earlier, she criticised Samajwadi Party MP and actor Jaya Bachchan for her remarks against people who are trying to tarnish the image of the film industry, and questioned whether her stance would change if her children were involved.



Kim freezes her Insta, FB account

Reality TV star **KIM KARDASHIAN WEST**, who has one of the biggest Instagram followings in the world — 188.8 million — decided to freeze her social media accounts to protest against the spread of ‘hate, propaganda and misinformation’.

Kim wrote: “I love that I can connect directly with you through Instagram and Facebook, but I can’t sit by and stay silent while these platforms continue to allow the spreading of hate, propaganda and misinformation.”

Leonardo DiCaprio, Jennifer Lawrence, Orlando Bloom, Kerry Washington and Sacha Baron Cohen are among those who took part in the protest.





VOCAL FOR LOCAL

From import subsidisation to vendor development, creation of green supply chains, minimising carbon footprints, the Indian hospitality sector uses more than 90 per cent local resources, making it an embodiment of an *Atmanirbhar Bharat*. By AYUSHI SHARMA

The Indian tourism sector has had a long journey of growth and finding its place on the world map. The era after the economic liberalisation of the 90s in India sparked the growth of the sector and attained new heights. In 2018, tourism contributed more than nine per cent to India’s GDP and accounted for eight per cent of the country’s employment. As per the statistics, states like Sikkim, tourism helped increase its employment rate to 33 per cent. And the hospitality industry constitutes a majority share of the tourism sector. Hotels are a part of essential tourism infrastructure as providers of tourist accommodation in all categories. From providing basic facilities to a weary traveller who wants to break the journey to rest and refuel, wayside motels have come a long way and become centres for culinary delights, venues for events and destinations for leisure seekers.

PM Narendra Modi has advocated that the ongoing pandemic should be looked at as an opportunity and given a clarion call to the nation to build an *Atmanirbhar Bharat* (Self-reliant India). As per the Hotel Association of India (HAI), the hotel industry is proud to say that it is an embodiment of his cherished dream. Today, Indian hotels are among the best globally and have won accolades and awards for excellence in service by business and leisure tourists alike. And what is commendable is the fact that global recognition has come by practising the age-old Indian tradition of “*Atithi Devo*

Bhava” and by using local sources, be it money, material, machines or manpower. The Indian hospitality industry uses more than 90 per cent local resources.

Puneet Chhatwal, President of Hotel Association of India, explains that tourism is integral to any nation’s prosperity as it creates jobs, drives exports, enhances foreign exchange earnings and creates sustainable livelihoods. He says, “We all know that tourism is much more than what meets the eye. It is one of the fastest growing sectors of Indian economy over the past decade at a CAGR of 8.5 per cent. The sector employs close to 10-12 per cent of all workforce in the country, thereby contributing to building livelihood with a multiplier effect. In addition, the sector contributes to over ₹10,000 crores to the exchequer every year. Hotels are significant employers of unskilled, semi-skilled and skilled workers. The industry also promotes gender diversity and equal opportunity. From import subsidisation to vendor development, creation of green supply chains, minimising carbon footprints, the industry contributes richly to the economy.”

BEING SELF RELIANT

The industry’s endeavour has been to increase its focus on local sourcing of ingredients/components in its key pillars of food and beverage, infrastructure and engineering equipment. From about 65 per cent in the year 2000, there has been consistent efforts to increase the extent of local sourcing which rose to about 87



per cent in 2020.

Priya Paul, Chairperson of Apeejay Surrendra Park Hotels Limited and Executive Committee Member of Hotel Association of India, says, “THE Park Hotels as well as our social catalyst brand, Zone by THE Park, are a true reflection of contemporary India. Our DNA of creativity and innovation is expressed in distinctive ways. We work with numerous Indian designers, products as well as local artisans and even promote new Indian performing arts. For instance, at our Hyderabad branch, we worked with more than 25 designers for our various spaces. We commissioned local artisans and craftsmen to work on the dying art of *Kalamkari* and to recreate it in a con-

temporary way.”

She adds, “We have been promoting farm-to-fork concept for the last many years. We work closely with the local organic farmers and have been promoting sustainable food practices. Before the lockdown, our hotels in New Delhi, Chennai and Kolkata used to have weekly organic farmer markets. Our menus are also designed in a way where information on the source of food is also shared. For us, this has been a practice for a very long time.”

The industry aspires to increase this further to an overall 95 per cent and more by 2025. In certain value components such as DG sets, AC units, mechanical equipment and elevators, it would be closer to 100 per cent. However, the question is — despite seeing no guests at all for the past five months and currently not attracting many tourists due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, how does the self-reliant claim stand true? Puneet tells us, “The impact of the pandemic has definitely been severe. As per The Horwath HTL India Report, this is best reflected by the loss of demand and revenue. The aggregate loss for March to June 2020, compared to 2019, is ₹4,810 crore for the hospitality sector.”

“Even in the given bleak scenario, the sector has been able to hold its ground and is working hard to weather this storm. It is adapting to the new normal with enhanced safety and hygiene practices, moving swiftly towards

increased digitisation and rolling out new products and alternative revenue streams like online food delivery. However, due to a lack of uniform regulations across states, hotels are continuing to bear the brunt. While the Indian hospitality sector is very much self-reliant, it requires a few extraordinary measures, including the support from its stakeholders and the government,” adds he.

EXEMPLIFYING NATIONAL PRESTIGE

Indian hospitality has brought India on the world tourism map. From playing host to heads of states, celebrities, senior officials, industrialists and entrepreneurs, facilitating large and prestigious national as well as international conventions and events to providing a secure comfortable abode for people during disasters, Indian hotels have displayed their commitment to the nation.

“Hotels have always showcased India’s rich culture and diversity. They support local artistes and artisans by giving them a platform to exhibit their craft. They are the centres for the promotion of Indian heritage, textiles, cuisines, handicrafts, culture, art and artists. They have also introduced the world to our ancient practices of yoga and Ayurveda. And they will continue to carry forward this tradition,” shares Puneet.

The fact that some of the best hotels in the world are managed by Indians adds to the national pride.

PROVIDING LOCAL OPPORTUNITIES

The Indian hospitality sector employs close to 4.5 crore people and livelihood to many more. It provides an opportunity for women and to the differently-abled. From the humble basic tourist accommodation tents and lodges, the industry has offerings also for the first-class traveller to those seeking ultra-luxury, thus, giving all Indians an opportunity to experience the country’s rich touristic treasures, undertake pilgrimages and much more.

Christie’s to sell Parton’s jewels

Christie’s announced an online-only charity auction — *NASHVILLE: An Auction to benefit ACM Lifting Lives COVID-19 Response Fund* — led by a Swarovski-crystal bedazzled four-string dulcimer, owned by Dolly Parton for 30 years. It’s accompanied by its original stand and used by the artist as she celebrated her 50th anniversary performing at the Grand Ole Opry in 2019. The dulcimer is estimated at \$50,000-1,00,000 and leads a sale featuring items generously donated by country music’s biggest names, including Reba McEntire, Tim McGraw, Marty Stuart, Bernie Taupin, and Trisha Yearwood.

The auction received a special mention during the live broadcast of the 55th Academy of Country Music Awards hosted by Keith Urban on Wednesday. ACM Lifting Lives is the philanthropic arm of the Academy of Country Music dedicated to improving lives through the power of music. The auction dates and additional lots will be announced at a later date.

Dolly Parton said, “Seeing my country music community suffer due to the pandemic has broken my heart. It was important to donate the dulcimer that was designed for my 50th Opry Anniversary so we can raise awareness and much needed funds to keep these folks on their feet before we can open the doors to our stages once again.”

Lyndsay Cruz, Executive Director, ACM Lifting Lives, said, “We are immensely grateful to the artists in the Nashville community and beyond who have generously donated items for this auction in collaboration with Christie’s. Every winning bid will go towards our COVID-19 Response Fund to support the workers of our country music community — the tour bus drivers, aspiring musicians, techs and venue workers — so many of whom have lost their livelihoods overnight during the course of this pandemic.



dem. So far, the fund has distributed \$1.5 million and we are hoping the sale of these iconic items will enable us to support more affected by this crisis.”

“Christie’s is honored to work with the music community in Nashville and partner with ACM Lifting Lives COVID-19 Response Fund to support the country music frontline workers who are in need at this time. We are particularly excited to be offering the first musical instrument ever to appear at a global auction from Dolly Parton,” said Nancy Valentino, Strategic Business and Client Development, Christie’s.

While the dulcimer is an ancient instrument, the Appalachian dulcimer is a cornerstone to the sound of country music, and one that Country Music Hall of Famer Dolly Parton has used throughout her career.



DISCOVERING INDIA

As a part of a new series — *Lost Essence of India* — singer, actor and avid photographer MEIYANG CHANG helps the audience uncover hidden gems that have been forgotten over time

As a part of the Discovery Channel’s latest series — *Lost Essence of India* — singer, actor and an avid photographer, Meiyang Chang, who is also the host of the show, takes viewers on an enchanting journey and helps them uncover hidden gems that have been forgotten over time.

In the first episode of this four-part series, Chang explores the Rivona Caves in Goa known to be creation of Buddhist monks around the 6th century, entering some of the remotest parts of the country, with roads that are not well-trodden.

The second episode witness-

es Chang relishing the Saraswat Brahmin cuisine that not many have been fortunate to enjoy. Moving on to the third episode, he explores the lost heart of Kashmir, Choharnag, which is surrounded by meadows all around. In the finale episode, Chang goes on to unveil another gem, Naranag Temple in Kashmir, one of the important archaeological sites of the country.

“India boasts of an immensely rich culture and architecture, and we only know about the popular and promoted aspects of it. There are a million more places, stories and experiences that are

yet to be discovered. And that’s what we set out to do with *Lost Essence of India*,” said Chang.

“I have been to Goa and Kashmir before and yet I was unaware of the existence of these experiences. It was a breath-taking, mindset-changing journey through lesser taken paths to discover the lost essence of some magnificent places in the country. I pray you love this and get to experience it someday while being a responsible tourist. Respect nature and nature will love you back. Also, I can’t wait to see where we head to next,” he added.

Eng nose ahead in series decider

AP ■ MANCHESTER

Jonny Bairstow struck 112 and under-pinned another innings rebuild with Sam Billings as England recovered from losing two wickets from the first two balls to set Australia a target of 303 in the deciding one-day international on Wednesday.

Mitchell Starc removed Jason Roy and Joe Root off successive deliveries to leave England in early turmoil on a glorious afternoon at Old Trafford, and both Eoin Morgan (23) and Jos Buttler (8) also departed cheaply.

From 96-4, Bairstow and Billings (57) put on 114 runs for the fifth wicket to bring England right back into the match — just as they did in the first ODI on Friday when sharing a stand of 113 in defeat.

Bairstow reached his 10th ODI century before some lusty hits by Chris Woakes (53 off 39 balls) lifted the hosts to 302-7, leaving Australia needing a record run chase at the Manchester venue. Fifty-three runs came from the last five overs.

The series is tied at 1-1.

England is looking to preserve its five-year unbeaten record in bilateral ODI series, and finish its international summer — during which all of its games have been played without fans — unbeaten in all formats against the West Indies, Ireland, Pakistan and Australia.

It is Australia's final match of its white-ball tour, with the team having already lost the Twenty20 series 2-1.

Steve Smith was again missing for the Australians after failing to fully recover from being hit on the head from a throwdown in the nets before the first match of the series. Australia captain Aaron Finch said Smith had a hit in the nets on Tuesday but "just did not pull up well" and felt "a bit groggy."



Novak remains perfect

Djokovic extends unbeaten run on court, behaves better in 1st match since US Open default

AP ■ ROME

Novak Djokovic expressed his relief there was no "mental or emotional blockages or drama" as he swept past Italian wild card entry Salvatore Caruso into the Italian Open third round on Wednesday in his first match since his US Open default.

"I was actually looking forward to get the official match as soon as possible after what happened in New York," said the world No 1.

The Serb was on his best behaviour after his dramatic last 16 disqualification on September 6 after he accidentally struck a line judge with a ball hit in frustration.

"I didn't feel that I had any mental or emotional blockages or any dramas playing a match today," he said.

Djokovic, who had said he had learned a "big lesson" from his first ever disqualification, was keen to move on in Rome.

The 33-year-old playfully greeted an imaginary crowd in an empty Central Court at the Foro Italico because of strict coronavirus measures.

Only some noisy workers managed to unnerve the 17-time Grand Slam winner after missing break points.

"It was very, very quiet, which is very unusual to what we are used to here in Rome, which has one of the loudest and most energetic crowd atmospheres on the tour.

Djokovic continued where he left off before his US Open exit, having won the Cincinnati Masters on the same Flushing Meadows courts.

"It was a very good test for me. I'm very pleased with the way I handled myself in important moments," said Djokovic, who was unbeaten in 2020 before his US Open default.

"I was in control of the match." Djokovic, who has played nine finals



Novak Djokovic returns the ball to Salvatore Caruso, at the Italian Open tourney in Rome on Wednesday

in Rome, and won four titles, will meet either 29th-ranked compatriot Filip Krajinovic or Italian qualifier Marco Cecchinato, ranked 113th, for a place in the quarter-finals.

Nine-time Rome winner Rafael Nadal will make his return to competi-

tion later on Wednesday after a six-month hiatus linked to the coronavirus pandemic.

The number two seed plays fellow Spaniard Pablo Carreno Busta, a recent semi-finalist at the US Open, for a place in the third round.



US Open champion Naomi Osaka took a direct swipe at critics of her recent activism saying the people who told her that sportspersons should stay out of politics inspired her to win her third Grand Slam title

Third seed Stefanos Tsitsipas fell to Italian teenager Jannik Sinner 6-1, 6-7 (9/11), 6-2, with sixth seeded Belgian David Goffin also exiting 6-2, 6-2 to Croatia's Marin Cilic.

HALEP, AZARENKA ADVANCE

Top women's seed Simona Halep returned a month after winning in Prague to ease past 99th-ranked Italian Jasmine Paolini 6-3, 6-4.

"It was a little bit difficult to get the rhythm and to get relaxed," said the 28-year-old Romanian, who skipped the US Open but is warming up for a bid for a second French Open title later this month.

The world No 2, a two-time Rome finalist, next meets either American Amanda Anisimova or Dayana Yastremska of Ukraine.

US Open finalist Victoria Azarenka shrugged off the move from hard court to the clay surface to beat American Venus Williams 7-6 (9/7), 6-2, in their first round match.

Belarusian Azarenka will play third seeded American Sofia Kenin, the reigning Australian Open champion, for a place in the third round.

Swiss sixth seed Belinda Bencic fell 6-3, 6-1 in her second round match to Montenegro's 86th-ranked Danka Kovinic.

Boult's inclusion gives edge to MI: Gambhir



New Delhi: Former India opener Gautam Gambhir feels New Zealand pacer Trent Boult forms a formidable pair with Jasprit Bumrah, giving Mumbai Indians an edge over Chennai Super Kings in this IPL.

With Mumbai Indians taking on Chennai Super Kings in the tournament opener on Saturday in Abu Dhabi, Gambhir said he is waiting to see how Boult and Bumrah go about their business.

"I am really excited to watch how Trent Boult and Jasprit Bumrah will bowl with the new ball, because we all know Bumrah and Boult are world class bowlers, and in the T20 format both are wicket-taking options," Gambhir said on *Star Sports show Cricket Connected*.

"A left-arm seamer, who will bring the ball inside for a right hand batsman while Jasprit Bumrah believes in an unorthodox style of bowling."

A vital cog in CSK's wheel, Raina had pulled out of the IPL due to "personal reasons" and Gambhir feels it will be a challenge for CSK without him at number 3.

"There will be a challenge

for Chennai Super Kings considering they do not have Suresh Raina batting at No 3. Shane Watson has not played international cricket for a long time, so we would want to know who will open with him and how will these batsmen face these bowlers," the former Kolkata Knight Riders skipper said.

Gambhir, a two-time IPL-winning skipper, believes four-time champions Mumbai Indians will be favourites against Chennai considering the overall team balance and depth after the addition of Boult.

"I am skewed more towards Mumbai Indians for the opening match because if we notice the team balance and the depth of the squad while not forgetting the addition of Trent Boult in the squad can prove to be an excellent option," he said.

"Every team wants a bowler who will take wickets with a new ball and use Jasprit Bumrah in an experimental way. I would want to see how these two bowlers perform with the new ball not only in the first match but throughout the tournament." PTI

Hardik looking to make strong comeback

PTI ■ ABU DHABI

Back from a lengthy injury layoff, Mumbai Indians' star all-rounder Hardik Pandya said the setback motivated him to work harder and he is now in good shape both physically and mentally for the IPL. Pandya's form will be crucial for defending champions Mumbai Indians, who will take on Chennai Super Kings in the lung-opener of the cash-rich T20 league on September 19. "The way I'm hitting the ball right now, the shape I'm in, the mental space

I'm in, it is just a matter of time that I go and spend some time on the ground and I think things will come out pretty well," Pandya said in a video posted by Mumbai Indians' official Twitter handle.

"No matter how far I go from the game, no matter how long I stay out, when I come back, it has to be worth it. I have prepared very well and I think, great things are coming ahead," the 26-year-old flamboyant all-rounder added. Last year in November, Pandya had under-

gone a back surgery in London. He came back in the DY Patil T20 tournament held in early March. He was even selected for the ODI series against

South Africa, but the Covid-19 pandemic, which forced the rubber to be abandoned, delayed his return. He is now looking forward to the IPL.

This year's IPL will be extra special: Sehwag

New Delhi: Former Indian opener Virender Sehwag expects this year's IPL to be "extra special" and a major reason for that is Mahendra Singh Dhoni getting back on the pitch after announcing his international retirement following a year-long sabbatical from the game.

"I think this tournament will be extra special for everyone — the players as well as the audience...Watching Dhoni back on the pitch is sure to be a delight. There's so much in store, need I say more?" Sehwag, who will be co-hosting a show *Power Play with Champions* on *Flipkart Video*, said.

Sehwag said cricket is an integral part of an Indian's life and the fans have waited long for the sport to return.

"I've spent a lot of my time during the lockdown watching old matches. Cricket forms an important part of our DNA as Indians and we've waited with bated breath for it to return" he said. PNS

Brazilian Govt backs Neymar

AFP ■ SAO PAULO

Brazil's Government sent its support to Neymar on Tuesday after he was red-carded for a fight in a Ligue 1 match in France, condemning the "racism" that triggered the brawl. The Paris Saint-Germain star is facing punishment by the French league's disciplinary commission after slapping defender Alvaro Gonzalez near the end of PSG's 1-0 loss to Marseille, accusing the Spaniard of calling him a "monkey."

Gonzalez denies the accusation. But in Neymar's native Brazil, the ministry responsible for human rights issues said it stood behind the world's most expensive footballer.

"In the face of yet another case of racism that has come to the surface in sport, the ministry of women, the family and human rights publicly voices its solidarity with the player Neymar Jr," the ministry said in a statement. "Racism is a crime."

The statement came after Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro on Monday retweeted Neymar's own version of events.

The Brazilian striker slapped Gonzalez on the back of the head near the end of Sunday's match, sparking a mass brawl that ended with five players sent off, including Neymar.

He now faces a potential multi-match suspension, as does Gonzalez, if league officials find Neymar's accusation is true.

Bale close to Spurs return

AFP ■ LONDON

Gareth Bale's agent says the Real Madrid forward is "close" to a move back to Tottenham but admitted it is a complicated deal to thrash out.

The Wales international has been frozen out by Real manager Zinedine Zidane and said earlier this month that he was open to returning to the Premier League.

It has been reported that Spurs and Manchester United are interested in signing Bale but Jose Mourinho appears to be leading the race to land the 31-year-old.

"It's close but not done," Bale's agent Jonathan Barnett told *AFP*. "It's a complicated deal."

Bale has two years left on a



contract that pays him a reported salary of about £600,000 (\$775,000) a week at Real.

It has been reported the Spanish club would be willing to pay some of that salary to final-

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